

June 2003



St. Paul's Lutheran

MESSENGER



CONGRATULATIONS

GRADUATES OF 2003

Ben Larson
Kathy Powers
Lindsey Powers
Kevin Smith
Peter Tollefson
James Winsor
Todd Winsor
Megan Wolfe

Graduates will be recognized at June 8 worship.

Phone: 952-938-4683

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Fax: 952-938-1141

Website: www.saintpaulslutheran.org

Bob Bjornlund, Pastor
Dorothy Swanson, Outreach Ministry Director
Clarita Knapp, Secretary
Jeremy Haug, Music Director
Tim & Yuriko Mason, Missionaries in Japan
All the Baptized, Ministers

Endings bring Beginnings

With the end of May, another program and fiscal year comes to an end at St. Paul's. Thank you, people of St. Paul's, for faithfully participating in and sharing the Good News of Christ. Thank you for generously offering time, talent and financial resources to support ministry in Jesus' name; a substantial ministry which touches the lives of all of us in the congregation and many other lives in our communities and the world.

So now what? Endings do bring beginnings. As summer arrives our style of living often changes. The ministry of St. Paul's takes on a different style too. One Sunday a month we take time to enjoy the beautiful church-yard and have outdoor worship. There are activities this summer with our Tri-Congregation partners, Hopkins United Methodist Church and Mizpah United Church of Christ. We will have a bon fire in June, one combined worship and Vacation Bible School in July, and a potluck activity in August. Youth and families will be off to church camps this year and this year will also have a houseboat trip.

There are continuing service opportunities. Some of these include ICA Food Shelf, worship leadership at area care facilities, Our Saviour's Shelter, Dinner at Your Door and Habitat For Humanity. These and other opportunities to support and encourage our neighbors need our regular attention.

Since we begin our new congregation year in the summer, it is also a time of planning, dreaming and preparing for the months ahead. At our June 22 Congregation meeting, we will act on recommendations to give direction and substance to our hopes for St. Paul's. What do you see in the future for your congregation?

When I think about this, I see a community gathered around Word and Sacrament regularly. I see a community offering faith and life development opportunities for all of St. Paul's people. I see this church engaged in neighborhoods living out its beliefs and values. I see a congregation offering multiple worship opportunities and a youth orchestra involved in music leadership. I see a facility that is people-friendly and supports ministry. I see partnerships with other faith communities and organizations so that we might better encourage and equip people for meaningful, just and hope-filled lives. I see a congregation that willingly shares the Good News of Christ.

Endings do bring beginnings. As we begin again at St. Paul's, I invite your prayers, participation and support of the ministry God has given to us. It is a substantial and caring ministry. Your partnership is appreciated and essential.

Blessings, *Pastor B.*



June 8, 2003

The Day of Pentecost

We have celebrated the birth of our Lord (Christmas) and we are celebrating the resurrection of our Lord (Easter). Soon we are invited to gather for the third great festival of The Christian Community, The Day of Pentecost. You are invited to wear red as we celebrate the coming of The Holy Spirit and the birth of Christ's Church. You are invited to be in prayer for boldness to witness to the hope of Christ. "Alleluia. Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful people; set them on fire with your love. Alleluia."

Top attenders

We have some very faithful Sunday School students. In honor of their excellent attendance, students with the top attendance in each class were given t-shirts. Please congratulate our top attendees:

Preschool: Peter Rudolph and Kelsey Schmitz
K-2: Haily Schmitz and Heidi Schmitz
3-4: Maggie Schmitz and Nora Bonner
5-6: Daniel Englert, Heather Englert and Josh Skrogstad

Thank you to Sunday School Volunteers

A troop of committed and caring people have served in our Sunday School ministry this past school year. We are blessed to have their talents and concern at work for our children. Thank you to this team and all the other people who have helped with Sunday School this past year.

Darcie Rodman, Karen Hopp, Marci Anderson, Shari Schmitz, Kim Streater, Lisa Foss, Kristy Gat, Him Gay, Ann Englert, Darla Gilbertson, Mike Mikulay, Linda McGee, Alyssa Bonner, Deb Campbell, Mary Crossley, Tina Norris, Dawn Skrogstad

Sunday School offering goes to Africa

Stand with Africa, a hunger project sponsored by the ELCA, will receive \$366.62 from St. Paul Lutheran's Sunday School. The children's total offering will be given in honor of all the mothers at St. Paul's.

St. Paul's Graduates

St. Paul's graduates will be recognized at worship on Sunday, June 8, 2003.

Kathy Powers— Masters in Education from Hamline

Peter Tollefson – University of New Hampshire, Business degree with concentration in Information systems

Lindsay Powers – Hopkins HS

Megan Wolfe – Eden Prairie HS

Ben Larson – Eden Prairie HS

Todd Winsor – Hopkins HS

James Winson – Hopkins HS

Kevin Smith – Hopkins HS

VBS July 14 – 17

Mark your calendar for the first of its kind Vacation Bible School July 14 – 17. This tri-congregation event – St. Paul's Lutheran, Mizpah United Church of Christ, Hopkins United Methodist, starts at 6 p.m. with supper and ends at 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday at Hopkins United Methodist (next to Eisenhower School). Designed for kinds from 4 years of age to those entering 6th grade, there will be crafts, stories, outdoor games and service projects. Invite a friend or neighbor! All are welcome.

Luther Dell Bible Camp for Youth: Several youth from St. Paul's are planning to attend camp this summer. Others are welcome! Anyone completing grades 4-12 is eligible and scholarships are available. Dates we will choose from are Sunday, June 29 – Friday, July 4, or August 17 – 22. For more information, contact Anne Englert at 952-935-4662.

MEMBER NEWS

+ Matt and Shari Schmitz announced the birth of Riley Titus Schmitz. Sisters Maggie, Heidi, Hailey and Kelsey are excited and delighted about their new brother.

+ Marissa Fay Saal was baptized on Sunday, April 13.

+ Miki Anderson, Keith Hassig, Jana Larson and Rebecca Tollefson publicly affirmed their baptism on Sunday, May 18.

+ Amy Bunker, who has regularly attended worship and has offered her time and talent at St. Paul's while studying for a graduate degree, has returned to her home in Oregon.

+ Missionary family, Rev. Tim and Yuriko Mason and children Seiya and Kai will be on home leave June 24 through August 24.

Address & Phone Number Updates

+ Jim and Kristi Gay's correct home phone number is 612-869-6444.

+ Maxine Rieman has moved to 1510 Mainstreet # 312, Hopkins, 55343. Her phone is 952-238-8516.

+ Virginia Rustad has moved to 5330 Beacon Hill Road, # 318, Minnetonka 55345. Her phone is 952-988-7837.

Fiddler on the Roof will be presented by members of Faith Presbyterian Church and their friends on Friday, June 6, Sat. June 7 and Sunday June 8 at 7:00 pm. Proceeds go to mission projects.

Building Bridges Bonfire: June 11

Gather at 7 p.m., Wednesday, June 11 with our friends from the Tri-Congregations for a bonfire at St. Paul's Lutheran. Bring the whole family. We'll toast marshmallows, make s'mores, play games and get acquainted. We'll dust off some old campfire songs too. Here is a change for kids to spark new friendships before starting vacation bible school together in July. St. Paul's Lutheran is easy to find, at the corner of Baker Road and Lake St. Ext. right off Highway 7.

Habitat for Humanity: St. Paul's is teaming up with All Saints Lutheran Church again this year to do a week of volunteer work for Habitat for Humanity. Work dates are Monday, June 23 – Friday, June 27. More details and a posted sign-up sheet will be available in early June.

Book Club meeting July 1

We'll be discussing *A Prayer for Owen Meany* by John Irving at 7 p.m., July 1 (Tuesday) at Sheri Brenden's house (2317 Archers Lane, Mtka.) Reviewers call it an extraordinarily funny, moving and heartbreaking story with the best and most satisfying ending. The library has lots of copies so check it out now. All readers are invited!

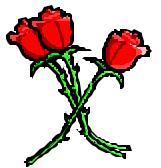
Luther Dell for Everyone – August 8- 10:

St. Paul's has reserved a weekend for any members and friends to enjoy the beautiful lakeside setting of Luther Dell and relaxed time with friends and family. You can stay in a cabin or bring your own tent. All meals are provided. Contact Darcie Rodman (763-546-4404) for details.



Happy Birthday!!

John Falk (6/2), Bryan Nowak & James Reynolds (6/4), Tim Englert & Yvonne Olson (6/7),
Connie Hessevick (6/9), Tammy Reynolds & Kim Streater & Beverly Wiese (6/11), Steve Nelson (6/12),
B Olson (6/15), Virginia Rustad (6/16), Katie Hassig (6/19), Ray Olson & Matt Schmitz (6/20),
Ernest Hendrickson & Ruth Lee & Alex Nelson & Reggie Winsor (6/21), Daniel Englert & Heather Englert &
Kristofer Moe (6/22), Chris Corssley & Regina Nelson (6/23), Alyssa Bonner (6/25), Grace Falk (6/26),
Peter Rudolph (6/27), Marla Bonner & Dewey Hassig (6/29), Marshall Carpenter & Rey Lindquist (6/30)



Happy Anniversary!!

Eric & Deb Campbell 6/11/83, Paul & Pat Tollefson 6/19/76
Robert & Nancy Bjornlund 6/22/68, Tom & Linda McGee 6/24/78



**Hear Us O God,
Your Mercy is Great...**

- † That the resurrection life of Christ, given to us, will renew our thanksgiving and encourage our serving,
- † For children Logan, Dylan, Samuel and Riley; for Ernie Hendrickson, Rose Mikulay and Joseph Hromatka,
- † For our tri-congregation activities, that they might build bridges and strengthen faith,
- † For our annual meeting on June 22,
- † For those considering serving on the Congregation Council,
- † For all graduates and those making important life transitions,
- † In thanksgiving for blessings as our congregation ends another program and fiscal year,
- † For the youth of St. Paul's in thanksgiving for their Christian witness in the congregation and community, and that they would have a safe, fun and growing summer,
- † For those on active military duty; Todd Kyseth, Bryan Nowak and Matthew Radde
- † For those living, teaching and encouraging peaceful ways,
- † For a faithful witness to Christ through St. Paul's and the ELCA.

**Prayer Line – Have a prayer request?
Call a Prayer Line coordinator: Yvonne Olson,
952-938-8993 or Betty Mattick, 952-938-6486
between 10:00 am – 8:00 pm.**

Notes of Thanks

- ~ **Luther Seminary offers thanks for the gift received to support the cost of seminary education for Sue Vikstrom.**
- ~ Emily Duncan writes to thank us for our ongoing support of Our Saviour's Housing dinner program.
- ~ Rev. Heather Hammond, Bishop's Associate for Stewardship, Minneapolis Area Synod, share thanks for our latest Mission Support gift. She related the story of Rev. Hiroka Hiraoka, a female pastor in the Japan Lutheran church who is the United States currently completing advanced studies. She will return to her homeland to teach in the seminary in Tokyo. In 15 years mission support from St. Paul's, and other ELCA congregations, has supported 532 international students.
- ~ Metro Lutheran editor, Michael Sherer, write to thank St. Paul's for a recent support gift.
- ~ Jeremy Haug, Jenni MacNaughton and Beth Mikulay who organized the very successful garage, bake and plant sale held on May 11. Thanks, also, to all who donated time, help and items to this effort.
- ~ Men in Ministry for providing flowers for all the girls and women on Mother's Day.
- ~ Mary Hromatka and Tom Larson for their faithful leadership and support of Wednesday evening confirmation youth and Pat Tollefson for her leadership on Sunday mornings.
- ~ Sunday School coordinators Sheri Brenden and Lisa Foss, teachers and helpers – Darcie Rodman, Karen Hopp, Marci Anderson, Shari Schmitz, Kim Streater, Lisa Foss, Kristy and Jim Gay, Darla Gilbertson, Mike Mikulay, Linda McGee and Alyssa Bonner
- + Choir members – Ray Olson, Vince Jacobson, Roger Olson, Roger & Darla Gilbertson, Wanda Nelson, Connie Hessevick, Bernie and Ruth Johnson, Laura Eggert, Jennie MacNaughton, Regina Nelson, Beth Mikulay and accompanists Linda McGee and Mike Mikulay for your worship leadership and inspiring music,
- + Mike Mikulay for attending the Minneapolis Area Synod Assembly.
- + Carolyn Carpenter for help with the Confirmation cake and for hosting a Befrienders meeting at her home.



**Newsletter Items Due
June 15th**

Send submissions to
tanyaj@usfamily.net and
stpauls@saitpaulslutheran.org
or put items in the newsletter
folder in the library.



Shrub & bush trimmers plus weed pullers –
needed at St. Paul's for the summer ahead. If you can help, please let John Tuttle or Darold Hanson now and sign up on the sheet hanging up in the Community room. Thanks!

Building Task Force Update

Within the last month the Building Task Force has conducted two rounds of interviews with general contractors interested in doing our project. We started with five contractors in the first round. We invited three of them back for a second round of interviews and completed these interviews on May 22. All three had excellent references. As of this writing, we have not made a final selection, but expect to do so by the end of May. The general contractor we select will work with our architect, Roger Ericson, on the final design and cost estimates for the project. We think this will be about a six to eight week process. At that time the Task Force will come back to the congregation with a final design, cost estimate, financing plan, and construction plan for review and approval. Much more information about the activities of the Building Task Force this past year and our upcoming plans will be covered at the congregational annual meeting on June 22nd. See you all there! In the meantime, if you have any questions, please contact me or any other member of the Task Force.

Mike Mikulay, President

The Annual Meeting of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church will be held on Sunday, June 22 at 10:45 am in the lower level Community Room. Watch for your copy of Annual reports.

PENTECOST 2003

**SUNDAY, JUNE 8
4:00 P.M.**

**ALL SAINTS LUTHERAN CHURCH
15915 EXCELSIOR BLVD
MINNETONKA, MN
Fellowship and light meal after service.**

Music by choirs from different ethnic specific groups. The Pentecost message will be shared by 3 spiritual leaders of ethnic specific groups.

Please join us for this special Pentecost celebration. Everyone welcome!

For more information, contact:
AGORA Ministries
Suite 604, 122 West Franklin Ave.
Minneapolis, MN 55404
PH: 612-604-0587

New book in Library

We have a new book in the Library, thanks to a member of the Emotions Anonymous group who meets here on Mondays. The book is titled, "Bible Then & Now", authored by Jenny Roberts. What is special about the book, is it focuses on several cities mentioned in the Bible, shows photos of ancient ruins, i.e. a synagogue at Capernaum, and then has a plastic overlay of an artist's view of the original building or site. The section on Capernaum goes on to tell that Jesus adopted the area as his second home. He called his first disciples from there and preached in the local synagogue. Capernaum also was the scene of many of his healing miracles and where he walked on water of the Sea of Galilee.

I find this book an easy read and reference. It helps to see the people and places of the Bible as more alive and real.

Dorothy Swanson, Outreach Minister

You are invited to become a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Please contact Dorothy Swanson at 952-938-4683 or e-mail her at stpauls@saintpaulslutheran.org

Tuesday Grief Support Group

4:30 – 6:30 pm

Minnetonka Lutheran Church
16023 Minnetonka Blvd., Minnetonka

West Metro Grief Support Coalition invites all persons experiencing grief due to a death. Grief support groups offer hope and healing through listening, sharing, prayer and fellowship.

- June 3 Sr. Eleanor Wartman, Pastoral Minister
A Son's Tribute to His Mother
- June 10 Video
Beyond Death's Door
- June 17 Jeanne Shellum
After Care
- June 24 Remembrance Service
All are Welcome

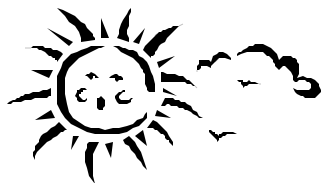
For more information, please call the coalition coordinator, Darcie Rodman, at 763-546-4404.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
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Look What's Happening!!!

June 1 – 1:30 pm, St. Paul's leads worship at Emerald Crest

June 8 – 4:00 pm Pentecost Festival at All Saints Lutheran, Minnetonka.

June 11 – 7:00 – 9:00 pm Tri Congregation Bonfire at St. Paul's

June 19 – 6:30 pm – Women's Group serves at Our Saviour's

June 22 – 10:45 am – Congregation Annual Meeting

June 23-27 – Habitat for Humanity work project

Summer outdoor Worships - June 29, July 27 and August 31

July 13 – 9:30 am, Tri-Congregation Worship at Hopkins, UMC

July 14-17 – Tri-Congregation VBS, children 4 yrs thru grade 6 at Hopkins UMC

August 8-10 – Family Weekend at Luther Dell

August 17 – Tri-Congregation Barbeque/Potluck at Mizpah United Church of Christ