



# The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 70, Issue 7 • July 2024

A big thanks to the Education Committee and all who helped them pull off a wonderful VBS. We all—kids and adults alike—had a great time learning about the Apostle Paul's adventures: memorizing Scripture each day, hearing Bible teaching, singing hymns and spiritual songs, crafting, playing games, and enjoying



lunches and snacks while making new friends. Special thanks to Jennifer Aldridge, the chair of the Education Committee, for leading VBS this year. And to think her thanks was getting slimed in the end.

See you in church!

Pr. Ryman

## **July Calendar of Events**

### **Sundays**

- Sunday School, each week at 9:30am
- Worship service, each week at 10:30am
- Vespers at the Parsonage—fellowship at 6pm; prayer at 6:30pm
- July 7 – Breakfast before Sunday School, 8:30am
- July 7 – Grace Ridenhour Circle, Ladies' Parlor after worship
- July 7 – Youth & Family Committee, 2pm
- July 7 – Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- July 7 – Lutheran Women's quarterly meeting, 5pm
- July 14 – Christian Education Committee, conf. room, 1:30pm
- July 14 – Worship & Music Committee, conf. room, 2:30pm
- July 14 – No meeting for Kathy Ketchie Circle in July
- July 21 – Autumn Care worship, 2pm
- July 21 – Staff Support Committee meeting, 3pm

### **Mondays**

- July 1 – Facility Accessibility Committee meeting, 6:30pm
- July 1 – No meeting for Hama Lingle Circle in July
- July 8 – No meeting for Melissa Lura Circle in July
- July 15 – Council meeting, 6:30pm
- July 22 – Lutheran Men's meeting, 6:30pm
- July 22 – Deadline for August newsletter articles

### **Tuesdays**

- Bible Study classes, at 10am and 6pm
- June 11 – No meeting for Bonnie Bost Circle (out to eat)
- June 16 – Staff meeting, 5pm

### **Wednesdays**

- July 3 – No meeting for Ellen Bumgarner Circle in July
- July 3 – Autumn Care chapel service, 2pm
- No Adult Choir practice on July 3
- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm on the 10th, 17th, 24th, and 31st

## **Thursdays**

- July 4th – Church office is closed
- July 18th – Friendship Club, 10:30am

## **Saturdays**

- July 20 – Feed the Hunger Pack-a-thon, 10am

## **Friendship Club in June**

St. Paul's Friendship Club will meet **Thursday, July 18th**, at **10:30am in the Fellowship Hall**. Dianah Myers will present a program based on her mission trip to Africa. Please bring your favorite covered dish to share. Come join us for an interesting program, followed by good food and fellowship. Hope to see all of you on July 18.

## **Lutheran Women Meetings**

Lutheran Women's quarterly meeting–July 7, 5pm

Bonnie Bost–No meeting; group will go out to eat

Ellen Bumgarner–No meeting

Kathy Ketchie–No meeting

Hama Lingle–No meeting

Melissa Lura–No meeting

Grace Ridenhour–Sunday, July 7, Ladies' Parlor after worship

## **School Supplies**

Each year, St. Paul's Lutheran Women collect school supplies in July that are distributed to one or two local schools. The collection normally goes to Koontz Elementary—a school that our church has supported for over 20 years. Last year, supplies were also donated to Faith Charter School.

Please help the women's organization with this collection. Basic needs include pencils, wide-ruled paper and wide-ruled composition books, crayons, etc. Collection boxes will be located in the narthex and outside the conference room. Thanks for your support.

## **Scholarship Recipients**

Scholarships this year are being awarded to Henry Barringer, who receives the Sadie and Hollie Ritchie Scholarship, Chloe Lombard, who receives the Brown–Heilig Scholarship, and Lauren Whisnant, who receives the Blanche and Hubert Ritchie Scholarship. God’s blessings to our college students, and congratulations on your awards.

Our two ministerial scholarships—the Dave and Pearl Honbarger Ministerial Fund, and the St. Paul’s Ministerial Fund— have both been earmarked for continuing theological education during the coming year for Pastor Ryman and Associate Pastor Brian Lord.

## **Please Call Us**

If you or a family member are headed to the hospital or a nursing home, having surgery, or a medical procedure, please call the church office (704-633-0922) to let us know. Pam will let the pastor know and will put it on his calendar and task list. It is fine to tell the pastor preceding or following worship or another church activity, but he is likely to forget because his mind is on the worship service, Bible study, etc. He wants to briefly visit with you and pray for you in your time of need, and would appreciate your quick phone call to the church office to make sure this happens.

## **Bible Study Webpage**

A new section has been added to our website called “Bible Studies.” There you may find videos of our Tuesday Bible Study, “The Spiritual Realms.” All nine sessions have been posted. Links to additional resources and for the participant’s workbook are also listed on the page. Our new study, “Hope for the Church of Christ,” a nine week study on the seven churches of Revelation, is also posted. Find resources in the navigational line at the top of any of our webpages, then click Bible Studies.

<https://stpaulslutheran.church/studies>

## Feed the Hunger Packathon

Want to go on a mission trip but not leave home? Here is your opportunity. Feed the Hunger Packathon will be **on Saturday, July 20, 10am–noon in the fellowship hall.**

We will be packing 10,000 meals in 2 hours! We need 50 volunteers, age 9 to 109, to accomplish this.

During the Packathon, teams of volunteers will assemble ingredients into meal packets that are weighed, sealed and boxed. These meals will be shipped and freely distributed to hungry children throughout the world, who are living in extreme poverty. Bibles will be distributed along with these meals in order to not only address physical hunger, but spiritual hunger as well.

The Packathon begins with a brief video and instructional period, and ends with a short time of celebration over how many lives will be impacted. This is a wonderful opportunity to share the love of Christ with others.

Feed the Hunger is a Christian non-profit ministry established in 1968 in Burlington, NC. It has international church partners in 28 countries, and also distributes food to some of the poorest areas in the United States.

The Outreach Committee will have a table on the lawn with sign-up sheets June 30th, July 7th and 14th, and will answer any questions you have. There is a job for everyone, so please volunteer for this worthwhile mission project.

You may view previous Pack-a-thons on the Feed the Hunger Facebook page.

## Offering for May 2024

General Fund Offering for the month: \$27,638

June General Fund report will be in the August Epistle.

Online Giving is accessible at [StPaulsLutheran.Church/give](https://StPaulsLutheran.Church/give).

Scanning this QR code will take you directly to the giving page.

There is a minimal fee for each transaction.



## Memorial Gifts

A gift was received in memory of **Buddy Heilig** for the Carillon Fund from Karen and Tim Deal

Gifts were received in memory of **Buddy Heilig** for the Capital Building Fund from Bonnie Bost Circle Crystal and Dana Bost Alice Davis Myra Jane and Terry Eller Bonnie and Wayne Hinson Cindy and Frank Hinson Judi and D.W. Honbarger Susan and Mark Ryman Jeanne and Tony Shaver

Gifts were received in memory of **Myra Bost** for the Capital Building Fund from Lori and Perry Bernhardt Myra Jane and Terry Eller Cindy and Frank Hinson Jeanne and Tony Shaver

A gift was received in memory of **Becky Lyerly** for the Capital Building Fund from Donna and Alan Lyerly

A gift was received in memory of **Becky Lyerly's June 15th birthday** for the Capital Building Fund from Maressia Lyerly Fox

A gift was received in memory of **Nathan Raymer** for the General Fund from Franda Raymer

A gift was received in memory of **Ethel Roseman** for the Capital Building Fund from Susan and Mark Ryman

A gift was received in memory of **Jane Mullins** for the Capital Building Fund from Myra Jane and Terry Eller

## Honor Gifts

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

A gift was received for the Carillon Fund in honor of the **birthdays of Iverson and Gayle Brendle, and in honor of their wedding anniversary** from Karen and Tim Deal

*We extend our love, sympathy, and prayers to Teresa Linker,  
Reba Saine, and their family on the death of their brother,  
Robert “Buddy” Heilig. Buddy died May 25, 2024.  
His funeral was held at St. Paul’s on Friday, May 31, 2024.*



*We extend our love and sympathy to Joyce Morris on the death of her  
husband Michael Allen Morris. Mike died Tuesday,  
June 25, 2024. Per Mike’s wishes, there will be no funeral service.  
Please keep Joyce and the family in your prayers.*



*We extend our love and sympathy to Jenny Earnhardt on the  
death of her brother, Andy Myers. Andy died  
Tuesday, June 25, 2024. Please keep the family in your prayers.*



*We extend our love and sympathy to Betty Monroe  
on the death of her brother, Glenn Lyerly.  
Glenn died Tuesday, June 25, 2024.  
Please keep the family in your prayers.*

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes,  
and death shall be no more,  
neither shall there be mourning,  
nor crying, nor pain anymore,  
for the former things have passed away.

Revelation 21:4

## **Thank You**

With grateful hearts, we want to thank the St. Paul's family for prayers, calls, cards, texts, visits, memorials, and loving kindness shown to our loved one, Becky Lyerly, and to us. She loved all of you so much.

The family of Becky Lyerly

I appreciate the cards, phone calls, and prayers from my church family during my recovery from surgery—and most grateful for the ones from my Sunday School class, Alice and Crystal. Thank you!

Autumn Hill

Thank all of you for the help, prayers, calls, and cards during my medical emergency. It's wonderful to have a church family.

Thank you,  
Judi Honbarger

I have received multiple cards from individuals and the groups at St. Paul's. I very much appreciate the thoughts, prayers, and cards. I am getting a little better each day, and have very little discomfort. My walking is going well. I look forward to seeing everyone again soon.

Thank you!  
David Freeze

## **Many Hands Benefit Helping Hands**

Our thanks to the Lutheran Men and to all members of the church who assisted the Men in hosting a very successful Cruise 'n Barbecue in April. Proceeds from the event allowed our Men to write a check in the amount of \$26,858 to Helping Hands. Many people will enjoy the benefits of our Cruise 'n Barbecue for some time to come.

## Missions

On behalf of the staff and Board of *Sola Publishing*, thank you for your gift of \$357.11. You have blessed our hearts with your support of our ministry to provide solid, biblical resources for use in preaching and teaching God's word. Because of your gifts, we are able to keep the cost of our materials low for those churches struggling to keep their ministries viable.

We are deeply thankful for your gracious gift.

Yours in Christ,  
Pastor Steven King,  
Managing Editor

A warm greeting to you, and thanks for your recent \$249.98 donation to *Focus on the Family*. We are encouraged to know that you are partnering with us in this important work.

One thing is certain: we couldn't do what we do without the help of faithful friends like you. Thanks again for everything. May God's grace and peace be yours in the days to come.

Sincerely,  
Jim Daly  
President

Your contribution has made such a meaningful difference in the lives of those we serve. Thank you for your kindness and generosity, and thank you for the donations of \$249.98 in May, and \$232.16 in June to our food pantry. Your continued support has been a blessing.

Your donation shows that you truly care about our cause and the work we do. Words cannot express how much your donation means to us.

Sincerely,  
Linda Austin, Director  
*Organ Lutheran Church*  
*Pantry/Outreach Program*

## Missions

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 (allocated to help Mark and Julia Wilhelm with mission travel expenses) of \$560 on June 1, 2024, 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 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 \$232.16 to the ministry of *Samaritan's Purse*. Your gifts and prayers help to equip us to respond to disasters at home and abroad, all in Jesus' name. Thank you and God bless you.

Sincerely,  
Franklin Graham, President

Thank you for your generous donation of 232.16. Through your support of *Radical*, we can see the nations reached for the glory of Jesus' name, together. We are grateful to God for you.

The Radical Team

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.

Matthew 28:19-20

## Helping Hands

Helping Hands is a ministry of St. Paul's that operates with discretion and privacy. It exists to help our church members when unexpected financial needs arise. The committee also considers needs of non-members who have been referred to the committee by a member of St. Paul's.

Anyone in need should *not* contact the pastor. He does not make these decisions. All decisions are made by the committee.

The church secretary keeps application forms in the office. Come by to fill out your application and it will be forwarded to the committee for consideration.

The Helping Hands Committee is anonymous. They act on applications quickly, usually in just a few days. That said, sometimes it can take a week or more for everyone's schedules to allow a meeting.

Our annual Cruise'n Barbecue is the major funding for Helping Hands. However, many members also make special offerings for this ministry throughout the year. If you would like to contribute, make sure your check memo line or the blue offering envelope notes: "Helping Hands."

## Shelter Donations

Organ Lutheran Church is meeting the needs of more than 100 families in East Rowan who have a difficult time getting down to Rowan Helping Ministries. St. Paul's and other local Lutheran churches are helping them meet the needs of these neighbors.

If you wish to donate to the shelter, you may bring non-perishable food items to the church and place them in the same plastic receptacles we have been using. Our property brothers will make sure it gets over to Organ Lutheran Church.

**Please do not bring clothing donations to St. Paul's**—carry those straight to the shelter at Organ. It would be wise to call ahead to let them know you will be coming over. The church office number is 704-279-3096.



# 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](mailto:secretary@stpaulslutheran.church)

Website: [StPaulsLutheran.Church](http://StPaulsLutheran.Church)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC](http://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](mailto:pastor@stpaulslutheran.church)

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary  
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Alison Moore, Girl Scout Coordinator, 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](http://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.