

ANNOUNCEMENTS *for the good of the church*

March 16th, 2025

Altar Flowers are Presented to the Glory of God

There are no altar flowers during Lent, March 5th- April 6th.

If you would like to make a recognition through the altar flowers, please stop by the credenza under the TV monitor in the atrium for a form in the lower box. Sign-up for the days(s) you would like and turn in your request form(s) which should indicate your announcement for the bulletin. Payment (\$40) at least one week in advance. If you have any questions, please speak to a staff person.

Adult Sunday School: Join us for the Sunday School hour (9:45am-10:30am) in Trinity Hall for these thought and action producing sessions. Questions? Contact Megan Cunningham at mcunni16@gmail.com.

March 16th- Gender-Based Violence: How to Help Friends and Family Suffering Abuse at Home: Special guest speaker Laura Yeomans. The ELCA says, "This church, as one expression of the body of Christ, not only laments gender-based violence but also condemns it." Laura is Education and Outreach Specialist for Shining Light in Darkness, discussing domestic violence and how we can help those suffering abuse.

Wednesday Supper, March 19, Chicken Tenderloins

Remember to come to Lenten Supper before worship. On Wednesday, March 19, at 6:00 pm we will be having Chicken Tenderloins with potatoes, salad, fruit and dessert. Be sure to join in the fellowship!

WORSHIP BEGINS AT 7PM FOLLOWING DINNER Live stream link:

<https://vimeo.com/event/4930889>

Stations of the Cross, Fridays at 12:00pm in the Sanctuary. I hope that long-time members are looking forward to seeing St. Paul's beautiful collection of the Stations artwork as they will be back up in the Sanctuary for the Lenten season. For those who are new, the Stations follow Jesus from Gethsemane to the tomb with visual depictions of his journey. On Fridays, you can join me to follow Jesus on this path with scripture and prayers that tell the Holy Week story. Following Jesus on this path offers pause for us to contemplate our own lives, in our time and place. Please join me on any of these **Fridays at noon during Lent: March 7, 14, 21, 28, April 4 and 11.** -Pastor Lorrel

2025 CROP Walk: We are less than 2 weeks away from this year's CROP Hunger Walk, where we will gather together with others in our community to fight hunger both here and around the world. This year the Durham CROP Hunger Walk will take place on **Sunday March 23rd**, starting at the Duke University Chapel with kick-off events starting at **1:30pm**. St. Paul's has always been a strong supporter of the CROP Hunger Walk, and our goal this year is to raise \$3,500, unfortunately we are still **SHORT** of our goal by \$2,000.

If you would like to sign-up to walk, donate to our team, or do both please either go to our team page <https://events.crophungerwalk.org/crophungerwalks/team/st-pauls-lutheran-church-of-durham>, scan the QR code below, or talk to our team captains Megan Cunningham and Tracey Dissel at our table in the atrium between services, where information is also available.



Join us **Sunday, March 23 for a Special Congregational Meeting** to receive the annual report and elect voting members to the Synod assembly. The meeting will take place during the Sunday school hour(9:45-10:45am), in Trinity Hall. Annual Reports will be available in the Atrium beginning March 12th.

Growing Through Grief - Tuesdays 4PM - 6PM

March 18- "A New Reality," with Betsy Barton. We grieve, we mourn...and somehow the sun still rises and sets every day. After losing someone we love, how do we adapt to our new situation?

March 25- "Getting the Support WE Need," with Betsy Barton. Many people offer us advice, their experiences, herbal remedies—you name it. But how do we focus on ourselves and get the support that will work for us?

I'm a Lutheran filmmaker named Mikah Meyer, who was featured in Living Lutheran for my world record, 3-year road trip to all 400+ National Park Service sites, and I'm coming to Durham on **March 27** to screen my film about that journey (and about being a gay Lutheran) at the Carolina Theatre. I'll be coming from Los Angeles to meet people there live and show them a positive representation of a gay Lutheran.

Many thanks, Mikah

Tickets: <https://carolinatheatre.org/events/film/banff-centre-mountain-film-festival-day-2/>

If people can't attend they can **watch the short film for FREE** at this link:

<https://www.mikahmeyer.com/documentary>

St. Paul's Readers Meeting on Thursday, March 20 at 3 pm

Please join us in the Conference Room as we discuss *Don't Let Go* by Harlan Coben (2017). Robert Fogel is our group leader. This mystery chronicles a detective's search for his missing love and the truth behind his brother's death. The book has won multiple awards, including the Edgar, Shamus, and Anthony Awards, and was adapted into a feature film released in 2019. Here is more information: A pair of present-day murders brings the past alive for a New Jersey cop still mourning the twin brother he buried 15 years ago. When his missing love's fingerprints turn up in the rental car of a suspected murderer, Nap Dumas embarks on a quest. His search for answers leads only to more questions—about the woman Nap loved, about the childhood friends he thought he knew, about the abandoned military base near where he grew up, and mostly about his dead brother and girlfriend—whose deaths are darker and far more sinister than Nap ever dared imagine.

Hiking Group: Here is the schedule of upcoming hikes (please note, some have changed):

Saturday, March 22 – West Point on the Eno Park, 5101 N Roxboro St, Durham

Saturday, April 5- Johnston Mill nature preserve, 2713 Mt Sinai Rd, Chapel Hill

For each hike, we will plan to meet at church to carpool or caravan to each location. We will depart church at 9:30 AM. If you would rather meet us at a hiking location, please let Vicar Ashley know.

The ELCA's Racial Justice Manager, Rev. Christina Marthield Montgomery, has put together an Anti White Supremacy Lenten Devotional, collecting contributions from 11 ELCA leaders. The introduction to the devotional booklet says "May the words of these contributors both challenge you and bring you closer to the radical neighbor love that Christ demands in the Gospels." You can find this resource at this link:

https://elcamediaresources.blob.core.windows.net/cdn/wpcontent/uploads/dismantle_lenten_resource_final.pdf
Vicar Ashley also has several printed copies available at her office if you would like to pick one up.

As we journey through Lent and reflect on the Bible passages where Jesus says "I AM," you are invited to participate in a communal art project – whether you think you are an artist or not! Vicar Ashley is collecting pieces of visual artwork (drawings, paintings, photographs, etc) that connect to the various Bible passages where Jesus uses the phrase "I AM." On Wednesday evenings for midweek Lenten worship, there will be "I AM" coloring sheets and art supplies available if you would like to incorporate artwork into your worship experience and perhaps share what you create as part of the collection. Throughout Lent you will see the collected works of art displayed in the gathering area. If you have any questions, contact Vicar Ashley or Janet Seiz.

A Message from Vicar Ashley:

Hello everyone,

I wanted to share with you all that I have been approved to complete my internship in 9 months as opposed to the standard 12. While I am sad to leave the amazing St. Paul's community 3 months earlier than anticipated, I am overall very excited that my school and synod have approved this change. This is happening due to a number of factors.

Traditionally, interns are in their third year of a four-year master's program, and thus they generally have one final year of classes to complete following internship. During that final year they generally work on the approvals needed to work toward their first ministry job ("first call") and ordination. As many of you know, I am not the traditional intern (in many ways). My internship is my fourth and final year. On May 18 I will be graduating. Unlike many interns, I don't have a home to return to once I leave St. Paul's.

In addition, the traditional intern tends to seek a church within their home synod for their first call. Once again, I am not traditional. Clark and I are currently planning on relocating to Alaska or western Washington where I hope to find my first call.

As a result of this, it is beneficial for me if the approval process (including the end of my internship) is moved back so that there is less of a waiting period before getting my first call as a pastor.

My last day with St. Paul's will be Sunday, May 4. This will be my final Sunday preaching and worshipping with you all. After that, Clark and I (and our dog) will be headed up to the Midwest for a few weeks to celebrate my graduation and visit with friends and family. After that... who knows? The Holy Spirit is at work and I trust that she is preparing a ministry site for me just as I am also being prepared for ministry.

I am grateful for the time that I have spent with all of you over the last 7.5 months and I look forward to continuing to be a part of this community for the next month and a half. Thank you for all the ways that you have contributed to my formation. -Vicar Ashley

Please consider contributing to our morning devotions. Send devotions to assistant@stpaulsdurham.org

CREATION CARE YARD SALE LALAPALOOZA, May 10, 2025 (rain date May 17) 9:00am-12:00pm

In honor of Earth Day, preserving resources, recycling, and community connection, there will be a community yard sale in our church parking lot. Each seller will maintain their own table and be responsible for their own selling of their items. A \$20.00 deposit will reserve the selling space and that deposit will be returned when the area is cleaned up and the sale ends. Further information to come or contact Marcia Redman.

Learn about Bees and Beekeeping!

On Thursday nights, through **March 20**, St. Paul's will host "Bee School." This course is offered every year by the Durham County Beekeepers Association, and it's a great chance to learn more about honey bees. Some people take it as preparation to become beekeepers while others are just "bee curious." The course always fills up, so don't delay if you're interested. Details and registration can be found at durhambeekeepers.org. And talk to Tina Bessias, Theresa Oertel, or Bill Gresham anytime about the hives at St. Paul's!

Children's Sunday school is meeting each Sunday from 9:45 to 10:45 AM, downstairs in the Genesis room (near the downstairs kitchen). All children are welcome and encouraged to join us for a time of Bible stories, crafts, cooking, and fun! If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Carole Ostrowski or Betty Hinshaw.

Pastor's Bible Study: Book of John by Amy-Jill Levine. We are continuing with the Book of John. Copies are available under the TV in the Atrium. We meet Thursday mornings at 10:30 in the conference room and via Zoom. Notes and Zoom link are emailed early in the week. All are welcome to join!

Join the Coffee Hour on Mondays on Zoom from 10-11.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/91351103753?pwd=WVVCRLgrSUhhLzJWN3pPYnlyL25LZz09>
Meeting ID: 913 5110 3753 – Password: 292680

PASTA for PARKTOWN! Help Stock St. Paul's Shelf at Parktown Food Hub!

Donate boxes of dry pasta to the bin beneath the bulletin board in the Atrium. These boxes are given to hungry families at the Parktown area by the Food Hub. The Women's Connection Group is leading this initiative and it is accomplished through your generosity.

Join a musical ensemble at St. Paul's!

Interested participating in worship or learn more about music? You should join a musical ensemble at St. Paul's! Rehearsals are Wednesday evenings, handbells from 6:30-7:15 and choir from 7:15-8:30. Ensembles normally perform at the 11:00 service but occasionally at the 8:30 service. Ability to read music not required. If interested, contact Susan Beschoner, interim director of music at music@stpaulsdurham.org

Sign-up Genius Links: Please consider volunteering to assist in worship. Click the link to sign-up.

Sunday Worship: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0944a4a72fa5f58-sunday1#/>

Available Opportunities: lector, worship assistant, altar guild, communion assistant, and usher.

If you'd like to volunteer without using the website call or email Heather and she will add you to the list. (919-489-3214 or assistant@stpaulsdurham.org)

Dropped Stitch: Meetings on the last Friday of each month at 1 pm in the church atrium where the sofas reside.

Jewelry Making: Joyce Veazey is offering an opportunity to learn jewelry making! Just bring yourself, If you are interested, contact Joyce to set up a time meet with her. Please refer to the church directory for contact info.

Nurturing Committee Ministry has volunteers that are available to provide transportation to doctor's appointments, chemo appointments, or church activities if you cannot drive yourself. Please contact Marcia Redman, 919-797-0501, and you will be provided with a driver's name. There are many volunteers who care!

Our Afghan family support team would like to express our joy and gratitude for all of the generosity from our congregation. Our Afghan families now need of **sizes 3, 4, & 5 diapers and wipes**. We are also looking for a few more women drivers to help with getting families to their medical appointments. The families we support live just a few blocks from St. Paul's. If you are interested in helping, please contact Sally Hart, sallyshart1@gmail.com (or by phone, see church directory).

Easter Designations

We are offering two opportunities to make Easter designations in honor or in memory of loved ones.

Lilies— they will grace the sanctuary with their beauty on April 20th. They can be picked up by their owners following the last service on Easter Day.

DESIGNATIONS

_____ Lilies

_____ Designations to Lutheran World Relief

PLEASE use a separate form when listing designations (ex: one for Lilies, one for LWR)

EACH Designation is \$15.00.

Have the bulletin notation read: (Please print)

_____ To the Glory of God.

In honor of:

In memory of:

By: _____

Please enclose your payment with this form. All designations will be listed in the bulletins on April 20th, 2025.

Have forms to the church by Monday, April 7th, 2025.

PRAYER REQUEST EDITS

To streamline the process and help reduce errors, please visit the following link to add/remove people on the prayer list. <https://forms.gle/28wAjDpzQhEufuXu8>

PRAYER LIST

Prayers of the Church (Members)

Judy Schlegel, Marcia Wilson, Greg Hudgins, Jan Franzen, Janet Ravert, Joyce Veazy, Phyllis and Larry Jenkins, Bob and Ellie DeVries, Mary Bader, John Friedrich, Pat Casper, Anna Snyder, Pat Cashwell, Susan Esposito, Charlie Bock, and Rev. Wendy Waugh.

Prayers of the Church (Friends)

Cliff Manley (Friend of Kathy Anderson), Ben Wright (Bill Elkin's father), Kay Matthews and Robert Meissner (Tony Perotte's Mother and Uncle), Diane Johnson (Penni Perotte's friend), Tim and Sue Williams (Friends of the Foremans), Sara Russell (Sister of Anna Snyder), Sayge Lindsay (Grandson of Alta Lindsay), MJ Chevalier (Sister of Marcy Brown), Roketta Hudgins (Mother of Greg Hudgins), Gay Reed (Friend of Robin Winfree), Jacki Stevens and daughter (Friends of Joan Pepper), Armenia and Artsakh (Friends of Judy Schlegel), William and Barbara Wilson (Parents of Bill Wilson), Linda Leslie (Mother of Sean Slane), Gini Rinkus (Friend of the Dominicks), Paul (Son-in-Law of Jan Hunley), Richard Dominick (Brother of Ted Dominick), Burr Hasselbeck, Holly Cashwell (Pat Cashwell), Patrick Howell (Friend of Waughs), John and Connie Heinz, Gregory and Colleen Davidson, Jack Taylor (Cousin of Dean and Marcia Redman), Debra Jetton (Sister of Bill Wilson), Penny Wagner (Niece of Marcia Wilson), Cole Cashwell (Grandson of Pat Cashwell), Scott Duncan (Stepfather of Bill Elkin), Dave and Missy Pepper (Brother and Family of Joan Pepper), Chuck Johnson and Family (Husband and Family of Leslie Johnson), Vernice Knudsen (Mother of Ken Knudsen), Olga Niktin (By Patrick Chappel), Joan Mayfield (Aunt of Pat Casper), Wini Robison (Aunt of Megan Cunningham), Sarah Jolly (sister of Marlene Coulter), Emily Baumann (niece of Dean and Marcia Redman), Robin Brooks (Niece of Marlene Coulter), Eileen Kunca (friend of the Dominicks), Codell Jones (mother of Tracy Dissell), Kim and John Blatz (Friends of Pat Cashwell), Lou Millin and family (father of Grant Millin), Adam Jenkins (son of Phyllis & Larry Jenkins), the sister of Rev. David Sloop, Vanessa and Jorge Ramos (friends of Debbie Fullbright), Anne Fetrow (sister of Joan Pepper).