



St. Paul Partners

June 2022

Volume 35 Number 12

**Sponsored by Richard & Gail Blackburn in honor and memory of all “Dads” and “like-a-Dad” who helped us learn summer games and sports.**

## **SPRING TO SUMMER SEASON**

Dear St. Paul Family,

As we are now into the month of June we know that here in the Northern Hemisphere our season of spring is coming to a close and the season of summer will quickly be upon us. For some that means our attention turns toward tending to vegetable and flower gardens, vacation time, down time, and making decisions about how to best live our lives with the threat of the Covid-19 virus still with us.

In the life of the church we will also be observing a transition of seasons. The 50-day season of Easter comes to a close on Sunday June 5<sup>th</sup> as we recognize the Day of Pentecost – the day we observe the promised sending of the Holy Spirit, the good news being made known in different tongues and the birth of the Christian Church as we know it. We then move into the Pentecost season which is the longest season of our church year as it lasts until the end of November when the season of Advent will be upon us and we begin a new church year anticipating the countdown to Christmas.

Many of the Pentecost days are symbolized by the color green – a reminder of the life Christ gives and of our call to grow in our relationship with God. In worship during the Pentecost season our scripture points us toward the message Jesus has for us in how to live Christ-like lives in our world and of how the Holy Spirit calls us to use our gifts for our benefit and the building up of God’s kingdom.

Here at St. Paul we will remain vibrant as we continue to

*Continues, top of next page...*

### **Inside This Issue**

|                                |      |
|--------------------------------|------|
| Pastor’s Article.....          | 1,-2 |
| Birthdays & Anniversaries..... | 3    |
| WELCA News.....                | 3    |
| News & Announcements.....      | 4-6  |
| Council Notes .....            | 6    |
| June Calendar.....             | 7    |

provide on-going opportunities to be partners in ministry with the Spirit's guidance. Some opportunities are:

**The first ever NC Synod Gathering** at Lenoir-Rhyne to be held June 2-4 as through a series of guest speakers and workshops, information will be shared and worship will be held as we grow stronger as brothers and sisters in Christ.

**Pentecost Sunday** – June 5<sup>th</sup> – It is a **“Wear Red”** Sunday as we celebrate the birth of Christ's Church.

**Holy Trinity Sunday** – June 12<sup>th</sup> – we will plan to have a baptism during worship

**WELCA** continues to meet and carry on their important ministry.

**Crochet Cronies** continue to meet as a new challenge has been presented to make needed prayer shawls and lap robes for our neighbors across the street at Fresenius Health Care. The Crochet Cronies group is open to volunteers if you can give of your time in this way. They also are patient teachers if you want to learn how to knit and crochet.

**Agape Day Camp** – we will be offering this for rising 1<sup>st</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> graders at the Mission Property July 18<sup>th</sup> – 22<sup>nd</sup>. Forms are available. Deadline to register is June 29<sup>th</sup>. There are articles in this newsletter with ways you can help donate items and volunteer your time.

**Christmas in July** – this will be a month-long initiative to collect school supplies and support Startown Elementary School right here in our own community.

**Assisting during worship** – there are needs for helping make our worship a joyful experience including serving as usher, teller, acolyte, crucifer, and/or reader. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board outside the office.

This list is not exhaustive as there are many other ways different ones are working to ensure the ministry of St. Paul Lutheran Church continues. How is the Spirit leading you to worship and to serve? The summer will go by quickly but it will be full and fun. Through it all I look forward to being with you during this Pentecost season of our church year as we put our mission into practice to **Witness, Welcome, Worship** and **Work** in the name of our Lord.

*Pastor Ralph*



#### **CONGREGATION COUNCIL**

The St. Paul Congregation Council will meet after Worship on Sunday, June 12<sup>th</sup>. Members, don't forget to let your representatives know what you would like addressed or what concerns you.



## June Birthdays

|         |                  |
|---------|------------------|
| June 3  | Daphna Robinson  |
| June 4  | Ellen Lail       |
| June 5  | Mike Reed        |
|         | Charlene Scott   |
|         | Denny Davis      |
| June 6  | Myrtle Urcinola  |
| June 10 | Everly McNeil    |
| June 12 | Mary Carriker    |
| June 15 | Pastor Ralph     |
| June 20 | Barbara Arrowood |
| June 22 | Alex Fincannon   |
| June 26 | Philip Lindler   |
| June 27 | David Miller     |
| June 28 | Harvey Frye      |
| June 30 | Doug Brady       |



## June Anniversaries

|         |                                       |
|---------|---------------------------------------|
| June 7  | J.D. & Charlene Scott                 |
| June 21 | Tom & Doraine Lail                    |
| June 25 | Jason & Katherine<br>(Hoke ) Thompson |
| June 30 | Hugh & Betsy Lindler                  |

### ***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](mailto:office@stpaulstartown.org)



### **WELCA NEWS**

The St. Paul Women of the Evangelical Church in America (aka WELCA) will be gathering in the Fellowship Hall on Monday June 13, 2022, from 6 -7 PM. Who knows, if the weather is good, we might even meet outside!

This month, after our thought provoking devotional led by Mary Carriker and our “business” portion of our time together, we are just going to PARTY!! Why?? We are having a “Granny Shower” for Betsy Lindler whose son and daughter-in-law are expecting a sweet, little boy bundle in July. We know the best thing a Nana can give her grandchild is LOVE, but there might be a few things she might like to have on hand such as wipes, teething ring, blankie and, of course, diapers. And what about a photo album that she can flash out to anyone and everyone who asks, “How’s that new baby?” Please come and share this happy time with us (and Betsy).

## **FRIEND FRESenius IN NEED**

Our community partner right across the street from St. Paul was so happy to accept the 20+ lap robes and prayer shawls the Crochet Cronies donated a few weeks ago but they told us that they really need at least 20 more. The patients receiving treatment at least weekly become chilled during the process and our warming creations, infused with love for one another, brings them comfort. However, the director told the “Cronies” that if they give out the 20 we brought over, others will feel left out and jealous, a situation that the “Cronies” take as a challenge. Please come and lend your support (and hands) as we work to make at least 20 more so all their patients can receive our caring gifts. We meet in the Conference Room on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Monday mornings of the month from 9-11 AM. We have plenty of supplies – just not enough hands. What a great time to share our faith, our stories and our desire to follow Jesus’ command “to love one another as I have loved

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## **WE NEED YOU COOKIES!**



Elsewhere in this month’s newsletter you will see information about sharing your time as a volunteer at Agape Day Camp but we have a few more needs that we hope you will help with. We have our “BUTTON BUCKET” in the Narthex and we once again will soon be asked for food donations for the “PROTEIN PAIL.” But we do have another need: COOKIES. Yes, some of us might be out of practice since we haven’t been baking up a cookie storm for the Kairos Cookie Ministry in the last year or two. However, don the aprons, preheat the oven and BAKE ON! We will need 300 cookies for one of the service projects that the older campers will work on. They will be filling 150 bags with protein, carbohydrates, fluids, and a sweet treat. We will put together 150 individual packets of 2 cookies to be put in the bags. May we suggest that the cookies be firmer than what you would put on a dessert tray? Perhaps oatmeal raisin, chocolate chip, brownies, cookies that will survive being in a bag with other, sturdier items. And we could use another 120 or so, for the Sunday (July 17) evening “Meet -n-Greet” for counselors, campers and their families to get acquainted. Cookies keep well in the freezer so you can start now while the weather is still cooler. And if you don’t have enough room to store them in your freezer (bulk bagged), you are welcome to put them in the Church kitchen freezer. After baking over 2000 cookies for the Kairos Ministry, 450 – 500 cookies is a piece of cake..... er..... cookie!.

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Congratulations to Savannah Lail who graduated Summa Cum Laude Class of 2022 at Maiden High School. She will be attending NC State in the Fall.

You can see celebratory pictures on the Hallway Bulletin Board.

Congratulations to Ciera Lail who graduated with honors from Patton High School.

She has been accepted to Montreat College where she has been awarded scholarships for playing both basketball and softball.

**JUNE 21<sup>ST</sup>**

OK – I give up! What is so special about June 21<sup>st</sup> (except that it is Tom and Doraine Lail's anniversary)? It's the FIRST official day of SUMMER!! That means picnics, vacations, BBQ's, pool parties, etc... So, as we begin to enjoy the "good ol' summertime," let's not forget that we are caretakers of the earth God created for us. Instead of using Styrofoam plates and cups, plastic cutlery and straws, consider using paper plates and cups (not the coated ones). While they can't be considered "recyclable", they will, at least, over time, break down in the landfill – Styrofoam will never, ever decompose. And consider paper straws instead of plastic ones – same reason as using paper plates. Did you know that bamboo cutlery is available and will fully decompose as opposed to (ugh!) plastic? Perhaps you will pay a few cents more for the earth-friendly versions but what price are you willing to pay for a healthy environment for our future generations? What good are you doing if you leave your offspring thousands of dollars if they can't breathe the air outside or have to watch the beachfront home swallowed up by rising sea levels due to polar icecaps melting due to warming temperatures? Think about changing this year – together we, every one of us, can make a difference.

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#### **THANK YOU FOR THE OPPORTUNITY**

St. Paul Church family, I want to extend my sincere appreciation to serve you and our Lord as the replacement Administrative Assistant, following Morgan Lane's resignation. There is much to learn and I welcome your patience, ideas and assistance. In my "career" employment time for 37 years as the North American Customer Service Manager for an international manufacturing company, I experienced many challenges as I monitored over 10 manufacturing sites in the US and worked with sites in Brazil, Mexico, Ireland, Croatia, Poland, Malaysia and China. But, boy, have things changed! All I can do is pledge to do the best I can with God's help and yours as I navigate the streams of information here at St. Paul Lutheran Church-Startown.. With heartfelt gratitude,

*Gail Bowman*

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The McNeil family is proud to announce that on the evening of May 27, Everly graduated from Fred T. Foard High School. Graduating summa cum laude with a GPA of 4.5, she graduated from both the Lenoir Rhyne High School Scholars Academy and CVCC CCP Pathway early college programs, the only person to have ever done so. In addition to this, due to her hard work, with 61 college credits, she also received her Associate of Arts degree from CVCC. She will be entering Appalachian State University as a junior to study Cellular and Molecular Biology with a concentration in Pre-Med and an interest in Perinatology. The family would like to thank St. Paul-Startown for their continued well wishes and support and ask you to keep her in your prayers as she starts this new journey.

## ***WE ARE CALLED TO SERVE***

In what ways has the Holy Spirit called you to serve? Have you been called to help a neighbor, to donate canned goods to ECCCM, to pray for those who are struggling with addictions, to deliver a meal to a family who is experiencing food insecurity or perhaps just offer a smile to a clerk and let them know they are appreciated? We are all called to somethings but maybe we aren't listening close enough. Open your heart and let the Holy Spirit enter and support you as we care for one another. We are also asking you to serve as worship assistants right here at St. Paul. Wouldn't you find it joyful to welcome worshipers to our Sunday service and hand them a bulletin – that's being an usher. And what about being the person to carry in the Cross, leading us in to worship and carry the Cross out as we follow the Cross out to serve the world? And if you have ever lighted candles on a birthday cake? Then you already know how to light candles on the Altar and at the Lectern. And you don't even have to blow them out – the candle stick will do that: All you have to do is cover the flame. If you read HDR or ONE or Sports Illustrated or Good Housekeeping, then you can serve as a lay reader and share God's Word with us. These opportunities are not new to you – you see them every week. And there are plenty of servers who would love to share the experience with you. Time to be part of it! See the sign-up sheet in the Hall outside the Church Office.

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### ***St Paul Congregational Council Highlights for May 2022***

#### **Motions approved:**

Minutes from April 10, 2022 meeting

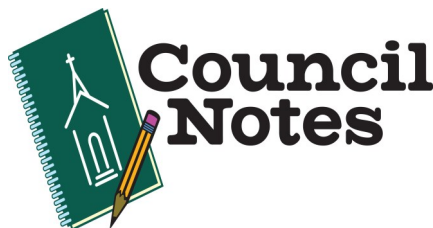
Treasurer's Report ending April, 2022

Pastor's Report

Witness report

Approval for Gail Bowman to assume duties of Administrative Assistant

Approval to add Barbara Sloop as check signer and delete Gail Bowman



#### **Items of Interest:**

Church Constitution updates have been completed

Church Audit completed with good results

Parsonage Heating/Air: Recent inspection indicated the system may need to be replaced (David Miller getting quotes)

Mission Property: The property is being rented and everything is going well

Ice Machine in Fellowship Hall. Is being checked, cleaned and reset due to recent thaw.

Lenten Food Drive netted a little under \$1,000.

NC Synod Gathering: Two members in addition to Pastor & Mary Kraft will attend

Agape Day camp volunteers needed- See sign up sheet outside Church office.

# JUNE 2022

| Sunday                                                                                                        | Monday                                                                                | Tuesday                      | Wednesday                                                         | Thursday                     | Friday                                    | Saturday                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
|                                                                                                               |                                                                                       |                              | 1<br>Hymn Planning<br>- 5pm                                       | 2<br>Synod Gathering<br>-LRU | 3<br>Synod Gathering<br>-LRU<br>8:00pm—AA | 4<br>Synod Gathering<br>-LRU |
| 5<br>8:30am - Breakfast<br>9:00am - Sun. Sch.<br>10:00am - Worship                                            | 6<br>6:00pm - Cub<br>Scouts<br>7:00pm - Boy<br>Scouts                                 | 7                            | 8                                                                 | 9                            | 10<br>8:00pm - A.A.                       | 11                           |
| 12<br>8:30am - Breakfast<br>9:00am - Sun. Sch.<br>10:00am - Worship<br>11:30am -<br>Congregational<br>Council | 13<br>9:00am -<br>Crochet Cronies<br>6:00pm -<br>WELCA<br>7:00pm - Boy<br>Scouts      | 14<br>6:00pm - Cub<br>Scouts | 15                                                                | 16                           | 17<br>8:00pm - A.A.                       | 18                           |
| 19<br>Father's Day<br>8:30am - Breakfast<br>9:00am - Sun. Sch.<br>10:00am - Worship                           | 20<br>6:00pm - Cub<br>Scouts<br>7:00pm - Boy<br>Scouts                                | 21                           | 22                                                                | 23                           | 24<br>8:00pm - A.A.                       | 25                           |
| 26<br>8:30am - Breakfast<br>9:00am - Sun. Sch.<br>10:00am - Worship                                           | 27<br>9:00am -<br>Crochet Cronies<br>6:00pm - Cub<br>Scouts<br>7:00pm - Boy<br>Scouts | 28                           | 29<br>4:00pm<br>Deadline for<br>Agape Day<br>Camp<br>Registration | 30                           |                                           |                              |

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

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[www.StPaulStartown.org](http://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.

***LAST DAY TO REGISTER IS JUNE 29, 2022***

***DON'T MISS THE FUN!!***

Want some summer fun at no cost?? Just sign up to be part of the Agape Day Camp team. You will be sure to laugh with the campers and learn to sing along with them as they learn some traditional camp songs. You will be amazed at some of their questions and their observations of all the nature surrounding them (and you) at the Mission Property. As a volunteer, you might be asked to refill water bottles or wipe down picnic tables after lunch (grade schoolers make lots of crumbs!) The volunteers of St. Paul are just a support team – the trained Agape counselors do the teaching, but we might learn a thing or two as well. The sign-up sheet is posted on the Bulletin Board in the Hallway. You pick the days and hours you can help; 1 day or 3 or 5 days, 2 or 4 hours, morning or afternoon – you choose. The Agape Day Camp runs from Monday, July 18<sup>th</sup> through Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> from 9 AM – 3 PM. Sign up today!