



Pastor Paul



Our Savior's Messenger

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I still remember when I first encountered the church year and liturgical worship centered in communion. It was in a Lutheran setting and I remember feeling both attracted and a little awkward because I didn't know the routine. Discovering the church year began to shape my sense of time. The different seasons-Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter and Pentecost-became echoes of my own life experience.

The church year continues to turn. This season of light, Epiphany, is leading us to the bright light of the Transfiguration, a mysterious story we encounter each year. We live, of course, in a secular world, which measures time by the clock, the five day work-week, vacation time and weekends, tax deadlines, school schedules, election cycles, recycle and garbage days, and sports. The church year keeps us in sacred time and links our lives with the story of Jesus. The whole point of the church year, in fact, is to bring God into our midst, to know God "in the flesh." As we hear the stories and lessons year after year they shape us. We may not always notice it, but we are being formed by the constant hearing of these stories and lessons and by our reflection upon them. They give us a vocabulary and context for discovering meaning in our own lives.

We transition from Epiphany to the season of Lent beginning on February 22, Ash Wednesday. This is always a time to peel back the layers of our lives and find

what is most essential. I look forward to Lent each year, especially study and worship together

We will be studying the Letter of James once a month on Sunday mornings at 9am in Madsen Hall. Luther was apparently allergic to this letter and wanted it out of the Bible. Too much "law," he thought. The relationship between law and grace is always important to consider, particularly for Lutherans who have made such a central issue of it. How we understand it influences many areas of our lives, including our relationships. The February Bible study will be on February 19.

On February 5 Brad Wood will bring us news of this year's legislative agenda for our Lutheran office. Faith, we believe, is active not only within the walls of the church but in the public square, where we advocate for justice on behalf of who needs our voice to give them support.

On Sunday, February 12 at 9am Nelson Bock will lead us in a discussion as part of the Interfaith Power & Light 2012 "Love Earth" Preach-In weekend. There will also be a brief video, "Preaching for the Planet." We occasionally return to creation themes in our worship and conversation, in large measure because of the urgency involved but also because this is what Christian theology has traditionally neglected and now must embrace.

God's Peace,
Pr. Paul

President's Report

By the time you read this...my last President's report...we will have held this year's Annual meeting (on January 22), electing five members to Council, as well a member to the Memorial and Endowment fund board and three members to the Emerson Gardens board. The Council will then elect new officers at the February Council meeting on February 14.

I have been on Council several times before, but this is the first time I have been President. It has been an "interesting" experience in many ways. I want to thank you for the opportunity and privilege of representing the congregation in that manner.

I would like to end my term, by reminding you of several things: The monthly council meetings are held at 6:00 the second Tuesday of the month, in St Luke's classroom on the first floor of the South Tower. If you want the Council to discuss something, one way of getting it on the agenda is by speaking to the President of the Council. Also, there are numerous committees that report to the Council each month: Property Management, Hospitality, Strategic Planning, etc. Each Council member is a liaison between the Council and one of the committees, so another way to get something brought before the Council is to speak directly to the liaison for that committee. In addition, the Council meetings are *open meetings*, so you are always welcome to attend a meeting if you wish.

Thank you again for the opportunity to be of service to such a great church and great fellow members.

Judith Lamb



February's Unsung Lutherans

• Diana Seals and Robert Schrader

for many hours of challenging computer time to create original greeting cards that go to Our Savior's members throughout the year. We hope you like the cards!

Our sincere gratitude!

Drivers Needed



Ray Plunkett has been our weekly van driver for a year, but he needs to cut back to once a month. That means that we are in need of several van drivers to take turns driving on Sunday mornings. The van is in our parking lot and is easy to drive, once you get used to it. We need drivers immediately so please put your name on the list. We will train you, show you the routes, give phone numbers, etc. This is an important ministry of our church, though it is new to us. Thank you!

Thank you

To all the volunteers
for the Our Savior's
IHN host week!

2012 Faith Advocacy Day:
**Turning the Corner from
Charity to Justice**
Monday, February 20



History Colorado, 1200 Broadway

9am – 2 pm

Presented by:

Colorado Council of Churches
Colorado Interfaith Voices for Justice
Jubilee Ministry of the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado
Lutheran Advocacy Ministry – Colorado

SCHEDULED EVENTS

Theological Reflection – Bishop Allan Bjornberg, ELCA

Turning the Corner from Charity to Justice –

Dr. Miguel de la Torre, Iliff School of Theology

2012 Legislative Priorities

Lunch and Awards

**Optional afternoon sessions: Tour of the Capitol or
A workshop on Engaging Congregations in Advocacy**

OSCOM announcement:

Several of the important issues which OSCOM has followed through our OSL membership in MOP are quickly being considered as our State Legislature begins its 2012 session. The very, very best way for you to be informed is to **sign up for the Day at the Legislature that our own Brad Wood is organizing again this year, Feb 20, 9-12noon.** (And our own Tina Yankee will receive an award at this highly regarded event). Register at the RMS-ELCA website or talk to Brad. It is President's Day, so hopefully the holiday makes it more possible for you to attend. An example of legislation of concern: *Colorado ASSET was already introduced by Senators Giron & Johnston. The bill number is Senate Bill 12-015 . What is different from last year's bill that nearly passed?*

1) Under SB15 a student who has attended a Colorado high school for three years, graduated and been accepted at a Colorado institution of higher education will be eligible for a new category of tuition called **Standard-Rate Tuition. Standard-rate tuition will be the in-state tuition amount without the COF State funded subsidy.**

2) This year's bill allows institutions of higher education to opt-out of creating this new category of tuition called standard-rate tuition. The bill brings them additional revenue but they are offered the ability to not participate if they don't want to.

**February Benevolence –
Lutheran Advocacy-CO**

What We Do

- + Speaks with and on behalf of people living in poverty and those with little or no voice in the political process.
- + Advocates for just, sound and compassionate public policies which protect human rights and promote the responsible care of creation.
- + Works in coalition with other faith-based, secular, and service organizations with common commitments.
- + Supports ELCA members, congregations and agencies in the ministry of public-policy advocacy

St. Luke's Ministry

At the beginning of each new year, we like to reflect on what we have accomplished the previous year. Among our achievements are the following:

- In 2011, St. Luke's Ministry had its most successful year to date, with 170 students graduating from our program, compared to 153 graduates in 2010. 162 of the 170 graduates have already passed the state CNA certification exam and are now CNAs, and the other 8 graduates will be taking their certification exam over the next few weeks.
- In addition to 162 of our own graduates passing the state certification exam, 41 graduates from other CNA training programs took either our Skills Workshops and/or our Written-Exam Prep Classes and then passed the state certification exam. Without these additional services we provided them, they would have had no chance of passing the CNA certification exam. In total, 203 individuals received their CNA certificates through St. Luke's Ministry in 2011.
- We completed the second year of our three-year grant from Wheat Ridge Ministries (a Lutheran

Foundation) to provide supplemental classes and services to immigrant students. In 2011, 58 immigrants took part in at least one aspect of our Immigrant Support Program. We are very grateful for the dedicated volunteer efforts of Linda Carlson, who teaches our Written-Exam Prep Classes on alternating months and plays a major role in the success our immigrant students have in passing the CNA certification exam.

These accomplishments, while fulfilling in their own right, do not tell the story of the dozens of lives that have been greatly improved through our program. These stories of personal accomplishment by our graduates are the real measure of our success, as we strive to bring the Good News of our Lord to struggling families and individuals in our community.


We greatly appreciate all that Our Savior's has done for us in 2011. With your continued support, we look forward to even greater accomplishments in 2012.

Thank you, Our Savior's, for all you do!



“Fatal Embrace,” with Mark Braverman—Christians, Jews and the Search for Peace in the Holy Land, Sunday, February 5, 3-5 pm at Montview Boulevard Presbyterian Church, sponsored by Friends of Sabeel-Colorado. Mark Braverman is the author of *Fatal Embrace: Christians, Jews and the Search for Peace in the Holy Land*. He is co-founder and executive director of Friends of Tent of Nations, supporting Palestinian land rights; he is a member of the Advisory Board, Friends of Sabeel-North America. In his book, he shows how the Jewish quest for safety and empowerment and the Christian effort to atone for centuries of anti-Semitism have combined to suppress the conversations needed to bring about peace. In his quest to find a way forward, he turns to the prophets and to Jesus' transformative ministry, to speak a prophetic word of his own, calling Christians to find other ways to deal with our guilt. Israel needs us to engage in the struggle for justice and peace. Braverman will report on the recent formation of Kairos USA, a grassroots initiative of U.S. Christians to mobilize in support of justice for Palestine and a change in U.S. policy in the region. Montview Presbyterian is located in Park Hill, 1980 Dahlia, at Montview Boulevard.

Ash Wednesday Services
February, 22nd 11:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Church Council 
6:00 p.m. Tuesday, Feb.14
in St. Luke's Classroom



The Centering Prayer
1:35 p.m. Thursdays
in the Senior Center

Bible Study
3:00 p.m. Tuesday
Madsen Hall



Metro CareRing:
Canned Fruit



Women's Evening Bible Study
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb.21
Bonita Bock



Lydia Circle
10:00 a.m. Tuesday, Feb 28
Madsen Hall

OSL Housing Corp
Board Meeting
5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb 15
At Emerson Gardens



Forums for February:

Feb.5: Brad Wood of the Rocky Mountain Synod Lutheran
Advocacy Office.

Feb.12: Nelson Bock of Interfaith Power and Light, with a brief
video and discussion, "Preaching for the Planet."

Feb.19: Bible Study, new series on the Letter of James

Feb. 26: Coffee and Social Hour



Our Savior's Senior Center Report:

In January, we began meeting at 9:00 on Thursday mornings for 2 hours of coffee, activities and fellowship before the 11:00 program and lunch at noon. The attendance at the earlier time has been very encouraging. In addition, we have resumed using the name "Our Savior's Senior Center" for our program. This month, we will add the use of a sewing machine between 9:00 and 11:00 for those who need it.

We have a nice supply of books that we lend to people to read, and we are getting new built-in bookshelves to display them. (*If you would like to borrow books to read, please come down and see what is available.*) We also have a small supply of games, puzzles, videos, etc., that the group can use.

Our biggest need is this: Currently, a person has to walk out of the Center, down the ramp, and across the full length of the Fellowship Hall to use a bathroom. This is a challenge for those with mobility problems and/or reacting to the effects of some of their medications. (Read between the lines here...) Thus, the group has unanimously agreed that we really need a small bathroom inside the Senior Center, and they have decided to begin raising funds toward the construction of the bathroom. One way we will raise funds is by having things like greeting cards, stationery and other small items for sale each week. Also, we have a large supply of donated yarn that can be used for knitting or crocheting items that can be sold. If you would like to knit or crochet things for us to sell, please let me know, and I will give you "free" yarn to use.

Many of you have donated things for prizes for our monthly Bingo games. Thank You!!! If you would like to donate things to us in the future, our "needs" are: Bingo prizes, books, games, puzzles, and videos, as well as cards, writing paper and other things we could sell in

our little "shop". Thank you for your generosity. And please join us for the fun and good food any Thursday. Our February schedule is:

February 2

9:00 – Activities, coffee and fellowship
11:00 – Exercises for Seniors by SAGE
12:00 – Lunch

February 9

9:00 – Activities, coffee and fellowship
11:00 – Identity Theft and Medicare Fraud
by Elderwatch
12:00 – Lunch

February 16

9:00 – Activities, coffee and fellowship
11:00 – BINGO with prizes for all players
12:00 – Lunch

February 23

9:00 – Activities, coffee and fellowship
11:00 – Bible study with Pastor Paul
12:00 – Lunch

Also a nice announcement:

"Don't Dress for Dinner", the farce at Miner's Alley in which I played a disagreeable and easily angered chef, won the 2011 Denver Post Ovation Award for Best Comedy!
Thanks for your support!
Nathan Bock



Nancy Bair needs to borrow a pair of sturdy/supportive walking/hiking shoes (not boots) for several weeks. Ladies' size 7-1/2 or 8 wide or medium. Please call 303-722-1519 or email njbair@q.com Thanks.



Haertling History (Part Two)

Donald Zimmermann, Music Director

In the late 1950's the congregation of Our Savior's, needing much more space for its activities, contracted with the young modernist architect Charles A. Haertling of Boulder to build the first phase of an ambitious project. His biography appeared in last month's article in this series.

Haertling's completed project would have included two wings for classrooms, meeting rooms and offices; a choir room, library, and chapel; an eleven-story highrise apartment complex; and most stunning of all, a penthouse-level church sanctuary in the modern style which would have overlooked the city and faced directly west into the mountain range with a spectacular view.

The most controversial part of this proposal, however, was that the original 1925 sanctuary of Our Savior's would have to be torn down to provide space for the high-rise. This was quite surprising in keeping with Haertling's own ideals of environmentalism and historic preservation. Perhaps in later life he had second thoughts about this destruction. First Presbyterian Church in Boulder, for example, managed to preserve its original 19th-century sanctuary as a chapel within its modern 1978 complex without compromising its architectural integrity.

At any rate, the twin issues of the extreme modernism of Haertling's artistic design and the bulldozing of the old sanctuary tore the congregation of nearly 1000 members into heated debate. One can imagine the arguments on both sides. It might have been divided along generational lines. The "young moderns" no doubt extolled the modernity while sneering at that "old-fashioned sanctuary." The "pillars of the church" probably were appalled at the radicalism of the project and the destruction of their beloved sanctuary where they had been baptized, married, and buried.

By 1962 factions had arisen and a compromise made. It was decided to build only the first phase of the project, the existing additions which we have today. To cool tempers, it was decided not to tear down the old gem of a sanctuary. But the church had split severely with nearly half the members departing over the project. In the end no was satisfied, least of all Haertling, who saw only part of his dream being realized. His son Joel made a film of the construction of the additions as well as the building of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Northglenn, which was completed to his father's satisfaction and still exists today.

I maintain that had the church completed the entire Haertling concept, with or without tearing down the old sanctuary, Our Savior's probably could have been Denver's Lutheran mega-church. One should keep in mind that fifty years ago many congregations were leaving the downtown urban environment for the suburbs: Augustana Lutheran, for example. The members of Our Savior's who voted for Haertling's proposal were determined to make a stand, to stay in the inner city, and to build a landmark modern structure which would make quite a statement.

Next month: living with "modernist" architecture.



News from CHARG

(Capitol Hill Action & Recreation Group)

By David Burgess

As I write this, a couple of our mental health consumers and I are looking ahead to joining with the Our Savior's congregation on Sunday, January 22 for a discussion of CHARG, mental illness, and a brief participation in the worship service. We always enjoy the lively discussion with people who share our values and who appreciate the importance of our work. I would also like to remind everyone that the CHARG consumer Speakers' Bureau is available to talk to other audiences in the metro area. This articulate group of consumers has made a number of presentations to work groups, fraternal organizations, schools and pretty much any other group in Denver which is interested in hearing from us.

So if you enjoyed our dialogue on the 22nd, please think of us as a resource not only to the church itself, but to other groups you may be a part of. The typical Speakers' Bureau presentation involves consumers telling their own stories to illustrate more general information about mental illness and the CHARG model. We have found that audiences have particular interest in hearing first-person stories from our consumers about the experience of mental illness – coming as they do from the people who know mental illness best from their own direct experience, these stories are especially effective in responding to people's questions and curiosity, and overall in educating the public about mental illness and breaking down the stigma that is too often associated with it.

Please give this idea some thought, and let us know if this would interest you. Aron Williams coordinates the Speakers' Bureau, and he can be reached through CHARG (303-830-8805 to leave a message), or by e mail at aragospc@hotmail.com. Thank you!

February Birthdays

- 1 Rita Bennett **A**
- 2 Robert Schrader
- 5 Joel Beltz
- 6 Duane Gall **A**
- 6 Nancy Hauck
- 6 Kathy Melies
- 8 Margaret McCoullum
- 9 Tina Yankee
- 10 Adrian Lewis
- 14 Pat Bjerke
- 14 Melody Connett
- 14 Stephen Segó *
- 15 Allison Gleichman
- 16 Nancy Bair
- 18 Jim Connett
- 19 James Konzels
- 19 Diane Lund
- 25 Doug Wheeler



* Emerson Gardens' resident
A Associate Member

Prayer List –



Please Pray For: James Bertelsen; Milos Pusara; Diane Pusara; Rockney; Jean Hill; Elaine Nassen; Chris Rottiger; Charley; Jane & Chuck Mountain; Dan Tisdell; Beth Requist; Davis; Dorothy Ostermeier; Malachai Haddock; Tim Hourigan; Ginny Rogers; Gary Williams; and for Our Savior's congregation, its leaders, and its ministries; and for the family and friends of Joanne Naugle.

Shut ins: Stephen Doolos, Vendella Peterson, Walter Stein, and Shirley Story.

Please submit your prayer requests for healing, sympathy, comfort, on-going concerns, and celebrations by calling Twyla Boe at 303-344-5430, or the church office at 303-831-7023. The prayer chain is updated as names are received. Unless otherwise stated, names will be deleted after (4) weeks.

February 2012

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1 11:00 Dual Support 1:00 grief Support 3:30 Vet Support 8:00 NA	2 7:30 SAGE Senior Center 9:00 - 1:00 1:30 Centering Prayer 7:00 Choir 7:00 DBSA	3	4 7:00 NA
5 8:00 Worship 9:00 Sunday School & Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 12:30 NicAnon	6	7 12:00 Staff Meeting 3:00 Bible Study 8:00 NA	8 11:00 Dual Support 1:00 grief Support 3:30 Vet Support 8:00 NA	9 7:30 SAGE Senior Center 9:00 - 1:00 1:30 Centering Prayer 7:00 Choir	10	11 7:00 NA
12 8:00 Worship 9:00 Sunday School & Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 12:30 NicAnon	13	14 3:00 Bible Study 5:00 TEN 6:00 Church Council 8:00 NA	15 11:00 Dual Support 1:00 grief Support 3:30 Vet Support 8:00 NA	16 7:30 SAGE Senior Center 9:00 - 1:00 1:30 Centering Prayer 7:00 Choir 7:00 DBSA	17	18 7:00 NA
19 8:00 Worship 9:00 Sunday School & Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 12:30 NicAnon	20	21 3:00 Bible Study 7:30 Women's Evening Bible Study at Bonita Bock 8:00 NA	22 Ash Wednesday Services 11:00 & 7:00 11:00 Dual Support 1:00 grief Support 3:30 Vet Support 8:00 NA	23 7:30 SAGE Senior Center 9:00 - 1:00 1:30 Centering Prayer 7:00 Choir	24	25 7:00 NA
26 8:00 Worship 9:00 Sunday School & Adult Forum 10:00 Worship 12:30 NicAnon	27	28 10:00 Lydia Circle Madsen Hall 3:00 Bible Study 8:00 NA	29 11:00 Dual Support 1:00 grief Support 3:30 Vet Support 8:00 NA			