

St. Paul's News

August 2022

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
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PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Much of our lives is determined by the choices we make. And many of the choices we make are determined by our personal priorities.

It has been said that if one wants to know what someone believes all one must do is look at what that person owns and what he or she loves to talk about. These things often speak volumes about what is truly important to us as unique individuals.

Setting our priorities and keeping them straight isn't easy. Things change and our priorities may change with them.

What was important to us a few months ago may no longer be important. Likewise, what was of little importance may over time have become very important.

For Christians, there is another consideration in setting our personal priorities. In the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus said:

"But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well."

Matthew 6:33

By "all these things," I believe Jesus was referring to the everyday needs and concerns that consume much of our time and energy.

Nearly two thousand years later, Jesus' words still ring true for believers.

As we begin to look towards the fall and consider the return of activities and events in the life of the church and in our own lives, I encourage you to regularly revisit your personal priorities in light of your faith.

Is following in the path of Christ your first and most important priority?

Do you strive to grow in faith by the choices you make? Do you sense the Holy Spirit guiding you in how you use your time, talent, and treasures? Do you daily consider who you are in Christ Jesus and how what you say and do reflects your love of God and your neighbor?

It's easy to get lost in the day-to-day trials and tribulations of our lives. It's easy to spend so much time putting out the "small fires" that we are oblivious to the joys and dangers around us. It's easy to think that the good work we could do today can certainly wait until tomorrow.

Let us strive to better know God in Jesus Christ and to follow Him more closely! Then let us rest in the assurance of God's Word.

If we are truly willing to love and serve God and our neighbor, everything else in our lives will find its proper place in God's hands!

God's Grace and Peace to You & Yours!

Pastor Mike

STiC

I'm just off the Schuylkill River Trail at Tumbling Run, it is July 8 and, as I walked, I thought a lot about what to share with all of you if you could be here. This section of the trail is by far the noisiest, closest to traffic and Weiner's Metal and other sound sources which do not lend to serenity!!!

So why keep going back? Going south from the trailhead, the two sides of the trail are radically different. On the left, the mountain rises in sections, and in between, meadows stretch across where railbeds used to haul coal. On the route 61 side, the strip of land falls away down to the highway, perforated by a gulch that sometimes harbors a bunch of wetness and the plants which thrive in it.

The meadow, located almost adjacent to the Mount Carbon Arch jug handle, is a marvel of change. Now Japanese wisteria, once occupying a single tree, has pounced all over a section which has milkweed as well. Knapweed, viper's bugloss, ironweed, thistle, tons of foxglove beardtongue, and panicked bulrush are hosting the butterflies: the first of the monarchs, ready to lay eggs on the milkweed, little wood satyrs, cabbages, sulphurs, eastern tailed-blues, and on and on. Where the mountain rises and the rocks and tall trees abound, you can peek in and see masses of ferns, and this week, blooming rhododendrons: white explosions like stars in a dark green universe. Even when you turn and face the noise, handfuls of butterflies hunt their nectar, and among some of the invasive species, oaks are sprouting and leafing out.

Looking ahead, donations for Red Creek Wildlife are needed for Saint Francis Sunday. This non-profit operates exclusively on your donations! Caring for all species of Pennsylvanian wildlife, Red Creek admits over 4,000 animals each year.

Everyday needs: Bleach (any brand), Dawn dish washing detergent, Simple Green cleaner, large and kitchen size trash bags, vinegar type

window cleaner, paper towels, unscented facial tissues.

General Needs: gallon size Ziploc bags, batteries (AAA, AA, C, D,), heavy duty extension cords, heating pads, 2-quarts pitchers, and light bulbs 40W - 100W, and 4' fluorescent bulbs.

Sue Reier and the STiC team

WELCA

MISSION STATEMENT

To mobilize women to act boldly on their faith in Jesus Christ.

PURPOSE STATEMENT

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

St. Paul's WELCA meetings include the reading of these statements. We try our best to follow and support these guidelines with our many outreach activities, donations, and programs. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 13th at 1:00 p.m. at church. Our in-gathering offering received that day will be given to support the Old White Church of Ringtown. All women of St. Paul's are a part of this group and are always welcome to attend our meetings. Hope to see you in September!

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

Because our Council did not meet in July, there are no "Highlights" to share this month. Council will next meet on Monday, August 8, at 7:00 p.m.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Our Evangelism Committee will host a table at the upcoming Farm to Square event on Thursday, August 11, from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. Please stop and pay them a visit!

Would your committee or group like to take part and represent our church at this community event and/or at the Heritage Day event set for Saturday, September 10, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.?

If you are interested, please call our church office as soon as possible.

ADULT FORUM - 2022

We resume our program on Sunday, September 18th at 9:15 a.m. in the parlor where we plan on discussing the life of **Henry Melchior Muhlenberg**. On September 25th, we will do the same.

October 2nd through November 20th, we will study the **10 Commandments**.

November 27th through December 18th, we will use materials to guide us during the season of **Advent**. Year 2023? Plans will be announced in the December newsletter.

If you are joining **ADULT FORUM**, please contact the church office or Barbara Lafko (570-366-1208 or bjlafko@yahoo.com), so we can provide you the materials for our group discussions. If you have any questions about this group, please contact Barbara Lafko.

FELLOWSHIP TABLE

Any church committee, family, or group of individuals may host a Summer Fellowship Table. A sign-up sheet has been placed in the gathering room for your convenience. A few dates are still available.

“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS”

On August 1st the Evangelism Committee will place a box in the narthex to hold items donated to Opportunity House in Pottsville, PA. This will be our congregation’s “God’s Work. Our Hands.” project for 2022.

The Opportunity House helps homeless veterans, their families, and those in need in our area. Victoria Spitler, who is a member of St. Paul’s, is a case manager at Opportunity House.

Below is a list of items which will help the homeless (as well as the at-risk-of-becoming-homeless) veterans and neighbors in our area.

- shampoo and conditioner
- body soap
- hand sanitizer
- deodorant
- hand lotion
- feminine hygiene products
- toothbrushes and toothpaste
- razors
- blankets and towels.

Our donations will be presented to Opportunity House on September 11, 2020, “Gods Work. Our Hands.” Sunday. Thank you in advance for your generosity!

WE WELCOME A NEW SISTER IN JESUS CHRIST

Please welcome Josephine LeClaire Novelli, daughter of Lindsay LeClaire (Ritschel) and Kevin Patrick Novelli of King of Prussia, PA. She was baptized at St. Paul’s on Sunday, July 24, 2022 and has joined our community of faith and our shared ministry in Jesus Christ.

May God bless our newest sister in Christ Jesus, keep her safe from harm, and richly bless her until Christ comes again!

*May mercy, peace, and love be yours in
abundance.*

Jude 1:2

ANNUAL PICNIC

Following our 10:30 a.m. worship service at the church on Sunday, September 18, the Evangelism Committee will host our annual church picnic at Albright's Woods Pavilion. Beverages and hot dogs will be provided. Covered-dish items to share are appreciated. Bring a lawn chair and join us for food, fellowship, and fun. Members, neighbors, and friends are welcome!

Please add your name to our sign-up sheet in the gathering place or call our church office so we may know how many hot dogs and drinks will be needed.

SECOND SUNDAY SUNDAY SCHOOL

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer break! The Sunday School team is busy planning for the upcoming term which will begin the Second Sunday of September. Mark your calendars for Sunday, September 11th!

If you are interested in volunteering your time to help with the Sunday School program, please contact me. Any amount of time or effort would be greatly appreciated!

Sarah Eger
570-394-3522 (cell)
swoodring86@hotmail.com

“REGULAR” WORSHIP RETURNS

On Sunday, September 11, we will return to our regular worship schedule with services on Saturday evenings at 5:30 p.m. and on Sunday mornings at 8 and 10:30 a.m.

Holy Communion will be shared on the first Saturday of each month and at every Sunday service.

SOCIAL MEDIA MINISTRY

Dates to Remember

The “Blessing of the Backpacks” will be held on Sunday, August 28, 2022, at 9:30 a.m. Teachers, students, and school staff are welcome. Please bring bookbags, devices, etc. to be blessed for hopes of a wonderful 2022-23 academic year!



Our annual “Blessing of the Animals/St. Francis” event will be held at 4:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 2, 2022, at the Albright's Woods Pavilion. Bring your pet(s), no matter how big or small, to receive a blessing – and more!



AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Thomas Wagner
- 4 Colin Kane
- 5 Dawn Leibold, Bill Tihansky
- 6 Candice Schuld
- 7 Jeremy Houser
- 8 Diane Madeira, Deb Maurer
- 9 Loretta Leymeister, Rebecca Wehr Miller
- 10 Stuart Blair
- 11 Mark Herb, Debra Trubilla, Kayleigh Elser,
Sarah Davenport
- 12 Leona Yeager, Deric Mosher
- 14 Dakota Butler, Patrick Drenzo
- 15 Diane Long, Tyler Post
- 16 David Kaiser, James Riotto, Logan Shoener
- 17 Emily Zehner
- 19 Rachel Burke
- 20 Lucas Shoener, Alicia Kunkel
- 21 Barbara Sterner, Sharon Otstott,
Sherri Yorski, Courtney Dukmen
- 23 Steven Mintz, Lynn Smith, Shirley Correll,
Carol Heydt
- 24 Crystal Brensinger, Ned Eisenhuth
- 25 Cole Rarick, Sydney Riegel, Jayce Pelletier
- 27 Ashley Keyworth, Christine Hylan,
Gabrielle Krause
- 28 Linda Frampton
- 31 Jennifer Correll

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Dean & Janet Geist, David & Cheryl
Witman, Nicholas & Shannon Rogers
- 3 Evan & Pat Davis
- 7 Tim & Marissa Horbal, Joe & Darcy Medica
- 9 Andrew & Erin Winkel
- 10 Mike & Barbara Barner
- 13 Tom & Gwen Wehr, David & Jill Krewson,
Doug & Marcy Hinnershitz
- 14 Bob & Linda Frampton
- 15 Larry & Joyce O'Rourke
- 19 Bill & Cindy Moyer, Rob & Sue Reier

AUGUST FLOWER SPONSORS

August 7

Altar: In memory of my parents, Guy R. and Frances F. Lengel, and my brothers, G. Roger and Jack A. Lengel, by James Lengel and family.

Chancel: In loving memory of Kenneth and Miriam Miller, Sr. on their anniversary by Tom and Gwen Wehr.

August 14

Altar: In honor of our 56th anniversary by Tom and Gwen Wehr.

Chancel: OPEN

August 21

Altar: OPEN

Chancel: OPEN

August 28

Altar: OPEN

Chancel: OPEN

AUGUST BULLETIN SPONSORS

August 7: In memory of Russell Teter by his family.

August 14: OPEN

August 21: OPEN

August 28: OPEN

HOME-BOUND MEMBERS, COLLEGE STUDENTS & MILITARY PERSONNEL

The Evangelism Committee would like to continue sending cards to lift the spirits of our home-bound, college students, and military personnel. Please call Connie Teter (at 570-366-0255) or contact any member of the Evangelism Committee with new names and addresses as well as any changes of address.

AUGUST 2022

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY (9:30 AM)	AUGUST 7	AUGUST 14	AUGUST 21	AUGUST 28
GREETER	Tina Butler	Tina Butler	Deb Bolinsky	Deb Bolinsky
USHER	Jim Spotts	Barb Sterner	Sue Petresky	Joyce O'Rourke
LECTOR	Hope Clarke	Cindy Ritschel	Gwen Wehr	Jeff Ritschel
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Chris Long	Doug Travov	Evan Davis	Madelyn Knecht
ALTAR GUILD	Sue Schenck Barb Sterner	Glenda Bright Diane Brobst	Glenda Bright Diane Brobst	Tina Butler Chris Long
COUNTERS	Tom Wehr Gwen Wehr Glenda Bright	Rosalie Wingle Diane Brobst Marlene Eidam	Joyce O'Rourke Gloria Dierwechter Pat Davis	Connie Teter Joanne Emerich Barb Sterner

REBATES FROM BOYER'S FOOD MARKETS

St. Paul's will earn a rebate of 1% of your grocery shopping bill if you participate in Boyer's Rebate Program.

On the gathering room table under the bulletin board, you will find a mug of scannable keychain cards. Take one, shop at Boyer's Food Market, and present it to a cashier while your items are being scanned. That's it. Boyer's will rebate 1% of your total purchases (excluding tax, milk, and cigarettes) and send us a check twice every year.

There is no limit to the amount of money our church can earn from this program for our many needs. If you haven't done so already, pick up a scannable Boyer's Food Market keychain card today! Shop and donate to St. Paul's!

"The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully."

2 Corinthians 9:6

ANNUAL BAZAAR

Our Service Ministry will host its Annual Bazaar on Saturday October 2, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in Reidler Hall. The event will feature lots of good food, a large Chinese auction of gift baskets, many local vendors and craft dealers showing and selling their wares, a variety of homemade candies and pies for purchase, and an opportunity to visit with your friends and neighbors. Proceeds from this event will benefit those in need in our community.

Please mark your calendar for the return of this special event!

THANK YOU!

We would like to thank our St. Paul's family for all the prayers, cards, and sympathy shown to us during this difficult time of losing our mother, Joy Wolfe. Your kindness was greatly appreciated! Sincerely, Scott Wolfe and Wendy Schuld and our families

AUGUST 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Worship & Music 6:30 p.m.	2 Evangelism 6:30 pm	3	4	5 STiC Walk in Landingville 9:00 a.m.	6 Worship with Holy Communion 5:30 p.m.
7 Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 a.m.	8 Council 7:00 p.m.	9	10	11 Schuylkill County Conservancy 7:00 p.m.	12	13 Worship 5:30 p.m.
14 Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 a.m.	15 Service Ministry 6:00 p.m.	16	17	18	19	20 Worship 5:30 p.m.
21 Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 a.m.	22	23	24	25	26 STiC Walk in Auburn 9:00 a.m.	27 Worship 5:30 p.m.
28 BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS Worship with Holy Communion 9:30 a.m.	29	30	31			

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
Julianne 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 cwlutsey@gmail.com
Jessica Swick, Social Media Manager 936-648-6809 jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

Since COVID-19 variants continue to pose a significant health risk, we encourage everyone who has not been fully vaccinated to consider wearing a face mask and allowing space between themselves and others during worship.
Thank you!

AUGUST 2022

**ST PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
P.O. BOX 156
ORWIGSBURG, PA 17961**

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

PERMIT NO. 52

DATES TO REMEMBER

Sunday, August 28 – The Blessing of the Backpacks at the 9:30 a.m. worship service.

Visit our website: www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org. Watch us on YouTube.

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