

# Good News

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

## October 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.



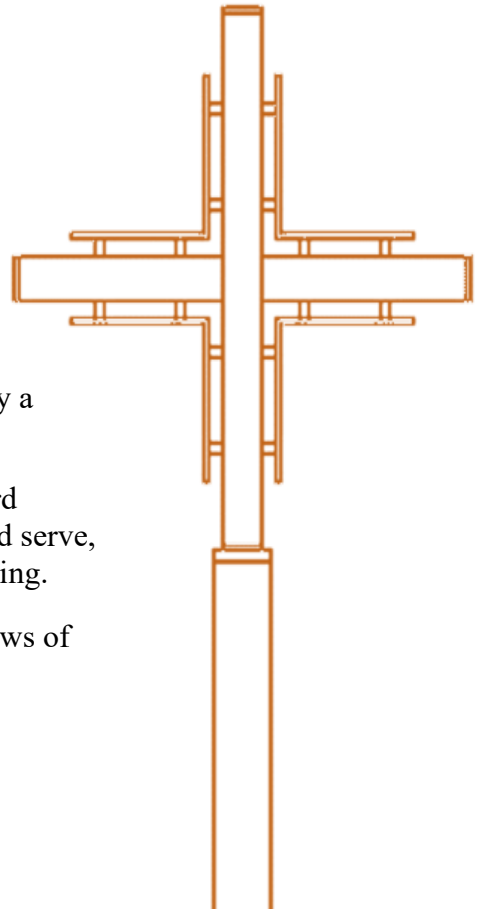
### ST. PAUL'S MISSION STATEMENT

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 St. Matthew United and St. Peter, both in Scranton; and Prince of Peace Episcopal Church, Dallas.**

**Pray for those suffering illness:** *Members:* Linda Ash, Chris Bellezza, Annie & Marty Bisher, Mary Lou Button, Pam Cyphers, Margaret Edwards, Cheryl Everhart, Sandi & Wayne Fassett, Marge Fritzing, Morgan Holbrook, Gail Ide, Robert Kline, June Lorah, Linda Lundberg, Pat Peiffer, Rachelle Pryor, Wally Richardson, Greta Ruckno, Carol Swanson, Jack Traver, Anita Weiss, 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, Thomas Fortner, Rich Fufaro, Nancy & Christopher Gillies, Jenny Graveira, Jenn Hubbard, Joe Hudak, Ashley Hutchins, 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, Lillian McGrady, Dwight McKee, Bryant Mesick, Rob Merritt, Betty Jane Mokychic, Patty N., Tim Nulton, Helen O'Brien, Peg O'Brien, Alice O'Neil, Megan Sheehan Palmer, Ryleigh Phillips, Paul Pryor, Alan Pugh, Toni Quinn, Febe Quintanar, Robin Rosencrans, John Roushey, Lisa Rowe, Lloyd and Bonnie Ryman, John Sheeran and family, Nancy Shymanski, River Grace Siperko, 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, the M family, (no last names given)

## NEWSLETTER DEADLINE



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

**Noon on Sunday, October 19, 2025.**



### Updates from the September 2, 2025 meeting:

**Pastor's report:** The Northeast Pennsylvania Synod has announced new associates for mission districts and the synod council approved a new Indonesian church to be established in Scranton. At its summer assembly, the ELCA appointed a new bishop and a new secretary, and information about these leaders is available on the ELCA website. The assembly also adopted new amendments to its constitution, and since the ELCA constitution serves as a model for St. Paul's constitution, St. Paul's members will have an opportunity to vote on similar changes to our constitution at the January 2026 congregational meeting.

**Church Office:** Microsoft will end support for its operating system Windows 10 in October, 2025; the office is working on obtaining a quote for updating its computers to Windows 11.

**Christian Education:** This year's Sunday School theme will be Acts of Kindness, and "Holy Moly" is the name of this year's curriculum. The committee is working on a Prayers Pals project.

**Evangelism Committee:** Committee members are organizing a church booth for the annual Back Mountain Harvest Festival on Sunday, September 14. The committee suggested that name tags be provided for visitors and newcomers, and council approved the suggestion. Gail Ide welcomes volunteers to work with her in a core group on the Reconciling in Christ project.

**Social Ministry:** Pat Kowalek has agreed to serve as chair of the committee, and a committee meeting on September 24 at 10:30 am has been scheduled.

**Property Committee:** The two teak benches are in the process of being cleaned and resealed w/Teak Oil. The sidewalk expansion joints and

the Columbarium mortar repair will be completed before winter. Window sills in the three Head Start Classrooms have been sanded, stained and sealed; window sills in the remaining classrooms will also be addressed in the near future. The limestone caps on the sidewalk lights have been cleaned with a stone cleaner recommended for limestone. After discussing the quote received to repair the lighted sign on the hill facing Rt. 118 (upwards of \$4500) council decided to postpone repairs until more is known regarding the upcoming construction in front of the sign. Council members thanked Smith Blacktop Company and Dan & Paulette Smith for repairing the holes in the church driveway.

**100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee:** The outdoor movie on Saturday, August 23 went well. The next anniversary event will be a brunch after worship on Sunday, September 21 at the Greens at Irem. There will be no Sunday School that day. All members of the congregation are encouraged to bring framed photos of deceased loved ones for a display for All Saints Sunday on November 2. The committee also is planning to make the Birthday Party for Jesus, held after the Sunday School Christmas program, the last anniversary event of the year.

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### SPECIAL DATES

- Rummage Sale Week, *September 29-October 2*
- Rummage Sale, *October 3-4*
- World Communion Sunday, *October 5*
- Columbus Day, *October 13*
- Reformation Sunday, *October 26*
- Halloween, *October 31*

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"The Bible is not only a book which I can understand; it is also a book which understands me."

—Emile Caillet



**OCTOBER IS** Pastor Appreciation Month. It's an ideal time to thank pastors for their dedication to God's people and their ministry. A written note, a card or even a kind word is a nice gesture of appreciation. But if you were to ask pastors what they'd like or what they need, most would probably reply, "Pray for me." That's what the apostle Paul requested throughout his letters. To the church at Rome, he urged, "Join me in earnest prayer to God on my behalf, that I may be rescued from the unbelievers in Judea and that my ministry to Jerusalem may be acceptable to the saints, so that by God's will I may come to you with joy and be refreshed in your company" (Romans 15:30-32, NRSV).

† † †

"Truth is mightier than eloquence; the spirit stronger than genius; faith greater than learning."

—Martin Luther



**Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,**

I have always loved being outdoors in the fall and weather that calls for comfortable flannel shirts and brilliant colors that blaze across our northeastern forests. I have also long found it ironic that it is also a typically very busy time in the church, so that I have to catch my outdoor

moments when I can in often short doses. The calendar is full and the beauty is all around us. I hope you can take full advantage of both. I look forward to seeing you in church, and maybe on the trail.

Peace,  
Pastor Grube

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**OUR WORSHIP** will feature particular celebrations on two weekends this month. October 11-12 will be our annual service of Healing. During our regular weekend worship, we will invite those who desire to come and receive the laying on of hands and anointing with oil for

healing, being particularly mindful of the church's ministry of healing as disciples of Jesus and the community of his body. The final weekend, October 25-26, will be our celebration of the Reformation, calling to mind Martin Luther's call for reforming the church of his day and the ongoing nature of the church to reform. It's an especially poignant celebration for us that day as we exchange the elements for Holy Communion with our sisters and brothers of St. Therese Catholic Church, Shavertown.





## JOIN US FOR BIBLE STUDY...

Our weekly Bible Study, the Bible This Week, continues each Tuesday morning, 10:30-11:30, as we read and share our insights and reflections on the scripture readings for the coming weekend's worship. Those readings are printed each week in the bulletin if you'd like to read them, but there is no requirement for you to do so. Just come and join the conversation whenever you can. We hope to see you.



## MUSIC GROUPS MEETING

Margaret Quintanar, Director of Music/Organist, is inviting everyone interested in singing with the adult choir, playing chimes in the chimes choir or just interested in our music program 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.



## ALL SAINTS' DISPLAY

All Saints Sunday, November 1-2, will take on a special 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary flavor in our display of the saints. In addition to the pictures of those who have died and those newly baptized this past year, we want to also feature pictures of our congregation's past leaders and members as well as the current saints who make up our congregation today. We invite you to gather pictures you may have of past church members as well as a picture of your own family. We hope to have a

huge photo display of St. Paul's saints across its 100-year history right up to today. Watch for detailed directions about sharing your photos in bulletin announcements closer to the event, but start digging in your albums now.

Also, included in this newsletter is a form and envelope for our annual All Saints' Day Appeal, or you may make your donation, via our on-line giving link (Vanco) by visiting our web site at [www.stpaulsdallaspa.org](http://www.stpaulsdallaspa.org) and clicking the link to on-line giving. As usual, names of donors will be printed in the bulletin.



## IT'S FLEECE BLANKET making time!

Please join the Social Ministry Committee in the Social Hall to make blankets for the children attending grief and special needs camps at Hillside Farm on any of the following dates: Monday 10/6, 13, 20, 27 and 11/3; Wednesday 10/8, 15, 22, 29 and 11/5. We will meet at 10:00 am. No special skills are needed and bring a friend if you wish. Call Marianne Mancke at 570.675.9858 if you have any questions. Thank you in advance for support this Social Ministry project!



**RUMMAGE SALE**--The Dorcas Society is getting ready for its two-day fall rummage/bake sale, to be held Friday, October 3, 8:00 am till 2:00 pm & 5:00 till 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.

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On Thursday, October 16, 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.

**ST PAUL'S SUNDAY SCHOOL Invites Prayer Pals for 2025-2026:** Church members are invited to sign up to be a Prayer Pal for a child in Sunday School this year. What will it entail? You will get a name of your pal who is a Sunday School student. You will pray for that person and they will pray for you. Through the months of October 2025 to May 2026, the Sunday School may invite you to visit the Sunday School opening. The time of the opening is about 10:45 am to 11 am, after the worship service at church. We expect Prayer Pals may visit about 3 times during the year and we will have social time, refreshments and a small activity at those special

openings. You might write a couple cards to your Pal during the year. It promises to be a grace-filled relationship with a young person in our church family. Please give it some prayerful consideration. If you have any questions, Julie Miller Holbrook is our Prayer Pal coordinator; the sign-up sheet is in the Narthex.

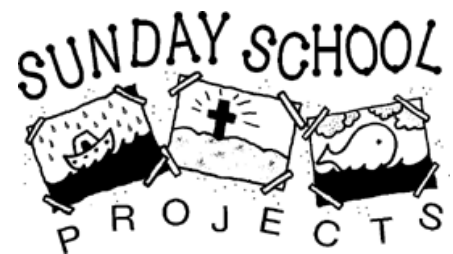
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**THERE WILL BE** a Roast Beef Dinner on Saturday, November 1; please check the volunteer sign-up poster in the Narthex to indicate how you would like to help – experience isn't necessary - free training for all positions – from setting the tables, working the steam table, serving food, pouring coffee, clearing dishes, dishwashing, as you can see, there is a lot to do! As usual, take-outs will begin at 3:30 pm; dinner will be served from 4:00 till 6:30 pm. Due to fluctuating beef prices, as of now, the cost of tickets is still being determined – watch future bulletins for updates.

## SIX BRIEF STORIES FULL OF MEANING

1. Once all villagers decided to pray for rain. On the day of prayer, all the people gathered, but only one boy came with an umbrella. **That is faith.**



2. When you throw babies in the air, they laugh because they know you will catch them. **That is trust.**

3. Every night we go to bed without any assurance of being alive the next morning, but still we set alarms to wake up.
4. **That is hope.**
5. We plan big things for tomorrow in spite of zero knowledge of the future. **That is confidence.**
6. We see the world suffering, but still, we get married and have children. **That is love.**
7. On an old man's shirt was written a sentence "I am not 80 years old, I am sweet 16 with 64 years of experience. **That is attitude.**

Have a happy day and live your life like these six stories. Remember – Good friends are the rare jewels of life, difficult to find and impossible to replace!



### **LABYRINTH WALKS**

On Wednesday, October 15, 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.



### **RIC PROGRAM UPDATE**

The Evangelism Committee needs your help. St. Paul's council has approved participating in the Reconciling in Christ (RIC) program and the

committee has reached the point in the process that requires a Core Team. RIC is a long journey exploring how our church can be more welcoming to groups of people who are often marginalized or persecuted for who they are: LGBTQIA+, BIPOC, and other cultures. Our church is already intentionally designed to accommodate those children of God with physical impairments. Now we can be as intentional about welcoming the rest of God's children.

Are you passionate about this issue to expand our love? If you would like to be part of the Core Team, or if you have questions about it, please contact Gail Ide by texting 570.899.1059 and putting RIC in the title, or by calling the church office at 570.675.3859, or email at [stpaul@epix.net](mailto:stpaul@epix.net).

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### **EPISCOPAL CHURCH NEWS**

We celebrate with our sisters and brothers of Prince of Peace Episcopal Church as they and their Bethlehem Diocese continue the process of joining together with the Diocese of Central Pennsylvania. As part of their reunification, many parishes have taken on sibling parishes. Prince of Peace's sibling parish is Christ Memorial Episcopal Church in Danville, the Reverend Lisa Work, Rector. This reunification of dioceses is a significant and important process, and relationships across the former borders is a helpful way to reunite them. Please include both Prince of Peace and Christ Memorial churches in your prayers.

### **NEPA SYNOD NEWS**

The Northeastern PA Synod is expected to make an announcement later this month about two new staff members. A new Director for Leadership will serve full time in support of pastors, congregations, ministry candidates, and transitions. A new Director for New Ministries will serve a half-time position supporting Synodically Authorized Worshiping Communities (SAWC), new ministry starts, and special ministry services in the synod. Among

their SAWC responsibilities will the new Indonesian Lutheran Church Scranton (ILCS), which received official status as a SAWC by the synod and ELCA at the beginning of September.

### **ELCA NEWS**



Newly elected ELCA Presiding Bishop Yehiel Curry will be installed Saturday, October 4, at Central Lutheran Church, Minneapolis. Our NE PA Synod Bishop Christopher deForest will be attending. You can join in the worship through a link to the livestream of the installation on the ELCA website ([elca.org](http://elca.org)). As we welcome Bishop Curry and pray for him in his new office, we also celebrate and give thanks for Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, who served as presiding bishop for two six-year terms 2013-2025 after serving as bishop of the Northeastern Ohio Synod for a full term 2006-2013. She is looking forward to retirement.

In addition to our own ELCA, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land elected a new bishop in June. The Rev. Imad Mousa Dawood Haddad was elected bishop. He addressed the 2025 ELCA Churchwide Assembly, speaking of the situation in the Holy Land and the challenges that his church faces. "As Lutherans, our churches are part of the same vine. You, too, are a church called to abide in Jesus and bear fruit," Haddad said. "When you speak clearly about justice for Palestinians, together with other Christian, Jewish and Muslim voices in the Holy Land and around the world, that is bearing fruit." Meanwhile, the recent edition of "Global Links" newsletter also announced that in July ELCA Global Mission welcomed 20 new missionaries serving in 11 different countries. These new global personnel are serving in roles such as pastors, teachers, Seminary Horizon International interns, coordinators and more. Over the two-week orientation event the new missionaries learned about missionary sponsorship, the companion synod program and the cultural context of their countries of service. Additionally, they learned about accompaniment (the ELCA's approach to

global mission) and the MERGE justice principles (migration justice, environmental justice, racial justice, gender justice and economic justice) that influence their work and ministry. Please keep our new missionaries and our companion churches in your prayers.

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You can join Pastor Grube at the Meadows Nursing Center for worship this month on Tuesday, October 28 at 2:00 pm. Residents gather in the large room at the end of the hall and they would love to have you worship with them.

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### **FROM KNOWING TO BELIEVING**

Get to know Jesus well because the more you know him, the more you'll love him. And the more you love him, the more you'll want to follow him. And the more you follow him, the more you'll become like him. And the more you become like him, the more you become yourself.

—Ned Erickson

### **PROVIDENCE AND PASTRIES**

After starting a new diet, I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favorite bakery. I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and there in the window was a host of goodies. I felt this was no accident, so I prayed, "Lord, it is up to you. If you want me to have any of those delicious baked goods, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery." And sure enough, God answered my prayer! On the eighth time round the block, there it was!