

# St. Paul's Letter

March 2025

*May this sign of  
our mortality  
and penitence  
remind us that  
only by the cross  
of our Lord  
Jesus Christ are  
we given  
eternal life.*





# St. Paul Lutheran Church

222 North George Street Millersville, Pennsylvania 17551

## CHURCH COUNCIL 2023-2024

### Committee Liaison

Rev. Mark Kopp, Pastor

—

Dave Ellenberg, Pres.

Mutual Ministry

Sylvia Lashley

Fellowship

David Sykes

???

Tim Brooks

???

Dee Perry

Worship & Music

Michele Carpenter\*

???

Bruce Hampton

Property

Sue Swartz

Children's Ministry

Linda Hiney

Finance

Mike Althouse,  
(non-voting)

Finance

Treasurer

\*Recording Secretary

### **Other Contacts**

Church office: 717-872-7392

Email: [office@stpaulmillersville.org](mailto:office@stpaulmillersville.org)

Website: [www.stpaullutheranmillersville.org](http://www.stpaullutheranmillersville.org)

**Sunday: 9:00 a.m.-Worship & Holy Communion**

## Our Staff

Preaching and Presiding Minister: Rev. Mark Kopp  
pastorkopp@stpaulmillersville.org

Pastor David Fisher: Pastor Emeritus  
Dave Ellenberg: Church Council President  
Lucy Esbenshade: Choir Director  
Cathy Regitz: Sexton

Church Office Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m.  
Email: office@stpaulmillersville.org



**Emma Landis 2<sup>nd</sup>**

**Drucilla Nace 5<sup>th</sup>**

**Gail Gilday 6<sup>th</sup>**

**Betty Bringman 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Greg Lashley 7<sup>th</sup>**

**Jan Fisher 8<sup>th</sup>**

**Peggy Bruce 13<sup>th</sup>**

**Glenda Hurtt 15<sup>th</sup>**

**Karen Napier 19<sup>th</sup>**

**Gaynel Daugherty 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**Debbie Wismer 28<sup>th</sup>**

**Carole Symonds 30<sup>th</sup>**

**Mary Fritz 31<sup>st</sup>**

**Linda Hiney 31<sup>st</sup>**

In a continuing effort of have our church database as accurate as possible, birthday data is being addressed. PLEASE, if your March birthday is missing from this list, let the office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

# Helping Hands

<b>March</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>30</b>
<b>Bulletins</b>	Cathy Trissel	Sandy Miller	NONE	NONE	Mary & Cy Fritz
<b>Sunday School</b>	Kahler/ Ariano	Linda Hampton	NONE	Linda Hampton	NONE
<b>Flowers Vase 1</b>	Gaynel Daugherty	No flowers in Lent	No flowers in Lent	No flowers in Lent	No flowers in Lent
<b>Flowers Vase 2</b>	Karen & Bill Napier	No flowers in Lent	No flowers in Lent	No flowers in Lent	No flowers in Lent
<b>Usher 1</b>	Dick Shipman	Girl Scouts	Dolores Garrett	Linda Hampton	Holly Freas-Webster
<b>Usher 2</b>	Sherry Symonds	Girl Scouts	Tim Brooks	Bruce Hampton	Glenda Hurtt
<b>Usher 3</b>	Betty Bringman	Girl Scouts	Frank Witmer	Carol Heintzelman	Sue Ellenberg
<b>Usher 4</b>	Greg Lashley	Girl Scouts	Michele Carpenter	Michele Carpenter	Dave Ellenberg
<b>Altar Guild 1</b>	Sylvia Lashley	Sylvia Lashley	Sylvia Lashley	Sylvia Lashley	Sylvia Lashley
<b>Altar Guild 2</b>	Sandy Kreider	Sandy Kreider	Sandy Kreider	Sandy Kreider	Sylvia Lashley
<b>Lector</b>	Carol Heintzelman	Frank Witmer	Jim Bernheisel	Greg Lashley	Suzanne Herr
<b>Lay Assistant</b>	Lauren Buchmann	Tim Brooks	Jim Bernheisel	Lauren Buchmann	Jim Dierolf

## Bev's Bakers



### March

- 2 Sharon Engle
- 9 Lori Dierolf
- 16 JoAnn Harris
- 23 Linda Hampton
- 30 Linda Hiney

## Finance, Finance, Finance

### January Update:

Giving Income	\$ 13,684
Other Income	\$ 1,649
Expenses	\$ 19,672
Net Income/deficit	\$ (4,338)



## March Worship

**March 2nd Transfiguration Sunday Service 9:00am**

**March 5th Ash Wednesday Service at 7pm**

**March 9 first Sunday in Lent**

**March 12-April 9th Wednesdays mid-week Lenten services at 7:00pm**

## Thank You

A belated thanks to my St. Paul family for the many ways you reach out in ministry. The wonderful Cheer Baskets at Christmas and the beautiful flower arrangements delivered regularly are very much appreciated.

Sincerely,

Gail Gilday

## Sub Sale

Once again we will hold a sub sale to raise money to make repairs to the Tower Room. Your support is appreciated. The Sign up sheets will be in the narthex March 2nd. All orders are due by March 30th. Sub pick up will be April 8th at 4pm.



***Come to the meetings, stay for the fun!***

The following Fellowship events have been scheduled:

- March 8th Rule Breakers movie 12pm Manor Regal \$14 Seniors, \$16 Adults
- March 19th Dinner at Decades in Lancaster 5:30pm Venue includes bowling alley, arcade games, restaurant, and bar.
- March 30th "The Chosen-Last Supper Part 1" 3:20pm Manor Regal Cinemas \$16 per person.



**Events where tickets are required are "Pay in Advance".  
Please use the provided envelopes.**



Our collection for Faith Fellowship Ministries on Superbowl Sunday totaled \$665.16. Thank you for your generosity.

## Our Lenten Journey

As the season of Lent approaches, the Worship and Music Committee and I are mindful that it is a time of preparation for the blessed day of the Resurrection of our Lord, Easter Sunday morning. These forty days are a time for us to renew our baptismal commitment and for others it is a time to prepare to be baptized. These forty days are a time to devote ourselves to prayer and self-denial; a time to abstain from luxuries, and a time for penitential discernment to draw nearer to understanding the journey of our Lord Jesus Christ in the wilderness. With this in mind, the committee and I have incorporated some changes in our worship and our worship space in the hope that these changes will enhance our penitential journey throughout these forty days.

Since Lent is a time commonly known for abstaining from certain foods or fasting, we will be "liturgically fasting" by abstaining from certain ornamental items and practices throughout these forty days of worship here at St. Paul. These changes will be both ceremonial and liturgical and involve changes to the physical worship space.

As always, our paraments will be purple. Purple is traditionally associated with royalty and suffering. The color

## Our Lenten Journey (cont'd)

purple is used to remind us of Christ's passion and the sovereignty that He claimed through His suffering and resurrection. When combined with Lent, purple also symbolizes penance, repentance, and renewal. With penitential discernment in mind, we will be excluding the prelude and beginning our worship in silence so that we may prayerfully discern our journey through these forty days. Communion will also take place in silence to allow time in our worship to reflect, to discern, and to pray.

Changes in our worship space will be seen in our entrance at the Baptismal font. Since there are no baptisms in Lent, because it is a season of baptismal preparation, the Paschal candle will be present and the font will be filled with pebbles until Easter. Just as we have done in the past, our crosses will be shrouded and the lights behind the large cross in the chancel will not be turned on. This year, we will be excluding flowers and placing twigs and sticks in the vases to symbolize the rude and stark environment of the solemn forty days that Jesus spent fasting in the desert and enduring the temptation of Satan.

But there is more. We will also be shrouding our liturgy by removing some canticles and chanting. During our



## Our Lenten Journey (cont'd)

Holy Eucharist the opening dialogue known as the Great Thanksgiving will be spoken and we will be using the prayer of St. Hippolytus. This Eucharistic prayer is one of the earliest known Eucharistic prayers the church has today and it comes from a document known as the Apostolic Tradition of Hippolytus dating around 235 CE. This is an important treatise that established church order and became a source of information about our liturgical practices that we continue to use today.

St. Hippolytus is one of the Apostolic Church Fathers who fought heresies, and was martyred for it. Hippolytus was a pupil of Irenaeus who was a disciple of Polycarp who was a disciple of John the beloved disciple of Jesus.

While such subtle changes to the worship space may seem trivial, we are purposely preparing our physical and our liturgical environment so that it too may communicate that Lent is a different and special season, set apart from the ordinary rhythms of our weekly worship.

May our Lenten practices inspire a deeper sense of faith that heightens our commemoration of Holy Week. Our Lenten journey begins with a communion service and imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday, March 5, 2025

## Our Lenten Journey (cont'd)

here at St. Paul at 7:00 pm. During the forty days of Lent, we will offer the prayer office of Vespers each Wednesday evening beginning at 7:00 pm. Holy Week begins with Palm Sunday or Passion Sunday morning April 13, 2025 with Stations of the Cross and Holy Communion. Maundy Thursday worship will begin at 7:00 pm April 17, and will include a foot washing, Holy Communion, and the stripping of the altar. Good Friday service, Friday at 7:00 pm on April 18, will be a combination of a Tenebrae and Adoration of the Cross service of Word and Prayer. For the Easter Vigil on Saturday evening, we will be participating with Grace Lutheran Church in Lancaster at the corner of Queen and James Streets beginning at 6:00 pm. The Resurrection of Our Lord, Easter Sunday will be at 9:00 am April 20, 2025, which begins our Fifty Days of the Eastertide.

May this Lent be a season of  
grace to you all,

Pastor Kopp



## Lent Around the World

**In Poland:** Holy Saturday, people bring in the food they are going to eat on Easter Sunday for a “blessing of the baskets”. Common items are bread, eggs, ham, kielbasa, butter, cheeses, lamb, cake baked in the shape of a lamb, and horseradish.

**In Ireland:** When it comes to abstinence on Fridays during Lent in Ireland, the tradition in Catholic countries, is that fish is eaten in place of meat. The Irish typically eat fish soup on Fridays. In the Caribbean, however, the seafood of choice is cockles.

**In Slovakia:** On Palm Sunday, called Kvetna, or Flower Sunday, after the morning Mass, children in villages gathered behind a maypole and went through the town singing a song about Christ journeying to Jerusalem.

**Czech Republic:** Beginning Holy Thursday night, the bells of churches fell silent across parts of Europe, such as in Slovakia, the Czech Republic and Luxembourg. Children were told that the bells were quiet because they had gone to Rome to make confession. As there were no bells, children would be sent out with wooden clappers to call the villagers and townspeople to services for the rest of the Triduum. At dawn, on Easter morning, the bells began to ring once more. In the Czech Republic, the Thursday of Holy Week is called Soot-Sweeping or Black Wednesday because chimneys were traditionally cleaned this day to prepare for Easter.

**Russia:** Orthodox Christians give up all animal products, omit meat and forgo oil and wine on weekdays.

**Bermuda:** Families fly kites made with wooden sticks on Good Friday to represent both the cross that Jesus died on and his Ascension into heaven.

### In the Past

Rigorous fasting and abstinence during Lent was common in the past. In some areas, only one meal a day was taken during the entire 40 days. Other fasting practices included eating only bread and water; not eating until 3 p.m.; and eliminating all meat, eggs, dairy and fruit.

Interestingly, in some areas of Ireland, Wales, Germany and the Arctic, beaver tail was considered “fish” and could be consumed during the fast. Even today, in parts of Michigan, muskrat is among the food items approved to consume on days of abstinence, including the Fridays of Lent, because the mammal lives in the water.

(Apologies if anyone finds this material offensive)

## Children's Sermon

Children are the future of the church, of OUR church. Here, Pastor Kopp delivers a meaningful message to the children. His children's sermons tie



into the lessons for the day and living as Christians in today's world. The messages he delivers the children need to hear. But, there is so much more for them to learn, and they are eager to learn. We want and need children in the church, and we need to teach them the basics of the bible. PLEASE, consider signing up to teach ONE Sunday school class. Sign up with a buddy and teach it together. (strength in numbers?) Teaching a Sunday School lesson is a commitment of about two hours; one hour of preparation and one hour in the room with the kids. The lesson's subject matter has been planned out for the season and is on the signup sheet...just pick a date. Assistance in gathering materials etc. is available through the office...just ASK. (Kindly ask before the Thursday of the week you are teaching!) We desperately need to expand our pool of volunteers by a few people. Please consider helping.

(Apologies if anyone finds this material offensive)

## Easter Flower Time!

On the back page of this newsletter is an EASTER flower order form. You may print it, fill it in, and get it into the office, or, there are forms available in the narthex. Deadline is March 30th. Your flowers may be picked up after the service on Easter Sunday.

## Help Wanted

**Pastor Kopp** wanted to make sure that everyone knew that the role of the Cantor, leading the congregation in the Kyrie and Psalm, is open to anyone who wishes to do so. If you are interested in participating in the service in this way, please let Bill know. It is not difficult and you will have the psalm ahead of time to practice. Bill will even help you if you are unsure. Get involved! Make a joyful noise!



## Kyrie Eleison

What is the history of our Kyrie? The "Kyrie" is a Christian prayer phrase originating from the early Greek language, meaning "Lord, have mercy," and is considered one of the oldest parts of the Christian liturgy; it was first used liturgically in Rome during processions, with its roots tracing back to the early Christian Church in the eastern Mediterranean where Greek was widely spoken; the phrase became a universal expression of faith and repentance as Christianity spread throughout the Roman Empire, with prominent Church Fathers like St. Augustine emphasizing its importance in seeking divine mercy; in the traditional Roman Rite, the Kyrie is typically repeated three times, alternating with "Christe Eleison" (Christ, have mercy) to form a ninefold acclamation, reflecting the Trinity. There are hundreds if not thousands of examples of this text being put to some of the most beautiful music ever written.

A musical score for a Kyrie Eleison chant. It features a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in square neumes. The lyrics are: "ý-ri- e, e-léison. *iiij.* Christe,". The word "Christe" is written in red. There is a small red "1." above the first measure and a "X. s." above the final measure. To the left of the staff is a small, square, decorative icon with intricate patterns.

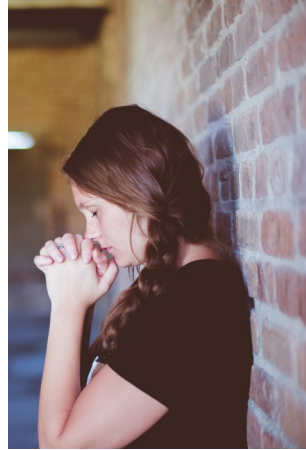
(Apologies if anyone finds this material offensive)

## Remember Family Members in Your Prayers

Gail Gilday  
Marilyn Homsher  
Ann Nagle  
Mary Ann Oren  
Marion Trimble  
Peggy Bruce  
Kay Cherry  
Patty & Barry Leed  
Eleanor Ottolini  
Charles Scharnberger  
Nancy Eberle  
Peg Siglin

Shirley & Howard Shuffelbottom  
Ruth Derby  
Katie Martin  
Louise & Bob Diamond

*Please contact the  
office if you would  
like to add some-  
one to this list.*



### IT'S TIME TO ORDER EASTER FLOWERS

Easter flowers will be placed in the Sanctuary and around the Altar on Easter Sunday.

You may return this form and money in the offering plate or to the church office mailbox.

Flower Options	Number Ordered	Cost	Total
White Lilies 6" pot (4-5 blooms)		\$11.00	\$
Tulips 6" pot (6 bulbs)		\$8.00	\$
Tulips 4" pot (3 bulbs)		\$5.00	\$
Daffodils 4" mini tete a' tete		\$5.00	\$
Daffodils 6" round pot		\$8.00	\$
Hyacinths 4.5" pot single bloom		\$5.00	
Hyacinths 6" pot triple bloom		\$8.00	\$
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>PAID</b>	<b>\$</b>

**Make checks payable to  
St. Paul Lutheran Church.  
Memo: "Easter Flowers"**

**All orders must be  
accompanied with payment.  
MARCH 30<sup>th</sup> deadline**

**You may take the flowers you  
purchased at the conclusion of  
the Easter Sunday Service 4/20.**

\_\_\_\_\_To the Glory of God

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

In Honor of \_\_\_\_\_

