



St. Paul Lutheran Church
MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA
FOUNDED 1897

The Epistle

Volume 23 Issue 3
March 2024



Maybe it's always been this way?

One of the most fascinating social experiments I have ever come across offers its subjects one simple prompt: Tell us what you were doing when the World Trade Center was attacked on 9/11. The survey, led by NYU psychologist Elizabeth Phelps, was at the heart of a podcast by Malcom Gladwell – “Revisionist History: Free Brian Williams.” What sets this survey apart is that it was not a one-and-done, rather people were reinterviewed over the course of several years and given the same prompt again and again.

It had long been thought that memories, particularly ones that are tragic or important, leave an indelible, photographic-like record in the brain. However, a curious thing happened when the subjects told their stories – they changed. Sometimes it was a small detail, like what they were wearing. At other times it involved replacing or rearranging where they were, who they were with, and what they were doing. And every time they were interviewed, almost to a person, the subjects remained completely sure that the story they were telling on that particular day was undoubtedly the way it happened – full stop.

Maybe its always been this way? That memories shift and change, particularly in remembering things beyond simply the broad-strokes. If so, then its little wonder why we have four gospels that tell the story of Christ somewhat differently. One of those stories of difference: How Jesus calls his disciples. Mark, Matthew, and Luke share a lot, they are collectively called the synoptic Gospels, and the differences tend to be minor or reflective of the community's emphasis in remembering the

story of Jesus. In the synoptics, the call of Jesus' first disciples goes something like this – He comes to the shore of Galilee and directly calls his first disciples, notably Simon Peter as chief among them, and offers them some version of a promise to make them fishers of people.

But if you noticed not every Gospel is a synoptic class Gospel – the cheese stands alone. John's Gospel was written last, sometime between 90-110 A.D. It is the most unique by far. Jesus is different. His words are different. His actions are different. Although, in-total, it is the story of the Son of God; who becomes incarnate, who teaches, works signs, and dies on a cross for the sins of the world, and rises to destroy sin and death. It is the Good News like the rest after all. However, when Jesus calls Simon and the other first disciples there is one key difference – **Jesus doesn't actually call them.** (John 1)

John the Baptist proclaims Jesus the Lamb of God, come to take away the sin of the world. After two of John's disciples hear him say this, they begin to follow Jesus. One of them is Andrew, brother of Simon Peter, who witnesses to his brother that he has seen the Messiah and calls Simon Peter to follow Jesus. The next day, Jesus does call Phillip directly. And what does Phillip do first off? Tells Nathaniel who Jesus is and calls him to follow.

Why a different remembrance of the same event? Consider this: when John is being written, its likely no one left standing has actually known Jesus directly - unlike those who remembered Jesus in-person and told and wrote what would become the synoptics.

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WEDNESDAYS DURING
Lent

Wednesdays in Lent
March 6th, 13th and 20th

Early Worship 5:35 PM
in the sanctuary

Soup and bread supper 6:00 PM
in the fellowship hall

Who is Jesus? Study 6:35 PM
in the fellowship hall

Vespers 7:00 PM in the sanctuary



Dinner Church
Maundy Thursday
5:45p - 6:45p
@stpaulmorgantown

RSVP by March 25th



Worship Schedule for
Holy Week

Maundy Thursday

Dinner Church in Fellowship Hall
5:45-6:45 PM

Traditional Worship in the Nave
7:00-8:00 PM

There will be foot washing &
communion at both

Good Friday

Service of the Word with 7 Last Words
of Christ
3:00 PM and 7:00 PM

Easter Sunday

Music
9:30 - 10:00 AM

Worship
10:00 AM

NEW OFFICERS

New Council Officers for 2024

President— Bill Graham

Vice President— Lillian Stevens

Secretary— Jennifer Reed

Treasurer— Joanne Seasholtz

Financial Secretary— Sue Cook

Jennifer Reed is a new member of Council.

Congratulations to all, and thank you!



From the Piece Makers

According to the old saying “March comes in like a Lion and goes out like a Lamb.” This past winter the weather has been a bit strange and likely not to fulfill the old saying. “A stitch in time saves nine,” is another old saying. Are you able to thread a needle? If you can the quilters need your help.

While the quilters have been able to work each Friday this past winter we have quite a number of quilts that need to be completed. We are in need of help. Come join us on Fridays from 10-2 and join in the fellowship to help others. The need is great and so is the reward for the Piece Makers, you and those in need throughout the world.



Brian Fox, son of Sharon and Dana Fox, has retired from the Air Force after 24 years.

His new address:

Brian and Dawn Fox

1625 Nazareth Farm Road

Salem, WV 2339

Congratulations, Brian!



Good times at the Empty Bowls luncheon!

Thank you to everyone from St. Paul who helped: volunteers at the luncheon, people who donated cookies and bread, the Parking Committee for their donation, and everyone who bought tickets.



Monthly cleaning sign ups are now in the narthex.



Please consider signing up to help keep our building clean.

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Everyone in the Johannine community is there because they were called by Christ... but **indirectly through someone else**. Maybe it's always been this way? The way most have been called to know Christ (past, present and future) has been by someone else's invitation and witness. Maybe, at least according to John, it's been like that all along.

So often, we wonder what it would be like to be Peter on the boat, hearing from Jesus directly as he says, "Follow me." John gives us a moment to wonder too. But not what it was like to be Peter, rather what might we be like as Andrew – running to our brothers and sisters to share the good news of the Messiah and being the ones to say, "Follow Him."

Yours In Christ,

Pastor Tony

Order your
Easter lilies by
Sunday, March
3rd!

\$20 per lily

Please make
checks out to
Coombs Flowers



To order, contact the church office
(304)599-0620

office@stpaulmorgantown.org

Serving in



SERVING ST PAUL March 2024	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR	USHER	COUNTERS	BROADCAST
3rd 10:00 AM	S. Woodruff	M. Boroff	L. Springer	M. Boroff L. Stevens	Peters
10th 10:00 AM	V. Sandolfini	Deacon Sanders	S. McEwuen	D. Stiles S. Woodruff	M. Boroff
17th 10:00 AM	M. Grimm	S. McEwuen	D. Custer	M. Suder J. Reed	Peters
24th 10:00 AM Palm Sunday	S. McEwuen	B. Parsons	W. Graham	J. Sandolfini L. Naumann	S. Setley
31st 10:00 AM Easter	S. Setley	L. Naumann	L. Springer	C. Henry M. Peters	C. Wertz

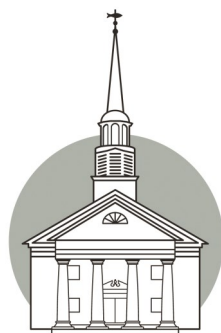
	Lay Assistant	Lector	Usher	Zoom
Maundy Thursday March 28 7:00 PM	M. Haas	S. McEwuen	W. Graham	C. Wertz
Good Friday March 29 7:00 PM	M. Sampson	*****	S. McEwuen	M. Boroff

MARCH



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>3</p> <p>9:00 AM Sunday School and Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service 5:00 PM Mon Orchestra</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study 5:00 PM Youth Orchestra</p>	<p>6</p> <p>5:35 PM Early Service 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Vespers</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p> <p>10:00 AM Piecemakers</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>9:00 AM Sunday School and Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study 5:00 PM Youth Orchestra</p>	<p>13</p> <p>5:35 PM Early Service 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Vespers</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayerful Walkers 7:00 PM Council</p>	<p>15</p> <p>10:00 AM Piecemakers</p>	<p>16</p> <p>9:30 AM WV-WMD Synod Council</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:00 AM Sunday School and Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service 5:00 PM Mon Orchestra</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study</p>	<p>20</p> <p>5:35 PM Early Service 6:00 PM Soup Supper 7:00 PM Vespers</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:00 AM Prayerful Walkers 7:00 PM Suncrest Neighborhood</p>	<p>22</p> <p>10:00 AM Piecemakers</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Shop baskets</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Palm Sunday 9:00 AM Sunday School and Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:00 AM Pack Baskets 3:30 PM Circle of Friends 5:00 PM Mon Orchestra</p>	<p>25</p> <p>Deliver baskets 6:00 PM PEO</p>	<p>26</p> <p>10:00 AM Bible Study 5:00 PM Youth Orchestra</p>	<p>27</p> <p>12:00 PM Volunteer at Scott's Run</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Maundy Thursday 9:00 AM Prayerful Walkers 5:45 PM Dinner Church 7:00 PM Traditional Worship</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Good Friday 3:00 PM Service of the Word 7:00 PM Service of the Word</p>	<p>30</p> <p>9:00 AM Lutheran Men in Mission @ Eat'n Park</p>
<p>31</p> <p>Easter Day 9:30 AM Special Music 10:00 AM Worship Service</p>						

Reminder: Deadline for April newsletter is March 28th!!!



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The **Epistle** is a publication from:
St. Paul Lutheran Church,
Morgantown, WV
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Officers Of The Congregation

President: Bill Graham
Vice President: Lillian Stevens
Secretary: Jennifer Reed
Treasurer: Joanne Seasholtz
Financial Secretary: Sue Cook

Council Members

Mary Haas	Grethe Myles	Lillian Stevens
Lindsey Naumann	Steve Woodruff	Joanne Seasholtz
Jennifer Reed	Bill Graham	Mike Peters