

Good News

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

June 2023

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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.



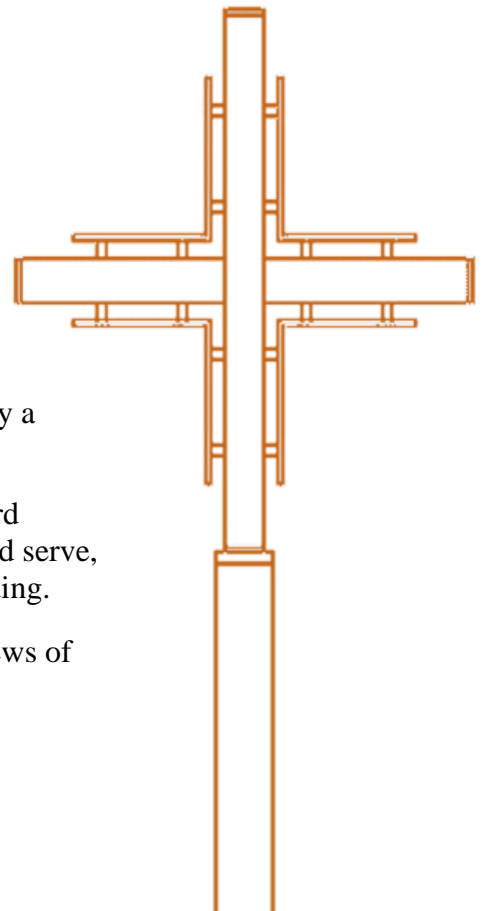
ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

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>2023/2024</u>	<u>2024/2025</u>	<u>2025/2026</u>
John Waschek*	Larry Pierce	Cathy Ridout*
Gail Smallwood	Bruce Thomas	Karen Mertz
Marissa Miller	Gail Ide	Tony Linnen
Frank Mariano	Pat Peiffer	Don Kretchmer
*Final Term		
CONGREGATION OFFICERS		
President	Rev. Charles H. Grube	
Vice-President	TBD	
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/Carol Fett	
Head Start/Early Intervention	Carol Fett / Cathy Ridout	
Health Ministry	Cathy Ridout & Gail Ide	
Landscaping	TBD	
Long Range Planning	John Waschek/Frank Mariano	
Property	Bruce Thomas, Pat Peiffer, Carol Fett	
Salary Review	TBD	
Social Ministry	Karen Mertz, Larry Pierce	
Staff Support	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 St. Paul, Mountaintop.

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Hope Beisel, Marty Bisher, Connie Borchert, Mary Lou Bowman, Mary Lou Button, Helen Carey, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Fran Dierolf, Cheryl and Marty Everhart, Grace Fisher, Marge Fritzingler, Kay Hometchko, Ruth Ide, Robert Kline, Linda Lundberg, Marissa Miller, Ann Sabol, Bill Smith, Karen Tomalis, Mark and Mary Walters, Anita Weiss, 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: Karen Alber, Dick Armbrust, Hank Banaszek, Gwen Bartolacci, Lisa Bennett, Robert Binger, Dave Brobst, Ed Campbell, Marjorie Catania, Kathleen Reh Corrier, Gabriel Day, Janice DeFebo, Joan Devens, Betty Doherty, Sawyer Dymond, Ron and Candyce Fike, Betsy Gravely, Parents of Laretha Huggins, Bob Hughes, Christine Ide, Doug Ide, Glenn Ide, Nicholas Jackson, Linda Jenkins, Lorraine Jones, Pauline Kaskel, Bradley Kessler, Fred Kinn, Gerti Latona, Audrey Mace, Tammy Madonna, Joe Mariano, Carleton McGrady, Rob Merritt, Patricia Nardone, Tim Nulton, Peg O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Carol Powell, Mary Ann Reh, Vince Reh, Bonnie Ryman, Nancy Shymanski, Gina Sigler, Sandra Stankiewicz, Joe Stephanovich, Stevens Family, Benjamin Szostak, Donna Thiessen, Koleson Thomas, Jean Thompson, Janice Tucker, Len Vereb, Carol Wall, Connie Wilbur, Jennifer Williams, Karen Wise, Ashley, Bethann, Jaimy, Bill, Cindy, Paul, Herb & Sue, Taylor, Marge, Cheryl, Sue, Amanda, Marion, Brenda, Samantha, Sharon (no last names given).

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



The next issue of the GOOD NEWS will be the September 2023 issue; the newsletter will be on break for July and

August. The deadline for all submissions for the September issue will be **Noon on Sunday, August 20, 2023.**

SPECIAL DATES

- Trinity Sunday, *June 4, 2023*
- Flag Day, *June 14, 2023*
- Father's Day, *June 18, 2023*
- Juneteenth, *June 19, 2023*
- First day of summer, *June 21, 2023*



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Updates from the May 2 meeting:

Landscaping Committee: Personal Touch Landscaping recently trimmed and mulched the beds around the church entrance as a gift to the church.

Worship and Music Committee: St. Paul's will participate in the world-wide Holden Evening Prayer Service Event on Saturday, June 3 at 7:00 pm, following the evening 5:30 pm worship.

Christian Education Committee: The final Sunday School class before summer break will be May 28. The students will create rain sticks for use in accompanying a song they will sing on Pentecost. Vacation Bible School will be held on three dates: Sunday, June 11; Sunday, July 9 and Sunday, August 13.

Social Ministry Committee: Members filled more than 30 Easter bags with treats and delivered them to our shut ins. There will be a reception on May 14, for the mothers of the congregation and mothers who are clients of Pyramid Health and who will be attending worship that day.

Property Committee: The company that will be fixing the hole in the driveway notified the committee that some repairs are also needed to the pavement under the porte cochere.

Old business: Cathy Ridout, Don Kretchmer, Tony Linnen and Karen Mertz will run for four council seats in the May 14 election. Karen will serve a one-year term.

New business: The council has received registration materials for the fall Dallas Harvest Fest and will register for a booth. This was the final meeting for Don Pheasant and Scott Schukraft, who have completed two terms of service on council.



The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it

should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. And I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles.

—Anne Frank, *Diary of a Young Girl*

PASSAGES

† **IN MEMORIAM** †

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

**Margie McCarty
and
Alice Hudak**

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

JUNE GRADUATES

Kendra Brosious, a June graduate of Tunkhannock High School, will attend Muhlenberg College in Allentown this fall. Kendra, who is working as a counselor at Bear Creek Camp this summer, plans to major in International Relations with a possible minor in Environmental Science.

Cole Kaiser, a June graduate of Lake-Lehman High School, will attend Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) in Indiana this fall. Cole is an accomplished athlete in soccer and baseball, is a four-time Wyoming Valley Conference All-Star in soccer, and has been named to the National Honor Society and LL Principal's Honors List.

Jacob Doran, also a June graduate of Lake Lehman High School, will attend the University of Pittsburgh and will be in the Pre-Med Program.

Graduation blessings to all high school and college graduates!

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Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Memorial Day weekend and the end of the school year are sure signs that summer is here. There are plenty of exceptions, but for most of us, in the cycle of days, the night gives us rest. In the cycle of weeks, the weekend means rest. And in the cycle of the year, it's summer when we take a break and rest from the usual routine by taking a vacation. These rest breaks from activity in all of these cycles are important to our wellbeing and wholeness, so I hope you take the opportunity to have a meaningful rest break in the summer months ahead. Frankly, I am looking forward to it.

But as we know, the fundamental practices of the church to worship our Lord, to gather in community for mutual care and celebration, and to serve our neighbor in need do not take a break.

This sabbath break for us throughout the year remains the source of our true wellbeing and wholeness. May God continue to bless us with wellbeing and wholeness throughout the coming months.

In his peace,
Pastor Grube

GWOH RETURNS IN SEPTEMBER



With this summer edition of the newsletter covering the summer months, the next edition will be in September. We will fill in details of events and activities in the meantime in bulletins and online resources. But mark your calendar now for Sunday, September 10. That will be our fall kick-off with the return of Sunday School and Rally Day, our annual ELCA day of service, God's Work. Our Hands (this will be the 10th anniversary of GWOH!), and some renewed familiar practices in our worship with corporate Affirmation of Baptism to root us in our missional identity.

COMMUNION UPDATE

The pandemic concern for avoiding close proximity with one another and restricting movement forced us to distribute Holy Communion in a way that allowed us to celebrate Communion, but which did not reflect the shared common meal of unity that Holy Communion is for us, which was more evident in our pre-pandemic practice of coming forward to share the one loaf and one cup. The primary challenge to returning to that practice has been recruiting the small army of people it takes to prepare, provide, clean up, and administrate all the elements that go into that worship leadership. Some people have been working hard on that so that we are set to return to some pre-pandemic practices this fall, including our communion distribution practice, acolytes, and assisting ministers. In the mean time

and as a way to prepare for that, we encourage you to offer your assistance in any of the many roles of worship planning, preparation, and leadership you may feel called to or have interest in. Contact the church office, pastor, or any member of the Worship & Music committee to share your interest or find answers to your questions.



LABYRINTH WALKS: On Wednesday, July 19, and on the third Wednesday of each month thereafter, the labyrinth will be available for anyone from St. Paul's and the public to use

from 3:00-6:00 p.m. Gail Ide will be present to offer guidance on walking the labyrinth. Watch for reminders about the labyrinth in church bulletins.



BIBLE STUDY INFO

Our weekly Bible study, The Bible This Week, will take a break for the summer months. The texts for the following week's worship, which serve as the texts for our study each week, will continue to be posted in the Sunday bulletin for your personal devotion and study.



BEAR CREEK CAMP

Explore, celebrate & grow in God's creation!

Executive Director Collin Grooms shared this Bear Creek reflection in a recent newsletter to show what a difference your

support of Bear Creek Camp makes in the lives of real people.

"Mom! I'm in a kayak!" echoed out from a boy in the middle of the lake. As I was lifeguarding for a recent retreat group, this one simple moment was an excellent reminder of the power of what can happen through experiences at Bear Creek Camp. For this young person, getting into a

kayak for the very first time was a big deal. He started out unsure of how to paddle, testing different grips, figuring out where in the water to position the blade, and generally going through trial and error that started with lots of circles, but eventually developed into an understanding of how to make the boat go where he wanted it to. As I helped him onto the shore, he was so proud to tell me, "That was my first time on a boat and I was getting pretty good!" I gave a fist bump and told him that I was impressed with how much he had learned. And then he said, "I can't wait to do that again!"

This summer, our community will foster so many of those "I can't wait to do that again" moments at the lake, on the high ropes course, in the arts & crafts room, while camping on an overnight, in bible study and worship, and in simply being away from home and building a new community of peers. From summer staff to camper parents to church leaders to financial donors and of course our entire community of prayerful supporters, together we are creating opportunities for campers to try new things and to learn and experiment to grow their skills and expand their comfort zones. Thanks for being part of our work together.

Thank you for your support of Bear Creek Camp and for the five children of our congregation who will experience camp this summer, in addition to Kendra Brosious who will be a camp counselor this summer. Please continue to support them through your prayers for them.

MISSION NEWS

You can learn about the Northeastern PA Synod Assembly held June 1-3 at Kalahari Resort by clicking on the "Assembly 2023" tab at the top of the synod's website (nepasynod.org). That page is filled with links to documents and forms in preparation for the assembly and links to Facebook live streams of the assembly plenary sessions. Our thanks to Marissa Miller for serving as our voting member and to Jean Grube for serving on a planning committee for a space for prayer and devotion.

Meanwhile, the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre Mission District held its assembly online May 30, and Marissa also served as our voting member for that assembly. This will be a rebuilding year for the Mission District, so the assembly was short and business-oriented this year with hopes for a more interactive experience next spring. Please keep our church in these communal expressions like Mission Districts and Synods in your prayers for the work and mission they do.

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NOTES FROM THE ELCA

With the changing picture of the church and of society, the ELCA is actively engaged in reviewing its structural operations and constitution and how it prepares new pastors and other church leaders for their roles in the church of tomorrow.

In March 2022 the twelve-member Candidacy Leadership Development Working Group (CLDWG) was appointed to examine and improve the candidacy process that equips rostered ministers for service in the ELCA. More than 800 people contributed to listening sessions about the future of rostered ministry. Their work continues with a series of online hearings in late June to discuss what future church leaders will need to do, know, and be. You can learn more details by clicking on the “Candidacy Leadership Development” link under the “Our Work” tab at the top of ELCA website (elca.org).

Meanwhile, following the action of the 2022 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, the ELCA Church Council authorized the establishment of the Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church (CRLC) to consist of no more than 35 voting members and directed the Executive Committee of the Church Council to initiate the process of forming the commission at its November 2022

meeting. That committee is now seated with representatives from across the country, and they will begin their work with a first meeting in July. Big changes are coming to the future church over the coming years. We invite your prayers in this important process.

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DID YOU KNOW...

...that you can read Pastor’s sermon and watch a recording of Sunday’s service on the church website? Just visit www.stpaulsdallaspa.org and click on the Sermons tab on the menu bar at the top of the page. There you will find a link to Pastor’s written sermon and a recording of the church’s most recent Sunday service. The sermon and recording are posted to the website early in the week.

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CHURCH COUNCIL NEWS

Congratulations to our newly elected Congregation Council members Don Kretchmer, Tony Linnen, Karen Mertz and Cathy Ridout! They join Gail Ide, Frank Mariano, Marissa Miller, Pat Peiffer, Larry Pierce, Bruce Thomas and John Waschek as elected council members, and executive committee members Pastor Grube (president), Carol Fett (treasurer) and Gail Smallwood (secretary). At the council’s first meeting in June, they will select the committee or ministry they will serve, and they will elect the Vice President for the year. Please keep them all in your prayers as we face a new year of ministry.

FOOD PANTRY UPDATE

The ongoing support of the St. Paul community for the Back Mountain Food Pantry helps make it possible for many families in the area to have food on their tables. The pantry is always in need of items such as pancake mix, syrup, juices, boxed pasta, peanut butter, jelly, canned vegetables, canned meats and fish, and cereals. Thank you all for your continued support!

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MEETINGS SCHEDULED

The next meeting of the Dorcas Society will be held on Tuesday, June 13 at 6:00 pm. This will be our summer picnic and will be our last meeting until September. All women of the church are encouraged to attend.



A BRUSH WITH CELLULITIS

Hi Everyone,

Explore these sites below to learn about CELLULITIS: <https://www.webmd.com/skin-problems-and-treatments/guide/cellulitis> and <https://www.cdc.gov/groupastrep/diseases-public/cellulitis>

The word “cellulitis” may sound so simple; nothing like hearing the word cancer. This is true.

This is my husband’s story: One night he had the chills and then a high fever (103.5 F). You must understand that my husband is never sick, except for an occasional cold, and has not been in the hospital for more than 40 years. For this abrupt onslaught of symptoms, giving him Tylenol and some Gatorade was not going to cut it. So I called the ambulance, voicing my concerns and saying “leaning toward sepsis” to the attendant (who was also a nurse). And while my husband said “ouch” as they lifted his leg onto the litter, he had no other complaints.

The emergency department was ready for him. Antibiotic and fluid IVs were given, lots of blood taken and every conceivable test administered. His left lower leg blew up like a balloon, was red, was covered in blisters within 12 hours and was extremely painful. Yes, it was diagnosed as cellulitis of unknown origin. This was an extreme case. At least no surgery was needed. He did end up with pneumonia and possible heart

complications (that is still to be determined but we don’t think so at this time).

Ten days later he was home. With home-health nurses, occupational and physical therapists having completed their services, and with the help of lots of prayers, he’s almost back to normal. He still has a way to go and has to be very careful.

Don’t blow off anything that is not normal for you! Get it checked out. You’re not being a wimp, baby or whatever you want to call it. Catching something early is very important and could save your life!

In Love and Service and Gratitude,
Gail Ide, Health Ministry

† † †

JUST LIKE DAD

At the beginning of his ministry career, Jerry Steen supplemented his income by mixing animal feed. When his two young boys greeted him at home, they laughed at his dusty appearance before he headed to the shower. “I didn’t think too much of this until I was washing my car and saw my older son doing something very strange,” Steen recalls. “He was picking up the gravel and stones in our drive and rubbing them into his pants.” Curious, the father asked what the boy was doing. “I want to be dusty like you, Dad!” his son replied.

For Steen, that was an eye-opener. “I realized that if a child would look up to his father for being dusty and want to copy his father,” he says, “a child could look up to his father and follow him for anything.” What traits and qualities are you modeling and passing on — to your own kids and to anyone else who looks up to you?

† † †

FROM THE MAILBOX



Dear St. Paul's Social Ministry Committee,

Thank you so much for remembering me at Easter with the Easter gift bag. The poems and hand-made palm cross were a nice touch. I so appreciate it, and also appreciate Pat for delivering it. Continued prayers, please.

Sincerely,
Ann Sabol

To the Social Ministry committee,

Thank you so much for the Easter gift. The cookies were delicious and the candy as well. I loved the palm cross and of course enjoy doing the word search puzzles. A special Thank You! to Carol Fett for delivering it. Thank you again for your kindness and thoughtfulness.

Sincerely,
Robert Kline

My dear friends,

Thanks a bunch for the great Easter bag full of all the things I really enjoyed.

Love,
Marjorie Fritzingler

PS...Keep up the good work you all do.

To the people of St. Paul's

Thank you all very much for all your support of the Social Ministry Committee, and for your assistance with the Mother's Day reception. Your generosity and hospitality are greatly appreciated by the clients of Pyramid Health and by the committee members.

Sincerely,
Karen Mertz

Puzzle!

Complete this crossword with names of biblical fathers.
Use the references for help, if needed.

1. King Solomon's father, who ruled over Israel for 40 years (*2 Samuel 5:4*)
4. He was asked to sacrifice his son Isaac (*Genesis 22:1-2*)
6. He had 12 sons (*Genesis 35:22b*)
7. Samuel's father (*1 Samuel 1:19-20*)
9. His son was Obed (*Ruth 4:21*)
10. David was the youngest of his 8 sons (*Ruth 4:17*)

2. His 3 sons helped him build an ark (*Genesis 6:10*)
3. His youngest son, Jacob, tricked him into giving away a birthright (*Genesis 27:30*)
5. The Father of our Lord (*Ephesians 1:3*)
7. His sons were not like Samuel; they were wicked (*1 Samuel 2:12*)
8. David's best friend and the father of Mephibosheth (*2 Samuel 9:6*)
11. Father of Cain, Abel and Seth (*Genesis 4:25*)
12. He was married to Mary, mother of Jesus (*Matthew 1:20-21*)
13. Father of Jonathan; Israel chose him as their first king (*2 Samuel 9:6*)

Answer: DOWN 1. David, 4. Abraham, 6. Jacob, 7. Elkanah, 8. Jonathan, 11. Adam, 12. Joseph, 13. Saul, 9. Boaz, 10. Jesse, ACROSS 2. Noah, 3. Isaac, 5. God, 7. Eli,



FATHER'S DAY JOKES

My dream job is to clean mirrors because I can really see myself doing that.

We're renovating the house. The first floor is going great, but the second floor is another story.