



## Mission Statement Of St Paul Lutheran Church

Led by the Holy Spirit we will

REACH out to those in need

PREACH the Good News of Jesus Christ

TEACH the grace of a loving God

VOLUME 19, ISSUE 4

April 2016



May 15th

## Confirmation

»»»»»»»»»» on Pentecost ««««««««««

10:15 am

Reception for  
Confirmands and New Members  
immediately after worship

DCVBS 2016 on the campus  
of Defiance College,

July 10-14.

Planning Teams Need

YOU!!!



We meet monthly, divide the work  
and make it manageable and easy!

Please join us!

Thursday April 21, 7 pm  
at SPUMC 400 Wayne St.

**Pastor: The Rev. David Brobston**

**WORSHIP: Sunday School at 9:00 am**

**Confirmation at 9:00 am**

**Worship/Communion at 10:15 am**

671 Clinton St., Defiance, Ohio 43512

Phone: 419-782-5771

splcdefipastor@gmail.com

lynnsplcoffice@gmail.com

stpaulyouthandfamily@gmail.com

Web Page: [www.stpaulelca defiance.com](http://www.stpaulelca defiance.com)

Simulcast on 102.7 FM

# *From the Pastor*

April 2016

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

A few months ago I was asked to speak to a local cancer support group. When I asked what the topic was I was a bit surprised when the leader said, "I think we need to talk about death, and having heard you at a couple of funerals I think you can approach it in a way that isn't maudlin and melancholy."

I wrestled with the task. It's one thing to talk about death and dying at a funeral, quite another to speak about it to a group of cancer survivors, those in the midst of treatment, and even some very recently diagnosed. Actually, after praying and thinking and reflecting on my years in ministry I worked out what I was going to say. My presentation was very simple and straight forward, actually it could be summed up in one word, "LIVE."

You see, one of the things I have learned in my years of ministry, the hundreds of funerals, the thousands of visits to hospitals and nursing homes, the multitude of last rites, the numerous times of prayers at a bedside when someone takes their final breath is this: Death happens to all of us. Whether it be the little infant that died during birth that the young couple wanted me to rock and bless – to the 22 year old young man that took his own life on Easter Sunday - to the firefighter that dies in service to others at 39 – to the dear Saints of the Church who invited me to share their final journey.

I truly believe that the biggest change I have seen in the world in my 20+ years of ministry is that our lives have become so full, that we have become so busy DOING things that we let the moments of BEING slip through our fingers. When I look in the mirror, when I look in others eyes the number one thing I see is tired, fatigue, exhaustion.

This is the season of Easter, during these few weeks we will be reminded that Christ has Risen. Still, during this season of Resurrection I will speak the words of the funeral, "May we see through death the gate to eternal life." Now, don't get me wrong, eternal life is an amazing gift given to us through the amazing grace of our Heavenly Father. However, I believe when we were first formed in our mother's womb, when we were welcomed into God's kingdom through the waters of Baptism we were given more than just a key to eternal life, we were given freedom to truly live.

Will you join me these next few weeks of Easter and be mindful of living. Pause and take in the majestic beauty of Spring as the earth comes back to life. Take a moment every couple of hours to take a deep breath and speak a soft prayer of thanks to God. Be present with one another, be present in the moment and don't let that to do list rob you of the present moment. In short, as I said to the support group I was asked to speak to, "LIVE – because whether you are a Stage 4 Cancer patient, or happen to be in the wrong place when someone runs a red light, or not close to EMS when that artery decides to close off all the way none of us are promised tomorrow. Don't be so consumed by doing that you forget how to BE."

Give Thanks and LIVE

Blessings  
PD+

**St. Paul Lutheran: Council Meeting Minutes  
March 15, 2016**

Attendance: Pastor Dave Brobston, Denise Moog, Jim Ehlinger, Gaylord Proxmire, Jenny Maag, Nancy Krouse. ABSENT: Collette Knight, Laura Ramon. GUESTS: Julie Sasseen, Shirley Keller, John Boesling.  
Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm. by Jim Ehlinger.

Pr. Dave opened the meeting with prayer.

**1. Pastor's Report:**

- a. For devotions, Pastor spoke about the prayers and thoughts from our Bishop.
- b. Wednesday, March 15 will be the final Holden Lenten Service and Soup Supper of the season.
- c. Other Holy Week items: Pastor Dave will have a Holy Week article published in the Crescent News. Also, there will be a Renewal of Ordination Vows /Blessing of Oil at Trinity in Findlay.
- d. Holy Week: Maundy Thursday Service, March 24 at noon and 7:00pm.  
Good Friday Services, March 25, 12:00 at St. Paul United Methodist, 3:00-Stations of the Cross Walk- gather at St. Mary's to St John's RCC, St. Paul Lutheran 7:00 service. Easter Sunday Worship, Early service at 8:00, Breakfast at 9:00, second Easter Worship Service at 10:30.
- e. Thursday, March 31, Rev Keith Hunsinger will be installed as Pastor at Hope
- f. There has been a motion proposed and seconded to transfer the membership of Rev. Keith and Sue Hunsinger to Hope Lutheran in Hamler, Ohio. Gaylord/Denise
- g. Sunday, April 2, Pastor will be on a vacation Sunday to attend Parent's Weekend with Nicole.
- h. April 12, Pastor will be attending a required Boundaries Workshop at St. Mark's in Bowling Green.
- i. May 19-21: Synod Assembly meets in Bowling Green to elect our new Bishop.
- j. Catechism Class continues to meet. Confirmation will be Sunday, May 15.
- k. Our First Communion Class welcomed Brock McDowell.
- l. We will be welcoming new members to St. Paul Lutheran. It was moved and passed to include these people as members of our congregation: Caitlyn Lay, Alex Schmidt, Nicole Huddleston, Josh Huddleston, Megan Sierra and Marcella Rodriguez. Jim/Jenny  
It was later amended by vote of the council to also include these new members to our congregation: Alan Maag, Michael Maag and Coit Anthony Black. Denise/Gaylord.

**2. Youth and Family Report:**

- a. Mission: Tent Revival: A Potato and Salad Bar Fundraiser was held March 13th after worship and raised \$600 toward the tent revival. Thank you to all who came to support this mission. Also, Thank you to Thrivent and the Service Guild for kitchen help. The dates for this summer's revival will be July 28, 29, and 30.  
Mission: Recharge: A 19 member 2016-2017 Recharge Team has been organized. Stacy Barker is the Spiritual Director for the coming year. On April 17, we will be answering calls to specific ministries for the coming year and next year's retreat. Recharge has grown, and has now formed a 'Continuation Committee', they will offer assistance and prayer support throughout the year. Please keep all of us in your prayers.  
Mission: Vacation Bible School: Julie and Marcella have begun planning and will host a volunteer meeting on March 17th. The week of July 11th has been reserved at Defiance College.

We plan to offer family worship and faith building activities this year. The budget is set. We hope to see you there.

- b. Youth: The D.I.R.T. youth are going to Camp Mowana on April 8-10th. There will be seven youth attending with Julie Sasseen and Stacy Barker as chaperones. The weekend activities will be planned by youth leaders and camp staff. Please think about joining in the camping fun! Fundraisers include a Padrone's Pizza card for \$10 and the funds from your gifts at the Easter Breakfast. Thank you for supporting our camping trip!

Youth: Conversation and planning has begun for the Youth Gathering.

- c. Family Ministry: Women's Bible Study continues. We are starting a new book called, Overcoming Fear, and it is a great time to join us. We will meet again after Easter.

Family Ministry: 'Carrying On' is a new group for those who have lost a spouse. Meetings will be the 3rd Monday of each month to share prayer, Bible Study, and conversation. This group is open to anyone interested in attending. Please invite others to join us!

**3. Secretary's Report:**

- a. Minutes of the February 16, 2016 meeting were approved. Denise/Gaylord

**4. Treasurer's Report:**

- a. Total Income February +\$20,399.21  
b. Total Expenses February-\$21,130.33  
c. We are negative for the month of February-\$731.12  
d. Year-to-Date: Total Income+\$38,653.19  
e. Year-to-Date: Total Expenses -\$43,752.47  
f. We are negative for the year - \$ 5,099.28 Nancy/Jenny  
g. The Gladys Wahl estate gifted the church with \$25,000 of designated funds. This money is being kept in the savings.  
h. The flower fund currently has \$210.00.

**5. Discipleship Report:**

- a. Deacons: Deacon's are planning for worship during Lent and Holy Week. We thank the extra volunteers for helping with Eucharist and worship. We are also planning on washing robes!  
b. Outreach: No Report

**6. Stewardship Report:**

- a. Our job squad has an official new name. SHINE (Serving Him IN Everything).  
The SHINE squad will have its first mission/job day on April 30. Please contact Jenny Maag for information.

**7. Trustee Report:**

- a. Building use requests: Jim/Chris  
1) Kayly Brobston: Recharge Continuing Committee, April 4 in the lounge, April 15 in Luther Hall. Both will be in the evening. Jenny/Laura  
b. Steps need repair. Estimates are being gathered.  
c. Recommended the purchase of a backflow preventer.

**8. Old Business:**

- a. The church website is finally up and running. It needs a total revamp.  
b. The Council recommends the purchase of a CCLI License, at the cost of \$208 per year. This

will allow our church bulletins to include words to copyrighted songs and texts so it will be easier to follow along and participate in the service.

- c. The church Secretary may need a new computer. Tim Moog is doing research into a possible replacement. The estimated cost will be \$900. The council moved and seconded to give Tim the authority to purchase a computer if needed. Gaylord/Denise

**9. New Business:**

- a. Council examined a letter from Portico regarding insurance costs.
- b. The Mutual Ministry Committee (Church Constitution pg 27 sec.C13.04) is a committee of non council members who volunteer to support the Pastor in his Call. They will focus on supportive conversations between the Pastor and his congregation. Jim Ehlinger will investigate for further details.
- c. Needs, Wants, Dreams and Tithes: Council is reading over all forms that have been submitted. Much time spent on discussion about the Deckrosh gift. We are focusing on the 10% tithe. We will tally all information and present trends and ideas to the congregation.

**10. For the Good of the Church:**

- a. Welcome to all our new members! We are glad you are here with us!
- b. Come be a part of Holy Week!
- c. Remember, Free Prayer at Biggby Coffee on Thursday!

Meeting Adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Jenny/Denise

Closed with the Lord's Prayer

The next council meeting will be April 19, at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted, Nancy Krouse



**SCHEDULES FOR APRIL 2016****ACOLYTES:**

03 Lauren Melia, Janaya Harris Vielma  
 10 Felicity Barker  
 17 Ryan Yeager  
 24 Emma Fedderke

**LECTOR:** Steve & Kristin Wendell

**USHERS:** 03 Team 3, Ned Ewers, Capt.  
 10 Team 3, Ned Ewers, Capt.  
 17 Team 4, Dan Tuttle, Capt.  
 24 Team 4, Dan Tuttle, Capt.

**FLOWERS:**

03 Alex & Collette Knight  
 10 **OPEN**  
 17 Jim & Dianne Kline  
 24 **OPEN**

**When you have flowers, please ask that days usher captain to remove them from the altar for you. Thank you.**

**BULLETINS:**

03 Mike & Lynne Rittenour  
 10 Mike & Lynne Rittenour  
 17 Jim & Dianne Kline  
 24 Mary Geiger

**COMMUNION SET-UP & SERVERS:**

10 Lori Brandt  
 17 Julie Sasseen  
 24 Stacy Barker

**LAY COMMUNION DISTRIBUTORS:**

Dan & Jane Tuttle  
 Mert Grogg  
 Dave Slocum  
 Lowell & Sharon Ricker

**FINANCIAL REPORT 2016**

January	Income	\$ 17,141.79
	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 21,912.46</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>( \$ 4,770.67)</b>

February	Income	\$ 14,467.82
	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 22,257.10</u>
	<b>Total</b>	<b>( \$ 7,789.28)</b>

**AVERAGE WEEKLY ATTENDANCE REPORT 2016**

January - 122  
 February - 183  
 March - 241  
 April -

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**The Flower & Bulletin Charts and Greeter Charts are posted in the Handicap Entrance. Needed soon...**

**Altar Flowers:**

April— 10, 24                      May— 1, 8, 15, 29  
 June — 5, 12, 19, 26

**Bulletin Covers:**

May — 1, 8, 22                      June— 12, 19

**Greeters: All Sundays**



## St. Paul Lutheran Church

April 2016

671 Clinton St., Defiance, Ohio 43512  
 Office – lynnsploffice@gmail.com  
 Pastor: splcdefipastor@gmail.com

Phone (419) 782-5771\* Fax (419) 782-3934  
 Julie - stpaulyouthandfamily@gmail.com  
 Web Page: http://www.stpaulelcaofdefiance.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<b>3</b> 9 am Sunday School 9 am Confirmation 10:15 am worship <b>Food Pantry items collected</b>	4	5	<b>6</b> 6-7:30 pm JLL/DIRT 7:00 pm Choir Prac.	<b>7</b> 5:30-8:30 pm Relay for Life meeting	<b>8</b> Youth retreat at camp Mowana April 8-10 Please pray	<b>9</b> <b>Baptisms:</b> <b>Lance &amp; Nora Newman</b> 9:30-11:30 <b>Clean Up Your Park</b> 
<b>10</b> 9 am Sunday School 9 am Confirmation 10:15 am worship <b>Bridal Shower 1-5 pm</b>	11	12	<b>13</b> 6-7:30 pm JLL/DIRT 7:00 pm Choir Prac.	<b>14</b> 7-8 pm <b>Women's Bible Study</b>	<b>15</b> <b>NEWS-LETTER DEADLINE</b>	16
<b>17</b> 9 am Sunday School 9 am Confirmation 10:15 am worship Recharge-Discernment	<b>18</b> 4:15 pm ADK - Chris Korhn 6:30 pm Carrying On	<b>19</b> 6pm church council	<b>20</b> 6-7:30 pm JLL/DIRT 7:00 pm Choir Prac.	<b>21</b> DCVBS Planning Teams SPUMC @ 7pm	22	23
<b>24</b> 9 am Sunday School 9 am Confirmation 10:15 am worship 1:30 Gentle Worship	25	26	<b>27</b> 1pm BETA Mtg. @ Nancy Deitrick's 6-7:30 pm JLL/DIRT 7 pm Choir Prac.	<b>28</b> Relay for Life meeting 7-8 pm <b>Women's Bible Study</b>	29	<b>30</b> 8:30-2:30 pm Lutheran Men in Mission Spring Retreat



YOUTH  
EVENTS:

## MATTERS

Disciples in  
Radical Training Youth  
will be attending a Retreat at  
Camp Mowana  
April 8-10th!  
We CAN'T WAIT!

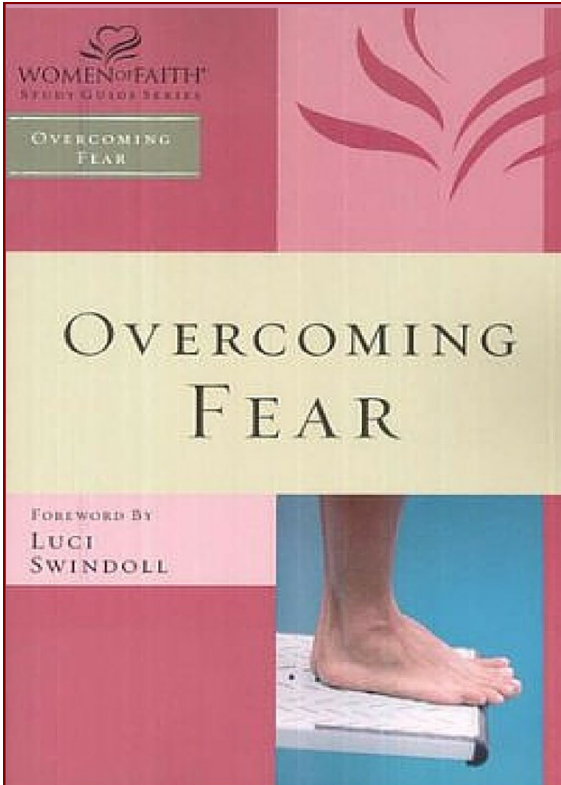
Youth are currently selling Padrone's BOGO Pizza  
and Spaghetti dinner  
cards for \$10. 100% of the cost for these card goes to  
send DIRT youth to camp or to fund other youth  
activities!

They are a great deal  
for YOU and for US!

THANK YOU  
for your support!

Please pray for the youth as they go!





Led by  
Julie Sasseen,  
Marcella Ciccotelli,  
& Sandy Herman  
Questions? 419.956.1267

2nd & 4th  
Thursday

Women's Bible Study  
at St. Paul Lutheran

7-8 pm

Please  
Join  
Us!

Our  
current  
study is  
entitled  
"Overcoming Fear"

ALL WELCOME!!!!

Questions? 419.956.1267  
or 419.782.5771

We meet in  
Luther Hall  
at St. Paul Lutheran  
Enter the door across  
from the Jr. High  
football field  
and go upstairs.

## *Thank you's...*

*Thank you to all who sent birthday wishes and cards to Chub for his 95th birthday. He really appreciated hearing from so many of his St. Paul family! According to Chub, "It was 'GRATE!'" :) Blessings, John, Joanne, and Karen Wahl*



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From the Filling Homes Foundation...

Dear Friends,  
Thank you for your generous support of our ministry and programs. Your support is a real blessing.  
Happy Easter,  
Jean Cohrs

\*\*\*\*\*

Lutheran Homes Society  
Thank you for offering yourselves as beacons of God's light in the darkness to those in need.  
Blessings to you all!  
Dr. Jim Dumke

\*\*\*\*\*

***Wanted: Hard working volunteers for St. Paul's Mission Group "SHINE" Serving Him IN Everything***  
*First outing will be Saturday, April 30-9am*  
*If you are in need of yard clean up, windows cleaned or whatever it may be, contact Jenny Maag @ 419-576-0585 by Sunday, April 24*

## *Memorial Gifts*

### *In Memory of Bernadine Fry*

#### *General Fund*

Mr. & Mrs. Bill Krouse  
Mr. & Mrs. Lowell Ricker  
Shirley Keller

#### *Flower Fund*

Mr. & Mrs. Dan Tuttle  
Mr. & Mrs. John Dale

#### *Endowment Fund*

Mr. & Mrs. Dyle Roth  
Mr. & Mrs. Don Samuelson

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## OFFICIAL ACTS OF THE CHURCH

### DEATHS

**KAREN ROTH STACK**  
**11-1-66 ~ 3-28-16**

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### *Welcome New Members*

*Coit Black*  
*Joshua Huddleston*  
*Nicole Huddleston*  
*Caitlyn Lay*  
*Alan Maag*  
*Michael Maag*  
*Marcela Rodriguez*  
*Megan Sierra*

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## *FIRST COMMUNION CLASS OF 2016*

*Brock William McDowell*

## Our love and prayers go out to...

### Prayer list information

Next time you're about to submit a request for inclusion on the prayer list please ask the following questions. Did that person give permission to the office? Does that person wish the information to be shared publicly? If the answer to either question is "NO" your prayer request violates the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA).

If we do not have personal permission for inclusion we will only publish first names. *These are the guidelines from the ELCA provided at last Fall's Synod Conference meetings.*

### Our love and prayers go out to...

Sherryl Bell	Coit Black	Lonnie Budd		
June Burke	Cheryl Burroughs	Carol Creps		
Delbert Diemer	Russ Dodd	Fred Fitzenrider		
Mary Frost	Roger Grogg	Susan Harris		
Hal Haviland	Dan Hermiller	Jena Hoellrich		
Janice Johansen	Ruth Johnson	Randy King		
Laurie Lucas	Tammy McCoy	Jodie Mellos		
Dani Merillat	J.T. Nusbaum	Dean Purdy		
Marilyn Purdy	Esther Reimund	Sharon Ricker		
Kristen Sanders	Richard Sherman	Mona Snyder		
Ella Suderman	Karen Wahl	Dee Weisenfelder		
Bishop NGowo	Alexis	Alice	Anne	
Becky Z	Carol	Dean	Don	Doug
Elaine	Eric	Grace	Hal	Jerry
Jim	Joan	Jodi	John	Jon
Josie	Les	Lucas	Maddie	Marlene
Myka Joy	Matt	Pauline	Phyllis	Roland
Sally	Scott	Sheena	Stacey	Steve
Sue	Tammy	Thelma	Tom	

And to the family and friends of  
Eric Major and Karen Roth Stack

*Those who are in nursing homes,  
assisted living and extended illnesses:*

LeAnn Bohn, William Cooper, Eleanor Huner,  
Marilyn Mehrling, Rosemary Mehrling, Agnes Rudolph,  
Rachel Sontchi, Charlotte Warncke

Also, please be aware that the pastor and church office are not automatically notified of your admission to a hospital, due to the HIPPA laws. If your stay is a planned one please contact the church office or have a relative contact us.

In some cases, even if you tell the hospital it is all right to contact us, it may not occur. You personally contacting the church office should be the primary way the message of your hospitalization reaches the pastor. Thanks for your help in this matter.

**Please continue to raise our nation, its leaders, and our personnel "in harm's way" in your prayers. Let us not forget to pray for them and to thank God for His blessings. We, as Christians, should also witness God's love by praying for our enemies in all this. Keep in mind Christ died and was raised from the dead for them also and we were called in our Baptism to witness to the entire world. We particularly commend the following who are members of our congregation:**

**Major Tamara Funari,**

Daughter of Ron and Connie Allgire

**Sgt. Kerry Schnitz,**

Son of Larry and Cheryl Burroughs

**We also remember in prayer those relatives of members.**

**St. Sgt. Mark Beck,**

Son-in-law of Wayne Davis

**Buck Sgt. Joshua T Bell, USAF,**

Nephew of Laurie Moll

**SFC E7 James Fluechtling,**

Grandson of Mary Frost

**USAF Jason Griffith,**

Grandson of Howard and June Burke

**USM 2nd Lt. Dustin Hughes,**

Grandson of Barb Bibler

**PFC E-3 Cole Jennings,**

Grandson of Roger and Mert Grogg

**Sgt. Chad McDaniel,**

Grandson of Barb Bibler

**Carl Melton,**

Nephew of Al and Dee King

**Staff Sgt. Kendra Oehlerich,**

Granddaughter of Charlotte Warncke

**OS2 Tim Rau,**

Nephew of Joe and Theresa Hiler

**SFC Frank Steed,**

Step-brother of Pastor Dave

**Sgt. Gaylord Proxmire III,**

Son of Gaylord & Pat Proxmire

**USM Micajah Hagerman,**

Son of Jolene Hagerman

**Members of the military in active service and their families. We are honored and pleased to pray for those in need. We do ask that persons asking for non members to be listed will keep us updated monthly.**

*If you wish to send a card or note to any of our members in the service contact the church office for addresses. If you have address corrections for members in the military, please contact us. Thank you.*



# Carrying on

*A group for those who have lost a spouse*

Meeting the 3rd Monday of each  
month at St. Paul Lutheran Church  
671 Clinton St. Defiance

Come share ,  
conversation,  
Scripture & Prayer

Next  
Meeting  
April 18  
at 6:30 pm

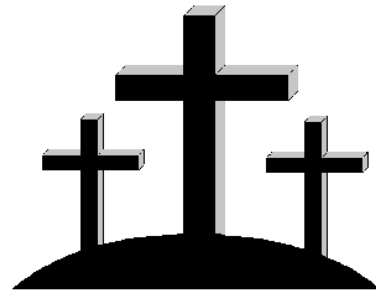
ALL WELCOME

Enter doors across from  
Defiance Jr. High Football Field  
Questions? 419.956.1267

psalm 121  
my strength  
comes from  
the Lord

# Sharing Faith, Fellowship, and Fun On Route 61

Northwestern Ohio  
Lutheran Men in Mission  
Spring Retreat  
Saturday, April 30, 2016  
8:30 am to 2:30 pm  
\$15 Registration  
(includes lunch)  
Women welcome



*Peace I leave with you;  
my peace I give to you. (John 14:27)*

Eucharist Service

Bible Study

*led by Rev. Brock Klobe*

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Prospect

Spring has sprung,  
The grass is ris  
Here is where  
The Retreat is:

**Lutheran Memorial Camp**  
**2790 State Route 61**  
**Fulton, Ohio**

**SPECIAL ENTERTAINMENT**  
Mr. Keith Becker  
Pianist/Storyteller  
St. Paul Lutheran Church, Prospect

**Building Men for Christ**  
**Building for a Future**

\*\*\*\*\*

**MAIL, PHONE, OR EMAIL RESERVATIONS TO: Richard Noll, Secretary, NWO/LMM @ 2474 Twp. Rd. 159, Cardington, OH 43315, Phone: 419-864-1471, email: ranoll47@gmail.com]**

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS:** \_\_\_\_\_ **CITY:** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP:** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE:** \_\_\_\_\_ **HOME CHURCH:** \_\_\_\_\_





## **A Celebration in Honor of You!**

**Survivors - please join us for the  
Power of Purple Parade!**

**Saturday, May 14th**

**St Paul Lutheran Church, 671 Clinton St, Defiance**

Registration and t-shirt pick up - 9:00 am

Breakfast reception - 9:15 am

**\*Compliments of Postema Insurance\***

Parade - 10:00 am

Bring your friends and family along to cheer you on!

Check us out on line at: [www.RelayForLife.org/Defiance](http://www.RelayForLife.org/Defiance)



THE OFFICIAL SPONSOR OF BIRTHDAYS.™



## Thrivent News...

**April 2016**



The last few articles I have been talking about one of the books I was reading. In March I was asked to read at Noble Elementary for their spring "Right to Read" week event. It is a delight to read to little children because their minds are open to listen and believe that anything is possible. During that month they also celebrate Dr. Seuss' birthday and one of his books is ***"Oh, the Thinks you can Think!"*** As adults we sometimes lose that sense of endless possibilities. As Christians we are reminded that all things are possible through our faith. The things may not turn out as we imagine them but sometimes in a better way than we could even think about it.

I want to thank everyone who gave their 2015 Thrivent Choice dollars last year. Our congregation Thrivent members gave over \$4,000! Now let's start again and remember they continue each year. Did you know that the American Cancer Society is among the top 10 organizations that receive this money? There is another way you can help the American Cancer Society. Our own Kristen Zachrich is once again participating in our local Relay for Life event and has set up a page where you can donate dollars for her team, "Marsha's Mighty Marchers", or you can also join her team. The Defiance Relay will be held on Friday, June 24<sup>th</sup> at the Defiance College George M Smart Center. If you want to help out or join a team of your own, they are having the next team meeting on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm at St. Paul. If you have more questions, you can ask Kristen.



Another way you can help this project or another one you want to support is by applying for a Thrivent Action Team. Last month Carol Burk was able to help our 2016 St. Paul Tent Revival at the Potato & Salad Bar in March with her Action Team. There were plenty of baked potatoes, a table full of toppings, and great choices for salads and desserts. It was a delicious meal for all who attended. Thanks Carol and your team for all the hard work to make this a successful event.

If you have any ideas for a project or fundraiser and want more information on how Thrivent Action Teams can work for you, please let me know. Just remember to think about all the possibilities!

Thank you for all your continued support.

Cathy Martin, Thrivent Congregational Advocate

## VISIT TO SERBIA

This past February Cathy and I were able to accompany Bishop Lohrmann (and his wife Heidi) as he bid farewell to our Lutheran companion synod in Vojvodina, Serbia. It is an honor, indeed, to be able to represent our Church and to be asked to accompany our Bishop in this journey. We are thankful for your thoughts and prayers during this time.

The Northwestern Ohio Synod has enjoyed a companion relationship with the Slovak Lutheran Church in Serbia for 10 years. To us, it seemed like it was just the other day that we signed the Covenant linking our two synods. Throughout his nearly 18 years as our Bishop, Marcus has been very supportive, and in fact instrumental, in encouraging us in Northwestern Ohio to walk together in accompaniment with our Lutheran brothers and sisters in Serbia. In these 10 years of exchanges of persons and spiritual retreats we have discovered that while many miles and cultures separate us ---we have much in common; especially in terms of our common Lutheran faith.

Our journey started with a brief visit to Istanbul (Constantinople) where we visited the Hagia Sophia Cathedral and the Sultan Ahmet (Blue) mosque. It is truly amazing to visit these massive and ornate buildings that were erected in the 1400's! The frescos and other murals and mosaics are some of the most majestic and stunning sights. Istanbul separates two continents---Asia and Europe---as you cross the bridge over the Bosphorus Strait, you can literally stand in both continents---at the same time.

We then traveled to Belgrade where we were picked-up by Evka's brother, Janko, who was our driver throughout our visit. We met with Pr. Anna of the Belgrade congregation and had about 4 hours of great conversation, discussing plans for a women's retreat in 2017. When Bishop Lohrmann and his wife Heidi arrived, we all traveled to Novi Sad. We spent a day seeing the city and experiencing the variety of religions that are part of this city---Catholic, Orthodox and Slovak Lutheran in the same neighborhood. Our time spent with Bishop Vrbovsky was informative and enjoyable, looking back at our years of this companionship and talking about the retirement plans ahead, and contemplating the exciting things to come in our future together. We toured the city Museums, ate at the restaurants frequented by local citizenry, and enjoyed the old and new parts of the city. We spent another day in Belgrade with Pr. Jaroslav Javornik and his wife, taking in spectacular sights from the mountain top to the historic fort at the confluence of two rivers. We also toured the largest Eastern Orthodox Church in Europe---which is under-going renovations. On Sunday we were able to visit and worship with our friend Pr. Jasmina Kotas-Medved and her husband, and were treated to a buffet luncheon with her congregation. Even though we'll elect a new bishop in a couple months, our friendships will continue to make this companionship a warm and wonderful experience for many more years.

Jim & Cathy Martin

**Birthdays**

4/1 Christian Martinez  
 Matt Pfund  
 4/4 Louis Helton, Jr.  
 4/5 Larry Saxton  
 4/6 Dee King  
 Sherry Yeager  
 4/7 Jerell Call  
 Mary Ehlinger  
 John Engel  
 Rachel Sontchi  
 4/8 Delbert Diemer  
 Kerry Tuttle  
 4/9 Aubrey Florence  
 Minda Hohl  
 4/11 Jacob Rosebrock  
 4/12 Susan Harris  
 4/13 Steve Ruyle  
 4/14 Anthony Bowen  
 Roger Grogg  
 Danny Hill  
 4/17 Linda Hiner  
 Gene Schram  
 4/19 John Boesling  
 Steve Wendell  
 4/20 Rachael Bowling  
 Dorothy Dunbar  
 Janaya Harris Vielma  
 4/21 Ryan Dale  
 4/23 Josh Seip  
 Jan Sisco  
 Rachael Wardinski  
 4/24 Scarlet Zachrich  
 4/29 Steven Kammeyer, Sr.  
 Nancy Seling-Nagel  
 4/30 Brent Korhn



**Weddings**

4/6 Harold and Kathy Yeager  
 4/7 Jim and Cathy Martin  
 4/21 Dave and Kim Alvarado  
 Doug and Deb Hancock  
 4/22 Chad and Jennifer Yeager  
 4/24 Dave and Fran Coonrod  
 4/26 Greg and Yvonne Dale  
 4/28 Dennis & Amy Kimpel



**Baptisms**

4/1 Evey Boesling  
 4/2 Joel Austin  
 Kari Austin  
 Gerald Mansfield  
 4/3 Mert Grogg  
 Kendra Perez  
 4/6 Dorothy Dunbar  
 Sharon Fitzenrider  
 Danny Hill  
 4/7 Richard Haviland



**Baptisms – Cont.**

4/7 Allie Saylor  
 Cooper Snyder  
 Jason Weaver  
 4/8 Ryan Barringer  
 Kari Rohrbaugh  
 4/9 Lois Eis  
 4/10 Carl Fairchild  
 Bill Krouse  
 4/11 Baine Dingus  
 4/12 Dan Bowen  
 Janice Doeden  
 Jacob Fenter  
 Jeannette Melia  
 4/13 Mary Dale  
 Steve Korhn  
 Al Schnitz  
 4/14 Martha Cooper  
 Jeff Fogt  
 Zacharia Knight  
 Jordan Sasseeen  
 Karissa Schnitz  
 4/15 Ryne Maag  
 4/16 Lori Brandt  
 4/17 Stacy Barker  
 Anthony Martinez  
 Christian Martinez  
 4/19 Chesney George  
 Ryan Yeager  
 4/20 Renae Noffsinger  
 4/21 Ann Essex  
 Tori Leonard  
 Amy O'Mara  
 Mollie Roberts  
 4/22 Mark Barrett  
 John Boesling  
 Caroline Turner  
 4/23 Ryan Voll  
 4/25 Rowland Cooper  
 4/26 Matt Thomas  
 4/27 Brian Gutman  
 Tateum Bailey  
 4/28 Ned Dunbar  
 4/29 Jean Gaskill

**First Communion**

4/1 Kaylee Brashear  
 Rowland Cooper  
 Aubrey Florence  
 Jordan Sasseeen  
 4/2 Alexis Barker  
 Noah Gomez  
 Hailee Keirse  
 Ryne Maag  
 4/4 Gabriele Flores  
 Olivia Flores  
 4/5 Sirenah Gomez  
 Lauren Melia  
 4/8 Kendra Perez



**First Communion—Cont.**

4/8 Alexandra Sasseeen  
 4/10 Travis Beardsley  
 Anthony Bowen  
 Carrie Fedderke  
 Megan Turner  
 4/17 Jerell Call  
 Trevin Flickinger  
 Zoe Gomez  
 Cody Harris  
 Maci McDowell  
 Caleb Sierra  
 Brenden Wicks  
 4/20 Brette Griffith  
 Renae Noffsinger  
 4/21 Felicity Barker  
 Emma Fedderke  
 Janaya Harris Vielma  
 Sheldon Harris  
 Suzanne McBride  
 Joe Melia  
 Destiny Woodward  
 Ryan Yeager

**Confirmation**

4/1 Jeff Fogt  
 Alex Knight  
 4/3 Lisa Burrell  
 Gerald Mansfield  
 Fern Reimund  
 Terry Seimet  
 4/4 Cheryl Rosebrock  
 4/6 Fred Fitzenrider  
 Charlotte Warncke  
 4/7 Doug Cooper  
 Kay Frost  
 Janis Thomas  
 4/8 Buggs Sierra  
 Andrea Wardinski  
 4/11 Baine Dingus  
 Jim Ehlinger  
 Bill Krouse  
 Julie Steele  
 John Stykemain  
 Laura Weaver  
 James Yeager  
 4/12 Nicki Frederick  
 William Smith  
 4/14 Harold Hahr  
 Chub Wahl  
 4/15 Evey Boesling  
 Mary Geiger  
 Rhonda Haviland  
 Patty Proxmire  
 4/17 Carol Burk  
 4/18 Mert Grogg  
 4/22 Laurie Lucas  
 4/25 Julie Voll  
 4/29 Alyssia McDowell



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**ELC Tanzania**  
**RAVENS**  
**Project Share**  
**Northwestern Ohio Synod**  
**WELCA**  
**Habitat for Humanity**



### Church Staff

<b>Presiding Bishop</b>	<b>Rev. Elizabeth Eaton</b>
<b>NWO Bishop</b>	<b>Rev. Marcus Lohrmann</b>
<b>Pastor</b>	<b>Rev. David Brobston</b>
<b>Dir. of Youth &amp; Family</b>	<b>Julie Sasseen</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Lynn Roth</b>
<b>Sexton</b>	<b>Jane Tuttle</b>
<b>Organist</b>	<b>Lori Schultz</b>
<b>Music Director</b>	<b>Jeremy Davis</b>
<b>Nursery Attendant</b>	<b>Kim Alvarado</b>

### 2016 Church Council

<b>President</b>	<b>Jim Ehlinger</b>
<b>V. President</b>	<b>Nancy Krouse</b>
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>Denise Moog</b>
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>Collette Knight</b>
<b>Discipleship</b>	<b>Laura Ramon</b>
<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Gaylord Proxmire</b>
<b>Stewardship</b>	<b>Jenny Maag</b>