**Food for thought:** *For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly…But God proves God’s love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by His blood, will we be saved through Him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of God’s Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life.*

As I write this, we are half way through the season of Lent and I am thinking ahead to Holy Week. Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday is the great marathon week of the Christian church. There is a lot going on; many memorable scriptures texts and emotions, none of which can be held above or more important the others. Each day, each service, leads into and informs the next. We cannot arrive at Easter without first going through Good Friday.

The schedule of our Holy Week services is published on the calendar and in the bulletin. Please, look ahead, so that you and your family may plan ahead in order to be able to attend all Holy week services. Some services are joint gatherings of one or more congregations. If the service in not held at your preferred building of worship, it is still being planned with you in mind. Everyone is encouraged and everyone is welcome to come and meet Christ, to come and honor Christ’s gift of life, on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter morning.

Come, let us gather as a community as we journey through Christ’s walk of love and life laid out of or us.

**Come to the Castle –** There are two opportunities coming up for continuing education at Wartburg Seminary. March 31st, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan will be presenting on the use of the Psalms in worship. Richards’ presentation will be with laity and clergy together for the day. April 28th, a Bible study will be offered for laity by senior seminary students; topic of this Bible study has yet to be announced.

These events beginning with chapel at 9:30 a.m. and conclude at 2:30 p.m. Lunch is included in the cost or the day of $20/person or $50/ group of five. If you interested in attending either or both of these events, please let me know at least a week in advance, as registrations are due the Friday before the event.

**Liberating Grace Conference –** Luther College is hosting this conference as part of their recognition of the 500th anniversary of the reformation. Attorney Ralston Deffenbaugh, from LWF, will be giving a lecture followed by a workshop on the refugee crisis, Saturday, April 1st. This conference is free, but those wishing to attend must still register. For more information on the conference or to register, please visit [www.luther.edu/reformation-2017/conference](http://www.luther.edu/reformation-2017/conference).

**Packaging Easter Meals –** Friday, April 7th, we will be taking Sunday school children, after school, to help package Easter meals at the Clayton County Food Shelf. There is a sign-up sheet at St. Peter, on the board, for both students and chaperones. We will leave from St. Peter around 2:15pm and return from St. Olaf around 3:30pm.

**LWR Personal Care Kits –** St. Peter is collecting items to assemble personal care kits for Lutheran World Relief. We will be collecting these items during Lent and plan assemble the kits after worship on Palm Sunday, April 2nd. Items needed are bars of soap; dark colored, light-weight bath towels; toothbrushes; combs; nail clippers w/ a file.

Peace & Blessings, Pr. Hillary