

Good News

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

June 2025

Phone: 570-675-3859
Fax: 570-675-5646
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.



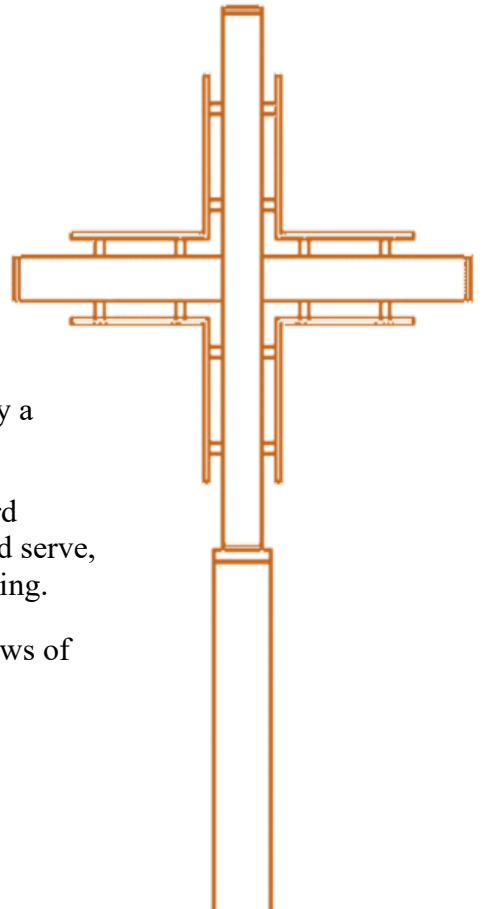
ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

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>2025/2026</u>	<u>2026/2027</u>	<u>2027/2028</u>
Cathy Ridout*	Frank Mariano*	Larry Pierce*
Don Kretchmer	Gail Smallwood*	Bruce Thomas
Tony Linnen	Marissa Miller*	Gail Ide
Julie Holbrook	Amanda Brezovsky	Pat Peiffer
*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	
* * *		

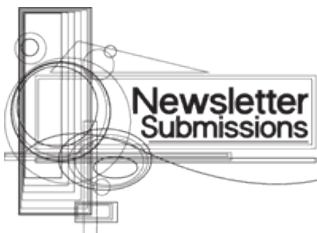
PRAYER LIST - Please remember to ask permission from the person you are placing on the prayer list. **Pray for the Congregations of St. Paul, Mountain Top and Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, Dallas.**

Pray for those suffering illness: *Members:* Chris Bellezza, Annie & Marty Bisher, Mary Lou Button, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Marge Fritzinger, Jean Grube, Robert Kline, Catherine and Emilia Policare, Rachelle Pryor, Cathy Ridout, Greta Ruckno, Carol Scheff, Betty Schray, Carol Swanson, Jack Traver, Peter Wittkamp, Alyson Wood, 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, Judy C., Marjorie Catania, Janice DeFebo, John Diel, Manfred Diel, Karen Evanish, Jeffrey Farley, Thomas Fortner, Rich Fufaro, Deacon Barb Gessner, Nancy & Christopher Gillies, Jenn Hubbard, Christine Ide, Michael Kaminski, Joe Kerestes, Bradley Kessler, Elsie Kosmach, Rebecca & Ryan Kozloski, Alice Laskowski, Lindsey Lattari, Carl London, Audrey Mace, Carol Marker, Debbie Maskalis, Sue & Dan McConnell, Dwight McKee, Bryant Mesick, Rob Merritt, Patty N., Tim Nulton, Helen O'Brien, Peg O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Toni Quinn, Febe Quintanar, Sandy Rebo, Joe Reilly, Robin Rosencrans, John Roushey, Lisa Rowe, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, Marilyn Roll Shaver, Nancy Shymanski, Debbie Smith, Mark Sokolowski, Sandy Sprau, Sandra Stankiewicz, Joe Stephanovich, Stevens Family, Ed Stofko, Benjamin Szostak, Raymah Tasco, Abigail Thomas, Arnold Thompson, Judi Vietz and family, Jere Vietz, Bill Ward, Karen Wise, Woody Wolfe, Frank and Cheryl Wright, Peg Wyda, Mary Z., Paul Zawadzki, Ashley, Bethann, Bruce, Cindy, Keith, Diane, Mary, Rosemary, Morgan, Lori, Greg, Josh, Justin, Jim, Megan, April (no last names given).

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



The next issue of the GOOD NEWS will be the July/August 2025 issue and the deadline for all submissions will

be **Noon on Sunday, June 15, 2025.**



Updates from the May 6, 2025 meeting:

Communications Committee: a new laptop to run the Sunday Zoom broadcast has been purchased.

Christian Education: the committee is preparing for the last Sunday School class of the year on Sunday, May 18 and has contacted members of Prince of Peace Church about collaborating on a Vacation Bible School program.

Finance/Property Committee: The church's lawn mower is being serviced; along with regular maintenance, the clutch needs to be replaced. Due to leaks, the old caulking on the Baptism Font is being removed and new caulking will be applied. Expansion joints in the sidewalks and along the curbing also need to be recaulked. The flashing over the take-out window in the kitchen has been replaced.

100th Anniversary: The next anniversary event is the May 25 worship service and pig roast. Bishop Christopher deForest will lead the service. The anniversary committee also is working on plans for the July 26 Fellowship in Art Quilt and Art Show and Tea, which will also feature baskets sold at a silent auction.

The next Council meeting will be on Tuesday, June 3, at 7:00 pm.



SPECIAL DATES

- Pentecost, *June 8, 2025*
- Flag Day, *June 14, 2025*
- Trinity Sunday, *June 15, 2025*
- Father's Day, *June 15, 2025*
- Juneteenth, *June 19, 2025*
- First day of summer, *June 20, 2025*



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

Pentecost – the fiftieth day – is the celebration of the Holy Spirit of God poured out on all flesh to guide us in our faithful living, to unite us in one body, to call us to our mission and ministry as disciples of Jesus, and to fill us with the resurrection life of God. It's in Holy Baptism that the Spirit is poured out on us, so it is an appropriate day for us to welcome and receive new members by Affirmation of Baptism. June 8 is Pentecost. Join the celebration of the Spirit of God among us.

In the Spirit,
Pastor



GRADUATION ACCOLADES

Maggie Henderson, granddaughter of Karen & Dan Henderson, graduated on May 31 from Scranton Preparatory School and will attend Penn State in State College in the fall.

Jacob Thomas, son of Bruce & Amy Thomas, graduated on May 10 from Misericordia University with a Masters Degree in Speech-Language Pathology. He will soon begin his clinical fellowship year in the profession.

Garrett Porasky, grandson of Sandi & Wayne Fassett, graduated on May 10 from Penn State Wilkes-Barre with a degree in IT Computer Science.

Josh Hafker, son of Lisa & Robert Hafker, graduated on May 10 from Misericordia with a Bachelors Degree in Professional Studies with a focus on education. He is planning to work as an assistant special education teacher in Virginia.

Lily Fetterman, daughter of Lisa and Kurt Fetterman, graduated on May 7 from Temple University with a Bachelors Degree in Neuroscience.

Savanna Eneboe, daughter of Joel & Missy Eneboe, graduated from Temple University with a Bachelors in Arts and Communication.

Tyler Fett, grandson of Lee & Carol Fett, graduated on May 30 with Honors from New Oxford High School and will attend Bethany College in West Virginia majoring in Physical Therapy with emphasis on Exercise Science.

Congratulations to all graduates! If we learn of any others we will share the news in the summer edition of the GOOD NEWS.

BIBLE STUDY UPDATE

The Bible This Week, our weekly Bible study on the weekly worship texts, is taking its usual summer break. We will resume in the fall. In the meantime, the texts for the coming week's worship continue to be published each week in the worship bulletin, and you can use them in your own prayerful reflections. Watch future newsletters and bulletins for the announcement of The Bible This week's return in September.

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SHARED MINISTRY

Our partnership with Prince of Peace Episcopal church continues this month with the next of our quarterly Healing Services on Wednesday, June 8 at 7 pm at Prince of Peace. This is an opportunity for our two congregations to worship and serve together, bringing Christ's healing power to anyone of our community who would like to receive healing in prayers, laying on of hands, and anointing with oil. The other regular ministry

we do with Prince of Peace is the monthly Grief Support meeting on the third Thursday of each month at St. Paul's. Trained and experienced leaders guide the conversation for those who meet in peer support to share their experience of grief and assist one another in the process. The next meeting will be Thursday, June 19 at 6:30 pm. Spread the word to your friends and neighbors about both opportunities.

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WHAT IS A FATHER?

Being a male species does not make a man a father, for a dad is a special blend of hero: disciplinarian; a friend; someone to look up to; someone to model ... someone with a touch of the "mother" in him; someone who is big enough to say, "The fault was mine" ... someone who lives the kind of life that makes you want to say, "I, too, shall follow him!"

—Alton Kaul



LABYRINTH WALKS

On Wednesday, June 18, 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. Watch for reminders about the labyrinth in church bulletins.

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NEPA SYNOD NEWS

As we celebrate our congregation's 100 years of worship, ministry, and service, we live into the legacy our founders established for us and continue to look outward and forward to ways we can make a difference in our community and for our community. The same spirit of reformation, renewal, and revision is moving our Northeastern PA Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America forward in new directions. Our NE PA Synod has unveiled its 2025 Strategic Intent (<https://nepasynod.org/2025-strategic-intent/>) for its own ministry, structure, staffing, and

financing. Having established its goals and vision for mission, the Strategic Intent adapts the synod's structure to serve those goals with new and different staffing and intentional resources for 6261 ministry communities, Licensed Lay Ministers, and emphases on Growing Young, Gaining Strength, and Going Beyond Death to Life.

Meanwhile, the ELCA Commission for a Renewed Lutheran Church (CRLC) has completed its years-long work and made its recommendations to the Church Council and the Churchwide Assembly this coming summer for its own structural, constitutional, and staffing changes to better serve its mission. Our sister congregation, Prince of Peace Episcopal Church is experiencing similar changes as two dioceses (like our synods, the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania and the Diocese of Bethlehem) are uniting to form one diocese that covers nearly half of the state. The Bethlehem Diocese recently sold its Diocesan House and the Bishop and Staff are moving their offices to Nativity Cathedral.

Changes are happening across the church. Keep all these expressions of the church of Christ in your prayers.

Please share your thanks with Gail Ide and Marissa Miller for serving as our congregation's voting members at the Northeastern PA Synod assembly held the final days of May in Stroudsburg. The assembly featured festival worship with the Ordination of Deacons, a visit by Bishop Tobias Bilz of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Saxony, one of our international companion synods, elections for synod treasurer and synod council, and emphasis on "Connecting the Dots" of the three lanes of our synod mission, Growing Young, Gaining Strength, and Going Beyond Death to Life, weaving together a vibrant tapestry of faith, community, and purpose through the newly released synod's Strategic Intent.

WHEN ON VACATION

When on vacation, be with us in spirit.

The rest of the summer, be with us in person.

ELCA PASTORAL LETTER

ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton has issued a pastoral letter on the election of Cardinal Robert Prevost as Pope Leo XIV. "We of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America join with people around the world in praying for the ministry of Pope Leo XIV," the letter read, in part. "We rejoice with the people of the Roman Catholic Church, especially those in our communities, as they joyfully receive their new shepherd." Eaton says we share "context and theological roots" with the U.S.-born pope, noting that, like Leo, Martin Luther was an Augustinian. "We pray that the Holy Spirit will sustain Pope Leo XIV for the ministry to which he has been called, and will strengthen us all in our vocations as bridge-builders and as witnesses to God's love for all people and creation." You can read the full letter on the ELCA website (elca.org) under the News tab.

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The recent issue of ECA Global Links reports the continuing activity, service, and work being done around the world with your support: When a civil war

broke out in Sudan, Ali and Ala, teenage brothers, fled to Cairo, Egypt. There, they heard about St. Andrew's Refugee Services (StARS), a longtime partner of ELCA World Hunger. At StARS, the brothers were assigned a caseworker and, due to their status as unaccompanied minors, received emergency food boxes, clothing, blankets and financial assistance. Ali and Ala were eager to return to school and were able to enroll in classes. In addition to regular courses, they attended group therapy sessions with other refugee students. They soon made friends and became acclimated to their new community.

Meanwhile, Lutheran Disaster Response is responding to the 7.7 magnitude Myanmar Earthquake despite significant limitations. The ruling junta in Myanmar only controls about 25% of the territory in the country, with the rest

controlled by a patchwork of groups (including pro-democracy organizations). Due to the conflict and government control, limited access to the most-impacted areas, and strict controls and limitations on information, it is extremely difficult to provide humanitarian services in Myanmar. However, Lutheran Disaster Response is working with partner agencies and churches with whom it has existing relationships to provide direct assistance in this region.

Finally, the Young Adults in Global Mission's (YAGM) Discernment Interview Placement weekend and the International Leaders Program's Student Gathering co-event took place March 27-30 at the Loyola University Retreat and Ecology Campus. The event brought together young adults discerning a year of YAGM service, alongside current ELCA scholarship recipients from global companion churches around the world. During the weekend, both groups had the chance to worship and be in fellowship with one another, participate in an Indigenous orientation, and spend time either in discernment for a year in YAGM or networking and learning in collaboration with the ELCA Coaching program. This was a wonderful opportunity to deepen the connection between two of the ELCA's long-standing international programs and to engage in mutual relationship across many parts of the global church.

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The Luzerne County Head Start Annual Luncheon in May celebrated 60 years of Head Start by honoring community partners, alumni scholarships, and staff service awards. Four Outstanding Community Partner Awards were presented to businesses and organizations who were recognized for their significant contributions to Head Start children and families. Sixteen high school seniors who were once Head Start students from 10 different area high schools were awarded scholarships sponsored by a wide variety of sponsors totaling \$25,500. And 39 people were recognized for their service as staff, bus drivers,

foster grandparents, and board of directors on their anniversary years, one for forty years of service. It is a joyous and optimistic event to see so much good work being done for the sake of children and families in our community, and a praise-worthy achievement for us that we are able to play a small role in that work by hosting our own Head Start classes.

† † †

THE FIRST DAY OF VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

One summer afternoon, a grandfather picked up his 4-year-old grandson at church. "Well, Jason, how did you like your first day of vacation Bible school?"

"It was great!" the boy replied. "We heard some stories and drew some pictures. Then we went out to play, and when we came back in God had juice and cookies waiting for us!"



JOIN US for the 100th Anniversary event "Fellowship in Art" on Saturday, July 26 from 11:00 am-2:00 pm. The event will include a quilt show, art exhibit, silent auction baskets and a tea, beginning at 12:30 pm, with cost of admission at \$15.00 for the tea. For questions about the overall event, quilts or the tea, you can contact Annie Bisher by email at monarch1023b@hotmail. For questions about the art exhibit, you can contact Cynthia Mahalick at 570-466-5233, and for silent auction baskets, you can contact Karen Mertz at 570-762-1138. If you are interested in helping with any of these projects please contact Annie, Cynthia, Karen, Julie Holbrook, or the church office.

SILENT AUCTION BASKET DONATIONS

The Anniversary Committee is looking for basket donations for the Silent Auction to be held in conjunction with the Art & Quilt Show/Tea on July 26. Some basket ideas include: Ethnic Foods (Italian, Asian, Mexican), Back to School Items, Tools, TV Night with Snacks, Drinks, Movies, Games, Baby Items, Coffee/Tea, Baking, etc. It's a good idea to choose a theme and begin shopping for the items a little at a time. Questions??? Call Karen Mertz at 570.762.1138. If you are in need of a basket, you may pick one up by stopping in at the church office.

† † †



Hi Everyone,

I recently was reminded not to do gardening right after eating by the unmistakable feeling of heartburn/GERD! Just couldn't wait to dig in the dirt when the sun finally came out the other day. But I paid for it. I found this item in WebMD that I thought could be interesting: webmd.com/heartburn-gerd/ss/slideshow-heartburn-overview.

Another area of interest for many people is recalls. This site is very beneficial to check frequently or sign up for specific areas: www.cpsc.gov/Recalls. I saw today that children's hair clips are being recalled due to lead issues. Another item, the Igloo 90 qt. rolling cooler, is being recalled for fingertip amputation and crushing hazards.

We want to enjoy this summer and not be injured or sick!

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

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FROM THE MAILBOX

Dear Rev. Grube and Congregates:

I am writing you today to thank you for inviting me to attend the Spring Rummage Sale this past weekend to collect donations to be used by our patients here at the hospital. I have had the privilege to attend the last three rummage sales and can say each time that the church volunteers that I have interacted with are consistently welcoming and eager to help. I always enjoy my interactions with the volunteers at the church and look forward to seeing them at future events.

Thank you again for thinking of us.

Sincerely,
Thomas Smith
Volunteer Resource Coordinator
Clarks Summit State Hospital

† † †

ARE YOU LISTENING?

A father asked his 7-year-old son to say the mealtime prayer. "All right," the boy said. "Let's pray."

When every head was bowed, the boy prayed, "Lord, we thank you for the pancakes we're going to eat tonight. Amen."

"Jimmy," his mother said. "I think you should know we're having chicken, not pancakes, tonight."

"I know," Jimmy answered. "I just wanted to see if God was paying attention."