

# TIDINGS

St. Paul United Church of Christ

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Senior Pastor - Rev. Dr. Geoffrey G. Drutchas

Minister of Christian Education - Pastor Cheryl Schalm

November 2017

## **PASTOR'S PEACE**

On early Saturday morning, October 28, my wife Eileen and I received a text message from our son and daughter-in-law in Philadelphia that they have a new baby and we have a new grandchild. It's a girl whom they've named Alma Irene. She was born late the night before, weighed in eight pounds, twelve ounces, and has a fine head of dark hair. Alma's gender was a purposeful surprise: my son and daughter-in-law preferred not to know in advance. However sleep deprived, everyone's doing fine. Our two-and-a-half year old grandson Naaman will now have to adjust to being a big brother with both its challenges and rewards.

My son said to me the other day that becoming a father to two kids was a life goal for him. Mission more than partly accomplished! Now comes for him the joy and responsibility of rearing both. I am proud of Griffin and my daughter-in-law Elizabeth for their commitment to welcome children. It is a vote of confidence in the cosmos and all that God has created. It's a statement of faith that, troubled as life can become, God's world is still a beautiful place that our maker-creator has not abandoned.

When my son was young and displaying his thoughtful, considerate side, particularly in helping others out, I used to tell him what a great father he'd make when the time was right in his own life. I was being perfectly honest and sincere. But I was also encouraging him to look on fatherhood as something positive. I wanted him to have the confidence that he could father well. I'm happy to say that Griffin loves being a father—now twice over. And I love being a grandfather—albeit at the distance between Detroit and Philadelphia.

As God's people we need to always make sure that we are encouraging and supporting family life. There's no greater vocation than being a good father and good mother. And a church that honors Jesus' words, "Suffer the little children to come to me," can do no better than love and boost them in every way we can.

***--Shalom, Pastor Geoff Drutchas***

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EDITORIAL**

It has been said that "a critical spirit is like poison ivy – it only takes a little contact to spread its poison." Negative attitudes, remarks and outlooks can create a combative and destructive environment. They can consume us and keep us from recognizing any good in a situation or person. Critical and negative behaviors often lead to bickering, arguments, fighting and divide, with little to no positive benefit resulting from them. While the poison caused by such contact can spread rapidly, it can also be contained and eliminated with the right ointments and potions- primarily gratitude and love. A thankful heart enables us to focus on what is good in our lives and in the lives of others. It helps us to recognize the good despite the bad and evil. It keeps us humble and connected to God, the giver of all that is good. A loving heart makes it possible to love all people regardless of their flaws, shortcomings and faulty behaviors. It keeps us grounded and centered on the promises of God and less responsive to the negativity that often surrounds us.

Whether it in our homes, schools, workplace, or any greater endeavor we may pursue, may we always be reminded of the Apostle Paul's warning to "avoid worldly and empty chatter; for it will lead to further ungodliness, and its talk will spread like gangrene." As children of God we are called to follow our Heavenly Father's example and to combat negativity and nastiness with love, kindness and positive encouragement. May God strengthen us and guide us in all situations and conditions in order that we might represent Him in truth and in love.

***In Christ, Pastor Cheryl Schalm, Minister of Christian Education***

### **Christian Education Plans for Upcoming Events**

#### **Thirsty Thursday's Young Adult Bible Study & Fellowship**

***Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. - John 6:35***

Whether you have been a regular or are considering coming for the first time, we welcome and look forward to your company and participation.

#### ***"Thirsty Thursdays"***

***The What:*** Young Adult Bible Study

***The Why:*** Rehydration: Daily living and life can be dehydrating!

***The Where:*** The Schalm's. 26868 Winslow Drive. Flat Rock

***The When:*** Thursday evenings beginning September 14th

***The Time:*** 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m

#### ***Frequently Asked Questions:***

***\* What's in it for me?***

*Thursday's truths (according to God!)*

***\*Will there be food?***

*Yes, and beverages (No, not that kind!)*

***\*Will I need a Bible or anything?***

*No, everything will be provided*

**\*Will this be all formal and boring?**

*No, it will be laid back, welcoming, faith-based and a time to learn and grow; a spiritual planet fitness of sorts "a no-judgement zone."*

**\*What if I can't make it all the time?**

*Come when you can. Readings and summaries of all gatherings will be provided. If you are away at school and would like to participate let Mrs. Schalm know. She will hook you up!*

**Rock Hard in Faith Youth Fellowship fourth quarter activities include:** November 4-5, Youth Fall Retreat; November 19, Youth lunch and workday at Operation Christmas Child; December 1, Youth sponsored Holiday Family Fun Night & Christmas Party Lock-in; December 8, Toledo Zoo Lights Before Christmas; December 9, Soup Kitchen Christmas Party; December 17, Cookie Walk; December 30, host soup kitchen lunch. Please sign the sheet located on the youth board to confirm your participation. Contact Pastor Schalm with any questions. Complete articles highlighting these events are found in the "Don't Miss These Events" section of the Tidings by date.

**"Am I Happy"**

**Saturday – Sunday, November 4<sup>th</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> "Am I Happy" The "2017" Youth Fall Retreat,**

Where are you searching for happiness? With more access to entertainment, education, social networking and material "stuff" than ever before, many young people often feel more confused and empty than before. Over the course of the retreat we will talk about searching for happiness in our relationships, our accomplishments, appearances and circumstances. We will discuss Jesus' ideal of true happiness versus the world's ideal of happiness.

Plan to join your church friends for a weekend of fun, fellowship and spiritual growth.

**Saturday, November 4<sup>th</sup>**

**9:00 a.m.** – Depart St. Paul UCC for Michindoh Conference Center

**11:00 a.m.** – Arrive / Unload at Michindoh

**11:45 a.m.** – Orientation & Welcome

**Noon** – Lunch

**1:00 – 2:30 p.m.** – Free Time (Outdoor games; basketball, volleyball, soccer, hiking. Indoor games; gym, crafts, etc.)

**2:30 p.m.** – No-gripe hike

**3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.** – Praise & Worship "Searching for Happiness in relationships and accomplishments"

**4:00 – 5:30 p.m.** – Free Time & Archery

**5:30 p.m.** – Dinner

**6:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.** – The Hunt for Happiness Scavenger Hunt

**7:30 p.m.** – Hayride & Bonfire (S'mores & Hot Chocolate)

**9:00 – 11:00 p.m.** – Movie & Popcorn "Miracles from Heaven"

**Sunday, November 5<sup>th</sup>**

**8:30 a.m.** – Breakfast

**9:30 – 10:30 a.m.** – Praise & Worship Service "Searching for Happiness in Appearances & Despite Circumstances."

**11:00 – Noon** – Pack, load-up vans, free time

**Noon** – Lunch

**1:00 p.m.** – Depart for home

**3:00 p.m.** – Arrive St. Paul UCC

### **CALLING ALL COLLEGE STUDENTS AND RECENT HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES.**

Christian Education is in need of pictures and addresses of all St. Paul UCC college students and High School graduates enrolled in continuing education programs (trade school, skill programs, apprenticeships, etc.). Please forward addresses and pictures to Pastor Schalm or to the church office.

Pictures will be displayed on the “College Connection” board and students will be added to the quarterly “College Connection” mailing list.

**The November spotlight** shines bright upon the Barnosky family. Rick (dad), Megan (mom), Gracie and Luke reside in Trenton. The family has two dogs; Justice, the family pet and Atlas, a working K9. Several of the Barnosky’s favored family activities include family bar-b-ques and bon-fires, going to Frankenmuth, visiting aunts & uncles, dance parties, movie & popcorn nights, reading and spending time with their extended families. Favored family trips include annual vacations with extended family and visiting grandma and grandpa in Munising.

Several of the Barnosky’s family traditions include special birthday celebrations, family holiday dinners and gatherings, an annual family reunion in August and weekend family fun time. Family values include; kindness, sharing, loving others and being thankful. Please take the time to introduce yourself to this wonderful family.

**Make sure you read through the “Events you won’t want to miss” section of this newsletter to find all the Christian Education intergenerational events by date.**

## **EVENTS YOU WON’T WANT TO MISS**

### **Italian Pasta Supper Hosted on First November Friday**

Does a congregation with a rich German heritage know how to make pasta? Yes, we do! In the tradition of Shrove Tuesday spaghetti suppers of yore, our church members will be hosting an Italian pasta supper on Friday, November 3, 4:30-7 p.m., to help raise funds to close the budget gap for this year. Both traditional spaghetti with tomato meat sauce and Fettucine Alfredo with white sauce will be at the top of the menu for the night. Completing the meal will be a salad bar, bread, desserts, and beverages—all for \$10 per person. Tickets for kids 5-12 years old are only \$6 and those under 5 eat free.

Adding to the ambiance of the night, candlelit tables with checkered table cloths will welcome diners. The supper is open to the larger community. You are encouraged to invite friends for a great night that will help our church support its mission of service. Tickets can be purchased by contacting the church office (313-291-1221).

### **Totenfest Service Remembers Family Members and Friends**

Church members who have passed away over the last twelve months are being remembered at the Totenfest Service on Sunday, November 5. As their names are read aloud near the end of the service, our 1911 church bell will be rung in honor of each deceased member. A special liturgy based on an epistle of the Apostle Paul will also be offered as a part of the morning services at 9 and 10:30 a.m.

Before the start of the services church members are invited to light a memorial candle on the altar for family members and friends who have passed on, whether or not they have been church members or had services led by our pastors. A deacon will be on hand at the altar step to provide any necessary assistance.

Memorial Sunday always immediately follows All Hallows' Eve, All Saints Day, and All Souls' Day—three back-to-back occasions in the historic calendar of the church in which those who have died are remembered and celebrated.

### **'Simple Gifts' Stewardship Sunday Upcoming**

'Simple Gifts--The Way of Jesus' is the theme of this month's Stewardship Sunday service, November 12. As we look to finishing this year with the resources of our ministry and planning for the year ahead Pastor Geoff Drutchas will be highlighting the importance of faithful stewardship for our lives and the present and future of our church and its ministry. Faith commitment cards, mailed to all members and friends along with important stewardship information, will be received and blessed during both the 9 and 10:30 a.m. services. Additional faith commitment cards with envelopes will also be available in the pews that morning.

Giving envelopes for 2018 are available in the narthex for individual pick-up. The boxed envelopes are arranged in alphabetical order for easy identification and retrieval. If you have questions about faith commitment cards or giving envelopes, please contact the church office (313-291-1221) or speak with the presiding deacon or Pastor Geoff Drutchas.

**Sewing Guild -- Sew 'n Sews --** Please join us for a little sewing and a lot of fellowship at our next meeting on Thursday, November 16, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. Bring a sandwich for lunch, dessert and coffee is provided. P/S: No sewing skill required!

### **ChristNet Presents 'Holiday Dazzle & Dreams' Benefit**

ChristNet Services will be hosting a "Holiday Dazzle & Dreams" benefit dinner on Friday, November 17. The gala is intended to help raise funds for a very serious and important project—the completion of the ChristNet Services Building on Eureka Road in Taylor. Tickets to the event, which will be held at the Orlando Familia Banquet Center on Sibley Road in Riverview, are now on sale. The evening will feature keynote speaker, Father Bob McCabe, a Metro Detroit homeless advocate. It would also include dinner, dancing, and silent auctions.

Our own church members launched the emergency shelter program twenty-five years ago. Today, more than fifty churches participate in the program which serves men, women, and children in dire need of shelter. ChristNet also maintains a daytime program in rented space at the Church of Nazarene on Eureka Road in Taylor. Currently, ChristNet is rehabbing a building on Eureka Road that will permit them to offer expanded support services to the homeless and help them achieve greater self-reliance and transition into permanent, secure housing. But the rotational night time program hosted by churches will continue even after the move to the new building sometime in 2017.

St. Paul Church members interested in attending the event can call the church office to join our church's table or order tickets directly through coordinators Linda Cleaver (ljcleaver@yahoo.com) and Linda Dickman (lindickman@wowway.com). Tickets are \$50 per person.

## **Operation Christmas Child and Fish & Loaves Donations Blessed at Thanksgiving Service**

The Thanksgiving season has always been a time for thanks and sharing. On the Sunday before Thanksgiving, November 19, St. Paul Church members are asked to bring canned goods and boxed products to add to a giant cornucopia that will be placed at the foot of the sanctuary altar. Our donations will be delivered that week to the Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry to help families in need. Also, that same Sunday, Christmas shoeboxes for children around the world will also be received and blessed.

Christian Education Minister Pastor Cheryl Schalm will have a special message in the sanctuary for our children and youth at the start of our 10:30 a.m. service.

**St. Paul UCC Supports Operation Christmas Child.** On Sunday, November 19th, a special time will be set aside during the 10:30 a.m. worship service for the "Blessing of the Boxes." Members of the congregation will have the opportunity to fill a shoebox with small gifts for children in need and return it to the church by November 19th. Following their blessing, members of Rock Hard in Faith Youth Fellowship will deliver the gift filled shoe boxes to the Operation Christmas Child, Dearborn collection center.

Upon delivery of the shoeboxes filled by members of St. Paul, volunteers will pack them into shipping boxes and load them onto semi-trucks. From there they will be transported to the Boone, NC distribution center for inspection. From Boone, the boxes will be shipped around the world to be delivered to children living in poverty.

Thank you to all who so kindly and generously support this ministry.

### ***Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>* Lunch & Operation Christmas Child Workday**

Youth should plan to meet for lunch in the Westroom following the 10:30 a.m. worship service. We will then load up all the shoe boxes and deliver them to the distribution center in Dearborn. Please sign the sheet located on the youth board by November 5<sup>th</sup> to confirm your participation.

### **Caregivers Meet for Mutual Support and Learning**

The St. Paul Caregivers Group will once again be meeting on the third Monday of each month at 7:30 p.m. The next gathering is scheduled for November 20th . Every session starts with a quick-read article on a caregiving topic before we turn to conversation and discussion. Caregiving tips will be shared by participants who offer mutual support on a confidential basis. Pastor Geoff Drutchas leads the sessions, assisted by Parish Nurse Kathy Williams. The group is open to all St. Paul church members and friends.

### **'Look for the Blessing' Thanksgiving Eve Service**

"Look for the Blessing" will be the theme of our annual Thanksgiving Eve on Wednesday, November 22. Led by Pastor Geoff Drutchas this year's service will be held in the sanctuary at 7:30 p.m. church members are invited to worship and fellowship together as we give thanks for God's blessings.

The fellowship period will be held in the West Room with fresh pie served for those remaining for refreshments. Mark your calendars now for a night of thanks together.

## **'Blessing of the Greens' Service Held on Last November Sunday**

It'll be Thanksgiving Weekend with many folks away visiting family elsewhere. But those of us here for the last Sunday of November will begin decorating our church for Advent and Christmas and "Blessing the Greens."

In keeping with tradition Our church's "Angel Tree" will reappear at the front of the sanctuary that Sunday and be lit at the end of service to usual chorus of oohs and ahs. The giant tree—decorated each year with angel ornaments donated by church members--will be lit at the end of morning services.

## **Rock Hard in Faith Youth Fellowship Prepare for December Coffee House and Family Fun Night.**

Members of Rock Hard in Faith Youth Fellowship will be hosting their annual December Coffee House and Family Fun Night on Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>. This annual event is open to all church members, family and friends. In addition to Christmas music and the two indoor moonwalks, a coffee café featuring flavored coffees, hot chocolate, pizza and other goodies will be set-up in the Westroom. Families will also have the opportunity to make Christmas crafts, gingerbread houses, candy, picture frames and to decorate T-shirts and cookies. This night is packed with so much fun that Old St. Nick himself won't miss it- and neither should you! Mark your calendars now.

## **First Advent Service Celebrated with Pew Communion—Wear Blue!**

Our congregation will be celebrating the start of a new Christian year with the Advent Service and pew communion on Sunday, December 3, 9 and 10:30 a.m. The change of seasons will be marked by a performance of the handbell choir and the change of lectern and pulpit paraments to blue—the official color of the new season. All church members are invited to join in the spirit of the occasion by wearing something blue as well.

Our congregation practices an open communion. Church membership is not required to partake of the Lord's Supper with us. What is asked is that those sharing in communion be of adult age or a confirmed youth, seeking to walk more closely with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior.

**The Annual "Advent by Candlelight" Program**, sponsored by the Christian Education Ministry, is being held on Sunday, Dec. 3, from 6:45-8:45 PM. This is where one woman hosts a table and asks about 7 other ladies to join her for an advent program, fellowship and dessert. There will be a sign up sheet during coffee hour all through October and November, or you can contact Debbie Case. (debbiescase@aol.com) It is quite easy to be a hostess and I will have envelopes for each hostess with all the information. There will also be a sign up sheet for ladies that do not want to host a table but would like to attend. We will do our best to find a place for every lady that would like to attend. **Deadline to sign up is Sunday, Nov. 19th. I will need to know total numbers at each table by Nov. 26.** The table arrangement in the hall is based on the order that you sign your group up by. Because I will be out of town a lot in October, you will be better able to sign up by emailing me and then I can email the hostess papers to you.

## **'Blue Christmas' Service Remembers Loved Ones**

Church members and friends who have lost loved ones over the past year or more and are experiencing Christmas the first or second time without a loved one are invited to attend a special "Blue Christmas" program and worship service on Thursday, December 7, 7 p.m. We will initially gather in the church parlor and then join for a time of very special worship in the chancel of the St. Paul sanctuary.

Participants are encouraged to bring a photo of their loved one with them that night to place on the altar. The "Blue Christmas" Service will be led by Pastor Geoff Drutchas. For more information, contact the church office (313-291-1221)

**Young Married Ministry, Young Adult Ministry & Youth Fellowship join forces to fill a Kiwanis bus to attend the Lights Before Christmas Toledo Zoo Walk.** All interested should plan to meet at the church on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. for pizza prior to departing at 5:30 p.m. for the Toledo Zoo. The Lights Before Christmas display is magnificent with thousands of lights being strung from trees and ornaments. In addition, there are multiple exhibits, food venues, and pictures with Santa.

All interested in attending should contact Pastor Schalm

### **Santa's Magic Forest Needs Volunteers for St. Paul Day**

It's going to be "St. Paul Day" at Santa's Magic Forest in Taylor Heritage Park on Saturday, December 9, 12-7 p.m. and volunteers from our church are needed to welcome visitors to the Downriver's finest holiday display. In lending a hand, our volunteers will also be helping raise funds for the Fish & Loaves Food Pantry which is Michigan's largest food pantry.

Santa's Magic Forest will open its doors this year on the Saturday after Thanksgiving, November 25 at 3 p.m., just in time to welcome Santa at the head of city-wide parade through Heritage Park at 4 p.m.

The "Magic Forest" holiday display, which includes two dozen charming Christmas scenes with moving animatrons, will continue to welcome visitors through at least Sunday, December 18. Children have an opportunity to visit Santa and Mrs. Claus at the Magic Forest. It's a beautiful time for kids, parents, and volunteers.

There is a small \$3 admission charge (cash only) to the Magic Forest which directly benefits the Fish & Loaves Pantry in its ongoing mission, providing food assistance to thousands of Downriver families throughout the year. Photos with Santa are also available at \$8.

All volunteer stints for St. Paul Day at the Magic Forest are two hours. To volunteer, complete a Make-A-Wish card on Sunday mornings and add it to the offering plate, or contact the church office (313-291-1221).

**Sunday School Children to Present "A Candy Cane Christmas."** "A Candy Cane Christmas," the "2017" Sunday School Christmas pageant will be held on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> in the Fellowship Hall as part of the 10:30 a.m. worship service. All church members are encouraged to attend and to remain afterwards for lunch hosted by Christian Education. In addition, parents should plan to bring their cameras and children their wish list as we anticipate a special visit from Santa.

Parents, please mark your planners as a special dress and all cast rehearsal will be held on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. – noon. All cast members should refer to their rehearsal schedules for additional rehearsal dates.

### **Calling all Bakers – Cookie Donations Sought for Annual Youth Cookie Walk.**

Members of Rock Hard in Faith Youth Fellowship are once again seeking cookie donations for their annual cookie walk to be held on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> following the Christmas Pageant. The past cookie walks have been a great success due to the variety of cookies baked and donated by members of the congregation. The youth are

grateful and thank all those who have contributed in the past. With your continued support, we look forward to another delightful and sweet Cookie Walk.

As has been tradition, in order to prevent chaos created from serving lunch and running the cookie walk simultaneously, the cookie walk will be conducted after lunch has been served. However, if you do not plan to stay for the luncheon, special arrangements can be made to purchase cookies following the conclusion of the Christmas Pageant. Please contact Pastor Schalm to make these arrangements prior to December 17<sup>th</sup>.

**Annual Scrapbook Crop** is Sat. Feb. 3, from 9 AM- 7 PM. The cost is \$40. This includes your cropping space, three meals, as well as snacks and beverages all day. There will be vendors, make and takes, demos, and raffles. Even if you do not want to scrapbook, there will be something for everyone as you shop with our vendors. If you are a vendor, or know of a vendor, and they might be interested, please let me know. We will be needing raffle and door prizes, as well as people to help that day. This is a big fundraiser for BOF and the Christian Education Ministries. Please contact Debbie Case at 734-941-1228 or email [debbiescase@aol.com](mailto:debbiescase@aol.com) if you want more information.

### **Red Hot Purple Angels**

**November 16, Thursday** – Russian Tea Room, [The Royal Eagle], 18745 Old Homestead, Harper Woods, MI 48225 - 313.521.1894 Tea served at 12 noon. We will carpool from the church at 10:45 . The cost is \$26 per person including the tip. Payment is due Oct 26 to Kathy Williams. Please sign up on the RHPA bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. Kathy Williams is the contact. There is more information about the Tea Room & menu on the bulletin board or you can go to their website [www.royaleagle.org](http://www.royaleagle.org).

**December 5, Tuesday**– is our Christmas dinner party at SAVANNAH'S at 2156 W Jefferson in Trenton. The cost for dinner is \$28. The menu choices will be posted on the RHPA Bulletin Board by Nov 7. The sign-up sheet is there now. Sally Sigman is the contact for this event. Please pay Sally by November 16. If you want to carpool from church, let Sally know. Carpooling will leave church at 6 PM sharp. We will meet at Savannah's at 6:30 PM; dinner is at 7 PM. Bring a gift if you have a secret pal. This time sign your name so that your secret pal finally knows who you are. If you do not have a secret pal, please bring a wrapped gift (\$10-\$15) to exchange. You do not have to have a secret pal to participate in the celebration. If you are unable to attend, but want a secret pal for next year, let Sally know or you will not be included for 2018.

Our **January** planning meeting will be on Thursday, the 25th at 7 PM in the Parlor. Please come with ideas for next year's outings/meetings or give them to Kathy Williams prior to that day.

## **HEALTH MINISTRIES**

**Exercise Classes** - Exercise is important to our health. Exercise can be done while sitting in a chair or standing. Delessa Hampton will be our instructor. We will meet from 2–3 PM, on Monday & Wednesday Nov. 1, 6, 8, 20, 27, & 29. The suggested donation to the instructor is \$3 per meeting. All are welcome to participate.

**Matter of Balance** – Class continues on Mondays, from 12-2 PM. We will meet through November 20.

**Shalom** – Chronic disease group meeting. We usually meet the 2nd Monday on each month at 1PM. However, our next meeting is Monday, November 13, at 7 PM. We will have a speaker, Cynthia Nichols-Jackson, a nurse, from the National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (NKFM). The subject is 'Kidney Health: Prevention and Care'. Many of us know a loved one who has kidney problems or want to know how to keep our kidneys healthy. Please plan to attend & bring a friend or family member. This is a Shalom sponsored event.

**Medicare Insurance Change Time until Dec. 6** – Seniors and many disabled persons have an opportunity to change both the Medicare insurance supplemental plan including their Part D –Prescription coverage. Medicare Part A & B coverage and enrollment dates for Part D assistance are posted on the Health Ministries Bulletin Board in Fellowship Hall. Now is the time to look at your supplemental coverage and decide if it is time to change to a different company. Senior Alliance has counselors available to: address all your Medicare questions, assist you to find and enroll in the best Part D coverage for you; assist you in applying for Medicare Savings and Extra Help Programs for Medicare Part D. Bring your Medicare card and a list of all your prescriptions. The dates of enrollment events in the community are Oct. 17, 20, 24, 25, 26, Nov.1, 2, 7, 8, 14, 17, 21, 22, 27, 29, Dec. 4, 5 & 6.

**Flu shot clinic results** for Thursday, October 19. We had 10 church participants and 2 ChristNet guest who received the flu shot. Two others came, but were unable to get the shot. Perhaps we will have more participants next year. Any suggestions are appreciated. Thanks to Walgreens for their participation.

**Blood Drive** – On Thursday, **January 25, from 1-6:45 PM**, we will hold our next blood drive. Please mark your calendar for this date. There needs to be 59 days between donations. Please make an appointment by contacting Parish Nurse, Kathy Williams, or complete a Make-a-Wish card and place it in the offering plate.

**Health/Medical supplies** –If you have or need medical supplies, such as walkers, wheelchairs, please contact our parish nurse or the office.

## **BIRTHDAY'S AND ANNIVERSARIES**

### **November St. Paul Member and Friend Anniversaries:**

Happy Anniversary to the following couples: Allen and Beverly Gunther (51 years), David and Pamela Badarak (45 years), Gary and Patricia Staffeld (41 years), Tracy Jr. and Susan Spears (32 years), Michelle and Steven Matney (27 years), Moses and Veronica Flomo (14 years), Julie and Daniel Melton (12 years), Wesley and Loriann Swain (10 years).

### **November St. Paul Member and Friend Birthdays:**

Happy Birthday to the following members and friends: William Zabik, Lorelee Wilson, Velma McGee, Kathleen Eichner, Sandy Burchard, Lois Rice, Jeannette Wackro, Donna Sigler, Alice Clubb, Gene Edwards, Barbara Gish, Elizabeth LaCroix, Lola Gish, Cynthia Yuenger, Colleen Baca, Ron Rogers, Kevin Staffeld, Douglas Ludlam, Wanda

Wangbickler, William Stears Jr, Leanne Rice, Shelia Klimek, Teri Staffeld, Toni Hill, Nancy Kittendorf, Richard Williams, Shawn Mink, Ronald Cornwell, Anne Blanchard, Michelle Gillespey, Sarah Stull, Christie Smart, Jeffery MacZink, Lawrence Stephens, Alyssa Brandt, Joshua Johnson, Bethany Schalm, Blake Schalm, Joshua Miller

### **November St. Paul Youth Birthdays:**

Happy Birthday to the following youth: Danae Krause, Lolan Jensen, Carlee Robbins, Anthony Staten.

We apologize if we missed your Anniversary or Birthday, but it's because our records don't include all your personal information, please feel free to contact the Church office at 313-291-1221 and we will gladly update your personal information for you.

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **St. Paul Members Launch ChristNet Season**

Our St. Paul congregation launched the new ChristNet season, October 15-22, providing emergency shelter to the homeless throughout the fall, winter, and spring months. Guests were hosted in the Fellowship Hall which was organized as a dormitory with segregated sleeping areas for men and women. By week's end, our church had provided 175 "safe nights" of emergency housing with an average of 25 guests staying with us every evening. Close to half of our guests were women. With only a couple of exceptions, all of our guests ranged in age from 30-60.

One of our guests was a veteran dealing with post-traumatic stress syndrome; another had Multiple Sclerosis. Two of our guests had to be rushed to the hospital due to bouts of pancreatitis. Another guest was six months pregnant.

All guests received a hot meal prepared by a different church group each night. Breakfast was provided in the morning and each guest had a brown bag to go as they boarded the ChristNet van each morning. Over 525 meals were served. As reflected in an "honor roll" that was placed at the front of the church at week's end and in Fellowship Hall the following Sunday, 33 church members served as nighttime church hosts. Our youth group, Dorcas Society, Women's Fellowship, Confirmation Class, Men's Fellowship, Girl Scout Troop, and Church Council prepared and served the hot meals during the week. Charlie and Marjie Barnard prepared brown bag lunches to go for all guests each day. Harold Fick volunteered each morning to come in to clean bathrooms. He was joined by Michael Isaacs who power-shampooed the West Lobby carpet. Early Sunday morning Dan and Kim Martinez, plus Arlene Felske handled the laundering of all linens and delivered them to the next host church in Lincoln Park. Julius Enesey transported the mattresses and equipment bins to the next site as well.

Kim Martinez and Dee Salsbury coordinated our successful ChristNet Host Week, assisted and supported by fellow church volunteers. Reverend Geoff Drutchas expressed heart-felt thanks and appreciation to all of our ChristNet volunteers at the Sunday morning service on October 22.

### **Sixth Graders Received Good News Bible on 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Protestant Reformation**

Sixth graders Ethan Hard, Kyler Ostrowski, Anthony Staten, and Jacob Wright received a Good News Bible from our Christian Education Ministry and congregation at the Reformation Sunday service on October 29. Pastor Geoff Drutchas presented the Bible

with a prayer to those who attend Mrs. Lori Rogers' Sunday School class, underscoring the importance of the Bible and Bible reading for our faith life and journey.

The Good News Bible is the "official" bible of our church. Copies are available for worshippers in the sanctuary pews. Our children and youth also use the Good News translation in their Sunday School classes. Although there are more traditional and scholarly translations of the New Testament available for reading and study, the Good News Bible translation presents scripture verses in a more easily understandable way.

The day was especially fitting for the Bible presentation. In launching what became the Protestant Reformation on October 31, 1517, the German church leader Martin Luther proclaimed the Bible as foundational for our faith. He also led the way in translating the Bible from its original Hebrew, Greek, and Latin into an everyday language like German which could be read and understood by more people.

**St. Paul's annual Halloween Trunk or Treat and intergenerational event** was held on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. in St. Paul's circular drive. Following a light hot dog dinner, families had the opportunity to partake in various activities. Those craving a sweet treat were invited to decorate a caramel apple; dog lovers were welcome to greet and meet one of Taylor Police Department's K-9 teams, Officer Barnosky and Atlas; those eager to take a load off their feet were granted the opportunity to take a hayride; and those brave of heart had the opportunity to endure the youth sponsored, Haunted Hallway, while the not so brave of heart wandered through the Enchanted Forest. All who came out enjoyed a night of fun and fellowship.

Christian Education would like to THANK everyone who decorated a trunk or made a donation of candy, cider, food, or other treats. In addition, THANK you to all those who helped with the event set-up, cooking, judging, clean-up and activities. Trunk or Treat would not have been possible without you.

### **2018 Year Budget Planning**

The St. Paul budget process for 2018 has begun. The Budget and Finance Ministry will continue working to develop a new budget for next year. There will be an open meeting in the West Room on Sunday, November 12th immediately following the 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. services. Church members are invited to attend after either service to provide input or ask questions regarding our budget. If you have any questions regarding our budget development process, please contact Council President Fred Miller, Treasurer Gary Peters or complete a "Make-a-Wish" card and drop it in an offering plate. The new proposed budget will be presented to the congregation at the Annual Meeting on Sunday, January 14, 2018 for final approval.

### **Candidates Sought for Church Council**

Nominations are invited for several St. Paul Church Council positions as our congregation looks to its annual meeting and election on January 14, 2018. Council positions open for nomination include second vice president, secretary, elder, deacon, and trustee. All positions are for three year terms. The nominee elected for second vice president thereafter serves as first vice president during the second year and as Council president during a third and final year of office. All Council members attend monthly meetings on the second Tuesday of every month. Any church member interested in being nominated should contact the church office or speak with Church's current trustees Dave Badarak, John Smith, or Michael Isaacs.

**Children's Choir** gathers in the West Room after the 10:30 a.m. worship service to practice our songs. All children up to and including the 6th grade are invited to join. All interested children should gather in the West Room at 11:30 a.m. If you would like more information please contact children's choir director, Sally Sigman. Looking forward to seeing you in children's choir!

**Be an Angel This Holiday Season.** Christian Education is pleased to give all interested members the opportunity to be an "Angel" to a child in need this holiday season. An Angel Tree adorned with angel ornaments identifying the gender and age of a child in need will be placed in the Fellowship Hall by November 26<sup>th</sup>. Anyone interested in purchasing a gift for a child in need this holiday season should simply pull an ornament, log the number on the sheet located on the table, and return the gift unwrapped with the ornament taped to it by December 10<sup>th</sup>. All donated gifts will be delivered to the Salvation Army on Monday, December 11<sup>th</sup>. If you have any questions regarding this outreach please contact Pastor Cheryl Schalm.

**Sunday School Children to Sponsor Hat & Glove Drive.** The Sunday School children will be collecting hats, gloves, mittens, scarves, socks and undergarments for children and families in need. All items can be dropped off upstairs and/or placed in the gigantic stocking located at the bottom of the stairs. All items will be donated to the Salvation Army on December 11<sup>th</sup> for their annual "Families in Need Christmas Store." If you have any questions please contact Pastor Schalm.

### **Enjoy the Convenience of Electronic Giving**

As St. Paul begins to prepare our budget for 2018, it is important to know what support we can depend on from our members and friends. By knowing what you are willing to commit financially, we are able to better plan for the future. Please consider setting up a recurring giving plan. Automating your financial commitments means your contributions will be received on a steady, uninterrupted basis.



To set up a recurring giving schedule, visit us online at [www.stpaulucctaylor.org/giving](http://www.stpaulucctaylor.org/giving), locate the Online Giving button and set up your recurring giving schedule. The first time you give, you will select a password that will enable you to log in at any time and make changes to your giving or view your complete online giving history. St. Paul also offers a mobile version of our online giving page to make it easy for you to give anytime from your smart phone. Simply scan the image you see here using your phone's QR reader. If you need additional assistance or have questions, please contact Gary Peters, our Treasurer or Dan Case, Auxiliary Trustee.

### **Cabinet Considers Need for Hospitality Coordinator**

At its September meeting the St. Paul Cabinet discussed the need for a church-wide Hospitality Coordinator to provide leadership for our Sunday Morning coffee hours. A description of the volunteer position has since been prepared: "The Hospitality Coordinator would be responsible for making sure a team of volunteers are assigned for Sunday morning Fellowship and Coffee Hours. They could be from one of our St. Paul groups or individuals who may not belong to any of these church groups but who wish to help and share their time and talents. The teams or groups of volunteers recruited or lined up by the Hospitality Coordinator would be responsible for ordering donuts, making coffee and tea, setting up either the West Room or Fellowship Hall, and cleaning up afterwards. If you are interested in volunteering for the Hospitality Coordinator role,

please complete a Make-A-Wish card that can be found in the pew racks or notify the church office (313-291-1221).

### **How can I Help?**

When men and women feel a genuine sense of belonging to the body of Christ, they inevitably hear Christ calling them to care, share, and help. There are many different ways in which you can make a difference in the life of our congregation. Are you ready to Volunteer? New Volunteer forms are now available online to send your interests directly to our various group leaders needing help in our worship services and various upcoming events. This is simply in addition to filling out a "Make a Wish" card or contacting the Church office with your wish to be placed on our volunteer lists. The electronic form can be accessed by clicking on the volunteer button on our website homepage. Printable forms are available on our "Church Forms" website page or within the office. Volunteer to be added to the appropriate volunteer listings and we'll help you find the right opportunities for your passions and talents! Become a part of a volunteer group and, in serving them, serve Christ.

### **Ushers Needed**

We are seeking members to assist as Ushers for our Sunday morning worship services. This volunteer activity is extremely important. Friendly and efficient Ushers help St. Paul present a welcoming atmosphere to both Church members and visitors. Written instructions are available and training can be arranged at your request. Anyone interested in being placed on our Usher Volunteer list may speak with the presiding deacon on Sunday mornings or contact Kristi Caruso by phone call (586-876-4308) or text and she will contact you regarding any questions or concerns you may have.

**The Office is Collecting Names & Addresses** of soldiers currently deployed overseas for a "Soldiers Around the World" outreach program. Church member, Betty Caufield, volunteers for this important project which sends food and care packages to men and women in our Armed Services who are defending our nation and upholding peace abroad. Please complete a Make-A-Wish card (found in the pew racks) with the name and address of an overseas soldier you know who can benefit from this caring outreach.

**Coffee Hour Drink Spills have become a concern.** Please help us avoid drink spills. Lids are provided during Coffee Hour for your beverages if you would like to leave the Hall with your drink. We have noticed many areas in the building where beverages were spilled. We would like to keep our building looking as nice as we can. Your help is greatly appreciated. Thank You, St. Paul Building & Grounds Ministry.

## **MEMORIAL DONATIONS**

### **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FUND-**

In Memory of: *Joan Schonfeld* From: Larry Schonfeld & Kenosian Family

In Memory of: *Dennis Koschnitzke* From: Cindy Romas

### **MEMORIAL FUND-**

In Memory of: *Lois Linske-Thayer* From: Irene Stoner

### **BOF FUND-**

In Memory of: *Dennis Koschnitzke* From: Christine Fraley & Mary Beaudua

### **FACILITY IMPROVEMENT FUND-**

In Memory of: *Dennis Koschnitzke* From: Deb & Dan Case

### **TREE OF FAITH LEAF-**

**Correction:** In Memory of Jim & Pat Ennis From: The Ennis & Todt Families

In Memory of: *Harry & Doreen Thompson* From: Doreen Thompson

**THE 2017 ALTAR FLOWER CHART** Altar flowers are a very special way to honor or memorialize that special someone in your life or even a special occasion (anniversary, birthday, graduation, etc.). The cost for altar flowers is \$30.00 (2 vases) or you may purchase a special side vase for just \$15.00. Please contact the Deacon after the service for assistance in getting your altar flowers or side vase. Please check the flower chart for availability of Sundays or other occasions. Please use envelopes found in the pew racks to request altar flowers. You may also contact the church office at 313-291-1221.

**MEMBER NAME TAGS** are kept in the Welcome Center – the brown wooden cabinet located on the wall in the Narthex of the church. Please remember to wear your name tag. They let visitors identify you. If you do not have a name tag, need to replace your name tag, or need to update it, please contact any usher on Sunday morning or the church office. Each name tag is magnetic so that it won't damage clothes. **Caution: name tags are magnetic and should be worn with caution if you have a pacemaker.** Cost is \$9.00.

**THE ST. PAUL WI-FI PASSWORD** was changed in accordance with our IT Policy. Please contact the church office to get the new Password or contact Dan Case, Michael Isaacs, or Gary Peters during Coffee Hour or after worship services. St. Paul IT Ministry.

**AUDIO COPIES OF ST. PAUL SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES** are available for your listening pleasure. Just log onto the St. Paul Web Site "stpaulucctaylor.org", select the "Our Worship Together" tab, then the Worship Services (Audio)" tab. Directions are given on the Service page. Services are also available on the Mobile application as well. If you have any questions, please contact Gary Peters, Michael Isaacs or Dan Case.

**OUR NEW E-MAIL SYSTEM** is now functional, and as a member you can now receive your Church related e-mails from "stpaulucctaylor.org". Please make sure you add us to your contact list to ensure that you are receiving all the Church announcements. If you have any questions about the new system, please contact Gary Peters or Dan Case.

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**Thank You to the October Merry Mailers:** Fred Miller & Arlene Felske

**Baptized Unto the Lord, Paxton Alexander Case,** born February 22, 2017 to Ashley Giancecchi & Christopher Case and baptized Sunday, October 10, 2017. St. Paul Grand-parents are Debbie and Dan Case. St. Paul Great-grandmother is Helen St. Louis.

## **WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS**

**FELLOWSHIP OF CONCERN – PRAYER LIST:** Prayers are requested for the following church members and friends: Megan Barnosky, Nancy Cady (Vibra Rehab, Beaumont, Heritage), Phill Felske, Sharon Ferguson, Debbie Hamilton, Dorothy Kaczmarek, David King, Carol & Dennis Komathy, Rev. Bill Kren, Shirlen Powell, Sandi Rose, Eleanor Rossi, David Schmoekel, Sally Sigman, Kevin Staffeld, and Mary Lou Staffeld. *Please contact the church office if your family member or friend needs to be listed longer than three weeks or their health has been restored.*

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CONGREGATION'S EXTENDED FAMILY:** Brenda & Bonnie (friends, Daisy Stedman), Justin Collins (son-in-law of Gerri King), Lynn Harbin (sister, John Smith), Tamsey Hoffman (friend, Sue Mrowka), Justin Kurtz (friend, Chelsey Schalm), Courtney Matthew McEachern, Kim McEachern (daughter-in-laws, Helene & Neil McEachern), Nicki Pappas (friend, Velma McGee), Brian Reid (friend, Sue Mrowka), Judy Robin (aunt, Lucinda Chavez), Cookie Robinson (sister, Bob Robinson), Trudy Clark-Schiller (daughter, April & Steve Clark), Joyce Smith (sister, the late Harry Thompson), David Staten (brother-in-law, Peggy Staten), Aaron St. Louis, hospice (nephew, Marjie & Charlie Barnard), Nicholas Surre (great- grandson, Helene McEachern), Paul Tetreau (nephew, Kathy & Gary Peters), and Victoria Witcher (daughter, Cheryl Stewart).

**PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR CONGREGATIONS' PARENTS:** Michael Bailey (father of Christie Smart), Jan Filpus (mother of Julia-Joy Miller), Carol Kuhn (mother-in-law of Lori Kuhn), Stella Ludlam (mother-in-law, Ellen Ludlam), Bill Pinage (father of Brenda Buzo), Cheryl Schwab (mother of Mary Hard & Christine Schwab), Frank Small (father of Chris Chavez), and Anna Thompson (mother, Lucinda Chavez).

**CHURCH MEMBERS & FRIENDS IN NURSING OR REHAB CARE:** Mary Dubke (Marywood Nursing Care Center, W Five Mile Rd, Livonia, 48154), Melva Haglund (Rivergate Health Center, 14041 Pennsylvania Rd., Riverview, 48193), Ilene Krogman (Applewood Nursing Center, 18500 Van Horn Rd, Room #124, Woodhaven, 48183), Helen Parrish (9637 Janet, Taylor, 48180), Eleanor Rossi (Maple Heights, 4600 Allen Rd, Room 415, Allen Park, MI 48101), Melissa Rossi (17652 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, 48125), Vernagene Schafer (Borgess Gardens, 3057 Gull Rd, Kalamazoo, 49048), Ben Scherf (904 E. Lake Mitchell Dr., Cadillac 49601), Betty Steinhauer (Rivergate Health Center, 14041 Pennsylvania Rd. Riverview, 48193) Grace Torango (Rivergate Health Center, 14041 Pennsylvania Rd., Riverview, 48193), and Lisa Wild (Anestic Care Residence, 21071 Tiffany Dr., Woodhaven, 48183).

Link to our online: [\*\*CHURCH CALENDAR\*\*](#)