

The Epistle

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



November 2023

PASTOR

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267-885-8026
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SEXTON

Al Lightner
215-368-0374

For our Stewardship Campaign this year we will continue to focus on Building a Culture of Generosity. We have been blessed by Jim Neely and Wayne Young sharing their Generosity Stories during the month of October. During the month of November, you will receive in the mail a Stewardship Letter and Intent Card. As we receive your Intent Cards, the Stewardship committee will keep you updated with the progress of the results. I understand that discussing the topic of money and offering can be challenging because for some, it may seem we are treading on sensitive ground, but in my experience, communities of faith which do not challenge and inspire generosity enter a steady decline. But good church leadership requires having these discussions in an honest and open way. I have been challenged and encouraged in my faith journey by so many caring and loving people, and so those challenges were received with understanding and appreciation. I believe the ministry of St. Paul's is important to each of us, and to the many people we help and serve.

To continue and grow our help and service to others, these are just a few ideas to get us thinking about our generosity.

- **Systematic giving leads to generosity:** For most people, we can grow significantly in our giving just by making our gift on a regular basis. Sign up for automatic giving, or if not in the church, give through the church website, QR Code, or mail in your offering. Budgeting an amount each week/month and giving in that consistent way is a blessing to both the giver and receiver.
- **An extra gift or two during the year:** A story was shared from a congregation that participated in this program last year about someone who said, "I'm not sure what the future holds for me, but for now I am doing okay, so I will double my giving in the month of November. Please remember the Fall 2023 Special Offering.
- **Give in a tax efficient way.** If you are age 70.5 or older, you are able to give directly from a traditional IRA/401k to the church and have that distribution qualify as your Required Distribution. Or, if you have an appreciated asset, you can give that to the church and avoid capital gains. Please contact the church (Wayne Young) or your tax professional for all the rules and requirements of this. Most people find they can be more generous when giving in a tax efficient manner.
- **Leaving a Legacy to the ministry of St. Paul's** in your estate planning! You will remember the legacy gift to St. Paul's from the estate of Walt and Phyllis Deebel. They have left a legacy to St. Paul's, and as a result we have been blessed.

Finally, St. Paul's ministry year 2024 is just around the corner. Intent Cards will be mailed to you on November 2 which will lead up to Sunday, November 12 bringing your Intent Cards to church. Intent Cards will be received after November 12 by mailing them to the church, or you can email your intent to the church office, at secretary@stpaulstelford.org If you have not completed an Intent Card in the past, please consider doing so!

I continue to be convinced that the future of St. Paul's is bright and hopeful, and that is because this is Jesus' church, and you are his disciples. I am grateful to be your pastor and I trust in the guidance and love of Jesus.

In gratitude,
Pastor Bill Coleman

**Church Council
Contact
Information**

Church Officers

Jim McMichael,
President
267-885-8026

Ray Landis
Vice President
610-287-5499

Cathy Hurley
Treasurer
215-258-1211

Wayne Young,
Secretary
610-287-8897

**Committee
Chairpersons**

Cemetery
Dale Souder
215-527-4709

Christian Education

Janet Farrington
267-733-8725

Evangelism

Deb Bitner
267-664-0039

Fellowship

Terry Crippen
215-439-2284

Finance

Cathy Hurley
215-258-1211

Property

Greg Fosbenner
215-257-4707

Social Ministry

Barbara Mandato
215-460-5473

Stewardship

Wayne Young
610-287-8897

Worship and Music

Vacant

Youth
Vacant

Finance Update



Checking Account - Monthly	
Beginning Balance 9/1/23	\$4,883.76
Deposits (monthly)	\$27,753.18
Beginning Bal + Deposits	\$32,636.94
Expenses (monthly)	\$27,166.30
Ending Balance 9/30/23	\$5,470.64

Checking Account - YTD	
Beginning Balance 1/1/23	\$37,296.47
Deposits to date	\$223,036.94
Beginning Balance + Deposits	\$260,333.41
Expenses to date	\$254,862.77
Ending Balance 9/30/23	\$5,470.64

Ending Fund Balances 9/30/23	
Memorial Fund	\$37,271.79
Capital Reserve	\$65,449.60
Benevolence	\$2,823.23
Specials	\$26,288.31

Liabilities as of 9/30/23	
Mortgage Balance	\$15,414.06

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.

Bible Quiz

Fill in the blank:

“Rejoice always, pray continually, give _____ in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.”

- A. alms
- B. praise
- C. thanks
- D. offerings



**Thank You
Notes**

Dear St. Paul’s Friends, Thank you so much for your overwhelming contributions of clothing, sleeping bags, blankets, baby wipes, and all. Those living on the streets and homeless in Kensington are always so appreciative! Your generosity and willingness to serve others overwhelms me. God is good!

Joan O’Connor



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.

**Payment for
Sunday Altar Flowers**

In recent years, it has been the practice that Frederick’s Flowers will send an invoice for payment for those who sponsor altar flowers on Sunday mornings. Beginning in November 2023, **all payment for Sunday altar flower sponsorships will be paid directly to St. Paul’s**, as we currently do for bulletin sponsorships. The cost for flower sponsorships will be \$40 for a full sponsorship and \$20 for a half sponsorship. You can sign up to sponsor flowers or bulletins on the bulletin board in the narthex or through the Sign Up Genius found in the weekly email announcements. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.



www.stpaulstelford.org and on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/
StPaulsLutheranChurchTelfordPa/](http://www.facebook.com/StPaulsLutheranChurchTelfordPa/)

Wednesday Night Kids Club!

November 1, 15 and 29

For kids ages 5 years old through 5th grade



6pm pizza dinner

6:30pm – music enrichment with Mrs. Fosbenner

7pm – digging into the Parable of the Sower with Mrs. Henry & Mrs. Cassel

7:40pm – dessert & pickup

Another GR8 ADVENTure!



Sunday, November 26 during Children's Ministry

Kids will fill college care packages for our college students. Signup sheet can be found in the Narthex for snack item donations.

We will also fill goodie bags that will be handed out to children attending Telford's Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 8.

3rd Grade Bible & Pizza 101



Sunday, November 5 from 10:45am-12:30pm

3rd graders will spend time exploring all the cool features of their new NRSV Spark Bible.







Then using the Bible they will look up verses that show ingredients for the pizza dough that they will make.

Take the dough home, add some sauce, mozzarella cheese & toppings of your choice and you will have Sunday dinner!

PUZZLE THANKS-FILLED GIVING

The virtues of gratefulness and generosity are connected. When we're truly thankful for all God provides, we want to sow generous seeds in other people's lives. What will be the harvest?

Directions: Solve the clues associated with each picture. Then write the words in the correct spaces to complete 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, NIV.

-  This becomes a plant _____ 
-  Willing to give _____
- The result of planting seeds _____ 
-  The act of gratitude _____
- Food made from wheat _____ 

Now he who supplies _____ to the sower and _____ for food will also supply and increase your store of _____ and will enlarge the _____ of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way so that you can be _____ on every occasion, and through us your generosity will result in _____ to God. 2 Corinthians 9:10-11, NIV

Answers: seed, bread, harvest, generous, thanksgiving

Family Fun Night

Saturday, November 4 from 5-7pm



All families with children and youth are invited!

We open with a laugh-a-minute large group game, followed by a lasagna dinner. Then kids/youth get free time in the Youth room while parents gather with Pastor Bill in the Parlor for a time of conversation relating to busy families today. We end with a delicious dessert!

Please use the signup genius link in the email announcements to register by **November 2.**

Intersections

2nd and 4th Sunday at
10:45 am in the Parlor

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

Led by Pastor Coleman
and Marian Henry

November Dates:
November 12 and 26

Bible Sunday!

November 12

Something new!



During worship, our 3rd graders will receive their Bibles. Won't you consider bringing your 3rd grade Bible or your favorite Bible? Bibles will be blessed during worship.

We will also have a display of very old Bibles that are kept in our Archive Room.

St. Paul's Bible Study

November 2 at 12:00 pm



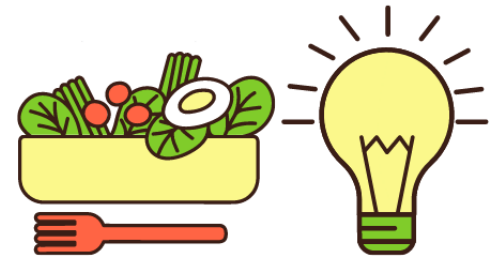
Come and join us in Christian Fellowship for this informal time to reflect, discuss and learn. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Christmas Luncheon

December 7 at 1:00 pm at the Rising Sun Inn



Come and join us for some good food and musical entertainment. Your lunch will include a beverage, salad, rolls, a choice of entrée and dessert. As last year, alcoholic beverages can be purchased separately. On the sign-up sheet, please list your selection individually. Your entrée choices are Chicken Francaise (\$40), Pork Schnitzel (\$40), Beef Medallions (\$45), or Scallops (\$45). You also have a choice of Key Lime Pie or Cheesecake for dessert. Sign up and payment is due by **Sunday, November 19**. All listed prices are per person. Checks can be made out to St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Please write Christmas Luncheon in the memo line.



Lunch & Learn

Where: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – Ridge Valley
910 Allentown Rd, Sellersville, PA
18960

When: Thursday, November 16, 2023

From 12 pm to 1:30 pm

Bring your own lunch!

Topic: President Abraham Lincoln's
Second Inaugural Address



Every Fourth Tuesday of the Month at Free Will Brewing Co., Perkasie
Next Meeting: November 28 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!

Volunteer Serving in November 2023

ALTAR GUILD

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

ASSISTING MINISTERS

November 5— Dawn Krown

November 12— Diane King

November 19— Wayne Young

November 26—Denny Detweiler

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

November 5— Ray Landis and Amanda Zeppenfeld

November 12— Denny Detweiler and Brittany Jones

November 19— Jim McMichael and Cathy Hurley

November 26—Dale Souder and Shirley Schimpf

FLOWER DELIVERY

November 5— Joan Votta

November 12— Karen Money

November 19— Sara Johnson

November 26—Judy Heckler

GREETERS

November 5— Jayne and Richard Poole

November 12— Ruth and Fred Johns

November 19— Ruth Woltersdorf

November 26—Sandy and Bill Baker

LECTORS

November 5— Joan Votta

November 12— TBD

November 19— Peg Moyer

November 26—Cathy Hurley

USHERS

November 5— Jim McMichael and Randy Groff

November 12— Ron Money and Fred Johns

November 19— Richard Poole and Tors Ahlman

November 26—Greg Fosbenner and Brian Garges

THANK YOU
Volunteers



Prayer List



In Our Prayers

The following prayer list is current as of October 20, 2023. 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...

Linda Flynn	Stacey Lusk
Emily Fulmer	Todd Maranelli
Leslie Harpel	Gene Moyer
Glenn Hendricks	Diane Planutis
Cheryl Hutchison	Ann Schweinfurth

Please Continue to Pray for...

Dick Clark	Anna Long
Maxine Detweiler	Teddy Mayer
Carolyn Evans	Karen Money
Roland Fernandez	Ken Newman
Suzanne Fernandez	Shari Nyles
Bev Gibson	Joanne Romano
Tim Greiser	Robert Scott Sr.
Bob Grisley	Dean Shollenberger
Gloria Harpel	Jeff and Heather Spillane
Jim Hurley	Paul Stover
Roger Jones	Andrew Strauss
Gayle King	Claudette Strauss
Elijah Klingman	Linda Tierrmo
Al Landis	Luke Touhill
Keith Landis	Jan Trievel
Bruce Lawhon	Fred Wahl
Tracey Leinen	Rev. Erika Wesch
Bill Lincoln	

**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.*