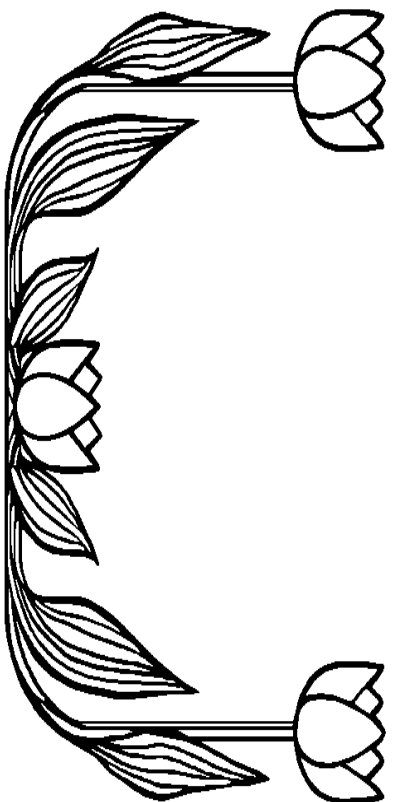


St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
475 State Street
Albany, N.Y. 12203-1004



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St. Paul's News

475 State Street Albany, New York 12203



FILL `ER UP!

Once upon a time, before gas stations became self-service mini-marts, people looked upon driving as "Happy Motoring". Some even believed that you could "trust your car to the man who wears a star". In those days, you could pull into a gas station, expect an attendant to come to your car. With money in your pocket, you would roll down the window and jauntily say: "Fill 'er up!" The attendant would then fill your gas tank to the top, clean your windows and check your oil.

"Fill `er up!" at a diner could also get you another mug of coffee -

on the house. A dinner plate at family gatherings would be piled high simply by uttering the same phrase - "Fill `er up!" It was almost a magical expression.

As I looked at St. Paul's on a recent Sunday morning, that phrase came into my head -- "Fill 'er up!" It could happen! Easter saw us get closer to "Full" than we have in many years. It was great!

Did I hear someone ask "Pastor, you don't expect every Sunday to be like Easter ...do you?" Thanks for asking. The answer is -- Yes! That's what it's supposed to be. Christians are an "Easter people"; each Sunday is a new opportunity to celebrate the victory Christ won for us by his Death and Resurrection.

"Fill 'er up!" Wasn't that what the Risen Lord had in mind when he said

we were to be his witnesses - to make disciples of all nations - to bring others into the fellowship of faith? "Fill 'er up!"

"I'm not an evangelist!" someone protests. Perhaps, but you are responsible for **YOU!!!** You decide if you'll join others each week for worship. Each of us, one by one, helps "Fill 'er up!"

Ever feel like you were "running on empty"? Have you had a day that you felt like you were "only half there"? It doesn't take too much. Who doesn't need a good word, an encouraging sign? Your presence each week at worship is a sign of hope for all the others.

So what happens if you do miss? -- the Gospel will still be there, others will still be lifted on wings of song and music of praise, old friends will still be there and meeting new people, Word and Sacraments continue to nourish and strengthen life, the freedom of forgiveness is still announced -- except it won't be as full as it could be with you present. There will be a certain emptiness --- in us --- and in you. Don't let us -- or you -- run on empty. Be certain that you're present for worship -- this week -- every week.

"FILL 'ER UP!"



Pastor



Sea Sunday May 16, 2010 - Albany Maritime Ministry

It started like any other day for the Rev. Stephen Thanapaul, the Seafarers chaplain in Tuticorin, Tamil Nadu, India. He had been visiting ships in port when news broke that a chemical tanker with 22 Indian crew onboard had been hijacked by pirates using rocket propelled grenade launchers and machine guns off the coast of Somalia. Within hours, families of the crew had descended on the local seafarers' centre seeking help and advice from The Mission to Seafarers.

"Two of the families came to see me to ask for my assistance in contacting the shipping company," said Stephen. "They asked me to intervene on their behalf and to give them spiritual support during the crisis." And so began daily visits by Stephen to their homes, telephone calls to the shipping company for news and information and petitions to the Indian Government for help in securing the ship's release.

"Some of the families were particularly affected by the event. I concentrated a lot of my time trying to help them come to terms with what had happened and to pass on any information which I felt would help them deal with the situation. I would make daily visits to their homes, praying and talking with them. All of them had a strong Christian faith and I believe it was this that helped them through some of the darkest times."

Piracy continues to be high on the news agenda and there are warnings that it is on the increase. The International Piracy Reporting Centre reports 49 ships hijacked with 889 seafarers taken hostage. Of the hostages, 32 were injured, 11 killed and 21 are reported as missing – presumed dead. The trauma of suffering a piracy attack can leave a lasting negative impression in the mind of a seafarer and, in some cases, can cause him to never return to sea.

It is with the victims of piracy, as with all seafarers, that **Albany Maritime Ministry** reaches out with a message of love and hope in a harsh and often inhospitable environment. For over 15 years, AMM has faithfully carried out an international ministry linked with over 800 ports around the world. Port chaplains visit all seafarers on their ships, offering them a welcome, opportunity for worship aboard ship and advocating for their rights when they have been ignored.

Albany Maritime Ministry operates a seafarers' centre in the Port of Albany. Over 3000 crew visitors from 100 vessels relax

away from their ships, find friendship and help with any problems they might have onboard or at home. We also provide high quality communication facilities through telephones and the internet for seafarers to contact their loved ones. Low-cost phone cards allow seafarers to keep in touch with their families without having to pay excessive phone charges.

With the help of the Capital District Faith Community over 350 "Christmas-at-Sea" Packages went aboard vessels. AMM ministers to seafarers in a growing number of terminals - reaching out to seafarers at terminals including Coeymans and Catskill. In every one of our port presences, chaplains and volunteers hand out Bibles and other Christian literature in different languages to aid seafarers in their daily walk with God. Our van provides transportation for worship, shopping and sight-seeing.

The work we do is vital but we can't do it without prayers and support. So, on Sea Sunday, May 16th, please remember seafarers and Albany Maritime Ministry as we continue to care for seafarers around the world.



Capital Region Crop Hunger Walk Sunday, May 2, 2010

A MESSAGE FROM NIMMY DAVID

Hunger is an issue that is very important to me and I have decided to get involved! I am walking in the CROP Hunger Walk and I need your help.

CROP stands for Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty. Last year CROP Hunger Walks and events raised over \$17 million to support the hunger-fighting work of Church World Service around the block and around the world. With those resources, wells, seeds, tools, and literacy training were provided to African farmers — who are mostly women. Emergency medical supplies for flood victims in the United States, health services and safe water for the displaced in Darfur, and vocational training for indigenous communities in Latin America — these are only a few of the ways you are making a difference through your CROP Hunger Walk. Join me and our family and friends as we work together to solve this world-wide challenge. (cont'd pg 8)

This year, I will be walking on behalf of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church. My goal is to raise \$250.00 for this needy cause, But I need your help! You can be the difference, and you can start by making a donation. [Visit my personal page](#), where you can make a secure online credit card donation. Your gift can help save a life!

If you are willing to donate, I urge you to do so! The CROP Walk has done many things in order to meet the needs of communities in the U.S and around the world! If you are not able to donate, then I ask that you simply keep the CROP Walk in your prayers! It is very much appreciated!

Please keep the Walk in your prayers!

-Nimmy David

Personal Page: <http://www.churchworldservice.org/goto/nimmy>

In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.

Acts 20:35

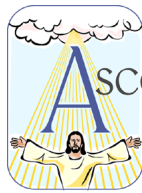


The Cluster ingathering for May and June will be items for Fisher House, Holland Avenue, Albany. This is a home-away-from-home for families of hospitalized veterans or for veterans who are undergoing an extended episode of outpatient therapy. Not only do guests receive the comforts of home, but they exchange moral support which helps in coping with the overwhelming stress of illness in the family.

We will gather: Personal care items (shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrushes, hair brushes); Individual serving size packs of apple-sauce, pudding, fruits, jello; Cans of soup, ravioli, spaghetti-o's; DVD's and CD's; Laundry detergent and dryer sheets.



Congratulations and God's Blessings to Yas-sah Nuolo on the birth of a baby daughter on Sunday, April 18th!



Ascension Day will be an "indoor event" this year. The Cluster Churches will join together at St. Paul's for a Spaghetti Supper at 6 PM on Thursday, May 13 th before the Ascension Day Service.

*Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church,
Thank you so much to those of you who contributed to my donations. Your donations will go a long way. I hope to represent New York State in the National American Miss Pageant. I appreciate every penny. I wish the best for everyone.
Sincerely,
Naledi Ushe*

KEEP THOSE EMPTIES COMING IN! NEED PICKUP?CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE!! WE HAVE COLLECTED OVER \$200 SO FAR!!

Confirmation



Jeremy David and Tyghe McCoy will be confirmed on Pentecost Sunday, May 23rd, at our 10 AM worship. Please pray for these young men as they profess their faith on this special day.

PHONE MONEY FOR AMM


Pick up an empty pill container in the back of church. Fill it with quarters (it takes \$12) and hand it back in. This helps the Albany Maritime Ministry get phone cards for visiting seafarers to call home.



Join us for Zumba classes each Wednesday evening 5:30—6:30 PM. Only \$7 per class.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS THROUGH JUNE 19

Week	Dates	Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
#12	April 4-10	Joshua 13,14,15	Joshua 16,17,18	Joshua 19,20,21	Joshua 22,23,24	Judges 1,2,3	Judges 4,5	Judges 6,7,8
#13	April 11-17	Judges 9,10,11	Judges 12,13,14	Judges 15,16	Judges 17,18,19	Judges 20,21	Ruth 1,2,3,4	1 Samuel 1,2,3
#14	April 18-24	1 Samuel 4,5,6	1 Samuel 7,8,9	1 Samuel 10,11,12	1 Samuel 13,14,15	1 Samuel 16,17,18	1 Samuel 19 - 22	1 Samuel 23,24,25
#15	April 25 - May 1	1 Samuel 26,27,28	1 Samuel 29,30,31	2 Samuel 1,2,3	2 Samuel 4,5,6	2 Samuel 7,8,9	2 Samuel 10,11,12	2 Samuel 13,14,15
#16	May 2 - 8	2 Samuel 16,17,18	2 Samuel 19,20,21	2 Samuel 22,23,24	1 Kings 1,2,3	1 Kings 4,5,6	1 Kings 7,8,9	1 Kings 10,11
#17	May 9-15	1 Kings 12,13,14	1 Kings 15,16	1 Kings 17,18	1 Kings 19,20	1 Kings 21,22	2 Kings 1,2,3	2 Kings 4,5
#18	May 16-22	2 Kings 6,7,8	2 Kings 9,10,11	2 Kings 12,13,14	2 Kings 15,16,17	2 Kings 18,19,20	2 Kings 21,22,23	2 Kings 24,25
#19	May 23-29	1 Chron 1,2,3	1 Chron 4,5	1 Chron 6,7	1 Chron 8,9	1 Chron 10,11,12	1 Chron 13,14,15	1 Chron 16,17,18
#20	May 30 - June 5	1 Chron 19,20,21	1 Chron 22,23,24	1 Chron 25,26,27	1 Chron 28,29	2 Chron 1,2,3	2 Chron 4,5,6,7	2 Chron 8,9
#21	June 6 - 12	2 Chron 10,11,12	2 Chron 13,14,15	2 Chron 16,17,18	2 Chron 19,20,21	2 Chron 22,23,24	2 Chron 25,26	2 Chron 27,28
#22	June 13-19	2 Chron 29 - 32	2 Chron 33,34	35,36	Ezra 1,2,3	Ezra 4,5,6	Ezra 7,8	Ezra 9,10

	1. Tyghe Daniel McCoy	29. NICOLE ALDI
	7. JULIE ALEXANDER	JANET
	9. CALLIE BAUM	WALTERS
	14. MARTA STEPHANOS	31. ANNE RAGONI
	20. Braxton Harris	31.Eisha Dow
	21. MRS. FRANCES VAN ACKER	



**Worship
Helpers**

ELDER : Alan Alexander

D A T E	FLOWERS	SERVICE STEWARD	COM- MUNION ASSIS- TANT	COFFEE HOUR	ALTAR
5/2	Mary Boshea in memory of her son, Ste- ven Fiske	Jeff Harris	Linda Calamatas	Frances VanAcker	Anne Ragoni
5/9	Annie David in memory of her mother	David Devaprasad	Linda Calamaras	Men's Club Mothers' Day	
5/16	Tina and Jeff Harris in cele- bration of Braxton's birthday	David Devaprasad	Tina Har- ris	Ushes	Tracy Berger Tina Harris
5/23	Alexanders in celebration of Alex and Bai- ley's Anniver- sary	Marty Kahler	Tina Har- ris	SViola Ste- vens and Ophelia Amegashie	
5/30		Marty Kahler	Joan Aldi	The Seims	Frances VanAcker