

**June  
2021**

# **The Messenger**

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**



**ST. PAUL'S**  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
EGGERTSVILLE



Tune-in to see Pastors Steve, Julius, and Jeremiah  
at 10 am every Sunday morning on MeTV (Channel 67 For DIRECTV, Channel 5 for Cable,  
Fios, Dish Network, Antenna tuned to 67.1).

The worship service is now called "WNY Church Unleashed."

If you would like to be added to the email updates that go out every week, please email the office at  
katie@stpaulseggertsville.org or call 716-835-0407.

**-Attention-**

***WNY Church Unleashed will be joining the Daily Bread Food Truck on  
Monday June 7th from 5-7pm at the Amherst High School on Main Street for their free meal-share.  
They will be serving Lasagna from Tavern at Windsor Park.  
Come out and meet Pastor Steve! See you there!***

***The office at St. Paul's will be closed from  
Monday, Memorial Day, May 31st until Friday, June 4th.  
If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Steve Biegner at 868-1232.  
Thank you!!***



**Following our June 6th Sunday morning worship service,  
you are invited to come downstairs and view the renovations that  
have been made in the basement.  
Come and celebrate the opening and blessing of the Amherst Family Support Center.**

**AMHERST CENTRAL  
FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER**



***St. Paul's is a congregation of the Niagara Frontier Conference of the Upstate New York Synod  
Of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)***

## *A message from Pastor Steve*

Friends and Missionaries at St. Paul's,  
Ever been through a power failure? They are fun and exhilarating...until they aren't.

In all the storm induced power failures I've been a part of, I really prefer the short ones that happen in the summer. Like 24 hours is perfect. Just enough time to get creative with cooking and lighting and not lose everything in your freezer and refrigerator. It's the ones that last 4-7 days at 35 degrees outside that test your patience and nerves, along with tempting you to look around at your family and start to ponder who you will eat first if you run out of food. (Not that this has ever happened...much)

When the power doesn't work though, you have to have a secondary source. Like generators. Or solar. Or candles. Or propane stove. You need to switch over, especially when things are extra challenging.

And this is what Paul was telling the church in Rome. You can no longer operate by the flesh (human thinking, self-ish thoughts), but instead live in the spirit (God-centered thoughts and movements). In other words, he was telling them to switch power sources, especially when things got tough and decisions became harder and circumstances were more demanding. Be God-centered and not human-motivated.

When it's easy, it's easy right? When the normal power is flowing and we're not pressed, we're at our best...hopefully. But when things are more demanding (read: needing to forgive one another, battling prejudice thoughts or actions, welcoming those who are different than us, reaching out to the family member whose lifestyle we don't agree with, sharing our blessings with those that aren't as fortunate, etc), we need to switch power sources.

And the beautiful thing is, through the gift of the Holy Spirit, God invites us to do just that. Living as God's missionary in the world becomes a perpetual process of switching over. Time and time again.

What situation in your life today is calling for that power source change?

I hope you have a beautiful transition into summer. I hope on many levels you don't lose your power... kinda. However, I hope you do switch your power source from flesh to spirit in any and all circumstances.

God gives us the opportunity and Paul invites us into it! May our summer be powered by this Source.

See you in church!  
PS



## *A message from your Council President*

Dear Congregation,

It is a time of transition – from spring to summer, from 50s and raining to 80s and sunny. Our council met together in person for the May Council meeting to transition from former to new members. We toured the property renovations and shared stories of the past year. We have so appreciated the work of Cheryl Gillen, and Sue Renken-Mintzer, Vern Stein. Each of them listened to you and advocated in their own way for the good work of St. Paul's. I know that they will continue to be active missionaries in the months and years to come. We are delighted to welcome Matt Fricano, Gerri Horton, and Kathryn Francis to the council. We appreciate their energy and diverse perspectives. In the upcoming year, we will be looking at how we live our new Vision (from the hard work of the Vision team) and what we learned about worship and service during this COVID-time.

We are glad more people are returning or discovering church in-person at 4007 Main Street. We still need you to call or email the office and RSVP. (We have a binder of well-organized attendance records and we have thankfully never had to do contact tracing.) We are maintaining some social distancing in the cushioned pews, but fully vaccinated people are not required to wear a mask. We have been lucky to have beautiful weather so that we can open the sanctuary doors wide to let in the fresh air and so we can gather outside afterwards for conversation. We hope you will join us some Sunday if you have not already. Our building renovations are almost complete; it is wonderful to have a building that is filled with love, activity, and faith seven days a week.

Our whole Western New York benefited from your generous gifts to WNY Church Unleashed, the Daily Bread Food Truck, and Tiger's Den. Please remember that your regular offerings to St. Paul's are an important part of maintaining our building, worship, faith, and mission work.

Let us know if there are groups that you would like to bring back (such as God on Tap) or new ideas you want us to consider. Think of the many ways you want to share your time and talents. Andrew Gruszka and David Schunak are training adults (and young adults) to monitor the computer and cameras in the balcony as we livestream the service. We will be adding more music to the service (hopefully choir and bell choir in the fall). We would also welcome people to participate in the Sunday service as a reader or an usher. We love to see you and hear from you.

Wishing for a happy June,  
Debbie Regan Howe  
Church Council President

### **\*\*\*Announcement\*\*\***

**Reservations are no longer needed for Sunday's in-person worship service.**

**Please remember, though, that masks are optional for those who are vaccinated. Masks are needed for those not fully vaccinated, but may be removed while seated if you are comfortable.**

**As far as social distancing and seating is concerned, you may sit together based (again) according to vaccination and your comfort level. We are so thrilled to be able to see all of your smiling faces and would like to continue providing a safe environment for everyone.**

**Thank you for all of your patience as we continue to open more and navigate through this strange and exciting time!**

## ***In the Church Family***

Each month, St. Paul's will be sharing important life events that happen within our church family. Please contact the office with any information that needs to be shared.



Congratulations David Horning for receiving his M.A. in Pastoral Ministries from Christ the King Seminary in May. Amazing!!!



AND Congratulations to newly married couple, Patrick and Janelle (Franasiak) Wisniewski, as they start a beautiful life together!



We also celebrated the Baptism of sweet Eric Crowley on May 23rd!  
What a great month!!!

## ***Bible Study***

Come join us every Tuesday at 10 am in the Fellowship Room at St. Paul's .

We are looking at "Last Night I Dreamed" how God spoke and speaks through dreams.

If you would like to attend but would need to come via Zoom, let Mary Wolf know and we will work that out.

(Mary's e-mail: stpauls1827@juno.com)

Please be advised that we are still social distancing and wearing masks. Thank you!



## ***Comforters***

Comforters will meet  
- Wednesday June 2nd -  
Upstairs in the Dining area next to the Parish Hall from 10 am—noon.

If you have any questions,  
please call the office at 835-0407.

See you there!

*"Dear friends: Thank you for supporting Hospice & Palliative Care Buffalo with your recent in-kind donation of 7 blankets. We appreciate you thinking of Hospice as the recipient of this very generous gift. As our efforts in the community require us to care for more patients, families and caregivers, we hope we can count on your on-going support"*  
*Sincerely, Elizabeth Siderakis, Ex. V. President.*

## ***On-line Directory***

The St. Paul's Church Directory is now on-line!

It will only be accessible to active members at St. Paul's and it will only have the information that is on the current paper copy Directory.

But, now, you will be able to access it online.

You can also download the app on your phone/tablet.

Go to [www.instantchurchdirectory.com](http://www.instantchurchdirectory.com) and click Member login. You will need to enter the email address that we have on file. They will send you a verification email and then you can set up your own personal password (any password of your choosing).

Once that is done, you will have access to the directory! You will be able to edit your family information such as contact information and pictures!

If you have any questions, please email Katie at [katie@stpaulseggertsville.org](mailto:katie@stpaulseggertsville.org)

# Sunday School



It has been a year of so many fun and interesting ways to stay connected!

In this past year, we have had Sunday School lessons through emails, scavenger hunts, made cards for shut-in's and nursing homes, sent care packages to the homeless, streamed live on Facebook and met in person and even worked on our breakout boxes! This past month, we've talked about what it means to have faith and staying connected to Jesus through prayer, showing kindness and generosity to all! We've also talked about how God loves everyone across the world even if they live differently than us and how we should do the same. We talked about what it means to be a Missionary and spread Jesus' love to all! We talked about being careful listeners and listening to the Holy Spirit and the spirit of truth that lives in each of us and what that means. That when we listen to our heart and what our instincts are telling us, that is God guiding us to make good choices!

As the summer draws near and Sunday School has come to an end until Fall, I pray that the lessons your children learned will have an impact on how they interact and grow in the coming months.

Thank you all for sharing in our lessons and staying connected!

Please continue to read and share Bible stories with your children! We are so excited about what's to come in the Fall and our newly decorated space in our Sunday School wing! If you have any questions or would like to continue to stay connected in the summer months, please feel free to contact me at [j-tpiette@msn.com](mailto:j-tpiette@msn.com).

Until we meet again may God bring you much peace, love, good health and joy!

~ June

## Youth Group and Burrito Project

### Youth Night

The next Youth Night will be held on Saturday, June 5th, from 7-9pm.

Games, pizza, and Devos! Grades 6-12 welcome!

### Burrito Project

As always, the Burrito Project was a great success! We handed out over 80 burritos, water bottles, chips, and granola bars. The St. Paul's Youth Group participate in the Burrito Project the third Tuesday of every month to prepare homemade bean and rice burritos and lunch bags to be delivered to the homeless, poor, and working poor living on the streets of Buffalo.

We will have a small group in the kitchen making the burritos at 6 pm, and then another small group walking around downtown Buffalo handing out the burritos from 7-8:30 pm (we will be wearing masks and keeping a good distance).

Let Adam know in advance if you are interested!

### June donation needs:

- New men's underwear
- Men and Women's deodorant
- Toothbrushes and travel size toothpaste



Next project will be Tuesday, June 15th from 6-9pm.

# LUTHERAN CHARITIES CHIAVETTA'S DRIVE-THRU CHICKEN BBQ

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
6540 MAIN ST.  
WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221

WEDNESDAY JUNE 23, 2021  
3PM-7PM (OR SOLD OUT)



\$12 PRESALE, \$13 DAY OF



Do you like working with sound?

Technology?

Would you like to start getting more involved?

Our new "Digital Deacon" is looking to build a team that would be willing to learn how to work the sound and video (AV) equipment.

Contact Andrew at [therecorddjco@gmail.com](mailto:therecorddjco@gmail.com)

Or the office at 716-835-0407





## ***Tiger's Den Food Pantry***



Looks like summer has arrived!! Many vegetable plants have been planted in our garden, and thank you to everyone who has donated their help and time to make sure we have a bumper crop this year!!! Looks like, at a minimum, we will have tomatoes, zucchini, peppers, eggplant, and lettuce.

We also wanted to share some good news we recently received about one of our clients. Please join us in praying for a speedy recovery for one of our clients who is recovering from open heart surgery. We all breathed a sigh of relief when he called with the good news, but he still has a long recovery.

As covid restrictions have been lifted, we are working on ways to help our families readjust to the new normal we continue to experience. We are still not allowing families to come in and shop, but plan on having more outdoor opportunities for them as the weather continues to improve.

The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226 or by referral. The June Pantry hours are Thursdays 6/1 & 6/17 from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm, and Saturday 6/12 & 6/26 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm.

Donations for June are: coffee, tea, rice, and canned fruit.

## ***The Daily Bread Food Truck Mission***

The Daily Bread Food Truck and the Tiger's Den Food Pantry have teamed up together to help those hungry in the community. The Daily Bread Food Truck will be offering free meals at St. Paul's to the "Pantry Families" and community when the pantry is open on the 1st, 3rd, and 5th Thursdays, and the 2nd and 4th Saturdays.

The meal-share dates for June are  
Thursdays 3rd and 17th at St. Paul's from 3-5:30 pm, and  
Saturdays June 12th and 26th at St. Paul's from 9 am-11:30 am,

If you would like to sponsor a "giving meal" event, please contact Katie at 716-835-0407.



### **!!! EXCITING ANNOUNCEMENT for June!!!**

The Daily Bread Food Truck will be parked at the Amherst High School front parking lot loop on Monday June 7th (with WNY Church Unleashed), 14th, and 21st from 5-7 pm handing out free hot meals to the community. Since April, we have given away over 800 meals, just on Mondays alone! If you would like to come and support the Daily Bread Food Truck, donations are accepted.

If you would like to help us on those days, please contact Katie for more information.

We could use volunteers for handing out meals as well as prepping before the event.

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
**4007 Main Street**  
**Eggertsville, NY 14226**

*Remember that things are changing by the day.  
Please check your email and/or  
Facebook for updates.  
If you need to reach us, please contact the office  
at 716-835-0407 or email [katie@stpaulseggertsville.org](mailto:katie@stpaulseggertsville.org).  
Stay safe, stay healthy, and know that you are loved.*



716-835-0407  
[www.stpaulseggertsville.org](http://www.stpaulseggertsville.org)  
**Pastor Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 cell)**  
**Administrative Director:** Katie Basham  
**Office/Tiger's Den Food Pantry Coordinator:** Adrienne Leary  
**Youth Director:** Adam Weber  
**Music Director:** Paul Storfer