

*September
2023*

The Messenger

St. Paul's Lutheran Church



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
EGGERTSVILLE
AMHERST CAMPUS



A Message from Pastor Kristen

**Welcome September!
Welcome Fall!
Welcome back Pastor Steve!
And Welcome All!**

Whether you've been a part of St. Paul's since your baptism, or you've been loosely connected for years, you are welcome here. Maybe you've been visiting us over the summer, or perhaps you found this newsletter online because you are considering visiting us. You are welcome here!

In this edition of the *Messenger* you will find all sorts of welcome. Ways and places to be involved. Ministries of music, and with young people. Ministries of reading and card playing and crafting. Ministries of learning. It's all here.

But I also welcome you to worship. To come on a Saturday night or a Sunday morning to take a pause in your week and listen for what God might have to say to you.

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*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)*

Pastor Kristen cont.

I welcome you to sit in the pews (or in our awesome gathering areas!) to have coffee and a chat. And you're welcome to grab a cup of coffee or go on a walk with me if this newsletter doesn't tell you enough about what matters to our congregation.

The Book of Hebrews reminds us that by entertaining strangers some have entertained angels. And almost each book in the New Testament has stories or reminders of our need to show hospitality. Jesus himself tells us that by reaching out in welcome, we welcome him in Matthew 25:40.

It is my hope that we lean into this idea of welcome for the fall. That we can explore together how we welcome those who are already in our midst, and those who haven't walked through our doors yet. We can talk about newcomers to WNY and learn more about stories and needs of refugees like our neighbors in the Olin House and the stories of Congo like Frederick shared at worship. I hope that we can consider ways to welcome not just people but new or different ideas. And that we practice together welcoming God's presence into our lives.

May you feel God's welcome here in this place and maybe we all be a part of sharing God's welcome with others.

And I can't forget – Welcome back Pastor Steve! We saved a seat for you and are ready to hear about your renewal time. But mostly we are all excited to have you with us again!

In Jesus' Name,
~Pastor Kristen

p.s. Go Bills!

GriefShare® is a nation-wide organization for those suffering the loss of a loved one. This coming January, St. Paul's will be hosting a 12 week session for those experiencing such a loss. More information will be coming. If you would be willing to assist the Leader, please contact: Kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

A note from the Parish Council

Unfortunately, all good things must come to an end and that includes the summer break for Council. Although not meeting formally, the Council has continued to work over the summer by supporting both ongoing and new projects. The former includes the building renovations at the Amherst Lutheran campus, updating the technical infrastructure of the church office and routine maintenance of the St. Paul's campus building including the Olin House. In addition, the Council has approved improvements to the St. Paul's campus kitchen in conjunction with the Daily Bread Food Truck. These improvements will not only secure and support our current tenants, but also position us for potential new revenue from kitchen rentals.

I would also like to acknowledge all the support teams at St. Paul's. The Leadership Action Team (LAT) has been active all summer supervising and coordinating the work at the Amherst Lutheran campus. Jeff Stein, our facility manager, has been overseeing projects at both campuses. Bill Niblock, Leslie Boynton and Jeff Human have been working through the remaining details surrounding the ALC-STP merger.

Obviously, this short list doesn't cover all the contributions of our members. But as we await the return of Pastor Steve Biegner, I would like to specifically recognize the outstanding job Pastor Kristen Arends has done for us this summer. Given all the moving parts at St. Paul's, I think even a veteran pastor would be somewhat intimidated. Pastor

Kristen has stepped up in every way to fill some very large shoes. I believe this experience will serve her well as she grows in her career and on behalf of the Council, am very glad she was here to carry us through in Pastor Steve's absence.

Well done, Pastor Kristen and Thank You! ~ Kathryn Francis, MD

Prayer Team Ministry

We are forming Prayer Team Ministry and need pray-ers! Once a week you will receive an email with a list of people to pray for and specific requests for that person. We ask that you commit to praying for the names on the email. If you'd like to join us, please contact Heidi at:



Heidi@stpaulseggertsville.com

No one can believe how powerful prayer is and what it can effect, except those who have learned it by experience. ~ Martin Luther

Our Food Ministries: Daily Bread Food Truck



As summer draws to a close and we look forward to another ***Daily Bread Food Truck*** season, it is important for me to review the events of the past several months.

On the positive side, the kitchen received two new coats of paint, a new seamless vinyl floor, and the removal of the old range and convection oven. We purchased a new range (courtesy of a grant from FeedMore), a new convection oven and a new three-bay sink. Life was good!

Then St. Paul's was notified that in order to retain our current tenants (**Amherst Support Staff** and **Summit**, etc.) we needed a current Certificate of Occupancy to be issued by the Town of Amherst. This required several issues throughout the St. Paul's Campus to be brought up to current code. The most significant issue was the Commercial Kitchen which is required to upgrade the hood over the range and oven, installation of a fire suppression system, and relocation of the outside fan.

The majority of the summer was spent meeting with vendors who could provide the proper hood and fire suppression system, the Amherst Fire Marshall who provided guidance as to what was required to pass inspection, and meeting with an electrician, plumber, and roofer whose expertise is required for installation.

Once we received all of the financial proposals from the various vendors and tradesmen, a request was made to the WNY Impact Foundation and St. Paul's for funding. The Foundation, Finance Committee and Church Council approved the funding and a contract with the vendor was recently signed.

The timeframe to complete this project prior to our scheduled start date of October 16 for Monday Meal Share is very tight. Anyone who has been involved in a remodeling project knows that things don't always go as planned. Patience and flexibility will be required of all of us.

Most of all - Thank you to all who volunteered this summer to improve the kitchen. **Thank you to** the Foundation Finance Committee, Church Council and Pastor Kristen for their commitment to this ***Daily Bread Food Truck*** Mission project.

Thank you to Pastor Steve – although he was not involved this summer, his vision and guidance laid a firm foundation for our mission.

And a very special thanks to Jeff Stein who spent many hours working through this process with me. I could not have done it without his help and knowledge. ~ Leslie

Tiger's Den Food Pantry



This is the time of year when we at Tiger's Den want to express our thankfulness and gratitude to many people and organizations:

The Congregation Shir Shalom and the St. Vincent De Paul Society at Christ the King Church stepped up and donated over 40 school backpacks and school supplies for our Tiger's Den children.

Thanks to Mr. Crock's gardening abilities, we have had more than enough fresh vegetables to share with our families.

Thank you to the congregations at St. Paul's and St. Benedict's for their continued support and generosity.

Thank you to Summit Center for their continued help sorting non-perishable donations.

Thanks to our dedicated volunteers, the pantry continued to provide perishable & non-perishable food, personal care items & paper products throughout the long, hot summer.

In July we served 186 individuals, which amounted to 1,674 meals. The need in 14226 continues to grow, and we expect our numbers to increase as the homeless and refugee populations expand across Western New York.

The Food Pantry is open on the following days in September:

Thursdays: September 7 and 21, from 3:00 pm—6:30 pm

Saturdays: September 9 and 23, from 9:00 am—12:30 pm

Donations needed for September:

soup, cereal, pasta & spaghetti sauce



Burrito Project



Every Tuesday, a different Lutheran congregation makes burritos and distributes them to people who are hungry in downtown Buffalo. St. Paul's Youth Group supports this ministry on the third Tuesday of every month. We are always looking for volunteers to meet at 6 pm and help prepare and distribute 100+ burritos.

If interested in becoming a part of the Burrito Project, contact Adam at: adamw308@yahoo.com

The next meeting is Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 6.00 pm at SPEC

KNAC - Kids Night at Church

KNAC (Kids Night at Church) at the Amherst campus will be changing to a themed Family Fun Night. We will gather after the 5:00 pm worship service on the 1st Saturday of the month (except September, which will be the 2nd Saturday) for a meal & activities based on the theme of the month. The usual meal will be pizza (except September, which may be a BBQ) and everyone is invited to bring a dish to pass.

The dates are as follows for the remainder of 2023.



September 9th - Bills Tailgate party (wear Bills attire)

October 7th - Fall Fun

November 4th—Game Night

December 2nd—Christmas decorating

Sunday School Startup

Sunday School

Happy new school year! Sunday school will be starting back up on September 17th! We will also have our **backpack blessing** that day! So please send your children in with their backpacks!

I look so forward to welcoming the kids back! As a reminder, the kids will be starting out in church with their parents. After they go to the steps for children's time, they will then depart for Sunday school. The children can be picked up after service downstairs in the Sunday school hallway!

We will be starting out this year with a couple of stories from the Old Testament. Creation for week #1 and Noah's Ark for week #2. The kids will be making crafts to help them remember the stories they'll be learning about.

We will then be making our way into the New Testament and moving back into the Gospel lesson of the day. From time to time, we will have lessons that go with the season.

I will be looking for congregation & parent involvement. I would love to work on a rotating system where you would help about once every 8 weeks or so. I do all the planning. I just need people to show up and help!

I will have a sign-up sheet in the gathering area and in the Sunday school wing on Sunday mornings. Please let me know if you are willing to help!

In Peace and Love ~ June

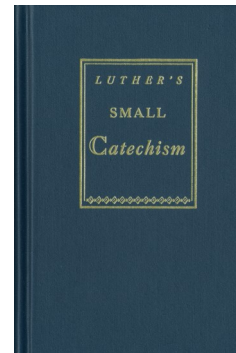
Ministries



**Adult Study - begins Tuesday, September 12
at 10 am in the Fellowship Room**

Luther's Small Catechism has been described as
Lutheranism's gift to the Church.

Join us as we unwrap this gift - reacquainting with an old friend,
if you met it in Confirmation Class, or meeting a new friend you
may not yet know. It will be well worth your time!



Bring your own beverage; Timbits (or other goodies) will be provided.



What: *Saturday Night Monthly Bowling League*

When: last Saturday of the month

Where: Manor Lanes II
270 Tonawanda Creek Road, Amherst

Cost: \$15.00 per person, per game

Begins: Saturday, Sept. 30 officially at 6:30 pm

If you are interested in participating, please contact Janet ASAP at:
Jeschmidt48@gmail.com

COMFORTERS

Join us for fellowship, ministry, lunch and dessert!

The Comforters will begin meeting again on Wednesday, September 13, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. upstairs in the Parish Hall. We are continuing to meet on the second Wednesday of every month.

Bring your knitting or crochet project with you. If you don't have one, we can start you on one. If you don't knit or crochet there are STILL things you can do to help. If you can tie your shoes, you can help.

We stop at noon for lunch. Bring your own sandwich & drink.

Dessert will be provided.

We talk..... We share We laugh We visit We have fun.....

SEE YOU THERE!



Music Ministries

We'd love to have you join us in the
Church Choir at St. Paul's, under the direction
of Mr. Paul Storfer.



No experience or training needed. . . . Only a willingness to participate and sing!

The first practice is Thursday, Sept. 14 at 7:00 pm in the SPEC music room.

The first sanctuary choir will be Sunday, Sept. 17. Please come by 9:30 a.m.

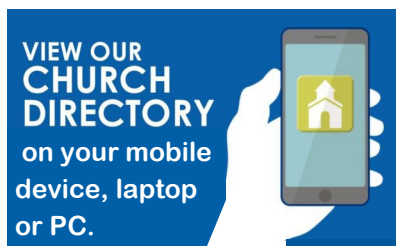
For more information/register, please email: office@stpaulseggertsville.com



The ALC Music Band needs you!

Do you play an instrument? Are you looking to improve
your craft in a no-pressure, fun group setting?

The ALC campus is looking for musicians for any and all levels
to add to the music worship on Saturdays at 5:00 p.m. If you or anyone you know,
that might be interested, email Janet at: Jeschmidt48@gmail.com



The St. Paul's Church Directory is online!

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

You can download the *Instant Online Directory* app on your phone/tablet.

You will need to enter the email address that we have on file.

Or go to: www.instantchurchdirectory.com and click Member login.

They will send you a verification email and then you can set up your own personal
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

Ministries continued

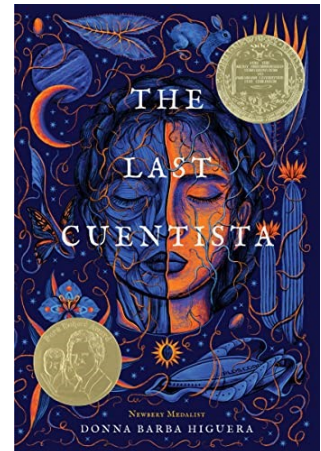
Book Club at the Amherst Campus

Date: Thursday, September 14, 2023

Time: 7:15 pm

Where: 5125 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221

Featured book: *The Last Cuentista* (Storyteller)



Pinochle



Meets on the first Wednesday of the month.
The next meeting is September 6 at 1:00 pm

****New for this year****



We will be meeting at the beautifully remodeled Amherst Campus!!

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

If you have any questions, call Sara at: 716-834—1833

Welcome

Even if you haven't played in a long time, we will refresh the game for you!



The first **Youth Group** meeting of the 23/24 year will be held at **the Amherst Campus** on Saturday, Sept. 9 at 7:00 pm. This will be following the KNAC Bills/Pizza Tailgating gathering.

ALC has an indoors half-basketball court. So come prepared with sneakers. For info, email Adam at: adamw308@yahoo.com

From the St. Paul's Family

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to our September senior missionaries!



Marita Zieger	-	Sept. 1	Douglas Wurtz	-	Sept. 18
James Slater	-	Sept. 1	James Tanevich	-	Sept. 19
Eileen Moser	-	Sept. 3	Karen Braun	-	Sept. 21
Helen Gibson	-	Sept. 4	Cheryl Gillen	-	Sept. 21
Kristen DiPasquale	-	Sept. 6	Traci Nieman	-	Sept. 21
Marilyn Emerson	-	Sept. 8	Stephen DiPasquale	-	Sept. 21
Kathryn Francis	-	Sept. 8	Joyce McWilliams	-	Sept. 22
Susan Szewczyk	-	Sept. 9	Joanne Carter	-	Sept. 24
Sandy Simet	-	Sept. 10	Sara Gallagher	-	Sept. 25
Sandra Peters	-	Sept. 12	Jack Greenawalt	-	Sept. 25
Kenneth Regan	-	Sept. 13	James Meyer	-	Sept. 26
			Cynthia Beahan	-	Sept. 28



Congratulations to Paul and Christine Storfer on their 50th Wedding Anniversary on September 8. They had plans to go to Maui, but sadly, due to the horrific fires, their trip had to be canceled.



We celebrate the upcoming wedding of Emilie Piette and Jared Manhardt on Friday, September 8.



We celebrate the upcoming wedding of Victoria Soucy and Travis Griner on Saturday, September 9.



We mourn at the passing of Lee Abell with his family and friends.



St. Paul's Eggertsville & Amherst Campus

Telephone: 716-835-0407

Email: office @stpaulseggertsville.com

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

Pastors:

Steve Biegner is on his renewal until September 10
Kristen Arends: (cell) 716-481-8728 or email
kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Directors of Music:

Paul H. Storfer (SPEC)
Adam Schmidt (ALC)

Office Staff: Heidi Ginal, Adrienne Leary & Judy Polowy

Tiger's Den Food Pantry Coordinator: Adrienne Leary

Christian Ed Coordinator: June Piette

Youth Ministry: Adam Weber

Digital Ministry: Andrew Gruszka

Facilities Manager: Jeff Stein

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