

October
2020

The Messenger

St. Paul's Lutheran Church



WORSHIP TIMES

Look inside for news about how St. Paul's is planning on re-opening and offering in-person worship services.

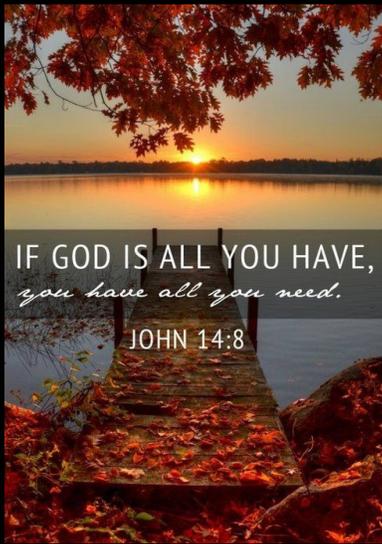


All Saints Day Great Cloud of Witnesses

Each of us have had so many people play an important roll in our lives to shape, mold, teach and lead us. But we know that this world is not our final home. Many of those people have departed this life and are experiencing the promises of Easter in God's eternal kingdom.

On November 1st, St. Paul's will be remembering all of our loved ones that have passed this year and become one of our "saints in heaven".

If there is someone that you would like to add to our list, please email or contact us in the office at katie@stpaulseggertsville.org or call 716-835-0407.



Currently, at St. Paul's, we are offering in-person worship as well as at-home! Please remember that you can tune-in to see Pastors Steve, Julius, and Jeremiah at 10 am every Sunday morning on MeTV (Channel 67 For DIRECTV, Channel 5 for Cable, Fios, Dish Network, Antenna tuned to 67.1).

The worship service is now called "WNY Church Unleashed". More information on page 3. Join us also for St. Paul's Zoom Coffee 1/2 hour right after worship at 10:50 am.

A link will be emailed out on Fridays.

If you would like to be added to the email updates that go out every week, please email the office at katie@stpaulseggertsville.org or call 716-835-0407.

St. Paul's is looking for some awesome baked goods for the Election Day Baked Sale. We KNOW you are bakers! We have eaten your cookies, cakes, brownies, banana breads, and pies before!

All Bake Sale proceeds go to the Daily Bread Food Truck!

We will be accepting donations on Sunday November 1st from 9am-10:30 am, Monday November 2nd from 9:30 am-2:30 pm AND Monday from 5 pm -7 pm.

Our Youth Director, Adam Weber, along with the Youth Group will be preparing the goods for individual sale for the following day!

If you have any questions, please contact the office!

St. Paul's is a congregation of the Niagara Frontier Conference of the Upstate New York Synod

A message from Pastor Steve

Dear Missionaries at St. Paul's,

Update on the Main Street Ministries partnership with Crossroads Lutheran:

"For everything there is a season...." Ecclesiastes 3

After meeting together in early September, Scott Fierle and I took Crossroads' suggestion of disbanding the Main Street Ministry partnership between St. Paul's and Crossroads to our Council. After prayer and discussion, we agree that this is the correct decision. While we wished it had gone in a different direction, we celebrate the many mission and ministry accomplishments that the two communities did together over almost four years. Among those things would be:

- providing a site that a cooperative internship experience could lift up a new pastor for the church,
- building a one-of-a-kind relationship with the Amherst School administration and use of the building for holistic care of our local families,
- clarifying the mission and interests of Crossroads and expressing them into the Ministry Site Profile to call a new pastor to Crossroads,
- helping with the transition of music staff after a dynamic, long-term staff musician left,
- worship sharing with both congregations during a power outage
- having the ability for Crossroads' youth to be part of a larger youth and Confirmation program,
- matching up outside groups, like NAMI, to buildings and spaces that might work better for their mission,
- shared educational/worship opportunities on Sundays and mid-week with larger groups together,
- expanding partnerships with the Eggertsville-Snyder Library, Garden Nursery School, St. Paul's, and Crossroads to host a Family Fall Festival to support a new community playground area.

There are probably other things that I'm missing but that's certainly a list and "a season" to celebrate!! Crossroads will be launching a new missional partnership with Pastor Miranda at Community of Good Neighbors on the East Side of Buffalo and we're thrilled they have the ability and resources to do this. St. Paul's now moves through our Visioning process together to clarify our culture and strengths, and see what God has in store for our future.

Update on return to indoor worship and "Covid seating:

Thank you for your patience as we figure out how best to come back to church. We will keep using the call-in/email reservation system until further notice. We believe we have a max of 55 that can come to worship so hopefully that will work. Some things we've learned and ask you to follow:

- Please be in your seats by 9:55am
- If you have a family member who wants to come to church and can sit right next to you, but you didn't call their name in, they can still come because you're sitting in the same space.
- When you sit down, please stay on the ends of the pews. Yes, for years and years we've told you the opposite so that we can make room for more people and visitors. But for now, please sit as close to the aisle as possible.
- If you do come in late, make sure you grab a section of pew where no one else is sitting. Please don't share spaces or slide down for friends.
- We really must leave the sanctuary immediately after worship to clear out the space for fresh air. Please continue conversations and fellowship outside in the parking lot.
- I will be maintaining my distance to protect my immune system as well, so please contact me during the week to talk through life updates, care and prayer concerns.

A message from Pastor Steve

Please don't feel rushed to "come back" to church if you're not ready. We will continue TV Church - now known as WNY Church Unleashed - for the long term. In fact, just booked the 5pm Christmas Eve time slot. We will also be adding Outdoor Advent opportunities during December with the largest and coolest Advent Wreath ever (stay tuned for more details on that!).

Update on Vision Process - Experiential Gathering

Our next gathering will be November 8th for the Experiential Gathering where we will share answers to: How have/do I experience God through St. Paul's ministry? We will move right from worship up to the Parish Hall and have a Zoom small group as well. Stay tuned and save the date please!

Update on the Buffalo Bills:

We are very good and we're going to win the Super Bowl this year!!!
Thanks for all your flexibility, giving, patience and understanding as we recreate church together and pivot into the next phase of where God needs St. Paul's to be!

Be well. Be healthy. Be blessed!

ps

Announcement

St. Paul's, Parkside, and Zion Lutheran Churches have partnered together to bring you
"WNY Church Unleashed".

This will be the new location for our joint TV / Online Church service.

BUT, Before it can fully launch, we need to have
100 subscribers.

To view the YouTube page, search WNY Church Unleashed and subscribe!

Thank you!

A message from your Council

The Annual Meeting, that was originally scheduled for May, has been rescheduled for
Sunday, October 25th, after service at 11am.

We will vote on new Council members, review the annual report and provide
an update on our finances.

Members of the congregation can stay after service or join via Zoom:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/3071394976>

Meeting ID: 307 139 4976

One tap mobile

+16468769923,,3071394976# US (New York)

A message from the Re-Open Team

Welcome Back to Our Sanctuary!

We have now had inside services in our sanctuary for two Sundays in a row, and it's working well. The service is about 30 minutes with two hymns, a homily, and communion. We have been able to sing quietly with masks on seated 6 feet apart. You can bring bread and wine from home, but Judi Gersic has also done a wonderful job of preparing communion kits to pick-up as you enter. When Pastor Steve says the Words of Institution, we commune right in our pew. It has been wonderful to see familiar faces in person and enjoy conversations in the parking lot on these sunny and beautiful fall days.

Please remember that you do need to RSVP to the church office (835-0407) because approximately 45 can sit socially distanced in our pews. If we begin to have 50+ in the congregation, we will need to explore having two service time. As with most things in life right now, we need to take things week by week and be grateful to be together.

We also can use your help reinventing our fall holidays and traditions. We know it sounds early, but if you have ideas about how to make a safe Halloween for kids, how to ensure no one is alone for Thanksgiving, and how to celebrate the Advent and Christmas season...
Feel free to contact me or any of our Re-Open Team with your thoughts.

Debbie Howe (716-837-8363), Mike Brenda, Judi Gersic,
Adrienne Leary, Paul Storfer, Todd Vahue, Lonny Walter

Youth Group and Burrito Project

Youth Night

October 3rd from 7-9 pm

In-person! All are welcome! Food, games, devotions

This is completely dependent on what schools are doing for the time being. As long as schools are open for in person learning, we will be having in person youth nights!

Election Day Baked Sale Prep

On Monday, November 2nd, we will be meeting at St. Paul's from 5:30 pm-7:30 pm to prepare baked goods for individual sale for the following day. Gloves will be provided.

Burrito Project

The St. Paul's Youth Group is still participating in the Burrito Project the third Tuesday of every month to prepare homemade bean and rice burritos and lunch bags to be delivered to the homeless, poor and working poor living on the streets of Buffalo.

We will have a small group in the kitchen making the burritos at 6, and then another small group walking around downtown buffalo handing out the burritos from 7-8:30 pm (we will be wearing masks and keeping a good distance).



Let Adam know if you are interested!
Next project will be Tuesday October 20th from 6-8:30 pm



God On Tap!

God on Tap

is BACK!

Come join us on Tuesday October 6th.

Reservations are required. Please contact the office at 716-835-0407!

Election Day!

St. Paul's is again a polling site for voting this year.

We will be offering fresh baked goods until we run out! People look forward to this every year! Yum!

All proceeds will go toward The Daily Bread Food Truck!

DO NOT FORGET TO VOTE THIS YEAR!

"At least there is hope for a tree: If it is cut down, it will sprout again, and its new shoots will not fail."

Job 14:7

Bible Study

Weekly Bible Study is one of many things that has been put "on hold" by the pandemic.

Several people have asked if and when it will start up.

Pr. Steve and Mary Wolf are talking about how and when to start back up.

Here are some things to start with:

1. Begin with the new Church Year - Advent
2. Meet at St. Paul's, Tuesday mornings at 10 am (Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22 to start)
3. Set up a Zoom platform so people who don't feel comfortable coming in person could still participate.

Hope this is something you can start thinking about and looking forward to. Please stay well and safe!

Blessings! Mary

Vision Process—Experiential Gathering

Our next gathering will be November 8th for the Experiential Gathering where we will share answers to: How have/do I experience God through St. Paul's ministry?

We will move right from worship up to the Parish Hall and have a Zoom small group as well. Stay tuned and save the date please!

Sunday School

Happy October!

Hoping this finds everyone well!

As we move forward and slowly begin to figure things out, we have decided to continue our pattern through October and into the first week of November as we had been in September for our Sunday school.

The next 5 weeks are as follows:

Sunday services on Oct. 4th and Oct. 11th -

TV Church Children's Time Follow-up: The Saturday before I will email you some follow up questions/discussion so that after the Children's Time on TV Church, you can share the learning and experience as a family.

Oct. 18th & Oct. 25th -

Miss June's Emailed Activities - Lesson's and activities would be emailed as was done in the spring.

November 1st, -

Movie Night - We'll pick a movie to watch with your family that I will be sending out. Then plan for some follow up faith-ish questions to answer as a family.

We will re-evaluate how things are going once November gets here and will be keeping you all informed.

Please feel free to reach out and email me how you're feeling about starting Sunday school back up OR keeping it in this pattern.

j-tpiette@msn.com

Peace, love and keep the faith!

June

The Daily Bread Food Truck Mission

The Daily Bread Food Truck and the Tiger's Den Food Pantry have teamed up together again to help those hungry in the community.

For the months of October and November,

The Daily Bread Food Truck will be offering free meals at St. Paul's to the "Pantry Families" on Saturday mornings and also to those hungry in our community the following Sundays at Windermere Elementary School.

Saturdays October 10th, October 24th, November 14th, and November 28th
at St. Paul's from 9am-12:30 pm

And

Sundays October 11th, October 25th, November 15th, and November 29th at Windermere Elementary School from 5pm-6pm.

If you would like to sponsor a "giving meal" event, please contact the office at St. Paul's (835-0407)

Tiger's Den Food Pantry



The pantry has adapted several times since the Covid-19 outbreak back in March. Currently, none of our clients are allowed in the pantry, and remain in their cars until their pre-packed groceries are brought outside. Families have a choice of items from the freezer and the refrigerator as well as paper products and personal care items. We were able to continue Bread Days due to generous donations from Bagel Jays, Panera, and Wegmans. We provided fresh vegetables and herbs from our garden, as well as donations from Price Rite and 20lb. boxes of fresh fruit and vegetables from the US Department of Agriculture. All of this took place under the "Tiger's Den tent" outside the pantry door! All of this worked well with a minimum of volunteers, and everyone wore face masks, plastic gloves, and remained 6 ft. apart.

With the coming of winter, we need to adapt again. The tent will come down – it's not made to withstand Buffalo winters! Families will still not be allowed in the pantry, but we decided to revise the way we provide food to our families and still keep everyone safe. Beginning in October, we plan to stop pre-packing bags. We gave each family a "shopping list" in September which they filled out and returned to us. We will use the lists to shop when they arrive, and now pack bags based on their choices.

We need your help with this endeavor. Using the shopping lists, we will need two volunteers to do the actual "shopping." These two volunteers will only shop and place the items on one of the carts, then when the order is complete, they will hand off the cart to two volunteer "packers" who will take care of packing the grocery order. The "packers" will hand off the order to volunteers who will carry it outside.

Once again, all volunteers will be required to wear a face mask and plastic gloves.

If you are interested in helping as a "shopper" or "packer," or if you have questions or concerns, please give me a call – 716-835-0407 (I am in the church office Tuesday-Thursday from 9:00 am-2:00 pm).

Thank you for your continued support – because of you we were able to keep the pantry up and running while many others were forced to shut down. Thank you, Adrienne

October Pantry Hours:

**Thursdays 10/1, 10/15 and 10/29 from 3:00 pm to 6:30 pm
and Saturdays 10/10 and 10/24 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm.**

Donations for October: sugar, garbanzo beans, spaghetti sauce

[NOTE: Please call the office (835-0407) prior to dropping off donations. We will open the outside door so you can safely drop donations off either at the office door or the pantry door. Please do not leave your donations without notifying us.]

*Please remember that even though the church office is open,
we are still abiding by CDC rules.*

*We ask that if you plan on coming to the office,
please contact either Pastor Steve or the office staff in advance to let us know of your visit.
Masks are still mandatory in the building and we ask that you remain 6 feet apart as well.*

*The health and safety of our staff, volunteers, and members are
priority to us and we want to make sure that we create a safe space for everyone.*

Thank you!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
4007 Main Street
Eggertsville, NY 14226



4007 Main Street Eggertsville, NY 14226
716-835-0407
www.stpaulseggertsville.org

Pastor Steve Biegner (716-868-1232 cell)
Administrative Director: Katie Nagel-Santillo
Youth Director: Adam Weber
Music Director: Paul Storfer

*Remember that things are changing by the day.
Please check your email and/or facebook for updates.
If you need to reach us, please contact the office
at 716-835-0407 or email katie@stpaulseggertsville.org.
Stay safe, stay healthy, and know that you are loved.*