



Join Us For Worship
Saturday – 5:30 p.m.
with Holy Communion
Sunday – 7:45, 9:00 & 11:15 a.m.
Radio Broadcast:
Sundays 9:00 a.m. on 99.3 FM



March 9, 2011

Lent Means a Whole Lot of Wonder

The 2011 Lenten theme at St. Paul's comes from a Book of Faith Lenten Journey: *Seven Wonders of the Word*. The ancient world held seven structures so incredible that they were called the Seven Wonders of the World. Wonder inspires astonishment. St. Paul's member Dr. Kathryn Kleinhans authored the resource for the wider church to draw us into seven wonders of God's Word.

Centering on Seven Wonders could come at no more critical time for St. Paul's. In February, our leadership shared stark information about what impact that funding shortages would have on mission, programs and jobs. We will stay mired and motionless if our discussions are about money. But, we will move forward with greater faith, energy and generosity if our discussions are about the Wonder of the Word.

We are planning Midweek Lenten worship themes for KinderLent (5:30 PM) and traditional Lent services (7:00 PM) that are full of wonder—the Wonder of God at work in us through the Word. Wonder of the Word worship resources written by St. Paul's member Ramona Bouzard for the ELCA will enrich our worship times.

- **Ash Wed:** Wonder 1: The Word Creates
- **Mar 16:** Wonder 2: The Word Calls
- **Mar 23:** Wonder 3: The Word Commands
- **Mar 30:** Wonder 4: The Word Saves

God's wonders are for you. Get on a journey where they will discover you anew. Here are ways:

- **Worship. Worship. Worship.** Since our February "crisis" inspired prayerful concern for our congregation, a different "energy" has stirred our worship communities. If you've been away, Lent is the time to come back.
- Pick up **Seven Wonders of the Word** by Dr. Kleinhans at the church office or in the narthex. Follow her advice on how to get the most out of your Lenten reading and prayer. Better yet, lead four or more friends into a weekly discussion with the resource. Or, sign up on the website where you can share your questions and insights with others.
<www.stpaulswaverly.org/lentgroup>
- Sign up for a **daily devotional** that will come every day via email.
<www.stpaulswaverly.org/lentemail>
You can also see the same devotional on the St. Paul's facebook page.
<www.facebook.com/stpaulswaverly>
These were written by Pastor Schneider and can be coordinated with Seven Wonders and additional Bible reading.
- The **Wonders will work** on you, lowering your anxiety, changing your priorities, opening your eyes and heart. That's God's promise that comes with the Word. Don't doubt it.

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Is that falling plaster I just heard?

There's a poignant cartoon that circulated in church newsletters a few years ago. It shows the chair of the congregation's property committee, standing at the lectern, addressing the congregation. There are buckets and pans arranged all around him, each collecting drips of water from the ceiling. With grave understatement, he declares, "Some of us think we should do something about the roof."

St. Paul's Church doesn't have a leaky roof. At least not yet. But with a worship facility that's a century old, there are always maintenance and repair issues. Ignoring them when they're small and manageable invites them to become large and expensive.

The congregation's property committee—Brent Steere, Dave Sharp, Jan Striepe, Deb Turnball and Doug Zelle—provide great service to St. Paul's, staying ahead of needed re-

pairs, all the while struggling with limited resources.

Here's a case in point: to keep the exterior brick walls from crumbling, the congregation has contracted to have tuckpointing done on more than half the worship center. The other half remains to be done. The entire project will run to over \$100,000. The Capital Improvement Fund was emptied to begin this needed repair project.

There are other projects awaiting attention as well.

Building and repairs are covered by money accumulated in the Capital Improvement Fund (not to be confused with SPARK, a program exploring ways to expand the congregation's facilities). The fund is now exhausted. It can only be replenished by contributions designated by members for this purpose.



Crew repoints masonry work on west side of sanctuary in 2010

A monthly Capital Improvement envelope is included in your monthly packet of offering envelopes. If you haven't been using yours, now would be an excellent time to start (but please don't diminish your regular giving by using it).

St. Paul's New "Spark" Sunday School

Sunday school students, parents and teachers have been having a lot of fun growing in their faith each week using the new and creative "Spark Sunday School" curriculum. Sunday School starts at 10:10 AM each week in the Center For Ministry with a 10-minute opening program for all grades. The program sets the theme for the day and includes songs, prayers, a children's message and

even a creative drama or puppet skit every once in a while. Afterwards the teachers and students head off to the school for activities in the classrooms.

The theme these past two weeks has been "Love is..." based on the "love chapter" from 1 Corinthians 13. Teachers and students have been finding creative ways to share God's love with their neighbors, family and friends. Classroom activities have included Bible skills, games, cooking, art, creative drama, videos and even science. Two weeks ago, the kids were challenged to express love specifically through the "We CAN love!" food drive. Since then, they have filled a basket to overflowing with gifts of food designated for the Waverly Food Pantry. Thanks students, parents and teachers for all your help!



Sunday school students explore and express love through the gift of food

Parents, as you bring your children to Sunday school, you are invited to stay for the 10 minute opening program in the CFM. It's a great way to connect with your kids, support the teachers and see what's going on in Sunday School each week. We hope to see you Sunday mornings!



Family & Youth News

KinderLent begins

St. Paul's family-friendly worship services are held each Wednesdays at 5:30 PM during the season of Lent. We'll be exploring a different Bible story each week and discovering how God's Word creates, calls, saves, sustains and shapes us. Come for KinderLent and stay for the soup supper afterwards.

Sr. High Retreat Mar 19-20

The youth will be staying in Ewalu's new camp lodge, doing some hiking, enjoying a campfire, going on the Zip Line, and watching *To Save a Life*, having some good late-night discussions and a having talent show. Invite a friend!

Elementary Retreat Mar 26-27

St. Paul's is taking a group students to Ewalu for a fun overnight for 3rd-5th grade students. Activities include a cookout, campfire, the ropes course, and Bible study. Cost: \$40. Contact the church office to register.

News & Notes

Sunday Parish Hall Events

- Sunday, March 13th: Invite a friend fellowship time.
- Sunday, March 20th: Marriage: What's going on?
- Sunday, March 27th: Marriage: Some history.

Notes from the February 21 PPC meeting:

- New members will be welcomed on April 30 and May 1.
- PPC noted with appreciation the fund-raising commitment of St. Paul's School parents, and encouraged increased utilization of Scrip and Simply Giving to strengthen the Annual and Current funds.
- PPC recommended that funding for fifth and sixth grades in St.

St. Paul's Preschool registration

We begin accepting preschool registration on March 14. If you know any families with children 3-4 years old, please encourage them to call the school. We hope tuition and transportation are not stumbling blocks to early childhood education for all children. If you know families for whom these issues are a concern, please refer them to Principal Lines to discuss options.



For 3-year-olds (3 by Sept. 15)

- Section A // Wed AM
8:30-11:00

For 3 & 4-year-olds (by Sept. 15)

- Section B // TTh PM
12:40-3:10
- Section C // MWF AM
12:40-3:10

For 4 & 5-year-olds (by Sept. 15)

- Section D // MTThF AM
8:30-11:30
- Section E // M-F All Day
8:30-3:10

Paul's School be included in budget planning for 2111-12.

- PPC recommended that the Music Ministry position be filled on a full-time basis.
- PPC reviewed current fund and cash flow issues. Currently St. Paul's has no bank loans.

Lenten Preschool

Lenten Preschool for children ages 3-5 will be held April 11-15 in the Center for Ministry. Two identical sessions will be offered from 9-11 AM and 1-3 PM. The children will study the passion history from Palm Sunday through Easter. They will learn about Jesus' entry into Jerusalem, the Last Supper, washing the disciples' feet, his death on the cross, and his resurrection. There will be worship, music,

Bible stories and crafts. To register your child, please call Barbara Zemke, 352-2482, by April 4.

Food Bank: Meal of the Month

The Food Bank has a new program called Meal of the Month. Items needed for a breakfast meal, to be donated by March 28th, are pancake mix and syrup. For the May meal of the month, macaroni or other pasta, and Velveeta Cheese are requested.

New Members

We will be welcoming new members to our mission in Christ on April 30 and May 1. New member orientation sessions start on Saturday, March 12, at 9:00 AM in the social room. Two other sessions are planned for the

St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

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News & Notes (continued)

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same time on March 26 and April. Inquire about child care.

Saints Café

Did you know that from June to December, 2010, 71 members volunteered time to serve or bake for St. Paul's Saints Café, not including the 8 cooks. Thank you for reaching out!

We want to thank the Luther Circle for their sponsorship in January!

We thank Deb & Donna Turnball for donating a turkey!

The February meal served 102 with 34 carryouts. Thank you to the cooks: Michele Fischer, Arlene Mashek, Judi Krizek & Brenda Geuther. And to the men who dealt

with the tables & chairs: Jerry Vallem, Mike Dotseth and Roger Bishop. And to the many who set up and served: Sylvia Grote, Ivan Ehrich, Melissa Hallman, Peyton Hallman, Grant Topken, Sue Quinlan, Carol Rasmussen, Deb Turnball, Verona Zelle, Sue Buss, Jill & Thom Boerigter, Allyson Hallman, & Diane Garner. The bakers were Verona Zelle, Gracia Harms, Sue Buss, Diane Garner, Bonnie Drenkow, Barbara Bishop, Judi Krizek & Brenda Geuther.

The next meal will be March 28. Sponsors for March are Ed & Verona Zelle.

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