

OLD ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN GAZETTE

2035 Old Conover-Startown Rd. Newton, NC 28658

April 2021



Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! (ALMOST)

When you read this newsletter, we will be days away from celebrating the resurrection of our Savior and the promise of eternal life. Everyone seems to be marking the year anniversary of the beginning of the pandemic. For me, the pandemic carried the most power when we

realized that we would not be able to gather for worship on Easter last year. Disbelief and fear of the unknown seemed to be the emotions that carried us along in those first months.

It is interesting that those same emotions carried the disciples through Palm Sunday processions and a Maundy Thursday supper in an upper room and the betrayal, arrest and crucifixion of Jesus on Good Friday. And then Easter.

Yet even the news and events of Easter morning carried the same storm of disbelief and fear for the disciples – though there were a brave few who were willing to believe what their Savior had promised before he died – that on the third day he would rise again. Mary Magdalene, Mary the Mother of James, and Salome had been up early that first Easter, long before sunrise. They made their way to the freshly carved tomb only to find the stone rolled away and angels waiting to greet them, “Why do you seek the living among the dead? He is not here. He is risen even as he said.”

I imagine those words were spoken with confident proclamation by the angels who had witnessed the event firsthand. I also believe those three women, when they ran to tell the disciples, did not whisper the news of the empty tomb but instead shouted, pleaded, begged, and celebrated when they told the disciples the glorious news. Thanks be to God!

If there has ever been a year where we have needed word of the news of the resurrection to ring in our ears, IT IS THIS YEAR. We have need of the news of the resurrection for the countless number of those who have died from the coronavirus. We have need of the news of the resurrection for those who have died this year when we had little time to tend them in their dying. We have need of the news of the resurrection for those who have suffered loneliness, isolation, and the absence of loved ones. We have need of the news of the resurrection because such news brings us hope to trust that the Word of God has indeed overcome the power of death.

In every corner of the world the power of death brings grief, overwhelms courage, and causes deep and lasting pain. And in every corner of the world, there is hunger for the promise of God’s resurrection hope and joy. Yes! It is this year that each of us and all the world has great need of the news of the resurrection. And so, People of God, hear the good news of Jesus Christ. Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Peace,

Pastor Judy

DEADLINE FOR May NEWSLETTER ARTICLES: April 23rd, 2021

Please note: newsletter articles should be sent to: oldstpauloffice@gmail.com

Growing in Faith

By Christy Olson

Spring is a time of growth. Faith growth, like all growth, takes time. Families will plant seeds and talk about what is needed for growth in God's time: Water, the warmth of the sun and the good soil of relationships and experiences. A Family Faith Growth Chart will help families record their growth in faith.



For Young Families in Spring

- ♦ Needed: Newspapers or a vinyl table cloth
- ♦ 12-15 ounce paper or foam cups
- ♦ potting soil, one package of seeds such as Black Eyed Susan or Zinnia
- ♦ a small pitcher of water
- ♦ Bible
- ♦ Family Faith Growth Chart (see page below),
- ♦ one color of crayon for each person
- ♦ transparent tape

Prepare in Advance

- ♦ Cut apart the Family Faith Growth Chart
- ♦ Tape the halves together matching the green stem
- ♦ Cover the seed planting area with newspapers or a vinyl tablecloth

Activity Plan

1. Engage in this prayer activity together. Everyone begins squatting on the floor. As the prayer is repeated each body will grow with the prayer until arms are stretched to the sky as you shout "Amen". God, Help us grow and grow so each minute we know more about you. We reach to the sky knowing you are always with us as we grow. Amen.

2. Jesus tells a story called a parable about a sower. A sower is someone who plants seeds like a gardener. In the spring lots of gardeners are planting seeds. Open the Bible to Matthew 13:3-9. Read the story aloud. Discuss these questions. Why did the birds eat the seeds? Why did the seeds planted in rocks die soon? Why did the plants choke in the weeds? What is good soil for growing?

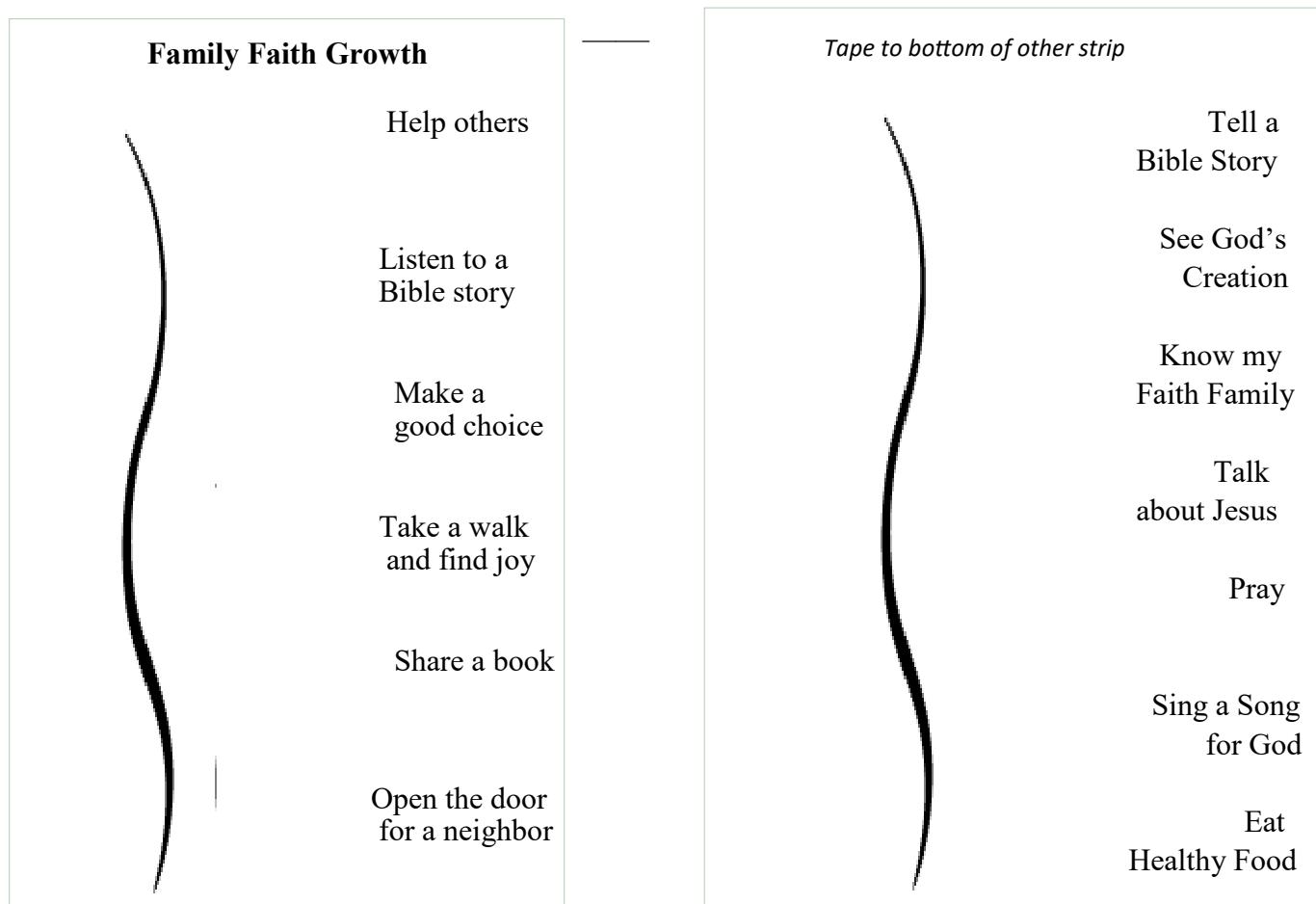
3. Let's plant some seeds. Add soil to the cups. Add a little water. Plant three seeds in each cup just under the top of the soil. Put the seed cups in a sunny spot. Watch the seeds. Are they growing? How long does it take to grow? Remember to keep the seeds wet.

4. Look at the Family Faith Growth chart. These are some ways we can grow in faith. We never stop growing in faith. Each person will choose one color of crayon. When you do one of the things on the family faith growth chart, make a flower in your color on the stem. During the week, fill the stem with family flowers as you grow in faith together.

5. End by reading Matthew 13:3-9 again. Substitute the word "seeds" with "seeds of faith."

Keep growing this week!

Cut Here



Do You Want a Summer Job? Is Summer Camp Open this Year? Read below!

NovusWay Seeking Summer Staff



Lutheridge and Lutherock Camps are looking for young adults like you who want to share their faith with campers no matter where they are on their journey with Jesus. We are looking for young adults like you who have a passion for adventure in nature and want to share that with campers. We are looking for young adults like you who are ready for the summer of a lifetime! We are looking for you! Apply today! Go to novusway.org.

Agapé+Kure Beach Staff Search



Camp Agapé staff change lives, plant seeds of faith, serve others, and gain new life skills while mixing fun, music, learning, friends, nature, and leadership! We are especially looking for Counselors (19+) and Support Staff (16+), so if you want to make a difference in kids' lives and have fun doing it, apply today! Go to their website at agapekurebeach.org.

Camp is Open!

All of our summer camps are open this summer. Each are taking serious protocols for safety with the campers. Camp Agape is in Fuquay Varina and hosts a variety of fun opportunities! Kure Beach is the only ELCA camp that is on the beach! Ride horses, shoot off rockets, take a night hike, or learn to surf! Agapé † Kure Beach Ministries' summer camps offer all this and more!

Lutheridge is in the North Carolina mountains in Arden. In addition to the great camp experience, they host weeks like Music Week, Christmas in July and a Fourth of July week. Lutherock takes hiking trips, whitewater rafting and other adventures. You can register for any of these camps by applying online at their websites.



BIRTHDAYS THIS MONTH

1	Karen Bowman Sharon Marlowe
2	Rylan Darnell Casey Gibson Clinton Sigmon
6	Amelia Duncan
7	Riley Bradshaw
12	Eddie Sigmon
13	Kaci Sartin Janie Travis
14	Chris Duncan
15	Alissa Hicks
16	Jason Stowe
19	Andy Burrus
20	Gracie Elliott
21	Nelda Huffman
22	Susan Lunsford
23	Christopher Rice Ken Kiser
24	Terrell Setzer
28	Ciera Sartin



ALTAR GUILD

Serving in April:

Trish Scronce
Debbie Wentz-Pitts
Sharon Marlow



March Attendance

3rd	27 (Lent)
7th	67
10th	25 (Lent)
14th	61
17th	22 (Lent)
21st	73
24th	28 (Lent)
28th	95



UPCOMING WORSHIP LECTERNARY TEXTS



Maundy Thursday

Thursday, April 1st

Exodus 12:1-14

Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

John 13:1-17,31b-35

Good Friday

Friday, April 2nd

Isaiah 52:13- -53:12

Psalm 22

Hebrews 10:16-25

John 18:1- -19:42

Easter Day

Sunday, April 4th

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

Mark 16:1-8

2nd Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 11th

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1:1- - 2:2

John 20:19-31

3rd Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 18th

Acts 3:12-19

Psalm 4

1 John 3:1-7

Luke 24:36b-48

4th Sunday of Easter

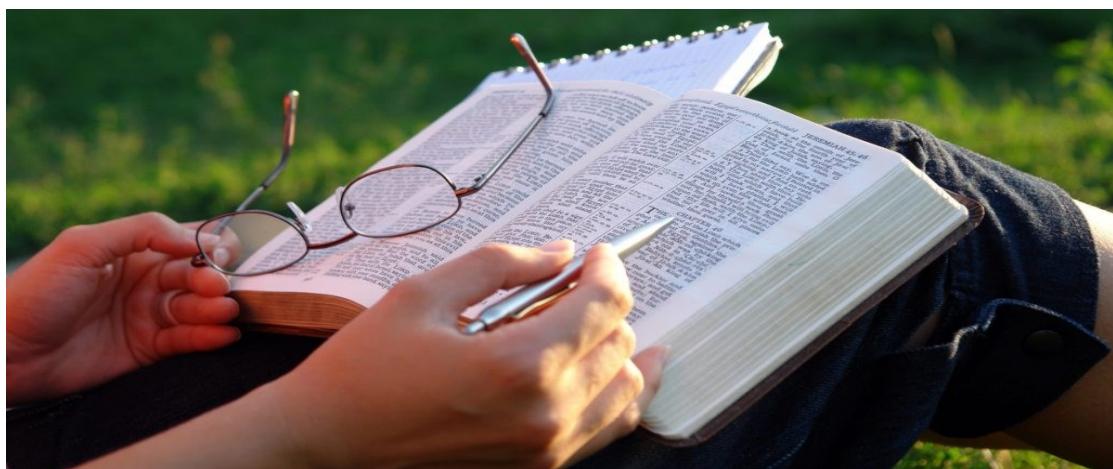
Sunday, April 25th

Acts 4:5-12

Psalm 23

1 John 3:16-24

John 10:11-18



To Old St. Paul's Church Family,

Thank you so much for the love, calls, cards and food left at the door while I had Covid. You all make me feel so special. Love to all of you. The prayers really saved me. I hope I never have to go thru that again. Thanks again.

Thank
you

With much love,
Lisa Testerman



Altar Flowers

The flower chart is in the Narthex of the church if you wish to give flowers in honor or memory of someone.



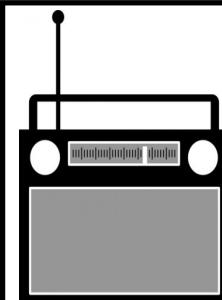
Call Committee Update



The call committee is continuing its work of calling a new pastor. There is no major update at this time. Please continue to pray for the work of this important committee.



The Church will be sending out emails each Tuesday through our new service called MailChimp. If you do not get the weekly email already, you can **sign up for our weekly E-News** by contacting the church office at: oldstpauloffice@gmail.com or 828-464-9786



Make sure you listen to the **Radio Broadcast** each Sunday morning if you can't be at Church during this Pandemic. **11:30AM on 101.3 FM and 1230 AM OR Watch on the church FACEBOOK page for FACBOOK LIVE!**



We are excited to share that we have launched online giving at **Old St. Paul's Lutheran Church** through Tithe.ly, a safe and secure giving platform that allows you to give one-time or recurring gifts!

You can get started by using one of the below options.

1. Tithe.ly Giving App:

Download the Tithe.ly App from the [App Store](#) (iPhone) or [Google Play Store](#) (Android). Once you have downloaded the app select your church and follow the same steps as above.

- * Since this is your first time giving with [Tithe.ly](#) you will be prompted to create an account that you can use for all future gifts.
- * The first time you will also need to add your credit/debit card or ACH/banking info.
- * Once your account has been created you will not need to enter your personal or payment information. Just enter your PIN and give!
- * A reminder, you can set your gift up as recurring.

{NOTE: If you also have a custom church app we recommend you mention that here instead of the Tithe.ly Giving App and send your churches “app download link”. Donors can give through your custom church app as well as stay engaged!}

2. Website Giving: (*Coming Soon*)

Click on this link [Old St. Paul's Lutheran \(ELCA\)](#) to give through the church website. It's a safe and easy way to give any time.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask, phone or email and I will be happy to assist you further! Tithe.ly also has articles that you may find useful.

Thank you for your generosity and partnering with us to build the kingdom.

See you on Sunday (online or in person)!

Jody Laffon

**If you are interested, you can receive personal instruction (if needed)*



Old St. Paul Lutheran Church

Rev. Judy Lewis Drysdale, Interim Pastor
jlewisdrysdale@gmail.com, 704-984-0398

Angela Kanipe, Music Director

Carolyn Sosebee, Organist

Erin Ollis, Administrative Assistant

oldstpauloffice@gmail.com Church Office: 828-464-9786
Office Hours: Tuesday – Thursday 9am-1pm