

# THE SCRIBE



From Pastor Ken

March 2024

## Going Deep Into the Lord's Prayer

### Wednesdays in Lent

Many people know of the Lord's prayer. Many say it often and even have it memorized. Yet few people know what it means or have explored its depths. On our Lenten Wednesday evenings, we will be going deep into this prayer that Jesus taught us.

March	6	Give Us Our Daily Bread
	13	Forgive Us as We Forgive
	21	Lead Us Not Into Temptation
	28	Deliver Us From Evil

Join us as we gather for soup and bread supper @ 6:00p in the Fellowship Hall. Sign-up sheet on bulletin board! Then our worship follows the peaceful Holden Evening Prayer service.

Offerings for Lenten Wednesdays go to Didi & Seraphina Panzo's mission in feeding orphans.

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## A Bible Study on Acts

### Sundays @ 9:30a in the Sanctuary beginning March 3

"You will be my witnesses to Jerusalem, Samaria and to the ends of the earth."

These are Jesus' words to the disciples before he ascended into heaven. The book of Acts tells how the presence of the risen Christ empowers his fearful followers to become his bold witnesses.

Join me as we learn about the practices of the early Christians, the persecutions they endured and how their dispersion became the context for sharing the good news to the world.

I encourage you to read the chapters ahead of time so you can participate more fully in the class.

March	3	Acts 1-5	You will be my Witnesses
	10	Acts 6-9	Persecution & Paul's Conversion
	17	Acts 10-14	1 <sup>st</sup> Missionary Journey
	24	Acts 15-20	2 <sup>nd</sup> Missionary Journey
April	7	Acts 21-28	To the Ends of the Earth

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### *New Class! Caring for Adult Loved Ones*

**Sundays @ 9:30a Upstairs beginning March 3.** See p. 2.

## March Announcements

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- **New Class! Caring for Adult Loved Ones Support Group.** Beginning Sunday, March 3 between services! What is this all about? It's about you and your concerns if:
  - you have an adult member of your family who needs support in the matters of daily living
  - you have a friend who needs similar support
  - that family member or friend lives with you
  - that family member lives in the same town as you do
  - that family member lives far away
  - you have traveled this road and would like to support others who are now walking this path

This is a support group where we meet and share the wisdom that we gleaned over the years of care giving, where we bring our cares and seek others thoughts, where we share our hurts and heavy hearts, where we share laughter and blend it all together with prayer and mutual support. Led by Jessica Johnson. Meet upstairs in room #21.

- **Daylight Savings Time** – Move your clocks forward 1 hour, Sunday, March 9.
- **Mom's Group.** Every 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month @ 4:30p. Moms, if you need some "me" time, come and check out the Mom's Group. We do a Bible Study, occasional crafts, chat about life and be supportive of one another. The kids also have a great time! Meeting dates are March 5 and 20. Contact: Karina Isley.
- **Men's BBQ.** Friday, March 15 @ 6:00p. At David Klein's house. Sign up sheet on bulletin board. Contact Dave Havelka.
- **New Class! March-April: Intentional Parenting Class-** Beginning Sunday, March 17 @ 9:15a, we look forward to hosting a 6-week class on intentional, faith-centered parenting for parents of all ages. Whether you are a new parent, parenting through early childhood, elementary ages, or parenting teenagers/young adults, there will be wisdom, encouragement, and opportunities for you to grow on the journey together. Be on the lookout for more details in the coming weeks! Contact Lisa or Andrew with questions! Sign-up if interested! Meet in basement.
- **Senior Social,** Wednesday, March 27 @ 1:00p. Every 4th Wednesday of the month in the Fellowship Hall. Please join us for our monthly get-together to socialize, play dominoes, or do crafts. Individuals bring their own crafts to work on. Others use the opportunity to just sit and talk.
- **Men's Peer Group.** Thursday, March 21 @ 6:30p in office off of kitchen. In our ever-changing and trying world men need to know that it is okay to struggle, to be challenged, and to ask for help. Mike Regennitter invites men to join him in conversation and discover that they are not alone. We will be given tools for how not to just survive, but to thrive.

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### Lenten Soup Supper and Lenten Service

Continues Wednesday evenings

6:00p Soup Supper – Sign-up to bring soup or bread

7:00p Worship – Holden Evening Prayer

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## Holy Week Schedule



### **Palm/Passion Sunday – March 24 @ 8:00a & 10:30a**

We have Palm branches as we hear of Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem.

### **Maundy Thursday – March 28 @ 7:00p**

In the context of the Holden evening prayers service. Soup dinner at 6:00p.

### **Good Friday – March 29 @ 7:00p**

Called "good" because on this Friday the greatest gift ever was given – the life of our Lord for us.

### **Easter – March 31 *Come celebrate our Lord's resurrection!***

6:00a Sunrise Service – Candlelight

7:00a Easter Breakfast – we need help for cooking @ 5:00a. Sign-up!

8:00a Easter Worship

9:45a Easter Egg Hunt – bring your own basket.

10:30a Easter Worship

## ***Compassionate Outreach (formerly Social Ministry)***

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**La Puente Hygiene Bags.** It is time again to think about collecting items for the Hygiene Bags that our very generous BFLC congregation delivers to La Puente in Alamosa twice a year! We will be preparing 60 bags to be delivered in April or May and any items you may be able to donate would be GREATLY appreciated by our neighbors in need in the San Luis Valley. There is a shopping list on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Please take one to use as a guide as you see things on sale or clean out areas at home. Items may be marked "La Puente" and placed in the cart under the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall any time throughout the year, as we plan to deliver hygiene bags in the Spring and again in the Fall. Thank you from your Compassionate Outreach Team (formerly Social Ministry). LOVE GOD, LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR! Contact: Pam Wagner

**La Puente Easter Baskets.** We will be taking Easter baskets/bags to La Puente again. Easter Sunday arrives early this year. However, we will again be busy putting EASTER BASKETS TOGETHER this year for the CHILDREN of struggling families in the SAN LUIS VALLEY. We will be sending 110 EASTER BASKETS to 3 different Children's Programs in the area. Not only do these EASTER BASKETS bring a little happiness when received, but it's a wonderful way for us to teach them and show them the LOVE of JESUS. And you can help by:



- DONATE A BAG OF JELLY BEANS or
- A CHOCOLATE BUNNY see note below
- HELP ASSEMBLING THE BASKETS
- DELIVER THE BASKETS TO LA PUENTE CENTER

All donations and support greatly appreciated through GOD'S LOVE and our LOVE for one another.

We plan to put them together between services on Palm Sunday, March 24. We invite you to join us! Thank you for your continued help and support! Contact: Dale Sue Hightower

\*\*\*Note: Chocolate Easter Bunnies Please purchase from King Soopers or Safeway; they are around a dollar a piece. We would like to keep them all the same.\*\*\*

**Olive Wood Products.** We will be offering selective Olive Wood Products pertaining to the EASTER STORY and RESURRECTION SUNDAY. The situation in Palestine between Israel and Hamus is still dangerous, unstable and overwhelming to the Christian Cravers, their families and the many, many innocent people in this region. Through the Olive Wood Project we are able to offer our support. Items will be available in the Fellowship Hall between Services on March 10th (Daylight Savings starts) and March 17th.

## ***Property Committee Needs You!***

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Are you familiar with a paint brush, screwdriver, or hammer? Do you like tinkering on a variety of projects? If so, the BFLC Property Committee wants you! This group maintains the church buildings, equipment, and grounds. There's always something to be done and it's a wonderful group to work with. There are several large projects planned for 2024, including adding electricity, insulation, and new shelving in the pole barn, updating four restrooms, adding a fresh coat of paint to several areas, and installing additional security cameras. In addition to these projects, there are ongoing maintenance activities such as changing furnace filters, adjusting thermostats and timers, cleaning gutters, shampooing carpets, hosting the Spring and Fall Church Workdays, maintaining the lawn and garden equipment and the church van, snow removal, and elevator and fire extinguisher inspections. And there are always the "unplanned" activities too, such as repairing broken faucets or pipes, addressing pump issues, fixing leaking windows or door closure issues, changing light bulbs, and replacing batteries.

If you are interested but don't feel that you have the necessary skills, that's not a problem. Most of us "learn by doing" and there are experts on the committee who can provide guidance on just about any issue encountered. If you're not handy with a hammer, there are various administrative tasks, too. Truly something for anyone. If you'd like more information on the Property Committee, please contact Joe Dowdy or Jennifer Reily, or please join us on Saturday, March 16 @ 9:00a in the Fellowship Hall.

**AARP Shredding is back!** Saturday, June 29 @ 9:00a. Stay tuned for further details.

**Scribe Article Deadline.** Please have all Scribe Articles in to Stephanie Strasner by the 20<sup>th</sup> of each month to be put into the following month's Scribe.

## Annual Meeting Minutes

**February 4, 2024**

Black Forest Lutheran Church Council President, Cliff Collier, called the Annual Meeting to order at 12:25 p.m. after determining the 62 confirmed members present met the Constitutional requirement of 61 for a quorum. Pastor Ken opened with devotions from the words of Psalm 46: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble." Pastor Ken then led us in prayer.

Kathy Schwindt made a motion to approve the minutes from the Annual Meeting of February 5, 2023 (Annual Report page 2). Del Lang seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

**PASTOR'S REPORT** (Pastor Ken, Annual Report page 3) Pastor Ken made the reminder that 2023 marked the 10-year anniversary of the Black Forest fire, in which 20 BFLC families lost their homes. In May 2023, we welcomed Andrew Koetsier as our Youth and Family Director, and in August we said goodbye to Michelle Madison and welcomed Stephanie Strasner as church secretary. This year we saw an increase of young families in the congregation, with 17 children consistently coming up for the 10:30 children's sermon and 15-20 for Wiggle Worship each week. Life Groups are going strong, meeting monthly at homes with a Bible Study, discussion and food. This fall we began Life to Life Discipleship, helping people grow in faith and reach out to others. It will be offered again this year. We had 18-25 adults attend a 7-week class "Conflict in the Early Church" based on 1 Corinthians. In August we opened our doors to host both AA and Al-Anon on Tuesday and Thursday evenings. Last year we decided to give a \$50,000 gift to the NALC in thanks to God for the 50-year history of BFLC. In 2023 we gave \$25,000, and are planning to give the remaining \$25,000 this year. The NALC now has 499 congregations in the US and Canada. Pastor Ken is one of 36 Deans of the NALC and serves the Rocky Mountain Mission District. Pastor reported that in 2023, BFLC had 468 baptized members, and with the current new member class, will soon have 489.

**FINANCIAL SECRETARY** (Annual Report page 14) Nancy Lord reported 2023 Actual Current Contributions were \$541,550. The 2024 Current Income Projections total is \$546,128.

**TREASURER'S REPORT** was given by John Summerfield. (Annual Report pages 6-13) John reported the Operating Fund Summary for 2023/2024 and the 2023 unallocated funds which were as follows:

2023	Total Income	Budget \$526,568	Actual \$546,741	Difference \$20,173 over income
2023	Total Expense	Budget \$526,568	Actual \$489,300	Difference (\$37,268) under expenses
2023	Unallocated Funds		\$57,441	

Lisa Fountain made a motion to accept the recommended distribution of the 2023 Unallocated Funds of \$57,441 with \$25,000 going to NALC for the 2<sup>nd</sup> BFLC 50-year Gift Installment and \$32,441 going to upcoming church property expenses. Judith Jergensen seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed unanimously.

Steve Lord made a motion to approve the 2024 Operating Budget of \$585,769. Del Lang seconded the motion. After discussion concerning the ASI Bond issue, the motion to approve the 2024 Operating Budget was brought to a vote and passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS** (a) Nathan Knapp provided explanation and documentation of the process necessary to change the name of the Social Ministry Committee to "Compassionate Outreach" in order to better reflect the committee's purpose of being the "Hands and feet of Jesus". Wolf Thielmann made a motion to change the committee's name. Jon Fountain seconded the motion. Discussion included that the committee's name is listed in the Bylaws, not the Constitution, therefore requires one vote from one annual congregational meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

(b) Service Dates of Council Members were reviewed on page 5 of the Annual Report. (c) Cliff Collier introduced Jessica Worrell and Tiffaney Brooks as the two new candidates for Council. Jim Kent made the motion to accept the new candidates by acclamation. Jon Fountain seconded the motion. Discussion included a question from Mark Hatfield to clarify that the "Council" is separate from "Committees" and that Council Members serve as liaisons to the committees. Motion passed unanimously.

Cliff Collier thanked Connie Schmeisser and Wolf Thielmann for their service on Council, as they are going off.

Staff and Committee liaisons gave short reports highlighting work for 2023. (Annual Report pages 15-30) The property committee confirmed BFLC is in the process of obtaining property insurance.

Jim Kent made a motion to adjourn the Annual Meeting. Del Lang seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastor Ken Hohag adjourned the meeting with prayer at 1:52 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted, Pam Wagner, Council Secretary

**Thank you!**

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- ✝ From Larry & Andi Lockwood: "Thanks ever so much for our Valentine care package ❤️ The candies were delicious! Appreciate that you're thinking of us."
- ✝ From Betty Thomas: "To the members of Black Forest Lutheran Church, thank you for your nice gift."
- ✝ From Pastor Bedasa at Oromo Evangelical Church of Denver: "Thank you very much for all your supports of our Ministry."

**Baby Corner!**

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Congratulations to parents Joey & Jill Partridge and grandparents Bill & Kris Partridge on the new additions to their family!



Welcome "Nathan James & Jayden Edward"  
Born 02/06/2024



Congratulations to parents Dylan & Kaitlin Stimson and grandparents John Poss & Kathleen Fitzpatrick on the new addition to their family!



Welcome "Hayden Craig"  
Born 02/21/2024

**Celebrate!**

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Jack Cullen	1	Lydia Zelones	14	Ron & Ashley Bush	5
Cesar Shinall	2	Kaylie Herrin	16	Emory & Sue Clark	9
Caroly Conaway	3	Dave Pfeil	16	Rick & Barbara Richardson	10
Lee Weyers	3	Tiffany Brooks	17	Micheal & Heather Hite	12
Amy Long	4	Felicity Wolfe	17	Steve & Barbara Gurnett	15
Ann Buttermore	6	Suzana Lacomia	18	Bill & Sherri Sieg	24
Dave Henderson	6	Jessica Botvinik	19	Don & Sharon Cress	26
Peter Benson	7	Kathleen Oman	23	Dennis & Bridget Toelle	27
Jim Fariss	8	Allan Oman	25		
Bill Moreau	8	Jutta Romans	25		
Janna Flanders	9	Barbara Speir	25		
Sean Kosman	9	Jon Webb	25		
Marjorie Denney	11	Debbie Woods	25		
Kevin Mellon	11	Bridget Toelle	26		
Jan Veuthey	11	Ken Hohag	30		
Amy White	11	Amelia Makowsky	31		
Ryan Green	12				
Brendan Gould	14				



## Youth & Family Ministry

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### Greetings BFLC Family!

For the month of March (and all of Lent), we are taking a break from our normal Confirmation and Youth Group service and joining in the weekly Soup Suppers and Lenten Services. Youth can plan to join me at a table by 6:30pm to connect before the service and check in on how the week is going. We will return to our normal Wednesday night schedule on April 3.

While Pastor Ken is taking us through the Lord's Prayer in the Lenten services, we are encouraging our youth to spend more time in their Bibles this Lent with the goal of growing in their relationship with him. This month I would also encourage you to set aside time to hear from God through His Word.

In the words of the Apostle Peter, "Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life, and we have believed, and have come to know, that you are the Holy One of God" (John 6:68b-69). Praying that we all take time and space to go deeper with Him this month.

In His Grace,  
Andrew Koetsier

### Upcoming Activities:

**Saturday, March 2 (10am-1pm):** First Communion Retreat for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up

**March 17-April 28 Intentional, Faith-Based Parenting Class:** we look forward to hosting a 6 week class on intentional, faith-centered parenting for parents of all ages Sunday mornings at 9:15am (not meeting March 31-Easter). Whether you are a new parent, parenting through early childhood, elementary ages, or parenting teenagers/young adults, there will be wisdom, encouragement, and opportunities for you to grow on the journey together. Topics we look forward to discussing include: Parenting with Intention, Navigating Screens & Technology, Creating a Family Culture, Marriage & Parenting, and Family Prayer & Devotions.

**March 22-23 (Friday night 5:30pm-9:30pm; Saturday 8:30am-4:30pm)- Ignite Youth Leadership** Conference at Rocky Mountain Calvary Church (Colorado Springs). We look forward to attending this one night/one day conference designed to equip and train students, youth workers, and volunteers with Biblical principles in pursuing the goal of reaching people with the gospel of Jesus Christ. Cost is \$40/person w/signup before January 31, \$50/person after. Scholarships available. Find out more at: <https://www.igniteyouthleadership.org/>. Please contact Andrew if you would like to join!

**Sunday, March 31- Youth Sunrise Service (6am) and Family Easter Egg Hunt (9:30am)**

**Saturday, April 13 9:00am-1:30pm- Crossfire Ministries Serve Day:** we will be helping at Crossfire Ministries again on one of their Saturday Food distribution days.



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> 7:00a Men's Bible Study 10:00 First Communion Retreat
<b>3</b> 8:00/10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages Caring for Adult Loved Ones Bible Study on Acts	<b>4</b> 1:00p Women's Bible Study	<b>5</b> 4:30p Mom's Group 7:00 Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	<b>6</b> 6:00 Soup Supper Choir Practice 7:00 Lenten Worship	<b>7</b> 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 7:00p Worship Cmte. Mtg. 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	<b>8</b> 12:00p Exec. Mtg.	<b>9</b> <i>Daylight Savings Time— Spring Forward</i>
<b>10</b> 8:00/10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages Olive Wood Sale Caring for Adult Loved Ones Bible Study on Acts	<b>11</b> 1:00p Women's Bible Study	<b>12</b> 5:30p Evangelism Mtg. 6:00 4-H 7:00 Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	<b>13</b> 12:00p AARP 6:00 Choir Practice Soup Supper 7:00 Worship 7:45 Contemporary Worship Practice	<b>14</b> 9:00a Quilters Black Forest Community Garden Club 9:30 Staff Mtg. 7:30p AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	<b>15</b> 6:00p Men's BBQ	<b>16</b> 7:00a Men's Bible Study 9:00 Property Cmte. Mtg.
<b>17</b> 8:00/10:30a Worship 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages Caring for Adult Loved Ones Bible Study on Acts Intentional Parenting Class Olive Wood Sale	<b>18</b> 1:00p Women's Bible Study	<b>19</b> 7:00p Handbell Practice 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	<b>20</b> 4:30p Mom's Group 6:00 Choir Practice Soup Supper 7:00 Worship	<b>21</b> 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 6:30p Men's Peer Group 7:00 Council 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	<b>22</b> Ignite Youth Leader- ship Retreat	<b>23</b> Ignite Youth Leadership Retreat
<b>24</b> 8:00/10:30a <b>Palm Sunday Worship</b> 9:30 Sunday School Classes for All Ages Easter Baskets filled for La Puente Bible Study on Acts Intentional Parenting Class	<b>25</b> 1:00p Women's Bible Study	<b>26</b> 7:00p Handbell Practice 7:30p AA Mtg. Al-Anon Mtg.	<b>27</b> 1:00p Senior Social 6:00 Choir Practice	<b>28</b> 9:00a Quilters 9:30 Staff Mtg. 6:00p Soup Supper 7:00 <b>Maundy Thurs- day Worship</b> 7:30 AA Mtg. Al-Anon	<b>29</b> 7:00p <b>Good Friday Worship</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>31 Easter Sunday</b> 6:00a Sunrise Service 7:00 Breakfast 8:00/10:30 Worship 9:45 Easter Egg Hunt						



March 2024 SCRIBE

**OUR STAFF**

Pastor – Ken Hohag  
Youth and Family Director – Andrew Koetsier  
Director of Ministries – Lisa Regennitter  
Administrative Assistant – Stephanie Strasner  
Organist – Barbara Gurnett  
Choir Director – Melanie Hohag  
Handbell Choir Director – Bill Fitzpatrick  
Keyboard – Landra Decker/Alexandra Cullen  
Ministers – All Members

**OUR MISSION**

Black Forest Lutheran Church glorifies God through worship, prayer, education, and service as ambassadors of Christ.

**CONTACT US**

Phone: 719-495-2221  
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E-mail: [bflc@bflchurch.org](mailto:bflc@bflchurch.org)  
Web site: [bflchurch.org](http://bflchurch.org)

**OFFICE HOURS**

Weekday Hours  
9:00am-2:00pm Tuesday-Friday  
Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am

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**BLACK FOREST LUTHERAN CHURCH**

12455 Black Forest Road  
Colorado Springs, CO 80908

**Recipient Name**

Street Address

City, ST ZIP Code