



# March Newsletter

44707 289th St, PO Box 98 Viborg, SD 57070

ph: 605.327.3327

[www.svlcvib.org](http://www.svlcvib.org)

[svlc.office@svlcvib.org](mailto:svlc.office@svlcvib.org)

## On Lent by Pastor Maxwell Whitehead

Lent is a dangerous time. Traditionally speaking, it is a time of great piety, self-sacrifice, and attempts to improve upon one's own faith. So why is it so dangerous? Certainly giving something up to make oneself better can't be bad. Trying to do faith-based devotions more often couldn't possibly hurt could it?

Well, no. Those things of course won't hurt you as long as you understand exactly why you are doing them. Jesus states in Matthew's Gospel chapter 6: "Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven." So often we get motivated by how others see us. Even if we aren't blatant about it, we like to share with the world that we have started a new Lenten devotional, or are giving up a vice for lent, or are not eating meat on Fridays. We think this is to be seen as virtuous in the eyes of the neighbor, and we certainly like to look like we are living our best lives as far as the neighbor knows.

When we do this, we are putting way too much value on our own piety, or to use simpler terms, our works; which most often leads to works righteousness. Further translation of this theological notion: We think that what we do is what will grant us a more

favorable standing with God, and that without our participation, God will not look kindly on us.

And that is why it is a dangerous time. The moment that we start "navel-gazing" as Luther says, we stop looking to the cross where the true glory lies. We stop looking to the One who has already saved us

from all our sin and iniquity. Then when we fall short or our new daily devotionals, or we have that piece of chocolate, or beef, we are thrown into anxiety because we have failed ourselves.

Now. I am not discouraging you from doing devotionals or any other faith-based practices, especially if they help clear your mind and focus on God. I am not discouraging you from setting a goal of eating less junk food (the most common thing to give up in

Lent). But let your trust rest in the One who has already promised you life everlasting apart from your works, apart from the Law. Know that Christ died on the cross not so that you may be FREE to serve your neighbor and live your life knowing that God has already called you His own. Christ has forgiven you of your sins and your iniquities will be remembered no more.

This is most certainly true.  
Pastor Maxwell Whitehead

**"Beware of practicing your piety before others in order to be seen by them; for then you have no reward from your Father in heaven."**

- Matthew 6:1





# March Calendar

## Wednesday, Mar 1

7:30 AM Bible Study

3:45 PM Jr VCIS

**7:00 PM Worship @ Bethany Lutheran**

8:00 PM VCIS

## Sunday, Mar 5

8:00 AM Council Meeting

**9:00 AM Worship Service (Communion)**

10:15 AM Sunday School

## Wednesday, Mar 8

7:30 AM Bible Study

**7:00 PM Worship @ Church of the Nazarene**

3:45 PM Jr VCIS

8:00 PM VCIS

## Sunday, Mar 12

**9:00 AM Worship Service (Traditional)**

10:15 AM Sunday School

## Wednesday, Mar 15

7:30 AM Bible Study

3:45 PM Jr VCIS

**7:00 PM Worship @ First Baptist Church**

8:00 PM VCIS

## Sunday, Mar 19

**9:00 AM Worship Service (Communion)**

10:15 AM Sunday School

## Tuesday, Mar 21

**Newsletter Deadline**

## Wednesday, Mar 22

7:30 AM Bible Study

3:45 PM Jr VCIS

**7:00 PM Worship @ United Methodist Church**

8:00 PM VCIS

## Sunday, Mar 26

**9:00 AM Worship Service (contemporary)**

10:15 AM Sunday School

## Wednesday, Mar 29

7:30 AM Bible Study

3:45 PM Jr VCIS

**7:00 PM Worship @ SVLC**

8:00 PM VCIS

**There is no Confirmation through Lent, but Confirmands are expected to attend the Lenten services.**

## March Scripture Readings

Mar 5 - Genesis 12:1-4a, Psalm 121, Romans 4:1-5, 13-17, John 3:1-17 or Matthew 17:1-9

Mar 12- Exodus 17:1-7, Psalm 95, Romans 5:1-11, John 4:5-42

Mar 19 - 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

Mar 22 - Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 or Isaiah 58:1-12, Psalm 51:1-17, 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10, Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Mar 26 - Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45

## March Ushers & Cleaners

### March Ushers

✿ Randy & Charlene Overgard

✿ Tim & Tammy Sorensen

✿ Troy & Kayla Larsen

### Cleaners Feb 26 - Mar 11

✿ Elaine Lee

✿ Brenda Lee

✿ Kaye Lee

✿ Katie Smit

### Cleaners Mar 12 - 25

✿ Kaye Lee

✿ Faydra Christensen

✿ Tena Johansen

### March 26- April 8

✿ Tammy Zimmerman

✿ Tonya Rudd

✿ Kelli Zimmerman

✿ Amy Christensen

✿ Amanda Goergen

# March Worship Helpers

## Sunday, Mar 5

Reader ..... Brett Mellem  
 Acolytes ..... Kaleb Huber & Emily Ludens  
 Communion Helper ..... Parker  
 Live Stream ..... Janet Munkvold  
 Organist/Pianist ..... Brenda Whitehead

## Sunday, Mar 12

Reader ..... Tonya Rudd  
 Acolytes ..... Reagan & Nora Rudd  
 Live Stream ..... Janet Munkvold  
 Organist/Pianist ..... Annet Kropuenske

## Sunday, Mar 19

Reader ..... Mitch Larsen  
 Acolytes ..... Carston & Lincoln Mellem  
 Communion Helper ..... Zoey  
 Live Stream ..... Janet Munkvold  
 Organist/Pianist ..... Annet Kropuenske

## Sunday, Mar 26

Reader ..... Faydra Christensen  
 Acolytes ..... Kaleb Huber & Emily Ludens  
 Live Stream ..... Janet Munkvold  
 Music ..... Praise Band



## Sunday, Apr 2 (Palm Sunday)

8:00 AM Council Meeting  
**9:00 AM Worship Service (Communion)**  
 10:15 AM Sunday School

## Wednesday, Apr 5

7:30 AM Bible Study  
 3:45 PM Jr VCIS  
 5:30 PM Confirmation  
 7:00 PM VCIS

## Thursday, April 6 (Maundy Thursday)

**7:00 PM Worship Service @ SVLC**

## Friday, April 7 (Good Friday)

**7:00 PM Worship Service @ OSLC**

## Sunday, Apr 9 (Easter Sunday)

**6:45 AM Sunrise Worship Service**  
 7:45 AM Brunch served by VCIS Youth

## Wednesday, Apr 12

7:30 AM Bible Study  
 3:45 PM Jr VCIS  
 5:30 PM Confirmation  
 7:00 PM VCIS

## Sunday, Apr 16

**9:00 AM Worship Service (Communion)**  
 10:15 AM Sunday School





# VCIS: A Ministry of the larger Viborg Lutheran Church

Vocavit - Congregantur - Illustratus - Sanctificatus  
(Called - Gathered - Enlightened - Sanctified)

This month has been a challenge to gather together what with all the snow and all. But we did get to gather with the Youth and their parents midway through the month! We had all 17 of our mission trip participants there as well as at least 1 parent for each kid! With a gathering of about 30 people, we were able to do some fun ice-breaker name games and break into small groups for biblical conversation. The topic of conversation revolved around Paul's portrayal of the body of Christ in 1 Corinthians and how we too can function as a team to be the body of Christ! It was awesome to see so much participation among all those gathered.



to sign a covenant and see what the theme for the week will be. So exciting! And our final YouthWorks payment will be coming up in May! If you would like to donate anything to help them reach their fundraising goals, checks can be made out to VCIS and sent to PO Box 98 Viborg, SD 57070. Aside from monetary support, we greatly appreciate prayerful support too!

Thank you for your continued support! This group is very special to a lot of kids and their families, and we give thanks for the opportunity to grow together in Christ.

Normally we would've served a soup supper on Ash Wednesday, but unfortunately the weather prevented that. We do have some ideas coming up for service projects and fundraising opportunities in the future though, so look for us out in the community this spring! There are also tentative plans for maybe some Holy Week youth participation...

As far as trip details go, we have now been sent paperwork from YouthWorks! This means we get



The Next Council Meeting is Sunday, March 5, 2023 at 8:00 AM

## Please Lift in Prayer

- ✝ Art Wirth
- ✝ Beverly Andersen
- ✝ Kaye Lee
- ✝ Bob Christensen
- ✝ Marin Bultena
- ✝ Pastor Carol Marohl
- ✝ Family & Friends of Jordan Mogck (Lisa M's niece)
- ✝ Family & Friends of Arlen Jensen



### WEDNESDAYS OF LENT



**Bible Study** 7:30AM @ Parsons Ins.  
**JR. VCIS** 3:45 - 5:00PM  
**No Confirmation** but Confirmands are expected to attend the Lenten services.  
**VCIS** 8:00PM



April Newsletter Deadline is March 24, 2023. Please submit all articles and information! Thank You!

Viborg SD 57070  
 PO Box 98  
 44707 289th St  
 LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 Spring Valley



## Lenten Worship Schedule

- March 1 ..... "The Wound of Betrayal"  
 Time: 7:00PM      Preacher: Reverend Daryl      Location: Bethany Lutheran Church
- March 8..... "The Wound of Apathy"  
 Time: 7:00PM      Preacher: Reverend Kent      Location: Church of the Nazarene
- March 15..... "The Wound of Denial"  
 Time: 7:00PM      Preacher: Reverend David      Location: First Baptist Church
- March 22..... "The Wound of Mockery"  
 Time: 7:00PM      Preacher: Reverend Max      Location: United Methodist Church
- March 29 ..... "The Wound of Abandonment"  
 Time: 7:00PM      Preacher: Reverend Ron      Location: Spring Valley Lutheran Church



**There is no Confirmation through Lent, but Confirmands are expected to attend the Lenten services.**