

# St. James Journal

February 2011

## Pastor Paul's Ponderings...

*Some reflections on Bible Study*

As I said in my report contained in the Annual Report, I would be writing a Journal article on the subject of personal Bible reading and study, so here it is...

As you think about the reading and study of the Bible, there are some basics that are quite well known, but that I will include in this article. These basics are presented partly for the benefit of those who have not done a lot of reading in the Bible, and partly as a review for all of us.

One of the first steps in any plan to read and study the Bible is to find a translation that works for you. Too often there are those who pick up a family heirloom Bible and soon get bogged down because of the difficulty in understanding what is being said. Oftentimes those heirloom Bibles are the King James Version, which, unless you are a Shakespeare scholar, is difficult to understand. Here is just one example, which in this case is from 1 Corinthians 13: "Charity suffereth long, and is kind; charity envieth not; charity vaunteth not itself, is not puffed up." Many would have little understanding of that verse in the King James Version. Compare that with the same verse in the New Revised Standard Version (that we use at worship on Sunday mornings) "Love is patient; love is kind; love is not envious or boastful or arrogant." What a contrast!

Another key step is to find a time each day that works for you, and make that Bible reading time a high priority. It is easy to get busy with the day's activities to the point where Bible reading gets put on the "back burner." Instead, what a joy to put it first!

A plan for the approach you will take in Bible reading and study will be another step. There are those who read the Bible from cover to cover. However, for others, they get rather bogged down within a short time after starting especially, for example, when they get to all of the laws in Leviticus. Many would say Leviticus doesn't contain a lot of devotional reading!

Instead of reading the Bible from Genesis to Revelation, there are several alternatives. One would be to read certain books in the Old Testament that are easier to follow, and after reading a book then read a book in New Testament and alternate to help keep at it.

Or, you may want to engage in a topical Bible study. One can pick a topic and then look up and study Biblical passages related to that theme. To best do so, using a concordance, a type of index, will be a big help. Some Bibles have condensed concordances at the back of the volume, or a complete concordance book can be purchased. If you access to the internet, many Bible study helps are available, including concordances.

There is much more that could be said about Bible reading and study, but hopefully this will get you started (or continuing) anyway! Feel free, and please do, contact either of us pastors if you wish to dialog about any aspect of Bible reading.

### SUNDAY WORSHIP SCHEDULE

8:00 AM Traditional Worship  
9:15 AM Bible Study  
9:30 AM Contemporary Worship  
9:30 AM Sunday School  
10:45 AM Traditional Worship

### THE SUNDAY RADIO BROADCAST

on KRIB, 1490AM, is at 9:30 a.m.

### INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

will be held this Sunday, February 6 at all three services. Please come to the service that is most convenient for you.

### THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING OFFERING

will be received this Sunday, February 6. Note inside for more details.

**FIRST COMMUNION** will be held at the 9:30 am service this Sunday, February 6.

### AN ADULT CONFIRMATION CLASS

will be held on Saturday, March 12, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. If you or someone you know would like to take the class to be confirmed or to enroll in the class as a "refresher", please contact Pastor Paul.

**2010 GIVING STATEMENTS** are available in the narthex. Please let the church office know if there are any discrepancies.

### 2011 OFFERING ENVELOPES (ADULT AND SUNDAY SCHOOL)

can be picked up in the church narthex. Please get yours if you haven't already done so. If there are no envelopes for you, please make a note of it and hand the note to one of the pastors.

# News From Our Members

## HOSPITAL NEWS

Hospitalizations or surgeries of members of St. James since the last Journal... Alex Bohls, Dottie Brown, Margaret Christensen, Cherie Etchen, Susan Longcor, Kim Tilkes, Walter Ward and Nancy Wise Runnels.

*Please notify the church office whenever a member of St. James is hospitalized. Also, please call if anyone has been inadvertently omitted in the above list.*

**THOSE LIVING WITH CANCER:** Verlyn Gourley and Rollie Miles.

*Diagnosed with cancer? Please call or email the church office so that we can include your name in this list.*

## **CONGRATULATIONS TO...**

- Ron Bartusek, owner of Star Auto Body, whose business now has a new location just west of the Manor.
- Roger Bublitz who has a new great-grandson, Noah Frank Fetner. Noah was born on Nov 20.
- James Estle and Heidi Hanson who were married at St. James on January 20.
- Alyse and Travis Hesley on the birth of a boy Colton Rocket Hesley. Colton was born on December 30.
- Kylie & Ben Logan on the birth of a girl, Lauren Danielle. She was born on December 14.
- Jennifer Ott who graduated in nursing from NIACC on December 14.
- Paul Thompson and Jennifer Trappe who were married in Florida on December 28.

## **6TH GRADE BASKETBALL UPDATE...**

The 6th grade Hawks, several players who are members of St. James, now have a record of 23-8. Keep up the good work!!



The boys have created a facebook page, Mason City Hawks Basketball, which includes a video and some pictures.

## **OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY** is extended to:

- The family of Jason Gramstad. Jason died on Dec. 24 at the Veteran's Home in Marshalltown.
- Laurie and Larry Haugen on the death of Laurie's father, Jack Ginger. Jack died on Dec. 23. The funeral was in Primghar on Dec. 27.
- Carol Patterson and family on the death of Carol's son Scott Patterson. Scott died on January 3. The funeral was in Northwood on January 6.
- Shirley Tatum and family on the death of Shirley's sister Ida Kuehl. Ida died on December 30. The funeral was in Indianola on January 3.
- The family of Luetta Walk. Luetta died on January 13. The funeral was on January 18.

*When there is a death of a family member, please call the church office so that we may make a note of it in an upcoming Journal. Also please call the church office if a name has been inadvertently omitted.*

## **THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY**

**DAFFODIL DAYS** of Cerro Gordo County will be held March 7-11. The daffodil is the American Cancer Society's symbol of hope that cancer will be defeated. To participate in Daffodil Days, make a donation to receive beautiful daffodils or share them with someone special. Place your order online at [cancer.org/daffodils](http://cancer.org/daffodils). Daffodils arrive in early March, just in time for spring.

**THE PETERSON SCHOLARSHIP** and two other scholarships for church leaders are available to young adults in our congregation who are planning to be first year students at Luther College this fall. Multiple scholarships of \$500 based on available funds, will be awarded from the pool of applicants this spring. The deadline is February 15. If you are interested, there are applications in the church office.

## **SCHOLARSHIPS OFFERED BY THE BETTY LOU SCHNEIDER FOUNDATION**

will again be offered for the 2011-12 school year. The program will be available to both new students and those who were granted gifting last year. This scholarship is available to North Iowa students who have had a background in a Lutheran Church—active participants preferred. Any course curriculum or school is eligible. Applications must be received no later than March 1 and the recipients of the grants will be notified by May 1. Contact the church office for an application form.

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**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**www.stjamesmc.org**  
**St. James Staff**

**Pastor Paul C. Nelson**  
**stjamespastor@mchsi.com**

**Pastor Jeni Bohls**  
**pastorjeni@mchsi.com**

**Administrative Coordinator Sarah Grant**  
**stjamesoffice@mchsi.com**

**Music Director Cynthia Tompkins**  
**garnitures@hotmail.com**

**Building Supervisor Bill Trask**  
**Kitchen Coordinator Sherri Fitzgerald**



Find us on Facebook!

**AT THE ANNUAL MEETING** this past Sunday, many were elected to positions of leadership at St. James. Below is the complete list of Officers and Board Members. Installation will be at the three services this Sunday.

\*Denotes Board Chairperson & Council Representative      \*\*Council Representative      #Chairperson of the committee

**Executive Committee**

President Hal Pohlman (2013-1)  
Vice President Dale Plath (2013-1)  
Secretary Sue Ollman (2012-1)  
Treasurer Gabe Johanns (2012-1)

**Deacons**

Tim Francis\* (2012-1)  
Lynn Christensen (2013-1)  
Marlin Deike (2012-2)  
Dan Dingman (2013-1)

**Trustees**

Patti Florman\* (2013-2)  
Wade Busch (2013-1)  
Mike Fitzgerald (2013-1)  
Mark Kramer (2013-1)  
Don Priebe (2012-1)  
Merv Sletten (2013-1)  
Sandy Thede (2013-1)

**Growth and Life**

Cynthia Tompkins\* (2012-1)  
Renee Knoop (2013-1)  
Pam Loeckle (2012-1)  
Judy Piersma (2013-1)  
Carrie Sievers (2013-1)  
Erica Tlusty (2012-1)

**Education**

Carrie Braun# (2012-1)  
Amy Halverson\*\* (2013-2)  
Angie McEachran (2013-1)  
Sandy Piippo (2013-1)  
Lisa Schinagel (2013-1)

**Youth & Family**

Christine Foth\* (2013-1)  
Danielle Austin (2013-1)  
Morgan Baltierra (2013-1)  
Marcy Billings (2013-1)  
Tammi Duckert (2013-1)  
Caitlin Janssen (2013-1)  
Destiny Piippo (2012-1)  
Moriah Wendel (2013-1)

**Stewardship**

Dar Wade\* (2013-2)  
Corrine Bolz (2013-1)  
Carol Edwards (2012-1)  
Jerry Hackbart (2013-1)  
Larry and Laurie Haugen (2013-1)

**Worship & Music**

Kathy Nelson# (2013-2)  
Rick Canedo\*\* (2013-2)  
Ron Dannen (2013-1)  
Madison Fitzgerald (2013-2)  
Henry Kalke (2013-1)  
Alex Lafrenz (2013-2)  
Susan Longcor (2013-1)

**Memorials**

Terri Tell\* (2013-1)  
Rich Halverson (2012-1)  
Brian Janssen (2012-1)  
Gene Larsen (2012-1)  
Marcia Menke (2012-1)  
Judy Nessett (2013-1)

# St. James News

## BREAST CANCER SUPPORT GROUP

will meet February 6 at 4:00 PM  
at St. James in the Friendship Room.  
Speaker will be Frankie Winegardner  
speaking on Integrative Medicine,  
"What it has to offer Cancer Survivors".  
For questions, please contact  
Kathy at 424-4997.



**KOINONIA** will eating at the Pizza  
Ranch on Sunday Feb. 27th at 5:30.  
Anyone is invited to come and join!



**CRAFTS** will start again on February 3 at 9:00  
AM in the Friendship Room. Anyone is welcome  
and encouraged to attend. Items are made for the  
fall bazaar with a good deal of fellowship and  
friendship. There will even be coffee and treats!

Ideas for craft items are also needed. If  
you have ideas to share but can't come  
on Thursdays, please contact Marvyl  
Ransom, Jean Groth, and Corrine Bolz.



**LOVE CIRCLE** will meet at  
Kathy Follmuth's home, 10 Silver  
Lane



## LENT/ EASTER

Lent begins on March 9. Easter is on April 24.

## WHEN RECYCLING BOXES

please break them down before putting them  
in the stairwell in the kitchen. Thank you.

**7<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE**  
will be **May 6 & 7**

**THE MARCH JOURNAL** deadline is  
Monday, February 21, by 1:00 PM.  
**BULLETIN ARTICLES**  
are due on Thursday by 10:00 AM every week.

## SCRIPTURE READERS

If you are unable to read on the scheduled Sunday please  
call someone else and exchange with them. If a change is  
made, please call the church office.

	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	10:45 AM
February 6	Jerry Hackbart	Lucille Feldhus	Kimberly Platts
February 13	Emily Knoop	Mike & Colleen Syverson	Linda Paulsen
February 20	Jeanette Priebe	Gary Lafrenz	Kathy Nelson
February 27	Marvyl Ransom	Dave Jacobson	Sue Ollman



## FEBRUARY 9:30 AM GREETERS:

Name tags will be on the deacons bench in the rear of the  
church, please arrive no later then 9:15 AM to prepare.  
Thank you!

Door Near Friendship Room	Narthex
Merv & Ann Sletten	Wade & Gayless Busch

## FEBRUARY 9:30 AM USHER SCHEDULE

Please arrive no later then 9:15 to prepare to hand out  
bulletins. Your nametag will be in a box on the deacons  
bench in the rear of the church. Thank you!

February 6 & 13	Jason Skarpness & Laurie Haugen
February 20 & 27	Vicki Austin & Mindy Farland

# St. James News



**OUR YOUTH WILL HOLD SOUP POTS** at church doors on Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday, February 6. They will join young people in churches across the country to collect money for those who are hungry and hurting. In 2010, \$10 million was collected by Souper Bowl of Caring participants to fight hunger. All of the money collected is donated to a charity selected by the participant (our donations will go to the Hawkeye Harvest Food Bank and ELCA World Hunger) - none of the money is sent to the Souper Bowl of Caring headquarters. Organizers only ask that each participant report their collection so national totals can be determined and announced. Since the Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990, more than \$71 million has gone to help people in need. Please support the youth of our church in this effort to "love our neighbors" by dropping your dollar (or more) in the soup pot and/or donating a non-perishable food item on February 6<sup>th</sup>.



## GLADYS NORTHRUP'S 105th BIRTHDAY

The congregation is invited to Gladys Northrup's 105th birthday celebration at Shalom Tower, 304 3rd Street NE, this Saturday, February 5 beginning at 2:00 PM. Cards may be sent to Gladys at 304 3rd St. NE, Apt 302. Gladys' actual birthday is February 9.



## COFFEE TASTING FELLOWSHIP

**in Friendship Room  
Sunday, February 20th  
8:45-11:00 AM.**

Come sample four varieties of Fair Trade coffee that WELCA sells. There will be a sign up for items that will be given away and all Fair Trade Products will be available to purchase!



## DON'T KNOW WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR OLD T-SHIRTS?



Give them to Bill!

He uses them at the church for cleaning. Also, if you have small hand towels, please donate those all well! Thanks!

## THE FLOWER AND RADIO BROADCAST CALENDARS FOR 2011

are on the bulletin board near Sarah's office. You're encouraged to sign up while most dates are still available. *We especially need sponsors for February and March.*



## THANK YOU....

To George Arduser, Delores Bowers, Val Dornbusch, Nancy Moen, Parnell & Mary Peterson and Ross & Marvyl Ransom for all their time and work in assembling the Annual Report!!

## VETERANS NEED LAP ROBES

Word has been received that the Veterans Hospital in Iowa City has many patient needs. Among them are Lap robes-20 new robes are needed each day.

Directions for the robes-

The robes should be at least 4x5 feet, made of any warm, washable material. They are put together like a small quilt (with warm inner liner) but tied like a comforter. One side may be pieced using any size squares you may have and varied in color, or can be made of a single piece on each side. Edges should be securely bound. Knitted or crocheted lap robes in the same size are also in demand.

For more information contact St. John's Women of the ELCA, Arlington @563-633-3885 or [oneinfaith@iowatelecom.net](mailto:oneinfaith@iowatelecom.net)

## A SINCERE THANK YOU

to everyone at St. James for the many expressions of sympathy and memorials given in our mother's name. Special thanks to Sue Ollman and Carrie Frenz for serving the luncheon on a nasty winter day and also thanks to Bill Trask for setting up the Friendship Room. The Friendship Room was so meaningful because "The Friendship Society" was a very important part of Mom's life. The St. James Family was always close to her heart. Pastor Paul's loving care to mom and her family will never be forgotten—we could not appreciate it more. Mom was also very happy to have the St. James Carolers visit her at the Homestead—it was very meaningful to her.

Barb and Burt TeKippe  
and the family of Esther Borcharding

# WELCA

## Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America

As we begin a new church year we would like to extend a warm invitation to all women in our congregation to participate in our mission to **mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ!**

A great place to begin would be to join a circle or start a new one. We have four existing circles: Hope, meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday at 9:30a.m., Love, meets the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday at 7pm, Salt which meets the last Tuesday at 7pm, and Altar Guild which meets the first Wednesday at 1:30 PM. If you are interested please contact an officer and we'll find a good fit.

### Exciting events to mark on your calendar:

April 9<sup>th</sup>-Salad Luncheon 11am-1pm  
October-Fall Bazaar and 5kwalk/run 8am-1pm  
December 6<sup>th</sup>- Christmas Dinner 6pm

To find out more about WELCA please pick up a St. James Lutheran Church "Women of the ELCA" book available in the narthex on the information table.

### WELCA Officers:

**President** Diane Francis 421-1576

**Vice President** Rhonda Hanson 423-7028

**Secretary** Anita Lybbert 420-7494

**Treasurer** Lori Jorgensen 423-9266

**Mission Growth** Mary Peterson 423-7612

Pam Loeckle 423-3991

**Mission Action** Mary Witte 423-2799

Cheryl Martinson 424-9656

**Good Shepherd Representative** Marlys Wendel 423-1375

### **Circle Representatives:**

**Love** Dar Wade 422-0912

**Hope** Carol Edwards 424-1936

**Salt** Carrie Braun 424-0185

**Altar Guild Coordinator** Sue Ollman 424-6295