

ST. PAUL'S
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH

DECEMBER 2022

The Bridge

"Connecting Church and Home"



Dear Friends in Christ,

Some years ago, Billy Graham told about a Christian man in Boston who said to himself, "I cannot speak in prayer meetings. I cannot do many other things in Christian service. But I can put two extra plates on my dinner table every Sunday and invite two young men who are away from home to eat with me." He did so faithfully and, over the years, had a very positive ministry. His quiet witness to his faith caused many a young man to become a Christian.

When the man died, he was buried in another city. The family chartered a bus so that the funeral party could travel together. On the day of the funeral, they had to charter additional buses on short notice, because 150 people came to honor a man whose Christian service centered around the simple hospitality of two extra plates on his Sunday dinner table.

Many of our holiday traditions revolve around food. In the Jewish Seder a place is reserved at the Seder table and a cup of wine is placed there for Elijah. During the seder, the door of the house is opened and Elijah is invited in. Traditionally, the cup is viewed as Elijah's and is used for no other purpose. Many families have the tradition of going and serving at a soup kitchen or food pantry. We seek out the stranger and welcome them as family.

At a Community Thanksgiving Service a few years ago, our concluding blessing is one we can use at our dinner table. It calls us to remember the stranger and stir us to action.

O God, when we have food, help us to remember the hungry;
When we have work, help us to remember the jobless;
When we have a home, help us to remember those who have no home at all;
When we are without pain, help us to remember those who suffer,
And remembering, help us to destroy our complacency;
and be concerned enough to help those who cry out for what we take for granted.
Amen.

May God bless us and those we are called to serve during this season of Advent and Christmas.

Pastor Mark

CHURCH COUNCIL

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Please email Bridge articles to
Sharon Thieret at:
officeadmin@stpaulsmassillon.org by
the 15th of the month. Thanks!

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

<u>EVANGELISM COMMITTEE</u>	<u>SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE</u>
Amy Burkett, Liaison	Lea Lang, Chair
Sue Ambrosic	Amy Burkett
Gayle Jackson	John Liebermann
Becky Johnson	Lisa Skelly
Cindy Lash	
Deidra Monastra	
	<u>STAFF SUPPORT COMMITTEE</u>
	Greg Klein, Chair
<u>FINANCE COMMITTEE</u>	Jennifer Nelson Maurer
Dan Farrar, Chair	Jackie Pritchett
Greg Klein	Elizabeth Schehl
John Liebermann	
Patty Long	
Tracie Schmolt	
Cindy Scott	
John Stanko	
Rick Stern	
<u>MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND</u>	
Kathy Corban, Chair	
Sue Ambrosic	
Don Gray	
Karl Kalk	
Lynda Klein	
<u>PARISH FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE</u>	
Carol Stoner, Chair	
Laurel Borkowski	
Gary Collard	
Sue Reid	
<u>PROPERTY & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE</u>	
Jim Johnson, Chair	
Dave Allman	
Don Gray, Liaison for Chair	
Joe Henler	

YOUTH & PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE
 Scott Larson, Chair
 Tracie Brumfield
 Rachel Deerwester
 Adam Johnson
 Jennifer Johnson

STAFF SUPPORT COMMITTEE
Greg Klein, Chair
Jennifer Nelson Maurer
Jackie Pritchett
Elizabeth Schehl

Thank you so much to my Church family for the cards, calls and prayers for my stint in the hospital and rehab. It was very much appreciated. A thank you to Pastor Mark for his visits while I was in the hospital and rehab. A thank you to Patty Long and Sue Ambrosic for their assistance to Marilyn and especially to Jim and Becky Johnson for their assistance and for Becky's professional advisements in my health care.

Jack & Marilyn Norton

Our sympathy goes out to the friends and family of Angela Sutter who passed away peacefully on November 22, 2022. Angela would have been 101 years old on the 26th of November. Our sympathies are extended to the families of Ron Meimer, and Carol Stoner's brother-in-law Mark Griffiths.



In our prayers today we will remember

Janice Sprankle, Russ Poling, Henry Leitner, Anna Langenfeld, Rosemary Stephen, Jackie & Mike Bergerner, Robert Haas, Chris Collard, Linda Jefferson, Ron & John Meimer, Jack Norton, Bob Reid, Michael Jordan, Dave Paul, Brian Johnson, Cheryl Shaw, Steve Kress, Mike Kress, Tiffany Weick, Noah Salberg, David Paul, Bill Ruppel, Linda Williams, Bobbee DeGordon, Larry & Kathryn Sheets, Susan Carter, Matthew Cottle, Amy White, Karen Painter, Kyle Whelan, Ken Dexter, Mike Zigelhoffer, Betty Ayers, Pam Dekowski, Sherrie Whelan, Paula Kritzer, Lynne Nunley, Matthew Kronenwetter, Mark Griffith, Mark Duris, Maria Garton, Carol Rohr, Ray Jones, Renee Brown, Josh Keller, Chrissy Sturtz, Donna Viles, Jean Dexter, Dan Landig, Karen Lunkwitz, Scott & Darlene Lewis, Maria Lichtenberger, Hazel Draper, Jennifer Mays



Serving During the Month of December

Assisting Minister

If you are interested in becoming an Assistant Minister. Please contact Karl Kalk at (330)904-9797 or email at karlkal@msn.com

12/4 - Dave Stoner

12/11 - Veronica Kreamer

12/18 - Patty Long

12/24 - 7:00pm - Scott Larson

12/24 - 10:30pm - Karl Kalk

12/25 - Becky Myers

Communion Assistants

12/4 - Cindy Lash & Scott Larson

12/11 - Lea Lang & Greg Klein

12/18 - Carol Stoner & Amy Burkett

12/24 - 7:00pm - Cindy Lash & Scott Larson

12/24 - 10:30pm - Patty Long & John Stanko

12/25 - Carol Stoner & Amy Burkett

Greeters

If you are interested in becoming a Greeter. Please Contact Karl Kalk at (330)904-9797 or email at karlkal@msn.com

12/4 - Greg & Linda Klein

12/11 - Russ & Mary Ann Poling

12/18 - Rob Pritchett

12/25 - Becky Myers

Sacristy

December

Kathryn Myers

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



Lay Lector

If you are interested in becoming a Lay Lector. Please contact Karl Kalk at (330)904-9797 or email at KarlKal@msn.com

December

Sydney Johnson



Ushers

If you are interested in becoming an Usher. Please contact Dick Longworth at (330)756-2943 or email at richardlongworth7569@gmail.com

December

Jeff Akey

Gary Collard

Dave Dourm

Dan Farrar

Community Meal and Community Closet

November 10, 2022

Thanksgiving! Veteran's Day! A Birthday! All of these things were celebrated when St. Paul's welcomed seventy-four (74) guests to our monthly Community Meal and Community Closet on Friday, November 10.

Our Thanksgiving menu consisted of roast turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, tossed salad, cranberry jello salad, dinner roll, and either a piece of pumpkin pie, a cookie, or a special veteran's day cupcake for dessert.

The cupcakes were donated by one of our volunteers and were decorated with red, white, and blue icing in honor of our veterans. Patriotic music filled the air. This same individual who provided the cupcakes also brought in a small birthday cake for one of our regular patrons who regularly helps with our clean-up efforts at the end of the evening. A special "shout out" to Danny and Happy Birthday!

There are many needy people who come to our community meal and we try very hard to make them feel welcome. Among the attendees were 2 young girls and a young boy. Each was given a small toy as a gift from the congregation.

Both the Community Closet and our "special additional needs" tables were very busy on this night. We are so blessed to have the resources, the time and the willingness to make this offering to our community. All honor and glory to the God who loves us all, and expects us to help those in need. You too can help! 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, December 9, 4:30 to 6:00. Thank you for your prayers and continued support.

Jack and Marsha Fortune

♪ **Music Notes** ♪
From Chad Pittman, Director of Music

CALLING ALL MUSICIANS!

After a lengthy two year recess due to the worst of the COVID-19 pandemic, we are excited to announce that regular musical activities, rehearsals, and offerings in worship will resume once again!

I look forward to joyfully welcoming back all regular singers and greeting new musicians to our ranks! The opportunity to make music in worship with this particularly amazing church family is truly incredible. I am always inspired by the reactions of new singers experiencing our wonderful music ministry for the first time. If you have ever thought about it, won't you join us this year? This supportive, fun and talented musical family is for all, no matter where you are on your musical journey. Come worship, learn, grow, and enjoy meaningful fellowship!

CHANCEL VOCAL CHOIR
Wednesdays from 7:30pm-9:00pm

*Anybody who wishes to offer musical talents as a soloist or with a small group in worship services is welcome and highly encouraged to contact Chad!

Cathedral Concerts in the Evening

Special thanks to all who made our partial 2022 season of *Cathedral Concerts in the Evening* a tremendous success! Our concert series brought extremely talented artists and performing groups to our beautiful space, uniting our congregation and greater Northeast Ohio community in worship, fellowship, and outreach.

I am grateful to all performers, attendees, volunteers (ushers, reception facilitation, sanctuary preparation, program creation), the Music and Worship Committee members, Pastor Mark Kreemer, and our incredibly generous sponsors (please see the back of any concert program) for making this possible.

We are currently planning an active and exciting 2022-2023 season. Have an idea for a concert? Want to sponsor the series or a specific concert in honor/memory of a loved one? Please don't hesitate to contact Chad. Our series is only possible with the support and generosity of our congregation and community!



Candlelight Walk

Pre-walk concert at Grace United Church of Christ featuring Tuslaw High School musicians at 4:00 pm.

* **St. Paul's musical offerings will be:**

Chancel Choir, vocal/instrumental solos and the Northwest Singers.

* Churches open 5:00 - 7:30 pm.

* Free & open to the public

* Stroll amid luminaries and holiday lights along the route to historic Massillon churches & downtown landmarks.

* Enjoy Christmas music inside Massillon's historic churches

* Start anywhere, choose your own route; set your pace.

* Festival of Music & Candle lighting Ceremony at St. Mary's Church at 7:45 pm - 9:00 pm

Advent Services

“Witnesses to the Birth of Jesus”

Date	Location	Preaching	Witness
November 30	Holy Trinity Lutheran	Rev Mark Kreemer	Joseph
December 7	Faith Lutheran	Rev Sara Coons	Mary
December 14	St. Paul's Lutheran	Rev Angie Storer	Angels
December 21	St. Jacob Lutheran	Rev George Baum	Innkeeper

Congratulations!

Eddie Langford
on your new granddaughter
‘Shanice Renee’



Snip N Stitch Do you have scrap material laying around? Or how about sheets or curtains that are no longer used? Our wonderful ladies of *Snip N Stitch* need your donations!!! They are very busy every Wednesday making quilts for *Lutheran Disaster Relief*. Donations can be dropped off at the office Monday thru Friday 9:00 - 1:00pm.



God bless and thank you,
Gladys Zepp

Adult Sunday School

*The one who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon."
Amen. Come Lord Jesus! (Revelation 22:20)*

We will complete our study of the Book of Revelation during the month of December with a special emphasis on the coming again of our Lord Jesus Christ. Even as we celebrate the birth of Jesus, we prepare our hearts and minds in eager expectation of his promised return. Please join us for this time of Bible study and fellowship as we meet on the upper floor of Parish Hall immediately following the Sunday worship service. An elevator is available for easy access. Hope to see you then. (There will be no Sunday School on Dec. 25 or Jan. 1.)

Blessings,

Patty Long



Thursday Morning Bible Study

Beginning September 15th 10 am

Words of Life

Jesus and the Promise of the Ten Commandments Today

By Adam Hamilton

Nearly everyone has heard of the Ten Commandments, the list of "thou-shalt-nots" found in the Bible. Jesus saw these commandments not as onerous burdens, but as guideposts to help us experience a good and beautiful life. These ten ancient "words" were given to us by a loving God who longed to set safe boundaries, create order out of chaos, help communities live peacefully, and protect us--often from ourselves.

In this book of Scripture and inspiration, bestselling author Adam Hamilton brings modern eyes to the most important set of ethics in history. He considers the commandments in their historical context, considering the meaning of each commandment in Hebrew, unpacking how Jesus reinterpreted them, and showing how every thou-shalt-not was intended to point to a life-giving "thou shalt." He also explores how the latest research in science and psychology illuminates these commandments, rightly understood, as a way of ordering one's life beautifully in the present day. In a culture marked by workaholism, materialism, and social media-driven envy, God has given us a time-tested path that leads to gratitude, confidence, and peace.



5th Sunday Offering

St. Paul's still relies on endowment funds to meet our current budget. One of the ways we hope to minimize our reliance on these funds is through a special offering on the 5th Sunday of the month. In

the remainder of the 2022 - 2023 fiscal year, there are three months with 5 Sundays in them and they are: January 2023, April 2023, and July, 2023.

We are asking members to make a "Special Offering" each of these 5th Sunday's of the month, to reduce the deficit. Our challenge is that each family prayerfully consider making an extra week of offering for this fiscal year.

If you cannot make a full extra week of offering? Perhaps, you can spread it out over a few weeks, or even just a few dollars can make a difference. Every dollar adds up and with each donation we can greatly reduce or eliminate our reliance on endowment funds!

Dear Friends at St. Paul's Lutheran,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of \$300, to The Make-A-Way Center! We simply would not be able to continue our services without your support. Thank You!

Sincerely,

Brian E. Stuck

Executive Director

Dear St Paul's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your recent donation of \$100 from St. Paul's Lutheran Church to the Salvation Army of Massillon. Generous gifts from donors like you provide the financial and moral support needed to continue our mission.

Sincerely,

Brennen and Allison Hinzman, Captains

Corps Commanding Officers/Pastors

WELFARE & SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

COLLECTION OF NON-PERISHABLE FOOD AND MISC ITEMS FOR THE SALVATION ARMY CHRISTMAS FAMILIES

Last year's ingathering of food was very successful, so we would like to continue the same type of schedule again this year. Therefore, starting Sunday, October 23rd, we will begin to implement the schedule as noted below. Please place your donations in the boxes provided in the side and rear entrances to the church. Monetary donations are also welcomed, to assist in purchasing perishable items, just prior to distribution. If writing a check, please make it out to St. Paul's, noting the donation is for Christmas families.

Any questions, please contact any committee member or me at (330)417-7407.

Thank you for your help in the past. Looking forward to another successful Christmas project this year!

Blessings and peace,
Cindy Lash

Welfare & Social Action Committee

October 23 – Tea and/or Coffee

October 30 – Peanut Butter and/or Jelly

November 6 – Canned soups and or/ pork & beans

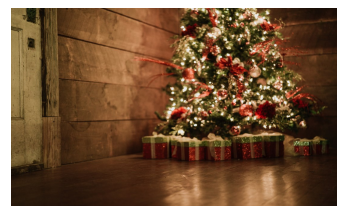
November 13 – Cereal and mixes (cake, brownie, muffin, Bisquick)

November 20 – Canned fruits and vegetables

November 27 – Spaghetti sauce, pasta products, and instant mashed potatoes

December 4 – Paper products (paper towels, facial tissue, and toilet tissue)

December 11 – Bar soap, toothpaste/brushes



Gift Tags

Gift tags for the Salvation Army families will be available in the Gleitsman Lounge starting Sunday, November 27th. Please return all gifts by Sunday, December 11th.

Thanks, Cindy Lash

ALL SALVATION ARMY GIFTS MUST BE RETURNED BY
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022.

THEY MAY BE PLACED IN THE LOUNGE OR IN
CLASSROOM 2.

EACH GIFT SHOULD HAVE A GIFT TAG WITH THE
CHILD'S/ADULT'S NAME

AND

THE TAG

YOU GOT OFF THE TREE,
IF YOU ARE GIVING A CHECK FOR THE UKRAINIAN
CHILDREN,

PLEASE PLACE IT

IN THE OFFERING

BY SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11, 2022.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY IN
GIFTS AND FOOD.

YOU ARE SUCH A BLESSING TO THE FAMILIES
WE HAVE ADOPTED.



Mission Endowment Fund

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 page 3). If you have an organization or cause for consideration please request the form and submit the details to the committee.

Download the St. Paul's Phone APP

Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the "My Church" by Pushpay. 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.



To take advantage of all the app's features you must create an account. Get notifications and reminders of upcoming events, access our live stream worship and worship bulletins, send prayer requests, see the church calendar, and you can even give electronically.

St. Jacob Euchre Night: December 9th, 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, December 8th, to Sue
Phillabaumat smphillabaum@hotmail.com or
Carolyn Carasea at c.carasea@gmail.com**



Holly Herron	12/2
Thomas Wright	12/3
Vera Keefer	12/5
Karen Lunkwitz	12/5
Charles Stuck	12/5
Amy Burkett	12/6
Ralph Burns	12/6
Judy Lemasters	12/9
Jason Deuble	12/11
Carter Moden	12/15
Laurel Borkowski	12/17
Gary Diuk	12/18
Carl Sekulich	12/20
Christine Bates	12/21
Jennifer Maurer	12/21
Virginia Lang	12/22
Evelyn Eclen	12/23
Ronald Meimer	12/23
Patricia Myers	12/25
Lisa Skelly	12/27
Karen Kiefer	12/28
Steven Crofot	12/30
Donald Gray	12/30
Judith Hall	12/30
Kayla Hepler	12/31

December



December Anniversaries

Jim & Becky Johnson	12/7
James & Patricia Myers	12/14
Jack & Marsha Fortune	12/19
Thomas & Deb Schmolt	12/28
Julia & Robert Englehart	12/28



December 2022

Calendar

11/30 - Advent Service

(Holy Trinity)

6:00 pm

12/1 - Bible Study

10:00 am

12/14 - Advent Service

(St Paul's)

6 pm

12/4 - Worship Service

10:00 am

12/4 - Adult Sunday School

11:15 am

12/14 - Chancel Choir

7:30 - 9 pm

12/4 - Candle Light Walk

5 -7:30 pm

12/15 - Bridge Deadline

* (St. Mary's 7:45-9:00pm)

12/15 - Bible Study

10:00 am

12/7 - Snip N Stitch

9 - 11 am

12/18 - Worship Service

10:00 am

12/7 - Advent Service

(Faith)

6:00 pm

12/18 - Adult Sunday

11:15 am

School

12/7 - Chancel Choir

7:30 - 9 pm

12/20 - Finance Committee

6 pm

12/8 - Bible Study

10:00 am

12/21 - Snip N Stitch

9 - 11am

12/8 - Friendship Circle

12/21 - Advent Service

@ Becky Johnson's house

6:00 pm

(St. Jacob)

6:00 pm

12/9 - Community Meal and

12/21 - Chancel Choir

7:30 - 9 pm

Clothes Closet

4:30 - 6pm

12/22 - Bible Study

10:00 am

12/9 - RSVP for Euchre @

12/24 - Christmas Eve

7:00 pm

St. Jacob's

Christmas Eve

10:30 pm

12/11 - Worship Service

10:00 am

12/25 - Christmas

10:00 am

12/11 - Adult Sunday School

11:15 am

12/28 - Snip N Stitch

9 -11 am

12/13 - Church Council

7:00 pm

12/28 - Chancel Choir

7:30 - 9 pm

12/14 - Snip N Stitch

9 - 11 am

12/29 - Bible Study

10:00 am

12/29 - Property Committee

6 pm

We just want to thank all who supported God's Kitchen Angels by buying pumpkin rolls and cookies.

We have a wonderful time and enjoy each others fellowship while baking. What a spectacular group of ladies!

We made 75 pumpkin rolls which made us \$900 We made 250 bakers dozen of cookies for a grand total 3,250 cookies!!!

This gave us a grand total of \$1,750.

All monies will go to local charities.



May God bless you all,

God's Kitchen Angels





St. Paul's Kitchen Angels

Our Kitchen Angels made the best pumpkin rolls ever!! I think they may have had some fun as well. What do you think? A big thank you to all who helped make this a big success!



Cut-out Christmas Cookies

Yes, you guessed it! Our Kitchen Angels are getting ready to Start making Christmas Cut-out Cookies.

Look for the flyers in our church bulletins to place your orders. Thanks in advance for your continued support.

P.S. The cookies freeze well and will make yummy Christmas gifts:)



Income and Expense Summary

Fiscal Year 2022 – 2023 Month Ending September, 2022

	<u>September</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$ 19,339	\$ 68,942
Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 7,096	\$ 11,262
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 27,766</u>	<u>\$ 75,735</u>
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ (1,331)	\$ 4,469

Income and Expenses Summary

Fiscal Year 2022-2023 Month Ending October, 2022

	<u>October</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Income	\$ 18,531	\$ 87,473
Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 2,083	\$ 13,345
<u>Expenses</u>	<u>\$ 28,392</u>	<u>\$ 104,126</u>
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ (7,778)	\$ (3,308)



Volunteer today!

‘United Way’

Volunteer income tax assistance. **Give back. Learn to prepare. Flexible hours.**

Be the expert who helps families keep more money in their households. Volunteers for this program work with families to claim tax credits and save them fees, so they can use their refunds for essential needs like housing, utilities, and transportation.

Sign up: [UWSTARK.ORG/VITA](https://www.uwstark.org/vita)

Call: 330)-491-9989

Text: (234)360-0136

*The Malone University Department of Music is delighted to announce our annual Christmas concert on December 2nd and 3rd at 7:30 pm in the Johnson Center for Worship and the Fine Arts. This year's concert theme is **Savior of the Nations, Come!** Through scripture and music, we will recall the prophecy of Christ's coming and his saving work from many nations, demonstrating Christ's Great Commission work.*

Tickets are available at www.malone.edu/Christmas and we hope you will share the invitation to this joyful concert with your congregation. This event can be a wonderful opportunity for small groups, choirs, and other community groups from congregations to share a Christmas event together.

Grateful for your partnership in the Gospel!

Marin Jacobson, DMA

Director of Choral Activities

330-471-8476



Thrivent

Programs and resources to amplify your impact.

How to apply for a Thrivent Action Team

1. Visit thrivent.com/actionteam for resources to help you brainstorm ideas and prepare for your project.
2. Once you have your project idea, get ready to apply. Here's what you'll need to have handy when you fill out the application. User ID and password. Project date. A short description of project. The organization that will profit. How you'll use the Community Impact Card. Number of volunteers on team and T-shirt sizes.
3. Now that you have everything you need, visit thrivent.com/actionteam and click Apply Now to begin process.

Check us out on:



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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: Mon-Fri 9-1

