

### **Journey of Forgiveness**

It has been twenty years since South Africa had its first democratic election. With the recent death of Nelson Mandela, the period of Apartheid and the dawn of a multiracial nation are fading into the history books. For the beginning of its new society South Africa organized a national Truth and Reconciliation Commission in an effort to continue the peaceful transformation and build a more just and peaceful society. The Anglican Archbishop Desmond Tutu was the international leader for change during the time that Mandela was in prison and with his release and the hope for a new democratic order Tutu became the head of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

This month, people the world over, including about ten thousand Americans, are participating in a global forgiveness challenge initiated by Desmond Tutu. The Nobel Peace Prize winner was the first black Archbishop of Cape Town and continues in retirement to inspire the work of peace the across the globe.

In "The Book of Forgiving" by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his daughter Mpho Tutu they write, "With each act of forgiveness, whether small or great, we move toward wholeness."

Those who sign up for the challenge receive a daily inspirational email with a link to join an online forgiveness community. These involve daily exercises on how to forgive, and stories from people who have been transformed through forgiving or being forgiven. Forgiveness can be hard; it often needs study and reflection and, most importantly, friends for the journey.

### Peace and blessings, Jim

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johanlon.stpauls@gmail.com
Cell phone 917 803-3974
Laura Chen-Schultz, Council President
Barbara Tormondsen, Administrator
Donna Smith, Secretary 914 939-8170

Child Care Center M-F 7:30am –5:30pm Children 6 weeks old to 5 years Suzanne Newcomb, Director 914 939-3079

Pastor Iim O'Hanlon



"Proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable." - Paul second letter to Timothy

# ne Messenger

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### Child Care Center Events



Above: Gwen, Ara, Suzanne and staff at worship for Lutheran Schools Association conference. Below: Grandfriends visit from Atria Senior Living for crafts and stories.



## Happy Birthday!

May		July	
7	Pam Jaffee	1	Lauren Disbennett
18	Tony Wynne	2	Wendy Thorenz
19	Ken Schlosser	6	Heather Paul
19	Floann Rolleri	6	Ben Gawle
23	Erik Brady	7	Eileen Parker
24	Vivian Roth	7	Patty Gawle
26	Callie Chen Schultz	8	Nicole Schlosser
26	Carole DeNigris	10	Andrew Palovchek
27	Jack Wynne	11	Lindsey Jenkins
27	George Lutzel	13	Darcey Roche
30	Christina Mutz-Carello	13	Gloria Sacrison
		15	Julia Wolff
June		15	Karen Hodge
6	Ron Schultz	17	Suzanne Newcomb
	Anke Sulimma	19	Charles Severance-Sulimma
15 16		23	John Tormondsen Jr.
	Nancy Jenkins Kim Guinta	28	George Dunphy
17 18	Laura Chen Schultz	28	Joe Supp
19	Ian Fulton		
22	Toni Marie Birittieri	August	
25	Linda Kausas	1	Olivia Birittieri
27	Casey Chen Schultz	2	Trevor Disbennett
27	Russell Fulmore	3	Ross Disbennett
29	Andrew Schlosser	5	Andy Richardson
-7		5	Veronica Scullion
		<b>–</b> 8	Chip Gawle
	Do you have gifts	0	Virginia French

Do you have gifts to help with worship? Volunteers greet, read, sing, play instruments, help with communion and usher.

Pastor Jim sends out updates and musings by email.

If you would like to be included send a message to:

johanlon.stpauls@gmail.com

also look for us on facebook.com/StPaulsChurch.RyeBrookNY

nett tt on on Virginia French Robert Trenck Anita Charleswell 9 12 David Ridberg Debra Ernst 14 Lillian Johnson 15 Klara Severance-Sulimma 21 Lucas Tanella 23 William Schlosser 26 Erin Tormondsen 28 29 Lorna O'Hanlon

Help us complete our birthday and anniversary list. Call the church office or email

spelch@msn.com

Congratulations to the parents of newborns

James Daniel Bruno & Adriana Giorgi

### God's Green Earth



### June 30 - July 3

9am - 3pm \$150 for week Scholarships available Counselors needed -12 and up

Casey, Kate and Cara celebrating Easter

### **Summer Giving**

Over the summer months the church's collection of offerings declines and becomes sporadic with summer vacations and people away. So, I ask for your help by making an effort at keeping your financial gifts steady over the summer months. You can mail your donations to the church office before the weeks that you are traveling. Or if possible, you can give for the entire month at the beginning of the month. For those of you that pay bills online, you can also set up a regular payment to St. Paul's at the frequency of your choosing. You do not need the church's account number. You just set it up with your bank that a certain amount will be deducted from your account and sent to St. Paul's. The bank cuts the check and forwards to St. Paul's. Please keep current with your offerings over the summer. It would be most appreciated.

Have a fun and safe summer!

- Barbara Tormondsen



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# The 82<sup>nd</sup> Annual LUTHERAN SUMMER CONFERENCE at Silver Bay

A Vacation Experience of a Lifetime; bringing family together, refreshing Christian community & renewing spirit on the majestic shores of Lake George, NY Saturday, July 12th — Friday, July 18th, 2014

The Lutheran Summer Conference is a week unlike any other. We invite you to join over 300 others this summer at the annual Lutheran Summer Conference on the YMCA's spectacular campus at Silver Bay on beautiful Lake George in the Adirondacks.

Are you looking for spiritual renewal? You will find that in worship opportunities throughout the week, time alone for reflection at lakeside, or in conversations with the chaplain or others.

Are you looking for fun & activities that will please members of every generation? Here you'll find boating, tennis, crafts, swimming, hiking & most every other land & water activity, all in a safe environment for families.

Are you looking to engage your mind? Our weekday morning courses do just that, as do rocking chair chats on the Inn porch, or afternoon course summaries.

Be uplifted, find grounding, relax, have fun, engage the body, engage the mind, make new friends, play. It's your choice.

# SPECIAL OFFERFORYOU 15% OFF for

Singes, couples & families attending for the first time!

Contact our registrar today!

Please see information on your church bulletin boards, visit our website at <a href="http://LSCsilverbay.googlepages.com">http://LSCsilverbay.googlepages.com</a>
Contact our registrar, Roxanne Keith, at (631) 744-0458 or <a href="https://LSCsilverbay.googlepages.com">LutheranSummerConference@gmail.com</a>



You need time away for rest and renewal. You need time with women of bold faith and courage. You need time to dance and sing and praise God. You need time with women of many generations. Experience enriching workshops, stirring worship, engaging Bible studies and much more!

Register now for the 2014 Women of the ELCA triennial July 24-27, in Charlotte, NC. For more information visit <a href="www.womenoftheelca.org">www.womenoftheelca.org</a> or contact Wilma Bujtas (<a href="wbujtas@yahoo.com">wbujtas@yahoo.com</a>) our Metro-NY Women of the ELCA triennial promoter. If you are planning on attending, please send your contact information to Wilma Bujtas or Barbara Tormondsen so that we can plan to meet together as a synod at the gathering.

**Ninth Triennial In-Kind Gifts:** In kind-gifts are about relationships and partnerships. They are a way for all women to participate in the triennial gathering whether attending the event or not. The gifts being collected have been determined working in community with women in local agencies and Lutheran Social Services of the Carolinas. These tangible items will meet immediate needs and stand in solidarity with the recipients. YOU CAN BE A PART OF THIS MINISTRY BY DONATING:

Gift cards from Target, Walmart and/or Kmart

Pre-paid phone cards

Clothing – new socks and underwear are needed in any size and color for women, teen girls and teen boys.

In-Kind gifts can be brought to the gathering, given to Barbara Tormondsen, or sent directly to Women of the ELCA, In-kind Gifts, 8765 West Higgins Rd, Chicago, IL 60631-4101.

Thank you for your support, and I hope to see you in Charlotte! Barbara Tormondsen, Metro-NY Synod Women of the ELCA President

### **Congregational Meeting Announcement**

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

At our annual meeting we heard that our loan with Thrivent had been paid off <u>four years in advance!</u> This good news led to the "retirement" of the Improvement Fund. We are blessed that our congregation was able to make this happen and grateful to all those who helped to pay off the loan.

At the same meeting the congregation heard about needed repairs to the organ and authorized the Church Council to spend up to \$10,000 to make the necessary repairs. Since then another major expenditure has arisen with the long needed replacement of windows in the Luther Room and other improvements and repairs. The Church Council is calling for a new Improvement Fund campaign.

We are calling a congregational meeting on Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup> immediately following the 9:45 worship, to vote to approve additions to the budget to cover these expenses.

May God continue to bless you,

The Church Council

### **Improvement Fund**

Your help is needed for Organ and other building repairs. Please return "Improvement Fund" pledge cards. Thank You!

www.StPaulsRyeBrook.com

Sent with a prayer to:

761 King Street at Comly Ave. Rye Brook, New York 10573 (914) 939-8170

St. Paul's

