

# ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

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Rev. Robert E. Schmidt, Pastor

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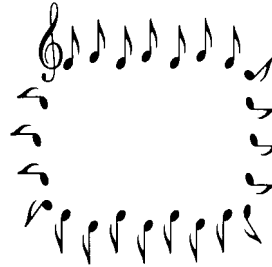
Usually during the season of Lent we concentrate on the negative and think about the nastiness of our sins. During this

year's Wednesday evening Lent services we will be using the ELW Evening Prayer/Vespers. This service begins the same way as the Holden Evening Prayer service begins, by celebrating Jesus as the light of the world. As we go through this Lent Season we are reminded that Christ is the light of the world and that we not only concern ourselves with the drab concept that we all sin but we are to look to the Hope of the cross. The concept of Jesus being the Light of the world tells us we depend on God and look to Him for the way to live. As we meditate on the Scripture during Lent we will find deeper answers to our struggles with the concept of AGAPE. The love that put Jesus on the cross and that rose Him from the dead. As we sing, "Let my prayer rise before you as incense" we are trust God to hear our prayers not only in time of need but also in time of celebration. The cross opens us to a relationship with God. That same close relationship Adam and Eve had with their creator. We can then continue to practice what we sing, "The lifting up of my hands as the evening sacrifice. O Lord, I call to you; come to me quick; hear my voice when I call to you." We realize in the cross God really does care and we can trust Him to listen to our prayers and walk with us. We realize the beautiful creation God made in us. Let us have a meaningful Lent.

Pastor Robert Schmidt

## MEN'S LENTEN BREAKFASTS

Wednesday morning Men's (and boys) Lenten Breakfasts are being planned. Watch the bulletin for details on time and place.



## February Worship Services

Feb 5	Holy Communion	ELW 4
Feb 12	Worship	Service of Word
Feb 19	Holy Communion	ELW 4
Feb 22	Ash Wednesday	Noon & 7:00pm
Feb 26	Worship	Service of Word
Feb 29	Mid-week Lenten	Noon & 7:00pm

## SHROVE TUESDAY

Plan to come and celebrate at the pancake supper on Tuesday, February 21, 6:00pm. The youth will be cooking and there will be a free will offering to help with the expenses of the National Youth Gathering in New Orleans. As part of the evening's fun, you will have the opportunity to watch the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual St. Paul's Talent Show. Please contact Bill Whittle to sign up for sharing your talent.



Laura, Levi and I would like to thank everyone for their cards, gifts and well wishes during the Christmas season. We are truly blessed to be a part of the family of Christ at St. Paul's.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the Gift Away for NEEDS. Thank you to those who were able to deliver the gifts: the Rentners, the Meiers, the Brunners, the Wilsons, the Schmidts, and Whittles. Thank you Jane Rasmussen for helping with a last minute delivery. I'm sure the faces of the children were beaming on Christmas morning!

~Laura Schmidt

## COMMUNITY CORNER



### MAC & CHEESE

We are the Macaroni and Cheese Church as part of NEEDS "I Can" You can bring your Macaroni and Cheese anytime and leave them in the NEEDS box near the coat rack

NOTE: We have been filling the containers every two weeks. NEEDS has told us that amount of mac & cheese is gone in a day. Thanks for your continued support!

### CAMPUS MINISTRY

To the St. Paul's Family: We want to thank you for your gracious gift to Lutheran University Ministry. It is a wonderful blessing to have your continued support in this ministry. You're helping support a wonderful ministry as we reach out to college students here and share the love of Christ with them. Blessing to you all in this new year of 2012. Thank you again.

Sincerely, Trinity Lutheran Church (Laramie)

### CHILDFUND INTERNATIONAL

Friends: Your generous support of ChildFund is so important to the well-being of children living in poverty. Your ongoing support is truly appreciated by ChildFund and the children we serve.

Ann Lynam Goddard, Pres. & CEO

### ADOPT A FAMILY CHRISTMAS PROJECT

Dear St. Paul's: I would like to say thank you very, very, very much for the gifts your gave me and my family. I don't know how to express the appreciation that I feel for what you have done for my family. You made my children and me so happy. You literally made our Christmas a very happy one. I thank God for what you have done for me and my kids and pray someday I can do the same. These words cannot express how grateful and thankful I am because of you and the family who so generously knew exactly what to get for my kids. May God bless them and you wonderful people. God's Blessings to all of you and thank you! Ramona Ortiz & Family

Dear St. Paul's: I wanted to thank you very much from the bottom of my heart for the best Christmas we've had in a few years! It has been hard on us since losing my son in 2008. You guys really made this Christmas something to celebrate! Thank you.

Jenifer Rohret

Dear St. Paul's: Thank you so much for giving my family a wonderful Christmas. It means so much to me for you all doing this. Everyone was very pleased and excited when they opened their gifts Christmas Day. It is so nice to know that there are people out there who will help others when they are down and out. That is the best part of this whole thing. I hope you all continue to do things like this for those in need. All of you are awesome and we wish you all the best. Sincerely, The Day Family

### NEEDS, INC.

Dear Partners in Faith: We will be celebrating the "magic" of your thoughtfulness for a long time to come. (½ of our Thanksgiving offering = \$578.50). The mission of Needs, Inc. is to provide people living near or below poverty with the basic needs of life and the tools to help them improve their lives. Thank you for your continued support. Drop by for a tour whenever you have time. We would love to meet you.

Gratefully, Ami Skeens Ex. Dir.

### SUPPORT THE TROOPS

Dear Members of St. Paul's: On behalf of the Soldiers of Detachment 3, Bravo Company, 777 Aviation Support Battalion, we wish to send our thanks and appreciation for the care packages that you sent to Kosovo. As you may know, the Wyoming Army National Guard has deployed 24 of its fine soldiers forward in support of the peace keeping mission in Kosovo. We were joined by an additional 21 from NJ, WI, and ND to provide aviation related maintenance. Wyoming soldiers are known for setting the example for all others to achieve and this group of soldiers has continued that tradition on very well! Your kindness and support is greatly appreciated. It is amazing to look around and see the smiles that your care packages have brought. Thank you again for your generosity.

Sincerely, Javier Lopez, CPT, AV Commanding  
Ted Corsi, 1SG, AV First Sergeant

## YOUTH NEWS



### YOUTH GATHERING UPDATE

**MILEAGE UPDATE:** Thanks to all who have bought miles the youth are well on their way to the Youth Gathering. Check the map to see the location of the bus.

### FUNDRAISING

"A Night in New Orleans" was very well received and thanks to the generosity of those attending, receipts were \$1459.50. The Silent Auctions resulted in another \$1122 towards the trip. Thanks to all those who donated silent auction items and those who bid on them. Items donated included: ipod nano, 4 hours guided fly fishing and equipment, 6 hours yard work, home tool kit, tickets to 2 CFD night shows, 2 hours computer work, homemade pies, homemade beer, 2 hours babysitting, 1 month piano lessons, a Night's Escape, 2 weekends pet sitting, 2 months karate lessons, wooden duck, ceramic figure, gift card tree, Devil's Tower photo, Coal Creek coffee, crystal figures, watch that started it all, handmade charm bracelet & earrings.

### DEDICATION DVDS

The youth are selling copies of the stain glass window dedication DVD for \$10 each. If you would like to purchase a DVD please contact Bill.

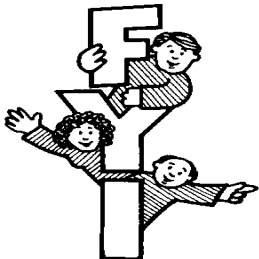
### SR HIGH SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sr High youth are meeting for Sunday school in the Fireside Room. All Sr High youth are invited to attend.

### JESUS LITTLE SPROUTS

Jesus' Little Sprouts will meet on Friday, February 3, from 6:30-8pm in the downstairs Sunday School rooms.

*The Sprouts will conduct experiments to learn how science connects them with God's wonderful world. Please call Sue Delicath if you have any questions.*



### THE BOOK OF FAITH

The study of Mark will continue during the Adult Forum. This is a great opportunity to grow in the understanding of the Bible. What is God saying to us in our day and lives?

### FAIR TRADE ITEMS

Having friends over for the big game? Don't forget to stock up on some of the delicious dips and salsas from the Women's Bean Project. Maybe you would like some soup or chili for the Superbowl. We have some great soup mixes from WBP too. The Peace & Justice kiosk in the Fellowship Hall has these items and much more. Looking for Valentine gift giving ideas? We have fairly-traded chocolates, coffees and teas. We also have a selection of hand-crafted soaps and other bath/spa products.

Each purchase helps to reduce poverty and give a hand-up to people trying to better their lives. The Women's Ministry Team supports this enterprise, but does not use the sales of these products for fundraising - just awareness-raising. If you haven't seen what is available, check it out soon. For more information contact Regina Pacheco @ 637-8458.

### SOUP SUPPERS FOR LENT

Wednesday the 22<sup>nd</sup> is Ash Wednesday. That means that Lenten Soup Suppers will begin Feb 29th. They will continue on March 7, 14, 21 and 28th. The Fellowship Committee will have soup captains for each week and a sign up sheet for any member to volunteer to bring a pot of soup. Look for the green poster in the Fellowship Hall and sign up your group or sign up individually. We look forward to many members participating.

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

On Friday, March 3rd, St. Paul's will be hosting a World Day of Prayer service in our sanctuary at 1 p.m. This is a world-wide celebration sponsored by Church Women United & is open to all. This year's theme is "Let Justice Prevail." The writers are from Malaysia & offer this statement: We affirm that we are Christian neighbors in a multi-religious world. They ask that we come together in March as worshipping communities to think about justice & how we may approach it in an interfaith world.

The service will be followed by a reception in the Fellowship Hall hosted by our churchwomen & is a wonderful opportunity to participate in ecumenical conversation with others in our faith community. Watch the church bulletins for additional information on this service. Meanwhile, please plan to attend, participate in the service, & welcome others who will be coming to our church that afternoon to unite in this observance of World Day of Prayer.