



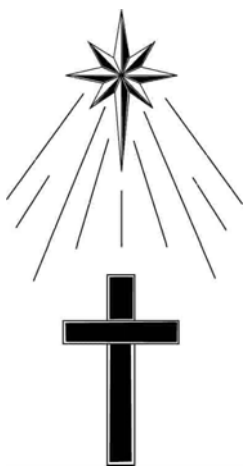
Bethany Lutheran Outlook
March 2007

Serving God, Community, and Individuals



“Lord,
teach us to
pray...”

Luke 11:1



PASTOR'S REFLECTIONS

On February 12th and 13th I attended a conference in Chicago titled, “No Easy Answers: Active Engagement with Challenging Texts.” One of the speakers was ELCA Bishop Mark Hanson. One of the things he said was that most ELCA Lutherans, if asked why someone should attend their church will say, “Because we are really friendly... and we really like our pastor.” Bishop Hanson said that he’s glad that most of our churches perceive themselves as friendly and that most like their pastor; but wouldn’t it be better if people could say, “Because we are actively involved in interpreting scripture.”

Part of what he was alluding to is a new five year emphasis on scripture within the ELCA which I assume we will be hearing more about in the coming months. I believe that this emphasis evolved out of the realization that most of the disagreements within the ELCA and also between the ELCA and other groups of Christians comes down to how we understand the Bible.

The problem, of course, is that there are no easy answers (as the conference I attended said) and a new five year emphasis is not likely to change that. What can change though is the number of people involved in interpreting scripture but often that means *struggling* with scripture. The Bible is not a “how to” book or an answer book on life and morality. There are lessons on life and morality in there but mostly, in stories and images, we hear about God’s involvement with the world. Based on those stories and images we try and understand what it all means for us. Sometimes it’s clear, often not so clear and sometimes, as Mark Twain once said, “It’s not the parts of the Bible I don’t understand that trouble me, it’s the parts I do understand.”



Lent is a time during the church year that invites us to be more intentional about our faith practices. You may already have your own disciplines of prayer and Bible reading, but allow me to suggest a way that you might combine prayer and Bible reading during this Lenten season. Chapters 14, 15 and 16 of John's gospel are known as the Farewell Discourse; in these chapters Jesus is preparing the disciples for the fact that he won't physically be with them much longer. Start at the beginning of chapter 14 and slowly read a phrase, a sentence, a verse. Then just kind of sit quietly for a few minutes with a word, a phrase, an image and let it take you where it will. You might go back and read it again, even say it out loud. (If you've never done anything like this before, it will feel strange.) This is a way to engage scripture and to pray, because what you are doing is quieting yourself and sitting with Jesus. For most of us, prayer tends to be telling God what we want. This is a way of listening for what God might be saying to us.

The next day you do it again. Maybe you go back to the same verse, maybe you go on. But the goal isn't to "finish." The goal isn't to "figure it out." The goal is to pray. When your mind wanders (and it will) just come back to your word or phrase. It takes patience, but you might find that with patience, just a few minutes a day might open scripture to you in a new way and bring a new focus to your observance of Lent this year.

Pastor Geier



**“My heart was aglow when the time came to return to the Bible . . . I read the Bible diligently. Sometimes one statement occupied all my thoughts for a whole day.”
-- Martin Luther**



Music and Worship



The next altar paraments to arrive will be our white set. White is used for a variety of celebrations throughout the church year. These are very special Sundays which include Easter and Christmas.

Following our Lenten fast we look forward to Easter Sunday and the joy of the Resurrection. The colors for Easter are white and gold. Our white paraments have been designed around the mystery of our faith: "Christ has died, Christ is Risen, Christ will come again!" by proclaiming his Majesty through a cross, a crown, and a lamb. Our new white paraments will serve a dual role and will include symbolic elements depicting the birth of Christ when used for Christmas.



Members of the congregation wishing to make a donation toward the purchase of our paraments will find an envelope in this issue of the "Outlook." If your contribution is in honor or memory of a loved one, please indicate your wishes and simply drop it in the offering plate on Sunday or mail it to the church office.

Bob Bucan



Our Lenten paraments revolve around the theme of "Lamb of God." The central parament, called an antependium, depicts the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Enclosed in the Outlook is a postcard which gives the schedule for services during Holy Week. Please feel free to send it to someone as an invitation to our services, or you could use it as a reminder for yourself. It also makes an excellent bookmark.

Enjoy the Poetry of Hymns

Christ in Your Life: St. Patrick's Breastplate



**Christ ever with me, Christ before me, Christ behind me
Christ within me, Christ beneath me, Christ above me
Christ to my right side, Christ to my left side
Christ in his breadth, Christ in his length, Christ in depth
Christ in the heart of every man who thinks of me
Christ in the mouth of every man who speaks to me
Christ in every eye that sees me
Christ in every ear that hears me**

attributed to St. Patrick

Those who have journeyed on the path of Christ before us are pioneers. They have blazed the way for us to follow. Each pioneer has left his or her own individual markers to assist us.

Patrick was such a pioneer. Born in Britain, captured as a youth, enslaved for years in Ireland as a shepherd, Patrick had little formal education, but a depth of spiritual experience. He escaped his captivity to return to Britain. Amazingly, he volunteered to return to pagan Ireland to bring the experience of Christ to his former captors.

Patrick combined an intense sense of the ever present Christ with a ferocious willingness to challenge the pagan power structure. These personal aspects came together in his profound prayer life seeking Christ's protection and guidance.

The above section is from a hymn called Patrick's *Lorica* or spiritual breastplate. It is also known as "Deer's Cry". In the hymn, Patrick extols God's strength, wisdom and protection against evil and cruel powers. Although probably written long after Patrick himself, the hymn so perfectly captures his personality and it has been attributed to him. He clearly was its inspiration.



Friends in Christ, Inc.

The Breathing of the Soul

Prayer is one of the most powerful things we can do in life. The Lord's Prayer was so special in the early church that only the confirmed members could pray it. They figured that spectators and inquirers weren't ready for the power and mystery of the prayer. It was called the "believer's prayer." Even today in the liturgy of the Greek and Russian Orthodox Church, the praying of the Lord's Prayer is a moment of awe and mystery as a priest says at the introduction: "And make us worthy, O Lord, that we joyously and without presumption may make bold to invoke thee, the heavenly God, as Father and to say, 'Our Father, ...'"



Jesus does not want us to say the Lord's Prayer. Jesus wants us to become the Lord's prayer. REAL praying is God moving in us through the Spirit. Real praying is the Spirit of God praying in and through us, making us into the likeness of Christ. In the words of François Fénelon: "Lord, teach me to pray. Pray thyself in me." Prayer is the breathing of the soul.

—Homiletics



What Is Prayer?

Prayer is the burden of a sigh,
The falling of a tear,
The upward glancing of an eye
When none but God is near.

—James Montgomery

“Whenever I happen to be prevented by the press of duties from observing my hour of prayer, the entire day is bad for me...”
— Martin Luther



Lenten Drama Series Continues

Encounters Before the Dawn

by
Keith Madsen

Encounters Before the Dawn continues during March with the remaining plays in the series centering around two-person encounters between biblical characters between the time of the Crucifixion of Christ and his Resurrection. All of the encounters occur before the physical dawning of Easter, and all occur before the reality of Easter dawns on the characters. With the exception of the mother of Judas in the play, “Through a Mother’s Eyes,” all of the characters are biblical. The stories, too, are based on biblical events – only the details have been fictionalized.

The remaining plays are...

- **“Payment Must Be Made”** (March 7) – Peter: Paul Sandstrom; Judas: Brent Clark
- **“The Cross Has Made Us Family”** (March 14) – Mary: Barb Lucas; John: Jim Bjorne; Voice: Ed Holmgren
- **“Through a Mother’s Eyes”** (March 21) – Mary: Linda Dahl; Hannah: Kathy Geier
- **“Right there in Front of Me”** (March 28) – Pilate: Pastor Geier; Julia: Denise Clark

The Lenten dramas will be part of the Wednesday Lenten Service which follows the soup and bread dinner. Make this dinner and Lenten service part of your weekly preparation for Easter. Extend an invitation to others to join us in our Lenten preparations.



Flowers for Easter:

Lilies	8.00	Daffodils	8.00
Tulips	8.00	Azaleas	17.00
Mums	8.00	Hydrangeas	17.00
Hyacinths	8.00		

Look for the deadline and order form in the bulletin or call the church at 486-4351

Soup and bread suppers



Extend an invitation to others to join us in our Lenten soup and bread supper followed by our Lenten service.

Share Bethany's Website



So you're having a conversation with your aunt in Florida and you're explaining how it was such a bittersweet experience to watch the old altar at Bethany go. You'd seen so many moments take place around that altar – baptisms, weddings, funerals, weekly worship. But the new altar is so beautiful and the consecration of the altar was touching and made you look forward to all the new slices of Bethany life that will take place around it. The choir sang and Pastor closed with a prayer written by Bob Maki, the craftsman of the altar himself. "If only you could have been there, Auntie Ann!"

It's unfortunate that Auntie Ann couldn't be there, but she can get a taste of what the consecration was like by going to the Bethany website and playing the (mp3) audio file of the occasion.

The recording is just one of the new additions to the website since it was launched. Other new features include:

- Full color files of the Outlook Newsletter
- A picture of the Bethany Mural by Roger Junak and downloadable versions of the mural you can use as wallpaper on your computer
- A link to Grace Matters, the radio ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America
- Updates to the monthly calendar
- The latest texts and audio files of sermons, plus an archive of sermons going back to Lent last year



So be sure to visit and share www.bethanyishpeming.org. If you have suggestions or ideas on what else could be included in the website, email Larry Alexander at larry@blackrocksmedia.com.

**"To be a Christian without prayer is no more possible than to be alive without breathing."
— Martin Luther**

NEW BOOKS FOR MARCH, 2007!!!

By Keenan Tunnell



We've begun another Lent, our annual journey to the Cross and Easter. Fasting has been a traditional part of that journey, and so I've chosen a number of books related to the place of food and fasting in our lives. There are others on the kiosk, but a few are briefly presented here. Perhaps you'd like to investigate fasting as a part of your Lenten journey??!!

Towns, Elmer. **Beginner's Guide to Fasting.**

Since Old Testament times, God's people have engaged in the spiritual tradition of fasting: going without food for a predetermined length of time to accomplish an important purpose or goal. Fasting can be done for any number of reasons: to get to know God better, to wait on God for an answer to prayer, to listen to God, to worship Him. In these pages, you'll discover why you should fast, how to prepare for your first fast, what kind of fasts to follow, how to get started, and what to expect after you are finished. Learn how you can master this powerful spiritual discipline.

Towns, Elmer. **Fasting for Spiritual Breakthrough.**

This is a thought-provoking book on one of the least understood--but most powerful--disciplines of Christianity. Most believers know about fasting, but few of us really understand the wonderful benefits that come when we fast with purpose and direction. Written in Dr. Elmer Towns' dynamic, descriptive style, this book gives the "why" of fasting, rather than just the "how." Towns avoids a glut of techniques and schedules, and instead provides a probing look at Isaiah 58, often called the fasting passage. Learn how fasting can strengthen your faith and draw you closer to God.

"Oh, if I could only pray the way this dog watches the meat! All his thoughts are concentrated on the piece of meat. Otherwise he has no thought, wish, or hope (LW 54:38). " —Martin Luther

Floyd, Ronnie W. **The Power of Prayer and Fasting.**

The hand-in-hand spiritual discipline of prayer and fasting is not a gimmick or a spiritual fad, although its neglect in recent decades makes it a rediscovery for many Christians. Instead, as Dr. Ronnie W. Floyd points out, prayer and fasting is a Scripture-ordained act of obedience—a means of humbling ourselves before God, drawing closer to Him, and making room for Him to speak and act in our lives. The book offers firsthand stories, explanations of how fasting works in the life of a Christian, and practical, step-by-step guidance for those who may seek to observe a fast of varying lengths, from one to forty days.



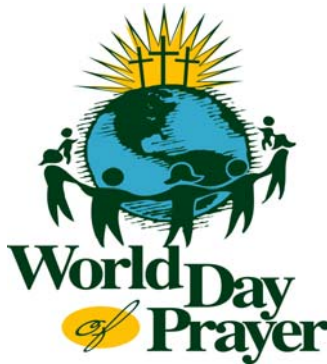
Jung, L. Shannon. **Sharing Food; Christian practices for enjoyment.**

“This is a book about learning to eat well. Does that mean it is a diet book? Well, yes and no. If by “diet book” we mean a heavily regimented series of dos and don’ts about how to lose weight, this is not a diet book. But if we mean a book about diet, or how to eat healthily and happily, this is definitely a diet book. It is tailored to fit the way God designed us to be. So it is a super diet book. As a matter of fact, following the seven Christian practices described in this book will ... (help us) learn to enjoy eating....We will come to enjoy our lives by sharing ourselves as well as food with others. So this is a book about eating with...overflowing joy.”

Webb, Stephen H. **Good Eating.**

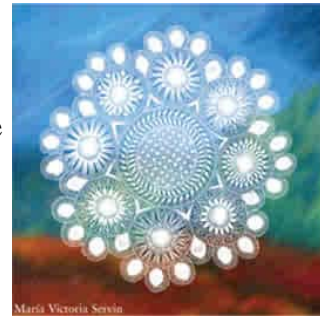
“... Stephen H. Webb advocates cultivating a biblical view of animals and practicing compassionate stewardship of them. He develops the ‘first modern systematic theology of diet,’ touching on topics such as animal sacrifices, the Lord’s Supper, pacifism, and the place for animals in heaven. Because we make eating-related choices every day, this study will be of interest to all Christians seeking to practice a conscious faith in daily life. It holds particular appeal for animal lovers, animal rights activists, vegetarians, those who struggle with dieting and weight loss, and anyone interest in ethics, Christian witness, and socially conscientious discipleship.”

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2007



World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of women of many faith traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year. This year the World Day of Prayer is written by the women of Paraguay. The 2007 theme is "United under God's Tent" which celebrates our shared belief in God's promise as a diverse people of faith. The scripture will come from Genesis 18, in which Abraham invites others to come into the tent. We are reminded in this service that our commitment to ecumenical outreach calls us to expand the size of God's tent, lifting up the unity of the spirit.

The symbol for this year is the "nanduti", a Paraguayan handcraft that reflects, in the woven floral patterns connected by a single lace thread, unity within diversity.



**World Day of Prayer Service
Bethel Lutheran Church
Friday, March 2 — 1p.m**

Locally World Day of Prayer services will be held on Friday, March 2nd at 1p.m. at Bethel Lutheran Church. We encourage everyone to attend this service and expand the size of God's tent, lifting up the unity of spirit.

Participants in the service will include women from Ishpeming and Negaunee churches. An offering will be taken to support the work of World Day of Prayer to help meet needs of families in regions of turmoil world wide. Refreshments will be served by the Bethel Women of the ELCA following the service.



March 4 – Knute Ogren – Take A Breath

Mark 6:37

It has been said before that, “If I am hungry, this is a physical problem. But if my neighbor is hungry, that is a spiritual problem.” The spiritual problem of people who live with insufficient food, or who are food insecure, has reached staggering proportions. [Knute Ogren](#) is a young church worker and musician who decided to record a couple of CDs and donate all of the proceeds to fight global hunger. Like so many others, his contribution is (on its way to) making a significant impact.

March 11 – Elizabeth Hausler – The Foundations of Home

Zephaniah 3:20

The Bible does not say much about building houses, but it has many things to say about what makes for a home. [Elizabeth Hausler](#) is well qualified to speak about building houses. She is the founder and director of Build Change, an organization devoted to building earthquake-resistant homes, but she is also well attuned to the requirements for making a home, working hand in hand with the people of Banda Aceh, Indonesia, who dream of a new life.

March 18 – Dr. William Davis – More Than a Bandage For the Poor

Galatians 2:10

Mother Teresa is credited with saying, “It is a very great poverty to decide that children must die so that we might live as we wish.” [Bill Davis](#) has taken the striking power of this statement, posted it on his office wall, and decided it is the perfect inspiration to stop letting poor kids go without health care. He left his surgical practice almost 20 years ago to serve low-income people, and has never looked back. It’s a compelling story of faith ordering one’s deepest commitments.

March 25: Murray Finck – Stretching Heart, Soul, and Mind

Matthew 22:37-40

The fitness craze that is sweeping the country offers more benefit than just simply lowering weight, feeling energetic, and reducing the risk of diseases like diabetes and coronary blockage. As far as [Murray Finck](#) is concerned, a discipline of fitness can bring great spiritual blessing as well. This Evangelical Lutheran Church in America bishop cares about stretching the mind, body and spirit in ways that give serious attention to prayer.

Grace Matters airs on Sunny 101.9 at 7:30 Sunday mornings.



Prayer Shawl Ministries Blend Prayers, Talents, Gifts and Grace

Have you ever wondered what a prayer looks like? I have a prayer that is warm, soft, and pink that wraps around me. It is a prayer shawl. While it was being made, each stitch was filled with prayers for me, and every time I savor its warmth I feel those prayers. It was a gift of God's love to me through the skill and the prayers of the person who made it.

All around the ELCA, women (and men) are knitting and crocheting these shawls filled with prayer. At Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Tucson, Arizona, the mission statement of the Prayer Shawl Guild is "We want to reach out to those in need with a prayer shawl of prayers and love to comfort, console and strengthen our family of faith. We want to be a reminder of God's promise that he is always with us."

I decided to give a young girl in her late twenties a prayer shawl when I noticed she was struggling with some changes that were taking place in her life. After I explained about prayer shawls, I presented it to her and she threw it over her shoulders and twirled around the room with the fringe winging through the air. Her expression was priceless. She loved that I had prayed for her while I made it. — Bethany member



At St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Beaverton, Oregon, the prayer shawl ministry, which started with three people, is now in its fourth year. In the first three years a total of 577 prayer shawls have been made and given. That's 577 times that the love of God and the prayers of the people of St. Matthew have been shared with others.

A pastor in Pennsylvania carries these carefully crafted blessings in his car, never knowing when a prayer shawl may be needed as a tangible sign of God's love in the life of a person suffering pain, or grief, or loneliness. He joyfully brings brightly woven shawls filled with God's prayers to new mothers to wrap around themselves and the precious child God has given them.

March Worship Assistants

March 4

Assisting Minister - Chuck Stahlmann
Acolytes - Mindy Harrington & Seth Bjorne
Altar Guild - Doris Pellonpaa
Greeters - Paul & Diana Sandstrom
Coffee Hosts - Evangelism

March 11

Assisting Minister - Ron Jensen
Acolytes - Kenny Kinnunen & Natalie Rasmussen
Altar Guild - Kaye Frederickson & Shirley Tyni
Greeters - Don & Kaye Frederickson
Coffee Hosts - Kitchen family

March 18

Assisting Minister - Wendy Penhale
Acolytes - Max Alexander & John Leverton
Altar Guild - Sue Holmgren
Greeters -
Coffee Hosts - Bells

March 25

Assisting Minister - Jim Bjorne
Acolytes - Matt Leverton & Michael Carriere
Altar Guild - Joyce Lehto & Ida Anderson
Greeters -
Coffee - Social Ministry

Thanks
for your
participation

March Ushers:

Robert Waters, capt.
James Anderson
John Carlson
Robert Nadeau
David Niemela
Tom Sodergren
Roger Solberg
Greg Stahlmann



April Ushers:


Ralph Goethe, capt.
James Chapman
Ed Johns
Jim Kinnunen
Craig Kitchen
Roy Koski
Ray Leverton
Jerry Plaisier
Knut Strom

Please sign up in time
to make the newsletter.
Thanks.



March 2007



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 6:30 Bible Study	2 1:00 World Day of Prayer @ Bethel 7:30 Hello, Dolly	3
4 9:00 Sunday School 9:15 Evangelism 9:30 Choir	5 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship	6 9:00 Quilters 6:30 Worship & Music 7:00 Property	7 10:00 Men's coffee 5:30 Soup supper 6:30 Lenten Worship	8 6:30 Bible Study	9	10 
11 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir; Finance 10:30 Worship 6:00 Bells; Confirmation (Faith)	12 6:30 Worship 7:30 Christian Ed.	13 9:00 Quilters	14 4:00 Social Ministry 5:30 Soup Supper 6:30 Lenten Worship 7:30 Choir	15 Meeting of four Parish Councils 6:00 Christian Women's Connection	16	17 7:00 Night of Music – Nick Chartre Benefit
18 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship 6:00 Bells	19 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship 7:30 Parish Planning Council	20 9:00 Quilters	21 10:00 Men's coffee 2:00 Martha Circle 5:30 Soup supper 6:30 Lenten Worship 7:30 Choir	22 6:30 Bible Study	23	24 2:00—5:00 Birthday celebration for Allen Maki
25 9:00 Sunday School 9:30 Choir 10:30 Worship 6:00 Bells; Confirmation (Trinity)	26 11:00 Bible Study 6:30 Worship	27 9:00 Quilters 7:00 Joy Circle	28 1:30 Mary Circle 5:30 Soup supper 6:30 Lenten Worship 7:30 Choir; Martha Circle		30	31 Deadline for April Newsletter is Sunday, March 25.

March Birthdays

- 1 Carol Carlson
- 2 Carol Heavyside
- 3 Heidi Sweet
- 4 Marvin Swanson
- 5 Addy Cain
- 5 Joyce Lehto



- 7 Alexandra Kitchen
- 7 Evelyn Valente
- 8 Terra Argall
- 8 Roberta Luokkala
- 9 Gwen Bruhnke
- 10 Rick Dault
- 10 Betty Leverton

- 11 Brett Sandstrom
- 12 Robert Clark
- 12 Trisha Gugin
- 14 William Carne
- 14 Marjorie Rosten
- 15 Jamie Healey

- 16 Joshua Argall
- 17 Beth Bertucci
- 18 Peggy Clark
- 19 Sue Ryan

- 21 Marvin Nadeau
- 21 Gregory Stahlmann
- 22 Nicholas Chartre
- 24 Patricia Nault
- 25 Paul Blomgren
- 25 Robert Kaukola
- 25 Roy Lemin

- 27 Gavin Argall
- 27 Allen Maki
- 28 Kimberly Marks
- 28 Doris Pellonpaa
- 28 Donna Stahlmann

- 29 Chad Anderson
- 29 Catherine Barton
- 29 Marie Chilman
- 29 Kenneth Lawson
- 30 Sharla Anderson
- 31 Benjamin Bruhnke
- 31 Lois Goethe

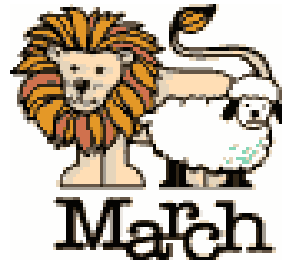
MARCH



Paul & Marcia Waters
3/12/1994 13 years

Robert & Jean Anderson
3/28/1953 54 years

Kenneth & Jean Lawson
3/29/1958 49 years



They are called “prayer shawls” because the knitting (or crocheting) of the shawl is a spiritual practice for the crafter. A prayer is said as the shawl is begun and then many prayers are added with the stitches. Each shawl is a blend of prayers, talents, gifts and grace. The shawls are knitted or crocheted in a pattern of three, symbolizing the Holy Trinity. Some knitters will say, “In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit” as they work. Crocheted shawls are usually done in a pattern of one row of single crochet followed by three rows of double crochet. The rows of single crochet separate the shawl into a pattern of bands of three. Finished shawls are two to three feet wide and six to seven feet long with the finishing fringe. A prayer should be written and included with each shawl. Shawls can be made in tweed, and colored brown, blue, or green for men, and pastels or jewel tones for women. A shawl filled with the colors of the rainbow may be given to a hospitalized child. Prayer shawls are gifts freely given with no strings attached. They are not for sale. They are gifts of love. Selling a shawl would defeat the purpose of the ministry.

When I discovered an elderly neighbor I had just lost her daughter to cancer, I felt that I wanted to reach out to her. Though I didn't know her well I was compelled to give her a prayer shawl. I think that fact that I didn't know her that well made her feel the gift that much richer somehow. As she unwrapped it from its tissue paper she immediately put it around her shoulders and savored in warmth and the caring that it symbolized. I told her it was a prayer shawl and that brought tears to her eyes, and you could just see that this gift had much meaning to her. — Bethany member

Here at Bethany there are several people who have taken part in a shawl ministry on their own. In their own words, they have told you of their experience with prayer shawls. Perhaps there are others in our congregation that would also like to participate in this quiet but meaningful way to bring God's comfort and grace to someone else in need.

Bethany's library has a perfect book for anyone interested in this ministry. *Knitting into the Mystery* by Susan s. Jorgensen and Susan S. Izard is an inspiration.

The first prayer shawl I made was for my mother. Since I couldn't be with her very often, I wanted to think of the shawl wrapping her in warmth like a hug I could give her if I were there.

— Bethany member

Instructions

(Suggest using Lion Brand Homespun yarn. It is washable and dryable. It is very soft. The yarn is bulky and works up quickly.)

Knitting

- Buy three skeins.
- Use size 11 or 13 needles.
- Cast on 57 stitches.
- Work in a pattern of knit 3, purl 3. Always start with knit 3.
- You should always knit the purls and purl the knits—you do not want a ribbing pattern to appear.
- Continue in the knit 3, purl 3 pattern until the shawl is six feet long.
- Finish off with generous fringe (4-6 inches long) on both ends. The yarn tends to unravel so each piece of fringe should have a knot tied in it.



Crocheting

- You may need 3 ½ skeins, as more yarn is used in crocheting than knitting.
 - Use a size N hook.
 - Chain 54 stitches or your desired width.
 - Chain 1, turn, single crochet in each of the stitches to the end. Chain 3, and turn.
 - Double crochet in top of each single crochet.
 - Repeat this row 2 more times. Chain 1, and do 1 row of single crochet.
 - Repeat the pattern of one row of single crochet and three rows of double crochet until the shawl measures six feet, ending with a row of single crochet.
 - Finish with a generous fringe of 4-6 inches at each end. Tie a knot in each piece of fringe as this yarn tends to unravel.
- For more information on this ministry, visit www.shawlministry.com

My friend told me she wept when she opened the gift of prayer. She first smelled it; she said it smelled of home. Then she wrapped it over her head and around her whole body, and for the first time in a long time, she felt warm.

— Bethany member

WORSHIP TIME

When the council changed the Sunday worship time to 10:30 it was agreed to evaluate the change in the spring. At this point we are happy with the change as it has had a positive effect on Sunday School so we are committed to continuing with the 10:30 time for the school year.

What we are less sure about is the summer (Memorial Day to Labor Day). Would people prefer an earlier time for summer worship or is 10:30 OK for the whole year? If you have an opinion please speak to a council member or to Pastor Geier. The council will make a decision on this at the March meeting. (Note: Monday worship will continue at 6:30pm)



Bob Nadeau led the Congregational Meeting in January. Pastor Geier spoke of his upcoming visit to Chicago regarding the intern ship program.



Dan Argall works on restoring the stained glass windows from the old Bethany Church. More about this in an upcoming issue of the Outlook.



A Gift from the Church to the Church Forming Leaders Through Internship

By Jan Boden



Every rostered leader in the ELCA – pastors, diaconal ministers, associates in ministry and deaconesses – must complete an internship or field work before they can be rostered. This immersion into the life of a congregation is both a time of discernment and a time of formation. It's been an important part of Lutheran theological education for the last 50 years and has been so successful that more and more Protestant denominations are adding it to their program of seminary education. Connie Kleingartner, director of field education and Logos Chair of Evangelism and Church Ministries. "Internship is a chance for students to experience all the elements of ministry in the life of the parish. The idea is that by the time they are done with internship, they will never have to do anything for the first time in the parish.

Before a student can go on internship, he or she must be endorsed by both the faculty and his or her home synod. In addition, in order to be well prepared for the year, the student must have completed clinical pastoral education, done boundaries workshops, and taken basic academic work in each area of study at the seminary (Bible, worship, preaching, pastoral care, and Christian education).

Making the Match between Students and Sites

Matching students with internship sites begins when internship supervisors come to campus and interview six to eight prospective interns. Students also interview with six or eight different sites. Each submits preferences which the Field Education Committee reviews in order to make recommendations to the faculty. The faculty as a whole approves the matches of students and sites. LSTC's partnerships with candidacy committees are important when the matches are being made. Committees may make recommendations about internship placements to help their candidates develop in specific areas.



Each year across the ELCA, approximately 350 students from the eight seminaries are on internship. About 300 of those are preparing for ordained ministry, with 50 diaconal, associate in ministry, and deaconess candidates. Lay rostered ministers are required to fulfill 800 hours of internship. Candidates for ordination must complete 12 months, putting in approximately 55 hours a week.

Seeking More Sites

Churches interested in having an intern usually make the first move by contacting LSTC. The seminary looks for sites with good pastors and mission-minded congregations which will stretch students in new ways.



“We could use more rural sites for internships,” said Kleingartner. “With students participating in J Term rural immersion, more and more of them are interested in exploring ministry in rural settings.”

The cost of having an intern sometimes prevents congregations from becoming an internship site. Having an intern costs a congregation approximately \$25,000. This includes the student’s tuition for the year, a \$1000 monthly stipend, housing, health insurance, moving expenses, and miscellaneous expenses for continuing education and synod events that the student attends during internship.

Several synods have worked out creative funding for congregations that want to be an internship site but can’t afford it. There is an endowment fund to pay for one intern from LSTC in the Greater Milwaukee Synod each year. Another synod subsidizes an intern in its synod, paying \$7000 of the \$25,000 expense.

Horizon internships are a plum assignment, with five international sites and 30 U.S. sites for all eight seminaries. Administered by the ELCA, the cost of Horizon internships is split three ways between the ELCA, the synod, and the congregation. Sites must demonstrate that they are doing “cutting edge” ministry in rural, urban, or “transformational” settings. Students interested in a Horizon internship must apply early in the year and participate in a 90-120 minute general interview for the international sites. Students do not get to “choose” an international site – they are assigned based on their application and interview. U.S. sites also require a special application. At LSTC there are typically six or seven more applicants to the sites.



Kids - Did you know?



Jesus Says,
“Don’t Worry.”



The Parable of the
Mustard Seed



The Parable of the Sower

Bible Verse to memorize



If you have faith
as small as a mustard seed,
you can say to this mountain,
"Move from here to there"
and it will move.

Matthew 17:20



Jesus enters Jerusalem

In Luke's gospel, as Jesus prepared to enter the city, Jesus said that he thought many in Jerusalem would not accept him and his ministry. Even so, he said that he had the desire to "gather your children together as a _____, and you were not willing!" Which statement below belongs in the blank above?

- A. mother dog gathers her pups to her side
- B. hen gathers her brood under her wings
- C. father protects his wife and his children
- D. shepherd gathers his flock

(The answer is in Luke 13:34, NRSV.)

Pretzel Designed for use during Lent



The common pretzel was originally designed for use during Lent. Sometime during the Middle Ages, when Lent was accompanied by strict bans on dairy products and meat, people subsisted largely on breads, pastries, soups and vegetables. Bakers in Germany decided to create a food that would even look religious — the pretzel. The crossed arms of a pretzel represent a Christian in prayer. Place the palm of each hand on the opposite shoulder, so that your forearms cross. That's the shape of a pretzel.



THE LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF FAIR TRADE COFFEE PROJECT



Brewing Faith and Coffee

By **Tim Bernard**, *associate pastor at Messiah Lutheran Church, Marquette, Mich. Pastor Tim was teaching about and serving fairly traded coffee long before the LWR Coffee Project was launched in 1997.*

"Why is the Church getting into selling coffee? I thought Jesus chased out the people who were selling things in the Temple?" This was, initially, one of the concerns raised with Lutheran World Relief's proposal to launch the LWR Coffee Project as an LWR Parish Projects promoting fair trade coffee, tea and cocoa.

In the Bible, the moneychangers outside the Temple were extorting the people who were coming to the Temple to worship. They were taking advantage of others' plights and hindering their ability to worship God.

Today, we, Christians and non-Christians alike who live in the USA and other economically prosperous nations, are the moneychangers.

Whether we know it or not, we are taking advantage of others in this world, hindering their ability to worship God because we hinder their ability to live. It calls into question who we actually worship: God or money?

Several years ago, as LWR considered starting a new project to promote fairly traded coffee, a staff member told me, "LWR has an outstanding tradition of offering relief to those people around the world who really need it. We offer quilts, layettes, health kits, school kits, and more. These are tangible expressions of our faith. And the offerings we put in the plate on Sunday morning help us to carry on this vital mission in Jesus' name. But our consumer dollars are hurting the very people our offering dollars are trying to help."



Thus began LWR's pursuit of justice in a major product we purchase. Coffee is one of the most heavily traded commodities. This means that it affects a tremendous number of people globally. Also, coffee is primarily grown in economically disadvantaged countries, and much of it is consumed in economically prosperous countries, like ours.

But, it is the injustice in the trading of coffee that makes this the perfect product to raise the consciousness of all consumer goods.

Most of the labor for putting the coffee into a useable form is done by the small farmers who grow the coffee, but most of the profits go to the "middlemen" who handle it at various stages and the "coyotes" who prey on the small farmers. The coyotes offer farmers much needed cash—today—for beans later. It is only later that the farmers realize that they really did sell their coffee "for beans." Now they will not have enough money to make it to the next harvest, leaving them at the mercy of the coyote once again. The cycle, once in place, is very difficult to break.

[Equal Exchange](#) is a for-profit, 100-percent fair trade organization that partners with coffee farming cooperatives and purchases directly from them. No coyotes, no middlemen. They give the farmers access to capital to improve their product, and incentives for organically grown coffee.

The mainstay of their relationship, however, is the guaranteed minimum price that is paid for the coffee beans. The price will never go lower than \$1.26 per pound, and will go up if the market goes up. Having a minimum price set, farmers can rest knowing they can make a living. They call this fair trade. People of faith need to be world leaders in the area of fair trade. We need to look into our cups when we drink and ask, "Are the few pennies I am saving by purchasing conventional coffee a faithful choice? Who is it helping? Who is it hurting?" And most importantly, "Who am I really worshipping?" Asking questions like these about coffee "filter" into other areas in our lives, raising awareness, and making us more wise and faithful consumers.



March is Fair Trade Coffee Month.

Council Highlights



- Motion made that March is Fair Trade month at Bethany and the goal is to have Bethany use only Fair Trade coffee at all functions by October 2007.
- Discussed the time for Sunday morning worship during the summer months. Will decide at the March meeting.
- Green, blue, white, and purple paraments have been purchased. Still in need of red paraments.
- On March 15th the councils from Trinity, Bethany, Faith & Bethel will meet for "Visioning the ministry in Ishpeming in the future." Bishop Skrenes and his assistant will lead the cooperative ministry meeting.
- Council moved to accept the membership of Rick and Jamie Rhodes.



Have You Visited Bethany's Website?
www.bethanyishpeming.org



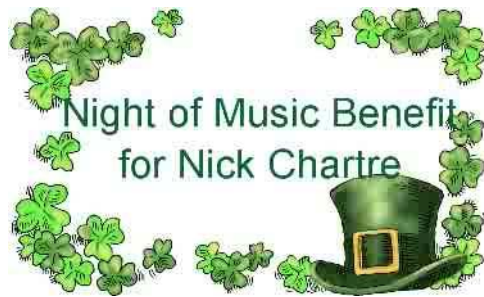
We Are the World

The Christian Women's Connection is having an evening program on Thursday, March 15 from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Marquette. This is a special guest night and people are encouraged to invite a friend. The cost for the evening's meal and program is \$12.

Special music: the Gitchee Gumees

Speaker: Charles Hansen, "Who Do You Trust in a Changing World?"

For Reservations: Contact Dorothy 486-9464



On the evening of St. Patrick's Day, March 17, 2007, at 7:00 pm, Bethany will hold a Night of Music Benefit for Nicholas Chartre. Nick is 26 years old, the son of Raymond and Kay Chartre of Negaunee, and a member of our congregation. In Nov. 2006, he was diagnosed with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Nick had been working part-time at the Holiday Gas Station in Ishpeming and going to Bay de Noc College in Escanaba. He does not have health insurance and is currently undergoing chemotherapy treatments at Marquette General Hospital. His medical expenses have been mounting. Therefore, our church and the Thrivent Central U.P. Chapter 30907 will sponsor a "Care Abounds in Communities" matching funds benefit.

The following groups and individuals are slated to perform. They include "Voices In Motion" of Westwood High School, Gerald Anderson and the Negaunee Jazz Band/ Solo Ensemble, Ali Kitchen, the Negaunee Male Chorus/ Strictly Gospel, Jim Hansen on the organ, and the Bethany Bells and Choir. Vicki Crystal has graciously agreed, once again, to be the emcee for the evening. Diana and Paul Sandstrom will be the greeters near the entrance to the church.

Following the performance, there will be coffee and baked goods in the Fellowship Hall of our church. Joy Circle has offered to bake and serve for the evening. We could use additional volunteers for baking, serving, and/or clean-up in the kitchen. Anyone willing to donate decaffeinated coffee or soda, may do so by dropping it off at the church prior to the event with a note attached and labeled "Chartre Benefit".

On Saturday morning at 10:00 am, volunteers will be needed to help set up risers, tables, chairs, and the sound system in our church. These will also need to be removed later that night, as the church service will be the next day. Ushers are needed to help assist in seating people and taking the offering (donations), as well. There will be a sign-up for volunteers posted on the kiosk. Please note if you are a Thrivent member, volunteer hours need to be tabulated.

Thank you to all who are helping with this benefit. It is truly appreciated. Let's make this a successful event!

Sheree Mariani





**Happy 57th Anniversary
Gerry and Allen Maki!**

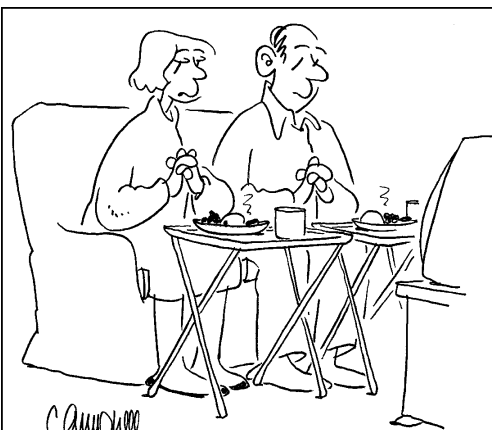


**Happy Birthday
Marvin Toivonen**

**Birthday Celebration
In honor of
Allen F. Maki
80th Birthday
Saturday, March 24
Bethany Lutheran Church
2pm—5pm**

More information call Gerry 485-1084 or Tammy 485-5028

No Gifts Please



Campbell

"Please bless these chops, these peas and these potatoes, both actual and couch."

Keep In Your Prayers

- Rosten family
- Home-bound and nursing home residents: June Bjorne, Teckla Holmgren, Barbara Crabb, Violet Yenore, Marvin Nadeau, Clyde Jago (Jacobetti), Pearl Forchini (Mather), and Martha Ulrickson (Mather)
- Nick Chartre
- Evelyn Nadeau
- Mary Bertucci



Fair Trade Coffee, Tea, Cocoa and Chocolate Are Available at Bethany

Café Salvador Coffee \$4.75 / box
Organic Decaf Coffee \$5.25 / box
All teas \$2.50 / box
Hot cocoa \$4.00 / container
Organic chocolate bar \$2.00 / bar

From Small Farmers With Love

Planning Ahead...

April—Holy Week services and Easter
April—WELCA General Meeting
May—Synod Assembly
May— WELCA Mother, Child, Friend Dessert
June 17-22 - Women & Kids Week at Fortune Lake



Contributions to and ideas for the newsletter can be made by contacting **Linda Dahl** by phone, e-mail, or by dropping a note in the newsletter mailbox at church.

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Finance, Cheryl Sleeman
Personnel, Sandee Sundquist
Property, Jerry Plaisier
Social Ministry, Marian Medlyn
Stewardship, Kathy Harrington
Worship & Music, Dan Argall
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