



# Messenger

July 2022

Newsletter of St Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, La Grange TX

A Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

*From everyone to whom much has been given, much will be required; and from the one to whom much has been entrusted, even more will be demanded.* Luke 12:48

As we celebrate Independence Day this year, let's take stock of our nation and of our opportunities to live our Christianity in the United States of America. We are indeed fortunate to live in a country where, by law, religion is not persecuted as it is in some other parts of the world. Neither is religion supported by government to the point that it becomes just one more government agency as it is in other parts of the world. In addition to the freedoms of our laws we are also living in a nation of scientific achievement, public education, and available necessities. Many of us would be offended if I suggested that we are rich but, compared to most of the world, we are.

Much has been given to us in the United States and Jesus calls us to live as his disciples with the material blessings and the freedoms that we enjoy. We have the resources and we have the opportunities to share with people in need, learn more about our church's priorities and values, and deepen our faith. Responsible charities are available at the local, regional, and worldwide levels. St. Paul joins the rest of the community in sponsoring Second Chance and Amen. We offer a Christian presence in our community and thank God for our public servants, teachers, and law enforcement officials. Every Sunday, Jesus calls you to gather for worship; to hear God's Word and to share the Lord's Supper.

This July 4th, let's do more than celebrate all that God has given this nation. Let's use God's gifts to serve Him.

Pastor Sappenfield



Hello Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Some organizations take the summer off but not here at Saint Paul Lutheran. Tuesday, June 21st your council met for its monthly meeting. We have many projects in the works and heard updates on each.

Russell Dittrich heads a website committee and reported that venture is on its way. Several formats were presented to the committee, and they are looking for more content and pictures to be shared.

Pew cushions have been ordered and are expected within the next 120 days. Carpet for the sanctuary and the parlor is ordered and should arrive within the next two weeks. Of course, all of this depends on supply chain and delivery issues like those we have encountered with the parts of the new AV equipment to be installed at the rear of the sanctuary.

Forty children have been enrolled thus far in Vacation Bible School or Day Camp that is happening this week. Dianne Lude has a firm handle on that event. According to our contract with Lutherhill the number of participants will be capped at 50. A big thank you goes to all who have volunteered to help during the week.

The council voted to install a new phone system in the office along with improved internet services. The part of this project that is a one-time expense is being purchased with funds bequeathed to the church by Marilyn Miller.

Paul Mikula continues his efforts to bring efficiency and clarity to the multiple bank accounts the church uses. At this meeting the council voted to transfer funds invested with Cetera years ago to Meservey Financial Group here in La Grange on the corner of Main and Colorado.

Other news shared was that there will be a Lutherhill fundraiser held at Lutherhill on August 6th. An event like this was held in 2019 which was sponsored by Shared Lutheran Ministries and Saint Paul. The council agreed to sponsor these efforts again. All of you are invited to attend. More information will be forthcoming. Also, August 14th a countywide fundraiser will be held at the KC Hall benefitting the Queen of the Holy Rosary Catholic Church in Hostyn. Plans are currently being laid and the council agreed to participate with other congregations to support our neighbors.

Please continue to look within yourselves as to how you can contribute to the ministry of our congregation whether that is within our walls or out in our community. Invite someone to join us.

Shalom,

Karen Bellue

**NOTICE :** There will be no Children's Sunday School until public school resumes in the Fall.

### **QUILTING MONDAY**

Monday Morning Quilters (Hand Quilting) meet every Monday at 9:00 a.m. in the Quilting Room in the Fellowship Hall.

### **TACKY TUESDAY will be July 19!**

Join Tacky Tuesday (*Lutheran World Relief*) on July 19 beginning at 8:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We pin quilts, tack quilts, cut batting, and iron fabric. No experience necessary! A potluck meal follows for everyone to enjoy and have further fellowship.

**FRIENDS IN FAITH, our women's group,** will not meet in July and August.

**FISHERS OF MEN, our men's group,** will not meet in July and August

**HANDBELL CHOIR AND CHOIR** - will not meet in July.

**CARDS AND LETTERS MINISTRY** - Annette Citzler has begun a ministry to reach our members that are 80-and-older (or around that age) that don't get out to visit as much anymore, whether they are homebound, nursing home bound, have moved out of town and so on. She is sending out about every six weeks cards with personal notes unique to each recipient and a 'thought-piece' that is copied to each. She would like to know if you are interested in receiving this thoughtful connection to our church community. Please call the church office if you fit her target audience and you are not on her list. She is glad to add new people and will carry on this ministry as long as she is able. ALSO, if you have an address change, please call the church office or Annette to let her know. Her phone number is: 979-820-7743 and text or leave a voicemail. Annette began this project to commemorate the passing of her mother. She felt the need to connect to older folks who might appreciate a card or letter or note to let them know during COVID-19 that someone in our church was thinking about them.

Please call the church office if you want to be included in her ministry.

### **Memorial Contributions**

**The new computers and monitors for the church office have arrived and are now being set up and software installed. The computers were paid for from contributions made in memory of Marilyn Miller, Alfred Frerichs and Barbara Zingelmann.**

**St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church  
2022 Second Chance Work Schedule**

***June 28-July 2***

***August 9-15      Sept. 20-26      Nov. 1-7***

*Second Chance hours: Tuesday-Saturday,  
9 a.m. to 3 p.m. & Mondays, 8 a.m.*

*Tuesday-Thursday are spent receiving, pricing and putting items out to sell; Fridays and Saturdays are the days the store is open to the public; and Monday mornings are for straightening up the store for the next volunteers.*

***Thank you to all volunteers and  
we always welcome new volunteers!***

St. Paul Coordinators: Carolyn Buchanek,  
Patty Ehler, JoLene Hughes, Linda Morrison,  
Ginger Muesse and Gloria Raschke

**2022 AMEN volunteer schedule**

**8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Mondays  
(with La Grange Church of Christ)**

**JULY 11**

**is St. Paul day to work at AMEN**

**August 22      Sept. 12**

**Oct. 10      Nov. 14      Dec. 12**

**St. Paul's AMEN Coordinator is Mannie Fritsch Schmid. Please contact her at 979-968-3382 if you would like to volunteer.**

**REMINDER— The second Sunday of the month is designated for collections for the AMEN food pantry. Green baskets are at portico entrance and porch of the church office. And grocery basket is located in the Narthex for your donations.**

*For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become slaves to one another. For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." Galatians 5: 13-14 NRSV*



**LYO Summer Trip**—keep the youth and sponsors of the LYO group in your prayers as they go on their Summer Trip. The following will be on the trip : Gunner Jurek, Hunter Sabo, Hannah Burnham, Rory Halpain, Bryn Colon, Judith Almeida, Meadow Taylor-Marklin, Hailey Kelly and Jarron Fajkus. Along with sponsors Caleb Parks, Ashleigh Parks and MiLisa Gaertner. They will be going to Dunlap CA and Oakhurst CA while there they will venture to Sequoia Park, King's Canyon and Yosemite National Park. They will undertake some conservation projects in the parks as well as hike and white water rafting. During their daily bible studies they will explore the theme of Creation. They depart on July 16th and will return July 23rd. Safe travels to all.

## July Birthdays

- 1 Mary Ann Butler, David Johnson
- 2 Vyvynne Friemel, Bailey Karisch
- 3 Karen Bellue
- 4 Trent Schielack
- 5 Larry Drab, Emma Neuendorff, Liz Tannler
- 6 Gilbert Freudenberg, Stone Schielack
- 7 Wayne Anders, Heather England, Peggy Johnson,  
Jonathan Mahlmann, Gary Prause
- 9 Aldine Bernshausen, Melissa Sanchez
- 10 Ray Goehring
- 11 Caleb Grimes, Richard Oppermann
- 12 Sarah Kay, Susie Morgan, Karen Payne, Madelynn Stevens
- 13 Dawson Canada, Skarlet Schielack
- 14 Mark Boyd, Steven Marshall, Ella Pineda, Paula Slade
- 15 Russell Dittrich, Carolyn Hunger, Liz Mielke,  
Kim Miori, Glen Roscher
- 16 Norma Adams, David Weyand
- 17 Patty Ehler
- 18 Devin Bellue, Sharon Jochen, Joyce Steinmann
- 19 Alyssa Boehm
- 20 Verlene Noak
- 21 Clayton Cook, Lloyd Jewell, Justin McGraw, Ruby Tielsch
- 22 Carolyn Bennetsen
- 23 Shelly Fisbeck, Dana Peschke
- 24 Bradley Friemel, Colton Jones, Jacob Ramos, Betty Schmidt
- 25 Delbert Gest, Kalie Pietsch, Evynn Wilson
- 26 Malu Pestana
- 27 Gerald Hughes, Taylor Toddy
- 28 Wade Jaster
- 29 Kristin Brown
- 31 Carolyn Buchanek, Abby Steinhauser, Amanda West

## July Anniversaries

NAME	DATE	YEARS
Vernon & Tammy Oehlke	7/3	41 years
Frank & Sandra Teykl	7/3	36 years
Mark & Sheila Bage	7/7	21 years
Paul & Patty Brown	7/8	40 years
Frank & Lisa Moellenberndt	7/8	33 years
Clinton & Cheryl Rohde	7/8	50 years
James & Kathy Brewer	7/11	53 years
Hunter & Kendall Hengst	7/14	4 years
Erwin & Bonnie Sladek	7/15	44 years
Jared & Amanda West	7/15	15 years
Brad & Kay Schielack	7/16	39 years
Glenn & Sherise Davis	7/19	36 years
Tobias & Rachel Hernandez	7/22	17 years
Clay & Susie Morgan	7/23	34 years
Delynn & Dana Peschke	7/23	28 years
Ralph & Faith Frerichs	7/25	41 years
Clayton & Gail Cook	7/26	42 years
John & Tanya Psencik	7/27	26 years
Elton & Annie Oppermann	7/31	51 years

## Synod Assembly Report – Hebrews 10:23-25

The synod assembly for our Texas Louisiana Gulf Coast was held May 20-21 in Galveston at First Lutheran Church. The voting members from our church were David Ehler, Patty Ehler, and Pastor Bill. First Lutheran Church is one of the oldest congregations in Texas formed in the 1850s by German settlers. The church was scheduled to hold a 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 1900. The great storm on Galveston Island that occurred in 1900 destroyed the church. A new church was built shortly thereafter and then a new structure was built in 1959. Patty's Father, Pastor Vernon Rabel served that congregation for over 30 years.

The opening worship was held in the church. The church sanctuary is a large area with seating for over 500. It was a very inspirational service with presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton preaching. The congregational singing with 2 wonderful pipe organs was tremendous with many pastors and lay people filling the church with heavenly voices.

The main presenters for the assembly were Pastor Joe and Deacon Jess Liles (husband and wife team) from the Neighborhood Church located in Bentonville, Arkansas. They minister to this Lutheran congregation of 800 members plus and explained the Hybrid Church. This church involves seamless integration of time honored traditions and theology with sustaining technological innovation. They were truly inspirational full of humor with wonderful stories and experiences in the community they serve.

The business and reporting sessions were held in Lyceum next door to the church. The assembly utilized the Whova app which contained documents and reports that one could instantly refer to for information. The voting was done with this app which was very efficient with immediate results for all voting matters.

The assembly handled the business of the synod and passed important resolutions. There were reports from Lutherhill, Missions Peru and Central African Republic, Congregations in Call, Synod Bishop Mike Rinehart, and Churchwide Bishop Elizabeth Eaton. We are truly blessed to have Bishop Mike and Bishop Elizabeth serving our church!

A special emphasis was made for gathering funds to retire seminary student debt. The goal for the synod is \$100,000. The synod has collected over \$60,000 coming from congregations and individuals. Our St. Paul Lutheran donated \$5,000 which was placed in the opening worship offering.

The closing worship was held on Saturday with Bishop Mike Rinehart preaching. The whole assembly was a very rewarding experience. Please consider running for a delegate spot from our congregation to experience the inspiration and knowledge of our churchwide and local synod. Please see David or Patty Ehler or Pastor Bill if you have questions or comments about the synod assembly. We thank the church for sending us to this valuable experience.

In Christ,

David Ehler

## SERVANT PAGE

	<b>5:00 p.m.</b>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b>
<b>7/3</b>		
Ushers	Amy Streit, Becky Wessels	Kenny & Patti Weber
Lectors		David Ehler
Altar Guild	Gerald & JoLene Hughes	Gerald & JoLene Hughes
Flowers	Vyvynne Friemel	
<b>7/10</b>		
Ushers	Richard & Dannette Coufal	Caleb & Ashley Parks
Lectors	Chloe Coufal	Caleb Parks
Altar Guild	Sharon Elias	To be Determined
Flowers	Friemel/Holsinger	
<b>7/17</b>		
Ushers	John D & Kay Marburger	Wayne Anders Family
Lectors	John D. Margurger	Praise Band
Altar Guild	To be Determined	To be Determined
Flowers	Glenn & Sherise Davis	
<b>7/24</b>		
Ushers	James & Sharon Elias	OPEN
Lectors	Sharon Elias	Frank Teykl
Altar Guild	To Be Determined	To be Determined
Flowers	First Presbyterian Church	
<b>7/31</b>		
Ushers	Richard & Holly Howard	Janet Coronado
Lectors		Diane Lude
Altar Guild	To be Determined	To be Determined
Flowers	OPEN	

# JULY 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 ST PAUL at Second Chance	2 5:00 Worship ST PAUL at Second Chance
3 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	4 HAPPY 4TH Church Office CLOSED	5	6 8:30 Community Bible Study	7	8	9 5:00 Worship
10 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	11 9:00 Quilters ST PAUL at AMEN	12	13 8:30 Community Bible Study	14	15	16 5:00 Worship
17 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	18 9:00 Quilters	19 8:30 Tacky Tuesday 6:00 Church Council	20 8:30 Community Bible Study	21	22	23 5:00 Worship
24 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School	25 9:00 Quilters	26	27 8:30 Community Bible Study	28	29	30 5:00 Worship
31 9:00 Worship 10:30 Sunday School						

## St. Paul 2022 Congregation Council

**Karen Bellue**, President (979)966-2889 call or text

**Paul Mikula**, Vice-President

**Ginger Friemel**, Secretary

**Donnie Dippel**, Treasurer

**Russell Dittrich**, Mission/Peru

**Atlan Citzler, Jr.**, Stewardship/Finance/Endowment

**David Ehler**, Property

**Frank Macaulay**, Outreach/Social Ministry

**Michael Mach**, Worship/Technology

**Dianne Lude**, Youth/Parish Education

**Parish Office Hours:**

**Monday—Thursday**

**9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.**

**Office Phone: 979-968-5657**

**Pastor Cell Phone: 512-825-0842**

**Fellowship Hall Phone: 979-968-9603**

**[www.stpaullg.org](http://www.stpaullg.org)**

**[stpaul@cvctx.com](mailto:stpaul@cvctx.com)**



## St. Paul Lutheran Church

share • care • grow  
La Grange, Texas

**The Rev. William J. Sappenfield**, *Interim Pastor*

*[wsappenfield@att.net](mailto:wsappenfield@att.net)*

[Pastor is in the office Mon-Wed 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.]

(512) 825-0842

**Sherise Davis**, *Organist*

**Jean McHenry**, *Organist*

**Kathy Toensing**, *Adult Choir/Praise Band Choir*

**Carolyn Bennetsen, Mannie Fritsch-Schmid,  
and Paul Mikula**, *Stephen Ministers*

## MESSENGER JULY 2022

*Monthly Newsletter of St Paul Church*

**St Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church**

*Evangelical Lutheran Church in America*

**P O Box 567/427 S Washington Street**

**La Grange, Texas 78945**

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