

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Often Lent begins in February and we do not hear all of the Epiphany season lessons. This year we will celebrate 7 of the 8 possible lessons for the season so will hear some lessons we do not normally experience. On the 7th Sunday after Epiphany this year, Feb. 24, Pastor Sarah Lee-Faulkner, assistant to our bishop, will be our guest preacher. She has been meeting with the joint call committee of Zion and St. Paul during this past year as interviews continue and we prepare to call a pastor to serve both congregations. Please welcome her. If she has no other preaching engagements that Sunday, we invite you to visit with her after worship.

This is the year of Luke, and most of our gospel lessons during Epiphany season emphasize the manifestation motif of Christ. The gospel texts focus on the clear evidence that Jesus is the Son of God. One definition of manifestation is obvious understanding. What has become obvious to us through our faith is sometimes not obvious to others. The gospel texts give us clear examples for us to explain to others how we know Jesus is the Son of God.

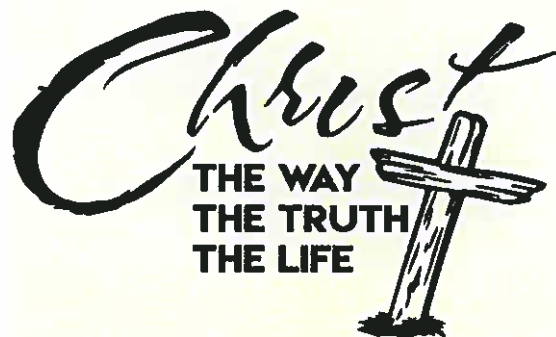
One way to dwell on the concept of being made obvious to understand scriptures is to participate in the synod conversation with Luke. Copies of this reading of Luke are available in the back of the church, if you would like to participate in this bible study. Whatever daily devotions you embrace will surely enhance your understanding of how Jesus is the anointed one of God who lived among us to show us The Way. Early Christians were known as people of The Way because they followed The Way of Jesus. Nearly 2,000 years later we continue the tradition of showing people The Way in our worship, prayer life, outreach ministries, and associations with other people.

One way St. Paul recently demonstrated that we are people of The Way was in the donations you made for Abiding Ministry, our synod's outreach to the homeless of Pittsburgh. Thank you for all who contributed to Abiding Ministries. I expected to have half a seat of clothing and other items to distribute. When Phyllis and I loaded my car on January 13, I remarked to her that I already had a car full of gifts for Abiding Ministries. Thanks to all of you for your generosity.

As we continue on The Way, we welcome your prayers, your presence at worship, and continued support of our ministries.

Shalom,

Pastor Bev +





Only new prayer requests will be in the weekly bulletins.

CONTINUED PRAYER REQUESTS: Shonna Ash, Ann Boben, Landon Brewer, Tom Brosenitsch, Carol Bulger, Nancy Bulger, Samantha Bulger, Karen Campbell, Kim Christy, Cynthia sister of Bev Brosenitsch, Pete Carlino, Rick Dickerson, Don, Emma

[child suffering from viral meningitis], David English, Mark Fox, Bernie Fedorka, Barbara Frantz, Charlotte Glaspey, Brett Greenhill, Adrienne Haegg, Jenny, Judy Hart, William Loveridge, Bobbie Marchlenski, Martin Matscherz, Nolan Nachriener, Don Nielsen, Terry Oakes, Verna Patscko, Sherry Pengidore family on death of her son, Lois Peebles, Mike Pollack, Jax Ramirez, Erin Roman, Bud Senn, Dawn Swidorsky, Louise Spithaler, John Wherry, Tom Wilson, Lilly Wolfe, and Ron Zinkham.

Please keep the church updated on your prayer request. All updates and request may be emailed to splcofzelie@gmail.com Also if you would like to be notified of any needed prayers, please email the church office, with your email address.

Lighten your load

Keeping sabbath, not just on Sundays but throughout the entire week in an integrated way, keeps us sane, says Donna Schaper. While our culture pushes us to move faster, work harder and acquire more money and stuff, sabbath observances promote play, rest, love and worship.

“Sabbath – time for God – is a gift in its origin and in its keeping,” Schaper writes in *Sabbath Keeping* (Cowley Publications). “It is not another must; it is a may. God invites us to keep sabbath; God does not demand it.”

The commandment to keep the Sabbath day holy, she notes, “is an invitation to a party, not to a hanging. Sabbath keeping is not one more thing to add to our already long lists. [It] is lightness, not heaviness.”



“I drop kindness pebbles in still water every day, and I watch the effect they have on other people’s lives. My favorite kindness pebbles are compliments. Drop a compliment and watch the ripple effect that it has in your life.”

Remarkably, these cheery words come from a father who has faced many dark, difficult days. In *6 Minutes Wrestling With Life*, John Passaro tells of his daughter’s heart-wrenching battle with meningitis. The struggles didn’t make him bitter; rather, he frequently offers uplifting words on social media.

What if we followed Passaro’s example and complimented people regularly? Philippians 4:8 (NIV) instructs us to think about things that are noble, lovely, admirable, excellent and praiseworthy. By extension, turning those positive thoughts into words causes “kindness pebbles” to spread God’s light in ripples throughout someone’s day – and, doubtless, through ours.

Got love?

Love asks nothing in return but seeks those who need it. And who needs our love more than those who are consumed with hatred and are utterly devoid of love?

—Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Dear Members of St. Paul:

Everything went well at our Annual Congregational Meeting last Sunday. I am glad to see so many of our faithful members braved the cold and snowy weather to attend this important meeting for our church. The vote on the Enabling Resolution and Shared Ministry Agreement was a unanimous yes in favor of forming a shared ministry with Zion Lutheran Church. I have also heard from Zion that they also voted yes in favor of forming a shared ministry with St. Paul Lutheran Church. Looks like a good start to 2019 for all of us. Hopefully the next step will be obtaining a minister to serve both of these congregations.

I also had the pleasure of attending the first performance of EPIC (Enthusiastic Performers in Christ) in the evening at Strobel Hall. This is a group of young individuals in the community with Bobi-Jean Alexander and Pastor Brewer as their leaders that will be using Strobel Hall to practice and perform in. Isabella Muthler, Ayla and Allison Alexander are currently three of the twenty-two performers that attend our church. It was a lovely performance and was great to see so much talent within our community.

I hope too many individuals were not upset that our church was cancelled on January 20th due to the cold weather and predicated ice storm. After several conversations we felt it best to cancel for the safety of everyone concerned. Looking at the various other churches in our area as well as Pittsburgh and surrounding areas it appeared we were certainly not the only ones that decided on this safety precaution.

Thank you to everyone who helped prepare desserts these past two weeks for Meals on Wheels. I am sure that everyone who benefited was also very thankful. This is certainly a much needed service that is provided in our community for many individuals who are unable to prepare meals for themselves.

Sincerely,

Linda

Council President

WILLING WORKERS

We will be kicking off the new year with a Soup and Sandwich Dinner on Thursday, February 28, from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM. A sign up sheet will be passed around in church starting on February 10 for you to volunteer for this dinner or call the church office or Marty Goetz. We will need crockpots of soup [wedding, vegetable, broccoli/cheese, stuffed pepper, and potato], plus brownies and cookies. Help will also be needed the night of the dinner.

Other dinner dates for the year will be:

Smothered Chicken Dinner – May 2

Horse Trading Days – July 18 [Spaghetti Dinner], July 19 and July 20.

Fall Festival – October 12 and 13

Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner – October 24

Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Willing Workers with food donations, time and talent.



We love our
Volunteers!



SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

We are still looking for someone to volunteer as our Sunday School Superintendent. Working with our young people is a wonderful opportunity. Elizabeth Muthler did an outstanding job for many years teaching and planning for our small group of children. If you are interested in volunteering for this important part of our church ministry or have any questions, please see Pastor Bev or Bev Brosenitsch.

Adult Sunday School continues to meet after worship and everyone is invited to stay and study with us. Jen McMurray is our leader.

Remember also about our Adult Bible Study on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays each month at 7:00 PM. The Bible Study is led by Pastor Ralph Kusserow.

Colossians 3:16 *Let the word of Christ richly dwell within you, with all wisdom teaching and admonishing one another with psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with thankfulness in your hearts to God.*

USHERS, GREETERS AND LECTORS still needed for the following: Lector – June, July, August, September; Ushers – April, July August, December, January '20; Greeters – June, September, November, January '20; Bell Ringers – February, June, July, October, November, December, January '20. If you would like to sign up for a month, please let the office know by emailing splcofzelie@gmail.com

LENT

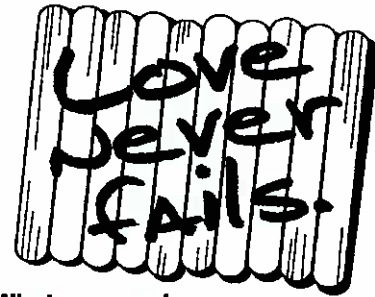
We are in the planning stages of Lenten Wednesday night services. We are also exploring the possibility of doing something with Zion. If you have any thoughts on this, please let us know. **Also remember Ash Wednesday will be observed on March 6 at 7:00 PM.** Members of the Worship committee are: Nancy Williamson, Colleen Cipro, Sylvia Brackbill, Cathy Loeffler, Marty Goetz, Jen McMurray and Lisa Finigan.

THIRD SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP

Third Sunday Fellowship will resume on February 17 after our 9:00 Worship Service. Please see Jen McMurray if you would like to help.

A MESSAGE OF *Love*

Make this valentine for a family member or friend.



What you need:

- 10 wooden craft sticks
- Painter's tape
- Markers
- A photo and glue (optional)
- Craft knife (and adult help)
- Ribbon or a rubber band

What you do:

1. Set the sticks side by side. Secure with two tape strips.
2. Flip the sticks over. Draw (or glue on) a picture or write a message or Bible verse. If using glue, let dry.
3. Flip the sticks again and remove tape. If you glued on a photo, have an adult help cut the sticks (and photo) apart.
4. Secure the sticks with ribbon or a rubber band.
5. Deliver the gift and invite the recipient to assemble the puzzle.

BUTLER COUNTY FOOD CUPBOARD

Our congregation supports the food cupboard that is at Zion Lutheran in Middle Lancaster. Our food cupboard box is located in the narthex. Call Phyllis Metz our Food Cupboard representative if you have any questions.

FOOD CHALLENGE FOR THE MONTH OF FEBRUARY – Items needed for February are jars or cans of spaghetti sauce and any tomato products. Please continue helping the Food Cupboard with your food donations and monetary donations.

Due to limited space the Food Cupboard accepts donations of only non-perishable food items and paper products.



MARCH NEWSLETTER

Deadline for articles will be 10:00 AM, Monday, February 18. Help us save on paper and postage by having your newsletter emailed to you. Email office if interested.

2019 Church envelopes are in the narthex for you to pick up. Please remember to make giving to the ministry of St. Paul a priority for 2019!

Where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.
Matthew 6:21

My Offering

Name _____
Address _____
Amount _____

WILLING WORKERS
OF
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

215 N. Main Street, Zelenople



SOUP AND SANDWICH
DINNER



FEBRUARY 28, 2019

4:00 TO 7:00

Serving: Vegetable, Chicken Noodle, Wedding,
Broccoli/Cheese, Stuffed Pepper and Potato Soup
Sandwiches: Hot Sausage, Roast Beef and Hot Dogs

Soup - \$3.00 Bowl, \$1.50 Cup

Sandwiches - \$4.00, \$1.50 Hot Dogs,

\$2.00 Hot Dogs with sauerkraut

Takeout available – 724-452-8832



2019

FEBRUARY



ASSISTING MINISTER: Marty Goetz
LECTOR: Bev Brosenitsch
GREETER: JaLeen Anderson
USHERS: Bev and Tim Brosenitsch
BELL RINGER:
Office Hours: Mon, Wed, Fri. from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm

SUNDAY

10:00 am

11:00 am

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
02	01	02	03	04	05	06
09	08	07	06	05	04	03
16	15	14	13	12	11	10
23	22	21	20	19	18	17
30	29	28	27	26	25	24

8:30 Choir 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School			7:00 Bible Study			
8:30 Choir 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Confirmation	12:30 Willing Workers 7:00 Council Meeting					
8:30 Choir 9:00 Worship 10:00 Third Sunday Fellowship In Strobel Hall	10:00 March Newsletter info due in office		7:00 Bible Study			
8:30 Choir 9:00 Worship with Holy Communion 10:00 Sunday School 11:00 Confirmation	6:30 Worship Meeting	4:00 to 7:00 Willing Worker's Soup and Sandwich Dinner				