

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

APRIL 2023

Sunday School: 9:15 a.m. / Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.



April 2023: From the Pastor's Heart

Whose Fault Is It?

Congratulations! You have successfully made it through Lent, keeping your promises to God! I know from experience that keeping Lenten vows is not always easy but I also know from experience what a great feeling it is to find yourself having been faithful to God. Being faithful to God is what its all about. If we can be faithful in keeping our Lenten vows, we know deep down in our hearts that we can be faithful to God in all aspects of our lives. That is, if we really want to and commit ourselves to doing it, provided, yes provided, one extremely important thing, PRAYER. Admit it with me. We prayed for God's help, and He answered our prayers. Admit it with me, the only reason we were able to keep our Lenten vows was that God helped us in our weakest moments. The lesson I see, I hope you see it too, is this: We commit ourselves to prayer, we can be more faithful to God in all aspects of lives, all of the time not just Lent. Amen!

As we celebrate the Resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and reflect on his Crucifixion and Passion, the personality of Pontius Pilate the Roman Governor of Judea draws me into some serious self-reflection. Let me set the stage.

Remember Judea, including the city of Jerusalem, was under the control of the Roman Empire. While the Chief Priest and the Sanhedrin Council were the local civic leaders of the Jewish people, they themselves had to answer to the Roman Governor, who was appointed by the Emperor of the Roman Empire. As you might imagine, there were times when the Roman Governor and the Chief Priest and the Sanhedrin council were at odds with each other. The Chief Priest and the Sanhedrin had the power of influence over the Jewish people. They could gather crowds and inspire demonstrations, protests, riots, and rebellions which were not acceptable to the Roman Emperor, therefore jeopardizing the Governor's position. On the other hand, the Governor had control over the local branch of the Roman Army and could use legalized-violence to force his/her will upon the Jewish people. While the Chief Priest and the Sanhedrin Council desperately wanted to kill Jesus, they did not have the power to do so. They needed the Roman Governor, Pontius Pilate to issue the order to execute Jesus. This is why they bring Jesus to Pilate and falsely accuse him of plotting insurrection and rebellion against Rome as an earthly king. Pilate is forced into a very uncomfortable situation. He receives a spiritual a warning not to harm Jesus from his wife. He recognizes that the Chief Priest and the Sanhedrin council do not have a valid reason for executing Jesus. But he does not want them complaining to the Emperor or starting a rebellion. What would you do if you were in Pilate's situation?

Life or death is in your hands. Your decision will determine whether a person lives or dies. What would you do? Pilate recognizes that his decision about whether Jesus should be released or crucified will affect his personal future. He knows in his heart of hearts that Jesus is innocent of all wrong but he also knows the Chief Priest and the Sanhedrin council want Jesus dead and if he does not give them what they want they will go work to have him removed from his office. Pilate does not want to lose his comfortable position of power and wealth.

Here's how Pilate dealt with his dilemma. Matthew 27:24 (NRSV) "*So when Pilate saw that he could do nothing, but rather that a riot was beginning, he took some water and washed his hands before the crowd, saying, "I am innocent of this man's blood; see to it yourselves."* Pilate washes his hands before the people and declares he is innocent of Jesus' Blood even though he gives the Chief Priest and the Sanhedrin Council permission to crucify Jesus.

Tell me, do you think this act of washing his hands makes Pilate innocent of the blood of Jesus Christ? Pilate communicates his awareness of this injustice by washing his hands, but does this symbolic act make Pilate any less guilty? Remember Pilate never drove a nail into Jesus' hands or feet. Pilate never hit Jesus with a whip. Pilate is not the one who pressed a crown of thorns into Jesus' head. Pilate was not present on Golgotha's hill when Jesus was crucified and died. Is he innocent or is he guilty?

How are we to understand responsibility, then and now? Is it the acts we do or do not do with our hands and bodies? Does responsibility include using or not using our influence and/or power to help something happen or to stop something from happening? Can we, in our own ways, simply wash our hands and declare our innocence for the events and actions of some people that result in the death, diminishment, and suffering of other people? When are people and events too far away for us have any influence or provide help? When are people or events close enough for us to accept any responsibility?

Clearly, the answers are personal, as it was for Pilate. However, we must remember that we will have to answer to God for the consequences of our personal choices. Legend has it that Pilate committed suicide. I imagine him constantly washing invisible blood from his hands.

May your reflections on this season lead you to peace.

Love

Pastor Spencer





CHURCH CAMP 2023 (Lutheridge, Lutherock and Camp Agape)

- ◆ St. Paul's has some monies budgeted to help with church camp experiences for our members. We can pay for only 1 camp per child per year.
- ◆ You will need to register your child online at novusway.org
- ◆ You pay the FULL amount at time of registration. Once your child is registered, submit the forms to the church office for reimbursement.
- ◆ Camp opportunities at Lutheridge & Lutherock are available for youth in grades 1-12
- ◆ CAMP AGAPE (day camp) at Philadelphia Lutheran Church **July 2-7th** for youth entering grades 1-8. Contact Susan Lineberger at sulinebe@aol.com for more information about how to register.
- ◆ Call the church office at 704-922-4387 if you have questions.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

St. Paul's has soup kitchen duty (Lincolnton)

Saturday, April 8, 2023

See or call Susan Hutcherson (980-241-3604) with questions



OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please pick up your 2023 envelope packs in the narthex.

Using envelopes helps with counting and recording donations.

Thanks!



INTER-GENERATIONAL SUNDAY SCHOOL

5TH SUNDAYS IN BOLLINGER HALL AT 9:15 A.M.

April 30th, July 30th, Oct. 29th, Dec. 31st

Adult & Children Classes Together!

See Sandy Kennedy if you have questions.



COUNCIL MEMBERS 2023

NAME	Term Ends
Josh Crisp (Inside Property)	12/31/23
Susan Lineberger (Youth)	12/31/23
Jeremy Loadholdt (Planning)	12/31/23
Justin Rubow (Worship & Music)	12/31/23
David Beaver (Staff Support)	12/31/24
Eric Lamanna (Social Ministry)	12/31/24
Marsha Kinley (Evangelism)	12/31/24
Gary Plonk (Hospitality)	12/31/24
Sandy Kennedy (Parish Ed.)	12/31/25
Jared Barkley (Finance/Stewardship)	12/31/25
Jason Crisp (Outdoor Ministries)	12/31/25
Dave Hoyle (Outside Property)	12/31/25

COUNCIL OFFICERS 2023:

President:	David Beaver
Vice-President:	Jeremy Loadholdt
Secretary:	Eric Lamanna

APRIL COUNCIL MEETING—APRIL 2 @ 7:30 A.M.

Note this is a change of date due to Easter.

CLOTHING DRIVE

Holy Communion/Philadelphia Churches sponsoring a clothing give-a-way on Sat., April 15th. They need children's, teens and men's clothing. They will accept any gently used, clean clothing. They have enough women's clothing at this time.



- ◆ Call Ron or Amy Holland and they will meet you at Holy Communion or pickup these donations from you. Ron's # 704-813-0103 or Amy's # 704-813-0104.

Do NOT bring to St. Paul's—we don't have a place to store clothing.



RELAY FOR LIFE

St. Paul's Relay Team, *Fishing for a Cure*, is raising money for the American Cancer Society. If you want to participate see Lisa Rubow or Kelly Ramey. Checks payable to The American Cancer Society—give to Lisa or Kelly.

- April Relay for Life Lunch **4/23/23** after worship service in Bollinger Hall—Tacos & Hot Dogs
- Relay for Life event @ Gaston College Campus April 28th at 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. Survivors need to sign up online at relayforlife.org or call 1-800-227-2345 and they'll sign you up.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES 2023



- ◆ Our teachers: Jeremy Loadholdt, Kelly Taylor, Susan Lineberger and Pastor Spencer.
- ◆ DATES: *April 2, 16 & 30; May 7*
- ◆ Time: Sundays: 11:30-1:00 after worship—lunch provided

YOU ARE INVITED

Antioch Lutheran Church EASTER VIGIL SERVICE

Sat. evening, April 8, 2023 - 7:45 p.m.

- ◆ This is a celebration of the ancient "Vigil of Easter," the night before Easter Sunday morning.
- ◆ The focus of this service will be the "new fire," the "exultet" praise for the Easter Candle (representing "the Light of Christ"), Old Testament readings, and a remembrance of our common baptism.
- ◆ Communion will NOT be celebrated, saving that festival for the following day in our own churches.
- ◆ The service is expected to last slightly more than one hour.
- ◆ All are welcome to share in this Easter celebration.



WELCA OFFICERS 2023

Women of the ELCA: President: Sandy Kennedy; VP: Susan Hutcherson;
Secretary: Becky Paseur; Treasurer: Lisa Rubow

Mission Team: Donna Robinson, Jenny Eudy, Susan Lineberger

◆ **WELCA Mission Team will be supporting these missions in 2023:**

2nd Quarter: Matthew 25:40; 3rd Quarter: God's Work Our Hands;

4th Quarter: Dallas High Shoals Christian Ministries

Make checks payable to St. Paul's and mark for the mission group. Thanks for your support!



MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH NEWS

John & Kelly Taylor middle/high school youth leaders (704-678-6419)

Easter Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 1st 11 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. (hot dog lunch)

Sponsored by Middle & High School Youth - kids through 3rd grade hunting eggs—Scavenger Hunt for 4th and 5th graders



SPIRIT GROUP & SPIRIT CHOIR (K-5TH GRADE)

- ◆ Up-coming Meetings: April 2nd & May 7th 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. See Susan Lineberger or Emily Mitchem with questions.
- ◆ SPIRIT Choir—rehearsals next to last Sunday of each month (after worship-sanctuary) - Choir will sing on last Sunday of each month @ 10:30 a.m. worship. See Elisha with questions.

ST. PAUL'S MEN'S GROUP

Invite a friend and join us every 3rd Sunday morning at 7:30 a.m.
for a delicious breakfast and good fellowship.

BOSTON BUTT SALE - TICKETS: \$40.00

PICK-UP DATE: April 8, 2023 from 10 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. in picnic shelter.

See John Taylor or other men's group member to purchase tickets.



JOY GROUP

MOVIE MATINEE—Bollinger Hall—April 21, 2023 @ 2:00 p.m.

Popcorn & Drinks



N.C. Synod Assembly—June 2nd & 3rd Koury Convention Center, Greensboro

- ◆ St. Paul's needs 2 delegates (1 male & 1 female) to attend.
- ◆ If you are interested, see David Beaver as soon as possible. Deadline to register 4/15
- ◆ Check-in at 8 a.m. on June 2nd and the last session is at 1:30 p.m. on June 3rd.



Being Lax

The most lasting legacy of the Covid epidemic may not be the new ways people can show up, important as those are. The most lasting legacy may be new ways of thinking about when and whether to show up. For congregations, the era of attracting people by low expectations may have come to a belated end.

Covid broke the habit of attendance for a lot of people. Some will come back, but many have found other ways to spend their time. Congregational leaders are wondering, “When will they come back? How can we get people to return?” Worship attendance reached a high of nearly 50% during the 1950s, with affiliation estimates ranging up to 70%. Many people then felt pressured to find a congregation, join it, and attend. Cultural controversies were often cast in religious terms Catholic vs. Protestant, liberal vs. Evangelical, Christian vs. non-Christian.

Meanwhile, congregations began to advertise themselves as strict or lax. Strict congregations emphasized distinctive doctrines and behavior rules. Lax ones opened their arms wide, demanding little and requiring only general principles or notions. For a while, the lack of rules and expectations was a powerful driver of lax congregations’ growth.

But in our time laxness has begun to lose its favor. Non-affiliation is an accepted option, and so people are no longer relieved to learn that they can have the respectability of congregation membership without the inconvenience of examining their lifestyles or beliefs. Why join a congregation when you can believe and act as you wish at home?

Both poles of the strict-lax spectrum appear in every congregation. In part, this happens because “openness” is not enough. A faith community needs to stand for something, and if it does, it will stand also against some other things. It may welcome everyone, but if its values are apparent, it will repel some and attract others. Those values may be religious doctrines or political positions or moral stances. If they amount to more than platitudes, they signal that while all are welcome, some do not belong.

Many congregations fear to choose a spiritual center because someone might feel left out. Ironically, such congregations exclude almost everyone. Some people know this and will advocate perhaps only from the margin for centering community more firmly.

“All are welcome here” which also sounds so easy means you have to learn to welcome people who are different from you and me. This teaching pointed into what, for me, has been a long learning process about difference. My assumptions about what “everybody” has in common has been challenged over and over by people who have taught me just a little about what it means to be female, Black, Indigenous, sexual orientation, disability, and faith.

The Covid pandemic has hastened the race toward laxness to its end. Some congregations will return to the old strict requirements and expectations. Others will invite people into a new covenant, strong communities of expectation based not on oppressive social pressure but on voluntary choice.

Scott Rubow

APRIL 2023 BIRTHDAYS

Happy Birthday

4/1	Blair Culberson, Zoe Culberson
4/2	Zane Heafner, Mitchell Robinson
4/7	Marlene Cloninger, Lucas Ramiro
4/8	Betty Bumgarner, Jayda Owens
4/10	Valerie Best
4/12	Erika C. Ramiro
4/13	Amber Stiles
4/16	Iva Huffstickler
4/20	Nancy Bollinger, Gail Cabe, Dustin Owens
4/23	Ansley Crisp
4/25	Russell Champion
4/26	Lou Collins
4/27	Angela Crisp
4/28	Taylor Odem
4/29	Victoria Porter
4/30	Malcolm Lynn



OUTREACH MINISTRIES...



- ◇ **Boy Scouts Troop 22** chartered at St. Paul's. Make donations by marking for "Troop 22";
- ◇ **Dallas High Shoals Christian Ministry: Spaghetti/Spaghetti Sauce; Pork 'n Beans**—Always need peanut butter /crackers /soup & personal hygiene items— Bring these items to the church or mark donations for DCSM;
- ◇ **Project Turkey**...Make checks payable to St. Paul's for "Project Turkey"
- ◇ **School Partnership Fund**...The ALL Sunday School Class collects money to purchase hygiene and others personal items for students (formerly called Backpack Fund).
- ◇ **World Hunger**...Mark donations accordingly;.
- ◇ **ELCA Disaster Relief**...Mark donations accordingly.

APRIL 2023 Responsibilities...

duties

Acolytes: Lucas Taylor, C.J. Crocker
Altar Flowers to Shut-Ins: Sandy Kennedy
Altar Guild: Linda Metcalf
Audio/Video: Josh Crisp
Cantor: R.F. Mitschke
Children's Church: Kelley Barker
Crucifer: Annabella Lamanna
Council Rep.: Jared Barkley
Council Assistants: Jared Barkley, Dave Hoyle
Ushers: (* head usher) *Scott Heafner, Steve Hovis
Seth Rollins, Braeden Taylor
—Ushers will serve as greeters in 2023—
Food to DCSM: Lynn Rhyne and Betty Surratt

Date:	Reader	Nursery
4/2	Becky Lamphicar	Mendy Kanupp, Dru Parker
4/9	R.F. Mitschke	Taylor Carter, Joelene Nielsen
4/16	Anna Pasour	Wendy Goudelock, Carrie Stroup
4/23	Jason Ramey	Patty Crisp, Kelly Taylor
4/30	Lynn Rhyne	Wendy Goudelock, Dru Parker

—Acolytes & Crucifers: Please contact Kelly Taylor (704-678-6419) if you are not able to serve. It's important that we know ahead of time if you can't be here .—

Reminder!

ONE CALL NOW...This is our messaging system. Only those who sign up are placed into the system. Please note that you will be receiving information from this telephone number **877-698-3261**—If you "opt out" or block this number you will not be able to receive messages until you call the office to be re-instated.

Generosity
changes everything

ON-LINE GIVING...Easy Tithe/Ministry One

You can give a one-time donation or set it up to give recurring donations by going to St. Paul's website:

www.stpaulsdallas.org

Click on the "On-Line Giving" Tab and follow directions.

Or

You can give using your iPhone by downloading the app Ministry One—search for our church using our zip code of 28034 then follow the directions.

Or

Mail in your donations to 531 Hardin Road, Dallas NC 28034.

Thanks for your support!



EASTER EGG HUNT @ ST. PAUL'S

SAT., APRIL 1st: 11 a.m.—1 p.m.

Hog dog lunch

Children though 3rd grade hunting eggs

Scavenger Hunt for 4th & 5th Graders

Sponsored by Middle & High School Youth

See Kelly Taylor with questions.



CHOIR NEWS

FROM ELISHA MITSCHKE-LAMANNA

- ◆ **Handbell Choir Schedule:** Sept.—May:
(1st & 3rd Sundays @ 8:45 a.m.)
- ◆ **Chancel Choir Schedule:** Sept.—May:
(5:00 p.m. each Sunday)
- ◆ **SPIRIT CHOIR (grades K-5) - Sept. – May:** Rehearsals next to last Sunday of each month after 10:30 a.m. worship in the sanctuary. We'll plan to sing on the last Sunday of the month.
- ◆ **See Elisha Lamanna with questions.**
Her number is 704-692-7423



LENT/EASTER 2023

- ◆ **Lenten Bible Studies:**
March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29
Light Meal at 6:30 p.m.
Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
There will be a Bible Study for children ages 4—5th grade at these Lenten studies
- ◆ **Palm Sunday, April 2, 2023**
⇒ Worship Service begins outdoors at 10:30 a.m. then indoors
- ◆ **Maundy Thursday Service at St. Paul's April 6, 2023** at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Good Friday Service at St. Paul's April 7, 2023** at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ **Easter Sunday: April 9, 2023**
⇒ Easter Sunrise Service & Breakfast.
We'll gather at the cross at 6:50 a.m. and begin the service outside then go into the sanctuary. The St. Paul's Men are cooking breakfast—please stay for good food and fellowship. We have invited Fancy Hill and Hardin Baptist to join us.
⇒ Sunday School at 9:15 a.m.
⇒ Worship Service at 10:30 a.m.





Memorials & Gifts...

- ◆ **In memory of Karen Hubanks** given by: Rebecca & Mark Lamphiear; Steve & Gail Summey (quilting)
- ◆ **In memory of Deborah Quinn Harris** given by Mariah Q. Porter (SPIRIT)
- ◆ **In honor of Sandy Kennedy and the Senior JOY Group of St. Paul's** (a gift for a well for fresh water in India) given anonymously
- ◆ **In honor of Louise McManus** given by: Mantissa Corporation (Project Turkey & Navajo Mission)
- ◆ **In memory of John Rollins' and Jonathan Eudy's birthdays** given by: Alan & Susan Hutcherson
- ◆ **In memory of Carrie Cloninger** given by: Jane Blanton, Juanita Harris, M/M Leonard Keever,

OUR CHRISTIAN SYMPATHY Extended To:



- ◆ **The family and friends of Nancy Ratchford Friday** who died March 26th. Celebration of Life service to be held Sunday, April 30th @ Our Saviour Lutheran Church, Dallas. Nancy was the mother of Kim Friday Norwood.
- ◆ **The family and friends of David Hoyle** who died March 29th.

PLEASE KEEP THESE FAMILIES IN YOUR PRAYERS.

Prayer List

PRAYER LIST

Call the office to have a name added or removed.



In the armed forces: Jordan Barker; Joshua Best, Austin Earle; Mark & Thor Gignac; Blake Hughes; Coty Land; Adam Naylor, Gregory Tyler III

Home-bound/Assisted Living/Rehabilitation:

Gene & Lou Collins, 715 Narrow Gauge Rd., Dallas NC 28034

Ted & Frances Goins, 728 Klumac Road, Apt. 126B, Salisbury, NC 28144

Pauline Guess, 226 Elizabeth Lane, Dallas, NC 28034

Linda Hoyle, 604 Queens Drive, Dallas NC 28034

Betty Faye Lineberger, Peak Gastonia, 2780 X-Ray Drive, Room 205, Gastonia, NC 28054

Betty Paseur, Brookdale Robinwood-Room 36, 1750 Robinwood Rd., Gastonia, NC 28054

Martha Pasour, Woodlawn Haven Rest Home, 301 Craig Street, Mt. Holly, NC 28120

Todd Stillwell @ Mt. Ridge, 810 King Arthur Dr., Gastonia, NC 28056

Our Members Linda Ackles, Mardie Best, Betty Bumgarner, Marlene Cloninger, Jean Dover, Grace Harbin, Ann Keever, Myra Lineberger, Kay & Malcolm Lynn, Gloria Mauney, Louise McManus, Henry Moffett, Becky Paseur, Jimmy Pasour, Sandy Plonk, June Rogers, Danny Safrit, *Pat Sellers, Emilie Sides, Sally Terres, Chris Thornburg, the family of Carrie Cloninger, the family of David Hoyle and all who mourn the loss of a loved one

Friends & Family: (Names removed after 1 month – you can fill out a prayer card or call the office to add to this list): Nancy Bollinger, Kelly Byrd, Robbie Cearley, Chuck Cloninger, CRU Military, Barbara M. Dellinger, Joanne Gignac, Leah Mackey, Glen Rubow, Roger Rutledge, Bishop Tim Smith, the families of: Walker Hayes, Helen Safrit, Karen Hubanks, Carole Lineberger, Nancy Friday, and all who are mourning the loss of a loved one

WE NEED YOUR HELP IN KEEPING THE PRAYER LIST UP-TO-DATE.

Send information to gail@stpaulsdallas.org or call the office at 704-922-4387

A thank you note to St. Paul's WELCA

THANK YOU

Sorry this message has taken me so long to write. We truly appreciate the gifts of pants and underwear. Our students are very happy for these. Our teacher assistants and teachers really appreciate you all thinking of us! We are truly grateful!

Thank you all so very much!

Ms. Hopkins, School Counselor

Costner Elementary School



THANK YOU

This card is to acknowledge the generous gift for \$1,000.00 to dig a well in Behari India for one of those villages so in need of fresh water. These wells serve approximately 1000 people per day. What a blessing to the children and adults alike.

The donor of these funds wants to remain anonymous but to given in honor of Sandy Kennedy and the St. Paul's Joy Group of the church.

Thanks once again for such caring hearts.

Bejui Thomas and Behair Indin

Thank you



2023 HOPE Symposium

April 29, 2023

9 a.m. until 3 p.m.

ABIDING PRESENCE LUTHERAN CHURCH

7300 Sunset Lake Rd., Fuquay-Varina, NC

- ◆ Keynote address from Rev. Dr. Mary Hinkle Shore
- ◆ Additional presentations from: Rev. Dr. Marvin Connelly Jr., Rev. Pam Northrup, Rev. Dr. Katherine Shaner
- ◆ Register for this event at www.doveandcross.org

*The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring a **WHITE OUT**, collecting toilet paper and paper towels for Dallas High Shoals Christian Ministry during the month of March.*

Please consider being a part of this project and drop your donation in the collection point in the narthex this month.

Thanks!

WELCA supporting Matthew25:40 during the 2nd quarter of 2023 (April-June). Information on the table in the narthex. Thanks for your support!

- ◆ Monetary donations can be made payable to St. Paul's with a notation for "Matthew 25:40"
- ◆ See highlighted area below for donations we are collecting at the church.

MATTHEW 25:40

WE'RE ON A MISSION TO RAISE FUNDS TO PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS TO IMPOVERISHED CHILDREN.

We believe that **education is the key** to eradicating poverty, ending a culture of dependence and creating citizens who become the economic backbone of their communities.

We believe that **Christian values** are the key to creating strong families which in turn create strong communities led by ethical leaders.

We believe that **working alongside those in need** to help them realize their God-given potential is the key to empowering lasting change as we model how to give back and to pay it forward.

We envision a future where options are **not limited** by lack of access to education.

We provide opportunities through mission trips and experiences, to help **build relationships** with the children and teachers of our school and their community. We focus on utilizing our teams skills to help remove barriers and obstacles that are in the way of a good education.

Matthew2540 is 501c3 organization. Our EIN # is 47-2329664

- ◆ *Our June team will be staying on the new property. Lynn Isenhower is our team leader. Our team in June will be 14 strong. In addition to running medical clinics, we plan to build some playground equipment and teach the older students how to make a quilt. Team members hail from SC, NC and WV and include Lynn Rhyne from St. Paul's.*
- ◆ **We need donations of : sanitary pads, Bible story coloring books, 12 count boxes of crayons, toothbrushes, toothpaste, knit caps and reading glasses sized for adults and others for kids. You can leave your donations in a bag for Lynn Rhyne at the church.**
- ◆ *Step 1 of the next phase involves adding 2 bathrooms (construction costs) and repurposing rooms .*
- ◆ *Step 2 will be to complete the security fence along the one side of the property.*
- ◆ *Step 3 will be putting a new pump in the well so it can be used for watering the garden to grow vegetables to feed the school and their families.*
- ◆ *I appreciate you all and so do our children. Dad would have been delighted to see this property taking shape.*

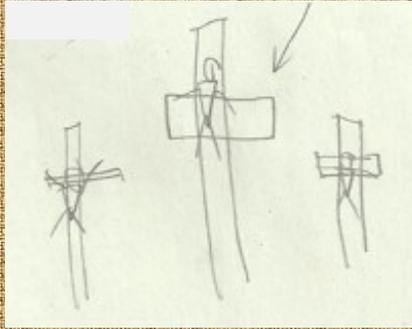
Lynn Bollinger Isenhower (864-993-6715) 234 Brookfield Dr. Greenwood, SC 29646



CAN YOU DOODLE, DRAW OR COLOR?

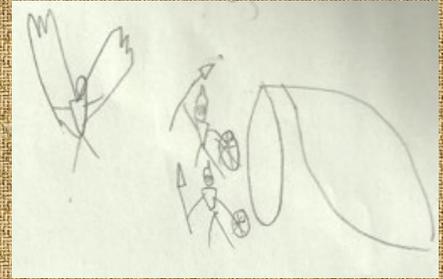
The Evangelism Committee asked folks to submit Bible Story Illustrations, name/age & (secret) title to Marsha Kinley. Illustrations are shared in here.

A9



A10

A11

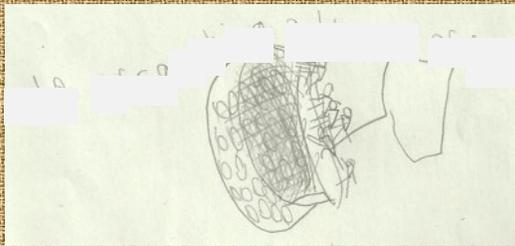


Can You GUESS the Bible stories illustrated by these drawings?

A9 =

A10 =

A11 =



A12



A13

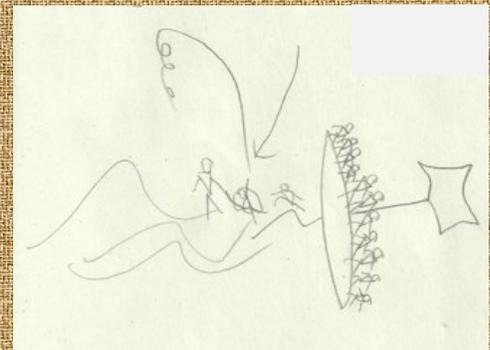


Can You GUESS the Bible stories illustrated by these drawings?

A12 =

A13 =

A14 =



A14

THANKS to Briley Robinson, Kenslee Taylor, and Caleb Porter for their Bible story illustrations that were added to the March newsletter. **Did you guess the topics correctly?**

- A4 = Jesus and the last supper - (Briley)
- A6 = Jesus walks on the water [Sea of Galilee] - (Kenslee)
- A7 = Flaming bush [on Mt. Horeb] - Story of Moses - (Caleb)
- A8 = Parts the water [of Red Sea] - Story of Moses -(Caleb)

Try your luck again with the new illustrations in this April newsletter submitted for "Can you doodle, draw, or color?" More will be posted next month, too. (Evangelism Committee)

Cemetery Policy Statements—Updated/Approved 11/13/2022

Copies available in the narthex or you can call the church office (704-922-4387) to have a copy mailed to you.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
CEMETERY POLICY STATEMENTS
Revised November 9, 2022

Statement of Purpose:

- The purpose of St. Paul's Lutheran Church cemetery is to provide a burial place of perpetual care for its members.
- The cemetery is a congregational cemetery and under no circumstances shall St. Paul's Cemetery be considered a public cemetery. Nor shall any plots be considered as being for sale or sold. All plots remain the property of St. Paul's Lutheran Church and are under the care and supervision of the Cemetery Committee and the Congregation Council.

I. ELIGIBILITY

Members of St. Paul's:

1. Each ***active** member of St. Paul's shall be guaranteed a grave plot at no cost. Plots shall be selected in the area designated by the Cemetery Committee at the time of death.

*Active member as defined by St. Paul's Lutheran Church Constitution – Chapter 8.Membership C8.02 (c)...
Voting members are confirmed members. Such confirmed members, during the current or preceding calendar year, shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contribution of record to this congregation. Members of this congregation who have satisfied these basic standards shall have the privilege of voice and vote at every regular and special meeting of the congregation as well as the other rights and privileges ascribed to voting members by the provisions of this constitution and its bylaws.

Former Members and Extended Families of St. Paul's:

1. **Former/Inactive members** and extended family members with a pre-assigned family burial plot - a contribution of \$500.00 is expected at the time of death.
2. The Cemetery Committee and the Congregation Council shall not be expected to approve requests for grave plots for a non-member other than those noted above.
3. Plots are available at no cost to former pastors of St. Paul's and their spouses. Plots are also available to sons or daughters of St. Paul's and their spouses who are in or have been in the full-time ministry of the church.

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II. CEMETERY POLICY

1. All requests for plots and/or questions relating to the cemetery shall be directed to the Cemetery Committee in writing.
2. No grave shall be opened without first contacting the church office and the church office will contact a representative of the cemetery committee.
3. All contributions for grave sites shall be sent to the church and placed into the Cemetery Fund Line Item.

III. OPENING OF THE GRAVE AND SETTING MARKERS

1. An acceptable grave liner is required in each grave and cremation site.
2. Proper precaution shall be taken in opening graves especially in cases where drilling and blasting may be necessary. Any resulting damage to existing monuments or church property shall be the responsibility of those opening the grave and the funeral director in charge.
3. Removal of all excess dirt (and rock) to a designated area on church property shall be the responsibility of the funeral director.
4. Fill dirt shall be properly tamped and sod replaced on grave sites.
5. If it is necessary to remove a stone already in place in order to open a grave, the old stone shall be properly replaced.
6. No grave markers (monuments) shall be set without prior arrangements with the **CEMETERY COMMITTEE**. All headstones shall be set on a base no less than 4 inches thick. All footstones should be ground level.
7. Monument markers shall not exceed the width of the grave plots and shall be located at the head of the grave.
8. Only flat surface markers are permitted in the new sections of the cemetery.
9. Graves/Cremation Sites should be permanently marked as soon as practical after burial.

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GENERAL ITEMS:

1. Borders of any kind shall NOT be installed around any plot or grave site. There shall be no curbing, sand, gravel, or concrete placed around any grave.
2. No shrubbery or growing plants other than grass shall be planted on any plot.
3. Grave sites (plots) in the new section of St. Paul's cemetery will be laid off in east-west direction. Head markers at the west end of the plot.
4. All broken and used flower vases (except those designed into or to fit the grave marker), all faded, dried, or generally unsightly flowers (live or artificial) shall be removed by the family of the deceased; otherwise, the Cemetery Committee shall have the right to authorize their removal.
5. All vehicles shall drive only in designated driveways.

⇒ **If conditions arise not listed in the Cemetery Policy, the Cemetery Committee will address these issues accordingly.**

CEMETERY COMMITTEE MEMBERS (10/11/2022):

Gary Plonk (Chairperson)
Scott Heafner
Matt Kanupp
Sue Moffett
Joe Rhyne
Lisa Rubow
John Taylor

These policies and procedures are part of the Cemetery Policies of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 531 Hardin Road, Dallas, N.C.

Approved: November 13, 2022 at a properly called congregational council meeting.

DATE

These policies revised from 2005 cemetery policy statements.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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gail@stpaulsdallas.org
emlamanna@gaston.k12.nc.us

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. John H. Spencer
Telephone # 201-981-6173
E-mail: drjhsjr@gmail.com
E-mail: john.spencer@stpaulsdallas.org

We're on the Web:

www.stpaulsdallas.org

See the online calendar at
www.stpaulsdallas.org to view up--coming
events and activities.

Non-Profit Org.
US POSTAGE PAID
Dallas, NC 28034
PERMIT # 1

The Rev. John and Mrs. Debra Spencer
2004 Red Leaf Court
Dallas NC 28034



Newsletter information should be
turned in no later than the 15th of
each month. Thanks for your help.



MISSION STATEMENT:

*At St. Paul's, we are committed to serve
as faithful children of God as a part of a
connected family of believers.*



◆ **Church Office Hours:**

Sept. –May: Monday—
Thursday; 8 a.m.—2:30 pm

- ◆ However, it's always a good idea to call ahead to be sure our schedule has not changed.



Please use your assigned envelopes or an envelope in the pew rack for your donations. Using envelopes helps with the process of counting and recording monies.

Check out our on-line giving option: go to our website www.stpaulsdallas.org or go directly to www.easytithe.com/dl/?uid=st531296 to register your account. On-line giving guides in narthex.



Help us keep our buildings secure. Please be sure to lock the doors after your group uses the buildings. Doors have to be pushed to be sure locks engage. Thank you!