



The Voice

of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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May 2019



Dear Friends—We've been engaged in a process over the past couple of months that is designed to lead us along a path of confession and forgiveness, a Lenten theme of how we are prone to wander from God, a focus on the sufferings of Jesus, leading to his death and resurrection. But now that Easter has come, and we celebrated it as well as we could, does that automatically mean that Easter has come to us in our own hearts? I think about those for whom Easter may not come this year: the migrant children separated from their parents at our southern border, for example. Or the farmers out in places like Nebraska and South Dakota, whose lives have been turned upside down by the severe flooding, and road closures that will keep them from planting this year. I think about loved ones who are suffering the loss of a dear spouse, parent, or child. I'm

sure you can think of many in the same way. Just because Easter has come and gone on our calendar doesn't mean it has come to our own hearts.

Christina Rossetti wrote a beautiful poem entitled "A Better Resurrection" which reflects the stubbornness of the heart, refusing to bend to the liturgical observance. See if you can take or find comfort in her tempestuous, persistent faith:

I have no wit, no words, no tears; My heart within me like a stone
Is numbed too much for hopes or fears. Look right, look left, I dwell alone;
I lift mine eyes, but dimmed with grief No everlasting hills I see;
My life is in the falling leaf: O Jesus, quicken me.

My life is like a faded leaf, My harvest dwindled to a husk:
Truly my life is void and brief And tedious in the barren dusk;
My life is like a frozen thing, No bud nor greenness can I see:
Yet rise it shall--the sap of spring; O Jesus, rise in me.

My life is like a broken bowl, A broken bowl that cannot hold
One drop of water for my soul Or cordial in the searching cold;
Cast in the fire the perished thing; Melt and remold it, till it be
A royal cup for Him, my King: O Jesus, drink of me.

Pray for those for whom Easter is late, if it comes at all. And if Easter has dawned in your hearts make your Alleluias sincere. And live the risen life of Jesus that is alive in you.

Pastors Wendy and Tim

HOPE IN SOUTH SUDAN

South Sudan is the newest country in the world, created by the separation of Sudan into two countries. But it is also one of the most volatile countries in the world. 1.5 million South Sudanese are internally displaced and many more have fled to other countries due to poverty, food insecurity, a lack of education and health care, and extreme violence against civilians. The United Nations formally declared that several regions of South Sudan are undergoing severe famine and more than 100,000 are reported to face imminent starvation.



Photo Credit: LWF/C. Kästner

The ELCA is responding to the disastrous humanitarian toll across the region through Lutheran Disaster Response. Also, the ELCA is beginning to establish an Evangelical Lutheran Church Africa Mission in South Sudan, breaking ground in 2016 for a Lutheran center and health clinic. The center will offer English language lessons and computer training, and the clinic will give much needed health care. Learn more at ELCA.org/globalministries.

Mawien Ariik and Wal Reat are South Sudanese who originally sought asylum in the US, and while here, became ELCA pastors. They have returned to South Sudan to coordinate and serve the new church. They are from rival tribes, but together they hope to grow the Lutheran church and bring healing to their country. Ariik says, "The message the church is conveying is that all tribes are children of God and we are supposed to remain as one." Hope is the common thread motivating them amid conflict, violence, and poverty towards a peaceful future.

Your mission dollars help this endeavor. **Thank you!**

We are church together for the sake of the world. God's Work. Our Hands.

Global Mission

The ELCA supports over 240 missionaries in 40 countries around the world. Countries of every letter of the alphabet (except Q & X!) from Angola to Zimbabwe. Most of them don't have to raise their own funds to support their service, as missionaries in many other denominations do. Instead, their work is funded through the Mission Support that congregations send to their synods, as well as direct donations.

Rafael Padilla, executive director of ELCA Global Mission says, "What sets the ELCA apart from other denominations is the support system we have in place for people who serve on behalf of this church."

Both long- and short-term missionaries come back to the US on home assignment every two years. During this time, they travel to visit congregations to meet and thank the people whose offerings and gifts help support their ministries. To learn more, see elca.org/globalchurch.

Your offerings and Mission gifts support the Global Church. **Thank you!**

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SATURDAY WELLNESS SEMINAR SCHEDULED

Saturday, June 1st

10am–11am (Friendship Room)

Led by Andrea Whitmarsh

Andrea is an Integrative Nutritionist who focuses on diet and emotional well-being as the foundation of health and wellness. These seminars will cover a variety of topics to help you improve your health and happiness. Please let Andrea, 308-9986, or Sharon in the office know if you plan to attend. More information to follow for the June seminar.

BOOK CLUB will meet Sunday, May 19 at 3:00pm in the Friendship Room to discuss *Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker* by Jennifer Chiaverini. Kathy Hannon will be our hostess, and all are welcome! Questions? Please call Ellen Pachioli at 636-9786.

ALTAR GUILD IS LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS to be subs for our guild members. You would be called upon to help out as needed. Please consider joining us—free training provided! If you are interested or would like to find out more, please call Arlene Bossert at 697-4848. Thank you!

LOCKPORT FOOD PANTRY: I have made two deliveries to the food pantry in Lockport and everything is greatly appreciated, especially the cake mixes. Along with the cake mixes, canned meats, canned fruit (except peaches) they could use toothbrushes & toothpaste, shampoo, soap, and hand & body lotion. This is an ongoing project. Thank you for all your support. —Diane Busdiecker

MESSAGE FROM OUR PARISH NURSE

Rosemary is on leave because of total knee replacement April 29. Hope to go to rehab then outpatient therapy so will be unable to do visitation for a few months. My husband Tony & I thank you for your prayers as he has continues to work on his health concerns.

Rosemary Rizzo

PRAYER LIST – MAY 2019 VOICE

Dick Atkins
Dick Edwards. Bros of Mercy
Ursula Grau
Beverly Heinricher
Jim Kaeppel
Marge Kolb
Cathy Lambert

Julia Levy
Zoe Malchow
Jim Murray
Eva Paulson
Rosemary Rizzo
Tony Rizzo
Sue, Tessa & Tommy Santillo
Pat Valentine

OUR SYMPATHY is extended to the family of Pearl Kibler who passed on Sunday, April 21st. The funeral was held on Saturday, April 27th at Beach-Tuyn Funeral Home.

PARISH REGISTER:

BAPTISM: Michael Stephen Albrecht, son of Johanna Habermehl and Greg Albrecht, was baptized at St. Paul's on April 7, 2019.

SUNDAY SCHOOL ACTIVITIES:

On a recent Sunday, the Sunday School classes put their creativity to work making centerpieces for the Olde Fashioned Easter Breakfast. They were beautiful on the tables!



Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center

Summer Camp Open House May 18, 2019, 10:00-3:00pm

Free Event: Rain or Shine! Join us for a day of FUN that highlights everything Summer Camp has to offer! Summer Camp Open House Includes: - Staff Led Camp Tours - Crafts - Archery - Tree Fort - Free Lunch - Low-Ropes Course - Q & A with our Directors - Camp Games: GaGa Ball, 9-Square & More!

Bring the family, invite a friend, and come and see what makes LCLC so special! There will be special Summer Camp discounts available for First-time campers* and returning campers who bring friends that are NEW* to LCLC! You won't want to miss out on this chance to play, pray and save!

*New & First-time campers are children who have never attended an LCLC Summer program before. No other discounts can be applied.

Call (716) 386-4125 to RSVP before May 10, 2019 Or see or talk to our Camp Ambassador: Alexa Hutchinson

We asked some of our younger members to share their thoughts about St. Paul's with us. As we celebrate our 150th anniversary this year, making our younger members feel part of our life as a church is an important priority. Here's what they wrote:

I always feel welcomed here with so many people I can trust. There are many opportunities to make a difference in the community and in myself, such as singing in church, meal-packing events, and going to camp.

-Ellie

I have been going to St. Paul's since I was born fourteen years ago. I have made close friends at St. Paul's and St. Paul's is my extended family. One of the things I like most about St. Paul's is the friends I have made. Some of my favorite things about St. Paul's are our field trips, like to the apple orchard and Lasertron. I love watching my friends perform in shows and embarrassing themselves. I would be so lonely on Sundays without St. Paul's.

- Laura

One of my favorite memories at St. Paul's was celebrating Christmas here. We decorated the tree, Santa came, and there was a whole bunch of cookies, and we got to decorate them. I sang and I was an angel for the Christmas pageant. I love Christmas. It's one of my favorite holidays. Christmas is a really important part of what we do at church. I go to church to learn about Jesus.

- Isis

I have a memory of when I did a Mother's Day poem. I read it aloud at church. My mom was smiling in the audience. I was definitely nervous. I liked it. I have friends at St. Paul's that I don't see at school. I go to church to learn about church, and we play games and stuff, and it's fun.

- Anna

During my time here, I have made friends. My best friend is Laura. If we stopped coming to church, I would be sad because I like the Sunday school class. We have a lot of fun, so let me tell you about it! We eat donuts and learn and sing in music; the end.

- Hannah

I remember my first communion; I remember that I enjoyed it. I remember the first day as a baby in my mom's arms at church.

- Jake

One of the things I remember at St. Paul's was when the fam from LCLC came for a program here. It was really fun. Also, from another time, my friend James, a bunch of other kids, and I got a big game of tag going. I feel sorry for the people who got tagged because James was The Tagger, and the people who were tagged got seriously clapped! Another memory from St. Paul's was when I was getting confirmed. It was a pretty big deal. And I'm also in the Junior Bell Choir, and that's pretty fun. The church picnic is really fun, too.

- Drew

You can help them build for a long and enduring future here at St. Paul's by contributing throughout the year to our special **1-5-0 Fund** which is designed to help us take on the challenges of maintaining a great church facility for young and old alike.

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

St. Paul's Giving App and Website

We now have the ability to give electronically to the church via a Giving App called **Tithe.ly**. The instructions are on the St. Paul's website. Please be sure when you are setting up the account that you select St Paul's ELCA Church – Williamsville, 68 Eagle Street, Williamsville, NY 14221 as there are many other churches throughout the country called St. Paul's who take advantage of this service. You can set up on your smart phone or on your computer at: <https://get.tithe.ly/>

Full instructions can be found on the St. Paul's website at: <http://stpaulswilliamsville.org/>

1-5-0 Capital Improvement Fund Drive

We have also set up a GoFundMe page for accepting donations to our 1-5-0 Anniversary Capital Improvement Fund Drive. As outlined in last month's newsletter, we have several major repairs needed for the building. You can find a direct link on our website (<http://stpaulswilliamsville.org>) as well as on our Facebook page.

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

For those who wish to give with cash or checks, 1-5-0 envelopes will be available in the pews and on the table in the narthex.

Please remember to save your DASH register tapes. Dash's super market gives the congregation \$2.50 for each \$100 of purchases. These "rebates" are used for Youth group and incidental expenses such as the women's retreat. St Paul's began participating in the program in 2005. We have received over \$12,000 in rebates. This is an important program for the youth and the women's retreat. Please save your register tapes. They can be deposited in the cigar box on the table outside of the narthex or in the large manila envelope on the bulletin board in the Social Hall.



***The deadline for our June edition of the voice is Monday, May 20, 2019
Please send your articles to stpaulsvoice@yahoo.com or in our box in the office.***

WERE YOU OR YOUR RELATIVES MARRIED AT ST. PAUL'S? We are planning a display for our Marriage Celebration in May and want your wedding pictures (or your parents' grandparents', etc.)! Images can be emailed to Julianna Woite at jwoite@yahoo.com or dropped off to Julianna or Kim Retallack at church and we will scan them and return. Please indicate names of the couple & wedding date. We can't wait to see them!

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

ST. PAUL'S in WILLIAMSVILLE

1869 ~ 2019

Calendar of Events

Sons of St. Paul's Preacher Series

Marriage Celebration & Renewal

Church Picnic – Anniversary Edition

Confirmation Reunion

Olde Home Days Parade

Anniversary Concert

Time Capsule

Anniversary Dinner Dance

Bishop Visit

Olde Fashioned Ice Cream Social

Tree Trimming – Anniversary Edition

Ongoing

May 11th

June 9th

July 13th-14th

July 16th

August

September 22nd

October 5th

November 3rd

November 17th

December 8th



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church in Williamsville

cordially invites you to our

Marriage Celebration and Renewal

Saturday the eleventh of May

At seven o'clock in the evening

Join us as we celebrate the institution of marriage

renew the vows of interested couples

and celebrate 150 years of St. Paul's weddings

Reception to follow

The favor of a response is requested

by sign- up in the Social Hall

or through email at jlwoite@yahoo.com

All are welcome

Picture Page

Our Ladies Guild recently finished quilts for Lutheran World Relief:



Easter Morning @ St. Paul's –



Marty and Lee showing off their Easter duds—

