

BENEDICTION EVERY THURSDAY AT 6:30 P.M.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- March 11..... Chuck Craycraft, Nic Wells
- March 13..... Paige Martin, Parker Martin
- March 15..... Alan Heyob
- March 16..... Ashley Lathram, Cathy Breckel,
Regina Melink, Jim Poole, Charlee Rusch
- March 17..... Christy Kelner, John Otworth,
Ryan Schellinger



LAUGHTER IS GOOD

There was a large group of people. On one side of the group stood a man, Jesus. On the other side of the group, stood Satan. Separating them, running through the group, was a fence. Both Jesus and Satan began calling to the people to join their group. Each went to either Jesus or Satan. Jesus had gathered around Him a group of people from the larger crowd, as did Satan.

But one man joined neither group. He climbed the fence that was there and sat on it. Then Jesus and His people left went to Heaven. Satan and his people went to hell. And the man on the fence sat alone.

Satan came back. The man said, "Have you lost something?" Satan looked straight at him and replied, "No, there you are. Come with me."

"But," said the man, "I sat on the fence. I chose neither you nor Jesus."

That's okay," said Satan. "I own the fence."



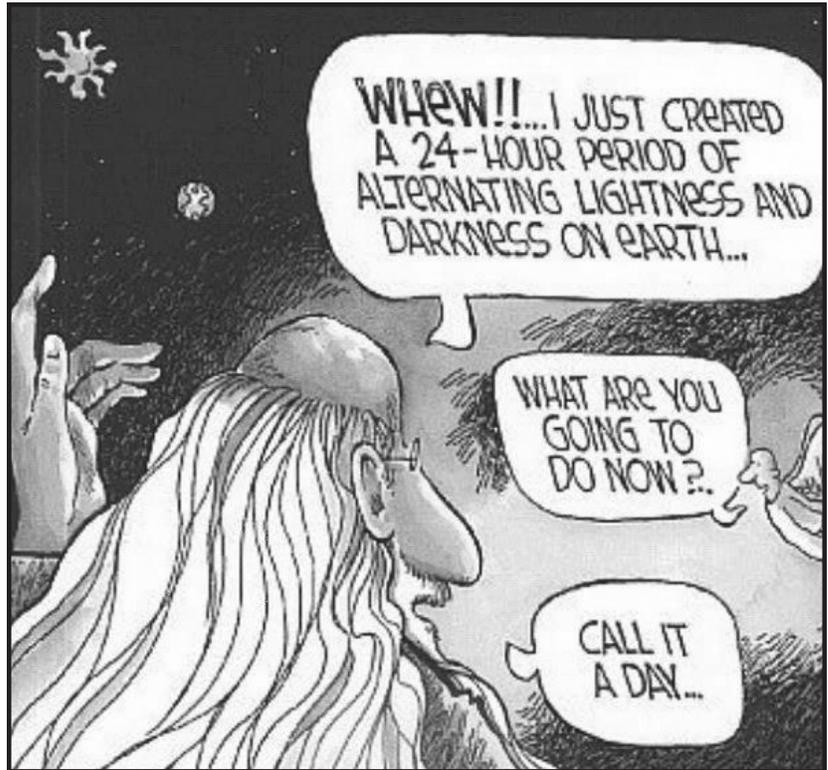
STATIONS OF THE CROSS EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT AT 7:00 p.m.



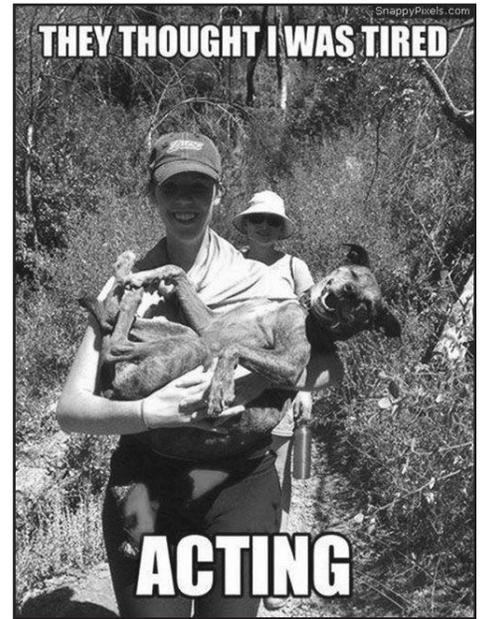
FISH FRY EVERY FRIDAY DURING LENT STARTING AT 4:30 p.m.



\$225,400.00
Debt on Fr. Luehrmann Hall.



**YOU COME FROM
DUST,
YOU WILL RETURN TO
DUST.
THAT'S WHY I DON'T
DUST.
IT COULD BE SOMEONE
I KNOW.**



SERMON FOR FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

Consider all the money, time and energy Americans spend to prolong their lives. Thirty billion on vitamins. Sixty billion on gym fees and weight loss programs. Six hundred billion on prescription drugs. Three trillion dollars on hospital care and doctor's visits. One week alone I had three doctor visits and three therapy sessions. Here are all the vitamins and medicines I take daily (show the people my pill bag). We want to live longer. We do all we can to make it happen.

God gives this special time called Lent to remind you He wants you to live really long – in fact, forever! “Repent and believe in the Good News” means God wants you to change the way you think. God wants you to see the only way you will prolong your life eternally is by accepting Him as your Savior. Trying to prolong your life only in this world will last just a short time. “Remember man, thou art but dust and unto dust thou shalt return.”

Lent reminds us there is a spiritual battle going on between God and the devil for your soul. Jesus is saying believe in My Good News of the Heaven that awaits you. The devil is trying to get you to focus on the here and now only. The devil wants you to turn into the dust of nothingness.

The temptation of Jesus reveals the devil's battle plan of attack. In the first attack, the devil will try to get you to believe the bread of this world is the only source of happiness and peace. The second attack hits directly on your pride. The devil promises you power to do whatever you want. I am in control of my own life. The third attack hits at your relationship with God. I am not here to serve God. God is to serve me.

In turning the stone to bread, or receiving all the kingdoms of the world, or testing His Father's Love, the devil is telling Jesus, “Come on, you're better than this. You deserve more. Go ahead, make some bread for yourself. You have the power to do it your way. You know you want it. God won't mind.” How often are we fooled by the devil's lie – “It can't be wrong because it feels so right. I deserve this.” Jesus tells the devil the spiritual is more important than the physical. You do not live a good life by giving yourself all that you want or doing what you want or forcing God to grant all you want. You live the good life by helping others get what they need and doing what God wants and serve God by obeying His Word.

How do you overcome temptations? I answer with a story. A couple struggling to make ends meet went shopping one day for clothes. The husband bought a suit costing \$500.00. “How could you do this?!” the wife asked. “I was outside the store looking at the suit in the window, and then I found myself trying it on,” he explained. “It was like Satan was whispering in my ear, ‘You look fabulous in that suit. Buy it!’” “Well,” the wife replied, “You know how I deal with that kind of temptation. I would say, ‘Get behind me, Satan!’” “I did,” replied her husband,” but then he said, ‘It looks fabulous from back here, too!’” St. James writes “Resist the devil and he will flee from you!” (James 4:7) Happy Lent....