

# The Parish Voice

St. Thomas Lutheran Church – Streetsboro, Ohio

March 2024



The death of Jesus marked the end of His movement. His disciples went into hiding, knowing that the Romans and Jewish authorities would be after anyone who supported a man executed as a political rebel, “The King of the Jews.” Jesus had taught that the kingdom of God, the restoration of heaven and earth, was coming through Him. He identified Himself as the Son of Man who would rule the renewed heavens and earth on the throne of God, the throne of Glory, and who would judge all people (Matt. 25:31). He claimed that He was able to know the will of Israel’s God most intimately because the God of Israel was none other than His Father, and no one knows the Father like the Son (Matt. 11:27). Yet, instead of the restoration of all things came Jesus’ death. To His disciples and everyone around them, this death marked the end of faith in Jesus and His message.

To the surprise of His earliest followers, however, the story did not end there. The Jesus movement did not end with His death because His death was not His end. Three days after His crucifixion some of His female followers went to His grave to anoint His dead body. Instead of finding the body of their rabbi, they found an empty tomb. On their way back to report this

incident, Mary Magdalene, one of Jesus’ female followers, encountered Jesus risen bodily from the dead and even touched His body for herself. Jesus’ male followers and anyone else in the ancient world would not believe the account of the women and Mary, for a patriarchal society in which they lived deemed their testimony and the testimony of all women to be unreliable (Luke 24:11).

Moreover, the risen Jesus appeared to His other followers soon after, allowing them to touch His body for themselves lest they should think that He was merely a spirit or phantasm (Luke 24:39; also John 20:24-29). Jesus also appeared to men who had not believed in Him during His earthly ministry. He appeared to His biological brother James, who had previously believed Jesus to be out of His mind. He appeared to Saul of Tarsus, who had previously regarded Jesus as a false messiah and sought to stomp out His movement with violent force. The risen Jesus also appeared to a group of 500 people at once (1 Corinthians 15:3-11). Those who saw the risen Jesus concluded that Jesus was right. The kingdom of God, the restoration of all things, had come and it had begun with the resurrection of Jesus from the dead, the first fruits of those who sleep and the firstborn of a restored creation. And since the kingdom of God had come in Jesus, there was no doubt that Jesus was the Son of God (hence His knowledge of God’s will) and the promised Son of Man who has authority equal to God, authority over heaven and earth, even death itself. Peter, James, and Paul went to their deaths for this confession, convinced that it was true. No one dies for something they know to be a lie.

The resurrection of Jesus attested to by His empty tomb and the numerous people who saw, heard, and touched the risen Jesus revived the Jesus movement and its foundational confession: Jesus is Lord and God has raised Him from the dead. If Jesus has not been raised our faith is in vain. Jesus has been raised, so rejoice! For Jesus has promised that those who believe in Him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16). Amen.

Pastor Blake

## HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

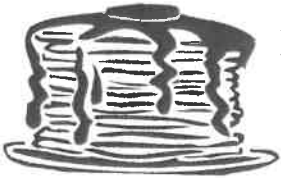


**Palm Sunday:** Procession of Palms at 9:00 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday:** 7:00 PM at Christ (no supper)

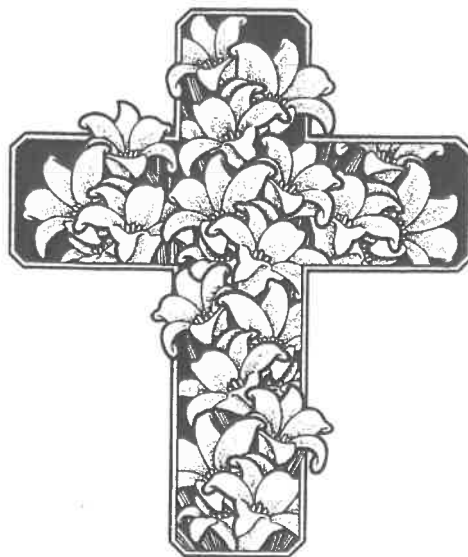


**Good Friday:** Tenebrae at St. Thomas at 12:00 PM



**Easter:** Pancake breakfast from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.

Service at 9:00 AM at St. Thomas



**Happy Easter**

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

**Looking for a way** to help out during the service on Sundays. Volunteers are needed for Lectors, Ushers, Communion, Singers and refreshment hosts. See the signup sheets in the Narthex on the bulletin board. If you would like to help out singing during communion or offering, see Marla. She would love to have more voices. Refreshments are being served in the Fellowship Hall once again. It is wonderful to be able to meet with our friends socially after the worship. Join us this Sunday. Thank you for your service!

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## **SPRING CLEANUP**

**The property committee** has chosen March 16<sup>th</sup> for painting, staining and repair work and 23<sup>rd</sup> as our deep spring cleanup Saturdays. All are welcome to help out. We will also be meeting on Saturday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 to prepare the church for Easter Sunday and pancake breakfast which will be held Easter morning at 7:30 a.m.

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## **NEW COMMITTEES**

**New committees** are being formed to help improve our congregational life. They are a Property Committee, a Worship Committee and an Evangelism & Spiritual Life Ministry Committee (includes education and social ministry). If you are interested in being on one of these committees please see Pastor or Steve Hlava. Your help with new ideas will be greatly appreciated. Thank you!

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## **OUR SERVICE PROJECTS**

**We remember** all those who are facing a crisis in their lives. Lutheran Missions Ministry is our main organization that we donate to. They are doing a great job helping these families. Mark on your envelopes "Lutheran Mission Ministry".

**Please remember** the families of Streetsboro by donating to the Streetsboro Community Pantry with a monetary donation or food donation. You can do this through the church through your offering or placing food items in the basket in the Narthex.

**Becky Larkins** is collecting Paper towels and toilet paper rolls for craft projects. Also 2 litre plastic bottles. You may give them to Deb Wolff. Thank you!

**Deb Wolff** is collecting bottle caps for Ohio Eastern Star Home. They will be using them to make park benches. Thank you!

**Deb Wolff** has pickles ready. Please bring back your empty jars and she will fill them up again. The pickles are delicious!!

## REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Gilbert Ayers	Palagia Hlava	Pastor Just	Lorene Kozar
Becky Larkins	Marla Manijak	Stephanie Manijak	Timothy Nicely
Carol Poston	Heather Poston	Deb Wolff	Patty Abramovich
Adalyn	Jayne Almashy	Diane Altier	Betsy & Peggy
Ray Bishop	Barb Basmagy	Ralph Beuck	Archer Bradshaw
Heather Burton	Carl	Russ & Lana Carnes	David Colvin
Dan	Darlene	Billy Earle Jr.	Evelyn
Evelyn French	Dennis Fuldauer	Tresse Gardner	Daniel Gump
Mary Hardesty	Heather	Joyce	Karen
Lance	Naomi Just-Maze	Laura	Calee Langston
Theresa Ludwigsen	Kim & daughter	Maria Knittle	Frank Manijak
Eva McCall	McGowan family	Amanda Nicely	Larry Powell
Powers Family	Tom Reed	Richard	Will Robert
Eleanor Sears	Helen Stanley	Pastor Bob Tauscher	Don Thornton
Gretchen Vaughn	Bennie Wegener	Weston & Logan	Renee White
Ukraine refugees	COVID-19 patients	All Natural disaster victims	
Gaza & Israel victims	Maui survivors	Our military veterans	

Healthy pregnancies for family and friends  
Tuscarawas Valley School community and the driver of the semi

**We would love to have updates on our prayer list. If you have good news about someone on this list please let the church know or call Marla at 330-472-3045. Thank you!**

Our shut-ins—please send them a card

Carole Poston	Lorene Kozar
12790 Chamberlain	8460 Westport Dr. #225
Aurora, OH 44202	Mentor, Oh 44060

**Our College Students**—Grace Rohaley, Abigail Ayers, Corey Hautmann, Thomas Ayers, Jenna Zimmerman, Jacob Zimmerman

**Our Military members**—Troy Roman and Ben Wolff

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## DEEP SADNESS

**It is with deep sadness** that we had to bid “See you later” to special friends of the church. **Chuck Dennison** passed away January 29. He was a dear friend of the church who produced the dramas that were loved by all. Please keep Ruth and family in your prayers. **Shirley Waite** passed away on February 2. She was loved by all here at St. Thomas. Please keep Cole and family in your prayers. We also said see you later to **Jean Schneider**. Please keep her family in your prayers.

## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

### Birthdays

3-Jen Jones  
 4-Joyce Torres  
 9-Samantha Weber  
 9-Kari Earle  
 12-Trudy Ayers  
 13-Tim Nicely  
 21-Tom Beuck  
 24-Palagia Hlava  
 25-Ian Phillips  
 31 Aaron Fuldauer



## MARCH BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS

### Baptism birthdays

7-Becky Larkins  
 11-Abigail Ayers  
 23-Ken Nicely III

If anyone has been left off this list or any other list, please let Marla Manijak know so she can add you. I would love birthdays and anniversaries and baptism birthdays if you know when it is. Thanks!

**Church Council** will be meeting Thursday, March 14 at 7:00 p.m. If there is something you would like the council to work on, please let one of the council members know. They are Steve Hlava, president, Del Groff, Guy Jeanblanc, Joyce Torres, Deb Wolff, Gilbert Ayers and Stephanie Manijak.

**Contact Person:** Please call Pastor Blake Martzowka at the church on Thursdays from 9-3 at 330-626-4945 or on his cell phone 989-372-5318 for emergencies or Council President Steve Hlava at 330 422-1959 for any emergencies or questions.

## FINANCE REPORT

### TREASURERS REPORT - Month of January 2024

	Current Month:	Current YTD	Prior YTD:
TOTAL INCOME - General Fund Only	23292.00	23292.00	10956.00
TOTAL EXPENSE - General Fund Only	4557.13	4557.13	2360.64
<b>NET GAIN (LOSS)</b>	<b>18734.87</b>	<b>18734.87</b>	<b>8595.36</b>
TOTAL INCOME - Special Funds (See Below)	66.00	66.00	93.00
TOTAL EXPENSE- Special Funds (See Below)	52.92	52.92	109.56
<b>NET GAIN (LOSS)</b>	<b>13.08</b>	<b>13.08</b>	<b>(16.56)</b>
Average General Fund Income Per Week	<b>5823.00</b>	<b>5823.00</b>	2739.00
Amount needed to meet expense budget - per week	<u>1306.73</u>		

Special Funds Include:

Special Building/Property, Pastor's Second Chance, Memorial Gifts, New Building, Lutheran Women's Group, 5th Sunday Benevolence

**BIBLE STUDY THURSDAYS 10:00 A.M.**  
**OR IN CHURCH PARKING LOT ON CHANNEL 96.9 FM**  
**LIVE ON OUR FACEBOOK PAGE**  
**PLEASE JOIN US INSIDE**  
**TRADITIONAL WORSHIP SERVICE 9:00 A.M.**  
**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

**THE PARISH VOICE NEWSLETTER**  
**Office: 330-626-4945**  
**Web Site: [www.stthomassstreetsboro.com](http://www.stthomassstreetsboro.com)**

**St. Thomas Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**P.O. Box 2247**  
**9042 State Route 43**  
**Streetsboro, OH 44241**  
**Change Service Requested**