

The Messenger



Monthly publication of St. Paul Lutheran Church
& Early Childhood Learning Center

SEPT. 2024

Greetings St. Paul Lutheran Church!

Can you believe it's September already? Hopefully you are ready for it. Each Sunday in September there is something unique during or after worship. Here's a synopsis of the month.

Sunday, September 1 – St. Paul's new Director of Music Ministries Fonda Davies starts. (See page 9 for information from her). During worship we will have a liturgy of welcome and blessing as she starts her ministry with us. And after worship, during coffee hour, we will have a celebration of the beginning of her ministry.

Sunday, September 8 – "God's Work Our Hands" Sunday! This is the day we wear the Yellow T- shirts. There is a new shipment on the way, so if you haven't received one, please let me know. A donation of \$16 is appreciated (but not required) for a shirt.

Sunday, September 15 - Pr. Don will preside and JoAnn Jordan will preach. I will be on my way to the Florida-Bahamas Synod Conference on Ministry in Howey-in-the-Hills. The Conference on Ministry is a required event for Rostered Ministers (aka Pastors and Deacons). This year's theme is from Revelation 22:1-2. "The Lamb's Alternative Power Story for the Healing of Creation". Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing "will lead us through the book of Revelation as we discover its theme of hope, not fear, and a renewed world in which all are welcome and have enough. We will be on a journey to the beautiful city and river of life". I have loved Rev. Dr. Rossing's book *Raptured Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation* since my seminary days. I look forward to this time to worship, gather with colleagues, and continue learning from Rev. Dr. Rossing. I love the idea of hope, not fear. I always liken it to the Monster's Inc movies. Kid's laughter and joy was more powerful than their fear and screams. Hope is more powerful than fear.

Sunday, September 22 - I will be back to preside at worship, but since I will have been gone all week, John Beyer will be preaching. I love that we have leaders in the congregation that like to preach. While I love preaching and feel like it is one of my gifts, it is always good to get different perspectives and voices (once in awhile 😊).

Sunday, September 29 – This is the time of year we start St. Paul's Justice Ministry with Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity (SURE). The year begins with a House Meeting or a Sacred Conversation. It is a time to hear about what our Justice Ministry Team does and renew our commitment to it. I invite you stay and hear about the ministry, my passion for it, and how we can work for the common of good of Sarasota in the coming year.

Have a great September. Hope to see you often.
Take care and God bless

-DrAshley



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August Council News

The St. Paul Church Council met for its regular meeting on August 15, 2024, in person and by Zoom.

Discussed updates on “Raise the Roof! Raise the Kids!” Campaign, Moravian Church Ministry, and SURE.

Approved:

Treasurer’s Report

Oct. 19 Video Presentation of *LBJ’s Historic Visit to Sarasota*

Nov. 25 Life Line Screening

Transfer of Membership of Debi Rado to a church in Hixon, TN

Ratified:

Raises for ECLC Directors

Donations for Victims of the Moravian Church affected by flooding

Aug. 15 Sarasota Alliance for Historic Preservation Meeting

Nov. 14 Architecture Sarasota Meeting

The Mid-Gulf Conference will be held on Saturday, October 26 at Faith Lutheran at 8:30a. Pastors will attend along with two voting delegates from St. Paul, but all are welcome.

Message from the Church Office

Pastor Ashley and the Parish Administrator will never email or text you asking for donations of money or gift cards.

Please ignore these scammers. You should always contact the church office if you are not sure.

The Messenger is the newsletter of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

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St. Paul Lutheran Church is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Florida-Bahamas Synod, ELCA.

Pastor: Rev. Ashley Nicolls

Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Donald J. Hillerich

Executive Committee

Irene Felicetti, President
JoAnn Jordan, Vice President
Don Hillerich, Secretary
George Hutfilz, Treasurer

Congregation Council

Irene Felicetti, Carol Grosch, Lori Fountain-Guillaume, Amy Hildreth, Marthe Hildreth, Don Hillerich, JoAnn Jordan, Bob Lariviere, Nanacy Parmakian, Judy Roberts, Alexandra Wise, Pastor Ashley Nicolls

Ministry Team Leaders

Sharing & Caring – Jan Kruse
Christian Education – **Seeking volunteer leader**
Communications – Sue Scherr
Early Childhood Learning Cntr – Marilyn Hutfilz
Evangelism – Bob Lariviere
Safety & Emergency Preparedness - Cindy Paxton
Fellowship – Carol Grosch & Alexandra Wise
Finance – George Hutfilz
Food Pantry – George Hutfilz
Outreach Ministry Fund – **Seeking volunteer leader**
Property – **Seeking volunteer leader**
Social – Judy Roberts
Stewardship – George & Marilyn Hutfilz
Worship and Music – Sharon Wittren
Parish Administrator – Tracy Bateman
Director of Music – Fonda Davies

The Messenger is published monthly and distributed without charge to St. Paul Lutheran congregation members and friends.

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MISSION STATEMENT As a Holy Spirit-led family of God, we are called through Baptism to proclaim and bear witness to God’s reconciling grace in Jesus Christ to all; so that by joyfully sharing God’s Word and encouraging each other to service for the sake of others, our lives together make a difference for Christ and His kingdom.

Welcome Back to School



ECLC News

A new school year has
begun.



During the first week of school the children are focusing on establishing routines and developing socialization skills in fun ways. We look forward to a fantastic school year. We look forward to sharing with you our progress throughout the year.

ECLC Fundraiser

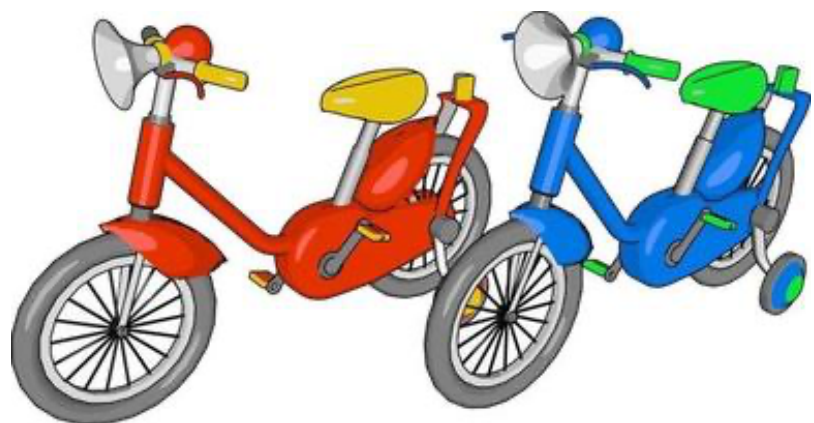
Trike-a-Thon

October 8
9:30-11:30a

Come support our young riders as they go around the circle. You can sponsor a specific child or make a donation to the ECLC Trike-a-Thon to show your support.
Rms 1 & 2 9:30-10:30a
Rm. 3 & VPK 10:30-11:30a



If you would like to assist in the preparation, during the Trike-a-Thon, or afterward for clean up, please contact our ECLC Director, Lisa McLean. You can leave a message for her at the church office as well.



Children will be doing crafts at this event as well.

Hope Seeds

God's Work. Our Hands.

by Sue Goddard-Barry

Thank you to all who attended on Monday, August 19. We have a loyal group of packers. There were 19 individuals in attendance, ranging in age from 14-99, packing 4,000 bags of onion seeds. We are a diverse group of great people. There is fellowship, conversation, and usually something good to eat. We love to have you join us. We meet the third Monday of the month from 1:00p-3:00p. Come when you can, and leave when you must. We have fun, accomplish a lot and are making a difference in the lives of so many people.

Again, thank you for helping in this great ministry.

NOTE: There will be NO Hope Seeds in October (21st). Rick and Sue will be out of town.

Son Day School

Will resume in the Fall. Thanks to all who have attended in the past.

Thank you!

A sincere thank you to Marilyn Hutfilz and Valerie Nicolls for playing organ/piano while we were searching for a new Director of Music following the retirement of John Ferreira last May. They provided uninterrupted music for all of our summer services this summer.



Also, thanks to the St. Paul Ringers: George Hutfilz, Judy Carnal, Julie Miller, Mike Scherr, Brian McCulley, and Marty Hillerich for participating in bell quartet music selections at prelude or special music in June, July, and August. Also thanks to director Sue Scherr.



Prayer Ministry

St. Paul offers many ways to pray with and for loved ones, the community, and the world!

Online Prayer Chain - an email goes out weekly with prayer requests. Please let PrAshley know if you want to be a pray-er.

Prayer Crosses - Located in the Fellowship Hall, the Sanctuary, and outside for prayers to be placed either in or on. Any prayer request put on the cross in the FH or Sanctuary will be put on the outside Hope Cross.

Prayer Zoom - Talking with God (see below) facilitated by Deacon Kim Heindl meets every Thursday at 4:00p.

Talking with God

As people of faith it is quite natural that we talk to God. In quiet moments, in moments of uncertainty or challenge, and in times of joy. It is part of our worship and helps us grow personally and communally in our relationship with Jesus. I would like to invite you to join a group of us that gather every Thursday at 4p via Zoom. We talk, share our lives, joys, concerns, and we pray. No stress and easy to be part of! Follow the link below (it is the same every week) or email Kimberly Heindl for an invitation: kaheindl@comcast.net.

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81662784525pwd=QSt4TGNSR2F3L0ovUDJ3SVdWbjRYUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 6278 4525

Passcode: 628552

God Speed Frank & Joan

Sunday, August 18, 2024



Long time St. Paul members, Frank & Joan Sciani are relocating to WI. We will miss you both.





Raise the Roof! Raise the Kids!

Donations may be placed in the offering plate on Sundays, or mailed to the church office. Be sure to indicate that it is for the campaign. Thank you.

For online giving: <http://bit.ly/3ZZOdoH>

Thanks be to God for the contributors to the "Raise the Roof! Raise the Kids!" campaign. The effort to preserve Victor Lundy's historic building and home of the ECLC - St. Paul's outreach ministry to the community. As of this writing, total contributions from all sources including outright gifts, pledges, memorial gifts and the State of FL Grant total \$609,772.00 toward our goal of \$655,425.00. To meet the goal, any size first time, second time, or third outright gift, memorial or pledge (payable over two years) is appreciated. Please contact PrAshley or Pr. Don if you have any questions. God bless and thank you for your consideration.

MAJOR NAMING RIGHTS/GIVING LEVELS

The "Naming Rights" initiative of the "Raise the Roof! Raise the Kids!" campaign offered an opportunity to anyone to have their name, another's name or a memorial name displayed on a commemorative plaque. The monetary levels are as follows:

\$200,000.00	The Christian Education Building	The state of Florida
\$30,000.00	Major Glulam Beams	Four Members/Couples of St. Paul
\$25,000.00	Preschool Learning Spaces (Four areas available)	One Member
\$20,000.00	ECLC Galley	One Member and one Architecture Community Member
\$15,000.00	Minor Glulam Beams (Still available)	

Other generous levels and number of donors are as follows:

\$10,000.00-\$14,999.00	Five Members/Couples and one Architecture Member
\$8,000.00-\$9,999.00	No donors
\$7,000.00-\$7,999.00	One Member and one Mission Partner 100 FL/Bah Synod
\$6,000.00-\$6,999.00	One Member/Couple and one Barancik Foundation
\$4,000.00-\$5,999.00	Sarasota Alliance for Historical Preservation
\$3,000.00-\$3,999.00	Three Members/Couples and one Architecture Sarasota
\$2,000.00-\$2,999.00	Four Members/Couples
\$1,000.00-\$1,999.00	Ten Members/Couples
\$500.00-\$999.00	Twelve Members/Couples and Friends of St. Paul
\$1.00-\$499.00	Fifty-two Members and Friends of St. Paul

As we have passed the halfway mark of the three year campaign, we thank God for everyone's support and prayers. Gifts of any size are still needed to meet our goal.

SURE News

Meet the newest staff member for SURE
(Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity)



Kris Wise, Associate Organizer

Kristopher Wise is a recent graduate from Emory University, Candler School of Theology, with a Master of Divinity. In 2024, he was awarded The Claude H. Thompson Award, given to the student who best demonstrates their concern that the Gospel of Jesus Christ comes to concrete expression in the lives of Christians through acts of justice and reconciliation.

He is a lifelong United Methodist and a certified candidate for ministry. He attends Grace UMC in Venice, FL, with his two children, Lincoln and Amelie, where his spouse Sarah Robles Wise, is the associate Pastor. He enjoys biking and kayaking in Sarasota, watching Star Trek, and visiting historic locations around Florida.

Kris is excited to be a part of this organization and is looking forward to forming relationships with all of its members.

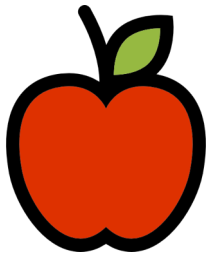
Upcoming Events in 24/25

Community Problems
Assembly
Research Kickoff
Rally
Nehemiah Action
Celebration

October 21, 2024 Pine Shores
Dec. 2, 2024 Church of Trinity
March 10, 2025. St. Paul
March 31, 2025. Faith Lutheran
April 28, 2025. New Bethel



- Sept. 3 Susan Fisher
- Sept. 6 Emilee Miller
- Sept. 8 Tonia Miller
- Sept. 8 Sharon Wittren
- Sept. 19 JoAnn Jordan
- Sept. 20 Joann Flanigan
- Sept. 22 Nicole Riley
- Sept. 22 Barry Smith
- Sept. 23 Tess Vaessen
- Sept. 28 Amy Hildreth
- Sept. 28 Sharon Mashanic



Happy Anniversary

- Sept. 1 Jim & Susan Fisher
- Sept. 2 Mr. & Mrs. Scott Parke
- Sept. 24 Thad & Carolyn Masters

Choirs Resume Practice

From the Ministry of Music - Fonda Davies

Hello to the St. Paul Family! I am excited to be your new Director of Music and Organist, starting September 1. I invite the choir to be in the loft at 9:00a that day to prepare for the worship service.

Choir rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 4 at the usual times (6:00p bells; 7:00p choir) This would be a great time to join the choirs as we begin a new season together.

I look forward to meeting everyone very soon.

Fonda Davies
 fondadavies6@gmail.com
 (941) 586-4314

Save the Dates

Tuesday, October 8 Trike-a-Thon ECLC

Saturday, October 19 LBJ/Florida Civil Rights Movement
 1:30 St. Paul

In 1963, Florida's Civil Rights Movement and the Vice Presidency of Lyndon Baines Johnson, intertwined in surprising ways. Though Florida's politicians had been successful - this far - in keeping the state off the front page of the national newspapers when it comes to matters of race, that was about to change. Join award-winning Sarasota author and historian, Liz Coursen, as she discusses LBJ's actions and activities in Florida during this tumultuous time in our state and nation.

Monday, October 21 SURE Community Problems
 Assembly

Saturday, October 26 Mid-Gulf Conference from
 9:00a-12:00n at Faith Lutheran

Come join fellow Lutherans from other local ELCA congregations for a morning of learning, worship and fellowship. You will have the chance to meet the new Assistant to the Bishop and Director of Evangelical Mission, Rev. Carlos Hamm.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 1 Sunday

9:30a Worship Service
10:30a Sunday School
11:00a Sharing/Caring
Meeting
12:30p Moravian Service
6:00p Fantasy Football
Draft

Sept 2 Monday

Labor Day
Office Closed

Sept. 3 Tuesday

5:30p Community Meal

Sept. 4 Wednesday

8:00a Property Ministry

Sept. 5 Thursday

9:30a Food Pantry Prep
4:00p Prayer Team
Meeting Zoom

Sept. 6 Friday

6:00p Moravian Bible
Study

Sept. 7 Saturday

9:00a Food Pantry
Distribution
6:00p Moravian Youth
Fellowship

Sept. 8 Sunday

9:30a Worship Service
10:30a Sunday School
12:30p Moravian Service

Sept. 9 Monday

7:00p Worship/Music
Ministry Zoom

Sept. 10 Tuesday

Ministry Reports Due

1:00p EvANGELism
Meeting
5:30p Community Meal

Sept. 11 Wednesday

8:00a Property Ministry

Sept. 12 Thursday

9:00a Food Pantry Prep
12:00p Finance Meeting
Zoom
1:00p Executive Team
Meeting
4:00p Prayer Team
Meeting Zoom
6:00p Moravian Band
Rehearsal

Sept. 13 Friday

6:00p Moravian Bible
Study

Spet. 14 Saturday

9:00a Food Pantry
Distribution
6:00p Moravian Youth
Fellowship

Sept. 15 Sunday

**First Day of Hispanic
Heritage Month**
Messenger Deadline

9:30a Worship Service
10:30a Sunday School
12:30p Moravian Service

Sept. 16 Monday

1:00p Hope Seeds

Sept. 17 Tuesday

5:30p Community Meal

Sept. 18 Wednesday

8:00a Property Ministry

Sept. 19 Thursday

9:30a Food Pantry Prep
4:00p Prayer Team
Meeting Zoom
6:00p Moravian Band
Rehearsal
6:30p Council Meeting

Sept. 20 Friday

6:00p Moravian Bible
Study

Sept. 21 Saturday

9:00a Food Pantry
Distribution
6:00p Moravian Youth
Fellowship

Sept. 22 Sunday

9:30a Worship Service
10:30a Sunday School
12:30p Moravian Service

Sept. 24 Tuesday

9:30a ECLC Board
Meeting
5:30p Community Meal

Sept. 25 Wednesday

8:00a Property Ministry

Sept. 26 Thursday

9:30a Food Pantry Prep
4:00p Prayer Team
Meeting Zoom
6:00p Moravian Band
Rehearsal

Sept. 27 Friday

6:00p Moravian Bible
Study

Sept. 28 Saturday

9:00a Food Pantry
Distribution
6:00p Moravian Youth
Fellowship

Sept. 29 Sunday

9:30a Worship Service
10:30a Sunday School
11:00a SURE House
Meeting
12:30p Moravian Service

Prayer Request

- For all those serving in the U.S. Military •The homeless in our neighborhood, our city, our nation and the world. •The Florida Bahamas Synod Office of the Bishop Staff: Bishop Pedro, Assistant to the Bishop Pastors Carlos, Derek, Nicole and Rob, Specialists Kim & Brittney, Support Staff Tina, Yuliet, & Ileana. •SURE - Sarasota United for Responsibility and Equity.
- Community Meal & Food Pantry Guests. •Prayers upon the HOPE Community Prayer Cross. •Our members, our preschool teachers and students and our Arlington Park neighborhood.

Members

Beetle/O'Hara Family
John Beyer
Henry Blosser
Susan Burmaster
Irene Felicetti
Sue Fisher
John Miller
James Paulsson
Betty Smowton
Karin Zukowski

Homebound Members

Theresa Alger
Sharyn Brodnax
Donna Casala
Evelyn Gulliksen
Lindy Lindemann
June Manselle
Anna Mathisen
Virginia McQuaig
Michael Reiter
Carole Wilson

Friends and Family

Alice - *JoAnn Jordan's friend*
Bethany - *Gail Seyfarth's granddaughter*
Bill - *Jan Kruse's friend*
Brad - *Cindy Paxton's brother*
Cassandra - *Irene Felicetti's friend*
David - *Cody Eddleman's step-dad*
David - *JoAnn Jordan's neighbor*
Debbie & Frank - *Scherr's friends*
Ed - *Sandy Choquette's friend*
Greg - *Jan Kruse's friend*
LaShonda - *John Beyer's friend*

Marilyn - *S. Weckwerth's aunt*
Susan - *Cindy Paxton's friend*
Tunde - *Irene Felicetti's friend*
Sandi Acevedo - *Acevedos sister-in-law*
Clinton Allen - *Jim Paulsson's friend*
Doug Benoit - *St. Paul volunteer*
Sheryl Brandes - *Sue Scherr's sister-in-law*
Buete & Pearson family - *Brian McCulley's family*
Caroline Burmaster - *Susan Burmaster's sister-in-law*
Todd Couch - *Sandy Choquette's son*
Mike Cunningham - *H. Roberts' friend*
Cody Eddleman - *John Beyer's husband*
John & Joy Emanuelli - *Roberts' friends*
Gladys Faraone - *H. Robert's friend*
John Foor - *Ryan's friend*
Gallagher Family - *Dorothy Boller's in-laws*
Susie Hazel
Lois & Niklaus Heisler - *Irene Felicetti's family*
Katy Hernandez - *M. Acevedo's niece*
Nicole Ketter - *Susan Burmaster's friend*
Philip Koepke - *Irene Felicetti's friend*
Joe Kramer - *Puckhaber's friend*
Kate Kretschmann - *Lindy Linderman's friend*
Karen Kugler - *Marty Hillerich's friend*
Kenny Manselle - *June Manselle's son*
David McCall - *Judy Roberts' brother*
Marsha McKinney - *former member*
Pam Mills - *Daniel Mills' sister*
Becky Nobles - *Lindy Lindermann's friend*

Linda & Jim Norris - *Doris Schlotterback's family*
Karen Paulsson - *Jim Paulsson's sister*
Hannah Puckhaber - *regular attender*
Manny Ribas - *Cindy Schlotterback's friend*
Clint Shantz - *former member*
Brian, Kenny & Tommy Schlotterback - *Doris Schlotterback's sons*
Hailey Schlotterback - *Doris Schlotterback's granddaughter-in-law*
Rob, James & Mike Scianni - *Sciannis' sons*
Donna Shepherd - *Gail Seyfarth's sister*
Bethany Smith - *Smiths' daughter*
Muriel Stephenson - *JoAnn Jordan's sister*
Noel Scott Studenwalt - *Smiths' nephew*
Bill Sweeney - *Hutfliz's grandson*
Jean Taffe & family - *Susan Burmaster's cousin*
Bill & Jean Thompson - *Dorothy Boller's sister & brother-in-law*
David Van Ness - *Missy Craig's brother*
Elaine & Mark Vanderweight - *Jim Paulsson's friends*
Curtis Weckwerth - *Rick Weckwerth's cousin*
David Weinberger - *Puckhabers' friend*
John & Janet Welther - *Ethel Hamilton's family*

“Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble, with the comfort we ourselves have received from God.” 2Corinthians 1:3-4

St. Paul Lutheran Church

& Early Childhood Learning Center

2256 Bahia Vista Street, Sarasota, FL 34239

☎ 941-955-6479 Preschool 941-955-6480

📞 940 -955-8600

🌐 www.StPaulSarasota.org

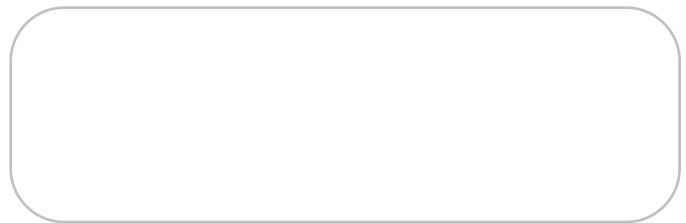
Rev. Ashley Nicolls, Pastor

Rev. Don Hillerich, Pastor Emeritus

Sunday Schedule

9:30a Service of Worship In-person

9:30a Service of Worship on Facebook Live



St. Paul Mission Prayer



God of grace and love, you created us as your children and have brought us to St. Paul Lutheran Church. We are not perfect people, but this church is the perfect place for imperfect people. Thank you for your grace through Christ given to us. You call us to proclaim to everyone we meet that your grace is for them too. As a Holy Spirit-led family of God, we ask you to help us joyfully share your word and serve your people, so that together our lives make a difference in your kingdom here on earth. Strengthen us in our mission together; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.