

# The St. Paul Lutheran News

*St. Paul Lutheran Church is called to be an Inviting, Christ Centered Spiritually Growing and Community Serving Church where we are led by love to implement JESUS' TEACHINGS.*

## Staff

*Interim Pastor*  
**Rev. Michael Rahlf**

*Secretary*  
**Kellie Carrier**

*Custodian*  
**Edgar Jurado**

*Music/Choir Director*  
**David Frank**

## APRIL 2024



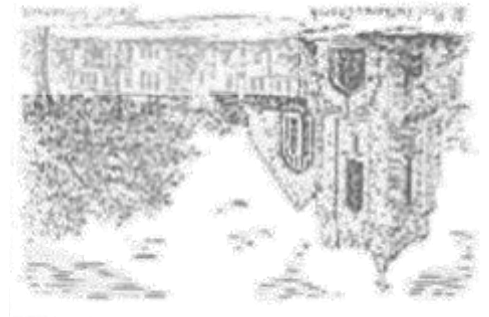
### April Worship Schedule

Sun., April 7	8:30 a.m.
Sun., April 14	8:30 a.m.
Sun., April 21	8:30 a.m.
Sun., April 28	8:30a.m.

*A congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)*

**Church Office Hours**  
**Tuesdays: 11am-3 pm and**  
**Wednesdays & Fridays: 8am-4pm**  
**(608) 365-7064**  
**www.stpaulbeloit.org**  
**facebook.com/stpaulutheranchurchbeloit**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
**617 St. Lawrence Avenue**  
**Beloit, WI 53511**



# APRIL 2024 ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

## In-Person & Online Worship

*Livestreaming worship with St. Paul*

*available on Facebook & YouTube*

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2 5:00p.m.- Worship & Music Meeting	3 Noon– Soup Lunch	4	5	6
7 8:30 a.m. Worship -In Person & Online Coffee Hour immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship at San José	8 1:00 p.m. Ruth Circle (Gathering Room)	9	10 Noon– Soup Lunch  5:00 p.m.-Council Meeting	11	12	13
14 8:30 a.m. Worship - In Person & Online Coffee Hour Immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship at San José	15 9:30 a.m.-Basket Guild  6:30 p.m Women’s Bible Study (Michael Chapel)	16	17 Noon - Soup Lunch & LYDIA’S CLOSET	18 8:00 a.m. Men’s Breakfast Service	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20
21 8:30 a.m. Worship - In Person & Online Coffee Hour immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship at San José	22	23	24 Noon– Soup Lunch	25 Noon- OWLS	26	27 9:00-4:00 p.m. Community Basket Class
28 8:30a.m. Worship -In Person & Online –Coffee Hour immediately following 11:00 a.m. Worship at San José	29	30				

# St. Paul Lutheran Church APRIL Celebrations!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Sue Katterhenry Happy Birthday	<b>4</b> Ann Marie Kenitzer Happy Birthday	<b>5</b> Glenda Liptow Happy Birthday	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Al Klingenberg Happy Birthday; Glenda & Russ Liptow Anniversary	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Sharyn Pann Happy Birthday	<b>11</b> Bryan Carroll Happy Birthday; Karly & Anne Schilling Anniversary	<b>12</b> Rachel & Lance Shepherd Anniversary	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> Mackenzie Koth Happy Birthday	<b>15</b> Russ Liptow Happy Birthday	<b>16</b> Marie & Jim Leppla Anniversary	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> Tim & Sherry O'Grandy Anniversary
<b>21</b> Jean Neitzel, Beth Stibbe Happy Birthday; Ken & Marilyn Harris Anniversary	<b>22</b> Katie & Randy Hassenfelt Anniversary	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Rachel & Greg Wilson Anniversary	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> Michelle Carlson Happy Birthday; Roger & Kerry Anderson Anniversary				



# OWLS – Fireside Christian Concert

## St. Paul 150th Anniversary Celebration

### St Paul Lutheran Church 150 Years Yesterday – Today – Tomorrow Yearlong Celebration.....3 BIG events—

Put these dates on your calendar:  
August 4, 2024-Church Picnic---  
October 27, 2024-- German Service &  
Anniversary Dinner---  
December 1, 2024---Advent Potluck  
Celebration

Other things we are thinking of: 150 years of  
memories with things from archives, maybe a 150<sup>th</sup>  
booklet? Inviting back...pastors?...interns?...musicians?

Pictures and History of: Boy Scout troop,? golden  
agers? married couples club? young couples club?  
Rainbow station? St. Paul kitchen stories? Recipes?  
Pig Roasts? Soup Lunch?

**What would YOU like to do to add to the  
Celebration?**



## The LeFevre Quartet

Wednesday, May 1, 2024

Arrival 10:30 a.m.,

Dinning 11:00 a.m.,

Concert 1:00 p.m.

Cost: \$40.00 payable  
to Roger Neitzel by  
April 15.

Details and Signup  
sheet on Office  
Bulletin Board!

All are invited.

### *The LeFevre Quartet* Wednesday, May 1, 2024



Since 1921, the LeFevre name has been a leader in Gospel Music. Today, the name is stronger than ever. The LeFevre Quartet formed in 2005 and within one year, Gospel Music fans voted them the Singing News Fan Awards' Horizon Group of The Year. In 2009, their song, "Big Mighty God" was nominated for a Dove Award. In 2016, 2017, 2018 and 2019, The LeFevre Quartet was nominated as a Top 10 Traditional Quartet in the Singing News Magazine's Fan Awards. Their recent albums from New Day Records/Daywind have produced multiple number one hit songs. Prayerfully, the message in each song will change hearts. It takes more than just a legendary name to gain the recognition this group has attracted, yet with stellar vocals, high energy performances, and a heart for ministry, this combination of talent is one you won't soon forget. Together Mike LeFevre, along with Jonathan Price, Christian Davis, and Channing Eleton strive to reach their audiences with a message of hope, grace, and salvation through Jesus Christ!

*Wednesday Matinee & Evening  
\$39.95 per person plus tax and gratuity.*





**DESIGNATED MISSION OUTREACH**

**LATINO MINISTRY  
(PARROQUIA SAN JOSÉ)**

**A LATIN MINISTRY OF THE  
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
OF AMERICA AND THE  
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF USA.  
SAN JOSÉ PARISH IS A LATIN  
LUTHERAN-PRESBYTERIAN  
MINISTRY, CELEBRATING LATIN  
CULTURE WHILE PRAISING THE  
GOD OF ALL!**

Community services include:

Immiration Legal Clinic, Ministry of Healing, Pastoral Support, Visits to hospitals and jails, Blessing of homes, Quinceaneras, Weddings, Funerals, Advocacy and Solidarity!



**MINISTERS OF WORSHIP - APRIL**

<i>Date</i>	<i>Time</i>	<i>Council</i>	<i>Assisting Minister</i>	<i>Reader</i>	<i>Communion Assistant</i>	<i>Tech / Livestream</i>	<i>PowerPoint</i>
7	8:30 a.m..	Ken Harris	Martha Stolze	Greg Stolze	Carol Josh	Hughes-Murry Team	Ash Lockwood
<i>COFFEE HOUR SPONSORED BY OWLS ; WELCOMING COMMITTEE: KAREN MOE &amp; CAROL JOSH</i>							
14	8:30 a.m.	Melanie Schneider	Jane Carr	Melanie Schneider	Sharyn Pann	Hughes-Murry Team	Chuck Hughes
<i>COFFEE HOUR SPONSORED BY: CHET &amp; DENISE ORGAN; WELCOMING COMMITTEE: KATHY POHL &amp; DONNA BLUM</i>							
21	8:30 a.m.	Jane Carr	Jean Neitzel	Carole Spreitzer	Karen Moe	Hughes-Murry Team	Ken Harris
<i>COFFEE HOUR SPONSORED BY MARILYN &amp; KEN HARRIS WELCOMING COMMITTEE: CHET ORGAN &amp; SHARYN PANN</i>							
28	8:30 a.m.	Martha Stolze	Sharyn Pann	Carol Josh	Jean Neitzel	Hughes-Murry Team	Jan Knutson
<i>COFFEE HOUR SPONSORED BY FAMILY PROMISE; WELCOMING COMMITTEE: CHUCK &amp; SHERRI HUGHES</i>							

**WEAVE BASKET  
GUILD  
MEETING IS**



**MONDAY , APRIL 15  
9:30 A.M.-NOON**

**AND**

**COMMUNITY BASKET CLASS  
SATURDAY, APRIL 27  
9:00-4:00 P.M.**

## SOUP LUNCH APRIL

3– Scalloped Potatoes and Ham  
10– Chili  
17– Broc. Cheese Soup  
24– Potato Soup



## PRAYER LIST

*Please keep the following people in your prayers:*

**Terry** (Billie Kenitzer's brother); **Amy B.** (Shirley Hallmark's niece);  
**Shirley H.**; **Charles H.** (Shirley Hallmark's friend);  
**Donna G.**; **Michelle C.**; **Carole S.**; **Marge K.**; **Marilyn F.**; **Patricia E.**;  
**Colin C.**; **Mark S.**;  
**Amber V.** (Judelle & Ray Murphy's daughter); **Linda M.**;  
**Kristina** (Pat Baker's granddaughter); **Ray O.** (Chet Organ's brother);  
**Will S.**; **Kathy P.**; **Juelane** (Mark Mueller's sister);  
**Kyle & Kim R.** (Marge Kline's grandson & his wife); **Ray Jr.** (Nephew of  
Chet & Denise Organ); **Sue** (Charlie Hallmark's Mother); **Bonnie P.**;  
**Chuck F.**; **Axel A.**;  
**Sue O.** (Marilyn Harris friend); **Carol M.**;

**all those who have been affected by COVID-19 and other illnesses;**  
**all those affected by the violence in our nation and around the world.**  
**all those who seek shelter; and friends and family in the military.**

*Please let us know if you have any additions to  
or removals from the prayer list.*



*Our deepest condolences are extended to the family and friends of Marie Leppla who went to be with our Lord on March 11, 2024. Funeral services were held on Sunday, March 17 at the Dailey, Murphy Wisch and Assoc. funeral home, Beloit, WI.*

*Our sincerest sympathies...*



## SOUP LUNCH

Soup Lunch attendance for the month of March is 228  
Please mark any financial donations for "Soup Lunch."  
We are also in need of gas station and food gift cards  
(Subway, McDonald's, etc.).

You can **help support our Soup Lunch ministry**  
by mailing your donations to:

St. Paul Lutheran Church,  
617 St. Lawrence Ave., Beloit, WI 53511  
or by going to: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=531526>



# HE IS RISEN INDEED!!

## Newsletter

Just a note to remind everyone that the deadline to submit items for the May Newsletter is Friday April 19th. Thank you and God's Blessings.

VOICES

### Showing up for church when I don't want to

When I show up, God shows up—although not always in the sermon.

by Yolanda Pierce



**I** often attend church when I would rather be somewhere else. There are Sundays when the weather seems too perfect to be inside, when I'd rather sit outdoors at my local pancake house and read the paper. There are Sundays when my mind is racing or there are too many things on my to-do list. And there are Sundays when I'm just tired of church, of the hypocrisy of religion. I confess that there are plenty of Sundays when my doubts outweigh my beliefs. But I show up.

Sometimes I attend church out of duty and obligation. As a minister and a dean of a theological institution, I'm expected to go to church. Church is an extension of my workplace. As a Christian parent, I felt obligated to raise a child "in the way she should go." There are plenty of Sundays when the service is boring, the minister preaches for way too long, and the ushers act confused. There are Sundays when the announcements, which are broadcast on a screen, are repeated ten more times anyway simply because people like to hear themselves talk on the mic. But I show up.

I show up because God always meets me when I am faithful. God always shows up. Sometimes God shows up in the parking lot, in the person who greets me with a firm handshake or a hug. Sometimes God shows up in laughter over bagels during coffee hour. Sometimes God shows up in the face of the impossibly cute toddler who wants to play peekaboo with me all service long. I show up and God shows up, and not necessarily in the sermon. I often encounter the holy presence of God before the pastor has spoken a single word.

Our churches are far too pastor-centric. We are so busy expecting the word of God to come from the remote tools we now have, nothing can ever replicate the beauty of being with one another in the flesh, fully present.

At the center of Christian theology is an incarnate God who shows up in an unexpected season and in the most unexpected of places. A God who shows up encased in the vulnerability of human flesh, in a community and a family, among a people with a history and a story. That same God longs to show up for us, in small and unexpected ways, so we know that we are not alone and that God is still moving among us.

We invite God's divine presence to show up where there is war, division, and despair and to bring peace. We invite God's divine presence to show up where there is pain and confusion and to bring comfort. We invite God's divine presence to show up where there is exhaustion, so we rest in the certainty that when our strength is not enough, God's grace is always sufficient. And we can try to show up for each other with the same consistency and faithfulness with which God shows up for us. □

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38 The Christian Century March 2014

pastor that we miss how God's presence arrives in other forms. Sometimes the word shows up in the person sitting next to you who hands you a peppermint. Sometimes the word comes from seeing the person who was in the hospital last month, now sitting in the pew in front of you. Sometimes the word comes from the audacious hat that one of the church mothers is wearing. God's powerful presence is all around us, not just streaming from the words spoken in the pulpit. Before the creation of an ecclesial organizational structure that includes pastor and laity, or pulpit and pew, God regularly showed up during a simple meal being shared in someone's home, where believers gathered in expectation of God's holy presence.

One Sunday, God showed up in the comments of a woman whose name I didn't even know. A creature of habit, I often sit in the same pew, as do many others in my church. I had seen her many times before; we had shared a hug and passed the peace on multiple occasions. As I arrived at my familiar pew after a few Sundays of being on the road for work, this woman leans over to me and says, "I missed your smile for the past few weeks. I want you to know I'm praying for you and miss you when you're gone." Tears welled in my eyes. The service hadn't started. The praise and worship team hadn't sung a single note, nor had the pastor even arrived at the pulpit. But surely God was present in that moment of deep human connection. She saw me, and she reminded me that God sees me.

In the sights and sounds and colors and textures of the church, God speaks to me. In the cacophony of crying babies and gospel music, God shows up for me. And yes, sometimes even the sermon blesses my soul, for which I am grateful. Sometimes the preacher has a word that was meant exactly for me and my current circumstances.

But not every Sunday brings some new insight or revelation. Not every Sunday brings some transformative change into my life. Not every Sunday soothes my doubts and calms my fears. Yet every single Sunday brings me joy. There is joy in the simple pleasure of being present among the people of God, showing up week after week. This is why the writer of Hebrews reminds us that we should not neglect to meet together, to assemble together and thereby encourage one another (10:24-25). And while I love that there is so much we can do as a community via all the

Illustration by Xia Gordon

remote tools we now have, nothing can ever replicate the beauty of being with one another in the flesh, fully present.

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Illustration by Xia Gordon