



# Messenger



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America



Jackson Park Lutheran Church

Pastor Fred Thomas-Breitfeld

4535 W. Oklahoma Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53219

February 2024

Volume XXVIII

Number II

## A Message from Pastor Fred

Dear Friends,

First of all, I want to thank all of you for your outpouring of love and care and concern as I face a number of health issues. You are an amazing group of people! You are a shining example of a Christian family! Truly, "love is in this place", and in your hearts!

As I write this to you I am awaiting to go back into the hospital for another procedure to be done on my heart. I have encountered a number of heart issues lately and this will address blockages in a couple of my arteries. I know that a number of our members have faced this as well. I am not sure if it will be "stents" or "balloons" yet. That is something that will be decided by my cardiologist once he is in there and then can decide what is the best approach. Hopefully all of this will help increase blood flow to my heart.

Why bring up all this medical stuff? As always, life has a way of teaching us lessons and I firmly believe that our life and our faith are tied together. Just take this procedure of removing blockages to my heart. As it has been explained to me, these blockages have gotten progressively worse over the years. They restrict the flow of blood to the heart - something needed to sustain my life! Our very lives are like that sometimes. Over the years, "stuff" gets in our way of full enjoyment of our lives. Experiences, feelings, all gather and collect to block love, fulfillment, and joy. We get weighed down and weary. Life becomes harder. There seems to be a cloud in front of us all the time.

Seems pretty dismal, doesn't it? BUT, there IS a way out! I truly believe our FAITH is the way to remove the blockages in our life! Our trust in God is the way to clear the way to hope and peace and comfort and fulfillment and joy. Our heart will beat again! It is an fusion of energy and power!

In moments of hurt and despair and confusion, let God help you to remove those blockages so life may return to you. For truly, He is "the WAY, the TRUTH, and the LIFE" (John 14:6) for us all!

In Christian Love,

Pastor Fred

### Worship Services:

Sunday Worship 10:00 AM

Saturday Worship 4:00 pm  
the 2nd & 4th week of the  
month

### Contact Information

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### Facebook

Jackson Park Lutheran  
Church ELCA



## SOUP TO-GO SUNDAY- March 3rd!

Soup Sunday will be a to-go event in the Narthex after the Worship Service. If you would like to make a soup, please either sign up the board at church or leave a phone message with the church. Large 16 oz. containers will be priced at \$7. All proceeds will be donated to the Church General Fund.

soup  
Sunday!

# FEBRUARY

BIRTHDAYS

- 7 Kathryn Hutchinson
- 11 Christine Johnson
- 12 Emily Currier
- 15 Eli Rabell
- 16 Shamus Wright
- 17 Pearl Blanchette
- 19 Mavis Stark
- 20 Fredrick Johnson
- 21 Amy Zollitsch
- 25 Iris Michelson
- 26 Anthony Fox

## Neighborhood Voting at JPLC

We will be the polling place for Wards 369, 252 and 344 for the February 20th Primary Election and the April 2nd General City Election. The Manitoba Park polling site is temporarily closed. We welcome all of our neighbors as they cast their vote!



Our Sunday School is collecting new and gently used blankets in February. These will be donated to a local shelter. Please place blankets in the coatroom area. Thank you!

The Outreach Committee has decided that we will not be having an Easter Petting Zoo this year. Easter is in late April next year, so we are hoping to have that event again in 2025.



On January 7th, we welcomed Theodore Kent Stuewe into God's Family. He is the son of Jason and Kate Stuewe. Congratulations to the Stuewe/Zellmer family!



## Ash Wednesday is February 14th

We will have one service at 10:00 am. The Imposition of Ashes and Holy Communion will be given. Please join us as we begin our Lenten journey with our Lord to the Cross and Calvary.

There still are some 2024 Offering Envelopes that have not been picked up. They are available in the Narthex area or contact Pastor Fred and he will get them to you!

## 2024 Annual Congregational Meeting

Will take place on Sunday, February 25th as part of our Worship Service. We invite all members to attend. Please join us for this meeting as we approve a ministry plan and install our Church Council for the coming year. We will plan how to effectively minister to God's people in the coming year. Year end reports need to be turned into the office by Sunday, February 11th.

## Our Faith in Action at JPLC



On Sunday, January 21st, Claire, Leo and Harriet along with other Sunday school staff made **160 peanut butter & jelly sandwiches** that were distributed to families in need through the Guest House Homeless Shelter located on 13th & Highland Ave., just west of downtown Milwaukee.