



St. Paul's Epistle

St. Paul Lutheran Church

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Mission in Mercy Outpost, 225 4th St, Thomas Plaza—Phone: 775-2262

Volume 40

MARCH 2010

Issue 3

A Word from the Pastor ~

Joel 2:12 (ESV)

"Yet even now," declares the Lord,

"return to me with all your heart,

with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning;

There is perhaps no other season of the Church Year that clashes with our culture more than the season of Lent. Our culture is obsessed with happiness. Happiness does not mix well with repentance. In a culture focused on self fulfillment, self denial feels downright sinful.

Lent brings a cold splash of reality for us all. The season begins with Ash Wednesday. Whether you wear a cross of ashes on your forehead or not, the day gets right to the point: "For you are dust and to dust you will return." Ash Wednesday wakes us up out of our dream world of endlessly chasing the "better life," avoiding discomfort of any sort and at any cost. The Lord's call to return to Him "with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning" reminds us that in the midst of life we are also in the midst of death, for that is what our sins have earned for us, no matter how hard we try to run away from that reality.

The cold splash of Lent waking us from our stupor is the splashing of water in the Baptismal font. Here's how Luther describes it in his Small Catechism:

What does such baptizing with water indicate? It indicates that the Old Adam in us should by daily contrition and repentance be drowned and die with all sins and evil desires, and that a new man should daily emerge and arise to live before God in righteousness and purity forever.

The Lenten call for repentance is a call to renewal of faith and life in Christ. Yes, it is also about death—the death of the Old Adam in us. And make no mistake about it, he will go under the water kicking and screaming all the way. Triumph over the Old Adam is never the result of human wisdom, reason, strength, or effort. It is always and only the divine work of the Holy Spirit working through the

Law and the Gospel. The Law drowns the Old Adam and the Gospel raises us up to new life.

Lent may seem like a real downer of a season (much like our winter this year), but it is only a downer when you listen to Old Adam screaming such things as—"It's not fair! I have a right to choose my own life! I have a right to be happy at any cost! You can't tell me I'm wrong!" Those are the sounds of the sinner in you being brought to the cross under the Law.

The joy of Lent comes when you are then brought to the foot of the cross of Christ. That instrument of death is the fountain and source of forgiveness, life, and salvation. I pray you will avail yourself of the many opportunities being offered this Lenten season to be awakened to new life in Christ. There are our midweek Lenten services on Wednesdays and our Saturday night and Sunday morning Divine Services in which we celebrate in a subdued Easter tone during Lent. And then there will be our services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday's Easter Vigil all leading us to that great Easter morning celebration of life as we stand and gaze into the empty tomb! Then we can sing along with the Apostle Paul: "O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting?" (1 Cor. 15:55)

As the Holy Spirit prepares us for this celebration through the Law and the Gospel, we are given all that we ask for in our Ash Wednesday collect:

Almighty and everlasting God, You despise nothing You have made and forgive the sins of all who are penitent. Create in us new and contrite hearts that lamenting our sins and acknowledging our wretchedness we may receive from You full pardon and forgiveness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Pastor Licht

Lent

Mission in Mercy Newsletter For March 2010

Outpost Operations:

Outpost operation is Monday thru Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. In addition we conduct English as Second Language (ESL) classes on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 6:30 pm to 8 pm. We provide space for Alcoholic Anonymous (AA) meetings on Wednesdays at 5:30 pm and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) meetings on Saturdays at noon.

We recently started serving soup and sandwiches at the Wednesday Bible Study at 4:30 pm prior to the AA meeting. This is an effort to encourage AA members to come to our Bible Study to be fed by the Word of God as well as earthly food. **Thanks to Jackie Dryden and Durene Eisenbacher for preparing the food.**

Since the beginning of operations in early January we have served about 40 people by meeting their earthly needs and sharing the mercy of Christ with them. We also continued to visit Social Agencies and downtown businesses to inform them about our mission. In the course of these visits we received two referrals of people who needed our help.

Total hours of operation per week averaged 47 hours. Twenty people have manned the Outpost Monday thru Friday during the day; 2 taught ESL Classes at night; 1 coordinated and facilitated the AA and NA meetings; 4 provided baked goods; 3 provided carpentry support. **Thanks to all who have manned the outpost, baked goods, and helped with the facility improvements. Your work and contributions are very much appreciated!**

Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting Ceremony:

We were finally able to hold the ribbon cutting on Friday morning 5 Feb 10. Some 40 people attended. A photographer from the Newspaper took pictures of our ribbon cutting, and it will be in a forthcoming Daily Times Herald paper. It was a great opportunity to share with others our mission. **Thank you to Lola and Cal Peterson for the beautiful flowers.**

Facility, Resources, and Expenses:

We continue to make numerous upgrades and improvements to the outpost.

We obtained new phone service for the outpost from Western Iowa Network. A one-year service agreement was made at a cost of \$32 per month. Lita Kruger of Peace has graciously offered to pay the monthly charge. The bill will come to the church treasurer. Lita will donate the amount needed to the outpost account. The phone number is 775-2262. Also, her husband Junior will take

care of the Carroll utilities. **Thank you to Lita and Junior for their generosity.**

We established trash pick-up service with Ray's Refuse, Inc. for \$16/month which Junior Kruger has also offered to pay. Trash needs to be set out Sunday night for early Monday morning pick-up. **Thanks to Larry Bayless for making that happen.**

We subscribed to the Daily Times Herald – 1 year subscription at \$90. Purchased a whiteboard for the ESL Classes for \$73.00 and received a donation of \$45 for the whiteboard.

Bruce Warnke made a telephone stand, coat rack, and wall crosses for the outpost at no cost to the outpost. He will also be fixing the office and making a kitchenette. Bruce Warnke has acquired overhead cabinets for the office/store room as well as for the proposed kitchenette. And he has also procured donated doors to make the office a private area.

Jerry Frehse obtained a donated instant hot-water heater for the outpost. He and Bruce Warnke installed it on 11 Feb 10.

Big thanks to Bruce and Jerry for their hard work and contributions.

I called the landlord, Mr. Bob Fasbender, and requested that he amend our initial six month lease to one year as we are funded for the year which he agreed to do.

Other:

In addition to the outreach effort of the outpost, we were blessed to receive a lot of visitors from St. Paul-Carroll, Peace-Glidden, St. John-Audubon, Immanuel-Lidderdale, Zion-Arcadia, and Zion-Manning, who stopped in to see and learn about the outpost and its mission. Some have volunteered to help in the coming weeks.

The St. Paul Thursday Ladies' Bible Study met at the outpost on 18 Feb 10. About 12 people were in attendance.

The St. Paul Older Adult Ministry Group invited us to talk with them about the Outpost on Monday 22 Feb 10.

Volunteers Needed:

Of note, we continue to need volunteers to cover for the times I need to be away such as midday and all day on Fridays. If you are interested, come and visit the outpost to see more of what we do and how you may be able to help. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer, please contact Pastor Anthony at the outpost, 775-2262 or at church, 792-4354.

Mission in Mercy Outpost, 225 4th St.—Thomas Plaza
Phone: 775-2262



Registration for Little Lamb Preschool

for the 2010-2011 school year has begun.

Students must be 3 by
September 15, 2010,
and potty trained.

Three-year-old classes are Tuesday & Thursday,
8 a.m.—11 a.m. Tuition is \$60 per month.

Four & Five-year-old classes are
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday

From 8 a.m.—11 a.m. Tuition is free.

A \$15 Registration Fee must accompany all
Registration forms and are available on the
Preschool bulletin board.

If you have any questions, contact
Durene Eisenbacher at 792-9455.

50th Anniversary of the Dedication of our present Church building June 19/20, 2010



125th Anniversary of St. Paul Lutheran Congregation October 8/9, 2011

The kick-off celebration weekend will be
June 19/20, 2010
with a special worship service
on Saturday evening followed by a dinner.
Sunday will include a worship service
followed by a reception
and a carnival for the children.
Former pastors, vicars, and DCEs
have been invited to join us.
Mark this weekend on your calendar!
Other activities are being planned
throughout the year beginning with the
June 19/20, 2010 weekend and
ending with our **125th Anniversary
Celebration on October 8/9, 2011.**

Notes & News

Men's Christian Table Talk will meet Saturday, March 13, from 8:30 to 10:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall of the church. Come, eat breakfast and drink coffee and join in fellowship with your brethren from St. Paul's. Currently we are watching and discussing a video made by Dr. Paul Meier about the veracity of the Bible. All men and sons are welcome.

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Journey to the Cross, Sunday, March 28, 2:00-3:30 p.m. at Zion Lutheran Church, Manning. A sensory learning event that covers the last days of Jesus' life on earth. Meet witnesses from the Bible; taste, touch, feel and be a part of the Passion story; take a walking *Journey* with your *Passport* in hand and be transported back to the time of Christ. Please make an appointment so that you don't have to wait for your *Journey* to begin. All ages are welcome. Contact Zion at journeytothecross@hotmail.com or call 655-2352.

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**Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday, March 27,
9:30-10:30 a.m.** in the church fellowship hall for all children through 2nd grade. Parents are asked to stay with their children.



Request from the Anniversary Committee ~

1. We plan to make a time-line in the Fellowship Hall highlighting each pastor's years of service in a different color, with historical information below and photos from the time period above. *We need pictures and information from members!* Please make copies of pictures showing activities of the church or confirmation pictures from any year before presenting them. The copies may be put in Shari Toft's church mailbox or left at the church office. We especially need items from the past 50 years.

Lutheran Women's Guild News

Ready, Set, Recycle!"

The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) of Iowa will host the 2015 National Convention in Des Moines! You can help our Guild earn funds to cover expenses by being a part of our "Ready, Set, Recycle" campaign. Bring the following recyclable items to church and place them in the box in the cloakroom off the Narthex or call Barb Brockelsby at 790-9592:

- Empty inkjet printer cartridges
- Empty laser printer cartridges
- Used cell phones
- Laptops, including power cords
- Palm Pilots (PDAs)

Please leave in original boxes if possible or place in plastic zip-lock bags. Thank you for your help.

Unacceptable items: Toner tubes/cartridges, Epson printer cartridges, Canon BCI cartridges, Remanufactured cartridges, refilled cartridges or new unopened cartridges, and any cartridge that does not have a metal print head.



Circle Dates—

- Lydia:** Tuesday, March 9, 7:00 p.m. East Room, Ina Rae Nieland, hostess and Shery Reiter, topic
- Rachel:** Wednesday, March 10, 1:30 p.m., Fellowship Hall, Della Peters, hostess; Pastor, topic

Lutheran World Relief Challenge

The Lutheran Women's Guild challenges the members of St. Paul to help collect enough items to make 50 Health Kits for LWR. Items Needed: wide-tooth combs; nail clippers with file; washcloths; hand towels; bars of soap. Thanks to Della Peters and Dr. Halbur, 50 toothbrushes were donated to our challenge.

So far we have collected 71 washcloths, 38 hand towels, 64 bars of soap, 40 combs and 28 nail clippers. A box is in the Narthex for items. We will be collecting items until May.

LWML Day of Prayer

Friday, March 5, 2010

*Peace Lutheran Church, Glidden
(hosted by Trinity, Coon Rapids)*

9 a.m. coffee—10 a.m. Prayer Service

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN WOMEN'S GUILD

1/1/10 – 2/15/10

	<u>BROT FWD</u>	<u>PLUS INCOME</u>	<u>MINUS EXPENSE</u>	<u>BALANCE</u>
Parish Nurse	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00	\$0.00
Lydia Circle	35.39	23.00	0.00	58.39
Rachel Circle	30.00	16.85	0.00	46.85
Mites	0.00	70.00	70.00	0.00
Coins For Christ/Mites	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Quarterlies	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Social Ministry	124.28	0.00	0.00	124.28
Gifts of the Heart	650.00	0.00	650.00	0.00
New Christmas Decorations	0.00	150.00	0.00	150.00
TOTAL RESERVES	\$ 839.67	\$ 259.85	\$720.00	\$379.52
General Fund	448.58	122.00	0.00	570.58
TOTAL CASH FUNDS	\$ 1,288.25	\$ 381.85	\$720.00	\$950.10

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

3-1 Colene Beidler
 3-1 Luanne Andersen
 3-2 Jan Abbe
 3-2 Carol Onken
 3-3 Matthew Janssen
 3-3 Denise Rohrbeck
 3-3 Merlin Schau
 3-4 Paige Licht
 3-6 Megan Anthony
 3-6 Tyler Tornow
 3-7 Keziah Janssen
 3-7 Charlene Vonnahme
 3-8 Lindsay Brockman
 3-8 Carolyn Dammann
 3-8 Dorothy Grundmeier
 3-8 Shirley Schmidt
 3-8 Deb Venteicher
 3-9 Nicole Buck
 3-9 Glenn Jochims
 3-12 Dale Hanson
 3-13 Don Meiers
 3-13 Jeff Peterson
 3-15 McKinsey Lehrkamp
 3-15 Sydney Renning
 3-16 Jaxson Kuhlmann
 3-17 Desiree Davis
 3-17 Elsie Stanfield
 3-18 Arlo Jochims
 3-18 Denis Schirck
 3-18 Lenora Warnke
 3-18 Brian Widdel
 3-19 Jean Halbur
 3-19 Maddie Pate
 3-20 Amelia Henson
 3-20 Logan Lehrkamp
 3-20 Kari Miller
 3-21 Todd Nelson
 3-22 Janet Janning
 3-24 Marrola Martens
 3-24 Cassie Reiling
 3-24 Katelyn Sander
 3-26 Hans Halbur
 3-26 Zach Halbur
 3-26 Eileen Pettitt
 3-26 Chase Schable
 3-26 Mara Schapman
 3-26 Russ Wunschel
 3-27 Matt Halbur
 3-27 Carolyn Johnson
 3-27 Shawna Wagner
 3-28 Sarah Dryden
 3-29 Holly Carter
 3-29 John Heuton
 3-30 Tami Brant
 3-30 Jennifer Tornow
 3-30 Karter Sander



**MARCH
WEDDING
ANNIVERSARIES**

3-2 Randy & Becky Toft
 3-4 Richard & Deb Henry
 3-7 Jeff & Janet Hoffman
 3-19 Jeff & Marilyn Dryden
 3-21 Bernie & Dawn Greteman
 3-25 Richard & Ann Lorenzen
 3-29 Tracy & Cheri Onken

Please call the church office at 792-4354 if any of the above information is incorrect or if your birthday or anniversary is omitted. Thanks

† † †

OFFICIAL ACTS**Baptism**

John Michael Janssen, infant son of Aimee & Mike Janssen
 Ramsey Charles Gottsch, infant son of Crystal Gottsch
 Trent Nathan Truitt, Jillian Eve Jacobs, Jaggar Ian Jacobs, children of Jessica Jacobs

Death

Leota Johnson

† † †

JANUARY ATTENDANCE

	Saturday	Sunday	Total
1/3	71	90	161
1/10	81	131	212
1/17	106	126	232
1/24	44	101	145
1/31	90	141	231
Avg.	78	118	196

Sunday School Avg.: 28
 High School Bible Class: 5
 Adult Bible Class Avg.: 28
 Total Communed: 734

**TREASURER'S REPORT
January 2010**

Budget & Non-Budget Figures

Bal. on Hand 12/31/09	\$ 5,537.26
Total Jan Receipts	25,207.89
Total Jan Disbursements	<u>21,660.61</u>
Bal. on Hand 1/31/10	\$ 9,084.54

Actual Budget Figures for January

Needed each month for Budget	\$23,191.42
Actual Jan. Budget Rects	\$24,347.89
Receipts over Budget Amt.	\$ 1,156.47
Actual Jan. Budget Disbur.	\$20,715.01
Overage for January	\$ 3,632.88

African Missions/International Students/Hispanic Ministry/LBT

Total Needed for 2010	\$9,000.00
Received by 2/14/10	822.00



*Annual Sunday School
Soup Extravaganza
Sunday, March 7
4:00-6:30 p.m.
Serving at least a dozen
different soups.
Cost is \$5 for adults
\$3 ages 5-10
Under 5—free.
Proceeds go to
St. Paul Lutheran
Sunday School*

Worship Assistants for March

 LUTHERAN HOUR MINISTRIES
People Of Christ With The Message Of Hope

THE LUTHERAN HOUR

The Lutheran Hour may be heard on Sundays on the following radio stations in our area:
KAYL, 990 AM, Storm Lake, 10 a.m.
KDSN, 107.1 FM, Denison, 6:30 a.m.
KDSN, 1530 AM, Denison, 10:30 am

Also available 24 hours/day on the Internet @ www.lhm.org
Speaker: Rev. Ken Klaus

Mar. 7—*Does God Love You?*
Does God love you? It's easy to think so, when times are good. But what about when problems pile up, difficulties descend, and miseries multiply? (Luke 13:4-5)

Mar. 14—*The Sinner's Friend*
Throughout His earthly ministry, Jesus proved Himself the Friend of sinners. He reached out to those who needed Him most. (Luke 15:1-2)

Mar. 21—*A Big Loser*
Coming soon! (Philippians 3:8)

Mar. 28—To be announced

LECTORS: (Sunday Only)

Mar. 7 Sharon von Qualen
Mar. 14 Pastor
Mar. 21 Shari Toft
Mar. 28 Pastor

GREETERS:

Mar. 6 Reese & Jan Abbe
Mar. 7 Randy & Pam Stanzyk

Mar. 13 Bonnie Dryden
Mar. 14 Tracy & Cheri Onken

Mar. 20 Jerry & Sheryl Frehse
Mar. 21 Ryan & Darlene Rueter

Mar. 27 Sally Sullivan &
Lisa Quandt
Mar. 28 Jeff & Janet Hoffman

ACOLYTES: (Sunday Only)

Mar. 7 Maddie Pate
Mar. 14 Devan Dryden
Mar. 21 Tyler Harmening
Mar. 28 Jamie White

GRADES 5-8 USHERS

Mar. 7 Kennady Miller
Mar. 14 Nathan Nelson
Mar. 21 Peyton Renning
Mar. 28 Alison Greteman

ALTAR GUILD:

Cindy Naberhaus, Chairman
Marilyn Dryden
Marilyn Ruchti
Cindy Erickson
Darlene Rueter

ELDERS:

Mar. 3, 7:00—Scott Bauck
Mar. 6/7 Mike Janssen
Mar. 13/14 Scott Bauck
Mar. 20/21 Jerry Frehse
Mar. 27/28 Joe Eisenbacher
Other Midweek Lenten Services to be determined

SATURDAY USHERS:

Doug Beckman
Bonnie Dryden
Bob Grundmeier
John Spaen

SUNDAY USHERS:

Jeff & Janet Hoffman
Courtney Hoffman

Don't Forget 



Daylight Savings Time

*Daylight Savings Time
begins*

*Sunday, March 14
Remember to set your
clocks ahead one hour*

PRAYER CHAIN REQUESTS

should be made to Neoma Hagge at 792-2475. The new Prayer Chain list and books are in Prayer Chain members' church mailboxes.



Midweek Lenten Services

March 3, 10, 17, 24—

4:00 & 7:00 p.m.

From the Parish Nurse ~

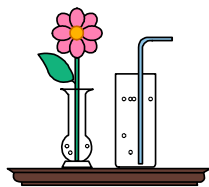
Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

March is National Colorectal Cancer Awareness month. Cancer of the colon or rectum is the second leading cause of cancer-related deaths in the United States. Colorectal cancer is also one of the most commonly diagnosed cancers. The risk of developing colorectal cancer increases with advancing age. More than 90% of cases occur in people aged 50 or older. It is estimated that as many as 60% of colorectal cancer deaths can be prevented if all men and women aged 50 or older were screened routinely. Screening tests can find precancerous polyps so that they can be removed before they turn into cancer.

Some studies show that increased physical activity and maintaining a healthy weight may decrease the risk for colorectal cancer. There is no consensus on the role of diet in preventing colorectal cancer but medical experts recommend a diet low in animal fats and high in fruits, vegetables, and whole grain products.

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommend a colonoscopy every 10 years and fecal occult blood test (stool specimen) every year. Contact your health care provider if you are having blood in your stool, abdominal pain, bloating, or changes in your bowel habits. Find out if screening needs to be scheduled. Be an active participant in your health care.
(Information obtained from CDC website).

In His Service,
Darlene Rueter, RN
St. Paul Parish Nurse
rrueter@msn.com



To receive this Newsletter by email,
contact Donna at
stpaul@stpaul-ia.com
Also remember to let her know if your
email address changes.

Human Care

Human care for area residents is provided by:

ST. ANTHONY HOME HEALTH AGENCY
318 S. Maple St., Suite 3, Carroll, Iowa 51401
Phone: 712-794-5279 or 1-800-684-3020
Email address: stanthonyhospital.org
Hours: 8:00 a.m.—4:30 p.m., Monday—Friday
Nurses on call 24 hours, 7 days a week

Services Provided:

- Skilled nursing & home care aides services
- Physical therapy, speech pathology, occupational therapy
- Home infusion therapy
- Public Health
- Hospice
- Private duty
- Resource management information & referral service for Seniors
- Medicare Certified—"People caring for people in the comfort of their homes"
- Home & Community based waiver:
 - Ill & Handicapped Waiver
 - AIDS Waiver
 - Frail & Elderly Waiver
 - MR Waiver

HELPING THOSE IN NEED:

The Board of Human Care would like St. Paul members to know that we can help one another. If you have a special need, whether it would be furniture, appliances, clothing, or personal assistance with some difficulty you are having, please contact a Human Care board member. Connie Boeing #792-2325, Ryan Rueter (cell #830-6790) or Darlene Rueter 792-2642 can be contacted. The Board will make a request to other St. Paul members to help with that need. Confidentiality can be requested. Likewise, if you have something that may benefit another church member, whether it be household items or talent, notify us too. Together we can serve each other in love.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Quarterly Meeting, January 17, 2010

Call to order: President Dale Schmidt called the meeting to order at 1:32 p.m.

Attendance: 28

Devotion: Pastor Anthony—Psalm 139 on the sanctity of human life

Secretary's Minutes: approved as published in newsletter

Treasurer's Report: copies handed out; \$27,564 actual shortage including \$10,000 internal loan not repaid. Questions about the Endowment Fund were fielded by Darlene Rueter who was on the original committee. This fund has not been promoted in view of the budget shortfall, but it is there in case an estate would give the church a bequest.

Board Reports:

Elders—(Mike Janssen)

- Focus this quarter was to re-define the direction of the board and to identify four key imperatives that drive the mission of this church as "A Christ-centered fellowship sharing the one thing needful." The elders encourage all boards to embrace these imperatives also.
 1. Getting members to church and increasing member participation.
 2. Reducing the depletion of our finances.
 3. Addressing theological illiteracy and/or ignorance.
 4. Improving congregational attitudes.
- Consecrated Stewards: Pastor Riggert from IDW is scheduled to do the Consecrated Stewards program May 9 and 16, 2010, preceded by a 4-week Bible study. Anticipate a late February meeting of the steering committee, organized by Mike Janssen.
- Joe Eisenbacher ordered \$135 of treats from Farner Bocken to put in the Christmas bags.
- Interviews were held with pastors, parents, and 7th and 8th grade students.
- Letters have been sent to members not attending church; some have led to conversations.
- Officers of the Board for 2010 are Mike Janssen, president; Larry Bayless, secretary; Jerry Frehse and Scott Bauck, ushers; Joe Eisenbacher, music; Scott Bauck, visitation.

Finance—(Lowell Stammer)

- 2009 General Fund received \$243,931.20, a shortage of \$27,761 for the year.
- 2009 Special Missions received \$8,814.12, a shortage of \$185.88 for the year.
- Total deposited in 2009 was \$266,115.32
- Ralph Peters has retired as a counter, replaced by Ethel Petersen.

- Committee members for 2010 are: Lowell Stammer, Chairperson; Violet Boell, Assistant Chairperson; Della Peters & Ethel Petersen, Team A; Joanne Becker & Helene Stanzyk, Team B; Virgene Behrens & Connie Stammer, Team C.
- Substitute counters are: Bob and Betty Grundmeier, Amos and Myra Asmus, Shirley Schirck, Shirley Sunderman, and Pearl Kurth.

Human Care—(Darlene Rueter)

- Members of the Board of Human Care are Darlene & Ryan Rueter, co-chairpersons; Ina Rae Nieland, Connie Boeing, Suzanne Brotherson, Jan Wess, Shirley Schmidt, Pastor Anthony.
- Continuing monthly newsletter information on Carroll County Human Care services.
- Assisting members with physical needs by putting announcements in bulletins and newsletter.
- Conducting food drives as needed for Community of Concern Food Pantry.
- Fire safety evacuation plan for St. Paul will be laminated and reviewed by elders and ushers. The plan has location of smoke detectors and fire extinguishers as well as emergency exit lighting. Evacuation will be to grassy area south of the church or to the south parking area during winter months. A tornado plan will be developed this year.
- Birthday and Christian holiday cards have been sent to incarcerated members.
- There is a list of drivers to bring members from Mallard View to Sunday worship/Bible Class.
- Support the Mission in Mercy Outpost.

Christian Education—(Sharon von Qualen for Aaron Poock)

- Board of Education members for 2010 are Pastor Anthony, Pastor Licht, Joe and Durene Eisenbacher, Penny Harmening, and Aaron Poock.
- Confirmation and midweek classes continue with Pastor Anthony, Pastor Licht, and Joe Eisenbacher. A meeting was held with parents to discuss progress with confirmation students. One student will be confirmed this spring and one this fall.
- Little Lamb Preschool has 10 students. The students held a Christmas program Dec. 6 in the fellowship hall. Parents and grandparents attended. Through the Giving Plus program, the preschool received \$611 from the congregation and \$310.50 from Thrivent funds.
- Sunday School enrollment is 100. Average attendance is 30%. The students participated in the Christmas Service on December 20th entitled "Jesus, God's Gift to You." Afterward many people many people enjoyed the "Happy Birthday Jesus" party in the fellowship hall.

- A soup supper will be held March 7 to support the Sunday School program. Sharon von Qualen and Shari Toft will organize it..

Evangelism—(Adam Schweers-outgoing chairman) presented a list of 2010 activities (attached)

- Board members for 2009 were Adam Schweers, chairperson; Jackie and Danni Dryden, ESL leaders; Ralph von Qualen, Shari and Marv Toft, Sheri Reiter, Pastor Anthony. In 2010 Jackie Dryden will be chairperson, replacing Adam Schweers. Other members remain.

Youth—(Talena Bauck)

- Board members for 2010 are: Talena Bauck, chairperson; Carol Onken; Ralph vonQualen, Cindy Erickson, Penny Harmening, Brian Widdel, Patty Throckmorton, Pam Stanzyk, Jewell Proctor, Joe Eisenbacher, Pastor Licht.
- 3-4 youth regularly participate in Wednesday evening fellowship time.
- Nine youth plan to attend the National Youth Gathering. They met with Ralph vonQualen and their parents. Each family was asked to choose and be in charge of a fundraiser.
- Several youth attended the Circuit Gathering in Des Moines in November.
- We request your prayers for our youth and their parents for the Holy Spirit to stir their hearts to hunger for God, realize His love for them, and know Him as the only source of perfect peace.

Trustees—(Ryan Rueter)

- Members of the Board of Trustees are Ryan Rueter, chairperson; Joe Eisenbacher, Jeff Hoffman, Aaron Pock, Merle Holmes, Duane Proctor.
- Focus on repairs and cleaning before the anniversaries.
- Call anyone on board if you see repairs or cleaning that needs to be done.

Stewardship and Family Life--(No report)

Older Adult Ministry—(Jan Hoff)

- Continue to help with devotional services at Regency Park and St. Anthony's Nursing Home once or twice a month.
- Continue to assist LCMS pastors with giving communion at the Carroll Health Center
- Responsible for the bingo activity at the Carroll Health Center five times during the year. Several non-board members also help.
- Newsletters are delivered to nursing home member residents and to some shut-ins.
- Bob Grundmeier is in charge of checking hearing aid units.
- Ina Rae Nieland updates the magazine rack outside the East Room.
- Bonnie Dryden sends the board's homemade birthday cards to nursing home residents and shut-ins.

- Members of the board for 2010 are: Jan Hoff, chairperson; Larry Bayless, Joanne Becker Ruth Brownlee, Bonnie Dryden, Betty Grundmeier, Bob Grundmeier, Pearl Kurth, Harriet Schonberger, Max Sherwood, Shirley Sunderman.

Pastor's Report: (Pastor Licht)

- 2 baptisms
- 1 affirmation of faith
- 1 household transferred in
- 3 households transferred out
- 1 death
- 1 marriage

Pastor Licht moved to accept transfers in and out; Darrell Sunderman seconded; carried.

Mission in Mercy Outpost report: (Pastor Anthony)

- 13 attended the first Mission in Mercy Outpost working group meeting on Dec. 9, including Pastor Miller from Peace-Glidden and Pastor Mark Gerken from IDW. Discussed the concept of operations and important dates.
- Many thanks to Jackie and Dani Dryden and Marv Toft for cleaning up and painting the Outpost facility in Thomas Plaza. Also many thanks to all who helped to move in.
- Thanks to Joe Eisenbacher and Aaron Pock for designing and making the outside sign. Thanks also to Joe and Bruce Warnke for installing the sign.
- Tuesday, December 22, Christmas Open House, 7:00 p.m. Attended by 35-40 from St. Paul, Peace, and Immanuel, as well as Pastor Gerken and his wife. Refreshments, singing and visiting made this first activity at the outpost an uplifting time.
- Sunday, January 3, Dedication service attended by about 25. Reception followed.
- Monday, January 4, doors were open for business at 9:00 a.m. Three visitors have been assisted in various ways including referral to local social service agencies and Iowa Workforce as well as the School of Dentistry at Creighton in Omaha for dental needs resulting from hurricane injuries. Also 25 visitors from our congregations and interested volunteers from town have stopped in for coffee and conversation.
- An extensive article on the outpost and its mission ran in the Jan. 7 Times Herald, yielding good feedback, more volunteers, and monetary donations.
- Flyers have been made inviting people to visit the outpost and to learn what activities and services are scheduled.
- Chamber of Commerce coffee and ribbon cutting was postponed to Feb. 5 due to weather.
- ESL classes –Tuesdays and Thursdays from 6:30-8:00 pm for 8 weeks. They are taught by

Pastor Vogel, Dani Dryden, and Mary Seel. Outpost staff will help.

- Bible Study—Wednesdays 4:30 on topics such as addictions, depression/anxiety, God's love in Christ, etc.
- AA Meetings—Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 pm with invitation to Bible Studies and other activities.
- Needs—instant water heater (\$300) and landline phone. Funds exist for the upgrades.
- Meeting Feb. 4 at 7pm at the Outpost.
- Phone number is 712-775-2262

Old Business:

1. Larry Beckman requested to be replaced after being elected in October to a two year term as elder. Marvin Toft moved that this be resolved by changing Larry Bayless from a one-year-term to a two-year term (in Beckman's place), and reinstating Jerry Frehse for a one-year term (in Bayless's place.) This corrects the elders' two-year rotation. Seconded by Bob Grundmeier. Carried.

New Business:

1. Ralph von Qualen moved to continue mission support in prayer and treasure the same as last year: Delano and Linda Meyer in West Africa, \$6,000; Outreach to Hispanics in Western Iowa through Pastor Vogel, \$1,000; Outreach to internationals at Iowa State University, \$1000; Bible translation work in Ghana by Rev. Nathan Esala, \$1,000. Larry Bayless seconded; carried.
2. Nominations are due March 10 for Synodical President and Vice President. Joe Eisenbacher moved to nominate Matthew Harrison for President and John C. Wohlrabe, Jr. for Vice President. Seconded by Ryan Rueter. Discussion of each man's qualifications followed. Motion carried.
3. Joe Eisenbacher reported on a pre-conference meeting he attended in Minneapolis concerning business to bring to the floor at convention. Much of his report focused on possible ways to reorganize the synod and rewrite the constitution. A great deal of time and money has already been spent for consulting fees and research on these matters.
4. Concern was expressed that the first item on the church website is the budget. The website needs to be refreshed so that is either moved or removed. Adam Schweers does the technical work on the website, Scott Bauck is now responsible for content, and Jeff Hoffman is newly appointed to the committee.
5. Dale Schmidt moved that a one-year finance committee be appointed to look at all special funds of the congregation in order to do an internal audit, examine our insurance, find out where all funds are invested and how much they are worth, and provide guidance for investments. Ryan Rueter seconded; motion carried. The committee members will be Brian Widdel, congregational treasurer to supply the records, Bob Grundmeier, Pat Beck, Darrell Sunderman, Wayne Harmening, and Don Oleson. Bob

Grundmeier agreed to set up the first meeting.

6. Our entry in the Festival of Lights was not displayed this year because it is in poor condition. Because it was originally a project of the Board of Evangelism, it was determined that this board should get it back in useable condition before next Christmas, using talents of church members to assist.

Next Quarterly meeting: April 18, 2010

Adjourned: 2:42 p.m. with Lord's Prayer

In Christ's Service,
Shari Toft, Secretary

Scholarships Available

St. Paul Lutheran Church Scholarship

For members of St. Paul who have decided to prepare themselves for full-time professional ministry in The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod as a Pastor, Teacher, Lay Parish Worker, Director of Christian Education, Missionary Worker or some other recognized ministry within the church and who are enrolled at one of the Synod's schools offering the required courses. If funds are available after distribution for the main intent outlined above are granted, additional applications may be considered for Grants for specialized training to members serving our congregation not to exceed \$1,000; or grants for individuals attending a Synod school with a course of study other than outlined above—not to exceed \$1,000. **Application deadline is March 15.** More information about this Scholarship is available at the church office.

International Student Ministry of Memorial Lutheran Church, Ames, is offering one \$500 Scholarship to a young Lutheran man or woman entering Iowa State University in the fall of 2010 to learn about Christ's work in the Mission Field of Ames. The object of ISM is to build relationships with the international student enrolled at ISU. See Donna in the Church Office for a copy of the application.

William & Elsie Bandow Scholarship is available to an applicant interested in attending any seminary for the purpose of becoming a pastor of the LCMS and/or be interested in becoming a parochial school teacher in the LCMS. See Donna in the church office for a copy of the application.



Lutherans For Life

A Commentary: My Experience with End-of-Life Concerns

(below are excerpts from an article written by Doliene Raabe, MSW, LCSW, managing editor of *Mercy Notes* and *Just In From The Hill*, newsletters published by LCMS World Relief and Human Care.)

One of the chief moral concerns about any health care reform passed by Congress is whether it empowers the government to decide when it is time for us to die. As Christians, we know only God has rightful authority over our mortal bodies. But a growing utilitarian ethos in our country holds that people are valuable only as long as they are useful – as long as they contribute more to society than they receive. That all people have been created by God is meaningless in this worldview....

There are many Christian and prolife medical professionals. But please be aware that you may meet a doctor who does not share your sanctity of life values at the worst possible time -- when a loved one is rushed to the hospital for emergency care. You may meet this doctor when you are dazed, distraught, and overwhelmed by medical jargon, medical staff, paperwork, and your own emotions. At first, the doctor may be in charge of reviving and stabilizing your loved one. But later that same day, when you are fatigued to the point of physical and mental numbness, a doctor may begin pressuring you to end your loved one's life before you have grasped what is happening -- as if death must be hastened without further delay.

I know, because this very experience happened to me.

Three years ago, I received a call early on a Saturday morning. As co-guardians of our 92-year-old mother's medical care, a brother and I were informed by a local hospital that our mother had been brought to the emergency room. She had been found by staff at her nursing home, unresponsive and barely breathing. When my family and I arrived at the hospital, nurses and doctors were bustling. Mom was on a

ventilator, receiving IV fluids. A tube was suctioning fluid from her lungs. The resident doctor told me she was unconscious. Yet when I approached Mom's bed and spoke to her, she wrinkled her forehead, tried to reach her hand toward me.

Mom was moved to the intensive care unit late in the afternoon. By that time, an attending doctor already had told me that my mother was "no longer there." He said she had been deprived of sufficient oxygen long enough to sustain brain damage, that she would not know me, and that she probably would not survive the night. He advised me not to make medical decisions based on false hope.

I was then approached by a pulmonary specialist, who informed me Mom had pneumonia. The specialist pulled the sheets off Mom's lower legs and pointed to her badly swollen feet, which were turning purple. She, too, held little hope Mom would last the night. The doctor said Mom's kidneys were shutting down. If by some miracle she survived, her feet would have to be amputated, and she would need regular dialysis. I will never forget this doctor's last words to me, both because of their callousness and because of the flash of anger they triggered in me. "How much do you want to put your mother through?" the doctor asked.

The young resident who treated my mother in the emergency room appeared at her bedside in the intensive care unit several times that evening. He caught me alone most times, such as when my husband sat in the waiting room with our young daughter or when my brother briefly left the room. The resident repeatedly emphasized the hopelessness of Mom's prognosis and how much kinder it would be to remove the ventilator, stop the IV medication stabilizing her blood pressure, and end her suffering.

I was fortunate, because my husband is a pastor. I had no intention of making any decisions without him. I am also skeptical of "experts" and was not confident the doctors were right about Mom. Still, the young resident, whom my brother dubbed "Dr. Death," was beginning to wear me down. Near midnight, after 14 exhausting hours and several

visits from the doctor, I concluded that if Mom lived through the night, I would return in the morning and seriously consider withdrawing treatment.

Throughout the day, Mom continued to respond and tried to speak to my brother and me. We became increasingly uncomfortable about the dire statements doctors made in Mom's earshot, since she was obviously more aware than they knew.

Then came one of those moments when you know God must be stepping in. A nurse entered Mom's room after the doctor left. The nurse said she had heard both the pulmonary doctor's and the resident's conversations with me. She put her arm around me in a gesture that almost overwhelmed me with compassion. As I fought back tears, she told me I was doing nothing wrong. This understanding nurse said that Mom was only receiving the supportive care she needed. The hospital staff was administering no extraordinary care, she explained, but simply giving Mom food, fluids, and oxygen so that her body could try to repair itself. She told me to go home, get some sleep, and return in the morning before making any decisions. Lastly, the nurse said, "When your mother's body is ready, her organs will shut down despite anything we do. You don't have to make that decision."

The next morning I returned to nothing less than a miracle! Mom's blood pressure had stabilized, her swollen feet had returned to almost normal size and color, and the staff told me they would begin weaning her off the ventilator. I never saw "Dr. Death" or the pulmonary doctor again. I never saw that compassionate ICU nurse either, although I thanked her in prayers many times. Though Mom continued to have health difficulties, she lived another six months. Not only was she "there," but she remembered her hospital stay and her battle with pneumonia. ...

Considering Your Spiritual Disaster Plan

Because of the emotional and physical stress surrounding end-of-life situations, individuals often feel they are living through a crisis that demands more energy than they have. Just as we must prepare our communities and our homes for health pandemics and natural and man-made disasters, LCMS World

Relief and Human Care suggests that Christian caregivers consider developing a personal "spiritual disaster plan." This is simply an informal plan that you share with family and others. A spiritual disaster plan clearly specifies a step-by-step strategy for managing the stress and pressure when a loved one enters a potential end-of-life situation. This plan sets into motion pastoral care as well as care from loved ones who will support and stay with the caregiver, pray, and give spiritual guidance when decisions seem overwhelming.

A congregation might also consider forming a "spiritual disaster committee" that focuses on giving guidance, support, and in-person advocacy for members who face end-of-life issues for themselves or loved ones. The church can be a strong educational resource for Christians who need to know their legal rights and how best to respond to potential pressures from the medical community, particularly during a health crisis.

The Apostle Paul encourages Christians to "bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ" (Gal. 6:2).

Just as Christ cared for us, so let us care for one another. This calls for proactive churches, especially as the mainline culture seems to grow ever more hostile to the sanctity of life.

THANK YOU'S RECEIVED:

Dear Fellow Brothers & Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your contribution to Barbara Ehlers Medical Fund. The support and kindness has been overwhelming. Continue to keep Barbara and our family in your thoughts and prayers.

God Bless,

Curtis & Shirley Ehlers, Zion Lutheran, Arcadia
(Note: \$210 was sent to them from our door offering)



Members of St. Paul Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for your generous support to the Project for Haiti. With your help, we have raised approximately \$2500 for Save the Children.

Michael Fitzsimmons, Jim Pedelty, Kelly Fischbach
(Note: \$183 was collected from our door offering for Haiti and given to them)

✧ Thank you to everyone for your generosity. ✧

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Missouri Synod
1844 Highland Drive
Carroll, IA 51401-3573

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

*A Christ-centered fellowship sharing the
one thing needful.*

Worship with Holy Communion
Saturday—5:00 p.m.
Sunday—9:00 a.m.

Sunday School & Bible Classes
Sunday—10:30 a.m.

Pastor David Anthony

Pastor Brian Licht

St. Paul's Epistle—March 2010

St. Paul Lutheran Church

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stpaul@stpaul-ia.com

Web Page:
www.stpaul-ia.com

Mission in Mercy Outpost
225 4th St., Thomas Plaza
Phone: 712-775-2262

Little Lamb Preschool
Teacher/Director:
Durene Eisenbacher 792-9455

Church Office Secretary:
Donna Spaen 792-4354

The Church Council—2010

President:	Dale Schmidt
Vide-President:	Ralph von Qualen
Secretary:	Shari Toft
Treasurer:	Brian Widdel
Elders:	Scott Bauck Larry Bayless Joe Eisenbacher Mike Janssen Tracy Onken
Deacon:	Jerry Frehse
Education:	Aaron Poock
Evangelism:	Jackie Dryden
Finance:	Lowell Stammer
Human Care:	Ryan & Darlene Rueter
Older Adult	
Ministry:	Jan Hoff
Stewardship/	
Family Life:	Mike Janssen
Trustees:	Ryan Rueter
Youth:	Talena Bauck