

THANK YOU

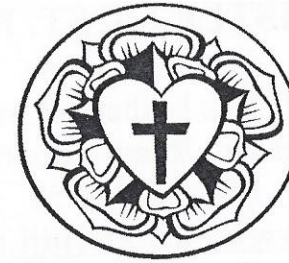


Social Ministry

collected.

The Social Ministry Committee thanks everyone who contributed to the annual Souper Bowl Sunday event, which was observed during the services on Sunday February 11th. Twelve food items for the Schuylkill Haven Food Pantry and \$1,498 for the Pottsville Soup Kitchen were

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 2024

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

THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL'S

is published by:

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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

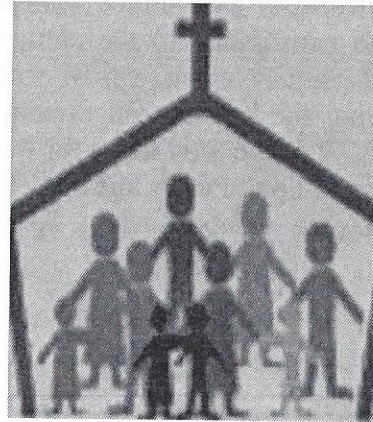
Our Staff

The Rev. Marie Meeks	Pastor 570-754-7350
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



VBS

This year St. Paul's Lutheran Vacation Bible School will be combined with St. Paul's UCC June 17-21, 2024 6:00 to 8:30. Details to follow.



At the Church Council reorganization meeting on Wednesday, January 3, 2024, 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.

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."

FROM THE PASTOR

Greetings in Christ!

It is with great appreciation to the Lord and His leading in my life that I now begin my journey here at St Paul's Lutheran Church in Auburn P A. I am very excited that I will be coming to St Paul's to be your pastor!

I grew up in Smithtown NY, attended seminary at United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg PA.

I have three children. My adult son, Daniel, lives with me. My son, Drake and his wife Julie live in North Carolina. My daughter, Jessie, lives in Hudson Falls NY with her children Audrie, Zechariah, and Merrida. Audrie has a daughter named Bonnie, and a new baby coming in April. I am very happy to be mother, a grandmother, and now also a Great Grandmother!!

I have served Dobbs Ferry Lutheran Church beginning in October of 2017. Before that I was serving two congregations in western NY, Bethany Lutheran Church in Olean NY, and Bethel Lutheran Church in Portville NY.

I wanted to be sure to take this opportunity to send you a brief note of thanks, and I am looking forward to doing God's work with you all!



THANK YOU

The Social Ministry Committee would like to thank everyone who donated items for our Mitten Tree. The items were divided and delivered to Servants to All and Schuylkill Hope Center (formerly known as Women in Crisis.) The donations were 29 hats, 8 scarves, 35 pair of gloves, 6 pair of mittens, 40 pair of socks, 2 pair of ear muffs, 3 hat and glove combos, 3 hat and mitten combos, 2 hat and scarf combos, 1 head band, and 1 blanket. Thank you for your continuing support.

THANK YOU

St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for the gifts for finals week! The snacks will definitely be gone soon!

From,

Grace Bright

THANK YOU

Dear St. Paul's,

Thank you very much for the bag of snacks that was given to me to get through my finals. It is appreciated very much.

Sincerely,

Matthew Mairose

Keep in your prayers:



Keep in your prayers: Charles Hawk, Sr., Richard Paxson, Dennis Ryan, Ron Boris, Jr., Shirley Krammes, Irene Peiffer, Arlene Lickman, Betty Freeman, Thelma Brensinger, Chester Johnson, Shirley Fessler, Angie Lewis, Mark Fidler, Hayley

Moyer, Helen Runkle, Adam Brink, Arlene Moyer, Charles Wernert, Stephen Curtis, Brayden Crews, John Strauch, Jr., Dianna Curry, Rosemary Meade, Ray Yeich, David Axtt, Greg Phillips, Gaylene Ebling, Stacey Rao, John and Betty Strauch, Nancy Vargas, Jerry Heffleger, Kathy Robinson, Beverly Trumbo, Brian Hunsberger, Randy Ney, Donovan Baker, Kyle Cleary. Peggy Davis, Sue and Harry Russell, Carol Beenick, Brittany & Joshua Gallagher, Shawnette Keller, Neida Hayes, Helen Miller, Sheila Tryon, Sallie Ann Sandler 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, and Ryan Bast.



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

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

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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 10th.

EASTER EGG HUNT



The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held Palm Sunday, March 24 at 2:00 pm in the fellowship hall for children up to and including those in grade 6. Advance registration is requested by March 17.

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 child's name and age.



Egg Hunt Donations – Filled plastic eggs will be appreciated for the children's Egg Hunt on March 24. Please bring egg donations to the church by March 17 and place on table in the back of the fellowship hall. To sign up your donation, please sign sheet on

bulletin board in back of the church or email Reba at llewell@verizon.net or text or call 570-527-5116. Thank you in advance for your donation.



The following have donated gifts to the memorial fund in memory of Sue Russell.

John and Betty Strauch	\$25.00
Lee and Reba Llewellyn	\$50.00
Glenn and Helen Miller	\$25.00
Linda Haas	\$100.00
Faye Williams	\$25.00
Michael and Marlene Troxell	\$100.00
Mairose Family	\$100.00



Church Calendar for March 2024

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

Lectionary for March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Psalm 19 Exodus 19:9b-15 Acts 7:30-40	2 Psalm 19 Exodus 19:16-25 Mark 9:2-8
3 Third Sunday of Lent	4 Psalm 84 1 Kings 6:1-4, 21-22 1 Corinthians 3:10-23	5 Psalm 84 2 Chronicles 29:1-11, 16-19 Hebrews 9:23-28	6 Psalm 84 Ezra 6:1-16 Mark 11:15-19	7 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Genesis 9:8-17 Ephesians 1:3-6	8 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Daniel 12:5-13 Ephesians 1:7-14	9 Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22 Numbers 20:22-29 John 3:1-13
10 Fourth Sunday of Lent	11 Psalm 107:1-16 Exodus 15:22-27 Hebrews 3:1-6	12 Psalm 107:1-16 Numbers 20:1-13 1 Corinthians 10:6-13	13 Psalm 107:1-16 Isaiah 60:15-22 John 8:12-20	14 Psalm 51:1-12 Isaiah 30:15-18 Hebrews 4:1-13	15 Psalm 51:1-12 Exodus 30:1-10 Hebrews 4:14—5:4	16 Psalm 51:1-12 Habakkuk 3:2-13 John 12:1-11
17 Fifth Sunday of Lent	18 Psalm 119:9-16 Isaiah 43:8-13 2 Corinthians 3:4-11	19 Psalm 119:9-16 Isaiah 44:1-8 Acts 2:14-24	20 Psalm 119:9-16 Haggai 2:1-9, 20-23 John 12:34-50	21 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Deuteronomy 16:1-8 Philippians 2:1-11	22 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Jeremiah 33:1-9 Philippians 2:12-18	23 Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29 Jeremiah 33:10-16 Mark 10:32-34, 46-52
24 Palm Sunday	25 Isaiah 42:1-9 Psalm 36:5-11 Hebrews 9:11-15 John 12:1-11	26 Isaiah 49:1-7 Psalm 71:1-14 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 John 12:20-36	27 Isaiah 50:4-9a Psalm 70 Hebrews 12:1-3 John 13:21-32	28 Exodus 12:1-4 [5-10] 11-14 Psalm 116:1-2, 12-19 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 John 13:1-17, 31b-35	29 Isaiah 52:13—53:12 Psalm 22 Hebrews 10:16-25 <i>or</i> Hebrews 4:14-16; 5:7-9 John 18:1—19:42	30 Romans 6:3-11 John 20:1-18

A Brief Look At Some Summer Hill History
By Harry Schwenk

This month we will take a look at some modern history, which occurred in the year 2004. The Rev. Frederick Fisher, our minister of 23 ½ years, decided to retire from the active ministry. Since he will be celebrating his birthday in March, I thought it would be fitting to devote my March article to him. Following is an article that we had in the newspaper about his retirement.

The Rev. Frederick I. Fisher, pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Summer Hill, for the past 23 ½ years, retired from the active ministry on October 31st. A celebration of his ministry and retirement with a dinner and program was held on Saturday evening, October 30th at Pine View Acres in Pottsville. Three hundred twenty people, consisting of family and friends, attended the celebration. Among the friends in attendance were fellow pastors and parishioners from Summer Hill and some of Pastor Fisher's former parishes. The evening included a buffet dinner, musical entertainment, and several speakers honoring Pastor Fisher. Dave Schneck, a member of St. Paul's, the master of ceremonies, told Pastor Fisher's life history and added tidbits of interest. He also had a continuous slide show throughout the entire evening consisting of photos of Pastor Fisher, his family, friends, and scenes from church activities throughout the years.

Speakers who honored Pastor Fisher included Pastor Gene Handwerk, Pastor Joyce Seip, Pastor Bob Hoenich, Pastor Fisher's children, Andrew Fisher, Julie Schneider, and Amy Kovalski, and St. Paul's members, Judy Burcik, Earl Paxson, Kaye Schwenk and Dave Schneck. There were also several people in the crowd who offered memories and best wishes for the honored guest.

Throughout the evening, several songs were sung by "The King" (Pat Yarrish, Summer Hill's version of Elvis.) Musical numbers were also provided by the Summer Hill Girls Chorus, Bev and Ken Trumbo, Lindsey Schneck and Krista Feeser and St. Paul's Contemporary Worship Leaders.

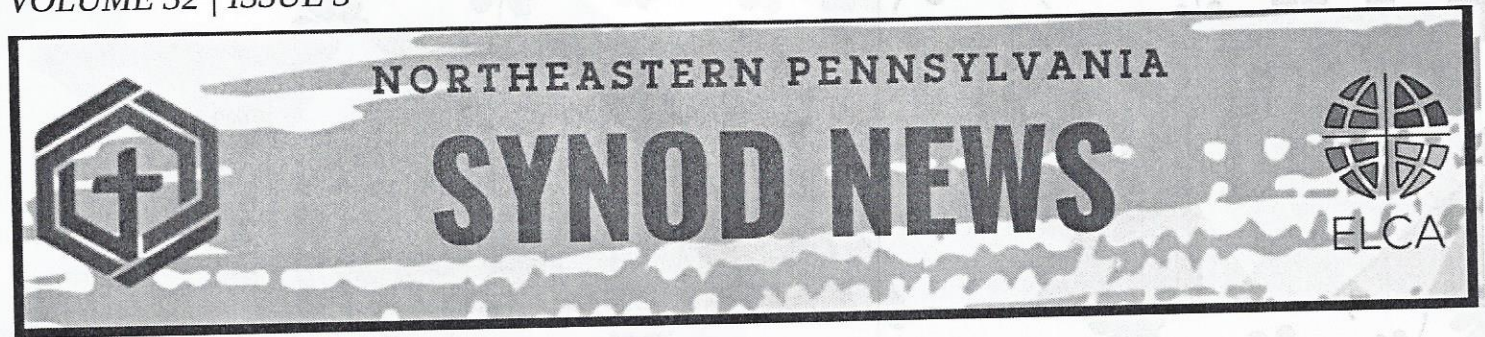
Pastor Fisher is the son of Homer Fisher and the late Martha Fisher. He is married to the former Ardine Herring, and they resided in the Pine Grove area. They are the parents of three children: Andrew Fisher, husband of Michele; Julie, wife of The Rev. George Schneider; and Amy, wife of Edward Kovalski. They have two grandchildren, Andrew and Madison Fisher.

Pastor Fisher is a graduate of Pine Grove High School, Susquehanna University, and the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia. During his 38 years of active ministry, Pastor Fisher has served as pastor of the following Lutheran Churches: Ebenezer, New Tripoli; Salem-Hetzel's, Pine Grove area; St. Peter's, Pine Grove; Hope, Cherryville, and St. Paul's, Summer Hill.

During Pastor Fisher's ministry, he has officiated at well over 700 baptisms, 600 confirmations, 400 weddings, and 500 funerals.



HAPPY
ST. PATRICK'S DAY

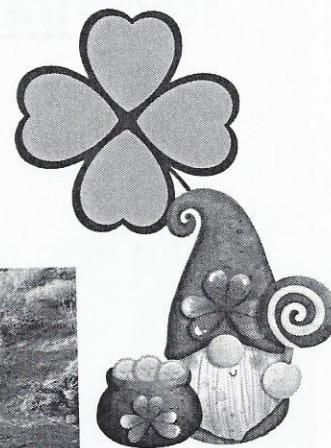
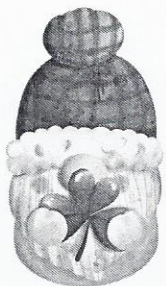


Cultivating Generosity

Throughout the fall our congregations are often focused on stewardship and gratitude for the generosity of members. Folks provide stewardship talks, members complete commitment cards, and sermons are proclaimed to encourage generosity of time, talent and finances. But did you know that our ELCA Congregation and Synod Support Team offers training and recommendations on cultivating generosity?

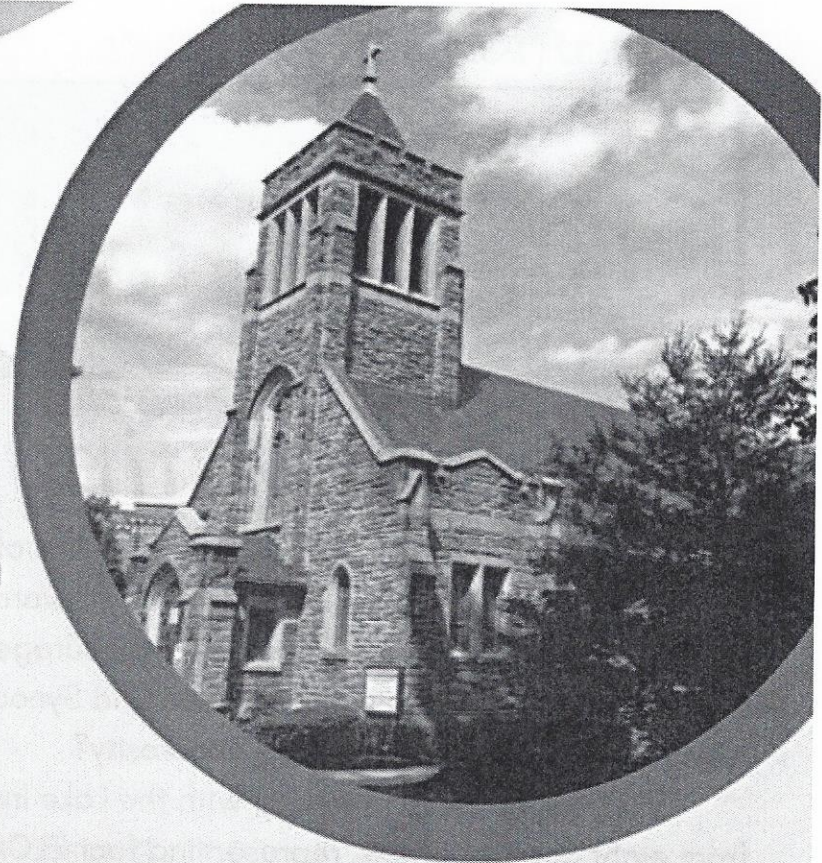
This past fall, in partnership with the Lake Institute on Faith and Giving, stewardship leaders from eight congregations, representing four ELCA synods, came together for a training series called "Cultivating Generous Congregations" (CGC). Over seven weeks leaders from these eight congregations gathered online as a cohort with the Lake Institute's trained faculty and each other. Cultivating Generous Congregations maps the new landscape of religious giving and provides congregational teams with tools to build a culture of generosity unique to each congregation's needs, challenges, and opportunities. CGC explores theology, the role of adaptive leadership, fiscal transparency, and the importance of giver care, with action steps to impact the exploration of generosity and energize congregational generosity to take the significant and necessary steps to creating lasting cultural change.

Following the final session, the eight congregations received a year of access to the Lake Institute's numerous stewardship resources, as well as optional coaching to assist in the implementation of these practices. Mission Support funds the opportunity for congregations and leaders to learn from stewardship experts and one another and to grow together so that their local mission, and how God is growing generosity, can be told in more effective ways in today's culture.





Atonement Lutheran Church
5 Wyomissing Blvd.,
Wyomissing, PA 19610



Northeastern Pennsylvania SYNOD ASSEMBLY 2024

“HUNGRY FOR LIFE TOGETHER IN CHRIST”

Saturday, June 8, 8:30am-4:30pm

TWO ATTENDANCE OPTIONS FOR VOTING MEMBERS:
In-person and online (Zoom)

Registration: \$130 (same for both attendance options)

REGISTRATION OPENS FEBRUARY 16

Watch for email that day, with detailed info and registration link

Info also posted that day on our synod website: www.godslove.org

Questions? Contact: Laurie Christman laurie@nepsynod.org