June 21, 2021

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Grace and peace be yours!

Sunday in-person worship services are going well. Masking in worship is now a personal choice. We affirm both the masked and unmasked folk as we gather to worship God through Jesus. Even with Covid19 restrictions lifted, we will continue to livestream worship and send the weekly worship mailing.

We have good news to share! Generous donors have stepped forward so we are happy to announce that the steeple project, mulch and Blessing Pantry freezer are all fully financed. The mulch arrives onsite today and the freezer arrived last week. We will keep you posted about the start date to the steeple roof. Thank you for your generosity!

We also thank you for your generosity for summer outdoor toys/activities that filled Summer Fun Buckets for our Blessing Pantry guests. We were able to put together 25 buckets. During the month of June, the Discipleship Team is gathering supplies for Senior Boxes for our retired Blessing Pantry guests. We are asking for donations of peanut butter, crackers, oatmeal, cereal, individual fruit cups, crossword puzzles, word search books, etc. All items need to be donated by July 1. See Larry Kuhn for more information.

While we did not hold Art Camp last summer and we will not host it this summer, we are hosting a Summer Safari Carnival: Let's Reconnect on Wednesday, July 21 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. This event will be held in our St. Paul Community Playground and will include a meal, crafts, games and music. The Carnival is free to all participants and we expect 500+ people to attend. We will need lots of volunteers. If you'd like to assist, please contact SALT Intern Lauren Miller or Church Office.

We are soliciting volunteers to spread mulch in our landscaping beds. We also have two Circle of Friends ministry opportunities. First, we are seeking someone to coordinate card sending and phone call folk to reach out to our nursing home and at-home members. Second, we are seeking a volunteer to coordinate the Circle of Friends cards that, up until Covid19, were signed each week in the sanctuary. Please contact Church Office if you are willing to take either or both of these important ministries.

As a reminder, Pastor Becky's final three weeks of her 2019 sabbatical will begin on Monday June 28. She will return to the office on Monday July 19. Guest preachers will lead worship in her absence.

Included in this mailer is a giving envelope. Your ongoing financial support of St. Paul Church keeps the many ministries and missions going strong.

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

Roland Dectar Mysa Hannkutt

Myra Hanenkratt

Belyab

Roland Dicke
Council President

Council VP

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Senior Pastor

Financial Information as of June 21, 2021

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00 Giving Income \$2,961.69(weekly)

Endowment Transfers \$12,786.00(ytd)

Income \$143,608.90(ytd) Expenses \$145,833.48 (ytd)

Balance (\$2,224.58) (ytd)

Building Maint & Property Care

Beg. Balance \$73,644.37 Income \$9,060.00 (ytd)

Endowment Income \$2,630.39(ytd)

Expenses \$8,732.75 (ytd) Balance \$76,602.01 (ytd)

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$6,250.20 Income \$8,539.00 (ytd)

Expenses \$9,282.54 (ytd) Balance \$5,506.66

BP Beg Balance \$7,881.15

Bless Pantry Inc. \$15,911.00(ytd)

Bless Pantry Ex. \$4,137.66(ytd) BP Balance \$19.654.49

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00 Income \$350.00(weekly) Income \$13,119.00 (ytd)

Project of the Year

Income \$25.00(weekly) Balance \$3,319.00(ytd)

Please remember the families of Mary Lou Campbell, Monica Cortez (Jean Hoskins daughter-in-law) and Alice Hegemier in your prayers. Mary Lou passed away Monday, June 14, 2021. Services to celebrate her life were held Wednesday, June 23, 2021 at 11:00am at Gilberg-Hartwig Funeral Home. Monica passed away Tuesday, June 15, 2021. Services to celebrate her life were held Friday, June 18, 2021. Alice passed away Friday, June 18, 2021. Services to celebrate her life were held Tuesday, June 22, 2021.

JUNE 27, 2021 FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



Healing and salvation begin now.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Mark 5:21-43	Jesus heals and raises to life
Monday	Lamentations 3:22-33	There is still hope
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 8:7-15	Generous giving
Wednesday	Acts 4:23-31	Believers pray for boldness
Thursday	Isaiah 57:14-19	The Lord helps the helpless
Friday	Luke 4:31-41	Jesus heals many people
Saturday	Psalm 30	God turns mourning into dancing
Sunday	Mark 6:1-13	Jesus sends the twelve

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

[Jesus] said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease." Mark 5:34 (NRSV)

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Come Lord Jesus, in the midst of difficult times touch us with your love and send us your peace and hope in our daily lives. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, we thank you for this food and pray that all may receive food to live, serve, and love you and others through Jesus, the great healer. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May God bless you to know the saving grace given to you through Jesus Christ.



JUNE 27, 2021 HYMN OF THE WEEK Come, Ye Disconsolate



WEEKLY MILESTONES



Take a moment to tell or think about a recent mountain high and/or valley low in your life.

CARING CONVERSATIONS



Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- When have you or someone you know had difficult times? Explain.
- · Where do you find comfort when you are going through difficult times?
- Not all illnesses are cured and not all difficulties are resolved. How has faith in God eased your pain or that of a friend's pain during an illness?

DEVOTIONS



Read: Mark 5:21-43.

On the way to restore Jairus' daughter to life, Jesus realizes that healing power had gone from him to someone in the crowd. He inquires who touched him to receive the healing. A woman comes forward and explains that for 12 years she had suffered with hemorrhages (a flow of blood) that did not cease. Not only did it make her weak, it made her ritually unclean and unfit to be with others. In other words, not only did she experience physical suffering, she experienced isolation and social suffering. She was desperate and thought she might be healed through touching Jesus' garment. Jesus' first word of response was to call her "daughter," that is, someone who belongs to the community. He then adds, "your faith has made you well" (v. 34). The Greek text can equally be translated as "your faith has saved you." The same word for healing is the word for being saved. Salvation and healing begin for this woman because of her faith, a faith borne out of desperation. Her faith was not an expression of confidence and trust; it was simply an openness to hope against hope. With Jesus' response, she is brought into community and healed. When has faith felt more like taking a risk than a show of confidence and trust?

Pray: Healing God, we thank you that you touch us with your saving grace now and always through Christ Jesus, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

SERVICE

MILES ONES



The woman who touched Jesus' clothes and was healed was an outcast among her own people. Her illness meant that others saw her as unclean and avoided her. Who are the people in your community that are often looked down upon or left out? What act of kindness can you do for someone who may be feeling left out in some way?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS



Appropriate touch is a way of expressing love and care for others. Research has shown that as humans we need the touch of others to stay healthy in body, mind and spirit. Holding hands while praying and blessing someone with the sign of the cross on their hand or forehead are forms of a healthy touch. Hold hands while praying the Lord's Prayer. Then bless one another:

May God bless you to know that Jesus has touched you with peace today.

In addition to *Taking Faith Home*, celebrate milestones in your daily life as an effective faith formation tool. Go to: **www.milestonesministry.org**



St. Paul United Church of Christ

119 North Franklin Street New Bremen, Ohio 45869

Phone (419-629-2502), Fax (419-629-3207)

Email stpaulnb@nktelco.net or stpaulnb@gmail.com

Visit our website at https://stpaulnb.org

Like and follow our page St. Paul United Church of Christ - New

Bremen, Ohio on Facebook

Rev. Becky-Senior Pastor

Pastor Dee-Associate Pastor

Roland Dicke-Council President

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

Whether you are worshipping online or in person, welcome! Blessing and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day.

Coronavirus (COVID-19) and the Church-Following the CDC guidelines, you no longer need to wear a mask during worship. We are aware that some of you will want to continue wearing a mask in worship. We affirm both the masked and unmasked folk as we gather to worship God through the Risen Christ.

June 27, 2021 Fifth Sunday After Pentecost

Worship Leaders

Ministers
Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Lauren Miller
Kennedy Topp
Cheyenne Olt

Andrea Huber

The Congregation Senior Pastor

SALT

Guest Speaker

Accompanist/Vocalist

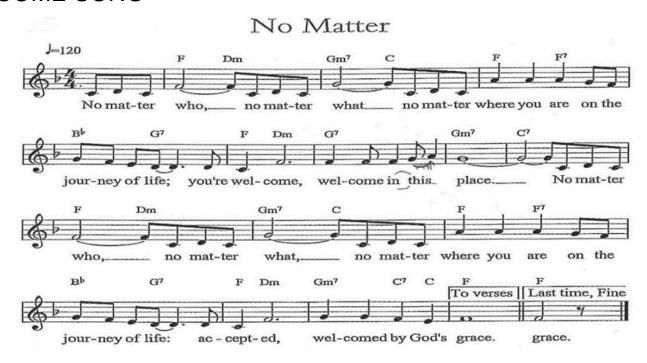
Liturgist

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 (adapted from Psalm 96)

Leader: Oh, sing to the Lord a new song!

People: Sing to the Lord, all the earth.

Leader: Sing to the Lord, bless his name.

People: Proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.

Leader: Let us sing and rejoice, pray and praise as we worship the Lord our God!

HYMN OF PRAISE Hymn of Promise

515

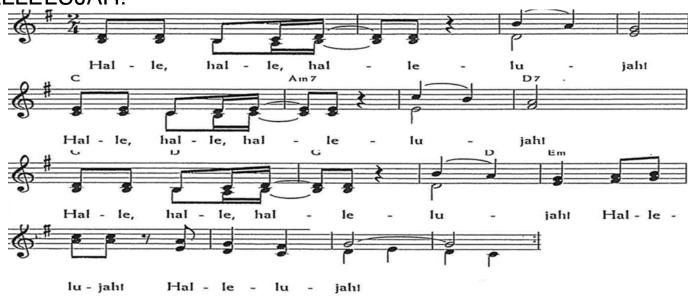
Hymn of Promise



INVOCATION (unison)

Almighty and Loving God, before whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no sins are hidden: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name. We pray this in the name of Christ Jesus, our Savior and Friend. Amen.

HALLELUJAH!



CHILDREN'S MOMENT: Letting God Take Control

Today I brought a video game controller with me to church. I'm not a particularly good video gamer—in fact, I'm pretty lousy. But this is what I know: I can use this controller to guide a character or vehicle on my television when playing video games. Generally speaking, the person who is the best at using their video game controller is the person who wins the game because they are able to have their character or their vehicle do what they want efficiently and quickly.

We often talk in church about placing our trust in God and having God take control of our lives. But we also know this: it is hard to hand over to God the metaphorical video game controller of our lives. We want to stay in control. We want life to unfold OUR way. We are afraid to letting go of the controller and handing it to God.

Here is the good news: when we allow God to be in control of our lives, when we place our entire trust in him, we find a new kind of freedom. When we no longer feel the need to control every aspect of our lives, we

are free to love more, to serve more, to be even more fully a beloved child of God.

Friends: this week I encourage you to set down the video game controller of your life. Hand the controls over to God. Stop trying to control the people around you. Deepen your prayer life. Reach out to someone in need. Love with open hands. Amen.

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: A Child's Faith!

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Kendra Bonifas (JTDMH), Greg Maurer, Dick Hudson, Annabelle Wenning, Bob Kettler, Drew Wray, Jan Dammeyer, Shannon Shupp and Pastor Dee Schroer.

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (Adapted from a prayer written by the Rev. John Wesley Oldham from Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada on behalf of the World Council of Churches)

Holy God, we come before you this day acknowledging that your love, your power, your grace, your forgiveness are greater than we can imagine. We celebrate that you are the Mystery behind all mysteries. We rest easily in the knowledge that your love guides through uncertainty and fear.

We thank you and praise you for your ongoing presence in our lives. And yet, we confess to you this day that we hold on to our need to be in control of those around us. We exert our will on those we love. We harden our hearts to you and to others, failing to let our lives be controlled by your amazing grace and unconditional love.

Forgive us, we pray. Heal us. Love us. Remind us that no matter how far we wander from your light, you meet us in the darkness and invite us to your table of grace.

When in the midst of anxiety, may we know serenity.

When in the midst of stress, may we know calm.

When in the midst of fear, may we know trust.

When in the midst of bewilderment, may we know assurance.

When in the midst of confusion, may we know confidence.

In the midst of illness and injury, may we know healing.

In the midst of violence, may we know peace.

In the midst of all that life tries to throw at us, may we know love.

We humbly ask you to hear us now as we share with you from the deepest recesses of our hearts. SILENCE

Gentle and Mighty One, we thank you for calling us your beloved children. Send us into this community and into the world unafraid: for we know that our future is in your hands. All of this we pray in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray...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.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Matt Ranly

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Mark 10:13-16

(NRSV)

¹³ People were bringing little children to him in order that he might touch them; and the disciples spoke sternly to them. ¹⁴ But when Jesus saw this, he was indignant and said to them, "Let the little children come to me; do not stop them; for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs. ¹⁵ Truly I tell you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will never enter it." ¹⁶ And he took them up in his arms, laid his hands on them, and blessed them.

RESPONSE

Leader: The word of God for the people of God!

People: God is still speaking! Thanks be to God!

MEDITATION Kennedy Topp and Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Rebecca Nye is an expert in childhood spirituality based in the United Kingdom. In the spring of 2017, Dr. Nye penned an article online on this topic. Called "Spirituality as a Natural Part of Childhood," Rebecca reminds adult readers that the spirituality that children are born with comes not from well-meaning adults, but from God himself.

For many children, spirituality is less about how they talk about God and more about how they experience God and the sacred. And you need

to know this: spirituality in children is not about memorizing Bible verses or espousing "correct" theology—it is about relationships: how children relate to God, to their world and to the people around them.

As you have undoubtedly noticed, for months now I have invited children of all ages to assist in leading the worship service by signing the worship hymns in Sign Language. The leadership of our young people has been an incredible gift to me, and I'm guessing an incredible gift to each of you.

One of our worship leaders, 5 year old Kennedy Topp, mentioned to me months ago that she wanted to speak in church—to tell people about God and Jesus.

Today, Kennedy will share with us her thoughts about God and Jesus. She will share with us her faith. I encourage you to listen carefully to what Kennedy has to say—as you will soon see, her faith is deeply relational—a reminder that ours can and should be also.

Kennedy: what can you tell us about Jesus?

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in a desert. He traveled around on a donkey. He yelled at people who didn't want children with him.

I want Jesus to come here on a donkey. I'd bring him to my house and give him lots of candy. Plus I'd give him apples so he stays healthy. I'd like to show him my room.

Kennedy: Who is God?

God is Jesus' realest dad. God is a great dad because he is very nice. Some parents are mean, but God is nice.

Everybody likes God because he is so cool.

God thinks thoughts in our minds.

Maybe God wanted dinosaurs to be extinct so they wouldn't chase us. God did the meteor or asteroid.

Jesus and God made the whole planet. God made the sun. Jesus made the moon.

Kennedy: tell me about the Bible.

The Bible is special because Jesus loves kids.

Kennedy: Who are your godparents? What makes them special? My godparents are Craig and Megan.

Kennedy, I know you love this picture from my office. What makes it special to you?

(Kennedy looking at the Norman Rockwell picture entitled, "Golden Rule" (today's bulletin cover)):

I love all people on the planet of earth.

Kennedy, thank you for sharing your faith. I love that you wanted to share your love of God and Jesus with us today. Because of your sharing, I believe everyone watching and listening will also come to love God more.

I want to wrap up with some final thoughts from Dr. Rebecca Nye. She asserts that children have very specific spiritual needs. First, children need to be listened to. Long gone are the days when children were seen but not heard. It is our task as adults to create safe spaces for the children in our lives to share. It is NOT our task to be judgmental or have hidden agendas.

Next, we adults in the lives of children need to be humble and respectful. We don't need to have all the answers to questions of faith. We absolutely cannot be controlling or demanding. Instead, we need to bring to the time we spend with children a level playing field—approaching that time as sacred and holy as young ones share their innermost thoughts, feelings and visions.

Finally, we need to provide good quality space for the children in our lives. By quality space Dr. Nye includes both physical space and emotional space. Children excel at finding spiritual space: trees, hiding places, swings, or possibly a collection of special objects. And silence. Never forget that silence can be holy and healing not only to children but to each and every one of us.

Kennedy: Thank you for preaching today. We look forward to growing with you in our love for God, for the planet, and for others. Amen.

WITNESS & MISSION

559

Here I Am, Lord



WORDS: Daniel L. Schutte (1947-); para. Isaiah 6:8 MUSIC: Daniel L. Schutte (1947-); arr. Michael Pope (20th c.), Daniel L. Schutte (1947-), John Weissrock (20th c.) Words and Music © 1981 Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music



OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY SENTENCES: So often, we try to control our own lives and the lives of those around us. And yet, God calls us to place him at the center of our lives—allowing his love and grace to live through us. When we place our lives in God's hands, we cannot help thanking God in all circumstances—offering our very best to God. Today, we symbolically offer our lives by the giving of our tithes and our offerings. Let us give generously. Let us give joyfully. Let us give with great love. 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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

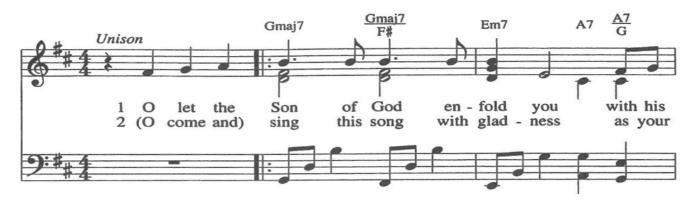
O God, the Fountain of all good: we offer to you our gifts given in love for the building up of your kingdom on earth. Enable us to serve you more fully in the days and weeks to come. May your grace and your loving-kindness overflow in our hearts that we might share our blessings with others. Amen.

HYMN OF SENDING

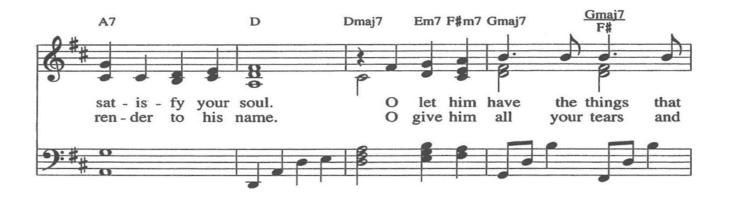
Spirit Song

352

Spirit Song











BENEDICTION: May the grace, mercy and peace from God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be with you from this day forward and forevermore. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Pass the Love

Pass the Love



PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are given in loving memory of Shirley Schaefer by Donna, Gary, Amy and Kelli Schmitmeyer and Brenda and Craig Siefring and Lauren Hohler.

Attendance-Daily Devotions-70, June 13-Sunday Worship Online-231, In Person-74.

Daily Devotions-Please join Lauren Miller 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 July-Worship will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am.

Wednesday, June 30th Summer Youth Activity-9:30am-11:15am Sunshine Playground at Bremenfest Park, Jefferson St, New Bremen. All ages are welcome. Remember to bring a snack/drinks.

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.

July/August Upper Rooms-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.

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. Thank you!

Monthly Mission-Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The Heartland Conference and the National setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. Your generosity to Strengthen the Church (STC) provides the funds that allow the Heartland Conference to provide Seminary Scholarships for those who are seeking authorization for ministry in the United Church of Christ. In the National Setting, funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ. Thank you, the Mission Team.

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-Diapers (size NB, 1, 2 & 3), Baby Wipes, Training Pants (size 3T-6T), Men's Protective Underwear (size sm/med), Aluminum Foil, Cleaning Supplies, Pet Food (Dry & Wet), Paper Plates, Laundry Detergent, Dryer sheets, Toilet Paper, Razors, Men's Deodorant and Garbage Bags. Thank you! There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

Senior Boxes-Discipleship Project-We will be gathering basic foodstuff for retirees who come to the Blessing Pantry. We are seeking donations of peanut butter, crackers, cereal, oatmeal and individual fruit packs. We are also hoping to collect new, large print word search, sudoku, crossword puzzle books and adult coloring books. Collection of items is now through July 1. Then, the Senior Boxes will be organized and ready for distribution. Items can be dropped off at St. Paul Church Monday through Thursday from 9:00-Noon and one to three. We are also open Fridays from nine to noon. Thank you for your continuing generosity as, together, we love God and love neighbors.

Calendar-Week of June 27, 2021

Sunday 10:15am Worship-in person & via

Facebook Live

Monday 11:30am Devotions via Facebook Live

2:00pm-4:00pm Coffee Shop Hours

New Bremen Coffee Shop

Tuesday 11:30am Devotions via Facebook Live

5:30pm-7:30pm Blessing Pantry Open

Wednesday 9:30am-11:15am Youth Activity-

Sunshine Playground-Bremenfest Park

11:30am Devotions via Facebook Live

1:00pm-3:00pm Blessing Pantry Open

Thursday 11:30am Devotions via Facebook Live

1:00pm-3:00pm Blessing Pantry Open

Friday All Day Office Closed

E-Giving @ St. Paul 3 Different Ways to Give

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.









Calling all Fisherman and Youth of all ages!
Join us on Wednesday July 7th at 9:30 a.m.- 11:15 am.
at the Kuenning-Dicke Natural Area
4336 Lock-Two Road New Bremen.

Bring your fishing supplies and get ready to cast and catch some fish for fun! All ages are welcome to attend! If you have any questions, please call the church office at 419-629-2502.

"Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you"

1 Peter 5:7

Parent Date Night





On Saturday July 17th children may be dropped off at 5 p.m. at St. Paul Church and picked up at 8:30 p.m. to allow parents to have a date night

We will provide a dinner and activities



Please RSVP by Monday July 12th to 419-629-2502 or by email stpaulnb@nktelco.net



Game Night

When: 6-8 p.m. on July 18th

Where: St. Paul Church

Who: All Ages! Different games

will be set up for various ages