

The Bridge

"Connecting Church and Home"

JANUARY 2022



Omega Circle
Tuesday, Jan. 11th
11:00 AM
Gleitsman Lounge

Community Meal
And
Clothes Closet
Friday, Jan 14th
Parish Hall Dining Room
4:30 - 6:00

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Friends in Christ,

Just stop and think for a moment how Joseph must have felt after the baby Jesus was born and the angel came to him a second time.. The king wants to kill the baby. The king and all his soldiers are looking for the baby. How could a simple man like Joseph save the baby from the king and all his soldiers?

But Joseph didn't protest—nor did he grovel in despair. Instead, he woke up his wife, bundled up the baby, and left town. He went to Egypt, as the angel had commanded, and stayed there until Herod's death some years later. Matthew explains, "This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I called my son'" (v. 15).

"Out of Egypt I called my son." For Israel, Egypt was a place with many meanings. It was the place where the nation Israel was born, but it was also the place where they were forced into slavery. It was a place of refuge, but it was also a place of suffering.

"Out of Egypt I called my son." This was a reminder to the Jewish people that God had redeemed them from slavery in Egypt. They had been required to make bricks without straw. Egyptian taskmasters had lashed their backs when they moved too slowly. But God had not forgotten them. God brought them out of those grim circumstances and led them into the Promised Land. The journey had not been easy. It took forty years—forty years of wandering—forty years in the wilderness. But God redeemed them from a hopeless situation.

"Out of Egypt I called my son." Joseph and Mary had to flee in the middle of the night—had to flee for their lives—had to take the baby and run. They went to Egypt to escape the evil king and his soldiers. But Egypt was not the end. God would bring Joseph and his little family back to Israel. God would save them. Jesus would grow up in Nazareth—not Alexandria. He would come home again.

"Out of Egypt I called my son." This is a reminder to us that God redeems us, too, from the grim realities of our lives. That is Good News!

At this time of year, we don't like to remember that life is sometimes grim—that we sometimes find ourselves in some far-off Egypt, wondering what went wrong. We make grand plans for the future, but the stock market crashes—or a pandemic disrupts our lives—or our marriage unravels—or the doctor gives us bad news. Those are facts of life, and none of us is immune.

This is a particularly hard time to face those kinds of problems. This is supposed to be a happy season. Everyone else seems to be having fun. But the fact is that all of us have problems, and we all need to hear these words, "Out of Egypt I called my son." It is God's promise that, even when things seem hopeless, God can and will redeem our lives.

May God Bless you in the Coming Year,

Pastor Mark

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330.481.9888 or langfordeddie.47@gmail.com

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Amy Burkett, Liason
Sue Ambrosic
Gayle Jackson
Becky Johnson
Cindy Lash
Deidra Monastra

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Lea Lang, Chair
Amy Burkett
John Liebermann
Lisa Skelly

STAFF SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Greg Klein, Chair
Jennifer Nelson Maurer
Jackie Pritchett
Elizabeth Schehl

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dan Farrar, Chair
Greg Klein
John Liebermann
Tracie Schmolt
Cindy Scott
John Stanko
Rick Stern

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

Kathy Corban, Chair
Don Gray
Lynda Klein
Becky Johnson, Recording Secretary
Craig Maurer

PARISH FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Carol Stoner, Chair
Laurel Borkowski
Gary Collard
Sue Reid

PROPERTY & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Jim Johnson, Chair
Dave Allman
Don Gray, Liaison for Chair
Joe Hepler
John Liebermann
Craig Maurer
Dennis Morgan
John Stanko, Liaison for Chair

WEFARE & SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

David Stoner, Chair
Christine Bates
Vera Gerber
Lynda Klein
Cindy Lash
Deidra Monastra
Becky Myers
Kim Oberlin
JuDee Reed
Cheryl Shaw

YOUTH & PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Scott Larson, Chair
Tracie Brumfield
Rachel Deerwester
Adam Johnson
Jennifer Johnson
Amy White

Please email Bridge articles to
Tracie Schmolt at:
financeadmin@stpaulsmassillon.org
by the 15th of the month. Thanks!

Thank-you to everyone who sent
the cards and prayers!
Paula Kritzer

Please contact Sue Ambrosic at 330-832-5798 if you would like to have the Altar or Throne Flowers for 2022.

Please note:
New office hours
Tuesday—Friday
9:00 am—1:00 pm

Our Sympathies

Our Sympathies are extended to the family of Jeanne Johns who passed into the church triumphant December 6th. She was laid to rest on the 11th. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Our Sympathies are extended to the family of Barb Kress who passed into the church triumphant December 6th. She was laid to rest on the 16th. Please keep her family in your prayers.

Our Sympathies are extended to the family of Shirley Tasseff who passed into the church triumphant December 7th. She was laid to rest on the 11th. Please keep her husband John and her family in your prayers.



Baby Caroline, Jeff Akey, Betty Ayers, Brenda Brown, Renee Brown, Jim Dehnke, Pam Dekowski, Teri Dew, Jim Dehnke, Ken Dexter, Jean Dexter, Hazel Draper, Mark Duris, Maria Garton, Mark Griffith, Chance Haines, Sara Hughes, Ray Jones, Josh Keller, Bob Kirsch, Paula Kritzer, Matthew Kronenwetter, Dan Landig, Anna Langenfeld, Scott & Darlene Lewis, Maria Lichtenberger, Karen Lunkwitz, Jennifer Mays, Ron Meimer, Cheryl Myers, Lynne Nunley, David Paul, Carol Rohr, Malik Shaffer, Cheryl Shaw, Lisa Straughn, Chrissy Sturtz, Angela Sutter, John Tasseff, Donna Viles, Kyle Whelan, Sherrie Whelan, Amy White, Doug & Becky White, Phyllis Wilson, Mike Zigelhoffer, Dr. Donald Zimmerman

ASSISTING MINISTERS FOR DECEMBER

If you are interested in becoming an Assistant Minister, please contact Karl Kalk via phone at 330.904.9797 or email at karlkal@msn.com

January 2nd: Jackie Pritchett

January 9th: Andrew Lang

January 16th: Carol Stoner

January 23rd: Kathryn Myers

January 30th: Veronica Kreemer



JANUARY GREETERS:

If you are interested in Becoming a greeter, please Contact Karl Kalk via phone At 330.904.9797 or email at karlkal@mns.com

January 2nd: Debbie Stevens

January 9th: Gary Collard

January 16th: Craig Maurer

January 23rd: Greg & Lynda Klein

January 30th: Sue Ambrosic



If you are interested in becoming a Lay Lector, please contact Karl Kalk via phone at 330.904.9797 or email at KarlKal@msn.com

JANUARY LAY LECTORS
The Myers Family

JANUARY COMMUNION ASST.

January 2nd: Carol Stoner & Amy Burkett

January 9th: Don Gray & Eric Myers

January 16th: Patty Long & Tracie Schmolt

January 23rd: David Stoner & Scott Larson

January 30th: Lea Lang & Greg Klein

JANUARY USHERS

Chuck Gesen
Chuck Richards
Mike Skelly
Dick Longworth

If you are interested in becoming an Usher please contact Dick Longworth via phone at 330.756.2943 or email at richardlongworth7569@gmail.com

SACRISTY

Now that we are able to have full Communion, volunteers are needed to prepare the altar and the elements. If you would be willing to help with this very important ministry, please contact me. I will work around your schedule and provide easy training, if needed.

Kathryn Myers
Kkirk124@yahoo.com or 330.854.6137

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY
FISCAL YEAR 2021- 2022 MONTH ENDING NOVEMBER

November		YTD	
Income	\$ 27,334	Income	\$ 110,747
Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 2,823	Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 16,421
Expenses	\$ 24,188	Expenses	\$ 139,603
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ 5,969	Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ (12,435)

A Message from Church Council:

It's during this time of year that I feel especially honored to serve on church council. It's truly a season of anticipation and serving with passion. So many exciting plans were discussed for the coming year during the December council meeting.

Pastor started by presenting two beautifully detailed digital architectural plans of the proposed side entrance/lift area remodel. We eagerly await the financial details so we can share these options with you to gain your input. Another discussion that was filled with joyful anticipation was the plan for a concert series to return to St. Paul's with concerts starting in February. A letter detailing the schedule will be sent out shortly. I don't think I'm speaking for myself when I say what a wonderful opportunity this concert series is for our church and the community as a whole. We can all easily utilize the concert series as a way of inviting guests into our church and welcoming new faces.

As it is such a season of giving, a very important giving need was addressed this month. The ELCA disaster relief has pleaded for help in the most recent natural chaos that has struck the midwest. We have approved \$5000 from the Mission Endowment Fund to contribute and are hoping many of you will join in the offering to help increase the overall amount that we are sending to aid the devastation relief effort. We are grateful to have both the mission endowment readily available for such giving opportunities and a generous congregation. At the local level, The Welfare and Social Action Committee, with the congregation's continued support, has coordinated another successful year of giving to our Salvation Army families. Hams are being generously donated this year by Fisher's Food. Please support their stores if you can as they graciously support the local community.

In closing I want to thank you all for your serving hearts as you support the ministries here at St. Paul's through your time, talents and giving. We on council wish you the Merriest Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best Regards,

Lea Lang
Council Member
Scholarship Committee Representative

Many thanks from W & SA



The Welfare and Social Action Committee would like to thank all of you who helped make the Adopt a family project through the Salvation Army an awesome success this year!

The 14 families we adopted were so grateful for the gifts and food.

In addition, the monetary donations were ***much appreciated***, which helped us purchase perishable foods.

A big thank you to St. Paul's member Christine Bates, to help arrange for Fishers Foods to donate the hams. It was very generous of Fishers Foods!

Also to those who delivered "goodie bags" to our shut-ins.

What a wonderful congregation we have!
Until next time, stay warm and safe!

Blessings and Peace,
David Stoner
Welfare and Social Action Committee, chair
330*844*1185



Assistance for victims of disaster

As we have heard and read in the news recently, many across the US have experienced serious effects from winds and storms.

I am asking for donations to provide the ELCA, to assist with help for these victims. Our mission Endowment Committee is willing to ***match up to \$5,000.00*** for this much needed assistance.

Please make checks out to St. Paul's, noting the donation is for the ELCA US relief, and return to the church by January 23.

Any questions, please call.

Thank you for your support...

David Stoner
Welfare and Social Action Committee, chair
330*844*1185



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.





Live -stream our Worship Sunday morning at 10 am

You can live-stream our worship services on Facebook and YouTube. Please follow the links below and subscribe to our pages.

YouTube

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCXq78jxlo0oK6Lcwz0G_x0A

- Click on Videos tab
- Click on uploads
 - o select all videos
 - o scroll down to find live stream

Facebook

https://m.facebook.com/groups/126744778439/?ref=group_browse

You will need to login into your Facebook account and join the group.

Reaching Out To A Friend!

You can share the Good News by inviting a friend to join us on Facebook or YouTube.

Worship Service on Sundays at 10:00 AM

So share the good news and invite a friend to join us. All of the information they need to connect to our site can be found on our web page – stpaulsmassillon.org



Get Connected to St Paul's through our new Phone App.



Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the My Church App. ***It is a free download.***

Open the app and search for St Paul's by typing **STPLC APP**. Then click on the St Paul's logo. That's it. You will be able to send and receive prayer requests, view past worship services, give electronically, receive notifications on upcoming events and much, much more.

Thursday Morning Bible Study Beginning Late January



The DIFFICULT WORDS of JESUS

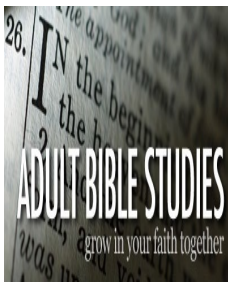
A BEGINNER'S GUIDE TO HIS MOST PERPLEXING TEACHINGS

The Difficult Words of Jesus: A Beginner's Guide to His Most Perplexing Teachings by Amy-Jill Levine

Sometimes Jesus taught things that his followers found---and still find---confusing and contrary. Levine examines how instructions about hating your parents, selling what you own, referring to "your father the devil," and more would have sounded to those who first heard them, have been understood over time, and can be interpreted within the context of the gospel.

Sunday Adult Bible Class

Perhaps one of your resolutions for the year ahead might be to know the Bible better and understand its applications for daily living. If so, please consider attending the adult Bible class that meets each Sunday after the morning worship service. We'll be wrapping up our study of Hebrews in the month of January. These last lessons do not require that you've been in on the study from the beginning. You'll be blessed by looking carefully at these final chapters and enjoying the fellowship!



We meet on the top floor of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for easy access.

Friendship Circle doesn't meet January through March.
We would like to thank Becky and Jim Johnson for hosting a wonderful Christmas party in December! David Stoner catered the delicious appetizers.
Everyone had a great time!





St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

127 Cherry Road N.E., Massillon OH 44646-5587

PASTOR

Rev. Mark E. Kreemer
revmkreemer@gmail.com

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Chad Pittman
chadpit@msn.com

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Tracie Schmolt
financeadmin@stpaulsmassillon.org

OFFICE HOURS

TUESDAY –FRIDAY
9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

CHURCH WEBSITE

<http://stpaulsmassillon.org>

PHONE

(330) 832-7409

Dear Family and Friends of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church,

I am excited to announce the inaugural season of Cathedral Concerts in the Evening, our church's newly established concert series. We had originally planned a full season of concerts for the 2021-2022 fiscal year-but given the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic-decided to play it safe and offer a half season-beginning in the new calendar year.

Our mission for this series is to offer the greater Massillon/Canton community quality concerts free of charge, feature our beautiful space, develop relationships with local and national arts organizations, and facilitate opportunities for meaningful fellowship and outreach. The offerings will be varied and diverse, highlighting both professional and community concerts of all kinds.

In an effort to keep concerts free to all, we will take a freewill offering at each event, and are seeking special tax-deductible contributions/offerings from our church family in advance through this communication. Contributions may be made in honor or memory of a loved one/friend. All donors' first and last names will be listed in each program, unless indicated otherwise. Donors may sponsor an entire concert, part of a concert fee, or give any smaller amount. Please know that any amount-large or small-will make an incredible impact on this ministry. We have made plans for several high-quality events and therefore hope for generous support.

To give to Cathedral Concerts in the Evening, you may contribute in person, mail a check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church, or submit funds online. Please make sure to indicate concert series fund on your check, envelope, and/or the online giving system. If you would like to sponsor an entire concert, a large portion of a concert, and/or help in some capacity at any event, please reach out to my email (chadpit@msn.com) or phone number 330-608-1655.

I am honored to spend my days in ministry with this wonderful community, and can't wait to see you at a concert...or several this spring.

With gratitude and thanks,

Chad E. Pittman
Director of Music and Organist
Artistic Director, Cathedral Concerts in the Evening

Two Men and a Bench, Chad Pittman and Mark Thewes (February 25, 2022)

Capital University Chapel Choir (March 20, 2022)

University of Michigan Men's Glee Club (April 3, 2022)

A Chorus for a Cause (April 9, 2022)

Malone University Choral Program (April 23, 2022)

Hector Oliveira, concert organist (May 27, 2022)

Chad Pittman, organist (August 26, 2022)

St. Jacob Euchre Night:

January 8, 2022

Where: St. Jacob Social Hall

Arrival Time: 5:30 pm

Tournament: 5:50 to 9:00 P.M.

What to bring: A snack to share

Pop and Coffee provided

There is a \$5.00 donation



We hope some of your congregation at St. Paul's in Massillon will come to enjoy the fun, fellowship, and food. You will note there is a \$5.00 donation. This goes toward prizes and a contribution to a need identified by the group.

**RSVP by Friday, January 7, to Sue Phillabaum
at smphillabaum@hotmail.com or**

Carolyn Carasea at c.carasea@gmail.com

2022 Upcoming Euchre Dates

February 12th

March 12th



Poinsettia Program December 24, 2021

Given by:

Chris, Judy & Heather Hall

The Hannum Family

Gayle Jackson

Shane Jackson & Patricia Kandel

Jim & Becky Johnson

Greg & Lynda Klein

Lynda & Greg Klein

The Lash Family

Patty & Bob Long

Carol Marlow

Craig & Jennifer Maurer

Dennis Morgan

Kathryn Myers

Bob & Sue Reid

R. L. Richards

The Schmolt Family

John and Jennifer Stanko

The Starrett and Deuble Families

Paul & Susan White

Given by:

Jim & Becky Johnson

R. L. Richards

In Memory Of:

Robert & Jeanne Brocke, Robert & Helen Hall

George & Mary Lou Mitcheal

Craig Jackson

Craig Jackson

Becky & Patti's parents: Jim & Bessie Meryo

Jim's parents: Doris & Joe Couch

Becky & Patti's cousin: Bonnie

C. Robert & Louise Klein

Jim & Lee Annen, Michael Whelan

Lois & Myron Dew, Renee Owen Pittman

Howard & Jean Murphy, John & Wahnita Long

Dick Marlow, Bob & Shirley Hoffner,
Don & Barbara Greavu, Grandchildren

Eric & Ruth Nelson, Francis & Wilma Maurer
Connie & Mark Wise, Donna Maurer

Paula J. Morgan, All who have gone before us.

James Myers, Mervin and Lois Lutz

James Mullen, Magda Reiter

Donna Richards, Pamela Richards DeJuan, Howard & Helen
Richards, Cal & Irene Roan, Jack & Marge Richards, Dorothy &
Ken Hodgson, Ruthie Richards, Henry (Hank) Boeing, Rose Boeing,
Eliza Boeing

Harold & Wilma Schmolt, Louise Schmolt
Betty & Elmer Farrar, Harold & Bertha Swartz

Mr. and Mrs. Francis Stanko, Brian Lash

Augie & Bette Morningstar

Loved ones

In Honor Of:

Our grandchildren: Sydney, Jasper & Grace

Our children: Brian, Meridith, Adam & Jen

Special Blessings of having our sister Patti & brother-in-law
Lincoln here to celebrate this special season.

Robert L. Richards, Vivianne Richards Greene

COMMUNITY MEAL & CLOTHES CLOSET

DECEMBER COMMUNITY MEAL

December is always a special month here at St. Paul's. Our monthly Community Meal and Community Closet was held on Friday, December 10. It was indeed our privilege to serve a Christmas meal to the general public for the first time in 2 years

Our Christmas menu consisted of ham, cheesy potatoes, green beans, coleslaw, dinner roll, choice of beverage, and either cake or pumpkin pie for dessert. All desserts were donated by a friend of the congregation.

The number of in person meals served was 70, with an additional 12 carry outs for a total of 82 meals served. For the first time in a long time the sounds of children's voices echoed through the air. In addition to the adults, we entertained two (2) four year olds, a two year old, and a four month old.

Once again the women's book club continued with their "special additional needs" offering for those in attendance. Items provided included things such as paper towels, Kleenex, toilet paper, feminine products, disinfectant wipes, dishwashing liquid, body wash and other assorted items. These were made available and distributed one per family. These items are much needed by many in our community.

Nearly all of the attendees visited the Community Closet either before or after the meal. With winter coming on, warm coats and gloves are much in need. Also needed are warm socks and underwear. Thank you for all of your support.

We can always use help. If you want to help us in this important ministry, please contact either Jack Fortune at 330-874-3525 or Lea Lang at 330-224-2263 to discuss how you can get involved.

St. Paul's Community Meal and Community Closet provides a free meal and clothing for all on the 2nd Friday of each month. Our next opening is Friday, January 14, from 4:30 to 6:00. As always, we thank you for your many prayers and continued support of this much needed ministry.





1. Sue Ambrosic
2. Elizabeth Inkinen-Schehl, Christopher Lash, John Tasseff
5. Katrina Hepler, Susan Reid
6. Matthew Brumfield
14. Matthew Skelly
15. Linda Mutchler
16. Catarina Monastra, Robert Hall, Stephanie Hollender
18. Adam Johnson
19. Vera Gerber, Jessica Reiman
20. Karen Daily
21. Jacquie Zupp, Philip Halco
22. Bryce Brumfield, Benjamin Myers
24. Kathryn Myers, John Stanko
27. Gregory Klein
29. Jack Fortune
31. Lauren Klein



Saturday, 1/1

New Year's Day

Sunday, 1/2

10:00 am Worship

Wednesday, 1/5

9:00 am Snip n Snitch

Sunday, 1/9

10:00 am Worship

Tuesday, 1/11

11:00 am Omega Circle –Gleitsman Lounge

7:00 pm Church Council

Thursday, 1/13

10:00 am Bible Study

Friday, 1/14

4:30-6:00 pm Community Meal

4:30-6:00 pm Clothes Closet

Saturday, 1/15

Bridge deadline

Sunday, 1/16

10:00 am Worship

Monday, 1/17

Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Tuesday, 1/18

6:00 pm Finance Committee

Wednesday, 1/19

9:00 am Snip n Snitch

Thursday, 1/20

10:00 Bible Study

Sunday 1/23

10:00 am Worship

Wednesday, 1/26

9:00 am Snip n Snitch

Thursday, 1/27

10:00 am Bible Study

Sunday, 1/30

10:00 am Worship

Check us out on:



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ORGANIZATION
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THE BRIDGE—CONNECTING CHURCH AND HOME

WORSHIP SERVICES

10:00 A.M. SERVICE

ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

127 CHERRY ROAD NE
MASSILLON, OHIO 44646
PHONE: 330.832.7409

OFFICE HOURS: Tues.—Fri 9-1