

Fall Issue
2018

Messenger & Zepher

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN

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Council President
Nancy Faulds

ZION LUTHERAN -

Council President
Chuck Saxton



Proudly
Serving

ST. PAUL'S

◆ John A. Priestly III

◆ Sgt. Keith Moose
4914 Norris Loop Apt.B
Fort Polk, LA 71459-4279

◆ LCDR Paul Smith
USNS Trenton JHSV-5

ZION

◆ Brian Middleton

◆ Benjamin Shull



DEADLINE
September 11

Send submissions to
spdans@frontiernet.net

Zion Lutheran Church 20 S. Dansville St. Cohocton, NY 14826
(585) 384-5156 www.zioncohocton.net

St. Pauls' Lutheran Church 21 Clara Barton Street Dansville, NY 14437
(585) 335-5260 spdans@frontiernet.net www.spdans.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
21 Clara Barton Street
Dansville, NY 14437
Zion Lutheran Church
20 S. Dansville St.
Cohocton, NY 14826

Pastor's Message

Grace, peace and songs of comfort and joy be yours today, Amen.

I write this as I sit in the comfort of my living room, looking out at an overgrown backyard and knowing that soon the weather will change. The green will turn to shades of yellow, orange, red and brown. Soon thereafter there will be leaves to rake and the inevitable first snow. I know I really shouldn't mention the "sn.." word, but it is part of the cycle of the year.

September in the church has always baffled me. It is the time of the year that programming seems to start anew. I get it, but I also don't get it! I wonder how churches in the Southern Hemisphere handle their church programming.

I am thankful that God sees each day new and journeys with us in our ups and downs, our stubbornness, our reliance on the past, and our struggles with change. Elsewhere in the newsletter Nancy Faulds talks about our work on the Ministry Site Profile (MSP). At a recent Council meeting the question was raised "Where will we be in the next five years?" The responses were varied. One of my standard phrases has been "What is God calling us to do in this community and the surrounding community?" "Where is God leading us?"

When I was a child I worshiped at a church, St. Paul, in Oakland California. It was a "Swedish" Lutheran church. Every year there was a Swedish smorgasbord (yes I was Lucia once and wore a ring of lit candles on my head). It was tradition. But as I grew older and left the area, they still had the dinner because it was what they did in December. On Christmas morning they had a 6AM Julotta service. They finally discontinued that when the only person that could read the lessons in Swedish was, you guessed it, me. Today St. Paul is a thriving inner city congregation. It is perhaps the most diverse congregation that I have worshiped at with people of all ages, sexual orientation, religious background, and economic diversity. The configuration of the

sanctuary has been changed to be accessible. They even changed their name, but that is for another newsletter.

Why do I share this story? St. Paul in Oakland CA is 130 years old. Not as old as St. Paul's in Dansville. St. Paul in Oakland listened to the Spirit and God's call to serve their community, to step outside their comfort zone and engage in transformational ministry.

You, my friends, have been called. You bring tremendous gifts of faithfulness, service, music and giving. The question is ... How is God calling you to use them in years ahead. That is the question that needs to be answered as we finish the Ministry Site Profile. Are you ready? God is calling.



**WHAT
IS GOD
CALLING
YOU
TO DO?**

Stewardship, love, and prophecy:

Three things that mean the same thing

When explaining my role as the Director for Evangelical Mission and where stewardship fits in I almost always start with this question: “What is the first thing that comes to mind when you hear the word ‘stewardship’?” The money you put in the offering plate? Pledge cards? Budgets and spreadsheets? A grateful response to God? What about discipleship? Justice? Evangelism? Love?

For many, stewardship means “the church asking for money again” or perhaps nothing at all. If it’s the former it draws to mind that time that happens every fall to ensure there is enough money to fund the budget for the next year. While the annual financial response may be wrapped up in religious language, at the end of the day it is about the need of the congregation to receive rather than the need of the giver to give.

Stewardship encompasses so much more than money. It is a way of life. It the integration of our faith in God and the way that we live our daily lives—we are a church that is energized by lively engagement in our faith and life. Stewardship is a mindset, a culture and a discipline that can never be contained in an annual three or four week financial response. According to Clarence Stoughton, former president of Wittenberg University, stewardship is everything we do after we say “I believe.” It is the way in which we use all of the resources that God has entrusted to our care so that we can love God and our neighbor. **Stewardship is about love.**

So, if stewardship is about love, then every dollar a community of faith spends is about sharing God’s love and making disciples who will join in sharing God’s love. When you prepare to give your offering

every week (or balance your checkbook and make note of your automatic giving), what acts of love are you hoping your offering is used for? Take a look at your congregation’s budget, are you able to make a direct connecting between your spending plan and the ways God’s love is shared? (Hint: You can do it! For instance, fellowship is an opportunity for people to develop relationship with each other and God).

It is with this focus that I invite you to consider spending time with the prophets this Fall in Bible study, worship or your personal devotion. It could be said that when a prophet showed up, it was because Israel, either their leaders or the the people as a whole, was being a bad steward. They talked about how money was spent, caring for one another, telling God’s story, health, peace and so much more. Whether your congregation uses the Revised Common Lectionary or the Narrative Lectionary, the Fall is full of prophets who had some important things to say about stewardship and embodying God’s love. What are the prophets saying to you today?

by the Rev. Norma E. Malfatti
from “Living Lutheran” July 2018

Loads of Love

Individuals can receive funding for 3 loads of washing and drying.
Families can receive funding for 5 loads of washing and drying.

Our schedule will be as follows:

Eagle Laundromat on West Avenue

Sept 8th: 8:30 am - 11:30 am
 Sept 24th: 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Oct 6th: 8:30 am - 11:30 am
 Oct 22nd: 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Nov 3rd: 8:30 am - 11:30 am
 Nov 19th: 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Dec 1st: 8:30 am - 11:30 am
 Dec 17th: 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm

Family Laundromat, 20 Franklin St.

Sept 10th: 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Sept 22nd: 8:30 am - 11:30 am
 Oct 8th: 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Oct 20th: 8:30 am - 11:30 am
 Nov 5th: 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Nov 17th: 8:30 am - 11:30 am
 Dec 3rd: 4:30 pm - 7:30 pm
 Dec 15th: 8:30 am - 11:30 am



*Please consider joining the team to help with this new ministry.
Contact Joan Brydges or Ann Myers.*

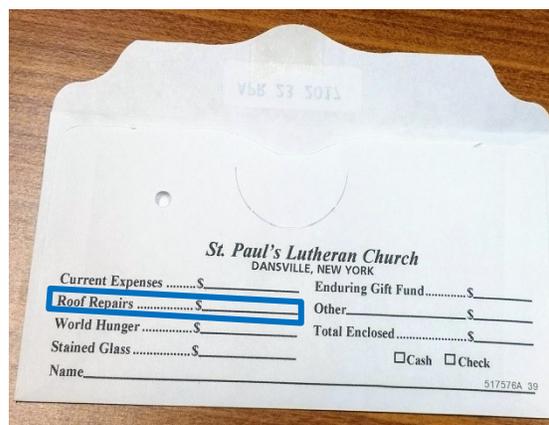
Stewardship Message from Nancy Faulds

Greetings!

Happy Almost Fall! Much has been happening over the summer. The church's roof is getting fixed and new gutters are being put on our building. We have borrowed funds from our Thrivent account to finance these endeavors. We did this with the promise to pay ourselves back, so this message comes with excitement that improvements are being made and a plea to us all to please pray about how you and I can really help to make that happen.

Every little bit will help so much. God can make abundance as we learned in a lesson from church a couple Sundays ago -how Jesus multiplied five loaves and two fish to feed 5000 hungry people. He is still in the business of providing for our needs. We just need to be willing to help as we are able.

Please note that on your envelope that you can indicate a specific area where you wish your gift to go, for example, please consider the need for funds for our roof repair. Thanks so much for all you do and for what you continue to do to help in our mission of sharing our faith, so we can continue to welcome all our community to experience God's love in this place!



Sunday School

September 16th

Is Rally Day!



Yummy!

Bring your kids, your friends' kids, your kids' friends, your grandkids!

We will celebrate after the service with Ice Cream and Fellowship!!!

Listen. God is calling!



for kids to color

A Letter from Our Council President

Grace and peace to you!

On behalf of the council we wanted to update you and all that has been happening over the summer at St. Paul's. Pastor Deb, our Transition Pastor, has been getting supply pastors for us, who have all been wonderful! Remember our very own, Henry Robin's children sermon! If you weren't there, here's the gist of it: "This is all you really need to know- Jesus loves you"!!! What a reassurance!! Thanks Henry!!

Pastor Deb, my husband, Bill, and I attended the Synod Assembly in June- what a blessing!! We got to praise God with the Upstate Synod folks several times -once there was a bell choir that helped with the praise, and on the last night there was a jazz band that helped with the music! We voted electronically, for the first time, for officers to our Synod and on current issues facing the church now, such as equal pay for male and female clergy. Pastor Deb was elected to attend the National ELCA meeting in 2019 in Wisconsin. Do you think she might bring us back some cheese?

The Synod collected \$40,000.00 for "Be a Light" World Hunger appeal, which \$1038.85 came from St Paul's of Dansville! Thank you to all who contributed toward that effort. It will be used to send kids to school to feed their minds so that they are better equipped to face tomorrow's challenges.

In late June, Heather Clark led a group of youth from St Paul's to the National Youth Gathering in Houston. Pastor Deb led a group from St. Timothy and some from Atonement! It was a fantastic experience for all, and we

hope we will all get a chance to hear about it from the kids in the near future.

We are still continuing to finish up the Ministry Site Profile (MSP) which is necessary to submit to the Synod and ELCA prior to opening up the call process. Pastor Deb has met with both the Bishop and Dean Deibler. We are hopeful that our work will be finished by the September meeting. The next step is to bring the MSP as developed by St. Paul's and Zion to determine how best to move forward together. A meeting is planned for early October with representatives of each congregation, Pastor Deb, and the Conference. This is quite an undertaking and we wish to thank everyone for their input at our congregational meeting June 18th. We had a good turnout and are almost coming to the completion of our MSP!

We ask for continued prayer for our church at home in Danville and for our worldwide mission.

Bless you all!
Nancy Faulds

Counters: T.Miller/C. Wagner - Sept
H.Robin/H.Clark - Oct

Worship Helpers

DATE	DEACON	LECTOR	ACOLYTE	USHERS/GREETER
Sept 2	Ann Myers	Bob Babcock	Ellie Mountzouros	Dick Sahrle Bob Whiteman
Sept 9	Cindy Gates	Glenn Gates	Olivia Miller	Paul Button Rodney Button
Sept 16	Carolyn Baker	Gerri Long		Bob Babcock Bill Shaver
Sept 23	Cindy Gates	Olivia Miller	Jocelyn Miller	Glenn Gates Bob Gates
Sept 30	Penny Leven	Henry Robin		Dick Sahrle Bob Whiteman
Oct 7	Ann Myers	Bonnie Sisak	Ellie Mountzouros	Paul Button Rodney Button

If you cannot be a helper on your appointed day, please trade OR call the Church Office.

September Birthdays



Joan Brydges
Sept 15
Heather Collier
Sept 28
Andrew J. Mountzouros
Sept 4
Alex Mountzouros
Sept 17
Ellie Mountzouros
Sept 12
Tarry Priestly
Sept 20

Bonnie Sisak
Sept 12
Paul Smith
Sept 20
David Thorp
Sept 29

Please contact the Church Office
if we missed anyone.

Dates to Remember

ST. PAUL'S SEPTEMBER

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tues 9:30am-2:30pm, or by appointment

SECRETARY'S OFFICE HOURS:

Tues & Wed 9am-12pm, Fri 9am-11am

Sat. 8th: 8:30am **LaundryLove** @Eagle Laundromat

Sun. 2nd: 9:15am **Worship**

Sun. 9th: 9:15am **Communion** "God's Work" Sunday
Congregation Project

Mon. 10th: 4:30pm **LaundryLove** @Family Laundro.

Tues.11th: **Newsletter deadline**

Sun. 16th: 9:15am **Worship Rally Day**

Sat. 22nd: 8:30am **LaundryLove** @Family Laundro.

Sun. 23rd: 9:15am **Communion**

Geneseo Outreach (loose plate)

Mon. 24th: 4:30pm **LaundryLove** @Eagle Laundro.

Sun. 30th: 9:15am **Worship**

Save the Date

Fall Dinner

Sat, Oct. 20 5-7pm

Main entrée: ham

ZION SEPTEMBER

Cleaners & Altar Guild:

Sun. 2nd: 11:15am **Communion**

Tues. 4th: **Loyals Picnic** @ Saxton's

Wed. 5th: *Dave & Karen Stone anniversary*

Sun. 9th: 11:15am **Communion**

Sun. 16th: 11:15am **Communion**
Church Council meeting

Sun. 23rd: 11:15am **Communion**

Sun. 30th: 11:15am **Communion**