
January 2018

2017 Year-End Giving

If you plan to make a year-end contribution to St. Paul we ask that you offer it by Sunday, Dec. 31 in order for it to be included on your 2017 giving record.

Thank you.

Brunch Club – Sun, Jan. 7, 10:30am *(following the worship service)*

Brunch food will be provided, but you can bring a food item to share if you choose.

Free-will donations will benefit “Forwarding Faith” (information about this printed in this newsletter)

OPPORTUNITIES for INVOLVEMENT for ALL YOUTH !

MS/HS Youth: *Brunch Club - Sun., Jan 7 (1st Sunday each month) : Please come at 9:30am help prepare food and set up. Bring a dish to share if you are able.*

Free-will donations during this event will benefit “Forwarding Faith” (information on this printed on another page of this newsletter)

Grades K - 5: *Sunday School classes during worship service (approx. 9:40am) – These students will be excused from the worship service.*

All Youth:

Join us Sundays at 9:30am for Worship Service: Volunteer as an acolyte, crucifer, greeter, or tray holder, etc. Bring canned items for the Strasburg Compassion Cupboard: spaghetti noodles and canned spaghetti sauce

FROM OUTGOING COUNCIL PRESIDENT

To St. Paul Congregation,

It has been an honor to serve on St. Paul church council and as your council president the past three years. We have been through a lot together and have seen some highs and lows. I sincerely appreciate the support shown me and other members of council during this time. We now have new challenges and NEW OPPORTUNITIES ahead of us. Let us join together to move forward with a renewed life at St. Paul. Reach out to your council members and let them know what you think will make St. Paul better. Volunteer your time and talents in an area of the church that you are interested in.

Everyone is needed so ask yourself "how can I help"? Let's move forward in 2018 with a "renewed spirit within us". Now is our opportunity to make positive changes!

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to serve!!

Happy New Year to all. May God bless our church!

Randy Painter

FROM PASTOR NABERS

Thank you to all who came out to the reception on the 17th. June and I greatly appreciate the support and encouragement we received. Thank you also for your generous gifts and the lasting memories you helped create. I want to encourage you to continue to hold me up in your prayers. I want you to know that you remain in my prayers and thoughts.

Finally, I want to thank you for the Holy privilege of serving as your Pastor. You invited me into your lives and hearts. We have shared a lot of important moments. I know this has been a meaningful time of ministry for us all. Let us give thanks and trust the Lord as we move into His future.

Blessings,
Pastor Nabers

Strasburg Compassion Cupboard
is requesting the following items during January:

spaghetti noodles * canned spaghetti sauce

Bring these items to church. A drop box is in the Narthex.

St. Paul's Annual Fruit Baskets to our Homebound Members

Many thanks to Ina Rae Crisman for purchasing the items and assembling these fruit baskets.

We also thank Missy & Maggie Miller and Ina Rae & Samantha Crisman for delivering the fruit baskets to our homebound and nursing home members.

January Birthdays

Hayden Fravel - 5

Alissa Miller - 6

Daniel McMullan - 7

Chelsea Price - 7

Olivia French Lambert - 8

Susan Phillips - 8

Suzanne Arthur - 9

Tanner Patton - 9

Elijah Wertz - 11

Roberta Ritenour - 12

Boden Waller - 12

Olivia Gochenour - 13

Matthew Chimento - 14

Amy Spencer - 14

Janna Stover - 14

Lydia Brown - 15

Amy Stickley - 15

Gloria Stickley - 15

Carolyn Baker - 16

Robert Smith - 17

Janet Sine - 18

Barbara Stickley - 18

Ian Baker - 20

Amos Morris - 20

Logan Cooper - 23

Samuel Shelton - 23

Deacon Maddox - 24

Jean Racey - 26

Ian Orndorff - 27

Gwen Abruzere - 31

If your name and birth date is not listed, please contact the church office: (465-3232; stpaulstrasburg@gmail.com)

We celebrate the following:

Baptized Oct 29: Boden Waller

Confirmed Oct 29: Hayden Fravel

Married Nov 18: Julie Carper & Kevin Hay

Baptized Nov 19: Delaney Henschel

Mamie Putnam has moved.

Her new address is: [126 Mountain Cove Drive](#), Hardy, Va. 24101

**Join us every Sunday at St. Paul Lutheran Church
156 W. Washington Street, Strasburg, VA**

- 9:00am St. Paul Singers practice
- 9:30am Worship Service with Holy Communion
- 9:40am Sunday School for K-5 graders

Invite
Friends
And
Family!

Sun., Dec 31: normal Sunday schedule (above) and, our 5th Sunday Special Offering will benefit the ELCA campaign - "Forwarding Faith".

This campaign seeks to endow the personnel and resources need to guarantee the continuation and growth of the excellent youth ministry and faith formation ministry of the Synod. The foundational Biblical passage for this campaign is Psalm 71:17. The goal is to raise at least \$2.5 million. Already \$2.3 million has been pledged over the next three years. This offering will be the first of several opportunities to support this campaign. Please put "Forwarding Faith" on the note line or with any contribution.

If you have been touched by programs like Kairos, Winter Celebration, and Youth Assembly, ACTS, Power in the Spirit, Roots & Wings, or just wish to support them, then here is your chance to make sure they continue their powerful influence. Let's make this happen for the Church both now and into the future.

Mon., Dec. 25 (Christmas Day) and Mon, Jan. 1 (New Year's Day): Church office is closed.

THANK YOU'S

Thanks to all who:

- Purchased and prepared food, served and attended the Community Thanksgiving which was hosted by the Christian Church. The worship service had approx. 40 in attendance, with \$377 received in offering. The meal served approx. 330 people, with approx. \$737 in free-will offerings. 100 percent of those offerings will go to the Strasburg Local Relief Fund to assist local residents with immediate needs.
- Shopped for Compassion Cupboard Christmas Gifts
- Purchased Mitten Tree items to be distributed at the Compassion Cupboard in December & January.

Dear St. Paul Family,

Thank you so much for the lovely festive gift basket of delicious fruit, sweet treats and a beautiful Christmas ornament that was delivered to us by Missy and Maggie Miller. What a delightful and enjoyable surprise. We greatly appreciate your thinking of us in this holy season. We think of you often and miss being with you. We wish you all God's blessings now and throughout the new year.

In Christ,

Pat and Dee Keister

I want to thank you all for a great year. Your kinds words of appreciation and continued willingness to help is very appreciated. I am truly blessed to be part of this church family.

I pray for a great 2018, and that God's work is carried out.

Your church secretary, *Carol Smith* ☺

As you probably know, St. Paul hosts Community Meals on the 1st, 3rd and 5th Wednesday of each month. (I believe there were 28 meals here at St. Paul this year).

BIG thank-yous go to those who make the Community Meals possible:

- To Linda Williams for coordinating all the Community Meals this year, and
- To Ida Smith for making the ice tea, setting up coffee, and ordering & setting out the needed paper products.

Free-will donations are received during these Wednesday meals— and are divided 50/50 to benefit the Strasburg Compassion Cupboard and the Strasburg Local Relief Fund. **For 2017 that totaled \$2,000.00 to each agency!**

WOW, What a ministry!!

A draft of the ELCA's "Social Statement on Women and Justice" has been received in the church office. The ELCA is asking for Lutherans to review this statement and give comments by September 30, 2018.

You can obtain a copy of this rather length Statement from the church office in January, or go on line (elca.org/womenandjustice).

FROM PARISH NURSE – JEANNIE COFFMAN

Greetings and Happy New Year,

Hope that each of you will consider joining me in the Walk to Jerusalem this year. Looking for a point person in each church, contact me if interested.

January is Thyroid Awareness Month

The thyroid is a small gland in the base of your neck and can affect your whole body. Most people are aware of the condition called hypothyroidism, where the thyroid function is less than optimal, not producing adequate amounts of the thyroid hormones. The thyroid hormones are important, as they not only affect the thyroid but because they interact with many other hormones. They affect many parts of the body. Some areas that can be affected include, but are not limited to: metabolism, body temperature regulation, cognitive function, and digestion.

However, there are other conditions of the thyroid: hyperthyroidism (the thyroid in an overactive state), Grave's disease and Hashimoto's disease (both of these are autoimmune diseases), goiter (thyroid enlargement), thyroid nodules (growths on the thyroid), and thyroid cancer. Symptoms of disorders vary and there are many symptoms. The most common are: cold hands/feet (hypothyroid), dry skin (hypothyroid); unexplained weight gain (hypothyroid), unexplained weight loss (hyperthyroid); loose bowels, diarrhea (hyperthyroid); vision issues (Grave's disease); difficulty swallowing (goiter and/or thyroid nodules) and many more. More information can be found at www.nahypothyroidism.org

Thyroid conditions affect more women than men. Because there are so many symptoms, it can go undiagnosed and untreated for long periods of time. If you feel tired and have any of the symptoms mentioned, talk with your physician to see if further evaluation is needed.

Wishing you blessings,
Jeannie

Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there and say to them, "The kingdom of God has come near to you." Luke 10:8-9

NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL OFFICERS – FOR 2018

President – Cathy Frenz

Vice-President – Terry Muir

Secretary – Tabled until January meeting

Treasurer – Kevin Smith

Financial Secretary – Mary Beth & Tom Price

During December St. Paul received \$1,380.00 in donations to the Scholarship Fund.

These funds, along with the donations received during Lent 2017,
will be presented to students in the Spring of 2018.

Thank you for your continued support!

All Committee chairs are asked to submit a report to the church office

(to stpaulstrasburg@gmail.com) **of their committee's activities during 2017.**

These reports will be included in the 2017 Report of the Congregational that will be published in early 2018.

The 2017 Strasburg Community Thanksgiving (hosted by the Christian Church) was a huge success! Thanks to all who attended the worship service on Nov 19 (approx. 40 attended), and to all who provided food, served and attended the meal on Nov 22 (approx. 300 meals were served). Free-will offerings during both events (\$1,089.00!) benefited the Strasburg Local Relief Fund to assist local residents with immediate needs.

A new St. Paul congregational directory of church members will be printed early 2018.

If your address, e-mail or phone number has changed in the last 12 months, please notify the church office (465-3232; stpaulstrasburg@gmail.com)

*Mission Quilters will continue meeting for their weekly quilting sessions on Tuesdays through January.... weather permitting.
Contact: Gwen Abruzere*

A heart filled thank you to our St. Paul Family,

It is hard to find the words that truly express our much Bill and I appreciate the cards and letters sent to us as we struggled with the loss of both my parents. The understanding of our St. Paul family has helped so much with filling the void such loss has created.

As we look to 2018 with hope in our hearts, Bill and I would like to wish each and every member a blessed Christmas and a Hope-Filled New Year.

Blessings,
Cathy and Bill Frenz

A training session for those who want to be acolytes/crucifers (all ages) will take place in January 2018. Watch bulletins, newsletter and Prayer Warriors for the new date.

Pastor Hall will be in charge of this training session.

(save this section for your reference)

When we receive wintry weather the next several months, you will be able to find information about delays/postponements/cancellations by:

- Watching for Prayer Warriors e-mail
- Logging onto Facebook
- Accessing our Website (www.stpaulstrasburg.com)
- Watching WSHV- channel 3