

# The Churchman

Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church  
250 Woodside Road, Riverside, IL 60546 708-442-5250

*"Together in Worship and Serving in Faith"*

Rev. Dennis J. Lauritsen, Pastor  
[www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org](http://www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org)

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Issue 2

*"We are called together by the Holy Spirit around Word and sacraments to glorify God the Father, creator of all things, through our Lord Jesus Christ. We trust God to nurture lives of faith and hope, as we serve and give witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ for the salvation of the world."*



## THE HOLY SEASON OF LENT BEGINS ASH WEDNESDAY

FEBRUARY 17<sup>TH</sup>

SPOKEN LITURGY OF THE WORD  
WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES  
AT NOON

LITURGY OF HOLY COMMUNION  
WITH IMPOSITION OF ASHES  
AT 7:00 PM

## LENTEN VESPERS, SUPPER AND STUDY

EVERY WEDNESDAY IN LENT,  
BEGINNING FEBRUARY 24<sup>TH</sup>  
THRU MARCH 24<sup>TH</sup>.

VESPERS (EVENING PRAYER)  
IS SUNG AT 7:15,  
PRECEDED BY SUPPER AT 6:30.



## Pastor's Annual Report

submitted to the Annual Meeting of the Congregation  
of Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church of Riverside  
by Rev. Dennis J. Lauritsen  
January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2010

*The Year 2009 in Review: Some Highlights of Congregational Life*

Newly registered members were received on the Baptism of Our Lord, Sunday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, followed by a reception hosted by the Missions and Outreach Committee. The Annual Meeting of the Congregation was held two weeks later on January 25<sup>th</sup> with a congregational luncheon following the meeting.

Members of the congregation again participated in the Riverside Covenant of Churches Blood Drive on February 14<sup>th</sup>; hosted the January meeting of the Covenant; and participated in various events of the Covenant of Churches throughout the year.

On Wednesdays during the season of Lent, the congregation offered Evening Prayer using the *Holden Vespers* setting, preceded by suppers, and followed by a five-part study based upon the film *Chocolat*. The offerings received through the discipline of Lenten almsgiving benefitted the World Hunger Appeal of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and the Juan Cobrda Good Samaritan Fund of the congregation.

Several members of the congregation again volunteered their time preparing meals for the BEDS Shelter program in LaGrange during the winter season.

The congregation hosted Bishop Wilma Kucharek of the Slovak Zion Synod on Sunday, March 29<sup>th</sup> when she reported on the ministry of the Synod. Installations of pastors were held in the Western Conference of the Synod in January and March respectively at St. Peter and St. Paul, Blue Island, and Trinity, Chicago. Pastor Lauritsen continues to serve as Conference Dean since July, 2005.

The congregation observed Holy Week and Easter with good attendance, including the Easter breakfast hosted by the families of the Sunday School which has been well received since it began three years ago. Special vocalists and instrumentalists were among the highlights of these worship services.

**The deadline for articles for the March, 2010 issue of the congregational newsletter is Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>. Thank you for being prompt!**

The Annual Mission Dinner, hosted by the Missions and Outreach Committee, was held on April 26<sup>th</sup> to benefit Seguin Services and the Juan Cobrda Good Samaritan Fund of the congregation. The Dinner netted well over \$3,000.00 including matching funds from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Through the efforts of the Missions and Outreach Committee, the congregation continues to provide financial and prayer support for missionaries of the ELCA to the international congregation in Bratislava, Slovakia. This committee also received collections of food and money for the Riverside Township Food Pantry.

A reception of new members to the congregation was held again on a Sunday, May 31<sup>st</sup>.

The pastor and members of the congregation participated in the Riverside Memorial Day Program on May 25<sup>th</sup> and then revived a long-standing tradition of making potato pancakes for the Riverside 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration.

The congregation hosted the PeopleCare Social for senior citizens in the area on June 17<sup>th</sup>.

The preschool completed its 11<sup>th</sup> year in May, offering three levels of instruction that include 3 year-olds, 4 year-olds and Kindergarten-readiness. Summer camp was held again this year in June and July.

The Community Life Committee of the congregation hosted a Spaghetti and Crazy Dice Night in March, an outing to a Kane County Cougars baseball game in August, and an Italian Night in November. The Committee members also decorated a tree at the Brookfield Zoo for the Christmas season and received an offering to benefit the Hinsdale Humane Society in December.

This was the sixth consecutive year that a church softball team played together in a regional Lutheran league during the months of May thru July.

The congregation again sponsored and sent high school students on the Appalachian Service Project (ASP) during the second week in June. We also sponsored two eighth graders from Hauser Junior High who attended the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual PRIDE World Drug Prevention Conference. We recognized several 8<sup>th</sup> grade, jr. high, high school and college graduates on Sunday, June 14<sup>th</sup>.

The congregation held outdoor worship services in July and then in September to coincide with the opening of the educational year and the annual congregational picnic.

Sts. Peter and Paul celebrated the Rite of Confirmation for two young men on Reformation Sunday, October 25<sup>th</sup>. Ten young people are preparing for Confirmation at this time.

The Dorcas Society held its Annual Craft and Pantry Fair, an event that draws several hundred people, on Saturday, October 10<sup>th</sup>.

Members participated in the local CROP Walk sponsored by the Riverside Covenant of Churches in October. The walkers from Sts. Peter and Paul raised about \$1,250.00 for Church World Service. Members of the Covenant have also gathered on the first Wednesday of each month during the past year for midweek prayers for peace. A con-celebration of the blessing of animals was held on the Commemoration of St. Francis of Assisi, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, and an ecumenical service was offered on the winter solstice, December 21<sup>st</sup>, at Riverside Presbyterian Church.

The Thanksgiving Day offering benefitted the Greater Chicago Food Depository in its efforts to alleviate hunger in the metropolitan area; an offering of \$1,150.00 was received.

The Ladies Altar Guild hosted its annual Stedrakya with some 135 people present from various congregations in the metropolitan area.

Once again this year, the congregation received gifts and monetary donations for the Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois program to benefit needy children at Christmas as well as our sponsored missionaries in Bratislava and the Hinsdale Humane Society.

An Advent Vespers service was held on the afternoon of December 13<sup>th</sup> followed by a holiday reception.

The Sunday School Christmas Pageant, Preschool Holiday Reception, and Christmas liturgies graced the end of the year.

*—submitted by Dennis J. Lauritsen, pastor*

### **ASH WEDNESDAY AND THE FORTY DAYS OF LENT**

The holy season of Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>. The service times are noon (spoken Liturgy of the Word) and 7:00 p.m. (Liturgy of Holy Communion). Christians gather on this holy day to mark the beginning of Lent's baptismal preparation for Easter. On this day, we receive an ashen cross on the forehead (a gesture rooted in baptism), make extended confession, hear the solemn proclamation to keep a fast in preparation for Easter's feast, and contemplate anew the ongoing meaning of our baptism into the Lord's death and resurrection. While marked with the ashes of human mortality, the church hears God's promise of forgiveness and tastes God's mercy in the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Please mark this holy day on your calendars, along with every Wednesday evening during the forty days of Lent as we gather for Vespers (Evening Prayer) at 7:15 p.m., preceded by a supper at 6:30.

#### ***Worship and Music. . .***

The Worship and Music Committee wishes to thank everyone who participated in our Christmas services to help make them joyful. Special thanks to our Sunday School teachers and students who staged the annual Christmas pageant on the Fourth Sunday of Advent, to help start our Christmas festivities.

We would also like to thank the hospitality crew who set up the reception after our afternoon Vespers Service on the Third Sunday of Advent.

Ash Wednesday begins the season of Lent on February 17<sup>th</sup>. We will again be having midweek Evening Prayer services on Wednesdays throughout Lent. Organizations or individuals are needed to prepare soup for the following dates: February 24<sup>th</sup>, March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, and 24<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Karen in the church office to sign up for a date or request more information. Thank you for your help.

*—Charles Matthies*

#### ***Official Pastoral Rites. . .***

##### ***Funeral:***

Mary Maytan, 93 years old, passed away on January 15th in St. Petersburg, Florida. Funeral services for Mary were held at Svec and Sons Funeral Home on January 23rd.

## IMAGES AND WORDS OF THE SEASON –LENT

The date of Easter is determined by the cycles of the earth, sun, and moon. In the Western Hemisphere the season of Lent brings a lengthening of days. Winter turns to spring as the days grow increasingly longer. As nature bursts forth with new life, we celebrate our spiritual rebirth through the death and resurrection of Christ as observed in the entire paschal cycle from Ash Wednesday to Pentecost.

We are children of earth, created from the dust, yet filled with the breath of God. On Ash Wednesday we face our mortality and the limits of our earthborn existence. Ashes are smeared on our forehead as we hear the same words spoken first by God to Adam and Eve following their disobedience: You are dust and to dust you shall return. It is hard not to make the connection with the words said at the rite of committal as we bury the dead: Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust. Ash Wednesday falls at a time when, for many, our cars, sidewalks, and windows are caked with the accumulated dirt and grime of winter, awaiting the cleansing rains of spring. As we turn to God for mercy, we ask God to wash away our sins and to create in us clean hearts. Like the earth tilting toward the sun, we return to the Lord, who is slow to anger and abounds in steadfast love.

The imposition of ashes feels like an imposition, a stark warning that we will not live forever. It is a humbling reminder of our limits and finitude as human beings. But it is also an invitation to embark on a profound spiritual journey that will lead us from death to the waters of rebirth and the new life of resurrection. Our Lenten pilgrimage is with our forebears in the faith, the Christian community today, and catechumens around the world preparing for baptism at Easter. In recent decades the focus of Lent has returned to the significance it had in the early centuries of the church. Rather than a forty-day reflection on the sufferings and death of Jesus, the purpose of Lent is to lead us to the destination of Easter, when we renew our baptismal vows and celebrate the paschal mystery of Jesus' death and resurrection. As Lent was originally a season to prepare candidates for baptism, the entire assembly observes these intense weeks dedicated to spiritual formation as it prepares for the paschal feast.

Though Lent is a time to return to baptism, Easter is the primary time the church celebrates the sacrament of baptism. During Lent some parishes empty their baptismal fonts or fill them with stones instead of water. It is an interesting juxtaposition to speak of baptism and at the same time find no water in the font. This "fast" increases our longing for the refreshment and new life that Easter brings to the world.

The images of Lent will shape our participation in the season. Though many churches have vestments and chancel hangings with symbols of the Passion, a renewed understanding of Lent invites a more unified approach to Jesus' death and resurrection. In the Middle Ages, images of the resurrection were hidden from view so that the faithful could meditate on the agony of the cross, and later even images of the latter were veiled or removed. Recent liturgical renewal is leading many to reconsider the appropriateness of these veils, passion hymns, and symbols during Lent. Perhaps a simplified liturgy and worship environment is enough to turn us inward for reflection and spiritual renewal.

We prepare for the Easter feast with joy, as one hymn puts it well: "The glory of these forty days we celebrate with songs of praise" (WOV 657). Certainly Lent is serious business but it is not a time to be gloomy. We simplify our liturgy and our lifestyles so that we may concentrate on essentials. The traditional Lenten disciplines of fasting, giving of alms, and prayer call us to a deeper relationship with God and service to others. The honest confronting of our sin enables us to humbly know our limits as children of earth, even while we are invited to be reborn through the resurrection.

Other images in the lectionary stir our imagination as well. The rainbow promised to Noah is a sign of God's everlasting covenant with humanity. Jesus is tempted in the wilderness, even as we struggle to live our faith with boldness. Jesus cleanses the temple and then speaks of the temple of his body that will be raised up after three days. The serpent lifted up by Moses foreshadows the Son lifted up on the cross for the life of the world. A grain of wheat that falls into the earth and bears fruit is the paradigm of our call to enter more deeply with Christ into the paschal mystery of dying and rising.

Lent is a spring housecleaning of the soul. As we prepare for Easter we are invited to clear the clutter and wash away the grit and grime. The simplicity of the season calls us to focus on things that matter most. Prayer and fasting may turn us inward for a time, but the increasing light and warmth sends us back to earth, back to serve the world so loved by God.

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### THANK YOU, DORCAS SOCIETY!

Week of Advent 2  
December 7<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Dear Sisters of the Dorcas Society,

The Congregation of Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church gives thanks for the faithfulness and love of the many saints through whom God graces the life and mission of the body of Christ in its expression among his people in this congregation.

On behalf of the entire congregation, I wish to express our gratitude to each of you for the recent financial gift from the Dorcas Society of Sts. Peter and Paul presented at the worship service this past Sunday of the Advent season. We gratefully acknowledge this very generous donation of \$5,000 given for the ministries of the congregation. This is truly an outstanding gift of which each of you should be very proud.

I want you to know that as a congregation we so very much appreciate the many months of preparation and work that go into making the Annual Fall Craft and Pantry Fair a tremendous community-gathering and financial success every year. As you know, it is the single most successful fund-raiser in our church! Please convey the gratitude of the entire congregation to each and every member of your organization and everyone who assists you in this fruitful endeavor.

I pray that your labor of love and this gift will be pleasing to our Lord and responsible to the offerings that you make for the sake of his Church and its ministries. And the peace of the Lord be with you during the days of Christmas and in the new year. I am

Your brother in Christ,  
Dennis J. Lauritsen, pastor

*Community Life Committee thanks. . .*

On behalf of our four-legged friends, the Community Life Committee (CLC) would like to thank all of you who included the Hinsdale Humane Society in your Christmas giving plans. Thanks to your donations, along with donations from the Preschool and the CLC, \$500.00 was given to the Hinsdale Humane Society. The donation will provide food and medical care for several weeks for a homeless dog or cat. A big "woof woof and a meow" to all the pet lovers at Sts. Peter and Paul.

*—Ann and Marty Pennino, CLC Co-Chairpersons*



*February Scripture Readings*

1. 1 Kings 17:8-16 - Facing our fears
2. Luke 2:22-40 - Presentation of Our Lord
3. 1 Corinthians 14:13-25 - The meaning of prayer
4. Isaiah 6:1-13 - Volunteers needed
5. Psalm 138 - Trust and obey
6. 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 - Self-acceptance
7. **Luke 5:1-11 - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**
8. Judges 5:1-11 - Sing your own song
9. 1 Samuel 9:15-10:1b - God and suffering
10. Luke 5:27-32 - Follow the leader
11. Exodus 34:29-35 - Shining with love
12. Psalm 99 - Faithful lives
13. 2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2 - Keeping courage
14. **Luke 9:28-43 - Transfiguration of Our Lord**
15. Acts 10:9-23a - Worlds apart
16. Acts 10:23b-33 - No objections
17. 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10 - Ash Wednesday
18. Deuteronomy 26:1-11 - What we can do
19. Psalm 91:1-3, 9-16 - No evil
20. Romans 10:8b-13 - Hearts and lips
21. **Luke 4:1-13 - First Sunday in Lent**
22. 1 Chronicles 21:1-17 - No excuses
23. Zechariah 3:1-10 - Readied to rule
24. Job 1:1-22 - Job's job
25. Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18 - Trust and doubt
26. Psalm 27 - Wait for the Lord
27. Philippians 3:17-41 - Minds set on earthly things
28. **Luke 13:31-35 - Second Sunday in Lent**

*Preschool News. . .*

Dear Friends,

February is here already and as usual the preschoolers are busy working on letter and number writing, special projects and, of course, Valentine's Day.

Last month, the preschool welcomed three new students to its' preschool family. They are Maya Gonzalez (3 yr), David Kummer (4 yr), and Aidan Makeeff (K-Readiness). Everyone is settling in nicely.

Preschool and Summer Camp sign-up for the 2010-2011 school year begins this month. Brochures will be available downstairs in the dining hall or from Karen in the church office. I am looking forward to another great summer!

*—Donna Tuider, Preschool Director*

*February Happenings*

**Community Life Committee's Bunco Night**  
Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 6 p.m.

**Slovak Athletic Association Meeting**  
Wednesday, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1 p.m.

**Church Council Meeting**  
Thursday, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 7:30 p.m.

**Missions and Outreach Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.

**Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**  
Spoken Liturgy of the Word with Ashes, 12 noon  
Liturgy of Holy Communion with Ashes, 7 p.m.

**Myjavsky Group Meeting**  
Thursday, February 18<sup>st</sup>, 12:00 noon

**Dorcas Society Meeting**  
Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12 noon

**Finance Committee Meeting**  
Tuesday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 7:15 p.m.

**Lenten Vespers, Supper and Study**  
Wednesdays, February 24<sup>th</sup> through March 24<sup>th</sup>, 6:15 p.m.



*Community News. . .*

Ascension Lutheran Church is embarking on a new outreach Ministry which will start on Monday, January 25, 2010 from 7-8:30 p.m. The program is called *DivorceCare* and is for people who are separated or going through a divorce. The program consists of 13 individual sessions covering a variety of meaningful topics. Each session is "self-contained", so you can start or stop at any point. If you or any of your friends could benefit from this program, contact Mary Jean at the Ascension church office, (708) 447-2600 or Don Forney, (708) 447-8867 for additional information. *DivorceCare* is nondenominational-all are welcome!

**Blood  
DRIVE**

The Riverside/North Riverside Covenant of Churches will host a Blood Drive on Saturday, February 13<sup>th</sup>, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. at the Riverside Masonic Lodge, 40 Forest Avenue in Riverside. To schedule an appointment, please contact Life Source at (847) 803-7943. Donors should eat a substantial meal and drink plenty of water prior to donating (not coffee, tea, or soda). Walk-in donors will be welcome, but those with appointments will have priority. All donors will be required to present a valid ID.

*We received thanks for our Thanksgiving donations. . .*

December 29, 2009

Dear Friends at Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church,

On behalf of each family who will have high quality, nutritious food to eat this holiday season, thank you. Your generous gift of \$1,175.00 will be used immediately to fight hunger in our community.

This is not the easiest time for many of our neighbors. In September alone, the Greater Chicago Food Depository served 23% more people than the year before. Because of you, we will be able to supply working adults, growing children, and active seniors with food this holiday season.

As we approach the end of the year, I am humbled by our community's response to this need - and I am also aware of the challenges that lie ahead. I know that, with your support, we can continue to provide food for hungry people. Because of you, we will rise to the challenge. I can't thank you enough.

Please know that you are welcome to visit the Food Depository to see your gifts in action. I can be reached directly at 773-247-3663.

Happy holidays, and again, thank you.

Sincerely,

*Kate R. Maehr  
Executive Director*

*With gratitude from Riverside Township. . .*

December 1, 2009

Dear Saints Peter and Paul Community:

Once again, thank you so much for your continued generosity and support of the Riverside Township Food Pantry. As our monthly recipients increase, so of course, does the need for food and financial support. We appreciate Sts. Peter and Paul's on-going non-perishable food donations and GENEROUS monetary donations. We **currently** serve 40 Township families on a monthly basis, with additional people who come sporadically. I am sure that we will see an increase as the economy continues its struggle.

Relying only upon donations from the community, our Food Pantry is available to anyone from the Township. During these difficult economic times, it is heart breaking to see so many who lack the basics. Thank you again for your ongoing support of one of the **most vital services** Riverside Township offers.

Have a safe and joyous Holiday season!

Sincerely yours,

*Richard P. Tuscher  
Supervisor*

*Our Giving Tree gifts and donations were much appreciated. . .*

December 21, 2009

Dear Pastor Lauritsen,

A special thanks to Sts. Peter and Paul members for your generous support of Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois this Christmas season. The holidays can be a difficult time for our clients, and your gift will help build happy memories for the children and families we serve.

Your donation will help make it possible for our workers to deliver Christmas gifts to hundreds of children in foster care as well as to many at-risk families, boys and girls at Lutherbrook and STAC, families participating in counseling and others served by LCFS across the state. Coordinating and distributing these vast numbers of gifts is a large task, but also a very joyous one because of all the caring, compassionate people who join us in this effort.

We are blessed to accept your caring gift and to be able to share it with others. Thank you for bringing help and hope to those we serve in this holiest of seasons.

Sincerely,

*Phillip L Jimenez  
Director of Development*



**FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS**

- |                            |                           |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| Feb. 1: Daniel Babiar      | Feb. 15: William Londak   |
| Feb. 4: Isabelle Boike     | Feb. 17: Deanna Oklepek   |
| Lois Mika                  | Feb. 21: Peter Drahos     |
| Susan Waldman              | Abby Keyes                |
| Feb. 6: John Borysek       | Adriana Kubo              |
| Rose Tornil                | Sarah Michaels            |
| Feb. 7: Ann Vana           | Feb. 22: Robert Kany      |
| Feb. 8: Angelene Ateca     | Feb. 23: John Kostelancik |
| Feb. 9: Robert Skudrna     | Feb. 24: Steve Skrha      |
| Feb. 11: Christopher Greer | Feb. 25: Gary Drahos      |
| Feb. 12: Jack Bute         | James Triska              |
| Susan Hassel               | Feb. 28: John Dundek, Jr. |
| Feb. 14: Suzanne Surak     | Feb. 29: Marie Kamp       |

**FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES**

- February 5, 1972 - Gary and Jocelyn Drahos
- February 27, 1965 - George and Joyce Hodul



## FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### February 7<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: John and Janet Broussard  
 Acolytes: Brandon Michaels and Sarah Michaels  
 Assisting Minister: Tom Michaels  
 Comm. Minister: Joan Triska  
 Lectors: Tom and Lavinia Myers  
 Nursery Attendant: Olivia Lauritsen  
 Usher: Wally Kessler and John Broussard

### February 14<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: Milan and Anita Horak  
 Acolytes: Alison Jones and Abby Collins  
 Assisting Minister: Carrie Watkiss  
 Comm. Minister: Charles Matthies  
 Lectors: John Broussard and Kristine Boike  
 Nursery Attendant: Kristen Kovack  
 Usher: Wally Kessler and Paul Watkiss

### Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: Edward and Joanne Sefara  
 Acolytes: Jonathan Haase and Jake Collins  
 Assisting Minister: Jan Hapgood  
 Comm. Minister: Tom Myers  
 Lectors: Jan and Janice Hapgood  
 Nursery Attendant: No nursery attendants  
 Usher: Wally Kessler and Joan Triska

### February 21<sup>st</sup>:

Greeters: Ann Kmet and Fred Kuzel  
 Acolytes: Nathan Byrne and Jacob Czerak  
 Assisting Minister: Lois Mika  
 Comm. Minister: Anne Otjepka  
 Lectors: Joanne Sefara and Philip Painter  
 Nursery Attendant: Kristine Boike  
 Usher: Wally Kessler and Joan Triska

### February 28<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: Emil and Mildred Mendel  
 Acolytes: Hannah Boike and Jessica Byrne  
 Assisting Minister: John Broussard  
 Comm. Minister: Dot Myers  
 Lectors: Sheryl Hallmann and Shirley Wood  
 Nursery Attendant: Carol Melnyk  
 Usher: Wally Kessler and Joan Triska

*Sacristan and Altar Care:*  
 Ramona Suffern

### Remember

If you are unable to keep your scheduled date, please arrange for a replacement and call the church office with the change. Thank you.

We are in need of congregation members to serve as communion ministers. If interested, please speak with Pastor Lauritsen or a member of the Worship and Music Committee. Thank you.

## MARCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

### March 7<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: Jan and Janice Hapgood  
 Acolytes: Olivia Lauritsen and Isabelle Boike  
 Assisting Minister: Vicki Michaels  
 Comm. Minister: Martin Pennino  
 Lectors: Paul and Carrie Watkiss  
 Nursery Attendant: Isaac Lauritsen  
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Ann Pennino

### March 14<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: Tad and Cathy Dabrowski  
 Acolytes: Brandon Michaels and Sarah Michaels  
 Assisting Minister: Charles Matthies  
 Comm. Minister: John Broussard  
 Lectors: Nickolas Ritacco and Robert Melnyk  
 Nursery Attendant: Olivia Lauritsen  
 Ushesr: Wally Kessler and Carol Melnyk

### March 21<sup>st</sup>:

Greeters: Janet Broussard and Mary Sasuta  
 Acolytes: Alison Jones and Abby Collins  
 Assisting Minister: Tom Michaels  
 Comm. Minister: Joan Triska  
 Lectors: Karyn Bute and Olivia Lauritsen  
 Nursery Attendant: Vicki Michaels  
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and John Broussard

### Palm Sunday, March 28<sup>th</sup>:

Greeters: John and Shirley Kostelny  
 Acolytes and Torchbearers: Donovan Byrne and Charles Haase  
 Crucifer: Jacob Czerak  
 Assisting Minister: Tom Myers  
 Comm. Minister: Anne Otjepka, Dot Myers, and Charles Matthies  
 Lectors: Charles Matthies and Emily Kostelancik  
 Nursery Attendant: Lavinia Myers  
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Joan Triska

*Sacristan and Altar Care:*  
 Joan Triska

### December, 2009

**Weekly Offering Needed for Budget: \$6,664.25**

<u>Date</u>	<u>Weekly Attendance</u>	<u>Plate Offering</u>	<u>Other Receipts*</u>
12/6	98	\$4,640.50	\$2,510.00
12/13	114	\$3,323.84	\$5,160.00
12/20	132	\$5,504.60	\$1,005.00
12/24 and			
12/25	156	\$3,530.75	\$ 500.00
12/27	61	\$4,058.00	\$ 20.00

\*Includes memorials, tuition, flowers, etc.

December, 2009 average attendance: 112  
 December, 2008 average attendance: 94

## MEMORIALS AND HONORARIUMS

### FOR THE CHURCH

In memory of Earl Mika, Sr. on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his death  
by remembering wife, Lois and son, Earl Jr., and Rita.  
To the glory of God for the successful heart and knee surgery of  
Fred Tornil.

Ann Kmet, in memory of Alfred Tuider.

Steve and Beverly Podzamsky, in memory of Alfred Tuider.

In loving memory of beloved mother, grandmother, sister and aunt,  
LaVerne Hanzel on the first anniversary of her death by  
remembering children, Karen and Carl Cox, Wayne, Kevin  
and David Hanzel and their Families, loving sister Audrey  
Bucz and her Family, and niece, Adrienne Gana.

In loving memory of beloved aunt, great-aunt, and great-great aunt,  
Helen Patrik by remembering family, Bill and Audrey Ducay,  
Ann and Kevin Rosenberg, and Sharon, Kurt and Jen Werner.

Paul Drzik, in memory of uncle, Paul Predny, aunt, Katherine  
Predny and cousin, Mrs. Mildred Predny Kessler.

William Sivak and Family, in memory of Mildred Sivak  
John and Annette Kozik, in celebration of Emil Mendel's  
80<sup>th</sup> birthday.

Irene Boor, in memory of Mildred Sivak.

Irene Boor, in memory of George Licko.

Anne Gavac and Family, in loving memory of dear parents, grand-  
parents, and great-grandparents, Pavel and Zuzana Hluchy;  
and in loving memory of dear brothers, uncles, and great-  
uncles, John Hluchy and Samuel Hluchy.

Anne Gavac, in memory of Alfred Tuider.

Ladies Altar Guild

Andrew and Cherie Simo, in memory of Andrew and Anna Simo  
and Doris Levinson.

The Slahor and Babyar Families, in memory of Anna Slahor.

### CAPITAL APPEAL FUND

Susan Hrusik, in memory of the Hursik, Kucan, Nestler, and  
Bagel Families.

### HOW DO PEOPLE COME TO CHURCH?

#### Missional Evangelism

Missional evangelism is indirect, authentic, and real. It arises  
out of relationship in the family, the neighborhood, the workplace  
and social situations. It does not depend totally upon the person  
giving witness. It connects with the support system provided by the  
community that lives under the reign of God.

The Christian brings the unchurched to a healthy vibrant  
community of faith and, through association with an embodied  
community, faith is discussed and caught as the gospel is  
overheard. This form of personal contact is the primary means of  
bringing people to Christ and the church.

According to the research of the of the American Growth  
Institute, people who come to church come because they have been  
influenced to do so by:

Friend or Relative: 79%  
Pastor: 6%  
Sunday School: 3%  
Walk-In Visit: 3%  
Program: 3%  
Special Need: 2%  
Door-to-Door Visitation: 1%  
Evangelism Crusade: .5%

Clearly, the statistics show that personal contact within social  
networks is the point of most fruitful contact.

-submitted by Pastor Lauritsen

### Lenten Thoughts

A time to reflect on our lives  
A time to deflect attention from mundane things  
A time to repent for all our misdeeds  
A time to make peace with our misguided friends  
A time to abstain from food and wine  
A time to pray for those in pain  
A time to thank God for all that we have  
A time to pledge ourselves to doing good  
whenever we can.

-Sandra Martyres

### Altar Flowers

*Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>:* In memory of mother, +Anna Slahor+ on the  
anniversary of her birth and the 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of  
her death by remembering children and family,  
John and Joanne Slahor and Donald and Shirley  
Babyar.

*Dec. 27<sup>th</sup>:* In loving memory of husband and father, +Earl  
Mika+ on the 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his passing by  
remembering wife, Lois and son, Earl, Jr., and  
Rita.

*Jan. 3<sup>rd</sup>:* Edward Bittner and Ray Bittner, in memory of  
beloved parents, +Anthony+ and +Anna Bittner+,  
wife and sister-in-law, +Carol Bittner+, and son  
and nephew, +Jimmy Bittner+.

*Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>:* In memory of husband, +William Bosh+ on the  
anniversary of his birth by remembering wife,  
Betty.

In memory of +Jan Decosola+ on the fifth  
anniversary of her death by loving husband, Gary  
and Family.

In memory of +Katherine Predny+ on the  
anniversary of her birthday.

In memory of +Mildred Predny Kessler+ on the  
anniversary of her death.

*Jan. 17<sup>th</sup>:* In loving memory of +Arlene Oklepek+, who  
passed away on January 10<sup>th</sup>, by remembering  
brother-in-law and sister-in-law, Milan and  
Deanna Oklepek.

In memory of +Paul Predny+ on the anniversary of  
his birth on January 20<sup>th</sup>.

**DORCAS "POST-HOLIDAY" DINNER  
RESCHEDULED**

Friday, February 26, 2010  
6:00 p.m.

Sawa's Old Warsaw, Broadview

Please RSVP by using the sign-up sheet on the board in the dining hall, even though you signed up for the original dinner scheduled in January. Cost for the dinner is \$20.00. If you originally paid for the January dinner and are unable to attend the newly scheduled date, please let Emily Kostelancik or Mildred Melka know and a refund will be given. Contact Emily or Mildred for additional information or questions.

**COMMUNION INSTRUCTION  
AND CELEBRATION**

Instruction for the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be offered to children in 2<sup>nd</sup> thru 5<sup>th</sup> grades during the season of Lent. Full participation in the Sacrament will be celebrated at the conclusion of this period of instruction on Easter Sunday, April 4<sup>th</sup> at the festival liturgy. If you are interested in this for your children, please speak with Pastor Lauritsen to determine a schedule with other families. Whether or not your child is communing already, this time of instruction will be beneficial.

***Sunday Worship Schedule***

8:15 a.m. - Service of the Word (in Slovak)  
9:00 a.m. - Sunday School and Children's Choir  
9:30 a.m. - Adult Choir Rehearsal  
10:15 a.m. - Liturgy of Holy Communion (in English)

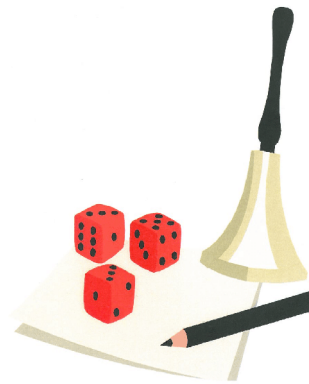
**Choir Rehearsals**

Wednesdays, February 3<sup>rd</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 p.m.  
February 17<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> following the evening liturgies.

**Ash Wednesday, February 17<sup>th</sup>**

Spoken Liturgy of the Word with Ashes, 12 noon  
Liturgy of Holy Communion with Ashes, 7 p.m.

Get out of the cold and into the fun at  
**CLC Bunco Night**



**Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**

Doors open at 6:00 pm

Dinner at 6:30 pm

sloppy joes, chips, beverage

Cost: \$10.00

Tickets available from  
Beverly Podzamsky, Joan Triska,  
& Donna Tuidor.  
Tickets on sale - January 10<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup>.

**Tickets are not available at the door**

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

Sts. Peter and Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church  
250 Woodside Road  
Riverside, IL 60546

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