

## Empty Nesters

We will meet on Saturday, March 12th at 6:00 p.m. for fellowship and food at El Rancho Grande, Downtown. Please RSVP to Duane & Robin Eggeman at 669-2387.



The Women's Executive Board Meeting will be March 2nd at 6:10 p.m. in the green room. Please let Ruth Peterman know if you cannot attend.

### Sound System Update

We are still working on the sound system. Alstage is building a speaker specifically for our sanctuary. When it is finished they will allow us to test it out as a "demo" for a few weeks before we make a final decision.

Mark your calendars for Sat., April 9th for a "Spring Cleaning" of God's house. Please bring cleaning items. Contact Duane E. with any questions.



We will be sending college boxes out on March 22nd. There will be a sign up sheet starting March 5th. Please have your items to the kitchen by March 21st.

Parents: If there has been a change of address since last fall, please let Ruth Peterman know ASAP.



People to People weekend is Mar. 26 and 27. Let's give up a few canned goods for Lent! Needs this month are: hot cereal, complete pancake mix, syrup, canned fruit, deodorant, mixing bowls, hand-held can openers, and pots and pans. Delivery will be March 29.



SMITHVILLE, OH  
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# The Epistle

## Eat, Pray, Love

Last week I saw the Today Show folks interview Elizabeth Gilbert, the writer of the book *Eat, Pray, Love*. Julia Roberts starred in the movie version. The interviewer asked Gilbert if her life was crazy now that her book was a best-seller and the movie a hit. She replied that her life was crazy before she wrote the book and that is what led her on a year-long journey to Italy (to eat), to India (to pray) and to Bali (where she finds love). She calls her year a spiritual journey.

I would not recommend doing what she did to grow spiritually. Yet I do think that we can borrow her categories. On Ash Wednesday I will announce that "as disciples of Jesus, we are called to a discipline that contends against evil and resists whatever leads us away from love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to the discipline of Lent--self-examination and repentance, prayer and fasting, sacrificial giving and works of love." (from the Evangelical Lutheran Worship book). In other words, the ways we choose to eat, pray, and love can help us fight evil and lead us toward God and our neighbors.

In what ways, then, might we choose to eat, pray, and love this Lent? If you are already thinking of giving up or fasting from a food for Lent maybe it's time to fast from something else. I have heard of people giving up media one day a week or gossiping about others. Or could you take on eating with your church family on Wednesdays in Lent and then feasting on the spiritual food of Wednesday Lenten worship. How about praying for St. Paul's in our transition? Watch for ways you can love through giving to the ELCA World Hunger Appeal this Lent.

I hope to have more ideas for you by Ash Wednesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Watch for a series of flyers or even a small booklet when you come to worship.

Extend yourself, try something new this Lent. May your choices strengthen your fight against evil and bring you closer to loving God and our neighbors.

*Pastor Pam Kelly*

### Dates to Remember!

- March 6 Jr. Choir Musical, 9:30 a.m.
- March 8 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 5:30-7:00 p.m.
- March 9 Ash Wednesday Service, 7:00 p.m.
- March 12 Empty Nesters to El Rancho Grande, 6:00 p.m.



We invite you to don your green and join us at 9:00 Wednesday morning, March 16, to assemble St. Patrick's Day boxes for our extended church family. You may support this special ministry with your gifts of home-baked treats, time to pack, deliver and visit with recipients, cash donations for purchased items, and prayers. Know someone you would like to include in this community outreach? If so, please contact Mary Rehm (669-2358) or Sylvia Wheeler (669-2050).

### St. Paul Lutheran Church

777 S. Summit St. Smithville, Ohio 44677  
330-669-2111

www.stpaulslutheran.org; stplc@sssnet.com  
Interim Pastor Pamela Kelly

SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: 6:30 P.M.  
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: 9:30 A.M. SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:45 A.M.

## Choir Corner

On Sunday, March 6, the Junior Choir will bravely present the musical play, *Daniel*, which is based on the Biblical story of Daniel. We hope you will put the date on your calendar and will bring many of your friends and family to support these extremely dedicated and talented St. Paul youth!

There will be no dinner or choir rehearsals on March 9 due to the Ash Wednesday service. However, Senior Choir members, we are singing at this service so we will warm up at 6:45p.m.

During the months of March and April, Junior Choir will practice in the small Fellowship Hall at the regular time (6:30) due to the Lenten midweek services being held in the Sanctuary at the same time. All other choirs will rehearse in their normal areas.

Blessings,  
*Holly*

### Lenten Round Robin begins March 16<sup>th</sup>

This year our Wednesday Lenten services will focus on the book of Jonah. When the Jews asked Jesus for a sign he replied, "I will give you only the sign of Jonah." We will explore the meaning of "the Sign of Jonah" as we follow Jonah on his journey and Jesus on his way to the cross. Our Wednesday meal starts at 5:30 and worship will begin at 6:30. Here is the schedule. (The chapter and verses are from Jonah.)

March 16 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Our Providing God</i> (1:17)	Pastor Mel Kirk
March 23 <sup>rd</sup>	<i>Praying in the Belly of the Fish</i> (2:1-10)	Pastor Marianne Powrie
March 30 <sup>th</sup>	<i>The God of the Second Chance</i> (3:1-4)	Pastor Tim Zoruba
April 6 <sup>th</sup>	<i>About Face</i> (3:5-10)	Pastor Paul Thoms
April 13 <sup>th</sup>	<i>Saved in the Storm</i> (1:4-16)	Pastor Pam Kelly

One way you could prepare for our Lenten worship is to read the whole book of Jonah before the 16<sup>th</sup>. It's only four chapters long!



In February we studied the petitions of the Lord's Prayer and tried some different ways to pray. In March we will look at Baptism and Holy Communion.



### Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

(Sponsored by Empty Nesters)  
Tuesday March 8, 2011 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Come and enjoy good food and fellowship.

There will also be door prizes!

All donations will benefit Church Wide World Hunger.  
Please support this worthy cause.



3/2	Barbara Miller (Mrs. Dave)
3/3	Daniel Hostetler
3/4	Logan Mann
3/6	Robin Eggeman
3/6	Mark Miller
3/7	Gary Zimmerman
3/8	Bradley Marty

3/9	Kim Hostetler
3/12	Chase Davenport
3/13	Jayden Weaver
3/23	Mary Lou Diehl
3/29	Barbara Stahl
3/30	Margaret Hostetler



## Prayer Requests

*Your prayers are requested for:*

**Don Fry** (recovery), **Barbara (Mrs. Robert) Miller** (health), **John Sullens** (heart), **Merrilee Sayre** (health), **Nancy Saunders** (ALS: Lou Gehrig's Disease), **Nathan Rehm** (partial hearing loss), **Shirley Fetter** (health), **Gary Zimmerman** (health), and **Vera Skender** (cancer).



**March 6 Gary & Deb Zimmerman**

In observance of the solemnity of the Lenten season and to set it apart from the festive seasons that precede and follow it, there will be no altar flowers. Come Easter Sunday, beautiful flowers will once again adorn our altar area as we rejoice in the risen Christ!

Sylvia Wheeler



Jerry Meitzler



To my friends & family of St. Paul's, Words cannot express how happy I am to receive all your prayers and cards. It's a long siege but it's coming to the point where I can be at home again - hopefully by the beginning of March. I moved to the rehab floor so you know I'm improving. Thank you so much for the check. It is much appreciated. To my Empty Nesters - I will need your assistance to help clear out my house. To my Bible study group - I miss you very much and often think of the things we've talked about. Ruth Ann, I hope to be able to return soon. Pastor Kelly - It's always a pleasure to see your loving face and you always leave me with a sense of love and connection to my faith family. Thank you for your visits and cards once again. - Nancy Saunders

Thank you for your donation to the Pregnancy Care Center in the amount of \$80.00. Things just keep rolling on here, despite the winter weather! We are currently conducting a training to equip eight women with pregnancy testing, adoption peer counseling, and abortion education services. There are current Earn While You Learn Counselors who have decided to expand into the areas of ministry mentioned above. All are eager to learn and serve! Thank you, again! Sincerely, Karen Noe, Executive Director

Thank you for mailing my bulletin and newsletter. I am able to read them at home with my magnifier. I am enjoying my winter with Dottie and family but will be glad for Spring. - Phyllis Reinheimer

## Serving Christ on Saturday Evenings in March

	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
<u>Worship Leader:</u>	Pastor Pam	Brian Miller	Brian Miller	Brian Miller
<u>Reader:</u>	NEEDED	NEEDED	Hans Kwee	NEEDED
<u>Greeter/Usher:</u>	B. & L. Lance	Rachel Miller	B. & L. Lance	NEEDED
<u>Nursery:</u>	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED
<u>Refreshments:</u>	NEEDED	NEEDED	B. & R. Miller	NEEDED
<u>Communion Asst. (1st Sat only):</u>	NEEDED			
<u>Communion Set Up &amp; Clean Up (1st Sat only):</u>	NEEDED			



### **Edna Anfang**

132 Chateau Circle  
Orrville, OH 44667  
330-683-5780

### **Ruth Blough**

3550 Eby Rd.  
Smithville, OH 44677  
330-669-3980

### **Nancy Saunders**

Regency Hospital  
155 5th St. NE Room 517 Bed 1  
Barberton, OH 44203

Or

9310 Wadsworth Rd.  
Marshallville, OH 44645  
330-855-1421

### **Clara Snyder**

333 Sassafras St. Apt. 511  
Orrville, OH 44667  
330-635-7620

### **Robert (Travis) Schmidt**

# 521-324  
MANCI Camp - PO Box 788  
Mansfield, OH 44901

Smithville Western Care Center

4110 E. Smithville-Western Rd.  
Wooster, OH 44691  
330-345-9050

### **Louise Boulware-Room 111**

**Shirley Fetter** - Room 515  
330-345-2989

### **Gary Zimmerman**— Room 5

Glendora Care Center  
1552 N. Honeytown Rd.  
Wooster, OH 44691  
330-264-0912

## Serving Christ on Sunday Mornings in March

	March 6	March 13	March 20	March 27
<u>Lay Reader:</u>	Lyn Miller	Lynn Moomaw	Ruth Ann Linder	Jacki Leatherman
<u>Acolytes:</u>	Skylar Brookover	Sarah Boreman	Ethan Mann	Andy Blough
<u>Nursery:</u>	Mary Lou Diehl	Ruth Peterman	Lesley Miller	Madeline Boreman
<u>Greeters/Ushers:</u>	Brian Miller Mary Lou Diehl	J. & K. Meitzler	S. & N. Carr	R. & B. Raff
<u>Communion Assistant:</u>	Adrienne Karlen			
<u>Altar Care:</u>	Duane Eggeman			
<u>Bread Baker:</u>	Nancy Carr			

St. Paul Council Meeting: February 14, 2011

All members in attendance except: Sylvia W., Dan H. Devotions were led by Marcia L.

Motion to accept the minutes from council mtg., 1/10 & congregational mtg., 1/16. M/S/P Marcia/Bob.

Motion to accept the treasurer's report. M/S/P Holly/Bob

Pastor Pam reported that there will be 5 pastors participating in the Lenten "round-robin" this year. The theme will be "The sign of Jonah." Our meal will be at 5:30PM with worship at 6:30PM.

Dr. Freed will be ordained 60 years on May 23<sup>rd</sup>.

The Green Township ministers have decided not to pursue the Lenten prayer breakfasts this year.

Correspondence: A letter was received from Virginia Koucky giving permission to transfer the freezer fund to the A-V fund. Motion to transfer this fund. M/S/P Bob/Larry

Old Business: Our new mission statement is: God calls us . . .

To be led by the power of the Holy Spirit

To be a community of believers in Jesus Christ

To live and share God's Word for all people

Our Guiding Principles

Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior

Through faithful prayer we are open to the Holy Spirit

We seek a deeper relationship with God through studying God's Word

We welcome all

We have a responsibility to share His blessings

We joyfully worship the Lord.

Alstage Sound & Lighting will be asked to present to council updates, goals, etc. for our sound system.

Call committee: They were asked to update council on their progress. Tom B. will report monthly.

New Business: Council members are to complete 2011 congregational goal forms before the next meeting.

Empty Nesters are planning the Shrove Tues. pancake dinner, 3/8. The dinner will be held 5:30 to 7PM.

There are 4 Confirmands.

An idea was raised concerning the church gardens with some plots taken care of by the congregation & used for mission work to be given to those in need.

Motion to adjourn. M/S/P Holly/Larry. Next meeting: March 14<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30PM. Devotions: Bob L.

Respectfully submitted in Christ's name, Kathy Meitzler

Treasurer's Report: January 1 – 31, 2011

Total giving for the month of January was \$14, 802.65. To meet our 2011 budget we need \$15,688.00 per month. We received only \$13,173.00 which was a shortage of \$2,515.00. Total bills paid equaled \$13,512.85.

### Year-to-date Income vs. Budget

	Amount Received	Amount Budgeted	Actual Expenses
Current Acct. 4110	\$ 12,750.65	\$ 14,417.09	
Total Received including "designated gifts"	\$ 14,802.65		\$13,512.85

In His Name, Nancy Carr, Treasurer

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu


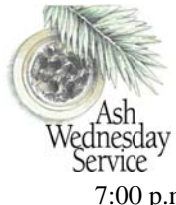



Fri

Sat

# MARCH



This calendar and the "Serving Christ" list on the other side is designed so that it can be detached from the newsletter and placed in a convenient place for your usefulness.

		<b>1</b>  6:30-8p Adult Bible Study @ Church	<b>2</b> 9:00 a Project Day 5:30-6:30p Meal  5:15-7:00p Musical Rehearsal 6:10p WELCA Board Mtg. 6:30-6:55p Jr. & Cherub Choirs 7:00-8:00p Senior Choir 8:00-9:00p Celebration Ringers	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>  5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
<b>6</b> 9:30a Worship/ Jr. Choir Musical 10:45a SS / Confirmation 7-8:30p Youth Group	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>  SHROVE TUESDAY Pancake Supper 5:30-7:00p	<b>9</b>  Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 p.m.	<b>10</b>  12p Worship and Music Committee	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6p Empty Nesters  5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
<b>13</b>  9:30a Worship 10:30a H.S. Choir 10:45a SS/ Confirmation	<b>14</b>  1p-3p Vesper Circle 6:30p Council Mtg.	<b>15</b>  6:30-8p Adult Bible Study @ Church	<b>16</b> 9:00a Box Packing 5:30-6:30p Meal 6:30-7p Lenten Service  5:45-6:10p Choir Chime Choir 6:30-6:55p Junior Choir 6:30-7:00p Cherub Choir 7:00-8:00p Senior Choir 8:00-9:00p Celebration Ringers	<b>17</b>  St. Patrick's Day	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>  5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
<b>20</b>  9:30a Worship 10:45a SS / Confirmation	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>  7p Free Spirits	<b>23</b> 5:30-6:30p Meal 6:30-7p Lenten Service  5:45-6:10p Choir Chime Choir 6:30-6:55p Junior Choir 6:30-7:00p Cherub Choir 7:00-8:00p Senior Choir 8:00-9:00p Celebration Ringers	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>  5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
<b>27</b> 9:30a Worship 10:30a H.S. Choir 10:45a Sunday School / Confirmation	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>  6:30-8p Adult Bible Study @ Church	<b>30</b> 5:30-6:30p Meal 6:30-7p Lenten Service  5:45-6:10p Choir Chime Choir 6:30-6:55p Junior Choir 6:30-7:00p Cherub Choir 7:00-8:00p Senior Choir 8:00-9:00p Celebration Ringers	<b>31</b>		