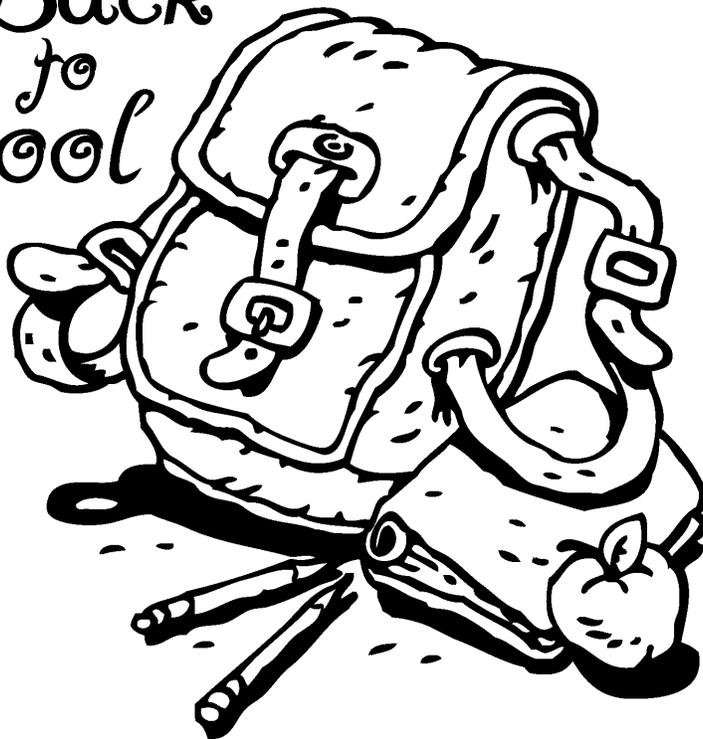


**SEASONS
SEPTEMBER 2019**

**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: “God’s Treasure”: Our Annual Stewardship Appeal

Our three week Stewardship appeal this year begins on September 22 and ends with a celebration of Consecration of our gifts and refreshments after worship on October 6. During these three weeks, we will focus on the theme that “God’s good treasure is entrusted to us.”

In the first week, we will consider the question, “What is our *true treasure*?” We will delve into a difficult parable from Luke about a dishonest steward, and also consider Jesus’ command “to serve God, not wealth”.

During week two, Paul’s first letter to Timothy instructs the faithful: “We are to do good, be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share, thus storing up the *treasure of a good foundation* for the future, so that we may take hold of the life that really is life.”

Finally in this stewardship series, we will focus *on guarding the good treasure* God has entrusted to us (2 Tim. 1:14) with the help of the Holy Spirit. With faith and humility, we are to hope and trust in the goodness of God.

Watch your mail for a letter introducing the appeal in early September, and a second letter with a commitment card to be brought to worship with you on October 6. Thank you for your response to “God’s Treasure”.

“Generous Giving makes a Big Difference every day”

We enjoy so many ministries that serve our members and reach out into the community. If you need a reminder of all we are and all we do, pick up a copy of the annual report from the church office. In it you will find a testimony to our dynamic ministries. We are sustaining a vibrant worship life, education for all members, fun fellowship times, and a ministry of evangelism. A few of our latest efforts include:

- A new Youth Director. I am especially grateful for the new Youth Director, Stacey Altieri, who is making it possible to grow a new teen youth group, and to provide more programs for children and families throughout the year. But we have to stretch our budget to assure her continuing presence with us.
- The Grand-Families group continues to serve community members who struggle with raising grandchildren and need the support and love that members of this church can provide.
- Celebrate Recovery is a program to help heal the hurts, habits, and hang-ups that keep our neighbors from enjoying freedom in God’s abundant love for us. As we organize a core group to explore how the program works, we see that it will also bring newcomers into our midst for ministry at St. Paul.

We are a vibrant church, growing stronger and younger, and our impact in the community matters to us and to Warren. Let’s keep growing with confidence in God’s abundant blessings as we give of ourselves and our resources to serve Him.

Your pastor,
Rev. Ann Marie Perkins

WHAT IS GODLY PLAY AND WHO NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT IT? Godly Play is a way of biblical storytelling for children that uses props and figures to tell major stories of the bible and to introduce a sense of wonder and awe in the child. Pastor Ann Marie and the Mossor family have been gathering materials and practicing the telling of seven key stories over the summer months. The story trays are organized in a cart for the use of our children beginning this fall. So far, we have collected materials for the following stories: The Holy Family, Creation, The Ark and the Flood, the Great Family, the Exodus, the Ten Best Ways, and the Prophet Jonah.

On **Sunday, September 22**, Andrea Hall, a trained Godly Play teacher, will be coming to St. Paul to give a workshop that will orient us to the best practices for using these resources. Any parents of children under 12, Sunday School teachers, and nursery caregivers are invited to attend and learn about this fun, creative teaching resource. We will meet after worship (at 11:30 am) and enjoy a simple pizza lunch along with the workshop.

PROGRAM UPDATE ON “CELEBRATE RECOVERY”: Many of you read in the August Seasons Newsletter that Celebrate Recovery is a weekly meeting to help the healing of painful “habits, hurts, and hang-ups”. It is a step-program based on the beatitudes of Jesus, and a personal relationship with Christ. Marty Maurice, our Evangelism Chairperson, and Pastor Ann Marie briefly presented the program at our August Council meeting. Since then, we have gathered a team of six to explore more about how the program works: Nola Bennett, Debbie Illencik, Jim Kuzman, Anna Lacy, and Marty Maurice are joining Pastor Ann Marie as the steering team. We met on August 26 to see an introductory video (it can be watched on YouTube by anyone who is curious: “Rick Warren: 7 Reasons I Believe in Celebrate Recovery”). The steering team also looked at a sample worship DVD and a newcomer’s video. We skimmed over “getting started” training materials in the Leaders’ Guide. With great enthusiasm, we decided to attend the September 12 meeting of Celebrate Recovery at First Friends Church in Salem, Ohio. We will keep you posted!

Celebrate Recovery

**Things We Are,
Things We Are Not**

Things We ARE:

- A safe place to share
- A refuge
- A place of belonging
- A place to care for others and be cared for
- Where respect is given to each member
- Where confidentiality is highly regarded
- A place to learn
- A place to grow and become strong again
- Where you can take off your mask
- A place for healthy challenges and healthy risks
- A possible turning point in your life

Things We Are NOT:

- A place for selfish control
- Therapy
- A place for secrets
- A place to look for dating relationships
- A place to rescue or be rescued by others
- A place for perfection
- A long-term commitment
- A place to judge others
- A quick fix

CELEBRATE GRAND-FAMILIES: "Celebrate Grand-families" is a 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 now have 17 families who participate*, 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 14 and 28**, from 10:30 am to 12:00 pm. Please contact Brenda Ceplecci or Pastor Perkins to help.

FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST: There is some interest in forming a fun group for fellowship. Jean Waris (a newcomer to St. Paul) and Diana Bauman will be meeting in the group room at Perkins restaurant (Rt. 46 across from the Eastwood Mall) on **Saturday, September 7**, at 9:30 am. Come have a delicious breakfast and fellowship time. Please sign up in the narthex.

ST. PAUL NEWS & EVENTS

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Praying for members with medical challenges:

Diana Bartlett, Elaine Benka, Ron Benka, Hunter Groves, Jerry Groves, Stephanie Groves, Carole Null, Roy Seibert, Ken and Jerry Wareham, April Williams, Andrea Wollam

Remembering those who are home bound:

Pastor Richard Bowen, Charles English, Jim Illencik, Jean Maurice, Harriette Shaffer

Remembering those with special needs:

Lori Akins, Donna Baldwin, Ted Buch, Gini Cage, Elizabeth Campbell, Del Cig, Cathie Cimini, Cynthia Crisasi Amber Ellis, Connie Fowler, Bryan Giocondi, Bonnie Gordon, Judy Hall, Debi Houlf, Edward Kondrad, Mary Ann Lucas, Debbie Merkel, Paulene Mudrinich, Chuck Peters, Anita Rayburn, Cindy Robinson, Rosamund Rogieri, Ondine Shiau, Everett Sillies, Diane Tullis Suloit, Shelley Town, Dean Voye, Mark Voye, Tom Weller, Lisa Young

Remembering those in the Military:

Jonathan Benka, Danielle Greenhill, Kirk Groves, Michael Maradin

THANK YOU: A huge thank you goes out to all members who worked on or supported the church Rummage & Bake Sale. There are too many people to name, but thank you to all who donated items or helped in any way. By working together we were able to raise over \$1,600 for the general fund. Your help was greatly appreciated!

COFFEE CUP GREETINGS: Held on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month, September 1 & 15.

NEW ADULT BIBLE STUDY: "Depending on Jesus" is a 10-week bible study in which participants learn how New Testament figures put their faith in Christ. We meet in the Parlor on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 beginning on **September 11**. All are welcome.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 15 - RALLY DAY IS FUN FOR ALL: This September, as we begin another school year, we will join together for an outdoor worship service on the front lawn. Bring your pets for their annual blessing! All kinds of animals are welcome. Since we have the room, even your horses can receive a blessing! Also, kids please bring your back-to-school backpacks for a special prayer of blessing. After worship, the “hotdog-firetruck music-man” will be with us to provide our grilled hotdogs and music. Please bring a side dish or dessert to share, potluck style. This will be followed by the placing of “pinwheels for peace” on the front lawn. A little bouncy house will be here, games with prizes, and corn hole will be fun for everyone! And the most important part: **COME AND INVITE A FRIEND!** Please use the sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex.

OKTOBERFEST RAFFLE BASKETS: It is time to begin collecting items for our raffle baskets for the Oktoberfest. Please check over this list of suggested items and consider donating something to make our basket raffle a success. Items can be brought to the church and placed in the designated plastic bin. Cash donations would also be appreciated and can be given to Brenda Ceplecci or Kay Paajanen. If we all work together, this should be a very successful fundraiser for the church. Suggested items: wine bottle opener, wine glasses, coasters, cocktail napkins, wine charms, etc.; Christmas items such as small ornaments, towels, decorative napkins, candles, etc.; pasta bowl, pasta sauce, grated cheese, Italian cookbooks, etc.; spa items such as bubble bath, loofa, bath pillow, body lotion, etc.

SPLASH TODAY: Splash Ministry is a monthly resource which is mailed to parents of children from ages newborn to 3 years. This resource helps young children to grow in their faith formation and provides fun and easy ideas for bringing faith into the everyday life of infants, toddlers, and their families. It also connects the church to families for support and encouragement. If you have further questions about the Splash Ministry, please see Bonnie Thompson or Brenda Ceplecci. Donations for Splash are always warmly welcomed and greatly appreciated.

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.

A SUPPORTIVE PARENTING GROUP: A supportive parenting group is beginning at St. Paul for young adults raising their children in faith as they grow in faith and life. Anyone interested should contact Pastor Perkins.

HALL RENTAL: Anyone wishing to rent Cassel Hall must first call the office to schedule the date to be sure it is not already rented or in use by the church, the Preschool, DAR, or the Red Cross. 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.

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 IN SEPTEMBER:

- 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 = Grace Greenhill, 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 IN SEPTEMBER:

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

YOUTH NEWS
From Stacey Altieri

Sunday School: With September fast approaching, we have been hard at work brainstorming and planning a new Sunday School forum for our growing needs! As we develop our ideas into action, we find that we now have two age groups – “littles” and “bigs”. Thank you to the eight Sunday School teachers who will be serving: “Littles” Kelly Hutchison, Amy Martin, Tom Mossor, and Trisha Mossor, and for “Bigs” Barb Basalyga, Diana Bauman, Brenda Ceplecci, and Judy Dodge.

TRY OUT OUR YOUTH GROUP: If you are between the ages of 12 and 18, we have a special Youth Group for you! While in the past we have simply offered confirmation instruction for kids in 7th and 8th grades, this year we are expanding to make Sunday evenings a greater experience. There will be games, social time with your friends, lessons, music, worship, community service, and more. Have some fun, get engaged, and learn something new! Beginning **Sunday, September 15, from 5:30 to 8:00 pm**, and then on alternating Sundays, we will gather at St. Paul’s Cassel Hall and Youth Room. **BRING A FRIEND!**

ST. PAUL SERVANTS FOR SEPTEMBER 2019

Greeters

09/01 Terry & Brenda Ceplecci
09/08 Terry & Brenda Ceplecci
09/15 Linda Murray & Joanne Santucci
09/22 Debbie Cravotta & Barb Basalyga
09/29 Debbie Cravotta & Barb Basalyga

Lectors

09/01 Marty Maurice
09/08 Brenda Hart
09/15 Georgia Mikola
09/22 Liz Chapin
09/29 David Maurice

Flower Delivery

09/01 Marty Maurice
09/08 Joanne Santucci
09/15 June & Kelly Hutchison
09/22 Peggy Skoczylas
09/29 Diana Bauman

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

09/01 Debbie Groves
09/08 Diana Bauman
09/15 Georgia Mikola
09/22 Lisa Thirion
09/29 Kay Paajanen

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

09/01 Sarah Durf
09/08 Chelsea Moorhead
09/15 Brooke Frazzini
09/22 Evan Davis
09/29 Dominic Frazzini

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

09/01 Kay Paajanen & Diana Bauman
09/08 Kay Paajanen & Diana Bauman
09/15 Joanne Santucci & Harry Pasku
09/22 Joanne Santucci & Harry Pasku
09/29 Joanne Santucci & Harry Pasku

Child Care

09/01 Anna Lacy & Ean Dodge

09/08 Judy Dodge & Giada Frazzini

09/15 Anna Lacy & Ethan Dodge

09/22 Brenda Ceplecci & Evan Davis

09/29 Anna Lacy & Olivia Waldron

Church Closing

Jerry Null

Visitor Notes