



The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 69, Issue 1 • January 2023



*Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understanding.*

*In all your ways acknowledge him,
and he will make your paths straight.*

*Be not wise in your own eyes;
fear the Lord, and turn away from evil.
It will be healing to your flesh
and refreshment to your bones.*

Proverbs 3:5-8



Happy New Year!

Biscuits and beverages will be available in the fellowship hall **January 1**, at **8:30am**. Be sure to stop in and enjoy breakfast and fellowship before Sunday School.

Sundays in January

- Men's Choir practice each Sunday, *starting Jan. 15*, 3pm
- Handbell practice each Sunday, *starting Jan. 15*, 4pm
- Vespers each Sunday—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm are also live-streamed on our Facebook page.
- Jan. 1 – Breakfast before Sunday school, 8:30am
- Jan. 1 – Children's play practice, 9:30am
- Jan. 8 – Children's play practice, 9:30am
- Jan. 8 – Children's play, 4pm
- Jan. 8 – Kathy Ketchie circle, 5pm
- Jan. 15 – Finance Committee, counting room, 9am
- Jan. 15 – Men's Choir and Handbells resume practice
- Jan. 15 – Youth & Family Committee, conference room, 2pm
- Jan. 15 – Worship & Music Committee, conference room, 3pm
- Jan. 15 – Lutheran Women's quarterly meeting, conference room, 5pm
- Jan. 22 – Outreach Committee, conference room, 2pm

Mondays

- Jan. 2 – Church office is closed for the New Year holiday
- Jan. 9 – Hama Lingle & Grace Ridenhour Circles meet together for supper, 6pm
- Jan. 9 – Faith Academy after-school program
- Jan. 9 – Melissa Lura Circle, 6:30pm (after-Christmas gathering)
- Jan. 16 – Council, 6:30pm
- Jan. 16 – February newsletter articles due this week
- Jan. 23 – Faith Academy after-school program
- Jan. 23 – Lutheran Men, 6:30pm
- Jan. 30 – Faith Academy after-school program

Tuesdays

- Adult Confirmation Class, each Tuesday, 10am and 6pm
- Girl Scouts, each Tuesday, restarting January 10, 7pm
- Jan. 10 – Executive Committee, 7pm
- Jan. 10 – Bonnie Bost Circle, 7pm
- Jan. 17 – Staff meeting, 5pm

Wednesdays

- Classical Conversations home school group meets Wednesdays 8:30am-3:30pm
- Call Committee, each Wednesday, 6pm
- Adult Choir practice each Wednesday, *beginning on the 11th*, 6:30pm
- Youth Confirmation Class each Wednesday, 7:30pm
- Jan. 4 – Bumgarner Circle, 10am

Thursdays

- Bible Study, each Thursday in the fellowship hall, 10am and 6pm

Saturdays

- Jan. 7 – Christmas decorations to be packed and put away, 9am
-

2023 Yearbook

We are now working on the 2023 St. Paul's yearbook. Please check to make sure your contact information is correct in last year's book. If you have changes and have not already contacted the church office, please do so right away.

Meetings of the Lutheran Women

Hama Lingle Circle and Grace Ridenhour Circle meet together – 6pm

Monday, January 9th, at Blue Bay Seafood on East Innes Street

Ellen Bumgarner Circle – Wednesday, January 4, 10am

Kathy Ketchie Circle – Sunday, January 8, 5pm

Melissa Lura Circle – Monday, January 9, 6:30pm

Bonnie Bost Circle – Tuesday, January 10, 7pm

Lutheran Women's quarterly meeting, January 15, 5pm

Lutheran Men's Family Night Out on December 26th

St. Paul's Men will wrap up 2022 with their annual Family Night Out at China Family House Restaurant on Monday, December 26th at 6:30pm. This dutch treat event is always well attended and enjoyed by the entire family as we enjoy a meal together, present perfect attendance awards, and reflect on accomplishments of the year!

St. Paul's Men Explore "In Back of the Peach Orchard" on January 23rd

St. Paul's Men kick off 2023 with their first monthly meeting of the new year on Monday, January 23rd, at 6:30pm. Following the meal provided by George Reese and Tim Deal, our very own Jesse Watson will share stories from his recently published book "In Back of the Peach Orchard." The book is a "collection of stories about what life was like growing up on a small farm in the South, and what it was like for children to have freedom to learn the values and work ethic to carry them through life." There'll be humorous, and inspiring stories featuring many names you'll likely recognize.

This is a great way for St. Paul's Men to start the year, and a perfect opportunity for anyone who hasn't attended our dinner meetings before to do so for what is sure to be an evening to remember! Come, and bring a friend!

Un-decorating the Church—Decorations will be taken down and put away on Saturday, January 7th, beginning at 9am. Please contact Bonnie Hinson for information at 704-279-3126 or email lwaynehinson@yahoo.com.

Rowan Helping Ministries—St. Paul's volunteers delivered 32 pounds of items to RHM on December 12, 2022. You may check the RHM website to see their current needs: <https://rowanhelpingministries.org>.

Income and Expenses for November 2022

Income: \$34,970 • Expenses: \$30,671

Income > Expense for November: \$4,299

Income > Expense YTD: \$51,058

Capital Building Fund, November 30: \$232,396

December income/expenses will be in the February Newsletter.

Online Giving

You may give your contribution online at StPaulsLutheran.Church/give. There is a minimal fee for each transaction, which is less if you use your bank account number instead of your debit or credit card.

Thanks

A big thank you goes out to Donnie Austin, Susan Faggart, Terri Powlas, Alice Davis, Helen Gordon, Doris Hilliard, Lori Bernhardt and Alison Moore for cooking turkeys this year. Also, I appreciate Terri and Alan delivering them. The Community in Schools (CIS) Family Christmas meal was served at First Presbyterian Church on December 15th.

Susan Bernhardt

On behalf of St. Paul Lutheran Seminary, I would like to thank you for all of the support you have given our organization. Because of this contribution of \$1,500, we will be able to further the mission and ministry of St. Paul Lutheran Seminary.

Since our organization began, our mission has been to provide churches with exceptional educational and mission resources. Over the years, we have worked to develop an institution that is theologically sound, educationally credible, and contextually appropriate. To continue our work, the students at St. Paul Lutheran Seminary are trained for service in the church and the world by leaders with contextual experience, leaders who know the value of real-life applications in the learning process. This is only possible because of thoughtful contributions from people like you.

Again, thank you for your support and helping us succeed in our mission.

With best personal regards,
Dan Tvedt

We extend our love and sympathy to Susie Page on the death of her brother, Johnny Kluttz, who died Thursday, December 1, 2022. Please keep Susie in your prayers.

We extend our love and sympathy to the family of Polly Euart Webb, who died Tuesday, December 6, 2022. Please keep her family in prayer.

Memorial Gifts

Gifts were received in memory of
Mary Ritchie Sherrill for the Capital
Building Fund from

Mary Lee and James Earnhardt
Patsy and Charles Martell
Franda Raymer

Gifts were received in memory of
Mary Ritchie Sherrill for the General
Fund from

Gina and Allen Burnett
Lottie Simpson
Kara, Jason, Hudson and
Quinn Burnett

Gifts were received in memory of
Polly Webb for the Capital Building
Fund from

Susan and Ben Bernhardt
Alice Davis
Jenny and Grady Earnhardt
Myra Jane and Terry Eller
Bonnie and Wayne Hinson
Judi and D.W. Honbarger
Helen Gordon
Irene Miller

Gifts were received in memory of
Polly Webb for the General Fund from

Crystal and Dana Bost
Kay Moody
Earl and Debbie Parris
Nancy and Vaughn Wilhelm

A gift was received in memory of
Nathan Raymer's birthday for the
Improvement Fund from
Franda Raymer

A gift was received in memory of
Leslie Ryman for the Capital Building
Fund from
Gina and George Barringer

A gift was received in memory of
Paula Ritchie Kadel for the General
Fund from
Leslie and Frances Frye



A gift was received in honor of Susan and
Rev. Mark Ryman for the Capital Building
Fund from
Gina and George Barringer

A gift was received in honor of Kay Moody
for the Helping Hands Fund from
Dottie Stancil

A gift was received in honor of Linda
Beaver for the Helping Hands Fund from
Summer and Keith Deal

A gift was received in honor of Alice Davis
for the Capital Building Fund from
Helen Gordon

His Wondrous Works

*Find the 31 **bold** words from Psalm 111:2-5, 7-10 (ESV)*

M O D S I W S E D I V O R P O
I U B I E B E G I N N I N G G
P P L N S R T A E R G K V C D
T R U S T W O R T H Y G T E Y
N I F U A F A I T H F U L G T
A G I S B N S E M A N I L R S
N H C P L J O T Z V G R A A E
E T R L I U Q I P H A Y V C J
V N E E S S Z L T E L W L I A
O E M N H T O B F P C Y C O M
C S E D E R E B M E M E R U H
Q S N O D R E M E M B E R S F
S U O R D N O W O R K S D P J
T P E N D U R E S T U D I E D
E M O S E W A E F O R E V E R

Great are the **works** of the LORD, **studied** by all who **delight** in them. Full of **splendor** and **majesty** is his work, and his **righteousness endures forever**. He has caused his **wondrous** works to be **remembered**; the LORD is **gracious** and **merciful**. He **provides** food for those who fear him; he **remembers** his **covenant** forever. The works of his hands are **faithful** and **just**; all his **precepts** are **trustworthy**; they are **established** forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and **uprightness**. He **sent redemption** to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. **Holy** and **awesome** is his **name**! The **fear** of the **LORD** is the **beginning of wisdom**; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever!



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Email: splchurch@att.net

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman, Pastor
pastor@stpaulslutheran.church

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary
splchurch@att.net

John Brock, Music Director
splcmusicalsisbury@gmail.com

Johnsie Taylor, Organist
jtaylor783@aol.com

Judy Lowman, Treasurer
jlowman1@carolina.rr.com

Perry Bernhardt, Council President
perryhbernhardt@gmail.com

Alison Moore, Girl Scout Coordinator, 704-467-9191

Alison and Aaron Moore, Boy Scout Coordinators, 704-467-9191

St. Paul's newsletter, the "Monthly Epistle," is intended to keep everyone informed about happenings within the congregation that effect and contribute to our ministry together. In order to maximize reach and minimize cost, the preferred methods of distribution are by email, and posting on our St. Paul's website (www.StPaulsLutheran.Church). All members are encouraged to use the newsletter as a resource to help you consider how God is calling you to be involved in the life of his church. If you are unable to access the newsletter online, or would just like to have a printed copy to refer to, the most cost-effective way to receive it is to pick up a copy from the narthex or church office. We mail copies to those members whom we know don't have online access, are shut-in, or live out of town. If you want to be added to our email list, or to the mailing list, please contact the church office.