

St. Paul Highlights



Volume 65 Issue 9

September 2016



✝ **To know and serve Christ by reaching out in love to all** ✝

DATE	TIME	LECTOR	SERVERS	ACOLYTE	BREAD BAKER	ALTAR GUILD	USHERS	GREETERS	MONEY COUNTERS
9/4	8:30 Blended	Cathy Fazekas	Anna Mae Migra Loni Flagner		Barb Mihalek	Anna Mae Migra Jen Hinton	Team 1	Tracy Hamilton Marie Herr	D. Batig R. Batig
	11:00 Blended	Amy Kurek	Lois Wolfe Cathy Varnes			Betty Krutko Luanne Prestegaard	Team 2	Jan Sultan Randy & Sharon Genther	D. Barrett L. Wolfe
9/11	8:30 New Song	Culley Coughlin	Mel & Sue Grunau		Barb Mihalek		Team 3	Millie Baehr Becky Havel Sandy Henning Amy Russo	M. Grunau W. Hansen
	11:00 Traditional	Bonnie Sears	Randy & Tracy Hamilton				Team 4	Kara Krywyj Kelly Brandt	J. Bairoti D. Barrett
9/18	8:30 Traditional	Mel Grunau	Mike & Linda King		Sarah Miller		Team 5	Kara Krywyj Anna Mae Migra	D. Miller D. Perzel
	11:00 Celebration	Meg Montag	Linda Jungeberg Betty Krutko				Team 6	Nancy Goette Lynn Morella Pat Gugliotta Danelle Eikens	D. Lesko B. Schindler
9/25	8:30 Celebration	Mike King	Jon & Meg Montag		Sarah Miller		Team 7	Bob Trausch Cheryl Winwood	A. Hinton B. Goette
	11:00 Traditional	Cheryl Harkema	Sharon Lappin Lois Wolfe				Team 8	Paul Krutko Barb & Harold Daniels	J. Nolder

SEPTEMBER DATES TO REMEMBER

SEPTEMBER 5TH - LABOR DAY

SEPTEMBER 7TH-8TH - CHOIRS BEGIN REHEARSING

**SEPTEMBER 18TH - PASTOR RAUCH PREACHING AT BOTH
SERVICES WITH RECEPTION BETWEEN**



PASTOR'S CORNER

September is full of new beginnings for many of us. Some of us face new teachers and classes. Some of us face new jobs. Some of us will begin new relationships. And for some of us each new day is a new beginning.

Last Sunday's first lesson, Isaiah 58:9-14, speaks to all of us who face newness. Isaiah is talking to the people of God who have recently returned to Jerusalem from far away Babylonia. He shares with them that the key to thriving as new returnees is to keep love of God and love of neighbor as path markers ahead of them. "Yes, of course, "you might say, "but how do we specifically do that?"

As if he heard us, Isaiah goes into specifics for us. Here are his tips....

--To love our neighbors, we need to look inside ourselves first. In verse 9 Isaiah says, "If you remove the yoke from among you, the pointing of the finger, the speaking of evil..." Are we blaming others for those issues we should take responsibility for? Are we speaking evil? We cannot love neighbor well or thrive ourselves if we don't check our attitudes and our tongues. Is what you are about to say kind? Are you blaming or uplifting others?

--How do we love our neighbor? If you are looking for a place to begin, Isaiah has one in verse 10. We are to offer our food to the hungry and satisfy the needs of the afflicted. In Hebrew the phrase "offer our food" could be translated as "offering our whole selves." Take a moment to think about your neighbors. How could you "feed" them, how could you give of yourself?

Notice that Isaiah tells us that if we are willing to love our neighbor this way we will receive a number of gifts. God will satisfy our needs. Our bones will be strong. We will be like watered gardens. We will be restorers of streets.

--How do we love God? Isaiah suggests keeping the Sabbath. Do we take time in our week to rest? To tell God through the gift of giving God time that we trust God to be working things out in the world? Can we let go of "going our own ways" for a time to allow God to guide us? If we can, Isaiah promises that we will take delight in God and "ride upon the heights of the earth."

If we are willing to love God and love neighbor as we begin along new paths, God makes the bold promise that He will be with us, and that we will thrive and find joy. May you find creative ways to love this month. Blessings on your new adventures!!

Sincerely,
Pastor Pam

St. Paul HIGHLIGHTS

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Office Hours
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM Monday - Friday

Worship Services each Sunday
8:30 AM and 11:00 AM

5th SUNDAY @ 10:00 AM ONLY

Holy Communion
every Sunday at both services

Sunday School for all ages @ 9:45 AM

SEPTEMBER—MAY

Pastor

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Director of Children's Ministry

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Youth Leader

Amanda Perry Miller
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Assistant Organist Richard Densmore

Worship Leader Barbara Tibbitts

Faithful Ringers Leader Culley Coughlin

Ringers For Jesus Leader Marilyn Niksa

Children Choir Linda Forster

Office Sherrill Crawford & Rae Batig x200

E-mail: officestaff@stpaulberea.org

Bookkeeper Lynnette Ozanich x204

Nursery Care Provider Gail Brandt

St. Paul Council Members — 2016

Randy Hamilton (Pres) 440 234-2105
rhamilton@tallencarpentry.com
Eric Prestegaard (Vice Pres) 234-466-0336
epresteg@msn.com
Katie Lappin (secretary)

Complete list of Council Members is on the
Council bulletin board outside the office.

St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church
Year-to-Date Financial Summary as of:

July 31, 2016

Income and Expenses Summary	Current Year Actual YTD	Current Year Budget YTD	Over/(Under) Budget	Previous Year Actual YTD
Income				
Congregational Contributions	\$ 252,892.67	\$ 303,870.00	\$ (50,977.33)	\$ 247,620.67
Building Use	5,821.00	8,295.00	(2,474.00)	7,505.00
Interest	3.26	7.00	(3.74)	2.93
Other Income	3,620.77	3,794.00	(173.23)	5,063.45
Total Income	\$ 262,337.70	\$ 315,966.00	\$ (53,628.30)	\$ 260,192.05
Expenses				
Benevolence	25,289.27	31,621.00	6,331.73	23,599.94
Worship	4,189.53	6,455.00	2,265.47	4,971.62
Programs & Services	7,467.00	12,376.00	4,909.00	10,881.11
Property	36,321.02	72,069.00	35,747.98	43,973.69
Staff Salaries and Benefits	157,846.09	164,152.00	6,305.91	144,194.36
Contracted Services	17,274.00	18,643.00	1,369.00	16,675.00
Administration & Support	15,264.89	17,612.00	2,347.11	12,549.42
Total Expenses	263,651.80	322,928.00	59,276.20	256,845.14
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (1,314.10)	\$ (6,962.00)	\$ 5,647.90	\$ 3,346.91

Income and Expenses Summary Notes:

Income

YTD as of July 31, 2016 has an operating deficit of \$1K, which is a negative variance of \$5K compared to YTD as of July 2015. Congregational Contributions through July 2016 are \$5K higher than the amount of contributions received through July 2015; Building Use/Other Income is approximately \$2K less than this time last year. Total Income at July 31, 2016 is \$2K more than YTD July 2015. Congregational Contributions are under budget by \$51K and Total Income is under budget by \$53K as of July 31, 2016.
Note: *Other Income* includes periodic gifts made by Meals on Wheels and the St. Paul Preschool; the Thrivent Choice Donation program; paper recycling proceeds; and other miscellaneous unrestricted income.

Expenses

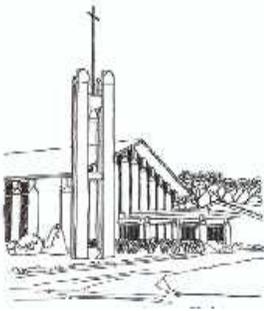
YTD total expenses remain under budget as of July 31, 2016 and the total amount is \$7K more than total expenses as of July 31, 2015. The amount of savings in Property is partially due to timing related to 15-year plan expenditures and partially due to savings achieved due to a mild winter.
Note: Benevolence payments are percentages of contributions. Therefore, when contributions are higher, benevolence payments are higher.

Balance Sheet Summary	As of July 31, 2016	As of July 31, 2015
Assets		
Current Assets (Cash)	\$ 141,764.20	\$ 115,394.15
Fixed Assets (Building)	3,041,549.00	3,041,549.00
Invested Assets (Endowment)	550,388.46	562,016.15
Total Assets	\$ 3,733,701.66	\$ 3,718,959.30
Liabilities		
Accounts Payable	\$ 18,164.80	\$ 4,159.84
Loan from Endowment Fund	27,655.00	34,000.00
Payroll Withholding	2,115.43	5,129.75
Accrued Expenses	476.79	0.00
Dedicated Fund Balances	100,061.13	76,509.52
Total Liabilities	\$ 148,473.15	\$ 119,799.11
Equity		
General Fund	\$ 20,946.05	\$ 29,595.04
Investments (Endowment)	522,733.46	528,016.15
Fixed Assets (Building)	3,041,549.00	3,041,549.00
Total Equity	\$ 3,585,228.51	\$ 3,599,160.19
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$ 3,733,701.66	\$ 3,718,959.30

Balance Sheet Summary Notes:

Dedicated Funds include contributions designated for specific Council-approved categories (i.e. Memorials/Honorariums, Habitat for Humanity, Sheep and Goats contributions, Youth Trips/Projects, Music Ministry, Youth Ministry, and others). These funds are tracked separately and the contributions and/or expenses are not reflected in the Operating Income and Expenses Summary. A complete listing of the current Dedicated Funds can be found on the full balance sheet.

The *General Fund* balance = Current Assets (Cash) - Total Liabilities.



Council Corner

The council is pleased to announce the passing of the Renovation Committee's Plan for the Sanctuary. The plan will include the repair of the stained glass windows, painting of the ceiling, new carpeting, touch up pews, retro fitting of lighting to LED and reworking of the sound system. A sub committee has been asked to select several carpet color combinations for the Council's approval at our October Meeting. This plan will be presented at the Congregational Meeting on November 13th.

Two families of the congregation have generously given gifts of money to help fund the cost of the Sanctuary renovation. This is a true blessing! Any other gifts would be greatly appreciated. If you have any thoughts of donating please contact myself or Pastor Henderson.

The financial reports for the summer months continue to be positive.

God Bless!

Randy Hamilton

Council President

Please contact any member of the Church Council with questions or concerns: Dean Firing, Dave Hall, Randy Hamilton, Scott Harkema, Pastor Henderson, Pastor Kelly, Kara Krywyj, Amy Kurek, Katie Lappin, Jon Montag, Karen Nemeth, Eric Prestegaard



Grow our *RESOURCES* Have the infrastructure and resources to realize our vision

Property Committee News



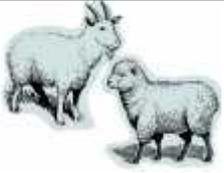
The Sanctuary Update Committee formed by the Church Council has continued to refine the estimates and bids and have now completed a detailed plan for the sequence of events and expenditures. Some modifications have been made in the Sanctuary to “test drive” some physical changes before making them permanent. All representatives of the Update Committee have agreed that removing the first pew will provide much needed room between the communion rail and the first pew. The platform on which the altar sits will also be revised to allow the altar to be moved forward and allow more room behind for movement. These changes are only temporary at this point, and can be undone easily if the trial indicates an unforeseen issue. The lighting over the altar area has also been converted to LED fixtures. The overall project costs and timing have been prepared in an initial formal plan and submitted to the church council for inclusion in the 2017 budget. The Finance Committee is now working on the details of funding the sanctuary update project.

The plywood over the window opening in room J-1 is a result of removal of the existing window unit to insure that the new replacement windows will fit properly. Delivery of the new windows for the office complex and rooms J and K should be around mid-October.

Property Committee thanks you for the confidence you have shown in our recommendations, and for your continued faithful financial support. This is an exciting time as the congregation is now turning the corner from making necessary overdue repairs to renewals. Your continued support is essential in enabling us to follow through on our long-range plan for repairs and renovations to our church home.

Jim Jungeberg

Grow in **SERVICE** Be a model of serving Christ for others



SHEEP & GOATS FOCUS



Dear Pastors and Congregation,

Again your generosity and prayers have helped another low income family to acquire a Habitat house, and move out of an apartment where the plaster was falling out of the ceiling.

A rehabbed home was dedicated, Saturday, Aug. 13th at 10006 Hulda Ave., Cleve., after 250 hours of sweat equity put in by Calista and her family, friends and sorority sisters. She will have low mortgage payments. Rehabbed houses cost about one 3rd of what it cost to build a new one.

Calista is the Mother of 6 children: Jaja 14, Nesta 10, Liv 8, Barack 7, Seroni 6, Winter 3. They are so thankful to have a place to call home, have enough space, and feel safe. The crew is already working on 2 other houses on Hulda and 2 on Grandview, one block away.

Quoting Calista, "I am so thankful and humbled that there are people who help Habitat and do what they do. I stressed this to my children that the volunteers are giving back to their communities by helping to build homes and lives for people willing to put the work in."

May God bless you all as this family has been blessed!

We are happiest when we are giving ourselves away to others!

In His service together, Pastor John and Mary

PS: pictures in the Narthex

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE



OFFICIAL ACTS

Funerals

8/3 Fay Kossuth

8/18 Dale Wicks

Baptisms

8/14 Ellaina Michelle Brumenschenkel

8/14 Piper Marie Brumenschenkel

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Fay Kossuth

Dick and Sandy Henning



Letter from Della



July 21, 2016

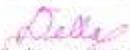
Greetings to members and friends of St. Paul Lutheran Church,

Congratulations on this the milestone of 150 years of serving people in the Berea community. Little did the 15 or more families who gathered for that first service in 1866 know that a century and a half later a congregation would still gather weekly to worship.

Old church records show the congregation began on the corner of Eastland and Sheldon Roads, and later moved closer into Berea on Front Street. In the mid 1950's there was again need for larger facilities. It was during this time that I had the opportunity to serve as the Parish Worker for over seventeen years. The congregation dreamed, prayed, worked and was able to move into an educational building at the corner of Eastland and Bagley Roads. The dream to build a sanctuary never vanished and in a few years that was accomplished. Those years enriched my life and I have many fond memories.

Sadly, I'm not able to be there in person to celebrate the event and renew old acquaintances. I find that at my age it is very difficult to travel. But, certainly will have you in my thoughts and prayers. May the Lord continue to bless you and your congregation.

Sincerely in Christ's love,


Della (Koester) Vivien



Thank-you!!!



Equipment Drive:

Thanks to your donations for the Wheels for the World Equipment Drive, we were able to provide a wheelchair and 3 walkers to be used by teams serving in other countries!

Jordan:

Thanks to all of you that donated funding to support my trip with Wheels for the World to Jordan this fall. I am fully funded! I cannot express my gratitude enough.

I also want to ask for your continued prayers for the safety of the team and our endeavors in Jordan. We will be leaving in late Sept and return the second week of Oct. Thanks again for all your support!! - Jan Bairoti

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE



Continuing the Conversation

Earlier this summer, following the police shootings in Dallas, Pastor Pat Hunt, of Heritage Congregational Church invited the community for a time of prayer and reflection. Approximately 60 people attended the gathering, including the Mayor, City Council representatives, members of the city safety forces and a good cross-section of folks from the community. The opportunity to gather as citizens and neighbors was appreciated. Continuing the conversation was a common theme which arose in that gathering.

One doesn't need to look hard to see that our nation is deeply divided along racial, economic and political lines. We tend to surround ourselves with people who look, think and act like we do. How we experience the world can be very different based on where we come from or the color of our skin. Pastor Hunt and Pastor Tom Henderson, St. Paul Lutheran, would like to invite the community to come together for a time of sharing and listening...to continue the conversation.

The goal of this, and future gatherings, is not to talk about opinions, statistics or politics, but to sit neighbor to neighbor and listen to one another as we share our experiences. Hearing is the beginning of understanding and mutual respect. For our initial gatherings, we will use a video called 'Cracking the Codes' which features people having conversations with opportunities for discussion along the way. Everyone is welcome- all ages, all skin colors, all religious or non-religious affiliations.

Our first gathering will take place on **Sunday, September 18th at 7:00 pm** at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 276 E. Bagley Road, Berea, OH (the corner of Bagley and Eastland Roads). Light refreshments will be provided.

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE



"Caring for each other as we age"

Together with our neighboring ELCA congregations we are seeking to provide support to members by encouraging participation in *monthly* gatherings where information, encouragement and prayers will assist you with the challenges that aging brings to life. The information is helpful to all seniors and their families.

At our next gathering Scott Williams, Esq. will discuss

"10 Estate Planning Mistakes to Avoid"

Discover if your legal homework is up-to-date and will work well with ever-changing laws or begin the journey to understanding if you are prepared for the unexpected.

Wednesday, September 21 at 1:30pm

Divinity Lutheran Church will host this month.

11877 Blossom Ave. in Parma Hts. (440/845-2060)

Looking to carpool? Contact the church office or
Parish Nurse Jill Koubal (216/573-1595).

Mark your calendars for the next gathering at Parma Lutheran on
Weds. October 19
for a Medicare update provided by a representative from OSHIIP.



Youth Fall News

Our Bible study for this fall will be using *The Gospel According to Disney: Faith, Trust, and Pixie Dust* by Mark I. Pinsky. Pinsky is a religion journalist who is interested in the roles that the animated features of the Walt Disney Company have played in the moral and spiritual development of generations of children. We'll be exploring some of the most popular Disney films including Cinderella, Beauty and the Beast, and the Lion King. We'll also be seeking to discover what Pinsky calls the Disney gospel: faith that good will prevail, trust in yourself and your friends, and a little bit of something magical. All of our 7-12 grade youth are invited to join us on Sunday evenings to seek our own understanding of Disney and our own faith.

Fall Schedule

- September 11 - Sunday School Starts! 9:45-10:45 am
- September 11 & 25 - The Gospel of Disney Bible Study 6:30-8pm
- October 2, 16 & 30 - The Gospel of Disney Bible Study 6:30-8pm
- November 6 & 20 - The Gospel of Disney Bible Study 6:30-8pm
- December 4 & 18 - The Gospel of Disney Bible Study 6:30-8pm

Anyone who is interested may feel free to contact me, by email at aperrymiller@stpaulbera.org or by phone at 216-856-2718 (call or text). All of our youth are invited to join in.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY OPPORTUNITY—A new in-depth Bible Study entitled “The Armor of God,” by Priscilla Shirer, will be offered on Thursdays, from September 15th through November 3rd, at 9:30 AM and 6:30 PM. This is a 7-week course of study, with another Sight and Sound Theatre video being shown on the last day. Registrations and study books will be available beginning on August 28th. Cost is \$20. For additional information, please contact Marianne Trausch (440-243-0168), Cathie Varnes (440-572-0814), or Lois Schlott (216-676-6140). Below is a synopsis of this new Bible Study:

All day, every day, an invisible war rages around you—unseen, unheard, yet felt throughout every aspect of your life. A devoted, devilish enemy seeks to wreak havoc on everything that matters to you. If you're tired of being pushed around and caught with your guard down, this study is for you. The enemy always fails miserably when he meets a woman dressed for the occasion. “The Armor of God,” more than merely a biblical description of the believer's inventory, is an action plan for putting it on and developing a personalized strategy to secure victory.

September Children's Ministry News

CALLING ALL SUNDAY SCHOOL KIDS-

We want you! Please mark your calendars. September 11th is our 1st day of Sunday School and you won't want to miss it. Meet some great teachers, old friends and new. Join the fun as we kick-off our 2016-17 Sunday School year together. Bring your families and go right down to your classrooms at 9:45 to meet your teachers. We will help you find your rooms. At 10:30, our children will meet in our Closing Room to conclude our morning together. At 10:45, we will meet our families outside of Fellowship Hall. To our old Sunday School friends, we can't wait to be together with you again. If you have never been to Sunday School before, we would love to have you join us. We have classes for children ages 3 on up. See you on September 11th!

BIBLE PRESENTATIONS-

On September 18th, during both worship services, Bibles will be presented to all of our 3's and our Third graders. Please call the church office (243-1144) if your child will be participating. We hope that you will be joining us on this special day for our children and their families.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH-

September 25th will be our 1st day for Children's Church. We hope that you will join us at either the 8:30 or 11:00 Worship. Children of all ages are welcome and youth are always needed to help our little ones. Children's Church will be held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month. We will be having Bible lessons, singing, doing crafts, having puppet shows, and spending time with new friends and old. Join us! This is a great way to explore God's love. See you on September 25th.

Snacks Needed-

With Sunday School beginning on September 11th, we are again in need of snack donations. Your help is so appreciated. We serve lots of kids, teens, families and congregation members on a Sunday morning. Snacks could include cookies and baked goods, pretzels, goldfish, cheese and crackers or fruit. Any finger food munchie would be appreciated. These items can be dropped off in the church office, in the Sunday School office or put out on the counter outside of Fellowship Hall on a Sunday morning. Thank you so much for all of your continued support of our Children's Ministry programs.

September

Children's Ministry Calendar

September 4th See you at Worship at 8:30 & 11:00

September 11th 9:45-10:45 1st Day of Sunday School

September 18th 9:45-10:45 Sunday School

8:30 & 11:00 Bibles given to all 3's

& 3rd Graders During Worship

September 25th 8:30 1st Day of Children's Church

9:45-10:45 Sunday School

11:00 Children's Church

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

CELEBRATE



150 YEARS
ST PAUL
LUTHERAN

Well, the July 31st celebration was great! Most impressive was the dessert table! You all provided quite a spread! The sanctuary was full for worship, and over 190 came for dinner and the program at the High School. The Bishop's presence and message was also a highlight of the day. If you weren't here, you can listen to his message on the St. Paul website.



Tony Podracky was honored as *both* our oldest member, and having the longest continuous membership. Randy Guenther won the drawing for Mel Grunau's painting!

longest continuous membership. Randy Guenther won the drawing for Mel Grunau's painting!



Pastor Rauch Sept 18th

Our next occasion will be a visit from Pastor Rauch. Pastor Rauch served St. Paul's as Senior Pastor from

1977-1998. He will preach at both the 8:30 and 11:00 service on Sept 18th. A reception will be held between services in the parlor.

Other Pastors scheduled to come visit are:

Pastor Deborah Michaels - Oct 9, 2016 (daughter of the congregation)

Other Upcoming Events:

Oct 30th 499th Anniversary of the Reformation

One service at 10:00 - Followed by Octoberfest- with our own German Band!

Menu includes: Wurst, German Potato salad, Three bean salad, Strudel and O'Doul's

Tickets on sale Sept 25th – Oct 16th Adults \$5, Children under 10 years \$1

There is limited space in the Fellowship Hall – so get your tickets early!

Nov 6th All Saints Day Services 8:30 and 11:00

Special focus on ALL members of St. Paul's since 1866



ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
276 EAST BAGLEY ROAD
BEREA, OHIO 44017
440-243-1144
WWW.STPAULBEREA.ORG

FIRST CLASS

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



BEREA FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS....

Each month we collect food to help stock the pantry located at 85 So. Rocky River Drive in Berea.

**The ITEMS for SEPTEMBER are
Juice & Canned Fruit**

Place Items in the Grocery Carts in the Narthex or near the Fellowship Hall

COMMUNITY MEAL DONATIONS....The items are distributed along with items donated to Church Street Ministries to help those in attendance.

**The ITEMS for SEPTEMBER are
Underwear, child & adult
The Community Meal is back at St. Paul's on the last WEDNESDAY of
each month at 6:00 p.m.**