
Good News of St. Paul

St. Paul Lutheran Web Site: www.stpaulcastlerock.org

E-mail stpaulcr1@comcast.net

April 2021

Spread the Love and Message of Christ

New Birth In Christ...



We recently got a new puppy, a Great Pyrenees and shepherd mix. He is a bundle of fur. He is cuddly, smells like puppy, and really is good

natured. In short, this puppy has worked his way into our hearts quickly. My grandson, James, was visiting this Easter weekend and he was ready to take the new puppy home. James was trying to make us a deal so that he might be able to keep the puppy. No deal was accepted, and the puppy has stayed with us.

We are still trying to figure out the puppy's name and have been through several. We strongly considered Gabriel, then moved to Marley, and most recently Bailey. We'll see if Bailey sticks. There is nothing like a new life, a new birth, whether it is a puppy or a baby. There is such wide-eyed curiosity, amazement, and beauty present.

You have a new birth in Christ. And, as newly created child of God, you are deeply and dearly loved. God loved (and loves) you so much, God was willing to make the ultimate sacrifice for your salvation. God sacrificed himself. God's love is remarkable and largely incomprehensible. Yet, that is God's love.

And, God's love is not conditional. You can't make a deal with God in order to gain God's love or God's salvation. You simply receive it through faith in Christ, as gift. Way too easy! Maybe it is the ease that makes it challenging. We might think it is a deal too good to be true. You can't earn it. You can't do anything about it, simply respond by reoriented your life towards Love. As remarkable as it sounds, it is truth.

You have been reborn in Christ. Each day you are resurrected and given new life in Christ. Each day you are invited into God's presence and God calls you by the name, your new name, "beloved." And God declares simply "be-loved." It is God's gift!

-Pastor Norm

🎵 🎵 **MUSICIANS** - We are looking for a few musicians with a heart for worshiping God through music. What talents do you or your children/grandchildren have? We need people to play drums, guitar, violin, viola, etc. and enjoy collaborating musically. Contact Pastor Norm if you are interested.



April

1 Carol Foster	20 Heather Whittaker
3 Irina Anderson	21 Cassie Hubbard
4 Pr. Robert Ross	Aubrey Schaak
Debbie Krumpols	23 Heather Snow
Jackson Swim	24 Brad Knutson
6 Monte Hartshorn	Lukas Houser
Benjamin Ross	25 David Whittaker
8 Jackie Schwinn	Lane Traver
10 Deb Sinclair	26 Sherri Knutson
11 Dianna Watenpaugh	Dillion Ray
13 Heather Wilbur	27 Joyce LeMonds
14 Pat Dick	Karen Ashby
Bill White	29 Jeff Frohner
16 Dan Crisman	
17 Ariel Bryan	
Easton Ross	



April

1 Seth & Jill Heistand-Foster
12 Garrett & Addie Ashby
29 Dale & Glee Ann Erdelbrock - 60 years



WELCOME!



BABY CONGRATULATIONS

- Chloe Elisha Maple was born Fri., Feb. 26th to David & Sarah Maple, and big sister Abbie. Chloe weighed 8 lb. 1 oz. and was 21½" long.
- Mia Jean Simpson was born Wed., March 3rd to Robbie & Courtney Simpson. Mia weighed 7 lbs. and was 20 inches long. Ryan & Katrina Hinesley are the proud grandparent

Thank You To:



- Ron Blankenship and Jocelyn Pecher for sound/projection handling on Sunday mornings.
- Everyone who took part in the weekly Lenten services through song leading or reading the scriptures.
- Paul and Jackie Schwinn for decorating the sanctuary and Fireside Room for the season of Lent and Easter.



Healing power of Agape Love

What is agape love? It is love in the purest form coming from our heart and soul.

We are in the Easter season celebrating the Resurrection of Jesus Christ. Jesus lived out agape love by dying on the cross for the sins of the world.

So how does agape love heal? When we hug, cuddle and enjoy quality time with family, friends and pets, our brain releases oxytocin, also known as the love hormone. This hormone bonds you with others, protects you from the effects of stress and literally heals your heart. Yes, love always changes us. Agape love turns on the light and sees beyond exteriors. Every person, every animal comes from God. May the Lord make your love increase and overflow for each other.

To your health, K.C. Babcock, RN



Gayle Agren, a long time member of St. Paul,
passed away March 12, 2021.

Our deepest condolences to the family.

Blessed Be Her Memory

Remembering Members & Friends



Please remember these people with your prayers, phone calls, or cards.

All God's people including: Dani Foster, Tom Stanley, Kelly Galletti, Gary & Marnie, Nathan Victor, Brad Foster, Dean & Sherry Schwinn, Michelle Oswalt, Pr. Brian Pederson, Laurie Ross-Aristide, Vineta Thomsen, Mary Brown, Bruce Schumacher, Kelsey Buchanan, Stephanie Petkovich, Mary Mage, Don Miller, Darlene Jackson, Eric Smith, Jean Jones, Angie Manfredi, Angie Boudier, Crystal Hummel, Beth Hinesley, Al Black; Emma Agren, Harriet Shero **All Caregivers and Care receivers:** Joyce LeMonds, Vi Benham, Granville Oswalt; **Those serving in the Armed Forces:** Sam Gallow, Matthew Cogburn, Eddie Oswalt



New Council Executive Committee was voted in at the March 11th meeting as follows: **President** - Neil Agren, **Vice President** - Kevin Rahn, **Secretary** - Sandy Catt, **Treasurer** - Leann Beall, **Financial Secretary** - Heather Snow.

Liaison appointments for the following committees: **Worship** - Linda Solberg; **Property & Finance** - Jacki Whittaker and Joel Anderson; **Parish Education** - Jennifer Hummel; and **Fellowship** - Tiffany Seidl. **We thank everyone who has agreed to lead in these positions.**



COMMUNITY HOUSE MEALS

Servers are needed for April, May, July, and September.



God's Abundant Plate To-Go Meals

In April the Abundant Plate meals will be served on the 24th of April which is the 4th Saturday of the month. There will be a hot to-go meal to anyone who would like. Simply RSVP on St. Paul's Facebook page. Thanks to our dedicated crew: Neil & Amy Agren, Ryan & Katrina Hinesley, Katie Ogden, and Elena Boleyn-Ross. We are excited to see this ministry fit a need. Over 50 meals are served each month.



NEW PHONE DIRECTORY will be done within a few months. If you have any address, phone, or email updates, please let Geri know.



SOCIAL MEDIA ASSISTANT - we are In search of a techy young adult who would enjoy helping keep St. Paul's

overall social media presence up to date. (Facebook, web site., etc) You will be working with a small team. Please contact Sandy Catt if this is something that interests you.



Kitchen Mom

Looking for someone to fill the shoes our current Kitchen Mom - Janet Eiden, who is ready to pass the torch to someone new. The

job entails keeping the kitchen stocked with necessary supplies (coffee, creamer, napkins, etc) and helping keep the area neat and orderly.

Monthly Financial Report

February : \$ 14,181.00

March: \$ 12,959.00

Thank you for your continued faithfulness and support with your tithes.



St. PAUL GRADUATING SENIORS

If you are a graduating senior interested in a small scholarship, please contact the church office.

'Like' us on Facebook

If you haven't one so yet then please "like" our Facebook page. It will help in our distribution and analytics.

The Nearness of God

By Diana Rahn

My granddaughter Ava, 7 years old, was spending the day with me and as usual there were a lot of laughs. I love to laugh, and she definitely brings out the best in me. The silliness goes on and on! In the middle of our day she asked me a question very seriously, "Nanny, who is your best friend?" I gave it serious thought and could think of special people who have stuck with me through thick and thin. People I cannot imagine my life without, yet, in my heart I was searching for a "best friend." Who gets that title in my heart? I said to her, "Jesus." She said, "I know that Nanny, but who else?" I laughed with happiness because first of all, she knew it! Secondly, because Jesus was right there with us having fun and bringing all that joy and love he carries around and hands out to those who love him.

We don't need to make our relationship with God complicated. He provided everything for us to have a tender, loving relationship with him. How much love does God the Father have for us? Well, he loved you enough to send his Son Jesus to walk and teach you how to live. Jesus taught us how to live for the Father (John 14:31). Jesus did everything to please the Father. Jesus spoke to his disciples and told them, "If you really knew me, you would also know the Father as well." Jesus wanted them to see the Father through the very person he was. Then Jesus said something very interesting. "It is the Father, living in me, who is doing his work." When you know Jesus, understand Jesus, you also know and understand God the Father (John 14:1-14).

When Jesus was getting ready to approach the cross, he sat with his disciples and told them, "Do not let your hearts be troubled (John 14:1).

Right now, with everything going on in the world, how much peace is in these words? What Jesus was telling the twelve that day was meant just as much for us today. Jesus' next words are what God desires to hear from us, "Trust in God, trust also in me" (John 14:2). Trust, God longs to draw us near, but we must first trust him. Tell him you trust him to handle your burdens, to watch over your children, to keep you safe, to walk with you and guide you every day. God's love is everlasting to his people. His love abounds. Tell him you trust him (Jeremiah 31:3-4).

Jesus told his followers that day that he would be leaving them soon, but God would send someone else, a counselor, the Spirit of truth. He would come to live in their hearts and be with them always. You see, God provided a guide for us, the third person of God. The Holy Spirit comes to live with us and in us when we accept Jesus into our hearts. It is by the power of the Holy Spirit that the Father and Jesus come to live with us. This is how we are able to have a close relationship with God (John 14:15-31).

Comfort, that is what Jesus was doing that day to prepare the disciples for what was to come. Jesus wanted to please the Father in every way. Even to die on a cross to reconcile us to God. Jesus said, "Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. You are my friends" (John 15:13). You see, Jesus came to live in my heart when I was just a child. When I heard his story and what he did for me. I felt his gentleness, kindness, love and devotion to the Father and I cried because he died on that cross for me. I was only six years old and Jesus became my best friend.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>April 2021</h1>						
				1 <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	2 <i>Good Friday</i>	3
4 10:30 Worship <i>Easter Sunday</i>	5	6	7 7 a.m. Contemplative Pr.	8 7 a.m. Council Mtg.	9	10
11 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship (Facebook)	12	13	14 7 am Cont. Prayer 6:30 p.m. Youth Gr 7 p.m. Holy Spirit St	15	16	17
18 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship (Facebook) Baptism	19	20	21 7 am Cont. Prayer 7 p.m. Book of Books Study	22 7 p.m. Thirsty Third Thursday	23	24 5-6 p.m. God's Abundant Plate (to-go meals)
25 9:30 a.m. Coffee Hour 10:30 a.m. Worship (Facebook)	26	27	28 7 am Cont. Prayer 6:30 p.m. Youth Gr	29	30	