



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

Volume 34

February 2012

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 22nd



Spoken Liturgy of the Word

with Imposition of Ashes
at Noon

Liturgy of Holy Communion

with Imposition of Ashes
at 7:00 p.m.

Lenten Vespers, Supper and Study

every Wednesday in Lent,
beginning February 29th thru March 28th.
Vespers (Evening Prayer) is Sung at 7:15,
preceded by Supper at 6:30.

A New Name for a New Year

A sermon preached on January 1st, 2012, the Feast of the Name of Jesus
(Numbers 6:22-27; Philippians 2:1-13; Luke 2:15-21)

"To the church of God that is in Corinth," the Apostle opens that letter, "to those who are made holy [set apart] in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, together with all those who in every place call on the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours. . . ."

Some of you will remember the time when parents gave their children names with the hope that those children might eventually grow into their names, that one day they would become persons who actually resembled the people for whom they were named. Children were often named after beloved members of the family, or dear friends of the parents, or great heroes of the Bible, or revered saints of the Church. Children were named, not because parents liked the *sound* of the name, but because they liked the *meaning* of the name. So, if a baby girl was given the name Mary, or Anna (Hannah), or Elizabeth, or Sarah, well, there was going to be a lot of growing up and into such a name. If a baby boy was given the name Samuel, or John, or Peter, or Paul, well, he was going to have a lot of growing up and into his name as well.

I've never really understood why my parents gave me the name which I bear, except that my father enjoyed reading the comics on Sundays after church—one in particular. I'm certain that there was never another "Dennis" in the family or among my parents' friends. I'm also certain that, had my parents known the meaning of such a name as I bear, they surely would not have wanted me to grow into that name. The name "Dennis," you may know, is derived from the Greek name "Dionysios." In Greek mythology, Dionysios was the god of the grape harvest, that is, wine-making and wine, thus, also making him the god of the ritual madness and ecstatic dance which frees his followers from self-conscious fear and care. In other words, to put it politely, Dionysios is the god of debauchery, and later, the Bacchanalian feasts of Rome. Fortunately, the name was redeemed by Saint Denis, Bishop of Paris in the third century, who later was martyred and canonized. (There's even a Sts. Denis Parish on the south side around 83rd and St. Louis).

—continued on the next page. . .

Sunday Worship Schedule

8:15 a.m. - Service of the Word (Slovak)
9:00 a.m. - Christian Education and Children's Choir
9:45 a.m. - Adult Choir Rehearsal
10:15 a.m. - Liturgy of Holy Communion (English)

Choir Rehearsals

Wednesdays, February 1st, 8th, 15th at 7:30 p.m.
February 22nd following Ash Wednesday Liturgy
February 29th following Lenten Vespers.

In the Bible, when it comes to names, it is a different story. There, a name defines the whole direction of a person's entire life; and often we see that a *new name* is given when someone is called to undertake a *new venture*—a new name, for a new time, for a new life. Abram becomes Abraham. Sarai becomes Sarah. Jacob becomes Israel. Simon becomes Peter. Saul becomes Paul. The old life is left behind the person while the new life lies ahead of that person. Throughout the ages, people have been given new names when they were baptized, demonstrating that, as Ephesians testifies, you have been taught “to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life. . . and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.”

“ . . . You were washed,” the Colossians are told, “you were made holy (set apart), you were justified in *the name* of the Lord Jesus Christ and in the Spirit of our God.” Thus, in the beginning, at Holy Baptism, we are very much “Christened,” “Christed,” named the name of “Christ.” “And whatever you do, in word or deed,” Paul exhorts the Colossians, “do everything in

the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.” This is good counsel for the beginning of the New year: “. . . Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus. . . .”

Throughout the Hebrew Bible, we see that even God bears a variety of names, the most sacred of which is associated with God's own “call” to graciousness, compassion, kindness. When, in the burning bush, God revealed his secret name to Moses, a name so holy that it should never cross human lips, the circumstances speak completely of compassion: “I have witnessed the affliction of my people in Egypt,” the LORD says to Moses, “and I have heard their cry of complaint against their slave drivers, so I know well what they are suffering. I have come down to rescue them.” This is God compassionate. This is God as savior.

A couple Sundays ago, when “the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth” to announce Jesus' conception, we heard that his name was not given by his parents, Mary and Joseph, but by the Most High, “And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus.” And that name, a shortened form of the Hebrew *Yehoshu'a*, or what we know as “Joshua,” means, as it did for the slaves in Egypt, “the Lord saves,” or “the Lord helps.” So, at the beginning of Israel's life in the promised land, Moses changes the name of Hoshea son of Nunn to *Yehoshu'a*, Joshua, then sends him and the others “to spy out the land.” This name is also given to Jesus at the beginning of his life in the Jewish Law when he is circumcised on the eighth day; and, like Joshua, Jesus' ministry will begin at the Jordan River when he is baptized by John.

Today, more than most days, I suppose we think about new beginnings. A new year stands before us, a new time, a new venture, a new land. We haven't been here before. God is calling us out of last year into this new year. So, we need to have a new name that defines the rest of our days. “. . . Do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus. . . .”

There is within us a deep yearning for new beginnings, a natural hope that this year will be different than the last year. So, we make our resolutions. We seek a new beginning. Earlier in that letter to the Colossians, the Apostle puts it very simply: “[Christ] is the beginning.” During these days of Christmas, we have heard John's Prologue sing, “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.” And John of Patmos hears the risen Christ announce that, “I

In the Bible, when it comes to names, it is a different story. There, a name defines the whole direction of a person's entire life

am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end.”

On this New Year's Day, the readings are all about new beginnings. God pronounces a blessing on the new priests as they begin their new way of life in the promised land: “The LORD bless you and keep you . . .” Centuries later, after prophets have risen and kingdoms have fallen, God makes yet a new beginning; yet another chance, and again, God has a new name. This time, it is Jesus. An old way is ending; a new way is beginning.

“For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, ‘Abba! Father!’ it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ . . .” Of course, adoption is a another chance. The Father of Jesus has adopted us, giving us his own name, a new beginning, a whole new life—everyday of this new year and everyday for the rest of our lives, because God is not finished with us. God is yet raising Easter out of Good Friday. And this is the power of God: beginnings follow what seem to be endings.

In *Mere Christianity*, C. S. Lewis recalls that “When I was a child I often had [a] toothache, and I knew that if I went to my mother she would give me something which would deaden the pain. . . . But I did not go to my mother—at least, not till the pain became very bad. And the reason I did not go was this. I did not doubt she would give me the aspirin; but I knew she would also do something else. I knew she would take me to the dentist the next morning. I could not get what I wanted out of her without getting something more, which I did not want. I wanted immediate relief from pain; but I could not get it without having my teeth set permanently right. And I knew those dentists; I knew they started fiddling about with all sorts of other teeth which had not yet begun to ache. They would not let sleeping dogs lie; if you gave them an inch they took [a mile].

“Now, if I may put it that way, our Lord is like the dentists. If you give Him an inch, He will take [a mile]. Dozens of people go to Him to be cured of some one particular sin which they are ashamed of. . . or which is obviously spoiling daily life . . . Well, He will cure it all right: but He will not stop there. That may be all you asked; but if once you call Him in, He will give you the full treatment.”

Time and again, we hear the Bible tell us, “The LORD, the LORD (there's that unspoken, holy name), the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. . . .” Would that we bear this name at the beginning of this new year: “merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. . . .”

So, here's a word for the New Year: “As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, *do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus*, giving thanks to God the Father through him.”

Would that we bear this name at the beginning of this new year: “merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness. . . .”

Thank you from Pastor. . .

Thank you all so very much for again remembering our family at Christmastime with your many cards and gifts. You are always so kind and thoughtful to think of us at the parsonage in this way at this time of year, and it makes for a brighter, warmer Christmas in our home. As always, we cherish your love, support and encouragement throughout our years at Sts. Peter and Paul. We pray that the light of Jesus' presence would shine in your lives throughout the coming year! The peace, joy and hope of the Holy Child be yours.

—Pastor Lauritsen and Jane and Family

ASH WEDNESDAY AND THE FORTY DAYS OF LENT

The holy season of Lent begins Ash Wednesday, February 22nd. The service times are noon (spoken Liturgy of the Word) and 7:00 p.m. (spoken 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.

Slovak Holy Communion
First Sunday in Lent
February 26th, 2012, 8:15 a.m.

Official Pastoral Rites. . .

Funerals:

Jolana Babiar, 97 year old mother of Vera Borysek, passed from this life on January 11th. Funeral services for Jolana were held at Sts. Peter and Paul on Monday, January 16th.

Rose Decosola, daughter of Gary Decosola and sister of Matt, passed from this life on January 11th. A private service for Rose was held on Friday, January 20th at Queen of Heaven Cemetery.

The deadline for articles for the March, 2012
issue of the congregational newsletter
is **Sunday, February 5th**.

Community Life Committee thanks. . .

On behalf of our four-legged friends, the Community Life Committee (CLC) would like to thank everyone who included the Hinsdale Humane Society in your Christmas giving plans. Thanks to your donations, \$301.00 was given to the Hinsdale Human Society. The donation will provide food and medical care for a homeless dog or cat. Again, our thanks to all the pet lovers at Sts. Peter and Paul.

—Ann and Marty Pennino, CLC Co-Chairpersons

The Disciplines of Lent

Almsgiving: Giving alms, Jesus teaches, means making the hardships and needs of others our own: the young and the old, the sick and the suffering, next door neighbors and people in distant lands—people it would be easy to forget. Rather than simply looking out for ourselves, Jesus urges us to see those in need. And what shall we give? Some time, some of our talent, material resources. Whatever we give should be something that costs us, given in a spirit of gratitude to God for the life that fills us each day. What shall we give (up) in Lent? Maybe a visit to a homebound or hospitalized neighbor or friend or member of the congregation; maybe some time after school helping a child with homework; maybe an evening at a shelter for homeless men or women; maybe a gift to Lutheran World Relief; maybe a new niche for ministry in the congregation. After all, before us are the great alms Jesus gave: “He loved us, and gave himself up for us.”

Prayer: The Lenten season calls us to pray, but prayer, Jesus teaches, is much more than saying words. “Go into your room, and close the door, and pray to your Father in secret.” Before we pray, we need to shut the door to the noise, the trivialities, the distractions, the countless cares grabbing for our attention. In the quiet place of our hearts, we speak and listen to God. We trust that God helps us pray in this season. For those who have stopped praying, or pray with little fervor, God gives graces for praying again. Usually the graces come as we turn to prayers and practices already there: reflective reading of the Bible and devotional materials, the liturgies of the Lord's Supper and other opportunities for public worship, simple grace-filled prayers like the Lord's Prayer or the psalms. “What a Christian should be doing at all times should be done now with greater care and devotion,” Pope Leo told Christians of the 6th century who were beginning their Lenten observance.

Fasting: This discipline is likely the greatest challenge. Our society looks on fasting itself as peculiar, perhaps even abysmal. Urging everyone to eat, drink, and buy more and more, our world today has made fasting unfashionable and perhaps even un-American. Yet the gospel message warns us that more and more can ruin creation. An acquisitive spirit is a selfish spirit. The taste for too much can destroy. The good things of life can turn into our captors. In our society, fasting could be viewed as a gift to free us from those things to which we have attached our lives. This Lent, recognizing the hold some things have on us, we can try with God's help to keep them in their right place. For many good reasons, not all of us are physically able to fast due to health problems, work situations, family responsibilities, etc. But some reasonable abstaining from something which obstructs our relationship to God can be a liberating experience. Some may find that they are able to do without food during a day of the week, perhaps Friday in remembrance of our Lord's passion, or Saturday evening before Communion on the Lord's Day. Others may find it helpful to set aside certain ways of spending time or money, addictive behaviors or manners of treating others. We need to develop a leaner, less wasteful way of life for the sake of all creation. Can the discipline of fasting lead us to a gentler style of living in communion with the earth and one another?

However you decide to practice the disciplines of Lent, let them be offered freely and generously, not unwillingly and begrudgingly, and in love for our Lord and in gratitude for the gift of life and redemption.—DJL

February Happenings

Slovak Athletic Association
Wednesday, February 8th, 1 p.m.

Myjavsky Group Meeting
Thursday, February 16th, 12 noon

Church Council Meeting
Thursday, February 16th, 7:30 p.m.

Missions and Outreach Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 21st, 7 p.m.

Ash Wednesday, February 22nd
Spoken Liturgy of the Word with Ashes, 12 noon
Liturgy of Holy Communion with Ashes, 7 p.m.

Dorcas Society Meeting
Tuesday, February 28th, 12 noon

Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, February 28th, 7:15 p.m.

Lenten Vespers, Supper and Study
Wednesdays, February 29th through March 28th

Co-Dependents Anonymous meets weekly on
Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m.
in the Friendship Room.

AA Group meets weekly on Saturday evenings
at 7 p.m. in the Friendship Room.

RCA (Recovering Couples Anonymous)
meets weekly on Friday evenings at 7 p.m.
in the Friendship Room.

Legends of the Game Volleyball meets every
other Monday, 6:30-9:15 p.m. beginning
January 2nd through April 23rd.

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.

In January, the preschool welcomed a new student to the 3 year old class. Her name is Alexa Maciejewski and she is settling in nicely.

Preschool and Summer Camp sign-up for the 2012-13 school year begins this month. Anyone requiring information on preschool or summer camp, please contact the church office. I am looking forward to another great summer!

—Donna Tuider, Preschool Director/Teacher

Directory change. . .

Martin Bzduch
8016 Country Club Lane
North Riverside, IL 60546
(708) 853-9081

February Birthdays

Feb. 1:	Daniel Babiar	Feb. 15:	William Londak
Feb. 4:	Isabelle Boike	Feb. 19:	Jason Kowalewicz
	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:	Donovan Byrne	Feb. 25:	Gary Drahos
	Christopher Greer		James Triska
Feb. 12:	Jack Bute	Feb. 28:	John Dundek, Jr.
	Susan Hassel	Feb. 29:	Marie Kamp
Feb. 14:	Suzanne Surak		

February Anniversaries

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

Adult choir rehearsals are held weekly on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 p.m. and Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the choir room (lower level). Please come and add your voice to the praises of God at worship.

February Scripture Readings

1. Isaiah 40:22-31 - Hold on to hope
2. Hebrews 2:14-18 - The Presentation of Our Lord
3. Psalm 147:1-11, 20c - Join the choir
4. 1 Corinthians 9:16-23 - All things for all people
5. **Mark 1:29-39 - Fifth Sunday after Epiphany**
6. Acts 14:1-7 - Prove it!
7. Acts 15:36-41 - Realistic expectations
8. Mark 3:7-12 - Believe or follow?
9. 2 Kings 5:1-14 - Pride can be fatal
10. Psalm 30 - Resurrection
11. 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 - Disciplined disciples
12. **Mark 1:40-45 - Sixth Sunday after Epiphany**
13. 2 Chronicles 7:12-22 - If ... then
14. Isaiah 38:1-8 - God can take it
15. 1 Timothy 1:12-20 - Mercy me!
16. 2 Kings 2:1-12 - A double portion
17. Psalm 50:1-6 - God summons the earth
18. 2 Corinthian 4:3-6 - Lighthouses
19. **Mark 9:2-9 - Transfiguration Sunday**
20. Hebrews 2:1-4 - Escape clause
21. 1 Timothy 3:14-16 - The mystery of faith
22. Joel 2:1-2, 12-17 - Ash Wednesday
23. Genesis 9:8-17 - A covenant, a promise
24. Psalm 25:1-10 - Directions, please
25. 1 Peter 3:18-22 - Christ's example
26. **Mark 1:9-15 - First Sunday in Lent**
27. Romans 3:21-31 - Justified
28. Romans 4:1-12 - Rainbows and rain clouds
29. Psalm 7 - Always there

Our "Giving Tree" gifts were much appreciated. . .

December 23, 2011

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

A special thanks to you 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. 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, building happy memories for the children and families we serve.

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,

*Gene L. Svebakken, ACSW
President and CEO*

CLC received thanks. . .

December 22, 2011

Dear Mr. and Mrs. Pennino and the Parishioners of Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church,

Happy Holidays to you from the animals of the Hinsdale Humane Society! Thank you for keeping the homeless pets in your thoughts at this busy time of year. Your support makes a difference in their lives!

We extend our most sincere appreciation for your thoughtful donation of \$301.00 to help us care for the dogs and cats who call this their temporary home. Your donation will assure these animals will receive everything they need to thrive.

One special dog, Duke, is thriving in his new home, but it took lots of tender loving care to acclimate him to a gentle human touch. When Duke first came to us from an overcrowded downstate shelter, he was frightened and unaccustomed to being with people. After several months with a kind foster family, he slowly learned to trust. An adopting family has given Duke a new home for the holidays. We can share these "tail wagging" happy endings, thanks to generous supporters like you!

From all of us at the Hinsdale Humane Society - canine, feline and human - we wish you a joyous Holiday Season!

*Lori Halligan
Executive Director*

PS: Thank you for including the animals in your giving tree program again this year. We greatly appreciate your loving dedication to God's furry creatures.

BLOOD DRIVE

The Riverside/North Riverside Covenant of Churches will host a Blood Drive on Saturday, February 11th, between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. at the Riverside Masonic Lodge, 40 Forest Avenue in Riverside. To schedule an appointment, please contact Life Source at (877) 543-3768. Appointments are recommended but walk-ins are welcome. Donors should eat a substantial meal and drink plenty of water prior to donating (not coffee, tea, or soda). All donors are required to present a valid ID on the day of the blood drive.

Altar Flowers

Jan. 1st: In loving memory of +Katherine Predny+ on the anniversary of her birth.

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

Jan. 8th: 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. 15th: In memory of +Paul Predny+ on the anniversary of his birth.

February announcements. . .

★ A reminder to the congregation, especially during these months of inclement weather, that complimentary cab service is available on Sunday mornings for rides to and from worship services. Please contact our driver Dave Hoppy from Blue Village Cab Company on his cell phone at (708) 743-0982 as early as possible to make arrangements for pick up. When arranging your pick-up, please remind Dave that the ride is to be billed to account number #101755.

★ If you will be leaving the Chicago area during the winter months for warmer climates, please notify the church office before then so the monthly newsletter can be forwarded to your temporary residence or cancelled until you return. The congregations incurs a fee for each newsletter that is undeliverable; stopped mail delivery to your permanent residence is considered undeliverable and returned to the church for a fee. Thank you for your assistance.

Council Meeting Highlights. . .

❑ The proposed budget for 2012 was submitted. After some discussion, it was moved to carry over final approval of the budget to a special meeting held on January 8th, 2012.

❑ As part of the treasurer's report, Bill Boor told the council that \$1,325.00 had been donated to the Greater Chicago Food Depository, the designated recipient of our Thanksgiving offering.

❑ Pastor Lauritsen's report included a report of Confirmation proceedings, and he also discussed the December 18th reception for Katarina Šoltésová who was returning home on December 20th.

Thirty Years. Many Voices. One Vision.

This month, we're including a story from 2011. Not only is the refugee family's story incredible, but they are being served by RefugeeOne's first-ever ecumenical co-sponsor team made up from five collaborating churches.

Htoo Eh is a widow from Burma/Myanmar. In the years before her family's lives were uprooted by Burma's military junta, Htoo Eh was a primary grade school teacher in a village in Burma. She and her husband Kle-Klo Say had been married four years and had had two children before the junta's army attacked their village. Though the family was frightened, they were prepared for the arrival; inside their home was an emergency kit stocked with a few pounds of rice and clothing, ready at a moment's notice for when it was time to flee.

The family travelled through the jungle, however, at each place they took respite, they would eventually encounter the army again and were forced to run off. Because the family fled so frequently their son, Soe-K' Paw Shee and daughter, Shee Say, never had the chance to attend school.

When they reached a relatively safe area of the forest Htoo Eh and Kle-Klo Say created a makeshift home from chopped-down bamboo leaves. After three months in their new "home," the couple decided the only way to remain safe was to go to a refugee camp in Thailand. However, the Thai government closed the border and their only choice was to sneak in.

The family arrived at the Mae La Oon refugee camp in northern Thailand in 2006. There was no space for the family to live. Wooden houses set up in the camp offered little privacy for the family. So, like before, they constructed a bamboo hut for shelter. It was in the camp, in 2007, that their second daughter – Eh Htee Say – was born.

The conditions of the camp were hardly sanitary. Every few weeks, the children got sick. A year after their youngest daughter was born, the family experienced another hardship. Kle-Klo Say became sick and never recovered. In 2008, after seven years of marriage and fathering three children, he passed away.

The family arrived in Chicago on November 1, 2011. Ms. Eh arrived with her two girls, ages four and seven and her nine-year-old son, and her 18-year old brother. Family members are enrolled in English classes and cultural orientation services. The Youth Program is working with Htoo and Chicago Public Schools to enroll the children at the start of the next semester. Youth Program staff is helping ensure the children have the documentation, health certifications, clothes and supplies they need to begin their first term in the American education system.

FOR THE CHURCH

In loving memory of beloved mother, grandmother, sister, and aunt +LaVerne Hanzel on the third anniversary of her death by remembering children, Karen Coz, Wayne, Kevin and David Hanzel and their families, sister Audrey Bucz and her family, and niece Adrienne Gana.

Laura Hunt, in memory of +Betty Bosh+

The Bandura Family, in loving memory of +Andrew Bandura+ and +Cristina Balas+

John and Shirley Kostelny, in memory of mother +Helen Klingemeier+

Sunday, February 12th, 2012
2 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Ensemble Monticello
Music for Strings and Piano featuring our Parish Musician David Richards and Friends.
Performing works by Beach, Beethoven, Chopin, Elgar, and Verdi.

Sts. Peter and Paul Lutheran Church
250 Woodside Road, Riverside, IL 60546
708-442-5250 708-442-5264 (fax)
www.stspeterandpaulriverside.org

Rev. Dennis J. Lauritsen Church 708 442-5250
email: djlauritsen@sbcglobal.net

Council Officers

President	John Broussard
Vice President	Thomas Myers
Secretary	Fred Kuzel
Treasurer	William Boor
Financial Secretary	Charles Matthies

Council Members

Kristine Boike	John Kostelny
Iveta Boyanchek	Charles Matthies
John Broussard	Susan Martinek
Ivan Durkovic	Carol Melnyk
Charles Haase	Thomas Michaels
Sheryl Hallmann	Thomas Myers

Organizations/Committee Chairpersons

Community Life Committee	Martin and Ann Pennino
Dorcas Society	Emily Kostelancik
Finance Committee	John Kostelny
Ladies' Altar Guild	Susan Hrusik/Vera Borysek
Long Range Planning	Jan Hapgood
Maintenance	Jim Boyanchek
Missions and Outreach	Dan Tornil/Ramona Suffern
Mutual Ministry/Staff Support	Gary Drahos
Nominating Committee	Fred Kuzel
Social Ministry	Nick Sasuta/Joanne Sefara
Stewardship	Thomas Michaels and Thomas Myers
Sunday School	Sheryl Hallmann
Worship and Music	Charles Matthies

Staff

Administrative Asst.	Karen Rouleau
Parish Musician	David Richards
Preschool Director	Donna Tuider



FEBRUARY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

February 5th:

Greeters: Anne Otjepka and Mildred Melka
 Acolytes: Sara Watkiss and Isabelle Boike
 Assisting Minister: John Broussard
 Comm. Minister: Carrie Watkiss
 Lectors: Shirley Wood and Joanne Sefara
 Nursery Attendant: Carrie Boike
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Paul Watkiss

February 12th:

Greeters: Milan and Anita Horak
 Acolytes: Charles Haase and Jacob Czerak
 Assisting Minister: Lois Mika
 Comm. Minister: Anne Otjepka
 Lectors: John and Kristin Klade
 Nursery Attendant: Olivia Lauritsen
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Joan Triska

February 19th:

Greeters: Ann Kmet and Fred Kuzel
 Acolytes: Abby Collins and Jake Collins
 Assisting Minister: Vicki Michaels
 Comm. Minister: Jan Hapgood
 Lectors: Phil Painter and Anne Otjepka
 Nursery Attendant: Hannah Boike
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and John Broussard

Ash Wednesday, February 22nd:

Greeters: Edward and Joanne Sefara
 Acolytes: Rachel Michaels and Katie Melnyk
 Assisting Minister: Tom Michaels
 Comm. Minister: Brandon Michaels
 Lectors: Karyn Bute and Dale Hawes
 Nursery Attendant: *No Nursery Attendant*
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Joan Triska

February 26th:

Greeters: Emil and Mildred Mendel
 Acolytes: Carrie Boike and Isabelle Boike
 Assisting Minister: Jan Hapgood
 Comm. Minister: Joan Triska
 Lectors: Jan and Janice Hapgood
 Nursery Attendant: Kristine Boike
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Edward Kovack

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 4th:

Greeters: Tad and Cathy Dabrowski
 Acolytes: Jonathon Meyers and Amanda Meyers
 Assisting Minister: Charles Matthies
 Comm. Minister: Martin Pennino
 Lectors: Mary Sasuta and Keith Altavilla
 Nursery Attendant: Carrie Boike
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Ann Pennino

March 11th:

Greeters: Jan and Janice Hapgood
 Acolytes: Charles Haase and Johnathan Haase
 Assisting Minister: Carrie Watkiss
 Comm. Minister: Tom Myers
 Lectors: Kristine Boike and Carrie Boike
 Nursery Attendant: Olivia Lauritsen
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Paul Watkiss

March 18th:

Greeters: John and Janet Broussard
 Acolytes: Sara Watkiss and Isabelle Boike
 Assisting Minister: Kristin Klade
 Comm. Minister: Vicki Michaels
 Lectors: Robert Melnyk and Katie Melnyk
 Nursery Attendant: Hannah Boike
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Carol Melnyk

March 25th:

Greeters: Carrie Watkiss and Ramona Suffern
 Acolytes: Charles Haase and Jacob Czerak
 Assisting Minister: Brandon Michaels
 Comm. Minister: Anne Otjepka
 Lectors: Tom and Lavinia Myers
 Nursery Attendant: Kristine Boike
 Ushers: Wally Kessler and Joan Triska

December, 2011



Attendance and Offering Report

Current, Benevolence and Freewill Offering Recap

Budgeted Offering: \$3,219.00

Date	Weekly Attendance	Offering Received
12/4	91	\$5,642.00
12/11	73	\$3,801.41
12/18	127	\$5,639.00
12/24	139	\$4,348.00
12/25	48	\$2,957.00

December, 2011 average attendance: 96
 December, 2010 average attendance: 101

The Twelve Days of Christmas

From 1558 until 1829, Roman Catholics in England were not permitted to openly practice their faith. Someone during that era wrote this carol known as "The Twelve Days of Christmas" as a catechism song for young Catholics. It has two levels of meaning: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of their church. Each element in the carol has a "code word" for a religious reality which the children could remember.

The partridge in a pear tree was Jesus Christ.
The two turtle doves were the Old and New Testaments.
The three French hens stood for faith, hope and love.
The four calling birds were the Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.
The five golden rings recalled the Torah or Law, the first five books of the Old Testament.
The six geese a-laying stood for the six days of creation.
The seven swans a-swimming represented the sevenfold gifts of the Holy Spirit
(prophesy, service, teaching, exhortation, contribution, leadership, and mercy).
The eight maids a-milking were the eight beatitudes.
The nine ladies dancing were the nine fruits of the Holy Spirit
(love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self control).
The ten lords a-leaping were the Ten Commandments.
The eleven pipers piping stood for the eleven faithful disciples.
The twelve drummers drumming symbolized the twelve points of belief in the Creed.

So there is your history lesson for today. This account was shared with me, and I found it interesting and enlightening; and now I know how that strange song became a Christmas carol.

—submitted by Janice Hapgood

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
Riverside, IL
Permit No. 37

DATED MATERIAL