

St. Paul Epistle

The Monthly Newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church

April, 2025

Extending Christ's Love through Witnessing

Dear Friends in Christ,

As we prepare to observe Holy Week and celebrate our Lord's resurrection, Scripture tells us that there were more than 500 witnesses of the risen Christ (1 Cor. 15:6). Not only did these believers see the risen Christ, but they told others, sharing the message that the Jesus is the Savior of all. Many of these witnesses confessed Christ even to the point of being put to death for their faith. Interestingly, the word "martyr" literally means "witness." Before His ascension, Jesus sends forth His disciples to be His witnesses to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8).

Every baptized believer is called to be a witness, "to proclaim the excellencies of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light" (1 Peter 2:9). But how do we witness? How do we extend Christ's love through our Christian witness? To answer these questions, I would like to summarize our Christian calling in three simple truths: **pray without ceasing, invite without ceasing, sow without ceasing.**

**EVERY
ONE
HIS WITNESS**

Pray Without Ceasing

We are called to be people of prayer. Pray for those who do not believe that they would be brought to saving faith. Pray for those who have fallen away that they return to the Lord by the Spirit's power. Pray for God to give you many opportunities to witness. When God gives you these opportunities, pray for the courage to witness. Pray for the safety of missionaries and their families. Pray for church workers that they would faithfully serve, sowing the seed of the Word. Pray for the Lord to raise up more workers in His harvest field.

Invite Without Ceasing

Sometime after Jesus began His public ministry, He encountered Philip and called him to be His disciple. Philip found Nathanael and said to him, "Come and see." Every worship service, our early childhood ministry, Sunday School, Bible classes, youth events, and fellowship events give us the opportunity to extend the invitation: "Come and see!" Come and join us! It's often intimidating for someone to enter a church for the first time. In addition, we know that Satan is working overtime to convince people not to step foot in God's house. Thus, when you invite someone to worship, Bible study, or some other event, offer to pick them up and bring up to church, or to meet them at the door when they arrive.

Sow Without Ceasing

In the parable of the sower, the sower sows the seed everywhere—the path, rocky ground, thorns, and good soil. God gives us many opportunities to sow His Gospel seed. If you have a friend, family member, or coworker struggling with illness, tragedy, or sorrow, consider how you can sow the seed. Often, we say, "I'm praying for you," but think about what *more* you can say to them. What Scripture can you share with them? How can you share the hope and strength you have in Christ that sustains you in suffering and trial? Instead of just saying, "I'm praying for you," ask if you can pray with them right then and there. Parents: "windshield time" to and from school and other activities can be used to have faith discussions and to sow many seeds. Ask your children about their day and then apply God's Word to their experiences and questions. God gives us countless opportunities to sow the seeds of the Gospel, so sow and keep on sowing!

Lent, Holy Week, and Easter give us many opportunities to pray, invite, and sow without ceasing: Invite a family member, friend, coworker, or neighbor to attend a Lenten supper and service with you. Invite those you know who are unchurched or underchurched to our Holy Week and Easter services. Invite families with children to participate in the Palm Sunday Procession with Palms, the Good Friday Morning Service followed by Together as Family, and the Easter Sunday Alleluia Banner Procession. SPY and C4Life youth can invite their friends to watch *The Passion of the Christ* on Good Friday afternoon. Whenever you invite and whenever your sow, pray: pray that the Spirit would work in their hearts so that faith would blossom and grow.

The holy days of Lent and Easter are also for us to receive the gifts of God and to rejoice in Christ's suffering, death, and resurrection for us and for our salvation. I pray God's richest blessings as you remember our Lord's Passion and celebrate His glorious resurrection.

In Christ's Love to Extend Christ's Love,
Pastor Bauman

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Renee Strietelmeier

Latino Outreach Coordinator

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St. Paul Early Childhood Ministry

Jen Probst, Director and

Preschool Teacher

director@stpaulcolumbus.org

Anne Wiltsey, Kindergarten Teacher

Michelle Schultz, Preschool Teacher

Gayla Alesandro, Sally Haak, Kathy Hoover,

Sarah Lewis, Laurie Schultz, Claudia Sims,

Caroline Wilcox, Glory Wofford, Amy Yeley

Teacher Assistants

Sunday Schedule

Special Schedule on Easter Sunday

Festival Services at 7, 9, and 10:45 AM

8 AM Divine Service

9:10 AM Fellowship

9:30 AM Sunday School

9:30 AM Radio Worship Service/91.1 FM

10:45 AM Divine Service

English and Spanish

12:15 PM Spanish Bible Study

7 PM Lutheran Hour/91.1 FM

Prayer Chain

Bonnie England

Phone: 812-447-7895



Musical Notes

Music is organized into groups of notes known as measures, with each measure containing a specific number of a specific note value. For example, if a piece of music contains four, quarter notes in each measure, it is in 4/4 time, the top (4) indicating four beats per measure and the bottom (4) indicating the quarter note is the value basis of time. This is also known as common time, as it is the most commonly used time value in modern music. LSB 537, Beautiful Savior, is in common time (4/4), as each measure contains four beats, with the quarter note being the base value. Hymns in common time are generally straightforward and have a strong, “felt” pulse—usually two, strong pulses per measure (the first and third beat). Even though a hymn contains four beats in a measure, we definitely feel two strong beats as we sing it—in fact, most music can be simplified into either one or two “strong” beats per measure! As you listen to a hymn that is in common time, listen for the felt pulse instead of counting, one, two, three, four, etc. The strong beats become readily apparent and help keep the music moving forward.

Time values are virtually unlimited, even though most will be perceived in groups of one and two. For example, LSB 941, We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God, is in $\frac{3}{4}$ time (three quarter notes per measure) but contains one strong pulse per measure throughout the hymn. LSB 937, Lord, Bid Your Servant Go in Peace, is in a compound meter (6/8 time, each measure containing six, eighth notes) but is felt as having two strong beats in each measure. A hymn that contains an interesting metrical pulse is LSB 881, Christ, Mighty Savior. Although in 9/8 time (nine, eighth notes per measure) this compound meter hymn is felt in two stronger beats—the first containing five eighth notes, the second containing the other four. Chant-based hymns, such as LSB 384, Of the Father’s Love Begotten, were composed prior to the idea of organizing notes into measures containing specific number of beats. Chant is conceived as line and its’ free-flowing nature does not lend itself to be confined between bar lines. Additionally, the Anglican chant found in Divine Service, Setting Two, specifically the Gloria in Excelsis and Nunc Dimittus, does not exist in groups of specific note values, but rather in free-flowing phrases conceived as line.

As you sing the hymns and liturgy, please listen for—and enjoy—the large variety of compositions that give praise and thanks to our Lord and Savior through the church’s song!

Extending the Savior’s love through song,

Dan



Sr. Handbells rehearse on Wednesday, April 2 and 9 from 5:30-6:15 pm; and from 6:00-7:00 pm on April 16, 23, and 30.

Sr. Choir rehearses on Wednesday, April 2 and 9 from 7:45-8:45 pm; and from 7:00-8:15 pm on April 16, 23, and 30.

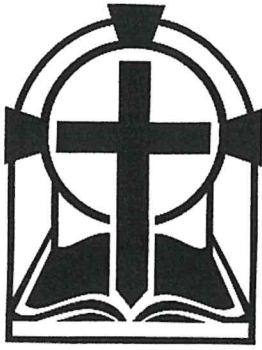
Jr. Choir rehearses on Sunday mornings from 9:30-9:50 am.

Small Group Handbells rehearse on Mondays at 10:00 am.

If you are interested in more information or have questions, please contact me at, (mobile) 812-927-9319, or email

kantor@StPaulColumbus.org

Thank you!



Early Childhood Ministry

I look forward to the Little Sermon during our worship services. I enjoy seeing all the little ones come forward for this special learning time. I believe this moment in our worship service teaches children that their presence in church is important and they can build a relationship with our pastors. Our pastors do an excellent job of welcoming little children into the arms of their loving Savior, Jesus.

When I first started worshipping at St. Paul, I quickly picked up on the rhythm of the Little Sermons. The messages were simple and the pastors helped define theological terms. The lessons had a visible object to help little ones make connections with the subject being shared. Little Sermons included a dialog, inviting children to contribute to the discussion. Each time, children were called on to recall the answers to a variation on the big three questions:

- What are sins? (The bad things we think, say, and do.)
- How did Jesus take away our sins? (By dying on the cross.)
- Did Jesus stay dead? (No! He came back to life on Easter.)

The Little Sermon is for ALL God's children, including the more experienced children sitting in the pews. The pastors value your presence in worship, seek to build a relationship with you, and point you to the loving arms of your Savior, Jesus. The simplified message is a primer for what we will hear in the sermon. Theological terms are expanded on and connections are made to our own experiences. While it is not worded in the same way, I hope that you hear the variation on the big three questions. Every time, you will hear the bad things associated with sin and the sacrificial action of Jesus for the salvation of His beloved children.

Why the repetition? Repeated exposure to concepts helps transition the information from short-term to long-term memory. Satan, the world, and our human nature encourages us to forget that Jesus made the ultimate sacrifice to take away our sins. We need to remember, especially when times are tough, that Jesus loves us and has conquered Satan, the world, and our sinful nature. I hope that as you hear the children's exuberant responses about Jesus' coming back to life on Easter during the Little Sermon, you are able to join them in exclaiming about the joy found in Christ's resurrection.

~Blessings,

Jen Probst, ECM Director

APRIL

9 – Bookmobile

ECM Board Meeting at 7:00 PM

12 – Early Childhood Conference in Indy

17 – Maundy Thursday, Classes IN SESSION

18 – Good Friday, Classes IN SESSION

- 10:00 AM: Students sing at worship

- Special Together as Family Event

20 – Easter

NLSA Accreditation

Our staff and ECM Board are gearing up for a visit from the Accreditation Team at the end of March. Five ladies, with early childhood education experience are currently overviewing our self-study and will come on campus to observe the activity at our school. They will be joining us for Lenten supper and worship on March 26th. I invite you to greet them and introduce yourself. Details about their visit will be given in the afternoon, on March 28th. I will share the team's exit report in the next newsletter.

~Reaching out with Christ's love to serve and grow through early childhood education. ~

Education & Youth

Reaching out with Christ's love to serve and grow!

Youth

St. Paul Youth

Sr. High Youth 9th – 12th Grade

Christ 4 Life

Jr. High Youth 6th – 8th grade

Sunday, March 30th: Fellowship Event at Back 9 Golf

SPY, C4Life, and *Young Adults* Fellowship Event at Back 9 Golf in Indianapolis. Meet at church at 1:30 PM for devotions; Return around 6 PM. Bring money for snacks and also golf clubs, if you have them.

Sunday, April 6th—Servant Event—Filling Easter Eggs

High schoolers and sixth and seventh graders are invited to fill Easter eggs in preparation for the Easter Egg hunt. Enjoy lunch after second service and then serve until 1:15 PM.

Palm Sunday, April 13th—Hiding Easter Eggs

SPY and C4Life youth that attend the 8 AM service are invited to hide Easter eggs during the 10:45 AM service.

Good Friday, April 18th—Servant Event and Movie

SPY and C4Life youth are encouraged to attend the 10 AM morning service and then remain until 3 PM. We will set up and prepare for the Easter breakfast, enjoy lunch together, and watch *The Passion of the Christ*.

Kids for Christ

Elementary Youth led by Chad and Rachel Fohne
with Matthew and Sarah Lewis

The April KfC Event is the Easter Egg Hunt on **Palm Sunday, April 13th** following the 10:45 AM service. We will enjoy a Holy Week Devotion followed by the Easter Egg Hunt. No RSVP needed and no lunch will be served for KfC youth.

Good Friday—Together as Family Day KfC children and their parents are encouraged to remain after the 10 AM morning service on Good Friday for activities that will reinforce this holy day, concluding around 11:30 AM.

Youth Families

Easter Breakfast—Please sign up in the gathering space to provide food for the Easter breakfast. Also, help is needed to serve the breakfast, especially from SPY and C4Life Youth. Those attending the 7 AM service should plan to serve after the worship service through clean-up. Those attending the 9 AM service should plan to arrive by 7:30 AM to serve until 9 AM. Those attending the 10:45 AM service should plan to serve from 9 AM-10:45 AM.

Ground Beef for Walking Tacos—Youth families and church members are invited to take home ground beef on **Sunday, April 27th**. Please brown the ground beef and return on or before **Sunday, May 4th** for Sauce Making Day.

*Thanks to all who have supported the
Youth Matching Grant!*

Christian Education

No Christian Education Classes on Easter, April 20th

Adult Classes

Sundays at 9:30 AM

First Steps of Faith (Parents and children two years and younger) meets in the conference room.

Financial Peace University The class will not meet on March 16th. The final session is March 23rd.

Fellowship Room *Hey Pastor, what about...?* led by Pastor Bauman through April 6th.

April 13th and 27th Confession of Faith Sundays

May 4th—New study on the *Large Catechism* begins, taught by Pastor Fickenscher.

Wednesdays

9 AM: Romans

6 PM: Hebrews (resumes April 23rd)

Moms in the Word meets **Monday, April 7th** at 10 AM in the conference room. Join us for fellowship and a children's devotion.

Confession of Faith Sundays

Please plan to support our confirmands as they offer their Confession of Faith, make their confirmation vows, and receive their first Communion.

Confession of Faith Sunday, April 13th

9:10-9:30 AM Confirmation Reception during fellowship hour; 9:30 AM Confession of Faith (Questions & Answers)

Confirmation Sunday, April 27th

9:30 AM Confession of Faith Presentations; 10:45 AM Confirmation and First Communion Service

Youth Choirs

Jr. Choir (grades 2-6) and **Children's Choir** (preschool-first grade) rehearse during the Sunday School Hour.

Our **Youth Choirs** will rehearse on Sunday afternoon, March 30th and sing and ring on Sunday, April 6th. March 30th is the final afternoon rehearsal for the school year.

Jr. Choir sings at both services on **Sunday, March 23rd** and **Palm Sunday, April 13th**. Please have children in the music room at 7:30 AM to rehearse.

The **Children's Choir** will sing with the Early Childhood Ministry Students at the 10 AM Good Friday Service.

Palm and Alleluia Banner Processions

On **Palm Sunday, April 13th**, children are invited to process with Palm Branches at the 8 and 10:45 AM Services.

On **Easter Sunday, April 20th**, children are invited to process with Alleluia Banners at the 7, 9, and 10:45 AM Services.

Sunday Lunches

March 16: No Lunch Served—Spring Break

March 23: Spaghetti with Meatballs

March 30: Latino Families

April 6: Sloppy Joes

April 13: Sandwich Bar

April 20 and 27: No Lunch Served

Our Lenten Journey—In the Wilderness

In the coming months, we will be focusing on the wilderness. The theme of Vacation Bible School this summer is: *The WAY in the Wilderness*, which will be Monday-Friday, July 14-18 from 9-11:30 AM. *Wilderness* is also the theme for Grandparents Day on Friday, March 14th.

During the Wednesdays in Lent, we will explore the theme *Sin in the Wilderness* as we make our way through the book of Numbers. More than likely you're not overly familiar with Numbers. Numbers recounts the wilderness journey of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land. The wilderness is a place of danger and difficulty, and for the Israelites the wilderness was a place of temptation and sin. During our five midweek Lenten services after Ash Wednesday, we will follow the Israelites through the wilderness to receive guidance, strength, and encouragement as we journey through the wilderness of this world. Supper is served on these Wednesdays from 5:30-6:15 PM. We will have a hymn sing from 6:30-6:45 PM, with the service beginning at 6:45 PM.

Please plan to attend and invite others to the special services and events.

Lenten Sermon Series: In the Wilderness

Wednesday, March 12: Opposition in the Wilderness—Numbers 12:1-16

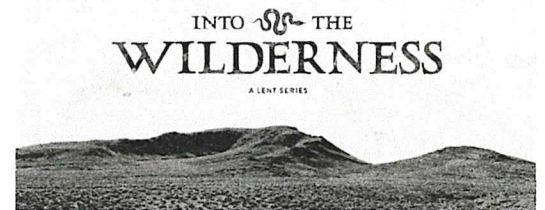
Wednesday, March 19: Doubt in the Wilderness—Numbers 13:1, 25-14:35

Wednesday, March 26: Rebellion in the Wilderness—Numbers 16:1-50

Wednesday, April 2: Anger in the Wilderness—Numbers 20:1-13, 22-29

Wednesday, April 9: Idolatry in the Wilderness—Numbers 25:1-18

Easter Sunday, April 20 at 7, 9, and 10:45 AM—Through the Wilderness to the Promised Land; Sermon Series Conclusion



Lenten Suppers

Wednesday, March 12: Pancakes, sausage, and fruit served by the youth families

Wednesday, March 19: Soup supper served by the Board of Evangelism

Wednesday, March 26: Nacho Bar served by the LWML

Wednesday, April 2: Fried chicken served by the elders and their wives

Wednesday, April 9: Pulled pork served by the Bower, Forbes, and Walton Families

Holy Week Services and Special Events

Palm Sunday, April 13: 8 and 10:45 AM Children Process with Palms at both Services

9:30 AM Confirmands Confession of Faith

Noon Easter Egg Hunt (KfC event for April; No lunch served)

Maundy Thursday, April 17: 6:45 PM Maundy Thursday Service concluding with the Stripping of the Altar

Good Friday, April 18: 10 AM Morning Service—ECM Children and Children's Choir sings

10:45 AM Together as Family Day—Family activities that reinforce Good Friday

10:45 AM SPY and C4Life Servant Event, Lunch, and watching *The Passion of the Christ*

6:45 PM Communion Service concluding with the Stripping of the Altar

Easter Sunday, April 20: 7, 9, and 10:45 AM Easter Festival Services with Children Procession of Alleluia Banners

7:30-9:45 AM Easter Breakfast Served

No Christian Education Classes on Easter

Extending Christ's Love Update

We are thankful for your continued prayers and support of Extending Christ's Love. The Building Committee meets every other week with Architect Kevin Stuckwisch to work on Design Development. These meetings will now include a representative from Driftwood Builders, the General Contractor for the project. The goal is for the Architect, General Contractor, and Building Committee to work together to align the project with the \$8.125 million approved budget.

Plans are underway for the **Rummage Sale** on June 6-7, 2025 with all proceeds benefiting Extending Christ's Love. Thanks to everyone who attended the informational meetings on March 5th and 10th and for those who have already volunteered to serve. Please consider serving in one of the following ways:



- **Gathering Donations:** Begin to gather gently used items for the Rummage Sale. As you declutter or do spring cleaning, set aside items that can be donated. The chapel is available for storage of larger items (furniture, etc.) until the Rummage Sale.
- We will need **many** volunteers to help with set-up, assist during the sale, and with clean-up after the sale, as well as promoting the sale. Please sign up to serve in the gathering space. We need volunteers to help with set-up on June 4-5 and to assist during the sale on June 6-7.

If you have any questions or suggestions regarding the Rummage Sale, please contact Phil Burbrink at 812-344-9945.



St. Paul Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Ministry

News and Notes

Accreditation Team Visit—March 26-28

After months of preparation, we will welcome the Accreditation Team from National Lutheran School Accreditation to our church and school Wednesday-Friday, March 26-28. The visit will begin with the Lenten Supper on Wednesday evening and a Meet-and-Greet with our staff, accreditation teams, and church leadership following the service.

To prepare for this visit, over 25 members have been serving on various committees to gather the necessary documentation. Thanks to all who are serving in this process.

At the conclusion of their visit, the Accreditation Team will make a decision regarding whether our school will be accredited for another five years as well as offering recommendations to strengthen our early childhood ministry.

Thrivent Choice Dollars

Thrivent members: It's time to designate your Choice Dollars if you have not already done so. Login to thrivent.com or call (800) 847-4836 and designate your Choice Dollars before **March 31st**. If you have questions or need assistance, please contact Lois Wischmeier or the church office.

Orphan Grain Train Work Day

St. Paul serves the OGT by sorting donated items for distribution the first Tuesday of each month. If you are interested in volunteering, come and join us on **Tuesday, April 1st** from 9 AM-noon. If you cannot attend, the need for volunteers is ongoing so volunteer anytime during their regular hours Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday from 10 AM-3 PM.

Donations can be dropped off at any time at the trailer located on the east side of the warehouse.

St Paul to Host Visitors from Löhne

On **Friday, April 11th**, 16 students and two chaperones from Löhne, Germany, and their area host families, will enjoy supper and fellowship at our church. Löhne is a sister city of Columbus. St. Simeon Church in Löhne was the home congregation of the majority of our founding members.

To learn more about our rich history with St. Simeon and Löhne, please request a copy of our 175th anniversary book if you don't have a copy. Please also stop by the picture display in the fellowship room.

Confession of Faith and Confirmation

We rejoice as our eighth grade confirmands Adam Arnholt, Edwin Chun Escalante, Jaclyn Dettmer, Jonathan Dettmer, Grant Gillmore, Tabitha Hall, Zaid Hernandez Rendon, Emmitt Jones, Ridge Koester, Jocelyn Vogel, and Jesse Wofford will offer their Confession of Faith on **Sundays, April 13th and April 27th** and be

confirmed and receive their first Communion at the 10:45 AM service on **Sunday, April 27th**.

On **Sunday, April 13th**, a reception will be held in honor of our confirmands during the fellowship hour. They will answer questions covering the major teachings of Scriptures during the Sunday School hour.

On **Confirmation Sunday, April 27th**, the confirmands will offer their Confession of Faith presentations on topics they have chosen during Sunday School, before the 10:45 AM Confirmation Service.

Please pray for our confirmands that they will remain faithful to the Lord their entire lives.

Palm Sunday Procession of Palms and Easter Egg Hunt

Children are invited to participate in the procession of palms at the beginning of either service on **Palm Sunday, April 13th**. Children should be in the gathering space ten minutes prior to the start of the service.

At noon, the KfC youth will have a devotion followed our annual Easter Egg Hunt. The Easter Egg Hunt is for those children fifth grade and younger. Bags will be provided for those children who will be collecting eggs.

Individually wrapped candy donations will be collected in the gathering space to offset the cost of filling Easter eggs. Please bring your donations on or before **Sunday, April 6th**. Your donations are appreciated!

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday

Maundy Thursday Communion Service is **April 17th** at 6:45 PM, concluding with the stripping of the altar.

On Good Friday, **April 18th**, we commemorate our Lord's suffering and death with both morning and evening services. School is in session for the ECM on Good Friday. The **10 AM service** is designed with children and families in mind. Sunday School children three years old through second grade and ECM children will sing at this service. Following the service, children and their families are invited to participate in Together as Family Day in the fellowship room. SPY and C4Life youth are invited to help with Together as Family Day, which will be followed by setting up for Easter Breakfast, lunch, and watching *The Passion of the Christ*. Pick-up is at 3 PM.

Good Friday Service with Communion and concluding with the Service of Darkness begins at **6:45 PM**.

Easter Celebration Services

We will offer three identical festival Communion services at **7, 9, and 10:45 AM**. Our youth families will be serving the Easter breakfast from **7:30-9:45 AM**. Easter breakfast will be offered after

worship for those worshipping at 7 AM and before worship for those worshipping at 9 and 10:45 AM.

Children are invited to process with Alleluia Banners at any of the three Easter celebration services. Children should meet in the gathering space ten minutes prior to the start of the service.

Organ Concert and Bayan Demonstration

You and your friends are invited to an Organ Concert and Bayan Demonstration on **Friday, April 25th** at 7 PM featuring Dr. Marko Petric of Ball State University as organist.

The bayan, invented in Russia in 1870, is similar to the accordion. Instead of the piano-like keys for the right hand, there are five rows of buttons. The left hand plays 120 buttons.

Please plan to attend this unique concert.

ECM Fourth Annual CARnival

The fourth annual Early Childhood Ministry CARnival is **Saturday, May 3rd**. This year's CARnival will have a Hawaiian theme. The ECM board is seeking volunteers to host a booth at the event. Booths may include a fun activity or game; prizes will be provided. Please contact Andrea Cotton to sign up for a booth at 812-344-4580 or amorris1525@gmail.com.

Spring Break and Holy Week Church Office Hours

On **Friday, March 14th**, the church office will be closed as church and school staff will be assisting with Grandparents Day at the church.

During the week of Spring Break, Mackenzie will be in the office only on the morning of **Tuesday, March 18th**. Please submit all bulletin announcements for March 23rd by 8 AM Tuesday morning. If you need pastoral care during Spring Break, please contact Pastor Patterson or Pastor Fickenscher directly.

The church office will also be closed on **Good Friday, April 18th**.

April Mission of the Month

April's Mission of the Month is Just Friends. Just Friends is a nonprofit organization that provides Adult Daycare Services. Our support helps Just Friends continue to provide services at a reasonable cost to families.

In addition to our Mission of the Month Support, in the gathering space is a collection box for the following needed items: Folgers coffee, peanut butter, grape jelly, sugar free grape jelly, alcohol wipes/prep pads, paper plates (small & regular), plastic cups, Lysol spray, Kleenex, 13-gallon trash bags, paper towels, and Elmer's glue bottles.

A Note of Thanks

Thank you to everyone for making our inaugural Children's Tea Social a fun and memorable event. Thank you to all those who generously donated the use of their teacups, tea pots, serving plates, and those who assisted in the planning and execution of this event. Thank you to Michelle Bauman for her advice and expertise of English High Teas, and Jen Probst for the idea of holding this event.

-Tri-W and The Children's Tea Social Committee

Open ECM Positions

We are looking for quality candidates to fill the following positions for the 2025-2026 school year:

- Preschool teacher
- Teacher assistant
- Afternoon extended care teachers
- Substitute teachers

Most positions have morning responsibilities. Depending on availability, the weekly work structure can flex between Tuesday/Thursday and Monday/Wednesday/Friday. If you are interested in joining our staff, please send in your resume to secretary@stpaulcolumbus.org with a note indicating which position(s) you are interested in. For additional questions, please feel free to contact Director Jen Probst or any member of the Early Childhood Ministry Board (Andrea Cotton, Marissa Younger, and Emily Linke).

Preschool and Kindergarten Registration

Registration for the 2025-2026 school year is now open. Registration brochures are available in the gathering space and on the church website. **Please tell others about our preschool and kindergarten!** Here are some facts to share:

- We are accredited through the National Lutheran School Accreditation, making our school one of few early childhood centers that are accredited in Columbus.
- Small class sizes
- Extended Care available for both before and after school
- STEM enrichment available
- MOST importantly, we offer a Christ-centered education! The children learn about Jesus and the Scriptures every day!
- Our Kindergarten families are eligible to apply for the School Choice Scholarship for tuition assistance. Our Little Doves (four year old) families are eligible for SGO scholarships.

We are tremendously blessed as there are 59 children already enrolled for the upcoming school year! Nine openings remain in kindergarten, one opening in the Doves class (four year olds), and eight openings in the Lambs class (three year olds). If you have any questions, please contact Director Jen Probst.

Official Act

Mark and Debbie Mensendiek were received by transfer on February 23rd.

Our Christian Stewardship

We are grateful for your joyful and generous response to our Lord's blessings through your gifts and offerings. January is our largest expense month as we pay for tuition scholarships to our area Lutheran schools for our members who are enrolled in grades 1-12 (34 member children). In January, there are many one-time expenses such as the Trinity Lutheran High School Association Fee. Thanks to your generosity, we have close to eliminating this deficit!

January-February 2025 Financial Report

Offerings Needed:	\$127,464
Offerings Received:	<u>\$167,468</u>
Surplus/(Deficit):	\$ 40,004
Total Income:	\$199,544

Total Expenses: \$213,862
Surplus/(Deficit): (\$14,318)

If you have any questions about our church finances, please contact Treasurer Mary Ann Nunn, Financial Secretary Rachel Fohne, or a member of the Board of Stewardship.

Our Latino Outreach

In early March we had the pleasure of welcoming a new family to our Spanish services. One of our current members, Ema Escalante (Chun), informed me that she was aware of a family of six that was new to the area. She eagerly brought Noel and Mercedes and Dominic, José, Mía, and Matthew food, and then I had the pleasure of visiting Noel and Mercedes plus baby Matthew. The following Sunday Art Ramsey brought all six of them to and from church. They worshipped with us, met a number of our Latino and Anglo members, and made good use of our food pantry. Orphan Grain Train has also come in handy.

Thank you all for making Clifty such a hospitable and giving congregation! I'm very proud to welcome new folks to St. Paul knowing that they will be very well taken care of. Thanks also to Scott and Renee Strietelmeier and Steve Voelz for their care for them. Please pray for work for Noel and let me know if you know of any handyman, construction, or farm work that he could do. Pray that they are able to settle here permanently. ¡Gracias!

LWML News

All ladies of St. Paul are invited to join the LWML in hosting **Birthday Bingo at the Lutheran Community Home** in Seymour on Monday, March 17. There are plenty of bingo prizes in our bins in the coat room, but we are looking for donations of snacks and candy for the residents too. Thanks to Judy, Elaine, and Linda who have offered to make angel food cakes and cupcakes. We plan to carpool from the church and have lunch in Seymour before bingo. Please text or call Sariina Kalli at 218-451-1026 if you're interested in coming on the adventure.

The LWML will serve the **Lenten Meal** on March 26, prior to the evening service. There is a Nacho Bar sign-up sheet on the LWML bulletin board, so please check it out and donate if you are able. We would also love as many ladies as possible to help with set up and take down that evening.



NEW: We are pairing a **Silent Auction** with our Lenten meal to support the Extending Christ's Love campaign. We are looking for items or baskets of items to silently auction off beginning Sunday morning, March 23, and concluding Wednesday, March 26, after the Lenten service. If you have something you would like to donate to the auction, please contact Sariina at the number listed above. Thanks to those who have already donated collectibles, throw pillow covers, jewelry, a honey basket, and more! Set up will be the evening of March 22 in the fellowship room (time TBD).

Save the Dates

The **LWML Indiana District Spring Retreat** is April 25-26 at the Brown County Inn in Nashville, Indiana. The theme for the retreat is "Words that start with RE: Rest, Relax, Recharge, Rejoice, Repeat." Join us for an overnight "recharge" in beautiful Brown County!

The **LWML Columbus Zone Spring Gathering** is Saturday, May 3, at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church in Franklin, Indiana. Registration begins at 8:30 AM with a program to follow at 9 AM. Ladies of St. Paul will likely be carpooling to the event, so let us know if you'd like to go.

Mark your calendars for the next **Family Game Night/Euchre Tourney** on Friday, May 9.

The LWML is joining with the Finance Committee and others to host a **Community Rummage Sale** in support of Extending Christ's Love. The dates for the sale are Friday and Saturday, June 6-7. Planning meetings were held in early March, so stay tuned for more info as we move toward summer. As you start spring cleaning, be sure to save things that could bring in some money for our sale.

Registration is now open for the **LWML National Convention** June 26-29, 2025, in Omaha, Nebraska. The theme is "Growing in God's Grace" based on 2 Peter 3:18. Go to <https://arrowheadconferencesandevents.regfox.com/2025-lwml-convention> to register online. It's \$185 for the full weekend, but other options are available. So far, St. Paul has two women attending the convention. Will you join us?

LWML Mission Grant Highlights 2023-2025

Each month the LWML highlights one or more of the 31 adopted 2023-2025 Mission Grants. March's focus was on the Mercy Holistic Ministry (MHM) in California. To learn more about these, or any of the 31 mission grants, visit the bulletin board in the gathering space, or www.lwml.org/mission-grants.

Showering Love on the Least of These | Mercy Holistic Ministry | \$100,000

This grant will increase the frequency of mobile hot shower services and haircuts from two to three days per week, and serve 2,000 more people annually. A mobile clothing trailer will be purchased and operated to give away clean clothing and hygiene kits. God's Word will be shared by distributing 10 to 15 Bibles and prayer books every week. In the last several years, the homeless population in Sacramento has about doubled to nearly 10,000 people. These services will enhance the feeling of worth, provide hope in Jesus, and give counseling to aid the homeless in applying for jobs or securing an apartment. All people are created in God's image, loved by God in Jesus Christ, and need to experience that love every day in a multitude of ways.

Serving at St. Paul

Service	Usher Team	Elders	Greeters
8 AM	Team D	Adam Hall & Carl Shaffer	Joe and Susan Arnholt
10:45 AM	Team F	Wiley Umphress & Steve Voelz	Tim and Angie Arnholt

Day	Acolyte	Flowers	Radio	Fellowship Hour	Lunch
2 Lent 6:45 PM	Haley Hauersperger	-----	-----	-----	-----
6	8 AM Adam Arnholt 10:45 AM Ridge Koester	Warren and Molly Scheidt & Miriam Brougher			
9 Lent 6:45 PM	Sarah Arnholt	-----	-----	-----	-----
13 Palm Sunday	8 AM Addy Arnholt 10:45 AM Ellis Sperry	Mike and Wilma Yeley	Mike and Wilma Yeley		-----
17 Maundy Thursday 6:45 PM	Elijah Stepper	-----	-----	-----	-----
18 Good Friday 6:45 PM	Faith Wofford	-----	-----	-----	-----
20 Easter Sunday	7 AM Jaclyn Dettmer 9AM Kinze Fischer 10:45 AM Jesse Wofford	Easter Lillies			-----
27 Confirmation Sunday	8 AM Julia Burbrink 10:45 AM Kevin Chun Escalante		Colin and Linda Scheidt		-----



10:45 AM Divine Service English & Spanish

Wednesday AM Schedule
9 AM Bible Study
10:15 AM Matins Service

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Radio Service and Lutheran Hour can be found on 91.1 FM Columbus/Madison, 89.1 FM Greensburg, 88.1 FM Versailles/Osgood, and 94.5 FM Salem		1 9 AM-Noon OGT Workday Noon Staff Meeting	2 5:30 PM Lenten Supper 5:30 PM Sr. Handbells 6:30 PM Hymn Sing 6:45 PM Lenten Service 7:45 PM Sr. Choir	3	4	5
6 Mite Box Sunday Jr. Handchimes/Jr. Handbells Noon-1:15 PM SPY and C4Life Easter Egg Filling	7 10 AM Homeschool Religion 10 AM Moms in the Word 10 AM Small Group Handbells	8	9 5:30 PM Lenten Supper 5:30 PM Sr. Handbells 6:30 PM Hymn Sing 6:45 PM Lenten Service 7:45 PM Sr. Choir	10	11 Church Reserved	12
13 Palm Sunday Jr. Choir Children process with Palms at both services 9:30 AM Confession of Faith Noon Easter Egg Hunt	14 May Newsletter Deadline 9:30 AM Homeschool Religion 10 AM Small Group Handbells	15	16 6 PM Sr. Handbells 7 PM Sr. Choir	17 Maundy Thursday 6:45 Communion Service Sr. Handbells	18 Good Friday 10 AM Service ECM & Children's Choir Sing 10:45-3 PM SPY & C4Life Event 10:45 AM Together as Family 6:45 PM Communion Service of Darkness Sr. Choir	19 Church Reserved
20 Easter Sunday Children Process with Alleluia banners at all services 7, 9, & 10:45 AM Festival Communion Services 7:30-9:45 AM Easter Breakfast 7 & 9 AM Sr. Handbells 9 & 10:45 AM Sr. Choir No Christian Education Classes	21 9:30 AM Homeschool Religion 10 AM Small Group Handbells 5:30 PM Girl Scouts	22 5:30-9:30 PM Church Reserved	23 8:20 AM Doves and Kindergarten Chapel 6 PM Bible Study 6 PM Sr. Handbells 7 PM Sr. Choir	24 8:20 AM Lambs Chapel 1:30 PM Hickory Creek Visit	25 Church Reserved 7 PM Organ Recital	26
Pastor Patterson on Vacation						
27 Confirmation Sunday Sr. Choir Take home ground beef for taco barn 9:30 AM Confession of Faith Presentations 10:45 AM Confirmation Service Fellowship Room Reserved	28 9:30 AM Homeschool Religion 10 AM Small Group Handbells	29	30 6 PM Bible Study 6 PM Sr. Handbells 7 PM Sr. Choir			
			Pastor Bauman on Vacation until May 3			