The Beacon

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Issue 09 September 2026

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

Council Highlights

Worship & Music Info

PASTORAL CARE

Your Pastoral Care needs may be communicated to Pastor Roy, (717) 350-5057 or our Church Council President, Ron Colvin, (717) 574-8365. Pastor Roy is available by appointment.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Church Event Calendars	5
Weekly Schedule for worship	3

New Hope Happenings Fall 2026

Just a reminder that Fall is the time to turn our attention to some of the biggest New Hope giving events of the year. First, the annual Harvest Home gathering is planned for the weekend of **November 7th and 8th**. Donated boxed, bottled, and canned foods for this drive will be displayed in the nave and will go toward helping the clients of New Hope have a more fulfilling Thanksgiving and holiday season. Please place donated items on the table outside the chapel starting the weekend of **September 26th.**

The other main event for the Fall is the Christmas Blessings Express. The Christmas tree will appear right after Farmers Fair. There will be "tags" on the tree for a particular gender and/or age group. Please take a tag or two and purchase a gift related to that tag and return the **UNWRAPPED** gift to the appropriate overflow table outside the chapel along with the tag that you took attached to the gift. Please return all gifts by **November 30th.**

These events represent a large portion of our donations to New Hope for the year. Last year 484 pounds of food and goods were taken to New Hope for distribution for these two drives. Please remember that our donations go to people that may not be as fortunate as ourselves. Thank you for your consideration in aiding the Clients of New Hope.

Thank you, Brian Grove

Dear St. Paul's,

One morning recently I was looking out at our bird feeding trampoline because I heard a blue jay calling with a raspy, quiet but persistent call. No other blue jays around. Some finches and mourning doves were also feeding. The young looking blue jay grabbed a sunflower seed, flew up into the small mulberry tree, tapped the sunflower against the branch, cracking it. This happened several times with the ongoing call. Suddenly another young jay appeared, and they flew off into the English walnut tree together. Perhaps a sibling? If we take the time to pay attention, there are many stories being told all around us. Tales of friendship and kindness, trust and interdependence. Such is the strongest lesson from creation for me: The interdependence of all living things and a reminder to not get in the way of creation's capacity to take care of itself. There are small things we can do to support our relationships with the creatures as well as the human beings all around us. But we can also support sustainable and sensible public policy with regard to creation, to encourage a more communal solution to the challenges that face us today and going into the future. There are many stories to be told. May Christ's Spirit give us strength to listen, observe, and embrace our role as co-creators with God.

Pastor Roy

Financials for July 2026

	03/31/2026	04/30/2026	05/31/2026	06/30/2026	07/31/2026	YTD 07/31/2026	TOTAL Budget YTD
General Giving Income	$ 12,480	$ 11,826	$ 9,550	$ 11,156	$ 6,967	$ 67,227	$ 72,917
Designated Income	$ 5,695	$ 7,878	$ 6,108	$ 6,718	$ 5,220	$ 41,396	$ 40,731
Total Income	$ 18,175	$ 19,704	$ 15,657	$ 17,874	$ 12,187	$ 108,737	$ 113,648
Xfer From Investments	$0	$0	$0	$5,000	$5,000	$10,000	$10,000
Expenses	$ 18,139	$ 15,655	$ 16,684	$ 17,455	$ 17,728	$ 126,515	$134,068
Balance	$ 36	$ 4,049	$ (1,027)	$ 5,419	$ (541)	$ (7,778)	($10,420)

Worship at St. Paul's Serving You Today

Assisting Ministers

September	***October***
06 S. Miller	04 Grace Busch
13 R. Buckham	11Sue Wenger
20 Sharon Colvin	18 Suzanne Sheaffer
27 Ted Shumaker	25 Jill Busch

Lectors

September	***October***
06 R. Buckham	04 Dave Gerstenlauer
13 Pam Shook	11Mary Lutz
20 Kim Sebestyen	18 Sharon Colvin
27 Sue Wenger	25 Lisa Torio

Crucifer

September	***October***
06 Randy Miller	04 Grace Busch
13 Sharon Colvin	11Sue Wenger
20 Samuel Smith	18 Jeff Griffin
27 Mary Lutz	25 Jill Busch

Live Streaming Technician

September	***October***
06 Sharon Colvin	04 Sharon Colvin
13 Suzanne Sheaffer	11 Suzanne Sheaffer
20 Lisa Torio	18 Lisa Torio
27 D. Gerstenlauer	25 Dave Gerstenlauer

Ushers

Randy Stough (Head Usher)
Dwight Lehman (Assistant)

Altar Guild

September	***October***
Yvonne & Kim Sebestyen	Suzanne Sheaffer

Altar Flowers and Bulletins: **Notice: Altar Flowers $55.00 and Bulletins $10.00 Please use the envelopes next to the sign up sheets. Thank you.**

Altar Flowers

September	***October***
06 Lisa Torio	04 Available
13 R & S. Wenger	11Available
20 Dale Zea	18 Available
27 Lisa Torio	25 Lisa Torio

Bulletins

September	***October***
06 Available	04 Available
13 Dale Zea	11 Available
20 Jeff Griffin	18 Available
27 Available	25 Available

Please submit articles for the October 2026 issue of the Newsletter to Annetta no later than September 20, 2026.

For any website updates or additions, please contact Andy Buffington at andrewbuffington1@gmail.com

Trick or Treat Stop

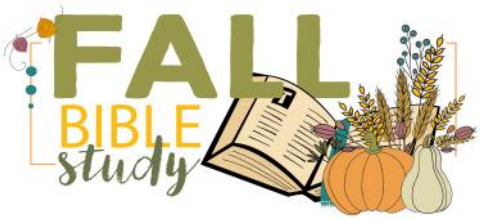
The Outreach Committee is sponsoring a "Trick or Treat Stop" at the Church on **Thursday, Oct. 29th from 6-8 p.m.** This is Dillsburg Borough's Trick or Treat night. We will be on the Baltimore Street sidewalk. The church will not be open. We are asking for the usual trick or treat candy donations. All candy must be individually wrapped. We can NOT accept homemade items. Please leave your donated candy on the table in the overflow area. Last day for donations is **Sunday, Oct. 25th.** Anyone who would like to participate in handing out the candy to the children in our neighborhood, please contact Pam

ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL SCHOOL BACKPACK PROJECT

St. Paul's has done it again!! Many thanks to members of the congregation for their help in collecting the supplies for this annual mission of love. This year we collected supplies to assembly a total of 144 backpacks. Next step will be to assembly the kits and get them packaged in boxes of 12 back packs each. Once that is completed, St. Paul's will deliver the boxes to the designated drop location to be shipped where needed. Again, many thanks to all.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Muir



Fall Bible Study will start on September 14th with Zoom Bible study at 7:00 p.m. and on Tuesday in person at 1:00 p.m. Please plan on joining for this time of Study and fellowship.

Council Updates - July

- As St. Paul's is a designated heating/cooling and emergency center, a list of members who volunteered to help man the center will be generated, as someone from the church needs to be present in the event of the building being utilized.
- The Vanguard investment is $10,000 ahead of last year at this time. However, offerings are down $5000 from June of last year.
- The church's banking account has been opened at Adams County National Bank.
- The final updates to the directory will be made by September 1st. Please have any updates to the church office before that time.
- There will not be an August meeting of the Church Council.

BLOOD DRIVE

The next *Blood Drive* at St. Paul's will be on October 21, 9:00 a.m.— 6:00 p.m. You can donate anytime by calling the number below to get scheduled.

A form of ID is required.

SIGN UP—TO DONATE by calling

1-800-771-0059 **or** sign in online at **717giveblood.org**

Blood Drive Results

On August 19th we hosted a blood drive with the Penn Central Blood Bank. We saw 40 donors and we collected 32 pints of blood. So with your help we will be able to save 96 local lives. Thank you for your participation in this important event. Thank you for participating.

Your Pastoral Care needs may be communicated to Pastor Roy, (717) 350-5057 or our Church Council President, Ron Colvin, (717) 574-8365. Pastor Roy is available by appointment.

PASTORAL CARE

SEPTEMBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
September 22		1	2 Bells 6:30 p.m. AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	3 6:30 p.m. O.A. (FH)	4 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	5
6 10:30 a.m. Worship & FB	7 Office Closed AA 7:00 p.m. (FH) 	8	9 Bells 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Choir AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	10 6:30 p.m. O.A. (FH)	11 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	12 6:30 p.m. Worship Service (C)
13 10:30 a.m. Worship & FB 11:30 a.m. Worship & Music (P) 	14 3:00 p.m. Church Council AA 7:00 p.m. (FH) 7 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)	15 1 p.m. Bible Study (P) 2-4 p.m. Bible Adventure (FH)	16 7:30 p.m. Choir AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	17 9:00 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. O.A. (FH)	18 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	19
20 10:30 a.m. Worship & FB	21 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH) 7 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)	22 1 p.m. Bible Study (P) 2-4 p.m. Bible Adventure (FH) 	23 Bells 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Choir AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	24 9:00 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. O.A. (FH)	25 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	26 6:30 p.m. Worship Service (C)
27 10:30 a.m. Worship & FB	28 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH) 7 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)	29 1 p.m. Bible Study (P) 2-4 p.m. Bible Adventure (FH)	30 Bells 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Choir AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	The Church office will be close the week of **September 7-11**. Annetta will be on vacation. Needs may be communicated directly to *Pastor Roy Stetler* at (717) 350-5057, contact our *Church Council President*, Ron Colvin, (717) 574-8365 or *Vice-president,* Ted Shumaker, (717) 319-3664. Thank you		

Office closed—Annetta on Vacation

OCTOBER 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Reformation Sunday, October 25, Joint Worship here at St. Paul's with Quickel Lutheran. Congregational Luncheon following in the parish hall. Bring a side dish to share.				1 9:00 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. O.A. (FH)	2 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	3
4 Creation in Christ Sunday 10:30 a.m. Worship & FB	5 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH) 7 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)	6 1 p.m. Bible Study (P) 2-4 p.m. Bible Adventure (FH)	7 6:30 p.m. Bells 7:30 p.m. Choir AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	8 9:00 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. O.A. (FH)	9 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	10 6:30 p.m. Worship Service (C)
11 10:30 a.m. Worship & FB	12 Office Closed AA 7:00 p.m. (FH) 7 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom) 	13 1 p.m. Bible Study (P) 2-4 p.m. Bible Adventure (FH)	14 6:30 p.m. Bells 7:30 p.m. Choir AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	15 6:30 p.m. O.A. (F9:00 a.m. Quilters H)	16 National Bosses Day AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	17 Farmers Fair
18 10:30 a.m. Worship & FB	19 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH) 7 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)	20 1 p.m. Bible Study (P) 2-4 p.m. Bible Adventure (FH)	21 Blood Drive 9-6 p.m. 6:30 p.m. Bells 7:30 p.m. Choir AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	22 9:00 a.m. Quilters 6:30 p.m. O.A. (FH)	23 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	24 6:30 p.m. Worship Service (C)
25 10:30 a.m. Worship & FB 11:30 a.m. Congregational Luncheon 	26 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH) 7 p.m. Bible Study (Zoom)	27 1 p.m. Bible Study (P) 2-4 p.m. Bible Adventure (FH)	28 Bells 6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m. Choir AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	29 9:00 a.m. Quilters Outreach Halloween Giveaway 6-8 p.m. 6:30 p.m. O.A. (FH)	30 AA 7:00 p.m. (FH)	31 Halloween

September
Birthdays

1 Linda Hagenbuch
2 Jill Snyder
3 Thomas Spotts
9 Lidia Lehman
Lawrence Shook
10 David Gerstenlauer
13 Sally Buffington
14 Brianna Hershey
Annetta Zea
15 Michael Geisler
16 Ted Shumaker
17 Anita Zook
Taylor Wire
27 Tamie Hershey
Forrest Dohner

Anniversaries
September

6 Peter Dohner & Beth Ann
D`Agostino

October
Birthdays

1 Michael Hart
7 David Young
9 Eugene Shoop III
11 Randy Miller
16 Scott Bair
17 Joe Tuschak
21 Jackie Coble
24 Kathy Bagian
26 Robert Simpson
27 Randy Stough
29 Timme Buffington
31 Kathy Muir

Anniversaries
October

11 Brian & Sue Grove
13 Jay & Cheryl Depner
25 Beth & Gregory Wire
27 Tim & Tamie Hershey

If we have missed a birthday or anniversary we apologize. Please contact Annetta at the church office to update or add to our records. (717)432-3202 or **parishadmin@stpaulsdillsburg.com**

The Busy Bee Quilters will have their first meeting of the Fall on **9/17/26**. Any one interested in quilting are welcome to join us. We meet in the Fellowship hall every Thursday. We start at 9:00 a.m.

Supported by the Lutheran World Federation and World Council of Churches, ELCA worshiping communities are encouraged to celebrate this new day, using the lectionary texts provided by the Consultation on Common Texts. Our date to observe Creation in Christ will be October 4.

Adopting this new date on the liturgical calendar will be an evolving process, just as the process to get to this point involved much thought, prayer, and deliberation.

EXTRA SINGERS INVITED!

REFORMATION JOINT CHOIR
at St. Paul's Lutheran Church
OCTOBER 25, 2026 at 10:30 a.m.

You are invited to sing with St. Paul's Choir & Quickel's Church Choir to help celebrate Martin Luther's contribution to Christianity!

Rehearsals will be on Wednesdays 10/7, 14 & 21 from 7:30 - 8 p.m. We will rehearse, two Choir pieces & lead the congregation's worship. Please talk to Joyce in person, or call her at (717) 514-2935 to volunteer!

175th Anniversary Celebration of Mt. Zion, Lutheran Church, York PA , October 4, 10:30 a.m.—2:00 p.m. Free

On October 4, 2026, Mt. Zion Lutheran Church will be celebrating 175 years of praising God for his 175 years of empowering lives at Mt. Zion Lutheran Church. There will be a worship service on this day followed by potluck meal. Former pastors, deacons, and interim pastors who helped bring the Word of God to this congregation have been invited to attend, join in the worship service and socialize with members of the congregation. A Lutheran minister and a Reformed minister joined forces to form the Reformed Lutheran Church. The Lutheran minister served 4 churches each month. In 1956, Mt. Zion became a sole congregation and the current building at 2164 Mt. Zion Road in York, PA was dedicated July 24, 1966. Mt. Zion United Church of Christ started their own congregation and moved to a separate building. They will also be celebrating 175 years of praising God on October 4, 2026.

Upcoming events:

***Fall Elementary School Walker Giveaway*:**

Tuesday Sept. 22nd at 3:30pm.

Congregational Luncheon:

Reformation Sunday, October 25, 2026

Trick or Treat Night in Dillsburg:

October 29 6-8 p.m.

First Responders Breakfast in November:

Date to be determined

Mark your Calendars

St. Paul's OUTREACH

Remember Those Who Are Homebound

Sandy Banks, **1271 Gettysburg Pike, Apt.#314, Dillsburg, PA 17019**

Eleanor Burkhardt, **141 Hickory Rd, Dillsburg, PA 17019**

Paul & Kathy Eurich, **501 Oak Avenue, Apt.318, Waynesboro, VA 22980**

Jay & Vivian Knaub, **956 S. Mountain Rd., Dillsburg, PA 17019**

Annual Congregational Meeting

The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 13, immediately following the 10:30 a.m. Service. We encourage everyone to come out to hear a report on the state of the church, approve a 2027 Budget, and elect persons to positions on the Congregation Council.

Annual Reports will be available on Sunday, November 29th in the Sanctuary.

If you are in charge of a committee please have your Annual Reports to the church office by November 16th so they can be included in the report. Thank you.

Puzzle!

NAMES OF GOD

Every name of God tells us something about his power, love and care for his people. Use the Scripture clues to uncover just some of these special names.

F _____ (Matthew 6:9)

A _____ and O _____ (Revelation 1:8)

I A __ (Exodus 3:14)

Y _____ (Exodus 6:2-3)

G _____ M _____ H _____ (Genesis 14:19)

G _____ A _____ (Genesis 17:1)

R _____ (Psalm 18:2)

J _____ (Psalm 75:7)

F _____ (Psalm 18:2)

H _____ O _____ (Isaiah 40:25)

Answer key: Father, Alpha and Omega, I AM, Yahweh, God Most High
God Almighty, Rock, Judge, Fortress, Holy One

Dillsburg Farmers' Fair

The St. Paul's Farmers' Fair team has started organizing our events for Saturday, October 17th. We will have crafts and will be serving food again this year. Joyce has planned to share music at 12:30. This will be a wonderful addition to what we offered last year. The ads are placed in the Dill Pickle, the team has reviewed the food offerings from last year and has made some modifications, and members are starting to volunteer to help provide for another successful year. We will be posting a list for food donations needed some time in late August or early September with the expectation of items being at the church (non-perishable and items that can be frozen) the Sunday before October 17th (October 11, 2026). Please contact Kathy Muir (717) 515-7400 for further information, to donate items, or to volunteer. Blessings, Kathy

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Dillsburg, PA 17019

Phone: (717) 432-3202
www.stpaulsdillsburg.com