

PAUL'S PARISH NEWS



SAINT PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
Breinigsville, PA

MARCH 2016



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
The Reverend Laura L. Stoneback, Pastor
8227 Hamilton Boulevard
Breinigsville, PA 18031
Telephone: 610-398-7000

PAUL'S PARISH NEWS is published by St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



Dear Friends,

A few weeks ago, we had a potluck lunch followed by our annual congregational meeting. The lunch was outstanding. So many wonderful dishes brought in by many people. I don't know if we say it often enough, but thank you to all those who bring food and to all those who stay for times of fellowship. Our fellowship time together is one of the things that help to make our congregation a family. Following our meal, we had a family discussion.

We can be excited about the ministry that takes place at St. Paul's. And by ministry, I am not referring to the work I do, but the work you do in Christ's name for your church and your brothers and sisters in Christ. Every week, we have a list of volunteers who help, not only on Sunday mornings, but throughout the week as well. We have people who serve in various ways in our community to assist others in need. Perhaps you, in your home and in your place of business strive to be one who shares the love of Christ with others. When people come to our church, I believe they sense the friendliness and mission that we share together. Together is a key word. For it is only as we work and serve and play together, that we reflect the Body of Christ.

I am so thankful for the mission we share and the privilege to be part of that mission. When I recall that I am part of a family, a family of faith, I get excited. We are so blessed to be able to do what we do. We are blessed to teach children and adults about Christ. We are blessed to sing praises to God, to receive the sacraments, to laugh and to cry with one another. How blessed we are to be held in prayer, and what an awesome thing it is to take the concerns of our 'family' to God in prayer.

St. Paul's is a church where all are welcome. We continue to be a growing family which will allow for more opportunities to serve God and one another. Never be afraid to share your passion for ministry; never be afraid to share your love of Jesus. As we head towards Easter and the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, I am excited to see what new life we might experience together as the people of God here at St. Paul's.

Growing with you in faith,
Pastor Laura.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

As the month of March begins, we find ourselves in the middle of the Lenten Season. Lent, as you may know, is 40 days in length (the same length of time Jesus was in the wilderness) minus Sundays' which are always celebrated as days of resurrection. As Jesus continued to set his face towards Jerusalem, where he will suffer and die for us, we invite you to stay strong in your worship and devotional life.

Palm/Passion Sunday is on March 20th. Our service will begin with the procession of palm remembering Jesus' entry into the city of Jerusalem during which he was first hailed as king. Our children will bless us in this worship service as they sing a song. The mood of the service soon changes as we hear the passion narrative read.

On Maundy Thursday our worship service will be held at 7:00 p.m. During this service we recall how Jesus gathered with his disciples to celebrate the Passover meal, but then changed it by saying that the bread was his broken body and the cup his blood, given and poured out for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Our Good Friday service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Did you hear Jesus speaking from the Cross? Do you understand what love he has for you? Please join us on Friday for this special service.

Easter worship will be held at 6:00 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. Get ready to rejoice! Death does not will, Christ has Risen.

ST. PAUL'S ADDRESS CHANGE

If you need to mail anything to the church, please use our street address as **8227 Hamilton Blvd., Breinigsville, PA 18031-1486.**

NEW WEB ADDRESS

Given the church's mailing address change from Trexlertown to Breinigsville, the Web site address (domain name) has been changed to www.stpaulsbyville.org.

We have a new look. Check it out.

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

It's Party time! Join us on March 13 for a St. Patrick's themed Potluck.

What does that mean? It means, break out your green attire. Incorporate some green into your food! Most important, come. There will be a scavenger hunt for kids, and adults, we are going to let you get your hot air out by seeing who can blow up the most green balloons in five minutes. This is bound to be a great party. We may even have some Irish music!

Looking ahead, on, May 1st, we will have a Kentucky Derby Themed Potluck. So, sport your hats, and wear your bow ties, and see us at the track.

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

Sunday, February 7th we held Souper Bowl Sunday. Through your offering and donations we had a successful day. A lot of soup and other items were collected for the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank. Also, donations were collected for your favorite team. The Denver Bronco's got \$30.00 and the Carolina Panthers got \$42.07

HOSPITALIZED?

If you are in the hospital, please let the church office know. The hospitals have updated their computers, and unfortunately, we are not getting accurate reporting of members in the hospital. Our code # is 321.

SUNDAY SCHOOL UPDATE

From now through Easter, Sunday school children will be collecting change to benefit ELCA's Good Gifts program. Children will use red barns to collect change to benefit the cause.

Money collected will help provide tools and gifts to help families struggling with hunger and poverty worldwide. Items we can help fund include: chicks, pigs, goats, wells, fish farms, trees, farming tools, mosquito netting and more. Prices for each item ranges from \$10 to \$2,500. The more we collect, the more we can help fund.

Each Sunday children will have barns in church. When you see any Sunday school child, please consider donating!

For more information on the Good Gifts program, visit www.elca.org/goodgifts

SMALL GROUP BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES MONDAY MORNINGS MARCH 7 & 14

All are invited to join in our study WHAT WONDROUS LOVE: HOLY WEEK IN WORD AND ART. Those who came for the Advent study of word and art really enjoyed how the artist made us think outside the box as we looked and listened to various well know texts. We look forward to a similar experience with this Lenten study. Classes will only be held on Monday mornings at 9:30. All are welcome.

SNOW/CANCELLATION INFORMATION

Winter advisory...Please be sure to check St. Paul's website, stpaulslutherantrexkertown.org or WFMZ storm center to see if any church service or event is cancelled due to snow or ice.

“JOURNEYS THROUGH GRIEF”

A six-week seminar support group for those who are grieving

Spring 2016



Luther Crest
Fullenbach Room
800 Hausman Road
Allentown, PA 18104

Monday mornings
10:30 a.m. –12:00 p.m.
April 4, 11, 18, 25 May 2 & 9

*There is no fee to participants
thanks to the generosity of the following:*

*J. S. Burkholder Funeral Homes, Inc.
1601 Hamilton Street
Allentown, PA*

Registration required

Contact

Lutheran Congregational Services
1923 Hanover Avenue
Allentown, PA 18109
610-770-9205

www.lutherancongregationalservices.org



WHERE SHOULD I GIVE MY GIFT? MEMORIAL FUND OR ENDOWMENT FUND?

There is no right or wrong answer to this question. But you should be aware that each fund has its own purpose. The memorial fund is used to buy or replace items that are used in the church or grounds of the church. For example, the following are items that have been purchased through the gifts made to the memorial fund: new communion linens or communion ware, banners, the hanging cross, bibles, the pew pads, and bell chimes. We are very appreciative of the gifts made to the memorial account.

The Endowment fund has a difference purpose. The principal of the gifts made to the Endowment Fund are never used. Therefore, when one gives to this fund, your gifts last forever as only the interest earned is spent. The fund has specific ministries that are supported by the gifts. These include grants offered for those pursuing a career in ministry, the support of Lutheran ministries locally and worldwide, the enhancement of ministries in the local community and /or congregation, the support of non-Lutheran charities, and to assist with extraordinary events within or congregation. Many who have made it a practice sharing their faith through their lifelong financial stewardship like to give to this fund so that their gifts live on and serve God even after their death.

We thank all those who share their financial gifts with the church.

EASTER FLOWERS

Time is running out to order your Easter Flowers. The deadline is Sunday, March 6th. Forms were sent with the February newsletter. You can pick one up at church, send me an email or call the office to place your order.

“God proved his love on the cross. When Christ hung, and bled, and died, it was God saying to the world, ‘I love you.’”

—Billy Graham

EASTER JOY

Joy is prayer. Joy is strength. Joy is love. Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls. God loves a cheerful giver. One gives most who gives with joy. The best way to show our gratitude to God and people is to accept everything with joy.



A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love. Never let anything so fill you with sorrow as to make you forget the joy of the Christ risen.

—Mother Teresa

DELIVER US

We sing and say “hosanna” every Palm Sunday but hardly ever in between. So what does that word mean?

That first Palm Sunday, crowds spread their cloaks before Jesus as people had before Jehu to proclaim him king (2 Kings 9:13). They waved palm branches in greeting — a traditional sign of celebration (Leviticus 23:40). And, of course, they shouted, “Hosanna!”

This was an exclamation of “a people in distress [addressing] their king or their god,” explains Bible scholar William Barclay. Drawn from Psalm 118:25, *hosanna* is Aramaic for “save now.” By the time of Jesus’ Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem, Barclay says, *hosanna* may have “become to some extent only a cry of welcome and of acclamation, like ‘Hail!’; but essentially it is a people’s cry for deliverance and for help in the day of their trouble.”

“Hosanna!” is the plea of an oppressed people to the one they recognize as their true king: Jesus, their Savior.

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND IRON PIGS GAME

We are scheduled for the Iron Pigs on Sunday, June 19, 2016. Game time is 1:35 p.m. The cost is \$27.00. A signup sheet is available in the narthex.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2016

Save the Date for VBS. Vacation Bible School 2016 will be SUNDAY, June 26th to THURSDAY, June 30th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Ages 3 to 12 are invited to join the fun! Make sure to invite your grandkids, neighbors, friends and family. We will have sign ups starting in April. Look for more info to come.

As always we need amazing volunteers to help us have a successful week. Contact Katie Pisauro in church or email her at Katiepisauro@gmail.com if you would like to help! Don't be shy we always have a great time!



We had a great turn out last year and look forward to another great year of VBS.

Katie Pisauro, Kimberly Schiffert

HAPPY TO HELP

The International Day of Happiness is observed on March 20 (also the first day of spring this year; coincidence?). Jesus said we'll be happy (or "blessed") when we're meek, merciful, pure and so on (see his Beatitudes in Matthew 5:3-12). In other words, happiness results from putting others' needs above our own.

Research confirms that helping others boosts people's self-esteem, forges strong friendships, offers a sense of belonging and purpose, decreases stress, increases gratitude and sparks others to "pay it forward." In fact, University of Texas researchers found that the "activism cure" is a great way to overcome bouts of sadness. So get helping — and get happy!

THE ORIGIN OF “EASTER”

It's not certain where the word *Easter*, which never appears in Scripture, originates. In some places, the day is called Pasch, which comes from “Passover,” the festival during which Jesus was crucified. Others call it Resurrection Sunday.

Some scholars think the church absorbed the word *Easter* from pagan roots, because the goddess of spring, Eostre, was celebrated about the same time as Passover.

Others suggest the word derives from an old Latin phrase referring to the white robes traditionally worn by people being baptized on the Sunday that celebrates Jesus' resurrection.

WELCA

They had their meeting on February 17th since the second Wednesday was Ash Wednesday.

Details for the Lenten Breakfast were finalized. Daisy Pearson is hosting this event this year.

The Spring Retreat – April 9, 2016 will be here at St. Paul's. It is anticipated that approximately 35 will attend and planning for this event was discussed and will be finalized in March. There will be two workshops and attendees will assemble personal care refugee boxes for Lutheran Congregational Services.

Our Bible Study was Confidence in God's Beginnings and Endings which was on Paul's Missionary Journeys.

Submitted by
Sharon Bortz

MARCH FOOD BANK ITEMS OF THE MONTH

The congregation has donated to the Food Bank throughout the year but the needs of those less fortunate continue. So please continue to bring nonperishable food items along to worship.

Each month we plan to feature a food item, but any item will be acceptable.

THANK YOU to all who brought in peanut butter and jelly for our monthly collection for the food bank.

During March our “food of the month” will be Macaroni & Cheese.

SAVE THE DATE!

I am pleased to announce that our church will make its first appearance at the NEPS Bike for World Hunger Event in 2016. The event takes place at the Rodale Fitness Park. Runners, Walkers, Bikers, and Rollerbladers of all ages and athletic abilities are encouraged to participate and cheer on participants. The date will be confirmed in January, but mark it on your calendars now; it is traditionally third Saturday in May. Additional information will be forthcoming. If you have any questions about this event, please reach out to Angie Kropf, angenk@verizon.net.

Sincerely,
Angie Kropf

UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 13th – St. Patrick’s Day Theme Potluck
- March 20th – Palm Sunday – Children of the Church Easter Egg Hunt
- March 24th – Maundy Thursday Worship Service at 7:00 p.m.
- March 25th – Good Friday Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.
- March 27th – Easter Sunday Worship Services at 6:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.
(No Sunday School)

SUNDAY, MARCH 13TH DAYLIGHT SAVINGS BEGINS. SPRING FORWARD BY TURNING YOUR CLOCKS AHEAD ONE HOUR.

TREXLERTOWN SENIOR ASSOCIATION

The Trexlertown Seniors are looking for new members. We meet every Tuesday at St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

Our meetings start at 1:00 p.m. Some come a little early to socialize. Light refreshments are served.

From time to time we have a speaker come in. We play bingo, have trivia, play cards, pinochle and more. Once in a while we have entertainment with a piano player and a sing-a-long.

If you have any questions, Ostop in and attend one of our meetings.

THANK YOU NOTES

Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church Congregation,

Now the holiday season is behind us, and we reflect upon the gifts that have come our way. It is with thankfulness that you receive this letter from me. The Lehigh Conference of Churches is so very appreciative of the winter jackets that you have given to us that have been passed on to the ones that we serve. Those less fortunate individuals who receive the jackets that you donated are truly blessed and thankful for your acts of kindness to place these pieces of clothing necessities in their lives.

Thank you for your generosity and your ongoing support for what we do to help the homeless and needy in our community. Through your contributions, you are making extreme differences in the lives of others.

Thank you very much! I truly appreciate it.

Sincerely,
Ben Stephens
Clinical Supervisor
Pathways Housing Program
The Lehigh Conferences of Churches
1031 W. Linden Street, Suite #104
Allentown, PA 18102

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, we would like to thank you for your donation of \$102.00.

Because of your caring and sharing, we are able to feed those less fortunate in our community. We are currently serving between 200 and 250 families per week.

Again, thank you for your donation.
AAEFB - Margaret Rosenbeger, Corres. Sec.

PLEASE KEEP THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF OUR CHURCH IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Leroy Bortz
Ruth Glase
Dorothea Grammes
Helen Kessler
Martha Lindenmuth

Bill Moyer
Katherine Plarr
Kathy Shryock
Larry Wingard

MARCH



8 Joe Flores	12 Brittany Reeger
9 Kelly Kim	17 Henrietta Younger
10 Roland Grammes	19 Maddox Rampen
10 Bruce Wagaman	20 Jen Schmoyer
11 Rita Miller	20 Pamela Zahour
12 Betty Moyer	27 Joyce Bastian
12 Ruth Berghold	28 Ellie Pisauro
12 Susan Ferguson	



MARCH

5 Richard & Emily Danner
24 Ronald & Jennifer Carlson
31 Jason & Sandi Christoffersen
31 Westley & Laurin Mironov

PASTORIAL ACT

FUNERAL

Pastor Laura officiated at the funeral service for Mary Keller on February 6, 2016

MEMORIAL CONTRIBUTIONS

The following memorial contribution has been received in memory of
Myrtle Becker:

The Becker Family

The following memorial contributions have been received in memory of
Mary Hartley:

Carole Beck

St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation WELCA

The following memorial contributions have been received in memory of
Mary Keller:

Alice Bastian

Robert Bastian

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley Krutsick

Rosemary Lehman

Martha Lindenmuth

John & Dorothy O'Connors & the Hilton & Littlejohn Families

Keith & Becky Theodore

Bruce & Sandi Wagaman

St. Paul's Lutheran Congregation WELCA

Mr. & Mrs. James Welty, Jr.

The following memorial contribution has been received in memory of
Margaret Roemig:

Carole Beck

**DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT
NEWSLETTER IS**

MARCH 13, 2016

**PLEASE HAVE YOUR
ARTICLES SUBMITTED TO
THE CHURCH OFFICE
BY THIS DATE.**

CHURCH OFFICE: 610-398-7000
HOSPITAL CODE: #321
HANDICAPPED ACCESSIBLE
EMAIL: stpauls.trexlertown@gmail.com
Website: www.stpaulsbbville.org

STAFF

Pastor..... The Reverend Laura L. Stoneback
Organist/Choir Director Mrs. Judy Noll
Handbell Director..... Mr. Richard Steltz
Parish Secretary Mrs. Cindy Krasnansky
Sexton Mr. Charlie Meitzler