

# THE SPECTRUM

THE NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL-REFORMATION LUTHERAN CHURCH

FEBRUARY  
2024

Liturgies  
8:00 and 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School  
Confirmation  
9:30 a.m.

Adult Forum  
9:10 a.m.

Nursery  
Kids with Parents  
10:15 a.m.

Livestream video via  
SPR's FB page or look  
in your e-mail on  
Sunday mornings.

Visit us on the web!  
[www.stpaulref.org](http://www.stpaulref.org)

St. Paul-Reformation  
is a congregation of  
the Evangelical  
Lutheran Church in  
America (ELCA).

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The Spectrum items, articles and columns need to be to the Parish Office by the 12th of the month. The Spectrum goes to print on the 15th and this date is hard and fast. Articles received after the 12th may or may not be included. ter.

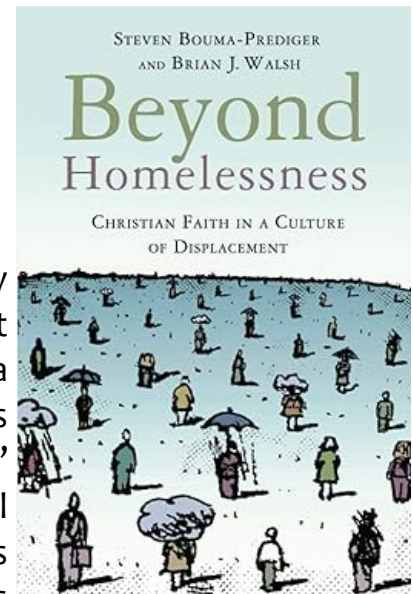
## LENTEN LISTEN SERIES

### Beyond Homelessness

### Starting February 21

Because SPR will be serving as a site for the Ramsey County Warming Hub beginning on February 1, it made sense that this year's LISTEN Series would be a more in-depth study of homelessness and the factors that contribute to "a culture of displacement." Steven Bourma-Prediger's book by the same title will be our guide, with speakers joining us from various agencies and government bodies that work on this issue. A reading guide is available for \$25 in the narthex, and you are invited (*ahem...*) to make some intentional time with this book your Lenten discipline. This book—and our work with the women's shelter—are both efforts to fulfill one of the three Lenten disciplines: *generosity (almsgiving)*. As we prepare for Easter, this is a great opportunity to enter more deeply into this subject so that SPR can continue to work on where God may be calling us with this ministry. We hope you will plan on joining us Wednesdays in Lent starting February 21 at 7:10 p.m.

**LENTEN WEDNESDAYS:** 5:30 P.M. Soup Supper  
6:30 p.m. Evening Prayer



## ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 14

6:00 p.m. Private Confessions in  
the Church

7:00 p.m. Imposition of Ashes and Holy  
Eucharist

**BY THE TIME THAT YOU READ THIS.** SPR will have already begun hosting (now for the second year) a Warming Hub with Ramsey County. Also by the time you read this, there will undoubtedly have already been problems and irritants that have arisen: something will have gone wrong, someone will have done *something*, and probably something will have needed to be fixed.

Patience.  
Patience.  
Patience.

It can be hard to have, especially when people have been told time and again how to behave when they are guests in our space. They won't, of course; they will have nodded in agreement and gone right back to doing what they were doing before, testing our generosity and straining how far we think our grace can extend.

You know, kind of like...God when God has to deal with us. Lent is a good time to remember this: that our "return to the Lord your God" is necessary because we, also, have been told time and time again to be gracious, or to forgive, or to be generous of heart, or to read the best construction on something...and, of course, we nod in agreement and go right back to what we were doing before.

The point is that there is not so great a difference between anyone, of any economic background, with shelter or not, when it comes to the tasks of failure and beginning again. "There is not one who is righteous, not even one" St. Paul thunders to the Church at Rome (3:10) as a reminder that "all have fallen short of the glory of God." A mentality that pits "our" space against "their" forgets that everyone in this building—a homeless woman or a member who has been here their whole life—has a legitimate claim on the hospitality of the church. To use Luther's famous

adage, "we are all beggars, this is true."

So, bearing that in mind, I wonder if you might imagine how the task of patience and generosity of spirit might, in fact, be preparing you for Easter. The Paschal mystery is, after all, the most colossal failure and colossal triumph ever; a world in which Christ is risen indeed, and—as I was reminded by one of our parishioners—in *deed*. Our works, while not making us good, do embody the faith that we live, responding with hope and joyfulness to the problems that will present themselves, knowing that—yes, *Virginia*—God can deal with these things, too. *This is most certainly true.*

Lent is not a time of feigned self-flagellation or faux guilt. It is a time of honesty and it is an *opportunity* to clean up the things in us and in our relationships that prevent us from meeting Jesus not only at Easter, but in the face of someone who is difficult or problematic or crabby or broken in some way that they did not choose.

And no one chooses to stay warm in the basement of a church for fun. Brokenness takes many forms, and how we welcome them—as Jesus reminds us, literally—is how we welcome him.

My prayers go with you as this time of preparation begins. Remember: it all points toward Easter, it is all preparation for Easter, it is all centered and finds its meaning in the Christ who crosses over from death to life. Take it seriously, and remember that there are places hiding in plain sight that are giving us chances (again, and again, and again...) to do good, to cause change to this broken world, and to respond with hopefulness to the signs that are being presented to us.

*Patience, dear one.* Learn again what it means to meet him...wherever he may appear.

Peace to you as this season begins,

+Pr. Patrick H. Shebeck



***“Brokenness takes many forms, and how we welcome them—as Jesus reminds us, literally—is how we welcome him.”***



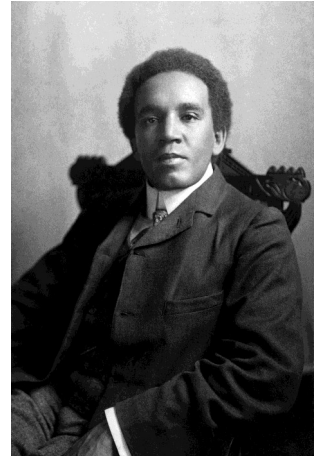
## FROM THE CANTOR

In the summer of 2018, I was visiting a deaconess from my community in La Crosse, Wisconsin. We visited a music store, and I found a couple volumes of *African-American Organ Music Anthology*, edited by the formidable Mickey Thomas Terry, himself a virtuoso organist. The collection has grown to 10 volumes, and I have added them to my organ library as they have appeared. I also discovered another series featuring works by Black composers, called *King of Kings*. Works found in both collections have entered my regular organ repertoire year-round, and I especially try to highlight organ works by Black composers in February. Since Transfiguration and Lent come so early this year, I got started in January, so let me give you some retroactive information about the composers and pieces I played.

I played a noontime recital on January 17 at St. Olaf Roman Catholic Church in downtown Minneapolis, on which I played one of my favorite pieces of recent years: David Hurd's *Partita on Detroit*. "Detroit" is the name of a hymn tune, which you can find in *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* to the words "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive." I also know it with an older text "Do Not I Love Thee, O My Lord." The tune is also sometimes known as Bradshaw because that is the name of the composer given in its source, the hymnal *A Supplement to the Kentucky Harmony* (1820). It's a lovely shape note tune, but despite its artistic merits, I am sure that Dr. Hurd chose it because it premiered at the American Guild of Organists national convention in 1986 in Detroit, Michigan. The piece shows off his compositional skills by using a veritable bounty of counterpoint techniques. He uses simple canon, like "Row, Row, Row Your Boat," where one voice starts and the other voice following with the same music. But he also uses canon in inversion, where one voice starts and the other follows, but with the melody upside down in the second voice and it still works

perfectly! Dr. Hurd came to Mount Olive in Minneapolis to play a concert in 2022, so I screwed up my courage and asked him to autograph my music score, which he graciously did.

Samuel Coleridge-Taylor (1875-1912) was born in London to an Englishwoman, Alice Hare Martin, and a man from Sierra Leone, Daniel Peter Hughes Taylor, who was descended from African-American slaves freed by the British during the Revolutionary War. Not to be confused with poet Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Coleridge-Taylor grew up in a musical family and learned to play the violin at an early age. At 15 he entered the Royal College of Music, where he studied composition with Charles Villiers Stanford.



Coincidentally, in Lent the Chancel Choir will be singing Stanford's anthem "O For a Closer Walk with God," so stay tuned for that! Coleridge-Taylor used African and American themes in his music, and was especially celebrated for three cantatas on Longfellow's *Song of Hiawatha*. He was invited to visit the White House by Teddy Roosevelt during his American tour in 1904. The two pieces I will play in February are short character pieces called "Melody" and "Elegy." They demonstrate his gift for crafting lyrical melodies paired with typical Romantic era harmonies.

Eurydice V. Ostermann earned Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Andrews University in Berrien Springs, Michigan, and was the first female and Black person to earn the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Composition from The University of Alabama in Tuscaloosa. I wonder if she might also have been drawn to that institution  
**Cantor, continued on next page...**

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**Cantor, continued...**

by the excellent organ teacher, Warren Hutton. Dr. Ostermann is now retired, but she taught music theory and composition and directed choirs at Oakwood University. She has been commissioned by the American Guild of Organists to write a piece for the 2024 national convention, so we have that to look forward to! In January, I played her prelude on HYFRYDOL, the hymn tune associated with "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" and "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus." It opens with fanfare-like chords, and near the end, a pedal-line with running eighth notes keeps me on my toes, so to speak. Also listen for her choir piece "Create in Me a Clean Heart" on the text of Psalm 51 on Ash Wednesday.

Sr. Stacie Lightner

**SOUPER BOWL OF CARING SUNDAY**

**Sunday, February 11** + For many years, SPR has participated in the "Souper Bowl of Caring" with our donations going

to the Hallie Q. Brown Food Shelf right here in our neighborhood. Super Bowl Sunday has become in much of American secular culture a festival of excess. And within the shadow of this game, many in our neighborhoods (especially children) go hungry on a daily basis, and the inequality which the game represents should give Christian people pause to ask how we can help lessen this gap. The Souper Bowl of Caring is one way we can by making a special donation on February 11 by using the donation envelope that Sunday. Please be generous.

**WARMING HUB BEGINS** + After a few starts and stops and some retooling, the Ramsey County Warming Hub began at SPR on February 1 for women. Last year, SPR served in this capacity to about 30-40 women during the cold months. Please keep this work in your prayers, and look for updates (and challenges!) as this work continues.

**LISTEN SERIES SPEAKERS**

Several speakers will join us for our Lenten LISTEN series to discuss with us their work on homelessness. Offering different perspectives on causes and remedies for homelessness, these speakers will compliment our reading well.

We welcome:



**Wednesday, February 21**

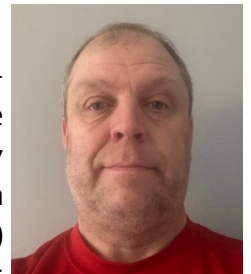
**Pr. Jenn Luong, Lutheran Social Services of Minnesota** + Pr. Jenn Luong serves as the Church Partnerships Ministry Specialist at LSS as well as a pastor at St. Mark Lutheran Church on West 7th Street, near downtown Saint Paul.

She will discuss with us the ongoing work of LSS to address homelessness in our communities, and the larger legislative issues in the State of Minnesota that are aiding (or preventing) this work.

**Wednesday, February 28**

**Rick Nyquist, Ramsey County** +

Rick Nyquist is one of the directors of the Ramsey County Warming Hub Program, which SPR will be housing (in part) starting Feb. 1. Rick will brief us on this program, challenges and opportunities, and specifically how homeless communities survive in the City of St. Paul.



**Wednesday March 6**

**Anne Mavity and Harlan Buckalew, Minnesota Housing Partnership** + The Minnesota Housing

Partnership is an organization that works on policy matters in the Twin Cities related to homelessness. Anne Mavity serves as the Executive Director of MHP, and Harlan Buckalew serves as program director.

## EL SALVADOR SCHOLARSHIPS: THANK YOU!

Dear SPR Members,

Thank you for your generosity in contributing to the El Salvador scholarship program that our congregation has sponsored since 2008. Your contributions have made a significant impact on the lives of many students and their families.

When we first began, our partner congregation, Christ the Liberator, was meeting under a tin-roofed structure held up by rough-cut tree branches, and the children were nearly all elementary-aged students. It was rare in those days for the youth to graduate from high school, and unheard of for them to graduate from a university or technical school. The costs of education beyond the sixth grade, when school fees begin to be charged, were beyond the reach of most parents, and rather the children began working to help their families at an early age.

For those of us fortunate enough to have visited our sister congregation over the years—more than 80 of us to date!—we have witnessed a transformation that has been the cause for heartfelt joy and thanksgiving. A beautiful new church structure has been raised with the labor of their own hands, and the children happily share with us their accomplishments at school with a spirit of gratitude, new confidence, and hope for their futures. Each year, more students complete high school and go on to college and technical schools.

Many of you have been paired with one or more students, and have been able to follow their progress and share greetings with them. Others

have made donations without sponsoring a particular student, which, when added together, makes it possible for us to expand the number of students that we support. The money that you send is used to purchase school books, supplies, gym clothing and shoes, and backpacks to carry them in. Increasing amounts are needed as each student advances through the grades, with the largest amount needed for university and technical institute fees. For some students, additional funds are allotted as needed to pay for transportation to and from the regional schools.

Once again, thank you for your support of this exciting mission. The colorful Salvadoran cross in our sanctuary is there to help us remember and celebrate our partnership. Praise God from whom all these blessings flow! On behalf of the El Salvador Global Mission Committee,  
+ Sandy and Tim Iverson and



*This January, St. Paul-Reformation sent*

# \$34,360.00

*to support students at Christ the Liberator...the most ever!*



*Krisi Matenaer*

## BIRTHDAYS

03 David Seed

08 Alex Wuebker

10 Roman Hund, Christopher Taykalo

11 Deb Horne

12 Cheri Gohr

15 Alton Proctor

17 Diane Aase

19 Drew Puroway

20 Aspen Rouillard-Horne, Grant Rouillard-Horne  
Tanner Rouillard-Horne

24 Michael-jon Pease

28 David Moen

## FEBRUARY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

Thank you to all the volunteers who help make the 10:30 a.m. Sunday morning services “run.”

### February 4, Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

Aaron Brown, Victoria Smith, *Asst. Ministers*  
 Mark Sandberg, Ellis Bedford, *Lectors*  
 Noelle Puroway Chloe Proctor,  
 Noah Johnson, *Acolytes*  
 Erica Perl, *Cantor*  
 Jim and Anne Halgerson, Roman and Hilary Hund,  
*Greeters/Ushers*  
 Anne Halgerson, Tamika Ramirez, *Coffee/Treats*

### February 11, Transfiguration of Our Lord

Jamie Block, Bonnie Olson, *Asst. Ministers*  
 Amy Rouillard, Jim McGowan, *Lectors*  
 Aspen Rouillard-Horne, Elizabeth Adedigba,  
 Daniel Adedigba, Noelle Puroway, *Acolytes*  
 Mike Banks, *Cantor*  
 Dorcas Adedigba, Kristin Benson, Roman Hund,  
 Deanna Sande, *Greeters/Ushers*  
 Deanna Sande, Alice Swan, *Coffee/Treats*

### February 18, First Sunday In Lent

Aaron Brown, Victoria Smith, *Asst. Ministers*  
 Karen Hanson, Jeannie Entenza, *Lectors*  
 Claudia Hanson, *Acolyte*  
 Dawn Klesk, *Cantor*  
 Lay’Ani and Laura Stuart, Eldora Pearson,  
 Deanna Sande, *Greeters/Ushers*  
 Karen Allard, Eldora Pearson, *Coffee/Treats*

### February 25, Second Sunday in Lent

Aaron Brown, Victoria Smith, *Asst. Ministers*  
 Kayla Ulsby, David Gjerdrum, *Lectors*  
 Chloe Proctor, *Acolyte*  
 Mike Banks, *Cantor*  
 Sandy and Tim Iverson, Joe Herbert,  
 Jim Halgerson, *Greeters/Ushers*  
 Sandy and Tim Iverson, *Coffee/Treats*

**ADULT FORUM** is on Sundays February 11 and 25 at 9:10 a.m. in Tidemann Hall. This is a “gem” of St. Paul-Ref’s life together. Join us to learn, discern and discuss. **No Adult Forum on February 4 and 18.**

**February 11 and 25: Study: Questions for Jesus: Studies in Mark** + For these two Sundays, we will engage “Questions for Jesus: Studies in Mark.” Why this? Because Mark is our “tour guide” for the next year of Gospel readings. An overview of this earliest Gospel will enrich your hearing of it for the coming year, and this study is particularly aimed toward asking—with Mark—some difficult questions about how we follow Jesus. Learner guides are free...come as often or as little as you like, and no experience is required!

## MARCH HAPPENINGS

- SPCM Noon Concert: March 13
- St. Grubby’s Day: Saturday March 19, 9:00 a.m. until noon.
- Theology on Tap: Thursday, March 21
- Palm Sunday Youth Breakfast: Sunday, March 24.

## HOLY WEEK AND EASTER

Holy Monday THROUGH Holy Wednesday  
 MARCH 25—27  
 5:00 p.m. Spoken Eucharist, West Transept

MAUNDY THURSDAY, MARCH 28  
 7:00 p.m. Holy Eucharist

GOOD FRIDAY, MARCH 29  
 Noon until 3:00 p.m. Church Open For Prayer  
 7:00 p.m. Proper Liturgy

THE GREAT VIGIL OF EASTER, MARCH 30  
 7:00 p.m. at Redeemer

EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31  
 8:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

**QUILTING for Charity** Join us on **Saturday February 3 10:00 a.m.** You can sew, arrange blocks, iron, tie layers together, cut fabric! Work on your own projects. Join in on the fun! Bring a snack to share. Coffee provided. Contact Gwen Peyton at [gwenpeyton5@gmail.com](mailto:gwenpeyton5@gmail.com).

**MEALS MINISTRY!**

Once a month, SPR members help each other by preparing and delivering meals for members who may find it challenging to always have a home-cooked meal. Meals cooked in the church kitchen at **9:00 a.m. on Saturday February 17** Volunteers needed; if you can chop, cook, package, measure or just like to socialize, please join us. The alley door will be open. Your contributions for this ministry are greatly appreciated. For more information please contact Gwen Peyton, [gwenpeyton5@gmail.com](mailto:gwenpeyton5@gmail.com).



- Replace several thermostats.
- Insulate spaces in Music Studio.
- Meet heating tech for early morning review and repair of heating system issues.
- Move items in closets to make space for Warming Hub storage needs.
- Review switch in pink bathroom for possible outlet installation.
- Several small but necessary repairs.

**Staff:** Manage heating issues in the building. Discuss and plan for February 1 return of the Ramsey County Warming Hub.

**Professional:** Heating repair technician.

Thanks to all who volunteer to keep this building and spaces inside in condition to use and rent out.

**SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE...**

The decorating of the Church will proceed as soon as certain leaks in the roof have been eliminated. The recent violent storms have shown us exactly that which we needed to know, namely that there are several small leaks which appear only under excessively inclement weather. The committee have the redecorating plans completed and work will start when the roof is repaired. For the information of the congregation, an entirely new roof must be placed over the Chapel. This was also discovered during the recent storms. These are the "hidden" expenses which occur to increase our Church expenses.

**Above:** A write-up about roof leaks from the June 1944 Reformation Register Newsletter. Chapel = Tidemann Hall



**The Breakfast Club**

**BREAKFAST CLUB +** Join us **Sunday February 4** at the Louisiana Café on Selby Ave after the second service. All are

welcome to join this time of fellowship, good conversation and food. No agenda: just fellowship!

**BUILDING UPDATE +** The Tuesday Crew and others continue working on multiple repair, improvement projects.

**Projects:**

Return Advent Lanterns to the Closet.

- Take down wreaths, Good Gifts Christmas Tree and Christmas Tree in lower auditorium
- Hang Epiphany Star

**BIBLE MATTERS**

Please join us **on Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.** via **Zoom** for this time of study, fellowship, and learning as we look forward to the coming week's lectionary texts.

**No Bible Matters on February 14.**

**DONATE TO SPR USING YOUR SMARTPHONE!** A great way to donate whether you are at church or out and about! Now you can give from anywhere in the world! It's fast, easy, and secure. Search your app-finder for "GivePlusChurch," download it, click "sign up," and follow the instructions. You can donate to either the Good Samaritan Fund or the Parish General fund (in addition to your regular pledge). Give it a try! **Thanks to all who are using this quick and easy way to donate!**

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## PARTING SHOT



*St. Paul-Reformation's reach is wide! Standing in SPR's sanctuary is Marge Deusch, holding her perfect Sunday School attendance record...from November 25, 1944, the last time she was in this building. Marge said that it was deeply meaningful to be back in this space as she returned for a visit in late January.*