



The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 69, Issue 11 • November 2023

Larry and Tricia Clark, as well as Susan and Pastor Ryman, were your lay and pastoral delegates to the Lutheran Churches in Mission for Christ (LCMC) Annual Gathering and Convention in St. Charles, Missouri, early in October.

If you were present for the October meeting of St. Paul's Friendship Club, you will have noted how conscientiously they did what Council asked of them. They have decided on four missions and ministry partners for our 2024 children's missionary offerings: The Department of Lutheran Studies at Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary in Charlotte, Lutheran Military Veterans and Families, Lutherans for Life, and St. Paul Lutheran Seminary.

Larry has been checking the LCMC website daily to see when videos of the speakers are placed on the site. Moments before dictating this article, he let me know that they are now online. There are ten videos, and Larry recommends you watch them all. I recommend to you especially, the first and the last messages of the week, the first, a message by Sarah Carlstrom, and the last, a message by Julie Smith. Sarah's is about the boat we find ourselves in as the American Church, and specifically, the LCMC. Julie's is about why the LCMC is formed the way it is, and why it should stay that way. The address for all 10 videos is <https://subsplash.com/lcmc/media/ms/+dg5fst>.

See you in church!

Pastor Ryman



Come on!
Ol' Timey Stew
Saturday
November 4th
6:00 – 8:00pm

Binns-Counts Christmas

The collection of toys and gifts for children will continue until Sunday, November 19th. Boxes are in the narthex and next to the conference room. If you want to help, but don't want to shop, you may give a donation through the church offering. Please note on your envelope "Binns-Counts Christmas."

Friendship Club

The Friendship Club will meet **November 21st, at 10:30am**, in the Fellowship Hall. Johnny Lombard will present a program on fraud. There will be a covered dish meal after the presentation. Everyone is invited. Come and learn ways on how to avoid and deal with this all too often situation.



DONATE BLOOD

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Monday, Nov. 13

1:30-6:00PM

All donors receive*:

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

*Fact: The average human heart pumps
2000 gallons of blood each day.*



Appointments are encouraged, please
visit oneblood.org/donate-now and
use **sponsor code 55685**

Donors
Receive



- PLUS -



- PLUS -



Because of all the major disasters in 2023, blood supplies have been at a low level, and continue to dwindle.

If you gave blood at our August drive, you will receive an appointment for the November drive during the last week of October. If you have not given blood recently, or have never been a donor, please consider helping the church reach its goal in November. Your blood donation can help up to three recipients.

St. Paul's contact person is Alice Davis, 704-855-4930 or pherford1@yahoo.com. *ID is required.*

Sundays in November

- Sunday School, each week at 9:30am
- Kid's Christmas Program practice, each Sunday, 9:30am
- Worship Service, each week at 10:30am
- Youth group meets each Sunday at 4pm
- Men's Choir practice, each Sunday at 4pm
- Hand Bell practice, each Sunday at 5pm
- Vespers at the Parsonage—fellowship at 6pm; prayer at 6:30pm
- November 5–All Saints Sunday
- November 5–Breakfast in the fellowship hall, 8:30am
- November 5–Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- November 5–The **Annual Altar Guild** meeting is at 3pm in the conference room.
- November 5–Kathy Ketchie Circle, 4pm
- November 12–Annual Congregational Meeting, 10:30am
- November 19–Christmas Concert practice, 1pm–5pm
- November 19–Autumn Care worship service, 2pm

Mondays

- Faith Academy after-school program, Mondays, 1–3pm
- November 6–Hama Lingle Circle, 7pm
- November 6–Outreach Committee, 6pm
- November 20–Council meeting, 6:30pm
- November 27–Lutheran Men's meeting, 6:30pm

Tuesdays

- Adult confirmation class meets Tuesdays, 6pm
- Girl Scouts meet each Tuesday, 6:45pm
- November 7–Extension Club, 1pm
- November 7–Grace Ridenhour Circle, 6:30pm
- November 14–Bonnie Bost, 7pm
- November 14–Friendship Club, 10:30am
- November 14–Staff meeting, 5pm

Wednesdays

- Adult Choir practice, Wednesdays, 6:30pm
- Youth Confirmation, Wednesdays, 7:30pm
- November 1–Ellen Bumgarner Circle, 10am

Thursdays

- Bible Study, each week at 10am and 6pm
- November 23–Thanksgiving Day, Church office closed

Fridays

- November 17–Fellowship hall reserved
- November 24–Church office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

Saturdays

- November 4–Ol' Timey Stew, picnic shelter, 6pm
- November 18–Church facilities reserved, Lyerly wedding

Lutheran Women Circle Meetings

Ellen Bumgarner–Wednesday, November 1, 10am

Kathy Ketchie–Sunday, November 5, 4pm

Hama Lingle–Monday, November 6, 7pm

Grace Ridenhour–Tuesday, November 7, 6:30pm

Bonnie Bost–Tuesday, November 14, 7pm

Melissa Lura–To be determined

Decorating the Church for Advent

Volunteers are needed to assist in decorating for the Advent Season. The tree and all other **decorations will be placed on Saturday, December 2nd, at 9:00am.** Decorations will be removed on Saturday, January 6th, 2024, at 9:00am. Check your calendar for both dates and call Bonnie Hinson at 704-279-3126 or email her at lwaynehinson@yahoo.com if you'd like to help.

Luminaries will be placed around the front lawn by the Youth and Family Committee beginning at 10am. You may sponsor a luminary in honor or in memory of a loved one for any amount. Funds will go to St. Paul's youth group.

Poinsettias will be placed in the church December 23rd. If you would like to purchase a poinsettia, they will be \$13 each. **The deadline to order a poinsettia is Sunday, December 3rd.**

Order forms for both are in the narthex. A booklet of luminaries and poinsettias will be available on Christmas Eve. *(Gifts in lieu of poinsettias will not be printed.)*

Let Us Rebuild

Find the 25 **bold** words from Nehemiah 2:17–20a.

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

Then I said to them, “You see the **state** we are in, how **Jerusalem** **lies in waste** and its **gates burned** with **fire**. Come, let us **rebuild** the **wall** of Jerusalem so we are a reproach no longer.” And I told them of the **hand** of my **God** that was upon me for **good**, as well as the king’s words that he had spoken to me. And they said, “Let us **rise** up and rebuild.” So they strengthened their **hands** for the good **work**. But when Sanballat the Horonite, and Tobiah the servant, the Ammonite, and Geshem the Arabian, heard it, they **mocked** us, and **looked down** on us, and said, “What is this thing that you are doing? Will you **rebel** against the **king**?” Then I briefly answered them, saying, “The God of **heaven** will **prosper** us; therefore we his **servants** will **arise** and **rebuild**.”

★ December 16, 2023 ★

National Wreaths Across America Day



Help Girl Scout Troop 743 honor local heroes!

Sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a Veteran's grave this December at Salisbury National Cemetery Annex.

Scan the QR code to make a donation online or visit www.wreathsasscrossamerica.org/NC0277



Wreaths will be placed in the National Cemetery at the VA Hospital on December 16th. Each wreath is \$17. Money may be put in an envelope in the offering plate (be sure to mark on the envelope "wreaths") or given directly to Nicole Amos.

All money needs to be to Nicole by November 27th.

Join Us in Our Mission

Remember ★ Honor ★ Teach



Through your support and prayers, you have demonstrated the love of Jesus Christ to countless spiritual orphans left after three generations of communist imposed scientific atheism. Thank you for being part of the family of SON. We praise God for your witness to people in Albania, Belarus, Estonia, Ethiopia, Latvia, Russia, Slovakia, Ukraine, and beyond.

In His Service,
Pr. David & Angela Breidenbach
Spiritual Orphans Network

Thank you for your gift [\$288.63] to the ministry of Samaritan's Purse. We praise God for the resources and volunteers that enable us to reach people quickly when disaster strikes. In the wake of storms in the U. S. and around the globe, your gifts and prayers help us share the Gospel and show people that "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore, we will not fear" (Psalm 46:1-2.) Thank you, and God bless you.

Sincerely,
Franklin Graham, President

On behalf of the staff and board of Sola Publishing, thank you for your gift of \$122.63. 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 Steve King, Managing Editor

Thank you for your gracious \$233.57 gift. We deeply appreciate this demonstration of love and support for the mission to which God has called us. We hope you realize how much we appreciate everything you do. Grace and peace to you!

Sincerely,
Jim Daly, President
Focus on the Family

Thank you for your gifts totaling \$400.65 given to the Lutheran Disaster Assistance Fund during the months of July and August 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 \$327.90. Through your support of Radical, we can see the nations reached for the glory of Jesus' name. We are grateful to God for you.

The Radical Team

St. Paul's Helping Hands

The goal of the St. Paul's Helping Hands Committee is to fairly and confidentially assist those who really need help, and to guide them appropriately to agencies experienced in handling a variety of needs. Going forward, the Helping Hands Committee will focus our efforts on the needs of St. Paul's members and referrals from St. Paul's members. To be considered, please complete the Helping Hands Application which is available on St. Paul's website, StPaulsLutheran.Church.

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

Income for September, 2023

Income: \$34,416

Year-to-Date Income as of September 30: \$329,404

October income report will be in the December Epistle.

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.)

Memorials Gifts

A gift was received in memory of Haynes Shirley for the Carillon Fund from Karen and Tim Deal

Gifts were received in memory of Haynes Shirley for the Helping Hands Fund from Myra Jane and Terry Eller Dot and Harold Goodman

Gifts were received in memory of Haynes Shirley for the General Fund from David Chilson Kim and Teresa Cress Sarah Goodman Virginia Long Betty Monroe Earl and Debbie Parris Shirlene Potts and Brian

Gifts were received in memory of Haynes Shirley for the Capital Building Fund from Perry and Lori Bernhardt Dana and Crystal Bost Alice Davis Jenny and Grady Earnhardt Helen Gordon Judi and DW Honbarger Bob and Jan McCanless Bonnie and Wayne Hinson Cindy and Frank Hinson Kay Moody Jeanne and Tony Shaver Sue Young

Gifts were received in memory of Haynes Shirley for the Improvement Fund from Wilbur Canup Wayne and Jane Wilhelm

A gift was received in memory of Dott Abernethy for the Capital Building Fund from Johnsie and Wayne Taylor

A gift was received in memory of Louise Cornelison for the Capital Building Fund from Johnsie and Wayne Taylor

Gifts were received in memory of Chuck Hess for the Capital Building Fund from Jenny and Grady Earnhardt Cindy and Frank Hinson Johnsie and Wayne Taylor

A gift was received in memory of Beth Kalbfus for the Capital Building Fund from Johnsie and Wayne Taylor

A gift was received in memory of Barbara Thomason for the Capital Building Fund from Johnsie and Wayne Taylor

Condolences

We extend our love and sympathy to Linda Shirley and family on the death of Robert Haynes Shirley, who died October 13, 2023. Please keep Linda and the family in your prayers.

In Honor of...

A gift was received in honor of Susan and Pastor Mark Ryman's 46th wedding anniversary for the General fund from

Sarah Goodman

A gift was received in honor of Susan and Pastor Mark Ryman's 46th wedding anniversary for the Capital Building Fund from

Vaughn and Nancy Wilhelm

A gift was received in honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Judi and D. W. Honbarger to the General Fund from

Susan and Ben Bernhardt

A gift was received in honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Judi and D. W. Honbarger to the Carillon Fund from

Karen and Tim Deal

Gifts were received in honor of the 60th wedding anniversary of Judi and D. W. Honbarger to the Capital Building Fund from Sybil Athey and Vicki Sanders
Lori and Perry Bernhardt

Alice Davis

Sarah Goodman

Bonnie and Wayne Hinson

Thank you

As a lifetime member at St. Paul's, I've had over 80 years to realize what a caring and loving group of people I'm privileged to be among. I want to sincerely thank everyone for the cards, calls, visits, and especially the prayers during my recent hospitalization and time in rehab. In short, our Mission Statement says it all, and I look forward to being back with you!

Yours in Christ,
Vaughn Wilhelm

The past twelve months have been difficult for our family, Mark and I losing three sisters in that time. You have been so kind to remember all of them with gifts to the church. We are grateful to God and to you. Most recently, your memorial gifts in my sister Beth's name have helped me through this difficult time. I am blessed to be among the folks of St. Paul's.

Grace and Peace,
Susan Ryman



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

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

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary
secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

Perry Bernhardt, Council President
perryhbernhardt@gmail.com

John Brock, Music Director
splcmusicalisbury@gmail.com

Johnsie Taylor, Organist
jtaylor783@aol.com

Judy Lowman, Treasurer
jlowman1@carolina.rr.com

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.