Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends.

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus who offers us his Light and Love!

During worship yesterday, we commissioned our Pastoral Search Committee for their tasks.

Last week, we shared with you open positions at St. Paul Church. We have posted these positions on Hometown Opportunities. but we also invite you to prayerfully consider applying for any of these positions:

- 1. Office Administrator beginning February 1, 2023
- 2. Sanctuary Custodian beginning February 5, 2023
- 3. Music Director/Bell Choir Director/Chancel Choir Director beginning May 22, 2023
- 4. Groundskeeper beginning Spring 2023
- 5. Technology Director beginning May 2023

You are welcome to prayerfully consider applying for any of these positions. If you would like to apply for any of these positions, please send a resume, cover letter, and references to St. Paul Church office, attention Myra Hanenkratt, Council President.

Due to the upcoming staffing transitions, beginning in February, this weekly mailer will become a monthly mailer. This mailed packet will include worship information, Church Council minutes, financial report, nursing home list, and giving envelopes. We began the weekly mailings in March 2020 when Covid19 lock-downs first began as a way to keep the congregation connected to one another and to St. Paul Church. Moving forward, we are simply unable to maintain these mailings on a weekly basis. We thank you for your understanding.

As a gentle reminder, our primary tasks as Christians is to love God and love our neighbors. This includes keeping one another safe and healthy. If you have symptoms and/or tested positive for Covid19, Influenza, RSV, or pneumonia, we kindly ask you to stay home. Thank you for your attention to this detail.

Thank you for your ministry to Jesus Christ through St. Paul Church!

Blessings,

Mysa Hanenkratt Myra Hanenkratt Council President

Matt Ranly Council VP

Becky Erb Strang Senior Pastor

Bely ab

2023 Financial Information as of January 23, 2023 **Local Aid**

Operating Fund

Giving Income \$2,625.00(weekly) Endowment Trans \$3,073.00(ytd) Income \$21,891.00(vtd) Expenses \$21,283.10(vtd) Balance \$607.90(ytd)

Building Maint & Property Beg. Balance \$56,920.53 Income \$1,153.00(ytd) Endowment Inc.\$0.00(ytd)

Expenses \$253.83(ytd) Balance \$57,819.70(vtd)

Project of the Year Income \$54.00

Beg. Balance \$9,977.49 Income \$529.50(ytd)

Expenses \$2,305.00(ytd) Balance \$8,221.99(vtd)

Blessing Pantry

Beg. Balance \$35,371.23 Income \$1,300.00(ytd) Expenses \$1,077.54(ytd) Balance \$35,593.69(vtd)

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00 Income \$75.50 (weekly) Income \$1,847.50(vtd)

Please remember the family of Larry Kuhn in your prayers. Larry passed away Thursday, January 19, 2023. Service to celebrate his life was held Wednesday, January 25, 2023.





January 29, 2023, Treasure in Heaven Matthew 6:7-21, [25-34]

Use this resource at home to guide your household's daily devotions.



Pray: Light a candle and open your devotion time with a prayer.

Gracious God, you invite us to come to you in prayer, and offer us a promise of your never-ending care. Give us the humility to ask only for what we need and to be grateful when we receive it. Amen.



Read: Read the key verse from Sunday's reading.

"When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him." (Matthew 6:7-8)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

People had learned how to look like they had open communication with God. God taught us that everyone has direct access to God, whether they have treasures to store or not.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- How is the accumulation of *more* encouraged in your community? What media or messages could you stop listening to so that you could limit your exposure to those messages?
- Name three things you wish you had more of. Reflect on how the desire for more shapes your behaviors and attitudes.
- For the littles: What is your favorite prayer? God likes all prayers.



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God fill your heart with words of praise. Amen.



Do: By acting on what we learn, we make God's word come alive. Do the following activity this week.

Limit your exposure to TV, internet, and other media this week. First, notice how you spend that recovered time. Second, notice how you feel after limited exposure to messages that encourage the accumulation of more.



Go Deeper: Go to clergystuff.com/daily-devotions for devotions on the daily readings.

Monday, Psalm 20:7, Psalm
Tuesday, Matthew 6:22-24, Teachings of Jesus
Wednesday, Matthew 6:25-34, Teachings of Jesus
Thursday, Matthew 7:15-20, Teachings of Jesus
Friday, Matthew 7:21-23, Teachings of Jesus
Saturday, Matthew 8:1-17, Healings of Jesus



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 Erb Strang-Senior Pastor Myra Hanenkratt-Council President

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

Whether you are worshipping online or in person, Welcome! Your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior. May every blessing be yours.

January 29, 2023 Fourth Sunday after Epiphany Hymn Sing

Worship Leaders

Ministers	The Congregation
Rev. Becky Erb Strang	Senior Pastor
Arianne Henry	Organist
Emily Willrath	Liturgist
June Oaks	Sr. Deacon
Jim Strang	Music Director

PRELUDE

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME SONG

No Matter



CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Our God knows what we need before we ask,

People: And gives us our daily bread.

Leader: We come before God with thanksgiving,

People: For all that God has done for us.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

136 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!

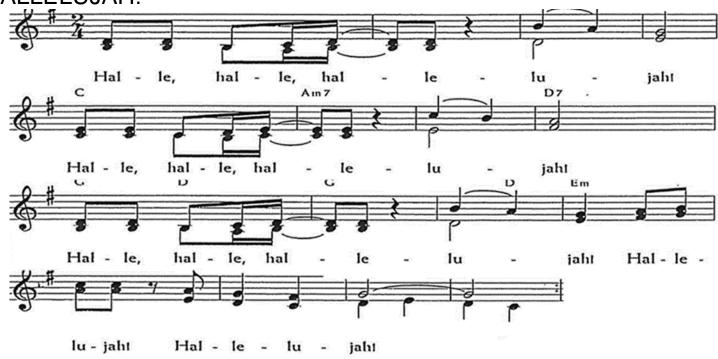


WORDS: Reginald Heber (1783-1826) MUSIC: John B. Dykes (1823-1876) NICAEA 11.12.12.10.

INVOCATION (in unison)

Gracious God, you invite us to come to you in prayer and you offer us a promise of your never-ending care. Give us the humility to ask for only what we need. Abide with us. Then, send us out to serve you by loving our neighbors. Amen.

HALLELUJAH!



PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Making a Joyfull Noise to the Lord!

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Mary Hespe, Tavi Haastrup, Betty Bushman, Rob Paul, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Karen Vornholt, Shannon Shupp, and Dee Schroer.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Leader: Let us pray. Confident that our Savior, Jesus Christ, hears us when we pray, we lift up to you, O God, the church, the world, and all in need.

SILENT PRAYER

Leader: God of abundance, your son, Jesus, showed us how to pray so that the blessings of heaven might be ours. Keep us ever mindful of those things which are of trueand lasting value. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Let the earth heal from the thoughtless damage we have done to it. Make us passionate stewards of your creation, working diligently for its nurture rather than its destruction. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Bless our world's religious leaders and encourage them to be models of faithful living for their communities of faith. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Place your healing hands upon all who are in need, those who are grieving, incarcerated, addicted, isolated, neglected, abused, or ill. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: We lovingly remember all the saints whose lives have taught us to store up treasures in heaven. Keep them in your care until the day we all are together. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Receive our prayers and hold all for whom we pray in your loving arms, in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray together...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.

HYMN

In the Garden





NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 6:7-15

(NRSV)

Jesus said, "When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the gentiles do, for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. 8 Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

⁹ "Pray, then, in this way:

Our Father in heaven,

may your name be revered as holy.

¹⁰ May your kingdom come.

May your will be done

on earth as it is in heaven.

- Give us today our daily bread.
- And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.
- And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one.

¹⁴ "For if you forgive others their trespasses, your heavenly Father will also forgive you, ¹⁵ but if you do not forgive others, neither will your Father forgive your trespasses."

HYMN

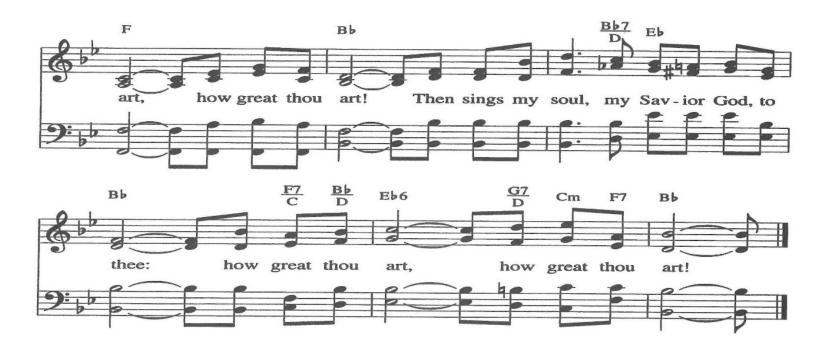
How Great Thou Art

How Great Thou Art



WORDS and MUSIC: Stuart K. Hine (1899-1989)

Words and Music © 1953 S. K. Hine. Assigned to Manna Music, Inc. Renewed 1981.



NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 6:16-21

(NRSV)

Jesus said, "And whenever you fast, do not look somber, like the hypocrites, for they mark their faces to show others that they are fasting. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. ¹⁷ But when you fast, put oil on your head and wash your face, ¹⁸ so that your fasting may be seen not by others but by your Father who is in secret, and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

¹⁹ "Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust consume and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust consumes and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also."

HYMN

O Jesus, I Have Promised



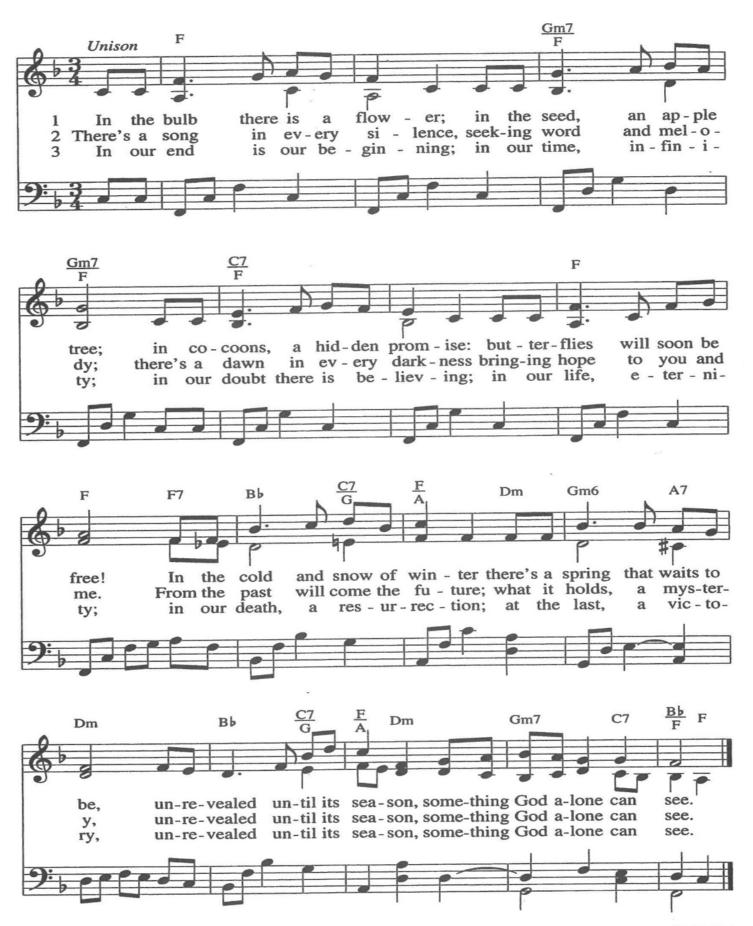
Jesus said, "Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food and the body more than clothing? 26 Look at the birds of the air: they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷ And which of you by worrying can add a single hour to your span of life? 28 And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, 29 yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. 30 But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? 31 Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' 32 For it is the gentiles who seek all these things, and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. 33 But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

³⁴ "So do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will bring worries of its own. Today's trouble is enough for today."

HYMN

Hymn of Promise

Hymn of Promise

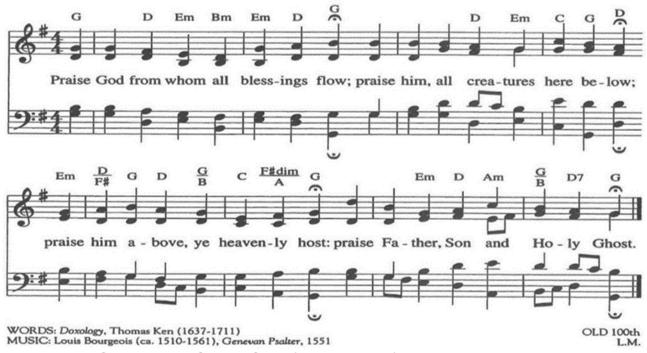


WE RESPOND WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY SENTENCES: Throughout the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus teaches us how to live. Our response to this new life in Christ is to give generously of our time, talents, and treasure. May our offering today bring hope and life to others. Amen.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34



PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

You have given us an abundance of earthly treasures, O God. Make us generous as we return them to your service, that we might put our hearts not in material things, but in selfless love for you and our neighbors. Accept these, our gifts, and use them to bring light and life to your world. Amen.

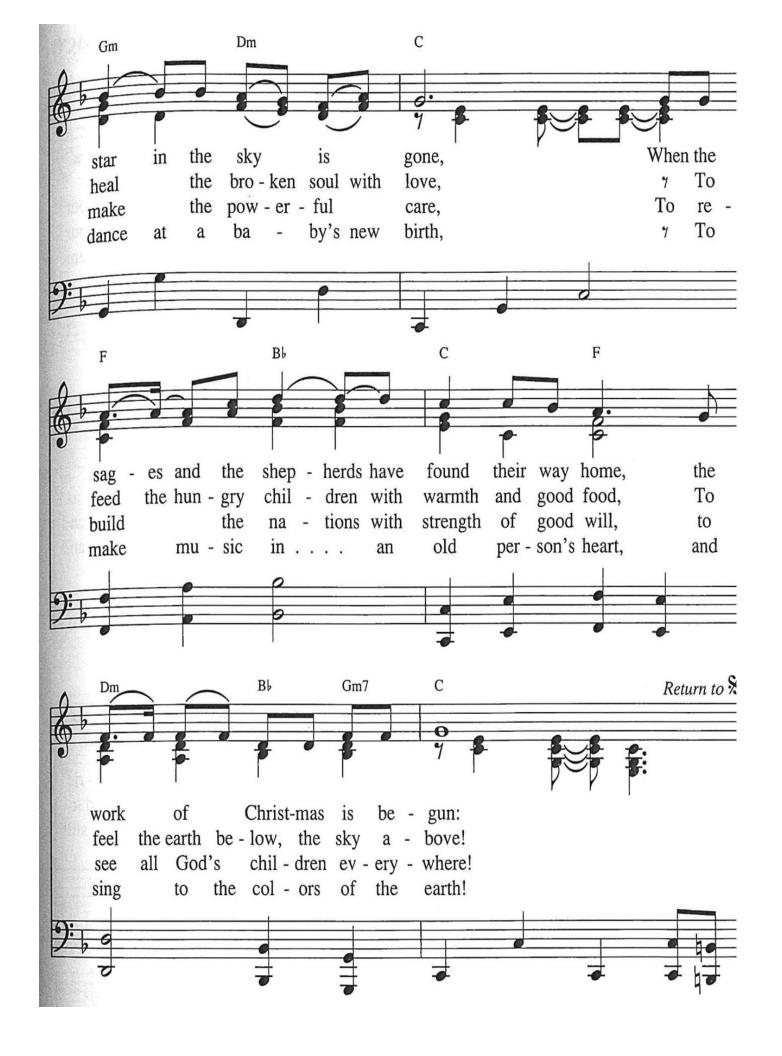
HYMN OF SENDING I Am the Light of the World

I Am the Light of the World



This text is based on a Christmas poem by Howard Thurman, a prolific twentieth-century writer, theologian, and teacher. The song grew out of Jim Strathdee's music ministry at an intercultural, bilingual congregation in Los Angeles.

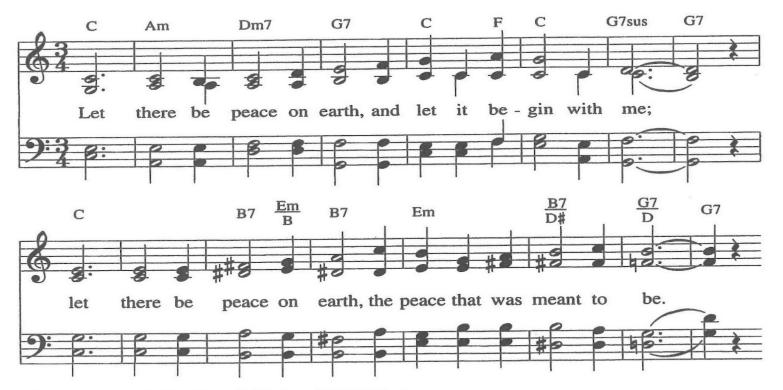
Tune: LIGHT OF THE WORLD Irr. Jim Strathdee, 1969



BENEDICTION: The grace of God, deeper than our imagination; the strength of Christ, stronger than our need; and the communion of the Holy Spirit, richer than our togetherness; guide and sustain us today and in all our tomorrows. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE Let There Be Peace on Earth

614 Let There Be Peace on Earth



WORDS: Sy Miller (1908-1971) and Jill Jackson (1913-1995), alt. MUSIC: Sy Miller (1908-1971) and Jill Jackson (1913-1995); harm. Charles H. Webb (1933-) Words and Music © 1955, Ren. 1983 Jan-Lee Music



PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

People: And also with you.

POSTLUDE

"No Matter" Words and music by Roger P. Miller ©2007 All rights reserved.
"Halle Halle" Words and music by Hal H. Hobson ©1998 Hope Publishing Company
Used by Permission. CCLI License #3095528

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in memory of Loved Ones by John and Joyce Gilberg.

Participants-January 15-Sunday School-15, Teachers-3, Worship Online-232, In Person-60, January 18-Splash-6, Jr/Sr High Youth Group-17, Confirmation-3, Leaders-7.

Sundays in January and February-Worship will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. **Saturday, February 4-Worship** will be in the chapel at 5:00pm with Holy Communion.

Daily Devotions-Please join us, Monday-Thursday, online. Devotions will air and be saved on our Facebook page: St. Paul United Church of Christ-New Bremen, OH.

January Book Club-All are welcome to St. Paul UCC's Zoom Room at 11:30 on Sunday, January 29 for our monthly Book Club. We will discuss Charles Dickens' A Christmas Carol. Books can be picked up on the table outside Pastor Becky's office. This event is offered in-person and via Zoom:

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82332803465?pwd=WVIBdXoxM3FIUGRMT Gg4NmhFSVgwQT09 **Meeting ID: 823 3280 3465 Passcode: 134323**

2023 Altar Flower Chart has open dates: July 2, 30, August 27, October 1, 29, December 31. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. You

may also call the church office Monday-Thursday to sign up. 2023 altar flower price will be \$40.00. Thank you.

Annual Report Articles-Please turn your report in for the February 26, 2023 Congregational Meeting by January 30. We would like reports from the following: 2022 Council President, Stewardship Board, 2022 Council Treasurer, Maintenance/Trustees, Technology, Sr. Deacon, Sr. Elder, Music Department, Worship Team, Mission Team, Called to Care Team, Discipleship Team, Blessing Pantry, Art Camp Festival, Prayer Chain and Lay Minister of Visitation, Women's Service Group.

St Paul UCC Job Openings-The following positions are or will be available in the near future: Groundskeeper, Technology Director, Music Director, Bell Choir Director, Chancel Choir Director, Sanctuary Custodian and Office Administrator. Interested applicants are asked to submit a resume and cover letter, indicating position applying for, to the church office, attention Myra Hanenkratt, Council President.

The Office Administrator. This position would work approximately five hours per day. Job responsibilities include answering/directing phone calls, formatting and printing weekly worship bulletins, funeral bulletins, monthly mailers, and keeper of vital church records among other tasks.

The Sanctuary Custodian position is part time. It includes cleaning and sanitizing the sanctuary, bathrooms vestibules for all worship services. The Sanctuary Custodian unlocks and locks the sanctuary for all services-including weddings and funerals.

The Music Director/Bell Choir Director/Chancel Choir Director serves part time to recruit, rehearse and perform bell and chancel choir music. The Music Director works closely with the Worship Team.

The Groundskeeper position includes regularly mowing, trimming, edging, blowing and other needed maintenance of all of St. Paul Church's grounds. This is a seasonal position.

The Technology Director serves part time at St. Paul Church to maintain and update all computer, networking and worship technologies. The Technology Director works closely with the Worship Tech Team and the Worship Team.

January Monthly Mission: Church World Service Blankets (CWS)

Church World Service has been involved with disaster response for many years, in many ways, and in many places. One way CWS helps is by supplying blankets for people who have been involved in all kinds of tragedies-floods, hurricanes, fires and yes tornadoes. Three years ago tornadoes ripped through the poorest section of east Dayton. Many houses were damaged or destroyed and CWS supplied blankets to families and other assistance as well as clean up buckets. The blankets come in two different weights and can be used in various ways, not only to keep warm but as make shift tents for protection from the elements. Our mission offering for January will be designated for CWS. Thank you for your support. The Mission Team.

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-Dish Soap, Laundry Detergent, Dryer Sheets, Body Wash, Bar Soap, Kleenex, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Shaving Cream, Conditioner, Tampons, Diapers (sizes N, 4, 5 & 6), Baby Wipes, Baby Lotion, Baby Shampoo, Bandages, Cotton Balls, Q-Tips, Vaseline, Manicure Items, Napkins, Paper Plates, Food Storage Bags, Garbage Bags. Thank you! There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

St. Paul Church Nursery Announcement. Effective immediately the St. Paul Church Nursery will be open on Communion Sundays and on Children's Worship Sundays. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Justine Homan, Nursery Champion.

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.

Want to be part of the Prayer Chain? Please contact Prayer Chain Champion, Jeff Paul. The St. Paul Prayer Chain has two formats: texting and email. All are welcome.

January/February 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.

Calendar-Week of January 29, 2023		
Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:15am Worshi	p-In Person & via Facebook Live
	11:30am	Book Club
Monday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-NB Coffee Shop
Tuesday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	5:30pm-6:30pm	Splash
	6:30pm	Youth Dinner
	7:00pm-8:00pm	Jr/Sr High Youth Group
	7:00pm-8:00pm	Confirmation w/Mentors
	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	Noon	Office Closed
Saturday	8:00am	Men's Club-Speedway Lanes
	5:00pm	Worship w/Holy Communion

E-Giving @ St. Paul

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

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 gl (hit send)

- > For building & property fund giving: Send 25 bp (hit send)
 - ➤ For Blessing Pantry: Send 25 pantry (hit send)
 - For project of the year giving: Send 25 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



St. Paul United Church of Christ

Ash Wednesday Service February 22, 2023

YOUTH MEAL & PRAYER 6:15 pm **SERVICE 7:00 p.m.**

Youth Group will sit together during worship.