



# THE MESSENGER

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
511 S. Walnut  
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MARCH 2024

Dear Friends in Christ:

As Christians it is fair to say that our lives, from those in the world, look like we are in a constant state of contradiction. Take for example what St. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 16:14 **"Let all that you do be done in love."** The world does not see it as loving when Christians call sin a sin, but we also know that this is what the Lord has called us to do, as He tells us in Colossians 3:5-10 **"<sup>5</sup> Put to death therefore what is earthly in you: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and covetousness, which is idolatry. <sup>6</sup> On account of these the wrath of God is coming. <sup>7</sup> In these you too once walked, when you were living in them. <sup>8</sup> But now you must put them all away: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and obscene talk from your mouth. <sup>9</sup> Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have put off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup> and have put on the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator."** This is just one of many passages throughout the Bible that call for a change in our lives that is only possible when it is done by the Holy Spirit, who leads us to faith in Jesus Christ. This is the only way that anything that St Paul's says makes sense. Because before the Lord transformed us, taking us from sin to life in Jesus, we know that even as the world works now that is also the way that we thought as we were born in sin as everyone else. We didn't know what sin was because we were living in it, yes, the Law is written on our hearts, and it does convict us, but if there is no knowledge of the Lord and what He has done for us, then it is very easy for us to run right over those guilty feelings and write them off as something other than what they are. In the eyes of the world, it is all about me and how I feel about something. That is the world's mindset, which is why the world hates to hear correction from Christians, because we sound judgmental rather than as a voice of truth and blessing from the Lord. Again, St Paul writes this to the Church in Ephesians 4:20-24 **"<sup>20</sup> But that is not the way you learned Christ!— <sup>21</sup> assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, <sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness."** It does cause us pain as believers to know that we have been given the hope that the world so needs and even desires, but they are not willing to receive it because of stubbornness of sin, which is why Jesus reminds us of what we are going to be up against in our lives as believers in John 15:18-19 **"<sup>18</sup> If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. <sup>19</sup> If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you."** As we move through the season of Lent and end this month with the celebration of our salvation in Christ's resurrection, we pray that the Lord would continue to use us to proclaim truth, even when it is not wanted, that others will come to that same knowledge of the resurrection leaving behind death and by the power of the Holy Spirit choosing life.

# MARCH

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 2 - Zachary Shelton;
- 3 - Dixie Stremming; Wayne Wirth;  
Wayne & Connie Wirth (67)
- 4- Gary Kull; Darrell & Laurie Wirth (35)
- 5- Otis Rincker
- 6 - Adrienne Bushue; Jaxon\* Doehring;  
Nick Esslinger
- 7 - Jillian\* Merriman; Sharon Rincker;  
Cassie Schultheis; Greta\* York
- 8 - Bryson Batson; Roger Kull; Kiefer Reel
- 9- Virginia Vogel
- 10- Steven Polk; Jacob\* & Shalyn  
Tabbert (6)
- 11- Ross McCormick; Cayden Bell;  
Yvonne Pfeiffer; Johnna Schultz
- 13- Barrett Beltz; Rusty\* Clifton;
- 14- Janice Moomaw; Veronica Prosser
- 15- Will\* Eckstein; Kirtis Stodden
- 17- Weslyn Long; Theron\* Newell;  
Don Telgmann; Suttyn Wallin
- 18- Stephani Petri; Merle Ragan;  
Jesse Williams
- 19- Claire Hortenstine; Karen Wirth;  
John & Lisa Cress (36)
- 20- Bob Sporleder
- 21- Madilyn Rincker
- 22- Grayson Gilbert
- 25- Tara Blank; Rick Stodden; Kenny\* &  
Sara Hayes (24)
- 26- Gary & Sheryl Duncan (41);  
Deanna Uphoff
- 27- Deanna Foelsing; Tasha Pieper
- 28- Darrell Cress
- 29- Nicholas Oller; Doris Supan;  
Mary Tabbert; Natalie Hayes
- 30- Brody Bence
- 31- Carol Camilotto; Jenna Layton;  
Steve & Jill Layton (40);  
Stacey\* Rincker; Callie Clifton

# LOCAL LINKS

Pastor Whybrew: [chebrev@yahoo.com](mailto:chebrev@yahoo.com)  
 Church: [stpaulcms@consolidated.net](mailto:stpaulcms@consolidated.net)  
 Website: [stpaul-strasburg.com](http://stpaul-strasburg.com)  
 YouTube: St. Paul's Lutheran Church Strasburg Illinois  
 Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church

## Articles for Newsletter & Guide

Information for the Guide needs to be in the office by 8:00AM on **Wednesday morning**.  
 Articles for the Newsletter should be in the office by the **15<sup>th</sup>** of the month.



Wed. Mar. 6 7-8PM WDS  
 Wed. Mar. 13 7-8 PM WDS  
 Wed. Mar. 20 7-8PM WDS  
 Wed. Mar. 22 7-8PM WDS  
**Wed. Mar. 27 6:30-7:30PM WDS**

## Would you like to provide WDS treats one week?

The weekday School children and helpers enjoy snacks or cookies provided monthly by the Education team. If you would be interested in providing treats one week during March or April, please contact Karen Kull, 217.549.3141

## Pause for Peace

As your day draws to a close, spend a few moments with God, reflecting on His love and care for you throughout the day. Just dial 644-3124 to hear His message.





Tue. Mar. 6- Choir Rehearsal- 7:00 PM  
 Sun. Mar. 17- Choir sings  
 Tue. Mar. 19- Choir Rehearsal-7:00PM  
 Sun. Mar. 31- Choir Sings

\*\*\*The choir is in need of singers! Won't you consider blending your voice with ours as we sing praises to God? Please come to any choir rehearsal and we will help you get started! For questions, contact Choir Director Karen Rentfro at 217-644-3260.

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**Thank You** Thank you to Dawn Schlechte for providing snacks for the Weekday School children and helpers in February.

**Thank You** We would like to thank our St. Paul's church family, Pastor Whybrew and the Ladies Aid for the support given to us as we mourned the loss of our wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother, Melvina Lading. Your love, words of sympathy, acts of kindness, prayers and the wonderful funeral luncheon were truly a blessing to us. The family of Dwight Lading

**Thank You** Thank you to Pastor Whybrew, family and friends for your prayers, visits, phone calls and concerns, during my bout with pneumonia. God is good. Wayne Wirth

**Thank You** The family of Dwane Harman would like to thank Pastor Whybrew for his visits to Dwane in the hospital. We would like to offer our thanks for the wonderful and comforting service he performed for us. Our thanks to Muriel Merriman for the beautiful music she provided. Our gratitude and thanks to the Ladies Aid for the delicious luncheon that was furnished and for their hard work on behalf of Dwane. God bless you all. Maude Hartman



\*\* 10:30 AM Services @ Grace \*\*  
 \*\* 6:30 PM Services @ St. Paul's\*\*

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Dear Friends in Christ,

I am finishing out my second to last week of this quarter as I write to you. Our quarter ends on February 23, then we have a two week break before beginning our Spring Quarter on March 11. This quarter has been very informative and informational as I grow in my knowledge of and faith in Jesus Christ.

I will spend the first week of break in Kansas with my fiancée and her family before returning to Ft. Wayne on March 1 to go with Kantorei (The seminary's touring choir) on our tour. Our tour will visit a number of churches in Iowa, Moline, Il., and Paola, Ks. If you know anyone in Iowa or around those towns encourage them to look at the seminary website to find what churches we will be at and come hear and worship as part of our Choral Vespers service.

Please continue to keep me and the whole seminary in your prayers as we end this quarter and begin another quarter with all new classes. May God bless you this Lent! Yours in Christ, Hunter Kinnison



### March Greeters

March 3- Otto & Lisa Rincker  
 March 10-Gerry & Dawn Schlechte  
 March 17-Dean Schultz  
 March 31-Patsy Lenz

### April Greeters

April 7- Barb Ohnesorge  
 April 14- Gary Wirth  
 April 21- Gary & Karen Kull  
 April 28- Pastor & Doreen

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**SHOE BOXES** We are collecting clothing items for the month of March for the shoe boxes. We need shirts, pants, skirts, etc in sizes 2 to 18. Thank you for all the donations of soap and wash cloths.

**Easter Service** Join us for Easter Sunday, March 31. Communion Service at 8:30AM with breakfast in the social hall at 9:30AM. There will be a Egg Hunt for ages 0-6<sup>th</sup> grade at 10:00AM.

**Worship Service** Pleas join us on Sunday evenings at 5:30 pm for worship service at Grace!

**Bible Trivia** Join us on the first Sunday of each month at 6:30 pm for Bible Trivia. Everyone is welcome to join the fun and fellowship.



**LYF** The March LYF meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> at Trinity, following the Lenten service around 7:30 pm.



The LYF members and friends enjoyed ice skating at the U of I Ice Arena in February!

Christ  
 the  
 Lord  
 is  
 risen  
 today

## Lutheran Ladies of Strasburg Minutes – February 1, 2024

The Lutheran Ladies of Strasburg met in St. Paul's Social Hall on February 1, 2024. Pastor Whybrew opened the meeting with a devotion and prayer.

President Muriel Merriman called the meeting to order. Eleven members answered roll call. The January 4th minutes were read and approved. Various members sent cards and made visits to members of our congregations. Cinda Held gave the Treasurer's report for Charlene Telgmann.

Muriel read correspondence from various organizations requesting funds. We received thank you cards from PTSA Stewardson-Strasburg, Tobias Kircher family, Kenny Meeker family for Diane Paraiso, a thank you from Karen Kull from the Lading family.

Our February Project is for the Abby Warden Family of Strasburg.

Members were requested to think of interesting projects that we can work on in the coming months.

The upcoming events are: Joy Shop, April 16<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul's, Wheeler. LWML-CID, April 26-27 at Rock Island. Zone Officers Meeting July, no date, at St. Paul's, Strasburg. Fall Rally, September 18<sup>th</sup> at Sigel.

The March Flower committees will be Cindy Roley from Grace and Kenna Wirth from St. Paul's. Muriel thanked the retiring committees of Courtney Orman of Grace and Karen Kull of St. Paul's for flowers and our February hostess Sharon Rincker. The hostesses for March will be Cinda Roley and Vivian Granat.

Our verse for the day was "Through love serve one another." Gal. 5:13.

We closed with the Doxology, Lord's Prayer and Table Prayer. Birthday Blessings were sung to Judy Wittenberg, Norma Rose Huddleston, Tammy Sentel and Karen Kull.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, March 7th, 1:30 p.m. at St. Paul's Social Hall. Come and join our members and enjoy fellowship with us.

Vivian Granat, Secretary

## CRADLE ROLL

March 2024

Continuing **Twelve Steps for Parent in Pain**, by Lee Ezell, this month Steps Nine and Ten are shared giving two more coping strategies to help parents improve their parenting skills.

**Step Nine. Make amends to your children for the past through conversation, improved performance, and any restitution you may feel necessary.** During this process, it's important to remember not to overcompensate, which is always a temptation when we're really sorry for something we've done to a person we dearly love. As we make amends with our children, since we will be spending the rest of our lives with them, it is wise to focus on enjoying better tomorrows rather than mourning unhappy yesterdays.

**Step Ten. Keeping your past patterns in mind, stay on top of your behavior, and quickly deal with relapses into old, unhealthy habits.**

The older we get, the more entrenched our habits become. Nobody's perfect, and we're bound to backslide now and then as we try to form better relationships with our sons and daughters. Don't expect perfection of yourself, or of your children. On the other hand, don't hesitate to get back on track.

Taken from *Pills for Parents in Pain* by Lee Ezell, pp. 159-159.

JOIN US FOR  
*Easter*  
SUNDAY

*He is risen!*

MARCH 31, 2024

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**511 WALNUT STREET**  
**STRASBURG, IL 62465**

Communion Service

8:30 AM

Breakfast, served in the social hall

9:30 AM

Egg Hunt, ages 0-6th grade

10:00 AM

*All are welcome!*