

CORNERSTONE

“THERE IS A PLACE FOR YOU AT ST. PAUL’S”

November 2018

St. Paul’s Lutheran Church

Volume 24, Issue 11

Dearest Members of PLUM,

It is hard to realize that we have been together for nine years! I can still remember my internship and everyone having a great time calling me Vicar. Especially Karen Brown who still sneaks that title in once in a while. My internship committee with PLUM was enormous! So many people and every one of you had my best interest in mind.

Then, on January 28th, 2012 we celebrated my ordination at Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Mt. Oliver. That was an awesome day. My first sermon after ordination was at St. Andrews and East Liberty! I have been so blessed to have every one of you in my life. I love all of you and have loved being one of your Pastors. Thank you so much for all the care, lessons, and love you have given to my family and me.

There are so many of you that have made my time in PLUM very special. Pastor John, Pastor Beth and Pastor Paul, you have been priceless in my life and in my growth as a pastor. Thank you so much.

Now it is time for me to move on to the next part of my ministry. November 1, 2018, I will take a new call as a part time solo pastor. I am scared but excited to venture into this next part of my ministry. I still plan on being a part of the PLUM family in many ways. There is a women’s retreat in the works and (guess what?) WE ARE HOSTING THE TRAINING FOR VBS AGAIN!! I will be calling all you VBSers to join in the fun.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your families; to share in the joys and the tears, the frustrations and the good times. I will cherish all the memories. Thank you for all you have taught me (good and bad) and mostly, thank you for being you! I leave you in great hands as the team of PLUM

pastors is the best! May God bless each and every one of you.

The Reverend Melba Dibble

Pastor Melba, Melba, Melba Lou, Vicar, Mom

Or whatever else you call me

PS: Promise a pool party next summer! Ya all come.

PSS: You are invited to attend my Installation at Bethany Lutheran Church in Bethel Park, on Sunday, November 15th at 3:00 p.m. Reception following in the Fellowship Hall.

PLUM: WE ARE FAMILY!

“They said to him, ‘Your mother and your brothers and sisters are outside, asking for you.’ And Jesus replied, ‘Who are my mother and my brothers?’ And looking at those who sat around him, he said, ‘Here are my mother and my brothers! Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother.”
(Mark 3.32-35)

PLUM is like an extended family. It is a family that is bound together in Christ. It is a family that strives to discern the will of God and to move according to that will. Sometimes this happens as a whole and other times our response to God is best expressed in our home congregation.

Like every family, the PLUM family experiences changes – a son or daughter goes off to college or gets married, begins a new job or moves away from home. Other times new people are attracted to our family, move in with us, and share in the love and work of our family.

We had the privilege of standing with the members of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church in Sheraden when they acknowledged with thankful hearts the

115th Anniversary of their congregation. Soon Trinity will close and we will be sitting alongside these members who have been transferred from Trinity to St. Andrew Lutheran Church, E. Carnegie as they become part of PLUM's family there.

We have been a blessing to the members of **Bethany Lutheran Church, Bethel Park**. Our gratitude is overflowing because we have played a role in Bethany's healing as it continues to be the Light of Christ in Bethel Park. We have been privileged to provide a safe space for Bethany's members to re-group and listen to the will of God. Bethany is in the Call Process and Pr. Melba is being considered for a part time Call.

Our PLUM family accompanies and encourages **East Liberty Lutheran Church** as it seeks to move its worship life and its community outreach ministry to a new location. Their building which continues to deteriorate has been sold. Therefore the congregation is negotiating a temporary rental space in or near East Liberty until it can find a permanent home.

We rejoice with **Susan Devine** who has been appointed Vicar/Intern at Hope Lutheran Church, Forest Hills and we wish her well as she continues her education.

Finally we are grateful for **Pastor Melba Dibble** and her sojourn among us. She came to the PLUM family nine years ago as an intern and, when her formal preparation for ministry was completed, we celebrated her ordination by laying on holy hands and with great excitement. She has contributed in mighty ways to PLUM's life and ministry. Now she is hearing a call to move to a new field of service. We will wish Pr. Melba 'farewell and God speed' at the Reformation Service, October 28th, 3:00 p.m. at Trinity, Mt. Oliver.

So we witness changes in our family: the transfer of Trinity congregation, the departure from PLUM of Bethany (Bethel Park) congregation, the arrival of **Vicar Brenda Henry, Pastors Jocelyn Johnston and Martin Rafanan**, and the need to release Pastor Melba who is personally responding to God's call.

You may receive this news with mixed feelings. You may be wondering what impact these shifts will have on our PLUM family and its ministry. Our family is financially sound and our commitment to God's will is firm.

Jesus' loving words assure us that God still leads us: "Whoever does the will of God is my brother and sister and mother." IN CHRIST we are one family wherever we are. Give thanks and praise to God who created our PLUM family fourteen years ago and who continues to bless it in abundant ways.

+ To God be the glory +



ST. ANDREW CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Friday and Saturday, November 9th & 10th

11:00 – 4:00 p.m.

218 Alter Street East Carnegie

Everyone is welcome to attend the annual Christmas Bazaar featuring quality homemade soups & chili decorations, Grandma's Attic, Basket Palooza and Door Prizes. Come and shop for bargains and don't forget to bring your Christmas list!



BETHANY LUTHERAN CHURCH VENDOR FAIR

Bethany Lutheran Church in Dormont is sponsoring a vendor fair on Sunday, November 17th from 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. There will be several vendors to shop with, raffles and a 50/50 drawing. This is a perfect time to begin your Christmas shopping. Proceeds will benefit Bethany and our missions in the community.



You are invited to the 35th Annual Free Thanksgiving Day Dinner on Thursday, November 22nd from 12:00-2:00 p.m. Take-Out Meals will be available from 1:00-2:00 p.m. The dinner will be held at the Canonsburg United Presbyterian Church 112 West Pike Street and is sponsored by The Greater Canonsburg/Houston Ministerial Association and the Community.



The Greater Canonsburg/Houston Ministerial Association is asking for donation of pies for the Annual Community Thanksgiving Dinner. Last year, thanks to generous donations, over 400 slices of pie were served. Please help by baking or buying a pie (or pies) to donate. If possible, please let Jill know by Sunday, November 18th if you will be donating pies and how many. Pies can be delivered to the Canonsburg U.P. church on Wednesday, November 21 between 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. or Thanksgiving morning between 8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Any pies not used for the dinner will be sent to Meals on Wheels in Houston.



Don't forget to turn your clocks back an hour on Saturday when you go to bed.



November monthly mission

Again for our November monthly mission, St. Paul's has adopted a South Central Elementary School Family. Monetary donations are being sought so that the children's Christmas wishes may be fulfilled (Ann Morrocco and Jill A. Shook will be doing the shopping for the items requested).

All donations (cash or check written to the church) should be at the church by Sunday, December 4th. Special envelopes are located on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, contact Ann at (724-746-5897). Let us show the Love of Jesus to this family in need.



Our Annual Christmas Cookie decorating party for Kids of all ages on Saturday, November 24th from 10:00 A.M. - ? Families are asked to bake 3 dozen cookies. These cookies will be delivered to our shut-ins and nearby nursing homes. Sign-up sheets are available at the church. We ask that you prayerfully consider helping us in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.



The Annual Meeting for election of President, Vice President, Recording Secretary and two council members at Large and the adoption of the 2017 Budget will be held on Sunday December 9th following the worship service. Make plans to attend.



November Assistants and Sponsors

Acolyte

- November 4
- November 11
- November 18
- November 25

Assisting Minister

- November 4 – Ann Morrocco
- November 11 – Carol Ferens
- November 18
- November 25 – Jill A. Shook

Eternal Candle

- The Ferens Family

Fellowship

- November 4 – No Fellowship
- November 11 – The Ferens Family
- November 18 – No Fellowship
- November 25 – Lee Jones

Flowers

- November 4 – Ann Morrocco
- November 11
- November 18
- November 25

Lector

- November 4 – Mark & Nancy Pollo, Lee Jones
- November 11 – John Straka
- November 18
- November 25

Worship Leaders

- November 4 – Rev. Paul Koch
- November 11 – Rev. Martin Rafanan
- November 18 – Rev. John Gropp
- November 25 – Vicar Brenda Henry



Randy Bell	November 20
Donna Filby	November 25
Zack Nimal	November 25



Ev, Sharlene, Anna Mae, Mark, Virginia, Pam, Patty, Joyce, Dan, George, Edward, Randy, Jim, Christine, Anita, Lee, Rich, Faith, Anna Mae, the Richmond family, Charlotte, Laura, Tyler, Jim, Dr. Wolfson, Steve, Barbara, the Burchesky family, Pastor Wayne, John, our Bishops, our Synod, our PLUM pastors and members and our church. If anyone should be added or removed, please contact the church office (724-745-5962) or email: stpaulscbg@verizon.net.



St. Paul's committed \$2,800.00 towards Mission support for 2018. With two months remaining, we are short as of our commitment by \$736.00. We have in the past years, exceeded our commitment. Let's try to do it again this year.