

# The Epistle

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



**September 2023**

## **PASTOR**

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Cell: 814-823-9742  
[pastor@stpaulstelford.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulstelford.org)

## **DIRECTOR OF**

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Marian Henry  
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## **OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR**

Ashley Bromley  
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## **DIRECTOR OF MUSIC**

Kristine Fosbenner  
215-257-4707

## **FEAST & CELEBRATION**

### **DIRECTOR**

Mike King  
215-723-8981

## **CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL PRESIDENT**

Jim McMichael  
267-885-8026  
[council@stpaulstelford.org](mailto:council@stpaulstelford.org)

## **SEXTON**

Al Lightner  
215-368-0374

I was speaking to a colleague the other day about the faithful work of ministry that hospital chaplains do, and it got me thinking about my time as a chaplain at the hospital in Gettysburg PA during my seminary years. Chaplains are called to walk with people during difficult moments of their lives and to offer prayers and comfort. Chaplains serve in such places as fire and police departments, nursing homes, and hospitals, and while there are sudden tragedies in all these places, hospital chaplains experience the constant of human struggle. I marvel at hospital chaplains because they have gifts for ministry I do not have. When I served as a hospital chaplain and entered a room filled with tears and hurt, I felt so uncertain of my place in that setting, because I didn't have a relationship with the patient or family members. I didn't know them, and they didn't know me. So many times, I felt I was invading their private space, and other times, I felt my presence was not welcomed, as the patient or family members (I later learned) had bad experiences with a faith community.

I share this because it affirms my calling to pastoral ministry here at St. Paul's. I began my call as your pastor on August 29, 2021, and for these past two years I have had the time and opportunities to get to know you, and you get to know me, and because of that relationship we can walk with each other in joy and sorrow. I am sure by now you have figured out how much I value building and working on relationships, not just between me and you, but the relationships you have with one another. I pray each day for this community of faith, that the Lord will gather us together to grow in our relationship with the Lord and with one another.

As you will see in this newsletter there are many opportunities for relationship building. If you have been away from St. Paul's for some time, please consider coming back. You will be warmly welcomed! We begin a new church ministry year with much excitement and energy. Our Worship and Music, Evangelism, and Christian Education committees have been planning over the summer to strengthen our community and the ministry we share. Your presence and the gifts you offer make a big difference. I am looking forward to the strengthening of our relationships with one another during this new ministry year!

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 7/1/23	\$9,767.21
Deposits (monthly)	\$28,049.99
Beginning Bal + Deposits	\$37,817.20
Expenses (monthly)	\$30,648.61
Ending Balance 7/31/23	\$7,168.59

Checking Account - YTD	
Beginning Balance 1/1/23	\$37,296.47
Deposits to date	\$168,675.95
Beginning Balance + Deposits	\$205,972.42
Expenses to date	\$198,803.82
Ending Balance 7/31/23	\$7,168.59

Ending Fund Balances 7/31/23	
Memorial Fund	\$37,418.70
Capital Reserve	\$75,443.68
Benevolence	\$3,863.71
Specials	\$26,288.31

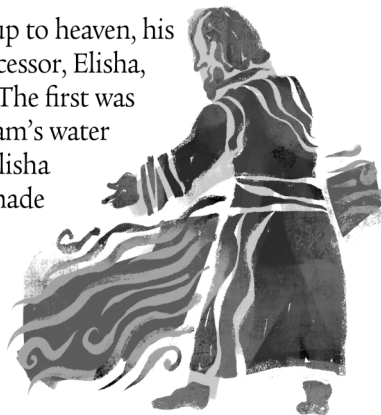
Liabilities as of 7/31/23	
Mortgage Balance	\$21,058.98

*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 ??

After Elijah was taken up to heaven, his newly commissioned successor, Elisha, performed two miracles. The first was making a poisonous stream's water safe to drink. What did Elisha toss into the water that made it wholesome?

- A. a stick
- B. a new bowl
- C. bread
- D. salt



Answer: D (See 2 Kings 2:19-22.)



## Church Family News

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

Lee Shoemaker, who died on  
August 7, 2023



## 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



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

2023-2024

# Children's Ministry



*“Lord, Let My Heart  
Be Good Soil!”*

**Sunday mornings beginning Sept. 10  
starting at 9:30am in the Sanctuary**

After the Children's Message, kids will be invited to age-appropriate classes to further dig into the week's Bible story.

### Wednesday Night Kids Club

Being held on the 1st, 3rd & 5th  
Wednesday nights beginning **October 4**  
starting with pizza dinner at 6pm, ending  
with dessert at 7:30pm

### SPIFFFY – St. Paul's Intelligent, Fun-Filled Family & Youth

Even months – fun activities for youth in  
grades 4-6 only

Odd months – family dinner night including  
large group game, potluck dinner, adult  
time with Pastor Bill, and free time in the  
youth room for kids



## A PATH TO PRAYER

God's Word offers lots of insights about how to pray.

*Directions: Use the code to fill in the blanks and complete a Bible passage about prayer.*



\_ R \_ G \_ S \_ Z \_ M \_ P \_ N \_ B \_ T \_ L \_ W  
 \_ V \_ E \_ V \_ I \_ B \_ G \_ R \_ N \_ V \_ R  
 \_ I \_ V \_ N \_ V \_ N \_ Y \_ V \_ I \_ B \_ L \_ F  
 \_ R \_ M \_ Z \_ O \_ O \_ N \_ B  
 K \_ I \_ Z \_ B \_ V \_ I \_ H \_ U \_ L \_ I \_ Z \_ O \_ O  
 L \_ U \_ B \_ L \_ F \_ R \_ Z \_ O \_ D \_ Z \_ B \_ H  
 K \_ I \_ Z \_ B \_ D \_ R \_ G \_ S \_ Q \_ L \_ B  
 K \_ S \_ R \_ O \_ R \_ K \_ K \_ R \_ Z \_ M \_ H

1:3-4, NIV

Answer: I thank my God every time I remember you. In all my prayers for all of you, I always pray with joy. Philippians 1:3-4, NIV

## Children's Choir Starts Soon!!



Children's Choir begins Wed, September 20 at 6:30 pm in the choir room. Children's choir is open to all children in grades K through 5th grade. We hope to see your smiling faces and hear your beautiful singing voices soon!

# Wondering and Wandering



Wondering and Wandering will be back  
**Tuesday, September 12!**

This season will find us exploring the stories of Abraham. After our short but lovely discussion time, we will wander the many streets and alleys of Telford. You wouldn't believe all the beautiful backyard gardens this time of year!!

## NEW MEMBER C L A S S

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—Sunday, October 8 and October 15, 2023 at 10:45 am

New Member Reception—Reformation Sunday, October 29 during 9:30 am worship service with a time of fellowship in the Fellowship Hall after worship



## "Recovery is for Everyone" Walk

**Saturday, September 16 at 9:00 am**

St. Paul's, along with Grace Methodist and Trinity UCC, will be supporting and cheerleading those walkers who are participating in the St. Luke's Penn Foundation "Recovery is for Everyone Walk" which will be held on Saturday, September 16 at 9:00 am.

The people of St. Paul's will gather on the sidewalk on Main Street and cheer on those walking to support those who are dealing with mental health and drug and alcohol issues. Along with day of the walk, please consider being on a short-term committee to plan the efforts of St. Paul's. Let Pastor Coleman know if you can serve on the short term committee.

# St. Paul's Church Picnic!



**Sunday, September 10  
from 2:30pm – 6:00pm**

Franconia Community Park Picnic Pavilion  
Allentown Road Entrance  
Picnic will be rain or shine

Yard Games, Blessing Box service project, gift certificate walk, picnic supper, and more!

Signup sheet can be found in the Narthex.

God's work/Our hands service project – at the picnic we will pack 50 personal care hygiene bags and food for our Blessing Box visitors. Each person attending the picnic is asked to bring packs of gum or breath mints to put in the bags



## Calling All Singers!

Our adult choir is looking for new members. Do you like to sing? Do you have experience singing with a choir? We would love for you to join us Thursday evenings. Our first rehearsal for this year is **Thursday, September 7 at 7:00 pm**. Choir members have a lot of fun, and like to sing too! Perhaps, a short term commitment is better for you? Would you like to sing with the choir on Christmas Eve? Speak to Kris Fosbenner or any choir member. We would love to have more choir members singing with us!

# Intersections

Being held on select Sunday mornings after worship in the Parlor

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

Led by Pastor Coleman and Marian Henry

September 24 at 10:45 am in the Parlor

# St. Paul's Bible Study



September 7 and 21  
at 12:00 pm

St. Paul's Bible Study takes place on the first and third Thursday each month. Come and join us in Christian Fellowship for this informal time to reflect, discuss and learn.

# American Red Cross Blood Drive



Thursday, September 7  
from 2:00 -7:00 pm

The next American Red Cross Blood Drive at St. Paul's is scheduled for Thursday, June 22 from 2:00 -7:00 pm. Please contact Barbara Mandato for more details or to make an appointment. (Appointments are highly recommended). You can also make an appointment by going online to [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) and using the sponsor code `stpaulstelford` to find our upcoming blood drives.

# Thrivent Action Teams



If you are a Thrivent member, you are invited to attend a presentation on "Thrivent Action Teams" on Sundays, September 17th or September 24th. The presentation will be held in the Fellowship Hall beginning at 10:45 am. A Thrivent Action Team is a group of community members led by a Thrivent member to complete a fundraiser, educational event, or service activity. You submit your project idea through an application and receive a Community Impact Card with up to \$250 in seed money. Pastor Coleman will present the process in submitting the application and discuss ideas of service projects at St. Paul's!



# Save the Date

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.

Saints & Sinners is sponsoring an informative, educational event about estate planning. Watch for more details!



Every Fourth Tuesday of the Month at Free Will Brewing Co., Perkasie  
Next Meeting: September 26 at 7 pm

For the past several years, members from several local congregations have been gathering on the 4<sup>th</sup> 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 September 2023

## ALTAR GUILD

Sandy Groff, Cathy Hurley, Sara Johnson,  
and Mary Ann Koenig

## ASSISTING MINISTERS

**September 3**— Diane King  
**September 10**— Dawn Krown  
**September 17**— Kristina Ahlman  
**September 24** — Ashley Bromley

## COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

**September 3**— Cathy Hurley and TBD  
**September 10**— Jim McMichael and Shirley Schimpf  
**September 17**— Ray Landis and Amanda Zeppenfeld  
**September 24** — Denny Detweiler and Brittney Jones

## FLOWER DELIVERY

**September 3**— Karen Money  
**September 10**— Judy Kraus  
**September 17**— Joan O'Connor  
**September 24** — Pat Hammer

## GREETERS

**September 3**— Terry Hendricks and Doris Garges  
**September 10**— Peg Moyer  
**September 17**— Cathy Hurley  
**September 24** — TBD

## LECTORS

**September 3**— Joan Votta  
**September 10**— Peg Moyer  
**September 17**— Linda Thompson  
**September 24** — Melissa Brasch

## USHERS

**September 3**— Greg Fosbenner and Brian Garges  
**September 10**— Ron Money and Fred Johns  
**September 17**— Jim McMichael and Tors Ahlman  
**September 24** — Richard Poole and Ray Landis

THANK YOU  
Volunteers



# Prayer List



*The following prayer list is current as of August 18, 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	Diane Planutis
Marian Henry	Ann Schweinfurth
Elijah Klingman	Jeff and Heather Spillane
Marge Kramer	Jan Triebel
Stacey Lusk	

## **Please Continue to Pray for...**

Greg Church	Tracey Leinen
Dick Clark	Bill Lincoln
Maxine Detweiler	Anna Long
Carolyn Evans	Anne Macy
Roland and Suzanne Fernandez	Karen Money
Drollene Gehman	Joanne Romano
Bev Gibson	Robert Scott Sr.
Tim Greiser	Dean and Rachelle Shollenberger
Bob Grisley	Paul Stover
Gloria Harpel	Andrew Strauss
Roger Jones	Claudette Strauss
Gayle King	Linda Tierrmo
Al Landis	Luke Touhill
Keith Landis	Fred Wahl
Bruce Lawhon	

## **Comfort for the Bereaved**

Family and Friends of Earl Bryan  
*(Brother of Ruth Sommers)*  
Family and Friends of Lee Shoemaker

*\*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.*