

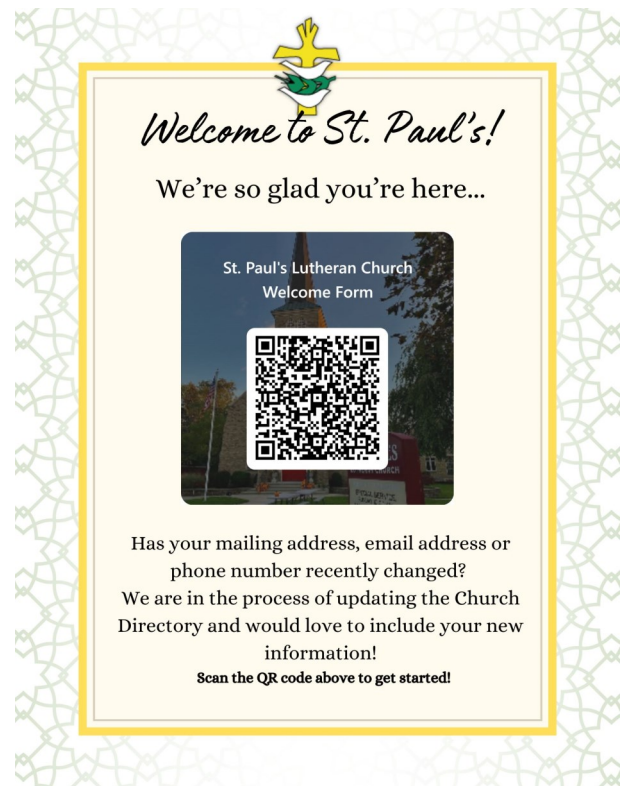
Third Sunday after Pentecost



*June 29, 2025
10:00 am
St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus*

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
Eggertsville Campus
Third Sunday after Pentecost
June 29, 2025*

Musician: Paul Storfer



Confession and Forgiveness

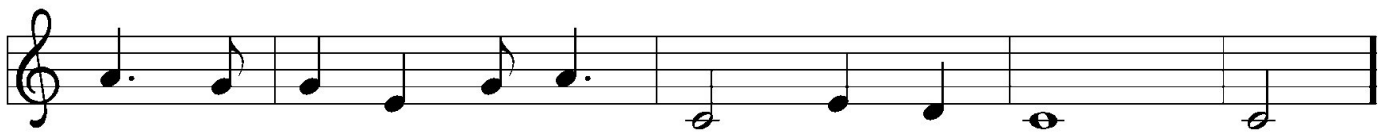
- P In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.
- P Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin. Merciful God,
C you free us to love others, but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way. You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace, but we turn away from the abundant life you offer. You surround us with patience, kindness, and generosity, but we grow weary in doing what is right. In your mercy, forgive us. Do not give up on us. Heal us, break our bonds, and show us the path of life in you. Amen.
- P You belong to Christ Jesus and you are God's children through faith. In the cross of ☩ Christ, and through the power of the Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
C Amen.

Opening Hymn: WOV 777

Give Me Jesus

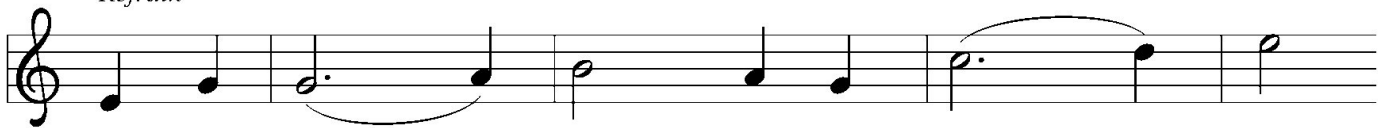


1 In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I rise,
2 Dark . . . mid-night was my cry, dark . . . mid-night was my cry,
3 Just a - bout the break of day, just a - bout the break of day,
4 Oh, . . . when I come to die, oh, . . . when I come to die,
5 And . . . when I want to sing, and . . . when I want to sing,



in the morn - ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
dark . . . mid - night was my cry, give me Je - sus.
just a - bout the break of day, give me Je - sus.
oh, . . . when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
and . . . when I want to sing, give me Je - sus.

Refrain



Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus.



You may have all the rest, give me Je - sus.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: GIVE ME JESUS, African American spiritual

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 Sovereign God, ruler of all hearts, you call us to obey you, and you favor us with true freedom. Keep us faithful to the ways of your Son, that, leaving behind all that hinders us, we may steadfastly follow your paths, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C Amen

First Reading: Galatians 5:1, 13-25

For Paul, the freedom Christ gives is not permission to do whatever we want. It is the invitation to be what we could not be otherwise. The power and guidance of Christ's Holy Spirit produce a different kind of life, one marked by the fruit of this Holy Spirit.

For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery. For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh; for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. Now the works of the flesh are obvious: fornication, impurity, licentiousness, idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

Psalm 16 (read responsively)

I have set the LORD always before me. (Ps. 16:8)

- A Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”
- C All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people.
- A But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied.
- C I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips.
- A O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.
- C My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.
- A I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night.
- C I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.
- A My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope.
- C For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit.
- A You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.
- A This is the Word of the Lord
- C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation
Celtic Alleluia



Verses may be sung by a leader. Then the alleluia is repeated.

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke the 9th Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Luke 9:51-62

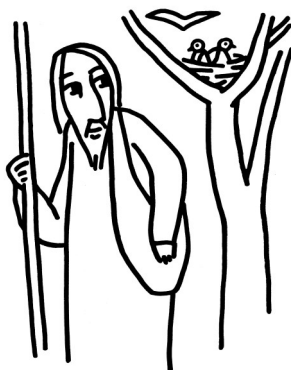
Jesus is unwavering in his commitment to his mission in Jerusalem and will not be swayed by pettiness. In a series of striking cases in point, he calls his disciples to a similar single-mindedness.

When the days drew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to make ready for him; but they did not receive him, because his face was set toward Jerusalem. When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, “Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?” But he turned and rebuked them. Then they went on to another village.

As they were going along the road, someone said to him, “I will follow you wherever you go.” And Jesus said to him, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests; but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” To another he said, “Follow me.” But he said, “Lord, first let me go and bury my father.” But Jesus said to him, “Let the dead bury their own dead; but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God.” Another said, “I will follow you, Lord; but let me first say farewell to those at my home.” Jesus said to him, “No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God.”

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

Sermon



O Jesus, I Have Promised



1 O Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;
2 Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ev - er near.
3 Oh, let me hear you speak - ing in ac - cents clear and still
4 O Je - sus, you have prom - ised to all who fol - low you



re - main for - ev - er near me, my mas - ter and my friend.
I see the sights that daz - zle, the tempt-ing sounds I hear.
a - bove the storms of pas - sion, the mur - murs of self - will.
that where you are in glo - ry your ser - vant shall be too.



I shall not fear the bat - tle if you are by my side,
My foes are ev - er near me, a - round me and with - in;
Now speak to re - as - sure me, to has - ten or con - trol;
And Je - sus, I have prom - ised to serve you to the end;



nor wan - der from the path - way if you will be my guide.
but, Je - sus, then draw near - er to shield my soul from sin.
now speak and make me lis - ten, O Guard-ian of my soul.
oh, give me grace to fol - low, my mas - ter and my friend.

Text: John E. Bode, 1816–1874, alt.

Music: MUNICH, *Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch*, Meiningen, 1693

Apostle's Creed

A 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

A Drawn into the embrace of the holy Trinity, we lift our prayers for the wholeness of the church, the world, and all creation. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

Guide your church, O God. Anoint us for service and make us messengers of your peace. Emboldened by the witness of Christians throughout history, send us to proclaim your reign come near. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Protect this world, O God. Watch over fields and fruit trees, foxes and birds, the pleasant land beneath us and the sun and moon above. Keep us mindful of the rich inheritance you have given us in the natural world. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Counsel our leaders, O God. Make them steadfast in seeking justice and unable to be shaken as they pursue peace. Lead them by your Spirit to listen and respond to the people they govern. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

A Uphold all who suffer, O God. Give refuge to those of us who know rejection, and shelter to those of us who have nowhere to lay our heads. Bring any who are sick into your healing presence. We pray especially for the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Give all your fullness of joy. God of grace,

C hear our prayer.

- A Set free this assembly, O God. Grow your Spirit's fruits within us and within our congregation's ministries. Set our faces always on you, that we might live in the freedom to which you have called us. God of grace,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- A Embrace all your saints, O God. We thank you for the faithful departed. Let us rejoice that you do not abandon us to the grave but lead us on the path of life. God of grace,
- C **hear our prayer.**
- A Gather all our prayers in your mercy, O God, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
- C **Amen.**

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/>

QR Code:

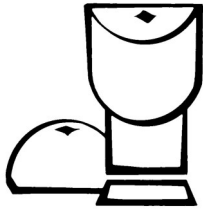


Offering Music and Prayer

- P Let us pray.
- C Creator God, in your wisdom you bring forth all that is good and the harvest is plentiful. Strengthen us at your table with these gifts of the earth and our labor. May the gifts we offer here and in our planned giving be used for the good of all; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. Amen.

Blessing of Communion Kits and our Visitation Ministers

- C Compassionate God, as Jesus called his disciples to follow him, bless those who go forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick and homebound. May these gifts be signs of our love and prayers, that through the sharing of the body and blood of Christ, all may know your grace and healing revealed in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Dialogue and Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

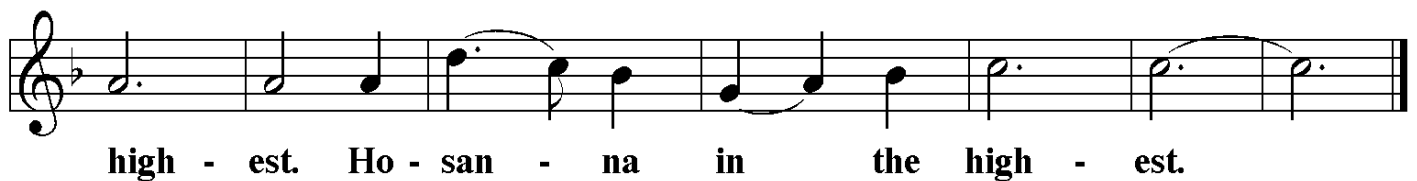
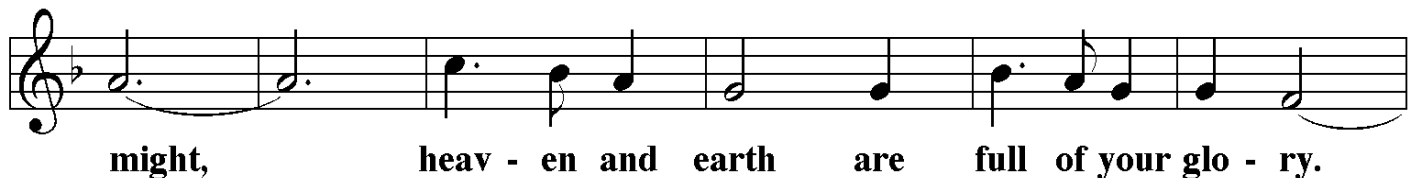
P Lift up your hearts.

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 sing their unending hymn:



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

Holy Communion at St. Paul's: 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.

Communion Blessing

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Prayer After Communion

P Mothering God, you gathered us to your table and we drank deeply of your grace. Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

Benediction

P And now as you go on your way, may our Lord Jesus 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 501

He Leadeth Me



1 He lead - eth me: oh, bless-ed thought! Oh, words with heav'n-ly com-fort fraught!
2 Some-times mid scenes of deep-est gloom, some-times where E - den's bow-ers bloom,
3 Lord, I would clasp thy hand in mine, nor ev - er mur - mur nor re - pine;
4 And when my task on earth is done, when by thy grace the vic-t'ry's won,



What-e'er I do, wher-e'er I be, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
by wa - ters calm, o'er trou-bled sea, still 'tis God's hand that lead - eth me.
con - tent, what-ev - er lot I see, since 'tis my God that lead - eth me.
e'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jor - dan lead - eth me.



He lead-eth me, he lead-eth me, by his own hand he lead-eth me.



His faith-ful fol-l'wer I would be, for by his hand he lead - eth me.

Dismissal

P Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

C Thanks be to God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: June 29-July 6, 2025

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

- Sunday:** 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 and Communion
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC
- Monday:** 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share
5:30-9:30 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC
7:00-8:30 pm: Waiting in Hope
- Tuesday:** 5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)
- Wednesday:** 1:00 pm: Pinochle Group
6:30-8:30 pm: Ray of Hope Prayer Group at AC
8:00 pm: AA Meeting
- Thursday:** 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
- Friday:** **July 4th: Church Office Closed**
7:00-8:30 pm: Traveling and Trudging Meeting
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC
- Sunday:** 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 and Communion
1:00 pm: Ray of Hope at AC

Deacons: 6/29: John Schunak; 7/6:

Ushers: 6/29: Michael & Michele Degen; 7/6: Bob & Karen Brown

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Kate Kopasz and Lynda Lotempio (Phyllis Campbell's nieces); Sylvia McLaughlin; Julia Jarvis (Andrea Jarvis' daughter); Michelle Uro-Ramos (Dave Hornung's daughter); Bob O'Brian (Mark O'Brian's brother); Gloria Chaves (Betty Aprile's sister); Sue Epstein

Prayer List: Shut-Ins (* indicates new names or changes added this week)

Neal DeLeo: Greenfield Manor, #D127, 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

Joan Maefs: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #136, East Amherst, NY 14051

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

Charles Scofield: Beechwood, 2235 Millersport Highway, #706, Getzville, NY 14068

Ira Striejewske: 48 Cornell Avenue, Eggertsville, NY

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

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.

NEW ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 pantry hours for July are: Thursdays 7/3, 7/17, and 7/31 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturdays 7/12 and 7/26 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for July: crackers, juice, and granola bars.

Congratulations to our "continuing" Church Council Members: The following individuals were re-elected: David Dahlberg, Robert Brown, Sara Hannon, Janet Schmidt, and Vanessa Solomon.



UPDATE ON THE CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ON JUNE 22, 2025

At the meeting Sunday morning, both Motions passed. St. Paul's will move in the weeks and months ahead to (a) look to sell the Amherst Campus property and (b) begin an expansion project for increased space to battle food insecurity and build relationships in the Eggertsville neighborhood.

We are so thankful for all those who came out the meeting and listening sessions. We know that there is great excitement and deep grief surrounding these moves. We've heard your concerns and the Council and staff will be keeping what we've learned in mind as we move forward.

While there will be some work beginning over the summer on the Columbarium plans and design phase of the new project, most of the work and more updates will come in the fall. Until then, everything at the Amherst Campus will remain as is and we look forward to continuing to worship together on Saturday nights.

Here are a couple architectural renderings of the potential new space that we forgot to share at the meeting on Sunday. They are draft images and a Building Team will soon be established to firm up plans that will help St. Paul's fulfill the mission to reach beyond ourselves with the good news of Jesus Christ.

The congregation will be meeting in the future again to (a) approve the final price and purchaser of the Amherst Campus property and (b) approve the final plans for the Eggertsville expansion.





Why on earth would we ever celebrate Christmas only ONCE a year? The good news that God has become incarnate (tangibly shown up!) in our world is too good to only celebrate mid-winter.

So, let's do it again in July!

And with Christmas at St. Paul's comes our Angel Tree, where so many of you pick up gift tags to help bless so many families in need. You help them see God showing up!

This summer, we'll do it again with locker ladders and food gift cards. The social work staff at the Amherst Family Support Center have started to raise donations of locker ladders for Amherst students with significant financial barriers who may have special needs and/or struggle organizing their schedule and needed class supplies. When students are unorganized, take the wrong books from their lockers or are delayed to class, their learning is impacted negatively. Locker ladders have historically helped students to better organize their supplies and books and set them up for success in school. You can take a gift tag for one of these lockers and purchase locally or buy on the Amazon link https://www.amazon.com/dp/B001977S8U?ref=fed_asin_title&th=1 to have delivered straight to St. Paul's. You can also grab a gift card for \$25 for Tops to help out Tiger's Den families.

Either way, bring them all back or have them delivered by July 6th when we will celebrate Christmas in July. And as always, thanks for continuing to show our local families in need that God continues to show up!





*+ 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: (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com*

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

Christian Education Coordinator: *June Piette*

Youth Ministry: *Jordan Dywan*

Digital Ministry: *Andrew Gruszka*

Facilities Manager: *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