

ST. PAUL'S EPISTLE

published by

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Telford, PA

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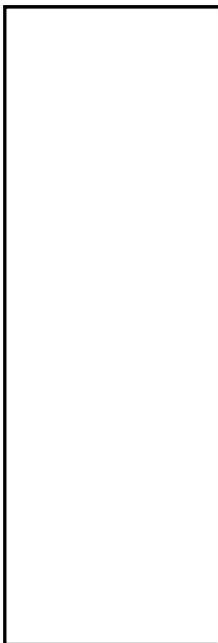
Editor: Ashley Bromley

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AUGUST 2018

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August 2018

***Guiding Thoughts —
 A Pastor's Ponderings***

Worship, what we say and do when we gather to praise God and hear God's word, has both changed and remained the same over 2,000 years. There is a saying that goes "the only thing that is constant is change."

The way we worship has changed dramatically. If it hadn't changed, we would still be having services in Latin (or Greek, or maybe even Hebrew or Aramaic). We would still be standing men in one place, women and children in another for hours at a time. (Remember in the 19th century a sermon was at least an hour long!) We would still be singing in plain chant or maybe not even singing at all.

But it has remained the same too. Justin Martyr wrote in the 2nd century (around 150 CE): "On the day named after the sun, all who live in city or countryside assemble. The memoirs of the apostles (our epistles) or the writings of the prophets are read for as long as time allows. When the lector has finished, the leader of the assembly addresses us and exhorts us to imitate the splendid things we have heard. Then we stand and pray. When we have finished praying, bread, wine, and water are brought up. The leader then prays and gives thanks. Next, the gifts over which the thanksgiving has been spoken are distributed and everyone shares in them. Those who are willing make contributions." If you look at this you will note that the order of worship has not changed in almost two thousand years: we read the scriptures, we hear a sermon, we gather around the Eucharist, share the bread and wine and we give to support the ministries of the church.

The content, though, is different. The Reformation was instrumental in changing the way we worship. Luther

took the Bible and translated it into the language of the people. He put the power of God's word in the hands of all who could read. Luther took the popular songs and tunes of his day and wrote enduring words of faith and trust in God to those tunes. He pared away the trappings and revealed the essentials of worship.

In the "Augsburg Confession" he was bold enough to write that "It is sufficient for the true unity of the Christian Church that the Gospel be preached in conformity with a pure understanding of it and that the sacraments be administered in accordance with the divine Word. It is not necessary for the true unity of the church that ceremonies instituted by men, should be observed uniformly in all places."

What gives our church unity is Word and Sacrament. In other words, the scriptures read and preached, and the bread and wine distributed as Jesus commanded in remembrance of him. Everything else is not necessary for Christian unity or true worship, according to Luther. What a wonderful gift of freedom this gives us. We remain faithful to the Bible and Holy Communion but can adapt the "ceremonies of men" for our time and our place.

It seems that the world remained relatively unchanged for centuries, and then in the 20th century rapid change transpired. It wasn't that long ago that it took a computer the size of our sanctuary to do the same type of calculations and work that we can now do on a cellphone. Just as our world changes, so too has worship changed. The changes are reflected in the history of hymnals the Lutheran church has published in the past 100 plus years. We began the 20th century with the black book and then went to the red hymnal. These two books of worship were around for almost 80 years. But over the past 40 years we have published the green book (our LBW published in 1978) then the maroon hymnal (Hymnal Supplement 1991), the blue book (With One Voice), the purple book (Worship and Praise) and This Far by Faith, another maroon hymnal, as official hymnals of the Lutheran Church and finally in the beginning of the 21st century, the ELW (Evangelical Lutheran Worship) was published.

One of the directives on the Ministry Site Profile was to review the worship practices of St. Paul's and to work with Worship and Music to implement additional ways to worship God. The church of Christ in every age must do two things; claim its heritage while it also ministers to the changing needs of the people of God who gather on Sunday or other days of the week. It is an opportunity to look at our worship services and

ask, “Does this reflect the struggles, the pain, the joy, the peace of being a Child of God in the 21st century?”

This does not mean that we throw away what is familiar and beloved. Things are not either/or but rather both/and. There is beauty in the liturgy; it is why most of us worship in a liturgical church. The question to ask is, what else would you add to the joy of worship either on Sunday or on another day of the week? That is one reason we are offering the Dinner Church this summer. It is worship but in a more interactive style, in addition to Sunday morning. In the fall, the worship and music committee will be asking for your input. Please do respond and let us know how worship can best connect you to God. If you don’t want to wait till then, feel free to talk with me at any time.

Keep in mind that we are following in Luther’s footsteps, taking the pulse of the day and making sure that what we say and do touches the heart of others and calls them to God. At the same time, we are holding fast to word and sacrament, and our liturgy, that won’t change. The journey may be at times exciting and at others frustrating. But we are on this journey together with God.

Yours in Christ
Pastor Shirley



Church Family News

On Sunday, July 8, Lilliana Rose Clemens was claimed as a child of God in the Sacrament of Holy Baptism. Lilliana is the daughter of Randy and Megan Clemens.

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

Russ Hoffman, who died on July 11, 2018.



**The Pastor
Will Be Away**

Pastor Shirley will be on vacation from **July 30 – August 5** and **August 23 – August 28**. If you are in need of pastoral care while Pastor Shirley is away, please call the church office.

Thank You
Notes



After being in an auto accident on March 19, followed by 49 days either hospitalized or in rehab centers, I returned home on April 28 and am progressing daily to walking. I want to thank Pastor Shirley and Pastor Huber for all their phone calls and visits, the beautiful flowers, all the cards, the lovely prayer shawl, and Becky for my transportation to and from church. I am blessed by having such a wonderful church family and circle of friends. Love and God Bless You.

Carolyn Barndt

To St. Paul's, a big "thank you" for the flowers, cards, and phone call from Pastor Shirley after the death of my mother recently. All the heartfelt thoughts and prayers were greatly appreciated.

Mary Souder

Income and Expenses (past 13 months)

Month	Offering*	Expenses	Difference	Transfers**
June 2017	\$28,271.65	\$30,847.20	-\$2,575.55	\$0.00
July 2017	\$36,607.85	\$28,672.58	\$7,935.27	\$0.00
August 2017	\$22,623.00	\$28,000.31	-\$5,377.31	\$0.00
September 2017	\$24,343.45	\$25,263.35	-\$919.90	\$0.00
October 2017	\$37,037.54	\$37,933.57	-\$896.03	\$0.00
November 2017	\$32,819.73	\$27,808.86	\$5,010.87	\$0.00
December 2017	\$52,500.55	\$38,030.87	\$14,469.68	\$0.00
January 2018	\$29,431.53	\$35,101.94	-\$5,670.41	\$0.00
February 2018	\$26,453.25	\$29,963.44	-\$3,510.19	\$426.00
March 2018	\$29,250.30	\$34,399.68	-\$5,149.38	\$0.00
April 2018	\$49,649.61	\$31,136.86	\$18,512.75	\$10,000.00
May 2018	\$27,746.98	\$30,132.12	-\$2385.14	\$5151.48
June 2018	\$25,872.69	\$35,325.84	-\$9,453.15	\$0.00

*Offering includes: Current, Benevolence, Building and Special

**Subsidized from Capital Reserve and Other Sources

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.



Indian Valley Cluster Service
August 19, 2018 – 10:00 am
Christ Lutheran Church, Kulpsville

Once again we have the opportunity to worship with the gathered congregations of the Indian Valley Cluster (Advent Harleysville, Emmanuel Souderton, Grace Hatfield, Little Zion Telford, Christ Kulpsville and of course St. Paul's). As in the past there will be an 8:15 service at St. Paul's, but all are encouraged to attend the joint worship service at 10 AM, which is being held at Christ Lutheran Church in Kulpsville this year. All the pastors in the cluster will lead portions of the service. After worship there will be a brunch (St. Paul's has been asked to provide three breakfast casseroles and dessert). This is an opportunity to worship with your fellow Lutherans in our cluster and to build relationships between our communities. Any offering collected that is in a church's envelope will be gathered and sent to that congregation. Any additional offerings will go to the Leadership Fund of the United Lutheran Seminary.

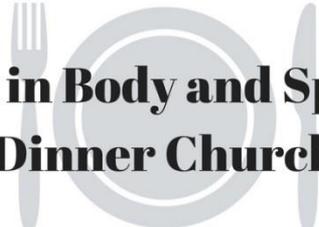


*Emergency
Contact
Information*

St. Paul's is blessed with members who serve our community in Christ by taking communion to our shut-ins and keeping them in touch with St. Paul's. In the past few months, folks have gone on a pre-arranged visit only to find the person is not there. Sometimes they have been hospitalized. At those times, it would be helpful to have an emergency contact to call. For anyone who lives alone, an emergency contact number could be useful (or even if don't live alone and you just want to give us one that would be fine). These numbers would not be published; they would be kept in a note section of Shepherd's Staff and only used for emergencies. Please consider supplying St. Paul's with this contact number.



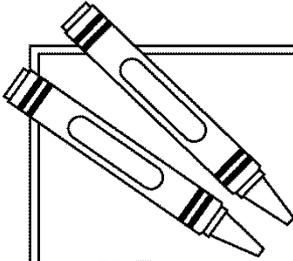
The most recent statistics show that 41 million Americans, including 13 million children and 5.4 million seniors, don't know where their next meal is coming from. Each year our conference (Upper Bucks) bands together to do something about this. Last year we packed over 30,000 meals. We are planning on doing so again this year. On September 9th at St. Andrew's, Perkasie we will gather to pack the meals again. Those who came last year had a great time. There will be more information about volunteering and also other "God's Work, Our Hands" Day activities to come. In order to do this the conference asks for churches to contribute to purchase the meals. We are hoping to raise \$500 towards this effort from St. Paul's. There will be a special envelope available on Sunday July 29th, August 5th and August 12th. Please give generously for those who hunger.



Fed in Body and Spirit Dinner Church

In August we will be meeting on the **8th and the 22nd** as we continue our worship center around being fed by God in body and spirit. St. Paul's will supply the main course; you can bring salads or desserts to share. Please sign up in the narthex or let us know that you will be attending so we can have enough food.

After dinner we will adjourn to the prayer garden. In this beautiful setting we will contemplate God's word asking the passage three question and then share in prayer. Each of the passages will focus on how God feeds us, whether in body or spirit. Bring a lawn chair and join us.



Just for

KIDS

Unique Creations

Have you ever walked along the shore and noticed the footprints you make in the sand? A famous poem called "Footprints in the Sand" reminds us we are never alone.

Unscramble each word and write it inside the footprint. See what Psalm 119:133 (NRSV) says about our footsteps. (*The bold letters are the first letters of the words.*)



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PSALM 119:133, NIV

Answer: "Direct my footsteps according to your word; let no sin rule over me."

Summer 2018 Adult Christian Education Opportunities



Second Saturday Women's Breakfast Book Club:
"Sensible Shoes: A story about the Spiritual Journey"
August 11 at 9am at Franconia Heritage Restaurant

Mini Personal Spiritual Retreat:

Who: Anyone in need of quiet, spiritual Sabbath time
When: Monday, August 27 (Meet at 9:00 am at St. Paul's to carpool)
Where: National Centre for Padre Pio located in Barto, PA. We will stop for lunch at the Pied Piper Diner in Bally on the way home.
Why: Sometimes we are just overwhelmed, distracted and need a break to be refreshed by God's spirit.
Bible verse: Genesis 16:7--8

Sunday mornings in the Parlor starting at 9:30am:

What does St. Paul's have to say today to St. Paul's Lutheran Church?
A study on the book of Philippians and Philemon

Friday Morning Power Hour:

August 10, 24 and 31 at 10:45am in the Parlor
Join us as we pray for the staff at St. Paul's, our leadership, volunteers, ministries, those on our prayer list, our community, state, nation and world

Experiencing Prayer with our FIVE Senses

Visit the "Five Senses" prayer display in the Narthex
A different prayer "tool" each week
Take home the prayer "tool" and try it out on your own.
A simple way for you to connect with God on a deeper level.

Bear Creek Camp Calendar of Events

- Now through Aug. 11 Summer Camp (7 Sessions plus 1 Session Family Week)
- Aug. 31-Sept. 3 Labor Day Family Camp
- Sept. 28-30 Women's Retreat
- Oct. 7-8 Columbus Day Confirmation Camp



For more information or to register visit www.bearcreekcamp.org, or contact Janet Lincoln, St. Paul's Ambassador, at (215)208-5836

2nd Annual Neighborhood Back-to-School Ice Cream Bash!

Friday, August 24 from 6 - 8pm (setup starts at 5pm)
St. Paul's parking lot



Our young families will serve as hosts as we invite and welcome neighboring families to a fun, free evening that includes an ice cream sundae bar, a bounce house, various yard games and introducing them to our children, youth & family ministries.



We have begun our closed Facebook group. Each day (Mon-Thurs) one of the readings with questions for the coming week are posted on Facebook for you ponder and comment. We have made it a closed group on our Facebook page to avoid having inappropriate comments posted on our Facebook page. Let Ashley or Pastor Shirley know if you want to join, invite friends and family to join as well.



All Senior Events are open to everyone; members, friends, neighbors, and people of all ages.

July: In July many of us enjoyed ice cream, music, and fellowship at the Concert Sundaes in the Park at Souderton Park. Thank you to all those who attended!

Saturday, August 25 - Mark the date for our annual trip to Coca Cola Park in Allentown for an Iron Pigs game. The cost per person is \$21.00, which includes admission, transportation and a meal voucher. Bus will leave from St. Paul's parking lot at 5:00PM. Start time for the game is 6:35PM. Sign-up now, and pray for NO rain please. **Payment is due in the church office no later than July 29th.** It is very important that payment be received on time, because tickets for the game must be ordered four weeks in advance. Thank you!



September - September is still in the planning stages, so keep an eye and ear out for this event.

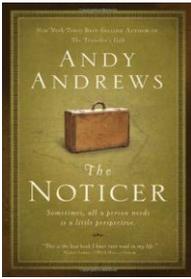
Tuesday, October 23 7:00PM - A presenter by the name of Amanda Beisch from the John James Audubon Center at Mill Grove will bring a program to our Fellowship Hall for an evening of birds and ice cream. The topic will be the common birds of Pennsylvania. I understand the presenter will bring a surprise guest. Can you guess 'whooo'? Please sign up so we have enough ice cream and toppings.

ALL senior events are open to all, young, old, members, friends, EVERYONE



Bible Study and lunch, led by Pastor John Huber, takes place the third Thursday of every month from noon to 1:30 PM, come and join us in Christian Fellowship for this informal time to reflect, discuss and learn. Bring your own sandwich; beverages are provided. The Bible Study meets year around. **See you on August 16, 2018.** The bible verses to be studied are printed in the Senior Ministry Brochure; copies can be found in the brochure rack in the narthex.

*Ellie Landis,
Senior Reporter*



**St. Paul's Women's
Book Club**

The Noticer

By Andy Andrews

October 15, 2018

7:00 P.M. in the Parlor

All are welcome to attend! Bring a friend!

Contact: Doreen Hansen 215-453-0566 doug.hansen@verizon.net

A new story of common wisdom from the bestselling author of *The Traveler's Gift*.

Orange Beach, Alabama is a simple town filled with simple people. But like all humans on the planet, the good folks of Orange Beach have their share of problems.

It's Back!

The Quasimodo Bell Wheel Restoration Committee has recently completed the reconstruction of St. Paul's bell wheel. The committee would like to thank Bruce Gouldey of Gouldey Welding and Fabricating, 84 Allentown Road, for their generous donation of time and material used to form the bell's outer ring. The Bell Wheel should last another one hundred years!



American Red Cross Blood Drive

Tuesday, September 11, 2018

2:00 - 7:00 pm

The next American Red Cross Blood Drive is scheduled for Tuesday, September 11, 2018 from 2:00 -7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Please contact Barbara Mandato (215) 460-5473 after 5:00 pm or mandato01@msn.com for more details or to make an appointment. (Appointments are highly recommended).

Church Council Contact Information



Church Officers

Jim McMichael, President	267-885-8026
Doug Hansen, Vice President	215-453-0566
Kathy Cassel, Treasurer	215-896-7747
Wayne Young, Council Secretary	610-287-8897

Committee Chairpersons

Cemetery

Scott March - 267-357-2597

Christian Education

Brittney Jones - 484-363-1061

Evangelism

Deb Bitner - 267-664-0039

Fellowship

Jim Neely - 267-374-4414

Finance

Kathy Cassel - 215-896-7747

Property

Tim Blank - 267-446-7442

Social Ministry

Barbara Mandato - 215-460-5473

Stewardship

Denny Detweiler - 215-234-4884

Worship and Music

Wayne Young - 610-287-8897

Youth

Jim Minninger III - 215-390-0154

TRANSPORTATION MINISTRY:

If you or someone you know needs a ride to church or for local medical appointments, please contact:

Ruth Sommers (215-723-5771) or the church office.

VOLUNTEERS SERVING IN AUGUST 2018

ACOLYTES

August 5: 8:15 am - *

10:45 am -*

August 12: 8:15 am - *

10:45 am - *

August 19: 8:15 am - *

10:45 am – no 10:45 service due to cluster worship service

August 26: 8:15 am - *

10:45 am - *

**Volunteers needed!*

ALTAR GUILD

Barbara Cressman (co-captain), Ruth Sommers (co-captain), Kim King,
Judy Kraus, Mary Souder, Nancy Swanson

ASSISTING MINISTERS

	<u>8:15 am</u>	<u>10:45 am</u>
<u>August 5</u>	Denny Detweiler	Bill Cressman
<u>August 12</u>	Denny Detweiler	Wayne Young
<u>August 19</u>	Joan Votta	no 10:45 service due to due cluster worship service
<u>August 26</u>	Gail Wellington	Dawn Krown

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

August 5

8:15 am: Brittney Jones and Jim Minninger III

10:45 am: Tim Blank and Scott March

August 19

8:15 am: Jim McMichael and Ray Landis

10:45: no 10:45 service due to cluster worship service

FLOWER DELIVERY

Friendship Circle (Betty Jean Way – captain)

GREETERS

August 5

8:15 am: Louis Paxon

10:45 am: Jody and Frank Guntz

August 12

8:15 am: Sandy and Bill Baker

10:45 am: Ruth and Fred Johns

August 19

8:15 am: Mary and Dale Souder

10:45: no 10:45 service due to cluster worship service

August 26

8:15 am: Sara Ryan

10:45 am: Catherine Phipps-Sine

LECTORS

	<u>8:15 am</u>	<u>10:45 am</u>
August 5	Sandy Groff	Sheila March
August 12	Joan Votta	Ashley Bromley
August 19	Brian Garges	no 10:45 service due to due cluster worship service
August 26	Audrey McMichael	Doreen Hansen

USHERS

August 5

8:15 am - Team 1: Alan Wampole (captain), Karen Wampole, Dale and Mary Souder, Jim Hurley, Bruce Harpel, Dominic Votta

10:45 am - Team 1: Bob Johnson (captain), Ed Kraus, Doug Hansen, Larry Schimpf, Greg Fosbenner, Tim Blank, Bob Bonner

August 12

8:15 am - Team 2: Harvey Groff (captain), David Hange, Rodney Hange, Mike Miller, Steve Troyanoski, Mike Troyanoski, Randy Groff

10:45 am - Team 2: Al Landis (captain), Ron Money, Jim Stover, Tony Crouthamel, Barry Johnson

August 19

8:15 am - Team 3: Brian Garges (captain), Dennis Bauer, Jim McMichael, Jim Minninger

10:45 am - no 10:45 service due to cluster worship service

August 26

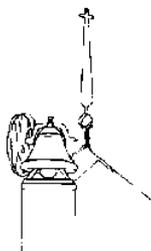
8:15 am - Team 4: John LaRue, Donald Hillegas

10:45 am - Team 4: Terry Winder and Lee Shoemaker (co-captains), Glen Mensch, Ray Landis, Bill Cressman, Dennis Detweiler, Trevor Jones



August 2018

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
107 West Lincoln Avenue
Telford, PA 18969
215-723-8981



Office Hours

9:00 am to 3:30 pm—Monday - Friday
(Office Closed between 12:30 - 1:00 pm for lunch)

Sunday Worship - Holy Communion Worship Services

August 5 - 8:15 and 10:45 am
August 19 - 8:15 am

Sunday Worship - Non Communion Worship Services

August 12 and 26 - 8:15 and 10:45 am

Indian Valley Annual Cluster Holy Communion Worship Service

August 19 - 10:00 am at Christ Lutheran Church, Kulpsville

Adult Summer Faith Formation

Sundays at 9:30 am in the Parlor

“Fed in Body and Spirit” Dinner and Worship

August 8 and 22 - 6:30 pm

Friday Morning Power Hour

August 10, 24, and 31 at 10:45 am in the Parlor

Senior Lunch & Bible Study

August 16 at 12:00 pm

Church Council Meeting

August 13 - 7:30 pm