



Messenger

St. Paul's Lutheran Church 120 N. Easton Road Glenside, PA 19038

Music Camp 2026



St. Paul's Music Camp registration now open!

The dates are **Monday, August 24, through Friday, August 28**. Registration details inside!

One Love: Barbecue Time!

On **Sunday, June 7**, we will have a celebration of food, fun, and fellowship with a barbecue on the patio following the 9:30 AM service. Please feel free to bring a dish! "Let's get together and feel alright!"



Cellist and composer Ajobola Rivers will present his "Favorite Things" Concert with guests Irina Rostomashvili, violin, and David Hughes, piano, at 7 p.m. on **Friday, June 5**, at St. Paul's.

DUNK TANK! ICE CREAM! JULY 19!

You're Invited to Our Summer Social!

Join us on **Sunday, July 19**, right after the **9:30 AM service** for our Summer Social! We'll have a dunk tank, ice cream with all the toppings, and great fellowship. All are welcome—come celebrate the season with us! **Donations are welcome and will support Lutheran Disaster Response.**





And just like that, we will enter the long season of green.

Given the ups and downs in the spring weather, I wouldn't be too unhappy to see steady, warm summer temperatures. (But you will probably hear me complain soon enough. "It is too hot!" and "I wish it was fall already.")

Still, the green season is a good one to remind us of God's constant presence in our lives.

The word *steadfast* comes to mind, one we often use when talking about God's resolute love and faithfulness. Or, perhaps, the words of the old favorite hymn "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (No. 733 in the red book) come to mind. *Morning by morning new mercies I see.*

It is so easy to get caught up in being busy that we lose sight of the fact that every day is a new opportunity and that, in terms of the season of green, each sunrise presents an opportunity to grow in faith and love. Sometimes this happens when we are very active doing something in the church or community and sometimes this can happen when we refresh and refuel by relaxing or patiently waiting.

There were ten days between Ascension and Pentecost. In the story of creation, God rested on the seventh day. We need rest, as God demonstrates by example.

While our church ministry continues with Sunday summer services at 9:30 AM each week, the pace is certainly a bit less hectic, and we have opportunities to have fellowship with all the congregants after the morning service. Those who cannot commit to the full choir season during the year can join the Summer Choir for Sunday service.

Personally, I am looking forward to the return of our pipe organ. I am confident that the work will be done sometime in June, but we shall see. It has been fun to see the progress and how all the different parts are coming together. I guess one could say the different organ parts went out for a time of rest and refurbishment and are now coming back with new and fresh energy. (But this analogy can only be stretched so much, since there were some parts that went on permanent rest.)

I like the fact that the parts went to different places to get what they needed to be able to shine and produce harmony once again. That is true for us as well. We come back together after a period of rest and refreshment to create harmony in community and most of all praise God together in worship.

When we come to this time of year, I am often reminded of a famous Paul Gerhardt hymn that is, unfortunately, not part of our hymnal. It is entitled “Go forth my heart and seek delight.” Here is an English translation of the first stanza:

*Go forth, my heart, and seek delight
In this bright summer season's might.
Walk forth your God to praise
These gardens richly decked with flowers,
These pleasant, cool, and shady bowers,
A wondrous beauty raise.*

Within the different verses (there are 15 of them), Gerhardt goes through different flowers of the garden, the birds, the trees, and the animals and talks about how they have all dressed up to praise God. And every time you look at one of these your heart may fill with joy as well.

As we listen to the stories of Jesus' ministry during the Pentecost season we are encouraged to do the same thing. Look at the story and hear how a loving and healing God became active and touched people in their daily lives. Jesus always met them right where they were. He helped them to grow and become his followers.

May this season of green help us to grow in many different ways, may it be filled with praises of our loving God and may it help us to continue to build community as a blessing for us and those who come in contact with us.

With much love,
Pr. Henrik





Vicar's Voice

Greetings! Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Among Jesus' several important titles, *Rabbi* is perhaps the title to which we can most easily relate in our daily experiences. Titles such as *Lord*, *Savior*, *Son of God*, or *Messiah* may be more consequential, but they are unique to Jesus, and many people struggle their entire lives to understand how Jesus embodies each of them. Rabbi (Teacher) on the other hand, is one role that is familiar to all of us.

When asked about a favorite (or, maybe, least favorite) teacher, names and images and interactions come immediately to mind. Perhaps because our experiences with Jesus involve more than just as Teacher, describing those many experiences with the Crucified, Risen, and Ascended Christ is often a more challenging task than describing our ninth-grade chemistry teacher. I am not suggesting that we give up trying to describe our manifold experiences with Jesus. But I am suggesting that we for the moment, focus primarily on Jesus as Rabbi.

Even before the official beginning of his earthly ministry, Jesus was teaching. In the only biblical account of Jesus' childhood (Luke 2:41-52), St. Luke describes Jesus remaining in Jerusalem after the Passover festival as his parents begin the journey home oblivious to his absence from their group. When Mary and Joseph finally find Jesus in the Temple courts he is sitting among the teachers there while listening and asking questions. Everyone present is amazed at his understanding, but the real teaching moment is the way Jesus interacts with his parents when they find him.

Jesus asks them why they looked anywhere other than his Father's house. Joseph's response to this statement is not clearly noted in the text, but Mary's response demonstrates how she was absorbing Jesus' explanation: she kept all these things in her heart. His mother's contemplative consideration of what can be learned from Jesus – even at this tender age – is probably a good model for us all.

Later in life, Jesus chose twelve students to both work closely with him in his ministry and to continue his ministry after his ascension into Heaven. Interestingly, these twelve only sometimes demonstrate qualities that would make us think that they are the best students possible. Whether it is failing to understand Jesus' teachings, demonstrating spiritual weakness, or abandoning Jesus at the Crucifixion, the disciples are so frequently found lacking that we could easily begin to question the wisdom in Jesus' choices. Part of the Good

News for us now is that even the chosen Twelve, who failed time and time again, are constantly extended grace and were still entrusted with building Christ's Church immediately after Pentecost.

While the ministry of Jesus was certainly a ministry of teaching, he teaches us – through his disciples – surprisingly little theoretical knowledge in a direct way. He, instead, focuses on application and how to change our behaviors.

The Sermon on the Mount in St. Matthew's Gospel (chapters 5 through 7) encapsulates this emphasis on application rather than theory. While some verses in isolation could be categorized as theory, the overwhelming message is one of behavior and action: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 5:16). All that comes before this verse is descriptive, but this verse commands action.

Jesus counterbalances this statement about works with a statement about pride: "Beware of practicing your piety before men in order to be seen by them; for then you will have no reward from your Father who is in heaven" (Matthew 6:1).

Taken together, we see the Sermon on the Mount as a sending into the world after being transformed by Jesus' teachings.

When the disciples gathered together at Pentecost following Jesus' instructions to wait in Jerusalem for the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4-5), this could be characterized as their graduation day. Jesus had ascended into Heaven ten days earlier so they were no longer face-to-face with their teacher, but by this time they had spent years learning and witnessing life-changing miracles so that they could apply their learning.

Being filled with the Holy Spirit, they were now prepared to go out into the world to make disciples and build Christ's Church. Their graduation day was not a day to celebrate their previous accomplishments or stew over their failures. In truth, they had not earned anything since everything was based on God's initiative. Instead, it was a day to begin the task now given to them – the task for which they had been called and were now being sent.

From the perspective of a recent graduate of seminary (at long last!), modern academic graduations should have more in common with the disciples on Pentecost. For three years the disciples were called to learn and then, at a time chosen by God, they were sent out to baptize and to make more disciples – their mission on behalf of God.

Like the disciples, God shines a light on our path as He calls us – a path that we could not have followed or even recognized on our own. To guide graduates at any level we ought to be asking them, “What is God now sending you out to do in the world?”

A Prayer for Guidance (Book of Common Prayer, p.832)

O God, by whom the meek are guided in judgement, and light rises up in darkness for the godly: Grant all graduates, in all their doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have them do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save them from all false choices, and that in your light they may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessings,
Vicar Jeffrey

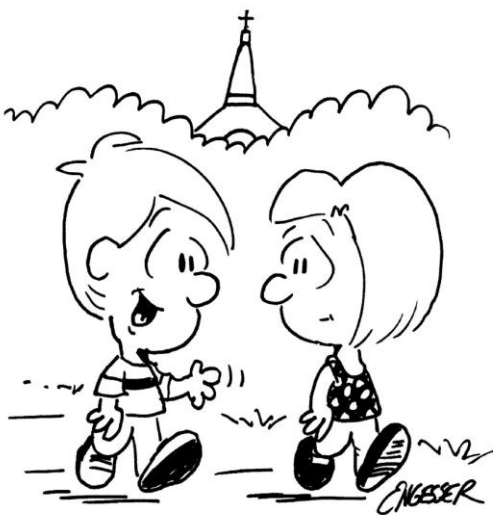


Happy Father's Day from St. Paul's!



HAPPY
FATHER'S DAY

THANKS,
DAD!



"If we're all God's children, just think of all the cards he gets on Father's Day."



Make this heartwarming handprint gift to give your dad or another special man on Father's Day.

What you need:

- Tempura paint (any two colors besides white)
- A paper plate
- Two paintbrushes
- Your dad's hand
- White cardstock
- Paper towels
- A pen



What you do:

1. Place paint on the paper plate.
2. Paint your dad's palm and the insides of his fingers with one color of paint. Set his hand in the center of the cardstock and press down. Let dry.
3. Paint your palm and fingers with the other color. Place your hand in the center of your dad's. Let dry.
4. Write a loving message to your dad on the blank sections of the cardstock.
5. Give your dad the gift – and a hug!



BREAD FOR THE WORLD'S 2026 OFFERING OF LETTERS

As people of faith, we are called to give of our time, talent, and treasure for a greater purpose. Bread for the World invites you to use your voice to help end hunger on **Sunday, June 14**.

Every year, Bread for the World organizes churches, community organizations, and people of faith from across the country to write letters to their representatives in Congress who have the power to impact the policies and programs that can end hunger. By taking part in Bread for the World's 2026 Offering of Letters, you can help support domestic and international nutrition programs.

A series of administrative and congressional actions have dealt devastating blows to the United States' international assistance and domestic social safety net programs. Families rely on this assistance and these programs, especially in times of crisis, and the cuts have resulted in an increase in hunger.

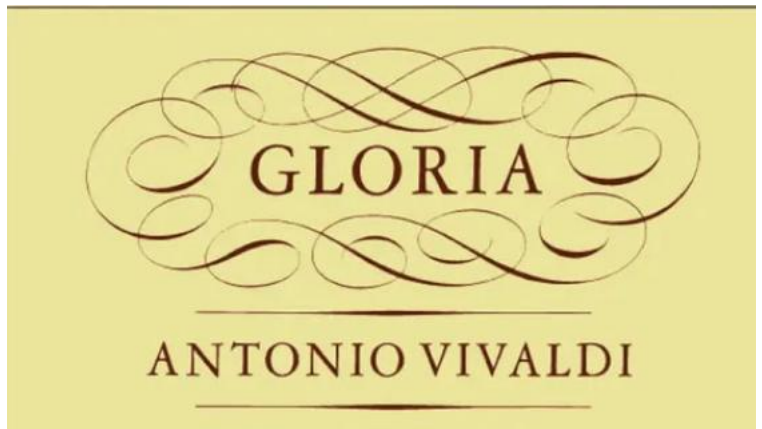
Congress is being urged to

- Restore and protect U.S. nutrition programs
- Fund and strengthen global food, health and development programs
- Pass a strong, bipartisan Farm Bill

Your letters matter! Combined with those of other advocates across the country, they are expressions of faith and hope, calling on U.S. decision-makers to pursue a world without hunger. God uses these letters to change hearts and minds.

Before and after the service on Sunday, June 14, stop by the tables in the Great Room where you will have the opportunity to participate in Bread for the World's campaign here at St. Paul's. Lend your voice to urging our elected leaders to protect and strengthen policies and programs that make a difference for people struggling with hunger in the United States and around the world.

--Good Works Team



On **Sunday morning, May 17**, the Chancel Choir of St. Paul's, with guest musicians, presented Antonio Vivaldi's *Gloria* as a Sermon in Song for both the 8:00 AM and 10:30 AM worship services.

The Chancel Choir

Sopranos

Betsy Berglund
Susan Duffy
AnnaLisa Mariani
Pam McDowell
Violet Moyer
Julie Sullivan

Altos

Cyndee Folk
Pat Lackman
Celia O'Leary
Laurie Pellicore
Nancy Raabe
Starr Shiffer
Misty Wagner

Rae Ann Anderson
Director of Music

**indicates guest singers*

Tenors

Tom Adrian
Justin Hamilton*
Michael Harrington
Larry Hoenig*
Bruce Todd

Basses

Mike Edelman
Peter Gkonos
John McKay*
Matthew Murmylo*
Will Ritter
Eric Shiffer
Harry VanPelt

INSTRUMENTALISTS:

Irina Rostomashvili – violin 1
Alberta Douglas – violin 2
Kyran Littlejohn, Jr – viola
Ajibola Rivers – cello
Evan Ocheret – oboe
Eric Schweingruber – trumpet
Edward Landin Senn - piano



A great big thank you to all who participated in the April 2026 Rummage sale; whether donating your time, talent or possessions or all of the above, you made the event a great success!

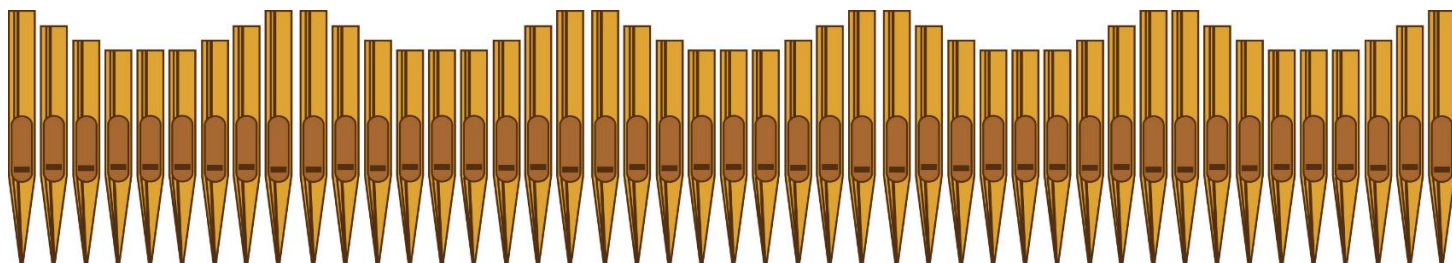
This year's sale made just over \$3400. In addition, our jewelry expert identified some gold pieces among the donations, which when taken to a local jeweler generated an additional \$1229. This made our grand total just over \$4650. The funds were disbursed as follows:

Scout Troop 48	\$50	MIP Foundation*	\$200
Scout Troop 160	\$50	Victims of Torture	\$350
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$250	Lutheran Settlement House	\$350
Global Refuge	\$350	Family Promise Food Pantry	\$400
Laurel House	\$400	Tabor Lutheran Food Pantry	\$400
Chippewa-Creek - Rocky Boy	\$400	Share Food Program	\$400
Caring for Friends	\$350	Philabundance	\$400
SEPA WELCA	\$300		

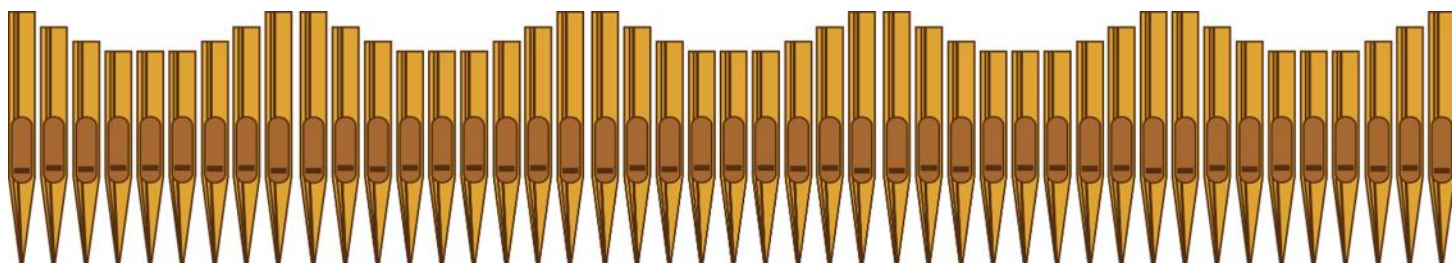
* MIP supports the emotional needs of children with cancer.

Beyond the financial distributions, Scout group 160 collected the leftover clothing, linens and small toys for a fund raiser to support their ongoing programs. Leftover household items were taken to Worthwhile Wear in Hatboro, a thrift store who's proceeds support victims of human trafficking, and also to GreenDrop which supports multiple worthy

CHANCEL REIMAGINED PROJECT UPDATE – JUNE 2026



We have completed most of the Chancel construction renovation. The metal and wood pipes have been reinstalled. In the meantime, we ask for your continued support and commitment to the project. If you have made a pledge, please check that your giving is current. If you have not made a pledge yet, we would appreciate your consideration and generosity. As of now we have raised \$500,000 of our three-year, \$500,000 capital campaign. Thank you for helping us reach our goal! **An update on the Chancel Reimagined project** [is available on our website](#). To view it, please click **INFO → Organ Update**





St. Paul's Music Camp registration now open!

The dates are **Monday, August 24, through Friday, August 28.**

This will be a full day of activities from 9:00 AM to 3:30 PM for all five days. The core of the weeks' program will be the children's musical **Moses and the Freedom Fanatics** by Hal H. Hopson. The final event of this Music Camp will be a Friday afternoon performance of the musical along with other tuneful offerings. Daily events include activities with movement, hand chimes, handbells, drums, and outdoor play! Special guest artists and other fun surprises will make appearances throughout the week. The registration fee for the week will be \$325.00 per singer. [There is an EARLY BIRD SPECIAL](#) of \$295.00 if full payment is received by **August 8.** There are scholarships available, and special arrangements for families with more than one child participating. Please contact the church office for more information.



Ajibola Rivers'
"FAVORITE THINGS" CONCERT
FRIDAY JUNE 5TH, 7:00PM
St Paul's Lutheran Church
120 N EASTON RD.
GLENSIDE, PA 19038
Featuring: Irina Rostomashvili - Violin & David Hughes - Piano

St. Paul's ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stay Connected. Stay Informed. Stay Inspired.

Come Sing in The Summer Choir!



Have you wondered if the choir is a place for you at St. Paul's? Do you wonder if you could find that singing voice you had in high school or college? Do you wonder if the music is more inspiring to sing than it is to just listen to from the pew? Would you feel more at home in the red cushioned choir chairs? To answer these questions come **sing in The Summer Choir** on Sunday mornings at **8:30 AM** through September 6. We will practice from 8:30 to 9:15 – have a brief coffee break – and then re-group to lead the summer worship service. This usually involves singing one anthem and leading the Psalm and the liturgy. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Rae Ann Anderson, Director of Music. (215-913-0730)

Pastor Daniel Marrone, our previous vicar, will be ordained and installed on **Saturday, June 13,** at 2:00 PM at Lutheran Church of the Holy Spirit, 333 N. Main St., Manahawkin, NJ 08050. All are welcome to attend!



Curious About Pickleball?

Join the St. Paul's Pickleball Explorers to learn the basics of the game with Pastor Henrik Sonntag and Jean Bai, right here in Fellowship Hall starting **July 12,** after the 9:30 AM service.

The Aging Grace-Fully group will meet after worship at **11 AM on Sunday, June 14**, The group will meet in Room 200. Hope to see you there!



Congratulations to our Confirmands, Thomas Erat, Denijah "Nana" Foreman, and Isaiah Holovachuk! We pray that God will continue to bless you on your spiritual journey. The confirmands have served as acolytes throughout this period and will continue to do so through September. We thank them for their service. Congratulations and many blessings on them as they continue their spiritual journey.



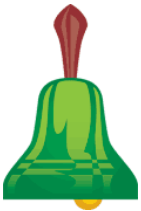
Congratulations to Ryan MacMillan, who celebrated his first communion on May 17!

The deadline for the July/August Messenger is Monday, June 15. Please make sure that all submissions for this double issue are in by the deadline. Send it to cgarcia@stpaulsglenside.org



One Love: Barbecue Time!

On **Sunday, June 7**, we will have a celebration of food, fun, and fellowship with a barbecue on the patio following the 9:30 AM service. "Let's get together and feel alright!" Please use the sign-up sheet in the main hall to indicate whether you be bringing a side dish (salads, veggies, pasta, beans, chips, etc.), dessert (cake, cookies, brownies, fruit, pie, etc.), drinks (water, lemonade, iced tea, soda, juice, etc.). Thank you for helping to to make our BBQ a wonderful day!



The Wesley Bell Ringers of Christ United Methodist Church, Salt Lake City, Utah, will perform at **Abington Presbyterian Church**, 1082 Old York Road, Abington, Pa, at 7:30 PM on Thursday, June 17. Admission is free.

Just because summer is here, doesn't mean we have to put our favorite savory dishes on the back burner! Try this delicious Summer Squash and Basil Pasta recipe to get a lighter fix of pasta!



Ingredients

4 servings
¼ cup olive oil
8 garlic cloves, thinly sliced
2 pounds assorted summer squashes and zucchini, quartered lengthwise, sliced
Kosher salt
1 teaspoon Aleppo-style pepper, plus more for serving
12 ounces paccheri, ziti, or other large tube pasta
2 ounces Parmesan, grated (about ½ cup), plus more for serving
1 tablespoon fresh lemon juice
½ cup basil leaves, divided

Preparation

Step 1

Heat oil in a large skillet over medium. Cook garlic, stirring occasionally, until very lightly browned around the edges,

about 4 minutes. Add squash and increase heat to medium high; season with salt. Cook, tossing occasionally, until squash begins to break down. Turn down heat once it begins sticking, and continue to cook until the squash is jammy and soft, 12–15 minutes. Toss in 1 tsp. Aleppo-style pepper.

Step 2

Meanwhile, cook pasta in a large pot of boiling salted water, stirring occasionally, until very al dente.

Step 3

Transfer pasta to skillet with squash using a slotted spoon or spider and add ½ cup pasta cooking liquid. Cook pasta, adding 2 oz. Parmesan in stages along with more pasta cooking liquid as needed, until sauce coats pasta and pasta is al dente. Toss in lemon juice and most of the basil.

Step 4

Divide pasta among bowls and top with more Parmesan and Aleppo-style pepper and remaining basil.

One ⁺ Love: BARBECUE TIME!

Join us for a celebration of
food, fun, and fellowship!



**SUNDAY,
JUNE 7**



**FOLLOWING THE
9:30 AM SERVICE**



ON THE PATIO

*Let's get together
and feel alright!*



Bring your appetite,
your laughter,
and your love!

All are welcome!

Good Food
Great People
Stronger
Together





Dear St. Paul's,

Thanks so much for the lovely altar flowers. And thanks even more for thinking of me! I am so grateful for my church family.

Peace and blessings,
Marsha Hunt

Dear Pastor Sonntag,

Thank you for your ongoing support of the United Lutheran Seminary. We are deeply grateful for your gifts and faithful partnership as we prepare ULS students to witness to and participate in God's work in the world through spiritual leadership, public advocacy, meaningful worship, and care of neighbor rooted in God's grace and love.

Your continued generosity and prayers strengthen theological education and provide students with a solid foundation for leadership in a changing church.

Yours faithfully,

Conor Brooks, Vice President for Institutional Advancement



Dear St. Paul's,

Thank you so much for your generous Faith in Action of \$150 to Cradle of Hope. As we celebrate 29 years of ministry in 2026, we remain deeply grateful for faithful supporters like you who make this mission possible.

For nearly three decades, Cradle of Hope has been committed to ministering to the physical, spiritual, and emotional needs of single mothers and their children through transitional housing and supportive services. Your generosity directly sustains this work and strengthens families in our community.

Your gift helps fund our projects to provide safe stable housing for up to nine mothers and their babies at a time, as well our resource center serving hundreds of families by offering free referrals, counseling, educational resources, supportive classes and tangible goods to those facing crises.

Thank you for using your gifts to bless the families we serve.

With deep gratitude,

Alissa Messina, Executive Director, Cradle of Hope



Good News From The Pews



JUNE BIRTHDAYS

June	Name	June	Name	Anniversary	Couples Names
1-Jun	Christopher Duffy	16-Jun	Pauline Petrie	5-Jun	Mary Anne & Dennis Allen
2-Jun	Paul Rajashekar	17-Jun	Gabriel Pratt	13-Jun	Kathleen & Bob Breuer
3-Jun	Sherrie Campbell	19-Jun	Mara Fricker	15-Jun	Adrienne & Rob Sacchetti
3-Jun	Monica Embery	20-Jun	Zimmarro	24-Jun	George & Pauline Petrie
6-Jun	Carson Campbell	22-Jun	Sean Christiansen		
6-Jun	Justin Sekelewski	26-Jun	Betsy Berglund		
15-Jun	Lorraine Taylor	27-Jun	Don Lawrence		
16-Jun	Hannah Mazzacarro	28-Jun	Debbie Sekelewski		



June
CELEBRATIONS

Did we miss your special day? Please let us know your birthday or anniversary so that it can be included in future additions of the Messenger.

In Our Prayers....

We invite you to pray for all those in need and those on our prayer list. Please contact the office with any changes to the prayer list as they arise. Thank you.

IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

Sharon Birkbeck
Robert Breuer
Helen Edelman
Kenneth Feinour III
Roselee Feinour
Julie Gable
Lorraine Gingo
John Hagan
Bruce Hanes
Dick Harrington
Barbara Hoffman
Judy Horvath
Cathy Keim
Thubi Kolmobe
Connie Kowalski
Ceci Krull
Tom Lackman

Linda Landes
Robin Logan
Mike McCormick
Laurie Mueller
Mary Scarpello
Gwendolyn Neveil
Scott Robinson
Nancy Shenk
Alicia Simpson
Annabelle Sitler
Richard Sitler
Stephanie Smith
Paul Stadelberger
John Thompson
Mike Trant
Anne Zimmerman



Private First-Class Carson Campbell

*IN LOVING
Memory*

The family and loved ones of Amy Riemenschneider

The family and loved ones of Andrew Politz

The family and loved ones of Rodney Barnhart

The family and loved ones of Eric Carlson

St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

120 N. Easton Road
Glenside, PA 19038-4199



At the intersection of
Easton Road & Mt Carmel Avenue in
Glenside, Pennsylvania

Contact Us

The Reverend Henrik Sonntag, Pastor
Vicar Jeff Wenzel, Pastoral Intern
Rae Ann Anderson, Music Director
Christina Garcia, Office Administrator
Patty McFadden, Nursery School Director
Nancy Carbine, Bookkeeper
Bob Sutton, Sexton

**Office Hours Monday to Friday,
9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.**

Church Office Number 215-884-3005

Nursery School Number 215-884-8995

Our Website: www.StPaulsglenside.org

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