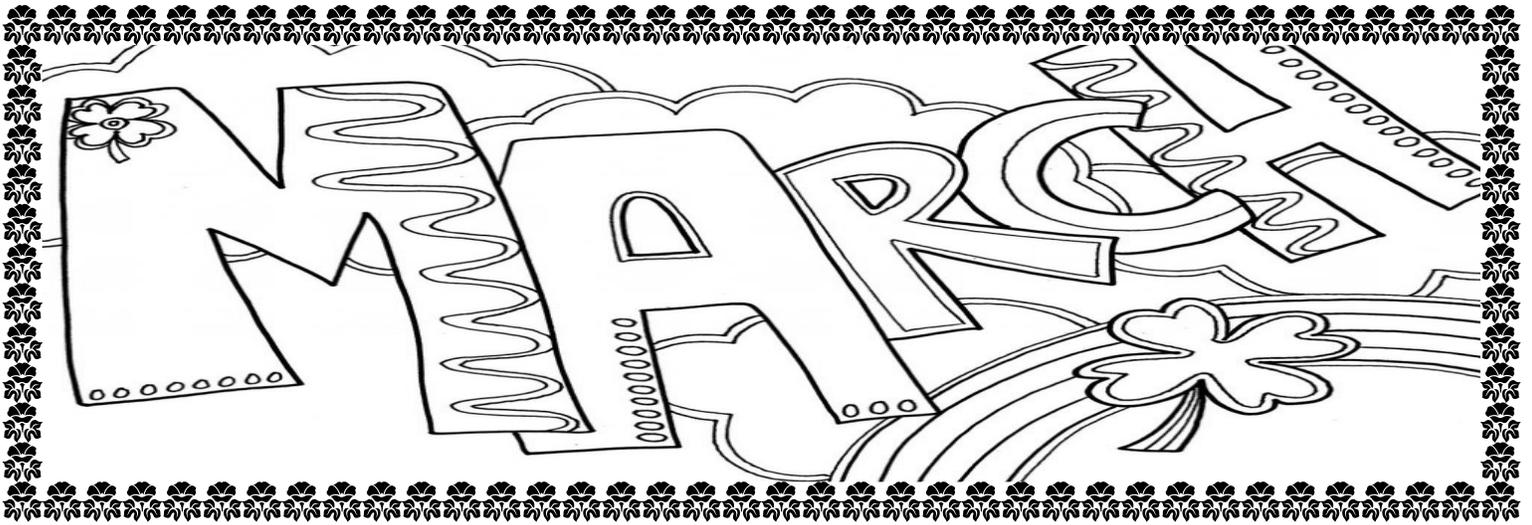


MARCH 2026



**FAITH EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH
3355 MACARTHUR ROAD
WHITEHALL, PA 18052**

The Rev. June E. Wann
Pastor
Zach Keenan
President, Church
Council
Michelle Tabatabai
Vice President
Heidi Carr
secretary
Margy Muthard
Treasurer
Jordan Bucks
Organist
Joanne Gantz-Jalowiecki
Financial Secretary
Jennifer Kishbaugh
Director Of Music
Claudette Nia
Office Administrator

Key Dates and Observances

1 March St. David's Day (Wales), celebrating Welsh culture with daffodils, leeks, and traditional food.

2 March – Dr. Seuss's Birthday, a nationwide reading celebration.

3 March World Wildlife Day, promoting awareness of wildlife conservation ; Lantern Festival, marking the end of Chinese New Year celebrations.

5 March World Book Day, encouraging reading and book related activities; St. Piran's Day (Cornwall), celebrating Cornish heritage.

6–15 March – British Science Week, a ten-day celebration of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics.

8 March International Women's Day, celebrating women's achievements globally.

9 March Commonwealth Day (second Monday of March), recognizing the connection between Commonwealth nations.

12 March Anniversary of the Dandi March in India, a key event in the India n independence movement.

17 March – St. Patrick's Day, celebrating Irish culture and heritage.

20 March Spring Equinox, marking the astronomical start of spring; Inter national Day of Happiness.

22 March – World Water Day, highlighting freshwater conservation.

23 March World Meteorological Day, raising awareness of weather and cli mate issues.

24 March World Tuberculosis Day, promoting TB awareness and prevention.

29 March – Mothering Sunday (UK), a day to honor mothers.

29 March British Summer Time begins, moving clocks forward by one hour.



From the Pastor

As we enter the solemn and reflective season of Lent, the significance of our baptisms comes into sharper focus. Lent is a time of preparation—a journey toward the joyous celebration of Easter, which ultimately points us toward the resurrection of Christ and the new life we are called to live as His followers.

Baptism is one of the most profound gifts we receive as part of our faith. It marks our initiation into the Christian community, symbolizes the cleansing of our sins, and invites us into a covenant relationship with God. In Romans 6:4, we are reminded, “We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.” This powerful symbolism is central to our understanding of not only our identity as Christians but also the transformative power of God’s grace.

During Lent, we are called to reflect upon our own baptism—its meaning and its implications for our daily lives. It’s an opportunity to remember that through baptism, we are united with Christ in His death and resurrection. We are reminded that just as He overcame sin and death, we too are empowered to turn away from sin and walk in the newness of life.

As we journey through these 40 days, you are invited to join on us Wednesday evenings at 6:00 p.m. for a soup supper and Bible Study focused on our baptismal promises. Join us as we engage in personal reflection on the promises made at baptism—both those made by God and those we commit to uphold.

Moreover, Lent presents a wonderful opportunity for catechesis, as we teach about the significance and sacrament of baptism to those who may be preparing for this important step in their faith journey. It’s a chance to remind them that baptism is not the end of the story but rather the beginning of a lifelong commitment to discipleship.

In a world that often seems chaotic and disillusioned, let us reaffirm the hope we find in our baptism. Let us embody the love and grace of God in all that we do. As we journey together this Lent, may we draw closer to our Creator and each other, embracing the call to live as baptized children of God, ready to serve and share His love with the world.

May this Lenten season be a time of reflection, repentance, and renewed commitment to the promises of our baptisms. As we prepare our hearts for Easter, let us lean into the beauty of our faith and the transformative power that comes through the water and the Word.

In Christ’s peace,

Pastor June Wann



ADULT FORUM AT 9:00 AM
WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:00 AM

**Altar Communion-The first Sunday of each month
celebrate Communion around the Altar. Please join us!**



UPCOMING EVENTS

MARCH 1 HUNGER INITIATIVE MEAL HERE AT FAITH

MARCH 7 AND 8 BASKET SOCIAL

March 28th Breakfast with the Bunny

April 5 Easter breakfast before service

Gearing up for the Basket Social March 7 and 8! We always welcome volunteers!

HELP BASKETS ARE NEEDED!

The basket social is MARCH 7TH AND 8TH

Wrapping beginning Monday Feb 23—March 4

Items can be dropped off M-Th from 9-3.

Volunteers are greatly appreciated and necessary.

Margy and Erika will once again be responsible for this event.

Questions can be directed to either of them or through the office

Tea basket	Soup basket
Candle basket	Laundry supplies basket
Coffee basket	Birthday basket
Baking basket	Lottery basket
Taco basket	Paper products
Breakfast basket	Pizza Basket
Movie night basket	Health basket
Snack basket	Ice cream basket

Beginning Wednesday, February 25 at 6 PM in the Gathering Place, please join us for

A soup supper at 6 pm followed by a Lenten worship/Study at 6:30 pm

**Starting February 19, we shall begin forwarding the phones Thursdays through Monday Mornings.
Pastor June, Judy Ehret, and Claudette Nia will work on rotating weekends to answer calls.**

Please send in recipes, adventures, pictures, testimonies by the last week of the month to be included in the monthly newsletter. Let's make our newsletter personalized to us at Faith!

MISSION STATEMENT

**Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church is an open and caring community of Christ's disciples,
ministering through worship, education, fellowship, stewardship, and evangelism.**



Walking Wet: Living Our Baptismal Promises in Daily Life

Welcome to **Walking Wet**, a Lenten Series developed by the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod and the Virginia Synod focused on the promises made at baptism. The five baptismal promises, which are made whenever someone is baptized, provide guidance as we live as a child of God in the world. These promises are meant to drench us daily in God's love and grace - promises for each day, not merely meant as a one-time deal at our baptism. You can see the promises in the baptismal service on page 228 in the Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal.

Join us on Wednesday Evenings during Lent for an interactive time of a soup supper, worship, and Bible Study.

Ash Wednesday Worship 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Wednesdays in Lent in The Gathering Place

(February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25)

Join us at 6:00 for a Soup Supper

6:30 begins worship and Bible Study

WORSHIP TEAMS FOR MARCH 2026

MARCH 1

MARCH 8

MARCH 15

MARCH 22

MARCH 29

ALTAR GUILD	Cathy Haller And Pat Masonheimer	Shel And Judy Ehret	Charlene Frack And Gloria Sen- chak	Barb Yurasits And Linda Johnston	Diane Batza And Pat Masonheimer
ASSISTING MINISTER	Ben Brandt	Bob Billig	Gail Herzog	Howard Schaeffer	Bob Brandt
LECTOR	Jennifer Reiner	Kindall Wann	Jennifer Reiner	Kindall Wann	Jennifer Reiner
GREETER	Charlene Frack	April Spaits	Judy Paine	Judy Paine	Charlene Frack
FLOWER SPONSOR	Dan and Gail Herzog				
BULLETIN SPONSOR	Dan and Gail Herzog				

MARCH 2026

SUN 1	2	3	4	5	6	7
<p><u>Altar Communion</u> Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM 7:00 PM AA</p>	<p><u>1:00 PM Piece makers</u> 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)</p>	<p><u>10:00 AM Prayer Group</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts 7:00 PM</p>	<p>6:00 PM Eagle Scouts <u>6:00 Soup and Lenten Workshop</u></p>	<p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts <u>6:15 pm Bell Choir</u> <u>7:30 pm senior choir</u></p>		
8	9	10	11	12	<u>13</u>	14
<p>Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM 7:00 PM AA</p>	<p><u>1:00 PM Piece makers</u> 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)</p>	<p><u>10:00 AM Prayer Group</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts <u>Executive council</u> <u>7:00 PM</u></p>	<p>6:00 PM Eagle Scouts <u>6:00 Soup and Lenten Workshop</u></p>	<p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts <u>6:15 pm Bell Choir</u> <u>7:30 pm senior choir</u></p>		<p>Pinewood Derby</p>
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
<p>Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Installation of Church Council members 7:00 PM AA</p>	<p><u>1:00 PM Piece makers</u> 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)</p>	<p><u>10:00 AM Prayer Group</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts <u>Church Council</u> <u>7 pm</u></p>	<p>6:00 PM Eagle Scouts <u>6:00 Soup and Lenten Workshop</u></p>	<p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts <u>6:15 pm Bell Choir</u> <u>7:30 pm senior choir</u></p>	<p>Spring Equinox</p>	
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
<p>Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM AA 7:00 PM</p>	<p><u>1:00 PM Piece makers</u> 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)</p>	<p><u>10:00 AM Prayer Group</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts</p>	<p>6:00 PM Eagle Scouts <u>6:00 Soup and Lenten Workshop</u></p>	<p>6:00 PM Cub Scouts <u>6:15 pm Bell Choir</u> <u>7:30 pm senior choir</u></p>		<p>9-11 AM <u>Breakfast with the Bunny</u> 11:00 <u>Community Egg Hunt</u></p>
29	30	31				
<p><u>Palm Sunday</u> Sunday School 9:00 AM Worship Service 10:00 AM Eagle Scout Ceremony AA 7:00 PM</p>	<p><u>1:00 PM Piece makers</u> 6:00 PM Brownies 7:00 PM Pioneer Band (BH)</p>	<p><u>10:00 AM Prayer Group</u> 6:45 PM Boy Scouts</p>				

50 Interesting Facts About March: Spring's Arrival

Discover the fascinating world of March with these intriguing fun facts. As winter fades and spring emerges, March brings a unique blend of history, traditions, and natural wonders.

From ancient Roman calendars to modern celebrations, this month is packed with surprises. So, what makes March so special? Let's dive in and explore!

March At-a-Glance

When: Third month of the Gregorian calendar

Days: 31

Birthstone: Aquamarine

Flower: Daffodil and Jonquil

Zodiac Signs: Pisces (Feb 19 – Mar 20), Aries (Mar 21 – Apr 19)

Season: Spring in Northern Hemisphere, Autumn in Southern Hemisphere

Notable Holidays:

St. Patrick's Day (Mar 17)

International Women's Day (Mar 8)

Historical Significance of March

March has played a crucial role in shaping calendars and marking important historical events throughout the ages. Let's explore some fascinating facts about its origins and historical importance.

1. March was originally the first month of the Roman calendar.
2. The month is named after Mars, the Roman god of war.
3. In Old English, March was called "Hlyd monath" meaning "Stormy month."
4. The Ides of March (March 15) was famously the date of Julius Caesar's assassination in 44 BCE.
5. The first United States Postage stamps were issued on March 3, 1847.

Natural Phenomena and Weather in March

March marks the transition from winter to spring in the Northern Hemisphere, bringing about various natural changes and weather patterns. Here are some interesting facts about March's natural phenomena.

The Spring Equinox typically occurs on March 20 or 21 in the Northern Hemisphere.

March is known for its unpredictable weather, giving rise to the saying "In like a lion, out like a lamb."

The Northern Lights are often more visible around the Spring Equinox due to geomagnetic activity.

In the Southern Hemisphere, March marks the beginning of autumn.

The full moon in March is traditionally called the "Worm Moon" by some Native American tribes.

March in Literature and Pop Culture

March has inspired writers, artists, and creators throughout history. Here are some interesting facts about how March has been portrayed in literature and popular culture.

“Beware the Ides of March” is a famous phrase from Shakespeare’s play “Julius Caesar.”

The famous opening line of Emily Dickinson’s poem ‘Dear March – Come in -’ personifies March as a welcomed guest, celebrating the arrival of spring.

The March Hare character in Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland was inspired by the English idiom ‘mad as a March hare,’ referring to hares’ erratic behavior during mating season.

On March 2, 1933, the original “King Kong” premiered at Radio City Music Hall and the Roxy Theater in New York City.

The March sisters from “Little Women” were named after their birth month of March.

Famous March Birthdays

March has been the birth month of many notable figures throughout history. From scientists to artists, here are some famous personalities born in this month.

Albert Einstein, the renowned physicist, was born on March 14, 1879.

Vincent van Gogh, the post-impressionist painter, was born on March 30, 1853.

Dr. Seuss, the beloved children’s author, was born on March 2, 1904.

Michelangelo, the Italian Renaissance artist, was born on March 6, 1475.

Johann Sebastian Bach, the famous composer, was born on March 21, 1685.

March in Sports

March is an exciting month for sports enthusiasts, with several major events and tournaments taking place. Here are some interesting facts about sports in March.

March Madness, the NCAA Division I Men’s Basketball Tournament, typically begins in mid-March.

The NFL’s new league year usually starts in March, marking the beginning of free agency.

The World Indoor Athletics Championships are often held in March.

The Formula 1 season traditionally began in March with the Australian Grand Prix until 2019. Recent seasons have varied this pattern.

The Six Nations Rugby Championship, featuring teams from England, France, Ireland, Italy, Scotland, and Wales, concludes in March.

March in Nature

As spring begins to unfold in the Northern Hemisphere, March brings about many changes in the natural world. Here are some fascinating facts about nature in March.

Many migratory birds begin their return journeys to northern breeding grounds in March.

The first butterflies of the year, such as Peacocks and Small Tortoiseshells, often emerge in March.

March marks the beginning of 24-hour daylight in parts of the Arctic Circle.

Cherry blossoms typically start blooming in Japan in late March, signaling the start of spring.

The sap starts flowing in maple trees in March, marking the beginning of maple syrup season in North America.

March Superstitions and Folklore

Like many months, March has its share of superstitions and folklore. Here are some interesting beliefs and sayings associated with this month.

An old weather proverb states, "A dry March and a wet May fill barns and bays with corn and hay."

In Roman times, it was considered bad luck to marry in March.

According to folklore, if March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb, and vice versa.

Some believe that the number of foggy mornings in March indicates the number of rainy days in June.

In some cultures, it's believed that thunder in March signifies a fruitful year ahead.

March in Science and Technology

March has been witness to several significant scientific and technological advancements throughout history. Here are some noteworthy events that occurred in this month.

The World Wide Web was born on March 12, 1989, when Tim Berners-Lee submitted his proposal for an information management system.

Alexander Graham Bell patented the telephone on March 7, 1876.

The first successful powered airplane flight over the North Pole was completed on March 6, 1926.

Albert Einstein published his paper on the photoelectric effect in March 1905, which later earned him the Nobel Prize.

The Hubble Space Telescope was deployed on March 7, 2002.

Unique March Observances

March is home to several quirky and lesser-known observances. Here are some unique celebrations that take place during this month.

March 1 is National Peanut Butter Lover's Day in the United States.

The second week of March is celebrated as National Bubble Week.

March 14 is also celebrated as National Potato Chip Day in the US.

The third Thursday of March is World Sleep Day, promoting the importance of healthy sleep.

March 31 is World Backup Day, reminding people to back up their digital data.



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Happy Anniversary

ANNIVERSARIES

BENNETT, HOPE 03/02
HERZOG, DANIEL & GAIL 03/02
SHECKLER, ROBERTA 03/04
MUTHARD, MARGY 03/26

A graphic with the words "Happy Birthday" written in a large, black, cursive script. The word "Happy" is on the top line and "Birthday" is on the bottom line. There are three small stars to the right of the word "Happy". The background is a light gray and white checkerboard pattern.

BIRTHDAYS

SCOTT, FREDERICK 03/01
MICKEY, LYNN 03/03
NIA, CLAUDETTE 03/07
KISHBAUGH, JENNIFER 03/13
REICHARD, LUCILLE 03/13
SCOTT, DOROTHY 03/14
KEENAN, TINAMARIE 03/15
FINLEY, DIANE 03/18
GRIM, WAYNE 03/19
GEHRIS, MARIE 03/23
SMYKOWSKI, DEANNA 03/23
KISHBAUGH, DAYNE 03/24
SCHADLER, VICKIE LYNNE 03/24
FENSTERMAKER, KAY 03/27
BLAYLE, Karen 03/30

March Trivia Questions & Answers:
Simple Stats, Symbols, & Superstitions

Which famous god is March named after?

What are the birthstones of March?

What is the official birth flower of March?

What is the full moon in March called?

What are the two zodiac signs for March birthdays?

February, March, and what other month always start on the same day of the week?

Every year, March and what other month end on the same day of the week?

March is the start of the spring season in the Northern Hemisphere. What season does March usher in if you're in the Southern Hemisphere?

True or False: March used to be the first month of the year on early Roman calendars

In early Roman times, the "Ides of March" was the deadline for what?

What does the superstition "If March comes in like a lion, it will go out like a lamb" mean?

According to weather folklore, if it's a rainy March, what other month will be rainy?

Oppositely, if it's a dry March, what month should you expect rain,

according to weather folklore?

What astronomical event marks the first day of spring?

When does daylight saving time officially begin in March?

In the spring, do we gain or lose an hour for daylight saving time?

What mathematical holiday do we celebrate in the middle of March?

If you really want to make the most of Pi Day, what time should you celebrate?

What year did the March Madness tournament begin?

Why is Easter sometimes in March and sometimes in April?

Similarly, Passover is typically celebrated in March or April following the first full moon of which Hebrew calendar month?

Marvelous March Trivia Facts: Meaningful Moments of the Month

True or False: Saint Patrick was Irish

What year did MTV's first spring break program premiere?

Who is the first NCAA championship winner?

In recent years, March Madness has been tied to an uptick in what type of male surgery?

What is the last Sunday of Lent called before Easter?

What Islamic holiday is celebrated in March?

What color should you not wear on St. Patrick's Day?

What astronomical event marks the first day of spring?

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What year did the March Madness tournament begin?

Remarkable Moments & People in March History

What famous children's author was born on the 2nd day of March?

What famous Roman ruler was assassinated on the Ides of March?

Which extraordinary scientist, responsible for the theory of relativity, was born in March?

Which famous inventor, responsible for the creation of the telephone, was born in March?

Whose death do we celebrate each year by wearing green in the middle of March?

On March 2nd, 1836, the Lone Star State declared independence from what country?

What social media company was created in March?

What stretchy desk supply item was created in March of 1845?

What important government document written by our founding fathers went into effect on March 9, 1789?

Which famous song that is used in celebrations with cake and presents, was published in a songbook in March of 1924?

On March 1st, 1872, what location in America became the world's first national park?

What famous doll was introduced to the world in March of 1959?

What is the last Sunday of Lent called before Easter?

What Islamic holiday is celebrated in March?

What color should you not wear on St. Patrick's Day?

March Trivia Answer Key March Trivia Questions & Answers: Simple Stats, Symbols, & Superstitions

Mars, the Roman god of War

Aquamarine and bloodstone

Daffodils

The worm moon

Pisces and Aries

November

June

Fall

True

Paying off debts

If the weather is roaring at the beginning of the month, it will be calm by the end of it.

June
May
The vernal equinox
On the second Sunday of the month
Lose an hour
Pi Day 1:59 AM or PM 1939
The date is determined by the first full moon, following the spring equinox. Easter occurs on the first Sunday following this event.

Nissan Marvelous March Trivia Facts: Meaningful Moments of the Month

false
1986
Ohio State
Vasectomies
Palm Sunday Ramadan
Orange
The vernal equinox On the second Sunday of the month

Nissan Challenging March Trivia Facts: Remarkable Moments & People in March History

Dr. Seuss
Julius Caesar
Albert Einstein
Alexander Graham Bell
St. Patrick
Mexico
Twitter
The rubber band
The United States Constitution
"Happy Birthday to You"
Yellowstone
Barbie

Finding Your Spiritual Gifts

God has given each Christian two vitally important gifts. The first is the gift of faith in Jesus Christ, his work of redemption, and thus forgiveness of sin. The second is the gift of one or more special abilities, which are to be used for the purpose of unifying the body of Christ and for the growth of God's Kingdom. These abilities are called spiritual gifts and they are received through our baptism. Like other presents, it is impossible to fully appreciate and make use of our spiritual gifts until they have been opened. This tool will help you begin to open your spiritual gifts by guiding you through the following three activities:

Scripture Review: Highlighting scripture references that both support the existence of spiritual gifts and identify those which are commonly found in service today.

Self Assessment: a list of 60 questions which will help you identify which gifts you have received in greatest measure.

Exploration of Use: suggestions for the various types of ministry you might be most effective in because of your spiritual gifts. These three activities will begin to help you discover and employ your spiritual gifts. May the special abilities God has given you be deployed in areas of ministry where they will be most effective for the good of the entire church body. These gifts should also be affirmed by the body and utilized by the one who is gifted.

Scripture References: The Apostle Paul addresses the presence of spiritual gifts in three main sections of scripture: Romans 12, I Corinthians 12, and Ephesians 4. Peter also verifies their existence in I Peter 4:10. Through these sections of scripture, we learn that all Christians have been given at least one spiritual gift. The purpose of spiritual gifts is twofold: (1) to unify Christians in their faith and (2) to produce growth within the church, both numerical and spiritual. These gifts are to be used out of love for one another, and in service to one another. We do not choose which gifts we will receive. God bestows them upon us through the work of the Holy Spirit. Not all of the gifts identified in scripture are used in this inventory.

The spectacular gifts (speaking in tongues, healing and miracles, prophecy, bold proclamation of God) and some of the non-spectacular gifts (martyrdom, celibacy) have not been included. Although these gifts exist, they are not commonly utilized in the mainstream of parish life. Since the objectives of spiritual gift deployment are to unify and produce growth through service, in today's church climate, only the service related gifts have been included.

Administration: the gift that enables a believer to formulate, direct, and carry out plans necessary to fulfill a purpose. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:28, Acts 14:23.

Artistry: the gift that gives the believer the skill of creating artistic expressions that produce a spiritual response of strength and inspiration. Biblical References: Exodus 31:1- 11, Psalm 149:3a.

Discernment: the gift that motivates a believer to seek God's will and purpose and apply that understanding to individual and congregational situations. Biblical References: John 16:6-15, Romans 9:1, I Corinthians 2:9-16.

Evangelism: the gift that moves believers to reach nonbelievers in such a way that they are baptized and become active members of the Christian community. Biblical References: Matthew 28:16-20, Ephesians 4:11- 16, Acts 2:36-40.

Exhortation: the gift that moves the believer to reach out with Christian love and presence to people in personal conflict of facing a spiritual void. Biblical References: John 14:1, II Timothy 1:16-18, III John 5-8.

Faith: the gift that gives a believer the eyes to see the Spirit at work and the ability to trust the Spirit's leading without indication of where it all might lead. Biblical References: Genesis 12:1-4a, Mark 5:25-34, I Thessalonians 1:8-10.

Giving: the gift that enables a believer to recognize God's blessings and to respond to those blessings by generously and sacrificially giving of one's resources (time, talent, and treasure). Biblical References: II Corinthians 9:6-15, Luke 21:1-4.

Hospitality: the gift that causes a believer to joyfully welcome and receive guests and those in need of food and lodging. Biblical References: Romans 12:13, Romans 16:23a, Luke 10:38.

Intercession: the gift that enables a believer to pray with the certainty that prayer is heard and when requests are made, answers will come. Biblical References: Matthew 6:6- 15, Luke 11:1-10, Ephesians 6:18.

Knowledge: the gift that drives a person to learn, analyze and uncover new insights with regard to the Bible and faith. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:8; I Corinthians 14:6, Romans 12:2. Leadership: the gift that gives a believer the confidence to step forward, give direction and provide motivation to fulfill a dream or complete a task. Biblical References: Romans 12:8, John 21:15-17, II Timothy 4:1-5.

Mercy: the gift that motivates a believer to feel deeply for those in physical, spiritual, or emotional need and then act to meet that need. Biblical References: Luke 7:12-15, Luke 10:30-37, Matthew 25:34-36.

Music--Vocal: the gift that gives a believer the capability and opportunity to present personal witness and inspiration to others through singing. Biblical References: Psalm 96:1- 9, Psalm 100:1-2, Psalm 149:1-2.

Music--Instrumental: the gift that inspires a believer to express personal faith and provide inspiration and comfort through the playing of a musical instrument. Biblical References: Psalm 33:1-5, Psalm 150, I Samuel 16:14-23.

Pastoring (Shepherding): the gift that gives a believer the confidence, capability and compassion to provide spiritual leadership and direction for individuals or groups of believers. Biblical References: I Timothy 4:12-16, I Timothy 3:1-13, II Timothy 4:1-2.

Service (Helps): the gift that enables a believer to work gladly behind the scenes in order that God's work is fulfilled. Biblical References: Luke 23:50-54, Romans 16:1-16, Philippians 2:19-23.

Skilled Craft: the gift that enables a believer to create, build, maintain or repair items used within the church. Biblical References: Exodus 30:1-6, Exodus 31:3-5, Ezekiel 27:4- 11.

Teaching: the gift that enables a believer to communicate a personal understanding of the Bible and faith in such a way that it becomes clear and understood by others. Biblical References: I Corinthians 12:28, Matthew 5:1-12, Acts 18:24-48.

Wisdom: the gift that allows the believer to sort through opinions, facts and thoughts in order to determine what solution would be best for the individual believer or the community of believers. Biblical References: I Corinthians 2:6-13, James 3:13-18, II Chronicles 1:7-11.

Writing: the gift that gives a believer the ability to express truth in a written form; a form that can edify, instruct and strengthen the community of believers. Biblical References: I John 2:1-6, 12-14, I Timothy 3:14-15, Jude 3.

Self-Assessment Inventory Instructions:

For each of the 60 questions which follow, circle the number that corresponds with the response that most closely matches how you perceive yourself. Categories are presented diagonally, across the top of the inventory. 4, consistently true 3, frequently true 2, occasionally true 1, infrequently true 0, rarely true You might also ask a person who is close to you to score the inventory with, and for, you. Their perception of your strengths may be useful in identifying the gifts with which you have been truly blessed. After responding to each question, turn to the scoring grid on page six to analyze your results. 1. When presented a goal, I immediately think of steps that need to be taken in order to achieve the desired results. 4 3 2 1 0 2. I express myself through artistic means. 4 3 2 1 0

1. When presented a goal, I immediately think of steps that need to be taken in order to achieve the desired results. 4 3 2 1 0
2. I express myself through artistic means. 4 3 2 1 0
3. My faith requires me to seek out God's will and purpose in all circumstances that arise in my life. 4 3 2 1 0
4. I am able to convey the Gospel message to non-believers in ways that they are able to easily understand. 4 3 2 1 0
5. I am moved by those who through conflict or sorrow are wavering in faith. 4 3 2 1 0
6. I am certain of the spirit's presence in my life and the lives of others. 4 3 2 1 0
7. I am blessed by God each day and gladly respond to these blessings by giving liberally of my time and money. 4 3 2 1 0
8. I enjoy meeting new people and becoming acquainted with them. 4 3 2 1 0
9. I know that God hears and responds to my daily prayers. 4 3 2 1 0
10. I feel compelled to learn as much as I can about the Bible and faith. 4 3 2 1 0
11. I am a take charge person. When others follow my direction, the goal or task will be completed. 4 3 2 1 0
12. When I see a person in need, I am moved to assist them. 4 3 2 1 0
13. I love to sing and enjoy inspiring others through song. 4 3 2 1 0
14. I find joy and express myself by playing a musical instrument. 4 3 2 1 0
15. I am motivated to provide spiritual leadership to those who are on a faith journey. 4 3 2 1 0
16. I like working behind the scenes to ensure projects are successful. 4 3 2 1 0
17. I enjoy working with my hands in a trade or skill that required considerable experience to perfect. 4 3 2 1 0
- 18.. My great joy is to communicate biblical truth in such a way that it becomes real and understood by others. 4 3 2 1 0
19. When a challenge is presented, I am usually able to identify an appropriate solution. 4 3 2 1 0
20. I am able to take a thought or idea and put it into a clear and inspiring written form. 4 3 2 1 0

2 1 0

22. I can translate into artistic form what I first see in my imagination. 4 3 2 1 0

23. I have assisted others as they sought to discern whether or not their personal decisions were helpful and in accord with God's will for their lives. 4 3 2 1 0

24. I enjoy being with non-believers and like having the opportunity to encourage them to faith and commitment. 4 3 2 1 0

25. When I know someone is facing a crisis, I feel compelled to provide support and care. 4 3 2 1 0

26. My trust in the Spirit's presence, when I encounter times of personal crisis, is a source of strength for others. 4 3 2 1 0

27. I manage my time and money so that I am able to give much of it to the work of the church or other organizations. 4 3 2 1 0

28. I am often asked to open my home for small group gatherings or social occasions. 4 3 2 1 0

29. I often become so absorbed in my prayer life that the door bell or phone can ring and I will not hear it. 4 3 2 1 0

30. Not one day would be complete without biblical study and thought. 4 3 2 1 0

31. When I am in a group, others will often look to me for direction. 4 3 2 1 0

32. I feel an urgency to provide housing for the homeless, food for the starving, comfort for those in distress. 4 3 2 1 0

33. I have sung before groups and felt a real sense of God's presence. 4 3 2 1 0

34. By my playing a musical instrument, inspiration has been provided for both myself and others. 4 3 2 1 0

35. I have responsibility for providing spiritual guidance to an individual believer or group of believers. 4 3 2 1 0

36. People tell me that without my willingness to do the unnoticed jobs, their work would be more difficult. 4 3 2 1 0

37. I am good at building, repairing, or restoring things and find satisfaction in doing so. 4 3 2 1 0

38. I want to express my faith by assisting others to discover the truths contained in the Bible. 4 3 2 1 0

39. People come to me for help in applying Christian faith and values to personal situations. 4 3 2 1 0

40. I often feel moved to write about my thoughts and feelings so others may benefit from them. 4 3 2 1 0

41. I have been successful in organizing, directing and motivating people to achieve a goal. 4 3 2 1 0

42. My artistic work has given spiritual strength to both believer and non-believer. 4 3 2 1 0 43. In the congregation, I am often asked if a direction being discussed is in accord with God's will and purpose.

43. In the congregation, I am often asked if a direction being discussed is in accord with God's will and purpose. 4 3 2 1 0
44. I do not find it difficult to share what Jesus means to me with non-believers. 4 3 2 1 0
45. Those who are struggling with life questions have come to me for guidance and help. 4 3 2 1 0
46. I can see great things happening in my congregation and am not derailed by the pessimism of others. 4 3 2 1 0
47. When I receive money unexpectedly, one of my first thoughts is to share this gift through the church. 4 3 2 1 0
48. I enjoy welcoming guests and helping them to feel at ease. 4 3 2 1 0
49. Believers have asked me to pray for healing in their lives, and have evidenced God's healing power. 4 3 2 1 0
50. My study of the Bible has proven helpful to others in their faith journey. 4 3 2 1 0
51. People have said they like to work with me because the task will be successfully completed. 4 3 2 1 0
52. People have been surprised by how at ease I am while working with those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit. 4 3 2 1 0
53. I am grateful and humbled that my singing has provided inspiration and hope for others on their faith journey. 4 3 2 1 0
54. Others have told me they were moved by my playing a musical instrument. 4 3 2 1 0
55. People have come to me for spiritual help and it has developed into a long-term relationship. 4 3 2 1 0
56. When I turn out the lights, take tables down, work in the kitchen or put chairs away, I feel that I have served the Lord. 4 3 2 1 0
57. My knowledge of building, maintenance or repair has been a special value to the church and others. 4 3 2 1 0
58. Students have told me that I can take the most difficult idea or concept and make it understandable. 4 3 2 1 0
59. When direction is needed at work or in the congregation, I am generally asked for my opinion. 4 3 2 1 0
60. My written work has been helpful to others in understanding life's truths. 4 3 2 1 0

SCORING GRID: For each set of three questions, fill in the number 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 of rectangular blocks equal to your total score.

For example, in the category of Administration, the numbers 2+4+3 total 9.

Once completed, note that the longer the bar the stronger the corresponding gift.

The strongest gift(s) will generally have a total score of "7" or more. If you have more than one gift with a total of seven or more, then all of these gifts can be referred to as your "gift cluster."

Notice how each gift within the cluster has the potential to compliment and support another. The gifts within the cluster will need to be further explored to determine which ones you have truly been blessed with.

This inventory is designed to begin your journey toward spiritual gifts discovery. Keep in mind that it is not a scientific instrument. Your perceptions will be validated by others and confirmed through prayer and by their use over time.

Identify your spiritual gift cluster, then list the gifts in the gifts cluster.

administration Questions 1, 21, 41

Artistry Questions 2, 22, 42

Discernment Questions 3, 23, 43

Evangelism Questions 4, 24, 44

Exhortation Questions 5, 25, 45

Faith Questions 6, 26, 46

Giving Questions 7, 27, 47

Hospitality Questions 8, 28, 48

Intercession Questions 9, 29, 49

Knowledge Questions 10, 30, 50

Leadership Questions 11, 31, 51

Mercy Questions 12, 32, 52

Music-vocal Questions 13, 33, 53

Music-instrumental Questions 14, 34, 54

Pastoring Questions 15, 35, 55

Service Questions 16, 36, 56

Skilled Craft Questions 17, 37, 57

Teaching Questions 18, 38, 58

Wisdom Questions 19, 39, 59

Writing Questions 20, 40, 60

Spiritual Gift Cluster: Draw three circles. In each of the circles, write one of the spiritual gifts that had a total score of seven or more. Begin with the center circle, identifying the gift that had the highest score. In the event of a tie, select the gift you feel you have used effectively in the past, or the one you think you might be most effective in. Then fill in the other circles with a five of the remaining gifts. This group of gifts is your gift cluster. Which gifts have you truly been blessed with?

A brief list of ministry examples follows. These examples have been provided merely as thought starters and should not be considered an exhaustive list.

Administration: Congregation Council, Finance Staff, Sunday School Superintendent, Vacation Bible School Coordinator,

Business Manager Artistry: Banner Making, Drama Club/Clown Ministry/Puppetry, Film/Photography Work, Crafts/Handicrafts, Decorating Team, Set/Props Design

Team Discernment: Congregation Council, Long Range Planning Team, Social Ministry Team, Peer Counseling, Support Group Facilitator

Evangelism: Prospective Member Visitation, Evangelism Team, Advertising and Marketing, New Member Sponsor, Community Visitation

Exhortation: Mutual Ministry Team, Hospital/Home/Institution Visitation, Telecare Ministry, Peer Counseling, Small Group Leader

Faith: Congregational President, Stewardship Team, Long Range Planning Team, Teacher/Bible study leader
Giving: Capital Campaign Steering Team, Stewardship Team, Volunteer Coordination, Giving Personal Testimony
Hospitality: Greeter/Usher, New Member Sponsor, In-Home Bible Study Host, Visitor Welcome/Information Center, Banquet Server, Fellowship Hour Host/Server

Intercession: Prayer Chain, Prayer Partner, Prayer Families/Prayer Circles
Knowledge: Parish Resource-Library Coordinator, Nominating Team, Long Range Planning Team,

Congregation Council Leadership: Sunday School Superintendent, Committee Chairperson (all types), Fellowship Activity Coordinator, Vacation Bible School Coordinator, Congregational President, Speaker-Special Events

Mercy: Home/Hospital/Institution Visitation, Transportation to Worship/Bible Study, Social Ministry Team, Support Group Leader, Telecare Minister

Music-Instrumental: Band Leader/Member, Choir Pianist, Special Event Music, Substitute Organist, Vacation Bible School-Music Program
Music-Vocal: Church Choir, Vocal Ensemble, Sunday School Song Leader, Vacation Bible School Song Leader

Pastoring (Shepherding): Adult In-Home Bible Study Leader, New Member Sponsor, Young-Adult Counselor, Small Group Leader,

Telecare Minister Service (Helps): Computer Programmer/Data Entry, Newsletter Collation, P.A./Sound System Technician, Tape Recording Worship Services, Child Care, Building/Grounds Upkeep, Kitchen Cleaning Team, Providing Transportation

Skilled Crafts: Building Maintenance/Upkeep, Electrical/Masonry/Plumbing/Roofing, Mechanical Repair/Maintenance, Audio/Visual Operator and Repair, Computer Maintenance, Web-Page Developer

Teaching: Adult Bible Class Teacher, Sunday School Teacher, Teen Bible Class Teacher, Vacation Bible School Teacher, Conference/Seminar Leader

Wisdom: Long Range Planning Team, Congregation Council, Peer Counselor, Support Group Leader, Mutual Ministry Team
Writing: Newsletter Article Writer, Newsletter Editor, Public Relations/

Letter Writing For Further Thought: Your Spiritual Gifts do not appear and disappear as you pass through the doors of your church! The special gifts God has given you are with you always. They are meant to also be used in your daily life to bring glory to God and serve the needs of others.