



# THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL

November 2018

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## Ponderings From The Pastor

### *INVESTING IN GOD'S FUTURE: GRATITUDE AND TRUST*

AS I WRITE my regular article for this month's Epistle, it is just a couple of days before our next New Beginnings event: the Friday night all-church introduction to the house group sessions, and then the Saturday training event for our house group facilitators. The current plan is to kick off the group meeting process with an all-church covered dish dinner and then the first session together as a large group—this will take place on the first Sunday of Advent (December 2, 2018). Mark your calendars for that day!—and plan for about 45 minutes to an hour for the group meeting following the dinner (the first session topic: *Marks of a Vital Congregation...* I promise to try and keep the sermon short and worship moving along that morning!). The house group meetings themselves will start up in January; keep an eye out for information about registering for one of the house groups! Registration will start on December 2.

AS I PONDER what we will be learning together when everyone gets a chance to see and think about the assessment report (this will happen at the house meetings), I am sure there will be some challenging information! I also know that there will be some things stated which we already know very well, to which we might be tempted to say “well, DUH!” Either way, I wonder what it will say about HOW we spend our time and energy...and the relationship between DOING and BEING.

YOU MIGHT WONDER what I mean by that...and it's simple, really: we are all pretty good at DOING—doing worship, doing mission, doing service projects, doing meetings...in general, “doing church.” But, often (too often) we are NOT so good at BEING: taking time for God, to be WITH God in silence and contemplative forms of prayer (meditation, centering prayer, extended silence, etc). Being with God feeds our souls, recharges our spiritual batteries—it heals and makes whole and gives us the “fuel” and the motivation to “do,” and enlarges our capacity to love. Worship once a week is not enough. When we do not take time for God we set ourselves up for burnout and “compassion fatigue.” Have you ever felt that way?...a bit burned out? A hardened heart that doesn't feel compassion like it should? Overwhelmed with the world's pain (and your own), and not knowing what to do or where to turn?

IN THIS MONTH of Thanksgiving, and as we prepare for intense conversations about what God wants from us, I offer this poetic prayer, which begins with GRATITUDE. That's a great place to start with any kind of contemplation! Read this prayer (from Rev. Steve Garnaas-Holmes' daily prayer blog “*Unfolding Light*,” [www.tinyletter.com/stevemgh](http://www.tinyletter.com/stevemgh))..use it, pray it, slowly...come back to it several times before Thanksgiving...and any time you feel a little “burnout” gnawing at your spirit or dogging your heels!

(Continued Next Page)

For an electronic  
version of  
THE EPISTLE,  
please visit our  
website at:  
[www.stpaulnch.com](http://www.stpaulnch.com)

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### *Worship Opportunities*

#### Sundays:

9:50 AM Traditional  
Worship in Sanctuary  
Sunday School

## Ponderings From The Pastor (continued)

Begin with gratitude  
for all you have received,  
that you see and that you do not see.

Let your gratitude grow into trust  
that you are included in a great wonder;  
and entrust yourself to the grace you are given.

Let your trust blossom into compassion  
for all those who are also part of this oneness  
who have been excluded, used or targeted.

Let your compassion flourish into solidarity,  
knowing you are one with those who suffer  
and that their wholeness is part of yours.

Let your solidarity bear fruit in justice,  
working for freedom and fullness of life for all,  
against all evil and oppression.

And when you are most challenged  
by the forces of injustice,  
most weary and discouraged,  
return to gratitude  
that you are guided, accompanied,  
empowered and saved;  
and entrust yourself  
to the undying love of God.

*PEACE! – Pastor Barry*



*The “New Beginnings” Corner*

*Keeping YOU Up To Date on our*

*WATCH HERE in each month’s “Epistle” for Updates and Information*

## **MARK YOU CALENDARS!!**

**The NEXT get-together** for our congregation for New Beginnings will be on **Friday, November 2**. Everyone in the church who wishes to be part of a house meeting is invited to attend this gathering and meet with **Jill White** (our Hope Partnership trainer) from **7 to 9 PM** (the church will be open for coffee/refreshments at 6 pm). Again, everyone is invited, and we will most likely meet in the Fellowship Hall—watch for more details. For anyone who wants to attend this meeting and does not drive in the evening, please let us know, so that we can arrange transportation for you.

**FACILITATOR TRAINING**—if you have been asked to serve as one of our house meeting FACILITATORS, plan to be here on **SATURDAY, November 3, from 9 AM to 3 or 4 PM** (the church will open for coffee and refreshments at 8:30 AM. Lunch will be provided.) This is a one-time training event, so please plan accordingly to be here that day, and stay for the whole event. Any questions? Contact Pastor Barry. After this training, we will begin scheduling house meetings—and one or two meetings at the church.

**PLUS** - Mark your calendars for the House group Kick-Off on December 2 after worship. Pot Lock Dinner at 11:30 AM. Session One (Large Group) from Noon to 1:00 PM.

FACEBOOK PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Paul-United-Church-of-Christ-NCH/451020504934791>.

# *In Loving Memory*

## GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

**In Memory of Gladys Elsasser**

Elaine Sloan

**In Memory of Jean Schmadel**

Elaine Sloan

**In Memory of Lillian Pooch**

Gloria & Lynda Stagman

**IN Memory of Howard Heineke**

Jan & Nola Apro

Dot Kahle

Alice Blum

Ellie Reed

## News and Updates

### Council News

The next Council meeting is Monday,  
November 19, 2018 7:00 PM.

We have many things going on in the church at this time. We are always striving to make St. Paul a place you can definitely call YOUR church HOME, If you find that you have questions or concerns in a particular area of the building or within a committee, please be sure to talk with the chairman of the committee with your question or concern. Here is the list of all members of the Church Council.

President - Judith Lewis-Combs - 729-3152  
Secretary - Nancy Klusmeier - 923-1369  
Treasurer - Anne Zimmer - 513-260-0573  
Nurture Team - Linda Woods - 513-289-5335  
Welcome Team - Diane Banker - 522-3318  
Endowment - Jan Apro - 931-2417

Vice President - Jan Apro - 931-2417  
Finance - Donna Hodson - 904-333-9422  
Care Team - Margie Fassnacht - 574-0354  
Facilities - Rick Davis - 574-8345  
Worship Team - Vicki Ritz - 741-7868  
Sr. Minister - 513-317-8146

Office Administrator - Office - Anne Zimmer - 931-2205

### DECEMBER EPISTLE DEADLINE

The Epistle deadline for the December edition is Wednesday, November 21, 2018. Please submit the information either by email to Anne or drop it in the Epistle box in the main office. There is also a folder in the blue mailbox outside the office.



### PLEASE HELP US with LIGHTS AND DOORS

On several occurrences lately, we have found an outside door unlocked. Please be sure to check doors before you leave, especially if you are the last one out.

Please do your diligence to make sure that the lights are off in the building when you leave.

Thank you





**THANK YOU TO ALL THE  
WONDERFUL  
VOLUNTEERS WHO  
HELPED WITH THE  
HOLIDAY CRAFT SHOW**

**WE APPRECIATE YOU ALL!  
YOU ARE ALL  
AWESOME!**



**SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR BASKET TEAM**

**AS ALWAYS,  
YOU ALL DID A FANTASTIC JOB**

**THE BASKETS WERE AWESOME AND SO MANY  
COMPLIMENTS WERE RECEIVED**



## Samaritan Purse ("Shoe Box") Project

## From The Nurture Team

The Shoe Box Team will begin next week to fill the shoe boxes for children around the world. You have all donated such wonderful items and it will be great fun for the team to fill those shoe boxes.

Thank you to all who donated items that go in the boxes and also for those who have also donated money to help ship those boxes out. We are still accepting donations to help with the shipping costs. There is a box on the kiosk table where money can be placed.

The boxes will be shipped the week of November 12th. They will be dropped off at our local drop off location and will be shipped to North Carolina. Once they arrive there, they will be shipped to children around the world for Christmas.



Once again, we appreciate everyone's participation in this project!

Linda Woods,  
Nurture Team Chairman



## FROM the FINANCE COMMITTEE

November is right around the corner and with it begins a season of *thanks*-giving followed by *gift*-giving. It's a season of potlucks and covered-dishes at church, at work, and at home, with friends, co-workers, and family. **"What can I bring?"** is likely the most frequent question during this time!

November begins another season at St. Paul, one that falls right in line with both thanks-giving and gift-giving. This is our time to make a willing, joyful commitment to share our blessings with others —because this is the very reason why God blesses us: so that *through* us, God blesses others.

**"What can I bring?"** The answer to that question comes from our hearts, not out of a sense of duty or obligation. Not out of guilt. Or fear. This season can we pray for one another? Can we ask God to answer that question, individually, for each one of us? And then as a St. Paul community?

Please join your St. Paul sisters and brothers in prayer, in seeking inspiration, and in committing to bringing not only money but our spiritual gifts, our talents, our time, and our love —each according to God's answer to **"What can I bring?"**

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS for Sunday, November 11! Following worship that day, everyone is invited for a COVERED DISH DINNER in the Fellowship Hall!**

In keeping with our 2018 Stewardship Theme, **"What Shall We Bring?"**  
here is what YOU can plan to bring to share for our dinner  
according to the FIRST letter of your LAST name! ...

**A through G — Bring a casserole or veggie dish!**

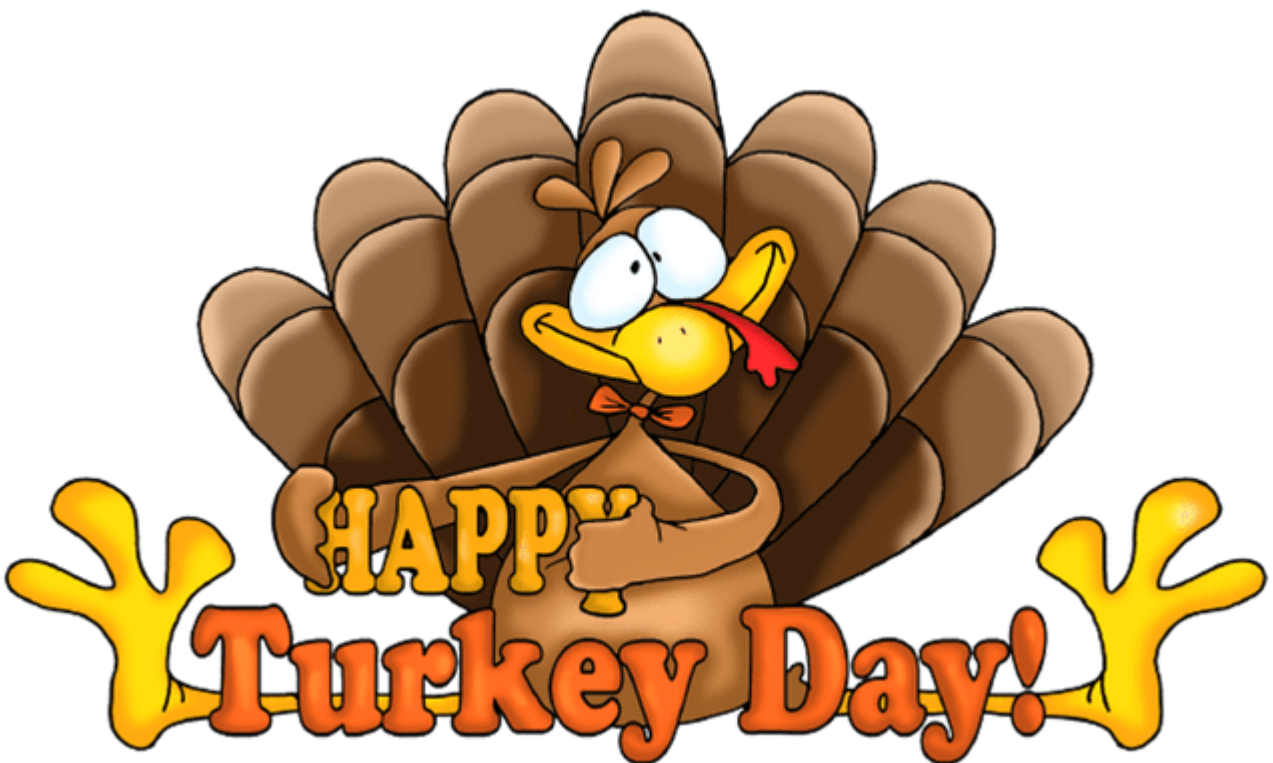
**H through L — Bring a salad of some kind!**

**M through Z — Bring a dessert!**

Whatever you bring does not have to be HUGE—just a "normal" sized dish,  
like you'd make for yourself or your family at home.

**THANK YOU!**







REJOICE! REJOICE!

The birth of our Savior is drawing near. Fill our sanctuary with joyous colorful poinsettias! Let us honor HIM and each other. Let us honor our great country and those who protect us and keep us safe. Amen!

Order your poinsettias now before you forget! All plants are fabulous!!! St. Paul Church is blessed and beautiful with the spirit and thoughtfulness of its congregation.

This year we will be ordering poinsettias from Northgate Greenhouse. Please order early!

Please return your order to the church office with payment.

**Checks should be made payable to St. Paul United Church of Christ**

**Orders need to be placed no later than Sunday, December 2, 2018.**

**POINSETTIA COLOR: RED/ WHITE/ MONET (Pink)**

<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>INDICATE COLOR</u>	<u>SIZE</u>	<u>PRICE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>
_____	_____	4 1/2" POT	\$ 4.75	_____
_____	_____	6" POT	\$ 9.25	_____
_____	_____	7 1/2" POT (2 plants)	\$ 16.50	_____

CHECK NO. \_\_\_\_\_ CASH \_\_\_\_\_ TOTAL \_\_\_\_\_

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ ENVELOPE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

If you wish to order flowers for the church as a memorial or to honor someone , please provide the following information.

**In Memory/ Honor of: (Circle One)**

\_\_\_\_\_

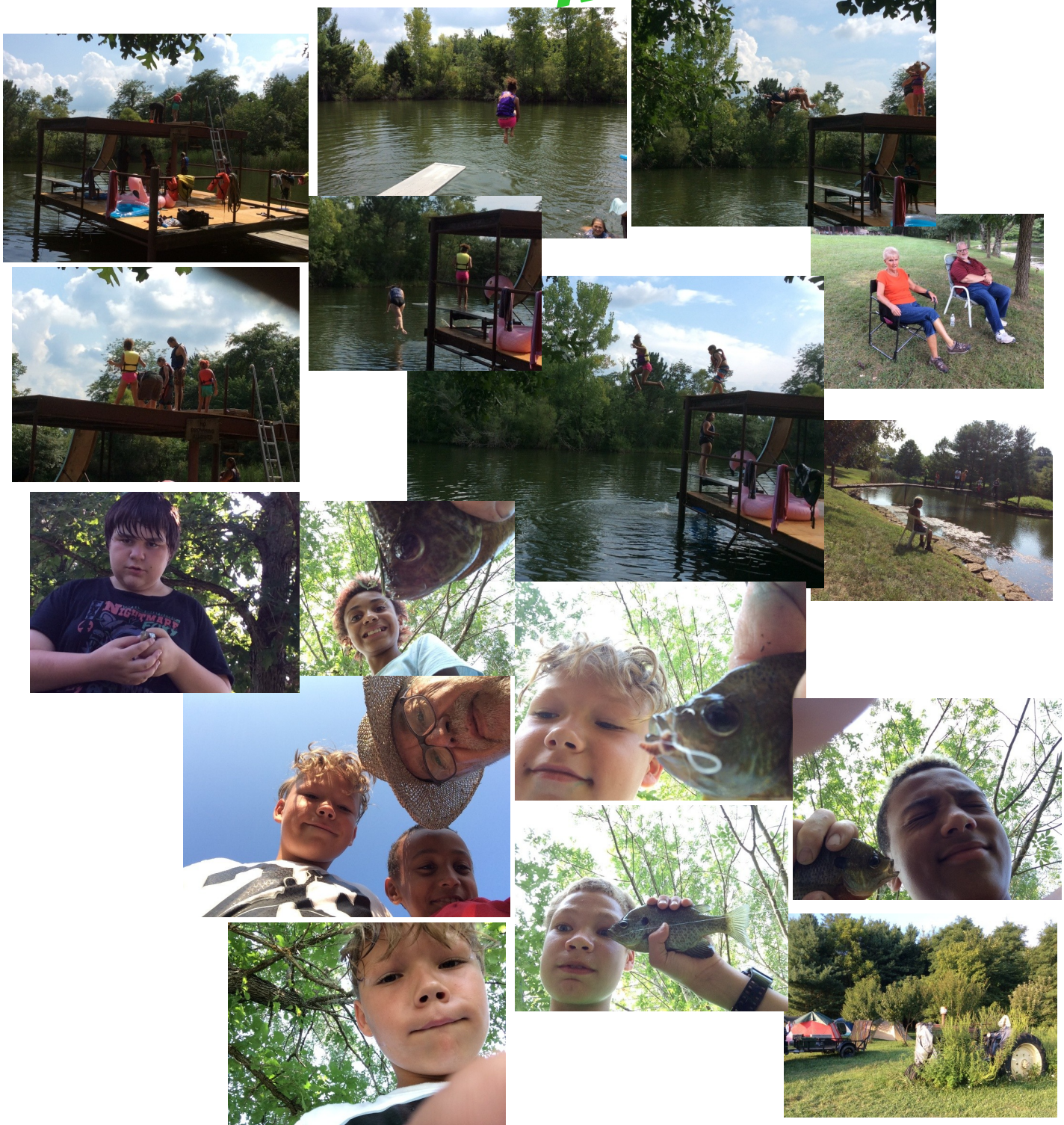
Given By: \_\_\_\_\_





St. Paul Youth

# *Camping at the Kluesener Farm*











## ST. PAUL YOUTH

Our Annual Halloween Camp Out at Hueston Woods and everyone had a great time. Except John who had just one job and forgot to give his wife Pastor Joan, her normal pill!!



We thank Kim Ferry for setting up the outing, all the kids had a great time dressing and trick or treating. There were displays everywhere, games, Halloween costume parade, haunted trail, and a dance after dark.



We are currently working on upcoming events for the fall/winter. Watch for these and other projects in future newsletters. If you have any questions or wish to help please contact, Pastor Joan, 470-2321, Vickie Bryant, 238-7127 and Kim Ferry, 485-0016.

# Mission Partner News

## MT. HEALTHY PANTRY NEEDS

Deoderant, Bar Soap  
Tooth Paste, Shampoo  
Toilet Paper, Tooth Brushes

Canned Fruit, Cereal

You can bring items to the main office and we will be sure to get it delivered.



## Dine to Donate

Please present this on  
November 14th

20% of the bill (pre-tax) supports  
The Mt. Healthy Alliance



Coupon Expires: November 14th only at the Hamilton Ave Perkins

One coupon per person per visit at participating Perkins Restaurant & Bakery locations. Not valid with any other discount or offer. Coupon void if purchased, sold or bartered for cash. Only original coupons accepted. Mutilated, tampered, forged or photocopied coupons are not accepted. Sales tax, if applicable, must be paid by customer. Prices may vary in Canada. Printed in the U.S.A. © 2010 Perkins & Marie Calender's Inc.

Supports  
Mt. Healthy Alliance

## Community Fundraiser Event Friends, Food, and Fundraising To Support

**Mt Healthy Alliance Inc. Food Pantry**

3<sup>rd</sup> week of each month

Mon-Sat 6am to 3pm

Thurs 6am to 8pm

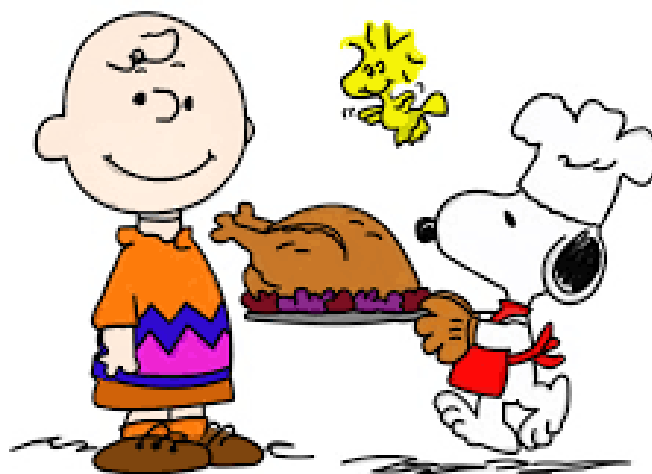


We'll earn 10% of sales when you present  
this flyer at

9894 Colerain Avenue (in Central Plaza  
next door to A Sweet Life Cupcakes and  
Crafts)

\*Flyer must accompany check donation\*

Please do not share the flyer with other guests at the  
restaurant





## SCOUTING NEWS

The Cubbies had a great month and ended October with a special Halloween gathering. November they will be working on Citizenship and all the units will be participating in a Flag Retirement Ceremony on Monday, Nov. 12th to honor our Veterans. If anyone is interested in attending, we will begin around 6:30 PM.



The Troop is working on some rank advancement requirements. They are planning a campout later this month where they will be working on orienteering. The leaders are setting up a pretend crash site, and the boys will be given GPS locations in order to find their gear, and their food, so that they can set up camp.

The Venture Crew has completed their Introduction to Leadership Skills for Crews. They are looking forward to preparing the Spaghetti Dinner which will be on Saturday, November 10th, 5 - 6:30 PM. Tickets are available if you would like to join us.

## NURSERY SCHOOL

This month I am so thankful!

- To all who bought cookie dough. We sold 789 tubs of cookie dough.
- For the beautiful building and grounds that our school is located on.
- For the wonderful people I work with every day, upstairs and downstairs.

The preschoolers are learning lots of songs and things about turkeys and Native Americans. If you happen to be in the building in November, you might hear the children singing about the sad turkey who didn't like Thanksgiving, because he knows he will be eaten soon!



On November 5th, 8th, and 9th, the preschoolers are bringing their dads to school for Donuts with Dad. Paul, the Donut Man, is so kind to make 14 dozen donuts for us. After we have eaten our donuts, the children and their dad's will go back to our classrooms for some center time. Then we will close the hour of fun with a song, "There is No One Just Like Dad."

Karen Rieman  
and Staff



# November



11/1 Patrick Woods  
 11/2 Logan Bierkan  
       Angela Oaks  
 11/4 Bill Mayer  
 11/5 Bruce Banker  
 11/6 Michelle Yung  
 11/7 Todd Mittler  
       Karen Rieman  
 11/8 Jeremy Overholts

11/9 Margaret Maybury  
 11/10 Michele Annis  
 11/12 Mike Bartholomew  
 11/13 Chelsey Davis  
 11/14 Laura Bierkan  
 11/15 Dot Kahle  
 11/16 Amy Miller  
 11/19 Steve Fassnacht  
       Rebecca Jester

11/19 Albert Mueller  
 11/21 Margie Fassnacht  
 11/24 Jim Gorsler  
       Amber Hancock  
 11/25 Gerald Stegman  
 11/30 Adele Yung



12/3 Joshua Jensen  
 12/6 Melissa Holmes  
       Debra Nungester  
 12/7 Daniel Lommer  
 12/9 Sara McIlhaney  
 12/11 Steve Rogers  
       Trecy Webb  
 12/14 Lynda Stagman  
 12/15 Carol Jensen

12/16 Herman Schleuter  
 12/17 Charlotte McCauley  
 12/18 Janet Lerch  
       Renee Smith  
 12/20 Cheryl Bartholomew  
 12/21 Isabel Kelsey  
 12/23 Terry DuPriest  
 12/26 Jesse McIlhaney

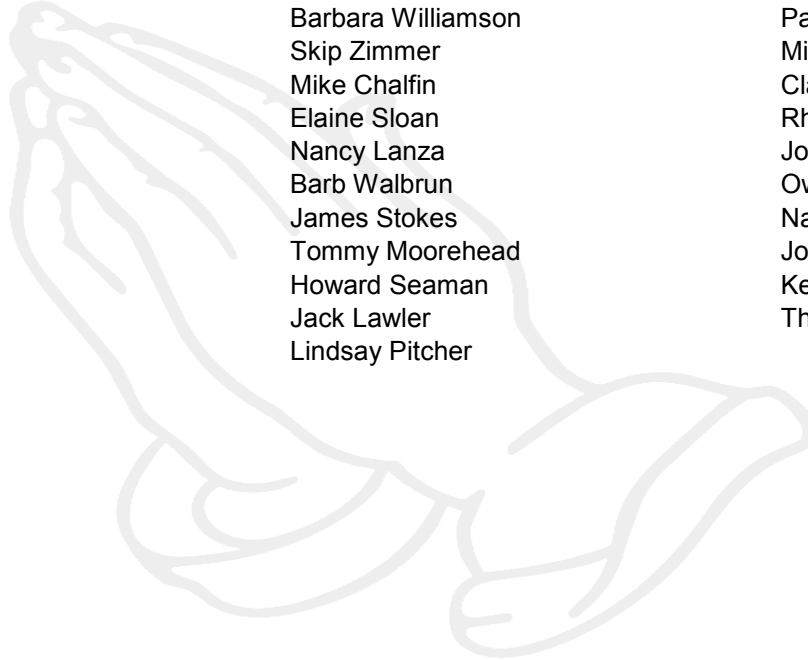
12/27 Arthur Blum  
       Maribeth Jensen  
 12/29 Lois Bates  
       Geoffrey Blum  
       Louise Pitcher  
 12/30 Vickie Bryant  
       Brian Tobergta  
 12/31 Bradley Robinson  
       Matthew Yung

*Please Continue to Remember in Prayer:*

Our servicemen and women  
 Peggy Adams  
 Chad Willcocks  
 Melody Hoff  
 Kathy Aker  
 Ginny DuPriest  
 Debbie DuPriest  
 Erma Amrein  
 Mike Mathauer  
 John Allen  
 Gay Steinhauer  
 Alice Graber  
 Don Beresford  
 Tony Mancini  
 Helen Mason  
 Jessica Obert

Gay D. Smith  
 Rev. Virginia Duffy  
 Ruth Meissner  
 Barbara Williamson  
 Skip Zimmer  
 Mike Chalfin  
 Elaine Sloan  
 Nancy Lanza  
 Barb Walbrun  
 James Stokes  
 Tommy Moorehead  
 Howard Seaman  
 Jack Lawler  
 Lindsay Pitcher

June Ward  
 Kim Caudell  
 Christine Schlegel  
 Paul Maus  
 Mike Cornish  
 Clara Kemplin  
 Rhonda Lahmann  
 Joann Ernst  
 Owen Erickson  
 Nancy Basil  
 Johnny Whitaker  
 Kellie Whitaker  
 The Heineke Family



Please keep the office informed on the status of those you have placed on the prayer list.

*Please Continue to Remember in Prayer our HomeBound:*

Geraldine Cooper  
 Mary Lou Heiden  
 Joyce Seesing  
 Dolores Ungerbuehler

Bob Dickman  
 Charlotte McCauley  
 Dot Sunnenberg  
 Sharon Wagner

Marian Faller  
 Albert Mueller  
 Anne Timme  
 Lucille Walters

*If you would like to add  
 someone to the prayer  
 list, please call the office.*





# November 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Standing Dates: Mondays: Crafty Critters - 10 AM Scouts: 6:30 - 9:00 PM Tuesday: Community Dinner 5:00 PM weekly Fridays/Saturdays: AA Meeting 8 PM FH = Fellowship Hall NS = Nursery School				1  Book Study Group 7 PM	2 New Beginnings 6 PM Gathering 7-9 PM Mtg.	3 New Beginnings Facilitator Training 8:30 - 4 PM
4 Memorial Sunday Communion  Daylight Savings Time Ends	5 NS 3's Dad's Day	6 Election Day  NS - No School	7	8 NS Pre K Dad's Day  Book Study Group 7 PM	9 NS 4's Dad's Day	10 Crew 150 Spaghetti Dinner 5:00 - 6:30 PM  
11 Stewardship Sunday Pot Luck Dinner After Worship	12	13	14 Exec Team Mtg. 5 PM	15 Staff Mtg 8 AM  Cluster 2 Mtg 7 PM  Book Study Group 7 PM	16	17
18 Ingathering Food	19 Nurture Mtg. 5:30 PM  Council Mtg 7 PM	20	21 Epistle Articles Due  NS No School	22 Thanksgiving Day  Office Closed  	23 Office Closed	24
25 Decorate Church After Worship	26	27	28	29	30	

St. Paul United Church of Christ  
6997 Hamilton Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45231



## THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL

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Email: [office@stpaulinch.com](mailto:office@stpaulinch.com)  
Office Hours 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Monday - Wednesday  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Thursday - Friday

Nursery School Staff: Karen A. Rieinan, Director  
Susan Ehrhardt, Amy Miller, Angela Oaks, Jenny Birdsong,  
and Jessica Whittis.

Church Staff:  
Rev. Barry Bordenkircher, Sr. Minister  
Joan Allen, Lay Minister  
Rick Tallarigo, Organist/Interim Music  
Director  
Anne Zimmer, Office Administrator  
Jim Maybury, Sexton  
Anne Zimmer, Treasurer

Parish Nurses: Vicki Celenza, R.N.,  
Coordinator  
Roxanne Reed, R.N.

