

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
548 OLD SWEDE ROAD
DOUGLASSVILLE PA 19518**

Telephone (610) 385-6616

Fax (610) 385-6690

www.stpaulsdougllassville.com

info@stpaulsdougllassville.com

The Rev. Gregory W. Frey, Pastor



OCTOBER, 2014

Satis Est, is Latin for *it is enough*. We get the words satisfy, sated and satisfaction from this Latin root. This time of year we become more conscious of enough-ness in the abundant provision (or lack thereof) of our vegetable gardens. I long for garden tomatoes all year and then by August I am overwhelmed with the abundance I find either on my own plants or on my doorstep from generous friends.

The harvest is a reminder of the abundance God's good earth provides and this time of year many churches celebrate some kind of festival giving thanks for God's generous provision. Our God, without a doubt is a God of abundance. If we do an honest assessment of our lives we will probably find that even in the worst of times, our most basic needs have been provided for.

Satis est is a simple phrase which served an important purpose during the Reformation. As Protestants reformed their churches and made decisions about how doctrine and practices would characterize their faith communities, what they retained and what they let go of varied. The question came to Luther and others, what is essential and non-essential to our Christian faith? Do all churches and individual Christians have to hold to all the same principles and practices to experience unity in the church?

Lutherans put forward a principle which became known as the *Satis Est*, *it is enough*, to describe the essentials of Christian unity and it went like this. Article VII of our Lutheran confession of faith, *The Augsburg Confession* (1530), describes the unity of the church as follows, "*Likewise, (we) teach that one holy church will remain forever. The church is the assembly of saints in which the gospel is taught purely and*

the sacraments are administered rightly. And it is enough (Satis Est) for the true unity of the church to agree concerning the teaching of the gospel and the administration of the sacraments. It is not necessary that human traditions, rites, or ceremonies instituted by human beings be alike everywhere. As Paul says [Eph.4:5-6] 'One faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all...'"

It is the principle of *Satis Est* which has allowed ELCA Lutherans to enter into fellowship, communion and the exchange of clergy with churches as various as: United Church of Christ, Episcopal Church USA, Presbyterian Church USA, Moravian Church and others. We do not follow all the same human practices but we all confess our salvation as solely based on the free gift of grace in Jesus Christ, his death and resurrection (the gospel), and of celebration of the sacraments of grace which confer that grace to believers. Our faith in God's grace is a common faith and it is enough to cement our fellowship in the body of Christ.

The past few months have been very difficult for the people of St. Paul's as we have tried to deal with the differences we have discovered among us over the relationship of the church to same sex unions. We have found that there exists within our congregation significant differences of belief concerning the appropriate response of the church to this issue. I have found, in the numerous conversations I have had with people about this issue, a genuine sincerity concerning what the people of St. Paul's believe are the proper actions to be taken and the foundations of these beliefs. People, on both sides of this issue, are endeavoring to be faithful and desirous of doing what they believe is right.

In my conversations I have seen two competing themes emerge. On one side is a deep concern with faithfulness to the traditional interpretation of Scripture concerning human sexuality. This concern arises not out of malice, but out of the desire to protect foundational principles believed to undergird the church. On the other side is an equally deep concern to apply the principles of grace in Jesus Christ to all, including same sex couples. They believe gay and lesbian persons are born with this orientation and that reality is not sufficiently dealt with in Scripture.

I find compelling ideas on both sides of this issue but finally we must each make a choice which will determine our practice. I have outlined

my position in favor of same sex unions in the church yet have neither the desire nor the inclination to denounce those who have come to different conclusions. Our principal objective is the same, to be faithful to our Lord Jesus Christ in what we say and do. In a really significant way I believe the importance of remaining united to one another, even in the midst of differences, has become clearer and dearer to us because of our experience over this past summer.

People have commented to me about the themes of the lessons read in church lately, how many of them deal with issues of unity within the church. I have been asked if this was the criterion for choosing them. Most of you know that we follow an ecumenical three year lectionary by which the cycle of lessons we read in church was fixed years ago (1983 to be exact). The reason so many of our readings touch on church unity is because so much of the Bible is dedicated to this theme. Unity is tough. It was tough in Old Testament times, it was tough in the New Testament times and it is tough today. Unity is tough but essential to God's design for us. So a lot of ink has been dedicated to the imperative of community in the Bible. Jesus spent an inordinate amount of time almost begging his followers to remain united in the face of adversity, as did the letters of apostles. Our obedience to Holy Scripture demands the priority of our baptismal union to Christ and one another. How dedicated we are to maintaining our love and affection for one another in the midst of disagreement, I believe, will be the real test of our character and health as a Church. But testing is also tough!



As we move forward with a decision on this matter and the process of living into that decision we would do well to keep before us what it is that forms the basis of unity in Christ. That it is enough to hold on to the gospel of God's grace in Jesus Christ by faith and to share the sacraments of that grace as the unchanging foundation of our unity in the body of Christ we call the church. We will not all agree on the *traditions, rites and ceremonies instituted by human beings*, but we do not have to. These do not and, indeed, must not be the foundation of our unity in Christ.

Instead, we are to cultivate our unity around the good news of Jesus Christ. And we can do this, confidently, because our God is a God of abundance. Just as God supplies us with enough to meet our daily needs

so God will satisfy our heartfelt prayers for unity in Christ's name. Ultimately, this should be our objective. It is what we need, it is what we desire, and it is enough.

--Pastor Frey

WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

October 4	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
October 5	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Holy Communion 9:15 A.M. – Sunday School
October 11	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
October 12	8:00 & 10:30 A.M.—Worship 9:15 A.M. – Sunday School
October 18	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
October 19	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Holy Communion 9:15 A.M. – Sunday School
October 25	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
October 26	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Holy Communion 9:15 A.M. – Sunday School

FROM THE PARISH RECORDS.....

Wedding: Sept. 12 -- Michael Day & Kendra Johnson



Memorials:

Contribution to the Renovations Fund given in memory of Donald High by JoAnne Merkel.

A NOTE FROM CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COORDINATOR.....

What a busy Church we have! There are so many things going on we need to look for available space to have a meeting. Sunday Church School began with well attended Rally Day, catechetics orientation, and the first session of an Adult Forum series.

The following week Sunday Church School opening and individual classes began, a new class of 2 & 3 year olds and their parents had 14 participants, third graders were introduced to setting up their very own study Bible, catechetical classes began another year of study, Pastor began meeting with Adult Forum, and the Fall Apple Festival Committee had a meeting to work on final details. All this went on during the 9:15 am hour between services!

The next week Bishop Zeiser, bishop of Northeastern PA Synod, will be a visitor among us. He comes to engage us in conversations about Christian unity during times of disagreement. As one of 33 synodical bishops he attends meetings of colleagues where they need to agree to disagree about many theological issues.

Plans are in process for a Women's Retreat, Christmas programs for Child Development Center groups, and the annual Christmas bazaar. This place is and will be hopping for the next several months! And these are just the activities taking place on site for the congregation of St. Paul's. Many activities of "God's work Our hands" is evident at the Oley Fair and other community activities in which we participate as the body of Christ in the world.

I write this as I begin a week of vacation at home catching up on some needed work there, enjoying some crafting time for Bazaar items, and preparing my house for some changes (I'm planning to update my kitchen!). I will be engaged in Ecclesiastes 3:1-15

"...a time to break down, and a time to build up;...a time to keep, and a time to throw away;...a time to tear, and a time to sew;...What gain have the workers from their toil? I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with. He has made everything suitable for its time;..."

WOMEN'S GROUP -- TUESDAY, OCTOBER 28 AT 7 PM

Topic: "Balancing Faith and Work"

Leader: Rosalynda M Michetti (Crichton), Supervising Assistant District Attorney of the Narcotics Unit in the Berks County District Attorney's Office.

WOMEN'S RETREAT -- Friday, October 10 to Saturday, October 11, 2:00 pm - 8:00 pm; 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

"How much is enough? Living Simply"



How much do we need to live a simply happy life? What does the Bible tell us are key elements of a Christian life? These and more questions will be explored during a time of fellowship, fun, and faith.

Leader: Marlane Druckenmiller

Sign the sheet on the table in the narthex if you are interested in joining us for this event.

Cost: \$50 includes dinner and lunch, program materials

LABYRINTH GROUP -- MONDAY, OCTOBER 13.....

We will meet at 10:00 am on the Church parking lot to go to Shenkel's UCC labyrinth. Ms. Marlane will be with CDC staff at Columbus Day training. Contact Gloria Rhoads for more information (610-582-4794)

ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY -- NOV. 2.....

We will be placing lit votive candles in front of the church in memory of those who have died over the previous year (since November 1, 2013) and invite you to give us the names of friends and family members who have died (during the past year) who you would like remembered in this way. These people do not have to have been members of St. Paul's. We will place a candle in their memory and list their names in the bulletin. Please call the church office (610) 385-6616 to add the name.





FROM THE T3 COMMITTEE.....

1 Timothy 6:17-19 “As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God who richly provides us with everything for our enjoyment. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up for themselves the treasure of a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of the life that really is life.”

This passage enforces the abundance side of the abundance-scarcity scale. The writer is encouraging the “rich” or wealthy of the day to not be arrogant and not rely too much on their wealth, but rather lean on God who provides all that is needed. Don’t obsess on the riches, but be connected to the power that is proved for you. To me, it is this thought that suggests that God’s abundance will provide for his followers. The verse continues that the “rich” should use that wealth to do good deeds, share and be generous, which will build up value in things that “really matter in life”. By serving others, the abundance of spiritual wealth will be gained by doing God’s work along with providing abundance for those in need.

ANNUAL CROP WALK.....

The Annual Southeast Berks Ministerium CROP Hunger Walk will be held on October 12th at the Daniel Boone Homestead. The walk will begin at 2:00 PM at the South entrance of the Homestead with registration beginning at 1:30 PM. 6k, 3k and 1k walk routes are available.



Twenty-five percent of the funds raised in this walk go to the Ministerium Emergency Fund and the Amity and Birdsboro Food Pantries. The remainder is used by Church World Service to fund domestic and international poverty and disaster relief.

Interested in walking? Contact Pastor Frey to sign up and get a *Walkers Packet* including an envelope to collect sponsor donations. Donations may be made to walkers or online at www.churchworldservice.org.

SPLAT NEWS.....

We would like to encourage all youth to participate in the Southeastern Berks Crop Walk helping to fight hunger on Sunday, October 12, from noon—3:00 P.M. The SPLAT youth group will have a picnic at the homestead prior to the walk. Registration packets for the walk are available. Please come out and support this great cause and help us get back the Golden Shoe award!

CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER HAPPENINGS.....

Now that the summer is over, the CDC and Preschool staff has been busy preparing exciting lesson plans and curriculum for the month of October. We are looking forward to celebrating Fire Prevention Month. We will be having a visit with the Amity Township Fire Company to learn about fire safety. The children will also learn about apples by sampling a variety of apples, cooking applesauce and visiting the apple orchard. The children will explore the many signs of fall and learn about nocturnal animals. In addition, we will be hosting a Halloween costume party and parade.



Just as a reminder, we currently have space available in the 3 year old and 4 year old afternoon Preschool Programs. Please call or stop by the office anytime for additional information. As always, we appreciate your support. Thank you.

Sherry Gardner, Director

IT’S TIME TO GET READY FOR THE CHRISTMAS BAZAAR.....

Christmas Bazaar Committee starting to work on the upcoming Christmas Bazaar scheduled for December 5 & 6.

Some folks have been working on **crafts** all summer. We have some material, lots of ideas, and things that need to be sewn. If you can help with machine sewing contact Marlane Druckenmiller 610-385-6616. Thank you to those who have already volunteered. Many hands are needed for a successful Christmas Bazaar

The **Raffle Committee** will have tickets for sale soon. Contact Helen Strain 610-385-3616 or see her in the narthex on Sunday mornings if you are able to help sell some tickets.

The **Greens Committee** asks if anyone has pine trees to donate in November or has a connection with a tree farm please contact Judy Trout 610-689-5263.

St. Nicholas will make a return visit on Friday evening at 6 pm.

Fall Apple Festival
Saturday, October 4
9:00 am - 3:00 pm Rain or Shine

Breakfast begins with Apple Pancakes and Sausage.
Lunch features Hoagies (should be pre-ordered), Vegetable Soup, Pulled Pork Sandwiches, Hamburgers, Hot Dogs & Home-made Ice Cream.
 Apple Dumplings (should be pre-ordered) & Apple Tarts
 Apple Butter & Apple Cider

Musical entertainment

9:00 am - 11:00 am: Boyertown Alumni German Band
 11:00 am - 12:30 pm: Exeter Community Band
 1:45 pm - St. Paul's Contemporary Band

Activities

Moon Bounce, Hay Bale Play Area, Sand Art, Face Painting, Carnival Games & Prizes, Crafts

Events

Exotic Animal Show, Balloon Twister, Juggler
 10:00 am - 12 Noon: Pony Rides and Petting Zoo
 Over a Dozen Vendors

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS – SAT., OCT. 4, 10:00 A.M.....



Bring your pets to the Fall Apple Festival.
 Blessing of the Animals will take place at 10:00 A.M.

SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETING—SEPT. 10, 2014.....

- Approved the letter to be sent to the active members of the congregation informing them that the vote on same-sex marriage at St. Paul's would be held on October 5 at 9:15 A.M.
- Granted permission to the Daniel Boone Theater Group to use the fellowship hall for a fundraiser dinner.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR!!
Sunday, November 16, 2014
 9:15 A.M.

FESTIVAL OF HARVEST – Sunday, Oct. 12.....

Join us to celebrate the Festival of Harvest and to thank God for giving us all the things that we need for our daily lives. We are accepting donations of canned goods to be given to the food bank at St. Paul's UCC in Amityville. Chrysanthemum plants (\$6 each) may also be ordered to decorate the sanctuary and then taken with you after the 10:30 service.

Yes, I/We would like to order _____chrysanthemum plants \$ \$6.00 each to decorate the sanctuary for the Festival of Harvest. Given to the Glory of God:

_____In memory of _____by _____

_____in honor of _____by _____

Name _____

Deadline to order is October 5.

Weekly Prayer Service -- Wednesdays--9:00 AM

We pray for every member of the congregation on Wednesday mornings at 9 am. If you see your name here it is not because we think you have a specific need for prayer, but to let you know you are in our prayers



whatever your need may be. On Wednesday mornings we also pray for churches around the world, leaders in the ELCA, our staff and council members, our political leaders, those in the military, special requests, and many more. If you are free a Wednesday morning, stop in and join us. We are always finished before 9:30 AM. Included this month in our prayers will be: Nick Freitag, Heather Freitag, Hayden Hainsey, Zachary Freitag, Kendall Freitag, Sieglinde Fretz, Grace Frey, Gregory Frey, Wendy Frey, Justin Frey, Everett Frey, Steve Gabel, Beth Gabel, Garrett Gabel, Lucas Garcia, Benjamin Garcia, Aubrey Garman, Emily Gaskins, Fred Gaskins, Meridith Gaskins, Eugene Geiger, June Geiger, Joshua Geiger, and Richard Geiger. If you have anyone to add to the prayer list, please fill out a Prayer Request Card found in the pew racks or call the church office. Please pray for those with special concerns: Julia, Bobby Ham, Alton Brown, Sieglinde Fretz, Sophie Buschpics, Sue Keay, Kurt Kramer, Keith Hunter, Jan Haas, Tom Schadt, family & friends of John Bradley, Jr., Nancy Danby, Melvin Schurr, and all others listed below and those we name in our hearts: Delphine Altland, Geraldine Barbone, Matthew Barron, Sandra Berger, Olivia Blair, Mary Ann Bohn, Anne Bonekemper, Jeff Brown, Scott Brown, Bryan B., Jane Burns, Felix Carr, Luke Charlton, Jacqui Cramer, Jason Cutter, Shelli Davidheiser, Jack Dilks, William Embody, Nati English, Cindy Fake, Joanne Ferreri, Joan Fleming, Darin Freed, Wes Freeland, Lauren Freeman, Aaron Gabriel, Christine Geibel, Ron Glaser, Robert Graeff, Debbie Graff, Vera Guido, Ed Guss, June Henninger, Doris Herman, Darrin Holsopple, Jackie Hurchalla, Peter Jones, Rosie Jones, Brien Kalnoski, Joe Kasprzewski, Todd Kelly, Elizabeth Kiddy, Joe Kinder, Jim Kline, Sophia Krause, Joan Kucharik, Eric Kupp, Liane Lefever, Sandy Leinbach, Kevin Lindauer, Eileen Loose, Gloria Lutz, Ronald McCarraher, Steve McClaskey, Bill Marvel, Mary Jane, Linda Merkle, Paul Michalski, Gordon Miller, Laurel Miller, Dan Mosteller, David Murphy, Sandy Murphy, Ron Mutter, Anna McGeary Perks, Aloma Nagel, Michael Peterman, Richard Pool, Heather Powers, Joseph Rennock, Kathy Rhoads, Linda Rinehart, Lisa Rock, Louise Ruth, Steven Saylor, Melissa Schubert, Shalom, Shelly Sobel, David Speakman, Robin Sowers, Carson Steltz, Tami Tepe, Santana Umbach, Joanie Vernon, Grace Vickers, Cindy Weiler, Charlotte Wendel, Sue Wunderlich, shut-ins—Alton Brown, Frank Brown, Mary Levengood, Marie Linsenbigler, Walt Marchewski, Jake Messner, Helen Oxenford, John Prinzing, Gerry Reinert, Laura Schmale, Grace Weiler.

Note there are Prayer Request Cards in the pew racks.



10/1	Debbie Byrd	10/13	Carole Barbary
	Briella Eisenhard	10/14	JoAnne Merkel
	Everett Frey		Kitty Varady
	Justin Frey	10/15	Brian Gougler
	Ethan Himonitis		Thomas Lynagh
	Irene Lecki		Geraldine Trauger
10/2	Tara Bologa	10/16	Karen Marquette
	Patty Christman		Alexander Stanley
	Taylor Davidheiser	10/17	Darby McCleary
	Debra McCoy		Evan Miller
10/3	Matthew Byrd		Thomas Morrow
	Kristine DePrefontaine	10/18	Nati English
	Peggy Emery		Cheryl Overly
10/4	Isaac Cope	10/19	Katelin Burns
	Anthony Corley		Hayden Hainsey
	Richard Saylor		Jaslynn Stump
10/5	Dean Cassidy		Jaylynn Stump
10/6	Pat McClafferty	10/20	Dale Kirlin
	Lisa Porter	10/22	Karen Schreier
	Judy Trout	10/23	Paul Muschick
	Cooper Walt		Paul Reber
	Marian Zaffary	10/24	Russ Hartline
10/7	Jennie Clouser		Barbara Keim
	Carolyn DiSandro		Len Trauger
	Gabrielle Krystopa	10/25	Frank Jablonski
	Zachary Muray	10/27	Barry Oxenford
10/8	Jack Cooke		Lauren Sarro
	Zachary Corley	10/28	Sally Rhoads
	Kaitlyn Venn		Emma Serrian
10/9	Zachary Freitag	10/29	John Lee, Sr.
	Matthew Poole		Dale Watkins
10/10	David Lau	10/30	Amanda Hatfield
10/11	Jonathan Wlajnitz	10/31	Barry Eidell
10/12	Nathan Vernon		Jeff Skelton

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO –

Karen & Matthew Brown	10/1	31 yrs.
Albert & Janet Suglia	10/1	59 yrs.
Barry & Faith Casciano	10/3	33 yrs.
Brian & Rebecca Miller	10/4	17 yrs.
Mark & Kim Sheeler	10/6	30 yrs.
Steven & Shannon Hickey	10/8	3 yrs.
Gerald & Pat Levengood	10/9	65 yrs.
Mark & April McConnell	10/9	15 yrs.
Evan & Jenna Dominick	10/11	6 yrs.
Jerry & Suzanne Kupp	10/13	30 yrs.
Gene & Christine Langdon	10/14	19 yrs.
Chris & Sherry Brown	10/18	12 yrs.
Al & Jeanette Forster	10/18	17 yrs.
Dale & Jim Watkins	10/18	39 yrs.
Larry & Lauri Barr	10/19	29 yrs.
Geraldine & William Glutz	10/20	52 yrs.
Tony & Jennifer Beers	10/21	8 yrs.
Dave & Cassandra Johnson	10/22	20 yrs.
David & Sue Childs	10/27	24 yrs.
Claude & Mary Shaner	10/27	57 yrs.
Guy & Marianne Graefe	10/28	36 yrs.
Matt & Cindy Matosky	10/28	25 yrs.
William & Mary Miller	10/29	26 yrs.




AMITY TOWNSHIP LIONS CLUB HEALTH SCREEN.....performed by Quest Diagnostics – Saturday, October 18, 7—9:30 A.M. here at St. Paul’s. Consists of blood tests and lifestyle evaluation -- \$55.

--YTD Giving thru August, 2014 --				
	Jan—Aug. 2013	Jan-Aug. 2014	Variance	% chg.
Offerings \$	\$ 233,520	\$ 232,962	(\$ -557)	--0.2
Renovation Contr.	\$ 89,896	81,724	(\$-8,172)	-9.1
Total Giving	\$ 323,416	\$ 314,686	(\$-8,729)	-2.69
Mortgage Balance		\$1,059,089		

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

October 2014

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study Girl Scouts	2 Fr. Circle bus trip 6 PM—T3 Comm. 7 PM—Choir rehearsa 7 PM—Girl Scouts	3	4 9 AM—3 PM—Apple Festival 10 AM—Animal Blessing 6 PM—Holy Comm.
5 8 & 10:30—Holy Comm. 9:15—Special cong. Mtg. 9:30—Finance 7 PM—Nar-Anon	6 8 AM—Pastors breakfast 6 PM—Girl Scouts 7 PM—Christian Ed.	7 Quilting 6:15—TOPS 6:15—Child Dev.	8 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study 6:15—Executive Com. 7 PM—Council Girl Scouts	9 7 PM—Choir rehearsal 7 PM—Prayer Shawl Ministry 7 PM—Girl Scouts	10 2—8 PM—Women's Retreat	11 8 AM—Men's Gr. 9 AM—3 PM—Women's Retreat 6 PM—Holy Comm.
12 8 & 10:30—Worship 9:15—Sunday School SPLAT after 10:30 1:30PM—CROP Walk 7 PM—Nar-Anon	13 10 AM—Labyrinth Gr. 6 PM—Girl Scouts 7 PM—Pastoral Care	14 Quilting 6:15--TOPS	15 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study Girl Scouts	16 7 PM—Choir rehearsal 7 PM—Girl Scouts 7:30—Crime Watch	17	18 7:30 AM—Property 7—9:30 AM—Health Screen 6 PM—Holy Comm.
19 8 & 10:30—Holy Comm. 9:15—Sunday School Social Min .after 10:30 4 PM—Girl Scouts	20 6 PM—Girl Scouts	21 Quilting 6:15--TOPS	22 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study 7 PM—Worship & Music Girl Scouts	23 7 PM—Choir rehearsal 7 PM—Girl Scouts	24	25 6 PM—Holy Comm.
26 <i>Reformation</i> 8 & 10:30—Holy Comm. 9:15—Sunday School 7 PM—Nar-Anon	27	28 Quilting 6:15—TOPS 7 PM—Women's Gr.	29 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study Girl Scouts	30 7 PM—Choir rehearsal 7 PM—Girl Scouts	31 	
	Council persons in charge of services— Susie Kresge, Gary Weidner		Money Counters 8:00 – Gary Weidner, Jeane Serrian, Wayne Grace 10:30 – Joe Koury, Nati English, Arlene Hildebeitel			