

# Nativity Lutheran Church

## Weekend Newsletter

February 6 & 7, 2010



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612.781.2766  
www.nativitychurch.org

*Nativity's Mission Statement: Nativity is a hospitable congregation sent by Jesus Christ to be disciples who will make a difference by bringing God's love, hope, joy and peace to the world.*

### Scripture Reading for the Weekend of February 13 & 14 Luke 9:29-36 Transfiguration of our Lord

#### Summary

As Jesus prays on a mountain, his face and clothing become transformed. Moses and Elijah appear and converse with him. When Peter offers a confused response, God speaks to him, John, and James, declaring Jesus to be God's Son.

#### Analysis

This bizarre scene is more evocative than descriptive. Although its details do not provide a complete picture or a full explanation, it is a powerful symbolic moment in the Gospel. The scene's position within the overall sweep of Luke helps reveal its significance. Jesus has just predicted his suffering, death, and resurrection for the first time and has issued a radical call to those who seek to be his followers (Luke 9:18-27). He is about to commence his journey toward Jerusalem, where he will be killed (Luke 9:51). At this point in the narrative, then, the transfiguration divinely confirms Jesus' understanding of his fate. Moses and Elijah, two prophets from Israel's history who each also met with God on top of a mountain, speak about what Jesus must do in Jerusalem. The appearance of these two figures may also serve as an echo of biblical promises concerning future days (see Deuteronomy 18:16-20 and Malachi 4:4-6). The transfiguration is not about

offering encouragement to Jesus; it is about instructing the disciples who witness it. The voice that comes from the cloud (a familiar representation of God's presence) addresses them, not Jesus. For more information on this and other passages in the Bible go to [www.enterthebible.com](http://www.enterthebible.com).

#### Music for the Weekend:

**On February 13 & 14**, the theme for the worship services will be "It is Good, Lord, to be here." Global Folk and Voices of Women will perform musical reflections on the Transfiguration story.

**February 20 & 21** our New Liturgy Begins! Nativity Choir will sing at the 9 & 10:30 a.m. services. There will be soloists on Saturday night and 8:00 a.m. on Sunday with members of Nativity Jazz.

#### Lenten Meals

On Wednesdays during Lent Nativity will be serving meals:

After 11:45am service: soup, bread, fruit, dessert and beverage for \$3 per person

5:30 p.m. prior to the 7:00 p.m. service: Minnesota comfort food for \$5 per person. (Please sign up for supper meal at the front desk no later than Tuesdays.)

There are two large print ELW hymnals available for your use. Please contact one of the ushers and they will assist you.

## **Lent 2010 Begins**

The word “Lent” means wellspring, a symbol of renewal. Like a cup of cold water that quenches a thirst, Lent is a time in the church year that quenches our spiritual thirst. It is a time to allow God’s Grace to replenish our spirits.

During Lent we will focus on prayer. Using a prayer that Jesus taught his disciples, the Lord’s Prayer, we will explore what is prayer, why should we pray, how should we pray and how does prayer work. In fourteen short lines, the Lord’s Prayer contains the heart and soul of Jesus’ teaching.

We will use two books, the Bible, specifically Matthew 6:9-15, and “Lenten Journey: 40 Days with the Lord’s Prayer” as our study guides for Lenten services and small groups. If you are interested in joining a small group or would like to start your own, contact Pastor Glenn.

### **Ash Wednesday, Feb 17, 2010-11:45 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.**

Our journey begins with the imposition of ashes and Holy Communion. Our text is Matthew 6:5-13 and our theme; “Lord teach us to pray.”

### **Feb 24, March 3,10,17 & 24**

#### **11:45 a.m. Worship**

A 30 minute service of traditional hymns, and prayer.

#### **7:00 p.m. Worship**

Lucernarium, an ancient service of light and darkness, using calming chant and quieting prayer will sooth the senses and quiet the mind.

## **Holy Week**

### **Palm Weekend**

#### **Saturday, March 27-5:30 p.m. & Sunday, March 28-8, 9, 10:30 a.m.**

Holy Week begins with worship reordered to correspond with Jesus’ last days in Jerusalem, beginning with his triumphant entry and shouts of Hosanna and ending with the cross and shouts of crucify. All services will come alive with the brass quintet, North Shore Brass, led by the premier trumpet of Pam Humphrey.

### **Maundy Thursday, April 1-11:45 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

Maundy comes from the Latin words “man datum” which mean commandment. On this day we remember Jesus giving a new commandment in the bread and the wine of the Passover, love one another as I have loved you. The evening service will use Marty Haugen’s famous *Agape* Liturgy and ends with the dramatic stripping of the altar. Always a spiritually powerful service.

### **Good Friday, April 2-11:45 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.**

In the empty altar area stands a large cross, focusing our attention on the incredible cruelty of the cross and the extraordinary love of Christ. A moving service not to be missed.



## First Communion Class Dates

Part 1: Sunday, March 14, 4-6 p.m.

Part 2: Sunday, March 21, 4-6 p.m.

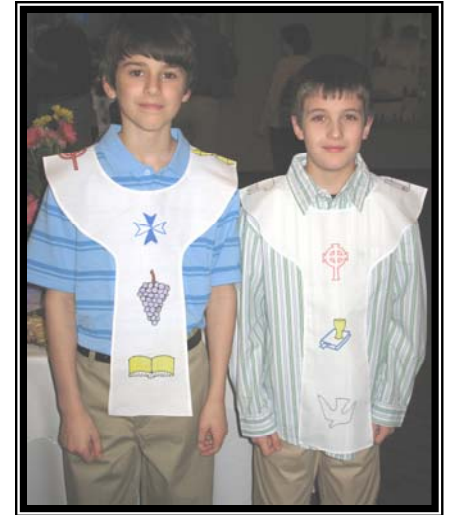
Part 3: Sunday, March 28, 4-6 p.m.

Seder Meal, Wednesday, March 31, 6:30-9 p.m.

First Communion during Maundy Thursday Service, Thursday, April 1, 7 p.m.

Note to parents: The First Communion Class is for children and their parents. Families attend all 3 classes, the Seder Meal and the Maundy Thursday Worship Service. *The class is recommended for children who are in Grades 2 - 5.* Parents of 5<sup>th</sup> graders who have not previously participated in the First Communion Class will receive a letter in February inviting them to register.

To sign up for the 1<sup>st</sup> Communion program, please contact Tori Setterholm at 612-781-2766 or [tsetterholm@nativitychurch.org](mailto:tsetterholm@nativitychurch.org).



## Gobbledybook Club: "We Chomp Through Books!"

for readers Grade 4 and up....

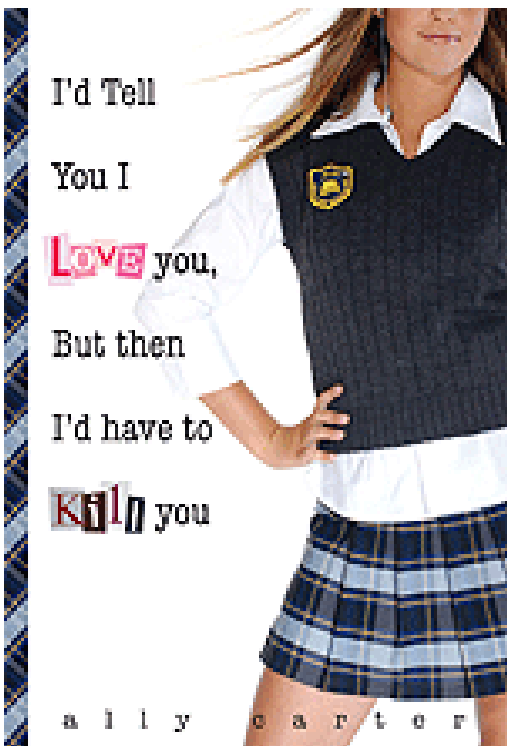
The February Gobbledybook Club Book is...

**"I'd Tell You I Love You, But Then I'd Have to Kill You"** by Ally Carter.

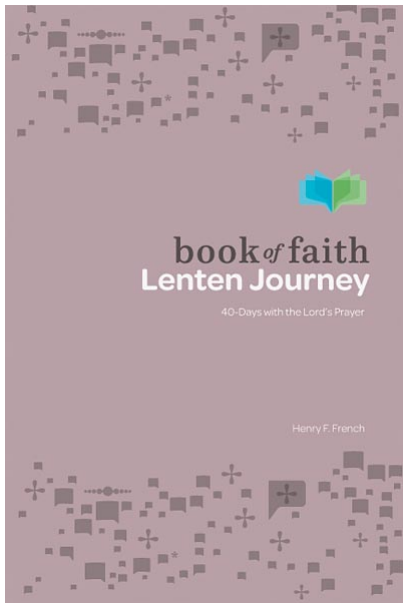
We'll meet Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup> from 5:45 - 6:45 p.m. in the Commons. Super Bowl fans can bring their snacks to share with us!

Cammie Morgan, 15, is a student at Gallagher Academy, a top-secret boarding school for girls who are spies-in-training. Is it easy to know the right thing to do once you are in the world of spies and lying? Does deceiving people become a habit?

Come join the pizza and conversation. See you there!



**Book of Faith Lenten Journey: 40 Days with the Lord's Prayer**



The *Book of Faith 40-Day Lenten Journey* is a devotional resource connecting forty personal daily readings and weekly worship with the study of Scripture. The forty devotional readings included are structured around seven key petitions of The Lord's Prayer. The 40-day journey will help engage everyone in devotional reading of Scripture.

**Thank you...**

The following letter is in response to the funds they received from a 2009 Hermundslie Fund Grant.

Thank you for your contribution of \$4,000 to La Conexión –CSCM in 2009. Thank you for being a partner with us as we, “empower the Latino Community in the Twin Cities through connections to resources, educational, economic, and community engagement opportunities.” Our work is not possible without the generosity of individuals like you.

Margaret Wallenta  
La Conexión Executive Director

Due to printing deadlines, reserve your book by Feb. 14. Sign up in the notebook on the Welcome Desk or respond in the weekend yellow sheet.

When the books arrive, they will be sold from the bookstore.—Cost: \$8.

**Church Bulletin Bloopers:**

Place your donation in the envelope along with the deceased person you want remembered.  
Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale...It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

**You Can Make A Difference**

“I was able to focus on my gifts; it reminded me I have gifts and defined more than I realized.” That is how one participant reflected after attending the summer *You Can Make a Difference* workshop. The four attendees were: Merrie Beaman, Megan Beaman, Amy Larson and Jacob Overbo.

Join the winter group in discovering or rediscovering how God has created you and for what purpose at this time in your life.  
Winter Workshop: Five Sunday Mornings, 10:15am -12:15pm  
February 7, 14, 28, March 7 & 14

Suggested donation for materials: \$20. Optional Myers Briggs Step II: \$35.  
For questions or to register: Jan Frederickson, 612-781-2766 x1007  
jfred@nativitychurch.org



**Prime Tymers Game Night**

Feb 5—7:15 p.m. Games  
 Mar 5—6:00 p.m. Hors d’oeuvre Supper and Games  
 Apr 9—7:15 p.m. Games  
 May 7—7:15 p.m. Games  
 Jun 4—6:00 p.m., Potluck Supper, Coffee, Tea and Chocolate, and good Music

**Next Blood Drive at Nativity  
 Monday, March 22**

**2:30-5:30 p.m.**

**Sign up at the Welcome Desk**

**Future Dates:**

**June 7, Sept. 13, Nov. 29**

**What is Nativity all about? How can I get involved in ministries?**

Well, we can answer those questions and more at our Step-Up-Introduction to Nativity. You may have been coming to Nativity for a while and would like to connect more and share fellowship with others. Step-Up is a perfect opportunity taking just an hour of your time to find out how to connect more with God, and where you may want to go next in your faith life, family, relationships.

Our next session is:  
 Sunday, February 14  
 10:30-11:30 a.m.

**Expanded Choir Opportunities**

The Seasons of Lent and Easter bring many reasons to sing. From the prayerful reflections of Lent to the joy-filled Alleluias of Easter, the soul sings its songs to God.

**All are invited to sing.**

**Maundy Thursday Service: April 1st, 7:00 p.m.— “Agape” by Marty Haugen**

**Easter Weekend: April 3 & 4**

**Saturday, 5:30 p.m. & Sunday, 9:00 & 10:30 a.m.**

**Rehearsals—Wednesdays after Lent services (8:00 p.m.) March 10, 17, 24 & 31**

**Fundraising Pancake Breakfast for  
 Youth Mission Trip**

**Sunday Morning, February 14**

**8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.**

**Tickets: \$7 adults; \$4 for children under 10**  
**Menu: Pancakes, Sausages, Fresh Fruit, Juice/  
 Coffee & Milk**



**PopTops**

An Intergenerational Forum that meets at 9:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall

February 7 - **“Mission in Our Midst:**

Presenter: Susan Tjornehoj, Director of Evangelical Mission.

February 14 - **“The Prodigal Son in Bible and Art”**

Presenters: Robert and Lucy Brusic  
 Powerful and engaging! One of Jesus’ most familiar parables has caught the imagination of many artists throughout Christian history and from many cultures. Using selections from the noted Jerry Evenrud collection, this verbal and visual presentation will share some of the rich variety of interpretations. Pastor Brusic (former campus pastor at Luther Seminary) has worked with his wife Lucy to produce the beautiful book *“And Grace Will Lead You Home”*. Some of us saw this presentation at LEAFs and want our friends to hear and see.

February 21 - **“FOOTSTEPS, A Journey in Faith”**

( DVD and discussion)  
 12 metro area religious leaders of Jewish, Islam and Christian faiths travel together to the Middle East to learn more about their own faith and religious tradition, and to understand each other's faith and strengthen the bonds between them. Does life ever go the way we expect?

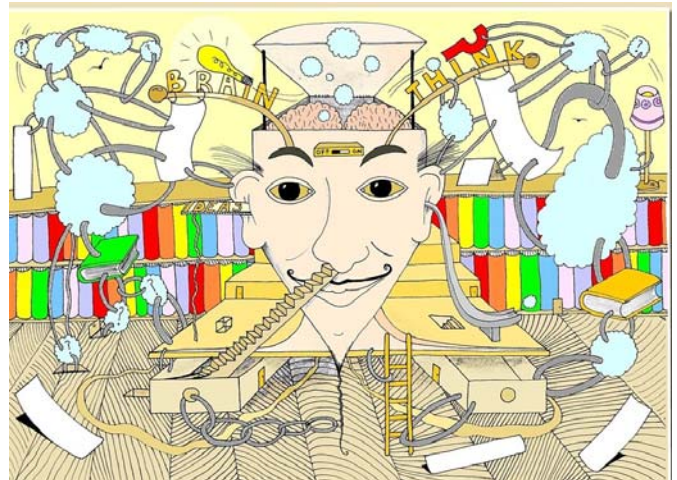
February 28 - **“Celebration of Life” Funerals**

Presenter: Pastor John Almlie  
 With different choices for funerals these days are you prepared to make the arrangements for your own or a loved one’s final resting place? What do you do when a child dies unexpectedly, who do you turn to for help? Pastor John Almlie will speak on the funeral arrangements which the minister helps you with, and Pam Jacobsen, a prearrangement

consultant, will speak on what arrangements the funeral home helps you with.

March 7 - **“The Creator and Creation”**

a lesson from *“And God Saw That It Was Good”* a Christian education course accompanying the PBS series *“The National Parks: America’s Best Idea.”* The session will include viewing an excerpt from the series, and discussion of how the national parks protect special places in God’s creation, and how protection of such places is significant to our relationship with God.



Do you want to tease your brain or just have fun? How about...

**GAMENIGHT Replay!**

We have an inexpensive way to have fun with positive people. Join our “last Sunday of the Month” group as we laugh playing Catch Phrase or any variety of games you would like to play and share. Share a favorite snack and - Let the Good Times Begin! Ages 21-100!  
 Sundays, Feb 28, March 28, April 25, May 24, 6:00-8:00pm  
 If you have questions contact Kirsten at [kirstene.fisher@yahoo.com](mailto:kirstene.fisher@yahoo.com).

**What's Happening At Nativity (February 7 through February 13, 2010)**

**Sunday, February 7**

8, 9, & 10:30am

Communion Worship Service

9 & 10:30am

Nursery birth-3 years of age

9 & 10:30am

Faith Formation for Children ages 3 years through 4th grade.

9:00am PopTops

10:15am You Can Make A Difference

10:30am Single Women's Bible Study

11:30am Club 56 Leaders' Meeting

11:40am Nativity College Ministry

5:45pm Gobbledybook Club

**Monday, February 8**

1:00pm LSS Auxiliary Valentine Tea

4:30pm ARTS

6:00pm Smart Start in 2010

7:00pm Growing Together

7:15pm Adult Bells

**Tuesday, February 9**

6:30am Tuesday AM Breakfast Class

6:30pm Girl Scouts

6:30pm Environmental Stewardship Team

6:45pm Stephen Ministry Training Class

**Wednesday, February 10**

9:30am Wednesday AM Bible Study

10:00am Morning Playgroup

1:00pm Staff Meeting

5:30pm Wednesday Night Dinner

6:00pm Nativity Singers

6:15pm Voices of Women

6:30pm 7-9 Grade Confirmation

7:00pm Music Mix

7:00pm Nativity Choir

8:00pm Turbo Group

8:30pm Voices of Men

**Thursday, February 11**

9:00am Word to the Wise Bible Study

10:00am Nativity Play Group

6:30pm Love and Logic Class

**Thursday, February 11 (continued)**

7:00pm Global Folk

**Friday, February 12**

7:45am Bulletin Stuffers

**Saturday, February 13**

9:00pm Affirm

4:00pm Worship Music Rehearsal

5:15pm Nursery Birth-3 Years of Age

5:30pm Faith Formation for Children ages 3 years through 4th Grade

5:30pm Communion Worship Service

**How Can I Continue on My "Journey of Discipleship"?**

**Come to one or all sessions. Everyone is welcome.**

**"Transform" Session**

Practical hands-on event to discover the six habits of faith and personalize them for your own life.

Saturday, Feb 6, 9 am-12 pm,

Saturday, April 10, 9 am-12 pm

**"Affirm" Session**

Discover your spiritual gifts and passions.

Saturday, Feb. 13, 9 am-11 pm

Saturday, April 17, 9 am-11 pm

**"Reach Out" Session**

Define your core values, discuss what a mission is and write a mission statement.

Offered as needed.

For more information contact: Jan Frederickson, 612-781-2766 x1007, [jfred@nativitychurch.org](mailto:jfred@nativitychurch.org)

**Nativity Staff:**

Glenn Seefeldt - pastor - gseefeldt@nativitychurch.org  
John Almlie - senior ministries pastor  
Eva Addison - parish nurse - evaddison@nativitychurch.org  
Kristen Brechler - interim youth pastor - kbrechler@nativitychurch.org  
Sharon Damsgard - administrative assistant - sdamsgard@nativitychurch.org  
Jodi Dean - administrative assistant - jdean@nativitychurch.org  
Justin Dittrich - Seminary Intern  
Marilyn Eberlein - adult faith formation  
Vicki Elliott - business administrator - velliott@nativitychurch.org  
Shelbie Ewing, April Martinez - nursery coordinators - nursery@nativitychurch.org  
Jan Frederickson - shared ministry - jfred@nativitychurch.org  
Ken Gruhlke - custodian - kgruhlke@nativitychurch.org  
Sally Hockert, Pat Shun & Darla Frantz - wedding coordinators  
David Livingston - adult music - drlivingston@nativitychurch.org  
Robert Moreland - custodian  
Freda Myhrwold - worship leader  
Bob Parrott - sound/video - bobparrott@nativitychurch.org  
Karla Reiland - children's music and adult handbells - kreiland@nativitychurch.org  
Sara Schmidt - children's preschool ministry - sschmidt@nativitychurch.org  
Tori Setterholm - children's ministry - tsetterholm@nativitychurch.org  
Gregory Theisen - pianist  
Becky Thorvig - communications - bthorvig@nativitychurch.org  
Manda Truchinski - youth leader - mandat@nativitychurch.org  
Nativity Child and Family Center (612.781.1537) - Cheryl Jechorek, Director -  
cjechorek@nativitychurch.org

Phone: 612.781.2766

Website: [www.nativitychurch.org](http://www.nativitychurch.org)

**Nativity Council:**

Kent Horsager - President - kent@wingriver.com  
Greg Brooker - Vice President -  
Donna Steinwand - Secretary - donnasteinwand@comcast.net  
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Bill Bergeron - Member at Large -  
Gail Bergsven - Member at Large -  
Bjorn Oksnevad - Member at Large - boksnevad@gmail.com  
Judy Parizek - Member at Large - stevecathycook@comcast.net  
Karen Weiberg - Member at Large

**Deadline for articles for Weekend Newsletter are due Thursday mornings (10 days prior to the weekend the article will appear.) If you have questions contact Becky at ext. 1003.**