

PAXCHRISTINEWS

Monthly Magazine of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie January 2017

WE BUILT THE DREAM!

Habitat for
Humanity Build
– A Labor of Love.

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**NEWS TO WARM
YOUR HEART!**

Justice Ministries – Working for Change in Our World.



PAX CHRISTI

Catholic Community

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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 weekend 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: Pax Christi Catholic Community, in company with God, and guided by the Spirit of Vatican II, welcomes all as leaders in faith for service to the world.

Vision Statement: Pax Christi Catholic Community will be a community guided by a cooperative spirit that supports growth in faith and calls for each member to engage in active and generous service to each other, our community and the greater world.

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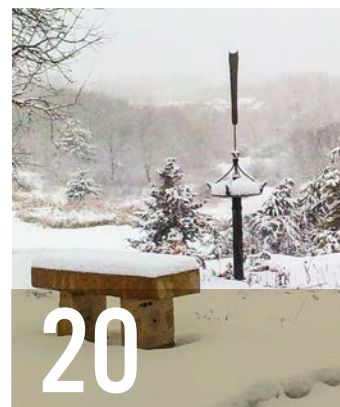
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IT IS RIGHT AND JUST



Fr. Marc Paveglia
Parochial Vicar

“WHAT does the Lord require of you but to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God?” (Micah 6:8). My thoughts return to this key passage as we begin the new year. Micah the prophet puts flesh on our parish’s annual theme, *We Are Called to Serve*. Justice, kindness, and humility — this is who we are as Catholics. This month I want to reflect on justice in our lives.

To some, the word justice has a harsh ring to it. “Justice” can carry a sense of penalties and punishment, of law courts and law suits, of cold legal precision. Maybe *Law and Order* or *Blue Bloods* come to mind. One of my friends remembers one of the earliest memories of justice in his household: when his mother gave a treat to her sons, one brother got to split it with a knife, but the other brother got to choose which part was his. This invariably produced slices of cake and pie that were divided with laser-like accuracy! Fifty-fifty. It was fair and square.

The bible, however, has a much broader vision of justice. Justice is more than simply a line that divides what is yours from what is mine. Classically, justice is defined as giving to another what is due to him or her. And that’s not wrong. But God invites his people to do justice by

eagerly and generously giving to others that which will make them flourish. Biblical justice, coming to full fruition in Jesus Christ, reveals that my flourishing is intimately bound up with the flourishing of all. Saint James tell us:

What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? If a brother or sister has nothing to wear and has no food for the day, and one of you says to them, “Go in peace, keep warm, and eat well,” but you do not give them the necessities of the body, what good is it? So also faith of itself, if it does not have works, is dead (2:14-17).

If I want to truly be a person of justice, then I recognize that I am always and everywhere personally involved with my neighbor. Our faith that God has created all of us with immense dignity summons us to works of justice. In the scripture, justice is essentially the same as righteousness, and righteousness is being in the right relationship with God and with one another.

Our Catholic social tradition bears several hallmarks that help us to be faithful to God’s call. Three exemplary pillars are the dignity of human life, the preferential option for the poor, and the universal destination of goods.

The dignity of each and every human person, from conception until death, is the foundation of a just and functioning society. Our call to justice demands that we never treat anyone as a means to an end – no matter how important that end might appear. Instead, we show by our words and actions that every person is created by God with incalculable worth. Every person deserves to be respected, treasured, and loved. The most basic respect for human dignity comes in the shape of the right to life, without which all other rights become false and illusory, as St. John Paul II taught so beautifully in his life and ministry.

The preferential option for the poor is also a hallmark of our heritage of faith. From the beginning of the Bible, the Lord shows his preferential concern for the poor, the weak, and marginalized; “he rescues the poor when they cry out, the oppressed who have no one to help” (Psalm 72:12). We are called to work for the common good of all, but at the same time we put special energy into helping those who are seen as worthless by the world. Pope Francis has reminded the Church that we must never give into the throw-away culture that not only destroys the planet but also destroys people.



Finally, the Church has continually borne witness to the universal destination of goods. While private property is legitimate, the Second Vatican Council also restated that "In his use of things man should regard the external goods he legitimately owns not merely as exclusive to himself but common to others also, in the sense that they can benefit others as well as himself." That means that the homes we inhabit, the things we own, the churches in which we worship, and the companies which we manage are never ends

in themselves but are meant to help others to flourish. Christians should be wisely ignorant of anything "self-enclosed!"

We can examine our hearts and ask ourselves if we are living out God's justice in a minimalist way or if we are living out God's justice in a biblical way: In our lives, how do we help others to flourish? How do we see one another with the eyes of God, who always desires us to grow into the men and women he calls us to be? Where in my life do I do justice

to my neighbor only with the minimum level of fairness? Can I see the call of Christ — to do justice — only as a debt to pay, or as an opportunity to be his instrument of upbuilding, blessing, and elevating others? Will I let Christ's justice abide in me?

As you continue reading this month's magazine, I hope you are lifted up and inspired by the stories of how Pax Christi answers the call to do justice.

Happy New Year!

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JUSTICE GRANTS: TANGIBLE SUPPORT FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Your gifts to Pax Christi are helping individuals and families in our greater community. Each of the organizations below are Pax Christi Justice Grant Recipients. We invite you to read about the good work that our community contribution is supporting! Please join us at the Justice Ministry Fair which will be held after all Masses the weekend of January 14/15. Thank you for your generosity and support!

BLESSED TRINITY

Blessed Trinity Catholic School, the only Catholic school in Richfield, is a faith-based school which focuses on learning of the whole child. The student population is diverse. Forty percent of the student body does not have English as their primary language.

Grant Objectives: Provide substantial scholarships to low-income families needing extended day programming to ensure access to Catholic education and continued academic growth and success.

The extended day program is a valuable asset to the community and to the school. It draws students to the school who might otherwise not be attending Blessed Trinity. In all cases, the families would not have been able to choose Blessed Trinity without the option of extended care. There is a waiting list to enroll.

Principal Patrick O'Keefe said "Blessed Trinity Catholic School could not support this program without the grant from Pax Christi Justice Board! We are very grateful and thank you for your support."

Written by Justice Grants Board Liaison Mary Stapleton.

CABRINI

CABRINI, a program of Project for Pride in Living (PPL), helps adults experiencing homelessness, mental illness, and chemical dependency find and keep housing, and reach educational, employment, health, family, and community support goals. Cabrini serves over 200 single adults each year, addressing housing as a basic human right and offering integrated services that address the cause and consequences of chronic homelessness.

The Pax Christi grant helps Cabrini, through community support, respond to individual emergencies, provides participants with basic household supplies, assures adequate housing access and support, and addresses the stigma and isolation of homelessness and mental illness.

Members of Pax Christi have volunteered with Cabrini's holiday program and committee membership, and Pax Christi's Twelve Baskets Ministry has provided Welcome Home Baskets.

Written by Justice Grants Board Liaison Mike Eckman.

CENTRO GUADALUPANO

Centro Guadalupano at Holy Rosary Church: A source of hope and opportunity for immigrants and refugee families since 2000.

Welcoming:

Immigrants, refugees, and all in need.

Connecting:

Resources for food, shelter, healthcare, and seasonal needs.

Educating:

English language for adults, after school support for youth.

Celebrating:

Culture, success in work and school, community participation.

New to Pax Christi, who is now providing financial assistance for after school programs, Centro Guadalupano is always open to volunteers.

Written by Justice Grants Board Liaison Jeannie Campbell.

CRISTO REY

Cristo Rey Jesuit High School is one of 32 nationwide schools run by Jesuit priests. Free education and transportation is provided for children of low income families. Opened in 2007 with 100 students, the school has grown dramatically and is at full capacity. One hundred percent of students have graduated high school and been accepted into college, while 71% are currently active in 2/4 year programs. The school requires students to work one day a week for corporate sponsors which covers over 50% of the yearly student cost. Pax Christi has supported the program since its inception.

Written by Justice Grants Board Liaison Dave Rosa.

RISEN CHRIST

Risen Christ Catholic School was formed in 1993 as a consolidation of five area parish schools: Holy Name, St. Stephen's, St. Albert the Great, Incarnation, and Holy Rosary. Risen Christ currently serves 325 students in grades K-8, with more low-income students (96%) and a higher percentage of Latino students (88%) than any other Catholic school in the Twin Cities. As the cost to educate each child far exceeds the capacity of these families to pay tuition, funding, in addition to volunteer hours from organizations such as Pax Christi, allows these children to break the cycle of poverty and become the leaders of tomorrow.

Written by Justice Grants Board Liaison Jessica Blair.

SMALL SUMS

Small Sums is a non-profit organization in St. Paul. Their mission is to support homeless individuals who have found jobs, with the required work clothes and shoes, trade tools, professional licenses or union dues, and bus passes, giving them reliable transportation to work for the first few months of employment. The program is committed to assisting them in their efforts to find stable housing and to become self-sufficient.

The success of this program is evidenced by the 2015 Client Follow-up which surveyed 40% of the clients who received assistance and found that 60% were in stable housing and still employed!

Pax Christi has been providing financial support to Small Sums for the last five years.

Written by Justice Grants Board Liaison Gerry Revier.

For information about any of these Grant Recipients including how to find out about opportunities to connect and engage in serving them, please contact Joan Howe-Pullis, Justice Ministry Coordinator, 952-405-7247, or jhowe-pullis@paxchristi.com, who will connect you with the appropriate Grant Board Liaison.



RISEN CHRIST



CRISTO REY



BLESSED TRINITY



WE BUILT THE DREAM!

THE ASTOUNDING people of Pax Christi were successful in accomplishing their commitment to help build and sponsor the Habitat dream house for a needy family in Prior Lake. This labor of love was done to honor our 35th Anniversary. The members of the Pax Christi Community are a formidable group when they work together to achieve their goals. Over a two-week period in the beginning of November, 94 people gave their gift of time and volunteered to help build a lovely home for a single mom and her 4 kids in the Prior Lake community. More than 35 people volunteered their time for several eight-hour days, even taking vacation time to help. These

volunteers included laborers, food delivery and set up volunteers, and very substantially the food hospitality staff who nourished us with extraordinary menus each day (thanks, Janell).

Studies have shown that strong families, strong neighborhoods, and lifelong learning begin at home, and Pax Christi's community members fulfilled their commitment to help build an affordable house for one low income family. The Project provided an opportunity for social action, community collaboration, developing community spirit, and an uplifting experience. As Paul Cress stated, "It was a good mix of experience, skills, and willingness to work." Workers helped each other in various functions and no one seemed intimidated. It was nice to see people smiling, laughing, and having fun doing a work of mercy. Susan Cavara stated, "It is impressive to see the dedication, hard work, and look of pure joy on people's faces." Many volunteers thought the experience was fun as Steve Allen and Marc Nosal stated, "We need more of these opportunities, and I want to do it again."

Once again, members of Pax Christi have dedicated their time and talent to the pursuit of Justice and Catholic Social Teaching. As Pope Francis said in his homily in March of 2014, "An authentic faith always implies a deep desire to change the world." YOU ARE AWESOME!!!

Written by Joan Pare', Justice Council Chair.





BRIDGING DRESSER BUILD

ONE OF THE PROJECTS undertaken by Pax Christi in honor of the parish's 35th Anniversary was a commitment to purchase and build 100 dressers for Bridging. The project honors the request of Fr. Tim Power to include a project with Bridging, which was born at Pax Christi.

On three Saturday mornings in October and November, groups of Pax Christi volunteers gathered over coffee and snacks at the Bridging warehouse in Bloomington. Most mornings they were greeted by Pax Christi's own Fran Heitzman, 90 years young and the founder of Bridging. The session began with Sara King, Bridging's Bloomington Volunteer Program Supervisor, providing an overview of the organization and how it improves lives by providing quality furniture and household goods to those transitioning out of homelessness and poverty. Sara also led the group on a tour of the large warehouse full of donated furniture and furnishings.

Then the group divided into teams of three or four and got to work. Each dresser comes as a flat-pack kit and requires considerable assembly. The first dresser is a learning experience and usually takes a while. Subsequent dressers generally go more quickly. Most teams were able to complete two or three dressers in a morning's work, and some were able to complete more than that. The Twite family (Paul, Mary, and Rebecca) were our dresser-building rock stars, finishing six dressers in a single morning!

Over the three Saturdays scheduled as of this writing, 83 volunteers have participated in the dresser project, ranging in age from teens to septuagenarians. On October 8 we welcomed a group of students from Cristo Rey High School to our crew. Volunteers report that they have enjoyed the experience, the fellowship, and the opportunity to help someone make the huge leap out of poverty or homelessness.

We have completed a total of 91 dressers thus far, and we're confident that we will soon finish off the remaining nine dressers in our commitment. The project has been a great opportunity to honor the spirit of Pax Christi in its 35th Anniversary year! *Written by Jack Kegel, Pax Christi Justice Council.*



OLD FRIENDS; NEW WAYS TO SERVE



shelf, being a pantry greeter, and picking up rescue food from local grocers and retailers. Visit their website at propfood.org for information on how to get started.

A few other exciting opportunities are coming up at PROP as well! Their 6th annual Empty Bowls event will be held on February 21 at 11:00am–1:30pm and 4:00–7:00pm at St. Andrew Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie. Empty Bowls has become an international grassroots project to raise funds for local food shelves. Participants can select their favorite handmade bowl, eat a simple meal of soup and bread, enjoy a variety of musical entertainment, and make a generous free will donation. Artists have also donated one-of-a-kind items for the silent auction.

Lastly, in January PROP is beginning an exciting new program to deliver food to seniors living at or below the poverty level in Chanhassen and Eden Prairie; it is called Senior Mobile Food Delivery. This amazing new program will help to feed elderly people in the community who might otherwise have a difficult time getting food to their homes.

Written by Jessica Huber, Pax Christi Justice Council.



PROP, an organization aptly named People Reaching Out to Other People, has been doing just that since 1971 when it was first established in Eden Prairie. PROP depends highly on volunteers from the community to help their neighbors in need by donating their time, food, and money.

Pax Christi has been partnering with PROP for many years to help feed and serve the destitute in Eden Prairie and Chanhassen. Burgundy Bags is a program in which Pax Christi members can fill burgundy totes with many needed food items to be delivered to PROP regularly. The Giving Garden is also a generous way that Pax Christi parish members can help feed those in need. Each

year the Giving Garden donates more than 1,200 pounds of organic tomatoes, green beans, cucumbers, potatoes, cabbage, peppers, peas, carrots, and more to help PROP provide fresh foods to Eden Prairie and Chanhassen-area families. Volunteers help in many ways to make the Giving Garden a community effort, from helping to plan and prepare for the garden in April, planting seeds and seedlings in mid to late May, and weeding, watering, picking, and delivering vegetables to PROP from June to September.

Interested volunteers can also work directly with PROP to donate their time, food, and money. Volunteer opportunities include working at the food





Advocacy: Active support, as of a cause. An advocate is a person who argues for a cause; a supporter or defender.

(The Holy Spirit is referred to by Jesus as "the Advocate" in John 14:16: "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever.")

CALLED AS ADVOCATES:

ADVOCACY COMMITTEE OF THE JUSTICE COUNCIL

THE ADVOCACY COMMITTEE serves under the Justice Council at Pax Christi. A core value of Pax Christi is Justice: "We are advocates for the marginalized and champions for systemic change." As such, its purpose is to discern the most pressing needs of our community and beyond and to formulate and carry out plans and actions to meet these needs.

Systemic change is not merely a Band-Aid but a lasting improvement in the lives of our sisters and brothers on the margins of our society who need a voice: the hungry, the sick, the stranger, and the prisoner. We are inspired by the words of Jesus:

"Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me'" (Matthew 25:34-36).

How do we do this? In 2016 we focused on advocating for more affordable housing and an increase in MFIP, the Minnesota Family Investment Program. This involved providing opportunities for parishioners to influence their state legislators by signing cards, writing letters, and making phone calls. Parishioners participated in the annual Walk for the Homeless in December, the JRLC (Joint Religious Legislative Coalition) Conference, Homeless Day on the Hill, and Voter Awareness prior to the November election.

The Committee is currently discerning the most pressing issues for 2017 and is looking for input from the parish. Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 24, 6:30pm at Pax Christi. If you'd like to be involved, call Andrea Ward, our staff liaison, 952-405-7207, or award@paxchristi.com, and someone from the Advocacy Committee will contact you. You needn't attend meetings to get on our mailing list, offer suggestions, or keep up-to-date on opportunities to serve.

Written by Tom Scheller, Justice Advocacy Committee.

WE ARE NOT CALLED TO SERVE MERELY IN ORDER TO RECEIVE A REWARD, BUT RATHER TO IMITATE GOD, WHO MADE HIMSELF A SERVANT FOR OUR LOVE. NOR ARE WE CALLED TO SERVE ONLY NOW AND AGAIN, BUT TO LIVE IN SERVING. SERVICE IS THUS A WAY OF LIFE; INDEED, IT RECAPITULATES THE ENTIRE CHRISTIAN WAY OF LIFE: SERVING GOD IN ADORATION AND PRAYER; BEING OPEN AND AVAILABLE; LOVING OUR NEIGHBOR WITH PRACTICAL DEEDS; PASSIONATELY WORKING FOR THE COMMON GOOD.

(POPE FRANCIS 10/2/16, HOMILY)



WE ARE ALL MINISTERS, SHARING, SERVING, AND STRENGTHENING OUR FAITH

WE MADE a change in terminology over the past year; moving from calling those who share their time and talent for the ministries at Pax Christi from volunteers to shared ministers. Why the change? It's much more than semantics. We can all point to times when we have been "volunteered" for some task, sometimes, not the "opportunity" we would have selected and possibly a less than pleasant experience. Our names may have been added to the list of helpers when we missed a particular meeting where the tasks were assigned, our friend or spouse needed some more hands (and was quite persuasive), or a parent decided that it was our turn to lend a hand. Volunteers are an essential part of the world, the time shared by volunteers helps get work done and goals achieved — but the goals of the project may or may not be the same as held by its volunteers. Don't get me wrong, all volunteers gifts are appreciated, but the successful task or project is rated by meeting a particular goal, not whether or not the volunteer was transformed by the experience.

A shared minister's gift of time, talent, and/or resources is an intentional response made from a disciple of Jesus Christ. An example or two may help illustrate this point. A music minister may have the ability to sing or play an instrument, a wonderful talent indeed, but many of us can point to instances where the sung prayer in a Mass transformed our faith experience to a deeper, more intimate level, for both those listening as well as the instrumentalist or vocalist. Someone can lend a hand and show up for a Loaves and Fishes dinner and serve the hungry, but the shared ministers who have come month after month, and some for years, to Dorothy Day Center or to St. Stephen's to prepare and serve a meal are committed to doing their part to feed the hungry and live the Gospel, building a community of faith in a place where faith and hope are endangered. These shared ministers can tell stories of how their faith has been

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13.



fortified through their evangelization. Every single shared minister in the Pax Christi community will quickly agree that the gifts shared paled in comparison to how their own faith lives were renewed with each opportunity to give and serve. Just as being a disciple is so much more fulfilling than mere membership, sharing one's gifts as a minister is a deeper, faith-filled conversion from that of being a volunteer.

So it's time once again to celebrate our shared ministers with a winter warm up in the form of our Minnesota Mardi Gras — Shared Ministry Appreciation Event. Saturday, January 21, we will have an adult evening of fun and frolic beginning with Mass at 5:00pm. After Mass, we will continue the celebration of all of Pax Christi's Adult Shared Ministers. Please see complete details on page 18.

For those who might need childcare, the nursery will be available; please make reservations via www.paxchristi.com/childcare.

We aren't forgetting the awesome gifts of our youth serving as shared ministers. Stay tuned for information on a family Mass and picnic event to be held later on when the weather is warmer.

Written by Mary Kennedy, Director of Stewardship and Development.

CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME

PEOPLE ASK, "Why are you involved with the Environmental Challenge Ministry," or "How is this ministry related to the Social Justice Ministry?"

We asked this question at our first fall meeting this year, and here are a few of our responses: This ministry provides an opportunity for helping with the preparation of the Wildflower Garden, bringing tranquility to our space around the pond, being the hands of God by restoring natural plants: learning about sustainable living with the use of the solar install, discussing worldwide news (earthquakes, floods, etc.), and realizing that even though we are pretty protected in our homes in Eden Prairie, our brother and sisters in other parts of the world are not so lucky. Pope Francis reminds us that we are all connected. We need to do our part in protecting the planet.

The ECM has invited speakers and has shown films to educate us about water concerns, climate change, eating foods that keep us healthy, learning about our carbon footprint, plus many more topics. These are some of our reasons for being involved. Now, how are these problems related to Social Justice?

Social justice is about taking care of the less fortunate as well as one another.

Pope Francis reminds us that we have an obligation to the poor and our future generations when he said, "20% of the world's population consumes resources at a rate that robs the poor and our future generations of what they need to survive." (No. 96 *Laudato Si*).

Choices we make in our busy lives can cause a huge effect on others. God created this world that we live in. We are borrowing it from Him so we can pass it on to our children. We are responsible to protect it for all human beings. It's important that we realize that we are all connected and what happens in one area affects someone else in another. Pope Francis says to "every person on the planet, we all share a common home." It is our responsibility to take care of it.

That is why we are a part of the Social Justice Ministry.

The environmental ministry feels it is important to acknowledge these issues and provide information to anyone interested in listening. If you are interested, come join our monthly meetings held the second Tuesday of the month. If you can't make meetings, contact the parish office to be added to an email list and we will keep you informed about important issues.

Written by Peg Musegades, Environmental Challenge Ministry.

WHAT IS GOD CALLING ME TO DO?

HAVE YOU ever asked yourself "What is God calling me to do? Where can I make a difference?" What started out as a little outing with my daughter's dance team several years ago soon tugged at my heartstrings and suggested to me that I could do more; I could make a difference... at St. Anne's Place in Minneapolis. Why did this appeal to me? I think the main reason was that this special place is designed to help moms and their children in crisis. I could relate — I'm a mom. I know what an amazing job being a mom is, and I'm fortunate to have many resources and gifts to assist me in this great role. Others are not so fortunate. I admire the strength of these women to leave unstable, unhealthy situations, and want something better for themselves and their children. From the first time I went to visit St. Anne's Place, I was touched by the happy kids that I witnessed. Moms and their children were happy to have a roof over their head, food to eat, and a chance to get a new start. The needs at St. Anne's Place are many. Families are coming and going. I initially got more involved by organizing a "coats, hats, mittens, towels, and sheets drive" amongst my friends. It was a great thing to do with my children, a chance for them to grow in their charity work and witness how we can make a difference. From there, I invited my parents to get involved. St. Anne's Place pulled at their heartstrings as well. They wanted to get involved. The need for these basic necessities is on-going. Another great opportunity to help is at Christmas time. The staff at St. Anne's recognizes how important it is to make this a special time for its residents. There is a need for donations for moms and the children to shop for each other.

What do my parents and I hope to accomplish by deepening our commitment and involvement to St. Anne's Place? We hope for a chance to break the cycle... the poverty cycle, the idea that this is all the better I can do. Children learn by example. We need them to see better examples, to see that they can achieve more, and that they are loved, that we are all God's children. We feel it is our calling to be a part of the process when the women and children are ready to leave St. Anne's Place and get a place of their own. They need help setting up their new home life. We all know how much it takes to set up a house, to have the basics. Most of these women come to St. Anne's with barely anything of their own. St. Anne's offers them housing, food, basic necessities, and extensive case management and programming to overcome the trauma of homelessness. Because they are placed there by social services, there are many rules and restrictions — unfortunately a lot has to do with their length of stay. We would like for them to have a chance at success, a chance at a new beginning and a chance to change their life pattern. I know that I can make a difference, but I am only one. We all know of many places to share our time, talents, and treasures. St. Anne's Place is it for my family. Seeing is believing. I know that if I can share awareness of this great cause, others will want to join me on the mission to make a change! I hope that Pax Christi and its parishioners are a part of that journey with me!

Written by Jennifer Nerison, Pax Christi parishioner.

I'M TOO BUSY ALREADY!

WHEN I was asked to consider making chasubles and stoles for Fr. Bill and Fr. Marc, my jumble of thoughts was immediate and probably predictable — Me? There are better qualified.... Now? I am too busy.....Really??? Me??? Ultimately, though, my answer was "Yes" because I treasure the season of Advent and I am grateful for the depth Pax Christi has brought to my spiritual life. It's also hard to say no to a request from Father Bill!

I am a quilter, so I qualified as far as being a person with a sewing machine — but experience with

vestment sewing — nil. Still, the "how hard could this be" plan went into effect. Aaah, that's when I began to learn a few things: Persistence in finding the right fabric and color to work with the new Advent environment, Humility — in simplicity, there are challenges — no pattern, none available! Patience — dear Lord, why did I say yes to this; what WAS I thinking? And yet, when I prioritized for this work, I found peace. In the hours of pattern drafting, measuring, sewing, I thought about how important

Advent is in preparing us for Christmas. I found myself using some of this time to pray for my family and others around me and those already spending Advent in heaven. And of course, I prayed that the project would be a success! Finally I said a prayer of thanksgiving that I had accepted this challenge to find time I thought I didn't have, to do something I have never done, using the gifts I've been given. For me, this is stewardship.

Ron, my husband, said little about this endeavor though he likely had moments, too, of "what was she thinking," but on the day I delivered the completed vestments, he said he had been somehow feeling the need to genuflect every time he walked past my sewing room door — so this Yes may have been important for him, too!

Written by Becky Jensen, Pax Christi Quilter's Ministry.



WHAT'S IN A NAMETAG?

PARISH lay leaders have been discussing how to make information for parishioners and new comers or visitors easier to obtain and more personal on a one-to-one basis. It is with this in mind that our Member Engagement Steering Committee has asked all parish lay leaders to wear their name badges to all parish events: worship, meetings, social gatherings, volunteer events, and Faith Formation activities. These lay leaders are members of our nine Leadership Councils and Member Engagement Committee and are wearing name tags so that all can easily identify them and ask questions, make suggestions, or just have a great conversation.

Maybe you want to know what the council that person represents is doing or what another council or ministry area may be working on. Or perhaps you've been thinking about volunteering or being involved in a ministry and need a little more information or a name to contact. We hope all parishioners, newcomers, and visitors will feel comfortable to simply ask a question or make a suggestion. Every person will not have all of the answers, but they will gladly follow up and get answers for you!

To be a truly engaged community, we must be, first and foremost, accessible to others in our community. Our motto, "All are welcome," can be a dynamic experience if we are all willing to show hospitality and be welcoming. In wearing nametags to all events, parish leaders are saying "Welcome, come in and join us; we are glad you are here, and we want to hear what you have to say." The more conversations that we share with each other, the more we build an engaged and vibrant Pax Christi community. And if you have no questions or suggestions, simply introduce yourself to someone you do not know yet. We at Pax Christi are a community of believers where all are welcomed.

For the past several months (and on into the future) on the second Sunday of the month, we ask all Mass attendees to wear a nametag. This is the same weekend that we welcome new members thinking of joining our community. We welcome them by name. Writing our name says we belong to this community, we are committed to this community. On the first Sunday of the month we have baptisms during Mass. At baptism we are called by name and profess a close relationship with God. Isaiah 45:3 says, "...that you may know that I am the Lord, the God of Israel, who calls you by your name." We are called, welcomed, and blessed as disciples in the peace of Christ.

Written by members of the Member Engagement Steering Committee.



READINGS FOR JANUARY

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 8, 2017

- Sunday: Is 60:1-6/Ps 72/Eph 3:2-3a, 5-6/Mt 2:1-12
- Monday: Is 42:1-4, 6-7 or Acts 10:34-38/Ps 29/Mt 3:13-17
- Tuesday: Heb 2:5-12/Ps 8/Mk 1:21-28
- Wednesday: Heb 2:14-18/Ps 105/Mk 1:29-39
- Thursday: Heb 3:7-14/Ps 95/Mk 1:40-45
- Friday: Heb 4:1-5, 11/Ps 78/Mk 2:1-12
- Saturday: Heb 4:12-16/Ps 19/Mk 2:13-17

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 15, 2017

- Sunday: Is 49:3, 5-6/Ps 40/1 Cor 1:1-3/Jn 1:29-34
- Monday: Heb 5:1-10/Ps 110/Mk 2:18-22
- Tuesday: Heb 6:10-20/Ps 111/Mk 2:23-28
- Wednesday: Heb 7:1-3, 15-17/Ps 110/Mk 3:1-6
- Thursday: Heb 7:25--8:6/Ps 40/Mk 3:7-12
- Friday: Heb 8:6-13/Ps 85/Mk 3:13-19
- Saturday: Heb 9:2-3, 11-14/Ps 47/Mk 3:20-21

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 22, 2017

- Sunday: Is 8:23--9:3/Ps 27/1 Cor 1:10-13, 17/Mt 4:12-23
- Monday: Heb 9:15, 24-28/Ps 98/Mk 3:22-30
- Tuesday: Heb 10:1-10/Ps 40/Mk 3:31-35
- Wednesday: Acts 22:3-16 or Acts 9:1-22/Ps 117/Mk 16:15-18
- Thursday: 2 Tm 1:1-8 or Ti 1:1-5/Ps 96/Mk 4:21-25
- Friday: Heb 10:32-39/Ps 37/Mk 4:26-34
- Saturday: Heb 11:1-2, 8-19/Lk 1/Mk 4:35-41

READINGS FOR THE WEEK OF JANUARY 29, 2017

- Sunday: Zep 2:3; 3:12-13/Ps 146/1 Cor 1:26-31/Mt 5:1-12a
- Monday: Heb 11:32-40/Ps 31/Mk 5:1-20
- Tuesday: Heb 12:1-4/Ps 22/Mk 5:21-43
- Wednesday: Heb 12:4-7, 11-15/Ps 103/Mk 6:1-6
- Thursday: Mal 3:1-4/Ps 24/Heb 2:14-18/Lk 2:22-40 or 2:22-32
- Friday: Heb 13:1-8/Ps 27/Mk 6:14-29
- Saturday: Heb 13:15-17, 20-21/Ps 23/Mk 6:30-34



PARISHIONER NEWS

NOVEMBER BAPTISMS

Isabella Maloney	11/5/2016
Milo Robert Pangborn	11/6/2016
Easton Thomas Silva	11/13/2016
Zachary Morley Silva	11/13/2016
Emily Clare Dorothy Wright	11/13/2016
Alexander Adam Ponkin	11/16/2016
Owen Paul Kuznia	11/27/2016
Charlotte Anne Warren	11/27/2016

NOVEMBER FUNERALS

KMarla Rose Einarson	11/17/2016
Betsy Root	11/19/2016
Guy Schoenecker	11/29/2016

NOVEMBER NEW MEMBERS

- Rick and Marlene Baune
- Juliana Courier
- Marge Dubbelde
- Frederick and Gretchen Haynes
- Joseph Lo Bello
- Steve and Marie Lukes
- Joseph and Felicia O'Neill
- John and Amy Rogoz



Photos from the 2016 Holiday Tea, Boutique, and Bake Sale, December 3.



AN UPDATE ON BOW: BREAKING OPEN THE WORD

ON NOVEMBER 21 at Pax Christi we launched a brand new way to worship called *Breaking Open the Word*. The project was born from an idea of our Music Ministry Leader, Donna Kasbohm, and brought into being by the Worship Council. It's a Facebook group made up of members of Pax Christi. Every Sunday night the readings for the following weekend's masses are posted on the group page, and each member of the group receives a notification. Members can then comment on each reading. Members share with us how the scripture speaks to them and to their family, how the readings relate to what is happening in their daily lives and in their community.

So far we have 209 members. A handful of parishioners comment each week, and we are looking forward to more and more comments and conversations as the weeks go on. It is an exciting and different way to actively worship. When we hear the readings the next weekend at Mass, we know them, and we know how we relate to them. The homily becomes that much more interesting because it is yet another new insight and perspective. We want this to be a safe space for Pax Christi worshipers to connect with one another and use the bible to reflect on and better understand the issues we are dealing with today. It is a way for each of us to gain more insight into the people of Pax Christi, our struggles, and our triumphs.

The more the merrier. We want as many people as possible to participate. So if you'd like to join us, the link to *BOW: Breaking Open the Word* is on paxchristi.com under the "Worship" tab. Check it out!

Written by Danielle Trovato, Worship Council.

www.facebook.com/groups/breakingopentheword



JANUARY

HOLY DAY MASS: MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

Saturday, December 31, 5:00pm and

Sunday, January 1, 9:00am, 11:00am, and 5:00pm

SPIRITUALITY AND MENTAL WELLNESS GROUP

FIRST THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH: January 5, 3:00–4:30pm

This group meets monthly and provides an opportunity for anyone with mental health concerns to both give and receive support. If you would like to make a deeper connection with God and oneself and be exposed to tools which might help make one's life more manageable, you are welcome to join this group.

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Friday, January 6, beginning with Mass at 8:30am

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



A NOTE ABOUT EVENTS AT PAX CHRISTI

Due to the large volume of events we offer at Pax Christi, we have to keep our announcements brief. Please visit us online at www.paxchristi.com for additional information and details. If an event indicates RSVP, you may register/signup online at www.paxchristi.com/event-registration. Questions? Contact the parish office, 952-941-3150.

JANUARY MINISTRY SHOWCASE: JUSTICE

Weekend of January 14/15 in the Dorothy Day Social Hall

Additional details on back cover.

BEFORE THE FLOOD - FILM VIEWING EVENT

January 15, 1:00pm and January 22, 6:00pm

"It's a hoax." "Prove it to me." No matter what your view is on climate change and global warming, we'd like to invite you to see *Before the Flood*. *Before the Flood* is a film that was shot over a two year period. UN messenger of PEACE, Leonardo Di Caprio, attempts to find causes and present solutions to climate change. The story covers the globe from Greenland to Indonesia showing the increasing damage to our landscapes, our wildlife, plants, and marine life. What and how do these changes affect our future and our children's future? *Before the Flood* is an eye opener and it puts climate change up front and personal. Hopefully this documentary will inspire everyone to learn more, ask more questions, and realize it is real and that there is still time for us to make changes. Join us January 15 or at the second showing on January 22. Popcorn and snacks will be served! This event is sponsored by the Justice ministry as part of the January Ministry Showcase.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR MASS

Monday, January 16, 9:00am

Please join us for Mass on MLK Day at 9:00am in the chapel. The parish offices will be closed for the holiday and the building will be closed following Mass.

CAREGIVER SPIRITUAL SUPPORT

THIRD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH: January 19, 1:00–2:30pm

Recent studies report that nearly 44 million adults in the US are providing personal assistance for family members with disabilities or other care needs. That's more than one out of every six adults. As these numbers increase, hundreds of websites and services have been created to assist with the mental, physical, and emotional demands of the caregiver. Pax Christi's Caregiver Spiritual Support Group aims to support caregivers on the spiritual dimensions of this journey by offering a prayerful and supportive faith-based time to gather together. This group meets on the third Thursday of every month from 1:00-2:30pm in room 221. Topics such as spiritual pain, forgiveness, and hope will be explored through video presentations and small group sharing. The group is open to anyone in the role of a caregiver. You may attend monthly or as needed. Please contact Jean Thoresen, Director of Pastoral Care, 952-405-7211, if you have any questions.

MINNESOTA MARDI GRAS

Saturday, January 21, 6:00–8:30pm

Join us for an adult evening of fun and frolic beginning with Mass at 5:00pm. Following Mass, we will continue the celebration of all of Pax Christi's Adult Shared Ministers with appetizers, desserts, soda, beer, wine, and plenty of opportunities for conversation and laughs. If you are an adult member of Pax Christi and involved in one of our 110+ ministries, you are invited to attend. We are all **CALLED TO SERVE** and this event will help us celebrate the myriad ways each of us has responded to that call. No RSVP is needed — just come and join in the fun! For those who might need childcare, the nursery will be available. Please make reservations via www.paxchristi.com/childcare.



MAKE PLANS NOW

BOOMERS AND BEYOND MOVIE AND POPCORN EVENT

Tuesday, February 14, 1:00pm

Come join the Boomers and Beyond for the movie "OH GOD" starring George Burns and John Denver. It will be in the Dietrich Bonhoeffer room at Pax Christi. There will be lots of popcorn and lemonade for a fun afternoon.

ANNUAL CANA DINNER – EARLY LOVE BIRD RATE

Saturday, February 25, 6:00pm, \$65 PER COUPLE THROUGH JANUARY 15

Please join us for a special evening to celebrate love and "All That Jazz." We're honoring all couples, of all ages, at the annual CANA Dinner, on Saturday, February 25. The evening begins at 6:00pm with a hosted wine reception, followed by a Fabulously Catered candle-light dinner. After dinner, everyone will enjoy time to mingle over coffee, wine, and dessert while listening and dancing to live jazz selections from the J&S Quartet. A couples photo-op will be offered during the evening, so be sure to dress up! Tickets are available at an early lovebird price of \$65.00 per couple through January 15, and \$75.00 through February 20. The ticket price includes a hosted wine reception, dinner, dessert, live jazz, and the couple's photo.

Loving childcare may be arranged by contacting the Nursery for reservations, at least one week prior, at paxchristi.com/childcare.

As the song goes, "Slick your hair and wear your buckle shoes, and all that Jazz" and say "We do!" at the 2017 Cana Dinner. Commit now, this popular event sells out. Register online today!



2017 SUMMER SERVICE AND JUSTICE TRIP

June 25–July 1, 2017; Detroit, MI; \$500 (\$50 deposit)

Teens in grades 9–12, you are invited to join the 2017 Summer Service and Justice Trip (AKA Mission Trip) to Detroit, MI. Work in Detroit's inner city service with agencies and organizations that are making a difference in the lives of thousands of people in need, meet other Catholic teens from across the country, and be inspired to live a life of justice and service! Each summer Pax Christi sends a group of teens and adults to Young Neighbors in Action, and each summer they return energized and changed for the better! Do something BIG this summer and join the group to serve in Detroit! For more information contact Jessie Johnson, Pax Christi's Sr. High Youth Formation Minister, jjohnson@paxchristi.com.



JANUARY

See pages 18-19 for details
or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 HOLY DAY: MARY, MOTHER OF GOD	2	3 BAPTISM PREP CLASS	4	5 SPIRITUALITY & MENTAL WELLNESS GROUP	6 FIRST FRIDAY SOCIAL	7
8 FAITH FORMATION	9	10	11 FAITH FORMATION	12	13 CONFIRMATION RETREAT	14 MINISTRY SHOWCASE NEW MEMBER SIGNUP WEEKEND
15 NEW MEMBER SIGNUP WEEKEND MINISTRY SHOWCASE FILM VIEWING EVENT	16 MLK DAY MASS	17 LEADERSHIP MEETINGS	18 FAITH FORMATION	19 CAREGIVER SUPPORT GRP.	20	21 MINNESOTA MARDI GRAS
22 FAITH FORMATION	23	24	25 FAITH FORMATION	26	27	28
29 FAITH FORMATION	30	31				





**PAX CHRISTI
CONTACTS**

PASTOR

Fr. Bill Murtaugh 952-405-7245

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Fr. Marc Pavaglio 952-405-7219

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

Anne Swenson 952-405-7202

ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT

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

COMMUNICATION ARTS *Editor*

Melissa Nault 952-405-7221

FAITH FORMATION

Director	Lynn Schelitzche	952-405-7230
Senior High	Jessie Johnson	952-405-7210
Preschool through Grade 6	Reneé Dignan	952-405-7212

JUSTICE

Justice Coordinator	Joan Howe-Pullis	952-405-7247
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OPERATIONS

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

PASTORAL CARE

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

STEWARDSHIP AND DEVELOPMENT

Director	Mary Kennedy	952-405-7220
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. William Murtaugh
Jane Schmitz, Parish Director
Mary Beth Buckman
Mike Kennedy
Mary Lillicrap
John Mortier
John O'Connor
Joan Paré
Brad Schlieff
Jeff Schuh
Joe Stich, Chair
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Shari Steffen
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MINISTRY SHOWCASE WEEKEND

**January 14/15
 following all Masses**

How are You Called to Serve? Your gifts can be put to great use at Pax Christi Catholic Community when you participate in our Monthly Ministry Showcase. This program year of 2016–2017 we are changing it a bit, and in lieu of one large Ministry Fair showing all the 110 ministries available for participation by members of Pax Christi, we will be focusing on a different program area each month. By highlighting a single program area, we can focus on telling the story of Pax Christi and what we do from the perspective of the individual ministry areas.

PAX CHRISTI'S MINISTRY SHOWCASE JANUARY'S MINISTRY SHOWCASE IS **JUSTICE.**

Did you know that Pax Christi distributes funds in the form of Justice Grants, and makes significant contributions for the welfare of so many people by the sharing of time and talent? Join us at the Ministry Showcase of Justice Ministries following the Masses on the weekend of January 14/15 in the Hall of Martyrs. You will be amazed and grateful to learn what our community is doing to touch the lives of so many in a variety of ways!

