

February, 2015

The Epistle—Monthly Newsletter

St. Paul Lutheran Church

106 Maple Street

Reading, OH 45215-4811



The Epistle— February, 2015

Pastor Bob will be spending the worst months of the winter in Florida and so we extend a warm welcome to our new interim Pastor Dick Schroeder. We look forward to this time with him and plan to learn from his years of experience.

Pastor Dick will be available in the office on Tuesdays from 9:30am to 12:00 pm.

Pastoral Emergencies

Please leave a message at 821-0987 (church office).
Or call Sharon Prince on her cell. 513-802-0692.

Saint Paul Mission Statement

As a community of Christian believers, we are called by God to use the many gifts He has given us, within the church and the community, so others may come to know Him.



Dorcas Circle

The ladies have been able to meet only once since we shipped the last quilts. So we worked really hard in January and plan to meet twice a month for a few months during this year. In a few weeks we will receive information from Thrivent Action team. The proposal we submitted for our quilting project has been approved, and we will receive some aid to help in the purchase of needed supplies, etc. For the quilting. More information on this in the next Epistle

Elinor Schieman

February Ministry Schedule

	Assisting Minister	Reader	Acolyte
1	Terry McDowell	Nelson Langefeld	Spencer Lohmeier
8	Nancy Erbeck	Kathy Hirt	Annie Lohmeier
15	Doug Lohmeier	Sherry Bronner	Cole Isaacs
18	Terry McDowell	Sharon Prince	Grant Lohmeier
22	Nancy Erbeck	Penny Huber	Jack Baumiller

Greeters:

Altar Guild:

Linen: Loretta Forst

Set Up: Janet King

Clean Up: Shirley Harbaugh

Bulletin Folders: Penny Huber and Jean Winkle

Valley Interfaith Ministries

Your continuous support of our mission of "**Helping our Neighbors in Need**" is a true blessing. We would not be able to assist the magnitude of people without the help from our friends and supporters of **VIFCC**. Thank you so much for all you do.

Our Meal of the Month Donation List for February

Canned Beef Stew (~40 oz)

Instant Mashed Potatoes

Canned Green Beans

Canned Fruit Cocktail

Jello Gelatin (6 oz)

Optional Item

Juice Concentrate

(11.5 oz can)

Please see menu slips on the table in the narthex

Please, **NO GLASS CONTAINERS** Through your generosity, *Valley Interfaith Food & Clothing Center* has received many needed meals to support our local community. Slips with the February Menu (to take to **Kroger** with you) are on the narthex table. These menu items are a suggestion, **Any non-perishable food is welcome** (NO GLASS). Please make any donation checks out to St. Paul with a notation for Valley Interfaith Ministry. A check will then be sent from St. Paul to the ministry.

Holy Grounds in the Narthex

Our coffee, tea, and hospitality counter has been restocked with coffees and teas. We purchase through Lutheran World Relief's Coffee Project, continuing our ministry across the

world. There is prepared coffee and tea while you're at church, and coffee and tea to purchase for your home and office.

Coffee for the coffee maker and filters are in the cabinet under the coffee maker. We use one pillow pack of either regular or decaf Mind, Body, and Soul per carafe of coffee. Please help keep the hospitality counter tidy.



As we prepare for lent.....

Jesus cautions us against public acts of piety—on the one day of the year we leave worship with a visible smudge on our foreheads, reminding everyone we see that we have been to church. What are you supposed to do, wipe the ashes off before stepping outside? Do you leave them on only to have the cashier at the grocery store say, "You've got something on your forehead"?

Of course Jesus does not tell us to refrain from all acts of public piety. What Jesus seems concerned with is the *why*, not the *what*. Why do you pray in public? Why do you give alms? Why do you fast? If appearing faithful is a way to build yourself up before others, then it is not faithfulness but hypocrisy. On the other hand, if praying over a meal in a restaurant is something you do because praying at meals is part of your faith, by all means bow your head and pray.

As the season of Lent begins each year, God's people are invited to take on three great disciplines: prayer, fasting, and alms-giving. You hear the invitation to prayer, fasting, and alms-giving in the reading from Joel. Jesus' words in the gospel remind us that our acts of faithfulness always come as a response to God's gifts. Remembering this gives a note of humility to all we do. Piety is not something to brag about. Piety is not something to be proud of. Piety is but acknowledgment of the one who first gave us everything.

Finally, Paul makes it clear, as if there were ever any question: we only become righteous in Jesus. We know grace only because Jesus becomes our sin. This is the grounding for everything we do throughout the holy days of Lent.

Our Lenten Schedule.....

The schedule has been set for our midweek Lenten Services and meals.

There is no meal on Ash Wednesday.

The committee assignments are as follows:

Feb 18th Ash Wednesday Services

 Noon and 7:30 pm

Feb 25th Vespers Service

Social Concerns & Evangelism

March 4th Compline

Education & Drama

March 11th Healing Service

Worship

March 18th Hymn Fest

Property

March 25th St. Paul Players "A Month of

Sundays" Pot Luck

The meals are at 6:15pm and the services start at 7:00pm.

Committee members will set up and clean up. **There are signup sheets on the bulletin board for soup, salad, bread and dessert.**

March 25th will be good old fashioned Potlucks. Please plan to bring your family favorites. Join us for these meaningful services and for the fellowship. **Please see the sign up sheets!**

Thank you.

Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has interviewed, to date, two candidates for the Pastoral position at St. Paul. Of these two candidates, we rejected one and the other we brought back for a second interview, in the hope of making that individual our primary candidate; unfortunately, this candidate chose to accept a call with another congregation. We are, therefore, now awaiting some additional candidate names and profiles. Due to some restructuring at the Synod office, we now have a new Synod liaison for the Call Committee: Pastor Jeff Wick, Assistant to the Bishop. The Call Committee met with Pastor Wick in November, to update him on where we are in the process and to discuss future plans, as well as programs that the Synod has in place to offer us additional assistance, including Pastoral compensation assistance, if needed. We ask your continued prayers, patience and hopeful anticipation as we await our next Pastor. If you have any questions, please contact one of the **Committee members: Nancy Erbeck (Committee Chair), Jeff Baumiller (Council Liaison), Holly Ford, Jim Forst, Diana Hawkins, Britt Hedges (Committee Secretary), Carolyn Koehl and Barry Prince**. Please keep in mind, that the Committee members are unable to discuss any details, about any of the candidates, outside of the confines of the Committee, so please respect the confidentiality of the process.

Nancy Erbeck

Don't forget our Sunday School breakfast on Sunday February 15th. We will begin serving at 9:30am and we are in for a treat!!

Homemade Waffles!!

You don't want to miss this!



Tender Mercies

We are in need of items for the gift baskets for our future visits to Tender Mercies.

Anything can go into a basket. Some examples are: * Small umbrellas, pocket raincoats, rain bonnets/hats, etc * Personal care items (deodorant, hair spray, bath soap, disposable razors, shaving lotion, body wash, shampoo, perfume/aftershave, Kleenex, etc...) * decks of cards * hand held games * Pringles, nuts, pretzels, etc. * canned soups, tuna, crackers, etc. * bottles/cans of soda or juice * note pads/pens/pencils/markers * picture frames, alarm clocks, small radios, etc. * bagged candy/candy bars

This list is endless. We can make a gift basket out of just about anything you'd care to donate.

We are always in need of volunteers to go to Tender Mercies to help with the Bingo game.

Please let me know if you'd like to help.

Thanks a bunch –

Marie Calhoun

Feel free to contact me any time:

513-251-2417 home 513-562-1305 work houdini-
cat@zoomtown.com—home email
rcalhoun@mrsi.com - work email.

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

Feb 1 Jim Miller

Feb 11 Ron & Shirley Harbaugh

Feb 12 Joyce Spelman

Feb 13 Eric Bardes

Kyle Kreiner

Feb 18 Kris Kreiner

Feb 19 Rachel Bronner

Karen Kerlin

Feb 20 Penny Huber

Feb 21 Bryana Bronner

Feb 22 Diana Hawkins

Feb 23 Nate Daley

Feb 24 Erika Ford

Jillian Ford

Feb26 Jack Spelman

Jack and Mary Wagner



WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

One of the things God wants us to do is pray for one another. If you need prayer for yourself or for a family member or friend, please **email the church office at mail@stpaulreading.org** or call **Penny Huber at (513-931-6420)**. Please take this home and pray for those listed.

We pray for **Berkeley** (great grandson of the Curless'), **Jimmy Bertheaud** (friend of Portmann's), **Mike Clyde** (friend of the Edwards Family), **Amberly Derby** (friend of Molly McDowell), **Jeremy Doan** (Jean Winkle's grandson), **Jerry Doan** (Jean Winkle's son in law), **Wayne Ellis** (friend of the Forst's), **Bus Faulkner, Janet Faulkner, Larry Faulkner** (Bus and Freda's son), **Jim Forst, Debbie Heinz** (cousin of the Portmann's), **Dick Hibbeler** (Elinor Schieman's brother), **Marilyn Hill** (David Hill's step-mother), **Matt Huber**, (Penny Huber's son), **Michael Huber and family** (Penny's son), **Jean Huneck** (friend of Marei Calhoun), **Margie Ketterer**, (friend of Carol Curless, **Jackie King** (Sister in law of Janet and Dennis), **Linda Kohl** (friend of the Seickmann's), **Ron Kullgren** (friend of Jean Winkle), **Patty Meinking** (friend of Marie Calhoun), **David Oaks** (son in law of Bus Faulkner), **Craig Olsen** (friend of Sieckman's) **Paul Pieper, Sara Rupert** (Carolyn Koehl's sister), **James Savory** (Jean Winkle's Great Grandson). **Pauline Schauer** (cousin of Cindy Seickmann), **Michael Schmitt** (Jean Winkle's son in law), **Heather Segar, Allen Sieckman, Jason Simpson** (Grand-nephew of Bus and Freda Faulkner), **Dot Smith** (friend of Marilyn Portmann), **Scott Songer** (friend of Jean Winkle) **Joanne Spears** (Bus and Freda's daughter), **Crosly Spelman, Jack Spelman, Britney Jean Teems** (Jean Winkle's granddaughter), **Sharon Turock** (friend of Marie Calhoun), **Mary Wagner, Jean Winkle and Susan Winkle**.

Please remember in prayer all the brave young men and women serving in harms way to keep us safe.

We remember especially:

We pray for our Armed Forces members:

Paul Cordes (grandson of Elinor Schieman)

Jared Forst (grandson of Jim and Loretta)

John Garbrecht (nephew & cousin to Carolyn Koehl, Karen, Susan Bardes & Joyce Hall)

Patti Garbrecht (wife of John Garbrecht)

Beau Glenn (son-in-law to Karen Koehl)

Kylie Hahn (granddaughter of Don and Gretta)

Jim Lane (nephew of Elinor Schieman)

Kyle Murdoch (friend of Holly Ford)

Jobeth Ramirez (friend of Karen Koehl)

Joey Ramirez (friend of Karen Koehl)

Joshua Rodriguez (friend of Karen Koehl)

Mack Thompson (grandson of Freda and Bus Faulkner)

Mylan Watkins (friend of the Ford family)

We pray for those near and far with ongoing health concerns who are unable to come to church every week: **Ann Christiansen, Pat Edwards, Bus Faulkner, Mary Jane Flege, Ken Garber, Pat Hollis, Carol Leonard, Marge Malin, Jack Moorhouse, Jean Nolte, Heather Segar, and Edna Willet.**

THE EPISTLE February, 2015
St. Paul Lutheran Church
A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
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Reading, Ohio 45215-4811

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8:15 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School (Ages 3-Adult, Sept.-May)

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Rev Richard Schroeder	Interim Pastor
Barry Prince	Director of Music
Janet King	Sacristan
Sherry Bronner	Financial Secretary
David Hill	Drama Ministry Director
Chris Geiger	Youth Director
Sharon Prince	Epistle Editor

President	Rick Hedges	2011-2013
Vice President, Education & Stewardship	Teri DeAngelis	2011-2013
Secretary & Evangelism	Chris Geiger	2011-2013
Treasurer	Terry McDowell	2011-2013
Jeff Baumiller, Social Concerns		2012-2014
Dennis King, Property		2012-2014
Karen Koehl, Worship		2012-2014