



# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

## FEBRUARY 2023

Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.

Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.



February 2023  
From the Pastor's Heart

Your Church Glorifies Christ!

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### Lutheran Disaster Response: 2022 in Review

2022 was a full year for Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR). The highest profile event is the ongoing war in Ukraine. Since Russia's invasion on February 24, more than 7.8 million people have fled Ukraine to neighboring countries in Eastern Europe and another 6.5 million became internally displaced. LDR is accompanying partners in eight countries, including Ukraine. As the war carries on, we will continue to extend our support to these partners.

In addition to the war, LDR worked with partners to respond to a wide range of other disasters, including Hurricanes Fiona and Ian, tornadoes, flooding, wildfires and gun violence. Internationally, some examples of responses in 2022 include monsoon flooding in south Asia, migration in Central America and refugees in the Middle East.

LDR also is increasing funding for resilience and preparedness projects that seek to address the underlying causes and consequences of climate change and social inequality. Here are just two stories from our partners in 2022:

#### *Drought in Africa*



The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Angola distributing food to people impacted by a drought in Angola.

The Horn of Africa is currently experiencing its worst drought in recent history, impacting more than 15 million people across multiple countries. Families are displaced and have lost the crops and livestock they need for food and income. Beyond the Horn of Africa, Angola is also experiencing severe drought. LDR is working with partners in the region to provide relief for impacted people in Angola, Ethiopia, Kenya and Somalia.

One of those partners is the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Angola (IELA). With a grant from LDR, the church was able to feed over 1,500 people in the southern provinces of Cunene and Huila. These provinces have lacked rain for the past four years.

IELA has a strong partnership with the Angolan government and they help each other to help people suffering from the drought. One local government official said, “Whenever we receive a phone call from IELA, we know that there is news of social assistance.”

Muteka Hipopi is a recipient of the food support from IELA. He lives in Kandeva, a community impacted by the drought. There has been very little rain for a few years, leading to famine and leaving people unable to support themselves and their families. He said that many younger residents in his community left for Namibia in search of better livelihoods. After receiving food from IELA, Muteka became hopeful and saw there are people around the world that care for him and others affected by the drought and famine.

While the region still waits for substantial rainfall, LDR and our partners will continue to walk alongside our neighbors in southern Africa and the Horn of Africa.

### *South Dakota tornadoes*



A tornado destroyed Beaver Valley Lutheran Church in Brandon, SD in May 2022.

Beaver Valley Lutheran Church, in Brandon, South Dakota, was hit by a tornado on May 30. The tornado damaged their building, with the most damage in the church offices and education areas. With a grant from Lutheran Disaster Response, through the South Dakota Synod, the Beaver Valley congregation has been able to continue serving their community despite being displaced from their building. They bought new computers and office equipment, relocated their preschool and created four produce stands to supply their community with fresh fruits and vegetables.

Within the primarily rural community of Brandon, Beaver Valley is very active and visible. Pastor Greg Johnson told the story of a conversation he had with a man near one of the produce stands. The man wasn't a member of Beaver Valley but had witnessed the work they did for the community. The farmer donated two semi-loads of corn - likely around \$10,000 worth- for their produce stands. This is just one example of the impact of the church on their community and, in return, the community's impact on the ministry of the church during a difficult time of recovery.

The generosity throughout the community, even beyond the work of Beaver Valley, is valued and celebrated by everyone affected by the tornado. Although Beaver Valley's building was damaged, their ministry was not. If anything, they became more active in the town, showing God's love when the community was most in need.

**Thank you!**

All this crucial work is made possible by the partners of LDR, including ELCA synods, social ministry organizations, global companion churches and ecumenical partners. The staff and volunteers of our partners are touching the lives of people impacted by disaster every day, accompanying them through the journey of recovery. Finally, our generous donors follow Christ's call to share hope with our neighbors in the United States and around the world. We are so thankful for all our partners and donors!

by Lutheran Disaster Response on January 23, 2023

Dearly Beloved, this report does not include the relief and rebuilding work that is being done in Florida and other areas of the south after the devastation wrought by Hurricanes Ian and Fiona. Our Church is a light shining in the darkness of human pain around the world. We should all be proud of it.

**God Bless!**

**Pastor Spencer**



### COUNCIL MEMBERS 2023

NAME	Term Ends
Josh Crisp (Inside Property)	12/31/23
Susan Lineberger (Youth)	12/31/23
Jeremy Loadholdt (Planning)	12/31/23
Justin Rubow (Worship & Music)	12/31/23
David Beaver (Staff Support)	12/31/24
Eric Lamanna (Social Ministry)	12/31/24
Marsha Kinley (Evangelism)	12/31/24
Gary Plonk (Hospitality)	12/31/24
Sandy Kennedy (Parish Ed.)	12/31/25
Jared Barkley (Finance/Stewardship)	12/31/25
Jason Crisp (Outdoor Ministries)	12/31/25
Dave Hoyle (Outside Property)	12/31/25

### COUNCIL OFFICERS 2023:

**President:** David Beaver  
**Vice-President:** Jeremy Loadholdt  
**Secretary:** Eric Lamanna

### CONFIRMATION CLASSES 2023

- ◆ Our teachers: Jeremy Loadholdt, Kelly Taylor, Susan Lineberger and Pastor Spencer.
- ◆ DATES: Feb. 5 & 19; March 5 & 19; April 2, 16 & 30; May 7
- ◆ Time: Sundays: 11:30-1:00 after worship—lunch provided



### WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE MEETING

Wed., Feb. 1, 2023

6:30 p.m.—Bollinger Hall

Justin Rubow, Chairperson

### CONGRATULATIONS



Pat Sellers is a Great-Grandmother:  
**Raine LeReve Fischlein**  
 Born January 10, 2023

Parents: Colby and Stormi Fischlein



### MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH

#### SPAGHETTI FUNDRAISER LUNCH

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2023

11:30 A.M. - BOLLINGER HALL

EVERYONE INVITED!

See Kelly or John Taylor with questions.

### RELAY FOR LIFE



St. Paul's Relay Team, *Fishing for a Cure*, is raising money for the American Cancer Society. If you want to participate see Lisa Rubow or Kelly Ramey.

Checks payable to The American Cancer Society—give to Lisa or Kelly.

- Thanks for your generous donations of \$1545 at the 1/22/23 lunch;
- Men's Group will be cooking breakfast for EVERYONE on **March 19th** at 7:30 a.m. Proceeds go to Relay for Life Fundraiser.
- Next Relay for Life Lunch **4/23/23** after worship service in Bollinger Hall;
- Relay for Life event @ Gaston College Campus April 28th at 6:00 p.m.



### CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Sunday, Feb. 19th after worship

Catered Lunch Provided

- ◆ Open discussion on our vacant position of Director of Discipleship.
- ◆ This is an informational, group-focused time to share your thoughts on this position. We need your input.
- ◆ We need a head count by Feb. 12th so we know how much food to order. Sign-up sheet in narthex.

## WELCA OFFICERS 20223

Women of the ELCA: President: Sandy Kennedy; VP: Susan Hutcherson;  
Secretary: Becky Paseur; Treasurer: Lisa Rubow

Mission Team: Donna Robinson, Jenny Eudy, Susan Lineberger

- ◆ All women are invited to the St. Paul's WELCA Retreat to be held in Bollinger Hall on Sat., Feb. 25th from 8:45 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. A light breakfast will be served. RSVP to Sandy Kennedy at 704-240-0204.
- ◆ WELCA Mission Team will be supporting these missions in 2023:  
1st Quarter: Navajo Mission (see page 5 in this newsletter); 2nd Quarter: Matthew 25:40;  
3rd Quarter: God's Work Our Hands; 4th Quarter: Dallas High Shoals Christian Ministries  
*Make checks payable to St. Paul's and mark for the mission group. Thanks for your support!*



## MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH NEWS

**Sunday, Feb. 12, 2023—Spaghetti Fundraiser Lunch in Bollinger Hall.**  
Please join us for lunch after worship on Feb. 12th.

*John & Kelly Taylor middle/highschool youth leaders (704-678-6419)*



## SPIRIT GROUP & SPIRIT CHOIR (K-5TH GRADE)

- ◆ Up-coming Meetings: Feb. 5th, March 5th, April 2nd & May 7th 11:30 a.m.—1:00 p.m. See Susan Lineberger or Emily Mitchem with questions.
- ◆ SPIRIT Choir—rehearsals next to last Sunday of each month (after worship-sanctuary) - Choir will sing on last Sunday of each month @ 10:00 a.m. worship. See Elisha with questions.



## SOCIAL MINISTRY COMMITTEE

*During February we are collecting cans of soup for Dallas Christian Ministry. Our goal is to collect 100 cans. Please consider donating a few cans of soup to help provide a warm meal to individuals/families in need in our community. Bring donations to the narthex.*

**Eric Lamanna, Chairperson**



## MEN'S GROUP NEWS.

- ◆ Men's Group Coat Drive (all sizes) - Bring donations to the church by Feb. 5. See Wes Cloninger.
- ◆ LOW COUNTRY BOIL & OYSTER ROAST - FEB. 18TH 4 P.M. @ KEEVER FARM—ALL MEN INVITED!
- ◆ Men's Group Breakfast Sun., Feb. 19th at 7:30 a.m. We will have a guest speaker, Terry Edwards, from Lutheran Men In Mission. We hope ALL men will join us.
- ◆ OYSTER STEW - St. Paul's Men's Group invites you for an Oyster Stew Dinner **Sun., Feb. 26, 2023** at 5:00 p.m. in Bollinger Hall. EVERYONE INVITED!



## JOY GROUP (See Sandy Kennedy with questions.)

**February 17, 2023—Sims Country BBQ (6160 Petra Mill Rd., Granite Falls, NC 28630)**

Meet @ the church 4 p.m. to ride the van. If you are driving be there by 5.

We will need a head count by Feb. 10th—Sign-up sheets in narthex & in front of office.

**PLEASE NOTE: CASH IS THE ONLY FORM OF PAYMENT**





St. Paul's WELCA is supporting the Navajo Lutheran Mission for the first quarter of 2023. Will you help us with this worthy project?

Sr. Paul's has supported this ministry in various ways over the years, including a mission trip that included 26 adults and youth from the congregation.

Navajo Evangelical Lutheran Mission is a non-profit organization funded by the generosity of donors who care about the Navajo at Rock Point, AZ and wish to see them thrive. Your donations help provide Navajo families with basic means for survival, including housing, food, clean water, education, and ministerial services.

### More about the Mission?

The Mission School is an **alternative school** to Bureau of Indian Affairs and community schools throughout the Navajo Nation.

Parents choose to place their children in a school that **reflects Christian values** while respecting Navajo culture and tradition.

Partnership is expressed by **Navajo and non-Navajo representation** on a Mission Board of Directors.

**Social needs** are addressed by counseling, educational opportunities, and on-the-job training

You can send your monetary donation through our church office or send it directly to the Navajo Lutheran Mission website [www.nelm.org](http://www.nelm.org).



# *"COME AS YOU ARE"* *WOMEN'S RETREAT*

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*DATE: FEBRUARY 25, 2023*

*TIME: 8:45AM-12:30PM*

*LOCATION: ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH*

*537 HARDIN RD. DALLAS, NC 28037*

*Join us as we welcome Alexis Glass and Rachel Smith who will help renew our mind, body, and spirit while sharing with us their love for Christ through music and God's word.*

*Sponsored by St. Paul's Women of the ELCA*

*Breakfast and beverages provided*

RSVP TO SANDY 704-240-0204

## FEBRUARY 2023 BIRTHDAYS



- Feb. 1 Shelby Barkley
- Feb. 4 Dara Champion, David Hoyle, Davis Pasour
- Feb. 5 Leslie Eidson, Bodhi Seagle
- Feb. 6 Harold Willis
- Feb. 7 Brett Costner, Susanna Culberson
- Feb. 8 Megan Lynn
- Feb. 9 Devin Robinson
- Feb. 10 Kathryne Liddle
- Feb. 13 Debra Spencer
- Feb. 14 Patty Crisp, Betty Faye Lineberger, Michael Rose
- Feb. 15 Scott Brown
- Feb. 17 Mariah Porter, Cindy Safrit
- Feb. 18 Darren Hope, Susan Hutcherson
- Feb. 19 Davey Sides
- Feb. 20 Sara Loadholdt
- Feb. 22 Randy Ellis, Myra Lineberger, Brody Plonk
- Feb. 25 Anna Pasour
- Feb. 26 Loretta Cloninger, Anna Slentz
- Feb. 27 Gloria Mauney
- Feb. 28 Addison Vineyard



## OUTREACH MINISTRIES...



- ◇ **Boy Scouts Troop 22** chartered at St. Paul's. Make donations by marking for "Troop 22";
- ◇ **Dallas High Shoals Christian Ministry: Pinto Beans, Canned Meats, Blackeye Peas**—Always need peanut butter /crackers /soup & personal hygiene items— Bring these items to the church or mark donations for DCSM;
- ◇ **Project Turkey**...Make checks payable to St. Paul's for "Project Turkey"
- ◇ **School Partnership Fund**...The ALL Sunday School Class collects money to purchase hygiene and others personal items for students (formerly called Backpack Fund).
- ◇ **World Hunger**...Mark donations accordingly;.
- ◇ **ELCA Disaster Relief**...Mark donations accordingly.

## February 2023 Responsibilities...



Acolytes: Lucas Taylor, Jake Parker  
Altar Flowers: Joe & Lynn Rhyne  
Altar Guild: Linda Metcalf  
Audio/Video: Scott Heafner  
Cantor: Eric Lamanna  
Children's Church: Katie Crocker  
Crucifer: Braeden Taylor  
Council Rep.: Eric Lamanna  
Council Assistants: Eric Lamanna, David Beaver  
Ushers: (\* head usher) \*Mitchell Robinson, Scott Heafner,  
Lynn Rhyne, Wes Cloninger  
—Ushers will serve as greeters in 2023—  
Food to DCSM: Lynn Rhyne and Betty Surratt

<b>Date:</b>	<b>Reader</b>	<b>Nursery</b>
Feb. 5	Resa Hoyle	Joelene Nielsen, Kelly Taylor
Feb. 12	Eric Lamanna	Susan Crisp, Dru Parker
Feb. 19	Ashley Cloninger	Susan Lineberger, Erika Ramiro
Feb. 26	Joelene Nielsen	Sara Loadholdt, Kelly Taylor

—Acolytes & Crucifers: Please contact Kelly Taylor (704-678-6419) if you are not able to serve. It's important that we know ahead of time if you can't be here .—



**ONE CALL NOW...**This is our messaging system. Only those who sign up are placed into the system. Please note that you will be receiving information from this telephone number **877-698-3261**—If you "opt out" or block this number you will not be able to receive messages until you call the office to be re-instated.



## ON-LINE GIVING...Easy Tithe/Ministry One

You can give a one-time donation or set it up to give recurring donations by going to St. Paul's website:

[www.stpaulsdallas.org](http://www.stpaulsdallas.org)

Click on the "On-Line Giving" Tab and follow directions.

**Or**

You can give using your iPhone by downloading the app Ministry One—search for our church using our zip code of 28034 then follow the directions.

**Or**

Mail in your donations to 531 Hardin Road, Dallas NC 28034.

**Thanks for your support!**



**SCOUT SUNDAY & FUNDRAISER LUNCH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023**—*Chicken ‘n Dumplings*—Everyone invited to stay after worship for Chicken ‘n Dumplings in Bollinger Hall.



**CHOIR NEWS**

**FROM ELISHA MITSCHKE-LAMANNA**

- ◆ **Handbell Choir Schedule:** Sept.—May: (1st & 3rd Sundays @ 8:45 a.m.)
- ◆ **Chancel Choir Schedule:** Sept.—May: (5:00 p.m. each Sunday)
- ◆ **SPIRIT CHOIR (grades K-5) - Sept. – May:** Rehearsals next to last Sunday of each month after 10:30 a.m. worship in the sanctuary. We’ll plan to sing on the last Sunday of the month.
- ◆ **See Elisha Lamanna if you have questions.** Her number is 704-692-7423



**ALTAR FLOWERS 2023**

**COST: \$47 PER SUNDAY**

**Sign-up book available in the narthex.**



**LENT/EASTER 2023**

- ◆ Ash Wednesday Service at St. Paul’s **February 22**, 2023 at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Lenten Bible Studies:  
**March 1, 8, 15, 22 & 29**  
Light Meal at 6:30 p.m.  
Bible Study at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Palm Sunday, **April 2, 2023**
- ◆ Maundy Thursday Service at St. Paul’s **April 6, 2023** at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Good Friday Service at St. Paul’s **April 7, 2023** at 7:00 p.m.
- ◆ Easter Sunday: **April 9, 2023**



**EASTER LILIES 2023**

**COST: \$12.00 each**

25 Easter Lilies will be ordered to be placed in the sanctuary. If you want to reserve a lily in honor or memory of someone, fill out form and place form and money in the offering plate by March 26th.



**CAN YOU DOODLE, DRAW OR COLOR?**

*The Evangelism Committee encourages you to submit your Bible Story Illustrations, name/age & (secret) title to Marsha Kinley in Dec., Jan. & Feb. 2023. Illustrations will be shared in newsletters for all to guess the Bible stories.*

*All ages are encouraged to participate.*



## Memorials & Gifts...

- ◆ In memory of Jonathan Eudy, James Goudelock and Carol Garrison by: Mark & Sandy Kennedy (Project Turkey)
- ◆ In memory of Deborah Quinn Harris by: Mariah Q. Porter (SPIRIT Group)



## Our Christian sympathy is extended to:

- \* **The family of Jean McGee Baker** who died Dec. 7th. Mrs. Baker was the mother of Terry Baker. Please keep the family in your prayers.

## Prayer List



### PRAYER LIST

*Call the office to have a name added or removed.*

**In the armed forces:** Jordan Barker; Joshua Best, Austin Earle; Mark & Thor Gignac; Blake Hughes; Coty Land; Gregory Tyler III

**Home-bound/Assisted Living/Rehabilitation:**

Carrie Cloninger, TerraBella, 1550 Charles Road, Shelby NC 28152  
 Gene & Lou Collins, 715 Narrow Gauge Rd., Dallas NC 28034  
 Ted & Frances Goins, 728 Klumac Road, Apt. 126B, Salisbury, NC 28144  
 Pauline Guess, 226 Elizabeth Lane, Dallas, NC 28034  
 David & Linda Hoyle, 604 Queens Drive, Dallas NC 28034  
 Betty Faye Lineberger, 423 Ike Lynch Road, Dallas, NC 28034  
 Betty Paseur, Brookdale Robinwood-Room 36, 1750 Robinwood Rd., Gastonia, NC 28054  
 Martha Pasour, Woodlawn Haven Rest Home, 301 Craig Street, Mt. Holly, NC 28120  
 Todd Stillwell @ Mt. Ridge, 810 King Arthur Dr., Gastonia, NC 28056

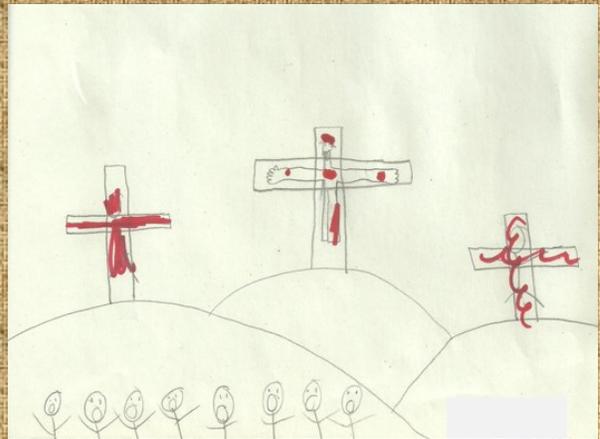
**Our Members** Mardie Best, Betty Bumgarner, Marlene Cloninger, David Costner, Jean Dover, Grace Harbin, Susan Holbrooks, Ann Keever, Myra Lineberger, Kay & Malcolm Lynn, Louise McManus, Rev. R. F. Mitschke, Henry Moffett, Becky Paseur, Jimmy Pasour, Mariah Porter, Sandy Plonk, Danny Safrit, \*Pat Sellers, Emilie Sides, Sally Terres, Chris Thornburg, and all who mourn the loss of a loved one

**Friends & Family:** *(Names removed after 1 month – you can fill out a prayer card or call the office to add to this list):* Nancy Bollinger, Marybelle Bryne, Jenelle Carter, Robbie Cearley, Tylee Craft, CRU Military, Nancy Friday, Carole Lineberger, Leah Mackey, Dana Sigmon and all who are mourning the loss of a loved one

\*Pat Sellers is currently living @ 1602 Sunrise Road, Cary, NC 27513-2707



A1



A5

Can you doodle,  
draw, or color?

Can You GUESS the Bible story illustrated by these drawings?

A1 =

A5 =



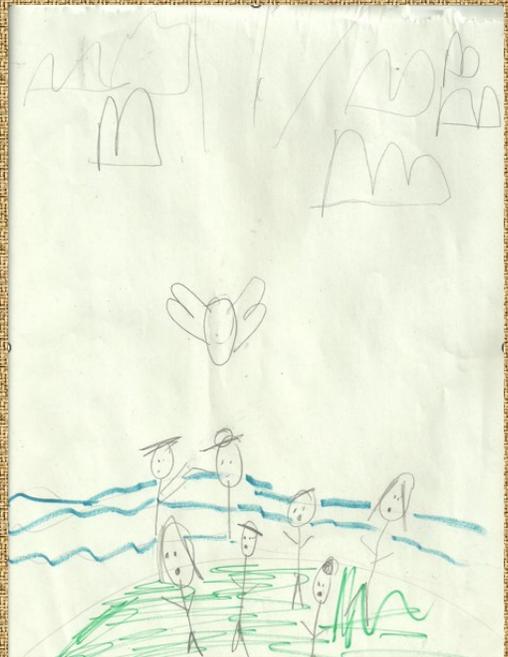
A2

Can you doodle,  
draw, or color?

Can You GUESS the Bible stories  
illustrated by these drawings?

A2 =

A3 =



A3

**Saw this today and it was worth sharing...**

**A pastor asked an older farmer, decked out in bib overalls, to say grace for the morning breakfast.**

**"Lord, I hate buttermilk", the farmer began. The visiting pastor opened one eye to glance at the farmer and wonder where this was going.**

**The farmer loudly proclaimed, "Lord, I hate lard." Now the pastor was growing concerned.**

**Without missing a beat, the farmer continued, "And Lord, you know I don't much care for raw white flour". The pastor once again opened an eye to glance around the room and saw that he wasn't the only one to feel uncomfortable.**

**Then the farmer added, "But Lord, when you mix them all together and bake them, I do love warm fresh biscuits. So Lord, when things come up that we don't like, when life gets hard, when we don't understand what you're saying to us, help us to just relax and wait until you are done mixing. It will probably be even better than biscuits. Amen."**

**Within that prayer there is great wisdom for all when it comes to complicated situations like we are experiencing in the world today.**

**Stay strong, my friends, because our LORD is mixing several things that we don't really care for, but something even better is going to come when HE is done with it. AMEN!**

**Scott Rubow**



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
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We're on the Web:

[www.stpaulsdallas.org](http://www.stpaulsdallas.org)

See the online calendar at  
[www.stpaulsdallas.org](http://www.stpaulsdallas.org) to view up--coming  
events and activities.

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The Rev. John and Mrs. Debra Spencer

2004 Red Leaf Court  
Dallas NC 28034

Newsletter information should be  
turned in no later than the 15th of  
each month. Thanks for your help.



**MISSION STATEMENT:**

*At St. Paul's, we are committed to serve  
as faithful children of God as a part of a  
connected family of believers.*



◆ **Church Office Hours:**

**Sept. –May:** Monday—  
Thursday; 8 a.m.—2:30 pm

- ◆ However, it's always a good idea to call ahead to be sure our schedule has not changed.



Please use your assigned envelopes or an envelope in the pew rack for your donations. Using envelopes helps with the process of counting and recording monies.

Check out our on-line giving option: go to our website [www.stpaulsdallas.org](http://www.stpaulsdallas.org) or go directly to [www.easytithe.com/dl/?uid=st531296](http://www.easytithe.com/dl/?uid=st531296) to register your account. On-line giving guides in narthex.



Help us keep our buildings secure. Please be sure to lock the doors after your group uses the buildings. Doors have to be pushed to be sure locks engage. Thank you!