



The Epistle March 2022

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying,
"Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand." Matthew 4:17

Friends and Members of St. Paul's,

Easter is late this year, and because of that it has taken us longer than usual to start the Lenten season. However, with Ash Wednesday on March 2nd Lent is upon us. The season of Lent has a "reflective" sense to it and that reflection starts with repentance. Some years back I heard an individual express appreciation for Alcoholics Anonymous because it was an organization that called him to live honestly.

Biblically speaking, to live honestly before God happens through repentance. Repentance is more than remorse over some action. For example, Judas Iscariot was distraught at betraying Jesus, but he was not repentant. While sometimes repentance in the Bible is shorthand for faith, usually repentance involves both recognizing our sin and at the same time trusting/turning to Jesus who lives to cleanse our sin. It is that second part of repentance, trust and turning to Jesus, that makes repentance a sacred gift. A blessed Lententide to all.

**Yours in Christ,
Pastor Krenz**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
227 Goodhaven Street
Columbia, IL 62236
618.281.4600

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Church Secretary

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Website

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Find us on Facebook

@stpaulscolumbiail

St. Paul's Lutheran Church Mission Statement:

Our mission is to Proclaim Christ, teach Christ's Word and reflect Christ's love to all!



Preschool News (618-281-4190 Shelly)

The preschool celebrated TWO's Day on Tuesday, 2.22.22 with all things 2.

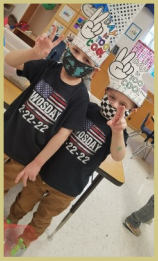
This once-in-a-lifetime celebration was a huge hit! The special day was full of fun activities and games that revolved around the number 2. Everyone participated in dressing up for this fun day.



We had: tutus, double bows, ties, mismatched socks, plus, we had 2, sets of twins! It was a Terrific TWO's Day!



We also had a goal of collecting 22 canned goods for the Food Pantry and were happy that we exceeded our goal!



Pandemic Protocols

We thank God that Covid-19 cases have gone down, and that general immunity to this virus in our communities is high due to vaccinations and those who have already contracted the virus. With this in mind, masks are now optional throughout the church building. For the time being Pastor Krenz and those assisting with communion will continue to wear masks when distributing the Lord's Supper. In addition, Pastor Krenz and the field workers will also be masked when greeting people after each worship service in the church entryway (narthex). At the next elders meeting the return to the altar area for the Lord's Supper will be discussed.

Thank you for your patience and understanding.

Pastor Krenz and the Board of Elders

A special person?

A special event?

Flower Calendar

Remember them with flowers for the altar. Sign up at the flower chart.



Older Adult Retreat: April 19th 9 am-3pm

Co-sponsored by Camp Wartburg and the SID Older Adult Advisory Committee
\$35 to attend; Email or call Faith Morris to register
618-939-7715 ex 15 or faith_morris@lsfs.org

Bus Trip: 10.18.22

8 am Pick-up: St. Paul Lutheran Church in Hamel, IL
5:30 pm Drop off
1. Trinity Lutheran Church, Souland, IL
2. Cathedral Basilica St. Louis
3. Llwyn's Pub
9 am Pick-up: St. Clair Square Mall in Fairview Heights
4:30 pm Drop off
Cost: to be determined; To Register Contact the SID District Office at 618-234-4767
Sponsored by SID OLDER Adult Advisory Committee

Lutheran Older Adult Retreat: April 26-27, 2023

Pere Marquette Lodge & Conference Center, Grafton
Activities: Keynote Speaker; 16 Workshops (choose 4); Bible Class; Delicious Meals; Entertainment; Fellowship



Easter Lilies

Order your Easter Lilies,

in honor, in memory, or celebration by
Monday, March 14th.

\$8.50 each

Find order form in Narthex
Drop in church office



VRS
June 13-17





LWML/LADIES LEAGUE MARCH



At our February meeting, Helen presented information and photos from her recent trip to France. Stefanie and Jean were our hostesses for the meeting. We, also, enjoyed an ice cream treat from a friend of Karl Nowak. We discussed new and unfinished business including What's Your 80? (LWML anniversary) ideas, paying dues, and goals for our group to present to the Re-Vitality group. We were reminded to pray for Confirmation Prayer Friends, as well as our Ladies League friends.

Our March meeting will take place on March 3rd in the Fellowship Hall beginning with lunch at 11:30 a.m. Pastor Krenz is planning "Lessons from the Book of Jonah" for our meeting. Marilyn S. and Wanda G. will be our hostesses at this meeting.

We are always looking for and welcome new members. Many of our topics and service activities help to equip us in our faith life. You are welcome to visit, join, or serve with us anytime. If you need more information, call Wanda Gross at 618-281-4691.

LWML News

This year, in Thanksgiving for 80 years (1942-2022) of the Lutheran Women's Missionary League, each member, group, zone or district is encouraged to reflect God's love by blessing others with 80 of something. Our group is starting to think about how we can celebrate or what we can do for this 80th celebration.

Dates to note:

- 1) Date for SID Spring retreat at Good Shepherd, Collinsville on 3/26/22. We have registration forms available if you are interested;
- 2) LWML SID 41st Biennial Convention at Christ our Savior Lutheran High School, Evansville on 9/16/17;
- 3) LWML CID/SID Joint Retreat at Camp CILICA in Central Illinois on 10/7-8.

Comforts of Love Quilters

Tuesdays in Fellowship Hall at 9 am
All are welcome! Join us!
We have SEW much fun!



WOMEN'S MINISTRY

The WOMEN's Ministry meets on the third Monday of each month.

Please join us at 6:30 in the Fellowship Hall where we are meeting so that we can socially distance.

Women's Bible Study of Genesis

will pick up in the 2nd half of Genesis with Nancy Radentz, beginning on Wednesday, March 9th at 10 am in the fellowship hall. Nancy anticipates running for about 10 weeks to finish this half of the study.



LENTEN SERIES AND PREACHING SCHEDULE

WITNESSES TO CHRIST: PEOPLE FROM HIS PASSION

This Lent, our life in Christ will be strengthened as we hear the witness of those in John's Gospel who journeyed to the cross.

Each week a different pastor from the area will be our guest worship leader and proclaimer at the Mid-week service.

In this series we'll meet villains, such as Barabbas and Pontius Pilate, as well as sinners, such as Peter (who denied Jesus *three* times), Mary Magdalene (who was possessed by seven demons), and Judas Iscariot (who betrayed Jesus for *thirty* pieces of silver). Please join us for worship as we hear the witness of these people in John's Gospel:

Ash Wednesday March 2nd 11am and 6:30pm:

John the Baptist, John 1:29–34 Pastor Krenz

Wednesday March 9th at 6:30pm:

Peter, John 18:12–27 Pastor Sievers

Wednesday, March 16th at 6:30pm:

Pontius Pilate, John 19:1–16 Pastor Keseman
(Our Savior Lutheran in Freeburg)

Wednesday, March 23rd at 6:30pm:

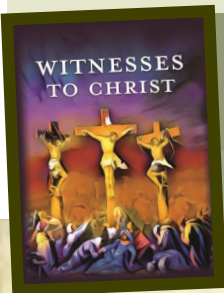
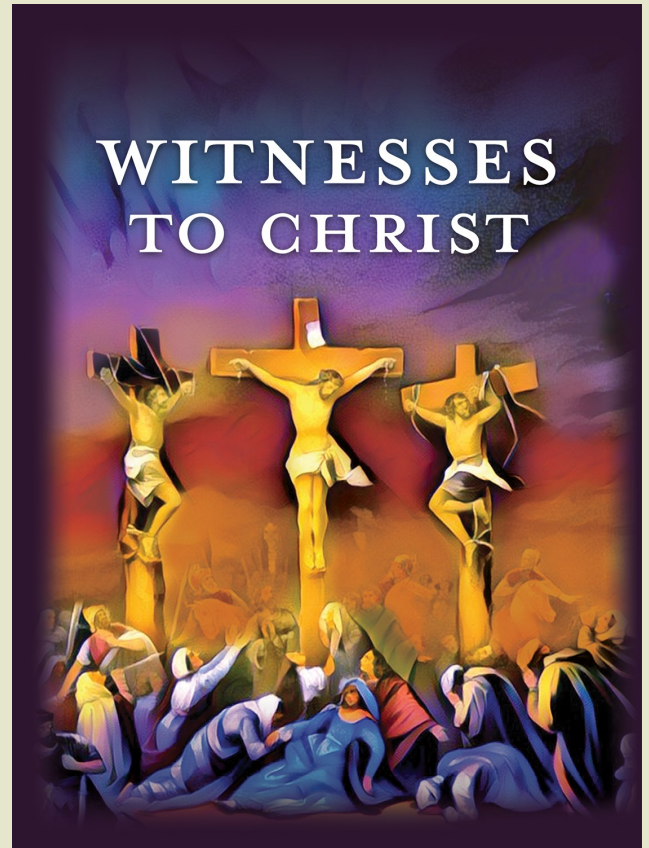
Barabbas, John 18:33–40 Pastor Clayton
(Zion Lutheran in Mascoutah)

Wednesday, March 30th at 6:30pm:

Malchus, John 18:1–11 Pastor Lukomski

Wednesday, April 6th at 6:30pm:

Mary, the Sister of Lazarus and Martha, John 12:1–11 Pastor Krenz



Lenten Series Daily Devotions:

This year our midweek Lenten series is titled *“Witnesses to Christ, People of His Passion”*. Each week we will travel through the gospel of John and hear from those closest to Jesus and various villains who journeyed with the Savior to the cross. Pick up your copy of this booklet in the Narthex.

Worship/Sermon Themes–March 2022

March 6th and 7th “Confessing Jesus with Heart and Voice” Romans 10:8b-13

March 13th and 14th “Living as Heavenly Citizens” Philippians 3:17-4:1

March 20th and 21st “Warning, Temptations, and Deliverance” 1 Corinthians 10:1-13

March 27th and 28th “The Reconciliation Mandate” 2 Corinthians 5:16-21

Sunday Adult Bible Study Class: Jonah

Please join us in the fellowship hall at 9:15am as we continue our 4 week study on the book of Jonah. We will begin a new study on the Book of Ruth.





Youth Ministry Update

SKATING RINK



Rummage Sale

St. Paul's Lutheran, Columbia IL

227 Goodhaven Rt 3 & Bottom Ave
across from Walgreens

Sat April 2, 8am-noon

Proceeds benefit St. Paul's Youth Group

Bag-a-Bargain all day!

Half price 11:30-noon (not furniture)



Gratefully accepting any & all donations

No computers, TVs or clothing

Drop-off at lower parking lot

Thur Mar 31, 4-8pm Fri Apr 1, 10-7pm

Questions - 618.541.4657 Sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans

OOPS for March 2022 — Outreach Opportunity Praying Suggestion

WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO KNOW? HERE'S HOW!

"I wonder if she believes in Jesus?" Have you asked yourself that question while watching the checker at the checkout counter in the grocery store scan your latest food purchases? Or, have you ever just bluntly dared to ask that waitress who has come to your restaurant table to take your order, **"Are you a Christian?"**

Probably not, although a few rabid Christians actually do that with surprisingly good results. But, **wouldn't** you like to know? Or, better yet, **shouldn't** you want to know? Well, here's a good way to do just that if the Holy Spirit should move you:

FIRST – If they are wearing a name badge, greet the person waiting on you by their first name and say **"How is _____ today?"** (You can't offend anyone by doing that, can you?)

SECOND – Unless their body language says otherwise, say **"Have a blessed day!"** when your transaction is finished and listen carefully for any response.

THIRD – If the response is **"You too!"** or **"Thank You!"** dare to say **"Sounds to me like you are a Christian too."**

FOURTH – Surprisingly, more often than not, the person will smile and say **"Yes, I am!"** And, if not, at least you tried. Then, just be on your merry way thanking the Holy Spirit for giving you the faith to have a spiritual conversation with someone.

**Just another OOPS
from your Board of Christian Outreach.**



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,
Greetings in the saving name of Christ! We pray that your new year is being lived out under the gracious hand of our Good Shepherd.

We thank you for your gift, and we praise Christ who has provided through you. We are privileged to serve in Prague in your place. Our work is your work. Your partnership has made that abundantly clear! In our prayers, we remember those who stand with us in prayer and in offerings. We ask the Lord to use you as His bright Epiphany lights so that the love of God in Christ might fill the area where you live and work.

Please, pray for the great abundance of people in the Czech Republic who do not yet know Jesus as Savior. And pray not only for us but for all our LCMS missionaries working in the Czech Republic. Ask the Lord of the harvest to gather still more. God be with you!
We commend you to Christ, Rev. Dale & Suzanne Kaster,
Your Missionaries to the Czech Republic

Health News from the Kasters...

Blessings and peace from our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen. We had a very encouraging meeting this week with Dale's doctor. While he does have multiple myeloma, Dale's case is very slight, what they describe as smoldering. Some people have this for many years. And for this level, no treatment is needed; rather, they will monitor him for certain levels within his blood. He still needs to have a skeletal scan to make sure he has not lesions on the bones (one of the side effects of the disease). And the doctor wants to see him in three months. Please, pray that this level of the disease will hold. And pray that we might be able to establish a working relationship between the doctor here and the doctor in the Czech Republic. Your prayers are greatly appreciated.

Address in the United States:

Rev. Dale and Suzanne Kaster

11952 Blue Spruce Court

Jacksonville, FL 32223-2925



FoodPantry

**Our Food Pantry
is open on the
1st & 3rd
Wednesday of
every month
from 1:30-3:00pm.
Call 281-4600
for assistance on
all other days.**

<http://stpauls-lcms.org/>
or call the church office
@ 618.281.4600.

**Join us for
Worship
via Youtube...**

[Home \(stpauls-lcms.org\)](http://stpauls-lcms.org)

**Worship Archives:
Video Services**





Sunday Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday Saturday



Anniversary

6

7

8

1

Crystal Craft
Melinda Floarke
Aaron Haberl

2

Jonathan Busch
Derek Gregson
Keegan Hale
Ellavee Pulcher

3

Steve & Donna Lake

4

Lloyd Pulcher

5

Gabrielle
Caldwell
Michele Colbert

13

Cynthia Hill

14

Charles Bradley

15

Levi Ottwell

16

Brett Aldridge
Michael Ratley,
Jr.

17

Gennifer Lubenda

18

Barbara
Ahlbrand
Charles
Bequette, Jr.
Robert Schaefer

19

Tom Dillard Jr.
Jack Russell
Theresa
Mancarella

20

Aaron Frazer
Tatem Search
Turner Search

21

Ginger Crank
Deborah Eisner

22

Kevin Miller

23

John Roessler Jr.
Dan Voelkel
Art Woodcock

24

Laverne Ritter
Michelle
Kleinschmidt
Zachary Simmons

25

Connor Holten
Abbey Heck

26

Barb Goshen
Diana Schwartz
Alexis Caldwell

27

Loren
Koenigstein

28

Kyle Riebeling
Robbie Rauh Jr.
Aaron Rahn

30

Gary Crawford
Sandy Louis
Kaylee Grandt

31

Toni Fulk

March





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>*** Dates, times, & locations subject to change. Additional activities may be added at a later date. For the most up-to-date calendar listing, go to: stpauls-lcms.org then click on the "calendar" tab. ***</p>		<p>1 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthex) Quilters 9 am Confirmation 3:30pm Fellowship Hall</p>	<p>2 11 am Ash Wed Service Food Pantry 1:30 pm (Lower Level) 6:30 pm Ash Wed Service</p>	<p>3 Ladies League 11:30 am 5:45 pm SS Teachers Mtg 6:30 pm Board of Education</p>	<p>4 2 pm Bible Study @ Integrity Health Care</p>	<p>5</p>
<p>6 Divine Service 8 & 10:30am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15am Fellowship Hall Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Rm/S S Wing) Confirmation 4:00 pm</p>	<p>7 Financial Count (Team 2) Divine Service 6:30 pm</p>	<p>8 Men's Bible Study 7:15am (Narthex) Quilters 9 am Confirmation 3:30pm (Sanctuary) 5 pm Board of Trustees 6:30 pm Elders Meeting</p>	<p>9 Ladies Bible Study Genesis 10 am w/N. Radentz 6:30 pm Lenten Service</p>	<p>10 Meeting w/ DCE Director from Concordia, Chicago Daisy Scouts 6:15 pm</p>	<p>11 Friday Night Adult Bible Study w/K. Sievers</p>	<p>12 Daylight Saving Time Begins</p>
<p>13 Divine Service 8 & 10:30am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15am Fellowship Hall Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Rm/S S Wing) 4 pm Confirmation 6:30 pm Youth Mtg time</p>	<p>14 Financial Count (Team 3) Divine Service 6:30 pm</p>	<p>15 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthex) Quilters 9 am Confirmation 3:30pm (Fellowship Hall) 6:30 pm Church Council</p>	<p>16 Ladies Bible Study: Genesis 10 am w/N. Radentz Food Pantry 1:30 pm (Lower Level) 6:30 pm Lenten Service</p>	<p>17 Board of Communication</p>	<p>18 Lifeline Screening @ St. Paul's 2 pm Worship @ Integrity</p>	<p>19 Happy St. Patrick's Day</p>
<p>20 Divine Service 8 & 10:30am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15am Fellowship Hall Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Rm/S S Wing) 4:00 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>21 Financial Count (Team 1) 5:30 pm Board of Outreach 6:30 pm Divine Service 6:30 pm Women's Ministry</p>	<p>22 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthex) Quilters 9 am 3:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>23 Ladies Bible Study: Genesis 10 am w/N. Radentz 6:30 pm Lenten Service</p>	<p>24 9 am Newsletter Folders Daisy Scouts 6:15 pm</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26 SAVE THE DATE Sunday, April 3rd Easter Egg Hunt</p>
<p>27 Divine Service 8 & 10:30am (Sanctuary) Adult Bible Class 9:15am Fellowship Hall Youth/Sunday School 9:15am (Youth Rm/S S Wing) Elder Visits 2:00 pm 4:00 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>28 Financial Count (Team 2) Divine Service 6:30 pm (Sanctuary)</p>	<p>29 Men's Bible Study 7:15 am (Narthex) Quilters 9 am 3:30 pm Confirmation</p>	<p>30 Ladies Bible Study: Genesis 10 am w/N. Radentz 6:30 pm Lenten Service</p>	<p>31 12 pm Chapel at Christ Our Savior</p>	<p>March</p>	



Out and About in Our Community...



Life - It's Still Worth Fighting For

Life Network of Southern Illinois

will be hosting the **annual Spring Banquet** at the Falls Banquet Center in Columbia, IL on **March 24th and 25th**. This banquet is their key fundraising event and critical to raising the financial support needed to continue daily operations and achieve future goals. If you would like to help St. Paul's Lutheran Church to fill a table, either on **Thursday night, March 24th, or Friday night, March 25th, please contact Karl Nowak, or call the church office at 618-281-4600** to add your name to this outreach event.

Key Note Speaker:

Steventhen Holland,

Recording artist, author, inspirational pro-life speaker and founder of Broken Not Dead Ministries



Trinity Lutheran Church in Millstadt

will hold its annual

Spaghetti Dinner on Sunday,

March 13, from 10:30 am to 3 pm.

The menu includes spaghetti, bread sticks, salad (Papa Vito's salad dressings), dessert, and beverages. Carry-outs available. This 'all you can eat' dinner...cost is **\$12 for adults, \$5 for children (4-10)** and **FREE** for children ages 3 and under. Trinity's address is **503 East Washington, Millstadt, Illinois 62260**. The building is walker, wheelchair, and stroller friendly.



SAINT PAUL
LUTHERAN HIGH SCHOOL

The **Singing Saints** of Saint Paul Lutheran High School, of Concordia, Missouri, will be performing a **concert on Friday, March 11, 2022 at**

7:00pm at Saint John's Lutheran Church, 508 Bloom St., Red Bud, IL, 62278. The choir is on their annual domestic tour, singing this year in the Southeastern part of the United States. They will be performing locally in Red Bud, IL (and several cities...) The touring choir is made up of 46 students from the 60-voiced concert choir and they will be performing a varied program that included classic works by J. S. Bach, Mendelssohn, Palestrina, and Tomas Tallis, as well as some traditional spirituals, hymns, and anthems, such as the famous "God So Loved the World" by Sir John Stainer, and "Hark, I Hear the Harps Eternal" arranged by Alice Parker. The award-winning choir is under the direction of Dr. Jerrode Marsh. The concert is free, but donations are kindly requested to help cover expenses for their tour. **For more information, please contact Saint John's Lutheran Church at (618) 282-2394. St. Paul Lutheran High School is part of our congregational mission budget.** Saint Paul Lutheran High School is the only remaining LCMS residential high school in the United States, located in central Missouri, about an hour east of Kansas City. The college-prep school offers college-level courses, STEM, Honors, and AP classes, and numerous opportunities to be involved in sports, music, drama, academic teams, and more. For more information about the school, visit www.splhs.org.

175th Anniversary Celebration

The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and St. John's Lutheran Church, New Minden

Hymn Festival at St. John's

Second Sunday of Easter + April 24, 2022 + 3 pm
The German Evangelical Lutheran Synod of Missouri, Ohio, and other States was formally constituted April 26, 1847, at St. Paul's in Chicago. Although other congregations in Southern Illinois are older, St. John's, New Minden (founded 11/8/1846), happens to be the only congregation in the Southern Illinois District to be a charter member of the Synod.

St. John's has been celebrating its 175th anniversary under the theme "Rooted and Growing in Christ" (Colossians 2:6-7). April 24, 2022, is our "Synodical Birthday Sunday." Dr. Dale Meyer will serve as the guest speaker for the 10 am

service. Dr. Nancy Peterson, organist at Zion Lutheran Church, Mascoutah, will serve as organist for the Hymn Festival at 3 pm. She will play a **pre-service recital beginning at 2:30 pm.** **We would be blessed if others from our sister congregations joined us.**

We welcome your participation in choosing hymns for the Hymn Festival. Even if you can't attend, tell us your favorite hymns from the Lutheran Service Book. Just choose your favorites—up to ten that you would like to have sung at the festival—and email your list to Pastor Tim Mueller at tpm@frontiernet.net.

Pastor Tim Mueller 618-314-3972
15538 State Route 127
Nashville, IL 62263



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

**227 N. Goodhaven Drive
Columbia, IL 62236**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

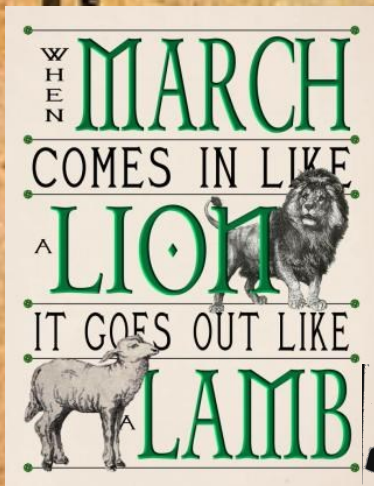
Nonprofit Organization

Bulk Mailing

U.S. POSTAGE PAID

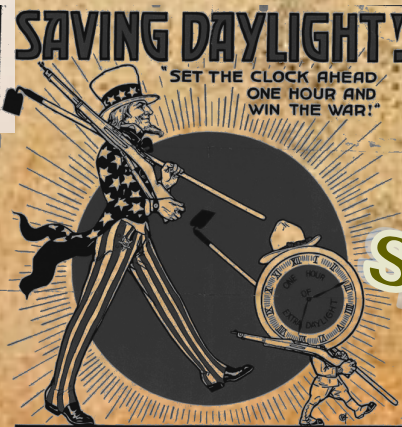
Columbia, Illinois

Permit No. 15



Worship with Us...

**Sundays 8:00 am & 10:30 am
In Person & Online
Mondays—6:30 pm**



**MOBILIZE AN EXTRA
HOUR OF DAYLIGHT AND
HELP WIN THE WAR!**

**Spring Forward
March 13th**



The Epistle

March.2022