

St. Paul's News

September 2020

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 156, 215 North Warren Street
Orwigsburg, PA 17961
Office: 570-366-2316
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www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

WORSHIP NEWS!

Our 8 AM Sunday morning service will be restored on Sunday, September 6, 2020.

Holy Communion with COVID-19 precautions will return to our worship on Saturday, September 5, and Sunday, September 6, 2020. Thereafter, the Sacrament will be shared on the first Saturday of the month and at both services on the first Sunday of the month. As conditions allow, Holy Communion will be shared more frequently.

The Sacrament will be shared with bread wafers and wine in pre-filled disposable cups. Members who wish to commune will receive the Sacrament while they sit in their pews. Communion Assistant(s) will also rejoin our worship on Saturday, September 5, 2020.

The Peace will also be restored to our worship on Saturday, September 5, and Sunday, September 6, 2020. However, because of COVID-19 precautions, members should not leave their pews or make physical contact with anyone other than those people with whom they are seated.

Two or three members of our choir who are masked and socially distanced in our chancel will quietly sing a few verses of hymns during our 10:30 AM Sunday worship service. This will significantly reduce the greater risk of spreading COVID-19 by larger groups of people (like the full choir or the congregation) singing loudly without masks or social distancing.

Thanks to everyone who is part of our worship life. And thanks be to God for all his blessings!

A MESSAGE FROM THE PASTOR!

In an address before the Wisconsin State Agricultural Society in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on September 30, 1859, Presidential Candidate Abraham Lincoln remarked, "It is said an Eastern monarch once charged his wise men to invent him a sentence, to be ever in view, and which should be true and appropriate in all times and situations. They presented him the words: *"And this, too, shall pass away."* How much it expresses! How chastening in the hour of pride! -- how consoling in the depths of affliction!"

Yes. COVID-19 will one day pass away. And that's good news! But one day our life here on earth will also end -- and we, too, will leave this world.

How good it is to know that, in our moments of sorrow and in our moments of happiness, we are not alone or forgotten for God is with us!

God is with us to wipe away our tears. God is with us to chasten us when we are foolish, stubborn, or selfish. God is with us to celebrate our successes. And God is here with us to reveal a future that is far more wonderful than we might ever imagine.

Trust in God. Celebrate his kindness and mercy. Draw hope and joy from his promise of eternal life through Jesus Christ. Know that God is with you -- you are never alone or forgotten.

May God bless you, keep you in his care, and bring you to life everlasting!

Pastor Mike

OUTDOOR WORSHIP & PICNIC

On Sunday, September 13, 2020 at 11:30 AM, all members and visitors are invited to share in-person worship outdoors at the pavilion in Albright's Woods (weather permitting). Social distancing will be observed, and face masks are encouraged, but not required. However, some members may choose to wear a face mask. Please bring a comfortable lawn chair and enjoy our worship.

Following our worship service, we will hold our annual Church Picnic. The Evangelism Committee, who will host this event, will provide free hot dogs and drinks for all who attend. Covered dish items and desserts to share will be much appreciated.

Please call the church office at 570-366-2316 by Sunday, September 6, 2020, if you plan to attend our church picnic and/or if you would be willing to provide a covered dish to share.

GOD BRINGS HEALING AND COMFORTS US!

Our sympathy and prayers go out to the friends and family of the late James Wm. (Jim) McKivagan of Orwigsburg, PA., who died at his home on Tuesday, August 4, 2020.

We are not alone in our sorrows for God is with us! Let us believe that, as we pray and share our deepest feelings, we will experience the healing and comfort only God can give!

ADULT FORUM

We will begin our study of the apostle Paul using "The Call" by Adam Hamilton. We will meet via ZOOM at 7pm on Thursday evenings beginning Thursday, September 10, 2020. Zoom meeting information will be sent to participants via e-mail each week.

If you would like to participate, please contact the office, call Barbara Lafko at 570-366-1208, or send an email to bjlafko@yahoo.com.

ONLINE GIVING

The mission and ministry of St. Paul's continues amid the coronavirus pandemic. You can still support St. Paul's by sending your offerings to the church by check through the US Mail OR give to St. Paul's securely online. Here's how to do that:

- Go to our website: www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org
- From the home page, click the Online Giving tab at the top of the screen.
- A Give Now box will appear on your screen.
- Select General Fund from the menu.
- Keep One Time selected (or create a secure account to set up recurring payments)
- Enter the dollar amount you'd like to give with NO decimals.
- Click Add Donation.
- Click Next, then enter your Name, Address, and Credit/Debit Card information.

Optional items:

To receive an emailed receipt, check the box and enter your email address.

To help offset the online processing fees, check the box.

- Click Donate Now to complete your transaction. You will receive a confirmation number.

Thank you for your continuing generosity! Your kindness makes it possible for us to continue our sharing of the Gospel and reaching out to others with the love of Christ!

GREETING CARD OUTREACH!

The Evangelism Committee would like to continue sending cards to lift the spirits of our home-bound members, college students, and military personnel.

Please call Connie Teter (at 570-366-0255), contact Pastor Mike, or speak to a member of the Evangelism Committee with any new names and addresses as well as any changes to our current mailing list.

“GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS.”

WELCA

This year our congregation is collecting, assembling, and distributing boxes of personal care items that will help our first responders: the EMS, the Fire Department, the Police, and the nursing home workers right here in Orwigsburg.

Donations of the following items are appreciated:

- Bottles of Gatorade or vitamin water
- Tea bags/Coffee (individually wrapped)
- Packages of chewing gum, granola bars, Belvita biscuits, Lifesavers, raisins, hard candy, or dark chocolate (individually wrapped)
- Small boxes of facial tissues
- Small tubes of hand cream or lotion
- Chapstick
- Five (5) empty upright tissue boxes
- Notes of encouragement, inspiration, or humor (paper will be provided)
- Homemade baked goods which do not need refrigeration (no nuts)
- Decks of cards (for those who wait for calls)
- Small containers of body powder (no talcum)
- Kerchiefs
- Ear buds (they wear out quickly)
- Sport headbands (terry cloth) and inexpensive visors
- Lavender sachets

Please bring one or more items noted above when you come to worship or drop them off in the narthex during regular office hours by Sunday, September 13, 2020. Help our first line responders as they continue to risk their lives for us and our whole community!

“GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS” (or GWOH) DATES TO REMEMBER

Thursday, September 3 at 7 PM: Box decorating

Thursday, September 10 at 7 PM: Practice packing

Thursday, September 17 at 7 PM: Final packing

Sunday, September 20 at the 10:30 AM service:
Distribution of boxes to first responders

On Tuesday, September 8, 2020 at 1:00 to 3:30 PM all St. Paul's women are invited to join an informal gathering at the pavilion at Albright's Woods. We will be discussing and sharing strategies for surviving the isolation caused by COVID-19. We are anxious to share some sisterhood time with social distancing in the outdoors.

At this time, your In-Gathering Offering designated for the Orwigsburg Food Pantry will be received along with your regular offering.

In lieu of refreshments, you are welcome to bring along a beverage and/or snack.

ONLINE WORSHIP VIDEOS

Please continue to watch our online worship videos. These videos will be available by Saturday morning each week.

Before you watch, make sure the volume on your device (computer, smart phone, or tablet) is turned up for the best audio experience.

To access an online worship video:

- Go to our website: www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org
- From the Sermons, Bulletins & Newsletters tab, click on Sermons & Weekly Bulletins.
- The most current video available will be at the top of the list.
- Click View to watch the pre-recorded video.
- You can also go to YouTube directly and search for “St. Paul’s Lutheran Church Orwigsburg, PA.”

BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS

Bell Choir rehearsals will return on Wednesday, September 2, 2020, at 6:00 PM. If you are interested in learning about our hand bell choir, please see Justin McClure or talk with any of our “ringers.”

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 2. Jody Mills, Ethan Hartman
- 3. Corey Huntzinger, William Heydt
- 4. Melissa Wilson, Marcy Hinnershitz, Jack McKivigan
- 6. Dale Keener, David Kaiser, Samantha Ludwig, Trisha Teter, Corey Krause, Karissa Elser
- 7. Keri Ferrar, Mitchell Myers
- 8. Kamerin Hine
- 9. Allen Mickalonis
- 10. Justin Ege
- 11. Miah Hinnershitz
- 13. George Henry, Jr., Riley Kurau
- 14. Brian Murphy
- 15. Richard Murphy, Pamela Meisner
- 17. Robert Otstott
- 18. Scott Wolfe
- 19. Ashley Otstott, Bryce Shappell
- 21. Austin Correll
- 22. Tyler Sincavage
- 23. Danika Bolinsky, Tess Spitler
- 24. Rusty Cunningham
- 28. Harry Detwiler, Nicole Just, Jonathan Dahl, Eric Zimmerman, Jarrett Elser
- 29. Alexander Miller
- 30. Alex Barner, Robert Wagner

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 1. Melanie & Dennis Seigfried
- 5. Matthew & Jennifer Patterson
- 7. Susan & Bernie Bosak
- 10. Nevin & Shelby Zehner
- 12. Fern & Rodney Houser
- 15. Beth & Doug Webber
- 16. Doug & Karen Travor
- 17. Lori & Bill Elser
- 18. Barbara & Jim Kaunas
- 24. Patty & Joe Marcusky
- 28. Jane & John Ege II
- 30. Ivan & Loretta Leymeister

SEPTEMBER FLOWER SPONSORS

September 6

Altar flowers: In honor of our daughter, Jody Mills, on her birthday by Darin and Crystal Brensinger.
Chancel flowers: OPEN

September 13

Altar flowers: In memory of Jack Taylor by Skip and family.
Chancel flowers: OPEN

September 20

Altar flowers: In memory of Guy and Frances Lengel and sons, John and G. Roger, by James Lengel and family.
Chancel: OPEN

September 27

Altar flowers: In loving memory of Carl Long by Christine and Kevin Long.
Chancel: OPEN

SEPTEMBER BULLETIN SPONSORS

September 6

In memory of Franklin Kamp by Tina Butler, and Victoria, and Alexandria Spitler.

September 13

In loving memory of Dr. and Mrs. F.S. Olmes by the Lafko family.

September 20

OPEN

September 27

In honor of WELCA and its work by Danielle Richards.

**WE WELCOME
A NEW BROTHER IN CHRIST JESUS!**

We welcome Owen Eric Eger, son of Eric and Sarah Eger of Orwigsburg, PA, into our community of faith and into our shared ministry in Jesus Christ. Owen was baptized at his home on Sunday, August 2, 2020.

May God bless our newest brother in Christ Jesus, keep him safe from harm, and strengthen him in faith until Christ comes again.

ASSEMBLY 2020 - A NEW WAY OF BEING CHURCH TOGETHER

Friday, October 16, Sunday, October 18,
Friday, October 23 & Saturday, October 24

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, Assembly 2020, including the election of a bishop, will be conducted entirely online. The planning team is confident that our assembly will conduct its business and elections efficiently and in good order. The production team has worked with our synod for several years to produce the video for in-person assemblies. Lumi, a tech firm that specializes in online voting and has been used by the ELCA for churchwide assemblies, is under contract for this event. With the support of our assembly teams, synod staff, and willing volunteers, Assembly 2020 promises to be a groundbreaking event!

The assembly will be broadcasted live and can be viewed by internet connection. Voting members will need to register and will be given individual credentials to log in, and will have the ability to vote, ask questions, and speak to resolutions or other matters. "Visitors" - those who simply wish to watch the proceedings, do not need to register.

"Voting members" will need a desktop or laptop computer with a microphone and camera and a reliable internet connection. Two or more voting members may share a computer; however, each member will need a separate device (like a smartphone or tablet) to vote.

The assembly planning team is working to make participation as simple as possible. Detailed instructions, as well as an instructional video, will be sent to each voting member before the assembly. Voting members will also be able to log in to an orientation session prior to the assembly to discover and fix any issues he or she might encounter.

Finally, there will be a support line to contact a tech team for individual help with any question or problem.

**PLEASE VISIT OUR SYNOD WEBSITE
AT NEPASYNOD.ORG!**

CLICK. LIKE. SHARE.

Social Media Ministry Monthly News
Jessica Swick
936-648-6809 (cell)
jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

Greetings, St. Paul's! It's been such a blessing to me to be able to record, edit, and CONNECT with all those watching our ONLINE worship videos. Also, it's been a blessing to start to see the congregation in person again at St. Paul's and CONNECT face to face. The videos will continue, and you might see me in church with my smartphone, tripod, and microphone recording the special music during the service to use for future online worship videos for those that want to continue to worship at home in this way.

Speaking of connecting, we are trying something new this year to provide support to the students of St. Paul's by connecting them with a member of the congregation who will pray for, mentor, or tutor them. If you are a student (elementary through college) or a member of the congregation who would like to support our students, go online to our website www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org and click the appropriate survey to be CONNECTED. I will leave the surveys active through September 30 and will connect members and students as the surveys come in.

Finally, the Social Media committee is again planning for our Blessing of the Animals & St. Francis Sunday worship service to be held at the pavilion at Albright's Woods on Sunday, October 4 at 4PM. All friendly and leashed or crated animals are welcome to attend this fun, lively, outdoor event! Arrive 10 minutes early and stay after the blessings for a photo op at our pet selfie station and visit with other pet owners and their fur babies. Our youth are hosting a collection for the Hillside & Ruth Steinet Memorial SPCA during this event. Donation suggestions include canned dog & cat food, treats, cat litter, cleaning supplies, old blankets, towels, sheets, new or used collars, leashes & food bowls. There will be a collection bin at the event.

Have a great month and remember to
CLICK. LIKE. AND SHARE!

CHANGE IN HARVEST HOME

During “Harvest Home” weekend, we bring a portion of the bounty which God has given us to share with our neighbors who are hungry. This year Harvest Home will be observed at our 5:30 PM worship on Saturday, September 19, 2020, and at our 8:00 and 10:30 AM services.

Donations of basic non-perishable food items like cereals, canned fruit, canned vegetables, soups, pastas, rice, beans, peanut butter, tuna fish, spaghetti (or tomato) sauce, etc., are needed now. Monetary donations are also appreciated. All food item and donations will go to support our local Food Pantry.

Please bring your non-perishable food items with you when you come to church or drop them off in our narthex during regular church office hours.

CATECHISM CLASSES

Parents of students who are in the 8th grade (or older), who have not been confirmed (that is, completed a catechetical program and publicly affirmed their faith), are invited to contact Pastor Mike at their convenience.

Catechism classes will begin this fall. Classes will not exceed one hour per session and efforts will be made to schedule them at a time convenient to all who choose to participate. COVID-19 precautions will also be observed at every class.

Please contact Pastor Mike in person or leave a message at the church office telephone: 570-366-2316 Ext. #11, if you are interested.

ALTAR GUILD

09/06/20 – Sue Schenck and Barb Sterner
09/13/20 – Glenda Bright and Danielle Richards
09/20/20 – Glenda Bright and Danielle Richards
09/27/20 – Tina Butler and Chris Long

SEPTEMBER SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY 8:00 AM SERVICE

09/06/20 – Greeter: Ron Rozansky
Lector: Ruth Ann Withers
Communion Assistant: TBA
09/13/20 – Greeter: Ron Rozansky
Lector: Deb Moyer
09/20/20 – Greeter: Ron Rozansky
Lector: Kay Weidensaul
09/27/20 – Lector: Deb Moyer
Greeter: Ron Rozansky

SUNDAY 10:30 AM SERVICE

09/06/20 – Greeter: Greg Sklar
Usher: Jeff Ritschel
Lector: Bobby Schuld
Communion Assistant: Chris Long
Worship at Albright’s Woods Pavilion at 11:30 AM
09/13/20 – Greeter: Greg Sklar
Usher: Tina Butler
Lector: Sue Schenck
09/20/20 – Greeter: Greg Sklar
Usher: Tina Butler
Lector: Hope Clark
09/27/20 – Greeter: Greg Sklar
Usher: Tina Butler
Lector: Gwen Wehr

OFFERING COUNTERS

09/06/20 – Gwen & Tom Wehr and Glenda Bright
09/13/20 – Rosalie Wingle, Marlene Eidam, and Diane Brobst
09/20/20 – Joyce O’Rourke, Gloria Dierwechter, and Pat Davis
09/27/20 – Connie Teter, Joanne Emerich, and Barb Sterner

SEPTEMBER 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Evangelism Mtg. 6:30 PM	2 Bell Choir 6:00PM	3 GWOH Box Decorating 7:00 PM	4	5 Worship w/ Holy Communion 5:30 PM
6 Worship w/ Holy Communion 8:00 & 10:30 AM	7 LABOR DAY	8 WELCA at Albright's Woods Pavilion 1:00 PM	9 Bell Choir 6:00PM	10 GWOH Practice Packing 7:00 PM Adult Forum via Zoom 7:00 PM	11	12 Worship 5:30 PM
13 Worship 8:00 AM & 11:30 AM at Albright's Woods Pavilion w/ Picnic to follow	14 Council at 7 PM	15	16 Bell Choir 6:00PM	17 GWOH Final Packing 7:00 PM Adult Forum via Zoom 7:00 PM	18	19 "Harvest Home" Worship 5:30 PM
20 "God's Work. Our Hands" & "Harvest Home" Worship 8:00 & 10:30 AM	21	22	23 Bell Choir 6:00PM	24 Adult Forum via Zoom 7:00 PM	25	26 Worship 5:30 PM
27 Worship 8:00 & 10:30 AM	28	29	30 Bell Choir 6:00PM			

Reverend Michael T. Petresky 570-366-2316 - Ext 11 pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Justin McClure, Organist/Choir Director 570-573-4076 justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Juli Schenck, Office Support Staff 570-366-2316 office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Carl Heintzelman, Sexton 484-408-5152
Karen Travor, Treasurer 570-366-8757 karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
Wayne Lutsey, Financial Secretary 570-366-8766
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager 936-648-6809 jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

SEPTEMBER 2020

**ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
PO BOX 156
ORWIGSBURG, PA 17961**

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage Paid
Pottsville, PA
17901

PERMIT NO. 52

Our Outdoor Worship at Albright's Woods Pavilion is set for Sunday, September 13, 2020, at 11:30 AM with the picnic to follow the service!
Please call the church office (570-366-2316) if you plan to attend our picnic!

Visit our website: www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsOrwigsburg

Call our church office: 570-366-2316