



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

24 East Baltimore Street | PO Box 148 | Funkstown, Maryland 21734
301.791.1738 | www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org

Praise & Patter – April 2022

As we continue our journey through the Season of Lent, we are considering the Prayers of the Passion on Sunday mornings. Each week we focus on prayers offered up, either by Jesus or to him, as he made his fateful way to the cross ... and beyond. Even two thousand years later, these prayers speak to us. On Wednesday evenings, we are using the beautiful Holden Evening Prayer as our liturgy. Each service also includes a scripture and reflection upon some of the “I AM” statements of Jesus.

Too often in this life, we tend to focus on what we want instead of what we need. What we really need is a strong spiritual foundation for our lives. When we build upon this foundation upon Jesus and who he is, everything else will be more clear. The Season of Lent is a good time for us to turn our hearts to God in prayer and self sacrifice. Some people “give up” things during Lent and others “add” a discipline to their lives. In both cases, the point is to remind us of Jesus and his sacrifice on our behalf. These practices remind us of Jesus time in the desert, tempted by Satan, and of his suffering and death on the cross.

Our spiritual needs are fulfilled through God when we accept the unconditional love he provides for us. On our own, we do not possess a full understanding of the benefits of God's redeeming love. We fall short, and need to turn to God in confidence, with an open heart to confess our sin and seek his forgiveness. When we turn to God with humble and sorrowful hearts, we can experience God's grace and unconditional love. Then, everything becomes new again. We gain a new perspective on life. And, we can strive to be ambassadors for God, faithful to the One who gave his only Son to wash away our sins.

As we slowly navigate out of a two year pandemic, the council takes time during its monthly meeting to discuss and evaluate our life together as a community. At our last meeting, we decided to implement the following changes to worship as we move forward.

First, we will begin the Sharing of the Peace on a limited basis. We will provide a brief pause between the Confession and Gathering Hymn to greet our neighbors with a handshake, a high five, or a wave from wherever we are in the room. We are not quite ready or comfortable with providing an extended time of moving around the room to greet one another. Maybe that will come in the near future. I do encourage you to share longer greetings and conversations before and after worship, or during the fellowship hour.

Second, we will once again offer Holy Communion around the table on the First Sunday of each month beginning in April. For those who would like to spend a little extra time in prayer during communion, you can receive the bread from the pastor and proceed to the rail around the table. An assistant will be there to fill your cup with wine. You are welcome to spend as much time at the rail as you like before returning to your seat by the side aisle. For now, this will only be offered on the first Sunday each month.

Third, we will bring back the tradition of having a council member serve the wine during the distribution of communion. At this time we will continue to serve one side at a time, but may serve on two sides if our in person attendance continues to grow.

Fourth, we appreciate the faithful service of the Assisting Ministers. They will continue to read the scripture and prayers. On the first Sunday of each month, the Assisting Minister will also distribute the wine around the table.

If you haven't already joined us for the Lenten journey, its not too late. Also, please make plans to be a part of worship during Holy Week and Easter. The journey from Palm Sunday to Maundy Thursday to Good Friday to Easter Sunday is powerful. We have so much to be thankful for, and making the journey to the cross and resurrection is a wonderful reminder of God's unconditional love for all of us. Jesus gave his life for our sake and he sends us forth as ambassadors of the good news in daily life so that others can share in his life. *Pastor Lee*

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

In-Person – We understand that the comfort levels of each family may be different. Please keep this in mind as you enter the building and respect the decisions of others regarding masks and social distancing.

Live Stream – www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org

Facebook Live – www.facebook.com/stpaulsfunkstown

Telephone –978-990-5000, Access Code: 811703#

Tithes and Offerings

Father, we are your servants. In you, we live and move and have our being. We offer our thanksgiving and call upon your name. We love you, Lord, for you hear us and respond in graciousness and compassion and righteousness. Receive our tithes and offerings, we pray. Multiply them so that your work and word can go forth in this world. Amen.

THANK YOU for your faithful and 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 pm.

February Receipts \$ 22,934.73

February Expenses \$ 19,959.26

Noisy Offering is collected on the second Sunday of each month. Our Noisy Offering for April will go to Ma-Lu-Ridge.

Second Mile offering for April will go to Habitat for Humanity.

Lenten Offerings will go to Lutheran World Relief Ukraine Relief efforts.

Bible Study is held on Tuesday mornings at 10:00 am. Everyone is invited! Please come as you are able (weekly attendance is wonderful but not required).

Prayer Ministry

Our prayers are with Tracey Hammersla on the death of her father Marvin “Buck” Myers.

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

April 3	Jeff, Sharon, Julie and Chloe Poffenberger, Jane Potts, Roger Powers, Nelda Prather, James and Bradley Prather, Brianna Price, Jackson Price, Harriet Pryor, Chris, Stacey, Landen and Rylei Purnell, Ashley Reedy, Doris Reel
April 10	Andrew, Whitney, Allison, Carys, Elliott Reichard, Steve and Debbie Reichard, Martin, Donna, Matthew and Lacey Reichert, Bill Renner, Patrick Renner, Amy Renner, Tom and Eileen Renwick, Martin, Lois and Ashley Richard, Jerry and Doris Richardson
April 17	Steven Richardson, Tamara Ridenour, Susan Riley, Jill, Kaitlyn and Matthew Ritter, Jim, Alice, Brandon and Jenna Roberts, Mayetta Roby, Richard Roby, Robert and Kimberly Rodgers, Aaron Rodgers, Andrew, Natasha and Brantley Rodgers, Marie Royce
April 24	Donna and Valerie Schmidt, Eric, Stephanie and Douglas Schminkey, Robin Schneider, Marsha, Brody, Samantha Secrest, Peg Shank, Stephanie, Connor and Cara Shank, Cory Shank, Tucker, Amanda, Timmy and Brandon Shaw, Dick Shipley

Newsletter News The deadline to receive information for the May newsletter is NOON on April 19, so we can publish it by the end of April.

Night Out will be held on Tuesday **April 19**, at Funkstown Legion Dixon-Troxell Post 211 at 6:00 pm. Come and have a relaxing, casual dinner and fellowship with your fellow disciples. Remember, all men and women of the congregation (and your friends) are invited to participate.

April Birthdays

3	Andrew Wolford	12	Bill Renner* Teresa Jacobs	20	Spencer Nally
4	Carys Reichard Jennifer Smith Ravenna Kline*	13	Janet Moats Scott Hebb	21	Rose Cline
5	Michele Blash Ed Clopper	13	Richard Nigh *	22	Cameron Jacobs
11	Jeanne Doney Katlyn Ritter	18	Karen Lighter	24	James Prather
				25	Harold James*
				30	Jackie Nally

*=80 years and over

April Anniversaries

7	Travis & Kelly Kable	19	Alex & Courtney Macquire	19	Dave & Jean Unger
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2022 Offering Envelopes are available in the Fellowship Hall.

2022 Lent Schedule

Wednesdays in Lent – Holden Evening Prayer at 7:00 pm (in-person and online)

Maundy Thursday, April 14 at 7:00 pm (in-person and online)

Good Friday, April 15 at 3:00 pm (in-person and online)

Easter Sunday, April 17 at 9:00 am (in-person and online)

Community Spring Fling and Easter Egg Hunt FREE TO THE COMMUNITY April 16, 2022 | 10:00am-Noon Funkstown Community Park Pavilion #4. There will be Hotdogs and Chips available to children, games, prizes, Live DJ, Face Painting, Photos with the Easter Bunny and so much more!

Celebrate 250 Years of St. Paul's With Us! St. Paul's Lutheran Church is celebrating 250 Years of being Faithful Disciples, Serving in Christ's Name! Join us on Sunday May 1st at 9:00 am for a special service in recognition of our 250th anniversary. You will be receiving a formal announcement by U.S Mail as well as being sent via email, our website, social media, and the Praise & Patter. Following worship there will be a catered lunch to include: Oven Roasted Turkey, Baked Ham, Mixed Vegetables, Whipped Potatoes, Assorted Dinner Rolls, Dessert, and Hot/Cold Beverages. We ask that you please return your **RSVP** by **EASTER SUNDAY, April 17, 2022**. There will be a return mail postcard with your formal announcement you can return, you can drop it in the drop box at church or RSVP online at www.stpaulsfunkstownmd.org.

10th Annual HARC Hike for Hunger & Hope, June 4th (Challenge Hike June 11) The HARC Hike for Hunger & Hope is HARC's biggest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds will benefit HARC programs, with a significant portion going to **Micah's Backpack**, which provides nutritious food to hungry children every weekend of the school year in Washington County. This year we celebrate the 10th anniversary of the HARC Hike along with Learn more at <https://harccoalition.org/hike/> or contact our Hike Team leaders:

Rev. Ed Poling - elpoling1@gmail.com / 301-331-9388

Kathy Powderly - director@harccoalition.org / 301-766-9005

Vacation Bible School: Vacation Bible School is coming back to St. Paul's! We are seeking volunteers in many different roles. If you are interested in signing up to volunteer your time please contact Connor Shank at cshank@stpaulsfunkstownmd.org or use the sign up sheet in the fellowship hall. Vacation Bible School June 20-24 5:30-8:30pm

Up Coming Events

April 5, 12, 19, 26, – Crossways Bible Study at 10:00 am

April 10 – Noisy Offering

April 12 – Council Meeting at 7:00 pm

April 14 – Maundy Thursday Service at 7:00 pm (in-person & online)

April 15 – Good Friday Service at 3:00 pm (in-person& online)

April 16 – Community Spring Fling

April 19 – Night Out 6:00 pm at Funkstown Legion Dixon-Troxell Post 211

Church Office Hours

Church Secretary

Pastor

Director of Music

Council President

Monday through Friday, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Carol Ann Rossman | office@stpaulsfunkstownmd.org

Lee Brumback | 540-335-1710 | prlee@stpaulsfunkstownmd.org

Cara Price

Connor Shank | 240-313-5107