St. David's Ev. Lutheran Church
401 N. Main Street
P.O. Box 427
Davidsville, PA 15928

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Permit No. 117
Johnstown, PA

ST. DAVID'S
Evangelical Lutheran Church, Davidsville, PA

MISSION STATEMENT

"Glorify God, Share the Love of Jesus, Do Good works thru Service."

Church Web Site: WWW.STDAVIDSLUTHERAN.ORG
Church Office: 814.479.4110

Messenger–November 2026

"Stewardship of being Thankful"

December Messenger
The deadline is Monday, November 16

From Pastor Mark…..

By the time the November Messenger comes out, we will be down to less than 70 days remaining in 2026. Time moves so fast; it seems like we were just beginning 2026. November is the time we think of abundance in the form of our Thanksgiving Day when family gathers to give thanks for the many blessings they have.

November is also a month of scarcity for many people. For those who have lost a beloved one, the extra empty seat at the table is a reminder of the depth of loss that this holiday season brings. For those who have lost their employment through layoff or business closure, the loss of income becomes an unbearable burden. Scarcity comes in the higher heating bills that begin this month. Currently, home heating oil costs $5.79/gal. In 2026, heating oil was less than $3.00/gal. in 2025 {Per Davidsville Fuel} And higher heating bills will last for another four-five months. Scarcity is the need to get a flu shot and your health insurance is either non-existent because of the cost or your policy doesn't cover the cost of the shot. Scarcity is the reality that your children have grown in height and need new winter coats, but you can't afford them. Scarcity comes in hidden or latent ways; as our population ages, there are fewer people working because there are fewer people in the workforce {Baby boomers who account for the majority of the population in the U.S. range in age from 79-63}. For churches, scarcity is having too few pastors available for call or the lack of funds to afford calling a pastor. Scarcity can break down trust. Also, scarcity breaks down what people believe to be true.

Another word linked to scarcity is ***scared***. To be scared means it is a feeling or an emotion concerning lack of something and that feeling somehow grows and grows and becomes fear. Feeling scared becomes that avalanche that grows and grows until it wipes out whatever is positive in our lives. The criminal being crucified with Jesus epitomizes this when he calls for Jesus to save all three of them. His plea is a plea of knowing the end for him is near and he is looking for a way out. I think we can all relate to this person at some point in our lives.

And yet there is hope and the second criminal exemplifies hope is his request to Jesus, "***Please remember me when you come into your kingdom.***" and in Jesus' reply, "***Today, you will be with me in paradise.***"

Yes, there is hope. The hope we get might not be the hope we envisioned but it is still hope. Advent, the season of hope, is almost upon us. It begins on Sunday, November 29th. The days are shorter, the nights longer, the temperatures are colder. We wish for what we had in the spring and summer. Yet, Advent is a season of preparing and hope. Not just for a baby in the manger but for the hope of a return of Jesus as our Savior and Lord.

Pastor Mark W. Fischer

STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

November Stewardship Note

Hey Steelers fans … we are stewards of everything! Mike McCarthy understands he is not only a new head coach, but is also **a steward** of the Pittsburgh Steelers. In his first press conference earlier this year, McCarthy said, "I want to thank … the entire Steelers organization for the trust they've placed in me to represent one of the most storied franchises in all of sports. I understand and embrace the **responsibility**, the **privilege** and the **weight** that comes with this **stewardship**."

McCarthy clearly recognizes that the Steeler's organization and traditions are not his to own, **but are his to steward** while coaching the Steelers.

Steelers fans … let's seize Coach's wisdom … growing in the understanding that **life is not ours to own, but is ours to steward**!

Contact INFORMATION

Interim Pastor Mark Fischer
pastormarkfischer@gmail.com
717-870-4757 (cell)
Brett Merberger, Minister of Music
bmerberger@gmail.com
Brian Byer, Financial Secretary
finance@stdavidslutheran.org
Jessica Brewer, Office Secretary
stdavids_sec@atlanticbb.net
www.stdavidslutheran.org
814-479-4110 (office)
Brad Kaufman, Custodian

ONLINE giving

SIGN Up for St. David's Online Giving by going to the church website www.stdavidslutheran.org click on *GIVE*, click on *SIGN IN*. You will need to register for a new account. Once you are registered you can give to the General Budget (unified) Capital Campaign or Endowment Fund using a credit card or bank account. You may also choose to make your gift recurring.



Want to make St. David's your church family? Please fill out the pew pads and drop in the offering plate or you can speak with any council member about joining St. David's Lutheran Church.

CHURCH COUNCIL

Sonya Andrews (President)
Rachel Thomas-Kimmel (Vice President)
Angie McKool (Secretary)
Kristie Byer, Jeff Eash, Lynn McDaniel
Sue Risch, Patty Rullo, Doug Shrader,
Lois Tessari & Paul Weygandt

Like us on facebook

Stay Connected with Our Church on Facebook!

We invite you to like and follow our church's Facebook page to stay updated on upcoming events, special services, and community activities. We also share photos and inspiring messages to keep us all connected throughout the week! If you've been blessed by our church, we'd love for you to leave us a positive review on Facebook. Your kind words help others find our church and experience God's love.

Thank you for being part of our church family! Follow us today:
Https://facebook.com/SaintDavidsLutheran

November Birthdays

2 Susan Mankamyer
Halen McKool
4 Jeff Eash
Blake Horner
6 Brian Mowery
Pamela Sleek
Maggie Telenko
7 Chad Virostek
8 Lori Griffith
9 Ruth Pozun
Erin Sotosky
10 Kathleen Carnahan***234 Weber Road, Johnstown, PA 15905
11 Bobbi Page***100 Main Street, PO Box 126, Hollsopple, PA 15935
Patricia Rullo
12 Gail Berkebile
Jon Shaffer
14 Danika Black
Danyelle Herbold
15 Alexander Marsh
16 Barbara Cotchen
17 Ian Harrington
Bruody Oswalt
18 Becky Robinson
Carole Williams***1614 Moonlite Park, Hollsopple, PA 15935
19 Douglas Custer
22 Angela McKool
23 Isabella Kotch
24 Jake Feathers
25 Cindy Liska
26 Lexi Byer
27 Jerry Pozun
Timothy Telenko
28 Linda Shrader
29 Ashley Golias
David Good
30 Elliott Zern

If we've missed you, please call the church office to let us know so we can recognize you properly!



***Please remember the following people with a card as they remember their 80+ birthdays. Please contact the church office 814-479-4110 for additions or corrections.



Altar flowers bring warmth and beauty to our sanctuary as we gather for worship. We are grateful to Schrader's for providing beautiful arrangements and excellent service.

Beginning **January 1, 2027**, the cost of a floral arrangement will increase from **$40** to **$45** due to rising supply costs.

We invite you to honor a loved one, celebrate a special occasion, or give thanks by sponsoring altar flowers. Your gift helps beautify our worship space and blesses our church community. To purchase a vase of flowers, please sign up on the sheets or contact the church office.



The Jr & Sr High Sunday School Class will be doing several fundraising projects for Camp Sequanota Cabin #8 bathroom renovation project. They will also take donations at any time with checks made out to: St David's and in memo: Sequanota Cabin so they are put in the proper fund. There are also envelopes in the pews where donations can be made and can be put in the offering plates. We appreciate your continued support and empowering our youth to make a difference. Watch our cabin in the narthex gain siding as we reach our $1000 goal.



We will be having our Annual Friendsgiving lunch with our students on November 25th. If anyone would like to donate to our meal please contact Jen. Thank you from all of us in advance!
learningplacestdavids@gmail.com
814.479.7390

814-479-7390
learningplacestdavids@gmail.com
Jennifer Percinsky: Director/
Preschool 4 Lead Teacher
Felica Beglin: Preschool 3 Lead Teacher
Halie Griffie, Asst. Group Supervisor
Brianna Mohle: Asst. Group Supervisor
Skylar King, Teacher's Aide
Gina Yacynych, Substitute Teacher

LEARNING PLACE BOARD MEMBERS

Jerrod Cannistraci* Becky Robinson
Cindy Liska* Mary Helen Hruska
Patty Rullo* Linda Shrader* Cathy Lilly



St. David's Learning Place would like to wish our friends Luke, Kayden, Connor, and Harper a very happy November birthday!



The staff at St. David's Learning Place would like to give a shout to everyone who helped update and make our playground safer! THANK YOU!





Thank you to our AMAZING Jr & Sr High students and their teachers for another very successful Spaghetti Dinner! $430.75 in donations to the Sequanota Cabin bathroom project, and $1,188.00 made on the dinners to go to Jr & Sr High classroom projects including the Sequanota Bathrooms! We thank everyone who attended including our friends at Benscreek Lutheran!

Stay tuned for more fundraisers and ways you can help! ❤️



ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

On All Saints' Sunday (November 1st) at both the 8:00AM & 10:30AM services, we will be remembering all who have died and entered into God's eternal Kingdom since All Saints' Sunday last year.

As a way of celebrating, the sanctuary windows will be places for families and loved ones to put momentos of those remembered.

If you have not received a letter regarding this and would like to remember a loved one that has passed, please contact Pastor Fischer or the church office.



St. David's annual meetings will be held on Sunday, November 1st & Sunday, November 8th. Meetings will take place after each service. The purpose of part one shall be to present the nominees for Congregational Council and Synod Assembly Delegates to the congregation and to allow for additional floor nominations and to ask any questions.

Additionally, the proposed annual Ministry Spending Plan will be presented and discussed. The purpose of part two shall be to elect members of the Congregation Council and to vote on the annual Ministry Spending Plan. Voting will take place after each service.

St. David's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Davidsville, PA
Council Meeting Minutes
October 6, 2026 (September Meeting)

Present: Sonya Andrews, Rachel Kimmel, Kristie Byer, Patty Rullo, Jeff Eash, Doug Shrader, Paul Weygandt, Lois Tessari, Sue Risch, Lynn McDaniel, Pastor Fischer
Absent: Angie McKool, Lois Tessari

- Call to order: 6:30 p.m.
- Prayer by Pastor
- Council meeting minutes approved via email
- Approval of agenda: First Rachel, Seconded by Lynn
- Guests: Sherri Andrews & Jerrod Cannistraci – Call Committee
    - Rev. Tyler Graham – Assistant to the Bishop for Transition
- **Reports**
    - Pastor's Report
        - Drop box for contributions.
        - Is there a plan for the zero-turn lawn mower – Brad would like to buy it.
        - When will we have the live-stream up and running?
        - Pastor on vacation Nov. 12 – 18. Still looking for supply pastor.
    - Financial Report (Brian)
        - Financial statements were reviewed.
        - Budget for 2027 was discussed.
        - Motion: First Doug, Seconded by Paul; all in favor oppose: none
            - Doug motioned to change the compensation for the supply organist from $100 per day to $75 per service.
            - Motion passes
    - Property Report (Paul)
        - Paul provided an update on ongoing property team initiatives.
        - Motion: First Paul, Seconded by Sue; all in favor; oppose: none
    - Paul motioned to proceed with Cambria Glass Quote for $5,440 to repair aluminum doors.
        - Motion passes
        - Necessary big items include:
            - Removing of maple trees
            - Outside cross replacement
            - Broken stain glass
    - Overtime (Rachel)
        - Attendance was down 130 students
        - Next OT will be Oct 23,2026.
- **Unfinished Business**
    - Property team/capital campaign
        - Motion passed on quote to fix aluminon doors; safety hazard.
    - Columbarium
        - No update
    - Fellowship Hall
        - No update
    - Covenant
        - Waiting on Bishop
    - Call Committee
        - Discussed Pastor Bowman will be in contact soon and ready to meet and present to the church.
- **New Business**
    - Council voting is coming up – potential new council members will need contacted.
    - Door hinge proposal completed.
    - Kristie Byer has been elected to secretary for the next three months.
- **Adjournment**:
    - 8:16 p.m.
    - Next meeting: October 22, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Together We Can

Restore • Maintain • Rebuild

Our Church • Our Home • Our Future



OUR GOAL: $400,000

Most everyone is aware that our church, God's house of worship, is in need of repairs and updates. Council has approved a **$400,000 Capital Campaign,** which will begin in October.

THESE PROJECTS INCLUDE:

- Outside cross
- Tree removal and trimming
- Sanctuary lighting
- Kitchen ventilation
- Kitchen floor
- Kitchen appliances and updates
- Repair of holes and cracks in the stained glass
- Staged replacement of the lower parking lot

The plan is to complete these projects in stages, as donations are received. Our goal is to make these important improvements without incurring the additional cost of a bank loan.

Please remember that our regular monthly expenses will continue throughout the Capital Campaign.

We prayerfully ask that you look into your hearts for additional contributions above your weekly tithe to help restore, maintain and rebuild our place of worship.

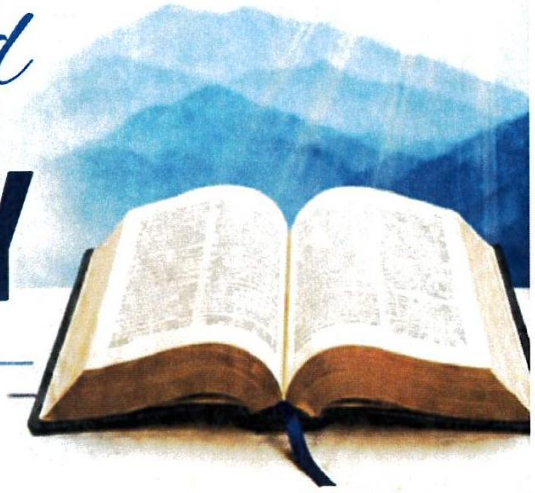
Together, with faith and generosity, we can care for God's house and ensure that it continues to serve our congregation and community for years to come.

Thank you for your prayers, consideration and generous support!

WEDNESDAY EVENING

Pericope-Based

BIBLE STUDY



TOGETHER IN SCRIPTURE. STRONGER IN MINISTRY.

Let's work together to bring weekly, pericope-based Bible study to our congregations and beyond— through Zoom!

ZOOM DETAILS

https://zoom.us/j/94173815852?pwt=e74xTbZSrFi61YbwyCRAkGgMeox1G1

Meeting Id: 941 7381 5852 | Passcode: 880291

WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

BASE SCHEDULE

- **6:30 PM** – Opening greeting and prayer for illumination
- **6:33 PM** – Study of the upcoming Sunday's texts
- **7:20 PM** – Prayer requests and praises

EXPANDED SCHEDULE

- **6:15–6:25 PM** – Zoom session opens
- **6:30 PM** – Greeting & Prayer for illumination
- **6:33 PM** – Gospel, Old Testament and Epistle lessons, with time for discussion and real-life application
- **7:20 PM** – Prayer time
- **7:30 PM** – Conclude & end Zoom

LET'S DO THIS TOGETHER!

GO TELL IT IN THE *Mountains*

EMAIL US:

director@alleghensynod.com

November 1 (Communion) ❋ All Saints Sunday
Acolytes-Josey Sotosky (8); Gemma Studer (10:30)
Altar-Pam Sleek (8); Lois Tessari (10:30)
Communion Assts-Sotosky Family (8); Gail Berkebile & **Need Volunteer** (10:30)
Lectors –Erin Sotosky (8); Randy Whetzel (10:30)
Ushers- Buck & Pam Sleek (8); **Need Volunteers** (10:30)
Counters- Bill & Sherri Andrews, Sonya Andrews
❋November 8 (Intinction)❋
Acolytes-Bella Kotch (8); Grace Mitchell (10:30)
Altar-Ronna Marisa (8); Leisha Black (10:30)
Communion Assts- Doug & Linda Shrader (8); **Need Volunteers** (10:30)
Lectors –Bella Kotch (8); Keli Williams (10:30)
Ushers- Doug & Linda Shrader (8); Joyce Gindlesperger & Carole Williams (10:30)
Counters- Doug & Linda Shrader, Deb Harris & Andy Byer
❋November 15 (Intinction) ❋
Acolytes-**Need Volunteer** (8); Griffen Stevanus (10:30)
Altar-Sue Risch (8); Pat Sleek (10:30)
Communion Assts- Sue Risch & Ronna Marisa (8); Lou Ann Reckner & **Need Volunteer** (10:30)
Lectors –Sue Risch (8); Bill Bergman (10:30)
Ushers- Leo & Ronna Marisa (8); Rowe Family (10:30)
Counters- Lou Ann Reckner & Joyce Gindlesperger
❋November 22 (Intinction) ❋
Acolytes-Lexi Byer (8); Hadley Pozun & Isaiah Kimmel (10:30)
Altar-Deb Harris (8); Mandi Tercek (10:30)
Communion Assts- Elle Mowery & Deb Harris (8); Greg & Cathy Lilly (10:30)
Lectors –Elle Mowery (8); Gail Berkebile (10:30)
Ushers- Tom & Deb Harris (8); Greg & Cathy Lilly (10:30)
Counters- Sue Risch & Ronna Marisa
❋November 29 (Communion) ❋
Acolytes- Matthew Desort (8); Jeremiah Merberger (10:30)
Altar-Ronna Marisa (8); Faye Buncich (10:30)
Communion Assts- Ronna Marisa & Sue Risch (8); Wendy Figard & Sonya Andrews (10:30)
Lectors – Marna Gilman-Fischer (8); Wendy Figard (10:30)
Ushers- Joe & Sue Risch (8); Bill & Sherri Andrews (10:30)
Counters- Bill & Sherri Andrews, Sonya Andrews

The St. David's Prayer Chain would like to support anyone in need of prayers. When given a prayer request, our group will pray for that person for two weeks. If you would like more time, you can let us know. If you provide an address, we will send a card to that person. To submit a prayer request please contact Gail Berkebile at 814-525-1673 by phone or text or email to gailgolias@yahoo.com. If you would like to join the Prayer Chain, contact Gail or Jessica, the Church Secretary or any member of the Prayer Chain.

November 2026

Typical Secretary Office Hours: Monday 9AM-2:30PM; Tuesday-Friday 9AM-3PM (Any changes will be noted on the church calendar. Check the website for most up to date schedules (www.stdavidslutheran.org)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 **All Saints Sunday** **Daylight Savings Time Ends-fall back** **Congregational Meeting After Svcs** 8AM Worship/ Communion 9:15AM Sunday School/Catechism 9:15AM Confirmation Class (CR2) 10:30AM Worship/ Communion	2 9AM YOGA (FH9) 4:30PM Girl Scouts Troop #27016 (C19) 6PM Bible Study (21 A-C)	3 Election Day (FH9)	4 **1PM Office Closes Early** 6PM Adult Choir 7:30PM Bell Choir	5 7PM JSO Community Strings (FH9)	6	7 9AM Youth Making Apple Dumplings (K & FH9)
8 **Apple Dumpling Sale after svcs** **Congregational Vote After Svcs** 8AM Worship/ Communion 9:15AM Sunday School/Catechism 10:30AM Worship/ Communion 12PM Confirmation Class (FH9)	9 9AM YOGA (FH9) 6PM Bible Study (21 A-C)	10 7PM JSO Community Strings (S)	11 6PM Adult Choir 7:30PM Bell Choir	12 6:30 PM Worship & Music *** See Notes	13	14
15 8AM Worship/ Communion 9:15AM Sunday School/Catechism 10:30AM Worship/ Communion 5:00PM C.T. Soccer Banquet (FH9)	16  12PM Bloodmobile (FH9) 4:30PM Girl Scouts Troop #27016 (C19) 6PM Bible Study (21 A-C)	17 **1:30PM Office Closes Early** 6PM Jr. Troop #40050 (K & FH9)	18 6PM Adult Choir 6:30PM Jr. & Brownie Troops Friendsgiving (FH9 & K) 7:30PM Bell Choir	19 9AM Blanket Day (FH9) 7:30 PM JSO Community Strings Concert (S)	20	21
22 8AM Worship/ Communion 9:15AM Sunday School/Catechism 10:30AM Worship/ Communion	23 **2PM Office Closes Early** 6PM Bible Study (21 A-C)	24	25 11AM LP Friendsgiving (FH9)	26 	27 	28
29 **First Sunday of Advent** 8AM Worship/ Communion 9:15AM Sunday School/Catechism 9:15AM Sunday Parent Class (CR2) 10:30AM Worship/ Communion	30 6PM Bible Study (21 A-C)					

Notes:



Pastor Mark is on vacation November 12-18. Pastoral coverage will be listed in the weekly announcements.

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