

**P.O. Box 47 • Frye and St. Paul's Church Roads**

**Red Hill, Pennsylvania 18076-0047**

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Congregational Web Page: <http://www.lutheransonline.com/lo/stpaulredhill>

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**The Vision is a monthly publication of:**

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Red Hill, PA**

**The Vision**

**Volume 49 ✕ Number 1**

**January 2010**

**Sunday Schedule**

- Early Communion Service • 8:00 AM
- Sunday Church School • 9:15 AM
- Contemporary Service • 9:15 AM
- Traditional Service • 10:30 AM

**Church Office Hours**

Monday - Friday • 8 AM - 1 PM; 1:30 - 4:30 PM

**The Upper Perkiomen Child Care Center**

*- a ministry of St. Paul's*

Weekdays: Mon - Fri • 6:30 AM - 6:00 PM  
infant, toddler, 3 & 4 yrs, Pre-K, 6-12 yrs

**Not to be missed...**

- Parish Register & Birthdays ~ 2
- Prayers & Retire/Nursing Homes ~ 3
- Health Advocates Ministry ~ 4
- Bible Quiz / Cartoon ~ 5
- Lunch Bunch ~ 6
- February Women's Event ~ 7
- Lutheran Magazine highlights ~ 8
- Chester / Bible studies ~ 9
- Growing in Grace ~ 10
- Upper Perkiomen Child Care Center ~ 11
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- Victory House / church events ~ 13
- Kid's page ~ 14
- Worship Assistants / Calendar

**~ STATEMENT OF MISSION ~**

*St. Paul's, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, is a gathering of God's people called to proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ. To fulfill our mission we are committed to be a faith community that:*

- invites and welcomes others to share in the ministry of this church;
- gathers in joyful thanksgiving to be nourished by God's gifts of Word and Sacrament;
- promotes daily discipleship of its members by following Christ's example;
- provides a variety of opportunities for making Christ's love known through worship, education, fellowship, service, and the stewardship of God's gifts;
- responds to Christ's call for justice and peace in our community and world.

## Partners in Mission in the Body of Christ

Ministers:	The People of St. Paul's	
Pastor:	Pastor William A. Vanderslice 541-4130	
Pastoral Intern	Vicar Jack Ambuka	679-5553
Council President:	Mrs. Michelle Rose	541-4731
Minister of Music:	Mr. Byron Malcolm	679-5553
Parish Assistant:	Mrs. Bonnie Bonser	679-5553
Financial Secretary	Mrs. Nancy Nase	679-5553
<i>Church Office Hours:</i>	<i>M - F · 8 AM - 1 PM; 1:30 - 4:30 PM</i>	
Parish Sexton:		679-5553
Child Care Coordinators:	Teresa Kulp, Pre-School	679-5553
	Sandy Young, After-School	679-0221

## Our Congregational Council

Chris Brust	Karen Cummins, <i>Secretary</i>
John Ferrero	Robert Foreman, <i>Vice President</i>
Gary Hager	Janet Hill
Reiner Mauer	Michelle Rose, <i>President</i>
Charles Shagg, <i>Treasurer</i>	John Sheeran
Linda Smith	Henry Thomas
Barry Troxel	Debbie Turofski
William A. Vanderslice, <i>Senior Pastor</i>	Robert Walp

## Committees, Groups and Organizations

Alcoholics Anonymous	Wednesday at 8:00 PM
Altar Guild	Bonnie Thomas 679-5553
Appalachia Service Project	Larry Weiss 679-9632
Cemetery Association	Henry Thomas 679-2902
Cherub Choir	Patricia Klinger 610.265-3869
Christian Education	Patricia Klinger 610.265-3869
Finance	Charles Shagg 679-2083
Evangelism	
Kitchen	Donna Stever 679-7521
Men's Fellowship	church office 679-5553
Music Committee	Mr. Reiner Mauer 679-6886
Narcotics Anonymous	Sunday at 8:00 PM
Newsletter - Vision	Church Office 679-5553
Prison Ministry	Bonnie Bonser 679-9126
Property	Frank Grim 679-5553
Stewardship Committee	Rbt. Foreman, S. Rose, Rbt. Walp
Girl Scouts	Cindy Robinson 215-541-1705
Cub Scouts	Ed Moreland 215-892-3174
Youth Team	Kelly Lesko/Vicar 679-5553

## January Birthdays



2	Suzanne Fox	21	Aidan Petterson
	Paul Godshall		Louise Mest
	Joseph Oswald	22	Mary Bonar
	Alec Sabatini-Hinkle		Alayna Rea
3	Cassidy Keyser	23	Donovan Hanney
	Randy Kline	24	Gordon Leister
	Sandy Reeder		Gavin Peart
	Verna Thomas	25	Lauren Gibbs
5	Sarena Breyer		Melissa Nyce
	Deborah Gryshuk		Thomas Roth
	David McMurtrie	26	Bryce Wadsworth
7	Brooke Oliver		Karen Hitchcock
	Margie Rodenberger		Jerry Landis
8	Ty Frank		Keeley Schaffer
	Denise Klavon	27	Vincent Brown
9	Michael Lafferty		Jeff Johnson
	James Lemon		Robert Schwenk
	Aaron Rogers		Kaity Watts
10	Jesse Wonsidler	28	Steven Johnson
	Muriel Benner		Donna Schwenk
	Jonathan Juzbasic		Stephanie Smith
11	Brian Doremus	29	Nancy Grim
	Kyle Himmelwright		Grace Leister
	Landon Taylor		Barbara Nace
12	William Mensch III		Merle Weeks
13	Tony Gitney	30	Jeannette Bowyer
	Liam Rea		Steven Martin
14	Jake Krempasky		Lisa Walter
	Diane Palencar	31	Robert Oliver
	Heather Smith		Lori Rothenberger
17	Forrest Allebach		
	Alice Davis		
	Pauline Nester		
	Herbert Wolf		
18	Jessica Phillips		
	Thomas Sell		
19	Brad Troxel		
20	Holly Gilbert		

## *In our Prayers*

### ~ Hospitalized in the Last Month ~

Marianne Schatz- *Pottstown Hospital*  
Tom Sands- *St Luke's Bethlehem*

### ~ At Home ~

Naomi Bartholomew  
Louis Barner- *Tom Sand's father*  
Mary Lou Bechtel- *friend of C Weiss*  
Norm & Muriel Benner  
Kelly Busedu- *friend of Alice Hager*  
Clara Castorina- *Alice Oliver's sister*  
Richard Croisette- *Claude's brother*  
Michael Dziedzic- *Laura Foreman's brother*  
Ty Eckhart- *friend of L Foreman*  
Carol Elias  
Marylisa Escobar- *friend of Hager's*  
Richard Frederick- *friend of F Grim*  
Don Fuoss- *Donna Montich's father*  
Frank Ganther- *friend of the Kressly & Elias families*  
Orphia Gardian- *D Richard's mother*  
Evelyn Gerhard  
Delia Grim- *Frank Grim's mother*  
Ray Grucello  
Ward Haines- *Bonnie Ferrero's dad*  
Marion Henry  
Bill Hobson- *friend of Debbie Gryshuk*  
Honey- *Rose Sherer's sister*  
Wm. Kelso- *neighbor of Leister's*  
Shirley Keyser  
Carol Kratzer  
Lisa Lancellotti- *wife of friend of M Rose*  
Alma Leister  
Betty Lonergan- *K Cummins' mother*  
Shirley Marconi- *D Turofski's mother*  
Molly Mauro- *J McMurtrie's cousin*  
Calvin Miller- *Barb Miller's grandson*

Donald Moll- *friend of Loretta Baver*  
Delue Moyer  
Ed Peery- *Tim Klavon's uncle*  
Pastor Phillips- *LCT Nursing*  
Tom Sands  
Hal Schatz  
Christoph Schmidt  
Arlene Schultz  
Mildred Seasholtz  
Kelly Sell- *Diane Schantz's daughter*  
Laura Harriet Smith- *A Zepp's sister*  
Ronald Swinehart- *friend of the Grim's*  
Serge Szuhaj- *father-in-law of Kristin*  
Richard Szuhaj  
Justin Turofski  
Dolly Walbert- *friend of Cheryl Weiss*  
Joyce Wimmer  
Gene Woehr  
Ruth Wonsidler  
Nancy Yerger



### ~ In Memory ~

We remember in our prayers the family and friends of Dorothy Koons who died on December 3, 2009.



## *Retirement & Nursing*



### *Frederick Mennonite Community*

Norman & Muriel Benner  
Ernest Brendlinger  
Ginny Dale  
Charlie Keck  
Don & Frannie Lechner  
Anna Mensch

### *Life Quest, Quakertown*

Grace Leister  
Gordon Leister

### *Lutheran Community @ Telford*

Betty Mensch  
R. Wm. Phillips  
Evelyn Gerhard

### *Souderton Mennonite*

Alverda Smoll

### *Pennsburg Manor*

Fern Kurz  
Dalton Boehm  
Theresa Kautz  
Hal Schatz

### *Manor Care Home, Allentown*

Gladys Hetrick

### *Morlanton Villas, Douglasville*

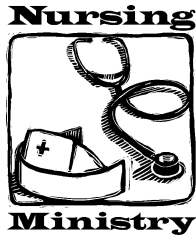
Virginia Mensch

### *Topton Lutheran Home*

Lewis Gaul

## ~ Health Advocates Ministry ~

This article is brought to you by our Health Advocates Ministry. This health ministry system is designed to maintain and promote good health and illness prevention in our congregation. It integrates the concepts of physical, emotional and spiritual health to enrich the lives of our church community.



Yes, it's time again to make those new year's resolutions. How about adding ,“improve my health”, to that list? Add a green vegetable to one meal each day. Take the dog for a walk rather than put him in the yard. Decrease by one the number of cigarettes you smoke each day. Go biking with the kids ( or skating, walking, etc.) rather than watch them sit in front of the TV; do the daily crossword puzzle in the paper. Park your car just a little further from the entrance to the stores. Join the choir. Refuse to get buttered popcorn when you go to see a movie; don't bring soda into the house. The opportunities are endless! Why not brain storm with your family to come up with ideas? Remember, 1 Corinthians 6: 19 - 20. Or do your not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

## ~ To Ensure Hospital Visitation ~

To ensure pastoral visitations, please give permission to the hospital to include you name in the patient information directory and also notify the church office.

## ~Current Staff Email Addresses~

*Pastor William A Vanderslice*  
stpaulpastorvanderslice@comcast.net

*Vicar Jack Ambuka*  
stpaulredhillvicar@comcast.net

*Parish Assistant • Bonnie Bonser*  
stpaulredhill@comcast.net

*Minister of Music • Byron Malcolm*  
stpaulredhillmusician@comcast.net

*Child Care Office • Carol Carlin-Woodward*  
stpaulupccc@comcast.net

*UPCCC Child Care Coordinators*  
*Teresa Kulp and Sandy Young*  
stpaulupccc-coord@comcast.net



If you have an e-mail address and would like to receive information from the church via your e-mail, please e-mail us with your address so that we can add it to our e-mail address book. In the future you may be able to receive The Vision and other church information electronically.

## ~ A thank you ~

I want to thank Rev. Vanderslice, Vicar Ambuka, Mr. Malcolm and all the members of St. Paul's for their concern, prayers, cards and acts of kindness on the death of my friend and beloved companion, Bill Brey.

*Blessings to all,  
Mary Jane Schaeffer*

## ~Bible Quiz~

In Revelation 22:16, Jesus says: "It is I, Jesus, who sent my angel to you with this testimony for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of \_\_\_\_\_, the bright morning star."

Choose the correct name from the list below:

- A. Isaac
- B. Jacob
- C. David
- D. Solomon



## ~ A prayer for the new year ~

Eternal God, thank you for bringing us once again to the threshold of a new year. Help us dedicate each day of 2010 to following your will for our lives. Guide us, Lord, in all our decisions and actions, day by day and hour by hour. Help us accomplish all that you desire for us to do, until our mission on earth is finished. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

## ~ Quotes ~

"In darkness there is no choice. It is light that enables us to see the differences between things; and it is Christ who gives us light."  
*-Augustus Hare*

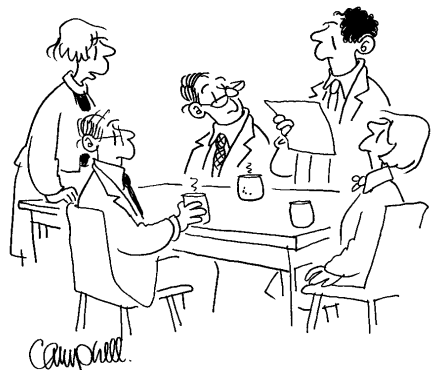
"Most of us, swimming against the tides of trouble the world knows nothing about, need only a bit of praise or encouragement - and we will make the goal."  
*-Jerome Fleishman*

"Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves."  
*-J.M. Barrie*

## ~ Community of Faith fund ~

You don't have to go to Africa to find people in need. We have started a fund to help people and families who have needs in our own faith community and neighborhood. If you would like to contribute to this fund, simply write "Community of Faith" on an envelope or memo line of your check.

*"So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all, and especially for those of the household of faith."*  
Galatians 6:10



*"Even though the last meeting was an eternity, Sam, we'll continue to call this report the minutes."*

~ The Lunch Bunch ~  
*A Fellowship Group for the Young at Heart*

There will be no meeting of the Lunch Bunch in January. We will sorely miss the leadership of Dorothy Koons and her dedication to Lunch Bunch and St. Paul's.



Thank you Dorothy. You are missed but always present in our hearts. In this time of transition, please pray for the planning committee of Lunch Bunch as they search for direction. Ministering to God's people of every age is so important; for you are never old when you are young at heart.

**\*\* Please save your Redner's tapes to support the Lunch Bunch. Make sure to use your Save a Tape card or ask the store to use theirs.**

~ A thank you ~

Dear friends at St. Paul's, I want to take this opportunity to thank the people of St. Paul's, the pastors, Pastor Vanderslice, Pastor Andy, the Health Advocates Janet and Linda, staff, and the whole congregation for all the prayers, love, and care you gave mom and dad before and during their illnesses. Also for the love and care given our family after their passing. What a comfort it is to have fellow believers to lean on! Knowing they are praying for you. Truly, God equips you to be angels of mercy and love to those in need.

To God be all the glory and honor.

*Love & blessings,  
 Joyce & Ray Moeller*

Joyce is the daughter of Ellis & Dorothy Hillegas



*Jack Monaghan  
 Funeral Director*

612 Main Street  
 Red Hill, PA 18076  
 Telephone: 215.679.6400  
[www.monaghanfuneralhome.com](http://www.monaghanfuneralhome.com)

~ Cemetery Flowers ~

***Please assist with the care of the cemetery.***  
*Within 30 days after any holiday or special occasion, please remove from the church cemetery floral decorations, flower plants and faded artificial arrangements.*

~ Warm Heart Tree report ~

\$546.50 was raised for Kid's for Kenya. Victory House received \$145 plus gift cards, the Prison Ministry received \$ 347.00, and many gifts were delivered to Pennsburg Manor thanks to all of you !

## ~ Christian Symbols ~

### Olive Branch

The Olive Branch is a symbol of peace, harmony and healing. Olive trees provide shelter, as well as oil used for ointment and consecration. The Olive Branch also represents deliverance from hardships and anxiety because a dove brought an olive leaf back to Noah's ark after the flood ended (Genesis 8:11).



## ~ A New Year's resolution ~

Economically speaking, 2009 was a dreadful year for many families around the world. Some lost homes, cars and jobs. What will 2010 bring: movement toward less of everything or toward a more hopeful future?

Here's a good resolution to make: "Our family will pay close attention to our income, our savings and our necessary purchases. We will keep a record of every dollar spent and every dollar saved."

Money accumulated, invested and given wisely will bring peace of mind and the ability to contribute more to the church and people in need. Families must develop a healthy attitude toward money. Scripture doesn't condemn money; it simply warns against loving it or making it an idol (1 Timothy 6:10).

With God as our mentor, nearly every family can avoid having crushing debt. Wise stewardship brings relief and unbridled joy to those who practice it. As economist George Humphrey said, "I don't think you can spend yourself rich."

## ~ Hearts Ablaze Women's Event ~

Ladies,  
Are you tired of the long, dark, cold days of Winter yet? Need something to look forward to? Well, we have a day that is sure to warm your heart, tickle your funny bone, and take you out to lunch. You are all invited to our third Women's Event - Hearts Ablaze on Saturday, February 27, 2010. We will gather in Fellowship Hall from 9 to 9:45 AM for coffee, tea, and goodies. Our program will begin thereafter with speakers, video, games, prizes, laughter, and just plain heartwarming fun. The entire morning is for fun and it's free.



Then to complete the morning we will be going to the Gilbertsville TeaRoom for a high tea luncheon. The teahouse can accommodate 40 people and we must let them know how many are coming by February 15th. There is a sign-up sheet near the poster on the Fellowship hallway bulletin board. The total cost of the tea luncheon is \$20 (tip included).

Mark your calendar; reserve the date and invite as many friends as you wish. All are welcome. Questions: call Bonnie Bonser in the church office 215-679-5553 or Jan Woertz at 215-541-1027. Hurry. Sign up now!



1418 Main Street  
Hellertown, PA 18055  
Donna M. Falk, Supv.  
610.838.9191

163 Main Street  
Pennsburg, Pa 18073  
Frank J. Falk, Supv.  
215.679.5933

email: [memorial@Falkfuneralhomes.com](mailto:memorial@Falkfuneralhomes.com)

## ~ January Lutheran Magazine ~

**HUNGRY?:** World hunger reached a historic high in 2009, according to the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization. *The Lutheran's* January issue focuses on "Approaching the global food crisis"—with an enormous sense of hope. Discover that "Strong support" is what Lutherans give to help end world hunger. And find out how you can help too.

**LET'S THINK:** *The Lutheran's* January issue gives you questions to think about. Ask if 2010 is the time to stoke "Our frigid spiritual temperature." Read "Lost in translation" to ponder the question, "Is God jealous?" In "Unfinished business," ask yourself, "What have I left unsaid to those who matter to me?" And find out what you need when "Packing for your faith expedition."

**THERE'S SOMETHING** for everyone and all ages in *The Lutheran's* January issue ... **meet** the go-to guys who build ramps to provide an easier access for people in wheelchairs ... **learn** how you can help squabbling siblings turn into peacemakers ... **read** a review of the film *Invictus* and of the children's book *The Mitten Tree* ... and **see** how Lutheran youth in North Dakota helped cover the floor of the Fargodome with food for people in need.

**THE CHURCH IN ACTION:** In *The Lutheran's* January issue, **take** a page from Book of Faith leaders and see how they encourage people to embrace the ELCA Bible initiative ... **travel** to Lima, Peru, where church leaders "get" youth ministry ... **discover** how the hunger lobby Bread for the World got its start ... **meet** a woman who will teach you how to eat healthy and well for less than \$5 a day and a dairy farmer who uses technology to create more wholesome milk for the consumer ... and **read** the latest on the actions taken by the ELCA Church Council in November.

### Coming up in future issues of *The Lutheran*

- February cover story: Church communications in the 21st century.
- How do you make church and worship kid-friendly?
- Meet a woman who plays the harp as part of a hospice ministry in Japan.

- What is it like to minister to sailors in times of piracy and economic uncertainty?
- What's a ministry of community space?
- How do we share the gospel when we've lost the root of its very meaning?

## ~ Looking for ways to help? ~

**Be a Bulletin or Candle Sponsor** ~ If you would like to congratulate, honor, or remember your loved ones, there is a Sanctuary Light or Bulletin sign up chart in the hallway or you call the church at 215.679.5553. The donation is \$20.

**FLOWERS:** There are also many openings for the sponsoring of Chancel flowers. Please call Heather Walter at 215-541-4069 if you wish to sponsor flowers. Arrangements start at \$30.

**READERS & Communion Assistants**  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS AT 9:15**  
**MUSIC & WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES**

## ~ Cultivating good habits~

Entering a new year is a good time to inventory our habits - the bad ones as well as the good. Greek philosopher Aristotle once opined on this subject: "Moral excellence comes about as a result of habit. We become just by doing just acts. We become temperate by doing temperate acts. We become brave by doing brave acts."

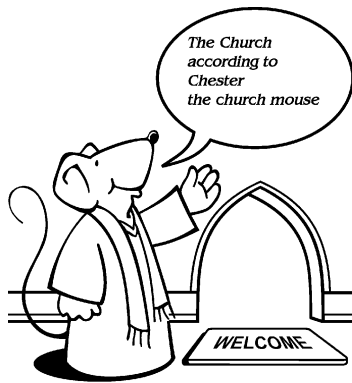
Just so, we will become faithful lovers of God by seriously worshiping and faithfully following the Christian way of life. Attending corporate worship, learning more about Christianity, doing good deeds for others and participating in fellowship events are all good habits. They enhance your life and bring joy to people around you.

## ~ Chester squeaks - er - speaks ~

# The Vision

January 2010

2010. It looks and sounds like a date from some futuristic sci-fi flick. But don't look now, Ethel, it's not the future, it's the here and now! And time marches on or time stands still for no man (or woman or child) as some wise man once said.



What will 2010 bring? Only the Lord knows. But I know what He has promised. You see, being a church mouse, I too read the Holy Scriptures and they tell me God is good. They tell me that no matters what happens in the world God is faithful to keep those who believe, rely, and trust in Him. He is our provider, our protector, our healer, our strong tower, our hiding place, the Rock under our feet. He is the air we breathe. He is our all in all. Therefore I will not fear. As a matter of fact, 2010 means we are one year closer to Jesus' return!

Of course the new year will bring some changes. Sometimes I think we critters are better at adapting than you humans. Maybe it's because we know we have to depend totally on God for everything we need. Remember what Jesus said about the birds of the air? He said they neither toil nor reap and yet the heavenly Father takes care of them. And since you humans are the crowning glory of God's creation, don't you think He will take care of you even more? Oh yes, changes. Well I know how much some of you hate change, but guess what? Didn't someone say change is inevitable? Actually, if things don't change and grow, they stagnate and die. Think about it.

Okay. Here's the good news. If you really don't like change (and it's true the older we get the less we like change), Jesus is the same yesterday, today, and forever. Do you realize what that means? He is still and always will be the Savior. He is still and always will be the Lover of your soul, your Healer, your Teacher, Guide, Comforter, Helper, Standby, Advocate, and hopefully your LORD. Don't know the difference between Jesus being your Savior and your LORD? Better find out.

It's the difference between night and day. Whatever changes come, God will still be God.

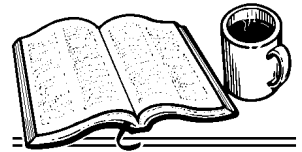
Whatever 2010 brings in all things give thanks for this is the will of God for you in Christ Jesus. (Check it out. That's Bible - I Thes 5:18) May the Lord bless you and keep you all in His perfect peace. May His joy bubble up out of you. And may you know the depth of His love for you as you walk in His grace each and every day!

From our family to all of you, Happy New Year!

~ Chester

## ~ Bible studies ~

Looking for a Bible study? From September to May we offer a weekly Bible study on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 9 PM. We even provide dessert first. If you don't like evenings and are available to come in the afternoons, we offer a Bible study on the first & third



Thursdays of each month from 1 to 2 something PM. Snack included. These both meet at the home of Bonnie Bonser. For more information, directions, questions, call the church office or leave a message at 215-679-9126. These Bible studies are open to everyone.

Always check the weekly church bulletin and the Vision calendar for any changes in the Bible study schedule.

Need a study at a different time or evening? Ask us about it.

## ~ Growing in grace ~

*"Jesus said to him, 'I am the way, the truth, and the life.*

*No one comes to the Father except through Me.”*

*John 14:6*

*“Nor is there salvation in any other, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved.”*

*Acts 4:12*

*“Therefore, God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name, that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, and of those on earth, and of those under the earth, and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father.”*

*Phil 2:9-11*



Listening and talking to people today can get a little confusing especially when the subject is spirituality. Lately spirituality has become a “pop phrase.” Many people will claim they are spiritual. But what exactly do people mean when they say they are spiritual? What do people

mean when they say they are or are referred to as religious or born again? What’s the difference? And does being spiritual or religious or saying you are born again make you a Christian? Ah, therein lies the rub. Will the real Christian please stand up.

As the times seem to be getting harder and darker in this world more and more people are looking for answers to a better life. Many are realizing that the answers they seek are not to be found in the natural realm and so they are looking elsewhere. This is the main reason spirituality has become a popular item. But what the world calls spirituality can encompass many ideas that we as Christians would maybe not think of as spiritual. For instance, going green and mother nature seem to have become an almost spiritual thing. Spirituality to many people is what they want it to be - a hodgepodge of Eastern religions mixed in with a little of this and a little of that which equals whatever they think is right or want to do. But they consider themselves spiritual.

Then there are people who say they are religious or who the world would call religious. That may mean they go

to church every Sunday, put some money in the offering plate, and try to live a good life. However, one can be religious and not be spiritual. If just keeping a set of rules and regulations, do’s and don’ts is what you are doing then you may certainly be religious, but not necessarily spiritual. If you claim to be a Christian and you say Jesus is your Savior because you don’t want to go to Hell, then you may have fire insurance, but that does not make you spiritual.

So what makes you spiritual and a Christian? Knowing Jesus. Having a relationship with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Knowing that Jesus is the One True God, the Way, the only way! He came to do more for us than to just keep us from going to Hell. He came to give us life - His Life and that abundantly which is eternal life. It’s not about religion. ***It’s all about relationship.*** How do you go about having this relationship? By getting to know God through His Word, the Bible. Spending time with Him in prayer and meditating over what He says. Relationship takes time and has to be built.

All those people who say they are spiritual according to the world’s definition of spiritual, unless they name the name of Jesus, unless He alone is their only God, their Lord and Savior, then they can call themselves spiritual but they are lost. And in the end everyone - spiritual, religious, atheist, agnostic, all will have to bow their knee and confess that Jesus is LORD!

January is a month that many people make New Year’s resolutions and take an inventory of the past year. May I suggest we all spend some time taking inventory and thinking and praying about where we stand with God. And not just any god, but the God and Lord of all. His Name is Jesus. There is NO other name under Heaven by which a person can be saved. What is your relationship with Jesus? Do you have one? Is it full of love, joy, peace? Is your faith strong, built on the Rock? Do you know beyond a shadow of a doubt that your name is written in the Lamb’s Book of Life? Don’t be just religious or “spiritual.” Know God. Know Jesus!.

~ **Upper Perkiomen Child Care** ~

*a weekday early childhood educational  
ministry of St. Paul’s*



From all of us here at the Upper Perkiomen Child Care Center let us be the first to wish you a happy and prosperous New Year. We thank you for the privilege of caring for your children for another year. We will be doing

our very best to see that your child (children) receive quality care in a loving environment.

Here is the news from our classrooms.

**Nursery** ~ We had a happy December enjoying and doing many art projects to decorate our room. We look forward to a few of our children moving to the Little Explorers this month.

**Little Explorers** ~sang Christmas songs, listened to stories about Jesus, and did art projects during the month of December. This month we will continue to explore the toys and classroom. Also we will learn about snow and the activities for the Winter. We hope to go outside to play in the snow.

**Twooodles** ~The holiday season was quite busy in the Twooodles room. Along with numerous art projects and ornaments that we made we also spent time practicing for the Christmas program. Our song for the program was "Mary Had a Little Lamb" and it sounded great when we sang it for our families in our shepherd costumes. We hope everyone had a great holiday and we wish you a happy New Year. Stop by to see our colorful art projects displayed in the hallway.

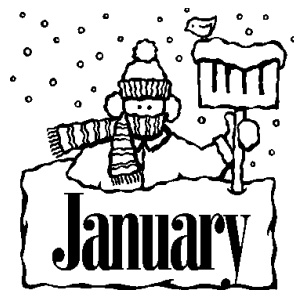
**Preschool** ~ During the month of January the preschool class will be doing Winter activities. We hope to have some snowy weather to go along with our Winter theme! We will also be celebrating Dr. Martin Luther King's birthday. Just like he wanted peace, so do we.

**PreK** ~ Pre-K had a jolly good time through the month of December. We made lots of merry crafts such as handprint wreaths, sparkling stockings, and many

ornaments. We sang "We Three Kings" at our Christmas program. We had fun at our Christmas brunch with games, yummy food, and Christmas stories. The Pre-K class would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy 2010!

**Kindergarten** ~ During the holiday season Kindergarten learned about the true meaning of Christmas. We read A Christmas Carol by Charles Dickens as a classic and as a result, this book taught the children not to be greedy or selfish. It has also taught them that although it feels great to receive a gift, it feels even better to give one. To reinforce these qualities, the children made gifts to give to their families. We hope that everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a safe, happy, and peaceful New Year!

**School Age**~ December was preparing for our Christmas program. We always look forward to performing in front of family and friends! The School-Age children and staff are also participating in helping a local organization called "Open Your Heart." The center is collecting new pajamas and books for orphaned children who live in Eastern Pennsylvania. We will be running this project until January 4<sup>th</sup>. If you would like to be a part of this, please drop off your donations in the box marked "Open Your Heart" located in the hallway outside Fellowship Hall. All of us wish you a Happy New Year!



~ Thrivent ~

Enrich your life by helping others

If you're one of the 76 million baby boomers approaching retirement, you're probably in better health and are far more active than retirees of the past. If you're one of them, consider contributing your time, energy and expertise to one of the many volunteer organizations in your community.

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For more information about Thrivent Financial volunteer opportunities, contact Brook A. Williams, ChFC, CASL, FIC. 215-361-2810. Visit [thrivent.com](http://thrivent.com).



## Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®



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Cell: 215-527-1380

~ Christoph writes: ~

December 14

Dear members of St. Paul's:

Greetings from Slovakia! After completing my surgery and six-weeks of radiation treatment, I've finally joined my wife, Taryn, in Bratislava. While my health challenges made for a difficult fall, we're very thankful for the cards and messages of support we've received from all our friends at St. Paul's. We give thanks to God for your prayers and presence in our lives! May God bless you as we await the coming of the Christ child.

Yours in faith, Christoph Schmidt

*address until July*

Christoph Schmidt  
Evanjelické lýceum Bratislava  
Vranovska 2  
85102 Bratislava  
Slovak Republic

~ A New Year's desire ~

Grant that I may bring no tear to any eye,  
when this New Year in time shall end.  
Let it be said I've played the friend,  
have lived and loved and labored here,  
And made of it a happy year.

-Edgar A. Guest

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~ Victory House soup kitchen ~

## The Vision

On December 13, 2009, Leroy Stevens, Dan Heinrichs and Laura Foreman traveled to the Victory House to prepare and serve dinner to the residents there. The weather was foul but the visit was warm and welcoming. The group served a warm turkey dinner with all the fixings, as well as some donated cakes and pies. Betty Treffinger's cherry cheese pie was the hit of the show. Thank you to all that helped feed the residents of the victory house this month whether it was in person or through donation. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

The St. Paul's soup kitchen committee will be traveling to the Victory house the second Sunday of each month in 2010, with the next visit on January 10. A signup sheet is located outside fellowship hall on the bulletin board. If you are interested in traveling to the Victory House to help serve, would like to prepare some food prior to the trip or have any questions about the Victory House at all, please contact Laura Foreman at 267-923-8895 or 215-272-1445 or via email at foreman3@hotmail.com.

*But do not forget to do good and to share, for with such sacrifices God is well pleased.*

*Hebrews 13:16 (New King James Version)*

### ~ January Youth Group Event ~

Come along with us to Bear Creek Mountain for an afternoon of skiing and or snowboarding on Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 4-10 PM. For all the details email Kelly Lesko at [lesko.tribe@version.net](mailto:lesko.tribe@version.net)

### ~ ASP dinner ~

January 2010

The ASP Pork & Sauerkraut dinner will be held on Saturday, January 16<sup>th</sup> from 3 to 7 PM in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy this all you can eat delicious dinner served family style. Adults \$8.50, children 6-12 yrs. \$4.50, children under 6 eat free. Snowdate is Saturday, January 23<sup>rd</sup>.

### ~ Congregational meeting ~

The annual congregational meeting will be held in the sanctuary on Sunday, January 31<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM after the Contemporary service. All voting members are encouraged to attend.



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# JINGLE BELL TAMBOURINE

To ring in 2010, make a joyful noise with this musical instrument.

## What you need:

- 2 plastic plates
- Hole punch
- Pen
- Beads or beans (or other small items that will make noise when shaken)
- Tacky craft glue
- 6 pieces of ribbon (each about 5" long and 1/4" wide)
- 6 jingle bells
- Stickers
- Markers



## What you do:

1. On the bottom of each plate, write, "Shout for joy to the LORD, all the earth" (Psalm 100:1, NIV).
2. Punch six evenly spaced holes around the rim of one plate. Mark the holes with a pen and then punch six matching holes in the second plate.
3. Pour the beads or beans into one plate and then squeeze glue around the rim of that plate.
4. Place the other plate on top, aligning the holes. (Make sure the Bible verses are on the outside.) Let it dry.
5. Thread one ribbon through one hole and through one bell, and then tie the ribbon. Repeat five more times, once for each hole.
6. Decorate the instrument with stickers or markers.
7. Play your tambourine when you sing your favorite songs.



## Just for KIDS

# Make a joyful noise

people often gather with noisemakers to celebrate the promise of a new year. be thankful and joyful for the many blessings in your life.

Using the musical note code, write the words of Psalm 100:2 (NIV) in the correct order below.

CODE: before come gladness him joyful LORD songs the with Worship



\* \* \* \* \*

\_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ ;



----- .



Answer: Worship the LORD with gladness; come before him with joyful songs.



