



8:00AM Sunday Forum

9:00AM Worship Service
with Holy Communion

10:20AM Opening for Sunday School
(Sanctuary)

10:30AM Confirmation in the Fellowship Hall
Sunday School, Club 5-6 in the Classrooms

Holy Communion is celebrated each week

Church Website: www.sharingchristслоve.org

HOLY HILARITY

A "shut-in" member of a the congregation who suffered from arthritis was still able to get out from time to time. One Sunday she decided the weather was nice enough for her to try to get to church.

At the end of the service, she wanted the pastor to know what an effort it had been for her to get to worship. Shaking his hand, she said, "I had to take two pain pills just to be able to come and hear you preach!"

A woman was in the 6 item express lane at the store, quietly fuming. Completely ignoring the sign the woman ahead of her had slipped into the check-out line pushing a cart piled high with groceries. Imagine the delight when the cashier beckoned the woman to come forward, looked into the cart and asked sweetly, "So which 6 items would you like to buy?"

Because they had no reservations at a busy restaurant, and elderly man and his wife were told there would be a 45 minute wait for a table. "young man, we're both 90 years old", the husband said. "We may not have 45 minutes." They were seated immediately.

The reason politicians try so hard to get re-elected is that they would HATE to have to make a living under the laws they've passed.

Volume 9, Issue 3

Monthly

March, 2011



SUNDAY LENTEN THEME: "THE SIGN OF JONAH"
Plan to come each week and we will explore together the meaning of the "Sign of Jonah" and his journey.

**Midweek Services each Wednesday at 7:00pm, beginning with
ASH WEDNESDAY, March 9th
through April 13th**

**DESSERT FELLOWSHIP TIME
the services!**



LENTEN JOURNEY – SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORD

Beginning March 13th and continuing through the Sundays in the season of Lent, the Sunday Forum will be using a book from the ELCA Book of Faith curriculum titled "Seven Wonders of the Word". We will talk about how the Word creates, calls, commands, saves, sustains, shapes and sends. The book contains readings for every day except Sundays and if you would like to purchase the book please let Fran Nordhausen know at 651.426-2398 or at nordfarm@yahoo.com by March 6th. The cost is \$10 per book. It is not necessary to purchase the book in order to attend the Forum nor is it necessary to commit to attending every week, however, you may wish to use the book as a personal devotion for Lent.



**SUNDAY, MORNING,
MARCH 13TH AT 2:00AM**

5879 Wyoming Trail,
PO Box 583
Wyoming, MN 55092
Phone - 651.462.5212
Fax - 651.462.8312
www.sharingchristслоve.org

Church Staff

Rev. Jim Mericle, Pastor
Janet Nutter, Children's Ministry
Kim Olson, Office Administrator

Parish Nurse: Karen Carlson,
Custodians: Cindy Gruett,
Bill Oswald, Jerry Nelson
Music: Jeanne Richards,

Upcoming Worship



Sunday *noun*: the first day of the week
 Forum *noun*: a public meeting or lecture involving audience discussion

Youth and Adults of all ages are welcome
 Relax, bring your coffee cup, and join us for informal discussion and learning in the Library at 8:00 am.

March 6 Those Were the Days ... Do you still have your old confirmation class notebooks? How about Sunday School pictures? Bring your books, pictures, projects or memories along on this visit down Memory Lane.

March 13 **Book of Faith Lenten Journey:**
 March 20 **Seven Wonders of the Word**
 March 27
 Our discussions will center around the Word – how it creates, calls, commands, saves, sustains, shapes and sends us. Experience the power of God’s Word and deepen your prayer life. It is not necessary to have a copy of the book to join our Sunday morning discussions.



March 6—Transfiguration of Our Lord
 8:00am Sunday Forum
 9:00am ELW w/Communion
 10:20am Sunday School Opening

March 9—Ash Wednesday
 7:15pm Worship with Ashes and Communion

March 13—Lent 1
 8:00am Sunday Forum
 9:00am Celebration Service w/Communion
 10:20am Sunday School Opening

March 16—7:15pm Midweek Lenten Service

March 20—Lent 2
 8:00am Sunday Forum
 9:00am ELW w/Communion
 10:20am Sunday School Opening

March 23—7:15pm Midweek Lenten Service

March 27—Lent 3
 8:00am Sunday Forum
 9:00am ELW w/Communion
 10:20am Sunday School Opening
 10:30am Confirmation Faith Development Hour

March 30—7:15pm Midweek Lenten Service

PARTICIPANTS FOR MARCH — 9:00AM SERVICES

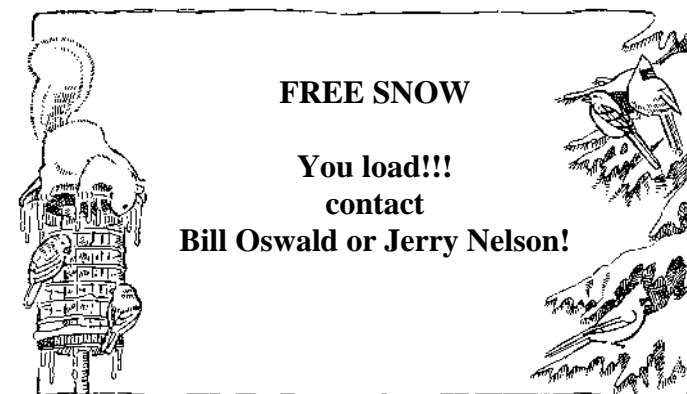
Date	Assistants	Readers	Acolytes	Ushers	Greeters
Mar 6	Neil G, Rod J, Kathie M	Jerry N	Shelby M, Sierra N, Sammy P	Megan Kelber Shelby Miller	Girl Scouts
Mar 13	Claudia	Dave N	Brandon R, Kaylee S, Hayley S	Dave H Dale B	Ann Stanina
Mar 20	Zella, Arlie, Shirley	Zella	Ashly W, Brandon A, Lydia B	Andy N	Mal and Bonnie S
Mar 27	Carossa	Eileen R	Katie B, Casey D, Kaylee D	Edward’s Family	Brian, Rita Young
April 3	None	Lois R	Joel J, Michael J, Megan K	Johnson Family	Dave & Mary H

For Community Information
 Please call the office, 651.462.5212
 Or check the Kiosk for Information

- ◆ **Older Adults...Household Chores Overwhelming YOU?** ESR East Suburban Resources a non-profit agency can help. They employ adults with disabilities for housekeeping, light home maintenance, yard work, etc. Call ESR 651.351.0190. There are no fees, but donations are welcome.
- ◆ **Walk, Run, Talk, Fun! Walkers Welcome at Wyoming Elementary.** Avoid snow, ice, rain and traffic. Walk in a safe environment. Register for a morning or evening session and you can walk am or pm throughout the school year. ID badges will be given and must be worn while walking. Cost is \$15 annually. See the flyer on the kiosk. Call 651.982.8110.
- ◆ **Haven Center in North Branch and Cambridge** offer counseling, therapy and coaching. For more information see the flyer on the Kiosk.

☆☆☆☆☆
ReAch For the Stars!

Adults 55+
 Classes are on
 Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays
 10:30-11:30am
 Cost: \$1.00



Need help with groceries?
 The next “FARE FOR ALL” food distribution is WEDNESDAY, March 23, 4-6PM
 At Forest Lake VFW (near Target) www.fareforall.org
 Or
 RUBY’S PANTRY, Saturday, March 12th at Forest Hills UMC beginning at 8:15am (doors open at 7am). A \$15.00 donation is suggested.



ALLUMINUM RECYCLE BIN
 We now have a place for all your unwanted aluminum cans and misc. aluminum items. The “can cage” is down by the shed, at least for now. It will take time to fill it up...but let’s start now. Thank you!

Save the date!
All Women’s Retreat
November 19-20, 2011
Luther Point Bible Camp
 • Lodging in the beautiful retreat center, lunch and dinner on Saturday, brunch on Sunday morning, and snacks throughout the retreat. Program and all materials, crafts, fun and games, movies in the fireside room, conversation, laughing, nature, etc. for \$65.00. Sponsored by Chisago Lakes Lutheran Church, Center City. For info or to register, call Kathy Olson, 651.674.1874.

GENEALOGY WORKSHOP
SATURDAY, MARCH 19TH
 at
 People’s National Bank ,
 Hwy. 95 and Tanger Drive, North Branch
 9:00am-4:00pm
 Instructors with knowledge of Dutch, Scandinavian, German, Irish, etc. backgrounds. The cost is \$35.00 or at the door for \$40 (includes refreshments and a box lunch). You MUST pre-register by March 12th.
 Sponsored by the Chisago County Historical Society
 Registrations in the church office.

We remember in our prayers.....



Our deepest sympathy to **Mick and Sheila Byl and family** following the death of Mick's dad, Herb on Thursday, February 17th. Herb's funeral was the following Tuesday in Wisconsin.

Congratulations to **Stephanie Wolfe**, former youth director and Matthew Lechman who were married on Saturday, February 26th at Peace Lutheran in Dresser, Wisconsin.

Remember **Pastor Mona** who had surgery for an upgraded pacemaker on Wednesday, March 3rd.

Pray for those recovering: **Janelle Albee** dad, Carl, from a blood infection; **Arnie Rudenick** who is making great progress and should be home soon; **Darlene Petrey**; **Jim Fromm** from a broken ankle; **Bill Oswald's** brother, Dick, who has issues with his heart transplant and diagnosed with Guian Berra; **Kelly Schuder's** aunt and uncle with serious health problems; **Debbie Zaudtke's** daughter, Dana; **Janelle Albee's** mom, Erlyne in a memory care facility; Janelle's Aunt, **Kathie Marabella's** parents, Keith and Lucy Messer; **Pat Miska's** brothers Melvin and Ken Geisler. We continue prayers for **Tony Wicklander's** health issues related to Bechet's Disease. We are also grateful and praise God for the recovery.

We pray for those with cancer, Heather Temte, daughter-in-law of **Mike and Sue Temte** diagnosed with Renal Cell Carcinoma. She has previously had kidney cancer. Heather started chemo on Tuesday, March 1; **Bill Oswald's** friend, Skip, whose life journey is nearing completion; **Shirley Anderson** and **Maureen Sausen's** niece, Cindy Jerve, 59, who has Stage 3 or 4 ovarian cancer; **Eileen Ramse's** niece, Cheryl Bartn, breast cancer; **Bill Coppersmith**, with Multiple Myeloma; **Rod Jasmer's** Goddaughter, Caroline, 7, in treatment for brain cancer; **Lois Rustad's** niece, Sharon Klein, with cancer of the lung, brain and bone; **Karen Rozeske's** cousin, Laurel Shannon; **Jean Enrooth's** sister, Roxanne Ostendorf; **Leann McGowan's** sister, Karen Johnson; **Pat Miska's** aunt, Pat Brant and Pat Brant's daughter-in-law, Joanne Brant; **Neal Albee's** cousin, Mike Albee, diagnosed with lung cancer.

We remember those in health care facilities: **Gene Thompson** a resident in Parnly's Margaret's House Memory Care Facility in Chisago City.

For the health and safety of all service men and women, especially those in those countries at war.

Please call Janelle Albee at 651.462.8084 or email her at njalbee@aol.com to place requests on the prayer chain. Requests are kept confidential unless otherwise stated by the person requesting the prayer. You may also call the church office, 651.462.5212.



Memorials
In Memory of Don Livgard
Gifts were given by
Cindy Gruett
Ruth Livgard
Lois Rustad



Dear Friends,
It seems forever but I am getting better. My doctor informed me this week (January 25th) that it will be another seven weeks of bed rest. Looks like I will be up and running in Spring—Yea! Thank you so much for all your thoughts and concerns. I so much enjoy your calls, cards and visits. See you soon. God bless and my thoughts are with you. Jim Fromm

Our family would like to thank St. Paul Lutheran Church for all of their thoughts and prayers during Royce's illness and recent death. We would also like to express a special thank you to Martha's Servers for the wonderful lunch and to Arne and Jan Ranta for delivering the lovely Christmas basket. May God bless you all. Deborah Zaudtke and Family

A special thanks to our Prayer Team, especially Dee, Lois and Bill. All who had me in their thoughts and prayers. I still have some issues, but the shocks are gone again. Thanks be to God. Darlene Petrey

A BIG THANK YOU to Katie Edwards and the confirmation students for helping to make our carnival at Wyoming Elementary a wonderful success. We greatly appreciate them helping at the kids games. Fun was had by all. Tammy Ferraro, PTA

Thank you for your support. The Lego League (met at the church last fall through December).

THANK YOU to everyone who brought coats, hats, gloves, and other outerwear for the Union Gospel Mission. The last bunch delivered weighted in at 42.6 pounds. Thank you also to Mary Haselbauer and family for delivering the warm clothing to the Mission.



Have you been unable to make it to church and communion or would you simply like a personal visit from someone in the St. Paul Lutheran family? A member of the SPL Visitation Team would be happy to visit you and give you communion, if you desire. We use elements that have been consecrated at the previous Sunday service and a short liturgy. We will also pray with you. Please call the church office, 651.462.5212, if you would like a visit.



Wow – What a month we had in February!! Record snow fall, freezing temperatures, a bit of Spring weather, and a leaking roof. It was also a month where the new council was installed and met for a retreat, the Call Committee was commissioned and began their work, the youth went on a ski trip. Bill Oswald and Jerry Nelson shoveled lots of snow off the roof, we hit \$60,000 in special offerings towards our tax settlement, the preschool began registering for the next school year and we averaged just over a 100 people in worship.

It has been a whirlwind month for us and I am excited about the direction we are going in this first month and a half as your Interim Pastor. As we go through the last stages of the interim, I am working with the staff, council, finance team, and many of you who volunteer to wrap up the tax matters, membership lists, teach our youth and children, lead preschool chapel, think about who we are as a Community of Christ and to gather each week to worship God and proclaim his good news. I hope you feel the energy of God's Spirit moving in our community guiding us to have a renewed sense of mission and to really start looking forward to our future. We have come through a lot and rather than still feeling sad or bad about the losses or setbacks we sustained, I really believe God is now calling all of us to celebrate the journey we have been on as we shore up our foundation, share Jesus' love, and join with Him in hope for this coming year and the years ahead.

As for this month of March, our main focus will be the season of Lent which begins March 9th with Ash Wednesday. Lent is a special time of the year for us to spend time focusing of how much Jesus' loves us as we follow his journey to the Cross and Resurrection. Our theme for this year on Sunday's is, "The Sign of Jonah." Jonah...for Lent? Sounds fishy, but it is a natural fit. When the Pharisees and scribes ask for a sign from Jesus as to who he was, Jesus replies, "but no sign will be given to you except the sign of Jonah." (Matt 12:39). This Lenten series will explore the meaning of "The Sign of Jonah" as we follow Jonah on his journey...and Jesus on his way to the cross. I am excited to share it with you.

Then, in addition to Sundays, we will have Midweek Lenten services that will feature the Holden Evening Prayer service and special times of sharing each week by a member on how being a part of St. Paul Lutheran has positively impacted their faith walk. We are looking for a couple more people to share and I would ask each of you to consider this and let Cindy Gruett or Shirley Zierke know. After the Wednesday services (except Ash Wednesday) we invite you to stay and enjoy some dessert and fellowship. Services this year will begin at 7pm so that you can be returning home by 8pm after enjoying your dessert.

The Spirit of God is alive and kicking here at St. Paul Lutheran so grab hold of that Spirit and allow God to move us into being a stronger community that is ready to share the Good News of Jesus Christ to the next generation and our next door neighbors too. God bless you!

In Christ,
Pastor Jim Mericle

PASTORAL CONCERNS: Since the inception of the Privacy Act, hospitals no longer call us to let us know when a member is admitted, so we are asking you to CALL AND LET US KNOW!!! Also, if you have concerns or wish to talk to Pastor Jim, please call the church office, 651.462.5212.

Sunday School News

Children's Ministries in March

March 6th- Sunday School 10:15-11:30, Angels Among Us, Girl Scout Sunday.

March 13th- Movie Mania 10:15-11:30, bring your own Camp Chair, Bean Bag or Sleeping Bag and come watch Jonah, a Veggie Tales Movie.....Popcorn Provided!!

March 20th- Movie Mania 10:15-11:30, bring your own Camp Chair, Bean Bag or Sleeping Bag and come watch Jonah, a Veggie Tales Movie.....Popcorn Provided!!

March 27th- new (and last!) unit of the year "Jesus' Death and Resurrection"



First Communion Class, 5th Grade
March 27 and April 10, sign up with Janet

First Communion will be Maundy Thursday April 21,
for those students completing the class

Club 5/6

We will be having two special speakers talking to the group about how alcohol and drugs have affected their lives and the lives of their families. Sunday March 6 and Sunday April 3. Please consider attending with your child!

What can YOU do for Children's Ministry? Glad you asked!!

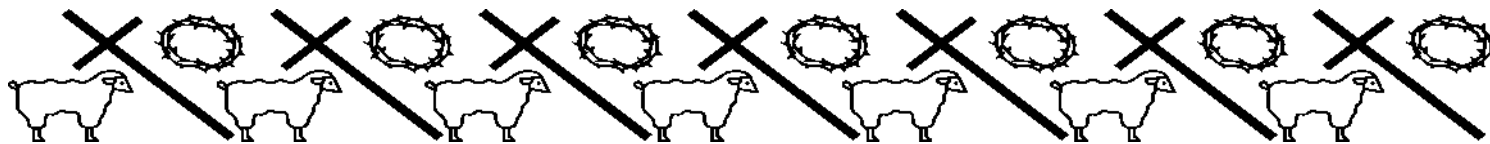
-Need Teachers for our last Sunday School Unit of the Year- "Jesus' Death and Resurrection" March 27, April 3 and April 10th.

-Need someone to coordinate the Last Sunday School/ Palm Sunday Potluck Brunch.

-Need someone to coordinate the Sunday May 8th Mother's Day Plant Sale.

-Need families to be Greeters and Ushers for Family Easter Service.

let Janet know if you can lend a hand!



MISSION OF THE MONTH

MINNESOTA FOODSHARE

The Minnesota FoodShare Campaign is held throughout the month of March. We have been involved for many years, supporting our local food shelves by helping to stock the shelves and with cash donations so they may buy groceries at Second Harvest. Start thinking about what you can do...start picking up the extras or the "buy one / get one free" items at the grocery store. There will be a basket in the narthex beginning Sunday, March 7th.

We have always supported this mission enthusiastically, let's do even better this year!!!



MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

The St. Paul Lutheran Mission Endowment Fund is used to support ministries of all shapes, sizes and locations. Your support is appreciated and we encourage congregation members to remember the fund while writing their Last Will and Testaments. In addition, the fund does accept donations throughout the year from interested givers. If you have any questions, please ask Chris Kuehn or Jerry Nelson for more information.



LUTHER POINT BIBLE CAMP IS READY FOR SUMMER CAMPER REGISTRATIONS

It's not too early to start thinking about summer and spending a half or full week at Luther Point! Summer news and schedules are in the Luther Point paper on the table by the office. If you want your child to go but finances are a problem, there is a remedy! Due to some generous donors, Luther Point has camperships available, but please contact the church office first!

You may send in a registration or register online at www.LutherPoint.org

WOMEN OF ST. PAUL LUTHERAN... YOU ARE INVITED TO THE 24TH ANNUAL SAINT PAUL AREA SYNODICAL WOMEN'S CONVENTION April 1-2, 2011 At Lutheran Church of Peace in Maplewood.

Theme: "Fools for Christ's Sake"

The convention begins Friday at 11:00pm, closing Saturday at 3:15pm.

Cost for both days and meals is \$50. (There are other rates for those who may want to go 1 day and/or to the banquet).

There is a flyer on the kiosk with much more information. Registration forms may be found in the church office.

WOMEN'S 17TH ANNUAL HEALTH CONFERENCE
 Thursdays, March 24 and 31
 At Hazelden CORK Center in Center City

March 24th
 Free Health Fair: 5:30-7pm
 7-8pm "Baby Steps to Fitness" Michelle Lee

March 31
 Free Health Fair 5:30-6:30pm
 6:30-7:30pm "It's 3am and I can't sleep" Snigdha Sagar, MD
 7:45-8:45pm "How to Make This Your Best Year Ever!" Amy Zastro

No pre-registration required. Attend one or both nights!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

BLOOD DRIVE

SATURDAY, MARCH 5TH
7AM-1PM

SIGN-UP SHEETS FOR DONORS AND EVENT VOLUNTEERS WILL BE IN THE NARTHEX SOON.

Did you know?

Excuses, excuses, we all have them.

If you Google "excuses," you'll come to a site called *The Mother of All Excuses Place*. It's worth perusing if you need an excuse for something because it is indexed by category. For example, there are excuses for work absences, excuses for dinner invitations, for weddings, and for almost anything you want to get out of.

In the "Missing Church Excuses" category, I was astounded to find 180 excuses listed. These are submitted by readers and some of them are pretty funny. My husband's favorite, should he need one, might be: "I felt compelled by the Holy Spirit to go fishing!"

But my own, which I confess I actually used on a regular basis, isn't quite as amusing: "I work six days a week. The seventh day belongs to me."

Exhausted by a heavy work week of meetings and deadlines, I rationalized that I was entitled to some time for myself. I deserved a day, I said to myself, when I didn't have to get dressed to be somewhere at a certain time.

Excuses, excuses.

If you need a creative excuse, it's there for you on *The Mother of All Excuses Place* website.

But a word of caution: Of all the excuses used not to go to church, there is none that will work when Jesus comes back to us.

I wonder where our creative excuses will get us then.



Carol Bisek

Confirmation Class



March 16	7:30pm	Worship & Small Groups
March 20	10:30am	Final Sunday Workshop
March 23	7:30pm	Worship & Small Groups
March 30	7:30pm	Worship & Small Groups



Women's Bible Study

WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

Thursdays

February 10 and 24

All women are invited to join the Bible Study which meets the second and the fourth Thursday of the month in the church library from 6:30-8pm. The group is studying "*The People of God: Unity in the Midst Diversity*" from the LUTHERAN WOMAN TODAY magazine, a publication of the ELCA.

Call Fran at 426-2398 or Claudia at 674-6275 for more information.

LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF FAIR TRADE PRODUCTS AVAILABLE

Need Coffee? Need Chocolate?

Buy these products in the narthex each Sunday and know you'll be helping poor farmers around the world at the same time.

In addition, 5% of all sales goes back to Lutheran World Relief for their development products.

Coffee is \$5.25/\$6
Chocolate bars \$1.75

Hot Cocoa Mix and Baking Cocoa may be ordered, contact Mary Haselbauer, 433.3413.



Council Meeting Tuesday, February 16, 2011

Review of Reports:

Children, Youth & Family Faith Development Ministry Team

Patti Lichtscheidl reported registration has begun for the 2011-2012 school year.

She is looking for a sub for preschool to replace Heather while she is on maternity leave.

Patti is requesting \$300 for new items for the classroom. Council approved this budgeted expense.

There were 15 confirmation students that signed up for the retreat on April 9-10.

Confirmation will be held on May 1. Spaghetti dinner will be on March 19th.

Pastor Jim is checking with the youth to see if they will do the Easter Breakfast.

Janet Nutter reported our January unit for Sunday School was "Baptism"

Feb 6 had "SOUPer Bowl Sunday" where they collected canned goods and had a "Bible Trivia Bowl"

Feb 13th we had "Family Sunday School" and made Family Time Capsules.

SPLASH had a very active, crazy month. Had "God's Little Warriors" (8) and "God's Little Princesses" (20) classes.

Third graders started their "My Bible Class" for three weeks. The 5th & 6th Grade is concluding their year with "Bible Murder Mystery".

Pastors Report

Pastor Jim is also contacting inactive members and working towards a good census.

The confirmation retreat April 9-10 with the 9th graders will consist of 15 of our confirmation students and 27 from Hosanna Lutheran.

Pastor Jim reported Sheila Byl and Arnie Ranta and himself are working on the Lenten services and holy week which will include adult and children's choirs, puppets and bells.

Finance Report

Judy Gatzow presented bank balance sheets for the general fund for January, Preschool checking and savings accounts, Alter Guild checking, and Martha Servers.

Judy reported that a member donated toward the Edward Jones account and it was discussed to invest the Edward Jones money in a Short Term Certificate of Deposits at Wyoming State Bank.

January 31 checking account balance was \$12,599.32. No outstanding bills.

Jerry Nelson suggested that an audit report for 2010 should be done and 3-4 people are needed.

Sunday Forum

Kathie Marabella mentioned we will be using "Book of Faith: Lenten Journey-Seven Wonders of the Word" during Lent in March and April

We will have Sunday Forum through May 22 and have our schedule completed through that date.

Global Missions Report

Kathie mentioned that a Peace Corps member has been hired to act as liaison between TZ and St. Paul partners in MN.

Fran did a "Missions, Then and Now" article for the February newsletter.

SPPRT

The newly approved Personnel Manual has been copied and inserted into notebooks. Pastor Jim agreed to distribute them to all employees and then report back to the team when that task is complete.

Congregational Life/Missions

It was discussed that instead of a soup/salad supper this year we would see thru the worship response sheets if people would be interested to have a dessert social hour.

Property, Building and Grounds Report:

Jerry Nelson reported the continuing problem with the leaky roof.

Worship, Arts and Music Report:

Pastor Jim discussed that faith stories are planned through lent.

Old Business

Kathie Marabella reported the call committee consists of Becky Zierke for Chairperson and Michelle Ihfe,

Rod Jasmer, Tyler Kroschel, Arne Ranta, and Lois Rustad.

The call committee had a meeting with Sister Noreen Stevens.

Jerry Nelson reported that we paid insurance for the Boy Scouts trailers.

Pastor Jim discussed the Synod Assembly on May 20-21 at Prince of Peace. He will be going and he needs two more people.

The workshop Toolkit for Congregational Leaders that is held on February 26 was discussed and Judy Gatzow, Cheryl Glassel, Kathie Marabella, Claudia and Jerry Nelson, Kim Olson, and Shirley Zierke are going to attend

New Business

It was suggested by Shirley that it would be great to have another council members retreat.

Pastor Jim volunteered his home on March 12th at 8:30 until 1:00.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm

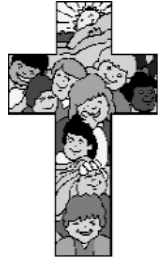
Respectfully submitted by Zella Oswald

Next regularly scheduled council meeting in on March 15, 2011.

DEADLINE:
Newsletter Articles

NOON,
Wednesday,
March 23rd

Newsletter Mailed Wednesday,
March 30th at 10am



All God's Children Preschool Registration

All God's Children Preschool will be accepting registrations for the 2011-2012 school year beginning February 1st. Redeem the coupon below and get 50% off your registration fee.

All God's Children Preschool
50% Off Coupon
Register your child by June 1, 2011
And
Receive 50% off the registration fee.
Call 651-462-6832 for more
information

DID YOU NOTICE THE LAWN SIGNS?

In the narthex there are signs that we are asking members and non-members to take and put in their yours to advertise All God's Children Preschool. We are hoping to increase our enrollment for 2011-2012.



KEENAGERS

This group of retired members, meet the first Monday of each month! There are no dues, no officers, but a great time of fellowship and fun.

Meet Monday, March 7th
12:30pm with a potluck lunch!

All Retired and Seniors Citizens Welcome!

OFFICE HOURS

Pastor Jim:
Monday, Tuesday 10am-2pm
Friday, 9am-Noon (by appointment)

Kim:
Tuesday-Thursday 8am-4pm



In case of an emergency and you need to reach someone immediately, you may call Pastor Jim at 651.982.9900 or Kim, 651.257.2049. You may also leave a message at the church, 462.5212 and someone will return your call as soon as possible.



ACCOMPANIMENT IS RELATIONSHIP

From mission to...to mission among

In the February Newsletter we printed an article titled "Changing Context of Global Mission", using information adapted from the ELCA website. This month we continue the theme of Global Mission and describe the "accompaniment" mission model which is used by St Paul Synod's "Bega Kwa Bega" program and in our relationship with Mtera Parish, our companion congregation in Tanzania.

Accompaniment describes the way God walks with us, and the way our church therefore walks and works among Christian communities in other countries. *Together* we participate in God's reconciling mission.

The ELCA Global Mission unit defines accompaniment as *walking together in solidarity that practices interdependence and mutuality*. In this walk, gifts, resources and experiences are shared with mutual advice and admonition to deepen and expand our work within God's mission.

Accompaniment is both a way of seeing the world and a way to work together. When we accompany, we see that relationships are at the core of global mission. When a good relationship is nurtured first, companion churches can more freely discuss priorities and make decisions. "When we know one another, we can move forward together," said one African pastor.

Relationships between companions aren't always easy. **Relationships take attention and time:** time to listen and get to know one another, time to share meals ... time to affirm one another, time to forgive, and time to speak difficult truths in love.

And like committed relationships, they don't go away. Because North American Lutherans have been active in global mission since 1842, many of the ELCA's companion church relationships are over a century old! Through good times and bad — civil wars, natural disasters, famine, changes in governments and church leadership— the ELCA and its companions remain committed to one another.

Ten things children (and adults) should know about prayer

1. **Prayer is communication.** It can be spoken or silent. It can be a song or a story. It can be a picture or a dance.
2. **Prayer can be done as often as you like.** Every week. Every day. Every hour.
3. **Prayer can be done however you want.** There is no right or wrong way to pray.
4. **Prayer can be shared, but doesn't have to be.** It can be done alone or with a favorite toy. It can be done with friends, family or pets.
5. **Prayer can be done anywhere.** It can be done in your room or at the kitchen table. It can be done out in your yard, at the park or even at the zoo.
6. **Prayer can be done in any mood.** You can be happy, sad, angry, scared or confused when you pray.
7. **Prayer can be for yourself or someone else.** If you know someone who could use a little help – add them to your prayers.
8. **Prayer doesn't need a certain structure, length or specific words.** Whatever words you use, long or short, your prayer comes out fine.
9. **Prayer doesn't need a special occasion.** There are certain prayers appropriate to special occasions, but you don't need to wait for a special time to pray.
10. **Prayer doesn't have to be a request.** It can also be used to give thanks for what you already received. "Thank you" is a perfect prayer.

Mark your calendars now for the annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction!
This fundraiser benefits our Youth Ministries and Mission Trip this summer.

Date: Saturday, March 19
5:30-7:00pm Dinner and Silent Auction
7:00pm Live Auction



Spaghetti Dinner

Unwanted Christmas presents?? Keep us in mind!
Donations for both the silent and live auctions are needed.
Please drop them off in the church office.

Volunteers wanted - More details to follow!

Questions? Contact Laurie Drexler ldrex@yahoo.com or 651.982.0229