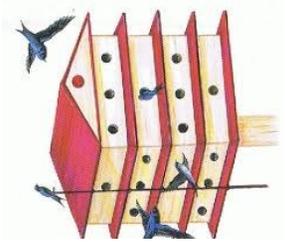


PARADISE LUTHERAN CHURCH
3241 CHURCH ROAD
—THOMASVILLE, PA 17364
Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION
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PERMIT #118
HANOVER, PA 17331



May 2019

May 2019

The “Holtzschwamm Hotline”

*Be
.the.
Light*

PARADISE LUTHERAN CHURCH
(717) 259-9547

www.paradiselutheran.weebly.com

Wednesday Holy Communion 7:00 p.m.
Sunday Worship, Holy Communion at
8 and 10:15 a.m. **(9 a.m. starts 5/26)**
Sunday School at 9:00 a.m. **(5/19, last one)**

Who's Who?

Staff, contact info., council members

Church office: (717) 259-9547 (phone and fax)

Website: www.paradiselutheran.weebly.com

Interim Pastor: Reverend Douglas E. Johnson
(cell) (515) 321-4582; email:

pastor.paradiselutheran@gmail.com

Minister of Music: Allison Trump

(home) 630-8824; email:

paradiseorganist@yahoo.com

Secretary: Julie Maher; email:

secretary.paradiselutheran@gmail.com

Bookkeeper: Kris Gabel; email:

finance.paradiselutheran@gmail.com

Treasurer: Donna Shaffer

Sexton: Vicki Boone

Council President: Ray Grudi (717-887-7592)

Council Members, Liaison Committees

Vice President/Endowment: Marty Rexroth

Secretary: Jamie Markle

Property: Bill Sterner

Stewardship: Verla Gosnell

Social Ministry: Dean Bentzel

Evangelism: Barbie Becker

Worship and Music: Michele Becker

Christian Education: Larry Rinehart

Social Activities: Randy Myers

Youth: Greg Harrell

Finance: Tom Hoover

Summer schedule
begins on May 26
with one worship
service at 9 a.m.

PEOPLE AT PARADISE



May Anniversaries:

*(if we miss yours or make an error,
please let Julie know!)*

- 5/1 Joe and Donna LeVault, 64 years!
- 5/1 Scott and Christine Craver, 37 years
- 5/2 Richard and Darlene Hoffman, 48 years
- 5/3 Brian and Amanda Hockensmith, 11 years
- 5/11 Terry and Teresa Nace, 26 years
- 5/16 Richard and Gloria Myers, 66 years!
- 5/16 Greg and Roxann Harrell, 37 years
- 5/16 Leroy and Cheryl Byers, 27 years
- 5/17 Tyrone and Lori Stambaugh, 28 years
- 5/18 Ed and Pat Keister, 51 years
- 5/18 Mike and Mindy Watson, 17 years
- 5/23 Kenneth and Cindy Roach, 38 years
- 5/27 Bill and Lois Rankin, 53 years
- 5/28 Chris and Andrea Davis, 21 years
- 5/29 Ed and Verla Gosnell, 48 years
- 5/30 Randy and Dawn Myers, 38 years

**[No shut-in birthday boys or girls
for May.]**



THANK YOU!

Thank you TO:

the choirs and friends for extra rehearsals and singing on Palm Sunday, Easter, and Holy Humor Sunday; our brass ensemble - *Ben Kreitz, Andrew Maher, and Wayne Trump, Sr.*, for leading the hymn “All Glory, Laud, and Honor” on Palm Sunday AND for accompanying the hymns and liturgy for Easter Sunday; *Ben Kreitz* for accompanying the Palm Sunday anthem on the trumpet. Awesome playing!

Linda Eisenhart and Julie Maher for the Holy Humor skit;

Joe Zurat for fixing the kitchen faucet (oh, the handle’s NOT supposed to turn all the way around any which way! ☺); AND for fixing the toilet in the ladies’ room before the roast beef dinner — two jobs well done!

Shirley Trimmer for adorning the Easter Sunday worship space with gorgeous ferns and flowers;

Bulletin folding crew for all the extra work during Holy Week;

Some unseen person who trimmed the ornamental grasses and butterfly bushes around the church — looks much better!

Thank you FROM:

The Lutheran Camping Corporation of Central PA for our “Seeding the Future Campaign” donations;

Dave Zech for the cards, prayers, and support while he was under the weather.



INTERIM PASTOR’S PAGE

“How about a big THANK YOU!”

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,
From time to time in this newsletter we include a list of people that we thank for various forms of service to the church and to our neighbors. This is a good thing to do! When people share their time and abilities, we ought to be grateful to them, and we should acknowledge their service.

As we enter the month of May, I am aware that there is a group of our sisters and brothers who deserve a very special “thank you” from all of us. It was a year ago, May of 2018, that the Congregation Council appointed a Call Committee to lead the process of securing our next pastor. Since then, this group of dedicated servant leaders has been meeting regularly. From May through the early fall, they spent countless hours doing research, conducting focus groups with our



members, gathering input from surveys, and

ultimately creating a Ministry Site Profile to be used by the synod in identifying candidates that are a good match for our needs, and by candidates as they learn more about our congregation. Then, in November, the Call Committee began receiving names of candidates. Since that time they have invested many, many hours in reviewing information about

candidates, scheduling and conducting interviews, traveling to hear potential candidates lead worship, and huddling to pray and share their assessments of candidates. There have been weeks when they met nearly every night! They have pursued every prospect with all deliberate speed, while also exercising appropriate care to ensure that our next pastor is a good “fit” for our needs. Over the last twelve months, this committee has invested literally hundreds of hours on our behalf. While none of us outside of the Call Committee knows exactly how things

have proceeded – because this process is necessarily confidential – we can see from the outside that this committee has worked diligently and prayerfully. But the process of calling a pastor these days is a challenging one! There are more churches seeking pastors than there are pastors seeking to relocate. And it is always the case that the process needs to be done carefully. We want the new relationship with a pastor to endure for years to come. In spite of the committee's hard work, the right pastor has not been identified. God will eventually bring the right pastor to us, but it hasn't happened yet. So our excellent Call Committee continues to do its work faithfully. We have been praying for our Call Committee every week at worship. I hope you are also joining me in prayer for them daily. But there is something else I ask you to do now that they have been giving so much time for over a year. Please seek out the members of the Call Committee and **THANK them!** Thank them for the time they have given.

Thank them for their prayerful discernment. Tell them how much you appreciate what they are doing on behalf of Paradise Lutheran Church. Encourage them as their work continues.

In case you have forgotten the names of those who serve on this Call Committee, they are:

Dave Cassel

Elaine Thomas

Roxann Harrell

Heidi Wolf

Ben Kreitz

Ralph Nace

Justice White

As you can see, this is an excellent group representing all of us. Thanks be to God for their great work so far! And we pray for the Spirit's presence as they continue their work. In God's time, their work will bear fruit.

Yours in Christ Jesus,

† *Pastor Doug*

(Social Activities, continued)

Roast beast dinner!



Our next roast beef dinner will be on Friday, May 24, starting at 4 p.m. and going until we sell out.

Prep work will be done starting around 9 a.m. on Tuesday, May 21; Wednesday, May 22; and Thursday, May 23. Then on the 24th, meet around 2 p.m. for the final prep. We always need extra help to serve and clean up — last time we had so much good help!! ☺

Stewardship of Community

You shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Leviticus 19:18b

And who is my neighbor?

Luke 10:29b

Who are the neighbors within walking (or easy driving) distance of our congregation? How do we interact with these neighbors? Do we understand their issues, joys, frustrations? How can we love these neighbors as ourselves?

Though God has filled the world with neighbors for us to love, we have a special opportunity and responsibility to know neighbors who are nearby. They form our immediate community. Many congregations narrowly define “community” as people who are already part of their church, but God calls us to broaden our vision. Loving our neighbors with whom we naturally gather together is a community that is blessed by God. This is true in our personal lives as well as our congregations. As spring and summer unfold, let's commit to finding ways to be better stewards of our community, engaging our neighbors, especially those who live closest to our congregation.

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SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Friends of Paradise (our group for senior and not-on-your-life senior citizens; they meet the second Tuesday of most months, 10 a.m.)

From Linda Eisenhart —

In April, a wonderful group gathered at Hoss's to celebrate the Friends' anniversary. Great food and service along with trivia, games, and door prizes made for a good day together.

In May, we will be well into spring with all the beautiful flowers in bloom. Dandelion will hopefully be on the menu, served with our hot bacon dressing. Slippery potpie is sure to be a crowd pleaser as well.

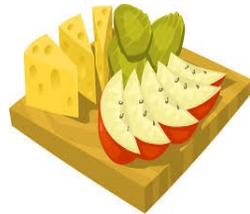
Join us at 10 a.m. to work on a service project that the women's retreat group started in April. We will be making plastic bag mats for the homeless. Feel free to donate some plastic bags, all colors!! If you like to crochet and have



a "P" needle, bring that along.

We will work on the project and socialize from 10 to 10:45 a.m., then we'll have some announcements and jokes before the program starts at 11 a.m.

After-concert goodies: We'll be prepping the light refreshments for the Community Singers concert reception on Saturday, May 18, starting around 9 a.m. **Please come and help a bit if you can!!**



AROUND THE CHURCH

The Breakfast Club will meet at 8:30 a.m., at Cross Keys Diner on Tuesday, May 7.



The Paradise Book Club will meet on Thursday, May 2, at church. The book: a classic this time, "Little Women" by Louisa May Alcott, and Cheryl's all set to provide the snacks.



Read ahead — June 6's pick is "We Were the Lucky Ones" by Georgia Hunter. **We'll be meeting at Pat's house**, and Pat will provide the refreshments. *[Meet at the church at 6:30 to carpool.]* Since the regular meeting date in July is the 4th, we switched the meeting date to the next Tuesday, July 11. Mark your calendar! Join the gang at 7 p.m. **at Julie Maher's house** (78 North Ridge Road,

Thomasville) to discuss "Killers of the Flower Moon" by David Grann. Everyone's welcome to bring something light to snack on and/or drink. **August 8** will find us back at the church to talk about "Blood and Ivy" by Paul Collins.

Looking for dandelion!

Cleaning your yard? Help us out! Dig out your dandelion (not sprayed, please), before it goes to seed. Bring it to the church and put it in the walk-in cooler. The Friends of Paradise are looking forward to enjoying dandelion with their meal on May 14. Yummy!



**(Around the Church,
continued)**

Laundry Love — We're looking for volunteers to help on Tuesday, May 21, from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Let Elaine Thomas, Heidi Wolf, or Pastor Doug know if you can be there.

East Berlin Community Singers Concert will be held on Sunday, May 19, **4 p.m., at Paradise.** Everyone's welcome to attend; **the "admittance fee" this year is the donation of personal care items** such as shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products, etc., to benefit New Hope Ministries. We will host a reception in the Fellowship Room following the concert. The performance is free and open to the public, so tell your friends and neighbors! Mark your calendar now!



LOOKING FOR VOLUNTEERS!

At our Women's Retreat this year, the ladies started fashioning mats from plastic grocery store bags (who THINKS of this stuff?). These mats give the homeless a weatherproof mat to help make each night a little more comfortable, a bit warmer, and dry. We are expanding this ministry to help even more homeless individuals. To successfully accomplish this, we are looking for help from you! We will begin meeting the first Tuesday of each month, beginning May 7, at 1:00 p.m., AND Sundays at 10:00 a.m., starting on May 26, after the switch to the summer church schedule of one service at 9 a.m. Save your clean plastic bags and join us for this project. (Great recycling!) Fear not, we'll show you what to do. Thank you in advance for your help.



SOCIAL MINISTRY

Support SpiriTrust Lutheran by becoming a member or renewing your membership. Envelopes with a purple front are in the narthex. Pick up an envelope, insert cash or check payable to Paradise Lutheran Church, fill in the other information, and place the envelope in the offering plate or the office basket. Sandra Peter will see that you receive your membership card. Thanks in advance for your support of the many activities and events for the residents. It means so much to them!

And speaking of SpiriTrust Lutheran, thanks so much for the 41 sub and sandwich orders you placed out of a total of 344 sold (\$1,044 for the residents!). We'll do it again in October!



Blood drive — Mark your calendar for the next blood drive on Tuesday, July 2, from 3 to 7 p.m.

- Harvest of Hope Pantry needs:**
- May: Dry pasta, soup
 - June: canned tomatoes, boxed cereal
 - July: canned pasta, canned fruit
 - Aug.: spaghetti and sauce
 - Sept.: canned vegetables, rice
 - Oct.: Thanksgiving meals
 - Nov.: mac & cheese, tuna
 - Dec.: peanut butter, jelly
- Place your donations in the box outside the church office. Thanks so much!**

**(Worship and Music,
continued)**

SPECIAL GUESTS AGAIN!

Once again we will be welcoming the Spring Grove Alumni Choir (July 28), the Brodbeck's Band (August 25), and the Lake Meade Orchestra (*date to be determined*). Please consider a financial donation to support these talented musicians (they do charge a fee) as they do have expenses such as rental hall fees, music, instrumental repairs, etc. Thank you!



**MAY Choir Rehearsal Schedules
At a Glance**

Sanctuary Choir: Wednesday, May 1 and 8, at 7 p.m.
Grace Notes: Sunday, May 5 and 12, at 9:40 a.m.
Praise Team: Sunday, May 5, at 9 a.m., final rehearsal!
Tone Chimes: Wednesday, May 1 and 8, 6:30 p.m.
Cherub/Children/Youth Choirs: every Sunday during Sunday School
Ladies' Choir: 9:40 a.m. May 19; and 8:30 a.m. May 26



**(Around the Church,
continued again)**

Attention Thrivent members!

We are looking to secure Action Team grants for funding for the backpack program at the Spring Grove schools. We need funding to fill backpacks with food for approximately 100 students who don't have enough to eat on the weekends. Please consider helping if you are able to apply for a grant. Need help or have questions? See Kris Gabel or Linda Eisenhart!!

Clean-up day!! All hands on deck for the spring spruce-up on Saturday, May 11, 8 a.m. to noon!! Sign up in the narthex!

The deadline for the next *Hotline*: May 15 for the **June/July** issue. Please put your information in the basket outside the office or e-mail Julie at secretary.paradiselutheran@gmail.com. Thanks.

The May website is sponsored by **Wayne and Ann Meyer** in honor

of their grandchildren, Jacob, Sam, and Elizabeth Ann Meyer. Thanks so much!



September 2019 is still open! Cost of sponsoring the website for one month: a mere \$20.



TREASURER'S INFORMATION

How was March? Check these numbers...

	Budget needs for God's Mission	Your gifts in March	Difference
Current	\$19,066.00	\$20,421.07	+\$1,355.07
Benevolence	\$1,167.00	\$1,226.00	+\$59.00
Action 2000	\$2,274.00	\$2,662.38	+\$388.38
	Our needs, to date	Total gifts, to date	Difference
Current	\$44,028.80	\$47,822.19	+\$3,793.39

Interest paid 2019: \$731.97

Principal paid 2019: \$28,698.05

Building debt principal owed: \$92,337.45

March's Special Offering for ELCA Domestic

Disaster Relief: \$342.00



Special Offering Envelope

May's envelope will go to our **Laundry Love program**. Thank you for your generosity.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

What's happening at worship?

May 19 will be our last Sunday of two worship services and Sunday School.

Summer schedule of ONE WORSHIP service at 9 a.m. will begin on Sunday, May 26.

Look ahead: June 2 is Confirmation Sunday.



From Minister of Music, Allison Trump:

MUSIC SUNDAY!

Church Music Sunday

will be held Sunday, May 12, at both the 8 a.m. and 10:15 a.m. services.

Please plan to attend this Sunday and

support the choirs as we sing songs of praise to God.

THE SUMMER SPECIAL MUSIC

SEASON runs from Sunday, June 2 through Sunday, September 1.

All instrumentalists, vocalists, and groups are invited to participate. If you are interested and need help selecting a piece, please see Allison. Please—no pre-recorded music.

