

St. Paul's News

February

2019

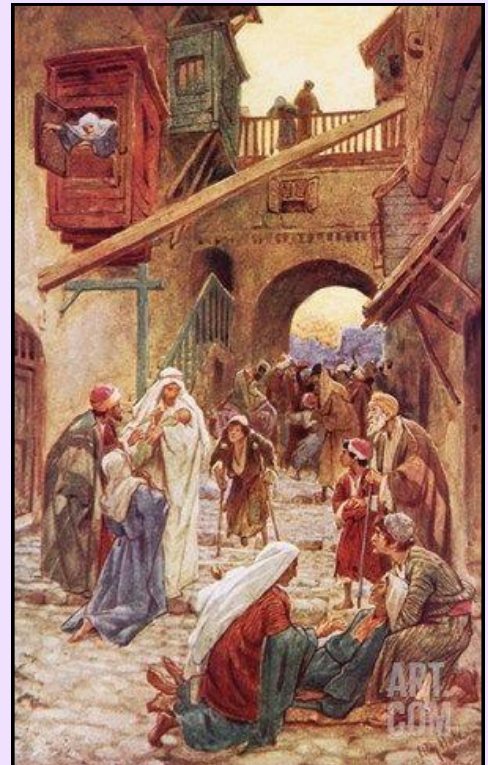
Jesus Drives Out an Evil Spirit

Luke 4:33-37

³³ In the synagogue there was a man possessed by a demon, an impure spirit. He cried out at the top of his voice, ³⁴ "Go away! What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!"

³⁵ "Be quiet!" Jesus said sternly. "Come out of him!" Then the demon threw the man down before them all and came out without injuring him.

³⁶ All the people were amazed and said to each other, "What words these are! With authority and power he gives orders to impure spirits and they come out!" ³⁷ And the [news](#) about him spread throughout the surrounding area.



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"St. Paul's Church is a community of believers in Jesus Christ committed to helping all people by actively practicing the Gospel in word and deed."

PASTOR'S LETTER

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another" (1 Jn. 4: 10-11).

Jesus Christ's mission in the world was to make it possible for all to know God the Father. Toward the close of his ministry on earth, there came a reflective moment when he evaluated the response of those who knew him or at least knew about him. Many had believed that he was God and expressed earnest desire to follow his teachings. On the other hand, there were those who were irritated by him and even plotted to destroy him.

These are the sorts of thoughts that come to mind as we approach the month of February. It is that very special month that brings the unique day of love we call Valentine's Day. This day is set aside to evaluate the relationships we have with others. My guess would be that there are those whom we enjoy and there are those whom we ignore.

When we know someone who has turned against us, it becomes rather easy to ignore him or her and carry little thought for his or her well-being. What we are inwardly suggesting is something like this: *"If you don't care about me, I don't care about you."* You see, we do evaluate the response of others even as Jesus so evaluated his followers.

The only difference is that Jesus did not "write off" those who ignored or even plotted against him. Jesus says, **"I pray also for those who will believe in me"** (Jn. 17:20). This represents God's greatest ambition to bring all mankind into the marvelous relationship of his love. Jesus kept on to the close of his ministry praying for those who **"will believe."** Even as they lifted Jesus up on a cross, he prayed for those who plotted against him, saying, **"Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing"** (Lk. 23:34).

The month of February gives us the opportunity to redirect our thoughts about the people with whom we come into contact. Perhaps the best suggestion would be to enter the month with a new standard of evaluation in the light of Christ that clearly says, *"If you don't care about me, I will pray for you."*

The bottom line is this: a better world is had when people care and pray for each other. Enjoy the month and remember those who yet do not understand the love of God in Christ Jesus.

In Christ,

Pastor Schultz



FEBRUARY

Feb. 1 Kartoe Makor
 Feb. 2 Jean Makor
 Noko Miller
 Feb. 3 Janet Spink
 Zabinski
 Feb. 4 David Martin
 George S. Norris
 Feb. 7 Charles O. Morris
 Feb. 13 Rondell Harmon
 Feb. 14 Corvah Akoiwala II
 Feb. 15 Herbert Jeschke



Feb. 16 Rev. Leon Schultz
 Feb. 17 Jackie Pringle
 Feb. 18 Andrew Buffington
 Dianysa Varfley
 Feb. 22 Leelah D. Graves
 Feb. 25 Mayamu Drechsler
 Ann Kuepker
 Feb. 26 Mary Abbenante

ANNIVERSARIES

Feb. 15 Mr. and Mrs. Donald Kuepker (61st)



WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

| DATE | READERS/ACOLYTE | COMM. ASSIST. | ALTAR GUILD | USHERS |
|------|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|--|
| 3 | Young Adult Dane Watson | Joe Norris Steven Nagbe | Dawn Nahlik Yorquala Makor | Leela Ballah Seaniah Ballah Solomon Paye Hardlyn Dauda |
| 10 | Jacqueline Pringle Jacob Mastrostefano | | Dawn Nahlik Yorquala Makor | Rick Sinnigen Mack Makor Onu Stevens Andrew Mastrostefano |
| 17 | Corvah Akoiwala Camille Arrundell | Rick Sinnigen Bill Oehlkers | Dawn Nahlik Yorquala Makor | Kim King Bill King Dennis Kollie Helen Miller |
| 24 | Andrew Mastrostefano Ciannah Akoiwala | | Dawn Nahlik Yorquala Makor | Kevin Kehyei Danlette Norris George Dauda Grace Dauda |



FEBRUARY 2019

| | | | | | | |
|--|--|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|----|----|
| | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 Souper-bowl Worship Service 10:00 Communion | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| 10 Worship Service 10:00 | 11 | 12 Deacons' Meeting 7:00 | 13 Gbarnga Board Meeting 7:00 | 14 <i>Happy Valentine's Day</i> | 15 | 16 |
| 17 Worship Service 10:00 Comm. | 18 President's Day  | 19 | 20 | 21 Council Meeting 7:00 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 Worship Service 10:00 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | | |

MINUTES OF CHURCH COUNCIL

December 20, 2018

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Church Council was called to order at 7:05 p.m., on Thursday, Dec. 20, 2018, by President David Ballah. Present were: President Ballah, Vice President Corvah Akoiwala, Treasurer Dan Robinson, Secretary David Martin, and Financial Secretary Donna Buco. The meeting opened with a prayer offered by President Ballah. Chairperson of the Board of Deacons Joe Norris and Chairperson of the Board of Social Ministry Danlette Norris joined the meeting in progress.

Approval of Minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the Nov. 15, 2018, Church Council meeting.

Treasurer's Report. Dan Robinson presented the Treasurer's Report for the period Jan. 1 through Nov. 30, 2018. Total income during this period was \$188,569.38 and total disbursements were \$169,058.19, resulting in net ordinary income of \$19,511.19. The balance of Memorial Funds as of Nov. 30, 2018, was \$248,421.30.

Pastor's Report. Pastor Schultz was not in attendance, but he asked Donna to report that he had conducted the funeral of Donna's nephew, Jason E. Lother, on November 30.

Deacons. Joe Norris reported that the Deacons had not met since the last Council meeting. However, progress has been made on the church directory. He asked Corvah when it will be available, and Corvah said that it will be distributed on the second Sunday in January. A substitute pastor has been obtained to conduct the worship services while Pastor is in Liberia. As for other pastoral services, Joe has asked Bill Oehlkers to ask the substitute pastor if he will also be available to respond to requests for pastoral assistance during the week if the need arises.

With regard to coverage in the church office while both Pastor and Donna are in Liberia during the period Jan. 11- 24, 2019, the following schedule is being established:

Thur. Jan. 10: presently uncovered

Friday, Jan. 11: David and Pat Martin

Monday, Jan. 14: Bill Oehlkers

Tues. Jan. 15: David and Pat Martin

Wed. Jan. 16: David Ballah

Thur. Jan. 17: presently uncovered

Fri. Jan. 18: David and Pat Martin

Mon. Jan. 21: Holiday (Martin Luther King Day)

Tues. Jan. 22: David and Pat Martin

Wed. Jan. 23: Corvah Akoiwala

Thur. Jan. 24: David Ballah in morning; Joe Norris in afternoon

Corvah Akoiwala volunteered to secure the building and set the alarm every night (Monday through Friday) at 5:30 p.m. while Donna is away.

Trustees. Chairman David Martin reported on Dec. 19th he met with David Lund and Rick Lees of F.G. Lees & Son, Inc., (Lees) regarding the problem of the basement toilets backing up and overflowing. Lees believes that the problem can be solved by the installation of three check valves: one beneath the floor of the ladies' room, one in the six inch storm drain pipe which runs parallel to Carter Street, and one in the window well outside the annex off the boiler room. Lees is going to submit a written proposal.

A one year contract has been signed with J&A General Contractor LLC (J&A) to provide 15 hours of sexton services to St. Paul's. A schedule of the services which will be performed and their frequency is attached to the contract. J&A will submit monthly invoices. Luis Hunt of J&A is planning to use the same person he presently has working 25 hours a week at Children's Friend. This will give that person a total of 40 hours a week. The Caretaker Program will be discontinued at the end of this month.

Social Ministry. Chairperson Danlette Norris reported that 28 Thanksgiving baskets were distributed. On Saturday, Dec. 15, six members of St. Paul's worked at the soup kitchen located in the Episcopal church at 114 George Street. Social Ministry is planning a fund raiser in January to benefit the Gbarnga Lutheran Mission. Danlette said the kitchen floor needed a good cleaning. David Martin said he would ask J&A to thoroughly clean the floor when they commence providing sexton services in January.

Old Business. There was no old business.

New Business. There was no new business.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:23 p.m. with recitation of The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Martin, Secretary

These minutes were approved at the Jan., 2019, Church Council meeting.

