



St. Paul's

"Epistles"

March 2025

Volume 41 No. 4

It was truly a pleasure to have St. Paul host a one-day conference *In His Image* put on by Doxology. Doxology began as an effort to sustain and care for pastors as they labor in the vineyard of the Lord's Church. For the past 17 years they have continued to do just that. Offering retreats, gatherings, continuing education, and spiritual care, Doxology, a Recognized Service Organization of the LCMS, travels the country to care for men who care for others. Included in their work, they offer conferences for not only for pastors but also teachers, leaders of congregations, and simply any lay person who wants to dig deeper into God's Word and practical teaching concerning current events. We had one of those conferences, *In His Image*, here at St. Paul on Saturday, Feb. 22.

The morning began with registration, coffee, and treats. Then, to kick things off right, around 60 of us who attended the conference gathered in the sanctuary to pray the office of Matins. The organ and singing were superb. The sermon was based on Psalm 1 and John 15:4-8 with the theme of "Blessed is the man who delights in the law of the Lord. He is like a tree planted by streams of water" (from Ps. 1). Following Matins, we made our way into the parish hall.

The first session was given by Rev. David Fleming titled, "Wonderfully Made: Christian Worldview and Sexuality." We were reminded from God's Word that we are God's wonderful creation, created either male or female, and that our bodies (which will be raised from death at the resurrection) are given to us to live in our homes and communities to carry the image of Jesus as His redeemed creation. We were encouraged to be a living sacrifice (Romans 12:1-2) in service to the truth of God's Word in our roles of male and female, husband and wife, and reminded that manhood and womanhood is not something to be achieved but rather is given by God.

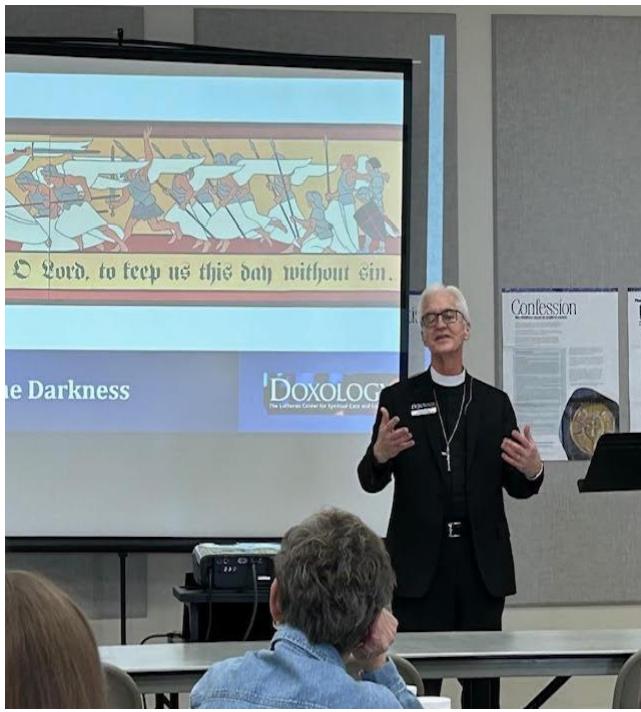
Dr. Beverly Yahnke, a clinical psychologist, served as the presenter for the next session titled, "Caring for the Child Who Identifies as Transgender." We learned that this phenomenon affects a very small portion of the population but is inflated by many sources. Dr. Yahnke lamented the fact that against solid, professional practice, many children are being encouraged down this path and are being harmed by hormone treatments and surgeries often against the will of the parents of a child who is being allowed to make life altering decisions at a very young age. She offered the titles of several books for further reading.

The third session, led by Dr. Yahnke, explored the "Essentials for Traveling Through Difficult Conversations." She encouraged a listening ear, being approachable, finding something to agree on, and making a plan prior to the conversation. Love involves the risk of disagreement, but can lead to a fruitful and helpful discussion.

Rev. Fleming led the final session with the theme of "Light in the Darkness: Christian Responses to Conflict in a Sexually Toxic Culture." He highlighted that the Christian isn't battling other people, but ultimately the battle is against the powers of darkness, that is, the devil and his horde. We Christians have the victory of Christ and the full armor of God to shine our Lord's truth in dark places. This is where our strength is found against all attacks. A brief question and answer session wrapped up the excellent conference. We departed with prayer.

The event was a resounding success and there were many hands to help it go well. The Ladies Aid spearheaded lunch, treats, and drinks for everyone. Many others helped with clean-up. Thank you to all who attended and helped. God be praised that our little place could host such a timely event and I pray all were encouraged by what was said that day!

To God be all the glory,
Pastor Suggitt



In His Image



LENT MIDWEEK SERVICES

As part of your spiritual discipline during Lent, gather with your brothers and sisters in Christ to encourage one another in the things of Our Lord, hear the Word of God, pray, and grow in the faith. Suppers will be pot-luck style. Bring something and share it. If you don't bring something, that's okay, still come anyway - someone will share with you.

Ash Wednesday, March 5

Divine Service

With imposition of Ashes

Good Shepherd - 5:30pm

St. Paul - 7pm

March 12

St. Paul

6pm Supper and 7pm Evening Prayer

March 19

Good Shepherd

7pm Evening Prayer

March 26

St. Paul

6pm Supper and 7pm Evening Prayer

April 2

Good Shepherd

7pm Evening Prayer

April 9

St. Paul

6pm Supper and 7pm Evening Prayer



The monthly meeting of St. Paul's Ladies Aid was held on Sunday, February 2, 2025. The meeting was called to order by President Ruth Fluegge.

A devotion was read by the secretary. It was from *Portals of Prayer* entitled "Children Belong to God". "Even if we don't have children or are not baptismal sponsors, we can follow God's instructions to bring those around us to Christ and to nurture their faith.

Thirteen ladies answered the roll call. The Ladies Aid mission statement was read by all.

Thank you notes were read from the following organizations for the monetary gifts given at Christmas:

1. Owen-Gage Schools
2. Lakers
3. USA School
4. North Huron School
5. Clothe-A-Child program
6. Pigeon Food Pantry

Old Business:

1. *IN HIS IMAGE* conference will be held at St. Paul on Saturday, February 22, 2025. Ladies Aid agreed to furnish food and drinks for this event – set-up, serving and clean up. This includes a morning break, lunch and an afternoon break. We need to plan for 80. We will be re-imursed by the Synod for the food, paper products, etc. as long as we have 50 people in attendance. The menu will include broasted chicken, meat and cheese tray, bread, a couple salads, a veggie tray, beverages and dessert. We will use real silverware.

Volunteers for that day: Margaret Timmons, Joyce Metzger, Ruth Kumaus, Ruth Fluegge, Sandy Salcido, Wanda Dubs, Janet Truemner, Brandy Gunsell, Shirley Fritz and Marge Weisenbach.

Brenda Kady and Brandy Gunsell volunteered to take care of food, paper products, and drinks.

2. Ladies Aid financials – Ruth Kumaus
 - A. 2024 Budget Recap
 - B. Proposed 2025 Budget
- C. 2024 Donations tabled for review in 2025
 - a. Imagination Library - \$500
 - b. Orphan Grain Train - \$500
 - c. Re-imbursement of Youth Group for craft sales - \$120
 - d. Josh Errer - \$2,000 for continued education towards his doctorate

A motion was made by Janet Truemner to pay the tabled donations; supported by Wanda Dubs; carried. Sunday School and Youth Group donations were tabled – will make them if and when necessary.

3. Discussion was held on replacing the single door refrigerator, the 6-burner gas range and the 4-burner range. A motion was made by Brandy Gunsell to spend up to \$16,000 for the above-mentioned purchases; supported by Janet Truemner; carried.
4. A motion was made by Sandy Salcido to replace the vinyl tablecloths on the long tables in the fellowship hall; supported by Melissa Deming; carried.

New Business:

1. Sunday School asked for help cleaning up after Sunday School/Coffee Hour. Several ladies said they would help.
2. Altar Guild members were reminded that the candelabras and snuffers need to be cleaned quarterly (January, April, July and October). Jen Timmons has agreed to serve on Altar Guild to fill the vacancy after Peggy Parrish's passing.

The Altar Guild schedule will be shuffled so everyone knows what the responsibilities are during all months of the year.

(continued on next page)

3. A couple Sunday School mothers have expressed interest in making cheeseballs since Ladies Aid did not make them in November 2024.

Discussion was held. Ladies are willing to work with them on cheeseballs for delivery before Easter – including getting orders, purchasing necessary food stuffs for production and packaging as well as delivery. We will split the profits with them.

4. Ladies Aid will purchase a trash can – 13 gallon size with foot operated lid and trash bags with ties for it. Sandy agreed to purchase it today at Costco.

5. Joyce Metzger mentioned the congestion at the foot of the stairs at funerals for people who wish to do a memorial. Sandy will talk with Pastor on what can we do to solve this issue.

6. Discussion was held on the Mother/Daughter Banquet. Brandy Gunsell, Sandy Salcido, Melissa Deming and Shirley Fritz agreed to chair this event.

We closed the meeting with the singing of the doxology and saying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Salcido, Secretary

St. Paul's "Epistles" is published monthly by St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 7292 Kilmanagh Road, Pigeon, MI, 48755.

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Church Email: lvspaul40@gmail.com
Secretary's Email: salcido.sandy8@gmail.com

Sunday Worship: 8:30 a.m.
Sunday School: 9:30 a.m.

What Are You Doing After Church On Sunday?

Back in the day that was the question all us kids asked our parents. Usually, it was going to Grandma's for lunch. Mmm!



Yes, those were the days. For many of you it is still going to Grandma's for lunch. Unfortunately, some modern church goers sometimes miss the first part of the equation – the 'church' part.

I know 'times have changed; schedules are busier'. There's a lot tugging at us to get our attention. Other places to be at instead of where God asks us to be.

It's kind of like calling in sick to work. The first time you are not sick and call in to work, there is a bit of guilt or anxiety. But after a few more times it becomes second nature. "Oh, I'll just call in sick" and then I can do what I want.

Maybe with the onset of Lent we can commit to going to Grandma's for lunch.....AFTER CHURCH.

See you Sunday,

Joe Salcido – the elder Elder



| | |
|--|--|
| Don Fibranz Satchell's Christian Foster Care Home 2662 E. Caro Road Caro, MI 48723 | Peggy Kelly 6282 Pine Street Cass City, MI 48726 (989) 872-5086 |
| Wilma Kovach 2700 Knotter Road Owendale, MI 48754 (989) | Beverly Liedke c/o Brenda Baugher 7180 S. Loomis Road DeWitt, MI 48820 |
| Bonnie Nowaczyk 7305 Main Street Owendale, MI 48754 (989) 553-4286 or (989) 678-4286 | Dennis & Linda Schweitzer 2875 Shebeon Road Sebewaing, MI 48759 (989) 883-9197 |
| Jeannine Ziehm c/o Jennifer Scott 5318 Indian Trail Ypsilanti, MI 48197 |  |

NewsLetter DEADLine

Articles for the April issue of St. Paul's "Epistle" are due Sunday, March 23rd.

Please place your articles in the "Epistles" mailbox at the church or email them to Sandy at salcido.sandy8@gmail.com.

Don't forget those "Hats Off" items.

WE'RE MAKING CHEESEBALLS!



BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!

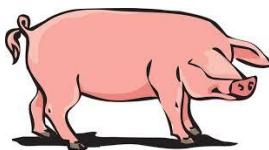
St. Paul Sunday School and Ladies Aid are joining forces to produce cheeseballs that will be ready for pick-up before Easter.

Order forms will be available soon.



The Lutheran Hour is heard Locally on WLEW Bad Axe at 11:10am Sundays and WSAM 1440 Saginaw at 8:30 a.m. Sundays. OR listen to it anytime anywhere on the Lutheran hour APP on your phone. Download the Lutheran Hour Devotions app and click on Lutheran hour sermons. You can also find the Lutheran hour sermons on the Lutheran hour website at lhm.org. You can also dial 1-800-944-3450 and you will get the recorded instructions. Hit 3 then 1 and the whole Lutheran hour sermon will play just like you are receiving a phone call.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Linkville Pork Dinner



**Sunday, March 30
11:00am – 1:30pm**

Dine-in and take-out available.

Menu: Roast pork, mashed potatoes and gravy, hot vegetable, coleslaw, rolls, dessert, and drinks

Prices: 13+ years - \$14
5 – 12 years - \$8
4 and under - Free

There are lots of ways you can help.

- Sign-up sheets are posted in the narthex for volunteer workers to make this dinner happen. *It takes many hands to make light work.*
- Sign up for desserts on the sheet posted in the narthex.
- We need boxes and bags for the take-out dinners. Please take them to the storage area at the bottom of the basement steps.
- **The flyers are here and they need to be posted in area businesses.** Feel free to grab some and drop them off when you go to town, or school, or work, or to visit friends/family.

PRIVATE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

From the Small Catechism: Confession
What is confession?

Confession has two parts. First, that we confess our sins, and second, that we receive absolution, that is, forgiveness, from the pastor as from God Himself, not doubting, but firmly believing that by it our sins are forgiven before God in heaven.

Private, or individual, confession and absolution is available by appointment with Pastor Suggitt. You may call him at 989.551.3976 to set up a time.

LIFE QUOTE

On St. Joseph: Though Mary's husband did not beget Jesus from his own body, he did father him in the fashion of a foster, adoptive, or step-parent. For this reason, he has received the title of Guardian of Our Lord. His service to God and family not only figures prominently in the Gospel of Jesus Christ but also exemplifies the holy vocation of fatherhood and testifies to the sanctity of marriage, parenting, adoption, and every human life.

A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life
lutheransforlife.org



On February 29, 2025 we were blessed to welcome into the family of faith at St. Paul by the washing and renewal of Holy Baptism Renley Lee Ricker, infant daughter of Brenden & Jordyn Ricker. Serving as sponsors for Renley were Derek Ricker, Shane Rasmussen, Taylor Rasmussen, and Logan Rowell.

Hayden is the granddaughter of Matt & Kari Ricker and the great-granddaughter of Janet Truemner.

Please keep these children in your prayers as they live their lives in Jesus.

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

March 1st – Kayla Deering
Layla Provost
Alexander Rogers
2nd – Richard Dubs
Kendyl Reehl
3rd – Doug Fritz
Lonnie Fritz
Shana Adkins
4th – Lance Deming
Scott Thies
5th – Devin Prich
7th – Taylor Engelhardt
8th – Abby Truemner
9th – Richard Renn, Jr.
10th – Ellery Fritz
Linda Schweitzer
11th – Brooks Flannery
14th – Cally Rose Ricker
Laura Swartzendruber
15th – Kristi Howard
16th – Rowan Higgins
17th – Blake & Brody Verbeek
18th – Henry Gies
Terry Gettel
19th – Bonnie Nowaczyk
Kenneth Rathje
Henry Haag
Hailey Romzek
20th – Blain Renn
Amy Haag
22nd – Ken Haley
26th – Lucille Welchner
Stacey Farmer
27th – Harper Shuboy
Ron Tabar
Valerie Fritz
28th – Adam Metzger
Kelly Haley
29th – Lisa Sprague

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

March 7 – Van & Suzanne Fritz
March 27 – Harold & Marge Weisenbach
Larry & Annette Prich

IN HIS SERVICE

March Elders

March 2 – Robert Haag & Matt Reibling
5 – Joe Salcido (7:00 p.m. Ash Wed.)
9 – Joe Salcido & Ron Tabar
12 – Ron Tabar (7:00 p.m.)
16 – Josh Sprague & Ken Haley
23 – Matt Reibling & Robert Haag
26 – Josh Sprague (7:00 p.m.)
30 – Joe Salcido & Ron Tabar

March Acolytes

March 2 – Emma Reibling
9 – Jackson Rosenthal
16 – Brettly Ewald
23 – Sadie Swartzendruber
30 – Lincoln Ewald

March Greeters

March 2 – Joyce Metzger
9 – Warren & Jan Stoeckle
16 – Matt & Michelle Reibling and Family
23 – Charlie & Margaret Timmons

March Tithe Counters

March 9 – Liz Reehl & Kim Krohn
23 – Jen Timmons & Brandy Gunsell

March Altar Guild & Altar Guild

Shirley Fritz
Melissa Deming

March Snow Patrol

March 2 – 8:30 a.m. **Volunteer**
5 – 7:00 p.m. (Ash Wed.) **Timmons**
9 – 8:30 a.m. **Fluegge**
13 – 8:30 a.m. **Fluegge**
17 – 7:00 p.m. **Deming** Maundy Thursday
18 – 7:00 p.m. **Volunteer** Good Friday
20 – 6:30 a.m. **Timmons** Sunrise Easter Service
27 – 8:30 a.m. **Fluegge** Easter Festival Service

March

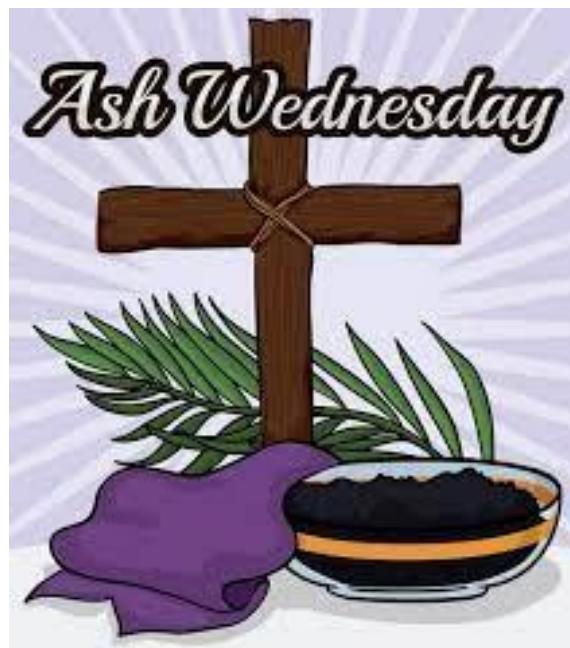
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| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM SS/Coffee Hr. Ladies Aid Mtg. 1:30 PM Catechism 7:00 PM Youth Bible Study | 3 6:00 PM Choir | 4 6:15 PM Elders 7:00 PM Council | 5 5:30 PM Divine Service @ GS 7:00 PM Divine Service @ SP | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 Daylight Savings Time Begins 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM SS/Coffee Hr. 1:30 PM Catechism | 10 6:00 PM Choir | 11 | 12 6:00 PM Potluck Lenten Supper @ SP 7:00 PM Evening Prayer Service @ SP | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM Sunday School & Coffee Hour 1:30 PM Catechism 7:00 PM Youth Bible Study | 17 6:00 PM Choir | 18 | 19 7:00 PM Evening Prayer Service @ GS | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 8:30 AM Service 9:30 AM Sunday School & Coffee Hour 1:30 PM Catechism | 24 6:00 PM Choir | 25 | 26 6:00 PM Potluck Lenten Supper @ SP 7:00 PM Evening Prayer Service @ SP | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 8:30 AM Service PORK DINNER No Sunday School No Catechism | 31 6:00 PM Choir | | | | | 2025 |

St. Paul's "Epistles"



*St. Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

7292 Kilmanagh Rd.
Pigeon, MI 48755



Divine Service – 7:00 p.m. March 5, 2025