

The Epistle

A newsletter for the Members and Friends of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



April 2024

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215-368-0374

Many months ago, St. Paul's Stewardship chairperson, Wayne Young, wrote a four-part series (shared in our church newsletter) about where our offerings to St. Paul's are designated. Wayne's articles were helpful to me because I better understood how my family offerings are used within this ministry and beyond these doors. I have learned over the years of serving as your pastor, that St. Paul's is very intentional and thorough in how it cares for the offerings which are made. A continued word of thanks to our congregational treasurer Cathy Hurley and church administrator Ashley Bromley for their excellent accounting, as well as a thank you to the Finance Committee which meets regularly to keep our financial ship moving forward. Finally, a special thanks to those who serve on the weekly counting teams who meet each Monday morning to account for the Sunday offerings. The process is smooth and careful. Thank you!

In Wayne's articles, he described four "buckets" of where offering money goes. First, is the Current Account which receives the most monies deposited by individual contributors each year. This account is from where the day-to-day expenses are paid. All our ministry activity is financed from the Current account. Second, is the Benevolence Account which receives deposits for several different designations, but the major focus of this account is our congregation's apportionment to the Southeastern PA Synod and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). As Wayne described, St Paul's is given a target apportionment figure, based on our confirmed membership, and the apportionment funds are split 50/50 between the Synod and national ELCA. Our annual apportionment is \$30,000, and we can be extremely proud of the fact that we have met our apportionment figure every year for many, many years, even exceeding it last year. The apportionment funds pay for all staff expenses on the national and local levels of the governing bodies: the bishops and their assistants, the office staff, the various agencies, such as World Hunger, Disaster Response, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Response, and Child and Family Services. Third, is the Building Fund Account which only receives deposits from donations to pay one bill, the mortgage. Fourth, is the Special Account. This doesn't appear as a line on one of the weekly offering envelopes, but the offerings made in the special envelopes included in your packet of envelopes. The special envelopes are for Ash Wednesday, Lent, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. At the end of the year, with guidance from the Finance committee, the Church Council directs these monies into areas of ministry, both local and beyond our doors.

I share this review of Wayne's four-part series because it's important for you to know that your offerings are making a difference, and that at our March council meeting, it was decided to share our blessings from the Special Account. During 2023, \$17,138.25 was given to this account, and from it, donations have been made to Bear Creek Camp, Lutheran Disaster Response and ELCA World Hunger. So, as you intentionally make your offerings here at St. Paul's, please know, there is care and thoughtfulness in how it's used for our ministry expenses, and how we strive to make the world a better, more just, and loving place.

Over the years, I have learned the joy of giving to others, and so if it's been some time since you have made an offering here at St. Paul's, I would be grateful that you did, because we can always do more together. I can see many signs that the Holy Spirit is alive and moving through this congregation! And so, as we move into the Season of Easter consider the ways we better share with others what has first been graciously given to us.

In gratitude,
Pastor Bill Coleman

**Church Council
Contact
Information**

Church Officers

Ray Landis
President
610-287-5499

Shirley Schimpf
Vice President
215-527-8448

Cathy Hurley
Treasurer
215-258-1211

Wayne Young,
Secretary
610-287-8897

Church Council

Members

Denny Detweiler
484-576-0036

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267-733-8725

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215-257-4707

Amy Haines
215-730-7027

Joan O'Connor
215-368-6614

Tom Sommers
267-257-8232

Dale Souder
215-527-4709

Finance Update



Checking Account - Monthly	
Beginning Balance 2/1/24	\$15,666.99
Deposits (monthly)	\$41,529.53
Beginning Bal + Deposits	\$57,196.52
Expenses (monthly)	\$47,015.05
Ending Balance 2/29/24	\$10,181.47

Checking Account - YTD	
Beginning Balance 1/1/24	\$21,496.43
Deposits to date	\$60,163.07
Beginning Balance + Deposits	\$81,659.50
Expenses to date	\$71,478.03
Ending Balance 2/29/24	\$10,181.47

Funds Ending Balances 2/29/24	
Memorial Fund	\$38,707.78
Capital Reserve	\$69,462.27
Benevolence	\$4,682.23
Specials	\$122,713.13

Liabilities as of 2/29/24	
Mortgage Balance	\$1,673.81

This information is the most up to date available at time of printing. More up to date information can be found in the Sunday bulletins, or by calling the church office.



**Thank You
Notes**

Thank you for the Altar Flowers that I received on March 10, and thank you to Pat Hammer for delivering them. They were absolutely beautiful.

Lisa Bealer

We wanted to express our deepest appreciation to you for being so willing to work with our family with regards to dad's funeral service at St. Paul's. We were thankful that you willingly listened to our requests and feeling regarding his service. Thank you for the nice service and your part in it, helping it to go smoothly and well. We also appreciated you visiting dad at home, giving him communion and the special efforts made to come to Grandview Hospital to visit and pray with him in those latter days. Thanks also to members of the congregation like Mary Somers who also came to dad's home, visited, and brought communion and flowers. Very kind!

*Sue and Phil, Deb and Glen,
and Pam and Rick
(the family of Richard Parwin)*



**Church
Family News**

*You are invited to pray for the
families and friends of...*

Betty Dewey, who died on
March 16, 2024

Bible Quiz

What does the newly risen Jesus tell his disciples – twice – when he appears in the locked room where they are hiding?

- A. "Love one another as I have loved you."
- B. "Peace be with you."
- C. "The last shall be first and the first shall be last."
- D. "I am risen!"



Answer: B (See John 20:19, 21.)



Reminder!

Please remember that if you have any changes to your address, home phone number, cell phone number, email address, etc., please let Ashley in the church office know so that we can continue to keep our church records as up to date as possible.



www.stpaulstelford.org and on Facebook at www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranChurchTelfordPa

Sunday Morning Children's Ministry Schedule



- April 7 – assist in worship
- April 14 – The Great Commission
- April 21 – An Earth Day walk
- April 28 – Jesus the Vine

Children ages three through 5th grade start in worship with their parents and then are invited to Children's Ministry after the Children's Message. They return to worship in time for communion.

Mark Your Calendars!

Youth Work Camp

Being held jointly with Grace Lutheran in Hatfield and Emmanuel Lutheran in Souderton

Monday, June 24 through Thursday, June 27
from 8:30am – 4pm

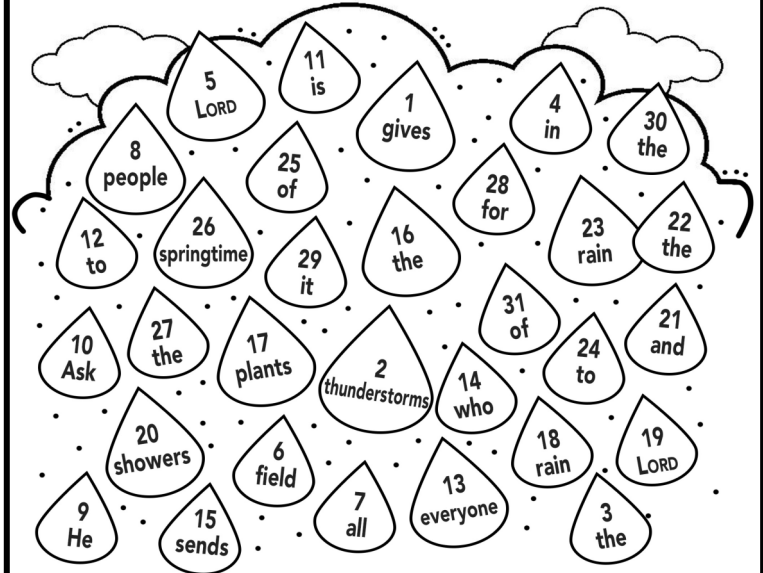
Vacation Bible Camp being held at
Little Zion Lutheran Church, Telford
July 29 – August 1 from 9am – Noon

Iron Pigs Baseball Game

Saturday, August 24, 6:35pm gametime

Puzzle!

Complete a Bible verse about spring by writing the word from each raindrop on the correct numbered line below.



_____ 10 _____ 16 _____ 5 _____ 28 _____ 18
 _____ 4 _____ 22 _____ 26 _____ ;
 _____ 29 _____ 11 _____ 3 _____ 19 _____ 14 _____ 15
 _____ 27 _____ 2 _____
 _____ 9 _____ 1 _____ 20 _____ 31 _____ 23
 _____ 12 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 21 _____ 17 _____ 25
 _____ 30 _____ 6 _____ 24 _____ 13 _____

Zechariah 10:1, NIV

Answer: Ask the LORD for rain in the springtime; it is the LORD who sends the thunderstorms. He gives showers of rain to all people, and plants of the field to everyone. Zechariah 10:1, NIV



Bear Creek Summer Camp Registration

It's time to register for this summer's week-long adventure at Bear Creek Camp!

We want all kids and youth to be able to attend, so St. Paul's has several camperships available!

Summer camp information pamphlets are available on bulletin boards in the Narthex.

Speak with Janet Lincoln or Marian Henry for more information!

ST. PAUL'S GREEN TEAM
ENVIRONMENTAL MINISTRY

SCRAP METAL RECYCLING EVENT

SATURDAY, MAY 11th

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon

PARKING LOT BEHIND ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

107 W LINCOLN AVE, TELFORD, PA

Drop off these items free of charge: All scrap metal including Steel, Iron, Brass, Copper, Aluminum, and products such as Lawn Mowers, Benches, Bicycles, Washers, Dryers, Water Heaters, Swing Sets, Car Batteries, Radiators, Insulated Wire, Christmas/Holiday Light Sets and much more!

We will also accept Room Air Conditioners and Dehumidifiers! No charge!

DO NOT BRING: Tin Cans, Paint Cans, Vacuum Cleaners, Microwaves, Refrigerators, Freezers, Hazardous Material or Electronics.



Intersections

April 14 and 28

*Sunday Adult Faith Conversations
Where Daily Life Intersects with God's Word*

Led by Pastor Coleman
and Marian Henry

10:45 am in the Parlor

St. Paul's Bible Study



April 4 and 18 at 12:00 pm

Come and join us in Christian Fellowship for this informal time to reflect, discuss and learn. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Easter Wondering & Wandering Walks



**Tuesday mornings during the
Easter season starting April 2 at 9:30am
in the Library**

An uplifting morning that starts with wondering about the chapters in 1 Timothy, followed by wandering the streets and alleys of Telford.

Please join us for this time of spiritual and physical activity as we see new growth in ourselves and in the local neighborhood.

New Member Classes and Reception



The New Member "Disciple" Classes and Reception is an intentional effort to "make disciples of all people and baptize them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit." It's helpful for congregational members to have this structure, so we are mindful of the importance of inviting others into St. Paul's, and when we do so, to have a process to get them "plugged in".

New Member Classes—April 7 and April 28 at 10:45 am

New Member Reception—May 5 during 9:30 am worship service with a time of fellowship in the fellowship hall after worship



**Every Fourth Tuesday of the Month at
Free Will Brewing Co., Perkasio**

Next Meeting: April 23 at 7 pm

For the past several years, members from several local congregations have been gathering on the 4th Tuesday of every month for Pub Theology. Each month features a different leader and topic. Conversations are always lively and thought-provoking. Won't you consider joining us? No previous Bible knowledge needed!

Planned Giving at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

The ELCA Foundation exists to help incorporate planned giving as we consider leaving a legacy to those ministries important to us. Planned Giving is a thank you note to our past and a love letter to the future. The worst mistake of Planned Giving is procrastination. A helpful definition of Planned Giving is any gift given now or in the future that requires more preparation than writing a check. If you are interested in receiving more information about Planned Giving please contact Wayne Young or Pastor Coleman. Or if you prefer, you may contact David Shank of the ELCA Foundation at David.shank@elca.org or 410-716-4204.

Volunteers for April 2024

ALTAR GUILD

Jayne Poole, Judy Heckler, Gloria Beer,
Janet Lincoln and Debra Croisette

ASSISTING MINISTERS

April 7— Dawn Krown
April 14— Wayne Young
April 21— Diane King
April 28— Ashley Bromley

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

April 7— Denny Detweiler and Brittney Jones
April 14— Ray Landis and Jim McMichael
April 21— Shirley Schimpf and Cathy Hurley
April 28— Ray Landis and Amanda Zeppenfeld

FLOWER DELIVERY

April 7— Ron and Sandy Schneck
April 14— Sandy Groff
April 21— Marian Henry
April 28— Wayne Young

GREETERS

April 7— Betty Shoemaker
April 14— Lori and Randy Groff
April 21— Jayne and Richard Poole
April 28— Melissa and Dan Brasch

LECTORS

April 7— Danielle Brasch
April 14— Peg Moyer
April 21— Bob Bell
April 28— Cathy Hurley

USHERS

April 7— Ron Schneck/Youth Ministry
April 14— Ron Money, Fred Johns and Joan O'Connor
April 21— Richard Poole, Tors Ahlman and
Joan O'Connor
April 28— Jim McMichael, Randy Groff and
Joan O'Connor

THANK YOU
Volunteers



Prayer List



The following prayer list is current as of March 25, 2024. Please contact the church office with any changes. Names will remain on the prayer list for four weeks unless notified otherwise. Thank you.

Please Pray for...

Glenn Derstine	David Somers
Jim Lombardo	Jim Stover
Stacey Lusk	Georgia
Carrie Scary	

Please Continue to Pray for...

Lisa Bealer	Al Landis
Dick Clark	Keith Landis
Maxine Detweiler	Bruce Lawhon
Carolyn Evans	Tracey Leinen
Susan Farrington	Bill Lincoln
Roland Fernandez	Anna Long
Suzanne Fernandez	Gene Moyer
Tim Greiser	Diane Planutis
Harvey Groff	Joanne Romano
Lorraine Guarino	Robert Scott Sr.
Gloria Harpel	Dean Shollenberger
Leslie Harpel	Jeff and Heather Spillane
Cheryl Hutchison	Andrew Strauss
Jim Hurley	Claudette Strauss
Roger Jones	Linda Tierrmo
Brent Johnson	Carole Ann Vogel
Gayle King	Fred Wahl

Comfort for the Bereaved

Family and Friends of Betty Dewey
Family and Friends of William Lewis
(Uncle of Marian Henry)
Family and Friends of Wayne Thompson Jr.
(Father-in-Law of Linda Thompson)

**If you would like a name added to the prayer list, please fill out the "Prayer Requests" section of the weekly bulletin insert, or speak to Pastor Coleman or Ashley in the church office.*