

St. Paul's has been so gracious to pray for my sister, Leslie. Thank you. For those of you who haven't heard, Leslie, ten years younger than myself, had a very aggressive cancer (cholangiocarcinoma) grow on her liver and bile duct at the beginning of the year. It grew from nothing to 11½ centimeters in three months. Chemotherapy kept the tumor from growing but did not reduce its size. This was critical because the tumor covered 84% of her liver, and she needed 25-30% viable liver for the surgeons to be able to remove the tumor. So, they performed a bit of trickery called a portal vein embolization, tricking the liver into growing. It worked, and they were able to perform the surgery. After eight hours with a team of surgery specialists, they had removed the tumor, as well as all of the lymph nodes in the area, and rebuilt her bile duct, using a blood vessel procured from somewhere in her abdominal cavity.

She was predicted to spend a minimum of nine days in hospital but she went home in six days—with a functioning and growing liver. She is doing great, better every day. Susan and I drove up to Pittsburgh to be with her for the surgery and hospital stay, so I am grateful for her going home healthy, since we had to head for home as well.

As many of you know, it is tough seeing a family member go through something like this. This particular form of cancer is very aggressive. When this cancer is discovered early on—and it was—the five-year survival rate is upwards of 25%. Because Leslie is very fit and does not suffer from detrimental factors like obesity or diabetes, her survival rate may be even better. Besides, she is more bullheaded than her cancer is aggressive. Bottom line: we have been graced with more time.

So, I say once again, thank you for all of the cards you have sent to Leslie, and all of the prayers you have sent to God. Both have been a blessing to her, as well as to Susan and me. And they have bolstered her spirits along the way.

And thanks also to Ken Whisnant, Stan McConnell, Lauren Whisnant, and Spencer Newsome for filling in for me in my absence. Ken taught my Sunday School class. Stan led worship. Lauren did the children's talk. Spencer preached. All the while, Susan and I watched from our room at the hotel in Pittsburgh, rejoicing in a congregation's faithfulness, and the willingness to jump into the deep end so that God may provide a blessing through them.

See you in church,
Pastor Ryman

Please, please, please...

If Pastor Ryman has not yet visited you, we will be calling you soon to schedule a time. Pastor would love a chance to visit with you. His goal is to visit with everyone. If you prefer, you may go ahead and call the church office so we can get you on the calendar (704-633-0922).

Adult Confirmation and Membership Classes

Pastor Ryman has begun teaching confirmation classes for adults that focus on reading the Bible through the lens of the Catechism. This ongoing class serves as a solid grounding in Lutheran doctrine and theology for those who are new to the Lutheran church as well as those who want a refresher. From time to time, a three-week membership class will instead be taught those interested in joining St. Paul's.

Sunday School Classes

Sunday School begins at 9:30am.

Pre-K - Teachers needed

K-5 - To be taught by Crystal Canup (assistants needed)

6-12 - To be taught by Kenneth Whisnant, Joshua Canup, and Heather Canup

Adult Class - Taught by George Barringer

Adult Class - Taught by Louise Eller (ladies' parlor)

Adult Class - Teachers rotate (choir room)

Adult Confirmation Class - Pastor Ryman (fellowship hall)

Biscuits & Beverages will be available in the fellowship hall at **8:30am on September 5th**. Be sure to stop in and enjoy breakfast before Sunday School.

Lutheran Men

St. Paul's Men's **Annual Fish Fry** is **Saturday, September 18th**. Tickets will be available on the lawn after service on August 29th, September 5th, 12th, and from the church office. Please purchase your tickets no later than September 12th so that we know how many to prepare for. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$5 for children under 12 years, and free for those under 3 years. Drive-thru/carry out (no drinks provided) will be available. Proceeds from the fish fry will go to Binns-Counts Community Center.

There is no meeting in September due to the fish fry. **The regular monthly meetings will move to the fourth Monday of each month beginning October 28th**. We look forward to having all men join us on this new night!

Lutheran Women's News



Carolinas Lutheran Women (CLW)

Eleventh Annual Convocation

9:00am, Saturday, October 2, 2021

Faith Lutheran Church

205 S. Main Street, Faith, NC 28041

You are encouraged to attend, representing St. Paul's. Please contact Sarah Goodman or Alice Davis for information. Registration forms are in the Ellen Bumgarner box next to the narthex. Registration forms and fee (\$8.00) are due by September 18th.

In September, the Women of the Church are collecting unwrapped, new **Christmas gifts for the Children of Binns-Counts Community**. Gift suggestions: anything for babies through 5th grade; Teen girls — cosmetics (makeup), curling irons and flat irons, jewelry, nail polish; Teen boys — tools, camouflage items, games. Gift cards for \$10 or \$20 at Walmart will be accepted (Be sure to indicate the amount on the card.). These gifts will be taken to the center at the first of November for their annual Christmas party. Please drop off your donations at the Canup's house at 1708 Old Concord Road, or place them in the bin in the narthex.

Womens' Sunday is October 3rd. St. Paul's Lutheran Women would like to have a choir for Women's Sunday. Our choir director has agreed to help us out by having only three practices of 1/2 hour each on Wednesday, September 15th, 22nd, and 29th, at 7:30pm. The only qualifications are that you are a woman (young or old) and enjoy making a joyful noise. You do not have to be a member of any circle to participate. Just show up at practice on the 15th.

Ellen Bumgarner Circle – Wednesday, September 1, at 9:30am in the ladies' parlor

Grace Ridenhour Circle – Meet after worship service September 5th in the ladies' parlor; (No regular meeting in September.)

Kathie Ketchie Circle – September 12th, at 5:00pm

Hama Lingle Circle – Monday, September 13th, at 7:00pm with Jane Webb hosting, and Susan Bernhardt as leader. This circle sends cards to homebound for September.

Melissa Lura Circle – Monday, September 13th, at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall

Bonnie Bost Circle – Tuesday, September 14th at 7:00pm

Upcoming

- August 29** Ice Cream Social - bring your favorite ice cream to share, **5:30pm**
September 5 Biscuits and Beverages before Sunday School, **8:30am**
September 12 Homecoming Sunday
September 18 Men's Fish Fry, **6:00pm**
November 6 Old Timey Stew in the picnic shelter, **6:00pm**

Youth Events

- September 11** All youth clean the picnic shelter for Homecoming, **10:00am – Noon**
September 12 All Youth Bible Study in the fellowship hall, **3:30 – 5:00pm**
September 19 Youth & Family Committee meets in the conference room, **3:00pm**
September 25 Middle and High School Youth Outreach project, **8:30am**
October 1 – 2 Grade School Youth camp out at the church
October 23 Middle & High School Youth, Salisbury BlockWork, **6:30am – 5:00pm**

Youth & Family and Outreach Committees will be working together in planning the **Trunk or Treat** event in October. Possible dates for the event are October 30 or 31. There will be more discussion at the meeting on September 19.

The Middle and High School youth will go to **Binns-Counts Community Center** on November 27th to deliver and help sort Christmas gifts for the children there. They will return home on the 28th.

Confirmation Classes

begin Wednesday, September 15th, 7:30pm
in the conference room.

If your child is of Confirmation age — 6th grade and up —
please contact the church office so we may order supplies for your child to attend.

Sunday Worship Service at 10:30am in the sanctuary is mask optional. Please join us. If you choose to listen from your vehicle in the parking lot, tune in to 104.5FM. Services are also available on the church website, and on our Facebook page (www.splcweb.org www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC).

Blood Drive

Thanks to all who came to donate at our August blood drive. Although the church did not reach its goal of 35 units, a total of 34 units was collected. Many thanks go to the eight first-time donors here, and the four donors who gave double units to get us within one unit of our goal. Thirty-seven persons came to donate and seven were deferred because of high blood pressure, low hemoglobin, upcoming surgeries, and/or medication issues. Nineteen of the 37 who came to donate are members of our church community, but not members of our church. Even though our goal for each drive is 35 units, this is the first time in two years that we have not collected 40+ units.

Please consider donating at our last blood drive of the year on Monday, November 8th, from 2:00pm – 6:30pm. Our church collects more blood for OneBlood (our collection agency) in Rowan County than any other site. Because each unit can be divided for three recipients, the church has collected enough blood to help over 200 people so far this year. If you are not on the church donor list and would like to help, please contact Alice Davis at 704-855-4930 or pherford1@yahoo.com.

Platelet Donation

Platelet donation is another donation possibility for our church. Platelets are used mainly for hemophiliacs, like our own Peyton Holland, and for persons receiving chemotherapy treatment.

Platelet donation is a little different than regular whole blood donation. Platelet donations are done through a process called automation, which allows only the collection of platelets and not your red blood cells or plasma like a whole blood donation. The process takes 1–2 hours depending on the individual. Requirements for giving are the same as giving whole blood (age, weight, etc.).

Persons with blood types A+, B+, O+, AB+, and AB- are the most sought out donors. Platelets must be transfused within five days of the donation, which is why new donors are needed every day. A platelet drive will provide a priceless gift to patients in need.

One automated platelet donation provides 1–2 complete platelet packs for an individual whereas it takes 5–6 whole blood donations pooled together to provide the same number of platelets.

If enough people are interested in donating platelets at our church instead of traveling to Concord or Charlotte to donate, OneBlood will have a bus come to our quarterly blood drives for that purpose. Please contact me as soon as possible if you are interested in making a platelet donation at our November drive.

Alice Davis

704-855-4930 or pherford1@yahoo.com

Memorial Gifts

A gift was received in memory of Alan Beaver for the Capital Building Fund from Alan and Donna Lyerly

A gift was received in memory of Kathleen Brown for the Capital Building Fund from Perry and Lori Bernhardt Dana and Crystal Bost

A gift was received in memory of James Poe for the Capital Building Fund from Perry and Lori Bernhardt Dana and Crystal Bost Terry and Myra Jane Eller

Gift were received in memory of James Poe for the General Fund from Marsha and Dale Beaver, Mr. Harold Buchanan Suzanne Wallace Casey Elizabeth and Ed Cook Chuck and Linda Hess Sharon Hoffman Steve and Cynthia Kirchin Ernie and Melanie Kirchin Kathy and Bobby Rusher R. Victor Wallace Family Nancy's Canasta friends – Jaudon Cline, Joyce Cline, Deanie Jones, Connie Brown, Donna Hooks, Sue Kirby, Jody Kepley, and Kay Jones

A gift was received in memory of Bill Reissner for the Capital Building Fund from

Terry and Myra Jane Eller
Alan and Donna Lyerly

A gift was received in memory of Carolyn Rufty for the Capital Building Fund from Dana and Crystal Bost

Gifts were received in memory of Delcie Earnhardt Smith for the Capital Building Fund from

Sybil Athey
Ben and Susan Bernhardt
Dana and Crystal Bost
Alice Davis
Tim and Karen Deal
Terry and Myra Jane Eller
D.W. and Judi Honbarger

A gift was received in memory of Delcie Earnhardt Smith for the General Fund from Grady and Jenny Earnhardt



A gift in honor of Betty Monroe was received for the Helping Hands Fund from Dottie Stancil.

We offer our love and sympathy to Nick Williams on the death of his father, Gerald Monroe Williams. Mr. Williams died August 23, 2021.

Homecoming

We'll save you a seat
at our Homecoming Service:
Sunday, September 12, 2021

- Worship with Holy Communion – 10:30am
- Our new pastor, Rev. Mark Ryman, preaching
 - Mack Williams singing
 - Our new organist, Connie Burleson,
accompanying worship and special music
from our choir under the direction of
our new music director, John Brock
- Potluck Luncheon in the shelter – Noon



Stephen Ministry

Applications for the next class of Stephen Ministry training are now being accepted. Please see Jan McCanless for an application and information.

Street Address Information

Anyone who receives mail at a post office box please get in touch with the church office to be sure we also have your physical street address. We would like to have a complete record in our data base on all our members. Thank you.

Rowan Helping Ministries

Items needed for the RHM Food Pantry: green beans, corn, mixed vegetables, pasta, rice, instant potato flakes. Items needed in other areas of RHM are listed in their newsletter online at <http://www.rowanhelpingministries.org/wish-list>. Your generosity is appreciated.

Lights Out

When leaving the church, **please be sure** you have turned lights out in bathrooms, hallways, etc. Also, please be sure all doors are locked (check doors from the outside) when you leave. Thank you.

Income and Expenses for July 2021

Income: \$29,448 Expenses: \$34,570

Expense over Income for July: \$5,122

Income over Expense for the Year: \$13,170

Capital Building Fund as of July 31st: \$177,101

August income/expenses will be in the October Newsletter.

Thanks

Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

Thank you so much for allowing me to be this year's recipient of the Brown-Heilig Scholarship! It has already helped me with this year's tuition. I am so blessed to be able to call y'all my church family. Thank you for always supporting me. I love you guys! Thanks again for everything.

Love always,
Allyson Harkey

To my wonderful Church family,

Great news — but first let me thank you for all the calls, cards, and prayers. And a special thank you to Pam for seeing that I receive the church bulletin weekly. Also, thank the children for the nice drawings they do for me. I save them all. I'm going to put them in an album and keep them forever.

About two weeks ago I was told I no longer have thyroid cancer! My biggest problem now is fluid build-up. Keep me in your prayers. I've been praying a lot. The Lord is good.

Love you,
Dottie Stancil

Defilement

Find the 33 **bold** words from Mark 7:14-23 (ESV)

W I T H O U T D O M H E M U Y
F D I S C I P L E S E L U N T
L O E S Z S D O O F A P R D I
E H O D T C S E E D R O D E L
F X E L I O M E U Y T E E R A
T E P A I S M L N Z V P R S U
U N D E R S T A N D I N G T S
T E S I L E H U C O E C E A N
H L L T R L K N O H A K B N E
O B A Y H P E E E L N D C D S
U A N R R E V D L S E A Q I R
G R D E L I F E D K S B E L W
H A E S L C D T S E X U A L W
T P R Y T I L A R O M M I A C
S G N I T E V O C T I E C E D

And he **called** the people to him again and said to them, “**Hear** me, all of you, and **understand**: There is nothing **outside** a person that by going into him can **defile** him, but the things that come out of a person are what defile him.” And when he had entered the house and **left** the **people**, his **disciples** **asked** him about the **parable**. And he said to them, “Then are you also **without understanding**? Do you not see that whatever goes into a person from outside cannot defile him, since it enters not his **heart** but his **stomach**, and is **expelled**?” (Thus he declared **all foods clean**.) And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. For from within, out of the heart of man, come **evil thoughts**, **sexual immorality**, **theft**, **murder**, **adultery**, **coveting**, **wickedness**, **deceit**, **sensuality**, **envy**, **slander**, **pride**, **foolishness**. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

Teach Me Your Statutes

Find the 43 **bold** words from Psalm 119:129–136 (ESV)

I S T P E C E R P E L P M I S
M T T W N V S M A E R T S M P
O N T E O S A E S I M O R P E
U E E L G N I D R O C C A A E
T M S R S S D J L V O V E R K
H D T E W T M E T P A U T T L
G N I D N A T S R E D N U S Q
I A M E K T L N C F W F T T S
L M O E R U Y A O N U O U E T
O M N M O T F G O I H L R A E
N O I S S E R P P O N D N D P
G C E R H S I N I Q U I T Y S
M Y S U O I C A R G Y N M E H
E A A Q D V N M R X A G A O E
M X B W H C A E T P L V G X D

Your **testimonies** are **wonderful**; therefore my **soul keeps** them. The **unfolding** of your **words** gives **light**; it **imparts understanding** to the **simple**. I open my **mouth** and **pant**, because I **long** for your **commandments**. **Turn** to me and be **gracious** to me, as is your **way** with those who **love** your **name**. **Keep steady** my **steps according** to your promise, and **let** no **iniquity** get **dominion over** me. **Redeem** me from **man's oppression**, that I may keep your **precepts**. **Make** your **face shine** upon your **servant**, and **teach** me your **statutes**. My **eyes shed streams** of **tears**, because people do not keep your **law**.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922 ~ Fax: 704-636-1300

Email: splchurch@att.net

Website: www.splcweb.org

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

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St. Paul's newsletter, the "Monthly Epistle," is intended to keep everyone informed about happenings within the congregation that effect and contribute to our ministry together. In order to maximize reach and minimize cost, the preferred methods of distribution are by email, and posting on our St. Paul's website (www.splcweb.org). All members are encouraged to use the newsletter as a resource to help you consider how God is calling you to be involved in the life of his church. If you are unable to access the newsletter online, or would just like to have a printed copy to refer to, the most cost-effective way to receive it is to pick up a copy from the church office or in the narthex. We mail copies to those members whom we know don't have online access, are shut-in, or live out of town. If you want to be added to our email list, or to the mailing list, please contact the church office.