

The Link



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

February 2012

From the Pastor:

February is often a month focused on special relationships. The Groundhog comes out of his burrow and hopefully won't see his shadow, lest Winter becomes more severe for us. We try to make sure that significant people in our lives are remembered on Valentine's Day so they are assured of how we feel. Chocolates and flowers go a long way in helping loved ones know they are special. We also honor our Presidents with a special day that offers retail therapy as well as cherry pie in George Washington's memory.

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. There will be two services at church at noon and 7:30 p.m. where the words God spoken in Genesis 3:19b to Adam are also spoken to us, "Remember, you are dust, and to dust you shall return." This is a message of reality that allows us to know our relationship with God. We are creatures, not the Creator. We are limited in our lifespan. We all fall short of the glory of God. God is God, and we are not. We are not the ones who get to set the agenda for daily living. Ash Wednesday begins a period of time where we are able to reflect on this relationship with God.

God is a God of promise. God is a God of hope. This is Good News that is made clear for us when we gather and hear God's Word and share God's meal. Our baptismal

promise lets us know that we are liberated from sin and death by being joined to the death and resurrection of Jesus. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church. So what? Do we see much influence of God or religion in our lives at all?

Our baptism not only tells us who we are, but whose we are. We are children of God and belong to the family of God. We have a family reunion each Sunday to share our life together. For two centuries people have gathered to share their faith in the living Christ, called by God's Holy Spirit. We are invited to "Come and see" what God is doing. Jesus touched the untouchable, remembered the forgotten, included the outsider, and loved the unlovable.

Come and see what God is doing at St. Paul's. Join us on February 11th for a progressive meal together. Come and see what God is doing with the members who gather faithfully to share the love they have known in Jesus. If you are one of them; it is great. If you are looking for a church home, you are invited to share this one. Come and see what God is doing and continues to do at St. Paul's.

*Soli Deo Gloria,
Pastor Jeff Hedin*

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ATTENDANCE

“WE COUNT BECAUSE YOU COUNT”

	<u>Early</u>	<u>Late</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Nursery</u>	
Dec.	18	111	74	185	13
	24	322	126	448	-
	25	-	43	43	-
Jan.	1	-	74	74	-
	8	96	58	154	16
	15	77	41	118	10

Average Sunday attendance through
December 2011 – 136

Average Sunday attendance through
December 2010 - 143

Average Sunday attendance through
December 2009 – 148

PASTORAL ACTS

Wedding: January 14th
Heidi Lesniak & Glenn Fjermedal

Funerals:
December 22nd Jeanette Carey
December 31st Joyce Dehmler

Ash Wednesday February 22nd



Services of Holy Communion at
12 noon and 7:30 p.m.
Please join us.

MISSION STATEMENT

St. Paul's is a welcoming Christian family. We are created by God, saved by Jesus Christ, God's Son, and inspired by the Holy Spirit. Through joyous worship and Mission Commitment, St. Paul's furthers the word of God's Saving Grace.

Church Council News

At the Church Council meeting on Monday January 9th the following items were discussed –

Minutes of the December Meeting,
Financial reports to end December,
Action list updates,
Evangelism,
Stewardship,
Annual Meeting Agenda & FAQ,
Council Membership 2012,
Date for next meeting.

Please see the Church Council notice board in the hallway for more information and a copy of the minutes of the last meeting. Copies of previous meeting's minutes can be found in the Church Office, or by visiting our web site www.stpaulspittsford.org

Please contact the Church Council via e-mail or leave messages in the red Church Council folders by the window in the work area of the offices.

The next meeting of the Church Council will be held on Monday February 20th beginning at 6:45 p.m.

Operational Budget financial status. As of December 31st, budgeted income was \$279,839 and we received \$276,893. Budgeted expenses were \$280,339 and we spent \$276,083. Please see the Annual Report for full details.

Capital/Mortgage Budget financial status. We have received the sum of \$85,805 as of the end of December. We require \$6,840 per month to meet our annual mortgage of \$82,080. Please see the Annual Report for full details.

Learning about our Faith

The Ten Commandments

The Seventh Commandment

You shall not steal.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not take our neighbor's money or possessions, or get them in any dishonest way, but help him to improve and protect his possessions and income.

The Eighth Commandment

You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not tell lies about our neighbor, betray him, slander him, or hurt his reputation, but defend him, speak well of him, and explain everything in the kindest way.

The Ninth Commandment

You shall not covet your neighbor's house.

What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor's inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

News from the Church Office

Those of you who make use of the weekly offering envelope boxes will have noticed that we are continuing to give space for you to donate to both the "Operations Budget" and the "Capital Appeal". To make the Sunday collection counting easy for our counters, please indicate exactly on the front of the envelope or on the memo line of your check how your donation is to be used. If no specification is given the money will be put towards the Operations Budget.

The "Operations Budget" is the same as regular giving. This is the money that is used for our annual budget expenditure.

Reminders for February

If you have not collected a copy of the Annual Report, please do so. It's a very good edition and a lot of people put a lot of time and effort into it. Thanks to Gerhard Becker and Sandi Uhlig for collating & stapling it.

Articles for the March edition of the "Link" must be received by 9:00 a.m. on Monday 13th February. *This is earlier than normal.* It will be mailed on Tuesday 21st February beginning at 10:00 a.m. Please sign up to help mail it in the volunteer work area.

Statements of Financial Giving for 2011 and boxes of offering envelopes for 2012 are available for collection from the Foyer.

Use a flower envelope from the pew backs to sponsor an Easter lily. They will be available from Ash Wednesday.

Several dates are available for sponsoring altar flowers and Sunday bulletins. Sign up in the Foyer.

Church Office hours may be reduced while I am on vacation from Friday 24th February to Tuesday 6th March, please call ahead if you wish to visit and do not have a key.

Thoughts for the New Year

We are very eager to be Environmentally Green and to recycle as much paper as possible. You are encouraged to take home your weekly bulletin insert as a reminder of all the events and news of the week. However, if you choose not to do so, please leave your copy at the back of the sanctuary after the service. This way they will get recycled.

After events at St. Paul's please do not put left over food in the fridge or freezer unless you are sure that another group is going to eat it. Instead please take it home with you. This will reduce the amount of food that regularly has to be tossed out.

This does not apply to cookies or other baked goods that can be used the following Sunday for our Fellowship Hour.

If food in the fridge is reserved for an event please label it.

Janet Harris,
Church Coordinator

Lent Events

We will hold services of Holy Communion at 12 noon and 7:30 p.m. on **Ash Wednesday**, February 22nd. If you would like to assist with the 7:30 p.m. service, please sign up on the podium in the Foyer.

During Lent, beginning Wednesday February 29th, our **Wednesday morning Bible Study** will conclude with a brief worship service at 11:00 a.m. each week. On Ash Wednesday, February 22nd, the Bible Study will meet at 10:00 a.m. instead of 9:30 a.m.

Each Sunday during Lent we will share **soup and bread** after our 11 a.m. service. Please join us. Each Sunday will feature a different presentation and gives us a great opportunity to get to know each other better. If you can provide the soup and bread please sign up in the Foyer. No butter is needed this year; this will be bought by the church to cut down on the amount left over in the fridge each week.

We will be collecting **loose change** during Lent and will have coin boxes and "Count Your Blessings" leaflets to assist you. All proceeds will go to Saint's Place to assist refugees newly arrived in our area. Collection boxes, leaflets and information on Saint's Place will be available late February from the Foyer.

Look for the Lent table coming late in February in the Foyer and take a **free gift**. There will be devotionals, calendars and books for all ages available.

A Progressive Valentines' Dinner

will be held on Saturday February 11th. Please sign up in the Foyer. Childcare will be provided at a cost. See Nikki Robinson with questions.

Dorcas Rachel Circle

Date: Thursday, February 9th, 2012

Place: Dorcas Room

Time: 9:45 am

Program & Devotions:

Shari MacFarlane "Mary & Abe"

Hostesses: Shari MacFarlane

Jane Pfromer

- A breakfast snack will be offered to the members as they arrive for the meeting.
- Weather permitting, Shari's white Jeep (rear door) will be open for Pittsford Food Cupboard paper goods donations.

2012 Circle Book Discussion with Pam Poduska

Book: Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet by Jamie Ford

This book is a story of commitment and enduring hope; a story that teaches us of the power of forgiveness and the human heart.

Date of discussion: Thursday, May 10, 2012

A

Blood Drive

will be held at St. Paul's on Tuesday February 28th from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Please call 1-800- GIVE-LIFE for an appointment.

Volunteer with RAIHN This Year!

The next RAIHN rotation at First Presbyterian Church is February 12th – 19th. Volunteer shifts will be available **Friday, February 17th** (5-7:30 pm, 7-9 pm, 9pm-8am) and **Saturday, February 18th** (8am-10am). Please also consider helping First Presbyterian during the week for a hospitality (7-9 pm) or overnight (9pm-7am) shift. Sign up in the foyer, or contact Jen Canning with any questions. The following volunteer opportunities are available:

- Provide a portion of the evening meal – main dish, side dishes, or dessert for up to 20 people.
- Serve to and eat dinner with the RAIHN families, as well as clean up after dinner and run the industrial dishwasher!(5:30 – 7:00 pm)
- Spend time visiting with the families, playing games with the children, and being present during the evening and breakfast hospitality hours. (7 – 9 pm Fri., 8 – 10 am Sat.)
- Sleep at First Presbyterian Church with the families on a comfy air mattress, providing supervision and assistance “in case of emergency.” (9 pm – 8 am)

The Rochester Area Interfaith Hospitality Network (RAIHN) is a not-for-profit organization that provides temporary shelter, meals and case management to help homeless families find housing and employment or education. The goal is to keep families together until they can find permanent housing. Families also receive follow-up services for a year after housing is found.

This program utilizes countless volunteers and only 3 paid staff members to serve 25 to 35 families each year. A host congregation

provides overnight accommodation and an evening meal for up to five families for one week 3 or 4 times a year. **FOR EVERY ONE FAMILY RAIHN SERVES, THEY ARE TURNING AWAY on average FOUR OTHER FAMILIES.**

A training to learn more about the RAIHN organization, its mission and the families it serves will be held **Wednesday, February 1st at 6:30 pm at Twelve Corners Presbyterian Church** (1200 S. Winton Rd). Please RSVP to Jennifer Canning.

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THE RAIHN COOKBOOK HAS SOLD OUT ITS FIRST PRINTING AND EARNED \$16,000 IN PROFIT!! THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO SUPPORTED THIS FUNDRAISER.
.....

SAVE THE DATE:
RAIHN Interfaith Service: “Called to Act, Pursuing with Joy”
Sunday, April 29th, 7 pm
The Baptist Temple, 1101 Clover Street
Rochester

When my daughter, Kelli, said her bedtime prayers, she would bless every family member, every friend, and every animal (current and past). For several weeks, after we had finished the nightly prayer, Kelli would say, 'And all girls.' This soon became part of her routine. My curiosity got the best of me and I asked, 'Kelli, why do you always add the part about all girls?' Her response, 'Because everybody always finishes their prayers by saying 'All Men!'

January 9th 2012 – Church
Council Meeting Devotional,
by Scott Conderman

Being that this is my last Council meeting and that I have the fortuitous coincidence of delivering tonight's devotional, I feel I would be remiss if I did not take at least some advantage of my featured time tonight. Through parable and allegory, I would like to try and leave you with what I have come to learn, know, and understand about faith, action, and leadership at St. Paul's. I'm sure it will sound a bit "preachy" at times, but hey – I've always had a flair for the dramatic.

My three favorite parables from the Bible are similar in their allegorical lesson: 1st, the parable of the **Sower** (who throws seed in all directions. Some land in the road, some on rocks, some in thorns, and finally some on fertile land). 2nd, the parable of the **Mustard Seed** ("What is the Kingdom of God like? To what shall I compare it? It is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and put in his own garden. It grew, and became a large tree, and the birds of the sky lodged in its branches."). And 3rd, the Parable of the **Seed Growing Secretly** (The Kingdom of God is as if a man should cast seed on the earth, and he should sleep and rise night and day, and the seed should spring up and grow, he doesn't know how. For the earth bears fruit: first the blade, then the ear, and then the full grain in the ear.)

While all three parables had different purposes and were written to convey different lessons, I connect to their common and essential theme: "Big things happens when small things are planted in fertile soil and allowed to grow naturally, slowly, over time". What is common in the three parables is that the environment played the most important role and was fundamental in allowing the seeds to sprout at all. They were in a place where things could grow: a place with rich

soil, water, and sunlight; a necessary climate where magical things can happen. No one planned for the seeds to grow, no one raised money or formed a committee or created a survey... something wonderful just happened. The most beautiful natural sights in the world (forests, mountains, river valleys, sunsets) are not planned or created by the will of man. If anything, these things still exist because we have laws in place NOT to touch or trespass at all... just leave it alone, let it happen, it will be beautiful.

St. Paul's is a fertile environment where personal connections are made and small seeds can grow into big things. Council leadership often does not initiate the big things. The latest building project came as the result of a small group of moms talking during playgroup about the need for a bigger nursery at church. The church did not organize this playgroup, nor was it even held at church... it was simply a group of new moms that made a connection AT church. Following their lead, the Council certainly took the time to make it happen, made a commitment (to which we even lost some members), but in the end, look at what this small seed produced. We have a music program second to none for our size congregation. How does that happen? I don't even know...

St. Paul's has been blessed with growth and stability during a time when many other congregations are experiencing the hardest times they have had to endure. I do not believe that we have just been lucky. I know we are thriving due to having smart, kind people in places of leadership and advocacy. They have been given the unspoken permission and opportunity to grow, make calculated risks, and are steadfast in their passion. We are a scrappy group of open-minded tolerant people, (most) without personal agendas or axes to grind. We don't micro-manage, dictate direction or change;

we create a fertile environment to promote creativity and hope.

So my point is: Keep on doing what you are doing, and don't sweat the big stuff (if the boiler breaks and we need \$80,000 next month, we will get it.) Don't sweat the small stuff too much either (surveys often send you on wild goose chases). Simply continue to focus your precious energy on maintaining an environment at church for personal and spiritual connections to happen. A church Council does not necessarily need to lead the way, but follow the lead with action... A small group of unsupervised mothers and a strong pot of coffee really have changed the world.

Scott Conderman shared this devotional at his last Church Council. It was felt it should be shared with the whole congregation.

Eastern Service Workers Association is having a
Winter Survival Campaign

This campaign helps ESWA members survive harsh winter conditions. Items needed are over-the-counter cold and flu medications for adults and children, facial tissues, toilet paper, paper towels, laundry detergent, toothpaste and soap.

A collection box will be in the Dorcas Room throughout February. Financial donations are also needed. Please use a pew envelope and mark it "ESWA."

If you have a space heater, in good condition, snow shovels, weatherization supplies (clear plastic to put over windows, weather stripping, caulking), or emergency supplies (flashlights, batteries), please consider donating them.

To help support the Winter Survival Campaign Eastern Service Workers Association are holding a

Super Bowl Sunday Tamale Benefit

The suggested donation is \$20 for a dozen tamales, chicken or pork. Please order at 654-9640.

St. Paul's Women

Thank you for donating and buying cookies at the December Cookie Walk. \$300 was collected for Isaiah House. Isaiah House is located at 71 Prince Street, Rochester. It is a Hospice Centre caring for terminally ill people in the Rochester Community.

Backpack Ingathering Project

A large box has been placed in the Dorcas Room for the backpack collection.

Purchased backpacks will be donated to Maggie Harris' Kids (Community Lutheran Ministry) in August.

Sewn drawstring backpack-style cloth bags will be sent to Lutheran World Relief. These backpacks are to include requested items (TBA). Ellen Bluhm is making some drawstring backpack-style cloth bags to display for sewers interested. Directions will be available with display.

A Spring Fund Raiser has been recommended to help purchase additional backpacks and/or requested supplies for the cloth drawstring backpacks to be sent to LWR. More information will follow in the March "Link" and Sunday bulletins in the spring.

A “NEW” project for 2012 at St. Paul’s

What to do with your coupons that you don’t use or need.....

Bring them in to St. Paul’s and place them in a bin in the Grand Foyer labeled coupons. If you would like to cut them up before bringing them in, great! If not, then just bring in the whole thing and we will have someone cut them up, so they will be ready to use.

We thought this would be a great way to help others who depend on them or like to use coupons. And now your coupons won’t go to the recycle bin but to someone who might need them. All coupons are welcome, from foods, products, restaurants, clothing and so forth.

So collect those coupons you get in the newspapers or mail and bring them in. We will have a team that will put them in order and make sure they will be ready for folks to use and kept maintained.

We hope to have this system put in place by mid February if not sooner, so be looking for a display “READY TO USE COUPONS”, coming soon....

Anyone interested in helping out with this project, please e-mail or Mara Berndt.

Commitment time is not too much and can be done on your own time.

So start pulling those coupons now and thanks for your support!

Dear St. Paul’s,

We want to thank you for your participation in the 2011 Project Homeless Connect Rochester event. We served approximately 900 individuals with over 250 volunteers. We had 40 providers. To date, all of the input that we have received indicates that we should attempt to have a 2012 Project Homeless Connect Rochester event.

We are receiving good vibes from Professor Jed Metzger of Nazareth College who will be providing us with a full evaluation of the project. He has a number of his students taking specific items of interest and will be coming up with reports and papers. We think that this is very exciting.

We are committed that there will be a 2012 Project Homeless Connect Rochester. We are in the process of determining what the best sponsor would be for the event to make sure that it continues as a permanent fixture of services to the homeless. Your involvement will be crucial. As soon as we have any additional information, we will be in touch with you.

Again, thank you so much for your cooperation and assistance in making the event a significant success.

With warmest personal regards,
Thomas A. Fink, Co-Chair
Barbara Grosh, Co-Chair
Project Homeless Connect
Rochester

Last summer St. Paul’s members donated many winter coats to the Project Homeless Connect event. They were given out at an event at the Blue Cross Arena. Look for more ways to help this coming year.

Volunteering in the Spotlight

Volunteer Schedules for coffee clean up, communion preparation, and ushers that will begin in March will be available via e-mail or for pick up from the Foyer on Sunday 5th February.

Meal Preparation Teams have been updated and distributed per your choice; via e-mail or paper copy. If you are a member of a team and did not get your copy please let me know.

All Sunday morning volunteers know when they are assigned as they receive a schedule, and those with e-mail have Monday morning reminders. However, sometimes volunteers can't attend due to unforeseen circumstances. This is why the role of wrangler was introduced.

Wranglers

The volunteer position of "wrangler" is designed to allow Pastor be able to focus on greeting people as they arrive for the service, instead of having the responsibility of making sure that all of the volunteers (acolytes, ushers, communion assistant, lector, and prayer leader) are in place for the service.

The role of Wranglers is to -

Arrive 15 minutes before the service is to begin.

Look in the bulletin to see who is supposed to be volunteering for the service.

Locate those people—they may already be in place.

If necessary, find an emergency substitute for those volunteers who are not here five minutes before the beginning of the service.

It is very easy as often one of the assigned volunteers can take on an extra role, and there is a folder of volunteer lists to help find substitutes.

To help the wrangler -

There are check lists at the back of the sanctuary.

All volunteers who assist with the worship service (acolytes, ushers, lectors, prayer leaders and communion assistants) are asked to let the wrangler know they are present at least ten minutes before the beginning of the service. This is especially important if a swap has been made after the bulletin was printed. This will save the wrangler looking for the wrong volunteers.

If you are scheduled to assist but arrive late please check with the wrangler as your role may have been reassigned.

As with all volunteer roles wranglers are required to find a swap or replacement if they are not available on a scheduled Sunday. If needed I can help by providing contact information and names of possible replacements.

If you would like to talk about being a wrangler, please call me in the Church Office at 586-0580

Janet Harris,
Church Coordinator

Let's celebrate in February



- 1st Happy Birthday to Finn Whitaker
- 3rd Happy Birthday to Harry Ruske
- 6th Happy Birthday to Allison Paoni
- 8th Happy Birthday to Nancy Hilliard & Pam Poduska
- 10th Happy Birthday to Suzanne Graser
- 11th Happy 5th Wedding Anniversary to Rob & Tiffany Laird
- 12th Happy Birthday to Mark Jordan and Aiden Bingemann
- 13th Happy Birthday to Susan Brainard and Jeremy Wyatt
- 15th Happy Birthday to Hannah Washburn and Happy 15th Wedding Anniversary to David & Jennifer Canning
- 16th Happy Birthday to Jacob Bizub
- 17th Happy Birthday to Winston Bennett
- 19th Happy Birthday to Inta Grymin
- 20th Happy Birthday to Laurie Bizub
- 21st Happy Birthday to Sydney Flemister
- 24th Happy Birthday to Kelly Foti and Gina Piccirilli
- 25th Happy Birthday to Allison Patchen

- 26th Happy Birthday to Ellissa Kuhn and Cheryl Travis-Woodard
- 28th Happy Birthday to Caryl Bjorseth-Jordan

Dates To Save

- | | | |
|-------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Feb. | 1 st | RAIHN Training @ Twelve Corners |
| | 5 th | Presbyterian, Brighton Souper Bowl Sunday |
| | 11 th | Valentine's Progressive Dinner |
| | 12 th | RAIHN assistance week begins |
| | 22 nd | Ash Wednesday. Services at 12 noon and 7:30 p.m. |
| | 28 th | Blood Drive (<i>new date</i>) |
| March | 4 th | Assistance at St. John's Home |
| | 10 th | Italian Café |
| | 31 st | Palm Cross Making |
| April | 1 st | Palm Sunday |
| | 5 th | Maundy Thursday. Service at 7:30 p.m. |
| | 6 th | Good Friday. Prayer Vigil. Tenebrae 7:30 p.m. |
| | 7 th | Easter Vigil. Service at 7:30 p.m. |
| | 8 th | Easter Sunday |
| | 9 th | Easter Monday. Church Office Closed |
| | 21 st | Family Game Night |
| May | 13 th | Mothers' Day Waffle Breakfast |
| June | 17 th | Fathers' Day Extravaganza |
| July | 15 th - 20 th | Confirmation Camp |
| Aug. | 26 th | Assistance at St. John's Home |
| Sept | 9 th | Annual Picnic |

Thanks to you in December

The total donated throughout the year to World Hunger reached \$1,618,

The total donated throughout the year to the Upstate Synod reached \$35,610,

Three boxes of toys were collected for the Eastern Service Workers Association Christmas party,

Mittens for Community Lutheran Ministry were collected at the Women of the ELCA Advent Gathering, *thanks to Nancy Graser for delivering them,*

Food was collected at the LYO Christmas Party for the Pittsford Food Cupboard,

\$300 was donated to Isaiah House from the Cookie Walk,

\$500 of food was purchased for Pittsford Food Cupboard, *thanks to Mara Berndt for delivering it,*

\$250 was donated to Pittsford Interfaith.

Thanks to Girl Scout Troop 60225 who meet regularly in our lower level for donating a box of food to the ESWA Thanksgiving collection and for filling 2 shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child.

Dear Friends at St. Paul's,

Thank you for the beautiful flowers you brought to me on my 80th birthday. I enjoyed them very much and they really brightened up my living room.

Again, thank you and God Bless!
Sincerely, Dorothy Watson

To my friends at St. Paul's,

I want to say 'Thank you' for the lovely poinsettia plant which Pastor brought from you, to my home.

The color of its beautiful leaves and flowers add such a lovely "glow" to wherever it stands!

Thank you so much, again!
Sincerely, Edna Rossi

To my friends at St. Paul's,

Many thanks for the lovely flowers brought to my home by Pastor Hedin. They are just beautiful and enjoy them every day. Thanks a million for remembering me and my love to you all. Hope to see you soon!

Seasons Greetings for 2012.
Jean Covell

Dear St. Paul's Family,

Thank you for the bright red poinsettia plant! Pastor Hedin brought it to me and also gave me communion.

I appreciate the care and concern you give to those of us who cannot attend St. Paul's very often.

Happy New Year! Anita Sears

Dear Friends at St. Paul's,

We wish to thank you for the beautiful altar bouquet Claudia Foti delivered before the holiday.

Also wishing to thank Pastor Hedin for his visit and bringing us communion and a pretty poinsettia plant.

Our best to you all and have a happy New Year. Blessings to all!

Gertie & Al Wiegert



Women of the ELCA
2012 upcoming events:

2012 Communion Brunch

Date: Saturday, March 24, 2012
Place: Messiah Lutheran Church
4301 Mt. Read Blvd.
Time: 9:30 am Registration \$5.00
10:00 Program: The Bread Man
Chet Fery
Offering to SWO and Greece Food Cupboard
(bring non-perishables)
Thank offerings will be collected

Women of the ELCA Region 7 Gathering

Date: April 27-29, 2012
Place: Camp of the Woods, Speculator, NY

2012 Spring Assembly

Date: Saturday, June 2, 2012
Place: Our Savior Lutheran Church
2415 Chili Ave.
Time: 1:00 pm Registration
1:30 Program: Mrs. Bishop Dube
Offering to SWO and Vashindiri

Ten Commandments for reducing stress:

Thou shalt not be perfect, or even try to be,
Thou shalt not try to be all things to all
people,
Thou shalt sometimes leave things undone
that ought to be done,
Thou shalt not spread thyself too thinly,
Thou shalt learn to say "NO",
Thou shalt schedule time for thyself and for
thy supportive network,
Thou shalt switch off and do nothing
regularly,
Thou shalt be boring, tidy, inelegant and
unattractive, at times,
Thou shalt not even feel guilty,
Thou shalt not be thine own worst enemy, but
be thine own best friend.

We humans keep brainstorming options
and plans, but God's purpose prevails.

Learn from the mistakes of others.
You can't live long enough to make them
all yourself.

Lake Chautauqua Lutheran
Center



5013 Rt. 430
Bemus Point, NY 14712
716-386-4125
contact@lclcenter.org
www.lclcenter.org

Hobby Weekend February 24-26,
Cost: \$100
Bring your favorite UnFinished object
(scrapbooking, quilting, crafting, reading) and
immerse yourself in your hobby. Bible study,
worship and recreation will also be included.

4th-8th Grade Winter Retreat March 2-4,
Cost: \$85
Bible studies, sledding, campfires, games,
singing, great food, and great friends.

Please see the fliers on the community news
notice board (next to the nursery) or visit
www.lclcenter.org for more information.

The full summer schedule is available at
www.lclcenter.org/summer-programs

*St. Paul's Confirmation Camp will be
Sunday July 15th to Friday July 20th.*

**Many belated thanks to all
our countless Christmas
volunteers**

Hanging the red banners; Mara Berndt, Jean Comstock, Mark Lang, Dave Pepler, Dick Poduska, Bill Wallace and Alex Whitaker.

Hanging of the Greens; Sandy & Mike Bill, Teresa Caldwell, Alex Caldwell, the Canning family, the Conderman family, the Hammer family, George Harris, Pastor Jeff Hedin, John Hopkins, Dick Poduska, Nancy Sacchitella, the Schrlau family, Sandi Uhlig and the Wyatt family. Thanks also for bringing in delicious items that made for a wonderful potluck lunch after all the work was done.

Undecorating; Mara Berndt, Trish Blake Jones, June Buskey, Jean Comstock, Ellen Fjermedal, Pastor Jeff Hedin, Juergen & Elvira Lein, the Piccirilli family, Amy & Elizabeth Schrlau, Eileen Whitaker and Ron Uhlig.

There are so many tasks that are necessary to ensure the success of Christmas. Thanks to all who;

Collected, delivered and put up the tree,
Took down the communion rail to make room for the tree,
Coordinated and took part in the pageant,
Unpacked, watered and arranged the poinsettias,
Changed the Foyer flower arrangements,
Reset the communion trays with plastic cups,

Changed the altar paraments and washed the linens,
Put together and took apart 300 plus small candles for Christmas Eve,
Put the candles in the pew candelabras,
Folded and stuffed the bulletins,
Made large print and children's copies of the bulletins,
Put numbers up on the hymn boards,
Mailed bulletins to our shut in members,
Re-filled and tidied the pew backs,
Volunteered at our Christmas Eve, Christmas Day and New Year's Day services,
Counted the collection,
Rolled the red banners back up,
Put the communion rail back up.

It's never too early to plan for next Christmas! Specifically the undecorating in January 2013 after Christmas 2012. The undecorating coincides with the printing of the Annual Report and the Financial Statements; two very time consuming and important tasks for me to do.

It would be very helpful for me to have someone take over the coordinating of the undecorating. You would not need to do it all; just arrange the time(s), make sure the boxes are brought down prior to the undecorating, supervise the volunteers and make sure all is put away in a good state for bringing out next Christmas.

If you would be willing and able to do this please let me know.

Janet Harris
Church Coordinator