

March

2020

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Have you ever wondered, “If there is only one bible, why are there so many different denominations?” or “Why do churches agree on some points and disagree on others?” or “Which interpretation of this bible verse is correct?” We rely on our personal assumptions to interpret or understand any form of writing, even the bible. We use what we already believe to help us understand God’s Word. For example, if we believe that our God can and does accomplish miracles in the created world, we accept the biblical stories of Jonah and Lazarus as historically true. But if we do not believe this, we may assume they are merely fictional stories written to make a spiritual point. Another example: if we hold Jesus to be both fully human and fully divine, then we believe his death on the cross is a sacrificial atonement for our sins. But if we believe Jesus is simply a remarkable human being, we may suppose this teaching to have been developed by pious Christians in order to preserve the collective memory of the Master.

Here are some Lutheran assumptions for interpreting Holy Scriptures. First, God’s Word, because it is His Word, is without error. This means that the Bible cannot lie or deceive and that God’s Word is our only means for faith and life (*see Rom. 10:17 and John 5:24*). Second, Christ is the heart and center of God’s Word (*see John 1 and John 6:68*). This means the doctrine of justification by God’s grace through faith in Christ is the chief doctrine of the Scriptures. This also means that Christians should carefully distinguish Law and Gospel, which is something that our Tuesday night bible study is intended to teach us to do. Finally, the Holy Spirit helps us to understand God’s Word (*see John 14:26*). This means that difficult passages of Scripture are to be interpreted by other, clearer passages. Also, as we read Scripture, we seek to derive the plain meaning of words from their literal sense, unless clearly directed otherwise by context.

Lutherans believe the Bible is God’s inspired and inerrant (without error) Word. Our Book of Concord (our Lutheran book of doctrinal beliefs) refers to the “unchanging” and infallible” truth of God’s Word, which “cannot and will not fail us.” Luther said that “God’s Word cannot err;” and he urges us to be in the Scriptures because “they will not lie to you” (*see Num. 23:19*).

Therefore the Word of God permeates Lutheran Worship Services, with direct quotes from Scripture; hymns quoting bible; and sermons based on specific texts of God’s Word. Memorization is emphasized, as we desire to place God’s Word of truth in our hearts. Lutherans believe that God’s Word, in the form of the law, exposes the deepest thoughts and desires of the human heart, which puts us to death (*see Heb. 4:12*). And God’s Word, the Gospel (specifically the forgiveness of sins), raises us as new creatures through the hearing of the Gospel (*see Eph. 4:20-24*). God’s Word of Gospel is a Means of Grace.

Lent is upon us and you are invited to enjoy an extra dosage of God’s Word at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday nights, where we will focus on the Lord’s Prayer, which was taught to us by Jesus Christ (*see Matt. 6:9-13*). Our confirmation students have planned our Lenten worship services and they will also help lead our services. They have been quite excited to be both equipped and empowered to serve in this role of leadership within our congregation. It is my great hope that you will come to receive the Word that God is working through them to deliver to each of you. Please join us also for The Lutheran Difference adult education class in which we are learning how different denominations interpret scripture. See you in church!

In Christian Love,
Pr. Tricia

St Paul Lutheran Church Council Meeting, February 12, 2020, 7:30pm

Present: Ed Meidl, Doug Jeske, Angel Clemon, Paul Muske, Pastor Tricia, Katie Mueller (Parish Coordinator), David Bittler, Bill Vogel,

Absent: Shawna Jacobs, Matt Sargent, Craig Valentin, Anita Jensen (Financial Secretary),

Paul Muske called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

Devotions – Pastor Tricia read from the Small Catechism about The Lord’s Prayer

M/S/P Ed/Angel Secretary’s Report from January meeting and special meeting on 2/16/20

M/S/P Doug/Angel Financial Report - On 2/16/20 the Council approved to borrow up to \$6,000 from the memorial account, current financial report was no available

Building and Grounds –

Parsonage Window Leaks-waiting for Spring

Parsonage Basement- waiting for Spring

Parish Education Report – Working on Fundraisers, and we are hosting VBS this year. Looking for committee members

Pastor’s Report

Action Items

Suggestion: add a Nuvera feature to the parsonage line that sends me an email if a voicemail message is left?

Augustana District 2020 Annual Convention: It's Our 10th Anniversary!!

Banquet Friday, May 1, 2020 @ 5:00 PM @ Christ The King Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, MN

Convention Saturday, May 2, 2020 @ 9:00 AM Faith Lutheran Church, Hutchinson, MN

Ministry Updates

Visitation

Visited homebound, assisted living, and nursing home members.

Delivered bulletins to SJLH, the Maples, and Downtown Estates on 1/16.

Worship

Led worship with the Lord’s Supper at SJLH (2), Downtown Estates, and the Maples (2).

Baptized Bentley Borth on January 19th.

Began the *Walk through Worship* children’s sermon series on 1/26.

Parish Education

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

The Lutheran Difference, an adult education class, began on February 2 and has been well attended.

Began premarital counselling sessions with one couple.

Confirmation

Teaching the confirmands about liturgy in addition to baptism, so they will be prepared to plan Lenten Wednesday Services.

Community

Gave two SAFE vouchers to community members.

Attended the SAFE Annual Meeting on 1/16, where I was elected chairperson.

Attended the Ministerial Meeting on 1/30.

Assisted with the Friends of the Library Downton Abbey Tea on 2/1.

Submitted an Article on Ash Wednesday to the Advanced Press.

Other Business

Prepared information for the January Window Walk for our 150th Anniversary celebration.

Continuing Ed

Attended the Augustana District Theological Conference in Bloomington 2/2-2/4. Fantastic!

OLD BUSINESS

150th Anniversary will be scheduling a meeting soon. Window walk was in January. People have found it very interesting. We received a Thank You note from Tami (Arndt) Bockholt for the work on the Window Walk booklet. Artifacts and Archive presentation is February 23rd. March Music Walk activities will be in the March Epistle.

Church Credit Card tabled

Church Security – quotes tabled until we get a quote from Salonek’s on the door

M/S/P Bill/Angel to accept the quote on computers from NUVERA at \$3,364 from undesignated memorials. The other 2 quotes were from Kemske’s at \$3,945, and Loffler at \$3,783.

NEW BUSINESS

Katie gone February 24-27

M/S/P Dave/Doug German Supper April 22nd, keep prices and time the same.

M/S/P Doug/Angel Council Vacancy – to appoint Tim Vogel to the council

Committee Appointments-Paul will work on finishing the appointments

M/S/P Doug/Angel to have the Maundy Thursday Worship at 7pm on Thursday, April 9th

M/S/P Doug/Angel to have the Good Friday Worship services at 1pm & 7pm (chapel) on Friday, April 10th

C M/S/P Bill/Angel Council Retreat – March 14th for possible date, Katie to email the council about availability.

M/S/P Dave/Ed Register to receive charitable donation from AmazonSmile with funds going into the Bible Camp Scholarship Fund.

M/S/P Ed/Doug T-Shirts sales for Fundraiser for Bible Camp. Shirts are on sale now for \$15.

Church Mutual-Not interested at this time.

M/S/P Angel/Ed Change Council Meeting time to 7:45 p.m.

M/S/P Doug/Ed adjourn at 8:30 p.m.

Katie Mueller
Parish Coordinator

2020 Church Council

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		

“150 YEARS OF WALKING WITH GOD”

March 2020 - Music Walk

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



The Lutheran Difference

The class will be held from 10:10 a.m. to 10:45 a.m. on the following Sundays: March 1, 15, 22, 29.

Financial Reports were not available prior to printing.

Attendance Worship Services

Sunday, February 2	9am - 102 & 11am - 12	Sunday, February 9	Cancelled due to weather
Sunday, February 16	9am - 74 & 11am - 15		

“ 150 YEARS OF WALKING WITH GOD”

March is St. Paul’s Music Walk Month

Sunday, March 1 the Sunday school children will be singing at the 9:00 am service.

Sunday, March 8 is “Blast From the Past” Sunday. If you like things how they were in the “good old days”, you will want to join us for worship on March 8. All of our hymns and liturgy will come from the red Service Book & Hymnal that was used at St. Paul’s from the 1950’s to 1978. Pastor Paulus Pilgrim, who served St. Paul’s while the hymnal was in use, will be leading the services that day. The choir will also be doing an anthem the choir sang back in the mid 70’s. If you have a red hymnal, bring it along on March 8. We do not have enough for everyone, so the liturgy and hymns will also be projected on the screen during the service. A history of music at St. Paul’s will also be presented that day.

Sunday, March 15 will be a day filled with music. Eric Mueller, a classically trained pianist and organist will be with us. Eric is John Mueller’s brother.

Mr. Mueller has been playing piano for over thirty years. His passion for music began at a very early age. He began taking piano lessons in the second grade (“he should start when he knows how to read”) and continued studying piano through high school. He began taking organ lessons in the sixth grade (“he should start when he’s tall enough to reach the pedals”) and was already playing for church services in the seventh grade. He studied organ performance at Gustavus Adolphus College in St. Peter with David Fienen and David Cherwein. Since 2014, Mueller has been the Minister of Music at Salem Lutheran Church and School in Stillwater, Minnesota where he leads congregational worship as primary organist and pianist, selects and plans music for Sunday and special services, recruits and supervises church musicians and serves as a key member of the Board of Worship. When not playing piano or organ, Eric is a digital marketing strategist and amateur photographer.

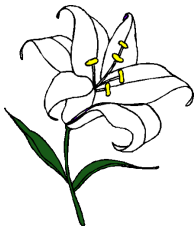
Eric will provide organ accompaniment for the choir on their anthem “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” during the 9 a.m. service, along with some other special music.

At 1:30 p.m. St. Paul’s will host an organ/piano recital where Mr. Mueller will share his musical talents with us. The recital is open to the public, so bring your friends and neighbors. A dessert reception will follow the recital in the fellowship hall.

Sunday, March 29 will feature a hymn sing during the 9:00 a.m. service. So, be ready to choose your favorite hymns to be sung that day.

Order your Easter Flowers today!

Your order can be placed thru the church office until Monday, March 16th.



Easter Lilies are \$16 and Oriental Lilies are \$17

Must be paid for when ordered.

Please make checks payable to **St Paul Lutheran.**



Please pray for... Carol Meidl, Alice Trebesch; 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.

March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:10 The Lutheran Difference 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship	2 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples	3 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	4 10:00 am Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:30-6:30 Lenten Meal 6:00 Luther League 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Lenten Service 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	5	6 Office Closed 10:00 am World Day of Prayer Service at St. John's Home	7 Confirmation Retreat
8 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship Confirmation Retreat	9 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples	10 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	11 10:00 am Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:30-6:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Lenten Service 7:30 Council Meeting 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	12	13 Office Closed	14
15 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:10 The Lutheran Difference 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship 1:30 Eric Mueller concert	16 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples	17 10:00 SILH Service HC 3:30 The Maples HC 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	18 10:00 am Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:30-6:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Lenten Service 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	19	20 Office Closed	21
22 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:10 The Lutheran Difference 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship	23 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples	24 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast	25 10:00 am Ch. 8 Broadcast 5:30-6:30 Lenten Meal 6:30 Confirmation 7:00 Lenten Service 7:30 Choir Rehearsal	26	27 Office Closed	28 10-3:30 First Communion Class
29 9:00 Worship 10:00 Sunday School Coffee Talk 10:10 The Lutheran Difference 10:30 Ch. 8 Broadcast 11:00 Worship	30 2:00 Downtown Estates HC 3:16 Bible Study @ The Maples	31 6:00 Bible Study 7:00 pm Ch. 8 Broadcast				

9:00 am Worship Service

Date	Sound & Video	Reader	Acolyte	Greeters	Usher
3/1	Shane Clemon	Jordan Pidde	Jace Rosenau Abigail Jensen	Gary & Nancy Renner	Team 4
3/8	Tim Vogel	Jo Muske	Noah Mueller Teagan Steffl	Gertie Rosenau Janice Kettner	Team 1
3/15	Bob Kratz	Mel Vogel	Parker Gluth Alyssa Shaw	Jim & Elsie Groebner	Team 2
3/22	Shane Clemon	Russell Rogotzke	Nickolas Rogotzke Keagan Streich	Bill & Mel Vogel	Team 3
3/29	Tim Vogel	Jeanette Pidde	Josh Timm Zach Timm	Richard & Lois Zihlke	Team 4

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.**

March Birthdays!



3 - Jessie Micka
 3 - Sarah Riederer
 4 - Arland Kettner
 9 - Kate Quesenberry
 11 - Ethan Langseth
 12 - Lacey Groebner
 15 - Justin Asmus
 15 - Ali Trapp
 17 - Laurie Longsdorf
 18 - Angie Meine
 19 - McKenzie Jensen
 20 - Katlin Gatzlaff
 20 - Jo Muske
 21 - Keagan Streich
 25 - Katelynn Clemon
 30 - Duane Nachreiner
 31 - Paul Muske

March Anniversaries!

27 - Tim & Jill Vogel - 26 years
 28 - Dana & Shawna Jacobs - 11 years

We have a lost and found box located in the narthex near the mailboxes. If you have lost something at church, please check the box!

March Altar Guild
Kelly Sargent, Tasha Sargent,
Dawn Marz

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

Delivering bulletins in March

5 - Jo Muske
 12 - Pastor Tricia
 19 - Mary Sternberg
 26 - Denise Gicker

Helped Needed!

- *2-3 members to join the Altar Guild.
- *Members to run the Sound and Video equipment.
- *A few members to be added to the usher rotation.

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.

Check your church mailboxes for your 2019 giving statements.



Luther League meets on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.
All members grades 7-12 are invited to attend!

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.



Lord's Prayer Lenten Sermon Series

Lent begins this year with Ash Wednesday on February 26. All our Lenten services will begin at 7:00 p.m. with a meal served from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Our Lenten theme is the Lord's Prayer. Our Confirmation students will both plan and help lead our Lord's Prayer Lenten services, so be sure not to miss out!

Wednesday, February 26 - Ash Wednesday
 Wednesday, March 4 - Lord' Prayer Introduction & Doxology
 Wednesday, March 11 - Lord's Prayer First & Second Petitions
 Wednesday, March 18 - Lord's Prayer Third Petition
 Wednesday, March 25 - Lord's Prayer Fourth & Fifth Petitions
 Wednesday, April 1 - Lord's Prayer Sixth & Seventh Petitions

Holy Week Schedule

*Palm Sunday Sunday, April 5 9:00 a.m.	Maundy Thursday Thursday, April 9 7:00 p.m.	Good Friday Friday, April 10 1:00 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.	Easter Sunday Sunday, April 12 9:00 a.m.
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*First Communion and a Luther League Brunch will be on Palm Sunday.

150TH ANNIVERSARY T-SHIRT FUNDRAISER

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Email: _____

Fill out this form or Order online at
<http://www.deluxeprint.biz/St--Paul-s-Lutheran-Church.html>

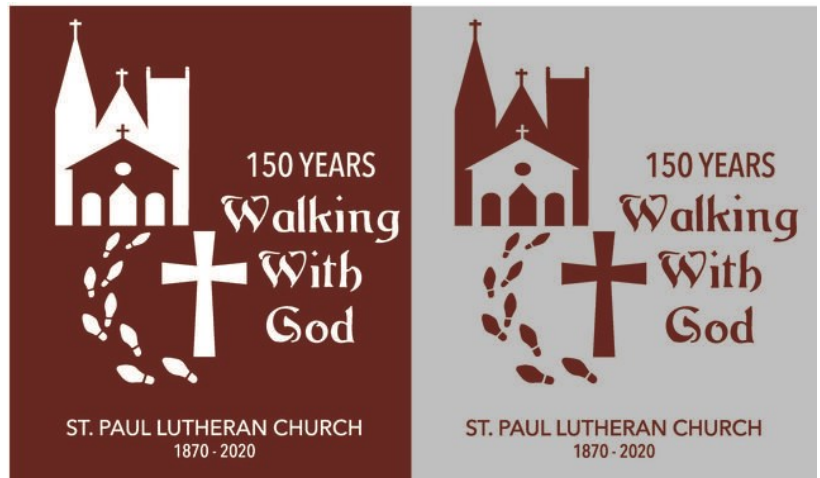
T-shirts are \$15 each (see note on extended sizes)

Youth Sizes: Small Medium Large

Adult Sizes: Small Medium Large XL
2XL(add \$2) 3XL(add \$3) 4XL(add \$4) 5XL (add \$5)

Colors: Maroon or Gray

- Size: _____ Color: Maroon or Gray Price: _____
- Size: _____ Color: Maroon or Gray Price: _____
- Size: _____ Color: Maroon or Gray Price: _____
- Size: _____ Color: Maroon or Gray Price: _____
- Size: _____ Color: Maroon or Gray Price: _____
- Size: _____ Color: Maroon or Gray Price: _____



Maroon shirt with white lettering. Gray shirt with maroon lettering.

Please make checks payable to:
Deluxe Print

Bring this form and your payment to the church office in an envelope marked
T-SHIRT ORDER.

Total Amount Due \$ _____

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

Postmaster: Dated material
Please Deliver Promptly
Address Service Requested

Calendar Highlights - March 2020

1 - Sunday school children sing
6 - World Day of Prayer 10:00 SJLH
6-8 - Confirmation Retreat
8 - Blast from the Past Sunday
15 - Music Concert 1:30 pm

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