

THE APRIL EPISTLE

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

417 Howertown Road, Catasauqua, PA 18032

610.264.3221

www.stpaulscatasauqua.com

***Our Mission Statement:** To Serve all people by **Sharing** God's love, **Teaching** Christian values, and **Living together** in peace and hope.*

Church Office Hours

Monday-Thursday- 9:30 AM-2:30 PM

Sunday School

9/9/2018-6/9/2019 9:30 AM

Child Care Center

610.264.0190

Monday-Friday-7:00 AM-5:30 PM

Confirmation will be on Sunday, May 5, 2019 during the 9:00 AM service.

April 2019 Worship Services

April 3, Lent Service in the chapel
April 7, Fifth Sunday in Lent 9:00 AM Holy Communion 10:00 Confirmation Class
April 10, Lent Service in the chapel 7:00 PM Holy Communion
April 14, Palm Sunday 9:00 AM Holy Communion 10:00 AM Confirmation Class
April 18, Maundy Thursday service in the sanctuary 7:00 PM
April 19, Good Friday Tenebrae in the sanctuary 7:00 PM
April 21, Easter Sunday 9:00 AM Holy Communion
April 28, Second Sunday of Easter 9:00 AM Holy Communion

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

417 Howertown Road

Catasauqua, Pennsylvania 18032

www.stpaulscatasauqua.com

Email: stpaulschurch@rcn.com

Phone: 610-264-3221 Fax: 610-264-5732

Child Care: 610-264-0190

Sunday Worship Schedule

9:00 am: Holy Communion

Church Office Hours

Monday through Thursday: 9:30am-2:30pm

Child Care Center

Monday through Friday 7:00am-5:30pm

Church Staff:

Pastor: The Rev. Scott J. Paradise

Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Hartland Gifford

Director of Music: Christine Paradise

Office Administrator: Lori Adams

Treasurer: open

Financial Secretary: Debbie Stewart

Child Care Director: Debra Hessinger

Child Care Assistant Director: Amanda Fritz

Sunday School Supt.: Denise Reiner

Sexton: Robert Crogan

Paradise Corner

“Pastor, how come Easter is so late this year?” A number of folks have asked that excellent question, since a late Easter means a late Ash Wednesday (which we already experienced) and a late Pentecost (which will come on June 9). I want to help, so decided to write up this little piece for the *Epistle* so our members and friends can have a better understanding—and impress their friends and relatives.



My response begins by noting the dates of Ash Wednesday and Pentecost depend on the date of Easter. What many do not realize that the dating of Easter has been a matter of controversy in church history.

The earliest date for observing Easter was the same day of the Jewish Passover (i.e., 14 Nisan on the Jewish calendar). Both Passover and Easter celebrate the fact that God leads the passage from death to life for those whom God loves. For the Jews, that meant the Israelites passing from death to life both in their homes (Exodus 12:1-14) and at the Red Sea (Exodus 13:17–14:30). For Christians, that meant Jesus passing from death to life.

According to this calculation, Passover/Easter could fall on any day of the week—as Passover still does. By the year 325, Christians in Rome had adopted the practice of celebrating Easter on the first Sunday after Passover. This was because, according to the gospels, the women discovered the Empty Tomb on Sunday, “the first day of the week.”

At this point, the early Church became enmeshed in a great controversy about how to determine the date of Easter. So, in 325, the Council of Nicea (which also gave us part of the creed that we now call “Nicene” and recite on certain Sundays) determined Christians would celebrate Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon of spring—which is the Sunday after Passover. This means the earliest possible date to observe Easter is March 22 and the latest possible date to observe Easter is April 25. This year’s celebration of Easter on April 21 is late, but not as late as possible.

Although this practice has continued to the present, it did not catch on immediately. Some Christians, particularly in the area around modern day Turkey, resented bishops affiliated with Rome dictating when Christians outside Rome would observe Easter. These Christians insisted on continuing to observe Easter on the same day as Passover. This practice acquired the name “Quatodecimanism” and led to the “Quatodeciman Controversy” still studied by students of Early Church History today. (Try to work that into a conversation around the water cooler!)

Now, for the real trivia buffs, I provide the following tidbits. The last time the Church observed Easter on March 23 was in 1913. The next time the Church will observe Easter on April 25 is 2038. (I’ll be 70!)

Lest you think I keep all of this at my fingertips, please know that I made use of the following resources while compiling this response: *The Book of Common Prayer according to the use of the Episcopal Church*, Donald McKim’s *Westminster Dictionary of Theological Terms*, Ralph Van Loon and S. Anita Stauffer’s *Worship Wordbook*, and Williston Walker’s *A History of the Christian Church, Fourth Edition*.

Pastor Scott Paradise

CHILD CARE CENTER NEWS

April, the month of showers and sunshine, has arrived! We love the days filled with sunshine and warmth because this means the children get to go outside to run and play. There is nothing better than being able to get our energy out and enjoy some fresh air. This month we will celebrate our Easter parties on the 18th; the children will eat tasty snacks and sweets and go on an egg hunt. The children will enjoy going on walks through town so they can look at the changes in the trees, plants, and grass. They also like to look for birds, squirrels, rabbits, and neighborhood pets. Throughout the month, the classrooms will sing songs about Easter and spring. They will learn about rain and discuss the important role it plays in the environment. They will make crafts like umbrellas and rain clouds. We will also celebrate Earth Day this month on Tuesday, April 23rd by wearing our favorite green and/or blue.

Thank you to everyone that helped to make our Gertrude Hawk candy fundraiser a success!

Debbie Hessinger & Amanda Fritz

Child Care Director & Assistant Child Care Director

Assisting Ministers for April 2019

Date	Lector	Acolytes	Communion Assistants	Altar Guild
4/3 7:00 PM			Laurie Perna	
4/7	Judy Donchez	Amanda Mathis	Bob Bastian	Bob Bastian
4/10 7:00 PM			Cindy Schaller	
4/14	Sonny Heil	River Arnold	Pat Gerber	Pat Gerber
4/18 7:00 PM		Alison Mengel	Paula Kesack	
4/19 7:00 PM		Jack Mengel		
4/21	Meg Weinhofer	Christian Fye, Jack Mengel, Amanda Mathis	Al Renn, Helene Sterner	Betty Rabenold
4/28	Joanne Spengler	Braeden Lower Brielle Lower	Cindy Schaller	Robin Ruch

Altar and Flower Dedications at Saint Paul's

Honor a loved one, give thanks for an anniversary or accomplishment, or commemorate a loved one's birthday or death by sponsoring flowers for our altar or by sponsoring our church bulletins. If you would like to celebrate in this way, please fill out an Altar Flower and/or Bulletin Dedication form along with payment of \$40/\$15 & submit to church office. Dedication forms are in the narthex.

St. Paul's is part of Daku's Auto Body Shop's Give Back Program

Every time one of our members has work done on their vehicle they just have to ask to have 1% of the total bill donated to St. Paul's.

Daku's Auto Body Shop
1135 Howertown Road,
Catasauqua, PA 18032



Please keep in your prayers this month:

Rená Ackerman, Isiah Azar [grandson of Paula & Wm. Kesack], the Baker family, John Bechtold, Jean Burrows, Steve Chromiak, Margaret Corcoran, Mary Lou Grim, June Hahn, Robert Kulp, Jr., LeeAnn Miller, Joanne Mooney, Janet Searfass, Susan Spengler, Helen Stahl [mother of Christine Paradise].

<u>Date</u>	<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Bulletins</u>
4/7	Available	Available
4/14	Reserved	Reserved
4/21	Reserved	Reserved
4/28	Reserved	Reserved

Catasauqua Food Bank Needs:

Canned Soup, Fruit & Vegetables. Cereal, Spaghetti noodles, Spaghetti sauce, Rice & Noodle Mixes, Fruit cups, and Juice Boxes. Drop off your donations in the shopping basket in the church narthex.

Miller Keystone Blood Center is always in need of all blood types! Thank you to **JoAnn Staller** for her faithful donations!

Official Notice:

The Annual Program Meeting of Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church will take place on Sunday, April 28, 2019 following the 9:00 AM service of Holy Communion (i.e., approximately 10:00 AM). The purpose of this meeting is to receive the reports of our various ministries for 2018 and elect members to serve on the Congregation Council. If you are uncertain of your voting status, please contact the church office to inquire. Please note that, in accordance with Saint Paul's Constitution and By-Laws, "Voting by proxy or absentee ballot shall not be permitted." (C10.05)



April Birthdays

Dale Hein	4/3
Rachel Peters	4/3
Robert Taniser Jr.	4/6
Eric Nichols	4/7
Bobbie Taniser	4/7
Patricia Gerber	4/8
John Frey	4/10
Nancy Fried	4/13
Debra DeAngeles	4/16
Lynn Zakos	4/17
Robert Sterner	4/18
Lorraine Schrader	4/25
Carol Williams	4/25
Heather Hudson	4/26
Colin Weaver	4/26
Carol Brandt	4/27
Edward Forstoffer IV	4/27
Hannah Matchette	4/27
James Williams	4/28
Latta Heil	4/29

April Anniversaries

Robert & Sandra Sensinger	4/1	47
Jason & Suzanne Mengel	4/10	20
David & Jane Laudenslager	4/23	42
Robert & Barbara Searfass	4/30	59



2018-2019 Congregation Council

Debbie Frey	June Hahn
Bob Bastian	Paula Kesack
Cindy Schaller	Robin Ruch
Len Witt	

All active St. Paul members: in order to keep your membership up-to-date, please remember to complete and return a Holy Communion card (at least once a year) as a record of your Communion. Cards are located in the pews and completed card can be placed in the offering plate. Also, please remember to use your offering envelopes or put your envelope number on your offering checks as a record of your giving. If you haven't had offering envelopes assigned to you, please contact the church office.

Hospital Visits: If you or someone you know is admitted to the hospital or rehabilitation facility, it is very important to notify the church as soon as possible. You can do this by either calling the church office directly or inform the hospital upon admittance that you are a member of St. Paul's and they will list you under our Pastoral Code 312.