

St. Paul's Lutheran Family

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A Message from the Interim Pastor

Dear Friends in Christ,

Jesus is risen! Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Easter has come but it has certainly not gone. We continue to celebrate our Lord's victory over death and the grave. His resurrection assures that our sins are forgiven and that we will spend eternity in the gracious grip of God. Join us for the first three Sundays in May to continue singing "Alleluia" to our awesome, loving God. Then, on May 24, wear something red to mark the birth of Christ's church on Pentecost. Christ is risen indeed!

As I write this we have experienced our first worship services in Friendship Hall, our "interim sanctuary" while repairs are taking place in the church. Many people were pleasantly surprised that we were able to create a meaningful worship space in the room where so many different activities take place. It's not perfect, of course... but it will be more nearly perfect with you there! Come, rejoice, and bring a friend.

While we make adjustments to worship and to our use of space, new life is breaking out in a number of ways in our congregation. Repairs, budgets, elections – oh, my! Please be sure to read the rest of the newsletter to bring you up to date on everything that is happening. While you are doing that, though, please remember that while things may be changing all around us, the grace of God abounds and supports us... always. In the words of that old hymn, "On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand."

I'll repeat last month's parting words: May Easter joy fill your life, now and always! Can I get an "Alleluia!"?

Yours, in Christ,

IMPORTANT STUFF!

Dates to Remember:

Sunday, May 17

Information Meeting to discuss proposed constitutional amendments

Following the 10:30 service

Sunday, June 7

Annual Meeting • Budget • Elections • Constitutional Amendments

One service at 9:00, meeting following



The COTTAGE MEETING REPORT is available in the church office!



Congregation Council Nominations

Okay... You know that you've been that person who has sometimes said, "If I were on the Council, I would make sure that we did things the right way." Well... Nominations are open for four seats on the Congregation Council. Joan Schultz, Jay Olshen and Wayne Kinder are ready to talk to you about being a nominee. What's stopping you? Council elections on June 7 at the Annual Meeting!

President's Corner

It is now May and we are nearing the end of the church's fiscal year. Amazing things are happening at St. Paul's. The repairs to the church building are underway, a proposed budget has been adopted by the council that will be voted upon by the congregation at our annual meeting in June, and we are actively recruiting members to run for election to the Congregation Council. In addition, the council is in the process of adopting a new employee handbook that will change some aspects of our employer/employee relationships, and important changes to our constitution have been proposed which will be explained and discussed at an informational gathering on Sunday, May 17, 2015. While all this is going on, we will be moving forward with the next phase of the call process for a new pastor. It is truly a remarkable time to be a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Family.

First, with regard to the church repairs, we have applied for a loan of \$200,000 from the Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA that will cover all of the needed repairs to the church building and other projects identified by the Structural Property Committee. Last summer, when the council initially authorized seeking such a loan, the thought was to repay the loan in the same manner as we had done with our mortgage over the past 20 years, that is, through regular offerings to the church. The council still believes that the new loan can be repaid in that way. However, at its recent meeting, it was suggested that we try to raise the money to pay for the repairs through the sale of bonds to members, similar to the way Friendship Hall was financed. At this point it is too late to organize a bond sale, but it was suggested that the church offer a promissory note, at the same interest rate as the loan, to members who are willing to lend money. Council directed the Finance Committee to look into this matter and report back at our next meeting. More information will obviously be forthcoming.

Next, concerning the proposed budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016, the council reviewed the preliminary budget that was presented to members at the March 22nd informational meeting and reduced proposed expenditures by more than \$5,000. The proposed budget for the coming year is now set at \$239,375, which is just slightly more than the current budget. It includes some adjustments to the budgeted amounts for staff salaries that council believes more accurately reflect actual work requirements. Under this proposed budget, the line items for some staff positions – such as adult choir director, bell choir director, and church secretary – allow for modest increases, while other line items – such as the church musician – are slightly

lower. When reviewing the proposed budget, please keep in mind these are only budgeted amounts. The numbers do not reflect the actual amount each individual will receive because the council has decided not to extend contracts to its employees any longer. As a result, the actual compensation for each employee may vary depending on the person occupying the position based on experience, education, etc.

Rather than contracts, the council is developing an employee handbook that will guide employer/employee relationships at St. Paul's. Under this proposal, if adopted, all employees will become "at-will" employees with a job description that outlines duties, responsibilities, and benefits. For the coming year, each employee will be offered an employment letter which, if accepted, will govern their future employment, along with their job description and the handbook policies. A draft of the handbook was presented to council members at the April meeting and will formally be put to a vote at the May meeting.

Also, a Nominating Committee has been selected consisting of Jay Olshen, Joan Schultz and Wayne Kinder to gather nominees for the council elections in June. Four new members will be elected to the council, three to a three-year term, and one to a two-year term. We hope to have at least six nominees to select from this year. If contacted by the committee, please consider standing for election. We need your voice on the council!

Finally, there will be an informational meeting for the congregation on Sunday, May 17, following the second worship service, to discuss proposed amendments to the church constitution. In December the council received a petition from some members that proposed revisions to the constitution. As required, the council has developed a set of recommendations to these proposed revisions. Both will be presented to the congregation at the gathering on May 17th. No vote will be taken at that time. It is intended only to inform members of the intent and purpose of the proposed revisions and council's recommendations. The congregation will be voting on these proposals at the Annual Meeting on June 7th. If you are at all interested in the future direction of St. Paul's, please plan on attending both of these important meetings.

As you can see, lots of changes are in the making at our church. This is a crucial time to be a member of St. Paul's. The Congregation Council really needs your input, guidance, and most of all, your prayers as we move forward into the future. Thank you for being an active member and supporter of St. Paul's.

Yours in Christ, Ken Elverum, Council President



**WELCA
WOMEN OF
THE ELCA**

St. Paul's Lutheran Family

SADLY CANCELLED – Mother's Day Brunch – May 9th – Due to the changes in Friendship Hall for the repairs in the sanctuary, it has been decided to cancel the Mother's Day Brunch. We'll look forward to next year's event.

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE was held on Saturday, April 11th. It was very successful due to the donations by members, the many volunteer hours spent setting up, and to our shoppers.

At this time the sale has raised \$3,671 and Thrivent has promised \$300. We have a few items left to sell, so when all is said and done, we should have raised about \$4,000.

Due to the fact that we were lucky enough to have so many volunteers during the week and at the sale, it won't work for us to list all of you. **Know that you are appreciated.** We would like to give special thanks to Dick Lowther and Clay Woslum for their day-to-day assistance (and patience) as we set up. Also, if you have friends at St. Peter's or First Baptist, let them know how grateful we were for the use of their tables.

This event is about raising money for our church and community and is definitely an effort by all of St. Paul's Family. **We thank you all.**

MONDAY, JUNE 1 – BUSINESS MEETING / Dinner 5:30 P.M. This is the meeting where we disburse our funds. If you have ideas of where our support should go, please be prepared to share that. Also, we are seeking people who will serve on a Nominating Committee. If you are interested, please call Carol Kalleres at 883-5451. We need hostesses for that evening to serve and clean up after. Also let Carol know if you are able to do that. We will post sign-up sheets for food items.

REMEMBER: All women of St. Paul's are welcome to attend WELCA meetings and events. Please consider joining us!! It is a great opportunity to meet women you may not have had the chance to spend time with before.

**Rummage
SALE**

**DEBRIEFING DISCUSSION
ON RUMMAGE SALE**

While the set-up and day-of sale are still fresh in our minds, we would like to have a debriefing to make notes for next year of what worked well and what could be tweaked. If you were involved in any phase of the Rummage sale, please come and give us your thoughts and suggestions. We promise to have treats to reward you for your attendance!!! Monday, May 4 at 1:30 pm in Friendship Hall. Please mark your calendar and join us!!

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

While we didn't meet in April because of the activities in the church, we still have almost finished our "Welcome to St. Paul's brochure," with many thanks to Pastor Jim for his input. Our next project is to put out information tags to hang on doors within our community telling people about St. Paul's. Our next meeting is May 14th.

Judy Lowther
Chairperson



COMMUNION ASSISTANTS for MAY

May 3rd @ 10:30 am – Linda Wilson & Sharon Gesick

May 10th (Mother's Day) @ 8:00 am – Bill Sandell & Don Kovisto

May 17th @ 10:30 am –

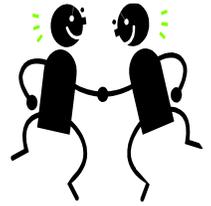
May 24th @ 8:00 am – Joan Schultz & Jere Schultz

May 31st – No Communion – Pastor will be at Synod Assembly in Sacramento



GREETERS FOR MAY

- ♦ May 3 – Mary Neumann
- ♦ May 10 – Evelyn Evans
- ♦ May 17 – Judy Webster
- ♦ May 24 – Mary Neumann
- ♦ May 31 – Susie Anderson



READERS for MAY – 8:00 am service

- ♦ May 3 – Carol Arneson
- ♦ May 10 – Linda Wilson
- ♦ May 17 – Ken Elverum
- ♦ May 24 – Don Kovisto
- ♦ May 31 – Caroll Massie



READERS for MAY – 10:30 am service

- ♦ May 3 – Hope / Lindsay Chowanski
- ♦ May 10 – Linda Wilson
- ♦ May 17 – Renee Woslum
- ♦ May 24 – Holly McPhail
- ♦ May 31 – Judith McPhail





The Thrivent Board continues to be in need of a member to fulfill the current term of a member who is moving.

The position/term would be completed in December of this year and involves attending a meeting once a month to decide how Thrivent funds may be designated. The next Thrivent Board meeting is May 11, 2015 at 6:30 pm at Bethlehem Lutheran. Please consider joining us for this worthwhile ministry.

Thrivent is an important resource for helping our churches in the area with service projects.

Please let Oscar Anderson or Marla Johnson know if you are interested. Thanks!

LEE GROUP

Our May Meeting:

Due to construction and repairs at St. Paul's, the LEE GROUP will meet at Shepherd of the Sierra Lutheran Church for a regular potluck luncheon on Thursday, May 7, starting at 11:30 am. ALL are invited to attend as we share food, fun, and fellowship.

Our May hostesses will be Doris Howell, Bev Gutzman, and Jane Antila. Our program will consist of a slide show presentation by Sarah Jevne and Betty Razor on their trip to Africa. If you have any questions or need driving directions, please contact Doug Thunder at 883-1548. Hope to see EVERYONE at LEE...so please bring a dish to share and join us!

NOTE: Shepherd of the Sierra is located at 3680 YS Hwy 395 South. We will meet at that location on May 7 and June 11. The LEE Group does not meet in July and August.



May Birthdays

- 2-Rodger Steyn
- 4-Marilou Martineau
- 6-Mary DeFelice
- 8-Audrey Stroub
- 12-Jane Antila
- 13-Janelle Henkle
- 13-David Harrell
- 14-Jean Opperman
- 15-Ellen Boone
- 18-Tom Snodgrass
- 19-Dottie Foster
- 19-Susan Goetz
- 20-Angelo DeFelice
- 20-Lykira Fuentes
- 29-Chuck Bailey
- 30-Daniel Neiman



BIRTHDAY NOTE!

We are constantly checking and re-checking our Birthday lists for accuracy and making sure you are all included as well as your children. So, if you don't see your name(s) on the list please let us know! We truly care and want everyone to be included! But, we don't know unless you tell us, so give me a call at the office or send me an E-mail at stppsecy@att.net.

In fact, we heard from a reliable source that we missed Greta O'Kelley's birthday last month on April 16. We are sincerely sorry for that. You are never "too young" to celebrate your birthday!



Thanks, Renee

PLEASE REMEMBER—

If you are planning a meeting at church, please check with the office for availability of meeting rooms. The church calendar is very busy and will get busier with our Repair project starting so availability may be limited.



Please don't block any EXIT doors when you are having an event or meeting with others in your group. It is a Safety Hazard that we need to avoid in case of an Emergency. Please check windows and doors for closure when event or meeting is finished.

Structural Property Committee Report

Well, the process has begun to fix the dry rot problem. On April 22nd the contractor stabilized the stained glass window to keep it from falling down. On April 27th the asbestos abatement began and this will take approximately 8 to 10 days, so by May 11th they should start the demolition of the floor around the entire perimeter of the church and begin the framing of the rim joists. Then the insulation of the ducts and other pipes in the crawl space and installation of the vapor barrier to prevent future moisture from damaging the wood. Pray that all goes well to this point.

Dick Lowther



FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

A heartfelt thank you goes out from the Fellowship Committee to the Youth Group who hosted Breakfast for the church Easter Sunday, April 5th, and to Delores Sherman, Bev Gutzman and Bev Steinert for April 12. Additionally, Susan Misner and family for coffee hour on Sunday, April 19. The committee met on March 27 to plan a May celebration for all of St. Paul's 2015 graduates, to be held after the 10:30 service on Sunday, May 24, 2015. The celebration will honor any member who has graduated from ANY educational program since May 2014. We will need information from any of you who fall into this category. Please submit this information to Kay Elverum or leave at the office. We are also planning a summer picnic...date & time to be announced. See you at the coffee hour! Kay Elverum

Wellness Committee

Did you know that we are no longer able to accept old prescription donations? Originally these were given to FISH and at their doctor's discretion were distributed to needy people who could not afford medications for certain illnesses such as high blood pressure, etc. Now, the legislature has passed a law that this is illegal and cannot be done.

There is, however, an organization called CARE Chest of Sierra Nevada that offers Free Medical Resources for Nevadans in Need. They offer Medical Equipment and supplies, safety and mobility items and prescription assistance along with much more...More information is listed on the Blue card brochure on our bulletin board.

Empire Elementary serves many children in need. They are always looking for assistance for these children as their needs are ongoing. If you would like to help you can contact Denise DiMarzo, Office manager. They also have an extensive campaign at Thanksgiving and Christmas so many hands are needed. See the office for more detail.

Audrey Stroub/Betty Razor

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION NEWS

Sunday School is winding down for the summer and will be ending on Sunday, May 10. The children are busy with Mother's Day gift surprises and Father's Day surprises. They are also practicing for a short musical presentation at the 10:30 service on May 10.

It has been a challenge this year with attendance being low so we are working towards some new ideas for the fall to increase attendance. If you have anyone in your family or neighborhood that would enjoy a fun program for one hour on Sundays, please encourage them to join us!

We will have a Vacation Bible School program this summer. We are looking at July 27-31. It will be a fun western-themed program for our VBS this year. Please look for announcements coming up on this fun & worthwhile summer ministry!

Please enjoy your summer and be safe!

Yours in Christ,

Renee Woslum,
Sunday School

Children's Sunday School



ST. PAUL'S FINANCIAL STATUS

Financial Secretary's Report
March, 2015

March Budget = \$ 22,885
March Income = \$ 17,948
March Expenses = \$ 16,525
March Income exceeded Expenses =
\$1,423 or 8.6%
March Budget exceeded Income =
\$ <4,937> or <27.5%>

YTD Budget = \$ 183,080
YTD Income = \$ 175,427
YTD Expenses = \$ 143,467
YTD Income exceeded Expenses =
\$ 31,960 or 22.3%
YTD Budget exceeded Income =
\$ <7,653> or <4.4%>

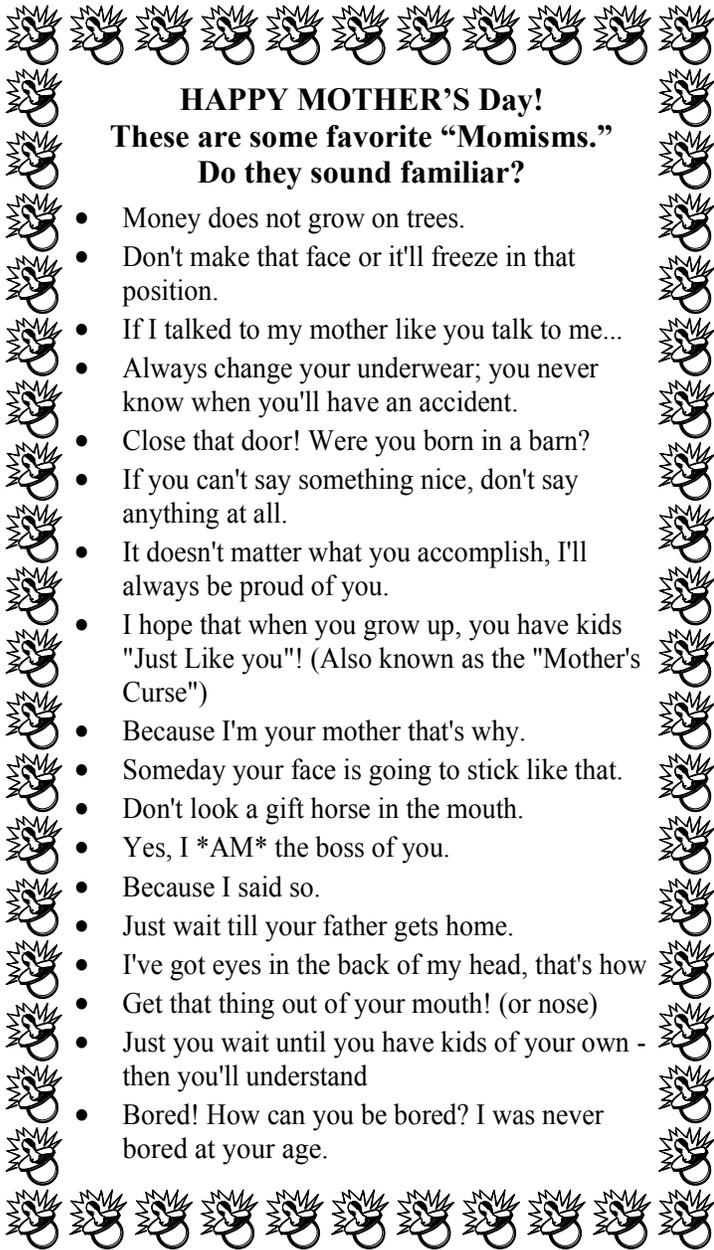
NOTE: all figures are rounded.

Respectfully submitted,
Kevan Lesch, Financial Secretary

St. Paul's Lutheran Family Leadership

Congregation Council

President – Ken Elverum 882-3021
Vice-President – Roger Moellendorf 315-5295
Secretary – Linda Wilson 246-1543
Treasurer – Louise Griffith 232-7071
Financial Secretary – Kevan Lesch 267-0115
Stewardship Committee – Joan Schultz 883-6833
Wellness Committee – Jay Olshen 841-9020
Worship Life Committee – Gloria Randle 884-3253
Constitution Committee – Gloria Randle 884-3253
Christian Education Comm. – Renee Woslum 883-7748
Structural Property Committee – Bob Larson 246-7752
Design Committee – Bob Larson 246-7752
Fellowship Committee – Bill Sandell 246-5439
Youth Ministry Committee – Jay Olshen 841-9020



HAPPY MOTHER'S Day!

These are some favorite "Momisms."
Do they sound familiar?

- Money does not grow on trees.
- Don't make that face or it'll freeze in that position.
- If I talked to my mother like you talk to me...
- Always change your underwear; you never know when you'll have an accident.
- Close that door! Were you born in a barn?
- If you can't say something nice, don't say anything at all.
- It doesn't matter what you accomplish, I'll always be proud of you.
- I hope that when you grow up, you have kids "Just Like you"! (Also known as the "Mother's Curse")
- Because I'm your mother that's why.
- Someday your face is going to stick like that.
- Don't look a gift horse in the mouth.
- Yes, I *AM* the boss of you.
- Because I said so.
- Just wait till your father gets home.
- I've got eyes in the back of my head, that's how
- Get that thing out of your mouth! (or nose)
- Just you wait until you have kids of your own - then you'll understand
- Bored! How can you be bored? I was never bored at your age.

OUR MEMBERS IN THE NEWS!

The Soroptimist International of the Comstock has recently awarded to two of our members some very special awards for community service. Laura Kauf was awarded the Ruby Award and the Live your Dream Award. The Ruby Award is given to someone who is not a Soroptimist member that makes an extra-ordinary difference in the lives of other women and children. She donates time at the food banks in the community, and remote area medical events. In addition to the Ruby Award she received the Live your Dream Award and a scholarship for \$500!

Ashle Overlock was also honored with a Certificate of Appreciation for the hundreds of hours she and others have dedicated their time to mentoring of students in the S Clubs of Silver Stage High School and Dayton High. These clubs are open to students from both high schools.

An article and pictures of these presentations are on the cabinet outside the office. We are proud of these ladies who are a part of St. Paul's. Congratulations!



Is Your Eyesight Affecting Your Driving?

Have your eyes examined annually. The American Optometric Association recommends annual eye exams for anyone over age 60. Your optometrist or ophthalmologist can make sure your eyes don't show any serious age-related changes such as macular degeneration.

Reduce your speed when driving at night. As we get older, our pupils get smaller and don't dilate as quickly in the dark. Because of this and other normal age-related changes in the eye, only about one-third as much ambient light reaches your retinas in your 60s, compared with when you were in your 20s.

If you are having difficulty, limit yourself to shorter trips, preferably during daylight and when weather conditions are favorable. Keep your car in good repair, plan extra time for travel, stay the recommended distance behind the vehicle in front of you and follow expert advice for driving safely.

LOST and FOUND

Has anyone found they are missing an earring or a pair of glasses lately? There are three earrings and two pair of glasses on the counter by the office. If you are missing something like this, please check these and claim if yours. One of the lost earrings is a cute little crystal angel. Please stop by and take a look!



The Easter Bunny was very busy HOPPING around town! The Youth Group teamed up with the Easter Bunny!



The Youth Group was so happy to serve breakfast on Easter Sunday! They made 15 dozen eggs, 15 lbs. of pancake mix, 400+ sausage links, and lots of fruit salad.

Thank you for joining us for our EASTER PANCAKE BREAKFAST! The Youth group would like to thank you all for joining us on Easter morning. We all had fun cooking and serving you on Easter! Thank you for your continued support of our wonderful youth!

Mother's Day Tea

The Youth Group would like to wish all mothers, daughters, and friends a wonderful Mother's Day! We are sorry that we will not be able to co-host the tea this year, due to the church repairs. We look forward to hosting the Spring Tea next year! We hope that your day will be filled with love!