



MARCH NEWSLETTER 2026

St. Paul Lutheran Church, NALC- 156 Poplar St. S.W. Bolivar, Ohio 44612
Pastor Mike Pozzuto - E Mail: stpaulbolivarpastor@gmail.com -PH: 330-874-4540

From the Pastor...

LENTEN MEDITATION

THE ROAD OF LIFE

At first, I saw God as my observer, judge, keeping track of the things, I did wrong, so as to know whether I merited heaven or hell when I die.

But later on, when I met Christ, it seemed as though life were rather like a bike ride but it was tandem bike. I noticed that Christ was in the back helping me pedal.

I don't know just when it was suggested that we change places, but life has not been the same since.

When I had control, I knew the way. It was rather boring, but predictable. It was the shortest distance between two points. But when He took the lead, He know delightful long trips up mountains and through rocky places at breakneck speeds. It was all I could do to hang on. Even though it looked like madness, He said, "Pedal!"

I was worried and asked, "Where are you taking me?" He laughed and didn't answer, and I learned to trust. I forgot my boring life and entered into a new adventure. When I'd say "I'm scared." He'd lean back and touch my hand.

He took me to people with gifts I needed. They gave me gifts of healing acceptance and joy to take on my journey, my Lord's and mine.

And when we were off again, He said, "Give the gifts away: They're extra baggage, too much weight." So, I did to the people we met, and I found that in giving I received and still our burden was light.

I did not trust Him at first. In control of my life, I thought he'd wreck it, but He knows bike secrets, knows how to make it bend to take sharp corners, knows how to jump to clear high rocks and knows how to fly to shorten scary passages.

I am learning to shup up and pedal in the strangest places, and I'm beginning to enjoy the view and the cool breezes on my face with my delightful companion, Jesus Christ.

When I'm sure that I can't do any more, He just smiles and says "Pedal!"

SOLI DEO GLORIA!

Ministers for Worship

March 1, 2026

<i>Assistant</i>	8:00	Charlann Young	10:30	Marcia Howenstine
<i>Lector</i>	8:00	Byron Lautenschleger	10:30	Gabriel Woods
<i>Ushers & Greeters</i>	8:00	Byron & Marianne Lautenschleger	10:30	Aaron & Meghan Woods
<i>Screen</i>	8:00	Olivia Howell	10:30	Ted Howenstine

March 8, 2026

<i>Assistant</i>	8:00	Sandy Ritter	10:30	Kim Pohovey
<i>Lector</i>	8:00	Wanda Baltzly	10:30	Kim Pohovey
<i>Ushers & Greeters</i>	8:00	John & Sandy Bolitho	10:30	Randy & Cheryl Simers
<i>Screen</i>	8:00	Terri Howell	10:30	Dee Garrison

March 15, 2026

<i>Assistant</i>	9:30	Randy Simers		
<i>Lector</i>	9:30	Cheryl Simers		
<i>Ushers & Greeters</i>	9:30	Dee Garrison		
<i>Screen</i>	9:30	Doug Dix		

March 22, 2026

<i>Assistant</i>	8:00	Wanda Baltzly	10:30	Terry Tegtmeier
<i>Lector</i>	8:00	Mary Ann Miller	10:30	Donna Menyas
<i>Ushers & Greeters</i>	8:00	Dave & Charlann Young	10:30	Tom & Tammy Huggins
<i>Screen</i>	8:00	Steve Maurer	10:30	Zac Pirillo

March 29, 2026

<i>Assistant</i>	8:00	Steve Maurer	10:30	Marcia Howenstine
<i>Lector</i>	8:00	Dave Zastawny	10:30	Linda Clugston
<i>Ushers & Greeters</i>	8:00	Byron & Marianne Lautenschleger	10:30	Aarpm & Meghan Woods
<i>Screen</i>	8:00	Olivia Howell	10:30	Ted Howenstine

<u>3/1</u> Second Sunday in Lent	<u>3/8</u> Third Sunday in Lent	<u>3/15</u> Fourth Sunday in Lent	<u>3/22</u> Fifth Sunday in Lent	<u>3/29</u> Palm Sunday
<u>Genesis 12:1-9</u>	<u>Exodus 17:1-7</u>	<u>Isaiah 42:14-21</u>	<u>Ezekiel 37:1-14</u>	<u>Isaiah 50:4-9a</u>
<u>Psalm 121</u>	<u>Psalm 95:1-9</u>	<u>Psalm 142</u>	<u>Psalm 130</u>	<u>Psalm 118:19-29</u>
<u>Romans 4:1-8, 13-17</u>	<u>Romans 5:1-8</u>	<u>Ephesians 5:8-14</u>	<u>Romans 8:1-11</u>	<u>Philippians 2:5-11</u>
<u>John 3:1-17</u>	<u>John 4:5-30, 39-42</u>	<u>John 9:1-41</u>	<u>John 11:1-53</u>	<u>Matthew 26:1-27.66</u>

MARCH 2026 PRAYER FOCUS

WHOEVER

GOD'S WONDERFUL WORD OF WELCOME

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. John 3:16

- Whoever acknowledges me before men, I will also acknowledge him before my Father in heaven. Math 10:32
- Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for My sake will find it. Math 10:39
- Whoever does God's will is my brother and sister and mother. Mark 3:35
- Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. Mark 16:16
- Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life, but whoever rejects the Son will not see life, for God's wrath remains on him. John 3:36
- Whoever drinks the water I give him, will never thirst John 14:24
- Whoever comes to me, I will never drive away. John 6:37
- Whoever lives and believes in me will never die John 4:26
- Whoever is thirsty, let him come and whoever wishes, let him take the free gift of the water of life. Rev 22:17

JOIN US IN REFLECTION THIS LENT & EASTER SEASON

“For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

What does it mean that the cross is unshaken? The cross stands unshaken because it is rooted in God’s eternal victory through Jesus Christ—a victory that cannot be undone, weakened, or diminished. In seasons when life feels uncertain, the cross reminds us that our hope rests not in the steadiness of our faith, but in the steadfast love and faithfulness of Christ, from which nothing can separate us.



Lenten Services Schedule: The weekly Lenten service will start at 11:00 a.m. with a luncheon to follow the service. February 25th - Holy Trinity - March 4th - Zoar UCC- March 11th -Bolivar Community -March 18th - Bolivar UMC-March 25th -St Paul’s Lutheran - April 1st – St. John UCC.



CELEBRATE BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES!!

March Birthdays

Whitney Ward	3/1	Madelyn Reeves	3/15
Logan Lohr-Hornberger	3/2	Jim Howell	3/19
Vaughn Sears	3/2	Gabriel Woods	3/22
Joe Pozzuto	3/3	Gary Pohovey	3/23
Rick Simmons	3/4	Jen Ward	3/24
Lizzie Kienzle	3/5	Meghan Woods	3/24
Donna Menyees	3/5	John Menyees	3/30
John Kienzle Jr.	3/6		
Brenda Tegtmeier	3/8		

March Anniversaries

Gary & Donna Spangler	3/9
John & Donna Menyees	3/22
Pr. Mike & Kathy Pozzuto	3/31



Shut-ins: Please see a list of our shut-ins below; they would enjoy hearing from you by visit or card. –**Pam Ward** (Room 128) – Hennis Care Center 300 Yant St. Bolivar OH 44612) - - **Jerry Hoskinson**, 1970 North Orchard Rd. NE Bolivar, OH 44612 - - **Betty Menapace** (Room 19 A) – Park Village – 1511 Crater Ave., Dover OH 44622 and **Alyce Snyder** - (Room 608) at Assisted Living at Brewster Park 360 Wabash Avenue (Jefferson Lodge/Inn Bldg. Brewster OH 44613 **Carol Hoskinson** (Room 311) The Gables 3660 Greentree Ave. SW Canton, Ohio 44706



Prayer Chain - **This week remember in your prayers** – Richard Mahoney, Ed Rentch, Julie Dean, Joseph Baltzly, James Baltzly, Jim Tucker, Zach & Raeann Todd, Donna Robishaw, Dan Chenoweth, Jennifer Melegari, Mary Sanders, Netta Strand, Lissa Johns, Brock McNutt, David Shetler, Gary Smerglia, Lauren Seifert, Servicemen & Women-Seth Hershberger, Kyle Grieving, Cearra Taylor, Don Scholz, Rob Vitous, Andrea Gibson, Andy Jones, **Note: After 6 months names will be removed if no new information is given.**



Teen Cooking Class: Cooking classes will be held on **March 2nd at 5:00 p.m.**



Thrivent Choice by March 31st

Be sure to direct 2025 Choice Dollars to your church or the organization(s) you care about by March 31, 2026. It only takes a few minutes to make a difference. Choice Dollars[®] are part of Thrivent Choice[®], a generosity program that empowers eligible clients to help choose where Thrivent donates a portion of its charitable funding. Since the program began, clients like you have helped Thrivent distribute nearly \$660 million to nonprofit organizations and churches across the country.

(Please refer to the bulletin board for more information.)

Thank you for helping us give back.

David J Zastawny, CLTC[®], FIC, RICP[®]

Fin

Ratification Results

As of February 13, 2026, a total of 335 congregations (62%) submitted votes. 50% of NALC congregations (543 as of August 8, 2025) that were members at the time of the Mission Convocation must vote in order for the amendments to be ratified. We are grateful for the time, care, and prayerful discernment your congregations gave to this important work of our church body.

Ratification Results

Based on the votes received, the following outcomes are confirmed:

- **Amendment One:** Constitutional and Bylaws / Scrivener’s Errors
Approved — 334 for, 1 against
- **Amendment Two:** Article on the North American Lutheran Seminary
Approved — 325 for, 10 against
- **Amendment Three:** Article 16 — Legal and Financial Matters
Approved — 334 for, 1 against

Updated Constitution

Below is the updated NALC Constitution reflecting the amendments as ratified by the congregations. This version is now the governing constitutional document of the North American Lutheran Church. We encourage pastors and congregational leaders to review the updated Constitution and share it with council members and other appropriate leaders within your congregation financial Advisor.



<u>Sunday</u>	<u>Monday</u>	<u>Tuesday</u>	<u>Wednesday</u>	<u>Thursda</u> Y	<u>Frída</u> Y	<u>Saturday</u>
<u>3/1</u>	<u>3/2</u>	<u>3/3</u>	<u>3/4</u>	<u>3/5</u>	<u>3/6</u>	<u>3/7</u>
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Teen Cooking Class 5:00 p.m.	Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Lenten Service Zoar UCC 11:00 a.m.	Bible Study 10:15 a.m. COMMUNITY MEAL 11:30 - 1:00 P.M.		Daylight Saving Time Turn clocks Ahead 1 hr.
<u>3/8</u>	<u>3/9</u>	<u>3/10</u>	<u>3/11</u>	<u>3/12</u>	<u>3/13</u>	<u>3/14</u>
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga 9-10 a.m. Lions Club 6:30 pm	Finance Committee Meeting 1:00 p.m.	Lenten Service - Bolivar Community 11:00 a.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.	Worship Meeting 10:30 a.m.		Property 9:00 a.m.
<u>3/15</u>	<u>3/16</u>	<u>3/17</u>	<u>3/18</u>	<u>3/19</u>	<u>3/20</u>	<u>3/21</u>
Worship & Communion 9:30 a.m. Fellowship	Yoga 9-10 a.m. Evangelism Meeting 9:30 am Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m. Happy St. Patrick's Day! RSSL packing candy 10:30	Lenten Service BUMC 11:00 a.m.	Bible Study 10:15 a.m. COMMUNITY MEAL 11:30 - 1:00 P.M.		
<u>3/22</u>	<u>3/23</u>	<u>3/24</u>	<u>3/25</u>	<u>3/26</u>	<u>3/27</u>	<u>3/28</u>
Worship & Communion 8 9:30 a.m. Fellowship to follow	Yoga 9-10 a.m. Lions Club 6:30		Lenten Service St. Paul 11:00 a.m. Choir Practice 7:00 p.m.			
<u>3/29</u>	<u>3/30</u>	<u>3/31</u>				
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.						

