



THE EPISTLE

Volume 11 Issue 1

St Paul Lutheran Church

January 2012

ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING JANUARY 22, 2012 FOLLOWING THE SERVICE

Mark your calendars and plan on attending this very important meeting. The agenda will include election of council members & call committee members, and annual committee reports, along with various other items.

“UNDER CONSTRUCTION”

Watch this page for new and exciting articles in future issues!





Women of the ELCA — St. Paul Unit

Wednesday— **Jan. 11, 2012 — 1:00 pm** in the church lounge

To Follow and Serve: The Gospel of Mark

Confessing Christ

‘I believe; help by unbelief!’ Mark 9:24

*** In case of inclement weather, please call the church office for cancellation notice. ***

St. Paul Youth Group



All youth in grades 6 through 12

On Sunday Dec. 11th, the combined Middle and Senior High Youth Group celebrated with dinner and some Christmas games and fun. We took time to bid a silly and serious *farewell* to Pastor Brian. Our silly endeavor was to try to ‘build’ a gingerbread house on his FACE! The building project failed but we did a great job ‘icing’ and decorating him. During the serious time, the youth presented Pastor Brian with memories of their experiences with him, which were put together in a scrapbook. Pastor Brian then shared his individual memories of each youth group member. *“Thank you!”* to Brenda Stiles for preparing the Memory Book!

Next Meetings:



Saturday, Dec. 31—Sunday, Jan. 1 — Middle School LOCK-IN!!
8 pm New Years Eve — 10 am worship Sunday morning New Years Day



Youth Gathering Attendees and High School: Sunday, Jan. 8

5-7 pm

News from Council

The St. Paul Congregational Council met Thursday, December 8th and would like to share the following highlights with you:

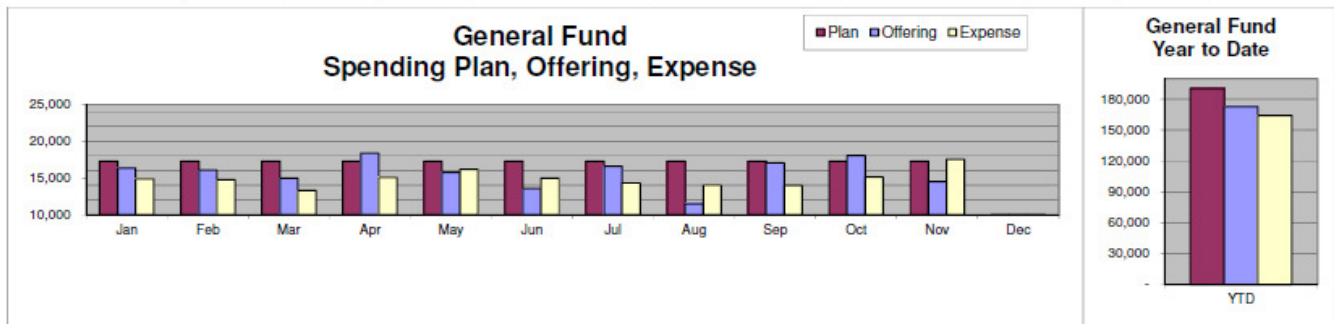
- The council voted to ask Chaplain Matthew Riegel to serve as interim pastor. The details of the agreement are in the minutes.
- The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on January 22nd, 2012, immediately following the worship service. In case of inclement weather, the meeting will be held on January 29th. Committee chairs should turn in their reports to the church office by early January.
- At the annual meeting, the congregation will be asked to respond to questions about what we need in our next pastor. These responses will be collated and included in the paperwork that we must submit to the synod before the bishop can begin the call process. Please attend the meeting so your voice can be heard.
- At the annual meeting, the congregation must elect six members to the call committee and three new council members. Council members will be asking people to serve. Please be open to the call and consider it prayerfully if you are asked.

Treasurer's Report

November 2011

St Paul Lutheran Church Plan and Expense (General)

	2010 Year												
	End	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
General	7,224	8,211	9,862	11,644	14,644	14,505	13,374	15,765	15,808	16,068	19,065	17,438	-
Restricted													
Regular	17,578	16,650	17,008	16,692	18,304	17,197	16,942	16,982	14,798	16,768	17,433	17,933	
Special	4,155	4,485	4,485	5,818	5,818	5,530	5,856	5,856	6,181	6,281	6,373	6,370	
Standing	38,778	37,512	38,519	39,710	38,747	38,248	36,999	37,659	29,389	35,879	38,985	45,364	
Use of Church	278	655	705	831	957	1,082	1,307	1,437	1,562	1,687	1,812	2,077	
	60,789	59,302	60,718	63,051	63,826	62,058	61,104	61,933	51,931	60,615	64,603	71,744	-
Bank Balance (Ce	74,189	67,513	70,580	74,695	78,470	76,562	74,479	77,699	67,739	76,682	83,668	89,182	
Plan		17,314	17,314	17,314	17,314	17,314	17,314	17,314	17,314	17,314	17,314	17,314	
Offering		16,364	16,066	14,991	18,369	15,739	13,553	16,629	11,486	17,066	18,064	14,512	
Expense		14,900	14,782	13,338	15,068	16,175	14,965	14,335	14,068	13,960	15,156	17,548	



2011 Average Sunday Offering	3,677.45	2011 Average Sunday Offering	3,677.45
011 Projected Average Sunday Offering (Spending Plan)	4,052.23	2011 Average Weekly Expense	3,495.67
	(375)		182
October Offering in excess of Expense	(3,036)	General Fund Balance	17,438
YTD Offering in excess of Expense	8,543	Average Offering 2004 - 2010	3,631

THE GREEN CORNER: (Industry) Government vs. Citizens

The past Sept. 26, the U.S. House of Representatives Natural Resources Committee, Subcommittee on Energy and Mineral Resources, held an ‘oversight field hearing’ in Charleston, WV. This event, staged at taxpayers expense, was titled ‘Jobs at Risk: Community Impacts of the Obama Administrations Effort to Rewrite the Stream Buffer Zone Rule.’; That we should pay the politicians to come to our state capital to equate jobs with stream water protection and community life is a no-brainer they’re representing the fossil fuel industry and clean water streams are interfering with coal production.

The 10 hearing witnesses predictability included members of West Virginia and Ohio coal associations, a CONSOL executive, a speaker for the ‘Mountaintop Mining Coalition’ and officials from WV, VA, WY environmental protection agencies and our states own trio—Earl Ray Tomblin, Shelley Moore Capito, Joe Manchin, who joined in bashing regulations of coal industry, ignoring completely the growing body of scientific studies on the staggering human health impacts of mountaintop removal coal mining. But citizens groups such as Earth-justice and the Sierra Club contacted Rep. Ed Markey (D.-Mass.) for input from the House Natural Resources Committee and two people were added to the list of speakers—OVEC organizer, Maria Gunnoe and Coal River Mountain Watch volunteer Bo Webb (not included with on-stage panelists. A congressional aid tried to stop filmmaker Mari-Lyn Evans but she stood by her right to film a public hearing in a public building.

The original stream protections were put into place in 1983 by President Reagan in a rule call the ‘stream buffer zone rule’ which prohibited surface coal mining activities from disturbing areas within 100 feet of streams, promised Appalachians that their vital waters would be protected from industry destruction. But responsible agencies failed to enforce this rule for many years. When citizens attempted to enforce the rule, Pres. George W. Bush, in a final favor to the coal industry in his outgoing moments as president, repealed it in a midnight regulation. The Obama administration has promised to restore the stream protections by proposing a new ‘Stream Protection Rule; and finalizing it in 2012. Thus the present House Natural Resources Committee decided to oppose this proposed new protection rule and see public support by calling this Charleston ‘hearing’ to justify mountaintop removal.

Gunnoe told the subcommittee that we are poisoning our water and our air for electricity. Jobs (what few are needed) in surface mining are dependent on blowing up the next mountain (including historic Blair) and burying the next stream. ‘When will we say enough is enough?’ She later asked, ‘How could anyone say that these temporary jobs is worth the permanent displacement of our people and the destruction of their waters, mountains and culture?’ Shouts of ‘shame on you’ rang out when Subcommittee Chair (Ohio) and Rep. Bill Johnson (Ohio) refused to ask questions of Gunnoe but lobbed softball questions at the other panelists. Rep. Markey wrote a letter to OSM (office surface mining) Director Joseph Pizarchik noting the OSM has failed to establish national standards to protect offsite areas despite a clear mandatory statue to do so. The neighboring areas are impacted by spread of coal dust causing serious respiratory ailments, increased levels of selenium, heavy metals, salinity, suspended solids in nearby streams, degrading water quality and threatening drinking water supplies.

The subcommittee press release summarized each speaker but gave no mention of Gunnoe or Bo Webb, speaker for Coal River Mountain Watch. Both Gunnoe and Webb put the whole issue of water protections into perspective. Their testimonies made any attempt to block clean water in Appalachia as unconscionable. Lives are depending on stronger protections. Citizen Action: Contact Sen. Manchin/Rep. Capito/Gov. Tomblin to REINSTATE STREAM BUFFER ENFORCEMENT RULE!

FROM THE PIECEMAKERS: As the year is growing to a close, I am starting to realize, that even with the economy supposedly doing poorly, the Piecemakers quilting group has had a record year. We have sent out more quilts than we could have ever dreamed. Most of them were to Lutheran World Relief, but a good many to local charities as well. We have made about 180 quilts and about 20 lap robes, that is indeed quite an accomplishment for such a small group. The reasoning is that everyone gives as much of their time as possible. We are talking a well deserved break, for the next two weeks over the Christmas and New Year. Through God's grace and the congregations help, we will be able to do so. Please keep us in your prayers. We hope everyone can have a good New Year.



**OFFERING ENVELOPES FOR 2012
ARE IN THE NARTHEX.
PLEASE PICK YOURS UP AFTER THE SERVICE!**

Prayer, Praise, and Thanksgiving

The Prayer List for St. Paul

In The Small Catechism, Martin Luther writes: The Second Commandment: You are not to misuse the name of your God. What is this? Answer: We are to fear and love God, so that we do not curse, swear, practice magic, lie, or deceive using God's name, but instead use that very name in every time of need to call on, pray to, praise, and give thanks to God. Following this command to call on God's name in every situation, we list her intercessions to be lifted up in the midst of our congregation's worship.

Person for whom we intercede:

Marty Ferer
Ann Cloonan
Virginia Harris
Paul Harmon
Joe Shibley
Wade Kilmer
Tom Jubar
Jim Tucker
Ruth Gladfelter
Alana Mears
Michael Frownfelter
Karen Starkey
Alana Mears
Bill Buseman
Buseman Family
Arnold Eddy Family
Jan Malaikal

For what we are praying:

Melanoma
Illness
Health concerns
Eye surgery
Heart & kidney
Illness
Cancer
Parkinson's
Fall
Lyme disease
OCD
Cancer
Lyme disease
Died/entered the church at rest
Comfort in the midst of grief
Comfort in the midst of grief
Deployed Afghanistan

SERVING ST. PAUL January 2012	LAY ASSISTANTS	LECTORS	ACOLYTE-CRUCIFER	USHERS	NURSERY WORKERS	COUNTERS
1st 10:00 AM	M. Haas	F. Riegel	S. Werntz G. Riegel	Lee Paulson D & S Lynch	D. Borrelli L. Cushing	T. Riegel S. Leonard
8th 10:00 AM	M. Sampson	S. Price	Emily Stiles A Grosso	L. Springer G & K Kullman	Peters Family	L. Springer S. Price
15th 10:00 AM	S. Woodruff	S Kirkpatrick	AJ Bartlett S. Bartlett	E & CC Melby T & F Potter	A Carver	M. Bartlett B. Graham
22nd 10:00 AM	D. Borrelli	B. Stiles	Katie Smith Kyle Smith	LA Hartley P. Smith Kevin Smith	Gillen Family E. Stiles	K. Gillen D. Borrelli
29th 10:00 AM	M. Sampson	B. Peters	B. Peters S. Peters	K. Powell J & S McCulla	M L Bennett A Grosso	C. Toffle K. Powell

ALL WORSHIP ASSISTANTS: If you and/or your family know of dates you will be away from St. Paul - PLEASE - contact Debby Borrelli (304-292-1455 or jleku@comcast.net) with those dates. (Worship schedules are due by the 18th of the previous month; i.e. the Sept. schedule will be finished by Aug. 18th, etc.) Also, the church office always has my contact information.



**Deadline for next
month's newsletter
is the January 18th!!!**

**If you cannot serve, please find your
replacement! Thanks!!**

January 2012

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
1 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service	2	3	4	5	6 10:00 AM Piecemakers	7																																																																																																		
8 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service 5:00 PM Youth Group	9	10 10:00 AM Bible Study	11 1:00 PM WELCA 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	12 7:00 PM Council Meeting	13 10:00 AM Piecemakers	14																																																																																																		
15 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service	16	17 10:00 AM Bible Study	18 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	19	20 10:00 AM Piecemakers	21																																																																																																		
22 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service 6:30 PM Gather Bible Study Congregational Meeting following Service	23	24 10:00 AM Bible Study	25 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal	26	27 10:00 AM Piecemakers	28 Circle of Friends																																																																																																		
29 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service Circle of Friends	30 8:00 AM LMM (Shoney's)	31 10:00 AM Bible Study	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Dec 2011</th> <th colspan="7">Feb 2012</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td>31</td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Dec 2011							Feb 2012							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3				1	2	3	4	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	26	27	28	29			
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ST PAUL LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Morgantown WV 26505



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Officers Of The Congregation

President: Connie Toffle
Vice President: Larry Springer
Secretary: Tamara Riegel
Treasurer: Dave Stiles
Financial Secretary: Sandy Price

Council Members

Grethe Myles	Larry Springer	Connie Toffle
Connie Toffle	Kevin Gillen	Lee Paulson
Tamara Riegel	LuAnn Hartley	Misti Bartlett
	Emily Stiles	