



# The Epistle

Volume 22 Issue 11  
November 2023



A papyrus envelope arrived. It looked the same as the one the week before had. But he hadn't opened that one until now either. He knew what was written therein, but duck it he could no longer. So, he put down his tent pole, tugged at the twine, and broke the seal. "Dear Paul. Grace and peace to you from our Lord Jesus Christ! As you probably remember, the deadline for your newsletter article submission is now here. Please send it now so our administrative assistant can begin going house to house to announce it before our members. Thank you, your brethren in Ephesus."

He had nothing. Not yet anyway. Writers' block. It wasn't the first time for Paul. He was fond of ducking the deadline for his many newsletter commitments across the Mediterranean. Some rumored he even went to jail from time to time in order to avoid access to quill pens for months at a time. But I don't know about all that. For his own part, it's worth noting he was obliged to write for congregations up and down the coast line – and they all wanted their 500 insightful words – all 12 or 13 months of the year! But that came with the call – his cross to bear, for now, he would darkly joke.

So what do you say when you're at a loss for words? ... Back to first things!

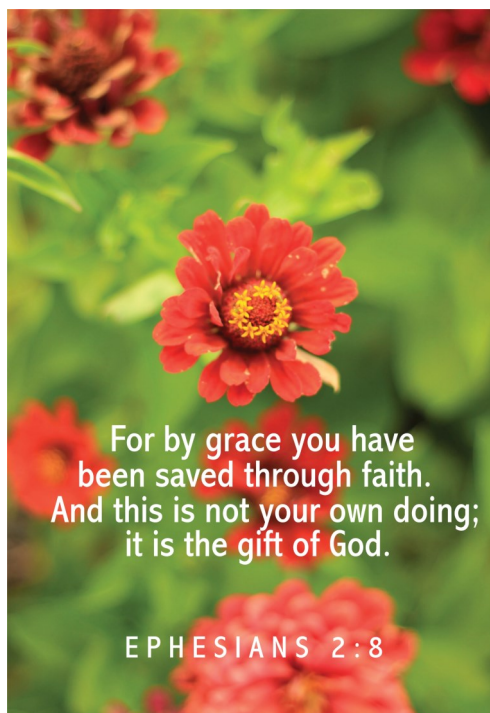
"As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, <sup>2</sup> in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient. <sup>3</sup> All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and following its desires and thoughts. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath. <sup>4</sup> But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, <sup>5</sup>

made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—it is by grace you have been saved. <sup>6</sup> And God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, <sup>7</sup> in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus. <sup>8</sup> **For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God—** <sup>9</sup> not by works, so that no one can boast. <sup>10</sup> For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. (Ephesians 2:1-10)

**When the search for new and clever words fail, the recalling of the Gospel never will.**

Yours in Christ,

*Pastor Tony*



# Church COUNCIL

St. Paul Church Council met on Thursday, October 19<sup>th</sup>. Here are some highlights of the meeting:

- Council reviewed the proposed 2024 budget, which will be presented to the congregational meeting on November 12<sup>th</sup>.



Sunday, Nov. 12<sup>th</sup>

## Meeting of the Congregation

To review and approve the  
2024 Spending Plan

To be held immediately following worship

In order to have voice and vote in the meeting, you must have a contribution of record and a communion of record within the current or preceding calendar year

## From the Piece Makers

Have you seen the lovely articles for sale available in the Narthex? The Piece Makers are selling wall hangings, lap robes and quilts appropriate for the fall and Christmas seasons. There are many lovely items at bargain prices. Money goes to the purchase of the batting for quilts and for sending the quilts overseas along with other helpful and needed items to those in need as a result of poverty or disaster. Those in the Ukraine have received more than 17,590 quilts and 28,000 care kits this past year.

The Piece Makers meet in the Fellowship Hall on Friday from 10-2. They are looking for more people to join them and share Gods love for those in need. Everyone who can tie a square knot is encouraged to come and those who can use a sewing machine are also welcome.







**Who's Looking Forward???**

12/3 - Advent 1: "Christmas Carol Sermon" Sunday  
 12/10 - Advent 2: Santa Lucia & Hanging of the Greens  
 12/17 - Advent 3: Youth Pageant & Pack Christmas Baskets  
 12/24 - 10am Advent 4  
 7pm Christmas Eve




St. Paul Lutheran Church


# Happy 90<sup>th</sup> birthday Paul Smith!



An enthusiastic group of pets was blessed by Pastor Tony on St. Francis Day, October 4<sup>th</sup>



A motley (but mostly plaid) crew turned out to pack weekend snack bags for school children at Scott's Run Settlement House in Osage



There are many opportunities for volunteering at the Settlement House. Check it out at [www.srsh.org](http://www.srsh.org).

It's time to make the baskets! We will be collecting donations, and 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

### *How to help:*

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

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

Item:	Amount:
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	(we have enough)
Jelly	1 small jar
Can of vegetable soup	1 can
Mac and cheese	2 boxes
Reusable Kroger bag	2
Dessert (cake mix and frosting, or cookie mix)	



Please bring donated items to the church before Saturday, November 18<sup>th</sup>.

**Donate *time*:** We will shop for items on **Saturday, November 18th**, the baskets will be assembled on **Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>**, and we will deliver them on Monday. We would love a donation of your time to help with shopping, 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.

We will use cash donations to purchase dry milk, gift cards for turkeys, and items not donated in kind.

Questions? Contact the church office ([office@stpaulmorgantown.org](mailto:office@stpaulmorgantown.org), or [304-599-0620](tel:304-599-0620)).



# First Communion October 1st, 2023

Clockwise from top right:

- Emma Stevens
- Bridgette Reed
- Charlotte Stacy
- Samuel Grimm



A new sign up sheet for altar flowers for 2024 is now posted in the narthex.

You may wish to sponsor flowers for an anniversary, a birthday, or in memory of a loved one.

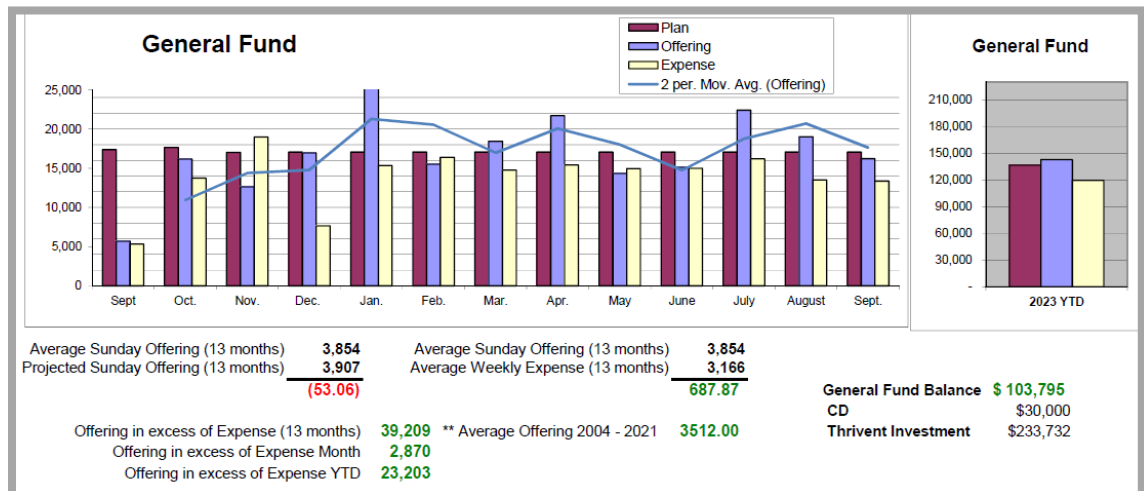


## Walk to End Alzheimers


Our team raised \$445!

Thank you to all who donated and supported the team!

### Treasurer's report for September 2023



# Serving in November



SERVING ST PAUL November 2023	ASSISTING MINISTER	LECTOR	USHER	COUNTERS	BROAD- CAST
<b>5<sup>th</sup></b> 10:00 AM All Saints	S. Setley	S. Kirkpatrick	L. Springer	S. Kirkpatrick J. Sandolfini	Peters
<b>12<sup>th</sup></b> 10:00 AM	M. Grimm	L. Naumann	W. Graham	K. Shockley L. Naumann	Wertz
<b>19<sup>th</sup></b> 10:00 AM	M. Sampson	M. Kirkpatrick	D. Custer	C. Henry M. Peters	S. Setley
<b>26<sup>th</sup></b> 10:00 AM Christ the King	M. Haas	B. Parsons	W. Graham	J. Bouquot J. Seasholtz	C. Wertz



# November

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2 9:00 AM Prayerful Walkers	3 10:00 AM Piecemakers	4
5  ALL SAINTS 9:00 AM Sunday School and Choir  10:00 AM Worship	6	7 10:00 AM Bible Study	8	9 9:00 AM Prayerful Walkers	10 10:00 AM Piecemakers	11
12 9:00 AM Sunday School and Choir 10:00 AM Worship Service 11:30 AM Congregational Meeting on the 2024 Budget	13	14 10:00 AM Bible Study	15	16 9:00 AM Prayerful Walkers  7:00 PM Council	17 10:00 AM Piecemakers	18 Shop for Baskets Time TBD
19 9:00 AM Sunday School and Choir  10:00 AM Worship Service Pack Baskets after service	20 Deliver baskets Time TBD	21 10:00 AM Bible Study	22	23  Happy Thanksgiving  Let us give thanks!	24 10:00 AM Piecemakers	25 8:00 AM Lutheran Men in Mission @ Eat'n Park
26  Christ the King  10:00 AM Worship Service  3:30 PM Circle of Friends	27	28 10:00 AM Bible Study	29	30 9:00 AM Prayerful Walkers		

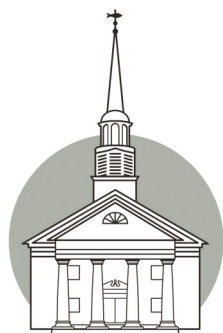


To add a name to the prayer list, please call the office at 304-599-0620.

There is also a book for prayer requests in the narthex (entry).

Please check the prayer list for names which you have submitted, and let the church office know if a person can be taken off the list. Names will be removed after they have been on the list for 90 days. Please contact the church office to reinstate a name.

**Reminder: Deadline for December newsletter is November 27<sup>th</sup>!!!**



**St. Paul Lutheran Church**

MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA  
FOUNDED 1897

The **Epistle** is a publication from:  
St. Paul Lutheran Church,  
Morgantown, WV  
The Rev. Tony Setley, pastor  
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Pastor's cell (text or call): (304) 715-2350  
Email: pastor@stpaulmorgantown.org

**Officers Of The Congregation**  
President: Joanne Seasholtz  
Vice President: Lindsey Naumann  
Secretary: Lillian Stevens  
Treasurer: Steve Woodruff  
Financial Secretary: Jeanne Lemasters

**Council Members**

Mary Haas	Grethe Myles	Lillian Stevens
Lindsey Naumann	Steve Woodruff	Joanne Seasholtz
Julie Sandolfini	Bill Graham	Mike Peters