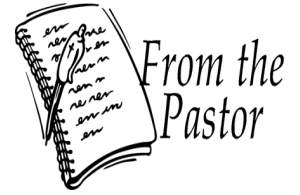


HAVEN MESSENGER



**HAVEN  
MISSION  
STATEMENT**

(adopted 2/26/06 by Haven Church)

**“To honor God,  
to reach out  
with love to our  
members and the  
community and to  
share the gospel  
of Jesus Christ.”**

**Pastor**

Linda M. Alessandri  
PastorLMA@havenlc.org

**Church Secretary**

Mary Grabill  
havenoffice@havenlc.org

**Church Office**

**Hours**

Monday-Friday  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Haven Lutheran  
Church  
1035 Haven Road  
Hagerstown, MD  
21742  
301-733-5056  
Fax: 301-733-8725

**Website**

www.havenlc.org

**“GO WITH THE FLOW — GO THE WAY OF LIFE”**

A living, healthy lake is a body of water with both an inlet for receiving water from sources like melted snow, *and* an outlet for water to go out. This ongoing exchange of water—flowing in and out—nurtures a healthy lake environment which then supports all kinds of life. It’s the same flowing motion of life that is seen throughout creation. We breath in oxygen and release carbon dioxide. We take in foods and fluids to build up body cells, with other systems working to eliminate what is not needed or harmful. Any living system — from a lake to bodies to relationships — needs that dynamic of in and out, take and release in order to remain healthy and life-giving.

Those healthy systems become endangered when that flow of “in and out” is blocked. When a lake no longer has a flowing water source at its inlet or it’s outlet is closed, the water will grow stagnant. Without that flow of water in and out, much of the ecosystem will eventually disappear or die. Stagnation is a threat to much of nature, including our bodies. Stagnation also can endanger economies, government and churches. No new ideas — stuck, stagnant. No willingness to let go of what no longer works — stuck, stagnant. Inlets and outlets; taking in and letting go are essential to life and health.

“God gives to us generously, including financially. If you and I want to be healthy and not spiritually stagnant, we need to learn to be “go with the flow” stewards. Financial blessing, talents and gifts are not just meant to come to us but to flow *through* us to others.”<sup>1</sup> When speaking about charitable giving and living, Martin Luther wrote: “God divided our hands into fingers so money could slip through them.” He wasn’t advocating waste. He was teaching about the flow of God’s goodness and love to us that is to flow into the world through us. That is the way of the Kingdom of God.

Healthy or stagnant? Shut down or a living stream of blessing? Jesus spends a good deal of time placing that question before us in parables and addresses. That is why we spend February considering our financial stewardship. It’s not just about what we give to Haven’s expenses, as important as that may be. It’s about something bigger and more far-reaching. Stewardship is about letting God and our faith influence the keeping and spending, the gathering and the sharing of our money, talents and time.

(continued on p. 2)

We have been invited to live abundant and generous lives... to be flowing streams of God's grace and mercy. That's who we were baptized to be. And through the One who was raised from that death, we are both able and empowered to share water, love, and good news with all those in need. That is what we ponder and wrestle with during our Stewardship emphasis month. It's the invitation to check our spiritual health as evidenced in how we deal with the flow of our blessings and financial resources as children of God's Kingdom. Healthy or stagnant? Shut down or living streams of blessing? What will we choose, Jesus asks. And as he waits for our answer each day, Jesus prays, "Let him, let her choose life.... let them choose the way of life."<sup>2</sup>

Your pastor and partner in ministry,  
Linda M Alessandri

1. Alex Gondola, "Rich Man, Poor Man, Beggarman, Thief" posted on [www.goodpreacher.com](http://www.goodpreacher.com)
2. Article is from a sermon prepared and preached by Pastor Alessandri at Haven Lutheran Church, 9/28/13

### **DE-MD SYNOD NEWS**

#### **YOU are invited to a "Coffee Klatsch with the Bishop"**

Webster's defines a German coffee klatsch as "a social gathering for informational conversation at which coffee is served." Mark your calendar for **March 23, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m.** for a coffee klatsches with Bishop Wolfgang D. Herz-Lane at which there will be coffee (and tea, too!) and delicious cakes and sweets from the bishop's native lands. And, of course, there will be "informational conversation" about the synod's work, in particular about the first draft of the 2014 - 2018 missional plan which is now being developed through a year-long strategic planning and discernment process. One of three such events in the synod, this gathering will be at Trinity Lutheran Church, 15 N. Main Street, Smithsburg on Sunday March 23, starting at 3:30 p.m. ALL are welcome. Come see what the DE-MD Synod is up to and put your questions to Bishop Herz-Lane.



## PARISH LIFE

*“Hope is the music of the future,  
faith is the courage to dance to it.”*



### DANCE OF HOPE

**Annual Congregational Dinner & Meeting**

**Sunday, February 23, 2014 at 5 p.m.**

**An evening of good food, fellowship and fun.**

Please join us to celebrate another year of ministry and community in Jesus’ name at Haven Lutheran Church. The Parish life will provide ham, scalloped potatoes, rolls and beverages. We will do a bulletin board with suggestions for covered dish items for members to bring. The Congregational Council will lead us in elections, discussion and some uplifting.

So the Parish Life Team knows how many to expect, please let us know you are coming by SIGNING-UP on the attendance form or calling the church office at 301-733-5056.

**Come February 23<sup>rd</sup> to celebrate Haven -- it’s ministry and community -- and the Lord who loves us completely. Sign- up TODAY!**

\*quote is from Edward Lindermann and noted by Haven members who attend the November synod workshop,” Discovering Hope: Building Vitality in Smaller or Rural Congregations”.

### 2014 COUNCIL NOMINEES

After many conversations and phone calls, the nomination committee with the Council’s approval offers the following slate of candidates for the congregational Council:

Ed Distad                  Mary Fortson                  Charlotte Loveless                  David Resh

We thank them for their willingness to serve on the Council and serve God’s mission here at Haven Lutheran Church.

Other nominations may be made from the floor at the annual congregational meeting. However, those nominated must have been consulted prior to the meeting and consented to have his/her name place in nomination.

**A.M.E.N.**

**HELPING THE RESIDENTS OF HOLLY PLACE** – For the month of **February** we will be collecting **Napkins** for the residents of Holly Place. There is a container in the narthex for you to place your items.

**EVANGELISM**

**FIRE UP YOUR CHURCH’S OUTREACH & GROWTH**

On Saturday, February 1, Rev. Dr. Michael Foss, guest speaker at this past synod assembly, will be at Evangelical Lutheran Church in Frederick from 9 am to 1 pm. He will be leading a workshop for congregational leaders to offer research and helpful insights enabling churches to reach out and grow as a congregation. Rev. Foss’ church has lowered the average age of his congregation to 35 years old as a result of the techniques and processes he will discuss.

Outreach, Evangelism committee members and congregational leaders are invited to attend. A free will offering of \$20 per person to cover meals, breaks and other expenses, will be offset by \$10 through the Evangelism budget. So your attendance for this workshop is \$10.

Please contact Pam O’Connor to share your intentions to attend. Email is [poconn50@hotmail.com](mailto:poconn50@hotmail.com) or call 301-791-2154.

*Note: Free parking is available and you can visit downtown Frederick after the workshop for their annual “Fire and Ice” Winter Sculpture Festival*

**PARISH EDUCATION TEAM**

**YOUTH LOCK-IN COMING IN FEBRUARY**

**An evening plus of games, old and new friends and FUN**

When: Friday, February 28, 2014 7 p.m. - Saturday, March 1, 9 a.m.

Where: Haven Lutheran Church (meet in the Gathering Room)

Who: Middle and Senior High students AND friend(s)

Bring: Sleeping bag & pillows, snack and liter of soda to donate, \$3 for late night pizza, an open and fun-loving spirit and \*games, music or DVD movies to share with the group

(\*MUST be able to meet your parent's or pastor's approval)

Questions: Contact Brenda Manspeaker, Mary Fortson or Pastor Alessandri

**GET SOME GREAT MONEY-SAVING COUPONS**

**and**

**HELP HAVEN’S YOUTH**

The YOUTH and their families continue their efforts to save for faith-building events like Mission Trips, weekend YouthQuake-Zone retreats and NOW the 2015 ELCA National Youth Gathering. The Bonus Book Family Fun Coupon Book is one of those efforts. Look at the list of places included in each book (list on p. 5). Most are 2-for-one offers in many popular places for only \$12. Haven’s YOUTH get \$5 of that \$12.... \$6 if we sell all 75 coupon books!

Booklets will go on sale February 16. Consider getting a coupon book for gifts for family or friends. And THANK YOU for you continual support of your Haven YOUTH.

**40 QUALITY CHOSEN OFFERS IN YOUR AREA**

1. Barefoot Bernie's
2. Domino's Pizza
3. Sonic America's Drive-In
4. Jersey Mike's Subs
5. La Tolteca Authentic Mexican Cuisine
6. Friendly's
7. Denny's
8. Hard Times Café
9. Virginia BBQ
10. 28 South
11. Subway
12. Maloo's Pub & Grill
13. Carmine's Creative Italian Cuisine
14. Sitar of India Restaurant
15. Tony's Pizzeria Restaurant & Grill
16. Georgia Boy Café
17. Brothers Pizza Express
18. Popeye's
19. Cold Stone Creamery
20. Nikko Japanese Steak & Seafood
21. Broad Axe
22. Rita's
23. Papa Johns
24. Dairy Queen
25. Gandolfo's New York Delicatessen
26. Misty Meadow Farm Creamery
27. Quizno's Pizza
28. Auntie Anne's Soft Pretzels
29. AC & T
30. Regal Cinemas—Valley Mall 16
31. Leitersburg Cinemas
32. Hagerstown Ice & Sports Complex
33. Hagerstown Suns
34. The Greens at Hamilton Run
35. Yingling's Golf Center
36. Maple Run Golf Club
37. Hagerstown Speedway
38. Turners Dual Lanes
39. Family Recreation Park
40. Monkey Joe's

**PARISH LIFE TEAM**

**CALLING ALL READERS** - JOIN IN THE FUN! - Meets on Thursday, Feb 20 at 2 pm in the Church Parlor. All are welcome to join in our discussion. February's book choice is THE HUSBAND'S SECRET by Liane Moriarty. "The trouble with the truth is that it can change everything". You will find this novel about how well it is really possible to know our spouses – & ultimately ourselves gripping & thought provoking.



**LOOKING FOR A GOOD BOOK?** - BRR!! Be sure to check out Haven's free library located on a book cart in the Adult Sunday School classroom – & sometimes in the Narthex. Help yourself to a book, read & enjoy, return it or pass it on.

**COFFEE HOUR** - Remember to sign-up to serve as host for our coffee hour following the service every Sunday. Coffee, tea, and cups are provided. Hosts bring simple treats, napkins, and plates when needed.

**LADIES NIGHT OUT WILL RESUME IN MARCH.**

**S.O.S. FROM SERRV** - The fair trade ministry SERRV in New Windsor needs help to get items ready for their spring catalog. We will be going on February 7, leaving church at 8:00 am. If you would like to go, see the sign up sheet in the narthex. Any Parish Life team member can answer any questions.

**FEBRUARY'S WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** will be held on Thursday, February 27, from 10:00-11:30 AM in the parlor. Please join us as we study "Woman of Endor, a Seer and Communicator" in our series on Biblical women. Study guides available on the mobile message board.

**THANK YOU NOTES TO THE HAVEN CONGREGATION**

Dear Haven Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent gift of \$50.00 to Flooding—United States. Your gift means that our church can continue its effective response and can be ready for the next phase in the long process of recovery. Thank you. When you designate your gift for this church's U.S. Floods response, every cent of that gift is used for that response. Your designated gift helps make it possible for communities and families to get back on their feet again, no matter how long it takes. Thanks to your support and the expertise of our dedicated local affiliates, survivors of the floods are empowered to access the resources they need to rebuild their lives and livelihoods. To neighbors who can feel alone and in despair, your gift brings both help now and hope for the future. Your generosity makes it possible for the church to be there alongside our neighbors in Colorado—or wherever else in this country we're needed—on the long road to recovery from flooding. Thank you.

As Lutheran Disaster Response, a ministry of the Evangelical Church in America (ELCA), we do more together than we ever could do alone. We are a church that believes God is calling us into the world—together. Thank you for your support.

In Christ's Service,

Daniel Rift Director, ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal

Let us worship the Child by following his light, living in his love, rejoicing in the miracle. The Mission Investment Fund of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Christmas wishes—Special greetings of the season and best wishes for the new year. Shifler Electrical Assoc.

Season's Greetings—May all the beauty of this time of year be yours to enjoy. Thanks for your business, Steve

Dear Friends of Holly Place,

Thank you for the recent donation of \$192.00 to Holly Place. Your generosity and thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. As a non-profit organization it is a constant struggle to make ends meet. With the continued support of people such as you, we are able to maintain our objective of providing a safe "home-like" setting for our seniors.

Sincerely,

Melanie J. Davis Executive Director



**Birthdays**

Katie Everhart	02/01
Carolyn Brogunier	02/04
Laura Manspeaker	02/05
Melita Kaplan	02/09
Aaron Richards	02/11
Robert Snyder	02/11
Drew Pensis	02/14
Meghan Byers	02/15
Jane Bowen	02/18
Shaun Rollins	02/19
Richard Hess	02/20
Margaret Manspeaker	02/20
Terry Hill	02/22
Marissa Freeman	02/24
John Richards	02/25



**Anniversary**

Dave & Jan Kaplan 02/10

*Baptismal Anniversaries*



**Baptismal Anniversaries**

Mary Fortson	02/01
Tanner Creek	02/05
Ned Strange	02/05

**If your Birthday, Anniversary, or Baptismal Anniversary is not listed, please contact the church office. We want to recognize all your special days.**

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From the **~ MARCH NEWSLETTER ~**

**DEADLINE: FEBRUARY 15TH**

Please submit articles as you wish them to appear in the newsletter. Marked with the team/group it should appear under.

**Church Secretary**

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**Please note Address Changes**

If you have a change in address, phone number or e-mail address please contact the Church office. This will help to ensure we have accurate records.

Contributions may be brought by the office during our normal business hours 9 am-1 pm or mailed to the Church at 1035 Haven Road \*Hagerstown, MD \*21742.



Sunday Schedules—If you are unable to serve please switch with someone and notify the office of the change.

**February 2—9:30 AM ~ Acolyte—**Jaelyn Muse **Assisting Minister—**Barbara Miller  
**Lay Reader—**Danny Kiblinger **Entry Greeters—**Bob Snyder  
**Ushers—**Tahnee Haupt, Morgan Haupt, Ned & Millie Strange, Elaine Michael,  
 Melissa Butsch  
**Exit Greeters—West-**Terry Trovinger **Center-Pastor** Alessandri **East-**Doug Wright  
**Nursery Attendant—**Kathy Pensis **Altar Flowers—**Kathy Amos  
**Coffee Host(s)—**NEEDED

**February 9—9:30 AM ~ Acolyte—**Rebecca Mason **Assisting Minister—**Jennifer DeValue  
**Lay Reader—**Charlotte Loveless **Entry Greeters—**Anna Bergschneider  
**Ushers—**Kathy Wright, Kathy Pensis, Ed Distad, Jim & Brenda Hassinger, NEEDED  
**Exit Greeters—West-**Brenda Manspeaker **Center-Pastor** Alessandri **East-**Alan Butsch  
**Nursery Attendant—**Dick & Sue Strobl **Altar Flowers—**Bill Plavcan  
**Coffee Host(s)--**NEEDED

**February 16—9:30 AM ~ Acolyte—**Owen Schupp **Assisting Minister—**Terry Trovinger  
**Lay Reader—**Abigail Andrews **Entry Greeters—**Elaine Michael  
**Ushers—**Jim & Brenda Hassinger, Anna Bergschneider, Bob Snyder, NEEDED, NEEDED  
**Exit Greeters—West-**Bill Byers **Center-Pastor** Alessandri **East-**Ed Distad  
**Nursery Attendant—**Joan Schupp **Altar Flowers—**NEEDED  
**Coffee Host(s)—**NEEDED

**February 23—9:30 AM ~ Acolyte—**Katie Hedges **Assisting Minister—**Kathy Amos  
**Lay Reader—**Nancy Newkirk **Entry Greeters—**Charlotte Loveless  
**Ushers—**Marge Cunningham, Mary Fortson, Shaun Rollins, NEEDED,  
 Cliff & Sue Britton  
**Exit Greeters—West-**Mary Fortson **Center-Pastor—**Alessandri  
**East-**Brenda Hassinger  
**Nursery Attendant—**Melissa Butsch **Altar Flowers—**NEEDED  
**Coffee Host(s)—**NEEDED

**\*We are in need of 2 more ushers to try to keep everyone scheduled only once each month. We are also in need of a few substitutes that can fill in when others are unable to usher. Please contact the church office or add it to the attendance form if you are willing to assist. Thank you!**

**Bulletin Folders**

Fri., Feb. 7	Fri., Feb. 14	Fri., Feb. 21	Fri., Feb. 28
11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM	11:00 AM
Kathy Amos	Joan Schupp	June Hess	Ed Distad

**Newsletter Assembly**

January 28th at 12:00 PM ~ June Hess

**Haven Food Bank Volunteers**

**Feb 4—1st Tues. Team 1**

Jan Neikirk, Joan Schupp, Becky Plavcan, Pam O'Connor

**Feb 14—2nd Fri. Team 2**

Pam O'Connor, Linda Clark, Pat & Dick Manspeaker

**Securing Our Church Building**

February— Dick Strobl & Brenda Hassinger



# FEBRUARY 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						<p>1</p> <p>9:00 Evangelism Workshop (Evangelical, Fredrick)</p> <p>10:30 S.L.A.A.</p> <p>12:00 AI-Anon</p>
<p>2</p> <p>(Hunger Offering)</p> <p>9:30 Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 Fellowship Time</p> <p>11:15 Sunday School</p>	<p>3</p> <p>6:00 Handbells</p> <p>7:00 Evangelism</p> <p>7:00 Property</p> <p>7:00 Barbershop</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:35 Fellowship Fitness</p> <p>12:30 AI-Anon</p> <p>6:00 Sacred Listening Circles—Group Spiritual Direction</p>	<p>5</p> <p>4:15 Conformation</p> <p>7:00 Choir</p> <p>8:15 Pastor leads Worship at RCI</p>	<p>6</p> <p>9am -12noon Washington Co. Lutheran Pastor's Meeting</p> <p>10:00 Knit-Wits</p> <p>6:30 CoDa</p>	<p>7</p> <p>8:00 Leave to volunteer at SERRV, New Windsor</p> <p>9:35 Fellowship Fitness</p> <p>5:30 AFG</p> <p>7:00 HUG</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:30 S.L.A.A.</p> <p>12:00 AI-Anon</p>
<p>9</p> <p>9:30 Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 Fellowship Time</p> <p>10:45 Visitation Team</p> <p>11:15 Sunday School</p>	<p>10</p> <p>6:00 Handbells</p> <p>7:00 Worship</p> <p>7:15 Parish Life</p> <p>7:00 Barbershop</p>	<p>11</p> <p>9:35 Fellowship Fitness</p> <p>12:30 AI-Anon</p> <p>7:00 Northwood Swim</p>	<p>12</p> <p>4:15 Conformation</p> <p>7:00 Choir</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:30 ACS-Meeting</p> <p>6:30 CoDa</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:35 Fellowship Fitness</p> <p>5:30 AFG</p> <p>7:00 HUG</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:30 S.L.A.A.</p> <p>12:00 AI-Anon</p>
<p>16</p> <p>(Holly Place Offering)</p> <p>(Bell Choir)</p> <p>9:30 Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 Fellowship Time</p> <p>11:15 Sunday School</p>	<p>17</p> <p>President's Day OFFICE CLOSED</p> <p>6:00 Handbells</p> <p>7:00 Council</p> <p>7:00 Barbershop</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:35 Fellowship Fitness</p> <p>12:30 AI-Anon</p>	<p>19</p> <p>4:15 Conformation</p> <p>7:00 Choir</p>	<p>20</p> <p>2:00 Book Club</p> <p>6:30 CoDa</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:35 Fellowship Fitness</p> <p>1:30 Stewardship</p> <p>5:30 AFG</p> <p>7:00 HUG</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:30 S.L.A.A.</p> <p>12:00 AI-Anon</p>
<p>23</p> <p>9:30 Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:30 Fellowship Time</p> <p>11:15 Sunday School</p> <p><b>5:00 Congregational Dinner/Meeting</b></p>	<p>24</p> <p>6:00 Handbells</p> <p>7:00 Barbershop</p> <p>7:00 Pa rish Ed.</p>	<p>25</p> <p>9:35 Fellowship Fitness</p> <p>12:30 AI-Anon</p>	<p>26</p> <p>4:15 Conformation</p> <p>7:00 Choir</p>	<p>27</p> <p>10:00 Women's Bible Study "Women of Endor, a Seer and Communicator" in our series on Biblical Women</p> <p>6:30 CoDa</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:35 Fellowship Fitness</p> <p>12:30 AI-Anon</p> <p>7:00 HUG</p>	<p>March 1</p>
					<p>7:00 Youth Lock-In</p>	<p>March 1 9:00AM</p>