

March 2019

# The Disciple's Connection

St. Paul's Lutheran Church—Painesville, OH 44077

Our Mission Statement: To witness to our faith in Jesus Christ through worship, education, building relationships and caring for others.



## Pastor's Corner...

We're getting into the season of Lent, that 40 day journey that calls us to focus on the Passion of our Lord. Some people give up something to help them remember what Christ gave up for them. Others choose a special project to do to help other remember Christ's suffering and death. I have found that music can aid people during their 40 day Lenten journey. Our Lutheran hymnody is filled with wonderful tunes and poignant verses that greatly enhance these 40 days. Let me share some of these verses with you

*Jesus, I will ponder now On Your holy passion;  
With Your Spirit me endow For such meditation.  
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish  
Of Your suff'ring, pain, and death That I may not perish.*

*Grant that I Your passion view With repentant grieving.  
Let me not bring shame to You By unholy living.  
How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure  
Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure?*  
[LSB 440 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" vv 1, 4]

For me, this is my prayer to begin Lent. O Lord, let me in these 40 days, truly ponder again your Passion for me. Let me truly look at it with repentant grieving, for it was my sins that nailed you to the cross. Let that be your prayer these 40 days.

*Not all the blood of beasts On Jewish altars slain  
Could give the guilty conscience peace Or wash away the stain.*

*But Christ, the heav'nly Lamb, Takes all our sins away;  
A sacrifice of nobler name And richer blood than they.*  
[LSB 431 "Not All The Blood Of Beasts" vv 1-2]

Remember the worship life of the Israelites? It was one of daily ritual, daily sacrifice, daily shedding of blood. Not even the most faithful Israelite, or their faithful obedience to the covenant would ever truly, completely cleanse them or their conscience. Yes, blood had to be shed to make atonement for sin. Ultimately, there was no animal that could make satisfactory atonement. It was only the innocent blood of the Messiah, the heavenly Lamb of God, that could take away all the sin of the world. His blood is far more precious & powerful than the blood of beasts.

*When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.*

### WORSHIP SERVICES

Saturday 6:00pm  
Sunday 8:15am & 10:45am  
Education Hour 9:30-10:30am

### PASTOR

Paul D. Sundbom  
[PastorSundbom1@sbcglobal.net](mailto:PastorSundbom1@sbcglobal.net)

Church Administrative  
Assistant: Kathy Doeing

CHURCH OFFICE  
(440) 354-3000

CHURCH WEB-SITE  
[www.SPLCPainesville.org](http://www.SPLCPainesville.org)

### PRESCHOOL

Amy Marizek, Director  
[Preschool44077@sbcglobal.net](mailto:Preschool44077@sbcglobal.net)  
website  
[www.stpaulspainesville.com](http://www.stpaulspainesville.com)

Lord, help me to live this day  
Quietly, easily.  
To lean on thy great strength  
Trustfully, restfully.  
To await the unfolding of thy will  
Patiently, serenely.  
To meet others  
Peacefully, joyously.  
To face tomorrow  
Confidently, courageously.

## *Pastor's Corner Continued:*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.*

[LSB 425 "When I Survey The Wondrous Cross" vv 1-2]

I read these words and I hear these words of Scripture, "But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world."

[Galatians 6:14] After all it is the cross of Christ on which we focus our attention, and all the more during the days of Lent.

In Christ,  
Pastor Sundbom

*<sup>1</sup>Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, <sup>2</sup>looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.* Hebrews 12: 1-2

## Lenten Midweek Schedule

### Theme: "Behold the Man"

"Behold the Man" is a series of services for the Season of Lent by Rev. Jeffrey Hemmer, Pastor of Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church in Fairview Heights, Pilate's command to the crowd at Jesus' crucifixion speaks an incredible truth—Jesus was indeed man. More specifically, He was God and man, an eternal being inhabiting a human body.

Jesus had a body. He had a nose. Knees. Toes. Bones. Fingerprints. He hungered, prayed, and bled. He had a mother, He drank wine, He was baptized.

This Lenten season, behold the man—the man who suffered, died, and rose again. The man who lived a perfect life and defeated death. The man whose death led to your life.

**March 13<sup>th</sup>** (Rev. Freddie Davison) **A God exposed** based upon: Genesis 3:7-21; John 19: 1-5, 23-24

**March 20<sup>th</sup>** (Rev. Steve Berndt) **A God beaten** based upon: Isaiah 52-53:12; John 18: 19-24

**March 27<sup>th</sup>** (Rev. Dr. Kevin Guynn, Faith, Mentor) **A God who thirsts** based upon: Palm 22: 12-18; John 19: 28-30

**April 3<sup>rd</sup>** (Rev. Jonathan Schroder, Geneva) **A God with a mother** based upon: Revelation 12: 1-6; John 19: 25-27

**April 10<sup>th</sup>** (Rev. Kurt Ziemann, Zion, Painesville) **A God who hungers** based upon: Joel 2; 12-19; 2 Corinthians 5: 20-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

### CURRENT MEMBERSHIP CHANGES:

**Transfers Out:** Curt and Jean Dombi  
(to Eternal Shepherd Lutheran Church LCMS, Seneca, SC)

From the  
Church Office

Do you have a New Address? New phone number? New email address? A new baby in the family? Please let the church office know of any changes in your information. This will help to keep the Directory and the church database as current as possible.

## What is the Significance of Lent?

Early in the Church's history, the major events in Christ's life were observed with special observances, such as His birth, baptism, death, resurrection and ascension. As these observances developed, a period of time was set aside prior to the major events of Jesus' birth and resurrection as a time of preparation. During Lent, the Church's worship assumes a more penitential character. The color for the season is purple, a color often associated with penitence. The "Hymn of Praise" is omitted from the liturgy. The word "Alleluia" is usually omitted as well. By not using the alleluia—a joyful expression meaning "Praise the Lord"—until Easter, the Lenten season is clearly set apart as a distinct time from the rest of the year. Additionally, it forms a powerful contrast with the festive celebration of Jesus' resurrection when our alleluias ring loud and clear. Finally, the penitential character of Lent is not its sole purpose. In the ancient Church, the weeks leading up to Easter were a time of intensive preparation of the candidates who were to be baptized at the Easter vigil on Holy Saturday. This time in the Church's calendar was seen as an especially appropriate time for Baptism because of the relationship between Christ's death and resurrection and our own in Holy Baptism (see Romans 6:1-11). This focus would suggest that the season of Lent serves not only as a time to meditate on the suffering that Christ endured on our behalf but also as an opportunity to reflect upon our own Baptism and what it means to live as a child of God.

Q: Do Lutherans have to give up something for Lent as some other denominations require?

From the perspective of The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, "giving something up for Lent" is entirely a matter of Christian freedom. It would be wrong, from our perspective, for the church to make some sort of "law" requiring its members to "give something up for Lent," since the Scriptures themselves do not require this. If, on the other hand, a Christian wants to give something up for Lent as a way of remembering and personalizing the great sacrifice that Christ made on the cross for our sins, then that Christian is certainly free to do so—as long as he or she does not "judge" or "look down on" other Christians who do not choose to do this.

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*"All are from the dust, and to dust all return" Ecclesiastes 3:20 ESV*

Please continue to fill your  
Mite Boxes!

The LWML needs your  
continued love and  
support to meet our  
Mission Goals.



## Time To Begin Preparing For Easter!

Spring flowers will again be offered to decorate the church sanctuary for Easter. All flowers may be taken home after the late service on Easter. Look for the sign- up sheet (containing ordering info.), which is posted on the double doors at the back of the church. Please make checks payable to St. Paul's, and put checks in the offering plate. Thank you!

Questions? Please contact JoEllen Graziadei

## St. Mark's (Chesterland)

**extends an invitation** to The

Third Annual St. Mark Women's Retreat: Let God be Your GPS.

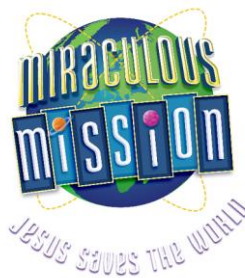
Saturday, March 16, 2019, 10:00am-2:30pm. For more info., see the flyer on the bulletin board (on the back of the mail boxes).

## JOIN US FOR VBS!

JUNE 10-14, 2019

9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. daily

Picnic on Friday after  
the closing program!



Volunteers are needed in all areas!  
If you are interested in volunteering,  
please contact Kathleen Pennell or  
Kristi McConnell. Registration forms,  
sign-up sheets, and supply lists will  
be posted soon.

## St. Paul's Preschool is currently enrolling...

...students for the 2018-2019 school year. Registration forms are available in the Preschool Office, Church Office and the Parent Table by the entrance. All registrations forms are accepted on a first come first served basis. If you have any questions or would like to schedule a school tour; please contact the Preschool Director, Amy Marizek at 440-354-3000. More information is also available on the preschool website [www.stpaulspainesville.com](http://www.stpaulspainesville.com)



## Mark Your Calendars!

**St. Paul's will be hosting a Rummage Sale** in early summer. **SO...**

Now is the time to begin to gather up those second hand goods (clothing, small appliances/household items, Toys). No big furniture items please...

You can check future bulletin announcements, Newsletters or the Stewardship board for more information. **If you are interested in being a helper: email [stewardshipstpauls250@gmail.com](mailto:stewardshipstpauls250@gmail.com) or call Starshine @440-251-2524.**

## FOOD BANK

St. Paul's supports the **food pantry** at Zion, Painesville. This month we will be **collecting Pasta(such as spaghetti, ziti, rigatoni...), Spaghetti Sauce and Mac & Cheese.** Place items in the bins located at both entrance doors of the church. They will be taken by St. Paul volunteers to Zion and distributed to those in need in our area. Please keep this much needed mission in your prayers.



## March Life Quotes from Lutherans For Life

**March 3** "The next time you are burdened with guilt and wondering if God can really forgive you again, look to the cross of Jesus. There He proved His love by giving up His life to pay for your sin. Witness the supreme proof of your forgiveness, which God provided in the resurrection. There He removes all doubts about who He is and what He did for us. We have absolute certainty that we are forgiven and bound for heaven because of Jesus. It's the truth!" *Rev. Jonathan M. Kruschel, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota*

**March 10** "People with disabilities and their families have much to offer the Body of Christ, but often the Church sees them as needy—as a mercy ministry—not as valued contributing members. Look for ways for each of them to serve, including the person with disability." *Mona Fuerstenau, Bethesda Lutheran Communities*

**March 17** "To be pro-life is to show that all life is precious, that the community of faith is there to support and help with every child. To be pro-life is to visit the elderly in the nursing home, to give them the dignity that they have as children of God. To be pro-life is to love the mothers, to love these women who are caught by circumstances, to help them with physical as well as spiritual needs." *Rev. Christopher Maronde, pastor of Saint John Lutheran Church, Decatur, Indiana*

**March 24** "The Virgin Mary's womb became the dwelling place of the Second Person of the Holy Trinity, the Word by whom all things were made. Within the first month, the heart of the Logos in human flesh was beating, like ours, with electrical impulses, pumping blood through His body, blood He would later shed for our sins. But the full miracle of the Incarnation was not just in seeing the Man in the flesh but much more: in Mary's Son we saw with our eyes real things that are only visible by their effects: divine mercy, love, compassion, faith, meekness, and justice." *James M. Kushiner, The Fellowship of St. James*

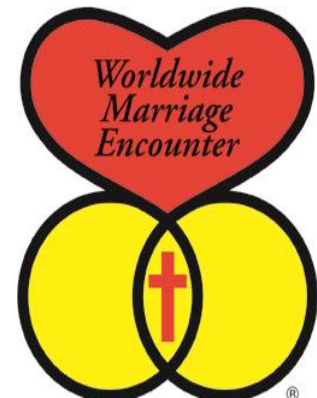
**March 31** "God is the ultimate Designer. He designed the greatest good the world has ever seen to come from the most heinous evil mankind has ever produced. You are never too stained for God to love. When you are feeling weak and foolish, give thanks to God for that, because that's exactly the kind of person that God likes to use." *Rev. Dan Larsen, pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Wabasso, Minnesota, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Sanborn, Minnesota*

**Our Shepherd is having a Fund Raiser** March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 11am-9pm **at Applebee's** (9174 Mentor Ave, Mentor) ; for this fundraiser, you will need to show them a copy of the flyer (which will be included in the bulletin, closer to the fundraiser date) for Our Shepherd to receive 15% of your check. There will also be extra flyers available, so invite your friends and family.



***God Is Dedicated to Your Congregation's Marriages***  
**You Can Help Married Husbands & Wives**  
**Enhance Their Communication!**

Married husbands and wives can celebrate their special relationship and learn unique insights and tools to improve their communication for the long haul with Marriage Encounter! It's a whole weekend away from chores, jobs, and kids to reap joyful long-term rewards for their relationship, their family, and their faith journey.



**Your Relationship Deserves Marriage Encounter!**

**March 22 - 24, 2019**

Comfort Suites, Hartville, OH

Apply now at [GodLovesMarriage.org](http://GodLovesMarriage.org)!

***Special 50% Discount off the regular application fee for 2019 events in celebration of Worldwide Marriage Encounter's 50 Years of enriching marriages!***

**Questions? Contact Duffy & Nan Guthrie**

**[NGuthrie@suite224.net](mailto:NGuthrie@suite224.net) • 440-599-9090**

*Pre-registration and payment are required by March 6 – don't miss out!*



**Many are Offered....  
There is One for Everyone!....  
Consider Joining One This Month**

**Two Adult Bible Studies Are Offered On Sunday** ...during Education Hour, (between the two services), One led by Pastor Sundbom (meets in the kitchen), presently making their way through the study of Romans; the other, led by Jack Lelle(meets in the Sanctuary), continues with the study of James.

**Men's Ministry Group** Meets the 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month at 7p.m. and is presently studying questions asked by people concerning the Bible and the Lutheran Confessions.

**Women's Bible Study Group** ...This group meets twice a month on Wednesdays at (6:30-8:00pm). However; they will not meet this month (because of the Lenten season) but will resume in April. All women of the congregation are invited. Bring your Bible and bring a friend, all other materials are provided.

**Midweek Bible Study**...This study meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of every month, 10:30am to 12N. The group led by Pastor Sundbom is currently working through the study: Romans. The coffee is always on.....everyone is welcome!

## Those Who Serve in March, 2019

### ELDERS:

6:00 P	Saturday	John Doeing
8:15 A	Sunday	Craig McConnell
10:45A	Sunday	Steve Sears

### LECTORS:

03-04-19	6:00 P	Saturday	Roy Greig
03-03-19	10:45A	Sunday	Dale Kerver
03-03-19	6:00 P	Sunday	Eric West
03-11-19	6:00 P	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
03-10-19	8:15 A	Sunday	Craig McConnell
03-10-19	10:45A	Sunday	Kathleen Pennell
03-18-19	6:00 P	Saturday	Frank McVan
03-17-19	8:15 A	Sunday	Craig McConnell
03-17-19	10:45A	Sunday	Terry Wakelee
03-25-19	6:00 P	Saturday	Roy Greig
03-24-19	8:15 A	Sunday	Dale Kerver
03-24-19	10:45A	Sunday	Ken Chaffe
03-30-19	6:00P	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
03-31-19	8:15A	Sunday	Jack Lelle
03-31-19	10:45	Sunday	Sandy Heckler

**COUNTERS:** Peggy McDonnell, Laura Harris, Billie Lelle

### GREETERS:

6:00 P	Saturday
8:15 A	Sunday
10:45A	Sunday



		<b>MARCH 2019</b>				
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Worship 8:15A Education Hr. 9:30A Worship 10:45A	Please Note: Confirmation Class will meet Sunday after the 10:45 service unless otherwise noted.		Announcements For Bulletin due each Wednesday for the Coming weekend's bulletin.		Worship 6P	
					1	2 <i>Communion</i>
3 <i>Communion</i> Youth Group 6pm	4	5 Choir 7pm	6  Chili/Hot dog Supper, 5:45-- Worship 7pm W/ Communion	7	8	9 <b>Lent 1</b> <i>Communion</i>
10 <b>Lent 1</b> <i>Communion</i> 	11 Men's Ministry Group 7pm	12 Choir 7pm	13 Worship 7pm	14 Midweek Bible Study 10:30-12N	15	16 <b>Lent 2</b>
Clocks AHEAD 1 hr.						
17 <b>Lent 2</b> Youth Group 6pm	18	19 Choir 7pm	20 Worship 7pm	21	22 Deadline for <u>April</u> Newsletter Article	23 <b>Lent 3</b> <i>Communion</i>
		Pastor out-of-town 3/19 thru 3/22				
24 <b>Lent 3</b> <i>Communion</i> 31 <b>Lent 4</b> WINTER JAM/ Youth Group	25 Men's Ministry Group 7pm	26 Choir 7pm	27 Worship 7pm	28 Midweek Bible Study 10:30-12N <b>Council</b> 6:30pm	29	30 <b>Lent 4</b>

