

Crosstalk

March 2024 Duties

Ushers (should arrive by 9:15):

Brent Gottfried Jim Gatchell
Rick Kraus Gary Ault

Greeters:

Bruce & Sue Decker (west)

Assisting Ministers:

3 – Sheryl Clinger
10 – Abbi Ault
17 – Ben Ault
24 – Jim Ruhlen
28 (Maundy Thursday) – Matt Schultz
31 (7am) – June Eier
31 (10am) – Robbi Sigler

Acolytes:

3 – Harper Fahle & Ian Seal
10 – Caroline Baker & Adrianna Ray
17 – Brody Mays & Robert Roszman
24 – Erica Ruhlen & Adrianna Ray
28 (Maundy Thursday) – Abbi Ault & Drew Leightey
31 (7am) – Caroline Baker & Ian Seal
31 (10am) – Jocelyn Leightey & Brody Mays

Readers:

3 – Jane Bricely
10 – Lauren Baker
17 – Marcia Geary
24 – Courtney Thiel and others tbd
28 (Maundy Thursday) – Russ Lee
31 (7am) – Becky Vaughn
31 (10am) – Sally Stansbery

Communion Assistants:

David & Rosemary Craig
Emily & Erica Ruhlen on the 10th

Bread Baker: Michelle Halter

Host in The Gathering Place:

3 – Rick & Rinda Kraus 10 – Bill & Jane Bricely
17 – Kelly Mays 24 – Bill & Jane Bricely
31 – Michelle Ohler

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pastorbarryhalter@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Beth Collins
419-294-8326

bjcollins8326@gmail.com

Office Hours:

Closed Monday & Wednesday
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday:
8am-12pm, 1-5pm

Website:

www.stpaulupper.org

2024 Council Members:

Jacob Badenhop 419-572-9964
Chad Baker 614-309-4104
Katie Clark 419-310-9889
BJ Ford 419-619-2166
Jean Hollanshead 419-310-0447
Rick Kraus 419-310-8395
Tim Ray 419-310-1313
Matt Schultz 419-552-4465
Melissa Summit 419-310-2788



Tools for the Kingdom

Prior to becoming a Pastor, I taught Health and Physical Education for fifteen years. During that time, I also coached basketball and football teams.

Coaching put me in contact with other coaches. A

common phrase I would hear coaches tell their athletes was, “keep putting tools in your toolbox.” In other words, keep developing the athletic skills or techniques that will help you be successful in competition. Every profession relies on having the right tools or equipment to get the job done right and efficiently. Can you imagine your doctor showing up with just a roll of duct tape, or your plumber showing up with only a box of Kleenexes? Thankfully, they do not. Thankfully, they use the right tools and have had the training to know how to use them so they can do their job safely and effectively.

God has given us a task. We call it our mission. How we go about participating in God’s mission depends on the tools we have in our toolbox. Congregations and individuals within the congregation have a unique set of tools to work with. Using those tools we serve others, we teach the Gospel, we encourage each other, we give to those in need, and we provide leadership, show love, mercy, and grace. And like any other career, we find ourselves needing to continue to develop our skills, to “add more tools to the toolbox.”

Use the skills and talents God has given you to share God’s love with the world you meet every day. Continue to develop your skills. Being called one of God’s beloved children is far bigger than a title; it is a call to action. It is a call to mission. God is changing the world every day. Every day the Kingdom of God becomes more visible. We, God’s beloved children have been given the gift of participation in its continued unveiling. Go, share the Good News using the tools you have developed. Participate in the life giving, world changing mission of God.

God’s Peace,
Pastor Barry

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
M	A	R	C	H	1 5pm WELCA Board meeting	2
3 8am Council 9:15am Choir 9am Adult SS 10am Worship 11am Choir 11:20am E&S 5-8pm 4H meeting	4 8:30am Pinning & Knotting	5 6:30pm CS Committee meeting	6 8am-12:45pm WC 12pm LL 12-2pm CFC accept donations 6:15pm Lenten Supper 7pm Lenten worship	7 1-3pm CFC distribution 6:30pm Dartball banquet @ John Stewart	8 1:15-2:15pm WC	9 10am-1pm FH in use
10 8:30am 4 S's 9am Adult SS 10am Worship 11am Choir 11am Mission Sunday & potluck	11 8:30am Pinning & Knotting	12 5:30pm CS 6:30pm BB 7pm AB	13 8am-12:45pm WC 9:30am Ruth/Naomi 12pm LL 12-2pm CFC accept donations 6:15pm Lenten Supper 7pm Lenten worship	14 1-3pm CFC distribution 7pm Martha Circle	15 1:15-2:15pm WC	16 10am-noon CFC distribution 10am-noon Free Community Meal 1pm Set up for pinewood derby
17 9am Adult SS 9:15am Choir 10am Worship 11am Choir 12-4pm Pinewood Derby	18 8:30am Pinning & knotting	19 6:30pm CS 6:30pm BB 7pm AB	20 8am-12:45pm WC 12pm LL 12-2pm CFC accept donations 6:15pm Lenten Supper 7pm Lenten worship	21 1-3pm CFC distribution	22 1:15-2:15pm WC	23
24 9am Adult SS 10am Worship 11am Choir	25 8:30am Pinning & knotting	26 5:30pm CS 6:30pm BB 7pm AB	27 8am-12:45pm WC 12-2pm CFC accept donations	28 1-3pm CFC distribution 8pm Maundy Thursday worship	29 8pm Good Friday worship	30 10am Community Easter Egg Hunt
31 7am Sunrise Service 8-9:15am breakfast 9am Adult SS 10am Worship		SS = Sunday School WC = Wyandot Cares E&S = Evangelism & Stewardship	CS = Cub Scouts BB = Beginning bells FH = Fellowship Hall	AB = Advanced Bells CFC = Christian Food Center LL = Lenten Luncheon		



- 1 – Denise Orwick
- 4 – Stacy Clark
- 5 – Jessica Stansbery
- 8 – Emilia Craig
- 8 – Greta Reis
- 14 – Chad Baker
- 14 – Russ Lee
- 20 – Jeff Clark
- 21 – Dean Leonard
- 21 – Ene Leonard
- 22 – Charlotte Trautwein
- 24 – Teresa Shaffer
- 27 – Connie Wall
- 28 – Joe Stansbery
- 30 – Vernon Koehler *Happy 92nd!!!*
- 31 – Jacob Swinehart



- 5th – Tim & Ashley Cipriany (13th)
- 10 – Jim & Dorothy Leslie (67th)
- 14 – Scott & Salesa Ogg (9th)
- 20 – Dave & Janis Eippert (64th)



We are collecting
PAPER TOWELS
for the Christian Food Center this month.
Please bring your donations forward
during the offering.
Thanks for your help!



Daylight Saving Time Starts

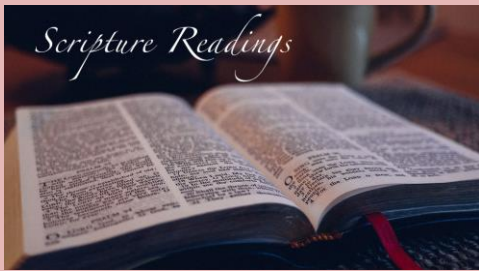
March 10, 2024

Remember to set your clocks **ahead** one hour Saturday night or Sunday morning the weekend of March 11.

We're still collecting...



These must state "Manufacturer's Coupon" on them. No store coupons, internet coupons, or restaurant coupons can be used. We can send only coupons that are not expired more than 3 months. Please clip them and sort them into 4 categories: Food, Non-food, Baby, and Pet. There are collection containers at the crosswalk or you can drop them off at the office. These are used in overseas military commissaries. Thanks in advance!!!



March 3

Exodus 20:1-17
Psalm 19
1 Corinthians 1:18-25
John 2:13-22

March 10

Numbers 21:4-9
Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22
Ephesians 2:1-10
John 3:14-21

March 17

Jeremiah 31:31-34
Psalm 51:1-12 or Psalm 119:9-16
Hebrews 5:5-10
John 12:20-33

March 24 (Palm Sunday)

Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 31:9-16
Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 14:1—15:47 or Mark 15:1-47

March 28 (Maundy Thursday)

Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14
Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19
1 Corinthians 11:23-26
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

March 29 (Good Friday)

Isaiah 52:13—53:12
Psalm 22
Hebrews 10:16-25 or
Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9
John 18:1—19:42

March 31 (Easter Day)

Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 20:1-18



March's Mission Outreach budgeted dollars will go to

**LUKE SWAVEL MEMORIAL
SCHOLARSHIP.**

We encourage you to join us in giving directly throughout this month if you feel so moved. The mailing address is:
18270 TWP HWY 125
Harpster, OH 43323

Women of the
ELCA

Ruth/Naomi Circle
will meet **Wednesday,**
March 13th
at **9:30am** in
The Gathering Place.

Martha Circle
will meet **Thursday, March 14th**
at **7pm** in the
Adult Sunday School room which is
beside the kitchen in the lower level
of the church.
All are welcome!



Community Lenten Luncheon Schedule

It is time for a change! After 50+ years, there will no longer be separate women's and men's luncheons. They will be combined and held at St. Paul from noon until 1pm on Wednesdays. The other change is that we are moving to a free will donation instead of a set lunch price.

March 6

Host - Trinity Evangelical

Menu - soup & salad

Speaker - Steve Sturgeon

March 13

Hostess - John Steward Methodist

Menu - chicken & noodles

Speaker - Jan Stoneburner

March 20

Host - St. Paul & First Lutheran

Menu - chicken casserole

Speaker - David & Laura Bacon

***PLEASE NOTE: IF NO SCHOOL - NO LENTEN
LUNCHEON***

Join us for

The 4 S's

(Second Sunday Social Stint)

When: Second Sunday of each month

Where: Youth Room on the 3rd floor

Time: 8:30-9:30am

Why: For faith, fun, & fellowship

Who: all youth in grades 6-12



Our journey continues with midweek services each Wednesday during Lent. We will focus on the spiritual practice of lament. Our midweek gatherings begin with a light meal at 6:15PM followed by service at 7PM. If you would like to volunteer to provide a light meal for a Lenten midweek service, please let us know. A sign-up sheet is at the crosswalk.

During our Lenten journey you will also have the opportunity each Sunday and Wednesday to participate in our Lenten project. A basket with broken tile pieces will be available for you to write a lament or prayer. These will be anonymous and can be brought forward during communion on Sundays and during the reflection time on Wednesdays. The tiles will then be affixed to a cross at the front of the sanctuary. We hope you will join us.



Friends in Faith kids' choir ALWAYS sing or play bells on the 2nd Sunday of the month. Please have them at church by 9:40 to go over the songs! Thanks!



Friends in Faith Choir



Easter flower orders will be a bit different this year because of a quick deadline. We will have 13 hyacinths, 10 lilies, and 12 tulips available for you to purchase. The order forms will be available beginning Sunday, March 10th. The cost will be \$14 each. Thanks for your understanding!

MISSION SUNDAY

MARCH 10th



**We need candy please!!!
As always, it needs to be
individually wrapped and able to
fit inside a plastic Easter Egg.
We will be stuffing the eggs on
Sunday, March 10th after church.
A potluck will also take place.
Meat, drinks, and table service will
be provided. Please bring a side
dish or dessert to share.
A "Finding Jesus" outreach project
is also being planned and a bit of
work will need to be done for that
as well. So please plan to stay
and help and eat!**



AFTER CHURCH

POTLUCK



Sunday, March 24th is Palm Sunday! We are once again asking our kids to help with this service by processing in with palms during the opening hymn. Please have them in The Gathering Place by 9:45 to get lined up. We would like kids of all ages to participate and hope to have a long parade!



Easter Egg Hunt

We are once again hosting an Easter Egg hunt for kids up to the 5th grade on Saturday, March 30th beginning at 10am. There will be 3 age groups with 3 grand prizes per group and several smaller prizes in each group.

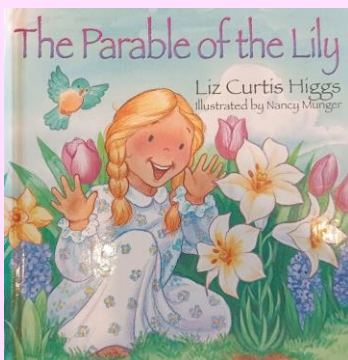
It will be held rain or shine!

Bring your kids & grandkids for this fun event!!! There will be a place for you to take pictures with the Easter Bunny!

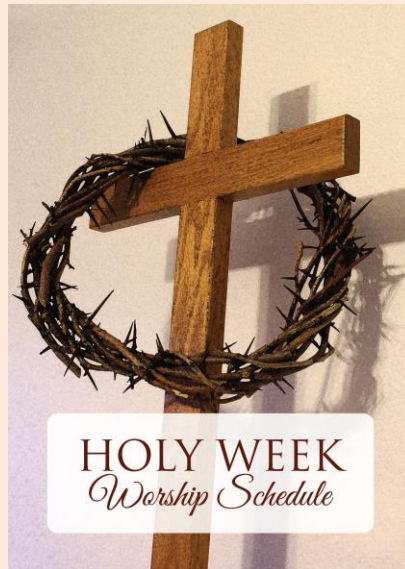


We need people to help "hide" the eggs on Saturday, March 30th at 9am.

There is a sign-up sheet at the crosswalk. Thanks in advance!!!



The Jr. Church lily project continues based on the book, "The Parable of the Lily". The kids have been watering their lily bulb each week anticipating the day it pops out of the soil. If your child has not yet planted one, we have extras so they can join in the fun as they continue their faith journey.



-Maundy Thursday-
8pm in the front part of the sanctuary

This evening marks the end of our Lenten observance as we gather with Christians around the world to celebrate the Three Days of Jesus' death and resurrection. On Maundy Thursday we remember how Jesus celebrated his last meal with his disciples. We also focus on his commandment (mandate=maundy) to love others as he loved us. In humble service to his disciples, he washed their feet. We will offer foot washing as well, to remember the importance of humble service to others.

-Good Friday-
8pm in The Family Space

Life and death stand side by side as we enter into Good Friday. In John's passion account, Jesus reveals the power and glory of God, even as he is put on trial and sentenced to death. Standing with the disciples at the foot of the cross, we pray for the whole world in the ancient bidding prayer, as Christ's death offers life to all. We gather in solemn devotion, but always with the promise that the tree around which we assemble is indeed a tree of life. We depart silently.

-Easter Sunday-
7am Sunrise Service
10am Easter Sunday Service

"The last enemy to be destroyed is death," Paul writes. Today Christ is risen, and we gather together with astonishment and joy. Christ is risen, and we have been set free from the bonds of death. Christ is risen, and we are forgiven. Christ is risen, and with the women at the tomb and Peter, we are amazed. Let us rejoice: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!