

# The Epistle

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

***May 2025***



*Gathered to Go . . . to study God's Word, Worship together; and to walk with Christ by loving, serving and nurturing all God's people where ever they are and whatever their circumstances.*

## **From Pastor Lori**

Dear Siblings in Christ,

I want to thank you for the support you have shown me during my cancer journey. Throughout the twelve weeks that I received chemotherapy, I received numerous cards, texts and well wishes from many of you. These tangible reminders of your love were a source of encouragement for me during a challenging time. I am truly blessed to serve such a kind and thoughtful congregation.

During the next phase of my treatment, I will receive infusions of a drug designed specifically for my type of breast cancer. These infusions will take place every three weeks for the next nine months. I will also begin to take an oral medication for the next five years.

I would have undergone radiation therapy during this phase however, I have joined a clinical trial that is trying to determine if people with my particular type of breast cancer need radiation. I have been assigned to the group that does not receive radiation. It is my hope that participating in this study will help develop a new standard of care for future breast cancer patients.

Please continue to keep Keith and me in your prayers. We will continue to thank God for each one of you!

Grace and peace,  
*Pastor Lori*

### **A Quote from Pope Francis**

*"Rivers do not drink their own water; trees do not eat their own fruit; the sun does not shine on itself and flowers do not spread their own fragrance for themselves. Living for others is a rule of nature. We are all born to help each other. No matter how difficult it is...Life is good when you are happy; but much better when others are happy because of you."*

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## ***Church Council News***

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### **Core Value---- Service: Yates County Christmas Program**

Each month as a congregation we financially support a local organization or ministry with our local hunger offering. During May we will continue supporting the Yates County Christmas Program with our offerings. In connection with our Core Value of “Service”, we are highlighting this ministry by having Donna Johnston the program coordinator speaks during the announcement time on Sunday May 11, 2025.

Through the annual Yates County Christmas Program, children and families are provided with new clothing, toys, books, hats and gloves, socks and underwear, and dental products. The Yates Christmas Program is an entirely volunteer and donation-based organization that assists families in need in Yates County who reside in the Penn Yan and Dundee School Districts during the holiday.



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## ***Faith Formation***

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### **Sunday Morning Faith Formation**

Worship is one of our core values. Do we worship because it's part of a church service, or does it spring from a heart of genuine praise? Join us this spring as we explore what the Bible says about what worship is and what it isn't, and to discover what it means to worship God with our whole life.

The classes meet from 8:30-9:30 in the meeting room. Contact Pastor Lori if you would like to obtain a book.



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## ***Social Ministry***

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### **Sharing Shed May 2025**

The Sharing Shed continues to flourish and help meet the needs of those in our neighborhood and community who need a little bit extra each month.

Your support both financially and with your time is greatly appreciated.

For the **month of May**, we would like to concentrate on **snack supplies** for the kids. This includes things like: **Individual packages of cookies, crackers, juice boxes, pretzels and chips, fruit snacks, and raisins.** These individual packages make great additions to lunch boxes or can be used as an after-school snack. Our volunteers take the time to make a variety of zip-lock bags with these snacks so the kids get three or four different things to enjoy. Thank you to all for your generosity when thinking about The Sharing Shed! We are helping to make a difference!

## Lutheran World Relief – Putting Together Kits

On Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm we will assemble kits: baby kits, school kits, and personal care kits. We will meet in the room off the kitchen. It will take less than an hour, all are welcome to help.

## Hunger Offering for May

*For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me in.*

*Matthew 25:35*

Each month we collect an offering to help feed hungry people and help hurting communities in our county and around the world. Sixty percent of the offering is used to combat world hunger. Forty percent is given to local organizations to help them “feed” people either physically, emotionally or spiritually. This month, the local part of our hunger offering will be given to **Yates County Christmas Program**.



Your offering can be placed in the offering plate at the back of the sanctuary or mailed directly to church. Remember to designate the amount you want to give on the hunger line of your envelope or write “Hunger Offering” on the memo line of your check.

Thank you for helping to care for our neighbors near and far!

## Coffee, Treats and the Keuka Students



On **Sunday May 4, 2025** the Keuka College students will join us following church to share their experience of working on the Raiders Run Trail in Virginia during their Spring Break. Please join the Flowing Forth team for this time of fellowship and support of the Keuka College Students.

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# ***Worship***

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## **May News from the Pews**

### **Sunday May 4, 2025**

Psalm 30

Revelation 5:11-14

### **Third Sunday of Easter**

John 21:1-19

Jesus invites us, again and again, to follow him, bringing the Easter life to others.

**Hymn of the Day:** The Son of God, Our Christ ELW 584

### **Sunday May 11, 2025**

Acts 9:36-43

Psalm 23(Sung)

Revelation 7:9-17

John 10, 22-30

### **Fourth Sunday of Easter**

The gift of new life, of eternal life, is the gift of the risen Christ.

**Hymn of the Day:** Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us ELW 789

### **Sunday May 18, 2025**

Psalm 148

Revelation 21:1-6

### **Fifth Sunday of Easter**

John 13:31-35

Jesus invites us to see everyone in a new light, through the lens of love.

**Hymn of the Day:** I Come With Joy ELW 482

### **Sunday May 25, 2025**

Psalm 67

Revelation 21: 10, 22; 22: 1-5

### **Sixth Sunday of Easter**

John 14:23-29

Jesus provides visions of peace that surpasses human understanding and power beyond Human imagination.

**Hymn of the Day:** The Peace of the Lord ELW 646

### **Sunday June 1, 2025**

Psalm 97

Revelation 22:12-21

### **Seventh Sunday of Easter**

John 17: 20-26

Jesus prays for us. In baptism we receive the gift of life.

**Hymn of the Day:** Lord, Who the Night You Were Betrayed ELW 463

The Sundays after Easter lead us to Pentecost in June. During these Sundays we will use Setting 3 for our Communion liturgy which is found on pages 140-146 in the ELW. We will be saying the Nicene Creed and will return to speaking The Lord's Prayer. We will use Easter hymns during worship and we will once again hear many Alleluias! We are in Year C of the Church Year Gospel cycle, using the Gospel of John.

**Thank you to EVERYONE** who participated in worship during Lent, Holy Week, and Easter. I would love to name everyone by name, but the list would be endless and I am apt to forget a name. **A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to Pastor Lori for everything that she does to "Shepherd" us as a congregation of Disciples working and worshipping together in Christ's name.

**Thank you** for gathering and worshipping on Sunday mornings; for attending Wednesday Mid-week Lenten services; for attending Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services; for reading the Litanys and for reading special parts during special services; for ushering and greeting; for tending the sound board and keeping us “tuned into” Zoom; for singing in the choir; for providing beautiful music for all of our services; for assisting; for washing communion ware; for counting after church; for hosting the Palm Sunday Brunch; for keeping the church neat and tidy; and for all the behind the scene happenings during a “Month of Sundays”.

Looking Ahead: June 8: Pentecost ..... Community Worship in the Park  
June 29: Brunch Church

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

### **Worship Leadership**

	5/4	5/11	5/18	5/25
<b>Assisting Ministers</b>				
<b>Ushers (2)</b>				
<b>Greeters</b>				
<b>Readers</b>				
<b>Altar Guild</b>				
<b>Sound Board</b>				
<b>Computer</b>				
<b>Counters</b>				

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## ***Congregational Care***

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### **“Shower” Each Other with Messages of Love**

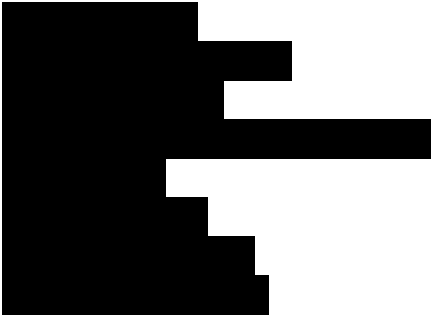


Each month, we will “shower” someone from St. Paul’s with messages of love. Please take a moment to send the person/s listed below a note of encouragement. May God use our communications to remind the recipient of God’s faithful presence and love.

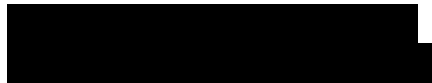


### **MAY BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES**

#### **Birthdays**



#### **Anniversaries**



### **Memorials**

Dick Nielsen

*Phil Darrow*

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## ***Reminders***

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### **Pastor Lori's Vacation**



Pastor Lori will be on vacation from May 5-11. Please call Rev. [REDACTED] if you have a pastoral emergency while she is away.

### **Prayer Requests in Public Places**

Prayer is an important part of our faith. It is one of the ways we support each other during times of illness, crisis and grief. This is a faithful and powerful practice. Our intentions are often in the best place. However, some people prefer to keep their situation private. If you would like to include someone on the prayer list in the bulletin, during worship or through an email, please ask for their permission to make it public. Thank you.

### **Office Hours for the Month of May**

Please check the weekly announcements for the office hours! Jennifer is normally in on Tuesdays and Thursdays.



*Mark your calendars, Mother's  
Day is May 11<sup>th</sup>!*

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## ***Community Events***

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### **Community Prayer Service**

The next Community Prayer Service will be on Tuesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm.

## Volunteer Want Ads

## Habitat for Humanity

## Provide lunch for the Saturday workers

## Call

# The Living Well

Various opportunities to support the programs that serve adults and children in need in our community.

## Call

## Penn Yan Community Café

Help prepare and serve meals to the community on the second and last Tuesday of every month.

## Call

# Yates Christmas Program

Provides a program to ensure that no child in Penn Yan and Dundee School Districts goes without during the holiday season. Donate items, help distribute items, bell ringing

## Call

## Literacy Volunteers

Volunteer to tutor, help as an office volunteer. Literacy Volunteers serves both native English speakers and those learning English as a second language. Tutoring is done in English, no foreign language skill is required. Tutors receive free training and ongoing staff support as they work one-on-one with learners. Office volunteers provide a variety of support to staff. [REDACTED]

of support to staff.

## Thank You Notes

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

**NEWS FOR THE JUNE 2025 EPISTLE IS DUE MAY 23<sup>rd</sup>**