



ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

9340 TOWNSHIP ROAD 32

JENERA, OH 45841

DEB NOLL, MINISTER

We celebrate God's love and forgiveness by living the Word and sharing the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

AMY GIBSON, YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR: PHONE: 419-348-1653

CHURCH OFFICE PHONE: 419-326-3535

CHURCH OFFICE E-MAIL: stpaul Lutheran6@yahoo.com

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN WEBSITE ~ www.stpaul Lutheranjenera.org

ST. PAUL "MESSENGER"

APRIL ~ 2023

⁵ And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people, and when he opened it, all the people stood up. ⁶ Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. ⁷ Also the Levites: Jeshua, Bani, Sherebiah, Jamin, Akkub, Shabbethai, Hodiah, Maaseiah, Kelita, Azariah, Jozabad, Hanan, Pelaiah helped the people to understand the law, while the people remained in their places.

Nehemiah 8:5-7

Dear Friends in Christ,

Adiaphora (indifferent matters). The Book of Concord defines Adiaphora as what happens in ceremonies or ecclesiastical practices [worship, etc.] that are neither commanded nor forbidden in God's Word. It encourages discernment to matters essential to faith from general practices, traditions, expectations, or opinions. Adiaphora is "the stuff" (as our confirmation students learned) that makes us who we are as church, but not necessarily required by God to be faithful children.

We recognize Word and Sacrament as the means of grace through which God relates to God's people. To hear God's Word in community is why we come together to worship. We celebrate the Sacraments (Baptism, Holy Communion, and Confession) as commanded by Jesus and held as precious gifts. Other parts of worship and liturgy are adiaphora—important to us, but neither commanded nor forbidden. Worship has always been, and will always be an ongoing process of change.

Worship can be described as a dance, with the pastor/minister leading from arrival to sending. Worship is enhanced with the help of musicians and laity while the congregation follows in sacred rhythm. Two places in worship Jesus "taps in" to take the lead: The Holy Gospel and Holy Communion. These are Christ's and His alone. It is Christ's Word proclaimed in the gospel, and Christ's meal to which we are invited.

These "tap in" moments are specifically identified with introductions and closures: the Gospel is wrapped with "Glory to you, O Lord," and "Praise to you, O Christ," The Meal begins with a dialogue and concludes with a blessing. These parts of the liturgy, along with confession and forgiveness, are not indifferent matters, in my opinion. They are important to making Christ's presence known. In the upcoming weeks, you may observe some changes to the opening dialogue to the Meal, as an ongoing process to find a rhythm to the dance that gives glory to the risen Lord and comfort to God's people.

This Easter Season: Come to St. Paul! Join the dance, and be a part of our evolving adiaphora. But most importantly: Come! Hear Christ's Word! Share Christ's Meal! There is a place for you!

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed! Halleluia!

Minister Deb

**ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2023 – 7:00PM**

Attendance: Tom Carey, Nathan Cowan, Jane Follas, Amy Gibson, Jan Grieser, Laurie Laird, Tom Marquart, Jake Leu, Natalie McClelland, Jake Orwick, Tammy von Stein, Jenny Welte, Bart Welte

CALL TO ORDER – Laurie Laird

Chairperson, Laurie Laird, called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Vice Chair, Jan Grieser, opened with a review of our 2023 Book Study, “Grounded in Prayer” written by Brent W. Dahlseng.

The February 14, 2023, Council Meeting Minutes approved as written.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Checking account balances as of February 28, 2023

| | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| Current | \$139,201.45 |
| Building | \$225.00 |
| Improvement | \$1,652.12 |
| Missions | \$4,713.00 |
| <u>Special Projects</u> | <u>\$35,886.23</u> |
| TOTAL | \$181,677.80 |

Savings – General Memorial \$8,851.30

- Account balances for February 2023 and current profit & loss statement comparing budget vs. actual were reported along with February checks written. Contributions to the Current Fund as of February 28, 2023, totaled \$45,256.02 vs. a budgeted \$32,212.72. Expenses for the same period totaled \$42,560.35 vs. a budgeted \$28,376.11.

TRUSTEES REPORT

- Trustees to contact Stumps to update fire extinguishers, the current extinguishers in the church have a 2021 date on them.
- A representative from both Steiner and Granger and Mennonite Mutual did a walk-through of the church and the parsonage for insurance policy updates. The insurance plan will be switched from Guide 1 to Mennonite Mutual; they were able to provide more coverage at a lower rate. By switching it took the annual premiums from \$12,000 to slightly under \$10,000. The contents in the barn (bell, nativity set, and mower) will be insured. The overhead door and side door are not secure and will need replaced for security purposes. There were a couple of outside cosmetic repairs noted by the insurance agent at the parsonage that should be updated. The inflatables will need to be insured and inspected annually if they will be used. Amy will reach out to Parish Board to see if they could cover the costs of the inspection and insurance cost to cover the inflatables. Jason, the representative with Mennonite Mutual, also mentioned he could collaborate with Minister Deb and Dick regarding renters’ insurance at the parsonage, which would be a reimbursable cost from the church.
- There is someone interested in the old Dola School bell that was donated to St. Paul. Allen Boehm donated, and the trustees will check with him first to see if he would like it back before giving it to the interested party.
- Justin Gillespie, who has a lift, will be assisting the trustees (once it warms up) with replacing the lights on the outside cross.
- Friends Office Equipment gave quotes on new padded chairs for the sanctuary along and Natalie is getting a quote on recovering the existing chairs as well.

- The trash dumpster was delivered and placed outside the entrance to the fellowship hall near the service driveway.
- Ministers Deb chair needs to be fixed and or replaced.
- Mike Stoltz put lights in the sacristy above the sink.

MINISTER’S REPORT – Respectfully Submitted, Deb Noll, Synod Authorized Minister

Word for Thought:

⁹ For I am the least of the apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but I labored more abundantly than they all, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me (1 Corinthians 15:9-10).

This is Paul’s testimony to the type of person he was before his personal encounter with the Lord. Paul was aware he was not worthy of God’s grace as he says, “I am what I am!” – a sinner! “But God’s grace was not in vain.” Each of us is a sinner; we cannot deny it. But, as Paul was, so are we blessed by the Grace of God dwelling in us. Last Thursday evening, I received word of a member’s passing. Walking to my office, I heard the bell choir practicing “Amazing Grace.” It was a fitting tribute to a fellow sinner who by God’s grace was welcomed home. We are what we are! But, are we what He made us to be? God’s abundant grace in us should never be in vain.

Activity Since February’s Council Meeting:

Worship and Church Functions

- Worship: (Ash Wednesday, 8 Sunday morning services, 2 mid–week services)
- Baptism of Wyatt Wilson February 26, 2023
- Bible Study “*Lord, Teach Us to Pray*” Wednesday evenings (x2)
- Bible Study “*Having a Mary Heart in a Martha World*” Thursday mornings (x3, led 2)
- Women of the ELCA @ St. Paul (hosted @ church)
- Soup Suppers (x2)
- Confirmation Class (x1)
- Outreach Committee Meeting
- Staff Meeting with Jane and Amy (x1)

Member Contacts Outside of Worship

- Homebound Communion (Communion given to eight members)
- Sympathy Cards (x2) to extended family of church members
- Hospital Visits (x5) Communion shared with 7 individuals at the bedside during one visit
- Home Visits (x3) new baby blanket delivery, homebound communion, and gathering with the bereaved
- Funeral Home Visit (x1)
- Funeral Planning (x1)
- Thursday Evening Card Playing Group “The Jokers” (x3)

Pericope (Text) Study – Marion Area Clergy Group

- Zoom gatherings (x3)

Related Church Activities

- Stephen Ministry 4–church Retreat @ Good Hope, Bucyrus
- Stephen Ministry continuing education @ St. John (Windfall), Cardington

Writings

- March Newsletter Article
- Council Report

Continuing Education

Vacation

- Vacation was taken from Wednesday, February 15, to Sunday, February 19, 2023

Looking Ahead

- Funeral Service for Ron Kemerley on Saturday, March 18, 2023
- Souper Wednesdays (x3) Bible Study, Soup Supper, Kid's Praise, Mid-week Worship
- Holy Week April 2 through 8 (Palm/Passion Sunday April 2, Maundy Thursday April 6, Good Friday April 7)
- Easter Sunday April 9

YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR REPORT – Amy Gibson

- Snow trails snow tubing trip in February was a fun day with eighteen youth and five adults in attendance.
- Bible Walk is Sunday March 19th with twenty attending.
- Youth group egg hunt during ReFuel coming up.
- There is an Easter tree in welcome space with various donation amounts hidden inside each egg. All donations will be split between area schools to help with those who do not qualify for the free lunch program. (Arlington, Liberty–Benton, Cory–Rawson, Riverdale, Bluffton, and Findlay)
- The Youth Board is planning June – September events.
 - June kicks off with a three–day Summer Extravaganza. Day 1 and 2 will be a trip to the water park in Columbus along with a “Noah’s Ark” themed Scavenger Hunt at the Columbus Zoo. On Day 3, July 2nd the entire congregation will be invited to participate in the “Meals for Hope” Mission, where this company will come to our church, and everyone will be invited to participate in bagging meals for homeless in our country and Africa.
- Soup Suppers continue and the youth have currently raised \$186 the first week and \$163 second week.
- Next event for youth will be Urban Air then eating at Odd Fodder.
- Amy has been attending Youth Disciple Network. There is a training called “Sticky Faith”, which teaches Youth Directors how to get faith and home life connected. The cost for this continuing education is \$140 for the materials which will be submitted for reimbursement.

PARISH EDUCATION – Amy Gibson for Amanda Price

- Family Movie was Sunday February 19th and was a success with 60–70 attending, forty of which were kids. Everyone loved the snacks and the movie “Lyle Lyle Crocodile”.
- Lenten Kid's Praise started, “Escape the Tomb” with twenty–four attending each week.
- Easter Egg Hunt will be April 1st at 3:00pm.
- First communion will be held on Maundy Thursday, April 6.
- Starting to plan for 2023 VBS. This year's theme will be “High Seas Expedition” and is scheduled for July 9–13.

OUTREACH - Tammy von Stein

- Over sixty bedding items were delivered to Christian Clearing House for our “Share the Warmth in The Heart of Winter” bedding drive.
- There will be a food drive for Good Hope Lutheran during the month of March and April, this will run for 6 weeks with different items being collected each week. This food drive is called “Reaching Across Your Picket Fence, Helping Your Neighbor”.

OPERATIONAL ISSUES –

Old Business

-

New Business

- A new Church Directory will be completed soon. The Directory Committee will consist of Mary Coldren, Patty Orwick, Jenny Welte, and Amy Gibson. Amy Gibson will be taking the photos and she will be putting together packages to purchase photos through Shutterfly Services. Amy proposed that with the updating of the church directory it may also be a suitable time to investigate upgrading our current church member directory computer program to a more user–friendly system called “Shepherd’s Staff”. Fee would be a one–time purchase of \$500 and an annual fee of \$250/year for technical support. This will be discussed further, and Amy will bring more information to the April Council meeting.

ADJOURN

- Meeting was adjourned with the Lord’s Prayer at 8:21pm.

Tammy von Stein, Recording Secretary

WORSHIP COMMITTEE MINUTES TUESDAY, MARCH 7, 2023 – 7:00PM

Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. 6 members were present.

Old Business

1. There were 46 people in attendance at our first Lenten service on March 1.
2. Deb is leading a bible study at 5pm before the soup suppers.
3. Maundy Thursday – Bells will play two songs and Praise Team will sing during communion. First Communion will be held for these students: Christopher Clark, Madelyn Smith, and possibly one more student.

New Business

1. Palms have been ordered for Palm Sunday.
2. Good Friday – Same service will be used as last year, 1pm/7pm
3. Easter – Blended service at 10am, April 9, 2023
4. A church member suggested bringing back the puppets and kids' bells. Discussion was held about the difficulty of finding people to do it and extra burden on the sound department.
5. It was suggested that the organ bells be rung at the beginning of service. We have not had bells before the service for 10 years.
6. May 7 – Blessing of Seed and Soil
7. May 21 – Confirmation at 9am service: Ellie Marquart, Allie Settlege, Peyton Smith, Morgan Smith
8. April Hymns – Lisa, May Hymns – Kelly, June Hymns – Marty

Our next meeting will be Tuesday May 2, 2023 @ 7pm. Nancy will lead devotions.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS FOR APRIL 2023

SENIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR: Lisa Gossman
PRAISE TEAM DIRECTOR: Jan Grieser
HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR: Tammy Robinson
AUDIO VIDEO: Jacob Orwick and Marty Grieser
ALTAR GUILD: Mary Coldren
WEBSITE COORDINATOR: Chelsea Boehm

PRAYER CHAIN CONTACTS

Nadine Boehm — nadineb@thewavz.com or 419-722-6370
Pam Hoffman — pkhoffman87@gmail.com or 419-358-1682

HOSPITAL STAYS

It is important to the church that we support you through illness and hospitalizations. If you are admitted to Blanchard Valley Hospital for an overnight stay we would like to know.

If you are planning an admission to any hospital, please call the church office at 419-326-3535 to let us know the date you are entering and how long you anticipate staying.

At admission to BVH, *planned or unplanned*, you (or your spokesperson) will be asked several questions,

1. Religion: this may be asked at pre-registration or at admission along with your address, phone number, etc. Please give our denomination.
2. If you wish to be on the Hospital Directory and the Religion List. These questions will be asked of you (or your spokesperson) during the “Consent to Treatment” process. Please answer “yes” to both.

In order to protect your privacy the hospital does not routinely call the church to tell us you have been admitted, unless you specifically ask them to call us. We depend on you or your family to let us know if you have been admitted.

If you have been in the hospital for a day or two and have not been visited, please ask your family or nurse to contact the church office.

A new federal law greatly restricts the disclosure of patient information by hospitals. As a result, the pastors and church office may not know that a member of the church has been admitted to the hospital. If you are hospitalized and would like to notify the pastor, it is important that you or a member of your family inform the church office as soon as possible at 419-326-3535 and the secretary will contact the pastor.

PERSONS ST. PAUL HAS PRAYED FOR DURING THE MONTH OF MARCH 2023: Joe Acton & Paul Acton (*brother & father of a friend of Tammy vonStein*); Evalyn Bauman; Chad Beagle; Morgan Beaschler (*friend of Christine Kemerley*); Deb Best; family and friends of Karl Best (*Lee’s brother*); Harold Bower; Cindy Breidenbach & family (*friend of Nadine Boehm*); family and friends of Jim Cook (*Janet Carey’s niece’s ex-husband*); Chloe Gibson; Jan Grieser; Lyle Harvitt; Allison Hermann (*granddaughter of Bob & Evelyn Robison*); Mark Hoffman (*Mike’s brother*); Mike Inbody; Daryl Ingram & Steve Ingram (*Mike’s brothers*); family and friends of Ron Kemerley; Beth Kimmel; Becky Krock (*sister-in-law of Christine Kemerley*); family and friends of Vivian Lamb (*Ron Riegle’s mother and Phil and Ryan Riegle’s grandmother*); family and friends of Dan Lerma (*friend of Marty Grieser*); Jim Maas (*friend of Marcia Russell*); Bill Marquart; Kyle McDowell; Lisa McDowell; family and friends of Steve Nesler (*MaryEllen’s son*); Lynn Rossman (*great nephew of Paul & Sharon Hartman*); Larry Schaller; Cami Settlege; Greg Smith (*son of Tom & Sally Valentage*); Sherri & Sandy (*niece/cousin of Ron & Judy McDowell*); Justin Tiell (*son of a co-worker of Kelly Settlege*); Marcella Utendorff (*friend of Marcia Russell*); family and friends of Brian Welly; all military personnel including — Griffin Hartman, Lance Leisure, Justin Riegle, Nate Sheets, Colin Tobin, and Alex vonStein — Songambele Lutheran Church; Navajo Lutheran Mission School, Rock Point, AZ; Hancock County Religious Education; and Mission Possible for Haiti.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to ~ ~

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Steven Nesler. Steven, 72, passed away on Sunday, February 26th at Manor at Greendale, Findlay. MaryEllen Nesler is Steve's mother.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Ron Kemerley. Ron, 75, passed away on Thursday, March 9th at Hospice Care in Findlay, Ohio. Ron's funeral was held here at St. Paul on Saturday, March 18th at 11:00AM with Minister Deb Noll officiating.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Karl Best. Karl, 71, is Lee's brother. Karl passed away on Tuesday, March 28th.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Vivian Lamb. Vivian, 93, is Ron Riegle's mother and Phil and Ryan Riegle's grandmother. Vivian passed away at her residence on March 29th. Funeral services will be held at 12:00PM on Monday, April 3rd in Clark Shields Funeral Home with Phil Riegle officiating.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Brian Welly. Brian, 69, died as the result of a car accident about 12:17a.m. on Friday, March 31st. Funeral arrangements are pending.

May the family and friends of Steve Nesler, Ron Kemerley, Karl Best, Vivian Lamb, and Brian Welly feel God holding them close and fill them with resurrection hope.

Thank You ~ Thank You ~ Thank You ~ ~

I would like to say a big thank you to the entire St. Paul church family and others! I appreciate all the thoughts, prayers, and cards I received during my surgery in January and now my recovery. It's been 7 weeks and I feel stronger every day, praise God! You all mean so much to me and others! God bless you all! Thank you!

Tom Barnes

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ, I wanted to extend a thank you for your prayers for our congregation here at Immanuel Lutheran in Deshler. As we journey in this broken world what a power step to cover our Brothers and Sisters in Christ in prayer. Your willingness to take that faithful step is noticed and we truly have felt your prayers! Thank-you for the card with all the signatures as this is a wonderful gift of grace and we truly have been blessed by your hearts and especially your prayers. Thank you again, Shalom,

Pastor Chris, Immanuel Lutheran, Deshler, OH

Dear Christian Friends, What a wonderful day we had remembering and celebrating Ron's life. Minister Deb's sermon was wonderful, the Choir anthem was beautiful, and the meal served by the Women of the Church was delicious. We are so grateful for the thoughts, prayers and support that have been showered on us during the past year, months and most recently weeks. The food brought to our home and church, the cards received, the beautiful flowers given, and the generous memorial gifts to the Music Fund, Building Fund, and Bridge Hospice in his memory were appreciated so much. He was loved and meant so much to so many people and will be greatly missed. Our family is so blessed to be members of this wonderful St. Paul Church family. Thank you all again for your support and thoughtfulness. Blessings,

Christine, Jason, James, Jessica, and Jamie

Thank you for your prayers for Becky and Morgan. Becky is home from the hospital after having surgery, with some dietary restrictions and is doing much better. Morgan is back to school and doing well. Her problem may have been caused by stress, but she is doing better also. Prayers are amazing and we are so blessed to have wonderful prayer warriors who pray for those in need. Blessings,

Christine

Thanks to everyone who helped clean the Education Wing [Committee #2] on March 24th. We were able to complete the job in a great time with our dedicated team. Thank you,

Ron and Carol Riegler, Kreg and Chris Sheets



Congratulations to Caleb and Carlie [Creque] vonStein on the birth of their son, Isaac Joseph. Isaac was born on Tuesday, February 21st and weighed 7 pounds and 12 ounces and was 21 inches long. He is welcomed by his big sisters, Adalie and Elsie and proud grandparents, Joe and Lisa Creque.

CAN YOU HELP ME OUT? I try to keep the church records up to date with names, addresses, phone numbers, marriages, separations, births, and any other member events. If you have any information regarding your family that needs to be updated please provide me with that information. You can either leave a note on the church office desk or call the office at 419-326-3535.
Thanking you in advance, Jane Wilch

Minister Deb's Office Hours:

Monday – Day Off

Tuesday – Work from Home, Evenings at Church, as necessary

Wednesday – 9:00AM — 5:00PM

Thursday – 9:00AM — 5:00PM [afternoons reserved for scheduling home visits]

Friday – 9:00AM — 5:00PM

Saturday – 8:00AM — NOON

Sunday – Worship / Visitations / Catechism

* * All are subject to member's needs and emergencies.

* * Available by phone [419-560-1988 cell]

* * e-mail address: dnoll2347@gmail.com

THE APRIL SEWING DAY IS TUESDAY, APRIL 11th from 9:00AM – 2:00PM. Come all of the time or part of the time. We assemble quilts for Lutheran World Relief. If you can tie a knot, use scissors or pin material together, we'd love your help with this important ministry! Please bring a dish to share for lunch. [There were 10 ladies at the Tuesday, March 14th sewing day and 5 quilts were assembled making the total of 24 quilts completed. There were 12 ladies at the March 28th sewing day and 5 quilts were assembled making the total of 29 quilts completed] **Thanks to all who attended. WELCA]**



EASTER EGG TREE FOR SCHOOL LUNCHES: There are donation amounts hidden inside each egg. Select an egg that catches your eye and open it to see the suggested amount you are requested to donate. Place the egg with your donation inside the glass jar beside the tree. All donations will be split between area schools to provide assistance for those who do not qualify for the free lunch program.



ST. PAUL YOUTH RECYCLES — St. Paul youth has put a container in the Welcome Space to collect USED print cartridges from your printers. So, don't throw those cartridges away anymore, put them in the container and we will recycle them and make a few bucks in the process. Everyone wins! Anyone is welcome to place cartridges in the container.

CONFIRMATION CLASS SCHEDULE FOR APRIL

| | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Sunday, April 2 nd | Confirmation Class — 5:00PM – 6:00PM |
| Sunday, April 9 th | NO Confirmation Class |
| Sunday, April 16 th | Confirmation Class — 5:00PM – 6:00PM |
| Sunday, April 23 rd | Confirmation Class — 5:00PM – 6:00PM |
| Sunday, April 30 th | Confirmation Class — 5:00PM – 6:00PM |

YOUTH ACTIVITIES FOR APRIL

| | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|
| Sunday, April 2 nd | ReFUEL | 6:00PM – 8:00PM |
| Sunday, April 16 th | Urban Air / Odder Fodder | 1:00PM |
| Sunday, April 30 th | ReFUEL | 6:00PM – 8:00PM |
| Sunday, April 30 th | Chicken BBQ Fundraiser | 11:30AM – 1:00PM |

St. Paul Outreach Committee Focus Statement for 2023

“Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” Galatians 6:9–10

The St. Paul Outreach Committee will be using this Bible verse in 2023 to focus our efforts on needs closer to home. As a body of believers in Jesus we want to come alongside people in our community who are in need. That way we can do what Paul calls “carrying each other’s burdens.” (Galatians 6:2) Relying on God’s strength, we listen, we empathize, we help where we can, and we can also pray for them. We can look for ways to “do good to all people, especially to those who belong to the family of believers.” Paul says that when we do so, we fulfill the law of Christ: to love God and love our neighbor as ourselves. The burdens of life can be heavy, but praise God, he’s given us our church family to lighten the load. If you know of a “neighbor” who could use some help, please let us know and we’ll prayerfully consider what we as a church family can do to help.

“REACHING ACROSS YOUR PICKET FENCE, HELPING YOUR NEIGHBOR” drive. We will be collecting food pantry items for Good Hope Lutheran’s Food pantry over the next several weeks. Every week we want to focus on a specific item to collect. Our drive will run through April. Items will be collected in the Welcome Space by the lighted trees. Praying we can really FILL this space.

- Week #1** Box of cereal, Oatmeal (instant, variety flavored — especially Maple/Brown Sugar), box of Pancake Mix or Bisquick
- Week #2** PBJ — Peanut butter, Jam (grape or strawberry)
- Week #3** Cans of Fruit(peach, pear, mixed fruit, pineapple, oranges, applesauce) — Vegetables (green beans, corn, carrots, peas, mixed, tomatoes) — Pork & Beans, baked beans, Kidney/Chili beans
- Week #4** Large cans of Meats (turkey, pork, beef, chicken or 2 cans of Tuna)
- Week #5** Boxes of Mac & Cheese, box of instant mashed potatoes, box of pasta (macaroni, spaghetti, noodles), Pasta Sauce, Hamburger Helper/Tuna Helper
- Week #6** Toilet paper, body soap, shampoo, toothpaste.

If anyone prefers not to shop for these food items and would like to give a donation instead, please see Elaine Ingram.

Thank you for your prayerful consideration is purchasing and/or donating money to our “REACHING ACROSS YOUR PICKET FENCE, HELPING YOUR NEIGHBOR” drive.

BUR SHILLING HAS ASKED ST. PAUL TO JOIN THE EASTER CROSS WITNESS!

The Easter Cross Witness was created to be a community celebration. Believers from local churches are given the opportunity to express a visible witness that will hopefully give them an opportunity to share with their neighbors about the hope that is within them. Thank you for considering the purchase of \$5.00 for each cross. Just sign your name on the sign-up sheet and either put your money in the envelope provided or give your money to Jane Wilch or Jan Grieser. **For more information visit EASTERCROSS.ORG.** (Contact Jan Grieser if you have questions.)

Once again this year WELCA will be providing a meal at the Salvation Army Soup Kitchen in Findlay. This year's date is Tuesday, April 25th. The Salvation Army Soup Kitchen Committee members are: Nadine Boehm, Mary Coldren, Natalie McClelland, and Deb Clevenger and anyone else who would like to help. Please plan to come and lend a helping hand. The meal will be: Ham and scalloped potatoes, green beans, bread and butter, fruit, and cookies. There is a donation sheet on the Information Counter in the Welcome Space. Monetary donations can be given to Christine Kemerley.

Christian Clearing House (CCH) is looking for volunteers to help at the office. Must be willing to volunteer a minimum of a three-hour shift monthly M-F, 9:00AM until noon. A training session will be held on Thursday, April 6, 2023 at 9:00AM in the CCH office. If you are interested in helping those facing "needs" here in Hancock County call Heather at 419-422-2222 to register.

If you are interested in reserving the Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary or Pavilion for a wedding, reception, family reunion, graduation, or other event, please contact the church office at 419-326-3535. If the date is available, you will be given a rental agreement to read and sign. Council is requesting that this be completed by all members and non-members prior to using the church facilities.



HOLY WEEK

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

SUNDAY, APRIL 2ND — PALM SUNDAY — 9:00AM service and 11:15AM service with distribution of palm branches and Holy Communion

THURSDAY, APRIL 6TH — MAUNDY THURSDAY service at 7:00PM with special music and Holy Communion

FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH — GOOD FRIDAY services at 1:00PM and 7:00PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 9TH — EASTER SUNDAY one service at 10:00AM with Holy Communion and special music

**** EASTER BREAKFAST — 8:30AM — bring your favorite breakfast dish to share**

2023 Daily Bible Readings

The Year of Story is the Northwestern Ohio Synod's theme for 2023. Each year, Bishop Daniel Beaudoin encourages Church leaders and congregations to engage in daily Bible reading. The readings this year will walk readers through "The Story of Jesus." Together, let us read His story and ponder what God's Word reveals to us. The list of readings for the entire year may be found at:

<http://nwos-elca.church/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/2023-Bible-Reading-Guide.pdf>

The readings for April are:

Jesus' Ministry in Galilee (According to Matthew: Part 2)

Apr. 1 *Jesus Heals a Paralytic* Matthew 9:2–8; Mark 2:1–12; Luke 5:17–26

Intermission: Holy Week Readings (According to Matthew)

Apr. 2 *Palm Sunday* Matthew 21

Apr. 3 Matthew 22–23

Apr. 4 Matthew 24

Apr. 5 Matthew 25

Apr. 6 *Maundy Thursday* Matthew 26

Apr. 7 *Good Friday* Matthew 27:1–61

Apr. 8 *Easter Vigil* Matthew 27:62–66

Apr. 9 *Easter* Matthew 28

Jesus' Ministry in Galilee (According to Matthew: Part 3)

Apr. 10 *Jesus Calls Levi (Matthew)* Matthew 9:9–13; Mark 2:13–17; Luke 5:27–32

Apr. 11 *The Question about Fasting* Matthew 9:14–17; Mark 2:18–22; Luke 5:33–39

Apr. 12 *Jesus Restores a Girl to Life & Heals a Woman* Matthew 9:18–26; Mark 5:21–43;
Luke 8:40–56

Apr. 13 *Jesus Heals Two Blind Men* Matthew 9:27–31; Mark 10:46–52; Luke 18:35–43

Apr. 14 *Jesus Heals a Demoniac* Matthew 9:32–34; Mark 3:22; Luke 11:14–15

Apr. 15 *The Harvest Is Great, the Laborers Are Few* Matthew 9:35–38; Mark 6:34; Luke 10:2

Apr. 16 *The Twelve Apostles* Matthew 10:1–4; Mark 3:13–19; Luke 6:12–16

Apr. 17 *The Mission of the Twelve* Matthew 10:5–15; Mark 6:6–13; Luke 9:1–6

Apr. 18 *Coming Persecutions* Matthew 10:16–25; Mark 13:9–13; Luke 21:12–19

Apr. 19 *Whom to Fear* Matthew 10:26–33; Luke 12:4–9

Apr. 20 *Divisions* Matthew 10:34–36; Luke 12:51–53

Apr. 21 *Conditions of Discipleship* Matthew 10:37–39; Luke 14:25–27

Apr. 22 *Rewards of Discipleship* Matthew 10:40–42; Mark 9:41

Apr. 23 *Messengers from John the Baptist* Matthew 11:1–6; Luke 7:18–23

Apr. 24 *Jesus Praises John the Baptist* Matthew 11:7–19; Luke 7:24–35

Apr. 25 *Woe to Unrepentant Cities* Matthew 11:20–24; Luke 10:12–15

Apr. 26 *Jesus Thanks His Father* Matthew 11:25–27; Luke 10:21–24

Apr. 27 *Come unto Me* Matthew 11:28–30

Apr. 28 *Plucking Grain on the Sabbath* Matthew 12:1–8; Mark 2:23–28; Luke 6:1–5

Apr. 29 *The Man with the Withered Hand* Matthew 12:9–14; Mark 3:1–6; Luke 6:6–11

Apr. 30 *A Multitude by the Sea* Matthew 12:15–21; Mark 3:7–12; Luke 6:17–19

April 2023 Birthdays

| | |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Saturday, April 1 st | Jill Bower |
| Monday, April 3 rd | Taylor Follas |
| Monday, April 3 rd | Ronan Galloway |
| Monday, April 3 rd | Josh Luke |
| Wednesday, April 5 th | Cooper Castle |
| Thursday, April 6 th | Zac Boehm |
| Friday, April 7 th | Henry Reichley |
| Saturday, April 8 th | Nicole Inbody |
| Monday, April 10 th | Patty Orwick |
| Monday, April 10 th | Sheryl Rettig |
| Tuesday, April 11 th | Jim Marshall |
| Thursday, April 13 th | Crosby Reule |
| Thursday, April 13 th | Jody Wolford |
| Friday, April 14 th | Melanie Redburn |
| Monday, April 17 th | David Featheringill |
| Tuesday, April 18 th | Nathan Gant |
| Wednesday, April 19 th | Logan Sheets |
| Wednesday, April 19 th | Karissa Welte |
| Thursday, April 20 th | Sharon Hartman |
| Thursday, April 20 th | Marcia Russell |
| Friday, April 21 st | Michelle Gibson |
| Friday, April 21 st | Allison Settlage |
| Friday, April 21 st | Noah Tesner |
| Saturday, April 22 nd | Jesse Rettig |
| Sunday, April 23 rd | Mary Coldren |
| Sunday, April 23 rd | Joe Creque |
| Sunday, April 23 rd | Breydan Glick |
| Sunday, April 23 rd | Madison Hartman |
| Tuesday, April 25 th | Larry Crates |
| Wednesday, April 26 th | Kaydri Reichley |
| Thursday, April 27 th | Ilene Parke |
| Saturday, April 29 th | Matt Luke |
| Sunday, April 30 th | Carlie vonStein |



April 2023 Anniversaries

| | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Thursday, April 6 th | Eric and Emily Shank – 10 |
| Sunday, April 9 th | Jim and Stephanie Pertzborn – 18 |
| Monday, April 10 th | Ron and Carol Riegle – 47 |
| Tuesday, April 11 th | Jerry and Beth Kimmel – 42 |
| Monday, April 17 th | Sean and Nancy Tobin – 30 |
| Wednesday, April 19 th | Nate and Kim Trout – 15 |
| Sunday, April 23 rd | Chad and Diane Parke – 29 |
| Monday, April 24 th | Brock and Nikki Galloway – 13 |
| Wednesday, April 26 th | Bob and Allison Coldren – 20 |
| Wednesday, April 26 th | Randy and Theresa Grieser – 25 |
| Saturday, April 29 th | Corey and Amanda Henson – 17 |



ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH ~ APRIL 2023

| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|---|
| LECTOR: Andrew Follas ALTAR GUILD: Mary Coldren ORGANIST: Sundays — April 2 nd , 9 th , 16 th , 23 rd : Lisa Gossman Maundy Thursday – April 6 th — Good Friday – April 7 th [1:00PM and 7:00PM]: Lisa Gossman Sunday, April 30 th : Janet Carey | | | | | | 1 3:00PM Easter Egg Hunt |
| 2 PALM SUNDAY / SUNDAY OF THE PASSION 9:00AM Traditional Worship / Communion 10:15AM Sunday School 10:15AM Outreach Committee Meeting 11:15AM Contemporary Worship / Communion 2:00PM Rock N Roll 4H Meeting 5:00PM – 6:00PM Confirmation Class 5:00PM Fellowship Hall reserved for Boehm Easter 6:00PM – 8:00PM ReFUEL | 3 | 4 | 5 7:00PM Senior Choir Practice | 6 MAUNDY THURSDAY 7:00PM Maundy Thursday Worship Service / Communion [First Communion: Christopher Clark, Aubrie Reichley, and Madelyn Smith] | 7 GOOD FRIDAY 1:00PM Good Friday Worship Service 7:00PM Good Friday Worship Service | 8 |
| 9 EASTER DAY / RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD 8:30AM Easter Breakfast 10:00AM Easter Worship Service / Communion NO Confirmation Class 2:30PM Fellowship Hall reserved by Rachel Hartman | 10 | 11 9:00AM Sewing Day 7:00PM Congregational Council Meeting | 12 7:00PM Senior Choir Practice | 13 6:00PM Sunday School room reserved by "The Jokers" | 14 6:00PM – 10:00PM Fellowship Hall reserved by "Friends Getting Together" | 15 |
| 16 SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00AM Traditional Worship 10:15AM Sunday School 11:15AM Contemporary Worship / Communion 1:00PM YOUTH / Urban Air/Odder Fodder 5:00PM – 6:00PM Confirmation Class | 17 | 18 6:30PM WELCA / Salad and Dessert | 19 | 20 6:00PM Sunday School room reserved by "The Jokers" | 21 6:00PM – 10:00PM Fellowship Hall reserved by "Friends Getting Together" | 22 2:00PM Rock N Roll 4H Meeting / Fellowship Hall |
| 23 THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00AM Traditional Worship 10:15AM Sunday School 11:15AM Contemporary Worship / Communion 5:00PM – 6:00PM Confirmation Class | 24 WELCA / Salvation Army Lunch | 25 | 26 | 27 6:00PM Sunday School room reserved by "The Jokers" | 28 6:00PM – 10:00PM Fellowship Hall reserved by "Friends Getting Together" | 29 8:00AM – 1:00PM Fellowship Hall or Pavilion reserved for NWO Synod Council |
| 30 FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER 9:00AM Traditional Worship 10:15AM Sunday School 10:15AM Youth Board Meeting 11:15AM Contemporary Worship / Communion 11:30AM – 1:00PM Chicken BBQ Fundraiser 5:00PM – 6:00PM Confirmation Class 6:00PM – 8:00PM ReFUEL | | | | | | |