



# St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

**JANUARY 2023**

**Sunday School: 9:15 a.m.**

**Worship Service: 10:30 a.m.**



**January 2023**

**From the Pastor's Heart**

## **Enter the New Year with Renewed Faith and Resolve**

By the time I see most of you, again, we will be living in the year 2023. The year 2022 will have been buried in the archive of history surviving only as a collection of memories. We have had some good days in 2022 and we have some difficult and painful days in 2022. But as the song writer, Rev. Paul Jones said, when reflecting on his life:

"I have had some good days. I've had some hills to climb. I've had some weary days and some sleepless nights. But when I look around and I think things over, all of my good days outweigh my bad days. I won't complain! Sometimes the clouds are low. I can hardly see the road, I ask a question, Lord, why so much pain? But he knows what's best for me. Although my weary eyes, they can't see, so I'll just say thank you Lord. I won't complain.

The Lord Has been so good to me. He's been good to me. More than this old world or you could ever be. He's been so good to me. He dried all of my tears away. Turned my midnights into day.

So, I'll just say thank you Lord" I won't complain."

Yes, Brothers and Sisters, as we cross the Divine River that separates the year of 2022 from the time of 2023, let us look back with gratitude and enter this new year with renewed faith and resolve to live our lives to glory of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. This does not mean there won't be hills to climb, or weary days and sleepless nights in 2023. But it does mean, we will love and trust God through it all. We will climb those hills in 2023 with Jesus beside us. We will walk through those weary days holding Jesus' unchanging hands. We will make it through those sleepless nights, knowing that Jesus' rod and staff will comfort us. With renewed faith and resolve, we will love and serve the Lord, each other, and our neighbors every day of 2023 and for the rest of our lives, no matter what happens.

What does renewed faith and resolve look like for you? What will be different? What will change? Through prayer, scripture readings and meditation God will lead you and guide you through the days of 2023. There is someone who will need you to let God speak using your lips to their heart, renewing their faith and their resolve in 2023. There is someone whose life will be changed by God using your thoughtful and prayerful actions. There is someone whose cold heart will be warmed because of your Holy Spirit inspired words. There is someone whose hope will be restored by you loving kindness as you simply respond to Jesus' blessings in your life. Yes, because of you, the world will be a better place in 2023.

On behalf of our Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, I thank you for what you are going to do for the Glory of God, and the edification of Saint Paul's Lutheran Church in 2023.

**Happy 2023!**

**Pastor Spencer**





# MATTHEW 2540

## COUNCIL MEMBERS 2023

<b>NAME</b>	<b>Term Ends</b>
<b>Josh Crisp</b>	<b>12/31/23</b>
<b>Susan Lineberger</b>	<b>12/31/23</b>
<b>Jeremy Loadholdt</b>	<b>12/31/23</b>
<b>Justin Rubow</b>	<b>12/31/23</b>
<b>David Beaver</b>	<b>12/31/24</b>
<b>Eric Lamanna</b>	<b>12/31/24</b>
<b>Marsha Kinley</b>	<b>12/31/24</b>
<b>Gary Plonk</b>	<b>12/31/24</b>
<b>Sandy Kennedy</b>	<b>12/31/25</b>
<b>Jared Barkley</b>	<b>12/31/25</b>
<b>Jason Crisp</b>	<b>12/31/25</b>
<b>Dave Hoyle</b>	<b>12/31/25</b>

Thank you for you generous donations to Matthew 2540 in Nov. and Dec.. Your gifts will provide a education for the children at La Promesa School in Guatemala. Each year Matthew 2540 raises funds to support the school and sponsor children living in poverty to get an education. We look forward to partnering with you in this ministry. Thanks again for making a difference in the lives of these children.

**Karen Bollinger, Matthew 2540 Board Member**



## ANGEL TREE

*Thank you for your wonderful support of our Angel Tree. We were able to provide gifts to needy children through the Lincoln County Dept. of Social Services and they were grateful!*

## COUNCIL MEETING

**Sunday, January 8, 2023 @ 7:30 a.m.**

**(New Officers to be elected at this meeting)**



## 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 to all who donated on Oct. 23rd at the Relay Lunch. Your generous donations totaled \$1,100 to the American Cancer Society!**

*Mark Your Calendar*

*Next Relay For Life Lunch planned for Jan.22, 2023 immediately after worship in Bollinger Hall.*

## CONFIRMATION CLASSES 2022—2023

- ◆ Our teachers are Jeremy Loadholdt, Kelly Taylor, Susan Lineberger and Pastor Spencer.
- ◆ DATES: *Jan. 8 & 22; Feb. 5 & 19; March 5 & 19; April 2, 16 & 30; May 7*
- ◆ Time: Sundays: 11:30-1:00 after worship—lunch provided



### 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**



### SOUP KITCHEN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

*St. Paul's will be serving at Christian Ministries of Lincoln County on Saturday, January 14th. We need volunteers—Contact Susan Hutcherson.*



**John & Kelly Taylor are working with the Middle/High School Youth**  
Kelly's phone: 704-678-6419



**MEN'S BREAKFAST MEETING - 3RD SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH - 7:30 a.m.**



### JOY GROUP

Break out your cowboy boots and plan to be entertained by  
Cowboy Entertainer Dandy Don

January 30, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. in Bollinger Hall.

Bring a dessert to share!

*See Sandy Kennedy with questions.*



### 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.*

# Sustainability & Gratitude!

Times like these make it hard to stay focused, let alone stay positive. It takes great intent, mindfulness, and a lot of practice to keep a positive attitude in a year like 2022. Sustainability & Gratitude can help.

## The 5 P's of Sustainability (Rebekah Simon-Peter)

**People** - The most important feature of a congregation is its people.

**Prayer** - After people, the second most important factor is prayer. Without a spiritual foundation, the church is not sustainable, no matter the size or the budget.

**Provision** - Sustainable congregations support themselves financially.

**Partnership** - Churches with people, prayer, and provision need to form community partnerships to ensure sustainability.

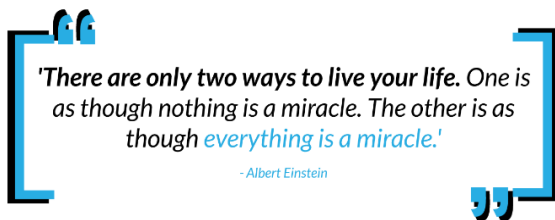
**Presence** - Now that you have people, prayer, provision, and partnership, it's time to amplify community presence.

If we want to feel happier, more positive, and more abundant – gratitude can help.

This simple but powerful daily practice guides us to focus on what we do have and what is working in our life. Lived through a lens of gratitude, our cup looks full. We don't get bogged down in thoughts of lack and scarcity, and in turn, we can tap into the optimism and inspiration that helps us be our best self. So, explore how a gratitude practice can make us feel differently.

Acknowledge more of the little things that bring us joy, such as a sunset, a great cup of coffee, or a warm smile from a stranger.

Start and end your day thinking about something you appreciate about your life.



**Then let the positivity you feel fuel the Soul.**

**Scott Rubow**

## JANUARY 2023 BIRTHDAYS



- 1 Gregory Tyler
- 2 Ann Keever
- 4 Camden Kanupp
- 5 Jennifer Clark, Barbara Sigmon
- 7 Rachel Rogers
- 8 Joelene Nielsen
- 12 Wendy Goudelock, Mark Kennedy, Tabatha Spake
- 13 Dustin Stiles, Betty Surratt
- 14 Andrew Secrest
- 15 David Beaver
- 16 Jenna Champion, Danny Safrit
- 17 Jackson Payne, Seth Rollins
- 18 Becky Lane
- 19 Jean Dover, Bill Hovis
- 20 Fallon Raine Heafner
- 21 Melody Rose
- 23 Logan Heafner
- 25 Dan Stiles
- 30 Maylin Crisp



## OUTREACH MINISTRIES...



- ◇ **Boy Scouts Troop 22** chartered at St. Paul's. Make donations by marking for "Troop 22";
- ◇ **Dallas High Shoals Christian Ministry: Soup, Mac & Cheese & Lima Beans**—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.

## January 2023 Responsibilities...



Acolytes: Avah Heafner, Kenslee Taylor  
Altar Flowers: Lisa & Caitlin Rubow  
Altar Guild: Linda Metcalf  
Audio/Video: Darrell Plonk  
Cantor: Elisha Mitschke-Lamanna  
Children's Church: David Beaver  
Crucifer: Gabriella Porter  
Council Rep.: David Beaver  
Council Assistants: David Beaver, Eric Lamanna  
Ushers: (\* head usher) \*Jason Crisp, Sandy Higginbotham  
Wes Cloninger, Scott Rubow  
—Ushers will serve as greeters in 2023—  
Food to DCSM: Anna Pasour

Date:	Reader	Nursery
Jan. 1	Kelley Barker	Lisa Rubow, Sara Loadholdt
Jan. 8	Ashley Cloninger	Erika Ramiro, Joelene Nielsen
Jan. 15	Lisa Rubow	Kelly Taylor, Susan Crisp
Jan. 22	Chase Heafner	Kelley Barker, Susan Lineberger
Jan. 29	Sandy Higginbotham	Sara Loadholdt, Taylor Carter

—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!**



### NEW ADDRESSES

- *Nathan & Anna Slentz, 4603 Dallas High Shoals Road, Dallas NC 28034 (704-674-0341)*
- *Tonita Wilkinson, 215 Fancy Hill Rd., Dallas NC 28034 (704-860-1563)*
- *Nancy Bollinger, c/o Lynn Isenhower, 234 Brookfield Dr., Greenwood, SC 29646*



### CHOIR NEWS

#### FROM ELISHA MITSCHKE-LAMANNA

- ◆ Handbell Choir Schedule: Sept.—May: (2nd & 4th Sundays @ 8:45 a.m.)
- ◆ Chancel Choir Schedule: Sept.—May: (5:00 p.m. each Sunday) - Begins 9/11
- ◆ See Elisha Lamanna if you have questions. Her number is 704-692-7423



### ALTAR FLOWERS 2023

**COST: \$40 PER SUNDAY**

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

### ◆ CONGREGATIONAL APPRECIATION MEAL Sunday, January 8, 2023

11:30 a.m. after worship. Please sign up on sheet in the narthex by Dec. 31st if you plan to attend so that have enough food.

### ◆ RELAY FOR LIFE FUNDRAISER LUNCH Sunday, January 22, 2023—

11:30 a.m. after worship.

### ◆ SCOUT SUNDAY & FUNDRAISER LUNCH SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2023—

*Chicken 'n Dumplings*—Everyone invited to stay after worship for Chicken 'n Dumplings in Bollinger Hall.

### ◆ 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. Plan to attend!



### INSTALLATION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Sunday, January 8, 2022**

**10:30 a.m. worship service**



## Memorials & Gifts...

**In memory of Jonathan Eudy given by: Susan & Alan Hutcherson (School Partnership Fund);**

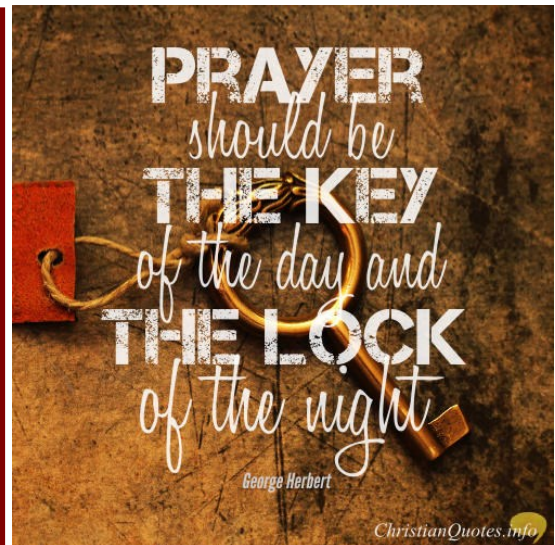
**In memory of Carol Garrison given by: Susan & Alan Hutcherson (Middle/High School Project Fund);**

**In memory of Greg Thompson given by: Susan & Alan Hutcherson (General Fund)**

**In memory of Jack & Rebecca Whitener given by: Rebecca Punch**

**In memory of Scott Stillwell & PeeWee Stillwell given by: Woodrow & Helen Stillwell Family (use of building)**

**In memory of LeeRoy and Elaine Burton given by: M/M Neal Burton**



## 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, Pauline Guess, Grace Harbin, Susan Holbrooks, Alan Hutcherson, Ann Keever, Myra Lineberger, Kay & Malcolm Lynn, Louise McManus, Henry Moffett, 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, Tylee Craft, CRU Military, Nancy Friday, Patrick Hauser, Suzie Hauser, Ann Rhyne, and all who are mourning the loss of a loved one

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





St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Telephone: 704-922-4387

[gail@stpaulsdallas.org](mailto:gail@stpaulsdallas.org)  
[emlamanna@gaston.k12.nc.us](mailto:emlamanna@gaston.k12.nc.us)

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. John H. Spencer  
Telephone # 201-981-6173  
E-mail: [drjhsjr@gmail.com](mailto:drjhsjr@gmail.com)  
E-mail: [john.spencer@stpaulsdallas.org](mailto:john.spencer@stpaulsdallas.org)

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.

Non-Profit Org.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Dallas, NC 28034  
PERMIT # 1

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!