# St. Paul's July/August 2024 Newsletter

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#### **Sunday Worship Services**

9:30 am - Combined Service

# Sunday Worship Services Beginning Sept 8

8:00 am - Traditional Service 9:15 am - Faith Formation for all ages 10:30 am - Contemporary Service

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St. Paul's regularly takes pictures and video to share all the wonderful things happening digitally and in print. If you or your family are concerned about something being shared in this manner, please contact Pastor Stuart.

### A Note from Pastor Stuart

#### The Purpose Driven Life, Part 1

Last year our Visioning Team began reflecting on the collected hopes and dreams for the future of the congregation in addition to considering the current ministries. As we organized these thoughts, the "Strategy Tree" which is pictured below began to



emerge. The six areas of our ministry help to organize what we currently do and what we might do in the future. However, it also

serves to guide the faith journey we all could live. For each of us, living a life of worship, discipleship, service, evangelism and fellowship describes how we might live and grow as a follower of Jesus. (Infrastructure for us individually might describe how we grow in living out our spiritual gifts generously.) In fact, during the last two new members' class, we have used

Continue
to offer various
appealing
worship
opportunities
and expand
fellowship
activities
[Prellowship]
Grow in Faith,
Serve with Love,
Invite into
Improve
our visibility,
"invitability", and
welcome
(Evangelism /
Church Growth)

Celebrate
our stability;
invest in our people
& physical
infrastructure
(Infrastructure)

Continue
to offer various
appealing
worship
Develop
a pathway for
children, youth,&
adults to grow in
faith
(Discipleship /
Growth in Faith)
Serve with Love,
Invite into
Inspire, equip,
& support people
for service in our
Church and local
communities
(Service / Ministry)

the strategy tree to initiate some wonderful conversation.

As the Visioning Team was beginning to use these areas to describe our faith, I was aware that a rather popular book talks about these very same topics. It's called <a href="The Purpose Driven Life">The Purpose Driven Life</a> by Pastor Rick Warren. It first came out in 2002 and has sold

over 50 million copies. Our plan this fall is to have a worship series based on this book to help explore more deeply our faith journey. Each week in the series we'll focus on one of the topics and you'll be encouraged to read daily in the book. Additionally, we would love to offer a few discussion groups to give you the opportunity to build relationships and talk more about what you are reading. You'll be hearing more about the series as September approaches, but for now I'd encourage you to fill out the brief survey at <a href="StPaulsLionville.org/events">StPaulsLionville.org/events</a>, especially if you would like us to order you a copy of the book!

I look forward to growing together in faith with you through the Purpose Driven Life! God Bless!

- Pastor Stuart

# **Outdoor Service on Sunday, August 25**

On **Sunday**, **August 25**, we will celebrate a wonderful outdoor service (weather permitting) at 9:30 am. This is always such a delightful event that it would be a great opportunity to invite a friend, neighbor or family member to worship that day! After the service we will get to enjoy an ice cream celebration!



Please note that for those who regularly watch our livestream, due to the complications of offering the livestream outdoors, only the pre-recorded sermon will be offered that morning.

## **Thank You from Chester County Food Bank**



The Chester County Food Bank recently thanked St. Paul's for our donation of \$800, which was raised at our Annual Yard Sale. The funds will help them to "distribute more food to [their] network of partner agencies, offer more educational programs on nutrition and gardening, and advocate for policies that address the root causes of hunger." Thank you to everyone who helped make this donation possible.

### **Adult Faith Formation**

The Friday Night Fire Pit Fellowship Group will meet on Friday nights through the summer at the church fire pit at 7:00 p.m. We share our stories of the week and get a preview of the worship service Bible readings for the coming Sunday. Bring your own lawn chair (BYOLC) and whatever else it takes to get you through the evening. In case of inclement weather (rain, snow, heat, or gloom of night) we will meet in the Parsonage. It's a relaxing way to end the week and meet in fellowship with other members of St. Paul's. Please join us.



## **Summer Family Fun Night**

Summer Family Fun Night will be on **Friday, July 12**, from 5:00-7:00 pm! Sign up at <u>StPaulsLionville.org/events</u>.



### **Fall Service Schedule**

Beginning **Sunday, September 8**, St. Paul's will resume two services each Sunday, a traditional service at 8:00 am and a contemporary service at 10:30 am. Please join us!

Worship Schedule

## **Chat and Chews Book Club**

The Chat and Chews
Sunday School Book Club
meets the second Sunday
of each month, after the late
service in Room 102. Our



next meeting will be on **Sunday**, **September 8**. Our summer reads are: "Remarkably Bright Creatures," by Shelby Van Pelt; "The Little Liar," by Mitch Albom; "The Women," by Kristin Hannah; "The Reading LIst," by Sara Nisha Adams; "Beyond All Sense and Reason," by Mike Diccicco. You do not have to finish the book or even read it to join us in a lively and faithful discussion. Please contact Gwen Werner at ggwerner@verizon.net or call the church office for more information. Happy Reading!

## **Social Ministry**

We're getting ready to kick off our annual school supplies collection for Lutheran World Relief School Kits. Please check out our Sign-Up Genius in "This Week" or on the Events page of our website and then take advantage of store sales starting in July. Each School Kit contains 4 spiral notebooks, a ruler, pencil sharpener, scissors, 5 pencils, 5 ballpoint pens, crayons and an eraser, and helps keep education going in the face of serious obstacles.

Thanks to everyone who made a donation to our Peanut Butter and Jelly Food Drive for the Chester County Food Bank. Your donations amounted to nearly 300 lbs. All this will help to fill their summer student and senior food boxes.



And, Tilly Hujsak and Food Bank volunteer Karen Owens also presented a \$800 check to the Food Bank that was raised at the recent yard sale.

Our next Living-Love-Lunch packing event will be **Tuesday**, **July 23**, at 6:30 PM. If you're available to lend a hand, we'd love your help. Also, with the recent closing of the Exton Rite Aid we were able to pick up a shopping cart full of new underwear and socks for a steal. And we have a box full of Thrivent T-shirts. They'll also be distributed with the Saturday lunch giveaway to the homeless in Chester.

Planning for a Family Service Project is in the works for some time this month. As we've done in the past, we'll be volunteering with Valley Forge National Park Service to learn about and remove invasive crayfish from their streams. This is a fun and educational afternoon. All ages are welcome and no experience is needed.

We had 35 donors come out to donate at Our Spring Blood Drive and collected 34 donations! Thank you for helping to make a big impact in someone's life. Our next blood drive is scheduled for **September 5**.





BY THE TIME YOU READ THIS, our Appalachia Service Project crew will already be back from our work week in Clay County, West Virginia, and our ELCA Youth Gathering group will be getting ready to head down to New Orleans for the big every-three-year event there! If you missed our ASP presentation in worship on June 30, don't worry; there will be another opportunity to hear more about that and the Youth Gathering after the 10:30am service on Sunday, September 22. More details to come. In the meanwhile, thank you for your ongoing support of our shared St. Paul's/St. Matthew's youth ministry by your prayers, encouragement, and giving of time and money!



THERE ARE SOME FUN THINGS HAPPENING THIS SUMMER for our youth, including a July 11 dinner and evening escape room event for high schoolers, and a July 31 afternoon at Urban Air in Downingtown for our 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders. See the events calendars elsewhere in this newsletter for more details and signup links.

A NOTE ABOUT WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO DO WHAT OVER SUMMER: Since summer is an "inbetween" time in terms of school grades, there's a little bit of flexibility when I talk about what grades can participate in what events. "Middle School" equals 6<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades, but during summer we welcome both rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders (just-graduated 5<sup>th</sup> graders) and just-graduated 8<sup>th</sup> graders to join middle school events. Similarly, "High School" is grades 9 through 12, but in summer we welcome both rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders and just-graduated 12<sup>th</sup> graders in high school activities. So yes, just-graduated 8<sup>th</sup> graders/rising 9<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to participate in BOTH middle school and high school stuff during the summer. Ah, the privileges…Also, my habit is to "promote" my rosters around August 1, so if you have a youngest child who just finished either 8<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> grades, you will still probably get e-mails from me about upcoming activities through July. If you're still getting them in August (or if you just want to be removed from the mailing list), just let me know and I'll be happy to take care of it.

LOOKING AHEAD TO THE FALL: There are some really cool things planned for the coming year, and a lot of it is already posted on the <u>Youth Events</u> page on St. Paul's website. In particular, you will want to keep overnight Saturday, September 14 through Sunday, September 15 open on your calendar for our Youth Kickoff Lock-In, which will be held at St. Matthew's starting at 6pm Saturday and ending with a special Youth Sunday worship. More details are coming in early August, so stay tuned! Other things on the schedule include the return of our high school OASIS group, monthly middle school events, and more opportunities for youth of all ages to serve in lots of different ways.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns about youth and family ministry stuff, don't hesitate to contact me.



(continued on next page)

## **Youth Ministry News (cont.)**

### MIDDLE SCHOOL YOUTH UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR (6<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> Grades)

- Fri. July 12, 11:00am to 12:30pm at St. Paul's Help Decorate VBS Staff T-Shirts. Come for an hour of decorating, followed by a pizza lunch. Sign up here to help: <u>July 12 VBS Shirt Decorating</u>.
- Mon. July 22 thru Fri. July 26, 8:30am to noon at St. Paul's Help with Vacation Bible School. Serve as a youth guide or activity support person, and if you can't help the whole week, just come the days you can. Sign up here to help: St. Paul's VBS Help.
- Wed. July 31, 1:00 to 3:00pm Middle School MANIA! at Urban Air in Downingtown. Come
  for a couple of hours of food and fun. Family cost is \$20 for one participant, or \$35 for two or
  more participants from the same household. A pair of Urban Air socks are included. Sign up here
  to jump with us: <u>July 31st Middle School Urban Air</u>.

#### **SAVE THESE DATES:**

• Saturday, September 14 to Sunday, September 15 – Youth Kickoff Lock-In at St. Matthew's

### HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR (9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grades)

- Thurs. July 11, 5:00 to 7:45pm High School Youth Dinner and Escape Room! Meet at 5pm at a local Lionville/Eagleview restaurant (probably Enzo's Pizza), followed by a 6:15pm session at Elite Escape Rooms of Exton trying to solve "Playroom Pandemonium!" Sign up here to help us get out: July 11 High School Escape Room.
- Tues. July 16 thru Sat. July 20 ELCA Youth Gathering. Our group of seven youth and four adults will join about 15,000 other people in New Orleans for this triennial event. Watch for information about a special presentation by the group on Sunday, September 22!
- Mon. July 22 thru Fri. July 26, 8:30am to noon at St. Paul's Help with Vacation Bible School. Serve as a youth guide or activity support person, and if you can't help the whole week, just come the days you can. Sign up here to help: St. Paul's VBS Help.

#### **SAVE THESE DATES:**

• Saturday, September 14 to Sunday, September 15 – Youth Kickoff Lock-In at St. Matthew's







**Everyone** is Invited to **Rejoicing Spirits Worship Services** 

Sunday, August 11

at 4:00 pm

Come and experience an amazing worship service where:

we have lots of music and joyous singing



aith is not knowing messages BUT KNOWING who holds the future.

meaningful

many ways to participate, serve and lead

and fellowship!



"NO" shushing policy



Volunteers are asked to arrive at 3:30 pm.

# Help Improve St. Paul's Reach

We often read online reviews to help select the best place to visit or item to buy. One very significant way you can help spread the word about St. Paul's is to post an online review about our church! It's a very simple and yet powerful way for people to learn that St. Paul's is a great congregation where they would be blessed as well. Simply write out a short review that speaks highly of St. Paul's and post it on these

websites: Google - Facebook - Yelp. Thanks so much for spreading the word about St. Paul's!

### **Thrivent Action Cards**

Are you a member of Thrivent? We can use your help! Thrivent will provide up to \$250 in seed money to put on a fundraiser, educational event, or service activity. There are several committees at St. Paul's who actively use these funds for projects such as school bags, quilts, baby care kits, and personal care kits. Applying is very easy and we can walk you through it. Reach out to Ann Byer at 484-678-6445 or annbyer1@gmail.com. We'd be delighted to add you to our list.

### **Prayer Team**

If you would like to be part of the prayer team who is contacted when immediate prayer is needed, please contact the church office or PastorStuart@StPaulsLionville.org. Also, if you have an immediate need for prayer, please don't hesitate to contact the church office or Pastor Stuart!

## Coffee Fellowship Help

Only one Sunday in the next three months has an individual or group signed up to provide Sunday morning fellowship snacks and prepare coffee. Get together with friends, family, or your church group and have some fun! Sign up online or in the narthex.

## Sharing St. Paul's Pictures

Many have noted and enjoyed the St. Paul's pictures showing in the narthex. If you take any pictures at a St. Paul's event and would like to share them, please upload them to us at StPaulsLionville.org/sharepictures. Thank you!

## Office Closed/Labor Day

The church office will be closed on **Monday**. **September 2**, in observance of Labor Day.

# **Congregational Photos**

June 2 - Outdoor Service and Picnic



# **Congregational Photos (cont.)**

June 2 - Outdoor Service and Picnic (cont.)



The Crafters Tying Quilts



June 8 - St. Paul's at the Reading Phillies



June 25 - Living - Love - Lunches Assembly



# **Congregational Photos (cont.)**

June 23-29 - Youth Appalachia Service Project Work Week



# **Congregational Photos (cont.)**

June 23-29 - Youth Appalachia Service Project Work Week (cont.)



# St. Paul's Volunteer Schedule for July - November 2024

	7/7/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 7	7/14/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 8	7/21/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 9	7/28/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 10
Altar Care	Rice, P&P	Strawbridge, H&J	Stevens, L	Shallows
Asst. Minister	Johnson, K	Shallow, W	Lloyd, E	Sanders, J
Lector	Borneman, E	Kramer, K	Kramer, K	Mertz, A
Usher/Greeter	Huffman, M	Kramer, K	Strawbridge, H	Fabry, J
Usher/Greeter	Strawbridge, H	Kramer, C	Strawbridge, J	Ward, J
Acolyte	Gledhill, R	Hillestad, K	Teague, R	Mertz, C
Lock-Up	Shallow, D	Heath, S	Smith, P	Foltz, D

	8/4/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 11	8/11/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 12	8/18/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 13	8/25/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 14 OUTDOOR SERVICE
Altar Care	Wachter, J&S	Ward, J	Borneman, E	Kerstetter, H
Asst. Minister	Sarpen, G	Brauer, B	Pechin, M	Albright, A
Lector	Berger, N	Shallow, D	Fernandez, R	Erickson, F
Usher/Greeter	Berger, K	Wornson, B	Wiest, K	Teague, J
Usher/Greeter	Missimer, M	McPeak, J	Wiest, A	Teague, R
Acolyte	Gledhill, R	Shallow, C	Fernandez, M	Teague, L
Lock-Up	Wornson, B	Heath, S	Flach, C	Shallow, D

		9/8/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 16	9/15/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 17	9/22/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 18	9/29/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 19
Altar Care		Missimer, M/Ward, J	Pechin, M	Strawbridge, H & J	Ward, J
Asst. Minister		Colberg, A	Robinson, C	Missimer, M	Sarpen, G
Lector		Shallow, W	Biber, B	Wiest, K	Lammey, K
Usher/Greeter		Munson, G	Pindle, K	Dierksheide, D	Shallow, B
Usher/Greeter		Huffman, M	Pindle, B	Dierksheide, L	Shallow, D
Acolyte		Shallow, C	Gledhill, R	Wiest, Jack	Mertz, C
	9/1/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 15	9/8/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 16	9/15/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 17	9/22/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 18	9/29/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 19
Altar Care	McPeak, J/Rice, P&P	Cushing, C/Stevens, L	Albright, A	Rice, P & P	Stevens, L
Asst. Minister	Wiest, A	McGovern, C	Sanders, J	Brauer, B	Johnson, K
Lector	Burt, B	Fabry, J	Ermilio, J	Meade, J	Tilghman, P
Usher/Greeter	Piombino, J	McIlvaine, J	Heath, S	Teague, J	Burt, B
Usher/Greeter	Flach, C	McIlvaine, S	Johnson, K	Teague, R	Stevens, J
Acolyte	Wiest, Jacob	Young, W	Hillestad, K	Teague, L	Fernandez, M
Lock-Up	Huffman, M	Smith, P	Wornson, B	Foltz, D	Heath, S



Serve with Love At St. Paul's



	10/6/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 20	10/13/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 21	10/20/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 22	10/27/2024 8:00 AM REFORMATION SUNDAY
Altar Care	Pechin III, F	Shallow, D & W	Missimer, M	Pechin III, F
Asst. Minister	Erickson, F	Lloyd, E	Sarpen, G	Pechin, M
Lector	Ripper, N	Huffman, M	McCurdy, K	Biber, B
Usher/Greeter	Wiest, A	Adams, C	Strawbridge, H	Wait, K
Usher/Greeter	Wiest, K	Adams, J	Strawbridge, J	Wait, T
Acolyte	Wiest, Jacob	Shallow, C	Gledhill, R	Mertz, C
	10/6/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 20	10/13/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 21	10/20/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 22	10/27/2024 10:30 AM REFORMATION SUNDAY
Altar Care	Wachter, J & S	Borneman, E	Kerstetter, H	Cushing, C
Asst. Minister	Albright, A	McGovern, C	Albright, A	Sanders, J
Lector	McIlvaine, S	Johnson, K	Grant, K	Heydt, D
Usher/Greeter	Fabry, J	Flach, C	Piombino, J	McIlvaine, J
Usher/Greeter	McPeak, J	Wornson, B	Tilghman, P	McIlvaine, S
Acolyte	Teague, R	Young, W	Hillestad, K	Teague, R
Lock-Up	Flach, C	Shallow, D	Huffman, M	Smith, P

	11/3/2024 8:00 AM ALL SAINTS DAY	11/10/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 25	11/17/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 26	11/24/2024 8:00 AM PENTECOST 27
Altar Care	McPeak, J	Strawbridge, H & J	Ward, J	Shallow, D & W
Asst. Minister	Wiest, A	Colberg, A	Robinson, C	Missimer, M
Lector	Missimer, M	Shallow, B	Thomas, N	Kramer, K
Usher/Greeter	Pindle, K	Kramer, K	Wollenberg, R	Adams, J
Usher/Greeter	Pindle, B	Munson, G	Berger, K	Adams, C
Acolyte	Wiest, Jack	Shallow, C	Gledhill, R	Mertz, C
	11/3/2024 10:30 AM ALL SAINTS DAY	11/10/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 25	11/17/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 26	11/24/2024 10:30 AM PENTECOST 27
Altar Care	Albright, A	Rice, P & P	Stevens, L	Wachter, J & S
Asst. Minister	Johnson, K	Bauer, B	Albright, A	McGovern, C
Lector	Graham, G	Ermilio, J	Ripper, N	Borneman, E
Usher/Greeter	Burt, B	Heath, S	Johnson, K	Fabry, J
Usher/Greeter	Flach, C	Tilghman, P	Stevens, J	Wornson, B
Acolyte	Fernandez, M	Teague, L	Young, W	Hillestad, K
Lock-Up	Wornson, B	Foltz, D	Heath, S	Flach, C

We are grateful to our volunteers who give their time to ensure worship services run smoothly! The volunteer schedule includes any changes that have been communicated to Maureen before July 10. Please email Maureen at <a href="Maureen@StPaulsLionville.org">Maureen@StPaulsLionville.org</a> if you have a change that needs to be reflected in the schedule.

The names in red are individuals who are unable to serve that day. If you are able to take their place, please reach out to the individual, their parent (if an acolyte is needed), or email Maureen at Maureen@StPaulsLionville.org to connect the two of you.

For the most up-to-date volunteer schedule, visit <u>StPaulsLionville.org/volunteers</u>. The schedule on this web page will be updated whenever a change is communicated to Maureen.

Thank you for serving St. Paul's in this way!

### About St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Lionville

St. Paul's is a community who gather to grow in faith with Jesus and God and then let that powerful gift of love and joy overflow into the community, nation and world! If we can be helpful in any way on your faith journey, everyone (and we do mean EVERYONE) is always invited and will be welcomed!!



Address: 104 S. Village Avenue Email: Office@StPaulsLionville.org

Exton, PA 19341 Website: StPaulsLionville.org

Phone: 610-363-6264 YouTube: YouTube.com/@StPaulsLionville

Facebook: Facebook.com/StPaulsLionville

#### **STAFF**

Stuart W. Luce: Pastor (ext 4 / PastorStuart@StPaulsLionville.org)

Lyndsey Holmes: Director of Music (ext 6 / Lyndsey@StPaulsLionville.org)

Craig Miller: Director of Youth & Family Ministries (ext 7 / CraigYouthMin@Gmail.com)

Cari Kramer: Director of Administration (ext 5 / CariStPauls@Gmail.com)

Maureen Bellafante: Communications & Office Administrator (ext 8 / Maureen@StPaulsLionville.org)

David Foltz: Worship Technician

Brian Lloyd: Organist and Accompanist

The office is usually staffed Mondays-Thursdays from 9:00am-4:30 pm To meet with a staff member or if you plan to visit the church, please call ahead. Thank you!

For an emergency or if you are in need of pastor care, call Pastor Stuart at 610-804-1740.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church is a member of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.



### Grow in Faith, Serve with Love, Invite into Fellowship

Caring for each other is one of the most important things we do — now more than ever! If you or your loved ones have a specific need during these challenging times - spiritually, physically, or emotionally - please email our designated email: <a href="mailto:Care@StPaulsLionville.org">Care@StPaulsLionville.org</a>.

This is for everything from letting us know you are especially lonely or have a particular need, to requests for special prayers or support. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please call the office 610-363-6264.

Our newsletter is published every month. Members are welcome to submit news items. Articles to St. Paul's Newsletter are due by **no later than the 24th of every month**.

Email items to: Maureen@StPaulsLionville.org

Please include WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE and WHY as well as your name and contact information if you're asking people to respond. Contact Maureen via email with any questions.