



# The Epistle

## February 2009

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## The Pastor's Pen

From an e-mail sent to me by one of our members:

A professor stood before his philosophy class and had some items in front of him. When the class began, he wordlessly picked up a very large and empty mayonnaise jar and proceeded to fill it with golf balls. He then asked the students if the jar was full. They agreed that it was.

The professor then picked up a box of pebbles and poured them into the jar. He shook the jar lightly. The pebbles rolled into the open areas between the golf balls. He then asked the students again if the jar was full. They agreed it was.

The professor next picked up a box of sand and poured it into the jar. Of course, the sand filled up everything else. He asked once more if the jar was full. The students responded with a unanimous "yes".

"Now", said the professor, "I want you to recognize that this jar represents your life. The golf balls are the important things – your family, your children, your health, your friends, your faith, and your favorite passions – and if everything else was lost and only they remained, your life would still be full. The pebbles are the other things that matter like your job, your house

and your car. The sand is everything else – the small stuff. If you put the sand into the jar first, he continued, there is no room for the pebbles or the golf balls."

The same goes for life. If you spend all you time and energy on the small stuff you will never have room for the things that are important to you.

The moral of the story? Take care of the golf balls first - - the things that really matter. Set your priorities. The rest is just sand.

In Christ,

Pastor Stellhorn



# Birthdays in February



Diana Spamer 2/2  
 Richard Messinger 2/3  
 John Burgoon 2/4  
 Carina Snyder 2/6  
 Steve Snyder 2/6  
 Corey Bush 2/7  
 Nancy Boyd 2/8

Garrett Faber 2/10  
 Racheal Hanson 2/13  
 Samantha Windisch 2/13  
 Ruth Seitler 2/14  
 John Bentzel 2/16  
 Nathan Holt 2/20  
 Ellen Kerstetter 2/20  
 Mike Cibula 2/21  
 Jeff Keller 2/22  
 Veronica Stellhorn 2/22  
 Jennifer Yingling 2/22  
 Marshall Dillman 2/23

Andrew Thompson 2/23  
 Martha Ritter 2/24  
 Kimberly Bush 2/25  
 Allen Friedel 2/26  
 Craig Staley 2/26  
 Tracey DeGroft 2/27  
 Clyde Miller 2/27  
 Elizabeth Plunkert 2/28  
 Nicole LaMotte 2/29



# Anniversaries in February

*Daryl & Suzanne Thompson*

February 11



*Harry & Bonnie Strine*

February 19

# Worship Assistants for February

|                   |  |
|-------------------|--|
| Counters          | Bob & Karen Palmer, Theresa Windisch*, Larry Zepp* |
| Communion Helpers | Theresa Windisch* & Larry Zepp*                    |
| Altar Guild       | TBA  |

|                        | February 1                                  | February 8                                 | February 15                                      | February 22   | Feb. 25 (Ash Wed.)                        |
|------------------------|---|--|--|---|---|
| <b>Lectors</b>         | Charlie Mauck                               | Betsy Bein                                 | Erin Schumaker                                   | Rich Burnette   | Ayleen Stellhorn                          |
| <b>Greeters</b>        | Ruth & Pete Pautenis                        | The Caples Family                          | Louise McGonigal & Betty & Bob Wiseman           | Karen & Bob Palmer  | —   |
| <b>Ushers – 8:00</b>   | Fern & Millie Bachman                       | Ken & Linda Smith                          | Barb Zumbrum<br>Ruth Ann Peart                   | Barry & Loretta Cluck   | —   |
| <b>Ushers – 10:15</b>  | Ed & Theresa Windisch & Bob & Regina Snyder | Bob & Karen Palmer, Mel Leidy & Barb Sentz | Barb & Emily Schwartz, Larry Zepp & Alan DeGroft | Mark Sweigart<br>Tracy Schwartz<br>Wayne Carter<br>Jon Carter | 7:00 PM<br>Pete Pautenis<br>Ruth Pautenis |
| <b>Acolytes</b>        | Charley Bein                                | Jessica Burnette                           | Jessica Caples                                   | TBA   | Rachel Stellhorn                          |
| <b>Nursery Helpers</b> | Barb & Emily Schwartz                       | Robin & Amanda Caples                      | Ayleen & Rachel Stellhorn                        | Judi & Sarah Schumaker  | Barb & Emily Schwartz                     |

# Thank You Notes

New Year greetings and thank you from Dottie Van Almen. The flowers and plant helped to cheer my room. Your cards, visits and gifts truly make my new lifestyle easier to handle. Please keep me in your prayers. I need them. Again, Thanks.

Dottie Van Almen



Clay Frogs,

Thank you so much for the tin of cookies you sent! They were such a surprise at the perfect time. I got them on the first day of finals and cookies were just what I needed. My roommates also appreciated the sweets :)

Thanks again, Kristie



St. Paul's Youth Group,

I know this is late, but I wanted to thank you for sending me Christmas cookies again this year. They were a welcomed treat in my apartment & helped my roommates and I de-stress. I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, and I pray for a blessed 2009. Thanks again!

In Christ, Kate Sweigart

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your generous gift to the Lutheran Camping Corporation's Imagine...Campaign.

Growing the Ministry at Nawakwa through site and facility expansion is truly exciting.

For 80 years Nawakwa has provided opportunities for spiritual renewal and faith formation, close encounters with God's creation, and Christian fellowship. Expanding the camp and its offerings will ensure that future generations of God's children may have this same opportunity. Thank you & God's peace.

Michael Youse, Executive Director



## Perfect Attendance for December

### Preschool

Parker Schue  
Janiah Knouse  
Gabriel Schue  
Nate Holt  
Mary Hall  
Sabrina Schue

### Grades 1, 2, & 3

Lester Schue  
Janet Cutsail

### Grades 4, 5, & 6

Gregory Cutsail  
Jan Sweigart

### Confirmation Class

Charley Bein  
Eddie Windisch  
Pastor Stellhorn

### High School

Amanda Caples  
Jessica Caples  
April Howard

### Coffee 'n Donut

John Gantz  
Pat Gantz  
Jenn Holt  
Rick Masemer  
Wib Sentz

### Living Hope

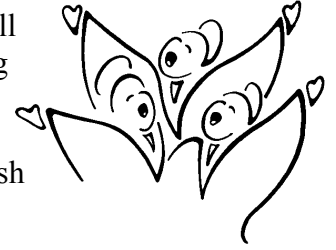
Gary Strevig  
Sur Strevig



# Musical Notes



During the month of **February**, on the 8th, **St. Paul's Ringers** will be preparing us for worship at the 10:15 service. We will be having **contemporary worship** on the 15th, at the 10:15 service. We will be concluding the season of Epiphany when we celebrate the Transfiguration of Our Lord on the 22nd. The season of **Lent** begins on the 25th with our Ash Wednesday service at 7 PM.



## Lenten Schedule of Events

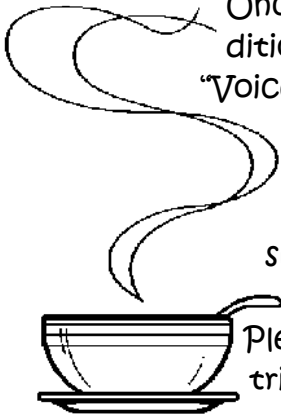
Plan now to attend our Ash Wednesday Service which will be observed on Wednesday, February 25th at 7:00PM.



Once again we will celebrate our Lenten Season with our traditional Vesper Services and dramatic presentations entitled "Voices of Repentance" held at 6:30PM on the following dates:

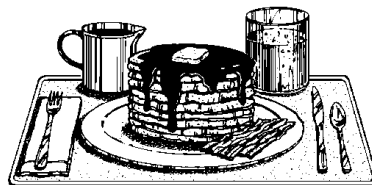
**March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1** – Prior to each vesper service we will once again share a soup/supper event beginning at 5:45 PM to share and commit ourselves as a congregational family. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board outside the office for those willing to make soup, breads, bring beverages, or volunteer to clean-up after each soup supper.

Please plan to attend and share with us as we journey through Jesus' trials and tribulations and look forward to his glorious Resurrection on Easter Sunday.



The Littlestown Ministerium is once again conducting prayer breakfasts on Wednesdays in Lent. Prayer breakfasts cost \$5.00 per person and will take place from 8-9 AM at the following churches:

- February 25 (Ash Wednesday)** – Redeemer's United Church of Christ (107 East King Street)
- March 4** – Bart's Centenary United Methodist Church (50 East King Street)
- March 11** – St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church (665 St. John's Road)
- March 18** – St. Luke's and Grace Lutheran Churches (330 White Hall Road)
- March 25** – St. Paul's Lutheran Church
- April 1** – St. Aloysius Catholic Church (29 South Queen Street)
- April 8** – Christ UCC (131 Christ Church Road)

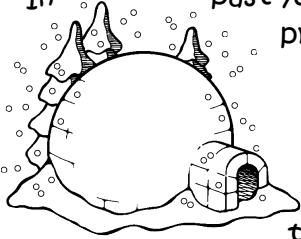


# News You Need

## Sunday School News

On February 8 during Sunday School, Wayne Carter will give a presentation on Islam—its history and the role it still plays in global affairs. Presentation takes place in the Kammerer Room. All adult classes, Senior High and Confirmation class are invited.

We will not have children's Sunday school on March 1 due to our annual St. Paul's Family Retreat. In past years, there has not been a worth while turn out in the children's Sunday school program to warrant having class. The adult Sunday school classes will be in session.



## Inclement Weather Policy

"In the interest of the safety and well being of all concerned, the facilities of St. Paul's will be closed and any scheduled activities cancelled if a snow emergency or other weather related emergency is declared by state or local officials" (St. Paul's Policy and Procedure Manual, p.49). For cancellation announcements, tune in to WGET (1320), WGTY (107.7), WHVR (1280), or WY (98).

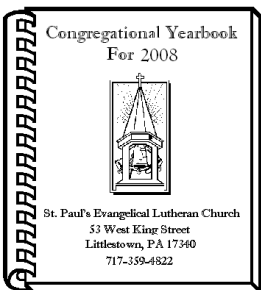
## Synod Assembly Representatives Needed!

Pastor Stellhorn is seeking one adult male and one adult female, to represent St. Paul's at this year's Synod Assembly, June 11-13 at Messiah College. . Anyone interested, please contact Pastor Stellhorn before February 17.

**Bible Study** begins again Tuesday, Feb. 24, 7PM in the Kammerer Room

## New Council Officers

President — Jeff Plattenburg  
Vice-President — Mark Sweigart  
Secretary — Don Schumaker  
Treasurer — Sherry Rippman

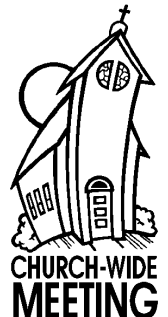


## Yearbook Assembly

Yearbook assembly will take place at 11:00 AM Thursday, February 12th for anyone who wishes to help. Lunch will be provided. Please get all last-minute address/information updates to the secretary immediately so this yearbook is as current as possible!

## Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will take place on Sunday, February 15th following the 10:15 AM service. Please plan to attend this important meeting.



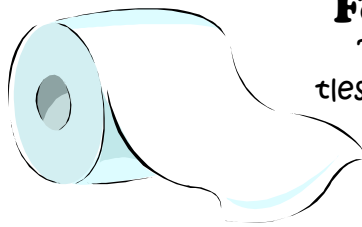
# News You Need Continued



## 2009 Camp Nawakwa Family Retreat

As a congregational Family we will close out the month of February 27th and 28th and begin a new month March 1st by camping at Grove Lodge. We have and are still contributing to the camping program of the Evangelical Lutheran Church by our monetary donations to Camp Nawakwa., therefore, we should feel privileged to engage in activities in this beautiful setting. All are welcome to attend this weekend and share devotions, group sessions, Crafts, games, hiking, free time and food, food and more food. No dieting is permitted during this weekend so get ready to participate in the food and fun. A SIGN-UP SHEET will be posted on the bulletin board outside the office—so get there soon to become a part of this great weekend. Food sign-up sheets will be available in the Kammerer Room on February 8th as we all contribute to the menu and the snacks for the gathering. Contact Sue Mauck 359-7748, Janet Cutsail 359-7521 or Sue Strevig 359-4289 for additional information.

*Sign Up*

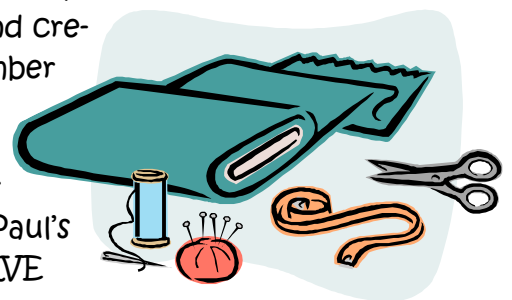


## Food Pantry Item of the Month

There is a shopping cart in the Kammerer Room for donations to the Littlestown Food Pantry. The item of the month for February is toilet paper and is due February 22.

## Banner Committee

The Banner Committee is a group of dedicated women that meet on the 2nd and 4th Thursday of each month from 6:30-8:30PM to design and create banners for our church. Anyone interested in becoming a member of the group is invited to attend a meeting or call Sue Strevig at 359-4289 for more information. Additional projects this year will include creating a quilt for the Strawberry Festival and a cover for the sound system. Everyone can be a contributing member at St. Paul's since we all have different talents. LOOK for a PLACE to SERVE



## Sponsorships



Altar Flower and Bulletin sponsorship charts for 2009 are now available for sign up in the Narthex or you may call the church office.