

April

2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ! This is some mess we find ourselves in, isn't it? For me the worst part is not being able to see your faces on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. The devil is working his hardest to cut us off from the comfort of God's Word. But we still have several means available for you to continue receiving God's Word:

- *Our worship services are being live streamed on Facebook and then broadcast on our public TV station and on our YouTube channel.

- *We will mail DVDs to parishioners who do not have internet or public TV access (details in the Epistle).

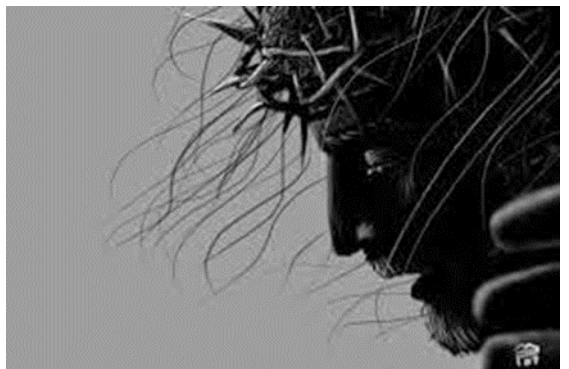
- *A Tuesday bible study via Zoom is another means to hear and study God's Word (details in the Epistle).

- *Finally, pastors are considered "essential workers," who are free to go "wherever their services may be needed." This means that if you desire the Lord's Supper during a home visit, please contact me as I am both able and willing to deliver it. I will use best practices to help prevent spreading the corona virus.

The governor's order recommends the following: "In person, non-mandatory activities should be delayed until the resumption of normal operations." Therefore we ask at this time that folks refrain from entering the church building unless the need is urgent, in order to protect everyone's health. Offerings and correspondence may be mailed or put in the drop box in the west side door.

Holy Week is quickly approaching! We plan to Facebook live stream and then broadcast all our Holy Week worship services. Should the governor's stay at home executive order be allowed to expire on 4/10, this plan is subject to change for Easter, so check your email and KLGR, KNUJ, and KJLY radio stations.

Psalm 22 is powerful with its cry of dereliction, "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?" echoed by Jesus on the cross. During this pandemic we too may feel forsaken as we ask God, "Why?" and "Where are you?" Often on Maundy Thursday the lament of Psalm 22:1-20 is read as the altar area is cleared and a black shroud is draped over it. Then on Easter morning worship begins with verses 21-31, as lament turns to praise, "From the horns of the wild oxen you have rescued me. I will tell of your name to my brothers and sisters; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you." I draw your attention to verses 4-5, "In you our ancestors trusted; they trusted, and you delivered them. To you they cried, and were saved; in you they trusted, and were not put to shame," and verses 30-31, "Future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it." The Lord was faithful to our ancestors; who perhaps have shared stories of how God delivered them. The Lord will be faithful to us as well and deliver us from this time of trial, and then one day we too will proclaim to our loved ones just how faithful our Lord has been to us. In this way, we will teach them that they too can trust in the Lord. I pray I will be able to see you in church very soon!



Love from Your Sister in Christ,
Pr. Tricia

St Paul Lutheran Church Council Meeting, March 11, 2020, 7:45pm

Present: Paul Muske, Craig Valentin, Doug Jeske, Bill Vogel, Tim Vogel, David Bittler, Angel Clemon, Pastor Tricia, Shawna Jacobs, Ed Meidl, Matt Sargent, Also Present: Katie Mueller, Anita Jensen Financial Secretary

Call to order by Paul Muske at 7:47 pm

Devotion– Pastor Tricia

M/S/P Secretary's Report

Financial Report – Anita

M/S/P-to repay \$6000 Memorial loan

Anita will inquire about auto-pay for CenterPoint Energy.

M/S/P-to approve financial report

Building and Grounds – Ed

Parsonage Window Leaks-no water leaks

Parsonage Basement-no water leaks as of yet

Parish Education Report –Matt & Bill

Nothing new to report

M/S/P to host VBS June 7-11

Anita needs designation of Sunday School offering

M/S/P May 10th is the last day of Sunday School. This will also baccalaureate

Pastor's Report

Visitation

Visited homebound, assisted living, and nursing home members.

Delivered bulletins to SJLH, the Maples, and Downtown Estates on 2/20.

Worship

Led worship with the Lord's Supper at SJLH, Downtown Estates, and the Maples.

Presided at the funeral and burial of Violet Krebs on 2/25.

Baptized Madeleine Lenore Krueger on 3/1.

Led Ash Wednesday worship and one Lenten Wednesday night worship service.

Continuing the *Walk through Worship* children's sermon series.

Parish Education

Continuing to lead weekly bible studies Mondays at the Maples and Tuesdays at church.

Teaching *The Lutheran Difference* adult education class, which continues to be well attended.

Continuing to teach premarital counselling sessions.

Attended the Parish Ed meeting on 3/2.

Subbed as Sunday school teacher for 5&6 grade on 2/23 and brought the students to the Archive Walk.

Luther League

Attended the Luther League meeting on March 4.

Confirmation

The confirmation students planned and are helping lead worship during Lent and doing a great job!

Attended the Augustana District Confirmation Retreat on the Bondage of the Will 3/6-3/8.

Community

Gave two SAFE vouchers to community members.

Attended the 4-6 grade boys basketball tournament on 2/22 at SAHS.

Ate lunch with two elementary students at school.

Other Business

Attended the 150th Anniversary meeting on 2/25.

OLD BUSINESS

150th Anniversary-nothing new to report.

March is Music month. Organ recital at 1:30pm this Sunday.

April is heritage month.

Church Credit Card-nothing new to report.

Church Security M/S/P-tabled until further research is completed
 Computer Upgrades – Nuvera installing on March 19th
 German Supper, Wed. April 22nd-tickets Asking for Luther League to help with clean up.
 Committee Appointments-reviewed and looking for suggestions to fill openings.
 Council Retreat—Will incorporate envisioning to our meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

Easter Decorating— After 1pm service on Good Friday on April 10th. All are welcome to help
 Summer Worship Services- M/S/P-to begin Wednesday night services at 6:30pm from May 27 thru
 September 2, 2020.

Holy Week/Easter Postcards M/S/P to send post cards with Holy Week schedule.

Ingham Okoboji Beach House Project-Asking for a pledge of \$2,000 by April 15th, to be paid in full by
 April 2021 M/S/P-to pledge \$2,000
 from the endowment fund to Ingham
 Okoboji.

Adjourned 8:37pm with the Lord’s Prayer.
 Shawna Jacobs

<u>2020 Church Council</u>		
Paul Muske - Chair	Dave Bittler	Angel Clemon
Matt Sargent- Vice Chair	Bill Vogel	Doug Jeske
Shawna Jacobs - Secretary	Ed Meidl	Tim Vogel
Craig Valentin - Treasurer		

St Paul Lutheran Church Emergency Church Council Meeting, March 24, 2020 @ 7:00 pm

Present: Bill Vogel, Tim Vogel, Angel Clemon, Doug Jeske, David Bittler, Matt Sargent, Ed Meidl, Pastor Tricia, Craig Valentin, Paul Muske, Also present: Katie Mueller, Anita Jensen

Call to order, Paul Muske at 7:01pm

Devotion – Pastor Tricia reading from Ephesians 2-where does peace come from.

Paul-Thank you to Pastor, Tim Vogel, and Organists for the recordings of the services and posting online.

Pastor would like us to consider this viewpoint <https://www.firstthings.com/web-exclusives/2020/03/keep-the-churches-open?fbclid=IwAR0YPZzjiOZm03qcHdeGPvyPqhTr7KPHb51bS3j0xlv1s8mibOWKGIMVZY>

- o At the time of this recommendation, there was notice that we may not be able to broadcast on the local station. This has since been resolved and we are able to continue broadcasting. Pastor is concerned about people receiving the Word.
- o Bill Vogel commented that the videoing and the live Facebook feed is working and people are reporting that they are watching.
- o If congregational church is held, what concerns do we have with cleaning.
- o An FM Radio Transmitter
 - *Pastor has received a transmitter and is needing assistance in setting it up.
 - *If works correctly, individuals would be able to park at church and listen live. Pastor would attempt to preach from outside if microphone allows for it.
 - *Would need boundaries and safety measures in place-spacing, getting out bulletins, etc...
 - *Hoping to do this by Palm Sunday. Paul and Matt will work on the logistics.
 - *See comments below on how to handle communion if we are able to have a service
- o The postponement of First Communion
 - *M/S/P-to move the class to October and move First Communion to Reformation Sunday.
- o M/S/P- to postpone Luther League's Palm Sunday breakfast on 4/5 to a date to be determined.
- o M/S/P- to obtain an internet booster to provide internet service to the sanctuary
- o During this crisis, how might we use our Good Samaritan fund, drawing from the undesignated memorial funds to help our neighbors? This may be THE project for our 150th anniversary!
 - *M/S/P- to move \$1,000 from the Endowment fund earnings to the Good Samaritan fund to be used at Pastor’s discretion.
- o Confirmation classes via Zoom and potentially moving Confirmation to the fall.
- o Zoom could be recommended for other meetings-Parish Ed, Bible Study, Council meetings, etc...
- o Cleaning. Do we have enough supplies? Do we have gloves or other personal protective gear for our staff? Only 2 boxes of gloves left (need to replenish for communion), 2 bottles of bleach. Runnings should

have bleach and gloves available.

- o Do we need committees or individuals to check on specific members who we know are or will be in need
 - *Pastor has been calling people and checking in
 - *Develop a list & divide up among the council members to contact and keep in touch with members.
- o Do we have medical, emergency, public servant families who are in need help with child care? Schooling? Being covered by school at this time.
- o M/S/P: to Cancel Spring German Supper
- o The Lord's Supper via drive through; Concerns with how to distribute; Keeping approximate boundaries
- o Holy Week Services
 - *M/S/P to cancel congregational service for Palm Sunday, but continue the recording and live streaming. With the potential of FM drive in worship if the transmitter is functional.
 - *Other services are TBD
- o M/S/P-If there is a governor's declaration to shelter in place, church services will be canceled with the recording/videoing taping to be at the discretion of those involved.
 - *Pastor would likely live stream from the parsonage. If it is legal for Pastor to continue performing a service from church, she will.
- o M/S/P-Tabled Confirmation Worship Service
- o M/S/P- tabled Baccalaureate Worship Service
- o M/S/P to cancel all future Lenten meals for 2020.
- o In the event of a death, how are we conducting funerals?
 - *Funeral home recommending immediate family only or grave side.
 - *Pastor will work in conjunction with the funeral homes
- o Do not plan any extra work around the church-regular maintenance and cleaning only.

Anita has financial items to discuss-such as the # of signatures required on an account.

Motion to adjourn at 8:31pm with Lord's Prayer
 Shawna Jacobs
 Church council secretary

<u>Budget Recap & Attendance Year-To-Date (01/01/20 to 3/17/20)</u>			
Funds for Budget	\$35,839.07	Operating Funds	\$35,839.07
Budget	\$37,593.16	Operating Exp.	\$36,837.42
Difference	(\$1,754.09)	Difference	(\$998.35)
<u>Attendance Worship Services</u>			
Sunday, March 1	9am - 106 & 11am - 29	Wed, March 4	7pm - 66
Sunday, March 8	9am - 72 & 11am - 6	Wed, March 11	7pm - 56
Sunday, March 15	9am - 76 & 11am - 0	Wed, March 18 - April 10	Cancelled

We ask at this time that folks refrain from entering the church building unless the need is urgent, in order to protect everyone's health. Offerings and correspondence may be mailed or put in the drop box in the west side door. Thank you!

Memorials Given From 1/28/20 to 3/20/2020		
<u>In Memory:</u>	<u>Given by:</u>	<u>Designated for:</u>
Russ Voge	Richard & Lois Zihlke	St. Paul Lutheran Church
	Lyle Krebs	St. Paul's Building Fund
	Russ Voge Family	St. Paul's Cemetery
	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
	Ed & Carol Meidl	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
	Larry & Ruth Potter	St. Paul Lutheran Church
Robert Potter	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
	Larry & Ruth Potter	St. Paul Lutheran Church
Anne Nibbe	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Rita Windschitl	Ed & Carol Meidl	Good Shepherd Scholarship Fund
Lucille Polzin	Larry & Ruth Potter	St. Paul Lutheran Church

April 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> Please be aware that this schedule could change on a day by day basis. We will do our best to keep you updated. Please email or call the church office if you have questions. stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com or 507-723-5880. Thank you for your understanding. </div>	1 7:00 pm Facebook Live Lenten Service 8:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast of Lenten Worship	2 9:00 am Ch. 8 Broadcast of Lenten Worship	3 Office Closed	4
5 9:00 Facebook Live Worship TBD 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast of Sunday Worship	6 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast of Sunday Worship	7 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast of Sunday Worship	8 10:00 am Ch. 8 Broadcast of Sunday Worship 6:30 Confirmation via Zoom 7:45 Council Meeting	9 7 pm Facebook Live Maundy Thursday Worship	10 Office Closed 11:30 am Ch 8 Broadcast of Maundy Thursday Service 7 pm Facebook Live Good Friday Worship 8:30 pm Ch 8 Broadcast of Good Friday Service	11 9:00 am Ch 8 Broadcast of Good Friday Service
12 Happy Easter 9:00 Facebook Live Worship 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast of Sunday Worship	13 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	14 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	15 10:00 am Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:30 Confirmation via Zoom	16 Office Closed	17 Office Closed	18
19 9:00 Facebook Live Worship TBD 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast of Sunday Worship	20 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	21 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	22 10:00 am Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:30 Confirmation via Zoom	23 Office Closed	24 Office Closed	25
26 9:00 Facebook Live Worship TBD 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast	27 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	28 6:00 pm Zoom Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	29 10:00 am Ch. 8 Broadcast 6:30 Confirmation via Zoom	30		

9:00 am Worship Service

In-person services for April are to be determined. Please watch for announcements for when we will be able to gather again. If we are able to gather by Easter the schedule will be as follows. Please let Katie know if you will not be able to volunteer.

Date	Sound & Video	Reader	Acolyte	Greeters	Usher
4/12	Bob Kratz	Daniel Kettner	Teagan Steffl Parker Gluth	Rod & Rhonda Larson	Team 4
4/19	Shane Clemon	Jordan Pidde	Noah Mueller Nickolas Rogotzke	Mike & Barb Marz	Team 1
4/26	Tim Vogel	Jo Muske	Alyssa Shaw Keagan Streich	Ken & Sharon Renner	Team 2

Sharon Rogotzke has been asked to call Greeters, Readers and Acolytes reminding them of their Sunday. **In order to avoid confusion, please call Sharon at 723-5117 if you will be gone and have found a substitute.**

Online Weekly Bible Study via Zoom

During this time of pandemic, are you in need of the comfort of God's Word in the safety of your own home? If so, our first online bible study will be held online beginning Tuesday, March 31, at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom. To participate via Zoom, you must have a microphone and webcam and then give your email address to Pastor at pastortriciamattson@live.com. Pastor will then send you an email invitation to the Tuesday Bible Study meetings. Please note that once the governmental restrictions preventing us from gathering in person are lifted, we plan to resume meeting for bible study in person at the church.

April Birthdays!

1 - Nicholas Groebner
 1 - Nathan Groebner
 2 - Don Kieper
 2 - Matt Sargent
 2 - Cale Marz
 3 - Jeff Krueger
 4 - Mary Sternberg
 5 - Travis Gluth
 9 - Mandi Stark
 10 - McCoy Krick
 11 - Ruth Peterson
 14 - Ayvah Wendt
 15 - Rhonda Larson
 16 - Julia Groebner
 16 - Jordan Lund
 18 - Saige Trebesch
 20 - Adam Groebner
 20 - Adam Moret
 21 - Justin Haugo
 23 - Sharon Renner
 26 - Audrey Rositzke
 28 - Zach Timm
 30 - Tiffani Meidl
 30 - Sharon Rogotzke
 30 - Randell Streich

Bringing You God's Word in this Time of Trial

While many people have internet or public TV access to watch and listen to our worship services, we know that there are some without any access. If you are without access and would like to have a DVD of our Sunday services mailed to you while we are restricted from gathering in person, please contact the church office at 723-5880 with your name and current address.

April Anniversaries!

9 - Kurt & Mary Glaeseman - 52 years
 9 - Travis & Kim Gluth - 15 years
 17 - Shawn & Krystal Plaster - 10 years
 18 - Delwin & Beverly Beussman - 56 years
 22 - Jim & Elsie Groebner - 42 years
 28 - Lonny & Elaine Jensen - 19 years

April Altar Guild

Jo Schwartz, Megan

Hillesheim, Jordyn Plaster

If you are unable to help, please find a substitute or switch months with someone.

Delivering bulletins in April

2- Carol Carlson
 9-Larry Pederson
 16-Jill Vogel
 23-Pastor Tricia
 30-Leona Schottle

Deadlines:

Sunday Bulletin:

Wednesday by 10 am.

Epistle: 20th of each month.

Please call or email the church office with additions or changes for the bulletins or Epistle.

St. Paul's is hosting VBS this summer! If you would like to be on the planning committee, please talk to a member of Parish Ed or Katie in the church office.



- *First Communion has been postponed until possibly October.
- *Palm Sunday Brunch is cancelled.
- *In person Bible Studies are cancelled for the time being.
- *The German Supper scheduled for April 22nd has been cancelled.

St. Paul Lutheran Church Council has determined that, until further notice, we shall cancel all church activities and midweek services and move our worship services online.

Our Wednesday evening services will be broadcast live on Facebook at 7:00 p.m. and broadcast on Ch. 8 at 8:00 p.m. Wednesdays and at 9:00 a.m. Thursdays.

Our Sunday morning worship services will be broadcast live on Facebook at 9:00 a.m. and recordings will be broadcast on Ch. 8 at 10:30 a.m. on Sundays and at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays.

Please be advised that at any time circumstances may arise that prevent these services from being broadcast at the intended times.

We apologize for any inconveniences. And we will keep you posted on any changes that arise.

Pastor is available to bring the Lord's Supper to your home at your request.

St. Paul Cemetery Board is now hiring a seasonal caretaker. If interested or would like more details about the position, please contact Don Bloemke at 507-220-3439.

Thrivent Financial—As always, St. Paul Lutheran Church is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member eligible to direct Choice DollarsSM, we ask you to consider St. Paul Lutheran as you help direct Thrivent Financials charitable funds.

Notice: Please update your phone numbers and/or email address with the church office! Several of the numbers we have are disconnected and we need to know how to get a hold of you! You can leave a note in the box outside of Katie's office, use one of the yellow information cards in the church pews, call or email the church office at 507-723-5880 or stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com. We appreciate you keeping us updated!

Please pray for... Richard Mattson, Gene Gramentz, Arland Kettner; Tabor Gluth and all those serving in the military, at home and abroad.

Prayer Chain – If you have a prayer concern you would like passed along to the Prayer Chain, please call Jan Severson (723-6358) or the church office (723-5880). Please specify if you want the concern on (1) the Prayer Chain and/or (2) included in Sunday morning prayers which will be included for **two** Sundays unless otherwise specified or request is renewed.

"150 YEARS OF WALKING WITH GOD"

- April 2020 - Heritage Walk
- May 2020 - Youth Walk
- June 2020 - Cemetery Walk
- July 2020 - Mission & Prayer Walk
- August 2020 - Neighborhood Walk
- September 2020 - Walk in the Park
- October 2020 - All-Saints Walk
- October 11, 2020, Anniversary Celebration
- November 2020 - Walking With the Word
- December 2020 - Walking Into the Future



ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
1870 - 2020

**St. Paul Lutheran
Church, LCMC**
303 N Cass Avenue
Springfield, MN 56087

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**For the most up to date
information, please visit
our Facebook page!**

We are on the Web!
www.splcspringfield.org

Phone: 507-723-5880
Fax: 507-723-8712

Office Hours

Pastor: Tricia Mattson
Monday & Thursday 9-noon
Wednesday 1-4
Or by appointment
pastortriciamattson@gmail.com

Parish Coordinator: Katie Mueller
Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-noon
Email: stpaul_lutheran@hotmail.com

Housekeeper: Lisa Prechel

Maintenance: Ed Meidl

Financial Secretary: Anita Jensen
Fin_secretary@newulmtel.net

St. Paul EPISTLE is a publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church.
It is published monthly to keep members and friends informed
of programs and ministries of the church.

Articles may be submitted for publication subject to content.

Worship:

SUNDAY at 9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Sunday School & Coffee Talk at 10:00
a.m.



Springfield Area Food Shelf hours
Tuesday 5:00pm – 7:00pm
Thursday 9:30am – 11:30am
804 East Rock Street - Springfield, MN 56087
507-723-4120