

January, 2015

The Epistle—Monthly Newsletter

St. Paul Lutheran Church

106 Maple Street

Reading, OH 45215-4811



The Epistle— January, 2015

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul,

⁴ I always thank my God for you because of his grace given you in Christ Jesus. ⁵ For in him you have been enriched in every way—with all kinds of speech and with all knowledge— ⁶ God thus confirming our testimony about Christ among you. I Corinthians 1:4-6 NIV

From the above scripture, I wish to express my thoughts and well wishes as we close out 2014 and enter a New Year.

First, I have truly been blessed to have shared in your ministry. There have been so many events and programs that have taken place over the past five months - the St. Paul Players, the Dorcas quilting group, the projects accomplished by Tender Mercies, Operation Christmas Child and the live nativity program. I could go on if space permitted.

Secondly, I want to recognize all who shared in any leadership capacity from council to all the committees, as well as the church staff.

Thirdly, a "thank you" for the kindness and support given to Norma and me through kind words and greeting cards.

After Sunday, January 4th, 2015, Norma and I will be taking our annual trip to the good ole sunshine state. In the meantime, Pastor Dick Schroeder will take over as interim for the upcoming months. If the call process has not been fulfilled I possibly will return in April, 2015.

So we say, the "Peace of God" be with you all, and Happy New Year!

Pastor Bob and Norma Browning.

Pastoral Emergencies

Please leave a message at 821-0987 (church office).

Or call Sharon Prince on her cell. 513-802-0692.



Dorcas Circle

It's a new year and we have a lot to do. Ladies have been cutting many many squares for the quilt tops so we are off to a good start. Our usual meeting day is on Wednesday January 21st. When we break for lunch that day we will discuss make up days for the months we could not meet. We can always use help - especially with knotting. No special talent is needed! If you would like to join us, come and enjoy the fellowship from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm.

Elinor Schieman

Seniors Flying Solo

With the unpredictability (whew!) of the winter weather, we're planning a lunch and movie day for January. It's easy to cancel in the event the weather is much less than desirable. So, we'll meet at the church on Wednesday, January 28th at 11:00 am and go somewhere for lunch before returning to the church for movie time. Please plan to join us.



Elinor Schieman



This year St. Paul had it's second annual Live Nativity Scene on the front lawn. It was a wonderful success! All had a wonderful time and it would have been even better with nicer weather. We had a llama, cow, sheep, goats and a donkey! Mary and Joseph were in the stable with the Christ Child along with the shepherds, angels and wise men.

Thank you to **the Congregational Care Team** who planned and headed this event. Also thank you to all who made cookies, served and participated with singing, story telling and acting. Please forgive us for not listing names, do not want to leave anyone out of the list.

Another great success!

January Ministry Schedule

	Assisting Minister	Reader	Acolyte
4	Doug Lohmeier	Britt Hedges	Maggie McDowell
11	Terry McDowell	Sherry Bronner	Molly McDowell
18	Nancy Erbeck	Kathy Hirt	Matthew McDowell
25	Doug Lohmeier	Sharon Prince	Olivia Hedges

Greeters:

Altar Guild:

Linen: Elinor Schieman

Set Up: Marty Lohmeier

Clean Up: Diana Hawkins

Bulletin Folders: Ron and Carole Replogle

Valley Interfaith Ministries

Your continuous support of our mission of "**Helping our Neighbors in Need**" is a true blessing. We would not be able to assist the magnitude of people without the help from our friends and supporters of **VIFCC**. Thank you so much for all you do.

Our Meal of the Month Donation List for January

Tuna Helper

Canned Tuna (6 oz)

Canned Mixed Vegetables

Canned Pears

Jello Gelatin (6 oz)

Optional Items

Canned Soup (~26 oz)

Box of Soup Crackers

Please see menu slips on the table in the narthex

Please, **NO GLASS CONTAINERS** Through your generosity, *Valley Interfaith Food & Clothing Center* has received many needed meals to support our local community. Slips with the January Menu (to take to **Kroger** with you) are on the narthex table. These menu items are a suggestion, ***Any non-perishable food is welcome*** (NO GLASS). Please make any donation checks out to St. Paul with a notation for Valley Interfaith Ministry. A check will then be sent from St. Paul to the ministry.

Holy Grounds in the Narthex

Our coffee, tea, and hospitality counter has been restocked with coffees and teas. We purchase through Lutheran World Relief's Coffee Project, continuing our ministry across the



world. There is prepared coffee and tea while you're at church, and coffee and tea to purchase for your home and office.

Coffee for the coffee maker and filters are in the cabinet under the coffee maker. We use one pillow pack of either regular or decaf Mind, Body, and Soul per carafe of coffee. Please help keep the hospitality counter tidy.

January Birthday and Anniversary List

Jan 4 Erin Detzen
Jan 4 Jack Moorhouse
Jan 5 Nadine Aller
Jan 10 Rick Hedges
Jan 14 Pat Edwards
Jan 14 Michelle Gural
Jan 15 Sharon Prince
Jan 17 Benjamin Bangert
Jan 17 Marly Rose Bangert
Jan 18 Chris Geiger
Jan 21 Sherry Bronner
Jan 21 Janet King
Jan 23 Ali Truax
Jan 24 Christian Lohmeier
Jan 28 Mathea Harbaugh
Jan 29 Chandler Clemmons
Jan 30 Jamie Hirt
Jan 30 Robyn Reed

If your name is not on this list and you would like it to be, please contact the church office.

Thank you.



Call Committee Update

The Call Committee has interviewed, to date, two candidates for the Pastoral position at St. Paul. Of these two candidates, we rejected one and the other we brought back for a second interview, in the hope of making that individual our primary candidate; unfortunately, this candidate chose to accept a call with another congregation. We are, therefore, now awaiting some additional candidate names and profiles. We were told that with the approaching Thanksgiving/Christmas season it may not be until the first of the New Year that additional candidates may be made available to us. In addition, due to some restructuring at the Synod office, we now have a new Synod liaison for the Call Committee: Pastor Jeff Wick, Assistant to the Bishop. The Call Committee met with Pastor Wick three weeks ago, to update him on where we are in the process and to discuss future plans, as well as programs that the Synod has in place to offer us additional assistance, including Pastoral compensation assistance, if needed. We ask your continued prayers, patience and hopeful anticipation as we await our next Pastor. If you have any questions, please contact one of the **Committee members: Nancy Erbeck (Committee Chair), Jeff Baumiller (Council Liaison), Holly Ford, Jim Forst, Diana Hawkins, Britt Hedges (Committee Secretary), Carolyn Koehl and Barry Prince**. Please keep in mind, that the Committee members are unable to discuss any details, about any of the candidates, outside of the confines of the Committee, so please respect the confidentiality of the process.

Nancy Erbeck

Tender Mercies

We are in need of items for the gift baskets for our future visits to Tender Mercies.

Anything can go into a basket. Some examples are: * Small umbrellas, pocket raincoats, rain bonnets/hats, etc * Personal care items (deodorant, hair spray, bath soap, disposable razors, shaving lotion, body wash, shampoo, perfume/aftershave, Kleenex, etc...) * decks of cards * hand held games * Pringles, nuts, pretzels, etc. * canned soups, tuna, crackers, etc. * bottles/cans of soda or juice * note pads/pens/pencils/markers * picture frames, alarm clocks, small radios, etc. * bagged candy/candy bars

This list is endless. We can make a gift basket out of just about anything you'd care to donate.

We are always in need of volunteers to go to Tender Mercies to help with the Bingo game.

Please let me know if you'd like to help.

Thanks a bunch –

Marie Calhoun

WE REMEMBER IN PRAYER

One of the things God wants us to do is pray for one another. If you need prayer for yourself or for a family member or friend, please **email the church office at mail@stpaulreading.org** or call **Penny Huber at (513-931-6420)**. Please take this home and pray for those listed.

We pray for **Berkeley** (great grandson of the Curless'), **Jimmy Bertheaud** (friend of Portmann's), **Mike Clyde** (friend of the Edwards Family, **Amberly Derby** (friend of Molly McDowell), **Jeremy Doan** (Jean Winkle's grandson), **Jerry Doan** (Jean Winkle's son in law), **Wayne Ellis** (friend of the Forst's), **Bus Faulkner, Janet Faulkner, Larry Faulkner** (Bus and Freda's son, **Ken Garber, Debbie Heinz** (cousin of the Portmann's), **Dick Hibbeler** (Elinor Schieman's brother), **Marilyn Hill** (David Hill's step-mother), **Matt Huber**, (Penny Huber's son), **Michael Huber and family** (Penny's son), **Jean Huneck** (friend of Marei Calhoun), **Florence Keiser** (Loretta Forst's mother), **Margie Ketterer**, (friend of Carol Curless, **Jackie King** (Sister in law of Janet and Dennis), **Linda Kohl** (friend of the Seickmann's), **Ron Kullgren** (friend of Jean Winkle), **Patty Meinking** (friend of Marie Calhoun), **David Oaks** (son in law of Bus Faulkner), **Craig Olsen** (friend of Sieckman's) **Paul Pieper, Kevin Pong and Shawn**, (friend of the Spelman's) **Sara Rupert** (Carolyn Koehl's sister), **James Savory** (Jean Winkle's Great Grandson). **Pauline Schauer** (cousin of Cindy Seickmann), **Michael Schmitt** (Jean Winkle's son in law), **Heather Segar, Allen Sieckman, Jason Simpson** (Grand-nephew of Bus and Freda Faulkner), **Dot Smith** (friend of Marilyn Portmann), **Scott Songer** (friend of Jean Winkle) **Joanne Spears** (Bus and Freda's daughter), **Crosly Spelman, Jack Spelman, Britney Jean Teems** (Jean Winkle's granddaughter), **Sharon Turock** (friend of Marie Calhoun), **Mary Wagner, Jean Winkle and Susan Winkle**.

Please remember in prayer all the brave young men and women serving in harms way to keep us safe.

We remember especially:

We pray for our Armed Forces members:

Paul Cordes (grandson of Elinor Schieman)

Jared Forst (grandson of Jim and Loretta)

John Garbrecht (nephew & cousin to Carolyn Koehl, Karen, Susan Bardes & Joyce Hall)

Patti Garbrecht (wife of John Garbrecht)

Beau Glenn (son-in-law to Karen Koehl)

Kylie Hahn (granddaughter of Don and Gretta)

Jim Lane (nephew of Elinor Schieman)

Kyle Murdoch (friend of Holly Ford)

Jobeth Ramirez (friend of Karen Koehl)

Joey Ramirez (friend of Karen Koehl)

Joshua Rodriguez (friend of Karen Koehl)

Mack Thompson (grandson of Freda and Bus Faulkner)

Mylan Watkins (friend of the Ford family)

We pray for those near and far with ongoing health concerns who are unable to come to church every week: **Ann Christiansen, Pat Edwards, Bus Faulkner, Mary Jane Flege, Pat Hollis, Carol Leonard, Marge Malin, Jack Moorhouse, Jean Nolte, Heather Segar, and Edna Willet.**

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St. Paul Lutheran Church
A Congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
106 Maple Street

Reading, Ohio 45215-4811

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www.stpaulreading.org

8:15 a.m. Worship Service

9:30 a.m. Sunday School (Ages 3-Adult, Sept.-May)

10:30 a.m. Worship Service

Rev. Lisa J. Bernheisel	Pastor
Barry Prince	Director of Music
Leslie Willet	Sunday School Superintendent
Janet King	Sacristan
Sherry Bronner	Financial Secretary
David Hill	Drama Ministry Director
Chris Geiger	Youth Director
Sharon Prince	Epistle Editor

President	Rick Hedges	2011-2013
Vice President, Education & Stewardship	Teri DeAngelis	2011-2013
Secretary & Evangelism	Chris Geiger	2011-2013
Treasurer	Terry McDowell	2011-2013
Jeff Baumiller, Social Concerns		2012-2014
Dennis King, Property		2012-2014
Karen Koehl, Worship		2012-2014