March 22, 2021

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Grace and Peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Friend.

This worship packet includes bulletins for Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday and Good Friday. You will receive your Easter bulletin next week.

March 28. Palm Sunday/Rite of Confirmation at 10:15 in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live. Sunday School children will process with palms at the start of the service.

April 1. Maundy Thursday Healing Service from 6:30-7:30 in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live. Service will include prayers, scripture, sermon, Prayers of Healing, Sacrament of Holy Communion and lighting of candles for healing.

April 2. Good Friday Tenebrae Service from 6:30-7:30 in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live. Service will include music, scriptures and candlelight slowly diminishing until only the Christ Candle is lit.

April 4. Easter Sunday! Worship services will be held in the sanctuary at 7:30. 9:00 and 10:30 a.m. We will also offer Easter worship via Facebook Live at 9:00 a.m. Services will include music, prayers, scriptures, preaching and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

As a gentle reminder, we ask that if you plan to worship in the sanctuary, please remain masked for the duration of the service in order that we might keep each other safe. Thank you.

On the back of this letter, you will find an outline of a palm branch. You are invited to color it, cut it out, and wave it during the processional hymn this Sunday if you are worshiping at home.

Daily Devotions have been scaled back slightly. Pastor Becky now leads them Monday-Thursday only at 11:30 via Facebook Live. Pastor Becky takes Fridays as her Sabbath day. When Becky takes sabbatical time in mid-April to early May, Daily Devotions will be on hold until she returns.

St. Paul Church will host a Rummage Sale on April 16 and 17. Donations of your household items can begin to arrive and be placed in front of the stage in the auditorium beginning Tuesday April 6. All proceeds will go to the Project of the Year: The Blessing Pantry.

Our Golden Harvest Community Garden is in need of soil for the garden boxes. Purchasing the soil will be approximately \$200. You are invited to consider donating to the purchase of soil. We will also need volunteers to transport and spread the soil. Please see Pastor Becky if you are able to assist.

With the expected springtime weather this week, we are expecting the weeds to begin populating our landscaping. If you are able to volunteer to help weed these beds on a regular basis, please let us know.

Thank you for your faithfulness to St. Paul Church! Together we are the Body of Christ in this community.

Grace and Peace,

Roland Decta

Myra Hanenkratt

Belyabs

Roland Dicke Council President Myra Hanenkratt Council VP Becky Erb Strang Senior Pastor

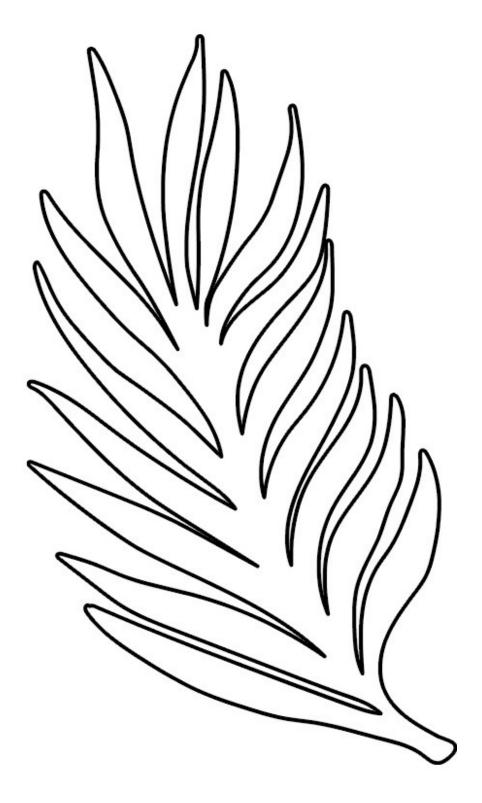
#### Financial Information as of March 22, 2021

**Operating Fund** Beg. Balance \$0.00 Giving Income \$7,983.26(weekly) Endowment Transfers \$8,793.00(ytd) Income \$74,937.04(ytd) Expenses \$72,131.04(ytd) Balance \$2,806.00 (ytd) Bl **Building Maint & Property Care** B Beg. Balance \$73,644.37 Income \$3,753.00(ytd) Endowment Income (\$918.85) (ytd) Expenses \$2,590.36 (ytd) Balance \$73,888.16 (ytd) Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$6,250.20 Income \$5,069.00(ytd) Expenses \$3,889.27(ytd) Balance \$7,429.93 BP Beg Balance \$7,881.15 Bless Pantry Inc. \$9,806.00(ytd) Bless Pantry Ex. \$2,015.63(ytd) BP Balance \$15,671.52 **Our Church Wider Mission** Pledge \$25,000.00 Income \$642.00(weekly) Income \$6,824.00 (ytd) **Project of the Year** Income \$25.00(weekly)

Balance \$1,222.00(ytd)

Our sincere apologies go out to the families of Wren Lesher and Jameson & Bennett Langenkamp. Their baptism dates were inadvertently switched in the bulletins. Wren was baptized Sunday, March 21. Jameson & Bennett will be baptized Saturday, March 27. We are so sorry for this mixup.







# St. Paul United Church of Christ

119 North Franklin Street New Bremen, Ohio 45869 Phone (419-629-2502), Fax (419-629-3207) Email <u>stpaulnb@nktelco.net</u> or <u>stpaulnb@gmail.com</u> Visit our website at <u>https://stpaulnb.org</u> Like and follow our page St. Paul United Church of Christ – New Bremen, Ohio on Facebook Rev. Becky Erb Strang Senior Pastor Roland Dicke-Council President Pastor Dee Schroer Associate Pastor

# Welcome to St. Paul UCC, we are glad you are here!!

Whether you are worshipping online or in person, we welcome you to this service of worship. We hope that you will find it meaningful.

**Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the Church-**On July 23, 2020 Governor DeWine mandated mask wearing in public, including houses of worship. Masks are essential to help keep those around us safe. Thank you for cooperating.

### March 28, 2021 Palm Sunday Rite of Confirmation

# Worship Leaders

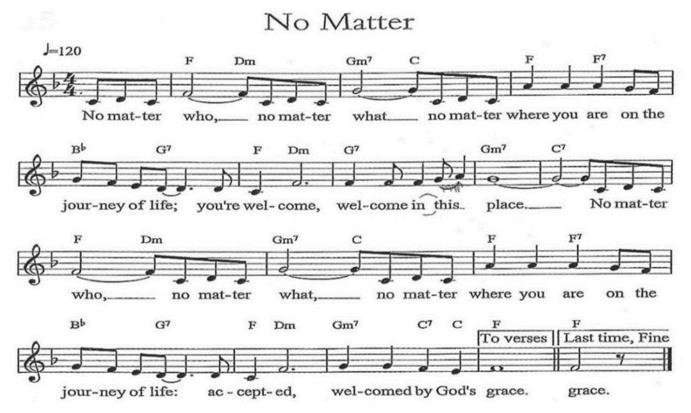
Ministers Rev. Becky Erb Strang Cheyenne Olt Dick Hudson Roland Dicke The Congregation Senior Pastor Accompanist/Vocalist Organist Liturgist

# PRELUDE

GREETING AND LIGHTING OF CANDLES: As we light the altar and Christ candles, you are invited to light a candle or candles at home in preparation for worship.

# WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

# WELCOME SONG



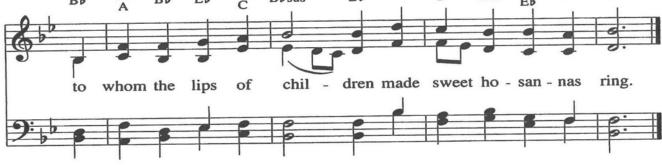
# CALL TO WORSHIP (from <u>Chalice Worship</u>; <u>Disciples of Christ</u>) Leader: Hosanna!

### People: Hosanna in the highest!

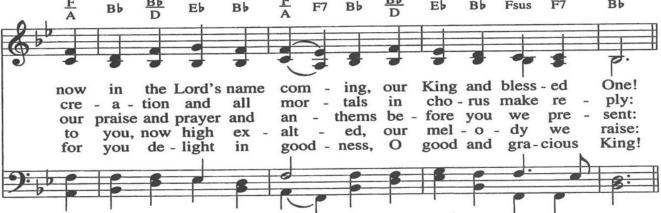
Leader: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! **People: Hosanna in the highest heaven! Praise be to God!** 

HYMN OF PRAISE All Glory Laud and Honor Verses 1, 3, 5 (As the children enter our sanctuary, waving palm branches, those worshipping at home please wave your homemade palm branches along with the music). 265 All Glory, Laud and Honor



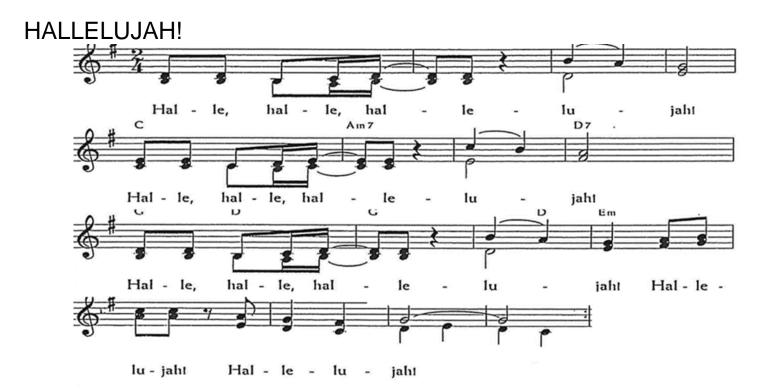






WORDS: Theodulph of Orleans (ca. 760-821); tr. John M. Neale (1818-1866), alt. MUSIC: Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) ST. THEODULPH 7.6.7.6.D. INVOCATION (in unison)

Triumphant God, who comes to us as one who seeks and serves, lead us through the events of this Holy Week, that we may receive Christ afresh in our lives, and embody Christ's spirit in the world. Fill now our hearts with gospel joy. Bless us and these branches that our very being shall cry aloud, "Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest heaven!" Amen.



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 11:1-11

(NRSV)

When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup> and said to them, "Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup> If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' just say this, 'The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately." <sup>4</sup> They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup> some of the bystanders said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" <sup>6</sup> They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup> Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup> Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the

fields.<sup>9</sup> Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

"Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord! <sup>10</sup> Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

<sup>11</sup> Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

#### RESPONSE

Leader: The word of God for the people of God! People: God is still speaking! Thanks be to God!

# CONFIRMATION FAITH STATEMENT AND FAMILY BLESSING Rogan Muether

While participating in confirmation this year, I feel that I have gotten closer to God while strengthening my faith and understanding of Jesus, God, the Bible, the Holy Spirit, and the church.

Starting with what I believe about God, I think that He is the one who guides us through every day and helps us make the correct decisions in our lives. I also believe that God is the one who gives us strength and holds us accountable for our actions. Along with this, I believe that God accepts everyone and is patient with us as He helps us grow our faith. I also believe that He is always with us and will forgive us for any bad decisions that we make.

Since God wanted to show us an example of how we should live our lives, he gave us Jesus Christ to be our teacher. When we say we follow Jesus, we are saying that we want to be like him. Jesus teaches us to be tolerant and accepting of those that are different from us. Along with being our teacher, Jesus is the ultimate gift from God who died on the cross so that we can have our sins forgiven along with eternal life.

Just like God, the Holy Spirit flows within us, guiding us to make the right decisions. This ever- present spirit is what gives us our gifts, talents, skills, and passions. The Holy Spirit may come in unexpected ways, as it is ever changing, and guides us to follow in Jesus' path.

One of the most important pieces to following God's word is the Holy Bible. The Bible first tells us the story of creation and the masterpieces of God. It then tells us how we should live our lives and speaks of the miracles that Jesus has performed in his life. Reading the stories of the Bible is what solidifies my beliefs about God and Jesus Christ.

Along with the Bible, the church is another very important piece to following God. Church is the place where everyone is welcome and a place where everyone is safe. It is also where you go to worship God. The church is formed by the people that come in to worship, give, and serve.

I consider myself to be a Christian for many reasons. One reason is because I believe in God, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit. Another reason is because I go to church often and worship God. I also follow Jesus' word and believe that God will forgive my sins. My favorite Bible verse is Joshua 1:9 which says, "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid. Do not be dismayed, for your God is with you wherever you go." This tells me to be strong and don't be afraid to do things. This passage helps me know God because it comforts me and tells me that God is always backing me up and is always there for me.

I want to be confirmed so that I can continue my Christian journey and become closer to God. I will also be able to join Jesus in communion and fulfill my parent's baptism promises.

With all this being said, I will form my Christian faith by continuing to come to church and worship God. I will also spread the word of God, pray often and always seek His guidance as I continue my journey through life. in all things I do and follow the path that Jesus has set out for me.

#### **RITE OF CONFIRMATION**

INTRODUCTION OF CONFIRMANDS Mimi Messick Confirmation Class of 2021: Ella Mar-Kel Dicke, Grant Kenneth Dicke, Emma Lee Fledderjohann, Ava Lynn Huber, Rogan Michael Muether, Jack Leonard Oldiges, Gavin Hunter Petee, Owen Joseph Rindler, Jackson Joseph Suchland, Bryce George Voress, Aiden Henry Teeters, Kaitlyn Nicole Tontrup

#### INVITATION

Friends in Christ, we are all received into the church through the sacrament of baptism. These people have found nurture and support in the midst of the family of Christ. Through prayer and study they have been led by the Holy Spirit to affirm their baptism and to claim in our presence their covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of the church. They are here for service to Jesus Christ, using the gifts which the Holy Spirit bestows.

QUESTIONS

Do you desire to affirm your baptism into the faith and family of Jesus Christ? (I do.)

Do you promise, by the grace of God, to be Christ's disciple, to follow the way of our Savior, to resist oppression and evil, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best as you are able? (I promise, with the help of God.)

Do you promise, according to the faith given to you, to grow in the Christian faith and to be a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, celebrating Christ's presence and furthering Christ's mission in all the world? (I promise, with the help of God.)

Will all who are able please stand in support of our confirmands. As the friends and members of St. Paul United Church of Christ let us share our own promises with our confirmands as printed as the response in your bulletin.

WELCOME OF THE CONGREGATION (in unison)

We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

Let us pray: Almighty God, who in baptism received these servants into the church, forgave their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, and self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen. LAYING ON OF HANDS AND CONFIRMATION PRAYERS Rev. Becky Erb Strang, Jeff Paul, Shelly Smart, Lisa Weigandt PRESENTATION OF STOLES AND CONFIRMATION VERSES BY MENTORS

Student	Mentor		
Ella Dicke	Emily Willrath		
Grant Dicke	Theresa Frilling		
Emma Fledderjo	hann Sally Dicke		
Ava Huber	Amy Opperman		
Rogan Muether	Jeff Quellhorst		
Jack Oldiges	Mimi Messick		
Gavin Petee	Larry & Ann Kuh	n	
Owen Rindler	Dan Voress		
Jackson Suchlar	nd Cresta Ritter		
Bryce Voress	Shelly Zeller		
Aiden Teeters	James Gilberg		
Kaitlyn Tontrup	Joyce Gilberg		
GREETING OF CHRISTIAN LOVE Roland Dicke			
PRESENTATION OF CERTIFICATES AND GIFTS			
Rev. Becky Erb Strang and Mimi Messick			

WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses to help? Dear children, let us love, not in word or speech, but also in truth and action. Let us give joyfully and generously. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE Joys: Our newest confirmands and members. Sacrament of Baptism: Wren Marie Lesher, baptized Sunday, March 21, 2021. Daughter of Levi and Brittany Lesher. Wren's Godmother's are Kristen Cisco and Taylor Carter. Congratulations Wren and family. **Concerns:** We are continuing to pray for Ryan Birt, Annabelle Wenning, Peg Henschen, Drew Wray, Jan Dammeyer, Shannon Shupp and Pastor Dee Schroer.

# CLOSING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us pray. O God, who in Jesus became a member of our family that we might become members of your family, your grace astounds and confounds us. We stand amazed at the cost of your redemption. You turned away no one, yet all turned away from you. You came to the members of your own household, but they greeted you as a stranger. You came to the leaders of your own faith community, but they treated you as a blasphemer. You came to the inner circle of your own disciples, but they forsook you in fear. You came before the governor, and he offered you as a scapegoat.

Many of us have been tested, but our response has not been the same. Watching you, we can only echo the exclamation of the centurion, "Truly you are the Son of God." So today, like your disciples on that first Palm Sunday, we spread our branches and garments before you. We wave our palms as you enter the city of our hearts. Fill us, Lord Jesus, with the grace to enter this week of sorrow, with the wonder see the miraculous, with the hope of your resurrection promises.

We thank you for bodies beginning to heal from illness and surgery this week

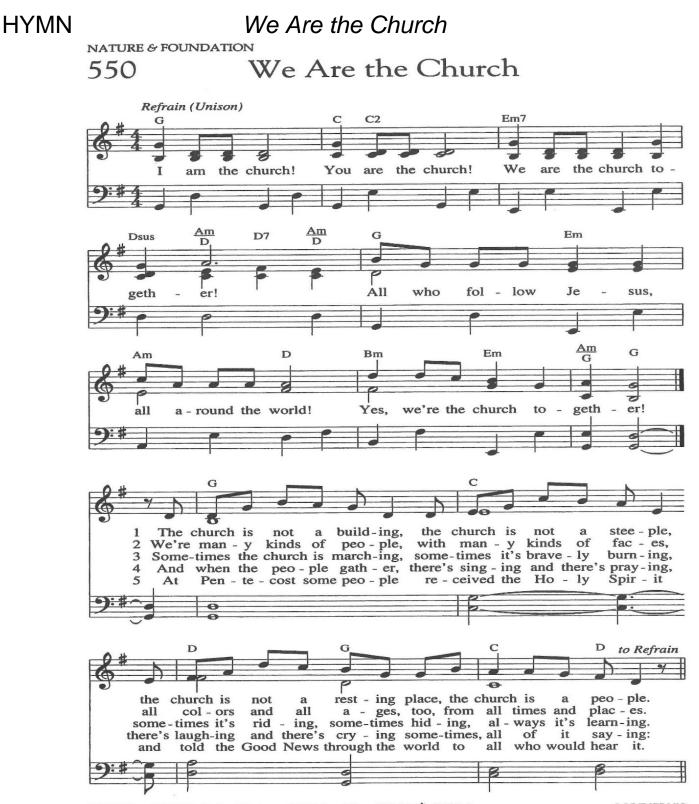
Today we lift up to you those who are ill, those who are recuperating from illness, those who are facing surgery.

We ask that the power of your Holy Spirit pour upon each of our confirmands as they continue their walk with Jesus. Be with each of us as we walk alongside our young adults, as we grow in our faith together.

Loving God, our prayers we offer to you are often beyond words. Hear us now, as your Spirit gropes within us for the words held within the silence of our hearts. SILENCE

God of Palms and Passion, we ask that you journey with us this week—through the parades of joy, through the meal shared, betrayal known, crucifixion of love, and ultimately to Easter's Alleluias. Journey with us. Be with us. Forgive us. Comfort us. Love us. This we pray with the prayer your son taught us praying...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



WORDS and MUSIC: Richard K. Avery (1934- ) and Donald S. Marsh (1923- ) Words and Music © 1972 Hope Publishing Company

PORT JERVIS 7.7.8.7.Ref. BENEDICTION: Go forth in to the world in peace. Be of good courage. Hold fast to that which is good. Render to no one evil for evil. Strengthen the fainthearted. Support the weak. Help the afflicted. Honor all people. Love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.



PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are given in honor of our Confirmands by St. Paul.

Attendance-Online-Daily Devotions Avg.-62, March 14-Sunday Worship Online-446, In Person-89, Sunday School Online-92, In Person 13, Teachers-7, Splash-3, Leaders-2, March 17-Sr/Jr High Youth Group-4, Leaders-3.

**Daily Devotions-**Please join Rev Becky Monday-Thursday at 11:30am, online via Facebook Live. These will air on our Facebook page St. Paul United Church of Christ-New Bremen, OH.

**Sundays in April-Sunday School** will be in person and via Facebook Live at 9:00am. **Worship** will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. Except Easter Sunday, April 4. (see below for Easter schedule)

# Holy Week Worship Services

**March 28. Palm Sunday/Rite of Confirmation** at 10:15 in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live. Sunday School children will process with palms at the start of the service.

**April 1. Maundy Thursday Healing Service** at 6:30 in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live. Service will include prayers, scripture, sermon, Prayers of Healing, Sacrament of Holy Communion and lighting of candles for healing.

**April 2. Good Friday Tenebrae Service** at 6:30 in the sanctuary and via Facebook Live. Service will include music, scriptures and candlelight slowly diminishing until only the Christ Candle is lit.

**April 4. Easter Sunday!** Worship will be held in the sanctuary at 7:30, 9:00(and via Facebook Live) and 10:30 a.m. Service will include music, prayers, scriptures, preaching and the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

**March Book Club-**All are invited to the March Book Club set for Sunday, March 28 at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom. We will discuss Mitch Albom's <u>have a</u> <u>little faith</u>. Copies of the book are available at the church office.

Zoom login information:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81672987844?pwd=NTRMekJLK0UwTXEzU TV6TIIzOTZpZz09

Meeting ID: 816 7298 7844 Passcode: 680642 All are welcome! \*If you would like an email version of this to make logging on easier, simply email Pastor Becky: <u>berbstrang@stpaulnb.org</u>

# Carrie Newcomer Online Concert: March 28 at 6:00 p.m.

A year from now, St. Paul Church will host musician Carrie Newcomer for a live concert. Throughout this past year in worship, we have incorporated Carrie's music. If you would like a "front row seat" to one of her upcoming concerts, you are invited to log onto the link below to purchase a ticket:

https://boxoffice.mandolin.com/collections/carrie-

newcomer/products/carrie-newcomer-3-

<u>28?utm\_source=ef&utm\_medium=aff&utm\_campaign=55&oid=55&affid=</u> <u>369</u>

If you would like an email version of this to make logging on easier, simply email Pastor Becky: <u>berbstrang@stpaulnb.org</u> Any questions? Contact Pastor Becky

Bulletin Availability-weekly bulletins are available for download on our website stpaulnb.org. Just click the yellow BULLETINS box in the upper right hand corner.

**2021 Altar Flower Chart** has been posted in the Narthex. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like or call the church office Monday-Friday to sign up. Thank you. Open dates the rest of the year **March** 28<sup>th</sup>, **August** 22<sup>nd</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>, **October** 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**March/April Upper Rooms**-have arrived! They are available at the East entrance to the education building and on the round tables in the sanctuary. Or please call the church office if you would like one and we will gladly mail one to you.

**Blankets + - March Monthly Mission** The Mission Team has chosen to spotlight **BLANKETS+** during the month of March this year. Most of you are familiar with this Church World Service ongoing effort to provide the bright yellow blankets in warm areas of need and the warm gray blankets where it is cold. We give \$10 to replace each blanket used in a disaster or personal crisis. This is how we wrap the world in love. Our goal is to fund 125 blankets during March.

**Mailbox-**There is a mailbox outside of the East Educational Building door for any correspondence you may have for the church and would like to drop off. Please lift the flap and drop through the slot on the top. The box is locked and will be checked often. Thank you!

Blessing Pantry-is located in the North Hallway and accessible by the North door during these hours - Tuesdays 5:30pm-7:30pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays 1:00pm-3:00pm. The Pantry will be closed Mondays and Fridays. All Donations Welcome – Blessing Pantry Needs-Paper Plates, Paper Towels, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Razors, Shaving Cream, Deodorant, Hand Soap, Cleaning Supplies, Toilet Paper, Baby Wipes, Storage Bags, Garbage Bags and Dry Pet Food. Thank you! There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

Calendar-Week of March 28 2021			
Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School-in person & via	
		Facebook Live	
	10:15am	Worship-in person & via	
		Facebook Live w/Confirmation	
	5:00pm	Splash-in person	
Monday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live	
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop w/Rev Becky	
		New Bremen Coffee Inc.	
Tuesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live	
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open	
Wednesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live	
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open	
	6:30pm J	Ir/Sr High Youth Group-in person	
Thursday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live	
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open	
	6:30pm	Maundy Thursday Service	
		in person & via Facebook Live	
Friday	Afternoon	Office Closed	
	6:30pm	Good Friday Tenebrae Service	
		in person & via Facebook Live	
Saturday	8:00am	Men's Club-Speedway Lanes	

# E-Giving @ St. Paul <u>3 Different Ways to Give</u>

Online - Make a donation on our website: stpaulnb.org

*Give+ App* – Search "Give Plus Church" in your App store and find St. Paul to Get Started!

Text – Make a donation to our Number: 833-308-0048 St. Paul New "Text to Give" #(# changed as of 10/9/19)
How To Give by Text (Example - my amount for the example is \$25 (minimum amount is \$5.00))
➢ For general fund giving: Send 25 space gl (hit send)
➢ For building & property fund giving: Send 25 space bp (hit send)
➢ For Blessing Pantry: Send 25 space pantry (hit send)
➢ For project of the year giving: Send 25 space poy (hit send)
Once a text amount is sent:

**Registration Link**- Sent via text the first time a donation is made. Thank you! Please visit (link) to register.

Donation Confirm- Sent via text each time a donation is made.

Thank you for donating \$ (amount)! Text repeat to make this recurring or refund to cancel this donation.