

REVELATIONS



Shedding light on all the activities of our congregation,
So that we can work together as a family in Christ.

May 2008

Newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church
Where the Spirit is alive and Christ's love is shared

*From the
Pastor*



Easter Sunday a white tent appeared on the lawn of the parish house. It didn't get there by accident, and it hasn't stayed there from laziness. Several months ago, a church member forwarded an email from Lutheran World Relief that drew our attention to Tents of Hope – a movement to raise awareness of the conditions of genocide, extreme poverty and hunger faced by millions of Sudanese every day.

The country of Sudan sits in Africa directly below Egypt and borders Ethiopia in the east. Darfu is the western region of Sudan, and the region where most of the extreme fighting is taking place. This ethnic and tribal conflict is primarily between the Janjaweed (a military group supported by the Sudanese government – although the government has categorically denied backing the group) and various ethnic rebel groups, including the Sudanese Liberation Movement. The conflict began in February of 2003. The first mass slaughters of whole tribes began in April of 2003.

Disease, drought, desertification and overpopulation are among the leading causes of the Darfur conflict. African governments began to draw geo-political lines through migratory and herding routes, cutting camel-herding nomads' water supplies off and putting land-growing tribes in the center of now needed herding lands. Non-sustainable fast population growth further taxes the land. On top of these earth concerns, political opportunism and regional politics wrest control and life from tribes on every side of the conflict.

The current estimate of casualties from the violence is in the hundreds of thousands. The United Nations estimates that the conflict has left as many as 400,000 dead from violence and disease. The Sudanese government officially estimates 9,000 dead.

This is not God's way. Nor is this God's good stewardship of the land, its people or its resources. This seed of compassion grew so strongly in a few people here at St. Paul that soon we had many, many people passionate about lending our particular voice to this cause. I encourage you, if you have access, to go to www.tentsofhope.org for more information about the Tent of Hope project. I also encourage you to come to one or many of the events we have planned around our own tent of hope. We will be offering a community bible study in our own voice – the voice of God's justice, peace and power – on a weekend in May. It will be one hour and in the second hour, we will paint one panel of the tent to represent our place in God's world. Throughout the course of the next several months, all four panels of the tent will be painted.

We are planning an African-themed evening of meal and celebration of culture. We are looking forward to hosting some people who live, work and play in Africa and can speak to the heart of African life. There are 1' x 1' canvas panels available for individuals to paint their own message or interpretation of hope and peace. The youth are centering service and fun projects around the tent. We will worship around the tent on June 8th in one combined worship service at 10 a.m., and our worship that day will be centered on peace and justice.

(Continued on page 2)

(Continued from page 1)

Above all, I pray that you use this tent and our attention to this ministry to raise attention and voice to this issue in your own part of the community. Find an opportunity to call attention to the tent and give voice to what is going on. If you only said, "We are praying for peace, not violence or war," you have witnessed to the Good News Gospel of Jesus on St. Paul's behalf.

In October, we will disassemble the tent and raise it on the lawn in front of the United States Capital in Washington, D.C., along with every other tent of hope in the United States. We believe that we can show the world a new kind of tent city, one filled with hope, peace and justice. And we believe, here in this place, that we are showing the world those things that Jesus first showed us.

May we live fully into the peace, hope and justice that is resurrection life!

"Do not pray for an easy life; pray to be a stronger person. Do not pray for tasks equal to your powers but for powers equal to your tasks. Then the doing of your work shall be no miracle, but you will be the miracle. Every day you shall wonder at yourself and the richness of life which has come to you by the grace of God."

Church Women United of Frederick County

Church Women United of Frederick County is celebrating May Friendship Day on Friday May 2, 2008 at St. James AME Church 6002 Bartonsville Rd., Frederick, MD and everyone is invited. The theme for the day is "God's Wisdom Inspires Hospitality" (Plant a seed of hospitality, reap a bouquet of friendship)

Registration	11-11:15AM
Bible Study	11:15-12:00
11 Kings 4; 11King 8	
Rev. Tony Fish, Leader	
Lunch	12:15-12:45
World Friendship Day Program	1:00-2:00PM

Information and registration forms can be found on the bulletin board by the Faith Room.

Women of the ELCA

The Women of the ELCA met on April 14th in the Pathway Room with ten women participating. Diane Julian opened with prayer and led the program on Lot's Wife: Desperate to Have it All. The scripture passages were Genesis 18:16-19:38; Luke 17:28-33; and 11 Peter 2:7-9. Lot, the nephew of Abraham, married a woman who had been reared in Sodom. She was used to having a materialistic lifestyle. She determined that Lot be able to keep her in the wealth in which she was accustomed. God was going to destroy the twin cities of Sodom and Gomorrah for their grievous sins. Abraham pleaded with God that the righteous in Sodom be spared. God sent two angels to Lot's house to warn that he and his family must leave. The angels told them to not look back, or they would be destroyed along with the cities. Lot and his daughters escaped, but his wife turned and she became a pillar of salt. Wisdom from Lot's Wife is to listen to God's Word and choose a lifestyle with Christ at the center.

Audrey Stoutamyer presided at the business meeting. The secretary's and treasurer's reports were approved. Audrey shared a note from Dick and Brenda Ingram thanking us for serving the luncheon which followed Ruth Ingram's funeral. A donation of \$500 was received. The spring cluster meeting went very well, and Audrey shared information about the presentation, Today's Dream, Tomorrow's Reality. Upcoming events are: SWO Convention May 17th at Redeemer Lutheran Church, Damascus, MD; Spring Festival at the National Lutheran Home May 17th, Triennial Convention July 20th-23rd in Salt Lake City, Utah; DE-MD SWO Retreat at Sandy Cove, North East, MD; and Day of Renewal January 17th at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Annapolis, MD. Audrey shared skull caps, for soldiers that were made by the Knit-Wits. Women of the ELCA will donate \$200 to the primary department to help with the purchase of a cow. The Women of the ELCA will donate \$150 to the St. Paul's emergency fund.. We collected items for health kits for LWR. Refreshments were served by Edna Huffer and Bernie Summers. The next meeting will be May 12th. Come learn about Ruth: Desperate to Belong. Bring a snack to share and a penny offering for the SWO Convention.

Claudia Harrington

News from the Primary Sunday School Department

The children have been continuing the Akaloo curriculum and are working on the unit Celebrating Church. We have talked about workers in the church and how everyone's gifts are needed. We focused on Who do I see at Church?, How do we Help People?, and How does God get us Ready to Serve? On May 11th we will have a special Pentecost lesson. After Pentecost we will begin the unit Embracing the World. Our ELCA Global Barnyard heifer collection has gone very well this month. Thanks to a generous donation from the Augsburg Adult class and The Women of the ELCA, we have about \$390 in our fund. Children are invited to join us for fellowship and learning at 9:30AM in the parish house.

Claudia Harrington



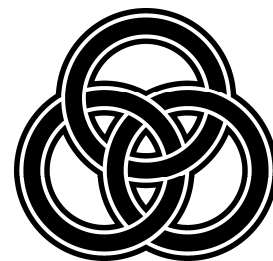
Spring Festival at the National Lutheran Home

The National Lutheran Home Auxiliary's Spring Festival is scheduled for Saturday, May 17th from 9:30AM-2:00PM. The Home's Chorus completes the day with a wonderful musical performance beginning at 2:30PM in the chapel. This festival and the Fall Festival are the Auxiliary's main fund raisers each year. All of the proceeds are used to enhance the lives of residents: birthday and Christmas parties, trips and lunch, special entertainment and programs, hair care equipment, audio books on CD and CD players, and purchase of a bus.

Included for sale will be: jewelry, crafts made by residents, baked goods, candy, handwork, plants, Grandma's Attic, books, stamps, postcards, games, videos, and gift shop items. New this year will be a Silent Auction. Lunch will be served from 11:00-1:00 for \$8.00, with lighter fare for \$4.00. Take I-270 and exit at Shady Grove Road. Continue on Shady Grove Road to Darnestown Rd. and turn left. Make an immediate right onto Glen Mill Road and continue to Veirs Drive. Turn left at the four way stop. The Home is on the left at 9701 Veirs Drive.

Three Interwoven Circles

Each circle in this symbol represents one of the Persons of the Holy Trinity — the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit. The circles, having no beginning and no end, signify the Trinity's eternal nature. The circles' interlacing symbolizes unity. In the center is a triangle, an ancient symbol of the Trinity.



Summer Theological Offerings:

Find time for RENEWAL, inspiring STUDY, entertainment, and great CONVERSATION.

The Lay School of Theology at Gettysburg Seminary is featuring two lay schools during the upcoming summer. The themes are:

“God’s Call: Mystery and Mission”- June 22-28, 2008 and “Revelation and Reversal”-July 27-August 2, 2008. Anyone interested, check out the bulletin board by the Faith Room for information and registration forms.

Vacation Bible School - 2008

This year's theme is "THE POWER LAB".

Mark your calendars for this year's vacation Bible school-

The week of June 16th-20th. (Monday-Friday)

Time: 6:30PM-8:30PM.

Location: Here at St. Paul.

Registration will be posted on the bulletin board by the Faith Room.

Any questions, please contact Kerry Page 301-473-4469 or Jane Duncan 301-473-8835.

Looking for Volunteers to help!!

Donations of supplies and monies will certainly be appreciated. The list of supplies will also be posted on the bulletin board by the Faith Room.

Looking forward to a great week of fun and learning.



Want to Own a Bit of St. Paul History?

The sanctuary and balcony pews, which have served the church for many years, are being replaced soon. The old pews are being offered to the congregation on a free-will offering basis. If you would like to own a pew or section of pew, please sign up on the diagram sheet in the Pathway Room. If you need more information or have any questions, see Mike Summers, Tony Poffenberger, or Bernie Wolford.



Dear St. Paul Congregation:

I wish to thank your congregation for providing the service for the Sunrise Service at Mar-Lu-Ridge this year. It was a wonderful event and I appreciate that your congregation shared their gifts for this service. Your musicians and worship leaders provide a great service. The monetary donation was over \$500 dollars and was a great help to Mar-Lu-Ridge.

It is great to see this support and appreciation of Mar-Lu-Ridge and I thank you for that.

Peace,

*Derrick Trautman Executive Director
Mar-Lu-Ridge*

Ascension Day

Forty days after each Easter, many Christians around the world celebrate the Ascension. It's the day when the resurrected Jesus was raised up from the earth into heaven. The Ascension is the prelude to Pentecost, when the Holy Spirit came upon a gathering of people, including the apostles, in Jerusalem.

\The Ascension is more important than many Christians realize. In his human body, Christ could be in only one place at a time. The risen Christ, however, can be spiritually present in any place at any time.

SPY

Saint Paul Youth

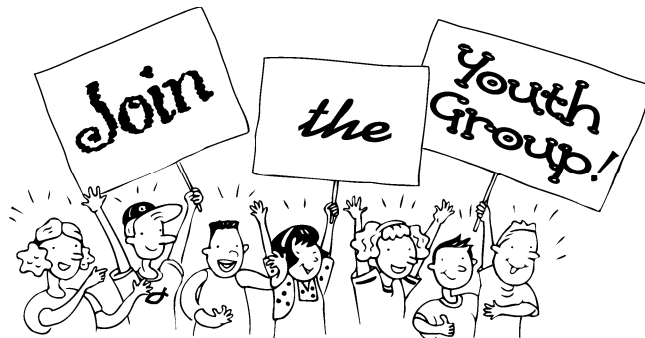
The Youth have some exciting news to share with the congregation. They have decided to form a Praise Band. As of the writing of this article, the new band doesn't have a name other than The Youth Band, but several names are being considered. Current members of the band include Spencer Cooper, and Danny Griffin on guitar, Kenny Floria on Base Guitar, Justin Gutierrez on Drums, Alicia Rogers on Keyboard, and Hannah Duncan, Kaitlyn Goodson, and Emily Gutierrez on Vocals. The youth are currently working on a couple of songs and hopefully soon will be able to take part in an upcoming service. The band practices every Thursday evening from 8-9, in the Parrish House. They also practice at other times, depending on members' schedules.

The summer schedule for the Youth is also available, either by the Youth Bulletin Board, or it is on the Church's Web page. The youth will be doing several exciting things this summer, check out the schedule.

The May Youth Meeting will be on May 18th. This is a week later because of Mother's Day falling on the regular scheduled meeting night. On May 10th, Movie/Game Night, if the weather cooperates, I hope to be able to play some outdoor games, if not we will meet inside and watch a movie.

Mark Summers

Youth Director



Bible Quiz

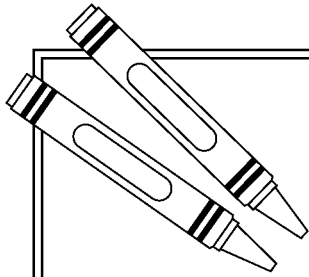
Right after God granted Solomon his request for wisdom to govern, the wise king faced a dilemma about a baby. King Solomon ingeniously solved a dispute between two women who both claimed to be the child's mother (see 1 Kings 3:16-28).

But who was the mother of Solomon?

- A. Zipporah
- B. Abigail
- C. Queen of Sheba
- D. Bathsheba

The answer is in 2 Samuel 12:24.

Answer: D



Just for **KIDS**

A Mother of Noble Character

In Proverbs 31 (NIV), God provides the best example of a godly woman. Write the number of the sentence in the space next to the character quality it best describes.

- 1** "A wife of noble character who can find? She is worth far more than rubies" (v. 10).
- 2** "She brings [her husband] good, not harm, all the days of her life" (v. 12).
- 3** "She selects wool and flax and works with eager hands" (v. 13).
- 4** "She sets about her work vigorously; her arms are strong for her tasks" (v. 17).
- 5** "She opens her arms to the poor and extends her hands to the needy" (v. 20).
- 6** "When it snows, she has no fear for her household; for all of them are clothed in scarlet" (v. 21).
- 7** "Charm is deceptive, and beauty is fleeting; but a woman who fears the LORD is to be praised" (v. 30).

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Caring | <input type="checkbox"/> Godly | <input type="checkbox"/> Prepared |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hardworking | <input type="checkbox"/> Hearty | <input type="checkbox"/> Priceless |
| | <input type="checkbox"/> Kind | |

A HEART FOR MOM

Show Mom how much you appreciate all she does for you with this "heartfelt" craft. Give it to her on Mother's Day.

What you need:

- Floral stem wire
- Dried cranberries (about 100, depending on the wire's length)
- Pliers
- Decorative ribbon (about 12 inches for each craft)
- Construction paper or cardstock
- Hole punch
- Crayons or markers

What you do:

1. With an adult's help, thread cranberries, one at a time with no space between them, onto the straight wire.
2. Bend the wire into a heart shape.
3. With pliers, twist the wire together at the top of the heart.
4. Tie ribbon to make a loop atop the heart (so your mom can hang it up).
5. Fold the paper into a card, and write a message of love and gratitude to your mom. You might want to add a verse from Proverbs 31 that best describes her.
6. Punch a hole in the card. Attach it to the ribbon that's tied to the heart.

Answers: 1. priceless, 2. kind, 3. kind, 4. hardworking, 5. hearty, 6. caring, 7. godly



May Birthdays

May Anniversaries

Mark Summers	4	Claire Clark	23
Ashley Smith	10	Alex Price	23
Marty Iverson	10	John Lovell	24
Christopher Perry	14	Charlotte Roosa	25
Theodore Zimmerman	14	Elisabeth Strong	25
Alice Souers	15	Richard Koontz	25
Debra Huffer	17	Nathan Fox	26
Dick Huffer	20	Claudia Harrington	27
Doug Brown	21	Warren Huffer	27
Tyler Lowery	21	Andrew Miller	27
Karen Jeffery	22	Jan Harmon	28
Kathleen Schroyer	22	Floyd Schroyer	29
Dale Ingram	22	Susan Stanczyk	29
Kelsey Dunn	22	Ruth Hubbel	30
Haylee Hartman	22		

Theodore & Lisa Fox	5/08
Pat & Gail Miglio	5/10
Donald & Evelyn Vollmer	5/21
James & Lisa Goodson	5/23



Note: The Birthday and Anniversary lists include the baptized and voting confirmed members.

We would like contributions of news articles from all corners of St. Paul Church family: youth, choir, women's and men's groups, Sunday School, etc. Please submit your material by placing it in the mailbox marked **Newsletter** or emailing to Newsletter@StPaulJeff.org. Please include your name and phone number. If possible, submit your material by email or on a computer diskette, with a hard copy, noting the type of word processing software used to create it. Note: Items submitted after the deadline may be held until the subsequent newsletter.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:15 AM Contemporary Service
 9:30 AM Sunday School
 10:45 AM Traditional Service
 Nursery available

Holy Communion celebrated every Sunday
 Food Bank collection the first Sunday of each month

CHURCH MINISTRY DIRECTORY

Church Office: 301-473-8626
 Web: www.StPaulJeff.org
 Pastor, Katrina Holland
 Church Secretary, Secretary@StPaulJeff.org
 Donald Vollmer, Council President
 Lorraine Schneider, Revelations Editor

REVELATIONS

St. Paul Lutheran Church
 3864 Jefferson Pike
 PO Box 637
 Jefferson MD 21755-0637

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT
 ORGANIZATION
 U.S. Postage
PAID
 Jefferson, MD 21755
 Permit No. 2