

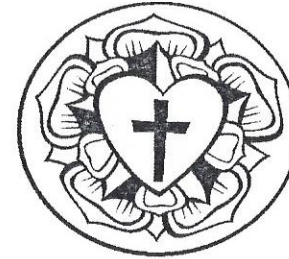
THANK YOU



Social Ministry

The Social Ministry Committee thanks everyone who contributed to the annual Souper Bowl Sunday event, which was observed during the services on Saturday February 11th and Sunday February 12th. 116 items of food were collected for the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry, and \$1871.00 was collected for the Pottsville Soup Kitchen. Thank you for your generosity.

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

March 2023

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

THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL'S

is published by:

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
1185 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA, 17922
(570) 754-7350

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Pastor email:

stpaulsummerhill.pastor@gmail.com

Director of Music email:

stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com

Student Loan Committee email:

stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com

Sunday Holy Communion Service –

8 am and 10:30 am

Saturday Holy Communion Service - 5 pm

Our Staff

The Rev. William Fryer	Interim Pastor 610-223-1894
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

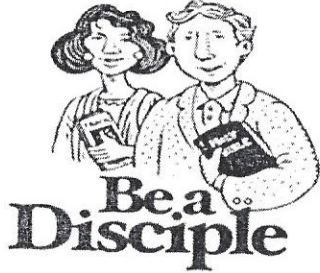
Monday - Friday 9 am - 3 pm
Closed from 12:00 pm to 12:30 pm for lunch



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

St Paul's Lutheran Church invites all children to **Hero Hotline** Vacation Bible School! This adventure includes exciting new music, creative crafts, fun recreation and memorable Bible stories that will help children answer God's call to serve, bring peace and build each other up. The adventure runs from June 11 through June 15, 2023. VBS will be held in the pavilion from 6:30 to 8:30. Children from ages 2 and up to including those completing 6th grade are invited to join **Hero Hotline** VBS.

Register for this exciting Vacation Bible School by completing the registration form located on the table in the back of the church or the church website or contact Reba Llewellyn at llewell@verizon.net. In order to make sure that we have enough materials for all students, we ask that you register by May 28, 2023.



Evangelism News

By Charles Hawk, Sr.

We are entering into a new season. The days are getting longer. The days are getting warmer. Plants are pushing

through the ground. Trees are starting to bloom. Summer birds are flying up from the south. Springtime is on the way. That means Easter is getting closer. We will be getting the church ready for Lent in preparation for this. Let us all remember who causes these changes to take place. Our Lord and Saviour, the Great Creator. The greatest gift one can give to acknowledge our BLESSINGS is to thank HIM. No other country in the world is as BLESSED as we are. I think another good way for us to show our appreciation is to make an effort to come to church during HOLY WEEK. You know Jesus would be so happy to see the pews full then. One other thing I think we need to be aware of is our need to fill our pastoral position. Let us pray incessantly to make this happen. GOD BLESS YOU AND KEEP THE FAITH.

FROM THE INTERIM PASTOR

During this month of March, we are involved with observing the season of Lent in the church year. It all began on Ash Wednesday in February when we individually received a "dirty" cross as we received the imposition of ashes at our services that day.

The intent of this 40-day period called Lent is that we give increased attention to our faith as Christians. Since each of us has only a given amount of time and energy, we may have to give up something in order to devote more time to our growth in faith and/or the practice of that faith. During Lent we don't sacrifice one thing for something else because that "thing" is wrong, but rather because we want to concentrate on something else that is important for our faith life.

One thing that we can be sure to do during this season is to be a part of the group of believers (and seekers) that gather for worship on Saturday evening or Sunday morning in order to be part of a community and have our faith lives nourished with prayer and scripture and sermon and song - and to gather at the Lord's table to eat that special meal and receive Christ's presence in a tangible way.

Another thing we can do during these forty days as a way of practicing our faith is to devote ourselves to prayer for our friends and neighbors, or reach out to those in need and offer forty days of help and kindness. All of us have been blessed so that we might be a blessing to others.

Lent is a time to pull the reins of our lives away from the world and give them to God by showing kindness and care for those around us and ourselves. It is a time to prepare ourselves to more abundantly receive the joy of Easter.

God's blessings to you in this special season.

Pastor William Fryer

THANK YOU

Hello St. Paul's Congregation,

Thank you for your generosity and kindness in providing for us college students and for other people in the community! I enjoy getting together with this community when I am able to attend church at St. Paul's! I appreciate everything that you do for me, my family, and for everyone else in the congregation, in the community, and around the world!

Emily Schwenk

Keep in your prayers:



Keep in your prayers: Richard Paxson, Dennis Ryan, Ron Boris, Jr., Shirley Krammes, Irene Peiffer, Arlene Lickman, Betty Freeman, Thelma Brensinger, Chester Johnson, Shirley Fessler, Barbara Pennypacker, Angie Lewis, Mark Fidler, Hayley Moyer, Helen Runkle, Eleanor Jamison, Adam Brink, Arlene Moyer, Charles Wernert, Stephen Curtis, Brayden Crews, John Strauch, Jr., Dianna Curry, Fern Staller, Rosemary Meade, Ray Yeich, David Axtt, Greg Phillips, Gaylene Ebling, Connie Klinger, Stacey Rao, Betty Strauch and John Strauch, Sr., Nancy Vargas, Jerry Heffleger, Kathy Robinson, Beverly Trumbo, Brian Hunsberger, Randy Ney, Donovan Baker, Kyle Cleary. Jeff and Peggy Davis, Sue and Harry Russell and Robert & Joyce Zeledonis. Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, 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, Timothy Bast, Ryan Bast, and Donald Legarht.



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

The deadline for items for the April newsletter is **March 15th.**

Baskets of Promise

"...satisfy the needs of the afflicted, then your light shall rise in the darkness and your gloom be like the noonday." Isaiah 58:10

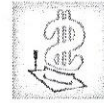
When emergencies like natural disasters or conflict arise, many families must flee their homes, leaving their belongings behind. When they arrive in a refugee camp or other place of safety, they are scared, vulnerable and dirty from the travel. The simple items included in a Personal Care Kit allow them to wash away the dirt and sweat, with the fresh scent of soap and the softness of a towel as reminders of someone's care and concern for them in their plight.

Items may be brought to the church during the Lenten Season.

Each kit includes:

- One light-weight bath-size towel (20" X 40" to 52" X 27"), dark color recommended.
- Two or three bath-size bars of soap equaling 8 to 9 oz., any brand, in original wrapping; no mini or hotel size bars.
- One adult-size toothbrush in its original packaging.
- One sturdy comb, (no picks or fine-toothed combs);
- One metal nail clippers (attached file optional)

If you wish to participate, but rather have someone else do the shopping, please place your donation in an envelope on the offering plate marked "Personal Care Kits."



Student Loan Applications will be available the beginning of April for the 2023-24 school year. Student Loan Applications may be picked up in the Church Library located in the narthex, from a Student Loan Committee member, or by downloading the application from the website. Student Loan Committee Members include: Marlene Troxell, Trish Krause, Mike Troxell, Cindy Brown and Jessica Rollman. Completed Student Loan Applications should be returned to a committee member no later than 11:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 23, 2023.

EASTER EGG HUNT



Easter Egg Hunt will be held Palm Sunday, April 2 at 2:00 PM in the pavilion for children up to and including those in grade 6. Advance registration requested by March 26. To register your child(ren) sign sheet on bulletin board in back of church or email Reba at llewell@verizon.net or text or call 570-527-5116. Please leave name of child and age.



Egg Hunt Donations – Filled plastic eggs will be appreciated for the children's Egg Hunt scheduled for April 2. Please bring egg donations to the church by Sunday, March 26 and placed on table in back of fellowship hall. To sign up your donation, please sign sheet on bulletin board in back of church or email Reba at llewell@verizon.net or text or call 570-527-5116. Thank you in advance for your donation.

At the Church Council reorganization meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, the following people were elected to office: Brian Staller, President; Marlene Troxell, Vice President; Becky Mairose, Secretary; and Eva Waldman, Treasurer. We thank these people for their willingness to serve in these positions.



THANK YOU



The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone who donated items to our Mitten Tree which was in the narthex during the Advent and Christmas seasons. The items were divided and delivered to Schuylkill Women in Crisis and Servants to All. The donations were 20 scarves, 31 hats, 6 hat and glove combos, 30 pair of socks, 1 pair of slippers, and 16 pair of gloves. Thank you for your continuing support of this and all of our other projects.



Anyone who completed grades 1-12 that are interested in going to Bear Creek Camp in the summer please contact Leah Mullins Bowman.



Happy March Birthday To:

3/3 Balin Honicker; Trudy Ryan
 3/4 Jacob Felty
 3/6 Donna Cox
 3/9 Clair Moyer
 3/12 Tyler Brensinger;
 Lindsey Seltzer; Jane Bressler; Aliyah Woll
 3/14 John Strauch, Sr., Preston Crossen
 3/17 Regina Phillips
 3/18 Kayla Fidler; Grayson Rollman
 3/19 Beverly Freeman
 3/20 Christian Yerusavage
 3/21 Soren Honicker; Lindsey Petrie; Mark Gilbert
 3/22 Mark Durick; Carol Gordon
 3/24 Amanda Sisko
 3/25 Amy Schantzenbach; Landon Trostle
 3/26 Eva Andrew; Sandra Brooker
 3/27 Matthew Hayes



Remember to turn your clocks ahead on March 12th.



The following have donated gifts to the memorial fund in memory of Fern Staller.

Adventure Academy	\$30.00
Duong Family	\$60.00
Joel and Sally Brensinger/Joshua Iverson	\$25.00
Marlene and Michael Troxell	\$100.00
Nathan and Margaret Heim	\$50.00
Glenn and Helen Miller	\$30.00
Frank and Ruth Bertovich	\$50.00
Lee and Reba Llewellyn	\$50.00
Dennis and Carol Gordon	\$40.00
Bradley, Anna May & Jenn Nauss	\$60.00
Sandy Henry & Judy King	\$50.00
David and Deborah Hummel	\$50.00

THANK YOU

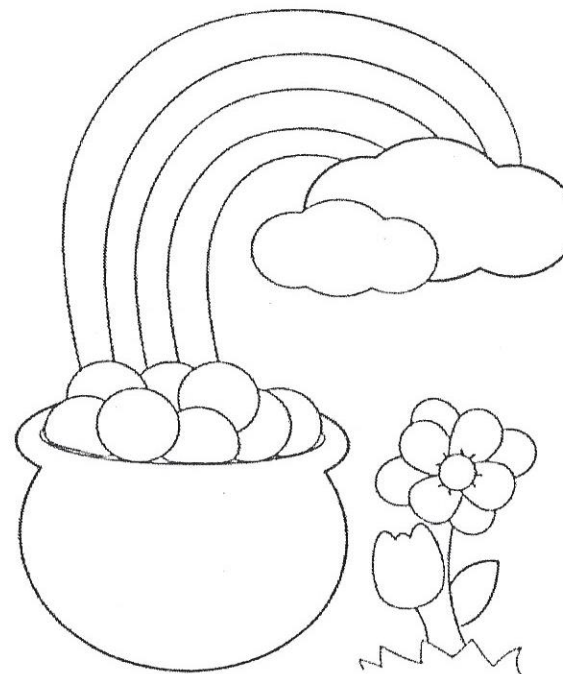
Dear St. Paul's,

Thank you so much for the snack basket that was sent to get me through finals. It was greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Matthew Mairose

Happy March!



Church Calendar for March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 8am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	27 10am Prayer Shawl	28	1 7pm Council Meeting	2 6pm Bell Choir	3	4 5pm Worship Service
5 8am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	6 10am Prayer Shawl	7 12:30pm Quilting	8 1pm Evangelism	9 6pm Bell Choir	10	11 5pm Worship Service
12 8am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	13 10am Prayer Shawl 7pm Stewardship	14	15 7pm Property	16 6pm Bell Choir	17	18 5pm Worship Service
19 8am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	20 10am Prayer Shawl	21 12:30pm Quilting	22	23 6pm Bell Choir	24	25 5pm Worship Service
26 8am Worship Service 9:15am Sunday School 10:30am Worship Service	27 10am Prayer Shawl	28	29	30 6pm Bell Choir	31	1 5pm Worship Service

Lectionary Calendar for March 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Psalm 32 Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28 Matthew 18:10-14	2 Psalm 121 Isaiah 51:1-3 2 Timothy 1:3-7	3 Psalm 121 Micah 7:18-20 Romans 3:21-31	4 Psalm 121 Isaiah 51:4-8 Luke 7:1-10
5 Psalm 128 Numbers 21:4-9 Hebrews 3:1-6	6 Psalm 128 Numbers 21:4-9 Hebrews 3:1-6	7 Psalm 128 Isaiah 65:17-25 Romans 4:6-13	8 Psalm 128 Ezekiel 36:22-32 John 7:53—8:11	9 Psalm 95 Exodus 16:1-8 Colossians 1:15-23	10 Psalm 95 Exodus 16:9-21 Ephesians 2:11-22	11 Psalm 95 Exodus 16:27-35 John 4:1-6
12 Psalm 81 Genesis 24:1-27 2 John 1-13	13 Psalm 81 Genesis 24:1-27 2 John 1-13	14 Psalm 81 Genesis 29:1-14 1 Corinthians 10:1-4	15 Psalm 81 Jeremiah 2:4-13 John 7:14-31, 37-39	16 Psalm 23 1 Samuel 15:10-21 Ephesians 4:25-32	17 Psalm 23 1 Samuel 15:22-31 Ephesians 5:1-9	18 Psalm 23 1 Samuel 15:32-34 John 1:1-9
19 Psalm 146 Isaiah 59:9-19 Acts 9:1-20	20 Psalm 146 Isaiah 59:9-19 Acts 9:1-20	21 Psalm 146 Isaiah 42:14-21 Colossians 1:9-14	22 Psalm 146 Isaiah 60:17-22 Matthew 9:27-34	23 Psalm 130 Ezekiel 1:1-3; 2:8—3:3 Revelation 10:1-11	24 Psalm 130 Ezekiel 33:10-16 Revelation 11:15-19	25 Psalm 130 Ezekiel 36:8-15 Luke 24:44-53
26 Psalm 143 1 Kings 17:17-24 Acts 20:7-12	27 Psalm 143 1 Kings 17:17-24 Acts 20:7-12	28 Psalm 143 2 Kings 4:18-37 Ephesians 2:1-10	29 Psalm 143 Jeremiah 32:1-9, 36-41 Matthew 22:23-33	30 Psalm 31:9-16 1 Samuel 16:11-13 Philippians 1:1-11	31 Psalm 31:9-16 Job 13:13-19 Philippians 1:21-30	

A Brief Look At Some Summer Hill History
By Harry Schwenk

Throughout the years of St. Paul's Lutheran Church history, the local newspapers have covered the important events in the life of the church. Detailed articles were published about the Confirmation Reunions in the 1930's, 1940's, and 1950's. The burning of the old church, the cornerstone laying, and the dedication of the new church were fully covered with articles and photos of these events. In addition to the local newspapers, the dedication of the new St. Paul's Lutheran Church was also featured in the August 9, 1961 issue of "The Lutheran." Two photos were included with the article. One photo was of Pastor Steigerwalt opening the front door of the church, with members of the congregation in the background. The other photo was titled "Inside New Summer Hill Church" with Pastor Steigerwalt standing at the altar and the choir and Building Committee members during the Processional to the front of the church.

Following is the article that appeared in the publication:

PENNSYLVANIA

After the fire---

A new church

By Arthur S. Follett

Pottsville- Dedication of the new St. Paul's Church, Summer Hill (Auburn R.D.), was held June 25, with Pastor Clarence A. Steigerwalt, D.D., conducting the service.

The former Summer Hill building, used by Lutheran and Reformed congregations, was destroyed by fire on December 13, 1958. Since then, each group has built its own church.

St. Paul's dates back to 1767. The building demolished by fire was built in 1847. The new church and fellowship hall cost \$200,000. The structure is of contemporary split-level design of stone quarried in the Lehigh Valley. The nave seats 252.

The Rev. Luther F. Schlenker, Pennsylvania Ministerium official, delivered the dedicatory service. Assisting in the liturgy was The Rev. Craig J. Dorward, Jonestown.

Dedication of the church's new pipe organ was July 2nd, with Mrs. Craig Dorward, daughter of Pastor and Mrs. Steigerwalt, the guest organist.



NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

SYNOD NEWS**Love for the Least**
.....

The Global Missions Team at the Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, Emmaus, PA, led an advent appeal this past holiday season to support the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at Arusha Lutheran Medical Center in Tanzania, which was established by ELCA medical missionary Dr. Mark Jacobson, and also had the opportunity to lead the church's worship services on their annual Global Missions Sunday, held this year on January 22, 2023, to share about this ministry with those in attendance.

When a baby is born prematurely in Tanzania, it is considered as good as dead. Premature babies there are often referred to as 'stillbirths.' This was not acceptable to the staff of Arusha Lutheran Medical Center. Fifteen years ago they began to offer neonatal intensive care, and pediatrician Dr. Steve Swanson joined the program in 2011. Initially they were only able to save 4% of the babies. Today they serve almost 400 babies annually, and the survival rate in 2022 was 92%.

The care at the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center NICU is the best in Tanzania, and in most of East Africa. No baby is turned away because of inability to pay or insurance status. The five doctors and 26 nurses who staff the NICU do not just care for the tiny infants, but for the parents as well. A hospital bed and meals are provided to every mother with a baby in the NICU and both parents are encouraged and coached on how to interact with their babies.

Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit raised \$3,785 from their Love for the Least appeal to be directed to the Arusha Lutheran Medical Center NICU in Tanzania, and 175 preemie knit or crochet hats were lovingly crafted for the NICU infants, which they hope to send to Tanzania. These hats can save lives by helping to keep the babies warm.

Charlotte Gross, Co-Coordinator



JUNE 1-3 2023 AT
KALAHARI RESORT

ATTENTION ALL CONGREGATIONAL LEADERS
Now is the time to figure out who will be your voting members at the synod assembly! Don't worry, it will be well worth their time and yours! Let's have a record turnout, as we gather together (in person) as a synod for the first time since the Great Disruption of 2020. If you have any questions contact the synod office, and together we'll figure it out together!

**BEING PUBLICLY INCLUSIVE OF ALL SEXUAL ORIENTATIONS IS AN
IMPORTANT STEP YOUR CONGREGATION CAN TAKE TO BE THE
COMMUNITY CHRIST CALLS YOU TO BE!**

Become a Reconciling in Christ congregation! Reach out to Stacey Burke in the synod office (stacey@nepsynod.org) for more information.

HONORARIUM UPDATE

How much should we pay a supply minister?
That question is frequently asked by congregations in transition or when the regular minister is away.

Discussion by the Committee of Deans produced the following:

that beginning 03/01/2023, minimum honorarium amounts for supply ministers be set as follows:

One worship service	no less than \$175
Two worship services	no less than \$225
Three worship services	no less than \$250

an additional \$50 for multiple point charges

an additional \$50 for leading an adult forum or Sunday School class

an additional \$75 if one of the services is on a day other than Sunday, (Saturday evenings, Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, etc.)

Starting March

**FOR THE MOST UP-TO-
DATE NEWS AND STORIES
FOLLOW US ON ALL
SOCIAL MEDIA
PLATFORMS OR VISIT US
AT GODSLOVE.ORG**