



The Weekly Epistle

Augustine, Bishop of Hippo
August 18, 2024



@StPaulMorgantown

Take This Sheet Home With You!

StPaulMorgantown.org

All Are Welcome! At St. Paul we welcome all to worship and share in God's love, regardless of race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, age, economic status, background, life situation, or wherever you are in your faith journey.

All who Believe and are Baptized (from any church) are invited to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion here.

A Word from Pastor Tony



As the new academic year begins at West Virginia University, we are reminded of the tremendous value that campus ministry offers to young adults, whether they are lifelong Christians or exploring faith for the first time. The Lutheran Campus Ministry at WVU serves as a unmissable beacon of Christ's love, providing a community where students can grow spiritually, find support, and engage in meaningful service. As a congregation, we are overjoyed to support this vital ministry through our prayers, deeds, and financial contributions. Today, we are especially honored to welcome Chaplain Erzkus as our guest pastor. As we continue to partner with the Lutheran Campus Ministry at WVU, we pray that God's light will shine brightly on this ministry and in the hearts of all who encounter it.

Yours in Christ, +Pastor Tony

Vinny Sandolfini's Upcoming Eagle Scout Project

Our council recently approved an Eagle Scout project, of St. Paul member Vinny Sandolfini, which will be a beautification of the Patteson side lower entrance. A path will be built between the circular sitting area and the lower walk, and the project will also include the addition of a new picnic table to replace the old tables. Please consider donating to this project. You can put cash or checks, made out to Julie Sandolfini, in the marked envelopes in your pews.



Our Hymns Today

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|--------------------|--|-------------------|
| ◆ Opening Hymn: | <i>Let the Whole Creation Cry</i> | Green #242 |
| ◆ Psalm | 34:15-22 | Green, p.231 |
| ◆ Hymn of the Day: | <i>Salvation Unto Us Has Come</i> | Green #297 |
| ◆ Communion Hymn: | <i>For the Bread which You Have Broken</i> | Green #200 |
| ◆ Closing Hymn: | <i>Let All Things Now Living</i> | Green #557 |

The First Reading***Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18***

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people, 'Now therefore revere the Lord, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. Now if you are unwilling to serve the Lord, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord.' Then the people answered, 'Far be it from us that we should forsake the Lord to serve other gods; for it is the Lord our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the Lord drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the Lord, for he is our God.' (NRSV)

The Second Reading***Ephesians 6:10-20***

Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to quench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak. (NRSV)

The Gospel***John 6:56-69***

Jesus said, "Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood abide in me, and I in them. Just as the living Father sent me, and I live because of the Father, so whoever eats me will live because of me. This is the bread that came down from heaven, not like that which your ancestors ate, and they died. But the one who eats this bread will live forever." He said these things while he was teaching in the synagogue at Capernaum. When many of his disciples heard it, they said, "This teaching is difficult; who can accept it?" But Jesus, being aware that his disciples were complaining about it, said to them, "Does this offend you? Then what if you were to see the Son of Man ascending to where he was before? It is the spirit that gives life; the flesh is useless. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life. But among you there are some who do not believe." For Jesus knew from the first who were the ones that did not believe, and who was the one that would betray him. And he said, "For this reason I have told you that no one can come to

me unless it is granted by the Father.” Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So Jesus asked the twelve, “Do you also wish to go away?” Simon Peter answered him, “Lord, to whom can we go? You have the words of eternal life. We have come to believe and know that you are the Holy One of God.” (NRSV)

LAST SUNDAY, AUGUST 18TH



BACKPACKS
were blessed



CHARLOTTE
STACY
helped
distribute
Holy
Communion
for the first
time



OSBORN FROHEN
was baptized into the Lord's
family

Circle of Friends

The **Circle of Friends** free community meal will be served **today** at 4PM at the Lutheran Campus Chapel. Help is needed! Please contact Sheila Zinn to offer your assistance. 410-599-3818 or email: socialministry@stpaulmorgantown.org



Online Offering

You can give a secure online offering with a debit/credit card or checking account. Scan or visit:



stpaulmorgantown.org/giving

St. Paul Lutheran Church

Tamara Riegel, Administrator

Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday 9AM —Noon

Call/Text: (304) 599-0620

Office@StPaulMorgantown.org



Officers Of The Congregation

President: Bill Graham

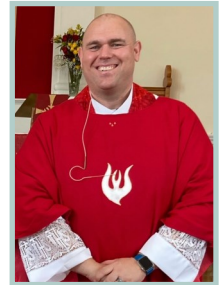
Vice President: Lillian Stevens

Treasurer: Joanne Seasholtz

Secretary: Lindsey Naumann

Financial Secretary: Sue Cook

The Rev. Tony Setley, Pastor



Phone (text or call):

304-715-2350

Email:

Pastor@StPaulMorgantown.org

This Week's Schedule

Sunday, August 25

Adult Bible Study 9:00 AM

Lounge

Worship 10:00 AM

Nave

Circle of Friends 4:00 PM

Lutheran Campus Chapel

Thursday, August 29

Prayerful Walkers 9:00 AM

Parking Lot

Friday, August 30

Piecemakers 10:00 AM

Fellowship Hall

Sunday, September 1

Adult Bible Study 9:00 AM

Lounge

Worship 10:00 AM

Nave

Serving Today:

Assisting Minister: **Michael Grimm**

Lector: **Jennifer Reed**

Usher: **Bill Graham**

Counters: **Jerry Bouquot & Steve Woodruff**

Broadcaster: **Mary Boroff**

Serving September 1st:

Assisting Minister: **Steve Woodruff**

Lector: **Barbara Parsons**

Usher: **Mary Boroff**

Counters: **Margie Suder & Lillian Stevens**

Broadcaster: **Stephanie Setley**

Communion Today

- ◆ **Communion today** is at the rail. Proceed down aisle filling in from outside toward center. Return to your pew down the side aisle on your side of the Church.
- ◆ **Grape juice & gluten free wafers are available**, just ask for them at the rail.