



The Disciple's Connection

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

February 2020

Worship Services

Saturday 6:00pm
Sunday 8:15am & 10:45am
Sunday Adult Bible Study 9:30am
Sunday School 9:30am

Staff

Paul D. Sundbom, Pastor
Marlyss Sekki, Director of Music
Peggy McDonnell, Admin Assistant

Church Website

www.splcpainesville.org

Church Office

(440)354-3000
office@splcpainesville.org

St. Paul's Preschool

Amy Marizek, Director
preschool@splopainesville.org

St. Paul's Preschool Website

www.stpaulspainesville.com



A NOTE FROM PASTOR

February is kind of an interesting month. Groundhog Day begins the month. Supposedly we find out if spring will be early or arrive 6 weeks later. Seriously, we live in Northeast Ohio. Does anyone really believe we'll have an early spring?!?! Valentines Day is next, the day where love supposedly abounds. Even on that day, there are still many unloving acts that occur. Somewhere in there the great party of the year in New Orleans, Mardi Gras, happens. I haven't ever been to Mardi Gras, and I can't honestly say it's high on my list of things to do before I die. It seems like one big, continuous party that lasts for days and days. Somewhere in the month of February begins an important 40-day period.

We know this time well in Lutheran circles, Lent. I am surprised by how many Christians have forgotten what Lent is. It's different than the rest of the month. These other times I've mentioned really involve personally receiving something: good weather, someone's love, a party. There's an old practice during Lent to give up something. I always hear of people who voluntarily give up something for those 40 days.

Why do people choose to give up something for Lent? It helps them focus on and remember Jesus giving up His life for them. Some find this practice helpful; others think only about the thing they are giving up. If you choose to give up something for Lent, I hope it does help you remember Jesus' sacrifice for you. If you don't, I encourage you to read Hebrews 12:1-3 each day during Lent: *"Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. ² Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. ³ Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart."*

That's what Lent is all about, focusing our attention on Jesus. It is remembering his sacrifice for your sins and my sins. It is about drawing the attention of others to the cross of Christ where Good News, Perfect Love, and Eternal Celebration are found. It is a time to look at your life and take stock of how big a part God is in your life.

Ash Wednesday, which begins Lent, falls at the end of the month, Feb 26. Take advantage of specific devotional materials that are out there. We will have a dinner on that night. Worship with Communion will follow. Don't forget about the other Lenten Worship Services on Wednesday nights so you and your family can be uplifted by fixing your eyes on Jesus this Lenten season. Hope to see you there.

In Christ,
Pastor Sundbom
[Hebrews 12:2]



The Lenten Season will soon be upon us. Join us on Wednesdays for our midweek Lenten services starting Ash Wednesday, February 29, 2020. For the next six weeks come and learn how you can....

“Fix Your Eyes on Jesus”

St. Paul’s Midweek Lenten Schedule

When the people in the Passion narrative looked at Jesus, what did they see?

Eyes on Jesus asks us to look at Jesus through various Biblical character’s viewpoints, learning how they saw Jesus. Did they misunderstand Him? Did they recognize him as the Son of God?

Using Scripture passages from the Gospel of Mark, challenge yourself to consider what you when you look at Jesus.

Ash Wednesday – February 26th – “Misjudging Eyes” (Mark 14:1-9)

Rev. Paul Sundbom, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, Painesville

Midweek 1 – March 4th – “Betraying Eyes” (Mark 14:10-21, 32, 41-46)

Rev. Kurt Zimmerman, Zion Lutheran Church, Painesville

Midweek 2 – March 11th – “Sleepy Eyes” (Mark 14:32-42)

Rev. Jonathan Schroeder, St. John’s Lutheran Church, Geneva

Midweek 3 – March 18th – “Denying Eyes” (Mark 14:26-32, 66-72)

Rev. Steve Berndt, Grace Lutheran Church, Thompson/Holy Cross Madison

Midweek 4 – March 25th – “Murderous Eyes” (Mark 14:1-2, 53-65)

Rev. Freddy Davison, Lighted Cross Lutheran Church, Ashtabula

Midweek 5 – April 1st – “Worldly Eyes” (Mark 15:1-20)

Rev. Kevin Gynn, Faith Lutheran Church, Mentor

Views on Grace

Denominations in Christianity view grace in a variety of ways.
See how the Scripture-based understanding Lutherans have of grace compares with others.

Roman Catholic

WHAT GRACE IS: God's favor or help, guiding man to salvation (*Catechism of the Catholic Church*, 1996), both to start salvation and to allow man to merit salvation (CCC, 2010).

HOW IT JUSTIFIES: Poured into man to make him gradually righteous. "Justification is not only the remission of sins, but also the sanctification and renewal of the interior man" (Trent, Ch. 7 on Justification; CCC, 1427).

RELATION TO THE HUMAN WILL: God's grace is the first grace in justification, which requires man to use his free will (CCC, 2002). "If anyone says that man's free will ... does nothing at all and is merely passive [toward the grace of justification], let him be anathema" (Trent, Canon 4 on Justification).

RELATION TO THE GOSPEL: The Gospel is the New Law, or "the grace of the Holy Spirit ... [which] uses the Sermon on the Mount to teach us what must be done and makes use of the sacraments to give us the grace to do it" (CCC, 1966). Since grace includes our own works, there cannot be full certainty of salvation, since this would be arrogance (Trent, Ch. 9 on Justification).

Reformed (Bound Will)

WHAT GRACE IS: God's sovereign counsel and good pleasure that certain people chosen for salvation would have the saving power of Christ's death applied to them (Dort, 2: Article 8).

HOW IT JUSTIFIES: God chose His elect from before the foundations of the world, determining that they would be part of His covenant through faith and determining that Christ's death would declare them righteous.

RELATION TO THE HUMAN WILL: Man is entirely deprived of any free will, because of his fallen condition (Eph. 2:1–3; Rom. 9:16; Dort 3/4: Article 3).

RELATION TO THE GOSPEL: The ministry of reconciliation, which calls sinners to repentance and faith, is how God makes His grace known. But this grace only applies to those whom God has chosen for eternal life. The grace itself cannot be resisted by the human will (Dort 3/4: Rejection 8).
that you are one of the elect, you must use the Means of Grace and follow God's Word until you receive the internal witness of the Spirit.

Reformed (Free Will)

WHAT GRACE IS: "The grace or love of God, from which comes our salvation, is FREE IN ALL, and FREE FOR ALL" (John Wesley in his sermon "Free Grace").

HOW IT JUSTIFIES: God's grace does not include our works ("FREE IN ALL"), and it is based on our decision to choose Christ, not on God's predestination ("FREE FOR ALL").

RELATION TO THE HUMAN WILL: Part of God's grace is that He gives man a free will to make a decision to have faith. The human will cooperates in conversion.

RELATION TO THE GOSPEL: The ministry of reconciliation, which calls sinners to repentance and faith, is how God makes His grace known. But this grace also depends on man's will to choose Christ. The certainty of God's grace must rest in the experience of how the human will chooses and responds to the Gospel.

Lutheran/Scriptural

WHAT GRACE IS: "All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus" (Rom. 3:23–24). It is God's favor revealed in the redemption of Christ by which He declares sinners to be righteous.

HOW IT JUSTIFIES: "Through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood, to be received by faith" (Rom. 3:24–25). It is located in the redemptive work of Christ by which He turned God's wrath away. It is, therefore, received fully through faith, which God counts as righteousness (Rom. 4:5; See AC IV).

RELATION TO THE HUMAN WILL: "So then it depends not on human will or exertion, but on God, who has mercy" (Rom. 9:16). "You were dead in the trespasses and sins" (Eph. 2:1). It does not depend at all on the human will, but only on God's mercy, fulfilled and revealed in Christ (See SC Creed Art. 3).

RELATION TO THE GOSPEL: "I am not ashamed of the gospel, for it is the power of God for salvation to everyone who believes ... For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith for faith, as it is written, 'The righteous shall live by faith'" (Rom. 1:16–17). The Gospel fully contains and reveals this grace of Christ's righteousness. Therefore, I am certain (not ashamed) of my salvation (See AC V).



Life Quotes for February

February 2 "Women, families, and our culture deserve better than abortion." *Melissa Ohden, survivor of a botched abortion – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

February 9 "Our sexuality can glorify God by demonstrating the beauty of both flourishing and forgiveness. And the good news about this is that every single Christian can express the truth of at least one of those options. If you did not follow God's plan for flourishing, you haven't blown your chance to honor and glorify God with your body. Acknowledging where you rejected His wisdom, accepting His forgiveness, and living in the joy of that peace also points others to the glory of God." *Amy K. Hall, Stand to Reason – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

February 16 "The key to a Christian family living out His love—the mutual love we can only know because God first loved us—is Jesus. In the Christian household where friends, extended family members, and neighbors come together, we love one another and forgive one another. We do this because God loves and forgives us through the life, death, and resurrection of His beloved Son Jesus." *Ron Schlegel, The Lutheran Laymen – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

February 23 "I am extremely thankful for the many doctors and nurses who stand firm in their opposition to assisted suicide and euthanasia, although they are finding themselves being pressured to change their position. Please pray they remain firm in their For Life stance. May we also pray that ... they boldly ... maintain the ethical standards their professions were created to provide to society and that the Gospel clearly proclaims." *Virginia Flo, Lutherans For Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • www.lutheransforlife.org

St. Paul's Outreach Events



Join us for an evening at the Monsters Hockey \$1 Soda \$2 Hot Dog \$3 Beer night on Friday, February 28th at 7pm. A WWE Championship Belt Fanny Pack will be given to the first 10,000 fans.

Cost of the event is \$20. Sign-up sheet can be found on the double doors at the back of the sanctuary. Deadline for signing up is February 21st. When signing up please provide your name, number of tickets needed, your email address and whether you have a Flash Seat account. Please pay Dale Kerver for the tickets. The tickets will be transferred into your Flash Seat account if you have one.

Hope to see you there!!!

It's Bowling Party Time

Join us at Rich Lanes in Fairport Harbor for an afternoon of fun and fellowship. Sign-up for the event can will be posted on the bulletin board located out side the kitchen in mid-February.



When: Sunday, March 23, 2020

Where: Rich Lanes, Fairport

Time: 3pm to 5pm

Cost: \$7 in advance or at the door

Cost covers 2 hours of bowling, bowling shoes and food & refreshments.

Movie Matinee/Game Day

Mark your calendars for a Movie Matinee and Game Day for February 23rd at 2 p.m. We will be showing the cartoon movie "Ice Age" for the little kids (and the not-so-little kids who enjoy funny movies). A concession stand will be open at which hotdogs, popcorn, candy and chips can be purchased at nominal prices. Classrooms will be setup with tables and chairs for anyone who doesn't want to watch the movie. Bring your favorite board games, card games, jigsaw puzzles, etc.. and bring your friends! Watch for a sign-up sheet to be posted at the back of the sanctuary soon.





Noisy Mite Weekend is Coming!!!

The LWML Ohio District fiscal Biennium ends March 31, 2020. At the present time about \$27,000 is needed to meet the mission budget for the district. We will have our semi-annual "NOISY MITES" collection on the weekend of March 14 & 15. Plan on making a **JOYFUL NOISE** with your coins and dollars as we prayerfully support the mission work of the LWML.

Order Mite Boxes here:
www.lwml.org/store



February Birthdays

Angie Clark	1st	Jeffrey Kiel	15th	Ava Nau	25th
Allie Szoradi	1st	Joseph McDonnell	16th	Joe Wojkowski	26th
Jane Swank	2nd	James West	17th	Billie Lelle	26th
Michelle Lindrose	4th	Jonah Shaw	18th	Carl Graziadei	28th
Danielle Kiel	7th	Roxanne Walton	19th	Jared Sundbom	28th
Heidi Bennington	12th	Ken Chaffe	24th	JoEllen Graziadei	29th



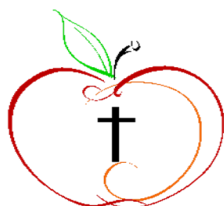
February Anniversaries

Eric & Pam West	39 years of February 7th
Bob & Peggy McDonnell	31 years on February 25th



If your birthday or anniversary is not listed please let us know so it will be included next time.

Preschool News



2020-2021

Preschool Registration
Begins February 10th

St. Paul's Preschool is currently enrolling students for the 2020-2021 school year. Registration forms are available in the Preschool Office, Church Office and on the Parent Table by the entrance. All registration 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 stpaulspainesville.com.



All of us at St. Paul's Preschool would like to thank those of you whom chose to make a contribution to our Bible Buddy Program. With your generous donations we will be able to place a new My First Bible Story-book into the hands of new students that enroll in our preschool. This is a beautiful way to share God's message with our community.

THOSE WHO SERVE FEBRUARY 2020

ELDERS:

6:00 P	Saturday	Roy Greig
8:15 A	Sunday	Jeff Troutman
10:45 A	Sunday	Eric West

LECTORS:

02-01-20	6:00	Saturday	Roy Greig
02-02-20	8:15	Sunday	Craig McConnell
02-02-20	10:45	Sunday	Terry Wakelee
02-08-20	6:00	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
02-09-20	8:15	Sunday	Dale Kerver
02-09-20	10:45	Sunday	Eric West
02-15-20	6:00	Saturday	Frank McVan
02-16-20	8:15	Sunday	Jack Lelle
02-16-20	10:45	Sunday	Kathleen Pennell
02-22-20	6:00	Saturday	Pavel Lindrose
02-23-20	8:15	Sunday	Craig McConnell
02-23-20	10:45	Sunday	Ken Chaffe
02-26-20	7:00	Ash Wed	TBD
02-29-20	6:00	Saturday	Roy Greig
03-01-20	8:15	Sunday	Dale Kerver
03-01-20	10:45	Sunday	Terry Wakelee

COUNTERS: Ken Chaffe, Jennifer Drake, Peggy McDonnell

GREETERS



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



SIGN UP TO BE A GREETER FOR
FEBRUARY AND GET TO KNOW YOUR
FELLOW DISCIPLES.

Sign-up sheet located on the double
doors at the back of the Sanctuary

February 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>  COMMUNION SERVICE </div> <div> Worship Schedule Saturdays- 6:00pm Sundays-8:15am & 10:45am Bible Study & Sunday School-9:30am </div>				<div> Bulletin Announcements Due Wednesdays </div>		1 
2  12pm Confirmation Class	3 Preschool Closed Preschool Teacher Conferences	4 Preschool Closed Preschool Teacher Conferences 7pm Choir Practice	5 Preschool Chapel with Pastor 6:30pm Council Meeting	6 Preschool Chapel with Pastor 10:30am Midweek Bible Study	7	8 
9  6pm Youth Group	10 Preschool Morley Library 7pm Men's Bible Study	11 Preschool Morley Library 7pm Choir Practice	12 Preschool Valentine's Day Party 6:30pm Elder's Meeting 6:30pm Woman's Bible Study	13 Preschool Valentine's Day Party 10:30am Midweek Bible Study 6:30pm Outreach Meeting	14 VALENTINE'S DAY Preschool Valentine's Day Party	15
16 6pm Youth Group	17  PRESIDENT'S DAY Preschool Closed	18 7pm Choir Practice	19	20 10:30am Midweek Bible Study	21 <div> March Newsletter Articles Due </div>	22 
23  Confirmation Class 12pm	24 Men's Bible Study 7pm	25 7pm Choir Practice	26  5:45pm Ash Wednesday Dinner 7pm Midweek Lent Service	27 10:30am Midweek Bible Study	28	29 