

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Maryville, TN

THE GOOD NEWS

March 2017 Edition



Worship Times

Sunday Morning

8:00 am & 10:30 am

Sunday School

9:15am

Contact Us

Pastor: *The Rev. Rick Ohsiek*

Phone: 865-982-4285

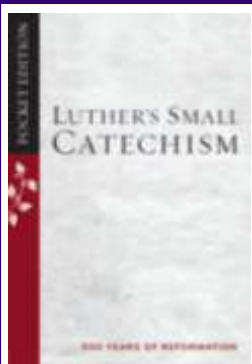
Fax: 865-977-8070

Email: splchurch@bellsouth.net

Web: www.stpaulmaryville.org

Church Office Hours:

Mon-Thurs 8:30am-5:00pm



*With Awe and Love:
A Midweek Service
Based on Luther's
Small Catechism*

Read more on page
four.

Mid-week Lenten Reflection

Wednesdays;
March 8th - April 5th

Noon & 6:30pm

PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

A Message from Pastor Rick:

“This is Most Certainly True”

If you grew up in the Lutheran church, you probably know that phrase very well. It is an often repeated phrase from *Luther's Small Catechism*. Many of us had to memorize part or all of it as we were going through confirmation/catechism classes when we were in middle school. The sad thing is that for hundreds of years we have been using the Small Catechism all wrong.

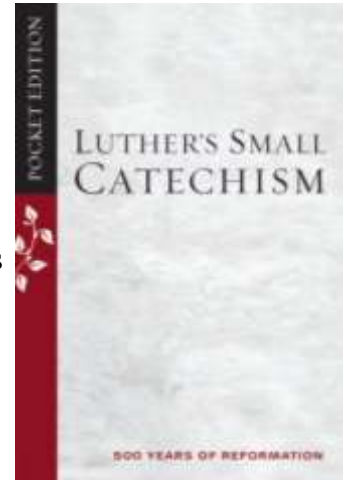
Martin Luther published this wonderful book in 1529 in order to help families teach the faith in the home. It includes teachings on The 10 Commandments, The Apostles' Creed, The Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and Holy Communion. It was written in a form so that parents could answer their children's questions about matters of faith. Unfortunately, instead of answering our child's "Was ist Das?" (What is this?); we have forced our children to answer these important questions without having the parents take an active part in the learning process. This backwards method has caused us to look at the *Small Catechism* as a burden rather than the gift Luther intended it to be.

Whether you grew up in the Lutheran church or not, during this 500th anniversary year of the Reformation we want to give you the opportunity to open this gift again or for the first time. On February 26, we will be providing you with copies of *Free Indeed*, a devotion book for Lent centered on the catechism. On Ash Wednesday, we will be giving each family a copy of *Luther's Small Catechism* for you to read now and hopefully in the future. Additionally, our Lenten midweek worship services will focus on the catechism through the use of Word, music, and art.

For those of you who like to read using your smart phone or tablet, you can get a free download of the catechism (or \$2 more for the study version) from you app store by searching for *Luther's Small Catechism*.

My hope is for all us to take advantage of this opportunity to look at the basics of our faith. Even though it was written almost 500 years ago; Luther's words about how God relates to us, and we to the world ring just as true now as they did then. Please take the time to read this for yourself and with your family.

Peace,
Pastor Rick



The St. Paul Church Council will meet monthly on the third Monday ~ 7:30pm

Kara Birdwell - President

karabirdwell@hotmail.com

Rick Anger – Vice President

angerrick@gmail.com

Shari Martin – Council Secretary

sgmartin1114@yahoo.com

Ed Martin – Treasurer - edmartin.splt@outlook.com

Greg Caldwell - gregc@whs-pi.com

Jan Hanes - jehanes@bellsouth.net

Herb Perry - hpcp2@tds.net



Church Council

Beth Drane - Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com

JB Johnson - jbarcus@charter.net

Susan Ward - smw030364@aol.com

PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL



God's work.
Our hands.

A Message From the Council President

Friends of St. Paul, The 500 year anniversary of the Reformation is fast approaching. I had the opportunity to attend the ELCA Network conference for Youth and Family Ministry in Kentucky last month,

and the reformation anniversary was a hot topic. The weekend was jam packed with workshops on teaching the good news to our youth and families and motivating general session speakers from all different walks of life. It is amazing to see how the church has changed in the last 500 years.

As we meet this 500 year milestone, lets put "God's work, Our hands" to use this year and make a difference in this community!

Yours in Christ, Kara Birdwell

THRIVENT NEWS

Thrivent Choice Program: Giving back has always been important to Thrivent and our members, and the Thrivent Choice® program provides eligible participants the opportunity to recommend where to distribute some of Thrivent's charitable outreach funds. Encouraging eligible benefit members to direct Choice Dollars® is a great way to make a difference in your church!



Be sure and obligate your Choice Dollars by March 31, 2017!

Two easy options for directing Choice Dollars:

Online: www.Thrivent.com/thriventchoice or Phone: 800-847-4836 and say "Thrivent Choice" at the prompt.

Thrivent has informed us that our Chapter here at St Paul Lutheran Church will be closing on March 31, 2017. Beginning on April 1, 2017, members in our area will become a part of a Thrivent Member Network.

Thrivent Member Network: In this Thrivent Member Network; there will be a regional board of three to nine members who will provide governance, accountability, strategic insight, and monitoring of operations and initiatives to help Thrivent achieve its mission in the region. We've transitioned other regions from chapters to a Thrivent Member Network and the response from members has been overwhelmingly positive.

We've also made it easier for you to make a difference in your community through the Thrivent Action Team program. All members can volunteer to lead project teams to support causes they care about through fundraisers, service activities, or educational events. You will also continue to have the opportunity to participate in Thrivent Builds with Habitat for Humanity, direct Thrivent Choice dollars, and attend financial workshops and other events within your region. To learn more about these programs and all the benefits of membership, visit Thrivent.com.

Thrivent Action Team: With this volunteer program, it is now easier for you to take action on causes you are passionate about. Bringing a team together is the key! Apply online for an Action Team to support needy individuals or your favorite non-profit organizations in our community. Each benefit member may apply for two activities each year. You can become an associate members (for \$19.95 a year) which then you could apply for one. Please consider forming a Thrivent Action Team this year.

Getting started is easy:

- 1) Identify an unmet need in your community that you are passionate about. Your project should bring people together for a one-time fundraiser, service activity or educational event that can be completed within 90 days.
- 2) As a team leader, you will invite your friends, family and even community members to help.
- 3) Apply online at Thrivent.com/actionteam.
- 4) Once your idea is approved, watch your mail for the Thrivent Action Kit to arrive. It comes complete with promotional signage, T-shirts and other resources to make your project a success. It even comes with a Community Impact Card with \$250 in seed money to help cover some of the project costs like promotional, material and rental expenses.
- 5) Once the project is completed, a report is submitted on-line, giving an account of the success of the project, number of volunteers and volunteer hours.

For more information visit Thrivent.com/actionteam or ask one of our Chapter leaders or a representative from the Thrivent Member Connection Center at 800-847-4836 and say "Fraternal" when prompted.

Any questions please see or contact Jan Hanes or Warren Bielenberg.

Mid-week Lenten Reflection

Wednesdays; March 8th - April 5th

Noon & 6:30pm

With Awe and Love: A Midweek Service Based on Luther's Small Catechism

The year 2017 marks the international observance of the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. In honor of that anniversary, this midweek Lenten series is built around Luther's Small Catechism.

The Small Catechism was designed as a teaching tool of the faith, not just within the church but in the home. Luther intended for the home to be the place where faith was first shared and taught. To that end he created the Small Catechism: a simple explanation of the Ten Commandments, the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, and the Sacraments. He included basic prayers for morning and evening, and suggested ways to worship, praise, and revere God during each part of our day.

This series uses scripture readings from the daily lectionary (usually those appointed for the Wednesdays of each week in Lent) or passages referred to in the Small Catechism itself. The first week of this series sets the stage with the handing down of the Ten Commandments in Exodus. The following weeks look at each major section of the Small Catechism in turn:

the Creed, the Lord's Prayer, Baptism, and Holy Communion. Studying the Small Catechism offers a way of growing closer to God by thinking on God's word and the basics of our faith.

Week of Lent 1 - Ten Commandments

In Exodus God gives Moses the Law so that the people of Israel would know how to fulfill their part of God's covenant as God's people.

Week of Lent 2 - Creed

How do we express belief? How do we share our faith? The Creed, crafted in the early days of the church, gives us a simple but firm foundation for sharing and professing.

Week of Lent 3 - Lord's Prayer

Lent and Lenten worship call us to repent, to make a new beginning. One of the best ways to begin again with God is through conversation, also known as prayer. And what better prayer than the one that Jesus taught us?

Week of Lent 4 - Baptism

Dying to our old, sinful self in baptism, we rise from the waters as beloved children of God. We are walking wet throughout the forty days of Lent, reminded daily that we are dead to sin.

Week of Lent 5 - Holy Communion

As we approach Holy Week, we remember Jesus' sacrifice for us. We gather around the table to remind ourselves and one another of that sacrifice and how it shapes our lives.

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Handbell Workshop Remembered...

From Pastor Tim Canniff-Kuhn's Homily on Sunday, "*Neither do people pour new wine into old wineskins...*" – Matthew 9:17 that St. Paul Bell Choir became the new wineskins into which God poured His Spirit.

Since the moment that we arrived at Lutheridge and checked into our rooms, God had already started pouring out His Holy Spirit. To say that we hit the ground running would be an understatement. It was a very busy day from leaving in a caravan from St. Paul's parking lot at 11:00AM, stopping at Cracker Barrel in Newport for lunch, arriving at Lutheridge at 3:00PM and checking into our rooms on Friday, February 19. We already had a jam-packed day, and we still had to unpack the bells and set up for our rehearsals. That fast pace did not stop there as our first rehearsal began that night promptly at 7:00PM and lasted until 9:00PM. As the choir director, I am extremely proud

WORSHIP

Merl Krull - Coordinator

of our bell choir; they came with an open mind and a willing spirit to learn. To say that Sandra Eithun the Intermediate group instructor was a blessing to our group, would again, be an understatement. Sandra is a gifted musician from Wisconsin and an equally gifted instructor with the patience of Job. She has arranged several pieces, some of which we used this weekend. I would like to say we mastered this on the first or second practice session, however like Pastor Tim's homily, it took 500-years for the Reformation but, by the end of the weekend, we had the confidence to know we can achieve anything. After all of the rehearsals, it was time for each group to showcase their achievements to one another through a concert. Music greatly enhances the worship service, and we were reminded of that as we listened to the Advanced group play their concert for us on Sunday. One could feel the Holy Spirit pouring out among us as we watched and listened to the gifted bell ringers from various churches and their conductor – Jason Krug. When it came time for the Intermediate group to present our concert for the Advanced group, instead of being dejected after listening to such wonderful musicians and pieces, we were determined. Even though we made a few mistakes along the way, we plugged right along until we finished each piece and took our final bow. At that point, there was a collective sigh-of-relief and a sense of true achievement. Through all the rigorous training/rehearsal and fellowship, one thing was certain; God did create new wineskins at St. Paul's to pour His Spirit into...the experience and knowledge from this workshop we humbly bring home with us. We want to thank you, the congregation of St. Paul Lutheran Church, for your love and support. It is with you in mind that the Bell Choir strives to be better, so that through our music, you can feel the Holy Spirit pouring out into your hearts as well.

Marsha Wynn and the Handbell Choir



PARISH LIFE

Carla McMillion - Coordinator



SEWING DAY
Saturday, March 18
10:00am-2:00pm

We meet again to sew for our Days for Girls project. This month we will need ladies with sergers and sewing machines, and we can always use someone to assemble parts and iron for

us. Lunch will be included. We've missed a couple of months, so please come and help us make up for lost time.

We haven't mentioned the **Little Dresses for Africa** project for a while. There are kits in the WELCA recycle bins to help you get started with a simple dress for a little girl. They are fun to do and don't take much time.



Keep'em In Stitches Every Thursday

- Except the 4th week

10:00am-1:00pm

Join us for a time of fellowship and knitting, crocheting, needlework, quilting...

We meet in room #8. Bring a sack lunch and a stitching project you are working on.



Regular meeting of SPAM for Food and Fellowship

Tuesday, March 21 at 12:00 for potluck, meat will be provided.

SPAM (St. Paul Adult Ministry) invites you to come and join us if you are 55 or older. We usually meet the 3rd Tuesday of each month at noon for lunch. Lunch is either Brown Bag or pot luck, depending on the occasion. Throughout the year we will sponsor special meals or outings. Occasionally we have special speakers who share timely topics with us. This is basically a time of fellowship and keeping in touch with each other.

If you are new to St. Paul this is a great way to meet members of our church family.

**LUTHERAN
MEN IN MISSION**

Thursday, March 2nd ~ 6:30pm

All men of the church are invited to attend.

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Note: If you are unable to serve when scheduled, please find a replacement for that Sunday.

Duties	March 5	March 12	March 19	March 26
	8 a.m.	8 a.m.	8 a.m.	8 a.m.
	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	10:30 a.m.
Assistant Minister	Carolyn Speck	Jean Beck	Warren Bielenberg	Joel Searfoss
Comunion Assistants	Joel Searfoss Nan Wylie	Jackie Kreider Betty Ludwig	Joel Searfoss Steve Zrioka	Warren Bielenberg Loda Wylie
Lector	Will Ludwig	Tami Wyatt	Chris Ems	Carolyn Speck
Ushers	Mo Brueckner Greg Wyatt	Ed Kreider Will Ludwig	Tom Sims René Zimmer	Greg Wyatt Tami Wyatt
Altar Guild	Jackie Kreider	Linda Zrioka	Suzanne Bielenberg	Betty Ludwig
Acolyte/ Crucifer			Alyssa Rundle	
Nursery			Dorine Keeble Scott Lindquist	
Greeters	Mo Brueckner	Heinz and Shirley Lips	Thelma Fastner	Ed and Jackie Kreider
Sound Room	Greg Caldwell	Joel Searfoss	Perry McClellan	Will Ludwig
Tellers			Jan Hanes Will Ludwig	John Walker Roy Johnson

FELLOWSHIP

Leigh Caldwell - Coordinator



10:30 Service Fellowship Teams

Each team is responsible for providing cookies or donuts, setting up and cleaning up the Fellowship time after the 10:30 service. Contact Jacqueline Conzemius for more information.

- March 5** Jacqueline Conzemius, Denise & Kara Birdwell
- March 12** Darla & Brian Kaufman, Marsha Wynn, JB & Sylvia Johnson
- March 19** Lorraine Geary, Sue Stauffer, Dorine Keeble, Patty Harmon
- March 26** Brenda & Perry McClellan, Bob & Linda Ullom



Wednesday Evening's ~ 5:45pm
March 8th-April 5th

Soup will be provided by the Fellowship Team.

Members are asked to bring Sandwiches **only** (**NO DESSERT**) and to help with *clean-up, as indicated in the chart. *Rotation of responsibilities is alphabetically by last name.*

DATE	SANDWICHES
March 8	M-Z
March 15	A-L
March 22	M-Z
March 29	A-L
April 5	A-Z

***Clean-up entails:** placing remaining soup in freezable containers, washing; soup kettles, utensils and storing items for future use.



March 2017

Birthdays & Anniversaries



- March 1 Curly Wainwright
- March 3 Susan Ward
- March 5 Ethel Hartley
- March 6 Noelle Mandrekas
- March 8 Gloria Leonard
- March 11 Bernie Codding
- March 11 Merl Krull
- March 12 Greg Caldwell
- March 15 Eric Walker
- March 16 Alice Mansmith
- March 17 Jaelee Johnson
- March 20 Bob Trosen

- March 20 Teddy Joyal
- March 21 Kathy Rokavec
- March 22 Joe Clark
- March 23 Jim Hall
- March 23 Roy Johnson
- March 26 Darien Lindquist
- March 27 Gene Frye
- March 27 Neenah Dressler
- March 31 Susan Rothe



- March 6 Floyd & Janice Hoover
- March 12 John & Dee Dee Walker
- March 18 Dave & Charlene Dubs
- March 18 Bonnie & Randy Finn

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH



429 Sandy Springs Road
Maryville, TN 37803

*Sharing Christ's Love
With the World*

Dates of Interest

Check Calendar for times and places

Council:

Monday, March 27th ~ Ministry Team Night/Council Meeting

Discipleship:

Friday, March 3rd-5th ~ SESLYO Assembly

Sunday, March 12th ~ Youth Group

Fellowship:

Wednesday's ~ Soup Suppers

Parish Life:

Thursday, March 2nd ~ Men In Mission Meeting

Thursday's, *Except the 4th Thursday* ~ Keep'em In Stitches

Worship:

Wednesday, March 1st ~ Ash Wednesday Services - Noon & 6:15pm

Wednesday's ~ Mid-week Lenten Refection



**Community
Food Connection**
of Blount County, Inc.

There is a great need for personal hygiene items.

The collection items for March:

Tooth brushes, toothpaste, dental floss, small bottles of mouth wash, deodorant.