

THE EPISTLE

ST. PAUL CHURCH IN WAXAHACHIE

Founded 1876

WAXAHACHIE, TEXAS

February 2010

Mardi Gras Feb 16

Feast Before Fast: Mardi Gras is Here!

The 18th Annual St. Paul Mardi Gras will be on Tuesday, February 16, from 6-8 pm. With each succeeding year the event became a tradition within the community.

It began as a simple alternative to the more traditional Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper held in most Episcopal Churches. Now visitors come to hear live music and dance until they drop. Last year we added a “Best Costume” contest and an outreach project in which we deliver Mardi Gras meals to our community firefighters. But the basic Cajun supper menu has changed very little over the years. This year’s supper will be fried catfish with gumbo, rice,

red beans, salad and bread, and bread pudding with whiskey sauce for dessert. Once again the men of the church will fry the fish and we ask others to cook the gumbo and bread pudding according to our recipes. We need everyone’s help to get the food put together. Please volunteer to fry fish, cook, set up for food service, serve the food, sell tickets before the event, take tickets at the door, and clean up afterwards. It’s a huge church family event and we have a great time working together and greeting the community. Sign-up sheets will be in the foyer, or call 972-938-2126 to let us know how you can help.



Sign Up by Feb 8!

Financial Peace Begins Feb 18

Most of us have made mistakes with money, and Dave Ramsey was no exception. Having earned and lost a fortune as a young man, he developed a humorous and inspirational way to teach us how to achieve financial goals by eliminating debt, saving for the future, and giving like never before. During the classes you will be challenged and motivated to make a plan for your money and change your lives forever!

On average, class participants pay off \$5,300 in debt and save \$2,700 in just 90 days. More than one million families have attended Financial Peace University (FPU) with amazing results. It is a 13-week video curriculum, taught by Dave Ramsey, that incorporates small-group discussions to encourage accountability and discipleship. FPU is entertaining for everyone, with a unique combination of humor, informative financial advice and biblical messages. All ages benefit from FPU, but young couples especially can learn skills and techniques that will allow them to put kids through college and be able to retire more than comfortably. There is a fee for the class, which covers the cost of all the materials and books that you will need to work the program.

As Dave says, you’ll learn how to live like no one else so you can **Live!** like no one else. ✦

Last year we began a new outreach project when we delivered Mardi Gras meals to firefighters in two Waxahachie stations. The meals were given in Christ’s Love as a way to say “thank you” for their service. We’ll deliver twice as many meals to firefighters this year, taking food to both Midlothian and Waxahachie stations.

Anyone who has been to our Mardi Gras knows there’s one person who can outdance just about anyone. We’re not sure if anyone CAN outdance John Compton, but you have to be here to see if it might happen. And come in costume — you can’t win a prize if you don’t dress up. Come and see — and bring a bunch of friends with you! ✦

Sunday Spa for Women, Feb 14

Sunday Spa for February is “Loving”, February 14, from 2 - 5 p.m. in the foyer area. A light meal is served at 5 p.m. (And we’re getting a reputation for having great food!) **Relax**, through meditation exercise and journaling; **Learn** and be inspired by Carrie Boren; and, **Create** with calligraphy, learning to pen inspirational reminders to stay focused on the One who loves us most. Cost is \$5 if you pre-register by Wednesday, February 10, or \$10 if you pay at the door. Ladies, please come, and bring a friend! ✦





As we approach Lent, we explore Lenten traditions, as defined in "A New Dictionary for Episcopalians" by The Rev. John N. Wall, Jr.

From our Vicar

Opportunities to Enhance Your Lenten Journey

Stations of the Cross A series of fourteen pictures depicting incidents in the narrative of Christ's passion, from Pilate's house to the entombment, which are found arranged around the walls of some churches. They are used in conjunction with the devotional service *The Way of the Cross*, in which the stations are visited in turn, with a pause for a reading, a versicle and response, a collect, and perhaps time for meditation. This service is conducted on Good Friday.

Altar of Repose An altar away from the main altar, where the empty tabernacle is placed after the Stripping of the Altar on Maundy Thursday. Last year was the first time we had an Altar of Repose, which was used for the Prayer Vigil that begins after Maundy Thursday service and lasts until noon on Good Friday.

Stripping of the Altar Part of the Maundy Thursday liturgy is to remove everything from the altar, including the candlesticks, crosses, "fair linen," and frontal, leaving the altar bare. Stationary crosses or other decorations in the church are covered at the end of the Maundy Thursday ceremonies, a dramatic way of looking forward to Good Friday. It reminds us that the Eucharist is not celebrated until the Easter Vigil; in remembrance of our Lord's passion, the church's observance of the sign of his resurrection is suspended. It is considered by many to be the most powerful service of the church year.

Paschal Candle Large white candle decorated with symbols of the resurrection. It is lighted from the new fire at the Great Vigil of Easter and burns at all services during the Easter season. It may be lighted for Baptisms at other times during the church year, and in funeral processions. It represents for us the "light of Christ". ✠

Start out this year's Lenten Journey with a great beginning by attending one of the two Ash Wednesday Services (Noon and 7 p.m.) on February 17. (That is, of course, after celebrating Mardi Gras with your St. Paul Church Family !!!)

Soup, Scripture and Song Wednesdays, 6-7 p.m.

Every Wednesday night through Lent we invite you to share a light meal together then dig into an interactive study of Scripture. After we have filled our stomachs and our minds, we will fill the air with songs of worship.

This will truly be a blessed time of "nourishment" and fellowship.

Take Home Studies


There will be several studies available for you to take home, and we encourage you to choose one or more for your Lenten Journey. Some focus on reading Scripture through the season of Lent, some instruct on memorization of Scripture while others lead us in deeper study of God's Word. These are great resources to help us all grow in our knowledge and love of God.

Holy Week Services

Holy Week is intended to intensify and culminate our Lent Journey. Starting on Palm Sunday we invite you to engage in the wonder and power of all that Christ did for us. Make plans to attend Maundy Thursday, Good Friday – Stations of the Cross, Prayer Vigil and of course Easter Morning Services.

May God Bless You during this Lenten Season and may your Easter Celebration be more joyous because of your commitment to fully engage in the Lenten Journey. ✠

Fr. Terry+



Don't Forget

SPY (St. Paul Youth, grades 6 through 12) meets **every other Wednesday** night. Brittany & Victor Songer lead this night of fun and learning.

Also... all youth are encouraged to gather **every Sunday morning for liquid**, the revolutionary **liquid** Bible Study DVD series, that translates ancient stories into the language of today's culture. The Youth gather every Sunday between 9:30 and 10:15 (in the Youth room) for this special class. All sixth through twelve grade youth are invited. ✠

Adult Class Series Continues

The Good Samaritan

Jesus summed up God's commandments for His people by saying: "Thou shall love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. The second is like unto it: Thou shall love thy neighbor as thyself."

When Jesus was asked, "Who is my neighbor?" He responded by telling the story of the Good Samaritan. This six-session study series is designed to open our eyes to the needs of our "neighbors" and inspire our hearts to respond to them with expediency, with compassion, and with love. Please join us Sunday mornings as we explore how to live out Christ's love in world-changing ways, right now, right where we live. ✠

February 2010



SUNDAY	MON	TUES	WED	THU	FRI	SATURDAY
☩ Sunday Worship 8 a.m. Said Eucharist 9:15 a.m. Nursery Opens 9:30 a.m. Sunday school for all ages 10:30 a.m. Choral Eucharist	1 7 p.m. BSA meets	2	3 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	4	5	6 9:30 a.m. DOK 10:30 AM ECW
	7	8 7 p.m. BSA meets	9	10 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	11	12
Scout Sunday 14 A SUNDAY SPA For Women Relax, Learn, Create, Rejuvenate! 2-5 PM, Meal to follow	15 7 p.m. BSA meets	16 6-8 PM Mardi Gras Cajun Supper Live Music	17 Ash Wednesday Services Noon & 7 PM Lent Begins	18 7 PM Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace Class 1 of 13	19	20 9 AM - Noon Vestry Retreat Vestry Retreat
	21	22 7 p.m. BSA meets	23	24 6-7 p.m. Soup, Scripture & Song 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	25 7 PM Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace Class 2 of 13 7 p.m. Vestry	26
28	1 7 p.m. BSA meets	2	3 6-7 p.m. Soup, Scripture & Song 7 p.m. Healing Holy Eucharist 7:45 Choir Practice	4 7 PM Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace Class 3 of 13	5	6

February Birthdays

- 1 Kris Middlebrooks
- 3 Karen Lockridge
- 6 Kyle Osteen
Ted Rodgers
- 8 Lucille Carmical
Brittany Songer
- 9 Sue Batson
Jennifer Sloan
Ron Smith
- 10 Bonnie Franks
- 11 Danielle DeNicola
- 13 Teresa Smart

February Anniversaries

- 16 Alaina Johnson
- 17 Evan Doonan
- 18 Bill Doonan
- 20 Alica Compton
Donna Kracmer
- 22 Julia Johnson
Bill Vansyckle
- 24 Tim Beyer
Stacey Edgette
- 26 Lisa Doonan
Jeanie Shivers
- 2 Sharron & Michael Hartley
- 9 Debbie & Ronnie Morris
- 17 Donna & Frank Kracmer
- 23 Martha & Bill Vansyckle



March Birthdays

- 1 Kyle Reisner
- 3 Terry Reisner
Sandra Thompson
- 5 Lisa Hurn
- 7 Josh Stewart
- 8 Frank Kracmer
- 9 Tony Isaacs
- 10 Sam Gagliano
- 11 Alyssa Childs
Sandra Isaacs
- 13 Aspen Ware
- 15 Rhonnie Tompkins
- 16 Kyle Perry
- 18 Laura Horodnyckye
- 19 Mildred Spear
- 25 Susana Stewart
- 26 Kevin Harris
Richard Ware
- 28 Ryan Madden

March Anniversaries

- 8 Carol & Fred Bryant
- 26 Julia & Bud Johnson

Organizations & Committees

What They Do & Who to Call

ORGANIZATIONS

Men's Breakfast Ron Tarrant 972-937-1589
Breakfast for all men, 2nd Saturday, 8 AM

Daughters of the King (DOK)
..... Carol Bryant, 972-938-8629
Women of Prayer, Meetings 1st Sat, 9:30 AM

ECW Elizabeth Hamaker, 972-723-8042
All women meet 1st Saturday, 10:30 AM

VESTRY & Committees

Sr. Warden Gary Wilson, 972-617-5441

Jr. Warden Steve Walters, 214-663-4528

Class of 2010 Rae Tarrant, 972-937-1589

Class of 2011 Gloria Brown, 972-937-7710

Class of 2011 Carol Bryant, 972-938-8629

Class of 2011 John Hamaker, 972-723-8042

Class of 2012 Julia Johnson, 972-617-2934

Class of 2012 Dick Jones, 972-923-1412

Class of 2012 .. Daryl Anne Tillery, 972-937-7023

Clerk of Vestry Denise Osteen, 214-587-7869

Treasurer Rebecca Wellborn, 972-723-2921

Choir Director Gloria Self, 972-937-4373

SPY Brittany & Victor Songer, 469-358-9254

Worship & Music. Chuck Fitzhugh, 214-668-0572

Layreaders Larry Zuber, 972-775-4915

Acolytes Matt Perkins, 972-937-8077

Altar Guild Anne Tuley, 972-938-8024

Holy Week Calendar

Palm Sunday, March 28



The Sunday of the Passion & Procession of Palms
8:00 and 10:30 AM



Wednesday, March 31 - No Service

Maunday Thursday, April 1

Soup Supper, 6 PM; Holy Eucharist & Stripping of the Altar, 7 PM

Prayer Vigil, 8 PM April 1, until 12 PM April 2



Good Friday, April 2

Stations of the Cross, 7 PM

(Choose inside or outside procession)

Waxahachie CARE Needs Us Every Day



It's an "Everyday Mission" that's easy to do -- Next time you're picking up a jar of peanut butter, or a can of tuna, pick up an extra one for CARE. There's a basket in the foyer, and we send food to them weekly. They help the working poor in our area. A little bit from each of us can help a lot of people in need.

CARE always need soups, canned meats, pasta, rice, peanut butter, and crackers. Items must be packaged for individual distribution. They are not allowed to re-package bulk products. *Thank you!!!*

THE EPISTLE

The Monthly Newsletter of

ST. PAUL CHURCH

624 Ovilla Road

Waxahachie, Texas 75167

972-938-2126 st.paul@stpaulwaxahachie.org

www.stpaulwaxahachie.org

Member, Anglican Communion Network

THE REV. TERRY REISNER
VICAR



"Our Mission is to Love God, to
Love and Care for Others, and to
Grow the Church"



*Traditional, Biblical Worship
in a prayerful, loving
Christian Community.*