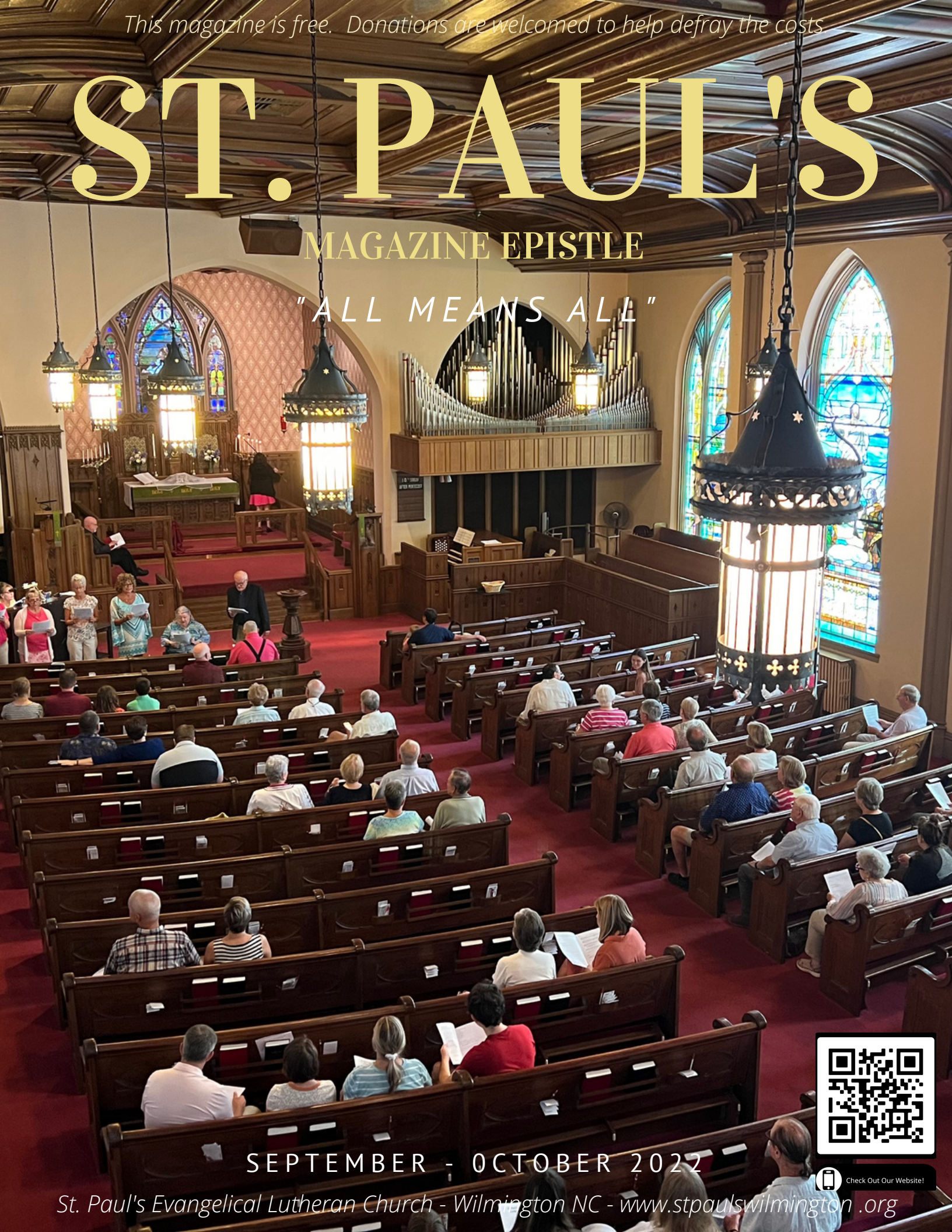


This magazine is free. Donations are welcomed to help defray the costs

# ST. PAUL'S

MAGAZINE EPISTLE

"ALL MEANS ALL"



SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2022



Check Out Our Website!

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Wilmington NC - [www.stpaulswilmington.org](http://www.stpaulswilmington.org)



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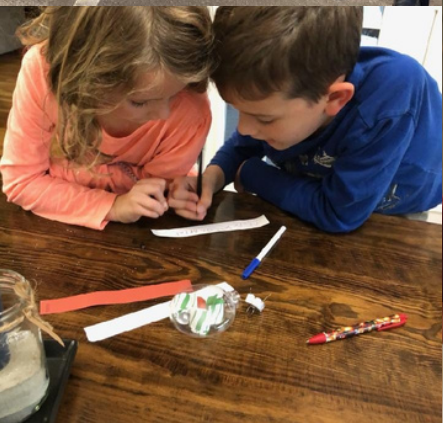
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# Pastor Jonathan

Hello and welcome to *St. Paul's Magazine Epistle*. This has been a project under development for some time, and I am grateful for everyone who had a hand in making this magazine a reality.

What is the purpose of this magazine? First, it is to let you know what is to come, and how excited we are with what God has planned for us.

Second, we wanted a chance to share with you pictures from some of our recent events, to show you the smiles and fellowship that are occurring on a regular basis in our church.

Third, we wanted to put something in your hands for you to read, share, and collect. Over the past year or so, we had a number of people miss the physical newsletter we used to publish prior to the pandemic.

As a collector of comic books, I understand why it is important to hold something in your hands, and the memories that can be attached to that particular issue or magazine. So we wanted to bring that feeling back. And I hope we have succeeded.

The plan is to publish a new issue every few months, to highlight what is to come, to help you plan your calendars, and to also reflect on where we have been.

I hope you will join us on our journey, and that this magazine helps deepen your relationship with Jesus Christ.

Blessings,

*Pastor Jonathan Conrad*





# Sunday Worship



## 9am Celebration Service

Our 9am Celebration Service is a "blended" style of worship. The service features our Praise Band and Choir for all to listen, reflect, and enjoy. Holy Communion is celebrated each week.

Our nursery is available for children age 5 and under. Starting September 11th, we will offer Children's Church during the sermon. Children will return to the Sanctuary prior to communion.

## Wired Word Adult Small Group

Wired Word is an engaging Bible study platform created specifically for adult Sunday School. Join us each Sunday between services in the Annex as we relate current events to scripture with thoughtful and stimulating conversation.

## 11am Traditional Service

Our 11am service follows the liturgy from Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Our Sanctuary Choir sings different hymn selections each week to help enhance the worship experience. Holy Communion is celebrated each week.

Our nursery is available for children age 5 and under. Starting September 11th, we will offer Children's Church during the sermon. Children will return to the Sanctuary prior to communion.

ALL SERVICES ARE LIVE  
STREAMED ON OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL  
[WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/C/STPAULSLUTHERANWILMINGTONNC](http://WWW.YOUTUBE.COM/C/STPAULSLUTHERANWILMINGTONNC)





# Pastor Mark

## It's Not Wallpaper!

"It's not wallpaper!" came the reply after I first commented on the "wallpaper" adorning the three chancel walls surrounding the altar. "It's stenciling!"

It was an easy mistake to make. More of us have seen patterned wallpaper than exquisite, detailed stenciling. As with much of historic St. Paul's craftsmanship, I have come to appreciate this artistry, even though I first thought I was looking at nicely hung wallpaper.



*Current Stencil*



1937

There's an interesting story behind the stencils. I first noticed this by digitally enhancing an old 1937 photograph that was featured in Ann Hutteman's wonderful book about St. Paul's history: [A Journey of Faith: The History of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church Wilmington, North Carolina 1858-2008.](#)



*Fleur de lis*

Did you know that our current stenciled pattern in the chancel is "fourth generation?" The first pattern is seen in the 1937 photo. The squares are larger than our current ones and feature a "Fleur de lis" and a stylized "Luther Rose." When you look closely at the smaller stenciled patterns behind the altar, you see these same images.



*Luther Rose*



## EXPLORE | OUR HISTORY

For reasons still unknown to me, this first pattern was replaced by a second pattern following the end of WWII. Wedding photos of Al and Anna Cheatham's wedding in 1951 reveal the different pattern. The squares are now diamond shaped, and include what we have today, with images "fleur de lis," an "STP" and two flowers, one a "lily".



1951

Looking at what we see today, I imagined the 1946 pattern remained unchanged. However, a St. Paul's Christmas photo postcard from the 1980's illustrates the stenciling had been painted over. Looking at old confirmation photos, I further discovered the stencils had also been painted over in 1958. They were stenciled again in 1959 and painted over once again in 1965. Those plain walls remained unchanged for nearly 20 years until a 1994 major restoration project. The second generation "1951" stencils were discovered in the archive room and painstakingly reapplied. This is what we have today. The fine detail work and alignment reflect incredible artistry.



1980



In pondering our stencil history, several questions and mysteries remain. Why was the first pattern painted over? Why was the second pattern painted over... twice? Was it aesthetics? Had the walls been damaged? What happened to the original stencils? How was the second pattern determined? With such pride in our church's history and fine craftsmanship, why were the stencils painted over at all? What were those council discussions like?

The first time I saw St. Paul's chancel walls, I remember thinking I was looking at a pretty busy wallpaper pattern. Learning about St. Paul's rich history, however, I celebrate not only what has gone into making our church a beautiful house of worship, but also the works of art herein.

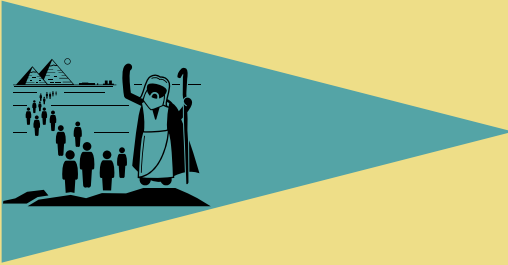
It's not wallpaper. It's amazing!

*Pastor Mark Opgrand*

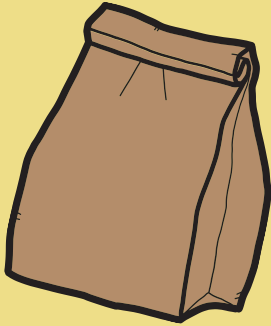




# Wednesday's Together



*On September 14th, Wednesday's Together returns with a new format that is twice as good. We are going to have Noon and 6 PM editions of Wednesday's Together.*



*Join Pastor's Mark and Jonathan as we journey through the book of Exodus, one of the most exciting books in the Bible.*



*For our Wednesday's Together Noon Edition, we invite you to bring your own lunch (light snacks provided) while our Wednesday's Together 6 PM Edition will continue to feature a meal.*

## Exodus



# Deacon Susan

We have been busy this summer! From the June Confirmation Celebration on Pentecost to July's week at Lutheridge, there have been plenty of opportunities for fellowship, worship, and faith formation for our young people and adults of St. Paul's!

We have had a few hiccups along the way, including the postponement of VBS to the fall (see more info in Children's Ministry), but had a fabulous time as 11 of us headed to Lutheridge to learn about Baptism and the boundless infinite love of God.

We have also been blessed to hold several baptisms this summer. The baptismal liturgy found in the ELW invites us to affirm several responsibilities:

- To live with and among God's faithful people
- To bring others to the word of God and the holy supper
- To teach the Lord's prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments
- To place in hands the Holy Scriptures
- To nurture others in faith and prayer
- So that all may learn to trust God, care for others, and the world that God made, and work for justice and peace.

All People of God are then asked to promise to support and pray for the baptized as they begin their new life in Christ.

So, what does this mean for the congregation of St. Paul's as we engage and do ministry, sharing God's word together? It means we have lots of opportunities to teach, to serve, and to pray for others!

We have been doing this for years as we support our children and youth in their growing relationships. I'm excited about the new adventures that the 2022-2023 school year will offer us. See all the wonderful opportunities on the next page!

Also, please let me know if there is a recital, play, or sporting event that you would like me to attend this fall!

*Deacon Susan Jackson*



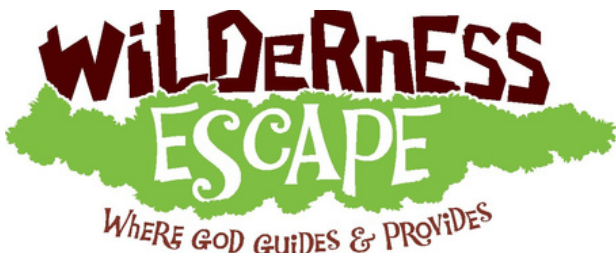


# Children's Ministry

## Milestone Ministry

### Teacher Recognition + Bible Sunday on September 11

*St. Paul's Milestone Ministry aims to connect God's love and our everyday lives together. Bibles will be given to children and teens who have not recently received one. Our 2022/23 volunteers will also be recognized with the Sunday School teacher milestone.*



## Wilderness Escape Sunday School in Keever Hall

**September 18th- November 27th, 10:10- 10:50 AM**

*Children's Sunday School will focus on Exodus through story, crafts, and games. Teens are invited to assist.*

*The nursery will be available for younger children.*

## Sunday Morning Fun

### Nursery Information

Open during both worship services, nursery attendant Natalie Atento and weekly volunteers are available to teach & play with children ages 5 and under. The nursery is located in the Administration Building.



### Children's Church begins September 11 (Church Basement)

During both worship services, children in 1st - 4th grade may join us for a Bible story and activities. We depart before the adult sermon and return before communion.



While elementary children are invited to attend, they can also remain in worship. Many Children's Church leaders and assistants are needed to help this year.



A Children's Sermon is available at both worship services. Children's worship bags are available in the Church Narthex. Look for Kevin the Lamb! Want to help keep bags updated? Contact Deacon Susan!





# Youth Ministry

## Campus Ministry

Deacon Susan is on a board to start ecumenical Campus Ministry at UNCW, anticipated in Fall 2023. If you know of a CFCC or UNCW student in the 22/23 school year, please reach out to Deacon Susan or Pastor Jonathan.



## Confirmation Instruction

Meeting Monthly on the 2nd Sunday, our fall focus is on the Lord's Prayer. Parents: please plan to attend our first meeting on September 11. A full schedule will be available at the meeting

## High School Youth Group

Save the date: Sept 25, Oct 30, & Nov 20th. We will rotate faith formation and fun outings! Many volunteer opportunities are available on Sunday mornings too.

## Interested in Volunteering

Adult volunteers working with youth and children must successfully complete a background check, and receive online child protection training from *Safe Gatherings*. Contact Deacon Susan for information about this or any of our ministry volunteer opportunities.

## St. Paul's Trunk or Treat -- Saturday, October 29th (5p-7p)

Join us for our Halloween Party in the Parking Lot!

We will give out treats/candy, have a hot dog dinner, and a movie on the big screen!

Kiddos and Adults are encouraged to show off this year's latest Halloween costume



**Other ways to join the fun:**

Donate Candy and Treats

Decorate your car and hand out treats

Volunteer to host games or cook

***Don't forget to invite your neighbor!***



# Stewardship

At St. Paul's, we have always faithful stewards of the gifts God has so abundantly given us. Stewardship is about how we use all that God has entrusted to our care - our time, our talents, and our treasures - to love God and our neighbors, both inside and outside of the walls of the church and our homes.

**St. Paul's stewardship campaign will commence on October 2nd and will run for a total of six weeks.**

St. Paul's Stewardship Committee, along with the Finance Team and Congregation Council are preparing to kick off our annual fall stewardship campaign. During this year's campaign, you will be asked to prayerfully consider how your financial gifts will impact our congregation, our community, and our church facilities.

**Your participation in the life of St. Paul's is not only important, but special as well.**

By joining together, we are able to share the Gospel locally and across the globe. As we look to the coming year, it is clear God calls us to reach out to new neighbors and friends, to be wise in our planning for the future, and to keep providing programs and ministry that meet the needs of our members and of the wider community.

**We will have several Ministry Minutes (Temple Talks) in October with "Commitment Sunday" on October 30th.**

There is so much we can do, so many more challenges to embrace, as we together build and maintain all that we have accomplished so far and have yet to accomplish. Take a moment and look at all the activities that take place on our church every day of the week. People coming and going, meeting and working, studying and sharing. This building, God's building, truly is our home, our church home.

**Celebration Sunday is November 13th.**

## St. Paul's Lutheran Church 2023 Commitment Card

St. Paul's is blessed with committed people who give of their time, talents and financial gifts to help spread the Good News of Jesus Christ.



Annually, we must fiscally plan for the coming year, to ensure church resources are used to the Glory of God.

We are asking for you to prayerfully consider your 2023 St. Paul's financial commitment, complete this form and return it to church.



I plan to give in 2023:

- ☐ Weekly ☐ Monthly  
☐ Annually ☐ As Able

Amount: \_\_\_\_\_



Gifts our gifts continue to be appreciated. Here are some giving options to consider:

- online (<http://stpaulswilmington.org/donate>)
- text "Give" to 984-203-6953
- mail (12 N. 6th St. Wilmington, 28401)
- bank draft: E-bill payment through your online banking



Name: \_\_\_\_\_



# Music Programs

*"Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all the earth:  
make a loud noise, and rejoice, and sing praise."  
Psalm 98:4*

## HAND BELLS



If you are interested in helping make a joyful noise with one of our music teams, let one of the members know or email [info@stpaulswilmington.org](mailto:info@stpaulswilmington.org)

## SPIRIT CHOIR & BAND





Sunday Breakfast

September 11  
October 2

Wednesdays  
Together Begins

September 14  
12p & 6p

Shrimp Boil  
Hanover Seaside  
Club

September 18

Cape Fear  
River Cruise

September 23

Family Promise

September 4-10

Womens Circle 4  
Keever Hall @ 2p

September 6  
October 5

Outdoor Church

September 10

Clothes Closet

Saturdays  
12p to 3p

Octoberfest

October 16

Pet Blessing

October 2

Leland Womens  
Circle

September 29  
October 27

Trunk or Treat

October 29

Commitment  
Sunday

October 30

September 10  
October 8

Men in Mission



# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## SEPTEMBER CELEBRATIONS

**01** Louise Perkins  
Tara Law

**02** Mary Martin  
Erik Paulson

**03** Cameron VandeVeer  
Mason Bruton

**05** Ronald Jamieson  
Paul Parish

**07** Paul Whitham  
Brent Kitchens

**07** Tommy Cheatham  
Anna Dixon

**08** John Pendley

**09** Maria McLeroy  
David Haskins

**11** Raymond Pfeifle  
Nick Stephanos

**12** Margaret Baily

**13** Saylor Carriker

**14** Irma Forger

**15** Miriam Marlar  
Marin Askwith

**17** Carol Whitham  
Michael Seifert

**18** Jennifer Kitchens

**20** Katie Medina  
Maddie Conrad

**21** Alfred Bratteson  
Nicky Grubbs

**21** Kathy Allen  
Tom Mills

**21** Megan Vogel  
Jake Fleming

**23** Jill Cummings

**24** Kristine Guthrie

**25** Carolyn Augustine

**26** Jessica Parker  
Quinn Dearie

**27** Billy Mason

**30** Patrick Bradshaw  
Cathy Cummins

**30** Peter Miars Jr.





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

## OCTOBER CELEBRATIONS

**01** Jeanne Struck  
Tiffany Friedl

**02** Betty Black  
Carl Cerniglia

**05** Kitty Jamieson  
Lillian Kelley

**06** Merton Vance  
Dan Dresher

**09** Joseph Sisk

**10** Barry Acker  
Zachary Dixon

**11** Gary Marinko

**12** Christa Gerfelder  
Herbie Walter

**12** Margaret Musacchio

**13** Jim Bauer  
David Trapp

**14** Doreen Acker

**15** Sharon Smith  
John Evans

**16** Julian Burnett  
Gregg Surratt

**16** Nate Askwith

**17** Shirley Rhyne

**19** Michelle Coleman  
Kate Pottle

**21** Jack Wilson

**22** James Evans  
Brian Cox

**24** Lori Vidmar  
Mike Mason

**26** Lon Ostby  
Lisa Seifert

**28** Kyle Rehder

**30** Kathryn Crutchfield  
Mercedes Ludlum

**30** Voncile Echevarria  
Charlotte Farr

**30** Anniston VandeVeer



**31** Shirley Koenig  
Kirk Brown  
**31** Debra Hadding





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
SEPTEMBER						
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Family Promise						
9am - Worship Service @ 11am - Worship Service	5pm - Monday Night	2pm - Circle 4 7:30pm - Gateway NA @	9am - Quilting Workshop 5pm - Handbell Rehearsal 5:30pm - Prayer Group @ 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	6pm - TOPS (Take Off) 6:30pm - Women Bible		9am - St. Paul's Men in 12pm - Clothes Closet @
9am - Worship Service @ 10am - Breakfast 11am - Worship Service 4pm - Confirmation	11 5pm - Monday Night 6:30pm - Council Meeting	12 7:30pm - Gateway NA @	14 9am - Quilting Workshop 5pm - Handbell Rehearsal 5:30pm - Prayer Group @ 6pm - Wednesdays 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	15 12pm - Coastal 6pm - TOPS (Take Off) 6:30pm - Women Bible	16	17 12pm - Clothes Closet @
18 9am - Worship Service @ 11am - Worship Service 4pm - Shrimp Boil	19 9am - Project Linus @ 5pm - Monday Night	20 7:30pm - Gateway NA @	21 9am - Quilting Workshop 5pm - Handbell Rehearsal 5:30pm - Prayer Group @ 6pm - Wednesdays 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	22 6pm - TOPS (Take Off) 6:30pm - Women Bible 7pm - Leland Women's	23 5pm - Henrietta Boat	24 12pm - Clothes Closet @
25 9am - Worship Service @ 11am - Worship Service 4pm - Senior Youth	26 5pm - Monday Night	27 7:30pm - Gateway NA @	28 9am - Quilting Workshop 5pm - Handbell Rehearsal 5:30pm - Prayer Group @ 6pm - Wednesdays 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	29 6pm - TOPS (Take Off) 6:30pm - Women Bible	30	1



# EXPLORE | OCTOBER

St. Paul's Events Calendar

Oct 2022 (Eastern Time - New York)

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
		<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>	<b>OCTOBER</b>		12pm - Clothes Closet @ 4:30pm - Tailgate
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Pet Blessing</b> 9am - Worship Service @ 11am - Worship Service	5pm - Monday Night	7:30pm - Gateway NA @	9am - Quilting Workshop 5pm - Handbell Rehearsal 5:30pm - Prayer Group @ 6pm - Wednesdays 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	6pm - TOPS (Take Off 6:30pm - Women Bible		9am - St. Paul's Men in 12pm - Clothes Closet @
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
9am - Worship Service @ 11am - Worship Service 4pm - Confirmation	5pm - Monday Night 6:30pm - Council Meeting	7:30pm - Gateway NA @	9am - Quilting Workshop 5pm - Handbell Rehearsal 5:30pm - Prayer Group @ 6pm - Wednesdays 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	6pm - TOPS (Take Off 6:30pm - Women Bible		9am - VdC Team Meeting 12pm - Clothes Closet @
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
9am - Worship Service @ 11am - Worship Service 4pm - Octoberfest	9am - Project Linus @ 5pm - Monday Night	7:30pm - Gateway NA @	9am - Quilting Workshop 5pm - Handbell Rehearsal 5:30pm - Prayer Group @ 6pm - Wednesdays 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	12pm - Coastal 6pm - TOPS (Take Off 6:30pm - Women Bible		12pm - Clothes Closet @
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
9am - Worship Service @ 11am - Worship Service	5pm - Monday Night	7:30pm - Gateway NA @	9am - Quilting Workshop 5pm - Handbell Rehearsal 5:30pm - Prayer Group @ 6pm - Wednesdays 7:30pm - Choir Rehearsal	6pm - TOPS (Take Off 6:30pm - Women Bible		<b>Trunk or Treat</b> 9am - Via de Cristo 12pm - Clothes Closet @
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
9am - Worship Service @ 11am - Worship Service 4pm - Senior High Youth						





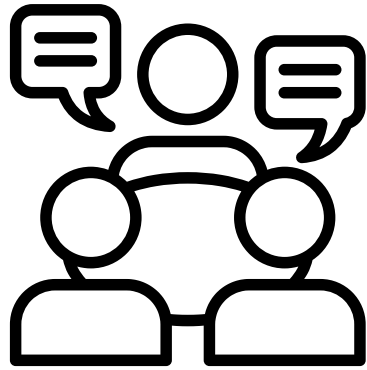
St. Paul's Lutheran Church



All Means All







# Annual Meeting November 20th

(Time to be determined)



Advent Begins on November 27

## Christmas Eve Schedule

4pm Family Service

8pm Candlelight Service

11pm Candlelight Service

## Christmas Day

10am Traditional Service



EXPLORE | INVOLVEMENT

# POSTLUDE

*Thank you for your financial gifts. Because of your gracious giving we are able to provide pastoral care, excellent worship, formative faith education, outreach, and fellowship events that are making an impact each and every day.*

Your continued financial support can be received in any of the following manners:

- online (<http://stpaulswilmington.org/donate>)
- text "Give" to 984-203-6953
- mail (12 N. 6th St. Wilmington, 28401)
- bank draft: E-bill payment through your online banking

*We  
thank  
you!*

## WORSHIP VOLUNTEER ROLES

**USHER, READER, GREETER,  
ACOLYTE OR CRUCIFER.**



## DID YOU KNOW?

The role of Acolyte dates to the early Middle Ages. Whether the Acolytes carried and held the candles so priests could read the Mass & Scripture, or if they assisted in the preparation of the table, acolytes many times, were those interested in entering the ministry. As worship patterns changed, eventually lay acolytes, paved the way for Crucifers, Torch Bearers, and Candle-lighters.

## YOU CAN HELP!

Here at St. Paul's, our 9:00 AM service candles are often lit during the prelude. At 11:00 AM, a processional begins with a Crucifer, followed by the Acolyte that will light the candelabras and altar candles. All ages can serve!

Email us if you can help:  
[Info@stpaulswilmington.org](mailto:Info@stpaulswilmington.org)

## EDITOR'S NOTE

The dates, times and events in this magazine were correct at the time of publishing, but are **subject to change**. Stay informed of any changes to St. Paul's schedule by following us on social media and subscribing to our weekly email epistle.

**Special Thanks** to Nicky & Lynn Grubbs whose kind gift made this Premier Issue possible!

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