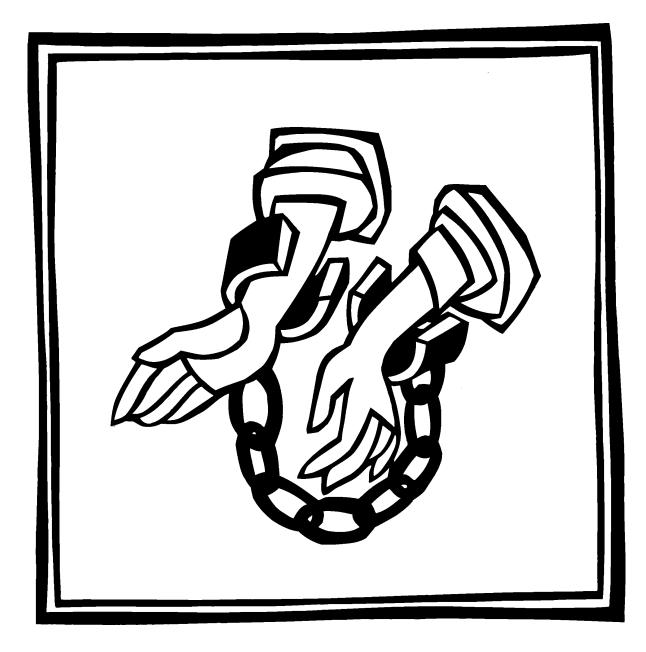
Third Saturday after Epiphany



January 25, 2025 5:00 pm St. Paul's Amherst Campus



New to St. Paul's? We're so glad you're here! Fill out this form so we can get to know you better!

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Amherst Campus Third Saturday after Epiphany January 25, 2025

Musician: Adam Schmidt

Brief order for Confession and Forgiveness

- P Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our creator, our protector, our wellspring of life.
- C Amen.
- P Trusting that God receives our words and the meditations of our hearts, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,
- C you speak blessing and compassion into the world. Forgive us for the ways we act with judgment, cruelty, or indifference. We ignore the needs of our neighbors; we resist your call to oppose injustice; we give in to scarcity and fear; we assume the worst about one another. Cleanse us from our faults and release us from their grasp. Show us your lovingkindness. Restore our hearts and repair your world, that we may live in Christ's ways. Amen.
- P God proclaims these words of assurance: "Do not fear, for I have redeemed you. I have called you by name. You are mine." In + Christ, you are forgiven. In the Spirit, you are made free.
- C Amen.



Apostolic Greeting

- P The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
- C And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

- P Blessed Lord God, you have caused the holy scriptures to be written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that, comforted by your promises, we may embrace and forever hold fast to the hope of eternal life, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

Praise Hymn: LBW 518



Beautiful Savior

First Reading: Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

The exiles have returned and rebuilt Jerusalem. Now Ezra, the priest, reads the law of Moses to them in the public square. When they hear it, they weep for their sins and for the long years in exile, but Ezra reminds them that "the joy of the LORD is your strength."

All the people [of Israel] gathered together into the square before the Water Gate. They told the scribe Ezra to bring the book of the law of Moses, which the LORD had given to Israel. Accordingly, the priest Ezra brought the law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could hear with understanding. This was on the first day of the seventh month. He read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand; and the ears of all the people were attentive to the book of the law. And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was standing above all the people; and when he opened it, all the people stood up. Then Ezra blessed the LORD, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. Then they bowed their heads and worshiped the LORD with their faces to the ground. So they read from the book, from the law of God, with interpretation. They gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the LORD your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept when they heard the words of the law. Then he said to them, "Go your way, eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions of them to those for whom nothing is prepared, for this day is holy to our LORD; and do not be grieved, for the joy of the LORD is your strength."

- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:12-31a

The apostle and pastor Paul uses the metaphor of the human body to describe how intimately connected we are in the church. For this struggling congregation in Corinth, Paul delivers a vital message of unity that is a mark of the church today.

For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Indeed, the body does not consist of one member but of many. If the foot would say, "Because I am not a hand, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. And if the ear would say, "Because I am not an eye, I do not belong to the body," that would not make it any less a part of the body. If the whole body were an eye, where would the hearing be? If the whole body were hearing, where would the sense of smell be? But as it is, God arranged the members in the body, each one of them, as he chose. If all were a single member, where would the body be? As it is, there are many members, yet one body. The eye cannot say to the hand, "I have no need of you," nor again the head to the feet, "I have no need of you." On the contrary, the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable, and those members of the body that we think less honorable we clothe with greater honor, and our less respectable members are treated with greater respect; whereas our more respectable members do not need this. But God has so arranged the body, giving the greater honor to the inferior member, that there may be no dissension within the body, but the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it.

Now you are the body of Christ and individually members of it. And God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers; then deeds of power, then gifts of healing, forms of assistance, forms of leadership, various kinds of tongues. Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Do all work miracles? Do all possess gifts of healing? Do all speak in tongues? Do all interpret? But strive for the greater gifts.

- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.



Gospel Hymn: WOV 640: Gloria

- P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the Fourth Chapter.
- C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 4:14-21

Near the beginning of Jesus' public ministry, he visits his hometown of Nazareth. In the words of Isaiah, he states and claims his identity, purpose, and mission.

Then Jesus, filled with the power of the Spirit, returned to Galilee, and a report about him spread through all the surrounding country. He began to teach in their synagogues and was praised by everyone.

When he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, he went to the synagogue on the sabbath day, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written:

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to let the oppressed go free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor."

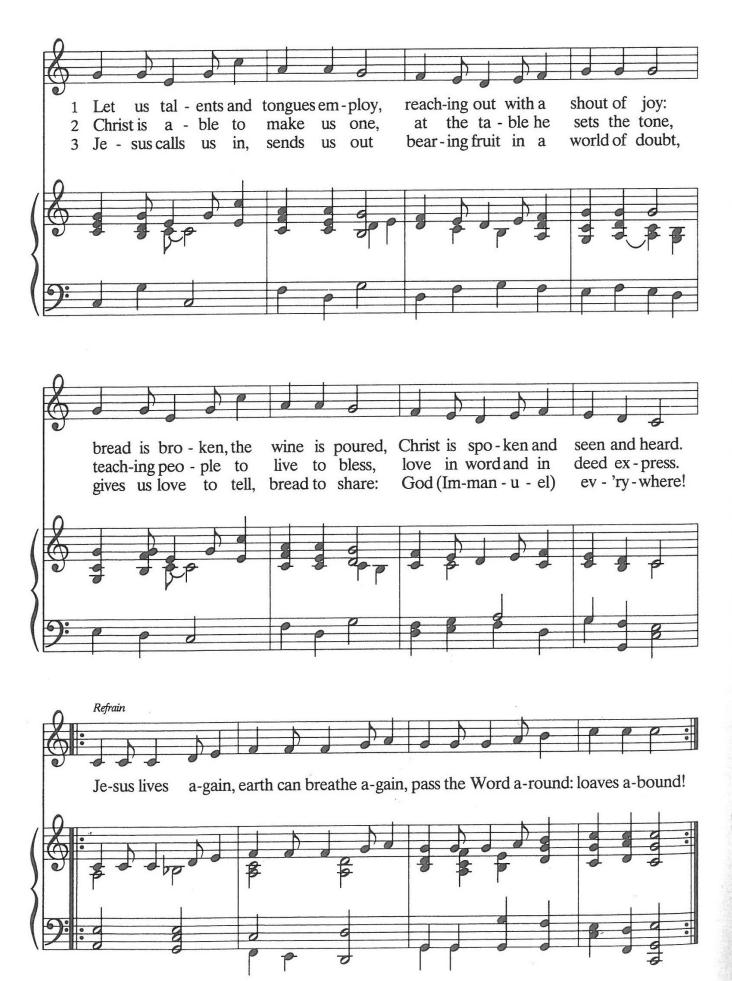
And he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant, and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. Then he began to say to them, "Today this scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing."

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon



Sermon Hymn: WOV 754: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ



Apostle's Creed

- **P** With the whole church, let us confess our faith together:
- C I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Prayers of the Church

P With the Spirit of Christ shining upon us, let us boldly pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. (Please be seated.)
As your word is opened in our midst, we give thanks for all who share scripture: for parents, grandparents, and godparents; teachers and mentors; deacons, pastors, bishops, and scholars. Inspire passion for the stories of faith. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

P As heavens declare your glory and the sky proclaims your work, we lift our voices in awe of quarks and atoms, vast stars and solar systems. Guide us to speak on behalf of your handiwork. God of grace,

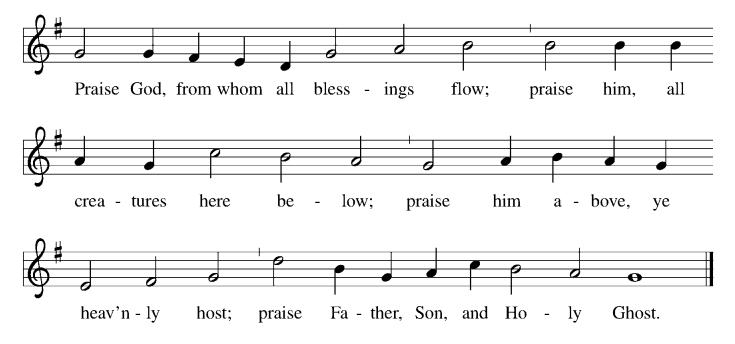
C hear our prayer.

- P As Jesus proclaimed life and freedom in his community, energize communities and nations to eliminate poverty, engage in prison ministry and transformative justice, and envision new ways of working together for your promised reign. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P As your word and presence revive the soul, accompany all experiencing depression, anxiety, or eating disorders; be a source of strength for all affected by memory loss and their caregivers; draw near to all undergoing medical treatment or surgery. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now either silently or aloud. God of grace,

- C hear our prayer.
- P As we are made one body in baptism, strengthen all who serve. Renew and inspire all who use their gifts in this congregation, community, and the world. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P As our faith is strengthened by saints who have gone before us, we remember leaders of the early church, and beloved friends and family who have died. God of grace,
- C hear our prayer.
- P We entrust our prayers to you, O God, in the sure and certain hope that your promise is revealed among the people.
- C Amen.

Offering Hymn: LBW 564

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711 Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510–1561

Ways to Give to St. Paul's: Options you can use to continue tithing to St. Paul's:

- **In-Person Worship:** Continue to put your envelopes and cash in the plate
- **Giving by Mail:** Please mail your donations payable to St. Paul's, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226
- Online: The St. Paul's website contains a link to Online Giving. The website is: https://stpaulseggertsville.com/online-giving/



Offering Prayer

- P Let us pray.
- C God of grace, your love reaches to the heavens, and your abundance to the depths of the seas. Bless what we offer here and in our planned giving to your service: our gifts, our abilities, and our hearts. Let us overflow with gratitude and generosity, now and always. Amen.

Dialogue and Preface

- P The Lord be with you.
- C And also with you.
- P Lift up your hearts.
- C We lift them to the Lord.
- P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C It is right to give God thanks and praise.
- P It is indeed right and proper that we should at all times and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and speak their unending hymn:

Sanctus (spoken)

C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

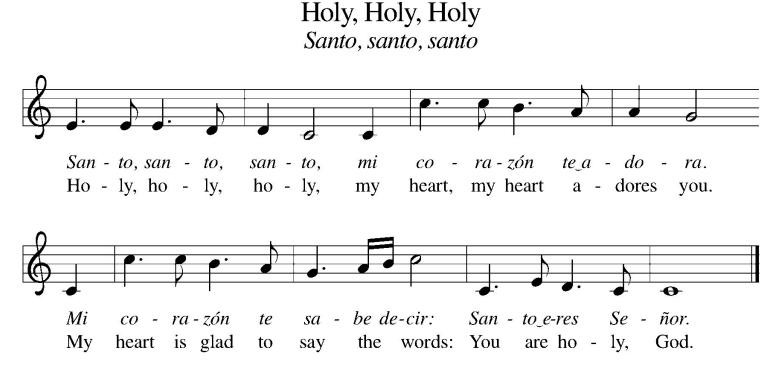
P In the night in which he was handed over, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

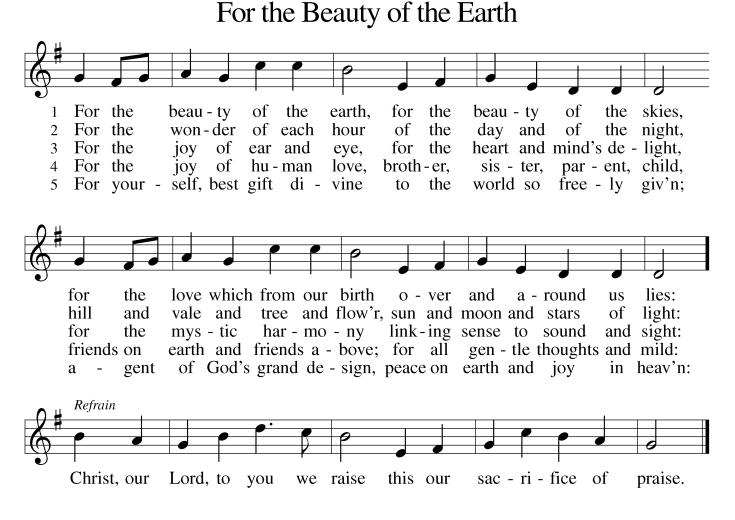
- P Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:
- C Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Communion Hymn: W&P 62



Text: Argentine traditional Music: ARGENTINE SANTO, Argentine traditional <u>Holy Communion at St. Paul's</u>: celebrated every time we gather, and is open to all. Please approach by the center aisle, receive the bread and the wine, and return to your seat via the side aisle. Gluten-free wafers and grape juice are available. Simply request it from the Assisting Minister holding the wine. Children are welcome! Those who receive elsewhere may receive here. Children who do not yet receive may come for a blessing. If you have difficulty walking, communion will be brought to you at your seat.

Distribution Hymn: LBW 561



Text: Folliott S. Pierpoint, 1835–1917, alt. Music: DIX, Conrad Kocher, 1786–1872

Communion Blessing

- P The body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, strengthen us and keep us in his grace.
- C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

- P Nourishing God, at this table you have refreshed us with holy gifts of food and drink. Strengthen us for service, and send us out to embody your good news of liberation and healing for the sake of the world. In the name of Christ we pray,
- C Amen.

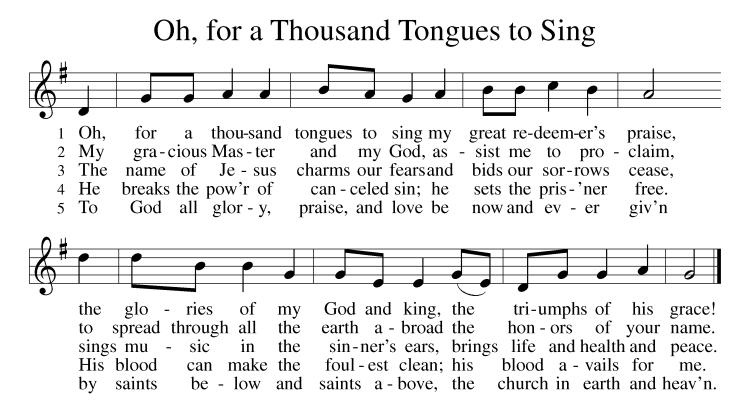
Benediction

- P And now as you go on your way, may the Lord go with you. May he go before you to show you the way, behind you to encourage you, beside you to be your friend, above you to watch over you, and within you to give you peace. Go today celebrating in the name of the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, and all God's children said...
- C Amen

Closing Hymn: LBW 559 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

- P Go in peace to serve the Lord!
- C Thanks be to God.



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: AZMON, Carl G. Gläser, 1784–1829

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: January 26-February 2, 2025

Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Eggertsville Campus

Sunday:	9:00-9:45 am: No Adult Forum Today
•	9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC
	10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
	10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
	1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC
Monday:	11:00 am: Robert Schumann's Funeral
	4:15-5:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
	5:30-9:00 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC
Tuesday:	10:00 am: Bible Study
	5:00-6:30 pm: Recovery on Main (NA)
	7:00-9:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale Rehearsal
Wednesday: 6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group	
	8:00 pm: AA Meeting
Thursday:	3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
Friday:	7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging (formerly Emotional Sobriety II)
Saturday:	9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC
	5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC followed by Family Fun Night
Sunday:	9:00-9:45 am: Adult Forum
	9:30 am-1:30 pm: Western New York Church at AC
	10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
	10:00 am: Worship, Communion, and Sunday School
	1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC
	2:00 pm: 4th Annual Snowball Golf Classic at Wehrle Golf Dome

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Cindy Milazzo-Schwartz; Brigitte Lowe; Bob O'Brian (Mark O'Brian's brother); Sandy Simet; Diane Millace; Richard Elliott; Aaron Torres (friend of Sandy Hoehn); Charles Herschlag; Kathy Greenawalt; Gloria Chaves (Betty Aprile's sister); Jim and Sue Gustafson; Sue Epstein; Rosemond Johnson

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (indicates new names or changes added this week)* Ruth Blank: Scofield Residence, 3333 Elmwood Avenue, #121, Buffalo, NY 14217 Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D110, 5958 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086 John Hornung: Brothers of Mercy, 10570 Bergtold Road, Clarence, NY 14031 Jan Isaacs: 6 Bush Gardens, Three Rod Road, Alden, NY 14004 Dave Lampe: 829 N Hurff Drive, Elmwood, IL 61529 Elaine Masman: Heathwood Assisted Living, 815 Hopkins, Room 251, Williamsville, NY 14221 Dorothy Menth: Elderwood at Basset Park, 245 Bassett Road, #54, Williamsville, NY 14221 Wilma Nantka: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #238, Williamsville, NY 14221 David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has two in-person worship services: Saturday evening at 5:00 pm at the Amherst Campus, 5125 Main Street, Williamsville, 14221, and Sunday morning at 10:00 am at the Eggertsville Campus, 4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, 14226. The Sunday 10:00 am worship service is also livestreamed on St. Paul's YouTube page.

Church Unleashed: If you cannot join us for in-person worship, please continue to worship with us as Church Unleashed on Sunday mornings at 10:00 am on WBBZ, YouTube, or Facebook.

Prayer Team Ministry: 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 Cody at: Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com

Nursery/Nursing Mom's Room: Located downstairs by the Sunday School room. There is a wall TV for streaming the Sunday worship service. Babies 0-24 months are welcome in the nursery and must be monitored by their parent.

NEWANNOUNCEMENTS

Daily Bread Food Truck: The 2024 Monday Meal Share is underway each Monday from 4:15-5:15 pm. If you are interested in volunteering or donating, contact the office at 716-835-0407 or dailybread4007@gmail.com.

Tigers Den Food Pantry: The Food Pantry is open to anyone in need in zip code 14226, is associated with St. Paul's Amherst Campus, or by referral. The remaining pantry hours for January are: Thursday 1/30 from 3:00-6:30 pm;. Donations for January are: canned fruit and cereal.

Funeral for Robert Schumann: Will be held at St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus on Monday, January 27 at 11:00 am.



Join us in celebrating the installation of Jordan Dywan as our new Youth Minister. Jordan will be officially installed tomorrow during the 10:00 am service at the Eggertsville Campus.



Family Fun Night

Come join us tonight for Family Fun Night as we enjoy a meal and conversation with our church family in the Gathering Area at AC following the 5:00 pm service.

Pizza and drinks will be provided. If you are able, bring a side dish (veggies or fruit) or dessert to share.





+ St. Paul's Mission + To empower others with the Good News of Jesus Christ. We do that by: Seeking Connections, Enriching Faith, Nourishing Lives, and Demonstrating Love in God's Name.

St. Paul's Congregation Council

President: Robert Simpson Vice-President: Tim Johnson Treasurer: William Niblock Secretary: Scott Vahue Bob Brown David Dahlberg Susan Epstein Sara Hannon Janet Schmidt Vanessa Solomon Barbara Walter

Pastoral Leaders

Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com Kristen Arends: Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Directors of Music: Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)

<u>Christian Education Coordinator</u>: June Piette <u>Youth Ministry</u>: Kristen Arends <u>Digital Ministry</u>: Andrew Gruszka <u>Facilities Manager</u>: Jeff Stein

Church Office Staff

Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary E-mail: office@stpaulseggertsville.com Telephone: (716) 835-0407 Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus 4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:00 am

St. Paul's Amherst Campus 5125 Main Street Williamsville, NY 14221

Worship Service: Saturdays at 5:00 pm