



SAINT PAUL'S EPISTLE

Our mission at Saint Paul's is to: **welcome** all people; **proclaim** the good news of Jesus Christ; **experience** a personal relationship with Him; and joyfully **share** God's love with others.

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HAPPENING THIS MONTH

*Youth Lake Day
Sunday
August 3
9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Lake Waccamaw*

*VBS Decorating
Sunday
August 4
10:15 p.m.
Keever Hall*

*Vacation Bible School
Monday - Friday
August 5-9
9:00 a.m. — 12:00 p.m.*

*Beach Clean Up Day
Sunday
August 11
4:00 p.m.
Wrightsville Beach*

FROM PASTOR JONATHAN

Psalm 46 ¹God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. ²Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, ³though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging... ¹⁰He says, "Be still, and know that I am God..." ¹¹The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress.

This month I want to share with you how important it is for us to "be stilled." Several weeks ago, I found myself stressing out over various church, family, and health obligations. I was worried that as those obligations increased, I would find myself falling behind and never catching up.

While the stress was getting to me, I ended up in the best place to find a solution: Sunday worship. As Connie and Dick were playing a wonderful duet during the 9 am Prelude, I was reminded of my favorite line from Psalm 46: "Be still, and know that I am God." So I took God's advice and "be stilled" while I listened to the music. For the first time in weeks, I was in the moment. I did not think about the future or the past. God helped me stay focused on the present, and with that my stress disappeared. As the Prelude ended, I said a little "thank you" prayer to God and then let the Songs, the Word, the Prayers, and Holy Communion of our 9 and 11 AM

worship services instill a confidence in me that I was lacking. A confidence, a belief, that I do not go through tough times alone, because God is always with me. And God is more powerful than any of my tough times. God always will be.

My hope with this article is to help you find a moment where you, too, can "be stilled" and let God do what God does best: give you peace, love, and strength. And your "be stilled" moment can be at church, or one of our beautiful beaches, or at home with a loved one, just to name a few examples. The point is to find the moment where God can speak to you as you are listening with your ears and your heart. Believe me, "be stilled" is the best way move forward.

GOD'S WORK. OUR HANDS.

"God's Work. Our Hands." is an opportunity to celebrate who we are as the ELCA-one church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor. Service activities offer an opportunity for us to explore one of our most basic convictions as Lutherans: that all of life in Jesus Christ – every act of service, in every daily calling, in every corner of life – flows freely from a living, daring confidence in God's grace.

Join St. Paul's Lutheran Church as we serve our community by cleaning up our beach!

Location: Wrightsville Beach Public Access #4, L Lot.

Dates: Sunday, August 11, 4pm
Sunday, September 22, 4pm
Sunday, October 13, 4pm

We know that parking can be difficult. We will meet in the Harris Teeter Lot, before the Bridge, and carpool together. Contact Chelsea Bradshaw or Susan Jackson with questions. Trash bags and work gloves will be available. Bring your own filled water bottle and work gloves if you have them!

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

August 5-9, 2019
9:00 am–12:00 pm

**VBS Decorating
Sunday, August 4
10:15 am until finished!**

Join us following 9:00 am worship to decorate Keever Hall and the classroom spaces! 11:00 am participants are welcome to join us before or after service!

STEPHEN MINISTRY

It does take a village; however, the chieftain of the village is Jesus Christ. A very wise man developed a program called Stephen Ministry. This ministry is based on allowing trained Care Givers to help Care Receivers bear their burdens with the assistance of Jesus Christ, the greatest care giver. This is created through one on one contact, prayer, listening, empathy and asking God to hear these requests.

Today's news produces fear and anxiety in our homes and communities. Losing a job or foreclosure on a home mortgage are real happenings. Stephen Ministers are a part of our church family who are able to listen and feel compassion for hurting situations.

Members of our society are living longer and maybe losing a lifelong mate at an older age. The loneliness and sadness is real...these are human conditions that need attention. Older

parents become ill and unable to stay in their homes. There is guilt from children who live far away and cannot take care of the people who cared for them and who helped make them the people that they have become.

There will always be hurt, injustice, death, illness, poverty; however, a Stephen Minister is a person who can walk with a hurting person. He/she will pray with and for their Care Receiver. The role of the Stephen Minister is not to solve the problem but to inspire, to instill confidence and self worth so that the care receiver can develop skills that will direct them through this difficult time in their lives. Stephen Ministry is a loving, empathic ministry that is conducted with the strictest of confidence.

Several years ago, one of us sought the help of a Christian Minister. She was a high school counselor during this time of her life. Many times she

told her counselees that she was also seeking guidance from a counselor and it seemed to make it okay that they were sharing extremely confidential information. During this time, she truly learned that everyone benefits from sharing feelings of fear and stressful situations that may be happening in their lives. She learned....No one is free of problems... some may be different from others but we all have them.

A Stephen Minister is not a counselor but serves in a similar capacity with the emphasis that the Stephen Minister is the Care Giver and that our loving God is the Cure Giver.

If perhaps, you read this article and you believe that talking to a loving, caring person could help you bear your burdens then call Pastor Mark, Linda Evans, or Martha Greer at our church and simply make a request to be assigned a Stephen Minister.

FROM BILL REMELE

We never thank our Church Choir and Praise Team members enough for their tireless service week to week! Many of our neighboring churches suspend choir practices, or do away with choir singing altogether, from Memorial Day through Labor Day. We, on the other hand, have consistently offered some of our finest music of the year during that time. Rehearsals have been well-attended, and we have gained new players and singers! Instrumental "specials," particularly at 9:00, became "the usual," offering fresh new sounds and new "spins" on old favorites. Our faithful drums, flutes, guitars, and saxophones skillfully enhanced the keyboard accompaniments. I could rave for a long time! I am sure Connie and Robby will join me in thanking each and every one of you! We are taking a well-deserved break from midweek practices through August, but we will still practice Sunday mornings and play and sing for all worship services.

Keep coming when you are in town! August is a good time for visitors to give us a try as well! All are welcome! Sunday morning practices are in the Parlor forty-five minutes before each service. See you soon!

THANK YOU

FROM KATE POTTLE...

Thank you so much for the very nice graduation gift! The blanket will definitely be used in my college dorm and the church materials will remind me of our church while I am away. Thanks to everybody for being an amazing, loving, and supportive church family all these years, I really appreciate it and all you guys have done for me!

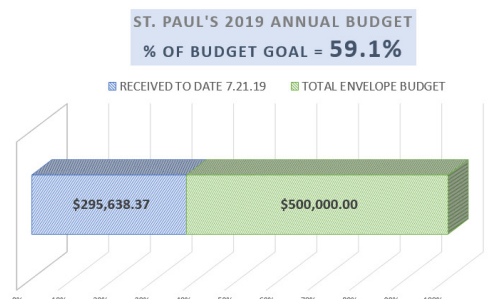
FROM THE QUILTING WORKSHOP...

Thank you to all our members who have supported our quilting ministry by donating sheets, fabric, and monetary gifts. We will have a wonderful year.

MEN IN MISSION

On Saturday, September 14, St Paul's Men in Mission will resume our regular monthly work and fellowship days. Men of any age are invited to participate as we take on maintenance, landscaping and repairs around our property. No special skills or tools are required - although both are very welcome. Join us at 9 AM on the 14th in Keever Hall for a short devotion, coffee & donuts, and important service around our beautiful property.

STEWARDSHIP SNAPSHOT



YOUTH MISSION TRIP TO THE FL PANHANDLE

On July 22nd, Patsy Perhala, Jim Bauer, Susan Jackson, Meghan Stello, Anna Phelps, Anna Haskins, Delilah Mills, Sam Beasley, Kendall Bauer, Richard Walters, and Adam Russell headed to St. George Island, FL to participate in Hurricane Michael Relief.

At arrival, we were greeted by counselors from Camp Luther Springs (located in Hawthorne, GA, one of our 4 Novus Way camp sites), who would be guided us in our bible studies, evening activities, and processing through-out the week.

Monday morning, we headed to work our work destination: Lynn Haven, Florida. Lynn Haven, a suburb of Panama City, was devastated by winds and driving rain from Hurricane Michael. We worked through Lutheran Disaster Response, Hope Panhandle, and SBP (St. Bernard Project, established after Hurricane Katrina). The main goal of these organizations is to help displaced families return home through rebuilding. The biggest challenge of rebuilding is money. The community consists mostly of homeowners who rent out their homes (over 60% of the community rents). These owners do not have the adequate insurance needed to cover the damages they face—mostly wind damage from 135 mph winds. Thus, widespread displacement has occurred, forcing many to leave or live in campers and tents. Hurricane Michael was upgraded to a category 5 in the late spring, after accessing the damage and strength. Our week ended with a trip to Panama City Beach, to snorkel and see the ocean wildlife. We finished our week with worship and headed home Friday mid-morning, arriving back in Wilmington on Saturday.

Youth Testimonials

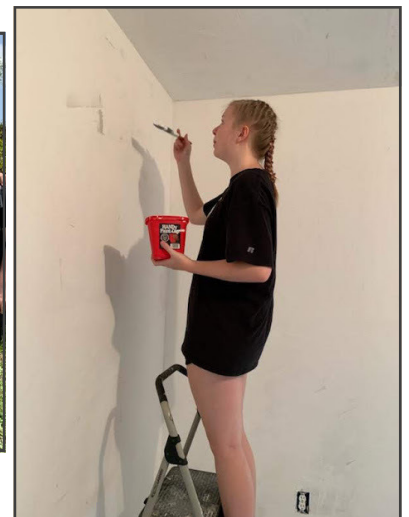
"I saw God through our work, helping to give someone a new home to live in when they didn't have one before."— Sam Beasley

"Going to Florida in the Mexico Beach area was a really cool trip for me. I saw God in a bunch of ways, but primarily, I saw God through the meaning of dedication. This youth group goes on trips every year and we work pretty hard, especially this year with the help of Miss Susan, shout-out to her. With hosting fund raisers like helping out with the church yard sale or giving our church parking lot up to azalea festival enthusiasts, I am eternally grateful for the people who have this year and in the past helped us to raise the money we need to simply go out into the world and serve. The continuation of these annual trips is not only a tool that helps bring other kids into the youth group, but it also gives the returning youth a sense of dedication to their church and community. At the work sites in Florida I saw God's purpose for us being put to work through so many dedicated

souls to help get a wall painted or a floor placed down or a door on its hinges. The determination, work and especially sweat that was poured into these houses in Florida changed the St. Paul's youth group for the better, in which it normally does. The dedication every single one of the kids had for the week we were down there, not only helped restore a house, but we helped restore, rebuild, and rehabilitate a home." - Delilah Mills

"I had a great time I liked the Gulf of Mexico and the destruction surprised me and I'm glad I could help."— Richard Walters

A presentation will take place on Sunday, September 8, during breakfast. We hope that you will come hear about our experiences! Thank you to everyone who supported and prayed for us along this journey!



KAIROS CONFIRMATION CAMP

Susan Jackson and Daisy Gaither spent a week at Lutheridge (located in Arden, NC) participating in the Kairos Confirmation Program. Kairos simply means: In God's time. This summer, we focused on finding Jesus through Holy Week. Each day of the Camp week has a theme, a curriculum to support the theme, music, activities, and either evening vespers with cabins/areas or worship together. This year, our themes were: Palm Sunday (following Jesus into Jerusalem), Who is Jesus (our own identity and how we know who Jesus is), How do we live our lives following Jesus (focusing on Maundy Thursday), Why do Bad Things Happen (focusing on Good Friday), Where is God (Focusing on Holy Saturday), and When is Easter (Now! Here! Everywhere!). We even experienced a mini Easter Vigil, something most of our teens have not had the opportunity to do before! Students also had the daily opportunity to ask hard questions about their faith and social issues, answered by Pastors, Deacons, Church leaders, and Camp staff. It was amazing to hear what these middle school students think and worry about!

Mornings are spent focusing on the curriculum in large group, small group, music, and congregation time. Afternoons are spent with campers cabins and areas in crafts, games, and other activities. Evenings are spent at campfire, devotions, vespers (evening prayer), and worship. Each week also includes an outing. This year we went to Kuhkendal State Park for a creek walk and games.

When asked about her week, Daisy said "I liked camp very much. I made new friends and loved Kairos time. I liked the trip to the lake a lot". Daisy also talked about how she liked learning about God in a different type of setting than she has been in before.

Susan Jackson



BACK TO SCHOOL BLESSING

Sunday, August 18 at both services

All students heading to school this fall are invited to bring their book bags, computer bags, and briefcases for a back-to-school blessing

YOUTH GROUP

Saturday, August 3

Youth Lake Day at Lake Waccamaw
Times: 9am– 5:00 pm (transportation to and from church provided) Bring your swimsuit, towel, and a snack! Lunch and drinks will be provided.

Sunday, August 11 and 25

12:15pm—Lunch/Mission Trip Presentation Planning

Saturday, September 7

Mission Trip Presentation Planning (Time TBD)

Sunday, September 8

Mission Trip Presentation (During Breakfast)

AUGUST SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE



Bookbags and supplies will be distributed to Lutheran Social Services Foster Students and to local Wilmington schools. This year, there are 16 students in the LSS Foster Care program. 11 are in need of middle and senior high school bookbags and school supplies. Our goal for the 2019/2020 school year is 80 bookbags! Last year, we collected 71 filled with supplies! How many bookbags can we collect this year?

School supplies include:

glue sticks, boxed crayons (24 count and under), #2 pencils, coloring pencils, child size scissors, wide ruled and college ruled spiral notebooks, pencil bags, composition notebooks, 2 pocket folders, prong folders with pockets, wide ruled and regular notebook paper, 1 inch/ 1.5 inch 3 ring binders, and bookbags suitable for K-5th grade (along with ones needed for LSS students)

Donations should be dropped off in provided bins in the church narthex and administration building by Tuesday, August 13.

AUGUST WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Acolytes (9 a.m.)

4 Wesley Batchelder
11
18 Sam Beasley
25

Acolytes (11 a.m.)

4 Daisy Gaither
11 Susan Jackson
18 Michael Walters
25 Susan Jackson

Altar Guild

4 Joyce Presley, Terri Sandlin
11 Sue and Carla Wiechman
18 Fran & Walt Denninger
25 Voncile Echevarria, Marji Carano

Caregivers

4 Sue Dresher
11 Becky Knott
18 Jody Pfeffer
25 Frances Lamb

Communion Assistants (9 a.m.)

4 Marjorie Carano
11 Larry & Becky Knott
18 Archie Barringer
25 Linda Evans, Helen Romeo

Communion Assistants (11 a.m.)

4 Ralph Sizemore
11 Dan & Betty Huggins
18 Ralph & Melinda Sizemore
25 Jody Pfeffer, Lynda Shell

Communion Guild (9 a.m.)

4 Helen Romeo, Michelle Beasley
11 Susan Bolger
18 Bev Frieze
25 Lynn Mickley

Communion Guild (11 a.m.)

4 Louisa Miars, Kathryn Crutchfield
11 Christa Gerfelder
18 Larry Hovis
25 Kay Krukltis

Crucifers (11 a.m.)

4 Nathan Holzberger
11 Ralph Sizemore
18 Richard Walters
25

Greeters (9 a.m.)

4 Billy and Eric Mason
11 Fran & Susan Bolger
18 Joe & Lynn Mickley
25 Linda Evans

Greeters (11 a.m.)

4 Stan & Maria McLeroy
11 Connie Edwards, Joyce Presley
18 Lee & Bettielou Weddle
25 Gwen & Grady Beck

Monday Night Dinner

5 Betsy Rullman, Mary Rullman, Anita Heston, Mike Leiser, John Gibbons, Laurel Meitrodt, Tara Law, Lucy Holman, Teresa Cox
12 Anita Heston, Jim Bauer, Mike Leiser, Laurel Meitrodt, Tara Law, Lucy Holman, Cathy & Dave Cummins, Teresa Cox
19 Nancy Scheunemann, Kathryn Crutchfield, Steve & Judy Beach, Joe & Lynn Mickley, John Gibbons
26 Linda Evans, Judi & Allan Pellnat, John Gibbons

Readers (9 a.m.)

4 Nancy Martin
11 Kitty Solomita
18 Cindy Killian
25 Susan Jackson

Readers (11 a.m.)

4 Ralph Sizemore
11 Grover Canady
18 Stan McLeroy
25 Doug Russell

Ushers (9 a.m.)

4 Ron & Joan Fracalossi
11 Fran Bolger, Archie Barringer
18 Larry & Tammi Gates
25 Joe & Lynn Mickley

Ushers (11 a.m.)

4 Larry Hovis, Nicky Grubbs, Nate & Sarah Askwith
11 Al Cheatham, Wilson Horton, Joe Augustine, Walt Denninger, Larry Lewis
18 George Russ, Mike Flack, Jack Baily, Tom Bertelsen, Bob Poole
25 Dan Huggins, Mike Mason, Nick Grubbs, Jim Bailey

1 Eddie Hales
Anne Mason
2 Grady Beck
Kevin Clamser Jr.
Len Cuthbertson
Addison Kitchens
3 Pastor Jonathan Conrad
4 Ella Beamer
Marian McDowell
5 Tori Cox
6 Rachel Kohler
Kay Krukltis
Louisa Miars
Olivia Walton
8 Melisa Everhart
Henry Medina
Bob Poole
10 Allen Mason
Eric Mason
11 Cathy Eisermann
Anita Heston
Ann Hutteman
Keely Wessell
12 Laurie Barkley
Sabra Walton
13 Granseur Dick
Mary Lou Newber
14 Shannon Dick
Bill Remele
Sarah Richter
Gary Vidmar
Jacob Walton
15 Kelby Bauer
16 Charley Coleman
George Millington
17 Alyssa Eisermann
Gerry Faigle
19 Pam Marinko
20 Sam Beasley
Nick Grubbs
21 Bill Farabee
Kathleen Gates
Frances Lamb
22 Ron Gschwandtner
23 Paul Blender
Carole Carr
Connor Coupland
24 Amber Clamser
Richard Walters
26 Nancy Scheunemann
28 Lynda Shell
Cindy Swicegood
29 Jackson Higgins
David Smith
30 Becky Knott
Mary Lynn Pourcho
31 Haydn Bauer

ST. PAUL'S AUGUST 2019 CALENDAR

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12 p.m. Ministerial Roundtable (Keever) 6:30 p.m. Stewardship Team Meeting	2	3 9 a.m. Youth Lake Day (Lake Waccamaw)
4 9 a.m. Celebration Service 10:15 a.m. VBS Decorating 11 a.m. Traditional Worship	5 7 p.m. Monday Night Meal Service (Keever)	6 9 a.m. Quilting Workshop (Keever) Circle 4 (Elijahs) 2:45 p.m. Staff Meeting (Library) 8:30 p.m. Gateway NA (Keever)	7 5:30 p.m. Prayer Group (Office)	8	9	10
			Vacation Bible School			
11 9 a.m. Celebration Service 11 a.m. Traditional Worship 12:15 p.m. Youth Group 4 p.m. Beach Clean Up	12 6:30 p.m. Council Meeting (Annex) 7 p.m. Monday Night Meal Service (Keever)	13 9 a.m. Quilting Workshop (Keever) 2:45 p.m. Staff Meeting (Library) 8:30 p.m. Gateway NA (Keever)	14 5:30 p.m. Prayer Group (Office)	15 6:30 p.m. Evangelism Team Meeting (Library)	16	17
18 9 a.m. Celebration Service 11 a.m. Traditional Worship	19 9 a.m. Project Linus (Keever) 7 p.m. Monday Night Meal Service (Keever)	20 9 a.m. Quilting Workshop (Keever) 2:45 p.m. Staff Meeting (Library) 8:30 p.m. Gateway NA (Keever)	21 5:30 p.m. Prayer Group (Office)	22	23	24
25 9 a.m. Celebration Service 11 a.m. Traditional Worship 12:15 p.m. Youth Group	26 6 p.m. Worship & Music Team Meeting (Annex) 7 p.m. Monday Night Meal Service (Keever)	27 9 a.m. Quilting Workshop (Keever) 2:45 p.m. Staff Meeting (Library) 8:30 p.m. Gateway NA (Keever)	28 5:30 p.m. Prayer Group (Office)	29	30	31