



www.thanks-giving.org

April 2010

Volume 26, No. 4

Dear Friends In Christ,

**Holy Week and Easter** – As you receive this newsletter we will be walking with Jesus through the events of Holy Week and looking forward to celebrating His resurrection on Easter morning. We invite you to bring fresh cut flowers on Easter morning to place in the cross in front of our building as a witness to our community that He is Risen! The worship schedule for this important week is printed for you below.

**Maundy Thursday**, 6:00 pm & 7:30 pm

**Good Friday**, 6:00 pm & 7:30 pm

**Easter Morning**

6:30 am – Sunrise Service

8:00 am – Jubilation

8:30 am – Heritage

9:30 am – Jubilation

10:00 am – Heritage

11:00 am – Heritage



**Post-Easter Preaching Series** – The weekend of April 11 we will start a new seven-week preaching series titled: **The X-Factor; In Great Friendships, Marriages, Families, and Communities**. What is it about some friendships, marriages, families, and communities that set them apart as being great? What is it that distinguishes them? What is it about them that we find winsome? Invite your friends and join us as we discover **The X-Factor** in great friendships, marriages, families, and communities!

**New Capital Appeal** – During the month of the April you will be hearing about a new capital appeal that will begin in May. God has generously given us wonderful facilities to use as tools to carry out our vision and mission. With these buildings and grounds, however, comes the responsibility as good stewards to keep them in good repair and to upgrade them when appropriate. This new appeal is an opportunity to take care of some needed maintenance, as well as to do some upgrades that are long overdue. Something new in this capital appeal is a tithe on all the contributions given to the fund. 10% of each dollar will be set aside to be used on a future mission project! And, finally, we want to also reduce the debt that we are carrying on the Family Life Center. A brochure has been prepared which you will be receiving soon in the mail. Please take time to read it, and to pray about how the Lord might be asking you to respond!

**Kids of The King Summer Day Camp** – Go to the church website, [www.thanks-giving.org](http://www.thanks-giving.org), to find **registration forms** and information regarding our summer kids day camp! Also, if you are interested in being on our summer day camp staff you may pick up an **application form** in the church office.

*Steve J. Harless*

## T!LC CARE MINISTRIES



**For Care Ministries Assistance . . . During Church Office Hours:**

Please call 402.292.2695

**All Other Times:**

Please call our dedicated 24/7 voice mail number **402.292.7633** and leave a message. You will be contacted by a Care Ministries staff person or a pastor. This number is checked four to six times daily.



**The Power of God in Prayer!**

*"I tell you to believe that you have received the things you ask for in prayer, and God will give them to you." (Mark 11:24 ISB)*

Are you in need of prayer? *James 5:13-16* commands us to call for the elders of the church to pray over us. Healing Prayer Team members are available in the Prayer Chapel every weekend immediately following each service. You are invited and encouraged to come for healing and other personal prayer needs.



**T!LC SUPPORT GROUPS ON THURSDAY EVENINGS:**

**DivorceCare - Meets:**

6:30 – 8:00, FLC Room 202 – Childcare provided  
A special weekly seminar and support group for people who are seeking help in recovering from the pain of separation and divorce. *DivorceCare* is offered concurrently with DC4K. Registration fee is \$15.  
For information, call Vicar Susan Westland, Parish Care Ministry Coordinator at 402-292-2695.

**DivorceCare for Kids (DC4K) - Meets:**

6:15-8:00; East Hall  
A comprehensive 14-week biblically based and Christ-centered program that introduces children (ages 5-12) to the grieving process brought on by divorce and gives them tools necessary to develop healthier relationships within their own families. DC4K is offered concurrently with *DivorceCare*. Registration fee is \$15. For information, call Lisa Witkop at 402/293-9067.

**GriefShare – Spring Session will be offered beginning March 4 –**

GriefShare Meets: 6:30 – 8:30, Conference Room. Registration fee is \$15.  
A friendly, caring support group who walk alongside you through one of life's most difficult experiences – the loss of a spouse, child, family member or friend. The loss may be very recent, or one that took place months or years ago. We are here when you need us. For information, call Vicar Susan Westland, Parish Care Ministry Coordinator at 402-292-2695.

All groups are **OPEN** – persons can begin attending at any time.

**Who Touched My Clothes? – Mark 5:21-43 (NLT)**  
**Vicar Susan Westland**

<sup>25</sup>And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. <sup>26</sup>She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. <sup>27</sup>When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, <sup>28</sup>because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." <sup>29</sup>Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. <sup>30</sup>At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

Have you ever wondered how Jesus feels about us when we are in need of comfort? Throughout the Scriptures we read how God heals his people in all kinds of circumstances and in Mark 5 we encounter Jesus in the midst of multiple healing stories.



The story tells us that Jesus was on his way to the house of Jairus to heal his daughter when suddenly a woman, who had been ill for twelve years, reaches out to touch the robe of our Savior and was immediately healed. Jesus stops to ask the crowd who touched him.

Can you imagine how the woman felt? She had been ill for twelve years. She had been to multiple doctors, possibly spending her life savings on trying to get well. It may have taken all her strength just to make her way through the crowd so she could reach out and touch his robe. Like so many of us who have suffered for a long period of time, she may have become isolated from her friends and community. It seems all her effort had been spent trying to get well. In this story she didn't want a public spectacle; she simply wanted the healing touch of her Savior.

We read that Jesus felt power leave him; he knew she had been healed, and he calls her into the eyes of the crowd. Verses 33-34 describe the woman's reaction. <sup>33</sup>"Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth." The woman confesses to Christ and instead of humiliating her before her community the Lord provides words of comfort to her in his response; <sup>34</sup>He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

# T!LC HEALTH MINISTRIES

T!LC Health Ministries Team would like to keep you updated on current health-related topics. If you have any questions or would like to have specific health concerns addressed, please contact us at 292-2695, or [care@thanks-giving.org](mailto:care@thanks-giving.org).

## Preventing Cardiovascular Disease in Women

American Heart Association Guidelines



Awareness of risks and consequences of heart disease in women has been growing. The percentage of women who were aware that cardiovascular disease is their leading cause of death doubled between 1997 and 2006, from 30% to 55%. Unfortunately, **45%** of women still do not know that **cardiovascular disease** is their greatest health risk. (These factors applied to men as well as women.)

### Risk factors for cardiovascular disease in women is determined by:

- A complete medical history and review of family history
- Review of symptoms of cardiovascular disease
- Physical examination including blood pressure, body mass index (BMI), and waist size
- Laboratory including cholesterol profile and blood sugar
- Depression screening

### Important lifestyle recommendations that improve risk factors:

- stop smoking
- heart healthy eating patterns
- daily physical activity (aerobic activity greater than 30 minutes a day)
- weight management

***Risk factors for heart disease can be placed in assessment strategies. A very common risk assessment score used by health providers can be found at the Framingham Heart Study website, [www.framinghamheartsudy.org](http://www.framinghamheartsudy.org). This has been an ongoing project since 1948 with a goal of understanding risk factors involved in development of heart disease. This study establishes a risk score based upon age, HDL and LDL cholesterol levels, blood pressure and other risk factors. This information can readily be obtained from your health provider with a physical exam. Heart risk can be determined from this score. The most important aspect of this, however, is to become aware of factors that can lead to higher risks. If risk factors cannot be modified by behavior alone, medication may be necessary.***

The average lifetime risk for cardiovascular disease in women is very high, approaching 39%. This is 1 in 3 women that may have a heart attack, stroke or other blood vessel abnormality. All of these conditions can be modified with appropriate awareness and treatment.

The most important preventative behaviors include regular physical activity, maintaining an acceptable body weight, avoidance of smoking, and maintaining desirable HDL and LDL cholesterol levels. Additional vitamins, use of aspirin, and use of estrogen replacement are controversial topics and should be addressed with her health provider on an individual basis.

Preventative health care should be a cornerstone in everyone's annual plan. Stay current with your health provider on current recommendations to prevent avoidable health concerns in the future.

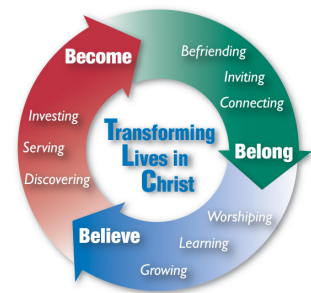
Please contact your T!LC Care Ministries Team if you have any questions.

The Lord's creation of the human body is incredible! Take care of it!

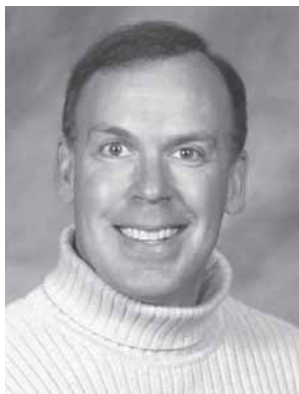
## MISSION MOMENTS

from Pastor David

**Mission.** What is our mission statement by the way? ***Our mission is to reach out and gather people into the family of God, equipping them to be disciples of Jesus Christ in our community, nation, and world.***



**Plan your Lenten journey for next year now! From Jesus birth in Bethlehem to the empty garden tomb, join us. For more information call Pastor David at 292-2695, or e-mail Pastor David at [pastordavid@thanks-giving.org](mailto:pastordavid@thanks-giving.org).**



Dear Friends,

I invite you to embark upon the journey of a lifetime! Whether it's the first time or a return trip, to walk in the steps of Jesus will be an inspiring experience. See the stories you've read or heard over the years come alive! Reaffirm your baptism in the waters of the Jordan River where Jesus was baptized.

Visit Bethlehem where Jesus was born, Nazareth where Jesus grew up and worked as a carpenter and Jerusalem - the holy city that was witness to the death and resurrection of our Lord. Can you imagine crossing the Sea of Galilee as Jesus calmed the storm, walking through the Mount of Olives as Jesus prayed with His disciples or being present when Jesus turned water into wine in Cana? This is but a glimpse of the drama that will unfold as we relive the life of Christ. What better faith enriching opportunity that will make the Bible come alive than to trod the path our Savior walked. Come and join the group for 10 days of inspiration, growth, fun and fellowship in Israel. You will never be the same! To enhance the wonder of such a trip, we will share special devotions at key points along the way corresponding to the places we visit.

The tour includes round trip airfare from Omaha, accommodations at first class hotels, Israeli breakfast and dinner daily, comprehensive sightseeing throughout and all entrance fees per the itinerary. I would be honored to have you join the group as we experience together the awesome sights of the Holy Land. Here is your invitation to reserve a place and make this a significant highlight in your Christian pilgrimage.

In Christ,  
Pastor David Witkop

## The Life of Discipleship: Walking in the Covenant, building the kingdom

### The Resurrection: A Truth To Remember Pastor Bruce Kotila

On Sunday April 4, 2010 we will celebrate once again the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead. Throughout America there will be sunrise services, Easter breakfasts, dramatic re-enactments, magnificent choirs and thousands of messages proclaiming the importance of one of the most significant events in all of world history, Jesus Christ raised from the dead, in accordance with the Scriptures. Yet for many that message, and its varied applications, will be forgotten by the end of the day and it will be back to the normal routine on Monday morning. Resurrection Sunday will be but a distant memory.

Pastors and longtime church members will identify with the truthfulness of these remarks, as they have lived them many times. But the obvious question is why does this happen? How is it that people can hear the Good News of the Gospel and remain indifferent, or reject outright, Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior?

It has been suggested that to know God as He truly is, is to love Him. In other words, it is impossible to know God accurately, and completely, and not love Him. In a like way, I believe people reject Jesus, and His claims upon their lives, because they do not truly know Him. Their understanding of Jesus is distorted and/or incomplete. I would also suggest they do not fully appreciate their own condition, as fully incapable of meeting God's standard for righteousness, and the consequences of their refusal to believe in a personal devil and a literal hell. Only when we know God completely, as a God who is both gracious and holy, can we understand our true condition apart from Him.

In a classic "Twilight Zone" episode from 1960, an American on a walking trip through central Europe gets caught in a raging storm. Staggering through the blinding rain, he chances upon an imposing medieval castle. It is a hermitage for a brotherhood of monks. The reclusive monks reluctantly take him in.

Later that night, the American discovers a cell with a man locked inside. An ancient wooden staff bolts the door. The prisoner claims he is being held captive by the "insane" head monk, Brother Jerome. He pleads for the American to release him. The prisoner's kindly face and gentle voice win him over. The American confronts Brother Jerome, who declares that the prisoner is actually none other than Satan, "the father of lies," held captive by the Staff of Truth, the one barrier he cannot pass.

This incredible claim convinces the American that Jerome is indeed mad. As soon as he gets the chance, he releases the prisoner—who immediately transforms into a hideous, horned demon and vanishes in a puff of smoke! The stunned American is horrified at the realization of what he has done. Jerome responds sympathetically. "I'm sorry for you, my son. All your life you will remember this night and whom you have turned loose upon the world." "I didn't believe you," the American replies. "I saw him and didn't recognize him"—to which Jerome solemnly observes, "That is man's weakness...and Satan's strength." (Kevin Stump, *The Plain Truth*, (Mar/Apr 2001)

Rod Serling's dramatization of the American's encounter with the devil is just one of thousands of representations that have left the undiscerning American confused and reluctant to take seriously any discussion of a personal devil. Yet, there is as breadth of life experience that validates the Bible's teaching on the existence of hell and the torment that awaits those who go there.

In his book, *To Hell and Back*, Maurice Rawlings M.D., writes of his experience as a cardiologist at the University of Tennessee. In the course of their emergency room work, Dr. Rawlings and his colleagues interviewed more than 300 people who claimed near-death experiences. What made Rawlings' study distinct is that the interviews were not conducted months or years later but immediately after the experiences had allegedly occurred—while the patients were still too shaken up in the immediacy of the moment to gloss over or to re-imagine what they had experienced.

Nearly 50 percent of them reported encountering images of fire, of tormented and tormenting creatures, and other sights hailing from a place very different from heaven. In follow-up interviews much later many of these same people had changed their stories, apparently unwilling to admit to their families, maybe even to themselves, that they had caught a glimpse of something like what the Bible calls hell. Dr. Rawlings concludes, "Just listening to these patients has changed my life. There is a life after death, and if I don't know where I'm going, it is not safe to die." (Daniel Meyer, *Preaching Today*)

Healthy people may think that it is nice that there is a cure for cancer but those that have cancer want all the details about the cure, including where to sign up for treatment. For most Americans the resurrection of Jesus is a nice bit of information but of little personal interest because they are unaware of their spiritual cancer and its consequences. We would do well this Easter Sunday to remind people of their true spiritual condition apart from Jesus, and the fate that awaits those who remain indifferent to the Gospel, before we proclaim the glory of the Resurrection. In so doing, the Resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead will become a truth to remember every day of the year.

# Creating Connections

## Exciting Mission Trip Planned!!!



**Where:** Your neighborhood....don't have the time or money to go to India or the Dominican Republic?

**What:** Summer Block Parties, opportunities to get to know your neighbors.

**When:** All Summer Long, you pick the Saturday that works best for you.

**Why:** Do you ever have this nagging feeling that you would like to get to know your neighbors? Do you ever wish you could share God's love with those around you, but it makes your hands clammy and ties your stomach up in knots? Please read below.

**Who:** You. We think you have the gift to be and continue to be a point of light for your neighborhood.

I have always been struck that in the last chapter of the book of Matthew, Jesus last words before He ascends into heaven are about going. "Go and make disciples.....," Matthew 28. He didn't say bring, he said go. So often we think ministry can only take place inside the walls of the church. Actually, truth be-told, until we understand that most ministry takes place outside the walls of the church building, many churches will continue to be stagnant and/or dying.

On May 23<sup>rd</sup>, all afternoon and evening we are going to have the biggest block party ever. It will be our end of the year Sunday school picnic and kick off to our summer of block parties. We will have bands, motorcycles, jump houses, dunk tanks, food, and anything else you want to bring. Come for an afternoon of fun and excitement. We will have packets available to give you some ideas for your own block party.

**One final thought:** Lisa and I began doing block parties two summers ago. If we can do it, anyone can. With three small children, our lives are in a constant state of chaos. However, we want our neighborhood to be an extended family that cares about each other's families. Even more importantly, we want our neighborhood to look like heaven on earth. Our leadership team will equip you with everything you need to know.

Pastor David



## Compassion International

Do you sponsor a child through Compassion International? Please let us know so we can dream about how we might deepen our relationship with Compassion International in the future. Please contact me, Cynthia Maynard, at [fencken@mail.com](mailto:fencken@mail.com) (or phone 293-0272).

### Men's & CoEd Softball begins in May!

Sign up at the Welcome Center; by sending an email to [softball@thanks-giving.org](mailto:softball@thanks-giving.org) or calling Kevin McArthur at 203-5305



## T!LC CARE MINISTRIES CONTINUED.....

Continued from page 2

While she may have wanted her healing to be private, Christ exposes her to her community. Not to humiliate her, but to allow her to receive healing from her community as well. In many of the healing stories in the Scriptures the healing happens in community. At T!LC there are many among us who are suffering illness, grief, depression, and many other types of affliction. If you are in need of the healing touch of our Savior come into the crowd and touch his robe. Let him bring comfort to you and allow your community of believers to lift you up in your time of need. We would be honored to pray for you in your time of need and celebrate your stories of healing. If God has touched your life in a mighty way contact us and let us know the work the Lord is doing in your life.

### 59<sup>th</sup> Annual National Day of Prayer May 6, 2010

*"The LORD is good, a refuge in times of trouble.  
He cares for those who trust in Him" Nahum 1:7*



We should never underestimate the power of prayer. Prayer has been used in this country for guidance, protection and strength—even before we were a nation. The Pilgrims at Plymouth relied on prayer during their darkest winters. Our founding fathers called for prayer during the Constitutional Convention because in their eyes, our recently created nation and freedoms were a direct gift from God. And being a gift from God, there was only one way to insure protection—through prayer.

Today the need for prayer is as great as ever. Our nation faces battlefields every day. We suffer from an epidemic of broken homes, violence, sexual immorality and social strife. As the heroes of our nation did in the past, we must bow our heads in prayer. We must ask the Lord to bless our leaders with wisdom and protection, and that we will have the fortitude to overcome the challenges at hand. God commands us to be a people of prayer and we encourage you to join other Christians in prayer for our nation on May 6, 2010.



Beginning April 11, 2010

Come discover ***The X-Factor*** in...

- Great Friendships
- Great Marriages
- Great Families
- Great Communities

## UPDATE from T!LC's Operations Manager, Harold Carlson

### Monthly Stewardship

Through the month of February 2010 our expenses were 5.67% below plan and weekly contributions were 1.84% above plan which resulted in a positive cash flow of \$17,238.00 through February. Thank you for your faithful financial stewardship.

### Ministry Challenge Fund

The Ministry Challenge Fund is a 24-month current ministry fund appeal from May 1, 2008 through April 30, 2010. We have received 172 estimates of giving totaling \$486,804 or 97.4% of our goal of \$500,000. Through February 2010 we received contributions totaling \$449,660 or 92.4% of the estimates of giving.

### Capital Campaign

The Ministry Challenge Fund appeal will conclude at the end of this month and a new two-year capital campaign will begin May 1, 2010 and conclude April 30, 2012.

There will be a threefold focus to this campaign; 1. Set aside a tithe (10%) for a future mission project, 2. Make capital improvements to our campus facilities, and 3. To pay down our debt on the Family Life Center. More information will be made available in separate communications.

### Simply Giving

Did you know that T!LC has the ability to receive electronic funds transfers (EFT) through a program called *Simply Giving*? *Simply Giving* is a safe and reliable electronic funds transfer program sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Check out our website for a link to enroll in *Simply Giving*. To enroll go to our website ([www.thanks-giving.org](http://www.thanks-giving.org)) and click on *Simply Giving* under the member quick links at the top of the home page. You can also contact our *Simply Giving* Coordinator, Harold Carlson at the church office at 292-2695 or [harold@thanks-giving.org](mailto:harold@thanks-giving.org) for more information about the *Simply Giving* program.

### Special offerings

All of our Lenten offering will be given to the Sarpy County Habitat for Humanity. Contribution totals will be communicated next month.

### Automobile Donation Needed

Do you or someone that you know, have a reliable automobile that could be donate to T!LC? We continue to receive requests from families in need of reliable transportation. Please contact Harold Carlson at the church office for more information.

If you have any questions, comments or concerns please feel free to e-mail me at [harold@thanks-giving.org](mailto:harold@thanks-giving.org), call me at the church or stop by my office.

## Thrivent Choice: Help choose where Thrivent Financial gives back



In the spring of 2010, Thrivent Financial for Lutherans will launch a program called Thrivent Choice. As the name implies, it's designed to give members choice in directing some of Thrivent Financial's charitable funds.

Thrivent Choice is still being developed, but here's a preview of the two main elements of the program:

**Voting: All adult benefit and associate members** will have an opportunity to vote on how to direct charitable funding among a short list of national charities.

**Choice Dollars: Eligible benefit members** will be able to direct dollars to thousands of Lutheran nonprofit organizations like schools, camps, colleges—or even your Lutheran congregation. Eligibility is based on your involvement with Thrivent Financial, through your ownership of Thrivent Financial life, health or annuity products or your leadership with our chapter. Note: Directing Choice Dollars will be subject to the Terms and Conditions of the Thrivent Choice Program.

Participation will be simple and easy, without any complicated forms to complete. You'll be able to vote or direct Choice Dollars either online or by phone.

Additional details about the program will be shared as they become available. In the meantime, please visit [www.thrivent.com/thriventchoiceinfo](http://www.thrivent.com/thriventchoiceinfo) to sign up for email updates. If you have specific questions or feedback about the program, contact the Fraternal Service Center at 800-236-3736 or [fraternal@thrivent.com](mailto:fraternal@thrivent.com).



## WORSHIP AND MUSIC NOTES



“In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth.” The opening sentence of the book of Genesis tells us that God is the creator of all that exists. In Genesis 1:27 we learn that he created man in his own image and gave him charge over all of creation. Throughout history man has produced works of art that express the attributes and works of God. From Handel’s Messiah to Michelangelo’s Sistine Chapel Ceiling to the most humble church choir, artists through the ages have found inspiration in God’s Word and in his creation.

In Psalm 21, King David rejoices in the many gifts God has bestowed on him. Throughout the book of Psalms and elsewhere in the Bible we are enjoined to worship the Lord with songs and music. Go to any art museum and you will find that the master artists of the past have created sculptures and paintings to express their faith. Go to any church and you will find musicians and vocalists and occasionally actors and dancers who use their gifts to worship God. But there many other ways to worship God through artistic endeavor and we would like to give T!LC’s artists a venue for expressing their love of God.

The worship and music team at T!LC is planning a celebration of the arts for Spring 2011. It is our goal to provide a means for artists in all types of mediums to worship God with their creativity. The first step in an undertaking of this size is to gather together a team to research the options, to brainstorm how to best serve our congregation and community, and to provide a well-thought out plan of action for this ministry.



Anyone, artist or not, who would like to provide input is encouraged to contact the festival coordinator, Carol Umberger at [carol.umberger@thanks-giving.org](mailto:carol.umberger@thanks-giving.org) or through the church office at 292- 2695.

### CrossTrek Men’s Retreat

Mark your calendar for June 12 & 13th for a trip to the Sjogren Retreat Center in Ashland Nebraska. The weekend getaway is designed to provide inspiration and fellowship as we engage in Bible study, devotionals, and recreational activities. All men are invited—whether you are beginning your faith walk or have been a life-long follower of Christ. More to follow!

Contact Kevin McArthur with questions  
[Kevin\\_mcarthur@cox.net](mailto:Kevin_mcarthur@cox.net) or 203-5305.



### WOMEN OF FAITH CONFERENCE “IMAGINE”

August 13 – 14, 2010, Quest Center Omaha.

Special Early Registration Price of \$49.50.  
 (Regular Price \$89.00).

**This includes:**

- Friday, August 13 - 10 am – 3:30 pm; 7 pm – 9:30 pm.
- Saturday, August 14 – 9 am – 4 pm.

\*Box lunches included both days.

**REGISTER NOW ON NEW ON-LINE SITE:** It’s

easy. Visit [gps.womenoffaith.com](http://gps.womenoffaith.com) to get started. Select Alene Schlange’s Group. You can pay in full with credit card option or select payment options. Questions: Contact Alene Schlange @292-7470 or [aleneschlange@yahoo.com](mailto:aleneschlange@yahoo.com)

“God can do anything, you know – far more than you could ever imagine or guess or request in your wildest dreams!” Ephesians 3:20 (MSG)





## The T!LC Library Corner It's Your Library!

As we move forward into the Lenten season continuing on with daily devotions, prayers and studying of the bible, remember that all of these endeavors can be enhanced by what you will find on the shelves in your Library.

The majority of books, CD's, DVD's and VHS tapes that relate to Lent and Easter have been moved onto the library cart in the narthex. As they are checked out and space becomes available on our cart, I will move the remaining items from our library shelf, the first top shelf on your right as you walk into the library, on to the cart.

We have had many generous donations from our congregation over the past few months and the move is on to get these checked in and on to our shelves in the near future. For those who have donated these wonderful books, once again we thank-you

and to let you know that another book sale is in the planning process and will be announced in the messenger if it is ready to go before our next newsletter. Any additional books you wish to pass along would be appreciated either for our library or book sale.

Highlighting several new additions that I have placed on the book cart....

Attachments by Dr. Tim Clinton and Dr. Gary Sibcy

From the front cover: "Why you love, feel and act the way you do. Unlock the secret to loving and lasting relationships.

The Scottish Crown Series by our very own Carol Umberger.

Circle of Honor, Mark of Salvation, Price of Freedom, Promise of Peace

Overview: book 1: "A riveting store of betrayal and love on the highlands of medieval Scotland in the fourteenth century Scotland.

A Love Worth Giving by Max Lucado

We have many books by Max Lucado that are worth your while in spending time reading. This book is about living in the overflow of God's Love. The back cover states "God loves you. Personally. Powerfully. Passionately" You need to read to find out how God loves you with unfailing love.

Six Hours One Friday by Max Lucado

"Max Lucado writes of the greatest event in history as if he were an eyewitness," states Tim Kimmel, President of Generation Ministries.

Windows of the Soul by Ken Gire

"Ken Gire calls us to a fresh sensitivity to God's voice speaking through the unexpected parables."

Be sure to visit the library. Come in and discover all the treasures that are waiting to fill your mind with knowledge and wonder that are at your fingertips.

God's peace...

Vicki DeRoo

**Readers and Communion Assistants  
Needed for 9:30 and 11:00 Services**

**Looking for a way to serve the Lord here at T!LC?**  
Communion servers are needed on the 1st & 3rd week-ends of the month.

**Do you have a nice speaking voice or a love for reading aloud?** Our worship ministry needs message text readers!

Scheduling is flexible and training is available!

Please contact Donna Gilbert at 402-293-1656 or [dgavon@cox.net](mailto:dgavon@cox.net)



**Dates to Remember:**

**April 11—The X Factor Sermon Series begins**

**April 16 & 17—Cleansing Stream Retreat**

**April 18—New Member Class begins  
Don't forget to come to Brunch!**

**April 24—Power Praise  
(at The Rock in Papillion)**

**April 24—Stephen Ministry Retreat**

**May 1—Men's & CoEd Softball begins!**

**May 6—National Day of Prayer**

**May 15 & 16—Confirmation Weekend**

**May 21-23 Power Surge River Crest Trip**

**May 23—Sunday School Picnic/  
Summer Block Party Kickoff**

**May 24 to July 30—Kids of the King Summer Day Camp**

**June 12 & 13—CrossTrek Men's Retreat**

**June 21—25 Vacation Bible School**



The Altar Guild is looking for loving hands to help prepare the sanctuaries for services each Sunday morning. Duties include filling the candles, changing paraments and banners and setting up for communion. We are forming teams **to serve one month at a time**. Training is provided and men and women are welcome to join this time-honored ministry. Contact Carol Umberger at 505-6999 or [carol@thanks-giving.org](mailto:carol@thanks-giving.org).

**WOMENS BOOK STUDY**

Women's Book Study will be held at 7:00 PM on Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at the Bellevue home of Nancy Carlson. To reach the Carlson home at 2701 Blackhawk Drive, take 25<sup>th</sup> Street South, passing Capehart Road. Turn right on Blackhawk Drive. Nancy's home is the 9<sup>th</sup> house on the left past S. 26<sup>th</sup> Ave Cir.



We will be viewing "Week Three; Great Things for Us" of Beth Moore's *Stepping a Journey through the Psalms of Ascent*." The study begins on page 66 and continues through page 89. Leader Karen Rowell suggests we do Day One through Day Five lessons before the meeting. We will "fill in the blanks" on pages 88 and 89 as we view the DVD.

Any questions, call Nancy at 292-2502 or co-hostess Lynn Erickson at 293-1174. Please let one of them know if you cannot attend.

Looking forward to seeing you at this scent-free evening on April 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Mid Size Community: A Place for Discipleship**

If you are interested in discovering a new type of Christian community that is centered around the Biblical principles of discipleship please go to <http://tlcmidsize.blogspot.com>

This is a site that we have set up specifically for the mid-size community. Or feel free to call hosts Rob and Janine Wegner at 293-9060 or [j9wegner@cox.net](mailto:j9wegner@cox.net)



We meet each Monday evening at 6pm in the home of Rob and Janine Wegner for fellowship, worship, outreach, and teaching.

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## ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



2010

### OUR VISION STATEMENT

*Our Vision is for All People to Live Transformed Lives by **Belonging** to the Family of God, **Believing** in Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior, and **Becoming** Spirit-Empowered Servants of Christ!*

### OUR MISSION STATEMENT

*Our mission is to reach out and gather people into the family of God, equipping them to be disciples of Jesus Christ in our community, nation, and world.*

### CHURCH OFFICE

Hours: Monday-Friday - 9:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.  
Phone: 402.292.2695  
Fax: 402.292.0248  
E-mail: [thanks@thanks-giving.org](mailto:thanks@thanks-giving.org)  
Website: [www.thanks-giving.org](http://www.thanks-giving.org)  
Parish Care/Stephen Ministry: 402.292.7633  
T!LC Preschool: 402.292.0315

### WORSHIP SCHEDULE

5:30 p.m. Saturday *Jubilation!* Service  
Sunday: 8:15 a.m. Heritage Services  
9:30 & 11:00 a.m. *Jubilation!* Services  
Nursery Available for All Services  
Holy Communion 1st & 3rd Weekends

### CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

September through May , , ,

- \* Saturday Night Kidz Church (during 5:30 Worship)
- \* Sunday School-Youth & Adult 9:30 and 11:00
- \* Wednesday Night Awana & Power Surge
- \* Confirmation (Grades 7 & 8)
- \* Numerous Weekly Senior High Youth and Adult Small Group Bible Studies

Various Jr. & Sr. High Activities are held throughout the summer months.

### T!LC STAFF

Pastors:

Rev. Glenn J. Harless, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Bruce L. Kotila, Discipleship Pastor  
Rev. David S. Witkop, Pastor of Engagement & Outreach

Care Ministries Coordinator	Vicar Susan Westland
Worship & Music Coordinator	Cheryl Smith
Operations Manager	Harold Carlson
Office Manager	Sara Zivny
Preschool Director	Dana Crosgrove
Children's Ministry Director	Karen Brayfield
Youth Director	Mark Richards
Worship & Music Director	Carol Umberger
Nursery Director	
Kids of the King Director	Denise Dunn
Heritage Choir Director	John Hendrickson
Handbell Choir Director	Liane Kirmis

*Life Change  
through  
Life in Christ!*