

ST. PAUL'S CALL

JUNE 2023

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield
139 Craig's Meadow Rd
East Stroudsburg, Pa.
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Web Site: stpaulscommunitychurch.com
Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield

Pastor Deb Staniszewski

SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES 8:30am and 10:00am



June 4th "The Holy Trinity" 1st Sunday after Pentecost



June 11th 2nd Sunday after Pentecost



June 18th 3rd Sunday after Pentecost



June 25th 4th Sunday after Pentecost
10:00am Contemporary Service with Praise Team

St. Paul's Mission Statement

We are a community of faith called to share the good news of Jesus as our model of life.

We seek spiritual maturity through worship, learning and serving.

We invite and welcome all who desire to share this journey of faith active in love.

**LIVE STREAMING IS AVAILABLE ON FACEBOOK FOR THE 10:00AM
SUNDAY SERVICE.**

Go direct to Facebook or Web Site home page and select FB tab



The author of first Peter writes about sharing the light and love of Christ in community beautifully in Chapter 4,

“8 Above all, love each other deeply, because love covers over a multitude of sins. 9 Offer hospitality to one another without grumbling. 10 Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. 11 If anyone speaks, they should do so as one who speaks the very words of God. If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.” (1 Peter 4:8-11, NIV)

I wanted to share my appreciation with the entire faith community at St. Paul’s. I am grateful for your welcoming me into this awesome community of Christ followers. Also let me express my gratitude and appreciation for the wonderful installation service, reception, and all the thoughtful gifts and cards I’ve received. What a great celebration!

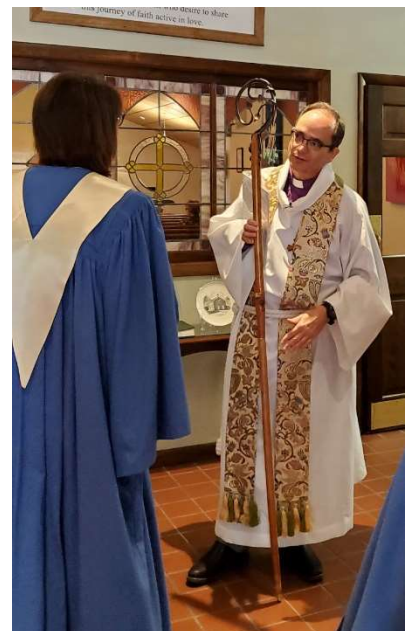
I look forward to seeing what the Lord has in store for us, and what the Holy Spirit is up as we continue to grow in God’s love, and in the ministries and relationships that are alive here in the present. I am also looking forward to the future as spiritually, we broaden and develop along the way, in our journey together with Christ. So grateful to be sharing God’s love through witness and service as one of this faith community!

Your Sibling in Christ,

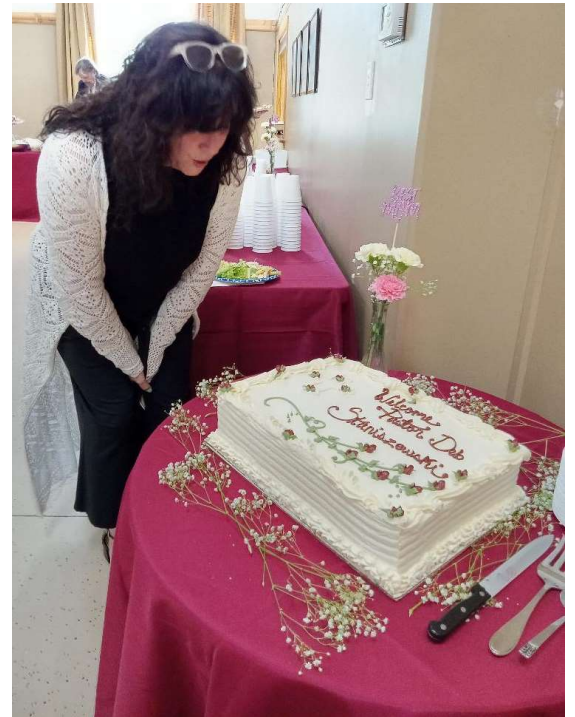
Pastor Deb

If you wish to watch the Installation Service Sunday the 14th go to our Facebook Page to view.

Bishop Christopher deForest will lead us in worship this Sunday the 14th at a 10:00am combined service, where we will install Pastor Deb, our new Pastor.







MUSIC AND WORSHIP

Installation Service of Pastor Deb Staniszewski – Bishop Christopher deForest led the installation service of Pastor Deb on Sunday, May 14th followed by a luncheon in Celebration Hall. It was great to see everyone come out to celebrate the day and join in the music provided by both the choir, Dave Libecap and Praise Team.

Outside Service – On June 11th the 10am service will be held outside, weather permitting. The 8:30 service will be held in the sanctuary as usual. A hot dog & potluck lunch will follow in Celebration Hall. Please bring your side dish or dessert to the Celebration Hall prior to the start of the service. Be sure to bring your own chair, if you're able, for the outside service. Come celebrate the start of summer worship!

Altar Flowers and Bulletins – Commemorate a special date or celebrate a special person with flower arrangements for the altar. Bulletin sponsorships are also available. Check out the bulletin board to sign-up. Checks may be given to the Church Secretary.

Service Assistants – Thank you to all those who help with the service. Sign-up sheets for the Summer are on the bulletin board. If you are available on the same weeks of each month please sign up for subsequent months. Your help as an acolyte, greeter, lay reader, communion assistant and ushers is most appreciated.

Celebration Hall Building Fund – Please make a donation towards paying off the mortgage on Celebration Hall that serves as a gathering place for the local community. Checks may be made payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield with the words Mortgage Reduction in the note section. Thank you!

Summer Music – If you're interested in playing or singing beginning on June 11th and running through August, please sign up on the bulletin board on the week you'd like to share your talent during the service.

Prayers – The choir is saddened at the loss of one of our own, John Edwards. We hope you'll keep Barbara Edwards and her family in your prayers. We also ask you to keep Mary Lee Rehm in your prayers while she's in hospital and hope for her return.

Share Your Ideas – for worship, music and activities that Worship and Music could introduce to St. Paul's and the community and make your church life more meaningful. Our next meeting is on Monday, June 5, 2023 at 6:30pm.

Yours in Christ,
Worship & Music



FOOD PANTRY

June Dates for Pantry Thursday 8th and 22nd

9:30am – 12:00noon

Contact Wanda Richardson with any questions.

The food pantry is in need of boxed cold cereal, peanut butter and jelly and anything else you would like to donate is appreciated -

It must be non-perishable in can, box or bag -

Please check the "best by" and expiration dates, we cannot accept anything past the best by or expiration date.

"Stamp out Hunger"

Was great success thanks to all who donated, the postal carriers and service and all who helped from St. Paul's





Hello Church Youth Families,

We are excited to be starting youth education and activities again!

We are planning Sunday Fundays over the summer. Our first event will be a Sunday Funday on Sunday, June 11th from 12-2. Sunday Funday will happen once a month and will be a time for the children to be together with fun activities. We will have themes and explore different areas such as art, science, games and nature. For our first Sunday Funday we will play games.

We are putting together a Vacation Bible School session for this summer. It will be from August 6th to August 8th from 5-8 pm. Children entering Kindergarten to 5th grade are welcome to attend. Those children entering 6th grade and higher are invited as helpers which are needed! We will also need adult volunteers such as parents and grandparents.

Looking ahead to the fall, we will start youth education with Sunday School and Confirmation Classes. Sunday School will be held on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 am beginning in September. Confirmation classes will also start in September with more information to follow.

Also starting in September, our youth will have opportunities to participate in worship services, mission trips, service projects and fun recreational outings. More details to follow.

We look forward to a wonderful and fulfilling year with our youth and families!

Please reach out with any questions

Alisa Nixon (908) 279-5242

Pastor Deb (570) 350-5115

Blessings always,

Christian Education Team

Friday Ladies

Friday 9:00am - 12:00am



Beautiful Quilt donated by Bonnie will be finished by the Friday Ladies and raffled



6 Lap Robes on their way to Pleasant Valley



Donations always welcome of clean cotton fabric printed or solid. Large pieces of fabric for backing, quilting thread or just ask the ladies if you have something they might use.



Every Tuesday from 11:30am to 12:30pm. Everyone is welcome to come.

COFFEE HOUR

Looking for people to host
Sundays after the



(helpers available)
10:00am Service



Looking for workers, gardeners anyone that wants to spend quality time with others to help outside the church to pull weeds, plant flowers and spruce up the church property. If interested in joining please contact Lynne in the office.



Homemade Honey

You can purchase from
Laura or Alan
During Sunday coffee hour.

IF YOU WONDERED !

The Barr's dressed up the front of the church this spring for all of us to enjoy.



Tom Smith busy up-dating our front sign and keeping the property looking good.



Please call the office for phone number or see Sonji Patrick for contact information.

The Hospitality Committee

Committee meets quarterly to review the operation of Celebration Hall. They take care of advertising the hall as a venue, booking events and acting as on-site stewards during those events. They also oversee the care of the hall including maintenance and cleaning.

Please share with family and friends.



Celebrate Your Event



- Full Commercial Kitchen
- Seating: 160 Banquet Style
180 Assembly
- Parking: Up to 75 Vehicles
- Handicap Accessible
- Wi-Fi Ready

- Weddings
- Birthday Parties
- Anniversary Parties
- Banquets
- Meetings
- Workshops



Sweet 16 Party





NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA

SYNOD NEWS



**STORIES
OF FAITH**
IN ACTION
2022-2023



WE MATTER TO THE WHOLE CHURCH: A STORY FROM OUR SOUTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD

Being a member of a congregation council is significant in the life of a disciple. Serving as a leader in a congregation is rewarding, terrifying, awe-inspiring and messy. You are among friends, family and your community of believers, and are chosen to lead in your congregation. It's just a few times a month, but as Barbara Nugent, a synod vice president, shares, "Then life happens, and you find out the reporting required. Situations occur; personalities clash; decisions need to be made. Who do you go to for direction?"

The Southwestern Pennsylvania Synod provided that direction in February when it offered training to 70 congregational lay leaders that strengthened each person's skills and faith. From evangelism to the ELCA constitution and bylaws, they gathered to meet the passions and needs, offering workshops with special breakouts for presidents, vice presidents, secretaries and treasurers that covered such topics as worship and music, communications, advocacy, stewardship and social justice/anti-racism. The day started with Bishop Kurt Kusserow encouraging these valued leaders to keep the focus on our purpose:

“Your leadership in the life of your congregation ought always to bear in mind that your congregation finds its fulfillment in the universal church, and that the universal church exists in and through congregations such as yours. I think this means addressing local questions and concerns in the life of your congregation as if they matter to the whole church (because they do).”

Everyone was hungry to gather ideas, consider future steps but also have an opportunity to connect, be empowered, feel valued and cared for and remember the excitement of being church. Rev. Melissa Stoller, director for evangelical mission, said it this way: “The day was a very visible yet not necessarily quantifiable force that we are church together. Wandering but not alone. Feeling worry, power, uncertainty, and joy as one.” Central to this gathering was living into the mission of this synod “to serve, connect and equip congregations of the SWPA synod to tell the story of Jesus.”

Everyone knew that the synod was there for the congregations with staff, volunteers and greater church support, not only this day but in the days to come, and synod staff are supported through the generous mission support of congregations allowing them to be there for our leaders. One leading Scripture for the day reminded each leader of their value: “Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word” (Acts 6:3-4).

Hoping each of our synods are seeking ways that work for them to encourage and empower congregational leaders. Knowing that we are church together, church that supports each other across the whole church prayerfully, financially, emotionally and with a hope for renewal.



Our Synod has PRIDE



June is Pride Month which celebrates LGBTQIA+ folx and their many achievements.

Although injustices and prejudices still exist within our society, we have made great strides since the Stonewall Riots in 1969, attaining marriage equality. However, as previously mentioned, we still have a long way to go in the struggle for equal rights. By learning about LGBTQ Pride/History Month, congregational members are more likely to have an understanding and acceptance for all individuals, no matter what they look like, what gender they do or don't identify as, and who they love. Consider celebrating PRIDE in your congregation!

JUNE 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 Choir 6:30pm	2 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	3
4 The Holy Trinity 8:30am & 10:00am John Edwards memorial Service	5 W&M Meeting 6:30pm	6 Bible Study 11:30am- 12:30pm		8 Food Pantry 9:30am – 12:00noon Choir 6:30pm	9 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	10
11 8:30am & 10:00am 2 nd Sunday after Pentecost	12	13 Bible Study 11:30am- 12:30pm Council Meeting	14	15 Choir 6:30pm	16 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	17
18 8:30am 10:00am 3 rd Sunday after Pentecost	19	20 Bible Study 11:30am- 12:30pm	21 Praise Team Rehearsal 6:30pm	22 Food Pantry 9:30am – 12:00noon Choir 6:30pm	23 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	24
25 8:30am 10:00am Contemporary Service with Praise Team 4 th Sunday after Pentecost	26	27 Bible Study 11:30am – 12:30pm	28	29 Choir 6:30pm	30 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	