



MAY NEWSLETTER 2023

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

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From the Pastor...

THE CHURCH AS A LIFESAVING STATION

On a dangerous seacoast, where shipwrecks often occur, there was once a crude lifesaving station. The building was just a hut and there was only one boat, but the few devoted members kept a constant watch over the sea, and with no thought for themselves went out day and night tirelessly searching for the lost. Many lives were saved by this wonderful little station, so that it became famous. Some of those who were saved and various others in the surrounding area wanted to become associated with the station and give their life and money and effort for the support of the work. New boats were bought and new crews were trained. The little lifesaving station grew.

Some of the members of the lifesaving station were unhappy that the building was so crude and poorly equipped. They felt that a more comfortable place should be provided as the first refuge of those saved from the sea. They replaced the emergency cots with beds and put better furniture in the enlarged building. Now the lifesaving station became a popular gathering place for its members, and they decorated it beautifully and furnished it exquisitely because they used it as a sort of club. Fewer members were now interested in going to the sea on lifesaving missions so they hired lifeboat crews to do the work. The lifesaving motif still prevailed in the club's decoration, and there was a liturgical lifeboat in the room where the club initiations were held. About this time a large ship was wrecked off the coast, and the hired crews brought in boatloads of cold, wet and half-drowned people. They were dirty and sick and some of them had black skin and some had yellow skin. The beautiful new club was considerably messed up. The property committee had a shower house built outside the club where the victims of the shipwreck could be cleaned up before coming inside.

At the next meeting, there was a split in the club membership. Most of the members wanted to stop the club's lifesaving activities as being unpleasant and a hindrance to the normal social life of the club. Some of the members insisted upon lifesaving as the primary purpose of the club. They were finally voted down and told that if they wanted to save lives of all people who were shipwrecked then they could begin their own lifesaving station down the coast. They did.

As the years went by, the new station experienced the same changes that had occurred in the old. It evolved into a club, and yet another lifesaving station was founded. History continued to repeat itself, and if you visit the coast today, you will find a number of exclusive clubs along that shore. Shipwrecks are frequent in those waters, but most of the people drown. This description of the church is sadly true in many cases. There are, however, many congregations that adapt and welcome all those who are shipwrecked and broken by life experiences. Let us always welcome the shipwrecked as we sail the seas ahead.

SOLI DEO GLORIA!

Ministers for May 2023

DATE	TIME	ASSISTANTS	DATE	TIME	LECTORS
5/7	8:00 am	Rose Harris	5/7	8:00 am	Sandy Ritter
	10:30 am	Terry Tegtmeier		10:30 am	Terry Tegtmeier
5/14	8:00 am	Jim Ward	5/14	8:00 am	Oliva Howell
	10:30 am	Kim Pohovey		10:30 am	Kim Pohovey
5/21	8:00 am	Steve Maurer	5/21	8:00 am	Steve Maurer
	10:30 am	Randy Simers		10:30 am	Randy Simers
5/28	9:30 am	Marcia Howenstine	5/28	9:30 am	Marcia Howenstine
USHERS & GREETERS			Screen		
5/7	8:00 am	Dave & Charlann Young	5/7	8:00 am	Olivia Howell
	10:30 am	Dee Garrison		10:30 am	Doug Dix
5/14	8:00 a.m.	John & Sandy Bolitho	5/14	8:00 am	Jen Ward
	10:30 a.m.	Randy & Cheryl Simers		10:30 am	Dee Garrison
5/21	8:00 a.m.	Aaron & Meghan Woods	5/21	8:00 am	Terri Howell
	10:30 a.m.	Dave & Linda Clugston		10:30 am	Doug Dix
5/28	9:30 a.m.	Dee Garrison	5/28	9:30 a.m.	Ted Howenstine
		FELLOWSHIP			ALTAR GUILD
		None			Brenda Tegtmeier Cheryl Simers

Readings for

May 2023

5/7 Fifth Sunday of Easter	5/14 Sixth Sunday of Easter	5/21 Seventh Sunday of Easter	5/28 Day of Pentecost
<u>Acts 6:1-9, 7:2, 51-60</u>	<u>Acts 17:16-31</u>	<u>Acts 1:12-26</u>	<u>Numbers 11:24-30</u>
<u>Psalm 146</u>	<u>Psalm 66:8-20</u>	<u>Psalm 68:1-10</u>	<u>Psalm 25:1-15</u>
<u>1 Peter 2:2-10</u>	<u>1 Peter 66:8-20</u>	<u>1 Peter 4:12-19, 5:6-11</u>	<u>Acts 2:1-21</u>
<u>John 14:1-14</u>	<u>John 14:15-21</u>	<u>John 17:1-11</u>	<u>John 7:37-39</u>



Pentecost: Sunday May 28 is recognized as Pentecost. It is one of the great festivals of the Church. In modern popular culture it isn't nearly as well-known as Christmas or Easter, but for Christians it's profoundly significant. It marks the coming of the Holy Spirit on the disciples and their transformation from frightened and confused people to men who would face martyrdom for what they believed.

Prayer Chain - This week remember in your prayers: Vickie Groenke, Margret Cox, Dr. Jennifer Carr, Greg & Nancy Mahoney, Dr. Michelle Hamm, Jeanna McKown, Pam Miller, 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, Joycelyn 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*



PRAYER FOCUS FOR MAY 2023

This month let us pray for those who are attending the grief support sessions being offered at our Church for those who have lost loved ones. Pray that they will find peace and comfort and, as Christians, remember that with sorrow there is always hope.

In the words of a well-known hymn:

*What a Friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!*

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 – Room 212

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

SUMMER SCHEDULE

May 21 will be the last of two services

Beginning May 28, there will only be one service at 9:30 A.M.

No Sunday School during summer months.



Marlene Jones	5/4
Kerry & Virginia Emerglia	5/5/6
Steve & Ann Mann Young	5/5/8
Ljane & Joe Clark	5/5/11
Garry & Tenia Sears	5/19
Dennis & Jennifer Smith	5/30

Pastor Mike Pozzuto	5/9
Wanda Baltzly	5/22
Larry Fortner	5/23
Dana Maus	5/31



Operation Christmas Child: As a reminder to all, these items are prohibited:

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 May and June**, we will be collecting small toys – specifically play-doh, balls, Hot Wheels cars, yo-yos, jump ropes, slinkies, small dolls, playing cards, dress up jewelry and crowns, and animal figurines. Please keep in mind that these items must be able to fit in a standard sized shoebox. 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.

If you have any questions, please contact Ashley Beitzel.



Book Club:

Our next book will be "Impossible Love" by Craig Keener and Medine Moussounga Keener. This is a true-life love story which took place in several continents, including war-torn parts of central Africa. It is a story of war and romance, hope and miracles, sorrow and ecstasy. It will inspire and encourage your faith, as well as your emotions. After some recent tougher philosophical books, I suspect this will be a welcome change of pace. We'll be meeting in the end of May to discuss. Contact Terry Tegtmeier if you'd like a book (\$7 apiece) **The book club will meet on Tuesday, May 23 at 7:00 p.m.**



Grief Support Group:

Beginning on Monday, April 17 for six consecutive Mondays, Doug Gregory from Mercy Medical Center Home Health and Hospice, will lead a grief support group for those who are experiencing the loss of a loved one. The support group is free and open to the community. Please contact the church office to register. All sessions begin at 10:30 and end at noon.



Rummage Sale:

The Rebekah sisters and Sonshine ladies are having the rummage sale this year on **May 5 and 6** Please begin gathering items for the "Sale". No TV's will be accepted. **Friday May 5 – 9:00 -4:00 p.m. - May 6 – 9:00 – 12:00 p.m.**



National Day of Prayer: On Thursday, May 4, the community is invited to the Bolivar United Church at 11:30 a.m. to celebrate a day of prayer for our country. A light lunch will be served after the service.

AED: Please see the pictures of where the AED is located in the Narthex.



Mission Trip: A group of NALC churches are planning a mission trip to Hazzard Kentucky. ***The group will arrive on Sunday, June 11 and return home on Thursday, June 15th.*** Volunteers need to bring their own air mattresses, bedding, towels, toiletries and personal tools. Volunteers will stay as guests of County Line Community Church. NALC Disaster Response will provide the projects of home repair and the materials to complete the work. The cost is the travel expenses and food. If you wish to attend, please sign the list in the Narthex.


Stuff The Truck: Suggested Donations for NALC Disaster Response includes: Bibles, Quilts & Blankets, Flood Buckets, School Kits, Healthcare Kits and Gift Cards. All items must be donated by Wednesday May 3rd.

Manna For Many: Volunteers are needed to bag food for the needy on Saturday, May 20 from 1 – 3:00 p.m. in the fellowship hall. Please sign the list in Narthex if you plan to help.



In the United States, there are several holidays and observances that honor the armed forces. Among those is Memorial Day. Originally

May Calendar 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	5/1	5/2	5/3	5/4	5/5	5/6
	Grief Counseling 10:30 -12 p.m..	Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	National Day of Prayer 11:30 a.m. BUMC	Rummage Sale 9-4 pm	Rummage Sale 9- 12 pm
5/7	5/8	5/9	5/10	5/11	5/12	5/13
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Lions Club 6:30 pm Grief Counseling 10:30 -12 p.m..		Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.			Property 9:00 a.m. Jim Davis Fellowship Hall - b/d party 4-7p.m.
5/14	5/15	5/16	5/17	5/18	5/19	5/20
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Sunday School 9:15 a.m. Happy Mother's Day	Yoga Class 9-10 am Council 7:00 p.m. Grief Counseling 10:30 -12 p.m.	Men & Women's Meeting 7:00 p.m.	Choir Practice 7:30 p.m.	Community Meal 11:30 - 1:00 p.m.		Manna for Many Fellowship Hall 1-3 pm.
5/21	5/22	5/23	5/24	5/25	5/26	5/27
Worship & Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. - Sunday School 9:15 a.m.	Yoga Class 9-10 am Lions Club 6:30 pm Grief Counseling 10:30 -12 p.m..	Book Club 7:00		!		
5/28	5/29	5/30	5/31			
Worship & Communion 9:30 a.m.	Yoga Class 9-10 am  MEMORIAL DAY OFFICE CLOSED		Homeless Shelter Meal			

called "Decoration Day," Memorial Day is observed on the last Monday of May to honor those who died while serving in the U.S. military. May we never forget!! Thank you for your service!

Monthly To Date Giving
April 2023- \$13,551.00 Includes 7 Services
April 2022 - \$11,961.00 Includes 8 Services