



the St. Paul  
**SEED PACKET**  
your monthly guide to  
sowing the seed of relationship

### Monthly Highlights for May

- ✝ National Day of Prayer – May 6
- ✝ Mother's Day – May 9
- ✝ School Awards, Kindergarten Bridging Ceremony  
& Last Day of School – May 21
- ✝ Closing of the School Year, 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduation,  
& Confirmation – May 23 (10 AM)
- ✝ Semi-Annual Voters Assembly  
– May 25 (7 PM)
- ✝ Memorial Day – May 31 (*Church & School Offices Closed*)



**At St. Paul, we C.A.R.E.**  
**We are “Cultivating Awesome Relationships for Eternity!”**  
**And one way we do that is by**  
**“Personalizing a Christ-Centered Education**  
**that Develops the Whole Child.”**

## ***Treasures Make Ministry Possible***

Dear Christian Friends!

Further in this *SeedPacket*, you will read written by our Treasurer, Janice Denney: “Ministry and outreach allow us to invest our God-given time, talents and treasures to further His kingdom.” We look forward to the ministry of SPLCS with the adoption of our 2021-2022 Financial Plan. Very simply: we look toward carrying out \$1.2 million dollars’ worth of ministry. That much ministry indeed requires all three dimensions of the time-honored phrase: “time, talent and treasures.”

Operating a congregation with a parochial school as her primary mission, those “treasures” come to us from three main sources: congregational offerings from both members and supporters (their tithes and other offerings); the Parental Investment in Education made by our school families (you may better understand that by the label of “tuition”); and, then, literally everything else that adds up to support our ministry ... a financial source often referenced as “third-source” funding.

There are many “third-sources” – Janice mentions two in her article: growth on the investment of funds from the Barbara Young Estate; and the PPP (Paycheck Protection Program), from which we have been blessed to receive slightly more than \$300,000; to date, over half of that has been forgiven.

We also have reserve funds of over \$3 million dollars in whole invested with Thrivent, FSI of Mutual Savings, and the Trust Company of Kansas – funds which came to us as the beneficiary of the yet-pending final dissolution of Pin Oak Acres Apartments, Inc. These monies are invested for perpetuity as a funding source from which we will be able to capture future growth.

For all of that, we praise the Lord, thanking Him for providing wise and generous stewards in years past, whose beneficence will bless our ministry (and those we reach with the Good News) for years to come.

But, there is more: third-source funding will be explored on a large scale by our School Ministry Team as they look for grants, awards and supplemental fund-raising. Our ministry is also supported in smaller ways that together add up to something larger. For Thrivent members, directing Choice Dollars (money that you give that, literally, doesn’t cost you a single cent!) to SPLCS can be done no matter where you live or hold church membership. For information on this annually-renewable program, contact your Thrivent representative.

There’s Amazon’s Smile program: just establish your account and each time you make an Amazon purchase, a percentage of the price (at no cost to you) is directed to SPLCS. It’s more-or-less the same as the Community Rewards program of Dillon Food Stores: you shop, and they send us money! This past quarter, from 28 registered users, we were given \$116.45. And, because many of you bring empty ink or toner cartridges to us (and we recycle them with Staples), we just purchased a new 22” monitor (regularly \$149) for \$109 – but, with our Staples Rewards, we paid only \$14.99. Monica Collins is ready to tell you about “Flip Give” and how it benefits SPLCS ... just ask her. *And, Ladies Aid still receives funding from those who support them with their Best Choice purchases.*

What I’m saying is this: from “free money” to large estates and other proceeds (even from the widow’s mite), our treasures are used to support the ministry of “Cultivating Awesome Relationships for Eternity!” ... and of “Personalizing a Christ-Centered Education that Develops the Whole Child.”

Blessings,





# Principal Ponderings

If – no, not if, but – *when* you see me on my phone during Pastor Ed’s sermon on Sundays, rest assured I’m not playing a game, not on Facebook, not reading email, not sending/answering texts, not downloading a new app, or any of the other myriad of ways we use our cell phones. It is useful for looking up Bible passages and for taking sermon notes. This helps me reflect on what is being said and meditate on these words throughout the week. Taking notes is a good way for me to keep focused on God’s Word and how it applies to me. Making it personal is a step toward making my life more Christ-like (although I’ll never be perfect in this life). In his sermons there is always what I call a “challenge.” What can I do today to make my life fuller of love and good works, more of Christ living through me? This motivation is not rooted in fear that if I don’t do something God will love me less. It is, however, rooted in faith. Faith in Jesus, along with Pastor’s words, motivate me to be an example of Christ’s love to others. It motivates me to trust in His promises for all aspects of my life. It motivates me to be a doer and not simple a hearer. So, thank you Pastor, for putting Hebrews 10:24 into action for me! *“Let us think of ways to motivate one another to acts of love and good works.”* Therefore, let me also be an encourager for others to show love and acts of kindness. Would you care to join me in that? *To God be the glory!*

In Christ,

Cindy Hammons, Principal ✝

**GRADUATIONS:** On May 21, during our Awards Ceremony, we will recognize our Kindergarten students as they Bridge to 1<sup>st</sup> Grade. This important event culminates their early childhood learning which has them prepared for entering elementary school. On Sunday, May 23, we will graduate five students who have completed all the requirements of 8<sup>th</sup> Grade and will enter high school for the 2021-2022 school year. *If you would like to leave a card for any of these students, please place it in the basket in the entry-area of the Sanctuary.*

Kindergarten Bridging Students: Charli Avenenti, Christopher Brooks, Cristiana Castro, Willie Harris, Thomas Hester, Vivian Horvatic, Crystal Hurt, Kennedy Lewis, Camden Pitt, Colton Summers, Joseph Theriot, Aurora Young

8<sup>th</sup> Grade Graduates: Samantha Brackney, Kyren Brown, Markus Collis, Ethan Davis, Hope Harman

**CONFIRMATIONS:** Also on Sunday, May 23, we will have two Confirmations: Samantha Brackney and Markus Collins. *You may also leave a card for these students in the basket in the entry-area of the Sanctuary.*

**WE’RE HAVING A FIELD DAY!** May 17 is scheduled for our spring K-8 field day. We look forward to enjoying the weather and our bodies’ abilities to run, jump, and move. On May 19, K-8 will run the mile. You are invited to line the route (the block on which the school sits) to cheer on the runners! Look for pictures on our Facebook page and on Sunday morning.

**THE SCHOOL MINISTRY TEAM** is looking for individuals who would be willing to help the school with grant writing and third-source funding opportunities. If you are interested in helping in either of these ways (or know someone who might be), please contact Mrs. Hammons or a member of the School Ministry Team (John Denney, Darl Summers, Monica Collins, Eric Rathburn).

### St. Paul Lutheran Church & School

7<sup>th</sup> St. (from Miami to Osage), Leavenworth, KS 66048  
(913) 682-0387 Church, (913) 682-5553 School  
(913) 682-1139 Church Fax  
Business e-mail: [office@splcs.org](mailto:office@splcs.org)  
Web Page: [www.stpaul-lcms.org](http://www.stpaul-lcms.org)



#### OFFICE HOURS

Church Office: Mon. – Fri., 8 AM – 3 PM  
School Office: Mon. – Fri. 8 AM – 3:30 PM

#### HOURS OF WORSHIP & STUDY

Sunday Morning Worship: 10 AM

"In-Person" in the Sanctuary & Via Both: Facebook Live

([www.facebook.com/friendsofsplcs](http://www.facebook.com/friendsofsplcs))

& KKLO (Radio 1410 AM)

\* For Small Group Schedule, call Church Office

Rev. Ed Mease, Sr. Pastor

Cindy Hammons, Principal

Suzie Lawson, Marketing Coordinator

Karen Jessup, Extended Care Director

Dawn Booth, Church Secretary

Chyza Nelson, School Secretary

Matthew Denney, Church Custodian

David Behmke & Tim Summers, School Custodians

Michelle Denney, Worship Tech

Daniel Mease, Webmaster

#### Teachers

Leonora Feldman

Lori Hunter

Debbie Martini

Sally Niemann

Glenn Owen

Susan Wells

#### Aides

Kayla Andruk

Johanna Poore

Julia Motley

#### MINISTRY DIRECTORS

President: Ed Dane

Vice President: Del Housworth

Secretary: Anna Foster

Treasurer: Janice Denney

#### At-Large Ministry Directors:

Fred Berg, Rhonda Crute, Susan Grace

Sue Klotz, Vanda McGraw

#### Member Care Ministry Team

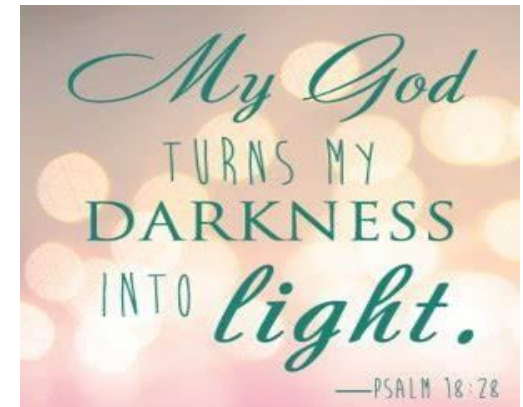
Velma Bass, Gwen Erzen, Lynn Genter, Brenda Goebel,

Margaret Hanawalt, Virginia Harth,

Janet Jackson-Knight, Kathy Johnson, Pat King,

Becca Mease, Cheryl & Tom Orlowski, Mary Rogers,

Angie Schwalm, Roxie Summers, Rosie Wells & Pastor Ed



#### PAUL'S BUFFET VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

May 15 & June 19

Carry-Out Only

If interested in helping,  
contact Kathy Johnson,  
at: 913-669-7043. ☩



*Life Quotes  
from  
Lutherans  
For Life*

"God has placed each of us here at this very moment in time for His purpose: to be lights in the darkness, to be warriors in His battles, to be the hands and feet and voices that bring the good news of salvation to the whole lost world. He asks us to strengthen our feeble arms and weak knees, to open our mouths to the words He will give to us, and to run the race to the finish line." – *Dr. Barbara Lane Geistfeld, Regional Director of Texas for Lutherans for Life – A "Life Quote" from Lutherans For Life.* [www.lutheransforlife.org](http://www.lutheransforlife.org) ☩





**Treasurer's Report**

**Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!** These words from Psalm 150:6 certainly proclaim the thankfulness we share that our Lord has provided for us in many ways – including financially. If your home is anything like mine, it can be hard to focus on much else if finances are tight. Conversely, any security we feel with finances allows us to expand our thoughts not only to thankfulness but also to possibilities. The possibilities of increased outreach to friends, family, and neighbors. The outreach that occurs through our church, our school, and each of us individually. **Let everything that has breath praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!**

Ministry and outreach allow us to invest our God-given time, talents and treasures to further His kingdom. Below you will see a recap of treasury matters.

St. Paul is using investment growth from the Barbara Young Estate funds, residing in an account with Edward Jones, to supplement tithes and offerings which fund our ministry goals. The amount of growth used thus far is \$370,000.

The PPP Loan of \$168,797.50 received in Spring 2020 was forgiven by the Small Business Administration (SBA) on December 23, 2020, which means we do not have to pay back the loan. A second round of PPP Loans was available this spring. St. Paul applied, and was approved, for a second loan of \$139,480.70. These funds will be used for payroll expenses and utilities just like the proceeds of the first loan.

The Semi-Annual Voters Assembly is scheduled for Tuesday, May 25, at 7 PM. The Financial Plan for fiscal year 2021-2022 will be presented for voters' approval. Please pick up a copy of the proposed budget from the Church Office or in the Sanctuary after May 16.

Janice Denney, Treasurer ✝



**BACKPACK BUDDIES**

**BECAUSE HUNGER DOESN'T STOP ON THE WEEKENDS**

*Leavenworth Backpack Buddies*

*Buddies*



*Dear Friends,  
Thank you for your generous donation of \$1,135 to Leavenworth Backpack Buddies. This gift will provide healthy weekend food for more than 60 local kids. When school meals aren't available, backpack food helps to sustain children over the weekend. I'm sure it also helps their peace of mind knowing they have backpack food. Thanks for all you do!  
Sincerely,  
Judy Obvery, B.P.D.*

## NEWS FROM OUR LADIES AID

### Lutheran Women's Missionary League

Here comes May ... and here comes our annual treat: Pastor Ed will be our host at the Wednesday, May 5, meeting of Ladies Aid. We gather in the Church Basement at 1 PM; he always has a good surprise for us. (*We missed out last year: it's hard to have a surprise when you're on ZOOM.*)

Since a gentleman is our host, we move away from strong women of the Bible for one month as we prepare to answer roll call: this month, we'll read about how Simeon impresses us: read Luke 2:25-35. (As our program booklet says, perhaps you might say something about how Pastor Ed impresses you, too.)

Our group would like to thank two members of the family of Margaret LeBreton for the memorial they gave us in her honor. She was indeed a special part of our group, and some of us remember the laughter when three former employees of the Leavenworth Water Department would sit together at our meetings. Sometimes we had to separate Margaret, Sue Talbot, and Anna Marie Jordan just to keep the level of giggles down.

Pastor Ed usually has quizzes and/or informational questions ready for us related to his refreshments and decor so the business meeting will follow that activity. Christian Growth leader Connie Denney (her second organizational hat) says that we will definitely get out of the laundry room in June. She will have a NEW Bible study available for us at the June 2 meeting. This month Brenda Goebel will our Bible study leader.

We will receive offerings for Mites (they haven't gone down a bit even though we hadn't been meeting regularly); we will receive offerings for our LeadAChild support (that hasn't gone down, either), and we will hear a report from the April 10 Zone event held at Beautiful Savior in Olathe. Three of our members were able to attend.

Next month we will be 150 years old. That's a LOT of years of serving the Lord with gladness! We extend an open invitation for ANY woman (spouses are welcome, too) to attend to join our fellowship, study, and mission support. Call President Connie (913-547-2300 -- her first organizational hat) for more information. ☩



### Our May "Mission of the Month"

Kick Off is Mother's Day – May 9  
Closing is Father's Day – June 20

You will be asked to take a baby bottle home on Mother's Day (May 9), and save spare change, bills or checks in the baby bottle over the next few weeks. Optional prayers are included in the bottle and you are encouraged to say them. On Father's Day (June 20), the filled baby bottles will be returned to the Sanctuary and the donations collected will be sent to KFL. ☩

# STEPHEN MINISTRY

## “People of Refuge”

Years ago, at one of our Stephen Ministry support meetings, we watched a Chuck Swindoll video, “People of Refuge.” In this video, Swindoll used Psalm 31 as the text to explain about suffering and the need for a “refuge.” He listed three reasons for the suffering that we go through on this earth. In verse 9 of Psalm 31, David says he is in “distress; my eyes grow weak with sorrow, my soul and body with grief.” David speaks of the guilt of his sin in verse 10 and the stress he feels because of all his adversaries in verses 11-13. All of the reasons that David listed as reasons for needing a refuge are also reasons for *us* to need a refuge. (“In You, O Lord, I have taken a refuge; let me never be put to shame; deliver me in Your righteousness.” Verse 1)

Chuck Swindoll went on to tell his audience that we need to be “People of Refuge” – we need to be those who are “there for” others in time of need. We need to be the “someone who cares – someone who is willing to stoop” to help someone who can’t quite make it on his or her own. Jesus gave that example to His disciples as He washed their feet and told them to be servants, also. Swindoll also repeated the phrase “a shared sorrow is half a sorrow” several times on the video. When we take the time to listen to someone in need and share their burden, we lighten their load of sorrow.

This is what Stephen Ministry is all about – sharing the load of someone else – helping their sorrow to be “half a sorrow.” Stephen Ministers are trained to listen and “be there” for their “care receivers.” We presently have five active Stephen Ministers: Pam Floetke, Helen Genter, Lynn Genter, Margaret Hanawalt, and Eric Rathburn. Helen and Eric also serve as our Leaders. Some of these Stephen Ministers are not presently assigned to a “care receiver” (in other words, we have Stephen Ministers available, if you would like to have someone visit with you). For the last number of years, our number of active Stephen Ministers has dropped drastically. We are looking for people who would be willing to consider becoming a Stephen Minister. It is a truly rewarding ministry. The training is something that can be used for your entire life, regardless of how long you serve as a Stephen Minister.

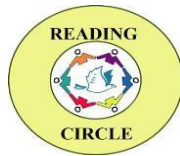
***An important thing for all to remember about Stephen Ministers: We can’t contact you to start visiting you. You have to make a request to have a Stephen Minister call on you. The process is completely confidential and can be activated by contacting Pastor Ed or one of our Leaders. (See contact information below.) Once a Stephen Minister is assigned to you, you and the Stephen Minister make arrangements for how often you visit with one another and where you have your visits.***

If you have a friend or relative who you believe would benefit from Stephen Ministry, please suggest it to him or her. Women are matched with female Stephen Ministers; and men are matched with male Stephen Ministers.

**Contact: Pastor Ed: (913) 758-7624; [pastor@splcs.org](mailto:pastor@splcs.org) – or one of our Stephen Leaders:  
Helen Genter (913) 775-0710; [lgenter63@gmail.com](mailto:lgenter63@gmail.com); or  
Eric Rathburn (913) 221-2411; [rathburneric@gmail.com](mailto:rathburneric@gmail.com).**

**Let’s all practice being “People of Refuge” – someone who is willing to listen  
and share the load of another!**





In our book for May, we are taken to the February 1945 Yalta Conference where tensions threatened to tear apart the wartime alliance of Roosevelt, Churchill, and Stalin just as victory was close at hand. In Daughters of Yalta, author Catherine Grace Katz uncovers the dramatic story of the three young women who were chosen by their fathers to travel with them to Yalta, each bound by fierce family loyalty, political savvy, and intertwined romances that powerfully colored these crucial days.

Kathleen Harriman was a champion skier, war correspondent, and daughter of U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union, Averell Harriman. Sarah Churchill, an actress-turned-RAF officer, was devoted to her brilliant father, who depended on her astute political mind. Roosevelt's only daughter, Anna, chosen instead of her mother Eleanor to accompany the president to Yalta, arrived there as keeper of her father's most damaging secrets. Situated in the political maelstrom that marked the transition to a post-war world, this is a remarkable story of fathers and daughters whose relationships were tested, and strengthened, by the history they witnessed and the future they crafted together.

For June, we will read Our Darkest Night. To survive the Holocaust, a young Jewish woman poses as a Christian farmer's wife in this unforgettable novel from author Jennifer Robson. A story of terror, hope, love, and sacrifice, inspired by true events, it vividly evokes the most perilous days of World War II.

In autumn 1943, with Nazi Germany occupying most of her homeland, and the threat of imprisonment and deportation growing ever more certain, Antonina Mazin has but one hope to survive: to leave Venice and her parents and hide in the countryside with a man she has only just met – Nico Gerardi (who'd been studying for the priesthood when circumstances forced him to leave the seminary to run his family's farm). A moral and just man, he could not stand by when the fascists and Nazis began taking innocent lives. Rather than risk a perilous escape across the mountains, Nina will pose as his new bride. And to keep her safe and protect secrets of his own, Nico and Nina must convince prying eyes they are happily married and in love.

But, neighbors are wary of this woman they do not know – and their distrust is shared by a local Nazi official with a vendetta against Nico. Yet, as Nina and Nico come to know each other, their feelings deepen, transforming their relationship into much more than a charade as both fear that every passing day brings them closer to being torn apart.

The Reading Circle will meet via Zoom at 9:30 AM on May 8 and June 12. Diane Curry can answer your questions and send you the Zoom invitation (913-775-0169; [dacurryy@yahoo.com](mailto:dacurryy@yahoo.com)). ☪

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### **STEWARDSHIP IN REVIEW**

| <b>Date</b> | <b>Worship Attendance</b> | <b>Sunday School/Bible Study Attendance</b> | <b>Offerings</b> |
|-------------|---------------------------|---|------------------|
| 04-04-2021  | 116                       | NA  | \$7784           |
| 04-11-2021  | 51                        | 6/18  | \$4090           |
| 04-18-2021  | 49                        | 8/20  | \$5550           |
| 04-25-2021  | 73                        | 12/19                                       | \$4875           |

*A complete Treasurer's Report is available from the Church Office.*



# Men's Coffee Group



**Interesting conversation**

**Great coffee**

**An opportunity to meet new people.....**

**Date: Monday, May 3rd, 2021**  
**Monday, May 17th, 2021**

**Time: 9-10:00 a.m.**

**Place: L & L Room**

**Council on Aging**

**Social distancing and safe practices will be followed.**



**Transportation:** If you need transportation to and from any program please call the transportation desk, (913) 684-0778, to schedule a ride. Please refer to the transportation policy for scheduling times and rider information.

There is a fee for transportation.

**Cancellation:** If you need to cancel a scheduled ride please call the transportation desk at least two hours before the scheduled pickup.

## MAY BIRTHDAYS

|    |                   |    |                   |    |                                       |
|----|-------------------|----|-------------------|----|---------------------------------------|
| 1  | Noah Souser       | 11 | Julia Beemer      | 21 | Lori Humble                           |
| 2  | Mallory Price     |    | Mary Lou Hamilton |    | Tom Orlovski                          |
| 3  | Amy Faith         |    | Kris Hoppe        | 22 | David Balock                          |
|    | Freddie Schmeckel | 13 | Kaydence Davison  | 23 | Steven Anders                         |
| 5  | Jane Connell      |    | Quintin Hoppe     |    | Virginia Harth                        |
|    | James Folk        |    | Beth Tucker       |    | Danielle Rios                         |
|    | Timothy Joachims  | 14 | Ed Dane           | 24 | Sally Niemann                         |
|    | Elijah Watkins    |    | Earl Faith        |    | Paton Sickler                         |
| 6  | Matthew Denney    |    | Anna Foster       | 26 | Devin Driskell                        |
|    | Lynn VanVelzer    | 15 | Anthony Guardado  |    | Amie Kankelfitz                       |
| 7  | Justin Seeler     | 16 | Mindy Williams    |    | Chris Norris                          |
|    | Jim VanHoozer     | 17 | Sarah Hill        |    | Joshua Panek                          |
|    | Carol Wiseman     |    | Logan Cruz        | 27 | Evangelina Moritz                     |
| 8  | Ben Malto         | 19 | Clif Cribb        | 28 | Sean Collins                          |
| 9  | Charlotte Appleby |    | Nancy Poff        |    | Ken Rich                              |
|    | Victoria Lero     | 20 | Shirley Jobe      | 29 | Brandon Cole                          |
| 10 | Madison Gritz     |    | Seth Madison      |    | Cassandra Elkins                      |
|    |                   |    | Kara Malto        | 31 | Raymond Hoppe, Jr.<br>Pastor Ed Mease |

## MAY ANNIVERSARIES

|    |                          |    |                           |
|----|--------------------------|----|---------------------------|
| 2  | Jeffrey & Victoria Lero  | 26 | John & Roberta Pretz      |
| 15 | David & Monica Collins   | 27 | Don & Sherry Whitson      |
| 18 | John & Trish Peeler      | 28 | Chuck & Susan Engstrom    |
| 19 | Eugene & Tambra Anders   | 30 | Eric & Abi Rathburn       |
|    | Jared & Rebekah Stark    | 31 | George & Georgiana Nelson |
| 21 | John & Dianna Allen      |    |                           |
|    | Justin & Kayla Moritz    |    |                           |
| 23 | Michael & Petra Beemer   |    |                           |
|    | Tracy & Lu Knueven       |    |                           |
| 24 | Michael & Carrie Bednarz |    |                           |
|    | Earl & Amy Faith         |    |                           |
|    | Mark & Chris Norris      |    |                           |
| 25 | Terry & Darlene Sullins  |    |                           |

*Birthdays &  
Anniversaries*



**St. Paul Lutheran Church & School**

311 N. 7<sup>th</sup> (@ Miami) Street  
Leavenworth, KS 66048-1994

(913) 682-0387 – Church

(913) 682-5553 – School

(913) 682-5583 – Extended Care

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Leavenworth, KS

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**CHANGE SERVICE  
REQUESTED**



MAY



**WORSHIP  
WITH  
US** 

MAY 2021

**Sunday Worship Schedule at St. Paul**

**S**INGLE  
SERVICE  
UNDAYS

8:45 AM - SUNDAY SCHOOL  
& BIBLE CLASSES

10 AM - WORSHIP SERVICE

also find us on  **LIVE**

@FriendsofSPLCS

*Communion Served 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each Month*