



Bill Rinz—Spirit of St. Paul's Award



Incoming Vestry Class of 2028

The Mini-Messenger

News and Highlights

St. Paul's Episcopal Church • Akron, Ohio

March 2025

The Mini-Messenger is a brief news update sent out in months between our regular full-sized newsletter.

From the Rector

Praying for Peace, Growing in Gratitude

Most of us have grown up in the relative prosperity and peace that our country has enjoyed following the Second World War. True, we have some veterans among us who experienced the awfulness of war. True also, we have some members who grew up in countries at war, who did suffer some consequences of the conflict. Further still, some of our members have been impacted by war-like violence in our own land. Still, however, the generalization holds that most of us *can* thank God for the gift of life *and* for the gift of a mostly peaceful existence.

And we *should* thank God for our peace, even as we grow in compassion and concern for those in the crisis of war and those suffering its knock-on effects. In the season of Lent, I'll be praying more intensely, daily, for true and lasting peace across the globe and for true peacemakers. That's one of the Lenten disciplines that I will adopt. I'll also see what relief organization I may help, however modestly, with a donation. That aside, and back to the theme of gratitude, I'll seek even more, and only by the grace of God, to "praise my maker while he lends me breath" (Hymn 429) for the life given to me and to us, acknowledging that growth in gratitude has no upper limit.

In the peace of Christ,

Mark⁺



Lenten Sermon Series

10am in the Church

- Mar. 9—Victory Over Temptation I *The Rev. Mark Pruitt*
- Mar. 16—Standing Firm With the Lord: On the Way *The Rev. Paul Gaston*
- Mar. 23—Victory Over Temptation II *The Rev. Mark Pruitt*
- Mar. 30—The Victory of Love and Reconciliation *The Rev. Susan Tiffany*
- Apr. 6—The Victory of Love in the Human Heart *The Rev. Mark Pruitt*
- Apr. 13—Palm Sunday: Who is this King of Glory? *The Rev. Susan Tiffany*
- Apr. 20—Easter: Easter Joy! *The Rev. Mark Pruitt*

Lenten Adult Forums

Sundays at 9am in the Parish Hall

- Mar. 9 – God Grant Me... *The Rev. Paul Gaston*
- Mar. 16 – Accept What I Can *The Rev. Susan Tiffany*
- Mar. 23 – Courage *The Rev. Paul Gaston*
- Mar. 30 – Wisdom *The Rev. Mark Pruitt*
- Apr. 6 – Living One Day At A Time *The Rev. Susan Tiffany*
- Apr. 13 & 20 – No Forum on Palm Sunday or Easter Sunday

Stephen Ministry

Overwhelmed, can't see the light?

Do you feel the darkness descending and not sure what to do to get Jesus' light back into your life? Sometimes life has a way of overwhelming us with so many things that we get lost in all the havoc and upheavals of everyday life.

Society's pressures sometimes push us in directions we know we shouldn't go. Having a non-judgmental person to hear as you work through all of the world's pressures might be what you need. Whether it's for a few weeks, months or whatever timeframe, Stephen Ministers are here to be present with you as you sort through life's ups and downs.

Stephen Ministry at St. Paul's is here for you. If you would like to know more, call Bonnie Severt, 330-328-2453 or Carrie Searle at the St. Paul's office, 330-836-9327 ext. 120.



Tuesday Lenten Luncheons

Noon in the Parish Hall

We will repeat the theme of Adult Forum and provide a light lunch. Sign up at the Front Desk or call 330-836-9327.

- Mar. 11 – God Grant Me... *The Rev. Paul Gaston*
- Mar. 18 – Accept What I Can *The Rev. Susan Tiffany*
- Mar. 25 – Courage *The Rev. Paul Gaston*
- Apr. 1 – Wisdom *The Rev. Mark Pruitt*
- Apr. 8 – Living One Day At A Time *The Rev. Susan Tiffany*

Holy Week at St. Paul's

Palm Sunday – April 13

- 8:00 am, Holy Communion – Chapel
- 10:00 am, Holy Communion – Church

Maundy Thursday – April 17

- 7:30 pm, Holy Communion – Church

Good Friday – April 18

- Noon, Stations of the Cross – Church
- 7:30 pm, Good Friday Liturgy – Church

Holy Saturday – April 19

- 8:30 pm, Easter Vigil – Church

Easter Sunday – April 20

- 8:00 am, Holy Communion – Chapel
- 10:00 am, Holy Communion – Church



Upcoming Events

Mon, Mar 3	Women's Bible Study, 10:00am, G-4. Weekly Monday Crafters Group, 1:00pm, Family Room. Weekly
Tue, Mar 4	Lunchtime Bible Study, noon, G-4. Weekly The Rev. Dave Scavuzzo on C.S. Lewis, 7:00pm, G-4. Monthly through April Needlework Guild, 6:30pm, Parish Hall. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Wed, Mar 5	Ash Wednesday, services at 7:00am—Chapel; Noon—Chapel; 5:30pm—Church; 7:00pm—Church Community Meal, 6:00pm, Assembly Hall. Weekly
Thu, Mar 6	Choir Rehearsal, 6:45–8:15pm, Choir Room. Weekly
Fri, Mar 7	Serious Fun for Grades 5-12, 6:00–8:00pm, Youth Space/Gym. Weekly
Sun, Mar 9	Blood Pressure Checks, 8:30–10:00am, Family Room. Monthly
Tue, Mar 11	Lenten Luncheons, noon, Parish Hall. Meets Tuesdays March 18, 25, and April 1 and 8
Wed, Mar 12	Evening Compline, 7:45pm, Zoom. Weekly
Thu, Mar 13	Needlework Guild, 1:00pm, Parish Hall. 2nd & 4th Thursdays
Mar 14-16	Men's Lenten Retreat, Jesuit Retreat Center, Parma, OH
Sun, Mar 16	Wrapped in Prayer Group, 11:15am, Family Room. Every third Sunday
Sun, Mar 23	Evensong with St. Paul's Choir, featuring the Gloucester Service by Herbert Howells, 4:00pm, Church
Sat, Apr 12	Bread Baking for Palm Sunday with Beth Guenther, 10:00-11:00am, Kitchen
Apr 13-20	PALM SUNDAY, HOLY WEEK, and EASTER SUNDAY - Full schedule on page 1
Apr 14-17	Music, Reflection & Prayers, noon, Church. Monday through Thursday of Holy Week

Ash Wednesday – March 5

Attend an Ash Wednesday service.

- 7:00am, Chapel
- 5:30pm (Family), Church
- Noon, Chapel
- 7:00pm, Church



Coming in Lent – The Serenity Prayer

Reflections on the Serenity Prayer on Tuesdays at noon in the Parish Hall and on Sundays in the Adult Forum at 9:00am. It's a gem of a prayer that has strengthened and provided guidance for millions. Plan to come, learn and discuss. A wonderful book on the prayer, *The Serenity Prayer* by Trevor Hudson is available at the Front Desk for \$10.00. Also available on Amazon (and not required for participation in our discussions.)

Attend a Tuesday Lenten Luncheon

Tuesdays during Lent at Noon in the Parish Hall. March 11th, 18th, 25th, and April 1st and 8th. Sign up now at the Front Desk.

St. Paul's Nursery School is NOW ENROLLING for Fall 2025/2026

Spots open for 3, 4, and 5 year olds, potty-trained, half or full days available! Contact Rebecca at rbussey@stpaulsakron.org or 330-836-9327 ext. 160 for more information.

Women's Bible Study

The women of St. Paul's are exploring the timeline of God's salvation in a Bible study that meets every Monday at 10am in G-4 through April 21. This video study with workbook, titled *The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation*, takes us from Genesis through the Acts of the Apostles. Materials are available through Ascension Press.

Flowers to the Glory of God

March 2

In loving memory of Florence Maloney; given by the Family
In loving memory of Wayne Rice; given by Jan, Eddie, and Laura Rice

March 23

In loving memory of husband and father, Don Wise; given by Marlene Wise, Jason, Tracy, and Jacob Hamilton

Dave Scavuzzo on C.S. Lewis

On Tuesday, Mar. 4 at 7:00pm, G-4, The Rev. Dave Scavuzzo will lead explorations in developing a scriptural imagination through C.S. Lewis' *The Chronicles of Narnia* and selected Scriptures. Please sign up at the Front Desk and pick up the materials. Last meeting will be Tuesday, April 1st.

Join our Coffee Hour Team

We are looking for volunteers to bring refreshments to our coffee hour. It's a wonderful opportunity to create fellowship and to welcome visitors. Bring prepared foods or bake if you like. Contact Kathy Cockfield at Horsedriven44@gmail.com or sign up in the Parish Hall.

Sunday Schedule

Holy Communion—8:00am, Chapel
Adult Forum—9:00am, Parish Hall
Holy Communion—10:00am, Church
Education Hour—10:00am
Coffee Hour follows service

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