



1 Corinthians 1:18-25 - For the Word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of



what we preach to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

What happens when your non-Christian friends find out that you follow Jesus? Do they look confused? Do they ever ask you how you can believe that stuff?

Really, it's hard to blame them. You are following a crucified God. How does that make sense? Our culture teaches us to grab for power—to use whatever leverage we have to make it to the top. Many of our political leaders openly brag about the people they have walked over and the norms they have broken to get their way. And they receive honor for it! To follow a crucified Savior is to put yourself on the side of the losers—to accept mocking, to admit that you aren't Number One. Why would you do that?

Trying to explain it can be embarrassing. "Well, it's because I love Him." That can be really hard to say! But it's the truth, isn't it? We love Him—and why? Because He loved us first. Because He loved us so much that He laid down His life on the cross in order to rescue us—people who had nothing to offer Him except sin and trouble and grief. But He wanted us, and He was willing to suffer and die to get us—yes, and to rise from the dead so that we could live forever in Him. That is the God we know, that is the Jesus we trust in. And for Him, we are willing to accept other losses—social embarrassment, broken friendships, loss of the power and prestige we could've had if we were willing to disobey Him. No wonder Paul says, "The Word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing!"

So how in the world can we talk to these people about Jesus when it all seems so foolish to them? We can live our lives openly in front of them—letting them see for themselves that, even though we suffer and struggle just like everyone else in our broken world, we have something in our lives that is different—a source of peace and hope and strength that gets us through. It may take years, but they will notice—and eventually ask. As the Holy Spirit makes us more and more like Jesus in the way we speak and behave, people will wonder—and then we can tell them about Jesus.

WE PRAY: Heavenly Father, keep our faith strong in the unwarranted love You have for us. Amen.

#### Silverstreet Lutheran Church Council

The Silverstreet Lutheran Church Council met on Sunday, January 8, 2023 in the church conference room at 8:30 am.

1.) <u>Members present were</u>: Pastor John, T.C. Bowers, Terry Crone, Johnny Hayes, Jan Piersol, Christopher Smith, Alana West, Jerry Willingham, Mike Willingham, and Brandy Wix.

The December minutes were presented and Chairman Mike Willingham asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes or questions concerning the minutes. With there being none, Chairman Mike Willingham asked for a motion to be made to accept the minutes. Alana West made a motion to accept the minutes and T.C. Bowers second the motion. Motion was accepted with a unanimous vote.

## 2.) Committee Reports:

- a.) Pastoral Services no meeting
- b.) Membership Met and Cayce Lybrand was elected as chairperson.
- c.) Worship & Music no meeting
- d.) Christian Education Mett to elect new chairperson. Brandy Wix was elected as chairperson.
- e.) S.O.W. meeting after church today
- f.) Property no meeting
- q.) Stewardship no meeting
- h.) Children & Youth meeting next Sunday
- i.) Safety Committee no meeting

Chairman Mike Willingham asked for a motion to be made to accept the reports. Johnny Hayes made the motion to accept the reports and Jerry Willingham second the motion. Motion was accepted with a unanimous vote.

### 3.) Financial Reports:

The church financial report was received. Chairman Mike Willingham asked for any questions about the report. With there being none, Christopher Smith made a motion to accept the report and Terry Crone second the motion. Motion was accepted with a unanimous vote.

#### Old Business:

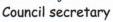
<u>Constitution</u>: Every three years the Synod has a meeting to make changes to the Synods constitution. The Synod sent out these changes for us to change the church's constitution. In the next congregational meeting the members must vote on these changes. Alicia Willingham has made the suggested Synod changes to the constitution of the church. Copies of the church's constitution will be given out to each household in the church.

<u>Council Liaisons</u>: please make sure that the council liaisons are scheduling meetings to elect new chairpersons and scheduling meetings during the church year.

Council was adjourned with The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by:

Brandy H. Wix

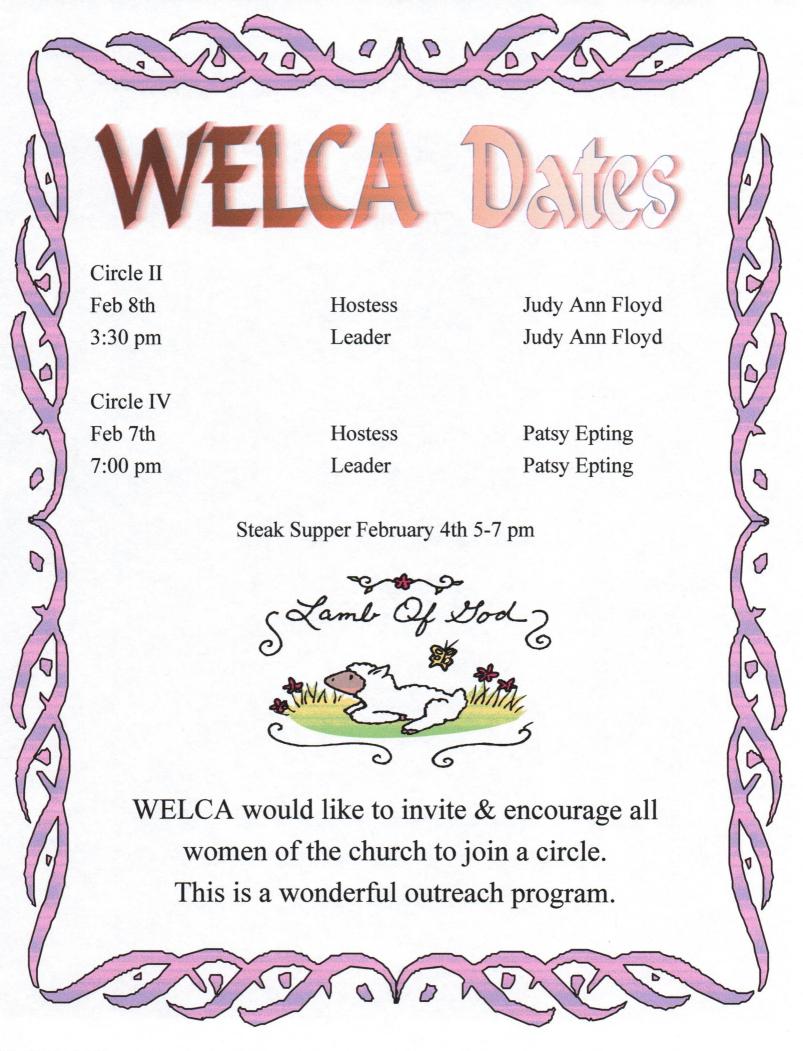


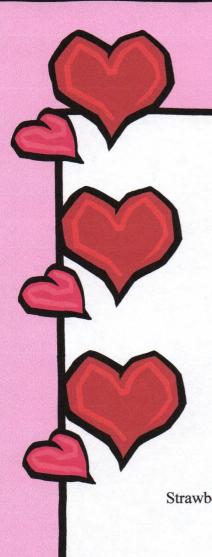


- Bits 'N Pieces.....
- WELCA Steak Supper WELCA would like to Thank everyone who sold tickets and helped with the steak supper. Even though there were several other suppers going on this past weekend we still had a great turnout and a great number of plates sold. Thank You!
- *LMM* Will meet February 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00. Cooks for February are Jay Piersol and Nick Piersol. All Lutheran men are invited.
- WELCA Valentine Luncheon WELCA will be sponsoring a Valentine Luncheon for our Congregation next Sunday on February 12<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 p.m. following our worship service. Please sign up in the Narthex if you would like to attend.
- Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper On February 21<sup>st</sup> beginning at 6:00 p.m. we will once again begin our Lenten journey with a Pancake Supper. We hope everyone will attend. We will begin serving at 6:00 p.m. and we will serve until we feel everyone has been served.
- Ash Wednesday Service Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 7:00 p.m.
- Lenten Services Will begin February 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We will once again be blessed to be able to serve soup and sandwiches before the Lenten message. If you would be willing to help serve soup and sandwiches, please sign-up in the Narthex.
- Manna House Food pantry is accepting monetary donations which can be sent to Manna House, c/o Sue J. Mitchell, 2210 Timber Lane, Newberry, SC 29108. Food supplies are currently low. Nonperishable food items are being accepted as well as dish and laundry detergent. There is a basket in our Narthex that you my put your donations in and the SOW Committee will take them to Manna House for you. For info call (803) 321-2155.
- Reuben Backpack program The SOW committee will be sponsoring the program and will volunteer to purchase food/snack items which are packed into individual bags and will be taken to Reuben on Fridays for distribution in order to assure these children have food when not in school. Monetary donations will be appreciated. Please consider donating to this program.
- As brothers and sisters in Christ, we are called to "carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ." Galatians 6:2. By being generous and sharing our blessings we show love and support to those most in need. If you or if you know of a member of this congregation who needs assistance with things such as yard work-possibly from a storm; transportation for groceries, appointments, or church; housework or meals following an illness please contact a member of the church council. Committees and resources are available to meet your needs. Thank you.

Mike Willingham-President Terry Crone-Vice President Brandy Wix-Secretary

Jan Piersol Christopher Smith Jerry Willingham T.C. Bowers Johnny Hayes Alana West





You are Cordially Invited to a Valentine Luncheon February 12, 2023 12:00 Noon In the Fellowship Hall

# Menu:

Strawberry Kale Salad with
Strawberries, Feta Cheese, & Homemade Strawberry Vinaigrette

Herb Roasted Pork Tenderloin

**Buttered Ranch Petite New Potatoes** 

Sauteed and Seasoned Mixed Vegetables

#### Dessert

Vanilla Sour Cresam Pound Cake w/ fresh strawberries Chocolate Sheet Cake w/whipped Cream

> Sponsored By: WELCA Sign up in the Narthex

#### SERVING GOD IN FEBRUARY 2023

If a conflict arises and you cannot serve on the appointed date, please find a replacement. Each person and their duty is vitally important to the worship service in the church. \*Head Usher \*\* Greeter. Thank you for Serving!

Ushers	Communion Steward	Offering Tabulators	
Jay Piersol *	5 Kim Crone	Jerry Willingham *	
Mike Willingham	19 George Piersol	Jay Piersol	
April Bryant **	22 Mary Willingham		
Bryan West	Securing the Church		
	Jerry Willingham		

		Lay Readers	Altar Flowers
Feb	5	Shannon Bowers	Kim & Terry Crone
	12	Katherine Cook	Austin & Beth Willingham
	19	Cayce Lybrand (Transfiguration)	Jerry & Alicia Willingham
	22	Nancy Ruff (Ash Wednesday)	Ash Wednesday
	26	Alana West	Lent/ No Flowers



		Acolyte	<u>Crucifer</u>
Feb	5	Peyton Piersol	Cameron Lybrand
	12	Peyton Piersol	Cameron Lybrand
	19	Harper Piersol (Transfiguration)	Sarah Bryant (Transfiguration)
	22	Harper Piersol (Ash Wednesday)	Sarah Bryant (Ash Wednesday)
	26	Harper Piersol	Sarah Bryant

# Happy Birthday to the Following.....

Feb	6	Janice Havird	16	Maffett Fant	
		Austin Willingham	20	Kim Crone	
	7	Axl Phillip Cook	23	Hannah Chapman	
	9	Jason Huggins	25	George Piersol	



# Happy Anniversary to the Following.....

# Feb 27 Mike and Mary Willingham

Anyone missing? Please let us know. We want to recognize everyone! Also if you see an error, please call Mary Willingham (803) 944-9191. Thank you.

# February 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
	en	S t	1	2	3	Steak Supper 5 -7 pm Drive Thru	
9 am Choir 10 am Sun School 11 am Worship/ Communtion	6	WELCA Grp IV 7 pm	LMM 7 pm	9	10	11	
8:30 am Council 9 am Choir 10 am Sun Sch 11 am Worship 12 Noon Valentin Lunch	13	14	15	16	17	18	
9 am Choir 10 am Sun Scg 11 am Worship			Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm	23	24	25	
26 9 am Choir 10 am Sun Sch 11 am Worship	27	28		<b>(D)</b>	Hol	4	