

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church
A Community of Faith for 242 Years
Sunday, July 12, 2026



The Parable Of The Sower
Matthew 13:3-9, 18-23

1185 Summer Hill Road, Auburn, PA 17922
Pastor: Rev. Marie Meeks, Cell: 716-353-1610
Church Office Phone: 570-754-7350
Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9am–2pm; Closed Friday
Church Email: stpaulsummerhill@gmail.com
Website: www.SummerHillLutheran.org
Facebook: St. Paul Lutheran Church, Summer Hill
YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/@summerHillLutheran>

Sunday, July 12, 2026

7th Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

*stand +kneel (if held indoors)

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE.....“Come, Christians, Join to Sing” - arr. by Jan Sanborn

***CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

P - Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, whose compassion endures forever.

C - Amen.

P - Let us confess our sin to God. Compassionate God,

C - we confess to you all our sins. Our burden is heavy, and we cannot free ourselves. In your mercy, call us back to you. Your yoke is easy and your burden is light. Restore us to dwell in your peace. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

P - Jesus says, “Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest.” In the name of God, Father, ✚ Son, and Holy Spirit, your sins are forgiven. Rest in God's love.

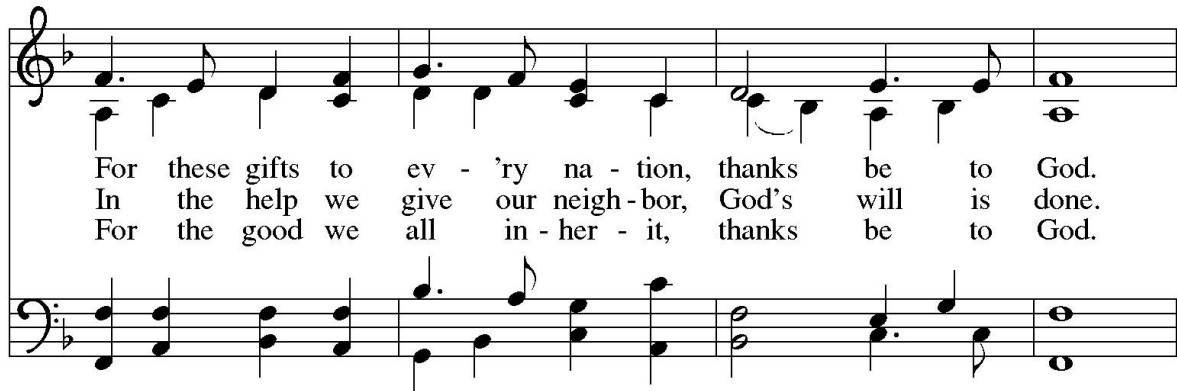
C - Amen.

***GATHERING SONG**.....“For the Fruit of All Creation” (ELW 679)

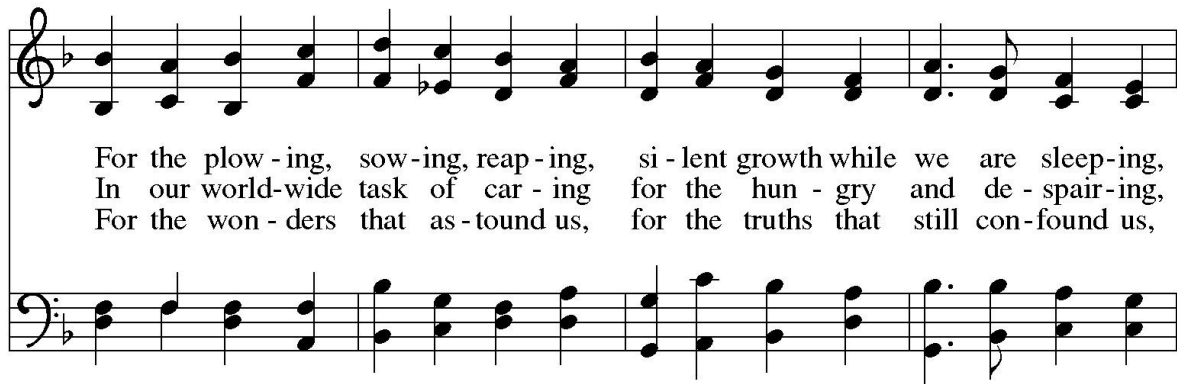
For the Fruit of All Creation



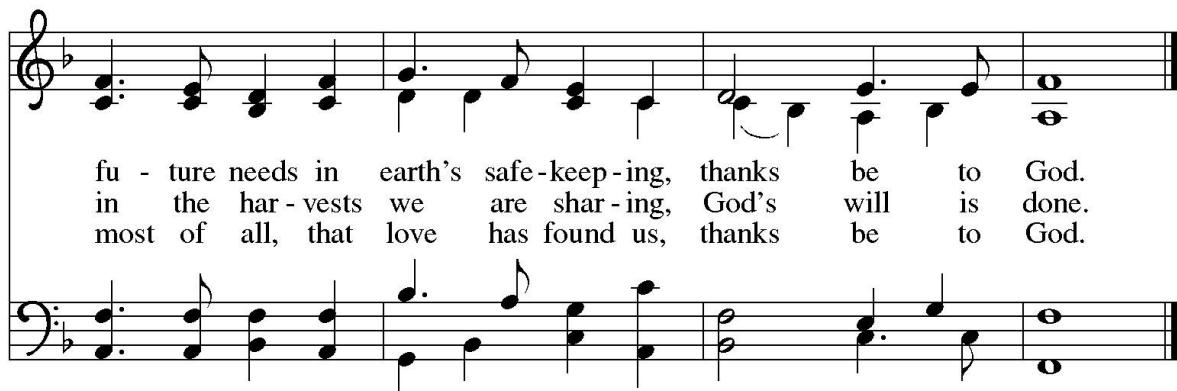
1 For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God.
2 In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done.
3 For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God.



For these gifts to ev - 'ry na - tion, thanks be to God.
In the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done.
For the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God.



For the plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,
In our world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,
For the won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,



fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.
in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.
most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000

Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958

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***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 (ELW p. 204)**

Glory 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.

Glory 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.

Holy 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**

P - Let us pray. Almighty God, we thank you for planting in us the seed of your word. By your Holy Spirit help us to receive it with joy, live according to it, and grow in faith and hope and love, 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: Isaiah 55:10-13

God's word to Israel's exiles is as sure and effective as never-failing precipitation. Their return to the Holy Land in a new exodus is cheered on by singing mountains and by trees that clap their hands.

¹⁰ For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,

making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,
¹¹ so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.
¹² For you shall go out in joy and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.
¹³ Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the LORD for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

R - The word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 65:[1-8] 9-13 (Read Responsively)

⁹ You visit the earth and water it abundantly; you make it very
plenteous; the river of God is | full of water. You prepare the grain,
for so you provide | for the earth.
¹⁰ **You drench the furrows and smooth | out the ridges;
with heavy rain you soften the ground and | bless its increase.**
¹¹ You crown the year | with your goodness,
and your paths over- | flow with plenty.
¹² **May the fields of the wilderness be | rich for grazing,
and the hills be | clothed with joy.**
¹³ May the meadows cover themselves with flocks, and the valleys cloak
them- | selves with grain; let them shout for | joy and sing. **R**

SECOND READING: Romans 8:1-11

There is no condemnation for those who live in Christ. God sent Christ to accomplish what the law was unable to do: condemn sin and free us from its death-dealing ways. The Spirit now empowers proper actions and values in our lives and gives us the promise of resurrected life.

¹ Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷ For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸ and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹ But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰ But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹ If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

R - The word of the Lord.

C - Thanks be to God.

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 205)**

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: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23**

In Matthew's gospel, both Jesus and his disciples "sow the seed" of God's word by proclaiming the good news that "the kingdom of heaven is near." Now, in a memorable parable, Jesus explains why this good news produces different results in those who hear.

P - The holy gospel according to Matthew.

C - Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ² Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³ And he told them many things in parables, saying: “Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴ And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵ Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶ But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷ Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸ Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!”

¹⁸ “Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹ When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰ As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹ yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²² As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³ But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty.”

P - The gospel of the Lord.

C - Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY...“We Plow the Fields and Scatter” (ELW 681)

We Plow the Fields and Scatter

1 We plow the fields and scat - ter the good seed on the land,
2 You on - ly are the mak - er of all things near and far.
3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,

but it is fed and wa - tered by God's al - might - y hand,
You paint the way - side flow - er, you light the eve - ning star.
the seed - time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.

who sends the snow in win - ter, the warmth to swell the grain,
The winds and waves o - bey you, by you the birds are fed;
No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,

the breez - es and the sun - shine, and soft re - fresh - ing rain.
much more to us, your chil - dren, you give our dai - ly bread.
but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank - ful hearts.

Refrain

All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.

We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

***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

P - Trusting in God's steadfast love for all God has made, let us pray for the church, the world, and all of creation. God our gardener, you scatter grace like seed across the world. Continue to cultivate the garden of your church with your abundant Spirit. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - God our joy, your bountiful creation reflects your commitment to life despite our actions disregarding its wonder. We look toward Isaiah's vision, when all creation rejoices, and the trees will clap for joy at your salvation. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - God our life, you give us the same Spirit by which you raised Christ from the dead. Set our minds on that Spirit whenever fear or condemnation overwhelm throughout the world. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - God our host and table, we pray for children who hunger and rely on school meals, for all who toil under the hot sun without refreshment, for the chronically ill who have exhausted their resources, and for local concerns. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - God our source, tend this assembly with your grace throughout this summer season. May those who travel for work or recreation do so safely, and may visitors find refreshment among us. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - We give you thanks that the roots of your goodness run deep throughout history. We remember those saints who have gone before us in faith. God of grace,

C - hear our prayer.

P - Grateful for your abundant provision and trusting in your goodness, we cast all our cares upon you, through the abundant grace of Christ Jesus.

C - Amen.

***PEACE**

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

L - The peace of Christ be with you always.

C - And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

***PRESENTATION OF OFFERING**

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” (ELW 884)

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**

P - Loving God, we offer at your table the gifts of our hearts. Help us take heart in you and share freely of your love, so that all creation can taste your abundance. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit abiding with us now and forever.

C - Amen.

***GREAT THANKSGIVING**

L - The Lord be with you.

C - And also with you.

L - Lift up your hearts.

C - We lift them to the Lord.

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

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

***PREFACE (ELW p. 144)**

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. You reveal your glory as the glory of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit: equal in majesty, undivided in splendor, one Lord, one God, ever to be adored in your eternal glory. 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 (ELW p. 207)**

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 God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise. When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

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 acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son. Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both 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**

P - Heaven has come near. Come, share in the feast!

***COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 208)**

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

O 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.

O 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

P - The body of Christ, given for you. The blood of Christ, shed for you.
C - Amen.

*TABLE BLESSING

P- The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.
C- Amen.

*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P - Compassionate God, through the gifts of bread and wine our hearts are filled with the abundance of your love. Strengthen us that we, through this holy meal, may share your love freely, as you have shared with us. We ask this in the name of Jesus, through the Spirit nourishing us now and forever.
C - Amen.

SENDING

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

P - Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C - Amen.

*BLESSING

P - Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, ✝ one God, bless, heal, and hold you today and always.
C - Amen.

***SENDING SONG.....“Sent Forth by God's Blessing” (ELW 547)**

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, our true faith con-fess-ing,
2 With praise and thanks-giv-ing to God ev-er-liv-ing,
the peo-ple of God from this dwell-ing take leave.
the tasks of our ev-'ry-day life we will face—
The sup-per is end-ed. Oh, now be ex-tend-ed
our faith ev-er shar-ing, in love ev-er car-ing,
the fruits of this ser-vice in all who be-lieve.
em-brac-ing God's chil-dren, the whole hu-man race.
The seed of Christ's teach-ing, re-cep-tive souls
With your feast you feed us, with your light now
reach-ing, shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.
lead us; u-nite us as one in this life that we share.
Your grace shall in-cite us, your love shall u-nite us
Then may all the liv-ing with praise and thanks-giv-ing
to work for your king-dom and an-swer your call.
give hon-or to Christ and his name that we bear.

***DISMISSAL**

P - Heaven has come near. Go, share the good news!

C - Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE.....

“For The Beauty of The Earth” by Conrad Kocher; arr. by Lloyd Larson

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The bulletins are in memory of Stephen Sandler by Sallie Sandler.

Join us for breakfast today following our worship service.

Please sign the Friendship Register. Visitors, or members with a change of address, please complete the address section and telephone number. Visitors may also include the name and address of your home church so they can be notified that you have 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 also give names to the person leading service prior to the start of the service.

A property meeting will be held this Wednesday, July 15 beginning at 6:00pm.

Special Offering July 19- There will be a special offering collected next Sunday which will be designated to Disaster Relief.

The Social Ministry's schoolhouse will be in the narthex to accept Back-to-School items from Sunday, July 19th until Sunday, August 9th. 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, backpacks, pencils, pens, crayons, rulers, and any other appropriate children's school items. Your generosity is appreciated.

Sunday School News: We are excited to announce that there will be a new curriculum and new materials for the Sunday School program beginning in September. Please speak to Brian Staller, Charity Staller or Deb Hummel for more information.

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. 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.

Pastoral visits and home communions are available at any time. Please call the church office at 570-754-7350 or Pastor Marie at 716-353-1610.

Reminder for hospital visits: The church is not informed by the hospital when someone is admitted. Please call the church to let us know if a pastoral visit is desired.

Helping Harvest donations take place the first Sunday of each month. This organization has put food trucks in areas to help the needy in place of the closed Pottsville Soup Kitchen.

Attendance on Sunday, July 5, 2026 – 29 in person; 44 online views; 0 shares as of July 9

The 2026 Weekly giving needed for budget is \$2,951.25

Week of June 21 – June 26, 2026

Current	\$ 701.10
Benevolence/Synod	\$ 30.00
Local Benevolence	\$ 91.00
Building	\$ 10.00
Plate	<u>\$ 30.00</u>
Total	\$ 862.10

Week of June 28 – July 3, 2026

Current	\$1,140.05
Benevolence/Synod	\$ 99.90
Local Benevolence	\$ 107.05
Plate	<u>\$ 10.00</u>
Total	\$1,357.00

THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2026

Sunday, July 12

9:00 AM -Outdoor Worship followed by breakfast

Wednesday, July 15

6:00 PM -Property Meeting

Sunday, July 19

9:00 AM -Worship with a special Disaster Relief Offering

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

Monday, July 13: Psalm 92; Leviticus 26:3-20; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8

Tuesday, July 14: Psalm 92; Deuteronomy 28:1-14; Ephesians 4:17-5:2

Wednesday, July 15: Psalm 92; Proverbs 11:23-30; Matthew 13:10-17

Thursday, July 16: Psalm 86:11-17; Isaiah 41:21-29; Hebrews 2:1-9

Friday, July 17: Psalm 86:11-17; Isaiah 44:9-17; Hebrews 6:13-20

Saturday, July 18: Psalm 86:11-17; Isaiah 44:18-20; Matthew 7:15-20

Sunday July 12 – 9:00 AM (Outdoor Service)

Greeter: Jessica Rollman

Acolyte: N/A

Lector: Michael Ziegler

Usher: N/A

Communion Assistant: Troy Hollenbach

Counting: Troy Hollenbach & Brian Staller

Rev. Marie Meeks, Pastor	716-353-1610; Email: preachymarie@gmail.com
Matthew Hayes, Director of Music	484-794-7902; Email: stpaulsummerhill.music@gmail.com
Kelly Palerino, 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
Student Loan Committee email: stpaulsummerhill.studentloan@gmail.com	



Keep in your prayers: Richard Paxson, Irene Peiffer, Betty Freeman, Mark Fidler, Helen Runkle, 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, Earl & Grace Paxson, Betty Fromm Yarnell, Wayne Brensinger, Ralph Hueske, Shawnette Keller, Brittany Gallagher, Kay & Jerome Hayes, Debbie Toro, Pete and Stacy Smulligan, Terry Tryon, Carole Wiscount, Carol Keesey, Harry Schwenk, Elona Fromm, Nancy Sweitzer, Carol Boyer

Those serving in the military: Brandon Felty, Karen Hall, Tyler Weller, Edward Hossler, Nick Lentz, Jake Schaeffer, Scott Aungst, Tyler Wolfe, Michael Hamilton, Mark Weinus, Jr., Cameron Lutz, Stephanie Boyer, Mitchell Moore, Timothy Bast, and Ryan Bast

QR CODE FOR ONLINE GIVING

