

October 17, 2022

Dear St. Paul Church Family and Friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus!

October is off to a busy start. Youth and music ministries are thriving. Sunday School is well attended each week: our preschool class is packed! Worship is offered three ways: through this packet, streamed online, and in-person. We thank you for your participation and support!

Speaking of support, this coming Sunday is our second Sunday in our five-week stewardship series. This week's theme is Taking Root.

Amy Opperman is organizing a Women's Bible Study for Thursday evenings beginning October 27. This group will study Beth Moore's series titled "The Basket Case. The group will meet at 6:30 in the Theatre.



Church Council is beginning to look toward 2023. We are seeking volunteers to serve next year as:

**Council Vice President    Trustee**

Please see Roland Dicke or Myra Hanenkratt if you would like to serve on Council in 2023.


At the August Church Council meeting, Council voted to replace the parsonage upstairs air conditioning unit and furnace. **The cost for these items is \$9940.00.** We need to raise approximately **\$6,000.00** yet for this project. Council invites you to give generously to the Project of the Year to complete this project. Thank you!  
May you experience the joy of Christ!

Blessings,

Roland Dicke  
Council President

Myra Hanenkratt  
Council VP



Rev. Becky Erb Strang  
Senior Pastor

**Financial Information as of October 17, 2022**

**Operating Fund**

Beg. Balance \$0.00  
Giving Income \$3,458.46 (weekly)  
Endowment Trans \$19,390.00(ytd)  
Income \$253,696.75(ytd)  
Expenses \$262,240.14(ytd)  
Balance **(\$8,543.39)**(ytd)

**Building Maint & Property**

Beg. Balance \$36,648.59  
Income \$46,500.50(ytd)  
Endowment Inc. **(\$8,768.54)**(ytd)  
Expenses \$25,725.77(ytd)  
Balance \$48,654.78(ytd)

**Project of the Year**

Income \$7,655.00  
Expenses \$13,315.00  
Balance **(\$5,660)**

**Local Aid**

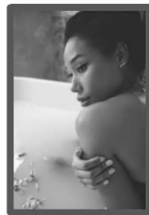
Beg. Balance \$12,218.82  
Income \$20,057.20(ytd)  
Expenses \$21,956.57(ytd)  
Balance \$10,319.45(ytd)

**Blessing Pantry**

Beg. Balance \$29,161.12  
Income \$11,897.00(ytd)  
Expenses \$13,323.90(ytd)  
Balance \$27,734.22(ytd)

**Our Church Wider Mission**

Pledge \$25,000.00  
Income \$969.50 (weekly)  
Income \$19,628.00(ytd)



October 23, 2022, David and Bathsheba  
2 Samuel 11:1-5, 26-27; 12:1-9, Psalm 51:1-9

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 forgiveness, David betrayed your commandments and committed terrible crimes. Yet even his horrific sins were not too much for you to forgive. Remind us that there is nothing we can do that will turn you away from us. Amen.



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

*Nathan said to David, "You are the man! Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: I anointed you king over Israel, and I rescued you from the hand of Saul; I gave you your master's house, and your master's wives into your bosom, and gave you the house of Israel and of Judah; and if that had been too little, I would have added as much more. Why have you despised the word of the Lord, to do what is evil in his sight?" (2 Samuel 12:7-9a)*



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

David had everything except that to which he was not entitled—another man's wife. He soon learns the consequences of his desire and actions.



**Connect:** Connect in conversation with others in your household.

- What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?
- Where do you see power struggles within your community? In these struggles, who gets hurt? Who gains the most? How might God shape how power is distributed within your community?
- When have you committed a sin that you were unable to see? How did you come to realize your sin? What did you do next?
- For the littles: When was the last time you were punished for something? Did you deserve it? God knows when we sin. God also forgives our sin. Always!



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

May God see your sin and forgive it. Amen.



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

Write a letter forgiving someone of a sin they committed against you. You need not send it; simply write it and see how your forgiveness shapes your attitude this week.



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

Monday, 2 Samuel 12:15b-23, *Bathsheba's Child Dies*

Tuesday, 2 Samuel 12:24-25, *Solomon Is Born*

Wednesday, 1 Kings 1:1-21, *The Struggle for Succession*

Thursday, 1 Kings 1:22-27, *The Struggle for Succession*

Friday, 1 Kings 1:28-53, *The Accession of Solomon*

Saturday, 1 Kings 2:13-25, *Solomon Consolidates His Reign*

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

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

**October 23, 2022**

**Stewardship Week Two: Taking Root**

### **Worship Leaders**

Ministers

Rev. Becky Erb Strang

Bryan Trego

Becky Quellhorst

Tracy Oldiges

Jim Strang

The Congregation

Senior Pastor

Liturgist

Organist/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**

## THRIVING: LAY MINISTER OF VISITATION

Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (John 13:34-35) In 2010, William Kuck donated funds to create an endowment for a visitation minister. Anna Louise Hoelscher served as our Lay Minister of Visitation for a decade, retiring in January 2022. In September, St. Paul Church welcomed Dr. Jeff Paul as our Lay Minister of Visitation. This six hour per week position reaches out to our homebound members and those who are recuperating from illness, injury and surgery. Bill Kuck's generosity has been a true gift to St. Paul Church!

## 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: God desires truth in our inward being;

**People: Teach us wisdom in our secret hearts.**

Leader: Purge us with hyssop,

**People: And we shall be clean.**

Leader: Let us hear joy and gladness.

**People: Let our weary bones rejoice!**

# Come, Let Us Praise the Lord

C G/B C Am Cmaj7 F C/E G7 C G

1 Come, let us praise the Lord, with joy our God ac-claim, his  
 2 Our God of match-less worth, our King be-yond com-pare, the  
 3 In wor-ship bow the knee, our glo-rious God con-fess; the  
 4 Come, hear his voice to-day, re-ceive what love im-parts; his

C Am Am7 D D/C G/B C G/B D7 G C F Bdim D

great-ness tell a-broad and bless his sav-ing name. Lift high your  
 deep-est bounds of earth, the hills, are in his care. He all de-  
 great Cre-a-tor, he, the Lord of Right-eous-ness. He reigns un-  
 ho-ly will o-bey and hard-en not your hearts. His ways are

C G/B C F/A C/G F E Am Dm F C/G G7 C

songs be-fore his throne to whom a-lone all praise be-longs.  
 crees, who by his hand pre-pared the land and formed the seas.  
 seen: his flock he feeds and gent-ly leads in pas-tures green.  
 best; and lead at last, all trou-bles past, to per-fect rest.

WORDS: Timothy Dudley-Smith (1926- ); para. Psalm 95  
 MUSIC: John Darwall (1731-1789)

DARWALL'S 148th  
 6.6.6.6.4.4.8.

## SERVICE OF CONFESSION

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

### SILENT CONFESSION OF SIN

Leader: Gracious God,

**People: We have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have taken what is not ours and justified our actions. We have turned away from your wisdom. We have not done justice, loved kindness, nor walked humbly with you. Forgive us for the harms we have caused through word and action, and restore us to the joy of following your will for us. Amen.**

Leader: God knows our every weakness and yet loves us without ceasing. Rejoice and be glad, for the God of grace and mercy forgives you all your sins for the sake of our Savior and Friend, Jesus Christ!

**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

The musical score is written for a single melodic line in treble clef, key of D major (one sharp), and 2/4 time. It consists of four staves of music. The lyrics are written below the notes. Chord symbols are placed above the notes: C, Am7, D7, D, G, D, Em.

## PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

**Joys:** Our faith taking root!

**Concerns:** We are continuing to pray for Betty Bushman, Terri Goodwin, Terri Mullins, Rob Paul, Ethel Mesloh, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Karen Vornholt, Shannon Shupp, and Dee Schroer.

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

Leader: Let us pray. Holy and Covenant-Keeping God, we thank you and praise you this day for your presence in our lives. We lift up to you in prayer the church, the world, and all those in need.

### SILENT PRAYER

Leader: God who surprises us with faithfulness when we least deserve it, show us mercy when we fail, and help us to talk in your ways boldly with grace. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: When we fall short, creation suffers. Yet when we strive for faith, hope, and love, creation sings of your glory. Make us good stewards of all that you have made, that we may sing your praises together. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: As stewards of all your good gifts, we ask that you empower us to be generous givers, sending our roots deeply in your love. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: We pray today for world leaders that they might govern with justice and mercy. Bring peace to nations at war. Bring peace to nations divided. Bring peace to homes in crisis. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: We ask your healing power and presence rain down upon all who struggle with illness, pride, selfishness, addiction or abuse. Bring comfort to all who grieve. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: Open our eyes to see human need within our community, and give us hearts and hands to fill those needs at every turn. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: With gratitude we look to the saints for their leadership in modeling humility with their lives of love and service to you. Merciful God,

**People: You hear our prayer.**

Leader: We lift all for whom we pray into your loving arms, O God, in the name of Jesus, our Savior, 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.**

**NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: James 5:7-18 (NRSV)**

*Be patient, therefore, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup> You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup> Brothers and sisters, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup> As an example of suffering and patience, brothers and sisters, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. <sup>11</sup> Indeed, we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the outcome that the Lord brought about, for the Lord is compassionate and merciful. <sup>12</sup> Above all, brothers and sisters, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “Yes” be yes and your “No” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation. <sup>13</sup> Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. <sup>14</sup> Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. <sup>15</sup> The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up, and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. <sup>16</sup> Therefore confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. <sup>17</sup> Elijah was a human like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. <sup>18</sup> Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth yielded its harvest.*

## **SCRIPTURE RESPONSE**

**Leader: The word of God for the people of God!**

**People: God is still speaking! Thanks be to God!**

I started college as a deaf education major. Until I switched gears at the end of my second year, I took a whole variety of courses meant to prepare budding teachers for the classroom. One semester, I took Science for Education Majors—a course that was less book learning and more hands-on experiments in preparation for us to teach science in the near future. I loved that class. We did lots of fun activities—mostly geared for younger elementary classrooms.

The project I remember most from that class speaks to today's stewardship topic: Taking Root. For this experiment, we each carefully inserted into a gallon Ziploc bag a fairly thick, flattened, and very wet paper towel. We stapled through the bag/wet towel horizontally about halfway down the bag. Placing bean seeds in the bag above the staples, we then sealed up the Ziploc and hung it up in our dorm rooms near a window.

You can imagine what happened next. The wet paper towel softened the seeds to the point that they sprouted—stretching roots in one direction and leaves in the other direction. Within a little over a week, most of us had to open our Ziploc bags to set the growing bean plants free. But what was particularly cool about this project was the roots. Through the bag, we could see clearly that which is normally hidden below the soil of our gardens and in our fields.

Taking Root. Whenever I think about roots, those beans growing in a Ziploc bag are the first things that come to my mind. And yet, we know that planting seeds inside of wet Ziploc bags is not how plants are made to grow. To thrive, seeds need not only water, but healthy soil, sunshine, and other seeds. Yes. Other seeds.

Farmers and gardeners, forestry experts and horticulturists all tell us that plants do not thrive in a vacuum. They need other plants to protect each other and nourish each other in order that the crops might thrive. No one can feed a village by planting beans in Ziploc bags. We need fields and plots of beans, lots of beans, growing together, in order that the harvest might be abundant.

Taking Root. Plants need one another. Science backs this up. This past summer, while recuperating from foot surgery, I read German forestry expert Peter Wohlleben's book [The Hidden Life of Trees: What](#)

They Feel. How They Communicate. And wowzers! It was an eye-opener. Basically, Mr. Wohllenben spends 250 pages carefully outlining how plants (trees, in particular) talk with one another, feed one another, defend one another, and care for one another—through their root systems. What might look to us like a plain, ordinary root in a Ziploc bag is infinitely more complicated and connected to the rest of the field or forest.

If plants need one another to survive and thrive, so do we. When God plants us in the rich soil of his forgiveness, grace, and love, my roots touch your roots and our roots touch the roots of our neighbors. Rooted in love, we are able to feed one another, communicate with one another, protect one another, and care for each other. We thrive when ALL thrive. And, when one of us is sick or injured or blown over by the wind, our combined root systems work together to prop up the one in need of extra nourishment and love.

Taking Root. You've heard me say this many times over the years, but being a Christian means being part of a beloved community. We cannot easily follow Jesus from the confines of artificial and isolated Ziploc bags. We need each other. We need God deepening our roots, deepening our faith, that we might come to understand that loving God and loving neighbor are at the very root of what it means to be a Christian.

Today's scripture lesson from the book of James highlights what it means to be beloved community when we are rooted in the love of God we experience through Jesus. The verbs in the passage are powerful: Be patient. Strengthen your hearts. Do not grumble against one another. Do not swear. (Ooops! I'll have to work on that one!)

In other words, what I believe James is saying is that being rooted in our faith is all about how we relate to one another. And it is good advice. In Christian communities, even as one as beloved as ours, we sometimes lose patience with each other. If the pandemic has taught us one thing, it is this: we need one another. We need to care for one another AND we need to be with one another even when tempers flare and we are less than loving. We belong together. And part of that belonging is being patient with one another (and patient with ourselves)

Taking Root. The same goes for strengthening of hearts. While we DO strengthen our hearts with regular exercise, I do not believe that is

what James means. Our hearts are strengthened, supported, and encouraged through community. Isolation breaks hearts. Hearts are strengthened with connection to others.

Can you think of someone in your orbit who is experiencing isolation? Reach out to him. Give her a call. Send a note of encouragement. Leave cookies of their doorstep. Invite them over for a cup of coffee and conversation. The hearts of those around us experience healing when we reach across those chasms that threaten to keep us divided: Political divides. Religious divides. Ethnic and Racial divides. Economic divides. Age divides.

Because of Jesus, it must be our lifelong task to break down barriers, build bridges and strengthen broken hearts. Choosing isolation is no longer an option. Our roots are intertwined. Always.

Taking Root. And what about James' words about grumbling and swearing? I think it all comes down to how we use our words. Will we use our speech to build one another up or to tear each other down? Will we use our words to create joy or to destroy? Grumbling and swearing separates us from others. If I'm busy grumbling about you or about a situation, I don't need to see you as a beloved child of God. I've put on a cloak of self-righteousness and separated myself from you. Likewise, swearing breaks down rather than builds up. To remain rooted in beloved community, we need to filter our words that they might offer healing and hope.

Today's passage ends by saying that whether we are suffering, cheerful, or sick, there are things we can do to stay connected to God and to one another: We can pray. We can worship. We can sing. We can ask for anointing. No matter how we are feeling on any given day, we can always seek communion/connection.

Taking Root. I can imagine you thinking, "This is all well and good, Pastor Becky. But what does any of this have to do with stewardship?"

When we recognize our connectedness to one another and to God, when we seek community rather than isolation, we are able to celebrate our rootedness in God's love, God's grace, God's joy. Again: we cannot be Christians in isolation. The life, death, and resurrection of Jesus serves as a model that nothing, nothing can separate us from God's love. And for that, we rejoice.

We rejoice in our worship. In our service to others. In our laughing and crying. We rejoice in the deep roots of love that bind us to one another. Stewardship: that joyful giving of one's time, talent and treasure is a fruit of our rootedness. Specifically, when we give of our finances for the mission and ministries of St. Paul Church, we are affirming our connection to God and to one another. We cannot serve this community in isolation. We can only do what we do as a faith community. Together. And that includes our financial gifts.

Friends: no longer are you planted in a Ziploc bag. You are planted in God's garden. Our deep and spreading roots nourish and protect, communicate and commune with one another—reminding us that we are in this together.

We are in this together. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

*Hymn of Promise*

## Hymn of Promise

*Unison* F Gm7 F

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple  
2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o -  
3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i -

Gm7 F C7 F F

tree; in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be  
dy; there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness bring - ing hope to you and  
ty; in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni -

F F7 Bb C7 G F A Dm Gm6 A7

free! In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to  
me. From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter -  
ty; in our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to -

Dm Bb C7 G F A Dm Gm7 C7 Bb F F

be, un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
y, un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.  
ry, un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

## WE RESPOND WITH OUR GIFTS

OFFERING INVITATION: God is the author of all of creation. God created the world and God created us. As much as we'd like to believe we are self-made, we are not. We belong to God and we worship not ourselves, but God who created us. Our stewardship of time, abilities, and financial resources acknowledges God as the center of our lives. Let us give generously and joyfully. Amen.

### 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 below; praise him above, ye heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy 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)

**Generous God, we offer ourselves to you, imperfect as we are, to serve you as you direct us. Accept us and these, our humble gifts, for your work in the world. Amen.**

### HYMN OF SENDING

*Guide Me, O Though Great Jehovah*

# 501 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

G C  $\frac{G}{B}$   $\frac{G}{A}$  G  $\frac{D}{A}$   $\frac{G}{B}$  C  $\frac{G}{D}$  D G  $\frac{C}{E}$  C Am7  $\frac{G}{D}$  D7 G

1 Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this bar - ren land;  
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing stream doth flow;  
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious fears sub - side;

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

I am weak, but thou art might - y—hold me with thy power - ful hand:  
 let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my jour - ney through:  
 bear me through the swell - ing cur - rent, land me safe on Ca - naan's side:

D7  $\frac{G}{D}$  D7  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  G D7 G  $\frac{G}{B}$   $\frac{D7}{A}$  G  $\frac{D}{F\#}$  Em7

Bread of heav - en, Bread of heav - en, feed me till I want no  
 Strong De - liv - erer, strong De - liv - erer, be thou still my strength and  
 Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to

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

more, (want no more,) feed me till I want no more.  
 shield, (strength and shield,) be thou still my strength and shield.  
 thee, (give to thee,) I will ev - er give to thee.



BENEDICTION: May the peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son, Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. May the blessing of God Almighty: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. Amen.

## BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

### Pass the Love

*J=95*

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

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

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

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

Bless the Ho - ly Name. Praise our\_\_\_ God.

## PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: In Christ, we are a new creation. Let us pass the peace of Christ with each other.

## POSTLUDE

*"No Matter"* Words and music by Roger P. Miller ©2007 All rights reserved.

*"Halle Halle Halle"* Words and music by Hal H. Hobson ©1998 Hope Publishing Company

*"Pass the Love"* Words and Music by Doris Ketner Copyright ©2000. All rights reserved.

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Altar Flowers** are in loving memory of Dorothy Koeper by John Koeper.

**Participants**-October 9-Sunday School-16, Teachers-4, Worship Online-214, In Person-82, Wednesday October 12, Splash-11, Leaders-4, Jr/Sr High Youth Group-30.

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

**St. Paul Church Nursery**-is once again fully staffed during the entire Sunday worship service. Please spread the word to let young parents know this is available. If you would like to volunteer in the nursery, please contact Justine Homan, Nursery Champion.

**Daily Devotions**-Please join us, Monday-Thursday, 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 our Facebook page.

**Women's Bible Study**-We are excited to announce a new women's bible study group. We will be following along with one of Beth Moore's DVD Bible study series. Beth Moore is passionate about women knowing and loving the Word of God. We will be studying her series titled "The Basket Case" in which she will guide us to turn our worry and anxiety over to God. This series is for 4 weeks that will meet once a week on Thursday evenings at 6:30p.m. starting October 27<sup>th</sup> in the theater room.

**BookClub**- Do you love to read? If so, please feel called to join the St. Paul Book Club! We select a book each month or so, read it on our own at our own pace, and then meet for about an hour to discuss the book. It's fun and casual and sometimes there are snacks!

Our next book will be "The Time Keeper" by Mitch Albom. Please pick up your copy on the table outside the church office if you are interested. We will have our book discussion on Sunday, October 30th, immediately following church service. (Approximately 11:15am.) If you do not feel comfortable meeting in person, we will also be on Zoom. Hope to see you there! To join Zoom Meeting follow this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82958591523?pwd=L29ZZUVsTkVWVWlVRNTVHbVYweDVTdz09> **Meeting ID: 829 5859 1523 Passcode: 950189**

**All Saints Worship**-During worship service on October 30, we will celebrate the saints in our lives: those who have gone before us to the Church Triumphant. Candles will be lit in memory of loved ones during the worship services. All are welcome to this meaningful service.

**Veteran's Recognition November 5 and 6**- Military veterans and active duty personnel will be honored at the beginning of the worship services November 5 and 6. Since, we plan to list the names of veterans and active duty folk from St. Paul UCC in the bulletin that weekend, please call or email the church office to give us your name and branch served/serving.

**2023 Altar Flower Chart** has been posted in the Narthex. Please sign up for the date(s) you would like. You may also call the church office Monday-Thursday to sign up. 2023 altar flower price will increase. Thank you.

**Bulletin Availability-weekly bulletins** are available for download on our website [stpaulnb.org](http://stpaulnb.org). Just click the yellow **BULLETINS** box in the upper right hand corner.

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

**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-Deodorant, Dish Soap, Bar Soap, Manicure Items, Toothpaste, Razors, Shaving Cream, Baby Wipes, Diaper Cream, Vaseline, Bandages, Cotton Balls, Napkins, Paper Plates, Food Storage Bags, Garbage Bags**. We can always use Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Kleenex, Laundry Detergent, Diapers (all sizes), Shampoo, Conditioner, Bleach, All Purpose Cleaner, Disinfectants, Pull Ups. **Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

## October Monthly Mission-Neighbors in Need

In 2022, the Neighbors in Need “Behold” offering focuses on an economic justice. With inflation impacting all of our households, we wanted to provide a way to discuss this through a faith lens. Please join us by promoting this year’s NIN “Behold!” campaign at our church. As you may recall, one-third of the offering supports **Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM)**. Two-thirds are used by Justice and Witness Ministries to provide grants to UCC churches and organizations as well as supporting a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. We have received grants in the past from this mission. We will be collecting for NIN throughout the month of October, so please give generously. Thank you for your contributions. The Mission Team.

**November/December 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.



## WARM WINTER APPAREL DRIVE

Share the Warmth

September 19 – October 30th



**Agape Ministries is now accepting Donations of**  
**NEW & GENTLY USED ADULT & CHILDRENS WINTER COATS,**  
**HATS, GLOVES, & WATER PROOF SNOW GLOVES**  
**Adult Large through 3XL especially needed**

Coat Drive Dates: September 19 – October 30<sup>th</sup>.  
Drop off: Agape Client Services Building at 1220 East Spring Street  
from 8 am – 4:30 pm Monday thru Friday.

\*\*If dropping off at Thrift Store, please tell them it  
is for the coat drive so they do not get sold in the store\*\*

2022

Coats/hats/gloves can also be placed on coat rack in Educational Building inside East Door or in the barrel located in the Narthex.

## Calendar-Week of October 23, 2022

Sunday	9:00am	Sunday School
	10:15am	Worship-In Person & via Facebook Live
Monday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	2:00pm-4:00pm	Coffee Shop @ NB Coffee
Tuesday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
Wednesday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	5:30pm-6:30pm	Splash
	6:00pm	Bell Choir Rehearsal
	6:30pm	Youth Dinner
	7:00pm-8:00pm	Jr/Sr High Youth Group
	7:00pm-8:00pm	Confirmation w/Mentors
	7:00pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Thursday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Women's Bible Study
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



HAPPY HALLOWEEN

# TRUNK-ER TREAT

JOIN US SUNDAY, OCTOBER 30TH  
FROM 3:30 PM - 5:30 PM  
FOR TRICK OR TREATING

Decorate your trunk to pass out your Halloween candy with us for Halloween! Bring a lawn chair and plan for 100 kids to come by your trunk! Pull your vehicle in front of the Sanctuary and Parsonage by 3:15 p.m.

ALL ARE WELCOME



*Save the date for the Christmas Market!*

*This year's Christmas Market will be held at St. Paul  
in the educational building on*

*Saturday, November 19th from 9 am to 1 pm.*

*Join us for this extraordinary holiday shopping event  
with over 20 local artisans, craftspeople, bakers, and  
more!*

*Enter through the West double doors, Herman St. side.*

*Admission is \$1 at the door.*

*All proceeds help support the Blessing Pantry.*

*For questions please contact Jennifer Snider.*