

# The Lyons Community Church

## Mid-Week Message

Wednesday, January 15, 2014



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### ***30 years can just fly by...***

Dear brothers and sisters,

When I realized this week that it's mid-January already, our baby is about to be 8-months old, and it's been 4 months since the flood, I had to sit down a minute and let that all sink in. They say time flies when you're having fun - but it also flies when you're having a flood!

As I thought about the gummy-like stretchiness of time, my thoughts returned to Jesus and the Gospel accounts of his life. Some kick off with the adult Jesus (Mark and John), and in the others (Matthew and Luke), Jesus goes from the baby in the manger to the 30-ish year-old man being baptized in the River Jordan in mere sentences. Where did those 30 years go? What were they like for him? We have no accounts, no recollections, no stories.



I began serving as your pastor last August, and we started studying our own favorite Bible stories, the roots of our faith. Through our fall stewardship campaign and the Advent, Christmas and Epiphany seasons, we continued to talk about the basis of our beliefs - the beginnings. When I stop to think, though, we haven't spent much time talking about Jesus. And as I see it, he is the trunk of our tree of faith and abundant life.

Now we may disagree on exactly who Jesus was (Savior of the World, Jewish prophet, Rabbi/mentor, role model/guru, Son of Man, sacrificial Lamb of God), but none of us can deny that the stories of this one man's life have changed thousands of years of history - for the good, bad and the ugly. So who was this man exactly?

I'd like to take the next 6 weeks to walk us through some of the highlights in The Life of Jesus. This series will also carry the tagline (What God is Like) for as we learn about the man, we will also uncover many truths about his father/mother God. To whet your appetite (and if you like to read ahead), here's what you have to look forward to:

Jan. 19: From Manger Baby to Adult Baptism, Matt. 3:13-17

Jan. 26: A Few Take Notice, John 1:29-42

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### **Sunday, Jan. 19**

**Sermon:** *From Manger Baby to Adult Baptism*

**Scripture:** Matt. 3:13-17

**Reader:** Deborah Salmon

**Flowers:** Nancy Recklin

**Refreshments:** Ruth Wilson and Pam Browning

### **LCC Choir Schedule**

If you're interested in singing in the Choir, our next scheduled Sunday is February 9. Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays, Jan. 29 and Feb. 5, 6-7pm. You are more than welcome to join us! You can contact Kim ([Kim2014@live.com](mailto:Kim2014@live.com)) for more information.

### **Flood Survey Deadline**

The Affordable Housing Task Force flood survey deadline is January 17. The more responses, the better. Please click on the link below:

<http://survey.rcresearch.com/s3/Lyons>

## *Pastor's Message* (continued)

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Feb. 2: And So it Begins, Matt. 4:12-23

Feb. 9: Making Us Think Twice, Matt. 5:1-12

Feb. 16: Widening the Circle, John 4:5-42

Feb. 23: Loving When it Hurts, Matt. 5:43-48

I hope you will consider joining us in this new year - we have come so far in the past four months of disaster recovery, and the marathon continues. Perhaps we can lean into our community and our own trees of our faith (roots, trunk and fruit-bearing branches) to help carry us through the deep snowy winter, and into the bursting-forth season of spring.

and p.s. There are exciting things preparing to burst forth in bloom in terms of our building and upcoming renovations. Preliminary drawings will be revealed this week - you won't want to miss them.

With joyful anticipation (and isn't **that** what God is like?)

*Pastor Emily*

## Future Sign-Ups

### January 26

Scripture- Annie Sirotniak

Refreshments- Monica McGuckin

Flowers- Brian Whitehead

### February 2

Scripture- Mark Browning

Refreshments- Janet Freeman

Flowers- Amy and Molly Mathews

### February 9

Scripture- Matt Fowler

Refreshments- Matt Fowler

Flowers- Deborah Salmon

### February 16

Scripture- Alyssa Frideres

Refreshments- the Brownings

Flowers- Sue and Reed Farr

### February 23

Scripture- Richard Salmon

Refreshments- Carol Pranschke

Flowers- Pam and Mark Browning