### November 2022

The Messenger St. Paul's Lutheran Church







Sunday, November 6 Celebration of All Saints Day

Today we remember those loved ones in our St. Paul's family, that passed during the last year. Wayne Bilek Karen Bryzcki Devin Coe Carol David Beverly Ebert Lawrence Fox Claire Franke Leigh Reichert Dorothy Schugardt Elizabeth Venator Alfred Weber Laurence Woodward



Sunday, November 13 ALC—STP Merger Vote

A special congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, November 13 (STP) and Saturday, November 19 (ALC). The only item on the agenda is the vote for the ALC-STP merger. Voting members of the congregation must be present to vote and a simple majority is required to pass the motion.



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 at St. Paul's and Amherst Lutheran,

Yep. See what I did there? Are you picking up what I'm laying down (as the kids say)?

I'm writing this to you in the shadows of Reformation Sunday. When a guy named Luther started luthering (made up word that I really like) and changed the church. The church then.

And the church now.

So, we keep luthering too!

Two churches, merging together to break open the word of God better than before to reach more people than before and more efficiently than before and more effectively than before! More grace! More forgiveness! More love! That's what Lutherans luthering looks like.

We had great Q & A sessions in October. Thank you to all that came out. Thank you to your leaders that have worked A TON putting this all together. On the 13th and 19th of November, *it is important* that you are in worship. I want to pray with you about the new incredible things that could possibly come from this merger. And then we will meet together and vote. Think about luthering. If you are leaning toward voting no, I can respect that, however; please talk to me ahead of the meeting or make sure you are at the final Q&A session October 29/30. I want to hear your concerns. Remember though - we are about luthering -- to further reach a culture that is drifting away from hearing about God's grace, community and new life for them. Our calling as the church is more important now than ever. At St Paul's, we have refocused the church to "reach beyond ourselves." This merger is another step to enhance that direction. I encourage you to affirm this together.

A part of this exciting merger is welcoming new pastoral staff to St. Paul's in 2023. Our new pastor will be visiting and preaching at both sites November 26 and 27, 2022 at 5pm and 10am respectively. How great is this?

## Pastor Steve cont.

Because of this creative merger, we are growing ministry while other churches are cutting programs and staff. I hope you will be there to meet and welcome her to the mission. We will officially vote at St. Paul's for this action and our 2023 Ministry Spending Plan December 4th at 11am at St. Paul's.

So let's go! Go Luther. Go Bills. Go Sabres. Go St. Paul's!

Be well, healthy and blessed,

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## Daytime Missions at St. Paul's

Adult Bible Study Tuesdays, at 10:00 am



We meet in the Fellowship Room. We'll be looking at the people and events that are celebrated and commemorated in the calendar of Festivals and Commemorations. These are people and events significant in the life of the Church over the centuries; some of which you may have heard & some which will be totally new.

Join us on Tuesday mornings!

Bring your own beverage; Timbits will be provided.

The Comforters

meet on the <u>Second</u> Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is Nov. 9. 10:00 am - 12:00 pm in the upstairs Parish Hall

The Comforters are a group of people who love to knit, sew or crochet. While having a fun time talking, they create quilts, prayer shawls, baptismal blankets and more!

Some of the benefactors of this ministry have been:

Roswell Cancer Institute

Women's and Children's Hospital



Erie County Home, Nursing Homes, Harvest House Baby

Bring a bag lunch for after the session. A monthly hostess will bring a dessert to share.

Beautiful things come together one stitch at a time!!

## Pinochle Club

Meets on the first Wednesday of the month. The next meeting is Nov. 2 1:00 pm in the Gathering Space

We have both serious and social card players! Join us!

If you have any questions, <u>call Sara at:</u> 716-834–1833



or email the office at: office@stpaulseggertsville.org



## Other Missions at St. Paul's

The next meeting

God on Tap



is Tuesday, November 1st at 7:00 pm





# Let Your Voice Be Heard!

Join the Sanctuary Choir Practices are the first Thursday of the month at 7:30 pm. under the direction of Mr. Paul Storfer. The next practice is Nov. 3.

#### **Invitation to Amherst Lutheran Book Club**



The Amherst Lutheran Book Club is glad to be back after two years of Covid. We meet the second Thursday of the month (except December, July & August) to informally share thoughts and connections to books we read.

Next Meeting: Thursday, Nov. 10 at 7:15 pm Where: Amherst Lutheran Church, 5125 Main Street, in the Gathering Space Book Selection: *The Lost Apothecary* by Sarah Penner For information call: Karin Johnson at 716-689-6365 or email karinej@roadrunner.com

# **Parish Council**

#### Report from the Council—Kathryn Francis, MD

If you've been paying attention, you're aware that planning for the Amherst Lutheran/St. Paul's merger is progressing quickly and efficiently. The congregations of both churches will be voting on the proposal for merger in November. Assuming this vote is successful (and there is no good reason to expect anything else), our Treasurer will be preparing a comprehensive budget reflecting the inclusion of Amherst Lutheran for presentation at the December annual meeting. We'll also be voting on the proposal to hire additional pastoral staff at this meeting. But there are other facets to the agreement that need to be communicated and understood. As part of the merger agreement, the Council will expand to incorporate two members of the Amherst Lutheran congregation bringing our Council membership to 11 (The St. Paul's Constitution allows for Council to consist of at least 9 and no more than 11 members of the congregation). The terms of the Amherst Lutheran representatives will be two and three years, respectively, taking us to 2025. At that time, the Council will return to a total of 9 members from the single, unified congregation. There will be a Q&A session following service (Oct 29th at Amherst Lutheran and Oct 30<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul's) so please bring your questions and ask them! Thank you for your support!

## In the Church Family

Each month, St. Paul's will be posting important life events that happen within our church family. Please contact the office with any information that you would like shared regarding births, marriages and the passing of loved ones.



Please remember & pray for: The family of Devin Coe , a friend of the Scott Vehue family, who passed away and The Ralph Mast family, whose brother passed away. We mourn and pray for your loss.

## **Online 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 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!

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# **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). The worship service is now called "Church Unleashed." If you would like to be added to the email updates that go out every week, please email the office at office@stpaulseggertsville.org or call 716-835-0407.

# Wellness Walks

## Wellness Walk



Join Pastor Steve Biegner as he guides you on a walk or run, both physically & spiritually exploring your drive to find inner happiness.

Search **Wellness Walk Steve Biegner** at any of the following sites: Google, Amazon Music and Spotify



#### 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

Or the office at 716-835-0407



## The Daily Bread Food Truck Mission



On October 17, we entered into our third season of Monday Meal Share. Except for the wind, rain and hail, we had a successful first night. Our enthusiastic volunteers had the privilege of serving a delicious and nutritious meal to our neighbors in need.

As you go through your daily activities, do you see a neighbor who is sick or a college student who is financially struggling and hungry? If so, consider picking up a meal for them and add a little kindness to their day.

Our menu is posted on the Daily Bread Food Truck Facebook page early Monday morning and we serve from 4:30 - 6:00 pm in front of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 4007 Main St, Eg-gerstsville.

For further information contact Leslie Boynton at 716-525-2443 or <u>dailybread4007@gmail.com</u>

## **Cultural Awareness Team**



Thank you to everyone who participated in our People Bingo after worship on October16th. It was an enjoyable, easy way to meet those we see in church but in some cases we haven't yet spoken to. Some new friendships were formed as people introduced themselves and learned a bit about our fellow

worshippers. We plan to host another People Bingo game in the winter so stay tuned for a date.

In addition, soon we will bring "A View from the Pew" to St. Paul's.

Those who have watched Church Unleashed in the past may remember this

segment. This is another way we are seeking to foster connection and a sense of community at St Paul's by getting to know one another. We are blessed to have people coming to St. Paul's from other churches, all walks of life, various neighborhoods and bringing new ideas, past experiences and goals with them. It is our responsibility to reach out and get to know one another in order to fully do the work God intends for us. For more information please contact:

Michellebiegner@gmail.com

## Tiger's Den Food Pantry



And so it is November!! We are looking forward to sharing the Thanksgiving holiday with our families. Rather than asking for donations of frozen turkeys (if you have been with St. Paul's over the last five years, you will probably remember our attempt to collect and store over 45 frozen turkeys – Yikes!!), we will be looking for gift cards to help our families celebrate Thanksgiving their way. If you are able, we would like to ask you to donate \$15.00 supermarket gift cards so our families can choose their own Thanksgiving meal. Gift cards can be sent to the church office, or just put them in the Sunday collection. Now that Summit Center is here and using St. Paul's for their DayHab program, they asked if they could help the pantry. They moved all of the Tiger's Den orange bags you filled (over 25 bags at that time) to our sorting room, checked expiration dates, and sorted everything by category. Thank you Summit

Center for helping us move all of the St. Paul's donations quickly to our shelves.

In October, we welcomed four new families to Tiger's Den, & provided 65 families with much needed food, personal care items & paper products. We expect our numbers to continue to increase as more and more families in our area experience increased costs of just about everything. Inflation is hitting everyone, so if you are aware of someone in our area (14226) who may be experiencing food insecurity for the first time, please tell them Tiger's Den Food Pantry is here to help them through this difficult time. **The Food Pantry** is open to anyone in need, in the zipcode 14226 or by referral.

> The November pantry hours are: Thursdays 11/3 and 11/17 from 3:00 pm—6:30 pm and Saturdays 11/12 and 11/26 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm.

> > **Donations for November:** \$15.00 Supermarket Gift Card Healthy Snack Items Spaghetti Sauce

Thank you for your support of the Tiger's Den Food Pantry.

# Sunday School



Sunday School November

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Gratitude - the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness. This will be some of what the children will be focusing on in November. In conjunction with this theme and paying kindness forward the Sunday school class will be assembling pies on November 20<sup>th</sup> – that's the Sunday before Thanksgiving! The pies will be given out for those in need through The Daily Bread Food Truck the next day!

We will also be discussing the upcoming Yearly Christmas Pageant! During the past month of October, the children learned about what it means to have Faith! They learned that even if your faith starts out small it can grow into something Grand and strong! We compared it to a small acorn and a mighty Oak tree!We also talked about appreciating what we have, and to give thanks to those we love! To not take things for granite. The children made a card full of their fingerprints on a tree to give to Pastor Steve for Pastor appreciation month!

Finally, we talked about being humble, that bragging is not what makes God happy. We talked about letting the intent of our hearts be focused on God and how we were taught the Lord's Prayer. I broke that prayer down for the children and explained what that prayer means and why it's important to pray.

In conclusion I would like to draw your attention to the bulletin board that is in the Narthex area. Heidi Ginal does a beautiful job on putting that together using some of the crafts the children do in Sunday School! Make sure to check it out! Thank you, Heidi!

In peace and love ~ June



# KNAC-Kids Night at (Amherst Lutheran) Church

#### **Kids Night at Church**

KNAC happens on the <u>1st Saturday</u> of each month. The next meeting is Nov. 5.
All children from 5 years old—10 years old are welcome!
The evening starts at 5:00 pm with our Saturday night worship.
Then we break off to "Sunday School," and some fun.

A main meal will be provided after the session (pizza or subs) and everyone is welcome to bring a side dish or dessert. This year's KNAC nights are:

Oct 1, 2022	Nov 5, 2022	Dec 3, 2022	Jan 7, 2023
Feb 4, 2023	Mar 4, 2023	Apr 1, 2023	May 6, 2023

Amherst Lutheran Church 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221 716-632-4185

## LCLC Retreat - The Power of Prayer

SAVE THE DATE: JANUARY 13 - 15 EE BARBARA OR CALL 716-574-8527

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TIME TO THINK ABOUT OUR WONDERFUL LCLC ADULT RETREAT. ASK ANYONE WHO HAS BEEN THERE AND YOU WILL SEE A SMILE ON THEIR FACE! IT IS A FUN FILLED WEEKEND TO BRIGHTEN UP THE WINTER. MORE INFO TO FOLLOW. Watch for Retreat Sign Up Sheet in early November. Any questions, see or call Barb at 716-574-8527

# **Burrito Project**





**BURRITO PROJECT:** Tuesday, Nov. 15, from 6—9:00 PM. We start at St. Paul's making the burritos and then head downtown at 7pm to hand them out. Let Adam know if you are interested in volunteering.

**UPCOMING EVENTS:** We are planning a possible Lasertron lock-in in November. Dates and other details to follow.



716-835-0407 Email: office@stpaulseggertsville.org www.stpaulseggertsville.org

#### Pastor Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 cell)

Office Staff: Heidi Ginal and Adrienne Leary

Tiger's Den Food Pantry Coordinator: Adrienne Leary

Christian Ed Coordinator: June Piette

Youth Director: Adam Weber

Music Director: Paul Storfer