

ST. PAUL'S WEEKLY EPISTLE

IMPORTANT NEWS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9, 2025

WELCOMING WAYS – Treat visitors as *guests of God*, not *strangers*.

LECTIONARY 32/PROPER 27 (YEAR C)

In these final weeks of the church year, the church cries out, “Come, Lord Jesus!” We are always awaiting God’s coming, and God does not disappoint us, making the divine presence known in water, bread, wine, and in this very community of faith.

THANKS TO THE FSFC

We welcome members of the First State Flute Choir this morning. They rehearse here weekly at St. Paul’s and give back by playing for us in worship. Their fall concert is next **Sunday, November 16**, at **4:00 PM** here in the sanctuary. Free and open to the public, it will be followed by a reception. A freewill offering will be collected.

STEP UP TO THE PLATE

Please check out the “big board” for an update to how we’ve done with our pledges for our ministries in 2026 (and beyond). You are invited to enjoy a “cake of thanks” during our fellowship hour today. Thanks to all who have put a ball in play. If you haven’t pledged yet, please pick up a ticket and take a swing!

NOTICE OF ST. PAUL’S SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

The Congregation Council of St. Paul’s Lutheran Church has called a special Congregational Meeting to be held on **Sunday, November 16**, immediately following the service. The sole purpose of the meeting is to decide whether to accept a proposal to install solar panels on the church. Hard copies of the proposal are available in the Welcome Center area. Please conserve paper by viewing the electronic document as you are able (<https://bit.ly/StPaulsNewarkSolarPanels>).

TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

On **Thursday, November 20**, we will host a prayer service that honors the memory of the transgender people whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence. Worship will be in the Memorial Garden at **7:00 PM** with a reception following in the Fellowship Hall.

CHOIR REHEARSALS RESCHEDULED

Due to the service being held here on Thursday, November 20 for Transgender Day of Remembrance, our Handbell Ensemble and Sanctuary Choir will rehearse on **Monday, November 17 at 6:30 PM and 8:00 PM**, respectively. (Reminder: There are no choir rehearsals on Thanksgiving Day, November 27.)

INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE

The Newark interfaith community will hold their annual Service of Thanksgiving on **Tuesday, November 25**, at **7:00 PM**. This year the service will be held at Temple Beth El, located at 301 Possum Park Road. The theme is “Courage to Care, Grace to be Grateful” based on Micah 6:8 and Talmud. Everyone is asked to bring a canned good for the food pantry. A kosher reception will follow.

ADULT FORUM - “REFORMATION AND COUNTER-REFORMATION”

Victoria Kenyon will continue her series on Christian painting with “Reformation and Counter-Reformation” on **Sunday, November 16**. She will share how Northern European painters like Lucas Cranach the Elder approached painting religious scenes and figures (including Martin Luther) in an original way befitting Protestant theology. Meanwhile, the Catholic Church reasserted its cultural authority, and the dramatic work of Italian masters like Caravaggio provided a strong contrast against Protestant notions of restraint. Class starts at **8:30 AM** in the Blue Room.

SAINTLY SENIORS

Your Membership Ministry team is inviting you to participate in making a craft to present to our saintly seniors this fall. You can help in two ways – come on **Sunday, November 16** and enjoy the craft making. And volunteer to visit one of our homebound seniors later that week or just before Thanksgiving. Please RSVP to Linda Grund at lgrund923@gmail.com.

COUNTDOWN TO THANKSGIVING

In just two weeks we will collect food items for Thanksgiving baskets for distribution at the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center. Your contributions of frozen turkeys, boxed stuffing and mashed potatoes, canned vegetables, cranberry sauce, and gravy are VERY much appreciated. Please bring your Thanksgiving food items to the Fellowship Hall by **10:00 AM on Sunday, November 23**, or you may make a monetary contribution, and we'll do your shopping for you!

P.S. We are also accepting cloth bags to deliver the baskets.

FISH BREADS – MAKE ‘EM, BAKE ‘EM, AND TAKE ‘EM TO CHURCH!

Thanksgiving is right around the corner – so FISH is prepping for our distribution on **Friday, November 21**, including our annual FISH breads. If you'd like to help, break out your baking pans and make a few little loaves of pumpkin or cranberry or banana or "whatever" bread to share. Bundle them up in clear plastic wrap or aluminum foil and note the type of bread on the outside of the wrapping (we don't want anyone with a nut allergy to get a surprise!). Our drop-off times will be the preceding **Wednesday, November 19**, and **Thursday, November 20**, from **6:00 PM until 8:00 PM**. Still have questions or need a special drop off time? Call or email Keith Bart (302-345-6107 / keith.m.bart@gmail.com).

We invite any and all members of the congregation to help with the Food Bank pickup and re-boxing on **Thursday, November 20 at 1 PM**, followed immediately by the box packing, and then distribution on **Friday, November 21st , starting at 2:30 PM**.

BREWING THEOLOGY

For everyone twenty-one and older, please join us on **Wednesday, November 19, at 7:00 PM** at the Delaware Saengerbund for a tasty beverage, some snacks, and some hearty conversation. Our topic for this week will be "Contemporary meaning of the parables of Jesus".

HOLY HIKE

The next "Holy Hikers" event will take place on **Sunday, November 23**, at Lewden Green Trail. We will gather at the Park and Ride Lot, Rt. 273 and Rt. 7 in New Castle. This will be a 4 mile hike, out and back, with paved, flat, trail.

SIGN UP FOR THE GERECKES' MEAL TRAIN

Help us come together to support Phillip and Jordan as they welcome their baby into the world! We would love to set up a month of dinners so that the Gereckes can focus on taking care of themselves and their new baby. Please note the dates are based on baby's current due date and are subject to change. Sign up at this URL: <https://mealtrain.com/2we89e> or reach out to Ian Kenyon for help signing up (w.iankenyon@gmail.com).

OLDER, WISER, LUTHERANS

We will be visiting the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania to tour a world-class collection of historic locomotives and railroad cars on **Friday, November 14**. The one-hour tour begins at **10:30 AM**, followed by some time to explore on our own. We will then head to Bespoke Brewing for lunch at 12:30 PM.

For anyone that wants to carpool, we will meet in the back (school side) parking lot at **9 AM**. The address for the tour is Railroad Museum, 300 Gap Road, Strasburg, PA 17579. Bespoke Brewing is at 226 Gap Road, Suite 4, Ronks, PA 17572. From the museum, you drive past the Bespoke Brewery and the restaurant is a short distance further on the left in a shopping center. Please contact Kathy Palmer (elie2220@comcast.net; 302-547-5168) if you would like to carpool.

CELEBRATING TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE

Please join us for a Special Celebration of Bishop Bill Gohl's Anniversary of Ordination and 25 Years of Faithful Service!

There will be a service at Grace Lutheran Church, 2033 Graves Road in Hockessin, on **Sunday, November 16, from 3 PM to 5 PM**. We will share stories, snacks, and gratitude. Gifts towards vital ministries in our synod are welcome to mark this milestone. Register today at: www.demdsynod.org/bishop25.

BOOKS AND BANTER

There will be no Books & Banter meeting in November. The December meeting will be held on **Wednesday, December 10** at a location to be determined. The book selection for December is "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church Welcomes All in Jesus' Name

Phone/Fax: 302-368-0064 Website: www.stpaulsnewarkde.org

*Together in Jesus Christ we are freed by grace to
live faithfully, witness boldly, and serve joyfully.*



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Weekly Epistle/E-mail Blast

Articles due by Wednesday morning at

10 AM. Late submissions will be shared

the following week. Please send articles to

St. Paul's Online Prayer Ministry

Send prayer requests to:

prayonstpauls@gmail.com

the church office at office@stpaulsnewarkde.org

**WISH TO SUPPORT THE MINISTRIES
OF ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH?
THEN SCAN THIS QR CODE**

