



The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 69, Issue 8 • August 2023



Ice Cream Social Sunday, August 27 • 5:30PM

Everyone is invited to bring homemade ice cream (or store-bought if you don't have a freezer/maker) for this year's social. Please come and enjoy the ice cream and fellowship in our picnic shelter.

This year, we will sing Vespers together too. Vespers is the service of Evening Prayer Song that is sung in the parsonage each Sunday evening.

Sundays in August

- Sunday School each week at 9:30am
- Worship Service each week at 10:30am
- Vespers at the parsonage—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm are also live-streamed on our Facebook page.
- August 6 – Rally Sunday– invite a friend to church
- August 6 – Breakfast before Sunday School, 8:30am
- August 6 – Grace Ridenhour, ladies parlor, following worship
- August 13 – Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- August 20 – Finance Committee, 9am
- August 27 – Ice Cream Social, 5:30pm

Mondays

- August 7 – Hama Lingle Circle, 6:30pm
- August 21 – Council meeting, 6:30pm
- August 21 – Newsletter articles due this week
- August 28 – Lutheran Men, 6:30pm

Tuesdays

- Adult confirmation class will meet on August 15th, at 6pm, and each Tuesday after, unless otherwise announced.
- August 8 – Bonnie Bost Circle, 7pm
- August 8 – Executive Committee, 7pm

Wednesdays

- Adult Choir practice each week at 6:30pm
- August 2 – Ellen Bumgarner Circle, 10am

Thursdays

- Bible Study, to be announced when HVAC repairs are finished.

Lutheran Women Circle Meetings

Ellen Bumgarner – Wednesday, August 2, at 10am

Grace Ridenhour – Sunday, August 6, after worship in the parlor

Hama Lingle – Monday, August 7, at 6:30pm

Bonnie Bost – Tuesday, August 8, at 7pm

Kathy Ketchie – No meeting in August

Melissa Lura – To be determined



RALLY SUNDAY

AUGUST 6TH

Breakfast at 8:30am

Bring a friend for breakfast
in the fellowship hall.

We're serving biscuits,
ham biscuits, sausage biscuits,
Krispy Kreme donuts,
coffee, and orange juice.

Sunday School at 9:30am

Stay where you are
in the fellowship hall
for music from our Sunday School kids,
as well as awards and
advancement to new classes.

Friendship Club Day-Trips

The trip planned for August 15th, to Beckley, West Virginia, has been cancelled due to lack of interest.

The group is still going to The Orchard at Altapass on September 19th. The cost is \$35.00 per person, with lunch on your own. Please contact Helen Gordon (704-636-5002) as soon as possible if you wish to join them.

Blood Drive—Monday, August 14, 2023

The next blood drive at our church will be Monday, August 14th, from 1:30pm – 6:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Thanks to all who have donated in the past to make St. Paul's the most productive donation site for One Blood (our collection agency) in Rowan County. Our goal at each of our four blood drives is 35 units, and that average has been achieved since selecting One Blood as our collection agency five years ago.

In order to maintain that goal, the church needs 40-45 donors to register because 15% – 20% of our potential donors are deferred for various reasons—low hemoglobin, high blood pressure, medication issues, etc.

Our church is fortunate to have tremendous support from the local community; in fact, over half of the donors are not members of our church. Walk-ins (donors with no appointment time) help cover those who are scheduled but do not show up for a scheduled appointment. Those who are willing to do “double rbc” donations also help the church meet its goal.

If you have donated within the past year, you will be receiving an appointment the last week in July that can be changed to fit your schedule. Please consider being a donor at our next blood drive on Monday, August 14th. Each donation can help up to three people in need of a transfusion. If you are not on our donor list and would like to schedule an appointment, please contact Alice Davis at 704-855-4930, or pherford1@yahoo.com.

Rowan Helping Ministries—Thank you to all who continue to donate food items to RHM. For needs and volunteer information, visit their website at www.rowanhelpingministries.org.

After-School Program for Faith Academy Charter School

Our Monday-only Afterschool Program starts back up in August. As long as our volunteers from last year are willing to come back, or others want to volunteer, we can keep the program going. Volunteers last school year were Gina Barringer, Louise Eller, Libby Bingham, Lisa Monroe, Dana Bost, Terri Powlas, Ben and Susan Bernhardt, Larry and Tricia Clark, and Pastor Ryman, our ring leader. The commitment is for about 2 hours on Mondays from 1:00–3:00.

The kids get off the bus at the church around 1:00, and their parents pick them up at 3:00. We provide Bible Study, outside time, craft time, and of course, snack time. Please let me know if you are interested in volunteering again this year so I can make plans with FACS to continue this program. Contact Susan Bernhardt (704-637-0155), srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com.

2023 College Scholarships—This year, the Sadie & Hollie Ritchie Scholarship was awarded to Lauren Whisnant. The Brown-Heilig Scholarship was awarded to Henry Barringer.

The Blanche & Hubert Ritchie Foundation awarded scholarships to four recipients—Emma Amos, Luke Barringer, Savannah Charles, & Chloe Lombard.

With no applicants this year for the two ministry scholarships, the Dave & Pearl Honbarger, and the St. Paul's Ministerial Scholarships were both awarded to St. Paul Lutheran Seminary. Congratulations to all our recipients.

Income and Expenses for June, 2023

Income: \$34,945 • Expenses: \$51,294

Income < Expense for June: −\$16,349

YTD June 30: Income < Expenses: −\$3,251

July income/expense report will be in the September Newsletter.

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 (routing/account number.)

Thank you for all the prayers, and cards, and for the visits from Pastor Ryman during my illness. I have in-home therapy, and am improving.

Sarah Goodman

Thanks to Pastor Ryman and St. Paul's Church family for prayers, cards, and phone calls at the time of our sister, Peggy Hall's death.

Jimmy Deal

Thank you for the cards, phone calls, etc., during my sister, Peggy Hall's illness and death.

Sincerely,
Linda Beaver

I want to tell you how truly blessed I feel to have such an amazing church family as you. Thank you so much for all the cards, texts, calls, visits, food and especially prayers. Your love and support got me through what was a challenging surgery and recovery. I know the Lord has been there every step of the way. He sent you to show the true love of God. Thank you for being there.

Love to all of you!
Terri Powlas

Thank you for awarding me the Sadie and Hollie Ritchie Scholarship. I am very appreciative to receive this gift in order to further my education at UNC Charlotte. I'm so blessed to have such a loving and supportive church family. Thank you for the continued support and prayers you have given me!

Love,
Lauren Whisnant

Oh!

Give thanks
to the LORD,
for he is good,
for his steadfast love
endures forever.

Psalms 107:1

The Lord be with you! I'm writing to personally and sincerely express my gratefulness for your very generous, recent offering to our ministry.

The blessings of relationships and community, courage and compassion are why we exist and engage. Thank you not only for making it possible, but also for embodying it.

May the Lord continue to make our words and our work fruitful, and God bless your gospel-motivated voice for life. As always, please let us know how we may serve further!

In truth and love,
Pastor Michael Salemink
Executive Director,
Lutherans for Life

Thank you for your partnership and generous stewardship gift of \$2,081 toward our Gospel-motivated, life-affirming ministry. Your fellowship and uplifting encouragement are a blessing and an honor to receive, and we are humbled by your support.

In truth and love,
David Probst,
Development Director
Lutherans for Life

Focus on the Family has received your generous \$179.23 donation to our Christ-centered, family-oriented outreach. We're deeply grateful for your partnership in this work.

Sincerely,
Jim Daly, President

Thank you for your gifts totaling \$473.68 given to the Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund during the months of May and June 2023. Your church is such a faithful, generous supporter of our mission. We are grateful to you for your help. May God bless you for your concern for others.

Pam Koranda
Financial Assistant

Thank you for your generous donation of \$251.62. 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

On behalf of the staff and board of Sola Publishing, thank you for your gift of \$94.10. 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. We are deeply thankful for your gracious gift.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Steve King, Managing Editor

We thank you for your partnership. Because of you, we can continue to reach spiritual orphans in former communist countries with the hope of the gospel. Your gifts (\$660 and \$175) are 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. Thank you for your support, and being part of the generation of faith helping to connect spiritual orphans to the global family of Christ.

In his service,
Pastor David Breidebach
SON Executive Director

We thank you for your continued support each month that you give to Naomi's Heart Mission. We thank Fod for this church and the love and desire to walk beside us as we serve a great and mighty God.

So happy to see VBS pictures on Facebook, and praise God it was so successful. Thank you all again for your love and desire to support Naomi's Heart Mission.

Blessings,
Kristie Ward, Founder

St. Paul's Outreach Committee stuffed 47 flood buckets without the AC working. Thanks to Ben Bernhardt for sealing the buckets, which were then delivered to St. John's Lutheran Church in Statesville, where they are housed until needed for flood victims.

Many thanks to the congregation for supporting this project by collecting items, or giving monetary donations. The buckets were paid for out of the Outreach Committee budget. Members of the committee finished getting items that were needed after the donations from the congregation were used. If you see an orange bucket on the news from flooded areas, who knows? It might have come from St. Paul's. A small help in time of need.

*The Lord is good, a refuge in times of trouble.
He cares for those who trust in him.*

Nahum 1:7

Memorial Gifts

A gift was received in memory of Brenda Thomason for the Capital Building Fund from
Crystal and Dana Bost

Gifts were received in memory of Peggy Deal Hall for the Capital Building Fund from
Linda and Jerry Beaver
Susan and Ben Bernhardt
Crystal and Dana Bost
Jean and Jimmie Deal
Karen and Tim Deal
Myra Jane and Terry Eller
Cindy and Frank Hinson
Johnsie and Wayne Taylor

Gifts were received in memory of Jim Bass for the Capital Building Fund from
Susan and Ben Bernhardt
Lori and Perry Bernhardt
Crystal and Dana Bost
Alice Davis
Helen Gordon
Cindy and Frank Hinson
Bonnie and Wayne Hinson
Judi and D.W. Honbarger
Johnsie and Wayne Taylor

Gifts were received in memory of Harriet Gordon Goad for the Capital Building Fund from
Lori and Perry Bernhardt
Carolyn and John Canup
Patsy Everhart
Johnsie and Wayne Taylor
Ruth and Johnny Webb

Gifts were received in memory of Linda Lyerly for the Capital Building Fund from
Amy, Eric, Henry
and Sara Barringer
Gladys B. Beaver
Susan and Ben Bernhardt
Lori and Perry Bernhardt
Crystal and Dana Bost
Wilbur Canup
Virginia Cope
Alice Davis
Karen and Tim Deal
Jenny and Grady Earnhardt
Myra Jane and Terry Eller
Patsy Everhart
Brenda and Rodney Fulk
Helen Gordon
Linda and Mike Herring
Cindy and Frank Hinson
Bonnie and Wayne Hinson
Judi and D. W. Honbarger
Susan and Kevin Marion
Barbara McBride
Kay Moody
Gaynelle Morgan
Phyllis and Paul Peeler
Neighbors of Linda
Terri and Alan Powlas
Jerry Ritchie
Jeanne and Tony Shaver
Sam and Jean Peeler Sloop
Alma and Ray Stancil
Johnsie and Wayne Taylor
Charles Wilhelm
Kathy and Hugh Wilhelm
Paul Wilhelm
Nancy and Vaughn Wilhelm

A gift was received in memory
of Linda Lyerly for the
Improvement Fund from
Jane and Wayne Wilhelm

Gifts to Honor

A gift was received in honor
of Terri Powlas for the Capital
Building Fund from
The Bonnie Bost Circle

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



*We extend our love, prayers, and
sympathy to Brenda Bass and
family on the death of Brenda's
husband, Jim Bass. Mr. Bass died
Sunday, July 2, 2023.*

*Family and friends will gather in
Jim's memory on August 5th, in
Princeton, West Virginia.*



*We extend our love and sympathy
to Michelle Orbison and family
on the death of Michelle's
mother, Brenda Thomason. Ms.
Thomason died Tuesday, July 18,
2023. Please keep Michelle and
her family in prayer.*

◆
**The
right
-eous
finds
refuge
in
his
death**

Proverbs 14:32





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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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). 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.