

**Saint Paul's Third Lutheran Church  
Easton, Pennsylvania 18045**



# The Herald

**Volume 42** *“Centered in Christ – Called to Serve”* **Issue No. 9**



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**He is risen!!**

**St. Paul's Third Lutheran Church  
2561 Newberg Road  
Easton, PA 18045**

## **MARCH 2016**

*“In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin’s name was Mary.”* Luke 1:26-27

*“When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.”* Luke 23:33

The Annunciation of Mary is a holy day that occurs each year on March 25<sup>th</sup>. It’s not one that usually gets a lot of attention in the Lutheran Church, but it celebrates the visit of the angel Gabriel to Mary to tell her that she is highly favored and that she will give birth to the Son of God. March 25<sup>th</sup> is exactly nine months before December 25<sup>th</sup>, when we celebrate the birth of Jesus. We give great attention to that celebration but rarely give more than a passing glance to the Annunciation, other than as a part of our Advent preparations for Christmas. But this is the time of year when we should remember it.

This year, the date of the Annunciation happens to fall on the same day as Good Friday. In the ancient church, it was believed that these dates also coincided and that Jesus was crucified on this same day. Modern scholars now speculate that most of our dating for these things is off, due to historical error and lack of detail as to exactly when Christ was born but, for now, we’ll continue to celebrate with what we know.

This year, for our Good Friday Tenebrae service, we will be doing something to recognize the fact that these two holy days fall on the same day by combining the stories of God’s great love that goes from womb to tomb. Our typical service will look and sound very different as we remember the God who loves us so much that he sent his son into the world to live, to teach and preach, to heal, and to forgive. And when all that was done, in the ultimate act of self-less love, to give his life for us so that we could live forever. It may seem like an odd mixture of two days that should not be celebrated together, and yet it is very fitting that we do so.

*Pastor Chris*

## ***TREASURER'S REPORT***

	<u>INCOME</u>	<u>EXPENSES</u>	<u>SURPLUS</u>
JANUARY	\$ 9,883.95	\$ 9,511.96	\$ 371.99
YEAR-TO-DATE	\$ 9,883.95	\$ 9,511.96	\$ 371.99

### ***THANK YOU!***

- ❖ St. Andrew's Lutheran Church thanks us for our participation and support of the Easton Youth Cluster Christmas Shopping event. Sixty youth and adults spent over \$1,800 selecting gifts for 55 individuals, including children and the elderly in our community. These were then given to the Northampton County Children, Youth, and Families Division to distribute to their clients.
- ❖ ProJeCt of Easton sent a note of thanks for our donation of \$184.00 to the Interfaith Food Pantry. This was the amount from our Second Sunday collection in December.
- ❖ Lutheran Congregational Services acknowledges our gift of \$128.00 (from the January Second Sunday collection). This support enables them "to serve . . . both congregations and the most vulnerable in our communities, touching the lives of many through our ministries."

## **MILESTONES**

### ***BIRTH***

Congratulations to Andrew DeRogatis and Jenna Oliver on the birth of their son Oliver Andrew DeRogatis on February 3. Proud grandparents are Joe and Janine DeRogatis.

### ***DEATH***

We extend our sympathy and prayers to the family of Jean Eberts at her death on February 13. Pastor Chris officiated at the private funeral service on February 24.

## ***HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY – APRIL 3***

Many churches in the US are reviving an old Easter tradition which was celebrated by the early church – “Holy Humor Sunday” – a joyful celebration of the Resurrection of Jesus on the Second Sunday of Easter. This year it falls on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. On this Sunday, churchgoers are encouraged to continue the observance of Christ’s Resurrection by becoming “Fools for Christ,” and engaging in activities that include: joke telling, harmless practical jokes, wearing costumes or funny clothing, and singing joyful songs of praise to God.

The idea, for Lutherans especially, is very sound theologically. As Martin Luther himself said, “It is pleasing to the dear God whenever you rejoice or laugh from the bottom of your heart.” Sometimes we Lutherans take ourselves too seriously and forget that God really does have a sense of humor. Take the duck-billed platypus, for example. Holy Humor Sunday not only gives us a chance to remember that, but encourages us to celebrate it. So get out your most outlandish outfit or funny hat, come prepared with a good joke to tell, or just bring along your best smile and a willingness to laugh a little at the best joke of all: God’s getting the last laugh on Satan when he resurrected Jesus from the grave. You see, Satan thought he had won on Good Friday and gloated when Jesus was in the tomb, but God played the greatest practical joke of all time when he switched things around on Sunday morning and showed Satan who was really in charge. And as all of creation was turned upside down and the joy of heaven sounded across the universe, I can just see how God laughed at Satan’s puzzled expression, wondering how he had just been beaten. On Easter Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection in glory. On Holy Humor Sunday we get to revel in God’s greatest joke in a fun way. I hope to see you there for the celebration. And just one joke, in anticipation: A pastor was visiting an elderly church member who was hard of hearing and mentioned to her that she might want to consider getting a hearing aid. She replied, “Pastor, at 91, I’ve heard enough.”

## ***SHINY THINGS and LENT***

Why do we put away all of the "Shiny Things" during the Lenten season: the gold cross, the candlesticks, the gold chalices, and even the offering plates? Lent is a time to focus our attention on what is truly important. Many people do this by giving up some of their favorite things so they can give more of themselves to what really matters. By putting away the "Shiny Things" in the church, we symbolically recognize this need to remove anything that might distract us from focusing our attention on truly worshiping God. We still have candlesticks and chalices and offering plates, but they are more earthen and simple, made of pottery or, in the case of the offering baskets, wicker. They are still beautiful to look at, but different enough to, hopefully, cause you to stop and think about their true purpose, to focus your attention back to God and our worship of Him alone.

## ***CHANGES in COMMUNION during LENT***

During the season of Lent, there will be no singing of hymns during the time of communion. You are invited to engage in a time of silent prayer and meditation. Please use this time to prayerfully give thanks for the blessings in your life, to ask God's guidance for areas of uncertainty, and to ask God's presence for yourself or those who need his healing embrace. Communion will also be by intinction during all of Lent as we simplify our celebration of communion. Please take the wafer from the Pastor or communion assistant and dip it in the chalice before placing it in your mouth. There will be two chalices, the first containing wine and the second containing grape juice. You may say "Amen" after receiving the wafer and the wine or grape juice.

## ***LENTEN WORLD RELIGIONS STUDY***

This year, during the Lenten season, instead of doing a study on a book of the Bible or a specific topic, we will be focusing on world religions. There have been many questions lately about Islam, Judaism, and other religions and their relation to Christianity. We will take some time during this Lenten season to learn more about these religions so that we can better understand them. We meet on Tuesday evenings at 7 PM.

## ***MID-WEEK LENTEN SERVICES***

The theme of our mid-week Lenten services is: "This Lenten Road," and each week focuses on a different road we travel during this Lenten season. On March 16 there will be a special anthem by choirs from all the cluster churches. All are welcome to join the mass choir.

***Services start at 7 PM with a soup supper preceding at 6 PM.***

<b><i>Date</i></b>	<b><i>Theme</i></b>	<b><i>Place</i></b>	<b><i>Preacher</i></b>
March 2	The Road Home	St. Paul's III	Pr. Laura Csellak
March 9	The Road to Jerusalem	Good Shepherd	Pr. Jean Huber
March 16	The Road to Jericho	Arndt's	Cluster Pastors

Offerings received during Lent will be given to support the Food Pantry at St. Paul's South Side ("12 Baskets Full").

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY**

### ***SECOND SUNDAY***

Please remember that the second offering received during worship on the second Sunday of each month is used to support various social ministry agencies and issues in our local community, Synod, E.L.C.A., and our world. In February, we collected \$113.00 for the **Center for Animal Health and Welfare**. In March the recipient will be **Family Connections**. Please continue to support these important programs.

### ***COFFEE HOUR***

There is a new sign-up sheet on the bulletin board which runs into June. Please pick a Sunday to bake and/or host for this time of fellowship and friendship!

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Thursday, June 16 – Iron Pig\$ at Coca Cola Park  
(game at 7:05 PM)**

# MARCH

PARISH SECRETARY'S HOURS:  
Monday, Tuesday & Thursday:  
9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## ***IN the EVENT of CANCELLATION***

If it is necessary to cancel some of our activities, for whatever reason, please tune in to WFMZ, channel 69 on your TV, or call the church office and select option 226.

## ***EMAIL ADDRESSES / WEB PAGE***

Office: [sp3office@rcn.com](mailto:sp3office@rcn.com)  
Pastor Chris: [sp3pastor@rcn.com](mailto:sp3pastor@rcn.com)

Bill Ritchie always keeps our web page current. If you have information you want added to the page, email Bill at [billritchie@rcn.com](mailto:billritchie@rcn.com). The *Herald* is also available on-line at [www.stpaulsthird.org](http://www.stpaulsthird.org)

**The *HERALD* DEADLINE for  
APRIL is MARCH 20.**

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Cut out the following information and keep it in your wallet!

**St. Paul's III Lutheran Church  
2561 Newburg Road, Easton, PA 18045  
(610) 258-0875  
Pastor Chris Druckenmiller  
emergency contact: (610) 331-6717**

Hospital Codes:

*Easton: L35*

*St. Luke's: 316*

*Lehigh Valley, Allentown General, Muhlenberg: 316*

If you are admitted to the hospital, please give them our code so they can notify us of your admittance. A family member should still inform the church office so visitation arrangements can be made.

# CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

## **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**

Vacation Bible School will be held during the week of June 20-24. This year's theme is **Cave Quest**. Any children ages four through 4<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome. We also need teachers and helpers. If you are interested, see Kelly Aldinger.

## **BOOKCASE/BOOKRACK**

Our collection of Christian fiction and non-fiction literature has filled our book shelves! Many readers donate their favorite books for others to read. The bookcase is located in the Narthex. We accept donations of books but only Christian-based literature. Take time to browse through the selection. If you find something you like, feel free to borrow it and return it when you are through. We have expanded the library by adding another smaller bookcase which contains several children's books along with adult non-fiction.

*Christ in Our Home*, a daily devotional booklet which is taken to our homebound members by the visitation teams when they take communion, is very popular with our members and can be found in the bookrack near the front door. There is also other timely reading material in that rack.

# COMMUNITY GROWTH & FELLOWSHIP

## **SOUP COLLECTION**

We began to collect soup on Super Bowl Sunday, and our goal was **500** cans/packages by February 28. We have reached and surpassed this goal! Thanks to all who made this possible!

## **MEALS for SAFE HARBOR**

On Sunday, March 6, at 2 PM, we are preparing dinner here for Safe Harbor along with a lunch for Monday. We will leave the church around 4:30 PM to deliver and serve the meal. Thanks to all who contributed food items for this project!



## ***HOAGIES, HOAGIES, HOAGIES!***

The Hoagie Sale is an ongoing fundraiser. Tickets for hoagies from Noto's Deli can be purchased from Shirley Stillo for \$5 each. Are you aware that they offer many types of hoagies and will also make them to your specific preference? Please continue to support this fundraiser.

## ***PRAYER HEALING BLANKETS***

The Healing Blanket Ministry here at St. Paul's III is for everyone--whether a church member or not. The idea behind the blanket is that the person be healed in body, mind, and spirit. They are on the center table in the Narthex. Please sign the green book when you take one.

## ***FOOD BANK DONATIONS***

Remember to bring canned and non-perishable goods for three area food banks—ProJeCt, Salvation Army, and St. Paul's Lutheran South Side (12 Baskets Full). There is a list of needed items next to the Food Bank basket on the table in the Gathering Area. If you forget, you can always drop your spare change in the bucket near the rear table.

## ***CENTER for ANIMAL HEALTH and WELFARE***

The Center (formerly the SPCA) is always in need of towels, sheets, blankets, kitty litter, cat and dog food, laundry detergent, bleach, etc. It depends almost solely on donations for its operation. Remember, animals are no longer euthanized unless absolutely necessary (illness, history of bad behavior). If you need any items picked up, contact Georgi Weiser.

## ***ST. PAUL'S STITCHERS***

This small group meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 9 AM in Fellowship Hall. A knowledge of sewing is not required. We make tie-quilts which are donated to Safe Harbor. We also prepare and deliver a lunch for Safe Harbor on that day. Please join us for a morning of fellowship and fun!

## **SAVE THE DATE!**

**Saturday, May 14 – Ladies Tea (2 PM)**

***HOMEBOUND MEMBERS from  
ST. PAUL'S THIRD***

<b>Doris Adams</b> 610-252-0405	2024 Ealer Avenue Easton, PA 18042	<i>Birthday:</i> May 17, 1928
<b>Decima Assise</b>	The Easton Home 1022 Northampton Street Easton, PA 18042	<i>Birthday:</i> Jan. 20, 1934
<b>Walter Auch</b> 610-746-1274 256-497-4244 (cell)	Moravian Hall Square 175 W. North Street Nazareth, PA 18064	<i>Birthday:</i> Oct. 19, 1920
<b>Jack &amp; Kathleen Bennett</b>	Country Meadows 4100 Green Pond Rd., #151 Bethlehem, PA 18020	<i>Birthdays:</i> Jack: March 11, 1927 Kathleen: Jan. 16, 1926
<b>Lillian Bethman</b> 610-515-0500	Weston Senior Living at Sullivan Trail 2222 Sullivan Trail, Room 211 Easton, PA 18040	<i>Birthday:</i> Apr. 11, 1916 <b>(100<sup>th</sup> birthday)</b>
<b>Grete Hollesen</b> 610-837-6257	14 Woodsbluff Court North Bath, PA 18014-8203	<i>Birthday:</i>
<b>Lee Litzenberger</b> 610-253-2855	357 N. Nulton Avenue Easton, PA 18045	<i>Birthday:</i> July 5, 1930
<b>Ruth Marcavia</b> 610-248-9348	Old Orchard Manor Care 4100 Freemansburg Ave., Room 234 Easton, PA 18045	<i>Birthday:</i> April 7, 1920
<b>Janet Marshall</b>	Gracedale – SE 2, Room 1 2 Gracedale Ave. Nazareth, PA 18064	<i>Birthday:</i> April 26
<b>Mae Shimer</b> 610-588-7731	1016 Miller Road Nazareth, PA 18064	<i>Birthday:</i> Dec. 16
<b>Reuben Spurrier</b> 610-248-5631	2351 Fourth St., Avona Hghts. West Easton, PA 18042	<i>Birthday:</i>
<b>Rosa Stout</b> 610-438-1663	Abington Manor 215 Cedar Park Blvd., Room 212 Easton, PA 18042	<i>Birthday:</i> April 3
<b>Elverna Turner</b>	Gracedale – Tower 10, Rm C-1 2 Gracedale Avenue Nazareth, PA 18064	<i>Birthday:</i>

# *Schedule of People Serving in*

## **MARCH 6                      10 AM – LENT 4**

Acolyte	<i>Adult Volunteer</i>
Ushers	Joy Sales, Barbara Miller, Sallie Smull, Vincent Guiducci
Lay Reader	Stephanie Druckenmiller
Communion Assts.	Bruce & Karen Fretz, Stephanie Druckenmiller
Prayer Partner	Margaret LaDuca
Greeter	Sandy Matyger
Counting Team # 2 A	

## **MARCH 13                      10 AM – LENT 5**

Acolyte	Bethany Druckenmiller
Ushers	Georgi & Rich Weiser, Bev Brodhead, Margaret LaDuca
Lay Reader	Jordan Druckenmiller
Communion Assts.	Al & Barbara Arthur
Prayer Partner	Carol Jiorle
Greeters	Ed & Sue Becker
Counting Team # 3 A	

## **MARCH 20                      10 AM – PALM SUNDAY**

Acolyte	<i>Adult Volunteer</i>
Ushers	Jim & Laura Dorsa, Sallie Smull, Shirley Stillo
Lay Reader	Daryle Davidson
Communion Assts.	Margaret LaDuca, Georgi Weiser
Prayer Partner	Stephanie Druckenmiller
Greeter	Daryle Davidson
Counting Team # 4 A	



# HOLY WEEK

## *PALM SUNDAY*

**March 20 – 10 AM**    **Service of Holy Communion with  
Blessing and Procession of Palms**

## *MAUNDY THURSDAY*

**March 24 – 7 PM**    **Service of Holy Communion**

## *GOOD FRIDAY*

**March 25 – 12 PM**    **Stations of the Cross  
Community Service**

**7 PM**    **Tenebrae Service**

## *PRAYER VIGIL*

During the time following the service on Good Friday evening, up until the Easter Celebration on Easter morning, we will be holding a Prayer Vigil. A sign-up sheet is available on the table in the Narthex with one-hour timeslots to allow you to choose one or more hours during this holy time to dedicate yourself to prayer: for yourself, your family, the church, the community, and the world. You may pray either here at the church or from your home during this time. Our goal is to blanket this time in prayer and to draw closer to God through our prayers.

## *EASTER*

**March 27 – 8:30 AM to 9:30 AM**    **Breakfast**

*Join us for this time of fellowship! Please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex so we know how many family members and guests to plan for ... and let us know if you will be bringing something to the breakfast.*

**10 AM**    **Festival Service of Holy Communion**

# MARCH

## BIRTHDAYS

2	Laurie Reagle	10	Jake Fretz
3	Bruce Fretz		Mackenzie Sadlon
	John Roberts	19	Stephanie Sutton
4	Isabelle Henley	20	Linda Moscaritolo
			Erika Milkovitz
			Brenda Van Horn
6			Elaine Drescher
	Evan Moscaritolo		Donna Loveland
	Brayden Potter		Lynne Neel
7	Robert Halpin	24	Ed Becker
8	Ed Dean	25	Piper Fretz
10	Betty Buckley	27	Eric Steible
	George Edwards	30	Stephanie Daniels

## ANNIVERSARY

3/27/1993

Bob and Donna Reagle

*We apologize if we missed your birthday or anniversary.  
Please notify the office... we don't want to repeat this oversight.*