

Sponsored by Dewey Jones & Joyce Herman in honor and memory of all mothers.

For Ten Years

Dear St. Paul Family,

For ten years he has printed bulletins for worship, funerals and special services such as for Advent and Holy Week. For ten years he has produced newsletters and information for annual meetings and other occasions for the church. For ten years he has processed the mail, paid the bills, produced checks to be signed and answered the phone. For ten years he has handled reservations for the Mission Property and run errands to get supplies. For ten years he has worked with updating our website and printed Council packets for the monthly meetings. For ten years he was kept up with what postage is needed for packages and updating the office with the best copier and copyright leases. For ten years he has coordinated the bank balance with our church treasurer and sent our benevolence offerings to the synod office on a regular basis. For ten years Morgan Lane has done all this and much more as the Administrative Assistant here at St. Paul.

During his time here with us he has gotten married, had a family and moved into his sense of call to become a pastor in the Lutheran Church Missouri Synod. Morgan will be completing his seminary studies this summer and expects to be ordained this August. As a result of this he will be moving to a full time position with Bethel Lutheran Church in Claremont. Due to this he feels it is time to move on and so has tendered his resignation as our Administrative Assistant effective May 15th of this month which means his last Wednesday in the office will be May 11th.

The Congregation Council has received his letter of resignation and steps are being taken to train others for the office duties. It is still a work in progress but we are working to ensure as smooth of a transition as possible. In the meantime thank you for your patience and understanding.

We will miss Morgan but we certainly wish him well as he continues his faith journey in other directions. For us we carry on with the mission and ministry the Lord continues to provide here in Startown.

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Through it all I look forward to being with you during this Easter season of our church year as we put our mission into practice to **Witness, Welcome, Worship** and **Work** in the name of our Lord.

Yours in Christ,

Pastor Ralph



Congregational Care

Dear St. Paul,

We want to thank our church family for everything you have done for our family. Barbara for the wonderful gifts she has made, the ladies auxiliary for sending baskets to Kansas and Pastor Ralph for his work with Lilly through her Confirmation. We want to say thank you for always being so welcoming and loving to our family. You are the best!

Happy Easter, Love,

Barbara Arrowood, Bryson, Madison, Lilly

Editor's Note: The card can be found on the bulletin board outside the church office.



Dear Saints of St. Paul Lutheran Church,

Thank you. It seems like these last ten years have flown by! You all have been with me as I was hired and trained under Cheryl Hendrix, got married to one of your members (Sara), got hired at Bethel as their Director of Worship Arts, had a child (Norrie, 5), began seminary, came on full-time at Bethel, and now ultimately have received a call to serve Bethel Lutheran Church, Claremont, NC as their Associate Pastor. Through all of these milestones, you have been right here, cheering me on and being patient and understanding with several schedule changes throughout the years.

As Pastor Ralph mentioned in his article, I have tendered my resignation and my last day in the office will be Wednesday, May 11th. Some of you may be wondering, "why now?" Honestly, I asked myself that question several times. I knew that eventually I would have to give up the position here at St. Paul, but the timing never seemed right, and I realize that the timing would never be quite right. It seemed appropriate, after Easter and things slowed down a bit into the summer months to make the transition now.

I have nothing but warm feelings towards you, and I wish you the best for the future. God has positioned you here in Startown to be a beacon of hope in this world where hope seems to be a fleeting memory. May God's blessings go with you.

In Royal Service of the King,
Morgan S. Lane



Birthdays

May 3	Morgan Lane
May 4	Betsy Lindler
May 8	Evelyn Sharkey
May 12	Natalie Lail
May 16	Paul Pero
May 20	Gail Bowman
May 24	Adam Fincannon
May 25	Katherine Thompson



Anniversaries

May 3	Pastor Ralph & Mary Kraft
May 8	Richard & Wanda Helton
May 20	Danny & Sundee Southers
May 25	Richard & Gail Blackburn
May 29	David & Donna Miller

Did We Miss Your Birthday or Anniversary?

If so, please accept our apologies!
Let us know so we can make it right by calling
(828) 464-3853 or email
office@stpaulstartown.org



NATURAL WEEDKILLER

AHHHH ! Spring is here! The flowers are blooming and we are preparing planting beds or cleaning up our yards. God has given us a beautiful Earth and we need to work to keep it clean for ourselves and future generations. One of the dreaded Springtime jobs is weeding-UGGGH! Maybe you have used chemical weed killers. But, remember, those chemical leach down into the soil, aquifer and our creeks and streams. Instead of crawling around on your hands and knees yanking out the pesty plants, how about making your own natural weedkiller? It's inexpensive, easy to make and is so much more "earth-friendly."

Try this instead:

1 gallon vinegar

2 cups Epsom salt

¼ cup Dawn dish soap (the blue original)

Mix the ingredients in an empty gallon jug and pour into a spray bottle. Spray in the morning, after the dew has evaporated and walk away. Go back after dinner and those weeds are gone! It's cheaper than those brand-name chemical sprays and is a lot safer for home, families and pets. (This "recipe" is courtesy of the Cub Scouts, Pack 398).

“SCRUBBIE” or SCARF?

What do you want to make for a gift or for your own use? The St. Paul Crochet Cronies have a rainbow of yarn for you to knit or crochet a scarf or a “scrubbie” to use in your kitchen instead of those store-bought cellulose sponges that deplete our earth’s resources. Instead of snacking on pretzels or popcorn while binge-watching your favorite TV series, keep your hands busy while still enjoying your program. Or perhaps you want to create a prayer shawl or lap robe for a family member or someone who needs to feel the love of a handmade item. Want to needlepoint Bible bookmarks to give as a gift? We have supplies and caring instructions for doing just that! All of our gatherings on the second and fourth Mondays of the month are full of faith, fellowship and a bounty of smiles amid the support for one another. Come and share your latent talent with your fellow church members (family and friends are welcome also). Please join your brothers and sisters in Christ in the Conference Room from 9-11 AM.



WELCA WELCOMING

The May meeting of ST. Paul WELCA will be special as we welcome a representative of Safe Harbor as she presents an overview of the work that Safe Harbor does to provide a caring, nurturing environment for women in need of a safe, warm and loving environment. Safe Harbor offers a wide variety of services such as showers and toiletries, breakfast

and lunch, assistance with phone, food stamps and housing applications and life skills counselors. This is a Christ-centered program for women and children in our area, Please come (and bring your friends or adult family members) to our May meeting on May 9th from 6-7 PM in the Fellowship Hall as we work to live out our mission to “promote healing and wholeness in the church, society and the world.”

WHERE ARE YOU??

We are looking for Susie, Joe, Frank and Mary Lou – where are you?? We just know you must be out there, just waiting to be asked to be a Worship Assistant at St. Paul. Even if your name isn’t Susie, Joe, Frank or Mary Lou, we still need you to volunteer to share your time and God-given talent as an usher, Crucifer, Acolyte, lay reader (we know you can read!!) or Altar guild or teller (bet you can count from 1-10!). The sign-up sheet outside the Church Office is much too blank – won’t you put your name on one or more dates? Please consider offering your time in service to our Lord. And don’t forget the Newsletter or Flower sponsorship sheets!



The next meeting of the Congregation Council will meet on Sunday, May 15th, in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

AGAPE DAY CAMP

Do you remember going to Church Day Camp years ago? The fun and excitement does not dull for today's young people – they still come, smiling, ready for singing, learning, doing crafts, just as we did. The St. Paul Mission Campus is once again delighted to be location for Catawba County's day camp. And this year we will be able to resume some of the activities which we were unable to offer last year due to pandemic concerns. We will kick off the week on Sunday, July 17th with a "meet-n-greet" event to introduce the counselors, campers and their families. We will have light refreshments and lots and lots of smiles! We also plan to have a cook-out on Thursday, July 21st and hopefully, prayerfully we will soak our campers with "water day" on Friday, July 22nd. Applications and health forms are available in the Narthex and on the table outside the Church Office for your children, grandchildren and other rising 1st through 8th grade students who could benefit from this Christ-centered experience. We will have spots for 32 campers so don't wait too long to enroll your camper. And you can sign up now to volunteer to help support the counselors – see the Bulletin Board outside the Church Office. Registration material is available in the narthex and the table in the hallway outside the church office.

ST. PAUL SCHOLARSHIP

Once again, St. Paul Lutheran Church is offering a \$1000.00 scholarship for a graduating high school senior or one already attending college. Applications are available from the Church Office and the deadline for submission is May 31, 2022. An independent third party will evaluate the applications and recommend a recipient to the Congregation Council. The scholarship will be sent directly to the chosen student's college or university. All are asked to continue to donate to this special learning ministry of the Church in order that we can keep this program financially healthy.



Be part of the first Synod Gathering, EVER!

Bring a group from your congregation

ALL are welcome to attend. Come for one, two, or all three days!

Learn More at: nclutheran.org/event/2022-synod-gathering/

Register by April 26 and SAVE!

WHO'S SPEAKING?

- Dr. Jacqueline Bussie, author of *Love without Limits*
- ELCA Presiding Bishop Elizabeth A. Eaton
- Rev. CeCee Mills, Asst. to the Bishop
- Rev. Tim Smith, Bishop, NC Synod

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

(Not an all-encompassing list!)

- Creating a culture of generosity
- Church and Civic Engagement
- Long Term Ministry and Adapting to Culture
- End of Life Doulas
- Online Ministry Coming Out of COVID

WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY!

As you may recall, Landon Travis, the grandson of Patty Burris, has been serving in the United State Marine Corp. His mother Amy has shared a letter outlining his experiences since his deployment to Norway right after Christmas 2021. She writes:

Landon's unit is now conducting convoys to return our logistical equipment to the USNS Sissler in preparation for their return home to the States. They are expected to finish Cold Response 2022 by the end of April. Cold Response is a biannual training exercise conducted in Norway with all of our NATO allies. 30,000 troops from 26 countries come together to train to overcome language barriers and be able to rely on each other in all situations, should there ever be a need. Landon trained with military personnel from Canada, Denmark, Great Britain, France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Italy, Greece, Turkey, Germany, Spain, Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovenia, Croatia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Finland, Sweden and Norway. He spent his time enjoying daily snowfall, more than he has seen in his twenty years. It is still considered their snowy season through May. He got to eat reindeer stew and many healthy fish-related meals as the Norwegian military bases are surrounded by the ocean. Fish is their primary source of protein. Landon has enjoyed his time there but is looking forward to coming home.

We all join Amy Travis in praying that Landon return home safely and thank him for his service. There is a collage of Landon on the Bulletin Board outside the Church Office. HOO RAH!

St Paul Congregational Council Highlights for April, 2022



Council Notes

Motions approved:

- March 13, 2022 Minutes
- Treasurer's Report ending March, 2022
- Pastor's Report
- Witness Report
- Approval to allow Mike Reed's status to change to salaried in lieu of contract.

Items of Interest:

- Church Website is being brought up to date
- Synod Gathering: Lenoir Rhyne University June 2-4, 2022. Everyone is invited. (Information is in Newsletter)
- Resignation of Administrative Assistant, Morgan Lane: Effective May 15, 2022

MAY 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 8:30am - Breakfast 9:00am - Sun. Sch. 10:00am - Worship	2	3 6:00pm - Girl Scout District Meeting	4	5	6 8:00pm - A.A.	7
8 8:30am - Breakfast 9:00am - Sun. Sch. 10:00am - Worship	9 9:00am - Crochet Cronies 6:00pm - WELCA 7:00pm - Boy Scouts	10 6:00pm - Cub Scouts	11	12	13 8:00pm - A.A.	14
15 8:30am - Breakfast 9:00am - Sun. Sch. 10:00am - Worship 11:30am - Congregational Council	16 6:00pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Boy Scouts	17	18	19	20 8:00pm - A.A.	21 2:00pm - Eagle Scout Court of Honor (FH)
22 8:30am - Breakfast 9:00am - Sun. Sch. 10:00am - Worship	23 9:00am - Crochet Cronies 6:00pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Boy Scouts	24	25	26	27 8:00pm - A.A.	28
29 8:30am - Breakfast 9:00am - Sun. Sch. 10:00am - Worship	30 6:00pm - Cub Scouts 7:00pm - Boy Scouts	31				

St. Paul Lutheran Church

3761 Startown Rd

Newton, NC 28658

Phone: (828) 464-3853

www.StPaulStartown.org

STAMP
HERE

<<Address Here>>

We the people of St. Paul are called and empowered by God- To **Witness** through Christ; To **Welcome** everyone through the Holy Spirit; To **Worship** with joy; and To **Work** with God to meet the needs of our community.



Safe Harbor

Anchoring Lives Through Christ

MONDAY MAY 9TH

The St. Paul Women of the ELCA will be hosting a speaker from Safe Harbor ministries.

The meeting begins at 6pm in the Fellowship Hall.
All ladies of the congregation are invited to hear about this important ministry in our area.