



# **Paradise Pulse**

Paradise Lutheran Church Newsletter—March 2020

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

**Worship God**  
**Walk with Jesus**  
**Welcome all to Paradise**

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## **Spring is near!**

Spring is knocking on the door as we can see our weeds increasing in growth. However, with those weeds everything else is starting to bloom just in time for Easter. Along with our nature changes we would also like to announce some recent changes to our Congregation Council. We are excited for our new Congregation Council with Marylin serving as our president, Joan Smith as our vice president, Bob Kosten as secretary, Justin Leslie as treasurer and Mark Leonard. We are very thankful for our Council members and it is an honor to have such a great team. Currently, we are looking for a few more members to join our Congregation Council. If you are interested in joining please let us know.

Thank you and God Bless,

-Pastor Tom



Last month, one of the assistants to the Bishop, Rob Carlson made a suggestion for Lent. He suggested that we should consider intentional contemplative prayer. Contemplative prayer is a type of prayer based on silence. Praying and then waiting in silence. And when I heard this suggestion, I thought of this passage from 1 Kings:

*<sup>11</sup> The LORD said, (to Elijah) "Go out and stand on the mountain in the presence of the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Then a great and powerful wind tore the mountains apart and shattered the rocks before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind. After the wind there was an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake. <sup>12</sup> After the earthquake came a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire. And after the fire came a gentle whisper. <sup>13</sup> When Elijah heard it, he pulled his cloak over his face and went out and stood at the mouth of the cave.*

*1 Kings 19:11-13*

Not only can our world be very noisy, it can also become very busy. Here at the church, Lent is the busiest season. A time of extra services, and a time of preparation for Easter. And if you are like me, when it gets busy it becomes hard to slow down. Yet, as we are reminded in the passage above, slowing down can be important. Because when we slow down, we can re-center ourselves on what is important, and we are able to hear the gentle whisper of God.

God Bless,

-Pastor Tom

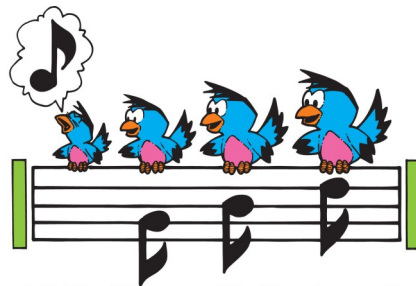




## **Bible Study**

### **Pastor's bible study Resumes**

Weekly bible study will resume  
on Sundays at 8:30am  
Tuesdays 7pm & Wednesdays 1pm.



## **ADD YOUR VOICE!**

All choirs rehearse on Thursday evenings.

**Chime Choir: 6:00pm**

**Vocal Choir: 6:30pm**

See the music director, Gail Clark, if you  
are interested in joining any or all of them.



**Sunday Services:**  
**10:00 a.m. and noon**  
**with a fellowship period at 11a.m.**

Bible Study will continue to meet  
at 8:30am.

March 28th Yard Sale Sign-up  
sheet

now in the fellowship hall!



**March 28th Yard Sale**

We will be having our Annual Yard/Bake sale & Raffle on March 28 from 8:00am to noon. Please donate household items that are in good condition, such as tools, toys, games & books. Please also donate baked goods for the sale. We will need volunteers to help us sort, price and prepare for the sale. There are sign-up sheets for different tasks placed on the table as you enter the church. Please sign up for the tasks that you would like to help with. Any help will be greatly appreciated.



# Worship and Music Committee

What a busy month! Here's the attendance at Sunday and special services:

	<b>10:00 a.m.</b>	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>
January 5	89	N/A
January 12	90	9
January 19	92	9
January 26	119	11
February 2	108	10
February 9	115	14
February 16	109	11
February 23	122	10

Attendance for Ash Wednesday:

	<b>12:00 p.m.</b>	<b>6:00 p.m.</b>
February 26	56	39

Thanks to the following for providing music: Adult Choir, Chime Choir, Bell Choir, Jaci Mitchell (guitar), Gail Clark (piano), Ken Upleger (saxophone), Cheryl Pevitt (soloist), Ed Lillich (soloist), Richard Lyons (soloist), Linda Macy (soloist, violinist, and cantor), Brittany Leonard (soloist), Kathy Rabey (soloist). Thanks also to Brittany Leonard and Richard Lyons who frequently handle acolyte duties, plus all of our ushers and readers.

Reverend Ana Lugo, Regional Gift Planner for the ELCA Foundation, gave a presentation after the 10:00 a.m. service on January 12. She was not pushing any particular product, but encouraged everyone to review their estate plans (or draft them!) to ensure their assets go where they want them to go.

Christmas seems so long ago, but, since we did not issue a February newsletter, I did not have a chance to thank the volunteers who helped take the decorations down at the church after Christmas: Jerry Golden, Sharon Koelsch, Pastor Tom and Jaci Mitchell, Bob Rogers, Joan Smith, Tom and Jane Weilert, and Ken Upleger.

Pastor Mitchell blessed ten homes during January. This was something new for our church, but was greatly appreciated by those homeowners who invited Pastor into their homes for this special epiphany event.

All choirs rehearse on Thursdays evenings. See the music director, Gail Clark, if you are interested in joining any or all of them.

The committee will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday, March 18, 2020 in the library.

- Sharon Koelsch, Member



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God Spa for Women is being hosted at Luther Springs Retreat Center.

**April 17 - 19, 2020**

Soak in the beautiful scenery and solitude of Luther Springs, relaxing your mind, body and spirit. Activities include faith-filled conversation, devotions, music, journaling, guided meditation, relaxing and spa activities such as facials, manicures, pedicures. We will also have massages available for an additional cost.

**Contact Jaci Mitchell if you are interested in joining us for God Spa. [Jaclyn.Mitchell@me.com](mailto:Jaclyn.Mitchell@me.com) or 803-530-8621.**



# **COUNCIL REPORT**

The Congregation Council met in the library at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 13. Revenue was \$182,647.29 in 2019, \$17,780 higher than forecast. Attendance of 4,329 was 120 less than in 2018. His projection for 2020 revenue is \$170,000. Assets in the investment account exceeded the initial investment of 4/18/2014 for the first time since that date. The 2020 Expense Budget was approved and sent to the congregation for review.

Visitor Parking signs were purchased and signs for Reserved Parking for People with Walking Difficulties are being considered. Those who are able are encouraged to park on the grass during the busy winter season in order to allow more pavement parking for guests.

The Congregation Council met in the fellowship hall at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, February 10. Incoming office manager, Nina Osmanovic, was introduced. Her first day in the office was scheduled for February 18. Pastor Mitchell shared a request from The Steppers to add a Monday evening group for women. Details need to be worked out.

Amendments to the church's constitution and bylaws were reviewed and referred to the congregation for approval. The Mutual Ministry Committee met for the second time following their reorganization. A new riding lawn mower has been purchased, light switches in the nave are being upgraded, and the garden along the west driveway has been weeded and is being re-mulched.

There has been discussion at the Council meeting and several committee meetings regarding the possibility of decorating the 30' cross with flowers for Easter. Logistics still need to be worked out. A Support Covenant was signed with Family Promise and it is hoped that the organization will soon have volunteer churches lined up so it can house families again.

Outgoing Council members were thanked for their service: Sharon Koelsch, Justin Leslie, Kathy Rabey, and Bob Rogers. In addition, Sue Crook was acknowledged and thanked for serving as secretary during much of the year.

Sharon Koelsch, Member



# **OUTREACH COMMITTEE**

## Outreach Committee

February was extremely busy with Treasure Island open air Market, sharing the good news and schedule of events about Paradise Lutheran Church. (only church on the island)

Pasta Dinner was a great success, we served over one hundred dinners.

Outreach members helped with Trinity's Cold Night Shelter for our brothers and sisters, serving meals and keeping watch, that everyone has a good night's sleep.

Shrove Pancake Dinner was so much fun, served over forty dinners.

March 28th PLC will have their annual Yard /Bake Sale from 8 until 1, sign-up sheets are on the table.

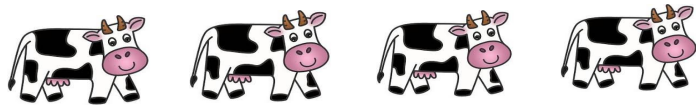
Many thanks to all, who make these events possible.

Sister in Christ, Joan S





Cows, Cows, and More Cows



Our two December fundraisers were a huge success! A total of \$2,593.81 came in via the God's Global Barnyard banks and individual checks, so we were able to purchase 4 cows and had a little money left over. A total of \$530.00 was given via the Good Gifts tree, so we were able to purchase:

Chicks	7 flocks
Honeybees	3 colonies
Pigs	6
Roosters	4
Goats	3
School Supplies	1 pack

A check was sent to ELCA Good Gifts in late January and, hopefully, these animals and supplies are already in the hands of needy families or individuals.

Thank you to all who participated.

## **PARADISE LUTHERAN MEN'S BREAKFAST**

The men's breakfast will continue on **Wednesdays at 7:45 am.** The location will be at Foxy's, 160 107th Ave, Treasure Island. Come and enjoy a good breakfast and good company as well.

## **PARADISE LUTHERAN HELPING TRINTY** **LUTHERAN HELP THE HOMELESS**

The homeless program at Trinity Lutheran Church needs winter hats, shoes, socks, men's new underwear and all men's clothing. Please put your donations in the bin located in the fellowship hall to the left after you enter.

Thank you for your donations. They are very much appreciated by the people that this program serves. Also, if you would like to volunteer and spend some time with grateful people there are openings available. Please check the bulletin board in the fellowship hall.

## **HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH FOOD** **PANTRY**

Please donate food so that we can help Hope Lutheran Church stock their food





## **MARCH BIRTHDAYS**

<b>3/4</b>	<b>Terry &amp; Diane Hartzell</b>
<b>3/7</b>	<b>Debbie Yost</b>
<b>3/9</b>	<b>Brittany &amp; Dawn Leonard</b>
<b>3/13</b>	<b>Helen Crook</b>
<b>3/25</b>	<b>Carole Lyons</b>
<b>3/25</b>	<b>Proulx Virginia</b>
<b>3/30</b>	<b>Bonnie Wolfe</b>
<b>3/31</b>	<b>Janet Fischer</b>

**Congratulations to all our March celebrants!**



# March



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<b>1</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 am &amp; 12pm</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>11:00 am</b>	<b>2</b> <b>Steppers</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>3</b> <b>Bible Study</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>4</b> <b>Bible Study</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> <b>Outreach / Fellowship</b> <b>2:00 pm</b> <b>Lent Services</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>5</b> <b>Choir</b> <b>6:30pm</b>	<b>6</b> <b>Steppers</b> <b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>8</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 am &amp; 12pm</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>11:00 am</b>	<b>9</b> <b>Council Meeting</b> <b>6:00 pm</b> <b>Steppers</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>10</b> <b>Bible Study</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>11</b> <b>Men's Breakfast</b> <b>7:45 am</b> <b>Bible Study</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> <b>Lent Services</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>12</b> <b>Christian / Education</b> <b>5:30 pm</b> <b>Choir</b> <b>6:30pm</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Steppers</b> <b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>15</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 am &amp; 12pm</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>11:00 am</b>	<b>16</b> <b>Steppers</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>17</b> <b>Bible Study</b> <b>7:00 pm</b>	<b>18</b> <b>Men's Breakfast</b> <b>7:45 am</b> <b>Bible Study</b> <b>1:00 pm</b> <b>Lent Services</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Choir</b> <b>6:30pm</b>	<b>20</b> <b>Church Women United</b> <b>10:00 am</b> <b>Steppers</b> <b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 am &amp; 12pm</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>11:00 am</b>	<b>23</b> <b>Steppers</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> <b>Men's Breakfast</b> <b>7:45 am</b> <b>Lent Services</b> <b>6:00 pm</b>	<b>26</b> <b>Choir</b> <b>6:30pm</b>	<b>27</b> <b>Steppers</b> <b>7:30 pm</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29</b> <b>Sunday</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>10 am &amp; 12pm</b> <b>Fellowship</b> <b>11:00 am</b>	<b>30</b> <b>Steppers</b> <b>6:30 pm</b>	<b>31</b>				