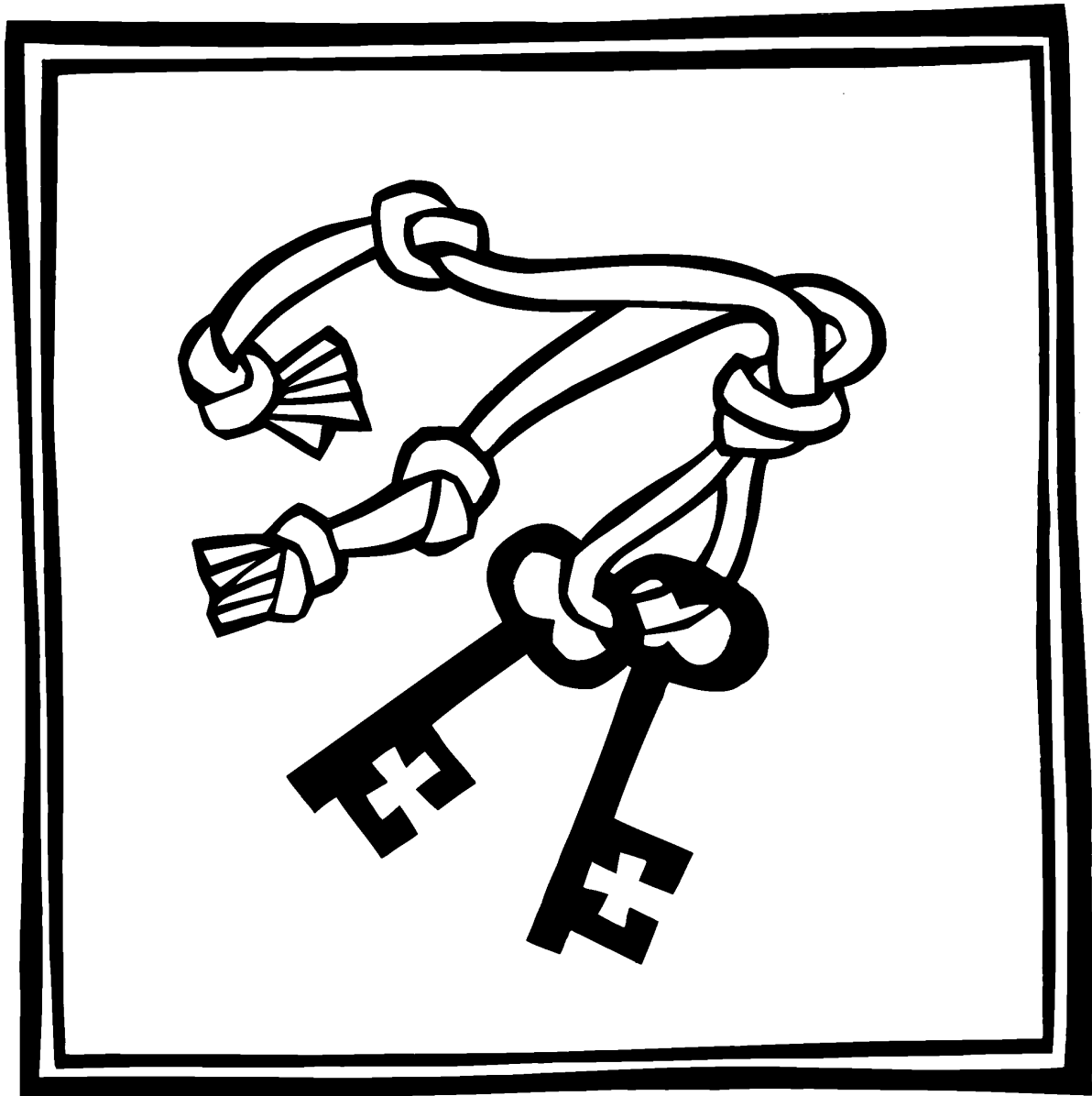


*13th Sunday
after Pentecost*



*August 23, 2026
10:00 am
St. Paul's Lutheran Church*



Welcome to St. Paul's!

We're glad you're here!
Scan the QR Code Below to check in

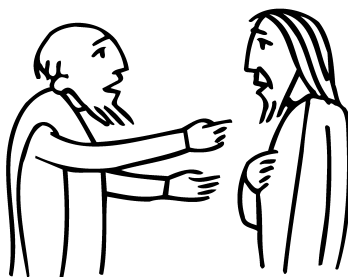


Do you have:
Prayer requests?
A need to speak to a Pastor?
Questions about joining St. Paul's?

For this and more,
Scan the QR code above to share
your needs with us!

Welcome to St. Paul's Lutheran Church
13th Sunday after Pentecost
August 23, 2026

Musician: Paul Storfer



Confession

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C Amen.

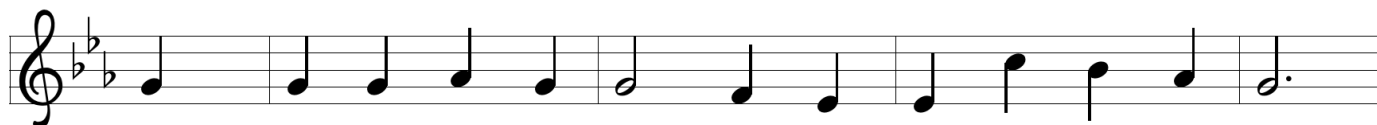
P Let us confess our sin to God. Compassionate God,

C we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

P Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." In the name of God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

C Amen.

The Church's One Foundation



1 The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, her Lord;
2 E - lect from ev - 'ry na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3 Though with a scorn - ful won - der this world sees her op - pressed,
4 Through toil and trib - u - la - tion and tu - mult of her war,
5 Yet she on earth has u - nion with God, the Three in One,



she is his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word.
her char - ter of sal - va - tion one Lord, one faith, one birth:
by schisms. . rent a - sund - er, by her - e - sies dis - tressed,
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mu - nion with those whose rest is won.



From heav'n he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing; their cry goes up: "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
Oh, bless - ed heav'n-ly cho - rus! Lord, save us by your grace,



with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - 'ry grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
that we, like saints be - fore us, may see you face to face.

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 O God, with all your faithful followers of every age, we praise you, the rock of our life. Be our strong foundation and form us into the body of your Son, that we may gladly minister to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C Amen.

First Reading: Isaiah 51:1-6

Just as God had called Abraham and Sarah and given them many descendants, so now God offers comfort to Zion. God's deliverance will come soon and will never end.

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness, you who seek the LORD. Look to the rock from which you were hewn and to the quarry from which you were dug. Look to Abraham your father and to Sarah, who bore you, for he was but one when I called him, but I blessed him and made him many. For the LORD will comfort Zion; he will comfort all her waste places and will make her wilderness like Eden, her desert like the garden of the LORD; joy and gladness will be found in her, thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people, and give heed to me, my nation, for a teaching will go out from me and my justice for a light to the peoples. I will bring near my deliverance swiftly; my salvation has gone out, and my arms will rule the peoples; the coastlands wait for me, and for my arm they hope. Lift up your eyes to the heavens and look at the earth beneath, for the heavens will vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and those who live on it will die like gnats, but my salvation will be forever, and my deliverance will never be ended.

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

Psalm 138 (read responsively)

O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever. (Ps. 138:8)

- A I will give thanks to you, O LORD, with my whole heart; before the gods I will sing your praise.
- C I will bow down toward your holy temple and praise your name, because of your steadfast love and faithfulness; for you have glorified your name and your word above all things.
- A When I called, you answered me; you increased my strength within me.
- C All the rulers of the earth will praise you, O LORD, when they have heard the words of your mouth.
- A They will sing of the ways of the LORD, that great is the glory of the LORD.
- C The LORD is high, yet cares for the lowly, perceiving the haughty from afar.
- A Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you keep me safe; you stretch forth your hand against the fury of my enemies; your right hand shall save me.
- C You will make good your purpose for me; O LORD, your steadfast love endures forever; do not abandon the works of your hands.
- 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.

Music: Fintan O'Carroll and Christopher Walker

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P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 16th Chapter.
C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 16:13-20

At a climactic point in Jesus' ministry, God reveals to Peter that Jesus is "the Messiah, the Son of the living God," and Jesus responds with the promise of a church that will overcome the very gates of Hades.

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that the Son of Man is?" And they said, "Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets." He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?" Simon Peter answered, "You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God." And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven." Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

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

Sermon



Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

Apostle's Creed

A Together we say what we believe using the words of the Apostle's Creed:

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 With bold trust in God's unfailing provision, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation. (Please kneel or sit as you are able.)

God, our rock, you are the foundation on which the church is built. Strengthen and encourage your faithful people everywhere they gather, that they boldly proclaim your word of life to all the world. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You spoke and all creation came into being. Field and forest, wetland and wilderness—all reveal your glory. Sustain and nourish your creation. Teach us to be wise stewards of all you have made. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You bring deliverance to nations and peoples. Come to the aid of nations experiencing war, conflict, disease, famine, and disaster. Guide the work of relief agencies and peacemaking organizations. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

A You regard the lowly and hear us when we cry out to you. Be present among all who struggle with addiction, housing insecurity, incarceration, and mental illness, that they know they are not alone. Hear our prayers for all in need this day especially the people on our Prayer Lists and Prayer Chain, and those we name before you now, either silently or aloud. Merciful God,

C receive our prayer.

- A You draw together people with differing gifts. Lift up the many and varied gifts and talents of this congregation and strengthen the bonds of fellowship that all may be united as the body of Christ. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Your steadfast love endures forever. We give thanks for the faithful who died in the hope of this promise. Strengthen us in faith until the day we join them at your eternal banquet. Merciful God,
- C receive our prayer.
- A Receive our prayers and answer, O God, as you have promised. All this we ask in the name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C Amen.

Offering Music and Prayer

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/>

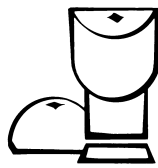
Last Week's Digital and Service Offerings: \$10,481.28

Budgeted Weekly Service Offering: \$7,488.00

QR Giving Code:



- P Let us pray,
- C Merciful God, accept the fruits of our labor, gathered here today and through our online giving. You have set a table before us, nourish us with the body and blood of Jesus, that goodness and mercy may follow us and bless the world you love. In the name of Jesus. Amen.



Dialogue and Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

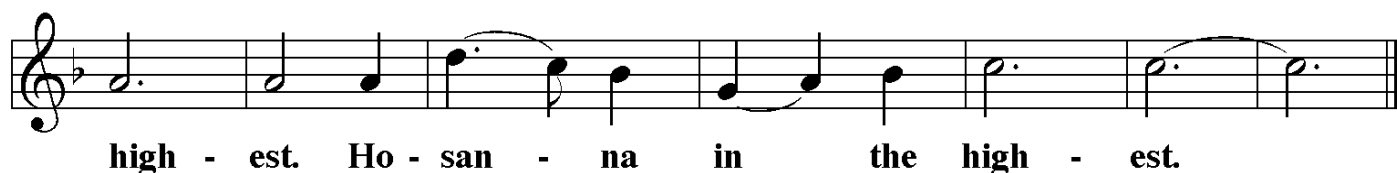
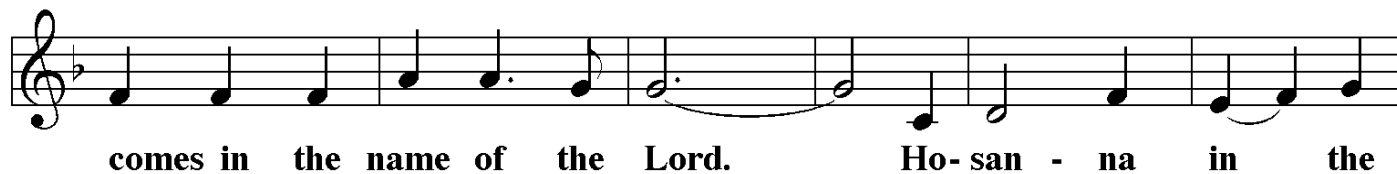
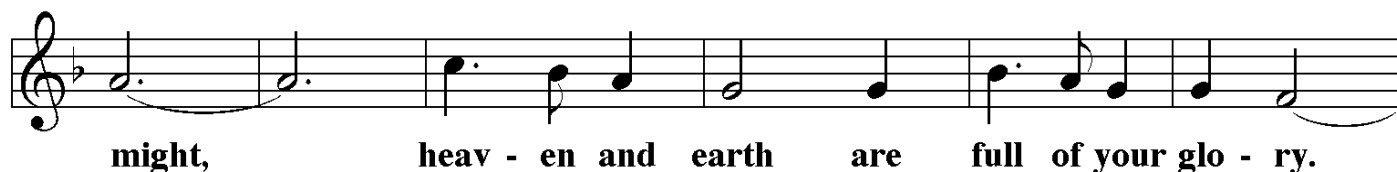
P Lift up your hearts.

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 Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.

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 294 (on the following page)

Sharing the Peace and Sending

P Go in peace, serve the Lord!

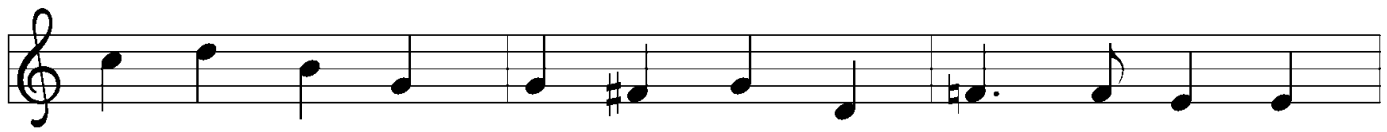
C Thanks be to God.



My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less



1 My hope is built on noth - ing less than
2 When dark - ness veils his love - ly face, I
3 His oath, his cov - e - nant, his blood sus -
4 When he shall come with trum - pet sound, oh,



Je - sus' blood and righ - teous - ness; no mer - it of my
rest on his un - chang - ing grace; in ev - 'ry high and
tain me in the rag - ing flood; when all sup - ports are
may I then in him be found, clothed in his righ - teous -



own I claim, but whol - ly lean on Je - sus' name.
storm - y gale my an - chor holds with - in the veil.
washed a - way, he then is all my hope and stay.
ness a - lone, re - deemed to stand be - fore the throne!

Refrain



On Christ, the sol - id rock, I stand; all oth - er ground is sink - ing sand.

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

ANNOUNCEMENTS

What's Happening This Week at St. Paul's: August 23-30, 2026

Sunday: 10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship and Communion
Monday: No Events Planned
Tuesday: 5:00-6:30 pm: We Can No Longer Blame Others (NA)
7:00-8:30 pm: Lutheran Chorale Open House
Wednesday: 8:00 pm: AA Meeting
Thursday: 3:00-6:30 pm: Tiger's Den Food Pantry Open
Friday: No Events Planned
Saturday: No Events Planned
Sunday: 10:00 am: Church Unleashed: YouTube, Facebook, and MeTV
10:00 am: Worship and Communion

Deacons: 8/23: John Schunak; 8/30: Barbara Walter

Ushers: 8/23: Lonny Walter & Jerry Keppel; 8/30: Todd Vahue & Marissa Vahue

Prayer List: In our congregational and extended family: Becky DiNunzio (Lynda Ruhland's friend); Mark Silsby; Claudia Staines; Maurice Saxton; Cindy Milazzo Schwartz; Sue Epstein

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

Roslyn Bauman: Greenfield Manor, 5953 Broadway, Lancaster, NY 14086

Jack Gallagher: Amberleigh, 2330 Maple Road, #183, Williamsville, NY 14221

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

Sylvia McLaughlin: 44 Sherwin Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150

Charles Scofield: Fredonia Place, 201 Reist Street, #61, Williamsville, NY 14221

David Wolf: Solstice, 6363 Transit Road, #244, East Amherst, NY 14051

PREVIOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

In-Person Worship: St. Paul's has one worship service on Sunday morning at 10:00 am at 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 2026 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, or by referral. Please note the change in the pantry Thursday dates. The remaining pantry hours for August are: Thursday 8/27 from 3:00-6:30 pm. Donations for August are paper towels and tissues.

The Daily Bread Food Truck could use your help: They are looking for volunteers from 3:00-4:00 pm every Monday to help carry food from the Gathering Area and/or kitchen out to the truck parked next to the church. The food will be distributed that afternoon beginning at 4:15 pm, and you are also welcome to stay if you want to help with the "meal share." If you are interested, please call Leslie Boynton at 716-525-2443

SUNDAYS **ADULT FORUM**

9:00 AM - 9:45 AM

RESUMES SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13TH

Topics for discussion, study and inspiration that vary widely. We welcome your views, ideas and input.

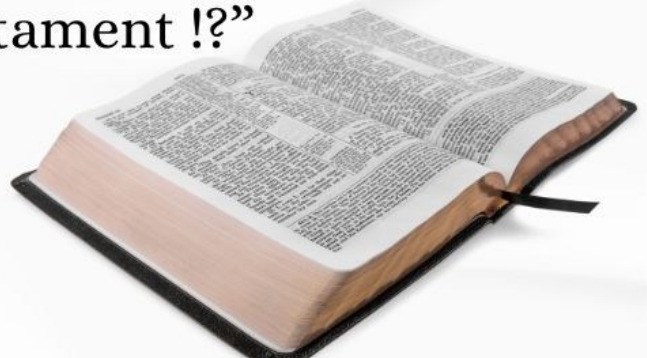
Our first topic is a timely one:

ANTISEMITISM, PAST & PRESENT

led by Pastor Chick Biegner.

On Sept. 13th we will study the issue of “AntiSemitism
In The New Testament !?”

**IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT
PARTICIPATION, ASK SOMEONE.**





Coming Soon!

A second worship experience on Saturday evenings beginning on Saturday, September 12th

Dear St. Paul's Missionaries,

After taking some time this summer to review the survey you completed, and to dream, pray, and plan, we are happy to announce plans for a Saturday service beginning on Saturday, September 12th.

Results from the survey indicate that many of you are interested in an evening worship service and the majority said that Saturday night works best for your schedules. Much love and support was given for the past music style of the Prayzz music team and recognition that a more casual, less traditional worship style would be beneficial to bring in new missionaries and offer something different than Sunday mornings. There was excitement around having meals, service projects, and youth events attached to the worship service! More than 2/3 of those interested said that every week did not work for their schedules.

Taking all that into consideration, we have designed a once-a-month program and worship offering on Saturday evenings. We will meet on the second Saturdays of the month. Each second Saturday will be broken up into 3 parts:

4pm Intersections

Each month will feature an intersection of Faith and Life. Some upcoming topics are Faith and Service, Faith and Comedy, and Faith and Death. These times are part learning, part discovery, and intergenerational!

5pm Worship

Worship with communion unique to Saturdays that will feature a more contemporary music style, interactive prayer time and incorporate the theme of our Intersections time. Gospel and sermon may be entirely different than Sunday mornings.

6pm Meal & Fellowship

Stay for food, friends and conversation. Main course will be provided. Sides and desserts are welcome.

Come to all or just parts of the night!

Upcoming dates and themes are:

September 12th: Intersection of Faith & Service (Service Projects)

October 10th: Intersection of Faith & Change (Lutheranism 101)

November 14th: Intersection Faith & Comedy (Improv/Comedy workshop & discussion)

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

1. **“I only have time for worship on a Saturday night is that okay?** YES! Each hour is designed so that you can just come for that hour, OR for part of or the whole night.
2. **When is this happening?** Intersections will take place on the second Saturday of the month. The theme each month will change but the structure will remain the same.
3. **Why is this only once a month?** With the added pieces around worship, and the commitment levels from the survey, beginning with once a month is the best use of our resources to make this worship service a success.
4. **Is this the same as Sunday morning?** Yes, in that there will communion, scripture, prayers and a sermon. No, in that the lessons may be different, the sermon will be different and the music will be more contemporary/band led. Worship will feel like worship but it won't be a carbon copy of Sunday morning.

Need any help? Of course! We would welcome help with setting up meals ahead of time, and preparing any creative elements for worship.

Join us for our kick-off on Saturday, September 12th!



*+ 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: Tim Johnson
Vice-President: Vanessa Solomon
Treasurer: William Niblock
Secretary: Janet Schmidt and Sara Hannon
Mona Baskin Bob Brown David Dahlberg
Ginger Davis Wendy Fortune Barbara Walter*

Pastoral Leaders

*Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 - cell); Email: steve@stpaulseggertsville.com
Kristen Arends: (716-481-8728 - cell); Email: kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com*

Director of Music: Paul H. Storfer

Christian Education Coordinator: *June Piette; Email: scs@stpaulseggertsville.com*

Youth Ministry: *Jordan Dywan; Email: youth@stpaulseggertsville.com*

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