

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

You Otto Know

March
2014

*We are a family of believers living, sharing and celebrating the love of Jesus
in our community and throughout the world.*

Church Office - (636) 942-4250

Pastor Charles Schultz
Website - www.saintpaulslcms.org

Pastor's Cell - 314-779-4714

40 Days of "Things"

Lent begins on March 5th this year, a little later than we expect. This church season means different things for different people. These 40 days can include "things" such as ashes, prayer, repentance, extended devotional time, fasting, giving to charity, midweek worship, special hymns, and so on. I could spend time writing about what the Bible says about each of these "things" but that would turn this article into a long and maybe boring treatise on the theological implications of these "things". So instead I prefer to keep it simple. All of these "things" can be an important part of our Lenten preparation but we have to be aware of not making the "things" more important than Jesus.

Sometimes I'll hear someone bragging about what they gave up for Lent. I'll hear about what a struggle it was to live 40 days without that "thing". Jesus said in Matthew chapter 6; *"And when you fast, do not look gloomy like the hypocrites, for they disfigure their faces that their fasting may be seen by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you fast, anoint your head and wash your face, that your fasting may not be seen by others but by your Father who is in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."*

Less often, yet sometimes you'll see someone recognized for their giving to those in need. Now being recognized for being generous isn't bad unless your motivation for giving is in being recognized. Jesus also said in Matthew chapter 6; *"Thus, when you give to the needy, sound no trumpet before you, as the hypocrites do in the synagogues and in the streets, that they may be praised by others. Truly, I say to you, they have received their reward. But when you give to the needy, do not let your left hand know what your right hand is doing, so that your giving may be in secret. And your Father who sees in secret will reward you."*

I will once again, as I have in the past, fast during the 40 days of Lent. Don't ask me what that will include this season of Lent because I won't share it with you. My fasting is between God and me. I've decided that Lent this year is going to be different than those in the past. Not only have I decided to give up something (fasting) but I have also decided to give out something (generosity). I will share a little more about that after Lent is over. I hope that you'll join me in participating in some of the "things" of Lent as together as His people we spend extra time in these 40 days remembering what Jesus has done for us.

Blessed to be a Blessing,

Pastor Schultz

Office Hours —

Janet Schaefer (secretary)

Tuesday 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Wednesday 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Pastor Schultz is usually in the office Tuesday - Friday.
Monday is his day off.

Please feel free to drop by the church any time or call to set a meeting.

At Our Church ---

Ash Wednesday Service

Wednesday, March 5 @ 11:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Services

Wednesdays, March 12 - April 10 @ 11:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Culver's Night

Tuesday, March 4 @ 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Culvers Restaurant in Arnold

Sponsored by Youth Group to help fund Higher Things trip

Blood Drive

Friday, March 14 @ 3:00-7:00 p.m.

Sponsored by Mission Board

Work / Cleaning Day

Sunday, March 15 following church

Light lunch will be provided by Trustees.

Dinner Theater - *Star Warp: A Space Opera*

Saturday, March 29 @ 6:30 p.m.

Sponsored by Youth Group

Maundy Thursday Service

Thursday, April 17 @ 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday Service

Friday, April 18 @ 7:00 p.m.

Easter Services

Sunday, April 20 @ 6:30 a.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Breakfast sponsored by Men's Club following Sunrise Service.

The 7:30 a.m. early service will resume the Sunday after Easter.

In the Community ---

Trivia Night

Royale Orleans (Telegraph Rd.)

Friday, March 14, 2014 @ 7:00 p.m.

Trivia Master Kevin Carbury will provide ten rounds of questions. Proceeds will benefit the Music Ministry at Peach Lutheran Church.

The cost is \$15 per person and advance tickets need to be purchased.

Contact 314-892-5610 for more information.

Mission Board Report

Blood Drive - Friday, March 14 @ 3:00-7:00 p.m.

St. Paul's Gym

Soup, chili, chips, snacks, drinks and dessert will be provided. Please call Christina Warren at 314-974-0570 or 636-942-4250 to schedule an appointment.

Monthly meetings will be held on the second Wednesday of the month at 5:00 p.m.

Christina Warren, Kim Hogan, Fern Schuessler

There is a new recycling box in the narthex.

St. Paul's received money from recycled ink cartridges and cell phones.

So be a good steward for the church and recycle!

Stewardship Board Report

We are in the process of putting together a survey about electronic giving.

The first Sunday of each month we place scrip orders. Please give these to Melanie Weibrecht. The following is a list of cards we have on hand:

\$5 cards- Barnes & Noble & Kentucky Fried Chicken

\$10 cards- Amazon.com, Arby's, Bob Evans, Burger King, Denny's, Jack in the Box, Pizza Hut, Starbuck's, Steak 'n Shake, Subway, Taco Bell and Wendy's

\$25 cards- Applebee's, Cabela's, Chili's/Macaroni Grill, Cracker Barrel, Old Navy/Gap/Banana Republic, Red Lobster/Olive Garden/Longhorn, Fazoli's, Kohl's, Old Country Buffet, Qdoba, Red Robin, Ruby Tuesday, Target, Walgreen's and Walmart.

Vicki Wallen, Bryan Goforth and Melanie Weibrecht

LENT

Worship Assistance Teams

Worship Assistance Teams have been assigned to each week of the month. Simply check to see which team you are on and that is the week you will serving.

Team 1 - Week 1 (March 2)

Ushers - Sonya & Bill Jeffries, Jeff Nahlik, Lloyd Linhorst
Greeters - Mary Nahlik, Faith Nahlik, Ginny Todd
Acolyte - Zach Jeffries
Sound Board - Jason Nahlik

Team 2 - Week 2 (March 9)

Ushers - Virgin & Diane Benson, Justin Benson, Murel Warren
Greeters - Michelle Benson, Colleen Schultz, Diane Benson
Acolyte - Ben Warren
Sound Board - Ben Weibrecht

Team 3 - Week 3 (March 16)

Ushers - Charlie Friedman, Becky Vogel, Nathan Aiello, Alec Aiello
Greeters - Cap & Vi Miller, Jerry & Betty Vogelsang
Acolytes - Lexi Mueller, Adrian Cantu
Sound Board - Jacob Vogel

Team 4 - Week 4 (March 23)

Ushers - Jason Schaub, Bill Weeke, Jerry Burchett, Nancy Brooks
Greeters - Bill & Carol Weeke, Nancy Brooks, Arlie Ehlmann
Acolytes - Lexi Schaub, Nick Frank

Youth Group News

Dinner Theater Practices —

Sunday, February 23 @ 12:30-2:30 p.m.

First Read Through

Sunday, March 9 @ 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Sunday, March 16 @ 11:30 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

Dress Rehearsal

*** Additional practices might be scheduled on Fridays or Saturdays if needed.

Culvers Nights — Arnold

Tuesday, March 4 @ 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, April 1 @ 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 6 @ 5:00-8:00 p.m.

Thank you to everybody who joined us on Sunday, February 23 after church for brunch. We hope you all had a great time! A big thank you to those who helped with preparing for the brunch.

**St. Paul's Youth Group
Culver's Night
Tuesday, March 4
5p -8p
Hope to see you there!
Arnold
Location**

Dinner Theatre 2014

What happens when you cross *Star Trek* and *Star Wars*, then throw in astronaut Buck Rogers? It's "**Star Warp**", an epic space opera written by Murel Warren, Jr. for the annual dinner theatre hosted by St. Paul's Youth Group and Young Adults. Are you a Star Wars "Jedi" Fan or a Star Trek "Trekkie"? There'll be fan favorites from both universes, as well as some fun and friendly aliens, even puppets, portrayed by our own young people. Your time in outer space will include dinner and dessert, action and adventure, music and romance, comedy and laughter, together all for a good family night of fun!

"The teens and young adults look forward to hosting the dinner theatre at St. Paul's each year. Each one contributes in their own way taking time to memorize lines, following directions, and (gulp) singing to the audience. It's all for fun and I really enjoy seeing something I've envisioned actually being produced on stage for our members' enjoyment" says Murel. "I give much credit to the young adults and our clergy for showing the youth how they enjoy sharing their gifts and talents, despite this may not be something they would normally do at school or in the community. Ultimately, the Saturday evening performance and meal is always appreciated by their families and friends. Although not Tony-award caliber, this is really a great alternative to an expensive night out for dinner and a show! There's always a lot to laugh at!"

The Dinner Theatre is an annual fundraiser for the Youth Group providing for future activities and events throughout the year. Please let any of the Youth Group members know if you are attending and bringing anyone along, so we may be well prepared. The play is suitable for young and old, space fan or not!

As the favorite space sayings go: May the force be with you. Live long and prosper!



Don't forget to direct Thrivent Choice Dollars®



Thrivent Choice Dollars grant funds can help support organizations you care about. Don't let your designated Choice Dollars expire.

Direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® by March 31

Eligible members of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans who have been designated Choice Dollars:

If you haven't already done so, be sure to direct your designated Thrivent Choice Dollars by March 31, 2014. After that date, any undirected Choice Dollars® will expire. Don't miss this opportunity to help support your designated organization. Go to Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or call 800-THRIVENT and state "Thrivent Choice®."



Dear St. Paul's,

I am currently student teaching for a 3rd and 4th grade class at Our Redeemer Lutheran School in Overland, MO. I was assigned to be a student teacher there until the end of the academic quarter as a part of a class at the seminary called "Pastor as Educator". This student teaching opportunity offers me the chance to teach a forty-five minute religion class four times per week.

The reason I am writing to you all is to thank you and also explain to you something that struck me as I was observing my classroom in the first few days of teaching. The Bibles that the classroom has currently are of varying translations and physical conditions (some are pretty tattered). Because there is not a nice classroom set of Bibles which are all the same version, Bible memory work is difficult and inconsistent. Some kids are even forced to memorize out of King James Bibles! (NIV would be more their level of reading comprehension.)

The Ladies Aide was generous and able to split the cost of the Bibles with my home congregation back in Valley City, Ohio. On behalf of the whole congregation the Bibles were donated to the classroom. \$58.50 was offered to the cause on behalf of St. Paul's. The two churches have partnered up to donate sixteen new NIV Bibles as a classroom sets for the 3rd and 4th graders to use at Our Redeemer Lutheran School in Overland, Missouri.

Both congregations will be acknowledged by means of a donation sticker on the inside cover of each Bible that reads:

***Donated to the Glory of God
in Commitment to Christian Education by:***

***St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Imperial, Missouri
&
St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, Valley City, Ohio***

As a congregation committed to living out the Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ and the education of young Christians, I would like to personally thank you all for acknowledging the importance of Christian education. Our congregation reached out, purchased, and donated new Bibles for one of our parochial schools in The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod. This is a generous act and one that was received kindly and with gratitude by the school.

To God be the glory for such great outreach done in the name of Jesus Christ!

In Christian Thankfulness,

Jeff Burgess