



Volume 8 Issue No. 4 | April 2022

MONTHLY NEWS LETTER FOR ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Pastor's Message:

Good Day Beloved,

It's hard to believe that spring is here ... but it comes whether or not we are ready. It makes me think of the other things in our lives that we are not ready for them to come but they do ... seemingly without any warning.

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We have taken a journey this Lenten Season unlike any we have in the years I have been at St. Paul's. We looked at "The Case For Christ" and I pray that we learned and grew from reading it. We have had some amazing "The Chosen" Bible Studies.

Our little church is IN THE WORD!!!!!! Amen!

Holy Week is just about upon us, and I hope you are prepared for the emotional roller coaster that this week brings. This week, in my opinion, is the most important week of the church year. Christ's birth is truly important, but it is solely in the events of this week that give us hope.

So, what will be different for us this year following Our Savior's resurrection? Will it just mean that we can finally have the things we gave up for Lent? Or does it have a deeper meaning. I pray you said a deeper meaning.

Once again let us ponder the words from Luke 23: 44-47 ... "44 It was now about the sixth hour, and there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour, 45 while the sun's light failed. And the curtain of the temple was torn in two. 46 Then Jesus, calling out with a loud voice, said, "Father, into your hands I commit my spirit!" And having said this he breathed his last. 47 Now when the centurion saw what had taken place, he praised God, saying, "Certainly this man was innocent!"

In these verses from Luke, we see prophesy fulfilled. The curtain was torn in two and darkness encompassed the whole land. This is a sacrifice like no other man has made, nor father, for that matter. This was the biggest recorded act of love that mankind has been a part of. God knew that only through the death and resurrection of His one and only Son Jesus Christ would humanity have a path to eternal salvation. I love this scene as depicted in Mel Gibson's "Passion Of The Christ." After those last words were uttered by Jesus and He gave up His spirit, a huge tear dropped from Heaven. This is indicative of the sadness that God must have felt as He watched His Son mocked, ridiculed, tortured, and crucified for the sins of mankind.

Do not let this visual escape your thoughts during Holy Week and beyond. Jesus Loved us so much that He willingly endured all of it for you and me. So, if Christ could do this for us ... then why is it so hard for us to share a minute fraction of that love with others? That, my beloved is what must be different after Holy Week this year. We must be renewed in the love that is Holy Week. Let that love set us apart from the world. Amen?

Rev. Gary R. Pomrenke

He Has Risen ... He Has Risen Indeed ... Alleluia !!!

LWML

I do not know about you but these glimpses of warm weather are really getting me excited for spring. I love the daffodils and the return of green leaves. Granted I could live without that yellowish film on our vehicles but we cannot have one without the other.

Talking about spring I hope the ladies of our church will join me in this year's LWML DCMARVA Spring Rally. It will be at Grace in LaPlata on April 30th from 9 a.m. to noon. I am the DCMARVA (the area covering DC, Maryland, and Virginia) Assistant Zone Chair which means I am helping to plan this event so I would really like to have a good showing of support from our church. Plus, our very own Pastor will be there and assisting in leading of our closing worship. There will be time to mingle with other LCMS women from our area, have a continental breakfast, and listen to a speaker. When other details become available, I will be sure to get them out to everyone as soon as I am able.

I have been asked by several women what the LWML is. It stands for Lutheran Women's Missionary League. Any women who attends an LCMS church is part of LWML, it is the woman of the church working together to perform God's mission. I really enjoy these larger gatherings of women from other Lutheran churches so that I can see what they are doing, compare notes on the health of the church at large, and simply spend time with other Christian women. I cannot think of a more supportive group of people to have as friends.

Youth Ministry News

I was thrilled to see the turn out to see Evan Almighty. I am also ecstatic to see that people are starting to return to socializing. I have truly missed that. We are in the planning stages of a couple more events. In May look for our Ice Cream / board game night and during the summer we are planning on spending some time together building rockets during July and August with the help of Jimmie Swain. I want to encourage our children to have fond memories of St. Paul's and to truly feel like part of our St. Paul's family. As the old adage says, 'It takes a village to raise a child.' What a better village to bond with than your church family?

If you have any questions or suggestions about LWML or Youth and Family functions please do not hesitate to contact me at 920-901-5840. You can also email me here at the church info@stpaulssomd.com

Blessings! Tracie Pomrenke

April Birthdays

Stephen Stowers III - April 1st

Lindsey Trowbridge - April 1st

Sandy Frerichs - April 8th

Jessalyn Mehrkam - April 9th

Shane Lindauer - April 19th

Melissa Chew - April 21st

Tracie Pomrenke - April 22nd

James Short - April 25th

Matthew Mehrkam - April 27th

Gayle Gepert - April 29th

April Anniversaries

Janet & John Butterfield- April 23rd

Missions and Ministry

A Christian mission is an organized effort to spread Christianity!!!! What does that look like to you? Donating food to the pantry? Blessing a child with a gift from the Angel tree? Supporting the Compassion Committee? All of these are things we are currently doing here at St Paul's Lutheran Church. What other Mission projects would you like to see at St Paul's? If you would like to be a part of the Mission/Ministry team, please contact Kelly Gray 301-904-6681... Help spread the love of Christ to others.

Workday at the Church Saturday April 9, 2022 at 8:00 AM

General Clean Up Before Easter

Clean up and clean out the following areas:

- Pole barn storage area outside and the area where the tractor is stored.
- Sunday School storage unit
- Clean up and clean out preschool shed
- General cleaning in the kitchen
- Picking up debris on playground and around the church grounds

Power wash the exterior of the education buildings

Note: Come when you can and stay as long as you are able. "Many Hands Make For Light Work".

We will need some trucks to take the trash/junk across the street to the transfer station.

Future projects:

- Both doors to the pastor's office need work. The inside door, frame and trim needs to be replaced. The outside door and adjacent wall needs to be rebuilt in order to make it weather tight and secure. New Doors are on order.
- We need to address repairs to our parking lot. Both entrances need to be repaved and several areas are breaking up. We also need to seal coat some areas and stripe the parking spaces. This has a price tag of about \$25,000, which we may have to address in phases. If we don't address these areas soon, the water will get to the underside of the pavement causing potholes. This will increase the cost of repairs.

Thank you all for your help!
Brad Clements



St. Pauls is ready for another summer of VBS fun! This year we're going Monumental as we celebrate God's greatness! Go off-road for a Monumental adventure through the colorful canyons and sunbaked trails of the southwest. By exploring God's awesomeness, kids form a rock-solid faith for the road ahead!

Our VBS adventure will be from June 27 - to July 1st and we're currently looking for volunteers to lead our elementary-aged crews! Volunteer ages should be 6th grade and older, including those starting 6th grade in the fall of 2022. Please visit <https://vbspro.events/p/events/stpaulslutheranvbs> to sign up! If you have questions, please contact Meredith Johnson at 301-653-0792 or meredith.s.johnson@gmail.com.

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ashes celebration cross
crucifixion disciples donkey
Easter faith family
flogging forgiveness Jesus
lent lilies Mary
palms resurrection sacrifice
thorns tomb





The Little Children and Jesus – Matthew 19:13-15

The little children were brought to Jesus for him to place his hands on them and pray for them. But the disciples rebuked those who brought them. Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Greetings from the Sunday school.

The children are excited to celebrate Christ's glorious resurrection on Easter Sunday.

Sunday school Easter activities will begin at 9:15 on Easter morning. We will have several activities for the children, including our annual Easter Egg hunt. We hope all our Sunday school students will join us along with all children in the congregation and friends of the congregation as well. We ask that children bring their own baskets for the egg hunt if possible.

After Easter, we only have a short time left of the 2021-2022 Sunday school year. Our closing program will be on Sunday, May 29th at the 10:30 worship service. The students have been learning that "God has a song to share with the world, but too few singers." They will be sharing God's message of love and peace with some special songs, and we hope that you all can join in our celebration of another wonderful year. We will also have a fellowship picnic after the service as well. More details will follow next month.

We will also celebrate this year's confirmands with a Confirmation celebration on Sunday, June 5th. Again, more details will be coming.

Lastly, make sure to keep the week of June 27th – July 1st open so you can be a part of another fantastic year of Vacation Bible School. This year's theme highlighting the American southwest is titled Monumental, Celebrating God's Greatness! Please be on the lookout for more information and contact VBS Director Meredith Johnson (meredith.s.johnson@gmail.com) if you want to help out or participate. It will undoubtedly be another amazing week.

Thank you again to everyone for the continued support.

In His Service,

Melissa Chew

