

**SEASONS  
MARCH 2020**

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



**SUNDAY SCHOOL AND WORSHIP AT 10:30 am**

**FROM PASTOR ANN MARIE WINTERS:** “Uniting Matters of Flesh and Matters of Spirit”

Lent is a time for special repentance. Let us dwell on the words of Craig Nesson (Give us this Day) describing how Jesus feeds us, body and spirit:

*“By means of bread, Jesus united matters of flesh and matters of spirit.  
Jesus fed both hungry multitudes and the hunger of the heart.  
Jesus demonstrated both the dawning of the kingdom as he sat at the table with sinners,  
and instituted the Lord’s Supper for the forgiveness of sins.  
For Jesus, there was no division between body and spirit.  
What Jesus has brought together, however, we have rent asunder.  
How do we reunite body and spirit as we come together to eat bread in Jesus’ name?”*

We have the opportunities for confession and forgiveness at our Sunday worship, and there we can share in the uniting power of the Holy Communion. On Thursdays during Lent, we also have special mid-week services in a series called “Facing the Cross” at St. Paul. These are instances where we can bring a covered dish to share a supper meal with Lutheran brothers and sisters, building bonds of community, then strengthening the unity of the Body of Christ through our shared Vespers worship. I am confident you will be fed in Body and Spirit during these Lenten worship times.

May God bless your Lent,  
Pastor Ann Marie Winters

NOTE: The following schedule of mid-week Lenten Potlucks (6:00 pm) and Worship Services (7:00 pm):

Thursday, March 5 – Facing Temptations  
Thursday, March 12 – Facing Our Fears  
**Wednesday, March 18** – Facing Our Worldliness  
Thursday, March 26 – Facing One Another  
Thursday, April 2 - Facing Suffering

**THURSDAYS DURING LENT – FACING THE CROSS:** Luke 9:51 says that Jesus “set his face towards Jerusalem”. He did this to encounter the pain of the cross on our behalf, to take away our sins. In our Lenten series this year, just as Christ faced the cross, we set our faces on the cross of Christ as well. During these Lenten days, we also face certain aspects of our lives which are not always in line with the cross. We come to terms with them by “facing the cross”.

**Beginning on March 5, our mid-week services will follow on THURSDAY EVENINGS. Note the change from Wednesdays,** due to the Celebrate Recovery program which runs on every Wednesday evening at St. Paul. On Thursdays, we will have a potluck supper at 6:00 pm and worship at 7:00 pm.

Thursday, March 5: Facing Temptations – We acknowledge that we give in to temptations at times, but rest on the power of Christ to resist the devil.

Thursday, March 12: Facing Our Fears – Recognizing what strikes fear in our hearts helps us to grab on more tightly to Christ.

**Wednesday, March 18 – ON WEDNESDAY THIS WEEK ONLY - Due to the Preschool Art Show on Thursday:** Facing Our Worldliness – Accepting we are all too often dependent on worldly goods, opens the door to seeing the value of everlasting blessings.

Thursday, March 26: Facing One Another – Confessing that we have not always treated one another in a Christ-like manner helps to build better relationships.

Thursday, April 2: Facing Suffering – Enduring suffering in this world connects us to Christ, and points us to the joy to come.

**MAY THIS BE A GOOD LENT FOR US AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH.**

**FELLOWSHIP EVENTS THAT STRENGTHEN OUR CHURCH:** Pastor Winters is forming a group to plan church events that strengthen our bottom line (\$\$\$). We have thought of doing fundraisers like a pasta dinner, a chili cook-off, a purse bingo, a casino bus trip, a rummage sale, and so on. (This is in addition to our Strawberry Social and Oktoberfest.) This **fundraising committee needs about 4 people** to work together and schedule events during 2020 – placing them on the church calendar and seeking co-chairs for each event. **A meeting of co-chairs is set for Sunday, March 8, after worship in the Parlor.** With our growing congregation, there is no shortage of energy and worker-bees. A **fundraising committee** will do the scheduling and organizing of teams for each event. Otherwise, our good intentions do not seem to get off the ground and on the calendar. See Pastor Winters to join the fundraising committee. Don't be shy!

**CELEBRATE GRAND-FAMILIES:** “Celebrate Grand-families” is a support group for grandparents raising their grandchildren. St. Paul is reaching out to support these families with Christian compassion and a place to meet and discuss their needs. *We now have 18 families who participate*, and more are welcome, if you know of anyone who would fit in. While the grandparents meet, we will have crafts, games, bible stories, snacks, help with homework, tutoring, and a fun social time for children. Sessions in March will be on **Saturdays, March 14 and 28**, from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. Please contact Brenda Ceplecci or Pastor Winters to help.

**CELEBRATE RECOVERY:** We launched a new program at St. Paul to support the healing of “hurts, habits, and hang-ups” which meets **every Wednesday at 6:30 pm. On Wednesday, March 18, you are invited to the church’s Potluck supper at 6:00 pm and service at 7:00 pm.** We invite you and your family and friends to come if you suffer from abuse, grief, harmful relationships, divorce, co-dependency, depression, guilt, shame, drug and alcohol addiction, gambling, eating disorders, and so on. Celebrate Recovery is a world-wide ministry based on the beatitudes of Jesus that includes a time of worship songs, a testimony or lesson, and small group sharing. We also will have a fellowship time each week following the small group experience. Please consider how you may help to support this outreach into our community. Could you greet people at the door one evening? Make cookies or set up water and coffee? It is a simple program with a big impact for those who participate. Many thanks to our leaders who have been dedicated in preparing for this ministry: Marty Maurice, Nola Bennett, Deb Illencik, Anna Lacy, and Nick Fee.

**LARGE CATECHISM:** Do you want to brush up on the basics of the Lutheran faith? A small group is meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 6:30 pm. Come join us in the Parlor on **March 16.**

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**ST. PAUL NEWS & EVENTS**

**PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

**Praying for members with medical challenges:**

Diana Bartlett, Rodger Bartlett, Elaine Benka, Ron Benka, Nola Bennett, Laurie Czoka, Evan Davis, Dominic Frazzini, Jerry Groves, Stephanie Groves, Carolyn Marsh, Carol Null, Jerry Null, Roy Seibert, Jane Shaw, Ken and Jerry Wareham, April Williams, Andrea Wollam

**Remembering those who are home bound:**

Pastor Richard Bowen, Charles English, Jim Illencik, Jean Maurice, Harriette Shaffer

**Remembering those with special needs:**

Gini Cage, Connie Fowler, Bryan Giocondi, Roxanne Meeker, Cindy Robinson, Ondine Shiau, Dean Voye, Mark Voye, Bob Webb

**Remembering those in the Military:**

Jonathan Benka, Danielle Greenhill, Kirk Groves, Michael Maradin

**AED TRAINING:** We have had some people showing interest in learning how to operate the AED. If you are interested in learning, we have scheduled a class on **Sunday, March 8**, following worship in Cassel Hall to learn some skills for a “just in case” scenario. Please contact Judy Dodge at 330-766-0940 if you are interested or if you have any questions.

**NOISY CHANGE:** The young youth will be collecting “Noisy Change” every Sunday in March. They are raising this money for ELCA World Hunger. Last year we were able to purchase pigs, chickens, goats, honey bees, fruit trees, vaccinations, mosquito nets, and stock a health clinic. Please support the young youth. Please see Debbie Groves or Liz Chapin with any questions.

**COFFEE CUP GREETINGS:** Held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month, **March 1 & 15**.

**BASKET RAFFLE:** St. Paul’s congregation has an opportunity to do an early spring fundraiser by raffling several baskets/prizes at the Rainbow Preschool Art Show in March. All proceeds will go into the church’s general fund. We are asking for donations from our members to help us to fill these baskets. There will be sheets in the narthex with lists of specific items or suggestions of items to contribute. The baskets will include: a wine basket, a “Dad’s Basket” (car wash items, etc.), lady’s pampering basket, children’s outdoor fun basket, and a family basket (games, popcorn, videos, etc.) If you are able to donate items to help with this fundraiser, please drop them off at the church by **Sunday, March 8**. Cash donations are also welcome. Please see Brenda Ceplecci (330-534-2388), Judy Dodge (330-236-0339), or Kay Paajanen (330-394-7089) if you have any questions. Thank you!

**MONTHLY FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST:** Please join us on **Saturday, March 7**, at 9:30 am at Perkins on Route 46 for our monthly Fellowship Breakfast. If you have any questions, please contact Jean Waris at 330-647-2326.

**BABY/CHILD RUMMAGE SALE:** The Splash Ministry of St. Paul is sponsoring a Baby/Child Rummage Sale to support our efforts in providing resources to parents of children ages birth to three years. This event will be held in Cassel Hall on **Saturday, March 14**, from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon. Setup begins at 8:00 am. Tables are available to rent for \$15.00 to sell your items and keep the profits. Children’s clothing, toys, books, etc., may be donated to the church for our table as well. Breakfast items will be available for purchase the morning of the event. Please tell your neighbors, friends, and relatives with young children as they may wish to rent a table or shop the sale for their children/grandchildren. Please see Brenda Ceplecci (330-534-2388) or Bonnie Thompson (330-272-1400) to reserve a table.

**EASTER EGG HUNT:** Mark your calendar. An Easter Egg Hunt will be held at St. Paul on **Saturday, April 11**. Details will follow in the announcements and newsletter.

**SPLASH TODAY:** Splash Ministry is a monthly resource which is mailed to parents of children from ages newborn to 3 years. This resource helps young children to grow in their faith formation and provides fun and easy ideas for bringing faith into the everyday life of infants, toddlers, and their families. It also connects the church to families for support and encouragement. If you have further questions about the Splash Ministry, please see Bonnie Thompson or Brenda Ceplecci. Donations for Splash are always warmly welcomed and greatly appreciated.

**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.

**HALL RENTAL:** Anyone wishing to rent Cassel Hall must first call the office to schedule the date to be sure it is not already rented or in use by the church, the Preschool, DAR, or the Red Cross. There is also paper work which needs to be filled out prior to renting.

**FLOWERS AND MEDITATION CANDLES:** Weeks are 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.

**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 IN MARCH:**

- 1 = Donald Brant & Hunter Groves
- 2 = Pr. Ann Marie Winters
- 3 = Taylor Montgomery
- 5 = Lynn Gibson
- 7 = Noah Kerns
- 11 = Grace Gilger
- 14 = Christine Mymo
- 15 = Shaun Brown
- 16 = Marissa Colarich
- 17 = Jean Waris
- 19 = Justin Montgomery
- 20 = Victoria Muehlbauer & Alexis Stredney
- 22 = Evelyn Brant & Cameron Danklefsen
- 23 = Erika Smith
- 24 = Joey Sarko
- 29 = Cameron Mackowski
- 31 = Penny Jewell & Ava Waldron

**ANNIVERSARIES IN FEBRUARY:**

- 7 = Seibert, Roy & Dorothy
- 12 = Preston, James & Cathie

**YOUTH NEWS**  
**From Stacey Altieri**

Come on Spring! Don't forget to turn your clocks ahead on March 8! **I will be on vacation March 2-7 and will be able to respond to correspondence upon my return.**

Our youth and their efforts to help the community were recently acknowledged in letters of gratitude from Someplace Safe (Christmas Toy Drive) and the Trumbull County Urban League (Blanket Drive). Please join me in congratulating the Youth Group participants for their drive and compassion for others! These letters of appreciation can be viewed on the Youth Bulletin Board located in the hallway. Youth Group meetings will be held on March 1, 15, and 29 this month from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. During our meeting on March 29, the youth will be learning CPR from a certified instructor and we look forward to seeing some new faces since lowering the age requirement to 10 to 18 years of age. This change will grow and sustain our Youth Group by bringing in younger children/siblings as our older youth graduate.

Back by popular demand, we will be hosting another Movie Night for the children on **Saturday, March 14**, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. The theme for this event will be "PJs and Shamrocks", where we will have fun learning about St. Patrick, make crafts, eat snacks, and watch Shrek in our pajamas! As always, this is a free event for the children.

**Saturday, March 21**, is National Teenager Day! To show my appreciation for all their hard work, I will be treating the Youth Group participants to a movie of their own in Niles. Times TBD.

Our "Servant Week Sampler" dates have been set! Please mark your calendars for the week of **June 22-26**. All youth age 10 to 18 are invited to participate in Servant Week. In lieu of going away to Camp Frederick this year, we will be volunteering at a local level at places such as Habitat for Humanity, Veterans Haven, and Meals on Wheels. We will also be doing some work at the church! Youth are to report to St. Paul at 8:00 am daily. Pickup times may vary between 3:00 and 4:00 pm depending on activity. More information will be available as summer approaches and all activities are confirmed. Please contact Stacey Altieri at 330-718-8820 for further information regarding our youth activities.

## ST. PAUL SERVANTS FOR MARCH 2020

### Greeters

- 3/01 Lyda Vigorito, Marin and Evan Davis
- 3/08 Joanne Santucci & Jean Waris
- 3/15 Barb Basalyga & Debbie Cravotta
- 3/22 Terry & Brenda Cephlecci
- 3/29 The Dodge Family

### Lectors

- 3/01 Brenda Hart
- 3/08 Linda Murray
- 3/15 Liz Chapin
- 3/22 Emily Thirion
- 3/29 Georgia Mikola

### Flower Delivery

- 3/01 Lent – No Flowers
- 3/08 Lent – No Flowers
- 3/15 Lent – No Flowers
- 3/22 Lent – No Flowers
- 3/29 Lent – No Flowers

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

- 3/01 Brenda Hart
- 3/08 Peggy Skoczylas
- 3/15 Barb Basalyga
- 3/22 Debbie Groves
- 3/29 Diana Bauman

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

- 3/01 Evan Davis
- 3/08 Kaitlyn Steuer
- 3/15 Chelsea Moorhead
- 3/22 Kaitlyn Steuer
- 3/29 Ean Dodge

**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

- 3/01 Harry Pasku & Tom Skoczylas
- 3/08 Harry Pasku & Tom Skoczylas
- 3/15 Kelly Hutchison & Georgia Mikola
- 3/22 Kelly Hutchison & Georgia Mikola
- 3/29 Kelly Hutchison & Georgia Mikola

**Child Care**

3/01 Anna Lacy & Ean Dodge  
3/08 Judy Dodge & Giada Frazzini  
3/15 Anna Lacy & Ethan Dodge  
3/22 Brenda Ceplecci & Evan Davis  
3/29 Anna Lacy & Olivia Waldron

**Church Closing**

Liz Chapin

**Visitor Notes**