

The Flock

February 2012

To view our calendar please go to www.mygoodshepherd.net

"Let us go to the nearby villages that I may preach there also. For this purpose I have come."

Mark 1: 29-39

The music of Terezin

During World War II, Terezin [pronounced tear-eh-ZEEN], a village near Prague, was the site of a concentration camp for Jewish artists and musicians whose work the Third Reich considered "impure" and "degenerate."

From 1941 until 1945, more than 30,000 died at Terezin itself - and more than 87,000 were sent from there to death camps. Prisoners at Terezin were forced to do hard, manual labor - but the musicians would secretly come together to make what music they could. When their late-night concerts were discovered, the Nazis "staged" performances by the prisoners to show the world how well they were treating the Jews - once the Red Cross left, the deportations from Terezin to the death camps resumed.

Composers imprisoned at Terezin wrote many works that were performed by their fellow prisoners. The music reflects their experiences at Terezin and the hope they clung to. Many expected that their music would die with them.

But twenty years ago, Mark Ludwig, who plays viola with the Boston Symphony Orchestra, read about the music created at Terezin and began an almost DaVinci Code-like search for the lost music. Ludwig made dozens of trips to the former Czech Republic, searching through boxes in makeshift archives and attics, until he found what he was looking for: sheet music written at Terezin. Ludwig then recruited musicians, composers, academics and survivors of Terezin to reconstruct, perform and record these works, almost lost forever.

Ludwig founded the Terezin Music Foundation to continue what he began. The foundation sponsors symposiums and organizes concerts, but its core mission over the past two decades has been to commission artists to complete and preserve the music of Terezin, which Mark Ludwig has painstakingly copied and archived.

"For me this has been an almost spiritual mission. "First, this music was and remains unbelievable. Second, these are people whose lives, like so many victims of the Holocaust, were destroyed. But further, when their minds could have been on anything else, anything at all, like self-preservation, they found the will to continue their craft and continue to make and perform music in the worst possible circumstances. And that needs to be remembered." [The Boston Globe, November 23, 2011.]

Mark Ludwig's work to preserve the music of Terezin mirrors the prophetic ministry of Jesus in proclaiming the reconciling compassion of the Father's kingdom. In his Gospel, the evangelist Mark chronicles Jesus' journey to proclaim the coming of God's reign among us. In the music that they re-construct and preserve, Mark Ludwig and his colleagues save for the world works of great hope that witness the triumph of justice over hatred and hope over despair. As disciples of Jesus in our own time and in our own place, we are called to that same work: to proclaim God's presence in our midst, to be agents of healing and restoration for the fallen, to enable God's reconciliation and forgiveness to heal and restore.

A leper came to Jesus and kneeling down begged him and said, "If you wish, you can make me clean."
Moved with pity, Jesus stretched out his hand, touched him, and said to him, "I do will it. Be made clean."

Mark 1: 40-45

Reconciler-in-chief

This month is the 203rd birthday of Abraham Lincoln, our sixteenth and - most historians and scholars consider - our greatest President.

The rail-splitter and country attorney from Illinois is revered for his ability to bring warring factions together during the bloody Civil War. Lincoln's extraordinary ability to bridge political chasms was evident at the outset of his presidency. As Doris Kearns Goodwin writes in her remarkable book *Team of Rivals*, Lincoln recruited for his war cabinet the best and brightest minds of his time - even men who openly despised Lincoln. In fact, Lincoln named his three opponents for the Republican nomination - men still angry at Lincoln's surprising nomination and election - to the principal posts of State, Treasury and War. When a reporter asked Lincoln why he had chosen his political enemies for his cabinet, Lincoln's answer was straight forward and shrewd: "We needed the strongest men of the party in the Cabinet. We needed to hold our own people together. I had looked the party over and concluded that these were the very strongest men. Then I had no right to deprive the country of their services."

"Though Lincoln desired success as fiercely as any of his rivals," Goodwin writes, "he did not allow his quest for office to consume the kindness and open-heartedness with which he treated supporters and rivals alike, nor alter his steady commitment to the antislavery cause."

Working together despite their differences, Lincoln and his *Team of Rivals* kept the union together during the Civil War. As the war drew to an end, with the Union on the verge of final victory, Lincoln outlined an extraordinary plan of Reconstruction centered on reconciliation and restoration rather than the retribution and reparations expected (and demanded) by many in the North. He did not seek to destroy the rebel states but reunite them to the nation.

Lincoln spoke of such reconciliation in his second inaugural address, delivered just weeks before his death. At the moment of his greatest political and military victory, the President spoke very humbly and compassionately, more like a prophet than a politician:

"With malice toward none; with charity for all; with firmness in the right, as God gives us to see the right, let us strive on to finish the work we are in; to bind up the nation's wounds; to care for him who shall have borne the battle, and for his widow, and his orphan - to do all which may achieve and cherish a just and lasting peace among ourselves, and with all nations."

Doris Kearns Goodwin writes of Lincoln's "indomitable sense of purpose" and his conviction "that we are one nation, indivisible." Lincoln's placing the good of the nation over political expediency, his controversial Reconstruction policies that centered on reconciliation rather than punishment, his work to restore enemies to community were all conscious decisions on Lincoln's part. In the first chapter of *Mark*, the leper approaches Jesus with the words, "If you wish, you can make me clean." The leper's challenge is addressed to all of us, who seek to imitate Jesus. We possess the means and abilities to transform our lives and world - what is required are the desire, the will, the determination to do so: to heal the broken, to restore lepers to wholeness, to reconcile with those from whom we are estranged. May Lincoln's words become our prayer: "to finish the work of a just and lasting peace."

Pastor Chip

Thirty Years of Ministry for LSF

Thirty years ago, Lutheran Services Florida was resettling refugees fleeing from unspeakably cruel government treatment in places like Uganda, Vietnam and Cuba. Through the prayers and financial support of Lutherans from across the state, LSF now operates more than 60 programs delivering healing, hope and help to tens of thousands each year. For more information about the work of LSF, please visit our website at www.lsfnet.org.

Steve Cecchetti
Director of Development, Lutheran Services Florida

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENT FROM WELCA!!

January we started collecting items for the Lutheran World Relief. In the past, the kits were called "Health Kits"; please note that the name has been changed to "Personal Health Kits."

People who must flee their homes quickly often do not have time to pack their essential items. LWR personal care kits can help children, men, and women who are refugees, maintain personal hygiene while living in exile. Items may also contribute a new start to those who can return home.

Include the following items in each Personal Care Kit:

One light-weight bath-size towel (maximum 52" X 27"), dark color recommended

Two bath-size bars (4 to 5 oz.) of soap, any brand, in original wrapping

One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging*

One sturdy comb, remove packaging

One metal nail clippers (attached file optional), remove packaging

*Toothbrush multi-packs may be used by sealing an individual toothbrush in a business-size envelope; no plastic bags or wrap

Do not add other items or leave out any of the items listed.

All items should be new and in good condition.

Wrap all the items in the towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn.

Do not enclose the Kit or any of its contents in plastic bags.

You may donate any part or a complete kit.

We will collect items until February 5th.

All kits must be delivered to Tampa shortly thereafter.

For more information on this, you may visit their website at:

http://lwr.org/site/c.dmJXKiOYJgI6G/b.7521989/k.B4F5/Personal_Care_Kits.htm

Personalities of the Passion of Jesus Christ

Ash Wednesday, February 22nd services are at 11am and 7 pm. Hot cross buns at 10 am and soup supper (fellowship hall) at 6 pm. Both Ash Wednesday services include Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion. The homily will be entitled "Peter."

All Wednesday mid-week services will be at 11 am and 7 pm with soup suppers at 6 pm.

Wednesday, February 29th the homily will be entitled "Mary."

Wednesday, March 7th the homily will be entitled "Caiaphas."

Wednesday, March 14th the homily will be entitled "Herod."

Wednesday, March 21st the homily will be entitled "Pilate."

Wednesday, March 28th the homily will be entitled "Barabbas."

Holy Thursday, April 5th the homily will be entitled "Simon of Cyrene." (Service of Holy Communion at 11 am and 7 pm, Stripping of the Altar at 7 pm, no soup supper).

Good Friday Tenebrae, April 6th the homily will be entitled "Joseph of Arimathaea." (7 pm service only!).

Easter Sunday, April 8th the homily will be entitled "Jesus." Service of Holy Communion at 8:30 and 11 am. Easter breakfast at 9:30 am.

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Women of the ELCA

Happy New Year! A HUGE thanks to everyone who brought in gifts, wrapping paper, etc. for the children of Isaiah's Inn!! As always, it was an excellent collection to be given to them this past Christmas.

Circle meetings have resumed!! ALL women of Good Shepherd are invited to join!!

February Meetings:

ABIGAIL CIRCLE:

(Meets the 4th Monday of the month at 7:30pm in a member's home)

February 27th's meeting:

Hostess: Kathy Austin

NAOMI CIRCLE:

(Meets the 2nd Tuesday of the month in the church library)

February 7th's meeting:

Leader: Gloria Gerlach

Thank You!

My sincere thanks to everyone for the many cards, prayers, and get Well wishes that were extended to me during my illness.

May God Bless you,

June Jirinec

OWLS

Older Wiser Lutherans

Come join us for a delicious potluck luncheon on
February 21, 2012 at noon

Bring your favorite dish to pass and your plate and silverware.
Drinks are provided.

Our program will be "Toy Train Sets" given by Bob Stanton.

Please sign up in the narthex. Hope to see you there!



The bloodmobile will be here on Sunday, February 5th.

Please sign up to give blood will be held Sunday, January 29, 2012

Happy Birthday to those celebrating in February!

| | |
|---------------------|-------------|
| Dawne Baumgardner | February 1 |
| Norma Hurter | February 1 |
| Patrica Frisco | February 2 |
| Betty Eisenhuth | February 4 |
| Diane Wood | February 4 |
| Raymond Donnelly | February 6 |
| Robert Nickol | February 7 |
| Kirk Austin | February 10 |
| Jerry Belanger | February 10 |
| Laurie-Dawn Heywood | February 11 |
| Ginnie Leman | February 11 |
| Shannon Mennel | February 11 |
| Barb Van Camp | February 12 |
| Aggie Wunderlich | February 13 |
| Tracey Dylong, II | February 14 |
| Jenny Morris | February 14 |
| Rollin Schellhas | February 14 |
| Norma Smith | February 14 |

| | |
|-------------------|-------------|
| Karen Lacina | February 16 |
| Darren Hendershot | February 20 |
| Bruce Keegan | February 21 |
| Carol Beyus | February 22 |
| Kathleen Brucato | February 22 |
| Peg Boman | February 23 |
| Andrew Lindelof | February 24 |
| Eric Mennel | February 24 |
| Corey Stolpe | February 24 |
| Myra Wayton | February 24 |
| John Swager | February 25 |
| Tim Hoffman | February 26 |
| Baylee Schumacher | February 26 |
| Hanna Neff | February 27 |
| Kinsit Cooley | February 28 |
| Kaie Latterner | February 28 |
| Jordan Van Leuven | February 28 |

Food Pantry

Thank you for your continued donations of non-perishable food to the Interfaith Food Pantry.
Please continue to leave your donations in the small room in front of the Ladies Room in the narthex.
Canned soups, stews, beans, peanut butter, spam and cereals are always welcome!
Listed below are the figures for families served during 2011 by the Food Pantry.

INTERFAITH FOOD PANTRY, INC.

| 2011 | | | |
|------------|--------|----------|-------|
| FAMILIES | ADULTS | CHILDREN | MEALS |
| JAN 236 | 474 | 201 | 6236 |
| FEB 199 | 376 | 168 | 4896 |
| MAR 217 | 388 | 199 | 5283 |
| APRIL 192 | 382 | 208 | 5310 |
| MAY 248 | 460 | 215 | 6075 |
| JUNE 228 | 484 | 243 | 8724 |
| JULY 288 | 585 | 293 | 10536 |
| AUG 341 | 685 | 364 | 12588 |
| SEPT 266 | 530 | 231 | 9052 |
| OCT 279 | 567 | 279 | 7614 |
| NOV 314 | 680 | 236 | 9207 |
| | | HOLIDAY | 136 |
| DEC 318 | 656 | 311 | 8703 |
| | | HOLIDAY | 95 |
| TOTAL 3126 | 6267 | 2948 | 94224 |
| | | HOLIDAY | 231 |
| | | | 94455 |

Our Homebound

Anderson, Ralph – 581-3782
Oak Manor Nursing Center #313
3600 Oak Manor Lane
Largo, FL 33774

Beddow, Dorothy - 392-4747
11485 63rd Avenue N
Seminole, FL 33772

Carlson, Wendell - 584-1915
Pinecrest # 603
1150 8th Ave SW
Largo, FL 33770

Conelly, Norine - 343-4182
6930—32nd Ave N
St. Petersburg, FL 33710

Ducan, Else - 392-2581
11029 91st Ave N
Seminole, FL 33772

Goberville, Florence - 397-8943
6740 121st St N
Seminole, FL 33772

Julius, Jim & Virginia - 585-6504
Pinecrest #2306
1150 8th Ave SW
Largo, FL 33770

Krug, Fred
Freedom Square Nursing Center
Room 128
10801 Johnson Blvd.
Seminole, FL 33772

Petersen, Penny
Grand Villa
750 Starkey Road
Largo, FL 33771

Pfarr, Jane - 470-9614
11019 Unit A
126th Ave
Largo, FL 33778

Rubush, Margaret - 398-3767
10801 Johnson Blvd. #352
Seminole, FL 33772-4746

Scarborough, Marie
The Inn at Freedom Square
10801 Johnson Blvd.
Seminole, FL 33772

OUR STEWARDSHIP

For the week ending January 28, 2012

| | Church | Little Lambs |
|------------------------------|-------------|--------------|
| Needed weekly | \$ 6,159.00 | \$ 6,680.00 |
| Receipts for the week | 2,972.00 | 4,761.00 |
| Needed YTD | 21,962.00 | 13,866.00 |
| Receipts YTD | 19,218.00 | 24,109.00 |

Please join us on March 8, 2012 for dinner and a concert.
Dinner is at 5:00 p.m., Concert at 7:00 p.m.
Sponsored by the Worship & Music Committee

Jimmy Blackwood and The Blackwood Brothers Quartet

“The best-known name in Gospel Music!”

The Blackwood Brothers Quartet was formed in 1934 with brothers Roy, Doyle and James along with Roy's son, R.W., Roy who was killed in a tragic airplane accident in 1954. Roy and Doyle retired from the road in the late 40's. James continued to lead the group, making it the best-known name in gospel quartet history.

James, the last surviving member of the original quartet, went to be with the Lord in 2002, but his son James, Jr. (Jimmy) brought the name out of retirement and continues the 75 year family tradition of great gospel singing. The group today consists of Jimmy, Wayne Little, Randy Byrd and Billy Blackwood and pianist Mike Hammonree. The result is one of the best quartets you have ever heard.

Anchoring the Blackwood sound is the lead voice of Jimmy Blackwood. Jimmy started singing with the Junior Blackwood Brothers in the early 60's and then sang baritone with J. D. Sumner in the Stamps Quartet from 1965-69. He joined the Blackwood Brothers Quartet in 1969. Both the Stamps Quartet and the Blackwood Brothers Quartet have been inducted into the Gospel Music Hall of Fame. While with the Blackwood Brothers in the 70's and 80's Jimmy won numerous Dove Awards and five Grammy Awards. In 1979 he received the Singing News fan award for Favorite Second Tenor. The remarks heard most often are how much he looks like and sounds like his famous father. Jimmy, and his wife, Mona live in Memphis and have two daughters, Dana and Debbie, and five grandchildren.

Wayne Little is one of the best tenors to ever sing a gospel song. Wayne formed the Crystal River Boys Quartet and later sang with the New Millennium Quartet. He was a featured singer at the Pentagon for a 9/11 Memorial service with Rev. Franklin Graham. His powerful, clear tenor voice thrills audiences from coast to coast. Wayne and his wife, Gina live in Elizabethton, Tennessee, and have two sons, Micah and Maison.

Billy, James Blackwood's youngest son, sings baritone and is the music arranger for the quartet. Billy played drums for J.D. Sumner and the Stamps Quartet at the age of 14. He also played for the Blackwood Brothers, Gordon Jensen and Sunrise, and Andrus/Blackwood & Company and toured with Voice, the opening act for the Elvis Presley show. He has traveled in solo ministry and has worked in youth and pastoral ministry. Billy has four daughters and one son.

Randy Byrd provides the foundation for the quartet. His smooth bass voice and winning personality continually make him new fans and friends all across the country. Randy is the son of a minister and grew up in Arkansas. Before joining the Blackwood Brothers he sang with the group "Majesty" from Des Moines, Iowa. Randy and his wife Lisa make their home in Maryville, Tennessee, and they have three daughters, Misti, Tiffani, and Kristin and three granddaughters and a grandson.

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd Council Meeting

January 19, 2011 (**Note:** These minutes are due to be approved at the February Meeting)

Little Lambs: Judy stated that the committee will be meeting Thursday February 2 to discuss the tuition. There haven't been any raises in quite a long time. VPK is full. There is still some room open for more kids. Total enrollment is 69 kids.

Finance: There is \$28,000 in the money market; \$16,000 in the checking account; and \$21,800 in the Youth Fund. The **Repair and Growth Fund** has \$2100 available which would be enough to cover gutter repair. The low estimate was \$1200 and Chuck will get the contract over to Kathy and get the repairs started.

(Chuck contacted A Rain Away, Aluminum Inc. and scheduled the installation for Feb. 4, 2012)

Old Business:

At the Meditation hearing January 17 the Copier lawsuit was settled with the Church's cost being \$5000 and to be held harmless in anything else that is might come up. The Mediators for our part was \$412.50. The current copier signed in 2007 expires in March 2013. The plan is to sell the old copier start the bidding process for a new copier lease and maintenance contract.

There was a lengthy discussion on whether the national flag of the United States of America and Christian flag should be placed in the Sanctuary.

The Council by consensus agreed:

1. To purchase and place the national flag of the United States of America and the Christian flag in the Narthex on either side of the doors entering the Sanctuary.
2. To present to the Congregation at the Congregational meeting in May, 2012 the question of the placement of the flags in the Sanctuary.

New Business: Council will provide the Soup for the Supper before Lent Services on Feb 29th at 6pm.

Correspondence: Lutheran Apartment News letter, ELCA thank you letter for good gifts program and Isaiah's Inn for the Christmas gifts for the boys and girls were read.

Ministry reports:

Senior Pastor: There are approximately 14 homebound. ELCA work force has had approximately 50% or so reduction.

President: Little Lambs sign that was moved by R&W Signs, Inc. A permit was pulled by them, but it expired before the required inspection was completed per a Pinellas County Construction Licensing Board Administrative Complaint. The sign company claims that it was our (Good Shepherd's) responsibility to call to have that inspection conducted. Chuck will contact the electrician who wired the sign for his input and the City of Seminole to get a resolution.

Property Planning: The fire sprinkler system was repaired by installing new valves, gauges and pressure switch for the cost of \$563. New casing around the entry door to the Preschool was installed. Speaker system has been installed in the Under 2 classroom. This room can now be used as Nursery during Sunday morning services. The benches in the Memorial Garden need repair or replaced. The list of projects has been reduced from 54 to 27.

Worship & Music- Met and tabled the survey for one service to determine the best approach to the survey and the way to get it done. There will be an Easter program April 1 at 3 PM. It will involve the Sunday and Pre-school and choirs. Thursday March 8th Blackwood Brothers Quartet will sing at 7 PM after a dinner (5-6:45 PM). There will be a Spaghetti Dinner Feb 12th for a fund raiser to buy new mikes for the Sanctuary following the 11 AM service.

Youth – Michael reported that the youth room was painted. The search team formation for the new Director will start Jan. 28. Michael will be on board until the middle of May 2012. Once the search committee has been formed, and the job description has been determined, the search will begin in March.

Education – There will be an apple pie fund raising campaign this coming Sunday

Community Relations – Interfaith Food Pantry fed: 3126 families; Adults 6267; and 2948 children a total 94,455 (including Holiday meals) during 2011.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer

Next meeting 2/16/12