

Fall Chapel Bells



St. Paul's U.C.C.-Erin



262-628-2319

www.StPaulsErin.org

October, 2011

~ pj *

*[*pastoral jottings, parson jive, preacher junk, etc.]*

One Sunday morning last month, the Holy Spirit moved me to make an unrehearsed remark just before the offering was received. I said something like, "Despite the economic downturn, our church has been blessed with a financial surplus. I do not know what kinds of sacrifices many of you must be making to see that we have met and exceeded our budget so far this year, but it is apparent that the ministries of St Paul's are important to you. We did not dig ourselves into a hole during the summer, as churches sometimes do when attendance is down. We have been blessed in many ways, and I want you to know how very thankful I am to be a part of this generous congregation."

We will have an abbreviated stewardship season this year. In the November *Chapel Bells* you will receive your pledge cards and information about when they will be dedicated, sometime before Thanksgiving and the beginning of Advent. But in the meantime, I want you to know that our theme will be "Count Yourself Blessed." The theme text will be from Luke 6:38 – *Give and it will be given to you. A good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap, for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.*

The stewardship challenge this year, as with the physician's Hippocratic oath, is to "do no harm." Whatever has happened among us in this past year is something we hope will continue. We are blessed already, and by God's overflowing goodness and grace, we will continue to count ourselves blessed.

A Fred Pratt Green hymn (*For the Fruit of All Creation*, 1970) expresses the blessings of this season and where we are at St Paul's this year:



For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.

For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.

For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us,

Most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Scriptures for October:

Focus Scriptures for worship and Sunday School are the same. You are encouraged to read these brief texts as preparation for your Sunday morning experience at St Paul's.

Oct. 2 Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 19-20 (The Ten Commandments)

Even the negatives, such as "do not kill" imply a positive, "support the living."

Oct. 9 Exodus 32:1-14 (The Golden Calf Idol)

"They exchanged the glory of God for the image of an ox that eats grass." ~ Psalm 106:20

Oct. 16 Exodus 33:12-23 (The Back Side of the Glory of God)

Matthew 22:15-22 (Paying Taxes to Caesar)

Oct. 23 Deuteronomy 34:1-12 (Even Moses Has His Limits!)

Matthew 22:34-46 (The Great Commandment)

Oct. 30 Joshua 3:7-17 (God's People Bring the Ark of the Covenant into the Promised Land)

Matthew 23:1-12 (Leadership Is God-Centered and Servant-Focused)

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From the Guild

Thank you many times over to all of you who helped the Guild and made the Soup Lunch/Bake Sale 2011 a roaring success!!! The bakers outdid themselves with an impressive amount of amazing homemade items. The six soup makers produced **18 gallons** of tasty soups, and every drop was sold and enjoyed with the homemade breads. Thanks also to everyone who helped get the word out to friends and neighbors and who came to shop and dine. Special thanks to the folks who worked at the luncheon/sale—an energetic group to say the least! The sale brought in \$1,680 that will be designated toward a use in the near future.

The Guild's kitchen project is now complete, thanks to Gary Barber who applied the final bit of finish carpentry. The new sinks, countertops and cabinet improve the kitchen's appearance as well as functionality.

Our next Guild meeting will be Thursday, October 20, beginning at noon with a potluck lunch followed by our meeting. All church women are invited and encouraged to join us.



The Mission Committee would like to thank all who helped with the Feed My Starving Children effort at Brookfield Lutheran Church. "Number 4 has done one more"

was our cry after each box was filled and removed. Pastor John added an emphatic grunt at the end - what a guy!

Also, we have received nice thank you notes from Merton Community Caring and Sharing and St. Boniface Food Pantry for your generous support over this past year. They are truly appreciative of all you do. The notes are posted on our board in the back stairwell.

No matter what we, the Mission Committee, ask of you, we are never disappointed. You are truly a blessing to all.



The Thank Yous pile up at St Paul's....

Here are excerpts:

From Donna Loew: thanks to the congregation and pastor of St Paul's for cards, prayers and visit during my recent hospitalization.

From Habitat for Humanity, Washington County - We wish to thank you for your recent and generous donation of \$688.66 from your "Nickels-4-Nails" promotion. Your commitment and achievement have helped pay for the nails for not one, but two homes at our 2011 Second Avenue build, West Bend.

From One Great Hour of Sharing: Thank you for your generous gift to the United Church of Christ Japan Earthquake and Tsunami Relief fund. We recorded your gift of \$1,666 on June 9th, 2011... You may follow the ongoing response at: ucc.org/disaster/japan-earthquake-2011. Thank you so much for your support of Japan relief efforts.

And our thank you to Joe Keckeisen for donating the bench by the basement entrance.

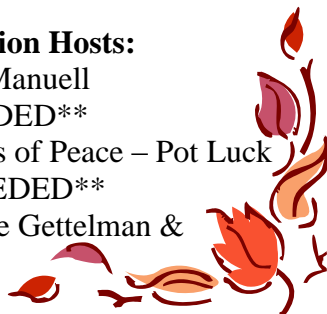
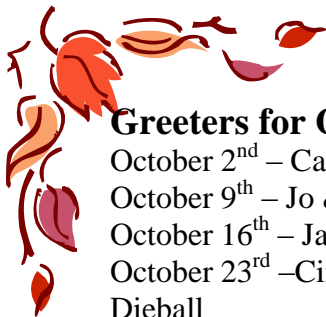
To Dick Ahrens for donating the iron filter.

Greeters for October:

October 2nd – Carol & Roy Kaisler
October 9th – Jo & Jim Swanson
October 16th – Janene & Charlie Kluever
October 23rd – Cindy Helt & Bernice Dieball
October 30th – Bonnie Hanrahan & LouAnn Evert

Coffee & Conversation Hosts:

October 2nd – Alice Manuell
October 9th - ****NEEDED****
October 16th – Voices of Peace – Pot Luck
October 23rd - ****NEEDED****
October 30th – Debbie Gettelman & Marilyn Dieball



What a month at

St. Paul's

This past month we went green and are now running the church on solar power. Have you checked out the solar panels that sit in the field behind the cemetery, they are impressive! You really need to go take a look.



No we don't have a solar powered car, but we have solar power and we are replacing/repairing our parking lots

At the Congregational meeting on September 11th, the Congregation voted to repair and replace the upper and lower parking lots, to be completed as soon as possible.

And also on September 11th, we kicked off the Sunday School year. We are running Sunday School a little differently this year, kinda like a one room classroom. We are using the multi-age curriculum, which means we are all together for the story and meeting time and then we split off into groups to do more learning through Art, Discovery and Outreach Zones. Sunday School begins at 9 AM and because of the new way we are learning, we will be spending more time in the fellowship hall. Thank you to everyone who is here ready to start at 9 AM and to everyone for their patience as we take up more space in the basement early in the morning.



Dartball season is starting up – interested? See Jack Duehring

Mark your calendars - Chili Dinner Sunday November 13th



Soft Spice Bars Recipe

These bars have the old-fashioned taste of gingersnaps, but they're chewy and quick to fix,"

3/4 cup butter, melted

1 cup plus 2 tablespoons sugar, divided

1/4 cup molasses

1 egg

2 cups all-purpose flour

2 teaspoons baking soda

1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

1/2 teaspoon salt

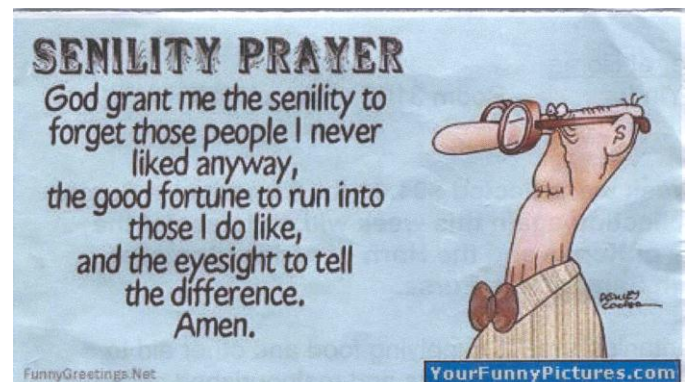
1/2 teaspoon ground ginger

1/2 teaspoon ground cloves

Directions

In a large bowl, combine butter, 1 cup sugar and molasses. Beat in egg until smooth. Combine flour, baking soda, cinnamon, cloves, ginger and salt; stir into the molasses mixture.

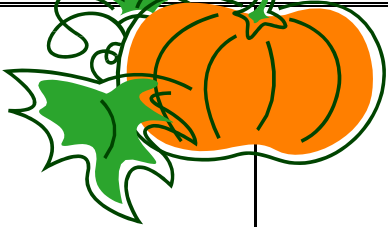
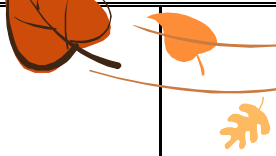

Spread into a greased 15-in. x 10-in. x 1-in. baking pan. Sprinkle with remaining sugar. Bake at 375° for 10-12 minutes or until lightly browned (do not overbake). Cool on a wire rack. Cut into bars. Yield: 2-1/2 dozen.



October 2011

Fall

Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday

						<p>1 Confirmation Day at Elmhurst College Bernice Dieball Lisa Nell Marvin & Kathy Schlafer's Anniversary</p>
<p>2 Sunday School 9:00 Sunday Worship 9:30 World Communion Day Jake Lubbert</p>	<p>3 Vern Guetzke Mason Weber</p>	<p>4 Seniors 11:30 Cards 12:30 Bingo</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6 Howard Staus</p>	<p>7 Katrina Mertins</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9 Sunday School 9:00 Sunday Worship 9:30 Council meets after worship</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 Jeff & April Truman's Anniversary</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15 Rick & Chris Mertins' Anniversary</p>
<p>16 Sunday School 9:00 Sunday Worship 9:30 Sue Barber Kyle Harmon SPY Planning Mtg and Bon Fire</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 Mike & Shirley Janichek's Anniversary</p>	<p>20 Guild Meeting 12:00 Noon</p>	<p>21 Haleigh Schuppel</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23 Sunday School 9:00 Sunday Worship 9:30</p>	<p>24 Susan Guetzke</p>	<p>25 Tommy Klemmer</p>	<p>26 Chapel Bells Deadline Tessa Mertins</p>	<p>27 Jane Herte</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>
<p>30 Sunday School 9:00 Sunday Worship 9:30 Reformation Sunday</p>	<p>31 Lewe Jossart</p>					<p>Pastor John's Office Hours are: Monday-Thursday's 9-12 Office Phone is 262-628-2319 Home Phone is 262-623-6106 Email: cjhelt@yahoo.com www.StPaulsErin.org</p>