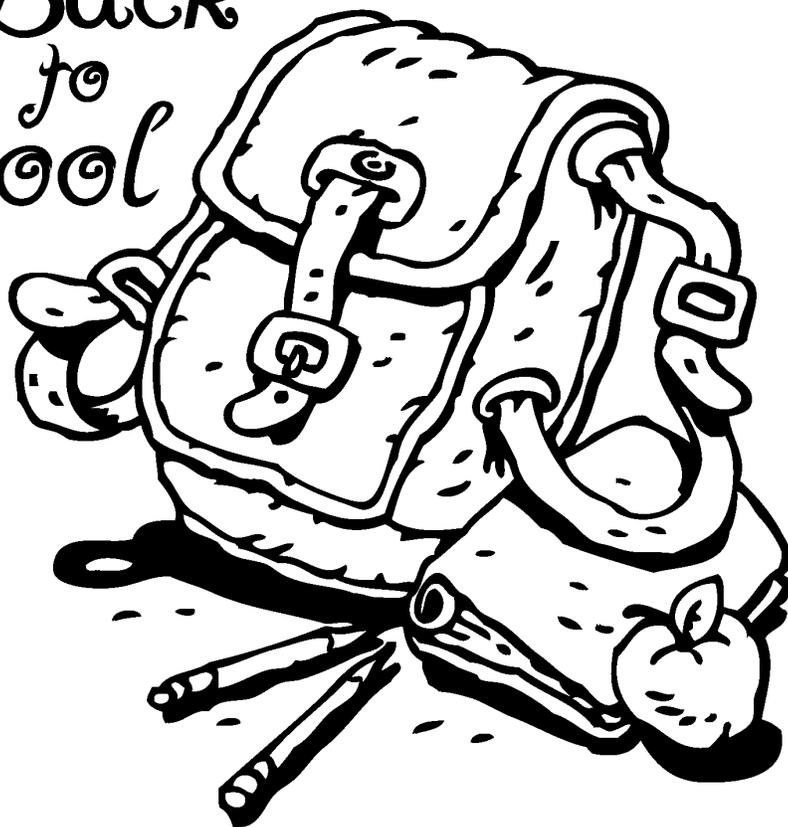


**SEASONS
SEPTEMBER 2018**

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

*Back
to
School*



**SUNDAY SCHOOL AT 9:30 am
SUNDAY WORSHIP AT 10:30 am**

FROM PASTOR ANN MARIE PERKINS: “Even if I knew the world would end tomorrow, I would still plant an apple tree today.” Martin Luther

I am happy to be home where I can be near all of my congregation and family. And since I had two months of leave, I am certainly being refreshed and rejuvenated. I look forward to my last month of leave (Sept. 17 to Oct. 27) so I can complete the cycle of regeneration that I have started. I want to give you some highlights from my sabbatical work that I have done thus far:

Intergenerational and spiritual renewal

At St. Paul, we should focus on forming intergenerational relationships with millennials and their children. Here are membership age groups and the number of members in each category:

Birth to 16 years = 19 “iKids”; 17 to 35 years = 23 Millennials;
36 to 57 years = 25 Generation X; 58 to 75 years = **47 Baby boomers**;
76 and over = 23 Builder generation

Notice the majority group of boomers! Boomers and Builders are the most religiously active generations at St. Paul, just like in the wider society. No surprises here.

Looking at the wider population beyond our church, one very important “surprise” is that while younger generations are not as “religious”, most have a belief in God, and ¾ of all Millennials consider themselves “spiritual”. I see this in a very positive light for engaging in “spiritual renewal”, as distinct from “religious activities”.

Our church should collaborate with our preschool and see that spiritual values (forgiveness, compassion, peace, mercy, fairness, etc.) are built into the school programs.

Our members should nurture relationships with preschool parents and their children.

I look forward to great discussions about these ideas and your feedback.

Your pastor,
Rev. Ann Marie Perkins

CELEBRATE THE PAST; ENVISION THE FUTURE

“THE LORD ALMIGHTY IS WITH US, THE GOD OF JACOB IS OUR FORTRESS” Psalm 46:7

For human beings, 150 years is a long time to be together! In fact, generations have worshipped and served God through the congregation of St. Paul. Our Lutheran heritage has been handed down with pride. Our core belief in Jesus Christ has remained firm and unchanging: it is that “we are saved by grace through faith in Jesus Christ”. This is a past that we now celebrate with great joy! From our humble beginnings on Vine Street, we have grown and built a beautiful house to God’s glory here on Market Street. “The Lord Almighty has indeed been with us!” (Psalm 46:7) through our worshipping, learning, and serving.

While our core faith tradition has not changed, many things in our world have changed. Just a year ago, in 2017, we celebrated the 500th anniversary of the Protestant reformation, and today the church is still reforming, as it did back then with a prodding from Martin Luther. Christianity is no longer a predominant religion in America. We are again a smaller size community of Lutherans. But that is not the end of our story! “The God of Jacob is our fortress.” (Psalm 46:7)

This means that we rely on the traditions of God's grace as we envision the future. As Kathleen Norris has written in her book, "Amazing Grace", "*God will find a way to let us know that he is with us.*" God will find us and bless us: that is the free gift of grace. When we say we are saved by grace, that means that God finds us where we gather in faith, and Jesus Christ himself is among us with his creative and saving power. May this 150th Anniversary be a time to hold fast to our past Lutheran faith in Christ, and envision a grace-filled, creative future in Him!

Rev. Ann Marie Perkins

FAREWELL TO OUR ORGANIST, JEFFREY TRIMBLE: On **Sunday, September 2**, after worship, we will have a reception to recognize and thank our Organist/Choir Director for his many years of dedication to our church. Jeff has been part of our church family for 8 years and has played a vital role in the life of St. Paul. We would like to wish him well in his new position at St. Joseph the Provider Catholic Church.

CELEBRATE GRAND-FAMILIES: "Celebrate Grand-families" is a new support group for grandparents raising their grandchildren. St. Paul is reaching out to support these families with Christian compassion and a place to meet and discuss their needs. We are starting with the group with five families from the community, and more are welcome, if you know of anyone who would fit in. While the women meet, we will have crafts, games, bible stories, snacks, help with homework, tutoring, and a fun social time for children. Church members are needed to help with the children. Sessions in September will be on **Saturdays, September 8 and 22**, from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. Please contact Brenda Ceplecci or Pastor Ann to help.

ST. PAUL NEWS & EVENTS

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Remembering those with medical challenges:

Elaine Benka, Ron Benka, Christian Groves, Jerry Groves, Don Hazel, Carol Hipple, Jim Illencik, Carolyn Marsh, David Perkins, Roy Seibert, Ken Wareham, April Williams, Andrea Wollam

Remembering those who are home bound:

Shirlee Chambers, Charles English, Harriette Shaffer

Remembering those with special needs:

Lori Akins, Donna Baldwin, Gini Cage, Elizabeth Campbell, Cathie Cimini, Amber Ellis, Connie Fowler, Bryan Giocondi, Debi Houlf, Letha Marsh, Ann Marie Perkins, Anita Rayburn, Cindy Robinson, Deanna Savon, Ondine Shiau, Diane Tullis Suloit, Shelley Town, Dean Voye, Mark Voye, Lisa Young

Remembering those in the Military:

Kirk Groves, Michael Maradin

COFFEE CUP GREETINGS: Held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, September 2 & 16.

150TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION: On **Sunday, September 9**, we will be celebrating the 150th Anniversary of the founding of St. Paul Lutheran Church, and it is quickly approaching. You may still make reservations for the dinner, which will be held at the Grand Pavilion at Avalon Inn. However, as an accurate number of the people attending is needed to give to Avalon so they can know how many meals to prepare, all reservations must be received by the church **no later than September 2**. This is a unique occasion for **all** to enjoy—whether present **or** past members. Special invitees, local dignitaries, and live entertainment will all be part of the program. Please, if you have not already done so, make plans to be a part of this joyous moment in the life of our church. **Thank you!**

BONFIRE & COOKOUT: The Teens of St. Paul are hosting a Bonfire and Cook-out on **Saturday, September 15**, from 3:00 to 10:00 pm at the Groves' Farm in Brookfield, Ohio, 405 Albright-McKay Road, SE, Brookfield, OH 44403. Everyone (all ages) from St. Paul and Living Lord are welcome. Food and music will be provided, but don't forget to bring your lawn chairs and fishing poles. Please use the sign-up sheet in the narthex so the Groves family can know how many plan on attending. Please contact Debbie Groves at 330-619-5064 if you have any questions.

SEPT. 16 SPECIAL EVENT: Church Worship and Picnic under Tent – Rally Day Events – Reception for Pastor Perkins and Pastor Collins – All food, beverages, and table services provided – Sunday School at 9:30 – Worship at 10:30 – Lunch to follow.

THANK YOU: A huge THANK YOU goes out to everyone who helped to make our Rummage & Bake Sale a big success. It took a lot of people working together to set up, organize, price, sell, and clean up in order to hold this event, and your help was greatly appreciated. Thanks also to those who baked and wrapped items for the Bake Sale. Our combined Rummage & Bake Sale raised almost \$1,700.00 for the church's general fund.

THANK YOU: We would like to express our thanks for all the cards and expressions of sympathy we received after the death of Tim's father, James Martin. We would especially like to thank Pastor Collins for conducting the memorial service and for his caring, comforting words. We are also grateful for the help of several people: Peggy and Tom Skoczylas and Kay Paajanen for helping with the luncheon, and Debbie Groves and Ruth Sarko for their help with communion. Sincerely, Tim and Amy Martin and Family

THANK YOU: Thank you very much for awarding me a scholarship. It will be very useful for my studies at Kent State. Sincerely, Kyra Mymo

HALL RENTAL: Any member wishing to rent Cassel Hall must call the office to schedule the date to be sure it is not already rented or in use by the church, the Preschool, DAR, the Red Cross, or The Solace Center. There is also paper work which needs to be filled out prior to renting.

FLOWERS AND MEDITATION CANDLES: Weeks are 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. Perkins' 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 Perkins 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) Tekac
- 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 SEPT. 2018

Greeters

09/02 June & Kelly Hutchison
09/09 TBA
09/16 Lyda Vigorito and Evan & Marin Davis
09/23 Lyda Vigorito and Evan & Marin Davis
09/30 June & Kelly Hutchison

Lectors

09/02 Kelly Hutchison
09/09 Brenda Hart
09/16 Drew Thirion
09/23 Marty Maurice
09/30 Linda Murray

Flower Delivery

09/02 June & Kelly Hutchison
09/09 Peggy Skoczylas
09/16 Diana Bauman
09/23 Judy Muehlbauer
09/30 Joanne Santucci

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

09/02 Brenda Hart
09/09 Peggy Skoczylas
09/16 Barb Basalyga
09/23 Debbie Groves
09/30 Diana Bauman

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

09/02 Chelsea Moorhead
09/09 Ethan Dodge Crucifer - Ean Dodge
09/16 Spencer Moorhead
09/23 Evan Davis
09/30 Evan Davis

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

09/02 Kay Paajanen & Diana Bauman
09/09 Kay Paajanen & Diana Bauman
09/16 Joanne Santucci & Harry Pasku
09/23 Joanne Santucci & Harry Pasku
09/30 Joanne Santucci & Harry Pasku

Church Closing

Debbie Groves

Visitor Notes

Jean Maurice