



Inside Lisha's Kill

A publication of the *Lisha's Kill Reformed Church*



Pastor's Ponderings

February 2017

Dear Friends,

What would it take to make 2017 happy for you? I ask this because we so glibly say "Happy New Year!" to each other and the mail carrier and the person who rings up our groceries. We post it on Facebook and say it in our Christmas cards. But do we take time to think about what a happy new year would look like for us?

Perhaps it would mean having a particularly sought-after outcome occur: something that we really wish *would* happen or, conversely, something that we desperately wish *would not* happen. Or perhaps it would mean having a better job, or a new car, or a new relationship to replace that with which we are disappointed or tired. Perhaps it would be that our favorite team would win the World Series or the Super Bowl. Perhaps it would be to take our dream vacation. Would those things make for a happy year?

If those are the things which we think would make our new year happy, I dare say that it won't be a happy year. I say this because if we rely on things or circumstances to make us happy, we will always be disappointed, because they are ultimately not what will fulfill the purpose for which we were created, and thus not the things that will give us true joy.

Therefore, let me pass on to you a different new year's wish, authored by Charles Spurgeon:

I wish, my brothers and sisters, that during this year you may live nearer to Christ than you have ever done before. Depend upon it, it is when we think much of Christ that we think little of ourselves, little of our troubles, and little of the doubts and fears that surround us. Begin from this day, and may God help you. Never let a single day pass over your head without a visit to the garden of Gethsemane, and the cross of Calvary. And as for some of you who ... know not the Redeemer, I would to God that this very day you would come to Christ.

My friends, the New Year may not always be as "happy" as we would wish, but the Christian is blessed in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places (Ephesians 1:3). With this as our assurance, we can look forward to a "blessed" new

continues...

PASTOR:

Rev. Dr. Lisa Vander Wal

CONSISTORY

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- Inside: Courtney Bloomingdale
- Outside: John Rzeszuto

Librarian: Joan Byam

Organist: Evelyn Gordon

Choir Director:

JoAnne McNamara

Sunday Service:

10:00am

Christian Education:

Children: 11:20am

Adults: 9:00am & 11:30am



Pastor's Ponderings, continued from page 1...

year throughout the days that lie ahead, no matter what opportunities or problems might come our way.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Lisa

P.S. — I want to thank everyone for the outpouring of Christmas cards and blessings we have received during the Advent and Christmas season. Thank you for the generous monetary gift as well as the name plaque for my desk (I have difficulty remembering that I am "Rev. Dr. Lisa Vander Wal, so the reminder is nice!). Let us pray for a joyous and fruitful 2017 in ministry here in this little corner of God's Kingdom.

Club 55

...is a monthly lunch group for seniors. It meets the second Thursday of each month at 11:00am. March 9 is the next meeting. Join in for conversation, a time of devotions and great lunch. All are welcome!

NEAT Dinner (Not Eating Alone Tonight)

...is a monthly dinner for everyone! Come enjoy dinner with friends both old and new. The next NEAT Dinner will be on February 23 at 4:30pm. The NEAT cooks will be serving spaghetti and meatballs, tossed salad, Italian bread, dessert and beverages.

Reservations are appreciated by February 20. A freewill offering will be taken to offset the costs.

Upcoming Events



Ash Wednesday Service: March 1 at 7:00pm

The service will include the imposition of ashes for those who choose to receive them.

Souper Luncheon: Sunday, March 5 at 12:00pm

If you enjoy a bowl of hot soup on a winter's day then don't miss the next "Souper" luncheon. If you'd like, bring along a pot of your favorite soup, cheese & crackers, fruit, or dessert. It's kind of a "souper" potluck, and always delicious!



February Calendar

Visit us on the web
to view this month's calendar

www.lishaskillchurch.org



Food Pantry
30 bags
through Jan. 31

Inside Lisha's Kill is published monthly. The deadline for submitting articles is the 16th of the preceding month.

Drop your **typed** news article in the Newsletter Editor's box in the downstairs consistory office, or email it to: newsletter@lishaskillchurch.org

Email attachments **must** be Microsoft Word documents (text) or JPEG format (pictures).

Sharon Nagell, Editor
Linda Brennan, Circulation
Printing courtesy of PBR Graphics



Christian Education

This is a great time to join in a study group. There are several groups waiting to welcome you.

- **Sunday Morning Early Bird class: 9:00am**
This class is currently studying the "Miracles of Jesus." Using videos and a study guide, several of the miracles that Jesus performed are examined and their relevance to our lives today. It's easy to join this class as each study stands on its own.
- **Sunday Morning Sunday School class: 11:30am**
This class has been studying *Outlive Your Life* by Max Lucado. How we live out our lives makes a difference to us and the world around us. Ordinary people make a difference in today's world just as they did back in the first century church. Come explore and perhaps discover how you can outlive your life.
- **Wednesday Morning Bible Study: 9:30am**
We are bombarded 24 hours a day, 7 days a week on the need to consume, possess, achieve, perform. God, by establishing the Sabbath, allows us to break out of this maniacal routine. We can learn to return to what's crucial: God, other people, and the simple virtues. In this study, we will be exploring the book *Sabbath Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now*.
- **Saturday Morning Men's Bible Study: 2nd Saturday each month at 7:30am**
Come for breakfast and study as you delve into *Soul Keeping* by renowned author, John Ortberg. In an age of materialism and consumerism that tries to buy its way to happiness many souls are starved and unhealthy, unsatisfied by false promises of status and wealth. We've neglected this eternal part of ourselves, focusing instead on the temporal concerns of the world—and not without consequence. When you discover your soul you discover the most important connection to God there is.

- **Women's Tuesday Evening Bible Study: 7:30pm**
This group meets at 7:30pm each week. They'll continue their study of *The Battle Plan for Prayer* by Stephen & Alex Kendrick.

Creative Ministries Group

...will be getting together on Saturday, February 18 (and again on March 18) at 9:30am for a day of crafting. Bring along your scrapbooking, rubber stamping or whatever craft you're working on. The group orders out for lunch, or bring your own if you prefer. It's a day of creativity and fun!

Schenectady City Mission Dinner

Our annual lasagna dinner will be on Sunday, February 19, from 4:30-5:30pm. We'll be providing lasagna, green beans, salad, beverages, bread, and cookies to the guests of the City Mission.

There are many ways to help: you can meet at church for 2:00pm to cook lasagna, arrive at the mission by 3:00pm for set-up, help clean up after the dinner is done, and/or give a monetary donation. Please call the church office for further details.

The History of Lisha's Kill Reformed Church: Part 1

In the late 1700s, two families settled in this area, one named Lansing and one named Groat. The Lansings had four sons and four daughters while the Groats had five daughters. Both families intermarried to maintain the purity of their Dutch blood.

Colonel Lansing settled his four sons on four contiguous farms in this area bounded by the Albany-Schenectady Turnpike, Consaul, Lishaskill and Lansing Roads. In essence, out of these two families came our Lisha's Kill Church.

The History of LKRC is taken from the book *The History of the Religious Communities in the Town of Colonie*, published in 1995 by The Town of Colonie Centennial Committee. Look for more installments in future editions of this newsletter.



Lisha's Kill Reformed Church
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**Lisha's Kill Reformed Church is a family of believers
 committed to touching lives for Jesus Christ in today's world.**



Hello!

Here is your monthly newsletter from the Lisha's Kill Reformed Church. We hope you will enjoy all of the items inside and will find it helpful in knowing more about your church.

- SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP 10:00am
- CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (for children)..... 11:20am
- CHRISTIAN EDUCATION (for adults) 9:00am & 11:30am
- WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY Tuesday 7:30pm
- AA MEETING Wednesday 7:00pm
- SENIOR CHOIR Wednesday 7:30pm
- CHRISTIAN CLUB "55" 2nd Thursday 11:00am
- N.E.A.T. DINNER 4th Thursday (As Announced) 4:30pm
- MEN'S PRAYER BREAKFAST & BIBLE STUDY 2nd Saturday 7:30am
- FAMILY ACTIVITIES As Announced
- CREATIVE MINISTRIES As Announced