

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

MESSENGER

FEBRUARY 2021

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE SUPPER

Feb. 16th, 5-7p.m.

Carry Out Only

at

SAINT PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Corner of Clara Barton & School Streets

Pickup at School Street Entrance

*Donations collected for
Vincent House & Laundry Love*

Ash Wednesday
February 17th at 12 p.m.

Live-Streamed at
fb.com/stpetesdansville/live
stpetesdansville.org
fb.com/stpaulsdansville/live

Ashes sent by mail in advance.

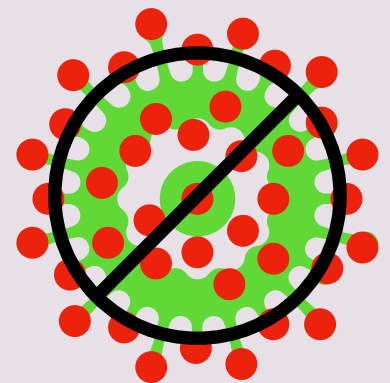


"Remember you are dust,
and to dust you shall return."



COVID-19 Precautions Continue

1. Worship Services & other events will continue online. Council will monitor and update.
2. THE BUILDING IS CLOSED & OFF LIMITS except for worship filming and essential staff.
3. ESSENTIAL STAFF entering the building MUST WEAR A MASK, even if the building is otherwise empty.
4. If you need to discuss something with the Pastor, a Staff Member, or other person, please contact the office. Please do not "drop by" or "just run in."



Pastor's Pen

The annual meeting was held January 24. Quorum was established, though because of difficulty (clerical and technological) getting people on Zoom we had exactly a quorum. The budget was ratified and the reports were received. I want to personally thank everyone for their magnanimity and flexibility as we navigated yet another COVID-related challenge.

I have emphasized in preaching the need to move forward, and to help facilitate that I have deployed a digital survey to our member email list. To ensure everyone has an opportunity to complete the survey, a print version is featured in this month's Messenger. I encourage you to fill it out by your preferred method. Be sure to contact me if you have questions or comments; I am happy to help.

We soon will be in Lent. Lent is a penitential time when we prepare our hearts and minds to commemorate Jesus' passion and celebrate his resurrection. To that end, we have included in this newsletter our schedule of events around Ash Wednesday. The Holy Week schedule will be out next month. Also timed with Lent - and informed by the survey answers - we will begin a new season of Christian Formation with a combination

of online engagement and mailed materials. We hope sending some materials to your home will help you better engage what we place online.

I have received a number of questions concerning when we might return to on-site worship. The very short answer is, "I do not know." The post-holiday COVID surge appears to be subsiding, and a sustained 7-day trailing infection rate below 5% should bode well for moving toward resuming in-person worship, but we will be cautious and scientifically informed. Thank you for your patience here!

Although we often associate Lent with spending time in the wilderness, it is not lost on me that you probably feel like you have been in the wilderness for almost the whole of the last year, while the promised land of a post-pandemic life looms nebulously ahead. Fortunately, we stand on the shoulders of countless ancestors who spent plenty of time in the wilderness, but with God's help ended up where the Lord needed them to be. Take heart! We will not be in the wilderness forever.



If you wish to receive a copy of Christ In Our Home this quarter, please contact the church office.

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

A Request from the Treasurer...

Even though, we were not able to meet in person for much of 2020, your financial gifts and acts of service continued as noted in the Annual Report you received prior to our Annual Meeting. Donations were made to local, regional, state and national organizations that carried on God's work in this unusual year, our staff was paid, the church was heated (although not as warm as usual), water was available (for drinking, cleaning and flushing), the church and parsonage continued to be insured, snow was removed and the elevator maintained (it runs very well, although did not run often during 2020). For all that we are very thankful.

And we are still here! And we want to be here in the years to come, making Christ known and loving our neighbor in service to our Lord God.

Please continue to support us financially by mailing your donations to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 21 Clara Barton St, Dansville NY 14437 or asking your bank to either mail or electronically transfer your monthly donation to the church.

For your information: As the Church Council developed the 2021 budget, they expressed the hope that we would receive \$4,583 in monthly contributions or \$55,000 per year in envelope offerings. As of the 4th Sunday in January, we have received \$2,384, in weekly offerings.

2021 envelopes are still available for those who have not received them and would like them. They may be picked up during Office hours (8 am to 11 am) on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday of each week. As the doorbell is locked, ring the doorbell to be let into the building.

– Gerri Long, Treasurer

PLEDGE ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP AT THE CHURCH. PLEASE COME DURING OFFICE HOURS OR CALL TO SCHEDULE ALTERNATE TIME TO PICK YOURS UP TODAY!



In order to keep our volunteers safe, Laundry Love is suspended for February.

FEBRUARY 2021

Standing Schedule

Sunday 9AM

Worship on Facebook Live

Tuesday-Thursday, 8AM-11AM

Office Hours

Dates to Remember

Wed. Feb. 17. 12:00pm

Ash Wednesday Service

Mon. Feb. 22

Newsletter Deadline



Saint Paul's Lutheran Church

21 Clara Barton St.
Dansville, NY 14437
(585) 335-5260
stpaulsdansville.org
fb.com/stpaulsdansville

PASTOR

The Rev. J. Eric Thompson
(585) 447-3623
rev.jet@gmail.com

STAFF

Katrina Macaluso, Office
Sue Collier, Musician
Marilyn Robin, Choirmaster
Kim Pragle, Sexton

COUNCIL

Ann Myers, President
Penny Leven, Secretary
Geraldine Long, Treasurer
Paul Button, Property
Bob Whiteman
Heather Robin

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

YOUR PERSONAL SPIRITUAL HABITS

1. Since the pandemic, do you read the Bible:
 More frequently
 Less frequently
 About the same
 I do not read my Bible regularly.
2. Since the pandemic, do you pray:
 More frequently
 Less frequently
 About the same
 I do not pray regularly.
3. When you read the Bible, is it:
 Scripture included in a devotional pamphlet
 Your own Bible
 Scripture included in an online devotion site
 A digital copy of the Bible (Kindle, .pdf, etc.)
4. When you pray, what resources do you use? (select all that apply)
 A denominational worship book or hymnal
 An online resource (list here: _____)
 A devotional book or pamphlet (Daily Bread, Forward Day by Day, etc.)
 I pray on my own without additional materials.
5. How frequently do you read your Bible?
 Once a day
 More than once a day
 Once a week
 A few times a week
 A few times a month
 Rarely if at all
6. How frequently do you pray?
 Once a day
 More than once a day
 Once a week
 A few times a week
 A few times a month
 Rarely if at all

ONLINE WORSHIP

7. Are you able to access worship services online?
 Yes
 No
8. Do you use Facebook?
 Yes, but just for church
 Yes, to connect with others
 No

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

9. Do you use other social media?
 Twitter
 Instagram
 WhatsApp
 Other (list here: _____)
10. What video sites do you visit? *Check all that apply.*
 YouTube
 Vimeo
 Other (list here: _____)
11. Are you familiar with the Zoom platform?
 Yes
 No
12. Zoom is an online platform that enables groups to meet online and see each other face to face using computers, or by calling in via telephone.
Please check all that are true for you.
 I would be interested in using Zoom for a Bible Study or other Christian Education opportunity.
 I would be interested in using Zoom for Sunday Worship.
 I would be interested in using Zoom for a virtual “coffee hour” from time to time.
 I do not want to use Zoom.
13. Please check all that are true for you.
 I would like to serve as a reader or intercessor for online worship.
 I share our online worship with friends and family on social media.
 I miss in-person worship but think online worship is beneficial to me.
 I miss in-person worship and online worship is NOT beneficial to me.
 Online worship is beneficial to others.

CHURCH FOCUS & STAFF SUPPORT

14. If this church could focus on **only one thing**, what **one thing** should it be?

15. How can the Pastor and Parish Staff help you in your spiritual habits AND the focus you list above?

