

CORNERSTONE

“THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU AT ST. PAUL’S

**MAY 2022 Volume 29, Issue 5
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church**



Greetings Friends,

I am writing this message on earth day. Earth day started 52 years ago as an encouragement for us to take care of the planet.

The *Daily Bread* devotion for today reminded me that the act of caring for the earth is much older. The Genesis story of creation tells us how God lovingly formed the earth in six days. And in Genesis 1:15 “The Lord God took man [humanity] and put him [them] in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it.” What a marvelous reminder that God always intended for us to be stewards of the earth and all that is in it!

It is also springtime. Though the weather is constantly changing we can see the beauty all around us in this season of rebirth and renewal. The flowers are blooming. The birds are chirping. The outdoors is once again inviting us to sit on our porches, go for walks, and frolic on the playgrounds. How fitting given that we are in the season of Easter! We experienced the greatest renewal – humanity’s redemption! We have been

made new. And we are invited to continue this renewal through love and care of each other.

PLUM is entering its season of renewal as we welcome Pastor Alexander Sumo and his family to our community. We are looking forward to the ways that the Holy Spirit through Pastor Alex is inviting us to grow. One beautiful moment that we can anticipate is getting together for his installation on Saturday, July 30th. So put that on your calendar now and look for more details in the weeks to come.

May is also a time to celebrate mothers or as I have come to think of it – the gift of mothering. Mothering is to kindly and protectively care for another (person, animal, nature). Sometimes we are saddened when we think of the mothers that are no longer here or we grieve the absence of children. I encourage you to take a moment to reflect and thank the mothers in your life. And pause to notice the many opportunities to receive and extend the gift of mothering. It is one of the ways we honor God’s gift of renewal.

In this season of renewal, I have much to be thankful for. My granddaughter Zahra is discovering her world with looks of puzzlement and cooing sounds of joy with expressions of discontent thrown in 😊. Both of my children, Jamila and Jaseem, will receive their Master’s in Business degrees this month. I will begin my doctoral studies at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary in June. And I continue to be enriched

with your love and care as we journey together in this ministry God has placed us in.

Whatever the ways God is inviting you into renewal this month, my prayer is that the gift of renewal, hope, and new life granted to us through Jesus' death and resurrection continues to bring you joy.

He is risen! Alleluia! Christ is risen indeed!

Pastor Brenda



PLUM WELCOMES

REV. ALEXANDER SUMO



Alexander Yarmie Sumo is a lifelong Lutheran. Born and raised in Liberia, West Africa, he completed his secondary education at the William V.S. Tubman High School in Monrovia and obtained his undergraduate degree

(Bachelor of Arts - BA) in sociology and public administration from the African Methodist Episcopal (AME) University in Liberia. He completed seminary and ministry training in August 2000 with a Bachelor of Theology (B.Th.) degree from the United Methodist University - Gbarnga School of Theology. Alexander was ordained in 2003 as Pastor of Word and Sacrament in the Lutheran Church in Liberia (LCL). Between 2000 and 2008 Pastor Sumo served as pastor for several parishes in the Lutheran Church in Liberia (St. Paul – LTI, St. Andrew - Gorlu Parish, St. Matthew Parish – Paynesville, David A. Day – Harrisburg Parish, and Lutheran Memorial – Millsburg Parish). Alexander and family relocated to the United States in 2008 and he was admitted to the pastoral roster of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in 2011. Immediately following his admission to the ELCA roster, Pastor Sumo was called by the Southern Ohio Synod (SOS) to serve as Pastor/Developer for its mission congregation (The African International Lutheran Mission - AILM) in Columbus, Ohio. He served the AILM as a Lead Pastor for 14 years and the St. Luke Evangelical Lutheran Church in Newark, Ohio for a little over 2 years.

Alexander completed graduate work at Capital University – Trinity Seminary in Columbus, Ohio where he earned the Master of Arts (MA) in gender, youth and family studies (MAYFM) and the post graduate Master of Sacred Theology (STM) degree in leadership and pastoral practice. Pastor Alexander

Sumo completed his doctoral studies in 2019 and earned the Doctor of Leadership for Transformational Change from Capital University and the Methodist Theological School in Ohio (MTSO). Dr. Alexander Yarmie Sumo and Ms. Deddeh Matee Kpukuyou, an accountant and a nursing professional are blessed with three (3) beautiful children: Alexander Yarmie Jnr., Alaric

Leela, and charming Ms. Alexandria Jackie. The family has lived in Columbus, Ohio for over 14 years. A move to Pittsburgh, PA to serve Pittsburgh Lutheran United Ministries (PLUM) is an exciting new journey and we cannot wait to start it. To God be the glory.



- Synod Assembly, June 16, 17, 18, 2022, zoom. Two representatives are needed. Registration opens April 18. Caucus Meeting, Conference 6, May 24, 2022, 7PM. The two representatives attending must be registered before the Caucus Meetings so they receive the caucus information. Please notify Nancy Pollo if you are interested in being a representative.
- Masks are now optional at St. Paul's. Masks will not be worn during the service unless someone has any objections. CDC, Synod, & Plum are recommending masks for people that have not been vaccinated.
- PLUM Board made the decision to allow congregations to adjust how we do communion to allow for a return to the communion rail. However, COVID safety protocols remain in place. Councils to determine change in consult with Pastors. St. Paul's will continue with our present process until another decision is made.
- Taize service, May 6, 2022, 7PM, zoom.
- A luncheon is being planned to introduce Pastor Alexander Sumo to PLUM staff (admin, music, worship, anyone that would like to attend), May 20, 2022, 11AM, St. Andrews, Carnegie. RSVP for St. Paul's no later than May 15, 2022, to Ann Morrocco,

annettemorrocco1@gmail.com or home number 724-748-5897.

- PLUM Board, May 23, 2022, 7PM. Zoom.
- St. Paul's Council Meeting, May 31, 2022, Eberle Hall, in person meeting.
- What's Next meeting, June 7, 2022, 7PM, zoom.
- Confirmation Classes are being scheduled. Any 6th grade student or older are eligible. Please contact Nancy Pollo if you have a child that is ready for Confirmation.
- Pastor Alexander Sumo's Installation, July 31, 2022.

HOW MISSION SUPPORT WORKS



The monthly mission for the month of May for St. Paul's Lutheran Church is Mission Support.



Eternal Candle

- May – Ann Morrocco
- June – Need a sponsor
- July – Need a sponsor
- August – Karen & Logan Billingham
- October – Mike, Carol, Corey Ferens
- December – Ann Morrocco

If you would like to sponsor the eternal candle for one of the vacant months in 2022, please notify Ann Morrocco, annettemorrocco1@gmail.com. Donation is \$25.00. Put your name on the envelope along with your check/money in the collection plate.



Lectors

- May 1 - Shawndel Kelley
- May 8 – Laurie Nickles
- May 15 – Corey Ferens
- May 22 – Scott Cregut
- May 29 – Lee Jones

Assistants

- May 1 –Scott Cregut
- May 8 –Karen Billingham
- May 15 – Scott Latta
- May 22 - Shawndel Kelley
- May 29 – Carol Ferens

Ushers

- May 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 - Scott Latta

If you are interested in serving as an assistant/lector/usher, please sign the signup sheets next to the flower chart or notify Ann Morrocco; 724-746-5897; email: amorrocco1@verizon.net.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE 11:15 A.M. -- St Paul's

- May 1 - Pastor John Gropp
- May 8 – Layperson Janet Craig
- May 15 – Pastor Sue Devine
- May 22 – Layperson Anna Williams
- May 29 – Layperson Bob Averell



Will you please consider saving your prescription bottles? These bottles can help people in third world countries.



Will you please consider saving your pop can rings? Also, any other can that has a pop ring. These rings will help someone with cancer treatments.



MAY BIRTHDAYS

Cindy Nimal	May 7
Mark Pollo	May 9
Pastor John	May 14
Josh Layton	May 17
Chuck Nimal	May 18
Gregory McGrail	May 29
Pastor Paul	May 29
Lee Jones	May 30
Mike Richmond	May 31



FELLOWSHIP

May 1 –	Lee Jones
May 8 –	Mother's Day – No Fellowship
May 15 -	Ann Morrocco
May 22 –	
May 29 -	



ST PAUL'S PRAYER LIST

Please remember all who suffer from disease, violence or distress, frontline health care workers; all who protect and serve our country and community; all who suffered the loss of a family member or friend; all PLUM churches and our PLUM pastors and staff; the congregation of St. Paul's and the Canonsburg community; especially ...Milt, Charlotte, Steve, Barbara, Lee, Logan, Karen, Dom, Jim, Donna, Kevin, the Richmond family, our Bishops, our Synod.

(Please notify Ann Morrocco, annettemorrocco1@gmail.com if someone should be added or deleted from our prayer list).



Protect and bless all of our young people, especially...Logan Billingham, Andrew Cowser, Gina Cowser, Eleanor Marie Cregut, Hazel Julia Mae Cregut, Austin Filby, Joelle Filby, Clarke Johnson, Larry Ryan Johnson, Gregory McGrail, Lindsey Nimal, Josh Porter, Jaxon Porter, Jordyn Porter, Aaliyah Gilpin, Adalae Carmichael, Hazel Julia Mae Cregut.

