



The Messenger

May 2024

**St. Paul's
Evangelical
Lutheran
Church**

3295 S. Union Ave.
Alliance, Ohio 44601
330-823-2285

FROM PASTOR MUSE

Seek and you shall find, Knock and it shall be open to you!

Over the next few months we will be embarking on the next portion of our Building Renewal Project. The Task Force as spent a great deal of time meeting, discussing, assessing, examining, asking questions, debating, meeting vendors, reviewing products, and bringing everything together to present to the congregation. The leadership has received the presentation and has recommended that it be brought forward to the congregation. The presentation will be brought forward for public discussion and review in the weeks to follow. This will culminate in the formal gathering of the congregation on Sunday, May 19th to receive the presentation and make a formal decision on how the project will move forward.

The timing of the initial presentation and the gathering of the congregation for a meeting is done with intention, so that the congregation has a good chance to see the proposal, ask questions, seek clarification, and gain as much knowledge as possible to make an informed decision. The leadership is working very hard to ensure that everyone has the chance to see the proposal and seek any clarification necessary, so that we can all be faithful in our commitment to the savior and his church. In order to for us to move forward faithfully the congregation has a role to play. There are three things that church needs from each of us in this process.

The first is prayer. We should all be in deep and contemplative prayer about the future of the church and the use of the building. This process is one of beauty and safety, so that the ministry can move forward for another 50 years in this location. Spend time in prayer, asking God to give you guidance and vision for the whole church. Pray for the leaders, task force, staff, and each other that together we will interpret the will of God and strive to live out that will in our lives. Make specific time to listen for the voice of God in this process.

The second is trust. The task force and leadership have been working very hard to put forward a viable and complete plan for the future of the church and the building. This has been a big process and one that has led to much discussion and debate. All this has been done in good faith for the benefit of the entire community. We have striven to make sure that any personal agenda or desire have been secondary to the whole community and the future of the church. We have held each other to account for the good of the whole and have worked to create a vision that will be beneficial to all. Let us all strive together to trust that this process has been done in good faith and approach it in such a faithful manner.

The third is good questions. We encourage questions to come forward so that every aspect of the proposal can be as clear as possible to the entire church. We welcome question and offer multiple avenues to ask questions.

Cont. on pg 2.

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Meditation

Tuesday, April 16 , at 7:00 pm. Join in person or online.

There is no experience needed. Wear comfortable clothes and enjoy a time of peace, quiet, and centering.

Cont. from pg 1.

You may approach the Pastor or any member of the task force with questions. The task force consists of Mark Himmelein, Cathy Brookes, Ron Castina, Paul Cubick and Norita Webb. Any one of us would welcomes questions and if we don't know the answer we will find out. There will also be a question box on the piano in Garnes Hall that people can write out their questions and then answers will be provided on the monitors in Garnes Hall during Fellowship hour. Take advantage of these opportunities to get clarity and seek out any information you need as the project moves forward. The more we know about the

project, the better decision that can be made.

I encourage you to be an active participant in this process as we work to re-enliven our space and prepare this house for another 50 years of ministry. We are the stewards of what has been given to us and work it so that it will be strong for those who come after. May we strive to fulfill that calling in our time and to the best of our communal capabilities.

Soli Deo Gloria, Pastor Muse

Shredder Event

**Saturday,
June 15th
9:00 AM to
12:00 PM**

All are Welcome!

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

IT'S THAT TIME! "CHANGE FOR LIFE 2024"

Once again we will be partnering with the Alliance Pregnancy Center by filling Baby Bottles with loose coins or more to help change lives.

We will begin our campaign on Mother's Day, May 12, 2024. Empty baby bottles will be available to pick up at the church starting that day. Please take one with you and begin to fill it with coins, bills or checks as you wish and then return it to the church by

Father's Day, June 16, 2024. Please know if you can't get to the church, you can mail a contribution to the church marking it "Change 4 Life", and it will be included in the final count.

Last year our church family collected a total of \$1,015 which was wonderful but we need to challenge ourselves to top that amount this year.

Once all the bottles are returned, we will count the contents and report the total amount we will be giving the Pregnancy Center. The money collected helps to provide those less fortunate in the community with many services they could not otherwise afford to bring a healthy happy child into the world. This is a very important mission and your generosity is greatly appreciated.

FELLOWSHIP TIME

We will continue to have Fellowship Time following service during the summer. There is always a need for 2-3 volunteers each Sunday to help with coffee, tea, punch and donuts. It only takes about 30 minutes of your time to serve and clean up. If you would like to help with this, please see Karen Wolfe during Fellowship Time or call her, 330-206-9758 and we can determine what Sunday would work for you. Thank you in advance for your help and consideration.

Volunteers for May:

May 5 Rod & Sandy Garver

May 12 Gayle Kelly, Pat Nelson, Betsy Goshorn

May 19 Richard & Cindy Miller, Karen Wolfe

May 26 Paul & Donna Cubick, Joyce Falconer

Donations of Punch are always appreciated!!

THANK YOU NOTES...

Easter Breakfast Thank you...

Thank you to the following individuals that helped set up, cook and clean up after breakfast. Norita Webb, Cathy Brookes, Josh Falconer, Jeff Webb, Jim Mehl, Greg Brookes, Austin Mehl, Bob Williams, Art Garnes, Kevin Hoopes, Owen Hoopes, Kyle Hoopes and Bryan Barker. We served approximately 70 people. Blessings to all!

Ron Castina

Dear St. Paul's Friends,

My heart is bursting with gratitude and love. The devotion from "Christ in Our Home", Saturday, April 20 was very timely and meaningful. There are no words to express how grateful I am for the outpouring of love, prayers, cards, meals, calls, and visits I have received since my hip replacement surgery on April 8. The power of prayer is truly God at work in our lives letting us know Jesus is always with us and we are never alone. God's richest blessings be with each of you, we are loved beyond our imaginations!

In gratitude love and blessings.

Gayle Fiegenschuh

WELLNESS EVENTS

YOGA
TBD

Join us for yoga. Angela is leading us in a time of refreshment, renewal, flexibility, and connection to our bodies and God. No experience is necessary. Please bring an exercise mat, if you have one. Some mats are available.

MEDITATION
TUESDAY, MAY 21,
AT 7:00 PM

There is no experience needed. Wear comfortable clothes and enjoy a time of peace, quiet, and centering. Join Pastor Muse on-line or in-person.

INK CARTRIDGE RECYCLING

We continue to collect used ink cartridges and toner cartridges. This is a great way to help offset the cost of office supplies. Our box is running low so please contribute. There is a donation box in Garnes Hall.

HOSPITAL ADMITTANCE

The hospitals are no longer informing churches if a member has been admitted. If you or a loved one is in the hospital please inform the church office or the pastor, so that we can be part of the healing.

THRIVENT

Every person who owns Thrivent Products has access to Thrivent Action Team dollars. If you own Thrivent products and are willing to work with the church to access these funds to support ministry at St. Paul's, please contact the pastor. This is a great way to build the church's mission and work for the betterment of the kingdom.

CONGREGATIONAL DIRECTORY

Please make sure that the church office is aware of any change in your information.

The Eternal Flame is given to the glory of God and in remembrance of our parents, John and Rose Turk, Pete and Florence Kline and former deceased members of St. Paul's by Bob and Shirley Kline.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Our theme for the 2023 School year

“We will do justice, love kindness, and to walk humbly with God!” Micah 6:8

We have reached the last month of the school year. There is still some learning left to do, so come be part of the education process here at St. Paul's. There are classes for everyone, Pre-k through 2nd, 3rd through 5th, 6th through 8th, 9th through 12th and Adult. If you are interested in being part of our teaching team, please talk to Pastor Muse.

Children's Church is blessed with increase. This opportunity is for children up to 5th grade to have their own time that will take place during the Word section of worship. The Children who wish to participate will leave after the Children's Sermon and return during the greeting of peace.

Bible Study meets at 10:00 AM and 7:00 PM. We are the book of 1 Corinthians. All are welcome to attend.

Daily Devotionals and scriptures reading are available on the table in Garnes Hall.

If you would like to receive the Daily Devotional email sign up through the web-site or contact the pastor for assistance.

The weekly youth group is every Wednesday at 5:30 PM. It is open to all youth from 1st grade through 12th grade. We gather for a meal then learn and play games. Come join the fun.

Check out all the wonderful resources our library has to offer. There are many items that can enhance your journey of faith.

We want to celebrate our graduations. Please inform the church office, so we can raise those who have reached this accomplishment.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be Monday June 24th to Friday June 28th. Mark your calendars and invite your friends. The sessions will be 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM each day. If you would like to volunteer please see Pastor Muse or Jill Mehl.

MUSIC & WORSHIP

Music & Worship Committee will meet in Tuesday, May 7 at 7:00 PM. Please see Gina Falconer if you are not able to attend.

Don't forget to wear your RED on Sunday, May 19 for Pentecost. Wear red and show we are on fire with the Holy Spirit!

A BIG THANK YOU to all those who participated in choir this season. Both singing and ringing choirs will be done for the season by the end of May. Your time and talents are appreciated!

Special music will be offered throughout the summer months. If you would like to sing or play an instrument to offer special music during a service this summer, please see Pastor Muse or Gina Falconer.



KLUSCH MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIPS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Now is the time for eligible youth of St. Paul's to apply for consideration for The Klusch Memorial Scholarships.

Please use the following guidelines:

An applicant, in addition to the letter of application, submits a copy of any financial grants, a college or high school transcript, and a listing of registered courses for the next semester. A copy of the student's financial awards from the school will be requested.

Requests for scholarship consideration should be made in writing by June 1 . It is the intent of the Committee to notify applicants by July 1.

Send to: Pastor Muse,
3295 S. Union Ave,
Alliance, Oh 44601

The Klusch Memorial Scholarships are primarily intended to get students initially into school, they can be used for any type of higher education such as trade schools, adult education etc., and after that the amount will depend on the number of applicants and availability of funds. The month of August is designed as Scholarship emphasis month.

Happy May Birthday to You!
May you enjoy many more and may God bless each one of you in many ways as you enjoy another year in God's grace.

- | | | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| 1-Bob Lavery | 7-Kay Molnar | 13-Rev. Diana Thompson | 22-Jo Dietz |
| 2-Elise Wallace | 8-Pat Lauer | 15-Colin Eggleston | 23-Katrina Bergmann |
| 3-Brandon Dimit | 8-Kaitlin Holbrook | 16-Andy Pifer | 24-Greg Brookes |
| 3-James Molnar | 9-Reese Ann Hays | 18-Sam Kinnard | 26-Emily Owens |
| 3-Melinda Bailey | 9-Jody Evans | 20-Jacob Campbell | 28-Jesse White |
| 3-Dominic Falconer | 10 -Dick Miller | 20-Eric Stockli | 29-Cody Turner |
| 3 -Angela Britton | 10-Joe Bilcze | 20- Gene Venebles | 29-Becky McGowan |
| 4-Bonnie Holland | 11-Joanna Waite | 20-Brianne Black | 31-Matthew Moore |
| 6-Grace Worley | 12-Elizabeth Marriner | 21-Joshua Rhome | 31-Dustin Campbell |
| 6-Donna Muse | 12-Doreen Mathey | 21-Samantha Stryffeler | |
| 7-Bergen Rhome | 12-Jerry Smith | 21-Jacob Rackley | |
| 7-Jacob Mellinger | 13-Doug Tarnovich | 22-Cheryl Lundgren | |



MAY 2024—The Word of God in Worship

Sunday, May 5, 2024

Introduction

This Sunday's image of the life the risen Christ shares with us is the image of friendship. We are called to serve others as Jesus came to serve; but for John's gospel, the image of servanthood is too hierarchical, too distant, to capture the essence of life with Christ. Friendship captures the love, the joy, the deep mutuality of the relationship into which Christ invites us. The Greeks believed that true friends are willing to die for each other. This is the mutual love of Christian community commanded by Christ and enabled by the Spirit.

Prayer of the Day

O God, you have prepared for those who love you joys beyond understanding. Pour into our hearts such love for you that, loving you above all things, we may obtain your promises, which exceed all we can desire; through Jesus Christ, your Son and our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 10:44-48 The Spirit poured out on the Gentiles
Psalm 98 Shout with joy to the Lord, all you lands. (Ps. 98:4) 1 John 5:1-6 The victory of faith
John 15:9-17 Christ the friend and lover

Sunday, May 12, 2024

Introduction

The gospel for Easter's seventh Sunday is always taken from the long prayer Jesus prays for his followers in John's gospel on the night before his death, and always includes Jesus' desire that his followers will be one as he and the Father are one. This oneness is not mere doctrinal agreement or institutional unity, but mutual abiding, interpenetrating life, mutual love, and joy. This oneness is the work of the Spirit whom we have received but also await. Come, Holy Spirit!

Prayer of the Day

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world, that we may find our joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 1:15-17, 21-26 Matthias added to the apostles
Psalm 1 The Lord knows the way of the righteous. (Ps. 1:6)
1 John 5:9-13
Life in the Son of God John 17:6-19
Christ's prayer for his disciples

Sunday, May 19, 2024

Introduction

Fifty days after Easter, we celebrate the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost. Crossing all boundaries that would separate us, the Spirit brings the wideness of God's mercy to places we least expect it—to a crowd of strangers of different lands and tongues, to dry bones, to our weak hearts. Jesus promises his disciples that they will be accompanied by the Holy Spirit, and that this Spirit reveals the truth. We celebrate that we too have been visited with this same Spirit. Guided by the truth, we join together in worship, and then disperse to share the fullness of Christ's love with the world.

Prayer of the Day

Mighty God, you breathe life into our bones, and your Spirit brings truth to the world. Send us this Spirit, transform us by your truth, and give us language to proclaim your gospel, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings and Psalm

Acts 2:1-21 Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds
Ezekiel 37:1-14 (alternate) Life to dry bones
Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth. (Ps. 104:30) Romans 8:22-27
Praying with the Spirit Acts 2:1-21 (alternate)
Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds John 15:26-27;
16:4b-15 Christ sends the Spirit of truth

Sunday, May 26, 2024

Introduction

When we say God is the triune God, we are saying something about who God is beyond, before, and after the universe: that there is community within God. Our experience of this is reflected in Paul's words today. When we pray to God as Jesus prayed to his Abba (an everyday, intimate parental address), the Spirit prays within us, creating between us and God the same relationship Jesus has with the one who sent him.

Prayer of the Day

Almighty Creator and ever-living God: we worship your glory, eternal Three-in-One, and we praise your power, majestic One-in-Three. Keep us steadfast in this faith, defend us in all adversity, and bring us at last into your presence, where you live in endless joy and love, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Readings and Psalm

Isaiah 6:1-8 Isaiah's vision and call Psalm 29 Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness. (Ps. 29:2)
Romans 8:12-17 Living by the Spirit John 3:1-17
Entering the reign of God through water and the Spirit

May 2024						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>Note: All worship services are available in person and online.</p> <p>4</p>			<p>1</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist 5:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>2</p> <p>4:30 pm Catechism 6:15 pm Joybells 7:15 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>3</p>	
<p>5</p> <p>9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Christian Education</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>7:00 pm Committee Meeting</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist 5:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>9</p> <p>4:30 pm Catechism 7:15 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>10</p> <p>12:00 pm Deborah's 7:00 pm Euchre</p>	<p>11</p>
<p>12</p> <p>9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Christian Education</p>	<p>13</p> <p>7:00 pm Grief Support</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7:00 pm Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist 5:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>16</p> <p>4:30 pm Catechism 7:15 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>8:30 am Men's Breakfast</p>
<p>19</p> <p>9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship 10:45 am Congregational Meeting Newsletter Items Due</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>7:00 pm Meditation</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 am Bible Study 12:00 pm Midweek Eucharist 5:30 pm Youth Group 7:00 pm Bible Study</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:15 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p>
<p>26</p> <p>9:30 am Worship 10:30 am Fellowship</p>	<p>27</p> <p>7:00 pm Grief Support Memorial Day! Church Office Closed</p>	<p>28</p> <p>5:00 pm Alliance Community Dinner</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7:15 pm Chancel Choir</p>	<p>31</p>	

FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

COFFEE HOUR

May 5 - Paul and Sherrie Hobe

May 12 - Betsy Goshorn, Gail Kelly, Pat Nelson

May 19 - Art and Cindy Garnes

May 26 - Jeff and Norita Webb

If there needs to be a change made to the volunteer schedule, please try to find your own replacement and let the church office know what that change is. If you cannot find a replacement, please let me know and I will try to get that replacement for you.

Donations of punch are also always appreciated. Thank you.

EUCHRE

Friday, **May 10 at 7:00 pm** in Garnes Hall. You do not need to know how to play to join us. We will be happy to teach you.

YOUTH GROUP

EVERY WEDNESDAY AT 5:30 PM

All youth, regardless of church affiliation, are invited to a time of food, fellowship, games, and learning. **This is open to 1st grade through 12th grade.**

DEBORAH CIRCLE

The Deborah's will meet on Friday May 10 at Noon in Garnes Hall.

ADULT EDUCATION

Wednesday Bible Studies return! Join us at 10 am or 7 pm to grow in faith through Scripture study.

MID-WEEK EUCHARIST

Join us in the chapel for a time of prayer, word and Holy Communion. The service begins at noon and lasts about twenty-five minutes.

REMINDERS

2024 GRADUATES AND ACHIEVEMENTS

We welcome graduate information. We want to celebrate our 2024 graduates so please get that information to the church office. Any graduations, advancements, certificates, achievements, or other celebrations. You can email them to the church office, St.PaulsAlliance@outlook.com.

You are also welcome to email a picture of your graduate. Please write the announcement out entirely so that the information can be copied directly to the newsletter. You are also welcome to submit a photo.

The office must have the information by May 19 to include it in the June Messenger.

SHREDDER EVENT

JUNE 15, 9 AM-12 PM

Everyone has bills, files, and other papers that need shredding for personal security. Our Annual Shredder Event is Saturday, June 1 from 9 am until Noon.

Shredding is free! Yes, Free! We are accepting donations of money or non-perishable items for our local food pantry.

Start gathering your documents. You don't need to remove staples or paper clips, but please, ring binders. Invite your friends!

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

3295 S. Union Ave
Alliance, OH 44601

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PAID

ALLIANCE, OH

*Our purpose is to
be the living body
of Jesus Christ!*



Email: st.paulsalliance@outlook.com

Phone: 330-823-2285

Fax: 330-823-8399

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www.instagram.com/St.PaulsAlliance

Stay informed and sign up for *The Weekly Messenger* email on our website, Facebook page, or text 4STPAULS to 22828.

The Reverend Timothy H. Muse - Lead Pastor
The Reverend Diana Thompson - Administrative Pastor
Rhonda Ferrall - Secretary
Kathy Sloan - Organist
Gina M. Falconer - Director of Music
Gayle B. Fiegenschuh - Communion Minister and Visitation

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

**Graduation Announcements and
Achievements**

Due to the church office by May 19
(see page 7 for details)

**Klusch Memorial Scholarship
Applications**

Due June 1
(see page 4 for details)

Annual Shredder Event

June 15, 2024, 9 am—12 pm
(see page 7 for details)

Vacation Bible School

June 24-28, 9 am—12 pm
(see page 3 for details)

Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 19 following worship.