Ash Wednesday is March 5th and marks the beginning of the forty-day Lenten season (excluding Sundays). Lent is an Anglo-Saxon word that means “spring;” something all of Alpena and indeed the entire country is eagerly awaiting this year after a very snowy and cold winter!

Lent is a season when the church focuses on the preparation of candidates for baptism as well as a time for all Christians to step deeper into the waters of baptism. The forty days of Lent are modeled after Jesus’ forty days in the wilderness after his baptism when he was tempted by Satan. Lent is a solemn time when the use of flowers (as a general rule) in the sanctuary and the singing of the “Alleluia” are omitted from the liturgy. Purple is the liturgical color of Lent and signifies penitence.

The three disciplines of Lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (works of love and service) which leads us to the question, “how do these disciplines change us, our community, our families and our neighbors?” The theme of the ecumenical mid-week Lenten services, “We Are Called,” (hymn # 720 in the ELW) will attempt to answer that question as the various preachers each week address the actions that we, as followers of Jesus, are called take in his name.

The schedule for those evening services and suppers is listed following this article (as are the times of St. Paul’s Wednesday morning services and lunches). Please put the dates on your calendar and join with our brothers and sisters from the Catholic, Congregational (UCC), Episcopalian, Methodist, and Presbyterian traditions as we join together for fellowship and worship as we journey through Lent in preparation for the celebration of the Resurrection of our Lord on Easter Sunday, April 20th.

With prayers for a holy and faith-deepening Lenten journey,

_Pastor Shirley Ross-Jones_

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**2014 Wednesday Lenten Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Host church</th>
<th>Theme</th>
<th>Preacher</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ash Wednesday</td>
<td>St. Paul Lutheran</td>
<td>Come! Live in the Light</td>
<td>Sr. Hughes, SFCC</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 12</td>
<td>Grace Lutheran</td>
<td>Show Mercy</td>
<td>Rev. Hammond</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 19</td>
<td>First United Methodist</td>
<td>Be Hope for the Hopeless</td>
<td>Rev. Ross-Jones</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 26</td>
<td>St. Bernard Catholic</td>
<td>Act with Justice</td>
<td>Fr. Michaud</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 2</td>
<td>First Cong UCC</td>
<td>Love Tenderly</td>
<td>Rev. Bacon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 9</td>
<td>First Presbyterian</td>
<td>Walk Humbly</td>
<td>Rev. Lance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maundy Thursday</td>
<td>Trinity Episcopal</td>
<td>Serve One Another</td>
<td>Rev. Orth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April 17</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Simple Suppers at 6:00 P.M. and Worship at 7:00 p.m.

All OFFERINGS will go to Call Us for Help.
Dear St. Paul Lutherans,

I want to thank you on behalf of our patients and our all-volunteer staff for the very generous $500 check that you sent to the Free Clinic of Alpena. We are grateful for the check but even more appreciative of the thoughts that accompany it.

Now into our 6th year of service, the Free Clinic continues to be open on Tuesday and Thursday evenings to help provide medical care for the medically uninsured residents of our region. At this point in time we have seen almost 2,500 individual patients in over 7,300 clinic visits. We could not do this without our volunteers and the support of folks like you.

Again, thank you for all the good work that you do and for the difference your efforts make in our community.

Sincerely,

Steven Hammond, PA-C
Clinic Director

DONALD STANDBEN joined our Lord in eternity December 27, 2013. His funeral service was held at Bannan Funeral Home on January 18, 2014.

AUGUSTIN KUHL joined our Lord in eternity January 7, 2014. His funeral service was held at St. Paul Lutheran Church on January 10, 2014.

WINIFRED KIRCHOFF joined our Lord in eternity January 12, 2014. Her funeral service was held at St. Anne Catholic church on January 16, 2014.

DELMAR JURY joined our Lord in eternity January 23, 2014. A memorial service will be held at St. Paul Lutheran Church at a later date.

Deadline Reminders:
The church newsletter deadline is always the 15th of each month. The bulletin deadline for the weekly bulletins is Wednesday. Please get your items to the church office by these deadlines so they are sure to get published.

Also, before you finalize your group’s schedule it needs to be checked through the church office so we can check the church calendar and make sure your dates are available. Thank you.

If your group or committee is not on our monthly calendar, please call the church office to have heat available for your event. We don’t have heat turned on in all parts of the building, if not in use.

Thank you.
**Wednesday Morning Lent Services**

St. Paul will have an 11:00 A.M. worship service each week beginning with Ash Wednesday morning. Lunch will be served in the Dining Room following worship on Wednesday March 12, 19, 26, April 2 and 9. *There will not be a lunch on Ash Wednesday, March 5.* Plan now to join us.

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**The Way of the Cross—Towards Peace and Justice**

On Sunday, March 23rd there will be a special walk in Alpena sponsored by the Alpena Peace Coalition in cooperation with the Alpena faith community. The walk focuses on the Stations of the Cross with a peace and justice emphasis. The six sites or “stations” are those churches in Alpena that have peace poles outside their buildings.

The walk begins at the Alpena Community of Christ Church on Clinton Street at 2 P.M. and then progresses to St. Paul Lutheran, Grace Lutheran, Trinity Episcopal, First Congregational UCC, and ends at St. Anne Catholic Parish at 4 P.M. There will be a brief time of worship at each peace pole that will include a hymn, a litany, a reflection on that particular station of the cross, and a prayer.

This should be a wonderful and very meaningful event for all as we journey through Lent. Put this date on your calendar and join with the ecumenical community as we walk together and reflect upon Christ’s Passion and death which calls us to be advocates for peace and justice in our world.

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**Pizzzzzzza and Card Night**

Get those game boards and euchre decks out! Saturday, March 8 the Fellowship Committee will be hosting a pizza and card night. The food and fun will start after the Saturday 5:30pm service. Sign up in the narthex is a MUST. Along with pizza, we might have Root Beer or Diet Vernor's floats (we'll see). Please join the fun. The amount of responses or interest in another will determine if we have one in April. Call Rod Borchard at 354-5081 with any questions.

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The Stewardship Committee would like to thank all who participated in the soup and salad fellowship held on Saturday, January 25. We had another fun-filled evening. Thanks to all who donated salads and desserts. A special thanks to Bodo for arriving early to help setup and for his donations to our raffle. Also, thank you to Brian & Tina Chrzan for their soup and raffle donation, Judy Hand and Lori Ludwig for their raffle items, and to everyone who stayed and helped clean up.

Dishes are really piling up in the buffer room. If you have brought something to an event lately, please check and see if one of them belongs to you or a friend. We really don’t have the space to store them and don’t want them to end up in the garage sale. Thank you.
Our Service Activity for MARCH and APRIL is BASKETS of PROMISE

This Lent we’re joining Lutheran World Relief’s Baskets of Promise appeal. Each week, we’ll collect a different item that we’ll use to assemble Personal Care Kits that give people around the world tools to stay healthy in life’s most challenging situations.

Our goal is to assemble 50 LWR Personal Care Kits during Lent.

Here is our Collection Schedule:

March 9 – Bars of Soap (4 to 5 oz., any band, in original wrapping)

March 16 – Bath Towels (light-weight, maximum 52” x 27,” dark color recommended)

March 23 – Toothbrushes (adult size, in original packaging)

March 30 – Combs

April 6 – Nail Clippers (metal, attached file optional)

April 13 (Palm Sunday) – Bars of Soap

Please place items in the collection baskets in the narthex, fellowship hall or entry near the front of the sanctuary.

If you have any questions or suggestions for future activities please call Heather Stutzman at 356-5894.

“[Jesus answered] As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” John 9:5 (NRSV)

Taking Faith † Home

Something new and exciting is coming! Beginning on the first weekend in March and continuing throughout the remainder of the liturgical year, the weekly bulletins will include an insert entitled Taking Faith Home. The Worship Committee decided to provide these with the hope that they’ll help nurture our faith throughout the week.

The insert consists of devotions, questions for conversation with family members, a suggestion for a service project, an explanation of worship rituals and traditions, daily Bible readings, and a scripture verse and prayer for the week. All of these are connected to the lectionary readings that were heard in worship that weekend. In the weeks ahead, we encourage you to share your thoughts about this resource with Pastor Shirley or any of the Worship Committee members: Lori Ludwig, Jim Kucharek, Andrea Dutcher, Lori Dziesinski, Dana Panknin, or Don Smith.

To: St. Paul Lutheran Church,

A note of sincere thanks for your generous donations to St. Bernard Friendship Room. Although I seldom know the funeral families, I do appreciate the excess foods contributed. On behalf of Stacie, The Board of Directors and myself, we applaud your effort to fight hunger in our community.

Respectfully,
Randy MacAulay, Director

For I was hungry and you gave me food.
The following are some memories that Ken Johnson has shared regarding Troop 92. Ken is in his 57th year as a Scout Leader.

The troop was without leaders for several years during World War II. Guy Houston reorganized the troop and was scoutmaster until Ben Neumann took over for 10 years, then I took over. I transferred in from Pack 152 at the Hinks School in 1961. In 1963, I became scoutmaster at St. Paul Lutheran Church.

**Highlights from the 1960’s and 1970’s:**

- In the early sixties we went on a camporee and had a tour of the Atomic Power Plant under construction.
- We had our first Eagle in 1964. Since then we have had 52 Eagle Scouts. In 1971 we had a court of honor for 10 Eagles. A record at that time!
- In 1967 the Lutheran Brotherhood Insurance Company gave me seven days of training at Camp Philmont in New Mexico. I was among 95 Lutheran scoutmasters and 45 Lutheran pastors.
- In 1967 we built the first Flanders Field on the Sportsman Island Park, with help from Joe Samp from the VFW, Ed Diem from the Sportsman Club and made by me and my boys from the church.
- In 1968 we were honor guards and guides on Mackinac Island. Pastor Neiswander took one week of vacation and was our head cook.
- In the late sixties 15 boys attended Michigan State Football Stadium and were ushers at the game. We did this for 5 years.
- In the late sixties, early seventies we attended Detroit Lions pre games at the Silver Dome.
- In 1971 we had the largest troop to attend Camp Greilick summer camp. We had 63 boys, 4 boys on staff and 20 adults in full uniform.

The following is a letter I received from Pastor Paul Moeller in 1986.

In the early 30’s Alpena had the Boys Club and Captain Wixon – no scout troops. Having been a scoutmaster in NW Ohio for 3 years before coming to Alpena in 1931 – I felt a real need for something besides keeping boys off the streets. Eventually we got Troop 92 started with leaders from outside St. Paul. In 1945 we moved to Waverly, Iowa, and remained active in scouting (Silver Beaver from the Wapsiepinicon Area Council). In 1952 we moved to Dayton, Ohio and remained active in BSA. It’s the best program for boys that I know. Since retiring in 1974, I have been chaplain several summers at Muskengosn Council summer camp. Keep up the good work.

Paul Moeller

The leaders Pastor Moeller was referring to from outside the church were David Markham as scoutmaster and Donald Oakes as assistant scoutmaster. Committee members from St. Paul were Paul Mellar, Martin Werner, Harold Gengerke, Otto Gapske, and Otto Kelm. This was organized in 1933.

**Highlights from the 1980’s and 1990’s:**

- In 1988 I was one of 64 scoutmasters from east of Kansas City to Virginia, and south to Texas. We had 7 days of training of scouting skills, which is woodbadge training. Our scoutmaster was the founder of Boys Life magazine, William Hillcourt.
- In 1995, 4 adults and 8 boys spent 12 days at Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. Among them were Mark Barnett, Dave Schultz, Dave Hall, Jacob Johnson, Curt Hall, Nick Gabara, Nick Schultz, Harley Barnett, Jason Repke, Chris Merrill, Nick Marshall, and Brian Ulch.

In 2005 the troop rented a tour bus, left at 10:30 p.m. on Thursday night and traveled to Dayton, Ohio and had breakfast at a Golden Coral Friday morning. They spent the day at an Indian camp that was being restored. We slept on the floor in the gift shop, and spent time at the archaeological dig site. We then went on to a closed German church, that a man had converted into a health club with a climbing wall. He had the floor out and used all the height to make a 69 foot climbing wall. This went from the basement floor to the top of the steeple. Again, we slept on the floor. Sunday morning we had a church service in the basement. We left at 9:15 a.m., had breakfast at the Golden Coral and then left for Wright Patterson Museum and spent the day. On the way home we stopped at Cabellas for a short time and in Standish for a picnic. It was really a great trip!

Troop 92 continues to be an active group at St. Paul Lutheran, participating in many activities and learning many skills.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date &amp; Service</th>
<th>Assisting Minister</th>
<th>Lectors</th>
<th>Ushers</th>
<th>Unlock &amp; Lock</th>
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<tr>
<td>March 1 &amp; 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Iris Arthur</td>
<td>Lorna Litzner</td>
<td>Lorna Litzner, Barb Williams</td>
<td>Lorna Litzner</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Shirley Jones</td>
<td>Bob Leavesley</td>
<td>Ken Johnson, Don Smith, Ryan Panknin, Dana Panknin</td>
<td>Ken Johnson</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 8 &amp; 9</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Carol Kindt</td>
<td>Gary Gray</td>
<td>Barb Williams, Emil Newhouse</td>
<td>Emil Newhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Ann Hardesty</td>
<td>Elaine Kingsbury</td>
<td>Dennis &amp; Lori Dziesinski, Don &amp; Val Urban</td>
<td>Dennis Dziesinski</td>
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<td>March 15 &amp; 16</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Annie Olsen</td>
<td>Myra Gapske</td>
<td>Lorna Litzner, Barb Williams</td>
<td>Lorna Litzner</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Arnie Kindt</td>
<td>Shirley Jones</td>
<td>Ken Johnson, Don Smith, Ryan Panknin, Dana Panknin</td>
<td>Dana Panknin</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 22 &amp; 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Lorna Litzner</td>
<td>Carol Kindt</td>
<td>Dennis Dziesinski, Emil Newhouse</td>
<td>Emil Newhouse</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Austin Hawks</td>
<td>Denise Borchard</td>
<td>Rod &amp; Denise Borchard, Paul Kelly, Will Rings</td>
<td>Paul Kieliszewski</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 29 &amp; 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Iris Arthur</td>
<td>Annie Olsen</td>
<td>Lorna Litzner, Paul Kieliszewski</td>
<td>Lorna Litzner</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m.</td>
<td>Denise Borchard</td>
<td>Shirley Jones</td>
<td>Owen Werth, Jeff Ciupka, Nancy Smithem, Tim Moggie</td>
<td>Jeff Ciupka</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*If you are interested in serving as a lector call Iris Arthur at 354-2553*

*If you are interested in serving as an acolyte please contact the office at 356-1658*

*If you are interested in serving as an usher contact Lori Dziesinski at 354-5838*

**Altar Care for the month of March**

All Services – Phyllis Kennedy, Carol Brooks, Karen Wallace

*If you are interested in serving on Altar Care call Carol Brooks at 340-0524.*
Think "Spring Training"
Think "Detroit Tigers"

Warm weather is bound to be here soon, and when it does, it’s time to mark your calendar for a trip to Comerica Park. On Wednesday, June 18, the Fellowship Committee will be hosting a return trip to Detroit to watch the Tigers host the Kansas City Royals. Game time is 1:05 p.m. with Coastal Charter leaving from St. Paul at 7:00 a.m. We anticipate returning around 8:30 p.m. You are encouraged to bring a lunch/beverages for the ride down and back. We will NOT be stopping for dinner, however, we will have "rest" stops. The cost for your ticket and transportation is $90. This year we will be sitting 25-30 rows BEHIND THE TIGER DUGOUT! You will need to sign up each person individually with a phone number with Linda in the church office. There are only 52 seats available. You must PAY for your seat when you sign up either with cash or by check. Any questions call Rod Borchard at 354-5081.

ALTAR FLOWERS

If you would like to order altar flowers please place your name on the Flower Chart located in the narthex on the date you would like. Then contact the church office and let them know what you would like to have printed in the bulletin.

THANK YOU

Troop 92 held their annual Spaghetti Dinner on Friday evening, February 7th. We had a wonderful turnout, and the dinner was a great success. Not only did we receive compliments about the dinner, but also about the service the Scouts gave. Thank you to those who attended and gave your support to the Scouts. We enjoyed seeing your smiling faces!

March Mini Breakfast

On Sunday, March 2, the Outreach Committee will be hosting a mini-breakfast following the 9:00 a.m. service. Coffee and "yummies" will be served. Please sign up in the narthex so the committee will have enough for everyone. A monetary donation will be accepted. Last month the Fellowship Committee hosted the mini-breakfast, and next month, on April 6, the Crafters will be hosting. We are still looking for one more committee to host the May 4 breakfast. Please call Rod Borchard at 354-5081 if interested.

Thank you so very much!

The organizers of the Tony Burger Night would like to say THANK-YOU for everyone who helped to make the event as successful as it was; we hope that everyone had as much fun as it appeared they were having. We are thankful to all of the volunteers who; worked to prepare the food (especially the “onion specialist”), set up and cleaned up the dining room, served, organized and ran the raffles, made raffle donations, and especially to everyone who came – without you we wouldn’t have a reason to cook all of the burgers. A special “Thank You” to Lee Kitzman, from Thunder Bay Folk Society, for the special music that he provided for the evening. Everyone’s effort and support is appreciated; see you next year!!!
Community Celebrating and Sharing Dinner
Sponsored by ELCA Lutherans of
Grace Lutheran Church & St. Paul Lutheran Church

SUNDAY APRIL 27, 2014

The Aplex (701 N. Woodward Ave.)
Doors open at 11:30 with dinner served at 12:30

Support the Salvation Army Summer Recreation Program, Huron Humane Society, St. Paul Lutheran Church and Grace Lutheran Church

Things are going to be buzzing and hopping around St. Paul and Grace during the next few weeks. Jon Benson, owner of JJ’s Catering, will again be providing us dinner and there will be another Super Silent Auction and Battle of the Breads!

Menu: Baked chicken, pulled pork, mashed potatoes and gravy, green bean casserole, carrots, coleslaw, rolls and a variety of desserts

Tickets: $10.00/person children 12 and under FREE

Deadline to purchase tickets is April 13. Tickets will be available at both church offices.

____________________________________________________________________________

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! You may help by providing:

a silent auction item/Chinese raffle item or a dessert or a monetary donation

If you would like to furnish a dessert (cakes, pies, or cookies) call Carol Kindt (St. Paul) at 356-9642 or Bonnie Cross (Grace) at 356-1533.

If you are willing to share your time, talent, or donate items toward the auction call Lori and Dennis Dziesinski (St.Paul) 989-340-1354, Sandy Malaski (Grace) 356-6248, Myra Cross (Grace) 379-3734.

THANK YOU!

__________________________________________________________________________

Silent Auction Ideas

Possible Youth/Adult Services
Shoveling snow or getting groceries
Cutting grass
Driving an elderly person to an appointment
Fixing a special meal or opening your cottage/camp for a day

Possible Donations
Fruit basket or gas card
Hand-made items
Gift certificate to a local business
Specialty basket filled with items
Pitching Our Tent

As Cathy and I travel throughout our synod, the beauty of our church buildings strikes us, as does the love and care with which they are maintained. We are delighted to meet special people in every congregation who, like Scotty on the starship Enterprise, know the “hum of the engines” and when the slightest thing is amiss.

A few weeks ago at the Bishops’ Academy, Andrew Root, who teaches at Luther Seminary, spoke with amazement of the saints who spend Saturday nights fixing the church furnace and early Sunday morning making certain the sidewalks and steps are shoveled. Then Professor Root warned the bishops that, when it’s his generation’s turn—I’d guess he’s in his late thirties—even the most committed congregants wouldn’t be doing it. They’ll be home with their families Saturday evenings or brunching with friends Sunday mornings. He did not say this with apology or disdain, but simply as a statement of fact. Children taught to sing, “The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple, the church is not a resting place, the church is a people” at youth gatherings seem to have learned well.

Church buildings are precious. Church buildings are tangible expressions of the faith and devotion of people personally and directly involved in the worship of God at a particular time and in a particular place. A church building proclaims how a faith community conceives of and experiences God, relates to its neighbors, and understands the church’s mission. Church buildings attract people and show how this congregation is different from other congregations. Church buildings provide a tangible connection with beloved saints who have gone before us. And if a congregation’s mission becomes maintaining or preserving a building, the church is in trouble.

More than once in recent weeks, I’ve heard, “The Word became flesh and pitched a tent among us” (John 1:14). Tenting is temporary, mobile, making it easy to pull up stakes and go where needed. Following this way of following Jesus, our synod discerned not to build a permanent place and now has “tents” in Lansing, Kalamazoo, Mt. Pleasant, Herron, and Frankfort. More important, our campers are in place. Pastor David Sprang joins us as Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission.

One question I will be asking Pastor Sprang, which he in turn might be asking you, is what would it mean for us to think of our church buildings more as tents than as homes? My initial reflection is that tents provide shelter in the wilderness or in a storm. I’d be eager to learn about all the ways our church buildings shelter people in the communities where we live and serve. I have a hunch this would give Professor Root and his generation reason to make sure the heat is working and the walks shoveled.

Looking forward to taking shelter in your church building!

~The Rev. Craig A. Satterlee, Ph.D., Bishop
“To Whom Do We Go For What?”

Very early on in my ministry as bishop, a pastor explained to me that it was easy to work with the synod because there was a John box, a Julie box, and a Roger box, and you knew what went in each box. That pastor seemed anxious for me to define the boxes. Our approach is less about silos and more about collaboration. Nevertheless, now that the people are in place, we of the synod staff intentionally turn to getting the work done as effectively and efficiently as possible. We will try things and, if they work, we will keep them. If not, we will try something else. We will have more to say next month, after Pastor David has joined the conversation.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

Our next synod assembly will be held jointly with the S.E. MI Synod on May 15-17 at the Adoba Hotel in Dearborn. More information will be forthcoming.

PROPERTY UPDATE

Thanks to the financial support from a couple of generous donations, some funds from R&R, help from Gift & Memorials, donations of materials from Alpena Furniture, and labor from many, the Church Lounge now has a new energy efficient Fireplace Insert. This unit is capable of heating the lounge on a relatively short notice (approx. 1 hour) while providing a great atmosphere. Thanks for all the encouragement and support for this important project.

As for the operation of the fireplace itself; we have tried to keep it simple and safe. The only option is to turn it on with the switch located around the left side of the fireplace enclosure. The unit is pre-set to “come on” with the flame on high and the blower turned on. The unit will ignite and within approx. 15 minutes the blower will come on. When the fireplace turns off, the blower will continue to run for another 15 minutes until the unit cools off. There is a built in timer which will allow the fireplace to operate for one hour; this is for safety. If your use of the lounge requires additional time, simply turn on the fireplace again. Depending on the time of year and outside temperatures, someone will need to come to your meeting/event approximately one hour before your use to turn the fireplace on.

Enjoy the warmth and atmosphere of the fireplace.