

August 30, 2021

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Peace and grace to you!

We thank you for your support—financial, volunteer, and prayers during these days of uncertainty. Yet, despite the difficulties in our world, as followers of Jesus we anchor our lives on his love for us. We are not alone. We are loved beyond measure. We are called to share Christ's love with everyone.

With Pastor Dee's resignation, Church Council has opened a Ministry Assistant position. This job will be part time (approximately 20-28 hours/week). If you are interested in applying, please send your resume and cover letter to our church office.

Looking ahead, Sunday School and Chancel Choir will both begin on September 12. Youth groups for all ages and confirmation will begin Wednesday, September 15.

As we stated in last week's letter, your church staff are currently overloaded. The pace of their workload is unsustainable moving forward.

We are soliciting your help. We need volunteers to lead Daily Devotions. We need volunteers to greet people online during worship streaming services. We need volunteers to reach out to our many folk who are homebound or recuperating. We need volunteers to deliver communion elements to homes. Please contact Pastor Becky or Barb Holdren if you are able to assist in any of these areas.

The physical and mental health of your church staff has been massively compromised this past year. Difficult decisions are currently being made to determine what programs are essential and which can be set aside for the time being. We thank you for your understanding.

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

Blessings,



Roland Dicke  
Council President



Myra Hanenkratt  
Council VP



Rev. Becky Erb Strang  
Senior Pastor

## Financial Information as of August 30, 2021

### Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00  
Giving Income \$2,609.43 (weekly)  
Endowment Transfers \$15,448.00(ytd)  
Income \$190,218.91(ytd)  
Expenses \$194,971.04(ytd)  
Balance **(\$4,752.13)** (ytd)

### Building Maint & Property Care

Beg. Balance \$73,644.37  
Income \$41,732.50 (ytd)  
Endowment Income \$3,329.22(ytd)  
Expenses \$37,708.20 (ytd)  
Balance \$80,997.89 (ytd)

### Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$6,250.20  
Income \$18,959.00 (ytd)  
Expenses \$11,984.25(ytd)  
Balance \$13,224.95

BP Beg Balance \$7,881.15

Bless Pantry Inc. \$18,096.00(ytd)

Bless Pantry Ex. \$10,163.90(ytd)

BP Balance \$15,813.25

### Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00  
Income \$296.00(weekly)  
Income \$18,242.50 (ytd)

### Project of the Year

Income \$0.00(weekly)  
Balance \$4,262.00(ytd)

SEPTEMBER 5, 2021  
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY  
AFTER PENTECOST



*God's love breaks down boundaries.*

### DAILY BIBLE READINGS

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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 7:24-37</b>	<b>Jesus heals the Gentiles</b>
<b>Monday</b>	<b>Isaiah 35:4-7a</b>	<b>Return of the exiled</b>
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>James 2:1-17</b>	<b>Faith without works is dead</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	<b>Hebrews 13:1-9</b>	<b>Service that pleases God</b>
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>Leviticus 19:33-37</b>	<b>Living a holy life</b>
<b>Friday</b>	<b>Ephesians 2:11-22</b>	<b>One in Christ</b>
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>Psalms 146</b>	<b>Praise for God's help</b>
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>Mark 8:27-38</b>	<b>Taking up the cross</b>

### SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*[I]f you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, "Have a seat here, please," while to the one who is poor you say, "Stand there," or "Sit at my feet," have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? **James 2:3-4 (NRSV)***

### PRAYERS AND BLESSING

#### **A Prayer for the Week:**

Almighty God, we thank you that your mercy triumphs over judgment and your love leads us to care for all people through Christ Jesus. Amen.

#### **Mealttime Prayer:**

For the food that we eat and the food that we share, give us, O Lord, thankful hearts that show care. Amen.

#### **A Blessing to Give:**

May the Lord God bless you with an open heart to receive and to give love through Christ Jesus our Savior.



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SEPTEMBER 5, 2021

### HYMN OF THE WEEK

*Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with  
Your Love*



### 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:

- What does it feel like to be left out of a group or not selected for a team?
- How do you react when you see someone being excluded from a group?
- Jesus showed love even to strangers. How would you describe the way you treat strangers?

### DEVOTIONS

*Read:* Mark 7:24-37.

Jesus shows uncharacteristic rejection of someone in need. The Syrophenian woman asks for help, but she is not Jewish. She is a foreigner, and Jesus suggests he came for the children of Israel, not those outside of Judea and Galilee. However, perhaps he is speaking the voice of the early church that is likewise wondering what are the proper boundaries for the mission field of the church. The answer: Gentiles—therefore, all people—are part of God's arena of care and redemption through Christ. It is time for all ears, tongues, and hearts to be opened. God's power of love and forgiveness is so awesome that it knows no boundaries. Thanks be to God! God's compassion is present for all of us, stranger and friend alike. When have you reached out to a stranger with the love of God?

*Pray:* **Loving God, just as you reach out to us with your grace and forgiveness, give us hearts to reach out to others that all may know your care through Christ Jesus. Amen.**

### SERVICE

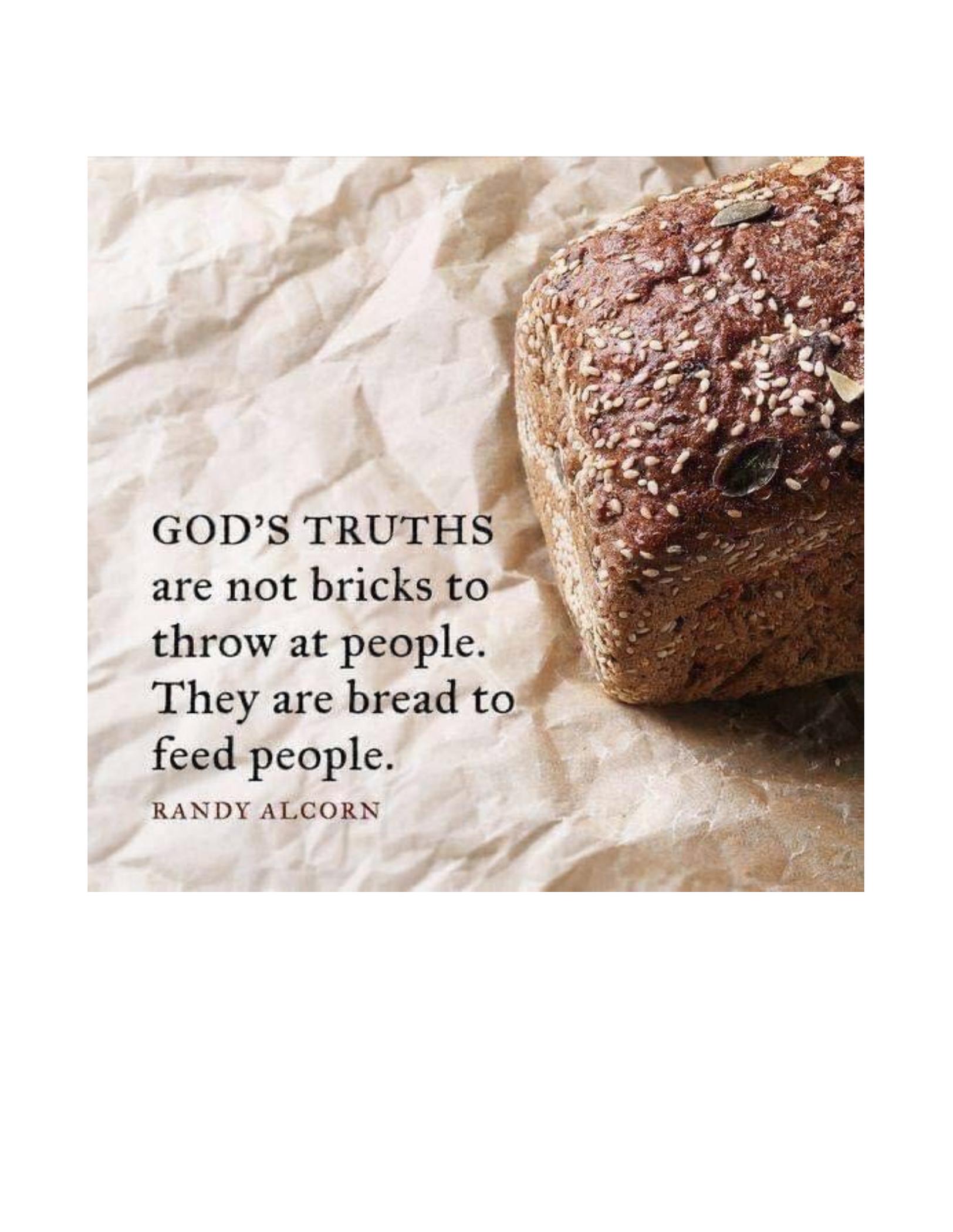
James 2 warns against worshipping communities showing partiality. Many congregations look very homogeneous. They attract people who look, act, and think like one another. Some of this is due to local contexts, but some of it is due to a lack of warmth and initiative taken toward new people. Who is someone who could use your warmth and care to help them feel welcome in your congregation?

### RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Welcoming others with the peace of Christ has been part of the Christian tradition for two thousand years. Look up the sign language for peace. Teach it to others. As a way to practice reaching out to others with hope and love, you can greet others in your home, neighborhood, school, and work with these words: "The peace of the Lord be with you."



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

A close-up photograph of a loaf of dark, seeded bread, likely rye or pumpernickel, resting on a piece of crumpled, light-colored paper. The bread is covered in white sesame seeds and several dark, flat seeds, possibly flax or sunflower. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the bread and the paper.

GOD'S TRUTHS  
are not bricks to  
throw at people.  
They are bread to  
feed people.

RANDY ALCORN

## **St. Paul United Church of Christ**

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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 Strang-Senior Pastor

Pastor Dee Schroer-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, one and all, to this time of worship. We are blessed to have you with us today.

**September 5, 2021**

**Fifteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**Holy Communion**

### **Worship Leaders**

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Sam Simon

Cheyenne Olt

Dick Hudson

Dr. Jeff Paul

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Guest Speaker

Accompanist/Vocalist

Organist

Liturgist

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF CANDLES: You are invited to light a candle or candles at home in preparation for worship.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MOMENT FOR MISSION: Local Aid

The mission for the month of September is Local Aid. As the name implies, local aid helps individuals and families in our surrounding communities, meet the needs of daily life. Aid can come in the form of gas cards, rent money and other miscellaneous repairs and expenses that may occur. To give towards Local Aid, please mark your giving envelope accordingly or bring to the church office in an envelope labeled "Local Aid". Thank you! The Mission Team

## WELCOME SONG

### No Matter

*J=120*

No mat-ter who, no mat-ter what no mat-ter where you are on the  
jour-ney of life; you're wel-come, wel-come in this place. No mat-ter  
who, no mat-ter what, no mat-ter where you are on the  
jour-ney of life: ac-cept-ed, wel-comed by God's grace. grace.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

(adapted from Psalm 146, The Message by Eugene Peterson)

Leader: Hallelujah! O my soul, praise God!

**People: All our life, we will praise God, singing songs to our God as long as we live.**

Leader: Get your help from the God of Jacob, put your hope in God and know real blessing!

**People: God made sky and soil, sea and fish in it.**

Leader: God is in charge—always!

**People: Our God is God for good! Hallelujah!**

All Things Bright and Beautiful 30

Refrain (Unison)

$\frac{G}{B}$ 
G
 $\frac{D7}{A}$ 
G
C
 $\frac{D7}{A}$ 
 $\frac{G}{B}$ 
G
 $\frac{C}{E}$ 
C
D
G
Am7

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, all crea-tures great and small,

G
 $\frac{G}{F}$ 
 $\frac{C}{E}$ 
 $\frac{G}{D}$ 
C
 $\frac{D7}{A}$ 
 $\frac{G}{B}$ 
G
 $\frac{C}{E}$ 
C
D
G

all things wise and won-der - ful: the Lord God made them all.

N.C.
G
G7
C
Am
D
 $\frac{Am}{D}$ 
D
 $\frac{D}{C}$ 
 $\frac{G}{B}$ 
G

1 Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, each lit - tle bird that sings,  
 2 The pur - ple-head - ed moun - tains, the riv - er run - ning by,  
 3 The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,  
 4 God gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell

N.C.
G
 $\frac{D}{F\#}$ 
Em7
D
C
Am
D
 $\frac{D}{C}$ 
 $\frac{G}{B}$ 
C
D
G
Am7

God made their glow - ing col - ors, and made their ti - ny wings.  
 the sun - set and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.  
 the ripe fruits in the gar - den: God made them ev - ery one.  
 how great is God Al - might - y, who has made all things well.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: God has come to us in Christ, but often we live as if that makes no difference. Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

**May the living out of our faith, O God, generate expectations that challenge us to live up to them. May our commitment to you and your way overcome all other allegiances. Then, O God, may we admit to ourselves, to our faith community, and to our world when we fall short of who you expect us to be—of who we want to be. May we honestly and explicitly acknowledge both when and how we get ourselves in the way of your way. By your grace, may we recommit ourselves to you that we might find ourselves again on your path of love. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: Hear now the words of Jesus for all who are truly sorry and seek to renew their lives: Your sins are forgiven. Go in peace; come and follow me.

**People: Amen!**

## HALLELUJAH!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht Hal - le -

lu - jaht Hal - le - lu - jaht

The musical score is written for four staves in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The lyrics are: Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jaht. Chord markings include C, Am7, D7, D, and Em.

## TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US

I've been thinking about how babies are cared for by their parents. Parents make sure tiny babies are fed, diapers changed, cuddled, sung to, and, in the best-case scenario, lavished with love.

It's much the same in the animal world. When elephants are born, they are almost completely blind and are dependent upon their mothers and the other female elephants in the herd to care for them. Years ago, I visited an elephant orphanage in Kenya—baby elephants who'd been taken in when their parents had died.

This is what you need to know about baby elephants. They are social creatures that NEED cuddles and love. So what happens at an elephant orphanage? A human caretaker is assigned to each baby—that person feeds the baby, bathes the baby and even sleeps with the baby each and every night. Just like human babies.

In a few minutes Sam Simon is going to preach a sermon—and in his message you will hear about how incredibly important family is to him.

Families ARE so incredibly important—especially for children. And we also know this—it truly does take a village to raise our children. We look out for one another. We step in when we see a need. We might quietly cover some expenses for a family who is struggling. Even if we have no children of our own, we often find ourselves keeping an eye on the kids in our neighborhood.

Today's scripture lesson is from 1 John chapter 2. If we were to look one chapter further, we would hear over and over again that WE are God's children. God's love for us is like the best and deepest kind of love a mother or a father has for their children.

Friends: you are beloved and precious children of God. Your task this week is to treat everyone you interact with as the precious child they are.

## PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

**Joys:** God's Love for Us!

**Concerns:** We are continuing to pray for Dale Quellhorst (JTDMH), Denise Joyce, Rhonda Bowlby, Martha Plattner, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Levi Bushman, Drew Wray, Jan Dammeyer, Shannon Shupp and Pastor Dee Schroer.

## PASTORAL PRAYER. SILENT PRAYER. THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Holy Jesus, our Brother and Friend, please draw us closer to one another that we may be closer to you, and closer to you that we may be closer to each other. Then may the fellowship and inspiration of our worship bring us even closer to you in this holy time. SILENCE

Almighty God, we come before you this day to thank you for your steadfast presence in our lives, for your gracious forgiveness when we cause harm and for your light-filled love that constantly calls us to serve you with joy. SILENCE

Holy Spirit, you are the Mother of us all. With every breath we take, we feel your presence. You remind us moment-by-moment that we belong not only to this earth, but to your kingdom in heaven. Pray for us when we have no words for prayer. SILENCE

Healing and Holy God, we lift up to you our prayers for those who are hurting, those who are recovering and those in need of your healing love. We pray for all who are grieving. We lift up to you the brokenness in our midst: brother against brother, sister against sister, nation against nation. Pour your healing light upon us that we might see one another as precious and beloved. SILENCE

Jesus—Son of God—hear us now as we lift up to you our prayers. SILENCE

Our Brother Jesus, we thank you for hearing our prayers and for answering us in surprising and life-filled ways. We pray together the prayer you taught us...**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.**

## NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: 1 John 2:7-10

(NRSV)

*Beloved, I am writing you no new commandment, but an old commandment that you have had from the beginning; the old commandment is the word that you have heard. <sup>8</sup> Yet I am writing you a new commandment that is true in him and in you, because the darkness is passing away and the true light is already shining. <sup>9</sup> Whoever says, "I am in the light," while hating a brother or sister, is still in the darkness. <sup>10</sup> Whoever loves a brother or sister lives in the light, and in such a person there is no cause for stumbling.*

## RESPONSE

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

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

## SERMON

Sam Simon with Rev. Becky Erb Strang

When Abby Bushman asked Sam to provide special music with his guitar earlier this summer, he indicated that he also wanted to speak to the congregation. Sam grew up at St. Paul Church, has been an adult leader of the youth group for several years and is passionate about his faith and his family.

Today's sermon will be in a Question/Answer format—I'll ask the questions and Sam will answer. Listen to him well. He has good news to share with us.

Sam, tell us about how you came to love God and love St. Paul Church.

**My grandpa was in the choir at church. He did so much for our family. He was always trying to improve our lives to make sure things would be okay for us.**

Sam, how is your life going?

**I feel happy because my aunts do a lot for me, my mom and my sister. I love music. I love Christian rap music.**

**I like to help people. I help my roommate's family with their cows. Don't get mad at people. Stick up to bullies.**

Sam, where do you work?

**I work at PawPur's Place. I love dogs. I love to care for dogs. Someday I want to get my own dog. If I ever get a dog, I won't need a roommate.**

Sam, what do you believe about God?

**God has done a lot for us. God opened my eyes about who I care about, who I love and who I am.**

Sam, what have you learned from your dad?

**My dad taught me a lot of things—especially about money.**

Sam, what have you learned from your mom?

**My mom taught me how to grow up and take responsibility. I love my mom.**

Sam, tell us what you believe about prayer.

**I pray for my dad to get better. I pray for my family: my mom, sister, aunts, nephews. They opened my eyes and my heart to make my life happy.**

Sam, where do you see your life in a few years?

**I want to open a business. I want to take photos for scrapbooks. I want to travel the world. I want to see different things. I love to go places.**

What words of hope do you have for us?

**Think about your family. Take care of yourself. Think about your actions. Be careful about what you say.**

**One person can call you a name. Don't respond. Walk away.**

**I don't want to be negative.**

Friends, did you hear what Sam had to say to us today?

Think before you speak or act.

Take care of yourself.

Love your family.

Pray for others.

When Sam and I first met to plan today's sermon, twice he said, "My eyes and my heart have been opened."

So I ask you today: Are your eyes open to what is happening around you? Is your heart open to love others? Are you dreaming big dreams? Are you including God in your dreams?

Perhaps that is what Sam Simon is telling us: Love yourself. Love your family. Love others. Love God. Do that, and you will know joy.

I close with a poem written by twentieth century poet e e cummings:

*i thank You God for most this amazing  
day:for the leaping greenly spirits of trees  
and a blue true dream of sky;and for everything  
which is natural which is infinite which is yes  
(i who have died am alive again today,  
and this is the sun's birthday;this is the birth  
day of life and of love and wings:and of the gay  
great happening illimitably earth)  
how should tasting touching hearing seeing  
breathing any—lifted from the no  
of all nothing—human merely being  
doubt unimaginable You?  
(now the ears of my ears awake and  
now the eyes of my eyes are opened)*

Friends: may the ears of your ears awaken and the eyes of your eyes open to the wonder and joy God has in store for each of us. Amen.

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: In 1 Peter 4:10, we hear these words, *Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.* Friends—because we have been gifted so abundantly by our loving God, we are called to share those gifts with others. Let us give generously and joyfully.

## DOXOLOGY

### Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system of music has the following lyrics: "Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;". The second system has the lyrics: "praise him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost." Above the vocal lines, various chords are indicated, such as G, D, Em, Bm, Em, D, G, D, Em, C, G, D, Em, D/F#, G, D, G/B, C, F#dim/A, G, Em, D, Am, G/B, D7, G.

WORDS: *Doxology*, Thomas Ken (1637-1711)  
MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois (ca. 1510-1561), *Genevan Psalter*, 1551

OLD 100th  
L.M.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**Lord, it's so easy for us to hold on tightly to the money we earn. Help us to realize that you alone gave us the ability to do our jobs and to earn the money that we do. Help us to be openhanded in how we share your gifts to bring about peace and justice in your earthly kingdom. Amen.**

## SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

(In the United Church of Christ we practice an Open Table. You need not be a church member to commune; you need only have a sincere desire to draw near to Christ and seek peace with your neighbor to receive the elements of Communion. We hold the elements and commune together.)

### INVITATION

Leader: Let us come to the table of communion, not because we must, but because we may.

**People: Let us sit together in humility and thanksgiving rather than in pride or possessiveness.**

Leader: Let us confess, not that we are righteous, but that we love our Lord Jesus Christ and desire to remember him.

**People: Let us come, not that we are strong, but that we are needy; not that we have any claim on Christ, but that he invites us to receive his grace and experience his presence.**

Leader: Let us worthily partake, that he may be made known to us in the breaking of the bread.

### COMMUNION PRAYER (unison)

**God of love, send us your Holy Spirit to be with us as we remember Jesus, your divine love in human form. As we keep in mind Christ's life, death and resurrection, let our Eucharistic banquet enable us to share with one another the goodness and love you have showered upon us. We pray this in Jesus' holy name. Amen.**

### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (unison)

**O God, we thank you for uniting us by baptism in the body of Christ and by this meal filling us with joy and hope. Grant that in the days ahead our lips which have sung your praises may speak your truth; our eyes which have seen your love may look with compassion on the needs of the world; our hands which have held this loaf and cup may be active in your service. We ask it in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

# HYMN OF SENDING

# Sent Forth by God's Blessing

GOING FORTH

712

## Sent Forth by God's Blessing

*Unison*  
N.C. F C/E F Dm Gm/Bb C C/E

1 Sent forth by God's bless - ing our true faith con - fess - ing, the  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing to God ev - er liv - ing, the

F F/A Bb F/C C7 F N.C.

peo - ple of our God from this dwell - ing we take leave. The  
tasks of our ev - ery - day life we will face. Our

F C/E F Dm Gm/Bb Gm Gm/Bb C C/E

ser - vice is end - ed, O now be ex - tend - ed the  
faith ev - er shar - ing, in love ev - er car - ing, em -

F F/A Bb F/C C7 F

fruits of our wor - ship in all who be - lieve. The  
brac - ing God's chil - dren of each tribe and race. With

WORDS: Omer Westendorf (1916-1998)  
MUSIC: Welsh folk tune; harm. Leland Sateren (1913- )

ASH GROVE  
6.6.11.6.6.11.D.

Words © 1964 World Library Publications  
Music Harm. © 1972 Contemporary Worship 4: Hymns for Baptism and Holy Communion (Admin. Augsburg Fortress)

F C7

seed of the teach - ing, re - cep - tive souls reach - ing, shall  
 your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us: u -

F C Dm C/E C/G G C Dm7 C/E

blos - som in ac - tion in for God life and for we all. God's  
 nite us as one in this life that we share. Then

F C/E F Dm Gm/Bb Gm Gm/Bb C C/E

grace did in - vite us, and love shall u - nite us to  
 may all the liv - ing with praise and thanks - giv - ing give

F F/A Bb F/C C7 F

work for God's king - dom and an - swer the call.  
 hon - or to Christ and that name which we bear.

BENEDICTION: May the peace of Jesus Christ go with you: wherever he may send you. May he guide you through the wilderness to protect you in the raging storms. May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you on your journey. May he bring you back to this holy place ready to share his love with others. Go in peace. Amen.

## BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

### Pass the Love

♩=95

F Gm7 F Gm7 F/A F/Bb Gm9 C7

Love our God, ev - 'ry day, praise with joy go - ing on your way.

F Gm7 F Gm7 F/A F/Bb Gm9 G7 C

Pass it on, t'all you meet, ev - 'ry day in — ev - 'ry way.

Fmaj7 Dm F/G F/C

Love our Ho - ly God. Pray with hope each day.

Am7 Dm7 Gm7 F/C C7 F

Bless the Ho - ly Name. Praise our — God.

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

## POSTLUDE

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Altar Flowers** are given in loving memory of Freda Voress by Judy, George & Karen and John & Gin Voress.

**Attendance**-Daily Devotions-63, August 22-Sunday Worship Online-330, In Person-63.

**Daily Devotions**-Please join us, 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 September-Worship** will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. **Sunday School** begins September 12 and will be in person and via Facebook Live at 9:00am.

**Elmwood Worship Service**-Tuesday, September 7 at 2:00pm. If you would like to help lead this wonderful service for the residents of Elmwood, please meet Rev. Becky by 1:45pm at Elmwood. All are Welcome.

**Women's Service Group**-will meet on **Thursday, September 9, 2021**. We will be meeting at 1:00pm at the ABC Center located at 203 E First St, New Bremen. Renee Kohler, director of the ABC Center will take us on a tour and explain the services they offer. After the tour, we will have a short planning meeting at the center to end our day. We invite anyone who is interested to us for the tour. Questions, please contact Sally Dicke. All are Welcome!

**Our Music Ministries** are also gearing up for the fall. **Chancel Choir** will sing Sunday, September 12, 2021, Kickoff Sunday. Jim Strang is the Music Director and he invites you to prayerfully consider joining our Music Ministries. Questions? Please contact Jim.

**Youth groups** for all ages will take place beginning Wednesday, September 15. Splash (4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> grade youth) will meet from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Junior High, Senior High and Confirmation will meet from 6:30-8:30. At 6:30 each Wednesday ALL the youth will share a meal together. Interested in providing a meal for our youth? Please contact Mimi Messick.



When: September 21, 2021

Who: Everyone

Where: St. Paul Assembly Room

Serving: 4:00pm-6:00pm

Menu: Chicken Alfredo, House Salad, Green Beans, Garlic Toast, Yummy Desserts

Carry-outs Available, Free Chair Massages

Prepared and Served by: The Women's Group of Holy Redeemer

**Book Club**-We are putting a new spin on Book club. We will not be hosting formal Book Clubs as we have in the past but still providing the books for you to read. If you'd like to get together with others who are reading the book to discuss, a sheet will be provided for you to put your name on when picking up the book, make contact with fellow readers and set a date to discuss. Septembers book is *Uncomfortable Conversations With A Black Man* by Emmanuel Acho. For anyone seeking to understand and eradicate racism, the book is filled with honest reflections and actionable conclusions. Books will be available on the table outside the church office.

**Bulletin Availability-weekly bulletins** are available for download on our website [stpaulnb.org](http://stpaulnb.org). Just click the yellow **BULLETINS** box in the upper right hand corner.

**September/October 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!

**Blessing Pantry**-is accessible 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- Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Diapers (size 6), Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Sanitary Napkins, Deodorant, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Razors, Shaving Cream, Q-Tips, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste, Dryer Sheets, Napkins, Paper Plates and Garbage Bags. Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

**Caring Conversations in Christian Ministry**-Northwest Ohio Association's Lay School of Religion fall class. During this class they will discuss Communication Tools: Active Listening, Importance of Body Language, Personal Presence. The first class will be held on September 7<sup>th</sup> (in person-if able) from 6:45pm-9:15pm at the Northwest Ohio Association Office, 416 Wentz Street, Tiffin OH. The next seven classes will be completed by Zoom. For more information on the class or how to register contact Rev. Becky or the church office.

**2022 Council Positions**-2022 will be here before we know it and we are looking to fill several council positions. Please prayerfully consider serving in one of the following:

**Jr. Elder**

**Jr. Deacon**

**Trustee (2 positions open)**

Questions or willing to serve, please contact Roland Dicke or Myra Hanenkratt. Thank you!

**Widow and Widower Luncheon**- About two years ago, Immanuel Church of Kettlersville started a Widow and Widower Luncheon on the first Wednesday of each month. Things were going well, the Group was sharing and caring for one another, laughter and memories were shared. Then things had to stop for the health concerns of all. Immanuel Church is now restarting the Widow and Widowers Luncheon. We extend the invitation to join us in the Fellowship Hall of Immanuel Church in Kettlersville on Wednesday, September 8, 2021. Lunch will be a choice of salads, drinks and desserts. Lunch will be served at 11:30 am. All who are widows or widowers are invited to attend.

## Calendar-Week of September 5, 2021

Sunday	10:15am	Worship in person & via Facebook Live w/ Holy Communion
Monday	All Day	Office Closed
Tuesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm	Elmwood Worship Service
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday	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	Afternoon	Office Closed

### **E-Giving @ St. Paul**

#### **3 Different Ways to Give**

**Online** – Make a donation on our website: [stpaulnb.org](http://stpaulnb.org)

**Mobile App** – We are working on a new App-more information to come.

**Text** – Make a donation to our Number: 833-308-0048

**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.



# WARM WINTER COAT & GLOVES DRIVE

September 19 – October 30<sup>th</sup>



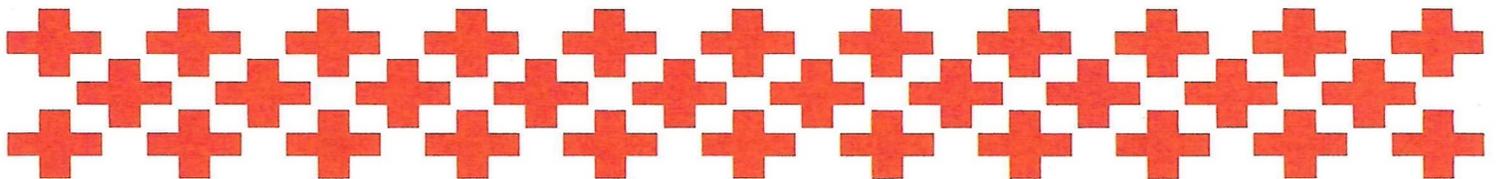
United Way  
of Auglaize County  
Participating Member Agency

## SHARE THE WARMTH

Accepting Donations of **NEW & GENTLY USED ADULT & CHILDRENS WINTER COATS & NEW WINTER WATER PROOF GLOVES.** Drop off Coats in the barrels (located in Sanctuary or outside church office) or to the Agape Client Services Building from 8 am – 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday beginning September 19. If dropping off at AGAPE THRIFT STORE, you must specify it is for the Warm Winter Coat Drive.

### American Red Cross

*Give blood.* Help save lives.



### Blood Drive American Legion

Hall  
6458 State Route 66  
New Bremen

**Monday, September 20  
12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit [RedCrossBlood.org](http://RedCrossBlood.org) and enter: amlegnb to schedule an appointment.



Scan to be directed to RapidPass®



Get gameday ready with the Red Cross! Come to give Sept. 13-30 for a limited-edition college football T-shirt, while supplies last!



Scan to schedule an appointment.