



ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

9340 TOWNSHIP ROAD 32, JENERA, OH 45841

PASTOR STEVEN EDMISTON
PHIL RIEGLE, YOUTH MINISTRY COORDINATOR

We celebrate God's love and forgiveness by living the Word and sharing the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

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ST. PAUL LUTHERAN WEBSITE ~ www.stpaulevlutheran.org

ST. PAUL MESSENGER JANUARY ~ 2013

FROM THE PASTOR —

As we enter into 2013 we enter into our 160th year as a congregation. St. Paul turns 160 this year. This congregation has seen many wonderful things, tragic times, jubilant moment and many more simple moments of faith and love. We enter into this year with praise and thanksgiving, with awe and repentance, with confidence that comes from knowing that Jesus Christ is born, God's peace has come and we have hope in the love and forgiveness of Christ.



This is the year we also end our occupancy of our current building and enter into a new time with a new tool to help us facilitate the ministry God has given us. We began to give thanks for this building and the way it has helped us share God's goodness. We now begin our move into a facility that will help us be more accessible and welcoming. We move to a building that will allow us to celebrate and live and share in new ways, and in ways we have always done.

The question I raise to myself is, "how can we continue to grow our ministry?" How can we continue to be the people God has called us to be. I don't have a definitive answer. I have also discovered over the years of my ministry that if it is my idea, and only my idea, I will work harder and fewer people will connect. We need to ask this of ourselves and one another. We need to ask the Holy Spirit's guidance and we need to follow Jesus.

More than anything we need to follow Jesus. We are called in our baptism to become disciples of Christ. Called to learn from, to act like, to live like, be like Jesus. There are many times when I am a Christian and a Lutheran but I need to be a disciple, we all need to learn from and follow Jesus. This year, I am going to try to give us all opportunities to become better disciples of Jesus, knowing that if we are following Jesus, we will discover ways to use our talents, our treasures, and our new building in ways that will bring glory to God.

May this be a year we can all use to become the disciples Jesus has called us to be. May God bless us as we look for ways to follow Jesus. May the Spirit guide us and may we, together, new and wondrous ways to celebrate and live and share all that God has given us.

Happy New Year, and Happy 160th!

Pastor Steve



BUILDING TO BE A BLESSING

*O God, Our Help in Ages Past,
Our Hope for Years to Come*

BUILDING PROJECT COMMITTEE WORK —

It has been fourteen weeks since we held our groundbreaking on September 16th for our new church. We have progressed from a field of soy beans to a shell of the new facility. Through God's help; dedicated workers; and numerous volunteers, our vision for St. Paul is taking shape. After this week's winter storm, our next major construction process will be the new roof. It is currently on site and ready for good weather to install it. We are now waiting for the final approvals on our interior plans, mechanical plans, and electrical plans from the state inspectors. Once these approvals have been received, the interior work will proceed.

We are often asked, "are we on schedule" or "when will it be finished?". We do feel that we are progressing at a pretty good pace. Our goal was to have the structure ready for inside work by the first of the year. We are very close to that. Depending on the progress on the inside of the structure, we should be able to finish in time for a Shipwreck 2013 dedication. Many aspects of the structure must come together in a timely fashion to make this a reality. The installation of the stained glass; refurbishing and moving of the organ; and the moving of furniture must all be done along with the finished new facility. All of this must take place while we maintain our regular and special St. Paul services and activities.

In answer to the next most asked question, "what can we do now?", the following will be of great help: Pray for continued positive outcomes for our new church; continue meeting your pledged support; and know that some interior work for volunteers is not too far off. We will be organizing many opportunities for volunteers on drywall, electrical, cleaning, painting, and moving.

As our goal continues to be Building To Be A Blessing, may this joyous season reaffirm our faith in God's work.

ST. PAUL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2012

Attendance: Jon Russell, Denise Durliat, Jennifer Griggs, Sharon Hartman, Christine Kemerley, Melissa Kroske, Patty Orwick, Tom Valentage, Kyle Kramer, and Emily Clark.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jon Russell called the meeting to order at 6:11 pm at his residence.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Jennifer Griggs provided an overview of finances as of November 30, 2012 with the account balance of \$353,904. \$25,034, current; \$312,136, building fund; \$4,638, improvement fund; \$8,731, missions; \$3,363, special projects. Current income for November was \$15,481 and operating expenses were \$16,582. Building income for November was \$26,507 and expenses were \$9,514.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the November 13, 2012 Council meeting were approved as submitted.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT (Tom Valentage):

- The new laminate flooring in the parsonage will be installed tomorrow, Wednesday, December 5, 2012 by Frey Flooring, Kirby, OH.
- A new kitchen counter top will be installed at a cost of \$477.

BUILDING PROJECT UPDATE (Jon Russell):

- Jon reported that the papers were signed for the loan November 29, 2012
- The new building should be under roof by December 31, 2012
- For the budget, we are ahead of what we planned and spent less than what we planned as of this date. According to schedule, we will not be drawing on our loan until approximately February, 2013.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Following a discussion on year-end benevolence, Sharon Hartman moved, seconded by Melissa Kroske to donate the undesignated money to the Findlay City Mission. Motion carried.

2. The Council approved a request to put out a box for the Hancock County Christian Clearing House for cleaning supplies and personal hygiene items for the months of February and March, 2013.
3. The Council approved a request to put out a collection basket for the 7:50 am and 10:00 am services on December 9, 2012 to help a church family with medical expenses and this will be matched up to \$300.

PARISH BOARD REPORT (Denise Durliat):

- The Silent Auction netted a total of \$1,500.
- The Christmas Program will be held this Sunday, December 9, 2012 at the 10:00 am service and again at 7:00 pm.

Patty Orwick moved, seconded by Tom Valentage to adjourn the meeting at 6:28 pm. Motion carried.

Sharon Hartman, Recording Secretary

Worship Assistants for January 2013

SENIOR CHOIR DIRECTOR: Lisa Bower

PRAISE TEAM DIRECTOR: Jan Grieser

ADULT HANDBELL CHOIR DIRECTOR: Tammy Robinson

CHERUB CHOIR DIRECTOR: Kelly Settlege

YOUTH CHOIR DIRECTOR: Vera Sheets

SOUND SYSTEM: Marsha Grieser, Dan Settlege, Zachary Durliat, Jason Kemerley, and Martin Grieser

ALTAR GUILD: Pastor Steve and Stacey Edmiston

WEBSITE COORDINATOR: Matt Luke

Prayer Chain Contacts

Nadine Boehm — nadineb@thewavz.com or 419-722-6370

Pam Hoffman — hoffman87@embarqmail.com or 419-358-1682

Hospital Stays

It is important to the church that we support you through illness and hospitalizations. If you are admitted to Blanchard Valley Hospital for an overnight stay we would like to know.

If you are planning an admission to any hospital, please call the church office at 419-326-3535 to let us know the date you are entering and how long you anticipate staying.

At admission to BVH, *planned or unplanned*, you (or your spokesperson) will be asked several questions,

1. Religion: this may be asked at pre-registration or at admission along with your address, phone number, etc. Please give our denomination.
2. If you wish to be on the Hospital Directory and the Religion List. These questions will be asked of you (or your spokesperson) during the "Consent to Treatment" process. Please answer "yes" to both.

In order to protect your privacy the hospital does not routinely call the church to tell us you have been admitted, unless you specifically ask them to call us. We depend on you or your family to let us know if you have been admitted.

If you have been in the hospital for a day or two and have not been visited, please ask your family or nurse to contact the church office.

A new federal law greatly restricts the disclosure of patient information by hospitals. As a result, the pastors and church office may not know that a member of the church has been admitted to the hospital. If you are hospitalized and would like to notify the pastor, it is important that you or a member of your family inform the church office as soon as possible at 419-326-3535 and the secretary will contact the pastor.

PERSONS ST. PAUL HAS PRAYED FOR DURING THE MONTH OF DECEMBER: Jean Atwood (*friend of Sally Valentage*), Kate Benroth (*Chris Sheets' friend/co-worker's 6-year old daughter who is battling Batten's Disease*), Christine Boehm, Mitchel Boehm, John Bower, Terri Carlton (*Allison Coldren's mother*), Sherri Davidson (*Christine Kemerley's friend*), Laura Feeney, Gerry Frey, family and friends of David Gibbs (*Phyllis Rettig's father*), Paul Hartman, Sharon Jolliff (*health issues*), Craig Langhals (*son-in-law of Steve and Natalie McClelland*), Rosalyn Loetz, Liz Maag (*Mary Wilson's friend*), family and friends of Yvonne L. Marquart, Judy Reed (*Bill Marquart's sister*), Brandon Reichley, Merritt Rettig, Sheryl Rettig, Betty Schroeder, Kim Shepard, Laney St. Clair (*Phyllis Rettig's co-worker's 5-year old niece dealing with cancer again*), Kellen Steinmetz, Chad and Penny Ward and baby, Joan Wilch, Kent Wilson, Loma Wilson, Anthony Wolford (*James' son*), Linda Jordan, all military personnel serving in Iraq and elsewhere including Ben Wolford, Navajo Lutheran Mission School–Rock Point, AZ, Songambele Lutheran Church–Tanzania, and the community of Newtown, Connecticut (Sandy Hook Elementary School).

Thank You ~ Thank You ~

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Parish Board Silent Auction a huge success! Thanks to the generosity of our congregation and community we raised \$1,523.00 for your educational programs.

Thank You ~ Thank You ~ Thank You !

Thank you to all for the many prayers, visits, cards, phone calls, texts, emails, and well wishes during my recent surgery and extended hospital stay. Things are moving along nicely health wise and I hope to return to worship with you all soon. Paul Hartman

St. Paul Church Women would like to offer their sincere thanks for your generous Thankoffering on November 18th. More than \$350 was collected to support the churchwide ministries of women of the ELCA.

St. Paul Lutheran Church, Thanks so much for the baby blanket. It is nice to still be a part of your church family after all these years (and 3 baby boys!) Your gift is much appreciated. Troy and Laura Fagan

Congregation of St. Paul Lutheran Church, Thank you so much for the beautiful baby blanket sent to us for our new son, Abram. It is so wonderful to have the reminder that the thoughts and prayers of the family of Christ are so far – reaching. Thanks again and God bless you. Jason, Brooke, and Abram Bormuth
(Brooke is Ernest and Naomi Bosse's granddaughter)

Thank you to all who helped decorate the church for Christmas. A special thank you to the Raymond and Barbara Bower family and David and Stacy Laird, and Lee and Laurie Laird.

Thank you so much for the calls, prayers, and cards on the passing of my mother. She is with her parents and sister now and she has no pain. Janice and Larry Wolford

We thank the Ladies of the Church for the delicious plate of goodies. Also the Hoffman's for delivering it and the pleasant visit with them, and caught up with news of our new church. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Bosse

Thank you to everyone who participated in any way for the Children's Christmas Program ~ The Mystery of the Manger. Special thanks to Sonja Eversole, Vera Sheets, Kelly Settlege, Marty and Marsha Grieser and all volunteers behind the scene for all their work ~ **GOD'S PROMISES ARE PROMISES AND THAT'S A FACT!** Thank you to everyone who donated food and to those who helped serve the Christmas Program Dinner. Parish Education Board

Pastor Steve, Stacey and their family want to thank everyone who came to the Open House. It was a wonderful day. Also we want to say thank you to everyone who remembered us with cards and gifts this Christmas season. Your good will and generosity fills us with gratitude. Thank you all for a wondrous year and we pray that 2013 will be blessed for us all.

We received into membership by Baptism ~ ~

We received into membership Kira Reanne Osborn on Saturday, December 15th at 11:00AM. Kira was born on February 26, 2004 and is the daughter of Donald and Dawn (Grieser) Osborn, Jr. Sponsors for Kira are Scott and Sherry Grieser.

We received into membership by Infant Baptism ~ ~

We received into membership by infant baptism Benjamin Robert Hirt on Sunday, December 23rd at the 11:15AM Service. Benjamin was born on May 3, 2012 and is the son of Shawn and Amber [Haugh] Hirt. Sponsor for Benjamin is Jennifer Risner.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to ~ ~

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Yvonne Louise Marquart. Yvonne, 77, passed away at 5:40AM on Monday, December 3rd at Fox Run Manor. Yvonne's private family graveside service was held on Thursday, December 6th at 10:00AM with Pastor Steve officiating. May the family and friends of Yvonne find comfort in the promise of the resurrection.

Our Christian Sympathy is extended to the family and friends of David A. Gibbs. David, 69, passed away on Saturday, December 15th at 2:54AM at Lima Memorial Health System. Rick and Phyllis Rettig are David's son-in-law and daughter. April Smith and John Rettig are David's grandchildren. May the family and friends of David find comfort in the promise of the resurrection.

Congratulations on the birth of your twins ~ ~

Congratulations to Peter and Stephanie [Ingram] Krosnosky on the birth of their twins, Jonathan David and Maren Elizabeth. Jonathan and Maren were born on Monday, December 10th at 10:20PM with Jonathan weighing 7 pounds and 5 ounces and 19 inches long and Maren weighing seven pounds and 1 ounce and 20 inches long. They are welcomed by their proud grandparents, Mike and Elaine Ingram.

Congratulations on the birth of your daughter ~ ~

Congratulations to Quentin Rana and Megan McCasland on the birth of their daughter, Kennedy Lynn Rana. Kennedy was born on November 21st and weighed 6 pounds and 14 ounces and was 20 inches long. She is welcomed by proud grandparents, David and Lynn McCasland and her aunt, Kristen.

Megan's address is: Megan McCasland

15111 Washington Street – Apt. 313
Haymarket, VA 20169-4930

Congratulations to Waqar and Erica [Boehm] Habib on the birth of their daughter, Zoya Erica. Zoya was born at 5:24PM on Monday, December 17th. She weighed 9 pounds and 8 ounces and was 21½ inches long. Zoya is welcomed by her big brother, Zaim. Proud grandparents are Allen and Christine Boehm and Leoma Grieser is her great grandmother.

CHECK OUT THE ST. PAUL WEBSITE (www.stpaulevlutheran.org) and go to the YOUTH section AND ALSO CHECK OUT THE ST. PAUL YOUTH on FACEBOOK – St. Paul Lutheran Church Youth (be sure to LIKE us).



2013 Youth Mission Trip — Our 2013 Youth Mission Trip dates are now set! We will be heading to Arizona on July 6th and return from Arizona on July 16th. Our plans have us at the Mission from July 7th through 12th. Lots of plans have yet to be developed but the beginning tenets of this very important trip are starting to come together.

Christian greeting cards are available for \$1. per card on the counter in the overflow area. This display is sponsored by the St. Paul Youth.



ST. PAUL YOUTH RECYCLES — St. Paul youth has put a box at the back of the overflow area to collect USED print cartridges from your printers. So, don't throw those cartridges away anymore, put them in the box and we will recycle them and make a few bucks in the process. Everyone wins! Anyone is welcome to place cartridges in the box. Thanks!

FIRST SUNDAY ACTIVITIES: Our January First Sunday activities will be on Sunday, January 6th. Youth in grades 4th – 6th grade will meet from 5:30PM – 6:45PM and youth in grades 7th – 12th grade will meet from 7:00PM – 8:30PM.

The Altar Flower Chart for 2013 is posted on the bulletin board outside the church office. Sign up for special dates in your lives — Birthdays, Anniversaries, Family Member remembrances, etc.

Beginning this January the Women of the E. L. C. A. will be sponsoring “Bless a Backpack” ~ feeding children in the Arlington School District through partnership with Arlington Elementary School. There are flyers on the table in the overflow area explaining this project. Each week children, who have little or nothing to eat over the weekend, will receive 2 servings of vegetables, 2 servings of fruit, 2 lunch items, 2 dinner items, 2 snacks, and 2 breakfast items. There are boxes in the overflow area to receive your donations. The following items are welcomed: **(items need to be individual servings with pull top openings)**

Individual servings of vegetables

Individual servings of fruits

Individual servings of meat-based soups / stews

Individual breakfast items (*oatmeal / grits, breakfast bar, pop tart*)

Noodles / Instant Pastas (*easy mac, spaghetti-o's, beans and franks, ravioli*)

Individual snacks (*cheese or peanut butter cracker, fruit snacks, raisins, jello, pudding, popcorn*)

Grocery Store Gift Cards

Monetary Donations

NOTICE: We are skipping the Men's Steak Fry this year at the Wilson cabin.

FREE BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE

The book, “The Cancer Chronicles”, written by a son of our congregation, Rev. Dr. Steven B. Schick, is available on the table in the overflow area. This book details Steven's “journey of faith, hope, and life” during his battle with cancer. As he has written, “I don't know if I have faith. What I know is that faith has me. Thanks be to God”. These books have been donated by his wife Linda and their two sons, Nathan and Nicholas. Please feel free to take a copy. Howard and Colleen Schick are Steven's parents.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS — DARTBALL – JANUARY and FEBRUARY SCHEDULE

[All regular season games begin promptly at 7:30PM]

Monday, January 7th 4 – Main Tournament @ Salem–Cass or
Bethel – starts at 6:30PM

Monday, January 14th Jenera Sr. @ Jenera Jr.

Monday, January 28th Jenera Jr. @ Trinity B, Findlay

Monday, February 4th Upper Sandusky @ Jenera Jr.

Jenera Sr. @ Salem–Cass, Findlay

Monday, February 11th Jenera Jr. @ Trinity C, Findlay

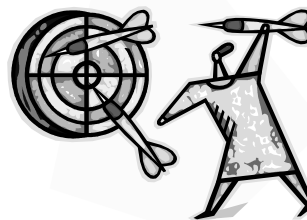
Trinity, Upper Sandusky @ Jenera Sr.

Monday, February 18th St. John's, Findlay @ Jenera Jr.

Trinity C, Findlay @ Jenera Sr.

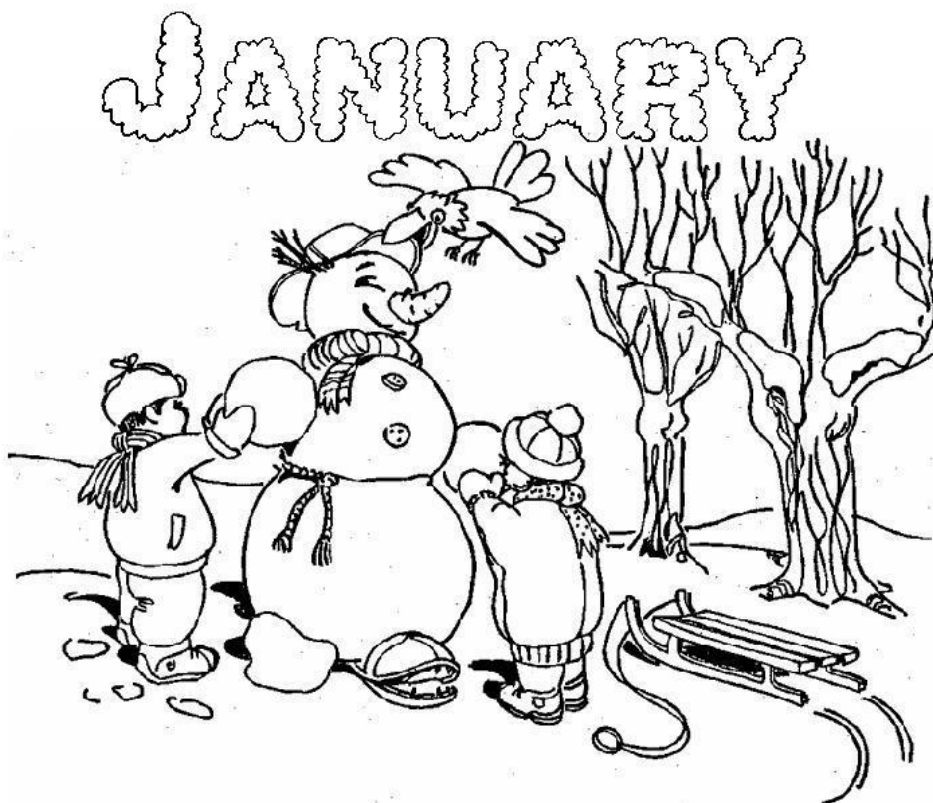
Monday, February 25th Trinity A, Findlay @ Jenera Jr.

Jenera Sr. @ St. John's, Findlay



HEY – CHECK IT OUT – The monthly St. Paul newsletter is now available on the church website – www.stpaulevlutheran.org. Go to the website and click on About Us and then St. Paul Newsletters and download which ever newsletter you would like to view.

CHECK THIS OUT — The gospel reading and the sermon are now on the St. Paul web page under **Sermons**. You can listen to them directly off of the page or download to a device if you want to take it with you to listen. The titles are a little cryptic right now but hopefully we can get them titled better soon.



January 2013 Birthdays

Wednesday, January 2 nd	Phyllis Rettig
Wednesday, January 2 nd	Braden Schroeder
Friday, January 4 th	Louise Wilson
Saturday, January 5 th	Mitchel Boehm
Sunday, January 6 th	Jessica Hoffman
Sunday, January 6 th	Hope Korte
Monday, January 7 th	Richard Crooks
Monday, January 7 th	Christine Fitzgerald
Monday, January 7 th	Jared Medvec
Tuesday, January 8 th	Holly Castle
Wednesday, January 9 th	Ken Depuy
Wednesday, January 9 th	Merritt Rettig
Friday, January 11 th	Nick Downey
Saturday, January 12 th	Cindy Boehm
Saturday, January 12 th	Lindsay Follas
Saturday, January 12 th	Devon Byrd
Sunday, January 13 th	Dorine VonStein
Tuesday, January 15 th	Carl Bower
Wednesday, January 16 th	Jan Grieser
Thursday, January 17 th	Jane Follas
Thursday, January 17 th	Camerynne Martin
Thursday, January 17 th	Dillon Amos
Friday, January 18 th	Morgan Light
Friday, January 18 th	Justin Riegler
Saturday, January 19 th	Sandra Muntz
Saturday, January 19 th	Kim Settlege
Wednesday, January 23 rd	Brylee Schroeder
Thursday, January 24 th	Olivia Griggs
Thursday, January 24 th	Vera Sheets
Thursday, January 24 th	Steve Wilson
Friday, January 25 th	Marsha Grieser
Friday, January 25 th	Wes Loetz
Friday, January 25 th	Lee Martin
Friday, January 25 th	Mary Wilson
Saturday, January 26 th	Jeff Pepple
Sunday, January 27 th	Thomas Carey
Sunday, January 27 th	Martin Grieser
Monday, January 28 th	Rosalyn Loetz
Tuesday, January 29 th	Robert Beery
Tuesday, January 29 th	Allen Beidelschies
Wednesday, January 30 th	Cody Amos
Thursday, January 31 st	Natalie McClelland
Thursday, January 31 st	Rylee Wolford



January 2013 Anniversaries

Saturday, January 5 th	Lee and Laurie Laird – 11
Wednesday, January 9 th	Tom and Sandi Marquart – 31



