One of the most poignant things about the Lenten season during my youth was Ash Wednesday, when I was reminded (by the ashes put on my forehead) that we came from the dust and to the dust we'd ultimately return. In recent years, that imagery was 'juxtapositioned' a little, because now I'm the person who is actually PUTTING the ashes on the foreheads of people who view me as the priestly figure. But it in NO way does it make it any less apparent that I'm still dust; in fact, the role I now play keeps me conscious of the frailty I feel in performing such tasks for the Lord. Because being a pastor is more about understanding the dis-order of life than it does the order of things. Here's what I mean.

If you walk into my office, you'll see pretty quickly that there are all sorts of little sticky notes and items that help me remember things...phone numbers, notations, the hard copies of the minutes of meetings I am part of...and in our home there's a basket that is on the table in our hallway that has a number of little items that are kept there (keys, wallet, phone, etc.) that absolutely need to be there all the time or they'll get lost. Having certain things in my sightlines are critical to my knowing where things are – and I know this because I was tested for Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and the people that did the testing told me that these little 'helps' really make my life more ordered, even if doesn't feel that way.

I regularly had a key tied around my neck with a shoe string as a kid; I lost so many keys to our house after school that we even had a neighbor keep an extra one at her home. I can't tell you how many times I left my baseball mitt out in the rain during my childhood, but I CAN tell you that this penchant hasn't gone away now that I'm an adult. Last fall, I did an outdoor funeral in Shelby and left my car running the whole time I was there (2 hours).

And if a familiar item that needs to be in a familiar place gets moved, it can take me miles to deal with the ole 'retrace your steps' way to solve the problem of losing something. My mind is really good on a number of levels (Scrabble, remembering field goal percentages of basketball players), but there are holes in my processing and the ADHD tests showed a couple. All of which can be extremely maddening without God; and a story reminded me of this.

The story was on my wall for years, but I know it well enough that it's ingrained in my head. It was written by a woman from a church in California some 20 years ago. Carol was describing her penchant for losing keys and her frustration in doing so as often as she did. In one particular case, the keys had been locked in her car (without the car running, thankfully) and she eventually found someone to jimmy the car open, one of a few who offered help. But for a while, she was so obsessed on trying to solve the problem herself, she couldn't get out of her own way. Then she continued

Continued on page 2

Upcoming Sermon Texts:

Mar. 7 – I Cor. 1:18-25

Mar. 14 – Num 21:4-9

Mar. 21 – Jer. 31:31-34

Mar. 28 – Mark 11:1-11

Apr. 4 (Easter Sunday) – John 20:1-18 or Mark 16:1-8





"The bonehead move of the afternoon was not losing my keys. The grand mistake was not accepting the first offer I got. I wanted to do it myself...(but) when life stops like this, God commands my complete attention. I picture Him almost gleeful at this opportunity. He shows me his faithfulness, his life, and His concern for me. He not only knows how many hairs there are on my head, but He knows where my keys are, or he connects me with the person who gets me into my house (or car)...when I call an end to my pity party, God reminds me that He is always paying attention and that I need to do the same. I sometimes joke that I don't know how God can help anyone else in the world, because He is spending so much time taking care of me."

With Joy For the God Who Cares,

Pastor Craig



Elias Greenwall	Mar 10
Jeanette Ostrom	Mar 10
Jodi Johnson	Mar 12
David Schram	Mar 14
Asher Greenwall	Mar 17
Peggy Lovgren	Mar 17
Kathy Nelson	Mar 17
Trey Willhoft	Mar 18
Lanny Nielsen	Mar 24
Wendy Ziemba	Mar 30



Doug & Cindi Perdue	Mar 5
Lanny & Dianne Nielsen	Mar 10
Mark & Judy Hanson	Mar 16

March Dates to Remember



Wednesday, March 10—Kids' Club Begins!

6:00—7:30 pm (every Wednesday in March and April)

Sunday, March 14—Daylight Savings Time Begins Don't forget to set your clocks forward!



Wednesday, March 17—St. Patrick's Day

Patrick's Thursday, March 18—Rescue Mission Meal—5:30 pm

Saturday, March 20—Spring Begins!



Sunday, March 28—Palm Sunday

Wednesday, March 31—Community Prayer Breakfast 7:00 am—ticket cost to be announced



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Financial Update:

2021 Budget Summary (1/1/21 through 1/31/21)

Needed Income: \$11,998.17

Actual Income: \$16,677.58 Difference: \$ 4,679.41

Budgeted Exp: \$11,998.17

Actual Exp: <u>\$ 8,273.20</u> Under Budget: \$ 3,724.97 Note: some of this income was from the endowment for the purchase of sound system. Not all is tithes & offerings.



ONLINE GIVING: To make a one-time or scheduled reoccurring gift to our church, please visit:

www.stromsburgcov.org and click on ONLINE GIVING.

Camp Registration:

Early bird registration for Summer camps is due April 1, 2021. Parents, please fill out registration forms for your students and turn them in to the office so we can register as a group. Forms are on the bulletin board across from the coat rack. If you have questions please talk to Johanna Nielsen. Her email is jnielsen@crosscounty.esu7.org and her phone is 402-764-0086.



Ministry Team Leaders:

Note: Ministry teams will be meeting in early March to select leadership for 2021. The following may or may not continue on in their leadership roles. If you would like to be on a team please sign up in the fellowship hall.

Lead Team: Christian Formation:

Dennis Nuttelman Judy Hanson 402-366-9803 402-764-6681

Worship Ministry Team: Outreach:

Sue Rosenbaum Dave Schram—402-710-8858 402-560-6759 Shayla Hier—402-764-0261

Fellowship & Hospitality:Properties:Pat EveringhamKent Erickson402-764-0345402-765-6721

Prayer Concerns? Please contact Connie Nuttelman to have a request go out on the prayer chain or to be included in the bulletin. Connie's number is 402-366-9045 or you can send an email to prayerchain@stromsburgcov.org.



Ministry Partners

Sunday, Mar 7, 2021

Coffee: TBD

Scripture: Dennis Nuttelman

Worship Team: Dennis & Connie Nuttelman,

Craig Pinley, Ryan Cooper

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy, Kohen Hier

Sunday, Mar 14, 2021

Coffee: TBD

Scripture: Eleanor Greenwall

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Sue

Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy, James Hennessy

Thursday, Mar 18, 2021

Rescue Mission Meal: TBD

Sunday, Mar 21, 2021

Coffee: TBD

Scripture: Jeannie Ahlquist

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Dianne

Nielsen, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy; Kohen Hier

Sunday, Mar 28, 2021

Coffee: TBD

Scripture: Bob Orsborn

Worship Team: Craig & Mary Pinley, Neeli

Noyd, Sue Rosenbaum

Audio/Visual: Dale Hennessy, James Hennessy



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Sat	9	13	20 Spring is here!	27	
Fri	ದ	12	19	26	
Thu	4 9:30 am BSF (Free Ch) (every Thurs)	11	18 5:30 pm Rescue Mission Seying Meal Homeless	25	CAKFAST
Wed	3 6:30 pm Prayer	10 6:00 pm Kids' Club 7:30 pm Prayer	17 6:00 pm Kids' Club 7:30 pm Prayer	24 6:00 pm Kids' Club 7:30 pm Prayer	31 PRAYER 7:00 am—Community Prayer Breakfast 6:00 pm Kids' Club 7:30 pm Prayer
Tue	2 7:00 pm BSF Zoom (every Tues)	6	16	23	30
Mon	1	∞	15	22	29
Sun		7 8:30 Worship Team 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship with Communion 11:45 Fellowship 12:00 Lead Team Mtg	sprine AHEAD	8:30 Worship Team 9:30 Sunday School 10:30 Worship 11:45 Fellowship	28 Calm SUNDAY