

THE FORWARD

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEWARK, OHIO APRIL 18, 2023



Church Phone: 740-345-6115 Web Site: <www.stpaulselca.org>
Pastor: Martin P. Gehring
Office Hours: M T W 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. or by appointment
Congregation Council President: Jerry Young
Office Secretary: Jodie Nickles
Church Phone: 740-345-6115

Cell phone: 586.864.4004

Mon-Fri 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Web Site: www.stpaulselca.org

... We Will be Changed

Listen, I will tell you a mystery! We will not all die, but we will all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet. For the trumpet will sound, and the dead will be raised imperishable, and we will be changed.
(1 Corinthians 15:51-52)

I can't help it. I keep thinking I should write about something different this time of year, but here it is again. It is the yearly miracle. It is life, pushing and shouldering its way through death. It is light shining where there used to be darkness. It is warmth. It is rain. It is *Spring*. I look around me and suddenly here it is, bursting on the scene, hardly noticed until it is here.

Yet it isn't sudden; far from it. The seed has been planted for a long while now. Back in December, the earth spun a little further through its orbit and crossed an invisible boundary, unseen, unheard, unnoticed. From that moment, the world stopped leaning toward winter and started leaning toward spring instead. From that moment, spring was inevitable. It was just a matter of time.

Back in December another event took place which, in its time, passed equally unheralded. A child was born - just one among so many - but with that birth, creation stepped over a boundary. A world which, up to that point, had been hurtling toward death, shifted, and by the grace of God began leaning instead toward life and peace and light.

Spring has come again, and I thank God because each time it comes I am reminded that the seeds of life were planted long ago, and though only the barest hint of green may be showing now, the day is coming when all creation will bloom with God's unstoppable glory.

God bless you all! Pastor Martin



Please keep the following people in your prayers: *Helen Foster, Pastor Betsy, Richard Buse, Lee Sidle, Margaret Marx.*

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

COMMUNITY PRAYER is one of our duties and privileges in worship. We can request prayer during times of difficulty or blessing. To better honor these requests and keep our prayer list current and accurate, we have adopted the following policy:

- Upon receipt, new requests will be included in our community worship for 3 weeks.
- After 3 weeks, it will be moved to the "Ongoing Prayer" list in our bulletin for another 3 weeks.
- After a total of six weeks, if we have not received an update and/or a renewed request, the prayer will be removed. Requests for prayer can be renewed at any time.

It is our hope this procedure will help keep our prayers meaningful and more reflective of the current needs of the community. Thank you!

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!

**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 3rd Friday nights in Weisgerber Lounge! Interested? Bring a favorite game and come join the fun!
- **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. We will be reading *The Pioneers* by David McCullough for May.
- **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 May 10th at 10:00 a.m.** in Danford Hall.
- **Church Council will meet Monday April 24th at 7 p.m.**
- **Matthew's Kitchen** meets on the 2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
- **Grief Group** meets on the 2nd Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

Notes to the Church and Congregation:

Thank you to everyone who helped in any way with the Spring Rummage Sale. Proceeds of the sale will be used to refurbish Weisgerber Lounge. Totals will be in the May Forward.

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; **jelly (no peanut butter), canned fruit, ramen noodles, microwave Mac and cheese hearty soups and chicken noodle, after school snacks, granola bars, toiletries, and cheese sticks.**

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 2nd 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	73

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.	<u>55</u>
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 \$4,917 Paid in 2023
\$16,708 paid in total. \$19,655 outstanding pledges

*A donation was made to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Ginny Baker** by Amy Fincato. A donation was made to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Denny & Ram Wheeler** by Daniel Hyde.*

*Donations were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Jane King** by; Joyce and Walter King, Sheldon & Marie Overmyer, Lyle Overmyer, and Anita & Jamie Overmyer.*

Income for Operations as of March 31, 2023	\$48,004.72
Total Operating Expenses as of March 31, 2023	-
Balance	\$ ()

May Anniversaries

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1 - Carl & Danette Smitley (47) | 19 – Doug & Nancy Berg (27) |
| 8 - Roger & Traci Dupler (30) | 22 - Richard & Emily Larson (47) |
| 9 - Jason & Heidi Bragg (25) | 25 - Dan & Cheri Fischer (38) |
| - Edward & Sheila Carpenter (31) | 26 - Hank & Tammy Trites (33) |
| 14 – Ron & Vicky Crist (41) | 28 - Paul, Jr. & Mary Kerr (40) |
| 18 - George & Penny Coleman (49) | Kendell & Jeff Stotts (7) |

May Birthdays

- | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 -Charles Cooperider | 4 - Lindsay Freytag | 10 - Hayleigh Trainor |
| Michelle Kennard | John Leber | 11 - Jarred Chorpenning |
| Michael Slebodnik | 5 - Logan Hacker | Kristin Hoskinson |
| 2 -Donald Miller | 7 – Jade Wilson | Frank Pastorius, Jr. |
| Carys Williams | Ella Young | 12 - Kristine Wiersma |
| 3 - Janet Gall (80) | 8 – Dixie Dunlap | 14 - June Whiteside |

15 - Helen Foster (90)	Adam Green	Claudia VanWinkle
Judy Rauch	21 - Jim Casto (82)	27 - Connor Carpenter
16 - Addyson Jones	22 - Ben DeBacco	Paul Kerr, Jr.
18 - Sandra Chorpenning	Christopher Wiersma	Liam Peterson
Oren Stamper	23 - Nancy Berg	David Porter
Beverly Swinehart	John Seabright	28 - Milton Holman (90)
19 - Margaret Marx	24 - Jim Rengert (84)	29 - Jocelyn Brown
Danette Smitley	Louise Shiels	
David Trainor	25 - Shirley Campbell (88)	
20 - Sally Finck	26 - Connor Mumaw	
Andy Grangaard	Amber Thatcher	

Sunday Volunteers for May 2023

Position	May 7	May 14 Mother's Day	May 21	May 28
Cantor	Ruth Gehring	Tim Jordan	Dustin Hill	Juli Rauch
Church Door Sec	Volunteer needed!	Sally Finck	Gail Grangaard	Mary Billy
Lector	Mark Finck	Addison Laidlaw-Smith	Shirley Campbell	Jerry Young
Com. Assistant	Greta Blegvad	Diana Koch	Shirley Campbell	Mary Billy
Usher	Fred Freytag, Charles Cooperider, Steve Weirsma	Charlie Laidlaw-Smith, Charles Cooperider	Greg Everingham, John Grangaard	Don Miller, Jerry Young
Counters	Fred & Lindsay Freytag, Sally Finck	Julie Lamp, Richard & Diana Koch	Sally Finck, Greg & Kim Everingham	Geoff Kaercher, Don Miller



CHRIST IS RISEN

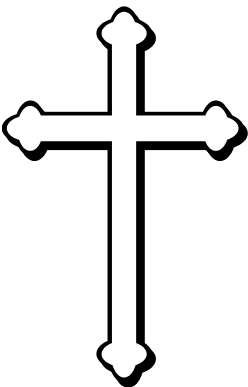


THE FORWARD April 18, 2023
St. Pauls Ev. Lutheran Church
67 North Fifth Street
Newark, OH 43055-5031

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."*