

Releasing God's Blessings

1965 Ferguson Road
Allison Park, PA 15101
Phone: 412-486-7006
Fax: 412-486-8801

November 10, 2022

Email:
stpaulsumc.com
Website:
www.stpaulsumc.com

Pastoral Staff
Amy Wagner
Karen Slusser
Ron Hoellein,
Pastor Emeritus

Director of Music and
Worship Ministries
J. Thomas Taylor

Director of Youth Ministries
Tami Weisner

Director of Children's Ministries
Erin Soza

Director of Child Care
Mary Polley

Director of Preschool
Laurel Webster

Director of Kidz Korner
Jessica Freeman

Finance
Donna Barto
Linda Penley

Office Coordinator
Carla Porterfield

Administrative Assistants
Jacqueline Lang
Marilyn McKean

Our Purpose
To make disciples
of Jesus Christ

Our Mission
St. Paul's is a welcoming
broad-based community of
faith, centered in Jesus
Christ, engaging the spiritual
gifts of our people, and
sharing the grace of God with
all persons.

Our Vision
We will be an inclusive,
diverse church loving others
according to the teachings of
Jesus and working for justice
and peace in our world.

Our Welcoming Statement

St. Paul's United Methodist Church celebrates the sacred worth and value of all individuals. We welcome all who seek a home in this house of God with open hearts, open minds, and open doors. We invite people of every age, race, ethnicity, economic reality, family status, sexual orientation, gender identity, diverse ability, or legal status to join us on a journey toward full participation and service in Christ's church.

Dear Friends,

As we gathered for worship last summer, we celebrated the ways that we – individually and as a congregation – are blessed by God. We've been blessed with grace and peace, with strength to meet challenges, with community to support us, and with confidence that God cares for us!

As God's people, we are always "blessed to be a blessing." In Matthew 25, Jesus instructs those "who are blessed by my Father" to share what they have by giving food to the hungry and drink to the thirsty; welcoming the stranger; clothing the naked; and visiting the sick and imprisoned. For, Jesus says by way of parable, "I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me" (Matthew 25:40, CEB).

Today I celebrate the ways that our congregation has shared God's blessing by caring for others throughout the past year. Through your faithful giving in 2022, we:

- ❖ Fed the hungry by serving meals to unhoused neighbors through Daily Bread, participated with the Neighborhood Resilience Project to provide bag lunches to children during summer months when school lunches aren't available; and collected canned goods for our children's VBS food drive benefiting the NHCO food pantry;
- ❖ Offered drink to the thirsty by supporting The Nyadire Connection's work to dig and restore rural wells;
- ❖ Provided shelter to an Appalachian family whose house was repaired by members of our youth work team, made homes accessible through our Volunteers in Mission ramp-building projects, and provided basic household goods to a refugee family through our Working for Justice partnership with THRIVE;
- ❖ Welcomed our neighbors to community events like the March Mad Dash, Food Truck Festival, Yard Sale, and Fall Fest Trunk or Treat;
- ❖ Extended hospitality to community choirs, recovery groups, and vaccine clinics; and
- ❖ Cared for the sick through visiting ministers, card ministries, prayer quilts, and the monthly Wholeness & Healing Service.

Your financial support of St. Paul's United Methodist Church makes all of this, and more, possible. Our annual budget also supports our congregational life of worship, fellowship, music, study and mission, so that we may continue to grow in faith and discipleship. Our continued ministry in 2023 depends upon your faithful giving through the coming year.

As we look ahead to the new year, I ask you to join me in regular financial support of this church. I give because I have seen that my gifts, when combined with the gifts of others, have the power to change lives! I have seen first-hand the way that the ministries of the church, made possible by our consistent giving, make a difference in people's lives both in our community and around the world. Our giving *matters*.

Others give – financially, and of their time and talents – for other reasons. Here are a few:

I give to St Paul's because St Paul's gives so much to me and the community. I have been a member for over 40 years and have been involved with preschool committee, teaching Sunday school, Vacation Bible School, GROW, Pioneer Club, adult Sunday school, circle, Northside feeding, and many Bible studies. My daughter and grandson have both been baptized at Faith's Chapel. My church family is truly my family and has been with me through the loss of loved ones, health concerns and joys. St Paul's offers many opportunities to serve.

~ Cathy Clarke

I received Jesus in my mid twenties. As I matured in Christ I quickly learned the tithing was my time, talent, and treasure. Time and talents were purposely prepared for me. I was saved by God's grace to do good works. I am not saved BY good works but FOR good works. I choose to participate as a server to Jesus and his church.

~ Mike Cooknick

God is changing lives and transforming communities through this congregation! I invite you to be a part of that work in the year ahead. Pledge cards will be received electronically through our website, and in hard copy during morning worship on Sunday, November 20th. You may also submit them to the church office before or after that date. Thank you for your faithful support of the ministry of St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Grace & peace,

Pastor Amy Wagner