



The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 69, Issue 5 • May 2023

By the time you are reading this, Lent, Holy Week, and Easter Sunday will have come and gone. The 11th annual Cruise 'n BBQ will also be behind us. Thinking in the future-past tense, I wonder if it rained, how many vehicles we had this year, and what excitement was generated by the raffles. Regardless of rain, I know everyone had a good time, even though the Cruise 'n is over a week away as I write this article. Additionally, the photography sessions for our new pictorial directory will be happening by the time you read this Epistle. We hope to pass out the new pictorials on Rally Sunday, August 26th.

Now we await the upcoming Matthew Weaver bluegrass concert. Our Outreach Committee is sponsoring this event being held in the fellowship hall on May 19th at 7pm. This is an outstanding opportunity to invite family, friends, and neighbors to a fun activity at St. Paul's.

Speaking of fun, the Education Committee is promoting VBS June 23–25. This year's theme is "Living Water." Yep; everybody is going to be getting wet, all while we learn about crossing the Red Sea in faith and traveling to Ninevah via a big fish.

These activities must not cause us to forget receiving six new members on Easter Sunday. More new members are coming to us on Pentecost Sunday—a few more baptisms too, as well as three confirmations of faith. If the Lord keeps giving us new members throughout the year, we might have to do another pictorial in 2024.

See you in church!

Pastor Mark

Photos for the pictorial directory will be taken May 2–6.

The goal is to have the directory ready for distribution by Rally Sunday. You may sign up online at ucdir.com, using the code, password, and instructions in the email sent out on April 20, or you may contact the church office.

Sundays in May

- Sunday School each week at 9:30am
- Worship Service each week at 10:30am
- Men's Choir practice each Sunday at 3pm
- Handbell practice each Sunday at 4pm
- Vespers each Sunday—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm are also live-streamed on our Facebook page.
- May 7 – Breakfast before Sunday School, 8:30am
- May 7 – Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- May 7 – All Youth music practice, 2pm
- May 7 – Kathy Ketchie Circle, 5pm
- May 14 – Mothers' Day
- May 14 – Youth Sunday—youth will assist with service and have special music
- May 28 – Pentecost Sunday
- May 28 – Confirmation Sunday, 10:30am

Mondays

- Faith Academy after-school program, 1st and 8th
- May 1 – Scholarship application deadline
- May 1 – Hama Lingle Circle, 7pm
- May 8 – Blood Drive, 1:30-6pm
- May 8 – Melissa Lura Circle, 6:30pm
- May 8 – Outreach Committee, 6:30pm
- May 15 – Newsletter articles due this week
- May 15 – Council meeting, 6:30pm
- May 22 – Lutheran Men, 6:30pm
- May 29 – The church office will be closed for Memorial Day.

Pause on Memorial Day to remember the U.S. Military personnel who died while serving in the armed forces for our country.

Tuesdays

- Girl Scouts, 7pm, each week
- **No** Adult Confirmation class on May 2
- May 2 – Pictorial Directory Photos, 2-8:30pm
- May 2 – Grace Ridenhour, 6:30 (counting room)
- May 9 – Classical Conversations year-end celebration, 5:30pm
- May 9 – Bonnie Bost Circle, 7pm
- May 9 – Executive Committee, 7pm
- May 9, 16, 23, 30 – Adult confirmation class, at 6pm
- May 16 – Friendship Club, 10:30am
- May 16 – Staff meeting, 5pm
- May 23 – Girl Scouts year-end party, picnic shelter, 7pm

Wednesdays

- Adult Choir practice each week, 6:30pm
- **No** Youth Confirmation Class on May 3
- May 10, 17, 24 – Youth Confirmation Class, 7:30pm
- May 3 – Ellen Bumgarner Circle, 10am
- May 3 – Pictorial Directory Photos, 2-8:30pm

Thursdays

- No Bible Study on May 4
- May 4 – Pictorial Directory Photos, 2-8:30pm
- May 11, 18, 25 – Bible Study Class, 10am and 6pm

Fridays

- May 5 – Pictorial Directory Photos, 2-8:30pm
- May 19 – Community concert in St. Paul's fellowship hall with Matthew Weaver and Clay Lunsford, 7pm

Saturdays

- May 6 – Photos for pictorial directory 10:30-4pm
- May 6 – Youth classroom remodel, begins at 8am
- May 13 – Mothers' Day luncheon

The **Extension/ Community Association will not meet in May.**
Their next meeting will be **Tuesday, June 6th.**

Youth Classroom Make-over Day

We have a fun opportunity for the middle school and high school youth to put their own stamp on one of the Sunday school rooms. We're updating the wall color, changing out the furniture, and adding comfortable seating. We will need help with painting, decorating, and putting together furniture.

When, Where, & How:

- **May 6th, starting at 8:00 am**
- Upstairs in the High School room
- Come for the whole day or drop in and give a hand when you have time.
- Snacks, lunch and treats will be provided!

Please contact Heather Canup (hcanup25@gmail.com or call 336-408-0500) if you have any questions.

The St. Paul's Friendship Club will meet May 16th at 10:30am in the Fellowship Hall. The Y WONDERS, a choral group, will perform for us. A covered dish meal will be served after the program. Please add a bit to your covered dish, since we will be serving about twenty-two extra people.

Kitchen Refrigerator—If you use the refrigerator in the kitchen, please remove all your items before you leave from your event. If items need to be stored for later pickup, please use the refrigerator in the shelter, or the flower cooler near the chapel, and try to arrange for items to be picked up by the next morning. Remember, this time of year, the picnic shelter is being used more, so that refrigerator will need to be kept clear too. Other groups need space at the time of their events. Please be considerate and provide room for others.

Lutheran Women Circle Meetings

Ellen Bumgarner – Wednesday, May 3, 10am

Kathy Ketchie – Sunday, May 7, 5pm

Hama Lingle – Monday, May 1, 7pm

Melissa Lura – To be determined monthly

Grace Ridenhour – Tuesday, May 2, 6:30pm (counting room)

Bonnie Bost – Tuesday, May 9, 7pm



DONATE BLOOD

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Monday, May 8
1:30 PM - 6:00 PM

All donors receive*:

- **\$20 eGift Card**
- **OneBlood T-shirt**
- **Wellness Checkup** including blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count, and cholesterol screening.

Donors
Receive



- PLUS -



Blood Drive—May 8th, 2023

Thanks to all who supported the February blood drive at our church. The second of our four yearly blood drives is Monday, **May 8th, in the fellowship hall from 1:30pm – 6:00pm.** Everyone knows someone who has received a transfusion, whether it is a family member or just an acquaintance.

The goal at our church for each drive is 35 units which our church has averaged over the past five years. To achieve that goal, 40+ donors need to be available since a deferred rate of 15-20% occurs because of low hemoglobin, medications, and/or certain health issues.

If you have donated in the past two years, you will receive a scheduled appointment (that can easily be changed) in the near future. If you would like to be a new donor, please contact Alice Davis (704-855-4930 or pherford1@yahoo.com).

Mother's Day Luncheon

May 13th the Women of the Church are hosting our annual Mother's Day Luncheon. It will be in the fellowship hall from 11:00am to 1:00pm. The theme for this year is "Momma's Apron." Remember back to the days when your momma or grandma wore an apron and what they put in the pockets or used it for. Bring all those memories and join us for lunch. We will be having salads with grilled chicken, chicken salad and other toppings available. Chicken tenders will be available for the kids. St Paul's Youth will be providing the entertainment. Tickets will be \$10 for adults, \$5.00 for children 4 to 12, and 3 and under are free. Tickets will be sold on the porch April 30th and May 7th. Hope you see you there!

Community Concert

The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a concert with **Matthew Weaver and Clay Lunsford on Friday, May 19th** in the Fellowship Hall at 7:00pm.

Matthew Weaver is a multi-instrumentalist, having played the piano since the age of 3. He is an 8-time North Carolina Piano Champion. He graduated from Appalachian State University and has performed at Grand Ole Opry, Dollywood, Biltmore, and many churches and festivals. Matthew does a lot of humanitarian and mission work throughout the Appalachian Mountains, and is pianist for The Gospel Voices.

Clay Lunsford is from Union Grove and is President of the North Carolina Thumb and Finger Pickers Association. He is a founding member of The Gospel Voices, a family Southern Gospel quartet from Union Grove, N.C. Clay has performed over 12,000 shows, and continues to bless people with his guitar and Appalachian banjo picking. He works with the Good News Club sharing the gospel and music with kids in school. He is also a Gideon.

Many of you have heard them play before, and we hope you will come. But more than just the church members, we want to use this concert to invite family, friends and neighbors. This is a free concert and we will serve refreshments. It does not get any better than that. Hope to see you all on May 19th at 7:00pm.

New Members Class

A new members class will be held in the chapel the first three Sundays in May, directly after worship. Classes will take 30–45 minutes and are open to all who wish to join St. Paul's. The three classes will be about: 1. What Lutherans Believe in Common with Other Denominations 2. Lutheran Distinctives 3. St. Paul's Uniqueness

New members will be received on Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023.

We thank God for your partnership. Because of you, we can continue to reach Spiritual Orphans in former communist countries with the Hope of the Gospel. Your gift of \$1,940 on April 19, is a great blessing to those who do not yet know that they have a Father in Heaven who loves them, or that they have brothers and sisters in Christ throughout the world who want to see them adopted into the family of Christ. SON engages people in the Word of God, helping them to Reclaim their identity as children of God, and walks alongside them as they are transformed by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Thank you for your support and being a part of the generation of Faith helping to connect Spiritual Orphans to the global family of Christ.

Sincerely yours,
Pr. David R. Breidenbach
SON Executive Director

Thank you for your gift of \$299.19 to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse. Through your gifts and prayers, we are able to show the life that Christ offers through His death and resurrection. "The Lord Lives! Blessed be my Rock! Let the God of my salvation be exalted" (Psalm 18:46). Thank you for equipping us to demonstrate this living hope in some of the world's most desperate situations. We are grateful for your partnership in the Gospel. God bless you.

Sincerely,
Franklin Graham
President

Thank you for your generous donation of \$288.00. Through your support of Radical, we can see the nations reached for the glory of Jesus' name—together.

We'd like to keep in touch and share all of the amazing things happening around the world as we continue to equip Christians to be on a mission, including addressing some of the most urgent spiritual and physical needs on the planet.

We are grateful to God for you.

The Radical Team

Rowan Helping Ministries

St. Paul's volunteers delivered 67 pounds of food items to RHM on April 3rd. Thank you to all who support this ministry. You may find more information on needs and volunteer opportunities at www.rowanhelppministries.org.

Opened Minds

Find the 35 **bold** words from Luke 24:44-49 (ESV)

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

Then he said to them, “These are my **words** that I **spoke** to you while I was still with you, that **everything written** about me in the **Law of Moses** and the **Prophets** and the **Psalms** must be **fulfilled**.” Then he **opened** their **minds** to **understand** the **Scriptures**, and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the **Christ** should **suffer** and on the **third day rise** from the **dead**, and that **repentance** and **forgiveness of sins** should be **proclaimed** in his **name** to all **nations**, beginning from **Jerusalem**. You are **witnesses** of these things. And **behold**, I am **sending** the **promise** of my **Father** upon you. But stay in the city until you are **clothed** with **power** from on **high**.”

In Honor of...

A gift was received in honor of Larry and Leilani Watson for the Improvement Fund from Tommy Fink.

A gift was received in honor of Rebecca Lombard, Sutton Fisher, and Alyssa McCraven, in recognition of their First Communion from Helen Gordon.

Memorial Gifts

Gifts were received in memory of Judy Bernhardt for the Capital Building Fund from Patsy Everhart
Judy and Lindsay Lowman
Nancy Powell
South Salisbury Fire Dept.

A gift was received in memory of Judy Bernhardt for the Improvement Fund from Mita and Jeff Powlas

Gifts were received in memory of Judy Bernhardt for the Youth Fund from
Paul and Nancy Baker
and Genevieve Baker
Jean and Jimmie Deal
Myra Jane and Terry Eller
Tammy Leazer
Delores Stanley
St. Paul's Friendship Club

A gift was received in memory of Lola Floss for the Capital Building Fund from
Judy and Lindsay Lowman
St. Paul's Friendship Club

A gift was received in memory of Lola Floss for the Helping Hands Fund from
Myra Jane and Terry Eller

Gifts were received in memory of Carrie Reavis for the Capital Building Fund from
Crystal and Dana Bost
Alice Davis
Judi and D.W. Honbarger
St. Paul's Friendship Club

A gift was received in memory of Carrie Reavis for the Helping Hands Fund from
Myra Jane and Terry Eller

A gift was received in memory of Carrie Reavis for the General Fund from
Kathy and Danny Scott

Gifts were received in memory of Barbara Phelps for the Capital Building Fund from
Karen and Tim Deal
Bonnie and Wayne Hinson
Judi and D.W. Honbarger

*We extend our love and sympathy to Rex Phelps and family
on the death of his mother, Barbara Evon Anthony Phelps,
who passed away Sunday, April 9, 2023.
Please keep the Phelps family in your prayers.*

Thank you to everyone who sent a card, called, or said a prayer for me with my recent eye surgery. I am very thankful for all of my church family.

Sandy Corley

Thank you to all who sent cards, visited, prayed, and called with encouraging words for me as I had surgery, and during my recovery. My church family is a wonderful support to me.

Wilbur Canup



Online Giving is accessible at StPaulsLutheran.Church/give.
There is a minimal fee for each transaction—about 2.9% for using cards, or about 1.3% for bank draft.

Income and Expenses for March 2023

Income: \$35,726 • Expenses: \$34,588

Income > Expense for March: +\$1,137

Capital Building Fund, March 28, 2023: \$243,308

April income/expense report will be in the June Newsletter.



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: secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

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

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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 mailing or email list, please contact the church office.