



March 2024



## All Eyes On Jesus



We are officially into the season of Lent, that 40-day journey that calls us to focus on the Passion of our Lord. Some people give up something to help them remember what Christ gave up for them. Others choose a special project to do to help other remember Christ's suffering and death. I have found that music can aid people during their 40 day Lenten journey. Our hymnody is filled with wonderful tunes and poignant verses that greatly enhance these 40 days. Let me share some of these verses with you

*Jesus, I will ponder now On Your holy passion;  
With Your Spirit me endow For such meditation.  
Grant that I in love and faith May the image cherish  
Of Your suffering, pain, and death That I may not perish.*

*Grant that I Your passion view With repentant grieving,  
Let me not bring shame to You By unholy living.  
How could I refuse to shun Ev'ry sinful pleasure  
Since for me God's only Son Suffered without measure?*

[LSB 440 "Jesus, I Will Ponder Now" vv 1, 4]

For me, this is my prayer to begin Lent. O Lord, let me in these 40 days, truly ponder again your Passion for me. Let me truly look at it with repentant grieving, for it was my sins that nailed you to the cross. Let that be your prayer these 40 days.

*You have suffered great affliction And have borne it patiently  
Even death by crucifixion, Fully to atone for me;  
For you chose to be tormented That my doom should be prevented  
Thousand, thousand thanks are due, Dearest Jesus, unto you*

[LW 94 "Christ, the Life of All the Living" vs 2]

Man, to think about the suffering Jesus endured, the suffering I deserve! He willingly, patiently bore it all so that I would not be doomed to eternal death. A thousand thanks seem so small a repayment to Jesus for what he has done for me. A thousand thanks truly is nowhere near the debt that I owe to Jesus for what he has done for me. Still, he does not demand that I pay him back, or else he will place the burden back on me. No, his love for me is far beyond a thousand thanks that I could give back to him. He does it all knowing that I could never repay him. Thank You, Jesus!

**ALL EYES ON JESUS** continued

*When I survey the wondrous cross On which the Prince of Glory died,  
My richest gain I count but loss And pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast Save in the death of Christ, my God;  
All the vain things that charm me most, I sacrifice them to His blood.*

[LSB 425 “When I Survey The Wondrous Cross” vv 1-2]

I read these words and I hear these words of Scripture, “But far be it from me to boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world.” [Galatians 6:14] After all it is the cross of Christ on which we focus our attention, and all the more during the days of Lent.

*“1 Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith” [Hebrews 12:1-2]*

In Christ

*Pastor Sundbom*



## *2024 Lenten Schedule*

### “Words of Life from the Cross”

The theme of this series is the seven words of Christ that He spoke from the cross as He offered up His life for the life of the world. Each word imparts a blessing and is a word of Gospel. The sermons in this series will expound on these words of Christ, linking them to Jesus’

words and works recorded in the Gospel as well as the Old Testament prophecies that pointed to Him. Each word of Christ proclaims and delivers something about Him, the Word Incarnate, and delivers His saving death to us that we would trust Him for forgiveness, life, and salvation.

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## St. Paul’s Midweek Lenten Schedule

**Midweek 4: Mar 6** – “The Compassionate Word” Jn 19:26-27, Pastor Kevin Gynn, Faith Mentor

**Midweek 5: Mar 13<sup>th</sup>** – “The Suffering Word” Jn 19:28, Pastor Paul Sundbom, St. Paul’s Painesville

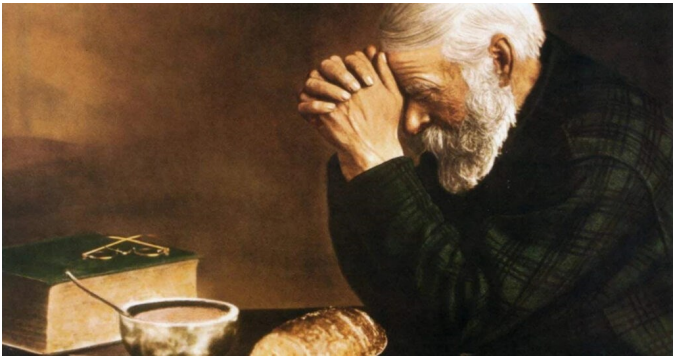
**Midweek 6: Mar 20<sup>th</sup>** – “The Dying Word” Lk 23:46 Pastor Freddy Davison, Lighted Cross Ashtabula

**Maundy Thursday: Mar 28<sup>th</sup>** – The Remembering Word, Pastor Sundbom – Communion celebrated

**Good Friday: Mar 29<sup>th</sup>** – “It Is Finished” Jn 19:30, Pastor Paul Sundbom

**Easter Vigil: Mar 30<sup>th</sup>** – The Restful Word, Pastor Paul Sundbom – Communion celebrated

**Easter Sunday: Mar 31<sup>st</sup>** – The Vindicated Word, Pastor Sundbom – Communion celebrated



## Who Wrote the Common Table Prayer?

*By James R. Eggert*

As Christians and especially as Lutherans, many of us pray the Common Table Prayer before meals. We learn it as children, pray it at our tables at home or in restaurants, and join in reciting it at communal meals.

Some of us know it in the language our grandparents or great-grandparents prayed. Its wording varies somewhat from family to family, but typically we know it as one of these, in English or in German:

*Come, Lord Jesus, be our Guest; and let these gifts to us be blessed.*

*Komm, Herr Jesu; sei unser Gast; und segne, was du uns bescheret hast.*

The Common Table Prayer, simple and succinct, invites Jesus to be with us in words accessible to children and still meaningful to adults.

We know that the Common Table Prayer is old, older than our own memory, older even than the people we remember from our childhood. **But how old is it, and who wrote it?** Though it has sometimes been attributed to Martin Luther, the prayer is not found in any known work of the Reformation era. And although its [theological meaning](#) and [current use](#) have recently been discussed in *The Lutheran Witness*, its origin has not.

Numerous authors have noted that the Common Table Prayer is very similar to portions of an aria<sup>[i]</sup> written in 1669 by Johann Rudolph Ahle (1625–1673). Ahle was the Lutheran organist and, as such, Johann Sebastian Bach's penultimate predecessor in Mühlhausen, Germany. The prayer seems to be derived from the first and third stanzas of his aria. But when and by whom?

It has long been thought that the Common Table Prayer was first published in London in 1753 in a hymnal written by the German radical Pietist Nicolaus Ludwig Graf von Zinzendorf (1700–1760). Founder and bishop of the renewed Moravian Church (*Brüdergemeine*), Zinzendorf was a prolific poet and author of many hymns. Relying on his hymnal, many have attributed the prayer to the London *Brüdergemeine* in general or to Zinzendorf in particular, placing its origin in London in 1753.

New research,<sup>[ii]</sup> however, has shown that the Common Table Prayer was in fact already widely known by 1753. Its earliest known publication was in 1698, before Zinzendorf's birth.

**This earliest publication was in a schoolbook written in Leipzig by Johann Conrad Quensen, the son of a Lutheran pastor,** and entitled *Neues und Nützliches SchulBuch Vor Die Jugend Biß ins zehente oder zwölffte Jahr* <sup>[iii]</sup> ("New and useful schoolbook for youth up to the tenth or twelfth year of age").

## WHO WROTE THE COMMON TABLE PRAYER? *continued*

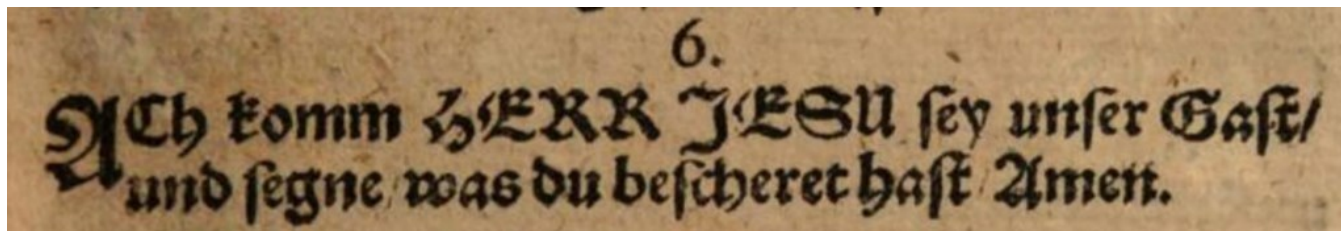


Figure 1: Earliest known publication of the Common Table Prayer, in Johann Conrad Quensen's *SchulBuch*, March 1698.

Johann Conrad Quensen is a figure largely unknown to history. His father was Conrad Quensen, who worked as a private teacher in Hannover and then served as Lutheran pastor in Heersum (1661–1668) and Heinde (1668–1683), two villages near Hildesheim. The elder Quensen died at the end of his pastorship in Heinde. The son Johann Conrad Quensen initially lived with his mother in the Heinde pastor widow house. [\[iv\]](#)

After studies at the University of Helmstedt [\[v\]](#) and the University of Leipzig [\[vi\]](#), he pursued activities as the author of this schoolbook, of a few occasional poems and elegies [\[vii\]](#) published 1694–1699, of several books on rapid calculation [\[viii\]](#) 1701–1721, and of a primer and a book on Christian morals for the youth [\[ix\]](#) in 1726. Little more is known of Quensen.

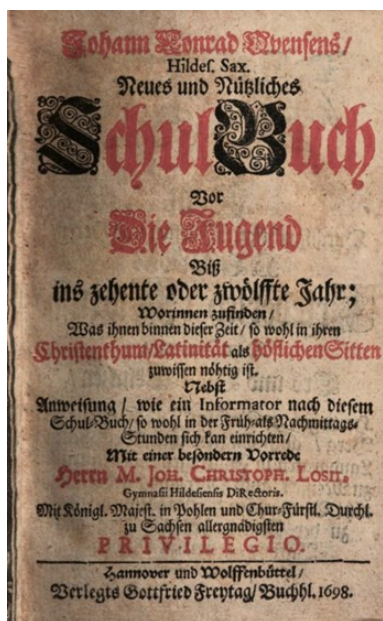


Figure 2: Title page of Johann Conrad Quensen's *Neues und Nützlich SchulBuch Vor Die Jugend Bis ins zehente oder zwölffte Jahr*, published in Hannover and Wolfenbüttel in 1698.



Figure 3: Schoolroom scene from the frontispiece of Quensen's *SchulBuch* of 1698. The teacher on the left likely represents Quensen's deceased father (with the angled book above his head signifying a halo) — in which case, the young boy to his left likely represents the young Quensen himself.

Did Quensen write the prayer or merely collect it from some other source? He probably wrote it in Leipzig for his 1698 *SchulBuch*. The text of Ahle's aria had just been republished in Leipzig less than nine months earlier in an eight-volume hymnal called the *Wagner Gesangbuch*, [\[x\]](#) a work later also used by Johann Sebastian Bach. Quensen knew several people involved in the publication of that voluminous hymnal and certainly had

## WHO WROTE THE COMMON TABLE PRAYER? *continued*

access to it in Leipzig. Since no mention of the prayer is known before Quensen's schoolbook, and because the *SchulBuch* is so closely associated in time, place, and by personal connections with the *Gesangbuch*, it seems likely that that Quensen used Ahle's text from the hymnal to write a new table prayer for children for his upcoming book.

Quensen's schoolbook enjoyed immediate international success and wide influence. This was in part because it treated four subjects (reading, religion, Latin and courtesy) in one volume that could save parents the cost and inconvenience of buying several smaller books. Its writing style and reliance on passages from the Bible and Luther's Small Catechism well suited the intended audience of younger Lutheran schoolchildren. Its broad distribution spread the prayer with it, initially through schools, then, as its original audience aged, through society more generally. Over the next half century, the prayer became known throughout German-speaking lands and was quoted in more than twenty other books before appearing in Zinzendorf's London hymnal.<sup>[xi]</sup>



Figure 4: Glazed earthenware bowl by an unknown, possibly Hessian artist, its rim reading "Kom Herr Jesu und Sey unfer Gast Seegene alleß Waß Du unß Befcheret Haft 1733."

Why did these publications of the Common Table Prayer before 1753 elude earlier researchers? Most certainly because, while the researchers were largely hymnologists or Moravian specialists, none of these early works are hymnals and all save one are by Lutheran authors. Many of these works are today available only in a few libraries. One item probably should not have escaped notice, though, as it has been on public display in the Germanisches Nationalmuseum in Nuremberg since 1970: an earthenware bowl<sup>[xii]</sup> quoting the prayer and carrying the date 1733 (see 4).

Some have described the prayer as sounding childish, others have commented on its theological imprecision, and yet others have claimed that its origin lay in superstition, but these criticisms now seem out of place. **Our beloved Common Table Prayer was written as a prayer for children, its simple piety sufficient for the purpose of educating the young in a solidly Lutheran context, yet profound in its call for Christ's presence**

**and blessings in our lives.** Now we know that the prayer was written not in London in 1753, but most likely in Leipzig in 1698. Its author is now provisionally identified as Johann Conrad Quensen, son of a Lutheran teacher and pastor. And we can look back on at least 325 years of our Common Table Prayer!

[i] Johann Rudolph Ahle, "Komm/ Jesu Christ! sey unser Gast," *Anmuhtiges Zehn Neuer Geistlicher Arien*, Opus decimum quintum (Mühlhausen: Hüter, 1669), all known copies lost; Albert Fischer, Wilhelm Tümpel, *Das deutsche evangelische Kirchenlied des siebzehnten Jahrhunderts*, Bd. 4 (Gütersloh: Bertelsmann, 1904), 264, <https://archive.org/details/dasdeutscheevang04fisc/page/264/>.

[ii] James R. Eggert, 'The Origin and Diffusion of the Common Table Prayer "Come, Lord Jesus",' *Lutheran Quarterly* 37 (Spring 2023), 49–72, <https://www.lutheranquarterly.org/>.

[iii] Johann Conrad Quensen, *Neues und Nützlichtes SchulBuch Vor Die Jugend Biß ins zehente oder zwölffte Jahr* (Hannover and

## WHO WROTE THE COMMON TABLE PRAYER? *continued*

Wolfenbüttel: Freytag, 1698), 159, [https://books.google.com/books?id=RT7V\\_uPYtwgC&pg=PA159](https://books.google.com/books?id=RT7V_uPYtwgC&pg=PA159).

[iv] Pfarrbestellungen der Gemeinde Heinde, NLA HA, Hann. 83, III Nr. 345, 1668–1792, <http://www.arcinsys.niedersachsen.de/arcinsys/detailAction?detailid=v2945263>.

[v] "Album studiosorum": Matrikel von der Hand des Vizerektors, des Sekretärs oder Pedells, Universität Helmstedt (Academia Julia), Niedersächsisches Landesarchiv, Abteilung Wolfenbüttel, NLA WO 37 Alt Nr. 2573, Liste 1689 I, 18 Jan–10 Jul 1689, 499–504, <http://www.arcinsys.niedersachsen.de/arcinsys/detailAction?detailid=v5597707>. Also in Herbert Mundhenke, *Die Matrikel der Universität Helmstedt*, Bd. 3: 1685–1810 (Hildesheim: Lax, 1979), 16, <http://diglib.hab.de/wdb.php?dir=drucke/f4f-211-3b&pointer=37>.

[vi] Georg Erler, *Die jüngere Matrikel der Universität Leipzig 1559–1809* (Leipzig: Giesecke & Devrient, 1909), 2:344, <https://books.google.com/books?id=aWw0AQAAMAAJ&pg=PA344>.

[vii] *Dienstschuldigstes Thränen-Opffer/ welches über den frühzeitigen und höchstschmerzlichen Hintritt der an Ehr- und Tugend Hoch-Edlen und Hochgelobten Fr. Johanna Marien gebornen Albertin* (Leipzig: Johann Wilhelm Krüger, 1694), <http://dx.doi.org/10.25673/opendata2-28359>; *Katalog der fürstlich Stolberg-Stolberg'schen Leichenpredigten-Sammlung* (Leipzig: Degener, 1927–1935), 1:28, 2:633, 3:236; *Gläubiger Christen Geistliches Gnaden-Leben in Christo* (Leipzig: Johann Georg, 1695), Scan 71, <http://resolver.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/SBB000206FC0000071>; Johann Conrad Quensen, *Als Die Durchlauchtigste Fürstin und Frau/ Frau Christiana/ verwittbete Hertzogin zu Sachsen/ ... Dero Geburts-Fest den 22. Septembris Anno 1698 ... begiengen* (Leipzig: Tietzen, 1698), <http://vd17.bibliothek.uni-halle.de/pict/2005/3:676943S/>; and *Ehren-Gedächtniß Dem Hochwürdigem/ Magnifico und Hochgelahrten Herrn George Lehmannen ... Am Tage Seines Leichen-Begängnisses/ War der 23. Martii Anno 1699* (Leipzig: Zschau, 1699), Scan 78, <http://resolver.staatsbibliothek-berlin.de/SBB0001E7E50000078>.

[viii] See Theophil Georgi, *Allgemeines Europäisches Bücher-Lexicon* (Leipzig: Georgi, 1742), 3:259, [https://books.google.com/books?id=p\\_w5Epmn8c8C&pg=RA3-PA259](https://books.google.com/books?id=p_w5Epmn8c8C&pg=RA3-PA259); and Johann Ephraim Scheibel, *Einleitung zur mathematischen Bücherkenntniß. Zweyter Band* (Breslau: Johann Ernst Meyer, 1781), 539, <https://books.google.com/books?id=s4BYAAAAcAAJ&pg=RA1-PA539>.

[ix] *Extract Derer in der L Woche des 1726 Jahres eingelauffenen Nouvelen* (Leipzig: December 13, 1726), 200, <https://books.google.com/books?id=3i0TAAAAyAAJ&pg=PA200>. Photo: M. Runge.

[x] *Andächtiger Seelen geistliches Brand- und Gantz-Opfer* (Wagnersches Gesangbuch) *Theil I: D. Martin. Lutheri und andere in unserer Evangelischen Kirchen gewöhnliche Gesänge* (Leipzig: Zeidler, 1697), 485, <https://books.google.com/books?id=aPLvFL1yZU0C&pg=PA485>. The text had also previously been republished in Mühlhausen the same year and perhaps also in 1686.

[xi] James R. Eggert, *Common Table Prayer sources to 1753*, 9 November 2022, <https://www.aegilops.com/ctp/sources1753.html>.

[xii] *Schüssel*. Germanisches Nationalmuseum, Inventarnummer BA1497 (Hessen(?), 1733), <http://objektkatalog.gnm.de/objekt/BA1497>. Photo: M. Runge.

Cover image: "Grace," photograph by Eric Enstrom, 1918, colorized.

### About The Author

Jim Eggert is an elder at the Lutheran Church of the Savior in Bedford, Mass. His biography of G. G. Boltze, the blind composer of the melody for "Let Us Ever Walk With Jesus" (LSB 685), recently appeared in *CrossAccent*, the journal of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians.

Eggert, James., (2024, January 30). Common Table Prayer. *The Lutheran Witness-Articles-Uncategorized*. <https://witness.lcms.org/2024/who-wrote-the-common-table-prayer/>



## March Life Quotes

**March 3** “[W]e were made for light and life. God’s Word and Sacraments cast darkness aside in our lives; they draw us closer to Him and make us strong unto salvation ... cling to the promises of Christ. May we recognize that we are blessed For Life even when we are surrounded by darkness, and may we in our darkest seasons, through the work of the Holy Spirit, lean toward the Son for light and for hope.” *Michelle Bauman, Director of Y4Life – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](https://lutheransforlife.org)

**March 10** “With gentleness and respect, we witness to our faith in Jesus so that others will come to believe in Him and eagerly await His return. All who confess Jesus as Lord look forward to His Second Coming with a joy far greater than idle mirth. We are encouraged as we remind each other that our Savior is coming back, and we pray that He would ‘hear and grant our fervent plea.’ Come, Lord Jesus!” *Dr. Carol Geisler – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](https://lutheransforlife.org)

**March 17** “God loves everybody. God loves people that are big and small. God loves people that are every age. God loves people no matter where we live. All people are special to God. The Bible says, ‘For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand’ (Ephesians 2:10). God has good things for each of us.” *Timothy, a sixth grader from southern Minnesota, who has Down syndrome – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](https://lutheransforlife.org)

**March 24** “So let us be sober, putting on faith and love as our breastplate and the hope of salvation as our helmet, encouraging one another and building each other up as together we faithfully wait, expectantly wait, joyfully wait—for Jesus.” *Rev. Dr. Anthony (Tony) Cook, guest speaker on “The Lutheran Hour” – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](https://lutheransforlife.org)

**March 31** “The disciples and the first century Christians may have felt like they were on the losing side. They had their doubts and fears. Maybe you do, too. They may have lost some earthly things. You may, too. But Jesus takes away the fear and the doubt. You have hope in His resurrection. You have hope even through the trials of life. You have a living hope in your living Lord.” *Rev. Peter Sulzle, St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church, Redwood Falls, Minnesota – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life* • [lutheransforlife.org](https://lutheransforlife.org)

# Announcements

## Greetings from the Board of Outreach



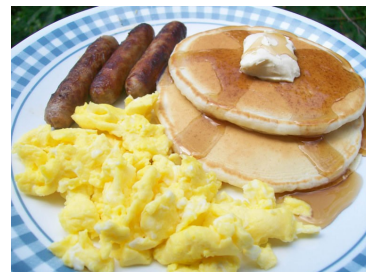
You may be familiar with our door tags. We distribute these throughout local neighborhoods to invite our neighbors to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. We pray they would take notice and ponder the first paragraph which reads; "At St. Paul's, we inspire individuals of all ages and backgrounds to bring the Lord Almighty into their lives at every moment - moments of joy, moments of despair, and even those moments in between." We may be with someone when they are experiencing such moments. Is this a good time to include Jesus in the conversation? What do I say? Is this a teaching moment? Here is a suggestion. Begin with a prayer as Jesus already knows your hesitancy. I encourage you to read 1 Corinthians 9:16-27 and listen again to Pastor Sundbom's sermon, "All Things to All People" from Sunday, February 4th. You can find the recording on the St. Paul's website under the Worship Services tab. Pastor's sermon reminds us that "God doesn't need us - he chooses us" to invite others into his Church. This is where we will receive our courage and support.

In His service,  
Ken Chaffe, Outreach Chair

## Easter Breakfast, Easter Service and Sunday School

March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Everyone is invited to join us for Easter Breakfast from 7:30am to 9:00 am on Easter morning! Breakfast will be hosted by the Outreach committee and will include pancakes, sausage, scrambled eggs, hot coffee, and several beverage options. Fresh pastries will also be available before and after the Easter service. Sunday School will be held at its regular time of 10:45 am and all children are encouraged to attend on this special day! Adult Bible study will also be held at the regular times of 8:30 am and 10:45 am. The early adult class will be held in one of the classrooms.



## Lutheran Women's Quarterly

The Spring 2024 edition of the Lutheran Women's Quarterly has arrived. You can pickup your copy at the Friendship Circle table or on the table at the back of the sanctuary.



## LWML Mite Update



A “mighty mites” update from the LWML Ohio District: As of January 31, 2024, \$145,219.94 toward the budgeted goal of \$207,400.00 has been collected. Our St. Paul’s family continues to prayerfully support the mission work of the LWML through regular mite giving. During the first three weeks of March – the mite tins will be located at the back of the church – you can make a noisy donation and shake that can OR make a very quiet (but very MIGHTY) donation of paper money or a check (payable to St. Paul’s Friendship Circle – memo line mites). Let’s work toward helping the district make

up the \$62,180.06 deficit.

## LWML Spring Rally Ingathering Items

At its Spring Rally in April, the women of the LWML Ohio District Northeast Zone will be gathering items for Hope Lodge. This facility in Cleveland offers housing in a nurturing community that assists cancer patients to obtain the care they need without the worry of finding a place to stay. It offers a supportive home away from home with volunteers and staff working 24 hours a day, seven days a week. The cost is FREE for the cancer patient as well as one caregiver and is funded entirely by donations. If congregation members would like to be a part of this ingathering the following needs list has been provided by Hope Lodge. Collection at St. Paul’s begins March 17 and ends April 21. Watch for ingathering boxes near the Friendship Circle board.

**Food items:** Nutritional Individual Snacks such as Ritz Peanut Butter Crackers, Del Monte Fruit Cups in Juice, Chewy Granola Chocolate Chip Bars, Snyder Mini Pretzel – Individual Bags

**Keurig K-Cups:** Regular Medium Roast, Decaf, Vanilla, Hazelnut, French Roast and Hot Chocolate

**Supplies:** Disposable Coffee Cups with Lids (12oz), Wooden Coffee Stirrers, Silicon Oven Mitts, Non-slip Silicon Pot Holders

**Personal Items:** Caps: Both Men and Women

**Entertainment:** Art Supplies: Colored Pencils, Chalk, Drawing Pads, Adult Coloring Books, etc.

**Monetary Donations:** If you choose to make a monetary donation, do so by check to LWML Northeast Zone with Hope Lodge on the memo line.



Northeast Zone  
Ohio District



## Easter Flowers



Orders are now being taken for Easter flowers. Flowers available this year are Lilies, Hyacinths, Daffodils and Tulips. The price of the Lilies is \$8.50 and all other flowers are \$7.50. Please see the order form on the double doors at the back of the sanctuary. All orders need to be placed by March 17th.

## 2024 Food & Fellowship Fridays Have Returned!

On Friday, March 22 we will be starting our first Food & Fellowship Friday for this year. We will be going to TJ's on the Avenue located at 7485 Mentor Avenue in Mentor. We will meet at 1:00 pm. Please email Diane at [dianewayner@yahoo.com](mailto:dianewayner@yahoo.com) or call 440-223-8086 to let me know if you will be attending. I would like to give the restaurant a heads-up of how many to expect a few days ahead of time. All are invited to attend! The rest of this year's schedule is as follows: April 19, May 31, June 28, July 26, August 30, September 27 and October 25.



## Rummage Sale & Bake Sale

Zion will be holding a Rummage Sale & Bake Sale to benefit Birthright Lake, Inc. on Saturday, April 13, 2024 from 9-2 at Zion Lutheran Church, 508 Mentor Ave., Painesville. There are two huge rooms overflowing with: Housewares, toys, baby items, clothing, books, hardware, seasonal decorations, shoes, boots, handbags, linens, coats, jewelry and great unique finds! Bake Sale with homemade goodies! Members of our sister congregations are welcome to join the fun of serving at this great event either on Friday April 12th from 4-8 for set-up or on Saturday, April 13th from 9-2 for the Sale! Contact Lisa Reed for more information 440-391-8968.



## *Altar Flowers*

Is there a date or event you would like to celebrate or a special someone you would like to honor or remember. Donating altar flowers is a great way to do that! All you have to do is sign up next to the appropriate weekend on the altar chart, add the occasion or person and who the flowers are from. Be sure to print clearly. The Altar Flower Chart is posted on the double doors at the back of the sanctuary. Altar flowers are \$40.00. The cash or check can be placed in an envelope labeled "Altar Flowers" with the date of the weekend and placed in the collection plate.



## **Foster Care and Adoption**

**"A Loving and Safe Home is Every Child's Right"** This is the theme for Lake County Department of Job and Family Services Foster Care and Adoption recruitment for 2024. Lake County needs more homes to help keep children of all ages safe. Job and Family Services will be holding information sessions throughout the year for you to learn about Foster Care and Adoption. Session dates are listed below. All session times are from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. If you are interested and are unable to attend one of the sessions you can contact the Foster Care and Adoption Hotline at 440-350-4218.

**April 17, 2024** – Willoughby Public Library  
30 Public Square in Willoughby

**June 11, 2024** – Lake County Job & Family Services  
177 Main Street in Painesville

**August 08, 2024** – LGBTQ+ Allies Lake County  
270 E. Main Street, Suite 50 in Painesville

**October 23, 2024** – UH Tripoint Physician Pavilion  
UH TriPoint Physicians Pavillion  
Lubrizol Conference Room 2  
7580 Auburn Road in Concord Township

**December 10, 2024** – Wickliffe Community Center  
900 Wordon Road in Wickliffe





## February Meeting Minutes

- 1) Pastor's Report: Pastor reported making 9 calls and 1 shut-in visit, and that there will be 1 confirmed confirmed this May. He said Craig and Nicole Wilhelm & children Zach and Emma transferred in from Zion, Painesville. Lent begins Ash Wednesday, Feb.14, and he plans to be in Minnesota March 14-19 with Jack Lelle leading services March 16 & 17.
- 2) President's Report: Dennis reported he is tracking info on old insurance policies found in our files-one was previously cashed in several years ago. He briefed on ongoing progress made by Safety/Security Team, research on business card, handed out revised Manual for Church Council, and whether to drop ad in "The Real Yellow Pages".
- 3) Vice President's Report: Eric reported he is reviewing Preschool's Emergency Operation Plan as part of Safety/Security Team's review.
- 4) Treasurer's Report: Russ' report wasn't ready.
- 5) Education Report: Erin reported Sunday school and Adult Bible study attendance has increased to 22 in January and will consider needing adding another teacher.
- 6) Preschool Report: Star reported Board has approved increases in fees and tuition for 2024/ 25 school year, a net gain of one student (1 loss, 2 new), cost of ADP payroll service looks to be about \$1200 vs. estimate of \$1500-1600, and that Debbie will not handle tuition recording next year (Peggy may be interested). Staff Surveys for NLSA and Staff evaluations have been completed and Parent Surveys for NLSA were distributed, and the Preschool is eligible for a Phase 4 Stabilization Grant for personnel costs of \$38,700. Amy is working with some parents in updating students' medical forms, and Amy has joined the Safety/Security Team. Peggy and Amy will look into possibly having payments made online or via credit card instead of check/ cash.
- 7) Elders' Report: Elders have handed out a draft of letter for delinquent members for Council to review.
- 8) Stewardship Report: Kristi reported 177 items donated thru the Giving Tree drive were sorted and distributed to Project Hope, Clothing Cottage, and Salvation Army. Thanks to all.
- 9) Financial Secretary Report: Jenn reported a few months still need help with counters.
- 10) Outreach Report: Ken reported ValPak ad has been determined not to be effective and will be discontinued, a new promotional brochure is complete, website updating continues to be reviewed. He announced Trick-or-Treat set for Oct. 20, Preschool Easter Egg Hunt will be March 21, and the Neighborhood Hot Dog Lunch will be replaced by Preschool/Church Open House on August 19 to coincide with Preschool registration. Also, a flyer will be handed out to Preschool families inviting them to Easter services. Ken also mentioned possible Easter breakfast Easter morning, with several details to be worked out.
- 11) Building & Grounds Report: Craig reported ongoing projects at the parsonage (shower fixture in 2nd bathroom, lock on door to garage, issues with electrical outlets in kitchen), installation of security lights in Preschool restrooms, Dennis corrected a loose connection in classroom 3/4 furnace & with the help of an HVAC tech replaced 2 transformers in tiered classroom furnace, and Joe Graziadei has corrected issues with internet connection and copier, and one mouse has been found dead in classroom 1 & 2-

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**FEBRUARY MEETING NOTES continued**

ending issue for now?

- 12) Contribution Secretary Report: Billie reported contributions for January were \$14,550.75 vs. \$30,338 in 2022 (4 Sundays vs. 5 in 22 and \$14,459 from Preschool Grant), and weekly number of contributors was 27 vs. 26. She also said 2023 Offering Statements were distributed and 2025 envelopes were ordered.

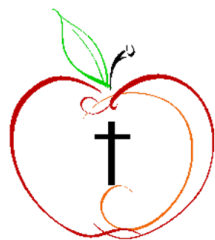
**OLD BUSINESS:**

- 1) Dennis reported continual problems with false trips on our security systems. Looking into rewiring phone lines into control panel to solve the issue.
- 2) Safety/Security Team: Eric reported team continues to meet and discuss items. A survey covering property and building concerns was reviewed. Next meeting Feb. 22.
- 3) Posting of Council positions and duties for May Annual Meeting to be posted by March 1.
- 4) Constitution & By-Law changes are being reviewed by District office, decision in April.
- 5) Manual for Church Council: Dennis presented revised version of Manual. Motion was made to adopt the revised update of Manual. Motion passed.

**NEW BUSINES:**

- 1) Business credit card: Dennis looked into getting a business credit card and Amazon account. Star, Billie, and Jenn said they will investigate further to see what Preschool, LWML, and OSLS were using.
- 2) Dennis brought up whether to continue ad in "The Real Yellow Pages". It was agreed to drop the ad which costs \$35/month.
- 3) Elder delinquent member letter: After reviewing letter, several members had concerns with some of the wording and will offer suggestions to return the letter to elders for consideration.
- 4) Preschool Learning Center: Star presented a preliminary proposal for purchasing and installing an outdoor learning center for Preschool and Sunday school use using money offset from their Phase 4 Grant. Size of center needed, fencing around center, amount of equipment desired, cost, and insurance/liability were to be investigated before final decision made.
- 5) Ash Wednesday service Feb. 14 @ 7pm with communion begins Midweek Lenten services with the theme "Words of Life from the Cross", concluding with Maundy Thursday, Mar. 28 @ 7pm with communion, Good Friday March 29 @ 7pm, Easter Vigil Mar. 30 @ 6pm with communion, and Easter Sunday, Mar. 31 @ 9:30am with communion.
- 6) OSLS update: Jenn said that call committee is looking for a principal and 1 teacher to call for next year. Principal Paul Goodwin said he would help during transition as needed.

**NEXT MEETING: Wednesday, April 3, 2024 @ 6:30pm.** There will be no meeting in March due to midweek Lenten services. May meet online if needed.



## From the Preschool

### 2024-2025 Preschool Registration

Registration for St. Paul's Preschool 2024-2025 is now open. If you are interested in your child attending St. Paul's Preschool in the fall please pick up a registration form located at the back of the sanctuary next to the double doors. If you have any questions please contact Mrs. Marizek at 440-354-3000. If you know someone who has a preschool aged child please pass a



### Preschool News

St. Paul's Preschool's accreditation process will culminate in review by the Accreditation Visiting Team April 22 to April 24. We would like to thank all of you that have played a part in helping support this ministry. We look forward to the teams review and ask that you keep this process in your prayers. We believe that at the time we receive reaccreditation we will be one of 3 free standing preschools in all of Ohio to receive this accreditation. If anyone has questions about the process, please see Amy Marizek.

### Help Needed

One of the professional development opportunities the preschool staff has received was training in The Science Box. Our program would like to incorporate these boxes into our program and we would like your help. We are in need of the following items and are looking for donations. If you can help, please contact Mrs. Marizek or bring the items to the Preschool Office.



- Hot Wheels or Matchbox cars
- Toy rubber ducks
- Magnet wands (hand held magnets)
- Coffee filters any size
- Clear plastic single flower vases
- Small and regular scales
- Round cake pans (metal)
- Children's safety goggles
- Fabric measuring tape (for sewing)
- Spools from thread
- Small flashlights
- Small spray bottles
- Potting soil and seeds
- Droppers
- Hair dryer
- Child size metal hammers

Any other items that you think would be fun for science!

Science is all around us and there are many other things that can be used.

# March Birthdays

Graham Michalak	Mar 1st
John Galayda	Mar 2nd
Suzanne Luther	Mar 2nd
Debbi Davis	Mar 6th
Don Bennington	Mar 22th
Laurie Srebernak	Mar 26th
Sandy Heckler	Mar 29th
Rich Szoradi	Mar 29th



# March Anniversaries



Frank and Laura Vosicky III     25 years on Mar 27

# February

## Baptisms, Weddings, New Members, Funerals

### Baptisms

Philippa Jean West Feb 18

### New Members

None

### Weddings

None

### Funerals

None



## Those Who Serve: March 2024

### ELDERS:

6:00 P Saturday Dale Kerver  
 9:30 A Sunday Jeff Troutman

### COUNTERS:

Jennifer Drake, Jeff Troutman

### LECTORS:

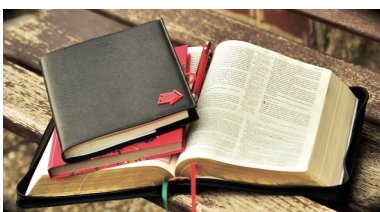
03-02-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Dale Kerver
03-03-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Ken Chaffe
03-09-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
03-10-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Jennifer Drake
03-16-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Dave Murphy
03-17-24	9:30 A	Sunday	Eric West
03-23-24	6:00 P	Saturday	Pastor Sundbom
03-24-24	9:30 A	Palm Sunday	Terry Wakelee
03-28-24	7:00 P	Maundy Thursday	TBD
03-29-24	7:00 P	Good Friday	TBD
03-30-24	6:00 P	Easter Vigil	Dave Murphy
03-31-24	9:30 A	Easter Sunday	TBD

### GREETERS:

6:00 P Saturday  
 9:30 A Sunday

SIGN UP IN MARCH TO GREET  
 YOUR FELLOW DISCIPLES.

Sign-up sheet located on the  
 double doors at the back of the  
 Sanctuary.



## Scripture Readings for March

### March 2/3

Exodus 20:1-17  
 1 Corinthians 1:18-31  
 John 2:13-22

### March 9/10

Numbers 21:4-9  
 Ephesians 2:1-10  
 John 3:14-21

### March 16/17

Jeremiah 31:31-34  
 Hebrews 5:1-10  
 Mark 10:35-45

### March 23/24 [Palm Sunday]

Zechariah 9:9-12  
 Philippians 2:5-11  
 Mark 11:1-11

### March 28 [Maundy Thursday]

Exodus 12:1-14  
 1 Corinthians 11:23-32  
 John 13:1-17, 31-35

### March 29 [Good Friday]

Isaiah 52:13-53:12  
 John 18 & 19

### March 30 [Easter Vigil]

Exodus 14:10-15:1  
 Deuteronomy 31:19-29  
 Isaiah 51:1-11  
 Mark 16:1-8

### March 31 [Easter Day]

Isaiah 65:17-25  
 1 Corinthians 15:19-26  
 Luke 24:1-12



# March Word Search—Easter



LILY  
DAFFODIL  
TULIP  
LENT  
JESUS  
HYDRANGEA  
MARCH  
FLOWERS  
MAUNDY THURSDAY  
GOOD FRIDAY  
CROSS  
SPRING  
CHRISTIAN  
HOLIDAY  
EGGS  
HUNT  
PALM SUNDAY  
EASTER

Play this puzzle online at : <https://thewordsearch.com/puzzle/6704858/>

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## St. Paul's Lutheran Church and Preschool

250 Bowhall Road Painesville, OH 44077

(440)354-3000 | [www.splcpainesville.org](http://www.splcpainesville.org) | [office@splcpainesville.org](mailto:office@splcpainesville.org)

### Staff

Paul D. Sundbom, Pastor  
Matt Chaffe, Organist  
Peggy McDonnell, Admin Assistant

### Worship Services

Saturday 6:00 pm  
Sunday 9:30 am

### Sunday Bible Study

Adult 8:30am & 10:45 am  
Children 10:45 am

### St. Paul's Preschool

Amy Marizek, Director  
[preschool@splcpainesville.org](mailto:preschool@splcpainesville.org)  
[www.stpaulspainesville.com](http://www.stpaulspainesville.com)

## Also Supporting



# March 2024

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat		
 <p><b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b></p>		<p><b>WORSHIP SCHEDULE</b></p> <p>Saturdays - 6:00pm Sundays - 9:30am Sunday School - 10:45am Adult Bible Study—8:30am &amp; 10:45am</p>		<p>Bulletin Announcements Due Wednesdays</p>	<p>Office Hours Monday-Friday 9:00am-12:00pm</p>	<p>1 Employee Appreciation Day</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>Women's History Month</p>	<p>National Nutrition Month</p>	<p>March Birthstone Aquamarine, Jade &amp; Bloodstone</p>	<p>March Flower Daffodil</p>				
<p>3 World Wildlife Day</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5 Preschool Chapel</p>	<p>6</p>  <p><b>Lent</b></p> <p>7:00 pm Midweek Worship Service</p>	<p>7 6:30 pm Preschool Dad's Night</p>	<p>8 International Women's Day</p> 		
<p>10</p>  <p>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS</p>	<p>11 6:30 pm Preschool Board Meeting</p>	<p>12 9:30 am Circuit Meeting</p>	<p>13</p>  <p><b>Lent</b></p> <p>7:00 pm Midweek Worship Service</p>	<p>14 Pi Day</p>	<p>15</p>  <p>April Newsletter Articles and Announcements Due</p>		
<p>17</p>  <p>HAPPY St. Patrick's DAY</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>  <p><b>Lent</b></p> <p>7:00 pm Midweek Worship Service</p>  <p>FIRST DAY OF Spring MARCH 20</p>	<p>21 Preschool Easter Parties All Classes</p>	<p>22 1:00 pm Food and Fellowship at TJ's</p> 		
<p>24</p>  <p>Palm Sunday</p>	<p>25 Preschool Spring Break Begins</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>  <p><b>MAUNDY Thursday</b></p> <p>7:00 pm Worship Service</p>	<p>29</p>  <p><b>GODD FRIDAY</b></p> <p>7:00 pm Worship Service</p>		
<p>31</p>  <p>Happy Easter!</p>					<p>30</p>  <p>Easter Vigil</p>		