



# St. Paul's LUTHERAN CHURCH of *Sassamansville*

February 2018  
Volume 59 Issue 2

## The Epistle

### Worship Times

Sundays  
10:15 am  
With  
Holy Communion

### Sunday School



### Individual Highlights:

Pr. Matt's Letter 2  
Calendar, prayers,  
volunteers on same insert  
Hoagie Form insert  
Member Directory insert



Check out the bulletin board in the narthex to **sign up to bring soup for the Lenten soup suppers** at 6 pm on Wednesdays February 21 to March 21. The Lenten service will follow at 7:30 pm.

Join us for a time of fellowship and food and then a time of worship and reflection.



All submissions to be included in the March issue of The Epistle are due by **10 am on Wednesday, February 14**

Please email things to Andrea at [office@stpaulssassamansville.com](mailto:office@stpaulssassamansville.com)

### BRING IN YOUR LOOSE CHANGE!

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES WILL BE COLLECTING BAGGIES OF LOOSE CHANGE FOR THE "CROSS OF CHANGE" ON SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4.

THEY WILL BE LAYING THE CHANGE ON A CROSS IN THE FELLOWSHIP HALL AND ALL THE MONIES WILL BE GIVEN TO THE BOYERTOWN MULTI-SERVICE.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO DONATED!

We welcome our new Church Council members for 2018!

Please pray for these leaders of our church to guide them as they make decisions for our congregation.

President Ken Dittman  
Vice-President Diane McGlinchey  
Secretary Joan Davis  
Treasurer Marlene Duchak

Our newest members are:  
Geoff Littlefield  
Charlie Kulp



## Note from Pastor Matt

In October we celebrated the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation with special worship services in the month of October, a look at Martin Luther and the history of the Reformation in Sunday school, and an Oktoberfest celebration. This Lent we will continue to celebrate and focus on the Reformation. At our Wednesday Lenten services we will look at Luther's small catechism. Each week we will focus on one section of the catechism in a prayer service and study. In the first week (Feb. 21) we will look at the Ten Commandments and Luther's instruction on them. In subsequent weeks we will examine the Apostles Creed, the Lord's Prayer, the sacrament of Baptism, and the sacrament of Holy Communion. Bring along your copy of the Small Catechism if you have one at home and join us on Wednesday evenings in Lent. We begin with a Soup supper at 6:30pm.

Lent Begins on February 14 with Ash Wednesday. We will hold a service of imposition of ashes and Holy Communion at 7:30pm. Lent is traditionally a time of preparation for baptism. Candidates entered into this forty day period, recalling Jesus' forty days of fasting and prayer in the wilderness. Even for those who have already received baptism this time became a period of refocus and renewal. The practices of prayer, fasting, and almsgiving became the traditional way to return one's attention and life to the promises of baptism in anticipation of remembering the joy of the resurrection at Easter.

One way to practice this period of Lent has been the practice of "giving something up for Lent." This is a form of fasting, where we voluntarily abstain from something we enjoy, often certain foods (meat, chocolate, ice cream, etc.). Fasting of this sort is not done to make us uncomfortable or because Lent should be unpleasant, but to remind us that we do not need all the things we think we need, and what is truly necessary is the bread of life, Jesus Christ our Lord.

In addition to "giving up" for Lent there is "taking on" for Lent. Here we add something to our life, practices that point us to Jesus. This can be undertaking a daily period of scripture reading and prayer, if that is something you are not already doing on a daily basis, or it can be taking time to serve the church or community in a new way.

No matter what you choose, whether "giving up" or "taking on" the practices of Lent are about living out your faith in a new way. Any practice chosen should be a chance to step out in faith and turn that much more of your life and self over to God. These Lenten practices also can become habits, new patterns for life that we carry with us into Easter and beyond.

As we look ahead to Holy Week and Easter there are also some schedule changes. During the Sunday school hour on Palm Sunday we will hold example of a Passover Seder meal as we will be studying the story of the Passover in Sunday school, there will also be a luncheon after worship on Palm Sunday. On Easter Sunday we are not holding an early service this year. We would like to have everyone together for one Easter celebration at our regular time of 10:15am rather than splitting the congregation into multiple services.

Take advantage of the opportunities for spiritual growth and devotion this Lent and Easter. By doing so you not only allow God to strengthen your faith, you build up the congregation of St. Paul's as well.

In Christ,  
Pastor Matt



**In Kind Donations-----PLEASE READ!!!!!!**

In 2018 if you make an in-kind donation (**donation or purchase of goods or payment of a bill**) to the church and would like that reflected on your year-end giving statement, **we have a new form for you to fill out and turn in.**



According to IRS rules if you want to claim a deduction for in-kind donations **you must keep your receipts for proof.** While we are happy to reflect your in-kind donation on your giving statement, the church statement is not sufficient proof of the in-kind donation for the IRS. Thank you for supporting St. Paul's.



Please add these additional names to the prayer list. They were received after that page went to print.

Thomas Sminkey      Theresa Sgarltata      May Jane Kehs      Ed Rutter  
Audrea Littlefield

<b>Date</b>	<b>Flowers</b> \$22 for one vase \$44 for two vases \$7 delivery charge	<b>Bulletins</b> \$12 per week
February 4	OPEN	OPEN
February 11	OPEN	OPEN
February 18	OPEN	OPEN
February 25	OPEN	OPEN

## Mission Statement

"To know Christ and make Christ known  
Spread the Gospel by word and action"

Thank you to the congregation and the council for the generous Christmas gifts. I am blessed to be your Pastor and I'm looking forward to what God has in store for us a St. Paul's in 2018!-----Pastor Matt

I want to thank the congregation and the council for the Christmas gifts. They were so appreciated! I enjoy my job here at St. Paul's and I look forward to meeting more of you in 2018.-----Andrea Kershaw

### ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Change Service Requested  
Dated Material---Please Deliver Promptly

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**STAFF**  
Pastor Matthew Finney  
Lili Sanderlin, Music Director  
Andrea Kershaw, Secretary  
Becky Higham, Sexton

Non-Profit Organization  
U. S. Postage Paid  
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Pottstown, PA 19464

We're on the Web!  
See us at:  
[Stpaulssassamansville.com](http://Stpaulssassamansville.com)



February

- |    |                                |    |                                |
|----|--------------------------------|----|--------------------------------|
| 1  | Cleora Shellaway               | 22 | Eric Van Horn, Ella Moyer      |
| 3  | Alisha Losinno                 | 23 | Aimee Campbell, Linda Detwiler |
| 6  | Clarence Moyer                 |    |                                |
| 7  | Tina Losinno                   |    |                                |
| 8  | Matthew Renninger, Susan Smoll |    |                                |
| 13 | Dolly Renninger                |    |                                |
| 15 | Ruthy Heydt                    |    |                                |
| 17 | Leah Smith                     |    |                                |
| 21 | Frances Doaty                  |    |                                |

Happy Birthday to all of you!

Date	February 4	February 11	February 18	February 25
<b>Acolyte</b>	Donna Long	Doris Moyer	Geoff Littlefield	Sue Prutzman
<b>Reader</b>	Donna Long	Allen Heydt	Kim Ibach	Sue Prutzman
<b>Ushers</b>	Carol Adams, Madison, Brooke and Leah Eisenhard	Kim and Sara Ibach	Allen and Ruthy Heydt	Marlene Duchak Gene Yerger
<b>Counters</b>	Donna Long Sue Prutzman	Eugene and Shirley Heydt	Leroy and Jean Roshong	Jodie Moyer Marlene Duchak
<b>Council Members</b>	TBA			
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Barbara Marlow Barbara Littlefield Geoff Littlefield			

*Remember in your prayer time.....*

Our Church members, family and friends.....

*Betty Gilbert, Mary Moyer, John Hilbert, Arlene Hess, Esther Renninger, John and Thelma Simmons, Cleora Shellaway, Helen Johnson, Marie Stauffer, Robin Koch, Christopher and Elizabeth, Margie Dawson, Mary Ann Levan, Rebecca Stempelwitz, Sigrid Trassert-Ermold, John and Miki Mroz, Gloria Strickler, Debbie Burr, Ida Bundick, Nancy Smith, Patsy Vanim, Allen Sanderlin, Jerry Higham, Channel Marie, Fred McKinney, Margaret Harner and family, family and friends of Stevn and Cheryl Sticker, family and friends of Mill Barry (Kim Ibach's mother), Todd Barton and family, Ginny Kriebel and children Stacy, Tim, Sarah and Rachel and grandson Owen and all the families that were affected in the tragedy.*

The young men and women serving in our armed forces....

*Noah Ziegler, Peter Duchak, Matthew McHugh, Eric Littlefield*

For the families who mourn loss of their loved ones...

*Helen Mercer, Harold Renninger, Rosemary Hojecki*