

“Epistle” *March 2008*

St. Paul’s Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Our Clergy:

Pastor:

The Rev. Timothy Sadler

Visitation Pastor:

The Rev. Dr. Robert Seibold

Missionaries:

The Rev. Chad & Natalie Rimmer

Our Presiding Bishop:

The Rev. Mark S. Hanson

Our Synodical Bishop:

The Rev. Penrose Hoover

Our Companion Synod:

The Konde Diocese of the Lutheran Church of Tanzania

Our Mission Partner Congregation:

Redeemer Lutheran, Harrisburg

Holy Communion is celebrated:

Sundays at 8 & 10:45 a.m.

Saturday at 5:15 p.m.

Wednesday at 7:30 a.m.

Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. Contemporary

Sunday Coffee Time at 9:15

Sunday School at 9:30 a.m.

Our staff :

Director of Music / Organist:

G. Wm. Hemminger, III

Administrative Asst.:

Patti Schuettler

Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator:

Nicholas Fox

Building & Grounds:

Donald Eppley

Altar Flowers

Altar flowers should be ordered each year, not just assumed to be near the same date each year. So any time you would like to order altar flowers please use one of the altar flower order forms enclosed or (available in the office), fill it out completely and return it to the office with your payment.

Epistle Deadline each Month

The deadline for all Epistle information and articles is the 15th of the previous month. That means that all information that you would like included in the August Epistle should be in by August 15th.. You may email information and articles to either:

stpauls@pa.net or
thereighards@pa.net

or place it in the "Epistle" mailbox slot in the office where all the Council mailboxes are.

Thank you.

Hearing Devices

Can't hear the pastor?

Our congregation provides wireless ear devices for those who need them. Individual earpieces fit in the ear. Please ask one of the ushers to help you if you need to use one of these devices.

Ushers: please familiarize yourself with the location and use of the hearing devices.

Telephone System Notes

When you call the church office (243-2319) and you would like to talk specifically to the Pastor, please press ext. 23. If he is not in, you may leave a confidential message on his voice mail.

You can do the same thing for:

Nick at ext. 24 or Patti at ext. 21.

(Note: For those who have rotary phones, this will not work.)

Assisting Ministers

Would you be interested in becoming an assisting minister? If so, please contact the church office and let us know or talk to Pastor Tim. Soon we will be having a training for new assisting ministers as well as a refresher for existing assistant ministers. Please prayerfully consider joining this important ministry for our church.

Worship Assistants

If you are interested in becoming one of our worship assistants please contact the church office at 243-2319.

Distribution assistants: pour the wine;

Lectors: read the lessons;

Greeters: help greet all those who attend worship and help hand out bulletins;

Communion helpers: wash the communion glasses after worship;

Ushers: hand out bulletins, collect the offerings, present the bread & wine, and clean up after the service.

Assisting Ministers: assist the pastor during the worship service; prayers of the church, distribute communion bread, etc.

There are many ways you can be an active assistant in our worship services and we can always use more help. Thank you for prayerfully considering being part of this important ministry.

Hospitalization and Pastoral Care

It is very important that someone contacts the church if you or another St. Paul's member is hospitalized. Hospitals no longer notify the church of admissions of church members. So please remember to have a family member or friend notify the church as soon as possible.

Altar Guild

Help is always needed for Altar set up on Sunday mornings before the 8:00 and 10:45 services. If you would like to help out with this important ministry, please call Lisa Adams at 249-3282.

Christian Education News

Christian Education

Invites you to join an adult Sunday School Class:

Study on Youth Development and Ministry

Dr. Holly Hoffman will present an adult Sunday School class titled "Adolescent Mental Development and Social Research about Youth: Implications for Christian Education" starting in January in Stock Hall during the regular 9:30 am Sunday School hour. A printed study guide with reading material will be provided. This course is primarily aimed at the parents of Catechism students, but is open to all those who deal with young people ... even grandparents! You are welcome to join us whenever you are able. The next dates will be:

Mar. 2, 16, and 13

Hot-Topics Adult Class

The adult Hot-Topics (or No-Name) Adult Sunday School Class will continue to meet in Stock Hall each Sunday morning at 9:30 a.m.

Pastor Tim's Class

Pastor Tim's Sunday School class continues to meet each Sunday morning at 9:30 in the choir room.

The Augsburg Class

The Augsburg Sunday School class led by Dave Boyles, continues to meet inside the courtyard door of Stock Hall. You are invited to join us any time.

Bible Study Notes

Pastor Tim's Bible Study

Pastor Tim's Bible Study class will continue to meet every Monday at 1:00 p.m. in the parlor, unless otherwise specified in the weekly Messenger or announcements.

Confirmation Class Projects

St. Paul's Confirmands are working hard on two community service projects and need your help:

- Clothing Drive: If you could assist our local agencies with new packages of underwear (any type or size), please leave them in the parlor.
- Easter Dinner Baskets for Project Share: the confirmands with the assistance of Circle #1, are working to make as many Easter Dinner baskets as possible. You can either bring in any item listed below or make a donation to the project for the goods to be purchased.

Canned pineapple
Box of Brown sugar
Canned Green Beans
Bag of Fresh Potatoes
Jello or Pudding
Can of Juice (any flavor)
Boxed Bread Mix
An Easter Card



Confirmation Service Project

It is optional to include a ham, and it is best if it does not require refrigeration (canned hams). Or a \$10. gift card for a ham at Giant or Weis would be nice. All items are needed by the end of February.

We are collecting all these things in the confirmation classroom above Stock Hall.

8:00 CHOIR

Choir rehearsal for the 8:00 traditional worship is from 7:15 -8:15 p.m. and the choir sings each week. Everyone is welcome to sing with this group that helps lead worship at the 8:00 Sunday morning assembly. If you are new to the group, please contact Bill Hemminger (776-7678 or BillHemminger@aol.com) so that he is able to have a folder of music ready for you at rehearsal. You are welcome to join at any time.

Fight Cancer

You can help fight cancer... right in your own backyard!

In 2008, the American Cancer Society Relay For Life® will bring together people in your community who've been touched by cancer. Relay, the Society's signature event, is a life-changing experience that helps us celebrate the lives of those who have battled cancer, remember loved ones lost, and to fight back against a disease that takes too much.

This year, the Relay For Life of Carlisle will take place May 30 & 31. It begins at 6 p.m. on Friday, May 30th, and continues through 6 p.m. on Saturday, May 31st, at the Carlisle High School track. I have participated on various teams over the years and look forward to have you, my St. Paul's church family, as my teammates and supporters this year.

This frightful affliction has trespassed into my family and it may not be a stranger to your loved ones either. Become a part of this amazing movement and help fight cancer! Please contact me to find out more and sign up to participate. I may be reached via e-mail: swise1030@yahoo.com, by phone: 243-0221 evenings; by church mailbox; or at Wednesday evening and Sunday morning 10:45 a.m. services.

Thank you for your support!

Susan Wise

Think Stephen Ministry

You are the front lines of caring ministry in our congregation. Throughout the week, as you meet and greet those around you, think Stephen Ministry. If you see persons who are downcast or struggling through difficult times, think Stephen Ministry. Tell them about this special ministry in our congregation where they can receive the extra love and care they need to make it through the challenge or crisis they are facing. To talk with one of our Stephen Ministry leaders contact Rachel Rhine at 243-3482 or Pastor Tim at 243-2319 ext. 23.

Blood Donations Report for March

For the last quarter, October through December we had 11 donors. This brought our total to 52 pints of blood donated in St. Paul's name for the year. A big thank you to all that gave for the year 2007. O hope all will continue to give this year. Central PA Blood Bank needs 275-300 pints of blood each day to meet the needs of the hospitals they supply in Central PA. Please note: Carlisle Regional Medical Center Donor Center has new Donor Center Hours:

Monday & Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Wednesday & Thursday from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Friday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Walnut Bottom Professional Center, 419 Village Dr. Suite 7, Carlisle 17015, (717) 960-3560.

Appointments recommended but walk-ins will be accepted.

Did you know that students over 16 years of age can now donate blood. That change was made in the fall. Please give if you are able. Thank you. If you have any questions, call me at 486-4470.

Doris Brion, chairperson



Habitat for Humanity

Dust off your hammers—Habitat for Humanity is back! And this time Thrivent Financial for Lutherans is stepping in to help out. Don & Pat Tack attended the kick-off meeting on February 24th and more details will follow as we move closer to Spring. Until then, we need to begin collecting pledges of our time and talents. See the list below for needed items and skills. The combined churches of the West Cumberland and West Shore Chapters also need to collect financial support—about \$9000.—\$12,000. We hope to begin building the house in the Newville area this spring and finish another home for a family in need by November.

Donations, Services, Gifts in kind needed:

1. Excavation—house site, driveway, septic
2. Gravel for driveway
3. Plumbing under slab
4. Cement pour for foundation slab
5. Drilling well
6. Lumber—framing
7. Lumber—sheathing—walls, roof
8. Lumber—sub-floor
9. Roofing -*Please note: Dwight West (Best Roofing) has already offered to donate the roofing materials and labor for installation for the roof on this house. Thank you Dwight !*
10. Rough wiring
11. Rough plumbing
12. Insulation –walls, ceiling
- 13., Heating system
14. Sheet rock
15. Hanging sheet rock
16. Spackling
17. Interior doors
18. . Priming walls & woodwork
19. Painting walls, woodwork, outdoor trim
20. Closets, doors, racks
21. Light fixtures
22. Kitchen cabinets
23. Bathroom cabinets
24. Finish wiring
25. Finish plumbing
26. Moldings

27. Bathroom shower/tubs, sinks
28. Storage shed –needed by framing day.
29. Landscaping-finish grading, seeding
30. Mail Box
31. Door bell
32. Foundation Plantings

If you would like to volunteer or donate any items please contact Don or Pat Tack at 486-7967.



A Little Something from the Witness & Outreach Committee

It's very exciting to be able to be a part of finding ways to reach out and share the love of Christ. Our most current project is recognizing and talking with visitors that attend our service. In accomplishing this mission, we are asking each of you to join in by welcoming those who are not familiar to you—the pew pads can help—check them out as you pass them back and forth.

We would love having any of you, who might be interested in the mission of this committee, join us.



Peanut Butter Egg Days

March:

Tues., 4, Sat., 8

Tues., 11, Thurs., 13 and

Sat., 15 the last day.

Tuesdays we begin at 1:00 p.m.

Thursdays and Saturdays we begin at 8:00 a.m.

Please come any time that you are able to help.

PB Egg Orders

Please get your “Easter” Peanut Butter Egg orders in as soon as possible so we know how many more we need at the end of the season! (Remember the last PB egg making day is Saturday, March 15.) Easter Sunday is March 23rd !!

Electronic Giving !

Open your heart without opening your checkbook

Electronic giving is an easier, more secure way to make your regular contributions to our church through automated giving.

Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you do other monthly drafts? If you travel this is particularly helpful in keeping up with your intended offerings, and it will keep you from having to make up the difference later.

Participants in the Electronic Giving Program can place Electronic Offering Cards in the offering basket if they would like, since the symbolic act of giving is an important part of stewardship in the church. (See sample below)

Reasons to sign up for Electronic Giving:

- No need to write checks or bring cash to church
- Peace-of-mind knowing that the church is receiving your contribution even if you are unable to attend.
- More secure than checks
- All contributions are recorded for you on your statement with date of settlement
- It costs you nothing!

SIGN UP TODAY

Authorization forms are available in the church office.

2008 Grand Tour of Poland

Nancy's Miller's trip to Poland last Fall was such a success she's decided to do it again. This year's trip will be the middle two weeks of September (approx. 10-25). Last Fall's cost in Poland was \$1600., which included absolutely everything! - all meals, 14 nights in 3 * hotels— double rooms with private baths, all guides and entrance fees. Airfares on Lufthansa was about \$1200., so the total was about \$2800. We will probably fly Polish LOT airlines which should be cheaper and non-stop to Warsaw.

We had 5five 2 night hotel stops, so it wasn't a "new pillow every night." We spent one night in a castle near Boleslawiec, home of the Polish pottery factories. We spent a morning at the main factory, shopping for pottery and touring the factory, seeing how they hand paint every piece. That evening a few of my Polish friends helped us to repack it for safe shipping.

We spent a morning at the birthplace of Pope John Paul II and an afternoon at Auschwitz. High waters prevented our raft trip on the Dunajec River, the border between Poland and Slovakia. So, we spent the day visiting a woodcarver's cottage, a woman who hand crochets the traditional wedding veil and other linens, the cottage of a man who makes the ancient mountain musical instruments, and a rustic smoke-house where they smoke the wonderful mountain sheep's cheese.

At Christmastime, I received a letter from one of the 2007 travelers and she said, "Poland is such a beautiful country and the people are so wonderful. I don't know why tour agencies don't send people there. It was one of my favorite trips." And, she'd a very seasoned traveler!

It's a very relaxing trip. If you are interested, please help yourself to a 2007 itinerary (the 2008 will be very similar) from the bulletin board in the mailbox hallway. Please contact me if you are interested in learning more. My phone # is 534-2934 and my email is ncmci@verizon.net

There will be a meeting sometime in April to give you more up to date information. For an even more personal account of last year's trip ask Alice & Ken Walsh.

Nancy Miller

A time to SHARE,
A time to LEARN,
A time to
DREAM

CONGREGATION COUNCIL
RETREAT

The Congregation Council, along with staff and members of the long range planning committee, met for a council retreat at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Gettysburg on Saturday, February 9th.

The day long retreat reminded me of the song "Turn, Turn, Turn" recorded and sung by the Byrds in 1962, and probably played at the dances held in the large Sunday School room under Stock Hall sponsored by the Luther League, a former name of St. Paul's youth group, every Saturday night in the mid 1960's.

In the song lyrics sung by the Byrds, "there is a time be born, a time to laugh, a time to heal, a time to weep...", and the song goes on about times for many different things. The retreat provided council members time. It was a time of great team-building that provided a **time for us to share** our ideas about our church, a **time for us to learn** to know each other better, and finally a **time for us to dream** about the future of our church and our ministries.

In the weeks to come you will be hearing more about this new "time". A committee is presently being formed which will be named the "Future Vision Committee" that will be looking into our future needs regarding our facilities and our ministries to enable us to continue to meet and expand our mission of

Gather to be fed + Offer our praise + Depart to serve.

Peace,
 Gary Nicholson
 President, Congregation Council

A Note from Fellowship

EASTER BREAKFAST

As we prepare for Easter and the time to rejoice in the risen Christ, we also look forward to celebrations that are part of this important festival. One of those celebrations is the annual Easter Breakfast.

This year the Fellowship committee is reaching out to all the members of St. Paul's to participate in both the event and the preparation. On Sunday, March 2, and Sunday, March 9, 2008, there will be a committee member in the parlor after each service to sign on volunteers to contribute a dish or a service. Please consider bringing a casserole, fruit, juice, or baked goods to share. If food preparation is not your thing, help in the kitchen or with clean-up is also welcomed. We know this is a busy time for all families, but this provides an opportunity for the St. Paul's family to enjoy a time between Easter Services for sharing and learning. It is always exciting to bring together all generations of the church family. Please plan to be part of these festivities



Easter Breakfast Volunteers Needed

Above there is an article about the annual Easter Breakfast. The Fellowship committee is asking congregation members to participate in this event by providing either food or help for the event. On March 2, and March 9 a committee member will be in the parlor after each service to sign on volunteers. Please consider bringing a dish or helping with preparation or clean up. Let's make this intergenerational event one of sharing and learning.



A blog from our missionary in Denmark

["To travel is to Live"...Have a Blessed Lent](#)

Grace and Peace to you all! February 6th, AshWednesday, ushers us into a new season of life together as God's people. The season of Lent will be upon us, and lead us through a 40 day season of preparation for Holy Week and Easter! Especially in an ecumenical congregation, Lent is many things...a time for focused prayer, worship, almsgiving, service, fasting, repentance, preparation, cleansing. But, the season of Lent is greater than the sum of these parts. It is most simply put, a journey. Our Scriptures teach us about the value and nature of this journey of faith through many lenses – Noah floating for 40 days, the Israelites wandering for 40 years, Jesus in the wilderness for 40 days. As a spiritual journey to discover what God was doing in their lives, they each made the journey. And along the way, each of them discovered something about God's calling for their life.

Noah discovered something about living in God's faithfulness. Moses discovered something about living out divine freedom. Jesus discovered the path for which he had been revealed. They each physically ended up in a different place – Noah on the side of a mountain across the sea, Moses in a new country, Jesus in a new town to begin his public ministry. Yes, during a divinely appointed season each of them went somewhere. But, more importantly, during the season, each of them became something.

Hans Christian Andersen wrote in "The Fairy Tale of My Life" that "to travel is to live". And indeed, for someone who struggled to travel the short distance from Odense to Copenhagen in his youth, he ended up spending 18 years of his adult life traveling to places like Amsterdam, Austria, Germany, Holland, Italy, Morocco, Norway, Portugal, Spain and Switzerland, which in the mid 1800s was a tremendous feat. It was during this time that so many of his fairy tales came to life, and the truth as Andersen was blessed to see it, was recorded through the images of life that left an indelible mark on his view of the world. In a sense, H.C. Andersen was blessed to make the journey due to his fame and the wealth of friends. And in these years, he certainly went somewhere. But more importantly, during this season of his life, he became something. And children's lives around the world are richer for it.

We live in a transient time, and as an international community, we experience travels more than most communities, whether our own one another's. Spanning the globe brings great joys and discoveries, and it also brings great struggles with our time and energy. In all of our comings and goings, the next 40 days, the season of Lent will provide us with a divinely appointed season to make a spiritual journey. We have the opportunity to travel extra miles in prayer as a group focusing on Spiritual disciplines, groups gathered in Bible Study, service through our Refugee Service or the collection of clothes for the women's shelter, youth meeting for fun and Christian education, each of us gathered together for worship and fellowship...all of these parts of our life exist to help us to make the spiritual journey. There is such value in making this journey, just like H.C. Andersen said, "to travel is to live". In making this intentional spiritual journey, we come alive, and discover God's still small voice calling us to follow.

Yes, for some of us, this faithful pursuit can be literally displacing. But for all of us, the Spirit is calling us to be transformed by the journey. This newsletter is packed with many opportunities to engage the journey during this month, and our congregation is packed with beautiful children of God to share the journey in faithful support. As we make the trip through this season, it is my prayer that, as a congregation as well as individually, we will not so much think about where we are going, but what we are becoming. And at the end of the journey, we can marvel at where we how far we have come.

May your Lent be blessed.

Peace, Pastor Chad Rimmer

Lutheran Volunteer Corps now seeking applications for 2008-2009

Lutheran Volunteer Corps is a full-time program that offers people a one-year opportunity for spiritual and personal exploration while working for social justice, living in intentional community and simplifying their lifestyles. Volunteers are matched with social ministries and non-profit organizations in Baltimore, MD; Wilmington, DE; Washington, DC; Chicago, IL; Milwaukee, WI; Minneapolis and St. Paul, MN; Seattle and Tacoma, WA; and the SF Bay Area, CA. Volunteers receive health insurance, time off for retreats and vacation, and a stipend to cover basic living and personal expenses. Most positions also qualify for student loan deferment and a \$4,725 AmeriCorps Education Grant.

Members of Lutheran Volunteer Corps unite their time and talents with the time and talents of society's marginalized people. LVC volunteers work in such areas as AIDS/HIV, addiction and recovery, anti-racism, children and youth, community development, education, employment, the environment, food and hunger, GLBT rights, health care, housing and homelessness, immigration and refugees, international solidarity, legal assistance, and peace. Most positions are entry level, requiring little or no previous experience except flexibility, a passion for social justice, and a sense of humor!

Finally, LVC is on a Journey to an Inclusive Community, forming and strengthening alliances among people of many cultures and communities, and intentionally dismantling racism within LVC, the church, and society. As a Reconciling in Christ organization, LVC welcomes and encourages the participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people in all aspects of LVC. LVC volunteers come from a wide variety of faith backgrounds, and do not need to be Lutheran to serve. Married and committed partners are welcome to apply. While there is no upper age limit, volunteers should be at least 21 to participate.

Application deadlines for the 2008-2009 program year are right around the corner! Applications are received on a rolling basis with the following deadlines: March 14 and May 1. Download an application today from www.LutheranVolunteerCorps.org/Volunteers.htm. Please contact Kelly Shinn, Recruitment Coordinator, at 202-387-3222 or Recruitment@LutheranVolunteerCorps.org with questions or for more information.

Bishop Hanson's 2008 Easter Message for newsletters and bulletins

"For you have died, your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory." (Colossians 3:3-4)

"You have died." The words resonate because this world's violence and suffering -- so pervasive, so needless, so relentless -- haunt every human community and life. Where death rules, hope lies entombed in endless grief.

Another death -- the crucifixion of Jesus -- changed everything. God is not hidden, but present through suffering, sorrow, and death. Jesus is God's resounding "yes!" to the steadfastness of God's forgiving love, embodied on a cross.

The death of Jesus shows no partiality. It was for all nations and all people -- for them, for you, for me. Your life is now with Christ. In baptism you have died. Hidden with Christ, no longer entombed in grief, your life carries the promise of glory. From that first day of resurrection onward, God has been raising up messengers of salvation, heralds of peace, and testifiers of the promised glory. You are a witness of the hope to come. Quite simply, Christ is your life, my life, our life. You have no other than this One who lives resurrected in you.

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Presiding Bishop, the Rev. Mark S. Hanson

Bible Study Opportunity At Camp Nawakwa

All are invited to attend a one day Bible Study Retreat: Blind Bartimaeus: Healed by God, led by Pastor Sarah Heintzelman at Nawakwa, Tuesday, March 4, 9:00am-4:30pm.

Pastor Heintzelman will use the study technique of Lectio Divina, along with conversation, to explore God's healing of humanity and our response as disciples.

Lunch will be provided by Nawakwa. Please call the Camping Office (717-677-8211) or email mdolly@lutherancamping.org by Friday, February 29 to register. A \$15 registration fee will be accepted upon arrival.

<http://www.lutherancamping.org>

WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
March—2008

March 1st & 2nd, 2008—Fourth Sunday in Lent—(Purple)

Saturday

5:15 P.M.—Holy Communion

Sunday

8:00 A.M.—Holy Communion &

10:45 A.M.—Holy Communion

Please read John 9: 1-41—The man born blind.

Wednesday—March 5th, 2008—(Purple)

7:30 A.M.—Holy Communion in the Parlor

6:00 P.M.—Contemporary Worship in Stock Hall

March 8th & 9th, 2008—Fifth Sunday in Lent — (Purple)

Saturday

5:15 P.M.—Holy Communion

Sunday

8:00 A.M.—Holy Communion & 10:45 A.M.—Holy Communion

Please read John 11: 1-45—The raising of Lazarus.

Wednesday—March 12th, 2008—(Purple)

7:30 A.M.—Holy Communion

6:00 P.M.—Contemporary Worship in Stock Hall

March 15th & 16th, 2008—Sunday of the Passion—Palm Sunday-- (Scarlet)

Saturday

5:15 P.M.—Holy Communion

Sunday

8:00 A.M.—Holy Communion & 10:45 A.M.—Holy Communion

Please read Matthew 26: 14-27: 66—The passion and death of Jesus.

Wednesday in Holy Week—March 19th, 2008*(Scarlet)*

7:30 A.M.—Holy Communion

6:00 P.M.—Contemporary Worship in Stock Hall

**Maundy Thursday—March 20th, 2008—(Scarlet)**

7:00 P.M.

Good Friday—March 21st, 2008—Tenebrae Service-- (altar bare)

7:00 P. M.

Saturday Easter Vigil—(white or gold)

5:15 P.M.

March 23rd, 2008—Resurrection of Our Lord / Easter Day—(gold)**Sunday**

8:00 A.M. Holy Communion & 10:45 A.M. Holy Communion

Please read Matthew 28: 1-10—Proclaim the resurrection.

Wednesday—March 26th, 2008—(white)

7:30 A.M.—Holy Communion

6:00 P.M.—Contemporary Worship in Stock Hall

March 29th & 30th, 2008—Second Sunday of Eastery—(White)**Saturday**

5:15 P.M.—Holy Communion

Sunday

8:00 A.M.—Holy Communion & 10:45 A.M.—Holy Communion

Please read John 20: 19-31—Beholding the wounds of the risen Christ.

A Note From The Pastor

Greetings Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We are in the midst of our Lenten journey and fast approaching Holy Week. I believe it is very important to know why we do what we do here at St. Paul, especially in our worship. Over time we tend to forget (or maybe never knew) ‘why we do what we do’ in worship.

We celebrate the “Triduum” here at St. Paul. The “Triduum” is “the three days of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday, which are to be understood as a whole action that celebrates the central event of Christianity—the death and resurrection of Christ.” (Augsburg, p. 396) Let us look at each one of these days of worship a little closer:

Maundy Thursday:

“Maundy” is an English term for the washing of the feet on Thursday in Holy Week. (From the Latin, “commandment”—“I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you.”) The extended confession of sins of Ash Wednesday is now addressed in the absolution of Maundy Thursday. We now turn our attention from our Lenten discipline to the intense celebration of the cross and resurrection of Christ. The emphasis of God’s love is emphasized in the act of footwashing. As we conclude this service we have the “Stripping of the Altar.” We transition from the celebration of Holy Communion to Jesus’ crucifixion and death. The symbolism is of Christ, stripped of his power and glory, who is now in the hands of his captors. The practicality of “Stripping the Altar” allows us to clean and prepare for Easter. We leave this service without a benediction and postlude in silence.

Good Friday:

We will celebrate a service called “Tenebrae” (from the Latin, “shadows”) traditionally this was a “Holy Week service of Morning Prayer sung ‘by anticipation’ the evening before, during which fourteen psalms are sung. As each psalm is sung another fifteen candles in a stand called a Hearse is extinguished, until one remains. The remaining light is carried out of the church or hidden from view behind the altar during the singing of the *Benedictus* and Psalm 51. Then a loud noise is made, and the single candle is brought back into view signifying the resurrection. All leave in silence.” (Augsburg, pp.395-396) Our Good Friday service reflects much of the aforementioned Tenebrae service of tradition.

The Vigil of Easter:

“Anciently, the Vigil was a watch through the night for signs of the rising dawn. The service should be scheduled so that it extends into Easter Day, but variations are possible to meet local needs for, liturgically, the day begins with sundown.” (Augsburg, p.326) We have incorporated into our Saturday worship the elements of moving from darkness to light. Elements of the “Service of Light” are used to move us to the celebration of Easter.

Please see our “Worship Opportunities” page for all the Holy Week services including worship times. You can also retrieve this information by calling our church number and direct your call to “Special Events.”

Jesus said, “Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.” Mark 8: 34

Just a few weeks ago your leadership and a few interested others gathered in retreat at the Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg. You will be hearing more of the results of that gathering as council is forming a new ad hoc visioning group. One of the up and coming events will be a congregational gathering so we all can participate in the future planning of the ever exciting ministry here at St. Paul.

In Christ’s Service,

Pastor Tim

The Rev. Timothy W. Sadler

Lead Pastor

(Manuel of the Liturgy, LBW-Augsburg, 1979)

Summary of Minutes
Congregational Council Meeting
January 28, 2008

The following topics were discussed at the Congregational Council Meeting on January 28, 2008.

- The new refrigerator and freezer have been installed and the electrical work has been completed.
- Disbursement of the reserve in the Benevolent account was approved.
- The Fellowship Committee will set dates for this year's events.
- A new facilities use policy has been written and will be discussed at the next Council meeting.
- Pastor Sadler was given permission to purchase a Blackberry device and upgrade his phone contract.
- Pastor Sadler brought several items to the attention of the Council including the use of St Paul for a funeral, synod assembly, and a request for use of the van by CARES. He also asked for permission to repaint his office.
- The reports of Pastor Sadler, Vicar Joe, Mr. Hemminger and Mr. Fox were approved.
- Financial reports were submitted and approved.



Summary of Minutes
From Committee Night
February 11, 2008

The following items were discussed at the Congregational Council Meeting after Committee Nights.

- Repair of several leaks in the ceiling.
- Inspection of heat tape in gutters.
- Possible sidewalk repairs.
- Ways of involving the congregation with church activities such as Intergenerational break-fasts and congregational luncheons.
- Progress of the audit committee.
- Contacting visitors and greeting new members.
- Revamping pew pads.
- Finding a substitute for the Music Director during times of vacation.
- Forming of a new ad hoc committee for long-range planning.
- The stewardship committee will begin its campaign the weekend of February 16-17, 2008.

The next regular Council meeting will be March 3, 2008 and the next Committee Night will be March 10, 2008.

OUR COUNCIL

Congregation Council Meeting 2008

Pastor:	Timothy Sadler
President:	Gary Nicholson
Vice-President:	Barry Parks
Secretary:	Carol Woods
Current Acct.:	Mark Ritter
Benevolent Acct.:	Brian Nelson
B/M & Organ:	Joe Keller
Christian Ed. Comm.:	Rachel Rhine
Fellowship Comm.:	Mary Jane Keller
Finance Comm.:	Bill Suchocki
Property Comm.:	Dwight West
Social Ministry:	Margie Thumma
Stewardship Comm.:	John Brenner
Witness & Outreach:	Mary Ann Ernst
Worship & Music:	Michael Kulikoksy

Committee Meetings are held:

The second Monday of each month at 7:00 p.m.
(Unless it's a Monday holiday then it is Tuesday.)
We begin in Stock Hall with devotions and announcements and then break out into individual Committee meetings. Everyone is welcome to come to committee night to visit and participate with the committee of your choice.

Council Meetings are held:

The first Monday after the last Sunday of each month at 7:00 p.m.

(Unless it's a Monday holiday, then it is Tuesday.)

Important Note for Acolytes & Crucifers !

Please remember that you need to be in the sacristy 20 minutes before the beginning of the worship service !

If you are scheduled for the 8:00 worship, please be there by 7:40 a.m.

If you are scheduled for the 10:45 worship, please be here by 10:25 a.m.

This will eliminate any scrambling at the last minute to find someone because we don't know if you are going to show up or not.

Also, please remember to find a substitute ahead of time if you are unable to serve on a day that you are scheduled. Thank you.

Acolytes & Crucifers Needed Youth or Adult

We are always in need of more acolytes and crucifers especially for the 8:00 worship service, youth or adult.

If you would be interested please contact Mike Kulikosky, Pastor Tim, Nick Fox, Jody Hafner or the church office. Thank you.

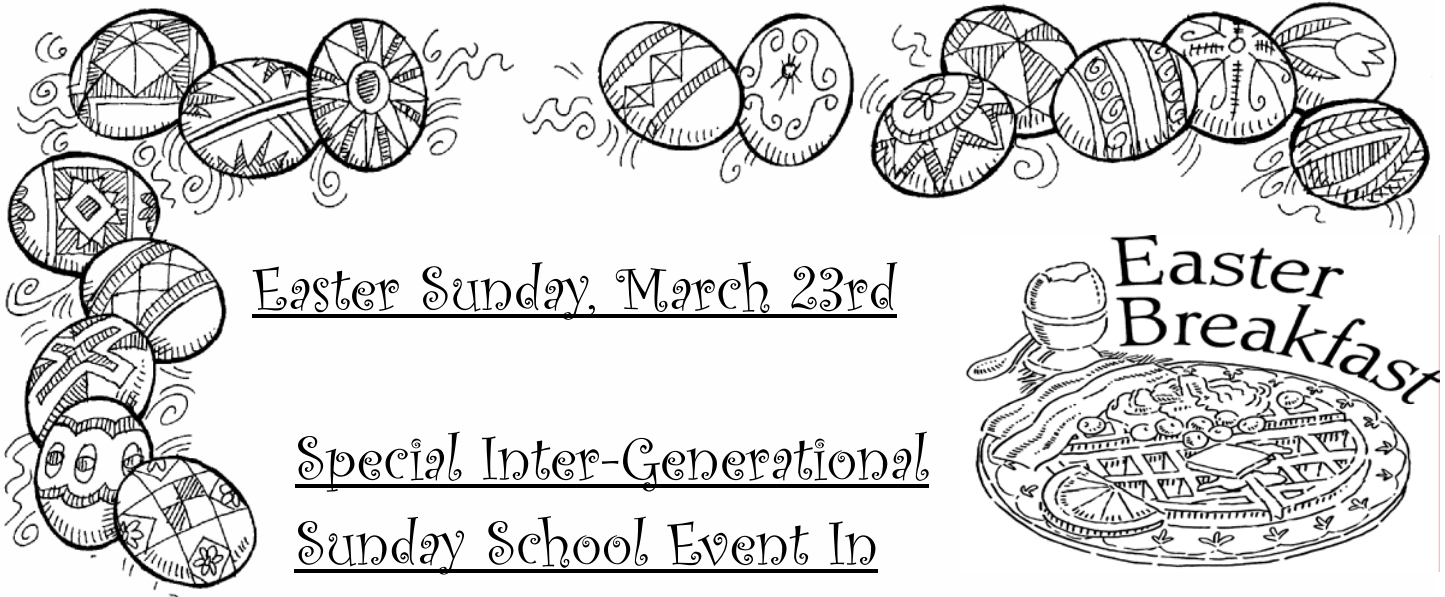
Committee Meetings:

Monday, March 10th at 7:00 p.m.

March Congregation Council Meeting:

Monday, March 31st at 7:00 p.m.





Easter Sunday, March 23rd



Special Inter-Generational
Sunday School Event In
Stock Hall for All Ages !

Includes Easter breakfast; and for the children, a visit by
the Easter Bunny and an Easter Egg Hunt too !

Activities for all ages will be included in the festivities
As we celebrate the glorious resurrection of our Lord and
Savior Jesus Christ!

Please join us, we look forward
celebrating with you!

