

**November
2023**

The Messenger

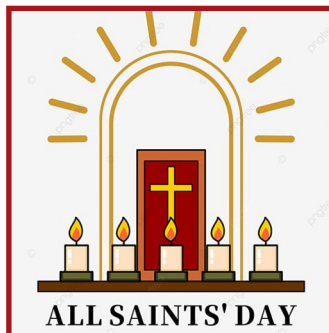
St. Paul's Lutheran Church



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH
EGGERTSVILLE
AMHERST CAMPUS

Hello November

All Saints Day



**On Sunday, November 5, we
remember those in our
St. Paul's family, that passed
during the last year, as well as
our loved ones.**

Nov. 1, 2022 - Nov. 1, 2023

Iris Ann "Paddy" Hodge

Jon R. Mott

James Keptner

Richard H. Wedekindt

Berthe E. Efstation

Charles "Lee" Abell

Mary Lou Herschlag

Jeanette Davis Antkowiak

Forrest Balan

C. David Parezo

Julian David Johnson

Evelyn E. Berger

*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 Kristen

To the church of St. Paul's in Eggertsville in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ,

Most of Paul's pastoral letters in the New Testament start out with a greeting similar to the one above. I like it because Paul is reminding the church communities of who and whose they are. They aren't just any community. They are a community in God. A community of Christ-followers gathered together through the Holy Spirit.

The Adult Forum has been meeting again and we recently explored 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10. You might have heard it in worship also. It's the beginning of a letter from Paul and friends to the church communities in Thessalonica and he starts the letter by praising them and encouraging them. In our conversations around scripture we've been trying to stay focused on what God could be speaking to us as individuals and as a church community. And this week, it came down to, well, these people are doing alright! Paul seems to be encouraging the same faithful living that they have been doing.

So what were they doing? Paul praises them for the welcome he and his fellow missionaries received there. And he praises them for the welcome that the gospel of Jesus received in the hearts of the people of Thessalonica. They've welcomed the stranger, they've received the good news, and now they are acting on it! Well done church!

How are we doing with that? Are we welcoming the people in our midst? Saying hi to those we may know by face or not by name? Or those we haven't seen before? Linger over coffee after worship to spend time learning about someone new? Sharing the love of God with someone else who isn't even in our church building at all?

Being welcoming seems simple but it can also be messy. I recently introduced myself to a family as if I had never met them before when in fact they have been a part of the St. Paul's community FOR YEARS! Oops. Thankfully, I realized my mistake fairly quickly and they were very gracious about my mistake. I think sometimes that fear of a mistake keeps us from saying hello at all. But this unabashed welcome, making space for others, and reaching across the aisle even when our nerves get the best of us are part of what makes a church community home for others.

Paul also reminds us that to be followers of Christ takes some effort on our part. Paul thanks the church for their "work of faith and labor of love", and for their "steadfastness of hope in Christ". I'm looking forward to seeing what other things we uncover as part of our listening together but be also encouraged for God is working in you and in us even when we are messy and imperfect.

Thanks be to God! ~Pastor Kristen

Parish Council - November 2023

Two of the Council's 2023-24 initiatives are underway. Vanessa Solomon is leading a project to grow the Staff Support Committee into a robust human resources structure. This effort is intended to support the increasing number of staff and volunteers needed to execute the expanding number of ministries at St. Paul's. Vanessa is looking for assistance with the project as well as anyone interested in joining the Staff Support Committee. Please contact her if this is something that appeals to you.

Sue Epstein and Sara Hannon are working with the Christian Education Committee to expand the Sunday School program and curriculum. This effort will also include studying the feasibility of restoring a Nursery service. Please contact them if you have an interest in participating in this initiative. Our success ultimately depends on the skills and talents of our teams, and we certainly have an abundance of talent within our merged congregations! Thank you all in advance for your participation and continuing support.

~ Kathryn Francis, MD

New Adult Forum Starting at SPEC



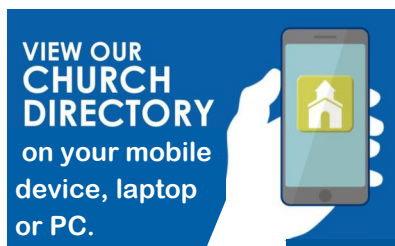
Sunday mornings 8:50-9:30am.

Conversaion and dwelling in God's word together.

Newcomers Welcome!!

Oct 15th – Nov 19th

The Online Directory



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

Our Food Ministries

Daily Bread Food Truck & Kevin Guest House



The Daily Bread Food Truck has received a special request from the Tigers Den Food Pantry. They would like us to provide breakfast to their families on the second and fourth Saturday of each month. Hilde Neubauer has volunteered to lead this mission and Tony Piette will be training her to have the knowledge to cook on the Truck.

We will be serving breakfast from 9:00 am - 12:00 pm beginning on October 28 and the menu will consist of two items - one savory and one sweet. In addition to Hilde, we will need one person to assist on the truck and one person to take orders.

This is a great opportunity for us to expand our mission of providing a hot and nutritious meal to those in need. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the office at 716-835-0407 or email dailybread4007@gmail.com. You may also contact me directly.

Leslie
716-525-2443
leslie1224@roadrunner.com

On November 2, continuing the tradition from the Amherst Campus, a meal will be delivered to the **Kevin Guest House** from Giacobbi's. The meal will consist of baked ziti, tossed salad, Italian bread and cookies & canoli.

Tiger's Den Food Pantry



We want to express our sincere gratitude to everyone who helped us refill the pantry shelves. In October, we had 78 families who needed our assistance. Food insecurity issues have grown greatly over the past few months and more families are looking for ways to feed their children. On a happier note, a very generous person donated a freezer to the pantry, which we will use to store the frozen turkeys (regular and halal) we will receive from Feedmore. While not all of our families celebrate Thanksgiving, all of them can enjoy a family turkey dinner! Please know we are giving thanks for all you do for our families.

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

Thursdays: November 2, 16 & 30, from 3:00 pm—6:30 pm

Saturdays: November 11 and 25, from 9:00 am—12:30 pm



Donations needed for November:

Cereal, Knorr Rice & Pasta packages & sugar



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 & distribute 100+ burritos. If interested in becoming a part of the Burrito Project, contact Adam at: adamw308@yahoo.com

The next meeting is Tuesday, Nov. 21 at 6.00 pm at SPEC

Ministries

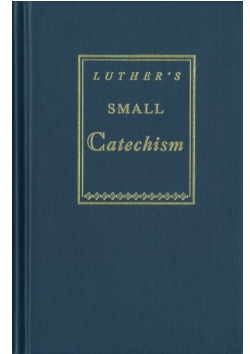


Adult Bible Study meets every Tuesday at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Room

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.



COMFORTERS

The Comforters will meet on **Wednesday, November 8 at 10:00 a.m.** upstairs in the Parish Hall.

Join us for fellowship, ministry, lunch and dessert.

In October we supplied confirmation shawls to five youth who were confirmed on October 29. Thanks to everyone who made shawls this year. If you are able to make a shawl for next year's class, let us know. We will supply the yarn. Call Sara at 716-834-1833.

All are welcome to join our group. Come one time or every time. It's up to you. Bring your knitting or crochet project with you. 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 and drink. Dessert will be provided. Hope to see you there!

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 our leader, Mr. Richard Venator, please contact:

Kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Ministries continued

Book Club at the Amherst Campus

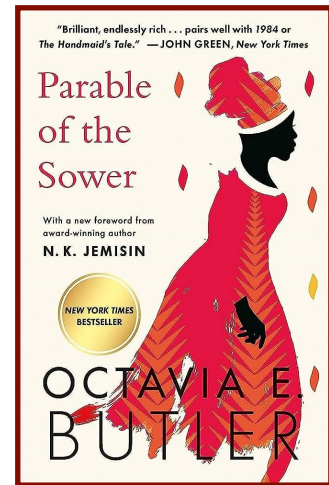
Date: Thursday, Nov. 9, 2023

Time: 7:15 pm

Where: 5125 Main Street
Williamsville, NY 14221

Featured book: *The Parable of the Sower*
by Octavia E. Butler

For info call: Karin (716) 689-6365



Pinochle



Meets on the first Wednesday of the month.

The next meeting is **November 1 at 1:00 pm**

We will be meeting at the Eggertsville Campus.



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

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

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



The next **Youth Group**
meeting will be held at the
Amherst Campus on:
Saturday, Nov. 11 at 6:00 pm

Members of the Youth Group
make 100 Hygiene Bags for
the homeless in October.

For info, email Adam at:
adamw308@yahoo.com



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 next practice is Thursday, November 9 at 7:00 pm in the SPEC music room.

Each Sunday before Worship, please come by 9:30 a.m.

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



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

Confirmation Classes

Classes are beginning! We are partnering again with Pastor Jeremiah and Parkside to
prepare students to Affirm their Baptisms! This is typically a two-year program for
students in 7th & 8th grade. We will meet on the first Sunday of the month from
11:30am-1:00pm. Lunch is included. If you have not gotten an email from Pastor
Kristen please reach out to the office (716-835-0407) so we can add you to our list.

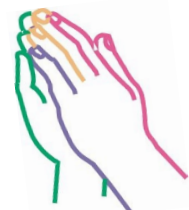
This month's meeting is **Nov 5th at St. Paul's Eggertsville.**

Prayer Team Ministry

If you would like to request prayers for a loved one or friend, you may click on the
following link: [Prayer Requests](#)

Or contact Heidi at: Heidi@stpaulseggertsville.com

We ask that you include the reason for the prayers and your contact
number, so we may do follow-ups on your needs. Thank you.



Sunday School

Happy Thanksgiving

October was filled with Fall crafts and lessons about being invited into Gods heavenly family, accepting His free gift of salvation and inviting others to share!

We also talked about trick questions and how sometimes they can be funny. But not when they are meant to harm someone. Jesus was given a trick question that was meant to harm Him. However, He was careful to answer wisely.

The Sunday before Halloween the kids learned about how we are sort of like a pumpkin being made into a Jacko lantern. Pumpkins are picked, washed off, cleaned out and given a light. Just like we are chosen, washed through our baptism, and made clean though repentance. We are then given a light to shine God's love onto others!

The children also wore their Halloween costumes and had a little party. They then passed out treats to our congregation!

This month we will be talking about gratitude. We will also be starting to plan for our Christmas Pageant and rehearsal will begin this month!

In peace & love,
~ June



Upcoming Events - Family & Youth Night - Nov. 4



Family Night - Friendsgiving
Saturday, November 4
at the Amherst Campus
5125 Main St.
Williamsville, NY 14221
Following 5:00 pm Worship

Our next event will be Saturday, November 4th after the 5:00 pm service to celebrate "Friendsgiving." We will be making cards to give to the residents of Harris Hill Nursing Facility.

If you have any blank greeting cards, please drop them off at church or bring them with you. We will try to send as many personalized cards for the residents as we can. All are invited and please bring a dish to share, if possible.

Mark your calendar for future nights: Dec. 2 - Christmas Decorating

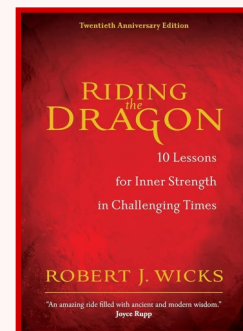
If you are interested in helping to coordinate any event or just have some great ideas to share, please contact Stacy Johnson at: stacylj27@gmail.com or text 716- 698-5504

Daylight Savings Time Ends Nov. 4

Don't forget to turn back your clocks tonight!

We will see you right on time at church service at 10:00 am!

Upcoming Men's Breakfast - Nov. 18



Copies of the book,
Riding the Dragon
will be available at St. Paul's

Angel Tree Tags - Nov. 18/19



ANGEL TREE GIFT TAGS

| Help Someone in Need |

Angel Tree tags coming the weekend of Nov. 18 and Nov. 19

Winter Retreat - Jan. 19—21, 2024

WINTER RETREAT AT LCLC

Add some fun, joy, peace and fellowship into an upcoming wintery weekend!

Our adult retreat at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center will be held:

January 19 - 21, 2024

Chat with anyone who has been on our retreat before and they can tell you how relaxing and enjoyable the weekend is . . . a good way to brighten up some cold winter days!

Soooo . . . mark your calendars now! A sign up sheet and details will be on the bulletin board in early November. . .

Only 30 spots are available!

We fill up fast!

Any questions, see or call Barb Walter

716-574-8527



Events from the St. Paul's Family



Andy Bland & Sara Gallagher enjoy the guests and pizza!

Family Fun Nights at ALC - 1st Saturday of each month

In October, we gathered again for a fall themed evening filled with food and fellowship. After supper, we assembled 100 hygiene kits to be distributed in conjunction with the Burrito Project. Funds for supplies were provided by a Thrivent Action Team grant. Each kit included: toothbrush, toothpaste, shampoo, lotion, deodorant, comb, soap and a razor. Youth of all ages helped to assemble the kits. Afterwards, there were smores by the campfire.



Karin Johnson starts off the assembly line in making Wellness Bags.



Sue & Jim Gustufson

Our Book Club at ALC

It's a great time when everyone can discuss and even differ on the book of the month!
It's never too late to drop in on a monthly book read. All Welcome!



Karen, Tim & Stacy Johnson



Betty, David and Leslie



Debbie, Sue, Sonja and Hilde

From the St. Paul's Family

Wishing a very Happy Birthday to our senior November Missionaries!



Mildred Adams	-	Nov. 01
James Aprile	-	Nov. 04
Vernn Stein	-	Nov. 07
Shirley McNamara	-	Nov. 07
Anthony Piette	-	Nov. 07
Edwina Stubbs	-	Nov. 15
Gerard Keppel	-	Nov. 16
Dean Davis	-	Nov. 16
Betty Pilato	-	Nov. 18
Lynn Gulick	-	Nov. 30



Sometimes, words are not even needed.
That's Tim Johnson, directing traffic.

Around & About



Ginger Davis (left center in front of the door), readies her volunteers for the **Chiavetta's Chicken BBQ**.

Despite the rain, spirits were high. The event raised nearly \$3,000.00 in support of the villages in the Congo.



Pastor Steve begins the worship service @ **Tavern at Windsor Park** for the **London, Bills vs. Jags** game.

More than 70 fans attended. Pastor Steve followed up with a media blitz!



From the St. Paul's Family - cont.

We would like to congratulate the following for their two year commitment towards the affirmation of their faith. Making their Confirmation on Sunday, Oct. 29, 2023 were:

Alice Johnson Liam Silsby Samantha Silsby Henry Schihl



We mourn the passing of Evelyn Berger with her friends and family.



We mourn the passing of Jeanette Ankowiak with her friends and family.



We mourn the passing of David Parezo, a member of the Fire Church.



We celebrate the upcoming marriage of Elizabeth Brown and Michael on November 25, 2023

Letters to St. Paul's

From the Lutheran Foundation of WNY:

Thank you for your contribution in the amount of \$150.00. Your contribution allows us to better serve the community with outreach programs and loans for capital improvements.

From the Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center, Inc.

Thank you for your donation of \$750.00 and sharing in LCLC's outdoor ministries. Your generous donation will help us continue to reach out and connect with many.

A donation was made in memory of Jeanette Davis Antkowisk, mother to Dean Davis and his wife, Ginger.



Lutheran Youth - Saturday, Nov. 18

Lutheran Youth WNY presents...

TURKEY BOWL & TAILGATE 2023



"Drafting" all 7-12th graders to come play in our first ever Flag Football Tournament. From 10am-4pm we will be: Exploring our "Faith through Service," Donating Turkeys to Military Families, making Bills flag pennants, eating dips, playing tailgate games, serving the local community and more!

Flag Football Tournament @ Howe Field

Tailgate, Games, and Food

@ All Saints Lutheran:

6065 South Park Ave, Hamburg, NY

Register at lutheranyouthwny.org or with your youth director!

Cost: Team - Donated Turkey + Donation
Individual - \$5 per person

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18th



St. Paul's Eggertsville & Amherst Campus

Telephone: 716-835-0407

Email: office @stpaulseggertsville.com

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

Pastors:

Steve Biegner: (cell) 716 - 868-1232

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 Thomas

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

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus

4007 Main Street

Eggertsville, NY 14226

Amherst Lutheran Campus

5125 Main St.

Williamsville, NY 14221

*Pastor Steve, Pastor Kristen
and the staff at St. Paul's & ALC
wish everyone a Blessed & Happy Thanksgiving*

In all things, give thanks.

- 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

