

HOSANNA LUTHERAN CHURCH
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Littleton, CO 80127

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**The Mission Statement of Hosanna
Lutheran Church:**

*"To initiate, nurture and empower
Spirit-filled relationships for God
and God's people"*

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303.972.0873

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This is a monthly publication of Hosanna Lutheran Church.

Please Mark Your Calendars Now

Wednesday, March 1, Ash Wednesday, Lenten Services Begin

Wednesday, March 8 Soup Suppers Begin at 6:00pm

Lenten Services Follow at 7:00pm Through April 5

Sunday, April 9, 2nd Annual Sunday School

Easter Egg Hunt (During Sunday School)

Saturday, April 8 & Sunday, April 9 Palm Sunday

Adult Choir Cantata with Holy Communion at all Weekend Services

Thursday, April 13, Maundy Thursday, 7:00pm

Friday, April 14, Good Friday, 7:00pm

Saturday, April 15

Easter Vigil Service at 6:00pm

Sunday, April 16, Easter Sunday

Services at 6:30am, 8:00am and 10:30am

Breakfast Following 6:30am and 8:00am Services





THE PROMISES OF GOD—THE BEATITUDES

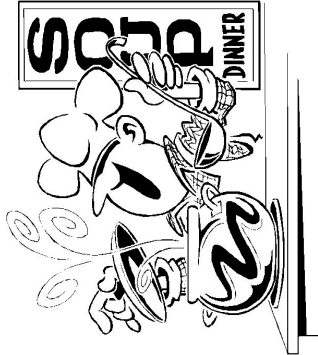
Our Lenten journey begins Ash Wednesday, March 1. Each week during Lent, we will focus on one of Jesus' famous Beatitudes, applying them to our Lenten journey today.

THE WEDNESDAYS OF LENT

March 1 (Ash Wednesday)	The Promise of Heaven	(Matthew 5:3)
March 8	The Promise of Comfort	(Matthew 5:4)
March 15	The Promise of an Inheritance	(Matthew 5:5)
March 22	The Promise of Righteousness	(Matthew 5:6)
March 29	The Promise of Mercy	(Matthew 5:7)
April 5	The Promise of Seeing God	(Matthew 5:8)

HOLY WEEK

Palm Sunday	Bless My Soul	(Matthew 5:1-3)
Maundy Thursday	The Promise of Sonship	(Matthew 5:9)
Good Friday Tenebrae	Righteousness Persecuted	(Matthew 5:10)
Easter Victory!	Great is Your Reward	(Matthew 5:12)



Our Lenten soup suppers will begin Wednesday, March 8. They start at 6:00pm and will include *delicious* homemade soups, salad, bread, dessert and *wonderful fellowship!*

All Hosanna members and friends are invited to join us!

Dozens Attend Congregational Retreat!

Serving in March

Gathering in Fellowship Hall, the friendly faces of longtime members joined with those bright smiles of new members to figure out their "S.H.A.P.E. For Ministry." Throughout the day, many puzzles were worked and solved as we studied the "Deep and Wide" topic of Spiritual Gifts. The primary presenters, Jude Donovan and Pastor Greg, helped members "Connect the Dots" of gifts, passions and actions to form four new task forces.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit and the day's activities, The Technology Team agreed to administer the technology portion of Hosanna's computers, telephones, A / V equipment, copy machines and their interface.

A new Adult Catechism Class will be developed to refresh our understanding of Lutheran beliefs as seen by adults. Some adults may benefit from a deeper study of our faith since they may have been raised in other denominations, have become Lutheran through marriage, or maturity has developed a renewed hunger within them.

Our new Education Team, led by Chris Saul, will focus their initial efforts on a "Coffee Stop" for parents of Sunday School children. We would like to engage more adults in our activities while their children are learning about Jesus in age appropriate courses.

Within the Worship Team, several members focused on the needs of the Music Ministry. Ideas to provide fuller musical and worship accompaniment for both the Adult Choir and the Praise Band are developing.

Ministry teams gathered for the first time, under our new Council organizational plan, on February 1. Once again, the Holy Spirit brought forth new ideas for Education, Worship, and Finance. Praise the Lord for His vision of a renewed spirit at Hosanna.

Altar Guild

Saturdays: Debbie Willingham
Sundays: Jean & Jerry Gerdes
Teresa Kennedy

Acolyte Schedule

4 Mar	6:00	
5 Mar	8:00	
11 Mar	6:00	Matt Crewse
12 Mar	8:00	Katy Brown
	10:30	Katie Turner
18 Mar	6:00	Kara Chitwood
19 Mar	8:00	Dillon Gabehart
25 Mar	6:00	Olivia Nisi
26 Mar	8:00	Katie Ferguson
	10:30	Billy Bradshaw

HEY YOUTH... WANT TO HAVE SOME X-TREME FUN?!

Mark your calendars and get ready for some exciting action! X-treme Fun Athletics in Thornton is a one-of-a-kind place designed to unite energetic groups of people in an exclusive fun atmosphere. Participants will encounter games of skill, wit and determination. Some of the featured events include the Crazy Fun Bungee Course, Gladiator, Spring Jousting, Human Wrecking Ball, Catapult and Human Jenga.

We'll have the place all to ourselves. So invite your friends and let's have some X-treme fun! Here are the details:

When: Friday, March 10, 8pm - 10pm. We will leave Hosanna at 7pm.

Who: Youth group (7-12 grade) and friends.

For more information and to reserve your spot at X-treme Fun, call Susan Booton at 303.972.2921.



CAN YOU HEAR HIM NOW?

We've all heard the cell phone advertisements where the spokesperson asks, "Can you hear me now?" The company is touting their stronger signal, better technology and superior phones. But when God speaks to us, why don't we always hear Him? He is the Almighty so He has the strongest signal imaginable. God's technology is His ability to reach us whenever and wherever He wants. Instead of a phone, God simply uses His voice to reach our listening ears and open hearts.

So why don't we hear? Sometimes He speaks to us through others and through situations and we don't always get the message. His signal may be hitting interference in the form of distractions. And sometimes He asks us to wait. We want to receive that call, but the call hasn't come in yet. It's important to remember that not every prayer is answered in our time, but it's always answered in His time. God has a plan and is listening. He simply asks us to trust and to listen.

In Matthew 11:15, Jesus simply states, "He who has ears, let him hear." Answers to our prayers may not come in the form we want or in the time we want, but all we have to do is listen and hear. **Can you hear Him now?** Can you hear Him now?

EMBRACE! ENVISION! INVITE! IGNITE!

God made a promise to us when He sent His Son into our world. Today, He continues to work through His own image, which He placed within you, O mankind. Now He is renewing that promise made to you, to each of us at Baptism, by sending you, in the name of His Son, into the church, into the community and into the world with the same message Jesus spoke: *Come! God loves you.*

The four words used in the title **Embrace! Envision! Invite! Ignite!** are the verbs or action words Hosanna will use to activate our ministries this year. Those four words (forewords) precede us as we pray for guidance. They are the command "Ready, Set, Go!!! These four words move us **forward** in our praying, planning and preparing for **intentional** ministry.

Embrace! I challenge you to embrace the person God formed you to *become*, embrace the gifts He chose for His service and embrace the plans and passions He has placed within your heart.

Envision! Imagine, dream, and ponder the passions that you feel when Pastor Greg calls you to volunteer with us in our many developing areas of interest.

Invite! Invite the Holy Spirit into your soul; give Him permission to light a fire in your heart. Say, "Yes, Lord, I will!" Let God work through you; let Him reach the young, the old and the hungry through your hands.

Ignite! Let the Holy Spirit awaken, inflame, burst forth in a fuller, more vibrant way than you have ever invited Him to do before. Trust Him to lead you to new adventures that will enliven your being.

With these four words—**Embrace! Envision! Invite! Ignite!**—you are becoming the leader, the servant, the Christian who God designed. We are better than yesterday. We are being transformed by the renewing of our minds in Christ Jesus, *Romans 12:2*.

Let me paraphrase P resident Kennedy: "**Ask not what your church can do for you. Ask what you can do for the people of God.**" Ask today, ask tomorrow, ask, ask, ask. The acronym **A.S.K.**= Ask God, Seek God, Know God. **ASK GOD NOW.**

Pax Christi, *Jude*

WITNESS AND OUTREACH

"Almost 80 mugs have been prepared since December of 2005." That was part of the report at the Witness & Outreach meeting, February 7. Barb Bathe, in charge of preparing mugs to be presented to first time visitors at Hosanna, was pleased at the numbers in this Witness & Outreach program.

This program gives Hosanna members a unique opportunity to witness/greet visitors. It is not always possible to see those visitors being "mugged" during the service but as they leave the church, they are easy to identify by the cup in their hand. How easy is it to walk up to those people and say, "I see you got mugged today." AND, if you are wearing your nametag, it is easy for them to remember YOUR name during the conversation that follows.

If you are interested in working with new members to Hosanna, please call Jean or Jerry Gerdes (303.933.1225) or a member of the Witness & Outreach Committee. Our next meeting is March 7 from 7-8:00pm in the office conference room. *We would love to see you there!*

NEW MEMBER CLASS

New to Hosanna

Want to know more about the Church?
Interested in learning what it means
to be a Lutheran?

Want to discover hundreds of ways
to find joy in service?

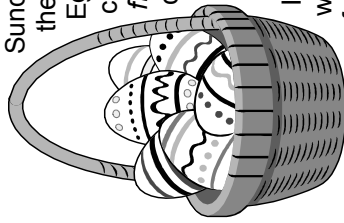
Then please attend one of our informal and
informative New Member Classes. The next
scheduled class is Saturday, April 1,
9:00am—Noon.

It will be an opportunity for you to get to know
Pastor Greg and to learn more
about our family of faith.

Contact Pastor Greg with any questions,
303.973.1706.

SECOND ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT

On Sunday, April 9 (Palm Sunday), the
Sunday School will be having
their Second Annual Easter
Egg Hunt. Mark it on your
calendar—mark it on your
friend's and neighbor's
calendars! More details will
be coming as the big day
approaches.



In the meantime, we sure
would appreciate donations
of candy, stickers, and other
trinkets we could put inside the plastic eggs.
A donation box will be set up in the narthex
starting March 12. Monetary donations
would also be wonderful (we'll save you a
trip to the store!) and can be put in the
Duston mailbox.

Thank you for your continued support of
Hosanna's children and the Sunday School
program!

Randy and Donalyn Duston,
Sunday School Superintendents

CONFIRMATION CLASSES

During Lent, please note that **confirmation classes** which are usually scheduled for Wednesday evenings **have been moved** to Tuesday evenings effective February 28, 2006.

DIRECTORY CHANGES

Ford, Shannon
2484 E 123 Way
Thornton, CO 80241-3425

Marcus, Heinz & Katy
6193 S. Ames Ct.
Littleton, CO 80123-3701

Meyer, Emily
12208 W Dorado Pl., Apt. 107
Littleton, CO 80127

Turner, Kathy
Katie and Paul IV
9605 W. Chatfield Ave., Unit A
Littleton, CO 80128

CLHSA

The CLHSA will host it's 6th Annual Benefit Auction Sunday, March 5, 2006, at the Merchandise Mart (451 E. 58 Ave.) beginning at 4:00pm. You are invited to join us at our **Western Round-Up** for great fellowship, delicious food, hundreds of items for the silent auction and selected items for the live auction.

Call CLHSA (Colorado Lutheran High School Association) at 303.934.8611 for more information.

A YOUTH WORKER? IT CAN HAPPEN!

If Hosanna steps up to the challenge of raising \$4,000 for the part-time youth worker's salary, it can happen. If we pray God's will to guide us in this effort and bring us a qualified, spiritual, enthusiastic youth worker, it can happen! If a youth worker is in God's vision for Hosanna, IT WILL HAPPEN!

Please prayerfully consider your part in this important goal for Hosanna and consider giving a one-time gift or weekly offering. Also, there will be numerous opportunities to support this effort. Our February bake sale was a *big success*. Thank you, Hosanna, for gobbling up the goodies!



The youth have decided to donate all proceeds from the pop machine to this fund, so grab yourself a pop! All proceeds from the youth sponsored Soup Supper will also go to the youth worker fund, so come hungry to the Soup Supper on Wednesday, March 15!

You can purchase King Soopers grocery certificates and designate the youth worker fund as the beneficiary, so get your weekly grocery certificates at the Information Desk! Look for more ways you can help. There is a youth worker special offering basket in the narthex, so you can pick up your envelopes any time.

God continues to lead us toward this goal. With candidates showing interest in the position, the fundraising effort underway and enthusiasm all around, God's vision is becoming our vision!

Keep an eye on our fundraising thermometer ... the temperature is rising! \$4000 by Easter... IT WILL HAPPEN!



THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A big thank-you to all of Hosanna's Sunday School children, teens and teachers who helped make Valentine cards for the residents of Bear Creek Nursing Home during class time on February 12. Altogether, 114 Valentines were made! The residents were so happy to receive your cards....some were even moved to tears. Thank you for sharing God's love and your own love with them

FINANCIALS FOR JANUARY

Total Contributions	\$ 24,000
Total Expenses	\$ 25,800
Loss for the month	(\$ 1,800)



CAN YOU BE USED BY GOD?

Each one should use whatever gifts he has received to serve others, faithfully administering God's grace in its various forms. / *Peter 4:10*

The next time you feel like God can't use you, just remember. . . .

Noah was a drunk

Abraham was too old

Issac was a daydreamer

Jacob was a liar

Leah was ugly

Joseph was abused

Moses had a stuttering problem

Gideon was afraid

Samson had long hair and was a womanizer

Rahab was a prostitute

Jeremiah and Timothy were too young

David had an affair and was a murderer

Elijah was suicidal

Isaiah preached naked

Jonah ran from God

Naomi was a widow

Job went bankrupt

John the Baptist ate bugs

Peter denied Christ

The Samaritan woman was divorced, more than once

Martha worried about everything

Zaccheus was too small

The disciples fell asleep while praying

Paul was too religious

Timothy had an ulcer . . . and

Lazarus was DEAD!

NOW...no more excuses! God can use you to your full potential. Besides, you aren't the message, you are just the messenger. It's *not about you*. It's about His power to transform and change you. "*If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come!*" (2 Corinthians 5:17)

God is waiting to use your full potential (as He has created and redeemed you to be)!!! **HE WILL USE YOU** — the question becomes will He use you with your cooperation or in spite of you?



EASTER SERVICES

Saturday, April 8 & Sunday, April 9, Palm Sunday

Adult Choir Cantata with Holy Communion at all Services
Thursday, April 13, Maundy Thursday

Communion Service at 7:00pm

Friday, April 14, Good Friday

Tenebrae Service at 7:00pm

Saturday, April 15

Easter Vigil Service at 6:00pm

Sunday, April 16, Easter Sunday

Communion Sunrise Service at 6:30am

Communion Services at 8:00am and 10:30am

Breakfast following 6:30am and 8:00am services

Easter Communicants—Anyone who prefers drinking wine from a cup may so indicate to the server. An acolyte carries a tray containing both wine and simple white grape juice.

The juice is to be found in the center of each tray.

50 DAYS ABLAZE!

Join Pastor Greg in a seven-week journey, focusing on individual and congregational spiritual growth and mission commitment.

Called *50 Days Ablaze!*, this mission outreach campaign is intended to be a journey for members of congregations to grow spiritually in their awareness and understanding of Christ's Great Commission. It coincides with and supports LCMS World Mission and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod's *Ablaze!* initiative to share the Good News of Jesus Christ with 100 million unreached or uncommitted people by the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation in 2017.

The emphasis is on Christ's grace and redeeming love for us. The mission response is seven-fold, based on what LCMS World Mission calls the Seven Mission Responses: Learn, Pray, Give, Tell, Send, Go and Celebrate. The 50-day journey begins on Easter and builds toward a Pentecost mission celebration.

I ask you to begin praying for this next step in growth. Watch for more information.