



IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL

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CELEBRATING 163 YEARS OF MISSION • COMMUNITY • SERVICE

The mission of Immaculate Conception School is to provide experiences to inspire, challenge, and nurture the mind, body, and spirit of our students within the framework of the Gospel of Jesus Christ and the tradition of the Catholic Church.

March 3, 2017

V. 42 #37

THE JOY OF LOVE

Dear Parent, Guardian, Student, Teacher, Friend,



Lent is like alligator wrestling with yourself. What can you overcome that will get your life under control and help you move towards God's will? If we give up, we get. That much we know.



MARDI Gras Tuesday night Thanks to my brother Knights and Lizanne Young, Hope Wienhoff, Rebecca Husman and all who made for a great celebration. The storm kept many away but it broke for our burning of last year's palms to make this year's ashes. So as Fr. Chris said on Sunday, we received the "**dab of anxiety on our foreheads!**" I love being human. I really kind of know how to live and what to do but my human nature gets in the way. I wrestle with myself to *be careful in dealing with who, what, when, where, why and how.* (Carrie Asselmeier taught me this.) Lent helps us offset the greatest lie in the world---that we can't be holy! We can! Lent helps!

PRAYER---FASTING---ALMSGIVING---this is our Lenten Journey!

Immaculate Conception School of Columbia will hold REGISTRATION for Pre-School, Pre-K, Kindergarten and new students in grades 1-8 for the 2017-2018 school year on Sunday, March 19, 2017 from 10:00 am until 12:30 pm in the school cafeteria, 321 S. Metter Ave., or by appointment at 281-5353. Parents should bring the child's baptismal certificate if not baptized at Immaculate Conception Parish, a copy of the official birth certificate from the County (not the hospital) and social security number. (We will copy and return the baptismal certificate and social security that morning.) Kindergarten pre-screening dates are April 5 and 6 for sign-up. ICS promotes the "Joy of Love" with small class size, outstanding parent support, and academic rigor which add up to an award winning school and an education for life. Check us out at www.icscolumbia.org. Questions? Need a personal tour? Can't make that date? Call ICS at 281-5353 or Mike Kish at 281-7459 or any ICS Parent! Come and catch the excitement as we work to build a new Catholic Education and Activity Center which will house the school. Immaculate Conception School is open to all faiths and traditions. Mission---Community---Service---since 1853!

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FUN TO DO WITH THE KIDS ON CASIMIR PULASKI DAY?!

(Monday March 6th) Look no further! Bring your kids ages 3-12 to Monkey Joes for our Spring activity fundraiser! (Crestwood Location). Monkey Joes will donate 20% of all admission, concession and game sales back to ICS! Come jump and raise money for ICS!

Store Address :9061 Watson RD. St.Louis Mo. 63126 Time- 10:00 am to 3pm

\$9.99 for unlimited play 11.99 for unlimited play, 1 slice of pizza and small fountain drink

Thanks to Amanda Buhr and Michelle Juengling for chairing!

Liam Johnson is a big brother to Ben! Congrats Jessica and Joe Dickman as Joseph Benjamin, was born Wednesday night and weighed in at 8lbs, and 21 inches long. Liam says he already knows about helping with diapers and stuff from his little sisters!



Jackson Drury was King for Mardi Gras after finding the baby in the cake.

Chess News: We had a very successful chess meet here last Saturday! We hosted 169 students from seven participating schools in the Belleville Diocese. ICS eighth grader Tyler Stern had a perfect 4-0 record. Drew Schmoll and Michael Wessel both had three wins and a tie for the day. 59 students from ICS participated in the



meet. The results were as follows: 1st Place- St. Teresa, 2nd Place - Queen of Peace, 3rd Place - ICS, 4th Place - Blessed Sacrament, 5th Place - St. Clare, 6th Place - St. Joe, 7th Place - St. Agatha. Many thanks to all who helped in any way to make the day run so smoothly! Thank you to all who sent in a snack and to all who volunteered, especially Rick Stern, Matt Melliere, Mark Swindle, Kevin Schmoll, Adam Randle, Jason and Kara Metz, Matt Herrmann, Chris Schorb, Donna and Tim Fredrick, Dave and Jennifer Thorne, Jim and Chris Wessel, Maggie Bollone, John Adams, Don Murphy, and Lourdes Jerkatis. A big thank you also to Mrs. Sue Lewis for preparing all the cards for our chess meet participants! Our last meet will be on March 18th at St. Clare in O'Fallon.

Chess Meet Dates March 18 St. Clare Cyra Herrmann, ICS Chess Coach

Chess 2016-2017 Practice Schedule: Practices for Grades 1&2: Tues 3/14

Practices for Grades 3&4: Tues 2/28, Tues 3/21 Practices for grades 5-8: Tues 3/7, Tues 3/28

HONOR FLIGHT REQUEST: Gracia Schlafly is assisting with "mail call" on a flight return and we had 27 thank you letters to present!. Chuck and his gang of Vets...We are proud of you! Thanks for letting us help Gracia!

● **APRIL 8, 2017**

● **ICS PARENTS & FRIENDS RUMMAGE SALE**

● **Annual Fundraiser**

- During Columbia's City Wide Yard Sale Event...
- 8am-12pm
- ICS parking lot (in case of inclement weather-school gym)
- \$10.00 per spot in advance \$5.00 to rent an 8x8 table (while supplies last)
- Contact Diane at 618-791-0626 or ddndoug@charter.net for more information or to reserve a spot - deadline to reserve is April 1st.



Blake and Trevor bearing good fruit--- Aidan and Audrey hoping they can partake after Mass.

WELCOME TO TREVOR DAVIS AND BLAKE METZGER who are on their Senior Project from Gibault Catholic High School. Fr. Ed Hustedde, my mentor, started this program back in the 1970's before anyone had coined the term "service learning". Thanks to Shari Murphy for Supervising. Once again, we have two quality young men gaining

some life experience! Blake is Sadie Metz cousin(and mine) and Trevor's Mom Marie is baby sister to my high school classmate Dennis Stork. Small world! Thanks for choosing ICS and making us better!

Brooke Heimburger has a small part, in an independent film called "***The Racket***". It was produced by circa87. It will be premiered April 1 and April 8th, at the Lincoln Theatre in Belleville. (Depending on how well it does predicts whether it will be seen more, and if it gets picked up at other theatres like Wehrenberg). Tickets for those 2 shows can be bought at circa87.com Go online and check it out. (I think April 8 is my date for this one!)

SCHOLASTIC BOWL: The scholastic bowl season is in full swing. The Varsity has a record of 14-12 with recent wins against St. Teresa & Triad and close losses to St. Clare & Aviston. JV currently stands at 12-10-1 with wins against St. Teresa and splitting the matches with Aviston & Triad. Toss up leaders are Kate Grawitch, Eli Garcia, Ben Haney, Noah Newton, & Jacob Whitworth. Coming up, the team will participate in the Blessed Sacrament & Litchfield Tournaments. Thanks Coach Talyor and Coach Kassebaum and Coach Schauster.

YEARBOOK 2016-2017 Order your 2016/2017 yearbook online at jostens.com. Price is \$18.00. Order forms will not be sent home this year. All ordering online. Thanks to Kim Foutch, our Yearbook Sponsor and to Keeven Photography and Jostens for our keepsake.

36th Annual ICS Magazine Drive Go to www.gaschoolstore.com to continue ordering on-line. Our ID # is 2710556. MOTHER/FATHER'S DAY

SR. THEA BOWMAN SCHOOL IS HAVING THEIR DINNER AUCTION ON MARCH 18. 4 Points Sheraton in Fairview Heights, Zip Rzeppa is MC, 6:00 start, \$50 per ticket, reservations required by Feb.20. Mega Raffle for \$10,000! roberta.trost@yahoo.com or 397-0316 to join the fun. You will see many of our parishioners there!

NO SCHOOL ON MONDAY in honor of the CATHOLIC POLISH cavalry hero CASIMIR PULASKI who legend tells us once saved George Washington's life! And we will be in Mt. Vernon!

PROFILE OF A SUCCESSFUL GRADUATE OF IMMACULATE CONCEPTION SCHOOL IN COLUMBIA, ILLINOIS:

The successful graduates will:

- Know God loves them and know themselves
- Experience the Sacramental and Liturgical life of the Church
- Respect people of all faiths and traditions
- Serve an internship in the Catholic Faith and be ready to be faithful, life-long Catholics
- Be filled with hope as disciples of Christ and be joyful Christians
- Exhibit a preferential option for the poor and exhibit empathy
- Gain confidence in public speaking through ministry participation, project-based and cooperative learning, and theatre
- Take advantage of opportunities to grow themselves outside the classroom in athletic and academic competitions and service projects
- Graduate with an academic rigor with skills necessary for a successful high school career and "own their education"
- Have "learned how to learn" by knowing their learning style, what it takes for them to learn, and the value of arts integration.



GRADS IN THE NEWS...4 of 5 and the Lt. Col. was just moving to Columbia and missed ICS!

Courtesy of the Republic Times



THE SPORTING NEWS...Soccer opportunity for ICS students!

2017 Spring Kicks Program - Boys and Girls - Pre-K, Kindergarten, 1st Grade, and 2nd Grade

Saturday 4/1, 4/8, 4/15, 4/22, 9:00-10:00 am @ Columbia Soccer Club Fields

\$40 per Participant - For more information or to register online, click the link below:

<http://www.overtimesportsllc.org/columbia-soccer-club-2017-spring-kicks-registration/>

Our 6th Grade Girls took second place at Queen of Peace on Saturday, losing to the home team in two sets.

Volleyball TEAM Pictures Monday, March 13

Please meet in the Cafeteria. Order form attached.

4:45 5th boys
5:15 5th girls
5:30 6th boys
5:45 6th girls
6:00 7th girls
6:15 8th boys
6:30 8th girls

TRACK MEETS If you have never been, you will be surprised! Come watch your kids!

April 5 home-5:00 April 8 Freeburg 10:00 April 11 home 5:00 April 20 Belle Valley 5:00
April 26 home 5:00 April 29 Chester Regional for State May 3 Columbia HS 5:00
May 6@ Belleville West Conference Meet 9:00 May 9 home 5:00 May 13 Herrin HS State Track
May 20 Belleville West 9:00 Diocesan Meet

Scott and Heather Schaefer Family Benefit The Immaculate Conception Parish School of Religion teachers will host a 1950s Sock Hop Dinner Dance on Saturday, April 1, 2017, at Turner Hall in Columbia, Ill., from 6pm - Midnight, to benefit the Scott and Heather Schaefer Family. A \$40 ticket includes dinner, beer/wine/soda, dancing and fun! The evening features all your '50s favorites spun by A Family Affair DJs, basket raffles, a barrel of booze, 50/50 drawings and more.

Scott needs extensive medical care to cover a traumatic brain injury received as a result of industrial electric shocks, and has been unable to work. Scott and his wife Heather have three beautiful boys, Silas, age 4, Quentin, age 3, and Isaac, age 1. All proceeds from this event go directly to Scott and Heather for non-insured medical expenses and basic household needs.

To request reservations or arrange to make a donation, send an email

to schaeferbenefit2017@gmail.com. If you can rock and you can roll, get your friends together and meet us "at the hop"!

Spring Musical Time! Gibault Catholic is proud to present the musical comedy "Curtains" April 20-23. If you are a 7th or 8th grade student and want to experience musical theatre, Gibault is the place for you! Auditions will be on Wednesday, Feb 22, at 5PM in the auditorium. If you are interested but have a conflict with the date, please make an appointment by emailing director Mary Beth Babcock at actorsattic@gmail.com or call [618-719-1264](tel:618-719-1264)

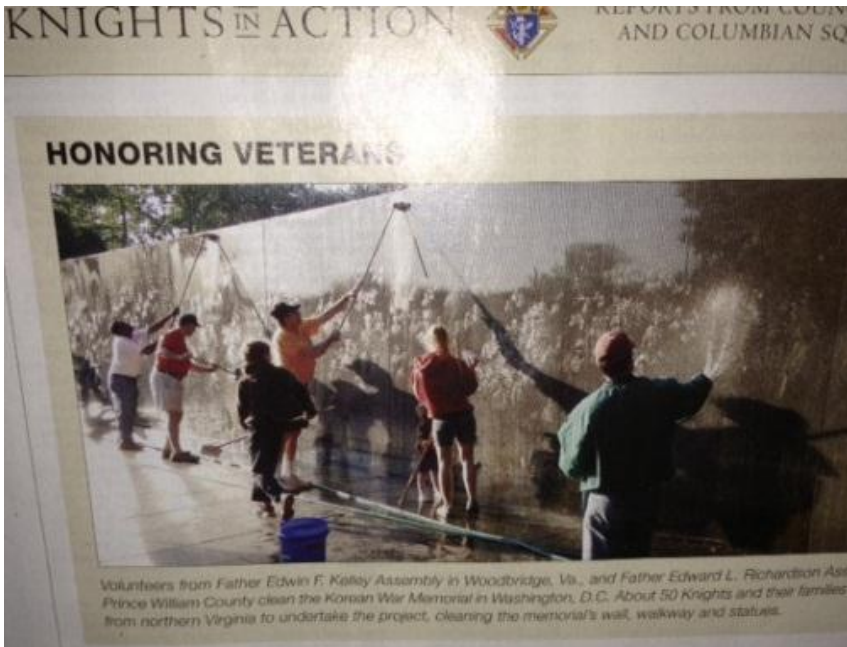
CALLING ALL GIBAULT and SPPHS ALUMNI! Gibault Catholic High School is celebrating our 50th Anniversary with an Open House ALL CLASS REUNION on **Saturday, March 4** from 4pm-10pm. All Alumni, Parents, and Friends are invited to help celebrate our 50th Anniversary with tours, music (8-10 pm), souvenirs, and a cash bar. Come help us celebrate 50 years of Hawk pride!

Gibault Catholic High School has registration for incoming Freshman on **March 13 and 15 from 5pm-8pm**. Call Becky Ramlose (939-3883) or bramlose@gibalthawks.com to set up your appointment. ***Welcome GCHS Class of 2021!***

Gibault Women's Club Spring Rummage Sale Time for Spring Cleaning! The Gibault Women's Club will hold their Spring Rummage Sale in the auditorium on Sat. April 1st, from 8a.m.-3p.m., no foolin'! As always, there will be special deals from 1-3p.m. Mark your calendars, and clean out the clutter! Donations will be accepted during school hours, and from 5-8:30 p.m. Mon. Mar. 27th through Thurs. Mar. 30th. Please, no large furniture, beds, exercise equipment, TVs, or computers can be accepted. Don't miss this huge sale!

CALLING ALL SUPERHEROES!!! Mark your calendars...ICS Superhero Camp is the **week of June 26th**. We are recruiting superheroes entering kindergarten through 5th grades to fine tune their skills for the upcoming school year. Superboys and supergirls will solve math problems faster than a speeding bullet, experiment with super powers in science, cook up "super" nutritious lunches & snacks, learn the latest superhero technology, leap tall buildings in a single bound, and fine tune their super powers. Camp will be from 8am to 3pm at Immaculate Conception with before & after care available. Info & registration forms are attached. To receive a \$25 discount, registration due by Friday, March 31st. Registration & payment can be sent to school, or online by clicking the link (<https://goo.gl/forms/mwvAgtcfHBXaYwiw2>). Contact Mrs.Epplin (bepplin@icsmail.org) with questions. Click here for [camp1](#) and click here [for camp2](#)
CAMP INVENTION SPPCS is hosting one this summer in Waterloo. [Click here for flyer](#). It's a good one!

SUMMER HELP AVAILABLE Hi, my name is **Amanda Schmidt** & I am a graduate of ICS as well as Gibault Catholic High School & currently just started my second semester at Missouri State University! This summer I am looking for a **full-time babysitting job** & would be happy to drive to run errands, go to practices or camps, as well as do crafts, go to the pool, or anything else! My number is [618-978-0145](tel:618-978-0145), let me know if you are interested!



Knights of Columba washing the Korean War Memorial in D.C. We will be there on Monday afternoon. Knights are real-live action-figures!

2017 Knight of Columbus Council 6165 Scholarship Essay Contest --- Saturday, March 12th at 11:00am in the KC room. The contest is open to any Immaculate Conception eighth grader who plans to attend a local Catholic High School. The winner will receive a \$2000.00 scholarship, payable over 4 years in \$500.00 payments, to the Catholic high school of their choice.

COD IS SO GOOD. This year the Knights of Columbus are expanding the fish fry from 4 to 7 during lent. with the additional proceeds going to the CEAC Fund. Come enjoy parish fellowship! We need your help to make this a success. If you can help in any way (serve, clean, cook, or make a dessert) please go to www.kofc6165.org and pick a shift or call Jim Vonderhaar @ [314-494-8874](tel:314-494-8874). If you are donating a dessert please bring to the cafeteria after 2pm on the day of the fish fry. Every Friday in Lent **except March 3** serving from 4-7pm in the ICS cafeteria. Featuring shrimp, cod, french fries, cole slaw, drinks included. Give praise to God and eat some cod.

INAUGURAL ZAC EPPLIN WE REMEMBER 4 PERSON GOLF SCRAMBLE APRIL 21-Ann Briar see attachment. ***"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me". Phil. 4:13 Zac's verse*** [Zac sponsor](#) [Zac Golf](#)

Fr. Carl's Little Reservoir...from your Parish Bulletin---worth a second read--- One of my goals with this weekly column is to communicate things to you that you might not know that might be of interest. Did you know? ~We are the largest parish in the Diocese with 1494 households; and our oldest parishioner is Sophie Eschmann, a resident at Monroe County Nursing home, who will be 100

on October 18. ~We have 155 students in Immaculate Conception Parish School of Religion (PSR), which meets on Wednesday evenings in the school from 6:30-7:30 p.m.. ~We have an enrollment of 330 at ICS, which includes our pre-school program; and ~Mike Kish is in his 42nd year as our principal. ~The only member of our parish staff that was here when I arrived in July of 2003 is Sheryl Oglesby, our parish bookkeeper, who has worked here for nearly 23 years. ~Our average weekend Mass attendance is 980, and the 11a.m. Mass has the largest attendance. ~We have 47 students attending Gibault Catholic High School this year; and our parish subsidy to Gibault is \$81,839. ~In 2016 we had: 58 Baptisms, 59 First Communions, 59 Confirmations, 18 Weddings and 33 Funerals. ~We have 49 active Diocesan priests (plus over 20 international priests) serving 114 parishes in our Diocese. The minimum retirement age for Diocesan priests is 66, and the mandatory retirement age is 75. There are 37 retired priests from our Diocese, including two of our former pastors, Fr. Vince Haselhorst and Fr. Steve Humphrey. ~We have a 55 and over parish Cork Ball League that plays on Monday evenings during the baseball season; Al Ziegler is the commissioner. I have been the MVP (Most Valuable Priest) every season thus far!

~Fr. Carl

Lydia Boyer is a student at Eagleview suffering from terminal brain cancer. Please keep her and the family in your prayers.

PRAYERS: Special Intention Donna Barton, Lydia Boyer, Teresa Dorshorst, Alicia Cohen, Christine Matrisotto, Jan Habermehl, Barbara Thompson, Dan Whelan, Denise Conner, Kenny Hamontree, Jim Edgar, Connie Huebner, Elisabeth Weilbacher, Tootie May, Susie Kish Settle, Dennis Kish, Seth Watters, Ken Biske, Rachel Warden, Bill Kesler, Dan Borisuk, Maggie Williamson, Patricia Steppig, Lauren Foran, Rich Cullen, Barb Winschel, Jessica Stemler Barcik, Josh Ritter, Stella Moll, Gertrude Scherrer, Henry Scott Dabbs, Carolyn Baker, Scott Schaefer, Katy Basinski, Chrissy Hoeflinger, Barbara Buchheit, Angie Rose, Ken Bolton, Nick Carron, Mary Giovanni, Roy Lansing, Sis Blaes, Arlin Stechmesser, Marcella Heinrichs, Florence Dorshorst, Bill Pennock, Pat Weber, Ed Hengel, Vince Webb, George Stein, Desiree Frasure

Our Building a Catholic Education and Activity Center Prayer:

Merciful God, you are the Divine Builder, who calls us to build your Church.

Guide us in building our new Catholic Education & Activity Center, so that we can build the Church of the future by passing on the treasure of our faith to future generations. Bless the work of our hands, and keep us strong in faith, hope and love, so that all we do might bring glory and honor to you, forever and ever. AMEN

MY HOMILY NOTES FROM FR. CHRIS LAST SUNDAY(reprinted without permission)

We are in an age of the erosion of trust. (Trust Allah but tie your camel---prayer works as long as you block your man) Trust as best you can---

Late Lent this year. Practice the Beatitudes--- A collection of sermons put into a literary device.

Jesus said stop all this worry. Trust God.

Come to Mass on Ash Wednesday and get "anxious smeared on our foreheads"

We are just passing through. Lent is not about the external. Fix relationships with God and others.

No hope without heart change.

God is not the policeman---God is not out to get us---That would be a false God

We need a "Jesus idea of God"---which is why He came!

Mike Kish, Principal

PS Kindergarten and new student registration is Sunday, March 19 from 10:00 till 12:30 or by appointment at 281-5353. Come and take the "nickel tour" and check out the Principal's "bragging points". (Parents always make the list!)

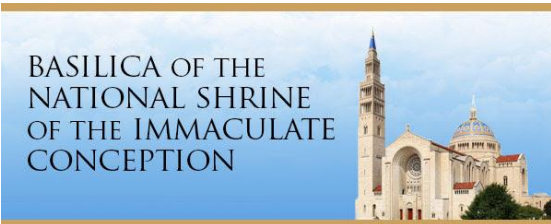
PS Happy Birthday to Mrs. Carol Fetcho on Wednesday! Art is God smiling back at us and she brings God out!

PS THE AFRICAN CHILDREN'S CHOIR WILL BE BACK ON APRIL 24 IN OUR CHURCH AT 7:00.
They were a big hit last year!

PS We head to DC for 32 highlights tomorrow. Please pray for a safe trip!

Noon Servers this week: Molly Tippen and Isabella Frasure

Gift bearers this week: Katie Grawitch, Andrew Harmon, Marie Prindiville, Kalia Jerkatis AT THE



Cemetery Hill at dusk on 21517



ME FATHER, FOR I HAVE SINNED. I just stole another homily from Fr. Jim Hogan.

Jesus of Nazareth lived in a time of political chaos and confusion similar to our own. He was just an ordinary guy from Nazareth in Galilee. He went to hear John the Baptist at the Jordan River and allowed himself to be baptized. In that experience something in his self-awareness began to awaken. That led him to his public ministry.

According to Matthew, from the Jordan River, “Jesus was led into the wilderness” -- a place of tests and trials. I think it can help us enter this text if we consider “wilderness” as a symbol of the sort of inner, spiritual struggle that is common to all of us.

Satan does not say, “you are the Son of God.” Deceptively he says, “if you are the Son of God.” This is about deception and illusion. From deep within Jesus hears a voice saying, “I deserve to have power, prestige, and privilege so embrace the illusion that I am something or someone I am not.” “Do not empty myself for the sake of others.” “Don’t humble myself, becoming obedient to death.” “Seek my own well-being.” “Betray my vocation.” Sound familiar?

A very old proverb of the Cherokee Indian tradition says, “There is a battle of two wolves inside us all. One is evil. The other is good. The wolf that wins is the one you feed.”

Like Jesus, we are unique, individual human beings. “Ego” is the concept, the self-image we create. “The good wolf” emerges when I recognize and embrace my selfless, spiritual self as part of a larger whole. “The bad wolf” (or false ego) emerges when I think I am what I have, or what I do, or that I am the center of the universe. Jesus turns away from the “bad wolf,” the realm of power, privilege and prestige. He turns away from the quest for his own well-being, personal security and coercive power. He embraces his own identity as a human being; part of a larger whole; someone able to love. Apparently Jesus of Nazareth knew love is the only power that frees us to be fully human.

For me this is why it is so important to watch and listen to Jesus of Nazareth. He is both model and mentor of all we are capable of being – fully human, humble and loving. In this wilderness story we see our own struggle to be true to what is in our hearts. Becoming and being fully human is our shared vocation. In all my conscious moments I make a choice. I choose which wolf to feed. That choice determines my own spirituality – imitating Christ—“the good wolf” or imitating the dominant culture in which the bad wolf / “the false self” is so apparently at work in our world.

Each year this wilderness text from one of the gospels, guides us into the season of Lent. That is done for a reason. We all need to be reminded of “the battle of two wolves inside us. One is evil. The other is good. The wolf that wins is the one you feed.” In this year of utter surprise and growing chaos and confusion, the “bad

wolf" –(my false self) begs me to feed it. My "false self" goads me to be afraid, anxious and angry. The forty days of Lent provide space in which to intentionally feed "the good wolf" by embracing my "true self," my spiritual self, my Christ self. AMEN!