

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor Boyle's Scheduled Hours: Off on Mondays

At Grace 9:00 - noon Tues & Wed.

At Trinity 9:00 - noon Thurs & Fri

Afternoons alternated between Grace & Trinity

Church Office Hours:

Tuesday – Thursday 10am-3pm

(Every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month 11:30-4pm)



We're on the Web
www.tlcwichita.org

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:30AM Sunday School and Bible Class

**At Trinity this month*

10:30AM Hospitality in Fellowship Hall

11:00AM Divine Service

Trinity Lutheran Church
611 So. Erie Street
Wichita, KS 67211-2999
Address Services Requested
Phone: 555-555-5555
Fax: 555-555-5555



THE TORCH - MARCH 2015

Sharing Christ's Salvation Story So That Every Soul Is Saved



Trinity Lutheran Church, Wichita, Kansas
Church Office Telephone- (316) 685-1571

Email Address: office@tlc.kscoxmail.com – website: www.tlcwichita.org

Inside This Issue Index on Page 3

FROM THE PASTOR: *Repentance Has Two Parts*

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel." ~ Mark 1:15

Repent.

That's a good Lent word. It describes our fast, our ashes, our increased worship and giving. That one, little word captures it all. But certainly the call to repent isn't just a Lenten thing. And it's certainly not new.

This was the call of all the prophets of old: *"Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways, declares the Lord God. Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin."* (Ezek 18:30)

John the Baptizer, that voice crying out in the wilderness, continued this call:

"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." (Mt 3:2)

And Jesus, immediately following His baptism and temptation, said:

"The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the Gospel." (Mk 1:15)

And again:

"I have not come to call the righteous but sinners to repentance." (Lk 5:32)

This call didn't end at the cross, or the empty tomb, but was carried on through the voice of the Holy Apostles:

"And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.'" (Acts 2:38)

The call was for Jews and Greeks – all of humanity: *"Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."* (Acts 11:18)

Finally, in the Revelation of St. John, the Lord extended this call to each of the 7 Churches:

"Those whom I love, I reprove and discipline, so be zealous and repent." (Rev 3:19)

This call to repentance has been the center of all faithful preaching throughout the Church's history. The German Lutheran Pastor of the 1930's and 40's, Hermann Sasse puts it this way:

"The Church of Christ on earth was born of a powerful call to repentance. Her triumphal march through the peoples of later centuries is the history of a great call to repentance. Every epoch of her history has begun with a call to repentance. Even the Reformation was, in its deepest essence, nothing more than a great repentance of the Church. And when God again grants an awakening to the Christianity of the western lands and the Christianity of Germany, then this awakening will be nothing

more than the great repentance of the Church in our century." ("Church's Day of Repentance," Reformation Festival, Oct. 31, 1943, *Witness*, 233)

We see this in Luther clearly; the first of the 95 Theses: *"Our Lord and Master Jesus Christ, when He said Poenitentiam agite [repent], willed that the whole life of believers should be repentance."*

We've all heard the call to repent. We've seen it in the Scriptures and the sermons, but what does it mean? This, I believe, is where we are greatly confused. And this, is fundamentally what separates Christendom and divides the Church – sad, though it is!

Our Lutheran Confessions teach:

"Now, strictly speaking, repentance consists of two parts. One part is contrition, that is, terrors striking the conscience through the knowledge of sin. The other part is faith, which is born of the Gospel [Rom 10:17] or the Absolution and believes that for Christ's sake, sins are forgiven." (AC XII.3-5)

Rome accepted the first part – the terror of conscience and the demand for contrition – but the second part they could not believe. And this is our problem today too: we think the call to repent is primarily a call for us to do something. But as the Confessions – and the Holy Scriptures, too! – make abundantly clear, repentance is God's work, first and foremost.

It is our Lord's word of the Law that reveals our sin, and creates guilt, and cuts us to the core. This is contrition, where we recognize the reality of our sin, and the judgment of God. That's half of repentance.

The other half comes from our Lord's word of the Gospel, which delivers our Savior, Jesus Christ. It takes the blood of His sacrifice and applies it to us, freely, for His sake alone! This Gospel creates faith (Rom 10:17), which receives the new and clean heart through the forgiveness of sin.

Sasse says, *"the Church is born of a powerful call to repentance."*

In this, he's not calling for your works or efforts, or anything that begins or ends in you – no, like all faithful preachers, he's calling for our Lord's Word of Law and Gospel to bring repentance to us all and reunite us to Him.

That's what Lent is all about – and so also the Christian life. It's hearing again of our sin and of the Savior, who by the shedding of His blood, forgives our sin. *Repent and believe in the Gospel!*

Yours in Christ, our Paschal Joy!
Pastor Boyle

From our Confessions

Part III, Article IX. Of Excommunication.

The greater excommunication, as the Pope calls it, we regard only as a civil penalty, and it does not concern us ministers of the Church. But the lesser, that is, the true Christian excommunication, consists in this, that manifest and obstinate sinners are not admitted to the Sacrament and other communion of the Church until they amend their lives and avoid sin. And ministers ought not to mingle secular punishments with this ecclesiastical punishment, or excommunication.

Part III, Article X. Of Ordination and the Call.

1] If the bishops would be true bishops [would rightly discharge their office], and would devote themselves to the Church and the Gospel, it might be granted to them for the sake of love and unity, but not from necessity, to ordain and confirm us and our preachers; omitting, however, all comedies and spectacular display [deceptions, absurdities, and appearances] of unchristian [heathenish] parade and pomp.

2] But because they neither are, nor wish to be, true bishops, but worldly lords and princes, who will neither preach, nor teach, nor baptize, nor administer the Lord's Supper, nor perform any work or office of the Church, and, moreover, persecute and condemn those who discharge these functions, having been called to do so, the Church ought not on their account to remain without ministers [to be forsaken by or deprived of ministers].

3] Therefore, as the ancient examples of the Church and the Fathers teach us, we ourselves will and ought to ordain suitable persons to this office; and, even according to their own laws, they have not the right to forbid or prevent us. For their laws say that those ordained even by heretics should be declared [truly] ordained and stay ordained [and that such ordination must not be changed], as St. Jerome writes of the Church at Alexandria, that at first it was governed in common by priests and preachers, without bishops.

Part III, Article XI. Of the Marriage of Priests.

1] To prohibit marriage, and to burden the divine order of priests with perpetual celibacy, they have had neither authority nor right [they have done out of malice, without any honest reason], but have acted like antichristian, tyrannical, desperate scoundrels [have performed the work of antichrist, of tyrants and the worst knaves], and have thereby caused all kinds of horrible, abominable, innumerable sins of unchastity [depraved lusts], in which they still wallow. **2]** Now, as little as we or they have been given the power to make a woman out of a man or a man out of a woman, or to nullify either sex, so little have they had the power to [sunder and] separate such creatures of God, or to forbid them from living [and cohabiting] honestly in marriage with one another. **3]** Therefore we are unwilling to assent to their abominable celibacy, nor will we [even] tolerate it, but we wish to have marriage free as God has instituted [and ordained] it, and we wish neither to rescind nor hinder His work; for Paul says, **1 Tim. 4:1ff**, that this [prohibition of marriage] is a doctrine of devils.

Part III, Article XII. Of the Church.

1] We do not concede to them that they are the Church, and [in truth] they are not [the Church]; nor will we listen to those things which, under the name of Church, they enjoin or forbid. **2]** For, thank God, [today] a child seven years old knows what the Church is, namely, the holy believers and lambs who hear the voice of their Shepherd. For the children pray thus: *I believe in one holy [catholic or] Christian Church.* **3]** This holiness does not consist in albs, tonsures, long gowns, and other of their ceremonies devised by them beyond Holy Scripture, but in the Word of God and true faith.

To be continued next month...

EVENTS AT A GLANCE

March 3	~Winkel-Holy Cross 8:30a-12:30p
	~ Lord's Diner 5:30pm
March 4	~Lenten Services/Private Absolution/Dinner-(see pg.9)
	~Adult Catechesis Class at Trinity 4p
March 9	~Labor Finders
March 10	~Church Council Meeting 7-8:30pm
March 11	~Lenten Services/Private Absolution/Dinner-(see pg. 9)
	~Adult Catechesis Class at Trinity 4p
March 12	~Hall of Men 7:30p
March 17	~OMT Book Club 9-12p at Grace
March 18	~Torch Deadline
	~Lenten Services/Private Absolution/Dinner-(see pg.9)
	~Adult Catechesis Class at Trinity 4p
March 19	~Festival of St. Joseph, Guardian of Jesus
	~Ladies Guild Meeting/Bible Study 9-12p
	~Elders Meeting 7-8p
March 24	~Bunco 7p at Trinity
March 25	~Feast of the Annunciation of Our Lord
	~Lenten Services/Private Absolution/Dinner-(see pg. 9)
	~Adult Catechesis Class at Trinity 4p
	~Elders Confessions Study 7:30pm
March 26	~Hall of Men 7:30p
	~Elders Confession Study 7:30p at the Engelbrechts
March 27	~Game Night at Trinity Chapel 6-9pm
March 30	~Holy Monday Services (see pg. 9)
March 31	~Holy Tuesday Services (see pg. 9)

~MORE THIS MONTH~

Sundays (unless otherwise noted on calendar)

2014-2015 Youth Catechesis at Grace

More information on page 10.

Adult Choir Practice 6:15pm at Grace

Wednesdays

Children's Choir Practice 6:30pm at Trinity

Fridays





~ATTENTION LADIES!~

Bunco will be held March 24th, at Trinity, and all ladies are welcome to join. Please RSVP! For more information, call the church office at 685-1571, or you can reach Jennifer at 300-0500.



~LUTHERAN HOUR BROADCAST MARCH 2015~

March 1
"The True Author of Your Life Story"
 Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
 When Christ's story becomes yours by faith, life changes.
 (2 Corinthians 7:10)

overcome by trouble and regret.
 (John 16:33)

March 8
"Lifted Up"
 Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
 When sinful pride lays us low, God's grace in Christ lifts us up again.
 (Psalm 103:8-12)

March 22
"No Regrets? Follow Jesus!"
 Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
 In the end, forgiven sinners will not regret having followed Jesus.
 (Matthew 16:21-26)

March 15
"The Power of God's Enduring Forgiveness and Grace"
 Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Gregory Seltz
 Jesus offers reconciliation and restoration to those

March 29
"Show Me"
 Speaker Emeritus of The Lutheran Hour: Rev. Ken Klaus
 Jesus really did die and three days later He really did conquer death through His resurrection.
 (John 19:17-18)

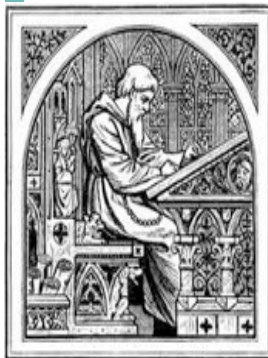
You can listen anytime online at www.lutheranhour.org. For local times and stations, go to www.lutheranhour.org and click on Broadcast guide.



~HALL OF MEN~

FOR MEN ONLY - A local fellowship hall where the men break bread, tap the keg, and toast their heroes.

2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month at Eighth Day Institute at The Ladder (2836 E Douglas Ave) Doors open at 7:00pm. Food is served at 7:30pm, and evening events officially begin at 8:30pm with a hymn, the Nicene Creed, and a lecture on a hero whose life inspires us to live more authentic lives and to fight for the renewal of our culture.



434 Lamb of God, Pure and Holy

1 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
 Who on the cross didst suffer,
 Ever patient and lowly,
 Thyself to scorn didst offer.
 All sins Thou borest for us,
 Else had despair reigned o'er us:
 Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

2 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
 Who on the cross didst suffer,
 Ever patient and lowly,
 Thyself to scorn didst offer.
 All sins Thou borest for us,
 Else had despair reigned o'er us:
 Have mercy on us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

3 Lamb of God, pure and holy,
 Who on the cross didst suffer,
 Ever patient and lowly,
 Thyself to scorn didst offer.
 All sins Thou borest for us,
 Else had despair reigned o'er us:
 Thy peace be with us, O Jesus! O Jesus!

This *Agnus Dei* is by Nikolaus Decius and first appeared in *Geystlykeleder*, etc., Rostock, 1531, in Low German, entitled "Dat Agnus Dei," and then in High German, in Valentin Schumann's *Gesang Buch, Leipzig*, 1539. It is a general favorite in the Lutheran Church and is commonly sung in the mid-week Lenten services and on Good Friday just before the sermon.

The translation is composite.

The tune "O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig" is based on an ancient Gregorian setting for the *Agnus Dei* and may have been arranged for this hymn by Nikolaus Decius. It is first found in *Christliche Kirchen Ordnung*. Fur arme ungeschickte Pfarrherrn gestellt, etc., Erfurt, 1542.

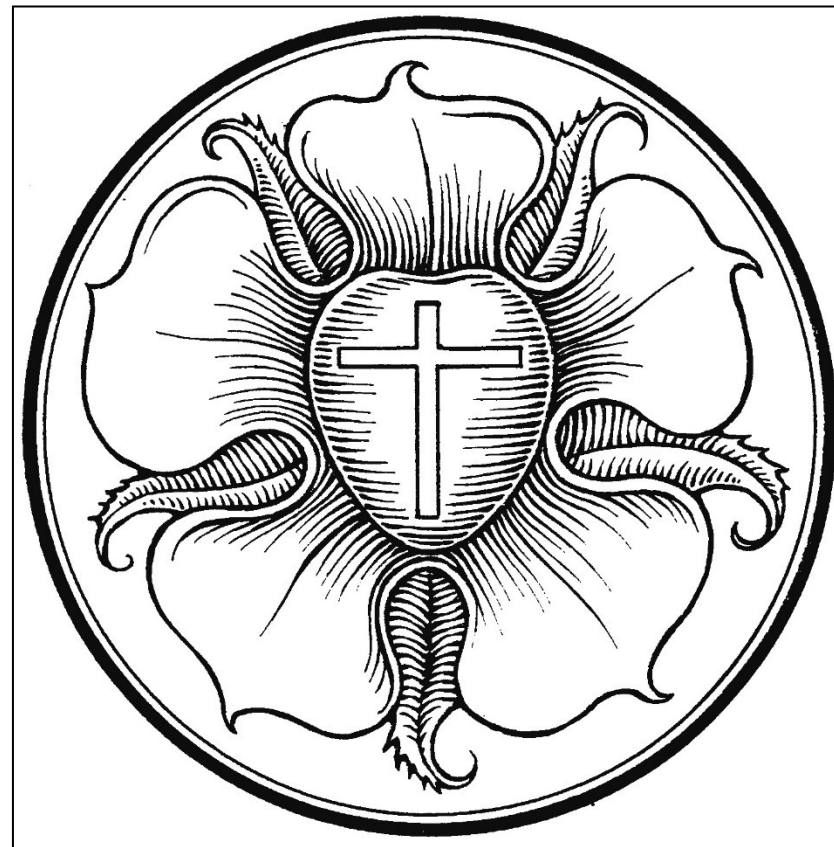
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The Lutheran Ethos: What We Believe, Teach, and Confess

Adult Catechesis and New Member Class



Wednesday, February 25th at 4pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

(Every Wednesday in the Library downstairs)

This class is an introduction to what it means to be Lutheran. We'll discuss what we believe and how we live out that faith. The classes may be used towards membership at Grace or Trinity for those wishing to join. But there's no pressure to join. Even life-long Lutherans are encouraged to come for a refresher in the faith!



~DON'T FORGET TO DIRECT THRIVENT CHOICE DOLLARS~

Grant funding from Thrivent Financial through its Thrivent Choice program can help support organizations you care about. Don't let designated Choice Dollars expire.

Eligible Thrivent Financial members who have been designated Choice Dollars have until **March 31, 2015**, to direct any remaining 2014 Choice Dollars. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice to learn more and find program terms and conditions. Or call 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" after the prompt.



~EQUAL EXCHANGE COFFEE AND CHOCOLATE~

Support Lutheran World Relief with a purchase from Equal Exchange.

Now, when you purchase Equal Exchange chocolate, 20¢ per pound will go to LWR's Small Farmer Fund, which supports small-scale farmers around the world. Try Equal Exchange's delicious chocolate products alongside the coffee, tea, cocoa, and other products you already know and love.

Shop online: lwrcoffee.com/chocolate or call (774) 776-7340



~ORATIO, MEDITATIO, TENTATIO ~ (Theological Reading Group)

Schedule

9:00 – 9:45 am Matins
9:45 – 11:45 am Reading Discussion
11:45 am – Noon Prayer
Noon – 1:00 pm Lunch

Locations

Trinity Lutheran Church Grace Lutheran Church
611 S. Erie, Wichita 3310 E Pawnee, Wichita



2014-2015 Reading Schedule:

March 17 (Grace, Wichita)
Carson, D.A. *Exegetical Fallacies*. Grand Rapids: Baker Books, 1996.



~CHILDREN'S CHOIR~

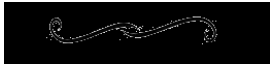


Practices are now going on for our Children's Choir! Erin Kenny is the director and will be leading practices 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday evenings at Trinity Lutheran Church. Interested or questions contact Erin at :
ejkennykumc@gmail.com



~ADULT CHOIR~

Practices are now going on for our Adult Choir at Grace Lutheran Church on Sunday evenings at 6:15p.m. If you have any questions or are interested please contact Grace's church office at 685-1571 or email graceoffice@glc.kscoxmail.com.



~FAMILY GAME NIGHT~



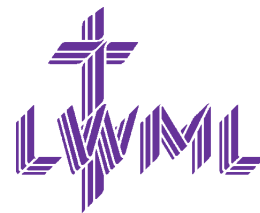
Join us for another fun night of pizza, board games and cards Friday, March 27th from 6-9pm at Trinity's old Chapel. Pizza will be ordered but feel free to bring games, drinks or snacks. All ages welcome!



~LADIES GUILD~

Ladies Guild will meet on March 19th, at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies are are invited to join us for Bible study, meeting and fellowship.

NEWS AND NOTES from LWML-
We will be folding Palm Crosses on March 28th at 9am,
all are welcome !
Please watch for a sign up sheet for Easter brunch.



~2015 FLOWER CHART~

The new flower chart is now posted in the narthex. If you would like to provide flowers on any Sunday in 2015, you may sign up and let the church office know if it is a special occasion. The cost is \$30. (If 2 people signup for the same date, the cost can be split or two separate vases can be requested.) You may pay for your flowers one or more weeks in advance of your chosen date(s). If you have any questions, please call the church office. Remember though, we have no flowers during Lent and poinsettias around Christmas



**GRACE AND TRINITY
LENT AND EASTER SCHEDULE
Midweek Lent Services:**

Teaching the Faith in a Simple Manner...

Grace ~ 12:00 noon, Meal at 11:00 AM

Trinity ~ 7:00 PM, Meal at 6:00 PM

2/18/15

Ash Wednesday: The 10 Commandments

2/25/15

Midweek I: The Creed

3/4/15

Midweek II: The Lord's Prayer

3/11/14

Midweek III: Holy Baptism

3/18/15

Midweek IV: Holy Absolution

3/25/15

Midweek V: Holy Communion

Holy Week Services:

No meals during Holy Week

3/30 Holy Monday (12pm/7pm)

The Passion According to St. Matthew

3/31 Holy Tuesday (12pm/7pm)

The Passion According to St. Mark

4/1 Holy Wednesday (12pm/7pm)

The Passion According to St. Luke

4/2 Maundy Thursday (12pm/7pm)

4/3 Good Friday (12pm/7pm)

4/4 Easter Vigil (Grace, 8pm)

4/5 Easter Sunday (8am/11am)

*"Let each his lesson learn with care,
And all the household well shall fare."*

~ Martin Luther



~DEAR MEMBERS OF TRINITY~

The Lenten season is here, and you will hear again the of the suffering and death of Jesus the Christ on your behalf.

The sin that so easily entangles us will be recalled by all of us with grieving and repentant hearts. But because Jesus' sacrificial death for us is now completed, we will also be comforted and filled with gratitude.

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the victor's triumph won;
Now be the song of praise begun.

Your congregation leaders suggest that Lent, Holy Week, and Easter are especially appropriate times to give to the Lord with thanksgiving. The suggestion is that you **GIVE ONE DAY**.

GIVE ONE DAY'S wages as a special offering to Trinity. Let this be above your regular offerings and pledge.

GIVE ONE DAY'S work to clean, beautify, or repair our church property. Trustee Chairman Roger Zwemke (Tel. 686-0184) is preparing a list of projects large and small for volunteers to consider. Spring cleaning is always a formidable task...and we all appreciate a spruced up church and grounds, especially at Easter (April 5).

GIVE ONE DAY'S help to one of our home-bound members or to a neighbor of yours. Pastor Boyle or Secretary Jennifer Reyes can give you a name. (Tel. 685-1571) Giving a ride for shopping or an appointment, raking a lawn, providing a frozen meal or two, or visiting to lighten someone's day...these and many other deeds will reflect the love of our Lord.

You may want to give several of these...or portions of them. Whatever the form or amount, it will be your special offering in response to the love of Christ.

Your contribution of a financial offering will be especially appreciated. Trinity began 2015 with total operating funds of \$26,826.64. Offerings in January were \$9,081.99 and expenses were \$10,204.95. The operating funds balance on Feb. 1 was \$25,703.68.

The Love Fund currently has \$1,234.04, Sunday School Missions \$112.48, and Lutheran Student Center Fund \$10.

All this adds up to \$27,060.20 which is in our Bank of America checking account. There are no other funds in savings, no certificates of deposit, and no funds with Lutheran Church Extension Fund.

May the Lord bless our giving, our worship and communing, our learning, and our lives of service. As he has given us the special days of our individual lives (birthdays, baptism anniversaries, graduations, wedding anniversaries, and others), may we be moved to **GIVE ONE DAY** in thankfulness.

Peace and joy, Clifford Winter, Stewardship Chair



Life Thoughts in the Church Year

Copied from LifeDate: A quarterly journal of life issue news and commentary from Lutherans For Life



March 1 – Second Sunday in Lent – To make it clear perhaps should read, Peter heard Jesus speak of suffering and death but he seemed to have missed the resurrection part. (Mark 8:31-32). The way of salvation would be the way of the cross AND an empty tomb. When we take up our cross and follow Him, we follow *in* the victory He has already won over death, and we follow *toward* the victory of our own resurrection. That makes cross bearing purposeful and hopeful.

March 8 – Third Sunday in Lent – God did not send Moses into Egypt with the Ten Commandments and say, “Keep these and I will see what I can do about getting you out of here.” No, He got them out of there. He redeemed them from the “house of slavery” (Exodus 20:2). He tells them, “This is how redeemed people live.” Keeping the commandments and making good choices in our lives is not the way of salvation. It flows from salvation.

March 15 – Fourth Sunday in Lent – “But God ...” (Ephesians 2:4). What hope-filled words! We were dead in sin and deserved to stay dead in sin (2:1-3). “But God ... makes us alive together with Christ” (5). The world is a mess. But “God so loved the world that he gave his only Son ...” (John 3:16). Our lives can seem a mess. But God created us “in Christ Jesus for good works” (2:10). Live in hope! Think, “But God ...”

March 22 – Fifth Sunday in Lent – A God who forgives iniquity and remembers sin no more (Jeremiah 31:31-34) is just the kind of God people who have sinned against life need to hear about and trust in and take comfort in.

March 29 – Palm Sunday/Sunday of the Passion – Because we have a God who emptied Himself and became obedient unto death (Philippians 2:5-8), we are free from the slavery of sin and death. Instead, we become “prisoners of hope” (Zechariah 9:12). Isn't it good to know that when we feel hopeless, we have a hope that will not let us go?



UPCOMING FOOD HANDLER CLASS

For those who need a Food Handlers Card to help with the Lord's Diner or other food serving opportunities, here are dates for upcoming classes. All are welcome. Please arrive a bit early to complete volunteer paperwork. Please call Sheryl at 266-4966 if you have any questions.

2015 Food Handler Classes

~St. Peter the Apostle in Schulte , April 11th at 9:30 am

~All Saints in Wichita , September 12th at 9:30 am

~Riverwalk Church of Christ in Wichita

November 14th at 9:30am

