



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 419-953-1152

Myra Hanenkratt-Council President 419-305-3652

Welcome to St. Paul UCC, we are glad you are here!!

Whether you are worshipping online or in person, Welcome, one and all, to this time of worship. We are blessed to have you with us today.

IN PERSON WORSHIP NOTES:

Bulletins, Offering Plates, and Masks are available on tables.

Listening devices are available in the Narthex/front entrance, for those who need them. Please return your device to an Usher following worship. Thank you!

Children's Activity Bags containing children's bulletins and other activities are available on the tables. Thank you!

Restrooms are located in the Narthex/front entrance of the church and in the south hallway of the educational building.

WIFI Connection-connect via "St Paul – Guest"
Password: godlovesyou

The * indicates all who are able may stand

February 12, 2023
Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Worship Leaders

Ministers
Rev. Becky Erb Strang
Connie O'Neill
Lori Rindler
Bryan Trego
Jim Strang

The Congregation
Senior Pastor
Organist
Liturgist
Sr. Elder
Chancel/Music Director

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*WELCOME SONG

No Matter

$\text{♩} = 120$

F Dm Gm⁷ C F F⁷
No mat-ter who, no mat-ter what no mat-ter where you are on the

B^b G⁷ F Dm G⁷ Gm⁷ C⁷
jour-ney of life; you're wel-come, wel-come in this place. No mat-ter

F Dm Gm⁷ C F F⁷
who, no mat-ter what, no mat-ter where you are on the

B^b G⁷ F Dm Gm⁷ C⁷ C F F
jour-ney of life: ac-cept-ed, wel-comed by God's grace. grace.

To verses Last time, Fine

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: God plants faith in our hearts.

People: It is the smallest of seeds,

Leader: But it grows beyond measure.

People: And bears much fruit.

Leader: Let us worship God!

***HYMN OF PRAISE** *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* No. 56
verses 1 & 4

GOD OF LOVE & MERCY

56 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1 Sing praise to God who reigns a - bove, the God of all cre -
 2 What God's al - might - y power has made, in mer - cy he is
 3 We sought the Lord in our dis - tress; O God, in mer - cy
 4 Let all who name Christ's ho - ly name give God the praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of our
 keep - ing; by morn - ing glow or eve - ning shade his eye is nev -
 hear us. Our Sav - ior saw our help - less - ness and came with peace
 glo - ry. Let all who know his power pro - claim a loud the won -

sal - va - tion. My soul with com - fort rich he fills, and
 er - sleep - ing. And where he rules in king - ly might, there
 to cheer us. For this we thank and praise the Lord, who
 drous sto - ry. Cast ev - ery i - dol from its throne; the

ev - ery grief he gent - ly stills: to God all praise and glo - ry!
 all is just and all is right: to God all praise and glo - ry!
 is by one and all a - dored: to God all praise and glo - ry!
 Lord is God, and he a - lone: to God all praise and glo - ry!

*INVOCATION (in unison)

Gracious God, your Son spoke to us in parables about the nature of your reign. Give us ears to hear and hearts to understand that we might be instruments of your peace and justice. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI
734

Glory Be to the Father
Glory Be to the Father

No. 734

The image shows a musical score for a Gloria Patri. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature is B-flat major (two flats) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men, A - men." The score includes various chord symbols above the vocal line, such as Eb, Bb7sus, Bb7, Eb, Bb, Bb, Eb, Bb, Eb6, Bb, F7, Bb, Bb7, Eb, Ab, Eb, Eb, Bb, Bb7, Bb7, Eb, Eb, Bb, Ab, Eb, G, Fm7, Ab, Eb, Bb, Gm, Bb, Bb7, and Eb.

WORDS: *Gloria Patri*, 2nd c.
MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex (1813-1858)

GREATOREX
Irregular

TIME FOR THE CHILD WITHIN

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8VF8IWZUJL4>

PASTORAL JOYS AND CONCERNS OF THE PEOPLE

Joys: God's kingdom on earth as it is in Heaven.

Concerns: We are continuing to pray for Jay Waterman, Tavi Haastруп, Rob Paul, Greg Maurer, Bart Maurer, Karen Vornholt, and Dee Schroer.

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER.

Leader: Let us pray. Confident that our Savior, Jesus Christ, hears us when we pray, we lift up to you, O God, the church, the world, and all in need.

SILENT PRAYER

Leader: Gracious God, your Son, Jesus, spoke of your reign in terms of the littlest things—yeast, mustard seeds—that utterly transform all they touch. Help us to sow your love and justice in the world, that all might see you in all things. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: You have called us to be stewards of your creation. Teach us to protect all green and growing things, from mustard seeds to giant sequoias, and the ecosystems that sustain them and us. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Give leaders throughout the world the humility not to assume that their people are the wheat and other peoples are the weeds. Commit them to the nurture of all people without judgment. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Dear Jesus, we know you are among us now and always. As you healed the sick and infirm during your ministry on earth, we ask that you would bring healing and wholeness to all who are suffering in body, mind, or spirit. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Keep us ever mindful of the victims of state violence, oppression, and injustice in our nation and in the world. Kindle in us a passion to work for your justice for all people. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: We remember with thanksgiving all the saints who planted their faith in our hearts like the tiniest of seeds, and watched it grow into strong, fruit-bearing trees. Merciful God,

People: You hear our prayer.

Leader: Receive our prayers and hold all for whom we pray in your loving arms, in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray together...

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.

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

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM *I Wonder as I Wander* Niles/Horton

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Matthew 13:24-46 (NRSV)

Jesus put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field, ²⁵ but while everybody was asleep an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat and then went away. ²⁶ So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. ²⁷ And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, ‘Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?’ ²⁸ He answered, ‘An enemy has done this.’ The slaves said to him, ‘Then do you want us to go and gather them?’ ²⁹ But he replied, ‘No, for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. ³⁰ Let both of them grow together until the harvest, and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.’ ”

³¹ He put before them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a mustard seed that someone took and sowed in his field; ³² it is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.”

³³ He told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like yeast that a woman took and mixed in with three measures of flour until all of it was leavened.”

³⁴ Jesus told the crowds all these things in parables; without a parable he told them nothing. ³⁵ This was to fulfill what had been spoken through the prophet:

“I will open my mouth to speak in parables;

I will proclaim what has been hidden since the foundation.”

³⁶ Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, “Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field.” ³⁷ He answered, “The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; ³⁸ the field is the world, and the good seed are the

children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one,³⁹ and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels.⁴⁰ Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age.⁴¹ The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers,⁴² and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!

⁴⁴ “The kingdom of heaven is like treasure hidden in a field, which a man found and reburied; then in his joy he goes and sells all that he has and buys that field.

⁴⁵ “Again, the kingdom of heaven is like a merchant in search of fine pearls;⁴⁶ on finding one pearl of great value, he went and sold all that he had and bought it.

RESPONSIVE SKIT

Teacher 1: What’s happened to your class?

Teacher 2: What do you mean?

Teacher 1: At the beginning of the school year, they were...well, they were awful!

Teacher 2: (laughing): That they were.

Teacher 1: So...what’s your secret? What did you do?

Teacher 2: Oh, just planted a few seeds, stirred in a little yeast.

Teacher 1: What on earth are you talking about?

Teacher 2: I worked with some of the more challenging kids and their parents, and set up plans to help them be successful. And once they started doing better, they just bloomed into the most amazing kiddos. You know, still challenging, but eager.

Teacher 1: That makes sense.

Teacher 2: Then I strategically placed them and other kids who are super positive into groups with kids who were less engaged and had them work together and help each other, and guess what?

Teacher 1: The positive attitude spread. Like mixing yeast into flour until it’s distributed through the whole ball of dough.

Teacher 2: Bingo! And the coolest thing is that the kids who are still struggling...well the class is really respectful of them and willing to help them out so disturbances don't get the whole class out of whack.

Teacher 1: That's pretty amazing, actually.

Teacher 2: Well, you know, it's not perfect. I mean they are kids.

Teacher 1: Yeah, but they are not completely off the rails all the time. You've really transformed this class.

Teacher 2: It's amazing what a little love can do.

SUNG RESPONSE

We Reach For You

We Reach For You

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

F C/E Dm

Oh, Je-sus teach us, guide us with your preach-ing. Like a flow-er grow-ing, al-ways reach-ing

with pedal

introduction

B \flat maj7 Gm7 Gm7/C F B \flat m F **Fine**

for the sun, we reach for you.

B \flat Gm7 Am G

^{2/12} We plant the wheat so car - ful - ly but weeds may grow there, too. Lord,

Gm7 Gm7/C F Gm7/C **D.C. al Fine**

help us be the love we find in you.

WE RESPOND WITH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS
OFFERTORY SENTENCES

*DOXOLOGY *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* No. 34

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 34

The image shows a musical score for a doxology. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a bass line. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The first system has the lyrics: "Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;". The second system has the lyrics: "praise him a - bove, ye heaven-ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost." Above the vocal lines, various chords are indicated: G, D, Em, Bm, Em, D, G, D, Em, C, G, D, Em, D/F#, G, D, G/B, C, F#dim/A, G, Em, D, Am, G/B, D7, G.

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

OLD 100th
L.M.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

O God, your reign is like a treasure in a field or a pearl of great value. May we joyfully offer all that we have and all that we are in gratitude for receiving your salvation. Accept these, our gifts, for your work in the world, that we all might know your priceless love.

*HYMN OF SENDING

Hymn of Promise

No. 515

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.

*BENEDICTION

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE *Pass the Love*

Pass the Love

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

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

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

Bless the Ho - ly Name. Praise our God.

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

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you

People: And also with you.

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

*POSTLUDE

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

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers are in memory of Jane Koenig by Judy Voress, George and Karen Voress, and John and Gin Voress.

Circle of Friends Cards for you to sign are Rob Paul (South door), Mary Finke (North door), and a sympathy card for the family of George Weiss (East door). Recipients appreciate the cards you sign.

Participants- February 5th| Sunday School-21, Teachers-4; Worship Online-162, In-Person-unavailable. February 8th| Splash-5 youth, Adults-2; Youth Group- 22 youth, Adults-2

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

Daily Devotions-Please join us, Monday-Thursday, online. Devotions will air and saved on our Facebook page: St. Paul United Church of Christ-New Bremen, OH.

Church Council- will meet Tuesday, February 14th, 6:30pm in the Assembly Room.

Confirmation and their Mentors- will meet Wednesday, February 15th, 7:00pm.

Ash Wednesday Worship-February 22, 2023 at 7:00pm in the Sanctuary Our confirmands have burned last year's palm branches and prepared the ash to be used for this service. Worship will include music, imposition of ashes and the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Please join us in-person or online via Facebook Live. All are welcome!

Congregational Meeting-will take place Sunday February 26, 2023 during the 10:15am worship service.

February Book Club-We will be reading *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini. Books can be picked up on the table outside Pastor Becky's office. This event will be offered in-person and via Zoom.

2023 Altar Flower Chart has open dates: July 2, 30, August 27, October 29, December 31. 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 be \$40.00. Thank you.

St Paul UCC Job Openings-The following positions are or will be available in the near future: Technology Director, Worship Organist, Music Director, Bell Choir Director, Chancel Choir Director, Sanctuary Custodian, and Bookkeeper. Interested applicants are asked to submit a resume and cover letter, indicating position applying for, to the church office, attention Myra Hanenkratt, Council President.

The Bookkeeper position is part-time. It includes accounts payable, payroll and preparing reports for council.

The Sanctuary Custodian position is part-time. It includes cleaning and sanitizing the sanctuary, bathrooms vestibules for all worship services. The Sanctuary Custodian unlocks and locks the sanctuary for all services-including weddings and funerals.

The Worship Organist is responsible for playing organ/piano during worship services, accompanies the choirs and works closely with the Worship Team.

The Music Director/Bell Choir Director/Chancel Choir Director serves part time to recruit, rehearse and perform bell and chancel choir music. The Music Director works closely with the Worship Team.

The Technology Director serves part time at St. Paul Church to maintain and update all computer, networking and worship technologies. The Technology Director works closely with the Worship Tech Team and the Worship Team.

February Monthly Mission: Back Bay Mission

Back Bay Mission has been located in Biloxi Mississippi since 1922 and has just celebrated its 100th anniversary. It was founded by the Evangelical Reformed Church which is one of the four founding denominations of the United Church of Christ.

Back Bay Mission has been a mission partner of the UCC for 100 years and volunteers have given their time, money and help to the people of this area of Southern Mississippi. Many members of St Paul have been on mission trips to Back Bay over the years and have learned about the poverty and homelessness of Southern Mississippi. Mississippi is still the poorest state in the Union and Back Bay Mission is doing more than its share to help the people of this area.

Back Bay has a Day Care Center where people can go for a shower, a place to use a computer to look for job opportunities, a food pantry, a washing machine, as well as mental and physical professional help if needed. Other ways the mission helps, is with offering clothing donations and finding suitable housing for people.

Our St Paul UCC Church has supported this Mission financially and with work groups for many years. Over the past number of years Back Bay has gained the support of some of the Casinos, The Air Force Base which is located near Biloxi, some businesses, and the local Chamber of Commerce, as well as individuals.

St Paul members have been on many trips to Back Bay and they have seen the ongoing needs of the very poor people of Southern Mississippi. They have helped with cleaning out homes that have been damaged by hurricanes and flooded by some terrible storms and have helped with the rebuilding of these homes. The people that are helped are always so gracious and thankful for any help that they receive

The Motto for Back Bay Mission is taken from the Book of Micah and says “To do Justice, Love kindness, and Walk humbly with God” Remember- God loves a Cheerful Giver!

Thank you, John Gilberg, 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, Dryer Sheets, Body Wash, Bar Soap, Kleenex, Toilet Paper, Paper Towels, Deodorant, Toothpaste, Toothbrush, Tampons, Diapers (sizes N-6), Baby Wipes, Baby Lotion, Baby Shampoo, Bandages, Manicure Items, Napkins, Food Storage Bags, Garbage Bags. Thank you!** There is a container outside the East and North Educational Building doors for donations.

St. Paul Church Nursery Announcement. Effective immediately the St. Paul Church Nursery will be open on Communion Sundays and on Children's Worship Sundays. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Justine Homan, Nursery Champion, at 937-658-1770.

St. Paul UCC Rummage Sale-Planned for March 24th & 25th. Donations will be accepted during the month of March. Start gathering your items and watch for more details.

Bulletin Availability-weekly bulletins are available for download on our website stpaulnb.org. Just click the yellow **BULLETINS** box in the upper right hand corner.

March/April Upper Rooms-are available at the East entrance to the education building and on the round tables in the sanctuary. Or please call the church office if you would like one and we will gladly mail one to you.

Want to be part of the Prayer Chain? Please contact Prayer Chain Champion, Jeff Paul at jrpaul@nktelco.net or 419-305-0584. The St. Paul Prayer Chain has two formats: texting and email. All are welcome.

Calendar-Week of February 12, 2023

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 Shop
Tuesday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	9:30am-11:30am	Indoor Park
	5:30pm-7:30pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	6:30pm	Church Council Meeting
Wednesday		Devotions via Facebook Live
	1:00pm-3:00pm	Blessing Pantry Open
	5:30pm-6:30pm	Splash
	6:30pm	Youth Dinner
	7:00pm-8:00pm	Jr/Sr High Youth Group
	7:00pm-8:00pm	Confirmation with Mentors
Thursday		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

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

Once a text amount is sent:

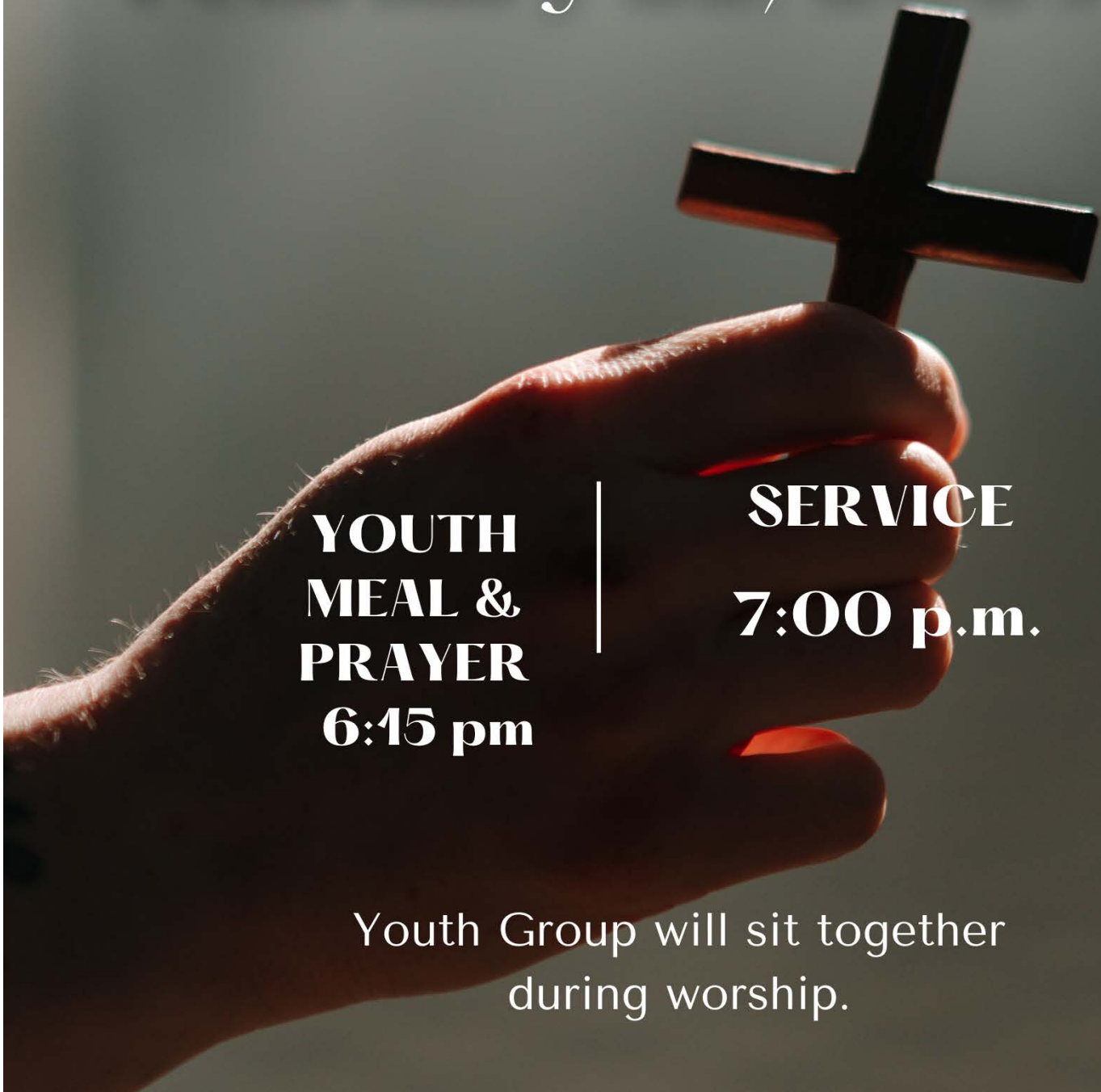
Registration Link- Sent via text the first time a donation is made.
Thank you! Please visit (link) to register.

Donation Confirm- Sent via text each time a donation is made

St. Paul United Church of Christ

Ash Wednesday Service

February 22, 2023



**YOUTH
MEAL &
PRAYER
6:15 pm**

**SERVICE
7:00 p.m.**

Youth Group will sit together
during worship.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2023

Children's Worship

Join us at 10:15 am to celebrate the
history of St. Paul Church through the
eyes of the Youth



GUEST SPEAKER: CINDY NEWMAN

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2023

5:30 PM AND 7:00 PM

YOUTH ROOM, EDUCATION BUILDING

A GOOD TIME
@ YOUTH GROUP

ALL ARE WELCOME TO JOIN
ST. PAUL YOUTH FOR AN
EVENING OF FELLOWSHIP