

CORNERSTONE

“THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU AT ST. PAUL’S February 2023 Volume 31, Issue 2 St. Paul’s Lutheran Church

***“Ah, Lord God! It is you who have made the heavens
and the earth by your great power and by your
outstretched arm! Nothing is too hard for you.”
Jeremiah 32:17***

Greetings to you, brothers and sisters in Christ,
in this new year of 2023,

We have just celebrated the birth of our Savior!
It was a very cold night as we gathered to
remember our Lord’s birth with our songs and
praise. We celebrated on Christmas day with a
morning Zoom service. This service was well
attended, and those who attended were treated
to a musical presentation by the four year old
class from the nursery school at Resurrection
Lutheran Church, one of our Pittsburgh Lutheran
United Ministries (PLUM) congregations. It was a
service of songs, lessons and praise. How
quickly our Advent season flew by.

And now, we are several weeks into a New Year!

As I look back on 2022, I see that we had much
to celebrate, and a few challenges. We settled
into a new normal in worship. We welcomed
Pastor Alex and celebrated his installation in
July. We came together and prayed for Pastor
John in his ongoing battle with Lyme’s disease.
We celebrated baptisms, weddings, welcomed

some new members, and said our final goodbyes
to those who entered the church triumphant.

We held three summer picnics at which we were
able to share in fellowship time with our sister
congregations. Our congregations served our
Lord and our neighbors through many outreach
projects which included: Sponsor a Monster,
Lutheran Church of our Savior Diaper Bank, our
food pantries at St. Andrew and Bethany, Rise
Against Hunger, and the annual Thanksgiving
Day dinner at Bethany. Several congregations
held Pet Blessings for the communities, and
others hosted educational and fellowship events.
Immanuel Lutheran Church celebrated their
anniversary and East Liberty celebrated the sale
of their property. Four of our young people at
Christ began their journey towards their
Confirmation. These are just a few of the things
we did in which we shared our time and talents
for God and with each other. We are so blessed!
We, with the help of God, made what seemed
impossible, possible.

When I was a little girl, one of my favorite
musicals was “Cinderella”, by Rogers and
Hammerstein. In it was a song, “Impossible.”
Here is part of the chorus:

“But the world is full of zanies and fools
Who don’t believe in sensible rules
And won’t believe what sensible people say,
And because these daft and dewy-eyed dopes

Keep building up impossible hopes,
Impossible things are happ'ning every day!"

All of our congregations of PLUM have done some impossible things and experienced spiritual growth in 2022. We have so many opportunities awaiting us in 2023. Where do you see our Lord leading us? "Jesus looked at them and said, 'With man, this is impossible, but with God, all things are possible.'" (Matthew 19:26) What impossible things can we accomplish this year?

Blessings to you from your pastoral team,

Pastor Sue

During the coming months, we will journey through the season of Lent. We invite you to participate in the following presentations:

"Walking With Jesus", a journey with Jesus through daily fasting and prayer for the 40 days of Lent. There are several options for participating in this time of fasting with Pastor Alex. Each week, there will be a mid-week Prayer Service on Wednesdays at 7:00 pm on Zoom. Look for details on our website, www.plumofpa.com.

"Bible People: Monologues for Lent by Steve Dornsbusch" is a series of six monologues based on Biblical characters. Join Pastor Sue as she leads a discussion of these monologues and the scriptural texts that they are based on. These will be held at two times on Thursdays: 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm. Details about this are also on our website.



- **PLUM Taize service, February 3, 2023, 7PM, zoom.**
- **Eucharistic Minister Training, February 11, 2023, St. Andrews, Carnegie, 9AM.**
- **St. Paul's Council** will meet the 3rd Monday of each month. St. Paul's Council meeting, February 20, 2023.
- **Ash Wednesday In-person Service, St. Paul's, 7PM, Robert Averell, Laypastor.**
- **"Walking With Jesus"** a journey with Jesus through daily fasting and prayer for the 40 days of Lent. There are several options for participating in this time of fasting with Pastor Alex.
- **Mid-week Prayer Service, Wednesdays, 7PM, zoom.** Details on PLUM website.
- **"Bible People: Monologues for Lent by Steve Dornsbusch"**, Pastor Sue will lead twice each Thursday, 2PM and 7PM, zoom. Details on PLUM website.
- **2022 Parochial Report** is due March 1, 2023.
- **Camp Agape Maple Festival, March 18, 2023, 10AM – 3:30PM.**
- **PLUM Board: PLUM Board** meeting, March 27, 2023, 7PM, zoom.
- **PLUM Worship Committee:** March 8, 2023, 6PM, zoom.
- **Lent PLUM Prayer Service, every Wednesday, 7PM, zoom.**
- **Lent PLUM bible study, every Thursday, 2PM and 7PM, zoom.**



HOW MISSION SUPPORT WORKS



Council approved the following list of missions for 2023.

JANUARY – Mission Support (5 Sunday Month)

FEBRUARY – Camp Agape

MARCH – ELCA Disaster Relief

APRIL – Mission Support (5 Sunday Month)

MAY – Lutheran SeniorLife

JUNE – World Hunger

JULY – Mission Support (5 Sunday Month)

AUGUST – Meals on Wheels

SEPTEMBER – Washington City Mission

OCTOBER – Mission Support (5 Sunday Month)

NOVEMBER – Anonymous Christmas Family

DECEMBER – Mission Support (5 Sunday Month)

Lenten Folders – Money is split between Meals on Wheels and Chaplaincy.

Advent Folders - Money is split between Meals on Wheels and Chaplaincy.

The monthly mission for the month of February for St. Paul's Lutheran Church is Camp Agape.

In 2022, St. Paul's goal for Mission Support was \$2,800.00. St. Paul's collected \$2,868.00 for Mission Support. Praise God! "It is better to give than to receive."



Eternal Candle

February – Milt & Charlotte Stemmler

March – Karen & Logan Billingham

We need a donor for April.

If you would like to sponsor the eternal candle please notify Ann Morrocco,

amorocco1@gmail.com. Donation is \$25.00.

Put your name on the envelope along with your check/money in the collection plate.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE 11:15 A.M. -- St Paul's

February 5 – Pastor Alexander Sumo

February 12 – Laypastor Janet Craig

February 19 – Pastor Sue Devine

February 22 – Laypastor Robert Averell

February 26 – Pastor Elizabeth Mayforth

PLUM zoom service, every Sunday, 3PM,

<https://zoon.us/j/401596541> or go to

Pittsburgh Lutheran United Ministries on internet and hit the click button for the service.



Assistants

February 5 – Lee Jones
February 12 – Karen Billingham
February 19 – Scott Cregut
February 26 – Marcy Wright

Lectors

February 5 – Mark Pollo
February 12 – Mike Ferens
February 19 – Corey Ferens
February 26 – Carol Ferens

Usher: Scott Latta

If you are interested in serving as an assistant/lector/usher, please notify Ann Morrocco; 724-746-5897; email: amorocco1@gmail.com.



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Kristin Richmond	February 4
David Kraeer	February 21
Milt Stemmler	February 27



FEBRUARY FLOWER CHART

February 5
February 12
February 19
February 26 – Milt & Charlotte Stemmler

If you are interested in placing flowers on the altar for a special occasion, please notify Ann Morrocco; 724-746-5897; email: amorocco1@gmail.com.



Will you please consider saving your pop can rings? These rings are given to Bethany Evangelical Lutheran, Dormont, to help someone with cancer treatments.



FELLOWSHIP

February 5 – Jim & Donna Filby
February 12 – Carol, Mike, Corey Ferens
February 19
February 26

If you are interested in sponsoring Fellowship for one of the Sundays in October, please sign the signup sheets on the bulletin board or notify Ann Morrocco; 724-746-5897; email: amorocco1@verizon.net.

ST PAUL'S PRAYER LIST

Healing comes in many forms. You graciously offer healing of bodies, souls, and minds, and also healing of relationships, communities, finances, and vocations. Grant healing to all who are in need, (especially) [Pastor John](#) Gropp (Advanced Lyme disease), [Charlotte](#), [Milt](#), [Steve](#), [Barbara](#), [Lee](#), [Dom](#), [Barb](#), [Carol](#) Cramer (waiting for test results), [Zach](#) Layton (PTSD exacerbation), [Barb](#), [Ann](#) (hip replacement February 1, 2023), [Pastor Paul](#) (Parkinson's), [the Porter Family](#), [the Richmond Family](#), [our Bishops](#), [our Synod](#), [our PLUM pastors](#) and [our PLUM family](#). Restore to health and wholeness all who are in need of healing. Give strength to all who cry out to you. We call on our God, Hear our prayers.

Each year our St. Paul's Lutheran Church family adopts an anonymous family. This year we adopted a family with three children. A total of \$550 was collected from St. Paul's members. A total of \$1000 was sent to the Anonymous Family plus all of the gifts for the three children that were donated by members. May God bless you one and all for making this adoption possible each year.



God of all good gifts, your Son gathered children into his arms and blessed them. Help us to understand our youth as they grow in years and in knowledge of your world. Teach us to encourage their search for truth and value in their lives. Protect and bless all of our young people, especially [Hazel](#) Julia Mae Cregut, [Eleanor Marie](#) Cregut, [Logan](#) Billingham, [Andrew](#) Cowser, [Gina](#) Cowser, [Austin](#) Filby, [Joelle](#) Filby, [Clarke](#) Johnson, [Larry Ryan](#) Johnson, [Gregory](#) McGrail, [Makenna](#) McGrail, [Lindsey](#) Nimal, [Josh](#) Porter, [Jaxon](#) Porter, [Jordyn](#) Porter, [Aaliyah](#) Gilpin, [Adalae](#) Carmichael, [Stephanie](#) Richmond, [Sydney](#) Richmond, [Sammie Jo](#) Richmond, and [Skylar](#) Richmond. **Please notify Ann Morrocco, amorocco1@gmail.com if someone should be added or deleted from our prayer lists).**



Will you please consider saving your prescription bottles? We take the bottles to Bethany Lutheran Church, Dormont, to help people in third world countries.



ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Sunday Worship

11:15 A.M. In-person

3PM – zoom

www.plumofpa.com

for additional news and event updates.

Please call our Pastoral Team at 412-496-4889 for pastoral concerns and emergencies.

Let us remember that GOD is with us
ALWAYS.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church has again been blessed. On January 28, 2023, Shawn & Martha Randolph and Marcy Wright became members of St. Paul's through Affirmation of Baptism. We thank God and welcome them.



Congregational Meeting, January 22, 2023. Church officers elected were Nancy Pollo, President, Carol Ferens, Vice President, Scott Latta, Recording Secretary, Corey Ferens. The 2023 budget was approved. Milt Stemmler and Lee Jones will fulfill their one year term in 2023.



Council Meeting, January 24, 2023. Council appointed Shawndel Kelly, Treasurer and Karen Billingham, Financial Secretary.

