

The Saline Psalter

HOLY FAITH CHURCH

Episcopal and ELCA Lutheran

6299 Ann Arbor-Saline Road, Saline, MI 48176

phone: 734-429-2991 fax: 734-429-4520

www.holy-faith-church.org

March 2011

THE PASTOR PONDERERS... **Taking Notice**

*"Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head."
~Matthew 8:29*

As I write this, we have just had guests from the homeless tent community, *Camp Take Notice*, visit our congregation to talk about the camp and answer questions. Like many of you, I heard some surprising things that day, and it caused me to realize how little many of us know about homelessness and its causes and manifestations. So I did some online research. Here are some of my findings:

- **About 1% of the U.S. population is homeless** at some point in any given year.
- **Most homeless people are only homeless for a short time.** Out of the 2 million people homeless at some point in 2009, only 112,000 (less than 6%) fit the federal definition of chronically homeless. 40% of homeless people get off the street within 6 months of becoming homeless.
- **Many of the homeless work.** Studies show 39-45% report having worked in the last month. The number is likely larger if you include "under the table" work. Homeless people report loss of a job as the second most common reason for their homelessness.
- **Only a few of the homeless (14-25%) are mentally ill.** However, among *chronically* homeless, single adults, the percentage rises to 30-40%. Mental illness is a significant barrier to permanent housing for this group.
- **Most homeless people do not migrate to areas that provide better services.** One study found 75% of the homeless remain in the community where they became homeless, and only about 20% receive financial government assistance.
- **25% of the homeless are veterans**, whereas only 8% of the population are veterans. Of those homeless veterans 56% are African American or Hispanic.
- **40-60% of the homeless have substance abuse problems.**

What does all this mean for us as Christians? That is a matter for us to discuss and wrestle with and pray about. We will not always agree on the solutions to these problems. But I was struck by how much the Camp Take Notice folks emphasized community relationships as central to healing the isolation of homelessness and helping people get back on their feet. And then in my pastor's class on Mark, we discussed the story of the Gerasene man living alone among the tombs, who could not be restrained, who howled and hurt himself with stones and was possessed by demons (Mark 5:1-20). When Jesus heals the man, he tells him to "go home to [his] friends," and I realized how much that healing was connected with reintegrating the man into his community. We cannot necessarily solve homelessness or cure mental illness or substance abuse, but we can offer people who suffer these conditions a community of respect and care.

Sources for the statistics cited here come from:

Dennis Culhane, "Five Myths About Homelessness," Washington Post, <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2010/07/09/AR2010070902357.html>

"Officials Issue First Report on Homeless Veterans," US Air Force Web Site, <http://www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123242565>

"FAQ About Homeless Veterans," National Coalition for Homeless Veterans, <http://www.nchv.org/background.cfm>

"Myths and Facts About Homelessness," No Where to Lay His Head Web Site, <http://www.nowheretolayhishead.org/mythsandfactsabouthomelessness.html>

"Myths and Facts About Homelessness," National Law Center on Homelessness and Poverty, www.nhchc.org.

Mission Café

Thank you one and all who came to the "Mission Cafe" on Sunday, February 20th! As the hymn goes, there was a sweet, sweet spirit in the place, as loving adults showed support and gratitude for our youth by eating! I cannot begin to tell you how wonderful it is to work with the young people in our church. They are fantastic individuals who will represent our church so well on the Appalachia Mission Trip, but most importantly they embody the Loving Spirit of our Lord!

Thanks to some seed money that was donated for the event - we made \$300!!! The generosity of my church NEVER ceases to amaze me! The menu consisted of homemade coffee cake (thank you Liza Baker - it was fabulous!), 2 kinds of scrambled eggs, biscuits and gravy, waffles, hot cereal, cold cereal, fresh fruit and yogurt!

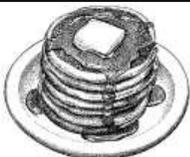
**But wait, there's more!
If you missed this one we have
3 more breakfasts coming up!
The next one is March 13!**

So here's the deal - this is a full fledged breakfast that is just plain cheap (\$20 for a family, \$7 for an adult) - bring a friend - share the food and the joy found at our church. This is a fantastic opportunity to open the door for that person you have been wanting to ask to come to church. Let's face it, everyone loves food and supporting a good cause - it's a no-brainer! Here we go Holy Faith - let's share the Love!! See you March 13!

"Feast of Love"

Fundraiser a Success!

Thank you to the Brightmans, the Pollack/Bloyes, the Garvey/Ericksons, the Discoverers, and the Holy Faith Community for your generosity and spirit of celebration on Saturday, February 13. We had hoped to net \$500 from the evening for the Appalachia Trip. In fact, we netted closer to \$1,100! This puts us almost half way to our fund-raising goal of \$4,500 to send our teens and their adult chaperones to work in Appalachia this summer.



**Shrove Tuesday
Pancake Supper
March 8, 2011
Serving starts at 5:30pm**

**Fresh, hot pancakes
with butter and syrup, sliced ham,
fruit cocktail, juice and coffee or tea.**

There is no cost, just a free will offering that will go to help fund the Discoverers' Appalachia Mission Trip.

Special Gifts Offering for March 2011 Discoverers' Appalachia Service Project Trip

Our Discoverers' teen group is planning a service mission trip to Appalachia for a week this June. We have designated the month of March for our special gift offering to help fund that trip. We're also proud to announce that a generous member of our congregation has made an anonymous, matching-gift grant offer. **Every dollar you give to Holy Faith for the Discoverers' Appalachia trip during March will be matched up to \$750.** Thank you, anonymous donor!

The organization that will place our teens, feed, house, and train them, is the Appalachia Service Project or ASP. (This is the same organization that organized our adult trip this past September.)

ASP was founded in 1969 by a Methodist Minister, the Rev. Glenn "Tex" Evans, who was among the first people to connect the needs of the Appalachian region with the energy of young people. The first summer, 50 teens and adults came together under his leadership to give four families safe, warm homes in Barbourville, KY.

Since that time, more than 260,000 volunteers from across the nation have repaired 14,000 homes and, in the process, Appalachian families, volunteers, and staff have been immeasurably blessed.

Today, with the help of 15,000 volunteers each year, ASP's goal remains to make homes warmer, safer and drier for families in need. Yet ASP is more than a home repair program. It also provides a unique framework that fosters transformational experiences for volunteers, families served, and staff -- by building relationships with each other that break down cultural, social and economic barriers. The organization often hears of significant life changes resulting from the ASP experience: of families renewing their faith in the goodness of others, of people newly motivated to continue their education, of young adults choosing careers of service. No one walks away from the ASP experience unchanged. We are excited to provide this kind of faith-filled experience to the young people who are the future of our church!*

*These last two paragraphs come directly from ASP's website at <http://asphome.org/about ASP/history>.

Please make checks out to Holy Faith and mark "Discoverers' Mission Trip" on the memo line.

Special Gifts Offering Total for January

**SASS
\$265.00**

March 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
 Begins March 13		1 Pastor's Class 7-8:30pm	2	3	4	5
6 Transfiguration 8:00, 9:00 & 11:00am Worship 10:20—11:00am Worship Center Coffee from 10—11am PLT Retreat 12pm—4pm AFM Orders 11:30—1:30	7 AA Mtg 7pm	8 Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper 5:30pm PLT 7pm	9 Ash Wednesday 7pm Service	10 Contemplative Worship & Meditation 7pm	11	12
13 Daylight Savings Time Begins 1 Lent 8:00, 9:00 & 11:00am Worship 10:20—11:00am Worship Center Mission Cafe AFM Orders 11:30—1:30 Discoverers 7-8:30pm	14 AA Mtg 7pm	15 Special Liturgy Mtg 5:30pm Pastor's Class 7-8:30pm	16 Et. Al. 7-8:30pm	17	18	19
20 2 Lent SASS "Three on the Third" 8:00, 9:00 & 11:00am Worship 10:20—11:00am Worship Center Coffee from 10—11am	21 AA Mtg 7pm	22 Pastor's Class 7-8:30pm	23	24	25	26 AFM pick-up 9:30-10:30am
27 3 Lent 8:00, 9:00 & 11:00am Worship Coffee from 10—11am 10:20—11:00am Worship Center Discoverers 7-8pm	28 AA Mtg 7pm	29	30	31		

THE DEACON'S DEN

The Forty Days of Lent

Did you ever wonder why we have pancake suppers on Mardi Gras or Fat Tuesday? The tradition is that people abstained from eating rich, sweet, yummy food during Lent. According to tradition, people would bring their eggs, sugar, syrups, butter to the church on the day before Lent began so that they could be given up before the austere, penitent season. The story goes that one woman was running late when she heard the church bell ringing and poured her eggs, sugar, syrup and butter into her big frying pan and went running off to the church carrying the pan in front of her. When she got to the church there wasn't anything to do besides putting the frying pan on the stove—and the pancake supper was invented.

So how does a person get ready for a holy Lent? Many people give something up as a sign of penitence. I remember for me that it was usually Cokes. I've found for myself that taking on something during Lent makes more sense than giving something up. I'm not sure yet what I'd like to take on this year—maybe more intentional prayer time, maybe some more time spent reflecting and meditating, maybe more volunteer activities, maybe additional pastoral care activities. Whatever I decide, I want to find something that will make this Lenten experience a time of personal growth and development.

Did you ever wonder why we hear about the forty days of Lent, and counting from Ash Wednesday to Holy Saturday we find there are forty-six days? The reason is that Sundays are not counted in the forty days. (The Sundays are called the 1st or 2nd or 3rd Sunday in Lent rather than the 1st or 2nd or 3rd Sunday of Lent because they are not part of the Lenten experience. Sundays are "little Easters" and are breaks from the austere, penitent season.)

My hope for each of us is that we'll experience a holy Lent.

Until next time
Your Deacon, Don

SUNDAY MINISTRY SCHEDULE

	Transfiguration March 6	Ash Wednesday March 9	1 Lent March 13	2 Lent March 20	3 Lent March 27
8:00 Reader	Buchalski/Centlivre	7:00pm TBD	Leonards	Buchalski/Centlivre	Leonards
9:00 Asst. Min.	C. Schneider		K. Kemeny	S. Cummings	
9:00 Reader	B. Johnston		L. Baker	J. Savage	C. Berger
9:00 Ushers	G&C Francis		R & J Wales	K. Cummings	S. Proud
9:00 Greeters	K. Kemeny D. Goble		L. Reifert	M&S White	S. Dindoffer
Worship Center	S. Dindoffer		K. Jackel	K. Braun	John & Kelsey
Lvg Good N.	J. Cummings		S. Erikson	T. Dersnah	J. Cummings
11:00 Asst. Min.	J. Shumate		K. Mitchell	M. Barber	K. Mitchell
11:00 Reader	K. Garvey		N. Reed Twiss	K. Mitchell	S. Brown
11:00 Cantor	J. Shumate		J. Shumate	B. Wake	J. Shumate
11:00 Ush/Gr	R. Erickson W. Determan		T. Dersnah	W. Determan	T. Dersnah
Flowers			Lent—no flowers on altar		
Altar Guild	Mike Centlivre/Suzanne Buchalski				
Coffee Hosts	Dersnah/Mitchell		Mission Café Determan/Johnston	Dindoffer/Jackel/ Lockman	Donovan/Darling

	4 Lent April 3	5 Lent April 10	Palm Sunday April 17	Maundy Thursday April 21	Good Friday April 22	Easter Vigil April 23	Easter April 24
8:00 Reader	Buchalski/ Centlivre	Leonards	Buchalski/ Centlivre	7:00pm TBD	7:00pm TBD	TBD	Leonards
9:00 Asst. Min.	A. Leonard	H. Tinsey	L. Reifert				C. Schneider
9:00 Reader	K. Garvey	G. Steude	J. Cummings				L. Reifert
9:00 Ushers	C&G Francis	R&J Wales	K. Cummings				S. Proud
9:00 Greeters	H&N Tinsey	J&L Darling	K. Kemeny D. Goble				H&N Tinsey
Worship Center	S. Dindoffer	K. Jackel	K. Braun				No WC
Lvg Good N.	S. Erikson	T. Dersnah	J. Cummings				No LGN
11:00 Asst. Min.	J. Shumate	M. Barber	K. Mitchell				J. Shumate
11:00 Reader	M. Barber	K. Jackel	J. Shumate				L. Baker
11:00 Cantor	J. Shumate	B. Wake	J. Shumate				J. Shumate
11:00 Ush/Gr	W. Determan	T. Dersnah	W. Determan				T. Dersnah
Flowers	Lent—no flowers on altar						
Altar Guild	Jean and Neil Savage						
Coffee Hosts	English/ Garvey/ Erikson/ Dubay	Gridley/Frank/ Frank	Mission Café Proud/ Hoffman				Francis/ Steude

PLT Meeting Highlights

February 8, 2011

The PLT welcomed Nancy and Jim Crichton and Marcia Ledford by acclamation as new members of Holy Faith. **Action:** Pastor Ian announced that Marcia Ledford is discerning a call to ordained ministry and that he would be organizing a Parish Discernment Committee to work with her through this process.

The PLT elected Kris Paggett as President and Rick Wales as Vice President by acclamation for the February 2011-January 2012 year. **Action:** Rick Wales will speak with Judie to see if she is interested in becoming PLT secretary.

Financial Matters:

The Treasurer presented the Treasurer's Report. Clive announced that the weekly ads in the *Saline Reporter* have been cancelled as a cost saving measure. Upon due motion (White, Donovan) the Treasurer's Report was accepted.

A discussion followed about the Annual Report and the Annual Meeting. **Action:** There had been some lack of awareness that the meal would follow the meeting and that will be more carefully clarified in the future. **Action:** It was suggested that the written reports in the Annual Report should be accepted as an action of the meeting. **Action:** It was suggested that there should be a clearer separation of accepting the financial report for the previous year and approving the budget for the current year as some felt that the two did not get separate attention.

3-5 year goals. Pastor Ian shared a concept of Making Disciples and Serving Others as focus of the goals.

Conversation followed about organizational teams. It was the consensus of the meeting that there should be a Building and Grounds team that would meet at least quarterly and be proactive in the stewardship of our real property. **Action:** Pastor Ian will contact a parishioner who has indicated an interest in this area to see if he is willing to be part of the team. Gillian Donovan said that she would help on that team. Deacon Don Dersnah has been working on Administration issues over the past year. **Action:** It was the consensus of the meeting that there should be a team created to work on Administration. **Action:** Cathy Sigler and Susan Cummings will be asked to continue to head the Stewardship team. **Action:** Clive Francis will make sure that the Finance team meets at least quarterly. PLT members will indicate at the March meeting in which teams they would like to participate.

General Discussion followed in the following areas:

- **Action:** Gillian Donovan will explore getting large print Bibles for the Brecon Bible Study.
- The issues of tithing and proportionate giving did not receive any "votes" in the parish response to possible goals. **Action:** PLT will continue to discuss tithing and the message that is sent in Stewardship materials.
- **Action:** Pastor Ian will add a third component including goals regarding maturing as a congregation.
- Upon due motion (Barber/Donovan) and by acclamation, approval was given to use up to the \$450 received in 2010 to erect background fencing for the Memorial Garden. **Action:** Don Dersnah will investigate having this done, hopefully before an interment in the Memorial Garden in April



Treasurer's Update

As of the end of January 2011 the operating total Income is \$13,453 which represents 8.5% of anticipated income for the year. This is compared to the operating expense cost of \$10,796 or 6.3% of budgeted expense. Net income is \$+2,658. This indicates that we have some reserve as we go into February. This reserve will help us to pay for the pension cost which will be shown as a February cost. In addition the cost of medical insurance picked up February cost as well as January and that is the reason it was so high.

The account established at Flagstar bank is \$417. The poinsettia money has not been transferred yet. The expense portion of the poinsettia monies was recognized in January. The income and expense still needs to be reconciled and then the money deposited. Hopefully this week. The Flagstar account will be used for the mission trip.

The budget has been approved. The diocese has been contacted and the wage increases have been initiated.

Ash Wednesday

Holy Eucharist and the
Imposition of Ashes

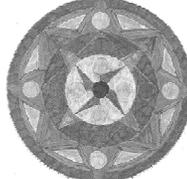


March 9th at 7:00pm

Contemplative Worship and Meditation

Thursday, March 10 at 7pm

Art as Prayer

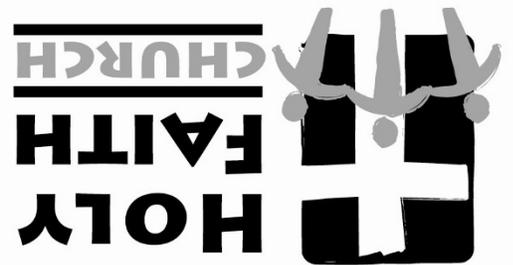


At this March gathering, we will work with the sacred art of Mandala.

Mandala

If you are looking for an avenue to augment your faith journey in a quiet, personal way, you might enjoy the beautiful prayers, biblical readings from the daily lectionary, and soft music we offer at this special monthly worship.

Episcopal and ELCA Lutheran
6299 Ann Arbor - Saline Road
Saline, MI 48176



The Rev. Ian Reed Twiss, Pastor

ian@holy-faith-church.org

The Rev. Donald Dersnah, Deacon

don@holy-faith-church.org

Charles Reynolds, Church Musician

chasreyn@umich.edu

Joan Barbret, Office Manager

joan@holy-faith-church.org

Jessica Thomson, Nursery Care

Parish Leadership Team (PLT)

Kris Paggett, President (1/'13)

kpaggett@hotmail.com/810-355-2988

Rick Wales, Vice President (1/'12)

riccow656@yahoo.com/944-7439

Gillian Donovan (1/'12)

gillian1524@gmail.com/944-8432

Milo White (1/'13)

mrwjr33@comcast.net/429-7688

Mary Barber (1/'14)

mary.barber56@gmail.com/353-9583

Cathy Sigler (1/'14)

cathrinesigler@yahoo.com/929-5185

MISSION STATEMENT

Seek God Together.

Grow in Spirit and Love.

Reach Out to Our Neighbor and the World.

Holy Faith sermons are online
for your listening or reading pleasure.

www.holy-faith-church.org

Click on "Sermons"

