

The Epistle

St. Paul Lutheran Church
Volume 20 Issue 1 January 2021

We've all seen and heard the messages of hope for the New Year. Whether in a greeting card, song, Facebook meme, or television advertisement, they all include a wistful hope for better days ahead. As Christians, our hope comes in the baby Jesus. Most years, the message of hope in Jesus is enough to fill me with joy at Christmas. I do not mean to sound disrespectful, but this year, I just wasn't feeling it. And then, I saw the Children's program. There they were, in their homes and yards, dressed up, telling and singing of the good news of Jesus our Lord. I cried as I remembered that no matter how bad things may seem, the message of hope in Jesus is timeless. It can be told from the church, living room, yard, over Zoom or Facebook. Our children and their families were the messengers of that good news for me this year. Our children are the hope that our congregation is strong and thriving. While we may have to wait a while to be together in one building, we are still the church. Let's be like the children and do our part to tell the good news of Christ to our broken and hurting world. Wherever you may be and in whatever way you can, pray about how you can share that good news of hope in Jesus with someone today.

Filled with Hope,
Lisa Moherman, Council President



*The light shines in the
darkness*

and the darkness did not overcome it



Call Committee Update

The St Paul Call Committee has met multiple times. The first short meeting included initial discussion about organization and meeting times, The next two meetings included discussion with Bishop Riegel about process steps and protocol. The committee will be meeting often, providing monthly updates via the newsletter. We ask that you pray for St Paul and this call committee as we work towards selecting a pastoral candidate for our church.

Thank you to everyone involved with the Christmas Eve services. Thanks to those involved with preparing the sanctuary, preparing and sharing music, coordinating and recording the kids' program, broadcasting by Zoom and Facebook, preaching and teaching. You are all a blessing!



The St. Paul Church Council met via Zoom on Thursday, December 17th, 2020

- In a special meeting on December 1st, council voted to suspend in-person worship and recommence on January 17th if practical
- Council is looking at a date for the annual meeting of the congregation. A potential date is February 7th. A nominating committee is being formed
- Council held an adjourned meeting (a continuation of the Dec. 17th meeting) on Dec. 21st and finalized the draft of the revised constitution of the congregation, which will be presented to the congregation for formal approval



From the Piece Makers

In putting the heading on the email, I noticed that I needed to make the change that we do each year, 2021! We have lots of supplies, but what we are missing is people and the church being open to work. Like most we are looking forward to the coming year in hope of a return to a more normal situation. We miss the opportunity to visit and to use our talents to help others.

Please notice that on the list from CHRIS (stewardship booklet) you can indicate the willingness to join us and help us make quilts for Lutheran World Relief. We extend our wishes to each other and to you for a Blessed Christmas Season and a New Year filled with opportunities as children of God called and sent to love others as God has loved us.



REMINDER: If you are unable to attend worship in person, offering envelopes may be mailed to the church!

St. Paul Lutheran Church
309 Baldwin Street
Morgantown, WV 26505

TREASURER'S REPORT: NOVEMBER 2020

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| OFFERING AND INCOME: | \$ 19,595 |
| EXPENSES: | \$ 9,097 |

| | |
|----------------------------------|------------------|
| NET INCOME FOR NOV. | \$ 10,498 |
| NET INCOME FOR JAN. -Nov. | \$ 70,874 |



The Annual Meeting of the Congregation has not yet been scheduled. A tentative date is Sunday, February 7th

Committee Chairs:

please submit annual reports to the church office by January 31st.

Don't Miss the

DEADLINE!

We have received letters of thanks:

From St. Ursula Food Pantry and Outreach

"Your donation of \$1200 on November 23, will help us buy eggs, fresh vegetables, meats, toilet paper and cleaning supplies and much more. Many of our families can't afford to buy some of these items and are so grateful to receive them. "



Community Kitchen, Inc.

"Thank you for your recent donation of \$1200 to the Community Kitchen received on November 30, 2020. The Community Kitchen receives some funding from foundations; however, much of our funding comes from local, charitable churches such as St. Paul." "With the generous support of donors, we are able to offer our patrons an extra fruit each day" (in addition to a hot entrée).

Rock Forge Food Pantry

"We are so very blessed for your generous support of our food pantry. Because of you, our families will have a special Christmas dinner."

Mon County Girl Scouts

"Girl Scouts in Monongalia County would like to express their appreciation for your support of our organization this year. Especially in 2020, we are grateful for sponsors who provided us with a location to manage the activities that help support girls in our community." This was accompanied by a building use donation.



Serving in

| SERVING ST PAUL January 2021 | COMMUNION ASSISTANT | USHERS | COUNTERS | SUPPLY PASTOR |
|---------------------------------------|------------------------|--------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 3rd 10:00 AM | **** | **** | **** | Setley |
| 10th 10:00 AM | **** | **** | Riegel Suder | Omholt |
| 17th 10:00 AM | Riegel | Custer Springer | **** | Setley |
| 24th 10:00 AM | Borrelli | Graham Moherman | Stiles Boroff | Setley |
| 31st 10:00 AM | Lemasters | Springer Graham | **** | Setley |

In January, St. Paul remembers the baptismal anniversaries of:

Christian Schaupp (2 years old last month)
Victoria Metzger (just turned five).



Special Days in January

| | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|
| January 1 st | The Name of Jesus |
| January 6 th | Epiphany of Our Lord |
| January 10 th | Baptism of Our Lord |

The new **FLOWER CHART** for 2021 has been posted.

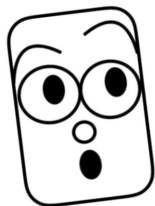
Please choose a Sunday when you would like to place flowers on the altar. We will order the flowers for you, and you will be sent a bill from the florist. Please let the office know if you would like a particular type or color of flower. This is a wonderful way to remember someone special, celebrate a special occasion, or just give to the Glory of God. If you have any questions, please call the church office.



| SUNDAY |  | | | | | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|--|----|----|------------------------------|----|--------|----------|
| All services and meetings are Zoom unless otherwise indicated | | | | | | 1 | 2 |
| 3 10:00 AM Worship Service | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | |
| 10 10:00 AM Worship Service | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 7:00 PM Council | 15 | 16 | |
| 17 10:00 AM Worship Service (possibly in-person) | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | |
| 24 10:00 AM Worship Service (possibly in-person) | 25 8:00 AM Lutheran Men | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | |
| 31 10:00 AM Worship Service (possibly in-person) | | | | | | | |

iMac dictionary
stew-ard-ship | 'st(y)ööərd,SHip |
 noun
 the job of supervising or taking care of
 something, such as an
 organization or property

Wikipedia
 Stewardship is an **ethic** that
 embodies the responsible
 planning and management of
resources. The concepts of
 stewardship can be applied to
 the environment and nature,^{[1][2]}
 economics,^{[3][4]} health,^[5]
 property,^[6] information,^[7]



OH!
 I'm a Steward
 At
 St. Paul Lutheran
 Church

You are encouraged to print these pages,
 fill out the forms, and return them to the
 church as your pledge of time, talent, and
 treasure for 2021.

Stewardship Opportunities

Christian Education

- ☐ Bible Study
- ☐ Camp Luther
- ☐ Confirmation class
- ☐ Nursery
- ☐ Sunday school teacher—
children, youth, adult
- ☐ Vacation Bible school

Worship

- ☐ Acolyte
- ☐ Altar Guild
- ☐ Choir
- ☐ Usher
- ☐ Worship assistant
- ☐ Lector
- ☐ Music committee

Finance

- ☐ Audit
- ☐ Offering counter
- ☐ Memorial gifts
- ☐ Financial secretary
- ☐ Treasurer
- ☐ Accounting
- ☐ Fundraising

Property

- ☐ Parking
- ☐ Landscaping, gardening
- ☐ Yardwork
- ☐ Cleaning
- ☐ General maintenance
- ☐ Painting

Outreach

- ☐ Marketing
- ☐ Public Relations

Stewardship/Resources

- ☐ Bereavement—cooking,
baking, serving at dinner
- ☐ Circle of Friends
- ☐ Peacemakers—quilting,
sewing
- ☐ Fellowship Coordinator—
directing baking,
cooking
- ☐ Food baskets—shopping,
packing
- ☐ Lutheran Men in Mission
- ☐ Women of ELCA
- ☐ Driving
- ☐ Visitation, note cards
- ☐ Phone chains
- ☐ Bulletin Boards—creating,
maintaining

Leadership

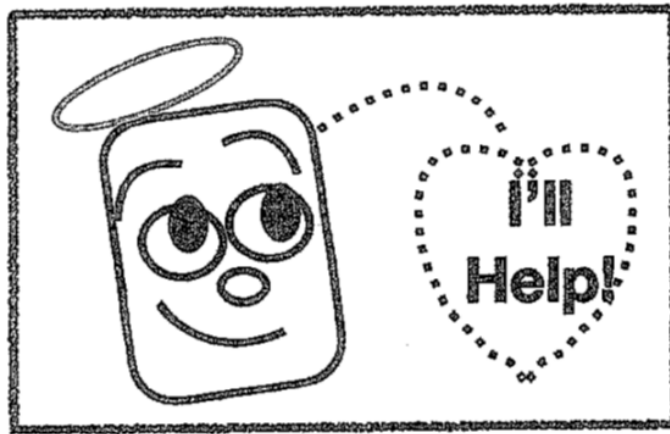
- ☐ Congregational Council
- ☐ Staff support
- ☐ Administration
- ☐ Communication
- ☐ Volunteer recruiting

Technology

- ☐ Audio/video
- ☐ Photography
- ☐ Proofreading/editing
- ☐ Data entry
- ☐ Graphic design
- ☐ Web design-maintenance
- ☐ Social media

Other Ideas

Thank you for your help with God's work.



Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

eMail _____

I can help with _____

___ I pledge to increase my offering by ___ % ___ weekly ___ monthly

___ I have signed up for the Kroger program

___ I want information about the Kroger program

___ I have signed up for electronic contributions

___ I want information about electronic giving

_____ My envelope number

**eMail your response to
Tamara Riegel, office@stpaulmorgantown.org
Subject line: Stewardship**

Or

**Print and mail to
St. Paul Lutheran Church
309 Baldwin Street
Morgantown, WV 26508**

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN
CHURCH

309 Baldwin St
Morgantown WV 26505



JANUARY

The **Epistle** is a publication from:
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