



SAINT PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH PARISH MESSENGER

FEBRUARY 2023

In the name of Jesus Christ,
Saint Paul Lutheran Church
is committed to praising,
praying, and proclaiming the Word of God.

THE
STEADFAST
Love
OF THE
LORD
NEVER
CEASES

LAMENTATIONS 3:22. NRSV

250 Trinity Road
York, PA 17408
Phone: 717-792-1650
www.saintpaultrinity.org

The Parish Messenger is
dedicated to the Glory of God...in loving memory of
Charles & Esther Kilburn by the family and
in memory of Cpl. Luke Smyser Runyan who was killed
Feb. 17, 2008, in Iraq sponsored by the family

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**Office is open 8:00 am–2:30 pm, Mon-Thurs
& 8:00-12 noon on Friday**

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COUNCIL MEMBERS

President	Al Dickensheets	(24)
Vice Pres.	David Grube	(23)
Secretary	Erica Jones	(24)
Asst. Sec.	Eva Phillips	(25)
Treasurer	Lawrence Smyser	(24)
	Roxanne Donnan	(23)
	Donna Rinehart	(23)
	Mike Barndt	(23)
	Terri Masemer	(24)
	Barbara Eisenhart	(25)
	Sandy Patchel	(25)
	Bob Yeater	(25)

Assist. Treasurers: Larry Kaetzel, Bob Yeater
Cemetery Caretaker: Terry Emig
Cemetery Board: Keith Bergey, Mike Eisenhart, Ira Keech, Dave
Crowell

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Articles for the March newsletter
need to be in the church office by **February 15, 2023.**

PASTOR'S LETTER

“God, you remain the same, and your years will never end.”
Psalm 102:27

In both the Christmas and Epiphany seasons, we have the opportunity to marvel and reflect on how God has become “one of us.” Jesus came among us in human flesh and subjected himself to all kinds of human conditions, except for one, he knew no sin. And in that case, we marvel also, how amazing it is to know our God who is perfect in every respect. Because of God’s holiness we can count on him – he is consistent, the psalmist tells us, he remains the same.

Thanks be to God. The world around us changes at breakneck speed, it seems, and we get frustrated with our inability to keep up with the world around us. And in addition, so many changes are ill-conceived, things that are not pleasing in the sight of God. Therefore, we cling all the more closely to our God and we seek to walk more faithfully in his ways.

We are also thankful that God’s years will never end. In our lives we mark the end of so many things – the end of the football season, the end of relationships, the end of our working careers. But in addition to God’s everlasting nature, he also blesses us with new beginnings.

So, this month we say goodbye to Epiphany and hello to Lent. Although we think of Lent in a somber way, the putting away of our beloved Alleluias, it is the springtime of our souls, a chance to celebrate the way God allows us to grow and blossom as we immerse ourselves in worship and praise.

Join with us in the many Lenten opportunities we have and be comforted by God’s steadfastness, even unto death, and his faithfulness unto life everlasting.

See the article elsewhere in the newsletter that outlines our great Lenten series for Wednesday Bible study and worship.

God bless, Pastor Sally

SPECIAL APPEAL FOR FEBRUARY

Voice of the Martyrs

Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted-1 Timothy 3:12

In some 40 plus countries around the world, Christians face severe persecution. Saint Paul wants to help them and the premiere organization that helps in that process is Voice of the Martyrs.

VOM's Mission Statement: *Serving persecuted Christians through practical and spiritual assistance and leading other members of the Body of Christ into fellowship with them.*

VOM's Five Main Purposes

1. To encourage and empower Christians to fulfill the Great Commission in areas of the world where they are persecuted for sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ.
2. To provide practical relief and spiritual support to the families of Christian martyrs.
3. To equip persecuted Christians to love and win to Christ those who are opposed to the gospel in their part of the world.
4. To undertake projects of encouragement, helping believers rebuild their lives and Christian witness in countries where they have formerly suffered oppression.
5. To promote the fellowship of all believers by informing the world of the faith and courage of persecuted Christians, thereby inspiring believers to a deeper level of commitment to Christ and involvement in His Great Commission.

Please use the special envelope in your offering envelope packet to contribute.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY 70 +

If your birthday is coming up and you do not want it recognized, please call the church office before the 15th of the month before your birthday.

- Feb. 2 Albert (Butch) Maul
4190 Wolf's Church Rd., York, PA 17408
- Feb. 5 George Machlan
774 Weldon Dr., York, PA 17404
- Feb. 7 Al Wright
1831 Shoemaker Dr., New Oxford, PA 17350
- Feb 12 Donna Reever
4463 Walters Hatchery Rd., Spring Grove, PA 17362
- Feb 15 Gloria Witmer
3377 Fox Run Rd., Dover, PA 17315
- Feb. 18 Gerry Roth
410 Trinity Rd., York, PA 17408
- Feb. 26 Gary Mann
1806 Hilton Ave., Dover, PA 17315
- Feb. 28 Ken Worley
4070 Robinhood Dr., York, PA 17408

Mutual Ministry committee received notification from Roxanne Donnan that she will be retiring at the end of this school year. Thank you, Roxanne, for your dedication to our



CYC preschool! Malinda Grube will continue as director and will pick up the 3-year-old class as well. This leaves an opening for our 4-year-old class. We have prepared a job description for teacher of the 4's. The information is in the library and will soon be posted on our website. Please pray for our search for a new teacher and pass along the information to any potential candidate. It is a 41-week, 35 hour a week position, with a salary of \$20,700 per year. The candidate needs to have a degree, preferably in Early Childhood Education with at least one year's experience working in an Early Childhood setting. Thank you for your prayers and any help you can give us in identifying qualified candidates.

Interested applicants should submit a resume and cover letter by March 1st.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Recap of Treasurer's Report as of December 31, 2022

	Current	Bene.	Bldg Maint.	Total	Capital Fund
2022 YTD Receipts	\$400,683	\$30,434	\$91,935	\$523,052	\$152,587
Disbursements	\$402,670	\$42,290	\$82,088	\$527,048	
2022 Change in Fund Balance	\$(1,987)	\$(11,856)	\$9,847	\$(3,996)	
Prior Year's Balance	\$44,900	\$29,940	\$(2,209)	\$72,631	
Accumulated Fund Balance	\$42,913	\$18,084	\$7,638	\$68,635	
Fund Balance Last Month	\$35,357	\$13,999	\$5,994	\$55,350	
This Month's Change	\$7,556	\$4,085	\$13,632	\$13,285	

CHURCH COUNCIL

The Church Council meeting was held in the conference room on December 13, 2022, at 7:00pm.

Council Members in attendance: Dave Grube, Rodney Smyser, Monica Hostetler, Mike Barndt, Donna Huckenberry, Erica Jones, Brenda McCleary, Donna Rinehart, Lawrence Smyser, Pastor Paul, and Pastor Sally Excused: Al Dickensheets and Art Smith

OPENING DEVOTIONS: Led by Pastor Sally and Pastor Paul reflecting on 2 Peter 1:12-21. Our congregation has become a light shining in a dark place for many people. A place of peace and hope.

Prayer concerns and prayers for Ed, Daphne, Caitlin, Grace, Carolyn, and Jenn.

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA: Mike Barndt made a motion to adopt the agenda. Motion 2nd by Rodney Smyser. Voice vote was unanimously all in favor.

MINUTES OF LAST COUNCIL MEETING: Lawrence Smyser made a motion to accept the Church Council meeting minutes

from November 8, 2022. Motion 2nd by Mike Barndt. Voice vote was unanimously all in favor.

CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING: Rodney Smyser made a motion to accept the minutes of the Congregational Budget Meeting. Motion 2nd by Brenda McCleary. Voice vote was unanimously all in favor.

PASTORS' REPORT: Written report was read by Pastor Paul, reflecting on our readiness for the coming of our Savior's birth.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

MINISTRY OF RESOURCES – Prayer offered by Lawrence Smyser

FINANCE – Rodney Smyser reviewed the Monthly Income & Expense Report for November, highlighting the Building Maintenance expenses for the new security cameras and removal of two trees. Next meeting – January 9, 2023, at 7:00pm.

MUTUAL MINISTRY – Pastor Sally – Nothing new to report. Next meeting – January 17, 2023, at 6:30pm.

PROPERTY – Dave Grube reported new security cameras were installed, 2 maple trees were removed, and the water system was tested and passed. Next meeting – March 14, 2023, at 6:00pm.

MINISTRY OF GROWTH – Prayer offered by Donna Rinehart
FELLOWSHIP – Monica Hostetler reported that the Christmas Party was a success. Fellowship Committee will prepare dinner for the Mid Atlantic Conference in October 2023. Next meeting – January 16, 2023, at 7:00 pm

WOMEN OF THE WORD – Next meeting – December 21, 2022, at 1:00pm.

YOUTH AND FAMILY LIFE – Monica Hostetler reported that the Family game and craft night was cancelled due to illness. Sixteen members participated in Christmas caroling on December 11th. Plans are being made for the Mystery Dinner scheduled for March 5th with a March Madness theme. Next meeting – January 9, 2023, at 6:00pm.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION – Donna Huckenberry reported that the children's Christmas Program will be performed during late service this Sunday. Plans are being made to help accommodate attendance of 3 special needs children during Sunday school. Next meeting – January 9, 2023, at 7:00pm.

CYC – This will be Roxanne Donnan's last school year teaching for the CYC. The CYC is looking for a teacher for the 4-year-old class next school year,

MINISTRY OF SERVICE – Prayer offered by Dave Grube

STEWARDSHIP – Lawrence Smyser reported that the 12 special appeal requests for 2022 will be kept the same for 2023. Next meeting – January 16, 2023, at 7:00pm.

OUTREACH – Written minutes submitted by Brenda McCleary. The Outreach Committee is planning to work with For the Love of Veterans instead of Tunnel to Towers. The locally operated organization provides treatment for veterans with PTSD. The next Veteran Outreach meeting will be February 13, 2022, at 6:00pm. Contact Dave Grube or the Pastors if you are interested in joining the planning team. A Temple Talk is planned for January. Next meeting – January 17, 2023, at 8:45am.

Men of Faith – Next meeting January 14, 2023, at 8:00am.

Member 2 Member – As needed.

SOCIAL MINISTRY – Donna Rinehart reported that 242 scarves were blessed and donated to the Harvest of Hope Food Pantry, 16 baskets were created for our shut-ins, and cards were sent out to our partial shut-ins. Deb Smyser made a beautiful silk flower arrangement to set out during funeral luncheons. Next meeting – January 17, 2023, at 9:30am.

MINISTRY OF PRAISE – Prayer offered by Pastor Sally

WORSHIP & MUSIC – Roxanne Donnan - nothing new to report. There will be two church services on Christmas Eve and one service Christmas morning. Next meeting December 14, 2022, at 7pm.

Average Worship Attendance for November in person per Sunday = 159 and online = 94

OLD BUSINESS:

Review and approve budget

Address concerns mentioned during the Congregational Budget meeting at the Annual Congregational meeting

Nave and Capital appeal update - No new updates

NEW BUSINESS:

Annual Congregational Meeting – January 15, 2023

Agenda

Hymnal use to decrease supply cost and use of toner.

Security

Paid position for sound system/virtual operator

A feed the hungry event

Veterans walk

Habitat for Humanity opportunity in August – Matt Conn

Hosting NALC convention in October

Committee Reports

Meal – Potluck - Council to help setup. Time – 12:30pm

REQUESTS FOR USE OF FACILITIES:

Special Requests – Monday, December 26, 2022, 8:30 am to 6:00 pm – Hoffman Family Christmas Party, requested by Sandy Albright. Lawrence Smyser made a motion to approve the request for the Hoffman Family Christmas Party. Rodney Smyser 2nd the request. Voice vote was unanimously all in favor.

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE:

Death:

Rena Wilson – November 9, 2022

Mitchell Markel (non-member) – November 26, 2022

Funerals:

Rena Wilson – November 15, 2022 – Beck Funeral Home

Mitchell Markel (non-member) – December 2, 2022 – Kuhner Funeral Home

Transfers in:

Matt, Erica, Johnny, and Eli Wilson – January 2023

Baptisms:

Melody Richter (Daughter of Elizabeth Stabley) – January 8, 2023

CALENDAR UPDATES:

Next meeting: January 10, 2023, at 7:00pm

Outgoing council members to attend the beginning of the meeting to assist with the election of new officers for 2023.

Outgoing council members to bring light refreshments to welcome new council members.

MEN OF FAITH

Our study of Kingdom Men Rising will continue this month as we delve into a session entitled “Setting the Stage.” Join us for this interesting discussion, great fellowship, and a delicious meal. We meet on Saturday, Feb. 11, beginning at 8:00 am and breakfast will be provided. Sign up list is provided on the table in the library at the back of the Narthex.



SOUP EVENT

Like to make soup, taste soup, or do both? Join the Fellowship Committee on Sunday, February 5, 2023, at noon for our second Souper Sunday. You will taste soup and vote for your favorite. There will be a prize for the winner! You can join in the fun by making a soup or just come to taste.

The Youth and Family Committee will also be doing their regular collection with soup pots after worship that day, giving people a chance to drop in their extra change for a hunger cause. This year our hunger money will go to Our Daily Bread in downtown York.

FRIENDS IN CHRIST

We are doing lunch together at Olive Garden restaurant on February 12th after 2nd service. Join us for food and fellowship. Look for the sign-up sheet in the library area.

Our schedule for this Spring is:

- Thursday, March 9 – New Holland Factory Tour
- Thursday, April 13 – Longwood Gardens
- Thursday, May 11 – Bedford Village

More details on our Spring outings will be in the bulletins in February.

BOOK CLUB



Book Club will meet on Thursday, February 16 at 1:00 pm. The February book is "*Superior Subterfuge*," by Tom Hilpert. Please visit our library. We have a nice collection of Christian fiction to share with you!



WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

- Feb. 5** **Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany**
First Lesson: Isaiah 58:3-9a
Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16)
Gospel: Matthew 5:13-20
- Feb. 12** **Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany**
First Lesson: Deuteronomy 30:15-20
Second Lesson: 1 Corinthians 3:1-9
Gospel: Matthew 5:21-37
- Feb. 19** **Transfiguration**
First Lesson: Exodus 24:8-18
Second Lesson: 2 Peter 1:16-21
Gospel: Matthew 17:1-9
- Feb. 26** **First Sunday in Lent**
First Lesson: Genesis 3:1-21
Second Lesson: Romans 5:12-19
Gospel: Matthew 4:1-11

OUR DAILY BREAD



Our dessert for February is **blueberry muffins**. We need 30 dozen by 9:00am on Friday, February 17. **We are asking that you please individually wrap all Our Daily Bread snacks please.** If you can contribute some muffins, please sign up on the sheet in the library area. Thank you!

SCARF MINISTRY



With the cold weather here, it is great time to make scarves for our annual gift to Harvest of Hope families. Knit or crocheted scarves may be 5"-6" wide and 3'-4' long, just as a guideline. Fleece scarves should be 8"-10" by 4". Yarn is available in cupboard to right of library area. For more information call Donna Rinehart, 292-5258.

SPONSORSHIPS
ALTAR FLOWERS (\$50/wk)

Feb. 5 OPEN / Faye Nace
Feb. 12 Gary & Dot Mann
Feb. 19 Gerry & Cindy Roth
Feb. 26 John & Linda Sherman

BULLETIN (\$20/wk)

Feb. 5 OPEN
Feb. 12 Marty & Sandy Albright & Family
Feb. 19 Rodney & Joyce Smyser & Family
Feb. 26 Deb Shue

BREAD & WINE (\$15/wk)

Feb. 5 OPEN
Feb. 12 Sandy & Martin Albright
Feb. 19 Norma & Ted Krebs
Feb. 26 Norma & Ted Krebs

MAILING MINISTRY (\$10/wk)

Feb. 5 OPEN
Feb. 12 Ira Keech
Feb. 19 Mike & Marguerite Keller
Feb. 26 Carl & Sandy Bender

PARISH MESSENGER

Gary & Dot Mann / Carl Smyser

SANCTUARY LAMP

Carl Smyser

OPEN 2023 SPONSORSHIPS

Please note that if you are sponsoring the 5th Sunday, it may not be available. If you wish to sponsor an opening, please call the church office (717-792-1650, between 8 am and 2 pm)



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

(Faith Learning 9:40 on Sunday Morning)

There is something for every age and interest!

"If any of you is lacking in wisdom, ask God, who gives to all generously and ungrudgingly, and it will be given to you."

James 1:5

For Adults:

Ordinary Faith – This class meets in room 13/14 behind the stage in Fellowship Hall. We study interesting, yet ordinary, people in the Bible. These ordinary people are examples of extraordinary faith which are an inspiration to us in our spiritual life. All are welcome to join us each Sunday morning.

Lutheran Theology Class – This Class meets in the conference room next to the mailboxes. Currently studying The Magdeburg Confession.

Concordia study works through various books of the Bible - This class meets in the quilters room, located behind the elevator, and is working through Romans and then on to Ephesians.

Chosen - Pastor Paul's class meets in the parlor and this year will be looking at and discussing the excellent movie dramatization of the Gospels entitled *The Chosen*. You will learn much through our viewing and reviewing of this powerful film.

For the Young People:

Grades 7-12 are meeting in the youth room at the end of the hall for Common Threads – see how scripture weaves into your daily walk.

Grades 4-6 (now CLUB 456) are meeting in Room 2 for SOMETHING NEW! Come check out the room and our new format. Christian Music, Bible Videos and Scripture Talks! Spread the Word.

Ages 3-Grade 3 are participating in age-appropriate small group rotations. Each Sunday, they get to go to the story room, the craft room, and the Praise Kids in Motion room.

Join the Faith Building fun!



To our church family, THANK YOU!! We had a wonderful Christmas season. Cards, cookies, visits, phone calls ... all mean so much when we can't hop in the car go! Special thanks to Pastor Sally and Pastor Paul for their faithful visits. We appreciate all your love. PS: Riley especially enjoyed the carolers! Larry and Shelia Breneman

To the Pastors and members of Saint Paul Church: Thank you very much for the fruit basket at Thanksgiving, and also for the Christmas carolers on Sunday, December 11, 2022. Marguerite Rupp

A great big thank you to Pastor Paul and Pastor Sally for all the many visits and prayers and to all my friends for the many, many cards and phone calls. They were greatly appreciated. It sure isn't any fun being sick. Love you all. God Bless, Grace Leppo

My heart is full of love as I thank you for all the prayers, cards, texts, and phone calls I received while my sister traveled through her journey of illnesses and cancer. The family and I take great comfort in knowing that Linda was gently called to her heavenly home...no more pain and suffering! Praising God for HIS gifts of eternal life and peace with HIM! Thank you so very much. Connie Dunklebarger and family

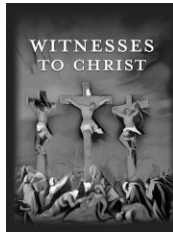


WOMEN OF THE WORD

Women of the Word will meet for Bible study on Weds., February 15, at 1:00 pm. Pastor Sally will lead us in "*Sing for Joy of Heart*". We invite all ladies to join us for Bible study and fellowship. If you are unable to attend but would like a copy of the study, please contact Barb Sloat.

BIBLE STUDY

Our current Bible Study is entitled, "*Philippians: Living in the Joy of Christ*", and it is proving to be very enriching indeed. The study helps us understand how Saint Paul could remain joyful in the Lord through all circumstances and helps us to apply that same faith outlook to our everyday lives. The study takes place in the large conference room throughout the month of February, except for February 15, when the pastors will be away.



LOOKING AHEAD TO LENT

Over the years, fewer and fewer churches have been observing the Church year and so this is an excellent opportunity for our church community, which observes that year enthusiastically, to introduce the season to others. Invite a friend to our services on Sunday and at other times as listed. We need this Lenten season of repentance and forgiveness more than ever. People need Christ. It's a matter of life and death.

Our Lenten Observance begins February 22nd with
Ash Wednesday Service at 7 pm

Our Lenten meals begin with a delicious meal prepared by the Fellowship Committee on Feb. 22 at 6:00 pm and served until 6:30 pm. After that, we have our great potluck meals each week, with drinks, a full salad, chips, and peanut butter and jelly and bread always provided.

Our mid-week evening series takes place each Wednesday at 7:00 pm from February 22 to March 29th and is entitled, "Witness to the Cross". A free devotional booklet, which specifically accompanies our theme, is also available at church for each day of Lent.

We will have many services during Holy Week - April 2-9.

Recently Hospitalized

We pray for a speedy recovery for our recently hospitalized member: George Machlan



Please call the church office if you or a loved one are in the hospital, we do not usually get informed of your stay by any of the hospitals even if you are registered under our congregation's name, and we want to make sure you get pastoral care. Thank you!

PRAYER REQUESTS FOR OUR MISSIONARIES



"In a certain desert, where there was no sign of water, there was a tree with green leaves bearing fruit. The reason was the long roots of the tree found a secret spring of water deep under the ground and thus were nourished by it. Prayer is the hidden root which goes to the hidden spring which is God. Through prayer we receive life from God and strength to bear fruit..."Sadu Singh in For All the Saints, vol 1.

Pray for our missionaries, Ruth, Luke, Andy to have deep roots in their prayer lives. May they be nourished and strengthened in prayer to our Triune God.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

We have reservations at Camp Kirchenwald at Schreiber Lodge – first class with bedding provided and private bathrooms for March 10-11. Mark your calendars and plan to join us! We pack a lot into a 24-hour period (6 pm Friday to 6 pm Saturday). We'll relax, enjoy one another's company, play games, study the Bible, walk, and talk! Did I forget to mention – eat? There's always yummy food and snacks! Sign up by March 6th on the sheet in the library area.

Cost will be \$30 per person (scholarships available)

.....
_____ plans to attend the Women's retreat.
(name)

I will need a ride / will meet you there. (Circle one.)