



THE EPISTLE

Volume 8 Issue 3

St Paul Lutheran Church

March 2009

LENTEN VESPERS

WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT 7:00 PM

MARCH 4

MARCH 11

MARCH 18

MARCH 25

APRIL 1

**THERE WILL BE A LENTEN DINNER
AT 6:00 PM EACH WEDNESDAY PRIOR TO VESPERS.**

THE FOLLOWING ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE LENTEN DINNERS:

DATE

MARCH 4

MARCH 11

MARCH 18

MARCH 25

APRIL 1

GROUP RESPONSIBLE

SOCIAL ISSUES — DEBBY BORRELLI

CHOIR — BETH DAMEIER

COUNCIL — CONNIE TOFFLE

PIECEMAKERS — RENATE STRAKAL

WELCA — KAY VANDENBOSCHE

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS



March 8th: Linus blanket making service activity. We will have a light lunch following the service. Sandwiches will be provided, please bring a small contribution such as fruit, vegetables, drinks, cookies, etc. For each blanket, bring 1 1/2 yards fleece (2 yards for a teen blanket), sewing scissors, yardstick and ruler.

March 21st: Christian Education committee meeting, 10 AM. Anyone is welcome to attend.

April 11th: Holy Saturday event for the Sunday School, 1 PM. Easter crafts, service project and Easter egg hunt!!

Watch future bulletins and upcoming newsletters for more information! If you have any questions, please see Tamara Riegel.

Attention Married Couples: Time is running out to register for the April 17-19 Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend at the Olmsted Mansion and Retreat Center in Ludlow, PA. The facility would like a count by early March, so please register as soon as possible. Weekends are designed for the enrichment of ALL MARRIAGES, and all costs are covered by a \$45.00 per couple registration fee plus a confidential contribution of whatever amount you choose that you are given the opportunity to make at the end of the weekend. If you have questions or would like a brochure with registration form mailed to you, contact Fred & Julie Chamber, Western PA Chair-couple at: fjschamber@comcast.net or phone 724-325-3166, or please go to the national website: www.GodLovesMarriage.org for more information or to reg-



There are still many dates open on the flower chart in the narthex. If you would like to remember someone, commemorate a special occasion, or just give to the Glory of God, please make your selection. If you have any questions, please call the church office.

PLEASE, PLEASE, PLEASE, if you are using the church make sure that all doors are closed tightly and locked. We are still finding doors left unlocked or partly ajar. Your help is greatly appreciated.



FROM THE CHAPEL:

During this Lent, we remind our brothers and sisters that additional worship opportunities can be found at the Chapel.

Sunday

—Mass, 7:00 PM

—Compline (night prayer), 9:00 PM

Wednesday

—Sext (midday prayer), 12:30 PM (followed by a light lunch)

Thursday

—Compline (night prayer) 9:45 PM

Please note that the Chapel is closed for spring recess (March 14-21)

During spring recess, the Lutheran Disaster Response Collegiate Corps will deploy to Kentucky to assist with ice storm recovery. If you are over the age of 18 (no need to be a college student) and interested in participating, please contact Chaplain Riegel ASAP (304-680-5388) for more information.

Gregorian chant returns during Holy Week. If you are interested in joining the Schola to sing compline in Latin, please contact Chaplain Riegel (ASAP).

EASTER FOOD BASKETS

Recently St. Paul members and friends donated money and food to feed families in need over Thanksgiving and Christmas. Not just one or two families but 30 families during Thanksgiving and 30 families at Christmas, 60 total families! This proved what we all know, that St. Paul is truly a very thoughtful and giving congregation.



Let's continue this act of charity for Easter and donate money or food for Easter baskets.

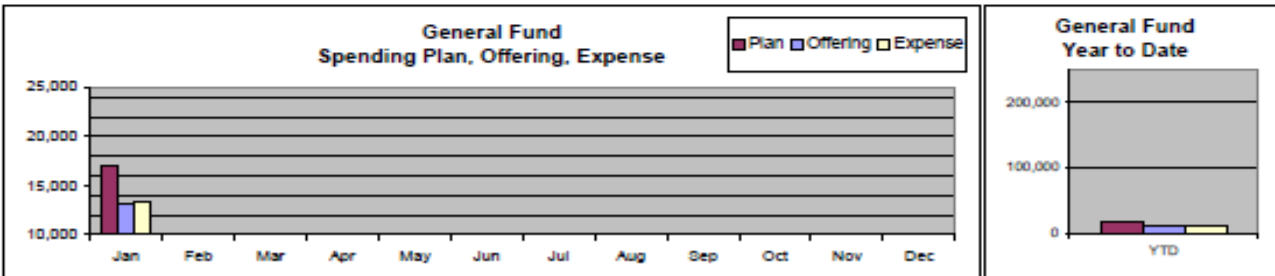
If you would like to donate money, please put any cash or checks in an envelope marked Easter Baskets and place the envelope in the offering. If you would like to donate food please bring food to the church on or before Sunday, March 29th. Any canned food is acceptable. Leave the food in the narthex.

If you have any questions, please call the church office.

Treasurer's Report

St Paul Lutheran Church Statement of Revenue and Expense with Spending Plan

January 2008	January				Year to Date			Year to Date	
	General Fund	Spending Plan	+/- of Plan Rec'd-Spent	% of Plan Rec'd-Spent	General Fund to Date	Total Plan to Date	% of Plan Rec'd-Spent	Restricted Fund	Total Funds to Date
Support and Revenue									
Contributions	13,079	17,113	(4,034)	76%	13,079	17,113	76%	1,196	13,079
Designated/Restricted								1,196	1,196
Total Assets	13,079	17,113	(4,034)	76%	13,079	17,113	76%	1,196	14,274
Expenses									
Designated/Restricted		0				0		2,085	2,085
Congregational Council	0	0			0	0		0	0
Benevolence	0	2,600	(2,600)	0%	0	2,600	0%	0	0
Church Mortgage	563	580	(17)	0%	563	580	97%	0	563
Committee - Christian Education	510	488	23	105%	510	488	105%	0	510
Committee - Fellowship	21	234	(213)	9%	21	234	9%	0	21
Committee - Staff Support	0	30	(30)	0%	0	30	0%	0	0
Committee - Outreach	384	706	(322)	54%	384	706	54%	0	384
Committee - Property	16	167	(161)	9%	16	167	9%	0	16
Committee - Resource	0	600	(600)	0%	0	600	0%	0	0
Committee - Stewardship	0	100	(100)	0%	0	100	0%	0	0
Committee - Worship & Music	300	1,048	(748)	29%	300	1,048	29%	0	300
Insurance	877	801	78	109%	877	801	109%	0	877
Building Operation	1,938	2,766	(828)	70%	1,938	2,766	70%	0	1,938
Office Operation	371	384	(13)	97%	371	384	97%	0	371
Parish Communications	298	235	83	127%	298	235	127%	0	298
Payroll	8,011	9,102	(1,092)	88%	8,011	9,102	88%	0	8,011
Total Expenses	13,288	19,841	(6,562)	87%	13,288	19,841	87%	2,085	16,374
Excess of Support and Revenue Over Expenses	(210)	(2,728)	2,518		(210)	(2,728)		(890)	(1,099)



Two Options for Today's Parishioners:

NEW - Electronic Giving Program

Traditional - Parish Envelope Program

A New Way to Give

Our church is embracing a giving option that may be more convenient for many of our parishioners - Electronic Giving. Beginning in January, this new giving option will work in the same manner as mortgages, loans payments, or insurance premiums that are automatically withdrawn from your checking or savings account.

To sign up for this new giving option and have your donations transferred electronically to the church account on a regular basis, please fill out an authorization form and return it to the church office. You choose the donation frequency (weekly or monthly) and the donation amount for each fund you wish to support.

Important Benefits of Electronic Giving

Electronic Giving makes life easier for you and yields very significant benefits for our church.

Benefits for You:

- The satisfaction of giving to God first
- Easier to fulfill stewardship commitments
- Strengthens participation and support in the church

- Allows you to contribute even when you're away
- Easier personal budgeting
- More secure than bringing cash or checks to church

Benefits for our Church:

- Cultivates consistent giving
- More predictable cash flow for better planning
- Less work for office staff
- Secure and easy cash maintenance

Traditional Choices Remain

All registered parishioners will continue to receive envelopes, including envelopes for special collections for a variety of needs. Parish collections will be taken each week as usual. Participants in the Electronic Giving program are asked to mark their envelopes "EFT" and place them in the collection basket.

If you do not currently use envelopes, please consider participating in either our envelope program or the Electronic Giving program. Our parish needs your consistent support.

News from Council

The St. Paul Congregational Council met Thursday, February 12th, and we wish to share some of the highlights with you.

- New officers for the year 2009 were elected and are as follows: Larry Springer, President; Bill Graham, Vice-President; Tamara Riegel, Secretary, Dave Stiles, Treasurer, and Sandy Price, Financial Secretary.
- Giving for the month of January was very low. We did not meet our January Plan or expenses for the month.
- The Youth Group Spaghetti Dinner has been changed to Sunday, March 15. Dinners will be served and available for take-out following the service. St. Paul T-Shirts will also be available for purchase. Please come out and support the Youth Group—all proceeds help with their trip to New Orleans.



FROM THE PIECEMAKERS:

Sometimes when a project is going smoothly we take things for granted until we get a little boost from hearing some good news. We heard that the Afghan National Army presented quilts and kits to 200 orphans. Lutheran World Relief reports that they shipped 1,455 tons of quilts and kits to over 740,000 people in 27 countries. Individuals sewed 455,798 quilts. As needs increase across the world, we pray that groups will continue to donate quilts to Lutheran World Relief as a tangible sign of God's love. We at St. Paul are blessed to be part of this mission in a small way thanks to our congregational support and the diligent work of our small quilting group. We hope through God's grace that we can continue to carry on with our mission. We are getting ready to send some quilts to the warehouse in New Windsor very soon!!

WELCA NEWS: The next meeting of the Women of the ELCA will be March 11th at 2-4 p.m. in the church lounge. All women are invited.

Plans are being made for the Annual Walk for Alzheimer's to be held Saturday, April 18th. It is suggested that you start organizing a team to walk representing our church. The usual envelopes for the collection of our donation will appear in the hymnals on March 15th. We have contacted Thrivent for Lutherans. They will again give us matching funds. Watch for more details which will appear in the Sunday bulletins and the April newsletter.

WELCA has agreed to sponsor the Wednesday Lenten Soup supper on April 1st. Everyone is invited to share the fellowship and food.

THE GREEN CORNER

Earth Ministry — What Is It?



Earth Ministry members know what the pundits do not know. We know that God is greater than any crisis in this anxiety-producing times. It is our faith that sustains us, the gifts of our community that uplifts us, and the grace and beauty of the earth that empowers us.

Earth Ministry members put faith into action through prayer, though simple acts of stewardship, and by continuing to share our God-given gifts with others. Apostle Paul provides us guidance as he calls on us: “not to be haughty, or set hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for

our enjoyment. We are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up the treasures of a good foundation for the future, so that we may take hold of the life that really is life” — 1 Timothy 6:17-19.

Although Earth Ministry headquarters is located far in the Northwest in Washington State, its membership (with very active Lutheran delegates) continues to grow and partners from various Christian, Jewish, and Islamic traditions share what their faiths say about environmental protection and global warming.

Their Greening Congregations Program continues to grow when 4 new churches—Grace Episcopal, Wesley United Methodist, Woodland Park Presbyterian and First Presbyterian joined 18 other congregations (including Lutheran) to become formal partners.

They sponsor book reviews by prominent presenters on clean energy economy and speak at evangelical conferences, joined with the National Council of Churches and the Toxic Free Legacy Coalition to engage more people of faith in healthy, non-toxic living and trained volunteers to take information about toxics and environmental health back to home congregations. They hold week-long wilderness retreats at Holden Village, a Lutheran retreat center.

Besides a wide diversity of programs, Earth Ministry has launched Washington Interfaith Power and Light as a religious response to climate change. (Our neighboring state of Pennsylvania also launched an Interfaith Power and Light Conference in Pittsburgh 2 years ago.) Power and Light now has 28 states and outreach to Jewish, Muslim, Buddhist, Baha’i, other faith communities. Interfaith Power and Light work falls into 2 main categories: energy conversation/carbon reduction for congregations, and climate decay, to help communities implement greenhouse gas strategies.

All faiths share one atmosphere, one sky, one future for earth’s children. Together we can say no to a culture of fear and scarcity, and yes to an abundant life that celebrates God’s gifts.

Should you wish to support Earth Ministry or seek membership which includes informative Earth Letters, visit www.earthministry.org or call (206)632-2426.

Prayer Corner

One of the most important things we can do for others is to pray for them, not just generally, but especially for particular needs and interests that they have. . . "The great intercessors remain the men and women of secret influence in all communities, and to be mentioned in their prayers is incomparably more enriching than to be mentioned in their wills. (W.E. Sangster)

Please pray for those in need. We ask you to include:

Illness

Lois Kleeb
Ron Fortney
Madge Hall
Jared Schreiman
Audrey DeBritz
Jan Green
Jen Nestor
Fred Stouffer
Bob Snyder
Alana Mears
Karen Ford
Norma Gnegy
Jeffrey Cheney
Linda & Kristen Kleeb
Tom & Betty Kelso
Phil Quarrier
Philip Smith
Ron Fortney
Charlie Wodzinski
Wil Gladfelter
Ann Cloonan
Ken Anderson
Jeremiah Bennett
Carolyn Walters
Doug Wade
Laura Bender
Florence Merow
Barbara Kervaski

Home Bound

Mary Hutchinson
James Sharkey
Virginia Sweitzer
Rilla Tonon

Grief

The family of:

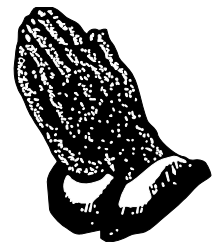
Recuperation Active Duty

Sierra Gabbert
Rob Walters
Brian Fox
Jason Glass
Jay Pratt

Wedding

Family Concerns

St. Mark's Lutheran
Clarksburg, WV
Grace Lutheran
Fairmont, WV



ALL ARE WELCOME

HELP MAKE BLANKETS
FOR

PROJECT LINUS

SUNDAY, MARCH 8 (after the service)

**Fixin's for sandwiches will be provided.
Please bring a dish to share**

To make one blanket, you will need:

**1 1/2 yard lengths juvenile print polar fleece
(60" wide)**

Yard stick and 12" ruler

Sharp fabric scissors

St. Paul will be giving all the blankets made to Project Linus

Project Linus is a non-profit organization of volunteers who make blankets that are given to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or in otherwise in need because of substantial stress in their lives.

YOUTH GROUP:

Youth Group Meeting — March 8th - AFTER WORSHIP (note special time)

The Youth Group will join with the Sunday School for the Project Linus Day after worship on March 8th. See Sunday School Handouts for details.

**St Paul Lutheran Youth Group presents a
Spaghetti Dinner
Fundraiser**

Sunday, March 15, 2009

Lunch served following the service

St Paul Fellowship Hall

Help send our Youth Group to the National Convention this July with a suggested donation of \$5.00/adult \$3.00/child

For advanced tickets:

Please see any Youth Group member for tickets today!

**2009 ELCA Youth Gathering
New Orleans, LA**

Vesper Leaders:

7:00 PM

March 4	Geoff Groce
March 11	Beth Dameier
March 18	Debby Borrelli
March 25	Jared Lee

SERVING ST. PAUL March 2009	LAY ASSISTANTS	LECTORS	ACOLYTE-CRUCIFER	USHERS	NURSERY WORKERS	COUNTERS
1st 10:00 AM	M. Haas	S. Armstrong	K. Smith M. McCulla	LA Hartley K. Powell L & L Paulson	M. Bott-Hansmann S. Hollar	K. Powell LA Hartley
8th 10:00 AM	D. Borrelli	B. Stiles	J. Borelli P. Cushing	J & S McCulla G & K Kullman	S. Rizzo J. Graham	P. Cushing S. Gabbert
15th 10:00 AM	J. Lee	M. Kirkpatrick	M. Bott-Hansmann E. Graham	C. Henry ML Cushing P. Smith L. Springer	K. Custer M. L. Bennett	S. Price J. Borrelli
22nd 10:00 AM	S. Woodruff	S. Leonard	K. Custer E. Custer	T & F Potter B & J Schreiman	A. Grosso McCulla Family	C. Henry M. Bartlett
29th 10:00 AM	M. Sampson	E. Melby	A. Grosso AJ Bartlett	E & C Melby S. Lynch S. Armstrong	J. Graham Ford-Werntz Family	L. Paulson C. Toffle

If you are unable to serve please find your own replacement. Thank you!

March 2009 Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
1 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service 11:45 AM Confirmation Class Linus Blanket Making	2	3 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:30 PM Jesus Over Java	4 7:00 PM Vespers Choir (after Vespers)	5	6 10:00 AM Piecemakers	7	
8 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service	9	10 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:30 PM Jesus Over Java	11 2:00 PM WELCA 7:00 PM Vespers Choir (after Vespers)	12 7:00 PM Council Meeting	13 10:00 AM Piecemakers	14	
15 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service 11:45 AM Confirmation Class	16	17 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:30 PM Jesus Over Java	18 7:00 PM Vespers Choir (after Vespers)	19	20 10:00 AM Piecemakers	21 10:00 AM Christian Ed Meeting	
22 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service	23	24 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:30 PM Jesus Over Java	25 7:00 PM Vespers Choir (after Vespers)	26	27 10:00 AM Piecemakers	28 Circle of Friends	
29 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:00 AM Service 11:45 AM Confirmation Class Circle of Friends	30 8:00 AM LMM (Shoney's)	31 10:00 AM Bible Study 7:30 PM Jesus Over Java					

April						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

February						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

ST PAUL LUTHERAN
CHURCH

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Morgantown WV 26505



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Officers Of The Congregation

President: Larry Springer
Vice President: Bill Graham
Secretary: Tamara Riegel
Treasurer: Dave Stiles
Financial Secretary: Sandy Price

Council Members

Bill Graham	Larry Springer	Connie Toffle
Robert Zay	Steve Gabbert	Bruce Schreiman
Tamara Riegel	Lu Ann Hartley	Misti Bartlett