

May 30, 2022

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

We greet you in the name of the Holy Spirit who blows wind and fire and joy into our lives!

This coming Sunday, June 5, is Pentecost. It is the day Christians throughout the world celebrate the presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Plan to wear RED in worship on Sunday.

Catholic priest and theologian Richard Rohr writes that Pentecost frees us to believe in God who is actively involved in our lives. He goes on to say, *The Spirit will always be totally unmerited grace. She takes the initiative, because Spirit is omnipresent, and thus there FIRST!...The Spirit comes from no place we can control...All we can do is surrender, enjoy, and share.*

Good news! Church Council has voted to hire Arianne Henry as our worship accompanist. Her first Sunday with us was May 22 and she will play on-and-off throughout the summer. Arianne is very proficient on the piano, and will take organ lessons this summer. Welcome Arianne!

Included in this packet is this past Sunday's sermon (May 29). Pastor Becky rewrote it in light of the mass murders at the elementary school in Uvalde, Texas. As Christians, we are called to pray for peace and actively work for peace.

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 you know, Pastor Becky is having foot surgery on June 14 and will be out of the office for four weeks to recuperate. While Becky is away, Bryan Trego, Elyssa Mullins, Eli Schmitmeyer, Deb Klein, Abby Bushman and Barb Holdren will be available. Plan to call the church office (419-629-2502) if you have a pastoral need or emergency. Our staff will be happy to minister to and with you!

**Also as a reminder, Becky's time away is for recuperation, not pleasure. She will not respond to any emails, text or Facebook messages or phone calls until she is back in the office on Friday, July 15.** Thank you for your understanding!

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 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 Hanenkraft      Rev. Becky Erb Strang  
Council President      Council VP      Senior Pastor

**Financial Information as of May 30, 2022 (Income balances have not been updated, due to a computer glitch.)**

**Operating Fund**

Beg. Balance \$0.00  
Giving Income N/A (weekly)  
Endowment Trans \$9,500.00(ytd)  
Income \$138,925.94(ytd)  
Expenses \$136,474.23(ytd)  
Balance \$2,451.71(ytd)  
**Building Maint & Property**  
Beg. Balance \$36,648.59  
Income \$33,105.50(ytd)  
Endowment Inc. (\$4,080.15)(ytd)  
Expenses \$9,854.95(ytd)  
Balance \$55,818.99(ytd)  
**Project of the Year**  
Income \$5,665.00

**Local Aid**

Beg. Balance \$12,218.82  
Income \$4,688.00(ytd)  
Expenses \$10,640.91(ytd)  
Balance \$6,265.91(ytd)

**Blessing Pantry**

Beg. Balance \$29,161.12  
Income \$7,713.00(ytd)  
Expenses \$6,375.47(ytd)  
Balance \$30,498.65(ytd)

**Our Church Wider Mission**

Pledge \$25,000.00  
Income \$N/A (weekly)  
Income \$9,073.00(ytd)



Rejoice in the Lord  
(Pentecost)

June 5, 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.

**Eloquent God, your missionaries spoke and people heard in every language. Help us to speak in a way that we are heard. Help us to hear in a way that others are heard. Amen.**



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

*<sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. (Acts 2:2-4)*



**Reflect:** Reflect on the scripture summary.

**God gave the gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost. The ability to speak to one another was an effective tool for breaking down barriers between people and cultures.**



**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 something happened to you that changed you from the inside out. Was the change positive or negative? How has the change shaped who you are today? Where is God's spirit leading you today?**

**For the littles: Where do you pray?**



**Bless:** Close your devotion with a blessing.

**May God fill you with the Holy Spirit. Amen.**



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

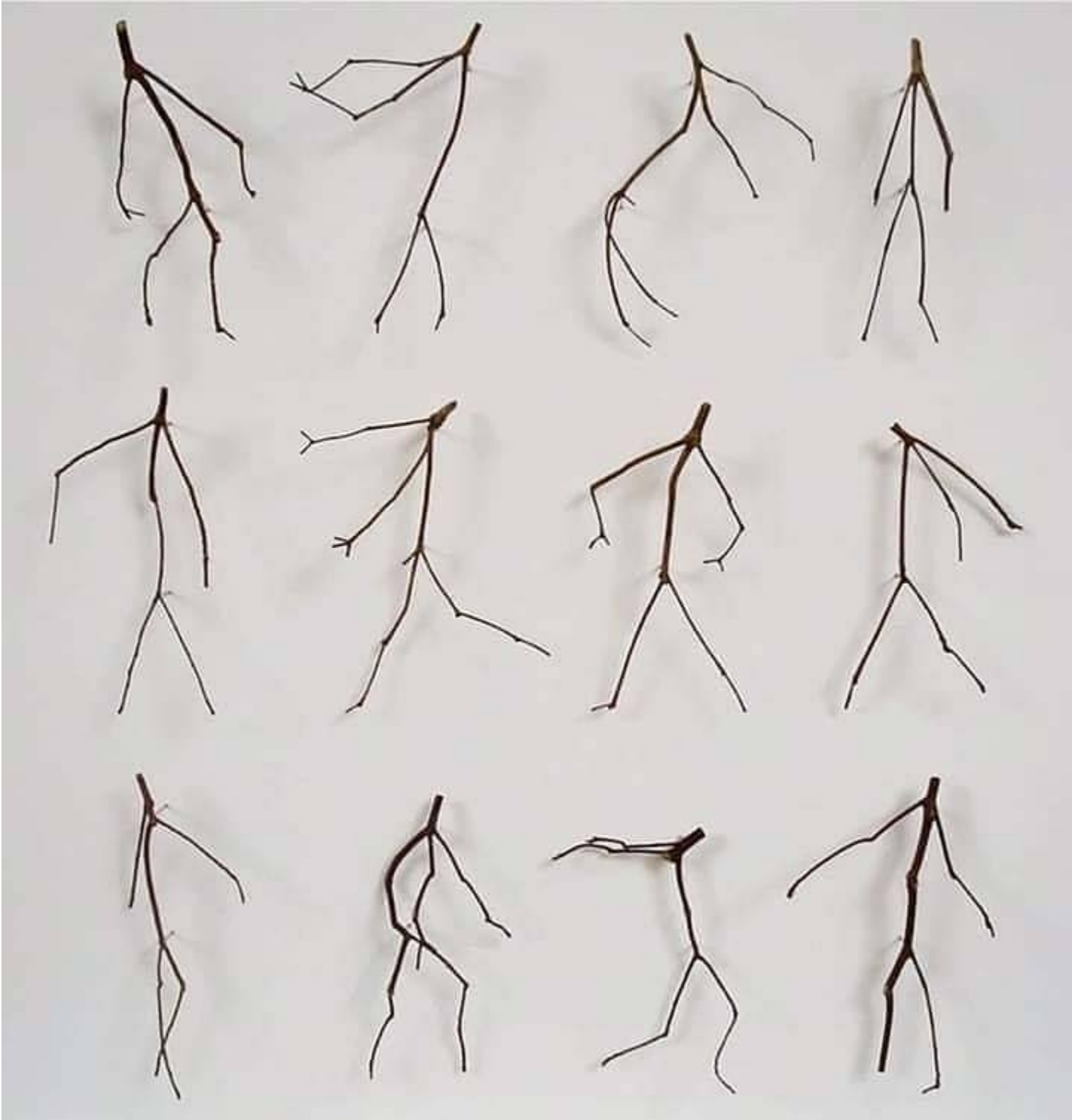
**Make a list of your top 5 values. Google how to write them in 5 different languages. (You might try these—the New Testament was originally written in Greek; the Old Testament in Hebrew; and Jesus spoke Aramaic.) Hang your words somewhere you can be reminded every day of who you are and what you value.**



**Go Deeper:** Go to [clergystuff.com/daily-devotions](http://clergystuff.com/daily-devotions) for devotions on the daily readings.

Sunday, Acts 2:1-21; Philippians 4:4-7, Pentecost; Rejoice in the Lord  
Monday, Acts 3:11-16, Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico  
Tuesday, Acts 3:17-26, Peter Speaks in Solomon's Portico  
Wednesday, Acts 4:1-12, Peter and John before the Council  
Thursday, Acts 4:13-22, Peter and John before the Council  
Friday, Acts 4:23-31, The Believers Pray for Boldness  
Saturday, Acts 4:32-37, The Believers Share Their Possessions

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

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New Bremen, Ohio 45869

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Visit our website at <https://stpaulnb.org>

Like and follow our page St. Paul United Church of Christ – New

Bremen, Ohio on Facebook

Rev. Becky 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, your presence increases our joy as we praise our loving Savior. May every blessing be yours.

**June 5, 2022**

**Pentecost Sunday**

### **Worship Leaders**

#### Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Elyssa Mullins

Eli Schmitmeyer

Arianne Henry

Tracy Oldiges

Diane Gilberg

Jim Strang

#### The Congregation

Senior Pastor

SALT Intern

SALT Intern

Accompanist

Sr. Deacon

Sr. Elder

Music Director

### PRELUDE

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

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT FOR MISSION: Strengthen the Church Brenda Haynes

All Together! This is the theme for this year's Strengthen the Church offering and our monthly mission for June.

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. **By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.**

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults.

Conferences in the UCC work to support leaders, connect congregations, engage youth and young adults, and to imagine together a just world for all. The Strengthen the Church offering makes this revitalizing work possible. Thank you! The Mission Team.

(Here is one example of who Strengthen the Church has helped)

*For a small conference like the Central Pacific Conference, UCC, it's sometimes hard to offer the kinds of tools and resources to our churches that larger conferences do. We don't have a big endowment or other buckets of money to draw on for hosting workshops. At the same time, we believe strongly in paying fair wages for good work, so we know it would be unfair to expect people who've spent years honing their skills and expertise to offer their hard-earned wisdom for free. Thank God for the members and churches who give to STC, because they make it possible for the Central Pacific Conference to offer workshops and live our values regarding fair compensation. Thanks to the money given to STC, the CPC has been able to offer workshops on End-of-Life Pastoral Care, Practicing Gender Justice, Fostering Generosity, and many other topics that help our clergy and lay people minister more effectively in their communities. Together, we're able to foster stronger connections among the ministers and lay members who attend these workshops. Together, we nurture spiritual growth in our ministers and lay members who engage exciting topics with skilled facilitators who are justly compensated.*

Rev. Tyler Connoley, Conference Minister, Central Pacific Conference

# WELCOME SONG

## No Matter

$\text{♩} = 120$

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: The God of the whirlwind and fire sweeps into our presence in this hour.

**People: Glory be to God who strengthens us and blesses all people with peace.**

Leader: God, who called all the world into being, calls forth new life in us today.

**People: Glory be to God, in whose creative purpose we are claimed and empowered.**

Leader: God, whose Spirit unites all people in a common language of love and confirms God's gifts, is in us as we gather here.

**People: We worship God with expectation and joy!**

# HYMN

*On Pentecost They Gathered*

verses 1 & 4

# On Pentecost They Gathered 334

D
A7
D
G
A
A7
D
D
F#
G
Asus
A7
D

1 On Pen - te - cost they gath - ered quite ear - ly in the day,  
 2 The peo - ple all a - round them were star - tled and a - mazed  
 3 God pours the Ho - ly Spir - it on all who would be - lieve,  
 4 O Spir - it, sent from heav - en on that day long a - go,

D
A7
D
Bm
A
Em
F#
Bm
D
G
Asus
A7
D

a band of Christ's dis - ci - ples, to wor - ship, sing, and pray.  
 to un - der - stand their lan - guage, as Christ the Lord they praised.  
 on wom - en, men, and chil - dren who would God's grace re - ceive.  
 re - kin - dle faith a - mong us in all life's ebb and flow.

A
A
B7
Em
Bm
Em
Bm
Bm
Bm
E7
A

A might - y wind came blow - ing, filled all the swirl - ing air,  
 What u - ni - ver - sal mes - sage, what great good news was here?  
 That Spir - it knows no lim - it, be - stow - ing life and power.  
 O give us ears to lis - ten and tongues a - flame with praise,

A7
D
D
G
D7
G
D
G
G
Asus
A7
D

and tongues of fire a - glow - ing in - spired each per - son there.  
 That Christ, once dead, is ris - en to van - quish all our fear.  
 The church, formed and re - form - ing, re - sponds in ev - ery hour.  
 so peo - ple of all na - tions glad songs of joy shall raise.

## CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: God's Spirit is poured upon us, yet far too often we neglect the call of the Spirit. Let us confess our sin.

## UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Generous God, you send us the Spirit of courage, but we have been afraid. You send us the Spirit of truth, but we cling to our illusions. You send us the Spirit of healing, but we cannot let go of our hurts. Holy Spirit of forgiveness, come to us again: shake our hearts; set our souls on fire with your love. Send us out into the world rejoicing in your power. We hold out to you all our particular burdens of guilt and sin, and we ask for your help to live the ways of your justice and love. Amen.**

## SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

## ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Leader: In Christ you were marked with the Holy Spirit, a seal of our redemption in Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit we become dead to sin and alive anew in Christ. May you be filled with the Holy Spirit so that you may have hope in new life and live fully within the Spirit's embrace.

**People: Amen!**

## HALLELUJAH!

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

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

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

lu - jaht Hal - le - lu - jaht

Chord markings: C, Am7, D7, D, Em

## SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Kinley Christine Manbeck

**Congregational Response: We promise our love, support and care.**

Kinley is the daughter of Cody and Katie Manbeck. Her sponsors are Lauren Crouch and Shaun Voress. Congrats to the Manbeck Family!



# BAPTISMAL HYMN

680

# Borning Cry

*Unison* G Gmaj7  $\frac{Am}{G}$  G  $\frac{Am}{G}$  Gmaj7  $\frac{Am}{G}$

1 I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be  
 2 When you heard the won - der of the Word I was  
 3 In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too

G Gmaj7  $\frac{Am}{G}$  G  $\frac{Am6}{G}$

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you  
 there to cheer you on. You were raised to praise the  
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you

G  $\frac{Am}{G}$  G C E Am7 D7sus D7 G (Fine)

were bap - tized to see your life un - fold.  
 liv - ing the Lord to whom you now be - long.  
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.

C  $\frac{G}{B}$  Am G

I was there when you were but a child with a  
 If you find some - one to share your time, and you  
 When the eve - ning gent - ly clos - es in and you

WORDS and MUSIC: John C. Ylvisaker (1937- )  
 Words and Music © 1985 John C. Ylvisaker

WATERLIFE  
 Irregular

Am D D9 G Am  $\frac{G}{B}$  C2  $\frac{Am6}{C}$

faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you  
 join shut your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your  
 shut your wear - y eyes, I'll be there as I have

Bm7 Em A  $\frac{G}{A}$   $\frac{F\#m}{A}$   $\frac{Em}{A}$  D D7

wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell.  
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.  
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise. *D.C. (vs. 1) al fine*

## PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

**Joys:** Baptism of Kinley Christine Manbeck!

**Concerns:** We are continuing to pray for Mia Schmitmeyer, 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 Spirit, pour upon our congregation, our community, our nation and the world. Blow the winds of your healing grace upon each.

### SILENT PRAYER

Leader: Gracious God, on the day of Pentecost, each one heard your word in a language they could understand. May we not be obstacles between your word being proclaimed and received by those hungry for it. Transforming Spirit,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: The giving of your Holy Spirit, O God, is a cosmic event, encompassing not only all people, but the whole universe you have made. Give us a vision as wide as we can handle, that we never set our sights too small in carrying out the work of your kingdom. Transforming Spirit,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: As the church celebrates its birthday, we give thanks for our worshiping community—whether gathered or scattered. We give you thanks for all the blessings we receive from you through St. Paul Church and all the ways we serve the community. Strengthen all congregations in your holy name. Transforming Spirit,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: Spirit of life, pour out your healing upon each and every one of us, those with visible and invisible ailments, and those too afraid to ask for help. We pray that your Spirit pour upon all who need your refreshing breath. Transforming Spirit,

**People: Hear our prayer.**

Leader: For your saints of all tongues, tribes, and traditions, we thank you. For every challenge and every joy that lies ahead, we bring our gratitude and ask your protective power. Make us one, O God, as only you can. Transforming Spirit,

## People: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Into your hands, Gentle Spirit, we commend these prayers. We offer to you our prayers, our service, our very lives. All of this we pray in the name of Jesus 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: Acts 2:1-21

(NRSV)

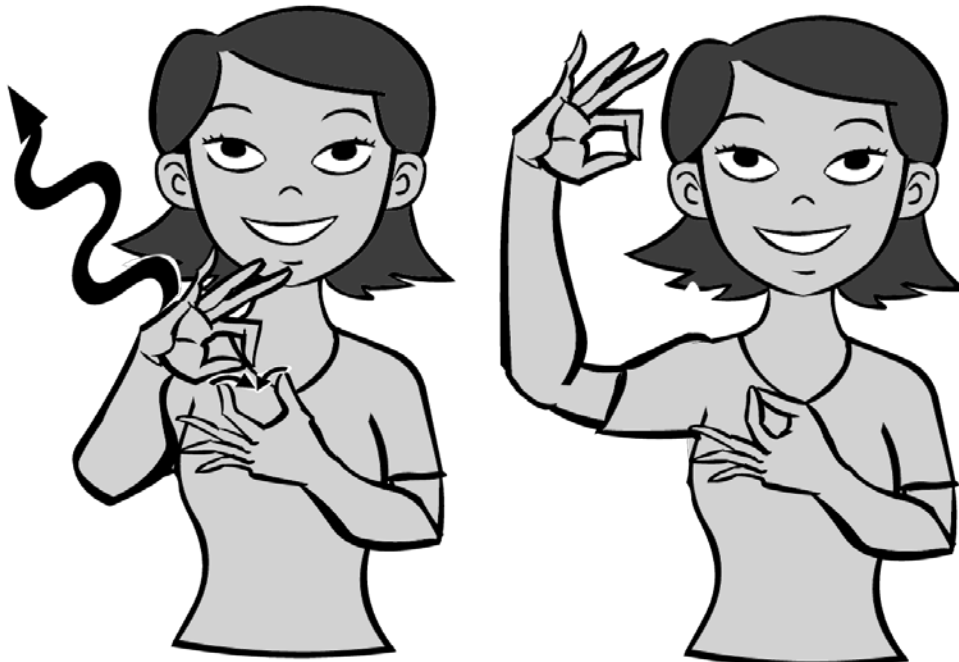
Today's scripture lesson will be interactive.

Whenever you hear the word "wind", please make a **whooshing** sound.

When you hear the word "tongues", please place your hand above your head, symbolizing the flames of fire.

When you hear the word "Spirit" use the sign language sign for spirit.

(To sign *spirit*, form both hands into the ASL letter F, with the non-dominant palm facing up and the dominant palm facing down. Then starting with both 'F' hands touching at the index fingers and thumbs, shimmy the dominant 'F' hand upward, as if a genie was coming out of a bottle. Your non-dominant hand remains still.



When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent **wind**, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> Divided **tongues**, as of fire, appeared among them, and a **tongue** rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy **Spirit** and began to speak in other languages, as the **Spirit** gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup> Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup> And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup> Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” <sup>8</sup> And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup> Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup> Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup> Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” <sup>12</sup> All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup> But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup> Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup> No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

<sup>17</sup> ‘In the last days it will be, God declares,  
that I will pour out my **Spirit** upon all flesh,  
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,  
and your young men shall see visions,  
and your old men shall dream dreams.

<sup>18</sup> Even upon my slaves, both men and women,  
in those days I will pour out my **Spirit**;  
and they shall prophesy.

<sup>19</sup> And I will show portents in the heaven above  
and signs on the earth below,  
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

*<sup>20</sup> The sun shall be turned to darkness  
and the moon to blood,*

*before the coming of the Lord's great and glorious day.*

*<sup>21</sup> Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.'*

## LITANY OF RESPONSE

Leader: The images of Pentecost are striking.

**People: The locked room. The violent rush of wind. The tongues of fire.**

Leader: And now, the speaking in tongues.

**People: How confusing that must have been, both for the disciples and their listeners!**

Leader: Simple folk from Galilee, people who would not have learned another language, much less many languages.

**People: Were suddenly understandable to everyone.**

Leader: This is the power of God's Holy Spirit.

**People: This is the power of that Spirit working in the disciples, that Pentecost Day long ago.**

Leader: Dramatically, Jesus' friends became equipped to spread God's word everywhere.

**People: It was a miracle, and many that day came to believe.**

Leader: May we ask: where is that Spirit today?

**People: We are so strange and incomprehensible to one another.**

Leader: Even when we speak the same language, much less different ones.

**People: We need God's Spirit in this world, now more than ever.**

Leader: But there is good news, very good news.

**People: The Spirit of God is right here, in and with each one of us.**

Leader: Inspired by that Spirit, we can unleash its great power to do good.

**People: We just need to go out into the world fearlessly, knowing we are never alone.**

Leader: And even if we cannot speak a word of French or Mandarin or Swahili,

**People: We can let our actions and our lives do the talking for us.**

Leader; There are times and places when words fail—even the clearest and most well-chosen words,

**People: Where there are hurts too deep, when people are too devastated to listen.**

Leader: That's when we need to call on the Spirit within us, to reach out to these suffering sisters and brothers in faith and love,

**People: To offer a smile, a helping hand,**

Leader: To stand with them in their time of need,

**People: To walk beside them when they are in danger.**

Leader: Even without wind and fire and miraculous instant communication, God's power is alive and well and visible in this world through us.

**People: Because the Spirit is housed in our hearts, we can work wonders every bit as important as those worked by the first disciples.**

Leader: God was with them, but God is also with us.

**People: Let us look for ways to make everyday miracles happen, trusting in the continuing power of the Holy Spirit. May it be so, today and always!**

SUNG RESPONSE

*Here I Am!*

Piano/Organ

# Here I Am!

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

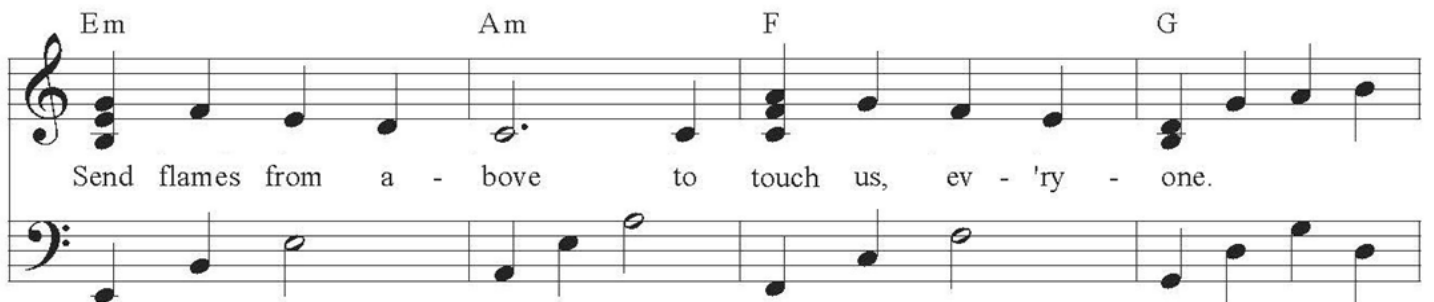
♩ = 160

Am F Dm G



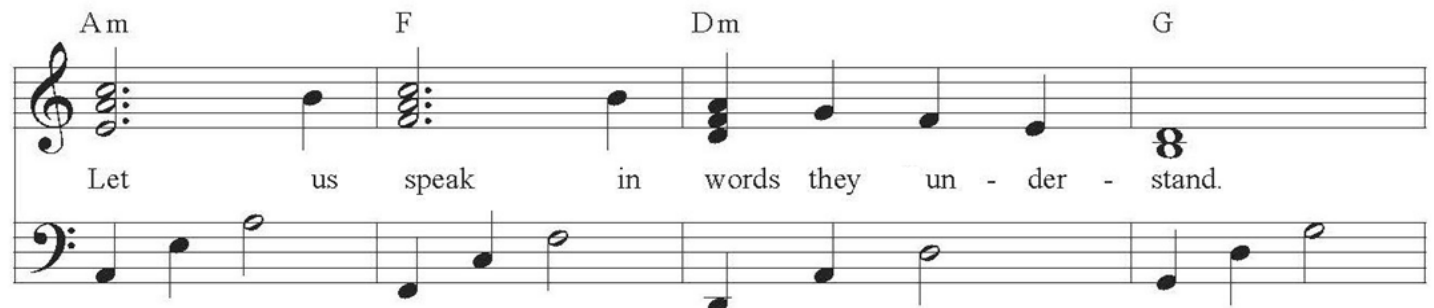
Here I am! Lord, let your spir - it come!

Em Am F G



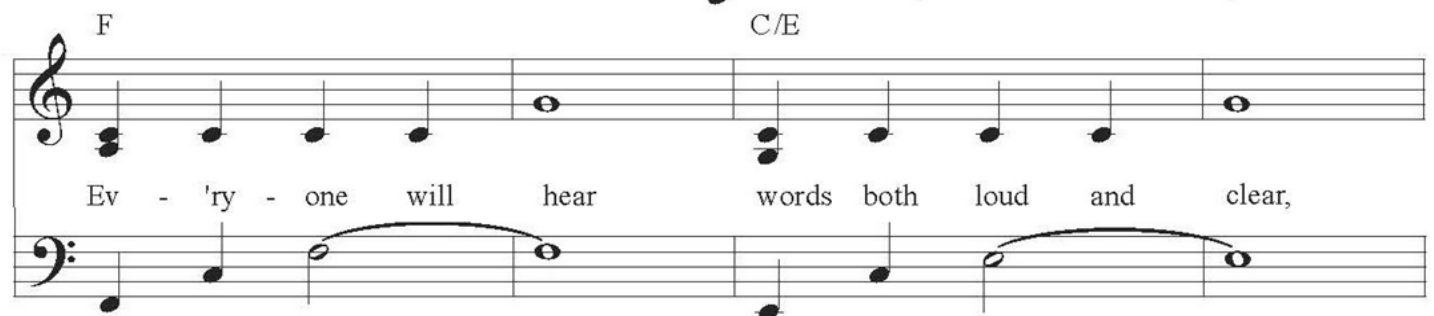
Send flames from a - bove to touch us, ev - 'ry - one.

Am F Dm G



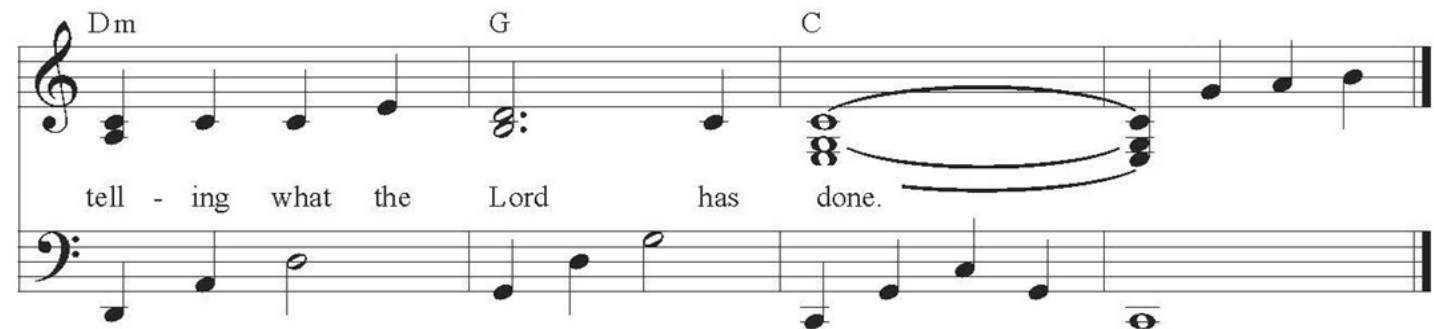
Let us speak in words they un - der - stand.

F C/E



Ev - 'ry - one will hear words both loud and clear,

Dm G C



tell - ing what the Lord has done.

*Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,  
and the young men and the old shall be merry.  
I will turn their mourning into joy,  
I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.*  
-Jeremiah 31:13

I'm absolutely positive I say this every Pentecost, but this is my favorite day in the church calendar/liturgical year. Why? Because the image of the Holy Spirit whooshing into our hearts and into our lives always makes me joyful. Because of the Holy Spirit, we are each uniquely gifted for ministry in all its forms. Because of the Holy Spirit, we are sent out to serve others. Because of the Holy Spirit, God's voice is embedded deep within each of us—challenging us, comforting us, whispering to us, transforming our lives.

Indeed, Pentecost invites us to BOTH rejoice and to serve (especially to serve the downtrodden). Pentecost invites us to shout and sing and dance, all the while sending us out to share the joy we experience through the Holy Spirit.

I am going to tell you a story that encapsulates what it means to be Spirit-filled. It is a story that happened in 2015, but I didn't read about it until this spring. And when I first heard/read the story, I knew I needed to share it with you on Pentecost.

In February 2015 Sean O'Brien from the United Kingdom was captured on video dancing at a party. You could tell that Sean was thrilled to be at the party, thrilled to be dancing, but the video went viral for all the wrong reasons. Why? Because Sean is a larger person and the video and subsequent pictures were distributed throughout social media mocking his size and mocking him for thinking he could dance. The caption of the picture on social media was "I saw this specimen."

As you can imagine, Sean was devastated when he found out what happened. But then something amazing took place. A small group of celebrities began to speak up against bullying and body-shaming. They decided to throw a dance party for Sean, but they didn't know his name or how to find him. Using social media, they sent out posts asking people to be on the lookout for this man.



When they found Sean, they reached out to him—inviting him to Los Angeles for a party. Let's hear Sean's version of what happened next:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sEFgCbt5WSE&t=84s>

Did you catch the joy in Sean's words? What could have easily been a devastating life blow, was turned into gifts of grace and joy by strangers.

But the story didn't end with that one dance party for Sean. The people who planned the dance party for a bullied stranger realized they had a celebrity platform to make a difference in the lives of many adults who still are recipients of bullying and body-shaming. They founded an organization called Dance Free Movement—intent on transforming the lives of those who are bullied that they might know joy, love, and acceptance.

This is Dance Free Movement's mission statement: *The immediate call to action is bringing awareness to the severity of bullying and body shaming and to address the impact it is having on our culture. Our goal is to encourage people to dance and have comfort in their own skin without fear of shame. We intend on addressing the way adults are communicating to and about each other to create better examples for the children we teach. Our dream is a world with a strong infrastructure of acceptance within each other and ourselves. If we can help inspire a stronger sense of self-worth, we can all dance with a little more joy in our step.*

Friends: isn't that what being a Pentecost/Spirit-filled Christian is all about? To dedicate our lives to reaching out to those who are bullied, tormented, lost and alone. To focus our energies on feeding the many deep hungers in others. To make it our life's calling to create spaces for joy to emerge.

I am well aware that very few of us have the financial resources to pull off dance parties for strangers. But that should not be an excuse to do nothing. You already know the name of someone in your orbit who is being shamed or insulted or denigrated for who they are. Reach out to that person. Offer love and acceptance.

Maybe the name of someone experiencing shame and bullying isn't coming immediately to mind. No worries. Volunteer at our schools.

Volunteer in our Sunday School. Pay attention to the kids in your neighborhood. Be a loving presence for children who might not experience love at home.

Here's another idea: choose your words carefully. Often what we try to say as a joke is actually at the expense of someone else. Our words can be used to harm or to heal. Allow the Spirit to fill you with healing and hope-filled words. We need to be careful how we speak to children AND adults for many adults are broken children in adult bodies.

Or, perhaps that person who feels shame and insecurity is you. Perhaps you've been conditioned throughout your life to think so poorly of yourself that you don't know how to love yourself. Here is the truth of our faith: you are loved beyond measure. You are loved by God through Jesus. You are filled with the Holy Spirit. And, if all of that feels too far away, you are loved by me. I love you.

The story of Pentecost is a reminder that we cannot keep our faith hidden and locked away. We must, absolutely must, get out into the community to share God's love, lifting up those around us, seeing one another through the eyes of Jesus.

Friends: let's go dancing!

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: As recipients of the Holy Spirit, we now offer our gifts—our tithes, our offerings, and our lives joyfully to God!

## 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 treble and bass staff. The lyrics are: 'Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.' Chord symbols are placed above the notes: G, D, Em, Bm, Em, D, G, D, Em, C, G, D, Em, D, Am, G, B, D7, G.

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**Holy God, we bring before you the best of what we have to offer. We recognize the needs of others and we desire to make your world work for good. Accept these gifts that we offer to the rich diversity of your earthly community and use them to unite, rather than divide us. For Jesus' sake we pray. Amen.**

## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION: When the church gathers in every corner of the world, we share this holy meal together on this holy day. Though our tables are many, our host is the same—Jesus Christ, our Lord. As we call our children in for dinner, Jesus calls us to this table to be fed, nourished and blessed so that we may be filled with the Holy Spirit today and for all times.

### COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: Let us pray. Holy Spirit, Mighty God, Gentle Jesus, it is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks.

**People: In the beginning your Spirit moved over the face of the waters. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast.**

Leader: Your Spirit came upon prophets and teachers, anointing them to speak your Word.

**People: And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:**

***All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.***

Leader: Holy are you and blessed is your son, Jesus Christ. At his baptism in the Jordan, your Spirit descended upon him and you declared him your beloved son.

**People: With your Spirit upon him, he turned away the temptation of sin. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind.**

Leader: Jesus healed the sick, fed the hungry and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from bondage to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

**People: When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, baptizing us with the Holy Spirit and with fire, as on the day of Pentecost.**

Leader: We ask your blessing be upon us, O God, as we gather around this table and are nourished by the Risen Christ. Pour your Holy Spirit upon this Bread and this Cup that their transformation might transform our lives.

**People: Amen.**

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Leader: On the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, blessed and broke it, giving it to his disciples saying, "Take and eat. This is my body broken for you." He also took the cup after supper saying, "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of me.

#### SHARING THE JOYFUL FEAST

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

**Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. By your Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at his heavenly banquet. We pray this in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior and Friend. Amen.**

#### HYMN OF SENDING

*Lord of the Dance*

*Unison* G Em Bm Em

1 I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be - gun, and I  
 2 I danced for the scribe and the Phar - i - see, but they  
 3 I danced on the Sab - bath and I cured the lame, the  
 4 I danced on a Fri - day when the sky turned black; it's  
 5 They cut me down and I leapt up high,

Am D7

danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, and I  
 would not dance and they would not fol - low me; I  
 ho - ly peo - ple said it was a shame; they  
 hard to dance with the dev - il on your back; they  
 I am the life that - 'll nev - er, nev - er die; I'll

G Em Bm Em

came down from heav - en and I danced on the earth. At  
 danced for the fish - er - men, for James and John; they  
 whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high; and they  
 bur - ied my bod - y and they thought I'd gone, but  
 live in you if you'll live in me;

Am D7 C/G G Refrain G Bm/D

Beth - le - hem I had my birth.  
 came with me and the Dance went on.  
 left me there on a cross to die. Dance, then, where -  
 I am the Dance and I still go on.  
 I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

ev - er you may be; I am the Lord of the

Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all where - ev - er you may

be, and I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

**BENEDICTION:**

May the Holy Spirit fall upon you, encompass you, and support you.  
 May the Holy Spirit transform you, lead you, and equip you.

May the Holy Spirit give you encouragement, strength and comfort  
 to serve and worship our loving God both now and forevermore. 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.

**PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**POSTLUDE**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Altar Flowers** are in loving memory of Edgar, Vilma, Edward E and Mamie Rump by Bev Plattner.

**Participants-Daily Devotions-44, May 22-Sunday Worship Online-211, In Person-66.**

**Sundays in June-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. They will be saved to Facebook & Instagram

**Summer Youth Activity-June 2<sup>nd</sup> 11am-1pm Komminsk Legacy Park & Splash Pad** Wear your swimsuits, bring your towels and a picnic lunch, to enjoy a day at the splash pad & park! Join us at the New Bremen Library for story-time & craft at 10:30am.

**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!

**Elmwood Worship-** Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at 2:00pm. All are welcome to assist Rev. Becky with this wonderful service. Please meet her by 1:45pm at Elmwood.

**Widow and Widower Luncheon**-The next Widow, Widower Luncheon will be at 11:30 am on Wednesday, June 8. All are welcome to come for a time of eating, sharing and laughter. Immanuel Church Fellowship Hall, Kettlersville.

**Senior/Retiree Luncheon-Tuesday, June 21 at Noon.** Please join our Salt Interns, Eli and Elyssa for a delicious meal and a wonderful time of fellowship. Let them know you will be joining them by RSVP'ing to the church office (419-629-2502) by June 15<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome.

**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- Dish Soap, Diapers (size n, 5 & 6), Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Baby Shampoo, Shampoo, Conditioner, Body Wash, Razors, Shaving Cream, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Feminine Hygiene Products, Bandages, Vaseline, Kleenex, Paper Plates, Storage Bags, Garbage Bags, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, 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, Elyssa Mullins, Eli Schmitmeyer, Deb Klein, Abby Bushman and Barb Holdren will be available. Plan to call the church office (419-629-2502) if you have a pastoral need or emergency. Our staff will be happy to minister to and with you! **Also as a reminder, Becky's time away is for recuperation, not pleasure. She will not respond to any emails, text or Facebook messages or phone calls until she is back in the office on Friday, July 15.** Thank you for your understanding!



**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.

### **Calendar-Week of June 5, 2022**

Sunday	10:15am	Pentecost Worship w/Holy Communion In Person & via Facebook Live
	11:15am	SALT Book Study
	6:00pm	Porch Party @ the Parsonage
Monday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop @ NB Coffee
Tuesday	10:30am-11:00am	Youth Activity NB Library Mindful Movement
	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm	Elmwood Worship
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	5:00pm-8:00pm	Art Camp Festival
Thursday	11:30am	Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Friday	Noon	Office Closed

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

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