

June  
2025

# The Messenger

St. Paul's Lutheran Church



ST. PAUL'S  
LUTHERAN CHURCH

Eggertsville & Amherst  
Campuses

# JUNE

***NEW! Walk & Talks with Kristen & Steve***



## WALK & TALKS

WITH STEVE AND KRISTEN

Remember your old walkie talkie? I always had fun with mine for about five minutes. Because it would go all crackly and I couldn't understand what my friend was saying and we'd give up because the connection wasn't clear enough. So, forget the walkie talkie, and the rotary phone, and facebook messages, and the text messages and let's meet up FACE TO FACE! Steve and I have both blocked out time through June, July and August to host "Walk & Talks". You can ask [office@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:office@stpaulseggertsville.com) for a link to our calendars and sign up for a time to go on a 45 minute walk (or run if you're with Steve). There are multiple weekday and weekend options, and you can go for a one-on-one or small group. Let's connect with one another, the neighborhood, and God, without the crackly connections. Over and out.

EMAIL [OFFICE@STPAULSEGGERTSVILLE.COM](mailto:OFFICE@STPAULSEGGERTSVILLE.COM) FOR MORE INFORMATION!

*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 Pastoral Message from Steve*

Dear Missionaries and Friend of St. Paul's,

This is an incredible, Pentecost-like time to be the church. The good news of Jesus love is needed in the community NOW more than ever. The Holy Spirit is active and the mission field is ripe. The question is, are we willing to step a little farther out of our comfort zone and traditions to see if we can reach more deeply into the community and the lives of so many in need?

St. Paul's has continued to do that in the 198-year storied history of this church. Over this time, St. Paul's: launched a church on Main Street so that it could reach two different ethnic communities to the north and south; battled through fires and setbacks but always rebuilt; took the risk multiple times to reach college students with spiritual support; helped launch Grace Ministries in Haiti with a school, church and medical clinic; partnered with the school district to open a food pantry; bought a food truck to battle food insecurity even more. And the list goes on!

So now we add to the list! We look to add space to our Eggertsville campus that will reach people with more food security opportunities in a space for those that aren't comfortable in a tradition church.

The Council will be proposing these two motions for our June 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting:

### **Motion 1:**

*Resolved, that St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church sell the Amherst Campus property, in recognition of increasing administrative and financial burdens, in order to focus and strengthen our ministry presence and mission in the Eggertsville community.*

### **Motion 2:**

*Resolved, that the net proceeds from the sale of the Amherst Campus be designated for the expansion of the Eggertsville Campus, specifically for the construction of a coffee house and gathering area to support the Daily Bread food ministry and enhance our capacity for community outreach and relationship-building.*

We will have time to talk and pray through these steps together. You are invited to be a part of the discussion times: June 8<sup>th</sup> at 11am after worship in Eggertsville; June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm-7:30pm at Eggertsville; June 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:45pm after worship at Amherst.

## ***A Pastoral Message from Steve (continued)***

More information will also be coming out multiple times via email in a “Did You Know?” format. We hope these bullets will answer many of your questions. If you have a question you’d like addressed, please email one of the pastoral staff or Council President.

The Lead Action Team, Council and staff have been working on this exciting step for many months and are looking forward to sharing more information as June rolls on.

At this point, we ask you to pray for this endeavor and its potential to reach people that would never darken the door of a traditional church with the good news of Jesus. Our calling is to “*reach beyond ourselves*” and this just may be a way for the oldest Lutheran church around to launch one of the newest and most exciting ventures for God’s mission.

Be good, do good, God bless, go Bills,  
Pastor Steve

## ***Message from the Council***

The Church Council met on Monday, May 6th. At this time, there are no significant updates or items to report to the congregation. We remain grateful for your continued prayers and support as we carry out the administrative work of our church.

Looking ahead, we are eagerly anticipating the various events and fellowship opportunities planned for the summer months. These gatherings offer us a chance to connect, serve, and grow together in faith. Please keep an eye out for announcements and invitations in the coming weeks.

Additionally, preparations are underway for our upcoming Annual Congregational Meeting.

This meeting is scheduled to take place on:

**Sunday, June 22nd after the 10 am worship at Eggertsville Campus.**

This important meeting provides an opportunity for every member to participate in the life and direction of our church community.

## *Food Ministries: Tiger's Den Food Pantry*



# TIGER'S DEN

Food Pantry

Thank you to everyone at St. Paul's for your continued support of Tiger's Den. Because of your generosity, we have grown and adapted to meet the needs of those who suffer from food insecurity in our area.

We greatly appreciate all your donations of financial support, canned food items, personal care items, paper products, and grocery gift cards which you have so generously contributed to the pantry over the past 8 years.

If you need to drop off donations outside of pantry hours or office hours, please feel free to use the "wooden house" situated outside the pantry door.

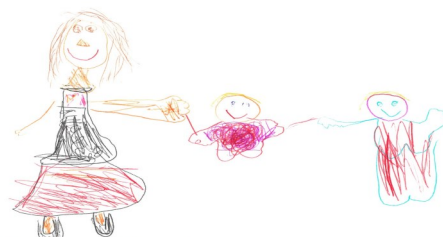
Pantry hours for June: Thursdays 6/5 and 6/19 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturdays 6/14 and 6/28 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm

Donations for June: Cereal and granola bars

A SPECIAL  
**THANK YOU**  
FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS

## *Thank you to St. Paul's*

Kevin Guest House reached out in thanks of the \$600 gift to their Foundation. Through the generosity of our congregation, we have contributed to providing a home away from home for more than 60,000 people traveling to Buffalo for critical medical care.



Dear Pastor Steve,  
My three children and I  
wanted to thank you for the  
Children's Bible. My Grandma Judy  
said you sent to us for free!  
That was very kind! Thank you!  
God Bless!

Chelsea, Leona, Lucas + August  
Leona Lucas



# **THERE'S SO MANY WAYS TO GET INVOLVED AT ST. PAUL'S:**

- NEW BEGINNINGS FOR SINGLE LADIES**
- GREETERS**
- WAITING IN HOPE INFERTILITY SUPPORT GROUP**
- TIGER'S DEN FOOD PANTRY**
- YOUTH GROUP**
- DAILY BREAD FOOD TRUCK**
- WHEELS FOR WORKERS**
- THE COMFORTERS**
- PINOCHLE**
- ASSISTING MINISTERS/USHERS**
- CHOIR**
- BIBLE STUDY**
- BURRITO PROJECT**
- ADULT FORUM**
- SUNDAY SCHOOL**
- PRAYER CHAIN TEAM**
- ALTAR GUILD**
- WORSHIP READING**

**PLEASE EMAIL THE OFFICE AT [OFFICE@STPAULSEGGERTSVILLE.COM](mailto:OFFICE@STPAULSEGGERTSVILLE.COM)  
OR CALL (716)-835-0407 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

# ***Daily Bread Food Truck Monday Meal Share***

## **From Dishes to Dishes: A Budding Chef in Our Midst**

St. Paul's is proud to celebrate one of our own, Henry Schihl, who has been faithfully serving with the Monday Meal Share team alongside a dedicated group of volunteers. Henry, the son of parishioners Deborah and Jim Schihl from Cheektowaga, has been a quiet but powerful presence in our kitchen over the past few months.

When Henry joined the crew, we had no idea we had a budding gourmet chef in our midst! For the first three weeks, he humbly took on dish duty—never complaining, always smiling. But once we discovered his culinary talents, he became an integral part feeding up to 175 of our hungry 14226 community each week.

Henry is a graduating honor student from Cheektowaga Central High School and has been accepted to the prestigious Culinary Institute of America in Hyde Park, where he'll begin classes this September. His future is bright—whether he decides to return to Western New York to open his own restaurant or take a few years to work as a chef at the Four Seasons in Bali.

We are incredibly proud of Henry and can't wait to see what God has in store for him next. We wish him all the best on his exciting journey and hope he'll come back to visit—with a few new recipes to share!





## *Summer Greeters Needed*

**LOOKING FOR A FUN  
WAY FOR YOUR  
FAMILY TO STAY  
CONNECTED WHILE  
SUNDAY SCHOOL IS  
ON A BREAK FOR  
SUMMER?**

*Be a St. Paul's*  
**GREETER!**

*LOOKING FOR FAMILIES TO GREET PEOPLE AS THEY ENTER FOR  
WORSHIP AND HELP DURING COMMUNION AT WORSHIP  
SIGN UP ON BULLETIN BOARD AT CHURCH*

# ***Adult Forum: A Discussion on Black History***

Adult Forum Beginning After Easter: A Discussion on Black History

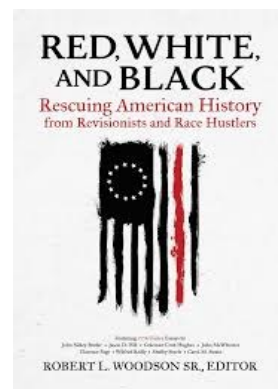
Led by: Lois O'Brian & Frank Evans

**June 1, June 8 & additional dates possible**

We will be reading The 1619 Project from the New York Times Magazine. It is available free online at <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2019/08/14/magazine/1619-america-slavery.html>.

It is a collection of essays, poems and visual artworks about slavery in America. It is (including newspaper advertisements) 98 pages long. We will read selections for our discussion, but you are encouraged to read the whole thing.

We will also read several essays from the book Red, White, and Black, Robert L. Woodson Sr., Editor. He is founder of the 1776 Unites project of the Woodson Center. From the 1776 Unites mission statement: "1776 Unites represents a nonpartisan and intellectually diverse alliance of hundreds of thousands of writers, thinkers and activists focused on solutions to our country's greatest challenges in education, culture, and upward mobility." Photocopies of these essays are available in the church office.





## Wheels for Workers Update



JOIN US AT A FREE UPCOMING EVENT:

Co-Hosted by:



**TUESDAY**  
**June 17TH**  
**4:30PM-7:30PM**  
**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**  
📍 **4007 Main Street, Amherst, NY, 14226**

Note: Repairs are not guaranteed and all participants will be required to sign a waiver. Not all fixers can make every event, so registering ahead of time helps ensure we've got someone who can fix your item.

Replacement parts are limited, so bring 'em if ya got 'em!

**Dare to Repair Cafes** are pop-up community events where individuals can bring broken items and have a team of volunteer fixers try to repair the item alongside them **for free!**

Current repair categories include small appliances, lamps, electronics, bicycles, computers, sewing machines, clothing, and textiles. Please no gas powered items or TVs.

**Learn a new skill, save money, and help save the planet!**

or scan this  
QR code



**Register to attend:** [thetoollibrary.org/daretorepair](http://thetoollibrary.org/daretorepair)



the **TOOL**  
LIBRARY



Funding generously  
provided by NYS  
Senator Sean Ryan



New York State  
Pollution Prevention Institute

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## ***Bible Study - 6/3 & 6/10***

### **Tuesday Bible Study**

**10 am in the Fellowship Room**

"Looking at Acts"

6/3 & 6/10

Bring your own beverage -

Timbits or other goodies provided.

Watch the September Messenger for our Fall Focus



## ***Book Club at Amherst Campus***

### **Book Club**

When: 2nd Thursday of the month.

Where: Gathering Room at the AC campus, 5125 Main St.

Time: 7:15 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 12

**Book: The Ride of Her Life by Elizabeth Letts**

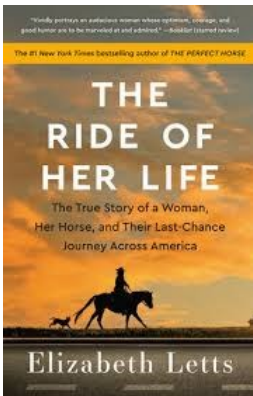
\*(There are 3 books with this title. Note the author.)

September Book: No Two Persons by Erica Bauermeister

All are welcome!

For more information contact Karin Johnson. Phone 716-689-6365

Email [karinej42@gmail.com](mailto:karinej42@gmail.com)



## ***Pinochle Group - 6/4***

### **Pinochle**

Our next day for Pinochle is Wednesday, June 4 at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to join us. We can help you get reacquainted with the game if it has "been a long time". Bring a friend. It's not just for members of St. Paul's.

We are planning to skip July and August and will resume playing again the first Wednesday of the month starting in September.

Hope you will consider joining us. If you are interested and want more info, call Heidi at 716 480-9227 or Sara at 716 834-1833.



## *Faith Ministries: Sunday School*



I honestly can't believe this is my final article for this Sunday school season already!

We have had a great year! Welcomed new families and visitors as well!

The children have learned about what a disciple is and how we can all be disciples by spreading God's love and inviting others to join and follow Jesus!

They have learned about what it means to have Faith and believing in what we can't see. How to connect with God through prayer, the Bible and coming to church to learn, to ask and to explore all the ways there are to get to know Jesus in a fun and inviting way!

We encourage our children to continue to connect with Jesus through the summer months! And that they know how important it is to love one another just as God loves each of us!

Our last day of Sunday school for this season will be June 8th.

There will be coloring pages and snacks provided at each entrance for the children on Sunday morning to keep the little ones busy during worship.

Our first day back to Sunday school will be Sept. 14th. Please check the August messenger for more details and updates.

In Peace and Love ~ June

PS - Remember this summer as your basking in the sun to Fully Rely On God!





## ***Music Ministries at SPEC — 6/5***



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

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

The next rehearsal is

**7 pm on Thursday, June 5**

in the SPEC music room. For those singing in the choir during  
the worship service, please arrive before worship at 9:30 a.m.

For more information/register, please email:  
[office@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:office@stpaulseggertsville.com)

## ***Music Ministries at AC***

The AC 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, might be interested, email Janet at:  
[Jeschmidt48@gmail.com](mailto:Jeschmidt48@gmail.com)



## ***Burrito Project– 6/17***



Our next Burrito Project Meeting is:

**Tuesday, June 17th at 6 pm at the Eggertsville Campus!**

If you or your young adult is interested in shopping, making burritos  
and/or delivering the finished product, please sign up on the Burrito  
Project sign-up sheet in the Gathering Area at Church.

## *Wild Wonders Youth Summer Day Camp*

# Wild Wonders KID'S SUMMER DAY CAMP

*in partnership with Lutheran Youth, St.  
Paul's, Parkside, St. John's and Zion  
Lutheran Churches*

**AGES  
5-11**

**DROP OFF: 8:30 - 9 AM  
PICK UP: 3 - 3:30 PM**

**JUNE 30-JULY 3  
WONDERFUL WORLD WEEK**

.....

**JULY 7 -JULY 11  
WONDERFUL LEGO WEEK**

.....

**AUGUST 18 - AUGUST 22  
WONDERFUL DISNEY WEEK**

.....

**AUGUST 25-AUGUST 29  
WONDERFUL GAME WEEK**

**\$200 PER WEEK  
(MULTI-KID & MULTI-WEEK  
DISCOUNTS AVAILABLE)**

**SNACKS PROVIDED  
(PLEASE SEND YOUR CHILD  
WITH A BAG LUNCH)**

**CAMP LOCATION: ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
6540 MAIN ST., WILLIAMSVILLE, NY 14221**

*To register online & pay for camp, please visit:  
<https://lutheranyouthwny.org/coming-soon-03#day-camp>  
If you have any questions regarding camp, please email:  
[lutheranyouthwny@gmail.com](mailto:lutheranyouthwny@gmail.com)*



# *Waiting in Hope-Infertility Support Ministry*

## WAITING *in* HOPE INFERTILITY SUPPORT MINISTRIES

### **WHAT IS WIH?**

WAITING IN HOPE MINISTRIES (WIH) is a national non-profit support ministry that exists to encourage, support and embrace those struggling through the grief of difficulty conceiving, known as infertility, miscarriage, adoption, and waiting through the process. We support, encourage, equip and point women and couples to the only hope of Jesus within their waiting and struggle to conceive or grow their family.

There are a total of six curriculums, with the first starting in June 2025. The first curriculum is “The Guide to Waiting in Hope”, which is a six-session study. Feel free to join at any point! It is not required to attend every session.

### **WHEN & WHERE IS WIH?**

Every other Monday starting in June from 7:00PM-8:30PM\* in the Gathering Space at St. Paul’s Lutheran Church (4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226).

June 2nd  
June 16th  
June 30th

July 14th  
July 28th  
August 11th

*\*Most sessions last an hour, but we allow for extra time after!*

### **WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THE FIRST CURRICULUM?**

We focus on the question “How do you wait in hope during infertility and pain?”. Relevant topics include myths, relationships and marriage, personal reflection, group notes, and resources to help further the healing process. This is an open support group with anonymity. We want you to feel safe, trusted, and not alone. This is for YOU. So come comfy with a blanket, drink and snacks, or whatever else you’d like!

### **HAVE MORE QUESTIONS?**

If you are interested in becoming a group leader or would like more information, feel free to reach out to Janelle at 716-471-5484!



## *The Comforters-6/11*

### COMFORTERS

Our next meeting is Wednesday June 11, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. upstairs in the parish hall. For lunch, everyone is bringing a dish to share, including dessert. Feel free to join us. We will have lunch at noon.

We will not meet in July or August, but will resume our monthly schedule of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday on September 10.

In the meantime, you can work at home. Pick up a kit to make a walker bag for us. If you knit or crochet, maybe you could make a baptism blanket or prayer shawl.

If you have any questions, Call Sara at 716 834-1833.

## *Family Fun Night at AC*



### Family Fun Night

Thank you to all who participated in Family Fun Night during our 2024-2025 season.

It was so worthwhile to spend time bonding with old and new friends over simple meals and conversations.

We will plan to start again in the Fall so please watch future Messengers for dates.

If you have any ideas or would like to help, please contact

Stacy Johnson @ [stacylj27@gmail.com](mailto:stacylj27@gmail.com) or text 716-698-5504.

See you in the Fall!



# *Invitation to LCLC*



**~Explore God's WILD WONDERS at Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center~**

**Sign up today!**

LCLC is a place for kids to learn and grow as independent people but also as faithful people! All cabins have indoor plumbing and bunk beds and well-trained counseling staff stay in the cabins with campers. Outdoor ministry has been proven to create lasting impacts on faith formation. Plus, it's super fun! Swimming, sailing, silly games, & lasting friendships are all part of the package. If you have any questions about camp, please reach out to Pastor Steve or Kristen! Camps are available for all young people completing grades 1-12.

**~CAMPERSHIPS AVAILABLE~**

St. Paul's will support your family with a \$150 scholarship that we will pay directly to camp. Email Kristen to let us know what week your child is registered for. Full camperships through LCLC are also available!

**~PROGRAMS~**

**NEW Family Camp!:** July 13-18. Half or full weeks are available.

**Mini Camp:** July 20-22, grades 1-3, a half-week introduction to camp and Pastor Steve is on site!

**Youth Camp:** Three weeks available throughout the summer. For grades 3-8. This is your chance to try a little bit of everything!

**Confirmation Camp:** July 13-18, program especially designed for confirmation students.

**Senior High Week:** July 27-Aug 1, especially designed for High School Students with topical workshops led by youth leaders

**Night Owls:** August 3-8, the camp day shifts to explore camp in the dark, almost Pastor Kristen will be on site!

More information and registration at: [www.lclcenter.org](http://www.lclcenter.org)

## *Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center Summer Camp*

**Here is the LCLC Summer Camp Schedule!**

Registration is open! Check out [lclcenter.org](http://lclcenter.org) for more information.

# 2025 Camp Weeks

*week one*

June 29–July 4

**Classic Camp I  
RATS Week 1**

*week two*

July 6–11

**Classic Camp II  
RATS Week 2**

*week three*

July 13–18

**Family Camp  
Confirmation Camp**

*week four*

July 20–25

**Classic Camp III  
Mini Camp**

*week five*

July 27–Aug 1

**Senior High Week**

*week six*

August 3–8

**Night Owls  
Adventure Camp**





# New Beginnings *for Single Ladies*

St. Paul's is starting a women's ministry for Single Ladies: widows, divorcee, or never married.

Our purpose is 3-fold:

**Social** - luncheons, plays, day trips, games

**Support** - do you need a car ride, a Mr. Fix-it

**Spiritual** - Seasons change, perhaps this is not how you expected your life right now. You are welcome.

***Please join us for lunch and a discussion on how you would like this group to proceed.***

**Wednesday, June 18<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon**

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

4007 Main St.

Egbertsville, NY 14226

Email: Joan Keptner  
keptnersafari@gmail.com

Call: Heidi Ginal  
716-480-9227

## June Birthdays

### June Birthdays

Wesley Ries	June 1	Neal DeLeo	June 12
Dorothy Walter	June 4	Paul Rushton	June 16
Sharon Hoffman	June 4	Tom Depczynski	June 19
John Hornung	June 5	Deborah Ogden	June 20
Christine Santa Maria	June 5	Lois O'Brian	June 22
Evan Singer	June 5	Elizabeth Heuer	June 24
Sylvia McLaughlin	June 7	Charles Biegner	June 26
Sandra Siegel	June 9	Mary Mindel	June 26
Deborah Kelsch	June 9	Edwin Gibson	June 26
Sue Epstein	June 9	Sonja Fernsted	June 28
<i>Happy Birthday to Our June Missionaries!</i>		Barbara Biegner	June 30

## Life of the Congregation

We send our condolences and prayers to the family of Ruth Blank.

Ruth passed away on April 23rd and her funeral services were May 22nd.





**St. Paul's Lutheran Eggertsville & Amherst Campus**

**Website:** [www.stpaulseggertsville.com](http://www.stpaulseggertsville.com)

**Telephone:** 716- 835-0407

**Email:** [office@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:office@stpaulseggertsville.com)

**Pastoral Leaders**

Steve Biegner: (cell) 716 - 868-1232

Kristen Arends: (email) [kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com)

**Directors of Music:**

Paul H. Storfer (EC)

Adam Schmidt (AC)

**Office Staff:** Cody Almeter, Adrienne Leary

**Daily Bread Food Truck Coordinator:** Leslie Boynton

**Tiger's Den Food Pantry Coordinator:** Adrienne Leary

**Christian Ed Coordinator:** June Piette

**Youth Ministry:** Jordan Dywan

**Facilities Manager:** Jeff Stein

**Digital Ministry:** Andrew Gruszka

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

**Amherst Lutheran Campus**  
**5125 Main St.**  
**Williamsville, NY 14221**