

# The Epistle

## Now What?



The Easter breakfast is eaten. All the Easter eggs are found. We sang, “Christ is Risen! Alleluia!” The long-Lent awaited glorious celebration of Christ’s resurrection has come and gone. There is so much build-up to Holy Week throughout Lent and then, in one morning, it’s all complete. It can leave us feeling full,

and yes, a bit exhausted—it’s OK if you find yourself relieved to have Wednesday nights back. If you are ill or were unable to participate in person in the Easter celebration, perhaps it felt like Easter never really got started. Perhaps you also feel a bit “let down,” like you do after a great party ends and everyone goes home, or after you finish a good book. When the Easter eggs and palm branches are packed away until next year, we might find ourselves saying, “Now what?”

The disciples had a similar experience after their Lord was crucified. The political upheaval didn’t happen.

*(Continued on page 2)*



### INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Thanksgivings ..... 2
- Quarterly Meeting 3
- Celebrations ..... 5
- Historical Society.. 5
- OWLS ..... 5
- Dorcas Circle..... 6
- Prayers/Schedule. 9

## Valley Inter-faith Donation Item of the Month

We will collect **deodorant** for the Valley Interfaith Community Resource Center this month. Thank you!

## Worship Practices Seminars in April

Ever wonder why we sing responses? Why we chant the psalms? Why we stand for the Gospel? Come grow in faith and appreciation of our liturgy by attending the seminar series on the history of worship practices in the church, led by Barry Prince. The class is entitled “Gallop Through the Centuries.” All are welcome to come and learn, in the library following worship on April 8, 15, and 22.

## Now What?

*(Continued from page 1)*

Suffering hadn't ended. The world sure didn't seem any different. Instead, their teacher and their Lord died. They likely were asking, “Now what?”

Imagine their surprise, then, when after touching Jesus' side, they discovered that everything really was being made new! That's when their work began! Empowered and accompanied by the Holy Spirit, they were sent out to proclaim to everyone that they were made new in Christ, too.

The season of Easter continues for six more weeks! Even if you can't worship at St. Paul's in person, you are still fully a part of this celebration! Christ is with you in your home, in the car, in the grocery store, at work. Everything really is being made new—you, your family, your friendships, your perspective on the world, our church, and the world. Your work has begun! You are empowered and accompanied by the Holy Spirit, so get out there and proclaim to everyone in word and deed that they are made new in Christ, too.

In Christ,  
Pastor Emily

## “Do you know what I've done to you?”

Jesus asked this of his disciples at the last supper right after washing their feet (John 13:12). By washing their feet, he showed them how he loved them and how to love one another. I wonder, do you know what the Lord has done to you? Do you know what the Lord has done through you the last month and a half? Here's how Jesus has loved others through you:

- Thank you to Terri DeAngelis who followed the Holy Spirit's nudging's to host a bereavement retreat so that 14 members and guests could all experi-

*(Continued on page 3)*

## “Do you know what I’ve done to you?”

*(Continued from page 2)*

ence him washing our feet through each other.

- Thank you to Jane Owen who promoted our Lenten and Holy Week services online and on the air. She created bulletins and the Epistle so as to welcome and include visitors. If you ever wonder who is responsible for making us run efficiently and for keeping all of our calendars straight—it’s Jane!
- Thank you to Barry Prince and the choir who led us throughout Lent and Holy Week, and to Chrissy Harris, David Hill, and Nick Huitger who provided special music during our Lenten midweek services. Barry arranged special music for Holy Week and Easter Sunday so as to capture the cries and hallelujahs of our hearts. We are blessed to be under the care of such a talented Music Director.
- Thank you to the St. Paul Players for putting on such a moving production of *The Lower Room*, which proclaimed Christ’s passion for us and for the world, and reminded us that God is at work in each of us to reach his people. With the partnership of St. John’s UCC, our visitors heard the story of Jesus’ crucifixion and resurrection—they saw and felt the Gospel first-hand!
- Thank you to Carolyn Koehl for directing the children’s choir so that we could hear children’s voices sing the Gospel at Easter once again!
- Thank you to Janet King, Marty Lohmeier, and members of the Altar Guild who envisioned ways to proclaim the unique promise of each Holy Week service through banners, art, and visual displays. You brought beauty to our sanctuary. Thank you!
- Thank you to Chrissy Harris for seeing to it that our Carillon System chimes the hour and hymns

*(Continued on page 4)*

Quarterly  
Congregational  
Meeting Sun.,  
April 29



Our first-quarter congregation meeting will be held on Sunday, April 29, following worship. We will vote on the fictitious name (for conducting business), elect members of the nominating committee, and get an update on ministry programs and finances.

The nominating committee’s purpose is to nominate candidates for the upcoming Council elections.

## New TV in the Theater Room!



Thanks to the generosity inspired by the Holy Spirit, we now have a new TV in the movie theater room in the education wing. The smart TV can be hooked up to the internet and laptops/smart pads. It is now available for Sunday School classes, study and service groups, and events, so feel free to reserve the room using the “Room Reservations” binder in the church office. Bring on the popcorn!

## “Do you know what I’ve done to you?”

*(Continued from page 3)*

- throughout Lent so that the neighborhood hears a regular witness to Jesus’ presence with them.
- Thank you to the Evangelism Committee who hosted neighborhood children and visitors from around the city for our Easter Egg Hunt. These children were introduced to Christ and his love for them.
  - Thank you to Donald Harris for setting up the sound system for the Reading High School Choir concert, and to all those present for it for providing hospitality to our neighbors—you are known by Reading students and families as “the friendliest, most welcoming group of people!”
  - Thank you to the Cathcart, Lawson, and Sturgill families who came each Wednesday in Lent and gave their whole Wednesday afternoon and evening to rehearse the dramatizations of the Easter Vigil and to practice with the choir. This was a huge time commitment—a true sacrifice of love. Thank you to the St. Paul Players, Bible study groups, and Scripture readers who came an extra night during Holy Week to rehearse the Easter Vigil. Thanks to all of you, we heard and saw the stories of the Bible come alive.
  - Thank you to the Capital Campaign Committee for bringing the hope for new parsonage windows and doors into reality, for countless hours of appointments and meetings to assess the boiler/heating system and organ in order to make sure that our building is taken care of proactively.
  - Thank you to Carole Replogle for helping us to be good stewards of our bodies by leading step aerobics and chair volleyball.
  - Thank you to all the Committees for hosting the Lenten midweek dinners, and especially to the

*(Continued on page 6)*

## Celebrations in April

		20	Teagan Cathcart, Joey Bronner
		21	Carroll Mayhugh
		23	Nancy Erbeck, Logan Pirmann
		27	Bridget Cathcart, Connie Lohmeier
3	Adam Pirmann		
9	Spencer Lohmeier	<b>29</b>	<b>Lee &amp; Jane Erbeck</b>
<b>16</b>	<b>Janet &amp; Dennis King</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>Jim &amp; Linda Miller</b>
		30	Nick Pirmann

OWLS (Older  
Wiser Luther-  
an Seniors)



There is nothing  
planned at this

*Three Cincinnatians died in the First World War. The conductor of the Cincinnati Symphony, an Austrian named Ernst Kunwald, was imprisoned under the Alien Enemies Act and later deported.*

## From the Reading Historical Society



The Reading Historical Society is seeking St. Paul's help with finding information about local veterans of World War I.

The WWI Doughboy Monument (at Jefferson and Vine St.) will be one hundred years old in 2019. The Society would like to collect as much information (and pictures, etc.) as possible on the 231 soldiers listed on the monument.

Please contact Allan Rettberg at [allanrettberg@yahoo.com](mailto:allanrettberg@yahoo.com) if you have any details on WWI servicemen.

The Society is planning a ceremony on Saturday, June 8, 2019 to honor these soldiers.

time for this month or May, but don't forget that one day (TBA) in June Chrissy Harris will spend an afternoon with us demonstrating for us (and helping) us make some sweet little boxes by folding card stock. A few years ago she offered to do this with us, and we all enjoyed it. So watch the next newsletter for the date and time.

## Dorcas Circle



We cancelled our March meeting date so most of us would be able to attend the Lenten meal and service. Now we're ready to get back to work. Please come to our usual April work day (April 18) ready to knot or cut. We WILL be making up for some lost time a little later which we will discuss over our lunch on Wednesday, April 18. Bring your social calendars with you so you can reserve those dates without delay. See you then.

## “Do you know what I’ve done to you?”

*(Continued from page 4)*

Worship and Music Committee for coordinating and being present at every single meal.

- Thank you to all the Scouts who helped with March’s community breakfast, and for the Hedges and Sturgill families who serve our breakfast each month that our hunger for food and connection is fed.
- Thank you to Marie Calhoun and the youth group and families who prepared, served, and cleaned up the Easter Breakfast—you gave us a chance to celebrate all the joy of Easter together.
- Thank you to Joyce McDowell, Donald Harris, Jane and Nancy Erbeck, and all our Sunday school teachers and nursery volunteers who educate and lead our children to Christ.
- Thank you to all who contributed to the Lenten Devotional Series, by which God gave us daily bread through his Word.
- Thank you to Chrissy and Donald Harris, Chelsea King, and John Cathcart for chaperoning the youth nights. It takes a village, and you are that village.
- Thank you to the youth who chose youth nights over sporting events and Saturday nights with other friends—you inspire us all to make Christ the heart of all we do.
- And thank you to ALL OF YOU, for through your support of the mission of St. Paul Lutheran Church, you provided a building and property in which this ministry could flourish, and you made it possible for Christ’s love to be heard, felt, and seen.
- This church is really alive! Now you know what Jesus has done through and for you.

In Christ,  
Pastor Emily Beckering

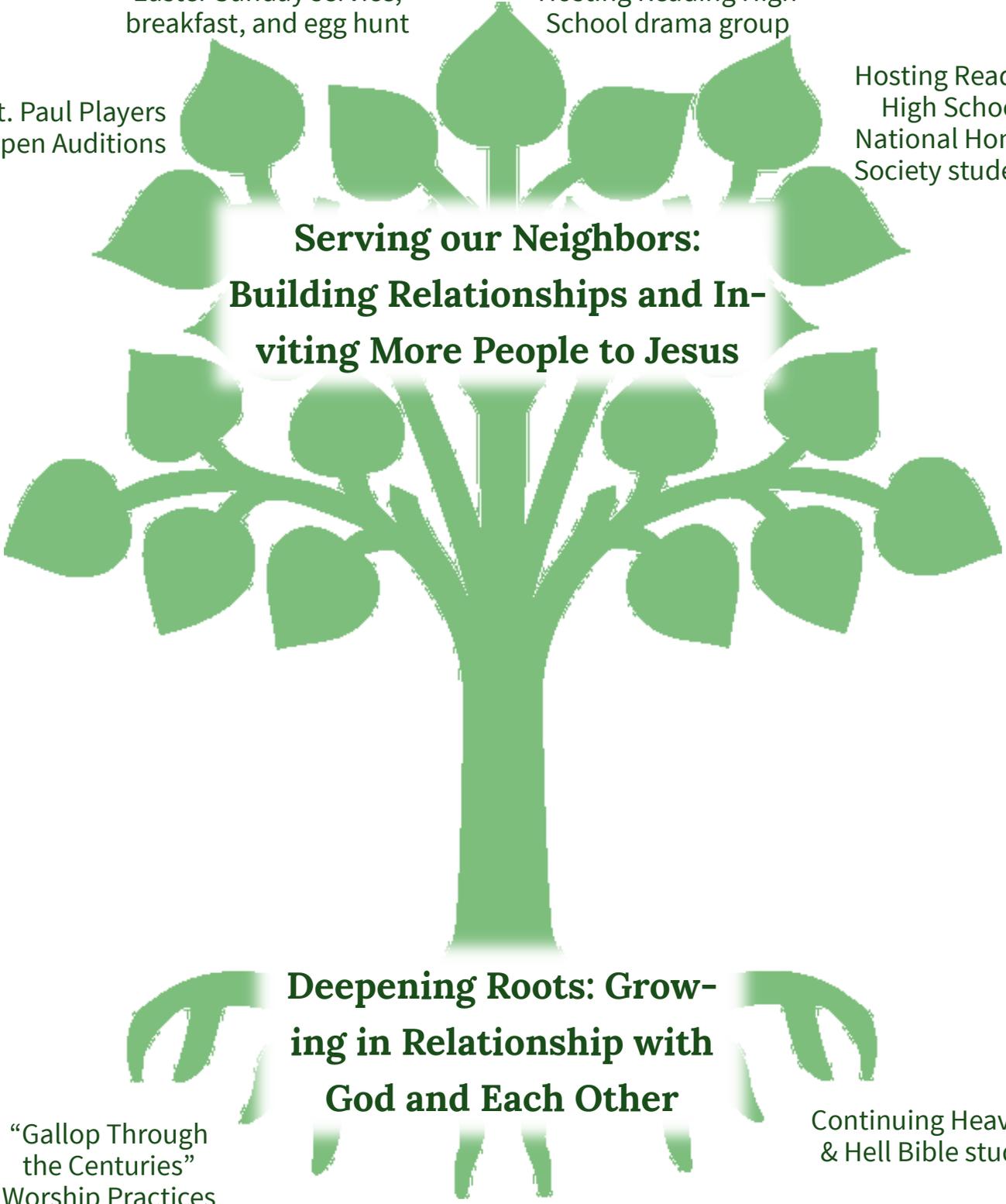
# Sowing, Reaping, Rebirth, and Joy This Month

Easter Sunday service,  
breakfast, and egg hunt

Hosting Reading High  
School drama group

St. Paul Players  
Open Auditions

Hosting Reading  
High School  
National Honors  
Society students



**Serving our Neighbors:  
Building Relationships and In-  
viting More People to Jesus**

**Deepening Roots: Grow-  
ing in Relationship with  
God and Each Other**

“Gallop Through  
the Centuries”  
Worship Practices  
seminars

Congregational  
Meeting

Ongoing focus on stewardship  
of our bodies and the earth

Continuing Heaven  
& Hell Bible study

## Our Life Together

**For emergency pastoral care**, please call Pastor Emily Beckering, 513-760-5884.

**If you have requests for the Prayer Chain**, call Penny Huber, 513-931-6420. To remove people from the list, contact the office.

We pray for **Mary and her granddaughter Kyra** (friend of Paul Pieper); **Berkeley** (Carol Curless's great-grandson); **Tim Arkfeld** (former member); **Debbie Brooks** (friend of Elinor Schieman); **Merle Buck; Kathy Curless; Debbie, Steve, Jessica Davis** (friends of Holly Ford); **Katie Demopoulos** (Diana Hawkins's niece); **Jeremy Doan** (Jean Winkle's grandson); **Jerry Doan** (Jean Winkle's son-in-law); **Rita Edwards; Larry Faulkner** (Freda's son); **Justin Feldman** (Bess Sturgill's father); **Jim Forst; Hannah; Bill Harris and Cheryl Harris** (relatives of Donald Harris); **Matthew Harrison** (Seals' neighbor); **Les Helmich; David Hill; Ed Hirt; Doug Hibbeler** (Elinor Schieman's nephew); **Matt Huber** (Penny Huber's son); **Jay King** (son of Jamie King, who cleans the church); **Loretta Kombrink** (Marilyn Portmann's aunt); **Richard Lane** (Elinor Schieman's nephew); **Charlotte Langefeld; Barbara and Jack Moorhouse; Jean Nolte; David Oaks** (Faulkners' son-in-law); **Pete, Zac, and Andrew Padolipa** (Wagners' friends); **Don Pflieger** (Kings' brother-in-law); **Linda Perin** (Moorhouses' cousin); **Paul Pieper; Faith Pirrmann; Nick Pirrmann; Sarah Rupert** (Carolyn Koehl's

sister); **James Savory** (Jean Winkle's great-grandson); **Shawn Schnetzer** (Sturgills' cousin); **Keith Shupe** (father of Kelly Shupe); **Jason Simpson** (Freda Faulkner's grand-nephew); **Scott Songer; Judy Songer** (friends of Jean Winkle); **Crosley Spelman** (Spelmans' grandson); **Swofford family; Britney Jean Teems** (Jean Winkle's granddaughter); **Randy Thaman** (friend of Marie Calhoun); **Richard Thompson** (friend of Marie Calhoun); **Sherman and Mike Waddle; Jane Weatherford** (Donald Harris's mother); **Susan Winkle** (Jean Winkle's daughter-in-law).

We pray for those with ongoing health concerns who are unable to come to church every week: **Bernice Baglien, Dottie Bangert, Louise Barry, Mary Jane Flege, Carol Leonard, Jack and Barbara Moorhouse, Jean Nolte, Heather Segar, Edna Willet.**

We pray for our armed forces members: **Paul Cordes** (Elinor Schieman's grandson); **Jared Forst** (Jim and Loretta's grandson); **John Garbrecht** (Carolyn Koehl's nephew); **Beau Glenn** (Karen Koehl's son-in-law); **Kylie Hahn** (Gretta Hahn's granddaughter); **Donald Hosea** (Karen Koehl's son); **Samuel McLoughlin** (friend of Cindy Sieckman); **Jobeth Ramirez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Joshua Rodriguez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Trent Schwegman** (cousin to the Erbecks and Fords); **Dustin Silvey; Mack Thompson** (Freda Faulkner's grandson); **Alex Wisecup** (son of Nadine and Barry Wisecup).

## Children's Choir Rehearsals

The Children's Choir will rehearse on all four Wednesdays in April (the 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th) and the first three weeks in May (the 2nd, 9th, and 16th). May 16th will be the final rehearsal of the school year. Thanks so much to Carolyn Koehl for directing the choir and to the children and families who have participated!

Ministry Schedule	During the Service (10:30 a.m.)	Education Hour (9:00 a.m.)
Month-Long Ministries	<b>Bulletins:</b> Penny Huber and Jean Winkle <b>Greeters:</b> Ron & Shirley Harbaugh <b>Altar Guild:</b> <i>Linens &amp; Cleanup:</i> Cindy Sieckman; <i>Setup:</i> Penny Huber <b>Counter:</b> Rick Hedges	<b>Teacher, Ages 3-7:</b> Jane Erbeck <b>Teacher, Ages 8-11:</b> Nancy Erbeck <b>Teacher, Jr/Sr High:</b> Donald Harris
April 1 Easter Day	<b>Assisting Minister:</b> Nancy Erbeck <b>Lesson Reader:</b> Jim Sturgill <b>Acolyte:</b> Olivia Hedges <b>Book Bearer:</b> Bea Sturgill	
April 8 2 Easter	<b>Assisting Minister:</b> Donald Harris <b>Lesson Reader:</b> Kathy Hirt <b>Acolyte:</b> Ian Cathcart <b>Communion Ministers:</b> Chelsea King, Carolyn Koehl <b>Nursery:</b> Shirley Lathrop, Maggie McDowell <b>Activity Time:</b> Penny Huber	
April 15 3 Easter	<b>Assisting Minister:</b> Leandra Hawkins <b>Lesson Reader:</b> Sherry Bronner <b>Acolyte:</b> Olivia Hedges <b>Communion Minister:</b> Elinor Schieman <b>Nursery:</b> Bess Sturgill, Maggie McDowell <b>Activity Time:</b> Joyce McDowell	<b>Assistant, Ages 3-7:</b> Chrissy Harris <b>Assistant, Ages 8-11:</b> Kim Coulehan <b>Assistant, Jr/Sr High:</b> Chelsea King
April 22 4 Easter	<b>Assisting Minister:</b> Doug Lohmeier <b>Lesson Reader:</b> David Nutt <b>Acolyte:</b> Matthew Lawson <b>Book Bearer:</b> Maci Lawson <b>Communion Minister:</b> Carolyn Koehl <b>Nursery:</b> Jeni Cathcart, Bess Sturgill <b>Activity Time:</b> Maggie McDowell	<b>Assistant, Ages 3-7:</b> Linda Lawson <b>Assistant, Ages 8-11:</b> Steve Headley <b>Assistant, Jr/Sr High:</b> Chelsea King
April 29 5 Easter	<b>Assisting Minister:</b> Terry McDowell <b>Lesson Reader:</b> <b>Acolyte:</b> Patrick Cathcart <b>Book Bearer:</b> Teagan Cathcart <b>Communion Ministers:</b> Ron & Shirley Harbaugh <b>Nursery:</b> Linda Lawson, Joyce McDowell <b>Activity Time:</b> Penny Huber	<b>Assistant, Ages 3-7:</b> Jeni Cathcart <b>Assistant, Ages 8-11:</b> Sarah Papin <b>Assistant, Jr/Sr High:</b> Chelsea King

St. Paul  
Lutheran Church

As a community of Christian believers, we are called by God to use the many gifts He has given us, within the church and the community, so others may come to know Him.

## Bereavement Support Group Begins

The death of a loved one can be one of the most trying times in a person's life. It is the one event that affects everyone, yet it is the one we are most unprepared to face. To support those who are living with grief, St. Paul's will sponsor a 10-12-week bereavement support group, following the curriculum from our February day-long retreat. The group is designed to allow each participant to explore their grief and learn to embrace their pain. Participants will learn they can journey from pain and grief to a place where one understands their grief and learns how to integrate it into their new life. The group will meet every Thursday beginning April 12, 2018. Meetings will begin at 10:00 a.m. and last until about noon. If you have recently experienced a major loss of any kind, please join us.

St. Paul  
Lutheran Church  
106 Maple St.  
Reading, OH 45215

Phone:  
513-821-0987  
E-mail:  
mail@stpaulreading.org  
Web:  
www.stpaulreading.org

PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

