

February/March 2020

Edison Park Lutheran Church

6626 N. Oliphant Ave., Chicago, IL 60631 + www.edisonparkchurch.com + 773-631-9131
Mission: To be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.

Upcoming Mission Moments

February 9 - Veteran's Task Force at 9:00 and 10:30 am
to present 2019 Military Chaplain Award

February 22/23 - Outreach Team at 5:00 pm, 9:00 and
10:30 am to collect money for World Hunger



Worship Schedule
Saturdays @ 5:00 pm
Sundays @ 9:00 &
10:30 am

Message from the Deacon

Lent will begin in a few weeks. On Ash Wednesday we'll place the mark of the cross in ashes on our foreheads. We'll hear the words "remember that you are dust and to dust you shall return." We are reminded of our mortality and frailty. We hear those words spoken in the Garden of Eden after Adam and Eve eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. We hear those words in the committal part of our funeral liturgy. A stark reminder of where we came from and, where, all other factors being equal, we shall return. So why do we gather and remember what we are on Ash Wednesday? We gather - because - all other factors are not equal! While we gather to remember who we are, we also gather to remember who God is - and what God has done for us in and through Jesus. God has given us a way out. It is the way of the Cross. And all that God asks of us in this is that we accept his mercy, that we remember we are sinners, and repent and believe in his Son. We come to commit ourselves to God and the way that his Son has shown us trusting in God's great mercy by which we have been born anew to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

The season of Lent is about the journey to the other side of death. In the course of the next 40 days, Jesus will walk down the mountain of Transfiguration and up the mountain of Golgotha. There he will be nailed to a cross and he will die. But the story doesn't stop there, that is only Good Friday. Easter is the exclamation point at the end of this journey. What is found in the tomb on Easter morning is our promise of what awaits us on the other side of death.

All of us, as St. Paul says, have sinned and fallen short of God's highest and best for us. Today is the day to repent and receive the Good News that in Christ you are both forgiven, and given a chance to be a new person, make a new start.

I'm encouraged when I meet new people who have chosen to worship with us, many of whom have joined. Hope you can join us for one of our weekend services, as well as one of the Wednesday services at noon and 7:00 pm. A soup lunch will follow the noon services. Invite a friend. Offer to pick them up. Invite them to hear the Good News!

Yours in Christ,
Carole Edwards

To be a people living, loving and serving as Jesus did...so that all may know Him.

Church Office Hours

9:00a–1:00p Monday through Friday

Prayer Requests (as of 1/31/20)

- ◇ Carol Sternberg
- ◇ Christine Baily Smith
- ◇ Marge Cherry
- ◇ Laurie B.
- ◇ Tony Ciminello
- ◇ Jill Beemer
- ◇ David Wetzel
- ◇ The Pucillo family
- ◇ Maria Dziuba
- ◇ Al (Barb Rudel’s father)
- ◇ Jayden (a friend of Jayne Swanson)
- ◇ Graham Bulawa’s unborn grandchild and his family
- ◇ June Kreplin
- ◇ Pat Edman (a friend of Lynn Freitag)
- ◇ Carol Bonk
- ◇ Brandon Freeman
- ◇ John Rose
- ◇ Leif Nielsen
- ◇ John Leibrock
- ◇ Carla

Sympathy

Sympathy to the friends and families of:

- ◇ Richard Grassl
- ◇ Diane Peters

Baptisms

Mateo John O’Neill

Scheduling a Baptism?

Contact the church office at 773-631-9131 to begin the process.

Scheduling a Wedding?

Contact the church office to get your date on the calendar, and we’ll help you in the initial stages. A Wedding Director will be assigned to help with the details of your special day.

Memorials

Edison Park Lutheran Church is grateful for the following donations:

To the EPLC Foundation:

- ◇ From June Kreplin
- ◇ In memory of Barbara Stewart, from Tom and Sally Benson, Deanna Jordan, Gary Duszak, Jan Page, and Barbara Smith
- ◇ In memory of David and Osa Svendsen, from David Svendsen
- ◇ In honor of Virginia Sorensen, from The Sorensen Foundation
- ◇ In memory of June Vliet, from Roger and June Vliet Trust
- ◇ In honor of John Leibrock, from John and Ann Leibrock
- ◇ In memory of Robert Schafer, from Al and Carol Schafer and the Burke family
- ◇ In memory of Jeffrey Wilk, from John and Diane Romano
- ◇ In memory of Diane Peters, from Jan Page and Sally and Tom Benson

To the General Fund:

- ◇ In memory of Barbara Stewart, from Kathleen and Alan Schmuttenmaer, Marguerite James, Gladys and Lachlan Stewart, Alice and Walter Rybak, Karen Primm, Mr and Mrs Santo Scafidi, Diane Wilk, and Helga Wilk
- ◇ In memory of her Fran Otto, from Ronald Otto
- ◇ In memory of Diane Peters, from Dick and Lynda Hartwig

To the Music Fund:

- ◇ In memory of Barbara Stewart, from Synoma Hayes and Karen Svendsen

Pastoral Care

Please contact Deacon Carole Edwards at 773-580-3617 when you are hospitalized or whenever you would like a visit. Even if you would rather not have a visit, we would still appreciate the opportunity to pray for your healing.

Treasurer's Report

As I write this, the annual Congregational meeting has just concluded, during which we laid out the budget for 2020. The budget environment is still challenging as we continue our search for a new Senior Pastor. Please pray for the Call Committee as it works through the process of interviewing and recommending a candidate for the position.

Our budget for 2020 will probably be slightly less than 2019. When we hire a new Senior Pastor will determine how our year progresses. In our income, we are intentionally not showing the Foundation's gift so that everyone can understand how critical their financial support is. Again, please consider the EPLC Foundation in your giving plans. We need the Foundation to remain strong.

The year closed out strong with good attendance and some wonderful performances by our music staff. I hope you could enjoy these services. Let us build on the strong close of the year. If you see someone new at church, please welcome them and help them feel at home. One of the Council's plans for this year is to focus on Stewardship, as we have not focused on this area in a while. I ask that you please continue to support EPLC with your prayers, time, and support.

Although I am new to this position, it is very interesting to learn how our finances work. I ask for your prayers as I work my way through this process. Please let me know if you have any questions regarding the finances.

Thank you for your support, I truly appreciate it. May God bless you all, and continue to bless this wonderful Congregation. Thank you!

Respectfully Submitted,

John Cherry

EPLC Treasurer

Council Update

The Annual Meeting was held on January 26th and was well attended. Annual Reports are available at the Welcome Desk and online at <http://edisonparkchurch.com/current-news>. The 2020 Budget was approved.

The Call Committee and the Safety Ministry gave reports. Motion was passed to reduce our tithe to the synod from 10% to 5%. We will focus on Stewardship in 2020. Please let us know if you're interested in serving on this Task Force. We're still in need of someone to chair the Property Committee.

Thanks to all who have volunteered to help with the Lenten soup lunches. The lunches provide a great time of fellowship and are appreciated by all who enjoy this annual tradition.

Thanks to the Council members who went off this year: Wayne Ammentorp, Kevin Burkum, and Mark Schaefer. And welcome to the new Council members: John Jackson, Jonathan Jedd, and Kathy Wendorf.

Thank you for your continued prayers and support of EPLC. Please continue to pray for the congregation, staff, Council, and call process. If you have a question or concern, please call me, or connect with another Council member. The 2020 Council is listed below:

Joe Bartel	Phyllis Doyle	Carolyn Nasheim
Gary Berg	Vicki Evers	Tina Stafen
Maureen Cassaro	John Jackson	Kathy Wendorf
John Cherry	Jonathan Jedd	Joan Yost

~Carolyn Nasheim, Council President

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee interviewed three candidates in January. We will meet a second time with one of the candidates in February.

Preschool News

In January, we completed an author study on Caralyn Buener. Her great snowman stories were fun reads for the class! Two of her stories are *Snowmen at Christmas* and *Snowmen All Year*.



We spent time playing with ice and experimenting on melting techniques. We enjoyed many snowy books and crafts!



Registration for the 2020-21 school year has begun! Please spread the word to family, friends and neighbors. If there are questions, or you'd like to visit the classroom, please contact Jennifer at jwilliams@edisonparkchurch.com.

Children's Ministry News

Our Sunday School classes are back in full swing! Please join us on Sundays during the 9:00 service.

Special thanks to our wonderful Sunday School team! Without them our program wouldn't be the success that it is! If anyone would like to join the team, please reach out to Jennifer.

BLAST IS BACK!

Throughout January, our Cherubs have been on a Journey to Bethlehem. They have learned about the events that took place in Nazareth, Bethlehem, and Egypt.



Join us on Wednesdays in the preschool room starting at 4:30! Feel free to bring a friend.

Youth and Family Ministry News

I'm feeling a little under the weather as I write this, and I've been praying that I feel the Lord's healing hands so I can be a functioning youth leader for these kids. In fact, our confirmation class just went over the power prayer and the different types of praying postures for varying occasions. The prayer posture that I'd like to perform right now is explained in Deuteronomy 9:18.

¹⁸ Then once again I fell prostrate before the Lord for forty days and forty nights; I ate no bread and drank no water, because of all the sin you had committed, doing what was evil in the Lord's sight and so arousing his anger."

Except for the not eating part, I'd love to lay down for forty days and speak with my Lord. Despite not feeling well, I know that others are going through much worse. Thinking about how others feel puts my own self-pity in perspective:

- I found out a friend and colleague was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. This man played an integral part in establishing the partnership with the four area churches for our Youth Mixers. Our relationship has created many opportunities for our youth groups to come together and praise God for our creation and celebrate His glory-ness.
- There is last weekend's news about the helicopter crash that killed Kobe Bryant, his 13-year-old daughter, and 7 other people. Kobe had his flaws, but was a hero to many. He was a fierce competitor and worked hard to be the best. I cannot imagine what his wife Vanessa and 3 other children are going through right now and my heart goes out to them. Hopefully they can take solace in the fact that he was a devout Catholic and was even at mass that morning.
- And lastly, I think of the passing of Diane Peters and Sandy Rahn, a friend of some congregation members. Diane was always so kind and supportive of my ministries. The Peters were among the first to congratulate me when I got this job. May she rest in peace. While I never met Sandy, at the request of one of her friends, I asked our Confirmation and Club 3:16 kids to write her Christmas cards. I was told that the kids' thoughtfulness lifted her spirits, and I'm very happy that she was able to have a nice moment during such a horrible time.

I am thankful for what the Lord has given me, a beautiful wife and 3 healthy children. I am also thankful for EPLC's children and youth. Don't tell them this but I learn more from them than they do from me. Our journeys in Christ are epic, solemn, and crazy all at once. I pray that God speaks through me and touches them. So as the medication wears off, I thank you for your continued support of our

youth ministries. It makes a HUGE difference.

Yours in Christ,
Phil Mauro

Please check out our upcoming Youth and Family Ministries events.

- Feb 8th - Club 456 meets at Bowlero bowling alley in Niles
- Feb 22nd - Trivia Night!!!! Don't miss out on this fun-filled evening of trivia, raffles, and kid's Mardi Gras parade. All money raised goes to our youth programs.
- Feb 23rd - Veteran's Task Force and EPLC Youth deliver packaged goods to the USO at O'Hare airport.
- March - EPLC's Outreach Team and Youth Groups go to Feed My Starving Children in Schaumburg. Date to be determined.

Fellowship

Movie Night – North Hall

Third Saturday of the Month @6:30 pm



February 15: *Hope and Glory*, starring Sarah Miles and David Hayman.

March 21: *Hondo*, starring John Wayne.

EPLC Book Club Meeting – Nordblad Atrium
Second Thursday of the Month @7:30 pm

February 13: *The Storyteller's Secret* by Sejal Badani follows Jaya's journey to India to discover her family's past secrets after her marriage dissolves.



March 12: *The Day the World Came to Town* by Jim Defede tells the story of the kindness shown to strangers when planes flying to the U.S. were suddenly diverted to a small Canadian town on 9/11.

Dorcas Circle meets the third Tuesday of each month at 12:30p for Bible study, fellowship, and dessert. Next meetings are 2/18 and 3/17 at 12:30p. All women are invited to join.



Men's Breakfast is the second Saturday of each month at 7:30a at Jimmy's in Des Plaines. Join us 2/8 and 3/14 for good food and good fellowship! All men are welcome!

Outreach

Spring Fling Fundraiser to Benefit LSSI Family Mental Health Programs

Spring Fling, a fundraiser presented by the Women's Network of LSSI, will be held Saturday, April 27 at the Westin Chicago Northwest, 400 Park Blvd., Itasca. The event opens at 10 a.m. with a selection of 20 special gift boutiques featuring gifts, jewelry, fashion accessories, and food items. The event also includes raffles, a delicious lunch, and entertainment by Felix & Fingers Dueling Pianos. Tickets are \$75 each, with a \$45 student price. If interested in attending with a group from EPLC, please sign up at the Welcome Desk.

The Night Ministry

EPLC will be serving a meal with The Night Ministry on Sunday, April 5 from 4:00 - 6:00 pm in Rogers Park. The weekly announcements in March will have information about shopping, packing and serving opportunities.



Letters of Gratitude

From the ELCA

"Thank you for your gift of \$925 to ELCA World Hunger. Your generosity is providing access to clean water, health care, agriculture, livestock, education, and peace and justice. Thank you for spreading light and love to so many in this season of hope."

From New Hope Community Food Pantry

"Please accept our very sincere thanks for your gift of \$82 and for responding to our appeal for donations. Your gift will make a significant impact on the families and individuals who need help to feed themselves."

From The Night Ministry

"I'd like to thank you for your generous in-kind donation of 82 holiday stockings and hand warmers. Your generosity empowers The Night Ministry to provide essential services and compassion to thousands of our neighbors in need."

From the ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Ministries

"Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,600 the ELCA Federal Chaplaincy Fund for Leaders Endowment. This generosity helps to bring the Gospel to critical places and people within our population and government."

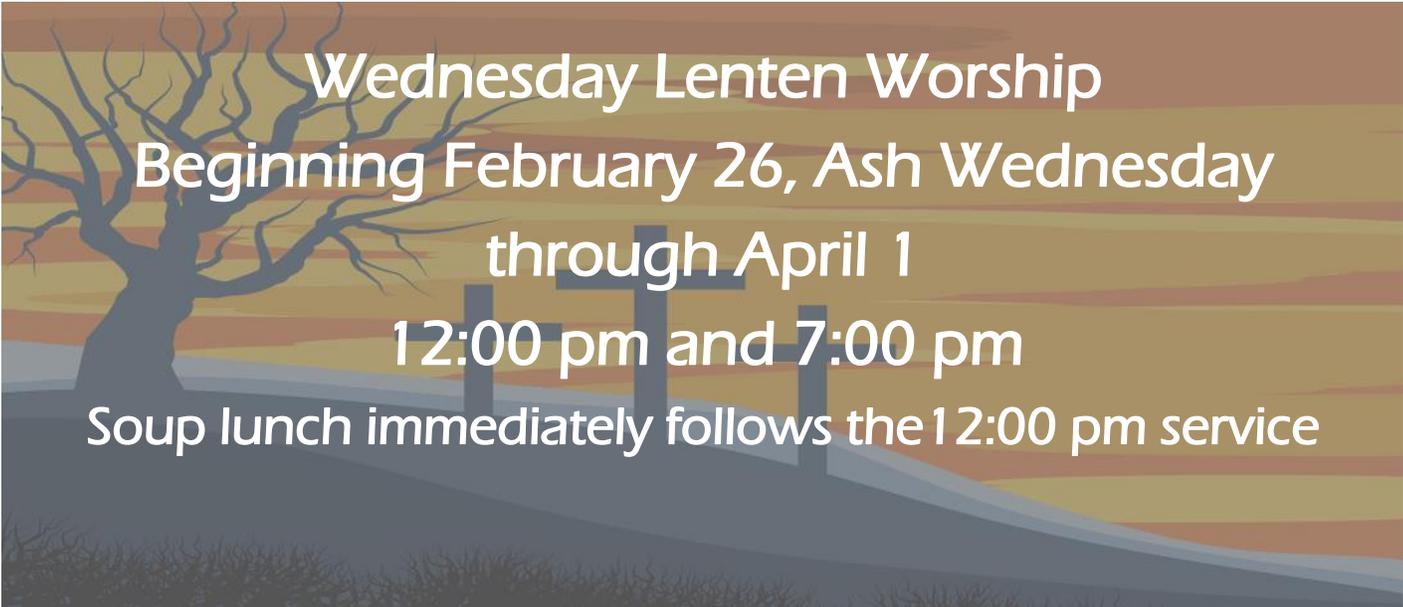
Edison Park Lutheran Church — FEBRUARY, 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>North Hall Conference Room Work Room Nordblad Atrium Preschool Room</p> </div> <div style="width: 45%;"> <p>South Hall Youth Room Outside location Choir Room or Sanctuary</p> </div> </div>						
<p>2 Presentation of Our Lord 8:45a - 11:30 - Staffed Nursery 9:00a, 10:30a - Worship 9:00a - Sunday School</p>	<p>3 12:05 - Staff Meeting 7:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - AA 7:00p - Families Anonymous</p>	<p>4 8:30a - Easy Exercise 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous 7:30p - EPLC Foundation</p>	<p>5 10:30a - Bible Study 7:00p - Club 3:16</p>	<p>6 8:30a - Easy Exercise 5:00p - Handbell Choir 7:00p - Boy Scouts Comm. 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)</p>	<p>7 9:00a - Mission Quilt Makers</p>	<p>8 7:30a - Men's Breakfast at Jimmy's, Des Plaines 12:00-4:00p - Home bday party 4:00p - Boy Scouts set up 5:00p - Worship</p>
<p>9 5th Sunday after Epiphany 7:00a - 12:30p - Boy Scout Pancake Br. 8:45a - 11:30 - Staffed Nursery 9:00a, 10:30a - Worship (Mission Moment) 9:00a - Sunday School 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed 2:00p - Hungarian Reformed Reception</p>	<p>10 12:05 - Staff Meeting 7:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - AA 7:00p - Families Anonymous</p>	<p>11 8:30a - Easy Exercise 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous</p>	<p>12 5, 12, 19 4:30p - BLAST/Choir 6:00p - Confirmation 7:00p - Adult Choir 7:45p - Praise Team</p>	<p>13 8:30a - Easy Exercise 5:00p - Handbell Choir 7:00p - Call Comm. 7:30p - EPLC Book Club 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)</p>	<p>14 6:00p - Cub Scouts Den Night Preschool pajama party</p>	<p>15 9:40a - Memorial, Richard Grassl 11:00a - Funeral, Richard Grassl 5:00p - Worship 6:30p - Movie Night</p>
<p>16 6th Sunday after Epiphany Foundation Sunday 8:45a - 11:30 - Staffed Nursery 9:00a, 10:30a - Worship 9:00a - Sunday School 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed 2:00p - Hungarian Reformed Reception</p>	<p>17 PRESIDENT'S DAY (Office is Closed) 6:30p - Stephen Ministry 7:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - AA 7:00p - Families Anonymous</p>	<p>18 8:30a - Easy Exercise 12:30p - Dorcas Circle 4:30-8:00p - Park Ridge Civic Orch. Auditions 6:00p - Finance Committee 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous 7:00p - Church Council</p>	<p>19 7:00-9:15p - Park Ridge Civic Orchestra BOD meeting 7:00p - Club 3:16</p>	<p>20 8:30a - Easy Exercise 5:00p - Handbell Choir 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)</p>	<p>21 9:00a - Mission Quilt Makers 5:00p - Trivia Night set up 6:30p - Cub Scouts Pack Meeting</p>	<p>22 5:00p - Worship (Mission Moment) 6:00p - Trivia Night</p>
PRESCHOOL IS CLOSED - MIDWINTER BREAK						
<p>23 Transfiguration of Our Lord 8:45a - 11:30 - Staffed Nursery 9:00a, 10:30a - Worship (Mission Moment) 9:00a - Sunday School 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed 2:00p - Hungarian Reformed Reception</p>	<p>24 12:05 - Staff Meeting 7:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - AA 7:00p - Families Anonymous</p>	<p>25 8:30a - Easy Exercise 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous</p>	<p>26 Ash Wednesday 12:00p - Lenten Worship 12:30p - Lenten Soup Lunch 6:00p - Confirmation 6:30p - Adult Choir 7:00p - Lenten Worship 7:45p - Praise Team</p>	<p>27 8:30a - Easy Exercise 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29 5:00p - Worship</p>

1/31/2020

Edison Park Lutheran Church — MARCH, 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
1 1st Sunday in Lent 8:45a - 11:30 - Staffed Nursery 9:00a, 10:30a - Worship 9:00a - Sunday School 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed 2:00p - Hungarian Reformed Reception	2 12:05 - Staff Meeting 7:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - AA 7:00p - Families Anonymous	3 8:30a - Easy Exercise 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous	4 7:30p - Club 3:16	5 8:30a - Easy Exercise 5:00p - Handbell Choir 7:00p - Boy Scouts Comm. 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)	6 9:00a - Mission Quilt Makers	7 5:00p - Worship		
8 2nd Sunday in Lent 8:45a - 11:30 - Staffed Nursery 9:00a, 10:30a - Worship 9:00a - Sunday School 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed 2:00p - Hungarian Reformed Reception	9 12:05 - Staff Meeting 7:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - AA 7:00p - Families Anonymous	10 8:30a - Easy Exercise 6:00p - Finance Committee 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous 7:00p - Church Council	4, 11, 18		12 8:30a - Easy Exercise 6:30p - Rising Stars 5:00p - Handbell Choir 7:30p - EPC Book Club 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)	13 6:00p - Cub Scouts Den Night	14 7:30a - Men's Breakfast at Jimmy's, Des Plaines 5:00p - Worship 12:00p - Rising Stars	
15 3rd Sunday in Lent 8:45a - 11:30 - Staffed Nursery 9:00a, 10:30a - Worship 9:00a - Sunday School 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed 2:00p - Hungarian Reformed Reception	16 12:05 - Staff Meeting 6:30p - Stephen Ministry 7:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - AA 7:00p - Families Anonymous	17 ELECTION DAY 8:30a - Easy Exercise 12:30p - Dorcas Circle 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous	18 7:00-9:15p - Park Ridge Civic Orchestra BOD meeting 7:30p - Club 3:16	19 Preschool Field Trip 8:30a - Easy Exercise 5:00p - Handbell Choir 6:30p - Rising Stars 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)	20 Preschool is closed 9:00a - Mission Quilt Makers 6:30p - Cub Scouts Pack Meeting	21 5:00p - Worship 6:30p - Movie Night		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;"> WALCAMP RETREAT </div>								
22 4th Sunday in Lent 8:45a - 11:30 - Staffed Nursery 9:00a, 10:30a - Worship 9:00a - Sunday School 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed 2:00p - Hungarian Reformed Reception	23 12:05 - Staff Meeting 7:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - AA 7:00p - Families Anonymous	24 8:30a - Easy Exercise 6:30p - Rising Stars 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous	25 12:00p - Lenten Worship 12:30p - Lenten Soup Lunch 6:00p - Confirmation 7:00p - Lenten Worship 7:45p - Praise Team	26 8:30a - Easy Exercise 6:30p - Rising Stars 8:00p - Al-Anon (men)	27 6:30p - Rising Stars	28 5:00p - Worship		
29 5th Sunday in Lent 8:45a - 11:30 - Staffed Nursery 9:00a, 10:30a - Worship 9:00a - Sunday School 1:00p - Hungarian Reformed 2:00p - Hungarian Reformed Reception	30 12:05 - Staff Meeting 7:00p - Boy Scouts 7:00p - AA 7:00p - Families Anonymous	31 8:30a - Easy Exercise 6:30p - Rising Stars 7:00p - Gamblers Anonymous	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;"> North Hall Conference Room Work Room Nordblad Atrium Preschool Room Choir Room or Sanctuary </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 2px;"> South Hall Youth Room Outside location </td> </tr> </table> </div>				North Hall Conference Room Work Room Nordblad Atrium Preschool Room Choir Room or Sanctuary	South Hall Youth Room Outside location
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Wednesday Lenten Worship

Beginning February 26, Ash Wednesday
through April 1

12:00 pm and 7:00 pm

Soup lunch immediately follows the 12:00 pm service



Return Service Requested

TIME VALUE-DATED MATERIAL

www.edisonparkchurch.com
773-631-9131

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