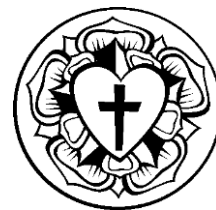




**The Epistle of St. Paul's**  
**A publication of St. Paul's Evangelical**  
**Lutheran Church, Summer Hill**  
**October 2025**



## **From the Pastor:**

*"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."* (Matthew 11:28-30 NRSV)

I think this is a very appropriate scripture reading for this time of year!

School has been back for a while but things are still a little new. My granddaughter began middle school, and she is still trying to navigate moving to a different classroom for every class.

For me I am weary because I do not know whether to wear a coat or a sweater when I go out!

And all the sports have started as well. My good friend is taking her two-year-old granddaughter to soccer!

So many things seem to happen in the fall, and that is on top of all the things we must do

every day. I am so glad that as we look forward to the holiday season, we can find rest in the love of Jesus.

*"For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls."*

Amen!

Pastor Marie

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## **Pastoral Visits**

Pastoral visits and home communions are available any time. Please call the church office or Pastor Marie at 716-353-1610.

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## **Prayer Requests**

Prayer Requests – Please email or call the church office with your prayer requests. First names only will be used in our worship services that are livestreamed. You may also give names to the person leading service prior to start of service.

## College Student Information Needed

The Social Ministry Committee is seeking the names and addresses of our young people who are college students. Each year care packages of items donated by our members are sent to the college students twice a year, at mid-terms and finals. Parents and/or grandparents, please give this information to the church office or to Harry Schwenk, Social Ministry Chairperson, so your student will be able to receive their care package.

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## Donations for College Students Needed

The Social Ministry's schoolhouse will be in the narthex from **Sunday, October 19<sup>th</sup> until Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**. We will be accepting donations of items to be sent to our college students, to have while they are taking their mid-term exams. Items to be donated include snacks, pens, pencils, or any other small appropriate items that the young people could use while studying for their exams. The packages will be sent to the students, whose families have provided us with their names and addresses. We thank everyone for their continuing generosity in donating to our project.

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## Please Join Us For Faithful Fellowship

We will gather after church on **Sunday, October 26** for a luncheon to celebrate Reformation Sunday and fellowship. A sign up sheet for desserts is posted on the bulletin board.

There will also be Faithful Fellowship times on **Sunday, November 16** and **Sunday, December 14**. Please speak to Sandy Wentz (570-573-4532) for more information or if you would like to help in any way. You can also check the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board. All are welcome and encouraged to attend!!

## Summer Hill Youth Group

The Summer Hill Youth Group will be hosting a movie night for kids and their families at 6pm on **Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**. The event will be held at the UCC church, and is free. Invite your friends and join us for a movie and popcorn! See the informational flyer on page 9 of the newsletter!

Mark your calendars for **Saturday, November 22** from 3pm-6pm for an afternoon of sports and fellowship at the JAM Rec Center. Light refreshments will be provided. Contact Laura Carll for more information.

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## Dinner and a Movie Night

A "Dinner and a Movie Night" is scheduled for **Saturday, November 1** beginning at 5:45pm (following the church service). The movie is titled "90 Minutes in Heaven" starring Hayden Christensen, Kate Bosworth, Hudson Meek, Dwight Yoakam, Michael W. Smith and Michael Harding. It is based on the bestselling book of the same name. We hope you will join us for fun and fellowship! Please speak to Karen Curtis for more information.

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## All Saints Day

On **Sunday, November 2**, All Saints' Sunday, we will remember those saints who have died during the past year. In addition, during the distribution of Holy Communion, we will remember any loved ones who have died, no matter what time has passed. If you would like a loved one's name to be read in remembrance, please call or email the church office.

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-A big thank-you to Sandy Wentz for all her efforts to bring Dave Hartranft (singer, songwriter, guitarist) to our service and organizing the meal and concert. Thank you to the many that helped to make the event a success with their contributions of food and serving, and also to the people who cleaned up after!!

## Stewardship Committee

The Stewardship Committee's mission is to encourage more members of the congregation to use their gifts and talents by volunteering- be engaged with a committee(s), teach youth, join a choir, etc., and to also raise awareness to our monetary needs in order to pay the bills for our building, staff, etc.

This past year, the committee implemented a few ways to increase giving including temple talks, putting a line item in the bulletin each week showing our current budget, adding verbiage to the weekly bulletin and newsletter, and adding a link to our Facebook livestream page for on-line giving.

We also like to always thank those who help serve the church in one capacity or another. At our annual congregational meeting in November, we enter names of those that submit a Time and Talent sheet into a drawing, and reward with prizes. (See page 5 & 6 of the newsletter) Light breakfasts are offered periodically after church. The committee also just recently hosted a Saturday evening picnic with singer and guitarist Dave Hartranft where we invited the church as well as the public.

*“As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.”—*

1 Peter 4:10 ESV

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## Lectionary Readings:

### Sunday, October 5 — Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalm 37:1-9

2 Timothy 1:1-14

Luke 17:5-10

#### **Semicontinuous First Reading and Psalm:**

Lamentations 1:1-6      Lamentations 3:19-26

Psalm 137 (alternate)

### Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, October 12

2 Kings 5:1-3, 7-15c

Psalm 111

2 Timothy 2:8-15

Luke 17:11-19

#### **Semicontinuous First Reading and Psalm:**

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7      Psalm 66:1-12

### Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, October 19

Genesis 32:22-31

Psalm 121

2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

Luke 18:1-8

#### **Semicontinuous First Reading and Psalm:**

Jeremiah 31:27-34      Psalm 119:97-104

### Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, October 26

Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22

Sirach 35:12-17 (alternate)

Psalm 84:1-7

2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18

Luke 18:9-14

#### **Semicontinuous First Reading and Psalm:**

Joel 2:23-32      Psalm 65

### Reformation Day, October 31

Jeremiah 31:31-34

Psalm 46

Romans 3:19-28

John 8:31-36

### All Saints Day, November 1

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18

Psalm 149

Ephesians 1:11-23

Luke 6:20-31

### Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost, Nov. 2

Isaiah 1:10-18

Psalm 32:1-7

2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Luke 19:1-10

#### **Semicontinuous First Reading and Psalm:**

Habakkuk 1:1-4; 2:1-4

Psalm 119:137-144



# OCTOBER

## Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 1 – Harry Russell
- 2 – Matthew Mairose
- 3 – Denise Johnson
- 4 – Sheree Bright
  - Bryson Schrader
- 5 – Rachel Macfarlane
  - Tyler Weller
- 7 – Ruth Sholl
- 8 – Darrel Deal
- 9 – Joseph Freeman
  - Jerald Heffleger
  - Dale Reed
- 12 – Laura Woll
- 14 – Diane Bailey
- 15 – Dennis Gordon
  - Gary Sholl
- 17 – Evan Freeman
  - David Reber Jr.
- 18 – Joshua Mairose
- 19 – Sadie Tokarick
- 22 – Dave Kahl
- 25 – Faye Williams
- 26 – Russell Moyer
- 28 – Courtney Brown
  - Helen Runkle
  - Justin Weller
- 29 – Kevin Reber
- 30 – Corey Engle
  - Bennett Platt
- 31 – Nicholas Frankenstein

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***“Help me today, Father, to submit  
my agenda to your perfect planning.”***

—John Sherrill

## The Best Gift For Your Pastor

October is Pastor Appreciation Month—a time to recognize and encourage those who faithfully shepherd our churches. But if you’ve ever asked a pastor how to show your gratitude, the answer probably isn’t a plaque or applause. More often than not, it’s simple: “Pray for me.”

Even the Apostle Paul didn’t ask for much personally, except for the prayers of fellow believers. In his letter to the Romans, he wrote: “Now I urge you, brothers and sisters, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me, that I may be rescued from those who are disobedient in Judea, and that my service for Jerusalem may prove acceptable to the saints; so that I may come to you in joy by the will of God and relax in your company” (Romans 15:30–32, NASB).

This October—and every month—encourage your pastor by offering your prayers, support, and kind words. Ministry can be demanding, but knowing the church is lifting them up makes all the difference.

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## Providence and Pastries

After starting a new diet, I altered my drive to work to avoid passing my favorite bakery. I accidentally drove by the bakery this morning and there in the window was a host of goodies. I felt this was no accident, so I prayed, “Lord, it is up to you. If you want me to have any of those delicious baked goods, create a parking place for me directly in front of the bakery.”

And sure enough, God answered my prayer! On the eighth time round the block, there it was!

# TIME & TALENT SURVEY

Please complete one form for *each* family member.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

## Worship Activities

Altar Guild \_\_\_\_\_  
Lector Saturday \_\_\_\_\_  
Lector Sunday, 10:30am \_\_\_\_\_  
Greeter Saturday, 5pm \_\_\_\_\_  
Greeter Sunday, 10:30am \_\_\_\_\_  
Usher Sunday, 10:30am \_\_\_\_\_  
Acolyte or Crucifer \_\_\_\_\_  
Assisting Minister \_\_\_\_\_  
Eucharistic Minister \_\_\_\_\_  
Media/ Audio Person \_\_\_\_\_  
PowerPoint Presentation  
5pm \_\_\_\_\_ 10:30am \_\_\_\_\_

## Music

Senior Choir \_\_\_\_\_  
Handbells \_\_\_\_\_  
Instrumental \_\_\_\_\_  
Signs of Faith \_\_\_\_\_

## Sunday School

Teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher Helper \_\_\_\_\_  
Substitute Teacher \_\_\_\_\_  
or Helper \_\_\_\_\_  
Vacation Bible School \_\_\_\_\_  
Teacher \_\_\_\_\_ Helper \_\_\_\_\_  
VBS Refreshments \_\_\_\_\_

## Youth Ministry

Youth Group \_\_\_\_\_  
Drivers/Helpers \_\_\_\_\_

## Serve as Delegates to:

Council of Churches \_\_\_\_\_  
2026 Synod Assembly \_\_\_\_\_  
2026 Mission District  
Assembly \_\_\_\_\_

## Fellowship/Social

Women of ELCA \_\_\_\_\_  
Jolly Quilters \_\_\_\_\_  
Prayer Shawl Ministry \_\_\_\_\_  
Picnic Planning \_\_\_\_\_

## Church Committees

Worship & Music \_\_\_\_\_  
Christian Education \_\_\_\_\_  
Social Ministry \_\_\_\_\_  
Evangelism \_\_\_\_\_  
Finance \_\_\_\_\_  
Property \_\_\_\_\_  
Audit \_\_\_\_\_  
Nominating \_\_\_\_\_  
Stewardship \_\_\_\_\_  
Technology Group \_\_\_\_\_

## Elected/Appointed I have interest in:

Student Loan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mutual Ministry \_\_\_\_\_  
Church Council \_\_\_\_\_

## Church Office

Help in church office when  
needed \_\_\_\_\_

## Volunteer Activities

Visitation:  
Sick/shut ins \_\_\_\_\_  
Prospective members \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone \_\_\_\_\_  
Visit new members \_\_\_\_\_  
Provide Transportation:  
To Worship \_\_\_\_\_  
To Doctor \_\_\_\_\_  
To Grocery \_\_\_\_\_  
Cleaning for elderly \_\_\_\_\_  
Prepare/deliver meal \_\_\_\_\_  
Assist at Food Pantry \_\_\_\_\_  
Prepare Baked Goods \_\_\_\_\_  
Christmas Caroling to Shut-ins  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Maintenance

Carpentry \_\_\_\_\_  
Electrical \_\_\_\_\_  
Painting \_\_\_\_\_  
Outdoor \_\_\_\_\_  
Annual Work Day \_\_\_\_\_  
Set up or break down tables for  
church functions \_\_\_\_\_

**Worship Activities** - All done in a rotation; The number of times a year is dependent upon the number of people that sign up.

Altar Guild - 4/6 times a year plus Christmas Eve

Lector, Greeter, Usher - approximately every 6 weeks

Acolyte/Crucifer - approximately 1 - 2 times a month

Assisting Minister - to assist in leading worship. Please see Pastor with any questions. Requires training.

Eucharistic Minister - takes Holy Communion to assigned shut-ins once a month, requires a full day training with Lutheran Congregational Services.

## **Music**

Senior Choir - practices Thursday evening, 9 months/year

Handbells - practices Thursday evening, 9 months/year

Signs of Faith - practices Tuesday evenings; requires completing basic sign language course

## **Serve as Delegates to:**

Schuylkill Haven Council of Churches - 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday, every other month

## **Fellowship/Social**

Women of the ELCA & Jolly Quilters - meeting as needed

Prayer Shawl Ministry - Monday mornings, 10am - 12 noon; dessert included

Picnic Planning - as needed to plan picnic once a year

## **Church Committees**

Worship & Music - scheduled on a monthly basis

Christian Education - Scheduled on a monthly basis, usually 1 hr. before Council meets

Social Ministry - 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday evening, 7pm

Evangelism - 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday afternoon, 1pm

Finance - 4<sup>th</sup> Monday evening, as needed, 7pm

Property - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday evening, 6:30pm

Audit - work of committee is once a year

Nominating - (outgoing Council Members); work of committee is once a year

Stewardship - meets as needed

Student Loan - elected position, serves 5 years, meets as needed

Mutual Ministry - appointed Committee; serves 3 years, meets as needed

Technology Group - Sundays after 10:30am Worship as needed

\* \* \* \* \*

Mark your calendars for the Congregational Meeting  
on **Sunday, November 16** following worship.



# October 2025



| Sunday                                                                                                                                                   | Monday    | Tuesday   | Wednesday                                                                                  | Thursday                                | Friday    | Saturday                                                                                   |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>**College items collected<br/>October 19-<br/>Nov. 9</b>                                                                                              |           |           | <b>1</b><br><b>Council Meeting-<br/>7pm</b>                                                | <b>2</b><br><b>Bell Choir-<br/>6pm</b>  | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b><br><b>Spoken Worship Service- 5pm</b>                                             |
| <b>5</b><br><b>Sunday School-<br/>9:15am</b><br><br><b>Worship-<br/>10:30am</b>                                                                          | <b>6</b>  | <b>7</b>  | <b>8</b>                                                                                   | <b>9</b><br><b>Bell Choir-<br/>6pm</b>  | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b>                                                                                  |
| <b>12</b><br><b>Sunday School-<br/>9:15am</b><br><br><b>Worship-<br/>10:30am</b>                                                                         | <b>13</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>15</b><br><b>Property Meeting-<br/>6:30pm</b><br><br><b>Newsletter Article Deadline</b> | <b>16</b><br><b>Bell Choir-<br/>6pm</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b><br><b>Summer Hill Youth Group Free Movie Night- 6pm (held at St. Paul's UCC)</b> |
| <b>19</b><br><b>Sunday School-<br/>9:15am</b><br><br><b>Worship-<br/>10:30am</b>                                                                         | <b>20</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>22</b>                                                                                  | <b>23</b><br><b>Bell Choir-<br/>6pm</b> | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b>                                                                                  |
| <b>26</b><br><b>Sunday School-<br/>9:15am</b><br><b>Worship with Reformation-<br/>10:30am</b><br><br><b>Faithful Fellowship Lunch- following worship</b> | <b>27</b> | <b>28</b> | <b>29</b>                                                                                  | <b>30</b><br><b>Bell Choir-<br/>6pm</b> | <b>31</b> |                                                                                            |

## **A Brief Look At Some Summer Hill History**

### **By Harry Schwenk**

With this being the month of October, following are reports of several special October services that were held at St. Paul's throughout its history.

On Sunday, October 13, 1940, a special day of festivities occurred. At 9:00 a.m., Sunday School was held with Paul Dewald, the Sunday School Superintendent, in charge. A service of Holy Communion was held at 10:00 a.m., with The Rev. Steigerwalt being assisted by The Rev. Leonard Nicholas of Pottsville. The Rev. Steigerwalt preached the sermon, "Witness Bearers." At noon, dinner was served in the picnic grove by the women and girls of the church, under the direction of Mrs. Mabel Steigerwalt. New friends were greeted and old acquaintances were renewed. At 2:00 p.m., a Reunion of Catechetical Classes service was held. The Rev. W. L. Gallenkamp, pastor of Zion Lutheran Church in Frackville and a close friend of The Rev. Steigerwalt, was the guest speaker. His topic was, "Christianity in Action," based on Exodus 5:2. This service was one of the largest and most successful reunions ever experienced on Summer Hill, which had more than 800 people in attendance. The old church, accommodating about 500 people, was filled to capacity, including an additional four dozen chairs. According to one report, there were almost as many people outside the church as there were inside.

On Sunday, October 29, 1944, special services were held at St. Paul's, commemorating its 160th anniversary of the congregations being affiliated with their Synods. At this time, the ministers of St. Paul's Union Church were The Rev. Clarence Steigerwalt and The Rev. Edwin Fahringer. The day began with Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. The morning church service was held at 10:00 a.m., with the Rev. Fahringer being in charge. The guest speaker for this service was The Rev. Frederick D. Eyster, pastor of St. John's Evangelical and Reformed Church in Schuylkill Haven. The church choir, under the direction of Mrs. Clark Rauch, sang "The Holy City" and "The Lord's Prayer." In the afternoon, a special anniversary service was held at 2:00 p.m., with The Rev. Steigerwalt being in charge. The Rev. E. A. Acker, pastor of Christ Lutheran Church in Schuylkill Haven was the guest speaker. His subject was "Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow." The Rev. Edwin H. Smoll brought greetings to his former parish.

On Sunday, October 6, 1957, more than 600 people attended two services at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. The services were for the observance of World-Wide Communion, the reunion of catechetical classes, and the 30th anniversary of The Rev. Clarence Steigerwalt being pastor of the three churches in the parish. The day's activities began with Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. The Reunion Service was held at 10:00 a.m. with 268 people attending. All who had been confirmed at St. Paul's were recognized, along with The Rev. Steigerwalt for his 30 years of service. The committee in charge of the reunion consisted of members of the confirmation classes from 1887-1957. The oldest representative of the group confirmed at Summer Hill was Joel M. Phillips. He was confirmed in 1887, and a life-long member of St. Paul's. A basket of flowers was presented to him. His wife, Nora (Krammes) Phillips, was confirmed in 1889. At noon, a turkey dinner was served by the women of the church. The 2:00 p.m. World-Wide Communion service was attended by 344 people. The Rev. Steigerwalt preached, and assisting him in distributing Holy Communion was his son-in-law, The Rev. Craig J. Dorward.

# Join Us!

# Movie Night



SHOWING:

## The Prince of Egypt



Oct  
18

Free  
Entry

Light Refreshments

St. Paul's UCC

Open Door 6PM

1235 Summer Hill Rd, Auburn, PA 17922

# Giving Thanks

**Sunday, Nov. 16 – 3 p.m.**

**All Are Invited to Attend the**



**275th  
Community  
Celebration  
of  
Thanksgiving**

**St. Ambrose Church  
201 Randel Street  
Schuylkill Haven**

**Give Thanks for All Our Blessings!**

## THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL'S

is published by:

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
1185 Summer Hill Road,  
Auburn, PA, 17922  
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**Director of Music email:**

[stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com)

**Student Loan Committee email:**

[stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com)

**Communion service every Sunday– 10:30am  
First Saturday Holy Communion Service – 5 pm**

### Our Staff

|                                  |              |
|----------------------------------|--------------|
| The Rev. Marie Meeks, Pastor     | 716-353-1610 |
| Matthew Hayes, Director of Music | 484-794-7902 |
| Kelly Palerino, Secretary        | 570-617-2972 |
| Eva Waldman, Treasurer           | 570-754-7350 |
| Cindy Brown, Pavilion Sexton     | 570-345-1279 |
| Stacy Fidler, Church Sexton      | 570-754-7350 |

### Office Hours

Monday – Thursday, 9am - 2pm (closed Friday)



### Special Dates

- Pastor Appreciation Month
- World Communion Sunday, *October 5, 2025*
- Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday, *October 12*
- Columbus Day, *October 13, 2025*
- Indigenous Peoples Day, *October 13, 2025*
- Canadian Thanksgiving, *October 13, 2025*
- Reformation Sunday, *October 26, 2025*
- Reformation Day, *October 31, 2025*

***“The Bible is not only a book which  
I can understand; it is also a book  
which understands me.”***

—Emile Caillet