

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

# MESSENGER

OCTOBER 2021



## Blessing of the Animals

Saturday, October 9th 2pm

In Church Park

All God's creatures welcome!

Council Meeting  
October 12<sup>th</sup>, 6:30pm

**ALL HALLOWS' EVE**  
**FILM & PIZZA PARTY**  
**OCTOBER 31 AT 4PM**  
**Across the street from Town Hall**  
Children of ALL ages welcome.  
Village Halloween Parade to Follow

**BIBLE STUDY**  
ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN  
CHURCH  
(CONFERENCE ROOM)  
**FIRST & THIRD THURSDAYS AT 11AM**

**SUPPER SCHOOL**  
All Ages Welcome  
2nd & 4th Thursdays 5PM; STARTS 9/9  
**FOOD** **FELLOWSHIP** **FORMATION**  
ST. PETER'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH (FELLOWSHIP HALL)

## SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Saturday, October 9th at 2 PM, we will gather in Church Park for the blessing of animals in commemoration of the faith of Saint Francis of Assisi. It seems like Christians of all stripes (as well as non Christians) connect with Francis. Perhaps it is his reputation for peacemaking, or his avowed connection to God's creation, especially animals, that makes him desirable (for many, Francis is now called the patron saint of ecology). Maybe it is all those Francis statues in pleasant gardens we find in both sacred and secular places. I think it was how he had an abiding faith that wherever he went, the love of God was there. Whatever the reason, even many Christians who do not normally venerate the saints find something likable in the friar from Assisi. That said, veneration is not emulation. One biography of the saint puts it thusly:

*Francis, the son of a prosperous merchant of Assisi, was born in 1182. His early youth was spent in harmless revelry and fruitless attempts to win military glory. Various encounters with beggars and lepers pricked the young man's conscience, however, and he decided to embrace a life devoted to Lady Poverty. ...Of all the saints, Francis is perhaps the most popular and admired but probably the least imitated; few have attained to his total identification with the poverty and suffering of Christ. (Lesser Feasts and Fasts, 2018, The Episcopal Church)*

We love the idea of a saint devoted to service who was not afraid to get his hands dirty, but as a general rule, society prefers others to do the proverbial dirty work, whatever that may be. Or we have a fondness for moments of service in between generous stretches spent in secure, comfortable places. Yet Francis is a reminder that one need not be superhuman to serve the poor, nor does one need to be "pure" as such to connect with God's created, beloved world. One need only be *committed*. Indeed, if we are perfected at all, it is by our Christian engagement *with* the world, not withdrawing from it. In fact, if we press into God's beloved world, we may well find that God has been awaiting us there all along, among his creatures and all who are in need.

Having our beloved animals blessed is a reminder to us that all the world is *brimming* with the love of God; the opportunity to experience the transforming grace of Christ is an abundant gift of God, rather than a scarce commodity. So please bring your animal(s) (or a picture thereof if your animal is not so easily transported) to Church Park this Saturday for a blessing, as we give thanks for the example of Francis, and redouble our efforts to follow Jesus as he and so many faithful have done before, in this, God's beloved world.

*-Pastor Eric+*

*We are pleased to announce that Katrina Macaluso, our parish coordinator this year, has been offered full time employment as pastor of the United Church of Warsaw. Alas, this means she will be leaving her position with St. Paul's and St. Peter's. Her last day is October 14th. Council will consider options for a successor at its next regularly scheduled meeting on October 12th.*

# SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

## SERVING THIS OCTOBER

### Ushers

Please sign up on the bulletin board

### Counters

Paul Button and TBA

### Reader

Oct 3rd: TBA

Oct 10th: TBA

Oct 17th: John Buck

Oct 24th: Gerri Long

Oct 31st: TBA

### Lay Minister

Please sign up on the bulletin board

## ***In Our Prayers***

*Ginger Buck*

*Bill Pfuntner*

*Lindsey Backus*

*June Collier*

*Mary Sahrle*

*Robert Brydges*

*Don Cuddeback*

*Michelle Mackey*

*Barbara Gregory*

*David Stead*

*Kay Howe*

*Garth Swanson*

*Susanna Metz*

\* If you have a prayer request, please notify the office. \*

## ALTAR FLOWERS

*Oct 3: Given by Pastor Eric in memory of his mother, Gail Thompson*

*Oct 31: Given by the Robin Family in memory of Steven Hawk*

## ***Women of the ELCA***

***Genesee Finger Lakes Conference***

### **LEADERSHIP & PLANNING MEETING**

Date: Wednesday, October 13, 2021

Place: Lutheran Church of Our Savior

2415 Chili Ave

Rochester, NY 14624

Time: 12:00 *Please bring your own lunch. Beverage and dessert provided.*

## *October Birthdays*

10/19 Christine Whiteman

10/26 Diane Mountzouros

## SERVING IN THE MILITARY

- ★ Andrew M. Mountzouros – *U. S. Navy*
- ★ Jordan C. Camacho – *U. S. Navy*



*Family Laundromat  
20 Franklin St.*

October 9, 8:30-11:30

October 11, 4-7

October 23, 8:30-11:30

October 25, 4-7

# OCTOBER CALENDAR

## STANDING SCHEDULE

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
Sunday 9 <sup>AM</sup>	Worship	Communion on 1st & 3rd Sundays
Tue. - Thur., 8-11	Office Hours	Until October 14th
Wednesday 6:30pm	Choir Rehearsal	
1st and 3rd Thurs. 11am	Bible Study	10/7 and 10/22
2nd and 4th Thurs. 6:30pm	Supper School	10/14 and 10/28
2nd Tuesdays	Council Meeting	10/12 at 6:30 PM
3rd Tuesdays	Men's Breakfast	10/19 at 11:00 AM at Sunrise Diner

## DATES TO REMEMBER

<u>DAY/DATE/TIME</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	<u>NOTES</u>
Sun., October 3	World Communion Sunday	
Sat., October 9	Blessing of the Animals	@Church Park 2pm
Wed., October 13	WELCA Planning Meeting	@Church of Our Savior 12pm
Sun., October 31	All Hallows' Eve Party	@Church Park 4pm
Mon. September 27	October Newsletter Deadline	



### **Saint Paul's Lutheran Church**

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Dansville, NY 14437  
(585) 335-5260  
[stpaulsdansville.org](http://stpaulsdansville.org)  
[fb.com/stpaulsdansville](https://fb.com/stpaulsdansville)

### **PASTOR**

The Rev. J. Eric Thompson  
(585) 447-3623  
[pastor@stpaulsdansville.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsdansville.org)

### **STAFF**

Katrina Macaluso, Office  
[admin@stpaulsdansville.org](mailto:admin@stpaulsdansville.org)  
Sue Collier, Musician  
Marilyn Robin, Choir Director  
Kim Pragle, Sexton

### **COUNCIL**

Ann Myers, President  
Tina Button, Vice-President  
Penny Leven, Secretary  
Geraldine Long, Treasurer  
Paul Button, Property  
Heather Robin  
Bob Whiteman