

THE FORWARD

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEWARK, OHIO MAY 16, 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: *Pastor Betsy, Judy Seabright, Cheryl Seabright, Mark Anctil, Debbie Stamper, Linda Smart, Richard Buse, Lee Sidle.*

Those with long-term ongoing concerns: Helen Foster, Tambra Simon, Pastor Martin Waack, Milton & Carmella Holman, Peg Hupp, Starr Cummings, Pamela Graham, Jena Olien-Harris, Logan Johnson, Marshall Rosene, Pastor Betsy, Ruth Swinehart, Betty Neighbarger, Wilma Keller, 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!

**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.

- **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 June 14th at 10:00 a.m.** in Danford Hall.
- **Church Council will meet Monday May 29th 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:

Woo Hoo! Rummage & Bake Sale Profits were \$1,706.17! Thank you to everyone who helped with the sale. This year's profits will be used to refresh Weisgerber Lounge. Thanks again!

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 4/2/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 3,517.00	\$48,240.00	Sat. 4 p.m. 9
Benevolence <u>245.00</u>	<u>1,603.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>75</u>
Total \$3,762.00	\$ 49,843.00	Total 84
Received 4/9/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 5,475.00	\$53,715.00	Sat. 4 p.m. --
Benevolence <u>197.00</u>	<u>1,800.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>118</u>
Total \$5,672.00	\$ 55,515.00	Total 118
Received 4/16/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 1,705.00	\$55,420.00	Sat. 4 p.m. 11
Benevolence <u>40.00</u>	<u>1,840.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>39</u>
Total \$1,745.00	\$ 57,260.00	Total 50
Received 4/23/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 2,574.00	\$57,994.00	Sat. 4 p.m. 16
Benevolence <u>40.00</u>	<u>1,880.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>61</u>
Total \$2,614.00	\$ 59,874.00	Total 77
Received 4/30/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 2,206.00	\$60,200.00	Sat. 4 p.m. 12
Benevolence <u>160.00</u>	<u>2,040.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>47</u>
Total \$2,366.00	\$ 62,240.00	Total 59

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

Thrive! Campaign \$36,375 Pledged \$5,482 Paid in 2023
\$17,260 paid in total. \$18,935 outstanding pledges

Income for Operations as of April 30, 2023	\$66,072.37
Total Operating Expenses as of April 30, 2023	<u>-82,101.03</u>
<u>Balance</u>	\$ (16,028.66)

June Anniversaries

4 - Brian & Joyce Woolard (35)

4 - Dick & Louise Shiels (51)

4- Gene & Julie Lamp (12)

12 - John & Georgeann Leber(24)

14 - Troy & Laura Triplett (42)

19 - Gerry & Mary Billy (47)

20 - Stephen & Denise Crews(42)

John & June Whiteside (36)

23 - Greg & Kim Everingham (50)

John & Gail Grangaard (50)

24 - David & Miriam Truex (43)

26 - William & Deborah Hall (39)

27 - Harding & Diane Ganz (53)

June Birthdays

2 - Judy Seabright

Zachary

Seabright

3 - Shawna

Campbell-Noyd

Chuck Lawrence

5 - Tracey Harble

Betsy

Kleinknecht

6 - Cindy Street

7 - Marshall Rosene

Elvira Engle

8 - Chris Ingram

Charles Mays

9 - Daniel Grangaard

John Warnock

10 - Mary Billy

Jack Conner (92)

Sarah Freytag

11 - Juli Rauch

12 - Ginger Bailey

Doug Hartfield

Amberlynn

Whiteside

13 - Cheryl Seabright

Kala Simon

15 - Hank Trites

16 - Carey Hovland

Mtui

17 - Mary Howard

Abbey Swisher

Kayla Swisher

Reagan Swisher

19 - Josiah Hamilton

Richard Price

Vince Walters

20 - Cameron Kolb

21 - Tiffany Evans

22 - Gerald DePalmo

(90)

Florence Knerr

Betty Neighbarger

(91)

23 - Kathie Hayden

24 - Sheriena Fuller

26 - Gaven Billy

Lindsay Jordan

27 - Jeffrey Wiersma

29 - Julia Hodges

30 - Cameron Leang

Sunday Volunteers for June 2023

Position	June 4	June 11	June 18 Father's Day	June 25
Cantor	Ruth Gehring	Tim Jordan	Volunteer needed!	Juli Rauch
Church Door Sec	Volunteer needed!	Sally Finck	Gail Grangaard	Mary Billy
Lector	Mark Finck	Ainsley Laidlaw-Smith	Shirley Campbell	Jerry Young
Com. Assistant	Greta Blegvad	Diana Koch	Sadie Smith	Addison Laidlaw-Smith
Usher	Fred Freytag, Charles Cooperider, Steve Weirisma	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

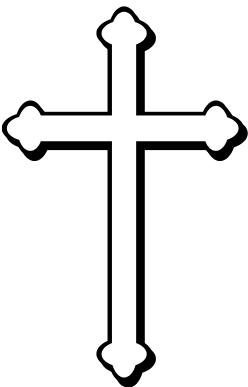


THE FORWARD May 16, 2023
St. Pauls Ev. Lutheran Church
67 North Fifth Street
Newark, OH 43055-5031

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."*