



St. Paul's U.C.C. - Erin CHAPEL BELLS

May, 2025

PASTOR'S MESSAGE - EASTERTIDE

Well, Easter came and went. Hopefully, the flowers that adorned our chancel are still blooming and remain a living reminder of the events that occurred over a week full of Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem, his passion, the tragic sadness of his death, and then the glorious colors and full-throated songs of Easter.

We are now in the church season of Eastertide. It's the liturgical (the cycle of religious worship influencing the readings, prayers, and music) period on the church calendar spanning for 50 days after Easter Sunday until Pentecost Sunday.

As a church, we never stop celebrating Easter. Theologically, every Sunday is a "little" Easter, especially when we observe communion in which we reenact what we call the Last Supper. I say we call because Jesus never said this is my last meal in any of our Gospel writings. He did say, "Remember me every time you do this." Jesus' words should ring in our ears every time we eat and drink.

Our choir led us in singing, "Every morning is Easter morning" as a sung benediction on Easter Sunday. That is so true! There is new life to be found every day, if we are open to it.

Let's celebrate Eastertide together, not just for the 50 days between Easter and Pentecost Sunday, but every day! Hallelujah!

I also want to write a bit about the passing of Pope Francis, who died on Easter Monday. I will pray for him and for the Catholic Church in the coming hard and holy days. I hope you do as well. If you have an opportunity to read his final sermon, you will find it powerful and beautiful. Look for Jesus elsewhere.

VACATION

Pastor Bonnie will be on vacation from May 3rd to May 10th. In her absence, Leslie Below will once again lead worship. Leslie will be celebrating communion with you with my blessings on the elements. In case of an emergency, please call Kay O'K.

Our Council President, Cindy, is also on vacation and will return on May 10th.

St Paul's Sunday School Presents



A FUN-RAISER AUCTION

SUNDAY, MAY 18TH

FOLLOWING CHURCH

Bring an item to church beginning April 27th. Item may be New, Used-In Good Condition, or Home Made.

Opening bid for each item will be a minimum of \$3 and raises in increments of \$1. Maximum bid for any item will be \$20. In the event of multiple bids of \$20 on a single item, a winner will be decided by drawing of cards.

Refreshments will be served. Proceeds will benefit St. Paul's Sunday School.

COFFEE WITH BONNIE AND BIBLE STUDY

Of course, there is more than just coffee! There is cold water and tea available. Have you ever tried cinnamon in your coffee? There is a shaker of cinnamon, try it. There are bottles of coffee flavorings, including chocolate. What is coffee without a cookie or coffee cake? Pastor Bonnie will start a conversation with an ice-breaker style question. We've had some fun with that. Last month the question was, "What is the worst flavor of ice cream?"

Quite often Bible study just spontaneously happens during our conversation. Sometimes it will be more formal. Don't be afraid to come. You don't need to "know the Bible by heart"! It's actually more about our questions.

MAY 1st at 10 am at CHURCH is our next gathering. The first one there starts the coffee!





MOTHER'S DAY MAY 11th

In addition to the Aprons in the Wind celebration, Pastor Bonnie is asking you to answer the question, "What did your Mother teach you?"

If you would send your thoughts to her at:

saintpaulserin.pastor@gmail.com she will incorporate them into our worship. Yes, they can be anonymous.

WOMEN'S GUILD

The Guild is planning an adventure for Friday, July 18, to The Fireside Dinner Theater in Fort Atkinson. We will carpool from church at 9 AM, enjoy a delicious sounding lunch, and see "The Last Potluck Supper." It is a play about a small church's centennial celebration and the women working in the kitchen. Sound familiar?

St. Paul's members and friends are invited to join us. The cost is \$85.95 and a sign-up sheet is on the Fellowship Hall coffee table. Our count and payment are due by May 15.



The next Guild meeting is Thursday, May 15. All St. Paul's women are invited and encouraged to join us. Just bring a bag lunch and show up at noon. Jacquie will provide dessert.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH MISSION OFFERING

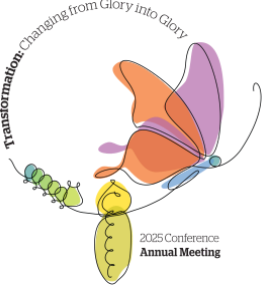
This year's theme is Great and Wide, honoring the diversity of God's creation and how we reflect that in the church. The Strengthen the Church offering supports new and renewing churches, youth and young adults, and leadership development across the United Church of Christ. You will find envelopes for your use in the pews beginning May 25th for collection on June 8th, which is appropriately Pentecost Sunday.

**STRENGTHEN
THE CHURCH
OFFERING**

May	Greeters	Communion	Reader
May 4	Jeff & Tracy M.	Jack & Charmaine D.	John D.
May 11	Karrie & Curt H.		Jill L.
May 18	Bill & Bernie C.		Curt H.
May 25	Kay O'K. & Jean S.		Jill P.

A TIME TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The sanctuary lights will be dimmed as a signal to enter into 5 minutes of quiet before worship. Allow yourself to settle and get ready for the depths of stillness and prayer and be led by the music of Jill's prelude. The lights will return to full brightness with the ringing of the bell.



WISCONSIN CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING will be held June 5-8 at Green Lake Conference Center. We are able to send two delegates. This year's theme is *Transformation: Changing Glory into Glory*. If you would like more information, please speak to Pastor Bonnie or Cindy C.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to the readers for our Maundy Thursday/Good Friday service: Jill L., Carl R., Bernie C., Jill P., Cheri J., Eugene D., Steve M., Curt H., Cindy C., Cheryl F., Jill S.

According to my weather app, our Spring Clean Up day should be perfect for using your garden tools at church, including spreading mulch and pulling weeds. With that said, I'm going to go ahead and thank Jack D and ALL those who helped.

Special thanks to the Miller's for donating hoses to extend to the roadside garden and to Curt H. for installing them.

Thanks go out to the Kaisler's for adding the red stick and pussy willows to give a touch of Spring to our garden.

Thanks to Jacquie B. for placing Forsythia (or For Cynthia as some folks ((Jeff)) call it) near the church entrance.

Thanks to Lynn D. for making us dirt cake for coffee and conversation on Earth Day Sunday.

Thanks to the altar committee for organizing and displaying all the Easter Plants! It was BEAUTIFUL.

Thanks to Jill L. not only for her musical talents but for making the ham and purchasing the buns for our Easter Sunday potluck. She also brought a turtle pringle! There were about 30 folks present. FYI: Once again the ham was donated by a lady who purchased custard pies from us! Thank you Kathy! It doesn't get said often enough but, thank you to the members of our choir. FYI: They are always open to adding your voice. Just show up.

Thank you to Debbie G. for washing our coffee and conversation towels, etc. It is appreciated.



A BIG BIG BIG Thank you to everyone!! We had (if I'm remembering correctly) over 1600 eggs packed! Thank you for all the candy donations! Thank you to those you packed for us. It is a tedious job and a lot of work! We appreciate you! Also, thank you to the guys who hung the signs up for us! Getting the word out is important! Thank you to the ladies in the kitchen that assembled our food table and kept it full for all of our guests! Thank you to the helpers at all the stations!

Your smiling faces made the day great! Thank you to the cleaner uppers! And last but not least, THANK YOU to those that could make it to hunt eggs and have fun with us!! YOU guys made our day!!! We appreciate you all!!!!

CONGRATULATIONS to Jill S., who became grandma to a baby boy!

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS Ron and Diane S., Joyce O'K, Marvin S., Mark G., Charmaine D., John and Polly E.

SOMETHING TO SHARE

Pope Francis said during an interview one time that he fell asleep during prayer.

The interviewer asked him whether that was allowed, and he said that fathers always love it when their children fall asleep in their arms.

May he rest in peace. @jarvis_best



Like us on Facebook: "St. Paul's United Church of Christ Erin" AND "St. Paul's Mission Maniacs"

Receive our E-Blasts: Please let us know if you would like to be added or have a new email address

If you would like to ask for prayers, share a joy, or have an announcement when attending worship virtually via our [YouTube Channel](#), please enter it in the chat or

email Pastor Bonnie prior to the service.

Check out the Church Website: stpaulserin.org. Visit the News & Resources tab and click on Worship Resources for a recording of Sunday's Worship.

Church Email Address: saintpaulserin.pastor@gmail.com


Church/Pastor's Phone Number: 262-416-5094

Church Address: 495 St. Augustine Road, Colgate, WI 53017

Pastor Bonnie's Office Hours: Thursdays from 10 AM to 2 PM. Stop by for a visit. Friday and Saturday are Pastor's weekend.



May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Coffee with Bonnie 10 AM @ Church	2	3
4 9:30 Worship Lewe & Sharon J.'s Anniversary	5 Gary B.	6 Seniors Jerry L. Dave Z.	7	8	9	10 Taylor G.
11 9:30 Worship- Kathy S. 	12 Dick N.	13	14 Adam S. Ethan S.	15 Women's Guild 12 Noon Ken & Donna R.'s Anniversary	16	17 John D. Lynn D.
18 9:30 Worship	19 Keith L. Jayden M.	20	21	22 Pastor Bonnie & Jeff's Anniversary	23	24 Pastor Bonnie & Jeff's Anniversary
25 9:30 Worship	26 	27	28	29 Amore' O. John & Rachel H.'s Anniversary	30	31 Jill P.