

Highfield

Happenings

November 2023



FROM THE
PASTOR

“Do not worry about anything--but in thankful prayer make your requests known to God—and the peace of God, which passes all human understanding will keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.” (Philippians 4: 6, 7)

November—a month to remember and give thanks. Don't get me wrong—giving thanks is something we should do every day—there is SO much to be grateful for!! But, November seems to be the month dedicated to remembering and giving thanks:

On the first Sunday of November, we remember and give thanks for those who lived and died in Christ in the past year.

On Election Day, we remember to vote and give thanks that we live in a country where we get to pick who leads us.

On November 11th, we remember and give thanks for those who have fought to protect our freedoms.

On Thanksgiving Day, we will remember and give thanks for all of the blessings we enjoy as God's people. We will gather with family and friends—sharing memories and enjoying a feast of specially prepared foods.

Remembering and giving thanks go hand-in-hand. And, interestingly enough, when we are busy remembering and giving thanks, there is no room left for worrying. So, don't worry—remember and give thanks to God—from whom all blessings flow!

A BLESSED THANKSGIVING TO YOU AND YOUR LOVED ONES!!

With love and prayers,
Pastor Chris

*The Rev.
Christine A. Bridge*

LOOKING AHEAD:

REFORMATION SUNDAY---OCTOBER 29TH---WORSHIP SERVICE---10 AM---PLEASE NOTE THE TIME CHANGE. This service will be a joint service with the Ford City area Lutheran churches. Following the service there will be a time for fellowship and food ("finger food"---please bring something to share). *THE OFFERING COLLECTED WILL GO TO THE LUTHERAN DISASTER RELIEF FUND.*

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY---NOVEMBER 5TH---9 AM WORSHIP (note that we are back to our regular worship time!)---We will remember those who have died in the past year, as well as those whom we hold close in our hearts that have gone on before us. We traditionally include a healing service as part of our worship on All Saints Sunday. We will pray for healing for our world, our loved ones, and for ourselves.

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY---NOVEMBER 26TH---is the last Sunday of the Church Year. We celebrate Christ, Our Savior and King...proclaiming His sovereignty in our lives and re-dedicating ourselves to Him.

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—Organist 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.*

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

STEWARDSHIP

Contributions



GIVING VS. BUDGET FIGURES 2023

NEED \$1,741.13 WEEKLY TO BREAK EVEN

	CURRENT DEPOSIT	NEEDED	OVER / (SHORT)	YTD OVER/(SHORT)	ATTENDANCE In person/online
January	\$7,065.00	\$8,705.65	\$(1,640.65)	\$(1,640.65)	226 / 16
February	\$5,699.00	\$6,964.52	\$(1,265.52)	\$(2,906.17)	196 / 8
March	\$6,850.00	\$6,964.52	\$(114.52)	\$(3,020.69)	176 / 5
April	\$7,444.00	\$8,705.65	\$(1,261.65)	\$(4,282.34)	261 / 15
May	\$6,771.00	\$6,964.52	\$(193.52)	\$(4,475.86)	176 / 14
June	\$5,358.00	\$6,964.52	\$(1,606.52)	\$(6,082.38)	163 / 13
July	\$7,323.00	\$8,705.65	\$(1,382.65)	\$(7,465.03)	190 / 5
August	\$4,656.00	\$6,964.52	\$(2,308.52)	\$(9,773.55)	190 / 11
September	\$5,970.00	\$6,964.52	\$(994.52)	\$(10,768.07)	179 / 10

The above totals do not include any designated giving for specific ministries.

They only include the money given to support the 2023 budget.

If you have any questions, please call me ~ *Janine Ballish, Treasurer*



Veterans Day ~ November 11
Thank you Veterans



In Sympathy—We express our deepest sympathy to the families of:

Tate Kaleda (Judy Grinder’s great nephew) who died on Saturday, September 16; and

Alice Moses who died on Saturday, October 14.

“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).

FOOD BANK UPDATE: We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Janet Johnson and Gail Holm who have been running our New Hope Food Pantry for several years. Both of these ladies have decided to “retire” and hand over the reins to a new set of hands. To date, Peggy Hepler, Bill McGinnis, Robin Stoltz, Chris Cominos and Marsha Loudon have volunteered their time to purchase, box, and distribute the food.

We could use a few more hands to help out with this important community outreach program. If you are interested, please call the office.

The altar flowers for September were given in loving memory of Mike Broda by Jane Broda and Nicole, Scotty and Sarah Ashbaugh.

Sunday, November 5—All Saints Sunday—this service will include a service of healing. All who sense the need for God’s healing in any respect of their lives may join in prayer for others and themselves. Each person may come forward to receive a word of blessing and prayer, with the laying on of hands and anointing with oil. These signs, first given in baptism, tell us again that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ who is health and salvation for the whole world.

Harvest Home—Sunday, November 12—Needed to decorate church:

- Quilts Crocks Antique farm hand tools
- Baskets Dried flowers Pumpkins (real or fake)
- Spinning wheel Home canned goods Wooden crates
- Fall garland Wagon (old) Wheel barrow (old)
- Hay bales Corn stalks Old bushel baskets

Please bring items to church by Sunday, November 5. For more information, call Sandy Rossi 724-568-1342.

Annual Meeting Dates

Sunday, November 12, 2023

- To elect 2024 Congregation Council members (we are eligible to elect three people to serve a 3-year term on Council and we are seeking interested individuals to serve on this vital ministry. (Please see a Council member if interested);
- Approve the 2024 Budget (copies will be available in the narthex on Sunday, October 29).

Sunday, January 21, 2024

- To approve reports of the ministries of 2023 and any other action necessary for mission in 2024. All committees are required to submit a report. Please have them in the office by December 17. Please plan on attending these meetings, your presence is important!

LOOKING AHEAD

Bingo Sundays

November 5, December 3

You may bring a small prize to be awarded to the winners (not necessary but would be appreciated!)

Election Day Hoagie/Soup Sale

Tuesday, November 7

Hoagies \$9 Soup quarts \$9

An order form can be found in the narthex.

SPH Thanksgiving Dinner

Sunday, November 19

Turkeys will be provided.

Bring a side dish or dessert to share

Please sign up in the narthex so we can plan accordingly

Christmas Recital

Friday, December 8, 6:30 pm

Joint Choir - let Gregg know if you are interested.

We need helpers!

Santa’s Workshop

Saturday, December 16, 9:00am - 12:00 pm

Hand made Christmas gifts/Crafts

Includes gift wrapping and a visit from Santa!

Donations needed:

Microwave popcorn packages

Canning lids (flat part)

Pint jars (or similar size jars)

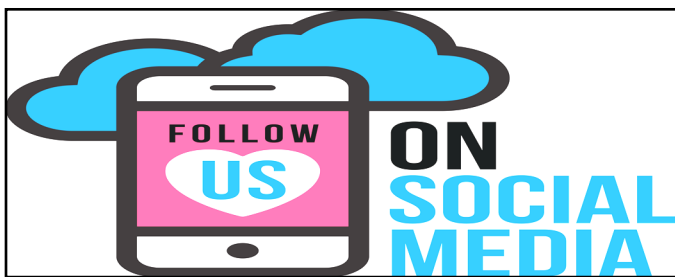
Nail polish

Bags of paper easter grass or shiny crinkle cut filler

White bristled paint brushers (1”-3” size)

Wooden clothespins (clip-style)

Battery-operated tea lights



Besides in person, you can join us for a live stream on Sunday mornings at 8:30 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 met for the last time this year on October 3. There was a great Show and Tell and a lot of fellowship.

A fair amount of sewing was done in the past month. There were dresses, jumpers with tops and/or leggings, tote bags, medium-sized, zippered pouches, boys' lounging pants with a turtle neck top, skirts with tops. A pink sweater for a doll as well as a matching sweater for a little girl and a lot of hand-knitted mittens.

Don't eat too much turkey and pie at Thanksgiving. Don't forget to count your blessings.

Peace.

IN OUR LIBRARY:

New in our library are two books: *The Book Woman of Troublesome Creek* and *The Book Woman's Daughter*. These two books are considered "historical fiction." The history part is based on FDR's Kentucky Pack Horse Library Project of the 1930's and the blue-skinned people who live in remote areas of Kentucky. The fiction part is the story of Cussy Mary Carter and her daughter, Honey. Anyone, who loves books and learning about a people and a time with which they are not familiar, will enjoy these books.

WHAT DO WE REALLY OWN?

'Naked I came from my mother's womb, and naked shall I return there; the Lord gave, and the Lord has taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord.'

--Job:1:21

There's the joke about the nosy neighbor attending a rich woman's funeral. Peering into the coffin with a friend, he asked, "How much money did she leave?" The friend smiled and replied, "All of it, of course!"

As Job laments, we come into the world naked and leave the same way. We may be dressed in our best clothing on our way out, but we take it to the grave, not the afterlife.

The joke and Job reveal a basic concept of stewardship: We don't really own anything. We may take possession of it for a period of time, but we eventually leave it for others.

Yet we spend so much of our energy and life accumulating more and more – as if we were going to have it forever, as we were going to live forever. The danger is that absorbed with accumulating wealth, we shortchange the most valuable treasures – loving the Lord our God with all our being and loving our neighbors as ourselves.

That's why the Bible consistently warns us about wealth. Jesus repeatedly points out the pitfalls. Money and possessions can turn us inward, stunting our growth and preventing us from being the people God created us to be.

Generosity is the preventative cure for this malady. The Bible counsels that tithing – giving away 10 percent of our income – is a good benchmark for faithful giving (although on several occasions Jesus told his disciples to give away ALL their possessions).

Giving 10 percent, or any amount substantial enough to be sacrificial, is a declaration that you are free from the power that money might have over you. Because however much money you can accumulate in life, you will be like the rich woman in the joke: You will leave it all.

--Rob Blezard

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FOOD BANK ITEMS

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

Boxed or canned potatoes
Canned fruit
Canned/plastic 100% juice
Pasta & Pasta sauce
Cereal
Macaroni & Cheese
Rice mixes
Canned tuna, chicken or ham
Canned baked beans or kidney beans
Canned vegetables—corn, peas, green beans
Canned soup—tomato, chicken noodle, vegetable beef
Peanut butter & Jelly
Toilet paper
Paper towels
Hygiene products - toothpaste, soap, etc

Special Items for Thanksgiving

Canned yams or sweet potatoes
Boxed Stuffing mix
Gravy (jar, can or dry)
Potatoes (can or dry flakes)
Canned pumpkin
Pie crust mix
Cranberry sauce
Broth
Cream of mushroom soup
Green beans

Thank you in advance for any help you can offer.
God Bless—"The Food Bank Club"



On Saturday,
November 4,
remember to turn your
clocks **BACK** one hour
before you go to bed.

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. November's cause is Bethesda Lutheran Services. Bethesda Lutheran Services provides promising futures for children, youth, and families through individualized mental and behavioral health services provided in a residential, school or community setting.



@ 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

LaRue Ciuca
1147 Crawford Avenue
Vandergrift, PA 15690

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

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

Jim Reichenbaugh
(February 11)
1320 Ridge Road
Vandergrift, PA 15690



All are welcome to join us

Join us for worship
Sunday Mornings
9:00 am in person and online (Facebook & Zoom)
All Saints Sunday November 5th



St. Paul's Sighfield Lutheran Church
1595 Dime Road
Vandegrift, PA 15690

Address Service Request-

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