

St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield
139 Craig's Meadow Rd.
East Stroudsburg, Pa. 18301
Phone: 570-223-9422

E-mail: stpaulscraigsmeadow@verizon.net
Web Site: stpaulscommunitychurch.com
Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield

ST. PAUL'S CALL

SEPTEMBER 2024

Pastor Deb Staniszewski

**WE WELCOME
EVERYONE TO
JOIN US FOR PRAYER,
WORSHIP &
FELLOWSHIP**



SUNDAY SERVICES 8:30AM AND 10:00AM

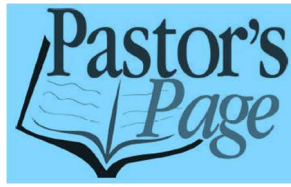
**LIVE STREAMING AVAILABLE ON FACEBOOK FOR THE
10:00AM SUNDAY SERVICE.**

You can connect to FB direct or go to our web site FB tab.

A PDF of the 10:00am service is on the web site.

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.**



Greetings Friends,

Please join us later this month, on September 28th and 29th as we celebrate the 170th anniversary of our faith community here at St. Paul's! We have been living out God's mission and ministry here in this place, non-stop for 170 years. We Praise Jesus and celebrate the years that have been, are now, and are to come in our future! How Exciting! On Saturday the 28th there will be a variety of things going on, including a look at our history which began almost a decade before the Civil War. We've got the original building looking like a sanctuary again, and we're hoping folks will share their stories, name people and events in vintage photos, as our timeline becomes even more richly filled with stories of our life together living in God's love!

Just as the first disciples were called to share the good news of God's love in the world, so are we. In chapter 6 the gospel writer Mark said, ⁷⁻⁸ Jesus called the Twelve to him, and sent them out in pairs. He gave them authority and power to deal with the evil opposition. He sent them off with these instructions: ⁸⁻⁹ "Don't think you need a lot of extra equipment for this. You are the equipment. No special appeals for funds. Keep it simple. ¹⁰ "And no luxury inns. Get a modest place and be content there until you leave. ¹¹ "If you're not welcomed, not listened to, quietly withdraw. Don't make a scene. Shrug your shoulders and be on your way." ¹²⁻¹³ Then they were on the road. They preached with joyful urgency that life can be radically different; right and left they sent the demons packing; they brought wellness to the sick, anointing their bodies, healing their spirits." (Mark 6:7-13, MSG)

Jesus ministry is out of the box, as he welcomes all people, especially sinners and people on the margins. Throughout the gospels, he demonstrates God's love and power as he shares the abundant, radical, amazing Grace of God with all. Jesus removes all of the fences around who is in and who is out, what is proper and what is not, who is worthy and who is not, and he opens his arms to everyone. What a gift that is for each and every one of us. We are invited to come, just as we are, right now.

As we prepare to celebrate the 170th anniversary of the faith community here at St. Paul's, I was reflecting on how over 2,000 years later, we are still called and sent to be God's feet and hands on earth. Each one of us are baptized into this disciple's life of radical love, and into the important work of demonstrating God's grace in the world through love and service to others.

It is the power of the Holy Spirit that moved the first disciples and us too, as we are empowered to do good to others. God loves us first. Because of GOD'S LOVE, we are capable of loving God, self and other. The renewing, life-giving love of Jesus never quits, and it empowers us to become, together in community, far more than we ever could alone.

We praise you God, for 170 years of ministry at St. Paul's, and pray for the love, strength and courage to continue Your work faithfully far into the future!

Hope to see you at the Birthday Bash!

Your Sibling in Christ,

Pastor Deb



Worship & Music!

Choir & Praise Team– Rehearsals have started back up and are held on Thursdays at 6:30pm. If you're interested, please contact Kathy Ertle. All are welcome! Praise Team will also be resuming this month. If you're interested, please contact Chris Matthy.

Backpacks and Baptisms – This past month we saw the blessing of backpacks for students heading back to school and the baptism of Rhonda Denise Covington and Tyneisha Sapphire Rose Ancrum. Please join us in welcoming them to St. Paul's congregation.

Be A Worship Sponsor! – For \$22.00, or split with another, you can sponsor a worship service. The money goes towards expenses for web sites used in bulletin preparation, copyright for songs and supplies like paper and toner. Checks can be given to Dana Strohl or Secretary Lynne Williams.

Flowers – The flower sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Celebrate a loved one with a fresh flower arrangement from Floral Boutique. Order forms and checks may be given to Dana Strohl or Lynne Williams.

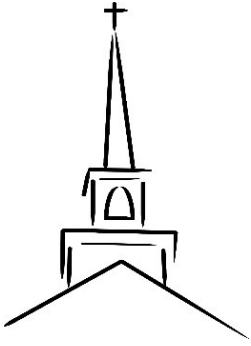
Volunteers- Barbara Edwards has graciously agreed to coordinate people to serve as service assistants. Please sign up and let her know which future Sundays you're available. Your help as an acolyte, greeter, lay reader and communion assistant is so important and most appreciated. If you have interest in leading a service on one of Pastor's Sundays when she is away, please contact Pastor.

Altar Guild – The altar guild is looking for members to help. Assistance is needed for a month at a time. If you want to learn more, please see Nancy Fritz.

Next Meeting – Monday, September 9th at 6:30pm. If you have any thoughts or ideas about the service or would like to join the Altar Guild or be part of the Worship & Music committee, please let the office know.

Blessings,

Worship & Music Committee



170th Birthday Bash! –September 28th & 29th

There will be a celebration for St. Paul's 170th birthday with a rummage sale, food, kids crafts, historical section about the church and live music. On Sunday, September 29th there will be a special combined service at 10am with the Bishop and pastors who have served at St. Paul's Lutheran Church followed by a luncheon in Celebration Hall. Volunteers are needed to help on both days and leading up to the events.

If you have sung in the choir in the past and would like to join us for that Sunday, please contact Kathy Ertle.

Please invite you friends and neighbors to join us on this day.

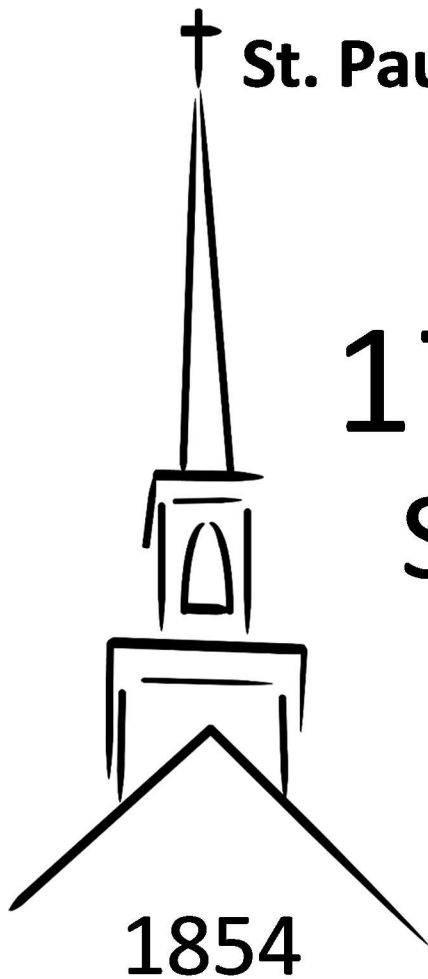
Let's make this week-end a success!!!

NOW HAPPENING!

Let's turn your clutter into another person's treasure!

**PLEASE BRING ALL YOUR DONATION ITEMS FOR
THE CHURCH TABLE NO LATER THEN SUNDAY
THE 18TH. NO CLOTHES OR SHOES.
FEEL FREE TO DROP OFF DURING OFFICE HOURS**

(CALL FOR HOURS)



St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield

139 Craigs Meadow Rd.

East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

170th Birthday Bash

Saturday Sept. 28th

**CRAFT &
RUMMAGE SALE**

9 – 3:00pm

In Celebration Hall



**FOOD BAKE SALE KIDS CRAFTS
LIVE MUSIC CHURCH HISTORY
LOCAL GROUPS**

Sunday Sept. 29th 10:00am

Celebration Service followed by lunch

For Info: 570-223-9422



Thursday
September 5th and 19th
9:30am – 12:00noon

Contact Wanda Richardson with any questions.

The food pantry needs: Boxed macaroni & cheese, cereal, jelly
And canned Tuna.

Looking for help, contact Wanda or office.

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.

**A new way of
giving to St.
Paul's**

There are no ongoing expenses for this service. Only pay when the donations are made.

Ways to donate:

- Shareable link: https://www.paypal.com/donate/?hosted_button_id=K8ZKNHW5V48WS
- QR Code:



COUNCIL MEMBERS **PHONE NUMBERS ARE LISTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD
IN THE NARTHEX OR CALL THE OFFICE**

Tom McGhee (Pres.)	drtmcghee@gmail.com
Laura Pride (VP)	papride94@gmail.com
Ted Strohl (Co -VP)	destrohl@ptd.net
Tracey Lasslett (Sec.)	tdimperio@lccc.edu
Joy Donnelly	donnell4@ptd.net
Faye Jones	mrspools@ptd.net
Sonji Patrick	sonjipatrick9903@gmail.com
Wanda Richardson	Jacqueline.richardson50@gmail.com



**THANKS TO ALL OUR
VOLUNTEERS THAT HELPED AT
THE WEST END FAIR
FUND RAISER W/ NEOLA UMC**



Barbara Hart

Carrie and Walter Strohl

Janet Pouch

Pastor Deb

Glen Burke

Tom McGhee

Wanda Richardson

Nancy and Andy Rance

Kerliene Johnson



Hello Church Youth Families,

We hope you all had a wonderful summer!

Sunday School will begin on September 8th. We are excited for a new year!

Sunday School class is held on Sunday mornings from 9-9:45 am.

All children from preschool and up are welcome!

We meet in the room to the left of the sanctuary.

Confirmation Class for this month (1-3pm):

September 8th

September 22nd

Blessings always,

Christian Education Team

Alisa Nixon (908) 279-5242

Pastor Deb (570) 350-5115

FRIDAY LADIES

Friday's 9:00 – 12:00 noon

The ladies make lovely lap robes that they share with hospitals, nursing & retirement homes plus our newly baptized babies go home with one. They are always appreciated and if you know of someone that might need one, please let Edie know.

Always looking for new people
Come on Friday and join in.

Welcome to the newest Friday Lady
"Lucy"



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.

Pleasant Valley
Received 6 Beautiful
Lap Robes in August
Delivered by Jeannette Richardson



Friday Ladies have volunteered to set a table up at our sale to benefit the church.

We will also have tables set up for any donations from our congregation and Friday Ladies will help but we'll need helpers for setting up, pricing etc.



The Altar Guild is looking
for a few new volunteers.

Please see Nancy Fritz or leave you
name in the office. No experience
necessary you will be instructed and
helped as much as you need.

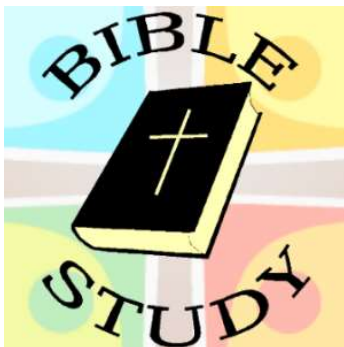
This summer's Sunday morning Community Worship Services



**were led by
Laura and Alan Pride at
Camp Vista and
Otter Lake.**

Services End after Labor Day for the year.

Thanks Laura & Alan



Resumes meeting Sept. 10th

Every Tuesday

11:30am to 12:30pm.

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO JOIN



COFFEE HOUR

**Looking for people to host
(helpers available)**

SIGN UP SHEET ON BULLETIN BOARD

**Contact Madeline or Faye with any
questions**

CELEBRATION HALL RENTALS Please share with friends. For information contact **SONJI PATRICK** (CALL OFFICE FOR PHONE #.)



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





A Tapestry of Love: Unveiling the Impact of Our Quilting Ministries



The results are in for our Quilt Survey - and it is AMAZING the wonderful gifts of comfort and love that our congregations across the Synod share with others. Each year more than 1000 quilts, lap blankets, baby quilts and other blankets are made and donated to a host of charities from the 17 congregations who shared their stories. And the wonderful stories we have to tell! The **oldest** quilting ministry was shared by **Trinity Ev. Lutheran in Lehighton** - Trinity Knotters. They started in 1965 from an article about using coats and suits to make quilts. Initially, they started sewing at home and then moved into Luther Hall where they still meet today. They have a brick on the Good Samaritan Plaza at the Baltimore LWR Headquarters. Their quilts are shared with Lutheran World Relief (LWR) and locally for graduating students, Carbon County Action Committee, Sanctuary for Veterans and

others. In addition to quilts, they make baby, personal care and school kits for LWR. Our Quilting groups have posted some very impressive numbers! The most annual quilt volume was posted by **Christ Lutheran in Hellertown** providing 180 quilts and lap quilts to a variety of organizations including Project Linus, Hospice, Habitat for Humanity, their internal faith community and fundraising. **St. James Lutheran in Coopersburg** - started in 2013 - reported 155 annual quilts donated to Turning Point, Bethany Ministries and to LWR prior to the pandemic. They have also made baby and personal care kits for LWR. **St. John's Lutheran in Slatington** reported 135 quilts and lap robes donated to LWR and to Chemo Bag, Gracedale, Topton Lutheran Home, Ripple, Sayre Center for Children, Kids Peace, Light House and Rescue Mission. **St. John's Lutheran in Hamburg** reported 100 quilts donated to LWR and the Topton Home.



Our Quilters are very talented, making a host of additional items to benefit our community.

Trinity Ev. Lutheran in Topton – Compassionate

Crafters - makes a wide variety of crafts including fidget blankets and sleeves, crafters critters, prayer lap blankets and shawls in addition to quilts! Their handmade items are donated to LWR, Lutheran Home, Lehigh Valley and St. Luke's Hospitals and Arden Court. Newly started in 2022, the

Compassionate Crafters donated 114 items that year and 218 items in 2023!

Our quilts are shared near and far – across the USA and around the world.



St. Peter's Ev. Lutheran in Reinerton – Tyers of Comfort - have made over 2000 quilts since their start in 1999. Among the groups to whom they

donate quilts is the Navajo Lutheran Mission in AZ and LWR. The group is led by Kathryn Lewis, founder and chairperson, who is 90 years old and going strong! Tyers of Comfort also have a sidewalk brick at the LWR Warehouse in Maryland. These are just a few of the stories

from our Quilting family across the Synod and there are more stories to tell from the rest of the groups – we will include them next time.

Submitted by: Eileen Lane, Quilting Ministry Volunteer at St. John Lutheran Church, Allentown



Sept 21
 9:00am to 12:00pm
 2354 Grove Road Allentown, PA



On **September 21st**, to facilitate donation of quilts and kits to Lutheran World Relief, we are hosting our **first LWR Ingathering at the Synod Office**. If Allentown is a convenient drive from your location, we will be collecting boxed quilt and kit donations from 9AM till Noon. A truck will be parked at the Synod office for you to drop off your donations. We will also have refreshments so you can meet other quilters and kit makers while you are there. Let's see if the NEPA Synod can fill the truck!

Sunday September	Monday 2024	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 15th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 10:00am	2 Worship and Music 6:30pm	3 Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm	4	5 Choir 6:30pm	6 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	7
8 16th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 10:00am	9	10 Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm Council Meeting 6 :30pm	11	12 Food Pantry 9:30am – 12:00 noon Choir 6:30pm	13 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	14
15 17th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 10:00am	16	17 Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm	18	19 Finance Meeting 6:00pm Choir 6:30pm	20 Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
18th Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 & 10:00am		Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm		Food Pantry 9:30am – 12:00 noon Choir 6:30pm	Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	BIRTHDAY BASH SALE & ACTIVIES
29 19th Sunday after Pentecost CELEBRATION SERVICE And LUNCH 10:00am	30					