

The Messenger

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

12095 Blades Road, P.O. Box 368, Cordova, MD 21625

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From Pastor White, March 2021

In our Wednesday evening Zoom Taizé Service with Grace Church, one of the chants we hear that seems to have invaded my consciousness is this – “In our darkest night, you kindle the fire that never dies away.”

Lent, as I've written and said before, invites us, perhaps even commands us, to enter a “darkest night,” but we enter in in these blessed days knowing that at the end of our 40 days of darkness come the three days that are the center of our life as disciples: Maundy Thursday, the day when Jesus promised to be with his disciple in the breaking of the bread, Good Friday when we bring again into our lives Jesus's crucifixion, and Easter, which begins with the Great Vigil of Easter after the sun sets on Holy Saturday and continues with our Easter morning services.

Also as I've said and written, it seems sometimes as if we have been living in a year-long darkest Lent night. It was in mid-March last year that we realized that we were living in a pandemic and were asked to suspend our gatherings for worship.

In “normal years,” a joyous celebration of Easter ends the darkness of Lent and moves us into the fulness of the light of Christ. Last Easter Sunday, we held a “virtual service,” and surely God's light was with us in our home; surely we knew even then the core truth of the Gospel truth that gathers us every first day of the week – Christ is risen indeed!!

As we begin to anticipate and even to see the light at the end of this pandemic tunnel, we will hear and celebrate that gospel truth more fully than we have for the last year.

I learned yesterday that some of our sister Lutheran congregations on the Eastern Shore that suspended indoor worship last March are planning to reopen their doors on this Easter Sunday, and to do so fully conscious of the need to practice all of the measures that have contributed to keeping us safe for the last year.

Even through this year of darkness, we know that God has “kindled the fire that never dies away.”

Continued on the next page

In many of the Taizé chants, as the congregation sings the chant, a single voice, over the quiet repetition, sings other verses. Here are those that might be sung to us as the people sing “In our darkest night, you kindle the fire that never dies away”:

My soul thirsts for God,
the God of life.

The Lord is my Savior and my God.

Why are you cast down, O my soul?

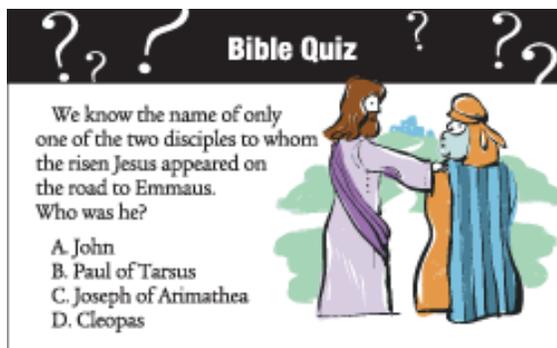
Hope in God; for I shall praise him again,
my help and my God.

By day the Lord commands his steadfast love,
and at night his song is with me,
a prayer to the God of my life.

May we go in these Lenten days thirsting and confident that God’s light, God’s steadfast love, leads us as we thirst to know more fully the light of Christ, the fire that never dies away.

Upcoming Service Information

While we may modify this as we move closer to Easter, we will have our regular 9:00 AM service on Palm/Passion Sunday, services at 7:00 PM on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, and a Sunrise and 9:00 AM service on Easter Sunday. The two Easter services will be similar, both with Communion, but there may be a gospel reading and sermon, both of which will be available recorded and/or in print.



Answer: D (See Luke 24:18.)

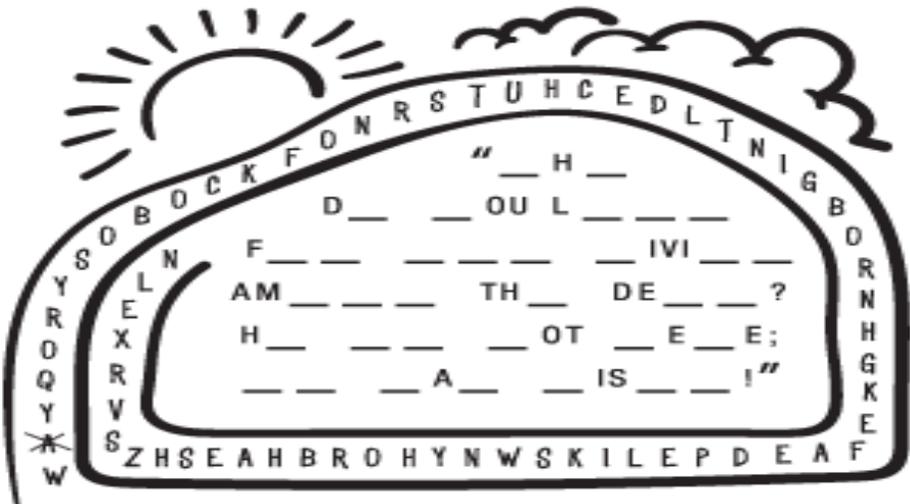
PUZZLE



EASTER MORNING message

Early Sunday morning, some women who followed Jesus encountered a great surprise. Solve the puzzle to see what the angels told them.

Directions: Cross out every other letter in the maze. Write the remaining letters in order to complete Luke 24:5-6, NIV.



LUKE 24:5-6, NIV

Answer: "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; he has risen!" Luke 24:5-6, NIV

Kids Page
(And for those who are kids at heart)

PUZZLE



BIRDS IN THE WORD

The Bible mentions many kinds of birds. How many have you seen?

Directions: Unscramble the bird names, using the Bible references and pictures as clues. Then insert the final unscrambled bird name to complete the passage below.

-  VDEO _____ (Genesis 8:8)
-  LWO _____ (Psalm 102:6)
-  GEELA _____ (Isaiah 40:31)
-  TOKRS _____ (Jeremiah 8:7)
-  APROSWRS _____

"Are not five _____ sold for two pennies? Yet not one of them is forgotten by God. ... Don't be afraid; you are worth more than many _____."

LUKE 12:6-7, NIV

Answer: dove, owl, eagle, sparrow, sparrow

FOR THE BIRDS

Display this recycled craft to care for feathered friends.



- What you need:**
- Peanut butter or vegetable shortening
 - Plastic knife
 - Empty toilet paper tube
 - Bird seed
 - A plate
 - String

- What you do:**
1. Spread peanut butter or vegetable shortening on the tube, covering the entire outside surface.
 2. Pour bird seed on a plate and roll the tube in the seeds.
 3. Thread string through the tube and tie it to make a loop.
 4. Hang the bird feeder outside. When seeds are eaten, coat the roll again.

Congregational Meeting



The annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday March 21, 2021 following the church service. This meeting will be a combination in-person and zoom simultaneously.

More information will be coming in the coming weeks.



TALBOT INTERFAITH SHELTER—

“Talbot Interfaith Shelter was formed in 2008 by a group of concerned members of Talbot County faith communities.

It operated as a “homeless” homeless shelter for five years, rotating between faith communities during the cold weather months, serving 5 individuals at a time.

In 2014, they received a permit to operate a year-round shelter facility at a former bed and breakfast called Easton’s Promise. They have since developed a S4 Program (Shelter, Stability, Support, Success), which includes case management, educational programming, and subsidized transitional housing.”

(www.talbotinterfaithshelter.org)

Help Wanted the 1st of Every Month

We are still supplying dinners on the 1st of every month, the sign up is on the bulletin board outside the offices. Thank you for supporting this wonderful ministry. If you have any questions, you can contact Mike Hiner, 443-496-1383.

Important Dates this Month

World Day of Prayer March 5

Daylight Savings March 14

St Patrick's Day March 17

First Day of Spring March 20

Palm Sunday March 28

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Setting captives free

Though St. Patrick's Day has become a secular "holiday," March 17 commemorates the life of a Christian missionary. St. Patrick grew up in a Christian home in Britain but wasn't very devout until he experienced crisis. As a teen, he was captured and sold into slavery in Ireland, escaping after six years. "The Lord opened my unbelieving eyes" in Ireland, Patrick later said. God led him back there, and he converted tribe after tribe to Christianity.

In Confessio 61, St. Patrick writes, "I testify in truth and in great joy of heart before God and his holy angels that I never had any other reason for returning to that nation ... except the Gospel and God's promises."

St. Patrick's
Day



As part of our Easter celebration, we plan to adorn the Sanctuary with living plants, Lilies and Tulips. When ordering tulips you will not be able to designate a specific color. All plants purchased will be placed as offering of dedication for the Easter Sunday Service. They may be taken home after the celebration. Please complete this form and return to Carol Meers or place in the offering plate. **All orders must be placed by Sunday, March 28th.** Please make your check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and (note) on your check "Easter Flowers".

Your name _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Given by: _____

Number of Lilies [6" pot – 5 blooms] _____ @ \$ _____

Number of Tulips [6" pot– 5 blooms] _____ @ \$ _____

TOTAL _____

CHURCH COUNCIL



Council

Pastor	Robert White	330 883-9940	prrmwhite@gmail.com
Deacon	Mike Hiner	443 496-1383	mhiner24@gmail.com
President	Kathy Barletta	410 829-8860	barlettarkc@gmail.com
Vice President/Property	Tom Roesel	703 785-8922	thomasroesel@gmail.com
Treasurer	Sam Sauca	410 829-3336	sam@asg-cpas.com
Secretary	Diana Oburgh	443 262-8868	doburgh@aol.com
Financial Secretary	Donna Stevens	410 820-7243	dstevens62@icloud.com
Worship, Music, Education	Carol Meers	410 507-6833	fcmeers@comcast.net
Evangelism, Outreach	Donna Saathoff	410 310-1331	donnasaathoff529@gmail.com



Members of St. Paul's: Jane Asche, Frances Blades, Lisa Fisher, Ursula Kadolph, Pastor Donald McClean, Barry Reusing, Edith Roe, Else Ross, Richard Sump, Delores Mullikin and Louise White.

Friends of St. Paul's: Erin Bartz, Lisa Callahan, Bonnie Chambers, Glynn Chambers, Hunter Clough, Michael Eaton (brother of Rosemary Spies), Lyn Fuller, Dorothy Hiner, Katelyn Howard, Darren Leonard, Jim and Diane Lewis, (mother and father of Jamie and Jeff Lewis and mother and father in-law of Michelle and Meredith Lewis), Michael Mumford (son of Dale & Betty Jean Mumford), John Rickwood, and Cade Wineke. We pray for those serving in the military: Tessa Heller, Hunter Priest and Victoria Spies Jacobs.



St. Paul's Prayer ministry ... If you would like to receive prayers from our prayer ministry group, please email Betty Jean Mumford at

bettyjmumford@hotmail.com

E-mail Prayer Chain



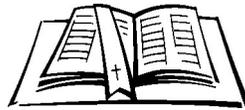
Please make sure you have permission of the person you are adding to our prayer chain, some people do not want to add their name to a public list.



SCHEDULE OF VOLUNTEERS

Lectors

March 7 Betty Jean Mumford
 March 14 Bobbie Leaverton
 March 21 Donna Stevens
 March 28 Robert Saathoff, Sr



Betty Jean Mumford



Tellers

March 7 Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth
 March 14 Lee Moore and Carl Sauca
 March 21 Donna Stevens and Debbie Dudrow
 March 28 Diana Hurd and Rosemary Spies

Ushers

March 7 Henry and Lyn Hollingsworth
 March 14 Lee Moore and Carl Sauca
 March 21 Donald Davis and Keith Davis
 March 28 Diana Hurd and Ralph Smith



“Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a steadfast spirit within me. ... Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me” (Psalm 51:10, 12, NKJV).



God has been generous to us in many ways. We believe that sharing these gifts in His name is a tangible way of expressing one's faith. As active Christians, we are called to give generously to assist our neighbors through our time, talents and treasures. During this time of pandemic, you may not feel comfortable attending services in-person but want to still send offerings to the church. This can be done by mailing offerings to the church or by using Tithe.ly.

*The direct link to our Tithe.ly account is <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1747825>
If you are having trouble with setting up your account, please contact Sam Sauca.*

*If you have any questions about Tithe.ly, please contact Sam Sauca,
Treasurer 410-829-3336 or sam@asg-cpas.com or Donna Stevens,
Financial Secretary 410-820-7243 or dstevens62@icloud.com*



Flowers beautify the sacred space of our church, and are a gift to God and those who attend our services.

The cost of *flowers* for our *altar* is funded through generous donations, and not through a line item in our *church* budget.

A contribution to the *Flower* Fund is a meaningful way to honor someone special ...remember someone or just because

The flower chart is located on the bulletin board by the Church Office. The cost is \$44.00.

Please fill out one of the flower forms for your Sunday and leave in the church office. Thank You.



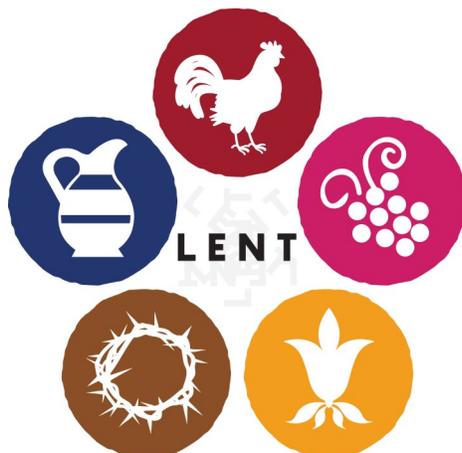
MARCH

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 03/09 Kevin Webster
- 03/10 Lauren Brenner
- 03/15 Corey Edsall
- 03/16 Tessa Rusch
- 03/18 Couper Barletta
- 03/19 Bradley Davis
- 03/19 Donald McClean
- 03/20 Chad Marth
- 03/22 Abigail Heinsohn
- 03/22 Robert Saathoff, Jr.
- 03/25 Courtney Cannon
- 03/28 Chase Marth
- 03/28 Thomas Roesel
- 03/28 Charles Skipper
- 03/29 Marian Davis
- 03/30 Kelly Shannon
- 03/31 Edith Roe

- 03/04 Charles & Helen Skipper
- 03/05 Michael & Lorraine Prete
- 03/13 Joe & Lauren Brenner
- 03/30 Diane & Skip Miller

Our Evangelism Committee obtained food boxes from Food Lion to be distributed to families in our community. If you know of a family that is in need or just need a lift in spirits to brighten their day, stop by the church fellowship hall and pick up 1, 2, 3 or as many as you need.



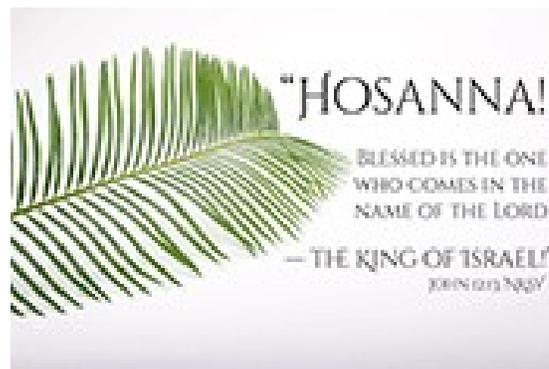
Laud & honor on Palm Sunday

The Palm Sunday anthem “All Glory Laud and Honor” is one of Christendom’s oldest hymns. St. Theodulf of Orleans, who helped reform the church under Charlemagne, wrote the lyrics in the year 820 while imprisoned in France.

The lyrics recount Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, an event the medieval church reenacted every Palm Sunday. Clergy and townspeople processed from fields through the city gates, behind a Jesus figure riding a donkey. At the gates, children began singing the hymn in Latin — *Gloria, laus et honor* — and onlookers soon chimed in.

City gates may be a thing of the past, as the website Hymnary.org notes, yet we still praise our blessed Redeemer “because we know just what kind of King he was and is — an everlasting King who reigns not just in Jerusalem but over the entire earth. What more could we do but praise him with glory, laud and honor.”

All glory, laud and honor to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring.
You are the King of Israel and David's royal Son,
now in the Lord's name coming, the King and Blessed One.



“Always show kindness and love to others. Your words might be filling the empty places in someone's heart.”—Mandy Hale

THANKS
FROM THE
HEART

To our St. Paul's Family, words cannot express how grateful and blessed we are for everything that has been given to us over the last few weeks. The food fed our family for days, the beautiful cards and thoughts fed our hearts and the prayers that were lifted above fed our spiritual needs. St. Paul's was a very special place for Bill and our family and your outpouring of love and support has been our comfort.

Our heartfelt love and blessing to all, The Behrens Family -Susan, Kelly, Mark, Brendan, Tyler, Jack, Kathy, Rocco, Couper, Ella, Will, Stacey,

Christian symbol



CROSS OF TRIUMPH—Also known as the **Cross of Victory**, this cross symbolizes Christ's final triumph and his reign throughout the earth. The **Cross of Triumph** is often depicted atop Jesus' scepter when he's shown in his kingly office.

THE BLESSING BOX has been a blessing to many members of our community. We are refilling the box multiple times each week and want to keep our supply replenished. Please remember this ministry as you are grocery shopping, we are in need of dry products that won't freeze such as cereals, oatmeal, and single serve meals.

We also need personal things like soap, single rolls of toilet paper, and toothpaste.

Thank you for your continued support!



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12095 Blades Road,
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Return Service Requested

Worship Service Begins at 9am

Please inform the church office of any changes in your personal information: Address, phone number, marriage or divorce, or new births so that we can keep our records up-to-date.

Secretary: Meredith Lewis—

Cell: 443-496-0903

Office: 410-364-5147

Office Hours: Tue. Wed. & Thurs. 8:30-3:00

Office Email: info@stpaulscordova.org

Rev. Robert White—Pastor

Phone: 330-883-9940

Email: prrmwhite@gmail.com

Deacon Michael Hiner

Minister of Word and Service

Phone: 443-496-1383

Email: mhiner24@gmail.com

Choir Director and Organist: Julie Hawley

Phone: 412-600-6326

Email: Julie.hawley1487@gmail.com