



The Monthly Epistle

of St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Volume 68, Issue 6 • June 2022

Finally! My first chance at a VBS since I have been here. Last year we held two Day Camps and they were well-attended. But there is nothing like a themed Vacation Bible School. Our theme this year is “Outlaws for God.” The three-day event, July 22–24, will focus on the lives of three of God’s outlaws, men on the run for right.

Friday evening will be about Moses and how he was on the run from the authorities in Egypt. Saturday, our VBSers will wear their best Western duds, get their photos taken at the hitchin’ post, see some horses, and learn about John the Baptist, who was harassed by the Pharisees, and on the run from King Herod. Later in the day, following a hearty lunch at our chuck wagon, the focus will turn to John the Baptist meeting Jesus, God’s ultimate outlaw, who was on the run for the ultimate good: that we may be counted right with God through faith in him.

Sunday
VBSers
anthem
worship
sporting
(with the
bandanas, enjoy
wagon, and spend the afternoon
event will end with a family ice cream feast, a memory verse challenge, and special recognitions and prizes.



**JULY
22-24**

**VBS
2022**

OUTLAWS FOR GOD
St. Paul's Lutheran Church

morning, our
will sing the
during
while
their t-shirts
above logo) and
lunch at the chuck

learning more about Jesus. The

Look for more news about “Outlaws for God” on the church website and in bulletins and emails. Information about how to register children for VBS will soon be available.

See you in church,
Pastor Ryman

The church office will be closed Monday, May 30th, for Memorial Day.

June Calendar—online at <https://stpaulslutheran.church/church-calendar>

Sundays:

- June 5, Breakfast in the fellowship hall, 8:30am
- June 5, Confirmation Sunday
- June 5, Christian Education Committee, 2pm
- June 5, Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- June 5, Handbell practice, 4pm
- June 5, Kathy Ketchie Circle, 5pm
- ***No Vespers June 5. Instead, at 4pm, Leslie Ryman, pastor's sister, will be in the parsonage.*** She would like to meet those who sent her cards during her illness.
- June 12, Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- June 12, Handbell practice, 4pm
- June 12, Vespers—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm, also live-streamed to St. Paul's Facebook page
- June 19, Fathers' Day
- June 19, Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- June 19, Handbell practice, 4pm
- June 19, Vespers—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm, also live-streamed to St. Paul's Facebook page
- June 26, Men's Choir practice, 3pm
- June 26, Handbell practice, 4pm
- June 26, Vespers—finger foods at 6pm; Vespers at 6:30pm, also live-streamed to St. Paul's Facebook page

Mondays:

- June 6, Hama Lingle Circle, 6pm
- June 13, Melissa Lura Circle, 6:30pm
- June 20, Council, 6:30pm
- June 27, Lutheran Men, 6:30pm

Tuesdays:

- June 7, Extension Club, fellowship hall, 1pm
- June 7, Grace Ridenhour Circle, 6:30pm
- June 14, Bonnie Bost Circle, 7pm
- June 14, Executive Committee, 7pm

Wednesdays:

- June 1, Ellen Bumgarner Circle, 10am
- Each week, Adult Choir Practice, 6:30pm

Reception for Pastor Ryman

Please join us to honor
Rev. Dr. Mark Ryman
with a reception for earning his
Doctor of Ministry in Stewardship of the Word
from St. Paul Lutheran Seminary.

**Saturday, June 4, 2022, 3pm–5pm,
in the church fellowship hall**

Refreshments will be served following the program.
*The reception will begin with a special program at 3pm,
so you may want to arrive a few minutes early.*

Biscuits & Beverages will be available in the fellowship hall at **8:30am on June 5th**. Be sure to stop in and enjoy breakfast before Sunday School.

The Extension Club invites anyone who would like to learn how to make the crafts for the Fall Bazaar to a workshop in the fellowship hall on **Tuesday, June 7, at 1pm**.

The **Adult Confirmation** classes that were scheduled to start in June have been postponed. Pastor Ryman needs to recover from his May 16 surgery before beginning the classes. Watch for information later this summer.

Girl Scout Silver Award

Sara Barringer is currently working on her Silver Award in Girl Scouts. She is a member here at St. Paul's Troop 743.

Sara is collecting new and gently used kitchen ware items (pots, pans, cooking utensils, silverware, plates, measuring cups, spoons, towels, potholders, etc.). She is collecting the items to be donated to Binns-Counts.

The Binns-Counts community is in need of these items, which will be used to help families in the area who have suffered loss due to fires. **There is a box in the narthex marked Sara Barringer/Binns-Counts for items to be placed.**

Cruise 'n Barbecue Wrap-up - 2022

The tenth St. Paul's Cruise 'n Barbecue proved to be exceptional in every way!

First of all, we have to give thanks to God for a perfect day, weather-wise. Given the 40-50% chance of rain forecasted just a couple of days earlier – to say we were blessed is an understatement. Our primary objective in all that we do is to honor and glorify Him, and once again the St. Paul's family came together to show the community how God's love lives within our congregation.

A record number of 154 registrations were received for the cruise-in and there were 29 outstanding raffle prizes – just another reason so many comments were heard during and after the event that St. Paul's is one of the most enjoyable to be found anywhere. The 1500 Port-a-Pit dinners were sold out by 1 'o clock. The fact that parking spilled over to fill up the large field across the road, behind and around the parsonage speaks to the number of people who attended. After expenses, around \$17,000 will go to the Helping Hands Fund to assist people with chronic or acute needs throughout the year.

Making this year's Cruise 'n Barbecue even more special was that St. Paul's Outreach Committee used this as an opportunity for our congregation to recognize emergency services workers, with the theme "Honoring Those Who Keep Us Safe". Complimentary dinner tickets and St. Paul's gift packets were delivered to area organizations to show our appreciation for the jobs these folks do both professionally and on a volunteer basis every day for our benefit.

Thank you to everyone who helped make this special day possible! May we use this as a reminder of what we can do as a congregation when we, both collectively and individually, make ourselves available to do His work to "Go and make disciples" (Mark 28: 18).

Dear St. Paul's,

Some of you know that my surgery for prostate cancer was apparently not 100% successful. The treatments I take are holding it in check, but we felt like it would be best to change Cruise 'n Barbecue coordinators now rather than waiting until it might become a necessity. I appreciate Susan Ryman assuming that role going forward.

I'll continue to help in any way possible, and want to thank everyone who has demonstrated God's love by helping with St. Paul's Cruise 'n Barbbeques.

I can't imagine anyone going through life without the love and support of a church family like St. Paul's.

Tim Deal

Thank you to everyone who sent cards, texts, emails, expressed concerns on Facebook, prayed, stopped by, brought food, and otherwise expressed your love for a stiff-necked pastor. At least, that's what Wilbur Canup called me.

I just have to keep the cervical collar on for another month, and we'll be beyond this blip on the radar. Thanks be to God.

Pastor Ryman

Pastor and Church,

On behalf of myself and the members of Granite Quarry Fire Dept., we want to thank you for your generosity of the Port-a-Pit ticket donation to our FD members.

We strive to always serve our community and those around us. We wish you the best with the event and if we can ever be of service, please let me know.

Sincerely,
Chief Jason Hord, GQFD

Dear St. Paul's Family

Thank you for your calls, visits, and prayers during my recent surgery and recovery. I have been grateful to witness the love, compassion, and support from my church family.

Cindy Hinson



Dear St. Paul's:

Thank you for your recent donations to Naomi's Heart Mission. We are truly blessed by your generosity and love for the mission work we are doing.

It is a blessing having you walk beside as we serve the Lord – because of you all, we can.

Love in Christ
Blessings,
Kristie
Founder of Naomi's Heart

Congratulations to Matthew and Dani Cottingham on the birth of a daughter, Ceylah Eirian. Ceylah was born Tuesday, May 24, 2022.

Gifts in memory, and in honor of

A gift was received in memory of Helen Wagoner through the Cruise 'n Barbecue fundraiser for the Helping Hands Fund from
Becky Sifford

A gift was received in memory of Jacob Castor for the Helping Hands Fund from
Sunday School Class #5

A gift was received in memory of Jacob Castor for the Capital Improvement Fund from
Dana and Crystal Bost

A gift was received in memory of Jacob Castor for the General Fund from
Shirlene Potts and Brian Potts

A gift was received in honor of all Moms on Mothers' Day from an anonymous donor.

A gift was received in honor of Tim Deal for the Capital Building Fund from
Ben and Susan Bernhardt

A gift was received in honor of Shiela Barringer for the Helping Hands Fund from
Ellen Bumgarner Circle

Please keep in your prayers the family of Larry and Leilani Watson, on the death of their great-grandson, Jacob Castor, and the death of Larry's brother, Terry Watson. Jacob was killed in an accident on April 30th, 2022. Terry passed away on May 13, 2022.

Please keep in prayer Linda Behrendt and family on the death of Linda's husband, Bill. Mr. Behrendt passed away Sunday, May 22, 2022.

Congratulations to St. Paul's Graduating High School Seniors

Henry Barringer, North Hills Christian School

Chloe Lombard, West Rowan High School

Samuel Pepper, Jesse Carson High School

Lauren Whisnant, East Rowan High School

Your church family wishes you well, and will keep you in prayer going forward.

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 April 2022

Income: \$34,773 • Expenses: \$25,193

Income over Expense for April: \$9,580

Income over Expense YTD: \$31,086

Capital Building Fund as of April 30: \$216,297

May income/expenses will be in the July Newsletter.

The Lutheran Men will meet Monday, June 26, 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

Bonnie Bost Circle is responsible for sending cards to shut-ins in June.

Ellen Bumgarner Circle meets Wednesday, June 1, 10am

Kathy Ketchie Circle meets Sunday, June 5, 5pm

Hama Lingle Circle meets Monday, June 6, 6:00pm

Grace Ridenhour Circle meets Tuesday, June 7, 6:30pm

Melissa Lura Circle meets Monday, June 13, 6:30pm

Bonnie Bost Circle meets Tuesday, June 14, 7:00pm

May Blood Drive

Thanks to all who came to register at the May 9th blood drive at our church. A total of 38 donors registered, and even though five were deferred (the least number ever), our goal of 35 units was met because two donors gave "double red blood cells," which count as two units. Even though nine scheduled donors did not show, 10 "walk-ins" (those with no appointment times) helped the church reach its goal.

Because of medication or health issues, the church donor list continues to decrease. Seven new donors came to the May drive which will help keep our donor base in the 80-90 person range. 26 donors (who gave at least one time a year), have been removed from the donor list over the past three years. That is why our church is in constant need of new donors.

Community support has been the success to our blood drives. Of the 38 persons who registered to donate in May, only 15 were church members (19 in February, 2022, and 14 in November, 2021). I am sure there are more church members who are eligible to support this worthy program. If you are not on the church donor list, please consider helping the church meet its goal at the August 8th and November 14th blood drives.

Alice Davis

2022 Yearbooks

Copies of the 2022 St. Paul's Yearbook & Directory are available at each entrance of the sanctuary. If there are any errors in your contact information, please call or email the church office. Corrections will be made for the next yearbook.

Christian Education Committee

Vacation Bible School—VBS will be a three-day event this year (July 22-24), entitled “Outlaws for God”. We will be studying Moses, John the Baptist, and Jesus. More details will be available in the near future. Volunteers and teachers will be needed. Please contact Ben Bernhardt or a member of the Christian Education Committee to volunteer.

Sunday School Rally Day, August 7, 2022—The Christian Education Committee is working to get our Sunday School program back in full swing following the pandemic.

Classes for children will be pre-K, K-2, 3-5, middle school, and high school. There will be a new young adult class starting in the near future with Spencer Newsome as teacher. All classes will be using material from Sola/Seed that is available online and is teacher and student friendly. Our goal is to team-teach these classes so that volunteers teach only once or twice per month. Pastor Ryman will meet with teachers on July 17, at 2:00pm to demonstrate how easy this material is to teach. Please contact Ben Bernhardt or Christian Education Committee members to volunteer.

*Having noisy children in the church
is a far better sound than
the sound of having
no children in the church.*

Stephen Ministry

We're a little over a year now, being a Stephen Ministry church, and the program is very successful. We have members of St. Paul's being given Christian care on a regular basis, and they are responding quite happily to their Lay Ministers.

In response to our pleas, we will have another equipping series of classes beginning at summers end, and I would like to invite you to join us. We have some wonderful folks in line to be the next group of commissioned lay ministers.

If you are empathetic, can offer Christian care, prayer, and hand-holding, please prayerfully consider joining our group. Becoming a Stephen Minister is a life-altering experience, and will greatly enrich your spiritual life, as well as the life of the person you serve.

As good as Pastor Ryman is, he cannot be everywhere for everybody all the time. This is a meaningful adjunct to ordained ministry, and a great addition to the life of our congregation.

See Jan, or speak to one of our Stephen Ministers about adding your name to our class roll in August.

Blessings,
Jan

Rowan Helping Ministries

Bins for donating RHM items are located in the church narthex and at the conference room entrance.

Crisis assistance food pantry needs: Jelly, pasta sauce, tomato sauce, canned fruits, vegetables, and soups (also, low sodium options), breakfast cereals, grits

Homeless street outreach needs: Beef jerky, protien bars, crackers

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.

That You May Believe

*Find the 30 **bold** words from John 14:25–29 (ESV)*

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

These things I have **spoken** to you while I am still with you. But the **Helper**, the **Holy Spirit**, whom the **Father** will **send** in my **name**, he will **teach** you **all things** and **bring** to your **remembrance** all that I have said to you. **Peace** I **leave** with you; my peace I **give** to you. Not as the **world** gives do I give to you. Let not your **hearts** be **troubled**, neither let them be **afraid**. You **heard** me say to you, “I am **going away**, and I will **come** to you.” If you **loved** me, you would have **rejoiced**, because I am going to the Father, for the Father is **greater** than I. And now I have told you **before** it takes place, so that when it does take place **you may believe**.



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

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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