

February 14, 2022

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

We are writing this letter on Valentine's Day: the day we celebrate the gift of love—God's love for us and the love we share with one another.

Our congregation's Annual Meeting is set for Sunday, February 27 at the end of the worship service. This is the meeting we approve the 2021 annual reports.

Pastor Becky's Bible Study began this past Thursday. Even if you were unable to join us then, you are always welcome to jump in—either in person in the Zoom Room of the education building or via Zoom. Bible Study begins at 6:30 for the next five weeks. The Zoom link to Bible Study is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85966539897?pwd=bGhkSHpaUDRva1MxWnhDaDZYVWJaQT09> **Meeting ID: 859 6653 9897**




Passcode: 704709 This link is also found on the St. Paul Facebook page.

Boy Scouts and St. Paul Church members Jared and Jordan Weigandt are working on their Eagle Scout projects. The plans include adding benches (Jared's project) and corn-hole boards (Jordan's project) to our playground. These young men are in the process of raising funds for these projects. If you would like to donate, checks should be made payable to Troop 95. Please write "Jordan Weigandt" or "Jared Weigandt" in the memo line. Checks can be mailed to Troop 95, 8 Rummel Creek Drive, New Bremen, Ohio, 45869.

Looking ahead, singer and songwriter Carrie Newcomer will give a concert at St. Paul Church on Saturday, March 5 at 7:00 p.m. Cost of tickets is \$25 and can be purchased at the door or via EventBrite.com. Ms. Newcomer requires that all concert-goers arrive with proof of vaccination and wear masks for the entire performance.

We thank you for your faithfulness. We thank you for your generosity. We thank you for your love for God and neighbor.

Blessings,

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

Financial Information as of February 14, 2022

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00
Giving Income \$3,566.00(weekly)
Endowment Trans \$1,900.00(ytd)
Income \$35,885.24(ytd)
Expenses \$28,903.43(ytd)
Balance \$6,981.81(ytd)

Building Maint & Property

Beg. Balance \$36,648.59
Income \$2,280.00(ytd)
Endowment Inc. (\$1,424.76)(ytd)
Expenses \$2,868.69(ytd)
Balance \$34,635.14(ytd)

Project of the Year

Income \$183.00

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$12,218.82
Income \$1,210.50(ytd)
Expenses \$2,855.24(ytd)
Balance \$10,574.08(ytd)

Blessing Pantry

Beg. Balance \$29,161.12
Income \$3,195.00(ytd)
Expenses \$2,855.24(ytd)
Balance \$10,574.08(ytd)

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$379.00(weekly)
Income \$3,339.50(ytd)



Living Water

February 20, 2022

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



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

God of all who thirst, you sent your son, Jesus, to bring the living water of eternal life to all the earth. Quench the thirst of all who long for your word, your truth, and your presence, for the sake of him who gave everything to save all, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



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

³⁷"Let anyone who is thirsty come to me, ³⁸and let the one who believes in me drink. As the scripture has said, 'Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water.'"

(John 7:37b-38)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus said, "Out of the believer's heart shall flow rivers of living water." Jesus is that living water.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

What was Jesus asking people to do when he said, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me"? What comes out of you that contributes positively to the world?

For the littles: What is your favorite thing to drink?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God fill you with living water. Amen.



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

Water is literally necessary for life. Many have little or no access to water. Donate or volunteer for a charity like charitywater.org, water.org, bloodwater.org, wateraid.org, or another organization that provides clean drinking water to underserved populations.



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

Sunday, John 7:37-52, Living Water

Monday, Psalm 147:1-11

Tuesday, John 7:53-8:11, The Woman Caught in Adultery

Wednesday, John 8:12-20, Jesus the Light of the World

Thursday, John 8:21-30, Jesus Foretells His Death

Friday, John 8:31-38, True Disciples

Saturday, John 8:39-59, Jesus and Abraham



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

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.

February 20, 2022

Seventh Sunday After Epiphany

Worship Leaders

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

James Nelson

Allie Bornhorst

Becky Quellhorst

Tracy Oldiges

Jim Strang

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Liturgist

Liturgist

Organist

Sr. Deacon

Music Director

PRELUDE

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PLANTING SEEDS: Daily Devotions *“Be still, and know that I am God! I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.” (Psalm 46:10)*
 One of the very first things St. Paul Church did when we went into lockdown in March 2020 was to add online/livestreamed Daily Devotions. In those early months, we followed Bob Goff’s devotional Live in Grace/Walk in Love along with prayers for our community, nation and world. Pastors Becky and Dee led these via Facebook Live. In the fall of 2021, Jenn Snider began to lead Daily Devotions Monday through Thursdays at 11:30 a.m. What we learned is this: many people value Daily Devotions—this relatively short “burst” of inspiration and prayer. The pandemic has taught St. Paul Church and churches around the globe that “church” is much, much more than Sunday morning worship in a sanctuary. Daily Devotions offers you the opportunity to grow your faith from home.

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.

To verses | Last time, Fine

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Jesus calls us into this house of worship.

People: We come with open ears, minds, and hearts.

Leader: Come, thirsty and longing.

People: Receive Christ’s living water and be healed.

Shall We Gather at the River 522



1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have
 2 Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - ery bur - den
 3 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will

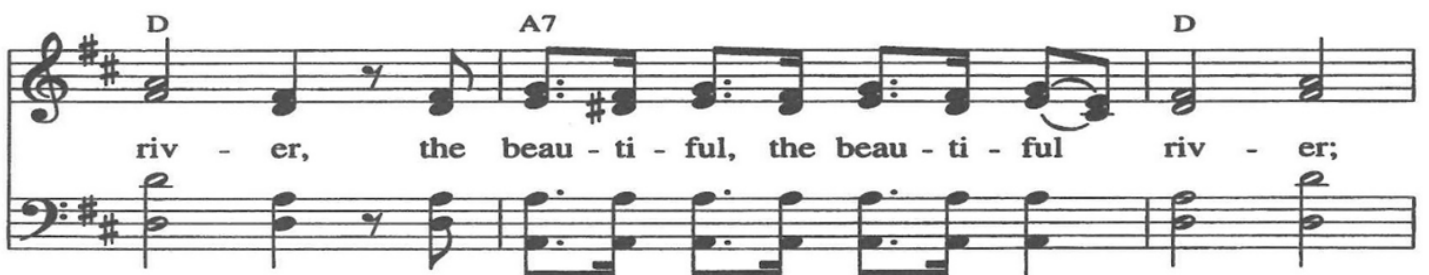


trod, with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing
 down; grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro -
 cease; soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the

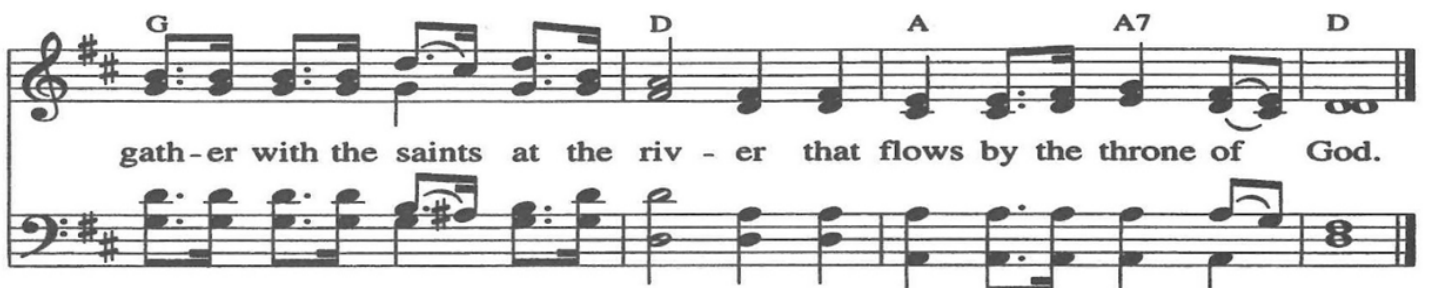


by the throne of God? Yes, we'll gath - er at the
 vide a robe and crown. mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain



riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er;



gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Leader: Let us pray. Loving God, who quenches thirst with living water, each and every day we can see evidence all around us that your heart beats loud and strong in this world. When we wake and there is fresh air for our lungs and food for our bodies, we drink deeply,

People: Living water, pulse of life.

Leader: When our waste is composted or recycled, and our carbon footprint is left more gently upon the earth for future generations, we drink deeply,

People: Living water, pulse of life.

Leader: When a child is spared from abuse, neglect, isolation, we drink deeply,

People: Living water, pulse of life.

Leader: When a voice that has been silenced is heard, we drink deeply,

People: Living water, pulse of life.

Leader: When families are expanded, when strangers are welcomed into our midst, we drink deeply,

People: Living water, pulse of life,

Leader: When a well is dug in the center of a remote village on the far side of the world, we drink deeply,

People: Living water, pulse of life.

Leader: When someone who has been unemployed brings home their first paycheck, we drink deeply,

People: Living water, pulse of life.

Leader: When someone is freed from addiction and blessed with new life in recovery, we drink deeply,

People: Living water, pulse of life.

Leader: When we lay our heads on our pillows each night, having accomplished what we have accomplished, and having let go what we have not, we drink deeply,

People: Living water, pulse of life.

Leader: Open our eyes to see your fingerprints, O God, all over our beautiful and colorful lives.

People: Amen.

HALLELUJAH!

Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jahl
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jahl
Hal - le, hal - le, hal - le - lu - jahl Hal - le -
lu - jahl Hal - le - lu - jahl

TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN US

I brought water with me to church today. What are some ways we use water each day? What else can water do to our earth? Water is so important and can do so much for our bodies and for our planet. Jesus said he came to bring “living water” by which he meant God’s Holy Spirit. Just like water is important to our bodies, God’s Holy Spirit lives within us, guiding us, healing us, challenging us to share water and Spirit with all we meet.

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: The gift of living water!

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Carol Mohrman, Julia Paul, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Jan Dammeyer, Shannon Shupp, and Dee Schroer.

PASTORAL PRAYER, SILENT PRAYER, AND THE LORD’S PRAYER.

Holy and gracious God, we come before you this day as your children—in need of your comforting touch and challenging word. We offer to you thanksgiving for your presence in our lives and we praise you for your steadfast love for your creation.

We offer prayers of thanksgiving for food and home, family and friends. We offer prayers of thanksgiving for the healing of bodies and the

distribution of vaccines. For we affirm this: you love us beyond measure and will hold us into the Light for all eternity.

We offer to you prayers of thanksgiving for our communities—that together we might work to eradicate hunger and poverty in our villages—spreading that message of hope to neighboring communities. Continue to empower us to see Jesus in our neighbors, in strangers, and even in our enemies.

We ask that you challenge us to serve you fully—not only when it is convenient or prudent. Challenge us to move beyond our comfort zones that we might offer your light to a world shadowed by darkness and brokenness.

We offer prayers of healing for those within our community, our nation and our world who are in need of your healing touch and gentle hand. We offer prayers for health care workers and first responders. We offer prayers for teachers and aids. We offer prayers for grocery store clerks and other essential personnel in this time of sickness.

Holy God, often our hearts and our minds swirl in despair and confusion. Hear our prayers—even when we cannot form the words for prayer. Hear us now, in the silence that belongs to you.

SILENCE.

God of love, we thank you for the gift of your Spirit that hears us and heals us. We thank you for the gift of Jesus Christ who walks humbly with us. We thank you for the gift of community that, together, we might work for justice. 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.**

SPECIAL MUSIC

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Psalm 23

(NRSV)

² *He makes me lie down in green pastures;*

he leads me beside still waters;

³ *he restores my soul.*

He leads me in right paths

for his name's sake.

⁴ *Even though I walk through the darkest valley,*

I fear no evil;

for you are with me;

your rod and your staff—

they comfort me.

⁵ *You prepare a table before me*

in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;

my cup overflows.

⁶ *Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me*

all the days of my life,

and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord

my whole life long.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: John 7:37-52

(The Message)

On the final and climactic day of the Feast, Jesus took his stand. He cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Rivers of living water will brim and spill out of the depths of anyone who believes in me this way, just as the Scripture says." (He said this in regard to the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were about to receive. The Spirit had not yet been given because Jesus had not yet been glorified.)

⁴⁰⁻⁴⁴ *Those in the crowd who heard these words were saying, "This has to be the Prophet." Others said, "He is the Messiah!" But others were saying, "The Messiah doesn't come from Galilee, does he? Don't the Scriptures tell us that the Messiah comes from David's line and from Bethlehem, David's village?" So there was a split in the crowd over him. Some went so far as wanting to arrest him, but no one laid a hand on him.*

⁴⁵ *That's when the Temple police reported back to the high priests and Pharisees, who demanded, "Why didn't you bring him with you?"*

⁴⁶ The police answered, "Have you heard the way he talks? We've never heard anyone speak like this man."

⁴⁷⁻⁴⁹ The Pharisees said, "Are you carried away like the rest of the rabble? You don't see any of the leaders believing in him, do you? Or any from the Pharisees? It's only this crowd, ignorant of God's Law, that is taken in by him—and damned."

⁵⁰⁻⁵¹ Nicodemus, the man who had come to Jesus earlier and was both a ruler and a Pharisee, spoke up. "Does our Law decide about a man's guilt without first listening to him and finding out what he is doing?"

⁵²⁻⁵³ But they cut him off. "Are you also campaigning for the Galilean? Examine the evidence. See if any prophet ever comes from Galilee."

RESPONSE

When I Behold the Son

When I Behold the Son

Word and Music by
J. L. Salt(er)

Every week When I be - hold the Son, the Lamb of God, my
Je - sus said, "Those who thirst can come to me! When
heart wants to sing, "O Lord of ev - 'ry - thing,
you just be - lieve, the spir - it you re - ceive!
change me like you changed the wa - ter in - to wine!
When you hear his words, Mes - si - ah you will know.
Fill me with light so I'll be yours for all time!
Out of your heart will the liv - ing wa - ters flow!

SERMON

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

We know this about Jesus' ministry on earth: for the most part he spent time in the villages and surrounding countryside by the Sea of Galilee and in Jerusalem, about 80 miles to the southwest.

But, if you were to travel even further southeast from Jerusalem, you would reach the Dead Sea. This is what you need to know about the Dead Sea: it is a salt lake bordered by Jordan to the east and Israel and the West Bank to the west. It lies in the Jordan Rift Valley and its main tributary is the Jordan River.

The Dead Sea's surface is 1412 feet below sea level, making its shores the lowest land elevation on earth. The sea itself is about 1000 feet deep and is the deepest salt lake in the world. It is also 9.6 times as salty as the ocean, making it one of the saltiest bodies of water on earth.

For thousands of years, people have flocked to the Dead Sea as a spa of sorts. I've swum in the Dead Sea—and the salt water leaves skin feeling soft. What's more, the level of salt is so high that you can literally float without even trying.

While the Jordan River feeds the Dead Sea, there are no outflowing rivers or springs. In other words, that salty water of the Dead Sea has no way to be recycled and refreshed. The Dead Sea is about as far from "living waters" as we can imagine.

In today's New Testament lesson, Jesus promises his listeners "rivers of living water" overflowing in the lives of believers—as a way to speak of the Holy Spirit.

Water. Water is essential for all of life. It hydrates our bodies, keeping sickness at bay. It nourishes our fields and gardens. It keeps our farm animals and pets healthy. It rains down upon the earth, soaking into the deep soil, seeking roots of trees and plants.

Water. Water is essential for life. Having been raised in Texas—a state in which large swathes of land are short on water—my classmates and I were taught in sixth grade how to make clean water out of urine and cactuses if we ever found ourselves stranded. Really. And so far, I have made it through life not having to put that particular skill to use.

Water. Water is essential for life. When St. Paul Church raised funds for sand dams through Church World Service years ago, we learned that

for many people in rural Africa, walking to a water source each day takes up the majority of the day.

Water. Water is essential for life. And yet, we have monetized it—selling millions of bottles of water each year, charging villages and cities for access to water. It is also our confession that we pollute the water in such a way that people throughout the world do not have clean water for drinking and hygiene.

We DO need water to live. And, we need the Holy Spirit to ebb and flow into our lives—carrying us along the tidal waves of her songs and sending us along tributaries we might never explore on our own. The living water Jesus speaks of is the Spirit: pouring into our hearts to overflowing. Remember the 23 Psalm? My cup overflows. As followers of Jesus, we are called to open the floodgates of our hearts that God's love, God's forgiveness, God's grace flows to the point of spilling, overflowing and creating new rivers and directions for our lives.

However, having God's love, grace and forgiveness overflow in our lives means we need to allow God to be in charge. We Western Christians have been hardwired for the need to stay in control at all times. We shy away from the unknown. We gravitate toward what is familiar. We want to steer our ships, control our metaphorical rivers and tributaries, thinking **we** have the best outcome in mind and that it is our job to get there on our own.

But that is not God's way. That is not Jesus' way. Jesus invites us not into dead seas, but into living water—bubbling, gurgling and teeming with life. Jesus calls us not to float at the surface, buoyed by salt, but to get wet—really wet—that we might be baptized by water and Spirit and by the new life, new direction and living love of Jesus.

So, I ask you today: what in your life has become stagnant? What is it you are doing that no longer serves you? (BIG PAUSE)

Of this I am certain: each and every one of us has something in our life that is no longer working, no longer bringing us joy and peace. I am also certain of this: we know what it is that is no longer working, but we are soooo incredibly afraid to speak that aloud. That somehow, if we were to admit that the water of our hearts have shifted, we might drown.

But Jesus promises us it need not be that way. Jesus promises us that stagnation and death and being stuck and uncertain need not be the

way we are to live out the rest of our days. Jesus promises NOT Dead Sea waters of stagnation, but living waters of love, living waters of the Spirit's grace and peace.

So I ask you something else: what in your life brings you joy? What makes your heart soar? What brings you a sense of peace? (BIG PAUSE)

Once you know what brings you joy and peace, what makes your heart soar, go and do exactly that. I am completely serious.

I am utterly convinced that Jesus wants us to pursue that which brings us joy, that which offers us life. Far too often, we are afraid of taking that leap into the unknown, into a life that travels uncharted waters. So what do we do? We cling to the oars—afraid to hand them over to Jesus. We cling to the “way it's always been,” convinced that life has nothing new to offer. Perhaps we do not even want to get wet—certain that the storms of change will drown us.

Now this is also very true: life is never, ever smooth sailing—even when we are drenched in living waters. Storms will come. Death will come knocking. Illness will make itself at home. And yet, when we allow ourselves to be Spirit-filled, water-drenched, love-saturated, we discover that we can weather the storms because our anchor is Jesus. Our anchor is Jesus.

This week I challenge you to reflect upon that which is no longer serving you and that which brings you joy. Then take one step (even if it is a baby step) toward the living waters. Let go of your hardened heart. Heal a festering wound. Reconcile with a loved one. Reach out to someone who is grieving. Dust off an old hobby. Provide a meal to a struggling family. Ride the waves of love.

American Tibetan Buddhist Pema Chodron once wrote, “To be fully alive, fully human, and completely awake is to be continually thrown out of the nest. To live fully is to be always in no-man's-land, to experience each moment as completely new and fresh. To live is to be willing to die over and over again.”

Friends, Chodron's Buddhist wisdom echoes the Christian truth: that in death we experience new life and resurrection. When we let go of the oars, our need to control outcomes, and our tight grip on our puny water bottles, we find ourselves jumping into the deep end of Jesus' love. Yes: it is scary, but that is where life, and life abundant can be found.

This week, let go of the oars and pick up your surfboard. It is time to ride the waves. Amen.

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 ones, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action and acts of radical generosity.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

The image shows a musical score for a doxology. It consists of two systems of music, each with a treble and bass staff. 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 treble staff, various chords are indicated: 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)

Gracious God, we give our best, lest in gaining the world we lose life itself. As a covenant people, we seek to witness to your love. Help us to know more clearly what you would have us do with the resources you have given us in such abundance. As we contribute to the needs of your children, we present ourselves as living sacrifices. Amen.

LOVE & JOY

402

He Came Down

Musical notation for the first system, featuring a treble and bass clef in 4/4 time. The key signature has one sharp (F#). The melody in the treble clef includes a triplet of eighth notes. Chords G and D7 are indicated above the staff. The bass line consists of chords with a triplet of eighth notes.

1 He came down that we may have love; he
 2 He came down that we may have peace; he
 3 He came down that we may have joy; he
 4 He came down that we may have life; he

Musical notation for the second system, continuing the melody and bass line. It includes a triplet of eighth notes in the treble clef and another triplet in the bass line. Chords D7, G, and G7 are indicated above the staff.

came down that we may have love; he came down that we may
 came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may
 came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may
 came down that we may have life; he came down that we may

Musical notation for the third system, concluding the piece. It includes a triplet of eighth notes in the treble clef and a pair of eighth notes in the bass line. Chords C, Cm/A, G/D, D7, and G are indicated above the staff. The system ends with a double bar line.

have love;
 have peace;
 have joy; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
 have life;

(Leader Why did he come?)

BENEDICTION: May you, people of God, know that God our Father made you and guides your every step. Jesus gave his life for you and brings you new life. And the Spirit keeps you in Christ's presence and empowers you to serve. May God continue to bless you and move you to give thanks today and always. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*
Pass the Love

♩=95

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a 4/4 time signature. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 95. The score consists of four staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chords are indicated above the notes.

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

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

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

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

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attendance-Daily Devotions-76, February 6-Sunday Worship Online-245, In Person-75, Sunday School-21, Teachers-6, Splash-6, Jr/Sr High-16, Confirmation-6, Leaders-9.

Sundays in February-Worship will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am. **Sunday School** will be in person at 9:00am.

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.

Bible Study: Zoom and In-Person- Thursday's at 6:30 p.m., Pastor Becky will lead a weekly Bible Study via both Zoom and in-person in the Zoom Room (corner classroom next to the nursery). We will study, discuss and pray over scriptures—including the verses for the upcoming Sunday worship. This study is open to people of all ages. The Zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85966539897?pwd=bGhkSHpaUDRva1MxWnhDaDZYVWJaQT09> **Meeting ID: 859 6653 9897 Passcode: 704709**
Any questions? Contact Pastor Becky

Congregational Meeting-will take place Sunday February 27, 2022 during the 10:15am worship service.

Open Table

Free Community Meal

When: February 21, 2022

Who: Everyone

Where: St. Paul Assembly Room

Serving: 4:00pm-6:00pm

Menu: Shredded Chicken Sand, Cheesy Potatoes, Salad, Dessert
Carry-outs Available, Free Chair Massages

Prepared and Served by: New Bremen HS Student Council

Please Note-March meal has been canceled.

Ash Wednesday Worship-March 2 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary

Our confirmands have burned last year's palm branches and prepared the ash to be used for this service. Please join us. All are welcome!

An Evening with Carrie Newcomer and Pianist Gary Walters.

March 5, 2022 7:00 p.m. St. Paul United Church of Christ. Carrie Newcomer is a songwriter, recording artist, performer and educator. She has been described as a "prairie mystic" by the Boston Globe and as one who "asks all the right questions" by Rolling Stone Magazine. Carrie has 19 nationally released albums, including her most recent Until Now. Over the past two years, we have incorporated several of Carrie's songs in worship—including Room at the Table for a sung communion liturgy. We invite you to join us for an evening of music and fellowship. Entrance to the venue requires proof of Covid 19 vaccination and wearing of a mask for the entirety of the concert. Tickets are \$25.00 can be purchased at the door or in advance at carriewcomer.com/tour or by this link <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-evening-with-carrie-newcomer-and-pianist-gary-walters-tickets-252131200207>

FEBRUARY MONTHLY MISSION: BACK BAY MISSION-Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi is celebrating their 100th year anniversary this year. It all started by providing Sunday School education, clothing, shoes and medicine to the children of the Back Bay fisher folk. St. Paul has been involved with Back Bay Mission for many years. After Hurricane Katrina hit Biloxi in 2005. People from this area went to help Back Bay rebuild homes after the hurricane. Besides helping to rebuild homes, they also operate the Micah Day Center. At the center the homeless can come in take showers, do laundry, get clothes and get help writing resumes on the computer. They have a program to help find housing for the homeless, with special housing for homeless veterans. Back Bay also has a food pantry where clients can come in and get the food they need.

Even though the United Church of Christ started the mission a hundred years ago, there are no longer any UCC churches in that area. Therefore, they need our support to help them maintain all of their programs for the poor and homeless in the Back Bay area. You can help by making a donation to this monthly mission. Thank you for your help.

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- Diapers (size 3, 4, 5, 6), Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Baby Shampoo, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Feminine Hygiene Products (Tampons & Pads), Bar Soap, Body Wash, Shampoo, Conditioner, Hand Soap, Moisturizing Lotion, Dryer Sheets, Bandages, Garbage Bags, Toilet Paper, Laundry Detergent, Dish Soap, Storage Bags, Napkins, Paper Plates and Paper Towels. Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

2022 Altar Flower Chart has been posted in the Narthex. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. Dates available-April 3, 24, May 8, 22, June 26, August 14, 28, October 30, November 20. You may also call the church office Monday-Friday to sign up. Thank you. Price is \$30.00.

March/April 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.

Troop 95 Eagle Scout Projects-Jared Weigandt and Jordan Weigandt Jared and Jordan hope to bring enhancements to the St Paul Community Playground. Jared's project is to build concrete seating benches and plant four trees. He has anticipated his project to cost \$8,000.00. Jordan's project is to build concrete corn hole boards and plant four trees. He has anticipated his project to cost \$7,000.00. If you would like more information about either project, the young gentleman would love to share their vision with you. If you would like to donate, checks should be made payable to Troop 95, please write Jordan Weigandt or Jared Weigandt in the memo line. And mail to Troop 95, 8 Rummel Creek Dr, New Bremen, OH 45869. Thank 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!

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.

Calendar-Week of February 20, 2022

Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:15am	Worship in person & via Facebook Live
Monday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-New Bremen
	4:00pm-6:00pm	Open Table-Community Meal
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
	5:30pm-6:30pm	Splash (4 th & 5 th grade)
	6:30pm	Youth Dinner
	7:00pm-8:00pm	Jr/Sr High Youth
	7:00pm-8:30pm	Confirmation w/Mentors
Thursday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Bible Study-in person & via Zoom
Friday	Noon	Office Closed

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 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.