

# THE FORWARD

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
NEWARK, OHIO MARCH 21, 2023



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Congregation Council President: Jerry Young  
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Mon-Fri 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.  
Web Site: [www.stpaulselca.org](http://www.stpaulselca.org)

## Living It Up in Lent

Here we are once more counting down the forty days of Lent. It has become a bit of a lost art. Not many people consider it worth the effort. Just as Advent gets swallowed up in the hoopla surrounding Christmas, so Lent tends to be overlooked as we watch for sales on Easter baskets and chocolate bunnies. Both Advent and Lent suffer from poor public images. Perhaps a Lent mascot (Hmm ... Lenny, the Lenten Smudge?), Certainly, the church has contributed to this unpopularity, insisting that we give up chocolate, coffee, meat, or something else we enjoy, as if *enjoyment* were the problem and misery the cure. But such self-mortification misses the point. Lent is not about depriving oneself, or making oneself unhappy; it is about remembering the source of our true happiness. Lent is not about giving up things that make us happy to show God how sorry we are for having crucified Jesus; it is about remembering who we are and what God has done for us.

In Lent, we strive to shake ourselves awake to the presence of God all around us. We are encouraged to discipline ourselves, not for the sake of making ourselves unhappy, but to limit or set aside those things which tend to distract or otherwise separate us from the reality of God's presence. If we make confession, it is so that we can receive healing from God. If we silence our phones, it is so that we can hear God speaking "in a still small voice." If we give up something, it should be that which is harmful to us, or that which by its absence will raise our awareness of the need and suffering of others and thus restore us to our larger human family.

So try powering down your screens and talking to your family. Try eating a bit less, and giving a bit more. Try parking the car for a day and walking instead. Try finding a few moments of silence in the day to listen for that holy voice sounding beneath the constant buzz of our busyness. Not everyone will observe such Lenten

disciplines, but those who do may find themselves approaching the days of Holy Week with a new appreciation and wonder for the mighty works of God in Christ.

Christ came that we might have *life*, and have it *abundantly*. Lent is a good time start really living that life!

May God bless us to be a blessing to others! *Pastor Martin*

**Please keep the following people in your prayers: *Gail Grangaard, Cheryl Seabright, Wilma Keller, Eric Hill, Dale Graham and Carol Ackerman.***

**Those with long-term ongoing concerns:** Mark Anttil, Debbie Stamper, Linda Smart, Richard Buse, Lee Sidle. Pastor Betsy, Tambra Simon, Pastor Martin Waack, Milton & Carmella Holman, Peg Hupp, Starr Cummings, Pamela Graham, Jenna Olien-Harris, Logan Johnson, Marshall Rosene, Ruth Swinehart, Betty Neighbarger, Terry Nelson, Margaret Marx, Rose Godenschwager, Terrie Baker. ***If you need an address for anyone or wish to add someone to the list, please call the office.***



**THE WHEN'S AND THE WHERE'S - If your group is starting up again, please let us know so we can get your information on the church calendar!**

**Wednesday Evening Prayer 7 p.m. March 22<sup>nd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>  
Potluck 6:15 p.m. bring drink, table setting and dish to share.**

**Maundy Thursday April 6<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m.**

**Good Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup> 7 p.m.**

**Easter Sunday, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 10 a.m.**

**PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS - Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday  
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or by appointment.**

- *Sunday School for all ages 9 a.m. see Ruth Graham for details.*

- **Friday Night Game Nights** –meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday nights in Weisgerber Lounge! Interested? Bring a favorite game and come join the fun!
- **Faith and Fellowship** will meet at 11:30 on April 12<sup>th</sup> at C-Tec. Contact Connie Baker for more information at 740-334-8961.
- **The Land of Legend Fly Fisherman** will begin meeting in Danford Hall on the second, third and fourth Mondays of each month at 7 p.m.
- **ST. PAUL'S BOOK CLUB** meets the third Monday evening of each month at 7 p.m. in Weisgerber Lounge. For March the book is Keeping Faith by Jodi Picoult.
- **AA** meets every Saturday morning at 11 a.m. in Danford Hall and on Tuesdays and Fridays at noon.
- **NA** meets on Friday evenings at 7 p.m. in Danford Hall.
- **Friday Fellowship Bible Study** meets every Friday morning at 10 a.m. in Weisgerber Lounge.
- **Ruth Circle** meets next on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in Danford Hall.
- **Church Council** will meet Monday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m.
- **Matthew's Kitchen** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday at 6:30 p.m.
- **Grief Group** meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

**Notes to the Church and Congregation:**

**SPRING RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE**



St. Paul's will sponsor a rummage and bake sale on Friday, April 14 from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. and Saturday, April 15 from 9:00 A.M. to Noon. There is a sign-up sheet in the narthex or you may phone the church during office hours (between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. weekdays) to donate your time for a 3 hour block of sale time or for setting up or boxing left-overs.

The 'Antique and Collectables' room for Items of greater value will be returning. These items will be valued and priced individually.

The committee has voted that the proceeds from this event would

be divided between the Funeral Luncheon Fund and the Weisgerber Lounge Renovation Fund. Please consider volunteering for this event which helps congregation members find new homes for items they no longer need as well as benefiting the community.

**Items may be dropped off at the church during office hours starting on Monday, April 16<sup>th</sup> between 10 and 2. (No TV's or monitors that are not flat screen, computers, printers, cellphones, or soiled items will be accepted.)** If it is not possible to drop items off during those times, you may phone Diane Ganz (740-344-9141) to make other arrangements.

**SHUT-INS** – If you are in need of pastoral care, a friendly visit, or would like communion brought to your home, please contact the office and leave a message with Jodie between the hours of 10 and 2. Thanks!

**Food Pantry News!** The food pantry collection barrel is currently located across from the office. The needs for this month are; ***peanut butter and hearty soups.*** ***Please no clothing items.*** As always, all donations are welcome. If you wish to give a monetary donation, mark your offering envelope designated to the “Food Pantry”.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME** to experience the fellowship we offer by joining us for coffee/tea & occasional snack before or after the 10 a.m. Church Service in the lobby of the educational building each week. A sign up is available for those who can help provide goodies.

**ARE YOU GRIEVING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE?** – The Grief Group meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesdays at 1:30 in Danford Hall. If you would like more information, please contact Thelma Trainor or Jean Hovland.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

Received 2/5/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 2,783.00	\$22,171.00	Sat. 4 p.m. 11
Benevolence <u>150.00</u>	<u>515.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>60</u>
Total \$2,933.00	\$ 22,686.00	Total 71

Received 2/12/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 2,905.00	\$25,076.00	Sat. 4 p.m. 15
Benevolence <u>250.00</u>	<u>765.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>62</u>
Total \$3,155.00	\$ 25,841.00	Total 77

Received 2/19/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 3,705.00	\$28,781.00	Sat. 4 p.m. 15
Benevolence <u>265.00</u>	<u>1,030.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>50</u>
Total \$3,970.00	\$ 29,811.00	Total 65

Received 2/26/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 3,901.00	\$32,682.00	Sat. 4 p.m. 16
Benevolence <u>15.00</u>	<u>1,045.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. 55
Total \$3,916.00	\$ 33,727.00	Ash Weds. <u>35</u>
		Total 106

*Thank you Thrivent Choice members, for your donations to St. Paul's!*

**Thrive! Campaign \$36,363 Pledged    \$3,853 Paid in 2023**  
**\$15,631 paid in total.    \$20,732 outstanding pledges**

*Donations were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Ginny Baker** by  
Jeremy Zeiher, Polly Noethlich, Linda Kinser, Diane Ganz, Tim & Brenda  
O'Keefe, Judy Seabright, Carol Neighbor, and Sue Kincaid.*

*A donation to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Barbara J Livingston** was  
made by Judy Seabright.*

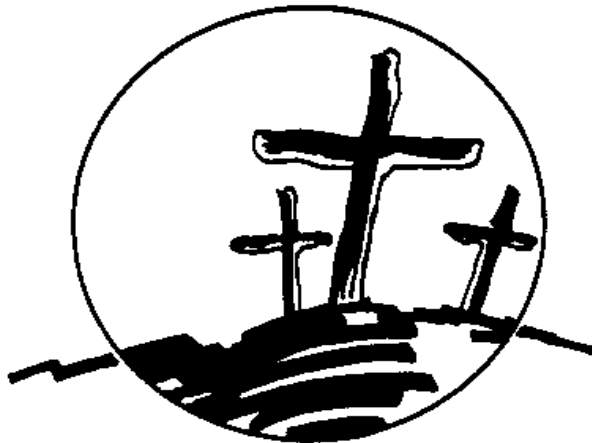
Income for Operations as of February 28, 2023	\$52,256.68
Total Operating Expenses as of February 28, 2023	<u>- 51,630.13</u>
<b><u>Balance</u></b>	<b>\$ 626.52</b>

## April Anniversaries

- |                                  |                                    |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 3 - Brian & Michelle Miller (18) | 7 - Fred & Lindsay Freytag (44)    |
| Thomas & Ann Mullady (42)        | 13 - Charles & Lisa Hill (21)      |
| 4 - Mark & Debbie Anctil (26)    | 25 - John F. & Lindsay Jordan (14) |

## April Birthdays

- |                       |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 - Thomas Zinn       | Richard Larson        | 21 - Fred Freytag       |
| 2 - Tim Jordan        | Stephanie Strobe      | Shepard Grubb (81)      |
| Ann Mullady           | 12 - Doug Berg        | Robin Stamper           |
| 3 - Jim Williams      | 13 - Donna King       | 22 - Jennifer Casto     |
| 4 - Pastor Bill Rauch | 14 - Sheila Carpenter | Joey Stamper            |
| 5 - Erik Larson       | Becca Godenschwager   | 23 - Sharon Baumer      |
| Dick Shiels           | Alex Triplett         | Matthew Mumaw           |
| Debbie Stamper        | Madison Wittman       | 24 - Lois Lovelady (98) |
| 6 - Mark Anctil       | 15 - Samuel Mumaw     | 26 - Ron Crist          |
| Jasmine Swisher       | 17 - Andrew DeBacco   | 27 - Josh Peterson      |
| 7 - Mary Lou          | Jadin Mumaw           | Mackenzie Swisher       |
| Saylor (85)           | Nic Trainor           | 28 - Quilyta Fuller     |
| 8 - Jessica Freytag   | Jocelyn Wilson        |                         |
| Sarah O'Keefe         | 18 - Ethan McDaniel   |                         |
| 10 - Michele Brooker  | Oliver Jordan         |                         |
| 11 - Deborah Hall     | 20 - Rita Ricketts    |                         |



## Sunday Volunteers for April 2023

Position	April 2 Palm Sunday	April 9 Easter	April 16	April 23	April 30
<b>Cantor</b>	Ruth Gehring	Tim Jordan	Dustin Hill	Juli Rauch	Tim Jordan
<b>Church Door Sec</b>	Volunteer needed!	Sally Finck	Gail Grangaard	Mary Billy	Volunteer Needed!
<b>Lector</b>	Gerry Billy	Ainsley Laidlaw-Smith	Dick Shiels	Betsy Kleinknecht	Diane Ganz
<b>Com. Assistant</b>	Sadie Smith	Diana Koch	Shirley Campbell	Mandy John	Volunteer
<b>Usher</b>	Fred Freytag, Charles Cooperider, Steve Weirisma	Charlie Laidlaw-Smith, Charles Cooperider	Greg Everingham, John Grangaard	Don Miller, Jerry Young	Julie Ingram, Gladys Schoffner, Florence Knerr
<b>Counters</b>	Fred & Lindsay Freytag, Sally Finck	Julie Lamp, Richard & Diana Koch	Sally Finck, Greg & Kim Everingham	Kerrill Foster, Don Miller	Diane Ganz Kerrill Foster

**Easter Lily Ordering Time!** We will be ordering an array of Easter lilies to adorn the altar on Easter Sunday. The plants will still cost **\$11.00** each. The form below can be filled out and either put in the offering plate at worship or mailed to the church office (67 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Newark, Ohio 43055) Last day to order is March 28<sup>th</sup>

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_ I want to place an Easter flower for the following reason:

In memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of \_\_\_\_\_

To the Glory of God \_\_\_\_\_

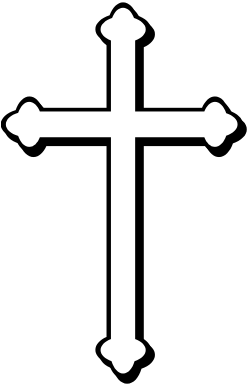
NUMBER OF PLANTS \_\_\_\_\_

**THE FORWARD** March 21, 2023  
St. Pauls Ev. Lutheran Church  
67 North Fifth Street  
Newark, OH 43055-5031

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. POSTAGE PAID**  
Newark, OH 43055  
Permit Number 117

**SUNDAY  
SCHEDULE**  
**Traditional Worship**  
**10 a.m.**



**SATURDAY  
WORSHIP**  
**4 p.m. year-round**

*"The Mission of St. Paul's  
Evangelical Lutheran  
Church is to **SHARE**, at all  
times and with all people,  
the Good News of **GOD'S  
GRACE**, through  
**CHRIST JESUS.**"*