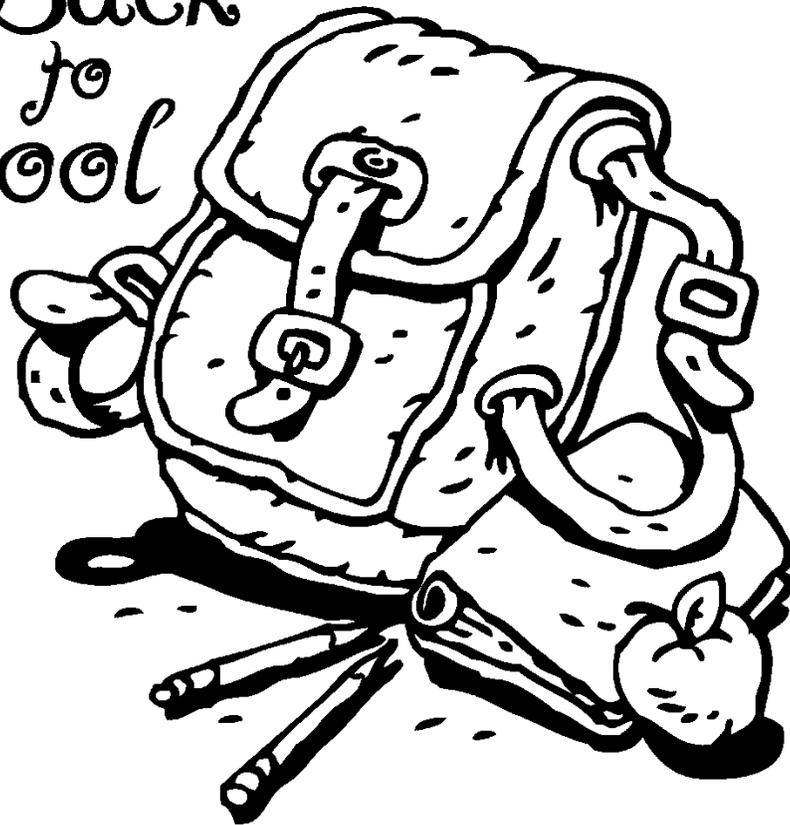


**SEASONS  
SEPTEMBER 2017**

**St. Paul Lutheran Church  
2860 East Market Street  
Warren, OH 44483  
330-394-5741**

*Back  
to  
School*



**SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES**

**Emmanuel  
9:00 am**

**Living Lord  
8:00 & 10:30 am**

**St. Paul  
10:30 am**

**SUNDAY SCHOOL TIMES**

**10:00 am**

**9:15 am**

**9:30 am**

**FROM PASTOR ANN MARIE WINTERS:**

As I write this article on “Preparing for the Renewal of our Church”, I want to tell you so much. I have written this letter as well as articles on “Strengths for Navigating Change” and “Taking a Risk...What would God want us to do?” Please take the time to sit with these thoughts and pray for our churches. Then share your thoughts, too.

**“Preparing for the Renewal of our Church”**

We are planning a renewal series to begin in October. You can prepare by reading the following scriptures and asking these sorts of questions...

**October 8**, The Burning Bush (Exodus 3:1-12) LISTEN

How does your church need God’s help? How do you need God’s help?

**October 15**, The Valley of Dry Bones (Ezekiel 37:1-14) LOOK

What looks “dry” in your congregation? What new life do you seek from God?

**October 22**, Jesus Sends out 70 Disciples (Luke 10:1-24) RESPOND

Where is God sending your congregation? How is your congregation responding to Jesus’ call?

**(October 29**, 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Reformation – Joint Festival Worship at St. Paul)

**November 5**, Finding the Lost (Luke 15) FORGIVE

Who is “lost” in your community? To whom is God calling your congregation to announce God’s gracious forgiveness?

**November 12**, The Great Commandment (Matthew 22:34-40) LOVE

How does your congregation love God? How do the disciples in your neighborhood love their neighbors?

**November 19**, The Great Commission (Matthew 28) GO

What is the risen Lord Jesus commanding your congregation to do?

Praying with you and for you,  
Pastor Ann Marie Winters

**What are three strengths that help you navigate change?** (taken from an article by Homaira Kabir)

**Strength #1: Vision:**

A vision helps us sit with confusion and ambivalence, while our minds connect the dots and look for creative solutions that keep us moving in the right direction.

**Strength #2: Humility**

Humility is a form of acceptance – the acceptance of not knowing. It keeps us growing, it keeps us hungry for knowledge – and in our changing times, it keeps us open to the opportunities that surround us.

**Strength #3: Connection**

Human connection is one of our most basic needs. A smile, a touch, or someone who listens and understands can regulate the sympathetic nervous system, return us to a state of calm, and ignite our own compassion, so we can extend it to others.

**Taking a risk, and what would God want us to do?**

When Jesus teaches on “taking a risk”, we see that God rewards those who are willing to invest their resources, wisely (not foolishly). We may learn from this that whatever God gives us is on loan to us from Him, and God wants us to do our best to use it with wisdom and to increase its value.

## **Excerpts from Matthew 19:12-26 (The Message)**

There was a man who called ten servants together, gave them each a sum of money, and instructed them, "Operate with this until I return." When he came back, he called those ten servants to whom he had given the money to find out how they had done. The first said, "Master, I have doubled your money." He said, "Good servant! Great work!" The second said, "Master, I made a 50% profit on your money." He said, "I'm putting you in charge of five towns." The next servant said, "Master, here is your money safe and sound. I kept it hidden in the cellar. To tell you the truth, I was a little afraid of you." Then he said to those standing there, take the money from him and give it to the one who doubled my stake." **He said, "Risk your life and get more than you ever dreamed of. Play it safe and end up holding the bag."**

The Lutheran churches in Warren are in such a place now that we may need to take a risk with what we have and who we are. We are considering what our mission may be if we come together, to work more closely together. What could happen if we pooled our financial resources? We could have more capital from which to operate. What would happen if we used a single building for worship, and had a ministry site for our mission activity on the west side? We could have less overhead. What could happen if we put our human energy together for service to others, for worship, and for outreach with the Word? More energy could develop through synergy.

### **These are the risks before us...What would God want us to do?**

**Empty Nest:** Blessed Sacrament Parish will host Tom Sauline, author of *Empty Nest*, for three consecutive Tuesdays in September. He will lead us in working through change in our lives, letting go, and learning to love anew. The evenings are open to all! We begin on **Tuesday, September 12**, from 7:00 to 8:30 pm, continue on September 19, and conclude on September 26. A simple call to Paula Pierce at the parish office (330-372-2215) to sign up will do!

### **FROM PASTOR WILLIAM D. LEITCH:**

WOW! It's September already! Although it is the season for harvesting for agriculture, for the church it is a time for planting, cultivating, and nurturing. Rally Sunday at Living Lord is September 10. We prepare to join together every Sunday to study Scripture and understand how God called others and how God is calling us now.

On August 20, we launched our Catechism Class for the 2017/2018 year. It's a great bunch of kids who have energy and a real desire to go deeper into their faith. I get excited about VBS and Servant Week, and I am blessed to be with these youth.

It's a time for all of us to go deeper into our faith. Our Council, along with our Shared Ministry Team, have also decided to take our congregations into a conversation that will focus on our future. Our desire is that we intentionally and collectively look at who we are and how God is calling us now.

We will have a one-day retreat on **Saturday, October 7**, at St. Paul. Everyone is encouraged to attend. There are three different five minute informative DVD presentations followed by discussions. This retreat will prepare us for six Sundays of discussions during sermon time. We pray that you can share with others pertinent things that we need to consider in future decisions that others have not witnessed.

If you cannot attend the retreat, I strongly encourage you to attend the Adult Forum beginning on September 10. Pat Was will be leading a six session class on how to listen to God that later moves us to how then to speak.

We have collected real data about our congregation, our building, the building plans that were considered over ten years ago, and we hope to learn more from each of you that may open our eyes to the opportunities to which God would lead us.

Living Lord has shrunk from 465 members in 2010 to 250 members by the end of 2017. It "seems" that we are relatively strong in spite of this shrinkage, but the reality is we will not be able to sustain our congregation in 5-10 years at this rate.

Although consolidation can extend our life, we also need to have a focus on God that will spread the Gospel and grow the church. During our August Council Meeting, we had a practice discussion about what consolidation might look like. We realized that there will be loss and grieving. We will need to be sensitive to this. We also realized that there are God Focuses that we can work toward even now. Kara Busefink and Stacey Stredney led us on a discussion that brought us great encouragement. We plan to have a youth lock-in to hear the voice of our youth and their parents.

**God's Work, Our Hands...** On **Saturday, September 9**, our area Lutheran Churches will be out serving the community at various locations and times. Living Lord will join together at Emmanuel Lutheran from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm to pack and deliver school bags. This will allow many of our folks to get back and set up for Rally Day the next day.

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### **ST. PAUL NEWS & EVENTS**

#### **PLEASE PRAY FOR:**

##### **Remembering those with medical challenges:**

Debbie Bartlett, David Baudo, Elaine Benka, Ron Benka, Jerry Groves, Don Hazel, Michelle Bauman Jarzembowski, Roy Seibert, Jeff Trimble, April Williams, Andrea Wollam

##### **Remembering those who are home bound:**

Shirlee Chambers, Charles English, Margaret Halavick, Jim Illencik, Ellen Miller, Harriette Shaffer

##### **Remembering those with special needs:**

Donna Baldwin, Joe Benka, Elizabeth Campbell, Anne Cerminaro, Marty Cohol, Bryan Giocondi, Debi Houlf, Lisa Null, Anita Rayburn, Cindy Robinson, Deanna Savon, Ondine Shiau, Willis Stauffer, Lisa Young

##### **Remembering those in Military Service:** Joe Baudo, Kirk Groves, Michael Maradin

**Thank you:** Dear St. Paul Lutheran, I want to thank you for being a building block in my foundation. Growing up in a faith-based home and having the experiences such as mission trips gave me a deeper perspective on life. As I enter into the next chapter of my life, I feel prepared. The generous gift from the church towards my education and dream is appreciated greatly. Sincerely, Jacob Groves

**Thank you:** Thank you very much for the keychain and the generous scholarship. I will use it to help with my education at Bowling Green State University. I would also like to thank all of you for your continuous support throughout my life. Sincerely, Andrew Sutton

**Thank you:** The Kraynek family would like to thank all the beautiful ladies who worked the after funeral luncheon.

#### **EVERYONE HAS A PART TO PLAY IN THE CHURCH'S MISSION PLANNING:**

As we look at our mission and outreach in the community, we want to hear your voice. What do you think about our social ministry, our work with other churches, our witness in the world? These may seem like big questions, but we will explore them together in a special six-week program this Fall.

At this time, St. Paul and Living Lord have decided to engage in a "Prayer and Renewal Series" called *Fanning the Flame* (from the Northwestern Minnesota Synod of the ELCA).

- **A RETREAT TO PREPARE DISCUSSION LEADERS ON SATURDAY, OCTOBER 7:**
  - Training leaders of St. Paul and Living Lord
  - "Invitation to a journey" 6-minute DVD with discussion
  - "For the sake of others; in God for the world" 5-minute DVD with discussion
  - "We are church for the sake of the world" 5-minute DVD with Bishop Eaton/discussion

- **WORSHIP ORDER FOR OCTOBER 8 THROUGH NOVEMBER 19:**
  - The six weeks of worship from Oct. 8 to Nov. 19 will include a 15-minute small group discussion time during the worship service. Each worshipper will be included in a small group. A captain will lead discussion and make note of 2 or 3 points that come from their group each week.
- **SIX WEEKLY THEMES, SCRIPTURE, AND DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:**
  - Oct. 8: The burning bush: LISTEN
  - Oct. 15: The valley of the dry bones: LOOK
  - Oct. 22: Jesus sends out 70 disciples: RESPOND
  - Oct. 29: JOINT REFORMATION WORSHIP AT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH
  - Nov. 5: Finding the lost: FORGIVE
  - Nov. 12: The great commandment: LOVE
  - Nov. 19: The great commission: GO

Materials for discussion will be circulated in the September and October Newsletters so you can prepare in thought and prayer. Please feel free to discuss this program with members of council and the pastors. It is an exciting time for us all! You won't want to miss it.

**REFORMATION 500<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:**

**DVD Course discussion “Lunch with Luther”** Sunday noontime

**8 weeks, Sept. 3 to Oct. 22**

Seminary teachers make topics accessible to laity; hosted at St. Paul for Trumbull Area Lutherans; bring a brown bag lunch; drinks provided

DVD Course Description – Luther’s Legacy for Laity: Martin Luther’s legacy is a rich treasure for all Christians, but particularly for lay people. Luther, through the doctrines of justification, freedom of the Christian, bondage of the will, and vocation, provides Christians with an understanding of what God has done for us and what God wants to do through us for the sake of the neighbor. All the big questions of faith and life are found in the abundance of Reformation theology. These theologians shape how Christians view their place in the world. These presentations were filmed live at the Lay School of Ministry in the Northwest Synod of Wisconsin, ELCA. This 8-week course will have a DVD presentation and discussion totaling 90 minutes each Sunday. Come to one or all sessions. Please reserve a place by calling Lynn Golen at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 330-394-5741. All are welcome!

**Movie: “Martin Luther: The Idea that Changed the World”**

**Tuesday, October 24, 7:30 pm**

Special showing for area Lutherans at Tinseltown, Southern Park Mall (Youngstown)

**Shared Ministry Joint Worship**

**Sunday, October 29, 10:30 am**

At St. Paul Lutheran Church; finger food reception in Cassel Hall following worship

**Anniversary of the Reformation**

**Sunday, October 29, 6:00 pm**

At St. Columba Cathedral, Youngstown, Catholic-Lutheran Ecumenical Evening Prayer

**“GOD’S WORK, OUR HANDS” LUTHERAN DAY OF SERVICE:**

This year, we plan to join ELCA churches around the country in doing service projects on the afternoon of **Sunday, September 10**. On this one day, American Lutherans make a joint effort to do various small projects to help neighbors – a nationwide witness to the love of Christ. Our Social Ministry Committee at St. Paul will have a poster to describe the day displayed in the narthex. Do you have a small household job that you cannot complete on your own? Tell Pastor Winters or Judy Dodge. Or would you like to pitch in to do service on September 10? Please sign up in the narthex. The more the merrier!

### **CHOIR START-UP:**

The Choir will begin rehearsal on **Sunday, September 3**, at 9:15 am in the Choir Room. We invite new singers to join the ranks and sing the heavenly praises of the angels. Are you afraid to sing in front of people? We've got that covered – you sing from behind and above and no one can really see you. Do not worry if you cannot read music. The only requirement is that you can hum a tune and love to sing to God. Do you know of someone who can sing but doesn't know about us? Do they not have a church to call home? Tell them about St. Paul's fun-filled and Christ-filled choir. We do have fun. If you have questions or want to join but might need a reminder, contact Jeff Trimble at 724-983-6423 or lswellshoe@gmail.com. It's going to be an exciting year for us.

### **RALLY DAY:**

"Rally Day" for Sunday School begins on **Sunday, September 10**. Time is 9:30 to 10:15 am. This is a great time to instill "Christian Values" in our youth. They are the future of the church and this world that we live in. If interested in helping teach our youth, please feel free to contact Debbie Groves at 330-619-5064.

### **COFFEE CUP GREETINGS:**

Come join the St. Paul family for a coffee hour before worship and enjoy some Christian fellowship. What a good way to start your Sunday morning! The first one will be held on **September 3** beginning at 9:30 am and then we will have one on Rally Day, **September 10**, beginning at 9:30 am. After that, they will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of each month.

### **NURSERY:**

We have had an interest in having a nursery for families with young children, newborn through 5 years. The Nursery Room has a speaker so that attendants can hear what is going on in the sanctuary. All we need to make this happen is a few parents with young children who would be willing to take a Sunday. Please feel free to contact Debbie Groves at 330-619-5064 if you would be willing to attend to the nursery on a Sunday.

### **ST. PAUL SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS PROGRAM:**

The Scholarship Form, along with the requirements, can be picked up from the church secretary, Lynn, Terry Ceplecci, Debbie Groves, or Pastor Winters. These awards and Recognition Day for graduates will be held in June 2018. Please remember to sign the attendance sheets when you attend worship service since this is a requirement towards the scholarship.



### **COOKIES, PRAYERS, & LOVE**

Some of you know me and some do not. I am Pastor Linda Murray and recently retired from ministry. However, that does not mean I am retired from doing ministry which God calls me to do in my personal life. I have always said that when I plan something, God just laughs at me. Needless to say, God is having a good time with me at this time of re-adjustment in my life.

God has placed on me to do prison ministry. I am not asking anyone to come to any prison with me, but I do need your help. I have recently become acquainted with Kairos Prison Ministry and September 21-24 I will be going to a women's low-level security prison. The weekend is spent in prayer, sharing personal stories, worship, singing uplifting hymns, and, of course, showing and sharing the love of Jesus Christ. The ladies have an opportunity to reflect on their past and to know that they are not forgotten and can be forgiven for their past sins through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, just as we are forgiven for our sins through the love of Christ.

However, I do need some help from you. We give Agape Gifts or gifts of love on these spiritual retreats. These gifts range from Chap Stick, tissues, small religious items, candy, bookmarks, Bible verses written on cards, or handmade items, anything that is given with love. The Agape Gifts are given to the women throughout the retreat, but because we are in a prison, we cannot give these types of Agape Gifts. The gifts of love we can give are cookies – chocolate chip cookies – to be precise. These cookies are given to every inmate, correctional officer, and paid staff. That is a lot of people, so we are not talking about a few dozen cookies. Each of the women who are the leaders and clergy are to produce 60 dozen cookies. We have around 31 women who are working on the September retreat which equals 1,860 dozen cookies or 10,320 chocolate chip cookies! That is a lot of cookies! Like I said, I know God is laughing at me and no doubt thinks this is funny.

But the good news is that I only need 60 dozen. If 20 people would volunteer to bake only 3 dozen cookies, I could easily hand over my required amount! Please think about helping me with this. While a homemade cookie is nothing for us, these women look forward all year to the two times that a Kairos retreat weekend occurs because they know they will get something homemade and it was made with love and prayers. Oh yes, there is a prayer to be said when you make your cookies! I believe the date I will need these cookies is **September 14** (Thursday) since I need to be at the prison on the morning of September 15 for orientation.

I am also asking if you will pray for these women. I will have a sign-up sheet in the narthex to sign up for a time to pray. These are in half-hour allotments throughout the 72 hour long weekend. Prayerfully consider helping in this ministry. I will be sharing this ministry with you in the next few weeks and do not hesitate to ask me any questions. I probably will not have an answer since this is new to me, but I will do my utmost best to provide you with answers.

Shalom, Pr. Linda Murray

#### **PASTA DINNER:**

The 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee is sponsoring a Pasta Dinner on **Sunday, September 17**, from 12:00 to 3:00 pm. Menu consists of pasta, meatballs, salad, bread & butter, dessert, and hot & cold beverages. Tickets are \$8.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 12 and under. Tickets will be on sale after service on Sundays and also at the door. Take outs available. Please come and support this worthy cause! This is a Thrivent sponsored event.

#### **SAVE THE DATE – OKTOBERFEST:**

Please mark your calendars for **Saturday, October 21, 2017**. That is the date set for our annual Oktoberfest at St. Paul. As always, we will be needing lots of help in order to make this event a huge success. During the month of September, sign-up sheets will be placed in the narthex. These will be for you to volunteer to help at this event as well as to donate specific items to be included in our gift basket raffles. Please watch for these sheets or call Brenda Ceplecci at 330-534-2388 or Diana Bauman at 330-856-6034 to offer your services. This is not only a great night for fellowship, but also serves as one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. Your help will be greatly appreciated!

#### **2017 FLOWERS AND MEDITATION CANDLES:**

Weeks are still available for purchase, dedicated to your special intentions. The meditation candle is \$5.00 and flowers are \$30.00 for two vases. **Please use an Order Envelope and PREPAY your order at the time that you sign the flower and candle chart. PAYMENT ENVELOPES ARE BY THE FLOWER CHART.** On weeks where there is no paid order, the church will display silk flowers to the Glory of God. Please sign up for your special weeks while they are available.

#### **SPLASH TODAY:**

Donations are always warmly welcomed, and with your continued support, we will be able to sustain this valuable ministry to young families.

#### **GRIEF MINISTRY:**

Part of the Social Committee is Grief Ministry. Joyce Osborn (330-372-2136) is spearheading this ministry with Pr. Winters' and God's guidance and help. When a loved one dies, Joyce sends a set of four books called "Journeying through Grief" throughout the first year. Each book describes the issues and feelings that a person tends to encounter at various points of grief and the books offer suggestions on handling them. If Pastor Winters or Joyce can be of any help or if you have any questions during a time of grief, please contact either of them.

**DUE TO GOVERNMENT REGULATIONS:**

In the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), churches and clergy can no longer make written or oral public announcements of health information regarding our members. Thus, unless specifically requested by a member to share other information, we are only able to indicate where a person is hospitalized or that they have been discharged.

**BIRTHDAYS:**

- 4 = Taylor Baer
- 6 = Rachel Skoczylas
- 7 = Marlene Bittler & Jessica Waldron
- 9 = E. Richard Bowen
- 11 = Megan Hutchison & Sean Tyran
- 12 = Franca Calugar, Emily & Molly Martin
- 13 = Eleanor Baun, Amanda Marchionda, & Kyra Mymo
- 17 = Mary Reed
- 18 = William Hart & Michele Peterson
- 19 = Lyle Gardner, Logan Geilhard, Maleena Navarra, & Bonnie Thompson
- 21 = James Illencik
- 23 = Andrea Baer
- 26 = Teri Lacy
- 28 = Michelle Jarzembowski, Anna & Kathryn Lacy
- 29 = Joanne Santucci
- 30 = Kelly Hutchison

**ANNIVERSARIES:**

- 1 = Bachinger, Erik & Kathryn
- 1 = Shaw, Wendal & Jane
- 8 = Bittler, Dale & Marlene
- 13 = Waldron, Todd & Jessica
- 23 = Knouse, Joe & Helen
- 26 = Colarich, Jr., Thomas & Heidi

**ST. PAUL SERVANTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2017**

**Greeters**

9/03 Terry & Brenda Cephlecci  
9/10 Lyda Vigorito and Marin & Evan Davis  
9/17 June & Kelly Hutchison  
9/24 Lyda Vigorito and Marin & Evan Davis

**Lectors**

9/03 David Maurice  
9/10 Brenda Hart  
9/17 Kelly Hutchison  
9/24 Marty Maurice

**Flower Delivery**

9/03 Judy Muehlbauer  
9/10 Joanne Santucci  
9/17 June & Kelly Hutchison  
9/24 Peggy Skoczylas

Refer to the sheet in the Sacristy for deliveries. Mark the date of delivery opposite the person's name on the sheet. Thank you.

**Communion Assistants**

9/03 Gene Cravotta  
9/10 Brenda Hart  
9/17 Peggy Skoczylas  
9/24 Barb Basalyga

**Acolytes 10:30 service: (agreed dates by parish youth)**

9/03 Chelsea Moorhead  
9/10 Kyra Mymo  
9/17 Spencer Moorhead  
9/24 Tori Muehlbauer

**Acolytes:** Please be present ten minutes before the service begins.

**If you are unable to acolyte as scheduled, please trade with one of the other acolytes and notify Christine Mymo – 330-647-2913.** Thank you for your help! We count on you to be here!

**Ushers**

9/03 Kay Paajanen & Diana Bauman  
9/10 Kay Paajanen & Diana Bauman  
9/17 Joanne Santucci & Harry Pasku  
9/24 Joanne Santucci & Harry Pasku

**Church Closing**

Brenda Cephlecci

**Visitor Notes**

Jean Maurice

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## NEWS FROM THE SHARED MINISTRY

**Emmanuel Clothes Closet...**The Clothes Closet is open every Tuesday at 9:00 am. In need of: summer clothes (children & adults), bathing suits, deodorant, lotion, dish soap, paper towels, toilet tissue, anything for babies, plastic bags, curtains, doilies, sheets.

**Emmanuel Shopping Cart Needs for September...**Instant potatoes, canned sweet potatoes, stuffing mix, gravy (jar or mix), Vienna sausages, canned fruit, cracker snacks, cans of food with pop top lids for easy opening.

**Living Lord Card Class...**Join us for a card-making class on **Thursday, September 7**, in the Activity Room. We will be making 4 cards. Our theme will be "Four Fence Cards". Classes will be at 2:00 pm and 6:00 pm. The cost is \$12.00. Please bring adhesives like double-stick tape and liquid glue. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board. The deadline for signing up is Sunday, September 3. Emmanuel and St. Paul members are welcome to join us – call Nancy Walters at 330-889-3382 to get signed up!

**Living Lord Adult Forum...**The Adult Forum will begin on **Sunday, September 10**, with a study titled "Keep It Shut". The six part DVD study is hosted by Keren Ehman. It focuses on What to Say, How to Say It, and When to Say Nothing At All. In light of the various ways we communicate today, it is especially important to understand what the Bible teaches us. So if you talk, write, email, text, tweet, Facebook, Instagram, or still use smoke signals, this discussion is for you. Join us on Sundays at 9:15 am after the first worship service.

**Living Lord Return to Regular Worship Service Times...**We will return to our regular worship schedule of 8:00 and **10:30 am on Sunday, September 10**. Choir will also begin on Sunday, September 10, with rehearsal at 9:45 am. If you are interested in joining the Choir, please see May Crain Love.

**Living Lord Fellowship in September...**We will have Fellowship on **Sunday, September 17**, after both services.

**Living Lord Community Meal at Emmanuel Lutheran Church...**The Outreach Committee will be assisting with the Community Meal at Emmanuel Lutheran Church on **Friday, September 22**. We are in need of volunteers for setup, serving, and cleanup. Setup begins at 9:00 am with the meal being served at 12:00 noon. We also will need help from volunteer bakers to provide 12 dozen cupcakes. All from St. Paul are welcome to volunteer, too! St. Paul – please call Donna Tompkins at 330-984-0684 if you are able to assist. Living Lord - please see the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board if you are able to help. Please have your cupcakes at the church (please place them in the refrigerator) on Thursday, September 21. If you have any questions, please contact Donna Tompkins at 330-984-0684.

**From Living Lord's Parish Nurse, Dora Muller...** The summer is winding down and around the valley the canning season is in full swing. Almost all my co-workers have the pantry full with tomatoes, hot peppers in oil, green beans, peaches, and the list goes on. If you can plant, you can preserve it. One of the dangers of canning is botulism, which is food poisoning. Every fall there are reports of foodborne botulism. Botulism came from the Latin which means sausage. It was first identified in Germany during an outbreak of sickening as a result of contaminated sausage. When one follows the canning process for safe home canning, the risk of developing botulism decreases. Always sterilize your jars, use new lids for the jars, follow the safety directions to canning, and your harvest will be available for months to come.