

# The Epistle

St. Paul Lutheran Church  
Volume 20 Issue 11  
November 2021

“They” tell you when you’re taking a new congregation, it is best, at least at first, to take it slow, to ease into your new surroundings. During what they call the honeymoon period, “they” advise that you are best to “pay the rent” for a couple of months...do some visitation, be willing to listen, don’t rock the boat too much; especially when it comes to finances and programs. And for Pete’s sake, if you get the urge to say something that might be hard for people to hear, give it some time.

Unfortunately, “they” never provide an actual timeline, so, I don’t know if the requisite amount of time has elapsed to satisfy “their” concerns. But over these last 5 months, the urge to say something that might be hard to hear has been building. So here it is: You are good Christians, called by God to be here, who are trying well but imperfectly to do the work of being Church together. Nothing cuts as deep as a word of encouragement...at least for a stubborn Dutchman anyway.

Over these last five months what have I seen? **We minister to each other and the wider community, at times living out a true agape love.** We fail to look with charity on those whom we differ with. **We support the poor and help feed the hungry.** We retain the debt of past trespasses against our brothers and sisters in Christ’s Church. **We gather together in worship of God Almighty.** We fail to make time for the life of the Church in our own lives.

This is who we are, both as the people of St. Paul and as the whole Church. This is who we have always been. The Saints and Faithful Departed we will give thanks to God for and remember this All Saints’ Sunday were like this. So were the disciples of the Gospels. As were the apostles in Acts. Not to even mention the Church members being addressed in the Epistles...or St Paul himself for that matter. And us still today. We are, as Luther put so simply, “*Simul Justus et Peccator.*” We are simultaneously righteous and transgressors. We are sinner and saint at once.

The Good News of the Gospel is the triumph of Jesus over sin and death. God will continue to intercede with Grace to defeat the Old Adam, so that by faith the righteous can continue in their call to discipleship. When we turn from God, God welcomes us back, so that we are a living invitation to others. When we sin, God forgives us, so that we may forgive others. When we are afraid, God delivers us from fear, so that we can be church boldly. Fear not our failings. They are a part of who we are. They are inevitable. But believe in Christ even more strongly. For God sees you... and the same God who sees you has called us to be His Church, right here and right now.





## Council Notes

The Church Council met on October 21<sup>st</sup>. Here are some highlights of the meeting:

- Council discussed the status of COVID in the county and will continue to consider changes to worship practices
- We are looking for someone/some service to clean the church
- Council discussed the upcoming spending plan meeting. Issues brought up in the 2019 meeting still need to be addressed; therefore Council President Woodruff, with council's consent, has postponed the meeting until December 12<sup>th</sup>

A Meeting of the Congregation on the Spending Plan for 2022, originally scheduled for November 14<sup>th</sup>, will now be held December 12<sup>th</sup> following the worship service



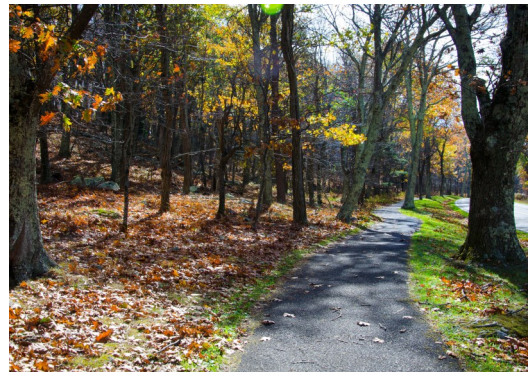
*All Saints' Sunday*

If you know of a member of the body of Christ who has died since last October and would like that person to be remembered during the service on November 7th, please contact the church office by November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

## Prayerful Walkers

Weather Permitting - Join Pastor Tony for prayer and a morning walk around the neighborhood.

Tuesdays 8:15am-9am



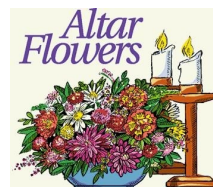
Join us for Bible Study every Tuesday at 10:00 AM. You may attend in person or via Zoom.



### New Advent Paraments

Announcing Jesus' birth, the angels sing "*Gloria in excelsis Deo*". The new blue paraments are a part of the "Annunciation" set that illustrates expectation and praise. We hope that the new paraments help you and your family reflect on the coming of Jesus at Christmas and how Jesus comes to you every day.

Sign up to sponsor flowers for Sundays in 2022. A new chart has been posted in the entry, or you may call the office at 304-599-0620.



Date	
November 7	Mary Lee Cushing
November 14	Mary Lee Cushing
November 21	Tamara Riegel
November 28	Mary Haas





Child-size quilt

### From the Piece Makers

The Piece Makers use fabric, thread, sheets, and drivers to take finished quilts to the warehouse. Many of the items are given to us. Our single major dollar cost is for the padding. We would like to thank Sherry Fox for taking 13 quilts to the warehouse for us. We also thank CeCe Melby for the fabrics given us during the past month.

In the month of November we celebrate

Thanksgiving. The past year has been a hard difficult time throughout the USA and world. The Piece Makers, recognizing how blessed our group is, told the Parking Committee that this year they should give all of their gifts of money to the other charities. The Piece Makers can raise money for our expenses. Therefore, starting in October the Piece Makers are having a sale and raffle. Hanging in the church is a King size quilt. We will have a drawing for it on December 5<sup>th</sup>. We have seasonal and special fabrics designed for wall hangings and making other craft items. These items will make lovely holiday gifts for friends and families. National news agencies are predicting higher prices reporting disruptions in the supply change for finished goods. Check out the various projects and bargain prices in the Fellowship Hall on Fridays and Sundays until Dec. 5<sup>th</sup>. Raffle tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5.



Miscellaneous items

REMINDER: If you are unable to attend worship in person, offering envelopes may be mailed to the church!



St. Paul Lutheran Church  
309 Baldwin Street

Morgantown, WV 26505

### TREASURER'S REPORT: SEPTEMBER 2021

**OFFERING AND INCOME: \$ 12,546**  
**EXPENSES: \$ 14,418**

**NET INCOME – SEPT. 2021 \$ -1,872**

**NET INCOME FOR JAN. – SEPT. 2021 \$ 30,904**

This year we will be collecting donations in kind again for Thanksgiving baskets. Our goal is to provide meals for 35 or more families through the Rock Forge Food Pantry. Rock Forge appreciates your continued support of this outreach to families in our community. Your help will make a family's holiday season much brighter!!! After Thanksgiving, **we will continue to collect food during December** to fill baskets for Christmas and stock the general pantry



*Thanksgiving Baskets*

## *How to help:*

### **Donate *food*:**

**Here are the items we need for each basket:**

<u>Item:</u>	<u>Amount:</u>
Instant potatoes	1 box
Dressing	2 boxes or 1 large bag
Dinner Rolls	1 dozen
Noodles	1 large bag
Green beans	2 cans
Carrots	2 cans
Corn	2 cans
Applesauce	1 small jar
Gravy	1 or 2 small jars
Cranberry Sauce	1 small can
Peanut butter	1 small jar
Jelly	1 small jar
Rice side dish	1 bag or box
Soup starter	1 bag
Mac and cheese	2 boxes
Reusable Kroger bag	2
Dessert (cake mix and frosting, or cookie mix)	
Kroger, Giant, or Aldi \$15 gift card	

**Donate *time*:** The baskets will be assembled on **Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>** and delivered on Monday. We would love a donation of your time to help with assembly or delivery.

**Donate *money*:** If you would like to donate money, please note "Food Baskets" on your check or offering envelope and place it in the offering basket.

Questions? Contact the church office ([office@stpaulmorgantown.org](mailto:office@stpaulmorgantown.org), or [304-599-0620](tel:304-599-0620)) or Dave Stiles ([dave.stiles@gmail.com](mailto:dave.stiles@gmail.com))

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**CIRCLE OF FRIENDS**  
**St. Paul MEAL COORDINATOR NEEDED!!**

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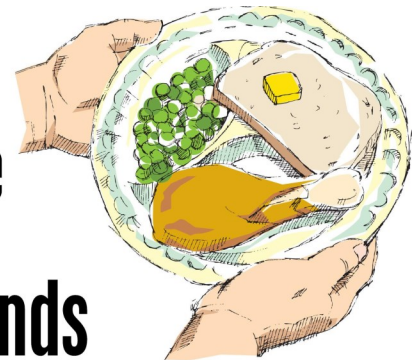
For the past several decades, St. Paul has been providing a meal one weekend each month to anyone in the Downtown Morgantown area. Some of the people are homeless, some have homes but have minimal cooking skills, and - until COVID restrictions – some just wanted a place to have a meal with other people. Churches and organizations in the surrounding Morgantown area provide meals on the other Saturdays and Sundays. That is why we are a “Circle of Friends”!

Our congregation has had a dedicated cadre of volunteers who provide food items, donate money for food and serving items and who serve the meals. The volunteer numbers have gotten much smaller recently due to several people moving away from Morgantown

The meal is served on the 4<sup>th</sup> full weekend Sunday at the WVU Lutheran Campus Chapel from 4—5 pm. Set up usually takes about 30-45 minutes and clean-up is usually finished by 5:15. So the total commitment is about 2 hours! (FYI: Street parking is free downtown on Sundays.) With COVID restrictions still in place, all meals are served as “to-go meals”.

Please contact the church office or Debby Borrelli, if you would be interested in coordinating this ministry of our church. **If a new coordinator is not in place by the end of the year, we will notify the Circle of Friends group organizer that St. Paul will no longer participate in this ministry.**

**Circle  
-of-  
Friends**



Thank you to those members of our congregation who were willing to serve and were elected to positions in the Synod:

The Rt. Rev. Matthew Riegel — Bishop

Rachel Shockley — Synod Council Youth Representative

The Rev. Ben Erzkus — Synod Consultation Committee

Churchwide Assembly 2022 voting member — The Rev. Ben Erzkus, Grace Riegel

# Serving in




SERVING ST PAUL November 2021	LAY ASSISTANT	LECTOR	USHERS	ACOLYTES	COUNTERS	ZOOM
<b>7<sup>th</sup></b> 10:00 AM	D. Borrelli	****	T. Riegel	****	W. Graham L. Naumann	M. Boroff
<b>14<sup>th</sup></b> 10:00 AM	T. Riegel	****	L. Springer	****	****	M. Boroff
<b>21<sup>st</sup></b> 10:00 AM	M. Haas	****	W. Graham	****	K. Shockley M. Peters	Peters
<b>28<sup>th</sup></b> 10:00 AM	D. Borrelli	****	D. Custer	****	****	S. Setley

**Reminder: Deadline for December newsletter is November 22<sup>nd</sup>!!!**



# November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 8:15 AM Prayerful Walkers  10:00 AM Bible Study	3	4	5 10:00 AM Piecemakers	6
7  10:00 AM Worship Service All Saints Sunday 3:00 PM Council Working Group	8	9 8:15 AM Prayerful Walkers  10:00 AM Bible Study	10	11	12 10:00 AM Piecemakers	13
14 10:00 AM Worship Service	15	16 8:15 AM Prayerful Walkers  10:00 AM Bible Study	17	18 7:00 PM Council	19 10:00 AM Piecemakers	20
21 10:00 AM Worship Service Christ the King Pack Thanksgiving baskets	22	23 8:15 AM Prayerful Walkers  10:00 AM Bible Study	24	25	26 10:00 AM Piecemakers	27
28 10:00 AM Worship Service  3:30 PM Circle of Friends	29 8:00 AM Lutheran Men in Mission	30 8:15 AM Prayerful Walkers  10:00 AM Bible Study				





Tuesday — Thursday 10am - 12pm  
 Pastor's office phone: (304) 212-5116  
 Pastor's cell (text or call): 681-209-6192  
 Email: [pastor@stpaulmorgantown.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulmorgantown.org)

The **Epistle** is a publication from:  
 St. Paul Lutheran Church, Morgantown, WV  
 The Rev. Tony Setley, pastor  
 Office Hours: Monday -Thursday 9 AM—Noon  
 Telephone: (304) 599-0620  
 Pastor's Office Hours:  
 Tuesday - Thursday 10 AM—Noon

**Officers Of The Congregation**  
 President: Steve Woodruff  
 Vice President: Mary Boroff  
 Secretary: Joanne Seasholtz  
 Treasurer: Debby Borrelli  
 Financial Secretary: Jeanne Lemasters

**Council Members**

Mary Boroff	Margie Suder	Carol Henry
Lindsey Naumann	Steve Woodruff	Joanne Seasholtz
Julie Sandolini	Jerry Bouquot	Mike Peters