

St Paul Partners

September 2010

St. Paul Lutheran Church-Startown
www.stpaulstartown.org

The Rev. Chris Christopher, Pastor
church office: 828-464-3853

Mission Statement

We the people of St. Paul are called and empowered by God-
To **Witness** through Christ; To **Welcome** everyone through the Holy Spirit;
To **Worship** with joy; and To **Work** with God to meet the needs of our community.

This month's newsletter is sponsored by Lee and Sandy Robinson in honor of their 26th wedding anniversary.

Congregational Retreat

Saturday, September 11th, 9-11am

Fellowship Hall

All are invited

(See p. 2 for details)

Homecoming 2010

Join us on Sunday, **September 12th** to celebrate the 105th birthday of St. Paul Lutheran Church in Startown. Our guest preacher is the Rev. Dr. Robert Q. Beard, who served St. Paul from 1963 through 1973 as our pastor. There will be one service, followed by a covered dish luncheon at the Mission Campus. Invite former members, your family, friends, and neighbors for a wonderful day together celebrating what God has done in our history, and what God will be doing in our future!

Coffee and Donuts: 8:30am

Sunday School: 9am

Worship: 10am

Luncheon: 12pm

Congregational Retreat

Saturday, September 11th

St. Paul Fellowship Hall

Come Join us as we dream and discuss:
“What is God Calling us to in our ministry?”

Join the Council as they:

- +Seek Guidance from the Lord
- +Seek to “focus” our ministry at St. Paul
- +Seek to move into God’s Future for us

- +The Council will meet at 7:45am
- +All Members are invited to join us from 9 - 11am
- +The Council will meet from 11am-1pm
- +The Council will publish their recommendations soon
- +We will host a forum in September to discuss the recommendations and chart our course!

This is a wonderfully exciting time in the life of our congregation. We have a great opportunity to “think out of the box” to shape our ministry for the coming years.

Please join us on Saturday, Sept. 11th @ 9am.

Finance Ministry

Finance Committee Members are: Becky Hawn, Treasurer, Judy Hoke, Jerry Sweet, and Dick Walker.

****No report is available at this time. However, July's report will be included in next month's newsletter. Thank you for your understanding.***

Learning Ministry

The Learning Committee is staffed by Robin Fincannon - Chair, Jenny Brown, Sharron Scronce, Barbara Sloop, and Pastor Chris.

Confirmation

Confirmation Classes will resume on Sunday, September 12th during the Sunday School hour (9am). The first and second year confirmands will have a joint class and spend the year studying the 4 Gospels and the Life of Jesus. Their teachers are Barbara Sloop and Robin Fincannon. They will meet in the upstairs classroom beside the Pastor's office. The 3rd year students will meet with Pastor Chris in his office during the Sunday School hour. They will be studying Lutheran doctrine and its biblical basis. Confirmation Sunday is October 31st. There will be one service at 10am.

Sunday School Classes

Children's Sunday School has resumed its normal schedule and are meeting in the classrooms on the Library Hall. ***Confirmation Students*** meet on the 3rd floor in the Confirmation Classroom or Pastor Chris' office. ***High School Students*** meet in the Youth Room on the 3rd floor.

Adult Sunday School classes are:

New Beginnings meet in the Library.

The Martin Luther Class meets across from the Library.

The Fellowship Class meets in the Fellowship Hall.

The Seekers Class meets on the 2nd floor in the Council Meeting Room.

We encourage each and every member to attend a Sunday School Class. The benefits are many, but at a minimum, by attending Sunday School, you will grow your Bible knowledge, deepen your faith, and enjoy fellowship and discussion with other believers. What could be better!

2010 Leadership Ministry

Church Council Highlights – July 2010

FINANCE

- Received report of monies from the Harriett Drye estate totaling \$59,862
- Discussed our current financial situation, with 20% reduction in contributions, expenses exceeding income, and the need to borrow from Gifts and Memorials Fund in the amount of \$11,692 year-to-date
- Approved motion to pay only 80% of our total 2010 Benevolence, to be paid by borrowing from the Gifts and Memorials Fund if necessary
- Approved motion authorizing the Treasurer to borrow up to an additional \$30,000 from the Gifts and Memorials Fund if necessary to meet 2010 expenses
- Approved motion to accept a property insurance proposal with \$3,000,000 coverage on the church and a \$50,000 deductible for an annual premium of \$3,681 (Saves \$2,010 yearly)

PROPERTY

- Ministry will offer for sale by silent auction the piano in the Fellowship Hall

LEARNING

- Approved Sunday School Teachers for the 2010-2011 year

WITNESS

- Approved a Red Cross Blood Drive on November 6, 2010

PASTOR

- Approved two compensatory days off for the Pastor during the week of July 25
- Reported that 46-48 members attended the Prayer Service on July 20
- Reported he would begin work in August on the revitalization of our congregation, along with Council volunteers Frank Moxham, Kathy Frye and Marty Coulter

GENERAL

- Reviewed letter received from concerned member

Special Called Council Meeting -August 5, 2010

Highlights

A special called congregational council meeting was held on Thursday, August 5th. The order of business was to discuss the resignations of 5 Council Members in July and to determine the process for filling their vacancies. It was determined that historically, when a council vacancy occurred, the members who had been on the previous year's congregational ballot but were not elected, were offered to opportunity to fulfill the term of the vacancies. The 5 who have chosen to serve are 5 of the 6 who received the most votes. The one member did not respond prior to the deadline needed by the council.

Those who resigned were: Otis Morton-President, Steve Bumgarner-Vice President, Howard Reinhardt, Vivian Scott, Martha Staley, (and Jan Mitchem-Treasurer).

We elected five new Council Members to fill vacancies for terms ending:

Tim Lail	2012
Richard Blackburn	2011
Robin Fincannon	2011
Bradley Scronce	2011
Herb Travis	2010

These members are to be installed Sunday, August 8th. We will have a Temple Talk at each service to inform the congregation of our actions.

At the August 27, 2010 meeting the Council will:

1. Elect new officers - President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer.
2. Determine eligibility for Herb Travis in the next election.
3. Choose the week and day for Council meetings for the rest of 2010.

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***At the August 27th meeting**, the following were elected as the Officers of the Congregation for the remainder of 2010: Bradley Scronce, President; Roger Frye, Vice-President; Frank Moxham, Secretary, and Becky Hawn, Treasurer.

The Next Council Meeting will be: September 23rd at 6pm

Women of the ELCA

WHO IS A ST. PAUL- STARTOWN WOMAN OF THE ELCA? WE ARE WOMEN THAT COME TOGETHER.

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

WHAT DO ST. PAUL STARTOWN WOMEN OF THE ELCA DO?

LEADERSHIP: *We serve St. Paul-Startown*

MISSION COMMUNITY: *We go out into the world.*

MISSION ACTION: *We raise up healthy families.*

MISSION GROWTH: *We grow our faith with Bible studies.*

CURRENT CONGREGATIONAL UNITS:

+SUNSHINE CIRCLE: Second Monday of the month at 10:00 am

+SISTERS IN SPIRIT CIRCLE (SIS): First Monday of the month at 6:30 pm

+MOMS ON MISSION (MOMS): Developing Group, Online Contact

"Sister take my hand. Dance with me!"

The Fall Retreat for NC Women of ELCA will be at Lutheridge in Arden NC on the weekend of November 12-14. Join in the fun and fellowship of an exciting inspirational weekend at beautiful Lutheridge. Meet sisters in faith from across the Southeast. Invite a female friend or relative to join you. This event would be a great event for mothers and daughters and even teen granddaughters. There are registration forms on the hall table outside the church office and in the narthex. Registration deadline is October 25.

+THANK YOU TO ALL who participated in the **BACK 2 SCHOOL** collection. You have made a positive difference in children's lives within our community. Look for upcoming collections to benefit families in our community and the world.

WELCA -continued

Upcoming Programs Sponsored by our Women of the ELCA

- Self Defense Class: Sept. 4th, 11:30-12:30, Foothills Gymnastics, Hickory
- Domestic Violence Speaker: October is Domestic Violence Awareness Mo
- Anti-Racism Speaker
- Child Abuse Awareness Speaker
- Adults Saving Kids Program (Wise as Serpents and Reality Is...)
- Retreats & Bible Study: November 12-14, Lutheridge, Arden NC
- Lutheran World Relief Collection
- Congregational Christmas Celebration
- Relay for Life – American Cancer Society

Please contact Christine Price if you are interested in any of the above programs.

St. Paul's Women of the ELCA will have an information table set up at the Homecoming covered dish luncheon, please stop by and check us out.

ON GOING COLLECTIONS:

- Newspapers: Benefits local and world hunger programs
- Magazines: Benefits patients and visitors at Catawba Valley Medical Center
- Drink Can Tabs: Benefits Ronald McDonald House
- Box Tops and Campbell Soup UPC Labels: Benefits area schools

+ FREE SELF DEFENSE CLASS

Where: Foothills Gymnastics Center - 920 29th Ave NE, Hickory

When: Saturday, September 4th - 11:30-12:30

Who: Young women ages 12 and older

Why: St. Paul Women of the ELCA is committed to raising healthy women and girls. Learning to protect yourself is a first step at independence. If you have any questions please contact Christine Price.

ST. PAUL'S SISTERS IN SPIRIT FELLOWSHIP OUTING

Where: Carrabba's Italian Grill

When: Monday, Sept 20th 6:30pm

Who: Women of St. Paul's - Startown

Why: Come to meet and fellowship with current Sisters in Spirit Women of St. Paul

Witness Ministry

Sharron Scronce, Chair; Helen Bowman, Eugene Lentz, Roger Frye Sharon Frye, Bradley Scronce, Keith Frye.

Red Cross Blood Drive

St. Paul will sponsor its semi-annual Red Cross Blood Drive on Saturday, November 6th, 2010. The time will be announced next month.

Special Events and Communications Ministries

Keith Frye, special events chair, Bradley Scronce, communications chair

For any member that would like to be added to the Prayer Net and receive the prayer requests via the **phone tree** may do so by contacting the church office at 464-3853 or Bradley at 381-4037 and you will be added to the list. You **will not** be responsible for calling anyone after receiving the prayer request. Just Pray!

October Newsletter deadline

The deadline for newsletter articles or calendar information for the October Newsletter is Sunday, September 26th. Email your copy to Pastor Chris **and** Cheryl for inclusion in the newsletter. Please honor this deadline so the office staff and volunteers can communicate the news in a complete and timely manner.

St. Paul's Annual Trunk N Treat

is October, 31st from 5pm until 7pm. If you are interested in providing a trunk and/or providing bags of goodies for folks to hand out, please contact Keith Frye at 828-461-0001 or email at kfrye61@yahoo.com.

Mary Sigmon's new address:

Catawba Valley Living @ Rock Barn
Mary Sigmon #208 P.O. Box 1599
Conover NC 28613
Phone # 828 459-9722

Worship Ministry

Kathy Frye, Chair; Donna Miller, Sissy Moxham, Charlene Scott, Denise Sigmon, Kathy Simmons, and Nancy Walker. We meet the second Monday of each month at 6:30 PM. Join us!

- ❖ Homecoming is September 12th. We will have Sunday School at 9:00, with one worship service at 10:00. We are pleased that former pastor Robert Q. Beard will be our speaker. There will be a covered dish lunch down at the mission campus following the service. Please come be a part of this special day, and invite friends and neighbors to come as well.
- ❖ Be looking for a change in the “time and talent” sheets that will be coming later this fall. We are going to be “greeting” before church instead of “sending” after church.
- ❖ Thank you to all who have filled out the “Worship & Music Ministry” sheets. Watch your bulletin for a training time for those that signed up for altar guild and communion assistants.

Youth Ministry

Marty Coulter, Brandon Williams, Robin Fincannon, Judy Herman, Chantae Lail, Amanda McKinney, Michelle Potter, Christine Price, Trinity Price, and Robin Rudisill.

Youth Committee Meeting

The Youth Ministry Committee will meet September 9th at 7:00 in the conference room. All persons interested in the youth program are invited to attend.

Sr. Youth Schedule (Pastor Chris – advisor)

<u>Date</u>	<u>Activities</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Meeting Place</u>
Sept. 5	No meeting		
Sept. 12	Homecoming & a Movie	12-4:30pm	Fellowship Hall
Sept. 19	Servant Event	5pm-7pm	Fellowship Hall
Sept. 24-25	Fri. Night Football Lock-in	6pm-9am	Fellowship Hall

Jr. Youth Schedule (Pastor Chris and Sara Scronce –leaders)

Sept. 12 Join Sr. Youth for Homecoming Activities and a Movie

TLC – The Little Christians (grades 1-5)- Bernadette Duncan, leader

We will meet on Sunday, September 5th from 4-6pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will have games and activities that teach us to “GIVE IT UP!” Plan on having a great time!