

**St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Presents...**

April
2022

The Voice

Newsletter
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

A Message from our Pastor

Every day I hear the train's whistle sounding off as it comes through my town. In the morning and evening and when I'm home during the fullness of the day – I hear it too. It's comforting to me to hear that train. Because as a little girl in grade school until I moved out of my parent's home, I not only heard the whistle, but I saw the heavy engine and plethora of cars the engine towed behind it, and felt the rumble and shaking of it as it barreled past my house.

I know that the metaphor of a train is often used as a sort of threat to what's coming down the pike. But for me, I feel the comfort of its regular journey as it passes the crossing, picks up passengers, and continues on to where it needs to go. I see the journey of our family here at St. Paul's as good news found in the metaphor of a train. Its movement forward, its journey on, and the beautiful, active, busy world it sees as it goes by. A world it gets to be a part of. Day in and day out.

We are a living, breathing, moving, and important part of the community around us. Everywhere we go as individuals who are people of God and the work and care we do and give to those in our midst. And moving we are! The Food Pantry has moved to its new home just as April opens. We have a new Community Kiosk coming to the grounds – to enable our neighbors to eat and find the things they need to survive and move through their days and months. Worship is seeing a few more

folks! We are open for the community in our weekly worship – with the additional blessing of being There are also new opportunities to gather midweek this year. We are able to share the Good News of important seasons and inviting folks IN! Like this Easter and Holy Week that will be arriving soon!

I created a visual to see the many opportunities available at St. Paul's. Ships of Opportunity in the Harbor of St. Paul's! We have over 20 opportunities to be involved in the mission of St. Paul's.....there is definitely something for YOU! Look for the visual in our weekly emails each week- with the many ways to be a part of what's happening here at St. Paul's.

Beloveds, Easter Season is soon upon us Bringing new life, new joys, and new opportunities to be a part of the work and call of God's mission in this place. I invite you to the new life that Christ promises us in his death and resurrection! Praise be to God for the Life of Christ and our gift to help grow the ministry of God in this place.

Blessings for Easter and new life!

Pastor

Virtual Worship

with St. Paul's



If you feel more comfortable and safe remaining at home for worship; you can still participate in worship! We continue to livestream our Sunday Morning worship at 10:30am each week on our Facebook Page and upload it onto our YouTube Channel the next day.

A special thank you to Matthew Brenner for his musicianship that so beautifully enhances our worship. All of our music videos are on our Facebook page and YouTube Channel for your listening pleasure and devotional practice.

Welcome to Sunday Worship!



Kathleen Kerin, Pastor

The Sanctuary is full of the joy of Christ each Sunday. Worship begins at 10:30 am; please plan to arrive a few minutes before we begin. We continue to sing in worship, softly and fully masked.

Children are invited to the altar for a conversation with Pastor and Lectors read the scripture lessons for the day.

Bulletins are mailed to those who do not have access to the internet.

Each week on the Saturday just prior to worship, emails with a Saturday Message from Pastor, a copy of this week's bulletin, recorded hymns to listen to, and other important information to be shared are sent out.

If you do not currently receive regular weekly emails and would like to, (or if you know someone who would like to receive a bulletin at home) please call the church office and let the Office Coordinator, Courtney, know. She can be reached at: 215-424-4800.

St. Paul's Council Meeting

The next Council meeting will be held on Monday, April 11th at 7:30pm on ZOOM. The Executive Team will meet on Thursday, April 7th at 7:30 pm via ZOOM. A link will be sent out that morning.

Thank you to the Leadership of St. Paul's for your prayer and support in guiding the faith community of St. Paul's.

Communion

Communion continues to be offered on the first Sunday of each month. Pastor invites you to continuous communion to receive a sealed wine/juice and wafer kit and to return to your seat to partake. If you are more comfortable, the kits will be available in the Narthex so that you may partake without going to the altar.

Senior Wednesdays

Senior Wednesdays continues. Masks and vaccinations are required.

Thank You For Your Support!

Thank you for your continuing financial support during this time! Our regular monthly expenses continue, including staff and building expenses, as well as the expenses that enable us to continue communication, outreach, and worship. Your generosity is a profound and powerful witness to this congregation's ministry. Contributions help us serve our community and you, our congregation and family!

Announcements



St. Paul's does not require everyone who enters to be vaccinated. Following CDC protocols, masks are now optional in the sanctuary. Please remember to maintain social distancing.

Everyone is welcome and encouraged to fully participate in worship! Online or in person. We will continue to sing softly. If you are not feeling well, please stay home for the health and safety of everyone. Worship will continue to be live streamed on our St. Paul's Facebook page. Worship will also be available on the St. Paul's YouTube page. You can find us at **St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Olney.**

Being fully vaccinated is the best way to protect against serious complications from COVID; masks have been proven to reduce the risk that unvaccinated and vaccinated people will be infected with COVID.

Warm Our Hearts / Dry Our Feet Capital Campaign Update

The members and friends of St. Paul's Church have done it again!

Last month I reported on the donations of over \$30,000 that were contributed to our Capital Campaign by our generous and loyal members and friends. I also recognized the efforts of Pastor Kerin, who reached out to the Synod to obtain a grant of \$11,000, which is in addition to the contributions we received.

This month, I am so pleased to report that we have received a major gift in memory of Ken Hayes. This brings the total amount of money raised for our Warm Our Hearts / Dry Our Feet Capital Campaign to over \$82,000.

Our new boiler is installed and final glitches being addressed. We can now look forward and begin to obtain estimates for the work that needs to be completed in our Parish Hall.

I want to recognize all of the people who have contributed to the campaign and continue to keep St. Paul's in their hearts.

Thank you all!

Lynn Geisser

Linda Weber Witmer
Wayne & Lynn Geisser
John & Jill Todd-
Pasquella
Friday Nighters
Grace Morlock
Prem & Grace Marlapudi
Lois Winkler
Marianne Fabry
Laura and Ralph Neubaur
Henry and Sharon Baier
John and Kathy Elfrey
Paul and Bonnie Zieger
Loretta Nelson
Janet and Harry Fletcher
Jason and Liz Bethala
Ronald and Donna Koenig
Tom Holmes
Paula Haraburda

Paula and Thomas Lickfield
Marie Schobert
Judy Becker
Jurgen and Marlene Rehnig
Gabby and Angel Berrios
Judy Frei
Nina Sanders
Robbin Brown
Chris Brenner
EM Schwartz
Else Frasch
Bernice Cleveland
Gretchen & Mike Petersen
Janet Stott
St. Paul's Altar Guild
Ann Marie Pinto
Sandy & Mitchell Pinsley
Lois Hulet
Joann & Art Liston

Andrea Brooks
Pastor & Mrs. Rodney
Kopp
Marion W. Mauer
Judy & Bill Rose
Christine Kelly
Karen Kelly
Roger Zepernick
Theresa & Charles
Pinkerton
Gary & Linda Wagner
Kristin & Graham
Christensen
Anna Mario
Eric Schock
Steve Rittler
Arlene Hayes
Ann Farley
Jason Tapscott

Announcements

EASTER AND HOLY WEEK WORSHIP:

Palm Sunday 4/10 - 10:30am
Maundy Thursday 4/14 -7:30pm in the Sanctuary
Good Friday 4/15 -1:30 pm in the Chapel
4/15 8:00 pm in the Sanctuary
Easter Sunday 4/17 10:30 am in the Sanctuary



Our **Intergenerational Faith Formation gathering** is today directly after worship. We will also have an **Easter Egg Hunt!** We will meet in the Luther Room for cookies, a story, and an Easter Egg Hunt!

Join us following worship!



Share the Good News by signing up to be a part of the Worship Service on Sunday mornings by reading the two Lessons for the day. Call the Church Office if you would like to join us!

SCHOLARSHIP

Whitmore Scholarship Fund

Applications are now being accepted for the Spring.

Please call the office for an online application. Submit the application and official transcript to cfbrenner@icloud.com. The deadline is May 15th.

WEDNESDAYS AT THE TABLE

Pastor's Kitchen Table

will resume on Wednesday, April 20th at 7:30pm as we enter a joyous Easter Season! We will be talking about Spiritual Practices for the remainder of April and May. The first topic will be *Opening Ourselves to God*. Join us from your living room!



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

-COMMUNION AND VISITOR TRAINING is being planned based on the availability of those who will be participating. Julia Menzo of Liberty Lutheran Services is sponsoring the day and Pastor Sandra Brown will be leading this event. Please let Pastor know your availability.

KATIE'S

CLIPBOARD

~St. Paul's Food Pantry~

"...For God loves a cheerful giver."
-2 Corinthians 9:7b

Wednesdays
9am-12pm



The Food Pantry continues to serve the Olney Community and outside communities during the pandemic.

Since March 16, we have given out more than 700 bags! This is a blessing!

If you would like to donate and support our Food Pantry, please contact Tara McFarland Gladden or our Office Coordinator, Courtney Williams during office hours.

UPDATE: The Food Pantry will be moving its location to the Education Wing sometime in April. In addition to the increased use of the Luther Room for Faith Formation, Senior Wednesdays, and AA Meetings, the Education Wing is being redesigned to become the new St. Paul's Community Wing.

Katie's Cupboard will be one of the most recent tenants! Stay tuned for more exciting news and ways you can help with this new and exciting transition! The Wednesday morning hours will remain the same.

Stewardship Highlights the work of the FOOD PANTRY at St. Paul's

The food pantry is moving! We will be changing our location from behind the main office to Trinity Room in the new Community wing. This will be the 3rd move for the pantry. Each time we have moved, we have become bigger and better. This time is no different.

The food pantry had its start in the kitchen on the 2nd floor where bags were made and stored until Tracey had a customer. Those days we didnt have much of a clientele. We moved into the room behind the office in order to be more accessible. We were able to get more food, make more bags, help more people.

This new move will help us provide even more for the people who need it. Our clients will be given the dignity they deserve and pick the items they need, instead of a pre-filled bag. This move also opens the food pantry up to many different opportunities. Our goal in the next few months is to be able to get a freezer.

We are excited for what this move means for the future of St. Paul's Food Pantry.



-Tara McFarland Gladden (Pictured below: Tara McFarland Gladden, Connor McFarland, Pastor Kerin, & Marcie Griffin)



Kathleen A. Kerin, Pastor
Matthew Brenner, Organist
Courtney L. Williams, Office Coordinator

PRAYER CARD

Prayer Focus Card
Easter 2022

I shall not die, but I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord.

Psalm

118: 17

Sunday- The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Monday – Thanks be to God for the victory over death!

Tuesday - Holy God, inspire me to follow the risen Jesus.

Wednesday – Pour your gift of love into my heart.

Thursday – May my heart be fixed on Jesus.

Saturday – Grant me faith to trust that you abide with me on earth.

Birthdays

**ELSE FRASCH-24TH
HELEN UECKER- 25TH
MILDRED LAMPKIN-
30TH**

***HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL
APRIL BIRTHDAYS!***

****Please contact Courtney in the office
if you would like to be included in our
monthly birthday listings.****



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Please pray for our servicemen and women.

To advertise in our

Newsletter,

please contact

Courtney in the office

for more information.

St. Paul's Mission

St. Paul's Church is a congregation in mission! Guided by our Mission Statement, we live according to these words: St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church is a Christ-centered community of faith in Olney, Committed to sharing with all people the Word of God, Spiritual Fellowship, and Christ's reality in our lives.