

# The Transfiguration of our Lord

## February 19 2012

### PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)  
1451 Ebenezer Rd Cincinnati, Ohio 45233

Church Office: 941-5177

[www.peacechurchlink.com](http://www.peacechurchlink.com)

Pastor Larry J. Rodencal [plarry04@hotmail.com](mailto:plarry04@hotmail.com)

Judy Brown, Organist

#### **AS WE GATHER**

#### ***The Face of Jesus Christ Manifests the Light of the Knowledge of the Glory of God***

It was “a *hard thing*” that Elisha asked, but by his persistence he was able to see the Prophet Elijah being taken “*by a whirlwind into heaven.*” Although “*chariots of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them,*” Elisha received Elijah’s cloak and a “*double portion*” of his spirit for preaching the Lord’s Word (2 Kings 2:9–11). It was a hard thing, too, for Israel to see Moses and come near to him, when “*the skin of his face shone because he had been talking with God*” (Ex. 34:29–30). Therefore, after “*he commanded them all that the Lord had spoken with him in Mount Sinai,*” Moses “*put a veil over his face*” (Ex. 34:32–33). Only the Word of the Gospel lifts the veil, and “*only through Christ is it taken away*” (2 Cor. 3:14). Thus are we able to behold “*the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ,*” who is “*the image of God*” (2 Cor. 4:4–6). For the Law and the Prophets are all fulfilled in Him. Therefore, “*listen to Him,*” and fix your sights on “*Jesus only*” (Mark 9:7–8).

**ALTAR FLOWERS** are given to the glory of God by Doug & Michelle Guenther in celebration of Lucy’s 7<sup>th</sup> birthday (Feb 22).

**PRAY FOR** We remember in our prayers this morning and ask for God’s continued comfort, strength and healing: Barb Fuhr, Louise Henke, Reva Kelly, Sophia Kessler, Cathy Ongpin, Marguerite Ringshauser, Marian Schuk, Orville Selmeier, Carol Sullivan, and Margaret Surbeck.

#### **2012 Financial Review** January

Offerings..... \$12,370.03

Expenditures.. \$13,256.85

Total.. \$ --886.82

**SPECIAL CELEBRATIONS**

We rejoice with those who celebrate birthdays and anniversaries. Please remember our "Peace Family" and send a card or give a call to wish them blessings on their special day!

- Feb. 19 Paul Lade
- Feb. 20 Ann Donselman
- Feb. 21 Jackie Dubois
- Feb. 22 Lucy Guenther
- Feb. 22 Josie Somers
- Feb. 24 Karen Ringshauser

- Feb. 27 Thomas Seibert
- Feb. 28 Bob Wood
- Mar. 2 Brett Vallandingham
- Mar. 3 Anthony & Jill Evans
- Mar. 4 Janet Hill (83)



FEBRUARY 22

Ash  
Wednesday

7:30 WORSHIP



Lenten  
Suppers

Join us for Lenten Suppers before our Lenten church services this year. The youth will host the first supper on February 22. Volunteers are needed each week to prepare the entrée, drink, and set-up for the dinner. A sign-up sheet is posted in the narthex for those who wish to help. Having two or more hostess each week makes the job easier. Those

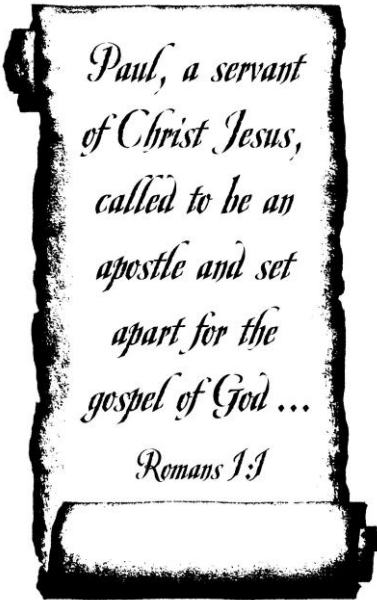
not hosting are asked to bring either a side dish or dessert to share (including the first night). Meals begin at 6:00 with the Lenten services beginning at 7:00. Those attending are asked to help with the clean-up.



**PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS –  
VOTERS' MEETING IS SET FOR MARCH  
4<sup>TH</sup> IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE  
MORNIG SERVICE.**

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**A Study on the book of Romans**

A prosecutor in a criminal court attempts to demonstrate, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the defendant is guilty of the charges. In Romans, we see Paul the prosecutor at work. But Paul is not primarily a prosecutor. He is primarily an evangelist. As prosecutor his purpose in showing our guilt and condemnation is to convict us of our lives of sin. As an evangelist he proclaims the Gospel that reveals a righteousness that is from God and is available to all through faith in Jesus Christ. To do that Paul must eliminate every claim of exemption from God's law in order to show that salvation is from God.

**Come and Join us Sunday  
beginning at 9:15.**

**BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION** Celebrate Ruth Hessel's 100<sup>th</sup> Birthday. A reception will be held on Sunday, March 4, 12:30-2:30 at Zion Lutheran Church (1175 Birney Ln 45230). If you wish to worship at Zion before the reception, the Praise Ablaze service begins at 11:00. All are welcome! No gifts please but cards are appreciated. Questions call, Janice and Jerry Porter 474-3046 or [portjrh@fuse.net](mailto:portjrh@fuse.net).  
Ruth Hessel, 2950 West Park Dr. #581, Cincinnati, Ohio 45238

## **LCMS reacts to contraceptive mandate 'accommodation'**

In response to President Obama's announcement Friday concerning an "accommodation" to a previous mandate that health plans must cover all forms of birth control (even those that can kill the unborn), The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) remains deeply concerned. We strongly object to the use of drugs and procedures that are used to take the lives of unborn children, who are persons in the sight of God from the time of conception. Drugs such as "Plan B" and "Ella," which are still included in the mandate, can work post-conception to cause the death of the developing child, so don't be fooled by statements to the contrary.

We see President Obama's action Friday as significant, in that it appears to have been prompted by the many voices united in concern over an infringement of our religious liberties. But the "accommodation" did not expand the exemption for religious employers, nor did it restrict the mandate in any way. It simply described a temporary enforcement delay and a possible future change—a change that, unfortunately, would not adequately protect religious freedom or unborn lives.

We remain opposed to this mandate because it runs counter to the biblical truth of the sanctity of human life. We are committed to working to ensure that we remain free to practice the teachings of our faith, that our religious rights are not violated, and that our rights of conscience are retained. Freedom of religion extends beyond the practice of our faith in houses of worship. We must be free to put our faith into action in the public square, and, in response to Christ's call, demonstrate His mercy through our love and compassion for all people according to the clear mandate of Holy Scripture.

The government has overstepped its bounds. This controversy is not merely about "birth control" and the Catholic Church's views about it. It's about mandating that we provide medications which kill life in the womb. And moreover, and perhaps even more ominous, it is about an overzealous government forcing coercive provisions that violate the consciences and rights of its citizens. We can no longer expect a favored position for Christianity in this country. But we can, as citizens of this great nation, fight for constitutional sanity against secularizing forces. As we have vividly experienced in discriminatory state legislation with respect to homosexual adoption, we, and our institutions (and those of other religious citizens of good will), are being robbed of the right to the free exercise of religion absent government intrusion or threat. The next assault will come upon church-related retirement facilities. How much longer will it be legal in this country to believe and act according to the dictates of biblical and creedal Christianity?

Jesus bids us, "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's" (Mark 12:17). We will pray for and support our government where we can, but our consciences and lives belong to God.

February 14, 2012

The Rev. Dr. Matthew C. Harrison  
President, The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod