

THE SPIRE

NEWS OF ST. PAUL'S PARISH

FEBRUARY, 2008



Dear People of God at Saint Paul's Church,

Laurie and I continue to thank God daily for bringing us to St. Paul's and to Pekin. We especially are grateful for the continuing generosity of the people of St. Paul's to us and to the church. We particularly want to thank you all for your gracious Christmas gift to us.

In this election year there seems to be a lot of anxiety among many people in our culture. While the war in Iraq is progressing much better than many of us thought possible, we are faced with economic challenges at home. The price of gasoline and heating fuel is high. Threats of recession seem more real each day. The stock market has tanked since the first of the year. And people are always dealing with physical, emotional, and spiritual illnesses and injuries. What are we to do?

For some time Laurie and I have been reading Martin Luther as a devotional. A few weeks ago one of the daily readings touched me, and I want to share it with you.

Call on the Lord

During times of trouble I called on the Lord. The Lord answered me «and» set me «free from all of them». Psalm 118:5 [God's Word © 1995 God's Word to the Nations Bible Society]

You must learn to call on the Lord. Don't sit all alone or lie on the couch, shaking your head and letting your thoughts torture you. Don't worry about how to get out of your situation or brood about your terrible life, how miserable you feel, and what a bad person you are. Instead, say, "Get a grip on yourself, you lazy bum! Fall on

your knees, and raise your hands and eyes toward heaven. Read a psalm. Say the Lord's Prayer, and tearfully tell God what you need." This passage teaches us to call on him. Similarly, David said, "I pour out my complaints in his presence and tell him my troubles" (Psalm 142:2). God wants you to tell him your troubles. He doesn't want you to keep them to yourself. He doesn't want you to struggle with them all alone and torture yourself. Doing this will only multiply your troubles.

God knows you will be too weak to overcome your troubles by yourself. He wants you to grow strong in him. Then, he will be the one who receives the glory. Out of difficult experiences emerge true Christians. Without troubles, people talk a lot about faith and the Spirit but don't really know what these things are or what they're saying.

You must never doubt that God knows your troubles and hears your prayers. You must not pray haphazardly or pray as if you're shouting into the wind. This mocks prayer and tests God. In this case, it would be better not to pray at all. You must learn to appreciate the part of the passage that says, "The Lord answered me «and» set me «free from all of them»." The psalmist acknowledged that the Lord heard him and released him from his troubles.¹

¹ Martin Luther, *By Faith Alone*, James C. Galvin, ed. (Cedar Rapids, IA: Laridian, 1998)

How often, when I most need to pray, I find it difficult to really pray. I can say prayers, but I neglect to tell God about what's really bothering me.

I have known other people who were reluctant to pray about anything for themselves. They were great prayer warriors on behalf of other people but felt it was inappropriate to ask for themselves. Of course, in the Lord's Prayer Jesus taught us to ask for our 'daily bread'. I think 'daily bread' can be expanded to whatever we need on a daily basis.

One of the most encouraging things ever said to me in regard to overcoming worries and anxiety was, "God knows where you are." Every Thursday in Morning Prayer Laurie and I use "A Collect for Guidance" on page 100 of the Prayer Book. In it we pray "that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget [the Father], but may remember that we are ever walking in [His] sight." It is good to remember that God is watching over us: not to catch us messing up, but to provide for us and bless us.

We will soon be entering Lent. May this be a season of renewed faith in the Father's caring watch over us as we prepare to celebrate the resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.

May God bless you as you seek to depend upon him.

Yours in the love of Christ,

I Challenge You to A Challenge

This past year I have been learning how to quilt. So I have been going to a few quilt shows to see what the master quilt makers do. One of the things that goes on in the quilt lover's world are quilt challenges. In a quilt challenge quilters are challenged to come up with designs using a certain fabric. It is amazing the creativity and imagination that some of the men and women display.

Many of us have challenges in our lives. We would probably rather not deal with most of the challenges, particularly those that are health related. Father Brian has preached about the healing power of Christ, so we know that Christ does heal today. And we don't have to take his word for it; the word of God speaks for itself. There are numerous stories of people being healed by God. So why is it that we have such a hard time asking God to heal us personally?

Let's face it: it is easier to believe that someone else has been healed than it is to believe in our own healing. After all, we can't feel their pain, or really fully understand what other people are going through. So it is a lot easier to pray for someone else. Our own circumstances and feelings build a huge wall between us and our faith. This is a time when it is **OK** to ask the Lord to help us with our moment of unbelief, just as the father of the epileptic boy did in Mark 9:23-24 " ...If you can?" said Jesus. "Everything is possible for him who believes." Immediately the boy's father exclaimed, "I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!"

We aren't perfect; we all have weak moments. The Lord knows, and He wants to help us. He is just like any father who is waiting for his children to ask for his help. Our faith is a gift from the Father in the first place, and He wants to see us use it. But like any gift, we need to unwrap it and read the directions on how to use it—that is read the Word of God—and then put our faith to use. The more we use it the more it will grow and the stronger it will get.

So what does the quilt challenge have to do with all this? I am challenging you all to a faith challenge. A faith challenge is similar to the quilt challenge in that the common thread is faith instead of the same fabric. You design the rest. To give you an example of how this might work, I have been having troubles believing that the Lord would heal something as insignificant as an arthritic toe. You might laugh, but I just went out and bought an expensive, plain-Jane pair of shoes because of that toe. So I am going to start at the

beginning, acknowledging to the Lord that I need His help in overcoming my unbelief. And then I am going to ask the healing teams to pray for my toe. And I think I will continue going to the healing teams for prayer until the Lord has healed my toe. The Lord does like persistence. So that is my plan of action.

Maybe you have an annoying health problem. Your faith challenge could also be to seek the Lord for healing and to utilize our healing teams as part of the process.

But your faith challenge does not necessarily have to deal with healing. Maybe you are having a hard time believing God will help you financially or maybe it's some other area of your life. Pray accordingly. The healing teams or Father Brian or I would be glad to pray confidentially with you and support your faith.

So who will accept my challenge?

Your Servant in Christ,
Deacon Laurie

“My Name is Katie”



This is a testimony from a 16-year-old girl who was healed at the Spiritual Life Center at the

Diocese of Albany in New York this year.

“My name is Katie, and I am a 16-year-old sophomore in high school and avid athlete. My favorite sports are softball and soccer. I am beginning my story with a newfound faith and with Fr. Nigel as my wingman.

Last year in October I had a traumatic accident that has changed me forever. I was playing soccer, hard and competitive as I always do. I remember it was a warm fall day and my grandparents and mom were there to cheer for our team. My mom and grandmother sat saying a silent prayer for my safety. I have been known to get the wind knocked out of me or actually break a bone.

At this particular game we were playing one of the toughest teams. The game was tied and I had the ball! I was running fast and dribbling it along the sideline. I caught a glimpse of my mom jumping up and down screaming “Run, Diddie, run.!” (Diddie is my nickname.) I then continued to dribble the ball and was ready for a last kick, to the goal, when WHAM, a slam hit me so hard I didn't know what happened. A girl collided with me, and I remember flying in the air and thinking: God help me. From what I remember, when I was knocked out, my mom ran to my side with Coach Curly. They let me lay there to see if I would catch my breath. Mom asked me questions like my name and what day it was. I could see the fear in her eyes.

I felt like time stood still. I remember telling my mom to stop worrying and that I was OK. She wanted to call the ambulance, but I refused to go and convinced her just to let me walk off the field. There were only seconds left in the game, and it was important to me to finish with my team. She still had that look on her face, and I could tell she was silently saying, ‘Please, Lord, let her be OK.’ After the game ended, I was taken home and I was in so much pain I thought I was going to die. My mom then said I had no choice and took me to the emergency room. There we spent most of the night, and I was given pain medication and was evaluated. After all the exams the doctor had the results of my X-rays/blood work.

I had a stress fracture but the worst was the X-rays showed a black mass on the shinbone. Prognosis was bed rest and no sports. With those two words and severe pain, my spirit was broken. I would have to spend the next 4 weeks on bed rest. This crushed me since I am a social person and love school. I am involved in an Advance Placement Program and many school activities. My thoughts were, ‘How am I going to keep up and progress?’ My mom went to school to discuss options of tutoring at home and also part-time attendance. The school was great, and we decided on part-time school. My school has an elevator,

and they gave me an elevator key. All my friends wanted to ride with me, but they weren't allowed.

I remember that during this time my Mom would talk with me and say how lucky I was, and we needed to give thanks to our Lord that I was not paralyzed. What she did not understand is that this has paralyzed my spirit.

During this time my biggest fear was that I could not play sports again. Little did I realize how serious this injury was and what it was uncovering. My mother and grandmother were aware of the prognosis and what it could mean.

I would have to come to the realization that my love for sports was coming close to an end. The bump on my leg near my stress fracture was really hurting, and I started physical therapy. With concern, my primary doctor ordered an MRI and referred me to a specialist. I again saw the fear in my mom's face. We had to wait a week before the appointment, and my mom was researching things on the Internet. The more she learned, the more fear I saw.

During this time, I was attending Sunday services at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center. Father Nigel, who is the Director of the Healing Ministry, is also our priest. He noticed that I was sad and down in the dumps. As I limped past him, I noticed his look of concern. My grandmother immediately asked him if he could lay hands on me and pray for healing of the stress fracture and mass that lay beside it. He complied. I felt warmth from his hands and kind of an angelic presence. Throughout the day and into the night, I could feel heat. When I woke the next morning, the pain was gone and I was walking normal. Fr. Nigel's favorite saying is 'Brilliant,' and after my healing I say 'Brilliant' all the time. He recently gave me a glass stone with an angel inside; I carry it in my gym bag. The healing angel is with me at all times. I also have Fr. Nigel as my guardian angel.

I had an appointment to go to the specialist again for a follow-up with the prognosis of future surgery. I had another repeated MRI and X-rays. To my surprise, as well as that of the radiologist and the specialist, there was nothing, no stress

fracture and no mass. They could not believe it. They reviewed the previous X-ray and said surgery was not needed. At that point my mom said, 'Thank you.' I know whom she was thanking. My mom and grandmother's faith is strong and they always say, 'Leave it at the foot of the cross.' My grandmother has always told me Jesus has answered many miracles for her, and I know this is one. I know Fr. Nigel is an instrument that works through Jesus. I do know when Fr. Nigel touched me I could feel Jesus. I still attend Sunday worship at Christ the King Spiritual Life Center. My mother and grandmother call it sacred land. As I tell my friends, I hope they can relate to it. I tell them, 'Go to the Spiritual Center or just talk to Jesus because He really does listen. To receive whatever healing you need just ask.' As my sister said, 'All you have to do is believe.' My mother has always told me, 'When I cannot be with you, just ask Jesus and He will walk beside you. At times I shake my leg and wonder a little, then I say 'Brilliant.'"

Ash Wednesday

Services - February 6



The Ash Wednesday Liturgy, which combines the Imposition of Ashes, the Penitential Litany and Holy Communion, will be celebrated at St. Paul's in church at noon and at 6

p.m. on Feb. 6. An additional Ash Wednesday Liturgy will be held at Pekin Estates at 1:30 p.m. by Deacon Laurie.

Lent

Wednesdays in Lent

A simple soup supper will be held at 6 p.m., followed by Stations of the Cross and a program.

Volunteers would be appreciated to provide soup and bread for the five Wednesdays in Lent, beginning Feb. 13 and continuing through March 12. The sign-up sheet will be in the Narthex on Sun., Feb. 3.

My Rule for Lent

Each year the church sets apart the season of Lent as a special time for each person to focus on his/her relationship with God. During these 40 days, we are invited to accept personal responsibility for our share of this relationship. "My Rule for Lent" is intended to help all who ask how to keep Lent this year. Copies will be available on Sun., Feb. 3.

Altar Flowers

By ancient tradition, altar flowers are not used during Lent. Flowers may again be used beginning Easter Day.

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NO THANKS ... I'VE GOT PLENTY

What is Stewardship?

When the word "stewardship" is mentioned at church, the first thing most people think of is "more money", and they tend to back off immediately. Often stewardship IS thought of only in terms of finances, but it is so much more. The Bible teaches that stewardship is a far greater concept, involving how we respond with every part of our life to God. Webster's dictionary gives this definition of stewardship: "The individual's responsibility to manage his life and property with proper regard to the rights of others." St. Paul's is our responsibility. Yes, the church does need money to operate. Costs continue to rise, and we have the expenses of utilities, salaries, insurance, and the maintenance of buildings and grounds.

All of these are expenses of the church that must be met if we are to have a place to worship. We are fortunate to have such a magnificent church to come for worship. But stewardship is so much more.



I look at stewardship as a garden. We plant the seeds, nurture it, and eventually it grows and we have a beautiful garden – all as a result of our love and care.

We can all become stewards in our church by making a commitment to help manage and take care of our "garden." It is not always easy. We never seem to have enough time or money, but if you step up and put forth a little extra of yourself, you will be rewarded ten times over.

Stewardship is the very center of our commitment and love of Jesus Christ. When He becomes our Lord, He becomes Lord of our time, talents, finances and everything in our life.

The times I have extended myself have not always been comfortable, but, oh, what great rewards I have received! You will, too.

--Betty Slabaugh

Hot Stuff

When I was a kid, being an altar boy in mid-summer was an agonizing, sweltering experience. After Mass Father Orth used to say, "If you think THIS is hot, just think about the OTHER place!"

This is quite the opposite, though. Right now, we are in the middle of winter and are fighting the cold weather. We aren't of the same fabric as the early monks who arose during the night and went to unheated chapels to pray the liturgical Hours. They were so filled with the joy and Spirit of God that they didn't feel the frigid stones surrounding them. They could concentrate on their praise and worship. I speak for myself (and perhaps for a few others, I think) when I try to talk to God through chattering teeth and on quivering knees. I can't keep my hot wrapped brick warm enough to sustain my comfort for an entire Eucharist, either.

We have experienced a furnace situation here at St. Paul's over the past several months. The congregation has grown closer together in trying to keep warm, but we need to address the need to replace a 20 year-old heating unit that has major problems. The cost of repairs is 33% of the cost of a new unit, and the vestry has discussed and considered the options available. The result of these discussions is that to spend \$2000.00 to repair a 20 year-old unit is not cost effective when the cost of removing and replacing this unit with a more efficient unit is \$6000.00.

The vestry will use money from cash reserves to pay this necessary expense with the understanding that the funds would be replaced through special pledges and offerings from the congregation. As you are aware, we have been using funds from our cash reserves to meet our monthly expense short-falls. We have rolled up our sleeves and have paid for our organ repair needs through special offerings. We need to replenish these funds for the replacement of the north heating unit through the same process.

Please use the envelope enclosed in the *Spire* to indicate your support toward maintaining a safe and comfortable atmosphere and environment for our worship. We will keep you posted as to the extent your efforts have gone to replenish the funds we have used to replace this unit.

Thank you and God Bless you!

--Stephen Pearson

When God Talks Do We Listen?

Bill Donahue tells a story about when he was a part-time youth pastor while he was attending seminary. He was visiting a farm where two of his students lived, and their father, Tom, decided to teach Bill a lesson:

He asked if I could help call in the sheep. I enthusiastically agreed. Sheep-calling was like preaching. We stood at the pasture fence, watching 25 sheep graze. "Go ahead," he dared me. "Call them in." "What do you

say?" I asked. "I just say, 'Hey, sheep! C'mon in!'" No sweat, I thought. A city kid with a bad back and hay fever could do this. I began in a normal speaking voice, but Tom interrupted. "You are 75 yards away, down wind, diaphragm, like they teach you in preaching class." The blessed creatures didn't move an inch. None even turned an ear. Tom smiled sarcastically. "Do they teach you the Bible in that seminary? Have you ever read, 'My sheep hear my voice only slightly, he said: "Hey, sheep! C'mon in!" All 25 sheep turned and ambled toward us.

Bill Donahue and Russ Robinson, *Building a Church of Small Group* Zondravan, 2001, p. 106-107

The sheep knew the voice of the shepherd.



"My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me."

- John 10:27

Part of what will be discussed at the ECW retreat Feb. 29 – March 2 (mentioned below) will be how we hear the voice of God. Yes, the God of the Universe wants to talk to us. Jesus is the Good Shepherd. He says his sheep hear his voice and we are his sheep. He's talking to all of us; are we listening?

--Deacon Laurie



E.C.W. Lenten Retreat

The Lenten Retreat featuring Deacon Laurie as one of the speakers will be at the Todd Hall Retreat & Conference Center in Columbia, Ill. The pre-registration and deposit of \$35 **deadline is Feb. 1.**

Around the Diocese



Episcopal Diocese of Springfield DIOCESAN PRAYER FELLOWSHIP invites you to

The 26th PAUSING FOR PRAYER

with
Norma Dearing
(Host of the nationally syndicated radio
program The Healing Touch)

Saturday, February 2, 2008
9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

“Registration for the event will begin at 8:45 a.m. Coffee and donuts will be provided. Lunch will also be served.

Please plan to begin your 2008Lenten observance by spending the day with members of our Diocesan family and Ms. Dearing. It will be a day of teaching, reflection, and prayer. Mark your calendars now!!” --from *Dec. Springfield Current*

The Bishop's November Homecoming

January 3, 2008

The Rev. Brian T. Kellington
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
343 Buena Vista
Pekin, IL 61554-4227

Dear Brian:

It was a pleasure being with the people of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Pekin, on Sunday, November 18, 2007. \$109.00 has been gratefully

received for use by the Bishop's Discretionary Fund.

Thank you for your generosity, support and prayers.

Sincerely, Peter H. Beckwith, Bishop

New Beginnings for Youth

The next New Beginnings Weekend is Feb. 8-10 at Epworth Camp, located in Louisville, IL. This weekend is designed just for seventh-, eighth- and ninth-graders. Additional information is available in the office.

Around our Community Christian Civic Outreach News



515 South 3rd St
Pekin, IL 61554
309-347-2639

CCO Hours: Monday – Friday
8:30am – 12:00pm
1:00pm – 4:30pm

cc.outreach@yahoo.com

What is Christian Civic Outreach?

CCO is an ecumenical, non-profit 501(C) 3 organization whose objective is to provide whatever services are within its power to give. To aid anyone in need through direct expressions of Christian love and concern.

It is supported by monetary contributions from churches, individuals, community organizations and the United Way. Non-perishable food is donated by churches, businesses, clubs, schools and individuals. Clean, wearable adult, children and infant clothing is donated primarily by individuals.

CCO provides assistance for 300 to 350 low income families per month from Tazewell and Mason counties.

Non-Food Assistance

CCO assisted a total of 410 clients in December, 20 of whom were making their first visit to CCO. December clients received assistance with clothing (383), blankets (29), soap/paper products (31), miscellaneous items (141) and 115 children received Christmas gifts.

In 2007, CCO assisted a total of 4,022 clients, 390 of whom were new to CCO, 3,677 received clothing, 289 received blankets, 492 received soap/paper, 865 received miscellaneous items and 30 received emergency lodging, transportation or prescriptions.

Food Pantry Assistance

In December, the food pantry provided 33 clients with food and 3 clients with baby food. In 2007, 540 clients received food and 93 received baby food.

If you have an interest in serving on the Board of Directors or as a volunteer at CCO, you may contact CCO at 309-347-2639 or by e-mail for more information

It's St. Paul's turn to replenish the pantry

For many years it's been the practice for our church family to replenish the pantry in February at Civic Christian Outreach. CCO has called to remind us it is indeed our turn to supply food, paper goods, and toiletries for CCO clients.

Once Christmas is past, donations fall off and food pantries frequently face shortages. In 2008, the need is especially great – food prices are up and transportation costs are on the rise.

Following is a list of the food, paper goods, and toiletries that are needed:

Package foods: rice dishes; Hamburger Helper; instant potatoes, au-gratin/scalloped potatoes; macaroni and cheese; cake and brownie mixes; sugar and flour; raisins and prunes; cookies; crackers (all varieties); pasta macaroni and spaghetti; breakfast cereals, hot and cold.

Cans and jars: peanut butter and jelly; vegetables and fruits; meat – corned beef hash, Spam, stew; tomato sauce and paste; spaghetti sauce; fruit and vegetable juices; soups; baby foods and baby formula; shortening, cooking oil, oleo; dish soap, laundry soap, bleach.

Paper goods: toilet paper; paper towel; handy-wrap; aluminum foil; waxed paper; garbage bags; paper diapers.

Toiletries: razors; powder; deodorants; shampoo; toothpaste; soap.

It's not too early to start looking for bargains so that we can begin to fill the larder at CCO!

Thank you for helping those who are in need!

--Sandy Callahan

Around Our Parish

February Wish List for the Pantry

We had a very generous donation of large Styrofoam cups, which were needed, but now we also need small ones; large paper plates; plastic forks (many packages would be appreciated)

Other Parish Information

We Extend Our Deepest Sympathy

...to the family and friends of Ralph Nelson "Bussie" Warner, 76, Ray Warner's brother, who passed away Tues., Dec. 25, at Hallmark Nursing Center in Pekin.

...to the family and friends of Lorraine Catherine Davis, 90, JoAnn Ripper's sister-in-law, who passed away Sat., Jan. 5, at Pekin Hospital.

Almighty God, Father of mercies and giver of comfort: Deal graciously, we pray, with all who mourn; that, casting all their care on you, they may know the consolation of your love; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



News of our Missionaries

The latest e-mail from Russ & Heidi Smith and their Christmas letter are posted in the Ed. Bldg. and the Narthex.

Reminders

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Thanks to Lea Brown 12-15-2003

DUE TO POPULAR DEMAND WE NOW HAVE A COFFEE SHOP ... IF YOU WANT TO KEEP UP WITH THE PRAISE GROUP I RECOMMEND VISITING IT OFTEN

Coffee Hour



Hosts/hostesses would again be appreciated for the month of February, etc. Will you please consider helping with this important ministry by signing up on the sheet in the kitchen. Thank you. --Betty Slabaugh

Rector's Discretionary Fund

All loose offerings given on the first Sunday of each month are deposited into the Rector's Discretionary Fund.

Please Pray For

Those Celebrating February Birthdays



- Barbara Mayer - 2
- Olivia Riek - 3
- Pat Samuel - 6
- Dan Jones - 7
- Barbara Beres - 7
- Chet More - 8
- The Rev. B. Kellington - 8

- Randy Drury - 9
- Becky Morgan - 10
- Lacey Orr - 10
- Jean More - 11
- Ashley Psinas - 14
- Ralph Lauderback - 16
- Penny Carr - 18
- Melvin Todd - 20
- Dave Erxleben, Jr. - 23
- Patti Seacrist - 26
- Kelsey Kay Coonrod - 27
- Ben Slabaugh - 28

Those Celebrating February Anniversaries

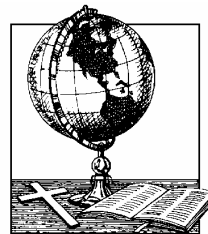
- Bob & Phyllis Orr - 3
- Bill & Penny Carr - 14
- Fred & Elise Zwicky - 21

Those On our Parish Prayer List

We ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry and for those in any need or trouble; remembering especially those on our Parish Prayer list: Fr. Richard & Alice, Lorraine, Emily, Joyce & Ray, Bob & Myrna, Elise, James, Chet, Ralph & Mary, Lois, Jack; Mitchell & Leanne; Nancy & Jim, Barbara, Pidge, Winnie, Charlie, Kevilee, Amanda, Ruth, Fay, Ray, Jean, Kay, Gary, Mattie, Scott, Greg, Bill & Mary, Helen, Joyce & Ray, Teri, Barb, Joseph, Virginia, Michele, Mike, Jean, Barbara & Charles, Janice, Dan and Paul.

Those serving in the Armed Forces

Eric Osberg, Matt & Lynne Lutz, Nathan Dover, Andrew Servais, Charles Dugnolle, Raul More, Rob Kohler, Peter Bacon, Joshua Greenslate, Justin Williamson, Evan Nall, Dakota Miles, Ryan Wicks and D. J. Emmons



♦ WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

LOOKING AHEAD

Church Women United
World Day of Prayer

Friday, March 14, 2008
1:15 p.m. – First Christian Church, Pekin

Love God


Love People

Make Disciples



February 2008

2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																											
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3 The Last Sunday after the Epiphany 9:00 A.M. - Adult Sunday School 10:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist & Children's Worship	4 9:00 A.M. - Beth Moore "Believing God" Women's Bible study, Rectory	5 9:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Chapel 10:00 A.M. - E.C.W. Meeting - Father Brian will speak of his Sudan trip	6  12 noon - Ash Wed. Liturgy, Church 1:30 P.M. - Ash Wed. Liturgy, Pekin Estates 6 p.m. - Ash Wed. Liturgy, Church	7	8 Father Brian's day off News Beginnings Retreat Weekend at Epworth Camp for Grades 7, 8 & 9 (today thru Sunday)	9 2:00 P.M. Finance training session at St. John's, Decatur																																																																																											
10 The First Sunday in Lent 9:00 A.M. - Adult Sunday School 10:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist & Children's Worship	11 9:00 A.M. - Beth Moore "Believing God" Women's Bible study, Rectory	12 Lincoln's Birthday 9:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Chapel 10:00 A.M. - Bible study class 7:00 P.M. - Vestry Meeting	13 1:30 P.M. - Healing service, Pekin Estates 6:00 P.M. - Lenten supper, Stations of the Cross & program	14 	15 Father Brian's day off	16																																																																																											
17 The Second Sunday in Lent 9:00 A.M. - Adult Sunday School 10:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist & Children's Worship	18 Presidents' Day 9:00 A.M. - Beth Moore "Believing God" Women's Bible study, Rectory 10:00 A.M. - St. Paul's Sewing Servants	19 9:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Chapel 10:00 A.M. - Bible study class	20 1:30 P.M. - Healing service, Pekin Estates 6:00 P.M. - Lenten supper, Stations of the Cross & program	21	22 Washington's Birthday Father Brian's day off	23																																																																																											
24 The Third Sunday in Lent 9:00 A.M. - Adult Sunday School 10:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist & Children's Worship	25 ST. MATTIAS THE APOSTLE (tsfd. from 2/24, obsvd. Tues., 2/26) 9:00 A.M. - Beth Moore "Believing God" Women's Bible study, Rectory	26 9:00 A.M. - Holy Eucharist, Chapel 10:00 A.M. - Bible study class	27 1:30 P.M. - Healing service, Pekin Estates 6:00 P.M. - Lenten supper, Stations of the Cross & program	28	29 Father Brian's day off E.C.W. Lenten Retreat, Touching the Heart of God, Todd Hall Retreat Center, Columbia, IL (thru Sun., 3/2/08)																																																																																												