

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1000 EASTON RD. DALLAS, TEXAS 75218

# THE SENTINEL

FEBRUARY 2015

## *IT'S MORE THAN A FEELING*

I still remember the experience in grade school of passing out valentines to the whole class. We made large folders with our names on them and hung them on the wall then passed out our valentines. I wonder: Do they still do that in school?

Valentine's Day owes its origin to two Roman Christian martyrs both named Valentine. One was a priest who was martyred on February 14, A.D. 269, and the other was a bishop of Terni. It is possible the two martyrs may be referring to the same man.

There is no obvious connection to romantic love; although in 1998 the Irish tourist board, wishing to promote Dublin as the capital of romantic love, asserted that Valentine had been put to death for conducting weddings for Roman soldiers contrary to the order of Emperor Claudius II. Another legend said that when Valentine was condemned to death, he cured the daughter of the judge of her blindness and sent her a letter signed "your Valentine." Also pushing Valentine's Day toward romantic love was its proximity to the Roman fertility festival celebrated on February 15 called the Lupercalia. In the Middle Ages it was believed that birds chose their mate on Valentine's Day. Gradually the day was seen as a time for people to pick their true love and give them some token of their love. By the early 19th century the love token had turned into a card. The love token today lives on in the giving of flowers, candy, and other gifts.

As Christians we celebrate the physical aspects of romantic love as a good gift from God. The Bible takes a very positive and healthy stance toward the physical expression of love. The Church has struggled with this through the centuries: witness the attempt of some Christians to interpret the *Song of Solomon* as an allegory of Christ's love for the Church instead of a forthright celebration of human love.

But as Christians we realize that romantic love has its limitations because it is fueled by passion and emotion and therefore is changeable and volatile. Love understood simply as feeling and emotion cannot sustain friendship, marriage, and doing the right thing for the people we do not like. For us, true love takes us beyond how we feel; it is a matter of the will, a commitment we make, an action and a way of doing things that we choose. Yes, love is ultimately a choice, and it has a point of reference for us.

The reference point is the self-giving and sacrificial love of God shown to us in Jesus Christ who came and died for us. Paul writes in Romans 5:8:

*But God proves his love for us in that while we were sinners Christ died for us.*

Who knows about the historical accuracy concerning the two Valentines, but if they were martyred, it was the self-giving and sacrificial love shown in Jesus Christ that motivated them.

**Pastor Rich**

### SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- *Ash Wednesday Service*
- *Schedule for Lenten suppers, services*
- *Children's Choir news*
- *Central on-line*
- *Chili, dessert winners*
- *Health Kits*
- *Youth: Bible study, cards for homebound, spring calendar, game day*
- *Serving on Sundays*



Ash Wednesday:  
Feb. 18

Lenten Vespers  
Feb. 25, March 4,  
11, 18, 25

## MUSIC AND WORSHIP NOTES

Thanks to our Senior Choir and you — the congregation — for your increasing musical participation in our Epiphany Worship. Your singing (yes—even those of you who claim that you “can’t carry a tune in a bucket”) is sweet incense to God, and your participation is an inspiration and encouragement to those around you!

Ash Wednesday ser-

vice will be at 7 p.m. February 18, at First United Lutheran Church, 6202 E. Mockingbird Lane (between Abrams and Skillman). The combined choirs of First, Bethany and Central will lead in musical worship. Begin your Lenten Journey with us!

Wednesday evening Lenten Vespers begin February 25 with Soup Supper at 6 p.m. and

Vespers at 7. We will focus on the beautiful Evening Hymns in our hymnal — ones we don’t often have an opportunity to sing, such as “Abide With Me,” and “Now the Day is Over.” Even if going to church on Wednesday is not part of your habit — give it a try — you will be enriched.

Soli Deo Gloria  
Larry McCain

## Children’s Choir Update



We’re back in full swing after our holiday break, and we’re working on our new Hymn of the Month, “Bright and Glorious is the Sky.” This piece has some tricky word rhythms, but I’m pleased at how we’re progressing. We’ll present the hymn in the morning worship service on the first Sunday in February.

We’ve also been working on note names and associating each note with the correct number of beats.

Another musical area we are examining: dynamics, which we’re exploring

through vocal exercises that help us produce a tone that is beautiful, whether we sing very loudly or very softly.

We are also learning to identify each dynamic by its Latin name.

Looking ahead: Children’s Choir and Youth Orchestra, don’t forget to mark your calendars for 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 7. That’s when we will attend the New Texas Symphony Orchestra’s Children’s Concert at the Latino Cultural Center in Dallas. We’ll attend as a group so

let me or Larry McCain know your need for tickets as they will be purchased in advance.

Thanks so much to the singers for sharing your gifts and thank you to the parents, Pastor Pounds and the congregation for your prayers and support.

I am so very proud of everyone’s enthusiasm and hard work!

Musically yours,  
Amy Kjorlien

## YOUR HELP NEEDED WITH FACEBOOK AND WEBSITE

Make it your New Year's goal to visit Facebook (that social utility that connects people with friends) at least one or two times a week to read about the coming events at Central and the highlights of past activities.

And if you're a Facebook member (good idea to sign up and it only takes a minute), you can comment



and Like, Share and Post things. Check it out. Read the info. Chat about it. Add your friends.

Visit [facebook.com](http://facebook.com) and

[www.centrallutheran.org](http://www.centrallutheran.org). Both are "developing" with the help of David Hopson and Rachel Brown. If you have information or photos, send to

[RachelBrownDallas@gmail.com](mailto:RachelBrownDallas@gmail.com)  
David adds: "We ask for your prayers and assistance in communicating the love of Christ."

## CHILI, DESSERT WINNERS

Another successful chili cook-off took place Sunday, January 18, featuring the women as the cooks.

Twenty-one participants produced a variety of tastes and ingredients. Winners were:

1st place — Laura Haynie

2nd place — Joyce Lewis

3rd place — Mary Glenn

The men baked a variety of delectable desserts enjoyed by all. Nine entrants submitted desserts and the winners were:

1st— Ted Steinke, making his mother's Orange Crumble cake. Delicious!

2nd-Joseph and Andrew

Nixon with Sopapilla cheesecake.

3rd — Joel Glenn, peach cobbler.

Laura summed up the experience: "If art is about expression, and cooking is an art, there was a lot of expression brought to the table."



**Laura Haynie**, first out of 21 chili entries, shares her recipe:

Lean or extra lean ground beef, beans, spices, onions, jalapeno and tomatoes. For the Central entry, she skipped the beans but used a lot of tomatoes, onions and spices — especially chili powder. "If too

## IT'S HEALTH KIT COLLECTING TIME

Every year about this time, Central Lutheran members gather items for Health Kits, which are sent to Lutheran World Relief. Susan Wrobbel is the coordinator.

Here's the list of the kit contents:

- One light-weight bath-size towel, dark color if possible.
- Two bath-size bars of soap in original wrapping
- One adult-size toothbrush in packaging
- One sturdy comb; remove packaging
- One metal nail clipper; remove packaging.

Wrap all items in towel and tie securely with ribbons or yarn. Place in container in the narthex.

See Layette list also in the narthex. Alesia Pearson is coordinator for this LWR project.

*If you'd prefer to make a donation toward the health kits, Susan Wrobbel says she'll be glad to do the shopping.*

## Donation Containers in narthex for:

- Layettes, Health items
- Cancelled stamps
- Bar codes from food packages
- *Christ in Our Home*
- White Rock Center

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## WHITE ROCK CENTER EXPRESSES APPRECIATION

Executive Director Ted Beechler at White Rock Center of Hope sent a letter of thanks recently “for the contribution of \$416.67 and lots of food in December.”

He wrote: “As we start the new year, I look back over the previous year and cannot help but be in awe of all that you and your congregation do

for our neighbors in need via the Center. Your gifts to the Center enable our volunteers to fulfill the words of Philip-  
pians 4:19, *My God shall supply all your needs according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.*

“As we celebrate the birth of Jesus, know that these gifts help supply the needs of east Dallas families who are strug-

gling to provide for themselves and their children.

“Please let your congregation know that all of us at the Center wish all of you the same joy that these gifts bring to our neighbors.”

Thanks to Central’s Mission Partner for their valuable service in this community.

## HIGH SCHOOL BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

All junior and senior high students are welcome to join us from 7:00-8:00pm February 4 and 11 for a weekly Bible Study.

We will talk about social justice and issues facing youth today and see

what the Bible says about it.

We will not meet February 18 because of Ash Wednesday, but all youth are encouraged to attend the Ash Wednesday

service.

During Lent we meet during the soup suppers (at 6:00pm) to enjoy a meal together and talk about how God is working in our lives. Youth will be encouraged to stay for the Lenten ser-



We will collect money during the worship service on Sunday, February 1 and go to a nearby grocery store to buy canned goods to donate to White Rock Center of Hope.

## CARD MAKING FOR SHUT-INS

Everyone is invited to stay after church to make Valentine cards for our shut-ins on Sunday, February 8. We will meet in the Fellowship Hall.

This has been a wonderful service project for our youth for many years and the recipients are very thankful. Bring your creative ideas.

Cards, supplies, and snacks will be provided.



### Sunday at Starbucks February 15

We will meet at the Starbucks in Casa Linda (Garland Road/Buckner) at 9:00am. We will enjoy a coffee or breakfast treat and good conversation. We will leave in time to make it back to church by 10:30. All high school students are welcome.

## NATIONAL GATHERING UPDATE & MARK YOUR CALENDARS

All participants and their parents should plan to attend the next planning meeting after church Sunday, February 15. We will discuss upcoming fundraiser dates and summer plans.

Mark your calendars for upcoming dates:

Saturday, March 14

Get Lucky 5K/10K fundraiser race

Saturday, March 28

Fish Fry

Saturday, April 25

Women Rock fundraiser

Sunday, April 26

Youth Led worship service

Sunday, May 3-7

Operation Salvage setup

May 8-9

Operation Salvage

All elementary aged youth are invited to stay after church for lunch, games, and activities Sunday, February 22. Please let Jennifer Nixon know if you are planning to attend.

CENTRAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1000 EASTON RD. DALLAS,  
TEXAS 75218  
DALLAS, TEXAS 75218

9:00 Sunday School, Adult Forum,  
Confirmation Class  
10:30 Worship Service  
Communion on 1st, 3rd, 5th and  
Festival Sundays

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GOD CALLS US TO  
PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL AND  
DEMONSTRATE CHRIST'S  
LOVE FOR ALL

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PASTOR RICH POUNDS  
LARRY MCCAIN, MUSIC DIRECTOR  
JENNIFER NIXON,  
YOUTH DIRECTOR

## ***HERE AND THERE***

**Ushers** for February: Sam Carusi, captain; David Inkrote, Phillip Cannatti and John Sanders.

**Acolytes:** Feb. 1- Joseph and Caleb; Feb. 8-Alden; Feb. 15-Mick and Katherine; Feb. 22-Lilly; March 1-Allison and Wesley.

**Communion Assistants:** Feb.- Mary and Eva March - Joan and Anne; April - Gay and Diane.

**Altar Guild:** Feb.- Chrissy and Diane, March - Gay and Anne ; April- Rachel and Amy.

**Lectors:** 1st-Joan ; 8th & 22nd-John ; 15th-Alesia .

See sign-up sheets posted in Education Bldg.

*The Dallas Morning News'* architecture columnist, Mark Lamster, will speak at King of Glory Lutheran Church, 6411 LBJ Frwy., at 10 a.m. Monday, February 9.

For info, email Barbara Brooks at gram-ieb@att.net or call 972-991-1535.

Sign-ups are now welcome also for a trip to the Old Red Museum of Dallas County History & Culture on Monday, Feb. 23. Lunch will follow at a local restaurant.

The KOG bus will leave the church at 10 a.m.

*Of all the attitudes we can acquire, surely the attitude of gratitude is most important and life-changing.*

*Laughter is the brush that sweeps away the cobwebs of the heart.*

-From Mario Montejo's favorite quotes.

Purpose of this newsletter for members, prospective members and friends is to inform and share news about the ministries and activities of CLC and the people who worship here

-Reba Liner, Editor