



PAXCHRISTINEWS

Monthly Magazine of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie February 2019


**A BICYCLE BUILT
FOR TWO: OH THE
ROADS WE'VE
TRAVELED!**

Join us for our annual
Cana Dinner Feb. 23.

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**BRINGING
CHRIST TO OTHERS**

...a Community of Faith Nourished by the Eucharist...



PAX CHRISTI

Catholic Community

12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208
Phone: 952-941-3150 Website: www.paxchristi.com

Office Hours
Monday–Thursday 8:00am–4:30pm
Friday 8:00am–12:00pm

Mass Schedule
Weekend Masses
Saturday 5:00pm
Sunday 9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm
Nursery available at all Sunday Masses.
Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am.

Weekday Masses
Mondays 8:30am
Tuesdays 8:30am with Rosary to follow
Wednesdays 6:00pm
Thursdays 8:30am
Fridays 8:30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation (private)
Saturdays 4:00–4:30pm

Mission Statement: As a community of faith nourished by the Eucharist, we are committed in our discipleship with Christ to act for justice, be of generous service, and authentically welcome all to Pax Christi Catholic Community.

Values: God-Centered, Justice, Inclusion, Spiritual Growth, Stewardship, and Lay Leadership.

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BEFORE I FORGET...



Fr. Bill Murtaugh
Senior Associate Pastor

AS A COMMUNITY of faith nourished by the Eucharist, we are committed in our discipleship with Christ to act for justice, be of generous service, and authentically welcome all to Pax Christi Catholic Community.

"Nourished by the Eucharist," what does that mean for us? Let's start at the beginning. We hear Jesus say "Follow me" 87 times in the four Gospels. Likewise, the word *disciple* appears in the New Testament more than 250 times, while Christian appears three times, and Christianity, zero.

Imagine what would happen if for the next 500 years our churches put as much energy into the formation of generous, Christ-like disciples as the early Church did. Imagine if our churches emphasized Jesus' commandment to "love one another."

In a passage early in the book of Acts, Luke gives us a few snapshots of the early Church. His description is so brief, and his tone so matter-of-fact, that it is easy to miss the full impact of what he is reporting. What he describes seems familiar, not too earth-shattering. He says the apostles taught the people, they had fellowship, and they prayed together. Then, in quick succession, Luke observes three startling characteristics of the early Church in that same matter-of-fact manner. For one, he says, "many wonders and signs were done by the apostles." In the very next verse he says that the members of the early Church had all things in common. That is, they sold their possessions and goods and distributed them to anyone who had need. The third wondrous characteristic of the early Church is that the members are together. "Day by day...they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God" (Acts 2: 43-47).

What we have here is a record of the first potluck supper! Now to us that may not sound very startling. A shared meal? It's a simple thing. But Luke mentions it as one of the miracles of the early Church, a sign of the very presence of God. He does so because the early Church was made up of people who normally would not have anything to do with each other. They were slave and slave owner, Jew and Gentile, male and female, tax collector and pillar of the synagogue, rich and poor—all sharing the intimacy and familiarity of a dining table. They did not choose each other, but God chose them all and called them to the common table. They had nothing in common except the only thing that matters, a common allegiance to Jesus Christ. It is a powerful witness that was not lost on Luke. They became a real community of human beings who found their identity as disciples of Jesus the Risen Christ.

Something like that still happens every time disciples of Jesus Christ gather around Christ's table. It is still a sign and wonder that the broken and scattered pieces of humanity are able to commune with one another. At this table, those who have little in

common are invited to share this common meal. Those who would otherwise prefer not to have anything to do with one another eat together. It is not normal; actually it's quite startling. It is as peculiar as the ways of Jesus, whose meal this is. The brokenness of our lives may remain, but in this meal we are invited to offer our brokenness to the host of the meal, the one who was willing to share our brokenness that we might know healing, reconciliation, and wholeness.

Though the sacrament we sometimes call Communion is more than a mere meal, it is also that. It is around a Communion table, like the other tables around which we gather, that we confront our basic needs, one of which is food. Frederick Buechner writes, "Man does not live by bread alone, but he also does not live long without it." It is around a dining table that we actively recognize our need for the blessings of God's earth, symbolized by bread and wine. It is here that we also confront our tenuous, human vulnerability, for without these God-given gifts of food and drink we will perish.

But no less than food, we need one another. We need to have times when we are gathered



together. It is this aspect of the meal that is highlighted by the term "Communion." In some ways we are communing with God, but we are also communing with one another. A table invites us to take our place with others. Around the table of Communion, we are reminded that the Christian community is not a loose gathering of individuals approaching God in one another's presence. Rather, we

are more like a family that has been invited to share our lives around the dinner table. The symbols we use at Eucharist remind us of this: The wheat that is gathered to make one loaf and the grapes that are pressed to make one cup remind participants that they are one in the body of Christ, the Church.

It is Christ who invites us to the table. When one of us is

missing at the dinner table, that person is missed by the host and those gathered at the table.

You are one of us. You complete the table gathering. "You will have found Christ when you are concerned with other people's suffering and not your own." (*American writer, Flannery O'Connor*).



NEIGHBORS GATHER TO BE NOURISHED BY THE EUCHARIST

THERE IS a phrase I'm sure you've heard: "Be careful what you wish for." Sometimes we wish for something and we believe it will be good for us. The truth is only God knows what that might be. In my early years, I was active in the Pax Christi community. But life got busy, as it does, and I let my commitment to the faith community slide a little bit. Eventually I thought I'd rested on my laurels long enough, so I spoke with Deacon Al about joining Companion Ministry here at Pax Christi. He was eager to send me to visit a couple at Summit Place, a local senior care facility, to bring them the Word and Eucharist. At the same time, I began attending Wednesday night Masses in the chapel. One night, Father Kennedy asked me before the start of Mass, "Do you read?" He had found himself lacking a lector for that night. I hated being in front of groups, was painfully shy, and equally lacking in self-confidence, so what he was suggesting had me bordering on a panic attack. But I became that night's lector. This combination of occurrences and stepping out of my comfort zone has led me to a ministry that I have loved and been a part of every Sunday morning for over 13 years. It started with a visit to bring Communion to Jack

and Mary at Summit Place. They were a wonderfully kind couple who I loved the minute I met them. I returned the second Sunday, only to find that they'd invited their friends, Mark and Audrey, to join us. By the third Sunday, Paddy also showed up. And so it continued until there was no more "room in the inn." We moved our traveling Eucharistic service to Mark and Audrey's larger apartment. Each Sunday, the congregation grew little by little, until eventually we took up residence at the Summit Place Chapel. Today, every Sunday morning at 10:00am, we continue the service with a congregation of 30 to 35 people. We have shared saying goodbye to dear friends and the welcoming of new ones. I look around and many of these folks used to sit right at the end of my pew or just across the aisle from me at Sunday Mass. Now this small community joins together each week to give thanks, listen to the Word, and share the gift of Eucharist in the comfort of their home. Where two or more are gathered... thank you, Pax Christi, for "what I wished for."

Written by Joan Waterstreet, Eucharistic Minister to the Homebound

BLESSED AS EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

WHEN PETER AND LAURIE FRITSCHÉ came to Pax Christi back in 1990, it felt like home. Not only did they love Fr. Tim's homilies, but the atmosphere and progressiveness of the community was very similar to the church experiences they had growing up in Wisconsin. It was in Wisconsin where Peter and Laurie began serving as Eucharistic Ministers. Both started in their respective home parishes after being confirmed. Laurie has been a Eucharistic Minister for 42 years, and Peter for 38 years. For both, the call to the ministry was a result of their parents showing the importance of giving back and being of service.

They still remember the initial apprehension of becoming a Eucharistic Minister, especially being in front of the congregation, and the worry of dropping a host or spilling sacred wine. However, the training was simple, and it was easy to pick up on what to do. Today, they would tell those interested in becoming a Eucharistic Minister or Team Leader that there's really nothing to be nervous about. They also emphasize that Pax Christi is blessed with seasoned team leads and volunteers who are willing to help new volunteers with any procedural questions. And with a big parish, volunteers are always needed, with the possibility to serve at almost every Mass, even if a person isn't officially scheduled.

The couple has a lot of friends that they've made through this ministry. Laurie is a team lead, has plenty of interaction with volunteers, and has built many connections within the community. Because of the visibility of the ministry, they're always amazed by how many people they see outside of Mass who say they recognize them from Pax Christi. "For such a large congregation, it's fun to have that Pax Christi connection outside of the sanctuary," Laurie says, "and we love being more active participants in Mass. It feels great to be able to help out and serve our community." Peter and Laurie note that it can be easy to sit and watch the Mass go by, getting mentally distracted by the busyness in one's life. Through the ministry, worship takes a more active role, inspiring them to get up out of their seats.

The ministry has had a large impact on Peter and Laurie. Laurie says, "This ministry has deep roots within us. It's humbling, fulfilling, a blessing of connection and an honor to be able to serve God's people. It's hard to even put into words what bringing Jesus to all those who come forward means. As ministers, we see the absolute beauty and diversity of humanity in each person. It always amazes us and makes us feel humbled and grateful to be part of this community and to be able to minister to them as they approach. This is a responsibility we take very seriously to share with them the healing power of Jesus in the Eucharistic sacrament."



For Peter and Laurie, this ministry fosters a connection with the entire Pax Christi community, saying, "We never know what people are dealing with in their lives, and we think about that and pray for them as they approach. We always make eye contact with each one: some are joyful, some are troubled, some are in pain, some are very reverent, some are distracted, but each receives what they need." And as parents, Peter and Laurie really delight in blessing the little ones who come forward, saying, "Some are shy, but overall, almost all smile in appreciation, including their parents." To sum up what being a Eucharistic Minister meant to them, they shared this: This ministry makes us feel invigorated, connected, and revitalized.

Written by Peter and Laurie Fritsche, Eucharistic Ministers, and Karin Poellinger, Staff Writer



EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS NOURISHING FAITH AND COMMUNITY

AS PART of Pax Christi's Care and Support Ministry, more than 40 parishioners serve as Eucharistic Ministers to local care centers and individuals who are homebound. In addition to bringing Communion, these volunteers pray and visit with residents, push residents in wheelchairs to Communion services and Mass, and offer other assistance. Two of these Eucharistic Ministers are Pat Wood and Rita Andrescik.

Rita began as a Eucharistic Minister about three years ago. After volunteering with hospice care at Fairview Hospitals for several years, she saw many patients who were Catholic, but many of whom had no family to arrange for them to receive Communion. Seeing an unmet need, Rita approached Jean Thoresen, Director of Care and Support Ministry, about the opportunity to become a Eucharistic Minister. For the last two years, Rita has served at Brookdale Eden Prairie, volunteering every third month. Because all the people she serves are in memory care, she receives a list of Catholic residents from the facility and visits each person individually. In addition to Communion, prayer, and a brief period of reflection, Rita's ministry sometimes includes music. She often brings residents who are in the commons area over to the piano and plays old time songs which they know and can sing along to. Rita said that her experience volunteering in hospice care helped prepare her for this role and the ability to provide this very important ministry. In addition to serving as a Eucharistic Minister, Rita is on the prayer list for Pax Christi, and performs with a band at local care centers.

Volunteering to be a Eucharistic Minister for Care and Support looks different from location to location. Pat Wood's experience as a Eucharistic Minister at Friendship Village, where she and her husband live, is very much about community. In addition to attending Mass at Pax Christi, Pat has been involved with a monthly

Catholic Mass celebrated by Fr. Bill or Fr. Mike at Friendship Village. Pat started out by preparing the community's prayer room for Mass, and was eventually recruited by Care and Support Ministry staff to become a Eucharistic Minister. She said her involvement just sort of mushroomed from there. Like Rita, Pat receives a list of people to visit, primarily those staying in the health care section of her community. She offers Communion to those on the list, as well as those living in the apartment section of Friendship Village who she knows are unable to get to Mass. She said that her role as a Eucharistic Minister has really fostered a sense of connection with her community. She is now acquainted with a large number of residents at Friendship Village and is easily recognized by many. A few of the residents see her and automatically assume that it's time to receive Communion. After becoming a Eucharistic Minister, Pat became part of the Abider's Group at Friendship Village—a group that fills in for family members who are unable to stay with a loved one when they are about to pass.

Both Rita and Pat have a deep sense of appreciation for being involved with Care and Support Ministry. Rita is grateful to be a Eucharistic Minister, saying it helps her form a greater connection with people, and makes her feel closer to God by doing His work. "It has meant everything to me," she says. Like Rita, Pat says being a Eucharistic Minister has strengthened her faith. After attending Mass at Pax Christi, she returns to Friendship Village to share the Scripture message with those she knows were unable to get to Mass. Beyond building connections and supporting the faith of those at Friendship Village, Pat has also formed a deeper connection with Pax Christi. Pat says, "When Pax Christi's Care and Support Ministry comes in each month for Mass, it just feels so good to be part of that group, and to be part of something bigger than yourself."

Written by Karin Poellinger, Staff Writer and Technical Editor

NOURISHING OTHERS THROUGH THE PAX PETS MINISTRY

HELLO fellow Pax Christi members. My name is Isabel Trovato and I have been a member of Pax Christi for about 18 years. My husband and I are PREPARE Facilitators and sit on the PREPARE Leadership Team as well. We also share our talents and treasures in other areas. We love doing what we do and love the Pax Christi community.

One day, about six years ago, I got a letter inviting me to become a council member for Pax Christi. I was very excited to become part of a council and get involved in other areas. I became a member of the Pastoral Care Council (currently known as Care and Support). There I met a wonderful woman named Sara Byerly who mentioned at one of our meetings that she wanted to start a ministry where we at Pax Christi would have pets and owner teams go out into the community to bring joy to those who need it. While I listened to her ideas I knew I had to do whatever I could to help her make this happen.

After many meetings, much research, MANY helping hands, and a lot of patience, we are up and running. We have been training, testing, and sending pet and owner teams out to nursing homes, hospice, and memory care facilities for the past four years. The recipients love and look forward to these visits.

We are also currently working on a reading program to bring our Pet Ministry to the people of Pax Christi directly. Children (who want to) would be able to come to Pax Christi and read to our pets. Libraries have been doing this and have had much success. Pets love unconditionally and without judgement. The children feel like they are in a safe place where they find joy rather than anxiety while reading.



We on the Pax Pets committee would like to see this ministry expand so we can do more and spread more joy to people who benefit from this. We would love for any of you out there who are inspired by this ministry to come check us out. You don't have to be a pet owner to be a committee member. If you do have a pet (and are interested in being a visiting team), contact us. We can give you any information you need and help you through the training and testing process.

Look for more articles and information about us right here in the Pax Christi News magazine and on the parish website. Contact Renee Reardon, Care Ministry Coordinator, at rreardon@paxchristi.com or 952-405-7200 with any questions. And remember, dog spelled backwards is God. I don't know about other pets, but I'm sure all of God's creatures are Godly!

Written by Isabel Trovato, Pax Pet Ministry



CHRIST IS HERE IN OUR MIDST!

PRAYING WITH PAX CHRISTI'S PROCESSIONAL CROSS

EACH TIME we gather for Mass, the priest and liturgical ministers enter the main worship space and bow at the altar. They are led by the cross bearer, who carries Pax Christi's processional crucifix—symbolically welcoming Christ into our midst as we begin our celebration of the Eucharist. The cross, a gift from our friends at St. Andrew's Lutheran Church many years ago, features the corpus (body of Jesus) on the front. Turn the cross around and you will find four smaller images on the back. Take a closer look. What do you see?

FOUR WAYS CHRIST IS PRESENT IN THE LITURGY:

- **IN THE EUCHARIST (BODY AND BLOOD OF JESUS)**
- **IN THE PERSON OF THE MINISTER (PRIEST)**
- **IN THE WORD OF GOD (SCRIPTURE)**
- **IN THE ASSEMBLED PEOPLE OF GOD**

Note first that the four images do not protrude from the cross. Rather, they are carved *into* it. This shows us that each element is an integral piece of the ecosystem of our community and our liturgy—each part distinct, each part essential to the whole, each part deeply embedded in the reality of Christ's presence.

The left hexagon symbolizes the presence of Christ in the person of the minister. The priest leads those gathered in prayer, helps us understand God's message offered through Scripture, and acts *in persona Christi*, or "in the person of Christ."

The top hexagon symbolizes the presence of Christ in the Scriptures we hear. The book is marked with the Greek letters *alpha and omega*, which are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. The Holy Spirit hovers over the book as a dove, reminding us that "the Word was made flesh and lived among us" (Jn 1:14).

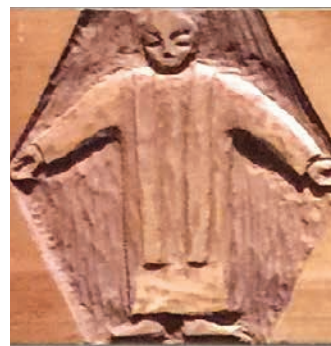
The right hexagon symbolizes the presence of Christ in the community as we gather for the liturgy. St. Paul says that "you are the body of Christ and individually members of it" (1 Cor 12:27). Note that none of the figures has a face. This reminds us that no matter who we are or what we look like, all are welcome at the table of God.

The bottom hexagon symbolizes the presence of Christ in the gifts of bread and wine which transform into the Body and Blood of Jesus. In the sacrament of the Eucharist, the ordinary is made sacred—God's very self offered in humility and love, providing nourishment and sustenance for each of us.

While the handles on the processional cross may not be glamorous, they serve as a reminder that we are to hold each other up and safeguard the presence of Christ in our community. St. Teresa of Avila says that "Christ has no body now but yours; no hands, no feet on earth but yours. Yours are the eyes with which He looks compassion on this world." May our eyes always be open to the presence of Christ in our liturgy, community, and world, that we may reverence him no matter where He may be found.

And just as the cross bearer leads us out from our liturgy at the end of Mass, may we go forth together to share the gospel of love, mercy, peace, and justice with all those we encounter!

*Written by Jessie Johnson,
Sr. High Formation Minister*



WHEN BIG, GO SMALL!

PAX CHRISTI'S MARRIED COUPLES GROUPS

SMALL faith-sharing groups have proven to be the most effective way to form a community where participants can grow deeper in their relationship with God, engage in meaningful conversation, and build friendships. More than just prayer, study, service, or community, a faith-sharing group is all of these combined. Pax Christi offers many small faith-sharing groups. Since it is the month of Saint Valentine's Day, this article focuses on our married couples' groups. Members of our married couples' groups share their experiences.

WHY DO WE NEED FAITH SHARING GROUPS?

Community. Small faith-sharing groups bring together people who will grow in knowing and loving God and each other. There's nothing like looking around at church and seeing people who know you and support you. Faith groups nourish this sense of belonging.

Leah & Trevor Sheveland (YMCG) describe this well:

We love that the YMCG has brought us together in our faith, provided a way for us to be involved and part of the Pax Christi Community, and most important, given us a new set of mutual friends with similar values. We love that the group has social events, good discussion at class, and is celebrating all of life's milestones together.

Partners on the journey. Small faith-sharing groups choose studies that interest them such as Bible study, faith, social justice, church history, personal growth, book study, and relationship topics.

Brett Schelitzche (YMCG) asserts, *The study provides structure and a direction for the group to focus, but the friendships gained are wonderful. To be able to be with others that support you and grow with you on your journey helps you to become a better person.*

Committing to something spiritual. Spirituality is a core element of who we are as Christians. We look for significant ways to share our spirituality with others. Faith groups give us a chance to slow down and listen. Sometimes we ignore our spirituality. By committing to a small group, we are declaring that spirituality is a priority.

Ana and Joe Redemann (YMCG) said, *For us, the group has been a source of support, a catalyst for growth in our own relationships and among our church peers, and has brought us a lot of joy in the form of new friendships and new understandings of ourselves and marriages.*



Growing in Faith Together (GIFT group) – Christmas Party

WHAT HAPPENS AT FAITH SHARING GROUPS?

PRAYER: We recognize that God is the center of our lives and the initiator of grace.

As Lori and Aaron Kick (YMCG) share, *The Pax Christi Young Married Couples Group has been a blessing in our lives. We are learning from each other and with each other to grow in our marriages, faith, and families.*

CONTINUED LEARNING: We study with books, videos, and presenters because being an informed Christian is important.

Aimee Futrell shares, *Being a part of the GIFT group has strengthened our marriage and our connection to the community of Pax Christi. We have made lasting friendships and supported one another through major life events. The various studies over the past four years have deepened our faith both personally and together as a married couple. We are so grateful for this group!*



Young Married Couples Group - Friendsgiving 2018 above and right.

SHARING: We share our reflections. This deepens our own understanding, belief, and growth.

As Laura Bredall (YMCG) expresses, *The group allows Ben and me to focus on just us and our marriage which is really nice, since in this phase of our lives we are very focused on our four young children most of the time. It's almost like going on a date every time we meet. Kids do come up in conversation, but the focus is on our marriage. It is also very nice to get to know intimately other couples in the parish around our age. We've been able to open up to each other and share very personal things about each of us as individuals and our marriages.*

MUTUAL SUPPORT: We are not alone. We need one another to live courageous, faith-filled lives.

Rebecca Case (YMCG) says,

It is not just about the study. We have developed friendship and support groups with each other. We like that the study is not always so structured and is sometimes more fluid as to what direction the group wants to go.

COMMUNITY: We are called by God to live in communion with God and one another.

Kate Lohrenz, member of GIFT, affirms this experience,

Before joining our small group, my husband and I were not very engaged with the community of Pax Christi. We attended Mass but were not involved in any other way. Over the past four years, we have built lifelong friendships that have been a great source of support in both good and difficult times. It is also because of relationships formed through this group that I have become more active in parish ministries outside of our small group.



PAX CHRISTI MARRIED COUPLES GROUPS

Growing in Faith Together (G.I.F.T.): Formerly the Young Married Couples Group, who felt they were no longer young marrieds. They have shared their journey as they grow their families; celebrate births and baptisms and life together. Their studies have included topics of marriage, faith, and leadership development. One semester the men and women studied separately.

Young Married Couples Group (YMCG): Group of Young Married Couples of Catholic and non-Catholic backgrounds, varying years of marriage and in different stages of family life, coming together to share experiences, learn about each other, grow in faith, and form a community. They have shared three studies so far on marriage, faith, and leadership development. They have also enjoyed BBQs, game nights, Friendsgiving, craft night, and baby showers.

INTERESTED? Give your marriage a special Valentine's gift this year—join others in creating more married couple groups at Pax Christi. Perhaps additional young married couple groups? Married with or without children? Empty nesters?

Our married couple groups engage in a variety of study topics related to relationships, personal growth, faith growth, family life, and Bible studies. Each group chooses the study theme and meets for six to eight weeks. The group may also choose to plan social activities.

Please contact Lynn Schelitzche, Director of Faith Formation, lschelitzche@paxchristi.com, to be connected with the right group for you.

Written by Lynn Schelitzche, Director of Faith Formation



A CALL TO WELCOME, NOURISH, ACT, AND SERVE

IN 2017, we defined member engagement at Pax Christi as “a parishioner having a spiritual connection to God and to others in this community.” We each connect to God in our own ways: through community worship, private prayer, meditation, etc. We connect to others in the Pax Christi community of faith primarily at Sunday Mass, where we all are nourished by the Eucharist. We also connect to others by participating in and/or volunteering for, one or more of the many activities here. By participating and volunteering, we utilize the gifts God has given us.

Mary Stommes, editor of *Give Us This Day*, summed it up well in the November 2018 issue: “God endows each of us with particular gifts. Our life’s task is to pay attention to those gifts and cultivate them, give them back to God in service of others. In doing so, we will see the face of God. We must also call forth the gifts of those God sets in our path, encourage them and watch them grow. In their flourishing, we will surely see the face of God. All that we have and all that we are is gift from God, whose Son gave His life for us and awaits us at the heavenly banquet.” And of course, Vatican II documents call for us to serve others.

We must look again at our three principles of Christian hospitality: invite and welcome, accept and include, and share, love, and grow. These call for us to serve others, especially strangers. And to form spiritual connections with other parishioners. We can look at the four key concepts from the new strategic plan—welcome, nourish, act, serve—and there, too, we are called to serve others.

The key questions are: How can I use my particular gifts at Pax Christi? How can I give back? How can I help make someone’s life a bit less burdensome? How can I be a light, indeed a small light, in the darkness? Even a small light can make a big difference for one in need.

If you are not currently acting/serving, or if you are and wish to do more, you can look for opportunities in:

- The weekly bulletin
- The weekly eNEWS
- The monthly PaxChristiNews magazine
- The Pax Christi website
- Talking to any ministry council member
- Talking to a staff person

We are a community of faith dedicated to welcoming and serving all others. We are affirmed, nourished, and given energy by our worship at Eucharist. We each affirm and nourish each other.

Written by the Lay Leadership Development Council Members

WE CARRY THEIR NAMES

ON DECEMBER 20, 2018, Pax Christi community members joined more than 700 people at the Minneapolis County Courthouse for the Homeless Memorial March. This march has become a tradition among several Pax Christi members who wouldn’t miss this opportunity to witness and honor the lives of God’s forgotten children.

Each sign represents the name, age, and city of a homeless person who passed away during 2018.

Walkers carried reminders of these precious human beings with us as we walked the three miles in silence.

We, as participants, walked the streets, braving the cold. These are the same streets where the homeless of Minneapolis live, unable to access the abundance of special restaurants and hotels, and where holiday gatherings inside those establishments are a stark contrast to our sacred purpose of witness.

We walked from the courthouse to Simpson United Methodist Church. Here we carried our memorial signs to the front of the church where the altar was laden with candles, each representing those on the signs. As each name was read, a candle was lit.

As people gathered before the service, those that minister to the homeless in Minneapolis told stories of the folks that they serve. The community of people experiencing homelessness also shared stories of love and concern for their deceased friends.

At the close of the service, we shared together a prayer. As a sign of solidarity and mutual love, all participants were welcomed to share a meal together following this sacred event.

We welcome anyone who wants to join us in December of 2019 to experience this walk together with us. For more information about homelessness in Minnesota, join us on February 17 as we welcome Ann Mavity from the Minnesota Housing Partnership to our Social Justice Speakers Series at 12:30pm in Room 212. For complete details, see page 19.

Written by Peg Musegades and Sister Mary Nick Eiden





MINISTRIES OF PRAYER:

LABYRINTH WALKING – A labyrinth is a walking meditation that integrates mind, body, and spirit in prayer. Pax Christi has an outdoor labyrinth which is self-directed and available year round. Indoor labyrinth walks are available monthly. A topic is explored in a group setting prior to the monthly indoor walks.

PRAYER BASKET – Before and after each weekend Mass, you may write a prayer intention and drop it into the Prayer Basket located near the baptismal font. All intentions in the Prayer Basket are collectively included in the Prayers of the Faithful at each weekend Mass.

PRAYER BOARD – Pax Christi's website hosts the Prayer Board. You are invited to pray as you are able for the intentions listed. Intentions may be submitted via the link on our homepage.

PRAYER CORNER – The Prayer Corner is included in the weekly bulletin. You are invited to pray as you are able for those listed.

PRAYER LINE – The Prayer Line team of dedicated parishioners prays in response to intentions brought forward by others in our community. Call the parish office if you have a prayer request you would like included.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY – Give one or make one. Prayer and love of knitting or crocheting have been combined into a special ministry that reaches out to anyone going through a transition, providing them with a beautiful shawl. You are invited to join this special ministry. Prayer shawls are available in the parish office.

ROSARY GROUP – Each Tuesday morning at 9:05am, the rosary is prayed in the chapel. Come and join others in this timeless prayer.

For additional information visit
www.paxchristi.com/careandsupportministry.

LIVING STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Be a part of this Pax Christi Good Friday tradition! Sr. High youth are needed to act out the scenes from the Passion of Jesus. No memorization of lines needed. Your ability to hold a pose or read from the script as a lector is all that is required. You must be available for rehearsals on Sunday April 7 and 14 from 1:00–3:00pm. Presentations of the Living Stations will take place at 3:00pm on Good Friday, April 19. Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150, for additional information or sign up online at www.paxchristi.com/eventregistration.



BOOMERS & BEYOND
PAX CHRISTI SENIOR MINISTRY

Sign-up at www.paxchristi.com/boomers
to receive info on upcoming events.

Upcoming events include:

February 1: First Friday Coffee and Conversation
February 21: Fraud and Identity Theft Presentation

PARISHIONER NEWS

DECEMBER BAPTISMS

Erik Santiago Lopez	12/2/2018
Ryan Philip Aldoubal	12/9/2018
Robert Uriel James	12/15/2018
Ashley Paige Sullivan	12/15/2018
Jonah Benjamin Gregg Machedehl	12/16/2018
William Benjamin Bredall	2/23/2018
Jack Dennis Shonka	12/30/2018

DECEMBER WEDDINGS

Genevieve Simonson & Daniel Liesener	12/15/18
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DECEMBER FUNERALS

Mary Beth Dolan	12/3/2018
Barbara A. Dessin	12/6/2018
Mary (Delak) Klun	12/14/2018

DECEMBER NEW MEMBERS

Marissa Borgerding and Casey McKinstrey
Randy and Judy Borgerding
Mary Brezinski
Gabe and Stacy Ceman
Stanley Halfmann
Timothy Miller and Therese Seidel-Miller
Tara Moen
Michael Moriarity and Danielle Denney Moriarity
Jeanne Pawielski
Jessica and Ryan Stewart

READINGS FOR FEBRUARY

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 3, 2019

Monday:	Heb 11:32-40; Ps 31:20-24; Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday:	Heb 12:1-4; Ps 22:26b-28, 30-32; Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday:	Heb 12:4-7, 11-15; Ps 103:1-2, 13-14, 17-18a; Mk 6:1-6
Thursday:	Heb 12:18-19, 21-24; Ps 48:2-4, 9-11; Mk 6:7-13
Friday:	Heb 13:1-8; Ps 27:1, 3, 5, 8b-9; Mk 6:14-29
Saturday:	Heb 13:15-17, 20-21; Ps 23:1-6; Mk 6:30-34
Sunday:	Is 6:1-2a, 3-8; Ps 138:1-5, 7-8; 1 Cor 15:1-11 [3-8, 11]; Lk 5:1-11

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 10, 2019

Monday:	Gn 1:1-19; Ps 104:1-2a, 5-6, 10, 12, 24, 35c; Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday:	Gn 1:20 -- 2:4a; Ps 8:4-9; Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday:	Gn 2:4b-9, 15-17; Ps 104:1-2a, 27-28, 29bc-30; Mk 7:14-23
Thursday:	Gn 2:18-25; Ps 128:1-5; Mk 7:24-30
Friday:	Gn 3:1-8; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 7:31-37
Saturday:	Gn 3:9-24; Ps 90:2-4abc, 5-6, 12-13; Mk 8:1-10
Sunday:	Jer 17:5-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20; Lk 6:17, 20-26

READINGS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 17, 2019

Monday:	Gn 4:1-15, 25; Ps 50:1, 8, 16bc-17, 20-26; Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Gn 6:5-8; 7:1-5, 10; Ps 29:1a, 2, 3ac-4, 3b, 9c-10; Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Gn 8:6-13, 20-22; Ps 116:12-15, 18-19; Mk 8:22-26
Thursday:	Gn 9:1-13; Ps 102:16-21, 29, 22-23; Mk 8:27-33
Friday:	1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Saturday:	Heb 11:1-7; Ps 145:2-5, 10-11; Mk 9:2-13
Sunday:	1 Sm 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 15:45-49; Lk 6:27-38

READINGS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 24, 2019

Monday:	Sir 1:1-10; Ps 93:1-2, 5; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	Sir 2:1-11; Ps 37:3-4, 18-19, 27-28, 39-40; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	Sir 4:11-19; Ps 119:165, 168, 171, 172, 174, 175; Mk 9:38-40
Thursday:	Sir 5:1-8; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Mk 9:41-50
Friday:	Sir 6:5-17; Ps 119:12, 16, 18, 27, 34, 35; Mk 10:1-12
Saturday:	Sir 17:1-15; Ps 103:13-18; Mk 10:13-16
Sunday:	Sir 27:4-7; Ps 92:2-3, 13-16; 1 Cor 15:54-58; Lk 6:39-45

FEBRUARY

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Friday, February 1, beginning with Mass at 8:30am

Come and join other parishioners for Mass in the chapel at 8:30am, followed by coffee and hospitality on the first Friday of each month. The event is sponsored by the Pax Christi Boomers and Beyond. All are welcome!

LET THERE BE LIGHT: FEATURED ARTIST ASHLEY DULL

ARTIST RECEPTION FEBRUARY 3 FOLLOWING MORNING MASSES

On Display February 2–17 in the Pacem In Terris Gallery

Ashley Dull's light-filled paintings seek to connect each of us to the peace within. Ashley lives in Minnesota with her wonderful husband and two amazing children. Her work is currently represented in local and out of state galleries, and Ashley is honored to have her paintings in many private collections.

THE GIFT OF FORGIVENESS: A LABYRINTH WALK

Monday, February 4, 6:30–8:30pm, Dorothy Day

What is forgiveness? It is an opportunity for transformation. It helps relieve mental and emotional hurt. Most of all, it has the potential to heal and open our hearts to trust and love again. Forgiveness is not about justifying or accepting what has happened. It is not about forgetting. But instead, it's a decision to let go and turn away from pain, hurt, and resentment. Who do you want to forgive? It might be yourself. Walking the labyrinth may help you find clarity and provide guidance. The labyrinth is a walking meditation, a path of prayer. It has only one path that leads from the outer edge in a circuitous way to the center. Unlike a maze where you lose your way, the labyrinth is a spiritual tool that can help you find your way. Our evening will include a brief workshop followed by an indoor candlelit labyrinth walk. An introduction to the labyrinth will be available to those new to the labyrinth. To register, contact Carrie Chevalier Mosher at Carrie@cycleofwholeness.com.

THE TRANSFORMATIVE POWER OF WORD AND WITNESS *The Life and Legacy of St. Oscar Romero*

Tuesday, February 5, 6:30-7:30pm, Thomas Merton Chapel

Through his ministry as archbishop of San Salvador, St. Oscar Romero preached and lived the gospel in the midst of a divided church and nation. This presentation will invite reflection on the ways in which Pax Christi Catholic Community can learn from the life and legacy of St. Oscar Romero. Presenter Angela Senander is a theologian at the University of St. Thomas, a research fellow at Georgetown University's Berkley Center for Religion, Peace, and World Affairs, and member of Pax Christi Catholic Community. No need to RSVP.

CAST INTO THE DEEP: G. K. CHESTERTON – THE EVANGELIST

Monday, February 11, beginning with a meal at 6:00pm RSVP

How does one engage a culture befuddled by Christ and suspicious of the Church? The life and witness of this 19th-century literary convert and author of the Fr. Brown mystery stories shows that the fundamental disposition of effective evangelism is joy, and life in Christ is a day-to-day encounter with an abundant and surprising offer of grace. In this fifth and penultimate episode of the video series *Catholicism: The Pivotal Players*, Bishop Robert Barron and his team travel to Oxford, London, Beaconsfield, and all of the locations that played a significant role in the formation and vocation of G.K. Chesterton. The series is non-linear, so it's not a problem if you miss a session or join any time. The series will take place in the Hall of Martyrs. There will be an optional meal served at 6:00pm and an introduction followed by DVD viewing at 6:30pm. There will be table and large group discussion from 7:45–8:15pm. Prayer/Eucharistic adoration will be held from 8:15–8:30pm in the Thomas Merton Chapel. The nursery will be available with minimum 10-day notice.

SOULCOLLAGE® – THE COMPANION SUIT

Tuesday, February 12, 6:00–8:00pm, Room 212 RSVP

The Companion Suit — one of the most mysterious, yet ultimately gratifying suits to create. There will be a guided meditation, followed by cardmaking and journaling. There is a suggested \$5 materials fee.

SR HIGH WINTER RETREAT

February 15–17, Brainerd, MN, 9–12 Graders, Cost \$25

It's no secret that life is busy. Current 9-12th graders are invited to take a weekend to breathe and get away from the homework, drama, busyness, and worries of life. This year's winter retreat for high schoolers will be a time of rest, relaxation, and reconnection—with yourself, with God, and with others! Join us for a casual weekend at a cabin near Brainerd, MN, as we talk with each other, sleep in, practice self-care, cook together, sit by the fireplace, create art, stargaze, play games, make music, and pray. There is a limit of 10 spaces, so sign up today! Questions? Contact Jessie Johnson, Sr. High Youth Formation Minister, 952-405-7210, or jjohnson@paxchristi.com.

SOCIAL JUSTICE SPEAKERS SERIES: ON AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Anne Mavity, Executive Director, Minnesota Housing Partnership

Sunday, February 17, 12:30–2:00pm RSVP

Anne Mavity has 30 years of experience in affordable housing, capacity building, and development. Among her varied experience, she has worked on a congressional subcommittee on housing and provided technical assistance and underwriting at the Corporation for Supportive Housing. Before Minnesota Housing Partnership, she was director of new projects at Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative, where she led development of several affordable housing projects in the Twin Cities as well as local and state advocacy efforts. While at Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative, Mavity also organized hundreds of congregational and civic leaders to attend public hearings and help secure unanimous support from the Edina city council for the city's first supportive housing development.

PRESIDENT'S DAY MASS

Monday, February 18, 9:00am

Please join us for the President's Day Mass. After Mass, the parish office will be CLOSED for business in observance of the holiday. Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.

ANNUAL CANA DINNER: ENTERTAINMENT BY FR MIKE!

Saturday, February 23, 2019, 6:00–10:00pm, \$80 per couple RSVP

We are Finding New Roads on "A Bicycle Built for Two: Oh the Roads We've Traveled," this year's Cana Dinner theme. But you won't need to bike to the event as couples of all ages (and abilities) are welcome! The evening begins with a hosted wine reception, followed by a catered dinner. **After dinner, enjoy coffee, wine, and dessert while you are entertained by the magical singing voice of our own Fr. Mike Byron!** A couple's photo op will be offered during the evening, so be sure to dress as you would for a cocktail/dinner party. Register online now! *If you want to go fast, go alone, but if you want to go far, GO TOGETHER!*

TWELVE BASKETS BRIDGING DRIVE

Weekend of February 23/24

Imagine...sleeping without a blanket. Thousands of local families and individuals face this situation every day. Each year, Bridging serves over 13,000 individuals (4,000 households) in the Twin Cities. Bridging needs blankets for 240 people each week. Twelve Baskets is sponsoring a blanket drive the weekend of February 23/24. Donate a new or handmade blanket, quilt, or comforter. All sizes are needed—throw, twin, full, queen, or king. Full-size and queen are especially needed. Drop off blankets in the designated red bins at doors 1 and 3. Thank you for responding with a generous heart!

MAKE PLANS NOW

MARY MAGDALENE AND JESUS *Through The Lens Of Medieval Spirituality And Art with Fr. Steve McMichael*

Thursday, March 21, 6:30–8:30 pm, Room 211

Enrich your faith by examining the faith of Mary Magdalene. This class, presented by Fr. Steve McMichael, will include a brief view of Mary Magdalene and how each age saw her differently. Through the lens of art and spirituality, you'll have the opportunity to develop your own view of Mary Magdalene. The evening will include reflections of Mary Magdalene's own faith, including her encounter with the Risen Christ on Easter Sunday, her presence with the Virgin Mary during the Easter Triduum, and why Mary Magdalene matters in Easter theology. Fr. McMichael regularly presides at Masses, funerals, weddings, and other sacraments at Pax Christi, and is an Associate Professor in the Theology Department at the University of Saint Thomas. He is currently researching and writing on the topic of the resurrection of Jesus in late medieval Franciscan theology, spirituality, and preaching. He has just published a book entitled, *The Glory of Paradise: Risen Life in the Easter Octave Sermons of Bernardino da Siena*.

MIDDLE SCHOOL MISSION TRIP 2019

Week of July 15–19, register online now! RSVP

Take your summer plans to the next level and go on a Just5Days mission trip! We'll be going to Omaha, Nebraska, to be the hands and feet of Jesus while having fun and meeting new friends from around the USA. The total cost for each participant is \$250. There is a limited number of seats for this awesome experience, so don't miss out! For more information, contact Evan Bierer in the Faith Formation office, 952-405-7213, or ebierer@paxchristi.com.

SENIOR HIGH SERVICE/ JUSTICE TRIP

July 21–27; current 9–12 graders

Join us this summer as we travel to Washington, DC, from July 21–27, for a week of service, justice, advocacy, and solidarity! This year's trip will cost \$500 per person, which includes airfare, transportation, food, programming, and supplies! Register now with a \$50 down-payment. Questions? Contact Jessie Johnson, Sr. High Youth Formation Minister, 952-405-7210, or jjohnson@paxchristi.com.

TEAR HERE

<h1>FEBRUARY</h1> <p>See pages 18–19 for details or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.</p>						
SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL	2
3 FEATURED ART EXHIBIT ARTIST RECEPTION	4 LABYRINTH WALK	5 ST. OSCAR ROMERO PRESENTATION BAPTISM CLASS	6 MOM AND KIDS OPEN GYM FAITH FORMATION	7 THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND SCIENCE	8	9 NEW MEMBER SIGN-UP WEEKEND
10 NEW MEMBER SIGN-UP WEEKEND FAITH FORMATION	11 CAST INTO THE DEEP	12 SOULCOLLAGE®	13 MOMS ROCK FAITH FORMATION	14	15 SR. HIGH WINTER RETREAT	16
17 SOCIAL JUSTICE SPEAKER SERIES	18 PRESIDENT'S DAY MASS	19 LEADERSHIP MEETINGS	20 MOM AND KIDS OPEN GYM FAITH FORMATION	21 COMPASSIONATE CARE LISTENING CIRCLE	22	23 TWELVE BASKETS BRIDGING DRIVE CANA DINNER
24 TWELVE BASKETS BRIDGING DRIVE FAITH FORMATION	25	26	27 MOMS ROCK FAITH FORMATION	28		



PAX CHRISTI CONTACTS

PASTOR

Fr. Michael Byron 952-405-7219

SENIOR ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Bill Murtaugh 952-405-7245

DEACONS

Al Schroeder 952-405-7205
Terry Beer 952-405-7231
Charles Bobertz 952-405-7239

PARISH DIRECTOR

Jane Schmitz 952-405-7238

PARISH FINANCIAL MANAGER

Sue Fier 952-405-7202

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

Maria Miller 952-405-7217
Andrea Ward 952-405-7207
Sally Bergum 952-405-7229

COMMUNICATION ARTS

Melissa Nault 952-405-7221

CARE AND SUPPORT MINISTRY

Director Jean Thoresen 952-405-7211
Care Ministry Specialist Mary Ann Callahan 952-405-7227
Care Ministry Coordinator Renee Reardon 952-405-7200

FAITH FORMATION

Director (Adult Faith, RCIA, Preschool) Lynn Schelitzche 952-405-7230
Grades 1 through 5, CLOW Renee Dignan 952-405-7212
Grades 6 through 8 Evan Bierer 952-405-7213
Grades 9 through 12 Jessie Johnson 952-405-7210

JUSTICE

Director Joan Howe-Pullis 952-405-7247

OPERATIONS

Director Ken Reineccius 952-405-7250
Building Services Terry Lee 952-405-7233
Building Services Todd Nelson 952-405-7233

STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

Community Life Coordinator Lisa Cox 952-405-7204
Nursery and Hospitality Coord. Janell McBeain 952-405-7242

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Director Donna Kasbohm 952-405-7240
Liturgy and Funeral Coord. Joan Howe-Pullis 952-405-7247
Teen Choir Angie O'Brien 952-405-7243

COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Fr. Michael Byron, Pastor
Jane Schmitz, Parish Director
Alyson Armstrong
Fred Baumer
Sara Byerley
Bob Martinka
Peg Musegades
Dale Nelson
Jodi Ramirez
Sandra Towey
Danielle Trovato
Phil Trovato
Dave Wagner, Chair

PARISH TRUSTEES

Shari Steffen
Bruce Koehn

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Sandy Towey, Chair



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QUARTERLY MINISTRY SHOWCASE

Weekend of February 9/10

This quarter's Ministry Showcase highlights the many ministries that have current needs for volunteers. Learn more about these ministries at the table after Mass in the Dorothy Day Social Space. You can also check out the "Immediate Needs" section on the SERVE tab of the website.

