

Pastor Steve Molin

“Eavesdropping on Pastor Steve’s Prayer Life”

Dear God,

Why do people always do that?

Excuse me? Do what?

Address me as “Dear God”? It’s not like they’re writing me a letter, for heaven’s sake! Prayer is a conversation between two friends. How about just saying “Good morning, Lord”?

Okay, Good morning, Lord. But in your world, isn’t it always morning somewhere?

Let’s just stick to your world and let me handle the other 23 time zones, okay? Good morning, Steven.

Okay, sorry about that. God, I didn’t sleep well last night; in fact, I haven’t been sleeping well for quite some time now. The changes in our world have got me kind of concerned. Changes? What changes?

Holy cow, God, I thought you kne...

I was just kidding, Steven! Of course I know what you’re speaking about. The economy, the wars, the needs of the people in your congregation; I am aware of all of this. So why aren’t you sleeping?

God, how do I serve as a pastor in times like these? People come to me for answers. I listen to them, I pray with them, I try to encourage them when I see them in passing, but I don’t have answers. I just feel like such a...such a... Such a lazy, ignorant, incompetent dolt?

Well, Lord, that isn’t exactly the way I was going to say it but, yeah; I feel like an incompetent, ineffective pastor sometimes.

And you think you’re the only one? If you saw my in-box you’d realize that I hear this every day. And not just from pastors. Parents feel helpless, doctors and nurses question their effectiveness, business owners and company presidents anguish over the decisions they have to make. Times *are* tough, Steve.

So God, what in the world are we going to do!!!?

You make it sound like the world has never experienced difficulty before. Do you actually think this is the worst

it’s ever been? Why don’t you try Googling *Bubonic Plague*, or *Adolph Hitler* or *The Great Depression*? Every generation has its challenges, Steve. Deal with it!

But how, Lord? How do we deal with it?

Well, the first thing you do is remind the people that they’re not alone. I am always with them. I was there during the comfortable times but they didn’t need me so much. Tell them I am here for the stormy times and that I walk with them and weep with them and that I answer every prayer.

I think I’ve been doing that, God; and my colleague Linda, too. She’s a great ministry partner, you know.

Yes, I do know; and you have no idea how hard I had to work to get her to work with you! But you and Linda also need to remind the congregation that they not only have me and the two of you, they also have each other. People so underestimate the value of the Body of Christ. Gather them into small groups, encourage them to share their stories, remind them that when one suffers, all are affected. And the children...don’t forget the children. They are aware when their moms and dads are captured by concern.

This congregation is really great at caring for one another, Lord. I like your idea of helping them find support in one another.

Steve, there’s one more thing. Tell the people that these difficult times won’t last forever. But also tell them that the good times won’t last forever either. In the ebb and flow of living, I am really their only constant. I can help them adjust their sails to the calm seas and the stormy seas of life. But I never change; tell your people that I never change.

Lord, I think you just hit on the reason I’m not sleeping. I forgot that it’s not about me; it’s not about us being in control. It’s about being in a relationship with the God who is in control. Forgive me, Lord, when I think the weight of the world is mine to resolve.

Good for you, Steve! You have learned once again that, humanly speaking, some things are impossible to resolve, but with me nothing is impossible. Now, there’s just one more thing; about the church sign...

Gotta go, Lord. Amen!

Our Savior's Lutheran Church

1616 West Olive Street
Stillwater, MN 55082
Phone: 651-439-5704
Fax: 651-351-1463
Email: info@oslcstillwater.org
Web: www.oslcstillwater.org

Staff **Phone ext.**

Pastor Steven Molin ext. 14
stevemolin@hotmail.com

Pastor Linda VanEaton ext. 24
ljvaneaton@comcast.net

Craig Wexler ext. 18
Intern Pastor
cwexler001@luthersem.edu

Sharon Stratmoen ext. 23
*Director of Children &
Family Ministry*
sharon@oslcstillwater.org

Terri Green ext. 34
*Assistant for Children &
Family Ministry*
tgreen3030@comcast.net

Missy Seekel ext. 15
Youth Director
youth@oslcstillwater.org

Kathy Newton ext. 10
Dawn Kosowski
Office Administrators
info@oslcstillwater.org

Susan Fredricksen ext. 32
Financial Records
finance@oslcstillwater.org

Shelly Rock ext. 19
Parish Nurse
rock55082@msn.com

Greg Schell ext. 20
Maintenance

Shannon Goldstein ext. 25
LADC Site Director
shannongoldstein@ladcfamilies.org

Dan Olson
Contemporary Worship Leader

Jane Gay
*Worship Coordinator &
Organist*

Marlene Lentz
Bell Choir Director

Micki Henriksen, Lisa Lanz
& Nichi Miller
Nursery Coordinators

Congregational Meeting Highlights

Our annual meeting was held on Sunday, January 25 in the CLC, with a good number in attendance. Among the items discussed:

- A new board was elected (Kari Hoiens as president, Steve Ordahl, vice-president, Vickie Batroot, secretary, Mark Lambert, treasurer, and Patricia Moffitt and Rick Peterson, at-large.
 - Sheri Prigge introduced an electronic fly-through of our proposed new sanctuary, and the scale model is now on display in the hallway between the Narthex and Gathering Area.
 - The board's recommendation for an across-the-board cut of 5% was followed by significant discussion. That motion was amended to freeze salaries and cut the remainder of the budget by 5% and review the economic situation at a mid-year congregational meeting. The approved budget is \$825,505.
-

Online Registration Comes to OSLC!

We're going green! Children, Youth, and Family Ministry are excited to launch online registration at Our Savior's. Register from the convenience of your home or with assistance from our church office staff on our secure website. It is our intent to use this user-friendly system for all church events requiring registration, even those without fees. We will be able to process online payments or can still accept payment via cash or check in the church office. Programs that require volunteers will seek volunteer information online too. While we anticipate this to be a smooth transition in our registration practices, there may be unexpected bumps in the road. Thanks in advance for your understanding and patience. Go to the church website at www.oslcstillwater.org to learn more! If you use the online registration system, we'd welcome your feedback. Please email your comments to kelli@oslcstillwater.org.

Financial Box Score

January Giving	\$ 68,411
January Expenses	\$ (60,221)
January Total	\$ 8,190
YTD Giving	\$ 68,411
YTD Expenses	\$ (60,221)
YTD Total	\$ 8,190
January Bldg. Contributions	\$ 7,870
YTD Bldg. Contributions	\$ 7,870
Monthly Mortgage Amount	\$ 10,932
Current Mortgage Amount (as of 1/31/09)	\$ 1,253,968

Children & Family Ministry



First Communion Class: Kids are Invited to a Very Special Meal

Our kids understand the significance of special meals. Birthdays, Christmas, Easter, and Thanksgiving are great family celebrations that usually involve meals. We invite **1st-6th graders and anybody older**

who hasn't participated in 1st communion instruction, to join their spiritual family in preparation for a special meal: the Sacrament of Holy Communion. At Our Savior's we have empowered parents, as the primary nurturers of faith, to decide when their child is ready to receive instruction in preparation for Holy Communion. Should you feel your child is ready to receive the sacrament prior to 1st grade, an individual teaching may be arranged with our pastors.

Who: 1st-6th graders and a parent / guardian

Date: Sunday, March 29 ~ 4-6 p.m., **or**
Monday, March 30 ~ 6-8 p.m.
(eat before you come)

Where: Gathering Area

What to bring: Your Bible

So talk about this as a family, and if you feel your child is ready to participate, **please RSVP by registering online at the church website www.oslcstillwater.org; via email to info@oslcstillwater.org or call 439-5704 to the church office by March 24.**

This Faith Marker will be celebrated in worship on **Sunday, April 19** at 8:00, 9:15 & 10:30 a.m. worship services with children receiving their First Communion. Choose which worship service works best for your family. If this date does not work for your family, you may still participate in the class and take your First Communion at another time. Families, watch for an E-letter with details. Talk with Sharon or our Pastors with questions. Sibling childcare will be available, include names of kids in your RSVP!

FamilyCamp-ins Family, Faith and Outrageous Fun

**5:30 p.m. Friday, March 13 to
11 a.m. Saturday, March 14**

You and your family are invited to join us for an overnight with tents, sleeping bags, SportsLife Camp games, campfire songs, and late night snacks! Experience outrageous fun with your kids and learn about fusing your faith in Jesus with your family. It's the perfect family adventure for spring break! Nursery will be available during adult time for children two and younger. This will be something fun for the entire family to do that is inexpensive (\$25/family). For event details and to register online, go to www.oslcstillwater.org. Space is limited. Register by March 11.

Food Shelf



March Food Shelf Item: In the month of March, Children & Family Ministry will collect diapers and wipes. Kids may bring either of these items to class with their offering. So far, from September through January, kids have donated 1845 pounds of food and \$1,694.75 to Valley Outreach! Way to go kids!

**No Sunday School, WAVE, CLUB 56 or
Children's Choirs practice on March 15 or 18
Spring Break / Enjoy worship with your family!**



This dock rocks!
Get ready for a rockin' time at VBS, July 27-31
from 9 a.m. to noon
or 1:30-4:30 p.m. OSLC

Fun, Faith-Filled Summer Experiences for Kids!

Families, as you plan your summer activities, consider the following summer opportunities:

- † **SportLife Camp: *Shine09!***
(1st- 6th grade) June 15-18
- † **Sonshine Club: *Kids of the Kingdom!***
(3-6 year olds) June 15-18
- † **Lake Wapo Bible Camp**
(2nd-3rd graders) July 17-19
(4th-6th graders) July 19-24
- † **VBS Crocodile Dock: *Where Fearless Kids Shine God's Light!*** (3 year olds-8th grade)
July 27-31 ~ 9 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. or
1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Infant, toddler, and twos program for children of volunteers!
- † **Camp LADC: *Super Science BLAST!***
(3-5 year olds) August 10-14
- † **4th Annual Family Camp: *Lake Carlos State Park*** (birth to ...) August 14-16

Register early, space is limited! For program details and to register, go to the church website at www.oslcstillwater.org, click on Children & Family, and click on Summer Ministries 2009. Need help or online access? Stop in the church office.

Hey Kids, We're going to Camp Wapo!

Lake Wapogasset Lutheran Bible Camp is located in Amery, WI. Kids will have the opportunity to grow in faith as we experience the Gospel through a variety of activities. Our time at camp will be as follows:

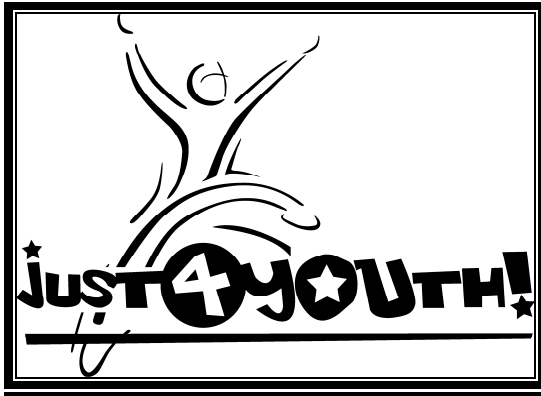
- **2nd & 3rd grade weekend–July 17-19**
(7 p.m. Fri. to 1 p.m. Sun.)
- **4th-6th grade week– July 19-24**
(3 p.m. Sun. to 2 p.m. Fri.)

Camp experiences such as this make a significant impact on a young person's faith development. Sharon and other adults who love our kids will accompany our kids to camp! Lake Wapo is registering by paper copy only; Wapo Brochures are available outside of Sharon's office. **Register by completing the registration card and health history and return it to the church office with your \$100 non-refundable deposit by March 9.** Camperships are available upon request, talk to Sharon.



Our Savior's: Lake Area Discovery Center

- **Parent / Teacher conferences March 5 & 6.**
During conferences there will be no regular scheduled classes. However, childcare is available from 9 a.m. – 7:15 on Thursday, March 5 and 9 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Friday, March 6.
- **Spring Break, no classes March 16-20**
- **Registration openings are still available for the 2009-2010 school year.** Register online at www.ladcfamilies.org.



March Worship Music Schedule

- Mar. 1: First Sunday of Lent**
Kingdom Choir at 8:00 & 9:15 a.m.
Cherub & Joyful Noise Choirs
at 10:30 a.m.
- Mar. 4: Wednesday Lenten Worship**
Chime & Youth Handbell Choirs
at 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 8: Second Sunday of Lent**
JuBellate at 8:00 & 9:15 a.m.
- Mar. 11: Wednesday Lenten Worship**
Cherub & Joyful Noise Choirs
at 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 15: Third Sunday in Lent**
Kingdom Choir at 8:00 & 9:15 a.m.
- Mar. 18: Wednesday Lenten Worship**
PEP Choir at 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 22: Fourth Sunday in Lent**
KINGSmEN at 8:00 & 9:15 a.m.
- Mar. 25: Wednesday Lenten Worship**
Alleluia! Singers at 7:00 p.m.
- Mar. 29: Fifth Sunday in Lent**
The Four Collars at 8:00 & 9:15 a.m.

★ Thank You! ★
★ THANK YOU! ★

Thank you for all your prayers, flowers, goodies, and visits to see me at Greeley Nursing Home. I enjoy seeing and visiting with you and hearing all about the activities at Our Savior's Lutheran Church.
Arla Simpson

Thank you to Our Savior's for all the prayers said for me, all the beautiful cards you have sent, and for the gift certificate you gave me at Christmas time. I would like to send a special word of thanks to Donna Carlson, Sarah Circle, Shelly Rock, Ann Hill and Pastor Craig who all helped me in a variety of ways. God Bless you people!
Barb Becker

First Light & Mentors

All First Light Students are to be meeting with their mentors during the month of March! Enjoy your time!

Diggin' Deeper Breakfast Club

We will once again meet at Perkins the 1st Friday of the month (March 6) for a free breakfast and a Bible study continuing with 'Spiritual Anatomy'! All 10th – 12th graders are invited.

Butterbraids are Coming!

Students going on Summer Trips and camps will be selling Butterbraids beginning on March 4! Find a student or sign up in the Gathering Area to help our students have amazing experiences this summer and to enjoy some GREAT pastries. Butterbraids will be delivered in time for Easter!

30-Hour Famine Participants

What a great time was had by all at the national 30-Hour Famine! Our youth fasted for 30 straight hours to raise awareness for the poor and hungry. They also raised money! If you are a student who raised funds for this event, get your donations into Missy by Sunday, March 8!

Summer Opportunities

If you missed our Camp Sunday, and would like to see what is available for summer opportunities for our youth, go online to www.oslcstillwater.org under the youth section to see what's available ☺

Adult Education & Life Long Learning

Transformed by the Word (Sunday Adult Learning)

“More Than Money” – a faith-based approach to financial decision-making. Thrivent will be leading this 6 week workshop at NO COST to you. (This is not an endorsement of Thrivent Financial products and no services will be sold.) Come when you can and learn a new approach to financial management! See Pastor Linda with questions.

- February 22: Stewardship and Values
- March 1: Communicating About Money
- March 8: Setting Goals
- March 22: Credit and Debt
- March 29: Finding Money to Save
- April 5: Budget and Net Worth

And Grace Will Lead Me Home– The Prodigal Son

- March 15: Come and meet Pastor Jerry Evenrud–the collector of “The Prodigal Son Collection” that is now housed at Luther Seminary. Learn about the collection and see some of the pieces. He writes: “I didn’t set out to create a collection; it just happened. Nurturing and shepherding the collection has enriched my life and particularly my retirement... The collection has a potential for sharing the gospel; it is visual evangelism, speaking where words cannot.”



Book of the Month Club: JONAH!

The Book of the Month for March is Jonah. God uses prophets to deliver messages,

but what happens if the prophet disobeys God? Did Jonah really get swallowed by a whale? Find out–read the book–then come and discuss what this means for us today. See the Reader’s Guide inserted in the Lamp or online at www.oslcstillwater.org. Discussion date is Tuesday, March 31, 6:30-8 p.m.



Women@theEDGE – a ministry for women who are living at the edge – you decide what that means for you. We meet once a month on the first Monday or

following Tuesday and then sustain our community through a virtual world using posted discussion questions. Would you like to learn more or see a virtual tour? Do you have questions or comments? Contact Pastor Linda at ljvaneaton@comcast.net. For 2009 we will be considering women of the Bible and what they have to say to us today. In March, for the season of Lent, we will consider Anna the prophetess and her wisdom of waiting, hope and endurance.

- Monday, March 2 at 8 p.m. OR
- Tuesday, March 3 at 6 a.m.

NEW LOCATION: Caribou across from Target/Cub Foods! Invite a friend!



Using our TALENTS to iSERVE Jesus!

The Clifton StrengthsFinder measures not strengths, but the presence of talents in 34 general areas, or “themes”. While talents (recurring patterns of thought, feeling or behavior that can be productively applied) naturally exist within individuals, strengths (the ability to provide consistent, near-perfect performance in a specific task) must be developed and are the product that results when one’s talents are refined with acquired skills and knowledge.

Talent of the Month – BELIEF

You have certain core values that are unchanging. Out of these values emerges a defined purpose for your life. These values give your life meaning and satisfaction; in your view success is more than money and prestige. Your friends call you dependable; consistency is the foundation of all your relationships. You are easy to trust. Your work must be meaningful and mesh with your values. Choose iSERVE items that are in alignment with your core values/passions. By doing this you will thrive and shine in your service! Align yourself with iSERVE items that give back to the greater community–how about a mission trip or have you considered serving on the Board?

Lay Ministry

Adult Ministry: Women Sisterhood

Our Savior's Women: Sisters in Christ



Rivers of Living Water

“He who believes in me . . . Out of his heart shall flow rivers of living water” ~ *John 7:38*

St. Paul's 25th Annual Synodical
Women's Convention

Friday, April 17 & Saturday, April 18, 2009

St. Stephens' Lutheran Church

1575 Charlton Street, West St. Paul, MN 55118

You are personally invited to join the women from the St. Paul area for a weekend of worship, Eucharist, Bible study, learning sessions, and business meeting. During the banquet on Friday evening, Terry Esau, author of “Surprise Me, God” will speak. On Saturday, the luncheon speaker is Barbara Doerring, aunt of Greg Mortenson, author of “Three Cups of Tea,” whose mission is to promote Peace One School at a Time. Registration is due by April 8. Early Registration by March 17 is \$45.00 for both Friday and Saturday events. Registration forms are available on the Women's Ministry Board.

Material Offerings

Lutheran World Relief Layette Kits: 2 shirts or onesies, 2 gowns or sleepers, 2 receiving blankets, 4 cloth diapers, 1 sweater or sweatshirt, 2 washcloths, 1 bath-size bar of gentle soap in its original wrapping, 2 diaper pins. Or **Phone cards for the Military.** Any phone cards will do, but International cards are best.

Looking Ahead

The April issue of the Lamp will announce the speakers and activities for both the **East Central Cluster Meeting**, to be held on Thursday, April 23, and the **Mother/Daughter Banquet** on May 7. Please reserve space on your calendars for these fun-filled and inspiring events.

March's Devotion of Gratitude: *Springtime, a Season of Hope*

What a long cold winter season it can be. I woke up early one morning to the voice of the radio's all-night newscaster delivering the update on the conditions outside: “It is currently eight below with a high for today of four degrees and sunny.” I had spent the previous evening shoveling snow and doing volunteer well-being checks – folks of limited means living without heat during the coldest part of the winter is a reality – and my morning thoughts and prayers once again turned to those enduring the worst of winter. Still, I was motivated to crawl out from beneath the covers by the thought of the sun shining and spring being not too far away.

The seasons are not just the focus of those who work the land. No, all of us pay attention to the seasons. We find all kinds of ways to hope for spring no matter how long the winter. The harshest days of winter would crush our spirits if there were no hope of spring. But our hope, our real hope, comes from the One who came to dwell among us. Spring is a season of restoration and seemingly endless possibilities, like an artist bringing new and vibrant colors to her canvas. Spring brings us signs that we will once again feel full of life, and spring gives us renewed confidence that we can be nourished and full. And though the transition into spring brings a few storms, they are soon forgotten.

As we move toward springtime, we take care to reflect on what needs to be recovered and uncovered. It's a time of preparation and anticipation, for the good news of Christ's resurrection – like the day you realize you can shed the heaviness of your winter coat for this new season – is approaching. Our thoughts of winter become but a distant memory.

As we reflect on Daily Blessings for our Gratitude Boxes – May we rejoice in springtime and Easter and in all hopes and promises, Today. (Excerpt from Valora K. Starr, associate for programs in areas of evangelism, discipleship, and global education for Women of the ELCA).

During 2009, each month, an excerpt of a dedicated Devotion¹ to Gratitude will be published in the Lamp as a resource for women to use to inspire their own thoughts for spiritual growth and gratefulness. The entire 2009 Monthly Devotions can be found on the Women at the ELCA website:

www.womenoftheelca.org

¹2009 Monthly Offering devotions ©2008 Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America. Contents may be freely reproduced for use by Women of the ELCA congregational units and synodical organizations provided all copies carry this copyright notice.

2009 Schedule of Events

Our Savior's Women – Sisters in Christ

- Apr. 17 & 18** St. Paul Area Synodical Women's Convention – St. Stephen's
- April 23** East Central Cluster – St. Paul's in Stillwater
- May 3** Rachel's Day
- May 7** Mother/Daughter Banquet
- July 9** Bible Study in the Park
- Aug. 13** Bible Study in the Park
- Aug. 13** Salad Supper
- Nov. 29-** OSLC Women's Advent Event
- Dec. 5**

For more info, check out the "Our Savior's Women" bulletin board in the hallway by the nursery!

Deborah/Naomi Circle

Next Mtg: March 12 at 7:00 p.m.
at Mary Anderson's home
Contact: Donna Peterson (439-5903)

Lydia Circle

Next Mtg: March 5 at 7:00 p.m.
at Laura Fever's home
Contact: Heather Swanson (439-0463)

Hannah Circle

Next Mtg: March 3 at 9:30 a.m.
at Sherry Yahner's home
Contact: Becky Maier (439-4459)

Ruth Circle

Next Mtg: March 6 at 9:30 a.m.
at June Hall's home
Contacts: Jean Stenseng (439-5913) and
Barb Loudon (644-7240)

Sarah Circle

Next Mtg: March 12 at 1:00 p.m.
at the church
Contact: Donna Carlson (351-5052)

Morning Quilters

Next Mtg: March 5, 12 & 26 at 9:00 a.m.
Contact: Audrey Reed (430-2744)

Mission Quilters

Next Mtg: March 19 at 9:00 a.m.
Contact: Audrey Reed (430-2744)

Piecemakers (Evening Quilters)

Next Mtg: March 5, 12 19 & 26 at 7:30 p.m.
Contact: Valerie Kubal (998-3973)

Card Recyclers

Next Mtg: March 31 at 9:00 a.m. at church
Contact: Doris Freeman (439-7876)

Prayer Shawl Knitters

Next Mtg: March 17 at 6:30 p.m.
Contacts: Sherry Yahner (430-9863)
Kitty Roettger (777-4192)

Adult Ministry: Men

Men's Bible Study

Next Mtg: March 5, 12 19 & 26 at 6:00 a.m.
at church
Contact: John Rock (747-0311)

Friday Guys

Next Mtg: March 6, 13, 20 & 27 at 6:30 a.m.
at Joseph's
Contact: Pastor Steve (439-5704, ext. 14)

Dave Denton is currently serving his second deployment to Iraq. If you would like to send a card or letter to him, his address is:
SFC, Denton, David
1st JMB/34th Infantry Division/34th MCP/TCP
P.O. Box 339546, MS 120
Fort Lewis, WA 98433-9546





Abundant Life in Christ

“March is National Red Cross Month!”

The state of the U.S. economy has many pinching pennies, tightening budgets and keeping a closer eye on the bottom line. It is becoming harder for the average family to pay the bills, put food on the table, tithe at church and keep up with other responsibilities. Charitable donations are often cut from the family budget when times are tight. Last month, Pastor Steve let us know that even the groundhog was so scared he ran back to his hole! And now, the good news—it doesn't take money to make a difference!

The local Red Cross in the Twin Cities has been put to the test in these hard economic times. With over 69 local fires in the past months, their budget has been stretched thin in an attempt to help local families survive in a crisis. Now, we ask ourselves—if we don't have money for charitable giving, what can we do? The answer is simple. It takes about an hour of your time and something that you may have readily available. And it doesn't cost any more than that.

At the Red Cross, there are a multitude of volunteer opportunities available. One of the most vital services provided by the Red Cross is blood donation. There are many opportunities available to give blood. If blood donation is something that you are interested in, the Red Cross website provides pre-donation information to make sure that you are ready to donate.

- Get a good night's sleep.
- Drink plenty of fluids in the day preceding your donation.
- Eat plenty of iron rich foods and avoid fatty ones.
- Have a good meal before you donate.

There are a plethora of reasons why people do not donate blood.

- I don't like needles—Not to worry! It's only a little pinch and about 10 minutes later the actual donation is finished!
- I am too busy—it only takes an hour to save a life!
- I didn't realize my blood was needed—38,000 donations are needed every day in communities across the country
- I already gave this year—you have the opportunity to give 5 times a year—every 56 days!
- My blood isn't the right type—all types of blood are needed!
- I don't have any blood to spare—the average adult body has 10-12 pints of blood. The body quickly replaces what you have donated, if you are healthy.
- I don't want to feel weak afterward—you shouldn't, if you are healthy.
- They won't want my blood (I am too old/had an illness)—Not to worry, the Red Cross staff will thoroughly screen you prior to donation.
- I have a rare blood type, so I'll wait until there is a special need—There is an almost constant need for blood, especially the rare types!

And, on the flip side, there are many reasons why people do donate blood or may want to!

- You get free juice and cookies when you are done!
- You will weigh less—an entire pint less than before!
- It's easy and convenient—it only takes an hour!
- You can spare it—and it doesn't cost you a penny!
- You can't do any heavy lifting for a few hours—sorry, can't help you move the furniture!
- You will feel good about yourself.
- You will ensure there is blood for someone else who desperately needs it.
- Blood is something that money can't buy. It is a gift from you to someone in need.
- You will be a hero—you can help save up to three lives with one donation!
- It is the right thing to do.

If blood donation sounds like something you can do to help someone in need, you can call 1-800-GIVELIFE or you can register, search for blood drives, and make an appointment that is convenient for you online at www.givelife.org. Give life. Give blood.

Called to care ~ Anne Stoefen, RN, BSN Student at MSU Moorhead



People Enjoying People (PEP)

March 16: We will join together to see the movie, “The Bucket List.” We will meet at Boutwell’s Theater on Monday, March 16 beginning at 2:30 p.m. We will have the opportunity to discuss the film following the showing. If you need a ride from the church, please contact Pastor Keith at 275-0815. There is a sign up sheet on the PEP bulletin board.

March 18: PEP choir will be singing for the Wednesday evening Lenten worship on March 18. We will **rehearse on Wednesday, March 11 at 6:30 p.m.** Sign up on the PEP bulletin board.

Up-Coming Events

- April 15: “Health Day for Seniors” at OSLC
- May: Join together to work at “Feed My Starving Children”
- Start thinking of ideas for our annual trip/outing for 2009

Please check the PEP bulletin board across from the music room for the latest information. You are invited to sign up to participate for PEP events on the bulletin board located in the Gathering Area.

God’s blessings! ~ Pastor Keith