

# GOOD NEWS



## St. Paul Lutheran Church

P.O. Box 245, Yorktown, Texas 78164

Office: 361-564-2135

[www.stpaulykt.org](http://www.stpaulykt.org) e-mail: [stpaulykt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stpaulykt@sbcglobal.net)

9:00 a.m. Sunday Morning Radio Broadcast

1490 AM or 92.1 FM

Pastor: Tim W. Muehlbrad - 361-564-2335

Vicar: Hans Tolpingrud

### **ST. PAUL LUTHERAN MISSION STATEMENT:**

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit to make Christ known;  
As we love one another, serve our neighbor, and grow in our  
Faith through studying God's Word and  
Worshipping God.*



The Cradle Workshop is making baby blankets for the Gabriel Project. This is an organization that helps unwed mothers with their newborns. We would like to ask the help of the congregation to donate or buy yarn for these blankets. Any color that is suitable for babies.

If you have extra yarn at home, we can use it. It will take approximately 14 oz. of yarn to make a blanket 36" x 40". Anyone that would like to knit or crochet at home with your own pattern, is welcome to or join us at Cradle Workshop in the Lounge in the Education Building Feb. 14 and Mar 14 at 1:30 p.m. You can contact Sue Bolting at 938-5831 or Janet Lambrecht at 564-4148. Thank you.



I was reminded recently of the following story which involved the great artist Michelangelo:

You may know that one of his masterpieces is the statue of the shepherd boy David which he carved out of marble, but did you know that he carved it out of a piece of rejected marble? A fellow artist in Italy had originally ordered a block of marble, but when it arrived, it was too narrow to be of any use so he refused to accept it. Michelangelo studied the rejected stone for a while then decided he would take it. That stone became one of the most loved sculptures done by Michelangelo.

The famous statue of David contains a number of distinctive features. If it were possible to see the top of David's head and the soles of his feet you would see spots of unchiseled marble. On close viewing, you would notice that the right elbow hugs the side as the right hand goes over the shoulder to hold the strings of David's sling; you would also see how the full length of the left arm presses against the side as the left hand reaches to take a stone from the pouch; many notice too that the left knee bends inward toward the right upon which the weight of the figure rests itself.

What everyone does not know, and what enhances the beauty and the wonder of the artist's achievement, is the fact that all these distinctive features were done in order to keep within the narrow limits imposed by the rejected marble block. Michelangelo, in other words could have sculptured his statue differently if he had had another piece of stone with which to work. But, taking the stone which was rejected, Michelangelo had to work within certain limits. The result was not some stunted or flawed piece of art, but one of the world's great masterpieces.

The lesson is obvious. Sometimes we find ourselves limited. We think we don't have enough talent, or enough time, or enough money, or whatever else. Consequently, we convince ourselves that we cannot do anything worthwhile. So, we don't even make an effort.

There is a more Godly way of looking at life. It is related to the way Michelangelo looked at the piece of marble. It is to look not at the problems, but at the possibilities. It is to say, “This is what God has given me to work with. I will use it to the best of my ability.” It is amazing what can happen when we see and use our talents and gifts as though they were on loan to us from God. God, like the artist, is a master at taking the stones which others reject and making something special of them.

“And the Word became flesh and dwells among us.” (John 1:14a)

Your Pastor,  
Tim W Muehlbrad



### *Vicar's Page*

Greetings St Paul Lutheran!

The last couple of weeks a group of us have been meeting on Tuesday evenings to talk about some of our foundational Lutheran confessional documents, including the Large and Small catechisms as well as the Augsburg Confession. I have to say, I've really been enjoying the opportunity and I'm looking forward to continuing through the next few weeks of the class. It's a short class—we're only meeting six times—and there are probably so many more things that we could talk about than we have time for. But the class has us thinking about a few key things, and these are things we can all be thinking about, even if you aren't in the class. As we've been starting to look at the different parts of the Catechisms, there are a couple of large questions for us: 1) what does it mean to be a Lutheran, or have a Lutheran understanding of things, and 2) How can we encounter or use different pieces of the Catechisms in our regular prayer life, or when do we take time to think about these things besides confirmation? Catechesis, being formed in the faith, is a process that is always happening. We Lutherans have a life of faith that is shaped in the historic symbols of the church (the 10 Commandments, the Creed,

and the Lord's Prayer) and is lived out sacramentally (through Baptism and Holy Communion in particular). I wanted to share a bit of that with everyone, and encourage us all to think about those questions and how we can continue to learn and grow in our faith, and nurture our community.

Blessings  
Vicar Hans

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## COUNCIL MINUTES JANUARY 12, 2017



The minutes from December 15, 2016 were accepted as printed.

- **Treasurer** – Treasurer's report was accepted as presented.
- **Youth** – No scout troops in the area are interested in acquiring the church's Boy Scout trailer so the Austin area council will be contacted to see if there are any troops in need of a trailer.
- **Worship** – There will be a First Communion training Jan 21<sup>st</sup> and an acolyte training on Feb. 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **Social Concerns** – The YAM building is on schedule for an early summer completion, in addition Sharon Metting from YAM expressed her thanks to St Paul for the help in making YAM a successful project over the years.
- **Property** – Wayne met with Thomas Stepanski who indicated that 1 ½ inch square tubing would satisfy ADA requirements for hand rails. Thomas will give a bid for this project. Augustin Reza will be giving a bid on the covered walkway, the ramp at Pars 1 has been completed and the stains on the carpet by the elevator have been cleaned.
- **Parish Ed** – Tina Boehm will be hosting an organizational meeting on Jan. 29 at 6 pm for this year's Community Wide VBS to be held at St. Paul. VBS for children ages 3-5 will continue to be held in the basement while VBS for children who have completed Kindergarten through grade school will be held in the Ed Building.
- **C.E.M.** – The Learning Garden will hold it's Annual Board Meeting Jan. 24. Mrs. Donna Baxter is now teaching the PK4

class with 11 currently enrolled. Total enrollment at The Learning Garden is 54 children.

- **Outreach/Evangelism** – Ads were placed in the Victoria Advocate and Yorktown News for Christmas & New Year.
- **Vicar Hans** – During December Hans participated in 10 worship services, 2 pastoral visits, 4 educational events & 1 church meeting. Official acts included a funeral on 12/23. Hans reported that one of his sermons was published in the Church Life Journal on Dec. 10. Vicar Hans also conducted the first of 6 classes about Catechism & Lutheran Confession. On the 22<sup>nd</sup> Vicar Hans will conduct the Sunday Service in Goliad, after helping with the Yorktown service.
- **Pastor Tim** reported that during December professional activities included 10 Worship services, 8 hospital visits, 3 home visits, 7 educational events, 6 church meetings & events, 2 community events and 1 week of vacation. Official Acts included a memorial service on 12/10 and a burial on 12/24.
- **OLD BUSINESS** – The present benevolence budget is 15% distributed as follows: 6% - NALC & 1% to each of the following; Cross Trails Ministry, Water to Thrive, Oromo Church, Church of the Living God (Chinese Church), Child Outreach International, NALC Seminary fund, Lead Star aka World Mission Prayer League, DeWitt County Gabriel Project and Local Benevolence. A motion was made seconded & passed to increase the benevolence to 16% for the 2017 budget.
- **NEW BUSINESS** – **a)** A motion was made, seconded and passed to approve for Pastor Tim & Vicar Hans to attend a program on the Church and Persecution in Canmore, Alberta on May 9 - 12. **b)** A motion passed to give Pastor Tim vacation time from May 15 – May 29. **c)** Council installation will be held immediately after the annual meeting. **d)** A motion passed to change the council meeting to the second Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm **e)** Appreciation was expressed to Beverly Feller for serving on the council.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

*Note: a full copy of the minutes may be obtained from the church office.*

## 2017 COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT - Bill Klaevemann – 649-2753

SECRETARY - Dorothy Mayfield - 550-9136

PARISH ED - Rebecca Innocenti – 649-6163

STEWARDSHIP - John Frels – 550-7382

WORSHIP - Christopher Gohmert – 579-8803

CHRISTIAN LIFE - Linda Hurta - 564-2363

PROPERTY - Wayne Smith – 564-3742

SOCIAL CONCERNS -

YOUTH - Beverly Bruns – 564-9115

EVANGELISM/OUTREACH – Lois Kelch - 361-401-0150



Thank you to everyone who gave memorials, sent cards, and called with words of sympathy for the loss of my “Pop” Ervin Schley and brother, David Heaslet. Thank you to those who brought food for

Pop’s reception and to John Hurst, Brenda Kirchoff, Lyn Janssen, and Luellen Smiley for working the reception. All of your acts of love and kindness helped during this sad time. God’s blessings to all.

Sandra & Jay Heil & Family



To the Congregation of St. Paul,

Thank you so much for your generous gifts this Christmas! Your thoughtfulness is greatly appreciated. We are truly blessed to be a part of a loving congregation.

Gods Blessings To All,

Ricky & Judy Hilbrich and family



## Tuesday, FEBRUARY 7, 2017

Group	Time	Study Leader	Hostess
<b>FAITH</b>	9:00 a.m.	Sandra Heil	Lorna Borgfeld
<b>GRACE</b>	9:00 a.m.	Luellen Smiley	Penny Sievers
<b>JOY</b>	2:30 p.m.	Group	Meeting Room

**The Christian Life** committee has planned the following events. Please come join us and other members of the church for delicious food and fellowship. Sharing a meal with other Christians gives nourishment to the soul as well as the body.



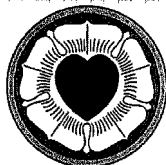
February 28 <sup>th</sup>	Shrove Tuesday 5:00 – 7:00 P.M.	<b>Pancake &amp; Sausage Supper</b> (Committee provides meal)
March 19 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Lunch 11:15 A.M.	<b>Pot Luck</b> (Bring your favorite dish to share)
April 30 <sup>th</sup>	Sunday Lunch 11:15 A.M.	<b>Meal on a Stick</b> (Committee provides meal)

DEAR BLUE SANTA CONTRIBUTOR,



Thank you for your contribution to the Blue Santa program, a partnership between the Yorktown Western Days Association and the Yorktown Police Department. Thanks to your generosity over 70 families were able to enjoy a Happy Holiday and Merry Christmas. Many blessings for helping us spread the Christmas Spirit to the less fortunate in our community.

May God Bless and be with you as we begin the New Year!  
Tammy Bitterly, YWDA Executive Director



## *Reformation* † *Refocus* † *Renewal*

*Romans 12:2 Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect. (ESV)*

### **WOMEN'S GATHERING** **South Texas Mission District** **North American Lutheran Church**

**April 8, 2017**

**Donna Pyle, Artesian Ministries LLC**  
Speaker and Bible Study Leader

**Music \* Reformation Moments \* Deutch Marktplaz**

**Be Informed Be Inspired**

*Celebrate Reformation anniversary with Martin Luther*  
*Celebrate what is true, noble, pure, lovely & admirable with God*

**Welcome Lutheran Church**  
**13636 FM 109, Brenham, Texas 77833**

**Host Churches:**  
Abiding Word Lutheran Church  
St Matthew Lutheran Church  
Welcome Lutheran Church

For additional information contact  
Geraldine Johnson  
geraldine@reagan.com  
979-203-3131





## Words of Wellness for February 2017

### "Spiritual Disciplines"

The Christian season of Lent begins March 1. For those who observe this season, it is a common practice to take on a new spiritual discipline for the seven weeks between Ash Wednesday and Easter. Spiritual disciplines are of course not unique to Christianity, but are practiced by followers of all faiths.

My wife recently led a three week parenting series for parents of children in our local school system. The topic of discipline came up, as it almost always does when we offer a parenting program. The parents were not asking about discipline in the spiritual sense, the kind people connect with seasons such as Lent, but rather about the topic of discipline as it relates to raising children.

Whenever my wife and I, who speak regularly as family therapists about parenting, are asked about the topic of discipline it gives us the opportunity to remind people that the root meaning of the word *discipline* is *to teach*. A disciple is a student, a person learning from a teacher. To be knowledgeable in a certain discipline means that one can teach others about that subject. When we are talking with parents we explain that many parents commonly think of disciplining a child as synonymous with punishment. It is more accurate and far more helpful though, to think instead of disciplining a child as teaching a child. Any time a child misbehaves, a parent has an opportunity to teach, it is a teachable moment. The parent can show and demonstrate the behavior that would instead be more appropriate, safer or more desirable. The emphasis of a teaching based discipline versus a fear or guilt-based approach is an important distinction when thinking about the idea of discipline.

The same understanding of discipline applies to the practice of spiritual disciplines. Some approaches to Lent, and to spiritual disciplines in general, have emphasized fear and guilt, even the need at times to suffer. I choose to believe in a love-based approach to discipline, one that emphasizes

discipline as teaching. With this mindset, one takes on a spiritual discipline to learn about spiritual matters such as the importance of humility, gratitude, patience, delayed gratification, forgiveness, prayer, and service to others. Just as a person might have a discipline of practicing the piano in order to play more beautiful music, so too a person might take on a spiritual discipline to be able to live a more spiritual life, to deepen one's tendency to be humble, patient, prayerful, and grateful.

In my attempt to deepen my own spiritual life I have already started practicing a few spiritual disciplines for this Lent. I will be writing in a journal for fifteen minutes each day, specifically about two things. The first will be what I am grateful for that day, and the second will be what I either learned that day or what I had the chance to practice in terms of "letting go." "Letting Go with All Your Heart, Soul, Strength, and Mind" is the theme of the Living Compass Lenten booklet this year and so it was natural for me to focus on that as part of my journaling discipline. The other discipline I will be practicing this Lent is that of giving something away. Each day I will be packing up one item to give to Goodwill. At the end of the 40 days of Lent, I will take the 40 items to my local Goodwill store to drop them off. I still have a great deal to learn about letting go, gratitude, and simplifying my life and so this is my lesson plan for this Lent.

How about you? Have you considered observing Lent this year by taking on a spiritual discipline? If so, what do you hope to learn by doing so?

Your Wesley Nurse, Kathy Frels RN

Reference: [LivingCompass.com](http://LivingCompass.com) Samaritan Family Wellness Foundation. 500 W. Silver Spring Dr. K270 Glendale, WI 53217



Hear ye, hear ye!

Bring a friend to Sunday School during the month of February and share God's love! Children in grades K-8 are encouraged to invite their earthly BFFs to join them in class and

learn of The True BFF, Jesus!

**FEBRUARY, 2017**  
**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Sunday, February 5, 2017 – 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

First Lesson: Isaiah 58:1-9a [9b-12]

Psalm: Psalm 112:1-9 [10]

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 [13-16]

Gospel: Matthew 5:13 - 20



**Sunday, February 12, 2017 – 6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**



First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Psalm: Psalm 119:1-9

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9

Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37

**Sunday, February 19, 2017 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Epiphany**

First Lesson: Leviticus 19:1-2, 9-18

Psalm: Psalm 119:33-40

Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 3:10-11, 16-23

Gospel: Matthew 5:38-48



**Sunday, February 26, 2017 – Transfiguration of Our Lord**



First Lesson: Exodus 24:12-18

Psalm: Psalm 2

Second Lesson: 2 Peter 1:16-21

Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9



Dear Members of St Paul's,

Danny and I just wanted to say thank you for the "Welcoming" gifts that we received when we joined the church in November. We do appreciate the kindness and warmth from the congregation even

before we joined. God Bless!

Thanks again, Danny & Keli Faucett

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**We** keep in our prayers the family and friends of:



**Wilma Billings** – who passed away January 10, 2017. Services were held January 13, 2017.

**Gladys Mueller** – who passed away January 23, 2017. Services were held January 27, 2017.

May the power of the resurrection continue to provide them assurance.

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In memory of Susanne Audilet – Building

Carlton & Sandra Bolting      Rod & Donna Seidel

Carol Ann & Obert Sagbiel      Elorine Domann

Mary Lee Kozielski      Greg & Darlene Metting

Lorene Koopmann      Manroy & Gracie Wolpman

Larry & Kristy Serold & family

In memory of Susanne Audilet – C.E.M.

Roland & Gail Riedesel

In memory of Wilma Billings – Radio

Dr. & Mrs. John Frels

In memory of Wilma Billings – C.E.M.

Roland & Gail Riedesel      Lyn Janssen

OF & Sue Bolting

In memory of Wilma Billings – Building

Allen Joyce Baker      Michael & Kim Blaschke

Mary Hilbrich      Ricky & Judy Hilbrich

Jesse & Linda Hurta      Carl & Sharon Matejek

Arlen & Cindy Parma      Charles & Bonnie Riedesel

James & Wanda Rohan      Boyd & Pam Weise

Manroy & Gracie Wolpman      Doris John

Mr. & Mrs. Ron Willis      Laura & Gaylon Kaiser

Sonny & Betty Ann Seifert      Audrey Balcar

Elorine Domann	Mary lee Kozielski
<u>In memory of Wilma Billings</u>	– Building
Nancy & Larry Gohmert	Ruby Warzecha
Frank & Elaine Styra	Phyllis Hahn
David & Patsy Ibrom	Lambert & Verda Mae Styra
Steven & Debbie Kneese	Georgia B Guzy
Bill & Carolyn Bargmann	Carlton & Sandra Bolting
Mary Lou Gerhardt	Lilly Cooper
<u>In memory of David Heaslet</u>	– C.E.M.
Susan & Don Wieland	Ruby Braun
<u>In memory of David Heaslet</u>	– Cemetery
Arlen & Kathie Fehner	
<u>In memory of David Heaslet</u>	– Building
Glen & Judy Henze	Larry & Kristy Serold & family
Mary Lou Gerhardt	Manroy & Gracie Wolpman
Bill & Carolyn Bargmann	
<u>In memory of Roland Metting</u>	– Building, Helen Breed
<u>In memory of Joe Hurta</u>	– C.E.M., Lyn Janssen
<u>In memory of Catherine Muehlbrad</u>	– C.E.M.
Sharon & Ty Schroeder	Kay Mueller
<u>In memory of Dorothy Riedesel</u>	– C.E.M., Lyn Janssen
<u>In memory of Ervin Schley</u>	– Radio
Dr. & Mrs. John Frels	Alton L Junker
<u>In memory of Ervin Schley</u>	– Building
Lovel & Avis Blain	Evelyn Barfield & family
Carlton & Sandra Bolting	Dennis Henze
Harvey & Ellen Stary	Tommy & Sheila Ohrt
James & Yvonne Meischen	Rod & Donna Seidel
Lorene Koopmann	Roger & Deborah Geffert
Bill & Carolyn Bargmann	KC & Doris Koehler
Jesse & Linda Hurta	Caroline M Blain
Victor & Gerry Riske	Joyce M Lamprecht
Emil & Bernice Geffert	Robert & Marilyn Meischen
Elorine Domann	Mary Kozielski
Mr. & Mrs. Bobby R Schley	Shirley & Darryl Mueller
OF & Sue Bolting	Byron & Barbara Cramer
Dan Gohmert	Glen & Judy Henze
Ricky & Judy Hilbrich	Manroy & Gracie Wolpman
Penny Sievers	Larry, Kristy Serold & family

Helen Breed

Steven & Debbie Kneese

In memory of Ervin Schley – C.E.M.

Susan & Don Wieland

Roland & Gail Riedesel

Lyn Janssen

Ruby Braun

In memory of Ervin Schley – Cemetery, Arlen & Kathie Fehner

In memory of Tommy Smith – Building, Penny Sievers

In memory of Gary D Janssen – Building, by Shirley & family

*\*Gifts in memory and in honor of are as of January 23, 2017.*

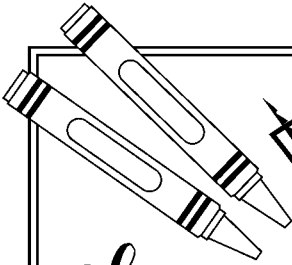


## GOD'S CONVERSATION HEARTS

Those familiar conversation hearts that show up every February can be more than just trite romantic or friendly sayings. Use them to remind you — or to teach a child — of the greatest love of all: God's love for us, which empowers our love for others. For example:

- ♥ TRUE LOVE: What love is truer than giving up one's only Son so people might have everlasting life? (John 3:16).
- ♥ MINE: Jesus knows us intimately, as a shepherd knows his sheep. No one can snatch us from him (John 10:27-29).
- ♥ FOREVER: God loves us with an "everlasting love" (Jeremiah 31:3).
- ♥ LOVE ME: The greatest commandment is to love God with our whole being (Luke 10:27).
- ♥ TRUST ME: "Let not your hearts be troubled." We can count on Jesus, now and for eternal life (John 14:1-3).
- ♥ SWEET TALK: God's words are sweeter than honey (Psalm 119:103).
- ♥ BE GOOD: We show our love for Christ by keeping his commands (John 14:15).
- ♥ CALL ME: God longs to be in fellowship with us. We can talk to him anytime in prayer (Jeremiah 33:3).
- ♥ FRIENDS: The greatest love involves laying down your life for your friends (John 15:13) — precisely what Jesus did.
- ♥ #1: "We love because [God] first loved us" (1 John 4:19).





# PUZZLE

## Love your neighbor as yourself

Valentine's Day is the perfect opportunity to live out God's love.  
How does Jesus say we should treat other people?

*Directions: Find a hidden word in each sentence. For example, "the" is hidden here: (12) "It's Harry's hat he stole." The (12) means the hidden word starts on the 12<sup>th</sup> letter (ignore punctuation). Use the answers to complete Matthew 19:19, NIV.*

(1) You really like ice cream! \_\_\_\_\_



(16) Carly has a really fat hermit crab. \_\_\_\_\_

(21) My favorite animals are moth, ermine and eels. \_\_\_\_\_

(4) "Hello, Vera!" called Joseph. \_\_\_\_\_

(11) When horses neigh, boredom reigns. \_\_\_\_\_

(17) Their daughter, Kara, sat patiently. \_\_\_\_\_

(6) "That's yours, elf!" the fairy yelled. \_\_\_\_\_



"Honor \_\_\_\_\_ and



\_\_\_\_\_, and \_\_\_\_\_ your

\_\_\_\_\_."

Matthew 19:19, NIV



Answer: "Honor your father and mother, and love your neighbor as yourself." Matthew 19:19, NIV

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