

# St. Paul's April 2024 Newsletter

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## Sunday Worship Services

8:00 am - Traditional Service  
9:15 am - Faith Formation for all ages  
10:30 am - Contemporary Service

## Table of Contents

Building Usage Survey .....	p 2
College Grads.....	p 2
Early Praise Choir .....	p 2
Rare Birds.....	p 2
Chat and Chews Book Club .....	p 2
New Members Class .....	p 2
Vacation Bible School .....	p 3
Adult Faith Formation .....	p 3
St. Paul's Store is Open .....	p 4
Presentation Reflection .....	p 4
Gospel of Mark Survey.....	p 4
Free Shred Event .....	p 4
Church Council Update .....	p 5
Annual Reading Phillies Trip .....	p 5
Servants of the Year.....	p 5
Exton Ministerium Music Fest .....	p 5
Teacher Appreciation Sunday .....	p 5
Youth Ministry News.....	p 6
Youth Support Team Survey .....	p 8
Youth Ministry Fundraisers.....	p 10
Social Ministry .....	p 10
Director of Music Note .....	p 12
Guest Musician.....	p 12
Rejoicing Spirits.....	p 13
Help Improve St. Paul's Reach ...	p 13
Thrivent Action Cards .....	p 13
Prayer Team.....	p 13
Coffee Fellowship Help .....	p 13
Sharing St. Paul's Pictures.....	p 13
St. Paul's Communications .....	p 13
Area Events .....	p 14
Congregational Photos .....	p 16
Volunteer Schedule .....	p 20
About St. Paul's.....	p 22

*St. Paul's regularly takes pictures and video to share all the wonderful things happening digitally and in print. If you or your family are concerned about something being shared in this manner, please contact [Pastor Stuart](#).*

## A Note from Pastor Stuart

One of the many traditions I value at St. Paul's is focusing on the stewardship of our time and talent in the spring. In the fall we focus on the stewardship of our finances and this is very appropriate. In addition to this, it's right to reflect on how we use the energy and time that God gives us and how we use those unique gifts with which each of us is blessed.



This year on **Sunday, April 14 and 21**, we will spend two weeks "Celebrating Servants". Being called as a servant is a consistent Biblical theme. Jesus reminds us that "whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all" and that "the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve." (Mark 9:35 and 10:45) As he heads to the cross and the woman at Bethany anoints him with costly perfume, he notes that "she has performed a good service for me." (Mark 14:6) Like Jesus, we are called to love and serve others!

I hope you'll engage in this series and find some new ways to serve at St. Paul's and in our community! One very special thing we are offering this year is a "Servant of the Year" celebration. We all know people we appreciate and value at St. Paul's, but we more rarely get the chance to thank them. This is your chance! Fill out this [easy online form](#), which is also available online at [StPaulsLionville.org/events](http://StPaulsLionville.org/events), or use a paper copy from the narthex. Everyone nominated will be celebrated on **Sunday, April 21**, as Servants of the Year!

God Bless!  
Pastor Stuart

## Special Combined Service

On **Sunday, April 28**, there will be one combined service at 9:30 am. Mark your calendar and read page 12 for more details!



## Building Usage Survey

Church Council is looking at how our teams, classes, committees, and other groups use the church facilities. We are also looking at ways to better meet your space needs. As such, we are asking that the leaders of ALL our teams, classes, groups, and committees submit [a response to this survey](#) (also online at [StPaulsLionville.org/events](http://StPaulsLionville.org/events)) by **Sunday, April 28**. Please solicit the input from your group so we have all your thoughts when completing the survey. ([Here is a map of the church.](#)) Please submit a response even if your group is only a person or two but needs to use the church at some point in the year. If you have any questions and/or need help with computer/data input, please reach out to the Church Council President (Kyle Wiest) or Vice President (Bryon Wornson).



## College Grads

Share your college graduate's name, picture, college, degree, area of study, and future plans for a spotlight feature in the May newsletter! Please send photo and details to [Marisa@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:Marisa@StPaulsLionville.org).



## Early Praise Choir

On **Sunday, April 7**, a group of early birds will meet at 7:30 am to prepare an anthem to be sung at the 8:00 am Traditional Worship Service that day. This ensemble that does not require an ongoing commitment or advance preparation. If you would like to be added to the mailing list for reminders and preview of the music, please email Director of Music, Lyndsey Holmes ([Lyndsey@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:Lyndsey@StPaulsLionville.org)).



The last Early Praise Choir date for this spring is May 5.

## Rare Birds

Rare Birds is the senior social group at St. Paul's. If you have had your 50th birthday and want to have fun with friends, we are the group for you! If you would like to be added to our email list, please email Karen Lammey at [lammeyk4@gmail.com](mailto:lammeyk4@gmail.com).

On **Tuesday, April 16**, we will enjoy a pizza lunch and viewing of The Saint Paul's Players production of NUNSENSE at 12:00 pm. RSVP to Karen Lammey by April 12 at 610-715-4251.

## Chat and Chews Book Club

The Chat and Chews Sunday School Book Club meets the second Sunday of each month after the late service in Room 102. Our next meeting will be on **Sunday, April 14**. Our next reads are:



- April: "The Dinner List" and "One Italian Summer" by Rebecca Serle
- May: "We Are Not Like Them" by Christine Pride and Jo Piazza

Our May meeting will be the third Sunday in May due to Mother's Day and we will meet at my home. See details in the May newsletter. You do not have to finish the book or even read it to join us in a lively and faithful discussion. Please contact Gwen Werner at 610-823-0244 or at [ggwerner@verizon.net](mailto:ggwerner@verizon.net) for more information. Happy Reading!

## New Members Classes

If you've been attending St. Paul's, we would love to welcome you as a new member this spring! We'll hold classes on **Sunday, April 21 and 28 and May 5 and 19**, from 7:00-8:00 pm. These four weeks will be an opportunity to grow in faith, learn more about St. Paul's, and build friendships with others who are also joining. Child care will be provided. If you would like to attend or have any questions, please feel free to contact Pastor Stuart via email at [PastorStuart@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:PastorStuart@StPaulsLionville.org) or phone at 610-804-1740.



## Vacation Bible School

It's that time of year again! We are so excited for Camp Firelight VBS!

**Dates and Time:** Monday-Friday, July 22-26, from 9:00-12:00 pm

**Ages:** Children who turned 4 before January 1, 2024, through those who completed fifth grade in the 2023-2024 school year

**Cost:** \$40 per camper, \$30 for siblings (financial assistance is available; please speak with [Pastor Stuart](#))



Camper registration forms can be found in the narthex or downloaded at [StPaulsLionville.org/vbs](http://StPaulsLionville.org/vbs). Follow the instructions on the form for how to submit it and provide payment. Registration form(s) and payment are due **July 7, 2024** (exceptions will be made if your child's class is not full). Funds to help defray the cost of supplies appreciated. An email with more details will be sent the week of July 15.

Also, mark your calendars for an ice cream social on **Sunday, July 7**, at 6:00 pm and at the end of VBS, on **Friday, July 26**, at 12:00 pm, there will be a closing show that families and guests are welcome to attend!

### VOLUNTEERS

We need lots of volunteers to make Camp Firelight VBS a success! Adults and children who completed 5th grade in the 2023-2024 school year and older can volunteer (children who completed 5th grade in the 2023-2024 school year can participate or volunteer). We need volunteers to assist children (4-5 year-olds, kindergarteners, and first-fifth graders) with crafts, snacks, games, storytelling, and music and to guide them throughout their day.

Volunteer registration forms can be found in the narthex or downloaded at [StPaulsLionville.org/vbs](http://StPaulsLionville.org/vbs). Follow the instructions on the form for how to submit it.

**Please note:** Volunteers must attend one training session. Several training sessions will be offered to choose from. We will send a letter with more details as we get closer to VBS week.

We are also looking for a few station leaders (it isn't as intimidating as it sounds!). Please reach out to [Leah](#) or [Cari](#) for more information.

*Hope to see you there this summer!*

## Adult Faith Formation

The Sunday morning Contemporary Issues / Christian Perspectives class returns to the Sunday morning lineup. We meet at the Sunday School time of ~9:15 am upstairs in room 208. With a lively discussion we dig deeper into current issues through Christian perspectives using the worship service Bible readings of the day. The class is led by Frank Pechin. All are welcome.

The Friday Night Fire Pit Fellowship Event is back! Starting **Friday, April 5**, (the first Friday after Easter) we meet at the church fire pit at 7:00 pm to share our stories of the week and get a preview of the worship service Bible readings for the coming Sunday. Get your lawn chair out of storage, dust it off, and bring it along. In case of inclement weather (rain, heat, snow, or gloom of night) we will meet in the Parsonage. It's a relaxing way to end the week and meet in fellowship with other members of St. Paul's. Please join us.



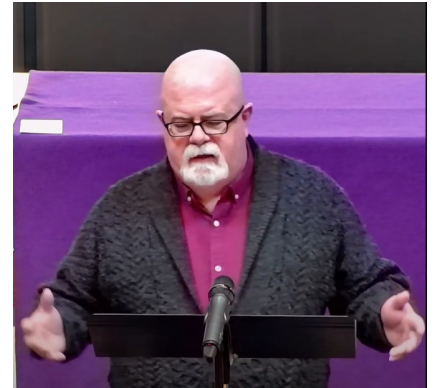
## St. Paul's Store is Open!

Have you ever wanted a St. Paul's sweatshirt, T-shirt, water bottle, blanket, bookbag or other branded item to celebrate our church? How about giving them as a gift? Now it's so simple to purchase them! Just go to [StPaulsLionville.org/shop](http://StPaulsLionville.org/shop) or click the blue shopping cart icon in the upper right of our website. Thanks so much to Becky Shallow and the Communication team for creating this awesome place to get your St. Paul's items!



## Dramatic Presentation of the Gospel of Mark Reflection

As a congregation, we had the opportunity to dig into the Gospel of Mark over this past Lenten season. The bible studies, the daily readings, Pastor Stuart's sermons and the Gospel of Mark movie shown at midweek Lenten services provided many opportunities to understand, digest, and contemplate this Gospel on a deeper level. On Sunday, March 17, we were provided a wonderfully unique way to experience the Gospel of Mark when our congregation's own Nathan Thomas shared a dramatic presentation of it. This 90-minute oration was captivating! It was reminiscent of the ancient tradition of reading an entire Gospel aloud to a group, but we heard it with new ears as the words he spoke came from a recent translation.



I've been a Lutheran my entire life and I've served as a church musician for decades, so I've read my share of scripture. But I've never experienced the Word like this. Parables I've heard dozens of times took on new meaning and I gained a new understanding of passages I've read many times in the past. If you're like me and have spent years reading scripture, I encourage you to view the recording of this presentation on our [Youtube page](#) so that you, too, can hear these words anew. And if you're new to the Bible, this is the perfect way to be introduced to the Gospel in an engaging and meaningful way. What a blessing the live presentation was to our congregation and how wonderful it is that we are able to view it again and again!

- Lyndsey Holmes

## The Gospel of Mark in Lent Survey

As we end the Lenten season, the Worship Planning Team would love you [to fill out this simple survey](#) (also available at [StPaulsLionville.org/events](http://StPaulsLionville.org/events)) to get your feedback. This will help us evaluate the effectiveness of this series and also help in planning for the future!



## Annual Free Shred Event

It's the time of year to get rid of documents securely! Your local Thrivent Community and The Pickering Group are hosting a free shred event on **Saturday, May 18**, from 9:00-11:00 am in the Thrivent Exton Office Parking Lot, 300 N. Pottstown Pike, Exton, PA. Please bring your papers in bags or boxes. Staples, paper clips, and credit cards are acceptable. Please bring a donation for the West Chester Food Cupboard. Double your support and bring a guest! DRIVE THRU Only, please stay in your vehicle.



## Church Council Update

Church council met on March 12 and discussed the following items:

- Discussed updates to the continuing resolutions to rename mission area reports to correspond to committee names
- Also updates to the baptism, wedding and funeral policies were reviewed
- Finalized a building use survey to be circulated to ministry leads to get feedback on space usage within the building
- Discussed the formation of a discipleship team to coordinate between several ministries

Please reach to any member of Church Council if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

St Paul's Church Council

## Annual Reading Phillies Trip

St Paul's is excited to hold our annual trip to the Reading Phillies on **Saturday, June 8**. The game starts at 6:45 pm and will end with a Mega Blast Fireworks Show! Tickets are \$11.00 per person. Payment by check made payable to "Anne Wiest" is due no later than **Sunday, April 21**. Payment can be put in the Council President's mailbox at St. Paul's or given to Kyle or Anne Wiest. To sign up, [click here](#) or visit [StPaulsLionville.org/events](http://StPaulsLionville.org/events).



## Servants of the Year

Just as we focus on our financial generosity in the fall, in the spring we focus on our opportunity to be generous with our time and talent. As part of this emphasis on **Sunday, April 21**, we will recognize, "Servants of the Year." Please take the time [to fill out this simple form](#) (also available at [StPaulsLionville.org/events](http://StPaulsLionville.org/events)) to nominate some of the people you appreciate at St. Paul's. All those nominated will be recognized at this worship service!



## Exton Ministerium Music Fest

On **Sunday, April 14**, at 7:00 pm, the musicians of our local churches will gather for a celebration of music, each bringing their own special gifts to share! The gathering will be at Saints Philip and James Catholic Church at 723 Lincoln Hwy E, Exton, PA 19341. There will be refreshments and fellowship afterwards. We hope you can attend to enjoy our musicians and those from many other churches!



## Teacher Appreciation Sunday

On **Sunday, April 7**, at both services, the emphasis for worship will be recognizing and celebrating the teachers in our congregation and community! There are invitations available in the narthex for adults and students to share with some of the teachers they appreciate in our community or you can visit [StPaulsLionville.org/events](http://StPaulsLionville.org/events) to submit a form. Please be thinking about who you might invite to thank them.



**CHRIST IS RISEN! WOOHOOOO!** That seems like the appropriate youth ministry interpretation of the typical Easter declaration and response. At the Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat this past month, Bishop Davenport encouraged everyone in attendance to shout out “AMEN!” whenever the pastor said the word “Hosanna!” during Palm Sunday. If you heard any seemingly out-of-place Amens in worship, you have her to thank!



There is a LOT of stuff going on in the youth ministry right now, so on to the highlights...

**THANK YOU FOR BEING SO GENEROUS AND SUPPORTING OUR YOUTH FUNDRAISERS TO THE LEVELS THAT YOU HAVE.** As of Palm Sunday, we have raised nearly \$4,000 of our \$5,000 goal between our two congregations. The Spaghetti Dinner was a big success and the Penny Wars with St. Matthew’s has generated a LOT of response (though I’ll acknowledge some of that may be driven as much by fear of hearing Pastor Stuart sing a Taylor Swift song as it is by people’s giving hearts). The Easter Sunday donations will determine which Pastor sits on the hot seat; the competition is *that* close! (I’m already on the hot seat – y’all put me there about three weeks ago.) If you want to donate toward a specific need, be sure to look at the envelope wall on the bulletin board near the church office. Donation options exist from \$10 up through \$250.

**A FEW MORE FUNDRAISERS TO COME:** We will have a Twin Valley Coffee sale running from mid-April through Mother’s Day, a dine-out event at Freddy’s Steakburgers some weekday evening in May, and the youth car washes are returning, too! St. Paul’s car wash will be Sunday, May 5, so feel free to let your car get dirty until then!

**OUR GROUPS ARE GETTING EXCITED ABOUT OUR SUMMER TRIPS!** We have already started our prep sessions for the ELCA Youth Gathering in July, to which we are sending seven youth and four adults, and planning is in full swing. Our Appalachia Service Project group is nearly finalized, too; it looks like we’ll be sending two full crews and a floating volunteer/general contractor to this year’s work week at the end of June. Training sessions for ASP start in April.

**BUT WAIT – THERE’S MORE!** Southeast Pennsylvania Synod is sponsoring a special performance at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansdale on Sunday, April 14, at 4:00 pm. **JUSTmove: An Evening with Joe Davis and David Scherer** (also known as AGAPE) showcases the musical and storytelling gifts of these fantastic artists who are regulars at Youth Gatherings. Proceeds from their concert will go toward the SEPA Youth Scholarship Fund which helps teens across the region afford to attend such impactful experiences as the Youth Gathering and the Tuscarora Retreat. More information is in the youth calendars elsewhere in this newsletter.

## **6th-8th GRADE UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR**

*For the most up-to-date event information and signup links, go online to the Youth Ministry web page at [StPaulsLionville.org/youth](http://StPaulsLionville.org/youth).*

- Sunday, April 14, 4:00-6:00 pm (meet at St. Paul’s at 3:00 pm to carpool) – **JUSTmove: An Evening with Joe Davis and David Scherer at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansdale.** These two highly talented, social-justice-oriented entertainers offer a performance of music, laughter, storytelling, and inspiration. Both have been regulars at prior ELCA Youth Gatherings. Youth AND parents are encouraged to attend! Cost is \$20 per adult, \$10 per student presale through April 12; \$25 per person after. All proceeds benefit the SEPA Synod Youth Scholarship Fund. Sign up here to join us: [April 14 JUSTmove Event](#).

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## Youth Ministry News (cont.)

- Sunday, April 21, 9:00-11:00 am – **Youth Car Wash Fundraiser at St. Matthew's**. We need ALL hands on deck for the return of this popular annual fundraiser – parents, middle schoolers, and high schoolers alike. Help clean people's vehicles and raise money for the youth ministry to keep doing great stuff and to keep family costs down for things like ASP mission trips and the ELCA Youth Gathering. Sign up here to help: [Youth Car Wash Fundraisers](#).
- Sunday, April 28, 12:15-2:45 pm – **Youth Laser Tag and Mini Golf at Grand Slam!** Meet at St. Paul's parking lot at 12:15 pm to carpool to Grand Slam in Malvern. Family cost is \$20 for the first participant, and \$35 for two or more participants from the same household. (Any additional participants are free.) Sign up here to reserve your gaming gear: [April 28 Youth Laser Tag and Mini Golf](#).
- Sunday, May 5, 7:45-11:45 am – **Youth Car Wash Fundraiser at St. Paul's**. We need ALL hands on deck for the return of this popular annual fundraiser – parents, middle schoolers, and high schoolers alike. Help clean people's vehicles and raise money for the youth ministry to keep doing great stuff and to keep family costs down for things like ASP mission trips and the ELCA Youth Gathering. Sign up here to help: [Youth Car Wash Fundraisers](#).

### **9th-12th GRADE UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR**

*For the most up-to-date event information and signup links, go online to the Youth Ministry web page at [StPaulsLionville.org/youth](http://StPaulsLionville.org/youth).*

- Sunday, April 7, 6:30-8:00 pm at St. Matthew's – **OASIS**
- Sunday, April 14, 12:00-1:30 pm at St. Paul's – **Appalachia Service Project Prep Session #1**. All those who have signed up for our ASP work week in June are asked to come to meet the rest of the group and begin talking about our upcoming trip!
- Sunday, April 14, 4:00-6:00 pm (meet at St. Paul's at 3:00 pm to carpool) – **JUSTmove: An Evening with Joe Davis and David Scherer at Trinity Lutheran Church in Lansdale**. These two highly talented, socially-justice-oriented entertainers offer a performance of music, laughter, storytelling, and inspiration. Both have been regulars at prior ELCA Youth Gatherings. Youth AND parents are encouraged to attend! Cost is \$20 per adult, \$10 per student presale through April 12; \$25 per person after. All proceeds benefit the SEPA Synod Youth Scholarship Fund. Sign up here to join us: [April 14 JUSTmove Event](#).
- Sunday, April 21, 9:00-11:00 am – **Youth Car Wash Fundraiser at St. Matthew's**. We need ALL hands on deck for the return of this popular annual fundraiser – parents, middle schoolers, and high schoolers alike. Help clean people's vehicles and raise money for the youth ministry to keep doing great stuff and to keep family costs down for things like ASP mission trips and the ELCA Youth Gathering. Sign up here to help: [Youth Car Wash Fundraisers](#).
- Sunday, April 21, 4:00-5:30 pm at St. Matthew's – **ELCA Youth Gathering Planning Meeting**. Gathering participants ONLY need to attend this second preparation session as we get ready to head to New Orleans in July!
- Sunday, April 21, 6:30-8:00 pm at St. Paul's Fire Pit – **OASIS**
- Tuesday, April 23, morning-ish – **High School Brunchtime!** No school today, so we're going to find a place to land and eat together! Go to a local restaurant? Make our own in one of the church kitchens? Suggestions are welcome! Sign up here to reserve your spot: [April 23 Brunchtime!](#)

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## Youth Ministry News (cont.)

### 9th-12th GRADE UPCOMING EVENTS CALENDAR

- Sunday, April 28, 12:00-3:00 pm – **Youth Laser Tag and Mini Golf at Grand Slam!** Meet at St. Paul's at noon for pizza, then carpool to Grand Slam in Malvern. Family cost is \$20 for the first participant, and \$35 for two or more participants from the same household. (Any additional participants are free.) Sign up here to reserve your gaming gear: [April 28 Youth Laser Tag and Mini Golf](#).
- Sunday, May 5, 7:45-11:45 am – **Youth Car Wash Fundraiser at St. Paul's.** We need ALL hands on deck for the return of this popular annual fundraiser – parents, middle schoolers, and high schoolers alike. Help clean people's vehicles and raise money for the youth ministry to keep doing great stuff and to keep family costs down for things like ASP mission trips and the ELCA Youth Gathering. Sign up here to help: [Youth Car Wash Fundraisers](#).
- Sunday, May 5, 12:00-1:30 pm at St. Paul's – **Appalachia Service Project Prep Session #2.** We will find out our crew assignments and continue making plans as we get ready for our June 22-29 ASP work week!
- Sunday, May 5, 6:30-8:00 pm at St. Matthew's – OASIS

## Results of Youth Support Team Survey

This past January, the St. Paul's/St. Matthew's Youth Support Team sent out a survey to families with youth in middle school and high school to get a feel for where things were going well and where our growth areas lay. There was some very helpful feedback and constructive criticism in the responses that were submitted and the Youth Support Team spent time over the course of several meetings discussing what was shared. Here's a quick summary of some common threads that emerged and some ways that we are responding to people's input:

1. ***What is the purpose of having a youth ministry in our congregations?*** Every single answer to this question centered around building relationships – relationships with their peers and adults in a faith environment and with Christ. This is already at the core of the vision for our youth ministry, so it's good to know that this is a shared desire among the parents of our youth.
2. ***What do you hope you and your child(ren) will gain from their youth ministry experiences?*** The responses here were similar to the first question, but predominantly landed in helping youth develop a lifelong connection to their faith, to know the congregation as a community where they are welcomed and valued, to know the value of serving others, and to see the Bible as not simply a collection of stories but a valuable resource for how to live their lives.
3. ***What draws you to be involved in St. Paul's/St. Matthew's youth ministry?*** Responses here were more mixed. Some felt that they weren't drawn to be involved because their kids weren't interested in what was being offered. Others noted that the nature of the shared ministry, with a greater combined number of involved youth, was what attracted them. Still others noted the enthusiasm of the youth themselves as the reason why they were involved. The Youth Support Team took particular note of the comments about a perceived lack of interesting events and observed that the "gateway" ministry model we are trying to develop may provide opportunities in the future for families that aren't connecting with our current offerings. (The gateway ministry model develops smaller, special-interest groups as gateways to draw youth into the broader ministry.)

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## Results of Youth Support Team Survey (cont.)

4. ***What areas would you say are strongest in our current youth ministry?*** Responses to this question included relationship building among the youth, the wide variety of activities and service projects offered, and Peer Ministry Leadership and Appalachia Service Project. Several responses specifically cited the shared ministry between St. Paul's and St. Matthew's, noting that neither congregation would be able to do by itself what our combined efforts are allowing.
5. ***What areas need to be improved or addressed?*** There were a lot of really good thoughts and ideas that came out of this question. The slow return of families to church life after the pandemic was mentioned a couple of times, as was the need for more adults to become involved in leadership roles within the ministry. (This is especially critical to implementing the "gateway" ministry model effectively.) A comment was made about how some regular events put a particular financial strain on families that have two (or more) youth participating, so a new event cost structure has been implemented that provides discounts for additional youth from the same family. Another suggestion that was made was to consult school calendars when scheduling activities and avoid holidays and major sporting events. The Youth Support Team reflected on the challenges presented by doing this, as St. Paul's alone has youth that attend seven different high schools in three different districts, and a similar range of 6th-8th grade schools. (Including St. Matthew's adds three more high schools and school districts.) There are very few weekends across the school year when there isn't a significant event happening and Craig observed that he does occasionally schedule activities during three-day holiday weekends precisely because that's the only time in a particular period when no major activities are happening in any of the high schools. Finally, a desire was expressed to offer events for younger families and entire families. The February trip to Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area was a start in this direction, but more is needed (and is beyond the purview of the Youth Support Team). Craig's hope is to find a group of adults from both St. Paul's and St. Matthew's who would be willing to organize these kinds of things on a regular basis, a "Family Ministry Support Team" of sorts.
6. ***What challenges do we face in trying to carry out youth ministry programs and initiatives?*** Challenges that respondents identified included budgetary constraints; scheduling conflicts with sports, school events, and other activities; an insufficient number of adults stepping up to help within the youth ministry; participation from families; prioritizing other activities over church events; and getting families re-engaged after the pandemic. The Youth Support Team appreciated that others recognize the challenges that we face, too.

Our St. Paul's/St. Matthew's Youth Support Team wants to thank those who took the time to thoughtfully respond to this survey, and to help us as we consider how best to serve our youth and families going forward!

## Youth Ministry Fundraisers



**Twin Valley Coffee Fundraiser:** Lutherans love their coffee and here is an opportunity to buy some of the best and support our youth programs! From April 14-May 12, you will be able to purchase coffee beans and other products online from Twin Valley Coffee with a percentage of the profits being donated to benefit our St. Paul's/St. Matthew's Youth Ministry. As they say on their website, "After you have had your first cup of Twin Valley Coffee you will be ruined for the ordinary!" Watch for more details in This Week at St. Paul's and the church website.

**Car Wash:** Our youth will be holding car wash fundraisers at St. Matthew's on Sunday, April 21, from 9:00-10:45 am and at St. Paul's on Sunday, May 5, from 7:45-11:45 am. Drop off your car, go in to worship, and by the time you return you will have a sparkling clean ride!



## Social Ministry

A big thank you to everyone who donated to our Easter food drive. This year we were able to exceed our goal and collected 63 boxes of food, plus hams and chickens. The boxes were distributed to the Care Center Foundation in West Chester and also to a group of grandparents in Coatesville who are raising their grandchildren because their parents are incarcerated.

We were happy to have Diane Cassey from Trinity Lutheran Church in Wallingford to speak at both services on Sunday, April 14, about the "Living Love Lunch" program that feeds the hungry in Chester. The program provides lunches to the homeless two Sundays and two Wednesdays a month. We hope to partner with them to also help.

We made a donation of \$200 to the Honey Brook Food Pantry that they used to purchase fresh produce for the families that they support. This gift helps serve their community as they provide food for well over 1,000 individuals each month.

Thanks to everyone who came out on a Saturday to help the Crafters make coconut and peanut butter eggs to sell for Easter. Candy sales help pay for sewing supplies they use for their craft projects throughout the year.

We have a date for this year's yard sale. It will be **Saturday morning, May 18**, at Tilly and Dick Hujsak's in the Marchwood development. Please start to clean out those closets and put aside books, games, toys, and household items you'd like to donate. All monies collected will go to the Chester County Food Bank.



We hope to see you at our next blood drive which is coming up on **Thursday, May 30**, from 2:00-7:00 pm. Please mark you calendar for this life-saving drive. Visit the [American Red Cross website](#) and use a sponsor code of "splutheran" to sign up.

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**DONATE BLOOD. HELP SAVE LIVES.**

**Blood Drive**  
**St. Paul's Lutheran Church**

Fellowship Hall  
104 S. Village Avenue  
Exton, PA 19353

**Thursday, May 30, 2024**  
**2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: splutheran to schedule an appointment.

Maximize your blood donation. Help more patients.  
If you are an eligible type O, B - or A - donor, consider making a Power Red donation.  
Red blood cells are the most commonly transfused blood component.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Scan to be directed to  
RapidPass®

**Come to give blood May 20 to June 9 for an EXCLUSIVE  
Red Cross shirt, while supplies last!**



Scan to schedule  
an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

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[ 398 ] • Order ID: 1652424 • Item ID: 7727818 • Qty: 1 of 1 • 143650 • 2024-APL-0094 • AR22 • 241786

## A Note from the Director of Music

Lyndsey@StPaulsLionville.org

St. Paul's music ministries made much music in March. (Say that three times fast!) Our Early Praise choir kicked off the month singing the stirring Lenten hymn *I Want Jesus to Walk With Me* at the 8:00 am service on March 3. That same day, guest vocalist Evan Albright sang the inspirational song *The Prayer* at the 10:30 am service. The following week on March 10, our teen choir, Voice of the Spirit, shared Chris Tomlin's reflective praise song *At the Cross (Love Ran Red)* at our contemporary worship service. Also during March, the Kingdom Choir presented a thoughtful arrangement of the old Irish Hymn *Be Thou My Vision* at both services, accented beautifully by Elisa Borneman playing violin.



While I am grateful all year long for the many talented and dedicated musicians at St. Paul's, their talent and dedication are most notable during Holy Week. The **Kingdom Choir** sang at every service from Palm Sunday, to Maundy Thursday, to Good Friday and in joyful celebration at the 10:30 am service on Easter Sunday. We also heard the **Jubilant Bells** ring out at both services on Palm Sunday as well as Easter Sunday. Our teen choir, **Voice of the Spirit**, was heard singing at the 10:30 am service on Easter Sunday. And the regal sound of the trumpet could be heard at both Easter Sunday services thanks to the Zack Heath volunteering his time and talent again as he did at Christmas and for Scout Sunday.

Looking ahead, **Early Praise** will be singing at the 8:00 am Traditional Service on Sunday, April 7, the **Kingdom Choir** will be participating in the Exton Ministerium Music Fest at 7:00 pm on Sunday, April 14, at Saints Philip and James Catholic Church in Exton, and a variety of our musicians, including the **Worship Team**, will be participating in the music at our special combined worship service on Sunday, April 28, at 9:30 am. See article below for more info.

## Guest Musician to Lead Music at Combined Worship Service

On **Sunday, April 28**, St. Paul's will have a combined worship service at 9:30 am. The music for this service will be led by guest musician Omaldo Perez, supported by St. Paul's own musicians and ensembles.

Omaldo led a session at the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians' National Conference held in Philadelphia last summer that presented familiar hymns from the Lutheran tradition in new ways that made the listener and singer understand the text anew. Omaldo found the delicate balance between remaining faithful to these time-honored hymns while presenting them in fresh and meaningful ways. Psalm 33:3 encourages us, "Sing unto God a new song; play skillfully with a loud noise." We aim to do just that in our worship on Sunday, April 28.



**ABOUT THE MUSICIAN:** Omaldo Perez is a church musician whose interests range from early baroque practices to improvisation to musical diversity in today's church. He has helped lead music for synod gatherings and has been a guest musician for several ELCA events. In addition, he has contributed to *Sundays and Seasons*, publications of the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians, and serves in advisory roles for both the Institute of Liturgical Studies and ALCM. Omaldo has extensive experience leading worship music, having served as a Music Director and church organist at Presbyterian, Catholic, and ELCA congregations in New York, New Jersey, Arizona, Washington, Ohio, and Illinois. He is currently the Director of Music and Worship Arts at Christ Presbyterian Church in Madison, WI.

**Everyone is Invited to  
Rejoicing Spirits  
Worship Services  
Sunday, April 14  
at 4:00 pm**

Come and experience an amazing worship service where:

we have lots of  
music and joyous  
singing



*Faith IS NOT KNOWING  
WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS,  
BUT KNOWING  
who holds the future.*

meaningful  
messages

many ways to  
participate, serve  
and lead



"NO" shushing  
policy

and fellowship!



**Volunteers are  
asked to arrive  
at 3:30 pm.**

## Help Improve St. Paul's Reach

We often read online reviews to help select the best place to visit or item to buy. One very significant way you can help spread the word about St. Paul's is to post an online review about our church! It's a very simple and yet powerful way for people to learn that St. Paul's is a great congregation where they would be blessed as well. Simply write out a short review that speaks highly of St. Paul's and post it on these websites: Google - Facebook - Yelp. Thanks so much for spreading the word about St. Paul's!



## Thrivent Action Cards

Are you a member of Thrivent? We can use your help! Thrivent will provide up to \$250 in seed money to put on a fundraiser, educational event, or service activity. There are several committees at St. Paul's who actively use these funds for projects such as school bags, quilts, baby care kits, and personal care kits. Applying is very easy and we can walk you through it. Reach out to Ann Byer at 484-678-6445 or [annbyer1@gmail.com](mailto:annbyer1@gmail.com). We'd be delighted to add you to our list.

## Prayer Team

If you would like to be part of the prayer team who is contacted when immediate prayer is needed, please contact the church office or [PastorStuart@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:PastorStuart@StPaulsLionville.org). Also, if you have an immediate need for prayer, please don't hesitate to contact the church office or Pastor Stuart!

## Coffee Fellowship Help

Only one Sunday in the next three months has an individual or group signed up to provide Sunday morning fellowship snacks and prepare coffee. Get together with friends, family, or your church group and have some fun! [Sign up online](#) or in the narthex.



## Sharing St. Paul's Pictures

Many have noted and enjoyed the St. Paul's pictures showing in the narthex. If you take any pictures at a St. Paul's event and would like to share them, please upload them to us at [StPaulsLionville.org/sharepictures](http://StPaulsLionville.org/sharepictures). Thank you!

## St. Paul's Communications

St. Paul's will never request login credentials, gift cards, money, money orders, etc. in our communications (text, email, mail, phone, etc.).



## Area Events



Women of the ELCA of Chester Conference  
& Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd  
invite you to a conference/workshop on

### Navigating Difficult Conversations: **RACISM**

Presenting Professional Guest Speaker:  
Anita Friday  
of Open Hearts: A Path to Racial Healing

Saturday, April 13 - 8:30 am to 12:15 pm

Continental Breakfast will be served.

\$10.00 minimum donation to go towards

Youth Conference in New Orleans

**Due to Easter festivities, we have extended deadline to  
receive registration to Tuesday, April 9.**

Any questions, email Kim Tapscott at [tapscots@verizon.net](mailto:tapscots@verizon.net)

Make minimum \$10.00 check to Kim Tapscott (in memo note church name & # of attendees). Also include on separate piece of paper church name and names of attendees. Mail to the following address (or email names to [tapscots@verizon.net](mailto:tapscots@verizon.net)):

Kim Tapscott

c/o Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

107 So. 17<sup>th</sup> Ave,

Coatesville, PA 19320

### St. John's Lutheran Church Phoenixville, PA 2023-2024 Concert Series

#### Providence Chamber Orchestra

April 21, 2024, 4 PM

Selections to be determined



#### St. John's Choir & Friends

May 5, 2024, 7 PM

Thirty-first annual concert with singers from the community

Music of William Billings, America's first major composer & Patriotic Selections

Rehearsals 7-9 pm, 3/24, 4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28 – Singers welcome, no audition

# Principally Harps!

*Mindy Cutcher & Janet Witman*

Principal Harpist with the Pennsylvania Ballet & Principal Harpist with the Kennett Symphony

**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

**4:00 PM**

Concert harp-duo transcriptions including: *Polovtsian Dances* by Borodin; Debussy's *En Bateau*, Disney classic, *Under the Sea*, jazz version of *Pure Imagination*, the beloved hymn, *Fairest Lord Jesus*, and Latin dance music- *Tango and Rumba*.



**Freewill Offering**

**St. John's Lutheran Church**

**355 St. John's Circle  
Phoenixville, PA  
610-933-3947**

# Congregational Photos

February 11 - Scout Sunday



Roger Grant, Piano



Aiden Mertz, Lector



Nathanael Grant, Piano



Zach Heath, Trumpet

Sai Thummala, Tumpet

Emily Lloyd, Baritone

Zach Heath,  
Assisting Minister

March 8 - First Communion Retreat



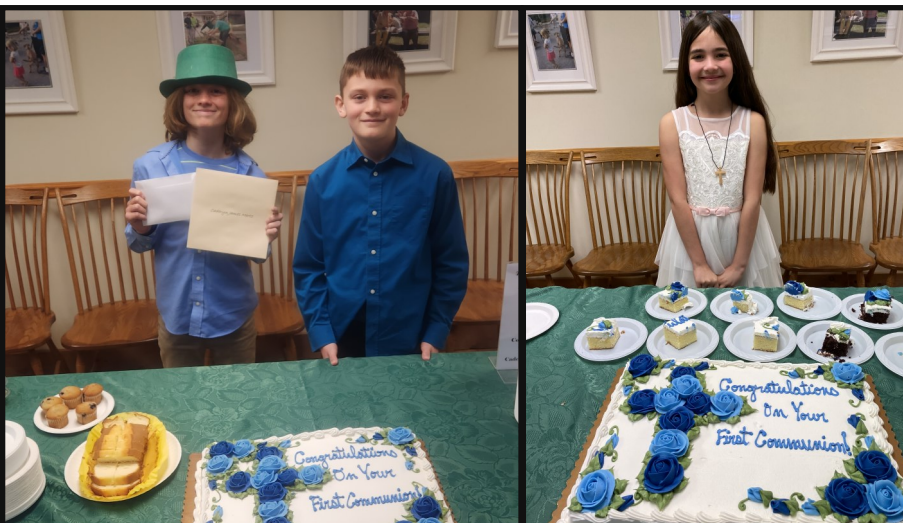


## Congregational Photos (cont.)

February 11 - Renewal of Vows



March 17 - First Communion



*Left to Right:*

Cade Mertz  
Jacob Wiest  
Stephanie Mata

# Congregational Photos (cont.)

March 1 - Youth Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser



March 15 - OASIS



March 21 - Thank You Amigos!



## Congregational Photos (cont.)

March 15-17 - Tuscarora Lutheran Youth Retreat



March 24 - Delivering Easter Food Baskets



## St. Paul's Volunteer Schedule for April-May

	4/7/2024 8:00 AM EASTER 2	4/14/2024 8:00 AM EASTER 3	4/21/2024 8:00 AM EASTER 4	4/28/2024 9:30 AM EASTER 5
<b>Altar Care</b>	Strawbridge, H&J	Shallow, W	Pechin, M	Shallow, D
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Robinson, C	Missimer, M	Erickson, F	Shallow, W
<b>Lector</b>	Sarpen, G	Shallow, B	Pechin, M	Missimer, M
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Wait, T	Adams, C	Strawbridge, H	Berger, K
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Wait, K	Adams, J	Strawbridge, J	Ward, J
<b>Acolyte</b>	Gledhill, R	Mertz, C	Wiest, Jacob	Shallow, C
	4/7/2024 10:30 AM EASTER 2	4/14/2024 10:30 AM EASTER 3	4/21/2024 10:30 AM EASTER 4	
<b>Altar Care</b>	Kerstetter, H	Borneman, E	Albright, A	
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Burt, B	McGovern, C	Sanders, J	
<b>Lector</b>	Johnson, K	Ripper, N	Heydt, D	
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Tilghman, P	Teague, J	Fabry, J	
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Wollenberg, R	Teague, R	McPeak, J	
<b>Acolyte</b>	Fernandez, M	Teague, L	Merkel, A	
<b>Lock-Up</b>	Huffman, M	Smith, P	Wornson, B	Foltz, D

	5/5/2024 8:00 AM EASTER 6	5/12/2024 8:00 AM EASTER 7	5/19/2024 8:00 AM DAY OF PENTECOST	5/26/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 1
<b>Altar Care</b>	Pechin III, F	Ward, J	Shallow, W	Strawbridge, H&J
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Lloyd, E	Sarpen, G	Pechin, M	Wiest, A
<b>Lector</b>	Pechin III, F	Ripper, N	Pechin III, F	Graham, G
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Wiest, K	Missimer, M	Shallow, D	Heath, S
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Wiest, A	Munson, G	Shallow, B	Heath, W
<b>Acolyte</b>	Wiest, Jack	Gledhill, R	Mertz, C	Wiest, Jacob
	5/5/2024 10:30 AM EASTER 6	5/12/2024 10:30 AM EASTER 7	5/19/2024 10:30 AM DAY OF PENTECOST	
<b>Altar Care</b>	Rice, P&P	Stevens, L	Paul, J/Wachter, S	
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Johnson, K	Brauer, B	Albright, A	
<b>Lector</b>	Mcllvaine, S	Sanders, J	Baker, C	
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Young, A	Burt, B	Mcllvaine, J	
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Wornson, B	Flach, C	Mcllvaine, S	
<b>Acolyte</b>	Young, W	Hillestad, K	Teague, R	
<b>Lock-Up</b>	Heath, S	Flach, C	Shallow, D	Huffman, M

We are grateful to our volunteers who give their time to ensure worship services run smoothly! If you would like to start volunteering, volunteer in another capacity, or step back from volunteering, please complete a "Serve with Love" survey (a pink sheet inserted into bulletins in March, June, September, and December and on a table in the narthex) or you can submit the [online survey here](#).

*(continued on next page)*

## St. Paul's Volunteer Schedule for June-August

	6/2/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 2	6/9/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 3	6/16/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 4	6/23/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 5	6/30/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 6
<b>Altar Care</b>	Borneman, E	Kerstetter, H	Pechin, M	Albright, A	Pechin III, F
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Robinson, C	Colberg, A	Missimer, M	McGovern, C	Erickson, F
<b>Lector</b>	Fabry, J	Thomas, N	Strawbridge, H	Wiest, A	Robinson, C
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Johnson, K	Dierksheide, D	Kramer, K	Pindle, B	Wollenberg, B
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Huffman, M	Dierksheide, L	Stevens, J	Pindle, K	Tilghman, P
<b>Acolyte</b>	Shallow, C	Fernandez, M	Teague, L	Wiest, Jack	Young, W
<b>Lock-Up</b>	Smith, P	Wornson, B	Foltz, D	Heath, S	Flach, C

	7/7/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 7	7/14/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 8	7/21/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 9	7/28/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 10
<b>Altar Care</b>	Rice, P&P	Ward, J	Stevens, L	Shallows
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Sanders, J	Shallow, W	Lloyd, E	Johnson, K
<b>Lector</b>	Borneman, E	Wiest, K	Kramer, K	Mertz, A
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Wait, T	Adams, J	Strawbridge, H	Fabry, J
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Wait, K	Adams, C	Strawbridge, J	Ward, J
<b>Acolyte</b>	Gledhill, R	Hillestad, K	Teague, R	Mertz, C
<b>Lock-Up</b>	Shallow, D	Huffman, M	Smith, P	Wornson, B

	8/4/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 11	8/11/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 12	8/18/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 13	8/25/2024 9:30 AM PENTECOST 14
<b>Altar Care</b>	Wachter, J&S	Strawbridge, H&J	Borneman, E	Kerstetter, H
<b>Asst. Minister</b>	Sarpen, G	Brauer, B	Pechin, M	Albright, A
<b>Lector</b>	Berger, N	Shallow, D	Fernandez, R	Erickson, F
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Berger, K	Wornson, B	Wiest, K	Teague, J
<b>Usher/Greeter</b>	Missimer, M	McPeak, J	Wiest, A	Teague, R
<b>Acolyte</b>	Wiest, Jacob	Shallow, C	Fernandez, M	Teague, L
<b>Lock-Up</b>	Foltz, D	Heath, S	Flach, C	Shallow, D

Please note:

- Scheduling occurs quarterly (in December for March-May, in March for June-August, in June for September-November, and in September for December-February) and is emailed to volunteers at the beginning of every month.
- The schedule printed in this newsletter includes any changes communicated to Marisa before March 27. For the most up-to-date volunteer schedule, visit [StPaulsLionville.org/volunteers](http://StPaulsLionville.org/volunteers). Please [email Marisa](#) if you know of any changes that need to be reflected in the schedule.
- If you are unable to serve on a day you are scheduled, please find a substitute and [email Marisa](#) any changes to the schedule.
- If someone's name is red on the schedule, they are looking for a replacement. If you are able to step in, please contact them and [email Marisa](#) any changes to the schedule.
- If you know in advance that you are unavailable specific dates, please [email Marisa](#) the names and dates to prevent from being scheduled.

**Thank you!!**

## About St. Paul's Lutheran Church - Lionville

St. Paul's is a community who gather to grow in faith with Jesus and God and then let that powerful gift of love and joy overflow into the community, nation and world! If we can be helpful in any way on your faith journey, everyone (and we do mean EVERYONE) is always invited and will be welcomed!!



Address: 104 S. Village Avenue      Email: [Office@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:Office@StPaulsLionville.org)  
Exton, PA 19341      Website: [StPaulsLionville.org](http://StPaulsLionville.org)  
Phone: 610-363-6264      YouTube: [YouTube.com/@StPaulsLionville](https://YouTube.com/@StPaulsLionville)  
Facebook: [Facebook.com/StPaulsLionville](https://Facebook.com/StPaulsLionville)

### STAFF

Stuart W. Luce - Pastor (Ext. 4 / [PastorStuart@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:PastorStuart@StPaulsLionville.org))  
Lyndsey Holmes - Director of Music (Ext. 6 / [Lyndsey@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:Lyndsey@StPaulsLionville.org))  
Craig Miller - Director of Youth and Family Ministries (Ext. 7 / [CraigYouthMin@Gmail.com](mailto:CraigYouthMin@Gmail.com))  
Cari Kramer - Director of Administration and Preschool (Ext. 5 / [CariStPauls@Gmail.com](mailto:CariStPauls@Gmail.com))  
Marisa Weisskopf - Communications and Office Administrator (Ext. 8 / [Marisa@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:Marisa@StPaulsLionville.org))  
David Foltz - Worship Technician  
Brian Lloyd - Organist and Accompanist

The office is usually staffed between 9:00-4:00 pm on Mondays, Tuesdays, and Thursdays and 9:00-12:00 pm on Wednesdays. To meet with a staff member or if you plan to visit the church, please call ahead. Thank you!

For an emergency or if you are in need of pastor care, call Pastor Stuart at 610-804-1740.



*St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church is a member of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*



## Grow in Faith, Serve with Love, Invite into Fellowship

**Caring for each other is one of the most important things we do — now more than ever! If you or your loved ones have a specific need during these challenging times - spiritually, physically, or emotionally - please email our designated email: [Care@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:Care@StPaulsLionville.org).**

This is for everything from letting us know you are especially lonely or have a particular need, to requests for special prayers or support. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please call the office 610-363-6264.

Our newsletter is published every month. Members are welcome to submit news items. Articles to St. Paul's Newsletter are due by **no later than the 24th of every month.**

Email items to: [Marisa@StPaulsLionville.org](mailto:Marisa@StPaulsLionville.org)

Please include WHO, WHAT, WHEN, WHERE and WHY as well as your name and contact information if you're asking people to respond. Contact Marisa via email with any questions.