

THE FORWARD

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF

ST. Paul's EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

NEWARK, OHIO OCTOBER 17, 2023

Church Phone: 740-345-6115 Web Site: <www.stpaulselca.org>



Cell phone: 586.864.4004

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

And the Dance Goes On

The last few days have brought a chill that assures us that once again the earth has spun around the sun and tilted us toward the vast emptiness of the cosmos. The light migrates south to shine on other lands while we are left to brood in the dark. It happens every year; we take our places, and the dance begins again. Light and dark, life and death twirl their mysterious rhythm, accompanied by the music of rustling leaves, crickets, and raucous Blue Jays.

Although we've seen it play out a thousand times (in my case ... hmmm ... $65 \times 365 = 23,725$ times), we still light up the night and turn up the heat, prodded by a deep-seated uncertainty that despite all evidence to the contrary, this might be the year that Spring forgets, that the cold only deepens, that the light gives out, and we are left to spin off into the darkness.

But it doesn't, and we don't. The light always returns. Spring brings new growth, and we forget our silly anxiety. Life and death exist side by side, one making room for the other in lock step. But eventually, scripture tells us, the dance will end. And when it does, death will take a final bow and leave the dancefloor, leaving life to twirl to a new and livelier tune, because the fiddle player is just getting warmed up.

Even as our side of the earth spins into darkness again, we hum

the refrain and practice the steps because we know we'll get our chance to join that dance. Sure, we'll take our turn with death, that clumsy sod, everyone does; but when that slow tune wheezes to an end, when Lady Life starts calling the steps, then we will find ourselves caught up in a grand reel and, rounding the dance floor, find only life and light and glory again, and again, and again.

God bless you all!

Pastor Martin

Please keep the following people in your prayers The family of Reverend Robert W. Pflueger (Miriam Truex), Jackie Sainsbury, The Young/John Family



Ongoing: Pastor Betsy, Ruth Swinehart

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.**

- ***Sunday School for all ages 9 a.m. see Ruth Graham for details.***
- ***The Book of Ruth*** – Bible Study 11 a.m. Saturdays
- ***Civic Life and Faith*** – Mondays 7 p.m.

- **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 at 7 p.m. 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 November 8th at 10:00 a.m.** in Danford Hall.
- **Church Council will meet October 30th 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. They meet next on November 8th.

Notes to the Church and Congregation:

THE CHILDREN'S CHOIR: will be starting again today (October 8th) after church in the chapel. Any child wishing to participate can attend. We plan to meet every other Sunday (on the second and fourth Sundays). For more information, please contact Juli Rauch at jrauch248@gmail.com or (740) 405-8833.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE will be held for Matthias Young on October 28th, 11am. If you wish to help in the kitchen, donate cookies, or help to serve food and refreshments, please contact Kerrill Foster or Diane Ganz.

VOICE AND BELL CHOIRS have resumed and are meeting Wednesday evenings: 6:30p-7:30p (Bells) and 7:30p-8:30p (Choir). These ensembles are open to everyone. Call, text, or email Dustin with any questions (740-258-4335, dustinhilltenor@gmail.com).

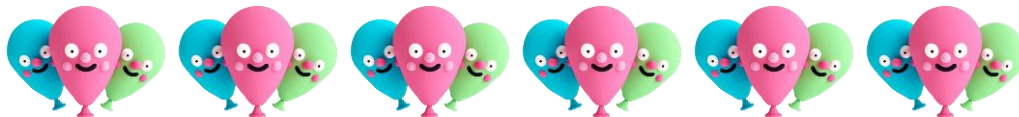
CIVIC LIFE & FAITH Pastor Martin Gehring leads a conversation about religious liberty and the proper role of the church in relation to government on Mondays, 7pm, in the coffee area. All materials are provided.

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. 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”.

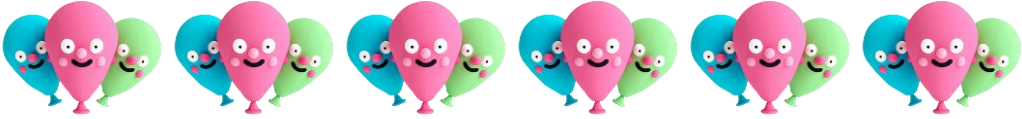
EVERYONE IS WELCOME to experience the fellowship we offer by joining us the lobby of the educational building each week. A sign up is available for those who can help provide goodies. Coffee donations are always appreciated.

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. The group **meets next on November 8th**.



November Birthdays

- | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 - Peg Hupp (93) | Andrew Swisher | 21 - Matt Kaercher |
| 4 - Acen Fuller | Julie Lamp | 22 - Julie Ingram |
| Saron Leang | 15 - Kelly Green | 23 - Laura Pastorius |
| 5 - Monagene Pound (95) | Austin Morrow | 25 - Dee Altmaier |
| 6 - Dinah Fraley | 16 - Phyllis Brotherton | Karen Nelson |
| Carol McDaniel (84) | Tracy Crespo | 26 - Owen Beamer |
| 7- Mia Morris | 17 - Christina Hall | Kim Lust |
| 12- Cindra Coad | 19 - Christy Hoskinson | B.J. Stamper |
| 13 - Kayleigh Logan | David Truex | 27 - Autumn Seabright |
| 14 - Diana Koch | 20 - Max Stamper | 28 - Trisha Holtz |

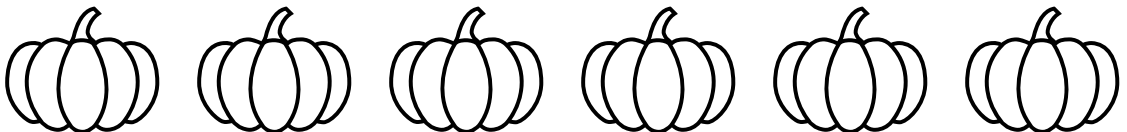


November Anniversaries

- 5 - Jeff & Kathy Kinser (40)
- 15- Terry & Karen Nelson (49)
- 17- Juli Rauch & Jordan Fantini (5)
- 22- Gary & Vicci Walters (54)
- 26- Clarence & Connie Rutter (35)

Sunday Volunteers for November 2023

Position	Nov 5	Nov 12	Nov 19	Nov 26
Cantor	Tim Jordan	Juli Rauch	Ruth Gehring	Tim Jordan
Lector	Mark Finck	Addison Laidlaw-Smith	Sadie Smith	Dick Shiels
Com. Assistant	Mary Billy	Diana Koch	Ainsley Laidlaw-Smith	Greta Blegvad
Usher	Fred Freytag, Charles Cooperider, Steve Weirsma	Charlie Laidlaw-Smith, Charles Cooperider	Greg Everingham, John Grangaard	Don Miller, Jerry Young, Charles Cooperider
Counters	Fred & Lindsay Freytag, Sally Finck	Julie Lamp, Kerrill Foster	Sally Finck, Greg & Kim Everingham	Geoff Kaercher, Don Miller



FINANCIAL REPORT

Received 9/3/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 3,437.00	\$117,678.91	Sat. 4 p.m. 12
Benevolence <u>275.00</u>	<u>3,760.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>43</u>
Total \$3,712.00	\$ 121,438.91	Total 55

Received 9/10/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 0.00	\$117,678.91	Sat. 4 p.m. --
Benevolence <u>0.00</u>	<u>3,760.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>--</u>
Total \$0.00	\$ 121,438.91	Total --

Received 9/17/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 3,551.00	\$121,229.91	Sat. 4 p.m. 11
Benevolence <u>40.00</u>	<u>3,800.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>49</u>
Total \$3,591.00	\$ 125,029.91	Total 60

Received 9/24/2023	Year to Date	Attendance
Current \$ 2,672.00	\$123,901.91	Sat. 4 p.m. 12
Benevolence <u>25.00</u>	<u>3,825.00</u>	Sun. 10 a.m. <u>48</u>
Total \$2,697.00	\$ 127,726.91	Total 60

*Donations were made to the Memorial Fund in memory of **Matthias Young** by Fred & Lindsay Freytag and Linda Kinser. A donation was made to the Memorial Fund by Carole Carter in memory of her parents, **Luther & Millie Hanshue**.*

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

Thrive! Campaign \$36,195 Pledged \$8,457 Paid in 2023
\$20,265 paid in total. \$15,930 outstanding pledges

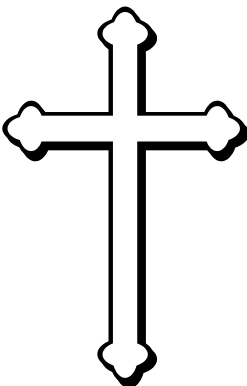
Income for Operations as of September 30, 2023	\$130,450.85
Total Operating Expenses as of September 30, 2023	<u>-184,231.44</u>
<u>Deficit</u>	\$ (53,780.59)



THE FORWARD October 17, 2023
St. Pauls Ev. Lutheran Church
67 North Fifth Street
Newark, OH 43055-5031

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**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."*

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