



The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 68, Issue 4 • April 2022

Glory! Easter is almost upon us. That means another sunrise service on the burial grounds, breakfast served by our youth, a beflowered sanctuary...and hymns, sermons, and other teachings on the resurrection. So, since this is the *Epistle* about all of our Easter events, I may as well offer a brief teaching about the resurrection a little early.

While the first three gospels have teachings about various doors being open or shut, John refers to Jesus himself as the Door (John 10:7). A few verses later, he explains what he means. “I am the door. If anyone enters in by me, he will be saved, and will go in and go out, and will find pasture” (John 10:9). The Son is the way to his Father and to his pasture (Revelation 19:9). In the fourteenth chapter of John, Jesus insists that he is the only way to God. “Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’” (John 14:6). Dr. James A. Nestingen remarked at a 2017 theological conference that this announcement is enough to make some pastors from our old church nervous.

We believe it though, and it keeps us coming out to burial grounds all over the world, trying the door of death once again. Being baptized into his death (Romans 6:3), we are bold to imagine that one day, we just might find some empty graves out there (Romans 6:5). If we do find them empty this year, then we cannot be far behind (1 Thessalonians 4:13–18). Oh, the glorious thought!

So, when you find yourself, out of breath from having rushed to get to the sunrise service this year, do not be surprised if you find the door of death and life are wide open — wide open to you of faith in the promises of Christ in God.

See you in church,
Pastor Ryman

Biscuits & Beverages will be available in the fellowship hall at **8:30am on April 3rd**. Be sure to stop in and enjoy breakfast before Sunday School.

April Events & Activities

Sunday:

- Breakfast before Sunday School, Apr. 3, 8:30am
- Membership Class, Sundays, *through* Apr. 10, 9:30am
- First Communion Class, Sundays, *through* Apr. 10, 12Noon -1pm
- Youth & Family Committee, Apr. 3, 2pm
- Christian Education Committee, Apr. 10, 2pm
- Youth Bible Study and Music, Apr. 10, 2:30pm
- Easter Sunrise Service, Apr. 17, 7am
- Easter breakfast, Apr. 17, following Sunrise Service, served by St. Paul's youth
- Easter Service, Apr. 17, 10:30am
- Dedication of Reclaim Hymnals in memory of Alan Beaver, Apr. 24, 10:30am
- Men's Choir, Sundays, 3pm
- Handbell practice, Sundays, 4pm
- Vespers at the Parsonage (*unless otherwise announced*) – finger foods at 6pm. Vespers at 6:30pm will also be livestreamed to our Facebook page.

Monday:

- Church office is closed for Easter Monday, Apr. 18
- Council meeting, Apr. 18, 6:30pm
- Lutheran Men's meeting, Apr. 25, 6:30pm

Tuesday:

- Girl Scouts, Tuesdays at 6:45pm
- Executive Committee, Apr. 12, 7pm

Wednesday:

- No Confirmation Class in April
- Supper and the Word, each Wednesday *through* Apr. 6, beginning with supper at 6pm, then Service of Evening Prayer at 7pm
- Adult Choir, Wednesdays, 7:45 during Lent, *through* Apr. 6
- Choir practice begins at regular time, Apr. 13, at 6:30pm

Thursday:

- Thursday Bible Study at 10am and 6pm (*except Maundy Thursday*)
- Maundy Thursday Service, Apr. 14, 7pm

Friday

- Good Friday Service, Apr. 15, 7pm

Saturday:

- Carolinas Lutheran Women – Convocation, April 2, Faith Lutheran Church
- Middle/High School youth, breakfast set up, and assist with egg hunt, Apr. 16, 10am
- Easter Egg Hunt, for Nursery–5th grade, Apr. 16, begins at 1pm
- Middle/High School youth camping trip, Apr. 23 - Apr. 24
- Cruise ‘n BBQ, Apr. 30, 9am–4pm

Lent & Easter Schedule

Supper and the Word	April 6	6 & 7pm	Pr. Reed, Concordia
Maundy Thursday Service	April 14	7pm	
Good Friday Service	April 15	7pm	
Sunrise Service	April 17	7am	
Breakfast	April 17	8am (following Sunrise Service)	
Easter Service	April 17	10:30am	

Lutheran Women's News

Melissa Lura Circle is responsible for sending cards to shut-ins in April.

Hama Lingle Circle meets Monday, Apr. 4, 7:00pm at Abby Walker's home.

Grace Ridenhour Circle meets Tuesday, Apr. 5, at 6:30pm at the church.

Ellen Bumgarner Circle meets Wednesday, Apr. 6, at 10am in the ladies' parlor.

****Kathy Ketchie Circle** meets Sunday, Apr. 10, *after worship in the ladies parlor*

Melissa Lura Circle meets Monday, Apr. 11, at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall.

****Bonnie Bost Circle** meets Tuesday, Apr. 12, at 6:00pm, Rockwell Diner

***note change in meeting time/place*

The Lutheran Men's monthly meeting will be Monday, April 25th, at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall. There will be a meal, followed by a presentation/program and fellowship. All men are welcome and encouraged to come.

Gifts in Memory

A gift was received in memory of
Carole Chilson for the Choir Fund from
Rick and Patsy Davis
Terry and Myra Jane Eller

A gift was received in memory of
Karen 'Kay' Wilhelm for the Choir Fund
from
Terry and Myra Jane Eller

A gift was received in memory of
Talena Honbarger for the Helping Hands
Fund from
Terry and Myra Jane Eller

A gift was received in memory of
Dorothy Bingham for the Helping Hands
Fund from
Terry and Myra Jane Eller

A gift was received in memory of
Jackie Sherrill for the Helping Hands
Fund from
Terry and Myra Jane Eller

Gifts were received in memory of
Ray Beattie for the General Fund from
Terry L. Beattie
Gary Gaskey
Alan and Donna Lyerly

A gift was received in memory of
Ray Beattie for the Helping Hands fund
from
Terry and Myra Jane Eller

Gifts in Honor

A gift was received in honor of
Sharon McBride for the Helping Hands
fund from
Dottie Stancil

A gift was received in honor of
Ben Bernhardt's birthday for the Captial
Building Fund from
Jeff and Mita Powlas

A gift was received in honor of Jean and
Jimmie Deal for the Helping Hands fund
from
Dottie Stancil

Thanks...

Thank you for the prayers, cards and acts
of kindness following my hospital visit and
pneumonia. Our St. Paul's church family is
surely a blessing!

Karen Deal

St. Paul's family,

Thank you for all the cards, phone calls
and prayers during the last year. Also, thank
you for the memorials for Ray Beattie.

Terry Eller

In Remembrance of Me

*Find the 34 **bold** words from Luke 22:14-20 (ESV)*

H K O S B L O O D P N M F Z T
S U F F E R J T T W E O R J I
N Q D M V V U A A H W D U V D
N R E E D E L K D C A G I Y P
E C N A R B M E M E R N T L A
V H D O G I L A S T E I K T S
I E F N P L S L P R A K D S S
G E O U I U I E G O U E O E O
B M C F L K V B D V S O G N V
A Z L R E C L I N E D T Y R E
E U B W O U T D R I N K L A R
F L I T N A N E V O C H Q E D
U S B R O K E I D E R U O P S
E R Y A A O D E X D A E R B P
Y D O B T E K L X U N E T A E

And when the hour came, he **reclined** at **table**, and the **apostles** with him. And he said to them, “I have **earnestly desired** to **eat** this **Passover** with you **before** I **suffer**. For I tell you I will not eat it until it is **fulfilled** in the **kingdom** of **God**.” And he **took** a **cup**, and when he had **given thanks** he said, “**Take** this, and **divide** it **among yourselves**. For I tell you that from now on I will not **drink** of the **fruit** of the **vine** until the kingdom of God comes.” And he took **bread**, and when he had given thanks, he **broke** it and gave it to them, saying, “This is my **body**, which is given for you. Do this in **remembrance** of me.” And **likewise** the cup after they had **eaten**, saying, “This cup that is **poured out** for you is the **new covenant** in my **blood**.”

Dedication of Reclaim Hymnals

In the foundational days of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC), Alan Beaver and others of this congregation were very engaged in the Lutheran Committee on Renewal (CORE) as well as the birthing of LCMC. One of CORE's early projects was a new hymnal, eventually published as the *Reclaim Hymnal*, and is now published by Sola. Because Alan and St. Paul's was behind the hymnal project and supported it financially, when *Reclaim* was first published, St. Paul's was sent a number of copies. That quantity is insufficient for our needs.

As we will be worshiping from *Reclaim* following Easter Sunday and throughout the season, we will dedicate 125 new *Reclaim* hymnals on April 24th. LaVaughn Beaver will be present with us that Sunday, as the dedication of the whole set of new hymnals will be in memory of Alan. Nonetheless, you may dedicate a hymnal in honor or memory of someone for \$25 per hymnal. Bookplates will be affixed inside the hymnal(s) you purchase for the church. Donors and those honored/remembered will also appear in the bulletin. Dedication requests are due by April 10, 2022.

Would You Like to Volunteer?

The Outreach Committee has heard of a need for after-school care on Mondays for Faith Academy Charter students. On Mondays, the school dismisses at 1:00 for teacher meetings. Those that ride the buses to Grace Academy, Happy Farms, and First Baptist Church are already taken care of. Most of the students that get picked up at 3:00 don't have a problem with the early release, but some do. Those are the ones we would like to help with an after-school care on Mondays from 1:00-3:00. Pastor Ryman would like to offer some form of a VBS program for them, maybe some music, games and light snack time. He wants to be there for the program but will need someone else to be there with him and have back-up if he cannot make it.

If we could get enough volunteers, you might only have to volunteer one Monday a month from 1:00-3:00. One of the FAC buses stop at St. Paul's parking lot so that is how the students would get here. Once we see that we have enough volunteers, we can finalize plans with FAC for the 2022-2023 year.

“For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,
I was a stranger and you invited me in...” (Matthew 25:35)

Let's invite these strangers in our doors and see what God has in store for them and us. Susan Bernhardt, 704-637-0155, srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com

Scholarships Applications Due May 1

Scholarship applications for the 2022-23 school year are in the narthex (also, from the church office, or on the church website) for members of St. Paul's who will be going to college in the fall. There are 3 for higher learning, 2 for those who plan to enter into full-time ministry, and one for those pursuing a music degree. All applications should be turned in no later than **May 1**.

February 2022 Blood Drive

Thanks to everyone who registered to give blood at the February Blood Drive at our church. Forty-five persons registered, which is the largest turnout the church has had in over a year. However nine were deferred and two who were not able to donate a full unit of blood were not counted in the total units received. Thirty units of whole blood plus the four "doubles" gave a final total of thirty-eight units.

There were eleven persons registered who have not donated at our church before. New donors help to "fill in" for those who can no longer donate and those that are deferred. Of the forty-five registered donors, only nineteen were members of St. Paul's. Surely there are more members of our church eligible to donate blood. Hopefully, more of our members will come forward at our next drive on Monday, May 9th. Contact Alice Davis (704-855-4930/ pherford1@yahoo.com) if you wish to donate and are not already on the St. Paul's donor list.

Please consider being a blood donor. Think of the hour spent donating whole blood as helping to save three lives. The red blood cell component is given to someone who has a disorder such as anemia; the white blood cell component and plasma goes to persons who are immune compromised; and platelets go to persons that lack clotting factors such as individuals with hemophilia.

Thanks also to those who volunteer to make each drive a success. The property brothers set up the Fellowship Hall for each drive, another group get the Fellowship Hall back in order after each drive, volunteers get signs up to advertise each drive, and others help with canteen and check-in.

Alice Davis

Kitchen Items

If you have borrowed the large cooking pots or other items from the church kitchen, please return them so that those preparing Lenten meals and Easter breakfast will have enough equipment to carry out their duties, successfully.

St. Paul's Cruise 'n BBQ—April 30, 2022

The steering committee of St. Paul's Cruise 'n Barbecue has been hard at work planning what promises to be the greatest Cruise-in to date. This year's theme is "Honoring Those Who Keep Us Safe", showing our appreciation for fire, rescue, EMS and law enforcement organizations of our community. St. Paul's Outreach Committee is distributing complementary Port-a-Pit dinner tickets along with appreciation gift packets to South Salisbury, Faith and Granite Quarry Fire, Rowan Rescue, Rowan Sheriff's office, EMS, and Highway Patrol personnel, including our congregation members who serve in emergency and public service. We look forward to this opportunity to share the love of our congregation and to recognize these folks on this special day.

Volunteer assignments for the 2022 Cruise 'n Barbecue on April 30th - "Honoring Those Who Keep Us Safe!" - are posted in the narthex, and on the bulletin board in the hallway of the education building. Please check your assignment today, and circle your T-Shirt size, so that the T-Shirts can be ordered. See Tim Deal if there is any conflict with assignment or scheduled time. Thank you again for your outstanding response to make this special day possible.

In order to utilize our volunteers as efficiently as possible, there will be no baked goods or ice cream concession at this year's Cruise 'n Barbecue. We welcome and appreciate Snow Biz, and Kettle Corn joining this year's event on the lawn for all our guest's enjoyment!

All volunteers are reminded to mark your calendars for the volunteer's meeting and celebration, **Thursday April 28th at 7:00** in the fellowship hall. At that time we will enjoy refreshments, review plans for Saturday's event, distribute T-shirts, celebrate and thank God for the opportunity to show His love to the community on this special day!

Flyers for the 2022 St. Paul's Cruise 'n Barbecue—"Honoring Those Who Keep Us Safe" are available in the narthex. Feel free to take as many as you need to pass along to family and friends. All registration this year is on-site, the day of the event.

Raffles are off to a great start for our Cruise-in on April 30th. We have 11 confirmed baskets, and know others that are thinking about one. A few of our "oldie goldies" are back. We have the Cheerwine bench, the garden wheelbarrow, a gas grill, a basketful of gift cards, and new this year—Scentsy basket, tall propane heater, and horseback riding lessons. We also have a 4th of July basket, BBQ basket, a handmade quilt, and a family outdoor fun basket. Baskets need to be at the church by Thursday, April 28th. Check with Susan Bernhardt or Terri Powlas if you want to donate a raffle basket or donate items for one. Contact Terri (tbpowlas@gmail.com) 704-637-6849, or Susan (srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com) 704-637-0155.

Tickets for Port-a-Pit chicken dinners at the Cruise 'n BBQ are \$12 and include Port-a-Pit's famous chicken, beans, slaw, roll and dessert.

Tickets will be available on the lawn after service on April 10, 17 & 24, or may be purchased from the following:

Travis Alligood, Eric Barringer, Ben Bernhardt, Perry Bernhardt,
Dana Bost, Paul Canup, Tim Canup, Wilbur Canup, Jimmie Deal,
Tim Deal, Jimmy Earnhardt, Mike Goodman, Helen Gordon,
Wayne Hinson, Johnny Lombard, Lindsay Lowman, James Lyerly,
Brent Monroe, Alan Powlas, Jeff Powlas, Wayne Taylor,
Kenneth Whisnant, Greg Wilhelm, Vaughn Wilhelm

Income and Expenses for February 2022

Income:\$32,405 • Expenses: \$29,610

Income over Expense for January: \$2,795

Income over Expense YTD: \$11,030

Capital Building Fund as of February 28: \$203,230

March income/expenses will be in the May Newsletter.

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 email list, or to the mailing list, please contact the church office.

The King of the Jews

*Find the 26 **bold** words from John 19:17-22 (ESV)*

W D T P A D L G H A H C E J P
S R A F E I A N I V R C W L K
S U O I J N T I S U A C I K J
O U M T G S I K C L X L D T P
R X S D E C N I P M A N S I Y
C P I E T R F A H T O G L O G
W V Q D J I S K U L L A G D W
H Z A V E P K X O H T N G E R
P T V D Z T J W F E I S D R I
L R E Q G I N Q B R E D D E T
D W I R A O A R A M A I C W T
B A E E A N R E H T A R L S E
Z E E P S Z B F E I H C W N N
K Z C R C T A N E A R E N A N
O P O E R C S N Q O J Y G N W

So they took **Jesus**, and he went out, **bearing his own cross**, to the place called The **Place** of a **Skull**, which in Aramaic is called **Golgotha**. There they **crucified** him, and with him two others, one on either side, and Jesus between them. **Pilate** also **wrote** an **inscription** and put it on the cross. It **read**, “Jesus of **Nazareth**, the **King** of the **Jews**.” Many of the Jews read this inscription, for the place where Jesus was crucified was **near** the **city**, and it was written in **Aramaic**, in **Latin**, and in **Greek**. So the **chief priests** of the Jews said to Pilate, “Do not write, ‘The King of the Jews,’ but **rather**, ‘This man said, I am King of the Jews.’” Pilate **answered**, “What I have written I have **written**.”

Adult Confirmation Class

This is for those who never learned about Martin Luther's *The Small Catechism*, or those who want a refresher course. Classes will meet in the chapel on Tuesdays beginning May 3rd. You may come to either a 10:00AM or 6:00PM class, or both. We will use The Holy Bible (ESV pew edition with *The Small Catechism* in back of book) and *Free to Be* by James A. Nestingen and Gerhard O. Forde.

Please fill out and place in collection plate.

Use one form per person. More forms are available in the narthex.

Please indicate which class you will attend:

☐ Morning Class

☐ Evening Class

NAME

PHONE

EMAIL

*“...always being ready
to make a defense
to everyone who asks you
to give an account
for the hope that is in you...”*

1 Peter 3:15



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

CHURCH STAFF

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