

May 16, 2022

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of the Risen Christ who is our Savior and Friend!

We thank you for your generous and on-going donations to the Operating Fund of St. Paul Church. We especially thank you for your response to the Easter stewardship letter/envelope. Your support provides ministry and mission for our congregation, our wider community, our nation and the world. When you give financially to St. Paul Church, you are offering a thanksgiving for all that God is doing in your life.

One financial area at St. Paul Church that needs a boost is the Local Aid Fund. This is the fund that provides food and gas cards to our members, as well as emergency assistance of utilities and rent to both St. Paul folk and members of the community. If you would like to give to the Local Aid Fund, please mark your check or your online giving "Local Aid." Thank you!

We are also seeking champions for:

Bremenfest Float September Kick-Off Picnic
Trunk or Treating Nursery Coordinator
New Year's Eve Dinner

*Community Meals: This needs a team of 4-6 folk!

If you would like to champion any of these ministries, please contact Pastor Becky. Thank you!

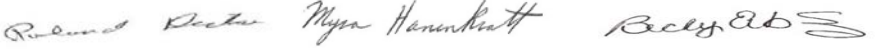
Ava, Jerry, and Griffin Huber are hosting a Youth Pool Party at their home on Monday, May 30 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. This event is for all youth grades 6-12 (including incoming sixth graders and outgoing 12 graders). Please contact the church for their address.

Pastor Becky and Jim Strang are hosting a Summer Porch Party on Sunday, June 5 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Parsonage. The Strangs will provide the main dish and drinks. We ask that attendees bring lawn chairs and a side dish, salad, or dessert to share. We haven't had a Porch Party in a few years; Jim and Becky are looking forward to seeing you there!

As a reminder, Pastor Becky is having foot surgery on June 14. If all goes well, she will return to St. Paul on Friday, July 15 and will return to worship on Sunday, July 17. Bryan Trego and our two SALT interns, Elyssa Mullins and Eli Schmitmeyer, will fill in during her absence. **While Becky is on medical leave, she will not respond to phone calls, text messages or Facebook messages.** Our St. Paul folk will need to go through the church office for any pastoral needs. Thank you for your understanding!

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 May 16, 2022

Operating Fund

Beg. Balance \$0.00
Giving Income \$2,720.00(weekly)
Endowment Trans \$9,500.00(ytd)
Income \$133,575.25(ytd)
Expenses \$124,698.89(ytd)
Balance \$8,876.36(ytd)
Building Maint & Property
Beg. Balance \$36,648.59
Income \$32,770.50(ytd)
Endowment Inc. **(\$4,080.15)**(ytd)
Expenses \$9,840.09(ytd)
Balance \$55,498.85(ytd)
Project of the Year
Income \$5,640.00

Local Aid

Beg. Balance \$12,218.82
Income \$4,513.00(ytd)
Expenses \$10,559.43(ytd)
Balance \$6,172.39(ytd)

Blessing Pantry

Beg. Balance \$29,161.12
Income \$7,263.00(ytd)
Expenses \$6,071.64(ytd)
Balance \$30,352.48(ytd)

Our Church Wider Mission

Pledge \$25,000.00
Income \$336.50(weekly)
Income \$8,998.00(ytd)



Partnership in the Gospel

May 22, 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 grace, Paul encouraged believers to have courage and live their truth. Grant us courage and a willingness to put you and others first. Amen.



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

'It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. (Philippians 1:7)



Reflect: Reflect on the scripture summary.

Paul wrote to the Philippians from his prison cell. His words and actions modeled for them grace and courage despite danger and fear.



Connect: Connect in conversation with others in your household.

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

Who do you trust most in this world? Why?

What would you do with all your time if you were locked in prison?

For the littles: What does it mean to "make lemonade out of lemons?" Is that something you can do?



Bless: Close your devotion with a blessing.

May God grant you partners you can trust. Amen.



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

Write a poem that describes how you feel about God. Post it on your social media.



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

Sunday, Philippians 1:1-18a, Partnership in the Gospel
Monday, Philippians 1:18b-30, Partnership in the Gospel
Tuesday, Philippians 2:14-30, Timothy and Epaphroditus
Wednesday, Philippians 3:1-11, Breaking with the Past
Thursday, Philippians 3:12-4:1, Pressing toward the Goal
Friday, Philippians 4:2-9, Exhortations
Saturday, Philippians 4:10-23, Acknowledgment of the Philippians' Gift



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, blessing and greetings to one and all. In the name of Christ, you are welcome today and every day.

May 22, 2022

Sixth Sunday of Easter

Worship Leaders

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Ragan Miller

Arianne Henry

Tracy Oldiges

Jim Strang

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Liturgist

Accompanist

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

TAKING ROOT: DEACONS *Deacons likewise must be serious, not double-tongued, not indulging in much wine, not greedy for money;⁹ they must hold fast to the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience.¹⁰ And let them first be tested; then, if they prove themselves blameless, let them serve as deacons. (1 Timothy 3:8-10)* The Deacons of St. Paul Church are entrusted with the task of worship leadership. Deacons work behind-the-scenes each week to welcome guests and members, provide directions for communion and bulletins, and count the worshipers in-person. Deacons work closely with the ushers to make certain all these tasks are covered. In recent years, we have only had two Deacons per year—who serve on Church Council. The ushers work in concert with the Deacons each Sunday, but are not part of Council.

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: He is risen!

People: Christ is alive!

Leader: We gather so that our works and our actions...

People: Model Christ's grace, compassion and love.

HYMN

Every Morning Is Easter Morning

Every Morning Is Easter Morning

Words and Music by
Richard Kinsey Avery
and Donald Stuart Marsh

B \flat F 7 B \flat

Ev - 'ry morn - ing is Eas - ter morn - ing from now on!

5 Cm F 7 Last time to Coda \oplus

Ev - 'ry day's res - ur - rec - tion day, the past is o - ver and gone!

9 E \flat maj 7 Dm Cm 7 F 7

1. Good - bye guilt, good-bye fear, good rid-dance! Hel - lo Lord, hel - lo sun!
2. Dai - ly news is so bad it seems the Good News sel - dom gets heard.
3. Yes - ter - day I was bored and lone - ly; But to - day look and see!

13 B \flat Gm 7

I am one of the Eas - ter peo - ple!
Get it straight from the Eas - ter peo - ple!
I be - long to the Eas - ter peo - ple!

15 C^9 1, 2. F^7 3. F^7 D.C. al Coda

My new life has be - gun! me!
God's in charge! Spread the word!
Life's ex - cit - ing to

18 \oplus Coda Bb F^7 Bb F^7

Ev - 'ry morn - ing is Eas - ter morn-ing,
ev - 'ry morn - ing is Eas - ter morn-ing,

22 Bb F^7

ev - 'ry morn - ing is Eas - ter morn - ing,

24 Cm F^7 Bb

from now on!

SERVICE OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Leader: We confess our sins before God and one another.

SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Let us pray. Forgiving God,

People: We spend so much of our time doubting you, doubting ourselves, failing to place our trust in you. Our lack of faith causes us to stumble, and when we fall, we fall far. Forgive us our sin and lift us so that we can rise to the challenge of carrying out your mission. We pray this in the name of Jesus, the Risen Christ. Amen.

Leader: God is merciful and just. God offers forgiveness for all who ask it. Renew now the entire forgiveness of all your sins and walk with the power of the Holy Spirit for the sake of Jesus.

People: We offer to God our thanks and praise!

HALLELUJAH!

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

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

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

lu - jaht Hal - le - lu - jaht

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: Birth Candles welcome Tavi James Oluwalonimi Haastrup. Born Tuesday, May 10, 2022. Tavi is the son of Tonya Temple and Michael Haastrup and brother to Tatum Temple. Easton Jacob Langenkamp. Born Tuesday, May 10, 2022. Easton is the son of Emily (Gilberg) and Jacob Langenkamp. Brother to Baily, Bennnett and Jameson. Grandson of Diane and James Gilberg and great-grandson of Allen Bushman and Joyce and John Gilberg. Welcome Tavi and Easton!!!!

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Ethel Mesloh, Donald Mohrman, Carol Mohrman, 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 Life-Giving God, we lift up to you today the world, our nation, our state, our community and our congregation.

SILENT PRAYER

Leader: We give you thanks, O God, for your servant, Paul, who never allowed misfortune to win the day, and never rested until he had proclaimed your gospel to everyone he met. Give us zeal, energy, and Spirit on behalf of Jesus' mission. Risen Christ,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: It is easy to second-guess the motives of others and assume we know who is genuine. Make us less concerned about the how's and why's of our brothers and sisters in faith, and more concerned that the gospel, your good news, is proclaimed. Risen Christ,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: As spring bursts forth on the Northern Hemisphere, bring about the renewal of our hearts as well, making them well-watered gardens where love abides and hope grows. Risen Christ,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Sometimes it is the wounded among us who make the best agents of your healing. Use all of us—shortcomings and all—to tend your flocks and spread the balm of your wholeness. Pour the abundance of your healing love upon those who need your touch. Risen Christ,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We thank you, God, whenever we think of your faithful saints who carried your good news throughout the ages. As their witness has blessed us, so make us a blessing to others and unite us all in your kingdom in heaven. Risen Christ,

People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Gather our prayers—especially the ones lodged deep in our hearts—into your hands, for the good of your people and for the glory of your name. We pray this in the name of the Risen Christ who taught us to pray...**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our**

debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Philippians 1:1-18a

(NRSV)

Paul and Timothy, servants of Christ Jesus,

To all the saints in Christ Jesus who are in Philippi, with the bishops and deacons:

2 Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

3 I thank my God every time I remember you, 4 constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, 5 because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. 6 I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. 7 It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. 8 For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. 9 And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight 10 to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, 11 having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

12 I want you to know, beloved, that what has happened to me has actually helped to spread the gospel, 13 so that it has become known throughout the whole imperial guard and to everyone else that my imprisonment is for Christ; 14 and most of the brothers and sisters, having been made confident in the Lord by my imprisonment, dare to speak the word with greater boldness and without fear.

15 Some proclaim Christ from envy and rivalry, but others from goodwill. 16 These proclaim Christ out of love, knowing that I have been put here for the defense of the gospel; 17 the others proclaim Christ out of selfish ambition, not sincerely but intending to increase my suffering in my imprisonment. 18 What does it matter? Just this, that Christ is proclaimed in every way, whether out of false motives or true; and in that I rejoice.

SUNG RESPONSE

Here I Am!

Here I Am!

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

Piano/Organ

♩ = 160

Am F Dm G

Here I am! And I will pray for you.

Em Am F G

Keep your spir - it true and God's love will shine through!

Am F Dm G

God will al - ways be your Ho - ly guest.

F C/E

You and all the rest will know what is best.

Dm G C

God is there in all you do.

Gratitude is the wine of the soul. Go on. Get drunk!

-Rumi

I used to be a letter writer. A prolific letter writer. In college and early adulthood I could not afford long distant phone calls to friends and family, so I would pen detailed letters to loved ones. Handwritten, no less. (This was long before personal computers and printers. Email didn't exist and social media wasn't even a term).

In college I wrote some letters in my dorm room, but if I were to be completely honest, my freshman year most of my letter-writing happened during biology lectures. The lectures were held three times a week in a large auditorium. I'd arrived at college with years of biological sciences under my belt, so I would use lectures to catch up with friends and family.

But when it comes to letter-writing, the Apostle Paul was king. You know the story of Paul. How he was a Jewish leader, but Roman citizen who used to persecute Jesus people for their beliefs. It wasn't until he had an encounter with the risen Christ on the road to Damascus that Paul came to know Jesus, was baptized and began to travel throughout the region spreading the good news of the gospel to Gentiles (primarily Romans) in particular.

Paul PROBABLY wrote this letter while under house arrest in Rome—just prior to his death. The actual location of Philippi is disputed—either modern-day northern Greece or along the border of Eastern Macedonia.

Typically Paul wrote his letters to encourage the new believers. Except for his letter to the Roman believers, every letter he wrote was to faith communities he had either visited or started. According to Acts 16, Paul began the church in Philippi during his second missionary journey, traveling with Silas, Timothy and possibly a third person.

Paul's time in Philippi was marked by conflict and persecution. (Philippians 1:29-30). According to his own testimony, he was shamelessly mistreated there (1 Thessalonians 2:2), and suffered abuse of the sort instanced by the account in Acts, in which he is seized, dragged into the marketplace, accused of crimes, publicly beaten with

rods, incarcerated, with his feet fastened in stocks. From here Paul went to Thessalonica.

But today's reading, written from Rome, is our focus for worship. Truly, this was a letter of friendship to the Philippian believers. What we hear over and over in this opening of the letter, is the thanks Paul offers to God for the believers.

This is important. This letter was not written to one or two people but to the entire believing community with the expectation it would be read in worship.

And what do we hear? Paul's gratitude for the Philippian believers. In preparation for today's sermon, I read historian and theologian Diana Butler Bass's book called Grateful: The Transformative Power of Giving Thanks.

As Christians, better yet—as humans—how often do we take time to express gratitude or to feel grateful for the life we are living? My guess is for many of us, not often enough. We tend to get so wrapped up in our daily lives, in the hustle and bustle of day-to-day living we forget to take stock and offer thanks and praise. We tend to turn on our televisions and radios as an automatic response to silence and find that the silence is suddenly filled with news reports of death and violence and destruction. As Christians, we cannot turn our backs on the horrors around us, but we absolutely cannot forget to be grateful along the way.

Gratitude is a spontaneous response to a situation, person or event. We simply need to open our eyes and ears to experience the wonder of God's abundant love and grace in our lives. As Butler Bass says: *Grace reminds us that every good thing is a gift—that somehow the rising of the sun and being alive are indiscriminate daily offerings to us—and then we understand that all benefactors are also beneficiaries and all beneficiaries can be benefactors. All that we have was gifted to all of us.*

In other words, everything that we have, everything we are, everything we experience, is a gift from God. It is up to us to choose how to respond to that gift. The Apostle Paul would tell us to respond with thanksgiving and praise.

Did you know that thankfulness is good for your health? In addition to heart health, gratitude has also been linked to emotional well-being, lower levels of anxiety and depression, decreased panic attacks and

phobias, reduced risk of alcoholism and substance abuse and longevity (yes, grateful people live longer). Researchers found that thankful people live happier lives as well—they are most attentive to pleasure, experience less envy, are more contented, and retain good memories of the past easily

Yet, even as Christians, we do not seem to get gratitude quite right. We sometimes think that we **MUST** offer God thanks and praise otherwise, we aren't within God's circle of grace and love. Gratitude and thanksgiving are **not** items we need to check off on our Christian list to guarantee salvation. Grace does not work that way. Love does not work that way. God does not work that way. God gives freely and generously and we are called to respond freely and generously with no strings attached.

So what can we do to cultivate gratitude in our lives? Again, Butler Bass offers us some ideas. Practices of gratitude:

1. Journaling
2. Let go of negative past. Forgive.
3. Cultivate community/relationships/connections. Gratitude is social. "Gratitude takes us outside of ourselves, where we see ourselves as part of a larger, intricate network of sustaining relationships, relationships that are mutually reciprocal"
4. Prayers of thanksgiving/gratitude. Throughout the day take time for God.
 - a. Become aware of God's presence
 - b. Review the day with gratitude
 - c. Pay attention to your emotions
 - d. Choose one feature of the day and pray from it
 - e. Look forward to tomorrow
5. Choosing gratitude as a way of life: "But when we choose gratefulness, that choice builds on itself and begins to create a spiral of appreciation.
6. Festivals of gratitude. Take gratitude to public spaces. For example Holy Communion is a festival of gratitude and thankfulness
7. Play: sports or simply playfulness

I would add to Diana Butler Bass' list: write letters. Make a commitment with yourself to write one letter this week to someone—thanking him or her for their presence in your life. Then, do it again next week. Get into the habit of letter writing as a spiritual discipline. Tell your friends and loved ones why you love them. Put your appreciation to words. The Apostle Paul certainly did and we know his letters not only changed the lives of the believing communities, they have been anchors for Christians for nearly two thousand years.

I end with one of my favorite poems by e.e. cummings:

*i thank You God for most this amazing
day: for the leaping greenly spirits of trees
and a blue true dream of sky; and for everything
which is natural which is infinite which is yes*

I thank you God for most this amazing day. I thank you God. Amen.

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 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 lyrics are written below the notes. The first system covers the first line of lyrics, and the second system covers the second line. Chord symbols are placed above the notes.

Chord symbols for the first system: G, D, Em, Bm, Em, D, G, D, Em, C, G, D.

Chord symbols for the second system: Em, D/F#, G, D, G/B, C, F#dim/A, G, Em, D, Am, G/B, D7, G.

Lyrics: Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low; praise him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Generous God, you come to us in any circumstance, both good and bad. As Paul continued to act with your strength while in prison, we too, can act with generosity and courage. Accept these gifts given gratefully, no matter where our lives' journeys are taking us today. We pray this in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

HYMN OF SENDING

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

393

F C C7 F F7 Bb F C

1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
2 Be-fore our Fa-ther's throne we pour our ar-dent prayers;
3 We share our mu-tual woes, each oth-er's bur-dens bear;
4 From sor-row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

The first system of musical notation is in 3/4 time, featuring a treble and bass staff. The melody is written in the treble staff, and the bass line is in the bass staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are printed below the treble staff, with four numbered lines of text.

C7 F C C7/E F Bb/F F/A F Bb/D F/C C7 F

the fel-low-ship of kin-dred minds is like to that a-bove.
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com-forts and our cares.
and oft-en for each oth-er flows the sym-pa-thiz-ing tear.
and per-fect love and friend-ship reign through all e-ter-ni-ty.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and bass line from the first system. It includes the same four lines of lyrics. The notation includes various chord symbols above the treble staff.

BENEDICTION/BLESSING: The world is too dangerous and too beautiful for anything but love. May your eyes be so blessed you see God in every one. Your ears, to hear the cry of the poor. May your hands be so blessed that everything you touch is a sacrament. Your lips, so you speak nothing but truth in love. May your feet be so blessed you run to those who need you. And may your heart be so opened, so set on fire, that your love, YOUR LOVE, changes everything. Amen.

BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

Pass the Love

J=95

The musical score for "Pass the Love" is written in 4/4 time with a tempo marking of *J=95*. It consists of four staves of music. The first staff has a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a common time signature. The lyrics are: "Love our God, ev - 'ry day, praise with joy go-ing on your way." The chords above the staff are F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, and C7. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics: "Pass it on, t'all you meet, ev - 'ry day in__ ev - 'ry way." The chords are F, Gm7, F, Gm7, F/A, F/Bb, Gm9, G7, and C. The third staff has lyrics: "Love our Ho - ly God. Pray with hope each day." The chords are Fmaj7, Dm, F/G, and F/C. The fourth staff has lyrics: "Bless the Ho - ly Name. Praise our__ God." The chords are Am7, Dm7, Gm7, F/C, C7, and F. The piece ends with a double bar line.

PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us joyfully share Christ's peace with one another!

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in loving memory of Robert “Red” Rump by Linda Rump and Family.

Participants-Daily Devotions-58, May 9-Sunday Worship Online-197, In Person-68, Sunday School-16, Teachers-6.

Sundays in May-Worship will be in person and via Facebook Live at 10:15am.

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: Unafraid—Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times-Thursday at 6:30pm. We meet in the Library.

Pentecost Sunday-June 5, 2022 Pentecost is the celebration of the descent of the Holy Spirit on the disciples of Jesus after Jesus' Ascension. Join us in this wonderful celebration by wearing **RED**.

Porch Party-June 5, 2022, 6:00pm on the Parsonage Porch. Rev Becky and Jim will host. They will be providing the main dish of hamburgers/hotdogs and drinks. They ask those attending to bring either a side dish or dessert. All are welcome!

St. Paul UCC Prayer Chain-I, Jeff Paul, will be the new leader of the prayer chain going forward. I encourage all members of St. Paul UCC to be involved in the prayer chain. For those interested please email or text me and let me know how you would prefer to receive the prayer requests (either email, text or both). For those wanting to submit a prayer request, you may either email or text me with the details as you would like me to present them to the prayer chain. I will get your request out as soon as possible. I'm looking forward to building this ministry of St. Paul. Jeff Paul

Attention Book Lovers! St. Paul's Book Club will be starting up in June 2022 and we will be kicking things off with *The Screwtape Letters* by C.S. Lewis! (Yes, *The Chronicles of Narnia* author!) *The Screwtape Letters* is a story about Wormwood, a demon apprentice, who must secure the damnation of a young man who's just become a Christian. He seeks the advice of an experienced devil, his uncle Screwtape. Their correspondence offers invaluable---and often humorous---insights on temptation, pride, and the ultimate victory of faith over evil forces.

If you are interested in joining us for reading and discussion (date and time to be decided), please let Cami Flenar know as soon as possible so we can be sure to have book copies for everyone. Books have arrived and are available on the table outside the church office. You can reach Cami through Facebook Messenger, the Church Facebook page, email or text. I look forward to reading with you!

May/June 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.

MAY MISSION: CROSSROAD CHILD & FAMILY SERVICES

Many children struggle – either because of who they are or because of what's happened to them. They have emotional and behavioral difficulties. Crossroad Child and Family Services in Ft. Wayne, Indiana is where they get help, healing and hope. Children who come to Crossroad learn to value themselves and others. For decades, judges, educators, social service professionals, and parents have turned to Crossroad for help with troubled children. Crossroad has become the rock of certainty for its children and for those who love and care about them. Crossroad offers a continuum of care that meets the needs of hurting children and families in Indiana – and beyond to neighboring states such as ours. This non-profit treatment provider for at-risk children and their families needs our support. The UCC established Crossroad in 1883 and St. Paul has been a continual supporter to this organization. Let's continue our support! Thank you!

NEW DISASTER BUCKETS & LIST FOR CHURCH WORLD SERVICE
Green Five Gallon buckets and lids can be picked up in the front of the sanctuary or by the church office to be filled with all kinds of supplies for disaster relief. The buckets and lids are free for the taking and to be filled with the list of supplies listed on the sheet of paper inside each bucket. For every bucket you fill, the Northwest Ohio Association will give St. Paul Church grant money to fill another bucket. This one-to-one match will allow twice as many buckets to be filled to help our neighbors in times of great need. Thank you for once again stepping up to help those in need after a natural disaster. –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- Toilet Paper, Dish Soap, Diapers (size N-6), Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Safety Q-tips, Baby Shampoo, Razors, Shaving Cream, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Feminine Hygiene Products, Vaseline, Paper Plates, Storage Bags, Paper Towels, Kleenex, Laundry Detergent, and Pull Ups (size 2-6).** **Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

Pastor Becky is having foot surgery on June 14. If all goes well, she will return to St. Paul on Friday, July 15 and will return to worship on Sunday, July 17. Bryan Trego and our two SALT interns, Elyssa Mullins and Eli Schmitmeyer, will fill in during her absence. **While Becky is on medical leave, she will not respond to phone calls, text messages or Facebook messages.** Our St. Paul folk will need to go through the church office for any pastoral needs. Thank you for your understanding!

Calendar-Week of May 15, 2022

Sunday	10:15am	Worship In Person & via Facebook Live
Monday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop-New Bremen
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
Thursday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Bible Study
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.



LOVE **YOUR NEIGHBOR**

ART CAMP FESTIVAL

St. Paul Community Playground

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, NEW BREMEN

Wednesday, June 8th

5:00pm. - 8:00pm.

Bouncy House • Petting Zoo • Game • Crafts

K-9 Officer • Firetrucks • Food Trucks

FREE EVENT!