

The Bridge

FEBRUARY 2018 "Connecting Church and Home"

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Jesus spent the first portion teaching in the farming communities and fishing villages of Galilee. He taught of God's grace and mercy toward sinners. He challenged his listeners to live that grace and forgiveness in their own lives. He showed the people the power of God through healings and other miracles.

In the 8th Chapter of Mark that all changes. Jesus is with his disciples in Caesarea Philippi, north of Galilee. There he asks the disciples, "*Who do men say that I am?*" and "*Who do you say that I am?*" To which Peter answers, "*You are the Christ!*"

From that moment on everything changes. Jesus begins his journey to Jerusalem; his journey to the cross. As Jesus travels southward he begins to teach his disciples about discipleship. Jesus tells them, "*If any one would follow me, let him deny themselves and take up the cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it; and whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.*"

Our journey to Jerusalem, our journey to the cross began on February 15 as we observed Ash Wednesday. Our journey continues throughout the remainder of February through the end of March. As we get closer to joining Jesus at the cross we will join with Jesus on his triumphant entry to Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, March 25; and our Lord's final meal and Last Supper with his disciples on Maundy Thursday, March 29. Our journey to the cross culminates on Good Friday, March 30 at which our Lord gave his life for the sins of the world.

Would you join our Lord on his journey to the cross? Will you hear his words of discipleship? Will you follow him all the way to the cross? Will you follow your Lord as he prepares to give the world the greatest gift of love the world will ever receive?

Will you join **your** Lord on his journey?

Will you take up **your** own cross and follow him?

Blessings,

Pastor Dan

THURSDAY MORNING BIBLE STUDY



Join us each Thursday at 10AM as we continue our study on Saint Paul's Letter to the Church at Rome. You don't want to miss this opportunity to dive deeper into the word and enjoy a time of fellowship.

FROM YOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

At the January Church Council meeting we acted on several changes regarding our music staff. First we formally accepted the previously announced resignation of Jonathon Stuck as bell choir director.

We then acted to name Chad Pitman interim Music Director pending approval of a finalized job description, to be prepared by the staff support committee, at which time he will be permanently named Music Director. He will now be responsible for the entire music program and will direct the adult bell choirs as well as all vocal choirs and arrange for all special music as well as be our organist.

We then acted to name Amy Stuck interim Children's Bell Choir Director pending approval of a finalized job description, to be prepared by the staff support committee, at which time she will be permanently named Children's Bell Choir Director.

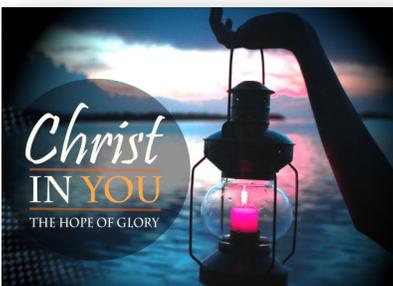
Church council also passed a motion to present a monetary gift to Jonathon Stuck as a thank you for nine years of service as Bell Choir Director.

In other news the Youth committee has submitted reservations for six youth and two chaperones to go to the 2018 National Youth Gathering in Houston, Texas and preparations will continue over the next several months for this highly anticipated event. Also in mid-January a nice group of people assembled for an evening of fun as the Fellowship Committee presented the 2018 edition of St. Paul's Chili and Soup cook-off. Those who came to the event enjoyed a nice variety of very good food.

Greg Klein,
Church Council President



ADULT BIBLE STUDY: "CHRIST IN YOU"



We are continuing our study in Colossians during the month of February. The Apostle wrote this letter to encourage the early Christians to keep Christ at the center of their lives, proclaiming "Christ is all and in all!" Come and study with us as we strive to deepen our understanding of Scripture, lovingly support one another, and abound in thanksgiving during these winter days. The class meets each Sunday at 10:30AM, upper level Parish Hall.

CALL COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Call Committee interviewed a pastoral candidate in January and are looking forward to arranging a second interview for an agreed upon time during the month of February. Your prayers are needed as we ask the Holy Spirit to guide us in this important process. Thank you!

Patty Long
Chair, Call Committee

COMMUNITY MEAL & CLOSET



We knew from the weather forecast that it was going to be a difficult night. It started with rain in the afternoon. Then the temperature began to drop. The rain turned to ice. After a lot of ice, the snow came. The frigid temperatures were compounded by a stiff breeze. On a night not fit for man nor beast, 18 hearty souls came to St. Paul's in search of a hot meal and warm clothing. We were there and we were open for them.

Our monthly Community Meal and Community Closet was held on Friday, January 12. Kudos to our dedicated kitchen and Clothes Closet volunteers who braved the elements in order to make sure our ministry was available to any and all who could make it. In December, we served 110. On this dreadful weather day in January, we served 18. We were prepared to serve 100. Needless to say, much of what was prepared for the January meal has been frozen and will find its way on to the February menu.

Our New Year's menu consisted of sauerkraut and pork, mashed potatoes, dinner roll, choice of beverage, and a piece of cake for dessert. The dessert was again provided by a private donor who supports our ministry.

Nearly all attendees visited the Community Closet after the meal. It was very cold on Friday night, and warm coats, gloves, and socks were popular items. We are always looking for volunteers, so please don't be shy if you want to see how your time and talent can be utilized. Please contact either Jack Fortune at 330-874-3525 or Lea Lang at 330-224-2263 to discuss.

St. Paul's Community Meal and Community Closet provide a free meal and clothing for all on the 2nd Friday of each month. Our next opening is Friday, February 9, from 4:30 to 6:00. As always, we thank you for your many prayers and continued support of this important ministry.

Jack & Marsha Fortune
Community Meal Directors

Lea Lang
Community Closet Director



RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

St. Paul's Parish Hall (Lower Level)

Monday, March 12 from 12-6PM

THANK YOU

St. Paul's Scholarship Committee,

It is always a blessing to see the continuous support that St. Paul's gives to not only myself, but every student in the congregation. I am using the scholarship given to me for books and extra college costs. This scholarship is very helpful with the costs of school and again, it is immensely appreciated.

God's Blessings, *Brock Burkett*

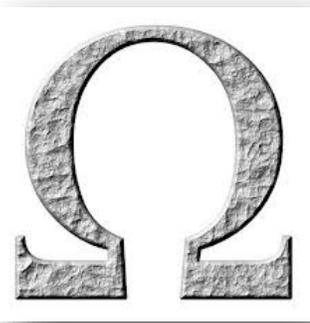
CHURCH HAPPENINGS

Baptism of Charles Joseph Stuck

On January 7, we welcomed Charles Joseph Stuck into the Body of Christ through the sacrament of Holy Baptism. Charles was born on December 05, 2017. His parents are Amy (Riegler) & Jonathon Stuck.



OMEGA CIRCLE



Start the new year with a Bible Study and fellowship!

Join us for Omega Circle on Tuesday, February 6th in the Gleitsman Lounge at 1:00PM. We will have a light treat and continue in our study of Philipians with Pastor Dan.

SNIP-N-STITCH

You're invited to join Snip-n-Stitch each Wednesday from 9:00-11:30AM. We are always looking for volunteers to help us make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. No experience is needed, just a willingness to help others.

FRIENDSHIP CIRCLE

Friendship Circle will **NOT** meet during the months of February or March. If you have any questions or would like more information about joining the circle in the Spring, please contact Cheryl Shaw at (330) 837-9956 after 4:00PM.

MUSIC NOTES

Bell Rehearsals

Reformation Ringers meet each Wednesday from 6:30-7:30PM. We would love for you to be a part of this ministry as we come together to worship our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



Choir Rehearsal

Adult vocal choir rehearsals are held each Wednesday at 7:30PM. All are welcome and encouraged to join this meaningful family of faith, fellowship, and music!

MAKE-A-WAY VALENTINE'S DANCE

Make-a-Way will host its annual Valentine's Dance on Monday, February 19 and we are looking for volunteers who are willing to donate cookies. If you can make cookies for this special occasion, please bring them to the church office by 1:00PM on Monday, February 19 for them to be delivered to Make-A-Way. Thank you for your support!



THE SALVATION ARMY

We are writing to express our deepest thanks for the recent donation of \$100.00 from St. Paul's Lutheran Church to The Salvation Army of Massillon. Generous gifts from organizations like St. Paul's Lutheran Church provide the financial and moral support needed to continue our mission.

There is no way to fully express our gratitude for your donation. We at The Salvation Army are continually inspired by the dedication and generosity of donors like yourselves who answer the call to give again and again.

It is our hope that this thank you will help to communicate our very big thanks for your generosity. We aim to glorify Jesus in all we do for the Kingdom!

Sincerely,

Thomas and Linda-Jo Perks

Majors, Corps Commanding Officers

MAKE-A-WAY

Dear Friends at St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

On behalf of the Make-A-Way Center, I would like to thank you for your generous gift of \$100.00. Please know that your generosity will help Make-A-Way continue to make a difference in the lives of our members.

Each year Make-A-Way continues to provide worthwhile activities and programs free to its members at our center, and we couldn't do it without your help!

Your most generous gift to the Make-A-Way Center is an investment in the future of persons with disabilities. It is a promise that their future can be brighter, and that they may receive experiences that will enhance their lives and allow them to grow toward greater independence and happiness.

Sincerely,

Bryan E. Stuck

Director



ELCA BENEVOLENCE

Due to your overwhelming generosity, we were able to send \$22,013.11 to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response between May 2017—January 2018.

The following “thank you” was received from The Rev. Daniel Rift, Director of ELCA World Hunger and Disaster Appeal.

Dear Friends,

Gathered as church in Christmas hope, we feel deeply our oneness with all the people of the world. From wee ones dressed in angel costumes singing “Away in a Manger” to ancient ones humming along and all of us in between, and wherever on this earth we dwell, we are all dear children in God’s tender care.

And even as we sing of a weary world, even as we look back at a year of trouble times, we know that in Christ we live in God’s creation—a world of plenty, a thankful, abundant world. So we are a church that works for sustainable livelihoods, for justice and peace for all. We are a church that reaches out, farther together than we could ever do alone. We walk with churches and communities here at home and around the globe, accompanying our sisters and brothers, in awe of their faith, wisdom and hope.

With love given in the manger so long ago and your faithful support, fragile and vulnerable communities become strong and resilient, today and for the future.

Thank you for your gifts to ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran Disaster Response this year. Thanks to you, together we’re working for justice and peace in the United States and more than 60 countries around the world.

Thank you, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church, and thanks be to God for you!—Dan

FEBRUARY’S BOOK REVIEW

“Stranger God: Meeting Jesus in Disguise” by Richard Beck

When Richard Beck first led a Bible study at a maximum-security prison, he went to meet God, and meet God he did.

With Beck’s signature combination of biblical reflection, theological reasoning and psychological insight, he shows how God always meets us in the marginalized, the oppressed and the refugee. Stories from Beck’s life illustrate this truth—God comes to him in the poor, the crippled, the smelly. Although we are predisposed to like those who are similar to us and avoid those who are unlike us, the call of the gospel is to override those impulses with compassion, to “widen the circle of our affection.”

In the end, Beck turns to the “Little Way” of St. Therese of Lisieux for guidance in doing even the smallest acts with kindness, and he lays out a path that any of us can follow.

Order at augsburghfortress.org/strangergod.

Reprinted from ELCA Seeds for the Parish-Winter 2018.
Submitted by Sue Reid, Stewardship & Evangelism Chair

FAITH STORIES: A LOOK INSIDE ST. PAUL'S STAINED GLASS WINDOWS

Balcony (North Window)

The theme of these windows is the **glorified Christ** with Christ shown as the highest being in the windows and a robes presenting his three offices prophet, priest and king. Christ is standing on a rainbow with a hand over his head representing the Father. Below his feet is a descending dove."

To the left is John the Baptist.

The four figures in the outside windows at the same level represent the four archangels; Raphael, Michael, Gabriel and Ureil.

Below these figures are the words "Behold the Lamb of God that taketh away the sins of the world."

In the middle row are symbols of four evangelist

Matthew's emblem is a winged man-manhood of Christ

Mark's symbol is a winger lion, symbol of strength

Luke's symbol is a winged ox, the symbol of sacrifice

John's symbol is the eagle, because he reach great heights of revelation then others

Between those figures are the alpha and omega

Figures at the bottom

David, Israel's first king

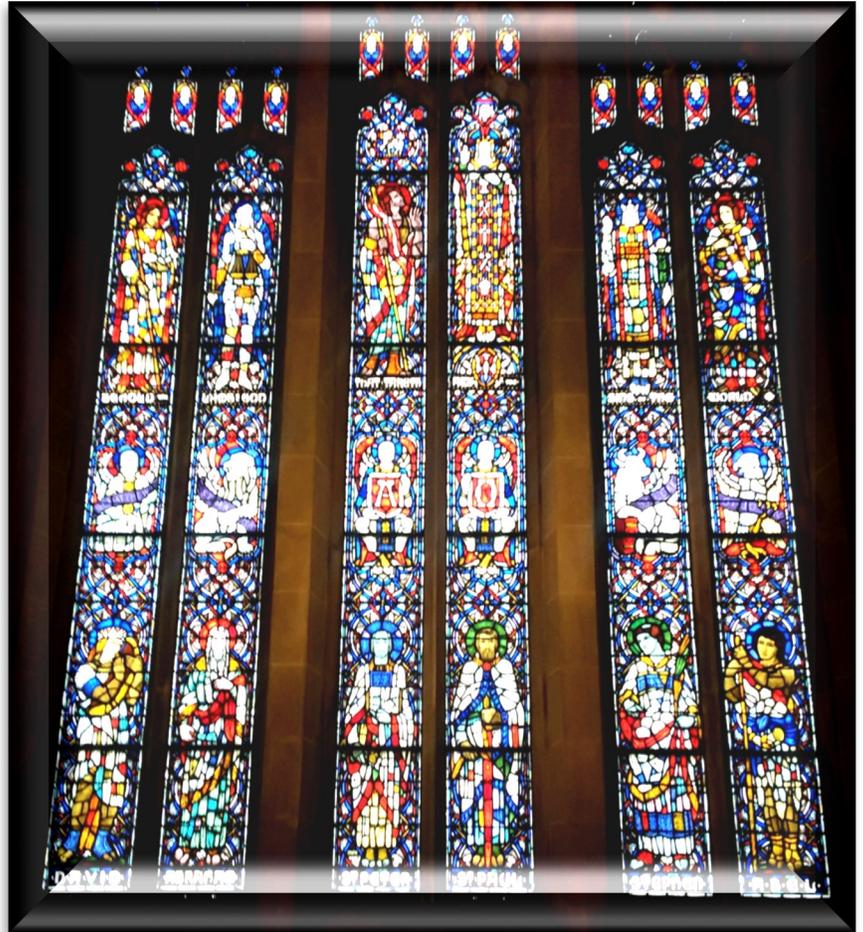
Abraham and the covenant to bless Israsel

Peter's confession "Thou are Christ the son of the Liiving God".

Paul demonstrates missionary zeal

Stephen represents numerous falsely accused martyrs

Abel's sacrifice was acceptable to God



“MONEY, FAITH AND YOU” PRESENTED BY THRIVENT

Let's start a new conversation about being wise with money and living generously.

We invite you to join us each Saturday at 10am during the month of March as Dave Zastawny presents a different seminar each week. Seminars will be at 10AM on the 3rd floor of the Parish Hall. Elevator is available at rear of Parish Hall.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Description</u>
March 3 rd	<i>Do One Thing Differently</i>	An informal discussion designed to help participants do one thing differently to improve your financial life. Whether you choose to start simple or take a big first step, you'll see how the benefits can really add up!
March 10 th	<i>Retire Wisely</i>	Will I have enough to retire? Will my retirement income last? Are my assets protected? Manage six key risks all retirees face: Outliving their income, inflation, unpredictable events, market volatility, income taxes and rising healthcare costs. Turn retirement concerns into confidence. Get positive, professional guidance from a faith-based organization that has been helping our member-owners be wise with money and live generously for more than 100 years.
March 17 th	<i>Your Legacy</i>	Unleash your generosity! Want to help sustain your church's foundation? Or your alma mater's endowment fund? And leave an inheritance? It doesn't matter if you're a Midwestern farmer, Pacific Coast fisherman or a Southern belle. If there are people or causes you care about, we can help you uncover ways to enrich their futures. Join us for a presentation on estate and giving strategies and we'll discuss how to ensure your legacy lives on.

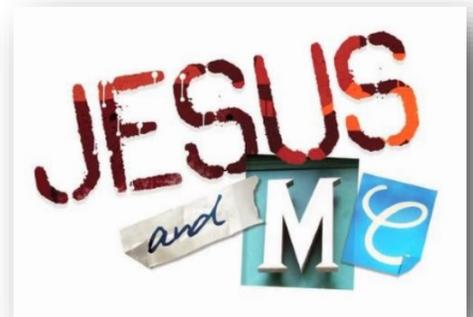
YOUTH NEWS



- ⇒ Bring a friend and join us at St. Paul's on Friday, February 16 for a pizza, game, and movie night from 7-11PM. There is no cost for this event and it is open to all students grades 6-12.
- ⇒ Easter is almost around the corner and that means it's time to plan the Egg Hunt! Last year, we had 75 kids—that put us at over 150 people (including parents) that came through our doors! This is a huge and growing community event and I need your help! Along with any donations I also need adult and older youth helpers. Please consider coming in and helping for just an hour and half on Saturday, March 31st at 10AM until about 11:30AM. Watch the youth board for donation cards in late February. Thank you for all your support!!
- ⇒ Tim Hawkins will be presenting a comedy concert on Sunday, March 4 at 5PM at RiverTree Church in Jackson. I only have 8 youth tickets available at \$15/ticket. Tickets are first come, first serve. Don't miss this LOL event!

JAM

JAM will meet at 12:30PM on Sunday, February 25 in the Fellowship Hall. The kids will enjoy pizza and a Raingutter Sundae. Parents are invited to attend as we will be planning activities for this Spring and Summer. A sign-up sheet is available in the Gleitsman Lounge.



WOW (WORD ON WEDNESDAY)



Come join use each Wednesday, February 1, 8 and 22 for WOW! The children begin with a meal at 5:30, followed by Bell/Choir practices at 6:00, then Choir/Craft at 6:30 and conclude with Bible Study at 7:00. We look forward to seeing you there! If you have any questions or would like more details, please see Amy Stuck. **Please Note:** We will not meet on Ash Wednesday, February 14.

LOMO MAPLE SYRUP FESTIVAL

Lutheran Memorial Camp's
44th Annual



All~You~Can~Eat
Pancake & Sausage Breakfast

Sunday, March 11, 2018

11:00AM—4:00PM

\$8.00 Adults

\$5.00 Youth (2-12)

No reservations necessary
Additional donations welcome
All funds support “camperships”

SEND A KID TO CAMP!

Welcome friends, families, congregations, and youth groups!
Pancake/Maple sausage Feast all day!
Walking tours of maple syrup production
Wagon Rides through the camp
Live music by Avalon Nine
Maple Kitchen: fresh baked maple snacks
Real maple syrup and Sassafras tea with
Fresh-made Maple Donuts



For more information, call (419) 864-8030 or email lmc@lomocamps.org.
State Route 61, 5 miles north of I-71 and 7 miles south of Mt. Gilead near Fulton

SHROVE TUESDAY

Join us on Tuesday, February 13 from 5:00—7:00PM for the Annual Shrove Pancake Dinner in the Parish Hall dining room. Celebrate with food and fun before we enter the season of Lent and a more reflective time. There will be a craft table for our children to make Mardi Gras crafts. A free will offering will be taken to cover the food cost.



We look forward to seeing you for this special time of fellowship!

Parish Fellowship Committee

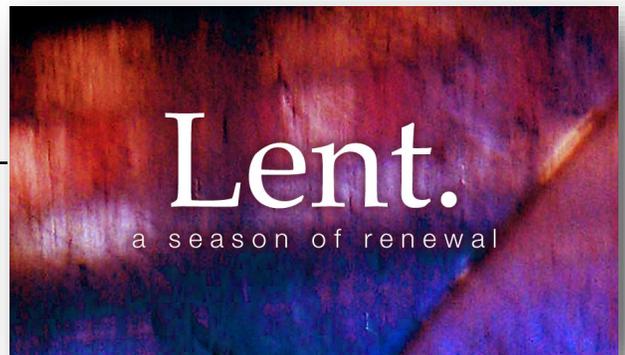


ASH WEDNESDAY

Ash Wednesday is the beginning of the season of Lent. It is the most solemn day of the church year as we reflect on our lives without God’s gift of Jesus Christ. In recognition of our own mortality, participants are invited to receive a mark of ashes as we remember the words of Genesis 3—“You were dust and to dust you shall return.”

We invite you to join us on February 14 at 7:00PM as we observe Ash Wednesday.

Pastor Dan



LENTEN REFLECTIONS

On Mondays throughout the season of Lent, Pastor Dan will offer Lenten reflections in the Gleitsman Lounge at 7:00PM.

Date	Scripture
February 19	Isaiah 42
February 26	Isaiah 49
March 5	Isaiah 50
March 12	Isaiah 52 & 53
March 19	Psalm 22

LENT 2018

Community Lenten Services

Soup Supper—5:30pm, Worship—6:30pm
Offering—Food for Home

Theme: The Lord's Prayer, Praying with Jesus

February 21st

Forty Corners hosts

(3474 Beaumont Ave NW, Massillon)

Rev. Steven Gower of First Christian preaches

February 28th

St. Timothy's Episcopal hosts

(226 3rd St SE, Massillon)

Rev. Emily Seitz of Faith Lutheran preaches

March 7th

Faith Lutheran hosts

(107 Sixth St SW Massillon)

Rev. Roger Alber of First Baptist preaches

March 14th

First Baptist hosts

(20 6th St SE, Massillon)

Rev. Nancy Bacon of Christ Lutheran preaches

March 21st

Christ Lutheran hosts

(3545 Amherst Ave NW, Massillon)

Rev. George Baum of St. Timothy's preaches

SERVERS SCHEDULE

Communion					
Feb.	Acolytes	Bread Baker	Servers	Sacristy	Greeters
4	Caroline Deerwester & Jaden Brumfield	Bryan Corban	(1) Doug White & Marcia Wright (2) Greg Klein	Becky Johnson	Jack & Marilyn Norton
11	Ryan Hostetler & Tony Davila	Bryan Corban	(1) Christine Bates & Dan Farrar (2) Becky Moden	Becky Johnson	David Stoner
18	Jacob Hodge & Justin Litman	Bryan Corban	(1) Adam Johnson (2) Eric Myers	Becky Johnson	Becky Myers
25	Tony Davila & Jaden Brumfield	Bryan Corban	(1) Jim Johnson & Elizabeth Juergensen (2) Sue Reid	Becky Johnson	Russ & MaryAnn Poling

Feb.	Lector	Offering Counters	Ushers	Assisting Minister
4	Kathryn Myers	Sue Reid, Eric Myers & Christine Bates	Carol Marlow, Mark Waltz, John & Linda Litman	David Stoner
11	Kathryn Myers	Jim Johnson & Becky Moden	Carol Marlow, Mark Waltz, John & Linda Litman	Ron Stoner
18	Kathryn Myers	Doug White, Dan Farrar & Adam Johnson	Carol Marlow, Mark Waltz, John & Linda Litman	Patty Long
25	Kathryn Myers	Elizabeth Juergensen, Marcia Wright & Greg Klein	Carol Marlow, Mark Waltz, John & Linda Litman	Sue Reid

February 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 10AM Bible Study 6:30PM Property	2 Youth Quake	3 Youth Quake
4 Youth Quake	5	6 1PM Omega Circle 7PM W&M	7 9AM Snip-n-stich 5:30PM WOW 6:30PM Reformation	8 10AM Bible Study	9 4:30-6PM Community Meal & Clothes Closet	10
11 1PM JAM RainGutter Sundae w/Pizza 6:30PM Youth & Christian Ed	12	13 5-7PM Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner 7PM Council	14 9AM Snip-n-stich 7PM Ash Wednesday Service	15 10AM Bible Study	16 7PM Youth Fun Night	17
18	19 7PM Lenten Bible Study	20 6:30PM Finance	21 9AM Snip-n-stich 5:30PM WOW 6:30PM Reformation	22 10AM Bible Study	23	24
25	26 7PM Lenten Bible Study	27	28 9AM Snip-n-stich 5:30PM WOW 6:30PM Reformation			

Deadline to submit articles for the March edition of the Bridge is Wednesday, February 16.
Please submit your articles via email to: chris@stpaulsmassillon.org or drop them off at the office
at your earliest convenience. Thank You!

Chris Ralston, Office Administrator

Check us out on:



Address Service Requested

NON-PROFIT
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MASSILLON OH
PERMIT NO 529

THE BRIDGE—CONNECTING CHURCH AND HOME

WORSHIP SERVICES

9:00am—1st Service

10:30am—Sunday School

11:15am—2nd Service

Nursery is staffed by qualified
personnel and available for infant to
age 5 from 8:30AM to 12:00PM.

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

127 Cherry Road NE

Massillon, Ohio 44646

Rev. Daniel J. Cammarn, Pastor

djcammarn@gmail.com

Phone: 330.832.7409

Office Hours: M-Th 9-4pm; F 9-1pm