

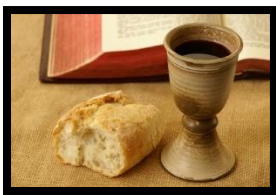
# ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH VISITOR

## APRIL 2026

*The mission of St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church is to  
Celebrate and Proclaim to all the saving grace of JESUS CHRIST in word and deed.*



## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE



Maundy Thursday, April 2

12:00pm Worship with Holy Communion in the Chapel

7:00pm Worship with Holy Communion and Stripping  
of the Altar in the sanctuary



Good Friday, April 3

12:00pm Worship

7:00pm Worship



Easter Sunday, April 5

7:00am Sunrise Service (begin on front lawn and  
process inside)

8:00am Breakfast in undercroft

9:15am Resurrection Easter Egg Hunt

10:00am Worship with Holy Communion

## Pastor's Reflections

Over the past several weeks the noon Bible study group has been looking at the gospel of Matthew. Most recently the text was from Matthew 14, verses 22 to 33. It is the story of Jesus walking on the water and Peter wanting to join him. The text can be interpreted many ways and this time the writer of the Bible study focused on faith.

Our discussion for the next hour focused on faith: What is it? Is "having more" important? What is the opposite of faith? It was a lively discussion with some quoting other texts about faith. Have you ever thought about these kinds of questions? What is faith to you? How do you express your faith in your daily life?

I am sure many of you know the story of Peter walking on the water to Jesus and him falling into the water chaos below. The text says: "So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord save me!" When Peter was frightened, he sank. So, is the opposite of faith fear? Maybe, could be. But there is not something deeper happening here. Isn't Peter frightened because, well, who wouldn't be frightened? The storm is whipping up the wind and waves. But then Jesus scolds Peter: "You of little faith." So, Peter fell into the water chaos because he did not have a quantity of faith to see him through to Jesus? I will let you ponder this.

As we come to celebrate Easter on April 5, here at St Paul, I wonder about the women who were the first witnesses to the resurrection. In each of the resurrection stories some element of fear is present except in the gospel of John. This fear and faith are written about throughout the New Testament.

I do think fear can overwhelm us frail and faltering humans. But fear also can remind us of our faith. It can redirect us to "lean on the everlasting arms of Jesus." Jesus reached out to Peter and grabbed him. In John's gospel story of the resurrection Jesus and Mary Magdalene have a reconnection. Mary's grief is so overwhelming she cannot see Jesus who is right in front of her. When Jesus says her name: Mary, there is instant recognition. Jesus says our names in our most sorrowful and grieving moments.

As we celebrate the days of resurrection this Easter time remember Jesus says your name too. Jesus pulls you up from the waves and wind of your life. Celebrate this daily.

Blessings and Peace,  
Pastor KLM <><

Congratulations to Brier Wagner who recently signed to play soccer at Marshall University. Brier will be graduating this Spring and attending Marshall in the Fall. Brier is the son of Jim and Susie Wagner.

Congratulations Brier!!



Dear St. Paul Congregation,

This month, I have two major things to report: the technicians from Peebles-Herzog, Inc. in Columbus, OH visited St. Paul in early March for tuning our 1925 Skinner organ and minor repairs. Most notably, they have reconnected the mixture, a set of pipes that adds a bright and festive sound, which you will hear for the first time again in a few years on Easter Day (during Lent, I usually choose the piano and mellower organ registers for hymns and liturgy). Further, Peebles-Herzog has provided us with a service contract (incl. insurance certificate etc.) that would ensure continued collaboration.

Second, the ecumenical Worship at St. Paul with First United Methodist Church on April 19 (two weeks after Easter Sunday) is confirmed. Our choirs will sing together three antiphonal anthems during the service. "Antiphonal" in this context means alternating groups of singers that are positioned in different locations, a bit like the call-and-response style singing between cantor and congregation in our Kyrie eleison.

Finally, a word of thanks to Keith Wellman and my Marshall student Steven Ferrer for filling in for me. There are two annual conferences in March for which I had to miss one Wednesday and one Sunday Worship, and I am glad to have these two capable musicians! The first conference was smaller, piano-only, in Brownsville, TX, and I performed and lectured on Piazzolla's Angel Suite (Dance, Death, and Resurrection of an Angel you heard some of it as preludes/postludes a few weeks ago, suitable during Lent, I think). The second one was the big Music Teachers National Association conference with 1,500 attendees, this year in Chicago.

Happy Easter!

Henning



COMBINED WORSHIP AND CHOIR

April 19

10:00 am

at St. Paul

First United Methodist Church will join us for an  
ecumenical worship service.

Dear St. Paul Congregation,

Grace and peace to you during this holy Lenten season. As we journey together toward Easter, we are reminded that Lent is a time of reflection, repentance, and renewal—a season that invites us to slow down, listen more closely for God's voice, and open our hearts to transformation.

One of the great blessings of this season has been the way our congregation has come together in community. Through shared meals and meaningful fellowship, we have gathered not just to eat, but to connect, listen, pray, and support one another. These moments around the table have nourished both body and spirit and strengthened the relationships that make St. Paul a place of belonging. Together, we are renewing our spirits and living out our faith side by side.

This season has also been a time of growth and discovery for our children and youth. Each week, they have been engaging the Gospel readings through Children's Sermons and Sunday school, asking thoughtful questions and exploring what it means to follow Jesus in their own lives. As they have learned about the woman at the well, the Pharisees, the man born blind, and Lazarus, they are discovering that Jesus meets people exactly where they are—with compassion, honesty, and love.

Through these stories, our youth are reminded—and they remind us—that we are all God's children. Like those in the Gospel, we each come with questions, doubts, hopes, and faith. Through the love and light of Jesus Christ, we are united as one community—called to fellowship, service, kindness, and love. Jesus shows us who He is again and again: the way, the truth, and the life; our teacher and healer; our rabbi and Savior.

As we move from the quiet reflection of Lent into the joy of Easter, let us celebrate Christ's resurrection and the new life and hope He brings. Easter is a time of renewal—for our faith, our relationships, and our calling as God's people. May we approach this season with open hearts, childlike wonder, and a renewed commitment to walk together in Christ's love.

Thank you to all who serve, teach, cook, welcome, and encourage—especially those who nurture the faith of our children and youth. Your gifts help shape the next generation of believers and strengthen the whole church. May God bless you and keep you as we continue this journey together, renewed in faith and united in love.

With gratitude and prayers,  
Your Loving Sister In Christ,

Jill



**Register Here!**



**Scholarships available!**



Follow us on Facebook  
@ Camp Luther - WV



Follow us on Instagram  
@camp Lutherwv

June 21-27

All students who have completed second grade are welcome to join us for a week at Camp Luther!

Scan the QR code to register your child before June 1<sup>st</sup>. The cost for a week at camp is \$500.00. You can receive a \$50.00 scholarship from the camp and a \$250.00 scholarship from St. Paul. Be sure and indicate this on your registration. Also, make sure you let the church office know that your child will be attending so we can send in the scholarship money for your child.

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

- 3 Nola Scott
- 7 Gary Rea
- 8 Jackson McComas; Analee Maeland
- 9 Ingrid Sturgill
- 13 Doug Korstanje; Judi Korstanje
- 14 Judith Dumke; Tom Kising
- 15 Kelly Cunningham
- 17 Shannon Simpkins
- 21 Beth Brown
- 23 Kenny Kirby; David Stuart
- 24 Edie Beals
- 29 Jacob Hale
- 30 Brock Tucker



The Book Club will meet on April 22 at 10:00am. We will be discussing "Buckeye" by Patrick Ryan. Please join us!

**APRIL ANNIVERSARIES**

- 4 Stephen and Mikah Utley
- 25 Larry and Jo Kendall



**Cridlin Food and Clothing Pantry**

In April we will collect boxes of cans of Chili. Please leave your donations in the containers in the narthex.

### COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP



Please join us for coffee and fellowship each Sunday after worship. We meet in the church parlor. If you would like to help by providing treats or making coffee there is a sign up sheet in the parlor.

### WORSHIP HELPER SCHEDULE

DATE	READER	ASSISTING MIN.	COM. DEACON	CRUCIFER	ACOLYTE	USHERS
4/2	Keith Wellman	Ruthann Arneson	Martha Danelle	Daniel Kist	Kennady Kist	
4/3	Emma Arneson	Emma Arneson				
4/5 Sunrise	Ruthann Arneson	Jenny Murray		Daniel Kist		
4/5 10:00am	Annette DuVall	Linda Schneider	Jan Kirby	Daniel Kist	Jackson Wellman	
4/12	Barbara Garnett	David Stuart	Jenny Murray	Daniel Kist	Jaylyn Garnett	
4/19	Mary Lou Pratt	Bernadette Wellman	David Stuart	Daniel Kist	Kennady Kist	
4/26	Mary Lou Fricke	Keith Wellman	B. Wellman	Daniel Kist	Willow May	Mary Lou Fricke



### Prayer Shawl Ministry

Prayer shawls are available in the narthex if you would like to give one to someone in need of comfort and prayer. Cards are also available to give with the shawls. These shawls are made by members of St. Paul and are offered free of charge.



### COMMUNION RECORD

Please fill out a communion card each time you take communion. Cards are in the pews in the same section as the offering envelopes. Cards can be placed in the offering plate. If you are in the choir, cards are available in the choir room to be placed in the basket along with your offering.



We pray for: LaDonna, Helen, Opal, Francesca, Stephen, Helen, April, Rene, Elisha, Tessa, Bill, Eric, Teresa, Creigh, Steve, Randy and Luke.

Often when people are searching for a new church home they “google” Lutheran churches in the area, then read the reviews. You can help promote St. Paul by leaving a review on google. Follow the instructions below and let others know about the wonderful loving church family they will find if they come to St. Paul.

### HOW TO LEAVE A REVIEW OF ST. PAUL ON GOOGLE

Results for Pea Ridge, W

Places

- St. Paul Eva...  
4.5 ★★★★★ (10)  
Huntington, WV ...  
Open · Closes 2 ...  
Website Directions
- St Paul's Lut...  
5.0 ★★★★★ (5)  
Ashland, KY · (6...  
Lovely LCMS cl  
Website Directions
- St. Paul Luth...  
4.3 ★★★★★ (7)  
Ironton, OH · (74...

Open in Maps

Send to your phone Send

Review summary ⓘ

5 ————  
4 ————  
3 ————  
2 ————  
1 ————

4.5 ★★★★★  
10 reviews

Write a review

Click here on the name of the church

When this box pops up scroll down until you see “write a review”

1. Type “google.com” into your search box. Then click on Google.
2. Type “St. Paul Lutheran Church” into the google search box  
You will see the screen above:  
Click on the name of the church—do not click where it says “website”  
The box to the right will pop up. Scroll down a little ways until you see where it says “write a review”. Click on this and follow the prompts.



Backpack items are an ongoing need throughout the school year. ***We are providing 30 backpacks each week to Southside Elementary!*** If you can help by donating any of the items below, please leave them in the containers in the narthex or bring to the church office.

fruit cups	applesauce
Mac and Cheese	Beef-a-Roni
Beef sticks	Cereal
Pop Tarts	Fruit snacks
Drink boxes	Shelf stable milk
tuna salad/crackers	chicken salad/crackers

***All items need to be individual sizes and not contain peanuts.***

***Please leave your items in the container in the narthex or bring to the church office.***

#### **BACKPACK DELIVERY**

- April: Cheryl Konzett
- May: Judy Wade

If you would like to help deliver backpacks please sign up in the narthex.

If you are not able to deliver during your scheduled time please contact Emma Arneson so she can find a substitute.

# April 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 12:00pm Maundy Thursday worship 7:00pm Maundy Thursday worship	3 12:00pm Good Friday Worship 7:00pm Good Friday Worship	4
5 7:00am Sunrise Worship 8:00am Breakfast 9:15am Egg Hunt 10:00am Worship	6	7 9:30am Quilting	8 6:00pm CCC 7:00pm Choir	9 Noon Bible Study 5:00pm Confirmation at CTK 6:00pm Scouts	10	11
12 10:00am Worship 11:15am Sunday School 11:15am Coffee and Fellowship 11:15am Council Meeting	13 Pastor at QRT	14 9:30am Quilting	15 7:00pm Choir	16 Noon Bible Study 5:00pm Confirmation at CTK	17	18
19 10:00am Worship 11:15am Sunday School 11:15am Book Study 11:15am Coffee and Fellowship	20	21 9:30am Quilting	22 10:00am Book Club 6:00pm CCC 7:00pm Choir	23 NO Noon Bible Study 5:00pm Confirmation at CTK 6:00pm Scouts	24	25
26 10:00am Worship 11:15am Sunday School 11:15am Book Study 11:15am Coffee and Fellowship	27 Pastor at QRT	28 9:30am Quilting	29 7:00pm Choir	30 Noon Bible Study 5:00pm Confirmation at CTK		