

The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Volume 68, Issue 2 • February 2022

As I type, Lent is fast approaching. Ash Wednesday is a little more than a month away (March 2nd). So, I want to let you know what will be happening during Lent, as well as on Easter Sunday, this year.

The Lutheran Men will sponsor a Shrove Tuesday Pancake and Sausage supper at 6:00pm on March 1st. The following evening is Ash Wednesday. There will be no meal, as it is a traditional day of fasting in the churches. There will, however, be “The Service of Evening Prayer” at 7:00pm (*Lutheran Book of Worship*, page 142). Our choir will perform a beautiful number that they are practicing especially for that Ash Wednesday service.

Then, each Wednesday following Ash Wednesday until Holy Week, we will have a soup and sandwich supper at 6:00pm. There will be no desserts, as it is Lent. Following the meals, we will sing “The Service of Evening Prayer” in the sanctuary. Various pastors, including your own, from five Lutheran churches in the area will preach or teach during those services.

During Holy Week, there will be no midweek meal or service. However, we will hold traditional Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services at 7:00pm.

On Easter Sunday, a sunrise service will be held in the burial grounds at 7:00am. Following the sunrise service, a breakfast will be served in the fellowship hall. There will be no Sunday School so that you may enjoy the time with each other over breakfast.

Our 10:30am Easter service will feature Holy Communion, an anthem from our choir, and a musical sermon by our organist, Connie Burleson, and myself. This sermon will be very different than anything you have heard before, dramatizing the Easter story through music and Bible narration.

I think we have a full Lent and Easter Sunday lined up for you. I hope you will take advantage of every opportunity for fellowship and worship. The full schedule is within this *Epistle*. Additionally, a Lenten daily devotional booklet will be available for you late in the month of February.

See you in church,
Pastor Ryman

Biscuits & Beverages will be available in the fellowship hall at **8:30am on February 6th**. Be sure to stop in and enjoy breakfast before Sunday School.

Upcoming Events

- Breakfast before Sunday School, Feb. 6th, 8:30am
- Acolyte/Crucifer Training, Sun., Feb. 6th, 3pm
- Youth & Family Committee, Sun., Feb. 6th, 3pm
- Men's Choir, Sundays, 3pm (*note time change*)
- Handbell practice, Sundays, 4pm
- Girl Scouts, Tuesdays at 6:45pm
- Adult Choir, Wednesdays, 6:30pm
- Confirmation Class, Wednesdays, 7:30pm
- Thursday Bible Study at 10am and 6pm
- Vespers at the Parsonage *each Sunday* – finger foods at 6pm,
Vespers at 6:30pm will also be livestreamed to our facebook page.

Men's Choir will begin meeting at **3pm** on Sundays. We are hoping this will be a more convenient time. If you would like to sing in the Men's Choir, please come.

Acolyte/Crucifer Training for youth currently in 4th grade and up will be February 6th at 3pm. Please contact Bethany Whisnant at 704-640-2402 if your child will be attending this training.

The Lutheran Men's monthly meeting will be Monday, February 28th, at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall. There will be a meal, followed by a presentation/program and fellowship. All men are welcome and encouraged to come.

Lutheran Women's News

Kathy Ketchie Circle is responsible for sending cards to shut-ins in February.

Grace Ridenhour Circle meets Tuesday, Feb. 1, at 6:30pm.

Ellen Bumgarner Circle meets Wednesday, Feb. 2, at 9:30am.

Kathy Ketchie Circle meets Sunday, Feb. 6, at 5:00pm.

Hama Lingle Circle meets Monday, Feb. 7, 7:00pm.

Bonnie Bost Circle meets Tuesday, Feb. 8, at 7:00pm.

Melissa Lura Circle meets Monday, Feb. 14, at 6:30pm (pending).

Planning Underway for St. Paul's Cruise 'n Barbecue 2022

The Cruise 'n Barbecue Steering Committee would like to do St. Paul's Cruise 'n Barbecue in some form, as scheduled, on April 30th this year.

Realizing that Covid concerns may affect some folks' availability to help this year, and that the number of volunteers will determine the scope of event we can have, we need to "get the cart before the horse" to determine volunteer availability before we start planning.

Please pick up a volunteer survey sheet from the church narthex and review the list of areas where help is needed. Please indicate **all** areas in which you would be willing to help, and be sure your name is on the form. Specific assignments will be determined as plans develop, and the date approaches. If you are unavailable, it will help in our planning to know that also.

Please return the survey sheet to Tim Deal, or to the church office by February 6th, so we may move forward with planning. Thank you!,

Income and Expenses for December 2021

Income: \$53,713 Expenses: \$35,227

Income over Expense for December: \$18,486

Income over Expense for the year: \$32,473

Capital Building Fund as of December 31: \$199,454

January income/expenses will be in the March Newsletter.

We are collecting blankets for disaster relief.

**Please bring blankets by February 20th
and deposit them in the box in the narthex.**

Special Gifts

Gifts were received in memory of Carole
Chilson for the General Fund from

Alan and Donna Lyerly
Dan and Glenna Sears
Ken, Bethany, Lauren, and
Lindsey Whisnant
Phillip and Sherri Whitesell

A gift was received in memory of Carole
Chilson for the Choir Fund from
Wayne and Jaudon Cline

Gifts were received in memory of Carole
Chilson for the Helping Hands Fund from
Jerry and Linda Beaver
Dana and Crystal Bost
Harold and Dot Goodman
Chuck and Linda Hess
Wayne and Jane Wilhelm

Gifts were received in memory of Carole
Chilson for the Capital Building Fund from
Ben and Susan Bernhardt
Perry and Lori Bernhardt
Alice Davis
Tim and Karen Deal
Grady and Jenny Earnhardt
Helen Gordon
Bonnie and Wayne Hinson
Jeff and Linda Miller
Nancy Powell

Gifts were received in memory of Kay
Wilhelm for the Capital Building Fund from
Perry and Lori Bernhardt
Alice Davis
Tim and Karen Deal
Helen Gordon
Wayne and Bonnie Hinson

A gift was received in memory of Kay
Wilhelm for the Sunday School Department
from
Hugh and Kathy Wilhelm

Gifts were received in memory of Kay
Wilhelm for the Helping Hands Fund from
Jackie Allen
Jerry and Linda Beaver
Ben and Susan Bernhardt
Donnie and Pamela Burris
Dana and Crystal Bost
Keith and Summer Deal
Grady and Jenny Earnhardt
Gail Fowler
Alan and Donna Lyerly
Mark and Libby McLean
Jeff and Linda Miller
Elizabeth and Brandon Morgan
John and Alice Weddington
Ken, Bethany, Lauren, and
Lindsey Whisnant
Brandon and Dana Wilhelm
Wayne and Jane Wilhelm

Gifts were received in memory of Jackie
Sherrill for the Capital Building Fund from
Perry and Lori Bernhardt
Tim and Karen Deal
Irene Miller
Hugh and Kathy Wilhelm

A gift was received in memory of Jackie
Sherrill for the helping Hands fund Fund
from
Dana and Crystal Bost

A gift was received in memory of Richard
Reese (brother of George Reese) for the
Capital Building Fund from
Tim and Karen Deal

A gift was received in memory of Dorothy Bingham for the Capital Building Fund from

Perry and Lori Bernhardt

A gift was received in honor of Karen and Tim Deal for the Helping Hands Fund from Dottie Stancil

Our sympathy is extended to the family of Karen Wilhelm, who died Monday, January 10, 2022. Please keep Paul and all of Karen's family in prayer.

Our sympathy is also extended to the family of Carole Chilson who died Tuesday, January 11, 2022. Please remember David and all of Carole's family in prayer.

Our sympathy is extended to George Reese and family on the death of George's brother, Richard Reese. Mr. Reese died on Friday, January 21, 2022. Please keep the Reese family in prayer.

Our sympathy is extended to the family of D.W. and Judi Honbarger. Their daughter-in-law, Talena, wife of Byron Honbarger, died Thursday, January 27, 2022, in Taylors, SC. Please keep the Honbarger family in your prayers.

- Find the last names of all the pastors in the Lenten rotation.
- What's for breakfast the first Sunday of the month?
- Which choir changed praactice time?
- What is the next season in the church year?
- What is our fellowship meal the night before Ash Wednesday?
- What two groups are training this month?
- Was giving under or over expenses in 2021?
- What drive is coming up February 21st?
- What services take place in the parsonage?
- What are we collecting this month?

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

The family of Carole Chilson wishes to thank those who participated in her memorial service: Rev. Mark Ryman, Connie Burleson, John Brock, Susan Bernhardt, Lindsey Whisnant, Perry Bernhardt, and Larry Clark. Thank you to all those who prepared our delicious meal, and also to Kay Moody and Phillip Redding for delivery and set up. Thank you to all who called, texted, sent cards, brought food to the house, and greeted us in person.

I wish to thank one and all for the outpouring of love and sympathy you have extended to me and my family. I'm so blessed to have so many friends and caring fellow members here at St. Paul's. From the bottom of my heart, thank you!

Christ's peace,
David Chilson

The Outreach Committee is proud to report that 19 of our church members participated in the Binns-Counts Christmas 2021. St. Paul's donated 374 gifts, and our grand total was 676 items. 575 children were served in a drive-through event.

It is exciting to note that 24 of our youth and 13 adults have visited the center in the past 7 years. With the help of our members, St. Paul's has made a tremendous difference in the lives of the people of Dickenson County, VA. Mary White, director of Binns-Counts, send her most sincere thanks and love to us all.

Lent & Easter Schedule

Shrove Tuesday	1-Mar	6pm	
Ash Wednesday	2-Mar	7pm	
Supper and the Word	9-Mar	6 & 7pm	Pr. Ryman, St. Paul's
Supper and the Word	16-Mar	6 & 7pm	Pr. Ramey, Trinity
Supper and the Word	23-Mar	6 & 7pm	Pr. Rister, Salem
Supper and the Word	30-Mar	6 & 7pm	Pr. Brittain, Organ
Supper and the Word	6-Apr	6 & 7pm	Pr. Reed, Concordia
Maundy Thursday Service	14-Apr	7pm	
Good Friday Service	15-Apr	7pm	
Sunrise ServiceService	17-Apr	7am	
Breakfast	17-Apr	9am	
Easter Service	17-Apr	10:30am	

2021 Blood Drives

Thanks to all who donated blood at the 2021 blood drives held by our church. A total of 160 units were collected at the four drives, for an average of 40 units/driver. Thirty-four persons donated one time, 24 donated twice, 14 donated three times, and 6 donated four times during the year. While the numbers are impressive, the total collected for the year is the smallest since the church affiliated with the OneBlood company five years ago.

The church is in need of more donors. Only 14 members donated at the November drive. While community support has been tremendous, support from church members should be the basis for each drive. Many of our members are now deferred because of health problems and/or medication issues, and need to be replaced if we are to keep our average of 35-40 units of blood collected at each drive.

Blood levels at all blood banks are at the lowest level ever. One unit of blood can be used for three different transfusions. The red blood cell component helps those with low hemoglobin levels, such as anemia. The plasma component helps booster blood volume, and contains antibodies that fight disease, such as the monoclonal antibodies used for Covid-19 patients. The platelet component helps those with clotting disorders, such as hemophilia and cancer.

If you are not on the St. Paul's donor list, please consider giving at **our first drive of 2022 on Monday, February 21st, in the fellowship hall, from 2:00pm – 6:30pm.** Contact Alice Davis at 704-855-4930 or pherford1@yahoo.com. Schedules for previous donors will be sent the first two weeks of February.

Alice Davis

Inclement Weather Procedures

If there is inclement weather on the weekend, Pastor Ryman will always offer worship services as they are scheduled. If you are willing and able to come safely, please do. If you are unsure about driving or walking into the church, please do not put yourself at risk. Stay home.

Please keep in mind that the church parking lot and walkways may not be totally clear of snow and ice. Our Property Committee will work hard to make the walkways and parking lot safe.

If there is inclement weather during the week, we typically follow the judgment of the Rowan County School System on road conditions. If they close schools, then church activities and events will be cancelled. Notifications will be posted on our website.

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 ~ Fax: 704-636-1300

Email: splchurch@att.net

Website: www.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. Mark Ryman, Pastor

revryman@gmail.com

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary

splchurch@att.net

Judy Lowman, Treasurer

jlowman1@carolina.rr.com

George Barringer, Council President

gsbarringer@carolina.rr.com

Connie Burleson, Organist

connieburleson@yahoo.com

John Brock, Music Director

splcmusicalsisbury@gmail.com

Alison Moore, Girl Scouts 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.