



The Voice

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church



November 2021

This is Christ's church. There is a place for you here.

Upcoming events!!

Please join us on Friday November 19, 2021 at St. Paul's for a meet and greet for the candidate for our new Pastor.

On November 21, the candidate for our new pastor will be leading worship at 10:00AM

Following worship on the 21st, there will be a special congregational meeting to consider calling the candidate as St. Paul's pastor

Like the daylight, our time together grows shorter. You, as a congregation, are ready for what's to come. While the details of your future are unknown, you've prepared, you've prayed, you've grieved, you've imagined. Now comes the living in new ways part. Which I find to be so hopeful, and so hard.

It's November, a month where the world around us feels different. We've just finished Reformation Day and Halloween. All Saints Day arrives and we remember those who have formed us and those whose faith has shone Christ's light for us to follow. This November we celebrate a baptism. And, on November 21st, you will experience the candidate who could be your next pastor preach and lead worship, and hold a special congregational meeting to consider calling this person as your pastor. Then, Thanksgiving happens, and Advent begins, and the calendar will turn to December.

I hope, with all these things going on in the church, you will take some time to pause, to reflect, and to pursue what's next and what's to come. Your future is linked to your past. Yet your future will be distinct from your past. Build upon your history. Let it inform what's next, but not hinder what is to come.

Recently, I had a conversation with someone who was imagining all the faithful people who entered into St. Paul's building. We talked about what this place perhaps looked like at different moments in its history. In reflecting now, I wonder who the next faithful generations are who will call St. Paul's home. Your story and theirs is yet to be written. I imagine a story of divine grace and love, one of dwelling in the goodness of God. For God's love and faithfulness have sustained you to this point and will see you through into what is to come.

In October, at the conclusion of memorial service for my father-in-law, we were sent from the sanctuary with a blessing that has carried my wife's family forward for several generations. It may be familiar to some of you. I hope it holds you this month and into the days and spaces to come.

*As you go on your way, may God go with you.
May God go before you to show you the way.
May God go behind you to encourage you,
beside you to befriend you,
above you to watch over,
within you to give you peace.
In the name of the blessed and holy Trinity. Amen.*

Pastor Adam

Here are a few things for you to know:

Wednesday night explorations of the stories and characters of the Bible continue at 7:30 PM for the first three Wednesdays of November. These hour-long classes meet in the upstairs Fellowship Room and are led by Mary Chotoff. I teach confirmation class with those in middle school at the same time.

Special Advent and Christmas devotionals are available in both regular and large print. These are separate from and in addition to the Christ in Our Home daily devotional. There are also Advent and Christmas cards of daily family activities to do at home to number and celebrate these seasons. Please check out both resources.

Christmas Eve worship will be at 5 PM and 11 PM. The 5 PM Christmas Eve worship will be a service of lessons and carols. Both will incorporate candle lighting, hearing and celebrating the birth of Christ.

The church office will be closed next Thursday, November 11. Both Christine and I will be taking a day of vacation to be with our children as they have the day off of school. The office will also be closed on Thanksgiving Day and the Friday after.

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Members of St. Paul's'

Here is a list of the NEEDS we have as a congregation

Altar Guild- Altar Guild sets up communion and takes it down after the service. They are also responsible for the changing of the paraments, making sure that the Altar area is set up for Sunday Services. The normal commitment is one month per year. You may sign up as an individual, or a team (two people). Contact Julia Levy or me.

Coffee Hour- Thanks to Lee Clukey, our coffee hours have continued through the Summer. However, we will need people to assist with the setting up and cleaning up since we will now have a coffee hour before our 10 am service as well. Talk to Lee if you would like to help.

Sunday School – This is a big one, we need all positions; teachers, aides and so on. We are once again using a prepared Sunday School curriculum, and Sunday School itself will be changed from how we knew it in the past. If you would like to participate in this program, contact Pastor Adam.

Tellers – Tellers are the people that count our weekly offerings and deposit them in the Bank. We need individuals who are unrelated who could be teamed up to count. Some teams count after church, others Monday mornings it is up to that team. Currently, we have two teams, so we count every other week, but more teams means less frequency. Training provided. Contact George Roeser (georgeroeser@hotmail.com)

Greeter administrator -We need a greeter to head up and schedule the greeters! This task is not hard and can be done with the frequency the person doing it chooses. The groups I schedule I do 6 months at a time. If you would like to take this on let me know.

Choirs-We have 2 very active choirs, the Chancel Choir, and the Bell Choir. Commitment is a rehearsal once a week and performance as scheduled. If you love music and fellowship, you'll love these groups. See Patrick Gard.

If you would like to help but are not sure where let me know I'm sure we can find a place for you!

Here's to a great new year!

George A. Roeser

Please continue to use a mask while inside St. Paul's.

Characters of the Bible : “ Six Old Testament Characters” -- WednesdayS, at 7:30pm. We meet upstairs in the church around the big table Wednesday nights Join us for one evening or stay with us for the remaining characters. We will study the remaining people in this order:

November 3 -- Book of Joshua and the fall of Jericho

November 10 --Book of Deborah “the Strength and wisdom of Deborah”

November 17 --Moses--” the Emergence of Isreal”

Bring your Bibles if you like, or just come and try to experience one of my favorites, how Moses had the courage to go back to Egypt after...And bring any noise makers you have so we can celebrate the successes. If you have ANY questions or comments, feel free to contact me either by phone 716-725-5918. I am excited to have you share these Bible stories with me!

Mary

ANGEL TREE 2021

Our Angel Tree project this year, in conjunction with Trinity East Amherst, will once again be collecting much needed items for School #74 in Buffalo. Items we will be collecting include: school supplies, hats, scarves and mittens. We will also provide a book for each student from pre-k through eighth grade.

If you are able to donate school supplies - suggestions include (but are not limited to) pencils, pens, crayons, markers, erasers, pencil sharpeners, children’s scissors and notebooks. If donating hats, scarves or mittens- keep in mind the children range in age from 4 to 13 years. Please DO NOT GIFT WRAP your donations.

Donations can be brought to church where large boxes (appropriately labeled) will be located in the foyer outside the church office. Your gifts can be dropped off Sundays as well as weekdays between 8 am through 12 noon. If you have something to contribute but are unable to get to church, call the church office at 634-2330 and arrangements will be made for pick-up.

Monetary donations are greatly appreciated as well and we will shop for you.

The drive begins November 7th and runs through December 12th at which time our gifts and books will be delivered to School #74.

Questions?? Call Arlene Bossert @ 697-4848

ALTAR GUILD:

November Cindy Sikorski

December Arlene Bossert

If you have any questions, please contact Arlene Bossert (716-697-4848)

HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Most everything has been harvested from the vegetable garden by now. But in the southern hemisphere, it is spring and time for planting. In Chile, Maria Carrasco has worked since 1985 with a program, founded in 1982 by an ELCA missionary, called Educacion Popular en Salud (EPES). Supported by ELCA World Hunger, EPES trains students, public officials, health and education workers, and women from vulnerable communities to advocate for the rights to health care and sustainable food. As a response to Covid-19, EPES proposed to start community gardening workshops online. The problem is, in Maria's neighborhood, there are very few green spaces for gardening. But she learned how to improve soil quality and reduce waste by composting, and to work with natural light and the space she had. Soon, arugula, chard, and spinach were growing in the 6-foot walkway to her front door.

In Chile, as in many other countries, people experiencing poverty are especially vulnerable to illnesses caused by poor nutrition. Add to this the pandemic, and food has become expensive and difficult to access. Cultivating community gardens gives families greater autonomy and assures them access to fresh produce. Your gifts to ELCA World Hunger make all this possible. ***Thank you!***

We are church together for the sake of the world. God's Work. Our Hands.

YOUTH NEWS --

ELCA National Youth Gathering-2022

The national gathering of high school Lutheran youth will be in Minneapolis July 24-28, 2022. Gathering under the theme of Boundless: God beyond measure, all current 7th through 11th grade youth are eligible to attend. If you or a youth you know are potentially interested or have questions, please reach out to Pastor Adam. Some planning will begin this summer. This event brings together 30,000 high school aged youth for worship, service, learning, and exploring who they are while deepening their relationships with God and the church. It is an amazing experience. Go to www.elca.org/gathering for more information.

LADIES AID is in full swing - Tuesday mornings from 9:30am to 11:00. All are welcome and you do not have to know how to sew in order to join these fun ladies. Bring a bag lunch and come catch up on what's going on. Nancy Noble.

St. Paul's is still collecting DASH'S Register Tapes: St. Paul's gets \$2.50 for every \$100 in tapes! **Please save your tapes**, and put them in the box in the narthex or the envelope on the social hall bulletin board.

FRIENDS OF THE NIGHT PEOPLE - Friends of the Night People and St Paul's are reaching out to volunteers for the 4th Monday from 4:30pm to 7:30pm of each month. This is to distribute TO GO MEALS ONLY from the Friends facility. 3 volunteers are needed. Please text Lee Clukey at 716-631-9855 if interested in volunteering. Without saying, the need is great.

THE LOCKPORT FOOD PANTRY needs cake mixes, canned meats, canned fruit (except peaches), toothbrushes & toothpaste, shampoo, soap, and hand & body lotion. Diane Busdiecker will deliver your donations. Thank you for supporting this ongoing project.

Book Club - Good Day Readers! Our next book discussion will be on This Tender Land By William Kent Drueger, on November 21, 2021 at 3:00PM. The discussion leader will be Sandy Emser, and the hostess is Kathy Hannon

PARISH REGISTER

Baptisms Clara Marie Reagan July 11, 2021
Taylor Josephine Granica July 27, 2021

Deaths/ Memorials Barbara Weber June 5, 2021
Eileen Folkerth August 7, 2021
Wayne Hill(Mem.) August 2, 2021
Arlene Lauer October 12, 2021

Weddings Sandra Ann Smith and James Raymond Moesch August 21, 2021

PRAYER LIST – NOVEMBER VOICE



Dick Atkins	Jim Murray
Rosemary Rizzo	Emily Friedrich
Ron Edwards	Tony Rizzo
Marge Kolb	Ken Welton
James Dickie	Nancy Rasmussen

Also, friends and family -

Arlene Lauer died on October 21, 2021. Please keep her family in your prayers
Tom Flynn, Susan Gibbons husband died. Please keep susan and her family in your prayers
Sara and Steven Hannon, Son and daughter-in-law of John and Kathy Hannon
Alba Santinelli, family member of Holly and Marge Kolb
Paul Busdiecker...son/brother of Diane and Kathi Busdiecker
Wendell Banyah...Brother of Nancy Stoehr
Ruthanna Hall and Emma Daines...Daughter and Grand-daughter of Carol & Dave Hall
Erica Desaulniers...Sister of Andrea Neidrauer
Vicki Doerfler...Mother of John Doerfler
Dorothy Lauer...Aunt of Cathy Lambert
Thomas Lauer...Cousin of Cathy Lambert
Ray Broeker.....friend of the Berg family
Cortney Wilkins.....friend of the Berg family
Russell Ponivas...friend of Diane Busdiecker

Please send prayer requests/changes to stpaulswilliamsville@gmail.com and/or to stpaulsvoice@yahoo.com

Food Pantry Open in Clarence for Anyone in Need. The Evangel Food Pantry has returned to serving low income Town of Amherst residents. Anyone in need should contact the Morlock Foundation at [\(716\) 842-1300](tel:7168421300). You need proof of residency and proof of income. Cutoff for income level varies depending on the number in the household.