

St. Paul's News

October 2022

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 156, 215 North Warren Street
Orwigsburg, PA 17961
Office: 570-366-2316
Fax: 570-366-7357
www.stpauls-orwigsburg.org

NOTHING, BUT GOOD NEWS

In 1522, Luther published “A Brief Instruction on What to Look for and Expect in the Gospels.” Luther wrote:

The chief article and foundation of the gospel is that before you take Christ as an example, you accept and recognize him as a gift, as a present that God has given you and that is your own. This means that when you see or hear of Christ doing or suffering something, you do not doubt that Christ himself, with his deeds and suffering, belongs to you. On this you may depend as surely as if you had done it yourself; indeed as if you were Christ himself. See, this is what it means to have a proper grasp of the gospel, that is, of the overwhelming goodness of God, which neither prophet, nor apostle, nor angel was ever able fully to express, and which no heart could adequately fathom or marvel at. This is the great fire of the love of God for us, whereby the heart and conscience become happy, secure, and content. This is what preaching the Christian faith means. This is why such preaching is called gospel, which in German means a joyful, good, and comforting “message”; and this is why the apostles are called the “twelve messengers.”

As we recognize God's goodness for ourselves and in ourselves, the sharing of the “good news” of the Gospel becomes a thing of joy for

it brings hope, peace, love, justice, and forgiveness to us and to the world!

Let us not carry the heavy burden of our sins and the continual weight of hopelessness by daily striving to “foolishly” save ourselves, for we know the One who has said:

“Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

Mathew 11:28-30

Let us believe and trust that God is good and that in Jesus Christ, God's goodness extends personally to ourselves. Then let us daily strive to follow in Christ's path, recognizing that our sins have been forgiven by his blood upon the cross. No further sacrifices are required.

During the month of October, and especially on Reformation Sunday, October 30, let us give thanks to God for Martin Luther, for all the men and women who led the Reformation, and for all saints who have lived a faithful life and been a blessing to us and to all who will come to believe in Jesus Christ long after we are gone.

God is good and the message of the Gospel is good news, indeed!

Much Joy to you and yours!

Pastor Mike

STEWARDSHIP in CREATION

The leaves are falling...and we moan about raking and disposing, deadheading spent flowers, and on and on. I would like to suggest we all shift our frames of reference (just for a moment!) and check out what our Great Creator might have had in mind....

1. We are a perfection driven society! We're groomed and manicured, scripted and sanitized to death! I believe God wants wellness for us, and we could reduce some of our stress right here.
2. If you leave your dried flower blossoms gone to seed on their stems, the birds will have a café when the snow gets high. (#1 caper down)
3. As your leaves fall, they do many wonderful things...without our assistance: Slightly curled leaves fill with rainwater and become thirst quenching stations for the smaller creatures. Tightly curled leaves carry eggs and or larvae safely to the ground (think of the song Rock a bye Baby) where they either hang out for the season, or crawl into the earth to mature in the spring....and provide nourishment for the birds, so please don't chew them up with your mower! (#2 caper down) A rake can clear your lawn if you wish, putting a blanket of leaves under the trees and helping our cardio.
4. These same leaves, left to themselves, are a better mulch than what we could buy in the store. (#3 caper down and a big cash savings beside!) And then if you really need to feel groomed, you can mow in the spring when the grass gets too high.

Still have some pent-up energy? Come out on a walk on the Schuylkill River Trail, relax, laugh with friends, marvel at our natural wonders, and maybe even hear God's voice.

Walks: 9 am Fridays.

Oct. 7 Auburn;
Oct. 14 Tumbling Run;
Oct. 21 Landingville;
Oct. 28 Auburn.

Many THANKS for the donations for Redcreek Wildlife Center. It's one way we can begin to restore some of the harm humans have brought, although most of the damage is NOT intentional.

Upcoming events: STiC meetings have moved to first Wednesdays at 9:00 a.m., so October 5. We are cultivating spider plants for our shut-ins later in the year, you can watch their growth in the Gathering Room window.

News from the Synod Green Team: After the Synod Assembly, certain resolutions had not made it to the floor, so in a follow-up, an amendment to direct the ELCA to set a goal to reduce greenhouse gases 50% by 2030 and 0% by 2050 was passed with a vote of 597 to 81.

Pastor Paul Metzloff will be attending the Synod Council Meeting on October 15 and speak there about the green directives. The Green Team is also looking to organize a Synod-wide event at Hawk Mountain on October 22. Plans are still in the works, so keep your antennas up!

“FALL” BACK ONE HOUR

Daylight Savings Time will end at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 6 this year. Please remember to set your clocks back one hour before you retire on Saturday, November 5th.

Also, please consider checking and replacing the batteries in your home smoke detectors when you change your clocks. A fresh battery can save your life!

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS DONATIONS REQUESTED

Please bring your pets to the Albright's Woods Pavilion on Sunday, October 2, at 4:00 p.m. for a pet blessing and celebration of St. Francis! This event is open to the community. All friendly, leashed, or crated animals are welcome to attend this fun, lively, outdoor event! (We suggest arriving 10 minutes early.)

Donations for Red Creek Wildlife Center and both of Schuylkill County's animal shelters will be received during this event. Suggested donations include:

For Red Creek Wildlife Center

Bleach (any brand)
Dawn Dishwashing Liquid
Simple Green Cleaner
Trash bags (large & kitchen size)
Window Cleaner (vinegar-based type only)
Paper Towels
Unscented Facial Tissues
Gallon Size Ziploc bags
Batteries (AAA, AA, C, D)
Heavy Duty Extension Cords
Heating Pads
2 Quart Pitchers
Light Bulbs 40 – 100W
Fluorescent Bulbs

For Ruth Steinert Memorial &

Hillside SPCAs

Canned dog & cat food
Dog & cat treats
Cat litter
Cleaning supplies
Old blankets, towels, sheets,
New or used collars & leashes
Food bowls
Newspapers

ADULT FORUM

...continues in October at 9:15 a.m. on Sunday mornings in the church parlor. We are renewing our understanding of the 10 Commandments as they apply to our lives today.

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. Any questions, please contact Barbara Lafko.

WELCA

13 women attended the September meeting. Though there was no official program, much was accomplished to plan interesting future meetings on a regular basis. The received In-Gathering offering of \$158 was presented by Danielle Richards to the Old White Church of Ringtown at their open house event on Sunday, September 18th.

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, October 11th at 1 PM at church. Sue Reier will share experiences from her trip to Germany this past summer.

We continue our on-going projects of knitting, crocheting, or shopping for the hats/scarves in dark colors for Seafarers International.

Also, please continue to sew or knit memory blankets for Mikaylee's Hope. Information is available on the WELCA bulletin board concerning Women of the ELCA Schuylkill Cluster Fall event on October 15th at Christ Lutheran Church, 437 Airport Road, Ashland, PA.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and kindness!!!

SECOND SUNDAY SUNDAY SCHOOL

We are so excited to be back in Sunday School! Classes for children ages 1 to 10 years old will continue every second Sunday of the month during the 10:30 service. Join us for Bible stories, crafts, a snack, fun, and fellowship.

Below is a list of Sunday School dates for this school year.

October 9	February 12
November 13	March 12
December 11	April 2*
January 8	May 14

[*1st Sunday of the month due to Easter]

Scan the QR code to sign up to help our pre-school students. Helpers are NOT required to teach a lesson. Books to read, songs to sing, and toys to play with are all available in the pre-school area. You can also call/text/email me via the information shown below to volunteer.



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



Looking ahead for when the snow starts flying.... Parents, please make sure I you're your cell phone number. If we have to cancel worship on a Second Sunday, I will text you to let you know.

Thank you for your continued support of the Sunday School program. See you on October 9th!

SINCERE THANKS

My sincere thanks to Ruth Ann Withers, Sue Schenck, Jessica Swick, and Doug Travor for leading our worship while I was dealing with COVID-19. May God bless you abundantly!

Pastor Mike

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

--Bartush Signs was recently engaged by the Property Committee to replace the old steeple lighting in the near term.

--Our church family has to-date generously donated \$2,670 towards the Ukrainian war relief effort.

--The Men of St. Paul's will be having a soup sale on Saturday, November 5th starting at 8:30 a.m. on the square. This event is meant to replenish their treasury which was depleted to fund the near \$3,000 cost to remove three aged trees in the church's cemetery.

NOTE OF THANKS

Dear St. Paul's Family,

We want to express our gratitude for all your cards, prayers, and expressions of sympathy in the passing of Tom's two remaining brothers, Bobby and Jimmy Wehr. It is so hard, as we grow older, to experience loss of siblings, but doubly so when the loss is endured in just two months.

Thanks to all of you for your kindness and concern during this difficult time. God bless you.

Sincerely in Christ,
Tom and Gwen Wehr

EVANGELISM NEWS

The Evangelism Committee will participate in the Orwigsburg Trick-or-Treat Night on Monday, October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m. The rain date is Tuesday, November 1.

Our committee is still requesting addresses and birth dates for college students and military members. Please give the information to Connie Teter.

ALL SAINTS

All Saints will be observed during our worship on Saturday November 5, and Sunday, November 6, 2022.

Below is a list of members and friends of our congregation who have passed on since our last All Saints services:

Joyce E. Beneck
Jeffrey H. Post
Elaine L. Kamp
Edith E. Kriner
Gladys J. Santee
Gary S. Young
Carl L. Rarick
Joy A. Wolfe

If you know any other names which you believe should be added to this list, please contact Pastor Mike (570-366-2316) at your earliest convenience.

A “Table of Remembrance” will be featured during our worship services. We invite everyone to bring pictures of loved ones who have passed on and place those pictures on the table, so that together we can give thanks to God for their lives and share our memories.

ANNUAL BAZAAR

Our Service Ministry will host its Annual Bazaar on Saturday, October 1, 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, 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!

CATECHISM CLASSES

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 take part in our Catechism program. Classes will not exceed one hour per session and will be scheduled at a time convenient to all who participate.

Please contact Pastor Mike or leave a message at the church office (570-366-2316), if you are interested.

HARVEST HOME

Harvest Home is an annual event which allows our congregation to help the many families who rely on our Food Pantry.

This year “Harvest Home” will be held the weekend of October 8 & 9. Please bring your non-perishable food items to the church beginning on October 1 & 2.

We will use food item donations to set up our display in the chancel and then donate them to our local food pantry. A large box will be placed in the narthex for donations. Thank you for your generosity!

“GOD’S WORK. OUR HANDS”

Thank you to everyone who donated to our “God’s Work. Our Hands.” project for 2022. The Opportunity House of Pottsville, PA, received our many donated items with joy.

Special thanks to Connie Teter and the Evangelism Committee for planning and organizing this special event.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Our congregation, like many other churches and organizations in our area, provides volunteers during certain months of the year to help put together food boxes and distribute them to needy families through our local Food Panty.

Volunteers are needed by the Orwigsburg Food Pantry (at St. John's UCC) to put together boxes of food on Friday, October 14 at 6:00 p.m. and to help distribute them on Saturday, October 15 at 8:45 a.m.

Please note that children under 18 are welcome Friday evening but cannot participate Saturday morning. May God bless you for your kindness!

ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

St. Francis of Assisi, original name Francesco di Pietro di Bernardone, (born 1181/82, Assisi, duchy of Spoleto [Italy]—died October 3, 1226, Assisi; canonized July 16, 1228; feast day October 4), founder of the Franciscan orders of the Friars Minor (Ordo Fratrum Minorum), the women's Order of St. Clare (the Poor Clares), and the lay Third Order.

He was also a leader of the movement of evangelical poverty in the early 13th century. His evangelical zeal, consecration to poverty, charity, and personal charisma drew thousands of followers. Francis's devotion to Jesus and his desire to follow his example reflected and reinforced important developments in medieval spirituality.

The Poverello ("Poor Little Man") is one of the most venerated religious figures in Roman Catholic history, and he and St. Catherine of Siena are the patron saints of Italy. In 1979 Pope John Paul II recognized him as the patron saint of ecology.

<https://www.britannica.com/biography/Saint-Francis-of-Assisi>

LET'S BE CAREFUL!

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.

HALLOWEEN – GOOD OR BAD?

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America has not officially addressed the observance of Halloween in any of its resolutions or social statements. Among Lutherans, opinions sometimes differ regarding the appropriateness of observing Halloween customs.

Those who oppose the observance of Halloween often argue that its origins are pagan and that emphasis on the occult in our society finds expression in various kinds of Halloween symbols, costumes, and activities.

Others argue that current Halloween customs have little to do with its pagan roots in the minds of most people, and that there is no harm in participating in most Halloween customs.

Perhaps this is a good example of an issue where sanctified "common sense" and a "balanced approach" are needed — with sensitivity to the appearance of an action or activity in a specific context.

On one hand, we should not minimize the potential dangers of involvement with occultic symbols and practices. On the other hand, we also should not burden the consciences of others in matters that lie in the area of Christian freedom and personal judgment.

Hope that you found this helpful!

Happy Halloween!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Linda Auteri
- 2 Danielle Otstott
- 4 Christopher Wimbrow, Morgan Miller
- 5 Mary Ann Cunningham
- 6 Chase Sincavage, Alyssa Sklar
- 7 Preston Sincavage, McKenzie Torola
- 8 Adam Williams
- 9 Kaitlin Brobst
- 10 Jaelyn Harris, Amanda Sincavage
- 13 Carol Mickalonis, Tyler Lotis
- 14 Jill Weidensaul, Carl Heintzelman
- 15 Beverly Hein, Madison Swick
- 16 Jeff Sterner, Tom Smith, Cheryl Witman
- 17 Tristan Foster
- 19 Elisabeth Hannaway
- 20 Chuck Trubilla
- 21 Elizabeth Dewald
- 22 Mary Steinert
- 23 Emily Kaiser, Justin McClure
- 24 Jonathan Olmes
- 25 Beth Post, Claudia Fuller
- 26 Deb Moyer, Jeffrey Dillman
- 27 Christine Kaiser
- 28 Donna Correll, Kathie Frantz
- 29 Rick Rarick
- 30 Sophia Seigfried, Dutch Brensinger
- 31 Christine Marcusky, Joe Medica

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 Darin & Crystal Brensinger
- 4 Jeff & Cindy Ritschel
- 6 Charlene & Kyle Knauss
- 7 James & Cheryl Riotto
- 8 Ed & Terri Keyworth,
- 9 Mark & Becky Herb,
Gerry & Stacey Goessel
- 10 Dale & Lil Dewald
- 11 Barry & Dana Jenkins
- 13 Eric & Diane Mengel
- 15 Mark & Sue Williams
- 17 Tina & Scott Butler
- 19 Scott & Melanie Rarick, Bob & Beth Krause
- 20 John & Paulette Sassaman
- 25 Elizabeth & Ryan Lamm
- 31 Bob & Wendy Schuld

OCTOBER FLOWER SPONSORS

October 2

Altar: In loving memory of my parents, Aubrey and Minnie Glover's anniversary, and Aubrey's birthday by Tom and Gwen Wehr.

Chancel: In memory of Margaret Piacine by daughter, Danielle Richards.

October 9

Altar: In honor of my parents, Barry and Dana Jenkins, for their anniversary on October 11 by daughter, Heather.

Chancel: In memory of my father, Robert Shaud, by Crystal Brensinger.

October 16

Altar: In honor of the October anniversaries: Jeff & Cindy's (4th), Jeffrey & Amanda's (11th), and Joel & Cristi's (29th) by Jeff & Cindy Ritschel.

Chancel: In loving memory of Aubrey "Bubba" Glover's birthday by sister, Gwen, and Tom Wehr.

October 23: BOTH OPEN

October 30

Altar: In memory of Rachel Zehner by her family.

Chancel: In memory of my family, Kermit, Cathlene, Jody, and Kevin Krammes, and Kirsten Edmonds Vidzicki by Robin Zimmerman.

OCTOBER BULLETIN SPONSORS

October 2: In loving memory of Aubrey "Bubba" Glover's October 12th birthday by Tom and Gwen Wehr.

October 9: In memory of Irma Kamp by Tina Butler, and Victoria and Alexandria Spittler.

October 16: In honor of the birthday of our niece and cousin Cheri by Sue, Kurt, and Juli Schenck

October 23: In memory of Pearl Seigfried by her daughter.

October 30: OPEN

OCTOBER 2022

SERVICE SCHEDULE

SUNDAY 8:00 AM	<u>OCTOBER 2</u>	<u>OCTOBER 9</u>	<u>OCTOBER 16</u>	<u>OCTOBER 23</u>	<u>OCTOBER 30</u>
GREETER	Pastor Mike	Pastor Mike	Pastor Mike	Pastor Mike	Pastor Mike
LECTOR/ COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Ruth Ann Withers	Amy Dewald	Kay Weidensaul	Connie Teter	Ruth Ann Withers

10:30 AM					
GREETER	Greg Sklar	Greg Sklar	Greg Sklar	Greg Sklar	Greg Sklar
USHER	Carl Heintzelman	Wayne Lutsey	Carl Heintzelman	Karen Travor	Diane Brobst
LECTOR	Jeff Ritschel	Juli Schenck	Wayne Lutsey	Pat Kunkel	Sue Schenck
COMMUNION ASSISTANT	Evan Davis	Wayne Lutsey	Greg Sklar	Chris Long	Madelyn Knecht
ALTAR GUILD	Kathy Miller Connie Teter	Joanne Emerich Gwen Wehr	Joanne Emerich Gwen Wehr	Barb Lafko Beth Post	Barb Lafko Beth Post
COUNTERS	Gwen Wehr Tom Wehr Glenda Bright	Rosalie Wingle Diane Brobst Marlene Eidam	Joyce O'Rourke Gloria Dierwechter Pat Davis	Connie Teter Joanne Emerich Barb Sterner	Connie Teter Barb Sterner Glenda Bright

PRAYER OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI

*Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is injury, pardon.
Where there is doubt, faith.
Where there is despair, hope.
Where there is darkness, light.
Where there is sadness, joy.*

*O Divine Master;
grant that I may not so much
seek to be consoled as to console;
to be understood as to understand;
to be loved as to love;
for it is in giving that we receive,
and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
and it is in dying
that we are born to eternal life.*

PASTOR ON VACATION


Pastor Mike will be away on Saturday, October 15, and Sunday, October 16. In his absence, Pastor Rob Reier of Pottsville, will lead worship on October 15, and Pastor Dave Rowe of Reading, will lead worship on October 16.

Please greet Pastors Reier and Rowe when you see them and thank them for their kindness in leading our worship.



Champion of the Reformation
Martin Luther 1483 - 1546

OCTOBER 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 Service Ministry Annual Bazaar 9 a.m.-2 p.m. Worship with Holy Communion 5:30 p.m.
2 Worship with Holy Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Adult Forum 9:15 a.m. Blessing of the Animals at Albright's Woods Pavilion 4 p.m.	3 Worship & Music 6:30 p.m.	4 Evangelism 6:30 p.m.	5 STiC 9 a.m. Bell Choir 6 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	6	7 STiC Walk in Auburn 9 a.m.	8 Harvest Home Worship 5:30 p.m.
9 Harvest Home Worship with Holy Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Adult Forum 9:15 a.m. Sunday School 10:30 a.m.	10 Property 6:30 p.m.	11 WELCA 1 p.m.	12 Bell Choir 6 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	13	14 STiC Walk in Tumbling Run 9 a.m.	15 Worship 5:30 p.m.
16 Worship with Holy Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Adult Forum 9:15 a.m.	17 WEIK 6:30 p.m. Council 7:00 p.m.	18	19 Bell Choir 6 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	20 Rainbow Friends 10 a.m.	21 STiC Walk in Landingville 9 a.m.	22 Worship 5:30 p.m.
23 Worship with Holy Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Adult Forum 9:15 a.m.	24 Service Ministry 6:00 p.m.	25	26 Bell Choir 6 p.m. Chancel Choir 7 p.m.	27	28 STiC Walk in Auburn 9 a.m.	29 Worship 5:30 p.m.
30 REFORMATION SUNDAY Worship with Holy Communion 8 & 10:30 a.m. Adult Forum 9:15 a.m.	31 HAPPY HALLOWEEN!  Orwigsburg Halloween Parade 6-8 p.m.					

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

pastormike@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
 justin@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
 office@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
 karen@stpauls-orwigsburg.org
 cwlutsey@gmail.com
 jessica@stpauls-orwigsburg.org

OCTOBER 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

SERVICE MINISTRY'S ANNUAL BAZAAR AT REIDLER HALL FROM 9:00 AM TO 2 PM ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 1.

THE BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS AT ALBRIGHT'S WOODS PAVILION AT 4:00 PM ON SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2.

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

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