



Monthly Messenger

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

April 2021

"We are God's servants, saved by grace, through faith, commissioned to share the Word of Christ to all."

A Message from Pastor

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Why do we serve?

We can be motivated to serve for the wrong reasons, but God wants us to **serve because of the Easter story.**

Easter is about life, and we learn the most important lesson about living from Jesus. *"The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many"* (Mark 10:45).

There are three parts of this verse. **Jesus, "the Son of Man, did not come to be served."** Because of our sinful nature we focus on what can be done for us. That is not life as God intended it.

Jesus, the Son of Man, came "to serve." Adam and Eve were created to enjoy working and sharing life with each other. In the beginning, they joyfully served God and one another. That perfect world no longer exists.

Jesus, the Son of Man came to serve, "and to give His life as a ransom for many." We are prisoners (to sin), but we are now set free by the self-less life Jesus lived and the price paid with his last breath of life. He gave his perfect life as a ransom for us. He was punished because of our self-serving attitudes and living.

Alleluias will be sung on Easter Sunday, but we can sing **Alleluia** the other 364 days of the year in **the way we live for Jesus.** After the day of Easter is past, how will you live? Do you know why serving is really living?

We have plenty of opportunities for each of us to share our abilities in serving. Celebrate Easter and sing Alleluia with how you live your life each day for the One who served you.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Remember – you matter to God and you matter to me,

Pastor Jim Bruner

"This is love: not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son as an atoning sacrifice. Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another." 1 John 4:10-11



St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

4941 W. Center St.

Millington, MI 48746

989-871-4581

www.stpaul-millington.org

Email:

church.office@spmill.org

Rev. James Bruner

Administrative Pastor

Rev. Tim Martinal

Associate Pastor

Worship Services

Sunday 10 A.M.

(Also live-streamed)

Saturday 7 P.M.

Bible Study

Sunday 8:45 A.M.

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Worship News / Scripture / Memorials / Financial Summary

Worship Service Times

Saturdays at 7PM

Sundays at 10AM (Also live streamed)

Bible Study at 8:45AM in the Church
(Also live streamed)

Traditional service with Communion
2nd and 4th weekends

Contemporary service
1st, 3rd, and 5th weekends

To be added to our email list, please go to
www.stpaul-millington.org/subscribe.html.

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday

April 1st at 7PM with Communion
"Return to the Table"



Good Friday

April 2nd at 1:30PM
"Return to Truth"

Good Friday Tenebrae

April 2nd at 7PM

Easter - April 4th

Sunrise with Communion at 6:30AM
Worship with Communion at 10AM

The Gathering

Join us for singing, prayer, fellowship, learning God's Word, and growing in faith Thursdays at 7pm in the Parish Hall.

Women's Bible Study

Tuesdays at 7PM in the Library beginning April 6th.

Confirmation Rehearsal &

Secret Angel Luncheon

Sat., May 1st at 11AM
Rehearsal begins at 11AM -
Luncheon follows in Parish Hall.

8th Grade Confirmation & 1st Communion

Sun., May 2nd at 1PM in the Church.

Contact Information / Office Hours

If you need to speak to one of the pastors or someone in the church office, call 871-4581 #3 and leave a message or email church.office@spmill.org. We will reply as soon as we can. In case of emergency, call one of the pastors on their cell phone - Pastor Bruner 989-233-1994 or Pastor Martinal 402-672-9817.

Church Office Hours

Monday through Wednesday from 11-3PM
or by appointment.



Lutheran Ministries "Worship for Shut-Ins"

Sundays at 11:30AM on
TCT Net. (DirecTV 377)

Sundays at 11:30AM on WAQP 49

April 4th-"Life on the Mountain-Isaiah 25:6-9

April 11th-"That You May Believe"-John 20:30-31

April 18th-"The Job of the Church"-Luke 24:47

April 25th-"The Good Shepherd"-John 10:11

The Lutheran Hour Radio

1400 AM Sunday at 8:30AM

Scripture Readings

April 4th

Isaiah 25:6-9

1 Cor. 15:1-11

Mark 16:1-8

April 11th

Acts 4:32-35

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

April 18th

Acts 3:11-21

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36-49

April 25th

Acts 4:1-12

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18

Upcoming Events / Trust & Investment / Thrivent Info

Upcoming Events

Yes, you read that correctly!

St. Paul groups are able to have events in the building (at this time the school area is still off limits) after filling out a Building Use Registration Form. Return completed form to the Church Office one week prior to your event for door locks, calendars, etc. to be updated. Forms can be found online or in the Church Office. In order to use our facilities, the requirements on the form need to be followed. Examples: Face Coverings Required, Social Distance, Room Capacity Limits, etc. Please call the office if questions.

Zumba has returned!

Join us on Wednesdays at 6PM and Saturdays at 10AM in the Activity Center. \$1 at the door!

Euchre

Sat., April 10th & 24th from 4:30-6:30PM
in the Parish Hall.

Voters' Meeting

Sun., April 11th at 1:30PM in the Church.
Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Scrapbooking

Sat., April 17th from 9AM-7PM in the Parish Hall.
\$6.00 per person. Bring your scrapbooking or craft supplies and projects or just come and enjoy the fellowship! Stay for an hour, or the whole day. R.S.V.P. in the school office 871-4581 or school.office@spmill.org.

Dorcas Meeting

Tues., April 20th at 6PM in the Parish Hall.

What is Thrivent Choice?

The Thrivent Choice program is a charitable grant program that encourages members of Thrivent to recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding. Choice Dollars® and Thrivent Choice Voting® Events result in the distribution of several million dollars of grant funds to causes that members like you care about most. If you qualify, **your Choice Dollars can be directed every quarter, or once a year.** If you haven't directed your dollars for 2020, please call Thrivent or go online to www.thrivent.com.



TRUST & INVESTMENT – ESTATE GIVING

When a member designates St. Paul Lutheran Church as a beneficiary of their estate, they can specify exactly where they would like their gift to go. Some examples might be: General Fund, Building Fund, Missions, School or Trust & Investment. If you do not specify in your will/estate, your gift will go to Trust & Investment per the by-laws in the church constitution.

Your gift is invested and the principal amount cannot be spent. The interest and dividends will be spent on projects or equipment that would

not be part of the church's general fund budget. Any recognized board of our church can apply for disbursements of such funds. Requests are reviewed by the Trust & Investment Committee and if approved, will go to the Voter's Assembly for final approval.

We can thank our forefathers who had the wisdom to start this perpetual fund with a few thousand dollars. Today it has grown to over \$646,000.00. Your estate gift to the Trust & Investment fund is the gift that keeps on giving.

We are currently accepting applications for disbursement of interest and dividends earned in 2020. Applications are available on line, or you can pick one up at the church office. Deadline for submitting applications is April 1, 2021. You can return application in person to the church office or email to tdglady@yahoo.com.

Richard Gladly-President, Sue Fabbro-Secretary, Mike Kern-Treasurer, Sandy Fackler, Cory Stange, Gloria LaPointe, Ed Keinath



Thrivent Action Teams

Did you know that if you're a Thrivent member, you can apply for a **\$250 gift card** to help with a service activity or fundraiser? Think of all the possibilities where this could be beneficial.

How it Works - Think about a need in our church or community and how you could help. Apply to lead your volunteer team in a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days. Once your project is approved, you'll receive a Thrivent Action Kit, including: A Promotional Banner, Invitations and thank-you cards, T-shirts, and a \$250 Impact Card you can use as seed money to get your project off the ground and make a bigger impact. Details and guidelines can be found online.

How often am I eligible? Benefit members are eligible to lead two Thrivent Action Teams per calendar year, and associate members one per year.

Go to Thrivent.com, click on "Making a Difference", then "Thrivent Action Teams". You will need a User ID and Password to apply. If questions, call the church office and we can help get you started.

St. Paul Lutheran School



April 2021

St. Paul Lutheran School is committed to engaging students with a comprehensive education grounded in God's Word to prepare them for a life in Christ.

As our month begins, Easter is here and things seem to be getting back to normal. Let's remember that as we see new life being renewed, warmer weather and plants begin to show their new growth we too need to be renewed and grow in the celebration of the risen Lord and live each day as His Easter people! Dear Lord, help us to show the joy and blessings we receive each day through Your Son, Jesus Christ! Amen.

Thank you to all that helped make Lutheran Schools Week a success! Your help and especially your prayers and support are greatly appreciated!

Here is a list of the up-coming school activities for the month of April. All of these dates are subject to change or cancellation:

Mar. 27-Apr.5	Easter Break: CHRIST is Risen, He has risen indeed! Halleluiah!!!!
Apr. 6	Classes resume
Apr.	Kindergarten Graduation pictures - TBD



Spartan Sports



Our basketball season for boys and girls on the C-teams has come to an end. Thank you to all who were able to be fans, parents and coaches for a season of learning and growth.

Now we start our Spring Sports schedules. However, due to COVID-19 restrictions, practices and event dates are pending. Please check the school website or Facebook page for updated information.

We have many programs going on throughout the school year that earn money for St. Paul: Box-Tops for Education (up load the app), Our Family labels, can tabs, ink cartridges, Meijer and Kroger programs. See the school office for more information.

He is risen... He is risen INDEED!



Whatever you do, do it all for the glory of God. 1 Corinthians 10:31

Miscellaneous News

Grantparent Fund

Would you consider opening your hearts to families who want their children to receive a St. Paul Christian education, but perhaps cannot afford the rising costs? The "Grantparent" Program is designed to ease the financial burden for struggling parents, but it is in need of ongoing funds. If you are able to help financially to continue St. Paul's long-standing heritage of supporting this important mission to our families, please prayerfully follow God's "nudging" by contacting the school office. Thank-you in advance for blessing our children with your prayers and support.

Student Aid Fund

From time to time, situations arise in our lives causing a financial crisis. Loss of job, divorce/marital separation, and medical situations are a few of those times when we may not know how we are going to pay the bills. Some of our school families are dealing with these and similar situations and are in need of Christian compassion, assistances and encouragement. St. Paul Student Aid Fund has been set up to help families meet their financial obligation for tuition/fees. Donations to this fund are greatly appreciated and needed. If God has gifted you to be a blessing to these families, contributions may be brought to the church or school office. Much thanks!

LEAP News Nugget Assessing and Planning

Is Aided through Work of a "Think Tank"

The LEAP (Lutheran Education Advancement Plan) Alliance enters its second decade in the midst of strategic planning. After successfully completing two strategic plans in the past, the LEAP Board of Participants invited eleven community members to a "Think Tank" to help form the next plan. Meeting for six hours, the Think Tank members brought a wide variety of experiences to the table as they shared ideas and observations about how LEAP can support Lutheran schools in the years ahead. Think Tank members were Mary Ann Ackerman, Wendy Butler, Pastor Chris Garcia, Misty Gower, Travis Grulke, Pastor Matt Hall, Kurt Hillbrandt, Steve Keinath, Julian Petzold, Josh Swartz, and Kris Zastro. We thank them for their work, and we look forward to experiencing fruits of their labors, benefitting our Lutheran schools! Stay tuned for more.

LEAP

*Advancing Christ-Centered Education through
Collaboration Among Lutheran Churches and Schools
Inter-Congregation Collaboration / Enrollment Growth /
Professional Staff and School Bd. Dev. / Funding Options*



Don Haines Memorial Scholarship

Don Haines, lifelong resident of Arbela Township, bestowed a positive influence on his family to pursue their dreams by committing to and reinforcing the importance of a college education. While Don did not pursue this himself, he and his wife, Barbara, raised their children to believe that with a college education they would be able to do whatever they wanted to do in life. Through the positive reinforcement received and the financial support of Don and Barbara, all four of their children, who attended St. Paul Lutheran School in Millington, pursued and received their college degrees.

Therefore, it is fitting that a fund has been established by the family, for future St. Paul graduates who go on to a Lutheran high school or pursue a degree at an accredited LCMS synodical college, university, or seminary.

A scholarship will be awarded to one high school and one college applicant. Any student who qualifies may read the requirements needed to apply. Applications are available in the Church Office and need to be returned by May 1st.

Messenger Sponsors

Sponsors needed for the months of May, June, July, November, and December. If you would like to sponsor one of these months, please call the church office. The cost is \$75.00 per month.

Altar Flowers

The 2021 Flower Chart is hanging in the hallway between the church mailboxes. Please add your name, phone number, and center or side vases. You are responsible for calling the florist of your choice.

ORPHAN GRAIN TRAIN VOLUNTEERS GIVE PRECIOUS TIME

Since 1992, Orphan Grain Train's 27 regional locations across the U.S. have delivered more than 36 million meals and humanitarian aid to people in several states and 69 foreign countries on five continents. When Hurricane Michael ravaged the shoreline of Texas, the storm left homes and businesses in ruins and lives lost. Orphan Grain Train delivered shipments of construction materials and multiple semi-loads of groceries to stock a pantry feeding volunteers and those who had lost everything. This is but one example of the mission of Orphan Grain Train which is uniquely dependent on the dedicated service of volunteers for the sake of others. Since 1992, more than 3.7 million hours have been volunteered. The Michigan branch located in Sebawaing is not yet two years in operation but has logged 3,467 volunteer hours.

Daily Lectionary / Finance Summary / Memorials

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
April Daily Lectionary				1 Maundy Thurs. Ex. 12:1-28 Heb. 5:1-14	2 Good Friday Ex. 12:29-32; 13:1-16 Heb. 6:1-20	3 Ex. 13:17-14:9 Heb. 7:1-22
4 Easter Ex. 14:10-31 Heb. 7:23-8:13	5 Ex. 15:1-18 Heb. 9:1-28	6 Ex. 15:19-16:12 Heb. 10:1-18	7 Ex. 16:13-35 Heb. 10:19-39	8 Ex. 17:1-16 Heb. 11:1-29	9 Ex. 18:5-27 Heb. 12:1-24	10 Ex. 19:1-25 Heb. 13:1-21
11 Ex. 20:1-24 Lk. 4:1-15	12 Ex. 22:20-23:13 Lk. 4:16-30	13 Ex. 23:14-33 Lk. 4:31-44	14 Ex. 24:1-18 Lk. 5:1-16	15 Ex. 25:1-22 Lk. 5:17-39	16 Ex. 31:1-18 Lk. 6:1-19	17 Ex. 32:1-14 Lk. 6:20-38
18 Ex. 32:15-35 Lk. 6:39-49	19 Ex. 33:1-23 Lk. 7:1-17	20 Ex. 34:1-28 Lk. 7:18-35	21 Ex. 34:29-35:21 Lk. 7:36-50	22 Ex. 38:21-39:8 Lk. 8:1-21	23 Ex. 39:32-40:16 Lk. 8:22-39	24 Ex. 40:17-38 Lk. 8:40-56
25 Lev. 8:1-13; 30-36 Lk. 9:1-17	26 Lev. 9:1-24 Lk. 9:18-36	27 Lev. 10:1-20 Lk. 9:37-62	28 Lev. 16:1-24 Lk. 10:1-22	29 Lev. 17:1-16 Lk. 10:23-42	30 Lev. 18:1-7; 20-19:8 Lk. 11:1-13	

CEF Building Fund Summary

Mortgage Balance as of 2/28/2021: \$245,040.62

Debt free date if nothing changes: Dec. 2022

2021 Mortgage Payment \$10,000.00

*Principal \$9,073.30

* Interest \$926.70

Feb. offerings received to pay mortgage: \$10,062.91
 Amount Added to contingency fund in Feb.: \$7,134.25
 Balance as of 2/28/21 in contingency fund: \$29,264.86
 (\$9,000.00 to principal 3/1/21)

Feb. 2021 Income & Expense Summary

General Fund Income: \$58,260.51

General Fund Expenses: \$88,841.24

Feb. Deficit (\$30,580.73)

Overall Deficit to date (\$38,305.33)

Gen Fund Checking Balance \$127,182.54

Memorials & Special Gifts

In Memory of Jim Brown General Fund	\$200.00
In Memory of Randy Keinath General Fund	\$50.00
In Memory of Marion Walz General Fund	\$75.00
In Memory of Travis Mark Opperman's Birthday March 25th - School Fund	\$50.00

Year End Giving Statements

Tax statements are available to download - just log into your Shelby account. Don't have an account established? It's easy! Call the church office and we'll get you set up. Once you get set up, you can check your statement at any time.

Just a reminder - Year end **giving statements will not be printed** unless you ask for one. Call the church office 871-4581 to get a printed copy, OR - ask to get your Shelby account set up.

Special Thanks!

Thank you to all who recycled ink cartridges! Your trash has become our treasure - as a recent check in the amount of \$51.75! Please continue sending in your empty ink cartridges.

Thank you to Ron Petzold - Creative Metals for making and donating the new plant stands for altar flowers.

Many thanks to Jan & Shirley Snyder for the blanket and Bob & Joyce Wager for the flowers. Even though we don't get to talk much, it's so nice to see my church friends when I come to the service. Miss you all! -Eunice Peche



April Birthdays



David Reinert	1	Brody Norman	10	Kourtnei Petzold	21
Amelia Wagner	1	Anika Sykes	11	Shelley Shollack	22
Alex Lee	1	Avery Mays	11	Jim Weber	22
Jeffrey Kennard	1	Sheila Haynes	12	Bryan Bonadurer	22
Hailey McPherson	1	Valerie Dennis	12	Matthew Greenan	22
Bob Wager	2	Marla Coggins	12	Timothy Jolly	22
Keagan Butterfield	2	John Osborn	12	Pastor Jim Bruner	23
William Bassett	2	Alexis France	12	Ruth Ann Petzold	23
Kierrah Butterfield	2	Sophia Gleason	13	Brookelyn Finatri	23
Bonnie Draper	2	Eric Hoard	13	Alyssa Frahm	23
Erin Schwab	2	Katy Sheppard	13	MaKella Opperman	23
Tobin Keinath	3	Zachery White	14	Isaac Petzold	23
Jack Reinert	3	Fay Carmona	15	Bette Chambal	24
Angel Gorsuch	3	Tamara Schultz	15	Bernice Schiefer	24
Brendan Johnson	3	Faith Stratton	15	Heather Weber	24
Seth Mittler	4	Shellie Watchpocket	15	Noah Reinbold	24
Janet Reinert	4	Jacob Adamic	15	Joshua Torrey	24
Duane Switzer	4	Donald Coleman	16	Claire Erlenbeck	25
Harper Mills	4	Leah Denome	16	Debbie Galant	25
Ethan Hoard	5	Sidney Werner, Sr	16	Delores Damm	26
Ryan Keinath	5	Ryan Goodhue	16	Morgaine Anderson	26
Steven, Jr. Holmes	5	Kolten O'Neil	17	Zachary Cunningham	26
Kelsi McAlister	5	Sarah Thayer	17	Amanda Hergenreder	26
Jacob Myers	6	Armand Carmona	18	Owen Reinig	26
Carlee Allard	6	Mandy Skinner	18	Brian Rondo	27
Jim Dues	6	Gavin Blue	18	William Badgley	28
Beth Todd	6	Sawyer Keinath	18	John Petzold	28
Lisa Bentley	7	Tamera Smith	18	Madison ILL	28
Sharon Jensen	7	Virginia Reinert	19	Stephanie Deavey	29
David Ackerman	8	Bridgett Greenan	19	Edwyn Maschke	29
Christina Detgen	8	Philip Erlenbeck	20	Nicholas Yorke	29
Matthew Johnston	8	Martin Powell	20	Bradley Bonadurer	29
Mark Merriam	8	Nicole Stiff	20	Kyle Clark	30
Angie Ayotte	9	Katrina Wager	20	Reese Ehrhardt	30
Hunter Dennis	9	Leonard Ross	20	Diana Allard	30
Olivia Hibner	9	Howard Wells	20	Terence Frixen	30
Dylan Herrick	9	Ian Stiff	21	Mason Ley	30
Clinton Schwab	9	Angela Burton	21	Hudson Ruppel	30
Jenna Albrecht	10	Bryan Horning	21	Cali Stadler-Anderson	30
Dakota Bouck	10	Zi Koch	21		

Happy Birthday!



St. Paul Lutheran Church & School
4941 W. Center St.
Millington, MI 48746

April 2021



2020  **ONE**
St. Paul Lutheran Church & School
Millington, MI **IN THE SON**

John 15:12
My command is this:
Love each other
as I have loved you.
-Jesus