



MARCH EPISTLE

ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH, SCHOOL AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC)

MARCH 2024



Pondering Christ's Passion

Allison Mackie, Director of Parish Music

At St. Paul's, we have an afternoon and evening service on each day of Holy Week. Every year a few church members usually express some sympathy over the amount of work I have to do. When I tell people outside of St. Paul's how many services we have during Holy Week and Easter, I'm often met with expressions of shock. But despite the amount of work, I find myself looking forward to Holy Week more each year.

St. Paul's offers two services each day of Holy Week, and three on Easter Sunday. For the full schedule, see the calendar on page 3. Before then, there are sermons to write, music to rehearse, and bulletins to proofread and print. Often towards the end of Lent I find myself looking at our Mary and Martha window and relating to Martha. It is easy for me to become so busy making sure all the details for the services are perfect that I lose sight of Jesus.

Our Holy Week services force me to slow down. On Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, the services are short. The focus is not on music or preaching, but on listening to God's Word and hearing how Jesus suffered and died on our behalf. Instead of thinking about the next hymn or anthem, during these services I can sit back and consider what is really important. These services also prepare my heart and mind for our services on Holy Thursday and Good Friday, when I need to spend more energy on the music.

The Easter Vigil service on Saturday evening is perhaps my favorite service of the year. Here, we slow down and hear the history of God's plan of salvation, beginning with the Creation and Fall into sin and ending with Jesus' resurrection. As the pastor says at the beginning of the service, "This is the Passover of the Lord in which, by hearing His Word and celebrating His Sacraments, we share in His victory over death." On Easter Sunday I am busy with all the music that our volunteers have prepared, but on Easter Vigil I find that I am better able to rejoice in our Lord's triumphant resurrection from the grave.

As we prepare for Holy Week this year, I pray that you plan to participate in at least some of these opportunities to hear God's Word and celebrate what Jesus Christ has done for us in His life, death, and resurrection.

*Jesus, I will ponder now
On Your holy passion;
With Your Spirit me endow
For such meditation.
Grant that I in love and faith
May the image cherish
Of Your suff'ring, pain, and death
That I may not perish. (LSB 440)*



Dispatches from The Office

Rev. Lance Armstrong O'Donnell, Senior Pastor

"Be watchful, stand firm in the faith,

Act Like Men,

be strong. Let all that you do be done in love." (1 Cor 16:13–14)

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Twice a month our men's group, the *Journeyman*, meets on Saturday mornings for breakfast, Bible study, and fellowship. At the end of every meeting one of the men reads the passage above, which we call, "the charge":

"Be watchful, stand firm in the faith, act like men, be strong. Let all that you do be done in love." (1 Corinthians 16:13–14, ESV)

Christian men must come to understand, in the words of author Jeff Hemmer, that "the essence of masculinity is not rugged independence. It is sacrificial giving." (*Man Up*, 8) A *Christian* man, in particular, knows that he is a body-and-soul being created for eternal fellowship with God and others; that, "unless [a man's] courage, wisdom, discipline, patience, chastity, and any other virtues serve the good of others, they're not manly virtues, and he's not fully masculine." (*Man Up*, 9)

We want to help boys and young men discover the joys of knowing what it is to be a man from the God-Man, Jesus Christ. So, the *Journeyman* have decided that on 2-3 Saturdays per year they will host a morning event for men and boys called **Act Like Men** in which we will have a good, solid breakfast, intergenerational Bible study, and opportunities to learn hands-on life skills and have some adventurous fun.

Mark your calendars. Our first **Act Like Men** event will be Saturday, April 27, 2024 from 8-10am at St. Paul's. Men, bring your sons and grandsons, friends and neighbors. Ladies, if there is a boy or young man in your life who doesn't have a faithful man in his life, email me at podonnell@splco.org or call the office and we'll make sure that he is welcome. You can sign up here:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080D4DAEAE2AA4FD0-48241365-actlike>

You can also contact the church office at heather@splco.org or 262.567.5001. Let us know the names and ages of the men and boys that are coming. And, men, come to church and bring your families. Start now, that we all may celebrate the resurrection on March 31st with greater joy.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Lance O'Donnell
Tuesday of Lent 2
27 February, A.D. 2024

MARCH 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>3 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Blood Pressure Screening 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Public School Confirmation 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship 7:00 pm HS Youth Group</p>	<p>4 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru</p>	<p>5 6:00 pm LWML</p>	<p>6 12:15 pm Midweek Lenten Worship 5:00 pm Midweek Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Midweek Lenten Worship</p>	<p>7 5:30 pm Ladies Aid 6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9 7:30 am Journeymen 5:00 pm Traditional Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting</p>
<p>10 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Public School Confirmation 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship MS & HS Roller skating at Skate Express after 10:30 Worship</p>	<p>11 6:00 pm Lord's Lambs Giveaway</p>	<p>12 5:30 pm Operations Committee Mtg 6:00 pm Board of Elders Meeting</p>	<p>13 11:00 am Caring Thru Sharing 12:15 pm Midweek Lenten Worship 5:00 pm Midweek Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Midweek Lenten Worship</p>	<p>14 6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>15 1:00 pm New Member Sponsor Cmte. Mtg.</p>	<p>16 8:00 am Women of Joy Bible Study 9:00 am Packing Easter Food Bags 5:00 pm Traditional Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting</p>
<p>17 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Coffee Fellowship Hour 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Public School Confirmation 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship 11:45 am Youth Deliver Easter Food Bags 5:00 pm Reformation Tap Society</p>	<p>18 NO SCHOOL 5:30 pm Lord's Cupboard Drive-Thru & Meal</p>	<p>19 NO SCHOOL 5:30 pm CLT Meeting</p>	<p>20 NO SCHOOL 12:15 pm Midweek Lenten Worship 5:00 pm Midweek Lenten Meal 6:30 pm Midweek Lenten Worship</p>	<p>21 NO SCHOOL 6:30 pm Church Choir Rehearsal 7:30 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>22 NO SCHOOL</p>	<p>23 7:30 am Journeymen 5:00 pm Traditional Worship 8:30 pm AA Meeting</p>
<p>24 8:00 am Divine Worship 9:15 am Sunday School 9:15 am Public School Confirmation 9:15 am Adult Bible Study 10:30 am Divine Worship</p>	<p>25 12:15pm Holy Monday Worship 6:00 pm Lord's Lambs Giveaway 6:30 pm Holy Monday Worship</p>	<p>26 12:15 pm Holy Tuesday Worship 6:30 pm Holy Tuesday Worship 7:00 pm Praise Team Rehearsal</p>	<p>27 12:15 pm Holy Wednesday Worship 6:30 pm Holy Wednesday Worship</p>	<p>28 12:15 pm Maundy Thursday Worship 6:30 pm Maundy Thursday Worship</p>	<p>29 NO SCHOOL 12:15 pm Good Friday Chief Service 8:00 pm Good Friday Tenebrae Worship</p>	<p>30 12:35 pm Holy Saturday Worship NO 5:00 pm WORSHIP 8:00 pm Easter Vigil 8:30 pm AA Meeting</p>
<p>31 6:00 am Easter Divine Worship 7:00 am Easter Breakfast 8:00 am Easter Divine Worship 10:30 am Easter Divine Worship</p>						



There still is a need for sewers of quilts for shipment to the Orphan Grain Train in October. We have an ample supply of material and thread. No special sewing skills needed. We also have pillowcases to be made into dresses . Contact Pat Menden (262-719-6008) if interested.

Make a note to attend the Heart to Heart Sisters and make your reservations for a fun-filled Saturday! See information below.

Join us for our next meeting on Tuesday, **March 5th**, at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We have a devotion, Bible study and short business meeting. Come see what we're all about!

*Save the date
Saturday,
March 16, 2024*

Hosted @ Granville
Lutheran School
8242 N. Granville Rd
Milwaukee, WI 53224

**You are cordially
invited to SWD-
LWML Heart to
Heart Sisters Event!**

Doors open at 8:30 am
End at 2:30 pm



“Hearts for the harvest” Matthew 9:37-38

RSVP to Joanna at jamellis2003@yahoo.com
PLEASE RSVP. SEATINGS LIMITED

The Widow's Group has a new name... Caring Thru Sharing

Loss impacts all of us. As a group of widows, we understand that and rely on what St. Paul says in 2 Corinthians: 3-4 - "Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... who comforts us in all our affliction, so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God."

We extend an invitation to you, widows, widowers, and single adults to join in this caring ministry. Our meetings, once a month, bring Christians together for a devotion, sharing of changes in our lives, learning where we are now, getting to know each other better, and enjoying each other's company. Because of our time together, we have become comforted friends.

Please consider joining us when we meet at 11 a.m. on the 2nd Wednesdays of each month in Room 219.

Feel free to call Donna Fortmann (920-342-6693) or Pat Borgman (262-354-4203) with any questions.



Looking for livestream volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to help with running the livestream worship services on Sundays at 8am. Teams of two are very helpful. You don't need to be tech savvy or computer literate, just be able to push a button. 😊 If you are interested in helping out, please contact Heather in the church office at 262.567.5001 or via email at heather@splco.org.



The Lenten meals will be served prior to our evening midweek Lenten Worship services. The meals will be served in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00pm-6:15pm. Below are the dates of the meals.

Wednesday, March 6 th	Sponsored Women of Joy	Menu: Sloppy Joes
Wednesday, March 13 th	Sponsored by the Day School Staff	Menu: Taco Bar
Wednesday, March 20 th	Sponsored by the Board of Elders	Menu: Burgers and Brats

Ladies Aid

March 2024 is a very unique month. In March we are in the midst of Lent. Some of us celebrate St. Patrick's Day and we will all experience the glorious resurrection of Jesus on Easter Sunday March 31st. Ladies Aid will start off this unique month with our meeting on March 7th. We are excited to have a guest speaker from a local women's shelter that evening. So please join us on the 7th at 5:30pm for lots of fun, food and fellowship!



MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1st

Brian Ewald

Peggy McClintock

Chip Zastrow

March 2nd

Sandra Reddelien

March 3rd

Louis Hickenbottom

March 6th

Darlene Adams

Sheila Rams

March 7th

Peter Radulovich

March 8th

Diane Gartzke

Sue Lindemann

Vicky Tudor

March 9th

Duane Peterson

Dale Weber

March 11th

Ruth Jaeger

Michael Rankin

Ron Schneider

March 13th

Richard Allen

March 14th

Truman Seifert

March 16th

Karen Marquardt

Yvonne Schuetz

March 18th

Mark Baganz

Carol Lenz

March 19th

James Holzhueter

March 20th

Gerri Zwieg

March 24th

Ann Duggan

Connie Schneider

For our members 70+ years

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

(The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod)

210 E. Pleasant Street

Oconomowoc, WI 53066-3050

262-567-5001

WORSHIP & STUDY

Saturday Worship 5:00 pm

Sunday Worship 8:00 am & 10:30 am

Bible Class 9:15 am

Pastor Lance Armstrong O'Donnell 567.5001 x217

Pastor Jason Schockman 567.5001 x216

Director of Parish Music, Allison Mackie 567.5001 x214

Principal - Jill George 567.5001 x213

Website: www.splco.org

LIVE BROADCASTS:

8:00 am Sunday Worship

Live on WTKM 104.9 FM/1540 AM

& www.wtkm.com

Live-streamed at www.splco.org

EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER (ECC)

Christian Pre-School & Day Care

Director Christine Flores 567.4881

Epistle Editor-Heather Scheuer

Newsletter deadline for articles,
announcements and features is the
2nd Wednesday of the month

PLEASE ADVISE THE CHURCH OFFICE OF
ANY ADDRESS CHANGES

JANUARY MEMBERSHIP CHANGES

Baptism

Eleanor Rebecca, daughter of Eric & Heather (Troiber) Larson

Received by transfer from another LCMS Church

Delaney Weissenborn – Trinity Lutheran Church, Racine, WI

Released to another Lutheran Church

Lynn Pelnar

Baptized 2011 Confirmed 1199



MEMORIALS

Carolyn Pankow	\$50.00
Jennifer Laabs	\$75.00
Bill Voss	\$1000.00
Gregory Rupnow	\$250.00
Marion Dzomba	\$50.00
Waldemar Schlieuwe	\$50.00

Cherish What God Has Given

In the Small Catechism, Luther follows a pattern when explaining the Ten Commandments. With each commandment, there is something prohibited, and something commanded. There is something wrong which must be avoided, and there is something right which must be done.

The one time this pattern is not followed is with the Sixth Commandment.

"You shall not commit adultery. What does this mean? We should fear and love God so that we lead a sexually pure and decent life in what we say and do, and husband and wife love and honor each other" (SC I).

Here, the catechism focuses solely on the positive: we should live in a chaste and decent manner in both word and deed, and husbands and wives should cherish and honor one another.

Keeping this commandment, and all of the commandments, is a lot easier if you see your chastity and your spouse as a gift from God that is to be protected and cherished. In the same way, you will find keeping the Fourth Commandment easier if you see your parents and other authorities as a gift from God, given to you for your blessing.

This is the key stewardship insight that runs through all of the Christian life: Everything that we have has been given to us by God. We deserve none of it. All of it comes to us by God's fatherly kindness and open-handed generosity. If I know that everything I have — every possession, every relationship, every ability — is a gift from God, then my perspective changes. All of these things are both gifts to be cherished, and things that I should direct towards God's purposes. My possessions should be shared generously according to how God has called me in my family, church and community. My spouse should be cherished, loved and encouraged in faith. My children are on loan from my own Heavenly Father, and I have but a brief time to show them the path of righteousness. My neighbor is a gift from God so that I can imitate His kindness toward me.

No matter the gift, everything has been given to me by God so that I may participate in His own goodness and open-handed generosity.



Piggly Wiggly Receipt fundraiser

If you shop at Piggly Wiggly, please deposit your receipts in the designated box in Fellowship Hall. The money raised from your receipts helps to continue the programming for our youth.

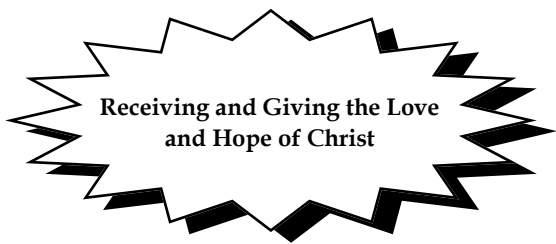
March Events

- | | |
|--------------------------|--|
| † March 3 rd | HS Youth Group 7-8:30 pm |
| † March 10 th | Rollerskating at Skate Express after 10:30am service) |
| † March 17 th | Easter Food Bag Delivery (11:45am)/HS Youth Group (7-8:30pm) |
| † March 24 th | NO YOUTH GROUP |
| † March 30 th | Prep for Easter Breakfast |
| † March 31 st | Easter Breakfast - No Youth Group at night |

St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church, School & ECC
210 E. Pleasant St.
Oconomowoc, WI 53066-3050

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Phone: 262-567-5001
Website: www.splco.org



REFORMATION TAP SOCIETY

Theology and conversation with a bit of hops.



*ADULTS 18 AND OLDER

March 17

**Iron Sharpens Iron: Pursuing
Intergenerational Friendships**

Presenter: Nathan Meador

First time guests
get a free
beer or soda on us!

5:00-7:00 pm
@ BrewFinity

N58 W39800 Industrial Rd., Suite D

