



# The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 68, Issue 5 • May 2022

Many things appealed to me about the possibility of being the pastor at St. Paul's. Yet, there were three things that formed a new horizon, or focal point, something to shoot for and look forward to because of the call process that went on here in late 2020. In order of importance to me were the call of an Associate Pastor, the Accessibility Plan, and the Cruise 'n Barbeque. Those three things were an attraction for me to St. Paul's because they told me that this congregation cared about her members—including her pastor, and the possibility of his burnout—was forward thinking, and was community minded.

It is now a year and a half since my first meeting with the Call Committee, and one of those three things is about to materialize. The Ryman, including young Wyclif, are about to experience their first St. Paul's Cruise 'n Barbeque. By the time you see this issue of *The Monthly Epistle*, the 2020 Cruise 'n Barbeque event will be in the history books. But the benefits of the Cruise 'n Barbeque will just be getting started.

Proceeds from the event go to the St. Paul's Helping Hands Committee, primarily working with financial needs of our members—but also reaching beyond to legitimate needs that cannot be met by Rowan Helping Ministries (which is supported by St. Paul's in the amount of just under \$16,000/yr.). Since being called your pastor, I have met a number of times with the Helping Hands committee to discuss the needs of our members and to vote on dispensing funds to meet those and other needs. In those meetings, I have also heard of many others who have benefitted from the committee's assistance, and therefore, from Cruise 'n Barbeques of the past.

While I am excited to see the church in action through the 2020 Cruise 'n Barbeque, I also look forward to us starting a search for our Associate Pastor, as well as starting the fundraising component of the Accessibility Plan. Both play a prominent role in the future of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.

See you in church,  
Pastor Ryman

**Biscuits & Beverages** will be available in the fellowship hall at **8:30am on May 1st**. Be sure to stop in and enjoy breakfast before Sunday School.

### **Events & Activities**

#### **Sunday:**

- May 1, Scholarship application deadline
- May 1, Breakfast in the fellowship hall, 8:30am
- May 1, Youth pizza and practice for youth Sunday, 12:30-3pm
- May 1, Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- May 1, Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- May 1, Handbell practice, 4pm
- May 1, Vespers—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm, also live-streamed to St. Paul's Facebook page
- May 8, Mothers' Day
- May 15, Youth Sunday
- May 15, No Men's Choir or Handbell practice
- May 22, Worship & Music Committee, 1:30pm
- May 22, Outreach Committee, 2:30pm
- May 22, Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- May 22, Handbell practice, 4pm
- May 29, Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- May 29, Handbell practice, 4pm

#### **Monday:**

- May 9, Blood Drive, fellowship hall, 2-6:30pm
- May 16, Church Council, 6:30pm
- May 23, Lutheran Men, 6:30pm
- May 30, church office is closed for Memorial Day

#### **Wednesday:**

- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm

#### **Thursday:**

- Watch for updates on when Bible Study classes will restart. This will largely depend on pastors recovery time.

**The Lutheran Men** will meet Monday, May 23, 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.

*Congratulations to Matt and Lauren Holland on the birth of a daughter,  
Sawyer Kate. Sawyer was born April 12, 2022.*

*We welcome into our church family Doris and Jerry Hilliard,  
and Wanda and Raymond Kubitz, who joined St. Paul's on Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022.*

## **Scholarship Applications Due May 1**

Scholarship applications for the 2022-23 school year are for members of St. Paul's who will be going to college in the fall. There are three for higher learning, two for those who plan to enter into full-time ministry, and one for those pursuing a music degree. Applications are available in the narthex, or from the church office.  
*All applications need to be in no later than May 1.*

## **Volunteers Needed Mondays, After-School Care**

There is a need for after-school care on Mondays for Faith Academy Charter students. The school dismisses at 1:00 on Mondays for teacher meetings. Those that ride the buses to Grace Academy, Happy Farms, and First Baptist Church are already taken care of. Most of the students don't have a problem with the early release, but we would like to help the ones who do. The Outreach Committee wants to offer an after-school care on Mondays from 1:00-3:00pm. Pastor Ryman would like to do some form of Bible School program, maybe some music, games and light snack. He wants to be there for the program, but will need someone else to be there with him for back-up if he cannot make it.

With enough volunteers, you may only have to volunteer one Monday a month from 1:00-3:00pm. One of the FAC buses stops in St. Paul's parking lot, so that is how the students would get here. Once we see that we have enough volunteers, we can finalize plans with FAC for the 2022-2023 year. Let's invite these strangers in our doors and see what God has in store for them and us.

Contact Susan Bernhardt at 704-637-0155, or [srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com](mailto:srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com).

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat,  
I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,  
I was a stranger and you invited me in..."*

(Matthew 25:35)

## **Lutheran Women's News**

*Grace Ridenhour Circle is responsible for sending cards to shut-ins in May.*

**Kathy Ketchie Circle** meets Sunday, May 1, 5pm

**Hama Lingle Circle** meets Monday, May 2, 7:00pm

**Grace Ridenhour Circle** meets Tuesday, May 3, at 6:30pm at the church.

**Ellen Bumgarner Circle** meets Wednesday, May 4, at 10am in the parlor.

**Melissa Lura Circle** meets Monday, May 9, at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall.

**Bonnie Bost Circle** meets Tuesday, May 10, at 7:00pm

## **Blood Drive, Monday, May 9th**

Please mark your calendar for the next blood drive at St. Paul's Lutheran Church on Monday, May 9th, from 2:00pm – 6:30pm, in the fellowship hall. Our goal again is 35 units, and although the church has met its goal at each drive, it is because of those who give "double red blood cells," which count as two units each. Thirty-five units of whole blood would be ideal since whole blood can be used to transfuse up to three different recipients, whereas double red blood cell donations can help only one individual.

The church has fewer and fewer members registering to donate. I am sure there are more than 19 members of our church that are eligible donors. Community support has been tremendous, and helps our church to be the leading donation site in Rowan County for OneBlood.

If you plan to donate, be sure to eat lunch and drink plenty of water before coming to register. If you have been deferred because of low hemoglobin (this causes over 90% of deferrals), begin taking over the counter iron supplements or eat green, leafy vegetables (kale, spinach), dried fruit (raisins are great), and/or eat liver (this may not be your favorite, but apparently it is for our pastor).

Encourage others to register to donate. Our church needs new donors all the time to replace those who are no longer able to give because of health or medication issues. Anyone who has donated within the past year will be receiving a scheduled appointment the last week of April. Others can contact Alice Davis at 704-855-4930 or pherford1@yahoo.com).

Alice Davis

## **Rowan Helping Ministries**

Volunteers delivered 40 lbs. of food items to RHM in April. Bins are located at the conference room entrance and in the narthex. Canned and other dry goods are always appreciated at RHM for the food pantry.

## **Spiritual Orphans Network**

Rev. Mark and Julia Wilhelm have partnered with Spiritual Orphans Network (SON) for their 2022 English Language Bible Camp, and Life and Adventure Camps. Mark is the son of Vaughn and Nancy Wilhelm, and grew up at St. Paul's. They, along with several other members of West County Lutheran Church in Manchester Missouri, the congregation where Mark serves as pastor, will be traveling to Latvia and Estonia, June 2-20. The first week of their trip will be devoted to a VBS-style Bible camp for elementary-aged students in Strikí, Latvia.

During the second week, a portion of their team will travel north to neighboring Estonia to lead a Life and Adventure Camp geared for teen-aged students. They have requested that St. Paul's offer them prayer support as well as consider helping them with the expenses of the trip, which is about \$6,000. If you would like to contribute, you can do so by indicating SON (Mark and Julia Wilhelm) on your offering envelope.

## **High School Fire Academy for High School Seniors during the 2022-2023 school year**

Rowan-Cabarrus Community College in Salisbury is offering *NC Department of Insurance Firefighter Certification*, and *NC Office of Emergency Medical Services, Emergency Medical Responder Certification* class.

The class is at no cost to the student. All equipment is provided. Courses will be fall and spring of your senior year, school days only.

As a NC Certified Firefighter/Emergency Medical Responder, you could become a member of the Volunteer Fire Department or become employed within fire services or Emergency Medical Services (EMS). NC Firefighter certification also serves as a prerequisite for specialized and higher-level training within the fire service.

If you are interested in this opportunity, information is posted at entrances of the church on the bulletin boards. Copies of the flyer are available from the church office.

### **Income and Expenses for March 2022**

Income: \$36,529 • Expenses: \$26,054

Income over Expense for March: \$10,475

Income over Expense YTD: \$21,505

**Capital Building Fund** as of March 31: \$215,027

April income/expenses will be in the June Newsletter.

## ***Memorial Gifts***

A gift was received in memory of Carole Chilson for the Choir Fund from  
Jim and Caren Canup  
Mark and Diane Peoples

Gifts were received in memory of Ray Beattie for the General Fund from  
South Salisbury Fire Dept.

A gift was received in memory of Zelia Padgett's birthday for the Capital Building Fund  
from  
Denise P. and Daniel Foutz

A gift was received in memory of Rev. Floyd and Bonnie Bost for the General Fund from  
Jim and Caren Canup

## ***Honor Gifts***

A gift was received in honor of Wilbur Canup for the Improvement Fund from  
Jim and Caren Canup

A gift was received in honor of Terri Powlas for the Helping Hands Fund from  
Dana and Crystal Bost

A gift was received in honor of Susan Bernhardt for the Helping Hands Fund from  
Dana and Crystal Bost

A gift was received in honor of Helen Gordon for the Helping Hands Fund from  
Dottie Stancil

A gift was received in honor of Dottie Stancil for the General Fund from an anonymous  
donor. Dottie is always keeping members of St. Paul's in her thoughts. Thank you Dottie.

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 email list, or to the mailing list, please contact the church office.

# It Is the Lord!

*Find the 38 **bold** words from John 21:4–8, 12 (ESV)*

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

Just as **day** was **breaking**, **Jesus stood** on the **shore**; yet the **disciples** did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, “Children, do you have any **fish**?” They answered him, “No.” He said to them, “**Cast the net** on the **right side** of the **boat**, and **you will find some**.” So they cast it, and now they were **not able** to **haul** it in, because of the **quantity** of fish. That disciple whom Jesus **loved** therefore said to **Peter**, “It is the Lord!” When **Simon** Peter **heard** that it was the Lord, he put on his **outer garment**, for he was **stripped** for **work**, and **threw himself** into the **sea**. The other disciples came in the boat, **dragging** the net full of fish, for they were not far from the **land**, but about a hundred yards off. ... Now **none** of the disciples **dared ask** him, “Who are you?” They **knew** it was the **Lord**.



# **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: [splchurch@att.net](mailto:splchurch@att.net)

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. Mark Ryman, Pastor

[revryman@gmail.com](mailto:revryman@gmail.com)

Pamela Cottingham, Secretary

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