

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Maryville, TN

THE GOOD NEWS

March 2018 Edition



Worship Times

Sunday Morning
8:00 am & 10:30 am

Sunday School
9:15am

Contact Us

Pastor: *The Rev. Rick Ohsiek*

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Web: www.stpaulmaryville.org

Church Office Hours:
Mon-Thurs 8:30am-5:00pm



Sunday, March 25th
8:00am & 10:30am ~ Procession with Palms and Holy communion - *We will begin outside*

Thursday, March 29th
7:00pm ~ Foot Washing and Holy communion
Stripping of the Altar



GOOD FRIDAY



Friday, March 30th
7:00pm ~ Procession of the Cross

PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

A Message from Pastor Rick:

We are Good Friday people.

Even though Christmas and Easter seem to get all of the attention and attendance, Lutherans are Good Friday people. This, of course, is not a very popular idea to most people. Some would even think that it is rather depressing or morbid. Why would we emphasize the importance of such a depressing and gloomy day?



Easter makes us feel good because it is all about victory. The devil has lost. Sin and death no longer have power over us. The resurrection is God's eternal "yes" to life and forgiveness. This is all true and important. We sing joyful, triumphant songs as loudly as Lutherans can sing. It is so important that even the secular world has picked up on it as another holiday to commercialize.

Good Friday is different. It is quiet, somber, and dark. The music is slow, meditative, and sometimes even in a minor key. Nobody sells anything having to do with Good Friday. Dressing in black isn't just all that popular. We are Good Friday people because we are people of the cross. The cross reveals to us the true nature of God's love. God created the earth and that all that is in it, showed us miraculous power through many acts of deliverance in the Old Testament, and continued to show power in mercy through the life of Jesus. For a powerful God like this, bringing someone back from the dead isn't that hard. Actually, we already had stories about this kind of thing even before Easter (anyone remember Lazarus?). What makes Good Friday different is that God completely emptied himself in the form of a human and allowed Jesus to suffer and die for us.

There aren't many stories in all of the world's religions about a God who would step down from the throne and do what God did for us. Not only does that show exactly how far God would go for us, but it also gives us a call to be willing to give sacrificially of all that we have so that we can be God's presence here on earth. My dad has a piece of art that I covet (yes, I know that I'm breaking a commandment here). It's a print by a member of St. John's (Nashville) from when he served there. While it does not have a name, I have always wanted to call it "this much" because it is of Jesus' arms outstretched on the cross. To me, it answers the question, "How much does God love us?"

In previous years, we have been using a tenebrae service (service of light/darkness) on Good Friday. This year, we are using another old traditional form of Good Friday worship which will include the reading of the Passion. I would love to see more of this congregation embrace the beauty and holiness of this special day. May we not only remember the victory we all have in Christ, but may we also celebrate the lengths to which God has gone and will go to love all people.

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

Warren Bielenberg - web9272@msn.com

JB Johnson - jbarcus@att.net

Herb Perry - hpcp2@tds.net

Church Council



Beth Drane - Tenneliz2000@yahoo.com

Merl Krull - merlinkrull@gmail.com

Susan Ward - smw030364@aol.com

PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

A Message From the Council President

I am signed up! ARE YOU?

The Resurrection Run is quickly approaching. The registration fee is \$25 until March 18th when the price will increase. If you prefer not to walk/run the full 5K (3.2 miles), **there is a 1-mile walk/run option.**

Not sure if you can walk a mile? Walk 6 times around the interior walls of St. Paul is approx. one mile. Try it the next time you are at church. If you can join us and want more information, follow the link below to register. Yours in Christ, Kara Birdwell

<https://runsignup.com/Race/TN/Maryville/ResurrectionRun>



ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH VISION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Capital Campaign Team Report:

Thanks to the generous gifts and pledges from 29 donors the campaign total with the match is at \$107,126.

- ◆ The youth are finalizing their plans to attend the National Youth gathering.
- ◆ Two people will be attend a weeks training program in June and then begin building a Stephen Ministry program here at St. Paul.
- ◆ Work can begin this year on remodeling the kitchen and bringing it up to health department standards.
- ◆ Our support of the Community Food Connection will grow this year as 10% of the gifts to campaign in 2018 will help feed the hungry in Blount County.
- ◆ We will also be able to reduce our building debt by 1/3 from campaign donations.

But that is the story based on the 29 giving units who have given or pledged so far.

What about those of you who are able to financially support this special appeal but have not done so yet?

Gifts to the campaign may be made at any time. Simply fill out a pledge card, which are located in the pew, and can be put in the offering plate, or the Welcome Center display and left in the Cross box. Make sure to mark you check "Capital Campaign".

Your gifts will have a major impact on the long term ministry of this church.

Thank you, The Capital Campaign Team

Communication Team Report

At our January annual Council Retreat, we discussed many areas of interest/concern. We selected the following items as a major emphases for 2018.

- 1) Improve communications, 2) Increase Fellowship opportunities, 3) Establish a Stephen Ministry, 4) Increase our community outreach

Susan Ward and Merl Krull volunteered to head the communication effort. At this time, we want to briefly introduce you to the communication emphasis. The goal of the Communication Team is to determine where you, the congregation, think we are currently, to determine what you would like communicated to you, and how you would like to receive that communication. The initial effort is in developing a survey that will enable you to inform us of your view(s) regarding communication. It is our plan to have that survey for you to complete sometime in the first quarter of this year. Please begin to give some thought to the issue of communication – then be sure to respond to the survey when it is published.

Susan Ward/Merl Krull

Communication

PASTOR AND CHURCH COUNCIL

One of the goals of our Church Council for 2018 is to provide more opportunities for our two worship congregations to better know one another. It is hoped that sharing information about some of our members and ministry groups within the newsletter might be one way to accomplish this.



Michael “Mike” Nowak, his wife, Brooke, and daughter, Sierra, have been members of St. Paul for about a year and a half. They moved here from Wisconsin when Mike accepted a position teaching Physician Assistant students at South College. In addition to being a wife and mother, Brooke is a nurse who started dating Mike after they were set up on a blind date. Six-year-old Sierra is currently attending kindergarten at Foothills Elementary School and enjoys dancing, swimming and Girl Scouts.

Mike grew up in Buffalo, NY. For 7 years he volunteered as a firefighter/EMT in Orchard Park. While attending college he worked as a Phlebotomist and for his dad, a butcher.

He became interested in medicine while volunteering as an EMT and attended Saint Francis University in Loretto, PA to earn his master’s degree in Physician Assistant (PA) Studies. A PA can do basically 85% of a physician—assess patients, write prescriptions, evaluate diagnostics, etc. He also holds undergraduate degrees in Medical Technology from the University of Buffalo and Cytotechnology from Syracuse. After graduating, he mainly worked in Cardiothoracic Surgery and Family Practice in Lacrosse, WI and at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, MN. Mike is very passionate about education and frequently gives various state and national medical lectures. About 7 years ago he started an annual week-long Guatemala Medical Mission Trip on which he takes about 10 PA’s or PA students. They stay with an American family that has established an orphanage for battered women and children. Each day Mike and the team travel to a different mountain village in the Jalapa area and see between 100 and 200 patients. These areas usually have little electricity or running water and the residents cook by fire in mud houses with tin roofs. Mike and his team evaluate and treat many chronic conditions such as diabetes and hypertension as well as acute conditions like trauma, skin rashes, infections including those from parasites, and nutritional deficiencies.

In September 2017 Mike volunteered his time and experience to coordinate and provide a free Health and Wellness Fair for the members of St. Paul. Some of these stations included blood pressure check, blood sugar (diabetes) screening, flu shot administration, audiology screening and a CPR and AED review station. After members completed a medical history evaluation station, a laminated medical pocket card was created listing prescription medications, allergies and known medical diagnoses. Mike hopes to offer a second Health and Wellness Fair this fall. Mike continues his own education and is currently in a doctorate program through the medical school at Lincoln Memorial University. He is excited to graduate this August.

Lenten SOUP *Suppers*

**Wednesday’s, Thru March 21st
6:00pm**

Everyone is invited to attend! Soups and breads will be provided by the Fellowship Team.

Members are asked to help only with clean-up*, as indicated below. Rotation of responsibilities is alphabetically by last name.

March ~ 3/7 M-Z * 3/14 A-L * 3/21 A-Z

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

**Mid-week
Lenten Reflection**

**Wednesdays;
Thru March 21st**

Noon & 6:30pm

PARISH LIFE

Carla McMillion- Coordinator

SEASON OF HOPE

Health Kit collection continues through Lent.

Please leave items at the display in the Welcome Center.

March 4th ~ Nail Clippers

March 11th ~ Combs

March 18th ~ Bars of Soap

Palm Sunday ~ A list of needed items will be posted



SPAM

Adults 55+

Tuesday, March 20th ~ Noon

Meet for lunch at the Apple Valley Cafe in Townsend followed by Tuesday@Two at the Smoky Mountain Heritage Center. Topic is John Sevier's Story. We will order from the menu. The program is free for Heritage Center members and \$4 for nonmembers. **The sign-up sheet is in the hallway.**

Contact Tim and Leslie Walker for more information. 977-1183, 919-3821



Wednesday, March 7th 2:00pm

We will continue sewing kits for girls in need. This time we need sergers and sewing machines and, as always, have tasks for non-sewers too.



March Men's Group Meeting: Thursday, evening March 1st 7:00p.m.

Men of every age are invited to join us. Pastor's program is *Wouldn't you like to know?* Hope to see you there.

SUPPORTING

Tom Sims - Coordinator

Church Cleanup



Saturday, March 24th 9 am - Noon

Volunteers are needed to wash windows, buff vinyl floors, replace light bulbs, clean pews, pickup Church yard, etc. Please add this on your calendar.

Lawn Care Volunteers needed

As Spring approaches we need to plan our teams for mowing the Church yard. Volunteers are needed. Normally we have four teams of 3-5 persons that mow, trim and pick up the yard. Each team would normally work once per month during the growing season. We have three powered riding lawn mowers, one powered push mower and two weed trimmers. If you can volunteer please contact Will Ludwig at 865-995-9338 or email wdl0345@aol.com.

Stewardship Moment



Money is a neutral commodity, a means of exchange. It is neither inherently good nor evil. But a wrong view of money can become a problem to us.

In First Timothy 6:9-10, Scripture warns about the dangers of a determination to get rich: *"But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil; and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains."*

When we have a consuming desire to get rich, when we are obsessed with money so that it becomes the focus of our time and attention, then we have made it the number one priority in our lives. In that spot, it replaces everything, including God. We begin to find our security in money, not in God and in God alone.

However, when our view of God is right and our view of money is right, we will realize that money cannot buy security; money cannot purchase happiness; money cannot guarantee peace or joy or contentment. God alone can provide these essentials as we "... strive first for the Kingdom of God and his righteousness."

In his book, *The Gift of Giving*, Wayne Watts said this: "God always lovingly instructs us in the path that is in our best interest and which will bring us the greatest happiness in life. Therefore, for our good, God instructs us to put Him first in all things, and this includes how we use our money."

How do you view money?

Is it at the center of your life, thereby perhaps replacing God's rightful role? And equally important, are you using the money God has given you to advance the Kingdom and God's righteousness?

ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH WORSHIP SCHEDULE

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

Duties	March 4	March 11	March 18	March 25
	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	Warren Bielenberg	Jean Beck	Carolyn Speck	Warren Bielenberg
Communion Assistants	Joel Searfoss Loda Wylie	Warren Bielenberg Marianne Searfoss	Betty Ludwig Nan Wylie	Jackie Kreider Carolyn Speck
Lector	Betty Ludwig	Will Ludwig	Chris Ems	Tami Wyatt
Ushers	Mo Brueckner Alice Andrews	Will and Betty Ludwig	Herb Perry James McMillion Rene Zimmer	Greg and Tami Wyatt
Altar Guild	Suzanne Bielenberg	Betty Ludwig	Kris Zimmer	Suzanne Bielenberg
Acolyte/ Cruifer		Nathan Rundle	Kajler McMillion	Hannah Rundle
Nursery		Carol Perry Dorine Keeble	Jacqueline Conzenius Deb Johnson	Emma Liner Anna Murray
Greeters	Mo Brueckner	Suzette Stauffer	Bertha Franks	Janice Hoover
Sound Room	Greg Caldwell	Bob Block	Joel Searfoss	Drew Ohsiek
Tellers	Tom Sims David Lanzer	Jan Hanes Will Ludwig	Herb Perry James McMillion	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 4	Darla & Brian Kaufman, Marsha Wynn
March 11	Lorraine Geary, Sue Stauffer, Dorine Keeble, Patty Harmon
March 18	JB & Sylvia Johnson, Bob & Linda Ullom
March 25	Tom & Anne Sims, Kris & Rene Zimmer

Easter Breakfast

Sunday, April 1st
9:00am

A freewill offering will benefit St Paul Men in Mission and St. Paul Youth



March 2018 Birthdays & Anniversaries



March 1	Curly Wainwright
March 3	Susan Ward
March 5	Ethel Hartley
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

ANNIVERSARIES



<i>Happy</i>	March 6	Janice & Floyd Hoover
<i>Anniversary</i>	March 12	John & Dee Dee Walker
	March 18	Dave & Charlene Dubs
	March 24	Bonnie & Randy Finn

Easter Sunday, April 1st

*The Festival Worship
of the Resurrection
of Our Lord*

8:00am and 10:30am

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Dates of Interest

Check Calendar for times and places

Council:

Monday, March 19th ~ Ministry Team Night/Council Meeting

Discipleship:

Sunday, April 1st~ Kids Decorate the Cross

Fellowship:

Wednesday, March 7th, 14th, & 21st ~ Soup Supper

Worship:

Wednesday, March 7th, 14th, & 21st ~ Mid-week Lenten Refection

Sunday, March 25th ~ Palm Sunday

Thursday, March 29th ~ Maundy Thursday

Friday, March 30th ~ Good Friday