

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](mailto:stpaulscraigsmeadow@verizon.net)  
Web Site: [stpaulscommunitychurch.com](http://stpaulscommunitychurch.com)  
Facebook: St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield

# ST. PAUL'S CALL

## July 2025

**Pastor Deb Staniszewski**

**Check out our new Instagram:**  
**[st.pauls\\_smithfield](https://www.instagram.com/st.pauls_smithfield)**

**JOIN US FOR  
PRAYER,  
WORSHIP &  
FELLOWSHIP**



### **SUNDAY SERVICES**

### **8:30AM AND 10:00AM**

**(all service time changes will be e-mailed to you for the month of July)**

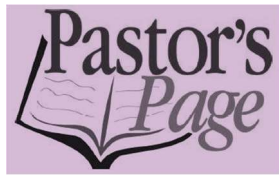
**LIVE STREAMING AVAILABLE 10:00AM SERVICE.**

**Connect to Facebook direct or go to our web site FB tab.**

**A PDF of the 10:00am service bulletin 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.**



Summer Greetings!!

In Luke's gospel, chapter 10, Jesus sends 72 ordinary people out, with instructions to take nothing really, except the clothes on their backs, no extra supplies, no money, no food even. They receive the power to bring Christ's life giving message others, and to heal bodies and hearts. God is the source, and they are the messengers carrying this good news out into the world, like lambs among wolves, vulnerable, in need help and hospitality. They must be humble and build relationships along the way with people wherever they land .

"10 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. <sup>2</sup> He told them, "The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. <sup>3</sup> Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves" <sup>4</sup> Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. <sup>5</sup> "When you enter a house, first say, 'Peace to this house.' <sup>6</sup> If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. <sup>7</sup> Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. <sup>8</sup> "When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. <sup>9</sup> Heal the sick who are there and tell them, 'The kingdom of God has come near to you.' (Luke 10:1-9, NIV)

Like the disciples in the reading, we are called to share the message of God's love with humility, and, we aren't expected to do ministry alone. Instead, we seek God's will, through prayer and discernment. We're also subject to risk, as we proclaim God's message, participate in God's mission, and ministry out in the world. We're called to share the work of the kingdom, and offer Jesus message of redemption, forgiveness, and wholeness. Jesus created the church so that we can discern and journey together to carry on his work in the world.

GOOD things, GOD things, are happening here at St. Paul's Beloved! Can you feel it? Keep praying! Know that we are not alone. God is with us as we take risks, get out of our comfort zones, rely on God's grace, and find adventure in continuing the work of Christ.

For summer, you are invited to contemplate the following,

- What has God been up to at St. Paul's? Where have you noticed Joy and creativity breaking loose?
- Please consider visiting a local church, introduce yourself, let the folks there know you're visiting, ask what God is up to at their church, talk about areas of ministry where we might work together.
- We never know how God will bless our interactions with others!!
- Take some time to reflect on all that God has started and/or accomplished in us and through us this past year. Share what comes up in conversations with other people!

Your Sibling in Christ,

Pastor Deb

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Smithfield**  
**Income and Expense Statement (UNAUDITED)**

**Operating Funds**

	May <u>2025</u>	Year to <u>Date</u>	Year to Date <u>Budget</u>
<b>CHURCH INCOME</b>			
GENERAL INCOME	\$10,269.02	\$46,765.78	\$50,187.55
BENEVOLENCE INCOME	143.00	798.00	1,041.70
MISCELLANEOUS INCOME	3,462.62	8,991.84	8,000.00
INTEREST INCOME	<u>5.01</u>	<u>884.19</u>	<u>1,683.30</u>
TOTAL INCOME	<u>\$13,879.65</u>	<u>\$57,439.81</u>	<u>\$60,912.55</u>
<b>CHURCH EXPENSES</b>			
STAFF	\$8,681.78	\$44,997.13	\$47,051.60
BENEVOLENCE EXPENSE			
Benevolence (Synod)	583.33	2,916.66	3,022.90
PARISH ADMINISTRATION	927.96	2,851.57	2,750.00
WORSHIP	127.50	1,286.53	2,306.20
LEARNING	200.00	311.86	937.45
PROPERTY	3,895.51	23,615.78	17,410.45
DEBT PAYMENTS	1,229.00	5,906.00	5,859.15
STEWARDSHIP	0.00	271.40	291.65
OUTREACH	0.00	275.00	208.30
WITNESS	0.00	0.00	241.65
SOCIAL FELLOWSHIP	<u>52.41</u>	<u>136.38</u>	<u>479.15</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	<u>\$15,697.49</u>	<u>\$82,568.31</u>	<u>\$80,558.50</u>
 EXCESS INCOME/(EXPENSES)	 <u>(\$1,817.84)</u>	 <u>(\$25,128.50)</u>	 <u>(\$19,645.95)</u>

**Current Cash Accounts**

CHECKING ACCOUNTS & PETTY CASH	\$14,426.56	
THRIVENT FINANCIAL	<u>65,656.89</u>	
TOTAL CASH ACCOUNTS		<u>\$80,083.45</u>

**Special Funds**

<b>SPECIAL FUNDS INCOME</b>			
<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>			
Pantry/Good Samaritan	\$220.00	\$1,877.90	\$0.00
Pastor's Discretion	00.00	25.00	0.00
DESIGNATED SCHOLARSHIP	500.00	500.00	0.00
MEMORIAL INCOME	0.00	1,005.00	0.00
INTEREST	0.00	63.16	0.00
COMMUNITY GARDENS	<u>0.00</u>	<u>500.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS INCOME	<u>\$720.00</u>	<u>\$3,971.06</u>	<u>\$0.00</u>
<b>SPECIAL FUNDS DISBURSEMENTS</b>			
<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>			
Pantry/Good Samaritan	\$0.00	\$2,029.63	\$0.00
Pastor's Discretion	0.00	350.00	0.00
Postage (Pantry)	0.00	14.60	0.00
MUSIC	<u>0.00</u>	<u>56.99</u>	<u>0.00</u>
TOTAL SPECIAL FUNDS DISBURSEMENTS	<u>\$0.00</u>	<u>\$2,451.22</u>	<u>0.00</u>

**Special Funds Cash Accounts**

CHECKING ACCOUNTS & PETTY CASH	\$14,224.63	
THRIVENT FINANCIAL	<u>5,567.37</u>	
TOTAL CASH ACCOUNTS		<u>\$19,792.00</u>

## Playground Restoration Workday

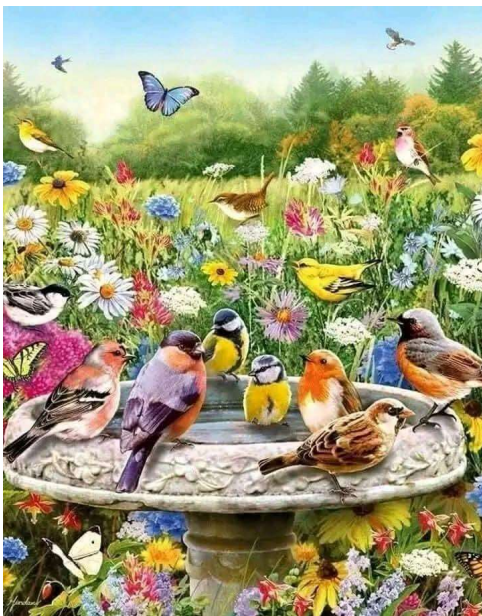
Saturday, July 26, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. we'll be restoring our playground. Included in the project is taking down the fence, removing two dead trees, cleaning out the brush, raking the rubber mulch, and removing any broken equipment.

Please bring your own tools.

We look forward to sharing this time with you as we continue to improve our grounds.



## BEE, BUTTERFLY & BIRD GARDEN



**GARDEN  
DEDICATION  
DATE TO BE  
ANNOUNCED.**

**HAPPINESS IS...**

seeing a bee on  
a flower you planted



**PLEASE CONTINUE TO WALK AROUND IN THE GARDEN AND  
SEE ALL THE BEAUTIFUL FLOWERS AND WONDERFUL JOB  
OUR GARDEN GROUP DID.**



**Summer Musical Opportunities Here at St. Paul's** - If you're interested in singing or playing an instrument during the summer season, just take a moment to sign up on the bulletin board. If you know of anyone who would like some performing experience, please feel free to add them to the list on one of the available Sundays. Please let Dave Libecap or Kathy Ertle know if you need an accompanist.



**Concerts** - There are a number of concerts during the summer.

**Music on Mondays** - at the Dansbury Depot on Mondays at 7pm. Bring a chair. Free will offering for the musicians.

**Shawnee Inn** - has free concerts on Tuesday nights out on the lawn by the Pavilion. Check out their website for announcements. Bring a lawn chair. Donations for the performers are gratefully accepted.

**Concerts in the Square** - Thursdays from 6-8pm starting on June 12<sup>th</sup> through August 21<sup>st</sup> on Courthouse Square in Stroudsburg.

**2025 Pocono Summer Chorus** - to benefit Meals on Wheels will be holding their concert on Wednesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7pm at St. John's Lutheran Church at 9 N. 9<sup>th</sup> St, Stbg.

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**Next Pantry is Thursday  
August 7th**

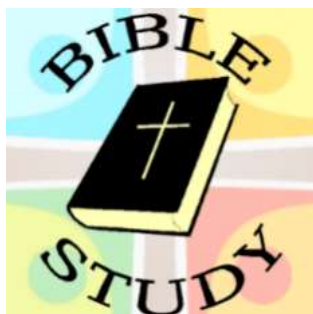
**9:30am – 12:00noon**

**The food pantry needs:** Peanut butter and jelly, cereal, spam and canned fruit.

**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.

**Future Pantry Dates:**      **September 4<sup>th</sup>, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, November 6<sup>th</sup>**  
   **December 4<sup>th</sup>    Any changes will be announced.**

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**Every Tuesday      11:30am to 12:30pm.**  
**JOIN US**

## **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.**

**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.**

**Come on Friday and Join in.**



**Come join us for Pickleball in Celebration Hall!  
Beginners and more experienced players welcome.**

Download the app TeamReach and use the code STPAULS. Once in the app you can look at the calendar for times.

ANY questions text or  
Laura Biddulph.  
570-369-0359



call



## Hello Church Youth Families,

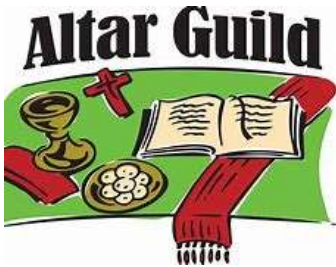
Sunday School is on break for the summer.

Blessings always,  
Christian Education Team  
Alisa Nixon (908) 279-5242

Pastor Deb (570) 350-5115

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## VOLUNTEERS NEEDED !!



**Please see Nancy Fritz or leave your name in the office.**

**No experience necessary you will be instructed and helped as much as you need. Assistance is needed for a month at a time.**

## FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE



Sunday Coffee Hour

Help with Funeral  
Luncheons



**Contact Jeannette Richardson or Faye Jones if interested.**



**Contact Wanda Richardson. Faye, Noreen or office If you would like help Thursday Food Pantry**

## SUNDAY SERVICE



**If you would like to help on a Sunday contact  
Kathy Ertle or office. Ushers and Lay Readers**

**Contact Pastor direct.**

**If you are interested in leading a service on one of  
Pastor's Sundays when she is away.**

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## Musical Opportunities –



If you're interested in singing or playing an instrument during the summer season, just take a moment to sign up on the bulletin board.

## Sponsor Opportunities – Sign up sheets on Narthex Bulletin Board

### 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.



### Altar Flowers

The flower sign up sheet is on the bulletin board. Celebrate a loved one with a fresh flower arrangement from Floral Boutique. Please find someone to share with you if you'd like to. Order forms and checks may be given to Dana Strohl or Lynne Williams.



## 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**





## Grant-Funded Tech Project Sparks New Ministry Opportunities at Ziegels

*Written by: Winona Schappell of Ziegels Union Church, Breinigsville*

In the fall of 2024, Ziegels Union Church, comprised of two sister congregations, the Ziegel United Church of Christ and Ziegels Lutheran Congregation, embarked on a joint effort to upgrade the shared 1908 church building's Fellowship Room with upgraded technology to enhance and increase informal worship and educational mission opportunities. With the potential of applying grants to support the goal of ministries using technology, Mary Redline (UCC) and Winona Schappell (Lutheran) used local community and current congregation demographics to piece one initiative with the application

of four grants: three from UCC Penn Conference grants, Energizing Ministries, Neighbors in Need, and Operational Love of Church, and one from the NEPA Synod Witness and Service grant. With creative planning, the grants were written to cover the funding of a \$13,000 technology initiative. By January 2025, we received notice from Penn Conference and NEPA Synod confirming that all four grant applications were accepted and approved. Excited about the opportunities that these grant approvals offered,

there were still more obstacles to address. The grants did not cover the full quote for a PC projection system from Lehigh Valley Sight and Sound, so fundraisers and memorial/donation drives were needed. However, Lehigh Valley Sight and Sound started work on the project, trusting that we would be successful in raising the balance.

The Lord's blessings came in many shapes and forms.

Communications started with the Union Treasurer on establishing an accounting system to monitor grant expenditures. Union committees (Christian Education, Worship and Music, History, Fellowship) were contacted to



begin considering how to incorporate the use of the technology for our 275th Anniversary Celebrations in 2025. The Technology Committee helped to wire Internet connections, and the Property Committee found an electrician to complete the required electrical work. And with the Lord's blessings, individual members contributed donations and memorial funds of over \$6,300. With the support of the congregational members and committee volunteers, this whirlwind project was completed in three months.





On March 19th, Lehigh Valley Sight and Sound completed all the installations for a PC-controlled multimedia projection system. That same evening, Pastor Andy Meckstroth, Lutheran Pastor, used the projection system for the second Wednesday Lenten service held in the Fellowship Room. Both Pastor Andy and Pastor Larry Pickens, UCC Pastor, continued to use the projection system for the remaining Wednesday Lenten services.

Since March, several 275th Anniversary events have been held. Christian Education used the technology for a Martha Washington Tea Party and Youth Sunday worship service. The History Committee sponsored two presentations: *The Pennsylvania Germans: Past, Present & Future* by Dr. W. Donner and *The Muhlenberg Family and the Lutheran Church in Early Pennsylvania* by Christopher Malone, Curator of Historic Trappe. Weekly PowerPoint slideshows of church announcements were presented during the Fellowship Hour that is held between the Lutheran and UCC Sunday services. Families have used the system to share family photos during viewings and funeral luncheons. The system is providing an avenue of endless ministry opportunities for church committees and leadership. It is an exciting future of ministry at Ziegels Union Church, thanks to the seed funding from the Synod and Penn Conference grants.



**DID YOU KNOW** that your Mission Support helps fund areas of the synod like this one and many other important initiatives? Your contributions are making a significant impact and helping others grow in faith, supporting the synod's lanes of Growing Young, Gaining Strength, and Going Beyond Death to Life, along with the directions of loving like Jesus, healing like Jesus, and engaging like Jesus. To learn more, visit [godslove.org/missionsupport](https://godslove.org/missionsupport).

## WITNESS & SERVICE GRANTS



Grab your leadership or ministry team and complete an application!

[godslove.org/witness-service](https://godslove.org/witness-service)

- 01 Complete an application**
- 02 The Grant Team reviews your application and notifies you**
- 03 Complete your project!**
- 04 Submit your evaluation form**

The Grants Team is looking for members to join in their work.  
Contact [grants@nepsynod.org](mailto:grants@nepsynod.org) if interested

Sunday JULY	Monday 2025	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b> Work Group 6:30- 7:30pm	<b>4</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> of July</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>Pentecost 4</b> 8:30 & 10:00am	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm  Council Meeting 6:30pm	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b> Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> <b>Pentecost 5</b> Service & Congregational Meeting Schedule  <b>Early</b> 8:30 – 9am <b>Meeting</b> 9:15- 10:15 <b>Late Service</b> 10:30 – 11am	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Finance 6:00pm  Work Group 6:30 – 7:30pm	<b>18</b> Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>Pentecost 6</b> 8:30 & 10:00am		Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm			Friday Ladies 9:00am - 12:00noon	Play Ground Restoration Work Day 9:00 -1:00pm
<b>27</b> <b>Pentecost 7</b> 8:30 & 10:00am	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> Bible Study 11:30 – 12:30pm	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Work Group 6:30 – 7:30pm		