

Good News

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

November 2024

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 10:45 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.



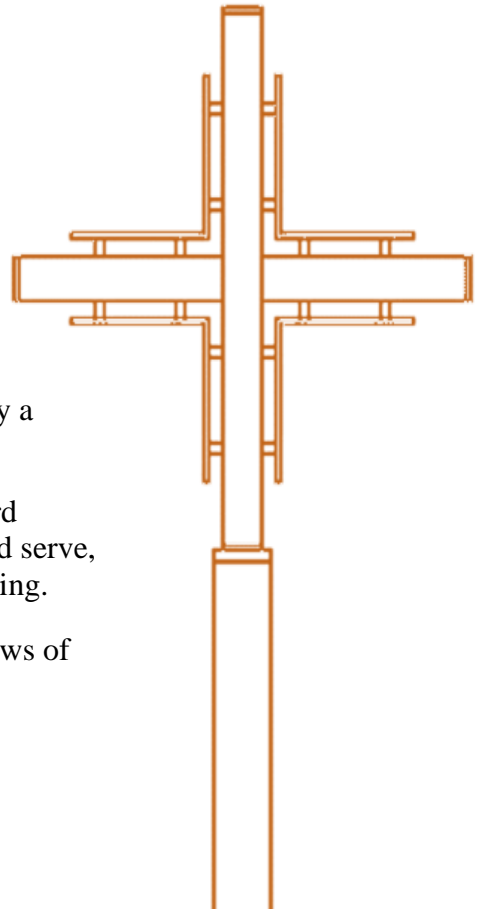
ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

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	
Youth Choir Dir.	Jean Grube	
Minister of Technology	Marissa Miller	
Sexton	James Madonna	
Sunday School Superintendent	Tony Linnen	
Financial Secretary	Ruth Ide	
CONGREGATION COUNCIL		
<u>2024/2025</u>	<u>2025/2026</u>	<u>2026/2027</u>
Larry Pierce	Cathy Ridout*	Frank Mariano*
Bruce Thomas	Don Kretchmer	Gail Smallwood*
Gail Ide	Tony Linnen	Marissa Miller*
Pat Peiffer	Julie Holbrook	Amanda Brezovsky
*Final Term		
CONGREGATION OFFICERS		
President	Rev. Charles H. Grube	
Vice-President	Frank Mariano	
Secretary	Gail Smallwood	
Treasurer	Carol Fett	
STANDING COMMITTEES		
Christian Education	Marissa Miller, Tony Linnen, Julie Holbrook & Amanda Brezovsky	
Communications	Marissa Miller/Gail Smallwood	
Evangelism	Gail Ide	
Fellowship	Julie Holbrook, Larry Pierce	
Finance	Bruce Thomas, Pat Peiffer, Carol Fett	
Head Start	Carol Fett	
Health Ministry	Cathy Ridout & Gail Ide	
Landscaping	Tony Linnen	
Long Range Planning	Frank Mariano/ Don Kretchmer, Amanda Brezovsky	
Property	Bruce Thomas, Pat Peiffer, Carol Fett & Frank Mariano	
Salary Review	Frank Mariano	
Social Ministry	Larry Pierce	
Staff Support	Frank Mariano, Don Kretchmer	
Worship & Music	Pat Peiffer	
* * *		

PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. **Pray for the Congregation of Shepherd of the Hills, Dushore.**

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Hope Beisel, Annie & Marty Bisher, Mary Lou Bowman, Mary Lou Button, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Marge Fritzinger, Robert Kline, Rachelle Pryor, Betty Schray, Bill Smith, Carol Swanson, Alyson 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: Robert Binger, Kathy Boston, Judy C., Marjorie Catania, Janice DeFebo, Manfred Diel, Gene Eyeran, Charlotte Farley, Rich Fufaro, Chuck Gomer, George Hrubowchak, Ruth Hummel, Christine Ide, Linda Johnson, Michael Kaminski, Tyler Karasinski, Erin Kavanaugh, Bradley Kessler, Jacqueline Kretz, Jacalyn Krewson, Alice Laskowski, Carl London, Audrey Mace, Carol Marker, Wanda McCall, Ernie McCarty, Sue & Dan McConnell, Dwight McKee, Molly Crispel McIntyre, Rob Merritt, Carl Miers, Baby Miles, Patty N., Tim Nulton, Helen O'Brien, Peg O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Megan Ortega, Nancy Ott, Pastor Mary Owens, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Coleman Plecker, Sherry Probst, Paul Pryor, Febe Quintanar, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, Edward Sabol, John Schray, Marilyn Roll Shaver, Nancy Shymanski, Wally Skurski, Sandy Sprau, Sandra Stankiewicz, Joe Stephanovich, Stevens Family, Benjamin Szostak, Raymah Tasco, Abigail Thomas, Jean Thompson, Bill Ward, Karen Wise, Woody Wolfe, Peg Wyda, Mary Z., Josh, Ashley, Bethann, Bruce, Cindy, Keith, Kim, Diane, Mark, Mary, Rosemary, Morgan, Lori, Luciano, Lisa (no last names given).

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



The next issue of the GOOD NEWS will be the November issue and the deadline for all submissions will be

Noon on Sunday, November 17.

SPECIAL DATES

- All Saints' Day, *November 1*
- Roast Beef Dinner, *November 2*
- Daylight saving time ends, *November 3*
- Veterans Day, *November 11*
- Christ the King Sunday, *November 24*
- Thanksgiving Day, *November 28*



Updates from the October 1, 2024 meeting:

Worship & Music – St. Paul’s will exchange communion elements with St. Theresa’s on Reformation Sunday; St. Paul’s will be including Prince of Peace Episcopal in our weekly prayers; the next Healing Service will be December 11 at Prince of Peace; Christmas Eve services will be held at 4:00 and 7:00 pm (service at 4 pm will also be on Zoom) and we will add more traditional carols during both services. Lessons and Carols service is scheduled for December 29.

Christian Education – Sunday School children will have a special project for Reformation.

Social Ministry – Sunday School children assisted with decorating pumpkins for our homebound members; Sneaker project for Head Start children is on-going.

Property – electrician is needed for several issues throughout the building including replacing bulbs in three parking lot lights.

Finance – all committees should review their budgets and submit proposals for their 2025 budgets by Sunday, October 27.

6261 Discussion – the following is a summary of Council’s discussions to date: St. Paul’s is entering into this discussion from a position of strength. There is a strong sense of community, and many viable ministries. In addition, a number of initiatives have begun to work with Prince of Peace Episcopal Church. A 6261 Ministry Community would continue to give our congregation the opportunity to review our ministries, and to learn more of the ministries of our fellow Christians. This process will allow St. Paul’s to enhance existing ministries and to develop new ones. A 6261 Community will help our ministries reach a larger

number of people, to work with other Christians to maintain best practices in our community, and to be able to have additional people to work toward mutual goals. Council’s next step is to meet with a Synod representative.

SIMPLE BUT LIFESAVING

In early 2024, Beatrice Johnson became deathly ill in hours. An upset stomach became dangerously low blood pressure; it turned out flesh-eating bacteria had attacked her entire body.

When Johnson’s kidneys started failing, she was put on life support. In a last-ditch effort, doctors added sodium bicarbonate — baking soda — to her IV.

Within hours Johnson was noticeably improved, and she left the hospital a month later. “I never thought something so simple would save my life,” she said.

Another lifesaver many people find too simple is God’s grace. We quip, “If something seems too good to be true, it probably is,” and “Nothing in life is free.” We’re used to payments or paybacks. We balk if a friend offers to buy our lunch. When a neighbor brings us homemade cookies, we don’t dare return the plate empty.

So how can something as huge and *holy* as salvation be a free gift from God? Don’t we need to *do* something to earn it: follow the 10 Commandments? go to church? live a “godly” life? All those things are good to do, but the key is to do them as *thanks* for God’s gift of salvation, not to earn it. Jesus loves you and assures you of eternal life. Just accept the gift! If that seems simple, it’s because it is — but it will also save your life.

.....—Heidi Hyland Mann

“Prayer is nothing else than being on terms of friendship with God.”

—Teresa of Avila

PASSAGES

† IN MEMORIAM †

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

Marjorie E. McCarty

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



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

We wind down the church year this month with the final green Sundays after Pentecost, ending with a celebration of the reign of Christ as the king of all creation. The readings will turn our gaze heaven-ward and to end-time dimensions. It's a grand climax and big-picture view of the long season of discipleship and works and teachings of Jesus we have experienced since last spring. It's a different perspective, and in a way, that is just what the Christian faith and the kingdom of God give us – a different perspective. We need that, because it's too easy to get mired down and sucked into the well of the anxiety, division, animosity, and self-centeredness of the world. Thanks to God's work in Jesus, there are other ways and different perspectives – kingdom ways, gospel truth, neighborly love, and forgiveness renewal.

Thank you for your companionship in the faith,
Pastor

NEW MEMBERS RECEIVED:

On Sunday, October 27, St. Paul's welcomed into membership Peter and Carol Whittkamp and Maureen Aiple by Affirmation of Baptism; a reception to welcome them was held in the Narthex following the service.

A DIFFERENT KIND OF KING

As Jesus himself taught, denial of ourselves leads us to find ourselves (see, for example, Matthew 16:24-25). The crucifixion is the ultimate expression of such self-denial. The all-powerful God of the universe submitting willingly to having all power stripped away. How could that be imaginable? Even more, how could that be true?

And yet it was. For Jesus, as for us, this is what it means to steward our power well. Jesus' death was not just a necessary price for humanity's failure and restoration. It was that, of course. But it was also the incomparable and ultimate demonstration of what God-like power looks like in its expression of self-restraint.

—Uli Chi, *The Wise Leader*

† † †



Our
weekly
Bible
study,
“The Bible
This

Week,” will continue to meet up to Thanksgiving week, so you still have opportunities before our holiday season break to join the conversation. We meet each Tuesday morning, 10:30 – 11:30 and together reflect on the texts for the coming weekend's worship. We hope to see you there.

† † †

“Let there be for every pulse a thanksgiving, and for every breath a song.”

—Konrad von Gesner

SPECIAL SERVICES IN NOVEMBER

The Sundays of November begin and end with special celebrations of the church year. All Saints' Sunday, the first Sunday in November, is our opportunity to remember all the saints of God, particularly those who were made saints by baptism and those saints whose baptisms have been made complete in their deaths this past year. We will remember those of our congregation who have died and those who have been baptized by name in our prayers that day. This year, we will feature a tree of life in our sanctuary and hang tags with the names of those loved ones you have shared at a table in the Narthex. And as we look forward to our 100th Anniversary year, we will honor our history and those who have gone before us by including names of charter members and long-standing members on our tree of life. The final Sunday of November is Christ the King Sunday, the final Sunday of the church year, in which we celebrate the reign of Christ over us and all creation. It will be a special day for some young members of our community as we celebrate their first communion that day.



WORSHIP INVITATION

You are invited to drop in at the Meadows Nursing Center on Wednesday, November 13, at 2:00 pm to join in worship with the residents as Pastor leads the community in worship. This is the final scheduled worship for the year for Pastor at the Meadows.



TRAINING SCHEDULED

We invite school-aged children and their parent(s) to gather Sunday, November 17, following Sunday School at 11:45 for First Communion training. We will learn about how Jesus feeds us, Bible stories that tell of special meals, and how to receive communion. Children who participate will receive their first communion the following weekend, November 23-24, when we celebrate Christ the King. Please contact Pastor or the church office to share your interest or your questions or concerns.



WHERE'S THE BEEF???



St. Paul's Brotherhood will sponsor a "sit-down" fall Roast Beef Dinner on Saturday, November 2. Take-outs will be available starting at 3:30 pm and serving will be from 4:00 to 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$5 for children under 12 and they will be available at the door the night of the dinner.

As always, your help is needed to make sure this dinner is a success! Please check out the sign-up sheet which will soon be available in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed to help make pepper hash, set up tables, work the steam tables and help in the kitchen, wait on tables, clean up, and bake desserts, to name but a few areas where you could help. Remember, no experience is necessary; on-the-job training is gladly provided!



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

Enclosed with this newsletter is an order form and envelope for you to place your order for poinsettias that will be used to decorate the

sanctuary Christmas Eve. Please note that you may also place your order online via St. Paul's website at www.stpaulsdallaspa.org and click on the Online Giving link. Be sure to include the name of the person in whose memory or honor you are giving the poinsettia(s). You may also specify a color, red or white. Deadline to place your order is Sunday, November 24

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DECEMBER WORSHIP INFORMATION

As you make your plans for Christmas season gatherings and activities, keep in mind the special events and activities here at church. The Sunday School program will be during worship Sunday, December 15, followed by a Hanging of the Greens party for everyone to decorate for the season. There will be no Sunday School that day. Our usual schedule of worship and Sunday School will return the following weekend, December 21-22. Christmas Eve services will be at 4 pm and 7 pm with Holy Communion and Candle lighting at both services. Our Christmas Lessons and Carols service will be the following Saturday and Sunday, December 28-29 and there will be no Sunday School that day.

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ELCA
World
Hunger
celebrated
World Food
Day and its
50th
anniversary
with an
online

World Food Day celebration on Tuesday, October 15. What an incredible time it was looking back on the impact of 50 years and reflecting on how God is calling all of us into the bold pursuit of ending hunger in our world. This online celebration featured special music from singer-songwriter and lifelong Lutheran Peter Mayer, a World Food Day message from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, reflections and conversation from the Rev. Amy Current, bishop of the Southeastern Iowa Synod, and Imran Siddiqui, vice president of the ELCA, firsthand stories of impact from ELCA World Hunger partners, including Educación Popular en Salud (EPES), a community health organization in Chile founded over 40 years ago, and more recent starts such as Tapestry Farms, a Midwestern urban farm system in the Quad Cities of Iowa and Illinois, and more. You can view it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A1G-rYWfF5o>. Thank you for being part of the story of the last 50 years of ELCA World Hunger ministry. Your generosity has been at work in over 60 countries, supporting family farms, health clinics, food pantries, community organizing efforts and more.

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JUST A REMINDER



And don't forget...

Daylight Saving time
ends, November 3!

Also, the church will be closed Thanksgiving Day November 28 and Friday, November 29.



LABYRINTH WALKS

On Wednesday, November 20, 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 pm. Gail Ide will be present to offer guidance on walking the labyrinth. Watch for reminders about the labyrinth in church bulletins.

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WORSHIP & MUSIC UPDATE

The committee would like to thank the members of St. Paul's for your continued response to the Hymn Request Cards.

Hymn Request Cards may be found in the pew holders; place your card in the yellow box in the Narthex. Please continue to submit your requests for the upcoming Advent and Christmas season.

The following requested hymn will be used during the month of November:

Nov. 3 *Shall We Gather at the River*
 Jerusalem, My Happy Home

Nov. 24 *Lift High the Cross*

† † †

TOYS FOR TOTS

The Cub Scout Pack 241, which meets weekly at St. Paul's is doing a service project by placing containers for new toys for children at Christmas. If you would like to participate, please place unwrapped new toys in the containers which will be placed in the church Foyer by Sunday, November 24, when they will be picked up by the U. S. Marines for distribution to families in need.

100th ANNIVERSARY "FUN FACT"

In 1967 a suspended cross (now standing in the Narthex) was built by member Roy Stair and placed over the altar as a gift by Doras in memory of their first teacher, Mrs. John Batey. A parsonage and adjoining building were torn down, a much-needed parking lot was completed and a new front entrance was built. St. Paul's continued to grow, and to grow with a firm link to its beginning and to its traditions. In 1990, as the congregation celebrated its 65th anniversary, skilled organ restoration workers completed badly needed repairs on the organ and added six new ranks of pipes, restoring it to its original musical glory. Thoughtful members now began to consider the needs of the church throughout the rest of the decade, especially its rapidly growing Sunday School and those members who, because they were in wheelchairs, could no longer come to worship. (To be continued...)

† † †

THANKFUL THOUGHTS

"The worst moment for the atheist is when he is really thankful and has nobody to thank." That quote from 19th-century painter Daniel Rossetti is often misattributed to Christian apologist G.K. Chesterton. In fact, Chesterton springboarded off Rossetti's statement to elaborate on thankfulness. "The converse of this proposition is also true," said Chesterton, "and it is certain that this gratitude produced ... the most purely joyful moments that have been known to man. [Rossetti] boasted that he mixed all his colors with brains, and the great saint may be said to mix all his thoughts with thanks."

† † †

FOOD COLLECTION

St. Paul's Sunday School classes will be having a turkey decoration contest and you will be able to vote for your favorite turkey by placing a nonperishable food donation beside it on November 16 and 17; it's a nice way to support our Sunday School and make a donation to the Back Mountain Food Pantry.



Hi Everyone,

Recently I saw where someone had written that the COVID virus was gone. It's not!!! Several variants are around and you don't want to get any COVID. Please take advantage of the free government give away again for the test kits at <https://www.covidtests.gov/>. I know mine are out of date even with their extension.

Disasters! OMG, these hurricanes! There are no words for their horrendous damage to properties, buildings and especially to our fellow human beings – physically, mentally and emotionally. We all are trying help in all ways. Remember our flood of '72? It took years to recover in some places and for some people! One of the ways we can help is with the Lutheran Disaster Fund. Give now and as often as you can. They will get what's needed to where it's needed now and over the long term for these and future disasters.

Speaking of helping people. You may know a veteran that needs help or may be at risk (e.g. suicide). Please check out our revolving circular library in the hallway in front of the social hall. There is important information to be found there.

In Love and Service and Gratitude, Gail Ide,
member of the Health Ministries Team

† † †

FROM THE MAILBOX

To the Members of St. Paul's Dorcas Society:

My name is Thomas Smith and I am the Volunteer Resource Coordinator at the Clarks Summit State Hospital. I am writing you today to thank you for inviting me to attend the Fall Rummage Sale to collect donations for our patients here at the hospital.

The donation will be kept in our Clothes Rack, which is an area like a Goodwill Store, where any of our 140+ patients can come to obtain clothing items at no cost to them This is very beneficial to our patients as many come to us with limited

clothing, shoes, or coats. This allows for a patient to have an opportunity to obtain free personal clothing items while they are here and to be able to prepare for life after discharge. The kindness and generosity of your church community shines bright!

Sincerely,
Thomas Smith

To the Children & Teachers of St. Paul's Sunday School:

Thank you for the Halloween pumpkin. I loved it!

Marjorie Fritzinger

To St. Paul's Members:

Thank you so much for the beautiful shawl that was given to my mother at Allied Services. She loves it and always has it wrapped around her. May God bless you abundantly for all you do.

Sincerely,
Mary Jo Pahoski and her
Mother, Alice Gachor

To St Paul's Sunday School Children,

Thank you for being so nice and for the beautiful decorated pumpkin – your thoughtfulness meant much more than words can ever say. It made my day to receive it. Hope you all have a wonderful fall season. God Bless!

Greta Ruckno

† † †

YOU KNOW YOU'RE GETTING OLD WHEN....

- Everything hurts, and what doesn't hurt, doesn't work.
- You sit down to the breakfast table, and the snap, crackle, pop you hear isn't your breakfast cereal.
- Your little black book contains names ending only in "M.D."



VETERANS DAY SALUTE

After fighting in World War II, Luther Bergeland wasn't done serving his country — or his God. The Minnesota farm boy, who “came back to faith” during combat, later served for decades as a military chaplain. For his actions in the field in Korea, Bergeland was awarded the Bronze Star. Then during Vietnam, he served in the Army Reserves in Colorado, tasked with informing family members about soldiers’ deaths. Despite the challenges, Bergeland embraces the special role he was able to play for four decades, sharing Jesus and his love with countless people. “That’s what we did, preaching and reaching out to people,” he told a reporter. “I always liked the military very much because it just did a lot for me, and I hope I did a lot for it.” On Veterans Day, we salute Bergeland and all the men and women who selflessly serve.

† † †



Don't forget to vote
Tuesday, November 5th

PUZZLE!

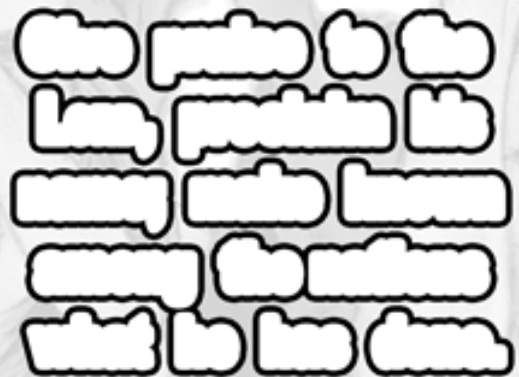
Discover a psalm of thanks from David by matching the words in the list to the shapes below.

Puzzle!

Discover a psalm of thanks from David by matching the words in the list to the shapes below.

WORD LIST

nations proclaim the what to make done Give
name among Lord known the he praise has his



1 Chronicles 16:8, NIV

Answer: Give praise to the Lord, proclaim his name, make known among the nations what he has done. 1 Chronicles 16:8, NIV