



## ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

2496 S. C. HIGHWAY 773  
POMARIA, SOUTH CAROLINA 29126

March 2010

### From the Pastor's Desk:

If we cannot set things right, if we cannot even set ourselves, never mind the world, right—who, then, is to do it? It must be someone who is in no way responsible for what has gone wrong. It must be done by an act that is perfectly gratuitous, that is not driven by necessity, by an act that is perfectly free. The act must be by one who embodies *everything*, whose life is not one life among many, but is life itself—a life that is our life and the life of all who have ever lived and ever will live. But where is such a one to be found?

God must die. It is a lie so monstrous that to suggest it invites instant annihilation—except that God accepts the verdict. Those who know the awful truth hear his voice. And Jesus said, “Now is my soul troubled. And what shall I say? ‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, for this purpose I have come to this hour. Father, glorify thy name.”

-Richard John Neuhaus  
Death on a Friday Afternoon

# MARCH CALENDAR

<b>March 3</b>	7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
<b>March 7</b>	8:00 a.m.	Church Council
<b>March 7</b>	5:00 p.m.	Catechism
<b>March 7</b>	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Meal
<b>March 7</b>	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Service
<b>March 10</b>	7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
<b>March 14</b>		Daylight Saving Time Begins
<b>March 14</b>	8:30 a.m.	LMM
<b>March 14</b>	9:00 a.m.	Joint WELCA Meeting at the church
<b>March 14</b>	1:45 p.m.	LCY to Finley Park to feed homeless
<b>March 14</b>	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Meal
<b>March 14</b>	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Service
<b>March 17</b>	12:00 p.m.	St. Patrick's Day Luncheon for retirees
<b>March 17</b>	7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
<b>March 21</b>	12:00 p.m.	Building Committee Meeting after church
<b>March 21</b>	5:00 p.m.	Catechism
<b>March 21</b>	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Meal
<b>March 21</b>	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Service
<b>March 24</b>	9:00 a.m.	Newsletter Deadline
<b>March 24</b>	7:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
<b>March 28</b>	6:00 p.m.	Lenten Meal
<b>March 28</b>	7:00 p.m.	Lenten Service



## JOIN US FOR OUR WEEKLY LENTEN SERVICES EACH SUNDAY EVENING THROUGHOUT LENT AT 7:00 P.M.

This year we are blessed to have John the Baptist with us, a Kinsman of Jesus who is talking to us on six essential messages dear to the heart of God. During the coming weeks, John will talk about : Loving God, Loving Neighbor, Mercy/ Forgiveness, Faith, and the Kingdom of Heaven. Each week the service will be preceded by a meal to be served between 6:00—6:30 p.m. Please make attendance at these services a vital part of your week.

**The Deadline for the April Newsletter is Wednesday, March 24th at 9:00 a.m.**

## Evangelism Thought of the Month:

Who could be your Nathanael? When Philip began to follow Jesus, he quickly spread the word to his friend, Nathanael, and said "Come and see." Next thing you know, Nathanael turns to Jesus and is a believer too. Philip used his social network to develop a follower of Christ. Look within your networks (school, work, facebook, family, friends, etc.) to see who could be your Nathanael. Invite them to St. Paul to "come and see." (John 1:43-51)

## St. Paul Website

Our church now has a website that gives information and updates on many facets of our church. Please go to [www.stpaulpomaria.com](http://www.stpaulpomaria.com) to view the website. Some pages may also contain pictures of church events. If you do not wish to be included in any pictures, please notify Evangelism chair, Lori Ricard. A huge thank you is extended to Kevin Boozer and Toby Smith for creating the website.

~~~~~  
 Good Morning Neighbor, it's a pretty day.  
 Let's go to church, I'm on my way.  
 Gonna lose my sorrows and all my cares.  
 Good Morning Neighbor, I'll see you there.  
 ~~~~~

## Food Drive



Again this year the Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a FOOD DRIVE. Paper bags will be given out in March for you to fill with food and paper goods. You are asked to bring the bags back on PALM SUNDAY and place them under the "Old Rugged Cross" at the front of the church. Thanks for supporting our St. Paul ministry.

## Lenten Walk



80 miles is the distance from Nazareth to Jerusalem. The Lenten Walk can be completed by walking 2 miles a day 6 days a week for the 40 days of the Lenten season. We will track our progress on a chart, so join us in the walk to Jerusalem.

## WELCA

WELCA will have a joint meeting at the church on Sunday March 14th at 9:00 a.m.

## Hospitalized:

Dale Epting  
 Jesse Pearson  
 Chris Roberts  
 John Shealy  
 Paul Shealy



## LCY

The LCY will go to Finley Park to feed the homeless with Holy Trinity Lutheran Church. Sunday, March 14th. We will leave the church at 1:45.

LCY Sunday is scheduled for May 2nd and we will be practicing between now and then. Watch the bulletin for dates and times.

We had a great time skiing. Thank goodness we came home with no broken bones. We are looking forward to next year.

Relay for Life will be on April 30 this year. St. Paul has a team once again. If anyone is interested in being a team member please see Shannon Smith. Luminaries and Corporate signs can be purchased from any team member.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** will be held at St. Matthews Lutheran Church on March 5th at 7:30 p.m.

## ADOPT A SHUT-IN MEMBER

**THE SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE** is again sponsoring an "ADOPT A SHUT-IN MEMBER" program. We would like to invite and encourage the members of the congregation to participate. We have compiled a list of names and others will be added to the list as they are identified. Please contact Barbara Dowd for additional information and the name of a member you would like to adopt.

## Operation In As Much 2010



"...Truly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me."  
*Matthew 25:40*

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR FOR APRIL 24<sup>TH</sup>, 2010.** St. Paul's is taking part in **OperationInAsMuch** again this year! Last year St. Paul was one of the top churches with the most volunteers and we helped make **OperationInAsMuch** such a success. **OperationInAsMuch** is a great way for us to help out our own community and give back because God has blessed us all in so many ways. It is an opportunity to use our hands for God's work. This year we have a good many home repair projects on the list so if you are skilled in home repair please plan to volunteer. A brochure of all projects will be presented to you as it becomes available. Please plan to give a few hours of your time on **April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010.**

For our retirees:

Join us for a luncheon  
in celebration of

## St. Patrick's Day

Wednesday, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010  
12 PM



Try out your Irish Luck in a  
game of **Bingo** following  
**lunch!**

### Career Crossroads

*A spiritual retreat*

*for finding work that fits  
your gifts and mission in life*



April 30-May 2, 2010

Lutheran Theological Southern  
Seminary  
Columbia, SC

The complete brochure can be found  
in Megan Shealy's (Secretary) box.

### EASTER LILIES

Easter lilies will be available this year for \$6.00 each. This includes the foil wrap. The information and checks must be given to Carolyn Richardson **no later than** Sunday, March 7, 2010. Forms are available in the narthex and on page 10.. Please make checks payable to St. Paul WELCA.

### BUILDING FUND MEMORIALS

For those who would prefer to give a memorial to the building fund instead of a lily for Easter, a donation in any amount may be given. Make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church Building Fund and give the information to Carolyn Richardson **no later than Sunday, March 28, 2010**. Forms are available in the narthex and on page 10. The information will be published in the bulletin on Easter Sunday.

## MARCH Birthdays

2	John Price
4	Nikki Perry
5	Wayne Ellisor
6	Louis Wicker
7	Sara Price
8	Henry Jackson
9	Joyce Bannister
	Billy Seybt
	Frederick Wicker
11	Richie Graham
12	Raegan Taylor
	Jordan Shinn
13	James Dowd, Jr.
15	Douglas Fulmer
16	Brandi Pearson
	Connie Pearson
18	Rebecca Graham
	Wilford Moates
	Drew Perry
19	Betsy Brooks
	Christopher Huyck
	Rhett Ricard
22	Ethan Hancock
	Shelli Lister
	Irene Livingston
23	Christine Dowd
	Louise Lindler
	Jennifer Wicker
25	Wanda Long
27	Randall Koon
29	Barry Dowd
	Gladys Hazel
	Rita Richardson
30	Gina Berry
	Glenn Lathrop
	Wayne Shealy

Happy Birthday!

## March Helpers

**Councilperson:** Andrew Boozer

**Ushers:** Alice Boozer  
Lindsay Boozer  
Henry Brooks  
Ricky Perry

**Counting Committee:** Andrew Boozer  
Wayne Boozer

**Acolyte:** Drew Ricard

**Crucifer:** Courtney Hentz

**Torchbearers:** Landon Dowd  
Austin Wheeler

**Bannerbearer:** Hunter Roberts

**Greeters:** Andrew Boozer

**Communion Bread:** Lynn Nichols

**Altar Guild:** Janna Richardson

**Grass Cutting:**  
March 13 Michael & Steffanie Shinn  
March 20 Edwin Dowd & Danny Ricard  
March 27 John Wheeler & Bud Dowd

**No Flowers during Lent**



# Chattin'

with

## Kevin



A little over a year ago, I attended a class Pastor Nichols taught about the things Lutherans believe. We focused on the Ten Commandments, The Apostle's Creed and the Lord's Prayer. When we discussed prayer in general, he told us a story from when he was in seminary. Back then, a hospital chaplain told him, "The reason it is so hard to pray is that the devil hates prayer."

Think about that for a second. How often does something keep us from praying? Maybe it becomes late, we get tired, and we fall asleep without saying our prayers. Maybe we just forget. What if a meal looks so good we skip the blessing and just dive in? Perhaps we are eating out somewhere and might be embarrassed to be seen praying in public.

Maybe it seems that God is not hearing our prayers much less answering them. During times of strife, sickness, or grief we may just be too broken and beaten down to pray. I believe the Lord understands about those times and remains patient until the day we can return to prayer. In the meantime it becomes even more important for church members and others to pray for those persons undergoing the hours of trial because those prayers help carry the people who are too ill, down and hurt to pray.

Circumstances such as those are part of a broken world where evil and death are present--a world in which the devil sometimes can have power over each of us. Please do not misunderstand me. I am not saying that if people sin that they become sick as punishment from God. Rather, I am saying that we live in a world where good and evil coexist in a way that means we suffer and can be led to temptation and that persons experience intense suffering like befell Haiti a little over a month ago.

We combat those forces each time we lift friends, family, community members, and others up in prayer by praying together or by praying on our own. I am humbled that some folks pray for me every night. I do my best to pray often for blessings upon those people who are praying for me that we might be blessings to one another. But I don't pray for them every night. I wish that I did.

There are nights when I am too tired or am forgetful to pray. Sometimes I skip saying the blessing before meals. Maybe it gets late and I just don't feel like praying on a particular night. Well, one thing that gets me on my knees to pray during those times is the lesson I learned from that class Pastor Nichols taught. The reason it is so hard to pray is that the devil hates prayer. Let us keep that idea in mind so that we might pray more faithfully, especially during this Lenten season.

World Day of Prayer service at St. Matthews Lutheran Church at 7:30pm

Have something you'd like the chat about? Give me a call or email me at [Kevin.boozer@yahoo.com](mailto:Kevin.boozer@yahoo.com) [kevin-boozer@stpaulpomaria.com](mailto:kevin-boozer@stpaulpomaria.com)

**St. Paul Lutheran Congregational Council Minutes**  
**Sunday, January 03, 2010**

15 members present plus Pastor Nichols

Devotions: Pastor Nichols

Devotions in February: Steffanie Shinn

Minutes from Sunday, December 6 were read and approved.

Pastor Nichols presented the Cemetery Report

**Committee Reports:**

Grounds:

9 people volunteered for Grass Cutting Committee. Steffanie will meet with the volunteers and set up a schedule for grass cutting.

Worship and Music:

Wayne noted that he is not sure how long Andrew Connelly will be with us, but they have started working on Easter music. A question was asked as to whether or not Andrew has started offering piano lessons. Pastor Nichols will ask him if he would like for us to advertise it in the bulletin and newsletter.

**Old Business:**

Danny Ricard will take care of ordering new office furniture for the secretary's office. The new property chair will take care of making sure both Pastor and Secretary's offices are painted and carpeted.

**New Business:**

-John Richardson was elected to be on the current Church Council. His hard work and dedication will be missed. The constitution states that the Council is to name a replacement, but does not specify how that is to be done. \*A motion was made and passed to ask the person on ballot with the next highest number of votes to serve. This being Barbara Dowd, she will be asked to serve in John's place.

-Pastor Nichols asked for persons interested in attending the Feb. 6 meeting at Newberry College. He thought it would be nice if our Synod Delegates could attend. Toby Smith volunteered to be a Synod Delegate. Pastor Nichols and the Council agreed that the church should pay for the \$20 registration fee for each person attending the Feb. 6 meeting.

-A motion was made and passed to give the Heartland Conference School of Religion 50 cents per confirmed member of our congregation out of the miscellaneous fund. This amount will be somewhere between \$110 and \$120.

**-Election of 2010 Church Council Officers:**

Barry Werts	Vice President
Lori Ricard	Secretary
Toby Smith	Financial Secretary
Chad Boland	Treasurer
Carol Wicker	Cemetery Treasurer

**Committee Chairpersons:**

Wayne Ellisor	Auditing
Chris Roberts	Bus & Tractor, Cemetery



Danny Dowd	Chrismon
Andrew Boozer	Evangelism
Allison White	Education/ Sunday School
Edwin Dowd	Education/ Bible School
Lowell Dowd	Finance/ Stewardship
Barry Dowd	Homecoming
Rick Caston	Mutual Ministry
Barry Werts	Property
Barbara Dowd	Social Ministry
Wayne Boozer	Worship & Music
Steffanie Shinn	Grounds

Committee Reports and Committee members are due to Megan by January 18<sup>th</sup> for yearbook.

Lori Ricard will print out a list of committee responsibilities from Constitution for all Council member committee chairs.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned by reciting the Lord's Prayer.

#### Called Meeting – Sunday, January 24

A motion was made and passed to allow Mid-Carolina Middle School to use our church bus for transporting students to and from religion class offered off campus.

#### Called Meeting – Sunday, January 31

A motion was made and passed to give \$700 out of local outreach to the St. James Helping Hands Food Pantry in Pomaria.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lori Ricard  
Church Council Secretary

### **ELCA DISASTER RESPONSE: HAITI EARTHQUAKE RELIEF**

On Tuesday, January 12, a magnitude 7.0 earthquake rocked the island country of Haiti, primarily impacting the capital, Port-au-Prince. Your help is needed today to bring immediate relief and continued hope for our brothers and sisters in Haiti. About 3 million lives, one-third of Haiti's population, are affected by this earthquake. ELCA Disaster Response is already working through long-standing partnerships on the ground to provide emergency food, water, shelter, and medical supplies.

**Financial gifts are urgently needed.** Your gifts to ELCA International Disaster Response, designated for Haiti Earthquake Relief, will be used entirely - 100% - for immediate relief and ongoing recovery efforts. Your prayers and generous gifts will make a life-saving difference. Please give today.

Give through your congregation or send your check directly to: ELCA Disaster Response, 39330 Treasury Center, Chicago, IL 60694-9300. Write "Haiti Earthquake Relief" on your check's memo line.

## SPOTLIGHT ON A MEMBER



### Barry, Charlotte, Tanner, Morgan & Erin Werts

We have all been members of St. Paul our entire lives. We were all baptized at St. Paul and Barry and I were married at St. Paul twenty years ago this year. I guess you can say we have known each other our entire lives. St. Paul is such an important part of our family. We have had some of our happiness times at the church such as our wedding and baptizing our children, we have also had some of our saddest times at St. Paul in burying Barry's father, Monroe Werts, my mother, Pat Dowd and our nephew, Neil Werts. Some of our fondest memories of St. Paul of course would have to include Aunt Gladys Werts and how she could make from the front of the church to the back of the church almost before the pastor to greet any visitors we had. We also remember being part of the children's Christmas plays and now watching our children participate. Plus we can't forget, the womanless beauty pageants, family fun days, softball games, and youth rallies all held at our church. We have so many fond memories it is hard to name them all.

Barry graduated from the University of South Carolina in mechanical engineering and is currently Vice President of ArctiChill, Inc. and also a partner in the company. He enjoys traveling with his family, playing and watching sports. I graduated from Midlands Tech and have a degree as a paralegal. I stay home with the kids which is the best job in the world. I enjoy traveling, sewing, crafts and photography. Tanner is a sophomore at Mid Carolina High School. He plays football and baseball for MC. He is the reigning Mr. Mid Carolina High School. He enjoys sports, hunting and fishing. Morgan is in the 8th grade at Mid Carolina Middle School. She is a cheerleader for MC and a member of the Carolina Freestyle Clogging Team. She has been taking dance for 12 years. She has danced in New York, Tennessee, Florida and numerous places around the state. She enjoys hanging out with friends, shopping and reading. Erin is in 5th grade at Pomaria Garmany Elementary School. She has been on the Newberry YMCA swim team for the past four years. She enjoys swimming, spending time with friends and crafts. We are very fortunate that all three of them are in the Beta Club. Currently, we are building a new home in the Stoney Hill section of Prosperity.

Barry and I have both served on church council and several committees at the church. We currently serve as youth leaders. I am a Sunday School teacher and was a leader for PALS. I have also helped many years with Bible School. Barry has played softball for the church for many years. The whole family is a member of the St. Paul Relay for Life team.

Charlotte Werts

## EASTER LILIES

For the beauty of our Church on Easter Sunday, we are ordering Easter lilies at a cost of \$6.00 per plant. The price includes the foil wrap. A separate form should be filled out for each plant you order. The information and money must be given to Carolyn Richardson **no later than** Sunday, March 7, 2010. Please make checks payable to St. Paul WELCA.

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

TO THE GLORY OF GOD BY: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## MEMORIALS TO THE BUILDING FUND

For those who would prefer to give a memorial to the building fund instead of a lily for Easter a donation in any amount may be given. Checks in any amount should be made to St. Paul Lutheran Church Building Fund. The information and money should be given to Carolyn Richardson **no later than Sunday, March 28, 2010.**

IN HONOR OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

IN MEMORY OF: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

BY: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

AMOUNT GIVEN: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ ENVELOPE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
2496 S.C. Hwy 773  
Pomaria, SC 29126

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Nonprofit Organization  
U.S. Postage Paid  
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Permit No. 5

**Pastor Brent Nichols**  
Church Phone 276-2570  
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MARCH 2010 [stpaulpomaria@bellsouth.net](mailto:stpaulpomaria@bellsouth.net)  
Website: [www.stpaulpomaria.com](http://www.stpaulpomaria.com)