



St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church
508 North Chicago Road
Thornton, IL 60476

Address Service Requested



The Glad Spirit

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church

February-March 2018

Lent



Someone once devised an acronym for the word Lent. Let's Entertain New Thoughts. Perhaps that could even be New Things. Whatever! The point is that this Lent, the people of St. Paul will be doing something different. Rather than having the typical services and messages. We will work together on a project. While we will work on the project together, it is a highly individual, personal project.

What type of project will this be? Well, that is being kept in the dark for now. It is a project that is intended to challenge and also stimulate faith in each of our hearts, souls, and minds. Of course, during Lent we follow the steps of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ as He traveled in his Passion to Mt. Calvary. We also will consider St. Peter, Jesus' disciple and apostle who throughout Jesus' ministry and passion had his

faith challenged in many ways, but also had his faith strengthened in his heart, mind, and soul.

What's this project called?

The name is simply, **The Gospel in Seven Words.**

Which words?

Whose words? That is part of what is in

the dark for now. You will have to come to our various services to learn more about this project.



When does the project begin? We will begin the project on Transfiguration Sunday, February 11, at our 9:45 a.m. worship service. On transfiguration, we recall the Lord's miraculous change before the eyes of his disciples. St. Peter was one of them, whose life and faith was definitely challenged and strengthened. We will continue this project throughout Lent in our Sunday morning services as well in our Mid-week Services on Wednesdays, February 14, 21, 28, March 7, 14, and 21. Be sure to come to as many services as you can to take in **The Gospel in Seven Words.**



A Wonderful Surprise

Thank you to God's people at St. Paul. I was definitely surprised, January 7, as I left the morning service to enter the Fellowship Hall. All the folks greeted me singing "Happy Anniversary to you." They were remembering the 40th anniversary of my Ordination into the Office of Holy Ministry on January 8, 1978. What a wonderful surprise! I didn't realize anyone knew the date. I am very grateful. Thank you all very much!

Pastor Wahl



St. Paul Sunday School is in severe trouble. Attendance and participation has continued to drop over the years, but it is at an all time low.

Most weeks there are only 4 or less attending. We are asking everyone in the congregation to prayerfully consider how we can encourage participation and attendance. Without participation we are in danger of ending Sunday School. We have contacted members of the congregation with Sunday School aged children at the start of the year. We also planned a calendar with events and activities. We are seeking other ways to encourage attendance and participation. Please email the church office at office@splcms.com or Dana Krieger at teacher92581@comcast.net with suggestions. We thank everyone for their help with the Christmas Program, although we had a small group it is always magical to hear the love of Jesus from children.

Many Blessings,
Sunday School Staff



ocial



inistry

First a heartfelt THANK YOU to everyone for your continued support for our Food Pantry, without congregational help we would not be able to help those in need and do God's work. God commands us to help each other and give to others as we have been blessed to receive.

We provided baskets for six families both for Thanksgiving and Christmas. These baskets included food for their holiday meal, extra "goodies" to make a complete dinner, and additional supplies to supplement their grocery budget. In January four more baskets were provided to those in need.

Please continue to support Social Ministry's Food Pantry, your continued help is a blessing to so many! New "mini" shopping lists are on the pantry door with items that are always needed; if you want to donate any meats, (chicken, ground beef, hot dogs, lunch meats, etc.) put them in the kitchen freezer and leave a note in the food pantry. Gift cards and cash donations are always appreciated and help purchase the perishable items to complete the baskets.

God's blessings to all and thanks again from the families.

For I was hungry and you gave me food. –
Matthew 25:28



Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The concept of Evangelism is changing and I must admit I had a little trouble keeping up, but I am doing my best to move forward and change with the times. In today's society outreach is focused on entertainment, engagement and.....?

So this year the focus of Evangelism will continue to be outreach, but in a different forum, a few suggestions have been offered.

1. 2nd annual Car Show, last year's car show was Fantastic.
2. 5K Run with the proceeds going to a person or group in the community.
3. A movie night
4. A Community Campfire

These are just a few, the possibilities are endless. We also may want to look into a community representative to bring back information from Village Board meetings, School board meetings, Recreation department, Historical Society (we have an inside track here) to name a few to find out what are the needs of the community, and not just Thornton, but our surrounding communities.

To do things requires people to help, the car show was an amazing event last year, because we had many hands, and we also had fun. Everyone was able to go around and enjoy the cars, the music, the food and getting to vote!!

The time to plan for this years is already a little late, but better late than never. If you have a suggestion or idea or know of a community need let us know, if you are interested in any of the above ideas call/text/email Deb Brandy 708-704-0012.

A planning meeting is scheduled for February 18 after Church. Please prayerfully consider attending and bringing ideas and suggestions.



\$248.00

A Good Bit of Christmas Spirit

On Sunday, December 24, Christmas Eve morning, a man simply named "John " came to the church office. He was homeless, living outdoors. He had a simple request for a warm place to stay that night. That was the day which started out without any snow on the ground. Early in that morning the snow started falling, culminating in several inches by evening. "John" said he would do anything for some funds to get a warm place to stay Christmas Eve. He started shoveling the falling snow. We invited him to our worship service. There was no way, our community of believers could allow this man not to have a warm place to go on Christmas Eve. We took up a free will offering, totaling \$248.00. Bill Sommer drove "John" to a motel. He was able to fund a warm place and have a good meal. Thanks to everyone who responded in Christian love. As Jesus explained, when we do helpful things even to the least among us, we have done it unto Him. Many thanks to all.

\$272.28

Think about it! \$278.28 is a very nice contribution. That's how much Amazon has contributed to our congregation the last couple years. Whenever you make a purchase through Amazon Smile, you are adding to that amount. Yes, it's a small amount, 1/2 of 1%. That's all. Your purchase may only yield a few pennies, maybe a nickel or even a dime. Just like pennies in a piggy bank, they do add up. So, sign up at www.Smile.Amazon.com and help our congregation each time you make a purchase.



St. Paul congratulation was privileged to receive Laurie Ann Michels into our fellowship of faith on Sunday, December 17, through the rite of Adult Confirmation. We welcome Laurie to our midst as she joins in our various activities. Congratulations and Many Blessings to Laurie.

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church



SUNDAY WORSHIP

9:45 a.m. - 10:45 a.m.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

9:00 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.
September - May

ADULT BIBLE CLASS

8:30 a.m. - 9:30 a.m.

Rev. Harold Wahl, Pastor
508 N. Chicago Road
Thornton, IL 60476
Voice & Fax (708) 877-6564

www.splcms.org
www.facebook.com/splcms
office@splcms.org
pastor@splcms.org

Church Office Hours
9 to Noon Monday thru Friday.

Bulletin Deadline
Thursday by 10 a.m.

Contact the church office to submit personal testimonials about what God has done for you. Or original art that is inspirational or humorous to the artist.

CONGREGATIONAL OFFICERS

Chairman	Bill Sommer
Vice Chairman	David Bloom
Recording Sec.	Tracy Middleton
Financial Sec.	Robert Brandy
Treasurer	Mary Sella
Elder	Eric Schassburger Henry Sella Brian Wiltjer Jerry Wiltjer
Trustee	Jerry Smith
Stewardship	
Evangelism	Debi Brandy
Social Ministry	Norma Allen Sandy Budde
S. S. Super.	Kathy Dejonowski
Asnt. Super.	Dana Krieger
Adult Director	
Youth Director	

We'd love to see you in worship. If for some reason you cannot make it, you may join in the service in our live streaming at 9:45 a.m. at <http://splcms.org/worship-services/live-broadcast>

You can join us in worship on your phone, tablet, or mobile device? Go to your App store and get the free "O Player Lite" app. Install the app. Click the Network button at the bottom of the page. Hit the button labeled "Play URL." Type in St. Paul's unique code: <http://73.74.44.102:5700> that should bring the service to you live.

Our recorded worship services are archived at <http://splcms.org/worship-services/recorded-service>

FEBRUARY 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:00am Bible Class 9:00am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service 12:00pm Pastor's Luncheon	5	6 7:30pm Elders Meeting	7	8	9	10 9:00am Trustee Work Day
11 9:00am Bible Class 9:00am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	12 7:00pm Council Meeting	13	14 9:30am Lenten Worship Service 10:30am Lenten Breakfast 6:30pm Lenten Pot Luck 7:30pm Lenten Worship Service	15	16	17
18 9:00am Bible Class 9:00am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	19	20	21 9:30am Lenten Worship Service 10:30am Lenten Breakfast 6:30pm Lenten Pot Luck 7:30pm Lenten Worship Service	22	23	24
25 9:00am Bible Class 9:00am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	26	27	28 9:30am Lenten Worship Service 10:30am Lenten Breakfast 6:30pm Lenten Pot Luck 7:30pm Lenten Worship Service			

MARCH 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 9:00am Bible Class 9:00am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	5	6 7:30pm Elders Meeting	7 9:30am Lenten Worship Service 10:30am Lenten Breakfast 6:30pm Lenten Pot Luck 7:30pm Lenten Worship Service	8	9	10 9:00am Trustee Work Day
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25 9:00am Bible Class 9:00am Sunday School 9:45am Worship Service	26	27	28	29 9:30am Maundy Thursday Worship Service 7:30pm Maundy Thursday Worship Service	30 12:00pm Good Friday Noon Service 7:30pm Tennebrae Service	31