

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Lamplighter – June 2022



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

I like to start each day by reading a Psalm. God has so many comforting words to speak in the midst of the prayers of His people. Our lives are not easy. But God is faithful.

Here are just a few words from the latter part of the Psalms that I've underlined in my Bible over the years.

"Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life." Psalm 138:7

"When my spirit grows faint within me, it is you who know my way... Set me free from my prison, that I may praise your name." Psalm 142:3 and 7

"Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground." Psalm 143:10

"The Lord upholds all those who fall and lifts up all who are bowed down." Psalm 145:14

"He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds. He determines the number of the stars and calls them each by name." Psalm 147:3-4

We ask the God who knows the stars by name, and who has called us by name also in our baptism, to be with us, guide us, help us, guard us, protect us and heal us in this summer to come.

In Jesus' name,

Pastor Holsten

NOTES FROM PASTOR

Many thanks to all who helped with the Memorial Day Parade Float and Memorial Day Treats: Brian Pierro, Jr., Roy Merz, Janice Pierro, Gerrie Oliver, Bob and Carolyn Bieri, Russ Muller and Joan Holsten.

We ask God to bless and keep Pastor Matt Peebles and his wife, Eliza and family. They will be moving to Florida, where Pastor Matt will work full time on Kairos ministry outreach. Pastor Peeple's last worship service at Bethlehem, Ridgewood will be on June 6. We ask God to keep the Bethlehem congregation also in his care.

We ask God to bless and keep Candidate Jordan Peiser, who will be ordained and installed into the ministry at Zion Lutheran

Church in Maywood on Sunday, June 26 at 3 PM. Pastor Peiser's ministry will be sponsored by Zion, Maywood and Apple of His Eye Ministry, our Synod's outreach to Jewish people. The members and friends of our congregation are invited to this event.

Pastor Holsten will be away at a Pastor's Retreat in Tuscarora, PA, June 6-8. If you need a pastor's care during this time, please contact Rev. Tom Pranschke at 551-427-6599.

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING

ELDERS

- Reviewed Pastor's schedule
- Discussed returning to traditional communion procedures with the addition of

sealed communion cups. Would bring six members to communion rail at a time.

MISSIONS & EVANGELISM

- Basket has been placed in Narthex for Ukrainian donations through LCMS.
- This month's mission is the Armed Forces
- Will assist with the Memorial Day Parade float.
- Janice reported that she sent out 39 additional postcards to new residents in the area.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP/SOCIAL ACTION

- Served Easter breakfast.
- Will help with Sunday's Potluck brunch.

PROPERTY

- Normal maintenance
- Spring clean up
- Got mulch from town for flower beds
- Repaired faucet

STEWARDSHIP

- Bible Study group would like to organize an activity to involve members and friends of St. Paul's.

OLD BUSINESS

- Truck is gone
- 135th Anniversary – Roy, Pastor, Katy and Janice will set up on Saturday at 3pm.
- On-line streaming – discussion followed with a suggestion to contact district's director of communication for assistance.
- Website needs to be updated.

NEW BUSINESS

- MSC by Gerrie Oliver/Charlie Munsch to have the Secretary cast one vote for the slate of officers: Gerrie Oliver – Missions and Evangelism; Richard Huss – Financial

Secretary; Donna Munsch – Elder; James Steindl - Property.

- Quilters/Ladies Aid Luncheon will be held June 6 at 1 pm
- Memorial Day Parade discussed
- The office copier needed service and requires a part that is no longer available. Discussion followed with the possibility of looking into purchasing a copier that comes off a lease.
- Road signs – it has come to our attention that there no more signs in town indicating St. Paul's or other service organizations. Russ Muller will purchase a new sign to replace the battered sign by our parking lot.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS:

- 1 Megan Santos
- 5 Kim Luikert, Samantha Ross, Richard Graesser, Adam Graesser
- 6 Marin DiBlasio
- 7 Brian Schama
- 8 Joe Kemprowski Jr., Douglas Keil
- 10 June Kuhn
- 11 Jaclyn Loweree, Douglas Catalanello
- 12 John Graesser
- 13 William Sposa
- 17 Anne Gilhool
- 21 Lisa Vreeland
- 22 Irma Schmuck, Donna Steindl
- 23 Carley Weber
- 24 Loan Wiederholz
- 28 Oscar Gilhool
- 29 Finn Wiederholz
- 30 Barbara Paller, Knox Wiederholz

LADIES AID

Thank you to everyone who attended our Anniversary Brunch! The pot luck food was great and the fellowship we shared was wonderful. Thank you also to Pastor and Donna Munsch for their trivia games!

On June 6th at 1:00 PM our Ladies Aid and Quilters will join together for our Annual June Luncheon in Koepchen Fellowship Hall! Members bring their special culinary dishes and everyone gets to enjoy!

All ladies of St. Paul's are invited to attend the LWML New Jersey District 26th Biennial Convention which is being held on August 5-6, 2022 at the Hyatt Regency, Morristown, NJ. Early registration is \$100 by June 15th and \$125 after July 1 being the deadline. Meal options are also available. Special Convention Guests include Rev. Steve Gewecke, President LCMS NJ District; Dr. Rev. Gregory Seltz, Lutheran Center for Religious Liberty; Lily the Comfort Dog and two additional speakers. If you would like to join Donna Munsch and myself at the convention please contact us for the registration forms!

Janice Pierro, President

A Prayer for Memorial Day

Here's the prayer Pastor Holsten shared at the Closter Memorial Day ceremony:

I begin this prayer in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Dear heavenly Father, help us to keep in mind the sacrifice of those who left hometown, family and friends to serve in our nation's armed forces. This day we remember those laid down their lives, in places ranging from Belleau Wood, France, to Quang Tri, Viet Nam. Help us to honor the memory of these sons, brothers, husbands, and fathers, and in other towns, daughters, sisters and mothers. Help us to appreciate the tears and quiet sacrifice of those they left behind.

We ask Your healing for those recovering from injury in battle. We ask Your care for those suffering from post-traumatic stress. We ask Your blessing in receiving and caring for our veterans.

We thank you for all in our military who protect us this day. Help those in our armed forces to carry out their duties with faithfulness, diligence and courage. Keep them safe. Comfort them in times of loneliness. Bless the ministry of chaplains who share compassion, faith and hope with those far from home. Bless the families of those who serve in military. Be with all who wait for them here.

Bless those in towns, counties, states, and these United States who protect, serve and rescue others. Help all who lead to do so with wisdom,

honor and compassion for all people. Help each one of us to appreciate the gifts You have given us as citizens of this country. Give us loving hearts and faithful, compassionate hands and feet. Guide and strengthen us in service to others. This year, we pray for our community, nation and world, still coping with recovery from the Covid 19 virus.

We pray for the communities of Uvalde, Texas and Buffalo, New York. Help and comfort the grieving, the hurting, the brokenhearted. Bless those giving care. Let Your Word speak comfort and hope. Out of the depths we cry to You, O Lord, O Lord, hear our voice. Let Your ears be attentive to our cry for mercy. I pray in the strong and sure name of Jesus, Your Son. Amen.



St. Paul's celebrated with Seanan Autrata and Connor Fullam on their Confirmation day, May 1, 2022



Mrs. Ann Cavalli, Seanan, Connor & Pastor Holsten



Seanan Autrata & Connor Fullam

St. Paul's Memorial Day Celebration Float.



St. Paul's Memorial Day Float for the Closter Parade. Pictured on right is Brian Pierro, Jr., Gerrie Oliver, Janice Pierro and Pastor Holsten.

