



The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 69, Issue 4 • April 2023

Easter Services, April 9

Sunrise Service, 7:00AM

In the cemetery

Holy Communion will be served.

Breakfast, 8:00AM

Served by our youth in the Fellowship Hall

No Sunday School today.

Resurrection Service, 10:30:00AM

Featuring Holy Communion,

First Communion,

Baptism,

Reception of New Members

No Vespers today.

David and Angela Breidenbach from Spiritual Orphans Network (SON) will be visiting April 15–16. They will preach Sunday, April 16, and share about SON.

Scholarship Applications are available for members of St. Paul's who will attend college this fall. Please read the instructions for each application. Two are specifically for those pursuing a full-time Ministry career. Applications are in the narthex, in the church office, or on the church website. **All applications are due May 1st.**

A new pictorial directory is in the planning stages. Photo dates have been set for May 2–6. The goal is to have the directory ready for distribution by Rally Sunday. Start thinking about when you will be able to have your photo taken. Updates coming soon.

Sundays in April

- Sunday School each week at 9:30am, except Easter Sunday
- Worship Service each week at 10:30am
- Men's Choir practice each Sunday, 3pm
- Handbell practice each Sunday, 4pm
- Vespers each Sunday—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm are also live-streamed on our Facebook page.
- Apr. 2 – Palm Sunday
- Apr. 2 – Breakfast in the fellowship hall, 8:30am
- Apr. 2 – First Communion Class (last of 3 classes) after worship in pastor's office; students will have their first communion on Easter Sunday at the 10:30am worship service.
- Apr. 2 – Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- Apr. 2 – Kathy Ketchie circle, **4pm**
- Apr. 2 – Lutheran Women's quarterly meeting, 5pm
- Apr. 9 – Baptism of Alyssa McCraven
- Apr. 9 – *Sunrise Service, 7am • Easter breakfast, 8am*
 - *Easter Service, 10:30am*
- Apr. 9 – No Vespers tonight. Enjoy Easter with your family.
- Apr. 16 – David and Angela Breidenbach with SON preaching
- Apr. 16 – Finance Committee, 9am
- Apr. 16 – Worship & Music Committee, conf. room, 2pm

Mondays

- Faith Academy after-school program: Apr. 3, 17, and 24, 1–3pm
- Apr. 3 – Hama Lingle Circle, 7pm
- *Apr. 10 – Church office closed on Easter Monday*
- Apr. 10 – Outreach Committee, 6:30pm
- Apr. 17 – Church Council meeting, 6:30pm
- Apr. 17 – May newsletter articles due this week
- Apr. 24 – Lutheran Men, 6:30pm

Tuesdays

- Adult Confirmation class, 6pm, each week (no class April 25)
- Girl Scouts, 7pm, each week
- Apr. 4 – Judy Bernhardt family visitation, 10am
- Apr. 4 – Funeral for Judy Bernhardt, 11am
- Apr. 4 – Extension Club meets in conference room, 1pm
- Apr. 4 – Grace Ridenhour Circle, 6:30pm
- Apr. 11 – Bonnie Bost Circle, 7pm
- Apr. 11 – Executive Committee, 7pm
- Apr. 18 – Friendship Club, 10:30am in China Grove
- Apr. 18 – Staff meeting, 5pm

Wednesdays

- Home school group meets Wednesdays 8:30am–3:30pm
- Youth Confirmation Class, 7:30pm (12th and 19th only)
- Apr. 5 – Bumgarner Circle, 10am
- Apr. 5 – Lenten Supper, 6pm
- Apr. 5 – Lenten Service, 7pm
- Adult Choir practice during Lent will follow service on April 5th. Practice time will go back to 6:30pm after Easter.

Thursdays

- Bible Study, Thursdays in the fellowship hall, 10am and 6pm
- Apr. 6 – Maundy Thursday service, 7pm
- Apr. 27 – No Bible Study classes, pastor out of town

Fridays

- Apr. 7 – Good Friday service, 7pm

Saturdays

- Apr. 8 – Middle and High School youth set up for Easter breakfast, 10am (help with egg hunt after lunch)
- Apr. 8 – Easter Egg Hunt, Pre-K – 5th grade youth, 1–2:30pm
- Apr. 29 – Cruise ‘n Barbecue, 10am–3pm

Lutheran Women Circle Meetings

Ellen Bumgarner – Wednesday, April 5, 10am

Kathy Ketchie – Sunday, April 2, 4pm

Hama Lingle – Monday, April 3, 7pm (Abby Walker, hostess)

Melissa Lura – Monday, April 10, 6:30pm

Grace Ridenhour – Tuesday, April 4, 6:30pm

Bonnie Bost – Tuesday, April 11, 7pm (provides soup and sandwiches for Lenten meal on April 5)

The Quarterly Meeting of St. Paul's Lutheran Women is Sunday, April 2nd, at 5pm in Conference Room.

The **Extension and Community Association** will be working on a community outreach project for the next few months, creating 'new' Christmas card with the pictures from old ones. If you have old Christmas cards that you would like to donate please see Becky Lyerly. These will be taken to residents at area nursing homes for Christmas. Next Extension Club meeting is **April 4th**.

Easter Fun, April 8—Saturday, April 8th, the middle and high school youth need to be at the church at 10am, to help set up for the Easter morning breakfast. ***The youth should bring a dozen eggs for the Easter breakfast, please.*** After the breakfast set-up, they will help with the Easter egg hunt for the younger children. **The egg hunt is 1pm–2:30pm for pre-K through 5th grade.**

Easter Sunday, April 9, high school youth and parents will meet at the church to begin cooking breakfast by 6:15am. Middle and grade school youth should be in the fellowship hall by 7:15am to get instructions and prepare for serving.

The **Friendship Club** will meet at **10:30am on Tuesday, April 18th, at China Grove Main Street Ministry** to tour their facility and hydroponic garden. After the tour we will have lunch at the China Grove Family Restaurant. We need to give the restaurant a count, so please make your reservation by *noting "friendship 4/18" (and how many will be in your party)* beside your name in the pew register on one of the next three Sundays.

Cruise 'n Barbecue 2023 – Saturday, April 29

Cruise 'n Barbecue volunteer assignments are posted on the bulletin boards in the narthex and educational building hallway. Should there be a conflict or problem with your location or shift, please see Tim Deal.

All volunteers are invited to attend our pre-event celebration on Thursday evening, April 27th at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be served, T-shirts distributed and plans for Saturday will be reviewed.

Raffles for the Cruise 'n Barbecue were a great success last year with 29 baskets. We hope to continue this year with the congregation's help. Our women circle groups have been asked to donate baskets again this year. In past years, some families have gotten together to donate a basket. If you would like to donate a basket or some items for one (gift cards are always a hit), please get in touch with Terri Powlas or Susan Bernhardt.

Terri: tbpowlas@gmail.com, 704-637-6849

Susan: srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com, 704-637-0155

Baskets and items need to be at the church fellowship hall by Thursday, April 27th. The raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or \$20.00 for 30 tickets. Let's generate a lot of interest in buying raffle tickets for our Helping Hands Fund.

Kitchen Refrigerator—If you use the refrigerator in the kitchen, we ask you to please remove all your items before you leave from your event. If items need to be stored for later pickup, please use the refrigerator in the shelter, or the flower cooler near the chapel. Other groups such as need space at the time of their event occurs. Please be considerate and provide room for others.

**REMEMBER
THE SABBATH DAY
TO KEEP IT HOLY.**

— Exodus 20:8 —

May blood drive—Monday, **May 8th, from 1:30–6pm** in the fellowship hall. Contact Alice Davis if you need to make an appointment to give.

Matthew Weaver will be in our fellowship hall for a community concert on Friday, **May 19, at 7pm**. Mark your calendars, and bring a friend.

Stephen's Ministry—We are two years into our Stephen Ministry program, and I'm happy to report it is going well and flourishing. If you have had a Stephen Minister, or know of someone who has, then you know what a wonderful ministry this is for St. Paul's.

The Stephen Ministers also have phone call prayer ministry, so if you want a prayer, or need to get in touch with one of them, please let me know. You can call them, or ask to be called, and they will pray with you and for you.

We are doing great things at St. Paul's and, as always, if you are interested in being a Stephen Minister, or having one assigned to you, all you have to do is speak to me or one of our folks. I always have applications with me if you think you might want to join us, and, we hope you will.

Our nine lay ministers are: Susan Bernhardt, Carolyn Canup, Tricia and Larry Clark, Louise Eller, Sarah Fesperman, Sarah Goodman, Donna Lysterly, Allison Moore, and myself. Pick up the phone and give us a call. We're here for you.

Jan McCanless

Online Giving is accessible at [StPaulsLutheran.Church/give](https://stpaulslutheran.church/give). There is a minimal fee for each transaction (3% for cards, 1% for bank draft).

Income and Expenses for February 2023

Income: \$38,317 • Expenses: \$29,660

Income > Expense for February: +\$8,657

Capital Building Fund, February 28, 2023: \$238,316

March income/expense report will be in the May Newsletter.

We give thanks to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, praying always for you (Colossians 1:3). We are truly blessed by your continued support each month to Naomi's Heart Mission. In giving, you help in our ministry in reaching many children and families to know Jesus.

Thank you for having the heart and compassion to walk beside us as we serve a great and mighty God.

Blessings,
Kristie Ward, Founder

Thank you for your generous donation of \$305.11, and 292.73. Through your support of Radical, we can see the nations reached for the glory of Jesus' name—together.

We'd like to keep in touch and share all of the amazing things happening around the world as we continue to equip Christians to be on mission, including addressing some of the most urgent spiritual and physical needs on the planet.

We are grateful to God for you,
The Radical Team

Thank you for your gift of \$277.21 given to the Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund during the month of January 2023.

The LDA Fund was established in 2013 to assist churches during times of natural disasters. The goal of the fund is to reach out to those impacted by disaster who otherwise would not have resources.

To date, the LDA Fund has been able to provide almost \$488,000 in grant donations to those that have been impacted by floods, mudslides, hurricanes, wildfires, tornadoes, and earthquakes. You can find a full description of the LDA Fund on the LCMC website.

Your church is such a faithful, generous supporter of our mission. We are grateful to you for your help. May God bless you for your concern for others.

Pam Koranda
Financial Assistant

Thank you for your gift to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Unless God intervenes, [in February] the conflict in Ukraine will have passed the one-year mark. Throughout that time, Samaritan's Purse has served the vulnerable in this desperate situation.

We've distributed more than 100 million pounds of food and treated tens of thousands of medical patients in Jesus' Name. One of them named Yulia said, "I didn't know if I would survive." After receiving a life-saving surgery from Samaritan's Purse, she said, "I have never experienced this kind of care and kindness."

Thank you for equipping us to serve Ukraine and over 100 other nations with much-needed relief. "I thank my God upon every remembrance of you" (Philippians 1:3). Your prayers and gifts are accomplishing much for the cause of the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. God bless you!

Sincerely,
Franklin Graham, President

Thank you for supporting Meals on Wheels in 2022. Your gifts make a real difference in the lives of our seniors and disabled citizens. In 2022, we delivered 62,444 home-delivered meals and delivered 278 USDA food boxes for Rowan Helping Ministries.

Our grocery volunteers shopped for and delivered groceries to our Grocery Program clients 937 times.

We are fortunate to be in partnership with our generous donors, dedicated volunteers, and caring community. Together, we will continue to provide nutritious food that allows our seniors to maintain their independence and continue to live in the comfort of their own homes. Thank you again for your support.

Sincerely,
Kevin Pruitt, Board President
Cindy B. Fink, Executive Director



On behalf of the staff and board of Sola Publishing, thank you for your gift of 114.11. You have blessed our hearts with your support of our ministry to provide solid, biblical resources for use in preaching and teaching God's word. Because of your gifts, we are able to keep the cost of our materials low for those churches struggling to keep their ministries viable.

We are deeply thankful for your gracious gift.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Steven King,
Managing Editor



Thanks to all who sent cards, visited and provided food during Grady's recent hospitalization. Thanks especially to Pastor Ryman who diligently visited Grady while in the hospital and after coming home. You're all the best!

Jenny Earnhardt

Our family at St. Paul's,

Thank you all for the outpouring of love and support for Alexandria's baptism. We are blessed to have each and every member of this church count as family to us.

While these children are gifts from God, we could not "do" parenting without the love and support of this church. We pray to God that we are worthy of His blessings and raise them to know the love of the Lord. With the help of this church, they will know that love, and grow to be strong in their faith.

Our hearts were truly humbled by the display of Christ's love on February 12. Thankyou to each and every person who loves our family, our church, and our Lord.

Yours in Christ,
Spencer, Cindy, Marious, Elias,
and Alexandria

*We extend our love and sympathy to the family of
Judy Katherine Bernhardt, who passed away Friday, March 3, 2023.
Judy's funeral service is April 4, at 11am.
Please keep Judy's family in prayer.*

*We extend our love and sympathy to the family of
Lola Leab Floss, who passed away Sunday, March 5, 2023.
Lola's memorial service was Thursday, March 9.
Please keep Lola's family in prayer.*

*We offer our love, and sympathy to the family of
Carrie Mae Reavis, who passed away on Monday, March 27, 2023.
Carrie's funeral service was held March 31, 2023.
Please keep Carrie's family in prayer.*

Memorial Gifts

Gifts were received in memory
of Judy Bernhardt for the
Capital Building Fund from
Jennifer & Lee Aldridge
Lori and Perry Bernhardt
Vernon & Cheryl Bernhardt
Bonnie Bost Circle
Kara & Jason Burnett
Crystal & Dana Bost
Carolyn & John Canup
Brenda & Johnny Canup
Alice Davis
Karen & Tim Deal
Jenny & Grady Earnhardt
Sarah Goodman
Bonnie & Wayne Hinson
Cindy & Frank Hinson
Judi & D.W. Honbarger
John & Joan Knowles

Donna & Alan Lyerly
Kay Moody
Dan & Glenna Sears
Jeanne & Tony Shaver
Johnsie & Wayne Taylor
Kenneth, Bethany, Lauren,
& Lindsey Whisnant
Hugh & Kathy Wilhelm
Wayne & Jane Wilhelm
Sue Young

A gift was received in memory
of Judy Bernhardt for the
General Fund from
Shirlene Potts & son Brian

A gift was received in memory
of Judy Bernhardt for the
Helping Hands Fund from
Dot & Harold Goodman

Gifts were received in memory
of Judy Bernhardt for the Youth
Fund from

Travis & Cindy Alligood
Susan & Ben Bernhardt
Mary Brentham
Helen Gordon
Hama Lingle Circle
Jan & Bob McCanless
Kay Moody
Franda Raymer
Vaughn & Nancy Wilhelm

A gift was received in memory
of Carol Helfrich for the
Helping Hands Fund from
Crystal & Dana Bost

Gifts were received in memory
of Carol Helfrich for the
Capital Building Fund from
Jennifer & Lee Aldridge
Lori & Perry Bernhardt
Alice Davis
Judi & D.W. Honbarger
Hama Lingle Circle
Jeanne & Tony Shaver

A gift was received in memory
of Lola Floss for the Cemetery
Fund from
Nancy Parrish

A gift was received in memory
of Lola Floss for the Helping
Hands Fund from
Dot & Harold Goodman

Gifts were received in memory
of Lola Floss for the Capital
Building Fund from

La Vaughn Beaver
Lori & Perry Bernhardt
Susan & Ben Bernhardt
Dana & Crystal Bost
Betty Brown
Alice Davis
Tim & Karen Deal
Jenny & Grady Earnhardt
Sarah Goodman
Helen Gordon
Bonnie & Wayne Hinson
Cindy & Frank Hinson
D.W. & Judi Honbarger
Becky Lyerly
Donna & Alan Lyerly
Wanda & Raymond Kubitz
Sharon McBride
Susan Miller
Kay Moody
Millie & Joel Nesbitt
Jeanne & Tony Shaver
Wayne & Johnsie Taylor
Jane & Wayne Wilhelm
Vaughn & Nancy Wilhelm
Sue Young



In Honor of...

A gift was received in honor
of Karen and Tim Deal for the
Helping Hands Fund from
Tony Heilig



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Email: splchurch@att.net

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

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St. Paul's newsletter, the "Monthly Epistle," is intended to keep everyone informed about happenings within the congregation that effect and contribute to our ministry together. In order to maximize reach and minimize cost, the preferred methods of distribution are by email, and posting on our St. Paul's website (www.StPaulsLutheran.Church). All members are encouraged to use the newsletter as a resource to help you consider how God is calling you to be involved in the life of his church. If you are unable to access the newsletter online, or would just like to have a printed copy to refer to, the most cost-effective way to receive it is to pick up a copy from the narthex or church office. We mail copies to those members whom we know don't have online access, are shut-in, or live out of town. If you want to be added to our mailing or email list, please contact the church office.