

ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF MARCH 29, 2026

EASTER BRUNCH

We will be having an Easter brunch following the service next **Sunday, April 5**. To aid in our planning please use the sign-up posters in the narthex. Any questions, please call Cheri Simons 302-345-6573. We will be collecting a free-will offering during the brunch, to aid those in our community who need our help. All the donated funds will help us to continue feeding the needy through our participation in the Hope Dining Room.

LUNCH AND LEARN & ADULT FORUM

There is no Adult Forum this Sunday or next Sunday. We'll kick off our next series with a special **Lunch and Learn on Sunday, April 12**, with Pastor Carla Cristopher as our guest to lead us into a conversation about Queer Theology. Pastor Christine will continue that conversation on **April 19 and 26 at 8:30 AM**.

We will conclude our forum year in May with a series titled, "One If by Land' Churches of the American Revolutionary War." And yes, some of them are in Delaware!

CONSIDERING WORSHIP ASSISTANCE?

Would you be interested in signing up to read from the lectionary, lead the prayers and distribute Holy Communion, or set up the altar for Holy Communion? Or perhaps you bake and would like to make communion bread? Would you like to place flowers in the chancel or perhaps arrange them? Use the SignUpGenius link below to submit your name as Bread Provider, Lector, Worship Assistant, Bread Baker, Altar Guild. You can also submit your flower dedication through this link: <https://bit.ly/StPaulsWorshipAssistants>

FRIENDS OF MUSIC

We will have seven guest musicians on Good Friday for our evening service, “What Wondrous Love,” along with four member musicians. In furtherance of our budgets, we are seeking contributions to the Friends of Music fund to cover the stipends for these instrumentalists. Your gift provides for “beautiful music in a beautiful space” and can be made using the QR Code in this worship folder, selecting Friends of Music in the drop-down menu. Or you can simply write a check to St. Paul’s with Friends of Music in the memo. Need more information, speak to Mike Bareham, Director for Music and Worship.

RAISE THE ROOF UPDATE

Last Sunday we revealed the current status of the “Raise The Roof (Funds)!” campaign that we’ve been running during the season of Lent. At the roughly three-quarters mark we have thirty-three pledges (or contributions) for a total of \$52,300! That’s amazing – thank you to everyone who has made a commitment to this urgent need. The campaign will continue through Easter with hopes to have all of the monies received by Pentecost (Sunday, May 24).

Wait a minute – didn’t you just say we’ve got \$52K already? Then why is the campaign still continuing? Well, we don’t know for certain what the other costs associated with the repairs will be – the ceiling being the biggest unknown. And, if there is any money left over after the roof and ceiling are all done, we plan to review some other Property needs that have cropped up recently – including the replacement of the air conditioner for the office area that was stolen last week.

The work on the roof can commence once we have a majority of the funds in hand, which we hope will be shortly. You don’t need to make a pledge in order to contribute, but if you would like to, pledge cards are still available in the Narthex near the Gold Box.

If you have any questions, please reach out to a member of Stewardship: Rich Wallden, Natalie Stevenson, Emily Mascaro and Keith Bart.

Once again, thank you to everyone who has responded to our appeal!

BREWING THEOLOGY

For everyone twenty-one and older, please join us on **Wednesday, April 1, at 7:00 PM**, at the Delaware Saengerbund for a tasty beverage, some snacks, and some hearty conversation. Our topic for this week will be "Turning Point Stories- specific moments when God's will became clear to us".

BOOKS AND BANTER

At our monthly meeting this past Wednesday, we discussed the historical fiction novel "The First Ladies" by Marie Benedict and Victoria Christopher Murray. This selection is a New Castle County Library Reads choice and co-author Victoria Christopher Murray will lead a discussion of the book at an "Evening with the Author" event on **April 8, 2026, at 7:00 PM** at the Chase Center at the Riverfront.

Our book selection for the Wednesday, April 22, meeting will be "The Frozen River" by Ariel Lawhon.

KOINONIA DINNER FOR YOUNG ADULTS

Calling all young adults in the congregation (18 to thirty-something) to gather together for our next potluck dinner on **Friday, April 10, at 6 PM**. We use the Greek work for community, "Koinonia," to represent what we are trying to build and strengthen as we navigate life together. Whether you've been to our last two monthly dinners or not, you are welcome to join us for some good company and delicious food! In need of more details or have questions? Reach out to Laura Blenderman at ljblenderman@comcast.net.

SIGN UP FOR THE KACZMARCZYKS' MEAL TRAIN

Baby Kaczmarczyk is due on April 3! Please help us support Kyra and James as they step into their new roles as parents. We are hoping to provide them with a month's worth of meals so that they can focus on spending time with their new baby girl. Please keep in mind that dates may change depending on when the baby arrives. Sign up at this URL: <https://mealtrain.com/me7z4l> or reach out to Jordan & Phillip Gerecke for help signing up (family.gerecke@gmail.com).

OWLS VISIT LONGWOOD GARDENS

Join the OWLS (Older Wiser LutheranS) on Tuesday, April 21, when we visit Longwood Gardens during their Spring Blooms season. We will meet at Longwood Gardens at 10:30 AM, for a one-hour guided tour starting at 11 AM. After the tour we will have time to explore on our own, and then lunch will be at Floga Bistro at 2:30 PM.

The tour is a flat rate for the group and is limited to 14 people. With 14 people the tour will be about \$11 per person. Admission to Longwood Gardens is also required and is \$32, \$28 for seniors. Kathy will reserve the tour and admission for all those who sign up and will notify attendees of the final cost after the reservations are made.

Please RVSP to Kathy Palmer @ elie2220@comcast.net or 302-547-5168 by this **Sunday, March 29**, and provide your email address, cell phone number and if you are using your Longwood Gardens membership for admission or would like to carpool.

SYNOD DELEGATES

The Delaware-Maryland Synod will gather for its annual assembly on June 4-5 at First Evangelical Lutheran Church in Ellicott City, MD. If you are interested in representing St. Paul's for this enjoyable and informative event, please let Pastor Cris or Susie Olson (Council President) know.

PRESCHOOL SILENT AUCTION

Join the excitement of the St. Paul's Lutheran School Silent Auction, **Sunday April 5th-Sunday, April 12th!** Bid on great items online while helping us raise funds that directly support the children and programs at our school. Every bid makes a difference and helps us continue providing a nurturing, faith-filled environment for our students. If you have any questions, please reach out to Dr. Rae by phone at (302)368-0064 or email at stpaulschool701@outlook.com.

ST. PAUL'S GAME NIGHT

Please join us on **Wednesday, April 8**, from **6 PM to 9 PM** for a Game Night. Bring your favorite card or board game to the Fellowship Hall for some friendly competition. Bring a snack to share, if you'd like.



Thursday, April 2

MAUNDY THURSDAY

We hear about Jesus' last meal with his disciples before his death, and how we are transformed by the mercy received in the meal and carry it into the world. Finally, we strip the chancel bare, to ready ourselves for Good Friday.

*7 PM Service of Holy Communion with Corporate Confession
and the Stripping of the Altar – Live Streamed*

Friday, April 3

GOOD FRIDAY

Why do we call this day Good? In John's telling of Jesus' passion, Jesus is "I am," the God who reigns from the cross, the king who discusses theology with Pilate. Listen for the differences between John's passion and Matthew's narrative heard on Passion Sunday. At this service we confess that it is our sin that crucified Christ and we behold the life-giving cross, coming forward in veneration.

7 PM Service with Adoration of the Cross – Live Streamed

Sunday, April 5

RESURRECTION OF OUR LORD

What does it mean to be Christian? Christians are those who believe that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead and that he continues to enliven his people with his Spirit. On every Sunday we remember Christ's resurrection, but once a year we have a blowout celebration of this central mystery of the faith. Come to celebrate with us!

*10 AM Festival Service of Holy Communion – Live Streamed
11 AM Easter Brunch in Fellowship Hall*



Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.



The Reverend Cris Frigm

302-368-0064 ext. 103

Pastor pastor@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Michael Bareham

302-368-0064 ext. 105

Director for Music and Worship music@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Jerilynn Hinrichs

302-368-0064 ext. 101

Office Administrator office@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Nalini Janaki

302-368-0064 ext. 102

Business Administrator business@stpaulsnewarkde.org

Dr. Rae Watts

302-368-0064 ext. 201

School Director stpaulschool701@outlook.com

Church Council

Susie Olson (*President*), Anne Sullivan (*Vice President*), Phillip Gerecke (*Secretary*), Mary Collins (*Treasurer*), Laura Blenderman, Heidi Burch, Kristine Cassar, Mark Deschere, Ian Kenyon.

Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast - articles are due by Wednesday morning at 10 AM to office@stpaulsnewarkde.org. Late submissions will be shared the following week.



Worship Attendance



Prayer Requests



Electronic Giving

