



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2025

St. Paul Lutheran Church, NALC- 156 Poplar St. S.W. Bolivar, Ohio 44612
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From the Pastor...

Looking Forward to February

The month of February, although the shortest month of the year, can at times be the most dreary and foreboding time for outdoor activities. There are some good reasons to look forward to the month. Let me begin with that time-honored tradition of Groundhog Day. We are told by this creature how many days are remaining before the end of winter. Thousands of people gather at Gobble's Knob in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania for this notable prognostication.

Another noteworthy event in February is Valentine's Day where lovers are reminded of the importance of their relationships. It is day marked by incredible exchange of gifts; when hopefully the bills from Christmas have been paid.

We must not forget Presidents' Day, which is a national holiday so the kids get a day off from school and government workers by the millions do not go to work. It is a fitting remembrance of two great men who served in the highest office in the land.

For all the sports buffs out there, the Super Bowl is held in February as a final climax to the football season. For many, the highlight of the game is the halftime program. Ads cost millions of dollars for just 30 seconds of air time. What an extravaganza!

Like me, all the baseball geeks are excited to see spring training camps open with the expectation of World Series champions on everybody's mind. Every team hopes to win the prize that comes in October.

For those who travel to New Orleans, February is Mardi Gras season. Even though Lent begins in March, the revelers will begin their celebrations early regardless of the calendar.

On a local level, Bolivar will have a Senior Center with an Open House scheduled for Friday, February 7 from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm and 4:00 pm – 6:00 pm. Memberships are \$10 yearly and it is located Old Tusky Valley School on 2637 Tusky Vally Road in Zoarville. Adults 50 years and older are invited to join the Senior Center, which will offer health, wellness, educational, cultural, and recreational services in a welcoming environment. Yes, there will be pickleball courts.

As you can see, February has a lot to offer albeit the shortest month of year. I hope you enjoy it and remember that prayer and worship still provide the foundation of our faith and lives.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!

MINISTERS FOR FEBRUARY 2025

DATE	TIME	ASSISTANTS	DATE	TIME	LECTORS
2/2	8:00 am	Jim Ward	2/2	8:00 am	Dave Zastawny
	10:30 am	Kim Pohovey		10:30 am	Kim Pohovey
2/9	8:00 am	Charlann Young	2/9	8:00 am	Sandy Ritter
	10:30 am	Randy Simers		10:30 am	Cheryl Simers
2/16	8:00 am	Steve Maurer	2/16	10:30 am	Jim Ward
	10:30 am	Terry Tegtmeier			Richard Dudash
2/23	8:00 am	Charlann Young	2/23	8:00 am	Olivia Howell
	10:30 am	Marcia Howenstine		10:30 am	Gabriel Woods
USHERS & GREETERS			SCREEN		
2/2	8:00 am	Byron & Maryann Lautenschleger	2/2	8:00 am	Jim Ward
	10:30 am	Ann Shetler		10:30 am	Sophie Ranta
2/9	8:00 am	Dave & Charlann Young	2/9	8:00 am	Olivia Howell
	10:30 am	Dee Garrison		10:30 am	Doug Dix
2/16	8:00 am	Jim & Jen Ward	2/16	8:00 am	Terri Howell
	10:30 am	Randy & Cheryl Simers		10:30 am	Dee Garrison
2/23	8:00 am	John & Sandy Bolitho	2/23	8:00 am	Pam Ward
	10:30 am	Aaron & Meghan Woods		10:30 am	Ted Howenstine
Altar Guild			Community Meals		
		Judy App & Tammy Huggins			Kathy Pozzuto

<u>2/2</u> Fourth Sunday After Epiphany	<u>2/9</u> Fifth Sunday After Epiphany	<u>2/16</u> Sixth Sunday After Epiphany	<u>2/23</u> Seventh Sunday After Epiphany
<u>Jeremiah 1:4-10, 17-19</u>	<u>Isaiah 6:1-13</u>	<u>Jeremiah 17:5-8</u>	<u>Genesis 45:3-15</u>
<u>Psalms 71:1-11</u>	<u>Psalms 138</u>	<u>Psalms 1</u>	<u>Psalms 103:1-13</u>
<u>1 Corin. 12:30-13:13</u>	<u>1 Corin. 14:12-20</u>	<u>1 Corin, 15:1-11</u>	<u>1 Corin.21-26, 30-42</u>
<u>Luke 4:31-44</u>	<u>Luke 5:1-11</u>	<u>Luke 6:17-26</u>	<u>Luke 6:27-38</u>

Stewardship Report

2022	2023	2024	2025
\$11,987	\$14,784	\$10,808	\$14,702

CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES!!

February Birthdays

Sydney Ward	3
Gary Spangler	5
Virginia Smerglia	6
Kevin Kienzle	10
Alexander Zutavern	10
Tamra Huggins	12
Rose Harris	13
John Bolitho	17
Donna Dudash	22
Aaron Woods	26

February Anniversaries

None for February

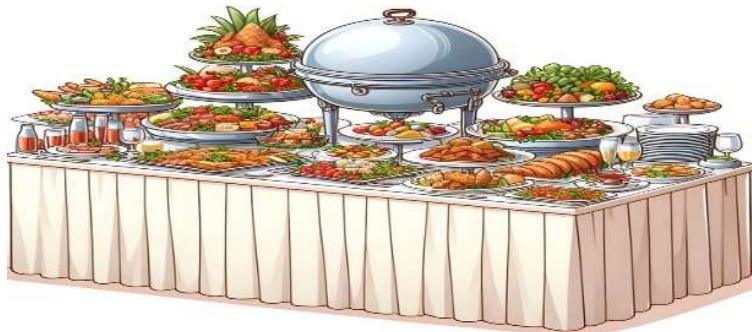
SICK AND SHUT-IN LIST

Please see a list of our shut-ins below; they would enjoy hearing from you by visit or card. **Jerry Hoskinson**, 1970 North Orchard Rd. NE Bolivar, OH 44612 - **John Kienzle** – Hennis Care Center, Bolivar, OH. (Room 206) - **Betty Menapace** – Park Village – 1511 Crater Ave. Room 19 A, Dover OH 44622 and **Alyce Snyder** at Assisted Living at Brewster Park 360 Wabash Avenue (Jefferson Lodge/Inn Bldg.-(Room 608) Brewster OH 44613 **Carol Hoskinson** – The Gables 3660 Greentree Ave. SW Canton, Ohio 44706 (Room 311)

Prayer Chain - This week remember in your prayers – Donna Dudash, Gary Sliffe, Kris Simtson, Darin Wentz, Pam Ward, Pat Mizer, Suzanne Kuntzman, Mary Sanders, Irene Ward, Netta Strand, Bill Nelson, Lissa Johns, Brock McNutt, David Shetler, Gary Smerglia, Lauren Seifert, **Servicemen & Women-** *Seth Hershberger, Abraham Marlowe, Kyle Grieving, Cearra Taylor, Don Scholz, Rob Vitous, Camren Taylor, Trent Garver, Andrea Gibson, Andy Jones, Jordan Ritter, William Robishaw*

Note: After 6 months names will be removed if no new information is given.

Community Meal: St Paul Lutheran Bible Study 10:15 a.m. Community Meal 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. Thursday, February 6 and Thursday, February 20.





Book Club Note January 2025 - The Book Club met on Tuesday, January 28th and discussed the book, “The Surprising Rebirth of Belief in God,” by Justin Brierley.

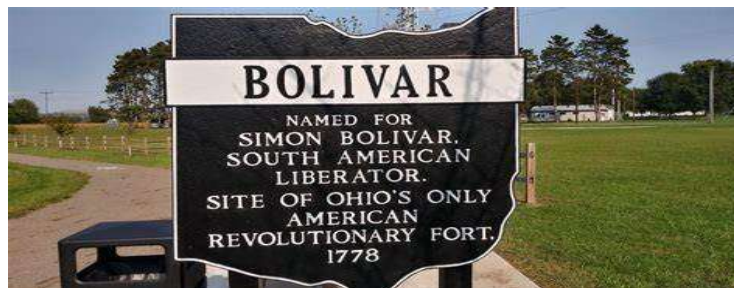
We had numerous people giving comments throughout the evening. Initially, many were surprised that more chapters were not devoted to the concept of “rebirth of belief” throughout the book. A significant part of the book was devoted to the rise of atheism in this century, starting with the “four horsemen” of the New Atheism in the early 2000’s, especially Richard Dawkins and Christopher Hitchens.

Throughout this century, there has been a decline in Christianity (especially church attendance), but interestingly, not much change in the number of atheists. There has been more discussion on whether God makes sense of science, history, culture, and the search for meaning. The “moral questions” of human dignity and equality, along with caring for the weakest, remain problems for the atheists and non-Christians.

Materialism, determinism, and science itself are unable to answer the questions of meaning and purpose that we all want to have answered. As Brierley states, “I believe we are all made to worship....if we don’t worship God, we will end up worshiping something else instead.” It remains to be seen whether Christianity will fill that void, as it has periodically in the past; that is, will the “tide come back in again.” We plan to meet again at the end of March, but our next book election has not yet been made – “stay tuned”

Terry Tegtmeier

Prayer Team: Recently a prayer team was formed at the church. The members include: Jim Davis, Doug Dix, Donna Dudash, Sandy Ritter and Terry Tegtmeier. They have offered to pray with the worship ministers before each service. *You are welcome to stop by the parlor after the service to have a prayer team member lift you and your concerns and praises in prayer with you. All are invited!*



Bolivar Bi-Centennial News: This year the Village of Bolivar is celebrating 200 years of existence. Several events are being planned which include lectures at the local library as well as a community worship scheduled for Sunday, June 8 after the conclusion of the Strawberry Festival. In addition, an old-fashioned baseball game is also being planned. There will be a lecture will be on Monday, March 31 describing the last 100 years of Bolivar. The lecture begins at 6:00 pm. More information will be available in the future.



OPEN HOUSE

Old Tusky Valley School
2637 Tusky Valley Rd
Zoarville, OH 44656

DATE & TIME

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

4:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

LIGHT MEAL/REFRESHMENTS

11:00 A.M.

MEMBERSHIPS

\$10 YEARLY

ACTIVITY CALENDAR & SURVEY

Fill out a survey to let us know what your vision is for the center and pick up a calendar

RAFFLE TICKETS

A variety of baskets will be raffled off

T-SHIRT ORDER FORM

Order your spirit T-Shirt and help support the Tusky Valley Senior Center

**HOPE TO SEE YOU
THERE!!**

PRAYER FOCUS FOR FEBRUARY 2025

Is there someone you could encourage today by praying for them? Let them know you are praying for them. This is one way we can strengthen each other's faith. Your words of encouragement may have a powerful impact on them. This month please pray specifically for those on our prayer chain.

Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.

Philippians 4:6

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| Kris Simtson | A dear friend of Rose Harris dealing with treatments for leukemia |
| Derin Wentz | Son of Cheryl Simers who has heart issues. He is improving and is able to return to work. |
| Pat Mizer | Is the mother of Hope Mizer. Pat is in the last stages of Alzheimer's disease. |
| Mary Sanders | Pam Ward's sister-in-law has breast cancer. |
| Irene Ward | Pam Ward's niece who has many medical issues. |
| Bill Nelson | Jennifer Smith's brother-in-law is being treated for pancreatic cancer. |
| David Shetler | Ann Shetler's son who was a fireman 12 years ago when his lungs were badly damaged while fighting a burning building. He still struggles with only 50% of lung capacity. |
| Lissa Johns | A friend of Peggy Dix has recurring lung issues. |
| Suzanne Kuntzman | The sister of Sandra Bolitho has had 3 strokes and is currently in hospice care at the Laurels in Massillon |
| Brock McNutt | A friend of Tammy Huggins is in kidney failure and receiving dialysis daily. |
| Nettie Strand | A friend of Linda Clugston has cancer. |

In addition to praying for healing for all these folks, the most important prayer is that they know Jesus and the hope of salvation. February is the "love" month. What better way to show your love for someone than to pray for them.

FEBRUARY 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2/2	2/3	2/4	2/5	2/6	2/7	2/8
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga 9-10 a.m.	Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m. Rebekah Sisters & Sonshine Ladies bag candy for nursing home		Bible Study 10:15 a.m. COMMUNITY MEAL 11:30 – 1:00 P.M.	Youth Group Activity – Fellowship Hall Senior Center Open House	
2/9	2/10	2/11	2/12	2/13	2/14	2/15
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga 9-10 a.m. Lions Club 6:30 p.m.		Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.		Valentine's Day	Property 9:00 a.m.
2/16	2/17	2/18	2/19	2/20	2/21	2/22
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga 9-10 a.m. Council 7:00 p.m.	Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m.		Bible Study 10:15 a.m. COMMUNITY MEAL 11:30 – 1:00 P.M.		
2/23	2/24	2/25	2/26	2/27	2/28	
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga 9-10 a.m. Lions Club 6:30 p.m.	Homeless Shelter Meal 5:00 p.m.	Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.			

Month To Date Giving

Month to Date Giving Through January - Amount 2025 \$14,190.00

Month to Date Giving Through January - Amount 2024 \$9,795.00

