



Monthly Messenger

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

May 2023

"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,

Spring has sprung. It is a time of new life and new growth. A time of birds chirping, flowers blooming, and tree leaves unfurling.

We are still in the season of Easter as well. A time in the Church Year where we remember and celebrate the new life and new growth we have through faith in our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. A time of singing praises to God, our faith blooming, and our good works unfurling for all the world to see.

As you know, our theme is ***Equip. Build. Grow. Together.*** based on Ephesians 4:11-16. Since we're in the season where things are growing and flourishing, we will focus on growing up in every way into Christ and flourishing in His kingdom.

Let's consider Psalm 92. Psalm 92 is a psalm for the Sabbath, a day of rest and worship for Israel. *"It is good to give thanks to the LORD, to sing praises to Your name, O Most High; to declare Your steadfast love in the morning, and Your faithfulness by night"* (Psalm 92:1-2). This proclamation sets a positive tone for the whole psalm and is a worthy reminder of the value of worship.

However, it's verses 12-15 I want to focus on. They read: *"The righteous flourish like the palm tree and grow like a cedar in Lebanon. They are planted in the house of the LORD; they flourish in the courts of our God. They still bear fruit in old age; they are ever full of sap and green, to declare that the LORD is upright; He is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in Him."*

The palm and cedar trees are two important trees in Israel. The cedar of Lebanon is referred to frequently throughout the Old Testament as a symbol of strength. The psalmist adds to the picture of the flourishing of righteousness by asserting that they still produce fruit, even in old age, and that they are always green and full of sap. Age is no obstacle to growing in Christ, flourishing in His kingdom, and bearing fruit. Each of us are able, by the Holy Spirit's power, to grow, flourish, and bear fruit all our days.

But we're only able to do so because we are planted in the house of the Lord, in the courts of our God. Such imagery is common in the Bible. After all, the picture of paradise is a magnificent garden, filled with God's presence as seen in both Genesis 1-3 and in Revelation 21-22. The flourishing of the righteous is thus rooted in the presence of God.

This psalm also invites us to think about flourishing in God's presence forever. In our daily lives, we see that righteousness doesn't always flourish. Some suffer more than others. Yes, we experience God's presence now, but not in the fullest, that is yet to come. We flourish now in the house of the Lord, but we look forward to our own Easter Day on the Last Day, when we will praise God in His presence evermore.

Perhaps this is where the Sabbath connection of the psalm comes in. In Jewish tradition, the Sabbath was understood as a symbol of the perfect rest to come. The book of Hebrews picks up on this idea of Sabbath as something to be fulfilled only in God's kingdom (See Hebrews 3:7-4:11). Proclaiming this psalm, then, is an act of faith – of faith in all the promises of Easter. We declare God's steadfast love and faithfulness, growing in Christ and flourishing in His kingdom, while we wait for its promise of the flourishing of the righteous yet to be fulfilled.

Our mission statement encourages us to "share the Word of Christ to all". In order to do that well, you need to be planted in the house of the Lord often; you need to be in God's house to receive His good gifts. If you are rooted in the Lord, you will bear fruit, regardless of your age; you will be a child of God, ever full of sap and green. God's promises for those faithfully planted in His house are too many to be named. But three I will name are: (1) you will grow in Christ, (2) you will flourish in His kingdom, and (3) you will, with Easter joy in your heart, produce fruit, namely sharing the Word of Christ to all.

I encourage you to invite someone to a worship service this month (and every month). It is the primary way they will become rooted in the presence of God. Invite and let God take care of the rest, giving thanks for the fruit God bears in your life. And by God's grace, they will grow in Christ and flourish in His kingdom as well.

In Christ, Pastor Tim Martinal

St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

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Millington, MI 48746
989-871-4581
stpaul-millington.org
Email:
church.office@spmill.org
School Website:
school.stpaul-millington.org

Rev. James Bruner
Administrative Pastor

Rev. Tim Martinal
Associate Pastor

Worship Services

Saturday 7PM
Sunday 8:30 & 11AM
(11AM Also live-streamed)

Bible Study/Sunday School

9:45AM

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In this Issue:

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The May Messenger is Sponsored in Thanksgiving for Eunice Peche on her 90th Birthday.

Worship Times / Scripture / Faith on Fire

St. Paul Worship Times

Saturdays at 7PM, Sundays at 8:30 & 11AM
Livestream at 11AM
Bible Study/Sunday School
Sundays at 9:45AM

*Contemporary 1st & 3rd Sundays
*Communion 1st & 3rd Sundays at 8:30AM
2nd & 4th Sundays at 11AM &
Sat. eve of that weekend
*Matins 5th Sunday Weekend

If you would like to be added to our email list, please go to stpaul-millington.org/subscribe.html.

Scripture Readings

May 7th

Acts 6:1-9; 7:2a, 51-60

1 Peter 2:2-10

John 14:1-14

May 21st

Acts 1:12-26

1 Peter 4:12-19; 5:6-11

John 17:1-11

May 14th

Acts 17:16-31

1 Peter 3:13-22

John 14:15-21

May 28th

Numbers 11:24-30

Acts 2:1-21

John 7:37-39

Church Office Hours

Tuesday through Friday from 10AM-3PM

Contact Information

If you need to speak to one of the pastors or someone in the church office outside of office hours call 871-4581 #1 and leave a message or email church.office@spmill.org. We will reply as soon as we can. In case of emergency, call Pastor Bruner 989-233-1994 or Pastor Martinal 402-672-9817.

Children's Bulletins

Children's Bulletin Drawing - If your **child completes and turns in their children's bulletin** in the marked box in the lobby, they are entered into a drawing for a gift to strengthen and encourage their faith. Once a month, one (1) bulletin will be drawn at random for the gift. Please include a name and contact information. Every week is another opportunity to enter. This is a great way to encourage your child to participate in worship.



Sundays at 9:45AM

Preschool-Grade 2 Faith Spark: Discover Leaflets have interactive coloring and drawing activities.

Grades 3-5 Faith Flare: Bible Guidebooks have colorful images to draw in students.

Grades 6-8 Faith Ignite: Defend Journals have thought-provoking questions to encourage critical-thinking skills.

Grades 9-12 Faith Flame: More in-depth Defend Journals help students defend their faith to those who may challenge them.

Adults Faith Blaze: Will study God's Word in Pastor's Bible Studies.

We will also offer adult supervised toddler care in the nursery for children too young to attend the early childhood program.

Coffee Hour between services in the Parish Hall. Grab a cup of coffee and a snack before heading to "Faith on Fire." Volunteers needed to keep Coffee Hour going. Sign up in the Parish Hall.

If being happy is important to you, try this: instead of regretting all you lack, celebrate all you've got.



Lutheran Ministries "Worship for Shut-Ins"

Sundays at 11:30AM on

TCT Net. (DirecTV 377)

Sundays at 11:30AM on WAQP 49

The Lutheran Hour Radio

1400 AM Sunday at 8:30AM

Upcoming Events / Meetings

Upcoming Events

Zumba

Zumba Saturdays at 10AM in the Activity Center.
\$1 at the door!

Quilting

Quilters: Tuesdays from 1-3PM in the Parish Hall. No skills necessary. Everyone is welcome. Come and see how God can use you to help those in need. See you there.

Spring Cleaning? Quilters are in need of your old flat sheets or large pieces of fabric, curtains, or tablecloths. Clean your linen closet and see what you can part with.

BBQ Chicken Dinners

Fri., May 5th at the Millington Firehall Parking Lot starting at 11AM until sold out. Dinners are \$14 and include a ½ chicken, potato salad, coleslaw, and water.

Men's Bible Study

Sat., May 6th at 8AM in the Library.

Scrapbooking

Sat., May 6th from 9AM-7PM in the Projects Room.
\$6.00 per person. Bring a dish to pass.
Call the school office to RSVP.

8th Grade Confirmation

Sun., May 7th at 1PM in the Church

Art & Music Fair

Thurs., May 11th from 5-7PM
Artwork will be displayed throughout the building, music will be in the church, and new this year - appetizers served by the students in the Parish Hall!
Come and see all the talent our students have to offer!

Mother's Day

Sun., May 14th

Music Festival

Fri., May 19th at Valley Lutheran High School beginning at 9AM. We have many students involved in choir, band, solos, and small groups throughout the day. Everyone is invited to come and show their support.

Medical Training Classes

Offered at St. Paul on Sat., May 20th or June 3rd from 9AM-12PM in the Youth Room. Learn CPR, Basic First Aid, Using the AED Machine. This is also a good refresher if you've already taken a class previously. Sign up on the glass case in the narthex and pick your date.

Mark Your June Calendars

Cross/Memorial Garden Dedication

Please join us for the Dedication of a Cross & Memorial Garden in honor of Elaine Bickel Sun., June 4th at 10AM. We will meet in the Parish Hall, then proceed outside to the Memorial area. Coffee and snacks following.

8th Grade Graduation

Sun., June 11th at 1PM in the church.

**All 2023 Graduates

(high school, college, trade school, etc.) are invited to wear your caps and gowns and sit together at the worship service on June 11th at 11AM. Call the church office if attending so we can reserve a seat for you.

Area News

Millington Arbela District Library Craft Night every 2nd and 4th Wednesday from 4:30-6PM. Tweens through adult ages can participate in a different craft each week. Watch the Facebook page or go to millingtonlibrary.info for more details.

Family Nights at the Millington Arbela District Library on the 3rd Thursday of the month from 5:30-7:30PM. Something fun for the whole family!

Mother's Day Chicken BBQ Sun., May 14th at St. Michael's. Drive-through 10:30AM until sold out. \$12 Dinner Includes: ½ Chicken, Dressing, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Corn, Coleslaw, & Cupcake.

Board and Card Game Lounge Mon., April 17th and May 15th from 5-7PM at the Millington Library. Games provided for all ages or feel free to bring your own.

Save a Life – Donate Blood Thurs., May 18th from 12-5:45PM at the Millington United Methodist Church. To set up appointment, call 1-800-733-2767 or go to Red-CrossBlood.org (sponsor code: MillComm).

Bus Trip Thurs., June 22nd. \$75.00 includes a visit to Zibiwing Center of Anishinabe Culture & Lifestyles in Mt. Pleasant, Chicken Dinner at Historical IVA'S in Sterling, MI, AuSable River Queen Paddle Wheel Excursion in Oscoda, MI. For more information contact Connie Keinath 989-414-9097 or Eileen Ziegler 810-247-9515.



MEMORIAL DAY

REMEMBERING & HONORING ALL WHO SERVED



Trust & Investment / Special Thanks / Meetings

Trust & Investment

The **Trust & Investment Committee** would like to share with you how our investment profits were spent for 2023. The Voters' Assembly approved 11 requests at its most recent meeting on Sunday, April 16th.

Waterproof parsonage basement	\$5,800.00
Carpet & installation for the library	\$7,844.00
Led Parking Lights by the Activity Center	\$3,100.00
Property care items for the Church & School grounds	\$2,340.00
Floor refinishing for the library/youth room hallway	\$8,000.00
Heat Pump system for the chapel	\$6,844.00
Digital time clocks for church parking lot	\$ 585.00
Sensors to monitor fridge/freezer/boiler	\$2,095.00
Eight occupancy sensors for bathrooms	\$ 500.00
New scoreboards for Activity Center	\$9,755.00
Used commercial freezer for meat for rotisserie	\$ 250.00
TOTAL	\$47,113.00

We would like to Thank all our members who continue to donate to this fund. This is the gift that keeps on giving.

Thank you, The Trust and Investment Committee.



A **special thanks** to everyone who helped to make the 2023 Easter Breakfast a huge success. This year we served approximately 157 people. This was even higher than last year! A special thanks to all the people who donated supplies or monetary donations toward the breakfast. We were overwhelmed with the kindness and supplies donated to make this a huge success. A special thanks to our local sponsors for gift cards and food donations: Central Shop Rite, Meijer (Birch Run), Thrivent, Norm's Market, and Walmart. A special thanks to all the crew for helping set up, serve, and clean up the breakfast: Norie Ayotte, Sue Ill, Mary Kern, Mike LaPointe, Kenny McKee, Kenton Gleason, Lydia & Lexi Bruner, Pastor Bruner, Charles Bruner, Wayne Jaruzel, Becky Dalton, Autumn & Emma Dalton, Pam Schultz. You guys really worked hard to make a great meal and clean up the kitchen! Thank you to Lola Wendt for the delicious butterhorns! Thanks to the church and school office staff for helping with the donation list and collecting items. To the kitchen staff, we appreciate the use of the kitchen and equipment. We are blessed to have collected \$1600.00 in donations to help our students at VLHS. Thank you again for serving, donating, and contributing (in any way) to this Easter Breakfast. We couldn't do it without all your love and contributions!

Sincerely Grateful, Karen Bruner and the VLHS Students

With overwhelming hearts, we would like to **thank** the many people that sent flowers, cards, and gifts to mom while she was at the home. We would like to thank Pam & Julie for staying with us the night she went to heaven. To Pastor Bruner for the beautiful message and service and the beautiful music. Also, for the many people who brought food to the funeral home and the delicious meal at the dinner. We can not thank you enough for the prayers and outpouring of love. God Bless all of you. – The Lela Higgins Family.

Meetings

Social Concerns

Tues., May 2nd at 5:30PM

Council

Wed., May 3rd at 6:30PM in the Library

Stephen Ministry

Mon., May 8th at 7PM in the Gathering Room

Board of Education

Tues., May 9th at 6PM in the School Office

Dorcas Meeting

Tues., May 16th at 6PM in the Parish Hall

Elders

Wed., May 24th at 7PM in the Gathering Room

Used Ink Cartridges

Please keep bringing in your ink cartridges and turn them to cash!

Drop Off in the box on the wooden cabinet outside of the Church Office or in the cabinet in the narthex. **Large Laser cartridges are no longer accepted.** Please only bring in small ink cartridges. Thank you!



AS THE HEAD OF THE FAMILY SHOULD TEACH THEM . . . **God's Word in the Christian Home**

Dad, you have an awesome responsibility from God. God wants His Word to be learned not only in our churches and schools but especially in our homes: "You shall teach (My words) diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house." Deuteronomy 6:7. The apostles taught fathers to view this as one of their primary responsibilities: "Fathers, do not provoke your children to anger, but bring them up in the discipline and instruction of the Lord." Ephesians 6:4.

Increasingly, however, Christians have not grown up with any Bible learning in the home or much talk about God. They are not sure where to start. It is not surprising that the rise of the Nones (those who do not indicate any church affiliation) has coincided with the decline in congregational and home worship. Three things especially encourage us to take up this godly work:

First, we live in grace. God is happy with you for Jesus' sake. Many people shy away from home devotions because their guilt over their prayer life or for having skipped church for a while prevents them from making a start. But, Christians are pleasing to the Father, not because their prayers are not good enough or they have not been faithful attenders, but because Jesus' blood covers all their sins.

Second, realize that God commands this and that whatever God commands is good and wise. God placed the father as the head of the household. That is not just the person who makes daily decisions, but the person who is the spiritual head of the house. You, dad, are to lead your family in the faith. It is not as hard as you might think. Jesus promises that His words will be enough for us to withstand all things. Bible time in the home requires modest effort and sacrifice, but it is eternally worth it for you and for those you love.

Third, know that God has attached great promises to His Word for preserving and sharing faith. The biblical formula for passing on the faith from one generation to the next is simple: Learn the Word of God by weekly attendance at the Divine Service and by daily Bible learning in the home, Sunday School, VBS, youth groups, even the Pastor's confirmation classes for youth and adults are all wonderful aids. The most important spiritual powerhouse is congregational and family worship. When this is done, children are less likely to leave the faith when they are grown. "Train up a child in the way he should go; even when he is old he will not depart from it." Proverbs 22:6.

Beware of two obstacles. First, if you are just getting started, know that it will probably feel awkward at first. All new habits are strange at first. But you will become more comfortable with it as you make home devotions a regular part of your day. Give at least three months for the power of the habit to kick in.

Second, people naturally ask what resources they should use. Our church produces more resources than ever before, such as Portals of Prayer (found in the narthex), the Treasury of Daily Prayer, a book called 120 Bible Stories (available from Concordia Publishing House) is great for beginners, and of course the Bible with the Psalms and daily lectionary found in our church newsletter. Luther's Small Catechism is also a great resource simply by using its question and answer readings complete with proof texts to underscore the answers. Finally, reading the verses of hymns from the hymnal are a great way to reinforce the church year along with faith and praise to the Lord.

God's Word is our great heritage and makes for the happiest life (Psalm 119:111). Whether you are single, busy with children, empty nesters or widowed, it is the blessed hope of heaven and being forever with Christ that brings happiness and joy into our life.

Condensed and edited from an article in the Lutheran Witness by Rev. Joshua Hayes

Proof Is in the Scriptures

For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, that He was buried, that He was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures. 1 Cor. 15:3-4

The Spirit of God uses the Word of Grace, foretold in the Scriptures, to create faith in the crucified, buried and risen Jesus Christ. And so we say, "I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith."¹

Here you notice how Paul adduces Scripture as his strongest proof, for there is no other enduring way of preserving our doctrine and our faith than the physical or written Word, poured into letters and preached orally by him or others; for here we find it stated clearly: "Scripture! Scripture!"²

¹ Luther's meaning to the Third Article of the Creed in the Small Catechism.

² From Commentary on 1 Corinthians 15 (Luther Works 28:76-77).



St. Paul Lutheran School

May 2023

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.

God has truly given all of us so much for which to be grateful! Take time to stop and look around at all the wonderful blessings springing up before you.

As the school year starts to wind down, we have several very special events during May to pray for and mark on your calendars.

NWEA testing will take place throughout this month K-8.

- May 4 [National Day of Prayer](#)
- May 7 [8th Grade Confirmation & 1st Communion](#) 1:00 p.m. service
- May 10 [Athletic Banquet](#) 6 p.m.
- May 11 [Music & Art Fair](#) 5-7 p.m.
- May 12 [6-8th Grade Student Council Semi-Formal](#)
- May 18 [1 grade Flag presentation by the Lions Club](#)
- May 19 [Lutheran School Music Festival \(VLHS\) ; Spirit Day](#)
- May 24 [Academic Banquet](#) 6 p.m.
- May 26 [½ Day of classes with busses; last day to meet yearly AR Goals \(K-8\)](#)
- May 29 [NO SCHOOL](#) ~ Memorial Day The school and church offices will be closed.

School Musical Opportunities



- | | | |
|--------|--|--------------------------|
| May 8 | All students K-8 | Choice of Sunday service |
| May 15 | Lutheran School Music Festival @ Valley Lutheran High School | |
| May 21 | Preschool Choir | 11:00 a.m. |



May Sports



- | | | |
|--------|------------------------------------|-----|
| May 6 | Valley Grade School meet at VLHS | TBA |
| May 13 | Lutheran Invitational meet at VLHS | TBA |
| May 20 | Regionals @ VLHS | TBA |
| May 22 | TCLL Relays at Reese | TBA |

We have many programs going on throughout the school year that earn money for St. Paul: Box-Tops for Education, Our Family label collection, can tabs, ink cartridges, as well as Meijer and Kroger programs. See the school office for more information.

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

Daily Lectionary / Serve & Volunteer / Thank You

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
May Daily Lectionary	1 Lev. 9:1-24 Lk. 9:18-36	2 Lev. 10:1-20 Lk. 9:37-62	3 Lev. 16:1-24 Lk. 10:1-22	4 Lev. 17:1-16 Lk. 10:23-42	5 Lev. 18:1-7, 20-19:8 Lk. 11:1-13	6 Lev. 19:9-18, 26-37 Lk. 11:14-36
7 Lev. 20:1-16, 22-27 Lk. 11:37-54	8 Lev. 21:1-24 Lk. 12:1-12	9 Lev. 23:1-22 Lk. 12:13-34	10 Lev. 23:23-44 Lk. 12:35-53	11 Lev. 24:1-23 Lk. 12:54-13:17	12 Lev. 26:1-20 Lk. 13:18-35	13 Lev. 26:21-33, 39-44 Lk. 14:1-24
14 Num. 3:1-16, 39-48 Lk. 14:25-15:10	15 Num. 8:5-26 Lk. 15:11-32	16 Num. 9:1-23 Lk. 16:1-18	17 Num. 10:11-36 Lk. 16:19-31	18 Num. 11:1-23, 31-35 Lk. 17:1-19	19 Num. 11:24-29; 12:1-16 Lk. 17:20-37	20 Num. 13:1-3, 17-33 Lk. 18:1-17
21 Num. 14:1-25 Lk. 18:18-34	22 Num. 14:26-45 Lk. 18:35-19:10	23 Num. 16:1-22 Lk. 19:11-28	24 Num. 16:23-40 Lk. 19:29-48	25 Num. 16:41-17:13 Lk. 20:1-18	26 Num. 20:1-21 Lk. 20:19-44	27 Num. 20:22-21:9 Lk. 20:45-21:19
28 Num. 21:10-35 Lk. 21:20-38	29 Num. 22:1-20 Lk. 22:1-23	30 Num. 22:21-23:3 Lk. 22:24-46	31 Num. 23:4-28 Lk. 22:47-71			

Opportunities to Serve, Volunteer, Donate

Our **Jr. Youth** are collecting the following **items** to take to the Jr. Youth Gathering in June: • Baby wipes • Full-size shampoo/conditioner • Full-size body wash • Toothbrush (in individual packaging) • Full-size toothpaste • Full-size deodorant (men or women) • Laundry soap • Hoodies- all sizes (especially larger ones) • Jeans- all sizes (especially larger ones). Items are being collected for the Flint Mission Network, where they equip the hurting and homeless of Flint through guidance and godly care. Items can be placed in the box marked "Jr. Youth Gathering Items" in the narthex by May 28th.

Baby Bottle Drive & Baby Item Collection

The Baby Bottle Drive is coming. Keep an eye out for bottles starting Mother's Day weekend. We will also be collecting new baby items for our community giveaway. Start collecting now and a collection area will be set up Mother's Day weekend. Please see Patti Martinal with any questions.

Mission Lunches

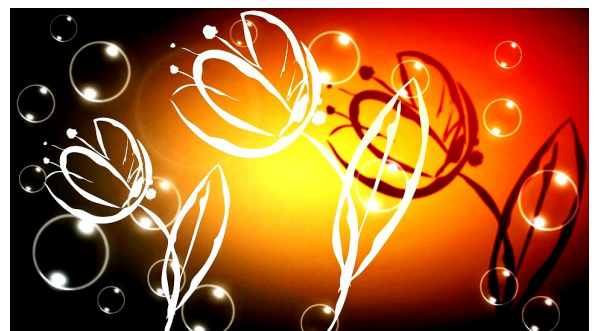
Anyone wishing to **help prepare sack lunches** to take to the mission are asked to come to the St. Paul kitchen on **Fri., May 12th** at 1:30PM. Monetary donations are welcomed and needed for the lunches. Contact Paul Schoenknecht 871-2280 if you are willing to help.

Live Stream Volunteers

In need of new live stream volunteers! In order to continue this ministry, we desperately need some help. Live stream teams serve once a month. All training is provided. Please prayerfully consider serving God and your church family in this way. Contact the church office if you are interested.

Hot Dog/Fish Booth

HELP IS NEEDED! We will need a **6th or 7th grade parent** to run the Hot Dog booth and **ALL PARENTS** to help with the fish booth during the summer festival. The school office has the information needed. Call if you can help in any way.



Financial Summary / Memorials / The Time of Easter

March 2023 Income & Expense Summary

March General Fund Income:	\$83,648.42
March General Fund Expenses:	\$104,042.45
March surplus (deficit)	\$(20,394.03)
Overall surplus (deficit) to date	\$(25,918.24)
Gen Fund Checking Balance	\$436,233.15

RESTRICTED Cash Accounts Summary**

School Designated Accounts balance:	\$99,823.94
Church Designated Accounts balance:	\$101,491.99
All Memorials balance:	\$19,224.44
** This money is RESTRICTED***	\$220,540.37

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Contributions to Grantparent Fund March	\$490.00
Contributions to Facility/Property Impr. Fund-March	\$858.60



Memorials & Special Gifts

In Memory of Carolyn Laplow	
General Fund	\$450.00
School Fund	\$40.00
Memorials Undesignated	\$30.00
In Memory of Lela Higgins	
General Fund	\$2048.44
School Fund	\$95.00
Memorials Undesignated	\$310.00
In Memory of Karen Henderson	
General Fund	\$555.00
School Fund	\$45.00
Memorials Undesignated	\$60.00
In Memory of Elaine Bickel	
School Fund	\$25.00
Memorials Undesignated	\$25.00
In Memory of Marian Mossner	
General Fund	\$10.00
In Memory of John Haubenstricker	
General Fund	\$20.00
In Memory of Ron Bronner	
General Fund	\$100.00

The Time of Easter - Easter and Its Season

Easter is not merely a one-day celebration; it is a fifty-day season from the Day of the Resurrection of Our Lord to the Day of Pentecost. This extended season—one seventh of the year—is a victory celebration, a time for all Christians to proclaim boldly their faith in a risen and victorious Savior.

The first celebration of Easter is the Easter Vigil, the evening of Holy Saturday. The Vigil includes a service of light, in which fire symbolizes Jesus as the light of the world. The service is designed to take the Christian from the solemnity of Good Friday to the predawn joy of Easter.

Easter is the richest and most lavishly celebrated festival of the Church Year. Congregations may hold a sunrise service, commemorating the surprise of the women visiting the empty tomb of Christ, as well as services that celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. While not as lavish, this joyous and celebratory tone echoes down through the Sundays of the Easter season.

Forty days after Easter, the Church celebrates the Ascension of Our Lord, who ascended into heaven not only as God, but also as man. The final Sunday of the Easter season, celebrated as Pentecost, was adopted by early Christians to commemorate the first great harvest of believers for Christ. Thus, Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian Church, as the Holy Spirit came upon the disciples and they gave their compelling witness about the resurrected Lord. The color for the Day of Pentecost is red, representing fire and blood. Red recalls the tongues of fire received on the first Pentecost and the martyrs who shed their blood for the faith.

During Easter, we rejoice in our salvation.

Matthew 28 * Luke 24 * John 12:24-25; 20:1-29; 21:1-14 * Acts 1:6-11; 2:1-4

Easter Practices and Traditions

- ◆ The colors of Easter are white and gold. White, the color of our Lord's holiness, is everywhere on Easter, from the parments and vestments, to the traditional Easter lilies. Gold decorations remind us that our resurrection life in Christ is precious and eternal.
- ◆ After a long absence in Lent, *Alleluia* returns at Easter and is heard everywhere in the propers appointed for the weeks after Easter. Also, the joyous Hymn of Praise and the Gloria Patri return and are sung as part of the liturgy once again.
- ◆ During the Easter season, we greet one another with a special Easter Greeting and response: "Alleluia! Christ is risen!" "He is risen indeed! Alleluia!"



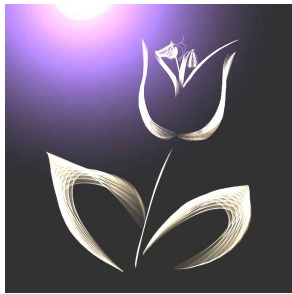
May Birthdays - Happy Birthday!!

Janice Binder	1	Mary Kern	10	Amy Bentley	22
Jean Jensen	1	Adam Gross	10	Gary Knoll	22
Koltyn Sebert	1	Sandra Lince	10	Robin Shaffer	22
Kim Reinig	2	Sarah Mays	10	Hudson Sheppard	22
Bryan Wilson	2	Savannah Porter	10	Angela Thomason	22
Jonathan Petzold	2	Betty Bradley	11	Bob O'Dell	22
Rachel ILL	3	Cathy Gentry	11	Gale Brown	23
Lori Stratton	3	Cherri Holmes	11	Brenda Frahm	23
Cody Woodward	3	Caleb Reinbold	11	Kelsey Gronowski	23
Korbyn Cartner	3	John Walz	12	Matthew Sandusky	23
Hudson Myers	3	Jackie Sabgash	13	Eunice Peche	24
Lindsay Paquette	3	Zach Myers	13	Emmet Bach	24
Emma Stewart	3	Stephen Schmandt	13	Seth Mohr	24
Landon Kern	4	Kieran Ehrhardt	13	Jon Keinath	25
Michelle Jaruzel	4	Harper Aguirre	13	Jamie Blue	25
Holly Jones	4	Troy Bonadurer	13	Tom Howay	25
Gabriella Porter	4	Ashlie Sayles	13	Edna McLaren	25
Travis Washburn	4	Shalina Stratton	13	Andrea Ide	25
Hudsen O'Neil	5	Larry, III Greer	14	Tammy Kowitz	25
Emma Burns	5	Colin Meacham	14	Daniel Meacham	26
Haily Kennedy	5	Gina Werner	14	Steve Waterman	26
Weston Erdman	5	Dawn Reinert	15	Lydia Denome	26
June Bierlein	6	Anna Jensen	15	Paul Hibbard	26
Betty Bleuer	6	Terri Reinert	15	Logan Morningstar	27
Madison Hahn	6	Joshua Allen	16	Dylin Polzin	27
Rosie Horning	6	Debra Werner	16	Matthew Schiefer	27
Owen Butterfield	6	Nathan Draper	16	Ricky Reinert	27
Rian Edler	6	Melissa Wagner	17	Mark Ferrier	28
Adam Johnson	6	Diane Bishop	17	Sharon Garrett	28
Jodie Lowrey	6	Carmin List	17	Rachel Lawrence	28
Destiny Stevens	6	Angela Zeck	17	Katherine Weber	28
Mya Sutton	6	Skylar Ley	17	Jorden Goodhue	28
Danielle Hallman	6	Jean Harsen	18	Carmen Leitz	28
Yvonne Burrows	7	Heidi Vande Streek	18	Marlene Straub	28
Barbara Paquette	7	Jay Rodammer	19	Flora Weber	28
Timothy Weber	7	Connie Damm	19	George Ackerman	28
Conor Gentry	7	Landyn Hibner	19	Joanne Lee	29
Stephanie Long	7	Wyatt Popham	19	Victor Schwab III	29
Jackson Shreve	8	Elliana Vande Streek	19	Chad Cobanovich	29
Audrey Brown	9	Kelley Opperman	20	Christian Martinez	29
Joshua Myers	9	Jordyn Frahm	20	Jennifer Koch	29
Lexi Bruner	9	Daniel Inman	20	Taylor Martinez	29
Shane Edler	9	Jacob Jensen	20	Steve Schultz	30
Matthew Harrington	9	Angi O'Neil	22	Cheryl Leix	30
Kristin Hoard	10	April Ehrhardt	22	Ronald Wittum	30
				Alfred Cunningham	31



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

Mary Messenger 2023



**Equip. Build.
Grow. Together.**

Eph. 4:11-16

“A mother is she who can take the place of all others, but whose place no one else can take.”

“To the world, you are a mother,
but to your family, you are the world.”

“Being a mother is learning about strengths
you didn’t know you had.”

Happy Mother’s Day!