



Praise & Patter – March 2021

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

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As I write this article, we are receiving another four or more inches snow. I guess it is hardly a surprise. After all, the days of February are waning and March is close at hand. It is Winter and the snow is beautiful, except for all of the shoveling. The truth is, we never really know how much snow we are going to have from year to year. Some years bring barely enough snow to measure, while in others the snow seems to be a regular occurrence.

As we navigate the Winter season and look forward to the warmer temperatures of Spring, we join Christians around the world in another journey. Since the mid-fourth century, Christians have observed a time of preparation before Easter. We call it the Season of Lent, that begins on Ash Wednesday and lasts for 40 days.

Lent is a time of simplicity and preparation. It is a time to “return to the Lord our God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.” During the forty days of Lent, some Christians practice fasting from (giving up) certain things and using the extra resources or time to focus on God. Doing so can be a very beneficial thing. Others prefer to add a new habit of prayer or service to their lives as a way to focus on God’s presence in their lives.

It is our custom to have additional gatherings for worship and prayer during the Lenten season. Because of COVID-19, we will not be gathering in person for mid-week this year. On Wednesday mornings, we will release a video recording of Holden Evening Prayer that includes a scripture reading and reflection from “Moments with the Savior” by Ken Gire. At 11:00 AM each Wednesday, an audio recording of the same service will be available via telephone for those who do not have computer or Internet access.

Our Holy Week services are as follows:

Maundy Thursday – 7:00 PM, one service in-person and online

Good Friday – 3:00 PM, one service in-person and online

Easter Sunday – 9:00 AM, one service in-person and online

On Sundays during Lent, our sermon series will be “Living as a Christian” – a focus on discipleship based upon “The Journey” by Billy Graham. Together we will consider the following: “Is your love for other believers growing? Is your faith in God a topic of conversation among other believers? Is God’s work your work? If you can answer “yes” to these questions, you are growing spiritually. If you answered “no”, your road to spiritual growth may be filled with obstacles. Just as our physical lives need nourishment, our spiritual lives need the nourishment provided by Scripture and our fellow believers. ‘Living as a Christian’ explores ways to become aware of God’s presence and direction in every step on your journey of life.”

I look forward to our journey to the cross, and I invite you to take these weeks to prepare your hearts and minds through prayer, study, and worship.

Pastor Lee

JOIN US FOR WORSHIP at 9:00 AM EACH SUNDAY!

Please visit our website – www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org. There is a link on the home page to “COVID-19 Resources.” There, you can find a copy of the “health information form” and our complete “Return to Worship” guidelines.

In-Person – Please make a reservation each week by Friday at 10:00 AM. You can call (301.791.1738) or email (info@stpaulsfunkstownmd.org). Also, remember to bring your completed health information form.

+ Masks must be worn at all times when in the building. If you can't wear a mask, please stay home and enjoy Facebook Live or join by conference call.

+ There will be no childcare.

Facebook Live – www.facebook.com/stpaulsfunkstown

Conference Call – Dial in number: 301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 581-113-3494#

Tithes and Offerings

Dear Jesus, allow us the grace to make the season of Lent an offering to you. Help us to repent and turn from our sin. Grant us humility to turn more faithfully toward you. Guide us to pick up our cross daily and follow where you lead. Inspire our heart to seek your will every day, as we place our hope and trust in Jesus. Amen.

THANK YOU for your faithful & generous giving, which helps us to share the good news of Jesus. Please visit our website www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org and click GIVE to learn about electronic giving options. You can also mail your offerings to the church or drop them off during office hours, which are 9:00 AM to 12:00 noon.

Offerings received in January \$25,419.89

Expenses paid in January \$22,574.50

Principal paid on debt: \$2,046.20

Faith Formation

Crossways Bible Study meets on Tuesdays at 10:00 AM -- in person and by telephone.

Our Daily Bread booklets for March, April, May are available for pick up.



Our prayers are with:

The family of **Karen Flohr**.

Prayer Ministry: Remember these brothers and sisters in Christ in your daily prayers:

March 7 John & Barbara Timm, Barbara Tingle; Anne Toms; Leslie, Linda, Sarah and Emily Tritsch; Donna Trovinger, Lorraine Troxell, Helen Troxell; and David & Jean Unger, Erica Unger, Jim & Donna Unger

March 14 Gladys Unger; Clay, Susan, Alexis & Zachary Unger; Gerald, Nina, Jonathan & Andrew Volz; Barry & Judy Warrenfeltz; Suzanne Watson;

March 21 Beverly Welch; Linda Welch; Margaret White; and Bonnie Jean White

March 28 Tammy Whorten; Frank Wiley, Linda Willock; Robert, Krista, Joshua, & Samantha Wilson; Brenda Wing; Nancy Wishard

March Birthdays

1	Rachel Smith Jennifer Fournier	14	Catherine Fox*	24	Sharon Poffenberger Patty Johnston
3	Kaitlyn Hollinger	15	Lewis Dellinger*	25	Connor Shank
9	Donna Trovinger*	16	Amanda Hollinger	26	Bill Morningstar* Clayton Unger
10	Tamara Ridenour	17	Andrew Reichard	28	Tom Renwick*
11	David Unger, Sr.* Margaret White*	20	Robert Moats, III	29	James Collins, II
13	Chase Jacobs Allison Reichard Stephanie Leonard	22	Andrew Volz Pastor Lee Brumback Eileen Renwick* Connie Hebb	30	Michelle Copenhauer
				31	Tracey Hammersla Amy Haught

***=80 years and over**

March Anniversaries

117 Lynn & Linda Spalding 20 Mike & Karen Pierce

Winter Cancellations

If it is necessary to cancel a Sunday worship service or any other church activity due to inclement weather, we will announce the cancellation on radio stations, WARK, WHAG, WJEJ, on television station WDVM, on our website and on the answering machine at the church office. While every effort will be made to provide as much advance notice as possible, decisions sometimes cannot be made until the last minute. During the week, if Washington County Schools dismiss early or are closed due to inclement weather, St. Paul's will also cancel activities on those days. Please always use your best judgment when determining if it is safe for you to travel to attend a scheduled event.

2021 Offering Envelopes

St. Paul's first started using an "envelope system" for weekly offerings in 1888. 2021 envelopes are available in Fellowship Hall. So that we can track our voting members, all confirmed members of St. Paul's receive an assigned envelope (couples receive one box of envelopes). Please pick up your box of 2021 PLEASE NOTE: It is very likely that your offering envelope number has changed for 2021. Please note the new envelope number when you pick up your offering envelopes.

Newsletter News

The deadline to receive information for the April newsletter is NOON on March 16th. Your meeting this deadline ensures we can publish the April Newsletter by the end of March.

Signup Charts: The Signup charts for 2021 Altar Flowers, Eternal Light and Communion Elements are posted on the bulletin board. Altar Flowers are \$60.00 for both vases or \$30.00 for one. Please indicate if you are purchasing one or both. The Eternal Light and Communion Elements are \$10.00 per week.

Daylight Savings Time Begins – March 14

Don't Forget: Daylight Savings Time begins on Saturday, March 13th. Set your clocks up one hour before going to bed and you'll wake up refreshed to worship at St. Paul's on Sunday, March 14th.

2021 LENTEN SCHEDULE

Our journey through the Season of Lent will look a little different. We pray that it will be a meaningful time to reflect upon the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, even as we navigate the continuing presence of COVID-19 in our lives. Our schedule is as follows:

- Maundy Thursday, April 1, one service at 7:00 PM (in-person and online)
- Good Friday, April 2, one service at 3:00 PM (in-person and online)
- Easter Sunday, April 4, one service at 9:00 AM (in-person and online)

Church Office Hours: Monday through Friday, 9:00 AM – 12:00 Noon

Church Secretary: Carol Ann Rossman

Pastor: Lee Brumback + 540.335.1710 + prlee@stpaulsfunkstownmd.org

Director of Music: Cara Price

Council President: Travis Fouche 301.730.8926