



ST. PAUL U.C.C. NEWSLETTER



November – December 2017

We will continue to offer the following educational opportunities....



A curriculum designed to invite members to engage in safe, meaningful, substantive & bold conversations on race. Thursdays at 6:30 at church.

The **Gospel of Mark** meets on Sundays during fellowship time. Get your goodies & join us.

Please talk to Pam or Keith if interested in any other educational events.

WARM FUZZIES GO TO:

Everyone who greeted, provided flowers, worked the tech booth, provided childcare & music, ushered, served refreshments for Fellowship Time, counted money, sent cards & worked on committees & dinners.



Robyn Girbach for helping with the world flags.

Ann Esterbrook for making communion bread.

MaryLiz Schoenfeld, Megan & Robyn Girbach Elizabeth McClure, for overseeing the website.

Everyone who donated items for the CWS school bags, buckets & hygiene kits. MaryLiz, Robyn & Megan for assembling them & Bruce Finkbeiner for delivering them to Indiana with Keith.

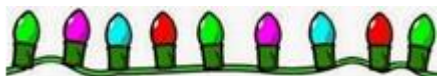
Betsy Marl for coordinating ushers and greeters.

Yard maintenance crew who have faithfully weeded, trimmed and watered around the church.

Jerry Miller for presenting the message on 10/15.

Everyone who helped with Boo Bash...Betsy Marl, Kerrie & Elizabeth McClure and Megan Girbach.

Lisa & Al Hartman, Betsy & Brian Marl, Ken Auten, Kay Girbach and those who brought food to the St. Paul's Seniors and Millpond Manor meals.



Please continue to donate used printer cartridges so that we can recycle them for \$2. Also, ask your neighbors & friends to save them. Bring them to the office & we will turn them into cash.



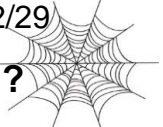
NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Tim Malinczak 11/4	Janet Raus 11/22
Ashley Malinczak 11/5	Jared Richter 11/22
Ruth Lange 11/8	Flo Rentschler 11/25
Bea Bates 11/9	Shirley McGuire 11/27
Sandra Seats 11/9	Rose Carol Toth 11/29



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Marge Wright 12/2	Marilyn Rentschler 12/18
Lee Luckhardt 12/7	Paul Wright 12/20
Kay Girbach 12/8	Lorie Armbruster 12/21
Mag Losee 12/8	Robin Losee 12/21
Pam Losee 12/8	Doris Zahn 12/23
Kathie Craigmile 12/10	Dean Welt 12/27
Joanne Girbach 12/11	Gerald Miller 12/28
Mike Armbruster 12/14	Betsy Marl 12/29



Have You checked the WEBSITE?

Just type in uccstpaul.org to find information about the church. You can also sign up with office to receive a weekly email on church happenings.



EMAIL ADDRESSES

Please keep us informed of changes with your email, phone # or address. Thanks.

RECYCLE

If we truly believe in caring for God's world, we need to work at how we as individuals & the church recycle. As a church, we can start recycling the cups we use during fellowship time. Place used bulletins, if you don't want them, in the recycle box. Recycle at home.



Church Contact Information



Phone Number: 734-429-7716
Email: office@uccstpaul.org
Website: uccstpaul.org
Pam: 734-277-3291 Keith: 734-429-9808

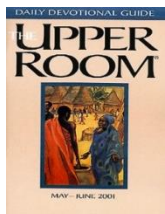
KEEP YOUR MINISTERS INFORMED

They are willing to visit with you in the hospital, your home or at church. Just ask & you will be surprised at how they can help you in many ways. Just remember to keep them informed.



GROWTH GATHERING

You may pick up minutes of our last gathering from the table by the social room. We will meet again on January 14 during fellowship time. Thanks for your input.



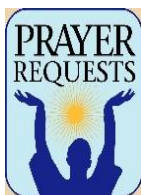
DAILY DEVOTIONS

Devo for Teens & by Teens & large edition Upper Room for Nov./Dec. are available, as well as UCC devotions on our website.

“WE CARE MINISTRY”

Do you know of someone who is ill? Do you have a family member who will be in college this fall, a service person or a young adult who is living away from home who would like to receive the newsletter? Please notify the office with their name, address, email, birthday, college or branch of service, and any other information you would like to share with the church family, and we will send them a birthday card and newsletter.

PRAY FOR: Donna England Hankamp, Jean Munsell, John Kurschinski, Mark Doughty, Susan Keezer, Babs Losee, Cathy London, Vi Harrison, Marguerite & Jerry Gutekunst, Bob Welt, Lorie & Mike Crook, Matthew Aungst, Janet Raus, Fran Finkbeiner, Nelson O’Bryan, Carol Cammett, Jean Cogger and Sandy Wingate **Primrose:** Bea Bates & Bob Cook **Memory Center:** Jean Himel **University Living:** Marilyn & Warren Rentschler **Memory Lane:** Herb Lange



OPPORTUNITIES AT ST. PAUL UCC



Sign up to help with funeral luncheons, greet, host fellowship, usher, provide flowers/communion table arrangements, make visitations, send cards & be on the prayer chain. Turn in used ink cartridges to help fund the copier. Have a good idea...share it.

January/February Newsletter Articles due 1/8.

STEWARDSHIP

No one wants to talk about Stewardship, but it’s an important topic. It is a way to give back to God some of what God has given to you. So sit back & consider what you can give to God.



FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP

A new flower chart has been posted outside the office with directions on ordering flowers. Please notify the office what you would like written in the bulletin. If you need help with ordering, Robyn will help you.

ATTENDANCE & OFFERING

	<u>Offering</u>	<u>Attendance</u>
Sept.3	\$2,002	63
Sept. 10	\$4,340	84
Sept. 17	\$1,955	64
Sept. 24	\$2,859	79
Oct.1	\$2,763	80
Oct. 8	\$2,577	59
Oct.15	\$2,052	80



TREASURER’S REPORT

Comparison General Fund Revenue to Expense Calendar Year-to-Date Sept. 2017 compared to Sept. 2016: Carryover from 2016 \$11,365.46.

	<u>YTD Sept. 17</u>	<u>YTD Sept. 16</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Revenue	\$82,559.02	\$83,386.55	(\$827.53)
Expenses	<u>(\$95,821.99)</u>	<u>(\$71,054.81)</u>	<u>(\$24,767.18)</u>
Surplus/ (Deficit)	(\$13,262.97)	(\$12,331.74)	(\$25,594.71)

Approximately \$2,850 per week in donations is needed in order to balance out the year.

1. The Swiss Steak dinner proceeds will cover the remaining balance on the pew cushions.
2. Some items to cover in the future will be a new furnace & air conditioner for the parsonage & the E-Home Senior Solutions pledge.
3. Just a remember, the amounts shown in the bulletins for offering received includes both the Restricted Fund & General Fund. In order for the General Fund to balance out at the end of the year, giving should be \$2,850 per week.
~Pat Richter, Treasurer

Photo Directory

Should be here soon.



OUTREACH AND MISSIONS

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO: Cass Corridor toiletries, the Paper Pantry donations, food for Fellowship Dinners and Millpond Manor, items and cash donations for 44 hurricane cleanup buckets, 26 school kits & 28 hygiene kits for CWS, donations for our furry friends affected by the hurricanes, Neighbor in Need donations & CROP walk participation as a walker or sponsor. WOW-what a caring & generous congregation!!!

MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES

Outreach and Mission meetings - as needed
Cass Corridor: Nov. 25 & Dec. 23 10 - 3 p.m.

contact Bruce Finkbeiner or Patty Richter

The Paper Pantry: Nov. 11 & Dec. 16 contact
Cathy London or Kay Girbach

Millpond Manor Dinner - Nov. 8 contact Betsy
Marl or Lisa Hartman

St. Paul Senior Fellowship Dinner - no meal

DONATION-PARTICIPATION NEEDS

Cass Corridor - toiletries, cookies, food items
for meals, participants

Paper Pantry - money donations, single-wrap-
ped paper towels, 4 pack toilet tissue, box of
Kleenex, package of paper napkins, small dish
soap or laundry detergent

**Millpond Manor & St. Paul Senior Fellowship
Dinners** - donations of food items & money for
paper products.

BULLETIN BOARD

Check for Outreach & Mission activities. Thanks!

CONTACTS FOR OPPORTUNITIES

Kay Girbach, Robyn Girbach, Lisa Hartman,
Patty Richter, &/or Cathy London

CROP WALK

On Oct. 1st, 16 individuals & 1 dog participated in
the annual walk. We collected \$615. 75% goes
to CWS & 25% to SASS. (Church World Service)
Thanks to everyone who walked and were
sponsors.

~Kay Girbach, Outreach & Mission Chairperson



MISSIONS FOR THE REST OF 2017

SASS(Saline Area Social Service) Thanksgiving
dinner baskets – items due Nov.19

Adopt-A-Family for SASS – items due Dec.3

SASS Christmas Dinner Baskets – Due Dec. 17

UCC Veterans of the Cross offering–Sun. Dec. 17

Cass Corridor Blankets–cash donations due 12/24
for purchase of 100 blankets.

NEIGHBORS IN NEED

We have collected \$427 to date which
will be used for hurricane relief.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Mon., Nov. 6 & Dec. 4, 9:00 am @ the Saline Inn

WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

Mon. Nov. 6 @ 11:30 a.m. @ Hungry Wolf,
Manchester. Meet at the church to carpool at 11.
12/4 Holiday potluck, 11:30 am at St. Paul UCC

CHURCH AMBASSADOR NEWS

I am the person representing St. Paul
Church for the EHM Senior Solutions
(formerly known as Evangelical Homes). Since the
Flu Clinic was cancelled, due to lack of Flu
vaccine, I urge everyone to get a flu shot very
soon. This is flu season, and shots are available at
Dr.'s offices, CVS, Saline Pharmacy, Jensen's
Pharmacy, etc. Reports of serious flu complica-
tions are being reported, so it is important to get
your vaccine now. In view of the problems with the
lack of vaccines, the EVH Senior Solutions will not
offer a clinic at churches in the future. They will,
however, be offering Health related programs, at
churches. Stay tuned for these announcements in
the future. ~Rose Carol Toth, Church Ambassador



PRAYER CHAIN

Our church is pleased that 50+ folks join together
via email or phone, to share requests for prayers.
If you have a request, please contact: Rose Carol
Toth at rctoth@aol.com or 734-429-5980 or Ann
Esterbrook at amesterbrook@comcast.net or
734-429-7638.

For urgent requests, please contact via phone. All
are welcome to join and be a part of this valuable
ministry. To be included call Rose Carol. Thanks.
~Rose Carol Toth, Church Ambassador.

ONE VOICE GOSPEL CHOIR



We are looking for singers! Anyone interested is invited to visit a practice to check us out! Our singers do as much as they are able... & all are encouraged to come!

ONE VOICE GOSPEL CHOIR SCHEDULE

11/02 (Thu) 7:30 pm: Friendship Ministry, Ann Arbor
11/07 (Tue) 6:30 pm: Cambrian Assisted Living, Tecumseh
11/12 (Sun) 10:45 am: Interfaith Center, Ann Arbor
11/18 (Sat) 7:00 pm: Fall Concert & Salute to Veterans, St. Paul UCC
12/05 (Tue) 6:30 pm: Millpond Manor, Saline
12/12 (Tue) 7:00 pm: Brecon, Saline
12/19 (Tue) 6:30 p. Atria Assisted Living, Ann Arbor

DHB (Don't Hold Back youth choir) is opening its arms to welcome in any singers from our St. Paul Family who would like to join us! We sing the first Sundays of the month. Practices are at 11:15 a.m. in the Sanctuary on Sundays! We will work on music that fits with the folks who come, and do some outreaches as schedules permit.



SANCTUARY CHOIR....

is always buzzing along with songs of all the seasons - and now we are just getting into the swing of Advent and Christmas music! Our Christmas concert will be on 12/10 during the service. We invite any and all who would like to sing to come on Wednesdays and/or Sundays! All are joyfully welcome in any & all of our music ministries. Come for a week, a month, a year! There is no requirement to read music in any choir - only just to love our Precious Lord!

~Jean Wilson, Choir Director

Thank you from Joe & Nita Chambers

Joshua Clark, our great grandson, is very grateful for all the thoughts and prayers and the 'Love Gift' of \$145 given to them by members of our church. The fire that destroyed their home near Jackson left them in a daze and numb, but they feel blessed for all the concerned support they have received.

THANK YOU



~Joe and Nita Chambers

Thank you from the Dean Welt Family

We would like to thank our church family for all of the delicious food, support and kindness that has been extended to our family during this difficult time. The love and generosity of this congregation will always be appreciated!

~The Dean Welt Family

GOING SOUTH???

If you are going south this year, please leave your address, phone number & email so that we can send the newsletter. You'll be missed!!!



Don't forget to set your clocks back 1 hour on Sat., Nov. 4th so you will be on time for worship.

WAGE PEACE

Let us "WAGE PEACE" by praying for peace around the world. Surely we, as people of God, can use means other than going to war to make the world a better place to live in. May those overseas know they're in our prayers.



TRANSPORT-A-FRIEND MINISTRY



Do you have a doctor's appointment? Need to go shopping or visit a friend?

Please contact the office if you need a ride or would like to provide one.

Poinsettias

We will be selling poinsettias again this year. Order forms will be available during the Christmas season.



Christian Education

Christian Ed is gearing up for the Christmas season with such activities as hosting the Covenant Association Meeting, float building, and Christmas Program planning. Thanks to all who participated in the Scarecrow Contest!

Upcoming Events:

11/05: Covenant Association Meeting 3-6 p.m.
11/26: No Sunday School – Happy Thanksgiving!
12/02: Saline Christmas Parade 5:30 p.m.
12/17: Christmas Program during the service

COME, O CHRIST, THE LIGHT!

One of the fondest Advent traditions for both congregations & families is the lighting of the Advent candles. The tradition reaches back to pre-Christian northern Europeans. During the darkest days of winter, they lit as many as 24 candles on an evergreen-covered wheel or wreath. By lighting a candle a day, they marked time, anticipating the return of the sun's light & warmth. By the 1500s, both Lutherans & Catholics adapted the Advent Wreath as a devotional way to prepare for Christ, the Light of the World.



Today, the Advent Wreath is usually an evergreen wreath placed on a table or suspended from a ceiling or an arch. In the wreath are four candles (usually blue or purple, occasionally one is pink); each candle represents one week during Advent. A white candle is often located in the center of the wreath & represents the Christ child.

The symbols of
are interpreted
the circle of ever-
of the eternal



the Advent Wreath
in many ways. The
greens reminds us
and ever renewing

promises of Christ. Lighting of candles acknowledges the deepening of our preparation & the increasing light that bursts forth at Christmas. The colors of the candles also vary. Often the candles are purple or blue, noting the season's expectations of royalty, liberation, redemption and hope. For the third Sunday of Advent, a pink candle is lit. This recognizes a shift of Advent themes in the Bible. The first two Sundays focus on the prophetic vision of Christ's future and final return with the third and fourth Sundays focusing on the coming of Jesus. The Christmas Eve candle is white and represents that the light of Christ is fully present.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

December 24 @ 7:00 p.m.

Join us for Carols, Candles, Communion & sharing of God's Word. Our choir will provide uplifting music. If you would like to help with worship by reading scripture, lighting candles, ushering, greeting, serving communion, please let pam or Keith know. Thanks!



WHAT IS ADVENT?

The beginning of the church year begins Sunday, Dec. 3rd, the first Sunday of Advent. It is a time for us to prepare ourselves to celebrate the birth of Christ.



*Advent is a time to get ready to celebrate in a way that will be spiritually renewing to us. What does my faith mean & how can I share it?

*Advent is a time for soul-searching, of repentance and exploration. What is the church?

*Advent is a time of planning. How can we share what God's love means to us? What does my involvement in the church mean?

*Advent is a time for worship, a time for giving thanks, a time for seeking to understand our part in God's larger plan for the world. Am I spiritually enriched from Bible study, worship or from the person sitting next to me?

May we, this Advent season, explore what we, as people of God, are meant to do. Let us explore ways of doing things differently. Get excited about what we are about and join us.

Advent & Christmas are around the corner. If you would like to light Advent Candles, please let Pastor Pam know.



LUMINARIES

We would like to place luminaries around the outside of the church again this year and need 50+ one gallon milk jugs with the labels removed and some sand. Start saving those bottles right away.

ANNUAL 2018 CALENDAR

This year we would like to produce an annual calendar of events and celebrations for 2018. We would like each church committee to please submit their events w/dates for 2018 to the office by 12/13. We will publish this list with the Jan/Feb newsletter so that members have a complete list of church events for the entire year. Thank you!

Merry
CHRISTMAS