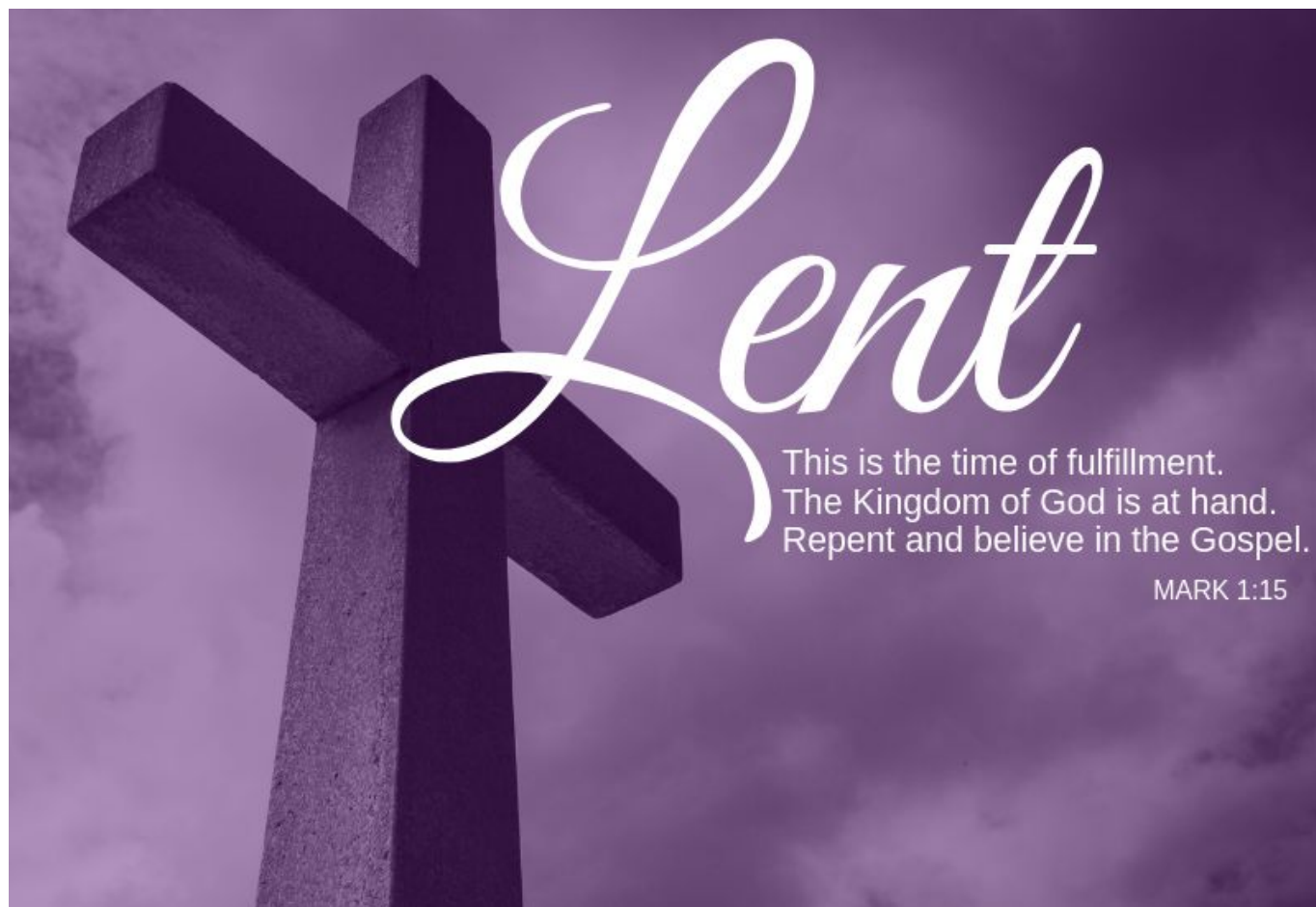




# ST. PAUL HIGHLIGHTS

March 2021

VOLUME 70 ISSUE 03



**IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS MONTH**  
**MARCH 8TH-INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**  
**MARCH 14TH-DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS-SPRING FORWARD**  
**MARCH 17TH-ST. PATRICK'S DAY**  
**MARCH 20TH-FIRST DAY OF SPRING**  
**MARCH 28TH-PALM SUNDAY**

DATE	TIME	ASSISTING MINISTER	MUSIC LEADERS	ALTAR GUILD	AUDIO/VIDEO	USHERS/ GREETERS
<b>3/7</b>	9:00	Taffy Pavlick	Covenant Choir Team	Karen Kolozyary	Dave Kushman	Team 1&2
	11:00	Meg Montag	Covenant Singers	Jennifer Hinton Debbie Baechle	Phil Sultan Nate French Jeff Campbel	Team 1&2
<b>3/14</b>	9:00	Sherrill Crawford	Praise Team		Dave Kushman	Team 3&4
	11:00	Liz Wittmann	Covenant Singers		Phil Sultan Nate French Jeff Campbel	Team 3&4
<b>3/21</b>	9:00	Cindy Cain	Covenant Choir Team		Dave Kushman	Team 5&6
	11:00	Jon Montag	Covenant Singers		Phil Sultan Nate French Jeff Campbel	Team 5&6
<b>3/28</b>	9:00	Mike King	Praise Team		Dave Kushman	Team 7&8
	11:00	Dean Firing	Covenant Singers		Phil Sultan Nate French Jeff Campbel	Team 7&8

**MAUNDY THURSDAY AND GOOD FRIDAY SERVICES WILL BE PRE-RECORDED  
AND AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBSITE OR YOUTUBE  
NO ADDITIONAL MIDWEEK SERVICES ARE PLANNED**

**MARCH CELEBRATIONS!**



Your admin team celebrates their birthdays in March-Dean March 4th, Sherrill March 8th!

**If you have an April celebration you would like in this space, please notify the office by March 15th.**



## Self Examination

At the beginning of Lent, the Church announces:  
The party is over.  
Consecrate the fast.

Come to the sacred assembly.

The solemn ceremonies of Ash Wednesday that lead us into Lent,  
remind us that we are from the dust and we will return there.  
Death is the common lot of us all.

This isn't an exercise in morbidity.

The point of taking a moment away from the revelry and fasting  
is that we would consider just how we're **living**.

Every time our stomachs rumble in disapproval  
we might just remember that our days are numbered,  
and that we should make them count.

We might look at Jesus to see what a life that counts looks like,  
and ask questions of ourselves like these:

Am I living a life of consequence, purpose, and meaning?

Am I loving my family and friends?

Am I practicing patience, kindness, and faithfulness?

Am I reaching out to the less fortunate?

Am I confessing my trespasses, and forgiving those who trespass against me?

If we're honest, we have to say that we've fallen short of the glory of God.

But there is still time to course correct.

There is still time to repent, believe the good news, and live with purpose.

I pray God's blessings on you as we enter this time of self-examination  
called Lent,  
Pastor Dan

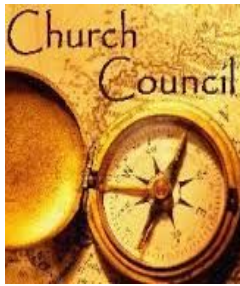
# FINANCIALS

## NOT AVAILABLE AT TIME OF PRINTING

ENJOY THIS COLORING PAGE







## COUNCIL CORNER

Members of St. Paul,

March marks a year since we were able to gather as a congregation inside the sanctuary. A lot has changed in the past year. Who would have thought in March of 2020 that worshipping from the safety of our vehicles would be taking place? We would be broadcasting services on YouTube? The sanctuary would hold services where everyone has a mask on, and no one other than the Covenant Singers would be singing at our 11 am worship?

As we move forward into 2021, we are beginning to look at how we can unify our church from the parking lot, the sanctuary, and YouTube viewers. We know that there will be some time before we can all worship safely together, but we feel it is important to start looking at the day we all are able to worship as one. As much as we all would like to open the doors and return to normal, we know that is physically impossible. Please know that Council will not recommend moving back into the sanctuary, as our main worship site, until we are given the go ahead.

Council is also looking at ways we can be somewhat unified once the warmer weather hits. We all have been missing interactions with one another. Look for details to come as we hopefully head to warmer weather months.

We thank everyone for their continued support of St. Paul and we look forward to the upcoming year.

Jonathan Montag

Council Members: Peter Brumenschenkel, Gary Grizzell, Chris Hall, Amy Hofmann, Dennis Mille, Scott Miller, Jon Montag, Phil Sultan, Donna Tindera, Erika Tully and Pastor Skillman.



## PROPERTY COMMITTEE

As you have probably seen, at least three new strains of the Covid-19 virus have emerged, and initial information indicates that the new strains are up to 70% easier to transmit, and at least one new strain attacks the human body with greater strength. Social distance, hand washing, and masks are still the major keys to protecting yourself, and those you love, from being infected. Now with new and more dangerous viruses on the rise, the church council has assumed the responsibility for determining what heating and ventilation systems will be operated and when. On a positive note, more and more of our youth challenged members are getting the Covid-19 vaccination shots each week so that a significant part of the congregation is now protected from a life-threatening case of the illness. The tests are indicating that the vaccine does not prevent a person from carrying and spreading the virus, so the council will need to determine when and how to begin bringing vaccinated members back into the Sanctuary for regular worship services.

Two events in the last month have property committee attention. First of all, the commercial refrigerator in the kitchen has gotten a minor leak in the refrigerant system. Service technicians are unable to locate this very slow leak. The recommendation from Survoy Refrigeration is that we simply recharge the refrigerant as needed because the cost to disassemble and repair the leak would be more expensive than the value of the unit itself. Property is now searching for either a good used or new refrigerator to replace the leaking unit that will again need charging in the not distant future.

Secondly, on February 5<sup>th</sup> the ballast in a ceiling light fixture in the church office spontaneously failed internally and produced an impressive fireworks display as well as a small fire in the fixture. Fortunately the fire went out on its own even before the Berea Fire Department arrived. The BFD checked thoroughly to insure no danger of fire was still present. The ballast in the fixture was replaced and the fixture rewired so it is operational and looks like nothing ever happened. However, this is the second fixture ballast in the office that has exploded in this manner. Several years ago another fixture did the same thing. Accordingly, we are now inspecting all ceiling fixture ballasts in the office lighting and any ballasts produced by the same manufacturer will be replaced with new ballasts.

The usual monthly reminder: When the major repairs and replacement of parts of St. Paul's was built into the budget 8 years ago, the congregation was advised that a 7% increase in giving would be able to support that plan. The congregation has been faithful to their unanimous approval and allowed St. Paul's to make several improvements that have reduced the upkeep and operating expenses for the congregation. In the November congregation meeting, the financial report showed that the level of giving has decreased about 5% in the last year, making it difficult if not impossible to continue with the annual repairs in the future years. Please prayerfully consider what you may be able to do to help offset this decrease so that we can continue to make the necessary repairs and replacements before they become a more costly emergency situation. -Jim Jungeberg

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



### HELLO SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS AND FAMILIES-

Our Sunday School Bags continue to bring us together. It is so much fun for us to see family members and kids as they give waves from their doors and windows. You continue to bring love to our hearts each month when we deliver to your homes. Can't believe that it is almost March. We hope that the crafts and activities will help to prepare our kids for the season of Lent and Easter.

As always, if you know of anyone that would like a bag delivered, please let me know.

[children@stpaulbera.org](mailto:children@stpaulbera.org)

### ST. PAUL PRESCHOOL-

We are very excited to be working with the children in our St. Paul Preschool. Beginning in March, we will be making monthly bags for our Preschoolers. Their teachers, Liz Campbell and Sharon Genther, will pass them out to the children each month. Hopefully, they will enjoy learning about how much Jesus loves them.

**\*WATCH FOR UPCOMING DETAILS OF OUR NEW FOOD BOX WHERE DONATIONS CAN BE MADE FOR FOLKS IN NEED. A GOOD CHANCE TO LEND A HAND TO OTHERS\***

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY CALENDAR

### NO ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED



**CONFIRMATION CLASSES CONTINUE**  
**MONDAYS AT 7PM**





## ONCE UPON A TIME....

**1890** - began consideration of forming a new congregation closer to Berea due to distance to Sheldon and Eastland, and frequent flooding of the area surrounding Lake Abrams that closed access. This new congregation became the Missouri Synod church, now St Johns in Strongsville.

**1967** – Ground broken for Sanctuary on Palm Sunday, Mar 19<sup>th</sup>.

**1969** - Apparently in 1969 there was a consideration to *not* have the annual picnic, however, Council denied the cancellation of summertime church picnic. They also changed Communion from Good Friday to Maundy Thursday.

**1970** - The youth music group, led by Bob Antl, was Named the “Good News Singers”

**1972** – Call for member recipes by Women of the Church for publication in a St Paul cookbook.

**1975** – Mar 26<sup>th</sup> Cornerstone at Front St church dislodged and opened

**1980** - Vietnamese refugees arrived Mar 8

**1992, 2001 and 2010** – Jews for Jesus shared Passover with congregation on Maundy Thursday

**2001**- Pastor John Vannorsdall donated wooden church bank

**2012** – Highlights started online

-Pastor Tom off for several weeks of medical sabbatical

-Pastor Pam Kelly started as visitation pastor

**2017** - Sanctuary renovation completed





## **SHEEP AND GOATS FOCUS ST. PAUL FAMILY ASSISTANCE**



The March Sheep and Goats Offering will be for our family assistance fund. It will be directed to support Ellie Handa, niece/cousin of our members, the Handa family. Ellie was in a terrible accident resulting in a broken neck. She has had spinal surgery. It is very probable that she will be paralyzed (she has a little bit of feeling in her arms, but nothing below the waist). They are currently researching rehab facilities and will likely go out of state to find the very best place to give her the most likelihood of being able to walk again. The funds will go to help with medical expenses. If you would prefer to contribute directly to the gofundme account the link is below. To follow Ellie's progress go to the caring bridge link below. Please keep the family in your prayers.

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/ellie-handa-rehabilitation-medical-support>

<https://www.caringbridge.org/visit/elliehanda>



Your birthday wishes were a nice surprise to receive, especially this year. I feel blessed to belong to such a wonderful church family. My thanks to each of you.

God's Blessings,

Ginny Anderson

## MONTHLY COLLECTION FOR BERA COMMUNITY OUTREACH

**IF YOU ARE ABLE TO DONATE ITEMS FOR  
THE FOOD BANK, PLEASE TAKE THEM  
DIRECTLY TO THE FOODBANK AT  
535 WYLESWOOD DRIVE, BERA.  
PLEASE CALL NATALIE AT  
440-826-5800 X 4401 FOR HOURS**



## COMMISSION ON AGING FOR SENIOR CITIZENS



**All activities for the Active Senior  
Network have been suspended  
indefinitely.**

**As soon as we have information about  
the resumption of services, we will  
publish it.**

## MEMORIALS

### Ruth Hans

Sue & Mel Grunau

### Penny Boyer

Sue & Mel Grunau

### Ed Hrivnak

Don & Anjean Poyer  
Harold and Barb Daniels  
Winnie Manning  
Pete & Laurie Scriven  
Sophia Morton

### Jean Meresko

Ken & Lois Hines

## OFFICIAL ACTS

### Funeral

2/13 Denise Leslie



ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
276 EAST BAGLEY ROAD  
BEREA, OHIO 44017  
440-243-1144  
[www.stpaulbera.org](http://www.stpaulbera.org)

**FIRST CLASS**  
**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



Due to COVID concerns, the Altar Guild will be purchasing a limited number of flowers to decorate the altar area for Easter. There will be no flower orders for the congregation, so please order or pick up your flowers from the greenhouse or store of your choice.