



Como Park Lutheran Church  
**The Evangelist**

REACHING OUT IN CHRIST TO A CHANGING WORLD.

Volume 72:2 | February 1, 2018



**WORSHIP SCHEDULE**

8:30am and 10:45  
Sunday Mornings

\* \* \* \* \*

**ADULT FORUMS  
and  
SUNDAY SCHOOL**

9:35am

\* \* \* \* \*

**BIBLE VERSE  
OF THE  
MONTH**

This is the day the Lord has  
made; we will rejoice and be  
glad in it.

Psalm 118:24

# THE FIRST WORD

by Pastor Martin R. Ericson

Dear Friends,

Tara Woodard-Lehman wrote in a Huffington Post article that she needed church because she had a really bad memory. Without regular worship, she tells us that we forget what is important. We lose sight of the fact that we are loved and forgiven, and we miss out on the connection between ourselves and our neighbors, especially around their needs. We need to be reminded, regularly and often, that there is a God who cares for us, and calls us into community, and makes us one.

I need to hear the Word both spoken and sung, receive the sacraments, pray and be prayed for, and to hear those words of absolution. I love to hear the choirs, see the children, listen to the amazing organ and band sounds. I love the instruments and voices that lead and enhance our worship and prayers. I love the welcome of this place on Sunday mornings because it surrounds those here in warmth and care.

Worship matters. Remember the Sabbath and keep it holy. Luther says that we do this with holy thoughts and holy words and holy deeds. We worship, because our hearts require it, and God commands it and because there is a sense in it of becoming centered in our hearts and lives for the coming days and week. It brings us peace.

Or it agitates us, and draws our attention to a holiness we would rather ignore. Sometimes I need to be convicted and moved out of complacency to a greater mindfulness or action. Worship can do that too.

But mostly I need a time and a place to draw close to God and to find a community that seeks this too. Now and again, I tell visitors, "Our worship was better because you were here." I think that's true. It's true for members too. Our worship is better when

you are here.

As Lent approaches, won't you please join us? (You don't need to wait for Lent.) Join us on Sundays for that Blessed Festival of the Resurrection of our Lord, which is each Sunday's worship. And join us for our midweek observances, for the faith talks afterward, and for the Holy Week worship services as well. These times will touch your heart as God's Spirit moves in this community of faith and people will say, our worship was better because you were here. Come, and bring a friend.

God's Peace,

Pastor Martin R. Ericson



# CPLC News

## From the Quilters:



Thank you to everyone who donated their time, materials and thread. We need sewers and knot-tiers.

The hundred plus quilts that were made this year were distributed in the following way: 4 went to a local group home, 12 to the Family Place, 32 to Bridging, 40 to Lutheran World Relief and fifteen to Tanzania earlier this year.



Please consider joining us on Tuesday mornings. We need people who can sew and tie knots. That's all there is to it. The coffee and treats are always delicious and the fellowship a blessing. See you there!

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## Parents Night Out!

Saturday, Feb 17th 6-10pm.

Bring your kids to church for supervised games, movies, and story time while you enjoy a night out. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Cost: free-will donation to support Youth & Family events.

Pre-registration at the Welcome Desk is appreciated.

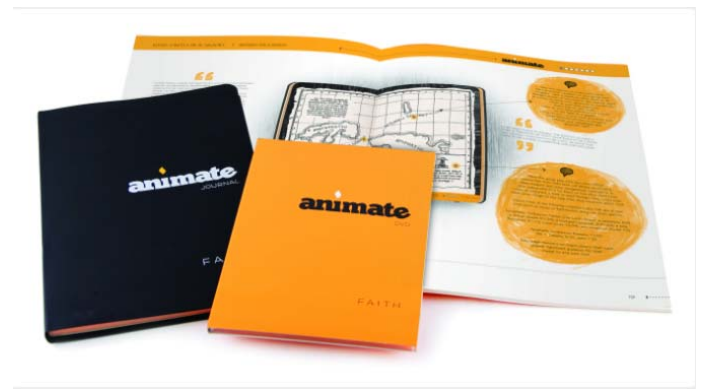
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## Animate Faith: Lenten Bible Study

Animate faith is a seven session adult faith formation course.

Topics include "God: Faith is a Quest", "Jesus: The Revolution of Love" and "Religion: Spirituality is Not Enough". Sessions include videos, discussion and journaling.

Join us after Lenten Services starting February 21st. Materials are \$10.00.





# Upcoming Organ Concerts

February 4th at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary



**Thomas Ferry** is Director of Music Ministries at Como Park Lutheran Church. In addition to playing the organ and directing vocal and bell ensembles, worship at Como Park Lutheran under the direction of Mr. Ferry regularly features large choral and orchestral works, brass quintets, and other instrumentalists, and spans the musical gamut from Renaissance polyphony to living Minnesota composers and world music. Mr. Ferry holds a Bachelor's degree in organ performance and music theory from Eastman School of Music and a Masters in organ performance from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He has studied with Stephen Roberts, David Craighead, and Quentin Faulkner. An active member of the American Guild of Organists, the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, and the American Choral Directors Association, Mr. Ferry has held a variety of leadership positions with these organizations. He has been guest conductor at schools, choral festivals, and ELCA synod events. In addition to his private studio, he has taught organ at the University of Minnesota, the South Dakota Organ Academy, and Pipe Organ Encounters.

February 11th at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary

**Phillip Radtke**, native of St. Paul, Minnesota, grew up surrounded by music from a young age. In third grade Phillip started piano lessons and by fourth grade he was singing in the Minnesota Boy Choir. In 2006, Phillip started organ lessons and in 2009 began work as assistant organist at St. Stephanus Lutheran Church in St. Paul. Two years later he assumed the role of choir director and stayed at this position until 2014. In 2010, Phillip began his undergraduate studies at the University of Minnesota studying under organ professor Dean Billmeyer. In his senior year he earned second place in the 2014 TCAGO Student Competition held in St. Paul, Minnesota. That summer Phillip participated in a week of master classes on historic organs by Gottfried Silbermann and Adam Gottfried Oehme including the 1714 Silbermann organ in the Freiberg Cathedral, Germany. In the spring of 2016 Phillip earned his Master of Music degree in Church Music from the University of Michigan where he studied with both James Kibbie and Kola Owolabi, In the spring of 2015 Phillip earned first place in the first ever University of Michigan organ accompaniment competition. While in Michigan, he served as assistant director of music at West Side United Methodist church. He currently works as Assistant to the Executive and Artistic Director of the Minnesota Boy Choir as well as Organist at Bethel Evangelical Lutheran Church in South Minneapolis.



# Upcoming Organ Concerts

**February 18th at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary**



Since 1991 David Jenkins has served as liturgical music director at The Saint Paul Seminary School of Divinity at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. His duties there include teaching church music and directing the worship music of the seminary. He also teaches organ and harpsichord for the music department at St. Thomas, directs the UST organ artist concert series, and chairs the UST Sacred Arts Festival committee. In addition Dr. Jenkins has taught organ and church music at St. John's University in Collegeville, Minnesota. He earned the D.M.A. in organ performance and the Performer's Certificate from The Eastman School of Music, where he studied organ with Russell Saunders and harpsichord with Arthur Haas.

He also studied organ with Grethe Krogh at the Royal Danish Music Academy in Copenhagen under a Marshall Fellowship. His other teachers have included Delbert Disselhorst, Garth Peacock, and Howard Don Small. A specialist in keyboard music of the Baroque Era and Scandinavian organ music, he has performed solo recitals in Denmark, Norway, and the U.S. He regularly performs Baroque and Classical chamber music with St. Thomas colleagues guitarist Christopher Kachian and art historian Michelle Nordtorp-Madson. Dr. Jenkins is active in the Twin Cities Chapter of the American Guild of Organists, currently serving as sub-dean and chair of the program committee.

**February 18th at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary**

Dr. Gregory Peterson is Professor of Music, College Organist and Head of the Music Department at Luther College, Decorah, Iowa. In addition, he is the conductor of the Luther Ringers, which he founded in 2008.

A respected leader in the field of church music for more than 30 years, Dr. Peterson served the historic Old South Church in Boston, Massachusetts as Organist and Minister of Music from 1997-2005. Prior to his appointment in Boston he was Visiting Assistant Professor of Music and Christ Chapel Organist at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter, Minnesota. He has also been a visiting professor at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington and served churches in Connecticut, Iowa, Minnesota and Washington.

Gregory Peterson is an internationally acclaimed recitalist having performed in important venues throughout the United States and Europe. He is featured on the critically acclaimed albums "Heroic Sounds" and "Dieterich Buxtehude: A 300th Anniversary Celebration." He is a graduate of Luther College, Yale University, and the University of Iowa.



# Music

## The Transfiguration of Our Lord

“...And he was transfigured before them, and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them.” Mark 9:2-3

Transfiguration:

- 1 a : a change in form or appearance : metamorphosis  
b : an exalting, glorifying, or spiritual change
- 2 capitalized : a Christian feast that commemorates the transfiguration of Christ on a mountaintop in the presence of three disciples and that is observed on August 6 in the Roman Catholic and some Eastern churches and on the Sunday before Lent in most Protestant churches (from Merriam-Webster.com)

On February 19, we celebrate Transfiguration Sunday. It is the end cap to the period of Epiphany and the second time that a voice from heaven declares Jesus as the son of God and Beloved. As Christians, we too are transfigured. In baptism, we die to sin and are born to eternal life. That is certainly a change!

Martin Luther calls us to a mini baptism every day. Each morning, we recommit ourselves to Jesus, to loving our neighbor as ourselves, to striving to live as Jesus would have us live. When we choose to feed the homeless, to visit the sick, to return kind words for mean ones, we are changed. We are transfigured. Are you living your life as a transfigured, disciple of Christ? Are you letting God's light shine through you?

Tom Ferry

Director of Music Ministries



# The Lighter Side



[@Rollinintheseat](#)

Oct 21 2017 ← Reply ★ Favorite ↻ Retweet

\*Password looks at itself in the mirror\* "Don't listen to Google. You are a strong, confident password."



A gnome is in the garden busily destroying some bushes when a house cat appears. "What are you?" asks the cat.  
"A gnome," comes the reply. "I steal food from humans. I kill their plants and I love mischief. And what, may I ask, are you?"  
The cat replies, "Um, I'm a gnome."

Submitted by Blake Kiltoff



[@juliussharpe](#)

Mar 12 2014 ← Reply ★ Favorite ↻ Retweet

People used to go all around the world for spices. That must have been underwhelming. "Guys, I've been gone three years and this is cummin."

Recently, a man walked into my barbershop and asked how much for a haircut.  
"Eight dollars," I answered.  
"And for a shave?"  
"Five dollars."  
"All right," he said, settling into the barber chair. "Shave my head."

Submitted by Abdulmajeed Mamudu



[@Cheeseboy22](#)

Mar 4 ← Reply ★ Favorite ↻ Retweet

7 years ago to this day, I swallowed my gum and broke a mirror, so as you might imagine, this is a pretty big day for me.



# Sunday School

**Thank you!**

What shall I render to the LORD for all his benefits to me? I will offer the sacrifice of Thanksgiving and will call upon the name of the LORD. Ps 116:12-13

Thank you! One just cannot say that enough!

With overwhelming gratitude, I express my appreciation for the folks who made our Christmas Pageant possible this year!

For all the parents and teachers of the children who participated,

**I give you thanks.**

For each of the children who learned his/her lines or cues in order to share the Gospel in a meaningful way,

**I give you thanks.**

For each staff member who played the piano, worked the sound and lights, prepared the space, created and printed the bulletins,

**I give you thanks.**

For each volunteer who washed, mended, fitted, assigned costumes, created sets, constructed props,

**I give you thanks.**

For the directors and producers who gave time and talents to guide, prompt, and support,

**I give you thanks.**

For each volunteer who handed out programs and welcomed those attending,

**I give you thanks.**

For each who attended and worshiped with eyes, ears, and voices raising songs and prayers and praise,

**I give you thanks.**

Now, as a congregation blessed, enriched and empowered, let us go forth proclaiming the Good News: The Word became and flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. John 1:14

We have seen his star and have come to worship him! Matt 2:2b

**Thanks be to God!!!!**



# FELLOWSHIP



## Lenten Soup Suppers start on Ash Wednesday, February 14th

### Quilting-Tuesday Mornings, 9:00am — Fellowship Hall

Check out our weekly quilting group for fun, fellowship, and food! We get together every Tuesday morning to work on quilts that we donate each year. We always enjoy a snack after our morning of great conversation and hard work!

### Lutherans & Lattes-Tuesdays, 9:00am — @ Underground Music Cafe

*Indulge in a couple of favorite Lutheran pastimes: coffee and conversation!* The coffee & tea are as refreshing as our conversations. Join us as we discuss our experience of God in regular life, exploring current world events, theology, scripture, and more – all from a Lutheran/Christian perspective. *Join your CPLC friends for Lutherans & Lattes next Tuesday morning!*

### Men's Bible Study-Thursday Mornings 7:30am —Perkins (1495 Cty. Rd. B W)

Coffee, bacon, Bible — 'nuff said. *Bring yourself and bring a friend!*

### Theology on Tap— Tuesday, February 6th 8:00pm — Ol' Mexico (1754 Lexington Ave)

We always meet on the first Tuesday of each month. Our conversations deal with the intersection of faith and life, theology and current events. Order a beer, a glass of wine, or a pop and join in the friendly and meaningful conversation. Stop by and check it out!

### Women of the Word February 15th— Barnes & Noble Café

Switching to Thursdays in January. Questions? Call Jane Nelson: 651-484-7978

### Grace Circle February 15th—The Fireside Room

We meet the third Thursday of each month at 9:30am from September through June for Bible Study, fellowship, and coffee. **We would love to have you join us.** For more information, call Sheila Skone 651-488-5084.

### Senior Fellowship—February 8th— RSVP by February 2nd

Jim Berner will sing songs and tell stories of music legends from the 1940s, 1950s and 1960s. Lasagna and Caesar Salad will be served. Cost is \$8.00 for food and entertainment. Keep an eye on weekly bulletins, E-announcements and upcoming issues of the Evangelist for more information about Senior Fellowship.

### Wednesday Night Craft Group February 28th— The Fellowship Hall

Food and Crafting on the last Wednesday of the month. Bring your current project or learn how to Knit/Crochet/ Embroider crafts to support the CPLC Fall Bazaar! Contact Cathy Gagne (651) 442-4738, Kelli Jean Duncan (651) 272-6600, or Meg Duncan (612) 251-1158.



February 15th, March 8th, March 29th

# Youth

For some, February is the month of Valentine's Day – full of love and romance and chocolate. The aisles in the shopping malls are decked out in obnoxious amounts of pink, heart-shaped candy is everywhere, and cheesy romantic comedies fill the movie theaters. For others, it is a gloomy and cold month, and a constant reminder of a loved one who has passed. Others desperately try to find something to do with their other single friends, so as not to be left home alone. This year, half of the month contains the season of Lent, and Valentine's day and Ash Wednesday will share the spotlight together. We will make the signs of the cross on our foreheads with ashes, and be reminded that we are dust, and to dust we shall return. Can these two events on the same day possibly have anything to do each other?

Yes. Both Valentine's Day and Ash Wednesday are reminders about love, and what is on my mind right now is that deep, unconditional, Christ-love. Agape love. For those celebrating with their significant other during the pink-and-red holiday – God loves. For those mourning for the first time this year without their loved one – God loves. For those who love those quirky romance flicks – God loves. For those who are cold and without a home – God loves. For all those who have sinned, and for all those who have repented, and for all those somewhere in between – God loves. For the poor in spirit, for the meek, and for the humble – God loves.

Coming up this February, the Littles and Middles program is putting on a Parent's Night Out the Saturday following Valentine's Day (17th). Parents will be able to come and drop off their kids any time between 6 – 10 PM that evening, and have the night to themselves. What a blessing! And what a show of love from our volunteers willing to give that time back. We also have some great opportunities for other activities that kids love – on Friday

February 2nd we will be going to Green Acres for snow tubing with St. Timothy's Lutheran Church. We will be leaving from St. Tim's at 6:30 together. Also, on Sunday February 4th (yes it's the Super Bowl I am aware, but that's later) we have Camp Sunday! Counselors from this last year's VBS will be here to help lead the kids in a song, hang out with them during Sunday School, and I will be leading an Adult Forum on Camp Wapogasset experiences, and why it isn't only for kids!

Lastly, I met with Pastor Riz from New Life Presbyterian just last week. We talked about Star Wars and Justice League, among other things, but focused our conversation on potential joint mission trip experiences this summer with our youth programs. He has some connections down in Houston, and right now we are leaning towards a hurricane relief trip together in the summer. The love and attention for that area is still desperately needed, and unfortunately now somewhat forgotten as time has passed. We want to help. One of the best ways for our youth to get involved is by raising money for the trip during our Lenten Soup Suppers. The first three weeks of Lent (2/14, 2/21, and 2/28) our youth will be helping serve the meals to the congregation. Each Wednesday from 5:15 – 6:30 we will be serving soup, followed by Lent services at 6:30, and our Lenten Bible Study series on the Animate: Faith curriculum afterwards.

Love is all around us, and God is here with us. Praise be to God for this unconditional, messy, all-encompassing love. Amen.

~Josh

Youth and Family Director

If you are interested in summer bible camp experiences, mission trips, or any other youth related events, feel free to contact me at [josh@comoparklutheran.org](mailto:josh@comoparklutheran.org)

# CARING & PRAYER

## Our Prayers Go Out To.....

Jean Eastvold  
 Dody Ellingson  
 Dolores Fevig  
 Dom & Merry Fragomeni  
 Marcy Ketelsen  
 Gretchen Prohofsky

Edna Pankonin  
 Barbara Ripley  
 Harriet Stoltz  
 Phyllis Trisco  
 Eugene Vogel  
 Angela Nelson

Alice Hultmann  
 Sharon Ziegenhagen  
 Jerry and Lucille Laden  
 Donald and Anna Short

**SERVING IN THE MILITARY:** Jonathan Lund & Christian Nelson, and all who serve



2/1.....Anders Nelson  
 2/3.....Emma Whitney  
 2/4.....Zoey Butler  
           Connor Wobse  
 2/5.....Julie Cain  
           Violet Rowley  
 2/6.....Mark Becker  
           Paul Zieghagen  
 2/7.....Marc Al  
           Mark Moormann  
           Troy Schmidtke  
           Lois Ann Smith

2/8.....Lavone Johnson  
           Constance Parizek  
 2/9.....Jacob Vann  
 2/10.....Edwin Johnson  
 2/11.....Susanne Brogger  
 2/12.....Chad Fehn  
           Luke Johnson  
           Kimberly Peterson  
 2/13.....Linda Pollari-Engle  
 2/14.....Andrew Sullivan  
 2/15.....Nathaniel Brovold  
           Dolores Fevig

2/16.....Carl Johnson  
 2/17.....Dorothy Alshouse  
           Natalie Hazelwood  
 2/18.....Dane Beecham  
           Anne Rykken  
 2/19.....Clifford Hill  
           Michael Rapatz  
           Erin Strege  
 2/21.....Jonna Lindblad  
           Harper O'Brien  
 2/22.....Jim DeLeo  
 2/25.....Harlan Klante  
           Lindsey Smaka  
           Thomas Spivey  
 2/26.....Melaura Duncan  
           Henry Malloy  
 2/27.....Rebecca Numainville  
 2/28.....Thomas Ferry

2/2.....Sean and Johanna Koos  
 2/4.....Gale and Bobbie Diane Smack  
 2/11.....George and Barbara Carley  
 2/14.....Gene and Pamela Mix  
 2/23.....Mark and Hazel Bly  
 2/24.....Kevin and Deborah Holmgren



## February Anniversaries

2/25.....James and Mary Sommerfeld  
 2/27.....Robert and Renee Gall  
 2/28.....Marty and Jennifer Long



**WORLD MISSION:** Dr. Stephen & Jodi Swanson, Tanzania  
**CHURCH MISSION PARTNERS:** Christ Lutheran Church on Capitol Hill  
**SYNOD MISSION PARTNERS:** Iringa Diocese of Tanzania &  
 Iglesia Lutherana Augustine de Guatemala

# FINANCIAL REPORT

General Envelope Giving	Actual Giving
Year-to-date this year (through December 2017)	\$396,053.46
Year-to-date last year (through December 2016)	376,663.25
Giving Goal (Budget for 2017) <sup>1</sup>	389,000.00

<sup>1</sup>Offerings do not flow evenly throughout the year. Giving goals are based on historical giving pattern analysis.

## Benevolences

(Given through August 2017)

Local Hunger/Food Shelves	\$8,916.45
Disaster Response	7,631.60
World Hunger	4865.10
Plymouth Christian Youth Center	2138.00
Lenten Offering	2060.30
Como Park Living at Home Block Nurse Program	943.00
Sunday School Church Bank Offerings	601.49
Luther Seminary	231.00
The Family Place	186.00
Lyngblomsten	153.00
Good Samaritan Lutheran Church	125.00

Actual Giving	77,265.99
Thrive! Mission Appeal	Year-to-date this year (through Dec 2017)



# CPLC STAFF DIRECTORY

Church Office hours: 8:30am to 5pm Monday to Friday

### Senior Pastor

Martin R. Ericson  
651-646-7127 x202  
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### Senior Ministries Pastor

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### Children's Worship Music Director, Preschool-4<sup>th</sup> Grade

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### Sunday Bulletin Designer

Jonathan Nye  
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jonathan@comoparklutheran.org



# THE LAST WORD

Dear Friends,

This winter/spring we're offering not one, but **two**, Great Opportunities for exploring faith and life in today's world. I'd say you should come to one of them, but you really will want to participate in both.

Animate! FAITH is a faith-conversation that will take place on Wednesdays in Lent, beginning after worship (about 7:00 p.m.) on February 21st. It's a wide-open conversation based on short video segments presented by some of the church's most engaging thinkers and speakers; people with names like Brian McLaren, Nadia Bolz-Weber, and Lauren Winner. Conversation topics include Faith, Spirituality, the Cross, and the Revolution of Love. Join us for Wednesday evening soup suppers, stay for worship with the Holden Evening Prayer service, and then the faith talks. This is an opportunity to ask those deep questions: What does it mean to believe? What does faith or faith practice look like in today's world? How does this relate to me, or to the future of the Church? Join us. It'll be fun.

Como Park Lutheran Church is also piloting a new curriculum by Progressive Christianity this winter and spring called The Challenge of Paul. This too is a video and conversation format, with studies on the Apostle Paul led by the John Dominic Crossan. There are four conversations on Paul and Jesus, and four on Paul and Luke. Crossan gives life to Paul's words as he explores the writings of Paul, and the teachings of Jesus in relationship to the backdrops of Empire and Imperialism – in their world and ours. Dr. Crossan happily challenges a number of our prevailing notions about what Jesus and Paul actually had to say to their time, and what they have to say to ours. Watch for the dates to be announced. Look for the sign-up opportunities as they appear, and join us for some fascinating conversation and reflection. Once again, bring a friend.

Blessings to all,

Pastor Martin R. Ericson

## Upcoming Worship Highlights

### **February 4th**

Wapo Team for Music and Children's Message

CPLC At Both Services

Hymn Sing

### **February 11th**

Global Mission Sunday

Russ Shook Preaching

Notes from Heaven 8:30am

CPL Choir 10:45am

Marnie Thies playing violin at 10:45am

### **February 14th, Ash Wednesday**

5:15 Youth Soup Supper

CPL Choir at 6:30pm

### **February 18th**

Worship Team

Sunday School Intergenerational Program

### **February 21st**

5:15pm Youth Soup Supper

6:30pm Lenten Worship

7:00pm Animate Faith Brian McLaren Talk

### **February 25th**

Mark Tranvik Preaching

CPL Choir 8:30am

Joyful Ringers 10:45am

### **February 28th**

5:15pm Youth Soup Supper

6:30pm Worship

7:00pm Animate Faith

7:00pm Choir

Como Park Lutheran Church  
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[www.ComoParkLutheran.org](http://www.ComoParkLutheran.org)

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Join us for Lenten Services  
6:30pm Wednesday Nights  
February 14th to March 21st.

Stay for “Animate!Faith” adult  
bible study at 7:15pm

