

Good News

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

September 2022

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.



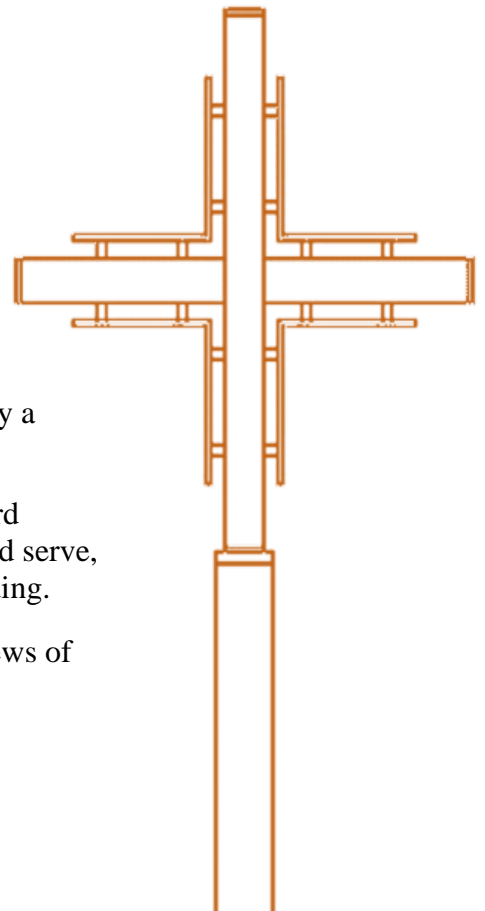
ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

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	
Office Staff	Gail Smallwood & Carol Fett	
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	Scott Schukraft	
Secretary	Gail Smallwood	
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	
* * *		

PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list.

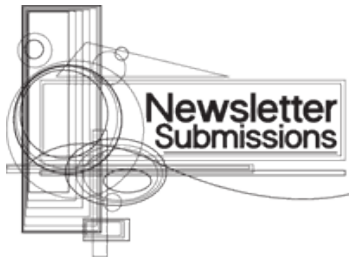
Pray for the Congregation of Faith United, Nescopeck and St. Peter, Hughestown.

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Hope Beisel, Marty Bisher, Connie Borchert, Mary Lou Bowman, Helen Carey, Pam Cyphers, Mary Lou Daley-Button, Maryan Daily, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl and Marty Everhart, Grace Fisher, Marge Fritzinger, Lois Hardisky, Kay Hometchko, Alice Hudak, Barbara Kessler, Tom Lundberg, Margie McCarty, Vivian Richardson, Ann Sabol, Betty Schray, Bill Smith, Mark and Mary Walters, Noah Wood, Justin Yost, Shirley Zimmerman.

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, Robert Binger, Ed Campbell, Marjorie Catania, Sister Jeanne D'Arc, RSM, Janice DeFebo, Kathleen DePow, Karen Evanish, Ron and Candyce Fike, Helen Fredrick, Guy Giordano, Sally Harris, Danny Hussey, Christine Ide, Jean and Andy Kapral, Bradley Kessler, Mike Hage, Calvin Hall, Bob Hughes, Jim Lorah, Audrey Mace, Laela Martin, Rob Merritt, Thomas Neuviller, Carolyn Nevins, Tim Nulton, Alice O'Neil, Ryleigh Phillips, Laura Pszeniczny, Frank Rollman, Bonnie Ryman, Nancy Shymanski, Stevens Family, Benjamin Szostak, Chris Terhune, Donna Thiessen, Jean Thompson, Janice Tucker, Carol Wall, Eric Wendolowski, Karen Wise, Peg Wyda, Michelle Yaple, Helen Zarychta, Nora (no last name given), and the Nescopeck fire victims' families.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



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

September 18, 2022.

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- “Prayer is thinking deeply about something in the presence of God.”
- Wayne Cordeiro



Updates from the August Council meeting held on August 2, 2022.

Church Office Hours: Monday thru Thursday hours will be 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to Noon. Gail Smallwood and Carol Fett will be sharing office responsibilities.

Communications: Committee will send out a photo and release to newspapers and synod office about the donation of fleece blankets to Hillside Farms' grief camps for children.

Landscaping: Karen Mertz contacted Pyramid Health Care and arranged for clients to come to S. Paul's to help weed the flower beds; congregation will be asked to provide used hand tools for the workers.

Property/Finance: DAMA is currently working on repairing and cleaning the water retention basins and expects to finish the work in about two weeks. Due to high cost, only the roof over the Christian Education wing will be replaced at this time. Four outside hose bibs needed repairs due to leaks; it is important that the proper key is used to turn water on and off (kept in garage). Work on the Bell Tower is nearing completion. Building Improvement funds have been heavily used to cover repairs.

Head Start/Early Intervention: HS staff will be returning August 15; children on September 7. HS will be replacing their 20-year-old playground equipment. Still waiting on final word regarding second classroom request from Early Intervention.

Long Range Planning: Committee completed revising our constitution and recommended council approve the document. A summary page listing the major changes was presented and noted that items marked with asterisks are mandated by the ELCA; these represented the majority of changes. Moving council elections from May to the January congregational meeting is one of the

most notable changes. June 1, 2023 is the recommended date for the new constitution to go into effect, after the document is reviewed and approved by Synod. Copies of the revised constitution and summary page will be made available to the congregation in the narthex. Presentation dates for Q&A will be published at a later date. Motion made to approve the revised constitution document and present it to the congregation passed unanimously.

Evangelism: Discussing possibility of obtaining a moveable labyrinth for the church and developing a Meditation Garden. Also exploring a variety of ideas for developing evangelism projects with other local congregations.

Social Ministry: Fleece blankets were donated to the Hillside Farm Grief Camp for children; committee is sending cards to homebound members and will continue collecting aluminum pull tabs, used eye glasses, etc. In the process of obtaining sneakers for Head Start children as part of "God's Work. Our Hands." and also collecting items needed by the SPCA of Luzerne County.

New Business: Back Mountain Youth Soccer Association will be using our field for soccer practices starting in August.



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

With the end of the summer vacation season and its busyness and rest, we return to a full schedule of activities and ministries. I hope that means a fuller return to activity and involvement for us all.

I'm eager to welcome children back to Sunday School and other children's events and activities. I'm eager to have our choirs lead us in worship and singing and hear more music in worship generally. I'm eager to have those special events and activities that fill this place with voices and laughter and service and activity.

Rally Day and God's Work. Our Hands. Sunday is September 11. I hope to see you here. And I hope it is the beginning of a renewed commitment to mission and ministry for us all.

A short but important congregational meeting will be held Sunday, Nov. 13 at 10:30 a.m. (immediately following Sunday worship) for the purpose of approving an amendment to our constitution. The new constitution is modeled after the ELCA model constitution and reflects a few changes from our current constitution. We will be announcing hearings or discussion times to outline those changes and to respond to your questions in the weeks ahead. Be watching for announcements of those gatherings. In the meantime, a summary of those changes is attached to the proposed constitution for your review, and they are both available in the Narthex.

Our annual celebration of Harvest Home will be September 17 and 18. Each year, we take time to acknowledge the bounty God has provided us over the past growing season and to give thanks for the bounty and the opportunity to share it with those less fortunate. Your nonperishable food donations will be designated for the Back Mountain Pantry. Come, you thankful people, come.

In the Spirit's guidance,
Pastor Grube

† **IN MEMORIAM** †

*May the light and promise of
the Resurrection
shine in the lives
of the family and friends of*

David C. Kowalek

Alice G. Baer

*Rest eternal grant them, Lord,
and let light perpetual
shine upon them.*

PASSAGES

We rejoice with Clara Grube and Ryan Orgitano who were married in Lock Haven on Saturday, August 6.

Our Christian Sympathy is also extended to Marjorie Fritzinger and family, on the death of Marjorie's sister, Pauline Young, on Thursday, August 18, 2022. May God comfort all who mourn.



LECTIONARY STUDY

The Bible This Week is our weekly Bible Study around the lectionary texts – the readings we use in worship – for the coming week’s worship. This fall we will continue to center our focus on Luke’s gospel. The first readings will continue to come from the prophets, and our second readings will take us through First and Second Timothy. We publish the readings for the coming weekend in each week’s announcements, but you don’t need to read ahead to join in the study and conversation. We’ll hold our weekly gatherings as we did last year on Tuesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and begin the week after Rally Day and God’s Work. Our Hands. Tuesday, September 13.

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We invite our young members in grades 9 and 10 to prepare for their Affirmation of Baptism and

Confirmation in the faith through our Confirmation program. It’s a two-year program that includes classes on Luther’s Catechism and the Bible, a mentor relationship, and service to the church and the world. We will meet with the youth and at least one parent interested in joining the confirmation program for a meeting of orientation and scheduling on Sunday, September 11, near the end of our Rally Day celebration at 11:30 a.m. Please share your questions or your interest in joining the program by contacting the church office (570-675-3859) so that we can order enough materials for everyone.

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UPDATE

The Committee has been busy and would like everyone to know that their meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at 10:00 a.m. – and they are always looking to welcome new members.

Some Social Ministry Projects include:

Remembering our homebound members at Easter, Christmas and various other times throughout the year with little remembrances / Thinking of You cards.

Fleece Blankets — we were disappointed to learn that there would not be a Camp Noah in our region this year. The committee decided to donate 40 blankets to the Children’s Grief Camps held at Hillside Farm which are sponsored by the Luzerne County (CASA) Court Appointed Special Advocates. There were three camp sessions held in August. Thank you to all the blanket makers.

Collecting used greeting cards which are sent to St. Judes Ranch.

Collecting used eyeglasses which are sent to the Lion’s Club.

Collecting aluminum can tabs which are sent to the Shriner’s Hospital.

Providing new sneakers for our Head Start Children as part of “God’s Work. Our Hands” weekend.

Supporting the clients from Pyramid Health Care in Dallas. They will be helping St. Paul’s with cleaning up our landscaping beds on September 8/9 as part of “God’s Work. Our Hands” weekend. If you can come and help, even for just an hour, your help will be appreciated and our church property will look all the better! A sign-up sheet will be on the table in the Narthex.

ROAST BEEF TAKE OUT DINNER

St. Paul's Brotherhood is pleased to announce that their popular Roast Beef Dinner has been planned for Saturday, September 17. The take-out dinner will include tender roast beef with mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, carrots, pepper hash, horseradish sauce and a roll. Drive thru pick-up time for the dinners will be from 3:30 to 6:00 p.m. (reservations are not required). Price is \$12.00 payable at pick-up.

Mark your calendars and enjoy a great meal and be sure to tell your friends too!

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Quentin Bernhard, a member of New Life Lutheran Church in New Tripoli, has joined 24 other ELCA Global Missions Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) for the 2022-2023 YAGM year, and began his service in Senegal in August. He will live and minister there through late summer 2023. Other YAGM's are serving in the United Kingdom, Israel and Palestine, and in our own companion synod, Argentina and Uruguay. Five YAGMs will be working in a variety of locations in Argentina and one in Uruguay under the care and guidance of the new YAGM coordinator and missionary in Argentina, Jessica Geroux. Keep them all in your prayers as they experience this life-changing year. Meanwhile, ELCA Global Missions, together with local partners in the region, continue to support those fleeing the violence in Ukraine by providing assistance in psychosocial care, pastoral care, housing, job searches, language study, school admission, legal services, cash assistance and other key integration support for individuals and families.

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The triennial ELCA Churchwide Assembly met this past month in Columbus, Ohio, and Pastor Grube was one of twenty-five voting members from the Northeastern PA Synod. Thirty-one memorials were presented for deliberation. Elections were conducted for members of the ELCA Church Council, the Committee on Appeals, the Committee on Discipline, the Nominating Committee, and the Boards of Portico (the insurance and pension carriers for ELCA rostered ministers), 1517 Media Publishing House, the Mission Investment Fund, and the ELCA Foundation (Endowment Fund). Among the most sweeping actions taken by the assembly were the election of a new Vice President, the lay leader of the ELCA, Imran Siddiqui, by a large margin on the fifth ballot, and the charge, after 35 years of the ELCA, to review and revise the constitution to accommodate for the changing church and times. Worship each day reflected the wide diversity of Lutherans in our country, especially with music. You can view videos of Plenary Sessions and Worship at the ELCA Assembly Website, www.elca.org/ChurchwideAssembly. The next ELCA Churchwide Assembly will be in 2025 and will be held in Phoenix, Arizona. Perhaps you'd like to consider being a voting member of that assembly. Contact Pastor Grube to learn how.



SUNDAY

SCHOOL

**RALLY DAY
SEPTEMBER 11 – 10:30 AM**

Join us for the start of a new Sunday School year as we introduce a Whirl of Characters to the Sunday School Cast.

There will be singing, coloring, fun videos, prayer activities, and food.



HEALTH MINISTRY

Hi Everyone,

Wash your hands frequently, please! What with COVID, monkeypox, and now the coming flu season...and maybe even polio. Make sure everyone is up to date on vaccinations. They do help.

To be honest, I'm a little tired of the heat and humidity! Before I wanted some of it but not now! With little rain and trying to work in my garden, you would think I was watering my flowers with my sweat! Staying hydrated was a real challenge. Hope all of you were in air conditioning sipping away on your favorite liquid!



HARVEST HOME SERVICES (September 17/18). During worship on this weekend, we will focus on the bounty God provides us from the field and orchard, and the rich harvest of that bounty for our health and well-being. A special "Harvest Home" envelope is included with this newsletter; monetary donations will be directed by the Social Ministry Committee to the Back Mountain Food Pantry. The committee will also be focusing on assisting the Back Mountain Food Pantry with special items noted each of the four weeks leading up to Harvest Home.

Requested items for the week of:

August 27/28 — Canned vegetables and fruit

September 3/4 — Canned meat (Stew, Tuna, Salmon, Chicken, Spam, etc.)

September 10/11 — Cereal (Pancake/Waffle Mix, Syrup, Pop Tarts, etc.)

September 17/18 — Pasta (Rice, Mac & Cheese, Spaghetti/Sauce, etc.)

There will be a special collection point in the Narthex for your donations. Thank you for your continued support of all the Social Ministry projects.

The Fall Harvest Festival will be held Sept. 18 from 9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. at the Dallas School campus. Help is needed for set up and take down of St. Paul's display and to sit with Gail Ide at hours of your choosing. There will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex; please contact Gail at gdirnnpn@epix.net for more information.

With all the health, political, and weather problems in the world, I found something, well at least, interesting. From WebMD, *14 Things No One Tells You About Aging*, click on:

https://www.webmd.com/healthy-aging/ss/slideshow-aging-surprises?ecd=wnl_spr_081522&ctr=wnl-spr-081522_lead_cta&mb=oQhLVhiQwYskG%40013u9jZEzsQhoiBB%2F8wVEHJLlovLk%3D .

You don't have to agree with every one of their findings. I didn't! FYI. There is a written copy in the office.

Please, if you have questions on any health issues, let me help find information for you and wash your hands frequently!

In Love and Service and Gratitude,
Gail Ide, Parish Nurse

SPECIAL DATES

- Labor Day, September 5, 2022
- Patriot Day, September 11, 2022
- Grandparents Day, September 11, 2022
- Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15-Oct 15

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

St. Francis of Assisi was the son of a wealthy cloth merchant. In a public confrontation with his father, he renounced his wealth and future inheritance and devoted himself to serving the poor. Francis described this act as being “wedded to Lady Poverty.” Under his leadership the Order of Friars Minor (Franciscans) was formed, and they took literally Jesus’ words to his disciples that they should take nothing on their journey and receive no payment for their work. Francis had a spirit of gladness and gratitude for all of God’s creation. The church has come to celebrate creation and Blessing of the Animals near his commemoration day of October 4.



We will celebrate Blessing of the Animals on Saturday, October 1 at 11:00 am in a gathering outdoors. Bring your pets and other animals, appropriately restrained for the sake of the gathered animals and people, for a short service to celebrate creation and bless those creatures we hold dear. We will gather rain or shine (under cover of the Porte Cochere if necessary).

In conjunction with this event, we’ve been collecting needed items for the SPCA of Luzerne County and a table is in the Narthex for your donations. Needed items include: cat litter (clay, non-clumping), dry kitten chow, dog/cat treats, rabbit food, guinea pig food, cat collars (breakaway type), dog collars and leashes, small cat beds, paper towels, trash bags (55-gallon, drawstring type), and tall kitchen bags (drawstring type). Thank you all for your continued support of our local animal welfare organization.

† † †

- “The beautiful thing about learning is nobody can take it away from you.”

— B. B. King



FALL RUMMAGE & BAKE SALE

It’s coming.....the Dorcas Society’s two-day rummage/bake sale will be held on Friday, October 7 from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm and from 5:00 to 7:00 pm, and Saturday, October 8 from 8:00 am to Noon (Bag Day).

Available for sale will be good clean, usable clothes (men’s, women’s & children’s), household items, dishes, pot and pans, holiday decorations, jewelry, books, games, puzzles, etc.

The church will be open on the following days/times for donation drop-off:

Monday, October 3	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Tuesday, October 4	9:00 am to 7:00 pm
Wednesday, October 5	9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Thursday, October 6	9:00 am to 2:00 pm

(Donations will not be accepted after 2:00 pm so Dorcas members may have time to price items).

Anyone (men and women) can assist during the week with setting up tables, unloading, displaying and/or pricing items to be sold. PLEASE DO NOT BRING televisions, computers/printers, exercise equipment, large appliances, encyclopedias, cribs, strollers, artificial Christmas trees or old telephones.

All bakers of St. Paul’s are asked to donate homemade baked goods for the Bake Sale; your goodies should be brought to the church by 1:00 pm on Thursday, October 6 so they may be packaged and priced.

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 Members of St. Paul's,

I wish to thank everyone for their phone calls, cards and prayers that I received due to my sudden gall bladder surgery.

I have always appreciated the kindness of our members and as usual they were right there for me.

Many thanks,
Ruth Ide

To my dear friends at St. Paul's,

The Sunday Pastor Grube said it was my 100th birthday and you all sang happy birthday to me and brought me many happy tears. Thank you all so very much — I will never forget that day!

Love to you all,
Marjorie Fritzing

To all my dear friends at St. Paul's,

Thanks a bunch! I appreciate everything you all did to make my birthday special.

Love to everyone,
Marjorie Fritzing

Dear Friends,

Thank you for the pretty card. It makes me feel warm and cozy knowing that my church family is thinking about me! I have so many of the "dear" things that you have sent right near me, as a reminder of your compassion.

Love and blessings,
Maryan Daily

† † †

IT ONLY TAKES A SPARK

Love is the spark that kindles the fire of compassion. Compassion is the fire that flames the candle of service. Service is the candle that ignites the torch of hope. Hope is the torch that lights the beacon of faith. Faith is the beacon that reflects the power of God. God is the power that creates the miracle of love.

—William Arthur Ward

