

Good News

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

May 2023

Phone: 570-675-3859
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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.



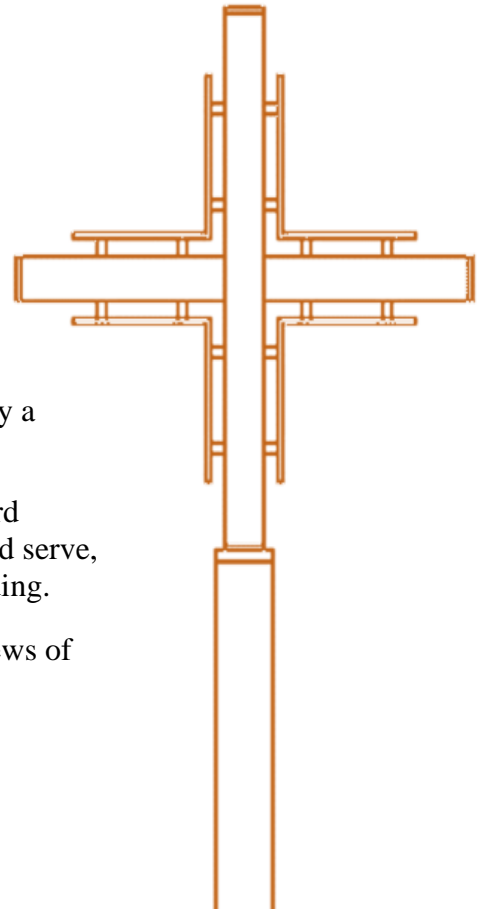
ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

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>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 Holy Trinity, Kingston.

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 Fritzing, Morgan Holbrook, Kay Hometchko, Alice Hudak, Brad and Ruth Ide, Robert Kline, Margie McCarty, Catherine Ridout, Ann Sabol, Betty Schray, 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, Lisa Bennett, Robert Binger, Ed Campbell, Marjorie Catania, Kathleen Reh Corrier, Gabriel Day, Janice DeFebo, Joan Devens, David and Toby Drake, Sawyer Dymond, Faith Lutheran Church, (Cambridge, Mass.); Ron and Candyce Fike, Betsy Gravely, Bob Hughes, Christine Ide, Doug Ide, Glenn Ide, Bradley Kessler, Gerti Latona, Jim Lorah, Audrey Mace, Joe Mariano, Rob Merritt, 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, Jean Thompson, Janice Tucker, Carol Wall, Connie Wilbur, Jennifer Williams, Karen Wise, Peggy Wyda, Ashley, Bethann, Jaimy, Bill, Cindy, Paul, Herb & Sue (no last names given).

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



The next issue of the GOOD NEWS will be the June 2023 issue. The deadline for all submissions will be

Noon on Sunday, May 21, 2023.

SPECIAL DATES

- Rummage/Bake Sale Week, *May 1-6*
- Brotherhood meeting, *May 7, 10:30 am*
- Mother's Day/Council elections, *May 13-14*
- Roast Beef take-out dinner, *May 20*
- Pentecost, *May 28*
- May 29, *Memorial Day; church office closed*

PASSAGES



Updates from the April 4 meeting:

In the council meeting, Council Vice President Scott Schukraft announced that Pyramid Health clients will be working with the landscape committee to prune shrubs and weed, mulch and fertilize the landscape beds. The property committee reported that the DEP water tank inspection would be completed on Monday, April 10, and that the small sink hole by the man hole cover on the driveway will be filled in soon.

The Christian education committee is working on plans for a Head Start project thank-you event, an ice cream social and craft event on May 28, and Vacation Bible School. The evangelism committee, working with Linda Keck and Frank Mariano, has created finger labyrinths for use by those who are visually or physically impaired.

The worship and music committee is studying the results of the recent communion survey. Children will now be able to return voluntarily to the first pew for the children's sermon. The social ministry committee filled Easter bags for distribution to those who are not able to attend church in person.

LIFE AND LIGHT

Easter is the assurance that no matter how hopeless and dark things appear, God is alive and actively working. Our heavenly Father births life out of death, transforms brokenness into wholeness and shines light into darkness. In the words of the poet Christian Wiman (from *Every Riven Thing*):

When the time's toxins
have seeped into every cell ...
somehow a seed of belief sprouts...
tugged upward by light ...

† **IN MEMORIAM** †

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

Steven Thompson

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



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

The Easter season's focus on life and ministry lived in the truth and power of the resurrection comes to a grand climax when the very Spirit of God is poured out on the disciples in the story of Pentecost empowering them in their mission. The same Holy Spirit of God is poured out on us in our baptism, and we, too, are empowered for our mission as disciples of Jesus. That is the narrative arc of the month before us as we celebrate the final weeks of Easter and end the month with Pentecost.

I invite you to ponder what difference living in the truth and power of the resurrection means for you, and how you can carry out your mission as a disciple of Jesus in the power of the Spirit. Where might the Spirit be leading us?

May God continue to bless us and guide us on our journey.

Pastor Grube



MISSION NEWS

We have the luxury of so many riches, we often take things for granted. The ELCA Global Links

newsletter for April reminds us that that is not true for everyone.

During the Easter season we celebrate new life — and all the ways our siblings in Christ experience it around the world. For Ram Kala Kadha in Nepal, new hope and new life arrived in the form of four goats. After Ram Kala’s husband died, she wasn’t sure how she would support her four children. “I just did traditional farming,” she says. “I worked hard, but the land only produced enough for four months.” She worried about how she would keep food on the table and support her children in the future. She often went to bed on an empty stomach.

Then, a few years ago, Ram Kala connected with the Ekikrit Bikash Manch (EBM) organization. EBM partners with the United Mission to Nepal, which is supported by gifts to ELCA World Hunger. Through EBM’s food security program Ram Kala received training in home garden management, financial literacy, climate change adaptation and more. Eventually she was selected to receive four goats and goat-keeping training. Ram Kala’s goats, along with the vegetables from her home garden, have increased her income and helped her create a stable future for her children. She has been able to pay for their schooling and support her daughter’s work toward a bachelor’s degree. Ram Kala now has six goats and plans to continue increasing her herd.

Meanwhile, The Global Service team welcomed two new missionaries to the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program: the Rev. Claudia Soliette Lopez Ortega, YAGM country coordinator for Mexico, and Kelly Schumacher Fuller, YAGM country coordinator for Central Europe. We welcome Soliette and Kelly to global service with the Young Adults in Global Mission program! Thank you for your support of ELCA World Hunger because it makes a big difference around the world.



LABYRINTH WALKS: On Wednesday, May 17, 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.



“Happiness is like jam. You can’t spread even a little without getting some on yourself.”

Unknown

FLEECE BLANKETS

It’s Fleece Blanket Making Time! Please join the Social Ministry Committee in the social hall this month to cut and tie fleece blankets. No special skills are needed. The blankets will be given to children who attend Grief Camp at Hillside Farm during the summer. Blanket-making sessions are scheduled for the following dates in May: Mondays and Wednesdays, May 8 and 10; May 15 and 17; May 22 and 24; and May 31. For more information contact Marianne Mancke.



DORCAS SPRING RUMMAGE/BAKE SALE

Now that spring -and spring-cleaning- days are here, it’s time to get excited about the Dorcas May Rummage Sale!

The Dorcas Society will sponsor the two-day rummage/bake sale, to be held Friday, May 5, 8:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. and 5:00-7:00 p.m.; and Saturday, May 6, 8:00 a.m.-12 noon (Bag Day all day).

Donations of good clean, usable clothes, household items, dishes, pots and pans, holiday decorations, jewelry, books, games, puzzles, etc., are happily accepted. The church building will be open on the following days/times for donation drop-off:

Monday, May 1	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Tuesday, May 2	9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.
Wednesday, May 3	9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Thursday, May 4	9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m.

(Donations not accepted after 2:00 p.m. so Dorcas members will 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, VHS tapes, electrical cords, and old telephones.

All bakers of St. Paul's are asked to donate homemade baked goods for the Bake Sale; the items should be brought to the church by 1:00 pm on Thursday, May 4 so they may be packaged and priced.

BROTHERHOOD ROAST BEEF DINNER

St. Paul's Brotherhood is pleased to announce that their popular Roast Beef dinner will be served on Saturday, May 20 (drive-through only). 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-through pick up time for the dinners will be from 3:30-6:00 p.m. Reservations are not required. Price is \$13 payable at pick-up. So mark your calendars to enjoy a great meal and be sure to tell your friends too!



The Brotherhood is asking for your help. Please look for the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Even if you can help for only an hour or two, your help is vital to making the dinner successful. No experience is necessary; on-the-job training is gladly provided!

† † †

DID YOU KNOW...

...that St. Paul's has a prayer chain group? This group is an organization of dedicated church members who pray for those people on our weekly prayer list. If you or someone you know is in need of prayer, please fill out a prayer request card in the Narthex or contact the church office.

BIBLE STUDY UPDATE

This is your last chance until the fall to check out our regular weekly Bible study "The Bible This Week." We gather on Tuesday mornings at 10:30-11:30 to explore the riches of the scripture readings for the coming week's worship. But we will take a summer break from our weekly gatherings beginning May 30. That means our final study will be May 23 as we dwell in the word for Pentecost Sunday. Take advantage of these final weeks of the study to try it out. We hope to see you there.

† † †

SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

On Sunday, May 28, the Sunday School team will hold its final class of the school year. You are invited to join the classes on that day for an enjoyable craft project and an ice cream social.

OFFICE NOTICE

Please note that the church office will be closed on Monday, May 29 in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.



INTERESTED IN A COUNCIL POSITION?

A special meeting of the congregation will be held prior to worship Saturday and Sunday, May 13-14, for the purpose of electing Congregation Council members. For anyone interested in serving on council, or if you would like more information regarding responsibilities, please contact Scott Schukraft at 570.406.7116 or the church office at 570.675.3859. This year there are four three-year positions that need to be filled, as Karen Mertz, Don Pheasant, Catherine Ridout and Scott Schukraft have completed their terms.

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!

SOCIAL MINISTRY RECEPTION

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, May 14, when, in addition to the annual election for council members, the Social Ministry Committee will host a reception following service, at about 10:30 am. Watch the weekly bulletins for more information about this fellowship event.

GERANIUMS FOR PENTECOST

Pentecost will be celebrated at St. Paul's on Sunday, May 28, and we will place our order for geraniums during the second week of May. If you have not yet ordered your geraniums to be used to decorate the sanctuary on that Sunday, please fill out the order form and payment envelope found on the table in the Narthex; deadline for orders will be **Sunday, May 7**. You may also go to our website and use the Online Giving link to place your order.

FORTY DAYS OF GIVING

Many thanks to all who participated in St. Paul's recent spring 40 Days of Giving project. Because of your generosity, about 400 lbs. of food have been donated to help fight hunger in our community, via the Back Mountain Food Pantry. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

† † †

BLANKET SUNDAY

This year we continue to support Church World Services with gifts of blankets in honor and remembrance of mothers, grandmothers, wives, aunts, sisters, daughters and friends. These blankets are very basic and provide warmth and shelter for those less fortunate around the world—and this year, with even more devastation from the war in Ukraine and natural disasters, the need is greater than ever.

“Blanket Envelopes” were included in the April newsletter and are available on the table in the Narthex. Or you may make your donation via our website, stpaulsdallaspa.org, and click on the Online Giving link and following the prompts. If you have questions about online giving, please contact Carol Fett at cafett54@gmail.com, or call the church office at 570.675.3859. Checks should be made payable to St. Paul's/Blankets for your donation of \$5.00 per blanket. Please remember to return your envelope no later than **Sunday, May 7**.

† † †

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

The next meeting of the Brotherhood will be held on Sunday, May 7 at 10:30 am (please note that this meeting will be held immediately after worship that day). All men of the church are encouraged to attend. The main focus of the meeting will be the take-out roast beef dinner on Saturday, May 20.



The next meeting of the Dorcas Society will be held on Tuesday, May 9 at 7:00 pm. All women of the church are encouraged to attend.



GRADUATION SEASON

Graduation season is fast approaching! Do you have a soon-to-be-graduated family member from either high school or college? Please let the church office know (570-675-3859 or stpaul@epix.net) and we will announce your great news in the June newsletter!

FROM THE MAILBOX



Dear St. Paul's,

Thank you to the Social Ministry Committee for the bag of Easter goodies! It is nice to be remembered. I am always impressed with the thoughtful personalization with which your gifts are prepared. I truly feel this is a gift from the heart given in love. I will share the delicious cookies and candy with my son as we watch TV at night.

With the love of Christ,
Carol Swanson

To the Social Ministry committee,

Thank you so much for the Easter holiday bag full of very welcome goodies and some very useful items. I know I'll pass some enjoyable time using the find a phrase book and it goes without saying John and I both enjoyed the delicious cookies and candies. I miss the activities this committee was involved with and I wish you the best in continuing this vital outreach.

Sincerely,
Betty Schray

To members of St. Paul's,

Brad and I want to thank all who sent cards, phone calls, text message and prayers. Also, thank you to the Social Ministry committee for the lovely bag of useful items. Brad had two cataract surgeries and I had a knee replacement. It certainly is a blessing to belong to such a caring congregational family.

Most sincerely,
Ruth and Brad Ide

Dear St. Paul's Social Ministry Committee,

Thank you very much for the delicious cookies, treats and helpful items which were delivered by Carol Fett at Easter-time. Your kindness is greatly appreciated. Please also extend my gratitude to those who coordinate the Sunday Zoom church service. It provides a most meaningful worship experience.

Sincerely,
Grace Sheldon Fisher

Dear St. Paul's Social Ministry Committee,

Thank you for remembering me on Easter with a cross and two religious poems. Also, thank you for the cookies and candy you gave to me.

Sincerely,
Greta J. Ruckno

† † †

VIBRANT BELIEF

The disciples did not bother to try to understand the resurrection body. They doubted, and then they believed. They believed something so wonderful that it changed this broken, fragmented, beaten-down little group of men and women in a moment from depression to enthusiasm, from despair to new life, vibrant and unafraid.

Madeleine L'Engle, *The Rock That Is Higher*

FINAL EXAMS



A 96-year-old lady was a faithful attendant at my women's Bible studies. She came with her lessons prepared and knew all the answers. One day a tactless member asked her, "Why do you work so hard on these lessons when you're so old and it doesn't matter?" Little Bess Elkins looked up and said confidently, "I'm cramming for my finals."

Florence Littauer, *Women's Devotional Bible*

JOKES ONLY A MOTHER COULD LOVE

Why is a computer so smart?
It listens to its motherboard.

Why did you chop the joke book in half?
Mom said to cut out the comedy.

Why do mother kangaroos hate rainy days?
Because their kids have to play inside!

What did the mother rope say to her child?
"Don't be knotty."

RESILIENCE IN THE STORMS

"In this world you will have trouble," Jesus says in John 16:33 (NIV). Christians, in other words, should expect sufferings and setbacks that challenge their spiritual resilience. Tim Kight, in a blog post titled "The Resilient Christian," offers these reminders for times of adversity: Trust God. Pray fervently, deeply and boldly. Dig into God's Word. And praise God regardless of your circumstances. "When you are in the storm, trust God and don't flinch," Kight advises.

With that game plan and attitude, we can pray with the prophet Habakkuk: "Though the fig tree does not bud ... and the fields produce no food ... yet I will rejoice in the LORD, I will be joyful in God my Savior" (3:17-18, NIV).



Wind, fire & spirit

Acts 2 describes the amazing events of Pentecost, when the apostles received the Holy Spirit.

Directions: The last letter(s) of each word is the beginning letter of the next. Fill in the missing words to complete Acts 2:1-4, NIV.

- HEAV
- ABLE
- AY OF PENTECOS
- ONGUE
- PIRI
- OGETHE
- ES
- ONGUE
- A
- IND



"When the _____³ came, they were all _____⁶ in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent _____¹⁰ came from _____¹ and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They _____⁹ what seemed to be _____⁴ of fire that separated and came to _____⁷ on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy _____⁵ and began to speak in other _____⁸ as the Spirit _____² them."

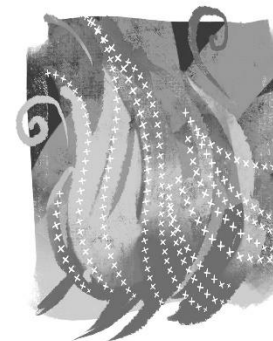
ACTS 2:1-4, NIV

Answer: 1. heaven, 2. enabled, 3. day of Pentecost, 4. tongues, 5. Spirit, 6. together, 7. rest, 8. tongues, 9. saw, 10. wind

Bible Quiz

According to Peter, at what time of day did the Holy Spirit come upon the disciples on Pentecost?

- 9 a.m.
- Noon
- 3:30 p.m.
- 9 p.m.



Answer: A (See Acts 2:15.)