



# The Good News

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Chittenango, New York

August 2024

## Our Faith Can Move Mountains

*Matthew 17:20*

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The Mission of our Parish  
is to be an  
active community reflecting  
God's presence  
in Chittenango  
and other communities  
we represent.

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### Our Services

Sundays at 10 AM

Join us on Zoom!

Link will be posted to our  
Facebook page every week

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Chittenango, NY 13037  
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August is here. Wasn't I just writing the cover letter for the January Newsletter? I could have sworn I just did.

Thank you!!! You heard our plea and donated more money to the Building Fund. You are the most wonderful people I know. I swung by the back of the Church today, and the first set of windows are in and the trim done, it looks wonderful!!

The Clothing Giveaway has been successful and greatly appreciated. Thank you for the support behind this. I love the giving heart of St. Paul's. We also have kicked off the School Supply collection – already donations are coming in! Love this!

Looking ahead – we have Blessing of the Backpacks on Sunday, September 1st, Fr. Leon will do it during announcements, if anyone has a backpack that needs blessing. Also coming up in September is the Clothing Giveaway and the Bread and Butter Sunday.

Looking a bit further into October – we will be having the Blessing of the Pets on Sunday, Oct. 6th – time to be decided soon – we will let you know!!

We also have a Spaghetti Take Out Time in October – we will be sharing information as it comes down the road. Val reminded me, we need to get working on it, so if anyone would like to help out – let Val or me know!!

Also looking ahead – we are heading into the time of year, when Stewardship is brought up. So what is Stewardship? I heard it described as “our gifts being shared with a world in need”. That is actually beautiful, if you think about it. Another person shared that they see it as “caretakers of each other”. Another, “sharing a passion of community”. Transformative, I think. Another I heard was talking about feeling that it was a time to get money for the budget. Which IS a piece of it – but only a piece of Stewardship. Do you ever think you would hear the words – Generosity, Caring or Joy, tied in with Stewardship? I believe it is all in how you look at it. I feel that St. Paul's believes in generosity, caring and joy – so we are going down the right road. It is a fine line we walk, between working to keep our budget reasonable and being generous to those in need. I think of it like Jesus feeding the 5,000 on a few loaves of bread and a few fish. He didn't worry about it, he had faith and was able to perform a miracle. Faith is such a big piece.

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## Contact Information

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### St. Paul's Vestry

Robin Weisbrod  
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Judy Olmsted  
Treasurer

Tania Mousaw  
Outreach

Lynn Mozeliak  
Pastoral Care

Sue Gerling  
Jr Warden  
Worship

Val Travers  
Fellowship

Jan Lee  
Vestry Clerk

Amy Veator  
Newsletter Editor

Want to donate to St. Paul's?  
Not sure how to do it online?

Go to: <https://cnyepiscopal.org/give/> click on "Give to my Parish" and look for St. Paul's Chittenango.

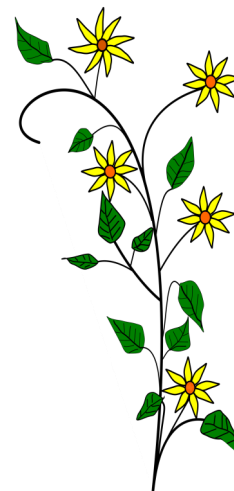
You will get an email stating your donation has gone thru and our Treasurer will get an email, with your name and amount given.

## Prayer List

Ethel Barber, Ron Beaty, Catherine Carter, Stephen Cominsky, Dawn Cottet, Barb Dayo, Carrick Fox, Ida Goins, Bill Goodfellow, the Rev. Charles Grover, Joan Grover, Donna Hoffman, Ed Hoffman, Violet Irwin, Sandy Jensen, Diane Jillson, Amy Kenneson, Bob & Corinne Kraus, Patricia Ladd, Don Lee, Betty Lesczynski, Ed Link, Eileen May, Woody McAllister, Carolyn Moredock, Liz Petosa, Bernadine Pitts, Roe Salamone, Ruth Williams, the People of Gaza and the West Bank, the People of Israel, the People of Ukraine

New Prayer List for June 2024/July 2024 has been posted on the bulletin board.

If you wish to have someone added to St. Paul's Prayer list, please contact Becky Kraus at bak092364@gmail.com / 315 382-9056 or Robin Weisbrod at rdweisbrod@gmail.com / 315 655-4321.



If anyone would like a written copy of the weekly lessons/Gospel, Psalm, and Fr. Leon's sermon, either mailed to you or emailed to you - please contact the Church, by phone or by email and let Becky know. She will drop them in the mail to you weekly.

Please email  
stpaulschittenango@gmail.com  
Or call (315) 687-6304

### About St. Paul's

The earliest record of Episcopal Church services in this vicinity was 1816 when St. Stephen's Church of Perryville was incorporated. At that time Chittenango was little more than a gathering of frame and log houses. From 1816-1832 rectors from St. Stephen's held missionary services in Chittenango.

Around 1849 a few gentlemen who greatly admired and revered the beautiful services of the Church, agreed to make an effort to have services occasionally held. By the spring of 1855 services began to be held regularly once a month in the Bethel. St. Paul's was officially organized as a parish on June 18, 1855. St. Paul's church was built in 1865 as a Gothic Revival-style structure. The lot, building, furniture and windows cost \$5000. The building was completed in less that six months. The first service was held in the church on Easter Day, April 1, 1866.

On May 12, 1866 the church was consecrated by Bishop Coxe. It was added to the U.S. National Historic Register of National Places in 1996.

# August

## Birthdays

04 Samantha Huebler  
 21 Leon Mozeliak, Jr.  
 25 Bob Olmsted  
 25 Mary Jane Pokorny  
 27 Bob Kincaid  
 28 Edward Pokorny  
 28 Charles Grover

## Anniversaries

27 – Gerry and Robin Weisbrod

## Ministry Team Schedule

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### August 4, 2024 Holy Eucharist

Rev. Dr. Leon C. Mozeliak, Jr.

L.E.M.: Judy Olmsted  
 Lessons: Sue Gerling  
 Prayers: Sue Gerling  
 Acolyte: Ed Hoffman  
 MIDI: Valerie Travers  
 Coffee Hour: Vestry

### August 18, 2024 Holy Eucharist

Rev. Dr. Leon C. Mozeliak, Jr.

L.E.M.: Judy Olmsted  
 Lessons: Roberta Kincaid  
 Prayers: Roberta Kincaid  
 Acolyte: Ed Hoffman  
 MIDI: Valerie Travers  
 Coffee Hour: Please volunteer

### Altar Guild for August:

Sue Huebler  
 Becky Kraus

### August 11, 2024 Morning Prayer Robin Weisbrod

Lessons: Tania Mousaw  
 Prayers: Tania Mousaw  
 Acolyte: Ed Hoffman  
 MIDI: Valerie Travers  
 Coffee Hour: Please volunteer

### August 25, 2024 Morning Prayer Robin Weisbrod

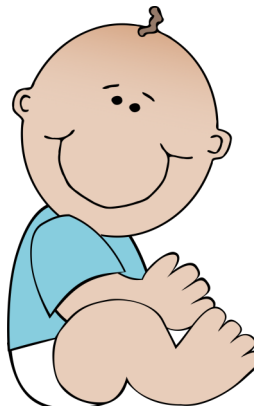
Lessons: Meg Hermann  
 Prayers: Meg Hermann  
 Acolyte: Ed Hoffman  
 MIDI: Valerie Travers  
 Coffee Hour: Please volunteer

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Anyhow, part of Stewardship is not only money, but time and talent – which is the Segway into thinking about next year's Vestry. I have a wonderful Vestry and love how much care they take of St. Paul's – but I worry that they are getting burned out. No one has said so to me, but they have given much time to Vestry. If you get approached, please think about it thoughtfully, take time, pray on it and then give us an answer. We love you all. Short one this month – hopefully next month will bring me more inspiration.

Yours in Christ,  
Robin W.  
Sr. Warden

Congratulations to new Grandparents,  
Jill and Steve Just!!



Daughter Shelby and  
husband Zack Drake  
are the proud parents  
of:

Charlie James Drake  
born 6/27/2024

Paternal Grandparents  
are Steven and Terri  
Drake

Maternal Great Grandparents are the  
former  
James and Judy Montgomery



An elderly priest was speaking to a younger priest. "You had a good idea to replace the first four pews with plush bucket theatre seats. It worked like a charm! The front of the church always fills first now." As the young priest nodded, the old priest continued, "You also told me to assign a little more beat to the music because it would bring young people back to church. So, I supported you when you brought in that rock 'n' roll Gospel choir. Now, our services are consistently packed." "Thank you, Father," answered the young priest. "I am pleased that you are open to the new ideas of youth." "All of these ideas have been well and good," said the elderly priest. "But, I'm afraid you've gone too far with the drive-thru confessional." "But Father," protested the young priest. "My confessions and donations have nearly doubled since I began that!" "Yes," replied, the elderly priest. "I appreciate that, but the flashing neon sign, 'Toot 'n' Tell or Go to Hell' cannot stay on the church roof!"

## Living Together, Pentecost 12 (B) –

August 11, 2024

Lucy Strandlund

[RCL] 1 Kings 19:4-8; Psalm 34:1-8; Ephesians 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

There is a reason that the Rule of Saint Benedict is 73 chapters long.[1] The famous rule of life is a compilation of the wisdom Benedict gathered from the early monastic communities of which he was a part, and it became the basis for many religious communities in Europe and around the world. It covers all manner of things: humility, restraint of speech, how to receive guests (with reverence), how to treat those who are ill (with gentleness), how to pray, how to eat, how to work, and so on, until the final chapter which is titled, “This Rule Only a Beginning of Perfection.” The level of detail indicates how difficult it can be to order the common life of a group of disparate

people trying to reflect the love of Christ together. It also reminds us that working toward this way of living together is a lifelong project.

Perhaps more familiar to us than Benedict’s Rule are the norms established for common life in classrooms or reflection groups. These boundaries are mutually agreed upon in the hope that all will feel a little safer and more at ease in the group. Making sure conversation is respectful, using “I” statements, waiting to speak a second time until everyone has had a chance to speak—these are steps we take to build communities in which each person can grow and be challenged in helpful ways.

In a world in which one shudders to peruse the comment section of nearly any online article or social media post, it is striking to experience a community of people from different backgrounds and experiences who choose to share a

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### The School Kits for Kids

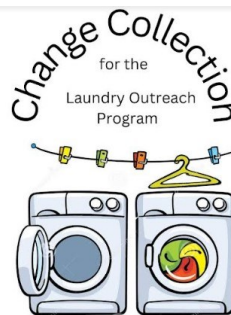


The School Kits for Kids Program will kick off on July 25th. The deadline completion date is August 26th. Some kits will be provided at the Parish Hall, or you may purchase your own kit and fill it, or you may just want to donate some of the items needed for the kits or a donation of cash. However you choose to participate, it is appreciated.

Items required for the kits:

- 1 Pair Blunt Scissors
- 1 Box colored pencils,
- 12 count No. 2 pencils
- 1 Pencil Sharpener
- 1 Pink pearl eraser
- 3 White glue sticks
- 24 count Box of Crayons,
- 1 Box of tissues

Thank you for your unselfish giving to others.  
Thank you. Thank you!



Join us in saving Quarters and drop them in the change container in the Parish Hall.

Not able to get to the Parish Hall?  
- make a donation to the church and on the memo line put Laundry Donation!!

Thank you for supporting this new Outreach program.



The Third Sunday of every Month

"There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men."

1 Corinthians 12:4-7



How many tools do you use during the day?

Sometimes we limit our understanding of tools as those we would normally find within a "toolbox," but

God's toolbox contains far more than what could be contained in a single toolbox.

Think beyond a hammer, screwdriver and measuring tape. What about the tools we use in the kitchen like a whisk, spatula or measuring cup? What about the tools on our desk such as tape, pens and paper clips?

God has many different tools in His toolbox (the Church). Each is special and has a special purpose.

We wouldn't use a whisk to hammer a nail, but a whisk is very useful in cooking.

We would expect to find a hammer, screwdriver, and wrench in a toolbox. In the same way, many times we only expect God to use the pastor, deacons, elders, or Sunday school teachers.

In reality, God wants to use each and everyone of us. God has created us unique and different. He wants us to use our gifts for Him.

Gather a few tools you use each day and think of how they could be used by God in your hands. For example: the hammer may be used by a missionary, someone helping fix a roof, or a Christian construction

worker; the pen may be used to write encouraging notes, write down memory verses, used by a teacher or author, etc.

Now think of other tools, gifts or abilities God has given you that can be used for His glory - ex: singing, drawing, helping others, sports, etc.

Finally hold your Bible in your hands; it is the most powerful tool that God has given us! We must make sure we have it in our toolbox for everyday life.

Our verse above from 1 Corinthians talks about both different gifts, different services, and different workings. We're not meant to serve in the exact same way.

Someone may have the same gift like teaching, but one may teach individually like discipling one on one and another may teach groups of people or even teach by writing articles and Bible lessons online.

God has created you uniquely with your own mix of personality, experiences, knowledge and abilities. He has also placed you in a unique situation with a specific area of influence. You know and can reach people for God that others don't know or couldn't relate to.

You matter in God's toolbox! He wants to use you just like you are and right where you are. As the last part of our verse says - "but the same God works all of them in all men."

<https://www.creativebiblestudy.com/object-lesson-toolbox.html>

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common life with mutual respect and kindness. These kinds of communities testify that there is another way to be together—a way that witnesses to the abundant love and grace of God.

The missive to the Ephesians is packed with instructions on how to live in such a community. Throughout the letter, Paul reminds them to be distinctive by their way of life together: to speak the truth in love, to build one another up, to remember that they are members of one body, each with

their own gifts to contribute toward the good of the whole.

Today's passage in particular focuses on how to speak to one another:

Putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another. Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and do not make room for the devil... Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up,

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as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear.

In this passage, there is no pretending that anger and frustrations will not arise. Indeed, it is only natural for patience to run out and for grievances to add up. But it is how one responds in those moments, Paul seems to say, that is key. He instructs them to only say “what is useful for building up, as there is need.” This is not a glossing over of differences or suppressing of conflict in order to get along. Rather it is about working through conflict with thoughtfulness and generosity of spirit, trusting that doing so will be constructive and life-giving for the community in the end.

The last lines of today’s passage emphasize the witness of this way of living together:

Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you. Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

We are not often encouraged in this day and age to be kind, tenderhearted, or forgiving; rather, our society seems to value the opposite. Kindness, tenderheartedness, and forgiveness are portrayed by many as weakness, and yet Paul encourages these attributes as a way to imitate no less than God, creator of the universe.

And these attributes do take strength and extra effort. When we are cranky or tired or irritated, it is difficult to watch our words and think through how best to communicate about a conflict. Part of why a community puts norms or a rule of life in place is to provide scaffolding in those moments when we might be tempted to tear one another down rather than build one another up. In those difficult moments, it is easy to say the thoughtless thing, and it takes energy to think through one’s words. But though it takes more effort, the return is abundant. A community that builds one another up, communicates clearly and with kindness, and works through conflict patiently and trusting in God’s grace is a community that can serve as a beacon of hope. Such a community empowers its members to use their gifts and reflects the glory of God’s grace, abundance, and love.

Moreover, none of us needs to rely solely on the love and generosity that we can muster up on our own. The recurring message throughout Ephesians is that Christ is our source. When we run out of patience or kindness or energy for choosing our words carefully, we can dip into the deep well of love we find in God. That is the love and grace that can

flow through us and allow us to form communities marked by God’s abundance.

Earlier in Ephesians, Paul shares this prayer for the community:

I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

So, how might this community and other communities of which you are a part reflect the fullness of God? Where are the places that kindness, gentleness, forgiveness, and speaking the truth in love would contribute to the building up of the whole body? If we take seriously that we are “rooted and grounded in love,” how does that shape the decisions we make and the words we use?

As we approach the end of the summer and the beginning of a new school and program year, it is a good moment to reflect on the health of our communities and to recommit to practicing ways of being together that will point to the abundant grace and kindness of God. May our prayer be to both see and reflect God more clearly as we embark on this project together. Amen.

*The Rev. Lucy Strandlund is the Associate Rector for Liturgy & Pastoral Care at St. Paul’s Episcopal Church in Winston-Salem. She has a Master of Divinity and Master of Arts in Spiritual Formation from the Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Texas. In her free time, she loves to be outside, eat good food, and learn new things.*

<https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sermon/living-together-pentecost-12-b-august-11-2024/>



St. Paul's Episcopal Church  
Chittenango, New York

**We are on the Web**  
**stpaulschittenango.net**

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# The Good News

The August 2024 Newsletter of

## St. Paul's of Chittenango

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