

Happy New Year!

It is the end of one year and the start of the new year. It is a time for reflecting on the past and identifying our hopes for the future.

In my reflecting over the past year, I am filled with gratitude for being welcomed, invited, and called to serve the St. Paul community. I am thankful for the Christmas bonus, which was unexpected and appreciated. I am grateful for all who shared in ministry, and I am grateful to God for keeping promises and empowering us to serve, to love, and to share.

The St. Paul community consist of people who are willing to express their faith through service to their neighbors and those in need. During this last year, I have witnessed how you use your gifts and talents to thoughtfully engage people where they are at. I have seen you do this through the Summer Meals program, Kids Clothes Closet, serving at the Community House in Longview, and more recently through Family Promise.

You have been willing to engage in the *Imagine Program*, where you are challenged to think outside what has been done in the past and look towards the future. During the last year we began hosting homeless families through Family Promise, encouraging greater health through Yoga, started a new prayer ministry, and changed the Fireside Room to make it more inviting and comfortable. Our website has been updated and our Facebook page has become more active. Weekly Youth Group Meetings have occurred.

We have started a Contemporary Praise Service on the evening of the first Sunday of the month and have started *God Uncorked* meetings monthly.

When I look to the future, I want to focus on God's presence during our everyday activities and recognizing God's empowerment throughout our journeys. On a personal level, I endeavor to pay attention to my own self care as my wife says, 'your middle has grown in circumference'.

I would like to develop a monthly group for those interested in physical activities such as bike riding and hiking. I am interested to learn about your favorite rides and hikes. Perhaps we may start a men's breakfast gathering? There is a need for a Caregiver Support Team and some of you have voiced interest in this area. Another possibility may be to deepen existing relationships through dinner gatherings...??? Recently, I met with Castle Rock School Administration to discuss student needs and discover how we, as St. Paul might help meet the needs of our youth. If any of these ministries or others excite you then let me know. Let us be in prayer and see where God may lead us in this new decade.

I am grateful to God who continues to use this community to accomplish God's will. God is faithful and is always in the process of doing... doing something new, something creative, something that will bless. May your year be filled with revelations of God and may your blessings abound!

- Pastor Norm

Yoga is for everyone!

Looking for reasons to join our yoga class on Wednesday nights? From increased strength, to flexibility, to heart health - just for starters!

Here are a few more benefits of yoga:

- Improves your posture, and spine
- Improves balance/coordination
- Can help prevent cartilage/joint breakdown
- Strengthening bone health
- Can improve emotional well-being

Multiple studies have confirmed that yoga can benefit your body. So what's holding you back from joining our yoga class? Never too young or old to join!

To your health,
K.C. Babcock, R.N.

(Yoga is taught every Wednesday evening here from 5:30 - 6:15 p.m. by Jennifer Lux and/or Elena Ross. There is no set fee but donations are accepted and go toward the Youth Fund.)

Thank You

I want to thank everyone who has helped serve meals at Community House on Broadway this past year! Clarence & Roxanne Knutson, Jim & Dayne Johnston, Neal & Shirley Johnson, our Council, Jocelyn Pecher, Carol Adams, Shirley Cooper, Brad & Kathy Cooper, and my great crew of Lynne Donahe and Philip Portwood. We have served meals for Community House for 30 years. All due to your support!

What a blessing!

K.C. Babcock

Thank You To:

- Everyone responsible for decorating the church for the Advent/Christmas Season: Sandy Catt, Shirley Cooper, Janet Eiden, Amy Agren, Anita Gallow, Earl & Corlan Small, and Paul & Jackie Schwinn.
- All those responsible for the Youth Christmas Program on December 15th: Jennifer Lux, Leann Beall, Heather Snow, Elena Ross, Ron Blankenship, Jocelyn Pecher, and of course, the kids!
- Amy Agren for taking pictures at the youth program.
- The Prop and Finance Committee members, specifically Paul and Jackie Schwinn, Earl Small, and David Whittaker, for taking care of some emergency issues with the building (especially over the busy holiday.
- Linda Solberg for updating selected confirmation pictures in the swinging files in the fellowship hall.

- Jim Johnston and Neal Johnson for their help in working out some unplanned kinks that developed when we changed our email over (twice!)
- Those who have taught Sunday School - Leann Beall, Heather Snow, Kevin & Diana Rahn, Dani Foster, Tiffany Seidl.
- Jim Johnston for updating the website.
- Ron Blankenship and Jocelyn Pecher for taking care of projection/sound each Sunday.
- Theresa Schumacher, Elena Ross, Koen Ross, and Katie Ogden for leading music on Sunday mornings.
- Our Prayers Ministers: Nick Petrovich, Diana Rahn, Katrina Hinesley, Sandy Catt, Sharon Blankenship and Katie Smith.
- Our Prayer Chain Members: Sharon Blankenship, Patsy Grizzle, Anita Gallow, Lorraine Berndt, Harriet Shero, Linda Titus, Janet Eiden, and Donna Rodgers

Members & Friends

Please remember these people with your prayers, phone calls, visits or cards:

All God's people including

Al Black, Bob Bruner, Beth Hinesley, Crystal Hummel, Angie Boudier, Angie Manfredi, Jean Jones, Eric Smith, Darlene Jackson, Don Miller, Mary Mage, Lisa Hill, Gayle Agren, Stephanie Petkovich, Carolyn Kennington, Jessica Learned, Beth Coleman, Linda Titus, Kelsey Buchanan, Bruce Schumacher, Michael Berndt, Pr. Linda Smith, Jess Johnston, Bev Crocker, Yvonne Knuth, Mary Brown, Jessica Hensley;

All Caregivers and Care receivers: Joyce LeMonds, Corrinne Kuehner, Vi Benham, Granville Oswalt; **Those serving in the Armed Forces:** Sam Gallow, Matthew Cogburn, Eddie Oswalt

Coming in February Chili Cook-Off

A first chili cooking competition is coming! Sunday, February 23rd after worship. There will be a sign up sheet soon and we're asking you to 'register' if you want to participate. It should be a fun event.

Contact Sharon Blankenship if you have any questions. Judges will also be needed. More information to follow...

Acknowledgement

Due to the efforts of Tiffany Seidl, Kids Clothes Closet has received a \$750 Weyerhaeuser Giving Fund Grant. Kid Clothes Closet organizers are grateful to Weyerhaeuser for these funds which will be used toward the purchase of shoe gift cards for our next giveaway. Thank you, Tiffany!

Free Local Grief Support Group

Community Home Health and Hospice is offering free grief support meetings at Castle Rock United Methodist Church as follows:

January 6 and 20, February 3, and 17, and March 2 and 16. All meetings are on Monday's. The time is from 1:30- 3 p.m.

This group offers a listening ear, hope, love, confidentiality, a sense of community, and a caring environment for you to come and receive support. It is open to the whole community. You will be welcomed.

Love Is All You Need

We have been notified that there is going to be a fundraising event for *Harlie's Angels* on Saturday, February 8th from 5:30-8:30 p.m. at Youth and Family Link (907 Douglas St., Longview) Tickets are \$200 for a table of 8 or \$25 per person and includes dinner, dessert dash, photo booth, live music, raffle baskets, live and silent auction, and Harlie's Angels presentation. (Many of you remember Harlie DesArmo who died as a result of a car accident in 2013 - she had been active with St. Paul's youth group.)

All proceeds will go toward upcoming projects, including Harlie's Hoops, a covered basketball court located in Cowlitz County.

For more information, or to get tickets, please call Jennifer at 920-809-7271 or email at: Harliesangels2013@gmail.com.

Stewardship

Dear People of St. Paul Church,

Happy Greetings for 2020! We were blessed to be a blessing throughout 2019: among other things, we helped clothe and feed children, house homeless families, honor first responders, treat youngsters on Halloween and collect food and holiday items for the needy.

We studied God's word and God's will; we laughed and cried with others and turned to God in prayer.

Unfortunately, however, we had trouble through our tithes and donations to meet our expenses. While we are conservative with our resources, many costs associated with our beautiful building are fixed. From our own households, we are well aware of the costs of water, sewer, garbage, power, heat, insurance and the like.

As we head into the New Year, please prayerfully consider your financial support to our ministry. Your

offerings to God's work through St. Paul Church will help the blessings continue to flow.

In Christ's Love,

Sandy Catt

Congregation President

Annual Meeting

The 2019 Annual Congregational Meeting will be Sunday, January 26th after worship service. Your attendance is encouraged to stay informed of the business of St. Paul. A potluck lunch will follow. (More details in weekly emails/bulletins as the time nears).

Monthly Financial Report

**Figures are regarding
the General Fund:**

November: \$12,345.00

December : \$15,174.00

Approximately \$14,000 is needed each month to cover expenses.

Shoe Card Giveaway

Saturday, February 1st from Noon - 1 p.m. will be the annual Kids Clothes Closet shoe gift card giveaway here at St. Paul. We also have jackets that will be given away, as needed.

If you would like to help, contact Roxanne Knutson at 360-749-6194.

God Uncorked

God Uncorked, formerly called *Theology on Tap*, will now meet **only once a month - the 3rd Thursday** - at Wine Down Dog from 5-6:30 p.m.

You are invited to join us for discussion and refreshments.

Ash Wednesday

There will be an Ash Wednesday Service on February 26th at 6:30 p.m. with communion and the Imposition of Ashes.

We invite you all to attend as this marks the beginning of the Lenten Season.

Soup and bread meals will begin that next Wed.

More info as the time nears.

MEN'S NIGHT will meet Sunday, Jan. 5 at 6:30 p.m. for devotions and cards. In February we will have a breakfast meeting on the 1st of the month at 8 a.m.

Adult Educational Opportunities (beginning in January)

- A new Adult Wednesday Evening Bible Study series will start on January 8th at 6:30 p.m. We will be looking at the book of *Ephesians*. “These eleven studies from N.T. Wright will help us see the significance of our role in God's grand narrative, and encourage us to live more fully as people who are lavishly loved by God.” Cost is \$5/book.

- A new Women’s Bible Study will also begin on the 8th at 6:30 p.m. *Living With God’s Courage* by Sarah Young. “Readers will explore how to live with courage, give thanks to God in all situations, put Jesus first in everything, and dwell in God’s perfect peace. Includes readings from *Jesus Calling*, selected Scripture and Bible Study questions, and daily reflection questions. Cost is \$7/book.

- And, Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m., starting January 12th, a new book study - *Crazy Christians - A Call to Follow Christ* by Michael B. Curry is the book chosen. “Filled with inspiring sermons, including Bishop Curry’s acclaimed 2012 General Convention address, this inspiring book takes a provocative look at what it really takes to make a difference. Bishop Curry encourages all of us to let go of conventions and embrace the craziness of believing we can change the world for the better.” Cost is \$8/book.

Pick one (or two!) and join others for a time of fellowship and learning!

January Birthdays

- 1 Marlene White
- 2 Debbie Lyon
Phyllis Ogden
Samantha Whittaker
- 3 Debbie Gould
- 6 Jordan Jenkins
Lenora Ray
- 7 Nick Petkovich
- 8 Koen Ross
Katie Rose
- 9 Alysaundra Davie
Jon Davidson
- 11 Lorraine Berndt
- 13 Roger Gallow
Robert Nolden
Alan Watenpaugh
- 14 Mathew Schwinn
- 16 Jennifer Lux
Tracey Ness
- 17 Sandi Nolden
- 18 Hunter Whitten
- 20 MacKenzie Rubash
- 21 Linda McCall
- 22 Kelsey Foster
- 23 Dani Foster
- 25 Cheryll Borgaard
- 26 Carol Adams
- 27 Gayle Agren
Jordan Wilbur
- 29 Carly Johnson
Ryan Hinesley
- 30 Renee Nikolaus
Jakob Houser
- 31 Linda Staudinger

February Birthdays

- 1 Emma Cooley
Pr. Linda Nou
Ellen Miller
- 2 Corlan Small
- 3 Vern Foster
- 5 Erika Agren
Becky Danhauser

- Kaitlyn Kittelson
- 7 Erika Anderson
Stephanie Ness
- 9 Megan Ness
- 11 Abbey Pulse
Penny Hensley
- 12 Kyle Foster
- 13 Sandee Ness
Paul Schwinn
- 15 Jerry Gould
Roxanne Knutson
Abbie Corral
- 16 Jacki Whittaker
- 18 Dan Murphy
- 19 Jill LaiR
- 23 Kathy McDaniel
Elias Foster
Kathleen Duysen
- 25 Bryan Wilbur
- 26 Marvin Gallow
Alivia Smith
- 27 Mike Foster
Ami Remmers
Neal Johnson
Jared Remmers
- 28 Kevin Foster
Patsy Grizzle

January Anniversaries

- 4 Roy & Billie Jo Schaafsma - 56 years
- 7 Earl & Corlan Small - 58 years
- 15 Roger & Anita Gallow - 60 years
Harlan & Shirley Kittelson
- 27 Ken & Linda Solberg

February Anniversaries

- 5 Jeff & Marjie Winikoff
- 9 Sonny & Tina Smith
- 27 Lewis & Darlene Jackson - 60 years
- 29 Darren & Karen Ashby

In Sympathy

Long-time member, Palma Jensen, passed away on December 24th.

Her funeral will be Saturday, January 4th at 11 a.m. here at St. Paul.

A graveside committal will follow and lunch served afterward.

There will also be a viewing at Hubbard Funeral Home on Friday, January 3rd from 3-8 p.m.

Blessed Be Her Memory

New Members

On Sunday, December 8, we welcomed two new members to St. Paul: Pat Dick and Bob Nolden.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>January 2020</h1>						
			1 New Year's Day OFFICE CLOSED	2 8 a.m. TOPS	3 3-8 p.m. Viewing at Hubbard Funeral Home	4 11 a.m. Palma Jensen Funeral
5 9:15 a.m. Sun. School 10:30 a.m. Worship 6 p.m.	6 OFFICE CLOSED	7	8 5:30 a.m. Yoga 6:30 p.m. Youth 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible	9 7 a.m. Silent Prayer 8 a.m. TOPS 5:30 pm	10 9:30 a.m. Text Study	11
12 9:15 a.m. Adult Book Study/Sunday School	13 OFFICE CLOSED	14	15 5:30 a.m. Yoga 6:30 p.m. Youth 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible	16 7 a.m. Silent Prayer 8 a.m. TOPS 5 p.m. <i>God</i>	17 9:30 a.m. Text Study	18
19 9:15 a.m. Adult Book Study/Sunday School	20 Martin Luther King Day	21	22 5:30 a.m. Yoga 6:30 p.m. Youth 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible	23 7 a.m. Silent Prayer 8 a.m. TOPS	24 9:30 a.m. Text Study	25
26 9:15 a.m. Adult Book Study/Sun School 10:30 a.m.	27 OFFICE CLOSED	28	29 5:30 a.m. Yoga 6:30 p.m. Youth 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible	30 7 a.m. Silent Prayer 8 a.m. TOPS	31 9:30 a.m. Text Study	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<h1>February 2020</h1>						
						1 8 a.m. Men's Breakfast Noon - 1 p.m. KCC Shoe
2 9:15 a.m. Adult Book Study/Sunday School	3 OFFICE CLOSED	4	5 5:30 a.m. Yoga 6:30 p.m. Youth 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible	6 7 a.m. Silent Prayer 8 a.m. TOPS	7 9:30 p.m. Text Study	8
9 9:15 a.m. Adult Book Study/Sunday School	10 OFFICE CLOSED	11	12 5:30 a.m. Yoga 6:30 p.m. Youth 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible	13 7 a.m. Silent Prayer 8 a.m. TOPS 5:30 pm	14 9:30 p.m. Text Study	15
16 9:15 a.m. Adult Book Study/Sunday School	17 President's Day	18	19 5:30 a.m. Yoga 6:30 p.m. Youth 6:30 p.m. Adult Bible	20 7 a.m. Silent Prayer 8 a.m. TOPS 5 p.m. <i>God</i>	21 9:30 p.m. Text Study	22
23 9:15 a.m. Adult Book Study/Sunday School /10:30 a.m. Worship /	24 OFFICE CLOSED	25	26 6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service	27 7 a.m. Silent Prayer 8 a.m. TOPS	28 9:30 p.m. Text Study	29