



MARCH NEWSLETTER 2023

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

WHAT TO DO FOR LENT?

Lent has been traditionally associated with acts of self-denial and penance in preparation for Easter. Some people view Lent as an endurance test for forty days to determine the strength of their will. The church sees Lent as an opportunity for spiritual growth. There are many ways that we can grow in our spiritual lives while practicing self-denial.

The greatest commodity we have is our time. We cannot purchase it but only use what we have; therefore, it is precious. So often we waste time doing things that are really insignificant. I strongly suggest that we practice self-denial by denying ourselves those things that consume time that could be spent helping people. Volunteering your time to help those in need is a wonderful way to grow in faith. Sharing time with others is not wasteful as some might say. It is influencing others in a positive manner.

As I get older, I think often about how I want to be remembered. The legacy we leave is behind is the summation of the impact we have had on others. The foundation for such a point of view is to recall the grace of God in our lives. To be honest, we owe God everything. How do you repay such a debt? You can't! You pay it forward to those who need God's help. It is the calling to be more unselfish with our time. Remember that we all depend upon God for life, faith and salvation. It is the fundamental insight that brings faith into action.

As you volunteer more of your time for others, you develop a stronger sense of commitment to God's people as well discovering qualities that you never knew you possessed. God reveals His blessing upon those who willingly offer help and assistance to others.

In hindsight, which is always more accurate than prognostications, it is helpful to reflect upon the many people who have had a positive and lasting impact on one's life. It is similar to counting your blessings and putting the names of people with those benisons.

In closing, I want to offer you the invitation to view Lent as an experience in which you realize not only the blessings of God in your life, but also the gift of salvation that is offered through the suffering, death and resurrection of Jesus. Sharing the joy that comes with this gift enables one to reach out to others. Spending more time in prayer and less time on social media is always good advice for Lent and beyond.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!

Ministers for February 2023

DATE	TIME	ASSISTANTS	DATE	TIME	LECTORS
3/5	8:00 am	Rose Harris	3/5	8:00 am	Dave Zastawny
	10:30 am	Randy Simers		10:30 am	Randy Simers
3/12	8:00 am	Jim Ward	3/12	8:00 am	Jem Ward
	10:30 am	Marcia Howenstine		10:30 am	Marcia Howenstine
3/19	8:00 am	Steve Maurer	3/19	8:00 am	Steve Maurer
	10:30 am	Terry Tegtmeier		10:30 am	Terry Tegtmeier
3/26	8:00 am	Charlann Young	3/26	8:00 am	Olivia Howell
	10:30 am	Kim Pohovey		10:30 am	Kim Pohovey
USHERS & GREETERS			Screen		
3/5	8:00 am	Dave & Char Young	3/5	8:00 am	Olivia Howell
	10:30 am	Tom & Tammy Huggins		10:30 am	Doug Dix
3/12	8:00 am	John & Sandy Bolitho	3/12	8:00 am	Terri Howell
	10:30 am	Randy & Cheryl Simers		10:30 am	Ted Howenstine
3/19	8:00 am	Byron & Marianne Lautenschleger	3/19	8:00 am	Pam Ward
	10:30 am	Dave & Linda Clugston		10:30 am	Dee Garrison
3/26	8:00 am	Jim & Jen Ward	3/26	8:00 am	Jen Ward
	10:30 am	Dee Garrison		10:30 am	Doug Dix
		Community Meal Kathy Pozzuto		Fellowship	Altar Guild Ted & Marcia Howenstine

Readings for March 2023

<u>Second Sunday in Lent</u> 3/5	<u>Third Sunday in Lent</u> 3/12	<u>Fourth Sunday in Lent</u> 3/19	<u>Fifth Sunday in Lent</u> 3/26
<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>Psalm 121</u>	<u>Psalm 95:1-9</u>	<u>Psalm 142</u>	<u>Psalm 130</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>John 3:1-17</u>	<u>John 4:5-42</u>	<u>John 9:1-41</u>	<u>John 11:1-53</u>

Prayer Chain - This week remember in your prayers: – Pam Millec, Jeff Elliott, Lucie Dillon, Watson Riffle, Steve Morrin, Richard Crist, Lee Hartline, Shannon Welty, John Dunn, Jeff Siegenthaler, Jane Davis, Dave Mason, Josh Aubihl, John & Judy Moffett, David Sears, Jocelyn Ely, Bruce Widder, Mike Berndt, Michael Mayle, Marilyn Shaw, Weston Cooper, Richard Christmas, Dominic Manuel, Joanne Simers, Jessica Ditous, Rachele West, Hannah Dragomir, Bob Leffler,

Becky Fabianich, Devlin Crist, Gary Smerglia, Carol Schlagenhauser, Lyn Christenson, Tony & Ann Whatling, Louise Harris, Lauren Seifert, *Servicemen & Women- Seth Hershberger, Abraham Marlowe, Kyle Grieving, Cearra Taylor, Don Scholz, Rob Vitous, Camren Taylor, Trent Garver, Andrea Gibson, Andy Jones, David Ward, Jordan Ritter, Adam Pohovey, William Robishaw*

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.

Jane Davis – Hennis Care Ctr. 300 Yant Street – Bolivar, OH 44612

Bonnie Burkhart – Park Village Assisted Living. – 1525 N. Crater Ave. Room 507– Dover, OH 44622

Betty Menapace – Park Village Southside – Room 19 H – 1019 Oldtown Valley Road SE, New Philadelphia, OH 44663



Whitney Ward	3/1	Skip Steward	3/11
Logan Hornberger	3/2	Madelyn Reeves	3/15
Vaughn Sears	3/2	Walter Tidenberg	3/19
Joe Pozzuto	3/3	Jim Howell	3/19
Rick Simmons	3/4	Gabriel Woods	3/22
Lizzie Kienzle	3/5	Gary Pohovey	3/23
John Kienzle	3/6	Jen Ward	3/24
Brenda Tegtmeier	3/8	Meghan Woods	3/24

Gary & Donna Spangler	3/9
Pr. Mike & Kathy	3/31



The community Lenten schedule is as follows:

- March 1** – St. Paul Lutheran
- March 8** – Holy Trinity in Zoar
- March 15** – Bolivar United Methodist Church
- March 22** – St. John UCC
- March 29** – Zoar UCC
- April 5** – Bolivar Community Church

All services begin at

11:30 followed by a luncheon



PRAYER FOCUS FOR MARCH 2023

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT Almighty God, whose blessed Son was led by the Spirit to be tempted by Satan: Come quickly to help us who are assaulted by many temptations, and, as you know the weaknesses of each of us, let each one find you mighty to save; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT Almighty God, you know that we have no power in ourselves to help ourselves: Keep us both outwardly in our bodies and inwardly in our souls, that we may be defended from all adversities that may happen to the body, and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT Heavenly Father, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you: Look with compassion upon the heartfelt desires of your servants, and purify our disordered affections, that we may behold your eternal glory in the face of Christ Jesus; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT Gracious Father, whose blessed Son Jesus Christ came down from heaven to be the true bread which gives life to the world: Evermore give us this bread, that he may live in us, and we in him; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT Almighty God, you alone can bring into order the unruly wills and affections of sinners: Grant your people grace to love what you command and desire what you promise; that, among the swift and varied changes of this world, our hearts may surely there be fixed where true joys are to be found; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Youth News: The St. Paul youth will once again be collecting items for Samaritan's Purse Operation Christmas Child. Our goal is to fill 175 boxes this year. In order to fulfill this goal, we will be collecting specific categories of items each month from March to October. In March we will be collecting personal care items, specifically toothbrushes, "non-medicated, individually packaged bar soap", washcloths, and combs. Dollar General and Dollar Tree have a great selection of these items at reasonable prices. A labeled box will be in the Narthex for donations. Monetary donations may be placed in an envelope labeled "Operation Christmas Child" in the offering plate.

As a reminder to all, these items are prohibited: candy, toothpaste, gum, used or damaged items, scary or war-related items, food of any kind, drink mixes, liquids, lotions, medications, vitamins, breakable items, and aerosol cans.



Book Club:

Our next book will be “Why Believe?” by Neil Shenvi. This is his first book, and he discusses some of the usual apologetic questions, presenting four arguments for Christianity: persuasively defending the truth of Jesus’ identity, the resurrection, the existence of God, and the message of the gospel. He defends complex objections to the Christian faith with rational counterarguments and historical evidence. The entire book is well-written, though I believe the last 75 pages is especially helpful and interesting, as it challenges the believer to examine his/her own values and beliefs. Contact Terry Tegtmeier to order (\$17 each). **The book club will meet on Tuesday, March 28 at 7:00 p.m.**



Malone University Chorale & Chamber Choir Amplified

Faith, Hope, Love –

Friday, March 3 – 7:00 p.m. St. Joseph Catholic Church - 322 3rd. Street SE, Massillon, Ohio



Church Records: Please inform the church office if you are not receiving the newsletter. We wish to update our records, with accurate information.

Council News: The council decided to purchase an Automated External Defibrillator at a cost not to exceed \$2500.

EASTER FLOWERS: Time again for Easter flowers - **The dead line for your orders must be turned in to the church office by March 26.**



Lily - \$12 -



Tulip - \$9



Daffodil - \$9


Hyacinth - \$9





MARCH CALENDAR 2023



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			3/1	3/2	3/3	3/4
			Lenten Service 11:30 am – St. Paul Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	Worship Meeting 11:00 am		
3/5	3/6	3/7	3/8	3/9	3/10	3/11
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Second Sunday of Lent	Yoga Class 9-10 am	Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Fellowship Meeting 10:00 am Lenten Service Holy Trinity Catholic 11:30 am Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.			Property 9:00 a.m.
3/12	3/13	3/14	3/15	3/16	3/17	3/18
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School 9:15 am Third Sunday of Lent	Yoga Class 9-10 am Lions Club 6:30 pm		Lenten Service 11:30 am BUMC Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	Community Meal 11:30 – 1:00 p.m.	St Patrick's Day! 	
3/19	3/20	3/21	3/22	3/23	3/24	3/25
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School 9:15 am Fourth Sunday of Lent	Yoga Class 9-10 am Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Lenten Service 11:30 am St. John UCC Choir Practice 7:30 p.m. Homeless Shelter Meal			
3/26	3/27	3/28	3/29	3/30	3/31	
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School 9:15 am Fifth Sunday of Lent	Yoga Class 9-10 am Lions Club 6:30 pm	Book Club 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.			

Monthly To Date Giving

February 2023- \$ 10,640.00 Includes 8 Services

February 2022 - \$18,271.62 Includes 8 Services

