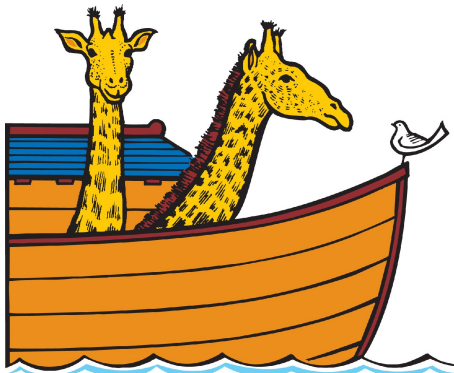


Cross Connections



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

May 2021



VBS PLANNING

Saturday, July 24, 2021 Join us for a VBS DAY!

Last year we had to cancel our Vacation Bible School.

This year we are starting back slowly with a VBS DAY!

One day - July 24 beginning at 9:00 am.

We will learn about Noah and the Ark, animals, rainbows, and God's promises.

- ▶ Who was Noah?
- ▶ What is an Ark, and why build it?
- ▶ Who told him to build an Ark?
- ▶ What was on the ark?
- ▶ Why was there a rainbow?



We are making plans for our VBS Day and here is where you can help!

- ☐ Let us know if you (adults or teens) can help that day.
- ☐ Let us know if your children will be attending. Registration soon!

We will be mostly outside on our grounds for singing, crafting, puppetry, play acting, learning about nature, hearing stories, and having a good time.

About lunchtime, everyone will be invited – church members, friends, neighbors – to close out the morning with a picnic served on the grounds. After lunch, there will be a special event inside Trinity Hall – everyone is invited to enjoy the magic and laughter of Happy Dan: The Magic Man.

SO – let us know if you can help, or attend, or help set up or clean up the event. Contact Susan Esposito (admin@stpaulsdurham.org).

The Rev. Scott M. Anderson, Pastor

Susan Esposito, Parish Administrator & Editor

Jacqueline Nappi, Minister of Music

Amanda Stoen, Preschool Director

Judy Goans, Vicar

Alan Rigsbee, Bookkeeper

The Rev. Amanda Highben, Associate Pastor, Duke Lutherans

The Rev. Dr. Charles R. Huggins, Pastor Emeritus

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Facebook: St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, ELCA

From the Pastor...

Spring has sprung, the grass has risen and you can rhyme the rest. New life is blossoming into the world and we are springing into new life and new reality here at St. Paul's.

Worship, for at least the month of May, will remain at 10 am both live and zoomed. We will continue to record this service and make it available. We will also continue to offer drive through Communion each week at about 11:15 am until noon on Sunday mornings.

Please know that we review this practice weekly. The numbers of people coming to drive through Communion diminish as we see the numbers for worship increase.

We are seeing mostly vaccinated people during the worship service, and because this is the case we are allowing people to hum or sing quietly behind a mask. For those that would like to avoid this activity, we are offering non-singing space in Trinity Hall. The worship service is streamed in there weekly.

Jackie Nappi continues to record the service music and it is streamed into the sanctuary and over zoom.

Zoom continues to change its streaming service and so we are working to manage quality, but we are not always aware of the changes they implement until after the fact, so bear with us.

We have ordered two new cameras and editing equipment and hope to have this installed soon.

Please bear with us as we manage technical glitches and learn this new system. We would all like worship to be back to the old way, but it is not going to be for a period of time and we ask your patience and prayers.

Pastor Scott



Spring

by Vicar Judy Goans

How fortunate we are, I think, to live in the Northern Hemisphere, where we celebrate Easter in the spring. In winter, the ground looks barren and dead, and then early flowers like daffodils spring from the ground, reminding us of Jesus emerging from death and the grave. Trees are clothed in new leaves, reminding us of Jesus, clothed in a new body.

This year, it feels like St. Paul's is welcoming spring with new life, or perhaps with life that was put on hold, as we resume worship in our beautiful sanctuary.

Members of the congregation contribute to this new life by taking the COVID vaccines, and new air cleaners make our gatherings safer.

This spring has also brought us the ability to visit more with each other in person – at our Thursday morning Bible study, where we can attend in person or over Zoom, and in homes. I was so happy to be able to visit with members who live at Croasdaile. Not everywhere has re-opened yet. We still cannot visit members in the hospital, but we hope that will change soon.

The possibility of seeing one another face to face also feels like new life. I love seeing everyone on Zoom, but I am overjoyed to see you in person. All this feels like the new life that comes with spring. So, I look forward to seeing more of you, in worship, at Bible study, and in visits.

With God's Help, We Made It!

Last Sunday night, April 25, as the Duke Lutherans gathered for our final virtual Evening Prayer of the academic year, we felt a variety of emotions: relief and gratitude that we'd made it through such a challenging year; exhaustion and anxiety because of finals; and joy for our graduates but sorrow at having to bid them farewell.

Bearing in mind that experiencing so many (sometimes conflicting) emotions can make already-stressed students feel even more overwhelmed, these are the words I preached at the end of my sermon:

Duke Lutherans, as this year comes to an end, as you stay here in Durham for the summer or scatter to the four winds, remember that the Good Shepherd, the Lamb of God, goes with you wherever you go... Whether deep valleys steeped in dense shadows or the softest of emerald-green fields – and most likely you will travel through both at some point or another – Know this wherever you go: You are a beloved member of the Duke Lutherans flock, always. And, just as the shepherd gently gathers the lambs with outstretched arms, so too does God call you by name, carry you, go out searching for you when you are wondering or lost, restore your soul, and give you rest.

Of course, we also offer our thanks to you, our fellow members of the flock at St. Paul's, for your gracious support and prayers that sustained us through this year. We are blessed that God calls us to life together with you, with Grace, and with our alumni and supporters everywhere ... **many of whom were able to join us for our April 18 Alumni and Supporter Appreciation Evening Prayer**, an event that we hope will become an annual tradition! As we worshiped together, we also heard personal stories from a current

student, a recent alum, and a “senior” alum (Magdalena Phillips, D. J. Chatelaine, and Cindy Snyder), all of whom shared their favorite campus ministry memories and reflected on how God has blessed and grounded them in Christ’s love through their time with the Duke Lutherans.

Finally, because several of our students will still be in Durham this summer (our graduate students, in particular, don’t receive time off in the summer), please let me know if you’d like to support them in some way ... perhaps by providing a meal, a gift card, or an encouraging card.

Peace and Grace

Pastor Amanda (amanda.highben@duke.edu)

Council Corner

by Claire Cooney

President, Congregation Council

Greetings from Council! Wishing everyone a joyful springtime and hopefully the pollen is behind us. At this last month’s Council meeting, we finalized the Church’s personnel manual – quite a feat. Big thanks to Pastor and Council members for providing feedback to update and finalize this document.

We also discussed an idea to host a ‘committee fair’ later this year – in the hopes of increasing participation, but also providing some guidance on the length of leadership terms so you are able to join new committees or volunteer in new ways. We would love to hear your ideas.

This approach stems from the need for a congregation member to join the Preschool Board later this summer. Let me or Pastor know if you are interested in serving this next term.

We are excited to continue in-person Worship and are eager to grow our ministries in-person with time together this year. We look forward to your participation!

Preschool Pitter Patter

by Amanda Stoen

We have made it to our last month of the school year! While the pandemic has made this a long school year in many ways, it is still hard to believe we are finishing another school year. We are so grateful that to have had the support of the church to reopen last fall and shift so much of our preschool day outside. Our teachers have worked hard throughout the school year to teach in new ways and adapt their lessons to our outside spaces. It has been a wonderful school year for all of us. We will also send another class of children off to kindergarten,

ready to learn more about the world.

As our preschool children continue to learn through active play, they learn a lot about special awareness throughout their years at preschool.

Hand & Finger Skills for Toddlers...



By the middle of a child’s first year, a child begins to develop their pincer grasp, picking up objects between thumb and forefinger. Some fun games at this age include:

- Building small towers of blocks, then knocking them down
- Turning knobs and pages
- Putting round pegs into holes
- Scribbling and painting
- Taking toys apart and putting them back together

Hand & Finger Skills for Preschoolers...

Spatial awareness has developed more by this age and children develop better control of utensils and tools to perform certain tasks.

Activities to try with your child include:

- Building with blocks
- Solving simple jigsaw puzzles
- Stringing large wooden beads
- Pouring water into containers of various sizes
- Dressing and undressing dolls in clothing with large zippers, snaps, and laces



We have a few more spots remaining in our PMO classes (10-23 months) for the 2021-2022 school year. Registration forms and enrollment procedures can be found on our website

stpaulspreschooldurham.weebly.com. Please contact me if you are interested in learning more about our preschool program.

Changes of Address

Ida Elliott (moved to Trinity View Retirement Comm.)
2533 Hendersonville Rd, Apt 236
Arden NC 28704
Phone: 828-687-6236

Alta Lindsay
2800 Croasdaile Dr, Apt M8
Durham, NC 27705-2549

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, ELCA
1200 West Cornwallis Road
Durham, NC 27705-5731

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Calling all St. Paul's Readers!

by Katherine Trexler

We invite all readers to participate in our church book club. St. Paul's Readers has selected a wide variety of literary genres for 2021 and meets most months on the third Thursday at 3 pm.

The May selection, *Beneath a Scarlet Sky*, will be led by Katherine Trexler on Thursday, May 20, at 3 pm via Zoom. The novel is based upon the true story of a forgotten WWII hero of the Northern Italian Resistance. Pino Lella was a normal Italian teenager, obsessed with music, cars, and girls, whose life in Milan was forever changed when his family home was bombed. This gripping story chronicles the triumphant, epic tale of his incredible courage and resilience helping Jews escape over the Alps while spying on the Nazis. We hope that this tale resonates with you, too!

The book has been widely reviewed and highly rated and will soon be a major TV event, starring Tom Holland. Please contact Katherine for any questions. We hope that you will join us!

Free Library

The "take a book - leave a book" has a new home on a nice shelf in the atrium, near the water fountains. Next time you are in the area, check out the reading material and puzzles. You are welcome to take, read, play, and either return or pass it on.



Thursday Morning Bible Study: Study of the Minor Prophets.

Bible study is now meeting in person in the conference room as well as on Zoom. Join us either way.

Topic: Bible Study – Time: 10:30 am on Thursdays.

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/946532621?pwd=UTJqYjV0V3laMmpROStMdGRvTGfHUT09>

Meeting ID: 946 532 621 – Password: 402561

Croasdaile Worship

We will resume our monthly worship at Croasdaile Retirement Village on the fourth Thursday of the month. Our first time back will be Thursday, May 27, 2021 at 2:00 pm.

HELP WANTED

by Jacqueline Nappi

Looking for one or more persons to help file away choir anthems and some bell choir music. All music and filing cabinets are in the upstairs choir loft in the sanctuary. Please email Jackie if you are interested:

music@stpaulsdurham.org

Thank you!

Our Sympathy

Our sympathy to the family and friends of Gilles Oscar Yayo, 21, who passed away on Sunday, April 11, 2021. He was born in Bangui, Africa, the son of Andre Yayo and Oukara Francoise Yayo. A graveside service was held at 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 17 at Maplewood Cemetery with Pastor Scott Anderson officiating.

Memorials Received

The following persons have given memorials with these designations. We thank you.

In memory of James B. and Alice S. Richmond by William Richmond, Richmond, VA

In memory of Addie S. Felkel and Carson Sturgeon, a Memorial has been given to St. Paul's Fowler Library, by Mary Sturgeon, Carrboro

In memory of Carol Sackett by Larry and Phyllis Jenkins, Durham,

In memory of Bill Jewett by Larry and Phyllis Jenkins, Durham