



The Circuit

The Newsletter of
St. Paul's United Church of Christ



Phone: 540-459-3643

235 South Main Street, Woodstock, Virginia 22664

March 2019

Young Thoughts

“These special holidays give rise to various liturgical calendars that suggest we should mark our days not only with the cycles of the moon and seasons, but also with occasions to tell our children the stories of our faith community's past so that this past will have a future, and so that our ancient way and its practices will be rediscovered and renewed every year.”

— Brian D. McLaren, Finding Our Way Again: The Return of the Ancient Practices

Once again we are about to enter into the Season of Lent. March 6 is Ash Wednesday. This year as we move forward in our time of transition toward a settled pastor I would like us to focus our attention in two specific ways.

One way will involve our services of worship as we make this pilgrimage toward the cross. So often we hear the stories of scripture as what happened “back then”. I will be intentionally looking at the scripture through the lens of “Where are we, or where are we not, (St. Paul’s UCC), in this story?” Lent will be a period when we can engage in some self-reflection as we prepare for the future.

The second way I hope we will focus our attention this Lent is up to you. I would like each of you to take the quote above to heart and engage in some storytelling to your children, your grandchildren, your friends. Use this time to make a spiritual scrapbook about St. Paul’s UCC – its practices, those things we expect and take for granted, and those things that have changed over the years.

Lent is a time when we return to the ancient practices of prayer, fasting, giving up something for the 40 days, doing something special, giving financial gifts (the old word “alms”) to organizations that help others, being more faithful church attenders. This year let us also tell the stories that have become foundational to St. Paul’s. Dust them off and share them in your families so that the next generations can claim them or reshape them for the future.

*Grace and Peace,
Rev. Clara*

LENT 2019 SCHEDULE

Ash Wednesday Service of Worship and Imposition of Ashes
March 6, 12 Noon – 12:30 PM – at St. Paul’s UCC
Sponsored by Woodstock Ministerium

Tuesday Lenten Lunches & Services held at the Woodstock United Methodist Church
Lunch served 11:30 - noon **and** 12:30 - 1:00 p.m.
Service of Worship 12:00 noon

March 12 - Woodstock UMC - Pastor Rob Hoskins
March 19 - Emmanuel Episcopal – The Rev. Kathleen Murray
March 26 - Emanuel Lutheran - Rev. Nate Robinson
April 2 - St John Bosco Catholic - Father Dobbins
April 9 - St Paul’s UCC - Rev. Clara Young
April 16 - Woodstock Presbyterian - Rev. Katie Rascoe



UPCOMING EVENTS

- o March 3 – Brunch 10:30 am – Morning Worship – Mission Partner Sunday – Hoffman Home
- o March 6 – Community Ash Wednesday service at St. Paul’s 12:00 noon
- o March 10 – Communion – 1st Sunday in Lent – Daylight Savings Time Begins
- o March 10 – Vesper Service here at St. Paul’s 4:00 p.m.
- o March 12 – April 16 – Community Lenten Services and Lunch at UMC (*every Tuesday*)
- o April 9 – St. Paul’s UCC will host the luncheon at UMC – Rev. Clara will lead the worship service
- o April 14 – Palm Sunday – Jr. Choir will sing
- o April 18 – Maundy Thursday Meal and service 6:00 pm
- o April 21 – Easter Sunday with Communion

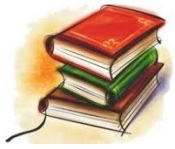


PEOPLE WHO NEED OUR PRAYERS

Betty Crane Valorie Hockman Wes Irvin Jake Johnson Daniel Rohne Kasten	Michael Kavaras Carroll “Moe” Lambert Marcie Lambert Cheri Davidson May Gail Mayberry	Spencer McIntosh Rev. James Medley Fern Orndorff Betty Page Jessie Payne	Janet Sibert Rev. Charles Wood St. Paul’s church family
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Editor – Jane Miller Contributors St. Paul’s – Ministry Chairpersons and others Production Coordinator - Becky Lytton
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OUR CHURCH HISTORY

St. Paul's UCC

Rev. Kasten served St. Paul's 1964 - 1982

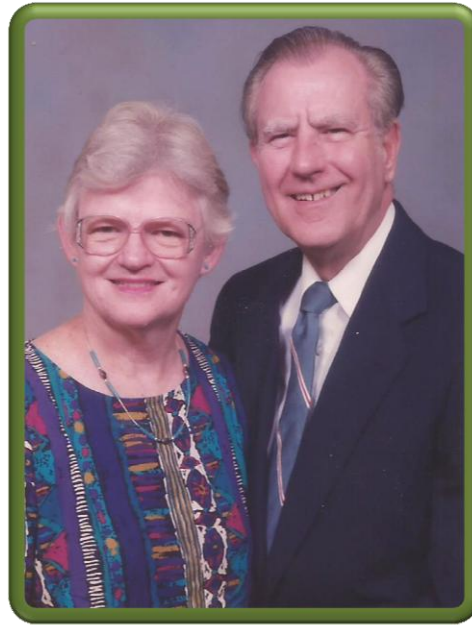
This email was recently received at the church office. (2/7/2019)

Good morning! My family was befriended by your pastor in 1975 as we were passing through Woodstock. My wife miscarried and was hospitalized there for several days. Your pastor came to the emergency room and took our one year old son to care for him. I was a UCC pastor then and am now retired.

Is there any way you could put us in touch? I'd like to tell him I remember.

Please tell your folks that I shall forever remember Woodstock's hospitality.

Rev. Gary Smith
Belmont, Mass



From Rev. Kasten's Installation service bulletin:

Daniel R. Kasten was born in Richmond, Virginia, January 31, 1926 where he was a member of St. John's United Church of Christ. He was graduated from Virginia Polytechnic Institute with a B. S. in Architecture and worked as an architectural draftsman.

While in seminary he served churches in and around St. Louis, Missouri; Cleveland, Ohio; Biloxi, Mississippi; and Conesville, Iowa. He was graduated from Eden Theological Seminary at St. Louis, Missouri in 1958 with a B. D. degree and was licensed and ordained by the Potomac Synod. He has served as Pastor of Immanuel United Church of Christ in Cambridge, Maryland and began serving St. Paul's church on November 15, 1964.

Mr. Kasten is married to the former Dorothy Arey of Harrisonburg, Virginia. They have three children, Erick, Mark, and Daniel Rohne.

Rev. Kasten died May 26, 2012. Dot is living in Bridgewater. 202 Placid Parkway, Bridgewater, VA 22812



ST. PAUL'S NEWS

Consistory Happenings!

The St. Paul's Consistory met on February 13th.



Highlights from the meeting include:

- Correspondence
 - The church received a thank you note from the principal of Central High School thanking the congregation for their \$600 donation towards their dual enrollment assistance program.
 - The church received a thank you note for the disaster relief clean up buckets that the congregation donated.
 - The church received a thank you note from Matthew's Food Pantry for our donation of non-perishable food items.
- Ministry Reports
 - **Treasurer's Report and Finance Ministry:** It was noted that there was a gap in church offerings and expenses in the month of January which is most likely a direct result of missing a Sunday service due to inclement weather and it is unlikely that money will be recouped later on in the year. The church's accountant has completed work on our current year's taxes and continues to work on reconciling issues from the 941 form from 2015 and 2017.
 - **Ministry of Worship and Music:** Mission Partner Sunday will begin March 3rd with Hoffman Home's Alicia Stanley partnering during the service. On the same day, there will be: Junior Church, Junior Choir singing, and a pre-service brunch. A Community Choir vesper service will be held at St. Paul's on March 10th at 4:00 with refreshments to follow. The choir is led by Harlen Miller and accompanied by Barbara Strong. The choir includes about 40 singers.
 - **Ministry of Christian Education/Youth:** The youth packed cookies for the church's college students (i.e. Layla Baker and Anna Smith) and shut-ins of the congregation on February 10th.
 - **Ministry of Stewardship and Missions:** The winter food drive benefitting the Bread of Life Food Pantry and Matthew's Food Pantry in Fort Valley will run through February 17th. The annual Heifer Project will begin in April.
 - **Ministry of Building and Maintenance:** The Consistory accepted a quote from Hawk's Electric to install four smoke detectors throughout the church and for additional lighting in the Fellowship Hall.
 - **Pastoral Report:** Reverend Young is in the process of planning the Ash Wednesday and Lenten services for the season. St. Paul's will host the Woodstock Ministerium Ash Wednesday service on March 6th and will be providing lunch at the Lenten Service at the Woodstock United Methodist Church on April 9th. The church will hold its annual Maundy Thursday service at 6:00 on April 18th. Church membership is now at 103 and weekly attendance is showing an increase from the last three years.
 - **Other News:**
 - St. Paul's pictorial directory will be updated. Abby Neese will take the photos and a local vendor will format the directory. Details will be forthcoming.
 - The Search and Call committee is meeting on a monthly basis in their efforts to search for a new pastor.
 - Shenandoah County Parks and Rec is planning a trip to the Bible Museum and Law Enforcement Museum on May 30th. Alisha Williams has contacted the youth about the trip in order to save seats on the bus for our group. The cost is \$85/person,

which includes the cost of admittance to both museums, dinner, and transportation fees. The youth group will cover the cost for any youth members attending. Anyone is welcome to attend, but individuals will need to sign up through SC Parks & Rec.

~ Susan Fream

STEWARDSHIP & MISSIONS MINISTRY

Generous Hearts!

The Stewardship and Missions Team wishes to thank the loving, generous congregation of St. Paul's for their support of the **Love thy Neighbor Food Drive!** Over the past few weeks, we collected 22 very full cloth bags loaded with a wide variety of food for those in need. With the help of Meg Trott and the Medleys, eight of these bags were transported over the mountain to the Matthews-White Chapel UMC Food Pantry in the Fort Valley. The remaining fourteen bags found a nearby home at the Bread of Life Food Pantry in Woodstock.

Soon to be announced – Heifer 2019!

~ Joe Lehnen



Winter Food Drive contributions!!

BEING A CHRISTIAN

A local lady called the church office and wanted to stop by the church. She had purchased a purse at a local thrift shop. When she was at home and going through the “changing of the purses”, she found some envelopes with money. One envelope had One Great Hour of Sharing with the United Church of Christ logo. The other one had Sylvia Dyer’s name written on it! Barbara wanted to give the envelopes to the church since she knew that Sylvia was a member of St. Paul’s before she died! What an example of a Christian in action!! Thanks Barbara!

CHURCH DIRECTORY

An updated directory will be going to press soon. Please provide the church office with new phone numbers, mailing address, and/or email. Also, if you notice that someone's has changed, please let us know. Thank you!



VESPER SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S

March 10, 2019

Please join us for a Vespers Service on Sunday evening, March 10th at 4:00. The service will be led by the VesperSingers, a community "church" choir dedicated to singing Sacred Choral music from a variety of traditions, times, and styles. This will be presented in a Vesper "late afternoon" setting. The group seeks to celebrate their Christian faith through music.

Directed by Harlen Miller and accompanied by Barbara Strong, let's show our support and plan to attend. This service will conclude with our Christmas Tree Blessing, "Let Us Pray for Peace."

Join us for fellowship and a reception following the service.

Matthew's Food Pantry

Oak Level United Methodist Church
400 Blackhawk Lane, Fort Valley, VA 22652

Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your donations to Matthew's Food Pantry. Now in our ninth year, the pantry is blessed to help 35-40 families each month. Your generosity makes it possible. Wishing you a wonderful 2019!

Sincerely,

Betsy Fowler
Matthew's Food Pantry volunteer



Church World Service (CWS)

28606 Phillips Street, Elkhart, IN 46515

Dear Friends:

Thank you for your kind donation of Emergency Clean-up Buckets to Church World Service. Your compassion has given individuals and families touched by disaster the tangible evidence that they matter. That someone cares. And they are not alone.

Disasters can strike anywhere, anytime. And they can take many forms: tornadoes, earthquakes, civil conflict, drought, hurricanes and more. Caring people like you — who understand the urgency of responding after a disaster — allow people in crisis to receive help when they need it, and hope for the future.

Learn more about the power of your compassion at cwskits.org.

Here at home or overseas, when tragedy strikes your donations ensure that help is never far behind.

With deepest gratitude,
Rev. John L. McCullough
President and CEO



YOUTH

The Youth group did not meet or do any activities in January so we made up for it on February 10th. After church, approx. 14 of us met downstairs for pizza and then got to work. We created Valentine's cards to go out with the cookie packages that we were doing. We separated and packaged dozens of cookies, a total of 10 boxes were prepared! We also sent some cards to those that couldn't have cookies! Alberta and I divided up the kids and boxes into our cars and went out to make deliveries to the local folks. A couple of them had to be mailed out. After the deliveries were done, we took 6 of the kids to the movies in Woodstock to see "A Dog's Way Home". The other kids that helped out earlier were not able to go to the movies due to other plans.

In March, we will be volunteering for Luke's Backpack on the 17th. We are trying to decide on a day to do some other jobs needed around the church! If you have any ideas of some things around the church that we could take care of, please let us know!

The Youth Group will be going on a trip to DC on May 30th through Parks & Rec. to visit the Museum of the Bible and the National Law Enforcement Museum. The trip is open to anyone through Parks & Rec., but we are hoping to have enough funds to cover the costs for the youth to go. If you would like more information on this trip, you can contact me at Alisha.williams575@gmail.com

~ Alisha Williams

HOFFMAN HOME MISSION PARTNER SUNDAY March 3, 2019



From their website: <http://www.hoffmanhomes.com/>

Thank you for your interest in Hoffman Homes for Youth. We are a psychiatric residential treatment facility for children, dedicated to using trauma-informed care to treat youth ages 6-17 who have serious mental health diagnoses and behavioral issues as the result of profound trauma, abuse, neglect or loss.

Through the implementation of the Sanctuary Model, a proven method of trauma-informed care, we are creating a place of healing, and a culture of care specially designed to provide hope, healing and brighter futures for our children. The Sanctuary Model addresses the ways in which trauma, adversity, or chronic stress influence individual and organizational behavior.

Our entire care community, both the staff and the children in care, is expected to honor the seven Sanctuary Commitments:

- Nonviolence: being safe outside (physically), inside (emotionally), with others (socially) & to do the right thing (morally)
- Emotional Intelligence: managing our feelings so that we don't hurt ourselves or others
- Social Learning: respecting and sharing the ideas of our teams
- Democracy: shared decision-making
- Open Communication: saying what we mean and not being mean when we say it
- Social Responsibility: together, we accomplish more and everyone makes a contribution to organizational culture
- Growth & Change: creating hope for our children and our staff

Join us Sunday, March 3, when Alicia Stanley will be with us to share what is happening at Hoffman Homes. Check out this video!! <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t95UO82Ljgg&feature=youtu.be>

Birthdays for St. Paul's

- March 1 – Makenna Painter
2 – Barbara Johnson
3 – Lucas Robinson, Caroline Eye
4 – Debbie Swecker, Chris Eye
5 – Jonathan Koontz
7 – Seth Gardner, Jessie Payne
9 – Sharon McCarthy
10 – Brian Loveland
12 – Regan Kain
13 – Jessie McIntosh
14 – Stephanie Litten
15 – Stuart Sheetz, Ethan Gregg, Brandy Payne, Pat McCarthy
16 – Bill Holsinger
17 – Doug Linaweaver, Caroline Dalke
18 – Casey Walton
19 – Jake Johnson
22 – Dan Bowman
23 – Dot Heishman
28 – Kim Shrum, Mike Sibert, Adam Hockman
30 – Nadine DeHaven
31 – Richard Linaweaver, Helen Harrison
- April 2 – Nathan Terry
3 – Tim Dalke, Mathew Linaweaver
4 – Chuck Walton, Cathy Boze
5 – Betty Crane (95 yrs.), Jodi Orndorff
7 – Kaye Lehnen
9 – Derek Snarr
10 – Lucas Ritenour
12 – Cory Grubbs
14 – Michael Baylock, Barbara Wright, B. J. Goodier
15 – Joe Lehnen, Susan Brill
16 – Tom Snarr
17 – Courtney Brill
19 – Carroll (Moe) Lambert, Evelyn Neff
21 – Carol Rhea, Amy Palatnick
23 – Megan Partlow
28 – Edna Carpenter
29 – Janice Heishman, Miranda Funkhouser
30 – Jerrold Foltz



Anniversaries for St. Paul's

- March 10 – Robert and Pam Bray
12 – Jack and Linda Sheetz
22 – Spencer and Jessie McIntosh
29 – Clara and Randy Young
30 – Glenn and Kay Wetzel
- April 10 – Eric and Jennifer Dalke
29 – Alisha and Trent Williams

Acolytes

- March 3 – Kyrsten Alkire
10 – Caroline Eye
17 – Connor Neff
24 – Anna Ritenour
31 – Ethan Neff
- April 7 – Gabi Fream
14 – Ethan Gregg
21 – April Alkire
28 – Nathan Eye

Scripture Readers

- March 3 – Abbe Kennedy
10 – Marsha Cooper
17 – Trudy Knode
24 – Janet Sibert
31 – Becky Lytton
- April 7 – Patty Dellinger
14 – Jr. Choir member
21 – Craig Orndorff
28 – Craig Smith

Greeters

- March – Nathan Terry and Abby Neese
April – Shelly and Chris Eye

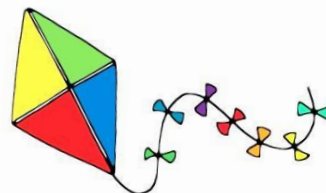
Junior Church – Marsha Cooper & Jen Dalke

Elementary Class – Alisha Williams

Youth Class – Abby Neese

Altar Flowers

- March 3 – Pam Baker
10 – Betty Lambert
17 – Mary Catlett
24 – Melissa Andrews
31 – Joe Sibert
- April 7 – Alisha Williams
14 – Palm Sunday
21 – Easter Lilies
28 – Abbe Kennedy



CHURCH EASTER FLOWERS



ST. PAUL'S EASTER LILIES FOR THE CHURCH

The church office is taking orders for Easter lilies to be used in the church on Easter Sunday, April 21, 2019.

THE PRICE IS \$11.00 EACH.

Orders need to be turned in by SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2019.

**Please make checks payable to
"VALLEY FLOWER SHOP"**

or place cash in an envelope with your name on it and give to Becky Lytton or mail it to the church office. (235 South Main Street, Woodstock, VA 22664)



EASTER LILY ORDER FORM

Name of donor _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

I will pick the lily up after worship on Easter Sunday. _____

I would like the church to dispose of it. _____

Check \$ _____

Cash \$ _____

The spirit of Easter is all about Hope, Love and Joyful living.

