

**ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
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The Rev. Gregory W. Frey, Pastor

**AUGUST**

**AUGUST, 2017**

*In Memoriam*

**...REV. HAROLD S. WEISS**

On July 15, 2017 the Rev Harold S. Weiss passed away peacefully at home. Bishop Weiss was Bishop Emeritus of our synod, the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod. He began serving on synod staff in 1969 and served as bishop from 1983-1996. For the new folks, a synod is a territorial association of Lutheran churches headed by a bishop. The word *synod* is an ancient church word that comes from the conflation of two Greek words: *Syn* (together) and *hodos* (way). It literally means on the way together or walk together.

Bishop Weiss was a *synod* man, a walk-together churchman. He began his walk right here in Amity Township on a farm down present South Sunrise Drive off Route 562. Part of a large family, Bishop Weiss (he will always be Bishop Weiss to me) grew up at St. Paul's when it was part of the union congregation with the Reformed Church, now St. Paul's UCC. His sisters, Pearl Levengood and Marie Linsenbiger, were active members of the congregation up until the times of their death. That Bishop Weiss was a son of our congregation is a point of deserved pride for the pastors and teachers here who nurtured his faith and facilitated his call into ministry.

I will not reprint Bishop Weiss's obituary or his many, many important and faithful accomplishments and contributions to the ministry of Word and Sacrament in our synod and the wider church. Rather, I just want

to take a moment to give thanks for Bishop Weiss and commend one thing I learned from him to your remembrance.

Bishop Weiss was bishop when I began to discern my call to ministry and enter the candidacy process for ordination. I remember always feeling great respect for him. He was pastoral, he clearly and faithfully carried out his duties to "oversee" (bishop means overseer) the ministry of the synod and he was personable. But what I want to emphasize here is that Bishop Weiss was a *churchman* in the very best sense of the term and he helped teach me the importance of being committed to the wider church community, and yes, the *institution* of the church.

"Institutions" are not real popular these days. Our culture is in revolt against all kinds of communal expressions seen as *institutions*. There are surely some valid reasons for this reaction against institutions such as the church (and government). At their core, however, institutions are essential places where people connect to others in the course of their common, shared lives. Institutions like "the Synod" are places where we encounter one another and walk together in our faith and service in Christ's name. They demonstrate how there is more to us than our own selves, or even our own congregations. They remind us of realities larger than ourselves.

Bishop Weiss was a corporate man, but not in today's sense where we think of *corporate* as a large, impersonal entity, but corporate in the original sense, from *corpus* (of the body), the larger body of Christ of which we are individually members. Bishop Weiss was a corporate man, committed to the body of Christ and its meaningful expression in the world.

An example of this is my ordination. When I graduated from seminary and received a call from a congregation I was ready to be ordained. Bishop Weiss conducted ordinations, for the most part, as synod-wide ceremonies. I was ordained with five others (including Jeff Odgren who is at Hill Church) at a church in Nazareth. Some of my classmates in other synods had individual ordination ceremonies in their home congregations which I am sure were quite wonderful. But being ordained as part of a larger ceremony with other candidates in a "neutral" site was good for me. It helped me to understand that my ordination was not principally about me but about serving the wider

body of Christ expressed in the institutions of the church gathered as synod; Christians walking together.

The Word of God and the sacraments of grace do not belong to ministers, they belong to Christ and his Church (his corpus...body) and are shared by the 2 or 3 (or 200 or 300, etc.) who gather in Christ's name. In the "corporate" church, the "institutional" church we find an expression for the larger impulses of our ministry. In other words, in the synod we walk-together the way, the truth and the life.

In all the ways described above Bishop Weiss was a synod man and a corporate man and he taught me and many others about the vitality of living out our faith within the community of Christ expressed in the wider church. We carry out our very best ministry by walking together. I am grateful to God for Bishop Weiss's life and ministry and most of all I am grateful for the witness his life bore to the vitality of the church, institutionally, corporately, as the community of Christ's body. I thank God that Bishop Weiss helped me to be a "walk-together" synod person too.

*Requiem æternam dona ei, Domine. Et lux perpetua luceat ei.* Eternal rest, grant unto him, O LORD, and let perpetual light shine upon him.

--Pastor Frey

**--WORSHIP IN AUGUST--**

August 5	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
August 6	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Holy Communion
August 12	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
August 13	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Worship
August 19	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
August 20	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Holy Communion
August 26	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
August 27	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. -- Worship

**FROM THE PARISH RECORDS.....**

**Funeral:** June 24 – **JoAnne Ferreri**

**Baptism:** July 9 – **Harper Evangeline McCord**, daughter of Justin & Maegan (McMaster) McCord.

Contributions to the **Renovations Fund** in memory of **JoAnne Ferreri** given by –

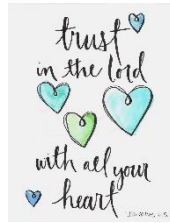
Pat Roland	Dave & Judy Focht
Mary Graefe	Jane Kinder
Betty High	Ralph & Robin Rohrbach
JoAnne Merkel	John & Linda Heisey
Tracy Bird and the Rocco Bird Group at Morgan Stanley	
The Domino Group—Mary Crowe, Faith Doran, Frances Lownes, June Nachman, Della Zimmerman	

**GREEN FOR GROWTH.....BY JOY GERHART**

Ever since Pastor Frey mentioned that the banners and altar cloth (and stole and chasuble) are green for this time following Pentecost, called Ordinary Time, I've been noticing lots of green around me. I drive through Yellow House every morning to get to church, and I see the corn stalks growing higher and higher along Route 562. At first I didn't know for sure what it was. Then it became very clear that it was corn, and then I just watched it grow and grow!

Every time I drive by the growing corn stalks (which are getting to be as high as an elephant's eye), I wonder how much am I growing –how much am I growing in my faith? The color green reminds us of growth and productivity. We have been blessed to have plenty of rain. (No brown lawns that I have seen.) As a liturgical color, green also connects us with the call to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus. Like knowledge, sometimes when we grow we realize how much more we need to grow.

I learned a very valuable lesson at Vacation Bible School when we were handing out VBS t-shirts. I was really concerned that we would not have the right amount of shirts in the right sizes. I was convinced of this. I even grimaced a little when I approached the table to help hand out shirts. But instead of being right (Thank God) I was totally wrong! There were enough shirts in the correct sizes for each child with some left over. I LEARNED that I needed to TRUST more and worry less. Everything worked out fine. Trust and faith go hand in hand. We all have room for growth, (even Abraham, though the book of Hebrews Chapter 11 paints him very favorably). Growth in faith often involves issues less concrete and much deeper than a number of t-shirts. We face many difficult concerns over which we have no control. Yet we can learn to love and trust God more and more and leave our concerns with God.



The green corn stalks reach up and up but also start to stretch out. This is another way I need to grow as a disciple—to reach out. The Acts of the Apostles tells us about how the disciples reached out to tell the good news about Jesus and share his love. We are not under threats of punishment or jail and yet it seems hard for us to reach out and invite others to worship with us. This is another area for growth. You may be able to think of many other ways to grow—in patience, in self-control, in gentleness...

One last thing I want to mention is flexibility. I know I need to continue to grow in this way and not just physically! It's not always easy for everyone to roll with the punches or stretch to fit the occasion. But this is something I also associate with the green seasons of the church year because the Sundays after Pentecost and the Sundays of Epiphany fill the varying time between the season before and after. Since Easter's date varies every year, this changes the beginning of Lent (which affects Epiphany) and the beginning of Pentecost (which affects the season of Ordinary Time or Sundays after Pentecost). If Easter comes late in April, Epiphany will be longer than when Easter falls in March; and when Easter falls late in April, then Pentecost, which comes 50 days after Easter is also later and there are fewer Sundays between Pentecost and Advent.

When you see green, think about growth. How is God helping you grow? In what areas can you ask God to help you grow? Remember that we are called to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus.

**CONFIRMATION ORIENTATION.....**

Parents of 7<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> graders and youth in 7<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup> grade please mark your calendars and plan to attend the Confirmation Orientation on Sunday, August 27 at 9:15 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Learn about the new curriculum and new opportunities for learning and service.



**RALLY DAY --SEPT. 10.....**

Be sure to save the date, Sunday, September 10 at 9:15 a.m. to kick off the new year of Sunday School with a rock your socks off Reformation Marty Party. All ages are invited to come, play and learn a little more about

Martin Luther and the Reformation through crafts and games and much more!

**TRAVELING LUTHER.....**

We hope you have been enjoying the traveling Luther pictures that members have sent to Carole Renninger to share in the Weekly Update posts. Luther has traveled to the Jablonski swimming pool in Birdsboro; the Schnecksville Fair; Cape May, New Jersey; Crater Lake, Oregon; Mount St. Helen's, Washington; Boston, Mass.; Missoula, Montana (he ran a marathon!); as well as internationally to Niagara Falls, Canada; the Bahamas; and Iceland! Keep on taking and sharing your pictures! We may be able to post some pictures and mark a map to see where Martin has been. There are many more "flat Luthers" to pack in your suitcase if you plan to travel! (I have heard no stories of problems with customs people.) He is 533 years old but seems to be traveling well! Make this a summer he'll never forget!

## SCHOOL SUPPLIES COLLECTION!!

The Social Ministry Committee is collecting school supplies for students at the Daniel Boone Middle School.

- \*1 inch three ring binders
- \*1 ½ inch three ring binders
- \*2 inch three ring binders
- \*Tab dividers (5 or more tabs)
- \*3 prong two pocket folders

\*The above items indicated with an asterisk are needed the most.



They could also use a few of the following:

- Pencil cases
- Colored pencils
- Pens
- Pencils
- Book socks or book covers

## IT'S BACK TO SCHOOL TIME.....

There are a few openings in our 3- & 4-year-old **Pre-School afternoon** class. To register your child, call 610-385-3333.

Spread the word to your friends and neighbors. Learning is fun!



**SPLAT extends a sincere thank you** to the Jablonski's for hosting another wonderful pool party at their oasis on Daniel Boone Road! They always go above and beyond to make it such a fantastic event!!



Another year of vacation bible school has come and gone ... but what a huge success!! We had 55 children and 30 adults participate in the Hero Central program. My goal was to reach 43 ... which was "one" more than last year ... but we blew by that with 12 more children. We also raised more money this year than any other year ... \$222.10 as we fed "Flame" every night.

Hopewell Love will get a cash donation of \$169.35 and \$50.75 will go towards a meal they will be serving.

We gathered at 5:30 for dinner every night and at 6:00 we entered the church for our opening and to have some fun with ... "Flame the Panda" ... our Super Hero sidekick. We wore a different color every day and also shared in music, story, craft, science, games and the best part of all ... snack!! The children learned different "super power words" every day which were ... Hope, Power, Heart, Courage and Wisdom ... words that the children can live and learn by in their every day life.

So much work, time and talent goes into our vacation bible school ...



So I am just going to put this out there ... to each and every person that helped me to make this year a huge success once again!!! ... and you know who you are!!

I hope everyone that joined us had as much fun as I did and I am looking forward to seeing every one back in 2018 for our ... "Rolling River Rampage" ... and we will all get to meet "Oscar the **PURPLE** Otter".

Enjoy the rest of your summer,

Captain Michele



**Saturday, October 7  
8 am - 3 pm**

Apple Dumplings, Breakfast, Lunch, Festival Food, FIVE musical acts: Boyertown Alumni Band, Whiskey Kreek Acoustic, Exeter Community Band, David Cullen, and the Crow Hill Bluegrass Band, TWO model Train Displays, Craft Show, Quilt Show, Fall Flower Displays, Art Bus, Two Moonbounces, Pony Rides, the Unusual Animal Show, Book Sale, dozens of free children's games and activities, and much more! Save the date and join us! Free admission, free parking and free entertainment.

We are accepting applications for the event's Craft Show. The form is available on our website.

**NOTES OF THANKS.....**

To My Friends at St. Paul's Lutheran Church,



*Thank you for all your prayers, cards, visits and well wishes! The Lord has blessed me with many dear friends.*

*Blessings to you and yours,  
Marie Hausman*

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*Dear Members of St. Paul's,  
Thank you for the many cards, phone calls and for your love and concern during my recent illness. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.*

*Joan Wendel*

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*Again this year I'm sending St. Paul's many thanks for allowing me to use the Fellowship Hall for my flute recital. My students and their parents always tell me what a welcoming space this room is. Enclosed is my check to pay for the tuning of the piano.*

*Sincerely,  
Anne Weiser*

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*Dear Friends at St. Paul's,*

*Thank you so much for your recent donation in the amount of \$925 (blankets program). Your gift will help enable CWS to reach across the globe and provide much needed assistance to those struggling from natural disaster, hunger or extreme poverty. Together we are making a difference locally and globally!*

*In peace,  
Eric Luckenbill, CWS*



We hope you are having a safe and fun-filled summer, but please keep in mind that the church does not take a vacation. In order to continue the everyday operations of the church and its ministries, your ongoing contributions are very important.

## 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: Mark Eisenhuth, Susan Eisenhuth, Taylor Eisenhuth, Garrett Eisenhuth, Bobbi Embody, Cory Embody, Rory Emery, Peggy Emery, John English, Glen Esenwein, Tracy Esenwein, Tyler Esenwein, Kaitlyn Esenwein. 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: Dominic Ali, Cesar Bartra, Mary Bauer, Bob Beard, Deb Beaverson, Jeannie Crass, Audrey Crone, Shelli Davidheiser, Ann Dollhopf, Ron Donachie, Michael Dotterer, Amy Dougherty, Helmut Fischer, Dave Focht, Meg Ford, Eleanor Geyer, Mary Jane Greusel, Dave Hackett, Michael Haring, Ken Hofmockel, Connie Hunter, Jack Keenan, Daniel Light, Dorothy Miller, Carol Pearson, Beth Porreca, Mike Reinert, June Rhoads, Lori Rielly, Gerald Rohrbach, Richard Schneider, Calvin Sheeler, Steven Spitko, Nancy Steffy, Al Suglia, Tracey Walters, Joan Wendel, Darlene Wilson, family and friends of Evan St. Clair, Robert Bonetz, Joanne Ferreri, and all others listed below and those we name in our hearts: Alexa, Delphine Altland, Bryan B., Mary B., Steve Baldwin, Betty Breidegan, Tom Campbell, Don Charlesworth, Ron Christman, Alicea Cook, Jeffrey Cremi, Kimmy Cremi, Mr. & Mrs. Davidson, Linda Domergue, Mary Ellen Eidell, Cindy Fake, Melissa Flannery, Joan Fleming, Joanne Foulk, June Geiger, Ida Gilbert, Ron Glaser, Judy Grabowicz, Robert Graeff, Gene Grubbs, Steve Hackett, Mike Harris, Rose Harris, June Henninger, Sarah High, Richard Hoar, Marie Hoar, Sue Keay, Todd Kelly, Jim Kline, Cindy Kurtz, Jack Lebo, Gary Leister, Nikkie Leuthe, Vinnie Lubrano, Gloria Lutz, Lewis M., Marianne, John Maicher, Ronald McCarraher, Adrianna Marchewski, Charles Marquette, Jr., Donna McCarthy, Eleanor McKeon, Donna Meloy, Gina Meloy, Laurel Miller, Lucille Muller, Katie Murdza, Sandy Murphy, Ron Mutter, Carol Nocera, Gail Norris, Richard Pool, Heather Powers, Kay Protesto, Patti Pyle, Arletta Reisch, Carole Rhoades, Jocelyn Rice, Gabriel Schulze, Carol Sherman, Allison Shirker, Jacob Speakman, Dale Szajek, Stephanie Szajek, Jeanie Templin, Jay Trauger, Sandy Wamsher, Millard Watson, Cecile Wedershoven, Lee Wendel, Sherri Weston, Christopher Youse, Parker Youse, homebound— Geraldine Barbone\*, Jennie Clouser, Grace Frey, Jan Haas, Pearl Miller, Laura Schmale, Alma Shirey, Patsy Smale. \*Non-member



8/1	Lynn Gibson Adrienne Sheeler	8/14	Denise Chroscinski Trevor Cicala
8/2	John Heisey Susie Kresge	8/15	Jeffrey Schaeffer Alexandra Espinosa
8/3	Kathy Jablonski Rose Potts	8/16	Ellen Sheeler Kayla Heisey
8/4	Rosalynnda Crichton Maddie Forster	8/17	Hallie Levensgood Samuel Haring
8/5	Melissa Kriner Zachary Secord	8/18	Madelyn Hicks Rylan Brown
	Doug Yocom	8/19	Amber Konarski Kevin Forster
8/6	Ronald Donachie Ann Mengel	8/20	Mary Shaner Jennifer Knabb
8/7	Dave Hackett Callan Kriebel	8/21	Pearl Miller Jeane Rohrbach
	Pat Levensgood	8/22	Mark Sheeler, Jr. Grant Moser
8/8	Mya Eisenhard Ariana Haraske	8/23	Mark Smith Tim Schell
	Aubrey Ridge Erna Vroman	8/24	8/25 Christopher Venn Donna Meloy
8/9	Brian Miller	8/26	Tyler Bennis Sandi Levensgood
8/10	Gryffin Cappellano Mia DeNardo	8/27	Mary Levensgood Melissa Woodruff
	McKenna Detwiler Andrew Kresge	8/28	Connor Reed Henry Rhoads
	Sophia Lott Nicole Sypherd	8/29	Rob Levensgood Jennifer Moyer
8/11	Anne Cormier Colson Tsakonas		Chase Oesterling Bonnie Steever
8/12	Benjamin Garcia Gary Leister	8/31	Scott Potts
	Joseph Price Kim Sarro		
8/13	Janice Jancovic		

**HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO –**

Dave & Janet Levengood	8/3	49 yrs.
Bruce & Pam Cope	8/4	27 yrs.
David & Vicki Hiser	8/6	34 yrs.
John & Kay Bonslaver	8/7	52 yrs.
Charles & Sue Fix	8/9	20 yrs.
Michael & Wendy Hasara	8/12	11 yrs.
Bruce & Janet Musselman	8/12	39 yrs.
Bill & Angie Kutz	8/16	31 yrs.
Paul & Laurie Muschick	8/17	21 yrs.
David & Jan Bause	8/19	56 yrs.
Brian & Amy Hicks	8/19	22 yrs.
Jeff & Sheila Angstadt	8/20	29 yrs.
Ed & Sandra Berger	8/20	23 yrs.
Greg & Susie Kresge	8/20	23 yrs.
Michael & Carol Pearson	8/20	40 yrs.
Rick & Nancy Centrella	8/21	41 yrs.
Wayne & Lynn Grace	8/24	43 yrs.
Thomas & Judy Morrow	8/24	47 yrs.
Herb & Darlene Schoenly	8/26	22 yrs.
Jason & Apryll Ware	8/30	10 yrs.



**NEW WEBSITE.....**

We've constructed a new church website at [www.stpaulsdouglasville.com](http://www.stpaulsdouglasville.com). It is ready to go; we are just waiting for the technology company to make the switch from the old site to the new one.



**STUDENTS:**

Help us to keep in touch with you while you're away from home. If you're heading off to college, please let the church know your college address.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST, 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Money counters</b> <b>8:00</b> Deb Longstaff Tom Longstaff Howard Hunter		<b>1</b> Quilting 9:30—Bazaar crafts 2 PM—TOPS 6:15--CDC	<b>2</b> 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study	<b>3</b> Noon—Amity Fr. Circle	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 6 PM—Holy Comm.
<b>6</b> 8 & 10:30—Holy Comm. 9:15—T3 comm. 9:30—Finance Comm.	<b>7</b> 7 PM—Christian Ed.	<b>8</b> Quilting 9:30—Bazaar crafts 2 PM--TOPS	<b>9</b> 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study 6:15—Executive Com 7 PM-Council	<b>10</b> 7 PM—Prayer Shawl	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 6 PM—Holy Comm.
<b>13</b> 8 & 10:30—Worship SPLAT after 10:30	<b>14</b> 10 AM—Labyrinth Gr. 7 PM—Pastoral Care	<b>15</b> Quilting 9:30—Bazaar crafts 2 PM--TOPS	<b>16</b> 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study	<b>17</b> 7:30 PM—Crime Watch	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 7:30 AM--Property 6 PM—Holy Comm.
<b>20</b> 8 & 10:30—Holy Comm. 9:15—Social Ministry	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Quilting 9:30—Bazaar crafts 2 PM—TOPS	<b>23</b> 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study 7 PM—Worship & Music	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 6 PM—Holy Comm.
<b>27</b> 8 & 10:30—Worship 9:15—Catechetics orientation mtg. 9:15—Fellowship & Apple Fest Comm.	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 9:30—Bazaar crafts Quilting 2 PM--TOPS	<b>30</b> 9 AM—Prayer Gr. 9:30—Bible Study	<b>31</b>	Council persons in charge of services—Tom Longstaff, Susie Kresge	