

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Newsletter
April, 2021

The Pastor's Focus

04/01/2021

“The flowers appear on the earth,
the time of singing has come,”
(Solomon 2:12a, ESV)

Dear St. Paul's faith family,

Spring is my favorite season of the year. In a week, we already have excellent weather and sprouting flowers. In April, most trees would have green leaves and flowers. Our Lord has created a beautiful world. He is also faithful to give us the seasons every year. Moreover, we will celebrate Easter in the first week of April. Thank God for enabling our scientists to discover three different vaccines that help us worship our Lord in the sanctuary with less risk of contracting COVID-19. Therefore, we will be gathering in the sanctuary and proclaim,
“Alleluia! Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed, Alleluia!”

Of course, Spring has come in a time of joy! James writes,

“Is anyone cheerful?

Let him sing praise.”

(James 5:13b, ESV).

Our hearts are filled with cheerful Easter spirit. I am looking forward to sing/ hum with you to the Lord, who filled our lives with the joy of salvation. We carol to the Lord who died on behalf of us! We rejoice in the victory we have over death and the devil. We praise our heavenly Father, who loves us dearly that he sent Jesus to save us. We chant to God the Holy Spirit, who regenerates, strengthens, protects, and guides us every day. We sing songs of praises to our Redeemer, who gave us peace that flows like a river throughout the year.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ, what songs are you singing to the Lord this Easter season?

Happy Easter!

Pastor Teklu

April Recognition

Hopefully, you have been following the progress we have made relative to establishing St. Paul's Strategic Plan. The purpose is to identify an overarching mission goal that will provide a direction and align the mission efforts in the coming years. This encompasses development of a long-range vision (5+ years), a mid-term vision (3 years), a short-term vision (1 year) and quarterly (90 day) strategies to begin moving us forward.

The Strategic Plan Visioning Committee, assisted by Vision Coach Tina Jasion, met over a five month period (10/20 - 2/21) to develop a strategic plan AND a process to maintain this work in a living cycle of evaluation, learning and planning.

Overall Vision Statement: St. Paul's is a vibrant, family-oriented Lutheran community, united in fostering an outward-facing ministry by actively serving the congregation and the community.

Please join in thanking the Strategic Plan Visioning Committee for their work and dedication to this very important project that will provide the guidelines for St. Paul's in the coming years.

Cyndie Dixon
Patrick Dugan
Zac Huffman
Del Jenstrom
Bernice Prescott
Diane Segelhorst
Devon Hale-Smith
Pastor Teklu



Prayer Requests

If at all possible, please list the need for the prayer. If the request requires long-term prayers, please indicate so and let the office know when it should be removed. Please contact Cindy in the office at info@StPaulsCrofton.com if you have any questions!

Long-Term Prayers:

John Abel (health issues); Preston Arnold; John and Monica Bagley (health issues); Phyllis Ball (health issues); Barry (family and health issues); JoAnn Breitbach (health issues); Peta Capello (health issues); Marianne Foreman (health issues); Marilyn Harris (health issues); Jackie Hitchens (recovering from surgery); Jay (health issues); Wayne K. (health issues); Janet Mox (health issues); Kay Rudolph (health issues); Brian Spencer (health issues); Dick Sulken (health issues); Michael Zimmer Jr. and family (health issues).

Please pray for our members and friends serving in the military: Jake Godboldte, Dylan Harris, Rachel MacCumbee, Scott MacCumbee, Dan Mitchell, Brian Wolford, and their families.



Monday, April 19th, 7:00 pm, Zoom Meeting

The book being discussed this month is "Ink and Shadows" by Ellery Adams. Please contact Dana Brown or Sandi Corwin for ZOOM log in and book information.

Come
Celebrate Our Salvation!

EASTER

SUNDAY

“Hallelujah, He is Risen!”

8:15 am- Liturgical Worship

10:30 am- Praise & Worship



Easter Flower Dedications

Carl & Jackie Abend - In loving memory of our parents

Orlando & Charlotte Angeli – In honor and memory of the Angeli and Fricke families

Sadie Becoate - In memory of Don Becoate

Jaxon & Dana Brown - In memory of our parents

Jason & Ashlee Byron Brown - In loving memory of Shirley Ann Smith

Jack & Penny Courtney - In loving memory of our parents and Penny's sister

Cyndie Dixon - In memory of Mick Dixon

Jane Felsentreger – In honor of Faye & Walter Baase and Lorraine Clow

Marilyn Harris - For loved ones and our healthcare doctors and nurses

Sharon Heineken - In loving memory of William & Maud Heineken and sister Shirley

All Praise and Glory to our King.

Zac & Linda Huffman - In memory of our loved ones

Sally Meyer - In memory of husband, Walter Myer

In memory of Margaret Meyer and Georgetta Brenner

Judy Tribby – In loving memory of parents, John and Elsie

ALLELUIAS and BUTTERFLIES

On Easter Sunday and throughout the Easter season “*Alleluias*” and “*Butterflies*” will adorn the walls of the church. Donna Howard created the stencil for the “*Alleluias*,” which were colored by Donna, Genny Blount (Donna’s mother), Makenzie Clark, Selah Ketema, and Avery and Quinn Mitchell. Donna and I cut out the “*Alleluias*,” and I did the “*Butterflies*”. Thank you to all the helpers for your time and talent.

Enjoy our special decorations during the Easter season.

Jane Felsentreger



THE “WIPE DOWN” WHAT IS THE “WIPE DOWN”?

Beginning on Easter Sunday there will be two worship services every Sunday. After each of these services the pews and the stair rails need to be sanitized or “*wiped down*”. On each pew there will be Clorox wipes and rubber gloves. When the worship service has ended one person will put on a rubber glove and pull Clorox wipe(s) from the container and “*wipe down*” the pew – the back, seat and top of the pew in front of your pew. Deposit the wipe(s) and glove in the trash basket at the rear of the church. When removing the glove from one’s hand pull the glove from the wrist so the inside of the glove becomes the outside of the glove.

Thank you for your help in keeping our church a safe environment.

AN EASTER SUNDAY GIFT

BERNICE AND BOB PRESCOTT have volunteered to do the “*wipe down*” on Easter Sunday after the Traditional Worship Service.

JANE FELSENTREGER has volunteered to do the “*wipe down*” on Easter Sunday after the Contemporary Service

Beginning April 11th those sitting in the pews will be responsible for the ‘wipe down’.

Did you know you can now fill out a CONNECT card online for attendance and to obtain information about what St. Paul's offers that you may be interested in or to ask questions or request a chat with Pastor?

Did you know you can now fill out a Prayer Request card online?

If viewing services online, we created a way for members and visitors to record their attendance and connect if they require assistance or prayers and follow-up with each person.

To fill out either card, go to the CONNECT tab on our website, click the buttons on the online worship page, or use the link in the description box below the Youtube video for both the CONNECT and Prayer Requests. All information is sent directly to Pastor's email.

Please help us by using these new resources and telling friends, family, and guests to fill out a CONNECT card!

Once we return to in-person worship, we will maintain the online links as well as provide paper cards.



If you or someone you know is interested in technology, interested in a place to use and/or improve their tech skills, and would like to participate as a tech team member, please let us know.

Email- Charlie Frater at Tech@StPaulsCrofton.com. We are in search of more helpers to grow this Ministry team. All are welcome! We will provide training!

As part of the team, we will all share in God's mission work for St. Paul's, but we need your help!



It's Time to Celebrate! Sunday School is Back!

Mark your calendar!

Sunday School returns on April 11 at 9:30 am
between services!

Remember to bring your Bible and wear your mask.

Can't wait to be together again!!!

See you downstairs at St. Paul's!

Virtual Communion

We have made a virtual communion video available for those members who Live stream from home. Please login to the members-only section on our website on Sunday to access the virtual communion link. Please contact Patrice Jenstrom at web@stpaulscrofton.com or call at 443-254-6765 if you do not have the password. This will be available every week for members.

Here are the steps to access:

1. go to www.stpaulscrofton.com on Sunday
2. log in to Member tab (get the password from Patrice if you do not have it)
3. go to view "Holy Communion" video

The Service will last around 15 minutes. You will need to have available the following:

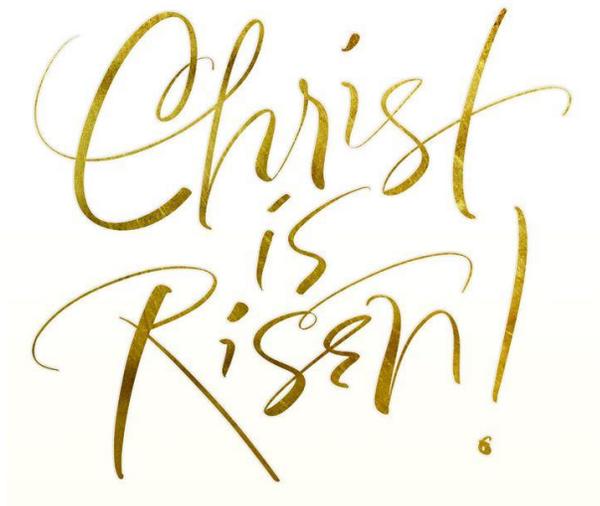
1. Wine or grape juice in a small glass or cup for each person
2. A small piece of bread
3. A willing spirit and faithful heart

The Order of Service is from the LCMS Pastoral Care Companion.

Save Your Pull Tabs for Ronald McDonald House

The aluminum pull tab project that supports Ronald McDonald House is still alive and active. Please continue to save them and bring or drop off at church when you can.

Judy Parker and the Ronald McDonald House thank you!



Please support our upcoming **Food Pantry and Baby Pantry Collection for Crofton Christian Caring Council - Saturday, April 24th, from 9:30 - 11:00** at the church's Fellowship Hall entrance.

Non-perishable foods such as these are suggestions: pasta, pasta sauce, rice, side dishes (Knorr's, etc), canned fruits, canned vegetables, breakfast cereals, peanut butter, jelly, canned or dry soups, mac & cheese.

Baby supplies: diapers (especially sizes 4/5/6), unscented baby wipes, diaper rash cream (such as A&D), socks (sizes 2T/4T), baby wash/shampoo/lotion, Gerber Rice and Oatmeal cereals, Sippy cups, Similac formula in 12 oz. cans (either Advance or Sensitive).

As always - grocery gift cards or cash or checks will be gratefully accepted. Checks should be made payable to CCCC or to St. Paul's and notated for either Food or Baby Pantry.

Your generous gifts will help our neighbors in need. THANK YOU!



Are you aware that St. Paul's offers three ways for online giving?

Setting up your profile and payment methods is simple, follow these easy steps.

1. On our website, click the donate button- The menu button on the right on the top menu or the "donate now" button at the bottom of the Home Page will take you to the Church Planning Center Giving page. Set up your payment methods one time, and set up your recurring donations here.
2. Download and give via the church center app for mobile- Set up your profile and link to St. Paul's of Gambrills and Crofton. Enter your payment method(s) one time, then you can donate at any time easily and quickly. You can also set up recurring donations and pay the fee.
3. Text to give- text \$ amount to 84321- You still need to set up your payment methods.

Are you aware that St. Paul's is charged fees for online giving?

Please cover the fee!

If you want the church to receive your full donation, you may want to pay the fee. Once you input the amount of your donation and payment method, the processing fee will be calculated and you can click on the box to add it. This would save our church money in fees, and the amount covered by the donor is usually small relative to the size of their donation.

Example: If the donor wants to contribute \$100.00 through their checking account, you can cover the (ACH) fee of 25 cents. The year-end tax statement will show that you gave \$100.25 to the church. The church pays the 25 cents for the processing fee, receiving \$100.00.

Credit card fees are slightly higher as it is based on a percentage of the amount donated plus a 30 cent fee.

If you have any additional questions, please contact Charlotte Angeli at treasurer@StPaulsCrofton.com.