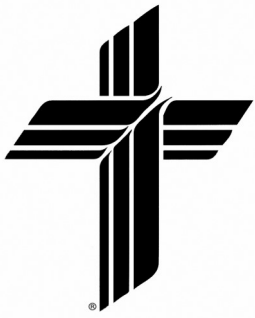


April 2019



THE MESSENGER

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
816 9TH STREET
CLAY CENTER KS 67432

"A Place of Grace
and a
Source of Hope!"
... for 125 years!!

APRIL Events:

- Holy Communion—
Saturday-Sunday, April
6 & 7, 13 & 14, 20 & 21
- Maundy Thursday Ser-
vice, Apr. 18
- Passover meal, Apr. 18
- Good Friday Service,
April 19.
- Women's Bible Study,
Apr. 2 & 16
- Men's Bible Study, April
15 & 29, 7:00 PM
- Unified Boards and
Board of Directors,
Apr. 14
- Friendship Circle Salad
Supper, April 22, 6:30

The Eighth Day

ESV John 20:19 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you."

This month we will celebrate the resurrection of our Lord! We will observe Holy Week and the passion of Jesus. We will again have services on Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter Sunday. The resurrection of Christ is the pivotal event for all believers. St. Paul writes, *And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain. (1Co 15:14 ESV)* St. Paul is quick to assure his readers that the tomb is, indeed, empty. *But in fact, Christ has been raised from the dead, (1Co 15:20 ESV).* We celebrate this fact on Easter Sunday!

We surely remember that the women went to the tomb on the first day of the week. That is the day of Easter, Christ's resurrection. However, if you start counting days from the first day of the LAST week, you find the resurrection was on the eighth day. Why is the eighth day so important? Old Testament scholars will remember the eighth day was also the day of circumcision, the day the newborn males were incorporated into the family of God. They were given a new start, a new identity as one of God's chosen people. In the same way, the resurrection of Christ gives us a new start.

In the resurrection of Christ, we are given a new start and a new identity. The whole reason for Christ's suffering and death was to forgive the sins of the world... including our sins. Our sins, all of them, the lying, cheating, gossiping, jealousy, hating, swearing, failing to worship... whatever you and I do to dishonor God... are forgiven through the blood that Christ shed on the cross. He has purchased us back as His people. Our new identity is forgiven and redeemed child of God.

As forgiven sinners we are given the new start that we have always needed. The past guilt is removed in the grace of Christ. In addition, we are given a new vocation, the vocation of being a Christian. The vocation of Christian includes praising God for all of His gifts to us, learning of and serving Him, and sharing His Good News with our world. As the renewed children of God this is not a "have to" but a "get to." As a matter of fact, God sends His Holy Spirit to His children to grant and strengthen faith. The Holy Spirit also empowers the people of God to serve in His Kingdom. This is the most fulfilling work, because it is what God designed us to be and to

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do, to share the Gospel with our words, actions, attitudes, with our very being. In Christ, risen on the eighth day, we have our own eighth day, our own new start!

Enjoy your new identity, servant and child of the resurrected Jesus. We are embraced in His love, forgiveness and new life! There's nothing better! Happy and blessed Easter!

Rejoicing, with you, in our resurrected Savior,
Pastor Paul Tessaro

BLAST OFF TO VBS 2019!

At **Miraculous Mission VBS**, children will lift off for an intergalactic adventure and learn God's plan of salvation from creation to the cross with spectacular Bible lessons.

VBS Registration is open for children ages 3 years – going into 6th grade. VBS will be held May 28-31, 9:00-11:30.

Come along with us as we sing fun songs, do crazy crafts, eat yummy treats, play awesome games, and more. Register online now for Miraculous Mission @<https://vbsmate.com/events/cclutheran> or follow the link at claycenterlutheran.com. You may also fill out a hard copy form that will be located on the VBS table in the church narthex.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED: Many volunteers are needed to VBS ministry, and there are numerous ways to help. Site leaders, decorators, crew leaders song and craft leaders, snack helpers and donations are all needed. Please prayerfully consider serving the Lord by helping with this important ministry. Volunteer Sign-up is located on the VBS table in the narthex. You may also contact Jeremy Pera 785-632-4431.

HOW YOU CAN HELP: In addition to volunteering, you can help with your prayers for VBS. Pray that God will provide leaders and helpers so that the children may learn more about Jesus, our Savior. Let your friends, family, and neighbors know about VBS. Support VBS with your prayers and your gifts. Thank you in advance for your support.

Vacation Bible School

May 28—31

9:00—11:30 AM



April Birthdays & Anniversaries

April Birthdays

1 - Shirley Fritz	23 - Brandon Pigorsch
2 - Caleb Carlson	24 - Allan Schmale
Jennifer Jordan	Danae Anderson
3 - Matt Baxter	24 - Sandy Fox
Derek Landis	Briscoe Lehman
4 - Beckett Nolte	Judy Riek
Todd Pfizenmaier	Ethan Schuette
5 - Taylor Tracy	Wynette Wells
6 - Daphney Dee Adams	25 - Gage Fox
7 - Kathy Beichter	26 - Robert Graham
Henry Willmann	Corby Jensen
8 - Michelle Rummel	Ethan Straub
9 - Kiel Unruh	28 - Maria Pfizenmaier
Wes Wright	Mark Swanson
10 - Anna Baxter	29 - Isaac Thomas
Bryant Pigorsch	Danine Zwiebel
11 - Linda Underwood	30 - Lisa Dieckmann
12 - Jim Pederson	Sarah Jensen
13 - Janice Germann	Kale Marrs
Tara Rosenow	Lucas Rosenow
14 - Scott Helms	Sydney Rosenow
15 - Dave Schwab	
16 - Jody Havice	
Nancy Kemp	
Brandy Lehman	
Mary Ann Mall	
Cory Schwab	
17 - Tiana Roth	
18 - Marsha Landis	
Slade Patterson	
19 - McKennon Lehman	
Steve Lehman	
20 - Betty Siebold	
21 - Cody Carlson	
Mark Wendelken	
Kaylie Williams	
22 - Taryn Cummins	
Roger Leonard	

April Wedding Anniversaries

3 □	Mark & Robyne Colton, 2010
	Willard & Roberta Lenhart, 1998
4 □	Tim & Kathy Burger, 1981
7 □	Emerson & Nancy Kemp, 1968
10 -	Brandon & Rachael Pigorsch,
2010	
14 □	Lynn & Mary Greenlee, 2007
	Tom & Robin Fosha, 1990
18 -	Garrett & Mallory Zweygardt,
2015	
19 □	Edward & Sharon Evans, 1975
20 -	Larry & Mary Rakowsky, 1968
21 -	Caleb & Kristi Davis, 2012
23 □	Gailen & Connie Paronto, 1977
	Mark & Michelle Rummel, 1988
27 -	Kevin & Linda Radke, 1996
28 □	Greg & Vicki Pfizenmaier, 1978
29 □	Ricard & Amy Wendelken, 1995

Services

**April 3, and 10 at 12:05 and
7:30 PM**

**Palm Sunday, April 14, 9:00
AM**

**Maundy Thursday, April 18
and**

**Good Friday, April 19 at
12:05 and 7:00 PM**

**Easter Services, April 21, Sun-
rise 6:30 AM; Holy Commun-
ion 8:00 and 10:30 AM
Sunday School 9:30 to 10:15
AM**



OFFICIAL ACTS

[Since last newsletter]

None to report.

Scripture Readings for April

Date	Festival	First Reading	Psalms	Epistle	Gospel
April 7	Fifth Sunday in Lent	Is. 43:16-21	Psalms 126	Phil. 3:(4b-7) 8-14	Luke 20:9-20
April 14	Palm Sunday	Deut. 32:36-39	Psalms 118:19-29	Phil. 2:5-11	Luke 22:1-23:56
April 18	Maundy Thursday	Jer. 31:31-34	Psalms 116:12-19	Heb. 10:15-26	Luke 22:7-20
April 19	Good Friday	Is. 52:13-53:12	Psalms 22	Heb. 4:14-16: 5:7-9	John 18:1-19:42
April 21	The Resurrection of Our Lord	Is. 65:17-25	Psalms 16	1 Cor. 15:19-26	Luke 24:1-12
April 28	Second Sunday of Easter	Acts 5:12-20 (21-32)	Psalms 148	Rev. 1:4-18	John 20:19-31

Why Witness?

Scripture Reading:

"I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith, so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ" (Philemon 6).

Paul, a prisoner, writes an appeal to Philemon, one who has, for reasons not spelled out to us, kept Onesimus as a slave. Yet Paul refers to him as *"our dear friend and fellow worker"* (verse 1). Thus we know that Philemon is a believer. Paul informs Philemon that he gives thanks because of Philemon's faith in Jesus and his love for other believers.

Then he offers the exhortation we read above: *"I pray that you may be active in sharing your faith."* Surely we understand Paul's hope. As stewards of the Gospel, we are to be busy at fulfilling the Great Commission to go to all nations, baptizing and teaching (Matthew 28:19-20). We know that God is not willing that any should perish, but that all should be saved (1 Timothy 2:4). We know that we have the "beautiful feet" that bring the Good News of Jesus Christ (Romans 10:15).

In writing to Philemon, though, Paul states another reason for witnessing: *"so that you will have a full understanding of every good thing we have in Christ."* This understanding that flows from witnessing about our faith benefits both the one witnessing and the one hearing the Good News. Certainly when one hears and believes the Word of God and is brought from death to life, he begins to understand all the good things he has in Christ. The speaker also profits, for, as he shares God's Word, his own understanding and knowledge are increased as his faith is strengthened through obedience to God's command.

Let us pray that we might *"be active in sharing [our] faith"* for the saving of souls as well as our own edification.

Prayer: Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for the trust You place in me to be a witness and an ambassador for You. Use me as a witness to those who need to hear of Your amazing love and unsurpassable mercy. In Jesus' name I pray. Amen.

Passover Meal (A Christian Seder)

Where: St. Paul Lutheran Church Basement

When: Maundy Thursday-April 18, 2019, 5PM

The entire St. Paul Lutheran Church Family is invited.



Thanks to the Thrivent Action Team there is no cost.
This is a full meal and ceremony will end in time for 7:00 PM worship

Sign up Deadline is April 14

There will be a sign up sheet in the narthex. Please sign up by Palm Sunday (April 14) so we can have an accurate count.



FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE
will be hosting a
Spring Salad Supper
on Monday April 22 at 6:30 PM,
In the Church basement.

All ladies are invited to attend.

Guest speaker will be Cassandra Hayworth.

She will share her testimony and knowledge of Adult/Teen Challenge and the HOPE given in God's Word to battle addictions.

Bring a salad and a guest, and come to enjoy Fellowship, food and Hope.

Evangelism Board

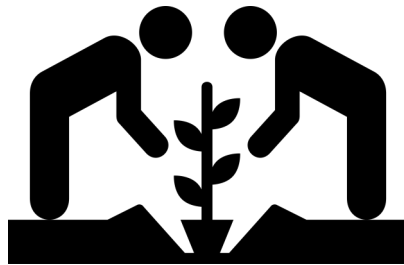
Is seeking product donations for low income seniors and handicapped individuals living at Apollo Towers, Parkview Plaza and Tolin Terrace for a monthly event **every 4th Sunday**.

Donations needed are common household items that we might take for granted that are a luxury item for someone on a low fixed budget. Items might include paper towels, toilet paper, dish soap, soap, small packages of frozen meat, small packages of frozen vegetables, laundry detergent, fabric softener, bleach, kitchen trash bags, etc. These are items not offered in commodities but are very valuable in a low income world.

There will be a box in the Narthax where you can drop off your items.

Please reach out to David Perry or Janet/Mark Thurlow with any frozen food donations or questions. Thank you so much for your generosity!!!

St Paul Lutheran's Community Garden is seeking help in finding a new wheel for the tiller. (Bud's Tire said it could not be fixed.) We are also searching for help in fixing the lawn mower again so we can mow during the summer. Please talk to Mark about these items. 785-317-6046

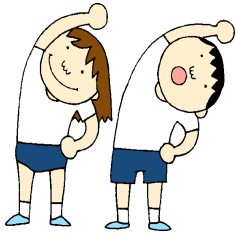


If your family would like to adopt a box or a row this entire summer to help weed, water and harvest then please contact Janet Thurlow 785-317-7048. The St Paul Lutheran Community Garden is a **Evangelism Board Project** and all food grown goes to help provide healthy food alternatives to low income families in our church and surrounding Clay County.

Thank You

to the following volunteers who delivered **Meals on Wheels** through snow, ice, rain, mud and sunshine in **March!**

The volunteers were: Doug & Bonnie Sanneman, Bev Lang, Marlene Ohlde, Peggy Pera, Susan Meier, Winnie Wells, Kelly Holte, Buena Burger, Dorothy Debenham, Steve & Donna Jordan, Jan Peterson, Garry & Marty Stenzel, Lynn & Mary Greenlee, Carol Bosch, Michelle Tessaro, Roger & Carma Leonard, Don Fritz, Clyde & Rita Wollenberg. Thank you for your time and service to our community. The meal recipients appreciate this service very much.



Senior Fitness Class
By Gail Hileman, Certified
Instructor

Mondays in April & May
1:30 to 2:30 PM

Clay Center Extension Office, 322 Grant.
Park in grassy area behind office.

All Interested Clay County Men & Women, Age 60 & over are invited. For more information and to register by March 27 contact either: Deanna Turner, River Valley District K-State Research & Extension, at 632-5335 or Angela Brubaker, Apollo Towers at 632-5767

IT'S ALMOST TIME - to apply for FREE registration scholarship to a summer church camp of the applicant's choice. On Thursday April 4th 4-7 and on Saturday April 6th 10-12, at the Common Ground bldg, there will be information available and applications will be taken. Any student in the USD379 is eligible. The application form. **On April 17th the camp committee will be serving a free will donation meal at the CC Methodist Church as a fund raiser.** We expect to have over 100 camp applicants this year which will require at least \$30,000 to funds. We already have half of that money from your support and from our participation in last fall's Clay Center Community Improvement Foundation's "match day" event. What a blessing it is to know that we have this kind of support for our mission of "leading kids to Christ" through a church camp experience. This support is changing lives !

Community Church Camp Committee, P.O. Box 118, Clay Center, Ks. 67432

Email: hollymchestnut@gmail.com or lkvarrow@twinvalley.net

Community Church Camp Committee invites
USD 379 Kids in grades K – 12th
To sign up for
Scholarships for Summer Church Camp

When:

Thursday April 4, 2019

4:00 – 7:00 pm

Saturday April 6, 2019

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

Common Ground

(West of the Court House Square)

Parent or Guardian encouraged to attend!

For more information you may contact one of these committee members

Holly Chestnut 785.632.4578 hollymchestnut@gmail.com



Church Camp

Sunday Funday!

Come join St. Paul Lutheran's Evangelism board for a fun night of Minute to Win It games! Throughout the year we will be having different game nights with the first Sunday Funday being on Sunday, April 7th at 6 p.m. in the church basement. There will be various biblical themed Minute to Win It games with snacks and drinks provided! Let's see if you can knock over Goliath or build the tallest tower of Babel, we hope to see you there!



April 2019

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN

"Existing in God's Love and forgiveness, St. Paul proclaims the gospel of Christ, helps people grow in faith, and nurtures lives of worship and service"

816 9th Street,
Clay Center, Kansas 67432
785-632-5301 spluther@sbcglobal.net
www.claycenterlutheran.com

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 Women's Bible Study, 9:30 AM & 6:30 PM	3 Lenten Service 12:05 & 7:30 PM Midweek & Confirmation, 6:15 PM	4 Financial Peace University, 6:00—7:30 PM	5	6 Worship Service with Holy Communion, 6:30 PM
7 Holy Communion 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:15—11:00 AM Deaf Ministry in Topeka, 3:00 Sunday Funday, 6:00 PM	8	9	10 Lenten Service 12:05 & 7:30 PM Midweek & Confirmation, 6:15 PM	11 Financial Peace University, 6:00—7:30 PM	12	13 Worship Service with Holy Communion, 6:30 PM
14 PALM SUNDAY Holy Communion 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:15—11:00 AM Unified Boards, 1:00 PM Parish Directors, 2:30 PM	15 Men's Bible Study, 7:00 PM	16 Women's Bible Study, 9:30 AM & 6:30 PM	17 7th & 8th Confirmation, 6:15 PM MAY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	18 Maundy Thursday, 12:05 & 7:00 PM Passover Meal, 5:00 PM	19 Good Friday, 12:05 & 7:00 PM	20 Worship Service with Holy Communion, 6:30 PM
21 EASTER SUNDAY Sunrise Service, 6:30 AM, Holy Communion, 8:00 with Choir & 10:30 with Choir Christian Education, 9:30-10:15 Deaf Ministry in Topeka, 3:00	22 Friendship Circle Salad supper, 6:30 PM	23 Friendship Circle, 7:00	24 7th & 8th Confirmation, 6:15 PM	25 Financial Peace University, 6:00—7:30 PM	26	27 Worship Service, 6:30 PM
28 Worship Service 9:00 AM Christian Education, 10:15—11:00 AM Apollo Towers, 5:30 PM	29 Men's Bible Study, 7:00 PM	30				

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
816 9TH STREET
CLAY CENTER KS 67432

**PRESCHOOL
NEWS**

April showers bring May flowers.

The preschool is so very excited to see SPRING and enjoy the warmer temperatures!!

We want to send a big thank you to all of our family and friends that took time out of their day to come and read to the 3-Day classes during the month of March! We loved all the stories and truly appreciated your visits!

Finally, we come to EASTER! Jesus died for our sins. He rose from the dead. Because of Jesus we will live in Heaven forever. "He is not here; He has risen!" (Luke 24:6) Comforting words for all of us to remember each day of the year. What an honor it is to share this story with our children.

Praying each and every one of you have a "promise" filled April.

Praying and Playing,

Becky, Rita, Shanna, and Susan

