

November 2010

THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE

Let us give thanks to the Lord, who is good and whose mercy endures forever.

Bring yourself, your family and friends, for a Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Paul-Reformation on Wednesday, November 24, at 7 p.m. in Tidemann Hall. Our country is filled with bounty, yet many people still have a hunger that isn't sated with food or wealth. In a service in which we remember our blessings, offer prayers, and give thanks to God, we will gather around the table Christ prepared for us. We will be blessed to participate in the service of baptism for baby Jakai Jagush at the service so his uncle can be present as his sponsor. Worshipping together as a community of faith, we recognize our deeper hungers, even as we anticipate feasting on Thanksgiving Day. You are invited to worship and to redefine what constitutes an abundant life. Offering from this service will be dedicated to support the Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf at SPR.

THANKSGIVING "A CHICKEN (OR TURKEY) IN EVERY POT."

Bao Xiong, Food Shelf Coordinator, will not receive meat donations from any source for Thanksgiving for the 300 families per month they serve. Getting a chicken/turkey for each family is the goal we are asking the congregation to help meet. **On Sunday November 7, 14, and 21** please bring your donation of a turkey or chicken to the doors of the food shelf between **10:00 and 10:30**. Jackie Kennedy will be there to receive your donations. Check the graphic in the narthex to see how we are doing in achieving our goal. Thank you.

ADVENT WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER SERVICE

St. Paul-Reformation will hold Wednesday evening Advent services at 6:30 p.m. on December 1, 8, 15, and 22. Using the "Joyous Light" service of evening prayer composed by local musician Ray Makeever, we will have 45 minutes of songs, readings, lights and reflection. Our Advent Evening prayer services, to be held in Tidemann Hall, have been planned to offer a time of devotion and contemplation that counteracts the busyness of the season and underscores the Advent themes of hope and expectance of the presence of God in Christ.

The season of Advent (which means "to come" in Latin) marks the beginning of the church year and comprises the four weeks before Christmas. The reflective character of the Advent season encourages simplicity in ritual and opportunities for personal and corporate reflection. Principal themes of Advent, a season of waiting and preparation for Christmas, include: hope, darkness and light, repentance, watchfulness, expectation of the incarnation of Christ on Christmas, and anticipation of the fullness of time at Christ's second coming. The color of the Advent season is blue, suggesting hope.

CHILDRENS' SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAM

It's hard to believe, but it's time once again to **start rehearsals for our Christmas play**. This year's selection is "**The Littlest Star**" and it offers opportunities for all our students to participate, as part of the chorus, in speaking and/or singing roles, dancers, wondrous on-lookers, etc. There is so much natural ability, "stage presence", charisma among our students that we encourage all of the students to participate. **Our first rehearsal will be in the sanctuary on Saturday, November 6 at 8:30 a.m.** Future rehearsals will be divided by roles in the play. The performance will be presented on **December 12 during the 10:30 service**.

CHILDRENS' CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

On Sunday **November 7, 14, 21, December 5 & 12** Sunday School students will be collecting gently used and new toys, games and books for children ages 0 to 14 years. Gift cards are needed for teens 14 and up. It is suggested that gift cards be purchased from the lowest cost provider. Please bring your gifts to the Sunday School area or place in the specially marked cart in the narthex. All donations will assist the Food Shelf with their holiday gift program.

Note. Please no more stuffed animals—we are stuffed full with these already. Thank you

Anita Hill *Co-Pastor Commentary* *Keith Olstad*

When I think about the future of St. Paul-Reformation, I have a vision of a multicultural, multi-ethnic congregation engaged in Summit-University community, active globally and locally. Recent house meetings included a video that put reality this starkly: Currently the diversity of our state among people over the age of 60 is about one person of color among 20 white people. The figures at the younger age spectrum of people under age 18, indicate that in a few years, people of color will be 1 in 3 persons. That scenario requires that we think about strategies to increase our hospitality and membership across diversity of racial, ethnic, and cultural boundaries in new, creative ways. It's not enough to see the multicultural depth of our children and youth in Sunday School or up-front in worship during the children's lesson. It is imperative that the adults of St. Paul-Reformation reflect and model what life can be like when Pentecost becomes our lived reality.

Through the early years of Wingspan Ministry, the voices and advocacy of African-American members of St. Paul-Reformation kept the vision of including ministry sexual minorities alive. I remember Grandma Louella Richardson's voice calming a congregational meeting. I can hear Herb Stampley's advocating for the broad diversity of our unusual congregation with denominational leaders, who suggested we had to choose between GLBT ministry or multicultural community. I remain convinced that we can be a community that embraces much more. What has become increasingly clear to me is that I want to share this vision with you. I want to talk with you one-to-one, household by household. Your thoughts and ideas are essential to the possibility of realizing a vision like this.

What are your thoughts of what St. Paul-Reformation will be like ten years from now? What's it look like, feel like, sound like? How will St. Paul-Reformation be known in the Twin Cities? What will our neighbors say is our purpose? Will we be on the cutting edge of ministry with communities that have been excluded from mainline congregations? Will our members reflect the growing diversity of the Twin Cities? Will we be known as a community that fights for the rights of the neglected, the poor, the homeless, the immigrant, those who struggle with education, mental illness, or addiction? What stories will we tell our friends, family, and grand-children about St. Paul-Reformation in the prior decade? Will new theological approaches bring new liturgies and forms of worship?

Co-Pastor Anita's column continued next page

Exploring welcome...

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

-- Hebrews 13:2 NRSV

I received interesting emails from my neighbors this week. I'm planning my continuing education classes in Nicaragua and another week of visiting and instruction with leaders of our sister parish in El Salvador, and virtually daily I'm getting email from my neighbors. I also got a few emails from people on my block.

The popular definition of who my neighbor is, you see, has been undergoing dramatic revision in recent years. Most certainly, the folks on my block are still my neighbors. But now I have regular phone conversations with people in Nicaragua, Skype (video telecasts) conversations with Pastora Conchi in El Salvador, and emails from all over the world. Almost as though overnight, I have more communication with our compatriots in other parts of the world than I do with the folks on my block. They are now all my *neighbors*.

When I go to Nicaragua and El Salvador, I am still *very* aware that I am not at home. Almost everything there is different, confusing, strange. But I am the stranger, not the folks I visit. In biblical terms I am the foreigner or the alien.

I'm struck by how much attention the Bible gives to these categories. In the New Revised Standard Version (NRSV), the word "foreigner" appears fifty times, the word "stranger" appears fifty-two times, and the word "alien" appears 121 times, the majority being in the Old Testament, when God's chosen people were so often immigrants or exiles. Interestingly, the terms are frequently used either to insist that we welcome and care for foreigners, strangers or aliens or that these folks are blamed for what's going wrong with God's chosen ones. Ambivalence on how to respond to the foreigners, strangers or aliens has a long, rich history!

This ambivalence came home for us when Pastora Conchi's visa was denied by our US Embassy in El Salvador because US law considers any visa applicant an immigrant unless the applicant can satisfy the agent that s/he will return home. We were appalled that Pastora Conchi's two late teen kids living in her home

Co-Pastor Keith's column continued next page

Co-Pastor Commentary continued

Pastor Anita - I am eager to hear your reflections on these questions and whatever else you are thinking about our congregation community. Call me to set an appointment. When I call you for a "cuppa and conversation," please say "Yes" and get ready to think creatively and to share your vision. Let's get together to give thanks to God and seek God's guidance for our ministry together. – *Pastor Anita*

Pastor Keith - on which she has a long term lease and her serving a dynamic church in Nahualapa and heading up the Salvadoran Lutheran work on HIV/AIDS and that *we* initiated the invitation for her visit did not satisfy the agent that she would return to El Salvador after her planned two-week visit with us. So 150 of us signed letters of protest and demand for change that are being delivered to Representative McCollum and our senators.

But the larger issues around immigration reform have also come home to us at St. Paul-Ref in several very personal ways. For over a year now, Patricia Mokoena and her son, Thabiso, have been living with Pastor Anita and Janelle, and we've been tracking her painstaking efforts to receive asylum in the US after facing horrible xenophobic violence in South Africa. Some of you also know that Tamika Ramirez and her four children are fighting for citizenship for her husband, Doro, who was raised here in Minnesota but did not have proper papers and was deported to Mexico two years ago. Our work with Tamika includes confronting our congressional leaders with her story and asking for their help.

As we move into winter, and as you go to the election polls on November 2, lift up your faith. Remember Biblical themes about the foreigner, the stranger and the alien. Remember your own ancestry, and vote for a justice that honors your neighbors. *Keith Olstad, co-pastor*

OH, OUR BEAUTIFUL YOUNG PEOPLE!

Do you remember how joyfully the Sunday School students sang and danced their praises during the 10:30 service on October 10? We, and the whole congregation, are so grateful to the parents and families for sharing the blessings of their children with us as part of our worship service. The students will be part of our worship service again on **November 14**. The entire Sunday School will sing. **Students in Grades 3 and 4 will read the lessons.**

It's hard to believe, but it's time once again to **start rehearsals for our Christmas play**. This year's selection is "**The Littlest Star**" and it offers opportunities for all our students to participate, as part of the chorus, in speaking and/or singing roles, dancers, wondrous on-lookers, etc. There is so much natural ability, "stage presence", charisma among our students that we encourage all of the students to participate. **Our first rehearsal will be in the sanctuary on Saturday, November 6 at 8:30 a.m.** Future rehearsals will be divided by roles in the play. The performance will be presented on **December 12 during the 10:30 service.**

Congregation members: "**Y'All Come!**". On Sunday, November 21, we will all work together during Sunday School to produce 30 **adult-sized fleece blankets** to donate to the homeless shelter. There is such a need! The children need your help and appreciate the kindness and encouragement which the congregation members so graciously provide to them. Plan to meet with the students for this project at **9:20 a.m. on November 21**. We are thankful to **Cynthia Peyton** for providing her expertise and guidance for this project. We are also grateful for the financial support offered by one of our congregants.

We are all aware of the tragedies which have befallen young people as a result of taunting, playground or cyber bullying. Loving our neighbors has of course always been a central theme in Sunday School. We have now taken advantage of an offer by the **Teaching Tolerance** project of the Southern Poverty Law Center to procure a copy of their new 40 minute video, "Anti-Bullying". Sunday School parents and teachers will review the video and plan age-appropriate lessons to continue to address this issue and ensure the safety of young people.

As we approach the holiday season, we are mindful of the many children who will be without presents under the tree. Sunday School families will be asked in the coming weeks to join with the whole congregation in **donating gently used toys or clothing to the Hallie Q. Brown food shelf**. We are not surprised to learn that gift cards to discount or low-priced stores are preferred gifts for pre-teens and teens!

What a Blessing to Be With You and Your Children! Kay and Lee

**FINANCIAL REPORT
As of October 26, 2010**

INCOME	ACTUAL	BUDGETED
Current and Benevolence	238,972	260,787
Building Maintenance	26,452	33,333
Other	63,245	73,792
Totals	328,669	367,912
EXPENSES		
Totals	328,736	367,912

*These include only expenses paid to date
Outstanding bills as of 10-26-10 = \$0.00*

SUNDAYS	8:00 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
October 3	43	108
October 10	26	169
October 17	36	117
October 24	45	165

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

Average Sunday attendance in October = 177
Average Sunday attendance Jan.- Oct = 165

SPR FILM SERIES – SUNDAY NOVEMBER 14

The Adult Education Committee invites you to attend, enjoy some hand-picked films, and fellowship with others who are film buffs or not. 2nd Sunday evening each month at 6:30 p.m. in Tidemann Hall Come for the movie! Enjoy the refreshments! All for FREE!

This month's movie is: Jesus of Montreal 1990 – 120 minutes Director: [Denys Arcand](#)

A group of actors putting on an interpretive Passion Play in Montreal begin to experience a meshing of their characters and their private lives as the production takes form against the growing opposition of the Catholic church.

BIBLE MATTERS – November Lectionary

Because the Bible does matter, you are invited to engage the Book of Faith with the Bible Matters Group. Use these lectionary readings for each week at home and join an engaging group weekly on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at church with Co-Pastors Keith and Anita.

November 7 All Saints Day

Job 19:23-27a
Psalm 17:1-9
2 Thessalonians 2:1-5, 13-17
Luke 20: 27-38

November 14 Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Malachi 4:1-2a
Psalm 98
2 Thessalonians 3:6-13
Luke 21:15-19

November 21 Reign of Christ Sunday

Jeremiah 23: 1-6
Psalm 46
Colossians 1:11-20
Luke 23: 33-43

November 28 First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5
Psalm 122
Romans 13: 11-14
Matthew 24:36-44

CONGREGATION COMMUNITY NEWS

Congratulations to **Jack Aughey**, who has taken up rowing with the Minnesota Boat Club and headed up the Mississippi Regatta in early October.

Blessings to new parents **Julie Wick and Aimee Smith**. **Rowan Arthur Smith Wick** arrived safely on 10/21/2010 at 10:45 pm. He was 8 pounds 5 ounces and 21 inches long.

IN MEMORIAM – WILLIAM “BILL” WRIGHT

March 22, 1926 – October 5, 2010

Bill Wright, a member of St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church since 1999, was a sweet man, witty and fun, who worked as a cook on the railroads, and served in the Navy during World War II. Bill was a life-long friend of the late Birdie Foster, who introduced him to St. Paul-Reformation.

We extend our condolences and care to Alice Reuter on the accidental death of her 25 year old nephew, **Andy Buth**, in Micronesia where he worked on an island with local fishermen. **Brett Bowman**, on the death of his father, **Robert Bowman**, in North Carolina. **Emily Eastwood** on the unexpected death of her younger brother, **Matthew**, in Austin Texas. Prayer: You, O God, are the source of our hope and comfort. Bring a sense of your real presence to all who grieve. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Please pray for these folks and connect with them for care and support in illness (their own or a loved one): We pray for all who struggle with shame, self-doubt, or any kind of infirmity. Lift them up in the love and acceptance of Jesus. Among the members of our own congregation we pray for healing for **Marianna Anderson, Lisa Mathieson, Lucille Archer, and Emily Eastwood**; we pray also for **Kyle Kennedy** (grandson of Jackie and Dick), **Charles Amjad-Ali** (Luther Seminary professor), **Bert Tyler** (Bob's dad), **Mark Froisland** (Brenda's nephew), **Connie Stevens** (sister-in-law of Jackie Kennedy), **Kathleen O'Donnell** (Kath's mother), **Judith and Kent Christensen** (Aunt & Uncle of Kylie Kuhlman), **Micah Burchfield** (Kath & Jes' nephew), **Karley Nickelsen** (Bob Tyler's niece), **Louise Benson** (Beth and Kristin's mother), **Justine Smith** (Victoria Smith's sister) and **Jan Owen** (Pastor Anita's sister). Hear our prayer for all who are homebound, including: **Barbara Wassberg**. Let all who are in hospice care feel your presence, especially **Joyce Nielsen**. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

ADULT FORUM – SUNDAYS 9:00 AM IN NOVEMBER

Nov 7 - Embracing an Adult Faith – Marcus Borg on What It Means to Be Christian Session 1: Who is God?

Are you seeking a richer understanding of issues in contemporary Christian practice and theology? Participants become teachers for one another, using a personal, respectful, and engaged model of adult learning. Utilizing video presentations and community conversations, **Pastor Anita Hill** will facilitate a series of 5 forums on Embracing an Adult Faith. **Host:** Lee Snook

November 14 - SEAM and the work of Southeast Asian Ministry: SeAM - Southeast Asian Ministry is on the eve of its 30th Anniversary.

Executive Director Jennifer Schneider will be speaking about the changing demographic of refugees and their needs. She will also share ideas about how members of St. Paul Ref can get involved in immigration advocacy.

You will have the opportunity to learn about the connection between SeAM and LVC - Lutheran Volunteer Corps. You may also purchase Pan Dau - Hmong Handwork that is sold on consignment at SeAM. **Host:** Leo Treadway

November 21 - Embracing an Adult Faith – Marcus Borg on What It Means to Be Christian Session 2: Who is Jesus? Pr. Anita Hill will facilitate. Host: Lee Snook

November 28 - Open Forum – to be used for a topical program of current interest

SPR's MEN'S CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP GROUP MEETS NOVEMBER 4

Having moved to the first Thursday of every month, the SPR Men's Christian Fellowship Group will meet in Tidemann Hall at 7:00 PM on Thursday, November 4. The men welcome all male members of St. Paul-Ref to join in.

MUSIC MUSINGS FOR NOVEMBER AND MORE

- Season #2 begins on Wednesday, November 3rd - 7:00 pm.
- Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsals begin on Saturday, November 6th at 8:30 am.
- SPR Instrumental Ensemble begins rehearsals on Wednesday, November 17th - 6:00 pm
- SPR Thanksgiving Service - Wednesday, November 24th - 7:00 pm
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Season # 2 - Chancel Choir. Don't miss a wonderful opportunity to share your voice during season #2 with the Chancel Choir. Rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, November 3rd at 7:00 pm. All voice parts are needed!

Rehearsal & Performance Schedule - October 28 through Christmas Day December 25

REHEARSALS - WEDNESDAYS FROM 7:00 - 8:30 P.M. November 3, 17

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 7 – 9:40 – 10:20 A.M.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 24 8:00 -9:00 P.M. (After the Thanksgiving Eve Service)

WEDNESDAY December 1, 8, 15, 22 – 8:00 – 9:00 PM (After mid-week Advent Services)

WORSHIP SERVICE SCHEDULE -

10:30 am – Sunday November 7, 14, 28 December 12

8:00 am & 10:30 am - Sunday November 21, December 19

7:00 pm – Wednesday November 24 – Thanksgiving Eve Service –soloist and choir needed

5:00 pm – Sunday December 19 – Blue Christmas- soloist and choir needed

10:30 PM - December 24 – Christmas Eve – soloist and choir needed

10:30 am - December 25 – Christmas Day – soloist and choir needed

"Calling all stars! The official word has come from Heavenly Headquarters: Jesus will soon be born in Bethlehem and a special star is needed to help light the way for shepherds, wise ones, and all others who would come to worship the Newborn King." Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsals begin on Saturday, November 6th at 10:00 am. All children welcome! The Christmas Play this year is entitled, "The Tiniest Christmas Star." Don't miss the fun!

BRUSH OFF THE DUST from that band/orchestra instrument you have tucked away in the back closet and **join the SPR Instrumental Ensemble!** This year's instrumental ensemble will be sharing music at both services on Sunday, December 19th. Rehearsals will be held in the lower auditorium on the following Wednesday evenings from 6:00 - 7:00 pm: **November 17, 24 and December 1, 8, 15.** All woodwind, string, brass, and percussion players of ANY AGE are encouraged to participate in this exciting, worshipful endeavor. Please contact Cammy Horne for further details.

Instrumentalists and vocalists needed to participate in the SPR Thanksgiving Service - Wednesday, November 24th at 7:00 pm. Please contact Cammy Horne for further details.

"Music speaks what cannot be expressed, soothes the mind and gives it rest, heals the and makes it whole, flows from heaven to the soul." – anonymous

In Peace, Cammy Horne



CONNECTIONS - HALLIE Q. BROWN FOOD SHELF & ST. PAUL-REF

As a new member of St. Paul Ref, I am amazed week after week by the warm and welcoming reputation, history, and current atmosphere of our great church. I have been moved to tears while reading or listening to testimonials from members of how our church opened its doors to them when so many other doors were closed. I am proud to be part of a place with an unashamed mission to include everyone, to challenge artificial barriers between people, and to fight for a just society.

It was no surprise, then, to discover that we house and support the Hallie Q. Brown food shelf. The food shelf's namesake was African-American woman, the daughter of two former slaves, who worked her way through college, became a teacher, and later became a political and religious leader. She was committed to improving literacy and education among blacks and women and dedicated to breaking through barriers and combating oppression. The mission of St. Paul Ref so closely mirrors her mission—a compelling reason to learn more and find out how you can get involved with Hallie Q. Brown.

As you may know, the food shelf serves as a community resource for families in need of food, clothing, and household items. Families in our immediate service area can visit the food shelf once per month (by appointment) and receive 20 pounds of food per person. Anyone can come during open hours for clothing from our free clothing closets and periodic donations of bread and produce from Trader Joe's and Whole Foods and both Mississippi Markets.

St. Paul Ref has housed the Food Shelf since 1973, and our partnership is stronger (and needed) more than ever. Over 14,000 pounds of food are currently given away monthly, and SPR members alone donated over \$8,000 last year. The number of people utilizing Hallie Q. Brown has increased, and it is difficult to keep up with the demand. The food shelves still appear bare by the end of the month.

So what can you do to ensure we are opening our doors to the community members who count on Hallie Q. Brown?

- **WINTER** - First, consider the impact of the approaching winter months. As the weather turns, we need to make sure the clothing closets are filled with coats, hats, mittens, and sweaters. Used or new warm clothes are welcomed and appreciated—men's clothes are especially in short supply. Remember, anyone can use Hallie Q. Brown's clothing closets—it is a rare source for free clothing.
- **THANKSGIVING** - The upcoming holidays also pose special needs for the food shelf. Think about what you like to see on your Thanksgiving or Christmas table, and give this gift to our neighbors in need of food. Because meat is expensive to purchase from Hallie Q. Brown's food suppliers, meat donations fill a large gap in our offerings. Please consider bringing donations of whole turkeys or chickens and boxes of stuffing on Sunday November 7, 14 and 21st. For more info see the article about this on the front page of the Spectrum.
- **CHRISTMAS** - In December the congregation will be asked to contribute to making up 150 Pasta Packs (including sauce/noodles/canned fruit and veggies/cookies). Pasta packs are given as a free gift in December and January—stay tuned for more information in the December Spectrum and weekly e-mails on how you can help.
- **HOLIDAY GIFTS** - Did you know that families can receive holiday gifts from the food shelf? The coordinator's office is already filling up with special donations to be distributed to families for Christmas. New or gently used toys, clothes, games, books, gift cards and other fun items for children of all ages will help place presents under many trees. Please see the article on the front page regarding our Sunday School Christmas gift in-gathering.
- **GENERAL NEEDS** - There is always a need for food donations. Give what you don't use, and grab a little extra when you're out shopping. The suppliers we purchase food from do not provide ethnic foods, and it is expensive for the food shelf to buy items like meat, cereal, hygiene items, and organic foods—so help out in these areas if you can.
- **VOLUNTEER** - Finally, there are several ways to give of your time. Stop down any time the food shelf is open to sort, fold, and straighten the shelves in the clothing closets—even a half hour of your time can make a big difference. You can also volunteer to help sort and stock donated and purchased food on delivery days or sign up to be a sub for the Trader Joe's pickups.

The doors of the Hallie Q. Brown food shelf will only be open to our neighbors if we step up to keep this vital resource in our church and community. Please join us! *Laura Pejsa*

REPORT ON THE STATUS OF OUR BUILDING

This is the time of the year when we develop our property budget for 2011 and a good time to consider what our direction should be as we move forward.

The mission of the Property Committee is to **Maintain and improve our resources and facility to serve our needs and reflect our values.** As you might expect, with a building that is approaching 100 years old, our annual budget needs are substantial. However, over the past 10 years or so, our congregation has made important repairs and improvements to our facility and I believe that, with continued maintenance, it is reasonable to expect it can continue to serve our needs.

Replacement And Maintenance Projects That Have Been Completed:

- New roof
- Tuck-pointing of exterior walls
- New entrance steps at both Oxford St. and Laurel Ave. doors
- Air conditioning and heating system
- Resolving sub-basement beam issue
- Lighting upgrade
- Organ refurbishment

We still have many problems to resolve, as well as repairs and improvements, and we anticipate that in the next 5 years, we will need a capital campaign to fund some of the larger items. Part of our current effort is to develop some of the cost estimates needed for this capital campaign. We are also getting contractor proposals so we can budget for some of the larger repair issues.

Some Important Things We Need To Resolve:

- Kitchen -- Do we want a "prep, or re-heating" kitchen; can we make the dishwasher work satisfactorily; improve ventilation; and other issues,
- Lower Auditorium -- Should we invest in air conditioning, or mechanical ventilation; how to deal with moisture from basement walls; and should we replace the basement windows,
- Meeting rooms -- How can we better use what we have and are there other spaces that could be used for meetings,
- Sanctuary -- What should we do about the fabric on the outside walls; should we improve the coffee service in the narthex; should we repair the mural behind the altar; should we install new carpet or other floor finish in sanctuary,
- Building exterior --The steel lintels that support the masonry above some of the windows and doors have corroded, and need to be evaluated and replaced as needed.

Volunteer opportunities to help with fix-up projects:

During the coming year we plan to continue "fix-up projects" by volunteers, such as painting and repairing the restrooms, repair of windows, and cleaning equipment and storage rooms of moisture, junk, and spall material from the Lower Auditorium walls. The Food Shelf will also be looking for volunteers to paint that part of the church. This will likely take place in March 2011.

We have initiated a **JOB JAR** system as a means to keep smaller fix-up and maintenance projects moving. This is a list and description of tasks that one or two volunteers can accomplish in a few hours. It will be circulated by e-mail, and also available on a bulletin board so people can look for tasks they might like to work on. Volunteering with church fix-up projects is a great way to get to know your fellow church members and perhaps learn something about maintenance that you did not know before. Please let us know if you are interested in participating.

The members of the Property Committee are: Ron Sundberg, Chair; Jim McGowan, Kath Ouska, Brian Olson, Kristin Benson, Doug Merchant. Thanks to all the committee members, and to all the people who have volunteered during the past year to help keep our church and grounds looking great.

We'd like to hear from you. Please bring any questions or concerns regarding our facility to the attention of any member of the Property Committee. *Ron Sundberg, Chair Property Committee*

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS – October 24, 2010

St. Paul-Reformation Lutheran Church welcomes YOU to worship God, serve others, build community, and seek justice for all people without exception. We are a potluck of people – Come join the feast!

Marge Charmoli 651-645-7227 Saint Paul

Marge joins by affirmation of faith. She grew up at Messiah Lutheran in Mountain Iron, MN. Marge is a PhD psychologist in private practice. She enjoys spending time with family and friends, time outdoors, women's basketball, current events, and her cats. Marge is interested in sexuality study and conversation, what the Lutheran church is all about, and justice issues, especially GLBT. Marge is co-host of "Bi-Cities" a local TV program.

David Fuerst and Tim Lutz David 651-644-3479 Saint Paul; Tim 715-235-5434 Menomonie

David joins by transfer from Central Lutheran, Minneapolis. David is a primary school teacher at St. Paul Academy and Summit School. He enjoys kayaking and time in Tim's garden. David is interested in learning about spirituality, church's relationship to community, hunger/ homelessness, death and dying issues, and relating to the elderly. **Tim** joins as an associate member. His primary membership is with in Menomonie, WI, where he teaches elementary school music. Tim is an avid gardener, and enjoys music performance, and is a local actor/director.

Kester Lueck 651-324-8387 Saint Paul

Kester joins by affirmation of faith. He comes to us from Methodist tradition and is the son of a minister. Kester has a certificate in graphic design and recently prepared new visitor cards for SPR's pews. Kester's hobbies include swimming, hiking, running, traveling, bird watching, movies and cross country skiing. His interests include graphic design, reading in worship, serving as an usher, and making friends in the faith community.

Berneta "Bernie" Morris 651-699-8665 Saint Paul

Bernie joins by affirmation of faith. She is the partner of Chris Nunez and says she's been at SPR so long, people have been surprised she is not already a member. Bernie is an independent living skills and driver assessment specialist at the Courage Center. She enjoys sports, nature, poetry, bonfires, and boating.

Renee Raduenz and daughter, Ellis 651-231-1721 Saint Paul

Renee joins by letter of transfer from Immanuel Lutheran, Giese, MN. Renee is known to many at SPR, having frequently worshipped and participated in events for several years. She works with our state in management and budget. Her hobbies include Tae kwon do, toastmasters, summer outdoor activities and volleyball. She's good at project management, facilitating meetings, qualitative research surveys, and process improvement.

Ellis is in confirmation classes this year and says: "I've been a Lutheran forever." She also enjoys Tae Kwon Do, as well as piano, clarinet, shopping and hanging out with friends. Ellis is a student at Capitol Hill Magnet School.

ST. PAUL-REFORMATION ISAIAH CORE TEAM

Are you someone who wants to get engaged where it really matters? Where our faith and the world come together? Where your efforts add up to spiritual depth, social capital, and power to act to create the world you want to live in? Please consider becoming a part of SPR's Isaiah Core Team. You'll meet people, learn their stories, ask questions, listen with depth and harness the energies of many more people. Intrigued? Talk with your Co-Pastors Anita and/or Keith. Ask Mark Carlson about his experience as a participant in a week-long training in faith based community organizing.

HOUSE MEETING UPDATE:

Isaiah style house meetings have been held at eight homes of St. Paul-Reformation members. We've gotten to know each other better, shared personal stories of life opportunities and restrictions, learned about the multicultural future of our state, explored what the Central Corridor Light Rail Line and subsequent zoning may bring to our church's neighborhood in the next decade. We've been led by church members as our facilitators. More opportunities will be offered in November. SPR members will be invited to participate in a large event on Sunday, December 5th with the governor-elect to advocate that the values of our faith be reflected in the priorities of the new governor's administration. Those values include attention to jobs, transportation, education, healthcare, and affordable housing in the context of racial and economic justice.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN NOVEMBER TO:

11/01 Noah Peters
11/02 Maja Knutson
11/04 Ellis Bedford, Kim Paulson, Alice Reuter,
Jessica Rooney, Andrew Taylor, John Whalen
11/05 Calyn Schardt, Marcus Thomas,
11/06 Cindy Carlsson, Loren Forrester,
Andrea Jagusch
11/07 Kaile Buetow-Staples, Tim Nelson
11/08 Foster Webster-Sprunger
11/12 Bill Hauge, Kevin Reuther
11/13 Barb Veath
11/15 Noah Johnson, Benjamin Sword
11/16 Bill Adams, David Gjerdrum
11/17 Morgan Buetow-Staples, Susan Corbin, Jim
Groskopf, Shirley Henning, David Petersen
11/18 Maria Gjerdrum, Lisa Mueller, Scott Olin,
Susan Smith-Grier
11/19 Wes Doolittle, Erik Doughty, George Staples
11/24 Kari Benson, Collin Conroy, Maren Flagstad,
Sam Strom
11/25 Jerry Ostlund
11/26 Deb Livdahl, Tori Sandler
11/27 Kayden Larson, Breanne Sande-Martin
11/30 Vangie Kolberg

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY IN NOVEMBER TO:

11/07 Jon and Kris Stevens
11/27 Sharon and Brian Torkelson
11/28 Alan Bloemke and Jeff Kopseng
10/31 Teresa Carson and Barb Iversen

A CHILD NEEDS YOUR HELP

Could you give just one precious hour a week to help a child learn to read? Maxfield Elementary School, located in our neighborhood and part of our community, needs reading tutors for all grades, one through six. Just one hour a week (or more) could make such a difference and create a positive influence in the life of a child. If you are interested, please contact, Devin Day at 651-293-8680, ext 42911. A child will thank you and you will receive immeasurable satisfaction knowing that you have played an important part in the education of a child. For further info, speak with Jane Anderson, SPR member, and volunteer at Maxfield. Jane's phone number is 651-224-1269.

SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS FOR NOVEMBER:

November 7 – All Saints Sunday

Assisting Minister: 8:00 Katrina Johnson

10:30 Volunteer Needed

Lector: 8:00 Hagedorns 10:30 David Gjerdrum

Ushers: 8:00 Jane and Mike Hagedorn 10:30 Kris,

Anna, Sam and Ian Matenaer, Jim McGowan

Communion Assistant: 8:00 Anita Wheeler

10:30 David Kohn

Communion Preparation: 8:00 Jane and Mike

Hagedorn 10:30 Volunteers Needed

Coffee/Treats: 8:00 Jane and Mike Hagedorn

10:30 Volunteer Needed

Counters: Pat Graham –John Whalen

November 14 – Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Assisting Minister: 8:00 &10:30 Volunteer Needed

Lector: 8:00 Gjerdrum/Olson family

10:30 Sunday School

Ushers: 8:00 Gjerdrum/Olson family

10:30 same 11/7

Council Communion Assistant: 8:00 Teresa Tate

10:30 David Kohn

Communion Preparation: 8:00 Gjerdrum/Olson

family 10:30 Volunteer Needed

Coffee and Treats: 8:00 Deb Wilson and Peg

Brenden 10:30 Lizz Stauning

Counters: Ron Sundberg – Lynn Erstad, Teresa Tate

November 21- Reign of Christ Sunday

Assisting Minister: 8:00 Katrina Johnson

10:30 Danette Allrich-Osano

Lector: 8:00 Olsons 10:30 Mark Sandberg

Ushers: 8:00 Bonnie and Brian Olson

10:30 same as 11/7

Council Communion Assistant: 8:00 Anita Wheeler

10:30 David Kohn

Communion Preparation: 8:00 Bonnie and Brian

Olson 10:30 Volunteer Needed

Coffee and Treats: 8:00 Brian and Bonnie Olson

10:30 Danette Allrich-Osano

Counters: D Livdahl/B Benson- Mike Wheeler

November 28 – First Sunday of Advent

Assisting Minister: 8:00 & 10:30 Volunteer Needed

Lector: 8:00 Gjerdrum/Olson family

10:30 Jim McGowan

Ushers: 8:00 Gjerdrum/Olson family

10:30 same as 11/7

Council Communion Assistants: 8:00 Teresa Tate

10:30 David Kohn

Communion Preparation: 8:00 Gjerdrum/Olson

10:30 Volunteer Needed

Coffee and Treats: 8:00 Gjerdrum/Olson family

10:30 Volunteer Needed

Counters: Julie Richards-Pam Peyton

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