



December 2024
January 2025



Join us at the
Christmas Carnival
Sunday, Dec. 8

The Messenger

News & Highlights
St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Akron, Ohio
StPaulsAkron.org

FROM THE RECTOR

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Christmas is Coming!

Yes, it is. Some are quick—too quick? — to herald this. A neighbor with Christmas lights displayed in early November. Starbucks greeting me with “Happy Holidays” on November 10th (“Huh?” I said, usually aware of the calendar, “Did I miss something?”) Well, I pray that even as we enjoy the customs of Christmas, we will know that what we are dealing with is the “unfathomable miraculous reality” of Jesus Christ, God’s incarnation in the person of his Son. And this reality is “so that the world might be saved through him” (John 3:17). In his merciful love, God seeks us.

Advent: A New Kind of Aliveness!

We use the season before Christmas, ideally, so that our perception of this miraculous work of salvation may be clearer. We “cast off works of darkness” and pray at the same time for God’s “bountiful grace” to set us free. Throughout Advent we acknowledge our need of help, God’s help. Calling for help is not a weak way of living, it’s a way of being enlivened! It’s asking to be infused with a new kind of vitality—not the vitality that comes by vowing to try harder—but the vitality that comes through repentance and trust in a reality eternal and sure. There is a “new kind of aliveness” that can be ours. We just have to ask. (John Webster, Christ our Salvation, page 2)

And We Give!

Motivated by the love of God for us and for all people, and responding to human need, we give joyfully for the sake of others. We promote giving to the *Christmas Fund*, *Nan’s Giving Tree*, and the *Access Homeless Shelter*, among other good causes. And this cheers me. But I’m equally thrilled with the cascade of giving and blessing that flow person to person in this season. Good wishes. Smiles. Hugs. Helping Hands. Looking out for others. It makes the angels in heaven glad! (See *Luke 15*)

And the Rhythms Continue!

Renewal. Repentance. Refocusing. Rejoicing. Trusting. Believing. Amending our patterns of life. These things can, and should, and do happen throughout the year. The church calendar is just one way to structure our focus individually and together. At all times, the focus is in a Godward direction, and not a fuzzy God, or the God of our own making, but the God revealed in the Scriptures, whose light shines in our hearts with the glory of God in the face of Christ. (2 Corinthians 4).

With exceeding joy,

In Christ,

Mark +

DECEMBER ADULT FORUM

"Advent: Poems, Prayers, and Prophecies"

Please join us during Advent for a series of Adult Forum discussions prompted by the Collects of the season. We will consider what the scriptures tell us about God's promises, God's character, and God's activity in the world, and we will recall how the poems and prayers of the season invite our growing awareness of the "new advent of the love of Christ."

Dec. 1—The Rev. Susan Tiffany

Dec. 8—The Rev. Paul Gaston

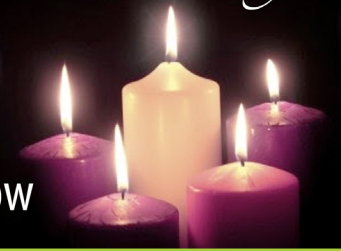
Dec. 15—The Rev. Mark Pruitt

No Adult Forum on Sundays, Dec. 22 & Dec. 29

LESSONS & CAROLS *on Advent Sunday*

DEC. 1ST
4:00 PM

Reception to follow



ST. PAUL'S *Christmas Services*

CHRISTMAS EVE
TUESDAY, DEC. 24

2 PM—Preschooler's Christmas Story (Chapel)

5 PM—Children's Pageant & Holy Communion

8 PM—Holy Communion (Music & Carols at 7:30 PM)

CHRISTMAS DAY
WEDNESDAY, DEC. 25

10 AM—Holy Communion

SUNDAY, DEC. 29
10 AM—A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols

Join Us!



Please Donate Online to our Annual Appeal

Thank you to those who have already committed gifts to our Annual Appeal! Your gifts that support St. Paul's are greatly appreciated and help us to continue our ministries. If you are in need of a Pledge Card or if you have any questions, please call the Church Office at 330-836-9327 ext. 120. Also, you can make an online contribution through our website at www.stpaulsakron.org/give-online, or by texting Givestp to 73256 to make a secure donation.





ST. PAUL'S

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Messenger is the official newsletter of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Akron, Ohio, a congregation in the Episcopal Diocese of Ohio.

Clergy

- The Rev. Mark Pruitt
Rector
- The Rev. Susan Tiffany
Associate Rector for Pastoral Care
- The Rev. Dr. Paul Gaston
Assisting Priest
- The Rev. Polly Glanville
Deacon

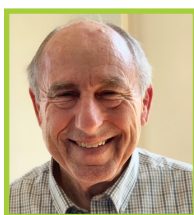
Staff

- Kelsey Berg
Assistant Organist
- Daniel Fortune
Organist/Choirmaster
- Beth Guenther
Director, Family Ministries
- Dale Lower
Head Sexton
- Lauren McGarry
Graphic Designer/Printer
- Beth Rice & Kathi Brittain
Welcome Desk Receptionists
- Todd Rosenberg
Director of Development & Planned Giving
- Carrie Searle
Executive Assistant to the Rector
- Bonnie Severt
Pastoral Care Coordinator
- David Shahata
Youth Assistant/Men's Ministry Special Projects
- Ruth Webb
Youth Intern
- Gail Wild
Business Manager & Treasurer

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following parishioners for election to the Vestry Class of 2028

Vestry members, acting as the "Board of Directors" for the parish, commit themselves to three years of service to the church. The Vestry is an important part of the life of St. Paul's as they work together to support the clergy, staff and lay leadership of the church.

The Vestry Nominating Committee is pleased to announce the candidates for the Vestry class of 2028, and we thank them for agreeing to take on this leadership role.



Brian Good

Brian Good has been a parishioner at St. Paul's since 1996. He has served on the Vestry with the class of 2022 and currently serves as a Stephen Minister. Brian has also served at the Community Meal since 2016 and is a member of the Property Committee. Brian looks forward to supporting St. Paul's mission and vision.



Cheryl Kline

Cheryl Kline is a lifelong member of St. Paul's. Cheryl has previously served on the Vestry and has been involved with the Acolytes and Christian Education. Cheryl is currently serving as a member of the choir.



Charles Severt

Charles (Chuck) Severt shares his talents with the people of St. Paul's in a variety of ways. He has served on the Vestry, including holding the position of Junior Warden. Chuck has also been involved with the Fireside Group and Missions Committee. His current activities include participating on the Property Committee, Community Meals and weekly Bible Study.



Bruce Taylor

Bruce Taylor joined St. Paul's in 2022 and quickly joined the choir, where he is still sharing his talent. Bruce has lived overseas for a number of years as President of three colleges- two in the UAE and one in Cambodia. He has also served as chair of the Faculty Committee at colleges in Hong Kong and the UAE. Bruce is looking forward to bringing his varied experiences to the work of the Vestry.

The election of new Vestry members will be at our Annual Meeting to be held on Sunday, Feb. 9, 2025 at 11:15am in the Church

STEPHEN MINISTRY

Thanks Be to God!

During this season let us give thanks for our many blessings ~

- For family and friends who are near or far away
- For the church and our church family
- For the many who celebrate the birth of Christ
- For a warm home; as there are many who suffer with homelessness
- For good and plentiful food; and for our Community Meal volunteers who prepare meals each week
- For a multitude of opportunities to be kind & generous (even to those who are not)
- For our Missions Committee and who they serve in this community and abroad
- For clergy and all who labor within the church (from receptionists to sextons, from those who play music to those who arrange flowers)

There are so many things to be thankful for. May we always be reminded of God's goodness and mercy!

~ *Brought to you by Stephen Ministry*

If you are going through a challenging time and are interested in finding out how a Stephen Minister might be able to help you, we encourage you to reach out to us. Contact Bonnie Severt at 330-328-2453 for more information.

PASTORAL CARE COORDINATOR

The Look of Gratitude in this Season of Thanksgiving

How wonderful it is for us at St. Paul's. We have terrific clergy, a beautiful building as well as a caring staff and loving parishioners. The blessings that we have abound and we share them unselfishly with all.

There are many in our congregation who are going through challenging times right now. It fills my heart with joy to see all the people who are caring for them in so many ways. Whether it's saying prayers, taking people to doctor appointments, visiting someone who is sick, or bringing a meal to someone who is unable to leave their home, our parish is an active, loving and caring community.

During Paul Gaston's Adult Forum on Sunday Nov. 10th, those in attendance listed things for which they were grateful. One of the many things that I am grateful for is my St. Paul's family. I see people inquiring about someone that they haven't seen in a while. I've seen people sharing a story about a hardship that they are experiencing and asking for prayers or specific help that they need. I see the comradery and laughter, as well as the hugs and the concern. I see people working together to help each other. I see people grieving together over the loss of loved ones. I see clergy teaching us how to delve deeper in our faith and how we are using that faith to live our lives in the fullness of Christ.

I see love, joy, compassion, and blessings. Thank you God!

Bonnie Severt

WORTH SHARING

This Season, We're Thankful For You!

This season, there are many opportunities for gratitude. The Thanksgiving holiday, Advent, Christmas, the end of the old year and the beginning of the new one, all give opportunities to reflect on our blessings.

At St. Paul's, we have much to be thankful for. As Martin Copenhaver writes "Everything we are, and everything we have, including the Great Gift that we celebrate in the Christmas season we have received from God's hand."

At St. Paul's Endowment, we are thankful for all those who have given to support the future of the

church. To our Tower Builders, who have included St Paul's in their will or estate plan, we are especially grateful. Thank you for your vision, your generosity, and your faithfulness. Your gift will benefit generations to come.

If you haven't made the decision to become a Tower Builder and would like more information, please contact Todd Rosenberg or any member of the clergy. Happy Holidays!



On Gratitude

Having discussed the many benefits of a “gratitude attitude,” participants in the Adult Forum on Sunday, Nov. 10th offered reasons they are grateful—with the hope that their suggestions might prompt you to consider your own reasons.

- Akron and vicinity
- Children
- Good health + good health care
- The region’s parks and outdoors
- Dogs and cats
- Every new morning
- Autumn color in NE Ohio
- Friends
- NPR
- Family members
- The St. Paul’s community
- Turner Classic Movies
- House churches
- Grandparents
- A morning cup of coffee
- A mix of interesting retail
- Those who offer help to others
- Creativity of the talented
- Local teams
- A gracious God



According to the American Heart Association, “gratitude is more than a buzzword. It’s a habit and practice that may change your perception of well-being. . . . Research has shown that the practice of gratitude is associated with many positive effects in a person’s physical and mental health. Expressing gratitude can improve sleep, mood and immunity, and can decrease depression, anxiety, chronic pain and disease.” Feel free to use this copy to reflect on and contemplate your own special reasons for gratitude.

The Rev. Paul Gaston

I am grateful for:

How Living Waters Pilgrimage Changed Lives

In mid-October, just as the fall colors were beginning to peak, a group of 40-plus pilgrims from St. Paul's, St. Hilary Church in Fairlawn, and several other Akron-area churches embarked on St. Paul's Living Waters Pilgrimage.

We left Akron in the rainy, pre-dawn hours and headed north to Niagara Falls to witness the drama of the Holy Spirit's work in creation. En route pilgrims heard teachings on the Spirit's work in the beginning of creation, to His empowering people to do God's work throughout the Old Testament, and in the New Testament as He invited people to quench their thirst with living water.

Just for fun, and a sweet taste of heaven, we toured Platter's Chocolate Factory in North Tonawanda, NY, before heading on to Our Lady of Victory National Shrine and Basilica in Lackawanna, NY. We were blessed by attending noonday mass followed by Rev. Susan Tiffany's teaching on the work of the Holy Spirit during Mary's visit to her cousin Elizabeth and Zechariah (Luke 1.39-56).

As we traveled from each site on our itinerary, we heard teachings on who the Holy Spirit is, how to listen and recognize His voice, and how to act on what He says.

When we arrived at an overlook above the falls on the Youghiogheny River in Ohio, PA, we were treated to a reflection on baptism and renewed our baptismal vows.

From there we moved on to Latrobe, PA, for a healing service where we prayed with one another in the crypt of St. Vincent Archabbey, followed by a tour of the basilica. Our visit there concluded with a presentation by Fr. Patrick Cronauer, professor of Sacred Scripture and Biblical Languages at St. Vincent Seminary, on the Holy Spirit throughout the Old and New Testaments, and his own personal testimony when he was a young man of a powerful encounter with the Spirit.

Our last day began with a tour of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed home Falling Water, before heading to Pittsburgh and a visit at Shepherd's Heart Fellowship, an Anglican ministry to the homeless with special care for homeless veterans. Our host Scott Means gave a history of the ministry and how the Spirit provides for its needs so they can supply the needs of many people who have so little.

We began our days together in song and Morning Prayer on the bus and ended with more song and Compline in the lobbies of the hotels where we stayed.

Heading back to Akron from Pittsburgh the pilgrims shared testimonies of the many ways they encountered the Holy Spirit on the pilgrimage. Here are some of their thoughts.

"Living Waters [was] so powerful for me. The hymns and readings gave me deeper food for thought."

"The prayers and reflections really showed me the power of the Holy Spirit."

"I have taken many trips in my life ... and yes, they were great. But this pilgrimage brought me closer to God and it was awesome to pray and sing throughout the day and evening. All of my senses were stimulated, but my heart was joyful with the joy of Christ and the beauty of the water and the scenery."

"The Holy Spirit has touched me so deeply."

All the pilgrims send our heartfelt thanks to the people of St. Paul's, St. Hilary and other prayer partners who covered us in prayer while we were away. Thanks be to God for your faithfulness.

The Rev. Susan Tiffany



TAKE NOTE

If It's Monday, It Must Be Crafts

Mondays at 1:00pm, Family Room

The Monday Crafts Group is busy, as usual, with individual projects ranging from wool felting to needlepoint. We meet each Monday in the Family Room from 1:00-3:00pm. Any craft that you can do in your lap or on a tabletop is enthusiastically welcomed. There is always a show and tell for members to share projects they bring in from home.



This very warm and welcoming group invites anyone to join in the fun every week, or as it fits their schedule. Expect conversation, tea or coffee, laughter, and a wide array of crafts on display.

Contact: Marcia Giordano mjgiordano47@gmail.com

Wednesday Night Compline

Wednesdays at 7:45pm, Zoom

Join us for "good night" prayers. The Church calls this an Order for Compline, a time of quieting our hearts together in prayer as the day comes to an end.

To connect online, go to: zoom.us/join

Meeting ID: 844 1828 4802 Passcode: 942011

Tuesday Lunchtime Bible Study

Tuesdays at Noon, G-4

The Tuesday noon discussions of Acts, led by a member of the clergy will focus on one chapter each week, with brief pauses for the Christmas season and for Holy Week. No preparation is required or expected. Participants are welcome to bring a brown bag lunch.

Men's Lenten Retreat

March 14-16, 2025

A St. Paul's Men's Retreat will take place at the Jesuit Center in Parma, Ohio. Plan now. Registration opens December 1st. Mark Pruitt and Dave Scavuzzo will co-lead. The theme is "More Confidence."



***St. Paul's Pilgrims rejoice in the
Glory of the Spirit on the
Living Waters Pilgrimage***



Christmas Fund

St. Paul's members have been very generous to our Christmas Fund over the years. All Christmas Fund money goes directly to help people in need outside of St. Paul's. As of October 2024, our volunteers have met face-to-face with 34 households: serving 37 adults and 37 children. So far, we have given out \$25,009.47 in assistance. Most importantly, we listened and gave counsel, following Jesus' example and command. This is a very important way that St. Paul's extends its reach into the community. We ask for your prayerful consideration in giving generously to our Christmas Fund.

Nan's Giving Tree

In cooperation with Broken Chains Ministry and in memory of Nan Bartlett, our Giving Tree is now displayed with gift tags. This mission assists women (with gifts for their children) who are transitioning from incarceration or abuse. If you would like to be a part of this ministry visit the tree in the East Commons.



Calling All Knitters & Crocheters!

Wrapped in Prayer produces an amazing number of beautiful and comforting items each year for those in need. But we could really use more help. Hundreds of hats, cowls, blankets, shawls, and chemo caps are being created by a shockingly small number of people. Please, please consider helping this caring ministry by contributing a bit of your time and talent. Most of our projects are small. There are no deadlines, no requirements, and we supply the yarn. Most of the items we create are donated to at-risk children, the homeless, and cancer patients. Our members often share that they experience great joy in creating items that comfort total strangers.

So, if you knit or crochet, or would like to learn one of these crafts, we welcome you to join us in our ministry. **Stop by third Sundays after church or contact Marcia Giordano at mjgiordano47@gmail.com.** Blessings & Peace!



Habitat Update

A new ranch-style house now stands at 576 Evans Ave. in Akron, thanks in part to St. Paul's Habitat volunteers and funded in part through St. Paul's Easter Fund. This house is one of the first homes completed in Silver Maple Ridge of North Hill, a 16-home community which is being developed by Habitat for Humanity of Summit County.

Since May 2024, faithful members of St. Paul's have contributed their time and talents in partnership with Habitat for Humanity of Summit County and the Donnie Freeman/Cierra Williams family. Donnie and Cierra have three young children – LaDale, Lynell, and Janai. The family has been qualified by Habitat for Humanity of Summit County for a 30-year, interest-free mortgage for their house. In addition, each has completed a requirement of 250 sweat equity hours including 100+ build hours.

St. Paul's built this house in collaboration with the Common Mission Coalition, a group of nine area congregations whose mission is to collaboratively proclaim and live the Kingdom of God in the community. This Habitat Home is the thirteenth house since 2000 that St. Paul's has sponsored. The house will be dedicated in November.

Many thanks to the following members and friends of St. Paul's who gave of their time and talents to organize, schedule, build, provide lunches, and pray for the successful completion of the home:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Tana Alexander | Karen Knowles |
| Kathy Cockfield | Jacqueline Milan |
| Charlie Cruikshank | Phil Ridgely |
| Norma Daniels | Bonnie Severt |
| JoAnne Dawson | Mary Shepherd |
| Marge DeCastro | Ramizi Shepherd |
| Charlotte Doyle | Sue Spencer |
| Kerri Doyle | Victoria Vozar |
| Carol Ficken | Susan Will |
| Dorothy Fitzgerald | Doug Zook |
| Brian Good | |
| Charles Kausch | |



FAMILY MINISTRY AND EDUCATION

Christmas Carnival—In its fourth year!

Come one and all to a Christmas Carnival on **Sunday, Dec. 8, 4:00–6:00pm**. There will be hot chocolate and cookies, games, prizes, ornament making and maybe a special visitor! **To register, contact Beth Guenther at bguenther@stpaulsakron.org or 330-836-9327, ext. 131**

Preschoolers' Christmas Story

Moms & Dads of Preschoolers—come to St. Paul's Chapel at **2:00pm on Christmas Eve, Dec. 24**, for a special presentation of The Christmas Story and singing favorite Christmas carols. Lasting approximately 30 minutes, this children's service allows families of young children to be home early for Christmas Eve.

Calling all Shepherds and Angels!

We are in need of children to help out with the Christmas Pageant at the **5:00pm Family Service on Christmas Eve**. There will be a rehearsal on Sunday, December 22 at 4:00pm followed by dinner. If you are interested in participating, **contact Beth Guenther at bguenther@stpaulsakron.org or 330-836-9327, ext. 131**

Christmas Gifts for Access

This year at the **5:00pm Family Christmas Eve Service** our children are asked to bring gifts for Access (*Access is a local shelter dedicated to serving women and children experiencing homelessness in our community*). These gifts are brought up to the altar at the end of the service and are taken directly after the service to the shelter. These gifts are greatly anticipated and appreciated each year. This is a beautiful time to help our children learn about sharing God's love in a concrete way. Simply label the wrapped, new, and in original packaging gift with a tag that states the age and gender for which the gift is intended. We are looking for a family or two who might be willing to drop the gifts off at Access Christmas Eve after the service. **Questions? Contact Beth Guenther at bguenther@stpaulsakron.org or 330-836-9327, ext. 131**

YOUTH MINISTRY

Serious Fun / Open Gym (Grades 5-12)

Fridays, 6:00–8:00pm, Youth Space/Gym

Junior High Youth Ministry (aka Serious Fun) is a Fun Friday Night with food, creative programming, basketball, and fellowship. Join in on the fun!

Advent is Upon Us

The Advent Wreath is a circular garland of evergreen branches that represent life everlasting. The circle of the wreath has no beginning and no end.



There are four candles on the Advent Wreath, three purple and one pink. Each week we will light an additional candle until all four candles are lit.

The first Sunday of Advent we light the first purple candle. It is typically called the "Prophecy Candle." With this candle we remember the prophets, primarily Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. This candle represents hope or expectation of the coming Messiah.

The second Sunday of Advent we light the second purple candle. This candle sometimes is called the "Bethlehem Candle," symbolizing Christ's manger. This candle represents love.

On the third Sunday of Advent we light the pink candle or the "Shepherd's Candle." This candle represents joy.

On the fourth Sunday of Advent we light the last purple candle, the "Angel's Candle." This candle represents peace.



Are you expecting? Do you have a child that you wish to have baptized?

Baptism is an important family decision. It initiates a journey of faith for your child and you. At the time of Baptism, with the congregation as your witness, you make a covenant with God that you will raise your child to be a follower of Christ Jesus.

Knowing that it takes a faith community to raise a disciple of Jesus, the congregation promises to help you with this important and vital Christian responsibility. At St. Paul's we take these promises seriously and with sincerity. For this reason, we ask that you fill out an online application for baptism at StPaulsAkron.org under the 'Life Events' tab. That will let us know of your interest and allow us to contact you to arrange a meeting with clergy.

FLOWERS TO THE GLORY OF GOD

December and January Altar Flowers

Dec 1

In loving memory of James W. Nolte, Eileen and James W. Nolte, and Catherine and Owen O'Dell; given by Connie Nolte

Dec 15

In loving memory of Florence Maloney; given by Bill Maloney

Dec 22

In loving memory of Peg Ethridge; given by Peggy Koblenzer and Family

Jan 12

In loving memory of Ellen Pruitt; given by the Pruitt Family

In loving memory of Fred Walton; given by Christine

Jan 19

In loving memory of Betsy A. Silver; given by the Silver Family

Jan 26

In loving memory of Jo Lynn Brackett; given by Mark and Becky Pruitt

In loving memory of George Sarkis; given by Judy Sarkis



Christmas Flowers Fund

Remember your loved ones this Christmas with a donation to the Christmas Flowers Fund. The Flower Guild is self-supporting through your donations and memorials. Envelopes are at the Front Desk. Any questions, call Julie McFarland 330-819-8552, email period2380@gmail.com

GIFTS AND MEMORIALS

We Give Thanks For All Gifts, And Gifts To...

the Choir Fund from Mr. Frederick W. Martin

the Christmas Fund for Community Outreach, from Yvonne M. Krell

the Christmas Fund in memory of Frances Tait and Ginny Wojno, from Mr. & Mrs. Robin Reid

the Christmas Fund from Mr. Phillip Ridgely and Mr. & Mrs. Walton Silver

the Community Meals Fund in memory of Tom Robb from Mr. & Mrs. Ralph A. Genetti

the Community Meals Fund from the Graves Family Foundation and Yvonne M. Krell

the Community Meals Fund in memory of Betty Sandwick from Mrs. Alexandra S. Walker

the Disaster Relief Fund from Mrs. Alice Bergstrom, Ms. Joanne Dawson, and the Rev. Charles Cruikshank, for Hurricane Relief

the Easter Fund from Mr. & Mrs. Walton Silver

the Endowment Foundation from the estate of Mary Louise Brogini

the Flower Guild from Mr. Alan & Mrs. Joyce Healy-Abrams

the Memorial Garden in memory of Elizabeth Sandwick from Mr. Gerald L. Schweigert

the Needlework Guild in memory of Mary Louise Brogini from Shirley Graham

the Needlework Guild in memory of Janet Burchett from Dr. Rebecca A. Zurava

the Quiet Committee in memory of Robert Denton from Mrs. Marian Denton

the St. Paul's Center for Learning & Ministry from Mrs. Julie E. McFarland

the Rector's Discretionary Fund in memory of Carolyn Chapman from Ms. Suzanne Dalton

the Women's Ministry Fund, from Mrs. Deborah Eshleman, Mr. Francis Figliomeni, and Dr. & Mrs. Gregory L. Hinson

We Give Thanks For Gifts in Memory of...

Jean Allread, from Mr. & Mrs. Peter Allread

The Rev. Robert Denton, from Nancy A. Cleminshaw

Tom Robb, from Ms. M. Sharon Lane

Elizabeth B. Sandwick, from Ms. Elizabeth Parker, Mr. & Mrs. John D. Riding, Mr. John Sandwick, and Mrs. Ann M. Towell

Virginia Wojno-Forney, from Ms. M. Sharon Lane, Michael Limpach and the kids of Joan Limpach, Bradley Wojno, and Mrs. Mary H. Wojno

All Saints' Day Memorial Additions

Given by

Mr. & Mrs. Charles R. Chadwick
 Mr. & Mrs. Douglas Godshall
 Mrs. Ellen Hay
 Mrs. Lynne F. Moshier
 Ms. Elizabeth Parker
 Mr. & Mrs. Kenneth Spencer
 Ms. Kimberly Stump
 Mrs. Cynthia Tyson
 Mr. Mark Wheeler
 Mrs. Rachel Whitehawk-Day
 Mrs. Deborah Eshleman
 Mr. Robert Fulton
 Mrs. Jacqueline B. Milan
 Ms. Rebecca Zona

In Loving Memory of

Karl Hay
 Ann & Merrill Godshall and Jack & Shirley Carter
 Karl S. Hay
 David Moshier
 LeRoy & Marian Tunnell and Charles & Nancy Parker
 Tracy Ellen Zook
 Dorothy Conroy
 Eric T. Tyson
 Marjory & Robert Wheeler
 Richard Day



FROM THE TREASURER

Operating Budget Results

Summarized here are the St. Paul's operating budget results for the calendar year to date:

The year-to-date as of 10/31/2024 continued in our pattern of monthly deficits, too large to be offset by the quarterly endowment distribution and investment income. Pledge income, however, was surprisingly over budget – thanks to those who have diligently kept up their pledges. Increased prices led to rising expenses overall, contributing to a net deficit, which was notably less than budgeted – again, in part to pledge income.

As of 10/31/2024	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	2024 Annual Budget
Pledge Income	\$ 513,417	\$ 504,167	\$ 605,000
Non-Pledge Income	\$ 75,037	\$ 92,518	\$ 111,022
Other Contributions	\$ 17,887	\$ 27,292	\$ 32,750
Transfer from Endowment	\$ 378,757	\$ 384,150	\$ 501,246
All Other Income	\$ 152,153	\$ 119,748	\$ 198,750
Total Revenue	\$ 1,137,251	\$ 1,127,875	\$ 1,448,768
Total Expense	\$ 1,202,935	\$ 1,210,687	\$ 1,448,768
Net Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (65,684)	\$ (82,812)	\$ -0-

Please contact **Treasurer Gail Wild**, at **330-836-9327 ext. 124**, or by email at **gwild@stpaulsakron.org**, for any questions regarding finances or to make contributions. For information about online giving options, please visit our website, **www.stpaulsakron.org/give-online**.

Year-End Giving Reminder – Expect Post Office Delays!

Please NOTE! Due to audit requirements, donations are tax-deductible for 2024 if they are POSTMARKED ON OR BEFORE DEC. 31, 2024. Donations postmarked AFTER DEC. 31 WILL BE APPLIED TO 2025, REGARDLESS OF CHECK DATE. To allow the finance office adequate time for processing before year-end, donations by check, cash, and stock shares must be received by Noon on Mon., Dec. 16. Please consider hand-delivering your contributions to the Finance Office, or if mailing, allow 7-10 days prior to ensure timely delivery. OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED at Noon on Tues., Dec. 24.

STOCK TRANSFERS – Please have your broker send stock shares by Dec. 9th—EARLIER IS BETTER!
 Instructions are as follows:

St. Paul's Episcopal Church, #7789-1275, DTC #0141
 Wells Fargo Advisors, ATTN: Paul Bertsch
 875 N. Cleveland-Massillon Rd, Akron 44333
 Phone: 1-330-932-4114

For questions, please call Treasurer Gail Wild, at 330-836-9327, ext. 124.

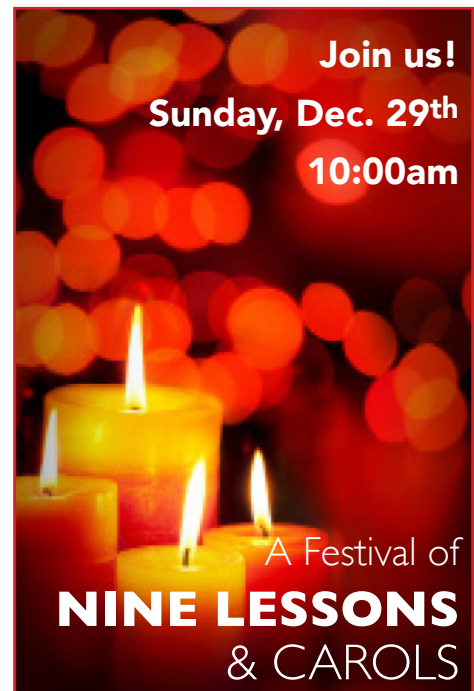


1361 West Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44313
Phone 330-836-9327
StPaulsAkron.org

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Permit No. 9

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sun, Dec 1** Lessons & Carols on Advent Sunday, 4:00pm, Church
- Mon, Dec 2** Monday Crafters Group, 1:00pm, Family Room. Weekly
- Tue, Dec 3** Lunchtime Bible Study, noon, G-4. Weekly
The Rev. Dave Scavuzzo on C.S. Lewis, 7:00pm, G-4. Monthly
- Wed, Dec 4** Community Meal, 6:00pm, Assembly Hall. Weekly
Evening Compline, 7:45pm, Zoom. Weekly
- Thu, Dec 5** Choir Rehearsal, 6:45-8:15pm, Choir Room. Weekly
- Fri, Dec 6** Serious Fun for Grades 5-12, 6:00-8:00pm, Youth Space. Weekly
- Sun, Dec 8** Blood Pressure Checks, 8:30-10:00am, Family Room. Monthly
Christmas Carnival, 4:00-6:00pm, Assembly Hall
- Tue, Dec 10** Apollo's Fire presents: Handel's Messiah, 7:00pm, Church
- Thu, Dec 12** Needlework Guild, 1:00pm, Parish Hall. 2nd & 4th Thursdays
- Sun, Dec 15** Wrapped in Prayer Group, 11:15am, Family Room. Third Sundays
- Sun, Dec 22** Christmas Eve Pageant Rehearsal & Dinner, 4:00 pm, Church
- Tue, Dec 24** Christmas Eve services:
2:00pm-Preschooler's Christmas Story, Chapel
5:00pm-Family Christmas Eve service w/ Holy Eucharist, Church
8:00pm-Christmas Eve service w/ Holy Eucharist, Church
(Music & Carols at 7:30pm)
- Wed, Dec 25** Christmas Day service, 10:00am, Church
No Community Meal
- Thu, Dec 26** Church offices closed
- Sun, Dec 29** A Festival of Nine Lessons & Carols service, 10:00am, Church
- Tue, Dec 31** Church offices close at Noon
- Wed, Jan 1** Church offices closed for holiday
No Community Meal
- Thu, Jan 9** Needlework Guild, 1:00pm, Parish Hall. 2nd & 4th Thursdays
- Sun, Jan 12** Blood Pressure Checks, 8:30-10:00am, Family Room. Monthly
- Sun, Jan 19** Wrapped in Prayer Group, 11:15am, Family Room. Third Sundays
- Mon, Jan 20** Church offices closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday



WORSHIP AND EDUCATION

SUNDAYS

- 8am** Holy Eucharist, Chapel
- 9am** Adult Forum, Parish Hall
- 10am** Holy Eucharist, Church
Church School (Age 4-Grade 6)
Confirmation (Grades 7-12)