

# THE CHURCH ON THE HIGHWAY

*Where Life and Jesus Intersect*

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## St. Paul Lutheran Church

April 2021 Edition

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## From Our Senior Pastor

Rev. Larry Krueger

[pastorkrueger@splcwaco.com](mailto:pastorkrueger@splcwaco.com)

### After the Resurrection

If I were to ask what happened after the resurrection of Jesus, my guess would be that most people would begin to share the accounts of how the stone was rolled away from the tomb, or how the angel told the women that Jesus was alive, or how Peter and John ran to the tomb, or how Jesus appeared to Mary Magdalene, or how Jesus walked with two men on the road to Emmaus, or how Jesus appeared to the disciples in the room with the closed door. These are the great His-stories we read on a regular basis.

However, there is one “after the resurrection” story that does not get a lot of attention. This is the story recorded in Matthew 28:11-15, which reads, as follows:

While [the women] were going, behold, some of the guard went into the city and told the chief priests all that had taken place. And when they had assembled with the elders and taken counsel, they gave a sufficient sum of money to the soldiers and said, “Tell people, ‘His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep.’ And if this comes to the governor’s ears, we will satisfy him and keep you out of trouble.” So they took the money and did as they were directed. And this story has been spread among the Jews to this day. (ESV)

The positioning of this story in Matthew’s Gospel is right after the account of Jesus’ resurrection and right before Jesus sends his disciples in the Great Commission, “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations.” While this account of what happened after Jesus’ resurrection is often passed by in the popular recollections of Jesus’ having risen from the dead, it is an account of significance.

It is significant that the Roman guards give a testimony of what had taken place. These, too, were eyewitnesses of the empty tomb from which Jesus had arisen. The Roman soldiers, who were well acquainted with confirming when one had reached the point of death (*as witnessed at the death of Jesus by a spear in his side*), were also witnesses to the fact that Jesus was no longer a dead man lying in the tomb. As Matthew records, they “told the chief priests all that had taken place.”

*continues on page 2*



**Sunday Worship**  
8am & 10:30am  
**Bible Class/Sunday School**  
9:15am

***Pastor Krueger continued:***

Of course, the chief priests did not want a story going around that Jesus was alive. It would undermine the purpose they wanted him crucified in the first place, because all the people were following him. If word got out that he was indeed risen from the dead, their efforts would have been for naught. So, they paid off the guards to tell people, "His disciples came by night and stole him away while we were asleep."

But that story was no good either. The Roman guards were put there to prevent that from happening. It is doubtful Roman guards would have failed at that duty, as it could most likely cost one his life. (*Reference the reaction of the jailer in Philippi when he thought his prisoners had escaped. See Acts 16:27.*) Failure was not an option. Thus, the need to satisfy the governor was put in place.

Further, even the invented story was fallible. As is pointed out in the notes of the Lutheran Study Bible, "How would the soldiers know that the disciples came if they had been sleeping? How could they not have heard the door of the tomb being opened? But the story was enough to convince those who wanted to reject Jesus" (Lutheran Study Bible, p. 1649). As Matthew stated, "This story has been spread among the Jews to this day." Thus, it continues today, many still reject the truth of the resurrection of Jesus, thereby also rejecting the hope of everlasting life for all who believe in Him as Savior and Lord.

However, for we who believe in Jesus, the soldiers' report to the chief priests is another affirmation that Jesus was no longer in the tomb. It affirms the message of the angel, "He is not here, for he has risen as he said" (Mt. 28:6). By faith, we believe these truths recorded in God's Holy Word and follow Jesus' command, "Go therefore and make disciples of all nations."

Love God and love your neighbor,  
Pastor Krueger



## **A Message From Our DCE Intern**

Megan Harcrow

Email: [DCEMegan@gmail.com](mailto:DCEMegan@gmail.com)

Easter is a time of great joy in the church. This is the time that we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus and what that means for us as Christian people. It's hard to imagine that God gave His only son to die for us. Not only to die but to suffer unimaginably for us in the process. Sin is messy. Sin is evil. Sin deserves to be punished, and God says that punishment is death. So how wonderful that our faith in Jesus saves us from that fate.

Easter is also a time when kids associate a large bunny hopping through their yard and leaving tasty treats and fun toys. So how do we explain to them that while celebrating and having fun with the Easter bunny is okay, that the true meaning of Easter is the death and resurrection of Jesus? Here are some tips:

- † Along with candy, hide slips of paper with Easter messages for children to read, or pictures to see.
- † Have a family brunch after church and tell the Easter story in a kid friendly way.
- † Have your kids make puppets and help them recreate the Easter story and explain the meaning of Easter to them.
- † Have them explain what Easter means to them, and then tell them the true meaning. Tell them we have the Easter bunny as a way to give us treats and we gather treats to celebrate Jesus coming back to life.
- † Finally sit down and watch the Easter Story together and answer any questions your kids may have.



Scan this QR code with your phone's camera for Bible stories from the *Beginner's Bible*.



## A Message From Our Deaconess

Dcs. Suzanne Krahn

Email: [dcskrahn@splcwaco.com](mailto:dcskrahn@splcwaco.com)

### Are You Being Tricked?

At the grocery store do you read the food labels? If so, you might be being tricked! Label reading is complex and can be tricky. Some food manufacturers might use misleading tricks to convince people to buy highly processed and less than healthy products.

**Don't be fooled** by the claims on the front of packages. Front labels are the worst. Research shows that adding health claims to front labels makes people believe a product is healthier than the same product that doesn't list health claims – thus affecting consumer choices. Many manufacturers use health claims that are misleading or down right false. Example: Cocoa Puffs.

**Studying the ingredients** is a good way to learn what's in the product. Ingredients are listed by quantity – from highest to least amount. A good rule of thumb is to look at the first 3 ingredients listed. If the first ingredients are refined grains (a type of sugar) or hydrogenated oils, you can assume the product is unhealthy. Try choosing a product whose top items have whole foods. Also, an ingredient's list that is longer than 2-3 lines suggests the product is highly processed.

**Watch out for serving sizes.** Nutrition labels show the number of calories and nutrients that are in a standard amount of the product – often a suggested single serving. But the servings listed are frequently much smaller than what consumers are used to eating in one setting. Example: one serving may be only ½ can of soda, ¼ of a cookie, ½ a chocolate bar, etc. This attempts to trick consumers into thinking that the food has fewer calories & less sugar.

**Health claims** on packaged food are designed to catch your eye and convince you the product is healthy. Here are some of the most misleading claims: 1. **Light** – processed to reduce either calories or fat. Some products are simply watered down. Check to see if anything's added – like sugar. 2. **Multi-grain** – only means the product contains more than one type of grain. These are most likely refined grains – unless states as whole grain. 3. **Natural** – indicates that at one point the manufacturer worked with a natural source like apples or rice. 4. **Organic** – tell little about whether product's healthy. 5. **No added sugar (NAS)** – some products are naturally high in sugar. Unhealthy sugar substitutes may also have been added. 6. **Low-calorie** – these products have to have a third fewer calories than the brand's original product. Low-calorie products may be similar to another's original product. 7. **Low-fat** – usually means less fat at the cost of adding more sugar. 8. **Low-carb** – usually means these processed foods are still junk foods similar to low-fat ones. 9. **Made with whole-grains** – usually contains very little whole grains. 10. **Fortified or enriched** – means some nutrients added. Example: Vitamin D to milk. 11. **Gluten-free** – doesn't mean healthy. Product simply doesn't contain wheat, spelt, rye, or barley. Many of these products are highly processed & loaded with fats and sugars. 12. **Fruit-flavored** – product may not contain any fruit – only chemicals to taste like fruit. 13. **Zero trans-fat** – means less than 0.5 grams of trans-fat per serving.

Different names for sugar to watch out for. **Sugars** – beet, brown, buttered, cane, caster, coconut, date, golden, invert, muscovado, organic raw, raspadura, evaporated cane juice, and confectioner's. **Syrups** – carob, golden, high-fructose corn, honey, agave nectar, malt, maple, oat, rice bran, and rice. **Other added sugars** – barley malt, molasses, cane juice crystals, lactose, corn sweetener, crystalline fructose, dextran, malt powder, ethyl maltol, fructose, fruit juice concentrate, galactose, glucose, disaccharides, maltodextrin, and maltose.

**The best way** to avoid being misled by product labels is to avoid processed foods altogether. But if you decide to buy packaged foods, be sure to sort out junk from the higher-quality products.

Blessings in all your endeavors now and always.

Resource: <https://www.healthline.com/nutrition/how-to-read-food-labels>



**“The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears them;  
He delivers them from all their troubles.” Psalm 34:17**

## *Lord, Hear Our Prayers:*

- † We pray for continued healing for all those who have suffered physical problems in the last month, including: (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord lay His healing hand upon them.
- † We pray for all who struggle with ongoing health concerns, including: (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord keep His healing hand upon them.
- † We pray for all who are home-bound, in nursing care or assisted living facilities, including: (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord give them comfort and peace with their living situation.
- † We pray for those who have lost loved ones in the last month; including: (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord give them comfort in their time of sorrow.
- † We pray for all nations as the battle to combat Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues. We pray for world leaders, healthcare workers, public service workers, and all those who have been affected by this disease. We pray for healing, patience, and calmness during this time of uncertainty.
- † We pray for those serving in our Armed Forces (a complete list is available through the church office). We pray the Lord keep them safe in their stead as they defend our freedom and safety.
- † We pray for those serving in the mission field ... may God continue to bless and keep them safe as they minister to the world as an extended outreach of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Waco, Texas.

Please contact the church office if you, someone in your family, or a family friend is in need of prayer. Please keep the church office advised of the status of those you add to the prayer list, so that our list remains up-to-date. If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 254.799.3211 or by email to: [wecare@splcwaco.com](mailto:wecare@splcwaco.com).

# SERVANTS FOR APRIL

*Those who serve are listed by first name and last initial to protect their identity*

### ACOLYTES:

4/1 Hailey S  
(Maundy Thursday, 6:30pm)

4/2 John H  
(Good Friday, 7:30pm)

4/4 Hayleigh G (Sunrise, 6:30am)  
Emalee A (8:00am)  
Cole T (10:30am)

4/11 Emma M (8:00am)  
Cade W (10:30am)

4/18 Hailey S (8:00am)  
Zachary F (10:30am)

4/25 John H (8:00am)  
Wyatt W (10:30am)

### ELDER OF THE MONTH:

Tim H

### NURSERY VOLUNTEERS

4/4 Joey & Robin R (both)

4/11 Joey & Robin R (8am)  
Linda J J (10:30am)

4/18 Joey & Robin R (8am)  
Wendy E (10:30am)

4/25 Joey & Robin R (8am)  
Clint & Kari W (10:30am)

### USHERS

8am Worship: Group 3  
10:30am Worship: Group 4  
Maundy Thurs. Worship, 4/1: Group 11  
Good Friday Worship, 4/2: Group 12  
Easter Sunrise Worship, 4/4: Group 1

### ALTAR FLOWERS:

4/1 Ronnie & Linda T  
4/4 Bobby & Joyce N  
4/11 Daniel & Carol M  
4/18 Billy & Tracie H  
4/25 Don & Vickie S

# Classes for All Ages

***We have resumed our Sunday School and Bible Class opportunities. Masks are optional, but recommended, and we ask that all attendees practice safe self-distancing protocols.***

***\*Please note, there will be no Sunday School or Bible Classes on Easter Sunday, April 4, 2021.***

## **Adult Bible Class, in the Family Center**

This group is studying the book of Genesis.

## **Men's Bible Class, in the Conference Room**

This group is studying various topics, applicable to everyday life; utilizing archived sermons by Rev. Walter Albers.

## **Ladies Bible Class, in the Parish Hall**

This group is utilizing the study examining the things we say that get in the way of our relationships with God and with others. Each chapter uses humor, anecdotes, and observations to introduce Scripture passages that address common behaviors and attitudes.

## **Nursery - Grades 6 in classrooms**

Due to the sizes of our Sunday School classrooms, we ask that both teachers and children, nursery age thru 6th grade, remain masked the entire class time. We are so very grateful for our teachers!

Nursery - Kindergarten: Willie Vandolah

Grades 1-2: Linda Mitchell

Grades 3-5: Melissa (Owen) Brownlow

Grade 6: Angel Breton

If you have any questions, please contact the Board of Children's Ministry Chair, Ashlee Peacock, or DCE Intern, Megan Harcrow.

## **Grades 7-12, in the Youth Room**

This age group is using a blend of regular Bible studies including music and videos.

## ***Other Bible Study Opportunities:***

## **College Student Evening Bible Study/Fellowship**

This group meets on Tuesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. on Baylor campus (Draper Hall, 245).

## **Sunday Evening Bible Study, in the Family Center**

This group meets on the first Sunday of each month in the Family Center. Attendees are invited to bring your own supper, to begin eating at 5:30 p.m. with Bible study to follow. This group will continue the study on Angels. Masks are optional, but recommended, and social distance protocols will be followed.

## **Youth Confirmation/Catechesis Training**

This class meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 p.m. in the Family Center. (*Confirmation class will not meet on March 31st.*)

***There's a place for EVERYONE to be immersed in God's Word and fellowship with other Christians!***

## **Congregation Officer Elections for 2021**

### **Election to be held on Sunday, April 25, 2021**

The Nominating Committee met and has established the procedure (outlined below) for conducting officer elections on Sunday, April 25. For this election, procedures will be implemented for three different options of casting one's ballot. There will be on-site balloting for those attending in-house worship on Sunday, April 25 (like is normally conducted). Plus, there will be opportunity for one to cast ballots in a drive thru manner after the 10:30 a.m. worship service on that Sunday. Finally, for those not able to attend in-house worship or participate in the drive thru balloting, provision will be made for a mail-in ballot. For all three methods the nominating committee will implement election controls so that all voting will remain anonymous and accountable.

The procedures with pertinent dates for the April 25, 2021 election are outlined below:

#### **Pertinent Dates and Procedures for the April 25, 2021 St. Paul Lutheran Church Officer Elections**

**March 21, 2021** – Nominating Committee will announce to congregation status of nominations and make final ask for any further nominations from congregation members, due to committee by April 4.

**April 1, 2021** – April newsletter with election details is distributed to congregation via regular newsletter distribution methods.

**April 1-11, 2021** – Mail in ballot requests need to be made with the church office. These shall be made to Cindy Byrd by phone, 254-799-3211 or email (wecare@splcwaco.com).

**April 4, 2021** – Deadline for congregation members to submit additional nominees. Nominating Committee finalizes the ballot for election.

**April 12, 2021** – Ballots are mailed to those who requested mail in ballots. (*NOTE: These ballots must be returned to the church office to be received no later than April 23.* These may be mailed or deposited in the church mail slot.)

**April 18, 2021** – Officer nominees are introduced to the congregation at both worship services.

**April 23, 2021** – Mail in ballots must be received in the church office by this date.

**April 25, 2021** – Ballots are cast and collected at both morning worship services. Ballots are cast and collected after late service until 12:15 pm at drive thru voting. Nominating committee tallies the election results from all ballots.

If you have any questions regarding this process, you may contact any member of the Nominating committee, whose names are listed below.

#### **Nominating Committee Members for 2021:**

Bill Dube  
Rev. Larry Krueger  
Gene Bode  
Cheri Borchardt  
Isaac Cox  
Bobby Luedke  
Don Savage  
Michelle Strickland



## Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has sent to the congregation the **St. Paul Lutheran Church Pastor Profile Executive Summary and Nomination Form for Pastoral Call List**. These were sent to the congregation in the same delivery method that your monthly church newsletter is received. If you have not received a copy, please contact the church office. If you would like a copy of the complete survey results, please contact the church office. The nomination form can be mailed or dropped off at the church office. **The deadline for submitting nominations is Sunday, April 18, 2021.** It is requested that you provide at least the name of the candidate you are recommending and his present place of ministry. The form requests additional information which will be helpful to the Call Committee and the Texas District Office if that information is available.

If you have questions, please do not hesitate to contact the church office or one of the Call Committee Members: Bill Dube, Brandon Kubitzka, Charlie Morgan, Brian Strickland, John Banta, Mark Borchardt, Darby Ehlers, Glenn Hurta, Eric King, Jeremy Lange, Jennifer Lynch, Vickie Savage. Please keep the Call Committee and the St. Paul Family in your prayer throughout the call process.

### ATTENTION ALL USHERS:

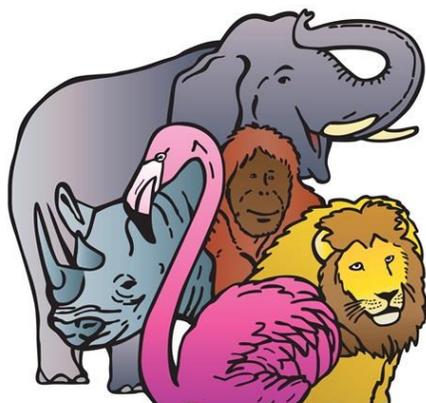
It has come to the attention of the Chairman of Ushers that we do not have current/correct contact information for many of the ushers. We have posted an update sheet in the Usher's closet in the Narthex. We are asking all ushers to please take a moment and verify or correct your contact information.

We also ask that the Head Usher for each of the groups verify that those listed for your group number are still serving, or add any new ushers to the group listing.

If you have any questions, please contact David Reinke, Chairman of Ushers, or contact the church office. We thank you for helping us keep current contact information on file.



We are tentatively planning a weekend retreat for high school youth in April 16-18, 2021. Please watch upcoming Sunday bulletins for information once all of the details have been finalized! If you have any questions, please contact Jerry Tucker.



### ZOO TRIP, SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021:

Children six months to six years and their parents are invited to join us Sunday, May 23rd for a trip to Cameron Park Zoo. Plan to gather at the church at 11:45 a.m. (following the 10:30 a.m. worship service). St. Paul will cover the admission to the zoo, we ask that parents pack a picnic lunch for their family to enjoy at the picnic area at the zoo playground. Look for a sign-up sheet in the foyer in the future. If you have any questions please contact DCE Intern Megan at [DCEMegan@gmail.com](mailto:DCEMegan@gmail.com) or by calling the church office (254.799.3211).

## New Church Plant in the Waco area

In 2020, the LCMS, Texas District, Circuit 18 churches began the process of looking at planting a new church in the Waco area. A Central Texas Mission Task Force was formed to include all these churches plus St. Paul, The Grove and Fortress, Harker Heights. The Task Force has met several times at St. Paul, Bellmead and officers were elected, Charlie Morgan, Chair, Jerry Tucker, Treasurer and Tim Jeske (Trinity, Waco), Secretary. Pastor Stephen Rynearson, Peace, Hewitt is the Pastoral Counselor for this mission. The task force has voted to move forward with this idea and Pastor Gerry Harrow, the current plant Pastor at Fortress, Harker Heights is the church planter for this mission. Below is a brief description of what is involved with this church plant.

1. Planter Pastor plants the church but does not become the full time Pastor of the planted church. (This church planting model is known as Apostolic versus the traditional church plant.)
2. Leaders and Pastor come from the membership of the planted church.
3. Timeline is about six months to one year from the beginning of the launch date to have a church with public worship.

On March 15, 2021, the St. Paul, Board of Directors voted to move forward with supporting this mission with financial help, prayers and office space for Pastor Gerry Harrow, when needed. More information will be forthcoming as this mission grows.

If anyone has questions, they may contact Charlie Morgan, Jerry Tucker or Pastor Krueger.

We are asking for your prayers for and support of this mission.

Your fellow servant in Christ,  
Charlie J. Morgan



## The Texas Ramp Project

Building Freedom for the Homebound in Communities Throughout Texas

The St. Paul Men's Club recently completed a ramp build for one of our church members to make it more accessible for the family. They are partnering with the Texas Ramp Project and will be building many more of these ramps in Waco and the surrounding areas in the near future. If you would like to be involved, please contact John Banta (254.218.2405) or Mike Jugert (254.749.7849).



# Children & Youth Activities

## COMMUNITY EASTER EGG HUNT

for Nursery thru 4th Grade

Saturday, April 3, 2021

9:30 a.m.

St. Paul Lutheran Church

1301 Hogan Lane • Waco (Bellmead), Texas 76705

(254) 799-3211

[www.splcwaco.com](http://www.splcwaco.com)

*Face Masks are optional, but suggested for everyone's safety.*



The hidden surprise in these sweet rolls hints at the reason behind Easter's joy.

### What you need:

- ½ cup chopped pecans
- 10 uncooked frozen rolls, thawed
- 10 large marshmallows
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 tsp cinnamon
- ½ cup melted butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- Adult help

### What you do:

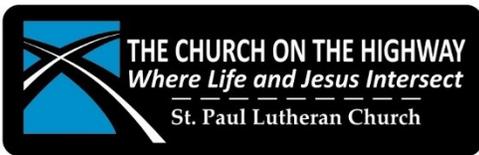
1. Grease a round baking dish. Sprinkle pecans on the bottom.
2. Flatten each roll. Place a marshmallow in the center, wrap dough around it and pinch edges together.
3. Combine sugar and cinnamon. Dip each roll into melted butter and coat with cinnamon-sugar. Place in pan, seam side down.
4. Sprinkle brown sugar and remaining butter over rolls. Cover with plastic wrap and let rise 30 minutes.
5. Bake at 350 degrees until golden brown, about 30 minutes. Cool in pan.
6. As you bite into a roll, you'll see the marshmallow has melted, leaving an empty center — just like Jesus' empty tomb!

## SAVE THE DATE

🔊 Youth Retreat - tentatively planned April 16-18, 2021. Details are still being finalized, watch for updates!

🔊 Nursery—Kindergarten Zoo Trip - May 23, 2021 (details on page 9)

If you have questions, would like to volunteer to help with events, or have ideas to share for possible future events, please contact DCE Intern, Megan Harcrow, Ashlee Peacock, or Jerry Tucker.



1301 Hogan Lane • Waco, Texas 76705

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Fax: 254.412.0529

www.splcwaco.com

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April 2021 Edition




**Live-stream Worship on Sunday mornings at 10:30 a.m. at [www.splcwaco.com](http://www.splcwaco.com) or on Facebook ([StPaulWaco](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulWaco)).**  
(Archived copies of Sunday morning worship are available on the web site.)



**Join Us For Holy Week And Easter**

- April 1 – Maundy Thursday Worship**  
12:00pm & 6:30pm (Holy Communion, both services)
- April 2 – Good Friday Worship**  
12:00pm & 7:30pm (Holy Communion, both services)
- April 3 – Community Easter Egg Hunt**  
9:30am  
(Egg Hunt for Nursery through 4th Grade students)
- April 4 – Easter Sunday Worship**  
6:30am - Sunrise Worship  
8:00am - Easter Worship  
10:30am - Easter Worship