



FEBRUARY, 2012



From Pastor Schultz

## The Real St. Valentine?

Legends regarding the real St. Valentine abound...and they're too good NOT to be told! One legend has it that a real man who lived a long, long time ago was put into prison. While he was in prison, this man named Valentine fell madly in love with the jailor's daughter. It didn't matter much, however, because this man had already received his sentence and that sentence was death. Yet before he was put to death, he sent the very first 'valentine' to the woman he loved when he wrote her a letter and signed it, 'Your Valentine', which are words still used on cards today. As nice as that story is, you might be interested in another.

This more reliable one says that Valentine was a priest who lived about seventeen hundred years ago in Rome. Now in Rome, there served an emperor by the name of Claudius II. Emperor Claudius II decided that single men in his empire made better soldiers than those who were married. Therefore, with this in mind, the emperor outlawed marriage for young men, hoping to build a stronger military. Supposedly, the priest named Valentine just didn't think this was fair. He began to marry young couples secretly. When the Emperor found out about Valentine's actions, he had him put to death...on February 14.

The truth is, we don't know very much more about the real story of St. Valentine. But let me tell you one little twist on the second account. It says that while Valentine was in prison for marrying couples, he and Emperor Claudius became friends. Can you imagine? A Christian Saint and a Roman Emperor...FRIENDS??? Unfortunately, their friendship was short-lived, for when Valentine tried to share the gospel with his friend, the emperor, his friend the emperor had him beaten with clubs and stoned. When this failed to kill him, St. Valentine lost his head...literally!

Jesus says, "You have heard it said, 'love your friends and hate your enemies.' But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you – that you may be children of God" (Matthew 5:43-45). As God's people, we are called to live in love with one another. We are also called to practice loving those outside of our community...even our enemies! This is the kind of love that perhaps drove the real St. Valentine to witness his faith to the emperor, at such a great cost. This kind of love is only possible because of the love God has shown us first in His Son. Romans 5:8 says, "God shows His love for us in this. While we were still sinners, Christ died for us."

When we begin seeing that God has poured out His undeserved love on us, we are better able love and show others the love we have from Him. This is one of the benefits of coming together for worship. In His Word and Sacrament God pours down upon us His undeserved love. He calls us His beloved children and forgives us our sins. Thus, being loved, we learn how to love like Him. May God bless you and convince you especially this month that you are *Christ's Valentine* – loved and cared for eternally by the Lord!

Special Events:	Date
Return Baby Bottles	5
Lutheran Hour Ministry Sunday	5
Big Bash Football	5
School Valentine Dance	10
Bethany Christian Sunday	12
Quiz Night	18
Mid-Winter Break School	20-22
Lenten Season	22-28

Inside this Issue:	Page
From the Vicar	2
Ministry News	3
School & Youth	4
Member Matters	4
Birthday 's	5
Gifts to our Lord	6





From Vicar Kirk

# Looking Back, Looking Ahead

Is it the half-way point of the year already? As we reflect on the last six months, Courtney and I thank God for you, the people of St. Paul. You have welcomed us so warmly, showered us with blessings, and created a wonderful atmosphere for us to grow as church workers! We thank God for your generosity, and we are honored to be a part of the family of followers here at St. Paul!

As I reflect upon the last six months, I'm amazed by all I've been apart of and by all that God has done. Some memorable experiences have been attending the Lutheran Layman's League Retreat at Camp Arcadia, volunteering with the recycling program for Arts, Beats, and Eats, dressing up as Walther for a movie night, parading downtown with the children for Licht und Lied, and helping to coach the boys' basketball teams at St. Paul. That's only the tip of the iceberg! I could also mention the opportunities that I received to preach on special occasions: Reformation, All Saints', Thanksgiving Eve, Christmas Day, and Epiphany. Through you, God has blessed me with a multitude of experiences that are shaping me into the servant of His Church that He wants me to be.

As I look ahead to the next six months, I pray that God will continue to use me to support and encourage all of you at St. Paul as we continue to live for Him. In addition to my usual tasks of preaching, teaching, and making calls, I will be leading three ministry projects. First, St. Paul will participate in a mid-week Lenten series centered on the Stations of the Cross. We will prayerfully consider the awesome sacrifice that Jesus made for us—to save us and reconcile us

to God—as we examine eight portions of Jesus' road to Calvary as told in the Bible. I pray that this series will bless St. Paul not only this year but for years to come.

Second, on April 7, St. Paul will hold its second annual Community Easter Egg Hunt in Grant Park. Under the leadership of Vicar Sutton, this event was a tremendous success last year! With God's help and the help of many volunteers, I hope to continue that success this year, as we seek to bring the name of Jesus and the hope of His resurrection to children and families who do not yet know Him. As a vicar, this event will serve as my evangelism module requirement for the seminary.

Third, a St. Paul Men's Retreat is tentatively being planned for May or June of this year. The goal for this retreat would be to allow the men of St. Paul, no matter their age, to have fellowship with one another and grow together in God's Word. The focus group would primarily be fathers and sons, but because every man is a son of someone, all men would be welcome. The theme of the retreat will be "Celebrating the Father and the Son as fathers and sons" as we look at the relationship between Jesus and God the Father.

No matter what the future holds, we trust that God will be with us. We place our faith in Him for the future because we look back and see what He has done for us, primarily in the death and resurrection of His Son, our savior, Jesus Christ. Even now, we trust He is with us by His Holy Spirit who lives within us. God's blessings to you this February, these next six months, and always!

---

**We trust  
that God  
will be  
with us.**

---

## Newsy Notes

**Did you know** You can order flowers to be placed on the Altar for Sundays. Simply stop in the lobby and sign up on the board located near the doors. You may list your request in honor or in memory of someone dear to you. The cost is only \$20 a bouquet.

**Dishes** left over from various events are accumulating fast. Please up your dish or pan from the kitchen if you forgot to.

**Couples Retreat** Lutheran Marriage Encounter offers marriage enrichment

weekends. If interested in finding out about this, check out the flyer on the bulletin board in the lobby. Registration cost is \$45. Register early for March 9-11 in Birch Run. Call Liz & Larry Grupe, 586-1525 to register or for questions.

# Ministry News

**Adult Volleyball**— We play volleyball on Sunday nights. Anyone 18 years and up is welcome to join us. We meet in the school gym from 7pm-9pm on Sunday evenings. Bring your friends. Hope to see you there! Call Courtney Wahl, 360-904-3584 for questions.

## **Martin Luther's Seal Clings**

These clings are placed in the driver's side windshield so that you can park in the church lot during off hours of worship. This is to let the valet company know you are a part of the church. You may obtain these decals from the church office. Donations will be used for our support of Pastor Alan Ludwig's work in Siberia.

## **Playgroup for Toddlers/Preschoolers**

This is a wonderful opportunity for the little ones to play together, and a nice way to meet other families with small children. We will meet on Wednesdays at 2pm and Thursdays at 9am in the Nursery at church. Questions, please contact Anne Sagan at 248.546.5228 or email her at [annesagan@yahoo.com](mailto:annesagan@yahoo.com)

## **Baptism Class**

On February 5, a Baptism class will be held for the parents of the child(ren) being baptized for that month. This class is for parents and sponsors and will be taught by Pastor Schultz & Vicar Kirk in the meeting room at 9:30 am.

**Quilting** If you or a friend have any **quilt tops** that need finishing, we could use the work. Or, if you are interested in learning how to quilt, you are welcome to drop in on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 am. Call Clara Lichtenberg at 248- 288-3325 if you have any questions.

**LCFSA Meeting & Luncheon-** Join us on February 8 at St. Paul church in the lounge at 12:00 p.m. for a devotion, led by Vicar Kirk Hulvey followed by a bag luncheon. Beverages provided. The main event will be a White Elephant/Silent Auction Sale. Everyone is welcome to attend. Bring your friends and a white elephant item or just come to bid on the items. A fun event for everyone! Funds raised will go to *Oakman Boulevard Apartments (Transition Housing, for foster care children who are aged-out)*. Questions? Call Mila Jackson, 248-548-8798.

**The Big Game Bash** tradition is going to continue. Plan to come and watch the Big Game on the Big Screen in the church lounge on Sunday, February 5th. Doors will open at 5:00 pm. We are asking that you sign up at the Welcome Center, in advance, so we can approximate how many are planning to attend. Instead of selling tickets to the event we are asking that each person bring a snack or dish to share or make a monetary donation (the night of the party) to help offset the cost of the party. The main dish, soda, water, coffee, cake and festive atmosphere will be provided. If you have questions or if you would like to help with the party please contact Chuck Brewer, Jim Hooks or Will Lichtenberg.

**Lenten Banner Gift Opportunity** During Lent, our mid-week worship series will be centered around eight Stations of the Cross. The Stations of the Cross is an ancient form of Christian meditation on the experiences of Jesus on Good Friday. The artwork for these eight Bible-based stations will be in the form of liturgical banners that will be used in worship. We invite you to contribute to the cost of these banners by making gifts directly to this project. We hope to receive 12 \$100 gifts or 24 \$50 gifts, or any amount you might like to contribute. Please make checks payable to St. Paul Lutheran Church and write Lenten Banners on the "for" line. If you would like to make such a gift into a memorial or honorarium, possibly for a friend or a loved one, please indicate that as well. Thank you for contributing to this Lenten series! If you have any questions, please contact Vicar Kirk.

## **Stewardship Ministry**

### **Calling All Job Seekers!**

Learn how to write a resume that helps you stand out from the crowd. St. Paul member Howard Bosworth, a human resources professional, will be leading a one-hour Resume Writing Workshop at 3 p.m. Sunday, February 26 in the church lounge. He will help you develop a resume that effectively presents your job strengths, skills and experience. The workshop is open to St. Paul members and non-members alike. Participants should bring a notebook and pens or pencils. Plenty of hot coffee will be provided!

### **Mission for February**

**LCMS World Relief and Human Care** will receive the special Mission offering throughout the month of February. This vital ministry of our church shares Christ's mercy with people in need all around the world. Most recently, continuing work in earthquake-stricken Haiti led to the dedication of three new Lutheran Villages, including 70 homes and two four-unit apartment buildings.

*Continued on page 4*

## Ministry News *Continued...*

### Lent Season Begins—

Our Mid-week Wednesday Lenten worship services begins with: Ash Wednesday, February 22—March 28 at 3:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

**Quiz Night** - Start getting your team together and studying those trivia books. Quiz night will be on Saturday, February 18th at 7:00. Watch for more information and a sign up sheet for teams in the lobby.

**Bethany Christian Ministry-** On Sunday, February 12, we will be having a guest speaker, Pamela Parker of Bethany Christian, come and talk about this special ministry in helping foster children find good and loving Christian homes. We would like to thank Kirk Ulrich, member, for bringing the information needed to us on this program. Please contact John Kyle, 248-930-1070, for any questions of any Evangelism program.

### MARDI GRAS - or in Germany -

**KARNEVAL/FASCHING** - will be celebrated again this year at the German American Cultural Club, Sterling Heights, MI, on Saturday, February 18th. Ticket cost: \$17.50 - you may purchase food & beverages there, if you wish. Wear a costume for fun, or just enjoy people watching, lively entertainment & the most awesome conga line! Questions to Martha Smyth 248-677-4972 or Gloria Walter 248-398-6364. Please sign up for a ticket at the Welcome Center & we can all sit together! Time & driving directions available there, also.

**Evangelism—** We are collecting toiletry (toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoos, soap, etc) items for South Oakland Shelter Ministries during the month of February. A box is located in the coatroom near pastor's office. Thank you!

### World Relief Quilting—February 27

If you can tie or help sew, we could use you! Join us on February 27 in the church lounge from 9am-3pm, or anywhere inbetween. If you have a sewing machine, bring it. Coffee and tea is provided. Bring a sack lunch. Call Clara Lichtenberg, 248-288-3325 for any questions.

**Guild Annual Bake Sale** on February 12 after services. Pick up your favorite treats for your family.

**Suzuki Recital** Enjoy an afternoon of music by the Suzuki Choir of Royal Oak on February 12 at 3:00 p.m.



## SCHOOL NOTES

-Sue Trepanier,  
Secretary

WOW! Already half of the 2011-2012 school year has past! So much has already happened – exciting basketball games, a successful Mom's to Mom's Resale, participation in the Royal Oak Spooktacular Weekend, Grandparent's Day in our preschool, buying gifts at Santa's Secret Shop, and another inspiring Children's Christmas Worship Service.

But there's more to come! February brings our School Valentines Dance (6-8th grade) and Fun Picture Day.

Mark your calendars for this year's Lutheran Schools Week (March 4-9), Open House (March 11) and Kindergarten Round-up (March 15).

Special thanks to basketball coaches this season. **Mr. Eric Pittman and Vicar Kirk Hulvey.** Without our coaches time and efforts, our students would not have had the opportunity to participate in sports.

We are already looking ahead to the next school year! **Ms. Bierwirth and Mrs. Costakes**

attended an Open House at Northwood Elementary School to showcase our preschool program along with other schools in the area. If you have any questions about our preschool or elementary school program, don't hesitate to call the school office at (248) 546-6555.

### Calendar

#### February 10

Valentines Dance (6-8th grade)

#### February 20-22

Winter Break (No School)

#### February 28

Faculty Inservice  
(School Dismissed at Noon)

### Fundraiser

Help support our school by purchasing bagels from Bruegger's Bagel on the first Sunday of the month. A coupon will be in the bulletin that Sunday for you use to get credit for our school.

### YOUTH MINISTRIES

#### Sr. High Youth Bible Class

Senior High Youth Bible Class is held on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the school. All Sr. High Youth are invited and encouraged to attend.

Classes are held in the 5th and 6th grade room at the school.

## SPECIAL BULLETIN

**A change** is occurring in the publishing of our newsletter, **The Masthead**. Instead of a monthly newsletter we will be publishing it on a bi-monthly basis. This will begin next month with a March/April edition. You may still receive your news through our weekly Masthead or online at [www.worshipdowntown.org](http://www.worshipdowntown.org).

## Member Matters

Baptisms	Date
Braydon Drew	01/15/2012

Funerals	Date
Shirley Wetzel	01/14/2012

**Attendance (4 weeks)**  
**(01/01/2012—01/22/2012)**  
Weekly Average 384

**Finance (4 weeks)**  
**(01/01/2012—01/22/2012)**  
Weekly Average \$14,171



# FEBRUARY BIRTHDAY'S



If we've missed listing your birthday, please call the church office.

**Birthdate: 2/1**

Harper, Mark  
Heike, Florence

**Birthdate: 2/2**

Jackson, Arthur  
Lienard, Nick  
Robbins, Bryce

**Birthdate: 2/3**

Cavicchioli, Jason  
Dwyer, Matthew  
Swaney, Joann

**Birthdate: 2/4**

Banules, Anthony  
Burch, Alivia  
Drewek, Janice  
Gifford, Ellen

**Birthdate: 2/5**

Lentz, Andrea  
Thiem, Tanya  
Withers, Beth

**Birthdate: 2/6**

Baker, Natalie  
Hills, Carol

**Birthdate: 2/7**

Schultz, Jim

**Birthdate: 2/8**

Bachleda, Emily  
Rogalski, Anthony

**Birthdate: 2/9**

Burke, Joshua

**Birthdate: 2/11**

Guettler, Ron  
Mills, Nelson  
Say, Lenora  
Swartz, Stella

**Birthdate: 2/12**

Fortner, Betsy  
Hemming, Kathryn  
Parks, Sarah  
Pomroy, Paige

**Birthdate: 2/13**

Rasmussen, Katelyn  
Rasmussen, Mike

**Birthdate: 2/14**



Brewer, Donna  
Supnick, Jerry

**Birthdate: 2/15**

Paul, Thomas  
Paulsen, Andrea

**Birthdate: 2/16**

Burke, Melanie  
Geraci, David  
Say, Mark  
Strainovici, Quinn

**Birthdate: 2/17**

Burch, Kevin  
Butala, Jane  
Eising, Muriel  
Lindhorst, Carolyn

**Birthdate: 2/18**

Baker, Scott  
Rice, Logan  
Sides, Brandon

**Birthdate: 2/19**

Eising, Emma  
Owens, Sarah  
Picmann, Margret



Do I smell birthday cake?

**Birthdate: 2/20**

Buerger, Marie  
Craig, Gavin  
Garrick, Deborah  
Grayson-Lewis, Asha  
Wahl, Courtney

**Birthdate: 2/21**

Paulsen, Kyle

**Birthdate: 2/22**

DeSandre, Heather  
Hill, Eric

**Birthdate: 2/23**

Hessler, Kristy  
Pyykkonen, Louis  
Schultz, Jane  
Wilson, Josh

**Birthdate: 2/24**

McCaffrey, Brian

**Birthdate: 2/25**

Kilbourn, Amy  
Petri, Alvina  
Womack, Clyde

**Birthdate: 2/26**

Cicccone, Elaina  
Lepola, Alexander  
Seguin, Coley  
Strongman, Bryan  
Tillotson, Michelle

**Birthdate: 2/27**

Kuhlmann, Margaret

**Birthdate: 2/28**

Arco, Heidi  
Bosworth, Howard  
Mitchell, Bradley  
Turner, Raquel

**Birthdate: 2/29**

DeSandre, Jack  
Mace, Nicholas

## Prayer's

To Add/remove a prayer go to [prodway@stpaulroyaloak.org](mailto:prodway@stpaulroyaloak.org)

### For Our Family and Friends

Avery Adams	Bill Miller
Gabriel Adler	Vimla Newton
Barb Biels	Jim & Joan Noffert
Eula Boggess	Shirley Paschall
Amy Champ	Karl Payk
Barbara Fecteau	Matt & Kerri Penchuck
Nathan Fecteau	Elizabeth Phillips
Richard Firchau	Bob Pickett
Susan Golinske	Paul Poszwa
Josette Grant	Celeste Prudhomme
Grant Haley	Karen Raime
Cheryl Hall	Gloria Rice
Trevor Harris	Mike Ridge
Diane Hawker	Linda Scalzi
David Herkowitz	Lloyd Schultz
Dawn Lis-Homer	Caleb Sears
Reginald Hosey	Ebony Sharpley
Russ Hulvey	Robert Stephens
Patrice Kolbe	Bob Straub
Arden Licht	Mike Tom
Sharon Lechleitner	Brad Swegles
Holly McKittrick	Vanessa Ultzen
John Michelin	Jean Watterson

John Wallace  
Daniel Weber  
Judy Weller  
Leslie Wharton  
Sharon Zerla

*You may donate to the church through memorial/honorarium cards located on the shelf in the lobby. This is a two part card, one to go with the gift donated to the church and the other to be mailed to let the family know of your donation to our church. Contact the church office if you have*

## Gift's to Our Lord...

Memorials & Gift Donations

### St. Paul Lutheran Church—

In memory of **Ed Frincke** by David Frincke

In memory of **Sylvia Smith** by M/M Bob Rutledge

In memory of **John Schroff** by Royal Oak Professional Firefighters Association

In memory of **Virginia Beck** by M/M Bob Rutledge

In memory of **Shirley Wetzel** by M/M Chester Limbaugh, Dolores & Susan Gralinski, M/M Claude Richards, M/M Daniel Moss, Ann Tell, The Shields Family, Maureen Zack, Alvina Petri, M/M James Smith, M/M Jim Charnawskas, M/M Eric Pittman

In memory of **Beata Pflieger** by M/M Ron Pflieger

In honor of our **Lord and Savior** by Alice Jackson

### St. Paul Fund—

In memory of **Elizabeth Anderson** by M/M Harold Born

### Garden Club—

In memory of **Sylvia Smith** by M/M Bill Woodruff

### Debt Reduction—

In memory of **Shirley Wetzel** by Clara Lichtenberg, Carolyn Dober

### Pay-A-Bill—

In memory of **Shirley Wetzel** by M/M Jerald Supnick

### Women's Guild—

In memory of **Herbert Huff** by Dorothy Huff

### Trustee Fund—

In memory of **Ed Frincke** by David Frincke

In memory of **John Schroff** by M/M Eric Pittman

### School Scholarship Fund—

In memory of **Shirley Wetzel** by Jeanette Till, Lisa Zimmerman

In memory of **John Schroff** by Jeanette Till

### Lenten Banner—

In honor of our grandchildren, **Jacob, Lukas and Hannah Snell** by M/M Steven Snell

## Prayer's

### Military

Earle Arnold	Sam Eskew	Julius Gerald
Joshua Armon	Tirzah Eskew	Rockey Sparks
Eric Banker	Jeff Follett	Aaron Zeile
Kris Berceli	Pam Harrington	
Paul Bowdich	Ryan Hart	
Gene Bunton	Thomas Herzberg	
Kevin Burch	John Hunter	
Robert Clark	Brandon Newton	
Ben Eberly	Kristine Pate	
	Jeremy Rudd	
	Scott Rutledge	
	Heidi Gerald	



*Therefore I tell you, Whatever you ask in prayer Believe that you have received it, and it will be yours. Mark 11:24*

## "The Masthead" & "The Viking"

NOW on our website

[www.worshipdowntown.org](http://www.worshipdowntown.org)

St. Paul on iTunes!



Audio sermons from St. Paul are now available as free podcasts at the iTunes store.

Find Us on FACEBOOK



St. Paul Lutheran Church  
St. Paul Lutheran Youth