



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2024

St. Paul Lutheran Church, NALC- 156 Poplar St. S.W. Bolivar, Ohio 44612

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From the Pastor...

LOOKING FORWARD TO LENT

The tradition of Lent dates back to the early church as the time for preparation for those choosing baptism. The custom of 40 days in Lent is tied to the period of time that Jesus spent in the wilderness after His baptism by John in the Jordan River.

Today we view Lent as timeframe of preparation as well but for the glorious joy of Easter, which is the most significant feast day in the life of the church. The penitential nature of Lent is to remind us of the sins of the world that Jesus embraced on Calvary prior to the Resurrection.

Lent begins this year a bit earlier than usual. Ash Wednesday is February 14 and Easter Sunday is March 31. There will a service on Ash Wednesday beginning at 7:00 pm with communion and the distribution of ashes.

The local ministerial association will continue the practice of Wednesday Lenten services held at a different church each week. The services will begin at 11:30 am followed by a luncheon.

In March, we will offer a healing service open to all in the community as part of the penitential focus of the Lenten season. Pastor Doug Gregory, from Mercy Medical Center Hospice, will join us for this meaningful gathering.

On Good Friday, we will be joined by Chris Hart, who has been with us in past as he portrayed Martin Luther. Next month, he will bring to us the character of Pontius Pilate. Chris is well-known for his many portrayals of famous people.

Finally, as a precursor to the Lenten theme of penance and forgiveness, we will welcome to both services on Sunday, February 11 Chaplain Tim Klink who will share his many experiences of prison ministry. His many years working with inmates should provide us with some important insights into the means by which God works in the most unlikely situations.

As you can see, there is much to look forward to in this Lenten season soon to commence. I hope that you will take advantage of these many opportunities to grow in faith in this holy season of grace.

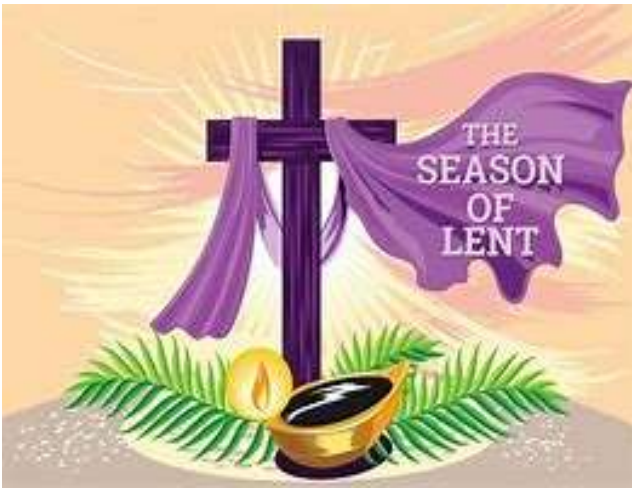
SOLI DEO GLORIA!

MINISTERS FOR FEBRUARY 2024

DATE	TIME	ASSISTANTS	DATE	TIME	LECTORS
2/4	8:00	Jim Ward	2/4	8:00	Byron Lautenschleger
	10:30	Kim Pohovey		10:30	Kim Pohovey
2/11	8:00	Mark Cunningham	2/11	8:00	Dave Zastawny
	10:30	Terry Tegtmeier		10:30	Richard Dudash
2/14 Ash Wed.	7:00 pm	Randy Simers	2/14 Ash Wed.	7:00 pm	Cheryl Simers
2/18	8:00	Steve Maurer	2/18	8:00	Sandy Ritter
	10:30	Marcia Howenstine		10:30	Marcia Howenstine
2/25	8:00	Charlann Young	2/25	8:00	Jen Ward
	10:30	Kim Pohovey		10:30	Kim Pohovey
USHERS & GREETERS			SCREEN		
2/4	8:00	Byron & Maryanne Lautenschleger	2/4	8:00	Jen Ward
	10:30	Tom & Tammy Huggins		10:30	Doug Dix
2/11	8:00	Dave & Charlann Young	2/11	8:00	Pam Ward
	10:30	Randy & Cheryl Simers		10:30	Dee Garrison
2/14 Ash Wed.	7:00 pm	Dee Garrison	2/14 Ash Wed.	7:00pm	Doug Dix
2/18	8:00	John & Sandy Bolitho	2/18	8:00	Olivia Howell
	10:30	Aaron & Meghan Woods		10:30	Ted Howenstine
2/25	8:00	Jim & Jen Ward	2/25	8:00	Terri Howell
	10:30	Tom & Tammy Huggins		10:30	Dee Garrison
Altar Guild			Community Meals		
		Richard & Donna Dudash			Kathy Pozzuto

Readings for February 2024

5 th Sunday After Epiphany 2/4	Transfiguration Of Our Lord 2/11	Ash Wednesday 2/14	1 st Sunday of Lent 2/18	2 nd Sunday of Lent 2/25
<u>Isaiah 40:21-31</u>	<u>Exodus 34:29-35</u>	<u>Joel 2:12-19</u>	<u>Genesis 22:1-8</u>	<u>Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16</u>
<u>Psalms 147:1-11</u>	<u>Psalms 50:1-6</u>	<u>Psalms 51 51:1-19</u>	<u>Psalms 25:1-10</u>	<u>Psalms 22:23-31</u>
<u>1Corinthians 9:16-27</u>	<u>2 Corinthians 3:12-13, 4:1-6</u>	<u>2 Corinthians 5:20-6:10</u>	<u>James 1:12-18</u>	<u>Romans 5:1-11</u>
<u>Mark 1:29-39</u>	<u>Mark 9:2-9</u>	<u>Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21</u>	<u>Mark 1:9-15</u>	<u>Mark 8:27-38</u>



Lenten Services Schedule – All services begin at 11:30 a.m.

February 21 – St. Paul Lutheran

February 28 – Bolivar United Methodist Church

March 6 – Open

March 13 – St. John UCC

March 20 – Holy Trinity

March 27 – Bolivar Community Church

Council News: Officers for the 2024 Council are:

President – Doug Dix

Vice President – Eric Garver

Secretary – Rick Simmons

Treasurer – Richard Dudash

Property – Eric Garver

Worship – Rick Simmons

Christian Education – Jordan Beitzel

Vision /Evangelism – Sandy Ritter/Terry Tegtmeier

Youth – Zac Pirillo

Fellowship – Rose Harris

Stewardship – Ted Howenstine

SICK AND SHUT-IN LIST

Shut-ins: *Please see a list of our shut-ins below; they would enjoy hearing from you by visit or card.* **Bonnie Burkhart** – Park

Nursing Home – 1525 N. Crater Ave. Room 507– Dover, OH 44622 **Betty Menapace** – Park Village – 1511 Crater Ave. Room 19 A, Dover OH 44622



Prayer Chain - **This week remember in your prayers:** Suzie Polcin, Carol Hoskinson, Dave Garan, Peggy Dix, Pastor Scott Anderson, Sally Lider, Jenny Melegari, David Shetler, Gina Sokol, Amy Hughes, Velda De Ruggiero, James

Baltzly, Margret Cox, Dr. Jennifer Carr, Greg & Nancy Mahoney, Pam Miller, Jeff Elliott, Lucie Dillon, Watson Riffle, Steve Morrin, Lee Hartline, Shannon Welty, Jeff Siegenthaler, Dave Mason, Josh Aubihl, John Moffett, David Sears, Joycelyn Ely, Marilyn Shaw, Weston Cooper, Dominic Manuel, Joanne Simers, Jessica Ditous, Hannah Dragomir, Bob Leffler, Devlin Crist, Gary Smerglia, Carol Schlagenhauser, Lyn Christenson, Tony & Ann Whatling, Lauren Seifert, **Servicemen & Women-** Seth Hershberger, Abraham Marlowe, Kyle Grieving, Cearra Taylor, Don Scholz, Rob Vitous, Camren Taylor, Trent Garver, Andrea Gibson, Andy Jones, Jordan Ritter, Adam Pohovey, William Robishaw

PRAYER FOCUS FOR FEBRUARY 2024

Because of Valentine's Day, February is considered the month of love. Following are just a few beautiful verses from the Bible about the greatest love of all, God's love for us. Read them once each day in February and thank God for His love.

1 John 3:1 How great is the love the Father has lavished on us that we should be called children of God. And that is what we are!

1 John 4:7 Dear friends, let us love one another for love comes from God.

1 John 4:10 This is love; not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins.

1 John 4:16 God is love.

1 John 4:19 We love because He first loved us.

John 3:16 For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life.

Romans 5:5 . . . God has poured out His love into our hearts by the Holy Spirit, whom He has given us.

Romans 5:8 God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Romans 8:39 For I am convinced that neither angels or demons, neither the present or the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.



Welcome Pastor Tim Klink who serves as chaplain for prison ministry throughout Ohio. He will speak at both services on Sunday, February 11 as well as the adult Sunday school class



The Rebekah's Sonshine Ladies would like to thank you for your generous donations to our drive for the Harbor House. In addition to your donated items, we plan to spend another \$500 on needed supplies. The Youth Group had their own drive to collect coloring books and art supplies. Your acts of kindness is such a blessing to our people in need. Praise the Lord!

Book Club: This past week, we discussed Parts 3 and 4 of our most recent book “Faithfully Different” by Natasha Crain. We had a very lively and frank discussion about the secularism of our current culture and the role of Christianity today.

We have decided in book club to read and discuss the book that we’ve given to the congregation, “How to Talk About Jesus Without Looking Like an Idiot: A Panic-Free Guide to Having a Natural Conversation About Your Faith.” It’s got a long title, but it’s a humorous book with a lot of practical advice. If you need another book for you family, contact Terry Tegtmeier or Pastor. And it’s even FREE!

CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

Everything is free!

WHEN: SATURDAY FEBRUARY 3RD 10AM – 3PM

**WHERE: NEW LIFE CHURCH OF GOD – 115 SOUTH AVE DOVER, OHIO
SHOP CLOTHING, HOUSEHOLD, TOYS, ETC. AND ENJOY FREE FOOD**

ANY QUESTIONS CALL/TEXT 330-987-4032

Happy Birthday (No anniversaries for February)



Sydney Ward	2/3
Gary Spangler	2/5
Virginia Smerglia	2/6
Kevin Kienzle	2/10
Alexander Zutavern	2/10
Tamra Huggins	2/12

Rose Harris	2/13
John Bolitho	2/17
Donna Dudash	2/22
Aaron Woods	2/26

Polar Bear Jump


Come make a splash on February 24th 2024

Proceeds benefiting



**AKRON-CANTON REGIONAL
FOODBANK**

Support polar Bear Club! Click here <https://igfn//.us/vf/PolarBear2024/team/ZacheryPirillo>

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				2/1	2/2	2/3
				Community Meal 11:30 – 1:00 pm		
2/4	2/5	2/6	2/7	2/8	2/9	2/10
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School 9:15 a.m.		Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice 7:00 pm			Property 9:00 am
2/11	2/12	2/13	2/14	2/15	2/16	2/17
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga Class 9-10 am Lions Club 6:30 pm		Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm Happy Valentine's Day 	Community Meal 11:30 – 1:00 pm		
2/18	2/19	2/20	2/21	2/22	2/23	2/24
First Sunday in Lent Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga Class 9-10 am President's Day Council 7:00	Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice 7:00 p.m. Lenten Service 11:30 a.m. St. Paul - Luncheon to follow			
2/25	2/26	2/27	2/28	2/29		
Second Sunday in Lent Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. – Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga Class 9-10 am Lions Club 6:30 pm		Choir Practice 7:00 pm Lenten Service 11:30 a.m. BMC Luncheon to follow			

Month To Date Giving

Year to Date Through JANUARY Amount 2024 **\$ 9,795.97**
Year to Date Through JANUARY Amount 2023 **\$14,430.00**



Dear Lord, as we live through this Ash Wednesday, may the crosses of ashes that mark our foreheads be a reminder to us and to those we meet that we belong to Your Son.
May our worship, prayer and penitence this day be sustained throughout these 40 days of Lent.
Lead us into sincere repentance and renew our lives with your grace.
Bring us refreshed and renewed to the celebration of Christ's resurrection at Easter.
AMEN.

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