

STATISTICS	ATTENDANCE	
02/01/2026	10:00 A	No Church
02/08/2026	10:00 A	86
02/15/2026	10:00 A	75
02/22/2026	10:00 A	75

STEWARDSHIP	OFFERING	
02/01/2026	Current	\$ No Church
02/08/2026	Current	\$ 5,702.00
02/15/2026	Current	\$ 3,947.00
02/22/2026	Current	\$ 1,913.00

ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE – USPS 965680  
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 TO: ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
 10 WEST 31ST STREET  
 SAVANNAH, GA 31401



# St. Paul's Epistle

March 4, 2026

## Word from Our Pastor

We of course are now into the Lenten season with daytime services at 11am in the Chapel.

Many give something up for Lent which is fine as long as you attach some meaningful reason for the sacrifice. Another option would be not to give something up but add something new to your life.

Perhaps reading a new book, making a new friend, eating something you never ate before. Praying to say thank you and not just in our time of need.

My garage door decided not to work the other night so I called a company to help out. They came and almost immediately found the problem. A leaf covered up the sensor desgned to stop me from being crushed. It worked perfectly as it was desgned. Something was in the way of it closing so it wouldn't close.

It is often the smallest thing that we overlook that causes us to call for assistance. In the same way god wants to help us in our daily life.

Nothing is to small or trivial for God. God has qite literally heard and seen it all. Don't let something small become something big. Tell someone and especially tell God. Lent is a time t reflect and take a closer look at who we are and what we can potentially be. For God, the door to real peace and joy is always open. Pjh

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**Important Phone Numbers**  
 Pastor Hartmann (Cell) 912-713-7145  
 Donald Martin (Cell) 912-659-8157  
 Like us on Facebook...Search "Saint Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church"  
 Email: [saintpauls@bellsouth.net](mailto:saintpauls@bellsouth.net) Instagram: @StPaulsLutheran

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## First Communion

First Communion class for children will be on Palm Sunday 29 March at 9am in the Chapel.

First Communion will be on Maundy Thursday at 6:30 pm service 2 April 2026.

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**Congregation Council** met Thursday, February 19<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM. President, Joey Barnard called the meeting to order with officers Kim Screen and Donald Maritn present. Pastor Hartmann offered prayer and Craig Conaway offered a devotion on “Ged’s Protection”. Also in attendance were Alex Renalt and Richard Wolf with Ricky Truluck, Donna Wall and Erin Foose excused for personal and/or health concerns at this time. Day Care / Preschool Committee Chair Janet Gnann also was present to offer a preschool report.

Pastor presented his monthly report consisting of normal home, hospital and nursing facility visitations; pre-marriage counseling appointments, the wedding of Carol Stemsrud, and funerals for Elsa Oshiek, Bill Mintz Sr., and Miriam Fulton. Additional Sunday and Lenten service preparation as well as confirmation classes and St. Patrick’s Day parking were also reported upon.

Donald Martin presented a brief Music Department report consisting of preparations for Lent, Palm Sunday’s Cantata and Holy Week / Easter service schedules.

Donald also reported that weekly attendance is averaging 70-80 per week with about 100 persons viewing the weekly service either live or re-broadcast via our Facebook page. Additionally, he noted that weekly offerings still do not support the weekly operational budget needs leaving a \$10,000 to \$15,000 monthly deficit. Finally, he reported the financial condition of the congregation with monetary account balances as follows:

Bank of America	Operations	\$ 28,209.22
Truist Bank	Operations Cash Reserve/Spec. Funds	\$ 20,200.23
Truist Endowment Account.	Unrestricted Operations Reserve	\$ 973,801.35
Truist Endowments (8) Accts.	Restricted Endowment Funds	\$ 979,134.86
Truist Day Care	Operations	\$ 2,558.17
Truist Day Care	Savings	\$ 9,225.21
WELCA Account	Welca Funds	\$ 10,298.19

Janet Gnann presented the Preschool Report with 39 children currently enrolled with a total staff and teachers of 14. We have two new families registered to begin in March with there remaining a high demand for infant care. Beginning in April, we will begin a three-week enrollment campaign using USA Today / Savannah Morning News print and mass media digital advertising in order to boost total enrollment.

## Prayer Requests

**Our Prayers are requested for:** Kristin Aspaas, Kevin Boatright, Delores Boatright, Angie Briggs, Florence Brown, Tom Brown, Jean Camp, Alice Ann Duggar, David Fennell, George Flathmann, Mike Frederick, Frances Graff, Louise Grotheer, Mike Hatfil, Gene Henry, Don Kennedy, Diane Martin, Raymond Martin, Mario Morin, Sydney Oetgen, Al Schunemann, Kay Sellman, Isabelle Shearouse, Debbie Sonnenschmidt, Barbara & Tim Tyson, Melissa Waller, Michelle Ward, Joe Whitaker, Lea Wright and Alan Wyatt.

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## WELCA

WELCA is collecting for The Fresh Air Home and animal shelters for the months of March and April.

For the animal shelter – heating pads, Fancy Feast kitten pate, non-scented baby wipes, kitten bottle feeding kits, dog treats, cat treats, catnip, cardboard egg cartons, Timothy hay, small animal bedding, rabbit and guinea pig treats, Kongs, Nylabones, nonfat yogurt, low sodium chicken broth, any type cat or dog food, metal cat bowls, and dog slow feeders.

For The Fresh Air Home – monetary donations, you can go to the Fresh Air Home website and check out their Amazon wish lists for the nurse, housekeeping, or recreation or check the Narthex for a list.

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## March Altar Guild

Candy Green and Alison Gaudry

## Communion Assistants

Janet Gnann and Lisa Neville

## Lectors

## Greeters

Feb. 01	Chuck McCallar	Lisa Neville
Feb. 08	Mary Gail Wolf	Donna Wall
Feb. 15	Alex Renelt	Martha McCallar
Feb. 22	Hunter Hadden	Hunter Hadden
Feb. 29	Becky Truluck	Michelle & Jim Ward

## Volunteers Needed

**Altar Guild** - help set communion up before services. If you are interested, please contact Betsy Martin @ 912-655-8155.

**Lectors/Communion Assistants** - anyone interested please contact Janet Gnann @ 912-656-5771

**Ushers** – anyone interested please contact Ricky Neville @ (912)355-1601

**Acolytes & Crucifers** – interested youth should contact Debra Barnard at 912-228-0200

**Altar Flowers** Sandfly Flower Shop will now be handling our altar arrangements. If you are interested in placing flowers on the altar, please contact Sherill Martin, 912-677-6115. If the date is available, the donor will be responsible for calling the florist prior to the date and making the payment.

**Greeters** – anyone interested should contact Donna Wall at 912-604-0511.

## **Minutes con't**

In property, Richard Wolf presented an overall assessment of the facilities conditions and informed council we will have another Saturday Work Day on March 7 beginning at 9:00 AM to clean and change HVAC filters, attend to lighting issues and to trim and clean the courtyard along with miscellaneous maintenance issues.

Additionally, we are awaiting the replacement of two iVue HVAC controllers which will allow for the remote control of air conditioning and heating for the Parish Building and Hoffner Hall. Currently, this is not affecting day to day operations but needs to be corrected moving forward.

At this time the original Otis elevator remains out of service due to the lack of available parts. We will continue to explore alternate methods for repair, but it will remain down for the present time. Steeple repair and maintenance considerations for the most cost-effective way of approaching the water intrusion issues remains active. We will have more to report as we move through the spring.

In Worship and Music, it was discussed returning to the altar for periodic Communion offering, but following a lengthy discussion, at this time, it was felt by council that the current method of weekly Communion at the base of the Chancel would continue for the near future.

There was no Old Business to come before the council at this meeting.

In New Business, the status of the day care program was discussed. At the heart of this discussion was the question put to council of the Day Care and Preschool being a “mission or outreach” evangelism program of the church

After a brief discussion, it was unanimously decided that is most definitely is an outreach and extension of the ministries of this church, and as such, would qualify for a portion of the evangelism funds being held in the restricted Barnes-Oliff Evangelism endowment if needed moving forward.

As such, a motion was made by Richard Wolf and seconded by Kim Screen to extend up to \$30,000.00 from this fund held in trust to the Day Care / Preschool as needed for continuance and development of this successful and necessary outreach mission of the church. Upon discussion and vote, the motion passed unanimously.

There being no further business, council adjourned with prayer from pastor Hartmann at 7:19PM.

Respectfully Submitted, Donald Martin, Jr, Treasurer / CFO  
Acting Secretary for Donna Wall

# March 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>1 Lent 2</b> 9:00 A Sunday School 10:00 A Holy Communion	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 11:00A Lent 2 Service 6:00 P Circle 19 6:00 P Choir	<b>5</b> 9:00A Craft Group	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> * Articles for the Epistle must be in the Church Office to make the mail- out by the following Wednesday
<b>8 Lent 3</b> 9:00 A Sunday School 10:00 A Holy Communion 5:00 P Savannah Men's Chorale Concert and reception	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> 11:00A Lent 3 Service 6:00 P Choir	<b>12</b> 9:00A Craft Group 5:30 P Lenten Fish Fry	<b>13</b> 12:00 Noon tc / Wayfarers	<b>14</b>
<b>15 Lent 4</b> 9:00 A Sunday School 10:00 A Holy Communion	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> <b>St. Patrick's Day</b>  <b>Church Office            closed</b>	<b>18</b> 11:00A Lent 4 Service 6:00 P Choir	<b>19</b> 9:00A Craft Group 5:30P Exec.Comm. 6:00P Church Council	<b>20</b> <b>* EPISTLE DEADLINE</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>22 Lent 5</b> 9:00 A Sunday School 10:00 A Holy Communion	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b> 11:00A Lent 5 Service 6:00 P Choir	<b>26</b> 9:00A Craft Group	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>29 Palm Sunday</b> 9:00 A Sunday School 10:00 A Cantata	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			<b>HAPPY BIRTHDAY!</b> Marlis Froistad 3/02 Virginia Henderson 3/22 Betty Porter 3/25	



# St. Paul's Lenten & Holy Week Services 2026

## Wednesday's In Lent

February 25th  
March 4th, 11th, 18th & 25th  
at 11:00 AM In the Henry Black Chapel

## Palm Sunday Cantata

Morning Services  
March 29th at 10:00 AM  
In the Sanctuary

## Maundy Thursday

April 2nd  
at 11:00 AM In the Henry Black Chapel  
& 6:30 PM In the Sanctuary

## Good Friday

April 3rd  
at 11:00 AM In the Henry Black Chapel  
& 7:00 PM In the Sanctuary

## Easter Sunday

April 5th at 10:00 AM  
Coffee & Juice with Pastries at 9AM  
In Hoffner Hall



## SUNDAY, MARCH 8 Savannah Men's Chorale

In Concert at 5:00 PM  
In Our Sanctuary  
"Welcome The Stranger"

A Choral Concert Benefiting "Inspiritus"



## "Lenten Fish Fry" THURSDAY MARCH 12th

HOFFNER HALL 5:30PM  
FRIED FISH & FIXINGS



### ORDER YOUR EASTER LILY

We would like all of our members to have an opportunity to place an Easter Lily in the church this Easter in honor and/or in memory of loved ones.

The plants will be ordered through Oelschig's Nursery at a cost of \$ 15.00. This price includes tax and delivery. If you would like to place an Easter lily, please complete the form below and return to the Church office no later than March 30, 2026.

PLEASE ATTACH YOUR CHECK MADE PAYABLE  
TO :

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

I/We wish to donate an Easter Lily which will adorn the chancel for the Easter Services to the Glory of God and:

In Honor of

\_\_\_\_\_

Or  
In Memory of

\_\_\_\_\_

Given By

\_\_\_\_\_

(List exactly as you want it shown in the bulletin)