



The Messenger

Fourth Sunday of Easter ~ April 21, 2024

Stewardship Moments for the Easter Season

Jesus' well-known statement in today's Gospel that he is the "Good Shepherd" is quite obviously a reference to that familiar psalm that many of us know by heart, "The Lord is my shepherd." That's not the only place in the Scriptures where you can find the imagery of sheep and shepherd. Both Jeremiah and Ezekiel speak of the true shepherd God will provide to lead his people.

So why do the Scriptures liken us to sheep? Isn't that a tad bit demeaning? Maybe it's because in certain ways we actually are like them. Sheep are, for example, notoriously near-sighted, meaning that they are oblivious to the danger posed by a wolf prowling off in the distance. Like them, we need a shepherd who watches out for us. Or, consider the fact that if a sheep gets separated from the flock, it pretty much freezes with fear. Typically, a shepherd can't coax the sheep to move along but has to pick it up and carry it home.

What a beautiful image of our Lord Jesus. Having laid down his life for you, his beloved sheep, he is utterly committed to you. Like a noble, heroic shepherd, he carries you through the dark valley of this life. So listen for his voice. Commit yourself to going to church every Sunday. And invite your friends and neighbors to get to know this Good Shepherd as well. There is no better friend, no better Lord.

Rev. Paul Grime

Bible Study Opportunities

Early Bible Study—Sundays at 8:30 a.m.

Dr. Charles Gieschen is teaching on “What’s Next? Afterlife and Resurrection”. Due to the estate sale and in preparation for the renovation, please meet in the front of the sanctuary for the remainder of this class.

Sunday School—Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Youth ages 2 through high school meet in the front of the sanctuary before heading off to your classrooms.

Adult Bible Study—Sundays at 10:45 a.m.

Join us in celebrating the 500th anniversary of the first Lutheran hymnal, the *Achtliederbuch*. The celebration focuses on the beloved hymn “Salvation Unto Us Has Come” (*LSB* 555) by Paul Speratus. We will take a deep dive into the Law-Gospel elements of the hymn through a reinterpretation led by Rev. Thomas Sabel. We will meet in the sanctuary after the Divine Service.

Adult Instruction—Lutheranism 101

Pastor Hoem is leading this Adult Instruction class about what it means to be Lutheran, join us at 10:45 a.m. in the Founders room.

Women’s Bible Study—6:30 p.m.

Widows have a special place throughout scripture. Join Pastor and Kristin Hoem this Monday, April 22 as we unpack what we can learn from them and how God continues to take care of us in all situations.

Wednesday Afternoon Bible Study—2:00 p.m.

Join Pastor Cage in the church library for the Epistle to the Hebrews.

Thursday Morning Men’s Bible Study-7:00 a.m.

Class continues this Thursday, April 25. Men, start your day in God’s Word as we prepare for the upcoming Sunday Divine Service. Meet in the church library—donuts provided!

Thursday Morning Bible Study—9:00 a.m.

Dr. Geoffrey Robinson teaches on Psalms at the District Office (1145 Barr Street).

Worship Schedule:

Sunday, April 21, 9:30 a.m.

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Wednesday, April 24, 8:45 a.m. ~ *Matins*

Our Giving For April 14

Budget Envelopes	\$19,624.12
CLHS	\$50.00
Missions/Lutheran Heritage	\$34.73
Plate Offerings	\$305.27
Seasonal Envelopes	\$50.00
School Income	\$181.75
Total Income	\$20,245.87
Livestreaming	\$48.21
Gathering In Christ	\$102,530.31
Total of All Donations	\$122,824.39

Attendance Last Week

Sunday, April 14 ~ 9:30 a.m. 303

Serving This Week and Next

Sunday, April 21~

Altar Guild: *Barb Doerffler and Elaine Berning*

Elder: *Larry Koelper*

Ushers: *Dan Wietfeldt, Joshuwa Richman, Karl Davis, Kevan Davis, Barry Mezger, David Vandre, Joshua Vandre, Mark Vandre*

Sunday, April 28 ~

Altar Guild: *Kris Hall and Kara Mezger*

Elder: *Jon Keck*

Ushers: *Dave Geller, Matt Geller, David Kruse, Dan Kramer, Dean Trainer, Russ Harges, Jack Hall, Sam Lind*

Altar/Chancel Flowers

The Altar flowers have been given to the glory of God by Cindy Irie, in thankfulness for all of our volunteers at St. Paul’s.

St. Paul's Heritage Hall Renovation/Expansion Project Update

Many exciting changes are in the works at St. Paul's. You are likely all aware of the upcoming renovation and expansion project planned for Heritage Hall. We anticipate construction work to begin at the end of May with completion anticipated by approximately July or August of 2025. Much work has already been done to empty out Heritage Hall and thank you to all the faithful volunteers who have assisted with this effort. However, much work remains to be completed between now and the end of May to prepare for construction!

Anticipated Schedule

April 20th

*Estate Sale (9am – 5pm)

April 22nd – 26th

*Remaining items not sold in estate sale to be sent to a local auction house.

April 29th – May 18th

*Remaining items to be kept will be boxed and stored in the sanctuary basement.

*Volunteers will be needed to assist with moving items to the basement.

May 21st – 23rd

*Church office staff as well as Pastor Cage's office will move to the Indiana District Office. All necessary items including copiers, files and supporting equipment will be moved. The District Office is being very accommodating in preparation for this move and St. Paul's is grateful for their cooperation. The church phone number and email access will remain the same.

****Member access to the church office staff will be very limited and on an appointment basis only.*** We must make every effort to minimize disruption to the Indiana District Office staff during this time.

*Pastor Hoem has already moved his office to the school.

May 29th

*Asbestos abatement and initial demolition are scheduled to begin.

Construction Items to note

1. Restrooms will remain available during the entire construction process for use during services. Access will be through the west cloister hallway. No other access will be available during construction. The elevator and east cloister entrances will be closed.
2. Approximately the west 1/3 of the north parking lot will be unavailable for parking as it will be needed for construction material storage and project staging.

Bible Studies and other activities to note

1. Beginning April 21st, the 8:30am and 10:45am Bible studies will be located in the front of the sanctuary off the main center aisle, with the exception of Pastor Hoem's Adult Instruction class which will still meet in the Founders Room. Sunday School will continue as usual in the Pre-K lower-level area through May 19th. Please see the Bible Study announcements listed in the Messenger for individual classes and continued updates.
2. Current, weekly Bible studies (Wednesday afternoon and Thursday Men's) will continue in the library until mid-May. An alternate location will be identified following this date.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

First Lutheran Hymnal—500th Anniversary

Join us in celebrating the 500th anniversary of the first Lutheran hymnal, the *Achtliederbuch*. This celebration focuses on the beloved hymn “Salvation Unto Us Has Come” (*LSB* 555) by Paul Speratus. We will take a deep dive into the Law-Gospel elements of the hymn through a reinterpretation led by Rev. Thomas Sabel. Stay in the sanctuary after the Divine Service for this presentation.

CTSFW Food Co-op Donation Update

We are sorry for the inconvenience, but in preparation for the renovation, we are no longer accepting donations for the CTSFW Food Co-op. Please take your donations directly to the seminary from 6 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Monday through Friday for the duration of the renovation. Please visit ctsfw.edu for more information about items needed or location and drop-off information. Thank you for your continued and generous support!

New Location—Altar/Chancel Flower Book

Until we find a new location for the Altar Flower Book, please email any orders to the church office at lvandre@stpaulsfw.org. The following dates are available: June 16, 23, 30, and throughout 2024. Reserve a date of your choice in honor of an occasion or in memory of a loved one. Payment of \$40.00 is due when you reserve a date. Make your check out to St. Paul’s Altar Guild and include the date that you reserved on your check. You may put your payment in the Altar Guild locked mail box in the office area.

April 21—Easter 4

The Gracious Savior brings a delightful clarity to life-and-death issues and situations. Killing and destroying belongs entirely to the work of the devil (John 10:11). The people of God advocate and extend abundant, everlasting life to the Lord’s every last little lamb. Unto all our neighbors, with both our voice and our goods (1 John 3:17), may we “come that they may have life and have it abundantly!”

April 2024

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	<i>1</i> SPRING BREAK CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	<i>2</i> SPRING BREAK	<i>3</i> SPRING BREAK	<i>4</i> SPRING BREAK 9am - Bible Study IN District Office	<i>5</i> SPRING BREAK	<i>6</i>
<i>7</i> 8:30am - Bible Study 9:30am - Divine Service 10:45am - SCRIP Sales 10:45am—Bible Study & Sunday School	<i>8</i> CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED AT 1:00pm 6:30pm—Women's Bible Study	<i>9</i>	<i>10</i> 8:45am - School Chapel 9-10am - SCRIP Sales 2pm - Bible Study in Nerger Rm	<i>11</i> 9am - Bible Study IN District Office 5:30—Elders Mtg 7pm—Council Mtg	<i>12</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>14</i> 8:30am - Bible Study 9:30am - Divine Service 10:45am - SCRIP Sales 10:45am—Bible Study & Sunday School	<i>15</i> 6:30pm—Women's Bible Study	<i>16</i>	<i>17</i> 8:45am - School Chapel 9-10am - SCRIP Sales 2pm - Bible Study in Nerger Rm	<i>18</i> 7am - Men's Bible Study—Church Library 9am - Bible Study IN District Office 6pm—BOEE	<i>19</i>	<i>20</i> 9am-5pm—Estate Sale at Church—Nerger Rm 5:30pm—St. Paul's School Auction—Baker Street Train Station
<i>21</i> 8:30am - Bible Study 9:30am - Divine Service 10:45am - SCRIP Sales 10:45am—Bible Study & Sunday School	<i>22</i> 6:30pm—Women's Bible Study	<i>23</i>	<i>24</i> 8:45am - School Chapel 9-10am - SCRIP Sales 2pm - Bible Study in Nerger Rm	<i>25</i> <u>St. Mark, Evangelist</u> 7am - Men's Bible Study—Church Library 9am - Bible Study IN District Office	<i>26</i>	<i>27</i>
<i>28</i> 8:30am - Bible Study 9:30am - Divine Service 10:45am - SCRIP Sales 10:45am—Bible Study & Sunday School	<i>29</i> 6:30pm—Women's Bible Study	<i>30</i>				

PRAY

without ceasing

1 THESSALONIANS 5:17

St. Paul's Students & Their Families:

† *Ellie, Seth, Kenneth, Kyra*

Gathering In Christ:

† *God's continued blessing of our "Gathering In Christ" building project.*

Ongoing Chronic Concerns:

† *Susan Balsamo-Furniss*

† *Harris Beck*

† *Bob Demaree*

† *Carolyn Falkenstern*

† *Gloria Hamer*

† *Dennis Harmeyer*

† *Lonni Helmchen*

† *Jerry Huitt*

† *Roy Huitt*

† *Ruth Huitt*

† *Juanita Jefferson*

† *Karen Johnson*

† *Mark Knoblauch*

† *Kelly Kochensparger*

† *Jodi Kreiger*

† *Jan Leffel*

† *Gail Ludvigson*

† *John Mader*

† *James Maier*

† *Joan Messmann*

† *Carolyn Moore*

† *Mary Mundt*

† *Barbara Nelson*

† *Sara Nordling*

† *Juan Perez*

† *Ron Rastl*

† *Andrew Scholes*

† *Wanda Schweyer*

† *Fred Scott*

† *Amanda Seeger*

† *Sam Suarez*

† *Denise Trentadue*

Comfort, Health, and Recovery:

† *Mary Hathaway*

† *Thomas Hoem*

† *John Huitt*

† *Lorene Langsdale*

† *Diane Lewis*

† *Dennis Lloyd*

† *Michael McWilliams*

† *Todd Moore*

† *Leona Puff*

† *Mark von der Lage*

Our Homebound Members:

† *Neva Aldridge*

† *Joan Badders*

† *Marilyn Berning*

† *Myra Carrier*

† *Mary Ann Cordes*

† *Phoebe Fett*

† *Rodney Hall*

† *Leah Maier*

† *Lois Meyer*

† *Ernestine Morrison*

† *Larry Murphy*

† *Esther Pinnow*

† *Carolyn Reincke*

† *Walter Schroeder*

† *Rev. Ralph Seilaff*

† *Dorothy Taylor*

† *Mary Weick*

† *Sharon Williams*

Serving in the Armed Forces:

† *KiVuan Edwards*

† *Rev. Joshua Schiff*

† *Cierra Germann*

† *Brandon Screeton*

† *Rev. Brian Hamer*

† *John Sheaffer Jr.*

† *Zachary Harmeyer*

† *Ryan Sheaffer*

† *Jarrell Harris*

† *Brandon Skalicky*

† *Jasmine Jackson*

† *Austin Kerr*

† *Courtney Linnemeier*

† *Sharia Macon*

† *Jamara Moore*

Happy Birthday This Week:

† *Susan Lennington*

† *Rebecca Miller*

* Pray for these saints throughout the week.

Please submit prayer requests by calling the church office at 260.423.2496 ext. 310