The South Grey Bruce Lutheran Parish THE MESSENGER - MARCH 2023

Contact Info:



Pastor Pamela McNeil

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Pastor's Blog: www.sweetlutheran.com

Worship Sundays at 10am

Congregations

St. Matthew, Mildmay St. Paul. Neustadt

- St. Paul, Neusiaui
- St. Paul'sNormanby



Rocket Youth Group 1st& 3rdFriday of the Month7:00pm at St. Paul's Neustadt



From the Pastor's Desk

When the scribes of the Pharisees saw this they said to his disciples, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?" (Mark 2:16)

Where is the 'epicenter' of your home? The house I grew



up in had a large country kitchen and this was where most things happened. The table could expand so that 12 people could gather round. It was used for eating of course, as well as baking,

playing games, doing homework, sewing, writing Christmas cards and wedding invitations and many other things. The table, located beside the wood cook stove, was the heart of my childhood home and the symbol and source of hospitality.

In Bible times, the table was a symbol of rank. The 'most important people' sat at the best table and they were served food first. After their plates had been filled, the platters were passed on to the next table. It was obvious that the further away your table was from the 'best table', the slimmer your chances were to get choice morsels of food.

Jesus changed all that by eating with the outcasts of society. For him, the table was a most intimate place and all seated there were equal and assured of acceptance and love. We know this because Jesus often was criticized for sharing a meal with people who were the outsiders of society. That the meals were intimate is also known because the account of the meals was private – except that those who loved Jesus loved being part of his table.

This is what we reflect on when we come for Holy Communion. This gift will especially be remembered on *Maundy Thursday* when we gather for a special meal of love. All are worthy in Jesus' sight. All are loved.

Peace be with you as we make our Lenten observances over the next weeks of Lent. Come, - be fed. Come - be loved.

Pastor Pam

You can continue to join us virtually as follows

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84858557556?pwd=WUhpVmtnbjdKWDV6VkhKT0VWL2lnUT09 Or dial in 1 647 374 4685 or 1 647 558 0588 Canada Meeting ID: 848 5855 7556 Passcode: 150551

Upcoming Events

Holy Week Worship Schedule:

April 2: Palm Sunday- 10am at St Matthew Mildmay



Join in the procession celebrating Jesus.

Bring a cedar branch if you can- we will also have a few available at the door – (We will not have palm branches. Cutting them seriously damages the trees.)

BRING A CEDAR BRANCH to wave! It is a tree of life for this part of the world.

April 6: Maundy Thursday Meal -6pm downstairs at St Paul, Neustadt



Share a simple meal (soup, bread and fruit) followed by Holy Communion.

Following the meal, we will go upstairs and remove the linens from the altar and prepare for Good Friday Hosted by the youth group and the confirmation class.

Please come and join them to share this meal of love.

April 7: Good Friday – 10am St Paul Normanby at the Neustadt Community Centre



A service of confession and prayer; A most Holy day to observe together.

April 9: The Resurrection of Our Lord:



10am St Paul Neustadt

Gather at the empty tomb Join in singing Alleluia. Give thanks for God's redeeming love. Hear the words of the risen Lord!



Not a lot of room for me this month! On a personal note, my Momma is celebrating a

milestone birthday later in March. I do hope she is ok that I am letting the cat out of the bag so to speak. Happy Birthday Mom, we all love you very much! Don't forget to email me if you have any content for the Newsletter or Calendar. I'm happy to send along Birthday or other special greetings to your loved ones. See you in April! Joanne ~ *tully.joanne@gmail.com*