Sunday, August 10, 2025 (outside service) 9th Sunday after Pentecost Holy Communion * stand +kneel

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE – My Peace I Give You

Barbara Heastings

*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P- In the name of the Father, and of the Holy Spirit.
C- Amen.

P- Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Silence is kept for reflection.

P- Most Merciful God,

C- we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

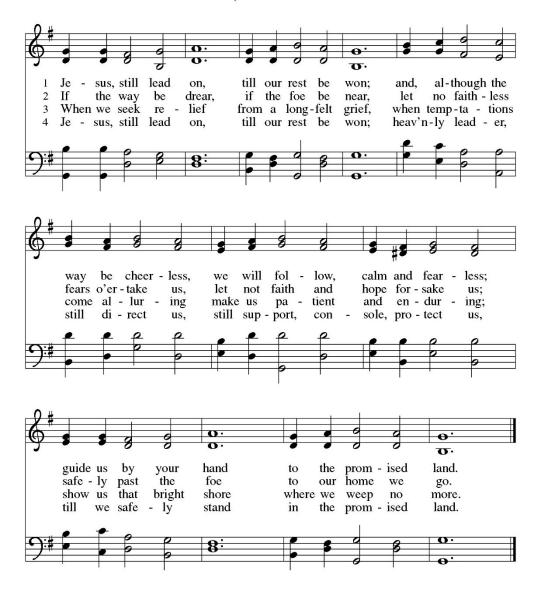
Amen.

P- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C- Amen.

*GATHERING SONG Jesus Still Lead On (ELW 624)

Jesus, Still Lead On



Text: Nicolaus L. von Zinzendorf, 1700–1760; tr. Jane L. Borthwick, 1813–1897, alt. Music: SEELENBRÄUTIGAM, Adam Drese, 1620–1701

1 Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won; and, although the way be cheerless, we will follow, calm and fearless; guide us by your hand to the promised land. 2 If the way be drear, if the foe be near, let no faithless fears o'ertake us, let not faith and hope forsake us; safely past the foe to our home we go.

3 When we seek relief from a long-felt grief, when temptations come alluring make us patient and enduring; show us that bright shore where we weep no more.

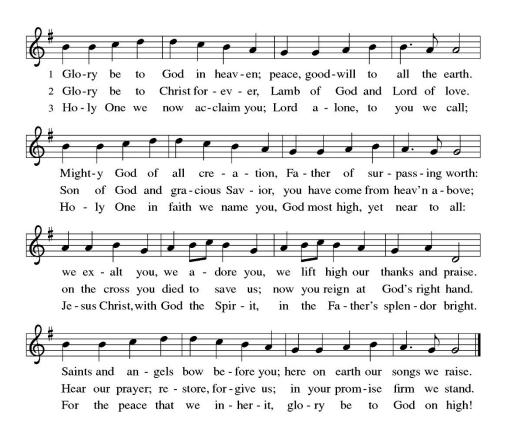
4 Jesus, still lead on, till our rest be won; heav'nly leader, still direct us, still support, console, protect us, till we safely stand in the promised land.

*GREETING

During this time, the presiding minister and the assembly greet each other.

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.

*CANTICLE OF PRAISE



¹Glory be to God in heaven; peace, goodwill to all the earth. Mighty God of all creation, Father of surpassing worth: we exalt you, we adore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. Saints and angels bow before you; here on earth our songs we raise.

²Glory be to Christ forever, Lamb of God and Lord of love. Son of God and gracious Savior, you have come from heav'n above; on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Hear our prayer; restore, forgive us; in your promise firm we stand.

³Holy One we now acclaim you; Lord alone, to you we call; Holy One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all: Jesus Christ, with God the Spirit, in the Father's splendor bright. For the peace that we inherit, glory be to God on high!

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

P- Benevolent God, you are the source, the guide, and the goal of our lives. Teach us to love what is worth loving, to reject what is offensive to you, and to treasure what is precious in your sight, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C- Amen.

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture, reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Genesis 15:1-6

God promises childless and aging Abram that a child of his own will be his heir and that his descendants will number as many as the stars. Abram trusts God's promise, and through this faith he is considered righteous.

¹ After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ² But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴ But the word of the LORD came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵ He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶ And he believed the LORD, and the LORD reckoned it to him as righteousness.

R - The Word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 33:12-22 (please read responsively)

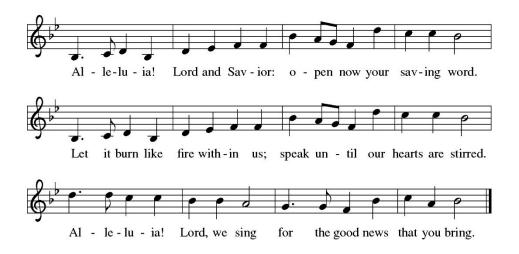
- ¹² Happy is the nation whose God is the LORD! Happy the people chosen to be God's heritage!
- 13 The LORD looks | down from heaven, and sees all | humankind.
- ¹⁴ God sits firmly en- | throned and watches all who dwell | on the earth.
- ¹⁵ God fashions | all their hearts and observes | all their deeds.
- ¹⁶ A king is not saved by the size | of the army, nor are warriors rescued by | their great strength.
- ¹⁷ The horse gives vain | hope for victory; despite its great strength it | cannot save.
- ¹⁸ Truly, your eye is upon those who fear 'you, O LORD, upon those who wait for your 'steadfast love,
- 19 to deliver their | lives from death, and to keep them alive in | time of famine.
- ²⁰ Our innermost being waits for 1 you, O LORD, our helper 1 and our shield.
- ²¹ Surely, our heart rejoic- | es in you, for in your holy name we | put our trust.
- ²² Let your lovingkindness, O LORD, ¹ be upon us, even as we place our ¹ hope in you.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

Abraham and Sarah exemplify the vision of faith that people of God enact in every age. Their hope and trust in God's promise allowed them to face an unknown future and to receive the promise of God.

- ¹ Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. ² Indeed, by faith our ancestors received approval. ³ By faith we understand that the worlds were prepared by the word of God, so that what is seen was made from things that are not visible.
- ⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to set out for a place that he was to receive as an inheritance, and he set out, not knowing where he was going. ⁹ By faith he stayed for a time in the land he had been promised, as in a foreign land, living in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same promise. ¹⁰ For he looked forward to the city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God. ¹¹ By faith, with Sarah's involvement, he received power of procreation, even though he was too old, because he considered him faithful who had promised. ¹² Therefore from one person, and this one as good as dead, descendants were born, "as many as the stars of heaven and as the innumerable grains of sand by the seashore."
- ¹³ All of these died in faith without having received the promises, but from a distance they saw and greeted them. They confessed that they were strangers and foreigners on the earth, ¹⁴ for people who speak in this way make it clear that they are seeking a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking of the land that they had left behind, they would have had opportunity to return. ¹⁶ But as it is, they desire a better homeland, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God; indeed, he has prepared a city for them.
- R The Word of the Lord.
- C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Alleluia! Lord and Savior: open now your saving word.

Let it burn like fire within us; speak until our hearts are stirred.

Alleluia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

*GOSPEL: Luke 12:32-40

Jesus encourages disciples to invest their hearts and live fully into God's reign. Instead of facing life with fear, those who know God's generosity are always ready to receive from God and to give to others.

P - The holy gospel according to Luke.

C- Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] ³² "Do not be afraid, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give alms. Make purses for yourselves that do not wear out, an unfailing treasure in heaven, where no thief comes near and no moth destroys. ³⁴ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

³⁵ "Be dressed for action and have your lamps lit; ³⁶ be like those who are waiting for their master to return from the wedding banquet, so that they may open the door for him as soon as he comes and knocks. ³⁷ Blessed are those slaves whom the master finds alert when he comes; truly I tell you, he will fasten his belt and have them sit down to eat, and he will come and serve them. ³⁸ If he comes during the middle of the night or near dawn and finds them so, blessed are those slaves.

³⁹ "But know this: if the owner of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have let his house be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

P - The gospel of the Lord.

C - Praise to you, O Christ.

HYMN SING

*HYMN OF THE DAY How Great Thou Art (ELW 856)

How Great Thou Art



Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine
Text and arr. © 1933 S.K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc., 35255 Brooten Road, Pacific City, OR 97135 (ASCAP).
Renewed 1981. All rights reserved.

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder consider all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder, thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander, I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees; when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze;

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

3 But when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my burden gladly bearing he bled and died to take away my sin;

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

4 When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation, and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

*APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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 INTERCESSION

The prayers are prepared locally for each occasion. The following examples may be adapted or used as appropriate.

P- In solidarity with all creation, we join our voice to the voice of the whole church and pray for the needs of the world.

A brief silence.

P - Keep the heart of your church set firmly in you so that, with lamps lit and attentive to Christ's call at any time or place, your people are ready to respond with faithful action for the sake of the world. God of grace,

C -hear our prayer.

P -Worlds were prepared by your word. Speak healing and protection upon the earth, especially where life and habitats are threatened (*places may be named*). Guide the work of astronomers and all who teach us about the stars and galaxies. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - You know the actions and deeds of the nations. Turn humanity away from instruments of war and violence. Fashion the hearts of world leaders to work for peace. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - Let your lovingkindness be on those in need (*especially*). Assure all who are afraid or experiencing great uncertainty that your promises are sure. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - Calm the fears of migrants and refugees who set out, not knowing where they go. Provide shelter, sustenance, protection from harm, and welcome. Bless the work of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and other means of support and advocacy. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - We celebrate the ancestors in the faith who built their lives on your promises and died having seen them only from a distance (*especially Lawrence*, *deacon and martyr*). Sustain us in our hope of things not seen. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - Trusting in your lovingkindness, we place our prayer and hope in you, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C - Amen.

*PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

P- The peace of Christ be with you always.

C- And also with you.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

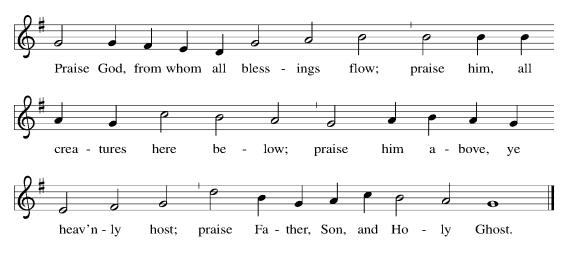
The assembly is seated.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

*PRESENTATION OF OFFERING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

*OFFERING PRAYER

After the table is set, the assisting minister may lead one of the following or a similar prayer.

Let us pray.

P- Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C- Amen.

*GREAT THANKSGIVING

P- The Lord be with you.

C- And also with you.

P- Lift up your hearts.

C- We lift them to the Lord.

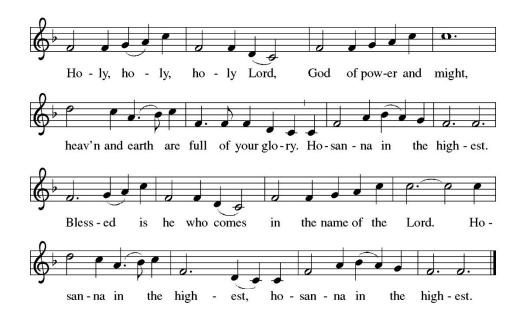
P- Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C- It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*PREFACE

P- It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; 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 all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

P- Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

In the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C- Amen

*LORD'S PRAYER

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.

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

P- Come to the banquet, for all is now ready.

The assembly may be seated. The bread may be broken for the communion.

*COMMUNION SONG



¹O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; you suffered death our lives to save: have mercy now, we pray.

²O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; you set us free from guilt and grave: have mercy now, we pray.

³O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world away; eternal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

P- The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you. and each person may respond

Amen.

The ministers commune either after or before others commune.

*TABLE BLESSING

The presiding minister says a table blessing, and the assembly responds P- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C- Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

The assisting minister leads one of the following or a similar prayer after communion.

Let us pray.

P - We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C - Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

*BLESSING

P- Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C- Amen.

*SENDING SONG Lead Me, Guide Me (ELW 768)

Refrain

Lead me, guide me along the way; For if You lead me, I cannot stray; Lord, let me walk each day with Thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

1 I am weak, and I need Thy strength and power To Help me over my weakest hour; Let me through the darkness Thy face to see, Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

Lead me, guide me along the way; For if You lead me, I cannot stray; Lord, let me walk each day with Thee. Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

2 Help me tread in the paths of righteousness; Be my aid when Satan and sin oppress. I am putting all my trust in Thee, Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

Lead me, guide me along the way; For if You lead me, I cannot stray; Lord, let me walk each day with Thee, Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

3 I am lost, if you take your hand from me I am blind, without Thy Light to see; Lord, just always let me Thy servant be, Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

Refrain

Lead me, guide me along the way; For if You lead me, I cannot stray; Lord, let me walk each day with Thee, Lead me, O Lord, lead me.

*DISMISSAL

P- Go in peace. Serve the Lord. C- Thanks be to God.

Postlude – The Spirit of Joy

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The bulletins are presented in memory of Violet Trumbo by Elona Fromm, Wendy Welsh and Trevor Reber.

The altar flowers are presented in honor of Jack Edwards' 85th birthday by his family.

Please sign the Friendship Register in your pew. Members with a change of address or visitors should complete the address section and telephone number. Visitors should also include the name and address of their home church so your home church can be notified that you received communion.

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

Reminder: Hospital visits -The church is NOT informed when someone is in the hospital by the hospital. The person hospitalized or a family member must call the church to let us know they want a pastoral visit. If leaving a message on the answering machine, please remember to leave the hospital name and the room number. Some hospitals will not give the room number to a visitor, expecting you to know that.

The Social Ministry's schoolhouse will be in the narthex to accept Back-to-School items from Sunday today. Items will be donated to the children associated with Schuylkill Children and Youth and Schuylkill Hope Center (formerly known as Women in Crisis). Items to be donated include: notebooks, folders, back packs, pencils, pens, crayons, rulers, and any other appropriate children's school items. Your generosity is appreciated.

Some members have asked for an address for Linda Angstadt to send something for her retirement. Here is her mailing address: 266 Moon Hill Drive, Schuylkill Haven PA 17972

The Fall Worship schedule will begin on Sunday, September 7, 2025. Sunday School will be at 9:15 a.m. The Worship service will be at 10:30 a.m. Council has made the decision to discontinue the 8:00 a.m. service. The Saturday Spoken service will continue to be on the first Saturday of every month at 5:00 p.m.

Confirmation class will begin a new year in September. Seventh grade and older students are eligible to enroll. Forms to register are on the table in the Annex. Please give completed forms to Pastor Marie or in the offering plate. Deadline is August 31, 2025.

Attendance August 3, 2025 – 63 in person, 352 online views, 4 shares as of August 7, 2025.

STATISTICAL SUMMARY FROM LAST WEEK:

Synod/ELCA Benevolence	\$ 30.00
Local Benevolence	\$ 153.25
Current	\$1,946.02
Plate Offering	\$ 76.00
Total Received	\$2,205.27

The 2025 Weekly giving needed for budget is \$3,166.75.

"THE WEEK AT A GLANCE"

Today: 9 am Worship Service (outside service)

Next Sunday: 9 am Worship Service

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Mon: Psalm 89:1-18; 2 Chronicles 33:1-17; Hebrews 11:1-7 Tues: Psalm 89:1-18; 2 Chronicles 34:22-33; Hebrews 11:17-28

Wed: Psalm 89:1-18; Jeremiah 33:14-26; Luke 12:41-48 Thu: Psalm 82; Joshua 7:1, 10-26; Hebrews 10:26-31 Fri: Psalm 82; 1 Samuel 5:1-12; Hebrews 10:32-39 Sat: Psalm 82: 1 Samuel 6:1-16; Matthew 24:15-27

ASSISTING AT WORSHIP

Greeter: Brian Staller Lector: Sallie Sandler

Counting Team: Brian Staller, Troy Hollenbach

Communion Assistant: Troy Hollenbach

Church Office Hours: Temporarily Closed – Call Pastor Marie or Brian Staller

Church Telephone: 570-754-7350

www.SummerHillLutheran.org - Church's website Facebook: St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill

Student Loan Committee email:

stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com

Rev. Marie Meeks, Pastor	716-353-1610
Email: preachymarie@gmail.com	
Matthew Hayes, Director of Music	484-794-7902
Email: stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com	
Church Secretary	570-754-7350
Email: stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com	
Cindy Brown, Pavilion Sexton	570-345-1279
Stacey Fidler, Church Sexton	570-754-7350
Eva Waldman, Treasurer	570-754-7350



Keep in your prayers: Richard Paxson, Irene Peiffer, Betty Freeman, Mark Fidler, Helen Runkle, Arlene Moyer, Stephen Curtis, John & Betty Strauch, John Strauch, Jr., Greg Phillips, Jerry Heffleger, Harry Russell, Neida Hayes, Helen Miller, Sheila Tryon, Sallie Ann Sandler, Tonia McKague, Robert & Joyce Zeledonis and Earl & Grace Paxson. Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tyler Weller,

Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Kristian Svenson, Mark Weinus, Jr., Justin Weller, Jeremy Weaver, Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Mitchell Moore, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast.

QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING

