

St. Paul's Letter April 2026



*"You sent abundant rain,
O God, to refresh the weary land"*
Psalm 68:9



St. Paul Lutheran Church

222 North George Street Millersville, Pennsylvania 17551

CHURCH COUNCIL 2025-2026

Committee Liaison

Rev. Mark Kopp, Pastor

—

Bruce Hampton Pres.

Property

Dave Ellenberg

Mutual Ministry

David Sykes

Long Range Planning

Tim Brooks

Building Use

Dee Perry

Worship & Music

Michele Carpenter*

Finance

Barb Sensenig

Adult Education

Sue Swartz Vice Pres.

Children's Ministry

Linda Hiney

Finance

Mike Althouse,

Finance

Treasurer (non-voting)

*Recording Secretary

Other Contacts

Church office: 717-872-7392

Email: office@stpaulmillersville.org

Website: www.stpaullutheranmillersville.org

Sunday: 9:00 a.m.-Worship & Holy Communion

Our Staff

Preaching and Presiding Minister: Rev. Mark Kopp
pastorkopp@stpaulmillersville.org

Pastor David Fisher: Pastor Emeritus
Bruce Hampton: Church Council President
Lucy Esbenshade: Choir Director
Cathy Regitz: Sexton
Bill Napier: Administrator/musician

Church Office Hours: M-F 8:00 a.m. to 12:00p.m.

Email: office@stpaulmillersville.org

APRIL BIRTHDAYS



Sue Martin 15th

Bernice Althouse 17th

Lauren Buchman 24th

In a continuing effort of have our church database as accurate as possible, birthday data is being addressed. PLEASE, if your birthday is missing from this list, let the office know as soon as possible. Thank you.

Helping Hands

April	5	12	19	26	
Bulletins	Celeste & Tim Brooks	Carrie Henry	Barb & Jeff Sensenig	NONE	
Sunday School	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	
Flowers Vase 1	Sandy Miller	Lois & John Detz	Dee Perry	Karen & Bill Napier	
Flowers Vase 2	Barb & Jeff Sensenig	No one Signed up	Sherry Symonds	No one Signed up	
Usher 1	Jim Dierolf	Tim Brooks	Stephanie Dell'Estate	Marty Kahler	
Usher 2	Dolores Garrett	Carol Heintzelman	Cathy Trissel	Bill Kahler	
Usher 3	Bruce Thens	Anita Roma	Maureen Klingaman	Dan Kahler	
Usher 4	Denny Herr	Holly Freas-Webster	Loren Klingaman	Mason Kahler	
Altar Guild 1	Sue Ellenberg	Sylvia Lashley	Carol Heintzelman	Sylvia Lashley	
Altar Guild 2	Jody Kunzler	Sandy Kreider	Jody Kunzler	Sandy Kreider	
Lector	Suzanne Herr	Frank Witmer	No one Signed up	No one Signed up	
Lay Assistant	Michele Carpenter	Jim Bernheisel	No one Signed up	Greg Lashley	

Bev's Bakers



April

- 5 Linda Hampton
- 12 Carrie Henry
- 19 Ria Van Aulen
- 26 No One Signed Up



Finance, Finance, Finance

February Update:

Giving Income	\$ 16,030
Other Income	\$ 900
Directed Fund Income	\$ 0
Fund Income	\$ 4,590
Expenses	\$ 16,556
Surplus/deficit	\$ 4,964




April Schedule At A Glance

- April 2 Maundy Thursday Service 7pm
- April 3 Good Friday Service 7pm
- April 5 Easter Sunday Service & Brunch (egg hunt too)
- April 12 Second Sunday of Easter
- April 19 Third Sunday of Easter
- April 26 Fourth Sunday of Easter

Would like something included in the newsletter, please let the office know. There is almost always room to squeeze something in or add more pages. If there is something you are curious about and believe the congregation might be interested...please let the office know...the search for content is continuous. Send an email to the office if you have read this.

Sponsoring Altar Flowers


Now that we have streamlined the process of sponsoring altar flowers and have eliminated those little slips of paper, there is one more item we need to improve upon.

The **Pick Up or Deliver to Shut-ins** column is often left blank. Please indicate if you want to take the flowers  with you by circling **P** or of you

DATE	Liturgical Day	VASE	Pick Up Or Deliver to Shut-ins		Sponsor
			P	D	
26-Apr	Fourth Sun of Easter	2	P	D	

would like them delivered to shut-ins, circle **D**. You will see in the bulletin either a P or D in a circle after the flower sponsor's name. This is to help the altar guild and the flower coordinator do their jobs efficiently. The default is deliver to shut-ins. Please remember to circle a P or a D. Thanks.

Spring Flower Sale

 Our annual plant sale has begun. In the narthex, you will find blank order forms with all the information you may need. Thank you for supporting the mission in Haiti. As you know they have had a very challenging year and had to flee the location they worked so hard to build. The deadline for ordering plants is April 26th (Sunday) and the pick up date is Friday May 8th and/or Sunday May 10th after the service (after the brunch).

The order forms have a check-box to indicate when you would like to pick up your plants. Thank you for supporting this important mission. **PLEASE do not include/combine plant payments in your offering envelopes. Make checks payable to St. Paul. Order forms will also be emailed to the congregation.**



Fine Art Moment

Many do not realize that Davinci's last supper is a mural. It was painted between 1494 and the beginning of 1498, is considered perhaps the most important mural in the world. The image is found at the Refectory of Santa



Maria delle Grazie, Milano and measures about 15 feet tall by almost 29 feet wide, and covers the end wall of the dining hall. Leonardo, who preferred oil paints, did not use the traditional fresco method where the paint is put onto wet plaster. He, instead, used tempera. Tempera is a, fast-drying, long-lasting medium made by mixing pigments with a water-soluble binder, traditionally egg yolk. There have been many claims that there are many "hidden" elements in this painting as well as symbolism.

Although records have been lost, some wonder if da Vinci used all the left-over egg whites from the tempera to make angel food cake, which might have been inspirational while painting scenes with angels. It is believed that da Vinci died from a stroke. (Stroke of genius? too soon?) Leonardo da Vinci's widely cited last words, expressing regret over his creative output, were: "I have offended God and mankind because my work did not reach the quality it should have". He reportedly expressed this sentiment on his deathbed in 1519, revealing a profound, lifelong dissatisfaction with his artistic and scientific accomplishments.

Thank You

St. Paul's Church, Thank you for your thoughtfulness for my cheer basket. Everything tasted very good. A special thanks to John Detz for bringing my basket.

Always,
Betty Bringman

Tell Me More About April...

- The first president of the United States, George Washington, was inaugurated on April 30, 1789
- April is the equivalent of October in the Southern Hemisphere.
- The phrase "April Showers bring May Flowers" comes from a poem from the 1500s by Thomas Tusser. (see newsletter cover) "Sweet April showers, Do spring May flowers". (that's the whole poem!)
- The April full moon earns the name April's Full Pink Moon not due to its color but because it's named after the pink phlox flowers that bloom in North America's early spring.
- Some of the famous people with an April birthday are Queen Elizabeth II, Leonardo da Vinci, Charlie Chaplin, William Shakespeare, Thomas Jefferson, and Jackie Chan.
- April Fools is celebrated on April 1st each year involving practical jokes, pranks, and hoaxes.
- April is national poetry month
- The April Lyrids is a meteor shower that happens each year between April 16 and April 26.



Support Our Haiti Mission

You're Invited!

BINGO

ALL PROCEEDS GO TO SUPPORT
NEW LIFE MISSION - HAITI

Community Feedings Childrens Home School Sponsorships

When: April 11th 4-7pm

Where: Garden Spot Fire Station
339 E Main St. New Holland

Price: Presale tickets are \$20 for 20
games (3 cards per game) and \$25 at
the door. To purchase tickets call or
text Stevie 717.617.9652

Extra books, special game
cards, and concessions will be
available for purchase.



Visit our website for
more info.
NewLifeMissionHaiti.com



We Are Proud to Annou

As our attendance is increasing, parking bec
bodied persons, we again have permission to
area has been called the Upper Stayer lot and
when needed.



Diagnose A New Problem!

It becomes more of a challenge. Well, for those able to park at the university on Sundays. The problem is that is where we are permitted to park



Unsung Heroes

“Who you gonna call?” When something’s broken, leaking, bent, damaged, mangled, twisted, too dark, too bright, leaking, too warm, too cold, too salty, too bland, leaking, too spicy, too wet, or just not right... “who you gonna call?” You can call the office...but it is Scott Irwin, and his lovely assistant and cheer leader Polly, who will come to the rescue. There is no telling how many, many thousands of dollars they have saved the church over the years.



So please, give our unsung heroes big thank you when you see them.

Haiti Mission Moving

MOVE TO CAP-HAITIEN- During the summer of 2025 we got the news that gangs were taking over the town next to Charrier. We knew we had to evacuate the children’s home (including our staff and their immediate families) as soon as possible. With less than 24 hours of notice, everyone packed a backpack and filled our truck with as many belongings as possible. By the grace of God, we were able to transport everyone to Montrious safely. In Montrious, we were able to stay at a compound owned by our Director Zacharie’s brother. A few days later, we learned that the gangs went into all our properties in Charrier and stole absolutely everything. It was devastating news, but we were so thankful that the kids in the children’s home along with the staff and their families were safe. Since arriving in Cap-Haitien, they have not experienced any safety issues.

Fellowship!



Upcoming Events:

- † April 5 Easter Campaign Brunch
April 5th after worship
- † New Life Mission for Haiti Bingo
Fundraiser April 11, 4-7pm in
New Holland
- † April 19th choir presentation of a cantata followed by a
Fellowship committee reception: “Cantata Sonata”
gonna come? You just gotta!
- † April 26th MU Wind Ensemble Concert
- † May 29th Whiskey Tasting (limited # of spots)
- † June 4th Mt. Gretna theater “Always Patsy Cline”



GREAT GRUB FELLOWSHIP CLUB

- † **APRIL 29TH THE BUNKER AT CROSSGATES**
- † **MAY 12TH NEW TOWN FOOD & SPIRITS**

**OTHER EVENTS MAY BE SCHEDULED FOR LATER IN APRIL,
BUT YOU HAVE TO CHECK THE SIGNUP SHEETS!**

**NEXT MEETING MAY 5TH
WATCH YOUR BULLETINS
FOR OTHER EXCITING
ANNOUNCEMENTS
LIKE A STORMER'S GAME**



Moving (cont'd)

The kids are able to go to school and our staff is able to walk the streets to the market without trouble. This is an incredible blessing. While we greatly miss living and doing ministry in Charrier, it is such a relief to not be constantly holding our breath from fear of gangs moving in at any moment.



Zacharie was able to take his first trip to Haiti in February of 2026 for the first time in a year and a half. Not only has the mission moved to Cap-Haitien (for the time being), but almost all of Zacharie's immediate family has also

moved there as well. His travels went very smoothly and our new home in Haiti is only 30 minutes from the Cap-Haitien airport which drastically cut down on travel time and cost. He was so happy for the chance to see the children, his family and the new area that they are living in. He was amazed at how easily he could walk through the streets and not feel fearful. A goal of his while he was there was to purchase beds for the children and appliances for the home. Because of the unrest throughout the countries, these types of purchases can be very difficult to find and very expensive. We were blessed to be able to find all they needed for the house while he was there.

Moving (cont'd)

OUR STAFF - Antas, Manager of the Children's Home/Head Cook;
Chenet, Male House Parent/ Maintenance Man; Angeline, Female House
Parent and School Tutor.



School Sponsorship



Because of the gangs invading Charrier, almost all of the families of the children in our school sponsorship program had to flee their homes. We were scared that we wouldn't be able to find many of them, but it is with great pleasure that we can share that almost all of our 55 students were able to be found. It was a long and tedious process, but it was worth all the work to know that we

are able to continue to help these kids with their education. In a time of so much fear and unknown in Haiti, school can also serve as a distraction and refuge. We want to say a special THANK YOU to every single one of our sponsors for giving these children the gift of education!

THANK YOU - Thank you so much for your support of New Life Mission – Haiti, Inc. We have been doing ministry in Haiti for over 15 years and though many things have changed over the years– our mission statement has not! “Our mission is to positively impact the spiritual, economic, and educational development of rural Haitian communities through the Gospel of Christ by providing committed, competent services that meet the needs of the Haitian people while maintaining the integrity of the Haitian culture.” We will continue to serve Haiti as long as God keeps the door open and we greatly appreciate your prayers and support as we strive to carry out His will for this mission.

Thank you all for your love, prayers and support! Blessings to you and your families!

Zacharie & Stevie Estime New Life Mission Haiti – Inc. Haitian Directors

Have You Heard?



There is LINE DANCING at St. Paul on the 3rd Friday of each month. The event is being led by Beth Defeo. Every time dancers meet, they are asked to bring along some-

thing for the LOFT. A non-perishable food item or cash donation would be fine. This is a way to have fun and fellowship and help someone in need as well. You are also asked to bring something to drink, like a water bottle. (not a potent potable) Dances start at 7:30. (If you ask nice, you might even get to do the hokey-pokey!)

NOW, here's the exception—APRIL line dancing will be on the 24th, the 4th Friday of the month, because the Girl Scouts are scheduled to have their Juliette Lowe Bazaar in Fellowship Hall the next morning, and there will be many tables set up for that event.

So please come. All levels of experience are welcome.

Fun fact—the Hokey-Pokey is actually the name of a rehab facility in Texas. It has been said that it is a great place to turn yourself around. (Patient shown putting his right foot in)



VBS 2026

**It's never too soon to save the date,
But too late it could be if you stop to wait,
So save the date as soon as you can,
Let everyone know that we have a plan,
A plan that's sure to blow your mind,
With stories and lessons of every kind,
And crafts and games and snacks and glue,
Don't miss out or you'll feel quite blue.
So now, to all, a humble request,
Promote this event, and give it your best,
Get out the word to lots kiddies,
Go far and wide, tell two or three cities,
When suddenly signup sheets do appear,
Then bible school week will soon be near.
Ease your mind, don't worry, don't stress
Nothing beats our VBS!**



Get out the word

- Call
- Email
- Text
- go to Western Union and send a telegraph,
- Send smoke signals
- Send post cards
- Use telepathy if you have it

but let family, friends, grandchildren, great grandchildren, neighborhood kids, even that nasty little kid that keeps stepping on your lawn, know that VBS will be June 21-25. Will there be signup sheets? Please, do you need to ask? Of course there will be sign up sheets...many.

What is the theme this year, you ask? Well, that's still classified, but soon you'll be enlightened.

VBS 2026 Q&A (without the Q)

The answer to your questions is yes.

Yes, we will have a closing picnic.

Yes, the congregation is invited.

Yes, you might be asked to bring something.

Yes, the answer to number 4 on the quiz is “yes”.

Yes, there will be hot dogs.

Yes, we will need helpers.

Yes, there will be signup sheets. (see pg.18)

And finally

YES, we will have Chris Ivy back to share his juggling ministry.



Yes there will be a free will offering taken.

Yes the congregation is invited (and needed) to support this outreach event.

**CHRIS
IVEY**

Yes, he is an
International
Jugglers'
Association
Gold Medalist

Remember Family Members in Your Prayers

Marilyn Homsher

Boots Horn

Ann Nagle

Mary Ann Oren

Marion Trimble

Peggy Bruce

Patty & Barry Leed

Charles Scharnberger

Nancy Eberle

Peg Siglin

Shirley Shuffelbottom

Ruth Derby

Louise & Bob Diamond

Don Harrold

*Please contact the
office if you would
like to add some-
one to this list.*



**Never underestimate the
Power
of
Prayer**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church 222 North George Street
Millersville, Pennsylvania 717-872-7392**

The Rev. Mark S. Kopp, Pastor

Our mission statement:

**Called through the gospel of Jesus Christ, St. Paul Lutheran
Church seeks to hear and heed Christ's call to discipleship
through worship, learning, and serving the Millersville
Community with the love of God.**