

APRIL NEWSLETTER 2017

St. Paul Lutheran Church, NALC- 156 Poplar St. S.W. Bolivar, Ohio 44612 –
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From the Pastor...



EASTER 2017

St. Paul writes that without the resurrection of Jesus our faith is in vain. Just as the Reformation stood or fell on the teaching of justification so our faith is totally dependent upon the resurrection of Jesus. Easter, in other words, means everything for Christians around the world.

As we celebrate this special feast later this month I would like to offer as a reflection one of my favorite verses in the Bible. In I Corinthians 2:9, Paul writes that “What no eye has seen and no ear has heard, and what has never come into a man’s heart, is what God has prepared for those who love Him.” Paul is giving us a preview of the joy and happiness that believers will experience when we meet with God in heaven. All of our expectations will be surpassed by the glory of God’s presence. This is what awaits us when our earthly pilgrimage is over. St. Thomas Aquinas describes this encounter as the beatific vision.

To celebrate our future eternity with God, we will with joyful exuberance proclaim the resurrection of Jesus on Sunday, April 16 with worship at 9:30 am. I hope that you will join us that morning to unite your spirit with others as we celebrate God’s victory over sin and death.

In anticipation of that great day, I invite you to share in Holy Week services beginning with Palm Sunday on April 9 at 8:00 and 10:30 preceded by a procession of palms. Maundy Thursday service will be at 7:00 pm on April 13 followed the next day with Good Friday at 7:00 pm. On Good Friday, a soloist will perform the Via Dolorosa, which means the way of sorrows.

Easter will begin with a breakfast in the fellowship hall from 8:00-9:00 am followed by worship at 9:30 am. The breakfast will be prepared by the men of the church. At the service on Easter we will sing and praise God for the joy of new life in Jesus.

In closing, I pray that you and your families will experience the joy and peace of Easter throughout the year and beyond. May God bless you always with the assurance of being with Him in heaven as the promise of Easter so boldly proclaims.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!

Worship Ministers:

DATE	TIME	ASSISTANTS	DATE	TIME	LECTORS
4/2	8:00 a.m.	Charlann Young	4/2	8:00 a.m.	Sandy Ritter
	10:30 a.m.	Marcia Howenstine		10:30 a.m.	Cheryl Simers
4/9	8:00 a.m.	Jim Ward	4/9	8:00 a.m.	Byron Lautenschleger
	10:30 a.m.	Randy Simers		10:30 a.m.	John Seng
4/13	7:00 p.m.	Dee Garrison	4/13	7:00 p.m.	Skip Steward
4/14	7:00 p.m.	Terry Tegtmeier	4/14	7:00 p.m.	Marcia Howenstine
4/16	9:30 a.m.	Marcia Howenstine	4/16	9:30 a.m.	Steve Maurer
		Rose Harris			
4/23	8:00 a.m.	Pam Ward	4/23	8:00 a.m.	Jen Ward
	10:30 a.m.	Randy Simers		10:30 a.m.	Sue Bahr
4/30	10:30 a.m.	Dee Garrison	4/30	10:30 a.m.	Tammy Huggins
		USHERS			ACOLYTES
4/2	8:00 a.m.	Jim & Jen Ward	4/2	8:00 a.m.	Whitney Ward
	10:30 a.m.	Dave & Linda Clugston		10:30 a.m.	Michael Eberly
4/9	8:00 a.m.	Dave & Charlann Young	4/9	8:00 a.m.	Austin Ward
	10:30 a.m.	Rick & Lori Caughey		10:30 a.m.	Bailey Keane
4/13	7:00 p.m.	Randy & Cheryl Simers	4/13	7:00 p.m.	Lizzie Kienzle
4/14	7:00 p.m.	Tom & Tammy Huggins	4/14	7:00 p.m.	Whitney Ward
4/16	9:30 a.m.	Skip & Jean Steward	4/16	9:30 a.m.	Shawntel Hafer & Tyra Hampton
4/23	8:00 a.m.	Greg & Julie Majors	4/23	8:00 a.m.	Carson Majors
	10:30 a.m.	Lisa & Bailey Keane		10:30 a.m.	Michael Eberly
4/30	10:30 a.m.	Kevin Kienzle	4/30	10:30 a.m.	Bailey Keane
		Altar Guild Marcia Howenstine/Brenda Tegtmeier	Fellowship _____	Community Meal Brenda T. and Tammy H.	
		SCREEN MONITORS			
4/2	8:00 a.m.	Alexandria Howell			
	10:30 a.m.	Rick Caughey			
	8:00 a.m.	Whitney Ward			
4/9	10:30 a.m.	Josh Dix			
4/13	8:00 a.m.	Lisa Keane			
4/14		Doug Dix			
4/16	10:30 a.m.	Doug Dix			
4/23	8:00 a.m.	Sydney Ward - 10:30 Dee Garrison			
4/30	9:30 a.m.	Lisa Keane			

Offering and Attendance

Date	3/5	3/12	3/19	3/26
Offering	\$4,689.00	\$2,657.00	\$2,666.00	\$2,034.00
Attendance	67	81	84	75

Readings:

<u>Fifth Sunday in Lent</u>	<u>Sixth Sunday in Lent Palm Sunday</u>	<u>Easter – Resurrection of our Lord</u>	<u>Second Sunday of Easter</u>	<u>Third Sunday of Easter</u>
4/2	4/9	4/16	4/23	4/30
<u>Ezekiel 37:1-14</u>	<u>Isaiah 50:4-9</u>	<u>Acts 10:34-43</u>	<u>Acts 2:14, 22-32</u>	<u>Acts 2:14, 36-41</u>
<u>Psalms 30</u>	<u>Psalms 31:9-16</u>	<u>Psalms 118:1-2, 14-24</u>	<u>Psalms 16</u>	<u>Psalms 116:1-4, 12-19</u>
<u>Romans 8:6-11</u>	<u>Philippians 2:5-11</u>	<u>Colossians 3:1-4</u>	<u>1 Peter 1:3-9</u>	<u>1 Peter 1:17-23</u>
<u>John 11:1-45</u>	<u>Matthew 26:14-27:66</u>	<u>Matthew 28:1-10</u>	<u>John 20:19-31</u>	<u>Luke 24:13-35</u>

Prayer Chain - This week remember in your prayers: Ron Saxvik, Butch Anstead, Claire Oyster, Ron May, Jean Baker, Imogene McClellan, Christina Martini Sleutz & baby Kipton, Herb Seifert, Bill Tait, Pam Ward, Amelia Hartong, Amy Wise, Robert Snyder, David Dotson, Marlene Jisa, Ret Kendrick, Jack Garrison, Karen Joki, Tia McCoury, Melinda Caldwell, Chuck Slaybaugh, Lauren Seifert, Jackson Kuntz, Floyd McBeth, Nan Seng, **Servicemen & Women-** Andrea Gibson, Andy Jones, David Ward, Jordan Ritter, Adam Pohovey, Tony Lehmilller, William Robishaw, Calvin Farmer, Kirk Habrun



Youth News: FROGS Junior Youth Group (K - 6th grade) next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, April 9th 5 - 7 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will be celebrating the Easter holiday with food, a lesson, games and of course, AN EASTER EGG HUNT!!! Please sign up on the YOUTH ACTIVITIES BOARD to help in planning food and supplies if you are planning to attend.

GROGS Senior Youth Group (7th - 12th grade) April meeting is scheduled for Sunday the 2nd 5 - 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All GROGS and PARENTS are invited to dinner and a viewing of THE PASSION OF THE CHRIST. Please sign up on the YOUTH ACTIVITIES BOARD to help in planning food and supplies if you are planning to attend. I have also attached an invitation to the congregation to attend the Passover Seder. Please note the date change for the Passover Seder from April 23rd to **Saturday, April 22nd @ 5:00 pm** for the church calendar of events.

Attn: ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH MEMBERS!!! Spring has sprung and it is time to start thinking about Vacation Bible School!!!! This year, Community VBS will be hosted by St. John UCC July 9th - 13th. Please consider volunteering one or more days to work during the event, helping from home, or donating supplies or money to purchase supplies. Please watch for a volunteer sign-up sheet as well as a donation supply list. In the interim, we have a VBS donation box placed in the Narthex for anyone who would like to donate money towards VBS supplies. Checks should be made out to Jeannie Farber.



Rummage Sale: The sale this year is on May 5, & 6. After Easter, you may begin to bring your items in and place them in the nursery room at the back of the Fellowship Hall.



Luther Celebration & Ordination Anniversary:

Gezundheit! (No, that's good health!) Willkommen! (Yes, that's

"welcome!") Welcome to a very special kickoff to the 500th anniversary year of Martin Luther's nailing his 95 theses on the church door in Wittenberg, thereby setting the Reformation in motion and giving us a new understanding of Christianity.

Welcome also to a congratulatory day for our Pastor Mike on the 40th Anniversary of his ordination!

The celebration begins with Sunday School followed by one worship service at 10:30 a.m., which promises to be very meaningful. It includes special music by our own choir, and **In-Sweet-A-Chord**, a ladies quartet including Dorothy Garan. Pastor Paul Burgeson, a unique guest speaker, will tell us about Martin Luther.

After worship, we will go back to the year 1517 for a 16th century dinner. The Vision Committee has planned a menu consisting entirely of foods people in Luther's Germany ate in those times. Don't worry; we decided to eliminate the fried spinach and beans!!

Menu

Roast pork* Sauerkraut -Green Beans – Boiled Potatoes - German Noodles, Pot Roast

Crusty Round Bread & Butter – Cakes, Apple and Peach Fritters

Fresh fruit and cheese plate - Beverages

The pork will come from a whole pig which is being roasted for us over an open fire. It will be carved and brought ready to eat! The fritters and breads are being baked by Mary Steineck.

We have pitchers, candlesticks, baskets, and lanterns loaned for the occasion. If you have any suggestions to add to the 16th century "atmosphere," feel free to give them to us. (Call Ginny Smerglia 330-412-1474 or the Church Office) Let us just say we have already ruled out live goats and sheep! **Book Club:** By the time this newsletter is out, we will have met and discussed ***Why the Reformation Still Matters*** by Michael Reeves and Tim Chester on March 28. The reading and discussing of this book is just one component of a year long celebration of the 500th Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation.



Book Club: Our next meeting will be on May 23rd at 7:30 pm. Barring any change decided upon by our group, we will be reading ***The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*** by Rebecca Skloot. Scheduled for release as a TV movie on April 22, 2017, this non-fictional story will be a bit of a changeup from many of our recent readings. It deals with numerous topics, including medicine, science, racism, poverty, as well as ethics and some theological/spiritual issues. Contact Terry Tegtmeier if interested in purchase (price is about \$7).

Evangelism: The DVD message from Max Lucado and Pastor Mike's sermon following it last Sunday contained a great evangelistic message. If you weren't able to hear it, for whatever reason, I would strongly recommend that you invest 20 minutes and listen to both of them. You can watch them on the Internet at: Max Lucado contains a great analogy from a golfing event he was at with the concept of Christian justification. And Pastor Mike makes several excellent points about how each of us can help to spread that message, especially through our relationships with others. Again, if you'd like to see them (or even re-see them), please go to. It's worth the investment of a few minutes!



BIRTHDAYS

Dennis Smith	4/3	Rich Harmon	4/17
Randy Sanders	4/4	Rose Cunningham	4/23
Taylor McKown	4/6	Butch App	4/24
Josh Dix	4/8	Gary Sears	4/24
Benjamin Sayner	4/9	Terry Sears	4/24
Chris Ward	4/10	Dee Garber	4/26
Terri Howell	4/13	Tyra Hafer	4/28
Aroleine Howenstine	4/13		



ANNIVERSARIES

Bob & Pam Ward	4/8
Vaughn & Nicole Sears	4/12
Randy & Heidi Sanders	4/14
Skip & Jeanie Steward	4/16
Tom & Tammy Huggins	4/21
Russ & Sara Sayner	4/21
Richard & Donna Dudash	4/24

APRIL PRAYER FOCUS

Abused Children

There is rarely a day goes by that an abuse against a child is not reported in the newspaper. **Nearly 700,000 children are abused in the US annually**

Child Protective Services protects more than 3 million children.

Children in the first year of life have the highest rate of victimization.

4 out of 5 abusers are the victim's parents.

Let us offer up prayers for these helpless victims.

Pray that if there is someone who needs the courage to report an abuse or to ask for help that they will receive the courage they need to do so.

Pray for the children who have been rescued from bad situations.

1. That they are in safe homes.
2. That they can heal emotionally and physically.
3. That they will come to know Jesus and a Father that will never leave or forsake them.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayers.



Month of APRIL 2017

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						4/1
						
4/2	4/3	4/4	4/5	4/6	4/7	4/8
Worship & Communion 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School 9:15 a.m. GROGS 5-8:00 p.m.	Yoga Class 9:00 – 10:00 a.m.		Lenten Service 11:30 a.m. St. Paul Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.			Property 9:00 a.m.
4/9	4/10	4/11	4/12	4/13	4/14	4/15
Psalm Sunday, Worship & Communion 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School 9:15 a.m. FROGS 5-7:00 p.m. 	Yoga Class 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.		Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 p.m. 	Good Friday Service 7:00 p.m. Dave Zavasky - singer 	
4/16	4/17	4/18	4/19	4/20	4/21	4/22
Easter Sunday – Breakfast 8-9:00 a.m. - Worship & Communion 9:30 a.m. 	Yoga Class 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Council 7:00 p.m.		Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	Community Meal 5 – 6:30 p.m.		Seder Meal 5:00 p.m.
4/23	4/24	4/25	4/26	4/27	4/28	4/29
Worship & Communion 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga Class 9:00 – 10:00 a.m. Bible Study 7:00 p.m.	MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS APRIL 25 2017	Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.			
4/30						
Worship & Communion 8:00 & 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School 9:15 a.m. REFORMATION DINNER – NOON-2:00 P.M.						