

ST. PAUL'S TROY LUTHERAN

FEBRUARY, 2020

Thoughts from Pastor

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. (Eccl. 3:1)

I never thought I'd be writing this article this soon. When I began to serve you, I thought I'd be with you until you received a new pastor, whenever that might be. That was my plan, and, I'm sure, yours as well.

Yet, in God's wisdom, I'm leaving before you know who your new pastor will be. How could this be? Only God knows. He has called me to serve Immanuel Lutheran Church in Shobonier, Illinois, also known as Augsburg Lutheran Church, and the Holy Spirit has led me to accept that call. It's been my prayer, and the prayer of many others, for the past 7 plus years that I would once again receive a call to serve Christ's Church. In the meantime, God has given me opportunities to serve in vacancies so His people would not be without His gifts of Word and Sacrament when they were without a pastor.

Still, where has the time gone? It seems like only yesterday that I began to serve as your vacancy pastor. There have been worship services, Bible studies, youth and adult catechesis, homebound and hospital visits, weddings, funerals, school activities, and, who can forget, meetings. We've been through a lot in this short time, and it's hard to believe we've been together almost a year. I will most certainly miss you.

Yet, "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." God will provide another vacancy/interim pastor to serve you until your permanent pastor arrives. I pray you will show him the same love, honor, and respect you have shown to me. After all, it's not who a particular pastor is that is important, but that he delivers Jesus to you. For the pastor, whoever he is, is not your savior, but Jesus is. Though your pastor loves you, prays for you, serves you, he too is a sinner in need of your love, your prayers, your service, your forgiveness. I pray that you rejoice in the pastor God will give you in His time and celebrate the gifts you are to each other.

Thank you for everything: the opportunity to serve, the laughter, the many kind words, encouragement, and demonstrations of love. It has truly been a great joy serving you with the Gospel of Christ and rejoicing in His mercy.

So, what's in store for St. Paul's? More of His grace, mercy, love, and forgiveness. So in the midst of uncertainty, even in your own life, I say to you (as I say to myself), "Trust in the LORD with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths." (Prov. 3:5-6). Of course, this is easier said than done, so we also learn to pray, "I believe; help my unbelief!" (Mark 9:24). And God most certainly hears such prayers.

You are certainly invited to my Installation on Sunday, February 23 at 4:00 PM at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 1297 E900 Ave., Shobonier, IL 62285. Dinner will follow.

And finally, "The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace." (Num. 6:24-26).

Your servant in Christ,
Pastor Landskroener

Our Homebound Members

Mrs. Lila Goedelman
St. Paul's Senior Community
1021 West E St. Room 2055B
Belleville, IL 62220

Mrs. Fran Hosto
MorningSide Care Center
39 Dorothy Drive Rm #112
Troy, IL 62294

Mrs. Barb Wright
MorningSide Care Center
39 Dorothy Drive Rm #112
Troy, IL 62294

Mrs. LaVerne Boeshans
123 W. Throp
Troy, IL 62294

Mrs. Jean Tieman
San Gabriel Memory Care
2509 Frank Watson Parkway
Highland, IL 62249

Shirley Schnoeker
300 South Station Road Apt. 8303
Glen Carbon, IL 62034

Lois Rodenbaugh
714 Troy Road
Collinsville, IL 62234

PS - GRADE 8 OPEN HOUSE - St. Paul's Lutheran School, Tuesday, **February 11, 4-7 p.m.** Come explore our curriculum and facilities, talk with teachers and administrators. Invite your friends and neighbors who might be interested in enrolling their child(ren).

SAUSAGE SUPPER: Sunday March 1 is our annual Sausage Supper! Set up is on the morning of **Saturday, February 29**. We need LOTS of volunteers. There are sign-up sheets in the narthex. Please sign up as early as possible. You only need to sign up on one set of sheets. Help needed: Kitchen, Dining Room, Carry-Outs, Clean-Up, and for Pies. Please contact Erica Sipes (618-581-8288) or Jennifer Kesterson (618-581-3506) if you have questions about volunteering or donating.

And Speaking of Donating...

The Country Store is in need of donations. Please remember to bring any homemade items, baked goods, crafts or donations of any kind to the Country Store. All donations are much appreciated. If you have any questions please call Pat Pevery (618-667-6123).

TACOS & TEQUILA FUNDRAISER - Volunteers Needed. Plans are being made for a tacos and tequila fundraiser on **Saturday, March 7**. The steering committee for this fundraiser needs volunteers to assist with planning and executing the event. If you are interested in helping or have questions about the event, please contact Jill Corder at 618-973-7139.

Wow...It's February already! The time of year when we celebrate everything from Groundhogs, to the Super Bowl (Go Chiefs), to love. How's that for variety?

Right now, I want to concentrate on celebrating love. Not only the love shared between husband and wife, but the love we share as Christians, the love God has for His children, and the love we have for Him. This is a thing to celebrate! The very idea that our God loves us so much that He sent His one and only son to die for US... to save us from our sins and from ourselves... it's almost overwhelming to me. So one would think that we Christians would show that love to one another, right?

There's a song that says "...and they'll know we are Christians by our love." But will they? And just who are "they"? Every day we hear on the news that there have been multiple shootings, with people, sometimes children being injured or killed. We hear about car-jackings, bombings, terrorists and wars. I'm not sure they'll know we are Christians, because we aren't showing our love. But aren't "they" us? If we are truly the Christians we profess to be, then let's start by showing that love to ourselves and to each other. Let's let them know we are Christians by our love!

On a separate note, I would just like to say a big Thank You to everyone who called us or sent us get well cards; to those who prayed for us, and who continue to. Thank You! Your thoughts and kindness, and most especially your prayers are greatly appreciated. Jerry and I are on the mend and ready to get into our normal routines.

Love,
Lana



LCMS Stewardship Ministry

Newsletter Article – February 2020

Of the three things a person is not to talk about in polite company – religion, politics, and money – the church is called, in one way or another, to talk about all three. Perhaps this is the reason why teaching about stewardship often seems to be an afterthought. It's something that happens only out of necessity when financial constraints are already nipping at the heels.

There is a more excellent way. Stewardship shouldn't be the kind of teaching that comes up only when there is a financial crunch. It should be part and parcel of the ongoing instruction of Christians as they live out their faith in their vocations – members of their family, their society, and their church. This teaching touches upon every facet of our lives; it stakes a claim upon our time, our presence, our prayers, and our possessions.

Stewardship begins with the acknowledgment that we are stewards. A steward is a manager of someone else's possessions. In Christian stewardship, we recognize, according to the Apostles' Creed, that God is the owner of all things as the Creator, Redeemer, and Sanctifier. And in His fatherly divine goodness and mercy, He gives us what is His to manage here below.

The principal virtue for stewards is faithfulness. As St. Paul wrote to the Christians in Corinth:

"Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found faithful." (1 Cor. 4:2)

Stewards must manage that which belongs to the owner according to the owner's wishes. That is what it means to be faithful in stewardship.

That raises a question: How are Christian stewards to be faithful in their managing of what God has entrusted to them to manage? In other words, what are the specific duties of a Christian steward?

This depends upon what God has revealed in His Word for each of our vocations in life as those in a family (fathers, mothers, husbands, wives, children), society (governors or citizens), and the church (pastors or laity). The Table of Duties from *Luther's Small Catechism* lays this out in helpful and orderly way.

Let's look just at what the laity (hearers as it is labeled in the catechism) owe their pastors:

"In the same way, the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should receive their living from the gospel." (1 Cor. 9:14)

"Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches. Do not be deceived: God cannot be mocked. A man reaps what he sows." (Gal. 6:6–7)

"Let the elders who rule well be considered worthy of double honor, especially those who labor in preaching and teaching. For the Scripture says, 'You shall not muzzle an ox when it treads out the grain,' and, 'The laborer deserves his wages.'" (1 Tim. 5:17–18)

"We ask you, brothers, to respect those who labor among you and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, and to esteem them very highly in love because of their work. Be at peace among yourselves." (1 Thess. 5:12–13)

"Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you." (Heb. 13:17)

We can see that the Lord commands hearers to support the work of the ministry with the gifts God endowed them – their time, their presence, their prayers, and their possessions. This is the means by which God blesses His people with His gifts: the ministry with the support of those whom they serve, and the hearers with the work of the ministry.

St. Paul expounds upon this further in his letters to the church at Corinth. He instructs them to give regularly (1 Cor. 16:1–2), proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:12), and generously (2 Cor. 8:20) of our first-fruits (1 Cor. 16:2) with a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23).

All of this teaching is set forth squarely within the context of stations to which God calls us. This is always appropriate for the church to speak because it instructs God's people in how they are to live out their faith as His stewards under those who are created, redeemed, and sanctified by Him.



The Lutheran Women's Missionary League (LWML) News for February:

Souper Bowl Sunday, February 1 and 2: It's time to prepare for the Souper Bowl! We will be collecting Soup (especially vegetable and beef varieties) and Crackers. As the congregation members leave worship on Super Bowl weekend, you will be invited to make a monetary contribution to help hungry and hurting people. Donations will be sent to Ministries Unlimited, Concordia Seminary Food Pantry and the Hardin Food Pantry. Thank you so much for your support!

LWML Dates to come:

February 1/2: Souper Bowl Sunday – Please bring soup and crackers! Also, monetary donations will be gathered after the service. Donations will go to the Hardin Food Pantry, Ministries Unlimited and Concordia seminary.

Monday, March 23, 7:00pm: LWML Bi-Monthly Meeting in church basement Fellowship Hall. Our devotions will be led by Valerie Meyer. Our activity will be tying blankets for Lutheran World Relief. We will have the installation of our President, Vice-President and Secretary for the coming years. Refreshments will be served by Ruth Schmitt and Grace Cottingham. Our in-gathering will be towels for Lutheran World Relief (Bath or hand size, light-weight and dark color). Please join us!

February Birthdays and Anniversaries

Feb. 1: Todd Kenison; 3: Imogen Graddy; 4: Kathy Brumm, Cheryl Chrusciel; 5: Ted Fedder, Lindsay Jones, John Leitschuh, Amelia McGrievy; 6: Danielle Eiskant, **Russell & Patricia Watson**; 7: Patricia Watson; 8: John Fischer, Ashley Lopez, Joshua Ponce, Jane Roehl; 9: Bruce McLaughlin, Tracy Taake; 10: Judy Suess; 11: Chris Thomas, Jessica Wiemers; 12: Kathy Nehrt; 13: George Gavlick, Lilliana Moody; 14: Barb Wright; 15: **Mark & Shawn Schlemer**; 16: Megan Buesching, Cole Gierse, **Mark & Jane Leitschuh**; 18: Arnold Brown, Anna Taylor, Ada Yardley; 20: Marilyn Berger; 22: Sam Furfaro IV, **George & Jean Gavlick, Kyle & Rebecca Norris, Bruce & Catherine Wilderman**; 23: Carol Aumann, Phyllis Weatherspoon, Emma Wilderman; 24: Glenn Buske, Davin James, Benjamin Moore; 25: Colin Brannon, Charlotte Lambeth, Jeffrey Skinner, Jr.; 26: Jean Schultze; 27: Brittany Taake; 28: Bradley Corder, Mark Kilzer, Andrew Schmitt

Serving St. Paul's in February, 2020

Saturday, February 1, 6:00 pm Acolyte: Addison Mallette; **Altar Guild:** Jennifer Mallette, Wendy Sievers; **Elders:** Jim Mesenbrink, Sam Italiano; **Pianist:** Jen Wittenberg; **Ushers:** Sam Italiano, Brion Boeshans, Kevin Campe, Seth Schaefer

Sunday, February 2, 8:00 am Acolyte: Natalie Kenison; **Altar Guild:** Jennifer Mallette, Wendy Sievers; **Elder:** Mike Hampton; **Pianist:** Jen Wittenberg; **Ushers:** Joe Walls, Ken Sipes, Jacob Doyle, Steve Doyle

Sunday, February 2, 10:30 am Acolyte: Ian Carruthers; **Pianist:** Jen Wittenberg; **Ushers:** Colin McLaughlin, Ted Fedder, Alex Englebrecht, Tony Sipes

Saturday, February 8, 6:00 pm Acolyte: Lucas Hunter; **Altar Guild:** Verona Meier, Pat Peverly; **Elder:** Jim Mesenbrink, Sam Italiano; **Organist:** Cayla Wilderman; **Ushers:** Brion Boeshans, Sam Italiano, Seth Schaefer, Kevin Campe

Sunday, February 9, 8:00 am Acolyte: Luke Wilderman; **Organist:** Claudia Loethen; **Ushers:** Jim Kesterson, Mark Leitschuh, Jason Powell, Fred Patterson

Sunday, February 9, 10:30 am Acolyte: Rex Repp; **Altar Guild:** Verona Meier, Pat Peverly; **Elder:** TBD; **Organist:** Claudia Loethen; **Ushers:** Ted Fedder, Dave Thomas, Mark Schlemer, Tim Wittenberg

Saturday, February 15, 6:00 pm Acolyte: Amelia Sievers; **Altar Guild:** Ted Fedder; **Elder:** Jim Mesenbrink, Sam Italiano; **Pianist:** Tim Wittenberg; **Ushers:** Sam Italiano, Brion Boeshans, Randy Jones, Kevin Campe

Sunday, February 16, 8:00 am Acolyte: Ryan Kaffer, Jr.; **Altar Guild:** Ted Fedder; **Elder:** TBD; **Pianist:** Tim Wittenberg; **Ushers:** Jim Kesterson, Ken Sipes, Brett Sollberger, Joe Walls

Sunday, February 16, 10:30 am Acolyte: Bryce Merkel; **Pianist:** Tim Wittenberg; **Ushers:** Jason Kesterson, Mark Schlemer, Colin McLaughlin, Alex Englebrecht

Saturday, February 22, 6:00 pm Acolyte: Sophia Everett; **Altar Guild:** Wittenberg Family; **Elder:** Jim Mesenbrink, Sam Italiano; **Organist:** Claudia Loethen; **Ushers:** Sam Italiano, Brion Boeshans, Randy Jones, Kyle Sipes

Sunday, February 23, 8:00 am Acolyte: Kelsie DiRosa; **Organist:** Claudia Loethen; **Ushers:** Jason Powell, Jacob Doyle, Steve Doyle, Mike Hampton

Sunday, February 23, 10:30 am Acolyte: Megan Buesching; **Altar Guild:** Wittenberg Family; **Elder:** TBD; **Organist:** Claudia Loethen; **Ushers:** Dave Thomas, Jason Kesterson, Tim Wittenberg, Tony Sipes

Ash Wednesday, February 26, 7:00 pm Acolyte: Tyler Beuth; **Altar Guild:** Wittenberg Family; **Elder:** TBD; **Pianist:** Jen Wittenberg; **Ushers:** Steve Doyle, Jacob Doyle, Seth Schaefer, Randy Jones

Saturday, February 29, 6:00 pm Acolyte: Alexia Clover; **Altar Guild:** Moore Family; **Elder:** TBD
Organist: Cayla Wilderman; **Ushers:** Sam Italiano, Brion Boeshans, Seth Schaefer

Sunday, March 1, 8:00 am Acolyte: Dean Hupp; **Altar Guild:** Moore Family; **Elder:** TBD; **Pianist:** TBD; **Ushers:** TBD

Sunday, March 1, 10:30 am Acolyte: Gibson Hunt; **Pianist:** TBD; **Ushers:** TBD

This month at St. Paul's:

Sat., 2/1 6:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion.

Sun., 2/2 8:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship
12:00 p.m. Adult Catechesis

Tues., 2/4 9:45 a.m. Mom's Morning Mingle
7:00 p.m. Elders' Meeting

Wed., 2/5 8:30 a.m. Chapel
9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Public School Catechesis
6:30 p.m. Stewardship & Finance Board Meeting

Thurs., 2/6 7:00 p.m. Choir

Sat., 2/8 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
6:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Sun., 2/9 8:00 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Mon., 2/10 6:30 p.m. School Board Meeting
7:00 p.m. Trustees' Meeting

Tues., 2/11 9:45 a.m. Mom's Morning Mingle
4:00-7:00 p.m. School Open House

Wed., 2/12 8:30 a.m. Chapel
9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study
4:30 p.m. Public School Catechesis
6:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting

Thurs., 2/13 7:00 p.m. Choir
Sat., 2/15 6:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Sun., 2/16 8:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

Tues., 2/18 9:45 a.m. Mom's Morning Mingle
6:00 p.m. PTL Meeting

Wed., 2/19 8:30 a.m. Chapel
4:30 P.m. Public School Catechesis

Thurs., 2/20 7:00 p.m. Choir

Sat., 2/22 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast
6:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Sun., 2/23 8:00 a.m. Worship
9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Tues., 2/25 9:45 a.m. Mom's Morning Mingle

Wed., 2/26 8:30 a.m. Chapel
4:30 p.m. Public School Catechesis
5:30 p.m. Lenten Supper
7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service with Holy Communion

Thurs., 2/27 7:00 p.m. Choir

Sat., 2/29 6:00 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion

Sun., 3/1 8:00 a.m. Worship with Holy Communion
9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School
10:30 a.m. Worship

Preparing for Sunday Worship

The Purification of Mary and the Presentation of Our Lord, February 2
1 Samuel 1:21-28
Hebrews 2:14-18
Luke 2:22-32

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 9
Isaiah 58:3-9a
1 Corinthians 2:1-12
Matthew 5:13-20

Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany, February 16
Deuteronomy 30:15-20
1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Matthew 5:21-37

The Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 23
Exodus 24:8-18
2 Peter 1:16-21
Matthew 17:1-9

Saint Paul's Lutheran Church, School and Early Childhood Center

February 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 8:00 a.m. Worship/HC 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School 10:30 Worship 12:00 Adult Catechesis	3	4 9:45 a.m. Mom's Morning Mingle 7:00 p.m. Elders	5 8:30 a.m. Chapel 9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m. Public School Catechesis	6 7:00 Choir	7	1 6:00 p.m. Worship/HC
9 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School 10:30 Worship/HC	10 6:30 p.m. School Board 7:00 p.m. Trustees	11 9:45 Mom's Morning Mingle 4:00-7:00 p.m. School Open House	12 8:30 a.m. Chapel 4:30 p.m. Public School Catechesis 6:30 p.m. Stewardship and Finance	13 7:00 p.m. Choir	14 Valentine's Day	15 6:30 p.m. Worship/HC
16 8:00 a.m. Worship/HC 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship	17 President's Day	18 9:45 a.m. Mom's Morning Mingle 6:00 p.m. PTL	19 8:00 a.m. Chapel 9:45 a.m. Women's Bible Study 4:30 p.m. Public School Catechesis 6:30 p.m. Church Council	20 7:00 p.m. Choir	21	22 7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast 6:00 p.m. Worship/HC
23 8:00 a.m. Worship 9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study and Sunday School 10:30 a.m. Worship/HC	24 <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Troy Lutheran Deadline</div>	25 9:45 a.m. Mom's Morning Mingle	26 Ash Wednesday 8:30 a.m. Chapel 4:30 a.m. Public School Catechesis 5:30 p.m. Lenten Supper 7:00 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service/HC	27 6:00 p.m. Board of Christian Education 6:00-8:00 p.m. STEAM Night 7:00 p.m. Choir	28	29 6:00 p.m. Worship/HC

January 2020

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

March 2020

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

