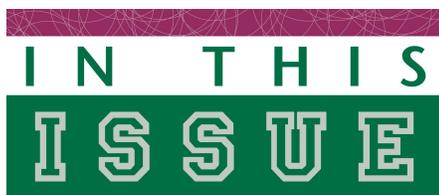


*St. Paul United Methodist Church*

# THE REMINDER

*Pastor's Page*

*Rev. Roger Mentzer*



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Dear Friends in Christ,

Thom Ranier, a keen observer of Church Culture was asked for his opinion about the characteristics of healthy churches today. He began to review in his head those churches that he felt were having a great community impact, whose members regularly had gospel conversations, and whose leaders faithfully preached the Word with power every week.

He settled in on several characteristics of the thirty plus churches that he would unequivocally designate as healthy. He said, "When it was all said and done, I had nearly fifty different traits. But I was able to put most of these traits into one of seven categories."

1. **They truly believe in the power of the gospel.** Sure, most church members and leaders would affirm their own belief in the power of the gospel. But few would actually act on that belief. Few actually move into areas and directions that can only be accomplished in God's power. For most churches, it's lip service. But not so for these healthy churches.
2. **They have courageous leaders, not just pastors, but lay leaders, too.** I call them "Joshua leaders." They are ready to lead the people into the community and storm the gates of hell. They remind the members to be courageous. One pastor put it this way: "I don't want to live a life without making a difference in God's power. I will accept the challenges, the risks, and the criticisms to be able to make a difference."
3. **They embrace change.** Many church members, and some church leaders, fiercely resist change. They idolize the past, the way we've always done it. Or they fear the future and God's provisions for the future. But the healthy churches on my watch list embrace change as long as it does not go counter to biblical truth. These churches don't spend their energies and resources trying to convince people to move forward. They are ready to go!
4. **They are not nostalgic.** Sure, these church members honor and respect the past. But they don't live there. They are constantly anticipating what God will do in the present and the future. They don't have time to be nostalgic, because they are too busy moving forward, ready to take the next faithful step.
5. **They see reality.** They don't just see reality; they make highly intentional efforts to see reality more clearly. They often have secret guests evaluate their churches. They use tools to help them improve. They don't fear finding something negative with their churches, because those findings become areas for improvement.

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

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

# Pastor's Page, Cont'd

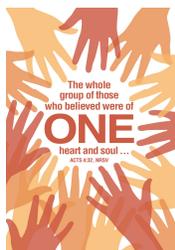
6. **They intentionally intersect their lives with non-Christians.** They see their weekday vocation as a mission field. They see their neighborhoods as their Jerusalem in Acts 1:8. They intentionally work and do business with non-Christians. They are highly intentional about inviting people to church.

7. **They accept responsibility.** Too many church members and leaders blame the changes on culture. Healthy churches see those changes as opportunities. Too many church members and leaders blame their denominations for not providing for them. Healthy churches accept their own responsibility for impacting the community. Too many church members and leaders blame other churches for taking their members and guests. Healthy churches realize the fields are truly white unto harvest. They believe other churches are partners in mission, not competitors.

Obviously, his list is not exhaustive. But these are the seven main buckets of traits I saw as I surveyed the landscape of healthy churches. What things would you add to this list?

Better Disciples, More Disciples.

Roger



## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday, March 3 - No events planned
- Sunday, March 10 - 1:30 PM: Confirmation Class
- Sunday, March 17 - No events planned
- Sunday, March 23 - 9:30 AM: Easter Egg Hunt
- Sunday, March 24 - 1:00 PM: Hike at Lake Williams
- Sunday, March 31 - Happy Easter!

Watch for more details in e-mails and bulletins.



United Women in Faith

### United Women in Faith Group CALL TO PRAYER AND SELF-DENIAL

On Monday, March 11, the United Women in Faith will hold their annual Call to Prayer and Self-Denial event. No refreshments will be provided.

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Editor: Karen Heath **Special thanks to our volunteer Reminder assembly helpers:**  
Caroline Long, Erma Schaffner, Carolyn Zeigler, Marianne Hileman and Judy Hilliard.

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

# Stewardship Report

## JANUARY, 2024 FUNDS SUMMARY

Current Month Beginning Cash Balance: \$173,789.79 (Per M&T)

### GENERAL FUND

	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
Income:			
All Giving, Specials, Interest, Misc.	\$ 16,739.46	\$ 20,585.78	\$ (3,846.32)
<u>EXPENSES:</u>			
Dues, Payroll, Committee Expenses	\$ 23,882.21	\$ 23,856.18	\$ 26.03
DIFFERENCE OF:	\$ (7,142.75)	\$ (3,270.40)	\$ 3,872.35
Current Month Ending Cash Balance	\$ 166,885.65		
<u>LESS:</u> Restricted Designated Funds Bazaar, Building Fund, Music Fund, Missions, etc.	\$(114,357.54)		
Total Non-Designated Funds	\$ 52,528.11		

### BUILDING FUND

Current Month Beginning Cash Balance: \$ 43,218.12

	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
INCOME	\$ 175.00	\$ 1,708.34	\$ (1,533.34)
PAID ON LAND LOAN	\$ —	\$ —	\$ —
Current Month Ending Cash Balance	\$ 43,393.12	\$ 1,708.34	\$ 41,684.78
Land Loan paid off April, 2021			

### GENERAL FUND - YEAR TO DATE FUNDS SUMMARY, JAN., 2024

	<b>ACTUAL</b>	<b>BUDGET</b>	<b>DIFFERENCE</b>
YTD INCOME:			
All Giving, Specials, Interest, Misc.	\$ 17,110.46	\$ 20,55.78	\$ (3,475.32)
YTD EXPENSES:			
Dues, Payroll, Committee Expenses	\$ 23,882.21	\$ 23,856.18	\$ 26.03
DIFFERENCE OF:	\$ (6,771.75)	\$ (3,270.40)	

# Tithes & Offerings

## Offerings & Tithes for JANUARY, 2024

SERVICE DATE	S.S.	GIVING	SERVICE DATE	S.S.	GIVING
<b>Jan. 7 - 8:45 AM</b>	\$40.00	<b>\$2,080.00</b>	<b>Jan. 21 - 8:45 AM</b>	\$28.00	<b>\$2,167.00</b>
Missions		10.00	Building Fund		20.00
Initial Offering		60.00	Initial Offering		15.00
Flowers		47.00	Bazaar		30.00
<b>E-Giving</b>		<b>\$1,028.00</b>	Utilities/Salaries		800.00
Offset Fee		14.00	<b>E-Giving</b>		<b>\$728.00</b>
Building Fund		110.00	Offset Fee		4.00
Missions		20.00	Endowments		50.00
SPY		10.00	<b>Jan. 28 - 8:45 AM</b>	\$60.00	<b>\$2,362.00</b>
SPARK		10.00	Building Fund		5.00
Music		10.00	Missions		41.00
Endowment		10.00	Initial Offering		10.00
Food Pantry		10.00	Utilities		10.00
Human Relations		10.00	Salaries		10.00
Outreach/Missions		10.00	<b>E-Giving</b>		<b>\$718.00</b>
<b>Jan. 14 - 8:45 AM</b>	\$30.00	<b>\$3,315.00</b>	Offset Fee		4.00
Building Fund		50.00	SPY		35.35
Missions		30.00	St. Paul Staff		240.00
Initial Offering		35.00			
Human Relations		50.00			
Sunbeam Station		1,150.00			
Refund		88.61			
<b>E-Giving</b>		<b>\$878.00</b>			
Offset Fee		4.00			

Attendance for  
JANUARY, 2024

**8:45 AM Worship**

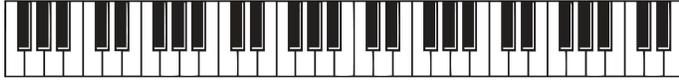
1/7 – 44 (+85 online)  
1/14 – 74 (+ 44 online)  
1/21 – 80 (+ 35 online)  
1/28 – 80 (+29 online)

**Sunday School**

1/7 – 5  
1/14 – 10  
1/21 – 9  
1/28 – 15

All services are  
recorded and can be  
viewed online.





# Notes of THANKS

Hi, St. Paul Congregation,  
 A BIG Thank you to everyone who helped to support the "Love Boxes." What a blessing you all are! We packed 12 boxes and had help from: Caroline & Bruce Long, Evelyn Rider, Marge Rost, Kay Matthews, Cindy Hilbert, Judy Hilliard, Charlotte Lease, Kim Perone, Deb Jacobs, and Keith Zeigler. Good workers! Thank you again from the United Women in Faith. Thank you Karen Heath for helping by printing our labels and storing our goodies. Happy Valentines Day to all! Blessings in Christ's Name,  
 Carolyn Zeigler

Hello Congregation,  
 Thank you for your support! We depend on the partnership of friends like you to share the love of Christ through our ministry. Because of you, our Home Helps program can continue to meet the needs of low-income families, older adults, and people with disabilities by providing no cost home repairs. These life changing repairs can make homes safer, healthier, and more accessible for our neighbors. Your generosity makes a difference, and we couldn't do this work without you! Thank you and God bless,  
 Joe Sylo  
 Director of Development at Servants

Hello St. Paul,  
 I just wanted to reach out and thank everyone for putting together the Valentines snack box. It was very thoughtful and I appreciate it a lot.  
 Jess Kunkle

I just wanted to send a quick announcement to say thank you to all of St. Paul for the super sweet Valentine's Day box. I loved all of the snacks and small gifts. My roommates really enjoyed some of the snacks as well. I appreciate all that the congregation does for me and other college students while we are away at school. I really appreciate everyone. Thank you!  
 Gretchen Turner

## Announcements



### Holy Thursday

#### MAUNDY THURSDAY DINNER

On Thursday, March 28 at 5:30 PM, we will host a dinner before the Maundy Thursday service at 7:00 PM. We will provide the main course, dessert and drinks. Those attending the service are encouraged to bring a side dish to share. A signup sheet is in the hallway. Please sign up so we have an idea of how much to prepare.



- |         |                                   |
|---------|-----------------------------------|
| 3/28/24 | 5:30 PM - Maundy Thursday Dinner  |
|         | 7:00 PM - Maundy Thursday service |
| 3/29/24 | 7:00 PM - Good Friday Service     |
| 3/31/24 | 8:45 AM - Easter Sunday service   |

# 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 **MARCH** will be **CEREAL**. 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!



## **MARCH** **BIBLE BUDDIES** **SUNDAY SCHOOL TOPICS**

- 3 (NO CLASS)
- 10 St. Patrick's Day
- 17 Last Meal Together
- 24 Palm Sunday (Jesus Prays in the Garden)
- 31 Easter (NO CLASS)

## **Northeastern Food Pantry**

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

### **FEBRUARY 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—UPDATED**\*\*\*

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.

#### **JANUARY 2024 food distribution statistics**

We were open 20 days in January. We provided supplemental groceries and personal care items to 266 people in 100 households. We assisted 139 adults, 56 seniors and 71 children. New households served was 10 with 29 new individuals, including 8 children, 17 adults, and 4 seniors.

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](mailto: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](http://www.susumc.org) or **REGISTER HERE**. There will also be a pamphlet on the table in the hallway with listings of camps available.



## **ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT**

Our annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday, March 23 at 10:00 a.m. We will need volunteers to help that day and donations of candy to hide in the eggs for the kids. A form is in your inserts to fill out and place in the box in the hallway to register the kids. Contact Bonnie Seidel, Dianne Worden or Beck Mulfinger if you would like to help or donate candy/prizes. Forms to register children for the event can be found in the Sunday bulletins. Please drop them into the designated box on the sign-up table.



## **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 home-made 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](mailto: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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Manchester, PA 17345  
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www.stpaulmanchester.org



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INTERIM PASTOR Roger Mentzer  
Phone: 717-870-8212 E-mail: [rmentzer@susumc.org](mailto:rmentzer@susumc.org)  
OFFICE MANAGER Karen Heath  
Phone: 717-266-2506 or 717-266-0667 FAX: 717-268-8703  
E-mail: [karenheath@stpaulmanchester.org](mailto:karenheath@stpaulmanchester.org)  
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

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Southern Florida

Pat & Karen Myers  
12 Big Horseshoe Drive  
Horseshoe Village  
Quezon City 1112  
Manila, Philippines  
E-mail: [pkmyrsnz@gmail.com](mailto:pkmyrsnz@gmail.com)

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