



**St. Paul's Evangelical
Lutheran Church**
409 Sarver Rd., Box 128
Sarver, PA 16055
www.stpaulssarver.com
stpaulssarver@gmail.com
724-353-2424

Everything Sad is Coming Untrue by Pastor Shawn

When my kids were younger, we used to read the “Jesus Storybook Bible” together. This said, I have always appreciated the way it depicts Mary Magdalene’s interaction with Jesus on Easter Morning. Taking John 20:11-18 as it’s point of departure, it reads:

“How could it be true,” [she wondered outside Jesus’ empty tomb], “Jesus was definitely dead, how could he be alive?”
Just then Mary heard someone else in the garden. “Perhaps it’s the gardener,” she thought, “he’ll know where Jesus is.”
“I don’t know where Jesus is,” Mary said urgently, “I can’t find him.”
But it was alright, Jesus knew where she was and he found her. “Mary!”
Only one person said her name like that... “Jesus!” Mary fell to the ground. Sudden tears filled her eyes and all she wanted to do in that moment was cling to Jesus and never let him go.
“You’ll be able to hold on to me later, Mary,” Jesus said gently, “and always be close to me. But now, go and tell the others that I’m alive.”
Mary ran and ran, all the way to the city. She had never run so fast or so far in all her life. She felt she could have run forever. She didn’t even feel like her feet touched the ground...
And it seemed to her that morning, as she ran, almost as if the whole world had been made anew, almost as if the whole world was singing for joy—the trees, tiny sounds in the grass, the birds... her heart. “Was God really making everything sad come untrue? Was he making even death come untrue?”

I love that last line in that story because it perfectly encapsulates how the good news of Easter hits the ground in our lives. ***Because Jesus is risen, everything sad is coming untrue.*** Our past sins, mistakes, disappointments, physical ailments, grief, and even our deaths—they are all transformed by the resurrection of Christ. For as Paul says in Romans 8:18-19, “I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us...” What’s more, in 2 Corinthians 4:17-18 he writes, “For this slight momentary affliction is preparing for us an eternal weight of glory beyond all comparison, as we look not to the things that are seen but to the things that are unseen.” Finally, in 1 Corinthians 15:54-55 Paul celebrates, “Death is swallowed up in victory... O death, where is your victory? O death, where is your sting.” Though we still have tears in the present and though we and those we love still die, the resurrection keeps your life facing forward toward a future in which God will wipe away every tear from every eye. A future where everything sad will come untrue.

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**Join us for
worship
Sunday
mornings at
10:10am
or
Watch our
livestream at
stpaulssarver.com/
livestream**

To activate St. Paul’s prayer chain contact the following people:

Cheryl Young
724-353-9424
or Alice Schneider
724-352-3366

VISIT US ONLINE AT www.stpaulssarver.com

Serving for the month of

April

Ushers:

Eric & Lisa Olson

Ron Mariotti, Kendra Smith

Communion Assistants:

Meridith McGinnis, Monnie Diller

Tellers:

Alice Schmieder, Nancy Altman,

Meridith McGinnis

Lectors:

4/7 Brena Callithen

4/14 Marlene Lacanic

4/21 Al Reyer

4/28 Sarah Reyer

Council Notes from March:

20 additional chairs are being ordered for the sanctuary. Expected delivery based upon a preliminary quote from New Holland Church Furniture. Would have the chairs delivering around Thanksgiving.

Luther's Corner



“It’s very difficult for a man to believe that God is gracious to him.”

-Martin Luther
1531

Bag Nights

Thursday, April 4

&

Thursday, May 2

@6:30pm

Join us to work on the loom and/or cut and fold bags

So, friend, may that Easter truth lead you like Mary in “the Jesus Story-book Bible,” to celebrate God’s wonderful work in Jesus’ resurrection. May it be as real to you as the air you breathe. May it go deeper than the suffering that you must endure. May it birth a hope that transcends your tears. And may it give you confidence, even in the face of death. **Because Jesus is risen, everything sad is coming untrue.** Rest in that... believe in that... Amen.

New Members Class ~ 4/14, 4/21, 4/28

This class is open to those looking to become members of St. Paul’s and to anyone who desires to brush up on their Christian, Lutheran, and St. Paul’s knowledge. Classes will be Sunday mornings following service to 12 pm. Light refreshments will be served and childcare will be available. To RSVP contact Pastor Shawn at pastorshawn@stpaulssarver.com

The Outreach Committee is collecting items for “Blessing Bags”

Collection dates: April 7-21 Assembling Bags: Sunday, April 28

We will be collecting the following items to make 40-50 bags

(Please sign up and place your donations in the bin under the Outreach Hub)

Wash rags, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrush, comb/brush, socks, shampoo, chapstick, hand wipes or hand sanitizer, Slim Jims, snack bars/granola bars, trail mix, hard candy, pens, note pads (no bigger than 5x7), nail clippers

Spring Yard Sale ~ Saturday, May 4

St. Paul’s Women’s Group & St. Paul’s Preschool are holding an Indoor Yard Sale on May 4. Donations will be accepted the following days and times:

Sunday, April 28: 2-4pm

Monday, April 29: 9am-1pm & 6:00pm-7:30pm

Tuesday, April 30: 9am-1pm & 6:00pm-7:30pm

Wednesday, May 1: 9am-1pm & 6:00pm-7:30pm

Please bring your donations only at the designated times.

No adult clothing, larger furniture or appliances



A Vacation Bible School Planning meeting is set for Tuesday, April 23 @6:00pm. If you are interested in helping for VBS this year in any capacity you are invited to attend.

Outreach opportunity:

Volunteers are needed to help with Cabot United Methodist Food Bank on one Monday each month. Meet at Cabot United Methodist either at 8:30 am to help unload the food truck or at 5:30 pm to pack donations. Typically the food bank work is the third **Monday** of each month. This month's date is Monday April 15.

Softball Anyone?

An area Church softball league is forming. Games are to be played in the Sarver and Kittanning area. If someone wishes to volunteer to form and organize a St. Paul's team please take the lead. Teams are to be co-ed. If no team is formed but there are players who wish to play they may be added to another Church's roster in order to start the league and allow games to be played. For more information contact Loyal Houston of Harvest Baptist Church 724 525 6110.



- 4/1 Larry Warriner
- 4/2 Cole Creedon
- 4/3 Levi Jones
Danika Miller
Riley Trudgen
- 4/5 Margaret Hart
- 4/6 Michael Carns
Matthew Wilson
- 4/7 Erin Mariotti
- 4/9 Perry Graham
Bethany Slater
- 4/11 Marilene Kradel
- 4/13 Sara Fiorina
- 4/14 Rhet Brickett
Cecelia Disanti
Corey Simmons
- 4/17 Floyd Lux
- 4/18 Zoe Smith
- 4/20 Karen Reyer
Doris Scott
- 4/21 Daniel Carns
Zachary Ohl

Offering Breakdown for Month of March			
Category	March Total Received	YTD Received	Annual Budget
General	15,361.30	36,559.80	
Loose	2,008.00	3,106.00	
Flowers	227.50	227.50	
Memorials	-	5,500.00	
Initial	16.00	151.00	
Heide Hall	175.00	175.00	
Lenten	103.00	353.00	
Ash Wednesday	10.00	1,340.00	
Kindermusik	72.80	271.60	
Maundy Thur.	265.00	265.00	
Good Friday	335.00	335.00	
Other	5,807.55	5,827.55	
Total Current	24,381.15	54,111.45	185,647
Benevolence	1,284.70	2,078.00	13,000.00
Total Received	25,665.85	56,189.45	198,647.00
New Building	3,873.00	9,148.00	

Women's Summer Bible Study

Join us for this 7 week study of six prayers in the Bible

Beginning June 10
More info to come!

A·P·R·I·L

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 No Bell Choir	4 Bag Night 6:30pm	5	6
7 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Coffee Talk 10:10am Worship Service 6:00pm Confirmation	8	9 Church Council Meeting 6:30pm	10 Bell Choir 6:30pm	11 Praise Band 7:00pm	12	13
14 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Coffee Talk 10:10am Worship Service New Member Class following worship 6:00pm Confirmation	15	16	17 Bell Choir 6:30pm	18 Praise Band 7:00pm	19	20
21 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Coffee Talk 10:10am Worship Service New Member Class following worship 6:00pm Confirmation	22 Quilt Guild	23 VBS Planning Meeting 6:00pm	24 Women's Group Meeting 9:30am Bell Choir 6:30pm	25 Praise Band 7:00pm TryLife 6-8pm	26 Set Up for Tea Party 6:30pm	27 Tea Party
28 9:00am Sunday School 9:00am Coffee Talk 10:10am Worship Service Packing Blessing Bags following worship New Member Class following worship 2-4pm Yard Sale Donation Drop Off 6:00pm Confirmation	29 Yard Sale Donation Drop Off 9:00am- 1:00pm & 6:00pm- 7:30pm	30 Yard Sale Donation Drop Off 9:00am- 1:00pm & 6:00pm- 7:30pm				

A Prayer for Roots

O God, we thirst for you, as dry tree roots thirst for water in hot, dusty soil. Help us send spiritual roots down deep into the grace and knowledge of the One who is the same yesterday and today and forever, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who gives us stability when the earth shakes and the storms of life swirl about us. Rooted and grounded in your love, and strengthened and comforted by your grace and your Spirit who gives us hope, may we be steadfast and immovable in the work Christ gives us to do, until he comes again. Amen.

