

March 21, 2022

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Spring has sprung! The days are longer, a wee bit warmer and Jesus Christ's resurrection comes ever-nearer.

Yesterday in worship we were joined by the Rev. John Dorhauer and his wife Mimi. John is the President and General Minister of the United Church of Christ. John and Mimi so enjoy spending time with St. Paul Church, they have asked for another invitation for Spring 2023.

The Discipleship Team met several weeks ago to reboot how they do what they do. We are delighted at the many ministry areas that have now been "championed." These areas include: Blessing Pantry, Art Camp Festival, Holistic Health, Game Nights, Mother/Daughter Banquet, Mission Team, Agape Ministry Board, Christmas Market, Community Garden, Book Club, Photo Directory, Circle of Friends, Church Historian, Playground, Prayer Chain, and Rummage Sale.

We still seek champions to head up: Open Table Community Meals (4-6 people needed for this), Summer Volleyball League, Father/Son Banquet, Bremenfest Float, Dayton Dragons Games, September Kick-Off Picnic, Field Trip to Do Good Restaurant, Trunk or Treating, Christmas Caroling, New Year's Eve Dinner, Coffee & Canvas, Church Website, Landscaping/Weed Pulling, and Funeral Lunches.


If you feel called by God to champion any of these ministries, please contact Pastor Becky.

We are also seeking your assistance in another area. Since Dick Hudson's death, we are seeking an organist or organists to play during worship services. Becky Quellhorst and Connie O'Neill are doing a tremendous job filling in the gaps, but neither want to be our permanent "solution." We have put feelers for organists out to universities and organist associations, but to no avail. If you know someone who plays the organ OR who plays the piano and is willing to learn the organ, please contact Pastor Becky. We thank you for your help!

Last week's letter mentioned that a stewardship letter would be sent out soon. Our Leadership Team has decided to send that closer to Easter.

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 March 21, 2022

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00
Giving Income \$3,980.00(weekly)
Endowment Trans \$5,700.00(ytd)
Income \$74,668.87(ytd)
Expenses \$63,568.46(ytd)
Balance \$11,100.41(ytd)

Building Maint & Property

Beg. Balance \$36,648.59
Income \$30,047.50(ytd)
Endowment Inc. **(\$2,798.80)**(ytd)
Expenses \$5,125.10(ytd)
Balance \$58,772.19(ytd)

Project of the Year

Income \$527.00

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$12,218.82
Income \$2,996.00(ytd)
Expenses \$6,158.24(ytd)
Balance \$9,056.58(ytd)

Blessing Pantry

Beg. Balance \$29,161.12
Income \$3,850.00(ytd)
Expenses \$2,550.50(ytd)
Balance \$30,460.62(ytd)

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$151.50(weekly)
Income \$5,585.00(ytd)

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))

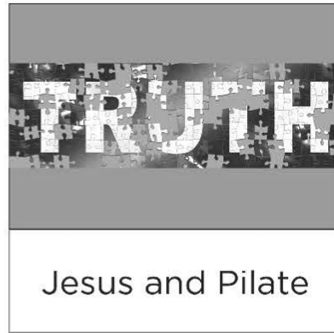
- For general fund giving: Send 25 space gl (hit send)
- For building & property fund giving: Send 25 space bp (hit send)
- For Blessing Pantry: Send 25 space pantry (hit send)
- For project of the year giving: Send 25 space poy (hit send)

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.



March 27, 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.

Lord Jesus, even in the middle of interrogation, you kept your eyes on the mission before you. Grant us courage in the face of danger, and conviction when it would be easy to falter. Amen.



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

³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."³⁸Pilate asked him, "What is truth?" (John 18:37-38)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Jesus could turn a word when he met with Pilate during his trial. He knew where the conversation had to lead—to his death.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

What was a high point of your day? What was a low point? Tell of a time you weren't sure what you were hearing was the truth or lies. How did you discern the truth?

Did Pilate believe Jesus was a king? Do you?

For the little: How do you know when someone is telling the truth?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God speak truth to you. Amen.



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

Make a list of your top 5 values. Think of someone whose values differ from yours. Make a list of their top 5 values, to the best of your ability. How do your values shape what you perceive as truth?



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

Sunday, John 18:28-40, Jesus and Pilate

Monday, Psalm 145:10-13

Tuesday, Isaiah 45:18-19, Lord Speaks the Truth

Wednesday, Amos 5:6-13, Hate for the One Who Speaks Truth

Thursday, John 17:1-19, Jesus Prays for His Disciples

Friday, John 17:20-26, Jesus Prays for His Disciples

Saturday, John 18:1-11, The Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus



St. Paul United Church of Christ

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New Bremen, Ohio 45869

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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, we welcome you to this service of worship. We hope that you will find it meaningful.

March 27, 2022

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Worship Leaders

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Elise Oldiges

James Nelson

Julia Mullins

Katie Dietrich

Becky Quellhorst

Tracy Oldiges

Jim Strang

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Confirmand

Confirmand

Confirmand

Liturgist

Organist

Sr. Deacon

Chancel Choir/Music Director

PRELUDE

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TAKING ROOT: WOMEN'S SERVICE GROUP

Strength and dignity are her clothing, and she laughs at the time to come. She opens her mouth with wisdom, and the teaching of kindness is on her tongue. (Proverbs 31:25-26) The Women's Service Group, after taking 2020 off, began meeting again in 2021. This is a group that stays busy: trips to local restaurants, filling Christmas baskets for homebound folk, sending sympathy cards, Bible study, and sewing school bags for Church World Service. If you would like to join this service-oriented and lively group, please see Bev Plattner.

WELCOME SONG

No Matter

♩=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: We come together to ask for courage to suffer and to withstand:

People: The temptation to believe we are above temptation,

Leader: The temptation to believe we will have time to follow Jesus...later,

People: The temptation to blame others for our choices.

Leader: We come to ask for the courage to suffer temptation

People: And endure with grace. We come to be more faithful disciples right now, right here. Let us worship God!

O Worship the King

2

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

1 O wor-ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove, O grate - ful - ly
 2 O tell of his might, O sing of his grace, whose robe is the
 3 Thy boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite? It breathes in the
 4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail, in thee do we

G $\frac{C}{E}$ $\frac{G}{B}$ $\frac{G}{D}$ D7 G D $\frac{A7}{D}$ D7 $\frac{G}{D}$

sing his power and his love; our Shield and De - fend - er, the
 light, whose can - o - py space. His char - iots of wrath the deep
 air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it de -
 trust, nor find thee to fail; thy mer - cies how ten - der, how

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

An - cient of Days, pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 thun - der clouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
 scends to the plain, and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 firm to the end, our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er and Friend.

WORDS: Robert Grant (1779-1838); para. Psalm 104

MUSIC: Attr. Johann M. Haydn (1737-1806); William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, Vol. II, 1815LYONS
10.10.11.11.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

UNISON CONFESSION OF SIN

God of grace, we confess that it is easier to worry about pointless details than to grapple with issues of real importance. It is easier to live in the distracting chatter of poorly scheduled days than to find quiet time to focus on your life-giving presence. It is easier to complain about feeling out of control than to work to change what we are able to change. We confess that we have become content with what is “easy.” God of grace, prod us into awareness that our choices matter and give us the courage to be grateful for your prodding. Amen

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: God hears the confession of our hearts and lips. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven all our sins, and by the Holy Spirit we are empowered for new life.

People: We believe the good news of Jesus Christ. Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

734

Glory Be to the Father

The musical score is written for a four-part setting (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) with piano accompaniment. It is in the key of B-flat major (two flats) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men." The score includes various chord symbols above the vocal lines, such as Eb, Bb7sus, Bb7, Eb, Bb/D, Bb, Eb, Bb/D, Eb6, Bb/F, F7, Bb, Bb7, Eb, Ab/Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Bb7, Eb, Eb, Bb/Ab, Eb, Eb, G, Fm7/Ab, Eb, Bb, Gm/Bb, Bb7, and Eb. The piano accompaniment consists of block chords and simple rhythmic patterns.

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Confirmands Faith Statements

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

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

Leader: Let us pray. Holy and loving God, we lift up to you the church, the world and all who are in need. (SILENCE)

Holy God, we all believe we know the way that things actually are, when really we have only a piece, one perspective, on the bigger picture. Expand our minds and hearts to consider others' views, experiences and life situations that we may grow closer in love and understanding. God of truth,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: God of peace, injustice is found wherever power is ill-gotten or abused. Shed light on shocking abuses, unchecked greed, and horrific crimes against humanity. Heal the world and restore your suffering children. God of truth,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We see signs of light returning, even as we march onward towards Calvary and the sacrificial love of our Savior's gift to us. Teach us to find light in the dark places, and hold onto the hope you offer us again and again. God of truth,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Sometimes, we get it wrong, O God, and for this we ask for your mercy. Forgive our shortsightedness, pardon our weakness, and heal every infirmity that plagues us. Bestow your tender spirit upon all who are grieving, all who are hurting, all who are recovering. God of truth,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: What joy to know that one need not be perfect to be counted among your saints, dear Lord. Consider us mercifully when you gather your children around your heavenly throne, clothed in light and crowned with salvation. God of truth,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: When words fail, we trust you to hear the cries of our hearts and we commend all those for whom we pray to your loving care. All of this we pray 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.**

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: John 18:28-40 (NRSV)

Then they took Jesus from Caiaphas to Pilate's headquarters. It was early in the morning. They themselves did not enter the headquarters, so as to avoid ritual defilement and to be able to eat the Passover.²⁹ So Pilate went out to them and said, "What accusation do you bring against this man?"³⁰ They answered, "If this man were not a criminal, we would not have handed him over to you."³¹ Pilate said to them, "Take him yourselves and judge him according to your law." The Jews replied, "We are not permitted to put anyone to death."³² (This was to fulfill what Jesus had said when he indicated the kind of death he was to die.)

³³ Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?"³⁵ Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here."³⁷ Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."³⁸ Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

After he had said this, he went out to the Jews again and told them, "I find no case against him."³⁹ But you have a custom that I release someone for you at the Passover. Do you want me to release for you the King of the

Jews?"⁴⁰ They shouted in reply, "Not this man, but Barabbas!" Now Barabbas was a bandit.

LITANY OF RESPONSE

Leader: We all know the story well.

People: Each character stands for something.

Leader: Everyone knows what a Judas is.

People: Everyone remembers Peter's denials.

Leader: And the name Pontius Pilate is familiar.

People: From the vantage point of two thousand years, we can look at the story as we would a play, and see the arc of events, the actors, the conflict.

Leader: It seems inevitable, that no participant could have rewritten the script—not even Jesus himself.

People: Pilate decided not to decide, and so Jesus was condemned.

Leader: Jesus' tragedy played out on Calvary and Barabbas, the criminal, was set free.

People: Pilate did not use the power he had to stop Jesus' crucifixion.

Leader: But again, was this all destiny? Did it have to happen this way?

People: And if so, where does this leave the players?

Leader: Judas had to betray, Peter had to deny, Pilate had to wash his hands of the whole thing.

People: And Jesus had to die.

Leader: And while God allowed them all their free will, God knew the eventual outcome.

People: The death of God's son.

Leader: But God also knew the glorious events of Easter morning,

People: A time when every tear would be wiped away.

Leader: God immersed God's own self in our humanity, in good times and in bad,

People: The Creator's ultimate gift of love to creation.

Leader: And God emerged victorious over sin and death.

People: So can we. And so will we.

Leader: God's love remains steadfast for us all.

People: Even the Judases. Even the Peters. Even the Pilates.

Leader: They, too, are offered mercy and redemption.

People: By our limitlessly loving God.

All: Thanks be to God!

RESPONSE

Raise Us from Our Slumber, Lord
**Raise Us From Our
Slumber, Lord**

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

C G Am F

Raise us from our slumber, Lord. Show us how to love

with pedal

F C Dm G

'Til your kingdom comes to earth, down from heav'n above.

Am Dm Am D

"Jesus, will you make it clear? Are you now a king?"

Dm Em Dm/F F G Csus C

"But my kingdom is not here!" Wash us with your love, O Lord.

introduction

CONFIRMATION FAITH STATEMENTS & PARENT BLESSINGS

Elise Oldiges

I've always been intimidated by the idea of writing my faith statement. In all of the ones I've heard, the writer seemed so sure of what they believed, with factual statements of "I believe this," or "I believe that." For me, I have never been entirely sure of my faith. At the beginning of confirmation, I didn't know whether I was going to finish or not. Everything I explored about my faith always had a giant question mark at the end. During my confirmation class, I have learned that there are many unanswered questions about God, but it makes my faith stronger.

My favorite Bible verse is 2 Chronicles 15:7, "*But as for you, be strong, and do not give up, for your work will be rewarded.*" I like to think about this verse when I am going through something tough, because I know there is always light in the dark. God has been there in the toughest times and will always be there for me. I know that God helps me achieve my goals.

God is something that is difficult to describe. I believe that he is always there, guiding us on our journey through life, helping us and nourishing us with strength and perseverance to keep going. I believe that God is our Counselor and our biggest cheerleader. The best way I can describe God is that he is love.

I believe the Holy Spirit is "within the wind," a part of nature that we walk through every day. I believe that the refreshing breath of air you take is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit can guide us through tough, challenging times. I believe that the Holy Spirit is always flowing through us, from one person to another.

I believe that Jesus Christ is God's son. He is our savior, teacher, friend, and a phenomenal storyteller. I believe that Jesus Christ died on the cross for our sins, and was resurrected. He is perfect and without sin.

I believe that the Bible is the teaching of God, inspired by God. The Bible gives us guidance to make good decisions at different moments in our lives. I believe that it is metaphorical, and uses stories to communicate God's word. The Bible can teach us how to live, giving us comfort and hope in times when we feel alone.

I believe that anywhere can be a church; the world is a church. I believe that every day there is always time for God. Not just Sunday, but

any day. The church is a place of comfort and acceptance, always open to help and nurture broken souls. I believe that the church is a place where we work together to learn and serve all. A diverse church makes it easier to spread the word of God, which is the ultimate goal.

I consider myself a Christian because of what I believe. I have a strong and never ending faith. I see Jesus even in the “least”. No matter who you are or what your story is, all people are children of God and should be treated with love and kindness.

I want to be confirmed so I can be closer to God, and be responsible to continue to build my faith and learn more about God. I would like to be confirmed to fulfill my parent’s baptismal promise.

I want to continue my Christian journey by being kind, loving, and caring to others. I want to take time for God each day by singing, praying, and understanding his word by continuing to read the Bible. In the future, I might want to go on mission trips, to spread the word of God and help others.

In conclusion, I’m excited to continue my relationship with God and cultivate my faith journey at St. Paul.

James Nelson

Hello my name is James Nelson son of Craig and Kristen Nelson. My favorite Bible verses are Psalm 16:1-7, Matthew 5:39-42 and Acts 2:25-28. The reason that I picked these verses is when confirmation started these spoke to me because as I was going through Sunday school this is what the main messages God is my hero and the only God to worship. Psalm 16:1-7 is *“Keep me safe, O God, for I have come to you for refuge. ² I said to the Lord “You are my Master! Every good thing I have comes from you.” ³ The godly people in the land are my true heroes! I take pleasure in them! ⁴ Troubles multiply for those who chase after other gods. I will not take part in their sacrifices of blood or even speak the names of their gods. ⁵ LORD, you alone are my inheritance, my cup of blessing. You guard all that is mine. ⁶ The land you have given me is a pleasant land. What a wonderful inheritance! ⁷ I will bless the LORD who guides me; even at night my heart instructs me.* I started believing more and more in God and trusting him more. I started to apply the verse to my everyday life. This helped me be a better person. Matthew 5:39-42 ³⁹ *But*

I say, do not resist an evil person! If someone slaps you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek also. ⁴⁰ If you are sued in court and your shirt is taken from you, give your coat, too. ⁴¹ If a soldier demands that you carry his gear for a mile, carry it two miles. ⁴² Give to those who ask, and don't turn away from those who want to borrow." And last Acts 2:25-28.

This happened toward the end of our confirmation. I started to put my full trust in God and belief in what he has taught us. ²⁵ *King David said this about him: 'I see that the Lord is always with me. I will not be shaken, for he is right beside me. ²⁶ No wonder my heart is glad, and my tongue shouts his praises! My body rests in hope. ²⁷ For you will not leave my soul among the dead or allow your Holy One to rot in the grave. ²⁸ You have shown me the way of life, and you will fill me with the joy of your presence."* God through all of this means to me that he is all powerful. He is willing to get through all that we have done and will help us through what we need. He has made all that we know of the earth, the people in the churches. He, God, has given us what we need to work on. He helps us know how to live because he is always present. What I believe about Jesus Christ is that the key has been given us all that we have done. He died on the cross for us. He forgives all of our sins. He is our friend. He is the problem solver to all of our problems. He is open minded to talk to all of us when we need it. He was brilliant. He used his common sense and he made the people that did not trust or follow him turn into people that now trust him and follow him. The Holy Spirit is everything around. It is a quiet whisper. It is natural. It's a guide shown to us in signs. The Holy Spirit is our breath, the wind, the spit. It is part of God. The Holy Spirit gives us a type of talent or a different type of spirit. It is with us and teaches us how to act and it is always there when we least expect it. It gives us confidence. It gives us comfort. It is the mother to all of us, excited and inspired. The Bible to me is a teaching of God's words. And the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are just the starting points of everything. The Bible is what God is trying to teach us and help us in the world. Bibles are the rules of life. They help us and guide us through our journey through life. To some it gives confidence. To me it feels comforting reading all of the things that Jesus and God said to all the people that didn't believe but now believe. The Bible teaches us all good news. I believe that this church is more than a regular church. It is a home to me. They comfort

me because it is a place where we can help anybody. Everybody here is part of the family. It is more than 1 billion. It is a whole different community. It is my creative place. It is a lovable place and the best of all is that it is served to whoever needs it. Why do I consider myself being a Christian or believe that I am a Christian because I am a follower of God. I understand what God and Jesus are trying and have done for all of us. I consider myself being a Christian because I help others and reach out to people. I consider myself a Christian because I believe in the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit. Why I want to be confirmed is because then I can be a member of the church. I can finally start my first steps into being an adult. I fulfilled the promises made by my mom and dad. And finally I got it. I get to finally be part of this church. How I intend continuing my Christian journey is being kind, forgiving others, loving others, and continuing learning about the church and the people in the church. I get to help the church. I get to make the church a better place. I get to help others in the church that need help that can't be in person but need love. Thank you St. Paul for letting me be part of your church.

Julia Mullins

When asked what my favorite verse was, I immediately knew that it would be Philippians 4:6-7. This verse states, *“Don't worry about anything; Instead pray about everything. Tell God what you need, and thank Him for all He has done. Then you will experience God's Peace which exceeds anything we can understand. His Peace will guard your hearts and minds as you live in Jesus Christ.”* I chose this verse because I know that no matter what God will always be there. I feel that God can always help me handle the problems that I have, anytime, any day, he will always be there. I know that to be blessed with God's peace, I will need to continue to grow my relationship with God. I believe that God nourishes me and provides me with what I need to live. He will always provide me with protection and affection, he does not care what I look like or how I act. He will be my guide through my faith based journey and will help me through my hardships. Even through tough times God will never leave my side, he will always be right next to me, encouraging me to continue. God is not only shown to me in visions but he is also shown to me in man through Jesus Christ. I know that Jesus is my teacher, healer

and counselor. He is my savior, for he died on the cross for my sins and three days later showed his loving power. He is not only a miracle worker, but also a role model, teaching me to help people on the outside of society and put others before myself. The final part of the Holy Trinity that helps me on my journey is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is shown to me in signs, always popping up right when I need it. It is my moral compass, helping me choose the right decision. The Holy Spirit, a whisper, comforter, and everything around me, is the mother of us all. It will always be there, even though you might have to look for it. I am willing and able to continue my faith based journey by reading the Bible. The Bible to me is just a road map to where I could eventually end up, my **Basic Instruction Before Leaving Earth**. It is the teaching of God's love and affection, and the story of creation. The Bible is meant to inspire and encourage me but also educate me on my beliefs. I believe that it offers us comfort, hope, and support. For as long as I can remember, I was being taught about the Bible in church. A home, community, and a place of love, the church is more than just a building. A place of comfort and acceptance, I know that when I am struggling, I can reach out to any person in our church community. The church to me is a home It is a place of many different people and many different types of religions. Anyone is welcome at any time, it doesn't matter what you look like or what you believe. One part of being a member of St. Paul Church is my religion. Ever since I was a young child, I was taught how to be a Christian. Being a Christian means that I follow God and Jesus without any second thoughts. I am taught to never judge others and to reach out. I consider myself a Christian because I know that I can put my trust in Jesus Christ without any proof of seeing him. I believe that they are there through signs and visions. It doesn't matter what happens I will always attempt to see Jesus in the least. Looking for him everywhere and trying to find him and speak to him, ask him for help and thank him for the wonders he has done for me and will do for me. I knew when I started confirmation that I would be reluctant to answer one major question. Why do I want to be confirmed? To answer this, I had to do some deep thinking. I want to be confirmed because I want to continue my journey with God. I feel as though I should finally take on my own faith. I want to finally make my own decisions on my faith and how I continue my faith. I also want to fulfill the baptismal promises

my parents made in 2009, and prove to myself that I can achieve anything with the help of God and Jesus. After being confirmed I intend to continue my Christian journey by being a Sunday school teacher and helping younger students understand God the way that I did. I also want to help in the church more, become a deacon and help in summer. Finally, I want to reach out to others, be kind and learn to forgive others for the things that they have done.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: When we come to church, we offer God three things: our time (this hour or so we have to praise him), our talents (our abilities to pray, praise, sing, and serve God in the world), and our monetary gifts. God accepts these because God wants not our gifts, but us as Givers. God wants us. We are the living sacrifice. Let us give generously and joyfully.

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow'. It is written in G major and 4/4 time. The score consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The first system covers the first two lines of lyrics, and the second system covers the next two lines. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line. The lyrics are: 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here be-low; praise him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa-ther, Son and Ho-ly Ghost.'

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

OLD 100th
L.M.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Holy Jesus, you gave everything of yourself to a broken and sinful world. You saw something in us that we sometimes cannot see in ourselves. But today we can see what we are capable of—today we give generously out of the abundance you have provided for us. Accept these gifts and the spirit with which we give them. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Lead On, O King Eternal

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C F/C C C/Bb F/A C/G F G

1 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King E - ter - nal, we fol - low, not with fears;

G7 C C7 F/C C G/D D7 G

hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents shall be our home.
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet A - men of peace;
 for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears;

G7 C C7 F A7/E D D7 G

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
 your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;

G/F C/E F C7/G F/A F(♯2) F C/G G7 G C

and now, O King E - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 with deeds of love and mer - cy the heav - en - ly king - dom comes.
 the crown a - waits the con - quest: lead on, O God of might.

BENEDICTION: May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. May God look upon you with kindness and give you peace. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

Pass the Love

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.

Chords: F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, C7, F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, G7, C, Fmaj7, Dm, F/G, F/C, Am7, Dm7, Gm7, F/C, C7, F.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in loving memory of Willis and Leta Quellhorst by Joyce and John Gilberg.

Participants-Daily Devotions-42, March 13-Sunday Worship Online-420, In Person-58, Sunday School-11, Teachers-6, Splash-9, Jr/Sr High-12, Confirmation-6, Leaders-9.

Sundays in March-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.

Coming to St. Paul Church: Game Day! Are you interested in a Game Day? St. Paul Church will be having one on Sunday, April 24 from 2-4 P.M. in the church Assembly Room. There will be refreshments and snacks. We will have various games and puzzles or you can bring a game of your own to play with someone. This event is geared for all ages. Want more information? See Leif Dietrich or Pastor Becky

BOOK CLUB ANNOUNCEMENT! Book Club plans to start back up in June 2022! If you have any interest in being on the contact list to be notified of upcoming events, please text or email Cami Flenar at 419-733-0895 or imac01@hotmail.com.

The goal will be to read one book each month and meet, either virtually or in person, to discuss the book of the month. A variety of books will be on our reading list, such as Adult, Young Adult, Middle-Grade, Biographies, and more! If you think you may enjoy reading with a group and covering topics ranging from kindness, community, family, love, perseverance, inspiration, and more, please reach out via email or text to be included on our Book Club list!

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-Baby Wipes, Laundry Detergent, Deodorant, Shaving Cream, Hair Conditioner, Toothpaste, Kleenex, Paper Plates, Garbage Bags, Cotton balls, Toilet Paper, Dish Soap, Napkins, Paper Towels, Diapers (size n-6) and Pull Ups (size 2-6). Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

March Monthly Mission-One Great Hour of Sharing



When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you deploy resources to people in need all around the world, and in our own communities. When man-made or natural disasters strike, love responds. Not just for the immediate future, but for the long haul. When you give to One Great Hour of Sharing, you are working alongside families to restore not only structures, but hope. Your giving ensures that no matter how difficult the situation, *Love remains*.

Troop 95 Eagle Scout Projects-Jared Weigandt and Jordan Weigandt Trees, Benches and Corn Hole Boards will be added to the playground. Donations should be made payable to Troop 95 and sent to Troop 95, 8 Rummel Creek Dr, New Bremen, OH 45869. Please write Jordan or Jared Weigandt on memo line. Thank you.

2022 Altar Flower Chart has been posted in the Narthex. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. Dates available- **August 28, October 30**. 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.

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 March 27, 2022

Sunday	9:00am 9:00am 10:15am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal Sunday School Worship in person & via Facebook Live
Monday	11:30am 2:00pm-4:00pm	Devotions via Facebook Live Coffee Shop-New Bremen
Tuesday	11:30am 5:30pm-7:30pm	Devotions via Facebook Live Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday	11:30am 1:00pm-3:00pm 5:30pm-6:30pm 6:30pm 7:00pm-8:00pm	Devotions via Facebook Live Blessing Pantry Open Splash (4 th & 5 th grade) Youth Dinner Jr/Sr High Youth
Thursday	7:00pm 11:30am 1:00pm-3:00pm	Confirmation Rehearsal Devotions via Facebook Live Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	Noon	Office Closed
Saturday	8:00am	Men's Group-Speedway Lanes



Easter Flower Order Form

We will be decorating our Sanctuary with assorted Easter Lilies, Dahlias & Daisy Mums. Flowers may be picked up after the Last Easter Service, April 17, 2022.

Please return your order form and payment no later than Tuesday, March 31, 2022.

Checks should be payable to St. Paul

_____ (quantity) Flowers, foiled, drip pan-\$10.50 each

In Memory of _____

A gift for _____

By _____ Total \$ _____