

# ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Volume 9 Issue 2

SHARING CHRIST'S LOVE  
WITH THE WORLD

## February News

**Sunday**  
**Worship Services**  
8:00am & 10:30am  
**Sunday School**  
9:15am

**Wednesday**  
6:15pm

### Inside this issue:

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## Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday,  
February 22, 2012  
6:15pm



## Lenten Worship

February 22nd, Ash Wednesday, marks the beginning of the contemplative, penitential season of Lent.

As part of your Lenten discipline, you are encouraged to participate in evening worship each Wednesday in Lent. We will begin our season with an Ash Wednesday service of repentance and marking with ashes, and then, in the remaining Wednesdays, will use Holden Evening Prayer, including a brief message.

**Worship begins at 6:15, following dinner at 5:30.**

## PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

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### *INTERIM TIMES*

Each issue of this newsletter will include my "progress report" as I guide St. Paul Lutheran Church through this interim time.

I'm frequently asked "How long will you be with us?" or "How long will it take to get our new pastor?" The only answer I've been able to offer is "It takes as long as it takes." Interim transition is a process. Leaders of the 11 previous congregations where I've served as Interim Pastor have learned that there are no appropriate nor recommended "short-cuts" to calling a pastor. It is a process that is best achieved step-by-step.

I am here as your pastor through this process, offering you many of the pastoral ministry tasks necessary for the short-term: preaching, worship, sacramental rites, weddings, funerals, administration, and pastoral care.

The pastoral office is not "vacant," only abridged temporarily as you move through this time of transition.

Members of St. Paul Lutheran elected a Call Committee of six persons on January 29th at the Congregational Meeting. I will train the members of the Call Committee for their task. There may also be need for additional assistance during the "information-gathering phase" of the process. The Southeastern Synod Bishop or Staff member will meet with the Call Committee periodically through the process as well. It is the congregation who calls a pastor, so near the conclusion of the process, every voting member may participate in the actual "call" of that pastor.

A congregation "calls" (not "hires") a pastor. It is as much a spiritual process as it is temporal (worldly). Yes, there are certain practical aspects involved: job description, compensation, etc. But within the Church, a pastor is called to serve God through the ministry of a congregation. Therefore, much prayer, devotion, reflection, and heavenly spiritual guidance is sought....both by the members of the Call Committee and also by the pastors being considered.

Your prayers are also sought and cherished during this process. Please include the St. Paul Lutheran congregation, it's Church Council, church staff, and future Call Committee in your daily prayers. May God bless and guide this congregation now and in the interim time ahead.

Pastor Duane O. Salness,  
Interim Pastor

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**New Member Classes**  
**Sunday, February 5th & 12th**  
**9:15am**

New Member  
Welcome Reception  
Sunday, February 19th  
following the  
10:30 service.

## PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

### Ministry Team Night & Council Meeting Monday, February 20th 6:00pm

Join in an evening of planning Ministry for St. Paul.  
Everyone is welcome a light supper will be served

### A Message From Your Council President

When you were a child, did you have jobs at home? I did. I grew up on a farm, so I gathered the eggs and fed the chickens. I was also responsible for washing the cream separator. I hated that job, but it was better than getting up at 5 a.m. with my brothers to milk the cows. I knew everyone in the family had to work together to keep things running well.

It's that way in the church too. We all need to work together to keep things going smoothly. We have some paid staff, but they don't work enough hours to do everything, nor would we ask that of them.

It is very satisfying to participate in the life of St. Paul by finding a way that we can help out.



All of you can find your place to help at St. Paul. If you can't do heavy lifting or drive at night, you can call on members who are ill or send cards to visitors or help put together mailings.

If you have small children, you can help in the nursery or with Sunday School or all serve as greeters together. Maybe you have special talents to share with the congregation.

- Can you serve as a cantor during the service?
- Would you like to read the Scripture or present a children's message?
- If you don't know what you might like, sample some activities.
- Serve as a greeter one Sunday or offer to bring refreshments for the coffee hour after church.
- Clean up after the Wednesday night supper.
- Call the office to see if you can do some filing or folding.
- Come to the spring clean-up day and work on the grounds.

Talk to Marsha Bryant, the Volunteer Ministries Coordinator, about your interests and she will put you in touch with the right group.

On March 3 you will have a wonderful opportunity to find out about a variety of different volunteer activities at St. Paul. We are holding a Volunteer Training Day where you can learn what is involved in being an usher or an acolyte or a sound room technician. You can learn how to run the dishwasher or make coffee. You can learn about many of the activities at St. Paul performed by our members. You are under no obligation to sign up to do the things you learn about, but you might just discover an activity you enjoy.

The best way to feel a part of St. Paul is to participate in its activities. That doesn't mean you should sign up for everything, but find something you enjoy and that you can offer as a service to God and St. Paul. You will be blessed by your serving.

Carolyn Speck, Council President

## WORSHIP MINISTRIES

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### Worship Is (Or Ought To Be)...

By: Stephanie Luedtke

Rick Barger, Lead Pastor of Epiphany Lutheran Church in Suwanee, GA, and master of the missional mindset, has been known to say, “Dogs lick; Churches worship”. Strange, but true. It’s what we do. It’s why we are here.

Since worship ought to be of primary importance in the life of a church, it is important that we critically consider what we do and why we do it.

Last month’s article introduced the five key characteristics of Godly worship:

#### Worship Is (Or Ought To Be)...

1. **God-centered**
2. **Relevant**
3. **Holy**
4. **Inclusive**
5. **Missional**

While each of these characteristics is naturally enmeshed with the others, we should also consider them individually. **This month we will consider 1. God-centered and 3. Holy.**

God-centered worship not only has God as the subject, but also as the audience. What we do is both about God and for God. The further we can remove ourselves from the center of our consideration, the more meaningful and authentic our worship will be. While we do come to worship to learn and be fed, if we can shrug off the burdens of ego and self before we enter the sanctuary, the Word of God can truly cut to our hearts. (John 4:23-24)

God-centered worship is, by nature, Holy worship. Any time we can let go of ourselves, and be in the presence of the divine is a holy time. Our morning devotions, a time of intense family bonding, the best run or bike ride, or conversation with a friend can be holy times, as well. What makes all of these times holy is the presence of mystery; the allowance for something larger than ourselves to take hold of and guide the experience to be more than we can imagine it to be. Paradoxically, it is our attention to detail and excellence in how we worship that allows us to let go of ourselves and be attentive to the holiness of God. (Matthew 8:48) I challenge you this month to let go of yourself, your desires, your expectations, and your needs when you come to worship. Be present with God, and be in the presence of Holiness.

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### Make a joyful noise!

We are looking for vocalists to serve as cantors and help lead singing at the 8:00 service.

You would help lead the liturgy and hymns periodically, coordinating with Stephanie a mutually convenient time to review and rehearse the service music.

Email Stephanie at [stephanieluedtke@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanieluedtke@yahoo.com) with questions or to volunteer.



## DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

### Train Up A Child

“Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.”

Proverbs 22:6

Our children are a precious gift to us and a valuable asset to our congregation. They look to us to show them the way to go, and all we need to do is lead them with love. Help is greatly needed from those who feel called to lead our children. **We are looking for adult volunteers who would like to teach Sunday School, a coordinator for this summer’s VBS, and a coordinator for the Children’s Easter Saturday Celebration.**

Email Stephanie at [stephanieluedtke@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanieluedtke@yahoo.com) with questions or to volunteer.



### February Confirmation Schedule

1<sup>st</sup>: 5-7pm Faith Alive Worship – Set up  
 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>: Lutheridge Retreat – Holy Communion  
 8<sup>th</sup>: 5-7pm Faith Alive Worship – Set up  
 12<sup>th</sup>: 9:15am Sunday School – Old Testament  
 15<sup>th</sup>: 4-7pm Assist NYG with Mardi Gras dinner  
 19<sup>th</sup>: 9:15am Sunday School – Old Testament  
 22<sup>nd</sup>: Ash Wednesday Services of Imposition of Ashes  
 26<sup>th</sup>: 9:15am Sunday School – Old Testament  
 29<sup>th</sup>: 6:15pm Mid-Week Lenten Service

### What is Faith Alive at Lutheridge?



The POWERFUL WITNESS of caring college age counselors + A unit of the small catechism covered in a single weekend! + Meet youth from other churches! + Reinforce Congregational Teaching + Try out Summer Camp... or plan a Camp Reunion! + Strengthen relationships among youth groups & make new friends!

Lutheridge counselors provide leadership and stay with campers and help confirmation “get real and


### Sunday Morning Book Study

During the Sunday School hour in the month of February, the adults and high school youth will be discussing the book *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis.

This book is a classic work of Christian apologetics, written in satirical style to teach the concepts of living and defending the Christian faith. It is a fascinating and quick read, and lively conversation is sure to be had! The class will meet at 9:15 in the Children’s Worship Area (adjoining the Sanctuary). Contact Rachel Kaufman

[rachel.kaufman@my.maryvillecollege.edu](mailto:rachel.kaufman@my.maryvillecollege.edu) or Winnie Johnson [winann35@gmail.com](mailto:winann35@gmail.com) with any questions.

9:15am in room 2

  
**Faith Formation**

### Theology Uncorked



The next *Theology Un-Corked* will be Tuesday, February 28th ~ 7:00pm at Sue Tyler’s Home. This is an open conversation about theology around your favorite pint, wine, or water. This is for 21 years and above and open to all who would like to join. This will be a casual conversation about life, faith, and where God is in all of this. Please bring an appetizer to share and contact Sue Tyler for directions (865)556-6432.

### Sunday School begins at 9:15am Please join us in the Fellowship Hall

**High School Youth  
 Tuesday Prayer Breakfast  
 February 7th  
 @ Sweet Celebrations ~ 7:15am**



## DISCIPLESHIP MINISTRIES

### The Definition of Discipleship

I remember the first time my daughter, Olivia, received communion. She was just two years old, and liked to play pastor and offer the "piece of Christ" to her playmates. She knew that communion meant that Jesus loves us, and she watched in church, engrossed, as the pastor blessed the elements. She had practiced holding her hands out to receive the bread, but when we got to the front of the line, she got nervous, put her hands down, and again received her blessing. All the way back to our seats, she cried, "Piece of Christ!" (Or is it "Peace of Christ"?) Needless to say, we went back through the line, and she put her hands out and received the Body of Christ. On the way back again, she asked, "More?"

I was not the one who brought Elena, who is less than two, up for her first communion. She doesn't say much, but she knows what she wants, and she wanted to experience the mystery that the others around her got to experience. After she received her bread, she tapped her thumbs and forefingers together to sign, "More!"

I want to learn from them. Their enthusiasm for what they know in their hearts is a profoundly meaningful experience is what we all need to feel when we walk away from the communion table. More of you, Jesus! More grace, please! Dietrich Bonhoeffer is quoted as saying, "We must be ready to allow ourselves to be interrupted by God." Let us be interrupted from our thoughts, our expectations, and our pieties to be surprised by grace and freed to ask for more.

A disciple is a learner and a follower of Jesus, and discipleship is the process of learning about Him. It has often been said that parents are the best teachers of their children, and that we all are responsible for raising the children in our village. But we are all disciples. We all need to learn, and from anyone who can show us a true picture of who Jesus is, and how best to follow him. Maybe I need to learn from the small children, who walk away from God's meal, asking for more. Maybe we all do.

-Stephanie Luedtke

## PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES



**The Men In Mission (MIM)** welcomed Valerie Day, Haven House, and Dean Moss, Community Food Connection as guest speakers at the

January MIM meeting. Mark Fisher, MIM Immediate Past President, presented a check for \$935.00 to each organization. The congregation was invited, we had a nice turnout for the meeting, and an ice cream social followed.

A copy of the 2012 calendar is on the MIM bulletin board. Our next meeting is **February 2nd at 7:00pm** in Richardson Hall; Pastor Harry Kocotos will present "The Dieter Bonhoffer Story". Also during February, we hope to treat the congregation to part of the cast from the Maryville High School forthcoming stage play. MIM will also bring back the Dinner Theater which will be presented April 28, 2012. "Rinse The Blood Off My Toga" will be presented by the SPLC "Not So Ready For Prime Time Players."



Women of the **ELCA**

**The St. Paul Prayer Chain is seeking new Pray-ers**

WELCA has maintained two prayer chains since 2005 and would like to revise them. Anyone interested in joining please call Brenda McClellan at 379-7458. When you receive a call, you would pray then call the person on your list to pass the message along, Bible Study is monthly on the third Thursday, we are studying the book of Mark. **February 16th ~ 10:00am**

### Valentine's Dinner

February 14, 2012 ~ 5:30pm

@ Sullivan's. - **You must have a reservation,** so please sign up ASAP.

A Blue Plate Buffet, Including Salad, Choice of 2 meats, Side dish, Bread, Dessert, Coffee, tea, Tax & tip, \$20.00 per person.

We need a minimum of 25 people to attend so please sign up early so we can confirm.

**SPAM**

## PARISH LIFE MINISTRIES

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### Wednesday Night Lenten Suppers ~ 5:30pm

With your help, we will again be offering our traditional Lenten Soup Suppers this year.

Our Ministry Teams have been assigned to seek volunteers to provide food for each meal. Please join us in making this a fun time to gather with our church family.

Please utilize the sign up sheets on the Parish Life bulletin board. This will help us to ensure that we have enough food to feed everyone.

Finally, remember Lent is a time of simplicity and preparation for the Easter Celebration. Our goal is not a feast, but a simple meal.

ALL are invited to attend and enjoy a simple meal prior to Lenten Services.

### Soup Suppers and Ministry Teams Responsible

*Ministry Teams remember to be early on your host night to ensure set-up goes smoothly and you are ready to serve at 5:30pm*

Wednesday, February 22 – Ash Wednesday - Fellowship

Wednesday, February 29 – Parish Life

Wednesday, March 7 – Serving

Wednesday, March 14 – Discipleship

Wednesday, March 21 – Support & Proclaiming

Wednesday, March 28 – Worship

Wednesday, April 4 – Holy Week – no meal



**6:15pm Worship** - Holden Evening Prayer Service

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## SUPPORT MINISTRIES

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### REMINDER FROM YOUR FINANCIAL SECRETARY

If your 2011 intent or your 2012 New Years Resolution was to sign up to send your stewardship gifts to Saint Paul using the Mountain National Bank (MNB) account, now is the time and here are the steps to do so:

1. Call me or e-mail me for St. Paul's MNB account number.
2. Go into your bank's on-line bill pay system and click on "Add Payee".
3. Enter the following information where appropriate: St Paul Lutheran Church c/o MNB, ATTN April Harvey, 1820 W. Broadway, Maryville TN 37801, tel # 865-984-9991, St. Paul's account number, and enter your envelope number on the memo line if possible.

In December there were 34 transactions through MNB toward our goal of 50.

Some of you have used the term "Building" or "Building Debt Reduction", or "Building" to identify your contributions to the Capital Campaign. Please use "Capital Campaign" or "CC". You may use your current giving envelope or a pew envelope and write the amounts for each on the envelope. Or you can write a check for both and distinguish the amounts on the memo line. You also can write a separate check for the Capital Campaign and write "CC" on the memo line. If you would like to receive separate envelopes for your Capital Campaign contributions, please contact me and I'll provide them to you. If you use the Mountain National Bank account on-line system, please make separate transactions for the "CC" contributions. You can call me at 865-405-9474, 423-884-6317 or e-mail me on [hpcp2@tds.net](mailto:hpcp2@tds.net),

Herb Perry

## SERVING MINISTRIES

### DEEPEN YOUR SOCIAL TIES

**Why?** Having friends makes your life better and according to research, close social ties make your life longer.

**What should be your aim?** Develop a strong social network that can support you especially through the rough times. *Adapted from AARP Fall, 2011*

### DEEPEN YOUR SOCIAL TIES AT ST. PAUL

**Wear your name tag** - it's easier to meet new people and for them to get to know you!

**Consider joining one of the ministry teams or various groups** - another good way to meet new people, work together and get to know each other better!

## Health & Wellness Corner

### Checked your Blood Pressure lately?



St. Paul offers monthly blood pressure checks on the 2nd Sunday after each service in the Choir Room.

This month's date is **Sunday, February 12.**



### Featured Volunteer

**Evan Searfoss**, 16, a junior at Maryville High School, recently completed his Eagle Scout Project. He first started in scouting as a cub scout in elementary school. Wanting to participate in a project involving the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, Evan learned of an unfinished bird observation tower located at Kyker Bottoms Wildlife Management Area in southern Blount County. He undertook the completion of this structure. Evan estimates he spent over 250 hours completing this project.

As Easter, 2011 drew near at St. Paul Lutheran Church, no ministry team or group felt able to assume responsibility for organizing and preparing the annual Easter breakfast that we all enjoy so much. Evan stepped forth. It was through this effort that he raised about half of the funding required for building materials to complete the observation tower. The Knoxville Tennessee Chapter of the Ornithological Society (KTOS) also contributed significant funding for the completion of this project. Evan recruited and coordinated volunteer help from his family, scout troop, church and KTOS members to assist him with the project. The completion of this project provides a wonderful bird and wildlife observation tower in Blount County that will be used for many years to come. In addition to keeping busy with school and scouting activities, Evan wrestles on the Maryville High School wrestling team.

It is his goal to either go to the Coast Guard Academy or earn a biomedical engineering degree and continue on to vet school.

Congratulations, Evan, on the completion of your Eagle Scout Project and thank you for the ministry you do within our church and community!



### Enjoy watching birds?

You can help scientists understand bird populations and trends across North America by counting birds at your house or in your neighborhood during the upcoming Great Backyard Bird Count.

Save the dates: **the 15th annual GBBC takes place February 17-20.** Everything you need to know to participate is on the website at [www.birdcount.org](http://www.birdcount.org), including downloadable instructions, FAQs, and a how-to video. [Get a regional list](#) of the birds you might see in your area in February so you can brush up on your identification skills ahead of time. If you have questions contact Warren Bielenberg 681-7884

## St. Paul + Faith + Fun + Fellowship



### St. Paul Youth National Youth Gathering Fundraiser

*We gather as citizens with the saints to learn to love like Jesus by practicing discipleship through peacemaking that works for justice*

Mardi Gras Dinner  
Wednesday, February 15, 2012  
5:30pm-7:00pm



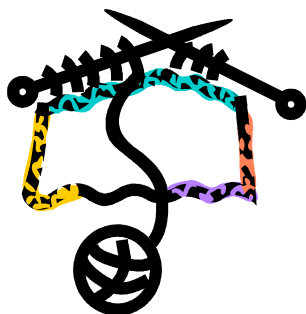
*Jazz Music*



*New Orleans Style Food Buffet*



*Advanced tickets \$12 each ~ Children 10 or younger \$5*



### Keep 'em in Stitches

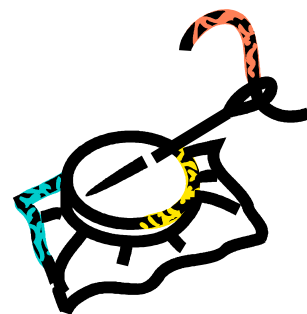
Any form of embroidery, stitchery, crochet, knitting, quilting...

All projects are welcome.

If you need help or direction, I will do my best to help you.

Or, I'll bet we have some experts who can help too.

Bring a friend, everyone welcome.



**If you don't have a project, bring yourself we will be happy to keep you in stitches.**

**The first and second Thursday each month ~10:00am-1:00pm ~ Bring a sandwich.**

Contact Mary Schopmann [mschopmann@earthlink.net](mailto:mschopmann@earthlink.net) for more details.



### Blount County Chapter, Thrivent Builds

**Pancake Supper ~ Tuesday, February 21, 2012 ~ 6:00 pm**

This will be our first fund raiser to raise money to build a new Habitat home for a Blount County family. The meal will be served at St Paul Lutheran Church, fellowship hall. Donations are accepted and if paying by check; please make checks out to Thrivent Builds.

Those interested in helping to build this Habitat house or have any questions, please contact Gary Moehling 233-3357 or Jan Hanes 980-3353.







# FEBRUARY 2012

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

February 2 Judy Sorensen  
 February 2 Ashley Kellahan  
 February 3 Adrian Da Cruz  
 February 4 Isaac Bryant  
 February 4 Rachael Wyatt  
 February 7 Hannah Rundle  
 February 16 Thomas Finn  
 February 20 Carol Trosen  
 February 20 Emma Sheets



February 21 Lotte Heinrich  
 February 21 Jason Mallette  
 February 21 Evan Searfoss  
 February 26 James Speck  
 February 26 Leslie Walker  
 February 28 Brenda McClellan  
 February 28 Randy Finn

### ANNIVERSARIES

February 24 Greg & Tami Wyatt



### 50 + YEARS

February 9 Clayton & Betty Narveson

February 14 Jerry & Judy Sorensen

# ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH



429 Sandy Springs Road  
Maryville, TN 37803

*Sharing Christ's Love  
With the World*

Phone: 865-982-4285  
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E-mail: [splchurch@bellsouth.net](mailto:splchurch@bellsouth.net)  
Web : <http://www.stpaulmaryville.org/>

Church Office Hours : 9:00 am—2:30pm  
Monday—Friday

If you no longer wish to receive  
this newsletter please contact  
the church office at 982-4285 or  
[splchurch@bellsouth.net](mailto:splchurch@bellsouth.net).  
Thank You.

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## **Dates of Interest**

*Check Calendar for times and places*

### **Council:**

Monday, February 20th ~ Ministry Team Night & Council Meeting

### **Discipleship:**

Sunday's in February ~ Adult Faith Formation - Book Study

Wednesday, February 15th ~ Mardi Gras Dinner ~ NYG Fund Raiser

### **Serving:**

Sunday, February 12th ~ Blood Pressure Checks

### **Worship:**

Wednesday, February 22nd ~ Ash Wednesday

Wednesday's in February ~ Lenten Mid-week Worship

### **Parish Life:**

Wednesday's in February ~ Lent Soup Suppers Meal

Thursday, February 2nd & 9th ~ Keep'em in Stitches

Thursday, February 2nd ~ Men in Mission

Tuesday, February 21st ~ Thrivent Builds Pancake Supper

Thursday, February 16th ~ WELCA Bible Study

Saturday, February 25th ~ Out to Lunch Bunch ~ O'Charley's