

# The Messenger

*March  
2023  
Volume 26  
Number 8*

**St. Paul's**

*A progressive community of faith with ancient roots.*



## **Bob Railey's Pen ...**

### ***Spring Quarter Schedule***

The usual display of **April** through **June** schedule and the associated activity rosters will be posted on the sign-up bulletin board in the chapel hallway through March 12. You may use the schedule to sign up for specific role(s) on specific date(s), or you may use the rosters to increase (or decrease) the role(s) in which you participate or indicate when I should not assign you. Please speak to me if you have any questions about what any roles involve. Completed schedules will be distributed beginning **March 19**.

### ***Mini-cups will be available soon for communion***

Marna ordered our mini-cups and tray back in early fall; due to our not receiving the mini-cups until early February (presumably because of many churches coming out of the pandemic about the same time), we are just now being able to offer them in our services.

Beginning soon, our two chalice bearers will be outfitted as follows: one will have the "common cup" with wine; the other will carry the tray with a few mini-cups of grape juice and many mini-cups of wine. Those of us who serve as chalice bearers have noticed that there are still many who come forward for communion who by-pass the "common cup", presumably out of concern over coronavirus transmission. We intend to provide the mini-cups as long as there are some of us who share that concern over coronavirus. For those who prefer grape juice to wine, know that we will always provide the tray with mini-cups of grape juice.

On behalf of the many who have special vulnerability to coronavirus risk, I apologize for the significant delay in our ability to provide the mini-cups.

### ***UPHS-Marquette is in need of Volunteers***

UPHS-Marquette has used volunteers for a wide variety of tasks over many years. Right now (due somewhat to folks holding back due to coronavirus concerns), there are critical tasks that are lacking adequate volunteers: most especially in the operating room waiting area and various information desks at hospital entry points.

Normally, volunteers pick the same role and same time each week to serve. For instance, Marcia Franz serves each Tuesday in the OR waiting area; lately, she has been asked to serve another shift each week due to the lack of volunteers. If you are willing to serve on a weekly basis or as a "fill-in," please speak to Marcia or to Bob, or phone UPHS-Marquette and ask for Volunteer Services.

## Something Different this Lent *by Jim Sorenson*

There's something new about to be introduced on Maundy Thursday, **April 6<sup>th</sup>**. Yes, it's a part of the Holy Week celebration, but with a "new" (actually, "ancient") wrinkle.

The normal Maundy Thursday offerings are being replaced this year with an "Agape Meal."

(Actually, "Agape" should have an accent mark above the "e", but my computer won't let me add it.) What it is, though, is more than a formal worship of service but an early church form of meal with scriptural readings, symbolic acts, and Eucharist all rolled into one.

Though some of it parallels the Jewish Seder, it is adapted for Christianity by a change in the menu from Lamb to Fish and with Christian readings, references to the spread of the Light and Eucharistic actions inserted.

Interested? The menu consists of beverages of Wine (Grape Juice for those who would prefer), Coffee, and Water. Other items will include Pita Bread, Honey, Bitter Herb or Salad, Meatless Vegetable Soup, Hard Boiled Eggs (Shelled), Hard Cheeses, Fish (we hope to have baked filleted Whitefish) Olives, Nuts, and Dried Fruits.

The gathering will begin at 6:30pm in the Great Room; attendees/participants will be asked to bring their own table service, a candle with tabletop holder, and persons attending will be asked to contribute some of the food items (sign-up sheets will be posted). Depending upon the cost of the fish and wine, a small offering to defray that cost may be added.

I have experienced this gathering in my previous parishes and found it grew over the years as a favorite part in Holy Week activities.

## Lenten Music *by Darrius Morton*

**Greetings everyone! As we prepare for the Lent season, we would like to invite you all to join us through a series of weekly, hour-long organ improvisations that will take place on Tuesday evenings. Darrius Morton will play improvisations each Tuesday of the Lent season starting on February 28 and continuing through April 4. This event series offers a space for individuals and families to commune, while dedicating time, space and focus towards God and the multitude of blessings that we are given. Come, bring a friend, bring a Bible or something to knit, and enjoy some peaceful meditations on Lenten psalms.**

Psalm 51: Create A Clean Heart



## Update from Outreach *by Mary Sullivan*

The Outreach committee met February 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00. Meeting highlights:

- ❖ Camp New Day was the Outreach Ministry of the month for February. Camp New Day provides a week of camp to youth ages 9-14 whose lives have been affected by the incarceration of a parent or other close family member. There is no cost to the families. We are seeking *cash donations* to purchase fleece for the popular “no-sew-fleece-tied-blankets.” These blankets are given to the campers at the final evening campfire and serve as a reminder of fun times at camp. There are two blanket-making parties scheduled: **March 26<sup>th</sup>** and **June 4<sup>th</sup>** after church. Other ways to support this project include: providing transportation to and from camp and hanging out at camp with the campers assisting in fishing, arts and crafts and other fun projects. We’ll keep you up to date on these needs as camp time approaches. Carol and Bob Potrzuski are the contact people for CND.
- ❖ Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) is the Outreach Ministry of the month for March. Arlene Gordanier is contact person for ERD. The money collected will go for relief and development in the Ukraine. If you wish to contribute to ERD, there are envelopes in the pew racks.
- ❖ Asylum Seekers. We support this project of Messiah Lutheran Church. The family is now renting an apartment in Marquette. Support is appreciated for transportation needs. See the information sheet on the Outreach table in the parking lot entrance, or contact Bob Railey.
- ❖ Community Meal. This is on temporary suspension. We are contacting Pine Ridge Apartments to find out about their needs and the best way to serve them. If you are interested in helping out with Community Meal, please contact an Outreach Committee member.
- ❖ Almoners. Almoners serve the emergency needs of members of St. Paul’s or others known well to us. We will be in discussion with the Finance Committee on the best way to sustain funds for this ministry.
- ❖ Final numbers for Feeding America distribution in Marquette and Alger Counties: 15,848 people served, including 4,387 children, 4,830 senior and 1,179 veterans.

*“We must not, in trying to think about how we can make a big difference, ignore the small daily differences we can make, which, over time, add up to big differences that we often cannot foresee.”*

Marion Wright Edelman

# ER&D

*by Arlene Gordanier*

Episcopal Relief and Development is the focus of Outreach Ministries this month. The shorthand is ER&D and even in shorthand we have set a powerful mission into our world. The Mission of ER&D is one of compassion to the suffering of humanity, and creation. Our baptism calls us to hear and act to seek and serve Christ in all people and to respect the dignity of every human being. ER&D serves by gathering the generosity and abundance we are given and is able to faithfully administer those funds to provide relief in times of disaster, promote sustainable development by looking for the root cause of suffering and planting programs and tools of change.

Episcopal Relief and Development is about Action. You can read about some of the actions in the Lenten Meditation “Who is my Neighbor?”

To sign up to receive the meditations in your email inbox, write [www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent](http://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent). Subscribe by email—first name, last name, click on subscribe. There is also a place to download the entire booklet in a pdf format. I also post the day’s meditation on upchat and am happy to bcc email it to you if you give me your email. Arlene Gordanier [ajgorda@gmail.com](mailto:ajgorda@gmail.com).

There are a several ways to give financially to ER&D: Donations, Gifts for Life a catalog similar to Alternative Gift Market. Other ways to give and create lasting change: raise awareness, stay informed, and newsletters. When I first started serving as a Ministry Partner for the Diocese, my spirit was deeply touched by this statement “Prayers are the most powerful support we receive. They strengthen us for the good work God has given us to do and for that we are grateful.” You can sign up to be a prayer partner by going to [www.episcopalrelief.org](http://www.episcopalrelief.org): click on the heading “What you can do”; scroll down to PRAY and follow to BECOME A PRAYER PARTNER Join today. When there is a disaster or event, you will receive an email. This page also has other prayers to be used.

This is just a taste of the Ministry of ER&D for the past 80 years. It is global and when the Covid-19 pandemic started it was added to “where we go and what we do.”

## Team Brownsville Visits Refugees *by Sue Micensky*

People who have fled their countries continue to wait in Mexico hoping to find a safe haven in the U.S. The camp where Team Brownsville worked before has been fenced off. Now asylum seekers are further into Mexico along the bank of the Rio Grande River. It’s too far for us to pull wagons full of food like we did before.



Recently, however, a small group of us drove across the border. The previous camp was rudimentary, but the current area has nothing—no tents, no access to fresh water, no way to dispose of garbage. Shelters are cobbled together with poles, tarps, and garbage bags. The wind blowing across the barren clay ground stirred up clouds of dust that had many of us coughing. Our van was mobbed as we distributed non-perishable food and diapers. Our empty cardboard boxes became mattresses. To see people living in these conditions was heartbreaking.

Shortly before we left, we heard joyous shouting. One family had an appointment to enter the U.S. Maybe we would see them in Brownsville at our welcome center.



## Scrip News

First of all, thank you to all of you who have participated in the scrip program in the last year. It has allowed us to give a check to the church last month in the amount of \$750.00. Those small percentages when you buy a scrip card really add up. Hopefully, we will be able to give another check in the fall.

Barb and I were looking through our inventory and noticed that there are a few businesses that have not been very active lately. We have plenty of cards for Togo's, Third Street Bagel, Border Grill and Jeffery's. If you can use any of these cards, let us know. Also, remember that we can order cards for Snowbound Books, Getz's, Wood Jewelry and The Gathered Earth if you want any of those.

With spring coming soon - hopefully - it's time to get out and about more often so don't forget your scrip cards when you go.

*Take care and enjoy the weather, Ann and Barb*

**The deadline for the  
April edition of  
*The Messenger*  
is Friday, March 24.**

### March Birthdays

Harper Carpenter	3
Ted Raymond	7
Ginger Randall	7
Grace Randall	11
Sandy Purrington	23

### Liturgical leaders

Sundays:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Preside</u>	<u>Preach</u>	<u>Deacon</u>
March 5	Lent 2	Bob	Lynn	Mary
March 12*	Lent 3	Jim	Jim	Mary
March 19	Lent 4	Marna	Marna	Coralie
March 26	Lent 5	Marcia	Bob	Judy

- *begin daylight time*

## The Messenger Team

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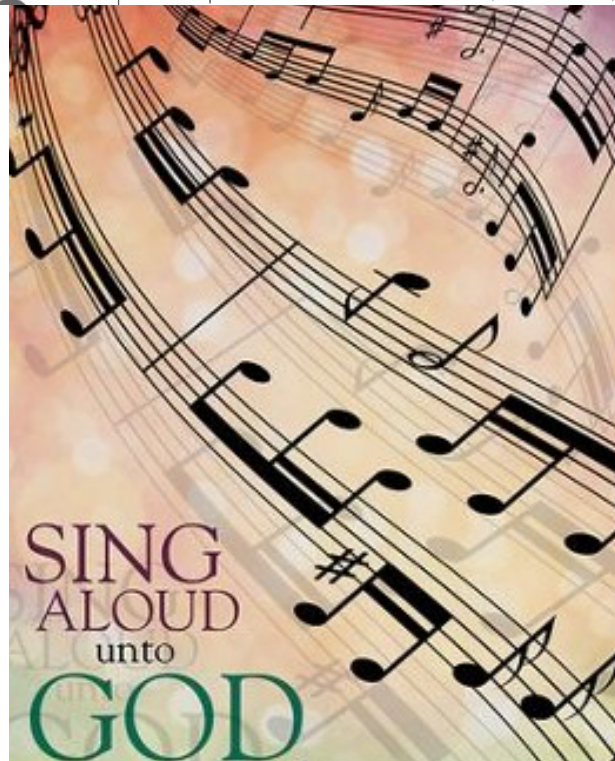


E7 A Bm E7

And he will raise you up on ea - gle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,

A A7 D Bm E F#m C#m Bm E7 A Repeat 2 times To Coda

make you to shine, like the sun, and hold you in the palm of his hand.



55

Lent  
77. 77

HEINLEIN

M. H., in  
Nürnbergisches Gesangbuch, 1676

Solemnly

1 For - ty days and for - ty nights Thou wast fast - ing in the wild;  
2 Shall not we thy sor - row share And from world - ly joys ab - stain,  
3 Then if Sa - tan on us press, Flesh or spi - rit to as - sail,

For - ty days and for - ty nights Tempt - ed, and yet un - de - filed.  
Fast - ing with un - ceas - ing prayer, Strong with thee to suf - fer pain?  
Vic - tor in the wil - der - ness, Grant we may not faint nor fail! A - men.

Evening

24

1 The day thou gav - est, Lord, is end - ed, the dark - ness  
2 We thank thee that thy Church, un - sleep - ing while earth rolls  
3 As o'er each con - ti - nent and is - land the dawn leads  
4 So be it, Lord; thy throne shall nev - er, like earth's proud

falls at thy be - hest; to thee our morn - ing hymns a -  
on - ward in - to light, through all the world her watch is  
on an - oth - er day, the voice of prayer is nev - er  
em - pires, pass a - way; thy king - dom stands, and grows for

scend - ed, thy praise shall sanc - ti - fy our rest.  
keep - ing and rests not now by day or night.  
si - lent, nor dies the strain of praise a - way.  
ev - er, till all thy crea - tures own thy sway.

This hymn may be used in the morning by omitting stanza 1.

Words: John Ellerton (1826-1893)  
Music: St. Clement, Clement Cottewill Scholefield (1839-1904)

98. 98

