



The Voice

of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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March 2020

"Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid..."

Remember that prayer with which we used to begin almost every Sunday worship? It speaks a truth to which the Bible testifies: "Lord, you have searched me out, and known me. You know my sitting down and my rising up; you discern my thoughts from afar. You trace my journeys and my resting places and are acquainted with all my ways..." (Psalm 139: 1-3) The New Testament tells us over and over that Jesus knew peoples' hearts and peoples' thoughts.

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to encounter Jesus? To sit with him and have him open your life to him?

One of the people who had that opportunity is the Samaritan woman who met Jesus at the well. Do you remember what she said to her neighbors afterwards? "Come and meet a man who told me everything I had ever done!" She is one of several people we will encounter on these Lenten Sundays, who saw Jesus face to face and who were changed as Jesus entered their hearts and their thoughts, as Jesus entered their very souls. This opportunity is not just for those who were alive during the short time Jesus walked this earth. We all can share this experience of Jesus. We can all come to know the warmth of his love, his compassion, and his forgiveness. We can all be empowered to live our best life, knowing that we have a Savior who is committed to us and our short and long term well-being.

How much time do you spend keeping up appearances? Presenting one face to the world, perhaps a smiling face, when inside you're falling apart? How many times have you filled yourself with blame or guilt and said to yourself, "If my friends only knew who I really am, they would abandon me?" How many people make a hell out of their lives because they feel somehow unworthy of heaven?

Jesus has come to heal us and to save us. Lent is the perfect time to meet Jesus again in your life through prayer and the reading of scripture. Spend a little time each day with the four gospels. Meet some of the people Jesus met along the way. Ask yourselves some questions:

- what does Jesus see in me when he looks into my eyes?
- what does Jesus love about me, that I find hard to love about myself?
- what does Jesus accept about me, that I find hard to accept about myself?
- what events, experiences, memories, does Jesus need to heal in me?

Have a fruitful Lent! Walk with Jesus, as he walks to the cross.

Pastors Wendy and Tim



Encounters with Jesus

March 1...His Hunger and Mine

March 8...His Faith and Mine

March 15...His Thirst and Mine

March 22...His Sight and Mine

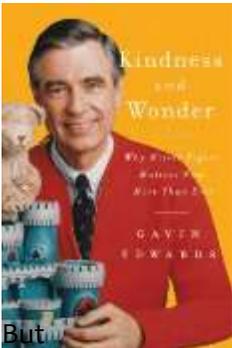
March 29...His Life and Mine

To encounter Jesus, to look deeply into his eyes, is to be changed forever.

Will you dare to look?

Each Sunday in Lent at 9:00am and 10:30am

Kindness and Wonder: Our Lenten Mid-Week Series for 2020



Even though he died back in 2003, Fred Rogers has remained consistently relevant to our lives and the lives of our children. Last year, one of the films that got people talking was Tom Hank's "*It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*."

Author Gavin Edwards writes: "I don't need to itemize the world's current ills: the hatred, the cruelty, the resurgence of fascism, the squandering of our future for profit. The specific headlines change at an overwhelming speed. It's completely understandable if, in the face of constant disaster and atrocities, your impulse is to hide under the covers."

But Mr. Rogers wouldn't want you to give in to despair—it's not good for you or for the world. More importantly, Jesus of Nazareth wouldn't want you to give in to despair, either.

Fred Rogers was a follower of Jesus, and so are we. Fred Rogers can teach us how, with *Kindness and Wonder*, we can follow Jesus in times like these.

Join us for the Wednesdays of Lent, for a light supper and a simple service of worship.

March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1—Supper at 6; worship at 7.



Soup Cook-Off and Kids Bake-Off!

Sunday, March 29th at 2:30 PM

Come enjoy fellowship, music, games and fun!!



All are welcome! Please sign up in the Social Hall or by calling the church office
Prizes for the winners!!

PARISH REGISTER

PRAYER LIST – MARCH VOICE



Dick Atkins
Ursula Grau
Wayne Hill
Erin Jankowski
Jim Kaeppel
Marge Kolb
Cal Lauer
Zoe Malchow

Jim Murray
Marty Nowak
Gary Rasmusson, Elderwood at Bassett
Rosemary Rizzo
Tony Rizzo
Nancy Stoehr
Pat Valentine

MEMORIAL DONATIONS MARCH 2020 VOICE

All donations go into the Memorial Fund unless otherwise indicated.

In memory of Beverly Heinricher:

Karl & Judy Kristoff *Endowment Fund*

DASH'S REGISTER TAPES: St. Paul's gets \$2.50 for every \$100 in tapes! **Please save your tapes**, ask your friends & neighbors to save them too, then bring them to church and put them in the box in the narthex or the envelope on the social hall bulletin board.

THE LOCKPORT FOOD PANTRY needs cake mixes, canned meats, canned fruit (except peaches), toothbrushes & toothpaste, shampoo, soap, and hand & body lotion. Diane Busdiecker will deliver your donations. Thank you for supporting this ongoing project.

1-5-0 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND DRIVE

We've set up a GoFundMe page to accept donations to our 1-5-0 Anniversary Capital Improvement Fund Drive for major repairs to our building. See our direct link: <http://www.stpaulswilliamsville.org> and our Facebook page.

The website link is <https://www.gofundme.com/st-paul039s-williamsville-150-capital-improv>

1-5-0 envelopes are in the pews & narthex for those who wish to give with cash or check.

Lutheran Charities MEATS & SWEETS RAFFLE

featuring Sloan Meat Market & Sweet Beginnings Bakery

Saturday, March 21

Knights of Columbus, 1530 Kenmore Ave., Buffalo, NY 14216

Doors open at 5:00pm — First pull at 6:00pm

Bring your \$1 bills, snacks & a cooler.

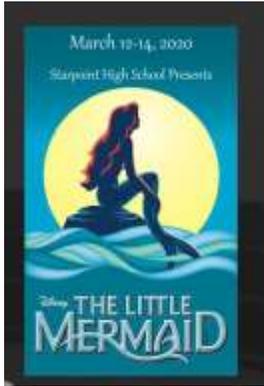
\$10 per person — Tables of 8 available for \$70

Beer, wine & soft drinks included — No outside alcohol allowed — Event is 21+

Door Prize, Premium & Grand Finale Raffles!

Tickets available at wnylutherancharities.org or at the door.

Call 632-2623 or website address above for more information.



Starpoint High School Musical Club will be presenting **The Little Mermaid** on Thursday, 3/12 at 7:00 pm, Friday 3/13 at 7:00 pm, and two performances on Saturday at 2:00 and 7:00 pm. Come out and support David Kuehfus and his cast-mates!

All seats are assigned and reserved through... starpoint.booktix.com Standard Reserved Seating is \$8 and Scholarship Reserved Seating is \$20. There are no child or senior prices. You can get tickets at the door if they are still available. Price at the door is \$12, cash or check only!

Tickets go on sale **Monday, February 10, at 8:00am.** Visit starpoint.booktix.com today.

Congratulations to Isis Whitmarsh who made her First Holy Communion at St. Paul's on February 2nd!



EASTER FLOWERS: It is time to order our Easter flowers. The cost is \$9 per plant for either lilies or tulips. Your order can be mailed with your check to the church office or placed in the offering plate. The deadline for ordering is Palm Sunday, April 5th.

FRIENDS OF NIGHT PEOPLE is under way. Volunteers serve the evening meal 2 or 3 times a year on the 4th Monday of the month. We leave church at 4:15 and serve from 5-7pm. Please call Arlene Bossert at 697-4848 if you've never volunteered before but wish to in 2020, if you've volunteered before but wish to be removed from the schedule, or if you have questions.

The deadline for our March edition of the voice is Monday, March 23, 2020

Please send your articles and pictures to stpaulsvoice@yahoo.com

Or to the church office stpaulwilliamsville@roadrunner.com