

THE CHIMES

A Publication of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, Elgin, IL



January 2015

*I am about to do a new thing;
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?*

Isaiah 43:19

We are at the beginning of a new year when many people commit to taking on a new practice or ending a bad habit.

In our family, instead of New Year's Resolutions, we think of one thing that we will work on as a gift to Jesus in the upcoming year. We write down our promises and place them in a box that gets tucked away until the following year. In the week between Christmas and New Year's we open up the box and see how well we kept our promise over the past year. Then we write down a promise for the next year and place it back in the box.

Several times when I have read my promise from the previous year, I have decided that I haven't come very far. So I recommit myself and put the exact same promise back in the box year after year.

It is important to make commitments and try to improve ourselves. But even when we fall short, we can remember that God is the one who is truly at work recreating us into the people that God wants us to be.

So, whether you decide to write resolutions or not, remember that God is about to do a new thing in you.

Journeying with you,

Pastor Jill



Our Annual Congregational Meeting is on Sunday, January 25, 2015, following the worship service. Please try to attend.



CHURCH CANCELLATION INFORMATION

Before we know it, winter storms will be upon us. In order to keep informed about church cancellations, we have set up an account through Remind. Once you sign up, you will receive a text message or an e-mail to inform you if church needs to be cancelled. If you do not have the capability for text or e-mail, you can sign up to receive a phone call if church needs to be cancelled.

To sign up for **TEXT** alerts from St. Paul's text this: **@stpaulsuc@mail.remind.com**

To sign up to receive **E-MAIL** alerts send an email to: **stpaulsuc@mail.remind.com**

You can leave the subject and message of the email blank.

If you do not have texting or e-mail, sign up for a **PHONE CALL** by calling the church office (847-628-6118) or leaving your name on the sign-up sheet on the back table in the narthex.



Friends of St. Paul's Church,

As Food Pantry Manager, I want to send you all a Great Big Thank You for the large food donation you gave to us. That food will help so very, very much as our shelves do get bare. We look at our shelves and they look so good. Our mission of feeding the hungry has been met by all of you at St. Paul's. I want to thank you for inviting me to your church. I enjoyed so much meeting all of you folks and enjoyed being a part of your Sunday service. Bless you all and have a wonderful holiday.

Sincerely,
Joan Wesner, Manager

FINANCIALLY SPEAKING By Sandy Volkening

The total receipts for the month of November were \$12,151.00. Our spendable income came to \$12,000.00 including our OCWM income of \$211.00. Our charitable income for November was \$151.00 to World Service.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN
BUILDING TO SERVE –“From Christ, through us, to others . . .”

Our journey continues to be amazing. After almost two years, our pledges for the new Church building are at \$833,650, of which over \$550,000 has already been paid/deposited. The time, talent and treasures of our congregation that have been given so that we might have a new Church building have been simply amazing. With three more years to go on our capital campaign, we will continue to work hard to have our new Church building paid for by the end of this five year capital campaign.

If you have not already made a pledge or contributed to the capital campaign, it is not too late. If you would like to donate/pledge to the capital campaign or one of the items on the building committees' wish-list, you can call/text me at 847-476-8652, or email me at dlthmpsn3@gmail.com.

Yours in Christ on behalf of the Capital Campaign Committee,

David Thompson
Capital Campaign Chairman
BUILDING TO SERVE –“From Christ, through us, to others . . .”



We will continue to collect mittens, gloves, scarves, and hats for the Elgin Crisis Center through January. Thank you to all who have already knitted and purchased items for the tree.

A very heartfelt thank you to everyone who participated in the Little Angels Giving Tree and Caroling for them. It was a huge success. Every resident received a special gift and was able to enjoy the Christmas music that filled the room. It was a priceless time for everyone.

For the Lenten Season, beginning in February, we will be doing a project for the Back Bay Mission. There will be more information in next month's Chimes.

Paula DeFarno

PADS

Thank you to those who prepared items for PADS on December 2nd; Sandy & Dale Volkening, Polly Russell, Sue Petty, Judy Reimer, Sue Huber, Anne Heinrich, and Linda Meglin. Leftover chili and chicken noodle soup from the Advent Workshop was also enjoyed by PADS guests. Thanks to Dale Volkening, Anne Heinrich, and Paula DeFarno for serving the meal that evening.



Ladies Auxiliary

ST. PAUL'S LADIES AUXILIARY

The Ladies Auxiliary met at Villa Olivia on December 4, 2014 for their Christmas party. Before lunch Judy Olsen opened with prayer. A sign up sheet was passed around to members to sign up for the month they wanted to host and auxiliary meeting. We celebrated the birthday of Doris Weber (12/19) and sang to her. The November minutes were read along with the treasurer's report. Committee reports were also read. A motion was made to keep the same officers for another year and passed. The officers for 2015 are: President: Judy Olsen; Vice-President: Rita Rucker; Secretary: Corrine Eickstaedt, and Treasurer: Joy Zweifel. The next meeting will be on March 5, 2015.

Corrine Eickstaedt, Secretary



Due to the break in the weather, building of the sign has begun. At this time the foundation and stone monument portion have been completed. Next on the agenda will be the actual sign being constructed and installed. Again, thank you for all your patience and support in this project.

Council Meeting Minute Highlights

December 18, 2014

Clausen Landscaping is in the process of getting a zoning variance for the property adjacent to the north of our church. This company intends to operate their business from this property.

Construction of the sign on Plank Road has begun.

The proposed 2015 budget was reviewed.

Sandy Volkening has received nominations for the 2015 Council officers.

The annual congregational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 25, 2015.

Council thanked Judy Reimer for her many years on Council and her work in the office. Judy will retire at the end of December. We have been truly blessed by Judy's dedication and service to St. Paul's.

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Smith
Acting recording secretary

CHRISTIAN ED NEWS

This year the children of the church were part of the Christ 'mouse' Story. It was the story of a mouse who had lived with Mary and Joseph and went with them as they traveled to Bethlehem to await the birth of Jesus. Ken Volkening was "Papa" mouse who told the story of his travels so long ago. The students portrayed the characters and the pre-school class were the little mice that listened to the story as it was portrayed. Songs concluded the program. I want to thank all the teachers, parents, friends, who helped with make-up and costuming. A special "Thank You" goes to Bobbi Wayeshe who made those darling little mice cookies for everyone!

Advent Workshop

The Advent workshop was attended by 22 families this year. We preceded it with a chili/soup luncheon enjoyed by all. We then did Christmas themed crafts including a barn board wall hanging. The boards were donated by Doug Volkening who cut them all and pre drilled holes for the hangers. Thank you to everyone who was a part of this very special afternoon.



CHRISTMAS MEMORIALS

IN MEMORY OF:

Sharon Kagel
Melvin Drafall
Jessica Kubiak, Irving Dralle
Chuck Swanson, Wilbert & Elda Heinrich
Albert C. Huber, Jr.
Lyn Ingham
Frank Kaiser
Donald Kamp, Randy & Denna Kamp
Minna Bohner, Gert Bohner, Mary Ellen Kobel
Lauber & Fiedler Families

GIVEN BY:

Paula DeFarno
The Drafall Family
Marjory Dralle
Anne & Dan Heinrich
The Huber Family
William Ingham & Family
Flora Kaiser and Family
Barb Kamp and Family
Jon Kobel
Arnold & Hildy Lauber

Herb & Ruth Sinn, Dawn Drafall
 Mr. & Mrs. Harold Meglin, Delbert Schmidt
 Betsy Jacobsen
 John, Doris, Mary Ellen Kobel
 LeRoy Schramm
 William & Helen Brown
 Weldon & Betty Ewert
 Ruby & William Schultz, Gerda & Bert Carlson
 Raymond Volkening, Leone & John Deihs
 Edward & Henrietta Werner
 Mary & James Westerman
 Laura Willer
 Sharon Mursewick Kagel

Charles LeVault and Family
 Myron & Linda Meglin
 Mary Reel
 Polly Russell
 The Schramm Family
 Cheri & Mark Stute
 Kim & William Toth
 Dale & Sandy Volkening
 Ruth Volkening, Shirley & Gary Deihs
 Janet Werner
 Michael & Karen Westerman
 Daughters: Janet & Susan
 The Wilson Family

Staff: Jill Terpstra - Pastor
 Secretary - Linda Becker
 The Choir - Led by Jon Kobel
 Piano Accompanist - Gay Bouwmeester

Council:

President - Anne Heinrich
 Vice President - Karen Westerman
 Financial Secretary - Sandy Volkening
 Treasurer - Myron Meglin/Dave Thompson
 Recording Secretary - Cindy Heinrich
 Christian Education - Karen Smith
 Evangelism - Polly Russell

Fellowship/Hospitality - Janet Werner
 Mission - Ruth Volkening
 Evangelism - Polly Russell
 Properties - Dan Heinrich
 Stewardship – JoAnn Pate
 Worship - Vernon Knaak
 Youth - Currently Open

<u>DATE</u>	<u>GREETERS</u>	<u>USHERS</u>	<u>COUNTERS</u>
Jan. 04	Mike & Karen Westerman	5	Karen Westerman
11	Judy Olsen & Joy Zweifel	1	Linda Meglin
18	Ken Volkening & Barb Kamp	2	Joy Zweifel
25	The Smith Family	3	JoAnn Pate

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