



St. Paul's
Evangelical Lutheran
Church

127 Cherry Rd. NE, Massillon, OH 44646

330 832-7409

April 2025 Newsletter

The Bridge

Connecting Church with Home

Contact Us: Click to send an email

[Rev. Mark Kreemer, Senior Pastor](#)•[Dr. Patricia Long, Church Council President](#)•[Dr. Abigail Haake, Director of Music](#)•[Dr. Carol Butler, Newsletter Editor](#)•[Tracie Schmolt, Finance Administrator](#)•[Jackie Pritchett, Office Volunteer](#)

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The Significance of Holy Week



"And being found in appearance as a man, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death—even death on a cross!" **Philippians 2:8**

Dear Friends in Christ,

Holy Week is the most sacred time in the Christian calendar, marking the final days of Jesus' earthly ministry. It is a journey through suffering, sacrifice, and ultimately, the triumph of Christ over sin and death. Each day carries profound significance, inviting us to reflect on God's immense love and the price of our redemption.

Palm Sunday: The Triumphal Entry

Jesus enters Jerusalem as the prophesied King, greeted with shouts of "Hosanna!" (Matthew 21:9). Yet, this moment of celebration foreshadows His coming suffering. It reminds us that Jesus' kingship is not about earthly power but sacrificial love.

This Sunday is often referred to as Passion Sunday. In the Roman Rite, the Gospel reading at the Mass of the sixth Sunday in Lent is an account in one of the Synoptic Gospels of the Passion of Christ. Until 1969, the lesson was always the account from the Gospel of Matthew: the whole of chapters 26 and 27. Since 1970, the revised Roman Missal has been using a three-year cycle in which the accounts of Matthew (26:14–27:66 or 27:11–54), Mark (14:1–15:47 or 15:1–39) and Luke (22:14–23:56 or 23:1–49) are alternated in successive years.[12]

Maundy Thursday: The Last Supper

Jesus shares His final meal with His disciples, instituting the Lord's Supper and demonstrating servant-hearted love by washing their feet (John 13:1-17). This day calls us to remember His sacrifice and live in humble service to one another.

Good Friday: The Crucifixion

Jesus willingly lays down His life on the cross, bearing the weight of humanity's sin (John 19:30). This day is one of sorrow and gratitude, as we meditate on the depth of Christ's suffering for our salvation.

Resurrection Sunday: The Victory of Christ

On Easter morning, the tomb is empty! Christ has conquered death, securing eternal life for all who believe (Matthew 28:6). This is the foundation of our faith—hope is alive because Jesus lives!

Reflection and Prayer:

As we walk through Holy Week, let us open our hearts to the love of Christ. May we remember His sacrifice, embrace His grace, and live in the power of His resurrection.

Take time each day to reflect on what Jesus endured for our sake. Are we truly living in response to His sacrifice? Are we surrendering our hearts to Him in faith and obedience? Holy Week is not only about remembrance but about transformation. Let this week be an opportunity to renew our commitment to Christ, deepen our understanding of His love, and share His message of redemption with others.

May we move forward with hearts full of gratitude, walking in the victory of Christ's resurrection, and proclaiming His name in our words and actions.

Blessings,
Pastor Mark

Upcoming Events

The [church calendar](#) is always available on every page of the church [website](#) on the right side, along with the church address, phone number, email address, and Youtube link for the online services. The online calendar contains the most up-to-date listing of events.

[Click to see Church Calendar](#)

Weekly events

Sunday: **Worship** 10:00 am
Sunday: **Sunday School** 11:30 am
Wednesday: **Chancel Choir** 7 pm
Wednesday: **Snip-N-Stitch** 9 am
Thursday: **Bible Study** 10 am

Monthly events

Tuesday, April 1, 6:30 pm: **Worship and Music Committee (1st Tuesday of month)**
Tuesday, April 8, 7 pm: **Church Council (2nd Tuesday of month)**
Friday, April 11, 4:30-6:00 pm: **Community Meal and Clothes Closet (2nd Friday of month)**
Sunday, April 13: **Easter shut-in Gifts will be available**
Tuesday, April 15, 6 pm: **Finance Committee (3rd Tuesday of month)**

St. Paul's Lent and Easter Services

Sunday, April 13, 10:00: **Palm Sunday Church Service**

Today we follow Christ from triumphal entry to the cross, each waypoint of the journey marked by Jesus' compassion for those who would betray, mock, accuse, or do violence to him. Though persecuted and beaten, Jesus the Son of God is not disgraced; instead, he asks forgiveness for those who put him to death. We have walked the Lenten pathway these forty days, each of us invited through baptism to "let the same mind be in you that was in Christ

Jesus.” We enter this holy week accompanying Jesus to the cross with both grief and thanksgiving in our hearts, trusting in God’s redeeming love.

Thursday, April 17, 7 pm: **Maundy Thursday Worship**

This evening our Lenten observance comes to an end, and we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus’ death and resurrection. Tonight we remember Christ’s last meal with his disciples, but the central focus is his commandment that we live out the promise embodied in this meal. As Jesus washed his disciples’ feet, so we are called to give and receive love in humble service to one another. Formed into a new body in Christ through this holy meal, we are transformed by the mercy we have received and carry it into the world. Departing worship in solemn silence, we anticipate the coming days.

Friday, April 18, 7 pm: **Good Friday Worship Service**

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John’s passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ’s death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently, and we anticipate the culmination of the Three Days in the Easter Vigil.

Sunday, April 20, 7:30 am: **Easter Sunday Sunrise Service**

Sunday, April 20, 10:00 am: **Easter Sunday Service with Camarada Brass**

“The last enemy to be destroyed is death,” Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Community Lenten Worship Services

Through the season of Lent, churches in the Massillon area are once again meeting together for worship and Holy Communion, rotating locations and preachers. Our focus this year is “The Five Themes of Lent.”

A light dinner of soup and salad will be served at **5:30 pm**. Then at **6:30 pm**, we will worship together in the style of the host congregation. Childcare may be provided.

Offerings will go to the Family Living Center, which provides housing for local families in need.

Remaining services:

April 2nd – First UMC

Rev. David Anderson preaching on penitence
301 Lincoln Way E, Massillon, OH 44646

April 9th – First Baptist Church

Rev. Ed Hill preaching on repentance
20 Sixth St. SE, Massillon, OH 44646

Easter Flower Orders

Don't forget to order your Easter Flowers! You may place your order in the offering plate or drop it off in the office. All orders are **due by March 30, 2025.**

6" Easter Lilies – \$11.50

6.5" Hyacinths – \$9.50 *Pink *Blue *White

6.5" Tulips – \$9.50 *Red *Orange *Yellow *Bi-color

[Flower order form](#)

Blood Drive Dates

Save the dates to give the gift of life.

2025 Blood Drives @ St. Paul's:

Noon until 6:00 pm

Monday May 5, 2025

Monday, August 25, 2025

Click on or copy and paste the link below to schedule an appointment for our next blood drive.

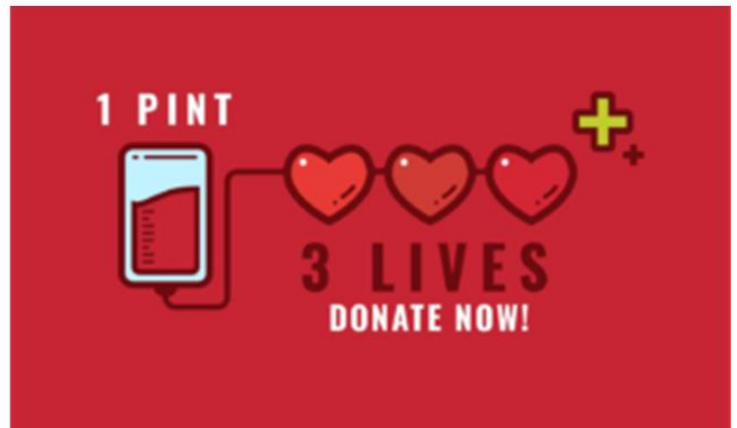
<https://www.redcrossblood.org/>



Noon until 6:00 pm

- Monday, January 6, 2025
- Monday, March 3, 2025
- Monday, May 5, 2025
- Monday, August 25, 2025

2025 Blood Drives



Adult Sunday School Class

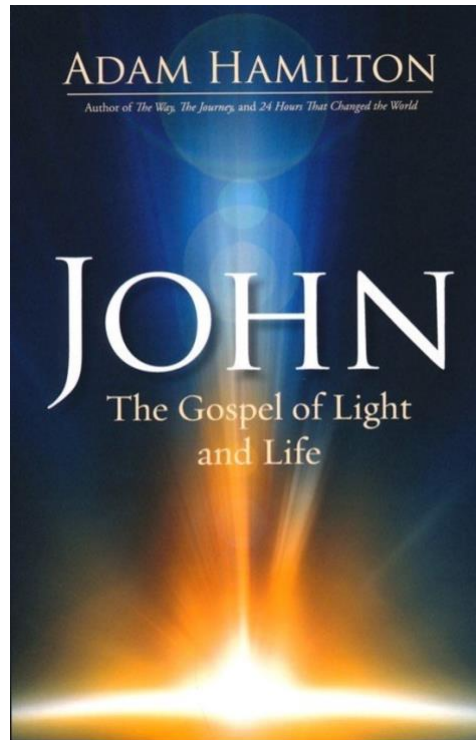
God's Redemptive Grace in Jesus

Jacob's well was there and Jesus, tired out from his journey, was sitting by the well.
(John 4:6)

Did you know that Shechem of the Old Testament is Sychar in the New Testament? The lessons to come will focus on the tragic story of Dinah at Shechem told in Genesis 34 and then the story of the woman in Sychar at Jacob's well in John 4. God's grace abounds! Please join us on Sunday for this fascinating study at 11:30, third floor, Parish Hall. An elevator is available for your convenience.

Please note. **No class on April 13, Palm Sunday, or April 20, Easter.**

Thursday Morning Bible Study



John: The Gospel of Light and Life

By: [Adam Hamilton](#)

Join us at 10:00 am in the lounge!

Embark on a journey through the Book of John's narrative and discover anew "the Gospel of light"! Exploring its rich images, Hamilton offers illuminating insights into the profound themes of the Word made flesh; Jesus' miraculous signs; his "I AM" sayings; his farewell discourse; the arrest, trial, and crucifixion; and the promise of eternal life. 176 pages, softcover from Abingdon.

Chair Yoga on Thursday Morning



Winter is time many don't get much exercise. You can change that and get ready for spring and summer. Barb Palmer has graciously agreed to lead a chair Yoga class. We will meet after Bible study every Thursday around 11 am in the Parish Hall top floor classroom. This very low impact class lasts about half an hour.

And the cost? IT IS FREE.
Hope to see you there.

Church Council Highlights

Report from Tuesday, March 11, 2025

Pastor's Report: Impact Massillon

In Pastor's report, he shared that Impact Massillon is meeting soon to make final arrangements for the work that will be accomplished in June for a selected neighborhood in Massillon. St. Paul's had good representation last year among the churches that sent volunteers to provide much needed outdoor repair and refurbishment to homes as a gesture of love and service to our neighbors. Pastor Mark is hoping there is again a number of people from our church to share in this good work. Pastor also mentioned in his report that the NEOS Assembly will be a one-day, virtual event on May 17. LaShell and Lynn Williamson are the delegates from St. Paul's.

Treasurer's Report

Dan Farrar, church treasurer, shared the budget report and noted that our expenditures did exceed income for the month of February. He attributed this result to costs related to snow removal and higher than usual electric and heating bills. It was a much more wintery January and February this year! Thankfully our church boiler, which is about to be replaced with a more efficient and reliable system, remained in service allowing for comfortable temperatures in the building. Dan also mentioned that the Finance Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, March 18, to prepare the 2025-2026 budget recommendations for Council's consideration at its April meeting.

Worship and Church Music Committee

Greg Klein reported for the Worship and Church Music Committee. Dr. Abby Haake is working on our St. Paul's Cathedral Concert Series for the 2025-2026 season and has tentative commitments from several artists and groups. The schedule will be finalized in the coming months. It should be another wonderful slate of concerts.

Property Management Committee

The report from the Property Management Committee was given by Dennis Morgan. An item needing action from Church Council related to the annual "Mechanical Investment Service Proposal" from Standard Plumbing & Heating Company. The goal of the service contract is for Standard to "keep facility environments – building and the equipment they contain – in good health." As such, the "proposal is designed to match your [St. Paul's] specific needs with our [Standard's] capabilities and provide you with reduced overall costs, improved equipment efficiency, better comfort, extended equipment life and general peace of mind related to HVAC [and plumbing] systems." The total annual cost of the contract is \$3,767.64 or \$313.97 per month. This is a slight increase over last year. The contract was approved by Council. Dennis also reported that repairs are continuing, with warmer temperatures, on both the church building flat roofing replacement and the stone and mortar work.

Capital Campaign

The Capital Campaign update was given by Pastor Mark. We are grateful that funds continue to be donated to the Campaign, above and beyond regular giving, with the total raised to date at \$351,317. There have been two pre-bid meetings hosted by our hired architect, John Picard, with a third scheduled, targeting the accessible bathrooms and entryway enclosure projects. It is hoped that all bids will be received and a contractor and final bid selected by the end of March or the first week of April.

Respectfully shared,

Patty Long
President, Church Council

Income and Expense Summary

Income and Expense Summary			
Fiscal Year 2025, Month Ending February 2025			
February		YTD	
Income	\$ 19,075	Income	\$ 202,487
Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 2,083	Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 29,103
Expenses	\$ 28,525	Expenses	\$ 210,882
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ (7,367)	Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ 20,708

Financial notes: We paid two larger than normal weather related bills this month. Our utilities and snow removal totaled \$7,800 that contributed to our deficit. On the plus side a number of our members directed their Thrivent Choice Dollars to St Paul's. Thanks to all who donated.

Dan Farrar, Treasurer

Capital Fund Update

Capital Campaign Report

Remaining Phase One Projects	\$377,000
Funds raised	\$351,317
Remaining funds to be raised	\$ 25,683

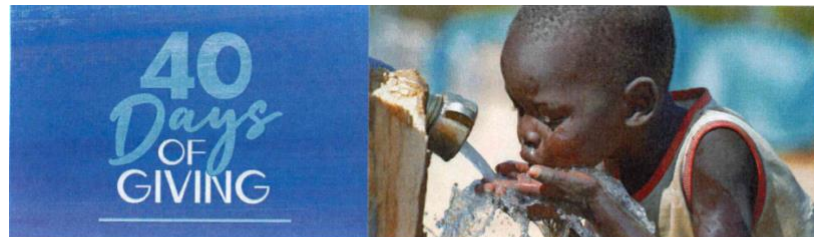
40 Days of Lenten Giving

We have bottled water, personal water bottles, cold water on our refrigerator doors, rainforest showerheads. Our daily water supply is simply not a matter that we think about often. But in many countries, obtaining daily water is sometimes impossible or may involve walking many miles to the nearest well which may or may not provide safe water on any given day.

This Lenten season we will be joining in the ELCA Safe Water Access project to provide a well in a needy community. Please consider picking up a Lenten folder and donating one dollar a day during Lent. If we can collect just 62 folders, we can provide an entire well!!! You can fold a bill into the slots, merely put the bills inside the folder, or enclose a check written to St. Paul. There are little piggy banks as well. Thank you so much for your generosity during the 40 days of Lent.

Welfare and Social Action Committee and Evangelism Committee

Cindy Lash and Kathryn Myers



Lack of access to safe water is one of the biggest challenges to overcoming poverty. It's also one of the most powerful opportunities to create change. With a simple water well, spring box or other water point, as many as 500 families gain access to clean, safe water.

Communities are healthier. People spend less money on medical expenses and more on food and education. And instead of spending hours each day gathering water for the family, women and children have time for work and school.



**CONTRIBUTE TO
THE ELCA SAFE
WATER PROJECT!**

**COLLECTION FOLDERS
ARE AVAILABLE.**



Lenten Organ Recitals at Noon

During the weeks of Lent, St. Joseph's Church at 322 Third Street SE, Massillon, has been hosting organists from our community.

These are half hour recitals performed by members of the Canton Guild of Organists on the 2018 Allen hybrid organ with 17 ranks of pipes.

There are two remaining noon-time recitals:

April 2: **Dennis Roden**, Little Flower Catholic Church

April 9: **Heather Cooper**, Christ Presbyterian Church, Canton

Touchup Work



Masons are fixing stonework that has come loose over the decades.

Anneliese Daniels, a Vital Member of Our Congregation



Her favorite hobby is making baby blankets. She has made 610 blankets and given them away to Pregnancy Parenting.

Anneliese was born April 7, 1935, in the town of Speyer, Germany. When she was about 4 or 5, she moved to the very small village of Oberhausen, Germany. There her family lived with her grandmother, a common custom.

She has memories of her life during WWII: "When I was about 5 or 6, we went to a parade on "Main" Street. I remember waving a flag and cheering for a man riding in a tank. I remember thinking why does he have a dirty face? I found out it was a mustache. The man the whole town was cheering for was Hitler.

"I also remember on Sundays all the men would get together in the street to talk. However, at 7 pm everyone had to be in their homes. It was being on house arrest. If you came out of the house and a guard saw, you would be shot!

"Food was limited but we had a garden so we were not hungry.

"I also remember no one locked their doors. If the air raid sirens went off, people had to get to the bomb shelters. One of the shelters was in our home. One night when the sirens sounded they were bombing our Main Street. The corner home got bombed and everyone was killed."

She came to America in 1954 at age 19. "My mom's sister invited me. I came on the boat named Gripsholm. It took 11 days. I remember being so seasick." She became a U.S. citizen on June 9, 1961: "I love being an American Citizen. I am proud of that."

Anneliese did find work quickly: "My uncle was able to get me a job at Superior Meats after he told the boss I could speak English, which I could not. I worked in the sausage and hot dog room. I remember the girls I worked with would instruct me to do my task wrong. There was a gentleman by the name of Harry, he saw what was happening and helped me. Later when I could speak English, I made sure I told the girls how mean they were and should never do that to anyone else." In Germany she had been a licensed dress maker. After she married, she did sewing and alterations.

She married Larry Daniels and had two children: son Tim and daughter Sonia. Anneliese has three grandchildren and one great grandson.

Anneliese ended up at St. Paul's through her daughter: "I was raised Catholic in Germany, even though my father was a Lutheran. When I came to America I went to St. Mary's. My daughter Sonia was church shopping, so I decided to also shop around. I visited St. Paul's, and the service was so similar. One thing I really liked at St. Paul's was that people were actually happy and friendly. All were so welcoming."

Anneliese will turn 90 on April 7. Her daughter and son-in-law Sonia and Dave Scheetz, will have an open house for her:

April 13, Sunday, from 1-4 pm.

853 16th St. NE Massillon, OH

All are welcome to stop by and wish Anneliese a Happy Birthday.

Women's Lenten Retreat



Prayer: Let's Talk to God

Twenty-one women enjoyed fellowship at the Women's Lenten Retreat on Saturday, March 1. Those attending offer a big thank you to LaShell and Patty for a wonderful and inspiring women's retreat. They were also very grateful for the donors who provided breakfast, lunch, and snacks.

At the retreat they were reminded of the spiritual practice of prayer. In the morning and afternoon they engaged in corporate prayer as well as individual prayer.

The day ended in the sanctuary with a very special worship service, including communion with Patty, LaShell and Pastor Mark.

In the words of one attendee: "Such a special time to draw closer to our Lord and Savior."



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

The Fellowship Committee hosted this delicious pancake dinner on Shrove Tuesday, March 4.



Decorative Mardi Gras beads were part of the decor.



Friends gathered for good food and conversation.



Opus 216 Delivered a Virtuoso Performance



Sunday, March 9, OPUS 216 presented works of Beethoven, Caroline Shaw, Handel-Halvorsen, and Massenet along with French and South American jazz, folk music, and love songs played by OPUS 216.

OPUS 216 concert

'24-'25 Concert Series: One Remaining Concert

Canton Symphony Orchestra Chorus
Saturday, May 17, 2 pm



Director Doug Beery

Come to the Water

Our Cathedral Concert series ends with the well-received CSOC, presenting excerpts from their Masterworks concert with the Canton Symphony Orchestra, *A Sea Symphony*, and numerous pieces dealing with the same theme, including "Come to the Water," "The Naval Hymn," and "Wade in the Water."



[Cathedral Concerts at St. Paul's on Facebook](#)

Sonnenberg Station to Perform at St. Paul's



As part of their Spring Concert Tour, Sonnenberg Station, a men's ensemble will present a free concert at St. Paul's on Sunday, April 6, 3 pm. They will be joined in concert by the Central Christian High School Singing Comets, under the direction of Tim Shue.

To learn more about this group and hear samples of their music, click on the button below.

[Sonnenberg Station](#)

Malone University Choir Sang on March 23



On Sunday, March 23, the Massillon community was able to enjoy the Malone University choir on their spring tour.

Click on the button below to listen to the concert

[Malone University Concert](#)

March Community Meal Report



On a warm, sunny afternoon, we celebrated St. Patrick's Day, serving chicken stew, applesauce, dinner roll, and dessert for a total of 72 attendees. The dining room was decorated in St. Patrick's shamrocks, green and white. Another successful meal for our guests and volunteers. Thanks to all!

Since Pastor Mark's birthday was the next day, we enjoyed a "Good Luck" birthday cake to celebrate the occasion. Happy Birthday, Pastor!

If you're interested in providing desserts for our meals, please deliver them to the church by Friday at noon, the day of our meal. If you don't have time, or are not a baker, a financial donation would be more than welcome. **Our next meal is April 11th.** Thank you.

As a side note, Kim and I would like to let you know, our custodian Jen, and other individuals, who are not members of St. Paul's, donate their time and desserts for our mission. How thoughtful, and such a blessing. Thank you!

Our clothing closet is a welcome blessing and attended by many.

Please continue to pray for our mission, and those in need. Our efforts are not unnoticed. 😊
If you have any questions, please reach out to Kim or David.

Blessings and Peace,
phone links: [Kim Oberlin](#) and [David Stoner](#)
email links: [Kim Oberlin](#) and [David Stoner](#)



Last Call for Dish Pickup



If any of these dishes belong to you, please pick up as soon as possible in the dining room kitchen.

Thank you,
David Stoner

God's Kitchen Angels' Report

24-'25 God's Kitchen Angels		
Chili	67 quarts	\$ 603.00
Pumpkin Rolls	98 rolls	\$ 1,190.00
Cookies	300 dozen	\$ 2,788.00
Soup	317 quarts	\$ 2,853.00
		\$ 7,434.00
Disbursements as of March 15, 2025		
Renovations		\$ 5,000.00
Community Meal Food Pantry		\$ 300.00
Yarn for baby blankets		\$ 250.00
Make A Way		\$ 300.00
New kitchen items		\$ 500.00
		\$ 6,350.00

Message from Sue Ambrosic:

All of these gifts would not be possible if it weren't for the 25 ladies and 1 gentleman we have on this committee. I figured we spent over 100 hours in the kitchen making these four projects, not including the many hours spent preparing and getting supplies. You are truly Angels, and I thank you all so very much.

Thank you to all who support us. That also is much appreciated. A special thanks to Pastor Mark, who was always ready and willing to carry supplies down the steps or meet us at the elevator door with the carts so we could unload. Also, a thank you to Jackie, Tracie, Jennifer, and Carol for the extras they did for us.

Last but certainly not least thanks to Jennifer Maurer for the beautiful, big frost-free freezer she so generously bought for God's Kitchen Angels. It was surely needed.

Again, I thank all of you for your love, hard work, and support.

Many blessings,

Sue Ambrosic



The Kitchen Angels were busy on Soup Pick-up Day!

Cards by Peg Gibbs Update



So far we have sold \$186 in note cards donated by Peg Gibbs. They are still in the lounge for viewing. Cards are \$2 each or 6 for \$10. All money will be given to the renovation project. Many thanks to Peg Gibbs for her generosity.

Quilting News



Nancy Jackson, one of our Wednesday morning quilters, has provided some interesting facts about their quilting projects:

Snip-n-Stitch, St. Paul's quilting group, takes your donations of leftover materials like fabrics and sheets. We cut them up for top squares and bottoms. If you find a great price at a garage sale or thrift store, pick it up and donate to us. We welcome anyone who would like to volunteer their time and skills. There are other tasks besides sewing! But if you want to learn how to sew, we can teach you. We meet every Wednesday from 9:00 to 11:30 am, September through May.

- Lutheran World Relief was started in 1945 to help European families after WWII. One in 5 people were homeless. This year is the 80th Anniversary!
- March 15th is National Quilter's Day.
- LWR, Headquartered in Baltimore, MD, is 2 miles from the Port of Baltimore. They provided support to seafarers stuck in the port after the collapse of the Francis Scott Key Bridge by distributing quilts and personal care kits to make their stay more comfortable as they were unable to disembark due to the bridge damage.
- Hurricanes Helene and Milton devastated our neighbors in North Carolina and throughout the southeastern US. Thanks to our incredible donors, help was on the way before the hurricanes even reached land. Quilts and kits were distributed to Florida, Louisiana, Tennessee, Mississippi, and North Carolina and they are still helping those areas.
- LWR asks for donations to help with shipping the quilts and kits. The cost to ship 1 quilt overseas is \$2.80 LWR encourages people to contribute to the Quilt & Kit Shipping Fund to ensure their donated items can be delivered efficiently overseas. \$28 sends 10 quilts. The address to send your donation is: Lutheran World Relief, 700 Light Street, Baltimore, MD 21230. You can donate online at [Give.LWR.org](https://www.givelwr.org).

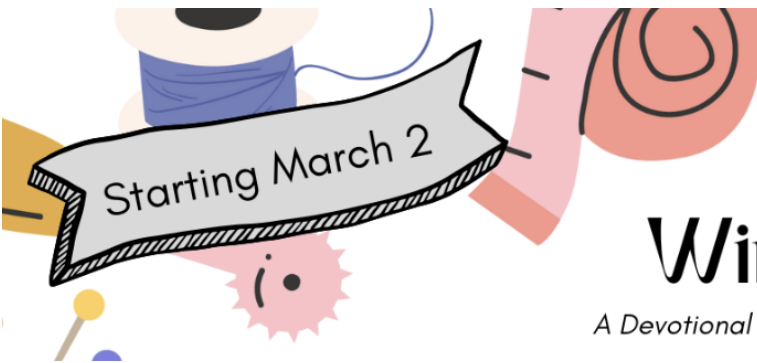
Any questions, let me know.
Sincerely,
Nancy



689,814 QUILTS & KITS IN 16 COUNTRIES		COUNTRY	SHIPPING WAREHOUSE	QUILTS	SCHOOL KITS	PERSONAL CARE KITS	BABY CARE KITS	FABRIC KITS
	370,818 QUILTS	ANGOLA	Maryland	30,954	13,650	24,300	4,800	3,200
	140,117 SCHOOL KITS	GEORGIA	Maryland	24,750				
	127,621 PERSONAL CARE KITS	HONDURAS	Maryland		27,300			
	45,690 BABY CARE KITS	LEBANON	Minnesota	21,250	9,280	9,300	3,920	1,080
	5,568 FABRIC KITS	MALI	Minnesota	47,600	15,225			
		MOLDOVA	Maryland	7,656		6,000		
		NICARAGUA	Minnesota	3,400	8,700			
		NIGER	Minnesota	27,880				
		PERU	Minnesota	28,560	26,100	24,366	5,320	1,224
		SENEGAL	Minnesota		15,225		7,350	
		SOUTH SUDAN	Minnesota	28,560				
		TANZANIA	Minnesota	28,560				
		TÜRKIYE	Minnesota	28,560		16,275	7,350	
		UKRAINE	Maryland	73,854		30,360	6,300	
			Minnesota	5,440		7,750		
		UNITED STATES	Maryland	13,794	9,412	9,270	3,300	64
		ZAMBIA	Minnesota		15,225		7,350	
		TOTAL		370,818	140,117	127,621	45,690	5,568

This shipping information is from LWR's 2024 fiscal year (Oct 2023 - Sept 2024).

Devotional Crafting



Windows to Wonder

A Devotional Crafting Series for Lent 2025 inspired by Nicodemus

Windows to Wonder: A Devotional Crafting Series for Lent 2025

This Lent, engage your faith through devotional crafting with Windows to Wonder, a creative series inspired by Nicodemus' journey in the Gospel of John. Choose from three free creative options: a mystery cross-stitch stitch-along, a crochet-along shawl, or weekly creative writing prompts. Each craft is paired with a devotional podcast co-hosted by Pastors Tina Crog and Angel Jackson, exploring how we see Jesus more clearly over time.

Deepen your faith with this prayerful, hands-on Lenten journey! All materials are free. Visit www.stitchologycrafts.com/windowstowondersal to learn more!

Choose from 3 Creative Ways to Participate

- Cross-Stitch Stitch-Along - Stitch a stained-glass window design, with a new section of the pattern unveiled each Monday. Perfect for advanced beginners & intermediate stitchers, this project features bold colors and simple backstitching.
- Crochet-Along Shawl - Work through 40 days of Lent by crocheting four rows a day, creating a shawl featuring a variety of crochet window designs. Ideal for those familiar with single and double crochet stitches.
- Creative Writing Prompts - Pastor Laura Franks Benton of Just Brave Enough invites you to explore faith through storytelling with Profiles ni Courage, a series of prompts inspired by Nicodemus. Each prompt stands alone, but together they will form a mini collection of reflections, poems, or short stories.

This series is completely free to join, and each week's content will be accompanied by our devotional podcast, offering reflections on Nicodemus' journey and how we, too, can recognize God's presence in new ways.

Want everything in one place? Cross-stitch kits are available for purchase on Etsy, including all materials needed to fully participate in the Stitch-Along. Join us this Lent as we craft, reflect, and grow together!

Prayer Beads

As a follow-up to the Women's Lenten Retreat on prayer, some women of the church gathered on March 13 to create these beautiful prayer beads.



LaShell guides them in getting started.



Careful planning of the design comes first.



Once again, we see how our well-planned lounge redesign serves multiple purposes.



The beautiful, finished products.

Prayer List Update

Jason Loveday, Kathryn Sheets, Darlene Lewis, Betty Scott, Anna Langenfeld, Jay Danielson, Dan Lint, Chrissy Sturtz, Shirley Douglas, Matt Moore, Amy Williams, Phyllis Wilson, Jackie Whitman, Jessie Shaffer, Mark King, Ariane Roberts, Richard Green, and David Fox.

April Birthdays

Favorite Bible or hymn verses: *Every month we invite those celebrating birthdays to share their favorite verses. Be ready to send in yours!*

Marilyn Norton, April 22:

"I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." *Philippians 4:13*

Becky Johnson, April 24:

"I sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears." *Psalms 34:4*

Apr 1--Hailey Carano
Apr 2--Grace Deerwester
Apr 3--Veronica Kreemer
Apr 7--Anneliese Daniels
Apr 10--Robert William Stuck
Apr 14--Denelle Pritchett
Apr 15--Aaliyah Litman
Apr 15--Jensen Dunlap

Apr 17--Benson Moden
Apr 17--Beth Hirschman
Apr 19--Larry Stoner
Apr 20--Daniel Lint
Apr 20--Abbie Deuble
Apr 21--Karen Okey
Apr 22--Marilyn Norton

Apr 23--Robin Cordes
Apr 24--Nancy Lint
Apr 24--Becky Johnson
Apr 25--James Hannum
Apr 27--Deidra Monastra
Apr 30--Junna Kobayashi
Apr 30--Jim Stevens

Has your birthday or anniversary been missing from the published lists? If so, please contact the office so we can add it to our database. Thank you!

April Wedding Anniversaries

Congratulations

April 5--Daniel & Lynette Farrar

April 9--Robert & Darlene Lewis

April 17--Chris & Judy Hall

April 26--Richard & Robin Cordes

Flowers for the Altar for 2025

Please text Sue Ambrosic at 330-844-7648 if you would like to have the Altar or Throne flowers for 2025.

The cost of Altar flowers is \$40 per Sunday; the Throne flowers are \$28. Please contact Patty Carmola if you have any questions at 330-832-9405. You will be billed directly by *Carmola's Flowers* in Massillon.

The flower chart on the Parish Hall bulletin board indicates open dates that are available. You may sign up on that and we will follow through.

Thank You Note

Scholarship Recipient Caroline Deerwester

Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

I am deeply grateful for the generous scholarship you have awarded me. The unwavering support I have received from St. Paul's, through the congregation, pastors, and the opportunities it has provided, has played a significant role in shaping my faith and guiding me toward my purpose.

My passion for Environmental Biology and Sustainability is rooted in my admiration for God's creation and my desire to protect and restore it as He intended. The opportunities and encouragement I have received from St. Paul's have helped shape my journey, allowing me to grow as a leader and a steward of the environment. Your support through this scholarship is not only a financial gift but also a reminder of the faith and community that guided me.

Thank you for believing in me and for investing in my future. I am incredibly grateful to be part of such a loving and supportive church family, and I will carry the values and lessons I've learned here with me as I work toward my goals.

With gratitude and blessings,
Caroline Deerwester

Council Members

[Patty Long](#), president
[Greg Klein](#), vice-president
[Dan Farrar](#), treasurer
[Tracie Schmolt](#), secretary

Dwight Butler
Gary Collard
Shane Jackson
Cindy Lash
Dennis Morgan

Kathryn Myers
Barb Palmer
Jackie Pritchett
Carol Stoner

Committee Members

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Amy Burkett,
Sue Ambrosic
Gayle Jackson
Becky Johnson
Cindy Lash
Deidra Monastra

FINANCE

Dan Farrar, Chair

Shane Jackson
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for Chair
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SCHOLARSHIP

Barb Palmer, Chair

Amy Burkett
John Liebermann
Lisa Skelly

YOUTH AND PARISH EDUCATION

Jackie Pritchett, Chair

Scott Larson
Deidra Monastra
Sue Reid

Serving During the Month of April

If you are interested in serving for a future month, click on the contact person's email link.

ASSISTING MINISTER

Contact [Karl Kalk](#)

4/6--Kathryn Myers
4/13--Scott Larson
4/17--Dave Stoner (Maundy Thursday)
4/20--Karl Kalk
4/27--Sue Reid

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Contact [Patty Long](#)

4/6--Jackie Pritchett & Greg Klein
4/13--Dennis Morgan & Kathryn Myers
4/20--Tracie Schmolt & Carol Stoner
4/27--Dwight Butler & Cindy Lash

GREETERS

Contact [Karl Kalk](#)

4/6--Pastor Lynn & LaShell Williamson
4/13--Dick & Robin Cordes
4/20—Sue Ambrosic
4/27--Greg & Lynda Klein

SACRISTAN

Contact [Kathryn Myers](#)

Sandi Bennett

LAY LECTOR

Contact [Karl Kalk](#)

Pastor Lynn Williamson

USHERS

Contact [Dick Longworth](#)

Greg and Linda Klein
Henry and Thomas Haake

St. Paul's Phone App



Choose My Church by Pushpay from the App Store.

Find the "My Church" by Pushpay app in the App store on your phone or computer. It is a free download.

Open the app and search for St. Paul's by typing **STPLC APP**. Then click on the St. Paul's logo.

To take advantage of all the app's features, you must create an account. Get notifications and reminders of upcoming events, access our live stream worship and worship bulletins, send prayer requests, see the church calendar, and give electronically.

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are a community of believers called together to be the Body of Christ for the sake of our families, community and our world. We invite you to join us for worship on Sunday mornings as we celebrate God's redeeming and freeing grace in Jesus Christ our Lord.



The Reverend Mark Kreemer officiating.

Thank you to all who have submitted photos for this newsletter. To see more photos, follow the Facebook pages listed below.



Cathedral Concerts Facebook Page



St. Paul's Facebook Page

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
127 Cherry Rd. NE, Massillon, OH 44646
330 832-7409
Office Hours: T, W, F 9am-1pm**



ELCA Vision: A world experiencing the difference God's grace and love in Christ make for all people and creation.



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