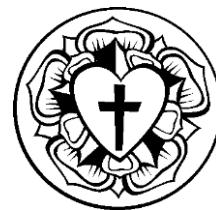




The Epistle of St. Paul's

A Publication of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Summer Hill

October 2026



From the Pastor:

To me, October is the month when we gather things.

There are clothes donations of warm clothes for the needy.

And food drives.

Some of us have come back from summer travels or vacations.

Our children have returned to school and are probably dealing with homework.

And farmers continue harvesting their crops. We have returned to the routines of work and worship.

My neighbor reminded me that this is the time for

Fall allergies!

Fall is definitely here!

But the one thing that does not change, no matter the season- we are all God's children every day of the year.

So, when we gather, we can share what we did and where we went in the summer.

We can share our adventures.

And remember wherever we traveled or not left our community, we know we always have a home here at St Paul's Lutheran.

Pastor Marie

Saturday Spoken Services

The next scheduled Saturday Service will be held on **October 3**, beginning at 5:00pm.

Helping Harvest

Helping Harvest donations will take place on the **first weekend of every month**. This organization has put food trucks in areas to help the needy in place of the closed Pottsville Soup Kitchen.

Church Council Meeting

The Church Council will have their monthly meeting on **Wednesday, October 7** beginning at 7:00pm in the church Annex.

Newsletter Deadline

Please Note: The November Newsletter Deadline is **Thursday, October 15**.

Summer Hill Youth Group: Disaster Relief Bucket Challenge

This October, the Summer Hill Youth Group will have the opportunity to **learn, serve, and have fun together** as we assemble five-gallon Disaster Relief Buckets filled with supplies to help people in need.

On **Saturday, October 17** from 4:00–7:00 PM, youth will gather at St. Paul's Summer Hill UCC for a hands-on service project designed to show kids that helping our neighbors can be both meaningful and fun. Working in teams, participants will pack the buckets in a friendly relay-race competition, working together to see how many complete buckets their team can assemble.

While the competition will add plenty of excitement and laughter to the evening, the real goal is to help our young people understand what it means to serve others. Each bucket represents practical help for someone who may be going through a difficult time. Through this project, kids will have the chance to put their faith into action and see how even a small act of service can make a difference in the life of a neighbor.

Event Details:



October 17



4:00–7:00 PM



St. Paul's Summer Hill UCC

1235 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922



Food will be provided!

RSVP to Laura Carll at (484) 269-4405 is appreciated, but not required.

Come ready to work together, compete, laugh, and serve! We hope our youth will discover that following Jesus means looking beyond ourselves and being willing to help our neighbors in need.

Property Meeting

There will be a property meeting on **Wednesday, October 21** beginning at 6:00pm.

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.

Donations for College Students Needed

The Social Ministry's schoolhouse will be in the narthex from **Sunday, October 18th until Sunday, November 8th**. 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.

Please Join Us For Faithful Fellowship

We will gather after church on **Sunday, October 25** to celebrate Reformation Sunday and fellowship. A sign up sheet for food donations will be posted on the bulletin board.

There will also be Faithful Fellowship times in **November and December**. Dates and themes to be determined. Sign-up sheets will be listed for each event on the large bulletin board.

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!!

All Saints Day

On **Sunday, November 1**, 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.

Pastoral Visits

Pastoral visits and home communions are available at any time. Please email (stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com) or call (570-754-7225) the church office.

Hospital Visits

Reminder for hospital visits: The church is not informed by the hospital when someone is admitted. Please email (stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com) or call (570-754-7225) the church office to let us know if a pastoral visit is desired.

Prayer Requests

Please email (stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com) or call (570-754-7225) the church office with your prayer requests. First names only will be used in our worship service that is livestreamed. You may also give names to the person leading service prior to the start of the worship service.

Save the Date For Dinner and a Movie!

The Social Ministry Committee is sponsoring their annual fall “Dinner and a Movie Night” on **Saturday, November 7**, beginning at 5:45pm, following the church service.

This 1985 television drama titled, *Stone Pillow*, featured this central tagline: “Before You Judge Her...Walk A Mile in Her Shoes”. The great Lucille Ball (*I Love Lucy, Yours, Mine and Ours*) plays Florabelle, an elderly bag lady struggling to survive on the streets of New York City. She carries her most prized possessions in a shopping cart and has staked out a Manhattan street corner as “home”. When approached by Carrie, a curious young social worker played by Daphne Zuniga (*Melrose Place, Spaceballs*), Florabelle introduces her to the underground of Grand Central Station and the details of daily survival. Together both women discover a new perspective on their lives.

We hope you will join us for a great movie, fun and fellowship. If you have any questions, please speak to Karen Curtis.

Handbell Choir (Joyful Noise)... New members wanted!

Do you love music and having fun? Come join our handbell Choir!

- All ages welcome.
- No prior experience needed. No need to be able to read music.
- You will be taught what you need to know.
- Practice weekly: Thursdays @ 6:00pm, in the Annex
- Play during the service once a month.

We are a friendly group, who love spending time together!

If interested, contact Matthew Hayes or any of the Joyful Noise members (Becky, Dianna, Elizabeth, Faye, Holly, Karen, Leah, Sandy, or Trish).

Thank you!

Check Out Our YouTube Channel

We're livestreaming our worship services on our very own YouTube channel: @summerHillLutheran!!!

We'll share the livestream link on Facebook every week. You can chat, comment, and worship together *live* just like always.

Our website features a direct link to our YouTube channel, where you can already find recorded services beginning in February, our past livestreams, and our scheduled upcoming livestreams. So head on over, click **Like**, hit **Subscribe**, and ring that little bell 🔔 to be notified when livestreaming begins!

👉 Check us out here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@summerHillLutheran>

Altar Flower and Bulletin Sponsorship

There are many openings available throughout the year to sponsor the fresh altar flowers and bulletins on a Sunday morning. You can celebrate a Birthday, Anniversary, Graduation, etc. Sponsorships can be in honor of, or in memory of someone. There are sign-up sheets for a few months at a time on the bulletin board in the hallway. You can also call the church office and speak to Kelly to be added at any time throughout the year. The cost of altar flowers is: \$17.50 to sponsor one vase, or \$35 to sponsor both vases. The bulletins are \$10 per sponsored Sunday.

ELCA Website



Do you want to learn more about what is going on with our church? You can learn all about the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America by visiting their informative website:

<https://www.elca.org/>

Thank You, Thank you!!

-to our members directing Thrivent Choice Dollars® in the amount of \$282

-Dear friends from St. Paul's Lutheran,

Thank you for opening your heart to help end domestic violence. The Back-to-School items were appreciated and needed more than you know.

Thank you again,
Schuylkill Hope Center

The Revised Common Lectionary Readings:

October 4-Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20

Psalms 19

Isaiah 5:1-7

Psalms 80:7-15

Philippians 3:4b-14

Matthew 21:33-46

October 11- Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 32:1-14

Psalms 106:1-6, 19-23

Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalms 23

Philippians 4:1-9

Matthew 22:1-14

Oct. 18- Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost

Exodus 33:12-23

Psalms 99

Isaiah 45:1-7

Psalms 96:1-9, (10-13)

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Matthew 22:15-22

Oct. 25- Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 34:1-12

Psalms 90:1-6, 13-17

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Psalms 1

1 Thessalonians 2:1-8

Matthew 22:34-46

November 1- All Saints Day

Revelation 7:9-17

Psalms 34:1-10, 22

1 John 3:1-3

Matthew 5:1-12

Nov. 1- Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Joshua 3:7-17

Psalms 107:1-7, 33-37

Micah 3:5-12

Psalms 43

1 Thessalonians 2:9-13

Matthew 23:1-12



- 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
 - 10 – Kyran Murphy
 - 12 – Laura Woll
 - 14 – Diane Bailey
 - 15 – Dennis Gordon
 - Gary Sholl
 - 17 – Evan Freeman
 - David Reber Jr.
 - 18 – Joshua Mairose
 - Stephen P. Fessler
 - 19 – Sadie Tokarick
 - 22 – Dave Kahl
 - 25 – Faye Williams
 - 26 – Russell Moyer
 - 28 – Courtney Trombley
 - Helen Runkle
 - Justin Weller
 - 29 – Kevin Reber
 - 30 – Corey Engle
 - Bennett Platt
 - 31 – Nicholas Frankenstein
-

Luther and the Bible

Reformation Day is celebrated by many Protestant churches on October 31. It commemorates the Reformation and honors leaders such as Martin

Luther, whose courage and conviction helped shape church history.

Luther's life was threatened because he spoke out against practices he believed did not reflect the true mission of the Church. Forced into hiding, he found refuge at Wartburg Castle as the guest of the ruler of Saxony.

While there, Luther took on an enormous task: translating the Bible from the original languages into German. This was no simple project. At the time, Germany was made up of many regional dialects, making communication difficult from one area to another.

Luther wanted ordinary people to clearly understand God's Word. To make sure his translation used everyday language, he is said to have listened carefully to common speech, even consulting the castle's butcher for familiar expressions and wording.

Luther's translation became a tremendous gift to the German people. Not only did it place Scripture into the hands of everyday readers, but the language he used also helped unify the many German dialects. In that sense, Martin Luther is often considered one of the fathers of the modern German language.

Our Staff:

The Rev. Marie Meeks, Pastor: 716-353-1610
Pastor email: preachymarie@gmail.com

Matthew Hayes, Director of Music: 484-794-7902
Director of Music email:
stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com

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

Student Loan Committee email:
stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com



Special Dates for October 2026

- Pastor Appreciation Month
- World Communion Sunday, *October 4*
- Pastor/Clergy Appreciation Sunday, *October 11*
- Columbus Day, *October 12*
- Indigenous Peoples Day, *October 12*
- Canadian Thanksgiving, *October 12*
- Reformation Sunday, *October 25*
- Reformation Day, *October 31*

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Social Ministry's schoolhouse will be in the narthex from Sunday, October 18 until Sunday, November 8				1 Bell Choir- 6:00pm	2	3 Spoken Worship Service -5pm
4 Sunday School- 9:15am Worship- 10:30am Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost World Communion Sunday	5	6	7 Council Meeting- 7pm	8 Bell Choir- 6:00pm	9	10
11 Sunday School- 9:15am Worship- 10:30am Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost	12 Indigenous Peoples Day	13	14	15 Bell Choir- 6:00pm Newsletter Deadline	16	17 Summer Hill Youth Group Event (at the UCC)– 4:00pm
18 Sunday School- 9:15am Worship- 10:30am Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost	19	20	21 Property Meeting- 6:00pm	22 Bell Choir- 6:00pm	23	24
25 Sunday School- 9:15am Worship- 10:30am Faithful Fellowship following worship Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost Reformation Sunday	26	27	28	29 Bell Choir- 6:00pm	30	31

A Brief Look at Some Summer Hill History

by Harry Schwenk

With the month of October upon us, we will look at an event from October, 86 years ago. It occurred at our church, with possibly the most people ever in attendance for a church service.

Sunday, October 13, 1940 was a very busy day at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Summer Hill. 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. Clarence 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 of Frackville and a close friend of The Rev. Steigerwalt, was the guest speaker. His topic was, "Christianity in Action," based on Exodus 5:2. The 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 received by The Rev. Steigerwalt, there were almost as many people outside the church as there were inside.

The chairman of the Reunion Committee was Samuel Dewald, a member of the Class of 1899. He brought greetings to the crowd from the Reunion Committee. Various committee members from several of the classes extended two-minute greetings to the congregation. Many of the members of the individual classes sat together at the service. Records of the listings of catechetical classes from our church are not available before the year 1887. (Back in those days, confirmations were only held every two years.)

Invitations were sent to former pastors of the church. The Rev. Edwin Smoll of Schuylkill Haven, who was pastor at Summer Hill from 1886-1912, was unable to attend the reunion because of a severe illness, which confined him to his home. The members of the Class of 1903 presented The Rev. Smoll with a basket of flowers. Many other baskets of flowers adorned the chancel and altar for the special services. The Rev. Howard H. Krauss, pastor of St. Paul's from 1912-1925, was attending a U.L.C. convention in Omaha. Records show that during the pastorate of The Rev. Smoll, there were 472 members confirmed. During the pastorate of The Rev. Krauss, 182 members were confirmed. During the pastorate of The Rev. Steigerwalt, from 1927-1940, the time of the reunion, 245 members were confirmed. In 1940, the active membership of St. Paul's Lutheran Church was 486. A letter from St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council was sent to all members and all former members who were confirmed here, inviting them to these special services. 261 letters were sent to people who were confirmed at St. Paul's, but who had moved away from the community of the church and united with other congregations. The Reunion Committee of sixty members, mostly two from each class, made personal contacts with their respective confirmation classes. Each class strived to have the largest representation attending the services.

THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL'S

October 2026



St. Paul's Lutheran Church
1185 Summer Hill Road,
Auburn, PA, 17922

Church Phone: 570-754-7350

Address Service Requested

St. Paul's Lutheran Church email:

stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com

Website: www.SummerHillLutheran.org

Facebook:

St Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill

YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/@summerHillLutheran>

Communion service every Sunday: 9:00am

First Saturday

Holy Communion Service: 5pm

Office Hours:

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

QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING

