

## Paradise Corner

On the Saturday after Ash Wednesday, I had the honor of representing the Northern Lehigh Mission District at a Mission Support Symposium held at the Lutheran Center in Allentown. Pastor Barry Mitchell, who serves as our dean, was not able to attend and asked me to fill in for him. The purpose, as far as I could tell, was for a representative from the ELCA to remind us of the ways we are connected to one another in using our hands to do God's work.



By way of background, let me explain that the ELCA speaks of three “expressions” of the church. These are the congregation, the synod, and the churchwide expressions. They all mirror one another. For example, the highest legislative authority in a congregation is a congregation meeting. This is where spending plans are adopted, pastors are called, and property is bought and sold. It is not practical for a congregation to meet for business more than once or twice a year. So, the congregation meeting elects a Congregation Council to do the business of the congregation between congregation meetings. The synod follows an identical pattern. The highest legislative authority in the synod is the annual synod assembly. This is where spending plans are adopted, bishops are elected, etc. It is not practical for a synod to meet for business more than once per year. So, the synod assembly elects a Synod Council to do the business of the synod between assemblies. The churchwide organization operates the same way except that there is more time between meetings of both the Churchwide Assembly and Church Council.

These are all interconnected. Mission Support (what used to be called “benevolence” or, much longer ago, “apportionment”) from congregations, gets shared with synods, which gets shared with the churchwide organization. The challenge faced by most members, is that it is hard to see beyond our own congregation. Support documents provided in advance of the Saturday symposium quoted an insight from the Mainline Evangelism Project (2002–2006) which said, “People love their congregations...far more than they love God.” Wow. That hit me right between the eyes.

Lent—the season of the church year we will be in for just about the entire month of March—is an invitation—from God, through the church—to consider how we express our love of God and neighbor. And—if we pay close attention to the traditional disciplines of Lent—which are prayer, fasting, and sacrificial giving—then we can imagine those as ways to love God through loving our neighbors. That, of course, brings us back to the importance of all those expressions of the church: the congregation, the synod, and the churchwide. Just as a congregation allows us to do more together than we could do alone—and we support that through our giving. Likewise, the synod and churchwide expressions allow congregations to do more together than they could do alone.

So, let's try to say it this way: mission is about supporting one another and supporting one another is about sharing and sharing is how we express our love for God. That is an expression of the church I believe we can all not only agree with but also celebrate.

Pastor Scott Paradise

## St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

417 Howertown Road  
Catasauqua, Pennsylvania 18032  
www.stpaulscatasauqua.com  
Email: stpaulschurch@rcn.com  
Phone: 610-264-3221 Fax: 610-264-5732  
Child Care: 610-264-0190

### Sunday Worship Schedule

8:00 am: Holy Communion  
10:30 am: Holy Communion

### Church Office Hours

Monday through Friday: 9:00am-3:00pm

### Sunday School

9:00 am

### Child Care Center

Monday through Friday 7:00am-5:30pm

### Church Staff:

Pastor: The Rev. Scott J. Paradise  
Pastor Emeritus: The Rev. Dr. Hartland Gifford  
Director of Music: Christine Paradise  
Office Administrator: Lori Adams  
Treasurer: Paul Peters  
Financial Secretary: Debbie Stewart  
Child Care Director: Debra Hessinger  
Child Care Assistant Director: Amanda Fritz  
Sunday School Supt.: Denise Reiner  
Sexton: Robert Crogan

### 2017-2018 Congregation Council

Debbie Frey	June Hahn
Bob Bastian	Paula Kesack
Cindy Schaller	Robin Ruch
Len Witt	

**All active St. Paul members:** in order to keep your membership up-to-date, please remember to complete and return a Holy Communion card (at least once a year) as a record of your Communion. Cards are located in the pews and completed card can be placed in the offering plate. Also, please remember to use your offering envelopes or put your envelope number on your offering checks as a record of your giving. If you haven't had offering envelopes assigned to you, please contact the church office.

If you would prefer to receive the monthly *Epistle* via email, please contact the church office.

## Happening at St. Paul's



### Child Care Center News

The month of March has arrived and that means preparing for St. Patrick's Day and Easter! We start out the month wearing our red, black, and white for Dr. Seuss Day on Friday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>. The classrooms will make crafts and the teachers will read some of their favorite Dr. Seuss stories to the children. The rest of the month everyone will be busy decorating the hallways for St. Patrick's Day and Easter. The children will sing songs about marching leprechauns and green shamrocks. The halls and bulletin boards will be filled with different types of festive crafts like pots of gold, Easter baskets full of eggs, and bunnies. On the 16<sup>th</sup> we will wear our Irish smiles and our favorite green shirt. The last week of March we will celebrate with an Easter party and all of the classrooms will have Easter egg hunts and dye eggs. We will all hope for warmer weather so we can get outside and play.



Happy St. Patrick's Day & Easter!

Debbie Hessinger & Amanda Fritz  
Child Care Director & Assistant Child Care Director

March 2018  
Choir Practices Thursday  
7:00 PM in the choir room

3/1, 3/8 & 3/22

### Gift Card & Cash Bingo Sunday, March 11, 2:00 PM in Fellowship Hall

Doors open at 12:30 PM

Food and beverages available for purchase.

20 games for \$20.00

Special drawing for Pine's Dinner

Theatre tickets:

\$2.00 for 1 ticket

\$5.00 for 3 tickets



### Soup & Study for Lent Wednesday's at 6:00 PM

Join us for Soup and Study during the Wednesdays of Lent. We will gather in Fellowship Hall at Saint Paul's for a simple soup supper, a brief service of prayer, and a time of learning about various different religions in our community. Each evening would wrap up at about 8:00 PM.

This is an activity we are doing together with our friends at Holy Trinity Memorial

St. Paul's Fundraising Committee  
is having a cash 50/50 drawing on  
Sunday, March 25 after the

10:30 AM service.

\$2.00 for 1 ticket

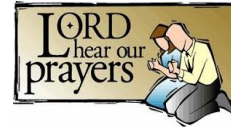
\$5.00 for 3 tickets





**Hospital Visits:** If you or someone you know is admitted to the hospital or rehabilitation facility, it is very important to notify the church as soon as possible. You can do this by either calling the church office directly or inform the hospital upon admittance that you are a member of St. Paul's and they will list you under our Pastoral Code 312.

**Please keep in your prayers this month:** Rená Ackerman, John Bechtold, Linda Dunkel and her mother Frances [friends of Keri Burrows], Jill Hersh, Robert Kulp, Jr., LeeAnn Miller, Joanne Mooney, Erin Priest and baby [daughter of Pat Gerber}, Carolyn Schleicher, and Janet Searfass.



Saint Paul's is pleased to announce the introduction of an electronic option for making regular offerings. Contributions can now be debited automatically from your checking or savings account. Our new electronic giving program offers **convenience** for you and much-needed donation **consistency** for our congregation.

If you are currently giving on a weekly basis, you will no longer need to write out 52 checks a year or prepare 52 envelopes. (This is also safer than carrying cash to church.) You can also set up a different frequency (monthly, biweekly, etc.) if you give according to such a schedule. And, when travel, illness or other circumstances prevent you from attending services, this program will allow your weekly offerings to continue on an uninterrupted basis.

You would still be able to participate in the collection of the offering if you desire. Write "I give electronically" on the outside of an envelope and place it in the offering plate, or contact the church office to request "I give electronically" cards to drop in the offering plate.

These secure donation services, which Saint Paul's is receiving without the normal start-up fees for the first year, are provided by Vanco Services, LLC. Vanco processes electronic donations for thousands of churches and nonprofit organizations.

To learn more, please contact the church office (stpaulschurch@rcn.com or 610.264.3221) or go to our website (www.stpaulscatasauqua.com) for the link to register.

### April Epistle

**Last day to submit items: Friday, March 16**  
**Epistle Volunteers: Friday, March 23.**

If you would like to put an article or announcement in our newsletter, please email your articles to stpaulschurch@rcn.com. You can also get our *Epistle* newsletter by email (just call the church office). Don't forget to check out Saint Paul's Facebook page and our website: [www.stpaulscatasauqua.com](http://www.stpaulscatasauqua.com).



### Catasauqua Food Bank Needs:

Canned Soup, Fruit & Vegetables. Cereal, Spaghetti noodles, Spaghetti sauce, Rice & Noodle Mixes, Fruit cups, and Juice Boxes. Drop off your donations in the shopping basket in the church narthex.

**Miller Keystone Blood Center** is always in need of all blood types. ! Thank You to **JoAnn Staller** for her faithful donations!



Bring in your used **printer and fax machine cartridges!** We trade them in and receive a Staple s store credit of \$2 for every print cartridge.

### St. Paul's is part of Daku's Auto Body Shop's Give Back Program

Every time one of our members has work done on their vehicle they just have to ask to have 1% of the total bill donated to St. Paul's.

Daku's Auto Body Shop  
1135 Howertown Road,  
Catasauqua, PA 18032

# Serving

## Assisting Ministers for March 2018

Date	Lector	Acolytes	Communion Assistants	Altar Guild
3/4/2018	9:00 AM Debbie Frey	9:00 AM Tiffany Crogan	9:00 AM Lew Heller Pat Gerber	9:00 AM Pat Gerber
3/11/2018 Girl Scout Sunday	10:30 AM Girl Scouts	8:00 AM Amanda Mathis 10:30 AM Girl Scouts	8:00 AM Robert Bastian Len Witt 10:30 AM Robin Ruch	8:00 AM Debbie Stewart 10:30 AM Robin Ruch
3/18/2018	10:30 AM n/a	8:00 AM Mason Forstoffer 10:30 AM Ty Reitz	8:00 AM Robert Bastian Al Renn 10:30 AM Cindy Schaller	8:00 AM Robin Ruch 10:30 AM Betty Rabenold
3/25/2018 Palm Sunday	10:30 AM Meg Weinhofer	8:00 AM Alexis Rushatz 10:30 AM Stephanie Crogan	8:00 AM Lew Heller 10:30 AM Pauls Kesack Laurie Perna	8:00 AM Pat Gerber 10:30 AM Donna Williams

### Assisting Ministers for Lent service

3/29/2018 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday	Lector Betty Rabenold	Acolyte Christian Fye	Communion Assistant Robert Bastian
3/30/2018 7:00 PM Good Friday	Lector Joanne Spengler	Acolyte n/a	

### Saint Paul's Worship Committee is Looking for Volunteers

**Communion Assistants:** No experience is needed, training will be provided. .Contact Bob Bastian at 610 266-4287.

**Lectors:** are needed for our Sunday 8:00 AM, 10:30 AM services and special holiday services. Contact: Judy Donchez at 610-746-9283.

**Altar Guild:** The flexible schedule allows you to sign up for either service. Participants are paired to accommodate for unforeseen circumstances. No experience is necessary and training will take place at your convenience.

### Altar and Flower Dedications at Saint Paul's

Honor a loved one, give thanks for an anniversary or accomplishment, or commemorate a loved one's birthday or death by sponsoring flowers for our altar or by sponsoring our church bulletins. If you would like to celebrate in this way, please fill out an Altar Flower and/or Bulletin Dedication form along with payment of \$40/\$15 & submit to church office. Dedication forms are in the narthex. .

## Order Your Flowers Now

If you would like to honor or remember a loved one and help decorate the church for Easter, order your Easter flowers by filling out this form and submit with it your payment.

This year we are offering the following flowers:

**Azaleas - Daffodils - Hyacinths – Lilies - Tulips**

This Dedication is

**In Memory of:**

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**AND/OR**

**In Honor of:** \_\_\_\_\_

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This Dedication is  
from: \_\_\_\_\_

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<u>Flowers</u>	<u>Size</u>	<u>Qty</u>	<u>Total</u>
Azaleas	Medium	____ x \$12.00	_____
Daffodils	Large	____ x \$12.50	_____
Hyacinths	Medium	____ x \$11.50	_____
Lilies	Small	____ x \$10.00	_____
Tulips	Small	____ x \$ 8.00	_____
<b>Total Amount Enclosed: \$</b>			_____

Please make checks payable to *St. Paul's Lutheran Church*.

If you have any questions, please contact the church office at 610.264.3221.

**The last day to order flowers is March 18, 2018**

*Please note....The flowers are beautiful. It is most helpful to us if the flowers stay through the 10:30 AM service.*



## ST. PAUL'S HICKORY GROVE FLOWER/PLANT SALE ORDER FORM COST PER VOUCHER: \$19.00

Each ticket entitles the bearer to **one (1) tray** (12-4 packs or 6-6 packs mix & match) of bedding flowers or vegetables **OR one (1) 10-inch \$18.99** hanging flower basket. ***Ticket is not valid on other items.*** Tickets must be redeemed from **May 1 through May 27, 2018** at Hickory Grove Greenhouse, 1096 Milton Street, Catasauqua, PA 18032.

Tickets can be purchased at the church office Monday-Friday, 9:00 AM-3:00 PM or after church services on Sundays.

***Ticket sale ends April 15, 2018***

### Saint Paul's Committee and Volunteer Leaders

- Acolyte Coordinator: Bob Bastian
- Altar Guild: Needed
- Child Care Committee: Len Witt
- Christian Education: Denise Reiner
- Communion Assistants: Bob Bastian
- Epistle: Needed
- Eucharistic Ministry: Lew Heller
- Evangelism/Witness: Paula Kesack
- Finance Committee: Len Witt
- Fundraising Committee: Bob Bastian
- Greeter Coordinator: Bob Bastian
- Lector Coordinator: Judy Donchez
- Memorials: Betty MacHose
- Mutual Ministry: Denise Reiner
- Prayer Chain: Joanne Spengler
- Property Committee: Bob Bastian
- Scouts: Robin Ruch
- Social Ministry: June Hahn
- Stewardship: Lew Heller
- Worship /Music Committee: Needed



## EUCCHARISTIC MINISTRY UPDATE

The Eucharistic Ministry program of St. Paul's has four teams of two St. Paul's members who are trained to go out to our shut-ins, hospitalized and homebound members to give them Holy Communion several times a year filling in for the pastor. As our aging membership gets to the point of being home bound etc. there is a need for our Eucharistic Ministry along with the pastor to go to their homes or personal care facilities to administer Holy Communion.

The Eucharistic Ministry program is in need of four volunteers to be trained and be assigned church members in need of our services. This does not require a lot of time, as you are the person who along with your team member can accomplish several times a year. You will find this to be one of the most rewarding experiences you ever had being a Lutheran.

Please consider this as an invitation to help make you more understanding of the work of our Lord here at St. Paul's church by talking to Pastor Scott or any team member. You will be glad you did. Team members include Robert Bastian and Helene Sterner, June Hahn and Judy Gebhardt, Sonny and Audrey Heil and Lew and Kathy Heller.

Respectfully,  
Robert Bastian,  
Eucharistic Team Member

### March Birthdays



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Cole Derhammer	3/1
Edwin Hillegass Jr.	3/2
Conor Sandt	3/3
Stephany Connell	3/4
Howard Rohrbach	3/4
Anthony Wright	3/4
Jennifer Burgher	3/5
Judith Kline	3/6
Joanne Mooney	3/7
Samuel Tameler Jr	3/7
John Horvath IV	3/8
Gracie Winkler	3/8
Tanner Laudenslager	3/9
Jianna Lopez	3/9
Alexis Pursell	3/9
Beverly Zakos	3/9
Andrea Gillette	3/10
Nathan Molchany-Brown	3/11
John Corello	3/12
Thomas Roberts	3/12
Zoey Weidaw	3/14
Gavyn MacHose	3/16
Leonard Witt Jr	3/16
Emily Fye	3/17
Hillary Witt	3/17
Brenna Fisher	3/18

Lucas Hudson	3/18
Betty Rabenold	3/19
Russel Bass	3/21
Alyssa Cantrel	3/22
Kathy Heller	3/22
Gloria Jones	3/22
Judy Peters	3/22
Carter Watson	3/22
John Molchany Jr.	3/23
Kathleen Williams	3/23
Avah Seier	3/24
Donna Williams	3/24
Zayden Jones	3/25
Mark Davidheiser	3/26
Douglas Newhard	3/26
Christian Fye	3/27
Lilian Snyder	3/28
Coreena Sterner	3/28
Joshua Abbott	3/29
Allen Arnold Jr.	3/29
Richard Gerber	3/29
Zoey Burt	3/30
Dale Wehr	3/30
Amy Wright	3/31

**St. Paul's Fundraising Committee  
has scheduled a Perkins Pie sale  
for Easter**

**Order forms available in breezeway  
or church office.**

Pick up your order form in the breezeway or at the church office. The last day to order is Wednesday, March 14 with pick-up in the area outside the chapel on Friday, March 30 between 12 & 3 PM and after the Good Friday evening service or Saturday, March 31 between 11 AM and 1 PM.



### March Anniversaries

John & Deborah Frey	3/13	42
Glenn & Barbara Roth	3/16	44
Robert & Jill Hersh	3/18	40
Edward & Margaret Weinhofer	3/23	44
Lorraine & Carlton Schrader	3/27	53
Morris & Joan Bartholomew	3/29	60

# MARCH 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Cub Pack	2	3
4 9:00 AM Holy Communion 10:00 AM Annual Financial Meeting	5 7:00 PM Worship 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	6 7:00 PM Property 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	7 6:00 Soup & Study 6:30 PM Cadettes	8 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Cub Pack	9	10
11 <b>Daylight Savings Time begins</b> Girl Scout Sunday 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion 2:00 PM Bingo	12 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	13 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	14 6:00 PM Soup & Study 8:00 PM Fundraising 6:30 PM Cadettes	15 7:00 PM Cub Pack 7:00 PM Finance	16 Epistle Deadline	17
18 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion	19 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	20 6:30 PM Girl Scouts 7:00 PM Child Care	21 6:00 PM Soup & Study 6:30 PM Cadettes	22 7:00 PM Choir Practice 7:00 PM Cub Pack	23 Epistle Volunteers	24
25 <b>PALM SUNDAY</b> 8:00 AM Holy Communion 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:30 AM Holy Communion	26 7:00 PM Congregation Council 7:00 PM Boy Scouts	27 11:30 AM Child Care Center Easter Lunch 6:30 PM Girl Scouts	28 6:00 PM Cadettes	29 7:00 PM Maundy Thursday Service 7:00 PM Cub Pack	30 12:00 PM Community Good Friday Service (Catasauqua Presbyterian) 7:00 PM Tenebrae	31

THE

# MARCH

EPISTLE

## St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

*Our Mission Statement: To Serve all people by **Sharing** God's love, **Teaching** Christian values, and **Living** together in peace and hope.*

### Church Office Hours

Monday-Friday- 9:00 AM-3:00 PM

### Sunday School

September 10, 2017-Pentecost 9:00 AM

### Child Care Center

610.264.0190

Monday-Friday - 7:00 AM-5:30 PM

417 Howertown Road, Catasauqua, PA 18032

610 .264.3221

[www.stpaulscatasauqua.com](http://www.stpaulscatasauqua.com)

## March 2018 Worship Services

### March 4 , 2018 Third Sunday in Lent

9:00 AM Spoken Holy Communion (Fellowship Hall)

10:00 AM Annual Financial Meeting (Fellowship Hall)

### March 7, 2018

6:00 PM Soup & Study (Fellowship Hall)

### March 11, 2018 Fourth Sunday in Lent

8:00 AM Spoken Holy Communion (in sanctuary)

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Holy Communion (in sanctuary)

### March 14, 2018

6:00 PM Soup & Study (Fellowship Hall)

### March 18, 2018 Fifth Sunday in Lent

9:00 AM Holy Communion (in sanctuary)

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Holy Communion (in sanctuary)



### March 21, 2018

6:00 PM Soup & Study (Fellowship Hall)

### March 25, 2018 Palm Sunday

8:00 AM Spoken Holy Communion (in sanctuary)

9:00 AM Sunday School

10:30 AM Holy Communion (in sanctuary)

### March 29, 2018 Maundy Thursday

7:00 PM Holy Communion (in sanctuary)

### March 30, 2018 Good Friday

7:00 PM Tenebrae