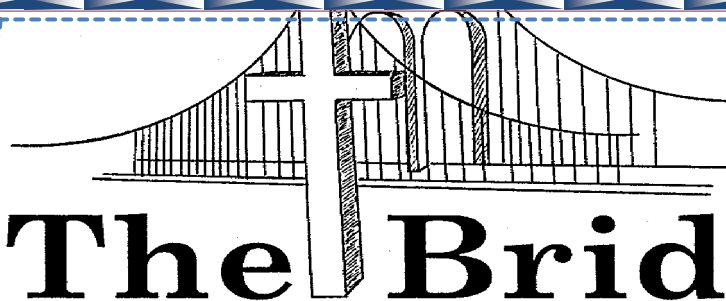


**ST. PAUL'S
EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

**September
2023**



The Bridge

"Connecting Church and Home"

Important Dates to Remember:

Bell Choir rehearsal starts Wednesday, September 6th at 6:00 pm

Chancel Choir Rehearsal starts Wednesday, September 6th at 7:00 pm

Adult Sunday School starts Sunday, September 10th

Youth Sunday School pancake breakfast (for kids & their families) Sunday, September 10th

Youth Sunday School starts Sunday, September 17th

St. Paul's Seeking an Administrative Assistant

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.

Dear Friends in Christ,

Each year on September 14th churches all over the world gather to reflect upon a symbol that is at the very heart of our faith—the Holy Cross. This festival, which originated in the fourth century, celebrates the triumph of the cross. Paul reminds us that Christ crucified is the power and wisdom of God. As Moses put a serpent on a pole to be a source of healing for the Israelites, we lift high the cross as the sign of our health and salvation.

The cross, once an instrument of suffering and death, has been transformed into a powerful emblem of love, redemption, and hope. It stands as a testament to God's unconditional love for humanity. As we look upon the cross, we are reminded of the incredible lengths God went to in order to reconcile us to Himself.

In John 3:16, we read, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life." The cross demonstrates the depth of God's love—a love so profound that He willingly allowed His Son to endure the pain and agony of crucifixion to offer us the gift of salvation.

The cross also challenges us to reevaluate our lives. It prompts us to consider our priorities, to examine our actions, and to recommit ourselves to the path of righteousness. Through the cross, we understand that our salvation comes not through our own merit, but through God's grace alone. This realization should humble us, leading us to live lives of gratitude and obedience.

As we celebrate Holy Cross Day, let us remember that the cross is more than a historical event; it is a call to discipleship. Jesus said in Matthew 16:24 (NIV), "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me." Just as Christ willingly embraced the cross for our sake, we are called to take up our crosses—the challenges, sacrifices, and responsibilities of our lives—and follow Him.

May this Holy Cross Day be a time of reflection, renewal, and recommitment to the teachings of Christ. Let us approach the cross with hearts full of gratitude, minds open to understanding, and a willingness to carry our own crosses as we journey with our Savior.

Blessing,

Pastor Mark



Just a reminder: Please do not buy gift cards if you receive an email or a text message from Pastor Mark or anyone on the Church Council requesting you to do so. We will use the church's credit cards to purchase gift cards if we need them. There have been many scam emails and text messages. If you think it really is someone from church please talk to them directly before purchasing anything. Thank you!!

COMMITTEE INFORMATION

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE

Kathryn Myers, Chair
Amy Burkett,
Sue Ambrosic
Gayle Jackson
Becky Johnson
Cindy Lash
Deidra Monastra

SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE

Lea Lang, Chair
Amy Burkett
John Liebermann
Lisa Skelly

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Dan Farrar, Chair
Greg Klein
John Liebermann
Patty Long
Tracie Schmolt
John Stanko

STAFF SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Greg Klein, Chair
Jennifer Nelson Maurer
Jackie Pritchett
Elizabeth Schehl

MISSION ENDOWMENT FUND

Craig Maurer, Chair
Sue Ambrosic
Don Gray
Karl Kalk
Lynda Klein

PARISH FELLOWSHIP COMMITTEE

Carol Stoner, Chair
Gary Collard
Sue Reid

PROPERTY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

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

Paul Mutchler

WELFARE & SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE

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

STAFF

REV. MARK KREEMER

727.479.2303 or revmkreemer@gmail.com

ABIGAIL HAAKE, Director of Music/Organist

Abby@stpaulsmassillon.org

TRACIE SCHMOLT, Finance Administrator

330.704.7825 or financeadmin@stpaulsmassillon.org

EDDIE LANGFORD, Maintenance Manager

330.481.9888 or langfordeddie.47@gmail.com

WORSHIP & MUSIC COMMITTEE

Greg Klein, Chair
Abigail Haake
Karl Kalk
Rev. Kreemer
Patty Long
Kathryn Myers
Kim Oberlin

Phyllis Staver
Carol Butler
Dwight Butler

YOUTH & PARISH EDUCATION COMMITTEE

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

Church Council Highlights

Your Church Council met on August 8th. Pastor Mark reported that his foot surgery is scheduled for Friday, September 1st. He will miss worship on Sunday, September 3rd and Patty Long is scheduled to preach on that day. Accommodations will be made to help Pastor Mark navigate on his scooter, particularly during worship, while he keeps weight off his foot as doctor directed. We are praying all goes well for a successful surgery and full recovery for Pastor.

The start of the new season of church ministry will begin in September. Scott Larson reported that a Rally Day is scheduled for the children and youth Sunday School which will include a pancake breakfast in the dining room after the morning worship service on September 10th. The adult Sunday School will resume class on September 10th as well on the top floor of Parish Hall. Thursday Bible Study will begin again on September 14th at 10 a.m.

Dan Farrar reported for the Finance Committee and announced that the church will go with a new insurance company beginning at the start of September. After a careful review and comparison of several policies, the Hastings Mutual Insurance Company was chosen and will result in excellent coverage at a reduced annual rate and deductible for St. Paul's.

The Worship and Music committee is looking forward to the start of the new season of chancel choir and handbell choir rehearsals beginning on September 6th under the direction of Dr. Abigail Haake. Abby's first Sunday as organist will be on September 10th. The new Cathedral Concert Series schedule for 2023-2024 will be publicized in the very near future.

The Capital Campaign will be meeting soon to begin developing strategic plans on ways to raise financial support for the various capital projects for St. Paul's. Plans are also underway for addressing our staff vacancy in the church office. Staff Support will take the lead on revising the job description as needed and publicizing the employment opportunity. Plans for office coverage in the interim are also being considered.

Respectfully shared,
Patty Long
President, Church Council



Adult Sunday School



I Want to Know Him

...I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. (Philippians 3:10a)

How well do we really know Jesus? We would all likely admit - not well enough! Beginning Sunday, September 10th, the adult Sunday School class will study more about the person and work of Jesus, highlighting areas of both that perhaps have not been as closely examined. We will use as our scriptural foundation the various gospels as well as Paul's letter to the Philippians. Please join us as we come together to know Jesus more clearly and follow him more closely. Pick up some coffee and a pastry in the Gleitsman Lounge and meet us on the top floor of Parish Hall following the worship service. An elevator is available for easy access. Hope to see you then!



Prayer List Changes

In order to communicate the names of those who are in need of our more immediate attention and prayers, the names of individuals will be kept on the prayer list found in the church bulletin for one month and then removed. If there is an individual who needs to remain on the list, a call should be made to the church office requesting the name be placed on the list. Please know these changes are being made so we might give particular prayerful attention to those more recently added to the list. Thank you for your kind understanding. - (Worship and Church Music Committee)

In our prayers today we will remember



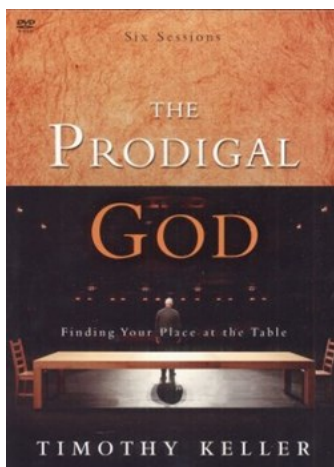
Lisa Campbell, Chris Collard, David Creese, Robert Haas, Jeremy Hannum, Jackie Howe, Dick Longworth, Karen Marsh, Craig Maurer, Martha Scott, Linda Shaffer, Cheryl Shaw

Thursday Morning

Bible Study

Starting September 7th, 10 am

The Prodigal God by Timothy Keller



In six captivating DVD video sessions, pastor and New York Times bestselling author Timothy Keller opens your eyes to the powerful message of Jesus' best-known - and least understood - parable. *The Prodigal God* is a revelation of the very heart of the gospel: God's radical love for sinners of every kind.

Taking you beyond the traditional focus on the wayward younger son, Dr. Keller helps you glean insights from each of the characters in Jesus' parable: the irreligious younger son, the moralistic elder son, and the Father who lavishes his love on both. *The Prodigal God* will challenge the devout and the skeptic alike to see Christianity in a whole new way.

Remembering Our Shut-ins

Mary Martin was born on Nov 12, 1936, in Elwood, PA. Soon after they moved to Massillon and became a member of St. Paul's. She married James Martin who was her best girl friend's brother. They continued to come to St. Paul's along with their 2 daughters. Mary pursued a career in nursing and retired in 2000 as the head of the NICU at Aultman Hospital. Jim passed away in 2013 but Mary says she has many things to be grateful for. She has 2 daughters, 6 grandchildren, and 9 great-grandchildren. She shares homes with both her daughter Mary Beth and her husband Robert who live in Clinton and her daughter Joni who lives in North Carolina. Her one grandson Matt is married to Chandra Oberlin Piatt of St. Paul's. Her granddaughter Deanna will graduate in December as an RN following in her grandma's footsteps. Mary loves to watch Wheel of Fortune and Jeopardy. Although she doesn't read like she used to she still loves to put puzzles together. Her greatest joy is being with her family and the little ones!



* Please contact Sue Ambrosic at 330-832-5798 if you would like to have the *
* Altar or Throne Flowers for 2023. Thank you! *

Community Meal

St. Paul's opened its doors for the monthly Community Meal and Community Closet on Friday, August 11. All enjoyed a dinner of sausage with peppers and onion, penne pasta, applesauce, dinner roll, choice of beverage, and cookies for dessert. A total of 83 meals were served, with numerous seconds. In addition, a number of meals were packed up and made available for delivery to some of our shut-ins. As we approach the end of the summer, we are undergoing some changes in our "work crew". Some need to move on, still others have joined in. Please know that we are very grateful for those who have served this ministry for many months. We are likewise grateful to those who have stepped up to join us. Please understand that we can always use your help. To find out how, please contact either Jack or Marsha Fortune.

The Community Closet was visited by nearly all of those who came to eat. This is such an important part of our ministry and we thank you for keeping us so well stocked! Your generosity of donations has been wonderful!

Our monthly "care bag team" was, as usual, very busy. This part of the ministry fills the need these people have beyond a quality meal and quality clothing. It provides our visitors with common household items such as paper towels, and Kleenex, among other things.

Our ministry here is a reflection of our love for this community and those in need. We are all God's people. All praise and honor to Him! ‘

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, September 8 from 4:30 to 6:00. Thank you for your prayers and continued support.

Jack and Marsha Fortune

Clothing Closet

Please help our organization and storage efforts and be mindful of the season when donating items

Spring/ Summer donations requested 2nd week of April - September 1st

Fall/ Winter donations requested 2nd week of September - April 1st

ITEMS ALWAYS NEEDED - Personal care items, purses, undergarments (mens underwear and undershirts, womens underwear, bras, pajamas), Seasonally appropriate outerwear like jackets and shoes

HELP SORT CLOTHES- Every 1st SUNDAY of the month following church

HELP SORT CLOTHES-Wednesday, September 6th at 5:30-7:00 pm

HELP DURING SHOPPING - Every 2nd Friday of the Month 4:15 - 6:00pm

Many hands make light work and we appreciate all of your support with one of our most popular ministries!

Thank you to all the volunteers that have helped sort clothing the past couple months. We appreciate the extra help! There is still a lot to organize, but we appreciate the help!

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.

Download Today!

St. Jacob Euchre Night: September 9, 2023

**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, September 8, 2023, to Sue Phillabaum
at smphillabaum@hotmail.com or
Carolyn Carasea at c.carasea@gmail.com**

Homemade Chili on an open fire!!

Price: \$8.00 a quart

"Limited Amounts"

_____ quarts x \$8.00 = _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____



Orders may be given to Sue Ambrosic
(330)832-5798 or dropped in the offering plate. They can
also be dropped off at the office.

Deadline: September 10, 2023

Pick up: September 24, 2023

Mums the word. Having fun shopping for mums.





WINE, FOOD, and FALL FUN #2

Led by Loren Veigel

Thursday, October 19, 2023 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.

\$200.00 per person

Travel Friends:

I promised you another tour this fall. Of course we are including some wine tastings! However, I don't want to leave out anyone not interested in a total wine tour. so . I'm not telling you all the details, but I'm VERY excited about this itinerary, and can assure you it will include something for everyone!

Here's why you should join us::

We will visit THREE wineries; your tastings are INCLUDED at all three.

Bus rides will be very short - allowing time for TEN total stops all in one day, and all included in your price!

Breakfast, Lunch AND dinner are included!

- We are not visiting a single place that has ever appeared on one of my previous itineraries! ALL NEW STOPS!!

The tour is very inclusive - everything is paid for. |

Your price includes: motor coach transport with Pioneer Trails; light breakfast at departure; lunch; dinner; three winery Visits with three tastings paid; tour guide at FIVE sites; meeting winemakers and owners; Loren's planning and tour management.

**WINE TASTING - LUNCH - DINNER - FASCINATING LOCAL AND NATIONAL
HISTORY - HUGE VARIETY OF ATTRACTIONS - LOVELY SCENERY**

FUN AND FELLOWSHIP WITH OUR GREAT TRAVEL FRIENDS!

SPECIAL NOTE: MODERATE WALKING AND CLIMBING - no long tours!

DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY FOR A GREAT DAY OUT - REGISTER SOON.

Serving During the Month of September 2023



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



9/3 - Kathryn Myers

9/10 - Karl Kalk

9/17 - Andrew Lang

9/24 - Scott Larson

Communion Assistants

9/3 - Scott Larson & Tracie Schmolt

9/10 - Kathryn Myers & Don Gray

9/17 - Patty Long & Carol Stoner

9/24 - Cindy Lash & Scott Larson

Greeters

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

9/3 - Rob Pritchett

9/10 - Rev. Lynn & LaShell Williamson

9/17 - Dick & Robin Cordes

9/24 - Debbie Stevens

Sacristan

September

Sue Ambrosic

If you are interested in helping with Sacristy please call Kathryn Myers at (330)327-2590.

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

September

Kathryn Myers

Ushers

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

September

Dave Dourm

Dan Farrar

Phil Halco

Russ Poling



Income and Expense Summary

Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Month Ending July 2023

	July	YTD
Income	\$ 22,434	\$ 22,434
Endowment Withdrawal	\$ 2,083	\$ 2,083
Expenses	\$ 23,094	\$ 23,094
Surplus or (Deficit)	\$ 1,424	\$ 1,424



- | | |
|---|---|
| 2. James Vallance | 14.Samantha Haring |
| 3. Judy Fichter | 15.Jack Lang |
| 5. Robert Davies, Brooke Larson | 17.Elliana Monastra |
| 6. Jaden Brumfield, Carol Butler,
Larry Sheets | 20.Haley Myer |
| 7. Gwen Halco, Sue Jones | 21.Madison Reiman |
| 8. Sam Monastra, James Starrett | 22.Doug Books, Darlene Lewis |
| 9. Patricia Pratt | 23.Bronwyn Dourm, Jackie Howe, Wendy Reiman |
| 10.Brenda Brown | 24.Ethan Deuble, Jarrett Dueble, Julia Englehart |
| 11.Parker Moden, Jennifer Stanko | 26.Janet Kuller |
| 12.Ryan Skelly | 29.Duane Books, Chris Collard, Evan Myers, Amy
Stuck |
| 13. Layne Getz | |



- Sept 7 - Dan & Sandi Bennett
- Sept 13 - Matthew & Tracie Brumfield
- Sept 16 - Sam & Deidra Monastra
- Sept 21 - D. Richard & Vivian Getz
- Sept 27 - Brandon & Marrisa Cole



9/3 - Worship Service 10:00am

9/3 - Help sort clothes - Clothes Closet

9/5 - Worship & Music Committee 6:30pm

9/6 - Snip N Stich 8:30 a.m.

9/6 - Help sort clothes—Clothes Closet 5:30pm

9/7 - Bible Study 10:00 am

9/7 - Friendship Circle 6pm

9/8 - RSVP for Euchre @ St. Jacob's

9/8 - Community Meal & Clothes Closet 4:30 –6:00pm

9/9 - Euchre @ St. Jacob's 5:30 –9pm

9/10 - Worship Service 10:00am

9/12 - Church Council 7:00pm

9/13 - Snip N Stich 8:30 a.m.

9/13 - Community Hospice 10 –12noon

9/14 - Bible Study 10 am

9/15 - Bridge Deadline

9/17 - Worship Service 10:00am

9/19 - Finance Committee 6pm

9/20 - Snip N Stich 8:30 a.m.

9/21 - Bible Study 10:00 am

9/24 - Worship Service 10:00am

9/26 - Snip N Stich 8:30 a.m.

9/27 - Bible Study 10:00 am

9/28 - Property Committee 6:00 pm

Please email newsletter articles to Tracie Schmolt at financeadmin@stpaulsmassillon.org by the 15th of the month. Thank you!!

Friendship Circle

Thursday, September 7, 2023

Gleitsman Lounge 6pm



Janet Kuller and LaShell Williamson will be our hosts.

Rev. Tim, son-in-law of JuDee Reed will be talking about their trip to the Holy Land.

All ladies of the church are welcome!



Dear St. Paul's Lutheran Church,

I want to thank you, my church family, for a meaningful final Sunday service and luncheon, and indeed eight years of ministry and fellowship that I will hold close to my heart forever. I was so touched by your cards, notes, and conversation in recent months...and always. Special thanks to the congregation for the two beautiful, framed pictures and monetary gift.

I have arrived safely in the great state of Arizona. I am now serving as *Associate Professor of Music* and *Director of Choral Activities* for Yavapai College in Prescott, located in the northern part of the state. I will also serve a wonderful Catholic parish near Pheonix as *Director of Sacred Music and Liturgy*. I enjoyed my cross-country trip (with cats!) and am trying to stay cool in this unique Arizona heat, though I have been tempted to wake up early and roast bacon for breakfast on the nearby blacktop.

I want to reiterate thanks to this church family for enriching and guiding my faith journey through your love and example. I will forever remember this place as one where I learned how to reflect Christ's love as a servant. I continue to hold memories and relationships close to my heart and hope to keep in touch.

I send my best wishes to Dr. Abby Haake as she begins her ministry and wish the entire music program and congregation joy and success in ministry for years to come.

Sincerely,

Chad Pittman

1472 W. Horseshoe Bend Dr.
Camp Verde, AZ 86322

330-608-1655



Church Picnic—August 20, 2023



Check us out on:



Address Service Requested

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: Mon-Fri 9-1