

*May
2022*

The Messenger

St. Paul's Lutheran Church



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
EGGERTSVILLE



COME AND CELEBRATE The Staff at St. Paul's and the 25th Anniversary of Pastor Steve's Ordination



Join us Sunday, June 5th as we honor the St. Paul's staff and Pastor Steve's 25 years of ministering, engaging, loving, and caring!
(Additional details of this celebration will be forthcoming)

We are asking each of you to come and share your memories and experiences of Pastor Steve.

If you cannot be there in person, please send a card or note, an email, photographs/or videos by Monday, May 9th to the Church Office
(4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
or via email to office@stpaulseggertsville.com)

If you would like to make a monetary donation in Pastor Steve's honor,
please make it to WNY Impact Foundation
(www.wnyimpactfoundation.com)



*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

Dear missionaries and friends of St. Paul's,

Do you want to know what is better than the pastor's article in the newsletter? When the pastor's wife Michelle writes it!! Enjoy Michelle's info and reflections on some of our new work coming up at and through St. Paul's:

*"As you've heard by now St. Paul's is working with **Journey's End** to house a family at the Olin House, (St. Pauls parsonage). Journey's End Refugee Services, Inc. is a Christian community-based organization with the mission of welcoming refugees without regard to ethnic origin or creed and to assist them to become healthy, independent, contributing members of the community. The refugee resettlement program works to provide refugees with the resources and support they need to become successful, active and contributing members of the Western New York Community. There are several different terms used to describe refugees and we wanted to take a moment to clarify their meanings.*

Refugee: *A person who is outside their country of origin for reasons of feared persecution, conflict, or violence and require international protection. Refugees are given protection under international laws and agencies.*

Immigrant: *Someone who leaves his/her home and moves to a foreign country with intention of settling there.*

Asylum seeker: *Someone who is seeking international protection from dangers in their home country, but whose claim for refugee status hasn't been determined legally.*

"Parolee" Status: *Someone who is not eligible to enter the U.S as a refugee or immigrant may be "paroled" into the US by the Secretary of Homeland Security for emergency, humanitarian and public interest reasons.*

As of now we are uncertain what the specific circumstances of the family will be. But regardless of their legal status, they are resettling into WNY and our job is to help support them. We want St. Paul's to be a welcoming community to them. We ask that you consider how you would like your family to be welcomed into a new and unfamiliar community - small things like smiles, greetings, gifts of food, invitations without expectations can all go a long way towards making others feel welcome."

Well said Michelle! Thanks to all of you who have worked so hard to position St. Paul's to help this family. And thanks to all of you who are about to join in the mission as well!

Be well, safe and blessed!

Ps

Church **UNLEASHED**

Tune-in to see Pastors Steve, Roger, 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).

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

At St. Paul's

In our St. Paul's Family:



Congratulations to Jacob and Alexandra Gyder in the Baptism of their daughter Violet Loving Gyder.



Congratulations to Matt and Danielle Crowley on the birth of their son, Thomas Samuel.



We mourn with Richard Venator in the loss of his beloved wife Betty.



We share our sympathy and condolences with the family of Dorothy Schugardt.



On Sunday, April 24th, we welcomed our New Missionaries:
Frank Evans, Eileen Moser,
and Betty Pilato

If you have announcements you would like in the Messenger (i.e.. births, anniversaries, weddings, baptisms, or funerals), please call 716-835-0407 or email office@stpaulseggertsville.com.

Comforters! Come join us !



- Wednesday May 4th -
Bring a bagged lunch
Upstairs in the Dining area next to the
Parish Hall at 10 am
If you have any questions,
please call the office at 835-0407.
See you there!

Alan from the Seneca Health Care Center called the office to express his gratitude to the Comforters group for the prayer shawls they made and donated to this facility.

Bible Study



We would like to welcome you to the St. Paul's Bible Study group as we continue to meet through the month of May in the Fellowship Room every Tuesday at 10 am.

Bible Study will end May 31 for the summer.

- Bring your own beverage -
Timbits will be provided.

Pinochle Group! Open to all!

Wednesday May 4th -1:00 pm
(and will continue to meet on the first
Wednesday of each month).



If you are interested in joining, please contact
Sara Gallagher at 716-834-1833
Or
Heidi Ginal at 716-480-9227

Men's Group!

Come and join the men of St. Paul's
as they gather in fellowship every
2nd and 4th Saturday of the month:
May 7th and 21st .

If you would like to get involved
OR if you have any questions,
please contact Matt Fricano by email at
italianman2190@gmail.com

Or the office at
office@stpaulseggertsville.com

Report from the Church Council

It should come as no surprise to members of St. Paul's that we're very busy around here! For example, this past weekend we had the Peniel church Saturday morning, a memorial service Saturday afternoon, an adult lecture program Sunday morning, a very well attended regular service followed by a similarly well attended lecture series and finally, the Ray of Hope congregation services. During the week the building is in near constant use by the many organizations using our facilities (Tiger's Den Food Pantry, Family Support Center, Daily Bread Food Truck, Burrito Project, AA to name a few). We're now poised to accept and embrace a refugee family for resettlement in the Olin House in partnership with Westminster Presbyterian Church and Journey's End Refugee Service.

What is the role of the Council in all this action? Many of St. Paul's pursuits are geared to further our mission statement of "reaching beyond ourselves". But there is also the internal management of St. Paul's affairs to consider. To effectively execute both internal and external requirements, we require an infrastructure to manage the business of our St. Paul's organization. This is the responsibility of the Council along with Pastor Biegner and his Lead Action Team.

Progress is being made on several fronts. We've hired a Facilities Manager to serve as the single point of contact for users of our facilities. We have an Auxiliary Kitchen for use by the congregation and tenants. The Olin House has been made ready for occupation by a refugee family. Council is assessing our existing committees in relation to their function and membership within our current environment. But there is more to do. I plan to use this column to summarize the ongoing activities of the Council to keep readers of this newsletter informed and aware of our work.

Dr. Kathryn Francis, Church Council President

St. Paul's Resettlement Mission

So much has been happening in the last month! The team has been working diligently to prepare the Olin House for rental. Through our partnership with Westminster Presbyterian Church (WPC) and Journey's End we're prepared to accept our first family for resettlement. As a reminder, Westminster is the official sponsor of the family through Journey's End Resettlement Services (JERS) and St. Paul's is the rental agent for the property (the Olin House). A family has been identified for resettlement through this arrangement. They are from Syria and include two parents and eight children ranging in age from 21 to 6½. They'll be moving into the Olin House on April 30th, 2022.

FAQs

Do we have more details about the family? The family name is Al Ali. Their native language is Arabic. The father is 47 years old and speaks some English. The mother is 45 years old and speaks very little to no English. We don't know if the children speak any English.

How can we communicate with them? If you don't speak Arabic, you can load the free Google translator application to your phone and use it to assist in communicating with the family. Under settings select offline translation.

What can we contribute to the new household? The WPC team will be handling the on-boarding requirements and will advise us if additional supplies, furniture, clothing, food, etc. are required.

Please do not drop off any items at this time. We will provide more information in the weeks ahead. The family will be using **Tiger's Den** and a Food & Staple Item list is being developed to help meet their specific needs.

How can we learn more about the Syrian culture? Journey's End has a series of webinars. Check their website at www.jersbuffalo.org.

Cultural Awareness Corner



St. Paul's is a part of a national and global community. So, our community engagement must extend beyond Eggertsville's borders. Join us as we immerse ourselves into another culture as we seek to expand our prayer lives, volunteer experiences, and understanding of neighbor.

MAY

The month of May is a month of celebration, appreciation, and reflection.

May 1st & 2nd begins with the religious festival **Eid al-Fitr**, or the "Festival of Breaking the Fast," one of two major holidays celebrated by Muslims around the world. Eid al-Fitr commemorates the end of the fasting month of Ramadan. Experiencing hunger and thirst is supposed to heighten people's awareness of the sufferings of the poor, and gain a greater appreciation for what they have.

May 5th is Cinco de Mayo- An annual celebration of the anniversary of Mexico's victory over the French Empire at the Battle of Puebla in 1862. Cinco de Mayo is more widely celebrated in the United States than in Mexico. During the 1960's, Chicano activists looked for ways to honor their history and culture thus parades, parties, mariachi music, folk dancing, traditional foods such as tacos and mole poblano were introduced and became fan favorites.

May 30th, Memorial Day- Let us use this day to stop and reflect by remembering and thanking the millions of Americans in the United States military, who gave their lives for this country and the remarkable sacrifices they made!

Disfruta de las festividades mis amigos! (Enjoy the festivities my friends)



LCLC



It's that time of year, again!
Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center is starting to register for their yearly
Summer Camp Programs.

For more information, Go to www.lclcenter.org

Week 1—June 26-July 1 (Classic Youth Camp and Horse Camp)
Week 2—July 3-8 (Sailing camp 1&2, Family Camp)
Week 3—July 10-15 (Congregational Confirmation Camp)
Week 4—July 17-22 (Classic Youth Camp, Mini Camp: Pastor Steve is chaplain this week)
Week 5—July 24-29 (Senior High Week)
Week 6—July 31-August 5 (Classic Youth Camp, Night Owls 2.0)

Remember

There are discounts for early payments, bringing a friend or going with a sibling.
No one is ever denied an LCLC experience due to financial difficulties.
So, if you find yourself in need of assistance, please talk to Adam Weber or Pastor Steve.
There are LCLC camperships available for those unable to afford camp fees.

Burrito Project and Youth Group



The next Burrito Project night will be Tuesday May 17th, from 6-8pm at St. Pauls.

If you are ever looking to get involved, this is a great opportunity!

We always have a lot of fun making the burritos together in the kitchen at St. Pauls and then taking them downtown to the bus station.

For more information, please contact Adam Weber directly at aweber308@yahoo.com.



The next Youth Night will be on Saturday, May 14th!

Come for pizza, fellowship, and fun!



Sunday School



During the past month of April our children learned about putting Christ first in our lives. That fancy things and all the money in the world is not as important as Jesus! How do we do that? Well, we read the Bible and pray, of course. And when it comes to making decisions or doing things, we can ask ourselves if we are doing something that honors or points back to Him.

On Palm Sunday the kids came to Sunday School right after communion near the beginning of the service. It gave the kids a chance to experience a bit of the Palm Sunday experience in the sanctuary. In Sunday school we talked about the happenings of Holy Week. Then each of the children were given an empty white egg to remind them of what was to come... The empty tomb. I had asked the kids to take the egg home, decorate it and bring it back on Easter morning to place in our egg tree!

Easter morning, though chilly we had our yearly Easter egg hunt on the front lawn!

We ended April with a reminder from John 20:29 -
"Blessed are those who have not seen,
and have believed"

Looking ahead I would like to invite anyone who would like to volunteer to help in our Sunday School.
It's a great way to invest in our future!

I take care of doing the lesson and coming up with the craft! All you do is come in that day and help the kids with the crafts. It could be once a month or as often as you like!

I am also looking for those who would like to take the lead and fill in when I am unable to be there.
Again, I will put everything together for you, you just need to show up to present it!

I have a sign-up sheet available on Sunday mornings in the Sunday school area. Or feel free to email me and let me know if you're interested and the days, you're available!

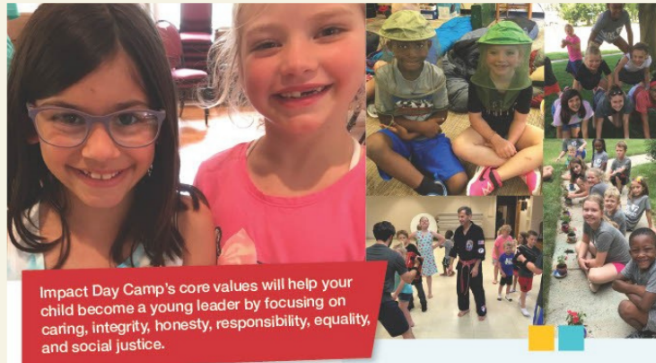
Any questions, please don't hesitate to ask!

Our last day of Sunday school for this school year will be Sunday June 5th.

Thanks so much!

In Peace & Love ~ June (j-tpiette@msn.com)

Impact DayCamp



REGISTRATION FORM

Child's Name:

First Name

Last Name

Parent/Guardian Name:

First Name

Last Name

Best Contact #: () _____

Email:

Home Address:

Child's School:

Child's Grade (*Grade child has completed*): _____

Circle week you are registering for:

June 27- July 1 (\$125)

July 5-8 (\$100)

July 11-15 (\$125)

**Sibling discounts available: 2nd child costs 75%; 3 or more costs 50%*

*For registration, mail this form with a check payable to St. Paul's,
4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226 (please note the week of camp)*

OR

you can download form and pay online at www.stpaulseggertsville.org.

Any questions?

Please call St. Paul's at 716-835-0407 for more information.

Bicycles for Refugees



April 21, 2022

Wheels for Workers 716 is a new non-profit, supporting Buffalo's large number of re-settling families. Our community partners include **Casella Waste Systems, GoBike, Hello Buffalo!, Slow Spokes Buffalo, Stone Bench Consulting, West Herr, WNY Rotary Clubs, and Journey's End Refugee Services.**

Our mission is to provide bicycles to WNY people and/or families who wish to work, but lack basic transportation. Biking and our hometown have been good to us, so we've decided to pay it forward by providing bikes and helmets to Buffalo's newest residents.

We exist through the generosity of the time, talent, and treasure of our community.

What we do:

WW716 collects unused bikes and bike parts, provides necessary repairs and servicing to make them functional, and coordinates their distribution to needy families.

How it works:

- **WW716** collects bikes at **St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 4007 Main St, Buffalo, NY 14226** (Look for the blue bike that marks the driveway on Main Street, just east of Eggert Rd. The bike racks are in back!). **Drop off anytime, at your convenience!**
- Our volunteer mechanics provide necessary service and repairs, restoring bikes to ride-able condition.
- **Journey's End Refugee Services** connects us to our new neighbors, linking ride-ready bikes to work-ready Buffalonians.

What we need:

- Bikes and bike parts
- Donations
- Help spreading the word
- Volunteers

How to reach us:

As we're a new organization, we're still building our organizational structure with the help of many, kind volunteers. For now, send us a message through our facebook page and we'll get back to you asap – see below!

Check out our Facebook page: Wheels for Workers 716

Daily Bread Food Truck Mission



The Daily Bread Food Truck completed its "Give One" Winter Meal Share on April 11. Over the course of 25 Mondays, we distributed 2,855 meals along with drinks, snacks and fresh vegetables. With grateful hearts, we thank all of our volunteers –

- Our Chefs Kevin Barron, Tony Piette and Brett Vogel for their time and talent
- Our many dedicated volunteers (especially our "frequent flyers" Heidi Ginal and Hilde Neubauer) who braved the cold and dark to serve those experiencing food vulnerability
- Our youth Kaci and Hayden for their energy in running the kitchen stairs on several evenings when the truck was in for repair
- Our restaurants for their very generous food donations – Carrabba's, S.A.L.T Cuisine, Ziggy's, Rosina's, Tavern at Windsor Park and Issa Pita Chips
- Amherst Central School District for their communication support
- Stephen's Spirit of Giving for their contribution of special Christmas and Valentines dinners.

We begin our "Get One" season on May 4 with a Teacher's Recognition Event sponsored by the Maple East Elementary PTA and 'Sunday Breakfast at St. Paul's' will begin on June 12. See you soon!!

If you would like to help with the Food Truck, please contact office at 716-835-0407 or email at dailybreadfoodtruck@gmail.com



Do you like working with sound?
Technology?

Would you like to start getting more involved?
We are 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
Or the office at 716-835-0407



Tiger's Den Food Pantry

Happy 5th Anniversary

Yes, Tiger's Den has been open for five years this month! Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the Pantry—because of you we were able to make the pantry such a success. We want to say a special thank you to those ladies who have spent the last three years volunteering during the Covid pandemic:

Sandy Hoehn and Sue Keppel,
and our newest volunteers: Joan Keptner and Sue Miller.

Thank you to everyone at St. Paul's for your continued support of Tiger's Den. Because of your generosity, we have grown and adapted to meet the needs of those who suffer food insecurity in our area

May pantry hours are: Thursday 5/5 and 5/19 from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm, and
Saturday 5/14 and 5/28 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm.

Donations for May are: oil, sugar salad dressing, Kleenex-type tissues



Are you one of those gifted people who has a "green thumb" and loves gardening? If so, would you be interested in helping the Tiger's Den grow their vegetable garden again this year? If you are interested, please give Adrienne a call at the Church Office 716-835-0407 for additional information and details.



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4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226
716-835-0407
www.stpaulseggertsville.com

Pastor Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 cell)

Office/Tiger's Den Food Pantry
Coordinator: Adrienne Leary

Youth Director: Adam Weber

Music Director: Paul Storfer

Christian Education: June Piette

Facilities Manager: Jeff Stein

The St. Paul's Church Directory is 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** 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 the office at
office@stpaulseggertsville.com