

PASTOR'S MONTHLY REPORT – February 2010

MEMBERSHIP		
	COMM.	SOULS
GAINS: Transfers in:	3	3
Professions of faith:	--	--
Adults confirmed:	--	--
Children confirmed:	--	--
Adult Baptisms:	--	--
Child Baptisms:	--	--
Total Gains:	3	3
LOSSES: Transfers out:	1	1
Releases (of all types):	--	--
Deaths:	--	--
Total Losses:	--	--
NET CURRENT MEMBERSHIP:	337	458

CALLING ACTIVITY		
	PASTOR	MEMBERS
Homes canvassed (door or phone):		
Telephone calls w/prospects:	5	
Personal visits w/prospects:	3	
Shut-in/hospital visits made:	10	
Letters to members & prospects:		
Telephone calls w/members	15	
Personal visits w/members	2	

ATTENDANCES	
Sunday Worship (ave.)	174
Sunday attendance	180, 167, 157, 192
Wed evening	30, 11
Weekly worship (ave.)	194
Ash Wed & Midweek Lent	144, 90
Communion	135, 107
Youth Bible Study (ave/mo.)	8
Sunday School (ave./wk)	18
Bible Inquirer's Class (no. enrolled)	
Midweek Bible Studies (combined ave)	5
Confirmation Class (no. enrolled)	17
Adult Bible Class (ave./wk)	30

FINANCES	
Yearly Budget:	332,400
Monthly Budget:	27,700
Monthly Plate Offerings:	20201.60
Simply Giving:	2010
Save Our School – S.O.S.:	3,000
C.U.P.:	
Organ Fund	
Endowment Fund	

We transferred Jacob Hanson to Grace in downtown Milwaukee. We received by transfer Sharon Newman, Nathan and Theresa Hefti. We thank the Lord these saints have all found a church home.

I am again the head counselor for Training Camp. The dates are July 25-30 for those going into 3rd – 9th grades. If your child is interested in a great week at camp, I encourage you to take a registration form from the Friendship Room and register right away. Last year we had to turn away at least 10 children because we were already full. We are filling up fast this year, too.

Every day you can go to my blog for daily devotions. Please use the church's website and blog for sermons, devotions, pictures, insights, etc. epiphany-wels.org and ivehadanepiphany.blogspot.com

Ash Wednesday was on Feb 17. We had a beautifully somber worship service with imposition of ashes on the sackcloth banner and Holy Communion. We began our midweek Lenten series on "We Preach Christ Crucified." You are invited for the last few Wednesday evening services with Racine WELS pastors leading the worship.

Palm Sunday is March 28. It is one of the high festivals of the church year. There will be trumpets, guitar, and violin. The Sunday School children will sing and play the handbells. Invite friends and family to these special Holy

Week services.

April 1 is Maundy Thursday at 6:30 pm. We will celebrate the Lord's command (mandatum – Latin for mandate, command) to celebrate the Lord's Supper. The sermon will be based on the devotion I gave in the Garden of Gethsemane in Jerusalem. April 2 is Good Friday. We will have two different services with different Bible lessons and hymns. The afternoon service is at 1:00 pm. The WLS children will be singing. The evening service will be at 6:30 pm and will be a Tenebrae service – a service of darkness.

The darkness will be reversed in our Easter Vigil service on Saturday night, April 3, beginning at 8:00 pm. Historically, we have not had great attendance at the Vigil service. I mentioned last year that I was thinking of not having it anymore because of poor attendance, but those who come regularly to the service talked me out of it. It is a very deep, meaningful service with lots of symbolism and actual forgiveness.

On April 4 we will celebrate the Resurrection of Our Lord in our Festival Easter service. There will be organ, piano, trumpets, violin, guitar, etc. We will also celebrate the Lord's Supper in the service. We haven't celebrated communion on Easter for years. I want to make sure that we offer the Lord's Supper for members who may only come once in a while or are the "C & E" – the Christmas and Easter Christians. Because I am estimating a very large service with possibly 300 for the day, we will have "Continuous Communion." We will also have a "potluck" Easter breakfast between services. Bring a breakfast dish to share.

On Saturday, March 20 we will be canvassing for Holy Week services. Please be at the church at 10 am. We will go for 2 hours. I will also have flyers available for you to do your own neighborhood. We will be mailing postcards of Holy Week services to our visitors and not-so-active members.

Our Sunday Bible study during Lent has been reviewing where Jesus was in Jerusalem and what these places look like today. We still have to examine the house of Caiaphas, the high priest, where Jesus was interrogated and the courtyard where Peter denied Jesus, Golgotha where Jesus was crucified and the garden tomb where he was buried. I guarantee you will learn a lot by coming to these classes.

After Easter Rich Miller, our Stewardship Chairman, and I will be teaching a 3-week class on finances. We really won't be talking about offerings. It will be about getting out of debt, retirement funds, wills, etc. If you struggle with saving money, getting out of debt, investing your money, etc. – and I would think that would be every one of us – this class is for you!

The work on the new upstairs bathroom has begun. Some of the plumbing and electrical work is done. Now Scott Martyn is putting up the walls. How great it is going to be to have two bathrooms upstairs where young families and elderly members can make use of them.

This summer our goal as a congregation is going to be working as a cohesive unit in really fixing up our church and school, inside and out. We will have the parking lot repaved. There will be parking space lines painted. The school will be putting four-square, hopscotch and a map of the U.S. game in the lot. We would like to fix the cracks and peeling wallpaper in the church, repaint where things need to be repainted, replace old ceiling tiles in the basement, and more.

This means we will need money to do all of these projects. Even more, we will need every one of you to get involved.

In Christ's service, Pastor Zarling