



THE Messenger

April Edition, 2024

April

By April, spring has finally sprung, and if we're lucky, the weather will reflect that! We hope that your sky is bright and clear and your grass is growing green.

The month of April gets its name from the Latin word *aperio*,

meaning "to open [bud]," because plants really begin to grow now.

- April 1 is "**April Fool's Day**" where people in countries all over the world like to play pranks on other people.
- April 8 will see a **Total Solar Eclipse** over parts of North America.
- April 22 is the start of **Passover**, which begins at sundown.
- April 22 is **Earth Day**

Annual Congregational Meeting (ACM) High-lights

The report from the Ecumenical Shared Ministry Committee put forward the following recommendations that were accepted by the ACM:



1. That the current Ecumenical Shared Ministry Committee continue to meet, cooperating with the leadership teams of all three congregations, to develop recommendations regarding:

- the **name** for the ecumenical shared ministry - including input from the congregational members,
- shared **worship practices** - all three traditions will be honoured,
- **shared facilities** - an

extensive assessment of need and value of existing properties will be conducted,

- **shared leadership** - ministry team including one clergy, able to serve needs of all three denominations, and possibly an additional lay person or clergy based on determined needs, and

Mission Statement: *St. Paul's United is a prairie-rooted, people church, centered on Holy Mystery. We experience the gift of grace – forgiveness, new life, God's unconditional love – as we open our doors and hearts to people of all ages, stages and walks of life. We live as a community of faith carried on the winds of God's Spirit.*

- **shared operational finances** - to be determined based on decisions on/ results of above.
- 2. That, in the interim, the current practice of **shared worship be on the 4th Sunday of each month**, thus increasing to 12 Sundays/year, and that **a joint Worship Committee of up to 3 members (including clergy) from each congregation** be created to plan these services (possibly including Sunday School), ensuring that all traditions are respected.
- 3. That, in the interim, **a Pastoral/ Community Care Committee be formed, with representation from each congregation**, to ensure that pastoral care needs (hospital visitation, shut-in visitation, visiting the bereaved) are met for all three congregations and that we work together to help meet the needs of our community.
- 4. That the costs of the use of Trinity Centres Foundation (*Founded in 2018, Trinity Centres Foundation is a pan-Canadian charitable organization that was created with the vision of lovingly preserving, restoring, and repurposing underutilized churches into community hubs and affordable housing.*), up to \$40,000.00, to support the Ecumenical Shared Ministry Committee and leadership teams of all three congregations in creating a strategy

for the use of the three church buildings that considers wider missional, neighbourhood, community, and charitable objectives.

5. That **a covenant be signed**, including the above recommendations, between the congregations of St. Giles Anglican, St. Paul's United, and Trinity Lutheran and an Ecumenical Shared Ministry be formed.

A big thanks to Diane Wrubleski who has served as Leadership Team chair for the past four years. Her talent and

temperament were much appreciated.
Job well done,
Diane!

We welcome Judy Pratt to the Leadership Team. We look forward to her participation.

Another big welcome to Odessa Sherbaniuk who returned to the Ministry and Personnel Committee.

Messy Church

Messy Church is being held Sunday, April 21, 2024 at St. Giles Anglican Church from 4 – 6 pm. Everyone Welcome! Families encouraged!



Lost and Found

What treasures lurk in the black L and F box? That missing pair of runners? Those sunglasses which can't be found? Have a look for yourself!



Men's Ecumenical Breakfast

A time of fellowship and discussion over breakfast will be held at St. Paul's United Church at 8:00 am on Sunday, April 14, 2024. All men are encouraged to attend. These breakfast gatherings are scheduled to happen on the second Sunday of each month.

Hear ye; hear ye. Good News is here!

The Living Skies Regional Council Meeting will be held from June 13 to 15, 2024 at the Travel Lodge (Idylwyld Dr. N. and Circle Dr) in Saskatoon, with the Moderator, the Right Rev. Carmen Lansdowne attending for part of our meeting. The Service of Praise will be at Knox United Church in Saskatoon on Sunday, June 16.

Have a favourite hymn or a suggestion?

If you have a favourite hymn that you would like to have sung during worship, please write it down on a suggestion card and place in the suggestion box in the Narthex. The same for any suggestion

you may have to make worship more meaningful for you.

The Sacraments

The United Church of Canada celebrates and recognizes two sacraments: baptism and communion.

Our communities of faith do not regularly celebrate the sacraments because no licensed minister is available to preside.

The sacraments elder policies and procedures of Living



Skies Regional Council are one way of ensuring that each community of faith can celebrate its sacramental life by licensing lay members of the United Church to administer the sacraments within their own community of faith.

Many of you have the skills to come forward to train and offer your faith and leadership as a sacraments elder.

Birthdays

April Birthdays – are you celebrating a birthday this month? Please let us know by signing the birthday board in the Narthex.



Special Music



If you are able to provide special music for our worship services, please contact the office. Solo, duet, small ensemble — whatever you may be part of would be appreciated.

Frozen Desserts

Frozen rhubarb desserts are still available. Contact Patty in the office. Large:\$10 each; mini : 3/\$10.

House Groups

House Group leaders are responsible to get greeters. Greeters are asked:

- to get a key from the office ahead of their Sunday;
- unlock the doors of the church;
- greet the worshippers;
- bring offering forward during the service;
- ensure candles are out and lights turned off;
- lock the doors after service; and
- drop the key in the brown mailbox outside the front door.

April's hosting House group will be the "Genesis".

Worship Service Leaders (WSL) involved with Rural Connect are assigned by the office from a list of volunteers or from the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. The WSL participates in the service where agreed to and lights the Christ Candle.

Financial Matter\$

January 1, 2024 — February 29, 2024

Income:	\$17,529.69
Expenses:	<u>\$22,981.39</u>
Surplus (Deficit):	\$(5,451.70)

Leadership within St. Paul's for 2024:

Leadership Team

Lawrence Burnard

Cheryl Deren

Jordan Cantwell - Regional Rep

Judy Pratt

Gail Schlamp

Greg Suchan

Wendy Suchan

*Astrid Friesen - Recording Steward

*Don Kindopp - Treasurer

* — non-voting member

Ministry & Personnel Committee

Emily Gillies

Jim Pratt

Odessa Sherbaniuk

Trustees

Dennis Bode

Paul Deren

Diane Wrubleski

Dr. A.E. Elliot Education Fund Rep

Diane Wrubleski

Living Skies Regional Rep

Don Kindopp

Ecumenical Shared Ministry Committee

Cheryl Deren

Sandi Klatt

Jim Pratt

Upcoming Events

- *April 7, 2024* — **Worship Service** — 9:00 am at Knox and 10:30 am at St. Paul's. Worship Leader is Heather Tober.
 - *April 10, 2024* — **Leadership Team Meeting** @7:00 pm via Zoom. All are welcome!
 - *April 14, 2024* — **Men's Ecumenical Breakfast** — 8:00 am at St. Paul's.
 - *April 14, 2024* — **Rural Connect Worship Service** @10:30 am.
 - *April 21, 2024* — **Rural Connect Worship Service** @10:30 am.
 - *April 21, 2024* — **Messy Church** — 4:00-6:00 pm at St. Giles.
 - *Saturday, April 27, 2024* — **Sask UCCW AGM and Gathering** at St. David's Trinity United Church (3318 Merritt Street, Saskatoon). The Saskatchewan United Church Women's Gathering is for all the women of The United Church of Canada. Our guests are the Rt. Rev. Jordan Cantwell, former Moderator of the United Church and the Growth Animator for the Prairies and Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle, Representing our National UCW.
- Theme:** Growing Spiritually based on
Scripture: Mark 1:29 – 39. This is from verse 34: "And he healed many who were sick with various diseases; and cast out many demons. And He would not permit the demons to speak,

Website: <http://www.stpaulsestevan.ca>

because they knew Him."

Registration: 9:00 am., with the **Programme** to follow at 10:45 a.m.
More information to follow.

- *April 28, 2024* — **Rural Connect Worship Service** @10:30 am.

**WE ARE THANKFUL FOR
THOSE WHO HAVE
STEPPED FORWARD TO
PROVIDE LEADERSHIP
TO OUR COMMUNITIES
OF FAITH.**

LEADERSHIP



Auditorium Sale

We are looking for an energetic individual or team that will take on the organization of an auditorium sale.



**Great time!
Great fellowship!
Great fund raiser!
Great for our
community!**

Office: 306-634-2885