

September
2026

The Messenger

St. Paul's Lutheran Church



ST. PAUL'S
LUTHERAN CHURCH

SEPTEMBER

Intersections– New Saturday Evening Service

Coming Soon!

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



*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)*

Intersections- (continued)

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.

Intersections- (continued)

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.
5. **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!**

Message from Church Council



MESSAGE FROM CHURCH COUNCIL

Greetings and Peace from your church council.

I am Tim Johnson your incoming council president. My wife Stacy, my daughter Alice and I are members that joined St. Paul's as a result of the Amherst Lutheran merger. We continue to be blessed to be a part of St. Paul's and its presence in the community reflecting our work as missionaries in Christ.

I would like to thank outgoing council president Bobby Simpson and council member Sue Epstein for their service and leadership. Please also welcome new council members Mona Baskin, Wendy Fortune and Ginger Davis.

The council would like to make you aware of a few items of note:

- Construction on the new Eggertsville House has been delayed due to some issues with the Town of Amherst permitting process. Construction should begin sometime in September.
- The Al Hafyan family that had been living in the Kahle House has decided to pursue other housing. The council and various committees will be working to explore other possible tenant groups in addition to refugee resettlement families to fulfill the mission of the Kahle house. We will keep you informed of any progress in these discussions.
- Please keep in mind that several St' Paul's missions and fellowship groups will be resuming after summer break. These include meal sharing on Mondays by the Daily Bread Food Truck, St. Paul's Book Club, Adult Forum, Sunday School, the Pinochle Club, Comforters, Waiting In Hope Infertility Support Group, Choir & Bible Study. Be on the lookout for announcements about these any other missions and groups in The Messenger, weekly email and the various postings in the building. If you have interest in participating in these or any missions or groups please ask a council member and we can assist you in determining the correct person to contact.

Your church council is looking forward to continuing to advance the various missions of St. Paul's. Thanks to all St. Paul's missionaries for sharing your gifts to support our missions in the community to demonstrate God's love by reaching beyond ourselves.

As always if you have any questions or concerns about any issues please do not hesitate to contact a church council member.

Peace.

Tim Johnson
Church Council President

Tiger's Den Food Pantry



TIGER'S DEN
Food Pantry

Thank you

By this point, I am sure you have all seen the new portico outside the Tiger's Den entrance. This sturdy structure will help Tiger's Den operate more effectively regardless of the weather. With sincere appreciation and gratitude, we would like to thank the team of volunteers who came out on a hot, humid Saturday to construct the portico. And in spite of the weather, got it put up in one day! Following are the volunteers who stepped up:

Bill Bulleigh
Todd Vahue
Ron McKenica
Dennis Steinhauser
Matthew Goldhawk
Scott Phillips

Tim Johnson
Tom and Terry Kinney
Richard Riddoch
Ralph Mast
Mark Piscitello
Carl Graetz



Sunday School

Sunday school



Summer always seems to go by way too fast! I hope you all had a wonderful summer and good family time!

With school starting just around the corner, we have decided to let the kids settle into a bit of a routine before starting Sunday school!

Our first day back to Sunday school will be Sunday, September 20th! Please have your children bring their backpacks that day for the backpack blessing!

Hopefully this allows you to have some worship time together and enjoy our new contemporary service starting on Saturday, Sept. 12th.

All children age 3 yrs. – 6th grade are welcome to attend Sunday school!

If your child is younger, we do have a nursery available, or parents/care takers are invited to come to Sunday school with them!

If they are older than 6th grade, they are welcome to help in Sunday school if they wish, if they aren't with our youth coordinator, Jordan. Or they can stay and worship with their parents.

Enjoy the last few days of summer and I can't wait to start back up with the kids!

Feel free to contact me with any questions!

Blessings & Peace ~ June (scs@stpaulseggertsville.com)



Daily Bread Food Truck



It is Back to School time!!

The DBFT Monday Meal Share will be entering its 7th season of partnering with Amherst School District on September 14, 2026. We started our Monday Meal Share mission during COVID to continue serving those experiencing food insecurity when we could no longer deliver food directly to the families of Windemere School. On average, we served 70-80 meals each Monday. The need has continued to grow, and we now average 160 Chef made hot meals plus a container of Chef made soup to provide a second meal for the families. We have come to know and deeply care about the families that we serve, and we listen to the stories of their lives. Some live alone, some care for a special needs adult child, some are vegan or gluten free and a few occasionally walk along the line when their car no longer functions. And we celebrate with them when they can obtain another car!! We provide them with one of our most basic needs - food.

We are always in need of volunteers so if this is a mission that touches your heart, please call Leslie Boynton for more details.



Refugee Resettlement Team by Michelle Biegner

The AlHafyan family who have lived in the Kahle house since November 2024 has moved into a new rental unit in Buffalo. St Paul's volunteers worked many hours with the family assisting them with employment, medical appointments, English language learning and other aspects of adjusting to life in their new community and culture. The house is currently vacant and will need to be cleaned and painted as a team explores the next chapter of ministry for the Kahle house. Please keep an eye out for dates to help with painting- many hands will make light work!!

Michelle

DBFT Volunteers Needed



HELP NEEDED!

The Daily Bread Food Truck is looking for two helpers every Monday from 3pm-4pm to bring food from the Gathering Area out to the Food Truck.

Please sign up or let Leslie know if you are able to help!

Daily Bread Food Truck



Recently Ed and Margene Weiss had the pleasure of dining at the culinary Institute of America and visiting with Henry Schihl, a member of St Paul's. Henry cooked with Ed at our church's Monday Meal Share food production; now he is a full-time student at the CIA.

Adult Forum (resumes 9/13)

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.

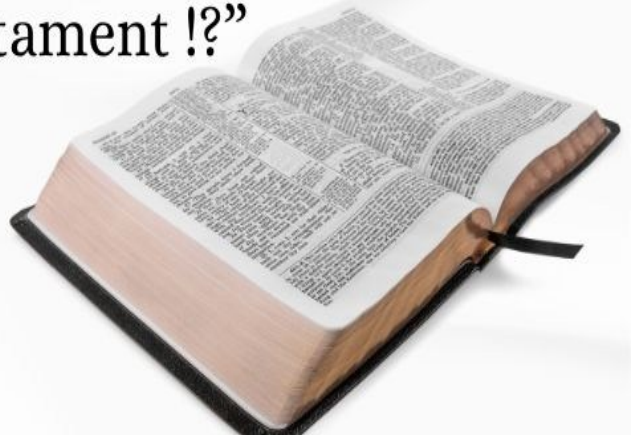
Our first topic is a timely one:

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.**



Wheels for Workers

Continuous Learning at Wheels for Workers

As we approach the end of summer, we wish everyone a fruitful and fun new school year. Wheels for Workers prides itself on being a learning organization, striving each day to become more efficient at achieving our mission.

You have probably noticed the new containers we purchased to house our bicycles. These storage units keep the bikes in better condition throughout the winter months, improve our organizational efficiency, and maintain a neater appearance in the parking lot.

We have also partnered with the University at Buffalo School of Public Health and Health Professions to streamline our processes and increase productivity. They are designing a customized, computerized ordering system specifically tailored to our needs, building an inventory tracking system, helping us organize the Wheelhouse, and improving our education programs—effectively bringing our operations into the modern era. Additionally, they will provide us with student interns next semester.

We are also happy to announce that we will once again partner with Amherst Schools to host students at the Wheelhouse throughout the academic year. Furthermore, we are continuing our relationship with the Nichols School by serving as a host site for their upcoming Community Day.

Our community outreach has been highly active. We recently sent 14 volunteer mechanics to the Ride for Roswell to ensure all participants had a safe ride. We also participated in Williamsville's Touch-a-Truck event and the Response to Love Center's Resource Day. Looking ahead, we will be participating in the Gerard Place Wellness Fair, the Williamsville Car Show, and the Clarence Methodist Church Apple Festival. Finally, at the beginning of each school year, we visit the UB North, South, and Medical campuses to provide free bike repairs to students.

To date, we have donated over 1,100 bikes, and our volunteers have logged more than 3,000 hours.

We need you and your friends! As we grow, our need for volunteers increases. You do not need to be a mechanic to join us; if you are willing to help, we will find the perfect task for you. Please call (716) 218-8543 for more information.

Picture 1 - Response to Love Center, Picture 2 - Beyond Borders Soccer Team



Waiting In Hope Infertility Support Group

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.

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).

August 31st
September 14th

September 28th
October 12th

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

WHAT DO I NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THIS CURRICULUM?

Does your wilderness season seem desolate, a never-ending dry ground, where you are lost and in need of water or a way? In this four-session study through the Israelites we learn how to gain courage and wisdom even in hard circumstances by looking to God. We can walk with hope even in our wilderness.

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!

Give 716 Update



GIVE 716 UPDATE!

Thank you so much!!

We were completely overwhelmed by the response to Give716 Day. For those of you who gave, you helped the WNY Impact Foundation raise:

\$25,470.53 for Daily Bread Food Truck, Wheels for Workers 716 & Noah's Helping Hands.

Your generosity will help these organizations go a long way toward blessing the lives of a lot of people in the 716! Thanks again!

Bible Study



Meet the Disciples – Tuesday Bible Study

Beginning Sept. 15 at 10 am in the Fellowship Room
We'll be meeting the Twelve Disciples that Jesus called to follow him, what we know from scripture, and then what tradition and legend tell about each. We'll start with Peter (Simon, Cephas).

Bring your own beverage – Timbits or other goodies will be provided.

St. Paul's History Highlights - #1

St. Paul's History Highlights - #1 How it All Started

In the mid-1820's with the opening of the Erie Canal, immigrants began moving into Western New York. Some of these were from what is now Germany and from the disputed area of

Alsace. Around 1826 a disenchanted Roman Catholic priest, now a reformed pastor, named Vincent Philip Meyerhofer came to the area and began to minister to these groups of German-speaking immigrants. There were four groups, in the city and outside the city. They probably met in peoples' houses. But in 1827, one of these groups took the step to incorporate into a congregation – St. Paul's! The date was

December 18, 1827. A land grant from the Holland Land Company gave the congregation 50 acres of land in what is now Cheektowaga (near Harlem Road and Genesee Street) But Pastor Meyerhofer knew the make-up of his group. Some in the north came from Alsace. In the south were the Prussians. One group would not come to the "territory" of the other – even to worship! He petitioned for an additional grant on "neutral

territory." He was granted one acre on the present site of the church. And that is how it all started!

Book Club– resumes 9/10

Book Club

When: 2nd Thursday of the month.

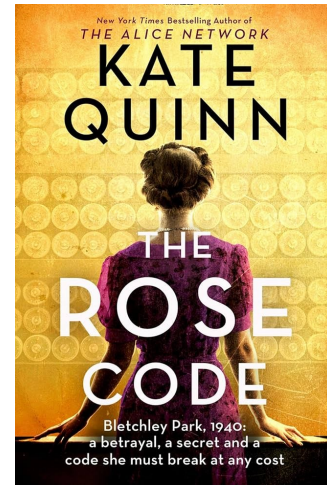
Where: **Gathering Room at St Paul's**

Time: 7:15 pm

Next Meeting: Thursday, September 10

September Book: The Rose Code by Kate Quinn

October Book: The Frozen River by Ariel Lawhon



All are welcome. Come to discuss or just to listen.

For more information contact Karin Johnson. Phone/Text Cell: [716-860- 9549](tel:716-860-9549);

Landline: [716-689-6365](tel:716-689-6365); Email karinej42@gmail.com

Music Ministries– Choir

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

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

Those interested in joining Choir-
Please see Paul Storfer for more details!



Comforters –resumes 9/9

COMFORTERS MEET SEPTEMBER 9, 2026

The Comforters did not meet in July or August. We will resume meeting in September. It was previously published that our September meeting would be on Wednesday, September 16. That is incorrect. We will be meeting on Wednesday, September 9.

If you are available on our meeting day, please consider joining us, meet with us, and see what we are all about.

Feel free to contact Linda Schunak at 716 689-3781 or Sara Gallagher at 716 834-1833 with any questions.

Pinochle-resumes 9/9

PINOCHLE STARTS AGAIN ON SEPTEMBER 9TH !

The Pinochle group did not meet in July or August. We are happy to say that the games start again on the first Wednesday after Labor Day, which is September 9th. After that, we meet the first Wednesday of the month.

We are looking forward to getting together again once a month at church. Everyone enjoys the time together and you are invited 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.

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

New Beginnings

New Beginnings for Single Ladies

What is New Beginnings?

New Beginnings is entering its 2nd year. It was created for widows, those divorced, single or living single (due to a spouse with alzheimer's, nursing home etc.) Our purpose is 3 fold: Spiritual, Support & Social.

What is a meeting like?

We begin with a bag lunch. Dessert and coffee is provided. It's a great time for catching up! Pastor Kristen opens with a spiritual reading of a woman with great strength & courage. We share who might need a ride, sign cards for those in need of cheer to who knows a good electrician!

Finally, we can end with bunco, a trivia contest, a guest speaker, a craft & more!

For further info:

email Joan at: keplersafari@gmail.com
or call Heidi at 716-480-9227

Next meeting: Sept. 16
St. Paul's Gathering Space
@12:00 noon

What's Your Story

Led by Judi Gersic

2027 ELCA Youth Gathering



2027 ELCA YOUTH GATHERING
JUNE 28-JULY 2, 2027

St. Paul's 8th-12th graders are invited to attend the Youth Gathering! More information will be released at our September youth night (9/12). Youth Gatherings are national events that bring churches together from the across the whole country and even the Caribbean and Canada! There's worship, learning, play, and service every day. The 2027 Youth Gathering will be held in Minneapolis, MN and we're looking at traveling by bus with other local congregations. It's a mountaintop experience for sure! Contact Pastor Kristen or Jordan to let us know you're interested in more information! kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com or youth@stpaulseggertsville.com.

200th Anniversary Team



Beginning this fall, St. Paul's Eggertsville will begin celebrating our 200th Anniversary year! The purpose is to celebrate what God has been doing through the St. Paul's community for 200 years. Celebration activities will lift up the sacred and sacramental moments of life which have connected people to St. Paul's. Special activities will begin this fall and carry through the end of 2027.

In October, we will start a series of written historical stories which will appear in the ***Messenger***, focusing on interesting moments in our church and community history. Pastors Steve and Kristen will begin to weave history into sermons and other church celebrations.

Our celebration will culminate in the **200th Anniversary Dinner (November 13, 2027 at Sean Patrick's)** and Celebration Service (December TBA 2027). We will come together for fun, good food, and good music as church and community, with future/current/past members.

If you have an interest in helping with the planning for 200th Events, ***we want you!*** Watch for this **LOGO** each month for more information or please contact Margene Weiss weissmargene@gmail.com. The planning committee has been meeting for many months and we hope that there will be something for everyone.



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@stpaulsgeggertsville.com

Youth Night - September 12

★ Youth Night ★

**Saturday, Sept.
12**

After worship (6:30–8:30pm)

All students grades 6 & up are invited to attend!

If you have any questions, email:
youth@stpaulseggertsville.com

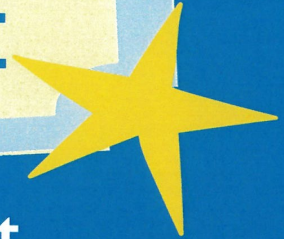


Recent Youth Group Events

LCLC's Meat Raffle



LCLC'S MEAT RAFFLE



Saturday, November 21st
5:00 - 8:00 PM
Ellicott Creek Fire Hall

Join us for an evening of fun!

- Meat raffle
- Door prizes
- Raffle baskets
- 50/50
- And much more!



Support this event!

- Donate items
- Collect items
- Donate money
- Volunteer at the event
- Get the word out!

Entry tickets sold online and at the door.
Support our community and test your luck to win exciting prizes!
All proceeds will go towards LCLC and our programming.



Ellicott Creek Fire Hall
45 S Ellicott Creek Rd
Buffalo, NY 14228



lclcenter.org
716-567-4125
contact@lclcenter.org

Altar Guild Volunteers Needed

Be an Altar Guild VIV (very important volunteer)

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:
WEEKLY, MONTHLY, SEASONALLY,
OCCASIONALLY

Interested?

MEET JUDI GERSIC AFTER WORSHIP
SEPTEMBER 6 OR 13 IN THE CHANCEL (WHERE
THE CHOIR SITS) FOR 15-20 MINUTES

Can't do either date?

TALK TO JUDI ANY SUNDAY AFTER WORSHIP

Burrito Project

BURRITO PROJECT



NEXT MEETING:

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 15TH

AT 6 PM AT ST. PAUL'S!

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.

September Birthdays

Marita Zieger-September 1

James Slater- September 1

Eileen Moser-September 3

Helen Gibson-September 4

Nancy Heintz-September 6

Kristin DiPasquale-September 6

Kathryn Francis-September 8

Susan Szewczyk-September 9

Cindie Siefert-September 10

Sandra Peters- September 12

Kenneth Regan-September 13

Douglas Wurtz-September 18

James Tanevich-September 19

Karen Braun-September 21

Cheryl Gillen-September 21

Tracy Nieman-September 21

Stephen DiPasquale-September 21

Joyce McWilliams- September 22

Sara Gallagher-September 25

Jack Greenawalt-September 25

James Meyer-September 26

Cynthia Beahan-September 28

Andrea Jarvis- September 30





St. Paul's Lutheran Church

4007 Main Street, Eggertsville, NY 14226

Website: www.stpaulseggertsville.com

Phone Number: 716-835-0407

Email: office@stpaulseggertsville.com

Pastors

Steve Biegner: (cell) 716 - 868-1232 (email) steve@stpaulseggertsville.com

Kristen Arends: (cell) 716-481-8728 (email) kristen@stpaulseggertsville.com

Director of Music: Paul H. Storfer

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 - scs@stpaulseggertsville.com

Youth Ministry: Jordan Dywan - youth@stpaulseggertsville.com

Facilities Manager: Jeff Stein - facilities@stpaulseggertsville.com

Digital Ministry: Andrew Gruszka

