

Good News

THE
NEWSLETTER OF
ST. PAUL'S EV. LUTHERAN CHURCH
474 Yalick Road - PO BOX 802
DALLAS, PA 18612

SUMMER EDITION (July & August)

Phone: 570-675-3859
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Email: stpaul@epix.net
Web Page:
www.stpaulsdallaspa.org

Rev Charles H. Grube, Pastor
Home Phone: 570-696-2688

In-person worship and communion
Saturday, 5:30 pm | Sunday, 9:30 am
Sunday School 10:30 am (Sept. thru May)
Please continue to visit our website at
www.stpaulsdallaspa.org for worship
resources to use as you are able, and to
join our Live Stream Zoom meeting at
9:30 am on Sunday.



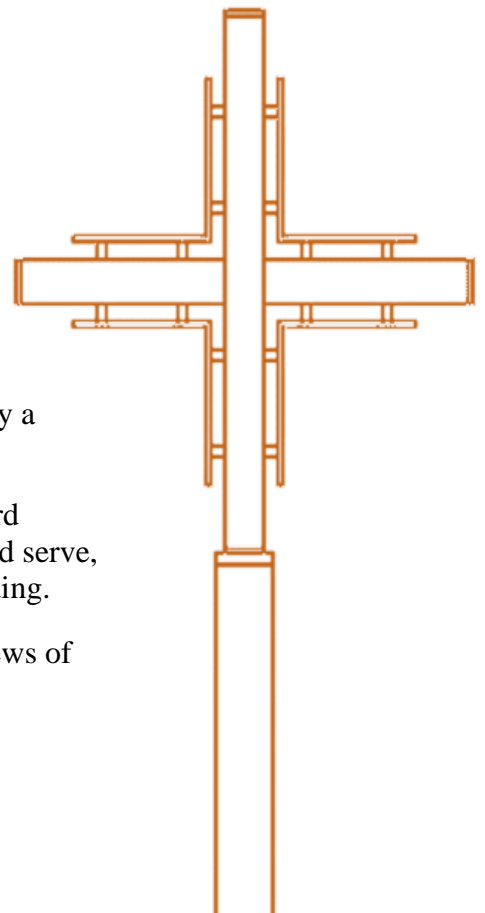
ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is a family called together by God and united by a common faith.

Our mission is to share with all people God's Love and Grace through Word and Sacrament. Through the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to witness and serve, treating one another with Love, Compassion, Forgiveness, and Understanding.

By our commitments, actions, deeds, and resources, we share the Good News of Jesus Christ, reaching out to our Community, Nation, and World.

Adopted May 1993



ST. PAUL'S STAFF		
Pastor	Rev. Charles H. Grube	
Dir. of Music/Organist	Margaret Quintanar	
Chapel & Emmanuel Choir Dir.	Jean Grube	
Minister of Technology	Marissa Miller	
Sexton	James Madonna	
Sunday School Superintendent	Tony Linnen	
Financial Secretary	Ruth Ide	
CONGREGATION COUNCIL		
<u>2022/2023</u>	<u>2023/2024</u>	<u>2024/2025</u>
Cathy Ridout	John Waschek*	Larry Pierce
Scott Schukraft*	Gail Smallwood	Bruce Thomas
Karen Mertz*	Marissa Miller	Gail Ide
Don Pheasant*	Frank Mariano	Pat Peiffer
*Final Term		
CONGREGATION OFFICERS		
President	Rev. Charles H. Grube	
Vice-President	TBD	
Secretary	TBD	
Treasurer	Carol Fett	
STANDING COMMITTEES		
Christian Education	Marissa Miller	
Communications	Marissa Miller/Gail Smallwood	
Evangelism	Gail Ide	
Fellowship	Marissa Miller & Larry Pierce	
Finance	John Waschek/Don Pheasant/Carol Fett Bruce Thomas	
Head Start/Early Intervention	Carol Fett / Cathy Ridout	
Health Ministry	Cathy Ridout & Gail Ide	
Landscaping	Scott Schukraft	
Long Range Planning	Scott Schukraft/Don Pheasant/ John Waschek/Frank Mariano	
Property	Bruce Thomas, Pat Peiffer, Carol Fett	
Salary Review	Scott Schukraft	
Social Ministry	Karen Mertz, Larry Pierce	
Staff Support	Scott Schukraft Frank Mariano, Karen Mertz	
Worship & Music	Frank Mariano, Pat Peiffer	
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PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list.

Pray for the Congregations of Trinity, Towanda (July) and Good Shepherd, Wilkes-Barre (August).

PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. Pray for the Congregation of Holy Trinity, Kingston.

Pray for those suffering illness: Members: Alice Baer, Hope Beisel, Marty Bisher, Connie Borchert, Mary Lou Bowman, Helen Carey, Pam Cyphers, Mary Lou Daley-Button, Maryan Daily, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl & Marty Everhart, Grace Fisher, Marge Fritzinger, Daniel Henderson, Kay Hometchko, Alice Hudak, Barbara Kessler, Tom Lundberg, Margie McCarty, Vivian Richardson, Betty Schray, Bill Smith, Mark & Mary Walters, Betty Weaver, Justin Yost.

Please note: Those people listed as Family and Friends will be listed here for a four-week period. Please contact the church office at 570-675-3859 or stpaul@epix.net if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.

Family & Friends: Hank Banaszek, Cindy Bruesewitz, Ed Campbell, Marjorie Catania, Janice DeFebo, Ron & Candyce Fike, Helen Fredrick, Guy Giordano, Diane Grimes, Elaine Hudak, Dillon Ide, Bradley Kessler, Pat Krokus, Mike Hage, Bob Hughes, Jim Lorah, Audrey Mace, Rob Merritt, Tim Nulton, Alice O'Neil, Ryleigh Phillips, Laura Pszenicznzy, Frank Rollman, Bonnie Ryman, Kelly, Aiden & Wyatt Schaper, John Schray, Sr., Nancy Shymanski, Benjamin Szostak, Chris Terhune, Donna Thiessen, Jean Thompson, Janice Tucker, Karen Wise, Peg Wyda, Helen Zarychta, and Leslie, Tim R., Dick D., Steve G., Teresa K., Stephanie, (last names not given).

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NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



The next issue of the GOOD NEWS will be the September issue. The deadline for all submissions will be **Noon on**

Sunday, August 21, 2022.



Updates from the June Council meeting held on June 7, 2022.

Council welcomed newly elected members Larry Pierce, Karen Mertz, Gail Ide, Bruce Thomas, Don Pheasant and Pat Peiffer; and elected Scott Schukraft as Vice-President and Gail Smallwood as Council Secretary. Committee assignments are as follows: **Christian Education** – Marissa Miller; **Communications** – Gail Smallwood & Marissa Miller; **Evangelism** – Gail Ide; **Fellowship** – Marissa Miller, Larry Pierce; **Finance** – Don Pheasant, John Waschek, Bruce Thomas, Carol Fett; **Head Start/Early Intervention** – Carol Fett, Cathy Ridout; **Health Ministry** – Cathy Ridout, Gail Ide; **Long Range Planning** – Scott Schukraft, John Waschek, Don Pheasant, Frank Mariano; **Property** – Bruce Thomas, Pat Peiffer, Carol Fett; **Landscaping** – Scott Schukraft; **Salary Review** – Scott Schukraft; **Social Ministry** – Karen Mertz, Larry Pierce; **Staff Support** – Scott Schukraft, Frank Mariano, Karen Mertz; **Worship & Music** – Frank Mariano, Pat Peiffer.

Council Handbooks are in the process of being updated; background checks need to be renewed and signatures were obtained for insurance purposes for the Child Abuse/Sexual Harassment, Misconduct & Bullying Guidelines. Discussed formatting a building emergency plan and it was decided to review existing church policies and also to check with Head Start & Early Intervention to determine the need for additional policies or procedures. Council to encourage parents to escort young children to restrooms/classrooms on Sundays. Christian Ed. is planning a VBS one-day event on July 10 following the ELCA World Hunger Curriculum – Tree of Healing, with crafts, games, skits & songs and also a lunch (watch bulletins/summer newsletter for more details). Council approved

Early Intervention lease renewal amounts based on their request for additional classroom and speech therapy space; updated lease will be sent to EI Hazleton Office for their approval. St. Paul's will reserve table space at the Dallas Harvest Festival in September. Roofing bids are being submitted from several contractors – we learned that beginning work on repairing the roof might take several months due to supply issues. Revising St. Paul's Constitution is in the final stages and will then be submitted to the congregation for review. The American Red Cross has asked permission to use St. Paul's for a blood drive; approved and will be scheduled in the fall. Finally, council discussed the need for forming a Strategic Planning Initiative task force (coordinating with all standing committees) to formulate plans for St. Paul's future in the community.

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INTERGENERATIONAL VBS EVENT

The Christian Education Committee is inviting everyone to a special one-day Intergenerational Vacation Bible School Event on Sunday, July 10, at 10:30 am. Please join in for games, planting, singing, fun skits, crafts and more. All ages are welcome. Please sign up your family in the narthex or call the church office at 570.675.3859.

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CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!

Since the end of Lent, several members of the congregation have told me how much they enjoy hearing the choirs after the silences of the pandemic, but summer is here, and the choirs are on vacation until September. Now is your chance to share your musical talents in worship without making a September-June commitment. Please call Margaret Quintanar at (717) 448-0295 or email margaret.quintanar@gmail.com to place your name on the schedule.





Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Many of us have an opportunity for special projects or events in the summertime. Vacation trips, family reunion gatherings, and backyard or patio gatherings with neighbors and friends

mark the summer months. A special intergenerational Vacation Bible School-like event on July 10 after worship will be one of those special events for us this summer. Look for information about our “Tree of Healing” event July 10. Summer camp is another feature of the summer months, and three of our younger members will be off for a week of camp taking advantage of the spectacular experience Bear Creek Camp provides. And I’ll be off for a week to Chautauqua Institute in western New York for a continuing education retreat. It’s a big time for building our relationships, our spirituality, our personal selves, our energy level, and our perspectives. I hope it’s a building summer for you, too. And for our church.

May God bless us in our growing and building together,
Pastor



The June edition of “Global Links,” the monthly newsletter of ELCA Global Mission, reports that in addition to continuing to accompany partners

in Ukraine, Poland, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania, Lutheran Disaster Response is now working with Church World Service in Moldova to accompany refugees from Ukraine. As the war goes on, host communities in these countries are going beyond immediate relief efforts and helping refugees find jobs, education opportunities, and long-term housing. Meanwhile, as part of their training, future pastors and deacons are able to serve special global church internships called Horizon Internships, and three seminarians begin

theirs this summer. Elizabeth (Liz) Kuster is a Master of Divinity seminarian at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago and will serve with the Bratislava International Church in Bratislava, Slovakia. Jennifer (Jennie) Norberg is a Master of Word and Service seminarian at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota, and will serve with St. Andrew’s United Church of Cairo and St. Andrew’s Refugee Services (StARS) in Cairo, Egypt. And Julie Gerrish is a Master of Divinity seminarian at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkley, California, and will serve at Luther House Chapel in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Your support for ELCA Global Mission serves the world’s people and the church’s leaders in these and so many more ways. Thank you for your support.



Our neighboring synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to the west is the Upper Susquehanna Synod, and they elected a new bishop at their synod assembly last week, Pastor Craig Miller. Pastor Miller has most recently served as the Assistant to Bishop Barbara Collins, whose term is expiring. Keep Pastor Miller in your prayers as he transitions into this very important role as synod bishop.



THE MINISTRY OF QUILTING AND OF MENDING HEARTS.

To sew is to pray. We mend ... turn things inside out and set things right. We salvage what we can of human garments and piece the rest into blankets. Sometimes our stitches stutter and slow. Other times the tension in the stitches might be too tight because of tears, but only we know what emotion went into the making.

— Louise Erdrich, *Four Souls*

A SPECIAL OCCASION PLANNED

On Saturday/Sunday, August 27 & 28, we will acknowledge Pastor's 25th Anniversary at St. Paul's —where has the time gone!

The occasion was going to be marked with a reception following services, but plans grew, as they sometimes do, and now we will mark this milestone by combining his anniversary with us along with an end-of-summer, beginning of a new fall season get-together complete with a full-blown picnic featuring Pork / Chicken Barbeque, hot dogs, coleslaw, potato salad; place settings, beverages & dessert will be furnished — all you need to do is mark the date on your calendar, anticipate the event and then join us for worship, good food, fellowship and express your appreciation to Pastor Grube for his ministry at St. Paul's.

A sign-up sheet will be placed in the narthex within the next few weeks so you can indicate how many in your family will be attending or you can call the church office 570.675.3859 or email stpaul@epix.net to sign up by Sunday, August 14; this will help with planning setup & amount of food needed. A free will offering basket will be present the day of the event to help us cover expenses.



Lutheran Center in Allentown to prepare for the Churchwide Assembly August 8-12. Keep him and all voting members of this assembly in your prayers that the Holy Spirit may continue to lead our church into the future.

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NEPA SYNOD ASSEMBLY UPDATE

Bishop Christopher deForest has outlined a strategy for the synod and for all synod congregations traveling together on the church's road into the future summarized by three titles called Growing Young, Gaining Strength (Stronger Together), and Beyond Death to Life. Last year's Synod Assembly was organized around the first of these, Growing Young. This year's assembly focused on the second lane, Stronger Together. Video presentations highlighted how some congregational ministries are stronger together, and our neighbors to the north in Sayre were one of those who told their stories. You can see that video on the synod's website (<https://nepasynod.org/>) under the 2022 Assembly tab, scrolling down to "Stronger Together Ministry Videos," and clicking on the Sayre button. Or use this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r5441r1_BuQ. Videos produced by our new Growing Young coordinator, Stacey Burke, about Prioritizing Youth in our congregations also featured prominently during the assembly. Links to the four "scenarios" are just below the Stronger Together links on the same page. These will give you an idea of the direction and guidance our synod hopes to provide all synod congregations as we face a common, uncertain future together.

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The ELCA will gather for its triennial Churchwide Assembly this August in Columbus Ohio, and Pastor Grube will be one of twenty-five persons who will be there as a voting member of the Northeastern PA Synod team. Pastor Grube was elected at last year's Synod Assembly to serve this role. He joins synod representatives elected both by Mission Districts and at large at the synod assembly. The team will meet twice at the



**SOCIAL
MINISTRY
COMMITTEE
UPDATE:** The Back
Mountain Food
Pantry shelves are in
need of donations of

all types of soups, jelly, peanut butter, canned fruits/vegetables, pancake mix, pancake syrup, cereals, pasta, spaghetti sauce, rice, canned meats/stews, snacks, etc. Monetary donations are also gratefully accepted and may be placed in the offering plate – checks should be made out to St. Paul’s and indicate on memo line – Food Pantry.

The committee is also looking forward to “God’s Work. Our Hands.” Sunday on September 11. This day is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. One of our projects will again be “Sneakers for Head Start.” We will be collecting your donations of sneakers – youth sizes 9-12 – for the boys & girls who attend Head Start at St. Paul’s. There will be a Sneaker Display table in the narthex starting on July 31; please remember to attach your gift receipt to the shoes.

Another project, which was very popular last year, was the collection of donations for the SPCA. Dog/Cat food / treats, paper towels, blankets, cat litter (clay, non-clumping), rabbit food, trash bags (55 gal.), tall kitchen bags, or gift cards for PetSmart or Petco, are just some suggestions. An SPCA table will also be available in the narthex on July 31.

The committee will hold a meeting on Wednesday, July 20, at 10:00 am, to discuss and plan other projects; if you are interested in joining the Social Ministry Committee, please plan to attend.

The committee would like to thank all the members of St. Paul’s for their continued support!

INTERESTED IN ONLINE GIVING?

Would you find it helpful to have your offerings debited directly from your bank account as you probably do with other obligations? St. Paul’s offers electronic giving for those of you who wish to have contributions transferred electronically to the church’s account. If you have plans to travel this summer, electronic giving also gives you a convenient way to keep up with your intended offerings, whether via checkbook or credit/debit cards.

In order to set up an online giving account to St. Paul’s simply go to our church website at www.stpaulsdallaspa.org and click on the secure Online Giving link through Vanco Payment Solutions. All envelopes found in your offering box are available including others such as Landscaping, Back Mountain Food Bank, Memorial Fund, World Hunger, Lutheran Disaster Relief, etc. If you have any questions or need assistance, please contact Carol Fett at 570.852.9176 or via email at cafett54@gmail.com.

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FROM THE MAILBOX

Dear St. Paul’s Friends,

Bill and I want to thank you for all the cards, phone calls and prayers he received after his recent surgery. He feels truly blessed for the successful results and is feeling better every day.

A big thank you also to Social Ministry for the beautiful hanging cross ornament. It looks great in our garden window.

Bill & Dianna Smith



JUST A REMINDER

The church office will be closed on Friday, July 1 and Monday, July 4, in observance of the Independence Day holiday.

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HOW WILL WE USE OUR FREEDOM?

In 2000, Cornealious Anderson was sentenced to 13 years for robbery. The 23-year-old was released on bail and told to await orders to show up to prison. But due to a clerical error, those orders never came. Some people might have taken advantage of such freedom and committed more crimes. But Anderson started a business, coached youth football and volunteered at church, earning respect in his community.

Thirteen years later, when Missouri officials discovered the error and put Anderson behind bars, an online petition called for his release. A judge agreed that Anderson was a changed man and, again, he was freed.

What would *you* do with such undeserved freedom? What *do* we do with the unmerited freedom God grants us despite our sin, and with the freedoms we celebrate on July 4? May we follow Anderson's example and use our freedoms — social *and* spiritual — to serve others.

—adapted from *Homiletics*

Puzzle!

Solve this cryptogram puzzle, using the clues R=I and M=T, to complete Psalm 111:10, NIV.

M Y L C L O O Z C M Y L

P Z Q N R V M Y L

H L D R F F R F D Z C G R V N Z U ;

O P P G Y Z C Z P P Z G

Y R V B Q L T L B M V

Y O K L D Z Z N

J F N L Q V M O F N R F D '

M Z Y R U H L P Z F D V

L M L Q F O P B Q O R V L '

PSALM 111:10, NIV

Answer: The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom; all who follow his precepts have good understanding. To him belongs eternal praise. Psalm 111:10, NIV