



No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome at St. Paul's Church!

#### A Message from Pastor Paul Forrey~

Peace and grace to you, from our Savior Jesus Christ! I spend time each morning in prayer with God, asking that God's Spirit share the depths of divine love and presence with each of us. I sit often in our sanctuary when I pray, thinking about our members or guests who will sit in that pew the next Sunday morning and asking God to share a special blessing upon them. A focus of my prayerful conversations with God each week focus on God's Spirit present with us during worship that our time together on Sunday morning might bring refreshment and renewal to us.

As I write this November newsletter message, I am amazed—as I am each year—at the speed by which time passes. By the end of November, our churches and our culture will be in full-on Holiday Mode, sprinting toward Christmas and packing in as many holiday activities as we possibly can. It is important, then, that we take time to just slow down and reflect on the most precious gifts God gives to us—our families, friends, and one another in the church. Time for silent prayer seems ever more vital; our hectic, fast-paced lives in our society, particularly during the holiday season, often lack the simple gift of silence.

As we enjoy the Thanksgiving holiday this month, let's be sure to include time with God in mindful silence. What a great opportunity to thankfully reflect upon those people and experiences that have brought us joy, hope, peace, and love! Each time that we help one another by sharing the best that God offers, we bring joy and thankfulness to God's heart!

Among the many gifts from God for which Patricia and I are thankful, we thank and praise God for all of you.

#### **All Saints Service**

*10:00am Sunday November 7, 2021*

During this sacred service we will remember loved ones who have passed during the last year, including members of our church family who have entered their eternal rest in God's embrace: Eola Barrett, Ruth Beck, Edward Dietz, Linda Krebs, and Pat Markus.

#### **Special Guest Preacher November 21**

On November 21, we will hear news about global mission work from retired UCC minister Howard Storm. For over 20 years, Howard has led 28 mission trips to San Victor, Belize where he has helped build school buildings, homes, churches, and led worship and VBS programs. San Victor is a community of 900 indigenous Maya and Mestizo people whose ancestors have lived in the area for thousands of years.

Howard's current project is to help construct a community center in San Victor that will not only provide a structure for community uses but also create pride, cohesion, and empowerment for the residents. On November 21 we will take up a special collection to support the San Victor mission. We will also send out an email that will provide the opportunity for people to support the ministry through online donations.

## From St. Paul's Faith in Action Team **Season of Thanks and Giving**

The cooler air and leaves in hues of gold, orange, and red mean the holidays are upon us. But before we launch into the hectic season, the Faith in Action Team would like to say, "Thank You" to everyone who helped out in October.



Thank you for helping those men who work so hard at the **racetrack** in Florence. Your gifts of warm clothes make a huge impact on their lives and also remind us of Jesus's example of extending love to the "stranger."

Thank you to everyone who donated items—including a bed, a chair, and household items—for the **family in our community** who is facing hard times. This appreciation also goes out to everyone who was a part of the logistics of getting these items from one place to another.

Thank you to those who answered the call to support Brighton Center's thrift shop, **Thrifting on Eastern**. We received several calls about items that people wanted to donate and have collected bags of clothes that will help the store carry out its mission to help people in our community.

Thank you to the **Soup Kitchen** crew who have gotten things up and running again to help feed those who are moving beyond their addictions and mental health struggles.

Thank you to everyone who serves **our church family** every day from all the volunteers that make our services so special each Sunday to participating in the Lawn Chair Drill Team. Every week, church members meet to do the business of our church, make calls and send cards to fellow members in hopes of boosting their spirits, and listen to the call of the Spirit to serve one another as Jesus asked us to.

There isn't one person in our congregation that doesn't deserve a warm "thank you," a pat on the back, or a spirited "you rock!" Let's make sure we let them know that we all are grateful for everything they do. Try saying "Thanks" every day of November and see if the habit sticks with you for the coming new year.

### White Gifts

Our church tradition of providing food and gifts for children and families in our community—White Gifts—is something we all look forward to doing every year. November is usually when we start to ramp up the planning and distributing the gift requests. Our team is working with the local Family Resource people at the schools to find out what this year's needs are and how we can serve. Stay tuned for more details.



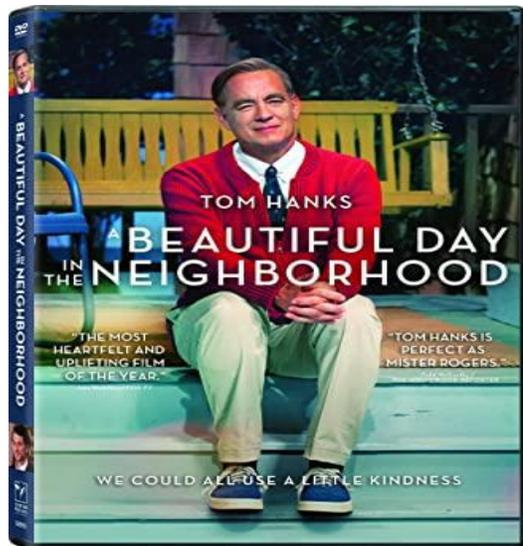
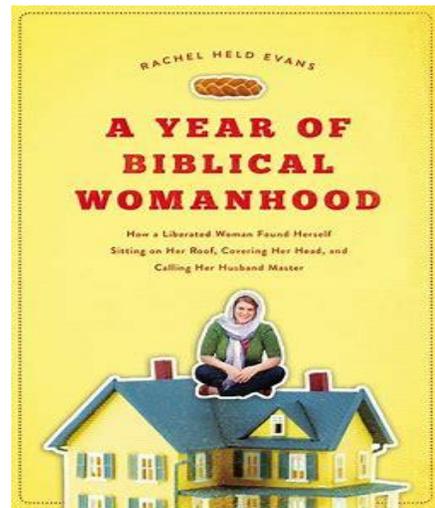
## Fall Book Club

Where: conference room in Parish House

When: Mondays 7pm

November 1 & 15

Questions: [amity.kukla@yahoo.com](mailto:amity.kukla@yahoo.com)



Join Us for Movie Night!  
Sunday November 7  
5:30 pm  
Fellowship Hall

Snacks provided

## November Birthdays & Anniversaries

Nov. 1 Terri Lewis  
2 Mike Dietz  
2 Hannah Winstel  
3 Helen Bain  
3 Janice Painter  
5 Mary Weinel  
7 Ben Losey  
10 Nick Snelling  
12 Pat Schuchter  
14 Kelsey Miller  
15 Jeanne Greiser  
21 Eric Bihl  
23 Everett Harrison

Nov. 11 Mike & Evelyn Dietz  
21 years  
11 Jim & Peach Webb  
43 years  
24 Asbury & Carole Turner  
57 years  
29 Lance & Judy Munninghoff  
7 years

## Serving in November

### Liturgist

Nov. 7 Patricia Ross  
Nov. 14 Sarah Lester  
Nov. 21 Connie Ballinger  
Nov. 28 Roger VonStrohe

### Coffee

Nov. 7 Shawn & Beekee Hayslette  
Nov. 14 Patricia Ross & Paul Forrey  
Nov. 21 Debbie Yeager  
Nov. 28 Patricia Ross & Paul Forrey

### Ushers

Nov. 7 Margaret Perry, Gary Sperry,  
Sarah Lester and Debbie Fowee  
Nov. 14 Roger & Kathy VonStrohe  
Nov. 21 Sue Hatfield and Everett Harrison  
Nov. 28 Shawn Hayslette and Pat Schuchter

### Teachers

Nov. 7 Paula Pompilio and Debbie Yeager  
Nov. 14 Amity Kukla and Evelyn Dietz  
Nov. 21 Beekee & Shawn Hayslette  
Nov. 28 Evelyn Dietz and Shae Weinel

PRESENT: President- Charlene Rogers, Vice President-Claudia Chalk, Financial Secretary-Jeff Enyart, Treasurer-Sandy Smith, C.E. (Faith Formation) -Evelyn Dietz, Mission (Faith in Action), Sarah Lester, Trustees-Roger Von Strohe, Worship/Ministry-Mindy Connell, Stewardship (Development)-Cammy Burling, Pastor Paul Forrey.

Charlene opened the meeting with a prayer.

NEW BUSINESS:

- 1) SECRETARY'S REPORT— Mindy made a motion to accept the August Council meeting minutes as posted to OneDrive. Cammy seconded and the motion carried.
- 2) TREASURER'S REPORT— Temporary account=\$19,699.99; Checking account=\$22,315.00. There are still some checks outstanding. Cammy moved to accept the report and pay the bills. Mindy seconded and the motion carried.
- 3) FINANCIAL SECRETARY'S REPORT-Jeff reported:
  - August giving \$13,303.
  - September week 1 \$4,362.42. Week 2 was not deposited on Sunday.
  - Year-to-date 2021 operating giving only =\$82,804 (2020 January thru August=\$81,018)
  - Jeff suggested adding a Finance, Administration and Technology category to the budget in 2022. This would separate these from the Trustee's budget.
  - For the 2020 audit, Jeff and Sandy will use 5 samples and take another look at the risk scenarios. The 2020 audit will take place in November and the 2021 audit will hopefully take place in early 2022. The question was raised about the audit procedure and whether we should have an external audit. Jeff said that that would be best practice but because of the cost it should be added to the budget.
  - Jeff presented the Budget Kickoff. The budget calendar was presented.
- 4) TECH REPORT-No report
- 5) PASTOR'S REPORT-- Paul reported:
  - Congratulations to all the teams who shared their messages at the Celebration of Ministries. He encouraged follow up to invite people to join the specific ministry teams.
  - Paul asked the question if St. Paul's is open to dual church membership. Our constitution defines membership in a particular way but does not state anything about dual membership. Discussion and questions followed. Paul made the motion that our congregation would be open to dual membership. Mindy seconded. The motion was passed.
  - Paul will be on vacation September 19 (after worship) through September 26. The worship team is planning the service on September 26. Shawn Hayslette will record the service and Paul will produce the video the following week.
- 6) CE (Faith Formation)—Evelyn reported:
  - Wednesday night class resumes September 29 at 7pm in the Parish House
  - The Book Club will read *A Year of Biblical Women* this fall.
  - A movie night is November 7 at 5:30. The movie is *A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood*.
  - A Trunk or Treat outside event will be October 30.
  - The first confirmation class was held Sunday September 12
- 7) MISSION (Faith in Action)—Sarah reported:
  - Thanks for helping us to Fill the Bowl this month.
  - Plan ahead now to help with the Race Track Workers in October.
  - Debbie will be getting us info about White Christmas plans in November.
  - Still waiting for some mission opportunities to start up again.
- 8) STEWARDSHIP (Development Ministry)—Cammy reported:
  - A special offering/ disaster relief fund was set up in Breeze for current and future disaster events. Cammy also made up a flyer and prepared labels for envelopes to be available on September 5 for current hurricane relief.
  - They reviewed the questions that all the teams submitted for the "Your Church, Our Future" event.
  - They discussed if they want to do a focus month for Stewardship. The message would be to focus on accomplishments and gratitude.
  - Giving envelopes are in. They will be working on the change to some of the members' envelope numbers.
- 9) TRUSTEES—Roger reported:
  - The Trustees recommend that we accept a bid of \$9000 from Guthier Heating to replace the HVAC in the Parish House. It was the lowest bid. They have done work for us in the past. Roger made a motion that we accept the bid. Mindy seconded. Council approved. They hope to have the work done this fall.

- The 3 sets of steps around the Educational Building need concrete work. We have one bid of \$19,475 for repair and replacement of all 3 steps. The railings would be an additional \$8,350. We also have a bid of \$3100 to do cosmetic work and coating on the steps. The concrete work needs to be done by November or will have to be postponed until spring. The Trustees are not ready to make a recommendation this month.
- The equipment for the media system is delayed until December or January.
- The Shepherd Window has been repaired. We have not received the invoice yet.

10) WORSHIP/MINISTRY—Mindy reported:

- We will offer both forms of communion. The individual cups will be on the back table and the bread and wine/juice will be passed. The wafer in the individual cups is not Gluten Free but the bread being passed is GF.
- The theme for the service on September 26 is Make a Joyful Noise.
- The Faith in Action team has asked to check on the feasibility of having a deaf interpreter at one service per month. Paul will check with other pastors in the UCC group about partnering on this.
- We have five deceased members to honor on All Saints Sunday (Nov. 7)
- Thanks to Connie for presenting on Celebration Sunday, Aug. 29.
- Ushers will be reminded to bring the offering plate to the alter during the Doxology.

11) VICE-PRESIDENT---Claudia reported:

- Ben Losey would like to resign as custodian by the end of October. We are looking into possibly contracting with a cleaning company. The company would be responsible for background checks, drug screening and drug testing. We would still need to find someone for grass cutting and snow removal.
- Presented the revised Endowment/Investment Resolution. We will ask for the council to approve at the October meeting so that the congregation can approve at the annual meeting.

12) PRESIDENTS REPORT: Charlene reported:

- Lilla Losey and Kathy Von Strohe were appointed as the nominating committee to search for candidates for offices in the upcoming 2021 council elections and met to discuss needs.
- A new folder was created in One Drive to store communications sent to the congregation.
- The names of persons serving on the leadership teams need to be given to Charlene by the October meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS: Evelyn has compiled a large collection of historical St. Paul's UCC documents, pictures, etc., and wants to be able present them in some way. The discussion was the best way to do that. Bishop Brossart High School's Gallery would be an option for presenting the entire collection. We will look into how to proceed and dates of when the Gallery would be available. Some of the collection will then be installed downstairs after the renovation.

Our next meeting will be held on October 12, 2021 at 7:00. Cammy motioned to adjourn the meeting. Jeff seconded and the motion carried. Council prayed the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Claudia Chalk, Vice President



*St. Paul's Church*  
UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST  
Where God is still speaking