

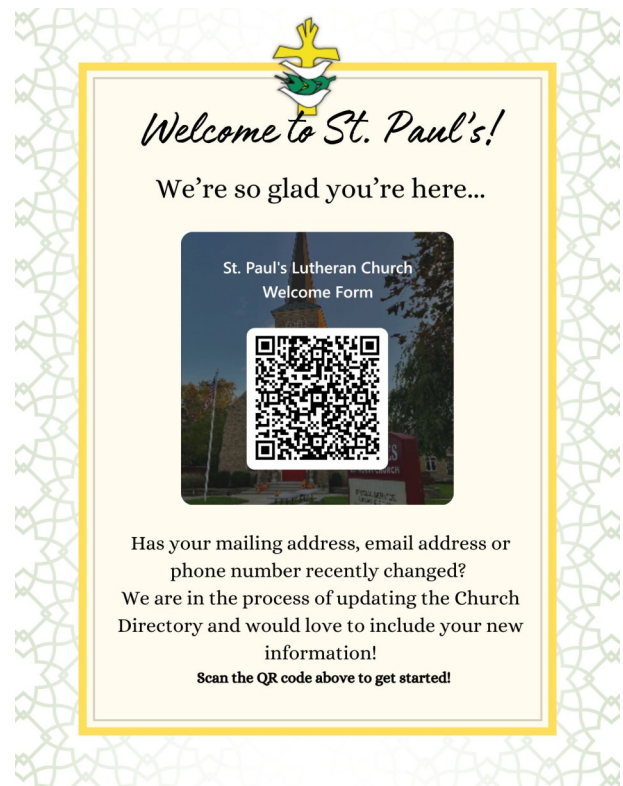
# *16th Sunday after Pentecost*



*September 28, 2025  
10:00 am  
St. Paul's Eggertsville Campus*

*Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
Eggertsville Campus  
16th Sunday after Pentecost  
September 28, 2025*

*Musician: Paul Storfer*



*Confession and Forgiveness*

- P Blessed be God, the Holy Trinity + the giver of all good, the source of all joy. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
- C God of all, You have given us all that we need and you ask that we share your abundance. We confess that we have not responded to your call to be open channels of your grace. We clench our fists when you ask for open hands; we close our minds when you ask for grace toward our neighbors. Open our hearts to live in the abundance of your creation; loosen our grip and restore our souls, that we may freely give and receive. Amen.
- P Beloved in Christ, God makes all things new. In the name of Christ, + you are forgiven. Your hearts are unlocked; your grasping is unbound. You are free to live as flowing streams of God's abundant grace.
- C Amen.

*Opening Hymn: LBW 415*

## God of Grace and God of Glory



1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple  
2 Lo! The hosts of e - vil round us scorn the Christ, as -  
3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to  
4 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils



pour your pow'r; crown your an - cient chur - ch's sto - ry;  
sail his ways! From the fears that long have bound us  
your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,  
we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion



bring its bud to glo - rious flow'r. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age  
rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,  
be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,



for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.  
for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.  
lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.  
serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Text: Harry E. Fosdick, 1878–1969

Music: CWM RHONDDA, John Hughes, 1873–1932

### *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 Eternal God, you open our eyes to envision a world where all may have enough. Call us into relationship with you and with one another, that our lives may be shaped by generosity and joy. Amen.

C Amen

### *Children's Time*

#### *First Reading: 1 Timothy 6:6-19*

*Timothy is reminded of the confession he made at his baptism and of its implications for daily life. His priorities will be different from those of people who merely want to be rich.*

Of course, there is great gain in godliness combined with contentment, for we brought nothing into the world, so that we can take nothing out of it, but if we have food and clothing, we will be content with these. But those who want to be rich fall into temptation and are trapped by many senseless and harmful desires that plunge people into ruin and destruction. For the love of money is a root of all kinds of evil, and in their eagerness to be rich some have wandered away from the faith and pierced themselves with many pains.

But as for you, man of God, shun all this; pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, endurance, gentleness. Fight the good fight of the faith; take hold of the eternal life to which you were called and for which you made the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. In the presence of God, who gives life to all things, and of Christ Jesus, who in his testimony before Pontius Pilate made the good confession, I charge you to keep the commandment without spot or blame until the manifestation of our Lord Jesus Christ, which he will bring about at the right time—he who is the blessed and only Sovereign, the King of kings and Lord of lords. It is he alone who has immortality and dwells in unapproachable light, whom no one has ever seen or can see; to him be honor and eternal dominion. Amen.

As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches but rather on God, who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.

A This is the Word of the Lord

C Thanks be to God.

*Psalm 146 (read responsively)*

*The LORD gives justice to those who are oppressed. (Ps. 146:7)*

A Hallelujah! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

A Put not your trust in rulers, in mortals in whom there is no help.

C When they breathe their last, they return to earth, and in that day their thoughts perish.

A Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help, whose hope is in the LORD their God;

C who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them; who keeps promises forever;

A who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger. The LORD sets the captive free.

C The LORD opens the eyes of the blind; the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

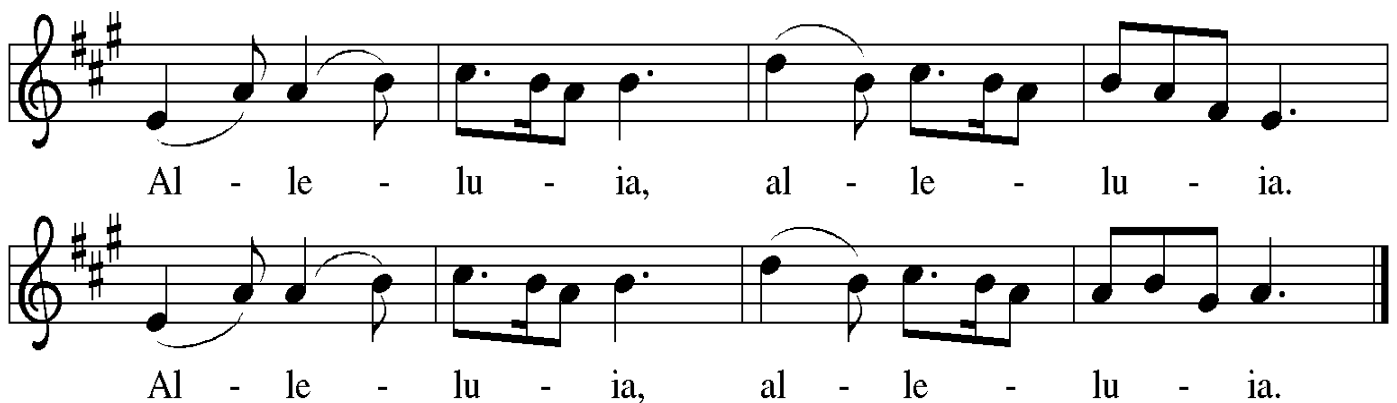
A The LORD cares for the stranger; the LORD sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

C The LORD shall reign forever, your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah!

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 16th Chapter.  
C Glory to you, O Lord.

***Gospel: Luke 16:19-31***

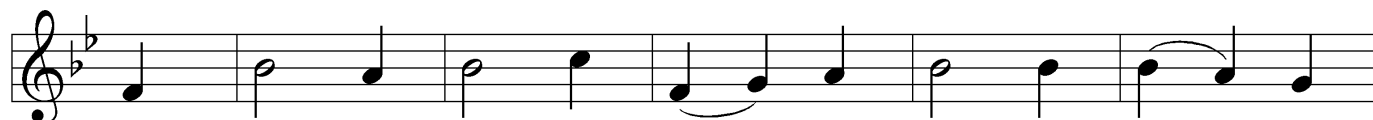
*Jesus tells a parable in which the poor one is “lifted up” and the rich one is “sent away empty.” Jesus makes it clear that this ethic of merciful reversal is not new but is as old as Moses and the prophets.*

[Jesus said:] “There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, ‘Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.’ But Abraham said, ‘Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.’ He said, ‘Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father’s house for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.’ Abraham replied, ‘They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.’ He said, ‘No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.’ He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’ ”

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

***Sermon: Opening Our Eyes***

## Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life



1 Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the  
 2 In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed  
 3 From ten - der child - hood's help - less - ness, from hu - man  
 4 The cup of wa - ter giv'n for you still holds the



cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of  
 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the  
 grief and bur - dened toil, from fam - ished souls, from  
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -



self - ish strife, we hear your voice, O Son of Man.  
 lures of greed, we catch the vi - sion of your tears.  
 sor - row's stress, your heart has nev - er known re - coil.  
 tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion in your face.

5 O Master, from the mountainside  
 make haste to heal these hearts of pain;  
 among these restless throngs abide;  
 oh, tread the city's streets again;

6 Till all the world shall learn your love,  
 and follow where your feet have trod;  
 till glorious from your heav'n above  
 shall come the city of our God.

Text: Frank M. North, 1850–1935, alt.

Music: WALTON, W. Gardiner, *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

## *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 Gracious God, we come to you in prayer for the church, the world, and all in need. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

We pray for the church, that it would remain faithful to the gospel, always striving to serve the needs of those who are oppressed and rejecting the complacency that comes from wealth. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for creation, that the nations work together to protect and restore the earth, preserving the beauty of the planet for future generations and honoring the gift of your creation. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for those in positions of authority, that they govern with justice and compassion, recognizing the dignity of all people and working to promote peace and prosperity for all. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.

A We pray for people in any need, especially the people on our Prayers Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Give them your assurance and courage when the path forward is not clear. Liberate us from all that binds us, lift us up when we are bowed down, and show us your love. God of grace,

C receive our prayer.



- A We pray for this congregation, that we would be strengthened to build a world where all can thrive. Incite us to advocate for fair wages and just policies, and guide us in building a community of mutual support. God of grace,
- C **receive our prayer.**
- A We remember in thanksgiving the faithful departed. Inspire us by their example to love and serve our neighbors, and bring us to eternal life. God of grace,
- C **receive our prayer.**
- A We entrust these prayers to you, O God, in the name of Jesus Christ, our redeemer and friend.
- 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 God of life, you have blessed us with every good gift. Through our offerings today and in our planned giving, open us to share all that we have been given and to love the world in Jesus' name. Amen



### *Dialogue and Preface*

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

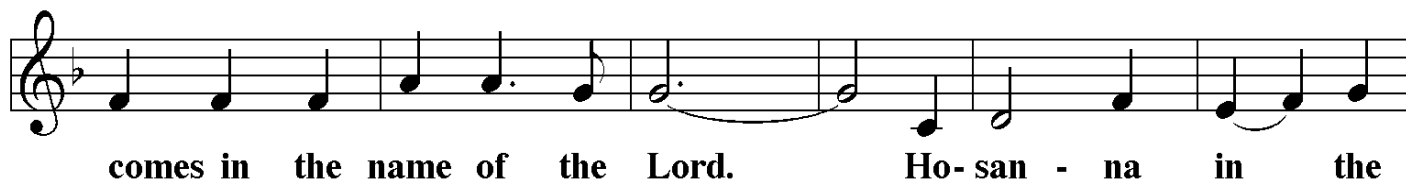
P Lift up your hearts.

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 Abundant God, You have nourished us with life, love, and grace. Fill us to the brim with your care, that we may go into the world with open arms and open hearts to share your peace with the world.

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...

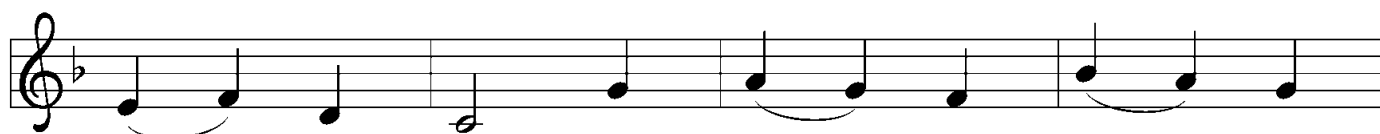
C Amen

## *Closing Hymn: WOV 723*

### The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve



1 The Spir - it sends us forth to serve; we go in  
2 We go to com - fort those who mourn and set the  
3 We go to be the hands of Christ, to scat - ter  
4 Then let us go to serve in peace, the gos - pel



Je - sus' name to bring glad tid - ings  
bur - dened free; where hope is dim, to  
joy like seed and, all our days, to  
to pro - claim. God's Spir - it has em -



to the poor, God's fa - vor to pro - claim.  
share a dream and help the blind to see.  
cher - ish life, to do the lov - ing deed.  
pow - ered us; we go in Je - sus' name.

## *Dismissal*

P Go in peace to serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: September 28-October 5, 2025

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

- 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  
1:00-4:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church Youth Event
- Monday:** 4:15 pm: Daily Bread Food Truck Meal Share  
5:30-9:30 pm: Straight Pepper Diet Meeting at AC
- Tuesday:** 10:00 am: Bible Study  
5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)  
7:00 pm: Lutheran Chorale
- Wednesday:** 1:00 pm: Pinochle Group  
6:00-8:00 pm: Amherst Family Support Center: New Directions  
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  
7:00 pm: Choir Rehearsal
- Friday:** No Events Planned
- Saturday:** 9:00 am-3:00 pm: Peniel Haitian Church at AC  
5:00 pm: Worship and Communion at AC
- 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

*Altar Flowers: are given by Ira Striejewski in honor of his wife, Marilyn's, birthday.  
Congratulations to Martha Shields and Alan Stewart who were married at St. Paul's on Friday.*

**Deacons:** 9/28: Sara Gallagher; 10/5: Martin Troutman

**Ushers:** 9/28: Gerri Horton & Helen Gibson; 10/5: Todd Vahue & Jeff Mols

**Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family:** David Wiczorek; Mary Bashore; Carol Geis; Joyce Chace; Elaine Masman; Pastor Ray Clifton; Lavon Amos; Cindy Milazzo Schwartz; David Schunak; Kate Kopasz and Lynda LoTempio (Phyllis Campbell's nieces); Sylvia McLaughlin; 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: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #228, Williamsville, NY 14221

Ira Striejewske: 48 Cornell Avenue, Eggertsville, NY 14226

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](mailto:Cody@stpaulseggertsville.com)

***Daily Bread Food Truck:*** The 2025 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](mailto: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 October are: Thursdays 10/2, 10/16, and 10/30 from 3:00-6:30 pm; and Saturdays 10/11 and 10/25 from 9:00 am-12:30 pm. Donations for October: spaghetti sauce and crushed or canned tomatoes.



A poster with a bright blue background. At the top, there are white handprints reaching upwards. In the center, a white banner with a black border contains the text "CONFIRMATION IS COMING SOON" in bold black letters. Below the banner, the text "For Grades 6 & Up" is written in bold black letters. Further down, a paragraph of text explains that classes help students connect with each other, develop an understanding of what the Lutheran Church believes, and prepare to say 'yes' to their baptisms. At the bottom, it says "Contact Pastor Kristen to get more info!" followed by the email address [kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com). A small illustration of a dove with an olive branch is in the top right corner.

**CONFIRMATION IS COMING SOON**

**For Grades 6 & Up**

Classes typically help students connect with each other, develop an understanding of what the Lutheran Church believes and prepare to say 'yes' to their baptisms

**Contact Pastor Kristen to get more info!**  
[kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com)

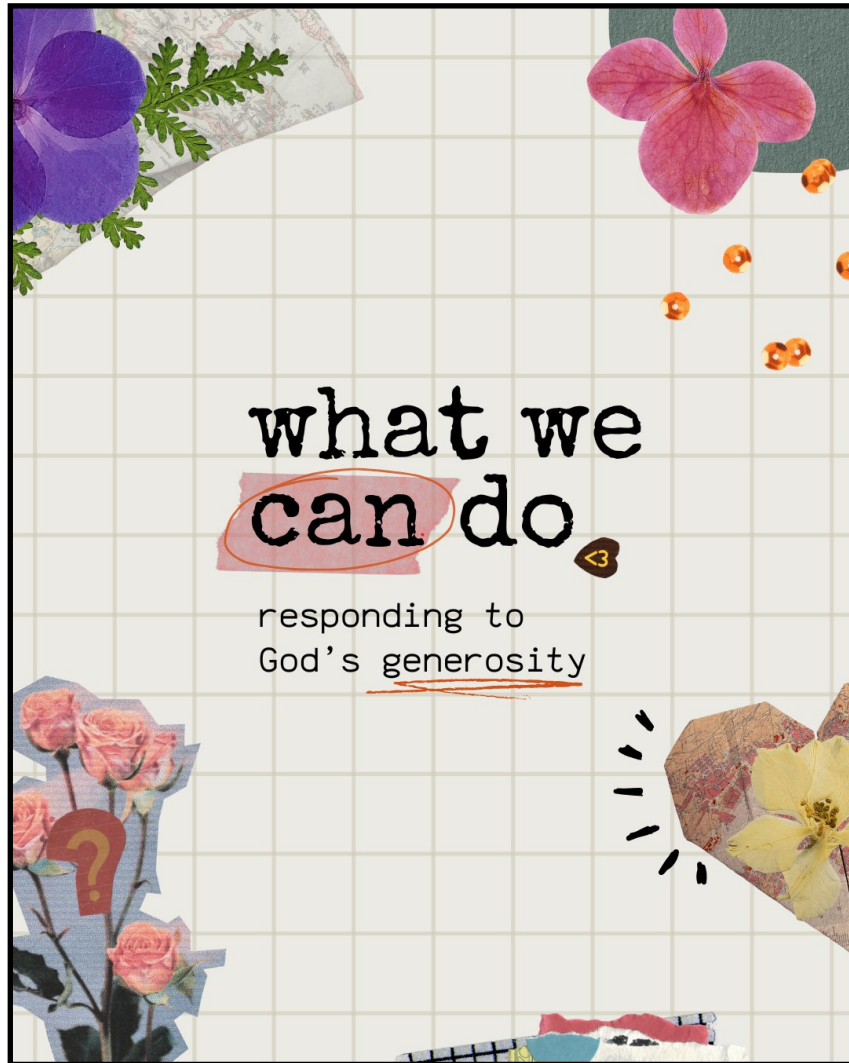


A poster for "The Burrito Project" with a festive border of winter-themed items like socks, hats, and snowflakes. The central text asks for donations of winter hats, scarves, and socks. It mentions a collection bin in the vestibule starting the weekend of 9/20. At the bottom is the "The Burrito Project" logo, which features a burrito with a face.

**The Burrito Project is asking for donations of New Winter Hats, Scarves and Socks.**

They will have a collection bin in place in the vestibule starting the weekend of 9/20!

**The Burrito Project**



*This Sunday we are kicking off a Sermon Series on Stewardship titled  
"What can we do?: Responding to God's generosity."*

*We invite you to pray and to journey with us as we discover the  
generosity of God and how we respond.*

*What is possible for us to do in response to God's lavish generosity?*

*God's gifts come to particular people, in particular places, in particular times.*

*Because we are made in God's image, we, too, uniquely embody  
God's steadfast abundance, love, and mercy.*

*We are equipped to be generous where we are.*

*Drawn more deeply into the body of Christ, we are reminded of our  
belovedness, and we can respond with generosity, love, and service  
on behalf of our neighbors.*



*+ 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](mailto:steve@stpaulseggertsville.com)  
Kristen Arends: (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: [kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com)*

**Directors of Music:** *Paul H. Storfer (SPEC) and Adam Schmidt (AC)*  
**Christian Education Coordinator:** *June Piette; Email: [scs@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:scs@stpaulseggertsville.com)*  
**Youth Ministry:** *Jordan Dywan; Email: [youth@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:youth@stpaulseggertsville.com)*  
**Digital Ministry:** *Andrew Gruszka*  
**Facilities Manager:** *Jeff Stein*

**Church Office Staff**

*Cody Almeter and Adrienne Leary  
E-mail: [office@stpaulseggertsville.com](mailto:office@stpaulseggertsville.com)  
Telephone: (716) 835-0407  
Website: [www.stpaulseggertsville.com](http://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*