

The Bridge

"Connecting Church and Home"

MAY 2022

May 15th Congregational Meeting

Following the morning worship service on May 15th, we will have an important congregational meeting. Items for the agenda include the 2022-2023 operating budget; elections for council, the mission endowment fund committee, synod assembly representatives, and the nominating committee; and presentation of architectural plans for possible building renovations. Copies of the budget (on tables inside the church doors) are available for your review prior to the May 15th meeting. The list of nominees are listed on page 6. Please make every effort to attend this important meeting. Thank you!

Omega Circle
Tuesday, May 10th
1:00 PM
Gleitsman Lounge

Friendship Circle
Thursday, May 5th
6:00 PM
Gleitsman Lounge

Community Meal
And
Clothes Closet
Friday, May 13th
Parish Hall Dining Room
4:30 - 6:00

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Dear Friends in Christ,

I read recently that theologian Karl Barth once said "to say the old line from the creed, '*I believe in the Holy Catholic Church*' does not mean that we believe in the church. It means rather to believe that God is present and at work in the church, that "in this assembly, the work of the Holy Spirit takes place... We do not believe in the Church: but we do believe that in this congregation the work of the Holy Spirit becomes an event."

Barth's words rang true for me some years ago, when I was invited by a church in a nearby town to be the worship leader at a special evening communion service. The church staff had planned this service to be educational as well as worshipful. The idea was that, first, the congregation would gather in the sanctuary and I would give a brief talk about the meanings of the Lord's Supper. Then, we would go into the fellowship hall and be seated around tables for the service itself.

At each table, there would be the flour and other ingredients to form the dough for the communion loaves. The plan called for each table to prepare a loaf and, while the loaves baked in the ovens of the church kitchen, the people at each table were to engage in various exercises designed to get them talking about their experiences in the faith.

It was a good idea, but like many well-planned events, things looked better on the drawing board than they turned out in reality. There were problems. Children at many tables began to play in the baking ingredients, and white clouds of flour floated around the room coating everybody and everything. There were delays in the kitchen, and the communion bread baked with agonizing slowness. Some of the tables ran out of things to say; children grew weary and fussy; the room was filled with commotion and restlessness. The planners had dreamed of an event of excitement, innovation, peak learning, and moving worship. What happened was noise, exhaustion, and people making the best of a difficult situation. In other words, despite the rosy plans, it was the real church worshipping down there in the church basement.

Finally, the service ended, and, with relief, I was able to pronounce the benediction. "The peace of Christ be with you all," I said, and just as I did, a child's voice from somewhere in the room called out strong and true, "It already is."

Just that -- "It already is" -- but with those words, the service was transformed into an event of joy and holy mystery. That small voice captured what the Gospel of John is trying to say. In the midst of a church that can claim nothing for itself, a church of noise, confusion, weariness, and even fear, the risen Christ comes to give peace. The peace of Christ be with you? Because the risen Christ comes to inhabit our empty places, then, as the child said, "It already is," and the church with nothing becomes the church with everything.

Blessings,
Pastor Mark

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CHAD PITTMAN, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

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330.481.9888 or langfordeddie.47@gmail.com

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

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

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

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

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

Greg Klein, Chair
Karl Kalk
Rev. Kreemer
Patty Long
Kathryn Myers
Kim Oberlin
Chad Pittman

YOUTH & PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Lea Lang, Chair
Amy Burkett
John Liebermann
Lisa Skelly

STAFF SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Greg Klein, Chair
Jennifer Nelson Maurer
Jackie Pritchett
Elizabeth Schehl

 * Please contact Sue Ambrosic
 * at 330-832-5798 if you would
 * like to have the Altar or Throne
 * Flowers for 2022. Or sign up in
 * the hallway across from the
 * Gleitsman Lounge.

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

Our Sympathies

Please keep the family of Ellen Leitner, who passed away on April 7th, in your prayers. Visitation will be held Saturday, May 7, 2022, 10am -11am at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Massillon, with funeral services at 11am. May God Bless and keep them in their time of mourning.

Mission Endowment Fund committee members have adopted a new form for making nominations. This form is available by request from a committee member (listed on the page 3). If you have an organization or cause for consideration Mission Endowment Funds, please request the form and submit the details for consideration.



Baby Caroline, Betty Ayers, Renee Brown, Susan Carter, Chris Collard, Matthew Cottle, Jim Dehnke, Pam Dekowski, Jean Dexter, Ken Dexter, Teri Dew, Hazel Draper, Mark Duris, Maria Garton, Robert Haas, Chance Haines, Joe Hepler, Sara Hughes, Ray Jones, Robert David Keefer, Josh Keller, Barbara Korn, Paula Kritzer, Matthew Kronenwetter, Dan Landig, Anna Langenfeld, Scott & Darlene Lewis, Maria Lichtenberger, Dan Lint, Nancy Lint, Karen Lunkwitz, Jennifer Mays, Ron Meimer, Cheryl Myers, Jim Myers, Lynne Nunley, Karen Painter, David Paul, Russ Poling, Ann Pratt, Carol Rohr, Cheryl Shaw, Chrissy Sturtz, Angela Sutter, Gloria Talarico, Donna Viles, Kyle Whelan, Sherrie Whelan, Amy White, Doug & Becky White, Bob Wilson, Mike Zigelhofer, Dr. Donald Zimmerman, Matt & Jen.

Assisting Ministers

For May

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

May 1st: Carol Stoner

May 8th: Kathryn Myers

May 15th: Veronica Kreemer

May 22nd: Patty Long

May 29th: Veronica Kreemer



May Communion Assistants

May 1st: Lea Lang & Greg Klein

May 8th: Carol Stoner & Amy Burkett

May 15th: Don Gray & Eric Myers

May 22nd: Patty Long & Tracie Schmolt

May 29th: David Stoner & Scott Larson

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

May Lay Lector

Marcia Wright

May Greeters:

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

May 1st: Dick & Robin Cordes

May 8th: Debbie Stevens

May 15th: Gary Collard

May 22nd: Craig Maurer

May 29th: Greg & Lynda Klein

May Ushers

Dave Allman

Becky Myers

Tom & Deb Schmolt

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

Nominations for 2022-2023 Ballot **May 15, 2022 Congregational meeting**

Nominating Committee 2023:

Lynda Klein, Kathryn Myers, Jennifer Stanko and three outgoing members of Council in 2023

Mission Endowment Fund Committee:

Sue Ambrosic, Karl Kalk

Synod Assembly Representatives for 2023:

Gayle Jackson, Shane Jackson

Church Council members (3 year term):

Cindy Lash, Patty Long, Tracie Schmolt, Carol Stoner

*** Nominations can be made from the floor, however nominee must agree before being nominated ***

INCOME & EXPENSE SUMMARY **FISCAL YEAR 2021- 2022 MONTH ENDING MARCH**

| March | | YTD | |
|----------------------|------------|----------------------|-------------|
| Income | \$ 22,584 | Income | \$ 194,772 |
| Endowment Withdrawal | \$ 7,356 | Endowment Withdrawal | \$ 41,647 |
| Expenses | \$ 32,643 | Expenses | \$ 251,691 |
| Surplus or (Deficit) | \$ (2,703) | Surplus or (Deficit) | \$ (15,272) |



Snip and Stitch

Want to help make an outward sign of God's love?? Help to spread his love around the globe? Have Wednesday mornings from 9-11:30 available? Join us for Snip and Stitch. No sewing skills are required. The piece quilts are done on machine and help is needed in all steps. St Paul's' has provided 60-80 quilts yearly to Lutheran World Relief. We do not meet in the summer months, come join us until then.

APRIL COMMUNITY MEAL AND COMMUNITY CLOSET

The season of Lent is always a special time here at St. Paul's. There is much need in our community, and we are blessed to be able to share God's love through this ministry. Our monthly Community Meal and Community Closet was held on Friday, April 8. Our Easter-themed menu consisted of ham, buttered potatoes, corn, coleslaw, dinner roll, choice of beverage, and either a brownie or a piece of pie for dessert. All desserts were donated by friends of the congregation.

The number of meals served was 70. Last month the number served was 71. Perhaps 70 is the new "normal" for us, but we are still below pre-pandemic levels

Our monthly "special additional needs" offering was very busy once again. Our ladies have made available to our visitors 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. Your donations of such items would be much appreciated. Call the church office to find out what might be needed and how you can help.

Nearly all of the attendees visited the Community Closet either before or after the meal. It is a major part of helping many of these people getting through some difficult times. 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 be involved. Donations of any kind are always welcome.

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, May 13, from 4:30 to 6:00. As always, we thank you for your many prayers and continued support of this much needed ministry.

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!

Jack and Marsha Fortune





Livestream our Worship Sunday morning at 10 am

You can livestream 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 to 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.

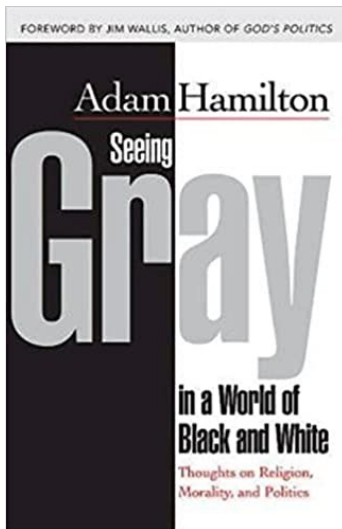


Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the My Church App. ***It is a free download.***

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

Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White - Beginning April 6th



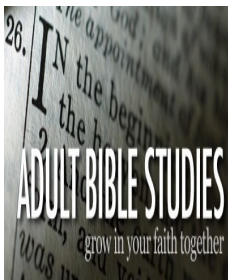
Seeing Gray in a World of Black and White is a hard-hitting call for Christians to examine issues of political and social import with increased depth and acumen.

Everyone agrees that America is polarized, with ever-hardening positions held by people less and less willing to listen to one another. No one agrees on what to do about it. One solution that hasn't yet been tried, says Adam Hamilton, is for thinking persons of faith to model for the rest of the country a richer, more thoughtful conversation on the political, moral, and religious issues that divide us. Hamilton rejects the easy assumptions and sloppy analysis of black and white thinking, seeking instead the truth that resides on all sides of the issues, and offering a faithful and compassionate way forward.

Sunday Adult Bible Class

Welcoming the Stranger in the Name of Jesus

During May and in response to the reality of Easter faithfully lived out, we'll spend time considering the opportunities, challenges, and rich blessings of welcoming the stranger. We will examine specific migration stories found in scripture, and there are many! According to Joan Maruskin:



The biblical story is a migration story. The Bible is the story of the uprooted people of God seeking safety, sanctuary and refuge and the living God giving directions for welcoming the stranger. From Adam and Eve, to Noah, Abraham, Moses - to Jesus, Joseph, and Mary, they all found themselves on the move, migrating, looking for a better life.

Aided by resources from the Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, we will carefully consider what God may be calling us to do in Jesus' name so that those seeking a safer and better home might find one.

The class meets immediately following the Sunday morning worship service on the top floor of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for easy access. We hope you'll join us!



Our Thanks to You...

With Warmest thanks, grateful hearts, and deep appreciation for your thoughtfulness.

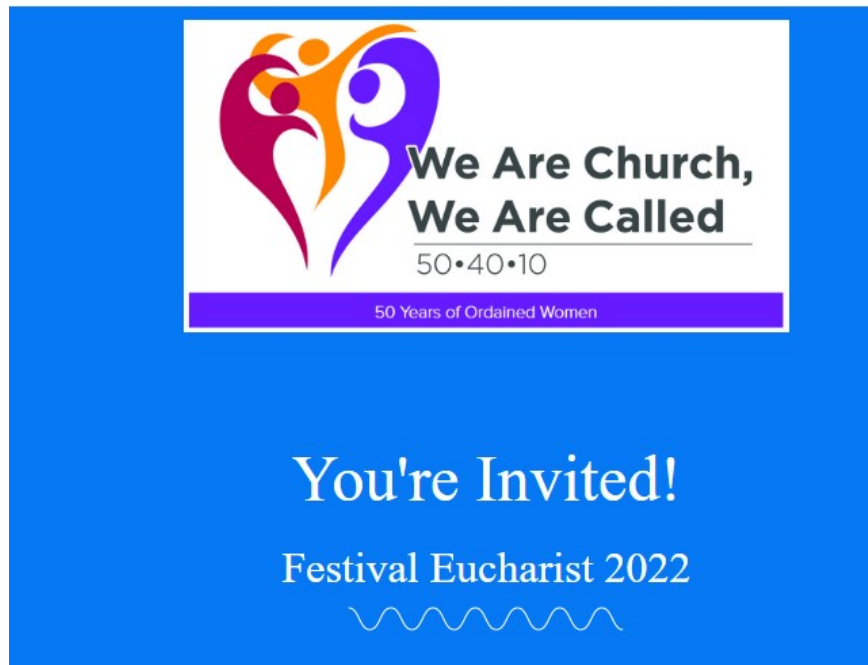
-To All who sent cards & prayers to me when I was in the hospital. Thank you so very much, *Jim and Pat Myers*



I have been blessed with all the cards I have received. I have enjoyed them all and have kept them all. I have also enjoyed my two visitors, Sue and Becky. It made my day. Also, Thank you to Jennifer for coming to give me communion and spending time with me. God Bless you all. *Leona Corban*

St. Paul's Seeking a Communications Coordinator

Church Council has decided to seek a Communications Coordinator rather than another Office Administrator. This better reflects the current needs we as a church have on a day-to-day basis. The primary purpose of this position is to initiate, coordinate, and manage the multiple modes of communication at St. Paul's Lutheran Church, working in collaboration with church staff, leadership and other members of the congregation. It is a part time salaried position – 20 hours per week which includes in-office hours 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Mon. - Fri. The full job description is available on the church web site. We encourage anyone who is interested in the position or who may know someone who would be interested to check out the full description and submit a cover letter and a resume to the church office to the attention of the Staff Support Committee.



52-42-12 (originally 50-40-10 in 2020) Celebrates:

- o The 52nd anniversary of the first ordained woman.
- o The 42nd anniversary of the first ordained woman of color.
- o The 12th anniversary of the ELCA's decision to ordain people in committed same-gender relationships.

This year, we are honored and privileged to have the Rev. Elizabeth Platz preaching the service. Rev. Platz became the first woman ordained in the American Lutheran church in 1970, and went on to serve for forty years before retiring in 2020. Please join us for this very special celebratory evening!

When & Where:

FRIDAY, MAY 13, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.
HOLY TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
50 NORTH PROSPECT STREET
AKRON, OHIO 44304

St. Jacob Euchre Night:

May 14, 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, May 13th, to Sue Phillabaum at smphillabaum@hotmail.com or
Carolyn Carasea at c.carasea@gmail.com**

2022 Upcoming Euchre Date

June 11th



Cathedral Concerts in the Evening

Concert Series of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Presents:

Hector Olivera, Internationally Renowned Concert Organist

Co-sponsored by the American Guild of Organists, Canton Chapter



Friday, May 27, 2022

7:00 pm

Since entering the Buenos Aires Conservatory as a child prodigy at age six, Maestro Hector Olivera has become one of the most sought after and revered international concert organists of the present time.

'The Times Reporter', describes an evening with Mr. Olivera as: *"An event, a happening, a joyful celebration of the sheer power and pressure that a true virtuoso like Hector Olivera can unleash in a concert hall."*

Born in Buenos Aires, Mr. Olivera began playing the pipe organ when he was three. At age five he played for the legendary Eva Perón; at twelve he entered the University of Buenos Aires and by eighteen had performed for heads of state and celebrities throughout Latin America. When offered a scholarship at the renowned Juilliard School of Music in New York, he moved to the United States. Three years later, Mr. Olivera's outstanding professional concert career was launched when he won the AGO's National Improvisation Contest.

Mr. Olivera has performed solo concerts throughout the USA, Europe, Asia, Australia, Central and Latin America and as guest soloist with prominent symphony orchestras worldwide.

Whether in a prestigious venue like Carnegie Hall, Royal Albert Hall, Cathedral of Notre Dame in Paris, Constitution Hall, Walt Disney Concert Hall in Los Angeles, or in conjunction with a celebrated event like the Olympic games or the Classical Newport Music Festival, the most sophisticated and demanding organ aficionados claim that Maestro Hector Olivera is *'one of the greatest organists in the world today.'*

Join Pastor Steven & Brooke Hackmann Bible Land Exploration

January 16 - 25, 2023



Hosts:
Pastor
Steven
& Brooke
Hackmann



Join us on a 10-day Bible Land Exploration tour in 2023, starting at \$3,596* with flights from Cleveland. Visit places such as Galilee, Bethlehem, Dead Sea, Mount of Beatitudes, Jericho, Jerusalem, Garden Tomb, and much more!

*A 3.5% surcharge will be added to all credit card transactions.



www.EO.travel/mytrip Tour = HL23 Date = 011623 Code = G ID = 60796

What's Included



All Inclusive Pricing



*Breakfast and
Dinner Daily*



*Deluxe A/C Motor
Coaches*



*Entrance and
Program Fees*



First Class Hotels



*Fuel Surcharges
and Gov't Taxes*



Gratuities



Guided Tours



*International
Airfare[^]*



Administrative Fee

[^]*Additional Baggage & Optional fees may apply.*



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800-247-0017



(Pastor Steven Hackmann is JuDee Reed's son-in-law & Brooke is her daughter)



1. Amelia Deerwester
4. Leona Corban, Seth Dunlap
5. Barbara Palmer
7. Roxanna Bader, Matthew Diuk
8. Trisha Lash
10. Sandi Bennett
11. Paul Daily, Susan Dovel,
Vivianne Greene
12. Jim Johnson
14. James Howe, Peggy Gibbs,
Barbara Starrett, Loren Veigel
17. Izabella Haring
19. Pauline Davies, Martha Scott
21. Kiera Lafferty
22. Audrey Hepler
28. Elizabeth Haring
29. Bob Funderburk, Gayle Jackson
31. Amy White



Sunday, 5/1

10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Adult Sunday School

Wednesday 5/4

9:00 am Snip n Snitch

Thursday, 5/5

10:00 am Bible Study
6:00 pm Friendship Circle - Gleitsman Lounge

Sunday, 5/8

10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Adult Sunday School

Tuesday, 5/10

1:00 pm Omega Circle – Gleitsman Lounge
7:00 pm Church Council

Friday, 5/13

4:30-6:00 pm Community Meal
4:30-6:00 pm Clothes Closet

Sunday, 5/15

10:00 am Worship
Congregational meeting directly following worship
(No Adult Sunday School)
Bridge deadline

Tuesday, 5/17

6:00 pm Finance Committee

Wednesday, 5/18

9:00 am Snip n Snitch

Thursday, 5/19

10:00 am Bible Study

Sunday, 5/22

10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Adult Sunday School

Wednesday, 5/25

9:00 am Snip n Snitch

Thursday, 5/26

10:00 am Bible Study

Friday, 5/27

7:00 pm Hector Olivera Concert

Sunday, 5/29

10:00 am Worship
11:30 am Adult Sunday School

Monday, 5/30

Memorial Day

Check us out on:



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ORGANIZATION
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VISIT US AT : WWW.STPAULSMASSILLON.ORG

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