

The MONTHLY Messenger - February 2018

Lent is Upon Us - Are We Prepared?

We Remember In Our Prayers:

John Boshinski, Lori Burnley; Dawn Cipolla; Sis Curley; Emily Foreman; Barbara Jo Hinkel; Elaine Hockenberger; Louise Mest; Carl Klinger; Jerry Landis, Brenda Koder; Miranda Koder; Olivia Robbins; Erin Uber, Emma Witting.

Worship Times

8:00AM Traditional Worship Service with Holy Communion

9:30AM Family Centered Worship Service with Holy Communion.

9:30 AM - each month on the 2nd Sunday we have One Unity Worship Service with Holy Communion. Fellowship follows that service so please bring a finger food or dessert to share.

Sunday School/Adult Education: Meets each week from 8:30 to 9:15 AM
September through May.

PASTOR'S MESSAGE:

2018 is our GIFT year, our opportunity to Grow In Faith Together. We've been talking about it in worship. We've discussed it at our congregational meeting in January. And we'll be exploring its possibilities to strengthen our life and ministry this month.

Some of you, in recent months, have mentioned how you feel things at St. Paul's have "stabilized." No more searching for the next Pastor - the Call process is done. No more wondering whether there will be three services on Sunday, or two, or one - we have our worship schedule. And with that stabilization comes a foundation on which to build and grow. And resting on that foundation we find the opportunity to look ahead and explore where the Spirit is leading us. That's the "gift" of this GIFT year - God blessing us with a special time to chart and grow our ministry.

As we move into the season of Lent, beginning on February 14 with our Ash Wednesday services, a number of ways surface in which we can Grow In Faith Together.

* One is to participate in our new small group study gathering entitled "Mid-Week Explorers." As the title suggests, we'll be exploring discipleship as it's presented in the Bible. And we'll be exploring how we can live out our calling to be disciples today. That "exploring" will take us more deeply into the Bible and more deeply into the very fabric of our own lives as we seek to follow our Lord in the context of our everyday work and studies. Gatherings will be on Tuesday mornings at 10:00am and Tuesday evenings at 7:00pm, starting on February 20 and continuing through March 20. Both sessions will cover the same material. So if you can't make one, please feel free to attend the other.

* Another way is to faithfully share in worship, whether you prefer the early service or late (hard to consider 9:30am late) or whether you connect with the Lord in traditional worship or contemporary. Our Lenten sermon theme will be "Taking on Lent." So often we consider the somber discipline of these 40 days a burden to bear. But upon closer look, taking on Lent brings joy and celebration. We'll find that Good News revealed in each of Sunday's Gospel Lessons.

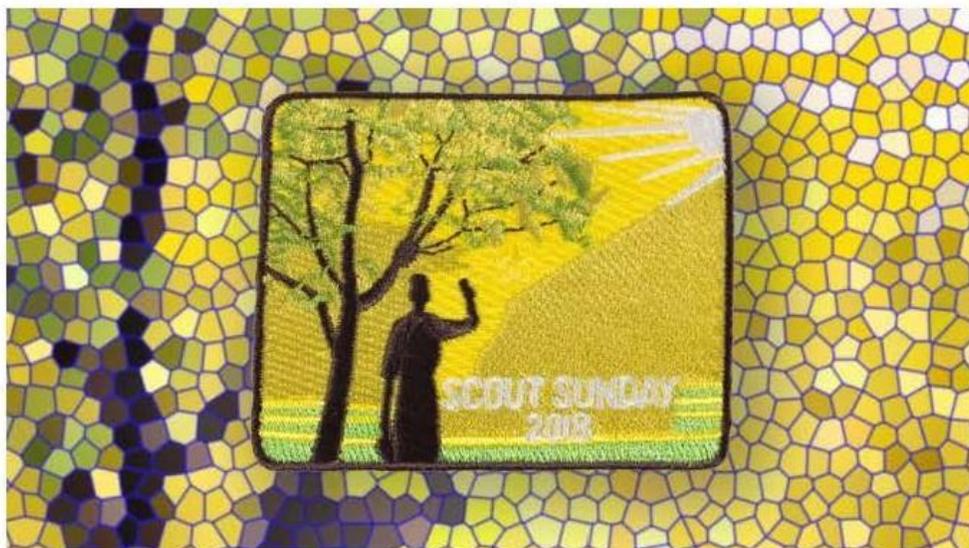
* Yet another opportunity awaiting us is the invitation to gather with our sisters and brothers from the area for community Lenten services each Wednesday night during the season. Worship, followed by fellowship and refreshments, will begin each evening at 7:00pm. We grow in discipleship through the support and encouragement of our friends. And by exemplifying the faith ourselves, we help our friends in their faith journey. Please see the following list for dates and locations of services.

* Still another way to engage in our GIFT year is to help launch a small group ministry I'm calling the Bridge Builders Group. Growing In Faith Together calls us to connect with our community, to build bridges in which our church can better serve our community and in which our neighbors can feel more at home here at St. Paul's. The group's first goal will be to develop a simple Wednesday night meal and learning activity that we can offer for our families from our Child Care Center (and community in general) - maybe once or twice a month to start with. What better way to connect with our neighbors than through hospitality?

* A final way to keep growing is to pray, both offering our thanks and raising up our concerns for our Lord to hear. Please keep our Church Council members and officers in your prayers as they lead our church in witness and service. Please remember our Child Care Center Staff as they nurture the 130 children committed to our care each week. And don't forget to offer thanks for this wonderful ministry which recently earned a 4 Star Keystone Rating, the highest rating possible.

Growing In Faith Together - that's what this year is all about. And Lent provides us with an abundance of opportunities to do so.

Happy growing,
Pastor Wayne



SCOUT SUNDAY 2018

All members of St Pauls who are currently involved in the Boy Scouts of America either as a scout or an adult are invited to attend the Scout Sunday service on February 4, at 9.30.

Once an Eagle, always an Eagle. Are you an Eagle Scout but not currently involved with a unit? You are also invited to attend the service and reception.

Events & Announcements

PLEASE VISIT OUR CALENDAR ON-LINE TO SEE THE MOST UPDATED LIST OF EVENTS BY MONTH & DAY - VISIT THE PAGE BY [CLICKING HERE](#)

Theology on Tap meets February 1st at the Main Street Pub in Bally at **7PM**. All those who are 21 and over are welcome to join us for fellowship, faith discussions and refreshing adult (or other) beverages.



Men's Breakfast: Will be meeting again on **February 3rd at 8AM** at Valley Cafe, in Pennsburg. We hope all our men will mark their calendar and join us.

Christian Education Committee meets **February 4th** after the Family Centered Sunday Service.

Women's Breakfast for February will meet on February 17th at 8:30AM at Pennsburg Diner.

Lunch Bunch will be taking a break for the months of January and February. We'll see you in March! Happy New Year. Questions? Please contact Bonnie Haubert

at 267-923-5567 or Joanne Hersh at 215-679-361

LENT and EASTER Schedule:

Ash Wednesday, February 14

6:30 - 8:00am - Imposition of Ashes for Child Care Center families (who wish to receive them) (Child Care Center)

12:15pm - Spoken Service of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes (Library)

7:00pm - Musical Service of Holy Communion with Imposition of Ashes (Sanctuary)

Maundy Thursday March 29th

7pm in fellowship hall includes a light dinner and living Last Supper

Good Friday March 30th

7 pm in the sanctuary

Easter Sunday April 1st

Sunrise Service (time to be announced) outside at the cemetery

8AM Worship Service and 9:30AM Worship Service

YES....We will be selling Easter Flowers watch the bulletins for details please!

Weekly Community Lenten Services are to be at 7PM at the church listed below:

February 21- Freidens United Church of Christ

February 28 - Palm Church

March 7 - Pennsburg United Church of Christ

March 14 - New Goshenhoppen Church

March 21 - St. Paul's

Join the Worship Assistants; Ushers; Altar Guild; Communion Bread Bakers; Office Helpers.

sign ups are on the wall in the office hallway or you can contact the church office by phone or email and volunteer. It takes so many people to make worship and church special, won't you consider giving some time to your family of faith? Thank you. Call 215-679-5553 ext 110. Many hands make light the work.

Mid-Week Explorers: a new small group ministry, will begin meeting in Lent. Our topic will be "The way of Discovering Christ's Discipleship" as we learn about disciples in the Bible and how we can live as disciples today. We will meet Tuesday's at 10am & 7pm - February 20; 27; March 6; 13; 20 in the library.

As we look ahead to ministry in the months and years to come, what possibilities do you see for ministry here at St. Paul's? What programs or activities would you like to see developed that will share God's Word and nurture our faith? What hopes or dreams do you have for our congregation? Please feel free to share them by placing them in the "Possibilities Box" in the back of the sanctuary. Your ideas will help us to Grow In Faith Together.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! Every second Sunday St. Paul's has a single Unity Service at 9:30AM followed by a time of fellowship. We are in need of individuals, families, and/or groups, to sign up as the "host" of one or more of these events. The host would set up, provide beverages and perhaps some snacks, etc., clean up after, and be the point of contact for the Sunday they sign up to host. There is a sign up sheet in the church office hallway. Please stop by and sign up to help this wonderful hospitality and fellowship ministry.

Soup Kitchen News

On Sunday, January 14, 2018, due to illness, Bob and Laura Foreman were unable to travel to the Victory House to prepare and serve dinner to the residents. The team ordered pizza, wings and soda for the group to enjoy during the football games. Thank you to those that have shared time, money, food and prayer. Your generosity is greatly appreciated!

The St. Paul's soup kitchen committee will be traveling to the Victory house again on Sunday, February 11th, 2018. If you are interested in traveling to the Victory House to help serve, would like to prepare some food prior to the trip or have any questions about the Victory House at all, please contact Bob or Laura Foreman at 267-923-8895 or via email at foreman3@hotmail.com.

Whoever gives to the poor will not want, but he who hides his eyes will get many a curse. - Proverbs 28:27

Youth Group News

On January 12th the Junior and Senior Youth Groups met for games including Orange, snacks and chatting about our angry words. Through tears and laughter we learned that sticks and stones may break our bones and words can DEFINITELY hurt us. We also laughed our way through a little skit about the "Three Wise Guys and King Hairy Head".

The next gathering of the the youth groups will be on Friday, February 16th at 7pm. We are moving to the 3rd Friday of the month so we can share the space with the Boy Scouts for their Pinewood Derby the week before. Bring a friend, bring a game and come ready for some fun!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, April 14th at 6pm for the 7th Annual Chili Cook Off and Talent Show. This is a fundraiser for the youth groups and your willingness to share time, talent or food is greatly appreciated. More details will follow, but please feel free to reach out with any questions.

We are currently praying for and in search of someone to lead the Senior Youth group (ages 7th grade and up). The youth are the future of St. Paul's and this is a great way to get to know them all and support their spiritual growth in a casual and relaxed environment. Please contact Bob or Laura Foreman for more details about leading the youth, joining the youth group or any youth group questions in general at 215-272-1445 or foreman3@hotmail.com.

Know this, my beloved brothers: let every person be quick to hear, slow to speak, slow to anger" - James 1:19

Electronic Giving NOW at St. Pauls!

Through the generosity and support of our members and visitors, St. Paul's is able to expand the reach of our ministry. If you need a convenient way to make recurring contributions or plan to make an additional gift before the end of the year, check out our electronic giving options. As the pace of life speeds up around the holidays, you may find e-Giving a most welcome way to make contributions. To set up a recurring giving schedule [Click Here to Sign Up](#)

Thank you for all you do to support our ministry and mission during Christmas and throughout the year.



REMEMBER: The Open Link still needs our help! St. Paul's is the "Peanut Butter and Jelly" church - providing both of those items to the food bank for those in need.

Please place your donations in the drawers under the literature racks in the fish tank hallway. Thanks!

February Worship Assistants

February 4 Scout Sunday

Bread: Diane Leister Altar Guild: Barb Miller

8:00AM Ushers: Alan Richard and Donald Dulin

Worship Assistant: Henry Thomas

9:30AM Ushers: Chad Grim and Leroy Stevens

Worship Assistant: Leah Marks

Counters: Team #1 Sandy Bergey, Diane Leister, Gladys Sands

February 11 Unity Sunday

Bread: Eleanor King Altar Guild: Agnes Walp

9:30AM Ushers: Carol Elias & Aric Kressly

Worship Assistant: Abby Foreman

Counters: Team #2 Donna & Jim Montich

February 14 ASH WEDNESDAY

Bread: Avah Virus Altar Guild: Nicole Walter

12:15PM in the library teams to be determined

7PM in the sanctuary teams to be determined

February 18

Bread: Vicki Naugler Altar Guild: Sandy Landis

8:00AM Ushers: Alan Richard and Donald Dulin

Worship Assistant: Joanne Hersh

9:30AM Ushers: Craig & Lori Frank

Worship Assistant: Bob Walp

Counters: Team #3 Tom Sands and Charles Shagg

February 25

Bread: Alice Oliver Altar Guild: Alan & Diane Richard

8:00AM Ushers: Ron Rodenberger & George Bonekemper

Worship Assistant: Bob Walp

9:30AM Ushers: Debbie Gryshuk & Katie Robbins

Worship Assistant: Nick Ferrero

Counters: Team #4 Sandy Bergey, Alan and Diane Richard

Social Groups & Ministries to Join

Appalachia Service Project is a home repair service ministry which travels to North Carolina and provides assistance to those

in need during the Summer. Students in grades 7 and up are encouraged to participate and adult helpers are needed and welcome (with clearances). Can you help? Contact Gary Hager by [email](#) (click link) or by phone 215-470-3537.



Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts: Mondays at 6:30PM and have special events through the year.

Fellowship Sunday: (Unity Sunday): Every 2nd Sunday of the month we have a single service at 9:30AM with a time of fellowship following the service. Please bring a finger food or dessert to share and Join us in the Fellowship Hall.

Jr/Sr Youth Groups: Grades 1-12 meet on the 2nd Friday of the month at 7PM in fellowship hall. Please contact Bob or Laura Foreman at foreman3@hotmail.com or 267-923-8895 with any questions about youth group. In FEBRUARY 2018 AND MARCH 2018 WE MEET THE 16TH please make a note of it.

Lunch Bunch: Meets the second Wednesday of each month in Fellowship Hall to share lunch and entertainment. Bring a lunch and coffee cup - desserts are provided by those having a birthday in that month. Also, remember to bring your Redner tapes (must use save-a-tape card). For more info call Joanne at 215-679-3614 or Bonnie at 267-923-5567.

Lutheran Chicks: A health advocates gathering held the Third Monday of odd numbered months at 12:30PM in the library.

Robotics: Tuesdays at 6:30PM and Saturdays from 9-1 from September through May

Theology on Tap: Meets the first Thursday of the month at the Main Street Pub (Hotel) in Bally at 7PM. All over 21 are welcome to join this non-judgmental discussion of faith while sharing fellowship.

Men's Breakfast: Meets the first Saturday of each month at the Valley Café at 8AM. We invite our gentlemen to come on over and share fellowship, food and faith discussions.

Women's Breakfast: Our Meetings are shifting around a bit so watch the bulletin and email news for upcoming meetings 8:30AM. We will meet at Pennsburg Diner. We invite our ladies to join us for fellowship and faith discussions.

Support Groups

Alcoholics Anonymous: Wednesdays 8PM

Narcotics Anonymous: Sundays 8PM

Committees

Cemetery Committee: Third Monday 7:00PM in the library

Christian Ed Committee: Will meet next on December 3rd 10:30AM

Church Council: (by election) Will meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at 7:30PM. (Please note the change in date)

Finance Committee: (by election) Will meet the 2nd Thursday of the month at 6:30PM (Please note the change in date)

Health Advocates: A committee of health oriented members, including nurses, doctors, and other health care folks who provide information and services in our community. Contact the church office with questions.

Property Committee: Meets on the 1st Monday of the month at 7:00PM.

Soup Kitchen Committee (all are welcome): We travel to the Victory House on the 2nd Sunday of each month. If you are interested in traveling to the Victory House to help serve, would like to prepare some food prior to the trip or have any questions, please contact Bob or Laura Foreman at 267-923-8895 or via email at foreman3@hotmail.com



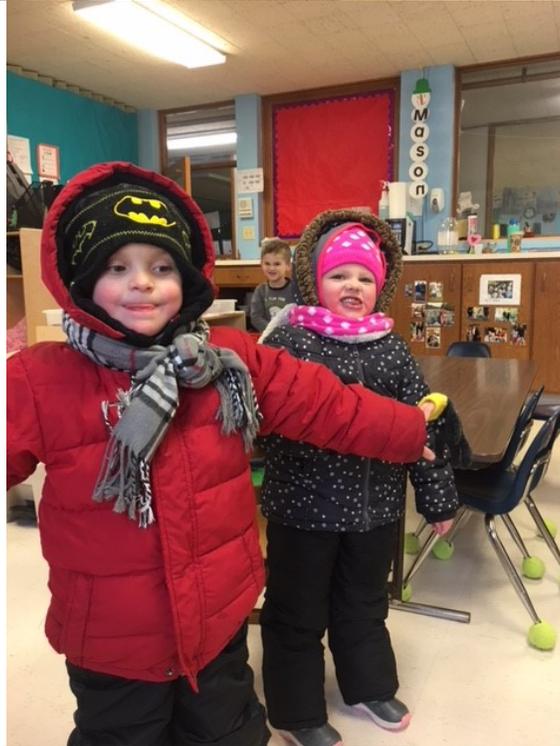
FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

1	Andrew Brown	13	Mary Lou Weber
2	Jane Cooper	14	Adam Burnley
3	Kyle Fisher	14	Diane Greisemer
4	Olivia Stauffer	15	Benjamin McCormick
5	Lynn Marie Compton	16	Karen Cregghan
5	Janine Losinno	16	Erna Heintz
5	Clyde Richard	16	Ronald Leister
5	Virginia Zimmerman	16	Peter Sattler
6	Dusti Fisher	17	Connor Rea
6	Britt Kerr	17	Shae Reinhart
6	Fern Roth	19	Emily Henry
7	James Henry	19	Rebecca Walter
7	Edith Stevens	20	Mildred Dulin
8	Charles Shagg III	20	Debbie Eisenhart
8	Kevin Weeks	21	Leah Frank
9	David Hoffman	21	Alecsander Rea
9	Cael Martin	23	Quinten Felton
9	Dylan McPherson	25	Alan Gryshuk
9	Michael Wimmer	25	Brenda Koder
10	Cindy Godshall	25	Robert Kratzer
11	Craig Frank	27	James Schmindingberg
12	Jennifer Crossan	27	Angelina Spiezio
12	Donald Lechner	27	Robert Walp
13	Alan Richard	28	Doris Brendlinger
13	Erin Uber	28	Daniel Heinrichs
		28	Alexandra Miller

What's Happening at UPCCC?

It's been a snowy and cold winter so far this year; however, that hasn't stopped the children from learning about hibernation, penguins, snow and many more winter-themed elements. Staff and children have had fun experimenting with ice, impersonating Martin Luther King Jr., and reading about winter animals.

Furthermore, we've been learning about Jesus's childhood during Bible and Chapel with Pastor Wayne. He even took us on a "trip" to Corinth like Paul the Apostle did! Here are a few photos of the children having fun this past month:





[Visit Our Website \(click\)](#)

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