



St. Paul United Methodist Church

THE REMINDER

Pastor's Page

Rev. Roger Mentzer



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Dear St. Paul Friends,

Please join with me as we enter a special season of focused prayer through this post-Easter season. I always try to remember that wherever I go as a Pastor and wherever we go as a church, Jesus walks ahead of us. Whether we are uncertain, confused, anxious; no matter (and at St. Paul we have reason for all of these feelings) – Jesus walks ahead to calm our fears. To give us assurance, the Apostle Paul wrote in II Corinthians 5:7, that the Christian “Walks by faith and not by sight.” With that truth spoken, we follow Jesus into the future, unafraid, for “we walk by faith.”

The journey of Jesus and the Disciples to Jerusalem began up north, about as far north as you can go in modern day Israel. Matthew 16 tells us that Jesus told his Disciples that he must go to Jerusalem for the Passover celebration, and that he would suffer many things and be killed, and then rise on the third day.” The Disciples protested. If you know what is going to happen, why on earth would you go? But we are told, “He set his face to go to Jerusalem.” Mark 10 then says, “They were on their way up to Jerusalem, with Jesus leading the way, and the disciples were astonished...” Take comfort, my friends at St. Paul. There goes Jesus out ahead of us and He will make a way. In fact, Doug Moen, has written a song that speaks to these uncertainties. Here are the lyrics:

***God will make a way, where there seems to be no way;
He works in ways we cannot see, He will make a way for me.
He will be my guide, hold me closely to His side;
With love and strength for each new day, He will make a way.
By a roadway in the wilderness, He'll lead me;
And rivers in the desert will I see.
Heaven and Earth will fade but His Word will still remain,
And He will do something new today.
(Repeat the chorus)***

This song has powerful origins. Here is the story behind the song as Moen tells it:

“I got a call from my mother-in-law late one night, and she told me that my wife’s sister and her husband, Craig and Susan Phelps, had been involved in a tragic car accident while taking their kids on a ski trip,” Don Moen recounted. “All four of their children were thrown out of the vehicle, and the oldest, a 9-year-old boy, was killed instantly. The other three were seriously injured.”

**St. Paul U.M. Church
Mission Statement:**

*To share Christ's love through
Worship, Ministry, Mission and
Fellowship*

Pastor's Page, Cont'd

"It was life-altering; I didn't know what to say to them," he continued. "Craig was a Bible teacher at his church, and they were both full of faith. As I sat on the plane, wondering what I should say to them, I began to read in the book of Isaiah, and chapter 43, verse 19 stood out to me: 'I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert.' Instantly, the Lord gave me a song to sing to them."

Privately, Moen performed the song for his grieving in-laws, which includes the poignant lyrics, "Oh, God will make a way/Where there seems to be no way/He works in ways we cannot see/He will make a way for me."

"It was a song written in desperation, but it brought a word of hope to them. When everything around you seems lost, God is working in ways you cannot see."

In this season of our history, let us pray for the way that God will make, even though we cannot see it. Jesus goes ahead of us. Take comfort. Pray for the leadership of our congregation that we may be steadfast in our commitment to the mission. Pray for the staff of our congregation that they will follow Jesus as he makes a way by walking ahead of us. Yes, let us covenant to make this a season of prayer. Amen.

Better Disciples, More Disciples
Yours in Christ's love,
Pastor Roger



UPCOMING EVENTS

Watch for more details in e-mails and bulletins.



Happy Spring! Think about getting out to help a neighbor in need. Consider volunteering for SpiriTrust Lutheran Home Care & Hospice. Make friendly visits to hospice clients in York County or make supportive phone calls to grieving families. For more information please call Cathy Sweeney, Volunteer Coordinator at 570-599-5390.



United
Women
in Faith



MISSION
CENTRAL

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH – PLANS FOR APRIL

On Wednesday, April 10, the UWF will have a work day at Mission Central. We will carpool from the church at 8:00 AM and work from 9:00-11:00 AM. We will stop at Hoss's for lunch on the way home. Anyone in the church may join us if interested. This will take the place of our Monday, April 8 meeting. A sign-up sheet is in the hallway.

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Editor: Karen Heath

Caroline Long, Erma Schaffner, Carolyn Zeigler, Marianne Hileman and Judy Hilliard.

Special thanks to our volunteer Reminder assembly helpers:

If you would be interested in joining our newsletter assembly team, please contact the church office.

Stewardship Report

FEBRUARY, 2024 FUNDS SUMMARY

Current Month Beginning Cash Balance: \$166,885.65 (Per M&T)

GENERAL FUND

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Income:			
All Giving, Specials, Interest, Misc.	\$ 16,665.60	\$ 20,408.32	\$ (3,742.72)
<u>EXPENSES:</u>			
Dues, Payroll, Committee Expenses	\$ 19,198.72	\$ 23,856.18	\$ (4,657.46)
DIFFERENCE OF:	<u>\$ (2,533.12)</u>	<u>\$ (3,447.86)</u>	<u>\$ 914.74</u>
Current Month Ending Cash Balance	\$ 162,606.50		
<u>LESS:</u> Restricted Designated Funds Bazaar, Building Fund, Music Fund, Missions, etc.	\$(113,438.80)		
Total Non-Designated Funds	<u>\$ 49,167.70</u>		

BUILDING FUND

Current Month Beginning Cash Balance: \$ 43,393.12

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
INCOME	\$ 157.00	\$ 1,708.34	\$ (1,551.34)
PAID ON LAND LOAN	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Current Month Ending Cash Balance	<u>\$ 43,550.12</u>	<u>\$ 1,708.34</u>	<u>\$ 41,841.78</u>
Land Loan paid off April, 2021			

GENERAL FUND - YEAR TO DATE FUNDS SUMMARY, FEB., 2024

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
YTD INCOME:			
All Giving, Specials, Interest, Misc.	\$ 33,456.06	\$ 40,994.10	\$ (7,538.04)
YTD EXPENSES:			
Dues, Payroll, Committee Expenses	\$ 43,081.33	\$ 47,504.02	\$ (4,422.69)
DIFFERENCE OF:	<u>\$ (9,625.27)</u>	<u>\$ —</u>	

Tithes & Offerings

Offerings & Tithes for FEBRUARY, 2024

SERVICE DATE	S.S.	GIVING	SERVICE DATE	S.S.	GIVING	Attendance for FEBRUARY, 2024
Feb. 4 - 8:45 AM	\$46.00	\$2,817.00	Feb. 18 - 8:45 AM	\$38.00	\$2,024.00	
Building Fund		21.00	Building Fund		5.00	
Missions		20.00	Missions		1.00	8:45 AM Worship
Initial Offering		5.00	Lenten Offering		20.00	2/4 – 78 (+56 online)
Utilities/Salaries		20.00	Ash Wednesday		36.00	2/11 – 83 (+ 46 online)
E-Giving		\$928.00	Easter Flowers		16.50	2/24 – 48 (+ 0 online)
Offset Fee		14.00	Utilities/Salaries		20.00	2/18 – 80 (+46 online)
Building Fund		110.00	E-Giving		\$728.00	2/25 – 90 (+25 online)
Missions		10.00	Offset Fee		4.00	
SPY		10.00	Feb. 25 - 8:45 AM	\$10.00	\$2,044.00	Sunday School
SPARK		10.00	Building Fund		1.00	2/4 – 16
Music		10.00	Missions		20.00	2/11 – 21
Endowment		10.00	UMCOR		1.00	2/18 – 14
Food Pantry		10.00	Lenten Offering		10.00	2/25 – 5
Human Relations		10.00	Ash Wednesday		26.00	
Outreach/Missions		10.00	Easter Flowers		74.00	
Feb. 11 - 8:45 AM	\$62.00	2,456.00	E-Giving		\$1,718.00	
Building Fund		30.00	Offset Fee		4.00	
Human Relations		10.00	SPY		35.35	
Lenten Offering		1.00	St. Paul Staff		240.00	
Sunbeam Station		1,150.00	Endowments		50.00	
E-Giving		\$980.00				All services are recorded and can be viewed online.
Offset Fee		4.00				
Missions		10.00				
Feb. 14 - Ash Wed.		\$301.00				
Lenten Offering		110.00				





Notes of THANKS

I would like to thank the members of St. Paul Church for helping me raise money for the American Heart Association. With \$621 coming from the church, I was able to raise \$1,001, beating the second-place student by \$451.57. God has truly blessed me with a generous and supportive church family.

*Thank you so much.
Emma Zeigler*

Thank you so much for the care package, it was so thoughtful and kind of you to think of me! With my busy schedule this semester, it was so much help and made me so happy! I really appreciate the kindness you have given me.

Hope Allen

Thank you for your support of the Northeastern Food Pantry. Your kindness is a prayer in action on behalf of the people in need.

*Sincerely,
Northeastern Food Pantry Secretary*

Dear United Women in Faith at St. Paul, Thank you so much for your generous Valentine's gift box. It was a big blessing to be able to restock my cupboards with fun snacks for studying! I am also sharing the food with my roommate, and we are looking forward to enjoying it together. I wanted to let you know that your act of kindness really made my week!

*Thank you again,
Lindsey Heyd*

Dear St. Paul United Methodist Church, Thank you so much for your kind care package! It was such a sweet surprise to receive and I am grateful for your generosity. It was encouraging to me at this point in my semester and the snacks have been great for fueling my study time and sharing with friends.

*Thank you again,
Kaitlyn Heyd*

Announcements

Thank you so much St. Paul congregation for filling the Easter eggs. Many hands make light work. The willingness of our church is a testament to God's word of service.

*Bonnie Seidel, Becky Mulfinger
and Dianne Worden.*

Thank you for participating with Operation Christmas Child in 2023 by packing shoeboxes and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ with children around the world! Thanks to your partnership, we collected \$16,290 shoebox gifts in York County last year! Looking forward to partnering with you again this year.

*Lisa Byrne
York Area Coordinator,
Samaritan's Purse*

In Loving MEMORY

Doris Kline went home to be with the Lord on Tuesday, March 5. She joined in June of 2017. Our thoughts and prayers are with her daughter, Diane Wolf. A service was held on Monday, March 11 at Diehl's Funeral Home.

Announcements

Daily Devotional UPPER ROOM

March / April Upper Rooms

If you wish to sign up to have the Upper Room issues placed in your mailbox, please contact the church office. Upper Rooms are also available on the table next to the mailboxes, at church entrances and in the holder on the signup table for your use. Please also let the office know if you no longer wish to receive them in your mailbox



Outreach Committee and Sunbeam Station Food Pantry Collections

Our collection item for APRIL will be **CANNED KIDS' PASTA**. The monetary donation box is still available in the Narthex for your monetary donations to the pantry. Thank you for your continued support of the N.E. Food Pantry!



APRIL **BIBLE BUDDIES** **SUNDAY SCHOOL TOPICS**

- 7 Spring (Make Hyacinths)
- 14 Jesus Goes Home (Ascension)
- 21 Two Houses
- 28 The Good Samaritan

Northeastern Food Pantry

4832 N. Sherman St. Ext.
Mt. Wolf, Pennsylvania 17347
717-266-6785

MARCH 2024 e-Newsletter

Pantry Hours

Mon: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Tues: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.
Wed: 1:30 to 4:00 p.m. Thurs: 6:30 to 8:30 p.m.
Fridays: 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

The Pantry Hours are based on volunteer availability. Please call to make sure we are open.

We always need volunteers. Please consider volunteering at the Food Pantry. Please contact Belle Craul at 717-870-4128 or belle18@verizon.net for more information.

*****APPOINTMENT CARDS *****

There are APPOINTMENT CARDS on the table in Pantry. If the clients are able to, you may schedule the client for their next appointment and give them an appointment card. Clients may only be scheduled for the dates where we have volunteers scheduled to work.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR GIANT FOOD PICK-UP

Male volunteers (preferred due to weight of food items) needed to do food pick-up at Giant on FRIDAY mornings; every other month. Call Sue Kennedy at 717-266-6785 if interested or need more information. Leave a message; Sue will call back.

DONATION ITEMS NEEDED

The following items are needed: Jello & Pudding (regular & sugar-free); Ramen Noodles, Paper Towels, Canned Pasta Dinners (lasagna, ravioli, spaghetti), & Shampoo. Items can be placed in the donation box located near the entrance of the Food Pantry behind Starview UCC. Please call ahead if you want to drop off the items during Pantry Hours.

FEBRUARY 2024 food distribution statistics

We were open 19 days in February. We provided supplemental groceries and personal care items to 208 people in 75 households. We assisted 103 adults, 57 seniors and 48 youth. New households served was 5 with 10 new individuals, including 1 youth, 5 adults, and 4 seniors. (FYI: Senior = 60 yrs +; Adult = 18-59 yrs; Youth = 0-17 yrs.)

The Mission of NEFP

The Mission of Northeastern Food Pantry is to provide supplemental groceries to those in need (in our service area). This means the groceries we provide are to help supplement what our clients are able to purchase.

Barbara Krier, Newsletter Editor
barblkesq@juno.com



2024 CAMP REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!

Get your kids excited about spending time at summer camp this year! For more information, visit www.susumc.org or **REGISTER HERE**. There will also be a pamphlet on the table in the hallway with listings of camps available.



It is important that we keep up with our kids in College to celebrate what they are doing. We want you to know that Jess Kunkle chose a wonderful mission alternative to the typical Spring Break. She and 7 others from Wilkes University have traveled to Colorado to work on a special Habitat for Humanity Project. She left home on Sunday, March 3 and returned on Sunday, March 10. We are sure that she has some wonderful stories to tell as she engaged a community in need. We join her parents, Kim and Jeff, in celebrating her choice to be in mission over spring break.



Come and Celebrate Spring with the St. Paul OFF-Time Fellowship. AMISH MEAL AT THE HOME OF BARBIE & AARON BLANK 170 Blank Rd., Narvon, PA Thursday, May 2 at Noon

Please consider joining us as we celebrate the beauty of spring while traveling through Lancaster County. Our destination will be the home of Barbie Blank. There, we will enjoy her wonderful cooking with an authentic Amish meal. Your meal starts with a salad and homemade bread or rolls. Our main course includes roast beef and chicken with traditional Amish side dishes. And of course, there will be dessert of either freshly baked pie or cake.

Cost is \$25 per person, cash only.

We will be leaving the church at 10:45 a.m.

There is a signup sheet in the hallway. We will need a head count by April 26. For additional information, please contact Cindy Hilbert at 717-887-4635 or cindyhilb@comcast.net.

OTHER UPCOMING OFF-TIME EVENTS

August 3 - Picnic at John Rudy Park
November 14 - Sight & Sound (Daniel)
February 6, 2025 - Lunch & Planning

**A PUBLICATION OF
ST. PAUL UNITED
METHODIST CHURCH**

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Phone: 717-266-6555

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April 10

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karenheath@stpaulmanchester.org

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Phone: 717-266-2506 or 717-266-0667 FAX: 717-268-8703
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Office Hours: Mon. 8AM-4:30PM, Tues, Wed, Thurs. 8AM-12PM
(Hours may vary when necessary)
CUSTODIAN Greg Hileman - 717-501-4835
TREASURER Marianne Hileman 717-668-1216

MISSIONARIES

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