

M A R C H 2 0 2 0

# NOTATIONS

COMING TOGETHER TO LEARN, LIVE, AND SHARE THE TRUTH OF CHRIST

## Lent 2020

**Ash Wednesday** is February 26, and with it begin our Midweek services and Lenten suppers. Our Wednesday services begin at 7:00 pm (suppers at 6:00 pm) and will alternate between the churches, beginning at Grace. Please check the sign-up sheet to claim a supper!

February 26 - Grace

Pastor Willitz, Grace - Maine &  
St. Paul's - Naugart

### **Skirmishes**

March 4 - St. Paul's

Pastor Behm, Christ - Merrill

### **Reconnaissance Report: Know Your Enemy**

March 11 - Grace

Pastor DeGier, Trinity - Berlin

### **The Warrior Rejected by Many Followers**

March 18 - St. Paul's

Pastors Krueger and Iwinski,  
Immanuel - Medford

### **The Warrior Faces Satan's Ally, the World**

March 25 - Grace

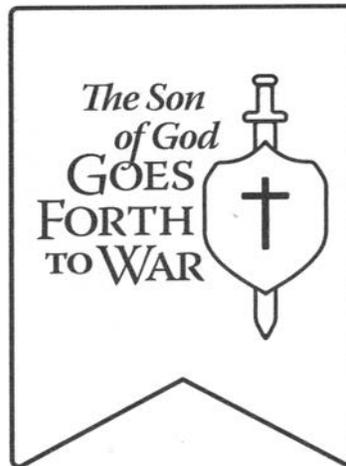
Pastor Russow, Zion - Stetsonville

### **The Promised Warrior**

April 1 - St. Paul's

Pastor Bittorf, St. Peter - Rib Lake  
& St. Andrew's - Goodrich

### **Hidden Warrior**



Several of our youth are making plans to attend the WELS International Youth Rally this summer. It takes place June 23-26 in Knoxville, TN; plans are being made to travel with the group from St. Peter. There is still time to register! Speak with Pastor if you are interested.

### PACE to Craft Easter Cards

Our PACE group will be making Easter cards to send out to prospects, shut-ins, and those away at college or in the military. We use these holiday greetings to share God's love, and to invite all to our special Easter services. The craft day will be held on Saturday, March 7, at St. Paul's, beginning at 9:30 a.m. All are welcome to come lend a hand!



## St. Paul's Greeters & Grace Ushers March

<b>March 1</b> Ben Krenz	<b>March 1</b> K Christian, J Sturm
<b>March 4</b> Gene & Sharon Bartelt	<b>March 8</b> G Pagel, J Neumann
<b>March 8</b> Joy Taylor	<b>March 11</b> C Neumann, B Blaubach
<b>March 15</b> Calvin & Betty Patterson	<b>March 15</b> S Christian, M Blaubach
<b>March 18</b> Mark & Joline Bartelt	<b>March 22</b> W Zastrow, D Prazuch
<b>March 22</b> DuWayne Zamzow	<b>March 25</b> J Neumann, D Neumann
	<b>March 29</b> C Mathwich, D Blaubach



## Ready, Set, Gold! VBS 2020

Mark your calendars, and plan ahead for our Vacation Bible School this summer! The dates are July 27-31; classes will be held 9-11:30 am each morning at the Berlin Center in Naugatuck.

## Strieter League

has scheduled their summer campout so everyone can plan ahead to attend. Campout in the Grace woods will be July 31 -



August 1, tenting overnight Friday, and going to the Sawmill Adventure Park (trampolines and mini-golf) on Saturday. More details will come



as we get closer, but mark your calendars now so you don't miss the fun!

## Summer Softball League

Would you like to play fast-pitch softball in the Merrill church league this summer? Speak with Tim Hahn. Games are played on Sunday afternoons from May through July. With questions or interest, please contact Tim.

## St. Paul's Financial Update

January Income:	\$ 7,390.61
January Disbursements:	\$ 8,263.58
Christian Ed Fund:	\$ 2,004.00
(2020-2021, begun July 1, 2019)	
YTD NLHS Offerings:	\$ 350.00
2020 NLHS Commitment:	\$ 3,500.00
YTD Mission Offerings:	\$ 210.00
2020 Mission Goal:	\$ 1,800.00
Sidewalk Fund:	\$ 1,735.00
Goal:	\$ 2,500.00
Painting Project:	\$ 1,000.00
Goal:	\$ 3,000.00

*Look! The Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!*

**A hearty thank you to all who prepare and serve the nourishing Lenten suppers! We all enjoy these hours of food and fellowship.**



## Lilies will soon

be available for purchase for our Easter services. Please watch for the sign up on the table if you wish to place a lily.



## Grace Financial Update

January Income:	\$19,881.40*
January Disbursements:	\$20,319.00*
*Includes remodeling of bathrooms and hall	
2020 Mission Goal:	\$ 4,700.00
YTD Mission Offering:	\$ 325.00
Percentage of Goal:	6.91%
Checkbook balance:	-\$2,465.94

## The Psalm Jesus Prayed from His Cross

Dear members and friends of Grace and St. Paul's

On February 26, Ash Wednesday, we begin the sacred season of Lent. For the next 40 days we ponder the innocent yet bitter suffering and death of our Lord Jesus for our sins. Please join us for our midweek Lenten worship services.

One of the most striking presentations of our Savior's passion is found in Psalm 22. How remarkable that this description is in the Old Testament, written a thousand years before Jesus' death. The vivid details remind us that our Lord caused these words to be written so that he could later speak them and fulfill them on his cross.

"My God, my God, why have you forsaken me? Why are you so far from saving me, so far from the words of my groaning?" [vs. 1,2] On the cross Jesus was forsaken by his heavenly Father as he suffered the punishment for our many wrongs.

"But I am a worm and not a man, scorned by men and despised by the people. All who see me mock me; they hurl insults, shaking their heads: 'He trusts in the LORD; let the LORD rescue him. Let him deliver him, since he delights in him.'" [vs. 6-8] In his lowest humiliation on the cross, Jesus was ridiculed by the many passers-by as he willingly hung there to win our forgiveness.

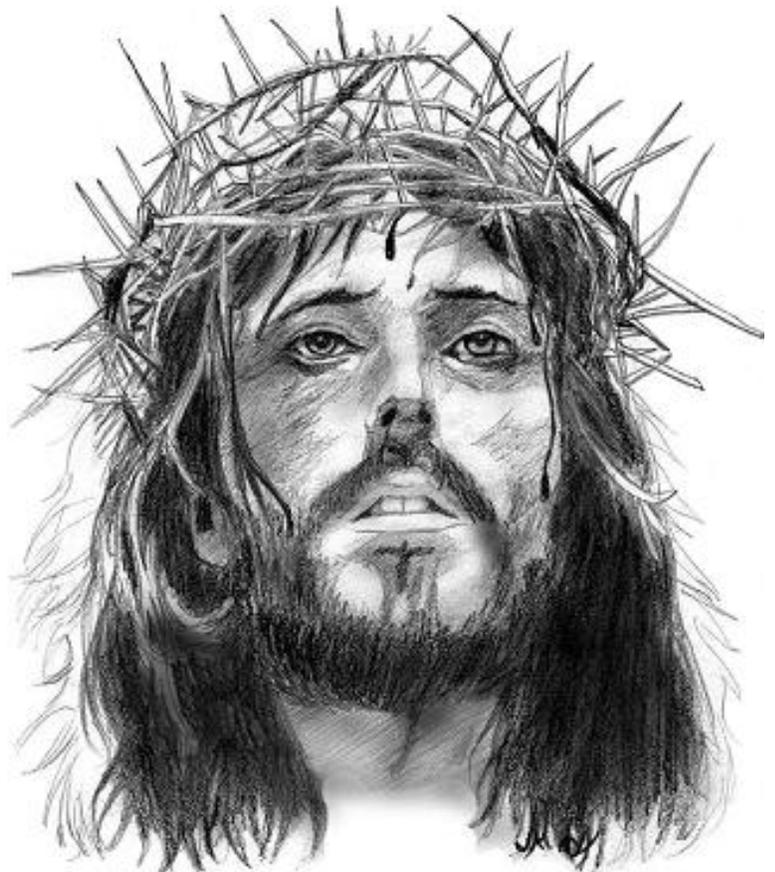
"I am poured out like water, and all my bones are out of joint. My heart has turned to wax; it has melted away within me. My strength is dried up like a potsherd, and my tongue sticks to the roof of my mouth; you lay me in the dust of death. Dogs have surrounded me; a band of evil men has encircled me, they have pierced my hands and my feet. I can count all my bones; people stare and gloat over me. They divide my garments among them and cast lots for my clothing." [vs. 14-18] These verses describe the sight and the situation, what Jesus looked like and felt like on that cross, and the Roman soldiers huddled at the foot of his cross dividing up his clothing.

These are but a few of the verses. Read the entire Psalm and note your Savior's longing for his heavenly Father's final deliverance, his total confidence in his heavenly Father's acceptance of his sacrifice for your sins, his certainty and assurance of your salvation!

It is most appropriate that we read Psalm 22 as a central part of our Good Friday Tenebrae Service. May the Lord bless you this Lenten season as you reflect upon what Jesus did to deliver you from your sin, death, and hell. May he fill our hearts with humble gratitude!

Your friend in Christ,

Pastor Willitz



# Northland Events



## Together We Shine!

March 1, 12:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Soup/Sandwich/Dessert Buffet  
Displays, Performances, Presentations  
Silent Auction  
Soup Cook-off!

Join us for this annual fundraiser!  
Adults: \$10/plate Children: \$5/plate  
Call 715-359-3400 to register today!

## Lent/Easter Concert: *The Power of the Cross*

March 8, 3:00 p.m.

Join us for this sacred concert of Lenten and Easter hymns and anthems. All praises to our Lord of Glory, who in the greatest love planned and fulfilled our salvation.