



The Trumpet

April / May

St. Paul United
Methodist Church

618-372-3255
Office Hours
Tues, Wed. Thur 8:30-12:30

Brothers and Sisters In Christ,

Hallelujah! Christ is Risen!!! What a wonderful message of hope as we move into the spring season. For many people Easter was just another holiday and another reason for families to get together for a big meal. It's a day off from school for the kids and includes baskets of candy and colored eggs. So, it may be a big leap for some people to see it as anything else. But oh, my goodness, there is so much more.

We have just journeyed with Christ to the cross and now we are called to live into his resurrection from death. You may be asking, what that means. Resurrection brings us new life. We are given the gift of eternal life through Jesus' rising from the grave. Without Christ giving his life for us, our belief in God's grace is destroyed. When Christ rose from the dead, he confirmed for the world that he is the Son of God. His work of redemption, reconciliation, and atonement brings us the gift of our salvation.

When Christ was crucified, we held the hammer. It was our sins that nailed him to the cross. Yet he willingly made the ultimate sacrifice for us so we don't have to. Jesus wants to spend eternity with us in the heavens but we have no way of getting there without him. Sin has a penalty and that penalty is death. But Jesus conquered the grave and death so that we too can arise and join him.

Can you imagine the pain he must have endured? Can you even fathom the depth of his love, for him to have died in our place?

The resurrection gives us a foundation for faith. It grants us access to the Father. We are called to build upon that faith and live as Christ lived, pure and holy. It is through him we are called children of God. It is through him that we receive righteousness.

There is nothing you can do that you can't be forgiven for. There is nothing you can do to earn salvation. There is nothing you can do to make God not love you. You are who you are because he is who he is.

We are called to spread the Good News and build God's kingdom. We have been commissioned by God himself to live a life that reflects the love that we know in Christ Jesus. The life and love that we are given through the cross. Live into the resurrection – be who you were created to be.

Blessings, Pastor Dala



April

- Apr-02 Connor Robinson
- Apr-03 Cason Robinson
- Apr-05 Lexi Garner
- Apr-07 Nick Autry
- Apr-09 Fred Cox
- Apr-14 Gary Blumstein
- Apr-15 Joy Wooldridge
- Apr-16 Myrna Stark
- Apr-22 Kathy Laramie
- Apr-25 Sylvia Skinner
- Apr-28 Chuck Porter
- Apr-30 Tracy Rothe

May

- May-01 Nathan St. Clair
- May-03 Moregan Laramie
- May-05 Shirley Gwillim
- May-06 Brian Lewis
- May-06 Julie Wooldridge
- May-07 Emily Autry
- May-07 Ron Cairns
- May-11 Carlie Terrill
- May-13 Carolyn Kelly
- May-17 Alexis Rodney
- May-17 Katie Wittman
- May-22 Fern Blumstein
- May-25 Nikki Birdsell
- May-28 Rhoda Cairns
- May-30 Amy Tuey
- May-30 David Garner





WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY

We are continuing with our book, God Came Near, by Max Lucado but will soon be choosing our next study. We would love it if you'd join us on Wednesdays at 2 pm. All women are invited. Each week offers us a different stand-alone lesson so if you can't commit to every week, come when you can. Bring a friend or two with you. This is an ecumenical study group.

Through this book we have "traveled back in time and relived Christ the Son of God becoming man. He came not as a flash of light or as an unapproachable conqueror, but as One whose first cries were heard by a peasant girl and a sleepy carpenter. No Silk. No ivory. No hype. No party. No hoopla. It all happened in a moment – a most remarkable moment. God came near."

The books run anywhere from \$8.00 to \$12.00. Pastor Dala tries to get the best price and to keep it affordable. There are however scholarships available if you want to join us. Just let Pastor know.



Food Pantry



January 55 Individuals, 16 Children, 17 Households, no new families

February. 87 Individuals, 35 Children, 24 Households 2 new families

The Pantry's phone number is **618-491-0174**

The pantry has food to share with those in need.

The Food Pantry is in need of plastic grocery bags. You may place them in the tote outside of the pantry, or bring them on Sunday, or during regular church office hours.

Food Pantry Hours

Thursdays from 9:00 to 11:00am and the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 6:00-7:00pm.

The pantry only closes if SWCUSD 9 cancels classes.

Home Missions

We are continuing our coin collection for Home Missions. In both entrances there will be a container to deposit your coins. You can bring them weekly or collect them and bring them in once a month. We appreciate your dedication and help by any contribution large or small is a huge blessing to someone that is less fortunate

Abundant Lifers:

The last Wednesday of every month
upcoming meetings:

April 24th 8:30am

May 29th 8:30am

everyone is welcome (bring a friend)



Boiler Repair / Maintenance Fund

As I have said many times and I'll say it again - our church is blessed beyond measure with all our beautiful properties! We are fortunate not to have any mortgages on any of them, however we do have upkeep and maintenance. The past few years have brought us some hefty repair bills, with the latest being the boiler. This equipment heats the Lower Wesley where our classrooms are and during the winter it gets pretty darn cold down there.

Repairs and upkeep doesn't come cheap these days (not that they ever did), so we have set up a fund to pay for the latest repair. It is our intention to keep this fund going at all times so we aren't hit with big bills that hurt.

The thermometer on the wall in the Narthex is recording your giving to this fund. We have done wonderfully so far but we're barely halfway there. What I am asking you to do is to pray about your financial gifts to the church. Possibly one week out of each month you could add to your offering an extra amount for maintenance. Be sure when you do to notate your check or envelope with "maintenance."

God loves a cheerful giver!



Southwestern Pack– A-Sack

Please bring your contributions to the church and place them in the TWIGS bucket located in the Narthex. Please make certain not to include any donations that contain nuts because of allergies.

This ministry is vital for the children of Southwestern Schools.

If you'd like to help pack each month the volunteers gather at St John's UCC here in Brighton on the first Tuesday of each month at 6:30pm.

Cartwright Building

Remember to make use of the Cartwright Building for all your events. It is available to rent for both members and non-members. If you hear of anyone looking for a place to hold a gathering, please share this information with them. Our facility holds a capacity of 200 people. We have tables, chairs and a full kitchen for their use.

Tuesday Evening Prayer Service

We invite you to add just 30 minutes more to your Worship schedule. Every Tuesday at 6:30 PM we gather to praise, worship and petition our Heavenly Father. A couple songs, some Bible readings and prayers for our church, local and world leaders fill our 30 minutes of worship. The Lord gives us so very much, find the time to thank God and send Jesus our praise. It will make for a peaceful and happy Tuesday night.



Adult Sunday School

We will be taking the summer off from Sunday School in the Adult Class only. We will resume our study beginning in September.

Special Days

Solar Eclipse April 8th
 Earth Day April 22nd
 National Arbor Day April 26th
 National Day of Prayer May 2nd
 Cinco de Mayo May 5th
 Nurses Day May 6th
 Mothers Day May 12th
 Armed Forces Day May 18th
 Memorial Day May 27th

Church:

April 12th-Last Parents Night Out for the summer
 April 14th-Native American Ministries Sunday
 April 21st-Festival of God's creation
 April 22nd-Earth Day
 April 28th-Pioneer Club Annual Swim/Pizza party at
 Jerseyville Wellness center 11:00am to 12:30
 April 29th-Last Pioneer Club Meeting for the summer
May 12th-Mothers day
 May 26th-Trinity Sunday
 May 26th-Last adult Sunday school for the summer

Weekly Sermon

If you are unable to attend our in-person worship services or if you do not have internet or Facebook capabilities and you would like to receive a written copy of the message given by Pastor Dala on Sundays, please contact the church office and we will gladly mail one to you. Thank you.



If you have something or someone you wish to have the Pastor pray for personally, jot down your prayer request and place it in the small mailbox located on the table in the Narthex. Pastor Dala will personally pray for every request received.

Confirmation Class



Pastor Dala will be teaching Confirmation Classes for all children 5th grade and up, beginning sometime towards the end of the summer / early fall. This year we will be holding the classes during the Sunday School hour – (9am-9:45am). Donuts or pastries along with juice will be provided for the kids. Pastor Dala would like to encourage the parents to attend the Sunday School hour as well in our Adult Class. It is an opportunity to teach the children that Sunday School is a valuable part of our spiritual journey and a way for everyone to learn more about the God that we serve. Be watching for more details to come.

Mother Daughter Banquet

Our annual Mother Daughter Banquet will be Friday, May 10th. It is being catered by The Brass Door and there is no charge for dinner. We will be taking up donations of personal hygiene items for the Food Panty. Please put your name on the sign-up sheet in the narthex or you can call the church to add your name to the sheet. We need to know how many children will be attending with you so that we can have activities for them. Photographs will be taken again this year by Leslie Manula, also no charge.

The theme of our banquet this year is 'Eggs' and the children will be entertaining us with a variety of music. We will need male servers to help out that evening as well, so if you able please let us know.

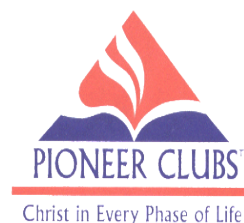


Childrens Ministries / Pioneer Club

Our Pioneer Club year end is approaching quickly. Thank you to everyone who has supported the Clubbers for our 2023-2024 year. We have seen an ongoing increase in attendance all year long. God has truly blessed us with the leaders, helpers and Clubbers. We will have our Annual Swim/Pizza Party on April 28th at Jerseyville Wellness Center 11am – 12:30pm. This is a Free Event. All Clubbers, leaders, helpers and families are invited.

The final meeting of Pioneer Club will be Monday April 29th.

Thank you all for your support of our Annual Easter Egg hunt. We started out slow in the candy/egg department but as usual the donations of candy and eggs surpassed our need. As a result of the generosity from the congregation we have enough to hold another egg hunt as part of the VBS this year!!!



Sunday School and Jr. Church

We have Sunday School for all ages every week and Jr Church immediately following the Children's Moment in Worship. All children are welcome.

Vacation Bible School

Our annual Free Community Vacation Bible School this year will be held June 10th – 14th. Our theme will be "Hero Hotline – Called to Serve God!" Any child from Pre-K on up is invited to attend. The hours of VBS will be 6 – 8:30 pm. Friday the 14th we will have Family Night. All families are welcome. We will have hot dogs and burgers with chips and drinks available. We are also inviting the Ice Cream Truck to come again like last year! And as a result of the generosity in our donations of candy and eggs for Easter we will also have an egg hunt! We have been encouraging the children to invite as many of their friends as possible! **We are going to have a Great Year at VBS!**



Parents Night Out

The final Parent's Night Out will be Friday April 12th. We have had a great year! Thank you to Ms Phyllis for always being prepared for the kids, Mr Tom for picking up the food, Ms Carolyn for her dedication and to all the helpers who have made this ministry possible.

Nursery at Church

Our nursery is open every Sunday during the worship hour.





St. Paul United Methodist Church
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[Stpaulbrighton.org](http://stpaulbrighton.org)

Office Hours

Tues, Wed, & Thurs 8:30 to 12:30.
 The office will continue to be closed on Fridays.



To everyone who supported the Easter Egg Hunt with eggs and candy...as usual our congregation stepped up and gave donations GENEROUSLY.

New Food Pantry phone #
618-491-0174