

St Paul Partners

February 2010

St. Paul Lutheran Church-Startown
www.stpaulstartown.org

The Rev. Chris Christopher, Pastor
church office: 828-464-3853

Mission Statement

We the people of St. Paul are called and empowered by God-
To **Witness** through Christ; To **Welcome** everyone through the Holy Spirit;
To **Worship** with joy; and To **Work** with God to meet the needs of our community.

This month's newsletter is sponsored by Barbara Sloop in honor of all our members who support our church family by serving on the prayer chain.

STATISTICS DON'T LIE!

How To Stay Safe in the World Today! Where IS the Safest Place?

1. Avoid riding in automobiles because they are responsible for 20% of all fatal accidents.
2. Do not stay home because 17% of all accidents occur in the home.
3. Avoid walking on streets or sidewalks because 14% of all accidents occur to pedestrians.
4. Avoid traveling by air, rail, or water because 16% of all accidents involve these forms of transportation.
5. Of the remaining 33%, 32% of all deaths occur in Hospitals. So, above all else, avoid hospitals.
6. But, You will be pleased to learn that only .001% of all deaths occur in worship services in church, and these are usually related to previous physical disorders. Therefore, logic tells us that the safest place for you to be at any given point in time is at church!
7. And . . . Bible study is safe too!
The percentage of deaths during Bible study is even less.

So, attend church, and read your Bible - IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE!

GOD BLESS YOU!!!

Book of Faith Activities for February 2010

<u>Date</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Bible Passages</u>	<u>Weekly Reading*</u>
2/7	Esther	Esther 4:1-17	Esther 1-10
2/14	Ruth	Ruth 1:1-22	Ruth 1-4
2/21	Jeremiah	Jeremiah 31:23-35	Jeremiah 18-33
2/28	Joel	Joel 2:12-32	Joel 1-3 & Amos 1-9

True or False

- 1. God's name is not mentioned in the book of Esther.
- 2. Esther was part of King Xerxes harem. (Esther 2)
- 3. Ruth was a foreigner, a Moabite woman. (Ruth 1)
- 4. Ruth was the great grandmother of King David. (Ruth 4)
- 5. God called Jeremiah into ministry from Jeremiah's mother's womb. Jer. 1
- 6. Jeremiah was a prophet during the Babylonian Exile. (Jer. 29)
- 7. Joel calls Israel to repentance of the heart. (Joel 2)
- 8. Joel talks about the salvation of everyone who calls on God's name. JL2

"Just What are Scrolls?" – from the Learning Bible

In ancient times, writing was done on scrolls made of leather or papyrus. The papyrus plant, which grows abundantly in Egypt, provided the material for scrolls. Carbon-dating has shown that the Egyptians were using papyrus for writing as early as 3000 B.C. Making scrolls involved a series of steps: (1) Strips were cut from the center of the papyrus plant's stalk, (2) soaked in water to soften them, (3) and laid in crisscrossed rows. (4) The sheets were pounded with a mallet to break down the fibers and force them to join together and then (5) rubbed smooth with shells. When the sheets were dry, they could be written on. Black ink made from carbon soot mixed with water and tree sap was applied with pens made from reeds. Errors in writing could be erased with water.

Papyrus scrolls today are rare because moisture causes them to decay. Most surviving papyrus scrolls were discovered in dry, desert-like climates.

Leather scrolls (called parchment) were also used, and they eventually replaced papyrus as the preferred writing material. Leather scrolls were made from sheep, goat, or calf skins that had been scraped to remove the hair, stretched, and dried on a frame. Writing was done on the side where the hair had been removed. Texts written on leather could not be erased. Separate leather sheets were stitched together to make a long scroll. The Scroll of Isaiah, found at Qumran by the Dead Sea, measures twenty-four feet long. It is made of seventeen sheets of sheepskin joined by linen thread.

+Check out the 90 Day Challenge Display in the Fellowship Hall+

2010 Leadership Ministry

Council President: Otis Morton Vice-president: Steve Bumgarner
Secretary: Martha Staley Treasurer: Jan Mitchem
Council: Scott Bowman, Marty Coulter, Kathy Frye, Roger Frye, Frank Moxham,
Howard Reinhardt, Lee Robinson, Barbara Sloop, and Vivian Scott.

Church Council Highlights - January 9, 2010

- Approved loan from Gift and Memorials to General Fund of up to \$12,000.00 to meet January expenses.
- Approved Council Officers and Roger Frye to sign checks during 2010.
- Approved Bradley Scronce as Chairperson of Communication Sub-Committee.
- Approved nine month trial of an automated telephone calling system at a cost of \$55.00 per month, to be paid for by member sponsors and Gift and Memorial money if needed.
- Approved mo. Council meetings to be held on the fourth Thursday at 6:00 p.m.
- Approved annual fund drive by WELCA to benefit the Southern Seminary, to be held before Lent.

Congregational Forums – see page 15

Seminary Auxiliary Sunday

Our St. Paul Women will be collecting donations for the Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary Auxiliary beginning on February 7 and running through all of February. These funds are used by the Seminary Auxiliary to buy things which are not in the Seminary's budget such as books for their library, summer camp scholarships for children of Seminary students, and computer equipment for the student computer lab.

If you would like to donate \$100 or more, you can make someone a life member of the Seminary Auxiliary. Anything you can afford to give will be much appreciated.

Please place your donation in the envelope marked "Seminary Auxiliary" which will be in the bulletin on February 7 and put it in the offering plate or give it to Barbara Sloop, treasurer of our St. Paul Women. Checks should be made to St. Paul WELCA with "Seminary Auxiliary" written on the memo line. Thanks for your support of this worthy cause.

Visit us at: www.stpaulstartown.org

Finance Ministry
2009 Year End Treasurer's Report

GENERAL FUND	December <u>Budgeted</u>	December <u>Actual</u>	YTD <u>Budgeted</u>	YTD <u>Actual</u>
INCOME				
Contributions	\$26,149.83	\$19,291.34	\$313,798.00	\$261,627.96
EXPENSES				
Benevolence	\$2,542.63	\$3,401.00	\$30,512.00	\$29,062.00
Pastoral Support	\$9,487.00	\$9,480.05	\$113,844.00	\$97,480.67
Finance Ministry	\$129.13	\$49.39	\$1,550.00	\$1,120.05
Support Ministry	\$8,764.74	\$8,756.21	\$105,177.10	\$96,353.40
Property Ministry	\$2,859.54	\$1,401.87	\$34,310.00	\$30,863.44
Learning Ministry	\$715.49	\$260.86	\$8,585.00	\$5,332.84
Worship Ministry	\$512.33	\$206.94	\$6,145.00	\$1,819.18
Witness Ministry	\$323.10	\$840.76	\$3,875.00	\$2,447.65
Communications	\$250.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	\$0.00
Welcome Ministry	\$166.74	\$0.00	\$2,000.00	\$310.83
<u>Youth Ministry</u>	<u>\$399.78</u>	<u>\$964.09</u>	<u>\$4,800.00</u>	<u>\$1,749.55</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$26,150.08	\$25,361.17	\$313,798.10	\$266,539.61
INCOME /EXPENSES		-\$6,069.83		
December 31 Checkbook balance:		\$1,451.60		
<u>GOOD SAMARITAN</u>	December 1, 2009	Balance	\$ 921.40	
<u>FUND</u>		Contributions	\$ 1,296.00	
		Paid out (Help given))	\$ 384.18	
	Dec. 31, 2009	Balance	\$ 1,833.22	

The Year ended up showing that we spent more than we received. Money is being “borrowed” from the Gifts and Memorials in order to pay wages and operating expenses.

Learning Ministry

The Learning Committee is staffed by Robin Fincannon, Linda Lutz, Linda Morton, Reba Reinhardt, Barbara Sloop, and Pastor Chris.

Read the Bible in 90 Days Challenge

"Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known among the nations what he has done." 1 Chronicles 16:8

We are a third of the way through the Bible, or two-thirds of the way to the halfway point. Celebrate a bit with, and say a prayer of thanks. If you are a little behind, focus on this milestone as encouragement to catch up.

Check out the Display in the Fellowship Hall for background information on each book of the Bible, and for interesting illustrations and statistics. This will help inform everyone in their faith, not just those undertaking this Challenge.

Also, visit the **Pastor's blog** on our website where he gives us our daily reading, a thought to ponder, often times encouragement, and a relevant quote from Martin Luther. You may just read the blog, or you may post questions and comments. Join in the fun at www.stpaulstartown.org

Confirmation Camp

All first and second year confirmation students will attend a week of Camp at Camp Agape in Fuquay Varina during the week of June 13-18. Parents and students will be receiving information this month for planning. We will also hold a Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser in April to help offset the cost of camp.

Vacation Bible School

VBS will be held from Sunday, June 27th through Thursday, July 1st. Please put these important dates on your calendar now and plan on attending.

Check our website: www.stpaulstartown.org

The Work of the People Offered Unto God The Month of February

ALTAR GUILD:

Rita Bass, Judy Hoke

ACOLYTES:

(8:15) Howard Reinhardt
(10:30) Caroline Morton

USHERS:

8:15 Eugene & Gloria Lentz
10:30 Tommy Mitchem, Debra Webb

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS:

(8:15) Bradley & Sharron Scronce
Laura Lutz, Herb Travis
(10:30) Trish Scronce, Steve Morton
Linda Morton, Sandy Knudsen

LAY READERS:

7 – (8:15) Laura Lutz
(10:30) Amanda Lowman
14 - (8:15) Jerry Sweet
(10:30) Ruth Conrad
21 – (8:15) Adam Fincannon
(10:30) Sandy Knudsen
28 – (8:15) Faye Shook
(10:30) Kathy Simmons

PRAYER LEADERS:

7- (8:15) Glenda Shook
(10:30) Kathy Simmons
14 -(8:15) Herb Travis
(10:30) Steve Bumgarner
21 -(8:15) Keith Frye
(10:30) Martha Staley
28 -(8:15) Vivian Scott
(10:30) Jane Bumgarner

NURSERY:

7 - (8:15) Gail Blackburn
(10:30) Jan Mitchem
14 – (8:15) Laura Lutz
(10:30) Almeita Helton
21 - (8:15) Jerry & Linda Sweet
(10:30) Amy Morton
28 – (8:15) Amanda McKinney
(10:30) Daphna Robinson

SENDERS:

7- (8:15) Keith Frye
(10:30) Danny Southers
Linda Morton
14 - (8:15) Gail Blackburn
(10:30) Otis Morton
Trish Scronce
21– (8:15) Richard Blackburn
(10:30) Reggie Helton
Almeita Helton
28 – (8:15) Charlene Scott
(10:30) Roger Frye
Sharon Frye

MONEY COUNTERS:

Howard Reinhardt, Marty Coulter

SUNDAY SCHOOL TELLER:

Charity Stewart

PHONE TREE SPONSORS:

Bradley & Sharon Scronce (Jan.)
Pastor Chris & Theresa (Feb.)

February Birthdays

1 – Gloria Lentz
3 – Jesse Duncan, Alice Hass
9 – Trinity Price
10- Julie Nestor
11- Mary Sigmon
12- Joseph Duncan, Mike Lutz, Ralph Lutz
16- Glenda Townsend
20- Danny Southers
21- Sharon Frye, Faith Kanipe
25- Richard Blackburn, Dewey Jones
26- Bryson Arrowood, Madison Arrowood
27- Brian Coffey, Tracy Urcinola

From our first Intern:

Dear Chris, Greetings from Iraq!

I have enjoyed keeping up with the church and your ministry via the terrific website you have. I really enjoy the website as I receive much more information and is accessed anywhere.

I am currently in Iraq attached to augment the Army here. I am located on Camp Victory, Baghdad. I arrived in October 2009 and will be here until May. Its amazing to be in the land of Abraham and the prophet Daniel. Unfortunately, I don't get off base much at all due to the security situation. It would put other lives in danger. We have had some mortar rounds attack the base. It happens about once a month. I had only one close call with one landing 40 meters from where I was taking cover. I also have gotten to know some of the Iraqi Christians who speak Aramaic. It is their own language among Christians. Its amazing to hear the language of Jesus spoken.

My wife, Mary Ellen is Portsmouth, RI which is near my most recent duty station of Newport, RI. I was an instructor at the Naval Chaplains School there. I have a wonderful wife is doing a great job as a single parent (for now) of our four children (Christopher, age 9, Rebecca, age 7, Matthew, age 4, and Andrew, age 1). Soon after leaving Iraq I will move to Norfolk, VA with my family and will be the command chaplain of a ship to be announced.

I think and pray for the people of St. Paul's, and for yourself, often. It looks as if you are having a wonderful ministry there. A blessed Epiphany season to you and the member of St. Paul's.

Chaplain Brian Stamm, Lt. Commander, USN

A Good Samaritan Thank You!

Thank you for helping us with our power bill this month. It was so cold and we do not have jobs. Your help was a true blessing for us. Thank you so much. Please pray that we can find jobs soon. May God bless you. - A Member

Witness Ministry

Sharron Scronce, Chair; Helen Bowman, Eugene Lentz, Roger Frye Sharon Frye, Bradley Scronce, Keith Frye.

Eastern Catawba Cooperative Christian Ministries **- ECCCM**

WINTER CLOTHING DONATIONS NEEDED

The ECCCM Thrift Store is in need of winter clothing for children, teens and adults. Now would be a good time to do some closet cleaning and share your good fortune and blessings with others. As you know we provide free clothing to those who qualify as well as offering most items for sale from twenty-five cents to four dollars per item. The funding generated from the thrift store helps to offset some operational cost of the ministry.

Annual Canned Food Drive for ECCCM Food Bank

Our annual canned food drive for ECCCM will begin on Ash Wednesday, February 17th, and run through Sunday, April, 18th. Our goal once again is 4000 pounds. There will be collection points in the narthex and the Fellowship Hall. There is great need in our community, so please consider this very worthwhile ministry of our congregation for our community.

Special Events and Communications Ministries

Keith Frye, special events chair, Bradley Scronce, communications chair

Phone Tree

To establish better communications with our members we have started to use a Phone Tree service. The phone tree can be used by any Ministries or groups to send out information. The cost of the service is \$55.00 per month. Individual members of the Church Council are sponsoring a month at a time. The service will be used for the first 9 months of 2010 to evaluate it.

March Newsletter deadline

The deadline for newsletter articles or calendar information for the March Newsletter is Sunday, February 21st. Email your copy to Pastor Chris **and** Cheryl for inclusion in the newsletter. Please honor this deadline so the office staff and volunteers can communicate the news in a complete and timely manner.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Congregational Beach Retreat – See Page 11

Congregational Forums – See Page 15

Agape Day Camp – See Page 10

Worship Ministry

Kathy Frye, Chair, Karen Bowman, Sissy Moxham, Charlene Scott, Vivian Scott, Trish Scronce, Denise Sigmon, Kathy Simmons, and Nancy Walker. We meet at 6:30 pm on the Second Monday of each month. If you wish to be a member and have not already been contacted, please see Kathy.

Please note upcoming dates:

- ❖ Ash Wednesday is February 17th, service at 7pm
- ❖ Mid-Week Services begin February 24th at 7pm. (meals at 6pm)
- ❖ Good Friday services will be held at New Jerusalem
- ❖ Lilies and daffodils will be available to order for Easter
- ❖ Easter Sunrise service will be at New Hope Moravian
- ❖ Easter breakfast will be at St Paul Lutheran
- ❖ Labyrinth Retreat at Mission Campus on May 22nd

Read the Bible in 90 Days

We send our congratulations and encouragement to everyone participating in the 90 Day Bible Reading program. Members are excited and discussing everything they are learning and thought they knew. The most important thing is that we are reaching for a goal and are not going to give up even if it takes us longer than 90 days to complete. Read On!

Reading the Bible can change us:

"Personal transformations can happen when the person we presently are does not yet resemble the person we hope to be. Better to set high ideals and occasionally fall short than to settle for mediocrity and succeed." (from: Life Support System)

Youth Ministry

The Youth Committee is chaired by Steve Morton. The members are: Marty Coulter, Adam Fincannon, Robin Fincannon, Judy Herman, Chantae Lail, Amy Morton, Amanda McKinney, Michelle Potter, Christine Price, Trinity Price, Robin Rudisill, and Charity Stewart.

Sr. Youth Schedule (Pastor Chris – advisor)

Date	Activities	Time	Meeting Place
Sunday, 2/7	Super Bowl Party	4pm	FH to go to Urcinola's
Sunday, 2/14	No Youth Mtg		
Sunday, 2/21	In-House Game Nite	5:30pm	Fellowship Hall
Sunday, 2/28	Poke Deliveries & Fast Food	5:30pm	Fellowship Hall

The Senior Youth Mission Trip is scheduled for the Week of July 5th-10th. Details are still being worked out, so keep your eyes open for further news.

All Adult Leaders for Senior Youth will meet on Thursday, Feb. 4 @ 6:30pm in the Church Library.

Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday is February 7th. Our Youth will be at each exit from the sanctuary with soup pots collecting your donations to the Corner Table Soup Kitchen.

Jr. Youth (grades 5-8) –Michelle Potter, leader

TLC – The Little Christians (grades 1-5)- Amy Morton, leader

February 24, 2010 Noon-2pm

TLC Youth (1st-5th grade) will meet in the fellowship hall following 2nd service Feb. 24. Lunch will be provided. Coming up in March for TLC– Children's hand bell workshop with Angela. Watch for more information in the March Newsletter.

Agape Summer Day Camp

For rising 1st through 5th graders

At the Mission Campus

July 19-23, 2010

Cost: \$125/camper

Watch for further details

Congregational Beach Retreat

This cold weather has many of us thinking about summer, and quite longingly, the beach. The crash of waves... the **hot**, baking sun... the smell of salt in the air... laughter on the boardwalk... Yes, the beach is a great place to relax and get away from it all. So, join us at the Beach, Kure Beach, this summer for 4 days of fun and fellowship, laughing together and relaxing together. The dates are Thursday, July 15th through Sunday, July 18th. The cost will be \$115 per adult, and \$45 per child 12 and under. This includes your room and 5 meals... and all the fun you can stand! Start planning now! The registration form is below.

“Sun, Fun, and Friendship...”

What: Fun and Fellowship

When: Thursday, July 15th through Sunday, July 18th

Where: Kure Beach Lutheran Retreat Center, Kure Beach, NC

Cost: \$115/person, includes lodging and 5 meals
\$45/child, 14 years old and under

Worship: Yes

Group Activities: Yes

Free Time: Lots and Lots more!

Deposit: ½ due by Monday, May 17th

Balance: due by Monday, June 21st

+++++

Reservation Form for Kure Beach Retreat

Yes, we would like to attend the Kure Beach Retreat on July 15th -18th

Name(s): _____

*if under 14 years old, please identify

Deposit is attached: Yes_____ No_____

Reading Guide for the 90 Days Program -Using Your Bible-

<u>Date</u>	<u>Day</u>	<u>Start</u>	<u>End</u>	✓
Feb 1	30	1 Ch 10:1	1 Ch 23:32	
	2	1 Ch 24:1	2 Ch 7:22	
	3	2 Ch 8:1	2 Ch 23:21	
	4	2 Ch 24:1	2 Ch 25:37	
	5	2 Ch 26:1	Ez 10:44	
	6	<u>Ne 1:1</u>	<u>Ne 13:31</u>	
Feb 7	36	Ester 1:1	Job 7:21	
	8	Job 8:1	Job 24:25	
	9	Job 25:1	Job 41:34	
	10	Job 42:1	Ps 24:10	
	11	Ps 25:1	Ps 45:17	
	12	Ps 46:1	Ps 69:36	
	13	<u>Ps 70:1</u>	<u>Ps 89:52</u>	
Feb 14	43	Ps 90:1	Ps 108:13	
	15	Ps 109:1	Ps 134:3	
	16	Ps 135:1	Pr 6:35	
	17	Pr 7:1	Pr 20:30	
	18	Pr 21:1	Ecc 2:26	
	19	Ecc 3:1	SoS 8:14	
	20	<u>Isa 1:1</u>	<u>Isa 13:22</u>	
Feb 21	50	Isa 14:1	Isa 28:29	
	22	Isa 29:1	Isa 41:29	
	23	Isa 42:1	Isa 52:15	
	24	Isa 53:1	Isa 66:24	
	25	Jer 1:1	Jer 10:25	
	26	Jer 11:1	Jer 23:40	
	27	<u>Jer 24:1</u>	<u>Jer 33:26</u>	
Feb 28	57	Jer 34:1	Jer 47:7	

Reading Guide for the 90 Days Program For Using “Read and Learn Story Bible”

Date	Day	Story	Page	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feb 1	30	David's Friend	168	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2	31 King David's Songs	173	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3	32 A Wise King	177	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4	33 Solomon's Temple and Solomon's Wise Words	181	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5	34 Elijah and the Bad King	185	<input type="checkbox"/>
	6	35 Who is the True God?	190	<input type="checkbox"/>
	7	36 Elijah Goes Away	194	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feb 8	37	Elisha's Miracles	200	<input type="checkbox"/>
	9	38 A Lost Book is Found	204	<input type="checkbox"/>
	10	39 A Sad Ending	208	<input type="checkbox"/>
	11	40 Daniel and the King's Dream	213	<input type="checkbox"/>
	12	41 The King's Dream	217	<input type="checkbox"/>
	13	42 The Angel in the Fire	222	<input type="checkbox"/>
	14	43 Daniel and the Lions	229	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feb 15	44	Queen Esther	232	<input type="checkbox"/>
	16	45 Jonah and the Big Fish	238	<input type="checkbox"/>
	17	46 Peace Will Come	243	<input type="checkbox"/>
	18	47 Good News from the Angel Gabriel	249	<input type="checkbox"/>
	19	48 A Message for Mary	253	<input type="checkbox"/>
	20	49 A Son for Elizabeth and Jesus is Born	258	<input type="checkbox"/>
	21	50 The Shepherds and Jesus is Blessed	265	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feb 22	51	Wise Men from the East and The Escape to Egypt	272	<input type="checkbox"/>
	23	52 Young Jesus in the Temple	277	<input type="checkbox"/>
	24	53 Jesus and John the Baptist	284	<input type="checkbox"/>
	25	54 Twelve Men	288	<input type="checkbox"/>
	26	55 A Miracle in Cana	292	<input type="checkbox"/>
	27	56 Jesus the Healer and Jesus the Teacher	296	<input type="checkbox"/>
	28	57 The Beatitudes and Some Words of Jesus	302	<input type="checkbox"/>

Reading Guide for the 90 Days Program For Using "100 Favorite Bible Stories"

Date	Day	Chapter	Story	Page	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Feb 1	30	40	Absalom's Rebellion	87	<input type="checkbox"/>
	2	31	Solomon and the Temple	89	<input type="checkbox"/>
	3	32	The Prophet Elijah	91	<input type="checkbox"/>
	4	33	Elijah and the Prophets of Baal	93	<input type="checkbox"/>
	5	34	Naboth's Vineyard	95	<input type="checkbox"/>
	6	35	Elisha Sees Elijah Ascend	97	<input type="checkbox"/>
	7	36	Naaman and Elisha	99	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feb 8	37	47	God Sends Jonah	101	<input type="checkbox"/>
	9	38	Jeremiah	103	<input type="checkbox"/>
	10	39	The Three Men in the Fiery Furnace	105	<input type="checkbox"/>
	11	40	Daniel in the Lions' Den	107	<input type="checkbox"/>
	12	41	A Message for Zechariah	109	<input type="checkbox"/>
	13	42	The Announcement to Mary	111	<input type="checkbox"/>
	14	43	The Birth of John the Baptist	113	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feb 15	44	54	The Birth of Jesus	115	<input type="checkbox"/>
	16	45	Angels Announce the Saviors' Birth	117	<input type="checkbox"/>
	17	46	The Presentation of Jesus	119	<input type="checkbox"/>
	18	47	The Magi from the East	121	<input type="checkbox"/>
	19	48	The Escape to Egypt	123	<input type="checkbox"/>
	20	49	The Boy Jesus at the Temple	125	<input type="checkbox"/>
	21	50	The Baptism of Jesus	127	<input type="checkbox"/>
Feb 22	51	61	The Temptation of Jesus	129	<input type="checkbox"/>
	23	52	Jesus Helps Peter Catch Fish	131	<input type="checkbox"/>
	24	53	Jesus Changes Water to Wine	133	<input type="checkbox"/>
	25	54	Jesus Calms the Storm	135	<input type="checkbox"/>
	26		Jesus Heals a Man Who Was		<input type="checkbox"/>
		55	Paralyzed	137	<input type="checkbox"/>
	27	56	A Widow's Son and Jairus' Daughter	139	<input type="checkbox"/>
	28	57	Jesus Feeds More Than 5000	141	<input type="checkbox"/>

Congregational Forums

regarding

the ELCA Assembly Vote

***note date changes**

***Sunday, February 7@ 2pm in the Fellowship Hall**

Presentation # 1 by Dr. Gary Weant

***Sunday, February 14 @ 2pm in the Fellowship Hall**

Presentation #2 by Dr. Brian Peterson

***Sunday, February 21 @ 2pm in the Fellowship Hall**

Presentation #3 by Dr. Larry Yoder

Each Congregational Forum will highlight only one viewpoint regarding the ELCA decision in August, therefore each forum will be different. Your attendance at each forum is important.

The three viewpoints, in no particular order are:

- To withdraw from the ELCA and join another church;
- To stay in the ELCA as a dissenting congregation and vote to not participate in the new ordination policy;
- To stay in the ELCA as an affirming congregation in agreement with the policy.

Each Forum will consist of a 50 minute videotaped presentation by one of our three speakers above, discussing the Biblical foundations for their viewpoints. In their presentation, they will address the same 3 questions:

1. Discuss the new policy with the biblical model of natural relationships
2. Is this new policy a salvation issue? Why or why not?
3. How do you see the Holy Spirit working in the Church today?

In the video, there follows a 20 minute Q & A from the Council with the presenter.

Each Forum will last about 1 hour. Each presenter has prepared a paper to lay the foundation for their talk, and the papers are found on our website or in the narthex.