



## ***JESUS SAYS...WELCOME HOME!***

<sup>4</sup> For as in one body we have many members, and not all the members have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so we, who are many, are one body in Christ, and individually we are members one of another.1                      Romans 12:4-5 NRSV

# ***THE EVANGEL***

## ***MAY 2024***



***ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
HANOVER, PENNSYLVANIA 17331***



What a delight it continues to be to watch the Spirit continue to bloom and create here! About 30 - 35 folks consistently join the congregation conversations, and I can't help but notice that deep conversations are giving voice to deep hope and direction. Here's an update:

The conversations have been centering around the questions that are asked in the document "Ministry Site Profile (MSP)." This is the document - the congregation's faith and ministry resume, if you will - that will be submitted to the Synod and shared with perspective pastors, who will then determine whether they wish to interview with the congregation. The MSP spends most of its space asking about YOU as a CONGREGATION. What is your vision for mission (that's the very first question on the form!). Where do you spend your energy in ministry? What kind of culture of church are you - high church with all the bells and whistles? dancing in the aisles? somewhere in-between?

You see, the real journey we're taking is one of self-discovery as a faith community. When you know yourselves, when you can speak as a group about who you are, what your shared vision is, where you want to grow together...then you know the kind of skills and focus a particularly trained and ordained minister can bring to help that vision and mission continue to come alive.

I'm becoming more and more appreciative of those rare moments in our lives where we actually get to pause, even briefly, and take stock, put to words what we clearly know about ourselves, rethink and reconsider what we thought we knew, pay attention to what's been earned and learned since the last time life handed us this moment, and consider how we've been moving through life assuming others knew these things about us. It's powerful to experience the clarifying revelation that assumptions became attitudes, and those attitudes became actions, and the Spirit has given a moment of time to consider all these things. And thanks be to God, as a faith community, to be encouragers, comforters and journeypersons together to do it!

A stable pastorate can only blossom if we're serving to make a shared vision come alive because that's what we believe Jesus is calling us to embody in this time, in this place, with these gifts. The important word - just after Jesus - in that sentence is SHARED. Congregations who don't give each other the space and respect of listening to one another and seeking out some agreed-upon values and direction are going to create a space where one person (the pastor) is going to be pulled apart by dozens of competing visions and directions.



continued

The way to create healthy and holy relationships for yourselves is to catch a common vision. Some of the work that's been done in these congregation conversations are starting to reveal core values believed to be shared throughout the congregation. They are: *service, loving neighbor, caring, hospitality, outreach, generosity.*

This isn't an exhaustive list, but what a start! Can you imagine the kinds of opportunities and possibilities that take root and flourish in a community that lives these values? Where do you already see these values living out loud at St. Paul's? How are you embodying these values now? Where are places that are challenging the ability to embody or grow these values? What would YOU add to this list?

Three more conversations happen before we enter into summer in earnest. They are: May 5, May 19 and June 2. As always, I pray the Spirit is working in and on you, and that what you have to offer to the conversation finds you gathered around these holy tables for holy steps towards your next new relationship.

Bless you for being on the journey..PK

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**SPONSORSHIPS AVAILABLE:** Please contact Maureen Kaltreider in the church office or at [finance@stpaulsyorkst.org](mailto:finance@stpaulsyorkst.org)

Radio—May 12, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 (\$60 per date or any portion you desire per date)

Altar Flowers- May 26, June 2 & 16 (2 vases at \$20 each) June 9 & 23 (1 vase at \$20 each)

Communion Bread and Wine- May 12, 19, June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 (\$12 each date)

Worship Bulletins- May 5, 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 (\$20 each date)

Eternal Flame- May 19, 26, June 2, 9, 16, 23 & 30 (\$10 each date)

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**COFFEE HOUR** will be held in the church lounge immediately following the 9:30 Worship Service.

On Sundays when a Conversation with Pastor Katrina is being held in Fellowship Hall the Coffee Hour will also be in Fellowship Hall. Join us for time of fellowship.

# ATTENDANCE

## Sundays at 9:30 am

March 31-Easter .....	134	Facebook Live .....	58
April 7.....		Facebook Live .....	46
April 14.....	84	Facebook Live .....	37
April 21.....	78	Facebook Live .....	25
April 28.....	88	Facebook Live .....	33

## Holy Week

March 28-Maundy Thursday .....	47	Facebook Live .....	29
March 29-Good Friday.....	76	Facebook Live .....	43

## Saturdays at 5:00 pm

April 6.....	17	April 13.....	22
April 20.....	22	April 27.....	14

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**MAY'S DESIGNATED GIVING - St. Paul's Family Crisis Fund** - Many times in our life together we find that families within our congregation face monumental struggles. Families or individuals may have financial needs arise from medical emergencies, fires, long-term disabilities, or unemployment. They come seeking assistance from the church and many times they need more help than is readily available in the Discretionary Fund. Several years ago, our Congregation Council established the Family Crisis Fund and criteria for disbursement of funds to the families of our congregation. Building a fund such as the Family Crisis Fund enables us to help our families meet their needs and to hopefully get through the crisis. Please give generously to our Family Crisis Fund this month, so we can help those in need.

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**HELP REQUESTED FOR GARDEN CARE** - Spring has arrived, bringing on the season of flower bed care. Maintaining our church flower beds gives the entire campus a welcoming and neat appearance, but it is certainly time-consuming for Mike Buckley, our Maintenance Technician. When parishioners volunteer to help Mike with these chores, it takes the burden off him plus saves payroll dollars. Would you like to help? Any time until late Fall? You can bring your equipment or use the church's equipment. If so, please contact Mike via email to make arrangements, [mtechstpauls@gmail.com](mailto:mtechstpauls@gmail.com), or call the church office and ask for Mike.



**A HUGE THANK YOU** to Justin Schmidt of Schmidt's Lawn Care for mowing and trimming our grass areas this summer. Justin is Cindy Schmidt's son and he is doing this as a service to St. Paul's.



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## Family Camp

**FAMILY CAMP IS OPEN TO ALL!!** Camp is not just for our youth and families...it's for **EVERYONE!!!** A group of us is planning on attending Family Camp **Aug. 4-7**, and we wanted to invite everyone in our church family! Congregation Council has agreed to pay for each member to attend a week of camp, so your lodging, food, and programming will be free to you if you have not already gone to a week of camp over the summer. You are welcome to stay

for the entire week, but please know some of us will only be staying for the first half of the week. This could be the start of a great St. Paul's tradition! All camp registration forms should be given to Carmen in the church office. Contact Laura Silver, our Camp Person, for registration questions at [silverlkw@hotmail.com](mailto:silverlkw@hotmail.com) or Bill or Deb Sowers with program questions.

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The Faith In Action Committee would like to thank everyone who helped with the Ruth's Harvest Lenten project. We collected 581 single serving food items for this Hanover Area Council of Churches Project. The items were taken to St. Matthew's Church where the weekend bags are filled every week for the eligible school children of Hanover. Thank you for thinking of others in this local project provided by the Hanover Area Council of Churches. You are a blessing to our community.



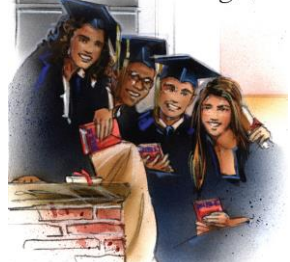
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## GRADUATES

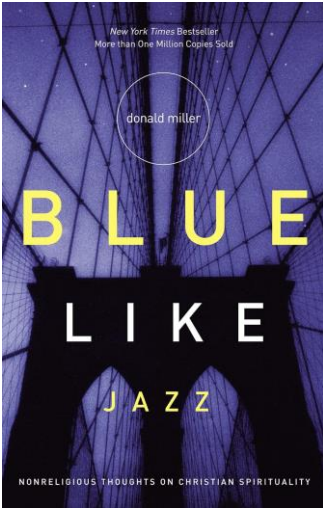
**Please let the church office know if you, or any member of St. Paul's, is graduating from high school, college or trade school this year so that we can acknowledge you in June/July's Evangel. We would also love to hear what your future plans are.**

**You can email us at [stpaulsyorkst@comcast.net](mailto:stpaulsyorkst@comcast.net) or call us at 717-637-5941.**

This is my prayer: that your love may abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, ...



Philippians 1:9



## SUMMER BOOK STUDY: **BLUE LIKE JAZZ**

by Donald Miller.

While **Blue Like Jazz** is driven by topics such as God, Sin, Belief, Faith, Redemption, Jesus and so on, the book is entirely narrative, told as one Christian's personal faith story. **Blue Like Jazz** speaks of what it feels like to have a relationship with God, and what the nature of sin and desire to be forgiven feel like, without complicated theological jargon.

Join us Tuesday evenings at 7pm in the Theater Room. The book study will run from **May 28 - August 6** (skipping July 2). We will discuss two chapters each session. Since each chapter of the book can stand alone, you don't need to attend every discussion. There is a

sign-up sheet on the bulletin board across from Pastor's office. Please sign up or call the church office by May 19th so we can order your book!

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## CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

**May 30<sup>th</sup> – September 4<sup>th</sup>**

Monday – Thursday – 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

Friday – 8:00 am to 12:00 pm



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The Faith In Action Committee is assisting St. John's Lutheran Church in Abbottstown with their **Diaper Drive** during the month of May. They are collecting diapers (any size) and diaper wipes for New Hope Ministries. This project helps our neighbors in need. Place any donations in the large bin in the pulpit hallway with the Diaper Drive sign on it. They will be taken to New Hope Ministries in June. We appreciate your support of this effort to help those who need

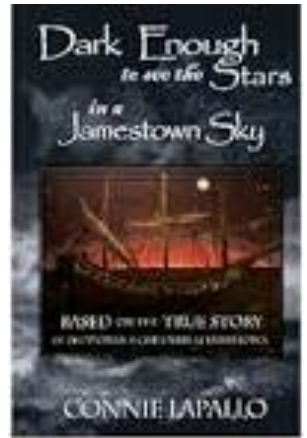
our help. Thank you, people of St. Paul's Lutheran Church.



**CONGREGATION CONVERSATIONS WITH PASTOR KATRINA** - Please join us following worship and the Congregational Meeting today, May 5<sup>th</sup> as we continue our Congregation Conversation with Pastor Katrina in the fellowship hall. We will meet again on Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> and June 2<sup>nd</sup> after worship. Your input is extremely important during this time in our congregation's faith journey. As we look toward our next chapter of ministry, we are reflecting, sharing and exploring our identity and purpose as a congregation. Reflecting on where we have been and where God may lead us in the future will lead to the best fit in our upcoming call.

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St. Paul's Book Club will meet on **Wednesday, May 29, 2024** at 12:30pm in the Church lounge to discuss Dark Enough To See the Stars in a Jamestown Sky by Connie Lapallo. This story is based on the true story of the women and children at Jamestown, one of the first English permanent settlements in the New World. Author Sharon Baldacci says, "Lapallo has given the women that settled this colony a voice, and it's a powerful one." Peg Sennett will be the discussion leader for this book. Anyone is invited to join us for this book group discussion. Please remember to bring a bag lunch. Hope to see you there for good discussion and good fellowship.



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Vacation Bible School will be held for children in Grades K – 6 from July 29 – August 2 from 9:30 – 11:30 am. It will once again be held at St. Mark's Lutheran Church on Charles Street. Watch for more details in the June/July newsletter or speak to Gretchen Walter.

**We are always looking for volunteers to help with VBS. Please consider helping with very important community project.**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW!**



## HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE APRIL 2024 GATHERING OF CHURCH COUNCIL

### **Mission:** To fulfill the command given in Matthew 25:35

*"for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me."*

- Living our purpose and principles were seen by council as 10,000 social media interactions in past ninety days and services of Holy Week.
- Council approved \$13,000.00 from Adventures in Ministry Fund to meet budgeted expenses of the National Youth Gathering. Any additional monies from fundraisers will be used as seed money for the 2027 Youth Gathering.
- An anonymous gift of \$42,000.00 to replace windows was accepted by council.
- Council approved the motion from Worship and Music to purchase a Black Magic ATEM Mini Pro for \$300.00 and H2R Graphics Pro software for \$80.00. These items are used to livestream. Council amended the motion to include funding from the Adventures in Ministry Fund.
- St. Paul's delegates to the 2024 Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly are Pastor Holland, Russ Kaltreider and Cindy Schmidt.
- The Renovation Taskforce shared with council that the cost to complete the canopy project is \$19,600.00 of which \$15,900.00 was approved by the congregation on March 26, 2023. The taskforce presented the quote to replace forty-two ground level windows at cost of \$45,825.00 of which an anonymous donor gave \$42,000.00. Council approved a total of \$8,000.00 from the Raubenstine Fund to complete both projects.
- A congregational meeting will be held on May 5, 2024, following the 9:30 AM service to approve the contract to replace the windows at cost of \$45,825.00.
- Council approved compensating Lori Rebling for covering services and rehearsals while Steven Ruppright was on medical leave.
- Council approved the motion from the Finance Committee to close the Pastor's Discretionary checking account and to deposit the funds into the Operating Account where tracking will be through a separate line item under Pastoral Expense.
- Council encourages members to participate in the Congregation Conversations with Pastor Katrina. These conversations will help us prepare to enter into the call process.
- Next council meeting is May 8, 2024, at 7:00 PM.

*And the King will answer, truly I tell you, just as you did it unto one of the least of these, my brothers and sisters, you did it unto me" Matthew 25:40*





**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!** The Christian Ed. Committee is looking for volunteers to facilitate a 20 min. activity for kids ages 3-grade 5 during worship this summer. We'll provide the ready-made materials for you! See Bill Sowers or contact the church office to volunteer.

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WAYS  SERVE



**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO BECOME A LECTOR, USHER, ASSISTING MINISTER OR COMMUNION DISTRIBUTOR** and are not currently on our volunteer list, please contact either Carmen at the church office or Suzanne Butler. We are only using the list that we got at our meeting at the beginning of the year, but there may be others who are interested.

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To My Church family at St. Paul's,  
 Thank you so much for the many cards and kind thoughts for me and my family and for my son, Barry, while in the hospital and since his passing. It was a long and hard journey. He suffered so much.  
 Thanks to Pastor Katrina for the visit at the hospital and at the funeral. Her visit was very much appreciated.

Thanks to all,  
 Kitty Angel

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**THANK YOU** to all who supported our Yard Sale (and subsequent left-over food sale!) last weekend. Look for a pretzel sandwich sale coming soon!!  
 ~The Gathering Krewe

# Youth and Family News

**CREATED  
TO BE**

"I praise you, for I AM  
FEARFULLY AND  
WONDERFULLY MADE.  
Wonderful are your works that I  
know very well."  
Psalm 139:14

## Next up...

- April 27**    **Yard Sale**  
(8:00 - 2:00)
- April 28**    **Jesus Feeds the 5000**  
(10:45 - 11:15)
- May 5**        **Gathering PARENT mtg.**  
(10:45 - 12:30)
- May 26**    **Mini Golf "tournament"**  
(meet at Hickory Falls)

## Gathering Update!

Our **Yard Sale (April 27)** is coming up and we'll plan another pretzel sandwich sale for May (details TBD at our May 5 meeting).

We talked about how we are "Created to Be DISRUPTIVE". Following Jesus' example we are called to step out in grace and love when we see injustice happening around us.

**WE ARE GETTING** excited for the event as more details are coming together!

## Fellowship Opportunities Coming Up!

Our May activity (**May 26**) will be mini golf. Cost will be \$5 per person. We'll meet at Hickory Falls for the fun! **Free ice cream treat** from RLta's for the lowest scorer in the SPYKids, SPY, and adult groups!

Register now for Family Camp at Nawakwa. A few of us are interested in attending **Aug. 4-7** but register early to assure a spot. See Deb or Bill for more information and questions.

## LOOKING AHEAD...

Vacation Bible school (for youth up through gr. 6—older youth can volunteer as staff) is scheduled for **July 29 - Aug. 2**. Our theme is "Olympics"! More info will be shared closer to the event.

Alive 2024 is a fall retreat (**Sept. 27-29**) at Camp Nawakwa for youth in gr. 6-9. There will be large and small group gatherings, crafts, games, campfires, free time and community-building. Mark your calendars now and look for more info coming this summer!



Contacts: Deb-- [debsowers@gmail.com](mailto:debsowers@gmail.com) OR  
717.586.0596    Bill-- [wosowers@gmail.com](mailto:wosowers@gmail.com)  
Facebook page--St. Paul's Youth and Families



# 2024 Gathering Update!

Our group of 13 is busily preparing for our journey to New Orleans next summer! Here is our current update.

**We continue our lessons and recently discussed how we are** "Created to be DISRUPTIVE – Following Jesus' example from Matthew 21, we are called to step out in grace and love when we see injustice happening around us.

**You can support us** by considering contributing to our "72 Envelopes" campaign and/or visiting our **Yard Sale on April 27**, where we'll be selling concessions including our delicious ham and cheese sandwiches! We plan another **pretzel sandwich sale** in late May (date TBD). Read about our Krewe and follow along with our fundraising efforts by checking out the Youth and Family Ministry bulletin board.

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The Lutheran Camping Corporation  
of Central Pennsylvania  
Kirchenwald, Nawakwa, & The Wittel Farm

## Join us for Family Camp!

Ever think about going to camp but not sure of the commitment? Why not give camp a try with your St. Paul's family?!

A group of us will be registering for Family Camp II (Aug. 4-7; Sunday - Wednesday) to get a taste of the camp experience. Our Congregation Council has agreed to pay for a week of camp for everyone (if you haven't already gone to camp this summer) so we're expecting that this will be at no cost to you. Food, lodging, fellowship is included! This is for members OF ALL AGES (youth under age 12 must be accompanied by an adult family member). See Deb or Bill Sowers or contact the Church Office for more information. Register ASAP as this camp sometimes reaches capacity.

## **ST. PAUL'S EVANGEL**

published by ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Website: [www.stpaulsyorkst.org](http://www.stpaulsyorkst.org)

Facebook: [St Pauls Evangelical Lutheran Church](#)

### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday – Friday – 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

### **THE CHURCH STAFF**

Rev. Katrina Holland – Intentional Interim Pastor  
*[pastorkatrinaholland@gmail.com](mailto:pastorkatrinaholland@gmail.com)*

Reverend Jack R. Hoffman – Pastor Emeritus

Steven Ruppright – Director of Music  
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Lori Rebling – Director of Handbells  
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Carmen Buckley – Administrative Assistant  
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*[assistant@stpaulsyorkst.org](mailto:assistant@stpaulsyorkst.org)*

Maureen Kaltreider - Financial Secretary  
*[finance@stpaulsyorkst.org](mailto:finance@stpaulsyorkst.org)*

Jaime Spangler – Housekeeper

Mike Buckley - Maintenance Technician

### **CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

Sharon Bortner, Sherry Cracium-Bolin, Amy Feeser, Frank Hueske,  
Russ Kaltreider, Donna Lehman, Dave Maus, Pat McConvile, Ginny  
Murray, Cindy Schmidt, Peg Sennett, Nancy Smith

President – Frank Hueske  
Secretary – Linda Zellers

Vice-President – Russ Kaltreider  
Treasurer – Sherry Cracium-Bolin