



St. Paul's Lutheran

THE EPISTLE

July 2023

Hello St. Paul's,

Today, I saw an elderly man walking briskly on a path, as if he was doing his routine exercise. It was 96 degrees outside, and he was moving forward like "steady Eddy". His shirt was covered in sweat, yet he was determined, as if on a mission to complete his walk. I was thinking about him when I read this Bible passage - Psalm 119:133:

*Keep my steps steady according to your promise,
and never let iniquity have dominion over me.*

It is a comfort to know the church has been around for many years and still moving forward with steady steps of faith in Jesus Christ. Jesus has promised to be with us forever, so he is always available to our prayers and speaks to our heart, according to the will of God. The words from the psalm above are a prayer for steadiness and dedication to follow the way of the Lord, amidst the temptations, sins, and pressures of the world seeking to get our attention daily.

Steadiness is important in attending worship and participating with other church members in small groups such as Sunday School, choir, food pantry, Golden Group, Adopt A Spot, etc. The gift(s) you have can be used steadily in small and large ways to further our mission to make disciples. Can you identify some of your gifts? You can take steady steps using your gifts and giving your offerings to the glory of God at St. Paul's. An orchestra depends on instrumentalists who are steady in giving attention to their instrument in practices and performances with their fellow musicians. In the same way the church is blessed with the steady discipleship of their members.

Steadily, we hear God's word and are strengthened to resist temptations that come our way.

Steadily, our hope is built up on the firm foundation of Jesus and his love.

Steadily, we participate with each other in the life of the church, encouraging one another and welcoming others into discipleship as members of the body of Christ. Let us bless the Lord as we walk with steady steps of faith!

Praising Christ with you,
Pastor Nancy





Birthdays

1 – Monty Barnes
 1 – Stan White
 6 – Haley Perry
 7 – Dorothy Johnston
 9 – Michelle Johnston
 10 – Kurt Migl
 12 – Claire Lucke
 14 – Beaux Hargrove
 19 – Haley Johnston
 20- Carrie Parker
 21—Preston Moffett
 23—Scarlett Rein
 28 - Paul Lucke
 31– Jerry Reavis

Baptismal Anniversaries

1—Joyce Crizer
 10 - Carrie Parker
 10 - Kristen Stephens
 13 - Brian Viereck
 13 - James Herrington
 16 - Gretchen Bruner
 21 - Taylor Christopherson
 25 - Jake Fojt
 27 - Taylar Carter
 27—Luis Estrada
 30 - Drew Bruner
 31 - Karen Elizondo

Wedding Anniversaries

3—Jeff & Debbie Ganske
 28 - Jake & Helen Fojt
 28 - Dennis & Susie Salo
 28 - Ken & Colleen Peting

Thank You

- Thank you to Ian Gillespie, Hoya Ash, Kurt and Kelly Migl, Darren and Natalie Seymour, Daucy Crizer, and John Schlobohm for the lawn maintenance
- To Rosie Haas for keeping our flower beds looking great and for supplying the beautiful geraniums on Pentecost Sunday.
- To Bubba Gonzalez, Stan White, and David Andrews for taking the trash to the curb
- Beehive Florist for the fresh floral arrangements for worship
- To our Food Pantry volunteers for all their hard work. We couldn't do it without you!
- To the knitters and crocheters for the prayer shawls & hospital blankets
- To David Andrews for taking all the pictures at our 80th Anniversary celebration
- To Andrea Huerta for making the delicious cake for our 80th Anniversary celebration.
- To Bobbi Howard and Nicole Gunn for representing our Food Pantry at the Lions Club monthly meeting.
- To Angie Ash, Susan Clanton, Debbie Gillespie, and Sandra McGee for volunteering in the office while Jada was vacation



Church Offices Closed Tuesday, July 4th

Golden Group Activities

Monthly Luncheon

Tuesday, July 18th at 11:30am

at **Kelley's Country Cookin', Pasadena**

There is a sign up sheet in the Fellowship Hall

Text or email Lorrie for more info:

281-382-9770 landrews1124@gmail.com



5th Sunday POTLUCK

July 30th

Please bring a dish to share and stay and enjoy the blessings of good food and fellowship.

Dear Church family and friends,

This is an overdue letter of gratitude to each and every one of you. For so many years you ALL have been my supporters and cheered me on, Lifted me up in tough times and have assisted me in more ways than imaginable, standing in as family in the very best ways.

Through my health trials I was blessed with transportation, communication to many, many doctors, organizational help with medicines and such (Jada); many of you sent me on my way to Ohio with some extra dollars in my pocket, gift cards, even an escort (David) for the long car ride!

You touched my heart with donations in my name to the church....many of you helped with preparing my home for sale...AND helped sell my home in quick order. (Beverly). Thank you seems inadequate.

I miss you all very much (especially the hand bells, the choir and all the soloists!) but am settling in my new place, seeing many health care providers and adjusting to retirement. Music is still my go to activity that brings me joy.

I was blessed to have found St. Paul's 25+ years ago. You all showed me Christianity in action and I couldn't be more proud than to have served beside you.

With deepest appreciation,
Rick Falconi

Eucharistic Minister Blessing

Our Eucharistic Ministers: Rosie Haas and Kurt Migl will be blessed along with their home communion kits every third Sunday of the month. The next blessing is July 16th.

Prayer Shawl & Hospital Blanket Blessing Sunday, July 30th



If you know of someone in need of a prayer shawl please come to the church office.

Food Pantry News

The pantry is feeding approximately 140 families weekly. The Houston Food Bank is struggling to keep up with the demand for protein. Donating cans of tuna to our Food Pantry would be greatly appreciated. There is a collection tote in the Fellowship Hall. Thank you! We also need grocery bags. Please drop off your grocery bags in the trash bin in the Coke room. Thank you!



Pastor Nancy with Texas Lutheran University alumnus Eddie at the Chapel. Inscribed wall: *Lo, I am with you always, ✕ even unto the end of the world. ✕*



Thank you to the Baytown Lions Club for donating \$500 toward our Food Pantry! Our Food Pantry Reps: Bobbi Howard & Nicole Gunn



Cori Stephens, a future Altar Guild server!



Helen Probst enjoyed reading St. Paul's History booklet.



Golden Group Luncheon at Gringo's 4, in La Porte

St. Paul's 80th Anniversary Celebration



FROM THE TREASURER		May	
Needed weekly, \$4815 to cover General Fund Expenses.		Monthly Activity	
General Fund Income YTD	124,606.60	13,150.81	137,757.41
General Fund Expenses YTD	<u>(79,085.86)</u>	<u>(19,511.08)</u>	<u>(98,596.94)</u>
	\$45,520.74	\$(6,360.27)	\$39,160.47

June Memorials & Honorariums

In HONOR of: James & Sandra McGee
Given By: Bill & Diane Hurst
Designation: General Fund

In MEMORY of:
 Larry Linsenbardt Bill & Diane Hurst General Fund
 Larry & Grace Ffrench Bill & Diane Hurst General Fund
 B.J. (Freddy) Friederich Bill & Diane Hurst General Fund
 David & Anna Stock Walter & Rose Teggeman General Fund

Church Council 2023

Ian Gillespie: President/Property
 John Schlobohm: Vice President
 Kim Holle: Treasurer
 Angie Ash: Secretary

Members at Large

Susan Clanton Worship & Music
 Rosie Haas In/Out Comm. Liaison
 Kurt Migl Property Comm. Liaison
 Donna Reavis Education/Youth & Fam
 Clarke Crizer Member at Large
 Luis Estrada Member at Large
 Becky Linsenbardt Member at Large
 Beverly Tomsic Member at Large

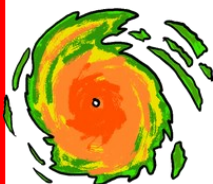


Natalie Seymour picking up fallen branches around the church property



Tithely Online Giving

Scan the QR Code with your smartphone's camera to give online.



HURRICANE SEASON is here! Be Prepared!
Learn How to be a 72 hour Lutheran at
www.stpaulsbaytown.org

Monthly Committee Meetings

1st Sunday—Property
 2nd Sunday—Educ./Youth & Family
 3rd Sunday—Worship & Music
 4th Sunday—Inreach/Outreach
 Meetings begin at 11:45am
Everyone is welcome to attend!

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Baytown, TX
Council Meeting June 15, 2023

Members Present: Pastor Nancy, John Schlobohm, Susan Clanton, Becky Linsenbardt, Luis Estrada, Clarke Crizer, Beverly Tomsic, Angie Ash, Kim Holle, Rosie Haas **Members Absent:** Ian Gillespie, Donna Reavis, Kurt Migl

In the absence of President Ian Gillespie, the meeting was called to order by Vice President John Schlobohm at 6:30 PM. Pastor Nancy led the group in the opening prayer.

Faith Story Kim Holle presented her faith story.

MAY COUNCIL MNUTES Kim Holle MOVED, Beverly Tomsic seconded to approve the Minutes of the May 11, 2023 Council meeting. Motion carried.

PASTOR'S REPORT

- Council discussed a "seed" money grant available through the Synod with the possibility of using the funds for teaching the piano to students along with recitals. No decision was made, therefore the idea was tabled until a future grant is available.
- Pastor thanked everyone for their participation with the 80th Anniversary celebration.
- We will have a blessing for fathers during worship on June 18.
- The Healing Serving will be June 25.
- Memorials/Honorarium envelopes have been updated and placed in the pews. Designations are now general fund/capital improvements/endowment fund/food pantry.

TREASURER'S REPORT

- Kim Holle presented the April/May financials. In April income exceeded expenses in the amount of \$ 1,214.02, In May expenses exceeded income in the amount of \$5,410.32. Susan Clanton MOVED, Rosie Haas seconded, to approve the reports as presented. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

Director of Music Ministries

- Susan Clanton discussed the updated Director of Music position. A change was made to the compensation in that the pianist/organist would receive \$200 per service, plus round trip mileage compensation. Angie Ash MOVED, Clarke Crizer seconded to approve the update. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

The Green Book was reviewed.

Committee Reports

Property—There was no property report.

Inreach/Outreach

- The retirement milestone will be discontinued.
- Golden Group Lunch for June will be at Gringo's Mexican Kitchen in LaPorte.
- The Lions Club Luncheon will be June 13th . St. Paul's Food Pantry will be represented by Kelly Migl and Nicole Gunn.

Worship and Music

- Choir robes need to be examined to see if they are still usable or need repair, and determine if anyone would be interested in using them.
- Reorganize and repair Christmas drama costumes and props.

Youth and Family

- First Sunday Zoomers are finished for the school year.
- The pool party at Susan's home was a success.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20PM and closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted, Angie Ash, Secretary

