

SAINT PAUL'S Epistle

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Stewardship—Simplicity and Generosity

The Stewardship committee is embarking on a journey to explore with the congregation the concept of Stewardship as a faith based response to God's love and generosity. At the heart of this approach is the belief that we are called to simplicity and generosity. This is not just about money (though, in honesty, a *part* of it involves money) but about a range of activities that comprise Stewardship. You will see pictures in the church that will show how people are deeply involved in various church activities, all variations of a faith based stewardship response.

We will be starting a financial stewardship campaign in November. This will involve letters, temple talks and an opportunity for the congregation to commit time, talents and money to St. Paul's. However, beyond the Stewardship Campaign, throughout the year we hope to explore ways to understand stewardship as part of a Christian call to live a simpler life. In turn, it is hoped that this will lead us all to an understanding that stewardship responses may flow from our faith through Simplicity and Generosity. We look forward to opportunities to listen and explore concepts of Christian stewardship through a simpler lifestyle.

The Stewardship Committee



New Team Members Needed

The Altar Guild is looking for some additional members. In recent times we've had some members retire and sadly, some pass away. We work in teams of two.

Approximately every 6-8 weeks, depending on the number of teams we have, you would be responsible for preparing the altar for communion — sometime on Saturday and cleaning up after communion on Sunday.

Preparing God's table, so we may break bread together, is a wonderful form of stewardship. If you are interested to donate your time to this ministry, please contact Linda Anderson 659-4094



Leonard Hanson 8/16/09

Ann Baledes 8/31/09

Sally Edison 9/5/09

Edith Anderson 9/8/09

Elizabeth Baumgartel 9/9/09

Irene Misner 9/24/09

Dan Hube 10/11/09

*Thank You
for Your Prayers*



**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR
PRAYERS AND CONCERN**

Deepest gratitude to all who sent cards and messages of love to myself and the Anderson family during this time of great sadness over the loss of our mom, grandmother and great grandmother, Edie Anderson.

She passed away peacefully in her sleep with a song in her heart for her savior Jesus Christ.

Sincerely,

Vicki Anderson and Family

God Promised: "Lo, I am with you always..."

OUR PRAYER LIFE

Why do we pray? Is it to ask God for something we are lacking? Is it to find someone who will listen to our struggles with an ever-listening and loving ear? Is it out of concern for the challenges of those we love? Is it to say thanks for the blessings we have received from God? Are there other reasons? As many as there are persons who pray there are an equal number of reasons. But, why should we pray? And about what should we pray?

It is interesting to note that when Jesus discusses prayer, and when he prays himself, he makes the point to include as the object of prayer our enemy. In Matthew 5 we read, "You have heard that it was said, 'You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.' But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you." Prayer, especially intercessory prayer, and most particularly *Christian* intercessory prayer, if it is authentic, must also include those whom we cannot stand. Harsh and challenging,

but true.

In a course I'm taking on Dietrich Bonhoeffer I came across a passage from his *Life Together* that speaks to this very point.

A Christian community either lives by the intercessory prayers of its members for one another, or the community will be destroyed. I can no longer condemn or hate other Christians for whom I pray, no matter how much trouble they cause me. In intercessory prayer the face that may have been strange and intolerable to me is transformed into the face of one for whom Christ died, the face of a pardoned sinner. That is a blessed discovery for the Christian who is beginning to offer intercessory prayer for others. As far as we are concerned, there is no dislike, no personal tension, no disunity or strife, that cannot be overcome by intercessory prayer. Intercessory prayer is the purifying bath into which the individual and the community must enter every day.

(Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *Life Together*, from *Dietrich Bonhoeffer Works*, vol. 5 (Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress Press, 2005) p. 90.)

When we include even our enemy in our prayers, they are transformed in our hearts—no longer excluded as our enemy, but through Christ included in the concern and embrace of our love.

Imagine the world in which such prayer was the norm and not the exception and you will imagine the community to which we are called.

Pastor Hugh Haffrenreffer

PRAYERS ON SUNDAY

On Sundays we pray aloud for those members, friends or loved ones who are in critical or ongoing need, as well as for our sisters and brothers unable to be with us due being homebound or residing in nursing homes.

If you would like to have a friend or loved one included in our prayers on Sunday, let us know. Our policy is to include them for several weeks. At that time they will be removed in order to allow room for others to be included. If you would like them to remain longer in our prayers, please let Pastor Hugh know.

**Hartford County Chapter, New York City Bus Trip
Saturday, December 5, 2009 Only \$15 per person!**

Enjoy a day of fun in New York City, enjoying the sights and sounds of the holidays like only NYC can offer!

- Bus leaves Bethany Lutheran Church, West Hartford, parking lot promptly at 8:00 AM (1655 Boulevard, at the corner of Boulevard and South Main Street)
- Friends and family of Thrivent members are welcome
- Bus will stop for drop offs at Metropolitan Museum of Art and Rockefeller Center
- Bus will leave NYC promptly at 6:30 PM. Location of pickup will be announced on the bus
- Refreshments will be served on the bus
- Payment must accompany reservation. No reservations will be taken over the phone
- Make checks payable to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and mail with the form below
- Seating is limited and will be on a first come, first served basis, so mail your form in early
- Questions only - Sue Johnson at (860)677-5150

Name_____

Number of People_____ Amt. Enclosed (@\$15 per person)_____

Home Phone_____

Cell Phone_____

Make checks payable to Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and mail to
Sue Johnson, 7 Coppermine Road, Farmington, CT 06032

HARVEST FAIR UPDATE

A huge thank you to everyone who made the fair a success with your time, talent or donations. We raised over \$4,000.00 to be used to update the kitchen. A special thank to Carol Farley, Bill Fischer & Debbie Viola for chairing the event. Also, thank you to all of our volunteers, Jan Pergande, Judy Lundin, Winnie Sawrun, Ann French, Linda Anderson, Beverly Leighy, Elaine Strecker, Walter Rupp, Bill Fischer, Sr., Julie Perry, Heather Anderson, Margaret DeBlois, Pam DiNatalie, Jay Viola, Rachel DiNatalie, Jamie Piscitello, Erica, Roxanne, & Autumn DeBlois, Mary Procyk, Lois Woy, Beth-Ann Vogt, Lillian Doerschler, Janet Vassel & Patty Bengtson.



THANK YOU to Bob Prill for all his time and hard work bringing the plants.



THE QUILT RAFFLE

Thank you to Ellie “B” for making & donating a beautiful quilt. We sold 964 tickets! The winner is (are you ready for this one) Emil & Angel Bengtson. CONGRATULATIONS!



“YANKEE” POT ROAST DINNER



AWESOME job goes to MaryAnn Meade and Rick Seip. They worked so hard for days preparing for a delicious dinner. There were about 70 people who had a wonderful home cooked meal. Hopefully there will be more dinners to come.



Thanks to all who peeled potatoes, made apple crisp, set & cleaned up & served.

NOTE OF APPRECIATION

Did you know that we have a beautiful gem hidden in our congregation? Actually we have many gems, but right now I am thinking of the small group of people who jump into action to put on a reception after a funeral in our church. There are so many things that the family has to attend to when there is a funeral, that it is such a relief to have the church family say they will organize and manage the reception. They have been called on very frequently in the past couple of months, but still carry on. They are a group of angels that quietly perform their service. My heartfelt thanks to each of you for the lovely reception after my mother's funeral.

Thank you to all of you for your prayers, love, expressions of sympathy and beautiful cards at this difficult time. My mother had 99 great years on this earth and she passed on peacefully to be with God. The funeral service was a beautiful tribute to her and her life. Thank you for all of your support. It is wonderful to be a member of the family of St. Paul's.

God Bless you, Peace & love,

Mary Procyk

MORE OPPORTUNITIES AT SOUTH PARK INN

St. Paul's, under the leadership of Jim Newmark, has made the commitment to serve meals on a regular basis at South Park Inn, in Hartford, CT. The next dates will be November 4th (Wednesday) and November 30th (Monday). We will meet at St. Paul's @ 4:15 pm. For more information or to indicate your desire to participate, please contact Jim Newmark at

jnewmark@stpaulswethersfield.org
or (860) 268-5070.

Thanks for considering this opportunity!

AN INVITATION FROM THRIVENT

8 Questions God Can't Answer

Featuring the author, John Busacker

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Sheraton Hartford Hotel

100 East River Drive

East Hartford, CT 06108

The Northeast Region of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans invites you to join us for a discussion with the author of the book "8 Questions God Can't Answer".

God asks a lot of questions; not because he doesn't know the answers, but because they are questions we need to answer for ourselves.

- What is the true object of our DESIRE?
- What is the real source of our FEAR?
- What is the uniqueness of our IDENTITY?
- Where is the focus of our COMPASSION?
- What is the real measure of our WEALTH?
- What is the only lasting LOVE of our life?

Reservations for this event are required and seating is limited.

Please RSVP by 11/12 to Cindy Kincaid at 1-888-350-3560.

John Busacker is an author, speaker, entrepreneur and explorer. He is president of The Inventure Group, a global leadership consulting firm, and is the architect of Life-Based Financial Planning™. John is a dynamic speaker and the author of the recently published book, 8 Questions God Can't Answer. He lives in Minneapolis with his wife Carol.



Christmas Angel Tree

Once again, autumn is here and it is time to think of our Angel Tree Program.

Forty five tags will be on our tree and a suggested retail price is \$15.-20. Our tree will be set up on November 29th. The gifts need to be returned to the church unwrapped with the tag attached to the gift by December 13th. This is a perfect opportunity to purchase a gift for an “angel” in need. Our response has always been outstanding and we look forward to another great season.

Thank you for your participation in this outreach program.

Bernice Noeker ~ 563-2276

From the desk of Winnie Sawrun

The Martha Ministries have had a very busy year so far. I wish to thank all those on the list (there are ten hard working people) my sincere thank to you.

The Memorial Garden is at last a reality. The formal dedication took place on Sunday September 27, 2009.

Thanks to Viola Family for the new lawn and plantings, and Brian Beckwith and his crew for getting the bench and stone marker set up. We will have to wait until Spring for the ground cover. Right now it looks beautiful with the mums. Thanks Bob Prill and Art Bruce. It’s our hope the Memorial Garden will serve St. Paul’s for years to come.

Winnie ~

You’ve Got a Friend!

The *Friends of Luther Ridge* is an independent auxiliary that serves the community at Luther Ridge and Luther Manor by supporting residents’ lives with comforts beyond those provided by Lutheran Social Services of New England. Individuals from Lutheran congregations across our region support the *Friends* through a \$3 annual membership. Since 1977, over \$93,000 has been shared in significant contributions to what is now Luther Ridge.

This money has provided residents with such things as gifts, wheelchairs, bedspreads, a portable blood pressure machine, a flagpole, and large-print Bibles for Bible study. Additionally, the *Friends* have made larger gifts possible: the first van, the art gallery, and the sacristy and chapel furnishings. Luther Ridge provides a warm home for many of our neighbors of all faiths. The work of the *Friends of Luther Ridge* brings the faith and generosity of Connecticut’s Lutherans in contact with these residents’ daily lives, putting our faith into practice as we follow Jesus’ footsteps.

If you would like to support the *Friends* with your time or treasures, please contact Mrs. Elsie Jeanette at 860-347-5510 for more information

-
- 1 Hazel Leibenguth
 - 7 Ryan Farley
 - 4 Christopher Hans
 - 6 George Olson
 - 9 Carol Ann Hopkins
 - 13 Mario DeBlois
 - 14 Melissa Malinguaggio
 - 17 William Sonstrom
 - 21 Gary King
 - 22 Heidi Sawrun
 - 26 Suzanne McDonald
 - 26 Pastor Hugh
 - 29 James Anderson Jr.
 - 30 Ellie Bengtson



To all of my fellow Saints,

We have had another brainstorm. We thought that there could be no better way to share Christ's Love with others than to be of service to them when they need us the most. Therefore, We have volunteered St. Paul's to prepare and serve a complete ***Thanksgiving Feast*** – to those living at South Park Inn. We will be serving this for them on Thanksgiving Day. Let us show them they are not forgotten and do it with all the love we can muster by preparing it homemade.

We need our entire congregation to participate in this event to make it a huge success. Anything that you make can be delivered to the church Wednesday evening or Thanksgiving morning. We will be placing sign up sheet's in the fellowship area.

Some of the food we are having donated. We have been soliciting area markets for turkeys and other food items. As the time draws closer we can share with you what foods are available for you to take home, prepare and return to St. Paul's, but much of it we are asking you to share the expense. Thank you in advance for helping all of us do the Lord's work. Remember the ELCA motto "God's work - Our hands."

These are some of my ideas on what is needed.

- ~ Bake a turkey, carve it and return it to St. Paul's
- ~Make a secret family recipe for some kind of side dish like stuffing, ~vegetables or cranberry sauce
- ~Bake, roast or mashed potatoes
- ~Gravy
- ~Make sweet potatoes with or without marshmallow topping
- ~Bake homemade breads
- ~Bake a dessert, pies or danish
- ~Make Homemade Fudge or Candy
- ~Create table decorations (fun for Sunday School Children)



Contact Jim Newmark at (860) 231-2769 or
jnewmark@stpaulswethersfield.org

ST. PAUL'S MEMBERS IN SERVICE FOR November 2009

ACOLYTES:

Linda Anderson, Coordinator, 659-4094

- Nov 1 - Gretchen Schultz
- 8 - Katie Grottke
- 15 - Kaitlin Anderson
- 22 - Celia Cheyney
- 29 - Jared Christensen

ALTAR GUILD:

Linda Anderson, Coordinator, 659-4094

- Nov 1 - Anderson's
- 8 - Carol Farley & Debbie Howe
- 15 - Mary Procyk & Cindy Seip
- 22 - Ann French & Winnie Sawrun
- 29 - Jennie Dotts & Betty Lamo

ASSISTING MINISTERS:

- Nov 1 - Emily Lourigan - 8:00
- Bill Fischer - 10:30
- 8 - Art Bruce - 8:00
- Patty Bengtson - 10:30
- 15 - Jim Newmark - 8:00
- Mary Procyk - 10:30
- 22 - Mike Coyle - 8:00
- Jerry Vaillancourt - 10:30
- 29 - Jim Newmark - 8:00
- Kathy Coyle - 10:30

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

Sue Agne, Coordinator, 563-0776

- Nov 1 - Joan Kratzer
- 8 - Carole Hughes
- 15 - Mike Coyle
- 22 - Mary Procyk
- 29 - Patty Bengtson

FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS:

Winnie Sawrun, Coordinator, 529-7588

- Nov 1 - Cindy Seip
- 18 - Carol Hopkins & Pat Scirocco
- 15 - Mary Procyk & Tracy Newmark
- 22 - Margaret DuBlois & Carol Farley
- 29 - Joanna & Allen Piscitello

FINANCE:

Mary Procyk, Coordinator, 257-4793

- Nov 1 - Harriett Fritsch
- 8 - Betty Lamo
- 15 - Cindy Seip
- 22 - Bob Bowman
- 29 - Debbie Viola

LECTORS:

Lillian Doerschler, Coordinator, 529-1939

- Nov 1 - Art Bruce
- 8 - Patty Bengtson
- 15 - Sue Agne
- 22 - Joan Kratzer
- 29 - Vicki Anderson

NURSERY:

Ann French, Coordinator, 529-3245

- Nov 1 - Margaret DeBlois
- 8 - Amanda & Jamie Piscitello
- 15 - Julie & Matt Perry
- 22 - Rachel & Pam DiNatalie
- 29 - Amanda & Jamie Piscitello

TAPING MINISTRY:

Coordinator,

Nov **Volunteer Needed**

USHERS:

Brian Beckwith, Coordinator, 8AM, 563-4066

Nov Carole & Garrett Hughes

Louise Lostocco, Coordinator, 10:30AM, 529-3079

- Nov 1 - Mark Olson & Walter Rupp
- 8 - Alan Piscitello & Linda Anderson
- 15 - Mark Olson
- 22 - Dick Kratzer & Bob Bowman
- 29 - Carol Farley & Jan Pergande

November 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Day Light Savings Ends Fall Back One Hour All Saints Sunday Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM	2 Ed Gentino down stairs 6-8:30 PM	3 Outreach Team 7 PM OA 7:30PM	4 Bible Study 10:30 AM South Park Inn 4:15 PM AA 7 PM Choir rehearsal 7:30 PM	5 Thurs. Group 10AM	6 AA 10 AM	7 AA 7:30PM
8 Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM	9	10 OA 7:30PM	11 Bible Study 10:30 AM AA 7 PM Choir rehearsal 7:30 PM	12 Thurs. Group 10AM	13 AA 10 AM	14 AA 7:30PM
15 <u>*Epistle Deadline</u> Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM	16	17 OA 7:30PM	18 Bible Study 10:30 AM AA 7 PM Choir rehearsal 7:30 PM John Busacker 7PM Hartford Sheraton	19 Men's Brkfst 7AM Thurs. Group 10AM	20 AA 10 AM	21 AA 7:30PM
22 Stewardship Sunday Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM	23	24 Parish Admin. 6:30PM Council 7:30PM OA 7:30PM	25 Bible Study 10:30 AM AA 7 PM Choir rehearsal 7:30 PM	26 Thanksgiving Day South Park Inn Feast	27 AA 10 AM	28 AA 7:30PM
29 Holy Comm. 8 AM Holy Comm. 10:30 AM	30 South Park Inn 4:15 PM					

SAINT PAUL'S **Epistle**

SAINT PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH

371 Wolcott Hill Road

Wethersfield, CT 06109

www.stpaulswethersfield.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Worship at 8:00 and 10:30AM

SCS & Adult Ed. at 9:00AM

OFFICERS AND STAFF

Rev. Hugh R. B. Haffenreffer, PastorOffice: (860) 529-5397
Cell Phone: (860) 966-7360
pastorh@stpaulswethersfield.org
Office Manager.....Janet Vasel: *janet@stpaulswethersfield.org*
Council President.....Rick Seip: *rseip@stpaulswethersfield.org*
Council Vice President.....Jim Newmark: *jnewmark@stpaulswethersfield.org*
SecretaryBill Fischer: *bfischer@stpaulswethersfield.org*
TreasurerTom Grottke: *tgrottke@stpaulswethersfield.org*
Financial Sect'y/Bookkeeper.....Mary Procyk: *mprocyk@stpaulswethersfield.org*
Minister of MusicMelissa Cheyney
Superintendent of Sunday Church School.....Alice Rupp

REMINDERS:

Day Light Savings Ends Fall Back One Hour ~ 11/1/09

All Saints Sunday ~ 11/1/09

South Park Inn 11/4, 11/30 4:15 PM & Thanksgiving Day Feast

November 2009