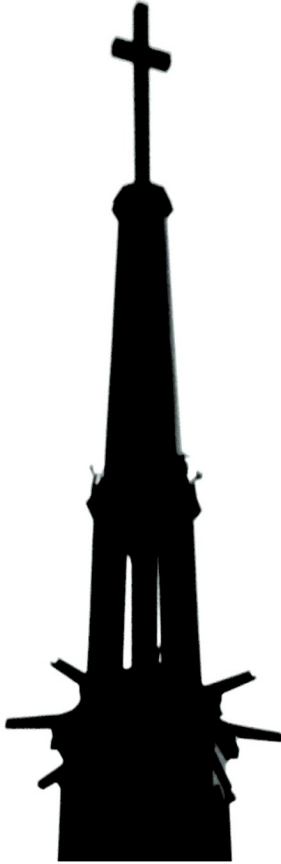

The Lutheran Visitor

721 12th Avenue Huntington, WV 25701
The Reverend Jennifer Obermueller, Pastor

*The Mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church is to celebrate and proclaim
to all the saving grace of Jesus Christ through word and deed.*

February 2012



This number appears many times in Scripture, often indicating a time of trial or testing, or simply marking something significant. It rained 40 days and nights during the Great Flood. Israel wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. Jesus fasted for 40 days and was with the disciples for 40 days between his resurrection and ascension. Taking this symbolic number to heart, the Christian church has long observed 40 days of Lent (not counting Sundays).



Lenten Worship

Begins

Wed. 2/22/12

Lenten worship begins on 2/22 with Ash Wednesday worship. Below is a schedule of worship for Lent and the start of the Easter season.

More information about Easter opportunities will appear in next month's Visitor.

Unless otherwise noted, all events are at St. Paul.

Ash Wednesday Worship

7 p.m., 2/22

Sundays

9:30 a.m. 2/26, 3/4, 3/11, 3/18, 3/25, 4/1

Wednesdays

Dinner 6 p.m. 2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28 in the Undercroft in the lower level of St. Paul

Evening Prayer 7 p.m. 2/29, 3/7, 3/14, 3/21, 3/28

Triduum (The Three Days)

Maundy Thursday (including Confession and Individual Forgiveness and Holy Communion)

7 p.m., 4/5

Good Friday

7 p.m., 4/6

Easter Vigil (including Holy Communion)

7 p.m., 4/7

Easter Sunday

9:30 a.m., 4/8



Pastor Jennifer To Go To Continuing Education

CONTINUING

Pastor Jennifer will be attending a continuing education



EDUCATION

event sponsored by the ELCA the first week in February. Leadership, working with staff and



volunteers and personal spiritual disciplines will be some of the topics addressed.

At the end of January Pastor Jennifer attended the West Virginia-Western Maryland Synod winter continuing education event for pastors. Look for more information about both of these events in the March issue of The Visitor.

First Communion Meeting for Parents of 1st—5th Graders

Parents of 1st-5th Graders are invited to meet with Pastor Jennifer to discuss reception of Holy Communion for their children on Tues., 2/28 at 6 p.m. Children are welcome at this meeting. If you plan to come or have questions, please contact Pastor Jennifer at (304)972-8052 or at jennifer.obermueller@gmail.com



Vacation Bible School at St. Paul will be 6-8 p.m., Mon.-Fri., 6/11-6/15.

More information will be coming in the next few weeks in the Sunday bulletins and on Facebook. Please keep this exciting ministry in your prayers!

In the meantime, if you would like to help: You are invited to attend a VBS organization meeting at 6 p.m., Mon., 2/20 in the parlor at St. Paul. Questions? Contact Christine Clark-Vickers at r.k.mom2@hotmail.com or at (304)412-9664.



Have you met—

JOHN and NOLA SCOTT

John was raised in Butler, PA and is a graduate of Alderson-Broaddus College. He spent 4 years in the Air Force with assignments at Andrews AFB and Hickam AFB in Hawaii. He started his career as a physician's assistant at the VA Medical center in Detroit, then took a position here at the VA in 1979, retiring last July. He enjoys the outdoors and fishing as well as gardening. He tries to make yearly trips to Canada to fish and view wild life. He has one daughter and a grandson Tyler that is 15. Nola grew up in Proctorville and has lived in Huntington for more than 20 years. She is a graduate of Marshall and Ohio Universities and has a masters degree in nursing from the University of Phoenix. She has worked at the VA medical center for 30 years. She has a son and daughter. She enjoys running, sports and traveling. John and Nola enjoy walking in the park with their rescued dog Toby. John was a neighbor to Ron and Judy Pease for many years. In view of that, we also have to assume he has a good sense of humor—just ask him about the John Scott-Ron Pease black snake story.



- 2 Debra Perkins
- 8 Krista Korstanje
- 9 Richard Preston
- 10 Linda Schneider
- 11 Stephen Ellis
- 18 Sarah Bell
- 25 Matt Kisling
- 26 Linda Hay
- 27 William White
- 28 William Grimes
- 28 Jacki Humphreys

**Cridlin Food Item of the Month
and other necessities**



The following donations are badly needed:
New underwear (Men's sizes small, med., large, and X large and Women's sizes 5-8 are especially needed)



"You will know that forgiveness has begun when you recall those who hurt you and feel the power to wish them well."
Lewis B. Smedes -

Date	Acolyte	Sacristan	Assisting Minister	Communion Deacon	Reader	Altar Flowers
2/5	Katie Bell	Trey Bell	Carl Mummert	Anna Mummert	Anna Mummert	David Stuart
2/12	Ethan Arneson	Kathleen Korstanje	Anna Mummert	Rick Wilson	Carl Mummert	Dolly Oshel
2/19	Alex Lindberg	Zakare Garnett	Sally McGill	Meredith Anderson-Cain	Linda Schneider	Ron and Lisa Kelley
2/22 Ash Wed	Piper May	Jacob Simpkins	Linda Schneider	Traditional	David Stuart	No Flowers
2/26	Zoe May	Heath Wade	Steve Golder	Wilma Anderson-Cain	David Vickers	No Flowers

Ushers: Jim and Frances Case
James and Jill May
Altar Guild: Tim and Cheryl Conzett



Please Note Our Office Hours

Office 8 - noon Mon.-Fri.

Pastor Jennifer 8:30 - 10:30 a.m. Wed. and Thurs. 9:30 -

11:30 a.m.

Jeannie Riley, Youth Director 8-9 a.m. and 4-6 p.m. Wed.

Pastor Jennifer and Jeannie are available at other times, too. If you would like to make an appointment or talk with either of them, please call.

Pastor Jennifer (304)972-8052

Jeannie Riley (304)654-6322

Sanctuary and Chapel Lamps

Open dates March through

December

Sign-up sheet in the narthex

\$12 for the month



Dedication will appear in the bulletin and newsletter

Our thanks the Social Ministry Committee and members of the congregation who telephoned, sent cards and prepared meals during this most difficult time and ask for your continued prayers.

David and Carolyn Becker



Old Enough to Serve

In a worship committee meeting, much debate occurred about the minimum age for acolytes. "If kids can't reach the pulpit to place the Bible, then they shouldn't be allowed to carry it," some said. Others complained that young participants didn't carry the cross straight enough or that their childish delight seemed irreverent.

The conversation seemed to overshadow the central question: "Who gets to serve?" Does God's calling have limits? Shouldn't our faithful, joyful hearts, not our talents or abilities, define the quality of our service?



Perhaps we can learn from the child standing eagerly in the back of the sanctuary, clutching a Bible to his chest and asking, "I help God?" I don't want to be the one to tell him no.

(Article from The Newsletter Newsletter)

SOCIAL MINISTRY SAYS THANK YOU!

Thanks to the generosity of time, effort, and donations, Social Ministry was able to deliver thirteen food baskets to needy families in our community on December 18th. Thank you to Jon Anderson-Cain, Emily Conzett, Annette Duvall, Ben Jones, Susan Kelz, Linda Schneider, Ryan Vickers, Bernadette Wellman, and Rick & Jan Wilson, for shopping, packing, and delivering baskets. Thank you to the congregation for supplying the food and monies to purchase food. And a special thank you to Annette Duvall for overseeing this project.

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Confirmation 5:30 pm CCC 6 pm Adult Choir 7 pm	2 Pastor Jennifer	3 Continuing Ed	4
5 Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am "Souper" Bowl Sunday Boy Scout Sunday	6	7 Quilters 9 am Daisy Troop 1757 6-6:45 pm	8 Confirmation 5:30 pm CCC 6 pm Adult Choir 7 pm	9	10	11
12 Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am	13	14 Quilters 9 am Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30 pm	15 Confirmation 5:30 pm CCC 6 pm Adult Choir 7 pm	16	17 Girl Scouts 5-11 pm Undercroft	18 Shower 11 am
19 Transfiguration of Our Lord Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am	20 Presidents Day VBS Meeting 6 pm	21 Quilters 9 am Daisy Troop 1757 6-6:45 pm	22 7 pm  Worship Adult Choir 7:30 pm	23	24	25
26 1st Sunday in Lent Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:30 am Sunday School 10:45 am	27	28 Quilters 9 am First Communion Meeting 6 pm Girl Scouts 6:30-7:30 pm	29 Dinner 6 pm Evening Prayer 7 pm Adult Choir 7:30 pm 			

Shepherding God, you are the source of life and health. Surround those who struggle with illness or other difficulties of life and bring them to wholeness and healing especially Evie, Ladonna, Susan, Paul, Lori, Mary, Betty, Elicia, Pat, Fred, Joseph, Beverly, John, Elizabeth, Shari, Kathy, Karen, Kris, Steven, Laverne, Stephanie, Isaiah, Juanita, Helen, David, Peggy, Ryan and her family.



Some Symbols for Lent

Colors - the usual color for Lent is purple, signaling repentance. Black may be used on Ash Wednesday, a bare altar on Good Friday, and scarlet on Passion Sunday.

Ashes - Lent may begin with a cross-shaped smudge received on our foreheads during the Ash Wednesday liturgy, a solemn, public reminder of our mortality and repentance.

Palms - an ancient Jewish and Roman symbol of victory, used in triumphal processions and for decoration.

Crown of thorns - Like the cross itself, Jesus' painful crown is a sign both of his humiliation on our behalf as well as his kingship.

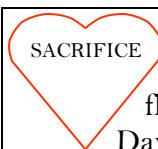
Darkness and uncovered altar - used in some churches where the interior is dark and the chancel furniture laid bare to symbolize the death of our Lord.

Refocus for Lent

- Give up complaining — focus on gratitude.
 - Give up harsh judgments — think kind thoughts.
 - Give up worry — trust God to provide.
 - Give up discouragement — be full of hope.
 - Give up bitterness — turn to forgiveness.
 - Give up hatred — return good for evil.
 - Give up anger — be more patient.
 - Give up pettiness — become mature.
 - Give up jealousy — pray for trust.
 - Give up gossiping — control your tongue.
 - Give up sin — turn to virtue.
 - Give up giving up — persevere.
- Author unknown

A Prayer for Lent

Lord Jesus Christ, send your Holy Spirit upon your people this Lenten season that we might faithfully take up our cross each day and follow you. Help us to die to all that is false in our lives, all that is worthless, all that is sinful. Confident in your abundant mercy, may we face the truth about ourselves without fear. Freed from all that keeps us from joyfully living our baptismal promises, may we join with all Christians in the Easter celebration of your resurrection. **Amen.**



Every February 14, we celebrate the loved ones in our lives with cards, flowers and chocolate. But Valentine's Day has another meaning that's been lost.

First declared a holiday by King Henry VIII of England in 1537, it commemorates the beheading of St. Valentine on February 14, 270 A.D. His crime? Performing wedding ceremonies after Roman Emperor Claudius II had outlawed marriage.

Valentine was martyred for faithfully doing the work God had given him. Although it's good to celebrate love and marriage, let's also remember the courage of a man who gave his life following his convictions.

Activities Page

FORGIVENESS Game

Try this twist on musical chairs.

What you need:

- 28 large index cards
- Black marker
- Two teams of people
- Radio or CD player

What you do:

1. On index cards, write out *forgiveness*, one letter per card. Make two sets (two F's, two O's, etc.).
2. Mix up the cards and form them face up in a circle on the floor. (You'll have six blanks mixed in.)
3. Have teams mix themselves up and stand in a circle around the cards. Ask an extra person to turn the music on and off.
4. As the music plays, teams walk around the circle. When the music stops, players each pick up the card nearest them.
5. Team members take their cards to a designated area and try to spell forgiveness. Any double letters or blanks go back to the "music person," who reorganizes remaining cards, spacing them evenly into a fresh circle.
6. Play continues until one team spells *forgiveness*.

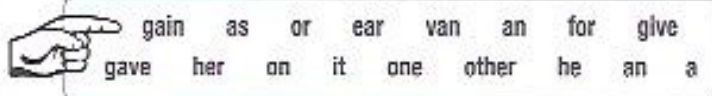


FOLLOW GOD'S EXAMPLE

In a letter to the church in Colossae, the apostle Paul wrote about the importance of forgiveness.

•••• DIRECTIONS ••••

To complete Colossians 3:13 (NIV), use the smaller words to fill in the larger words.



B _____ w _____ h each

ot _____ d _____ give

_____ e an _____ if _____ y

of you h _____ grie _____ ce

a _____ st some _____ .

For _____ as t _____ L _____ d

for _____ you."

COLOSSIANS 3:13, NIV

Answers: "Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you."

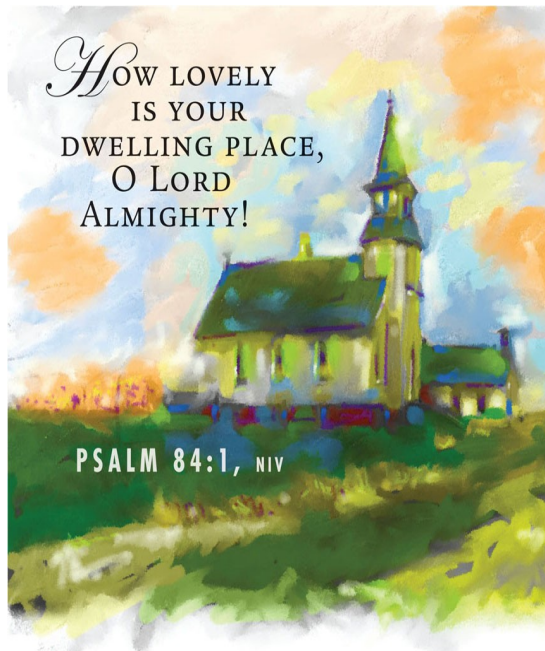
(Colossians 3:13, NIV)



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Email stpchurch@frontier.com

Website www.stpaulhuntington.org



How LOVELY
IS YOUR
DWELLING PLACE,
O LORD
ALMIGHTY!

PSALM 84:1, NIV

FEBRUARY 2012



Worship

with St. Paul Lutheran with Holy Communion

Sunday Worship 9:30 am

with Holy Communion

Sunday School 10:45 am

Ash Wednesday 7 pm

Lenten Dinner 6 pm

Lenten Service 7 pm