

Highfield Happenings

April
2024



In Sympathy—We express our deepest sympathy to the families of: Joyce Johnston (mother of Pastor Jocelyn Johnston) who died on Saturday, March 2; and John Bridge (ex-husband of Pastor Chris) who died on Tuesday, March 12.

"I am the resurrection and the life," says our Lord. "Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die." (John 11:25-26, NRSV).

Calendar of Causes—Each month we raise up a social ministry supported within our Synod. The loose offering collected the first Sunday of the month will go to this cause. Also, envelopes are located in the narthex for you to make a donation at any time during the month. April's cause is Lutheran Service Society. An affiliate of Lutheran SeniorLife, has been helping people of all ages and financial circumstances for over 100 years through ministries such as Meals On Wheels, adoption services, affordable housing opportunities, homeless care, senior services, and job training and education. Learn more at www.LSSWPA.org.



Besides in person, you can join us for a live stream on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am on:



St. Paul's Highfield Lutheran Church



By phone, dial 646-558-8656.
Enter the meeting ID number 632 238 2087, followed by the pound sign (#) twice.
Enter the password 632 238 2087.

Dresses and Britches

The ladies gathered in St. Paul's fellowship hall on March 19. There was a significant amount of fellowship! A lot of barnstorming for future plans and plans for the month of April.

Items on the table in the narthex were tote bags, hats and scarves, jumpers with tops, skirts with tops, a cute summer outfit of a pair of capris with a top, several summer dresses and tops. A nice variety....

On April 18, the ladies will meet at 1 in the fellowship hall. We look forward to seeing new faces. As always with us Lutherans, there will be a light refreshment.

Plan to attend. Bring your scissors!

Any questions, call Glenda at 724-567-6494.

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St. Paul's Highfield Lutheran Church
Congregation of the Southwestern PA Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
1595 Dime Road, Vandergrift, PA 15690
Phone: 724.567.7462
Email: hifielts@comcast.net
www.stpaulshighfield.org



Vision Statement

Spreading the good news of
Jesus Christ by living out our
faith in worship, support, and
service to all people.

Mission Statement

SPHLC—

**Spiritual
People
Helping
Lead others to
Christ**

Parish Staff

Reverend Christine Bridge—Interim Pastor
217 Meadow Lane
Murrysville, PA 15668
Office: 724-567-7462
Cell: 848-467-6556
Email: darluz223@yahoo.com

Gregg LeMay—Director of Music
724-567-7462

Clarence Brown—Financial Secretary
724-567-5571

Nicole Ashbaugh—Sexton
724-842-7376

Janine Ballish—Secretary / Treasurer
724-567-7462

Office hours: Wednesdays and Fridays
9:00 am-3:00 pm

*Hours are subject to change for holidays,
etc.*

*If you have questions
or concerns, please
discuss them with one
of the members listed
below.*

**Pam Neale—President
Leland Brown—Vice President
Robin Stoltz—Secretary
Bill McGinnis Clarence Brown
Gerry LeMay Nicole Ashbaugh
Judy Grinder Amy Rossi**

STEWARDSHIP

Contributions



GIVING VS. BUDGET FIGURES 2024

NEED \$1,741.13 WEEKLY TO BREAK EVEN

	CURRENT DEPOSIT	NEEDED	OVER / (SHORT)	YTD OVER/(SHORT)	ATTENDANCE In person/online
January	\$7,135.00	\$7,018.48	\$116.52	\$116.52	216 / 26
February	\$8,061.00	\$7,018.48	\$1,042.52	\$1,159.04	220 / 11

The above totals do not include any designated giving for specific ministries.
They only include the money given to support the 2024 budget.
If you have any questions, please call me ~ *Janine Ballish, Treasurer*

Monetary gifts were given to Undesignated Memorials in memory of Donald & Peggy Kaufman



@ ST. PAUL'S HIGHFIELD

Don't forget to include our confined members in your prayers. Names, addresses, and birthdays are listed below.

Jean and Linda Bozzarelli
(February 27, October 2)
112 Oregon Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690

Martha Abarbanell
(May 31)
1166 Pleasant View Drive
Vandergrift, PA 15690

LaRue Ciuca
1147 Crawford Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690

Kathye Schaeffer
(December 29)
Quality Life Services
151 Goodview Drive
Room #318
Apollo, PA 15613



Hear the Good News, People of God:

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

It always makes my heart sing to say these words! There is beauty, truth, and power in them. These three things--beauty, truth, and properly used power-- often seem to be lacking in our world. Yet, the words: "Christ is risen!" remind us that all things are possible with God. God, who raised our Lord and Savior from the grave, is Lord of all. He is making all things new through Christ, and we are part of the new creation! How exciting is that? So we live in hope, serve in love, and

rejoice that God has made us His own.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! He is risen, indeed! Alleluia!

I hope that you and your loved ones had a blessed and joyful Easter!! Now we can bring out the "*Alleluias!*" and rejoice in the Resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

How blest we are to have a God who loves us so much! As Spring takes hold of nature around us, let us pray that its greenness, its colors, and its new life take hold of us and renew us in love and service to one another and to the surrounding community. The rest of 2024 lies before us. Let's see what good we can do together in the name of our Risen Savior—who walks with us, and talks with us, and tells us we are His own—forever.

With love and prayers,

Pastor Chris

*The Rev.
Christine A. Bridge*

UPDATE ON THE CONVERSATIONS WITH FIRST LUTHERAN IN APOLLO

On Sunday, March 17th, I shared with congregation the following information:

Last September, St. Paul's Highfield Council was invited to enter into conversation with 1st Apollo to discuss the possibility of calling a pastor to serve both congregations. There were two meetings of the Church Councils.

At the close of the second meeting, it was agreed that the Finance Committees of both churches would look at the costs involved in calling a pastor fresh from seminary, a pastor with 4 years experience, or a pastor with more than 4 years experience.

SPH's Finance Committee came to the conclusion (based on all the information that was available) that SPH could not, at this time, afford to share the cost of calling a pastor. This information was brought to SPH's Council, and Council unanimously voted to suspend further discussion with First Apollo on this matter. A meeting was held on March 10th to present SPH's findings/conclusions to First Apollo. Their Council was sad to hear the news, but was supportive of SPH's decision. The door was left open to renew discussions in the future, should circumstances change.

I want to thank the members of SPH's Finance Committee and Church Council for all the time and hard work they put in since last September. Thank you and God bless you! Thanks go to Pastor Peter Asplin, from the Synod Office, who provided the Finance Committee with vital information. I also want to thank the Council and Finance Committee at First Apollo, as well as Pastor Phil Ramstad, for their hard work and prayers. AND you, people of SPH, thank you for your prayers as these talks took place.

Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Christine A. Bridge,
Transitional Interim Pastor

Note: If you have any questions about the talks with 1st Apollo, please don't hesitate to reach out to a member of Council or the Finance Committee.

Easter Memorials



Flowers bloom in memory of:

Virginia Clark
(submitted by her family)

Bonnie Shuster
(submitted by Lynn & Harpo Clever)

Jim Ferguson
Greg Ferguson
Brian Ferguson
(submitted by Judy Ferguson)

Matthew Ramer
(submitted by Glenn & Mary Jane Ramer & family)

Loved Ones
Edith Raimo
(submitted by Pastor Chris Bridge)

Wife, Sherry
Daughter, Melanie
Daughter, Sarah
(submitted by Monty Kneppshield)

Aikens Family
(submitted by Deb, John and Connie Aikens)

Marvin, Shaun and Paige
(submitted by Sandy Duckworth)

Parents:
Leland & Glaphy Moore
Lisle & Dorothy Rupert
(submitted by Cheri Rupert)

Alma & Russell Pearson
Michael, Albert & Bernice Rossi
(submitted by Sandy and Amy Rossi)

Flowers bloom in honor of:

Loved Ones
(submitted by Pastor Chris Bridge)

Dave & Jane Geltz
Denny & Mary Jane Miller
(submitted by Brian & Jenny Miller)

Granddaughter, Emma Rupert
(submitted by Cheri Rupert)

Bella and Maddy Rossi
Jacob and Joshua Schrader
(submitted by Sandy and Amy Rossi)

Monetary Gifts were Given To:

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL
In memory of Bonnie Shuster
(submitted by Dustin, Shelby and Taylor Riggle)

In memory of Pete, Betsy and Andrew
(submitted by Dorothy Lookabaugh)

In honor of Lisa, Jeremy, Maci and Liam
(submitted by Mary Lou Shuster)

FOOD BANK
In memory of Boyd & Mary Wolfgang
(submitted by Michael & Sue Nicholas and Cathy Wolfgang Stover)

In memory of Sam Slicker
(submitted by Mary Jane Slicker)

In memory of husband, Robert R. Hutton
(submitted by Nancy Pauline Hutton)

In honor of Jennifer Lunger & family
(submitted by Mary Lou Shuster)

(Continued from page 5)

DRESSES & BRITCHES

In memory of Dave Grinder
(submitted by Judy, Rachel and Jamie)

BUILDING MAINTENANCE

In memory of Ray Murray and Don Shields
(submitted by Linda Murray)

KAUFMAN/BAKER SCHOLARSHIP FUND

In memory of John Phillips
(submitted by Linda Murray)

COMMUNITY OUTREACH FUND

In memory of Tom McDermontt
(submitted by Mary Jane Slicker)

PASTOR'S DISCRETIONARY FUND

In honor of Clayton & Mary Byers
(submitted by Sandy Duckworth)

In memory of:

Kenneth Brown

Nina Brown

Jeffrey Brown

(submitted by Leland Brown)

In honor of Pam Neale
(submitted by Sandy Summerhill)

HELPING HANDS

In honor of Dorothy Lookabaugh and
Sandi Summerhill
(submitted by Shelby and Taylor Riggle)

In memory of Robert Slicker
(submitted by Mary Jane Slicker)

Loved Ones

(submitted by Valgean Warner)

In memory of parents, Paul R. & Mary V. Muf-
fley
(submitted by Nancy Pauline Hutton)

In memory of Hazel & Glenn Davis
(submitted by Linda Murray)

FOOD BANK ITEMS

Below is a complete list of items for you to keep at home of the items that our food bank needs:

Thank you in advance for any help you can offer.

God Bless—"The Food Bank Club"

Boxed or canned potatoes	Canned vegetables—corn, peas, green beans
Canned fruit	Canned soup—tomato, chicken noodle, vegetable beef
Pasta & Pasta sauce	Peanut butter & Jelly
Cereal	Toilet paper
Macaroni & Cheese	Paper towels
Rice mixes	Hygiene products - toothpaste, soap, etc
Canned tuna, chicken or ham	
Canned baked beans or kidney beans	

Quilt Raffle

\$5 / 1 ticket

\$10 / 3 tickets

Proceeds to benefit
New Hope Food Pantry



Drawing will be held Sunday,
May 5th, during fellowship hour

The quilt is on display
in the narthex.

Thank you to all who
supported our Easter
candy sale.

Free Spaghetti Dinner



April 5th

5:00 to 6:30pm

First Vandergrift UMC
134 Custer Avenue, Vandergrift

Join us for a FREE Spaghetti Dinner!
Meal includes salad, bread/butter, desserts & beverage

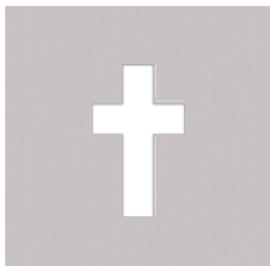
For Reservations,
please call
724-568-5575
by April 2nd

*Please leave a phone number
and number attending.*



All are welcome to join us

Join us for worship
Sunday Mornings
9:00 am in person and online
(Facebook & Zoom)
Lenten & Holy Week Schedule
inside



St. Paul's Highfield Lutheran Church
1595 Dime Road
Vandergrift, PA 15690

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