

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

Telephone (610) 385-6616
Fax (610) 385-6690
www.stpaulsdouglassville.com
info@stpaulsdouglassville.com
The Rev. Gregory W. Frey, Pastor

AUGUST, 2019

If anything *well done* on your backyard barbeque is *rare* perhaps a little saintly intervention is what you need. Of course, we Lutherans have never been too keen on praying to saints, but maybe for a really good steak an exception could be made.

The festival of Saint Laurence is celebrated on August 10th. You see him pictured with a barbeque grill. Here is why.

In the days of Lawrence persecution was a daily reality for third-century Christians in Rome. And in 258, the Emperor Valerian began another massive round. He issued an edict commanding that all bishops, priests, and deacons should be put to death, and he gave the Imperial treasury power to confiscate all money and possessions from Christians.

In light of the news, Pope Sixtus II quickly ordained a young Spanish theologian, Lawrence, to become archdeacon of Rome. The important position put Lawrence in charge of the Church's riches, and it gave him responsibility for the Church's outreach to the poor. The pope sensed his own days were numbered and therefore commissioned Lawrence to protect the Church's treasure.

On August 6, 258, Valerian captured Pope Sixtus while he celebrated the liturgy, and had him beheaded. Afterwards, he set his sights on the pope's young protégé, Lawrence. But before killing him, the Emperor

¹ Brandon Vogt, "St Lawrence and the True Treasure of the Church" //www.wordonfire.org/ resources/blog/st-lawrence-and-the-true-treasures-of-the-church/ (August 10, 2016)

demanded the archdeacon turn over all the riches of the Church. He gave Lawrence three days to round it up.

Lawrence worked swiftly. He sold the Church's vessels and gave the money to widows and the sick. He distributed all the Church's property to the poor. On the third day, the Emperor summoned Lawrence to his palace and asked for the treasure. With great aplomb, Lawrence entered the palace, stopped, and then gestured back to the door where, streaming in behind him, poured crowds of poor, crippled, blind, and suffering people. "These are the true treasures of the Church," he boldly proclaimed. One early account even has him adding, "The Church is truly rich, far richer than the Emperor."

Unsurprisingly, Lawrence's act of defiance infuriated the Emperor. Valerian ordered his death that same day via grilling on a rack. Hundreds of year later, Lawrence is still remembered for his final jest: while being barbecued alive, he quipped to his executioners, "I'm well done. Turn me over!"

Laurence's care for the poor, the ill, and the neglected have led to his patronage of them. His work to save the material wealth of the Church, including its documents, brought librarians and those in related fields to see him as a patron. And his incredible strength and courage when being grilled to death led to his patronage of cooks and those who work in or supply things to the kitchen. That St. Laurence is also said to have been so serene during his torturous death that he cracked jokes earned him the patronage of comedians.

The meteor shower that follows the passage of the Swift-Tuttle comet (last seen in the 1980's not to appear again until August 14, 2126) was known in the middle ages as the "burning tears of Saint Laurence" because they appear at the same time as Lawrence's feast.

Because Lutherans do not subscribe to notions of saintly patronage or intercession we often do not have much to do with commemorated saints. This is unfortunate. The courage and faithful witness of people

like St. Laurence can still inspire and encourage us if we listen to their stories and give thanks to God for their legacy to the church.

So while you are standing over your barbeque grill on Saturday August 10^{th} give a thought to St. Laurence whose powerful faith led him to see his own suffering as little compared to the joy of God's kingdom where the true treasures are those the world often calls the least. This is an insight and perspective we can all benefit from.

--Pastor Frey

--WORSHIP IN AUGUST—

August 3	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
August 4	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Holy Communion
August 10	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
August 11	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Worship
August 17	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
August 18	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Holy Communion
August 24	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion
August 25	8:00 & 10:30 A.M. – Worship
August 31	6:00 P.M. – Holy Communion

FROM THE PARISH RECORDS......

Contribution to the **Memorial Fund** in memory of **Mary Shaner** given by Faye Schadt.

Howard & Connie Hunter

New Members

Matthew & Katrina Fusco, Vincent, Tyler, Greyson Tim & Sharon Loscig, Jansen Lisa Mullen Harry & Susan Schweikert

THOUGHTS ABOUT 1 CORINTHIANS

by Joy Gerhart

We have been studying 1 Corinthians on Wednesday mornings in Bible study under Pastor Frey's leadership. I had the opportunity to substitute one morning while he was involved with Mission Trip Birdsboro. Many of you know that you become much more familiar with a subject when you have to prepare to teach it. Well, that was my experience with 1 Corinthians 3.

Pastor had informed us about how the church in Corinth was split into factions, (groups or parties—now I understand what "party spirit means in an older translation of Galatians 5:20), and was filled with followers who felt self-important and wise. The factions seemed to be connected with the leaders who baptized the people—like Apollos or Cephas. Among his many messages in this letter, Paul tried to establish that these people should view Apollos and others as servants of God, subordinate to God, and human, though entrusted with the Good News of Jesus. I guess the point I want to make is that these people were living in an atmosphere of great division and perhaps rivalry, when we understand Christianity as trying to bring about unity under Jesus. Paul emphasized that the foundation of our faith in Christ is more important than any piece of wisdom or knowledge or any particular group. Jesus is our foundation.

Because these people were so enmeshed with having wisdom, they were not open to the great depths of truth Paul could impart. They were not mature enough. He had to feed them "milk" or "baby food," rather than "solid food" because they were not ready to digest more difficult understandings. In fact, he told them that they needed to become fools so they could become wise. Sounds a little contradictory, but I grew up hearing "you're so smart, you're stupid." I think that meant that I was so book-smart that I had no common sense or worldly knowledge. These people were so worldly that they couldn't understand spiritual things. We are all at different places in our Christian journey. Many of us aren't ready for---what would the food be?—sirloin steaks and fine wines---or something more plain but for a mature taste?

In another part of this chapter, Paul emphasizes that each person is God's Temple and God's Spirit dwells in each person. We are holy. We

are entrusted with a great gift. How often do we think this way? Paul wanted to change the worldly behavior of these Christians. If we thought more seriously about being God's Temple would we change our behavior? Would we need to?

One thing we covered, that I felt was important to share, is a devotional aspect of this reading. These Corinthians were a little over-zealous about the human leaders who baptized them. But let us think a minute about who it was that led us to Christ. What persons or situations inspired and strengthened our faith? In addition, who have we supported in their faith or who have we led to Christ?

Paul ends his chapter saying, "For all things are yours . . . and you belong to Christ and Christ belongs to God." (1 Corinthians 3:21-23) Take a peek at the Bible itself to see what it says, and consider joining us in the Wednesday morning Adult Bible class.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION OPPPORTUNITIES:.....

Confirmation Orientation – August 25

All youth in grades 7-10 who are planning to be involved in the Confirmation program in this 2019-2020 school year are invited to come for an Orientation meeting on Sunday, August 25 at 9:15 in the Fellowship Hall. Parents are encouraged to come too!!!! There will be a registration form to fill out, a discussion of expectations of the program, opportunities for service projects for youth, and news of any changes in the program. Please contact Joy Gerhart if you know you won't be able to attend.

Rally Day—September 8—God's Work. Our Hands



The second Sunday in September has been appointed by the ELCA as <u>God's Work</u>. Our <u>Hands Sunday</u>. This year we are making it our theme for Rally Day. We will first try to explain the general concept of God's Work. Our Hands for all to understand. Then we will break into

service project groups to do many various things to try to appeal to all interests. At this point some of the projects may include: writing on hand shapes what each person can personally do to help others (and

these will be posted on a mural), assembling items to make health kits to send to Lutheran World Relief, tying fleece blankets to give to the Mary Shelter, and possibly collecting items for Bethany Children's Home. Plans have not been finalized, and if you have any other ideas for service Projects, please speak to Joy Gerhart. We will certainly have snacks to help us through all the hard work! Please plan to have your whole family join us on Sunday, September 8 from 9:15 – 10:15 am.

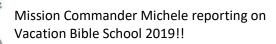
We're collecting items for the Health Kits to be assembled on Sept. 8 for our special "God's Work. Our Hands" day during Rally Day but we need items to assemble. For the Lutheran World Relief Personal Care Kits, we need: light-weight bath-size towels (between 20x40" and 27x52") dark colors; 2 or 3 bath size bars of soap in original wrapping (equaling 8-9 oz.); adult size toothbrushes in original packaging; sturdy combs; METAL nail clippers (attached file optional). Please bring NEW items only in good condition. Thank you so much! (Please bring them to Joy's office on or before Sept. 8.)

<u>Sunday school classes will begin on September 15,</u> so please be sure to pick up and fill out a registration form for the new school year! They will be available in the Fellowship Hall on Rally Day!

Bible Introduction Workshop for 3rd Graders on September 14 And Bible Presentation on September 15

All new third graders with a parent are invited to sign up for the Bible Introduction workshop on Saturday, September 14, from 9-11 am in the Fellowship Hall. Before receiving a Bible as a gift from the congregation, we want each young person to learn a little about How the Bible Came to Be, and What's in the Bible, and become familiar with some special Bible verses. We will be asking parents to take the Bible home and highlight special Bible verses to make it a more personal gift for the child. Then the Bible Presentation will take place on Sunday, September 15 at the 10:30 am service. (Please let us know if this date is a problem.) This will enable parents to fulfill the vow made at their child's baptism that they "will place the Holy Scriptures into their child's hands." Look for a special letter in the mail. Please contact Joy Gerhart if you want to attend but have not received a letter. (We will also try to include older children who have joined the church and have not received a Bible.)

WE WENT TO MAR'S AND BEYOND!!!



What a great event for the summer for our youth. We had 65 children enrolled ... with no no-shows and we had a staff of 50 adults including 15 youth. We had a great time doing music, story, craft, games and snack. We learned sign language to go with our music. With our Thrivent Grant, our registration fees, and 20% off sales that they run in February, our overall expenses were less than \$1000.00 ... well within our budget!! For our offering we collected \$100 and gave the monies to Hopewell Love. We then passed St. Paul's UCC decorations that we borrowed off to the Reformation Church in Reiffton ... and many of our decorations we handed down to Calvary in Laureldale.

I want to send out a "BIG" thank you to everyone who made this possible ... from the wonderful women who made casseroles every night so that we could serve them along with our amazing "Salad Bar" ... to the custodians who cleaned up after us. This is definitely a team effort ... and a "GREAT" team we were. Every year I set a goal to get one more child than the year before ... and this year, we surpassed that goal!! It is definitely a lot of work ... but on closing night when I look at all the children and the fun that they have had and the smiles on their faces and the new friends that they have made ... it makes everything worthwhile!! God Bless the children of St. Paul's 2019 Vacation Bible School.

Have a great summer and hopefully we will see you back in 2020 !!!

TENNIS BALLS.....

Thank you all who brought tennis balls for our children's chairs. Don't stop! We can use many. Many more! They really do a nice job of protecting the floor from scratches and wear. Please bring any old tennis balls you may have to Joy Gerhart.

PREPARING FOR THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR.....

The Social Ministry Committee is collecting the following supplies for students in the Daniel Boone Middle School:

- ■1 ½ inch and 2 inch binders ■#2 pencils
- Soft pencil casesStandard calculators (around \$5)
- Inexpensive Agendas

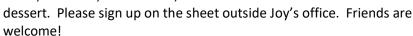
Please bring any donations to the church on or before August 18.

YOUTH NEWS.....

We (SPLAT) had a great time miniature golfing at Waltz Golf Farm in July. Pictures are posted on the Youth Board. The ice cream there was exceptionally good too!

Pack up your bathing suit and start hoping for good weather. SPLAT will be holding its almost annual <u>picnic and pool party</u>, hosted by the

Jablonskis at 651 Daniel Boone Road, on <u>Sunday</u>, <u>August 25</u>, starting at 12:30 pm. All youth entering into 7th grade up to all youth who have just graduated from high school are welcome to come and parents are invited too. Please bring a towel, swimsuit, soccer chair, and a side dish or



At the time of writing, a SPYY event has not been scheduled for August.

Congratulations!

St. Paul's pre-school is celebrating its 40th year serving our community. The Child Development

Committee is looking for photos you may have of yourself, your children or grandchildren that have attended our preschool over the past 40 years. We would like to display

them at a celebration event to be held this fall. You can send them digitally by email to klkoury64@gmail.com, or put them in an envelope marked "CDC pre-school pics" and drop them in the office. Please include your name so we can return them to you.

DID YOU KNOW???

that the Social Ministry Committee will provide a meal to those who are going through a difficult time? It could be the loss of a loved one, a new baby, a hospital stay, or someone who is homebound. This service has been available to our church family for many years. If you know someone who is in need of a potluck dinner, please contact Connie Hunter at (610) 582-1373 or the church office at (610) 385-6616.



CROP HUNGER WALK

Step up to fight hunger

Sunday, Oct. 13 – Daniel Boone Homestead Church picnic begins at noon at the North Pavilion! Registration: 1:30 P.M. CROP Walk begins at 2:00 P.M.

PLEASE DONATE: checks may be made payable to Church World Service. Donations may be included with your regular offering.

THRIVENT MEMBERS.....

We have two ideas for new ways to raise funds for two important causes. We would like to offer items during our Apple Festival, in the Courtyard (open area near the library) generating sales from attendees. **Do you have an available Thrivent Action Team Grant?** If you would consider using it to purchase mums and pumpkins from Levengood's Flowers, please contact Cassandra Johnson at clj739@gmail.com or Carole Renninger at emilyndalesmom@aol.com.

Hope Garden - Offering small-sized purple potted mums for sale, with all proceeds benefiting the Daniel Boone Relay for Life

Pumpkin Patch - Offering a variety of pumpkins, gourds and minipumpkins for sale, with all proceeds benefiting the Church World Service Crop Walk for Hunger

WE'RE TAKING A BITE INTO THE APPLE FESTIVAL!

Join us Saturday, October 5.

Looking for a-peel-ing ways to help?

- Put aside items to donate to our Books, Board Games and Puzzles tables. We'll begin accepting items in mid-September.
- If you know of a local business that needs exposure, give them the Sponsorship Form. Gala Sponsorships are \$100. Details are on our website and forms are on the Narthex table.
- Consider volunteering. Help is needed from peeling apples to moving tables. Sign-up in September.
- Join a planning meeting, held July 28, August 25 and September 29, between Worship Services.

What's at the core of the event this year?

- Cobbler Café 8 10 am, Apple Pancakes & Sausage
- Gala Stage Indoor, free entertainment all day

9 am: Boyertown Ceremonial Band concert

10:30 am: Marian & Friends Puppet Show

Noon: Stephanie Grace concert

2 pm: Elvis Tribute Artist Jeff Krick concert

Harvest Courtyard – Outdoor activities

9 am – 3 pm: Apple Castle Moon Bounces \$2

10 am - 1 pm: Petting Zoo \$3 entry 10 am - 2 pm: Fire Truck tours, free 10 am - 2 pm: Pony Rides \$4 per ride

10 am – 3 pm: Ice Cream Truck and Rita's Italian Ice

Autumn Grille – 10 am – 3 pm
 Soups, Burgers, Hoagies, Hot Dogs, BBQ, Pulled Pork

Sandwiches and more

- Baker's Table 8 am 3 pm
 Apple Dumplings, Apple Pies, Apple Tarts and more
- Crafter's Corner 8 am 3 pm
 Handmade autumnal items by St. Paul's Crafters
- Kid Zone The hub for all indoor Apple Blossom activities!
 Face Painting 10 am 2 pm \$1
- Book Nook Browse our selection of pre-owned games, books and puzzles, all \$1 each or fill the bag for \$5
- Railroad Junction Two rooms of Model Trains

Contact Carole at carolearenninger@aol.com to learn more.

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: Zach Mueller, Matthew Mueller, Lisa Mullen, Kim Murray, Susan Murray, Magdalena Nygard, Paul Muschick, Laurie Muschick, Riley Muschick, Reese Muschick, Lauren Musetti, Alexander Musetti, Christopher Musetti, Bruce Musselman, Janet Musselman. 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: Bobby, Jake Campbell, Ron Glaser, Gus, Sue Keay, Tristan, Ben and Morgan Kutz, Gary Leister, Bill Lerch, Dana Matheson, Edith Moyer, Ron Mutter, Sally Reed, George Rhoades, Jeane Rohrbach, Sophia Roman, Stephen Sedlak, Jeanie Templin, Paul Vroman, Tom Vroman, Millard Watson, Guy Weidner, Lucille Zettlemoyer, family & friends of Jackson Radcliffe-Mest, Rich Mulstay, and all others listed below or those we name in our hearts: Delphine Altland, Bill, Diane Cataldi, Courtney, Charles "Skip" Davidheiser, Elena Demos, Karin DiSanto, Terry Eberly, Linda Epler, Carl Fetterman, Diana Gower, Verna Habecker, Marie Hafer, Bev Hasson, Nancy Jackle, Rich Jacobs, Gerald Levengood, Ruby Lewis, Charles Marquette, Ronnie McCarraher, Bonnie Moser, Kasey O'Neill-Bowers, Nancy Osterman, Richard Pool, June Rhoads, Lenore Robinson, Gabriel Schulze, John Serrian, Sr., John Shaner, Kelly Stoltzfus, Sue Strain, Dale Szajek, Kimberly Szajek, Crystal Tufts; homebound— Charles & Fern Brown, Peggy Burns, Jennie Clouser, Carol DeLong, Jan Haas, Jeane Rohrbach, Laura Schmale, Alma Shirey, Patsy Smale, Ralph Trainer, Pauline Trout, Richard Wise. .

Open Sundays to sponsor the flowers – Sept. 8 & 15. Cost is \$35. Call the church office if interested



8/1	Lynn Gibson	8/14	Rebecca Alford
	Dana Martinsen		Denise Chroscinski
	Adrienne Sheeler		Jeffrey Schaeffer
8/2	John Heisey	8/15	Alexandra Espinosa
	Susie Kresge		Ellen Sheeler
8/3	Kathryn Berger	8/16	Kayla Heisey
	Kathy Jablonski		Hallie Levengood
	Rose Potts	8/17	Samuel Haring
8/4	Rosalynda Crichton		Madelyn Hicks
	Maddie Forster	8/18	Rylan Brown
8/5	Callie Kupp	8/19	Kevin Forster
	Zachary Secord		Aeson Poux
	Doug Yocom	8/20	Jennifer Knabb
8/6	Ron Donachie	8/21	Jeane Rohrbach
	Ann Mengel	8/22	Valerie Day
8/7	David Hackett		Grant Moser
	Callan Kriebel		Mark Smith
	Pat Levengood	8/23	Tim Schell
8/8	James Breen	8/24	Christopher Venn
	Myla Eisenhard	8/25	Allie Dougherty
	Ariana Haraske		Donna Meloy
	Aubrey Ridge	8/26	Tyler Bennis
	Erna Vroman		Sandi Levengood
8/9	Brian Miller	8/27	Liam Conway
8/10	Gryffin Cappellano		Mary Levengood
	Mia DeNardo		Melissa Woodruff
	McKenna Detwiler	8/28	Connor Reed
	Andrew Kresge		Henry Rhoads
	Sophia Lott	8/29	Olivia Hendricks
8/11	Anne Cormier		Rob Levengood
	Colson Tsakonas		Jennifer Moyer
8/12	Gary Leister		Chase Oesterling
	Joseph Price		Bonnie Steever
	Kim Sarro	8/31	Scott Potts
8/13	Janice Janovic		

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY TO -

Dave & Janet Levengood	8/3	51 yrs.
Bruce & Pam Cope	8/4	29 yrs.
Dave & Vicki Hiser	8/6	36 yrs.
John & Kay Bonslaver	8/7	54 yrs.
Charles & Susan Fix	8/9	22 yrs.
Michael & Wendy Hasara	8/12	13 yrs.
Bruce & Janet Musselman	8/12	41 yrs.
Bill & Angie Kutz	8/16	33 yrs.
Paul & Laurie Muschick	8/17	23 yrs.
Matthew & Katrina Fusco	8/18	7 yrs.
Dave & Jan Bause	8/19	58 yrs.
Brian & Amy Hicks	8/19	24 yrs.
Jeff & Sheila Angstadt	8/20	31 yrs.
Ed & Sandra Berger	8/20	25 yrs.
Greg & Susie Kresge	8/20	25 yrs.
Michael & Carol Pearson	8/20	42 yrs.
Rick & Nancy Centrella	8/21	43 yrs.
Wayne & Lynn Grace	8/24	45 yrs.
Tom & Judy Morrow	8/24	49 yrs.
Herb & Darlene Schoenly	8/26	24 yrs.
Jason & Apryll Ware	8/30	12 yrs.

AMITY FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE HAPPENINGS.....

You are invited to join the Amity Friendship Circle bus trip to Dutch Apple Dinner Theater to see Will Rogers Follies, a Ziegfeld Follies—style extravaganza about America's beloved humorist. The bus leaves the church at 9:45 A.M. on Thursday, Nov. 7. The cost is \$78 per person payable to Amity Friendship Circle and give to Jan Schell (610-779-7409). Payment deadline is Thursday, Sept. 5. Sounds like fun! Hope you will join us!

The Friendship Circle also invites everyone to their monthly program on Thursday, August 1, at 1:00 P.M. to hear the Threefold Blessing, a group of four contemporary Christian praise vocalists. They were all very active at Alice Focht Methodist Church in Birdsboro until the church closed in April 2017. Because they still wanted to sing their praises to God, they are continuing to sing at various locations.

Birdsboro Clothing Closet, located at the Birdsboro Church of the Nazarene, is in need of the following ONLY donations: Kids toys, pack n plays, bouncers, strollers, etc., Tupperware (stain-free) great condition pots and pans, kitchen utensils, toasters, crock pots, toaster ovens, mixers (all of the above appliances working and clean only), shower curtains, bath rugs, bar soap, shampoo, deodorant, female sanitary items, SUMMER ONLY CLOTHING.

If you wish to donate any of these items, call 610-575-0966.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

AUGUST, 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Nancy Stewart Joanne Guss Fred Hoffert	loney counters 10:30 Ray DiSandro Charles Merkle Cindy Matosky	charge- Carole I	persons in Renninger senbusch	Noon—Amity Fr. Circle 6 PM—T3Comm.	2	3 6 PM—Holy Comm.
4 8 & 10:30 AM—Holy Comm.	5 7 PM—Christian Ed.	Quilting 9:30—Bazaar crafts 2:00—TOPS 6:15—Child Dev. Ctr.	7 9 AM—Prayer Group 9:30—Bible Study	8 7 PM—Prayer Shawl	9	10 6 PM—Holy Comm.
11 8 & 10:30 A.M— Worship 9:15Fellowship 9:30 AM—Finance	12 6 PM—Vision 20/20 7 PM—Pastoral Care	13 Quilting 9:30—Bazaar crafts 2:00TOPS	9 AM—Prayer Group 9:30—Bible Study 6:15—Executive Com. 7 PMCouncil	15 7:30 PM – Crime Watch	16	17 6 PM—Holy Comm. 7:30 AM—Property
18 8 & 10:30 AM—Holy Comm. 9:15—Social Min.	19 6 PM—Bible Study	Quilting 9:30—Bazaar crafts 2:00TOPS	21 9 AM—Prayer Group 9:30—Bible Study	22	23	24 6 PM—Holy Comm.
25 8 & 10:30 – Worship 9:15 — Confirmation orientation 9:15 — Apple Fest mtg. 12:30 — SPLAT pool party	26	Quilting 9:30—Bazaar crafts 2:00—TOPS 7 PM—Women's Gr.	28 9 AM—Prayer Group 9:30—Bible Study 7 PM—Worship & Music	29	30	31 6 PM—Holy Comm.