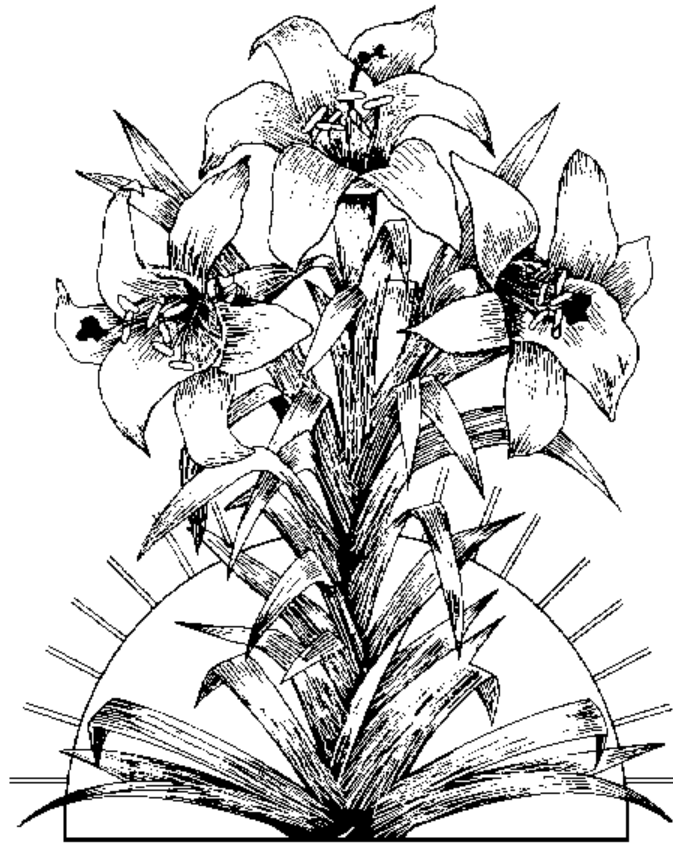


**SEASONS
APRIL 2017**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church
2860 East Market Street
Warren, OH 44483
330-394-5741**



Easter

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES

**Emmanuel
9:00 am**

**Living Lord
8:00 & 10:30 am**

**St. Paul
10:30 am**

SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES

10:00 am

9:00 am

9:30 am

FROM PASTOR ANN MARIE WINTERS:

“...to live without him is the real death,...to die with him is the only life.” Frederick Buechner in The Magnificent Defeat.

We do not have to look far to see people living without Christ, do we? How many try to fill their lives with things, excitements, or substances because they do not know what to do with their emptiness? Jesus Christ is the only one able to fill that empty space in the soul, and to bring spiritual life for which so many yearn. Without the presence of Christ, a person is vulnerable to a great many dangerous forces, including sin and death. As Frederick Buechner has written, **“to live without him is real death.”**

This Lent, the Word of God has called us to pray and fast and “give alms” to the poor. “Do not be hard-hearted or tight-fisted towards the needy. Open your hand to the poor and needy neighbor in your land.” (Deuteronomy 15:8-11). Sisters and brothers, it costs something of us to open our hands to the poor when we see their suffering. But when suffering pains our hearts, we share in the pain of our Lord himself. He calls us to pick up our cross and to follow him. **“To die with him,”** says Buechner, **“is the only life.”**

When you read this letter, if you have not yet made a great effort to carry the cross with the Lord through prayer, fasting, and giving alms – to open your heart to the poor and needy – it is still not too late. The world of poverty and suffering around us is our Good Friday. **“...to live without him is the real death,...to die with him is the only life.”**

“I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die.” John 11:25-26.

Pastor Ann Marie Winters

ST. PAUL HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

- April 13 - Maundy Thursday, 6:00 pm Chicken Dinner, 7:15 pm Worship
- April 14 - Good Friday, 8:00 pm Worship
- April 15 (Saturday) - Easter Vigil, 8:00 pm Worship
- April 16 - Easter Sunday, 10:30 am Worship

MAUNDY THURSDAY CHICKEN DINNER – APRIL 13:

This year we are having our traditional Chicken Dinner on **Maundy Thursday, April 13, in support of our youth**, who will set up, serve you, and clean up. Of course we have Chef Tom Skoczylas and sous-chef Peggy Skoczylas and a team of catechism parents and other kitchen aids who will prepare our delicious meal of chicken breast, green beans, potatoes, salad, cake, and punch/coffee. Tickets are available after services; adults are \$10.00 and children under 12 are \$5.00. **The Maundy Thursday worship service will begin at 7:15 pm** to give a little extra time for eating and cleaning up before worship begins. A big thank you (in advance) goes out to everyone involved in this effort which supports mission work by our youth! This is also a Thrivent Financial action team project.

2017 GRADUATING SENIORS (HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE):

We will honor our graduating seniors at our Worship service on Sunday, June 11. Your St. Paul family would like to know how you are doing and what your future plans might be after graduation. Parents of graduates, please ask your son/daughter to submit a brief bio statement to the parish secretary, Lynn Golen (stpaulwarrenoh@aol.com), in the church office by May 1 to be featured in our newsletter and announcements. If more information is needed, please ask Lynn or Debbie Groves (330-619-5064). **Congratulations!**

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN THE ELCA SYNOD HAPPENINGS?

The Synod Assembly this year is June 9-10 at the Knight Center in Akron. Pastors are always required to attend, and it is recommended that 2 lay people from each congregation also attend. The cost for early registration is \$160 before the deadline of May 15. Is anyone willing to attend with Pastor Ann Marie as a delegate from St. Paul? It would be so nice to have your participation! Please contact Pastor Ann Marie prior to the deadline.

FROM PASTOR WILLIAM D. LEITCH:

So much is happening in the greater Warren area that concerns our churches. So much is happening that concerns the Trumbull Area Lutheran Coalition, our twelve ELCA congregations in Trumbull County. There is so much happening that concerns our Shared Ministry with Emmanuel, Living Lord, and St. Paul.

All the churches have been invited to participate in prayer meetings concerning the city of Warren. The mayor initiated the first prayer meeting in February. More meetings are planned. But how is God calling us?

There is concern for the violence, heroin, and poverty in Warren. How is God calling us as the Church to make a difference? It seems obvious to me that God would want the Church to be the leader in caring for the community. Wouldn't God want us to be the calm in the storm? Wouldn't God want us to welcome those who are struggling and to walk with them toward something more stable, secure, and hopeful?

Yet we tend to be turned in on ourselves and our survival. Does that cause us to be blind to our neighbor? How do we care for the widow, the orphan, the addict, the convict, the elderly, our children, our neighbors, our families? How do we keep up the maintenance on our buildings and on our every relationship? It can seem overwhelming and one might prefer to just turn in on one's self and give up. That would be sad because we cannot do what God is calling us to do all by ourselves. Some are ready to follow God's call, but they cannot do it alone.

There are people who are reaching out to us and offering a hand to help as God would call us to help. Do you see them? Do you hear them?

We have Lutheran churches ready to close their doors. Who will invite and welcome them to a new family of God? I think that Emmanuel, Living Lord, and St. Paul would delight in having more folks join us, but have you invited that neighbor? As I write this, I wonder who even knows what I am talking about.

There are people who are ready to help, but need a space, a home, in which to carry out that ministry. Do you see them? There are people who want to walk through our doors. Will you invite them? There are widows and orphans, addicts, convicts, elderly – all who want a place to call home. Are they welcome? How do we show them? How do we lead them?

“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.” Matthew 11:28

We are called God's agents. We are the ones who are to be calling people to us as Jesus called.

Amen,
Pastor Bill

LIVING LORD HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE:

April 13 - Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm Worship w/1st Communion

April 14 - Good Friday, 7:00 pm Worship

April 16 - Easter Sunday, 8:00 & 10:30 am Worship; 9:00 am Easter Brunch

CAMP FREDERICK DINNER DANCE FUNDRAISER:

Camp Frederick will hold a Dinner Dance Fundraiser on **Saturday, April, 1**, beginning at 6:00 pm at Zion Lutheran Church, 3300 Canfield Road, Youngstown, OH 44511. The Roaring Twenties Dinner Dance will be an evening of food, dancing, auctions, and fun! Funds raised will go to support the sending of kids to Camp. The Dinner Dance will start at 6:00 pm with hors d'oeuvres and time to peruse the silent auction and basket raffle items. Dinner will begin at 7:00 pm followed by the silent auction winners, raffle, and dancing. There are many different ways to support Camp Frederick through the Dinner Dance. You can attend the dance, be a sponsor, or donate items for the auctions. We are also going to have a "wine pull". Donations of bottles of wine may be dropped off anytime at Camp Frederick or given to a board member. Please consider helping with the ministry of Camp Frederick by participating in one of the ways listed above. For more information, call 330-227-3633 or email info@campfrederickohio.com. If you are interested in attending the Dinner Dance, tickets are \$35.00; please see Pastor Bill to purchase your tickets.

ST. PAUL NEWS & EVENTS

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Remembering those with medical challenges: Debbie Bartlett, David Baudo, Elaine Benka, Ron Benka, Jay Beougher, Christian Groves, Jerry Groves, Don Hazel, Jim Illencik, Ellen Miller, Carole Null, Lauren Patton, Roy Seibert, Jeff Trimble, April Williams, Andrea Wollam

Remembering those who are home bound: Shirlee Chambers, Charles English, Margaret Halavick, Harriette Shaffer

Remembering those with special needs: Joe Benka, Elizabeth Campbell, Bryan Giocondi, Debi Houlf, Lisa Null, Anita Rayburn, Cindy Robinson, Deanna Savon, Ondine Shiau, Willis Stauffer

Remembering those in Military Service: Joe Baudo, Kirk Groves, Michael Maradin

Farewell: We are very sad to have to say goodbye to longtime members Wayne and Sue Kemp who will be moving to the Akron area to care for Sue's parents. April 2 will be their last Sunday with us before their move. Please join us after worship on **Sunday, April 2**, for a goodbye reception with coffee, punch, and cake.

REBEKAH CIRCLE NEWS:

Five of us began our evening by indulging in mile-high banana splits. Simply decadent! Sue Kemp opened the meeting and we discussed our unfinished projects. Rebekah Circle is responsible for the April 5 Lenten Soup Supper at Living Lord. Broccoli cheddar, chicken, beef vegetable, and one more soup will be served. Let's have a large St. Paul representation at these services.

If you have not yet seen the new cabinets in the kitchen alcove, even though they still have to be secured and filled, please stop by. They look pretty good. Many, many thanks to Tom Skoczylas, Wayne Kemp, and Mark Cribley, who spent many hours removing the old equipment and preparing the room for cabinets. **THANK YOU!**

There is still one more tapestry to be hung in the chapel. Have you seen the Lord's Supper tapestry? It enhances the room. The parlor doors will be complete when the weather permits.

Don't forget about the "Spring Fling" on May 6 at St. Paul. The Boutique, Bake, and Rummage Sale are going to need lots of help for this event to be a success. There will be sign-up sheets in the narthex for volunteering. The proceeds from the Rummage Sale will be going towards the 150th St. Paul Anniversary celebration. Any articles for sale can be taken to the Youth Room. Start cleaning your house.

This was President Sue Kemp's last meeting with us as she will soon be moving to the Akron area. She will be sorely missed. She has contributed so much to Rebekah Circle and to the church; too bad Akron isn't only 5 minutes from here. Kay Paajanen will preside as President until the end of our season.

Georgia Mikola, Secretary

SPRING FLING:

On **Saturday, May 6**, our church will host a huge fundraising event, the **SPRING FLING**. The proceeds from the Rummage Sale will go to the 150th Anniversary celebration of our church, which will be in 2018. The proceeds from the Boutique Sale will go to the Rebekah Circle to complete the church projects that they have undertaken. The proceeds from the Bake Sale will be split between the two groups. This is a huge project for our church and we need the participation of **EVERYONE!** Please volunteer by donating items, helping to set up, helping to work at the event, as well as shopping at the event. We cannot reach our goal without **YOU!**

PARISH EDUCATION:

Some important dates to remember and mark on your calendar:

April 30 – First Holy Communion. Also in April, we will begin "Buck a Chick"; monies collected will help buy food in Panama.

June 4 – Pentecost Sunday/Confirmation

June 11 – Senior Recognition Sunday: All graduating seniors please submit your bio to Lynn (the secretary) by May 1, 2017.

July – Vacation Bible School will be held at Living Lord in July. We need some volunteers to help with this program. Program will run Sunday evening through Thursday evening, July 9 - 13. Please contact Pastor Bill, Lynn, or Debbie Groves if you can help with this program.

December - We will again host the Christmas Program and Luncheon in December.

FOOD COLLECTION:

For the month of **APRIL** we are collecting canned meats (no tuna), spam, canned chicken, Vienna sausage, deviled ham spread, chicken spread.

2017 FLOWERS AND MEDITATION CANDLES:

Weeks are still available for purchase, dedicated to your special intentions. The meditation candle is \$5.00 and flowers are \$30.00 for two vases. **Please use an Order Envelope and PREPAY your order at the time that you sign the flower and candle chart. PAYMENT ENVELOPES ARE BY THE FLOWER CHART.** On weeks where there is no paid order, the church will display silk flowers to the Glory of God. Please sign up for your special weeks while they are available.

RED CROSS VOLUNTEERS:

St. Paul volunteers will continue to help with registration and provide snacks for the canteen table during the Red Cross blood drives. **If you would like to volunteer, see the sheet on the volunteer table or contact Bonnie Thompson at 330-272-1400.**

SPLASH TODAY:

Donations are always warmly welcomed, and with your continued support, we will be able to sustain this valuable ministry to young families.

GRIEF MINISTRY:

Part of the Social Committee is Grief Ministry. Joyce Osborn (330-372-2136) is spearheading this ministry with Pr. Winters' and God's guidance and help. When a loved one dies, Joyce sends a set of four books called "Journeying through Grief" throughout the first year. Each book describes the issues and feelings that a person tends to encounter at various points of grief and the books offer suggestions on handling them. If Pastor Winters or Joyce can be of any help or if you have any questions during a time of grief, please contact either of them.

DUE TO GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS:

In the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), churches and clergy can no longer make written or oral public announcements of health information regarding our members. Thus, unless specifically requested by a member to share other information, we are only able to indicate where a person is hospitalized or that they have been discharged.

BIRTHDAYS:

- 4/8 = Isaac Maurice
- 4/12 = Gerald Groves, Sr.
- 4/13 = James Kines
- 4/15 = Terry Thirion
- 4/18 = Helen Zofko
- 4/20 = Diana Bartlett
- 4/21 = Carol Kines
- 4/23 = Kelly Worley
- 4/24 = Ernest Gerbetz
- 4/25 = Stephen Kines
- 4/26 = Shirley Gardner
- 4/28 = Gene Cravotta

ANNIVERSARIES:

- 4/6 = Benka, Ronald & Elaine
- 4/9 = Dodge, Michael & Judy
- 4/12 = Cary, Glenn & Judy
- 4/21 = Adrian, John & Sandy



**Happy Easter
from the Staff and Council of
St. Paul Lutheran Church**

ST. PAUL SERVANTS FOR APRIL 2017

Greeters

4/02 Lorri Baudo & Kay Paajanen
4/09 Diana Bauman & Kay Paajanen
4/16 Terry & Brenda Cephlecci
4/23 June & Kelly Hutchison
4/30 June & Kelly Hutchison

Lectors

4/02 Brenda Hart
4/09 Marty Maurice
4/16 Kelly Hutchison
4/23 John Lacy
4/30 Carol Hipple

Flower Delivery – No Flowers During Lent

4/23 Joanne Santucci
4/30 June & Kelly Hutchison

Refer to the sheet in the Sacristy for deliveries. Mark the date of delivery opposite the person's name on the sheet. Thank you.

Communion Assistants:

4/02 Brenda Hart
4/09 Peggy Skoczylas
4/16 Barb Basalyga
4/23 Debbie Groves
4/30 Heidi Colarich

Acolytes 10:30 service: (agreed dates by parish youth)

4/02 Jordan Eaton
4/09 Spencer Moorhead & Christine Mymo
4/13 Ean Dodge
4/14 Kyra Mymo
4/15 Ethan Dodge
4/16 Tori Muehlbauer & Christine Mymo
4/23 Andrew Sutton
4/30 Emily Gilger

Acolytes: Please be present ten minutes before the service begins.

If you are unable to acolyte as scheduled, please trade with one of the other acolytes and notify Christine Mymo – 330-647-2913. Thank you for your help! We count on you to be here!

Ushers

4/02 Rodger Bartlett & Joanne Santucci
4/09 Rodger Bartlett & Joanne Santucci
4/16 Judy Muehlbauer & T.J. Skoczylas
4/23 Jerry & Carole Null
4/30 Jerry & Carole Null

Church Closing

Jerry Null

Visitor Notes

Jean Maurice

NEWS OF THE SHARED MINISTRY

Emmanuel Clothes Closet...The Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday at 9:00 am. In need of: summer clothes (children & adults), bathing suits, deodorant, lotion, dish soap, paper towels, toilet tissue, anything for babies, plastic bags, curtains, doilies, sheets.

Emmanuel Shopping Cart Needs for April...Instant potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy (jar or mix), Vienna sausages, canned fruit, cracker snacks, cans of food with pop top lids for easy opening.

Living Lord Card Class...Join us for a card-making class on **Thursday, April 6**, in the Activity Room. We will be making 4 cards. Our theme will be "All Occasion". Classes will be at 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm. The cost is \$12.00. Please bring adhesives like double-stick tape and liquid glue. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. The deadline for signing up is Sunday, April 2. Emmanuel and St. Paul members are welcome to join us – call Lynne Walters at 330-856-9689 to get signed up!

Living Lord Easter Food Baskets...We will pack and distribute the Easter Food Baskets on **Thursday, April 13**, beginning at 9:00 am. Pickup will be from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon. No deliveries.

Living Lord Fellowship in April...We will have an Easter Brunch on **Sunday, April 16, between services.**

From the Parish Nurse, Dora Muller... *I can't clean my room because I get distracted by the cool stuff I find...*

Spring cleaning is the unofficial start of summer. Before I moved to the USA, the concept of spring cleaning was very foreign to me. Why wait until spring to clean cupboards, windows, and floors? And, why not do this anytime of the year? Well, the answer to this silly question is the weather and tradition. Soon the spring cleaning marathon will take off. When is it the time to choose cleaning supplies? The possibilities are infinite, from harsh bleach that promises to kill everything under the sun to vinegar and lemon juice that claim to be safe for the environment and our sensitive skin. When organizing and scrubbing, make sure that you follow the cleaning product labels and safety instructions to avoid accidents. For example, some products can release harmful fumes such as those found in oven cleaning supplies, which can damage the lungs or trigger an asthma attack. Also, many products are harsh on the skin. Personal protection is essential such as gloves and why not wear eye goggles. However, the most important thing during the spring cleaning marathon is to use precaution, be safe, and do not overdo. Remember that after a long winter without physical activity, the routine of getting the house ready for summer can be strenuous on our bodies. The best plan is to divide the work among family members, go slowly, and choose your cleaning products wisely. Most important is to pay attention to your body. If you start to feel tired and experience aches and pains, it is time to slow down and to contact Molly Maid's wonderful services. However, if your bank account does not allow such a luxury as hiring help, go slow on your spring cleaning and have a safe and healthy spring.