

THE FORWARD

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
NEWARK, OHIO AUGUST 15, 2023



Cell phone: 586.864.4004

Church Phone: 740-345-6115 Web Site: <www.stpaulselca.org>
Pastor: Martin P. Gehring
Office Hours: M T W 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. or by appointment
Congregation Council President: Jerry Young
Office Secretary: Jodie Nickles
Church Phone: 740-345-6115

Mon-Fri 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
Web Site: www.stpaulselca.org

God's Work, Our Hands

St. Paul's has been an active participant in the ELCA's "God's Work, Our Hands" (GWOH) Sunday. This year it is scheduled for the weekend of September 9-10. In the past, this meant someone ran around trying to find a volunteer project or two the congregation could get involved in. This had a couple of drawbacks: the first was that it isn't always easy to find projects that can use a lot of people; the second was that our varied schedules meant that not everyone could serve at that particular place or time. Introducing GWOH 2.0! The idea is simple: the weekend of September 9-10 we will not come together for the usual worship service; rather, we invite you to use the time normally spent in our worship service and to instead perform acts of *actual service*.

What could you do? You could pick up trash, write to an elected official, clean out someone's flower bed, write a thank you card, make sandwiches for the homeless, hand out socks, visit a shut-in, write an editorial, clean someone's windows ... the possibilities are endless. Afterwards, write a brief paragraph about what you did and email it or send a note to the church, along with your name, to secretary@stpaulselca.org. We will share these with the congregation. My hope is that rather than one communal project, we will see a great patchwork quilt of projects reflecting our individual interests and abilities!

Since this means a change in our normal worship schedule, I wanted to get this information out to you early so you can plan accordingly. Worship is an important part of what we do as the community of Christ. However, for this one Sunday let's remember that worship is not an end in itself, but rather an equipping for the real work of loving and serving our neighbor!

God bless you all! Pastor Martin

Please keep the following people in your prayers: *Terry Nelson, Betsy Lewis, Jim Brown, Terri Beamer, Paul Baker, Rick & Rita Beck, Ruth Swinehart.*

Those with long-term ongoing concerns: *None at this time. If you need an address for anyone or wish to add someone to the list, please call the office.*



THE WHEN'S AND THE WHERE'S - If your group is starting up again, please let us know so we can get your information on the church calendar!

**PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS - Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday
9 a.m. to 2 p.m. or by appointment.**

- ***God's Work, Our Hands Weekend No Services September 9th & 10th!***
- ***Sunday School for all ages 9 a.m. see Ruth Graham for details.***
- ***Tuesday Lessons*** – A discussion led by Pastor Martin of the lessons to be read for the coming weekend. Starts at 5:30 p.m. in Weisgerber Lounge.
- ***Friday Night Game Nights*** –meets on the 3rd Friday nights in Weisgerber Lounge! Interested? Bring a favorite game and come join the fun!
- ***The Land of Legend Fly Fisherman*** will begin meeting in Danford Hall on the second, third and fourth Mondays of each month at 7 p.m.
- ***ST. PAUL'S BOOK CLUB*** meets the third Monday evening of each month at 7 p.m. in Weisgerber Lounge.
- ***AA*** meets every Saturday morning at 11 a.m. in Danford Hall and on Tuesdays and Fridays at noon.
- ***NA*** meets on Friday evenings at 7 p.m. in Danford Hall.
- ***Friday Fellowship Bible Study*** meets every Friday morning at 10 a.m. in Weisgerber Lounge.
- ***Ruth Circle meets next on September 13th at 10:00 a.m.*** in Danford Hall.
- ***Church Council will meet August 28th at 7 p.m.***
- ***Matthew's Kitchen*** meets on the 2nd Monday at 6:30 p.m.
- ***Grief Group*** meets on the 2nd Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m.

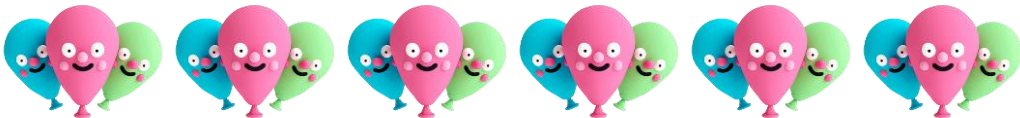
Notes to the Church and Congregation:

SHUT-INS – If you are in need of pastoral care, a friendly visit, or would like communion brought to your home, please contact the office and leave a message with Jodie between the hours of 10 and 2. Thanks!

FOOD PANTRY NEWS! The food pantry collection barrel is currently located across from the office. ***The needs for this month are any foods that can be prepared by a child. Peanut butter and jelly, ramen noodles, mac and cheese cups, etc. With school out many children are fixing their own meals. Please no clothing items.*** As always, all donations are welcome. If you wish to give a monetary donation, mark your offering envelope designated to the “Food Pantry”.

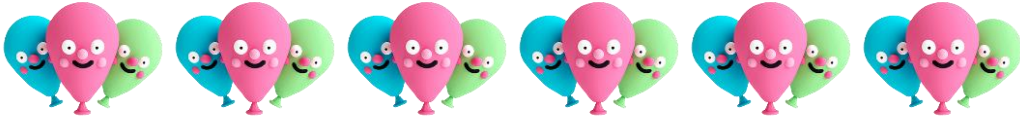
EVERYONE IS WELCOME to experience the fellowship we offer by joining us for coffee/tea & occasional snack before or after the 10 a.m. Church Service in the lobby of the educational building each week. A sign up is available for those who can help provide goodies. Coffee donations are always appreciated.

ARE YOU GRIEVING THE LOSS OF A LOVED ONE? – The Grief Group meets on the 2nd Wednesdays at 1:30 in Danford Hall. If you would like more information, please contact Jean Hovland.



September Anniversaries

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|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2- Chuck & Donna King (23) | 17- Matt Rauch & Julie Datko (18) |
| Steve & Christine Wiersma (51) | 24- Harry & Tambra Simon (29) |
| 4- Thomas & Erin (Daly) Zinn (13) | 27- Gail & Sharon Grigsby (56) |
| 5- Paul & Sharon Harble (64) | |
| 6- Jens & Greta Blegvad (35) | |



September Birthdays

2- Ryan Wiersma	16- Gavin Bragg	24- P. J. Billy
4 - Gail Grigsby	18- Jonathan Casto	Penny Coleman
8 - John F. Jordan	David Engle	26- Gary Walters
9 - Beth Hodges	Sharon Grigsby	Jerry Young
Ryleigh Jones	William Hall	27- Mark Eastman
Becky Kolb	James Harble	Jim Kolb
Briana Simon	19- Sarah Davis	Carol Mumaw
Joyce Woolard	Lynn Heatwole	Terry Nelson (87)
11- Beth Ossa	20- Heidi Bragg	28- Marilyn Doll
12 - Mathew Seabright	Mark Finck	30- Erik Ganz
Ben Stamper	Michelle Miller	Tyler Triplett
14- Connie Baker	22- Jane Lawrence	
Vicki Owen	Susan Shannon(82)	
15- Mitzi Findo	Jennifer Swisher	
Patricia Fuller	23- Joyln Carpenter	

Sunday Volunteers for September 2023

Position	Sept 3	Sept 10	Sept 17	Sept 24
Cantor	Ruth Gehring	God's Work Our Hands	Tim Jordan	Juli Rauch
Lector	Mark Finck	Sunday No Services	Gerry Billy	Sadie Smith
Com. Assistant	Shirley Campbell		Ainsley Laidlaw-Smith	Greta Blegvad
Usher	Fred Freytag, Charles Cooperider, Steve Weirsma		Greg Everingham, John Grangaard	Don Miller, Jerry Young

Counters	Fred & Lindsay Freytag, Sally Finck		Sally Finck, Greg & Kim Everingham	Geoff Kaercher, Don Miller
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FINANCIAL REPORT

Received 7/2/2023		Year to Date		Attendance
Current	\$ 4,976.00	\$90,985.16		Sat. 4 p.m. 11
Benevolence	<u>195.00</u>	<u>2,850.00</u>		Sun. 10 a.m. <u>45</u>
Total	\$5,171.00	\$ 93,835.16		Total 56

Received 7/9/2023		Year to Date		Attendance
Current	\$ 6,366.00	\$97,351.16		Sat. 4 p.m. 12
Benevolence	<u>405.00</u>	<u>3,255.00</u>		Sun. 10 a.m. <u>51</u>
Total	\$3,232.00	\$ 100,606.16		Total 63

Received 7/16/2023		Year to Date		Attendance
Current	\$ 2,504.00	\$99,855.16		Sat. 4 p.m. 11
Benevolence	<u>15.00</u>	<u>3,270.00</u>		Sun. 10 a.m. <u>57</u>
Total	\$2,519.00	\$ 103,125.16		Total 68

Received 7/23/2023		Year to Date		Attendance
Current	\$ 2,288.00	\$102,143.16		Sat. 4 p.m. 12
Benevolence	<u>-150.00*</u>	<u>3,120.00</u>		Sun. 10 a.m. <u>51</u>
Total	\$2,138.00	\$ 105,263.16		Total 63

*Thrive! Correction

Received 7/30/2023		Year to Date		Attendance
Current	\$ 1,072.00	\$103,215.16		Sat. 4 p.m. 14
Benevolence	<u>25.00</u>	<u>3,145.00</u>		Sun. 10 a.m. <u>41</u>
Total	\$1,097.00	\$ 106,360.16		Total 55

Thank you Thrivent Choice members, for your donations to St. Paul's!

*A donation was made to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Helen Foster** by the Backwards Group (the people who assemble the Forward.)*

Thrive! Campaign \$36,195 Pledged \$6,923 Paid in 2023
\$17,424 paid in total. \$18,771 outstanding pledges

Income for Operations as of July 31, 2023
Total Operating Expenses as of July 31, 2023
Deficit

\$108,056.15
-148,100.69
\$ (40,044.54)



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**God's Work, Our
Hands Weekend
No Services
September
9th & 10th!**

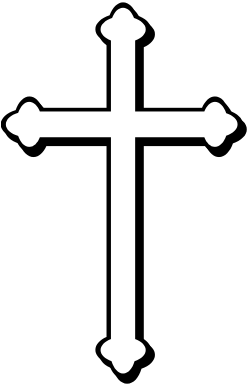
Remember to write a brief paragraph about what you did and email it to secretary@stpaulselca.org, or send a note to the church, along with your name so we can share these with the congregation

THE FORWARD August 15, 2023
St. Pauls Ev. Lutheran Church
67 North Fifth Street
Newark, OH 43055-5031

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Newark, OH 43055
Permit Number 117

**SUNDAY
SCHEDULE**
Traditional Worship
10 a.m.



**SATURDAY
WORSHIP**
4 p.m. year-round

*"The Mission of St. Paul's
Evangelical Lutheran
Church is to **SHARE**, at all
times and with all people,
the Good News of **GOD'S
GRACE**, through
CHRIST JESUS."*