

## St. Paul's Lutheran Family

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**2016**

### *A Message from Interim Pastor Jim Goldsmith*

Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you so much for your kindnesses and generosity! Karen and I continue to be deeply touched by the wonderful people of St. Paul's Lutheran Family.

December was a busy month, to be sure, but January is shaping up to be just as action-packed and full of thrills. (*Well... almost, maybe.*)

Everything from a marathon chili-eating contest to a bible study/brunch/quilt-off will happen at St. Paul's during the first month of the New Year. (*Wait... is that right?*)

Anyway, be sure to read all about it in the following pages of this newsletter.

The Call Committee continues to make good progress. The committee has provided an update and helpful information on pages 3-4.

The Transition Team has completed its Interview Report and copies are available in the church office. As a result of that process, the Transition Team recommended nine projects to the Congregation Council, with others to be considered after the call process is complete.

The projects include: gathering information and cost estimates for a video projection system in the church and for an electronic message sign on the street corner; indoor directional signs (these have been ordered and are on the way); revive the CD ministry (a technician will check over our equipment before the end of this month); record Sunday worship attendance (more about this in a moment); better visitor follow-up, training

for ushers and greeters, and a review of how we choose hymns (these items have been directed to the Worship Life Committee); and, last but not least, advertising, both purchased and free. The Transition Team will be doing most of the work to research the video system, outdoor sign and advertising possibilities.

Beginning on Sunday, January 3rd, we will have folders at the end of each pew (*row of chairs*) that will have a simple form for everyone to complete. For members – that's YOU – it will be very simple... print your name, check the "member" box, and check "plan to commune today" if that's the case. That's it! If you *want* to, you can add more information – a prayer request or change of address, for instance.

We will ask visitors to provide a bit more information, but that's so we can do a better job of following up with them. We need YOUR help, though, to set an example and put your name in the book EVERY SUNDAY that you are in church.

There are some real benefits to doing this! You may have heard that "Joe Btfsplk" is a member of St. Paul's, but never met him. And there's his name right there on the attendance page! We will also be able to see if someone has been absent for a while and follow up.

FINALLY, we are going to be blessed with a couple of dozen (or so) young musicians every Tuesday afternoon from 3–4:30 p.m. in Friendship Hall. The Carson City Symphony Youth Strings program will be rehearsing here and we will be blessing this effort with the use of our space.

Fondly yours, in Christ,

**President's Corner**  
**by Vice President Linda Wilson**

**H A P P Y N E W Y E A R !!**

As I sit here at my desk and reflect back on 2015, our St Paul's Lutheran Family members have been VERY busy bees this year. The following are just SOME items that come to mind. A family working together can accomplish so much.

- The 2015/16 Budget was presented and voted on by the Congregation at the Annual Meeting, along with the voting in of the new Congregation Council members.
- We no sooner paid off our mortgage on our church than we discovered our church was in great need of major repair.
- SPLF went through a loan process of obtaining a construction loan to repair some badly neglected areas of our church. Our structural team, Bob Larson and Dick Lowther, did a fabulous job; without them we couldn't have accomplished as much as we did in a timely manner. The manpower and man hours used to coordinate the many church volunteers in the removal of everything from the church to storage areas and turn Friendship Hall into a temporary place of worship, and then bring everything back into the church in its proper place was amazing and very much appreciated.
- We are just finishing up with some minor cosmetic items but for the most part we have completed most of our goals. I would like to take this time and congratulate the Youth Group that did a fantastic job of painting and decorating their room recently.
- After many meetings our Special Committee for Constitutional Revisions has been working very hard and are just about ready to present their recommended changes.
- We've expanded our active SPLF committees and have added a service project, "A Season of 100 Kindnesses," which has been busy doing a great many great good works within our community.
- Our SPLF Transition Team has been busy gathering data, identifying concerns and issues of the congregation, and with great enthusiasm are implementing and will be monitoring some projects for our future.
- SPLF Council went through the hiring process and hired a new Vocal Choir Director, Vocal Choir Accompanist, two musicians, three custodians and last but not least a Church Secretary. We also appointed a new Treasurer and appointed a new Financial Secretary.
- We elected a Call Committee which has been busy working on gathering information from the congregation to aid them with their duties and responsibilities in the selection of pastoral candidates. I could go on and on because there is so much that has been accomplished by so many wonderful people.
- Challenges were abundant for VBS that was held during the construction, and our Sunday School Superintendent, teachers, Youth Group members and helpers had their challenges, but at the end of the year they all put on a magnificent Christmas program.

In conclusion I would just like to add that with the Lord's blessings and guidance, we have been blessed by having Reverend Jim Goldsmith as our Interim Pastor. He has helped our family review our past and continues to help our SPLF family move forward by focusing on our future, by providing continuity and at the same time introducing some welcomed changes.

I would also take this time and welcome back President Ken Elverum and his wife Kay from their trip. I am happy to report they came home safe and well and am sure they will have some wonderful experiences and beautiful pictures to share with us.

As we continue to move forward in the new year of 2016, and on behalf of the SPLF Council, may God's blessings for good health and a safe and prosperous New Year be had by all.

*Linda*

## CALL COMMITTEE REPORT

*“A warm and loving family of God is looking to adopt a pastor. We hope to engage and bond together as we recognize each other as brothers and sisters in Christ. We are ready to grow our family even as we celebrate many of our members who are young and young at heart. We rejoice in God’s creation that surrounds us in northern Nevada. Be prepared to inspire, dream, nurture, work, mourn and laugh with us.”*

The first task for the Call Committee is to complete a Site Ministry Profile. This document requires us to include references and information on our congregation and community, our top priorities in ministry and the characteristics of the pastor we are hoping to join us in ministry. Currently we are about half way through the document.

Thank you to over 70 members who responded to the survey in November. Included with this article are responses that were collected by the committee. This information will be incorporated into the profile.

Section seven of the profile asks questions that are a little more thought provoking.

**Purpose:** *How does this congregation understand its reason for being in the light of God’s call to mission and service? Who are you? Why are you here?*

**Giftedness:** *What are your gifts and resources for fulfilling this purpose? What are the congregation’s top three assets and how are they being used? Are there obstacles that must be overcome to be able to use these gifts and accomplish the mission?*

**Mission:** *In light of the way you have described your ministry context in this Ministry Site Profile, what are the top three mission priorities which, if accomplished, hold the most promise for the continued development of this ministry?”*

The Call Committee is hoping to complete the Ministry Site Profile by the end of the January. Once it is completed we will be submitting it to Bishop Mark Holmerud for his review and recommendations. After his review, we will then submit the profile to the Council and the Congregation. After any revisions, the profile is then published on the ELCA website for pastors who may want to submit their names as candidates. This process will take us into the springtime.

Thank you for keeping the Call Committee in your prayers.

Respectfully submitted, Louise Griffith, Chairperson

### TOP 5 MINISTRY TASKS

- (42) Preaching/Worship
- (38) Pastoral Care and Visitation
- (37) Youth and Family Ministry
- (22) Christian Education
- (18) Ministry with Seniors

### 5 “TOP PRIORITY”

#### MINISTER ATTRIBUTES

- (33) Be an effective communicator
- (31) Help people develop their spiritual life
- (30) Be active in visitation of members and non-members

- (28) Be effective in working with youth
- (20) Have a strong commitment and loyalty to the Lutheran Church
- (20) Deal effectively with conflict

### 5 “VERY HELPFUL”

#### MINISTER ATTRIBUTES

- (21) Deal effectively with conflict
- (19) Bring joy and good humor to relationships
- (18) Provide care and nurture
- (17) Be effective in working with youth
- (17) Be able to use technology and media

## CALL COMMITTEE REPORT *(continued)*

### Ministry Site Characteristics

Each line below provides two statements. After reviewing each pair of statements, place an “X” in the box under the category you feel represents St. Paul’s Lutheran Family.

For example, on the first line you read Statement 1 and feel St. Paul’s is very formal and programmatic. You can place an X in the blue box next to the statement under “A Lot Like Us”. However, if you happen agree more with Statement 2, and feel St. Paul’s is very informal, you can place an “X” in the red box under “A Lot Like Us”. (There should only be one choice (“X”) per line.)

Statement 1	A LOT LIKE US	A LITTLE LIKE US	A LOT LIKE US	A LITTLE LIKE US	Statement 2
We tend to be formal and programmatic.	21	15	18	8	We tend to be informal and spontaneous.
We have clearly defined goals and plans for our future.	13	24	16	7	We have no stated goals or plans.
We are racially and economically diverse.	16	16	22	8	We are demographically homogeneous.
We welcome ideas that are provoking and challenging.	5	11	29	17	We prefer ideas that are tried and true.
We rely on our leaders for directions.	25	17	12	6	We rely on group decision-making.
We have learned how to use conflict constructively.	5	11	23	22	We tend to perceive conflict as something destructive
Our facilities are often used by community groups.	28	26	6	3	Our Facilities are only used for our activities.
We train people to minister outside our walls.	3	15	8	29	We train people to minister inside our walls.
We focus on ideas and beliefs.	16	23	12	6	We focus on skills and action.
We are obviously Lutheran in identify and practices.	39	15	5	2	We are less obvious about our Lutheran heritage.
We participate in synod and ELCA activities.	15	12	22	12	We are not very active in the synod and ELCA.
We focus on Biblical studies and doctrine.	32	21	3	6	We focus on contemporary issues and topics.



Cooooold Friiiiiiiigid weather is here AND the hustle and bustle of the holidays are over; now it's time to RELAX and come on down to WELCA'S fabulous Chili Cook-Off, Silent Auction and some GREAT entertainment.

ALL ARE WELCOME – BRING YOUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS FOR A GREAT EVENING OF FUN AND LAUGHTER.

Bring your best home-made chili and enter our chili cook-off contest. We have wonderful prizes for Judges' Choice and People's Choice winners, as well as prizes for all entrants. Soups and other dishes are always welcomed but will not be judged. Sign-up sheets for set-up/clean-up, chili toppings, desserts, as well as other information, will be posted on the WELCA bulletin board.

We will also need three volunteers to judge the chilies. If you are interested in being a judge and can be at the church by 4:00 p.m. on the day of the event, please sign-up.

Also, if you are interested in being part of our entertainment, please contact Judy Lowther (882-5683). We know there are some great entertainers in our midst so please join the fun and sign-up.

If you would like to donate items for our Silent Auction we have a place in the church to store items until the event; either see Renee (our church secretary) or contact Chairman Linda Wilson (246-1543). If you need to contact her and can't reach her by phone, you may email her at [dsl dj1@yahoo.com](mailto:dsl dj1@yahoo.com).

### MARK YOUR CALENDARS

WHERE: ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN FAMILY

DATE: SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2016

TIME: 4:30 p.m. TILL?????

*(All times are approximate...)*

1:00 p.m. – SET-UP

4:30 p.m. – CHILI JUDGING

5:30 p.m. – DINNER

6:00 p.m. – 1st HALF OF ENTERTAINMENT

6:30 p.m. – AWARDS PRESENTATION

7:00 p.m. – 2nd HALF OF ENTERTAINMENT

7:30 p.m. – SILENT AUCTION RESULTS

## CHILI COOK-OFF



## AWARDS

**Judges' Choice**  
**People's Choice**



**A Season of 100 Kindnesses** has been popping up all over the place. Some folks in Dayton were thrilled – and surprised! – to find that someone had paid for their pizza order. Residents of the Advocates Shelter received toiletries and oven mitts to take some of the “sting” out of their lives. On a *very* wintry Carson City day, homeless people were given warm blankets, warm clothes, food and toiletries. And paper doves, accompanied by a message of peace and hope, were sent to two ELCA congregations in San Bernardino, CA, and to the United Protestant Church of France headquarters in Paris. **ALL** over the place!



The Youth Group has been busy! We painted the walls of the Youth Room (formerly known as the Evergreen Room). We shared joy and fun with many members of the congregation on Elfing Day, December 12th. We prepared and served brunch following the Sunday School program on December 13th. We will have our holiday party on December 29th. 2016 will be a great year!

### LEE GROUP

Should old acquaintances be forgot? NO! Indeed, they should be renewed! That’s what the LEE group is all about. “LEE” started out as “Life Enrichment for Everyone” – we now think of it as “Lutheran Eager Eaters.” On the first Thursday of most months we meet to renew old friendships and make new ones. We invite all in the “grandparents generation” to join us on January 7th at 11:30 a.m. for a potluck luncheon in Friendship Hall. Please bring a dish to share (main course, casserole, vegetables, salad, dessert, bread, etc.). Come and help us to resolve to not forget old acquaintances!



### WORSHIP LIFE COMMITTEE

The Worship Life Committee meets Sunday, January 17th at 9:00 am, between the worship services that morning.

We would like to request that if you are interested in a volunteer opportunity, we need someone to schedule the readers for our Sunday services. We want to thank Hope Chowanski for her service that has lasted for a long while, but now she needs a break. It’s not a difficult task, and now that we have a newly updated directory you can find phone numbers very easily. You can even schedule people ahead, a month or two at a time. So, please consider stepping up and helping us out by contacting Judy McPhail or Joan Schultz, Co-chairs of the committee. You can also call the office and leave your name with Renee if needed.

Thanks ahead,

Judy McPhail and Joan Schultz  
Co-chairs

**BIBLE STUDY / BRUNCH**



**Saturday, January 16, 2016**

9 a.m. – 12 noon. Pastor Kim Morgan, Facilitator. Guests will be women of St. Peter’s Episcopal Church. This is always a truly wonderful event.

Women – please sign up on the sheets on the WELCA bulletin board – to let us know that you are coming and if you can help with food or hostessing.



*Just a reminder – all women of St. Paul’s are considered members of WELCA. We hope that you will mark your calendar for these various events and plan to join us. If you would like a ride to any of the events, please let Renee know in the office and we’ll come and get you!*

**Bethlehem Lutheran School  
Open House**

Bethlehem Lutheran School cordially invites you to attend their annual Open House on Thursday evening, January 28, 2016 from 5:00–7:00 pm. Their school offers grades Preschool–8th grade. They are located at 1837 Mountain Street, Carson City. For questions please call 882-5252 or send their administrative assistant

an email at [scoleman@blcs.org](mailto:scoleman@blcs.org).



**A VERY LARGE THANK YOU** goes to Dick Lowther who, after many years of service, has retired from the janitor position here at St. Paul’s. Dick has spent countless hours not only in his janitorial duties, but also as a “go to” person for a multitude of other tasks. He now will be getting a little more rest... but will still be around. Wish him well!



Volunteers are needed to be counters after each worship service. This is a super way you can help out and it doesn’t usually take more than about fifteen minutes. Won’t you please sign-up on the sheet in the hallway?

***Training is provided.***

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION  
COMMITTEE**

We are on to a new year for Christian Education at St. Paul’s. 2015 was a very eventful but prosperous time for us. Sunday School attendance has improved. Bible studies are going on and we have a renewed feeling that we are succeeding. The 7th–8th grade class is especially lively and these young folks keep Kristine very busy on Sunday. The rest of the children in the lower grades are also doing well and are a joy to have around.

We will be working on some new lessons in January as we progress towards the spring, Lent and the Easter season.

If anyone is interested in helping with Sunday School in any capacity please give me a call. Anyone is welcome to join us! Of course, please tell everyone about our Sunday School! Blessings, Renee Woslum

## MARATHON QUILT MAKING DAY



Please join us on  
Tuesday, January 12th,  
from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.  
for this special event!  
Can you help us all day  
or even for a few hours

to make children's quilts for the  
Advocates to End Domestic Violence  
shelter? We will even be serving lunch.

Even if you have never made a quilt  
before, come and we will show you how  
(the basics). Can you twist yarn, tie a  
square knot, or lay out 35 squares for a  
quilt top? We can use your help.

There is a sign-up sheet on the Bulletin  
board next to the Luther Room. Please  
let us know if you can come.

*Sarah Jevne*

## WELLNESS COMMITTEE

Do you know that Food for Thought  
provides weekend food for the hungry  
and malnourished children in our  
community? Each week, they provide a  
nutritious bag of food to children in  
twelve of our local schools.

We have a collection basket here at St.  
Paul's for donations and we are proud to  
say that our congregation is very  
generous in everything they do, as well  
as this worthwhile cause.

A complete list of needed items is  
attached to our basket, but the list  
includes single serving items such as  
2.05 oz. Easy Mac and Cheese cups, 4  
oz. Fruit Cups, 4 oz. Veggie Cups,  
Granola Bars, and Oatmeal. Please  
remember single servings only, no large  
cans of vegetables, etc. can be accepted.

## JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

January 1 – Miriam Slabaugh

January 3 – Susan Misner

January 3 – Rhead Kinder

January 3 – Jessica Lunz

January 3 – Jim Martineau

January 3 – James Opperman

January 3 – Wanda Speidel

January 4 – Russell Bowton

January 4 – Skip Cannady

January 4 – Judy Lowther

January 5 – Traci Angel

January 7 – Peter Elverum

January 7 – Julie Thoreson

January 9 – Carol Barker

January 9 – Lisa Hillenbrand

January 9 – Scott Thunder

January 10 – Hope Chowanski

January 12 – Pat Mundt

January 12 – Connor Van Dyck

January 13 – Karen Revelle

January 14 – David Anderson

January 15 – Betty Hirsch

January 17 – Doris Howell

January 20 – Marla Johnson

January 20 – Clay Woslum

January 24 – Karen Larson

January 24 – Bob Stroub

January 25 – Greg Griffith

January 25 – Hannelore Hanke

January 26 – Kim Hendricks

January 27 – Mary Neumann

January 29 – Bob Larson

January 29 – Christopher Van Dyck

January 31 – Gayle Kennett

## WORSHIP LEADERS

### COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

January 3 – Tom Gesick and Linda Wilson  
January 10 – Bill Sandell and Ken Elverum  
January 17 – Jean Opperman and  
Roger Moellendorf  
January 24 –  
January 31 – 8:00 – Jean Opperman and  
Ken Elverum  
January 31 – 10:30 – Linda Wilson and  
Renee Woslum

### GREETERS (10:30 a.m.)

January 3 – Judy McPhail  
January 10 – Ann Kauf  
January 17 – Judy Webster  
January 24 – Delores Sherman  
January 31 – Dorit Sandmeier

### READERS – 8:00 a.m.

January 3 – Jay Olshen  
January 10 – Bob Larson  
January 17 – Vera Logie  
January 24 – Andrea Rud  
January 31 – Caroll Massie

### READERS – 10:30 a.m.

January 3 – Gloria Randle  
January 10 – Judy Lowther  
January 17 – Susan Misner  
January 24 – Dick Lowther  
January 31 – Renee Woslum



### **SERVING IN THE ARMED FORCES:**

Jerry, Brandon (Luterick), Ike (Moellendorf), Heather Joyner (Johnson), Samuel (Weirton and Osterhold), Peter (Elverum), Tim (Gridley), Sarah (McGee), Olivia (Lesperance), Jason (Coleman), Tom, Michael, Justin

### **FIREFIGHTERS/PEACE OFFICERS:**

Andy (Steyn), Brian (Hillenbrand), Tina (Sherman), Mark (Dickens), John (Gould)

### **CONTINUING PRAYERS FOR: Our**

**Call Committee,** Jennifer, Bev, John, Harry, Peggy S., Roy T., Susan, Michael, Julie, Eileen, James, Helen, Chuck, Darlene, George, Caroll, Joe, Angelo, Harold, Jane, Betty Ray, Diane L., Kennedy

### **THOSE WITH SPECIAL NEEDS:**

**Debbie; Bill Massie** (recovering from surgery); **Sandy Tucker** (recovering); **Betty Razor** (recovering); **Judy McPhail, family and friends** (her mother, Julia Hall, passed away); **Greg Griffith** (recovering); **Frank Zila** (medical testing); **Earl** (Bev Gutzman's brother, recovering from a serious stroke); **Jenna Harrell** (David Harrell's granddaughter, end stage of cancer )



## ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

As you know, the rummage sale is a few months away. We have had many requests from people who would like to bring their donations in now – but we don't have storage at the church. **HOWEVER, we now have a place to store items beginning January 14th.** If you will alert Renee in the office that you have things you'd like to deliver early – or if you need things picked up – we will do our best to manage those requests.



- Think about **house plants** that you might like to part with at the end of March.
- Think of **collectibles** that you could donate.
- Go through your **closets** and “weed out” those things that you haven't worn in awhile
- Look through your **jewelry** and see if you have things that could be donated.
- **Small appliances** are always a hit.
- **Furniture** is welcome and is a hot ticket item.
- Look around your house and your garage and see what items might find new homes!

We will also be looking for workers to help us sort and set up. If you are interested in being involved, please note that we are having a meeting in early February to make plans. **Watch the next newsletter for the date and time.**

***Remember that all of the money we make from this sale goes to support local and church sponsored charities. It is our biggest fundraiser of the year at St. Paul's.***



President – Ken Elverum – 882-3021

Vice President – Linda Wilson – 246-1543

Secretary – Roger Moellendorf – 315-5295

Treasurer – Gloria Randle – 884-3253

Financial Sec'y – Holly McPhail – 443-6639

Stewardship Committee – Nathan Miller,  
Council Liaison – 883-3194; Judy Lowther,  
Chair – 882-5683

Christian Education Committee – Renee  
Woslum, Council Liaison – 883-7748;  
Chair (vacant)

Structural Property Committee – Bill Sandell,  
Council Liaison – 246-5439; Chair (vacant)

Coordinating Design Committee – Tom  
Gesick, Council Liaison – 443-8744; Jean  
Russell, Chair – 882-6710

Fellowship Committee – Bill Sandell, Council  
Liaison – 246-5439; Kay Elverum, Chair –  
882-3021

Wellness Committee – Jean Opperman,  
Council Liaison – 885-0899; Betty Razor,  
Chair – 841-2208

Worship Life Committee – Gloria Randle,  
Council Liaison – 884-3253; Judy McPhail,  
Co-Chair – 841-7620 – Joan Schultz, Co-  
Chair – 883-6833

Youth Ministry Committee – Tom Gesick,  
Council Liaison – 443-8744; Traci Angel,  
Youth Director – 721-5495

Finance Committee – Gloria Randle,  
Treasurer – 884-3253

Interim Pastor – Rev. Jim Goldsmith –  
707-845-1174