News & Notes The 🖌 said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for who was CRUCIFICD. He is not here; He has just as He said. Matthew 28:5-6 St. Paul Lutheran Church 5201 Galitz Street Skokie, IL 60077-2737 (847)673-5030 www.stpaulskokie.org office@stpaulskokie.org The Rev. Matt Conrad, Pastor VOL. 47, NO. 4 **APRIL 2014**

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Pastors .

¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holv Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age." Matthew 28:18-20

Who Are We?

Grace, mercy and peace be to you from our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. In a few weeks we'll celebrate again our Lord's Resurrection in our Sunday services. Our Easter Sunday services are incredible! It's an absolute joy to see the pews so full with old friends and new visitors. The music is always breathtaking (our choir ROCKS!) If any of you have ever thought about inviting a friend or neighbor to church with you, Easter is the time to do it! Start talking to them now!

However it's not guite Easter yet, and so we've spent these weekends in Lent preparing for this great event. And our preparation this year has been a little different. Recently we've spent our time together looking at St Paul's Mission, Vision, and Values. It has been a time for us to truly know Whose (and who) we are as we seek to engage our community. This will make our Easter celebration together even more meaningful as we realize again what it means to be a part of St Paul Lutheran Church. I am sure that most of you are familiar with lasers. We use lasers in all sorts of ways. There's a laser in your DVD or Blu-Ray player. Lasers assist in eye surgery and hip replacements. Lasers are used to cut metal to extremely precise specifications. Now I won't get into the science of it all, but basically a laser "works" by ensuring that the light emitted is all the same color and moving in the same direction. Everything is straight and focused. It's that focused light that allows lasers to be such powerful tools.

Going over St Paul's mission, vision, and values allows us to bring focus to our ministry together. Our mission, vision, and values allow us to say "yes" or "no" in what we are doing. Rather than have our ministry and opportunities be cluttered or scattered, we are able to walk together as a congregation with a laser-like focus to be the most effective in our communities. As I've said many times, I haven't shared anything new these past few Sundays. When we look at who we are as a congregation, as we consider what we should be doing as a congregation, all of this has been flowing from God's Word. In fact, when we consider what the mission of St Paul Lutheran Church is to be – it's already been given to all Christian churches! Jesus said in the Great Commission: "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you." And His promise to us is that we are not alone in doing this - Jesus will be with us always.

The challenge has been to articulate this Great Commission for St Paul in a way that is appropriate for our community. All churches might have the same God-given mission, but we don't all look alike. What does it mean for the body of St Paul Lutheran Church to go out into the world and do this work already before us? What makes St Paul unique in sharing in the Great Commission. When you put it down on paper, it looks like our mission, our vision, and our values.

Now, I realize that not everyone reading this newsletter has been a part of our Sunday worship. So we're including again what we've been sharing on Sundays. The challenge for all of us is to see how we can "fit" in this picture of St Paul. If you have been away from St Paul for some reason or another, maybe it's time to come and check back in. See what's happening. Or maybe you have been worshipping with us but never have been connected to St Paul's ministries. Now's the perfect time to get connected! The work that we do here at St Paul isn't to be done alone – we've all been brought to this place to be a part of God's Great Commission. Let's walk together with focus and engage the community – let's be transformed by our Savior and transform the world around us. In Jesus name – Amen!

St Paul's Mission - (What are we supposed to be doing?)

Knowing our Savior, Jesus Christ; **Connecting** with one another in relationships; **Serving** God and our neighbors in love.

St Paul's Vision - (What kind of church do we want to be?) To be a growing and diverse body of believers who are

transformed by Jesus Christ and who are transforming the world around them.

St Paul's Core Values - (Why do we do what we do?)

Word – God's Word is the only reliable truth and is intended to be understood and applied to our daily life.

Worship – God comes to us in worship with His love and forgiveness given to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior.

- Service We are to be God's hands and feet in a broken world.
- Prayer We come to God daily and seek His will for our life.

Rev Matt Conrad



CHURCH NEWS

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS are now available. Please ask the usher for one.

FOOD 4 LESS: Thanks to those who shop at Food 4 Less to benefit St. Paul. This week we received a check for \$118.61 just for shopping and showing your card. Thanks for your support! If you don't have a card and want one for yourself or a friend, stop in the office or call Vicky and she'll help you get one. Fundraising with no work involved!





Midweek Lenten worship: Wednesdays through April 9th, 7 pm

Maundy Thursday worship - Communion: April 17th, 7 pm

Good Friday worship: April 18th, 7 pm

Easter Sunday - Communion: April 20th, 8 & 10:30 am

Church Spring Cleaning

We always like to have the church spic and span for Holy Week and Easter. The date for cleaning has been set for Saturday, April 12th, beginning at 8:30 am. We need your help. Come to church with a bucket and rags. See you there!



EASTER EGG HUNT



The Annual Community Easter Egg Hunt will take place here at St Paul on Saturday, April 19. This outreach event has grown each year and we expect over 125 kids and their families. Invite your friends, family and neighbors with children to attend. The day brings fun for all with an emphasis on the Good News of Jesus. We need LOTS of helpers. Want to help stuff the eggs? This

Sunday, April 6, after 10:30 church, you can pick up a bag or 2 of 25 eggs and fillers to take home and fill during the week. These need to be returned on Sunday, April 13. (If you attend 8am church and want eggs to stuff, please contact Kim ahead of time and this can be arranged). On the day of the hunt, we need help with registration, refreshments, activities, and clean up. We begin getting ready at 10am and are usually cleaned up by 1pm. Please see the signup sheet at the back of church. Become involved in this outreach event to the community, even if you can only help for an hour! We appreciate everyone's help! If you have any questions, please contact Kim Malcman at (847)909-6795 or mrsmalcman@hotmail.com

EASTER BREAKFAST



Our Easter breakfast will again take place between worship services on Easter Sunday in the church basement. The breakfast will begin at 8:30 am until 10 am. Reserve a table to ensure your family and friends can be seated together by calling

the office. If you are available to help or would like to donate toward the breakfast, please call the office.

OFFICIAL ACTS

ATTENDANCE

	<u>8:00 am</u>	<u>10:30 am</u>	
March 2	19	79	FIRE O
March 9	22	70	
March 16	28	71	C BBB 3
March 23	30	90	
March 30	35	63	23 C

Special Services:

Ash Wednesday (March 5): 59

Midweek Lenten services: March 12: 37 March 19: 27 March 26: 26



THE FOLLOWING MEMORIALS WERE RECEIVED IN THE CHURCH OFFICE:

In memory of Esther Krueger Helen Weber

In honor of Bud Grosse's birthday Kim Patchett



April Birthdays

- 4/01 Andrea Roiniotis
- 4/02 Quinn Johnson
- 4/04 Myrtle Myszka
- 4/06 Joan Eichelberg
- 4/06 Kathryn Hebble
- 4/06 Evelyn Krueger
- 4/06 Bill Mueller
- 4/07 Betty Hoosline
- 4/07 Aimee Sweet
- 4/07 Monika Sweet
- 4/08 Kelly Schmidt
- 4/09 William Peterson
- 4/10 Sybille Schroeder
- 4/14 Kristina Sakas
- 4/16 Jason Buehner
- 4/16 Linda Jaremus
- 4/16 Anne Roiniotis
- 4/18 Kristin Johnson
- 4/20 Colin Meinke
- 4/21 Larry Moore
- 4/22 Steven Beutelspacher
- 4/23 Timothy Smith
- 4/24 Hildegard Froemming
- 4/24 Isabella Gadlin
- 4/24 Jessica Guiang
- 4/27 Lydia Raabe
- 4/29 Peter Seibert
- 4/30 Dana Jaremus





April Anniversaries

- 4/05 Larry & Debbie Muench
- 4/09 David & Sonia Angulo
- 4/20 John & Jan Puoci
- 4/21 Paul & Patricia Petersen
- 4/22 Steven & Sukanya Beutelspacher
- 4/26 Carl & Marlene Rockel
- 4/28 Ronald & Marion Carswell
- 4/30 Lasse & Kaia Koerm



ST. PAUL GIVING & DEBT

Fiscal Year – June 1, 2013 to May 31, 2014 Month Ending – February 28, 20134

<u>Member Contributions + Loose Offerings</u>

Needed total per 2013/2014 budg	jet \$ 253,070
Needed giving each month	21,089
Giving received this month	15,502
Giving needed so far this year	189,802
Actual giving so far this year	161,879
Variance to need - surplus/(defici	t) (27,923)
	Deficit up \$5,587 from January

Remaining Debts & Pay Down Prog	Pay Down <u>This Month</u> **			
Mortgage (parsonage) @ 5.75%	\$	73,625	\$(10	4)
Line of bank credit (LOC) @ 5%		36,826	\$ ()
Bonds 50K @ 6%, 15K @ 6-1/2%		65,000		
Loan from Foundation Fund @ 0% *		25,000		
Loan from Schaefer Bequest @ 0% *		25,000		
Totals	\$	225,451	\$(10	04)

- * Pay back promised when borrowed
- ** Members: To help pay down our debts, please use the Building Fund envelopes in your packet, or use plain envelopes. When using either envelope type, please mark it <u>Debt Reduction</u>.

Eas	ster
SEF IP2 VV QCF HTAEDMORFES NOITCERRUSEF GLORIFIEDSEF YROTCIVFCBG NADYOENELADO SON HXI TIN OCF LSO CDM LRS AAV IUC RG UXC BE LEN	PCZ IREMPTYTOMBA RDISCIPLESOS PULCHRETSAEL JETHIRDDAYBC GAMYRAMEAWCA NRS ITU NHN RQD DUA MAY SKW VEN GTA JNS
Angel Burial Cloths Disciples Earthquake Easter Empty Tomb Glorified Guards Mary Magdalene Morning	Resurrection Rise from Death Sepulchre Spices Stone Sunday Third Day Victory