



THE REPORTER

*There are six things that the LORD hates, seven that are an abomination to him:
haughty eyes, a lying tongue, and hands that shed innocent blood,
a heart that devises wicked plans, feet that make haste to run to evil,
a false witness who breathes out lies, and one who sows discord among brothers.
(Proverbs 6:16-19)*

On February 18, we begin the season of Lent with Ash Wednesday. This year, we delve into the often overlooked book of Proverbs to see the Seven Abominations for which Jesus died. Unfortunately, we find all of these things very close at hand all around us.

What is an “abomination”? It is something that is disgusting in either a ritual or ethical sense. In the list at the top of the page, we find that some illustrate both of these senses, while some more readily illustrate one more than the other.

We begin the series on Ash Wednesday by looking at these verses from Solomon. We end the series on Easter Morning by looking at the song Israel sang on the eastern shore of the Red Sea: “You have led in Your steadfast love the people whom You have redeemed; You have guided them by Your strength to Your holy abode” (Exodus 15:13). Throughout the series, we will see God’s disgust with each of these abominations and His corresponding encouragement to its opposite in our lives.

We struggle in our lives as saints and sinners. We struggle to avoid these abominations. We struggle to search out and practice the things God loves. Thanks be to God that He sent us Jesus to perfectly live out God’s love so that we might be forgiven our failures and receive His perfect fulfillment of the Law for us.

In Christ,

Rev. Doug Minton

Lent: Do we Give Up something or Take Up something?

Traditionally during the Season of Lent, the western church will give up something of pleasure. Doing this signifies that we are experiencing some suffering through deprivation. While there is nothing wrong with this practice and can help with spiritual discipline, do we really think not eating chocolate or giving up soda for 40 days is suffering?

What could we do instead? Take Up something!

Take up intentionally reading the Word of God daily, or intentionally speaking the Gospel to one person each week, or attending a bible class once a week, or if you miss church listen to the sermon online, or finish your devotions and prayer time before you reach for your phone and social media each day. The list could go on.

Questions to consider as you decide:

What might I take up for Lent that would help me grow in faith and love?

How can either taking up something for Lent or giving up something for Lent open doors for me to share God’s Word with people in my life? How might it get in the way of it?

Men's Bible Breakfast

We will begin studying Lutheran history through the video study *Martin Luther* on February 14. Doug B will be our host. This month, we look at Luther's time as a monk and priest.

Women's Bible Study

Our next Bible Study is on Tuesday, February 17 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will continue "A New Song: Save Me, O My God" and study Psalm 4.

Youth Group

We will meet Sunday, February 22 for an afternoon of baking! Join us from 3 - 5pm for a devotion with Pastor, making desserts, and fellowship with friends. Remember, friends are welcome. Put this on your calendar and let Brenna or Jan know you can attend.

2026 Directory

New directories will be in your mailboxes by Sunday, February 1. If you see any typos, please let me know. If you need a new copy throughout the year, I will gladly print you a copy. Thanks to everyone that gave me an update.

Wednesday Fellowship Meal

We will have our Wednesday Fellowship meal Wednesday, February 4 at 6pm. In celebration of the upcoming Superbowl, we will have chili, your favorite appetizers, and dessert. Chili will be provided. Please bring your favorite appetizer or dessert. Get ready for some more Bible Trivia! There might be prizes this month, you just never know. If you haven't attended yet, join us!

Thank you From Watseka Area Food Pantry

Thank you for thinking of the Food Pantry with the generous gift of food! Your donation is very timely - in October we served 207 households representing 597 people and in November 589 people from 183 households were helped. Those numbers are more in one month than we have ever had before. The request for food help nearly doubled from the middle week to the last week of October. The government shutdown and the uncertainty about SNAP payments have contributed to this increase. The need has never been greater. Your donation certainly helps many people! Please share with others what is happening in food pantries - how the requests for food and volunteers have increased. We also would appreciate your prayers that this ministry and others are able to continue to meet the challenge and help those in Iroquois County who are food insecure.

Remember those unable to be with us on Sunday Morning

Dianne Estes
Delmer Henrichs
Sara Janssen
Mary Kamin
Joanne Sloan
Barb Teig
Julie Towers
Joyce Williams

Heritage Health, 423 N Dixie Hwy
IMH Residents Home, 200 E. Fairman Ave
Autumn Fields, 325 E Orange
Prairieview Lutheran Home, 403 N 4th St
2364 E 900 North Rd
Autumn Fields, 325 E Orange
Heritage Woods, 577 Martin Ave
Autumn Fields, 325 E Orange

Hoopeston, IL 60942
Watseka, IL 60970
Hoopeston, IL 60942
Danforth, IL 60930
Milford, IL 60953
Hoopeston, IL 60942
Watseka, IL 60970
Hoopeston, IL 60942



Lent Services

Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on Wednesday, February 15, 2026 with the Imposition of Ashes. Please bring your Palm Branches from last year to the church by Sunday, February 15 so we can have the ashes ready. This year our Lent Series is : Seven Abominations

February 18	Ash Wednesday	Seven Abominations (Proverbs 6:16-19)
February 25	Midweek 1	Haughty Eyes/Humble Spirit (Isaiah 3:16-17)
March 4	Midweek 2	Lying Tongue/Mouth of Praise (Proverbs 12:17-19)
March 11	Midweek 3	Shed Innocent Blood/Protect Life (Genesis 4:1-16)
March 18	Midweek 4	Wicked Heart/Good Deeds (Mark 10:17)
March 25	Midweek 5	Hastening Evil/Slow to Anger (Nahum 1:2-3)
April 2	Maundy Thursday	False Witness/True Witness (John 8:31-32)
April 3	Good Friday	Sowing Discord/Uplift One Another (Galatians 6:1-4)
April 5	Easter	Loved in Christ (Exodus 15:13)

Other Lent Information

We will begin our Lent meals and Hymn Sing on Wednesday, February 25th. Serving for meals will begin at **5:45pm** and the Hymn Sing will begin at 6:45pm. Watch the bulletin for menus and information on freewill donations. Offerings during our Lent services will again this year be added to our Missions money.



Our Savior Lutheran Church
209 West Jones St
PO Box 188
Milford Illinois 60953

Phone: 815-889-4121
E-mail: secretary@oursaviormilford.com
Facebook: OurSaviorLutheran

Worship Service 9:00 am
Sunday School and Adult Bible Class
10:30 am

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

FEBRUARY REPORTER

**Join Us Every Sunday Morning for Service
starting at 9:00 am**

**Our Savior Lutheran Church
209 West Jones Street, Milford
or listen to the service live on the radio
on WIQI 95.9 FM or WHPO 100.9 or
listen to a live audio stream on our website**

**Email - secretary@OurSaviorMilford.com
Website - www.oursaviormilford.com
Facebook - OurSaviorLutheran**