

## CHRIST LUTHERAN TO CELEBRATE “FAT TUESDAY”

by Collecting Food for the Stoughton Food Pantry

by Pastor Paula Geister-Jones

Did you know that “Mardi Gras” is French for “Fat Tuesday”? It comes from the tradition of slaughtering and feasting upon the fatted calf the day before Lent begins. With Lent came a 40-day fast during which Catholics, in particular, gave up meat. Mardi Gras has also been called Carnival, and “carnival” comes from the Latin words *carne vale*, meaning “farewell to the flesh.”

It is not a Lutheran tradition to give up anything or “fast” during Lent. The Ash Wednesday liturgy encourages us to focus instead on “acts of love.” So on Sunday, **February 19**, everyone in the congregation is encouraged to bring a bag full of groceries for the Stoughton Food Pantry. Decorated paper bags will be handed out on Sunday, February 5 and Sunday, February 12. We encourage all to join in the celebration.

How much food we will collect? I went on Google and to begin with asked for the heaviest people on record. Weighing that much is just not healthy, so I asked for the “biggest losers” on record. A woman named Rosalie Bradford at one time weighed 1,200 pounds. She lost 917 pounds. She holds the Guinness World Record for most weight lost by a woman. The all-time record holder for a man was Jon Brower Minnoch. He weighed 1,400 pounds and lost 920 pounds. Let’s set a goal of collecting **920 pounds** and see how close we get. We will have a scale at church, so as the food comes in that day, it can be weighed by members of the Social Concerns Ministry Team!



### MARDI GRAS at CHRIST LUTHERAN

Sunday, February 19

3:00-6:00 p.m.

Tickets: 3 for \$1.00

### FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!



Here is a list of a few of the games...

- Cross the Red Sea with Moses Cake Walk (3:00 p.m. until the cakes are gone). Music will be provided by Max Kapfer, one of the members of the O.K. Band and Singing Santas. This is one of our most popular games.
- In Jail with Paul and Silas (another one of our most popular games)
- The Match Game with Noah
- Get Wet with John the Baptist Balloon Tank
- Jonah’s Beanbag Toss
- Good Samaritan Game: Pin the Bandage on the Wounded Man
- Leap for the Lord Potato Sack Races
- Bible Bingo
- Wise Guy Bible Trivia and Pictionary with Wise Guy Balloon Hats as a prize
- Crafts with Crafty Jacob
- Samson Knocks Down the Philistines Bowling Game
- Minnow Races with Luther
- **2 Bounce Houses** with Joseph
- The Empty Tomb Beanbag Toss, The Ten Commandments Tic-Tac-Toss and an Old Testament Scavenger Hunt (**New**)
- Esther’s Beauty Parlor



Some of your favorite foods will be served, like cotton candy, slushies, brats, hot dogs, walking tacos and cream puffs. This year we are adding **gumbo**, (a traditional Mardi Gras food) and **beignets** (a fried bread). We would like to invite everyone to come and join us for some good food!

**Youth and grown-ups:** Be on the lookout for sign-up sheets in the narthex. We need people to bake cakes and work the different games. Youth who sign up and work a shift will be rewarded with \$10 off our trip to the Kalahari on Monday, February 27. Thank you!