

# Good News

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

## September 2025

Phone: 570-675-3859  
Fax: 570-675-5646  
Email: [stpaul@epix.net](mailto:stpaul@epix.net)  
Web Page:  
[www.stpaulsdallaspa.org](http://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](http://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.



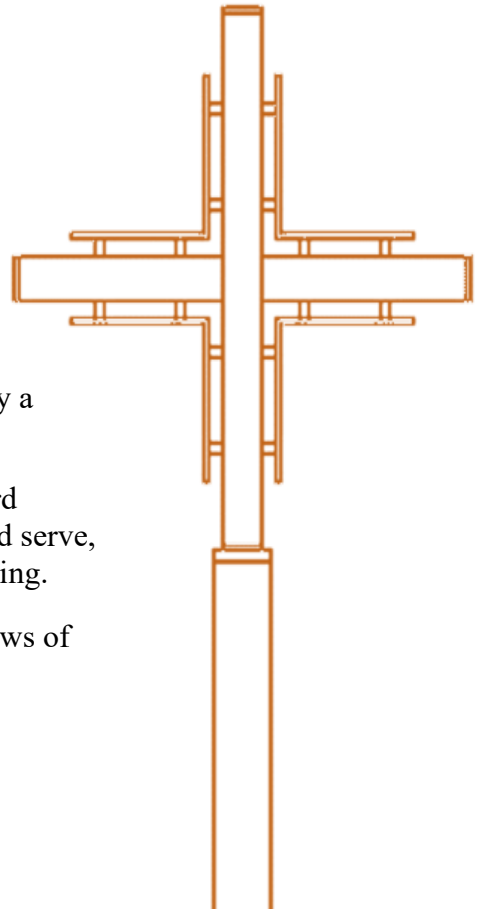
### ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

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 Faith United, Nescopeck; St. Peter's, Hughestown; 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, Sandi Fassett, Marge Fritzinger, Morgan Holbrook, Robert Kline, June Lorah, Pat Peiffer, Rachelle Pryor, Wally Richardson, Greta Ruckno, Dave Scheff, Carol Swanson, Jack Traver, Anita Weiss, Geri Williams, Peter & Carol 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](mailto:stpaul@epix.net) if you desire a name to remain on the list beyond that time.

**Family & Friends:** Robert Binger, Michael Bowanko, Judy C., Marjorie Catania, Paul Davis, Janice DeFebo, John Diel, Manfred Diel, Denise Ekdahl, Grace Sunglee Emmett, Karen Evanish, John Fisher, Thomas Fortner, Rich Fufaro, Nancy & Christopher Gillies, Jenny Graveira, Jenn Hubbard, Joe Hudak, Pam Husted, Mike Iannuzzi, Christine Ide, Michael Kaminski, Joe Kerestes, Bradley Kessler, Elsie Kosmach, Rebecca & Ryan Kozloski, Alice Laskowski, Lindsey Lattari, Kevin Loeffler, Carol Marker, Sue & Dan McConnell, Dwight McKee, Bryant Mesick, Rob Merritt, Betty Jane Mokychic, Patty N., Marlin Nuehring, Tim Nulton, Helen O'Brien, Peg O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Toni Quinn, Febe Quintanar, Robin Rosencrans, John Roushey, Lisa Rowe, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, Nancy Shymanski, Debbie Smith, Gloria Smith, Mark Sokolowski, Sandy Sprau, Sandra Stankiewicz, Joe Stephanovich, Stevens Family, Lori Strobel, Benjamin Szostak, Abigail Thomas, Arnold Thompson, Judi Vietz and family, Jere Vietz, Karen Wise, Frank and Cheryl Wright, Peg Wyda, Mary Z., Paul Zawadzki, Ashley, Bethann, Bruce, Keith, Diane, Mary, Rosemary, Morgan, Lori, Greg, Justin, Jim, Megan, April, Connie, Jill, Henry, Denny, Kara, Becky, Danny (no last names given).

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



The next issue of the GOOD NEWS will be the October 2025 issue and the deadline for all submissions will be

**Noon on Sunday, September 14, 2025.**



### Updates from the August 5, 2025 meeting:

**Church Office:** Microsoft will end support for its operating system Windows 10 in October, 2025, but the office has not updated its computers' operating systems yet to Windows 11 because the computers might be too old to use the update. The office is considering several options to deal with the issue.

**Communications Committee:** the committee will be removing information about Covid from the church website.

**Christian Education:** There will be no Sunday School classes on Sunday, September 21 because of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Brunch.

**Evangelism Committee:** Committee members are organizing a church booth for the annual Back Mountain Harvest Festival on Sunday, September 14. The committee will set up a core group to help organize the church's progress with the Reconciling in Christ project.

**Property Committee:** Overgrown shrubs have been removed from in front of Rt. 118 lighted sign; light bulbs and ballasts still need to be replaced inside the sign. The bases of all the parking lot light poles have been sanded to remove rust and painted. Current projects include: dealing with subsidence of three areas in the driveway (and fixing pot hole), repairing mortar joints in Columbarium, maintenance of landscape beds and cleaning and restoring two teak benches.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee:** The anniversary quilt show, art exhibit, silent auction baskets and tea were well received and attended. The next anniversary event will be an outdoor movie on Saturday, August 23 at 7:00 pm. A family-friendly movie will be shown and free popcorn and beverages will be provided. Please sign up for the event on the signup sheet in the Narthex. There is also a signup sheet for the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Brunch at the Greens at Irem Temple on Sunday, September 21.

## HONORING THE GIFT OF WORK

The Bible affirms both the value and dignity of work. From the beginning, God placed Adam in the garden "to work it and keep it" (Genesis 2:15, ESV). In the fourth commandment, we are reminded not only to observe the Sabbath, but also to labor diligently throughout the week: "Six days you shall labor, and do all your work" (Exodus 20:9, ESV).

Work is more than a routine obligation; it is an opportunity to engage our God-given abilities in meaningful ways. Whether using our hands, minds, or hearts, we reflect the image of our Creator—bringing order, care, and creativity into the world.

Our labor allows us to contribute to the common good, find personal fulfillment, and practice faithful stewardship of the talents and strengths God has entrusted to us. As Paul writes, "We are God's fellow workers" (1 Corinthians 3:9, ESV).

On this Labor Day, may we take time to recognize the blessing of work and celebrate those who serve, build, teach, lead, and labor with purpose and care.

—Author unknown

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## PASSAGES.....

### **Baptisms:**

Aug. 17: Austin Matison Smith  
Aug. 24: Bellami Matison Smith  
Bennett Walker Smith  
Alaya Dani Masri

† † †

"The ultimate aim of the human mind, in all its efforts, is to become acquainted with Truth."

—Eliza Farmham

## SPECIAL DATES

- Labor Day; church closed, *September 1*
- Rally Day/ God's Work. Our Hands Sunday, *Sunday, September 7*
- Healing Service, *Wednesday, September 10*
- Roast Beef Dinner, *Saturday, September 13*
- Harvest Home Sunday, *September 14*
- Back Mountain Harvest Festival, *Sunday, September 14*
- Labyrinth Walk, *Wednesday, September 17*
- Grief Support Group meeting, *Thursday, September 18*
- 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Brunch at Irem, *Sunday, September 21*
- Blessing of the Animals service, *Saturday, September 27*
- Rummage Sale Week, *September 29-October 2*
- Rummage Sale, *October 3-4*

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### **Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**



Summer vacations are ending, temperatures are dropping, and we have been welcoming some of our worshipers back as we segue into the new season of renewed activity and ministry. It is invigorating and uplifting to look at the schedule of activities and calendar of events and think about all we will do together as a whole congregation or in groups, for our own congregation or for the community, alone or with others, like community or ecumenical partners. There is a place for you somewhere in all of it. And there may be ideas, projects, skills, or activities you might bring to the congregation that adds to our activity and wellbeing. We look forward to it! The Spirit is living and active among us, and that is good news!

In the Spirit,  
Pastor Grube

## JUST A REMINDER

The church office will be closed on Monday, September 1 in observance of Labor Day.

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### **A BUSY SEPTEMBER!**

Several Sundays in September take on special themes and celebrations. God's Work. Our Hands, our participation in the ELCA-wide emphasis on community service and outreach, joins with our Sunday School Rally Day on September 7, and sets our attention not so much on worship that day but on the activities before and after worship. The collection for our GWOH emphasis has been underway for weeks. Following worship, join the Sunday School children, adults, leaders, and friends for Rally Day activities in the Gathering area. Holy Moly, you'll have a great time!

The following week, September 14, we'll join the Dallas area community Harvest Festival with our own Harvest Home celebration.

And the third Sunday in September, 21st, is our special anniversary brunch at Irem after worship (there will be no Sunday School this Sunday), and a special anniversary guest preacher for worship, Pastor Lynn Rothrock, who served St. Paul's as pastor when we celebrated our fiftieth anniversary and before joining the NE PA Synod staff, and returned to lead us during Pastor Grube's sabbatical leave in 2014. Plan to be a part of all these celebrations!

We end the month with our annual service of Blessing of the Animals. We invite you to bring your pets appropriately restrained and gather for a short service of scripture, prayer, and blessing. Usually scheduled close to the feast day of St. Francis, who was known for his love of all God's creatures, our service will be Saturday, September 27 at 11:00 am under the Porte Cochere.

† † †

"If God is your copilot, swap seats."

—Anonymous





**MUSIC GROUPS MEETING:** Margaret Quintanar, Director of Music/Organist, is inviting everyone interested in singing with the adult choir and playing chimes in the chimes choir to gather for a conversation about new ideas for the church's music ministry. The meeting will be held in October following worship (date TBA). Please watch the bulletin for the meeting date.

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**NEW HEAD START CLASSROOM** – as you may know, Head Start requested the use of another classroom for PreK children starting this fall. This request was approved by our

Congregation Council. This means that we will be adding a third classroom to our “Adopt-A-Classroom” sponsorship! Throughout the year, there will be opportunities for you to assist the Head Start staff by donating Sneakers for the “God’s Work. Our Hands” project, or hats, scarfs, mittens/gloves, socks, etc. to hang on the Christmas “Mitten Tree.” Our Head Start staff is also looking for volunteers to visit the classrooms and read a story to the children or lead an activity. If you would like to be a ‘reader’ or help with a craft activity, please contact Carol Fett at [cafett54@gmail.com](mailto:cafett54@gmail.com) or 570.852.9176.

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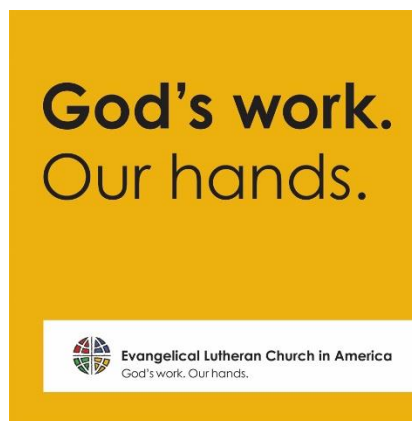
### **GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP**

On Thursday, September 18, and on the third Thursday of each month, the Grief Support Group will meet at St. Paul’s at 6:30 pm. These meetings are free and open to the public.

### **BIBLE STUDY RESUMES**

It’s time for our weekly Bible Study, the Bible This Week, to resume! Each Tuesday morning, 10:30-11:30 starting Tuesday, September 9. We gather to read and explore the scripture readings for the coming week’s worship. This fall, Luke will be our primary gospel reading; we’ll be spending considerable time with the prophets for our Old Testament readings, and the pastoral epistles (1 & 2 Timothy) will provide us the lion’s share of our second readings. We read and hear the selected passage together and then share our reflections, observations, insights, and questions in open discussion and engagement with the passage. There is no requirement for reading ahead, though the readings are printed each week in the bulletin if you’d like to read them. And there are no tests, right or wrong answers (or questions), or outside research for you, just conversation about a reading we all hear together.

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**Sunday, September 7, 2025**

The Social Ministry Committee is looking forward to this day as an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

As in the past few years, the committee is asking for your donations of sneakers – youth sizes 9-12 – for boys and girls who will be filling our Head Start classrooms in the fall. There is a Sneaker Display table in the Narthex; please remember to attach your gift receipt to the shoes.

All members of St. Paul’s are thanked for supporting Social Ministry projects!



**HARVEST HOME SERVICES** (September 13/14). 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. The Social Ministry Committee will

be focusing on assisting the Back Mountain Food Pantry with special items noted each of the four weeks leading up to Harvest Home. Below are the requested items for the week of:

**August 23/24** – Canned vegetables and fruit

**August 30/31** – Canned meat (Stew, Tuna, Salmon, Chicken, Spam, etc.)

**September 6/7** – Cereal (Pancake/Waffle Mix, Syrup, Pop Tarts, etc.)

September 13/14 – Pasta (Rice, Mac & Cheese, Spaghetti/Sauce, etc.)

There is a special collection point in the Narthex for your donations, and thank you for your continued support of all the Social Ministry projects.



## NEW AMERICAN

**HEROES** – is the name of the Support Groups sponsored by the Grandparent Raising Grandchildren Advocacy Council. The gathering listens, educates, and is a place to share frustrations and good news. The Wyoming Valley Group meets on the second Monday each month from 6:00 to 7:30 pm. The meeting is held at the Jewish Community Center in Kingston, Pa. If you cannot attend in person, a Zoom link can be provided. Also, the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference “Grandparent Raising Grandchildren” will be held at The Woodlands Inn, Wilkes-Barre, on October 24, from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm. Free admission for Grandparents Raising Grandchildren and includes snacks and a hot lunch. To register, please call or email: 570.822.1158, et. 2386 or [Michael.bobrowski@luzernecounty.org](mailto:Michael.bobrowski@luzernecounty.org).



**SPCA COLLECTION** – Once again, St. Paul's will be celebrating all our non-human friends and family members and asking God to bless each and every one of them, and in fact, all of God's creatures. In celebration of this event and to assist our local animal rescue shelter, we are again collecting items on their wish list. Beginning next Saturday and culminating at the Blessing of the Animals service scheduled for Saturday September 27, the following items are being collected:

Canned Cat Food (Pate)	Dry Kitten Chow
Canned Dog Food	Cat & Dog Treats
Cat Litter (Clay, Non-Clumping)	
Cat Toys & Scratchers	Kong Toys for Dogs
Small Cat Beds	Paper Towels
Toilet Paper	Laundry Detergent
Dish Soap	Towels/Washcloths
Bleach, Windex, Clorox Wipes	
Latex / Non-Latex Gloves (all sizes)	
Drawstring Tall Kitchen Trash Bags	
Gift Cards for Petco or Pet Supplies Plus	
Rubbing Alcohol / Peroxide	

If you have other items that you would like to donate, but do not see on the list, please contact Ray Mancke at 570.430.8639. There is a table with an SPCA display located in the Narthex.



## DON'T FEEL LIKE COOKING?

St. Paul's Brotherhood will be sponsoring a roast beef dinner on Saturday, September 13. Take-outs will be available at 3:30 pm and serving will be from 4:00 to 6:30 pm. Tickets are \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12 and are available at the door the night of the dinner.

Your help is needed to make this dinner a success! Please check out the sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Volunteers are needed to help make pepper hash (Wednesday, September 10), set up tables, work the steam tables and help in the kitchen, wait on tables, clean up, and bake desserts. Remember, no experience is necessary; on-the-job training is gladly provided!



The Anniversary Committee thanks everyone who helped with the quilt show, art show, and basket auction and tea. We couldn't have done it without all the help!

Still to come in September is the Brunch fundraiser at Irem Country Club at 11:00 am on Sunday, September 21 (no Sunday School), cost \$32.00 per person. Checks should be made payable to St. Paul's and must be paid by September 14. Payment envelopes are available on the sign-up poster in the Narthex and may be placed in the offering plate. So much food and fellowship to enjoy. We also welcome Rev. Lynn Rothrock as our guest preacher this weekend. Proceeds to benefit Pastor's Helping Hand Fund.

Also, on Sunday, September 14, we will be present at the Dallas Harvest Festival and will have St. Paul's bags and knitted butterflies to hand out.

In November our All Saints' Celebration will not only celebrate those members that passed this year, but will also remember others that passed the last 100 years.

On December 21 we will celebrate with Jesus' Birthday Party.

We welcome all of you to do the celebrating with us. It is a grand year!



"The truth is that people always act according to what they believe. It may not be what they say they believe, but deep down it's what they really believe. And false beliefs lead to false actions."

—E. Chris Curvin



## FALL RUMMAGE SALE SCHEDULED

Summer is nearly over and fall is approaching, so it's time to get excited about the Dorcas October Rummage Sale!

The Dorcas Society will sponsor the two-day rummage/bake sale, to be held Friday, October 3, 8:00 am – 2:00 pm and 5:00 – 7:00 pm; and Saturday, October 4, 8:00 am – 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, Sept. 29	9:30 am – 4:00 pm
Tuesday, Sept. 30	9:30 am – 7:00 pm
Wednesday, Oct. 1	9:30 am – 4:00 pm
Thursday, Oct. 2	9:30 am – 4:00 pm

(Note: donations not accepted after 2:00 pm on Thursday so Dorcas members will have time to price baked goods.)

**PLEASE DO NOT DONATE** 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, October 2.





## **BEAR CREEK CAMP UPDATE**

Another year of summer camp at Bear Creek Camp has come to an end, and as we have come to expect, it was a very successful year. But the camp isn't being abandoned just

because children are headed back to school.

Labor Day family camp and a late September 5K family-friendly Through the Woods Trail Run and Walk will keep Bear Creek a busy place in September, and there is still more to come with a fall women's retreat and a winter camp on the schedule. Thank you for your support of Bear Creek Camp and our campers and staff. It is an important and wonderful ministry of our church in our own back yard.



## **EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWS**

Our partnership with Prince of Peace Episcopal Church continues this month with the next of our quarterly Healing Services at St. Paul's on Wednesday, September 10, 7:00 pm. Pastoral leaders from both congregations come together to join in scripture and prayers, laying on of hands and anointing for healing in a typically quiet, peaceful, and worshipful time. We acknowledge the need for healing of all kinds in our lives: physical, emotional, spiritual, and mental. Those who feel a need for healing or those who wish to gather to pray for healing for others are all invited to attend.



## **ALL IN THE FAMILY**

Bill Keane, creator of the Family Circus cartoon strip, tells of a time when he was penciling one of his cartoons, and his son Jeffy asked, "Daddy, how do you know what to draw?" Keane replied, "God tells me." Jeffy said, "Then why do you keep erasing part of it?"

## **NEPA SYNOD NEWS**

The 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly officially opened July 28 at the Phoenix Convention Center, meeting through Aug. 2. In addition to daily worship, it was a full assembly with plenty of business each day. Lori Fedyk, ELCA treasurer, and Wyvetta Bullock, executive for administration, presented the budget report and proposal for 2026-2028. The report showed that the revenues in each of the previous three years exceeded spending. The additional funds were used to meet obligations created by the previous assembly, to contribute to an endowment that supports new ministries, and to provide funds to support work in the next two years as the churchwide organization settles into the new and additional work that comes from a new presiding bishop, Fedyk said. The assembly later approved (774-10) the ELCA's budget for 2026-2028. The assembly noted that 2025 marks the 60th anniversary of the U.S. Lutheran-Catholic dialogue, which has resulted in considerable reconciliation following nearly 500 years of tense relationships. On the third day of the assembly, Yehiel Curry, bishop of the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, was elected presiding bishop of the ELCA. He was elected on the fifth ballot. Curry will be installed Oct. 4 in Minneapolis. Curry is the first Black presiding bishop of the ELCA. He has served as bishop of the ELCA Metropolitan Chicago Synod since 2019 and was currently serving as the chair of the council of bishops. He previously served as mission developer (2009-2012) and pastor (2012-2019) of Shekinah. The Rev. Lucille "CeCee" Mills was elected Aug. 1 to serve a six-year term as secretary of the ELCA. Mills was elected on the fifth ballot. She will be the first Black secretary of the ELCA. You can read more detailed day by day reports from Living Lutheran under the News tab of the ELCA website ([elca.org](http://elca.org)), or ask Pastor Grube, who has compiled those reports and press released into a single document.





Hi Everyone,

As we see all the children heading back to school a year older, we know we're also getting older. WebMD has a good article on nutrition and we older adults that's interesting: [webmd.com/healthy-aging/ss/slideshow-aging-vitamins-older-people](http://webmd.com/healthy-aging/ss/slideshow-aging-vitamins-older-people). Scroll all the way to the bottom.



Thinking of school, September, and the beginning of autumn, we'll be spending more time inside. Think houseplants! WebMD has an article on how houseplants can help us, including for students: [webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/ss/slideshow-health-benefits-houseplants](http://webmd.com/a-to-z-guides/ss/slideshow-health-benefits-houseplants). At least the deer can't eat these on me! But keep the plants out of reach of your fur-babies. (If you have COPD, make sure you scroll to the end of the page.)

You already know that I firmly believe in vaccines but I also believe we consume way too many artificial dyes and foods treated by pesticides. Too many pollutants affect us. Ok, I'll get off my soapbox! Sorry about that.

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

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### **LABYRINTH WALKS**

On Wednesday, September 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 pm. Watch for reminders about the labyrinth in church bulletins.

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"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

—Nelson Mandela

### **ELCA NEWS**



ELCA Global Mission "Global Links" newsletter shared the story of Maria and the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia ("IELCO" in Spanish), a companion church of the ELCA. After an avalanche destroyed Maria's home in 2020, she and her neighbors were welcomed into a nearby mission church. Colombian Lutherans — with support from Lutheran Disaster Response — provided them with shelter and meals. Now she's starting a house church to continue sharing her testimony and passion for the Lutheran church. Meanwhile, the Lutheran World Federation Council meeting took place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, June 11-16 and was attended by ELCA Global Mission staff. At the meeting, council members adopted new public statements, decided the location of the 14th LWF Assembly and worshiped at local congregations. The LWF council also approved the full membership of four new churches into the Lutheran World Federation: the Lutheran Church in Cambodia, the Gereja Niha Keriso Protestant Church in Indonesia, the Manipur Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Bodo Evangelical Lutheran Church. And finally, the Young Adults in Global Mission (YAGM) program marked its 25th anniversary with a gathering of alums May 3-4 at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Eden Prairie, Minn. The veterans reminisced, reconnected and celebrated 25 years of a program that accompanies Christians around the world, enriching both churches. Lutheran Disaster Response and ELCA World Hunger are active in over 60 countries around the world. Thank you for your support of this vital global outreach.

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### **SUNDAY SCHOOL ACT OF KINDNESS:**

Please bring personal hygiene products to church to benefit residents at Pyramid. St Paul's Sunday School will be packing bags of products on Rally Day as a service project. Please bring items before September 7. Items needed are toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, shampoo, combs, brushes, chap stick and hand lotion.