

St. Paul's Lutheran Church March, 2009 "Newsletter"

A still small voice

Night falls as my husband David drives down the narrow road that runs over the lake and through the pine woods to our family cabin in north Alabama. Sitting beside him, I look out the window into the darkness. "Better slow down," I say. "A little fox might dart out in front of the car."

"I don't think that will happen," David answers as he slows almost to a crawl. "The fox tends to be very ----"

Before David's sentence is complete, a young fox leaps out of the dark brush and runs across our path just inches from what would have been sure death a moment earlier.

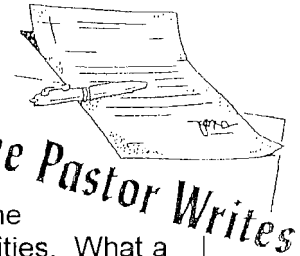
"Wow! What a coincidence," David says. "I've never seen that happen before. If you hadn't said 'slow down'..."

"Funny," I answer, amazed, "I didn't even think before I spoke. What I said about the fox, it came into my mouth out of nowhere."

Later, David says, "All your life, you hear people say, 'trust your instincts.' Something told you to say 'slow down,' and you trusted it. I believe that's one way God is involved in our everyday lives. He speaks to our inner selves, and it's up to us to listen."

I smile at David. "God on a lonely road, looking out for one little fox. Imagine, God using my voice to keep His creatures safe."

Written by Pam Kidd



St. Paul's and Trinity: Brothers and Sisters in Christ

The people of St. Paul's Lutheran and Trinity Lutheran Churches are indeed brothers and sisters in Christ. And in recent months we have been demonstrating the power and the advantages of coming together in worship, prayer, Bible study, recreation, and youth activities. What a blessing it has been for your pastor and for all of us to observe a new spirit of unity as we have come together to enjoy fellowship with each other and to gain from the talents of people in both congregations.

We have witnessed this increase in expressions of common purpose and community spirit in the following ways: our Wednesday evening Bible studies with people coming to sessions at both churches, crossing our Prayer Chains to ask God's help for people we all know, our well-attended joint fall hayride, and our new joint Lutheran Youth Organization. We began the season of Lent with very good attendance from both churches for our Ash Wednesday Service. Throughout Lent our mid-week services are joint worship services, using musical talent from both congregations to sing the beautiful Holden Evening Prayer Service (in addition to delicious soup and sandwich suppers.)

On the last Sunday in March and the first Sunday in April we will be blessed with exciting and inspirational services and important events at each church: Sunday, March 29, 9:30 am, a joint Country Western/Blue Grass Worship Service at Trinity (followed by the Men's Pancake Dinner) and on Sunday, April 5, 9:30 am, a joint Palm Sunday Uplifting Contemporary Service (followed by the Uplifting Celebration turkey dinner.)

These Services and activities are for all the members of both congregations, no matter which church they are held in. Come and join your brothers and sisters in Christ in worship, fellowship, celebration and fun.

Pastor Bill

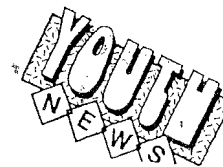
February Worship Attendance

Feb. 1	36	
8	49	
15	69	
22	49	
25	66	Ash Wed.



Honor Roll

"A"	Grade 10	Katie Bauer
"B"	Grade 12	Lance Messner
		Bethany Trout
	Grade 9	Sonja Sprandel

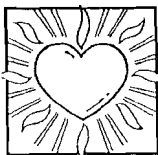


South Africa Partnership Committee

The South Africa Partnership Committee of our MN Valley Conference continues to meet regularly at the Veterans Club in Winthrop. Plans to continue for bringing the dean of their circuit and another leader here for a visit this spring from May 28 to June 16. Each of our conference congregations is being asked to help with the cost. Contributions need to be turned in to the conference by April 15. Plans are being made for a group from our conference to visit the Vryheid Circuit in South Africa next January.

St. Paul's Church Women gave a contribution of \$100 to the conference.

Forty seven people attended the first Soup Supper held on Ash Wednesday at St. Paul's. Donations of \$114.00 was received and will be used for expenses for our Youth who will be attending the Youth Gathering in New Orleans in July. **Sonja Sprandel** and **Brianna Hahn** along with Pastor Bill and his wife, Marge, will be attending this Gathering. Four youth from Trinity are also attending.



JUST FOR LAUGHS

A truck driver stopped at a roadside diner for lunch. He ordered a cheeseburger, coffee and a slice of apple pie. As he was about to eat, three motorcycles pulled up outside. The bikers came in, and one grabbed the trucker's cheeseburger and took a bite from it. The second one drank the trucker's coffee, and the third wolfed down the apple pie. The truck driver didn't say a word. He simply got up, paid the cashier and left. When he was gone, one of the bikers said, "He ain't much of a man, is he?"

The cashier replied, "He's not much of a driver, either. He just backed his semi truck over three motorcycles."

Sibley East wrestling cheerleaders were among girls throughout Minnesota recently honored for academic excellence and leadership skills. **Kacey Trout** is the coach. She is the daughter of Alan and Keri Trout. **Bethany Trout** is a member of the cheerleading squad. She is the daughter of Danny and Brenda Trout.

Wendy Meyer was named to the Dean's List at Rasmussen College, Mankato.

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement of Christian women of many traditions who come together to observe a common day of prayer each year, and who, in many countries, have a continuing relationship in prayer and service. This year's World Day of Prayer service will be held Friday, **March 6th** at 1:30 pm at **St. Michael's Catholic Church**. This year's service was written by women of New Guinea.

On March 31 the Winthrop Women's Club will be sponsoring the "Kids Against Hunger" packaging event at the Veteran's Club. There will be 2 shifts running from 4:00-6:00 pm and from 6:00-8:00 pm. Their goal this year is to package 50,000 meals. They ask for our time and/or cash donations. As an example, a \$25.00 donation feeds 250 children. Each package provides 6 meals and costs ten cents per meal. Donations can sent to Kids Against Hunger, PO Box 611, Winthrop, MN 55396

March is the major food and fundraiser time for our county food shelf. The money and food contributed to Sibley Count FoodShare during the month of March will be counted, weighed and reported to the MN Food Bank. They will match a percentage of the total amount of food and cash donated to our county food shelf during the March campaign. They would appreciate our support.

March

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
<p>1</p> <p>8:30 am Worship Communion 9:30 am Sun School 1:30 pm Conference Assembly at Gibbon</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:00 pm Supper 7:00 pm Lenten Service at Trinity</p>	<p>5</p> <p>7:00 am Men's Lenten Breakfast at Assembly of God 1:30 pm Communion at OT</p>	<p>6</p> <p>1:30 pm World Day of Prayer at St. Michael's Catholic</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8</p> <p>8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sun. School 6:30 pm Church Council</p>	<p>9</p> <p>9:00 am Naomi Circle at Mary Beth Egesdal's home</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12 noon South Africa Partnership meeting at the Veterans Club in Winthrop</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:00 pm Supper 7:00 pm Lenten Service at St. Paul's</p>	<p>12</p> <p>7:00 pm Men's Lenten Breakfast at St. Michael's</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Cindy Telthoester's Bridal shower</p>
<p>15</p> <p>8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sun. School <i>Firefighters Pancake Breakfast</i></p>	<p>16</p> <p>Thrivent's Appreciation Dinner</p>	<p>17</p> <p>MN Valley Pastor's Conference at Zion, Arlington</p>	<p>18</p> <p>6:00 pm Supper 7:00 pm Lenten Service at Trinity</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7:00 pm Men's Lenten Breakfast at St. Paul's/Trinity</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22</p> <p>8:30 am Worship 9:30 am Sun School</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:00 pm Supper 7:00 pm Lenten Service at St. Paul's</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7:00 am Men's Lenten Breakfast at UCC</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29</p> <p>9:30 am Combined Worship at Trinity</p> <p><i>Pancake Dinner at Trinity 10:30-1:30</i></p>	<p>30</p>	<p>31</p>	<p>April 1</p> <p>6:00 pm Supper 7:00 pm Lenten Service at Trinity</p>	<p>April 2</p> <p>Men's Lenten Breakfast at American Lutheran</p>		

2009