



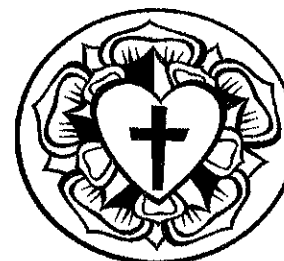
Confirmation class will begin a new year in September during the Sunday School hour. Seventh grade and older students are eligible to enroll. Please call the church office if interested. Questions can be directed to Pastor Kathy.



75th and Over Birthday Luncheon

The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring the annual 75th and Over Birthday Party Luncheon on Sunday, September 29th at 12:00 noon in the pavilion. Church members who are 75 and over will be receiving or have already received invitations for this event. If you are in this age category and haven't received an invitation, please contact us. Maybe your birthday is not recorded in the church office.

You may now make an offering to the church through our website www.SummerHillLutheran.org. Simply click on the online giving button on our home page and you will be directed to a secure site to make a one time or on-going offering. You may direct your offering from your checking or savings account or a credit or debit card. Use this QR code to go directly to the contribution page.



The Epistle of St. Paul's

September 2019

**A publication of
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church,
Summer Hill**

THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL'S

is published by:

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Sunday Holy Communion Service – 9 am

Saturday Holy Communion Service - 5 pm

Our Staff

The Rev. Kathleen Ash-Flashner	Pastor 570-977-4189
Matthew Hayes	Director of Music 484-794-7902
Linda Angstadt	Parish Secretary 570-754-7350
Eva Waldman	Church Sexton/Treasurer 570-754-7350
Cindy Brown	Pavilion Sexton 570-345-1279

Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9 am - 3 pm
Closed from 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm for lunch

A Thank You For a Local Benevolence Gift



Dear St. Paul Lutheran Church,

Imagine my surprise last week when I went to the mailbox and saw your generous donation. Thank you for helping make my service dog a reality! Because of your graciousness, I now have enough to cover my portion of the dog 100%. If all goes well, I will have a 4-legged partner within the next year. The dog will know over 60 commands and be able to help with my specific balance needs. I can't wait to see the way not only my life will change, but also the life of St. John's. Imagine the look on a shut-in's face when a lab lovingly places its head on her lap or the neighbors I'll meet because I can confidently walk outside again.

Thank you for modeling that generosity changes lives. Now a congregation in Schuylkill and a congregation in Berks are connected by more than Rt. 183 and Lake Wynoah. The Good News of Jesus transcends all, even county lines. A service dog will allow me to keep being as mobile as possible for as long as possible. Once I'm matched with a dog, we go through team training, and we bond, we would love to worship with you on a Saturday night.

God's richest blessings on all of you, and keep making a difference!

Follow our progress on Facebook: like "Dog for Dietz."
Serving Christ Together,
Pr. Rachel Dietz
St. John Lutheran Church
Mohnton, PA



At its July meeting, the Church Council voted to "try on" one Sunday service for the fall. Starting Sunday, September 8th our Sunday worship service will move from 9 am (Summer hours) to 10 am for September, October, and November. Sunday School will begin at 8:45 am and dismiss at 9:45 am. After experiencing this trial for a couple of months, a more permanent worship time or times will be discussed at the congregational meeting in November. Following conversation at the congregational meeting, the plan is for the council to meet November 20th to set a more permanent time starting the 1st Sunday in Advent, December 1, 2019. We could remain at the same worship time, change the worship time, or go back to 2 services on a Sunday. All options remain open. In a survey last year, the great majority supported one service, and yet there are many questions. Perhaps "trying it on" will bring more clarity to the questions and fears. The Saturday service at 5 pm will remain the same.

Dear Folks,

Recently, due to some sleepless nights caused by my Lyme's Disease, I had some rather long conversations with God. I say conversations, but I have to admit, at times I felt more like Jacob wrestling with God through the night ending up with a hip out of joint. At one time or other, we all face such struggles and conversations. Mine was borne out of pain and uncertainty, but it can be concern for a family member or relationship, a medical issue, or even a problem at work.

For people of faith, we turn to prayer and conversation with God because we believe in the struggle there is still hope. We believe that God can shine a light that no darkness can overcome. We believe that we are not alone, but God is present with us, even in the most troubling of times, offering abundant mercy and grace.

In those dark struggles, or even in everyday life, such hope does not magically appear. It is the result of the Holy Spirit working in and through us in our practice of faith. For me it was years of attending Sunday School and sitting in the 5th pew from the front with my family for worship every Sunday. It was my Aunt Frances singing "Jesus Love Me" to me over and over again. And now it's being part of this congregation where I am blessed to see God working through this community of people in various ways to share the good news of the gospel.

God through Jesus Christ calls us to live a life in him. Our faith is built up by the Holy Spirit as we practice. In our baptism we are called "to live among God's faithful people, to hear the word of God and share in the Lord's supper, to proclaim the good news of God in Christ through word and deed, to serve all people, following the example of Jesus, and to strive for justice and peace in all the earth. (Affirmation of Baptism, ELW p. 236)

In the world of gymnastics, Simone Biles just completed some history making moves, never before done in competition. These unprecedented moves did not come without practice. Although she has been blessed with a God given talent that she has honed to become the top in her class, she still needs practice.

No matter how many years you've worshipped, attended Sunday School, prayed, read scripture, or volunteered for anything in the church, God through the Holy Spirit still calls you to practice your faith. We are shortchanging ourselves, our children, and our grandchildren if we don't practice and share this God given faith.

Let's not miss the wonder and amazement of taking the time to see how God is working in our lives and the world. The Holy Spirit is God's gift to guide us in practicing our faith. Let us be living and growing witnesses to the love of God in this world.

Starting September 8th our Sunday School for all ages will resume at 8:45 am with Worship at 10 am. Come sing your praise for God's abundant blessings. Come practice your faith, hearing God's word for you. Come to share and witness to your faith in Christ Jesus. Let us bear the light and hope of God's love into a world that at times can appear so dark.

Pastor Kathy

The Rev. Kathleen Ash-Flashner
Pastor

Happy September Birthday To:

9/1 - Lynn Ney
9/2 - Wendy Kuhns; Clark Staller
9/3 - Marna Skripko
9/4 - Jillian Emerich
9/5 - Melissa Bubeck; Derek Reber
9/6 - Hunter Strauch
9/7 - Emma Fessler; Brian Kahl; Jennifer Lileck;
Tara Schoffstall; Lena Ferrence
9/8 - Sheryl Deal; Ashley Frankenstein
9/12 - Kylie Sinclair; Betty Strauch
9/14 - Christina Durick
9/15 - Kylinn Hollenbach; Angelina Ross
9/16 - Rita Wolfe
9/17 - Elizabeth Moyer
9/19 - David Wolfe
9/20 - Earl Paxson
9/24 - Jennifer Gernert; Jason Tryon
9/25 - John Detweiler; Brian Staller
9/26 - Robert Burcik; Jennifer Platt; Charles Wernert
9/28 - Bryan Schaeffer; Erin Schaeffer; Shaun Schaeffer
9/30 - Ronald Kreiger; Maggie Moss; Amanda Tokarick



All Committee Night

Wednesday, September 25, 2019, 7 pm



We are looking forward to another All Committee Night when all our committees come together to plan and share their ideas for the coming year. Please mark your calendars and plan to be there. Coffee and drinks provided. Each committee can bring a snack to share.



Evangelism News

By Charles Hawk, Sr.

WHY DO I GO TO CHURCH? Have you ever asked yourself that question? The answer I am sure would be easy

for you to answer. How about if you asked a stranger or a non-churched person to come with you this Sunday to church. Their response might be, "Why should I go to church?" Now that answer may not be easy to answer. In this day and age there are so many un-churched people or people who do not worship it is scary. The world has changed. For many of us "old timers" or regulars (whatever you want to call us) we are so used to attending we just know that's what you do on Sunday. For many though they see no valid reason to go to church.

In the book "The Invitational Christian", Dave Daubert states by definition half of all churches are below average. This means half of all congregations have below average preaching, below average worship attendance, below average music. These statistics are hard to hear. The sad truth is 85% of all mainline congregations' memberships are stagnant or declining. Remember when we filled the pews at Christmas. Our Sunday school had more students. Our adult Sunday School class had an average of 25 people each Sunday. We as a congregation need to discuss these issues and come up with some solutions!

Come to All Committee Night to start the discussion.



Keep in your prayers:

Keep in your prayers: Richard Paxson, Dennis Ryan, Ron Boris, Jr., Gary & Shirley Krammes, Irene Peiffer, Arlene Lickman, Betty Freeman, Leonard & Yvonne Szpara, Thelma Brensinger, Chester Johnson, Shirley Fessler, Barbara Pennypacker, Angie Lewis, Mark Fidler, Hayley Moyer, Helen Runkle, Eleanor Jamison,

Adam Brink, Glenn Curtis, Georgia Sandler, Arlene Moyer, John Weegar, Charles Wernert, Stephen Curtis, Brayden Crews, John Strauch, Jr., Dianna Curry, Fern Staller, Carol Glaser, Pat Stevens, Lawrence Latsko, Rosemary Meade, Tyler Boland, Ray Yeich, Neal Brensinger, Nancy Blankenhorn, David Axtt, Paul Baruka, Greg Phillips, Gaylene Ebling, Chrissy Kull, and Robert & Joyce Zeledonis. Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tom Leganza, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Kristian Svenson, Mark Weinus, Jr., Justin Weller, Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, and Brad Renninger

**Pastoral visits and home communions are available anytime.
Please call the office or Pastor Kathy.**



The deadline for items for the October newsletter is **September 15th.**

A Thank You for a Local Benevolence Gift

Dear Friends at St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the staff and board of directors of Servants to All, thank you for your very generous donation and continued support of My Father's House, a program serving the poor and homeless of Schuylkill County. We can never thank you enough for your financial and prayerful support, and we could truly never do this work without you.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers as we continue to remember you daily in our, and please consider keeping us as part of your regular giving throughout the year.

If you have any questions about this receipt or our program, or if you wish to visit or volunteer, please contact us at (570) 728-2917.

With Sincerest Gratitude,
Jeanette Triano Simm
Executive Director



On Sunday, October 6th, our church will join others in the Schuylkill Haven Area Council of Churches to walk the streets of Schuylkill Haven to end hunger. The annual Crop Walk will begin and end at the Schuylkill Haven

Food Pantry (rear of the Walk-In Shoe Building). Registration is at 1:00 pm, worship is at 1:15 pm, and the walk begins at 1:30 pm. Monies collected will benefit the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry, as well as people around the world through the Church World Service. Dig out those sneakers and walk with other church members of our area churches. Registration forms are available on the table in the church Narthex. Any questions, please see Pastor Kathy

A Thank You for Our Monthly Offering for the Pottsville Soup Kitchen

Dear Friends,



On behalf of Catholic Charities Diocese of Allentown, I gratefully acknowledge your generous gift of \$1827 for the Catholic Charities' Pottsville Soup Kitchen. Your donation was received on 6/17/2019. With your assistance, Catholic Charities can continue to serve nearly 1,000 meals every week at the Soup Kitchen in Pottsville.

Your support helps children, adults and seniors, the unemployed, the under-employed, disabled, and homeless to survive with a hot, nutritious meal served with compassion by many dedicated volunteers.

"I assure you that whatever you did for the least of my brethren, you did it for me". (Matthew 25:40)

I thank you for showing your generosity in helping to sustain our neighbors in need.

Sincerely,
Julie A Scleck
Director of Advancement
Catholic Charities

(personal note from Julie) May God continue to bless you for your compassion toward our neighbors in need!



The Social Ministry Committee says thank you to everyone who assisted us with the reception following the organ recital. Thank you to those who donated food, helped to set up and clean up for the event. When Matthew asked our committee to be in charge of it, we accepted the task. Even though we only have 4 committee members, we knew that we could count on our church family to help us to make it a success. You are always there to help when we need it, no matter what the project.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CALLS YOU!

On behalf of the Christian Education committee, I am inviting all ages to join us for Sunday School starting September 8th at 8:45 am. Please bring your child(ren) to the Choir Room. We will begin with music. You will be asked to fill out an emergency care card and a family registration card on the first Sunday that your child attends. After music we will move to classes upstairs. The curriculum that we use in Sunday School is Spark Lectionary with access to Spark Digital, giving us access to all Augsburg curriculums. We use a Spark picture Bible with the younger students and when a child is in third grade they receive their own Spark Bible to use at home as well as in Sunday School on Sunday mornings. Please pick up your child(ren) at 9:45 am at his or her classroom upstairs. Note: Door at lower parking lot by woods will be locked, so use door toward street that comes in at rest rooms.

The confirmation classes meet with Pastor Kathy in the Fellowship Hall. Adults meet in the annex.

We have a great group of dedicated teachers. Additional volunteers are always needed. Please contact Pastor Kathy or myself if you would like to help with a Sunday School class.

Hope to see you in Sunday School!

Reba Llewellyn
Christian Education Committee



During the church service on Sunday, July 7th, Signs of Faith signed the anthem, "One Nation." At the service on August 4th, we signed the anthem, "What Kind of Love." Emily Schwenk and Katelyn Schwenk assisted us in signing the refrain.

We are in the process of learning a new anthem to be signed on Sunday, September 1st.



The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone who donated back-to-school items. It was one of the largest assortment of items we have ever received.

Collected were 96 notebooks, 3 composition books, 2 back packs, 64 folders, 42 glue sticks, 10 bottles of glue, 1 stapler, 1 binder, 2 erasers, 3 pencil sharpeners, 5 packs of index cards, 3 packs of sticky notes, 18 packs of pencils, 2 packs of colored pencils, 9 packs of pens, 6 boxes of crayons, 9 packs of markers, 3 packs of highlighters, and 2 packs of notebook paper.

The items were divided between the children from Schuylkill Children and Youth and Schuylkill Women in Crisis.

A Project of the Social Ministry Committee



Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the staff and board of directors of Servant to All, thank you for your very generous donation of paper products, and your continued support of My father's House, a program serving the poor and homeless of Schuylkill County. We can never thank you enough for your financial and prayerful support, and we could truly never do this work without you.

Please continue to remember us in your prayers as we continue to remember you daily in ours, and please consider keeping us as part of your regular giving throughout the year.

If you have questions about our program, or if you wish to visit or volunteer, please contact us at (570) 728-2917.

With sincerest gratitude,
Jeanette Triano Sinn
Executive Director
Servants to All

Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church,



Thank you so much on behalf of our agency as well as the families we service for the supplies St. Paul's Lutheran Church donated for the upcoming school year. Your kindness and generosity are appreciated.

Sincerely,
Susan Yeager
Program Specialist

**A Thank You for Our Monthly Offering for the
Pottsville Soup Kitchen**



Dear Friends,

On behalf of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Allentown, I gratefully acknowledge your generous gift of \$828.00 for the Catholic Charities Pottsville Soup Kitchen. Your donation was received on 7/16/2019. With your assistance Catholic Charities can continue to serve nearly 1,000 meals every week at the Soup Kitchen in Pottsville.

Your support helps children, adults and seniors, the unemployed, the underemployed, disabled, and homeless to survive with a hot nutritious meal served with compassion by many dedicated volunteers.

"I assure you that whatever you did for the least of my brethren, you did it for Me.: (Matthew 25:40)

I thank you for showing your generosity in helping to sustain our neighbors in need.

We are humbled and grateful for your very generous gift which will provide help and hope to those served at the Pottsville Soup Kitchen!

Sincerely,

Julie A. Scheck
Director of Advancement
Catholic Charities

Church Calendar for September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 9am Holy Communion	2 10am Prayer Shawl	3 12:30pm Jolly Quilters	4 7pm Church Council	5 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	6	7 5pm Holy Communion service
8 8:45am Sunday School 10am Holy Communion	9 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Stewardship	10 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7pm Social Ministry Committee	11 1pm Evangelism Meeting	12 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	13	14 5pm Holy Communion service
15 8:45am Sunday School 10am Holy Communion	16 10am Prayer Shawl	17 12:30pm Jolly Quilters 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	18 7pm Property	19 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	20 Office Closed RSVP deadline for 75 th and over Birthday Party Luncheon	21 5pm Holy Communion service
22 8:45am Sunday School 10am Holy Communion	23 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Finance	24 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal 7 pm Council of Churches at St. Paul's Lutheran Church	25 7 pm All Committee night	26 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	27	28 5pm Holy Communion service
29 8:45am Sunday School 10am Holy Communion Noon 75 th and over Birthday Party Luncheon	30 10am Prayer Shawl	1 12:30pm Jolly Quilters 6:30pm Bell Choir Rehearsal	2 7pm Church Council	3 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal	4	5 5pm Holy Communion service

Lectionary Calendar for September 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost	2 Psalm 119:65-72 2 Chronicles 12:1-12 Hebrews 13:7-21	3 Psalm 119:65-72 Isaiah 2:12-17 Titus 1:1-9	4 Psalm 119:65-72 Isaiah 57:14-21 Luke 14:15-24	5 Psalm 1 Genesis 39:1-23 Philippians 2:25-30	6 Psalm 1 Deuteronomy 7:12-26 Colossians 4:7-17	7 Psalm 1 Deuteronomy 29:2-20 Matthew 10:34-42
8 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost	9 Psalm 101 2 Kings 17:24-41 1 Timothy 3:14—4:5	10 Psalm 101 2 Kings 18:9-18 1 Timothy 4:6-16	11 Psalm 101 2 Kings 18:19-25; 19:1-7 Luke 18:18-30	12 Psalm 51:1-10 Genesis 6:1-6 1 Timothy 1:1-11	13 Psalm 51:1-10 Genesis 7:6-10; 8:1-5 2 Peter 2:1-10a	14 Psalm 51:1-10 Genesis 8:20—9:7 John 10:11-21
15 Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost	16 Psalm 73 Amos 7:1-6 1 Timothy 1:18-20	17 Psalm 73 Jonah 3:1-10 2 Peter 3:8-13	18 Psalm 73 Job 40:6-14; 42:1-6 Luke 22:31-33, 54-62	19 Psalm 113 Exodus 23:1-9 Romans 3:1-8	20 Psalm 113 Ezekiel 22:17-31 Romans 8:31-39	21 Psalm 113 Isaiah 5:8-23 Mark 12:41-44
22 Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost	23 Psalm 12 Proverbs 14:12-31 Acts 4:1-12	24 Psalm 12 Proverbs 17:1-5 1 Corinthians 9:19-23	25 Psalm 12 Proverbs 21:10-16 Luke 20:45—21:4	26 Psalm 146 Proverbs 22:2-16 2 Corinthians 8:8-15	27 Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:3-10 Ephesians 2:1-10	28 Psalm 146 Proverbs 28:11-28 Luke 9:43b-48
29 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost	30 Psalm 62 Amos 6:8-14 Revelation 3:14-22					