

CORNERSTONE

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

**November 2021 Volume 28, Issue 8
St. Paul’s Lutheran Church**

PLUM Pastoral Message

November 2021

“Keep my commandments and live; keep my teaching as the apple of your eye.” Proverbs 7:2

“Jesus replied, ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and greatest commandment.’ And the second is like it: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’” Matthew 22:37-39

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Blessings to you in this my favorite time of year. We are surrounded by God’s handiwork. The trees are clothed in all their glory, there is crispness in the air, crops have been harvested and we are settling into the rhythm of fall activities. The Church year is winding down. Soon, we will enter into the season of Advent. Miriam-Webster defines advent as “a coming into being or use.”

I find this definition appropriate as I reflect on our journey as God’s people. A journey takes time. A journey has many aspects to it; the beginning, the time between the beginning and the end, and the end. A journey’s end is the beginning of a new journey. There are easy parts and hard parts of the journey. God has given us the directions for our

earthly journey. They are: Love God, love your neighbor. Wisdom tells us to keep these commandments and God’s teaching as the apple of our eyes. I thought about these verses today as I gazed upon the apples resting on my kitchen counter.

My first thought as I looked at these apples that Keith had harvested from our apple trees was, “Those aren’t very pretty to look at.” They are not polished and smooth like apples that I buy at the store. Their peel is bumpy. There are some brown spots on the apples where an insect has landed and perhaps tasted the fruit within. They are not uniform in size, sweetness, tartness, or texture. The fact that I have these apples is a miracle. The conditions of the soil were just right to allow a seed to sprout and grow into a tree. The tree received nutrients and water that allowed it to produce buds, and then fruit. And the fruit survived the summer heat, the rains, the neighborhood birds and insects, and the small hands of a curious toddler and reached maturity.

There are many things that I can do with these apples. I can eat them, just as they are. I can make them into sauce. I can put them in a pie or cake. I can add other ingredients to them and fry them. I could put them in a bucket of water and create a game of bobbing for apples. There are so many ways that these apples can fulfill the purpose that God created them for.

Apples come in many colors; red, green, yellow, golden and mixed. Apples come in varying textures. Apples have varying tastes, from very sweet to very

tart. Apples sometimes fall to the ground and rot, putting nutrients back into the soil for the next growing season. Apples can be experienced through all of our senses: we see them, we smell them, we touch them, we taste them, and we hear them as we bite into them.

Apples can teach us a lot about being God's children. God's children are not uniform in size, color, sweetness or tartness. God's children come in many colors. Some of God's children are firm and fit; others are bumpy and soft. Like the apple, we all have our growing process. Like apples, there are many ways that we can be used. Each of God's children has a purpose to fulfill. Our purpose is to love, serve and praise God in all that we do, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

We are always living in a season of advent, a time of coming into our being or use. We are on our journey, the time between the beginning and the end. Lord, help us to love people as you love them. Lead us, step by step, into a greater understanding of what it means to love our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

Blessings to each of you and your loved ones from your pastoral team. We look forward to journeying with you through the Advent and Christmas seasons.

Pastor Sue



- PLUM Pastoral team will once begin home visits. Please contact Ann Morrocco, 724-746-5897 (amorrocco1@verizon.net) or contact the PLUM Pastors if interested.
- PLUM admins, organists, pastors/worship leaders gathering at St. Andrews, November 12, 2021, 11AM.
- Taize Service, November 5, 2021, 7PM, zoom.
- Rise Against Hunger, November 13th, 2021, Christ Lutheran Church, Duquesne, 9AM. Approximately 6 people from each congregation are needed. Point of contact is MaryAnn Novak, 412-979-8574. We will be packing 13,000 meals this year.
- PLUM Worship Meeting, November 10, 2021, 7PM, zoom
- PLUM admins, organists, pastors/worship leaders' get-together, Nov 12, 2021, 11AM., St Andrews.
- PLUM Board Meeting, November 22, 2021, 7PM, zoom.
- PLUM Thanksgiving Eve Service, zoom, November 24, 7PM, zoom. Handbell Choir will be playing their prerecorded music.
- PLUM Board Meeting, November 27, 2021, 7PM, zoom.
- St. Paul's Raindrops Madagascar Relief. Please keep adding raindrops with your contributions. We would love to shower them with our blessings. Chart posted on sanctuary wall.

- The synod has approved the job description for the PLUM pastor position. Therefore, it is now open to anyone that is interested in applying and also posted on the synod and PLUM websites.
- Bishop Kusserow will be on a sabbatical leave from 1 January – 28 February 2022. Acting Bishop, Rev Abraham Allende, retired and former bishop to the NE Ohio Synod will take his place during this time.
- St. Paul's Advent Event will take place on December 4, 2021, 3-6 PM, ending with a meal. Signup sheet on bulletin board.
- St. Paul's Hanging Greens event will take place on December 19, 2021, after church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- Lutheran Campus Ministry is looking for a bookkeeper to oversee ministry's accounts; 10 or fewer hours per month. Send referrals or resumes to rev.bbennett@gmail.com or call (412) 682-6886.
- Glade Run Lutheran Services is in need of supplies for youth.
- Lutheran Advocacy Ministry is now located at 1959 Market St., Camp Hill, PA 17011.
- "Enjoy" Coupon books are now available (\$30). Contact Haddie Weber (Messiah, Munhall), 412-897-8002.
- Blessed Bundles, Lutheran Church of Our Savior, N. Huntingdon. Distribution takes place on the third Saturday of each month, 9AM – 3PM. Contributions of any new or gently used baby supplies are appreciated. Largest size of clothing accepted is a size 8. Also, monetary contributions are accepted. Any

questions, call 724-863-2591. Bring contributions to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and items will be forwarded to N. Huntingdon.

- Camp Agape is prayerfully asking everyone to consider helping them offset the cost of two gas generators. Generators are a necessity to ensure the pump house can still provide water and electrical during outages. Cost is \$35,000.
- Women of the ELCA's 2022 Designated Outreach is New Start Furniture Ministry.



Upcoming Events

- The Canonsburg/Houston Ministerial Association will celebrate their 38th year of providing a free Thanksgiving Dinner for the community at the Canonsburg United Presbyterian Church. Dinner will be served from 12:00 – 2PM. No preordering or reservations are required. Everyone is welcome. Meals available for take-out only. Meals will be delivered to all of their Meals-on-Wheels guests and take-out curbside pickup for dinners for everyone else.
 - Messiah Lutheran Church, Munhall, is having a Holly Jolly Bazaar, December 4, 2021, 9AM – 3PM. For information call 412-4621-6958 or 412-897-8002.
 - Chartiers Township Community Center will hold their 5th annual Veterans' Day Luncheon on Wednesday, November 10, 2021, 11:30am – 1PM. Lunches will be to-go also. RSVP 724-485-2126 or parks@chartierstp.com;
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Church offering for November can be mailed to the church or brought to the Sunday church services. All November contributions must be received no later than November 28, 2021. Contact Nancy Pollo 724-207-0941 if you have any questions.



McWilliams Lawn Care Service has again been contracted to maintain our lawns this summer. The cost is \$45.00 per visit. If you wish to donate to help with this service, place your contribution in an envelope and send to the church. Make sure to include your name and envelope number.



Please send anything that you wish to have published in St. Paul's Lutheran Church's newsletter to Ann Morrocco (724-746-5897) or email: amorrocco1@verizon.net no later than 3rd Sunday of each month. It is important that everyone become involved. Please share your suggestions and/or assistance availability with Nancy Pollo (President), 724-207-0941.



[This Photo](#) by Unknown Author

St. Paul's Council is in the process of preparing a cleaning and maintenance log for the sanctuary, Eberle Hall, parsonage, Bathrooms in Eberle Hall, parsonage bathroom. This will be a convenient way for everyone to participate. Everyone can pick an item, do the cleaning/maintenance, then mark off the log so everyone knows what was done. Also scheduling another cleaning day soon. Thanks for everyone's support.



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

- November 7 – Pastor John Gropp
- November 14 – Pastor Elizabeth Mayhem
- November 21 - Pastor Brenda Henry
- November 28 – Layperson Janet Craig



Please remember to keep our brothers and sisters in Christ in our prayers: Samantha, Julie, Milt, Charlotte, Steve, Barbara, Anna Mae, Lee, Logan, Dom, Debbie, Kim, Albert, Kristin, Jason, Pam, Virginia, Misty, Matthew, Rachel, Pat, Randy, Eddie, Tom, John, Mark, Kelly, Mike, Nancy, Jim, Donna, Barb, John, Michelle, Lynn, Carol Jean and the John Straka Family, Shawndel, Rob, Fran's family, Janelle and family, Jeanette and family, the Miller, Paulick, Galano, Burchesky, Mele, Richmond, Porter and Johnson families, all military members and their families, our Bishops, our Synod, our PLUM pastors.

God of all good gifts, your Son gathered children into his arms and blessed them. Protect and bless all of our young people, especially...Logan Billingham, Andrew Cowser, Gina Cowser, Eleanor Marie Cregut, Ava Jade Englehart, Austin Filby, Joelle Filby, Clarke Johnson, Larry Ryan Johnson, Gregory McGrail, Lindsey Nimal, Josh Porter, Jaxon Porter, Jordyn Porter, Aaliyah Gilpin, Adalae Carmichael.



Eternal Candle –Month of November

- Mike, Carol, Corey Ferens

Eternal Candle –Month of December

- Ann Morrocco

If you would like to sponsor the eternal candle for the month of January 2022, please notify Ann Morrocco, 724-746-5897 or amorrocco1@verizon.net. Donation is \$25.00. Put your check/money, your name and envelope number in the envelope and place in the collection plate.



PLUM PASTORS

The Reverend John Gropp/412-680-7867
 The Reverend Brenda Henry/412-390-8005
 The Reverend Susan Devine/412-496-4889



[A Little Bit of Past History for St. Paul's](#)

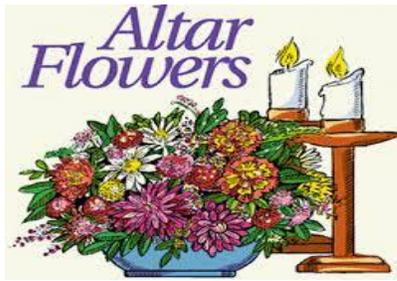
In 1990 french drain work was done by Dave Hufnagel for \$1800. Mark Ladisic did installation and remodeling of the church office at a cost of \$4040.00.



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

November 20	Randy Bell
November 25	Donna Filby
November 25`	Zack Nimal





Altar Flowers

- November 7 – Karen & Logan Billingham
- November 14 –
- November 21 -
- November 28 -

Please sign the flower chart next to the front door if you are interested in donating flowers to celebrate a special date/event. The donation is \$25.00 for two urns and the flowers can be taken home after the service. Please notify Ann Morrocco, 724-746-5897 or amorocco1@verizon.net if you want the names/events you would like printed in the bulletin.



Lectors

- November 7 –
- November 14 –
- November 21 -
- November 28 -

Assistants

- November 7 – Karen Billingham
- November 14 – Carol Ferens
- November 21 – Karen Billingham
- November 28 – Carol Ferens

If you are interested in serving as an assistant please sign the signup sheets next to the flower chart or notify Ann Morrocco; 724-746-5897; email: amorocco1@verizon.net.



St. Paul's committed \$2,800.00 towards Mission support for 2021. As of September 2021, we have received \$1965 in donations. That is a shortage of \$835.00. In past years we have met/or exceeded our commitment. Our prayer is that with your help we will meet our goal.

St. Paul's approved budget for 2021 was \$60,245.00. To date our expenditures have been \$44,000. Our contributions as of September 30, 2021, \$35,000. Approximately \$32,900 was approved by the congregation for building improvements and that money was taken from the Money Market. Your weekly/monthly contributions pay the bills for St. Paul's Lutheran Church. Please pray for guidance.



St. Paul's is in the repair mode! Devin Orsi, Peak Precision, repaired the much needed areas of the roof. Praise God, we no longer have water coming into Eberle Hall restrooms, hallway, etc. The congregation approved Phase II with Peak Precision on October 17. This time they will do the lintel replacement/repairs to the different

church areas; replace 2 windows in basement area of the parsonage with two glass block windows (the old one are falling out). Also, we have church members doing repairs that have been pointed out by the contractor. Scott Cregut did the repairing/repainting railing outside of the handicapped access entrance. Mark & Nancy Pollo and Mike, Carol & Corey Ferens have been doing various repairs, inside and outside of the church. Landscaping that has been in need of attention has begun. We also thank Lee Jones for picking up the mail and placing inside the church. May God bless each and all that been involved and we thank them!



I know that you might think this is a little premature, however, I am asking you to think about this item. Christmas is on a Saturday this year. Prices have not yet been established and we have to estimate an approximate number of plants for this order. Please let us know by Thanksgiving if you will be ordering this year. As soon as we have confirmed prices and quantities, changes will be made to the order form in the December Newsletter and posted in the Sunday bulletin. Thank you for your assistance and cooperation.

STEWARDSHIP

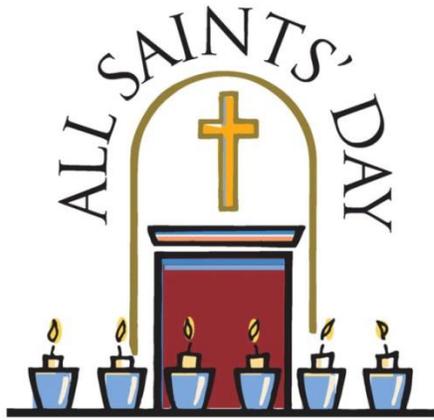


WHAT I WANT MY CHURCH TO BE!

My church is composed of people like me. It will be friendly, if I am. Its pews will be filled, if I help fill them. It will do great work, if I work. It will make generous gifts to many causes, if I am a generous giver. It will bring other people into its worship and fellowship, if I invite and bring them. It will be a church of loyalty and love, of fearlessness and faith, and a church with a noble spirit. If I, who make it what it is, am filled with these same things. Therefore, with the help of God, I shall dedicate myself to the task of being all the things that I want my church to be.

NOVEMBER MONTHLY MISSION

A mission has not been decided since our adoption program was not accomplished. If you have any suggestions, please notify Nancy Pollo (President), 724-207-0941 or Ann Morrocco, 724-746-5897 amorrocco1@verizon.net



November 7, 2021, is All Saints's Day. We will read the list of all of the saint's that we lost during 2021 during the Sunday church service. If you have someone that you would like to be added to this list, please notify Ann Morrocco, 724-746-5897 or amorrocco1@verizon.net before November 2. Thank you.

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|--------------|---------------------|
| January 27 | Jill Shook |
| May 2 | Anna Mae Kostelich |
| July 6 | Samantha Lynn Mrvos |
| August 1 | John McAnany |
| September 20 | Anna Mae DeWalt |
| September 23 | John Straka |

ALL SAINTS FOR NOVEMBER 2021

In Memory _____

Please send names, dates, to Ann Morrocco, amorrocco1@verizon.net is you would like someone added to the list no later than November 2, 2021.

REFORMATION WAS OCTOBER 31, 2021

LUTHER'S MEANING OF THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe that God has created me and all that exists. He has given me and still preserves my body and soul with all their powers.

He provides me with food and clothing, home and family, daily work, and all I need from day to day.

God also protects me in time of danger and guards me from every evil.

All this he does out of fatherly and divine goodness and mercy, though I do not deserve it. Therefore I surely ought to thank and praise, serve and obey him.

I believe that Jesus Christ—true God, Son of the Father from eternity, and true man, born of the Virgin Mary—is my Lord.

At great cost he has saved and redeemed me, a lost and condemned person. He has freed me from sin, death, and the power of the devil—not with silver or gold, but with his holy and precious blood and his innocent suffering and death.

All this he has done that I may be his own, live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he is risen from the dead and lives and rules eternally.

I believe that I cannot by my own understanding or effort believe in Jesus Christ my Lord, or come to him. But the Holy Spirit has called me through the Gospel, enlightened me with his gifts, and sanctified and kept me in true faith. In the same way he calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it united with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

Reformation 1517



500 years