

Dear Friends,

The second piece of the Children's Lenten take home puzzle was handed out tonight.

Fred Knudsvig painted one – white on the 1st piece – red on the heart – black on the cross. We chose those colors because they are the **colors on Luther's Seal**. The puzzle is not the complete seal but it is the inside of it. You can see a version of it on the sanctuary door by the piano.



Sunday **March 7 at 7pm** at Saint Paul: Fund Raiser FOR PINE ISLAND SHARING SHELVES. **Free** 1 ¼ hour **concert** by Travelin' Shoes Gospel Choir. **All donations go to our local Food Shelf.** 60 choir members come from a 70 mi radius of Stockholm WI. This is their mission – to sing Gospel music and raise money for community. They have helped generate an average of \$2,000 an event. **Please invite** those of all faiths who care about the food shelf to hear this and donate. For more info see: www.travelinshoes.org.

We need to **recycle the pop cans**. The Youth get the money for their programs. We need someone with a good size truck or one with tall side panels. We'll go to West Concord or if someone has a Hy-Vee coupon receipt, we'd consider going to Rochester. HELP!

I rediscovered **John 11:45-53** during our Lenten series. It's the **Plot to Kill Jesus** which follows right after the death and resurrection to life of Lazarus.

It's amazing for reminding us how many people came to believe in Jesus when they saw what he did with Lazarus and his sisters Martha and Mary. Jesus intentionally delayed coming to heal Lazarus. So that when he arrived his raising Lazarus from the dead to life would call people to give God the glory.

It's amazing for reminding us how few schemed to crucify Jesus. While many Jews believed in Jesus, some went and told the Sanhedrin, the Jewish Council that ruled Temple and the community. They plotted Jesus death by buying into the prophesy of their leader Caiaphas. A Sanhedrin quorum is 23. Majority plus 2 are enough to convict. It may have only been 14 that agreed with Caiaphas. Because Jews didn't use crucifixion they had to pass their verdict on to Governor Pilate for that result. Only a few were needed to get rid of this one they didn't want to believe was the Messiah. They didn't want people following Jesus who talked about God differently that they did. They wanted people going through them to God instead of directly to God. Plots don't take many to accomplish. We can plot for the greater good when we seek to do **"God's work with our hands!"** **God guide you as you plot to do God's will.**
Pastor John

Dear Friends,

For those who are **Thrivent members**, I need your attention: For years Thrivent has offered matching funds to congregations for fund raisers. In the case of Saint Paul Lutheran, **our youth have used our Lenten meals and Easter breakfast as a means of receiving those matching funds up to \$1600. Thrivent has now changed this policy.**



Starting this year Thrivent will empower its members to make their own choices about how to use the company's benevolent giving. Thrivent members will receive a letter from the company asking them where they would like their portion of the fraternal benevolent funds to go.

I ask you to remember our youth group when you receive this letter from Thrivent. Our youth have counted on that money in the past to help fund our youth gathering trips. Since the youth gathering takes place every three years, these funds contribute nearly \$5000 toward the trip. It will be difficult to make up that loss. **I ask you to please pay attention to this letter and to consider writing Saint Paul Lutheran Church of Pine Island as the recipient of those funds.** Our congregation can then allocate those funds to our youth program. Thanks.

Speaking of **our youth, they now have a Facebook page.** You can access information about upcoming youth activities at: **4 the Love of God** on Facebook. The page will allow our youth to read about what's going on in our program and sign up for activities that we're offering.

March is Minnesota Foodshare month. During this month, the state of Minnesota promises to match gifts given to local food shelves and hunger agencies. You can help.

During the season of Lent we are collecting food offerings as part of our Wednesday worship time. Feel free to leave food offerings in the carts by the door or have a child bring up the food items during the children's time. All food collected will be weighed and a monetary allotment from MN Food Share will be given to our local food shelf based on that weight.

Our adult ed group is currently studying the novel "The Shack". After Easter they will begin a new 4 week study on the Book of Galatians. Classes begin on April 14th, but you can sign up now. The cost will be \$6.

Pastor Kip



Upcoming Events

Sun March 28 1-4 pm "Youth rollerskating" at Belle Creek

Sun. April 4 Easter Breakfast served by youth

ADULT FORUM

(Forums meet on Sunday during coffee time)

Feb. 28 Funeral Planning: It's a Good Idea

March 7 WELCA – "What is It? What Does it Do?"



*March Circle meetings:

Elizabeth Circle: Tuesday, Mar. 2 – 1:30pm at City Centre (former Halter Center)

Bible Study – Irene Cowden

Hostess – Amanda Laue

Lydia Circle: Wednesday, Mar. 3 – 1:30pm

Bible Study – Joanne Sanborn

Hostess –

Kitchen Cleaning: Each month's service group leaders should *check kitchen for used towels to wash periodically*; **please clean kitchen end of month.**

Service groups for:

February – Group V – Karel Titus & Diane DeBoer

WELCA Upcoming Events

Sun., March 7 – 9:45am – Adult Forum - "What is WELCA & What Does it Do?"

Mon., March 8 – 2:00pm – Pine Haven Birthday Party

Tues., March 9 – 1:30pm - WELCA mtg. (planning "We Care" dinner)

Lent 2010

We are in the midst of our Lenten season & continue with our theme for our Lenten dramas, "Whose Cross Is It, Anyway?" at **7:00pm worship**.

We are still in need of some cast members for our last 2 Lenten dramas. Please sign up.

Once again, our youth are serving meals each week at 6:00pm. The remaining schedule is: **March 3** – Lasagna (9th grade), **March 10** – Subs/salad (7th grade), **March 17** – Potato Bar/ Soup (12th grade), and **March 24** – Sloppy Joe's (8th grade). Thank you to all our leaders and students for their good work with these meals.

Education

March 25 – 5th Grade Seder Meal class. I will be contacting 4th grade students and their parents to help with set-up, serving and clean-up for the Seder Meal.

April 1 – 5th Grade First Communion and Maundy Thursday Congregational Meal. Please join the students and their families celebrate this occasion. The Education Committee will be serving Chicken and Biscuits at 6pm.

Summer Bible Camp information is coming soon. There will be scholarship forms available, too. Some of the camps offer discounts for early registration, so if you are considering Bible camp you may want to register soon.



- Jody Titus

Women's Retreat

There are only 5 spots left for the One Day Women's Retreat on Sat., March 20 from 8am to 8pm. **Feb. 28 is the last day to register.** Cost is \$45. Scholarships are available. If you have a remaining balance, please pay it by Feb. 28 also.



March is Minnesota Foodshare Month

March is very important to Minnesota Food Shelves. There are sizeable allotments given to food shelves based on what is donated to them during this month. Please help out our local food shelf by making a donation of grocery items or money. Here are suggested needs for Pine Island Sharing Shelves: Jams or Jellies; Soups; Oatmeal (regular or instant); Cereal; Canned Fruit; Chunky Soups; Salad Dressings (French, Thousand Island, etc.); Ketchup; Rice-a-Roni; Spaghetti; Tuna (6 oz. cans preferred); Ravioli; Spaghetti O's; Flour and Sugar (4-5 lb. bags); Brownie Mix; Frosting; Crackers (Saltine or Graham); Pork & Beans; Bar soap; Toothpaste; Shampoo; and Toilet Tissue.

E-mail Addresses for Pastors

Please add to your e-mail address books the direct e-mail addresses of our pastors.

Pastor John - torlyn300@yahoo.com

Pastor Kip - kgroettum@yahoo.com

NEWSLETTER

Saint Paul Lutheran Church
214 Third Street SW, PO Box 708
Pine Island, MN 55963

E-mail: saintpaulpi@yahoo.com 507-356-8925

Website: saintpaulpi.org

Address Service Requested

Staff - John Torris Lohre, Senior Pastor
Kip Groettum, Associate Pastor

Worship Schedule

Saturday worship at 5:30 p.m.

Potluck 1st Saturday of month following worship

Sunday worship at 8:15 & 10:30 a.m.

Coffee hour at 9:30 a.m.

Communion Served on 1st, 3rd and 5th weeks

Sunday School – Grades 1-9 - 9:30am

3-year-olds–Kindergarten - 10:30am

February 25, 2010 - God's work. Our hands.



2011 Baja Mission Trip

We have filled our initial 50 spots for our Baja Mission trip for Oct.,

2011, and are **currently taking names for a waiting list**. All options will be discussed at the upcoming committee meeting. Questions can be directed to Pastor John. If you think you might be at all interested, please call the office and get your name on the waiting list now.

Free Goodhue County C.A.R.E. Clinic

Free medical care is now available for low income residents of

Goodhue County at 1407 West Fourth Street in Red Wing (old hospital E.R.) on Tuesday nights from 5:00-8:00pm. Doors open at 4:30. For more information e-mail info@careclinicrw.com or call Neela Mollgaard at 651-388-9560.



Please let the office know if your mailing address changes. We pay 50 cents for that information from the P.O.

Non-profit Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Pine Island, MN 55963
Permit # 17

Travelin' Shoes Gospel Choir

It's Coming! Save **Sunday, March 7 at 7:00pm** for a "foot stompin', Toe-tappin' evening of fun"! The Travelin' Shoes Gospel Choir will perform at Saint Paul Lutheran Church. This choir consists of 50-60 members who live in a 70 mile radius of Pepin Wisconsin, and they perform in western Wisconsin and SE Minnesota.

Their time is all donated! All proceeds from a free-will offering will go to benefit the **Pine Island Sharing Shelves**. Coffee and cookies will follow.

Don't miss this great event, and a great way to support our local sharing shelves!



Who: For Anyone

What: Pastor-led Weekly Bible Study

When: Tuesdays at 1:30pm

Where: Church Library

Why: To study the texts for the upcoming weekend worship services