

# *Buffalo Lutheran & Tower City Lutheran Churches*

**MAY 2014**

**PARISH POST**

**Comments from Pastor Chris** . . . Grace, Mercy, Peace be to you from God our Father and from our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ. Christ is risen! Alleluia! We are now in the season of Easter, in which we celebrate with joy Christ's triumph over the grave in his resurrection. I am not going to be terribly long winded this month; we have included the Easter letter of the presiding bishop for your reading pleasure.

I do have a few things I wish to bring to your attention. Firstly, there will be a picnic which is open to the community and free hosted by St. Paul's and Buffalo on the last day of Sunday School. The picnic will be on May 18 from 10-1. There will be activities for the first hour and food will follow. The picnic will be held at Alexander Park across the street from St. Paul's after church on May 18. I hope to see you all there.

And now, without further ado, here is the Easter letter from the presiding bishop, **Rev. Elizabeth Eaton**.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Chris

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

My favorite story in Scripture is the account in John's Gospel of Mary Magdalene going to the tomb. It was the first Easter, but Mary didn't know that. She expected death. In her profound grief she couldn't recognize Jesus. It was only when Jesus called her by name that she was able to see the risen Lord. Jesus saw Mary. Jesus knew Mary. Jesus spoke "Mary." It was being completely seen, utterly known and lovingly called that opened Mary Magdalene to the hope of the resurrection and into a deeper relationship with Christ. Because she was seen she could see.

This is Easter vision. We have been seen, known and called by God through the crucified and risen Savior and, having received the Spirit through baptism, we all can now see. We can see Christ, and we can see Christ in our neighbor. No one is invisible to God, and no one is invisible to us. What wondrous love is this!

So beloved, with newly opened eyes let us be bold to say, "Christ is risen. Christ is risen indeed. Hallelujah!"

Blessed Easter,  
The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## FINANCIAL NEWS TO NOTE!

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### BUFFALO LUTHERAN CHURCH

Watch for our financial report next month

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

April General Fund     \$1548.22



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH is in need of a riding lawnmower to mow both the parsonage lawn and the church lawn. Does anyone have a mower they would consider donating to St Paul's? Money given toward the purchase of a mower would also be appreciated. Call Chad Wetch to offer your donation of a mower or indicate a financial gift on your check.

### **Bridal Showers are coming!**

You're invited to join in at Kari Killoran's May 24 shower at 10:30 AM. The shower will be held at Buffalo Lutheran Church.

You're invited to attend a shower on June 11 at 7:00 PM for Alicia Lerud at the Tower City Community Hall. (she is registered at Bed, Bath, & Beyond, Target, and the Quilted Ceiling)

**Vacation Bible School** Vacation Bible School "All About Love", is offered this summer Sunday, June 8 (3 PM-6 PM), Monday (9 AM-3 PM) and Tuesday, June 10 (9 AM-3 PM) at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Please contact Sarah Besette to register your children (ages 4-12) at 701-318-9614 or [sbesette@gmail.com](mailto:sbesette@gmail.com). ( you can also contact the church office.

**Buffalo Lutheran Church members** We are in need of folks to provided treats for Coffee time after church and to set up the coffee and lemonade(drinks provided at the church). Call Connie Boyd to volunteer for June and July (there will soon be a sign up sheet available).

### **Beyond Our Walls - - Tornadoes**

We are a church that rolls up its sleeves and gets to work. We know it will be a long road to recovery, and your [gifts](#) are needed now to begin coordinating volunteers, rebuilding homes and offering spiritual and emotional care to those in need.

**Gifts designated to "U.S. Tornadoes" through Lutheran Disaster Response will be used entirely — 100 percent — to help survivors of tornadoes rebuild their lives and livelihoods.**

You can help provide comfort, healing and hope in the midst of destruction.

**Thrivent members**, another opportunity to help your congregation! Just select your congregation the first time you direct Choice Dollars between April 1 and May 31st, 2014, and your church will receive an extra \$20 grant from Thrivent Financial! Through the "Direct Now...and add \$20 campaign, Thrivent will give an extra \$20 for each member who chooses to direct Choice Dollars to either congregation first.

Dear Family and Friends,

Glaucoma is an eye disease that affects 2 million people in the United States. Researchers found that the overall annual incidence rate of open-angle glaucoma in a predominantly Caucasian population is conservatively estimated to be 14.5 per 100,000 population. The rates increased with age from 1.6 for people in their 40s to 94.3 in their 80s. Glaucoma is an age-related disorder that causes vision loss due to an increase in pressure within the eye (intraocular pressure). It is the second leading cause of blindness in the United States. Anyone can develop glaucoma. Some people are at higher risk than others, including:

- African Americans over age 40;
- Everyone over age 60, especially Mexican Americans;
- People with a family history of glaucoma.

Open-angle glaucoma, the most common kind, occurs due to the chronic blockage of normal fluid circulation within the eye. Increased pressure within the eye can cause damage to the optic nerve and eventual blindness, if untreated. Without treatment, people with glaucoma will gradually lose their side (peripheral) vision. Increased intraocular pressure, by itself, is not called glaucoma, but can lead to glaucoma if the optic nerve is damaged. Symptoms do not appear until late in the disease, which is the reason regular eye examinations for older people are worthwhile, even if they are not having problems.

There is no prevention or cure for glaucoma, but early diagnosis and treatment will slow the progression of the disease, and can save your sight.

**Detection** is made through a comprehensive eye exam, which will include: Visual acuity test (eye chart), visual field test for peripheral vision, tonometry — a test to measure the pressure inside the eye, and a dilated eye exam using eye drops to permit direct examination of the retina and optic nerves using a special magnifying lens.

**Treatment** consists of medicines in the form of eye drops or pills, and surgery, in advanced cases. While these treatments may save remaining vision, they do not improve sight already lost from glaucoma.

**TAKE HOME MESSAGE:**

1. Have a comprehensive eye exam at least every two years if you are in any of the high-risk groups described above.
2. If you are being treated for glaucoma, be sure to take your glaucoma medicine every day. Remember, lowering eye pressure in glaucoma's early stages slows progression of the disease and helps save vision.
3. Help protect the vision of family members and friends who may be at high risk for glaucoma by sharing this information with them.

*He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always of good courage; we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord, for we walk by faith, not by sight. II Corinthians 5:5-7*

Peace in Him,

Gwen Fraase RN

Parish Nurse

Community Health Ministry (CHM)

*Buffalo & Tower City Lutheran Parish*  
Box 68  
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### **Upcoming May Events**

**MAY SUNDAY SERVICES WILL BE HELD AT ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH AT 9:00 AM, FOLLOWED BY SUNDAY SCHOOL (last day of Sunday School is May 18) AND BIBLE STUDY.**

**Pastoral guidance and individual confession are available by appointment with the pastor. You can contact him at 749-2309 or 701-710-0446. His e-mail address is [cbrademeyer@gmail.com](mailto:cbrademeyer@gmail.com)**

Every Wednesday: Confirmation classes meet at the high school!

May 4: SPL COUNCIL meets after worship; SPL WELCA meets after worship

May 7: NAOMI CIRCLE meets at Karen Tabor home at 1:30 PM

May 10--11: EAND SYNOD ASSEMBLY

May 11: HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

May 14: SPL clean-up-5:30 – 8 PM; BL COUNCIL meets at 7 00 PM

May 18: LASY DAY of Sunday School; SENIOR STUDENTS receive their graduation quilts  
COMMUNITY PICNIC follows church(see schedule in Pastor's article); St. Stephen meeting after church

May 24: BRIDAL SHOWER for Kari Killoran at 10:30 AM at BLC

June 1: Confirmation