THE FORWARD

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH NEWARK, OHIO MARCH 19, 2019

Church Phone: 740-345-6115 Web Site: <www.stpaulselca.org>

Pastor: Reverend Betsy M. Williams

Congregation Council President: Mandy S. John

Office Secretary: Jodie Nickles Church Phone: 740-345-6115



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The Listening Process Report Hasn't Gone Away

It has been six months since the Synod Congregational Resource Team presented the Listening Process Report to the congregation. It may seem that the report has been ignored, but in fact it has been discussed vigorously at Church Council. But as the report said, "The Expectation on many people's part is that the pastor and council should be able to fix everything. This is not fair, realistic, or healthy and there seems to be no plan or process to share the responsibility with the congregation."

As we delve deeper into the report we are going to need assistance and input from the congregation. We will be posing questions, asking for work group members, and striving to include you in the process of growing and healing. To this end, starting this month, we are introducing Listening Post Corner. In this spot we will be providing answers to small issues that were raised in the report. There will be updates on the steps we are taking to move the report forward. We will also pose questions for congregational input and making announcements. You will also find this information on the bulletin board in the lobby. As always, Council invites your questions and concerns.

Denise Crews, Congregation Council

Notes to the Church and Congregation:

SPRING CLEANING! Everyone is invited to come help clean the Sanctuary and Chapel on Saturday April 6th at one p.m. We will be cleaning pews, floors, dusting and more as we prepare for the Paschal feast. If you have any questions see Matt Hummel.

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER AND SOUP SUPPERS CONTINUE! There are three more evenings of prayer and fellowship left in lent. March 27, April 3 and April 10th. Each evening begins with a discussion about a work by C. S. Lewis, then dinner at 6:15 followed by Evening Prayer at 7 p.m. Dinner is a potluck with soup and bread provided. Please bring a dish to share and your own place setting; silverware, plate and bowls. This makes clean-up so much easier. Thanks!

RISEN BREAD FOR EASTER There are 7 Sundays in Easter, and it is our tradition to use risen bread for each of them. So, we are looking for bread bakers for April 28th, May 5th, May 12th, May 19th, May 26th and June 2nd. If you can help, please see Denise Crews or Terri Beamer. The organist is willing to tastetest. ☺

GOD'S WORK OUR HANDS Save the date September 8, 2019 for God's Work Our Hands. This is a special day when the ELCA joins together in providing service to their local community. If you have ideas of how St. Paul's can serve our community, please share them with any member of the church council.

PRAYERS Our prayers are requested for the following people Monagene Pound, Betsy Williams, Steve Sukara, Joe Kascandi, Jonothan Moyer, Vicky Zigan, Hugh Friel, Ella & Carroll Casto, Jeff Kinser, Joanne Gordon, Alice Smith, Margaret Marx, Frances Slebodnik, Ruth White, April Kitzmiller, Gail Miller's family, Katelyn Malcolm

Those with Long-Term Prayer Concerns: Terrie Baker, Dawn Campbell, Fred Citrone, Ernest & Wanda Cooperider, Rose Godenschwager, Wilma Keller, Betty & Cliff Neighbarger, Terry Nelson, Jackie Sainsbury, Frances Slebodnik, Gretchen Treneff

If you need an address for anyone or wish to add someone to the list, please call the office.

Financial Reports

Received 02/10/2019:		Year to Date	Attendance
Current	\$ 7,438.00	\$ 20,786.86	Sat. 4 p.m. 18
Benevolence	<u>64.00</u>	<u>613.00</u>	Sun. 9:30 a.m. <u>85</u>
Total	\$7,502.00	\$ 21,399.76	S.S Total 103
Received 02/17/2019:		Year to Date	Attendance
Current	2,737.00	\$ 23,523.76	Sat. 4 p.m. 22
Benevolence	<u>156.00</u>	<u>769.00</u>	Sun. 9:30 a.m. <u>70</u>
Total	\$2,893.00	\$24,292.76	S.S Total 92
Received 02/24/2019:		Year to Date	Attendance
Current	1,834.00	\$ 25,357.76	Sat. 4 p.m. 15
Benevolence	<u>51.00</u>	<u>820.00</u>	Sun. 9:30 a.m. 86
Total	\$1,885.00	\$26,177.76	S.S Total 101
Received 03/03/2019: Year to Date			Attendance
Current	3,529.00	\$ 28,886.76	Sat. 4 p.m. 27
Benevolence	<u>190.00</u>	<u>1,010.00</u>	Sun. 9:30 a.m. <u>73</u>
Total	\$3,719.00	\$29,896.76	S.S Total 100

THANK YOU Thrivent members directing your Thrivent Choice dollars to St. Paul's!

Total Income for Operations as of January 28, 2019	\$27,270.11
Total Operating Expenses as of January 28, 2019	<u>- 38,018.41</u>
DEFICIT	\$ - 10,748.30

Do we have your correct email? Please help us to stay in touch by sharing your current email address – just email the church. secretary@stpaulselca.org

Reminder For those with mobility issues or handicapped placards, feel free to park in the alley on the south side of the church. There is room for about five cards.

<u>Free De-escalation Training Class</u> In the interest of church safety/security, a training class will be offered twice at First United Methodist Church on either April 2nd or April 4th at 6:30pm. The target audience is ushers and greeters, but all church members are welcome to attend. Please sign up on the sheet in the hallway. Contact Mandy John with questions.

ALTAR FLOWERS AND SANCTUARY LAMP CANDLES

March 31st: The Sanctuary candle is lit by Greg & Kim

Everingham in honor of

their granddaughter *Lauren Everingham* for her 4th birthday on April 1st.

April 7th: A vase given in celebration of *Fred & Lindsay Freytag's* wedding anniversary.

Reminder: When you write your name on the flower or candle chart, please fill out an information form and put it in the basket on the office door. The information forms are canary yellow half-sheets that can be found on the shelf with the ushers' things. This will save the secretary time when typing the Forward and the bulletins. Thank you!

THE WHEN'S AND THE WHERE'S

ST. PAUL'S BOOK CLUB meets the third Monday evening of each month at 7 p.m.

MATTHEW'S KITCHEN continues to meet the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. in Danford Hall.

GAME NIGHT <u>– is April 12th</u> (we moved a week ahead due to Good Friday) at 7:00 p.m. in Weisgerber Lounge. Bring your favorite board or card games or play someone else's favorite. Bring along a snack to share.

YOUTH NEWS The Youth and Worship Committee's Shrove Sunday breakfast was a huge success! Please make plans to join us for the next breakfast on April 14th.

FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP will be March 20th. At <u>8 a.m.</u> we will be attending C-Tec's Senior Citizen Day. You must pre-register. In April on the 24th, we will take a tour of the restored Licking County Courthouse and have lunch at Susie's Bistro. For further details, call Jean Hovland at 740-366-5058 or Connie Baker at 740-334-8961.

WELCA NEWS Annual Rummage & Bake Sale <u>April 26 & 27</u>: The sale will be held from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. on Friday, April 27th and from 9:00 A.M.to 12:00 P.M. on Saturday the 27th. Please consider helping with the sale or donating baked goods. Your donations will provide funds for church receptions,

funeral luncheons, and other WELCA functions. We welcome household goods. toys, books, clothing, and most anything in useable condition. Items may be left on the stage in Danford Hall after Easter. Alice Circle will meet on March 21st and April 18th at 1:00 p.m. **Nancy Circle** will meet Monday April 1st at 6:30p.m. Ruth Circle meets the 2nd Wednesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. and their next meeting is April 10th.

Holy Week/Easter Schedule

April 13th 4 p.m. & April 14th 9:30 a.m. – Palm Sunday Services April 18th 7:15 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service April 19th Noon-3 p.m. Tre Ora Service April 19th 7:15 p.m. Good Friday Service Sunday, April 21st at 6:30 a.m. Sunrise Service at the Four Church Farm Saturday, April 20th 4 p.m. & Sunday, April 21st 9:30 a.m. Easter Service both services in the church



Easter FLOWER Ordering Time! We will be ordering an assortment of *Chrysanthemums* to adorn the altar on Easter Sunday. The plants will still cost \$10.00 each. The form below can be filled out and either put in the offering plate at worship or mailed to the church office (67 N. 5th Street, Newark, Ohio 43055)

Your Name	I want to place an Easter flower
for the following reason:	
In memory of	
In honor of	
To the Glory of God	

Council 2/25/19 UNEDITED AND UNAPPROVED MINUTES!

Devotion Positive thoughts sent around the group for the meeting

Congregational Concerns(15 min limit) No congregational members present

January 28, 2019, Minute Review: Motion to accept January minutes by Charlie Laidlaw-Smith, Alice Beamer seconds. Motion passes

Committee Reports- Motion to accept Committee reports; Jim Rengert, seconded; Jean Hovland. Motion passes · Congregational Care: No Report · Education: No Report · Evangelism: An updated sign made and placed out front for the soup suppers, also there are questions about giving the public notice and opening it up to the community or just to the service attendees. Methodist church runs a dinner on Wednesday nights as well so the feeling is that there is no rush and numbers wouldn't be affected either way. -Supper starts at 6:00 pm, service is at 7:15 -A group is needed to make soup on the 10th, Council agrees to make soup on the 10th -Notice of attendees bringing their own dinnerware · Four Church Farm: January meeting occurred. old business was taken care of. Gift cards were given to those that helped out with the Ox roast, new flags purchased to replace older ones. Flattening out the field. Matt Clark has a website to access old Four church farm photos · Mutual Ministry: No Report · Property: Phase 1- more keys complete, Phase 2-addition of more security. New monitor and monitoring system, buzzers etc. A quote is given from ADT: total =\$2,130, a monthly fee of \$94. This would include additional camera angles towards the back door, nursery, back stairs and towards the front door, lobby, and corridor. - A dispute about the Nursery being locked when not in use -motion to bring the game tables down into the nursery; majority accepted, one against the motion due to concern with the destruction of the games if placed in the nursery, would like to look at the use of the downstairs spaces as a whole and topic should be brought to the congregation -cry/child "quiet" area; diagram of pew movement submitted by John Jordan. More discussion to be tabled until April · Rental Property: Met last Wednesday, unplugged 2 drains at properties, found handyman, termite inspection found in the garage of the 28th st property. All but one property rent paid. Snow removal issues; school is supposed to plow but hasn't happened. Diane supposed to talk with the head of the school. Parishioners; southside parking spaces are handicapped spaces (mention in the bulletin) Charlie sent a notification to Jodi · Technologies/Website: No Report. would like to know the guest password · WELCA: Brief meeting Saturday, March 2nd, no more than an hour. Firming up plans for the 179 S 5th St(old ARC building) expenses come out of our funds so that any money goes to the group. 11-1:30, free will offering · Worship: Church cleaning in early April. Transfiguration, ash wed and Lenten services finalized. Tre Ora being discussed about opening up/info to the community, requests the council to invite bishop to come to a service to preach. Council sees no issues with sending a formal letter. Youth Ministry: breakfast this Sun; coffee cake, pancakes, etc. Sunday discussion about the cleaning of the nursery

Treasury Report: Motion to approve report: Charlie Laidlaw-Smith, seconded: Anne Daly. Motion passed Pastor's Report: Supply pastor looked at for a few more weeks. 22 weeks (vacation/ sick time/ FMLA) Old Business · Church handbook updates/amendments to the church constitution: The Completed Church handbook was emailed to all Council members by Greta. Discussion about the Constitution included concerns regarding laws not being followed and the lack of an updated version. ELCA states that the constitution should have been updated in 2013, but there will be a new model being presented this summer. More to follow · Reading/reviewing leadership book as a council: Tabled at the current time due to the councils choice to focus on Listening Post · Mecklenburg 2020 to meet and begin planning

Listening Post Corner

Church council has not been idle over the last six months. In November, Church Council met with Pastor Abrams to discuss how to progress. We hope you have noticed that Council has made an effort to post minutes quicker and include them in the Forward. We now also have a time set aside at meetings for Concerns of the Congregation. Council meets at 7:00 pm the last Monday of the month in Danford Hall. Some quick answers to questions

- 1. What happened to the organ in the chapel? It was a re-allocation of resources at the request of Matt and Josh. The grand piano was moved into the church to better utilize it and allow more interaction with the congregation for hymns and with the choirs for music. This allowed us to move the upright piano that was donated by Judy Rauch into the chapel as in conjunction with the chapel dedication to Judy and Bill Rauch. This then allowed us to move the electric organ upstairs for use by the children's choir.
- 2. Why do we say Farewell to the Alleluia? As a young child I always wondered why we switched to the sad Lent tune before the Gospel reading. I'm sure it was assumed that children would realize that we don't say Alleluia during Lent. Here at St. Paul's we have been saying Farewell to the Alleluia for over 20 years. It is a way to explain to the children that we don't say Alleluia during Lent and involve the children in the worship service. We are building worship leaders for the future.
- 3. What happened to the Easter Lilies? We love Easter Lilies! Unfortunately, Pastor Williams is allergic to lilies. Since there are no such thing as hypo-allergenic Easter Lilies, we had to remove them from the church. We can only use living materials behind the altar rail so that left the Worship Committee with two choices-not use flowers on Easter or switch the types of flowers. We chose to change to mums. Because we order so many, we cannot get all one color. Since our Festival paraments are multi-colored the committee felt multi-colored plants would be appropriate. We are looking at ways to incorporate silk lilies where we can. Look for the form to order your Easter flowers in the Forward or the bulletin.

There will be a Congregational Meeting after services on April 6th and7th. Council will provide a Financial Update and we will begin a discussion on communications issues. Among the questions we will be exploring are:

How do you receive information from St. Paul's? How do you want to receive information from St. Paul's?

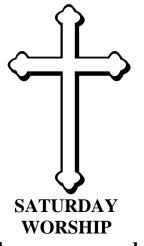
How can we better communicate?

Your input is very important. Communication was one of the issues highlighted in the Listening Process Report that needs improvement. See you there.

THE FORWARD March 19, 2019

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY SCHEDULE Traditional Worship 9:30 a.m. **Sunday School for all** ages 11:00 a.m.



4 p.m. year-round

"The Mission of St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to SHARE, at all times and with all people, the Good News of GOD'S GRACE, through **CHRIST JESUS.**"

Non-Profit Organization Permit Number 117 Newark, OH 43055