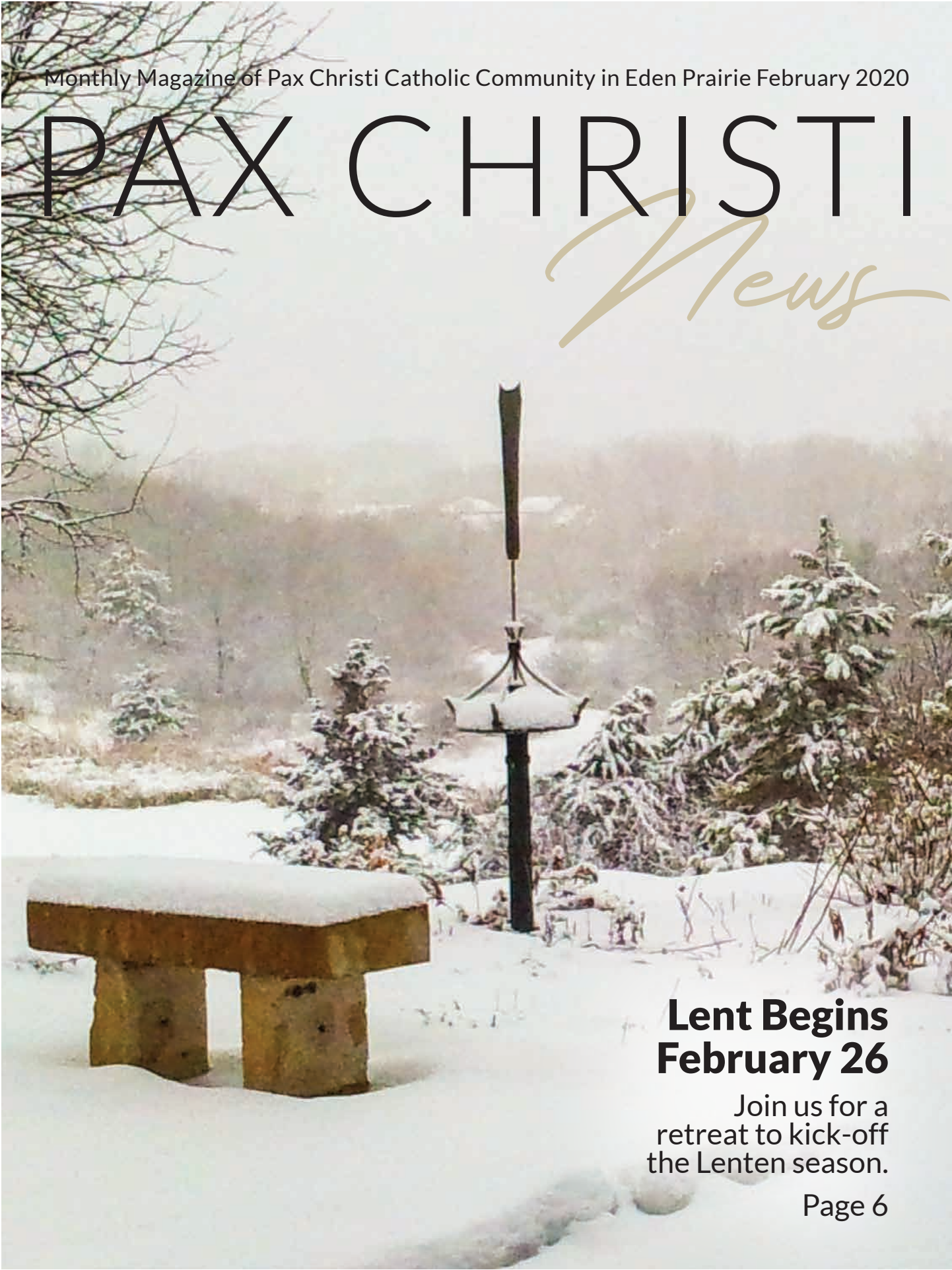


Monthly Magazine of Pax Christi Catholic Community in Eden Prairie February 2020

PAX CHRISTI

News

A photograph of a winter landscape. In the foreground, a stone bench is covered in snow. To the right, a black lamp post stands in the snow. The background shows snow-covered evergreen trees and a hazy, overcast sky.

Lent Begins February 26

Join us for a
retreat to kick-off
the Lenten season.

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PAX CHRISTI

Catholic Community

12100 Pioneer Trail, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208
Phone: 952-941-3150 Website: www.paxchristi.com

Office Hours

Monday–Thursday 8:00am–4:30pm
Friday 8:00am–12:00pm

Mission Statement: As a community of faith nourished by the Eucharist, we are committed in our discipleship with Christ to act for justice, be of generous service, and authentically welcome all to Pax Christi Catholic Community.

Values: God-Centered, Justice, Inclusion, Spiritual Growth, Stewardship, and Lay Leadership.

Mass Schedule

Saturday	5:00pm
Sunday	9:00am, 11:00am, 5:00pm
Mondays	8:30am
Tuesdays	8:30am
Wednesdays	6:00pm
Thursdays	8:30am (Word Communion Service)
Fridays	8:30am

Rosary prayed following weekday morning Masses.
Nursery available at all Sunday Masses.
Interpreter for hearing impaired at 11:00am Mass.

Sacrament of Reconciliation (private)

Saturdays 4:00–4:30pm

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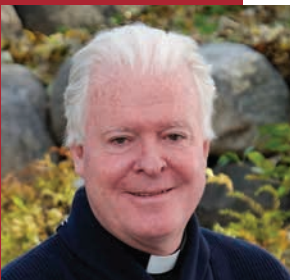
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Dear Friends...

Perhaps you have heard of the American philosopher William James, who did most of his thinking and writing a little over a century ago in New England. He is sometimes tagged with the title of “Father of American Pragmatism.” Whether you recognize his name or not, his thinking continues to have powerful sway in our culture, as it has for decades. Every philosopher has to confront the question about how to discover and recognize what is ultimately true about existence. James’ response to that question was rather disarmingly simple. He did not resort to the abstractions of Plato or Aristotle, or to the authority of religion, holy scripture, or even of human reason. Rather, he said that a proposition can be judged to be true on the basis of whether it makes any difference in peoples’ actual lives. If a truth claim fails that test, then it either isn’t true or it just doesn’t matter. James referred to it as the “cash value” of any so-called assertion about “truth.” It was and remains a perfect philosophical system (if you can call it a system) for a society like ours that is hyper-individualistic and somewhat self-centered.

Fr. J. Michael Byron
Pastor



But James was perplexed by another phenomenon, which he referred to as the “Cult of Mrs. Eddy.” She would be another New Englander, Mary Baker Eddy, who is widely credited as the founder of the religion that is known today as the Church of Christ, Scientist. It baffled James that somehow Eddy had succeeded in attracting a following of disciples who had transformed the concept of religion into a kind of self-help enterprise. It reoriented the understanding of church from being primarily God-centered to being primarily me-centered. You can see why it caught on so well in the United States. It is pragmatic in the extreme, but James questioned whether it was properly a “religion” anymore.

The effect of Mrs. Eddy’s “cult” has been far reaching in our country, whether we know anything about Christian Scientists or not. You can hear it whenever you experience the complaint of one who has given up on church because “I don’t get anything out of it,” as if that is the primary purpose of a church. We don’t trade in “cash value” primarily in our expression of Christian faith and service, which is why our communities sometimes push against the headwinds of popular society. We are more about solidarity, community, and yes, God in our commitments here.



I mention all of this as the new season of Lent comes on, because even this time of dedicated self-sacrifice and penance can become warped into an imagined moment of self-help or personal improvement. Those aren't bad things in and of themselves, but they are not what Lent is about. Lent is a time of de-centering myself for the sake of opening up to the stirrings of God's spirit and to the needs of people around me. In the past I have tried to observe this season, as many of us have, by giving up pleasures, losing weight, getting in better shape, finding more balance in daily routines. But if it all ends there, then it's really just a pious veneer for self-service. If it doesn't translate into a broader engagement with people who suffer or a commitment to a community that needs me (for more than six weeks), then what

has really happened? Ours is a faith that doesn't always offer "cash value" for our dedication to being involved. Sometimes, as Lent reminds us, it takes from us more than it rewards us...at least for the time being. In that regard, it is not a season for pragmatists. Are we prepared for that challenge?

Ultimately, we follow a God who has promised us that to sacrifice is to gain, to die to self is to live, and to put God in the center—rather than ourselves—is to return to what we are to be about. May this time of deliberate self-examination and repentance become a blessing for all of us.



Adult Lenten Parish Retreat

Be Who You Are and Be That Well: Discerning Calling and Vocation Today

As we continue to explore and unpack the themes of *calling* and *vocation* as a parish community, the Lifelong Faith Formation Council, in collaboration with the Communities of Calling Team, invite all adult parishioners to join us for a three-hour retreat to kick-off the Lenten season, on **Saturday, February 29, 2020 from 9:00am–12:00noon.**

As this article goes to publication, we are still in the planning stages for the experience. What we do have confirmed at this time is our retreat facilitator. Her name is Melissa Borgmann-Kiemde, who is a spiritual director at the Loyola Spirituality Center in St. Paul. A member of our Communities of Calling team had a chance to participate in a workshop she gave on vocation and suggested that we invite her to Pax Christi to offer a similar experience. Here is a portion of her bio:

Melissa received her Certificate in Spiritual Direction from the Franciscan Spirituality Center in La Crosse, Wisconsin. Before her formal training in redemptive listening, Melissa was formed by the sacred stories of her high school English students and spoken word poets. She comes to Loyola after working alongside the Visitation Sisters of Minneapolis—supporting vocation discernment and the universal call to “be who we are and be that well.” As a companion

to the Visitation Sisters, she is grounded in Salesian Spirituality and seeks to live the gospel story of Mary and Elizabeth — encountering Christ-bearers and prophetic people in the circumstances of daily life and especially formal listening settings.

The working theme for the day is based upon the workshop our parish team participated in. In that workshop, Melissa took participants through what is called an examen-based discernment exercise, identifying moments of knowing God’s great love. Through creative reflection prayer practices, participants came to a greater understanding of a classic discernment process taught by St. Ignatius of Loyola. Participants had an opportunity to reflect on their personal, lived experiences and to be introduced to a protocol for discerning vocation within a group. It is our hope that in offering this similar experience, the community of Pax Christi will become empowered to better hear and respond to the call of God at both the personal and communal levels.

Registration information and more concrete details are on the parish website.

*Written by Scott Brazil, Director of Faith Formation,
952-405-7230, or sbrazil@paxchristi.com*

LENT SCHEDULE

Begins February 26

ASH WEDNESDAY ~ February 26

9:00am	Ash Wednesday Mass
12:00pm	Ash Wednesday Mass
5:00pm	Ash Wednesday Service with Ashes (no Mass)
7:00pm	Ash Wednesday Mass

A light lunch of soup and bread will be served following the noon Mass and again between 5:45–6:45pm in Dorothy Day Social Hall.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION ~ (PRIVATE)

3:30–4:30pm	Saturdays, February 29, March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4
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LENTEN COMMUNAL RECONCILIATION SERVICE

7:00pm	Tuesday, March 10	Sanctuary
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SPECIAL LENTEN FRIDAY EVENING PRAYER

7:00pm	February 28, March 6, 13, 27, April 3
Stations of the Cross	Thomas Merton Chapel

7:00pm	March 20
Taize Prayer Service	Main Worship Space

3:00pm	April 10
Living Stations of the Cross	Sanctuary

BURGUNDY BAG LENTEN FOOD COLLECTION

Weekend of March 21/22 at Masses

LENTEN REGULATIONS FOR FASTING AND ABSTINENCE

FASTING: Restricting eating to one full meal and two lighter meals in the course of a single day; prohibits eating between meals for Catholics beginning at age 18 until their 59th birthday. Pregnant women and people who are sick are not obligated to fast. Such fasting is obligatory on Ash Wednesday and Good Friday.

ABSTINENCE: Catholics older than 14 years of age may not eat meat on Ash Wednesday or on any Friday of Lent.

*Be who you are
and be that well.*

–St. Francis de Sales

Intergenerational Service

Passing Along the Call to Serve

We can be called by a need, a curiosity, a talent, a passion, or even a sense of pragmatism. And often we are called to serve by the people in our lives. For members of the Tahnk-Johnson, Rabogliatti, Bannigan, and Lobo households, the call comes from inside their own families. The intergenerational service of these and other Pax Christi families creates a sense of belonging within the community and to one another.

For Ray Tahnk-Johnson, his call to becoming a choir member was part curiosity. He says, "I always felt like I might be able to sing, but it took many years before I had the resolve to step up and do something beyond my comfort zone." While he was a band musician in school and as an adult, he hadn't tried singing until he joined the Pax Christi choir. Even though he was accustomed to being in front of the congregation as a lector, there were a few weeks of internal conflict and second-guessing. However, he quickly became familiar and comfortable with singing at Mass and now says that being part of the choir gives him a sense of belonging, worthiness, and commitment.

The entire Tahnk-Johnson family has a role to play when they go to Mass. Ray's wife Mary is a Eucharistic Minister, and son Dylan is an altar server. Like Ray, daughter Amanda is also a choir member. Because she had always been a talented musician and singer, Ray encouraged Amanda to join the adult choir at age ten. Amanda says, "I have always loved singing and performing, and I loved watching my dad sing in church when I was little. When he invited me to come with him to rehearsal, I was immediately welcomed by all of the other members." Amanda felt a bit overwhelmed at first with all of the music the choir goes through each week.

Her father, though, saw that Amanda was immediately up for the task. Amanda says, "I quickly picked up the new music and eventually at Christmas Eve I cantored in front of the church with my dad. Now it is a wonderful opportunity to return from college and sing together again." Being in a ministry together has also had an impact on their relationship. Amanda's singing makes Ray happy and proud, and both say that singing and driving to rehearsal together was a great way for the two to connect. Choir has given Amanda the opportunity to meet more people in the worship community and helps her understand the messages of the readings.

Like Amanda, Katie Rabogliatti also followed in her father's footsteps and joined the adult choir in ninth grade. Katie says that the Scripture message is far more impactful when she is part of the music liturgy, which is something she experienced profoundly while cantoring at Good Friday services. Mark Rabogliatti says that his daughter Katie's experience during Good Friday services echoes his own experience in college. When attending the University of Notre Dame, Mark was part of the liturgical choir and it was there where he began to learn about music as its own form of prayer. He describes his first Easter at Notre Dame as an incredibly moving experience, and when the choir toured, he saw the joy and powerful prayer brought to the communities they visited. As a result of this great experience, music ministry became a tangible means of offering his time and talent in the parishes he has attended. Still, it took some convincing for Mark to become part of the Pax Christi choir. Although Mark wanted to serve in music ministry, he felt that his work schedule was a barrier to committing to the choir. That changed when a parishioner who



heard him sing at Mass each week reached out to music director, Donna Kasbohm, to tell her about Mark's talents. Donna talked with Mark and assured him that he could be part of the choir following a schedule that worked for him.

Mark says that being part of the music ministry is especially rewarding when he is able to cantor together with Katie, in part because they are similar vocally, but also because it's an opportunity to share something with his daughter. Katie's involvement in music ministry gives Mark great satisfaction in passing along the tradition of involvement and passing along the faith.

Mark had his parents and grandparents as examples of what being called to serve looked like. His parents and grandparents helped build the Catholic grade school in his hometown, served

in leadership in the parish, and the entire family worked at every parish or school event or festival. Mark and his brothers were all altar boys as well as readers, singers, and everything in between.

Katie has seen her parents called to very different roles of service. Her mom Denise prefers serving behind the scenes, volunteering when help is needed at events and making sure that the family is participating in the Twelve Baskets Ministry drives. As part of the Worship Council, Mark has been an active and visible part of Pax Christi's lay leadership. Katie has leadership aspirations herself. Though she has a strong sense of belonging to the choir, Katie would like to be part of a council or ministry that works to create a greater sense of inclusiveness and belonging within the Church. Mark says that whether it's behind the scenes or something visible like leadership, each person's call to serve is equally important.



The Bannigan family also has a father-daughter story, but for John and Sheila Bannigan, their purpose is passing along the faith to the younger members of Pax Christi. As a matter of practicality, John first became a Faith Formation catechist so that his children could participate in Faith Formation classes for free. However, as he continued to teach over the next few years, it became an opportunity to give back to the Pax Christi community. He says, "It was fun to see the children I had in classes come up to me when I was at Mass and say hi. That never would have happened if I had not been a catechist."

Even though it was pragmatism that initially led John to becoming a catechist, his involvement ignited a call in his daughter. Sheila, who now teaches three different Faith Formation classes and volunteers for Vacation Bible Camp, recently graduated from college with a teaching degree. Her dad's involvement with Faith Formation inspired her to venture into teaching. Starting in her sophomore year of high school, Sheila began to volunteer with Faith Formation and gradually took on more responsibility working with large groups, the CLOW program, and helping as an assistant. At the request of Faith Formation staff, she continued to expand her role. Today, Sheila and John teach third grade together. She appreciates being able to rely on her dad's support

for the class and the time that they can spend together. John says that teaching with Sheila has been wonderful: "I've known for a long time that Sheila wanted to be a teacher, but to see her in action at Pax Christi is really amazing. She puts in so much time preparing for the classes. Those students are very lucky to have such a dedicated person teaching their religion classes." Sheila has been affirmed in her call by the many parents who have expressed their appreciation of her efforts with their children, as well as the enthusiasm from the students themselves.

Sheila says that being a catechist not only gave her the inspiration to become a teacher, but it also helped her better understand her own faith. Being a catechist has strongly impacted her involvement and sense of belonging with the Church. Sheila would like to see additional opportunities for young people to stay involved in the Church and credits her mom Linda with helping to keep high schoolers involved. Linda has chaperoned high school youth on many mission trips, traveled to Washington D.C. last summer, and has also helped chaperone youth groups from other churches.

Sheila and John Bannigan shown with Faith Formation students and the boxes they created for the 2019 Thanksgiving Drive.

For the Lobo family, a call to serve in the community is rooted in the example of parents, and driven by answering the needs of the community. Clarissa Lobo is involved in lay leadership, Faith Formation, and Our Lady of Good Health, and her husband Bon is a lector.

Clarissa has responded generously to requests made by the Pax Christi community, including the invitation by Eduardo Zimmermann-Ayala to be part of the Lay Leadership Development and Engagement Council. Clarissa says that she enjoys how her involvement on the council has allowed her to meet new people within the community. And when Clarissa was asked to do something related to Indian culture, she knew there was no better occasion than the celebration of Our Lady of Good Health. Clarissa says, "I feel honored to celebrate Mother Mary's birthday with my Pax family." Clarissa explains that Catholics in India are very devoted to Mother Mary. The celebration of Our Lady of Good Health, which takes place on Mary's birthday, also has deep significance for Clarissa personally: "Mary plays a very important role of being my mother since I lost my own mother when I was ten years old. My mom was a nurse back in India and she would attend to the needs of neighbors who needed help when they were sick. She was a rock in our community, always willing to help and organizing neighborhood gatherings."

Bon's family also has a long history of answering the needs of the community. His dad, who has volunteered for more than 35 years, is a Eucharistic Minister at Immaculate Conception Church in India and takes communion to the sick and home bound in his neighborhood. Bon used to read at his church in India and felt the calling to do so at Pax Christi. He says, "It makes me feel good to contribute even if it is in a small way."

Just as their parents answered the call to serve in their communities in India, Bon and Clarissa are now examples to their own children, Bonarissa and Reagan. Clarissa says that their involvement at Pax Christi now has their own kids wanting to help in their own ways and that Bonarissa loves to help in the kitchen and setting up tables whenever they volunteer. Clarissa says that Bon and the kids are very supportive of her involvement at Pax Christi, demonstrating how families can support one another in their call.

The Tahnk-Johnson, Rabogliatti, Bannigan, and Lobo families provide wonderful examples of how to find purpose, meaning, and a greater sense of belonging within their own families and the Church, while simultaneously serving the needs of the community and responding to God's call.

Written by Karin Poellinger, Staff Writer and Technical Editor



Clarissa Lobo (with brother) and her son serving hospitality at the October Stewardship Kick-off.

Affirming, Cultivating, and Strengthening the Call to Leadership



Pax Christi Values

GOD-CENTERED ~ We hold God as the center of our daily lives and provide a place for spiritual rest and rejuvenation.

JUSTICE ~ We advocate for the marginalized and act as catalysts for systemic change.

INCLUSION ~ We build relationships and create an inclusive culture through our attitudes, actions, and activities.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH ~ We engage in a lifelong process of spiritual growth and continually learn how to live out our faith.

STEWARDSHIP ~ We acknowledge our God-given gifts and put them into action as we pray, serve, and share.

LAY LEADERSHIP ~ We co-lead and share in the responsibility of upholding the mission of the church.

Lay leadership was one of the founding principles of Pax Christi Catholic Community, and it remains a key value to be upheld. As stated by the Second Vatican Council, the church is the People of God, the community of the baptized. In collaboration with the ordained, we all hold responsibility for the life and the mission of the church.

Immediately following the passage of the Beatitudes, Jesus talked about lay leadership, saying it in His usual inimitable way, (Matthew 5:14-16):

You are the light of the world. A city set on a hill cannot be hidden. You do not light a lamp and then put it under a bushel basket. They set it on a stand where it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, your light must shine before all so that they may see goodness in your acts and give praise to your heavenly Father.

Thus, we all are called to leadership at Pax Christi:

- We are called to strengthen this community by creating positive experiences for fellow parishioners.
- We are called to make Pax Christi present and fruitful in the community.
- We are called to be servant leaders, helping our fellow parishioners however we can, spiritually and physically.
- We are called to grow spiritually, which we realize more when working with others that God is present in each one of us.
- We are called to create the future of Pax Christi.
- We are called to pray with and for each other.
- We are called to *live in God*. As Sr. Ilia Delio wrote, “When life presents a series of choices, the compass of our lives should always be pointing in the same direction—toward God—so that whatever concrete decision we make will ultimately have God at its center.”

The mission of our Lay Leadership Development and Engagement Council (LLDE) is to affirm, cultivate, and strengthen community leaders for collaborative leadership in the parish. We also seek to engage new and current members by focusing on the value of lay leadership and participation by members in parish life. We administer the calling to leadership process and build a sense of community in all council members.

Written by Dave Putrich, Chair, LLDE Council



August 2019 Leadership Night

Lead. Inspire. Serve.

The Lay Leadership, Development and Engagement Council (LLDE) is passionate about you. You are the heartbeat of our community. You have been called to heal and change the world. By living into your baptismal call, you acknowledge the gifts and blessings you have received from God, and share them with our community.

The call of discipleship is not for a chosen few. It is an invitation to all of us. We each play a role. Pax Christi was founded on the dynamic lay leadership model. The lay community co-leads with the pastor and shares responsibility for the mission of our church. We are all stake holders. Our ten councils work in collaboration with our pastor, staff, and shared ministers to co-create a flourishing community.

LEAD. We are called to lead in our families, neighborhoods, workplaces, and faith community. We lead in a collegial way, with a spirit of hospitality. We also recognize that we are directed by God through prayer, reflection, and the Eucharist. Our community helps us identify our gifts, talents, and opportunities to serve.

INSPIRE. When we live God-centered lives, joyfully share through stewardship, and act for justice, we build peace. Our actions inspire others to follow the path of Christ.

SERVE. There are many ways to share your gifts in the Pax Christi community. One of the essential roles is to serve on one of our councils. The Lay Leadership, Development, and Engagement Council (LLDE) invites each member to, "A Calling to Leadership." We will offer three evenings in the spring to explore council leadership at Pax Christi. This process includes prayer, reflection, and affirmation by our community. It will give you a chance to

explore the question, "Is now the right time for me to consider a leadership role on one of the Pax Christi councils?"

The Pax Christi community is inspired by the work of the Holy Spirit. Each month our lay leaders, staff, and pastor gather for fellowship, prayer, music, reflection, discussion, and a community meal. Councils work collaboratively for the good of our community. We review ministries, "break open" challenges, and seek solutions. Ongoing spiritual development and training is offered through LLDE grants to ministries and individuals. Councils offer many ways to deepen your faith journey.

All of the work of Pax Christi is grounded in prayer. We ask you to pray for us and with us. If you are feeling a calling to leadership, watch for more information this spring. You can nominate yourself or someone else. There are many ways to get involved. Check out **SERVE** on the website at www.paxchristi.com. If you have questions, please contact Maura Schnorbach in Development and Engagement at mschnorbach@paxchristi.com.

Written by Maura Schnorbach, Director of Development and Engagement



August 2019 Leadership Night

Trusting in God During Challenging Times

In September 1978, my husband, Fred suffered a disabling spinal cord injury. We'd just celebrated our 14th wedding anniversary and our children were 8 and 11 years old. Life was altered in an instant. Thank God Fred and I were strong in our faith and marriage.

We drew strength and encouragement to face one day at a time through prayer, blessings, and support from family, friends, and neighbors during the four months he was hospitalized.

Fred's injury caused his retirement as a firefighter. He was not going to let his injury stop him from enjoying life. He went back to college and reentered the work force full-time until retirement.

During the 39 years Fred lived with his injury, he never let it get the best of him. He faced many more health challenges with an attitude of an overcomer. Fred passed away peacefully at home



THE PROMISE
Across the years I will walk with you ~
**in deep green forests;
on shores of sand:
And when our time
on Earth is through
in heaven, too,
you will have my hand.**

—Robert Sexton

on December 12, 2017. He's been a wonderful role model—trusting God, facing adversity, and never giving up. Fred's life has been a huge blessing to our family and an example to many.

Within a few weeks after Fred's passing I began to notice my left hand and arm were not able to do what my right could. Two neurologists

thought I had Parkinson's disease. Almost two years later, I was having more difficulty walking, my balance was terrible, I'd had many falls (thank God no broken bones). Three months ago, I saw a new neurologist for "fresh eyes." Then another neurologist at Mayo Clinic-Rochester. Both doctors diagnosis was Corticalbasal Degeneration—a rare, progressive neurological disorder. There is no known cause, no medication, and no cure.

I've been feeling much better since using a power wheelchair. My energy is restored. None of us know why we have been given paths of disability, disease, or other hardships. "We can make our plans, but the Lord determines our steps" (Proverbs 16:9).

I've got the best coaches, God and Fred, encouraging me every day. I trust God and know he's walking alongside me on this journey. I'm totally at peace with my situation. Neither Fred nor I ever doubted God. Our children say, "It's a gift that dad paved the path for mom, as we are familiar with disability. We're simply facing a new challenge."

I owe my positive outlook to my deep faith, prayer, loving family, friends, wonderful care team, and my deeply loved Pax family. I AM BLESSED!

Written by parishioner Maureen Olofson



Eagle Scout Project

Appropriate Tribute for Pax Christi Parishioner

Curt Johnson's support for the parish will soon be a visible part of the Pax Christi Community and an example of a truly collaborative effort involving Pax Christi staff and Boy Scout, Béla Konkoly. While Curt was originally a member of Salem Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, Curt started attending Pax Christi after marrying his wife Phyllis in 2001. Phyllis said, "Curt was always very supportive of my faith and my involvement at Pax Christi." By attending Mass with Phyllis, Curt developed an affinity for Pax Christi and wanted to show his support to the community in a tangible way. Before his passing in July of 2019, Curt asked Phyllis to contribute a portion of the anticipated memorial funds to Pax Christi. Not knowing what could be done with the money, she contacted Pax Christi's Financial Manager, Sue Fier, who enlisted the help of Ken Reineccius, Director Of Operations, for ideas. When Ken suggested that the funds be put toward Béla Konkoly's Eagle Scout project, he had no way of knowing that the idea would be met with such enthusiasm from Phyllis who describes the project as a "perfect tribute" for her husband. It turns out that Curt was involved in scouting himself and all four of his sons were part of the Boy Scouts. "He loved young people and would definitely approve of the idea," Phyllis said.

Béla Konkoly, who has been part of scouting for the past nine years, is pleased to know that his project will serve as a tribute to someone who was involved in scouting. While there is usually

a fundraising aspect of the Eagle Scout project, financial support from an outside source allows a scout to focus on other aspects of the project. Béla, who is in his senior year in high school, said that most of the effort is put into the initial planning and development stages of the Eagle Scout project. Scouts then lead the project implementation, allowing them to develop leadership skills. Planning, purchasing materials, and coordinating people to help with the construction required the greatest amount of Béla's time. The project has prompted Béla to evaluate himself in terms of leadership capabilities and developed his sense of how best to assign tasks to the volunteers involved in the effort.

The project—a waste, recycling, and composting center—has been a collaborative effort. When developing ideas for his Eagle Scout project, Béla consulted with Jessie Johnson, Sr. High Youth Formation Minister. Jessie suggested the waste disposal center and how it could be put to use on Sunday nights during faith formation classes. Director of Operations, Ken Reineccius, liked the idea as well, noting that the disposal center's use of a compost bin aligns with the parish's goal to reduce waste by allowing for composting of bio-friendly plates and other materials. Béla is pleased that his Eagle Scout project has met multiple objectives for the community, including serving as a tribute for Curt.

Written by Karin Poellinger, Staff Writer and Technical Editor



BEFRIENDER MINISTRY

A Listening Presence

BeFrienders is a lay pastoral care ministry here at Pax Christi. This listening presence ministry brings specially-trained people into a caring, confidential, one-on-one relationship with others during times of special need by visiting with them and offering emotional and spiritual support.

BeFrienders value God's presence in all relationships. They are present to care, not cure, and strive to be open and non-judgmental while they actively listen to your story.

If you are experiencing a challenging time or are in a transitional situation, BeFriender ministers are here to journey with you and listen with compassion and without judgment. Contact Jean Thoresen, Director of Care and Support Ministry, 952-405-7211 to be connected with a BeFriender minister or to learn more.

For additional information visit
www.paxchristi.com/careandsupport.



LIVING STATIONS PARTICIPANTS NEEDED

Attention Pax Christi Youth: For 25 years the youth of Pax Christi have presented Living Stations on Good Friday for the Pax Christi community. We present a living re-enactment of the Stations of the Cross, with meditations and music. Be a part of this Pax Christi Good Friday tradition! Youth from sixth through twelfth grade are needed to act out the scenes from the passion of Jesus. No memorization of lines needed! Your ability to hold a pose is all that is required. You must be available for rehearsals in the church on March 29 and April 5 from 1:00-3:00pm and on Good Friday, April 10 at 1:00pm. Presentations of the Living Stations will take place at 3:00pm on April 10. Contact Joan Howe-Pullis, jhowe-pullis@paxchristi.com, if interested in participating.



Share the Soup Warm the Hearts!

A Faith Formation Community-Wide Lenten Opportunity!

All are welcome to join the efforts of the Faith Formation youth to collect over 1,000 cans of soup for PROP. Soup may be donated in the bins located outside Room 130 or in the food bins by the main entrance. Thank you SO much for your generosity in helping to provide a warm meal on a cold winter's night. Please check out www.propfood.org for most current needed foods.

Parishioner News for December 2019

Baptisms

Maeve Anastasia Newby	12/1/2019
Molly Mae Besser	12/15/2019
Griffey Donald Gleason	12/15/2019
Flynn Harrison Higgins	12/15/2019
Milo Alexander Higgins	12/15/2019
Margaret Ann Rohde	12/15/2019
Henry David Andersen	12/22/2019
Olivia Mary Andersen	12/22/2019
Serena Marie Goswami	12/29/2019
Thomas Andrew Huttner, Jr.	12/29/2019
Colton Robert Sura	12/29/2019

Weddings

Brigid Brady & Matthew Cooper	12/13/2019
Molly Kopp & Conrad Sexe	12/14/2019

Funerals

Raymond Buttschau	12/16/2019
Joyce Rubenzer	12/27/2019
Margaret Brouseau	12/30/2019

New Members

Julio and Genevieve Calvillo
Ronaldo and Patricia Delaney
Jonathan and Karen Elsner
Sandi Gern
Catherine Goset
Taylor Hansen and Shannon Peterson
Judson Koehn and Kate Zelic
Matthew and Stephanie Loeffler
Margo Skjefte

Readings for February 2020

Available online at www.usccb.org/bible/readings

READINGS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 2, 2020

Monday:	2 Sm 15:13-14, 30; 16:5-13; Ps 3:2-7; Mk 5:1-20
Tuesday:	2 Sm 18:9-10, 14b, 24-25a, 30 – 19:3; Ps 86:1-6; Mk 5:21-43
Wednesday:	2 Sm 24:2, 9-17; Ps 32:1-2, 5-7; Mk 6:1-6
Thursday:	1 Kgs 2:1-4, 10-12; 1 Chr 29:10-12; Mk 6:7-13
Friday:	Sir 47:2-11; Ps 18:31, 47, 50, 51; Mk 6:14-29
Saturday:	1 Kgs 3:4-13; Ps 119:9-14; Mk 6:30-34
Sunday:	Is 58:7-10; Ps 112:4-9; 1 Cor 2:1-5; Mt 5:13-16

READINGS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 9, 2020

Monday:	1 Kgs 8:1-7, 9-13; Ps 132:6-7, 8-10; Mk 6:53-56
Tuesday:	1 Kgs 8:22-23, 27-30; Ps 84:3-5, 10-11; Mk 7:1-13
Wednesday:	1 Kgs 10:1-10; Ps 37:5-6, 30-31, 39-40; Mk 7:14-23
Thursday:	1 Kgs 11:4-13; Ps 106:3-4, 35-37, 40; Mk 7:24-30
Friday:	1 Kgs 11:29-32; 12:19; Ps 81:10-11ab, 12-15; Mk 7:31-37
Saturday:	1 Kgs 12:26-32; 13:33-34; Ps 106:6-7ab, 19-22; Mk 8:1-10
Sunday:	Sir 15:15-20; Ps 119:1-2, 4-5, 17-18, 33-34; 1 Cor 2:6-10; Mt 5:17-37

READINGS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 16, 2020

Monday:	Jas 1:1-11; Ps 119:67-68, 71-72, 75-76; Mk 8:11-13
Tuesday:	Jas 1:12-18; Ps 94:12-13a, 14-15, 18-19; Mk 8:14-21
Wednesday:	Jas 1:19-27; Ps 15:2-4ab, 5; Mk 8:22-26
Thursday:	Jas 2:1-9; Ps 34:2-7; Mk 8:27-33
Friday:	Jas 2:14-24, 26; Ps 112:1-6; Mk 8:34 – 9:1
Saturday:	1 Pt 5:1-4; Ps 23:1-3a, 4-6; Mt 16:13-19
Sunday:	Lv 19:1-2, 17-18; Ps 103:1-4, 8, 10, 12-13; 1 Cor 3:16-23; Mt 5:38-48

READINGS FOR THE WEEK FEBRUARY 23, 2020

Monday:	Jas 3:13-18; Ps 19:8-10, 15; Mk 9:14-29
Tuesday:	Jas 4:1-10; Ps 55:7-11a, 23; Mk 9:30-37
Wednesday:	Jl 2:12-18; Ps 51:3-6ab, 12-14, 17; 2 Cor 5:20 – 6:2; Mt 6:1-6, 16-18
Thursday:	Dt 30:15-20; Ps 1:1-4, 6; Lk 9:22-25
Friday:	Is 58:1-9a; Ps 51:3-6ab, 18-19; Mt 9:14-15
Saturday:	Is 58:9b-14; Ps 86:1-6; Lk 5:27-32
Sunday:	Gn 2:7-9; 3:1-7; Ps 51:3-6, 12-13, 17; Rom 5:12-19; Mt 4:1-11

Whats going on...

FARE FOR ALL

Tuesday, February 4, 3:30-5:30pm

Fare For All is a great way to save money on quality, nutritious food. They buy fresh fruits, vegetables, and frozen meat in bulk, which saves up to 40% off grocery store prices. Volunteers at the Fare For All warehouse pre-pack the produce and meat into food packages that range in price from \$10-\$25. There is no need to register in advance or fill out any paperwork. Fare For All is open to everyone. Because food is purchased in bulk, the more people who participate, the better. Fare For All visits Pax Christi once a month, on a Tuesday afternoon from 3:30-5:30pm. www.paxchristi.com/fareforall.

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE AND CONVERSATION

Friday, February 7, beginning with Mass at 8:30am

CALLING ALL SCOUTS!

Sunday, February 9, 9:00am Mass

All Cub Scouts, Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Venture Crews, past or present, are welcome to attend the 9:00am Mass at Pax Christi! Come demonstrate your duty and reverence to God by participating in the Mass. You can help with the liturgy as a greeter or gift bearer, or just wear your uniform to church. Let's show the community the impact scouting has made in our world!

ADULT FAITH FORMATION - MEN'S MINISTRY

Men's Ministry: Jesus in Christianity and Islam

Tuesday, February 11, 6:30-8:00pm, Room 212, No Fee RSVP

Traditionally, Jesus' role as prophet has been one of the major theological issues that divides Islam and Christianity. This presentation shows not only how this has been a major dividing issue between Muslims and Christians, but also how this could be a theological area of common ground, especially if it is applied to orthopraxy (right practice) more so than orthodoxy (right belief). What does this mean to men who are followers of Jesus in our contemporary world?

MOMS ROCK: SPEAKER CHRISTY ENGELHART

Wednesday, February 12, 9:30-11:30am, Room 212, \$10 RSVP

When faced with tough stuff in life, how do you respond? This talk addresses that simple but important question and provides encouragement for women to "shine" regardless of how dark the circumstances may seem. Moms ROCK welcomes all parents, parents-to-be, and anyone else interested in joining. Gatherings include brunch and relaxing social time, followed by uninterrupted time to focus on the day's guest speaker. Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

PRESIDENTS' DAY MASS

Monday, February 17, 9:00am

Please join us for a Presidents' Day Mass on Monday, February 17. Please note that following the Mass the parish office will be CLOSED for business in observance of the holiday.

MOMS ROCK: GUN SENSE IN AMERICA

Wednesday, February 19, 9:30-11:30am, Room 212, \$10 RSVP

A speaker from the MN Chapter of Moms Demand Action will explain the group's basic guiding principles and legislative priorities, which include requiring background checks on all gun sales and a red flag law, which would allow law enforcement to take guns away from people who have been shown to be a danger to themselves or others. Moms ROCK welcomes all parents, parents-to-be, and anyone else interested in joining. Gatherings include brunch and relaxing social time, followed by uninterrupted time to focus on the day's guest speaker. Complete details at www.paxchristi.com/momsrock.

BRIDGING BLANKET DRIVE

Weekend of February 22/23

Imagine...sleeping without a blanket. Thousands of local families and individuals face this situation every day. Each year, Bridging serves over 13,000 individuals (4,000 households) in the Twin Cities. Bridging needs blankets for 240 people each week. Twelve Baskets is sponsoring a blanket drive the weekend of February 22/23. Donate a new or handmade blanket, quilt or comforter. All sizes will be accepted, including throw, twin, full, queen, or king, but full-size and queen are especially needed. Drop off your donations in the designated red bins at doors 1 and 3. Thank you for responding with a generous heart!

**If an event indicates RSVP,
you may register/RSVP online at
www.paxchrisi.com/eventregistration.**

**Questions? Contact the
parish office, 952-941-3150.**

SOULCOLLAGE®

Workshop and Introduction

Tuesday, February 25, 2020, 6:30-8:00pm, Room 239 **RSVP**

SoulCollage® is a visual journal that we create to access our inner intuition, our inner wisdom, and our resources. SoulCollage® is one of many wonderful tools to address the question, “Who am I and what am I doing on this earth?” SoulCollage® is a fun and process that anyone can do. People make a deck of 5 x 8” collaged cards, one card at a time. These individual cards make up a unique deck, where each card represents a different aspect of the individual.

LENT BEGINS WITH ASH WEDNESDAY

Wednesday, February 26, Ashes will be distributed at:

9:00am, 12:00noon, 5:00pm, and 7:00pm

The 5:00pm liturgy will be a service of ashes, with Mass celebrated at the other liturgies. Join us following the noon Ash Wednesday Mass for a light lunch of soup and bread in Dorothy Day Hall served by the staff of Pax Christi. A light supper of soup and bread will be served from 5:30–6:45pm in Nazareth Hall. Stop in following the 5:00pm Ash Wednesday service or enjoy the meal before the 7:00pm Mass.

THEOLOGY DAY

The Bible And The Modern World

Thursday, March 5, 6:00-9:00pm, Hall of Martyrs **RSVP**

Believers have always viewed the Bible as the foundation and heart of divine revelation, but in the modern world there is considerable confusion both about how to interpret the bible, and what role it can have in human self-understanding. Vincent M. Smiles, Ph.D., professor of Theology in the Department of Theology of the College of Saint Benedict and Saint John’s University, will present the question: In an age of science, what can the Bible contribute to human knowledge, and within the Church, what challenges are posed by a historical-critical view of the bcriptures? There is no cost for attending Theology Day, but registration is required: www.collegevilleMN.com/theologyday or 320-363-3560.

SAINT JOHN’S UNIVERSITY CHAMBER CHOIR

Saturday, March 7, 7:30pm

The Saint John’s University Chamber Choir will appear at Pax Christi for a concert of great choral music representing music from all around the world, from the Renaissance to the 21st century. The choir is under the direction of Axel Theimer, a native Austrian and former member of the Vienna Boys’ Choir. There is no admission fee but donations are welcome to help defray travel costs. All are welcome—even Thommies!

ANNUAL CANA DINNER – EARLY LOVE BIRD RATE

Saturday, April 25, 6:00–9:30pm **RSVP**

All couples of all ages are welcome to celebrate the “Gift of Love” when spring is in the air. The evening begins with a hosted wine reception followed by a catered dinner. After dinner, while entertained, enjoy coffee, wine, and dessert as the sun sets behind the pond. A couple’s photo op will be offered during the evening, so be sure to dress as you would for a cocktail/dinner party. Tickets are available at an early lovebird price of \$70.00 per couple. The rate goes up to \$80 per couple after March 23, 2020. The ticket price includes loving childcare. Register online now!





Staff Contacts

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952-405-7219

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MANAGER

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Maria Miller 952-405-7217
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ARTS DIRECTOR

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Care Ministry Coordinator Renee Reardon 952-405-7200

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Grades 1 through 5, CLOW Renee Dignan 952-405-7212
Grades 6 through 8 Evan Bierer 952-405-7213
Grades 9 through 12 Jessie Johnson 952-405-7210

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COMMUNITY

COUNCIL

Fr. Michael Byron, Pastor
Jane Schmitz, Parish Director
Fred Baumer, Chair
Nicholle Check
Mike Kennedy
Andy Leet
Mary Frances Messer
Dale Nelson
Phyllis Olson
Ricardo Ortiz-Nava
Dave Putrich
Mike Schneider
Cindy Schuh
Julie Tyler

PARISH TRUSTEES

Bruce Koehn
Carolyn Zucker

FINANCE

COUNCIL CHAIR

Mike Kennedy

February

See page 18-19 for details
or visit us online at www.paxchristi.com.

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
		Fare for All Baptism Class	Tot-Time Open Gym Faith Formation Sessions		First Friday Social	New Member Sign-up Weekend
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Scout Sunday New Member Sign-up Weekend Faith Formation Sessions		Men's Ministry Event	Moms ROCK Boomers' Movie Event Faith Formation Sessions			
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Justice Social Action Skills Event	Presidents' Day	Leadership Meetings	Moms ROCK SoulCollage® Faith Formation Sessions	Compassionate Care Listening Circle		Bridging Blanket Drive
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Bridging Blanket Drive Faith Formation Sessions			ASH WEDNESDAY			





Church of Pax Christi of Eden Prairie
12100 Pioneer Trail
Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4208

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ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 26

Ash Wednesday Masses:
9:00am, 12:00pm, 7:00pm

Ash Wednesday Service
with Ashes (no Mass):
5:00pm

A light lunch of soup and bread
will be served following the noon
Mass and again between
5:45–6:45pm.