

TIDINGS

St. Paul United Church of Christ

24158 Goddard Road, Taylor, Michigan 48180-0190

313-291-1221 • Fax 313-291-3305 • email: stpaulucctaylor@stpaulucctaylor.org

www.stpaulucctaylor.org

Senior Pastor - Rev. Dr. Geoffrey G. Drutchas

Minister of Christian Education - Pastor Cheryl Schalm

March 2020

Snapshot of Events

Ash Wednesday Service - February 26th - 7:30 p.m.

'TGIW' Wednesdays through Lent - 7:00 p.m. service - Lenten Bible Study 7:30 p.m.

Dine In or Carry Out Fish Dinner - March 6th, 20th, April 3rd - 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Drive Thru Fish Dinner - March 13th & March 27th - 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

New Member Welcome - March 22nd - 10:00 a.m.

Confirmand Breakfast - March 29th - 11:00 a.m.

Palm Sunday Service - April 5th - 10:00 a.m.

C.E. Easter Egg Hunt and Party - April 5th - 10:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service - April 9th - 7:30 p.m.

Good Friday Brunch - April 10th - 11:00 a.m.

Good Friday Service - April 10th - 12:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday Service - April 12th - 7:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

PASTOR'S PEACE

Ever since Christmas, throughout the weeks of the Epiphany season, a star has been shining in our sanctuary high above the pulpit. It was meant to remind us of the "big reveal" of Christ to the world and how we need to keep the light of his way in our daily lives. Now, as both Epiphany and the month of February end, the star dims and comes down. Instead, a cross—crafted from our church's last live Christmas tree from long decades ago—is put in place at the front of the sanctuary below the chancel steps.

This change marks the start of Lent, another faith season that will take us all the way to Easter. That stark cross says a lot, if not all: the way of light that we so hopefully embrace anew in Jesus Christ every Christmas and Epiphany is to be tested by a real-life world that is not always good and kind, but often mean and cruel. Just as Jesus faced a cross, there are inevitably crosses for us to confront and bear too. We can literally or figuratively be crucified by searing life events that we never expected and certainly don't feel we deserve. Our faith challenge, underscored in the Lenten weeks ahead, is staying true to Christ and his loving spirit and—most importantly--not sinking low to the ways of the world. This takes courage and a lot of faith that God will ultimately vindicate our commitment to doing what is good and right and true—just as he vindicated Jesus on the day of resurrection. It's important to grow this faith this Lent.

Interesting to note, Lent gets its name from the "plain" Old English word "lencten." In fact, as variations on our modern-day verb "to lengthen," "Lencten" and later "lent" were used by Brits from Middle Ages (5th to 10th centuries) on, as their word for spring when days are lengthening. In the centuries which followed, Lent showed up in our Christian calendar lineup as the name for the post-Epiphany, pre-Easter season. Personally, I appreciate this near-ancient word connection between lencten, lent, lengthen, and spring. Lent should be about stretching and lengthening our faith. We can all benefit from some deepening and strengthening of our faith too.

With Lent begun, I encourage you to stretch, lengthen, deepen, and strengthen your commitment to Jesus Christ and your walk in keeping with all he taught. Sincere and regular personal prayer can help. So can extending a helping hand to others. Not to be overlooked either is just being in church for worship on Sundays and Lenten Wednesdays. And then there's the upcoming Bible study series which will bring us to a whole new understanding of God's word. May we put all the weeks of Lent ahead to good, faithful use, remembering that faith doesn't richly bloom unless we plant first.

~ ***Shalom, Pastor Geoffrey Drutchas***

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EDITORIAL

"You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you." ~Isaiah 26:3

Sometime ago I shared an article on sleep deprivation and its causes. After several recent conversations held with individuals as it relates to this topic, I thought it might be beneficial to reprint.

Research conducted on sleep deprivation indicates that if you wake up as weary as you were when you went to bed it is because of your last five minutes of thought prior to falling asleep. Apparently, what you think about in that five minutes impacts how well you sleep, which determines what kind of day the following day will be.

When you sleep, your conscious mind is at rest, but your subconscious mind remains active. Psychologists call the subconscious the "assistant manager of life." When the conscious mind is "off duty," the subconscious mind takes over. The subconscious carries out the orders that are given it, even though you are not aware of it.

For example, if the last minutes before going to sleep are spent worrying, the subconscious records and categorizes that as fear and acts as if the fear is reality. Thus muscles remain tense, nerves are on edge, and the body is not really at rest.

However, if those last five minutes are spent contemplating some great idea, an inspiring verse, or a calm and reassuring thought, it will signal to the nervous system, "All is well," and put the entire body in a relaxed, peaceful state. This helps you to wake up refreshed, strengthened, and confident.

Thus, it is concluded that many of the days that begin badly started out that way because of the night before, during those critical last five minutes of conscious thought.

Like with so many things in life, we have more control over our sleep outcome than we realize. We can input positive, healthy thoughts into our conscious mind and pave the way for quiet, restful sleep by simply meditating on God's Word and promises as we drop off to sleep.

As we enter into the season of Lent, let us commit to falling asleep with our Lord and Savior in order that we may awaken and start our day with Him.

~ In Christ, Pastor Cheryl Schalm, Minister of Christian Education

Christian Education News and Events

St. Paul Youth Go Without Food To Raise Awareness And Funds To Help Eradicate World Hunger

Over the weekend of February 14th – February 16th, St. Paul youth chose to make a difference by participating in World Vision's 30 Hour Famine. They went without food in order to raise funds and awareness on issues relative to world hunger and poverty. Over the course of the weekend youth sponsored a Valentine Dinner Dance for Special Olympic athletes, went on a shopping spree to benefit the Fish and Loaves food pantry and participated in several activities to increase their own understanding as it relates to poverty and addressing the needs of God's most vulnerable children.

Following the evening's activities the youth gathered for a candlelight service. Afterwards, they locked down for the night. On Sunday morning the youth broke their fast at Ram's Horn prior to participating in the morning's worship service. The young people would like to thank all those who pledged and prayed for them. Your generous donations and support were so greatly appreciated.

Rock Hard In Faith Youth Fellowship Holds Twelfth Annual ARC Dinner Dance

On Sunday, February 16th the youth hosted their 12th annual Valentine's Dinner Dance for the ARC (Association of Retarded Citizens). The youth prepared and served a spaghetti dinner for an anticipated 100 plus guests. Following dinner all enjoyed dancing and fellowship.

The youth would like to thank all those who made donations or contributed to help make this event an enjoyable and fun evening for members of the ARC. A special thank you to Sue Mrowka for the beautiful table flowers, the Childress family for the beautiful carnations to hand out to our guest, and to all those who donated gifts, baked goods and came to help. We could not have done it without you.

Christian Education Seeks Baked Goods for Annual Fish Dinner Bake Sales

The three sit down fish dinners will be held on March 6th, March 20th, and April 3rd. Christian Education will be hosting bake sales during these dinners to benefit Christian Education programs and events. Baked goods will be needed for each sale. We thank you in advance for your consideration to bake and for your support. All items are greatly appreciated and can be dropped off in the church office the day prior to the dinner or the day of the dinner.

Christian Education to Host Confirmands Breakfast

The Christian Education ministry will once again be hosting the annual Confirmand Breakfast in honor of the "2020" Confirmation class. The breakfast will be served following the examination of candidates which will take place during the 10:00 a.m. worship service on March 29th. First year confirmation class parents are asked to bring a loaf of fruit bread, muffins or coffee cake to help off-set the cost. In addition, they are asked to help set-up and serve.

Easter Egg Hunt and Party to be Held April 5th

The annual Easter egg hunt and Easter party will be hosted by the Sunday School staff and held during the Sunday School hour on Sunday, April 5th. Over the course of the hour the children will share in the Easter story, decorate eggs and cookies and hunt for Easter eggs (outdoors, weather permitting). We are in need of bags of wrapped candy to help off-set the cost of filling Easter eggs. All candy donations can be dropped in the bucket located at the Sunday School Welcome Center. If you are interested in helping with the party or have further questions please contact Sheri Herkimer or Pastor Schalm.

Operation Snuggle

Sick, cold, homeless or sad; God's love and presence can be felt through the warmth and comfort of a blanket.

Help to share God's love by donating a new blanket for those who served our country at Veteran's Hospital and/or the homeless finding their way at Cass Social Services, ChristNet, and the Salvation Army. Donate your gently used blankets for the unwanted and abandoned animals of the Taylor Animal Shelter.

Additionally, we will be collecting duffle bags for Operation Can, a center for foster children. Each duffle bag will include a blanket and will replace the plastic bag currently given them to hold their items. They will be handed out during intake.

All donations should be dropped off in the Christian Education Department or Church Office. Items will be taken to the designated location the first Sunday of every month.

For more Information contact: Kaitlyn Isaacs, "Operation Snuggle" Founder or Pastor Cheryl Schalm

ROCK HARD IN FAITH YOUTH FELLOWSHIP HAPPENINGS

March Happenings:

March Fish Dinners, Friday, March 6th and March 20th - 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Youth should plan on assisting with this all-church fundraiser.

On Saturday, March 14th the youth will be hosting the **Wyandotte soup kitchen**. We will meet at St. Paul at 10:30 a.m. and car-pool to the soup kitchen. Please sign the sheet on the youth board to confirm your participation.

On Friday, March 27th the youth will head to **Frankenmuth** for an overnight retreat. While there, they will tour and hold a short worship service in the little German church. Please sign the sheet located on the youth board by March 15th to confirm your participation. The cost is \$50.00.

Plans For The "2020" Mission Trip are Underway

Plans are currently underway for the "2020" summer, youth mission trip. The trip will take place the week of June 22nd – June 27th. Participants will be serving the Detroit Metropolitan area working at Cass Social Services, Salvation Army Bed and Bread Truck and Gleaners Food Pantry. Then on Wednesday we will head to Gaylord for a Christian Unite Festival. Fundraising events and activities will continue all the way through June. Only twenty spots are available. Those participating in fundraisers will be granted the first opportunities. Please contact Pastor Schalm if you are interested in participating. Youth should watch their mail for additional information.

Young Adult Ministry

Young Adult Worship Wednesday Bible Study

The group continues to meet on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at Pastor Schalm's. All post-High School young adults are welcome and encouraged to join. Plan to join the group for study, discussion, laughter, food and fellowship.

Calling All College Students and Recent High School Graduates

Christian Education is in need of addresses of all St. Paul UCC college students and High School graduates enrolled in continuing education programs (trade school, skill programs, apprenticeships, etc.). Please forward addresses to Pastor Schalm or to the church office.

EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS

Ashes Offered at Early Morning Hours as well as at an Evening Service

Ashes will be offered during early morning hours on Ash Wednesday, February 26th, for those who wish to stop by the church before heading to work that morning. Pastor Geoffrey Drutchas will be available from 7-9 a.m. to pray with you and anoint your head with ashes at the sanctuary altar. Those who wish to receive ashes for the first day of Lent should use the front door of the church. Please ring the large handbell on the stand at the foot of the chancel steps before joining the pastor at the altar.

In the evening that same day we will be observing the start of the Lenten season with an Ash Wednesday Service at 7:30 p.m. Church members and friends will be invited that night to receive ashes, recalling our own mortality, as well as the dust of the desert that Jesus experienced in the forty days and nights after his baptism in the River Jordan. Please mark your calendars now for this very special service.

'7 for Lent' is First Lenten Sunday Theme

'7 for Lent' is the theme for the first Sunday of Lent worship service, March 1, 10 a.m. Pastor Geoff Drutchas will be preaching on "Surprising Acts of Kindness" and inviting church members to make a pledge of seven acts of kindness during the Lenten season,

encouraging church members to go out of their way to demonstrate Christian love and kindness to someone in need. The sermon is the first of a series of Lenten talks that range from "Becoming Supernatural" and "Character Still Counts" to "Faithful Habits of Being." Copies of the morning message are always available in the narthex on Sunday morning or online beginning Sunday afternoons.

Also heralding the first Sunday of Lent, there will be a parade down the center aisle of our sanctuary that morning. Both church youth and adults will participate as our 'Old Rugged Cross' is carried in for the new season. And further keeping with custom, pew communion will be served. All worshipping adults are invited to partake of the bread and cup.

As a part of their own observance of the new Lenten season, all church members are encouraged to wear something purple—the color of Lent--that morning.

Jerusalem Café Opens for Lenten Weeks

During the upcoming weeks of Lent the lights of the Jerusalem Café will shine brightly, welcoming those attending Wednesday activities. Desserts and beverages will be served in the West Room from 5:30-7 p.m. Each week will offer a different variety of light desserts. Jerusalem Café visitors will have a chance to enjoy refreshment and conversation before music rehearsals, worship, and Bible study. A basket donation will be appreciated.

Church members interested in contributing baked goods to the Café's desserts are invited to contact the church office (313-291-1221) or speak with Pastors Geoff Drutchas and Cheryl Schalm.

Reader's Theater Returns for Midweek Lenten Services

Worshippers will gather "in the round" in the chancel near the altar for a midweek Lenten service on Wednesdays, March 4, 11, 18 and 25, plus April 1, 7-7:30 p.m. Inspired by our "Deadly Sins, Lively Virtues" Lenten Bible Study series those same nights on the stories of "Bad Girls" and "Bad Boys" who found the light and turned their lives around

Pastors Geoff Drutchas and Cheryl Schalm will be leading the worship services. All services will be held in the chancel with overflow seating below the steps. Come prepared for a thoughtful evening of worship and praise.

'Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues' Lenten Bible Study Begins

This coming Lenten season, our Christian education ministry for adults will be hosting a five session Bible Study series, "Back to Basics in Christian Life: Seven Deadly Sins, Seven Lively Virtues." Led by our own church pastors, guest minister John Martin, and two experienced lay leaders and teachers, Doreen Thompson and Aaron Johnson, we will be taking a look not only at the sins which the Christian churches have regarded as "deadly" for our faith life, but also the opposite virtues that can best sustain us in our walk with Jesus as our Lord and Savior. The Lenten Bible Study series promises to be provocative and faith deepening for all participants. "Deadly sins" studied and discussed include Lust & Gluttony, Greed & Envy, Sloth, Anger, and Pride.

All sessions will be held Wednesday Evenings, 7:30-8:45 p.m., March 4, 11, 18, 25, and April 1, 2020 in the welcoming and friendly space of the church parlor. There is no cost to participate: all study materials are provided. The Wednesday evening sessions, 7:30-8:45 p.m., follow a half-hour mid-week service in the sanctuary, 7-7:30 p.m., and meet in the warm and friendly space of our church parlor. To enroll, please complete an RSVP form and either drop it in the offering plate or return it to the church office.

Sewing Guild Sew 'n Sews

We are looking for anyone who knits or crochets and would like to make baby blankets, lap blankets, kid size blankets, baby or kid's cancer hats. All yarn will be supplied. Please contact Sharon Leonard or the church office if you are able to help us utilize a large donation of yarn. It would be great if you could attend our meetings, but not necessary. We meet in the West Room, the third Thursday of the month at 10:00 a.m. Bring a sandwich, dessert and coffee are provided. Join us for 'food for thought'. Our next meeting is Thursday, March 19th, 10:00 a.m.

St. Paul Welcomes New Members

Our St. Paul congregation will be welcoming new members at Sunday morning service on March 22. Those interested in joining the church are encouraged to speak with Pastor Geoff Drutchas or to complete a Make-A-Wish card in the pews and add it to the offering plate or return it to the church office.

Our church formally welcomes new members several times each year in a service that affirms their baptism and joins them in covenant with our congregation. Information about our church and its ministries is available online and in the narthex where a wide range of pamphlets provide an overview of our faith life together at St. Paul United Church of Christ.

Christian Education To Host Confirmands Breakfast - March 29

The Christian Education ministry will once again be hosting the annual Confirmand Breakfast in honor of the "2020" Confirmation class. The breakfast will be served following the examination of candidates which will take place during the 10:00 am worship service. First year confirmation class parents are asked to bring muffins or coffee cake to help off-set the cost. In addition, they are asked to arrive by 9:30 AM to help set-up and serve.

Mark your planners now for this special time of recognition and celebration. Anyone interested in helping or donating should contact Debbie Case or call the the church office (313) 291-1221.

Holy Week Plans Underway: Hold the Dates

Planning is underway for Holy Week, commemorating the last days of Jesus' ministry before facing the cross at Calvary, culminating in his resurrection. Following a traditional Palm Sunday service on April 5th, our congregation will be gathering for both a Maundy Thursday evening service April 9th at 7:30 p.m., and a Good Friday Service April 10th at 12 noon, preceded by an 11 a.m. soup-and-bread brunch. On Easter Sunday April 12th, worshippers are invited to a 7:30 a.m. Sunrise Service and a 10 a.m. Mid-Morning Service with a very special Easter gathering in between with a wide variety of Easter breads, Easter eggs, and other special Easter "treats," hosted by our congregation's Worship Planning Team. Members interested in helping to decorate and serve at the Easter morning Fellowship time are asked to notify the church office.

Lectors Needed for Good Friday 'Last Words' Service

Lectors or readers are needed to assist with our Good Friday service, which will be respectively held on April 10, 12 noon. Good Friday lectors will participate in a liturgy based on Jesus' fateful day leading to his crucifixion, all based on the four gospels of the

New Testament. Copies of the liturgy will be available at least one week prior to the services for all lectors.

Those interested in volunteering as lectors are asked to notify the church office and Pastor Geoffrey Drutchas by completing a Make-a-Wish card from the sanctuary pews and adding it to the morning office plate. No previous lectoring experience is necessary.

Special Baptismal Service Offered During Easter Vigil

Those who have not been baptized into the Christian faith but wish to be welcomed through the sacrament of baptism are invited to a special Easter Vigil Baptism Service on Holy Saturday, April 11, at 5:30 p.m. Pastor Geoffrey Drutchas will offer the baptismal sacrament in the chancel of our sanctuary. Families and friends of those coming for baptism on the eve of Easter are also invited to attend. Candidates for baptism are asked to contact the church office in advance to let Pastor Drutchas know of their desire to be baptized. Baptismal certificates will be prepared for presentation that night.

Baptismal services on Easter Eve are part of the church's most ancient traditions. At St. Paul all baptisms are performed through an anointment of baptismal waters, rather than a full-body immersion as practiced in some other Christian churches. In keeping with the ecumenically-minded practice of the United Church of Christ, our congregation does not rebaptize those who have already received the sacrament elsewhere. However, where a baptism is in doubt, our pastors can administer the sacrament with special prayers to God, who knows, as we may not, our spiritual standing.

For more information about the Easter Vigil Baptism Service, please contact the church office (313-291-1221).

Save the Date May 14th for the Every Daughter Banquet

Spring is in the air and three of our church's ministries are already in the planning stages for the Every Daughter Banquet. Our theme is "Garden Party". Watch your morning tide and tidings for further information concerning ticket sales and other important information for this annual event.

HEALTH MINISTRIES

Blood Drive Results

We had a successful blood drive on January 26. We actually made our goal! Twenty-eight people participated. Twenty-six people were able to donate. Three of those pints were incomplete, therefore, unusable. Twenty-three usable pints were collected. There were two deferrals. Thanks to all those who participated.

Exercise Classes Continue in March

There is still room for you to join our exercise class on Wednesdays at 2 p.m. in the West Room, (unless otherwise advertised). Our Instructor Delissa leads you through a warm-up, a series of exercises to help you build strength and endurance, and then a cool down followed by a prayer to send you on your way. The class lasts for approximately 70 minutes. So come join us for some fun and fellowship. There is no cost for the class but a free will donation is welcomed but not expected. Hope to see you there!

TOPS, - (Take Off Pounds Sensibly) Meets Weekly

St Paul is hosting the TOPS Chapter 9744, Taylor. Meetings are held on Monday

nights with a weigh-in starting at 6:00 p.m. Meetings start at 6:30 p.m. and end at approximately 7:15 p.m., in the West Room. There is no cost for the first meeting attended. Contact the Office for more information.

Dementia Monthly Lectures Series

The University of Michigan, Michigan, Alzheimer's Disease Center has a series of lectures re: Dementia. The next lecture is on March 25 from 12n-2 p.m. at ["Risks and Protective Factors of Dementia" lecture series presentation by Dr. Scott Roberts](#). Call 734.232.2459 to register. Both sessions are in Detroit, at the University of Michigan Detroit Center, 3663 Woodward Avenue Suite 150, Detroit, MI 48201. Other events can be found at: <https://alzheimers.med.umich.edu/events/>

Health/Medical Supplies Available

If you or someone you know have or need medical supplies, such as walkers, wheelchairs, please contact the Church office (313) 291-1221.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

One Great Hour of Sharing -- A Special Mission Offering

This offering will be ***received throughout the month of March***. An offering envelope is included in this Tidings, and envelopes will be in the church pews.

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of our United Church of Christ Special Mission Offerings that assists our Christian friends in need, worldwide. It is used in the development of health, education and agriculture, and with disaster and refugee relief.

Through sharing, we get a taste of the generosity of God, who does immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine. When we look at suffering in the world, we can become discouraged, unable to see past the difficulty. Faith is a bigger picture, and our God given gifts of talents, materials goods, and love, are part of that bigger picture.

This year as you consider your gift to this special offering, for one moment, think of what it would be like to not have a place to call home. Then make your very best gift possible for all people, especially those displaced by disaster, war, and famine.

Please pray about how you can help support this ministry. Your financial gifts are welcomed through the month of March.

Thank you, from our St. Paul Stewardship Ministry.

Lenten Food Drive for Fish & Loaves Continues

Have you added any canned goods to the Fish & Loaves collection bin lately? St. Paul members are invited to make a difference for Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry throughout this Lenten season by the donation of canned goods each week to stock the pantry's shelves. Canned soups, stews, and chili will especially help Fish & Loaves serve the thousands of families who shop at the "client choice" pantry each month. If every worshipping member brings in one can good each week, our congregation will be able to present Fish & Loaves with over a thousand cans of nourishing food—a reasonable, worthy goal underscoring what one congregation can accomplish.

The Fish & Loaves bin is located in the west lobby. Canned goods collected each week will be counted and weighed with the results shared with the congregation throughout the season of Lent. Every can of food matters. Help Fish & Loaves help others.

ChristNet Hosts Annual Carrabba's Benefit

A benefit luncheon to support the ChristNet homeless shelter and day center will be held at Carrabba's Italian Grill on Saturday, March 14, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Luncheon tickets must be purchased in advance and are available through the church office. Tickets are \$20-adult and \$5-children ten and under. Checks should be made out to "ChristNet." With each ticket, the popular menu includes Chicken Marsala, Penne Pomodoro (pasta), soup or salad, bread, and soft drink.

The Carrabba's Restaurant is located at 14805 Dix-Toledo Road, Southgate, north of Eureka Road and across from the Wal-Mart Shopping Plaza.

Qualified Charitable Distribution – Did you know?

Although the Secure Act of 2019 changes the age for Minimum Required Distributions from 70 ½ to 72 years of age, it has no impact on Qualified Charitable Distributions. QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian, payable to a qualified charity, St. Paul does qualify. QCDs can be counted toward satisfying your minimum required distributions (MRDs) for the year. Since it is already excluded from your taxable income, you can't take the itemized deduction (charitable donation) again. That would be double-dipping. While many IRAs are eligible for QCDs—there are requirements:

- You must be 70½ or older to be eligible to make a QCD.
- The maximum annual amount that can qualify for a QCD is \$100,000. This applies to the sum of QCDs made to one or more charities in a calendar year.
- For a QCD to count towards your current year's MRD, the funds must come out of your IRA, generally by December 31.

If you have additional questions or want to start QCD donations please contact Daniel Case, St. Paul Treasurer.

Michigan Memorial Cemetery Burial Plots Available

The St. Paul Memorial Ministry has four plots available for immediate purchase. The plots are located at Michigan Memorial Park in Huron Township. The four graves are all together and located in Section 22 "Garden of Apostles" with a retail value of \$1,825 per grave, the asking price is only \$1,000 per grave. Once purchased the plots may also be used as partial payment (full retail value) for purchase of a spot in their above ground burial sites or their indoor and outdoor cremation niches as well. You have many options available to you. Please contact any member of the Memorial Ministry if you are interested.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Volunteers Needed for Lenten Fish Dinners

Our congregation will be hosting five Lenten fish dinners on Fridays during the month of March and one week in April. Sit-down dinners, plus carry-out, will be hosted on March 6 and 20, and April 3, 4-6:30 p.m. Drive-thru dinners will be hosted on alternating Fridays, March 13 and March 27, 4-6:30. As in past years, the menu will include breaded wild-caught North Atlantic Cod, French fries, macaroni and cheese, our church's famous Cole slaw, roll, home-baked pie, and beverages.

Volunteer help is needed to host all of the dinners starting with food preparation every Friday afternoon and continuing into the early evening with clean-up. Also, 90 pies are needed to serve the anticipated crowd for our sit-down/carryout dinners only. Our

volunteer sign-up board can be found in the narthex. Pie tins are also available in the narthex for pick-up. Please speak with the deacon on hand if you have any questions about volunteer sign-up or pie donations.

New Lector / Usher Sign Up Board

Do you have the gift of public speaking? Are you interested in learning? Have you been called to share scripture readings? Are you currently a Lector? Have you Ushered before? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please stop by and sign up at our new Lector / Usher Sign Up Board in the Narthex. We ask that all Lectors and Ushers, new and seasoned, begin using this sign-up board so that we can schedule weeks at a time. Please contact the office if you have any questions.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Baptized unto the Lord, Silas Gregory Block, born November 12, 2019 to Gregory and Shawn O'Neil Block and baptized Sunday, January 26, 2020. Grandparents are Laurie & Gordon O'Neil, Jim & Paula Block, and Pam Block. Great-Grandparent is Virginia Maruszewski . Siblings are August and Gabriel.

Love and Deepest Sympathy to Michele Tetreau, the Beyar & Peters families on the loss of Paul Allen Tetreau who passed away Thursday, January 30, 2020 at the age of 57 years. Memorial service was February 6, 2020. Rev. Geoffrey Drutchas to officiate. Arrangements by Voran Funeral Home, Taylor Chapel.

"THANK YOU" to the February Merry Mailers: Ann Anderson, Marjie Barnard, Janet Enesey and Helen St.Louis.

Special Thank You to Women's Fellowship for their generous donation to help cover the Heat and Energy cost for our Church.

A Special Thank You to the following People who helped to make the coleslaw for this years Fish Dinners: James Poet, Candace Poet, Diane Poet, Gary Staffeld, Toni Hill, Karen Hill, Tim Ruffner, Lisa Childress, Dan Evison, Dorothy Evison, Dee Salsbury, Tom Tank, Ed Brainard, Mark Ennis, Dave Lange, Pam Lange, Louise Stanek, Sharon Podpora, Barb Schultz, Thelma Poet and Dan Case.

A Special Thank You to all of the people who helped to make the 2020 Wild Game Dinner such a huge success. Over 200 dinners were served and a fun time was had by all that were present. In the 13 years that we have hosted a Wild Game Dinner we have made a little over \$100,000 which has been used for building repairs and renovations.

Thank You One And all - Well, our 15th annual scrapbook crop/vendor show is over for another year. We made a total of \$3,040 to be split between Health Ministries and Christian Education. We could never have done this without all of the people that came out to help. To date, we have made \$37,677. To me this is also a form of ministry because we had new people here that were either scrapbooking, a vendor, or shopping, and several asked me about our church. One lady even met with Pastor Geoff. I am proud to tell them that I belong here. Deb Case

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

Memorial Fund:

In Memory of: *Robert Harry* From: Lori Kuhn

In Memory of: *Al Whited* From: Evelyn Smith

In Memory of: *Kay Koths* From: Evelyn Smith

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR

Members & Friends: Gunter Berndl, Marion Bolen, Charlie Duncan, Barbara Gish, Kyle Hard, Mary Hard, Doris Hilliker, Shirley Koths, Neil McEachern, Bill McGahey, Shirlen Powell, Diane Sturgeon, Brenda Tank, and Doreen Thompson.

Extended Family: Sue Barnard (sister-in-law of Charlie Barnard), Nikata Burris (cousin of Charlie Barnard), Mary Jane Fliss (sister-in-law, Arlene Wolfram), Gabriella Gomez (niece, Darlene Babin), Kevin & Steven Johnson (grandsons, Patricia Olson) Richard Jones, Joanne LeFleur (daughter, Helene & Neil McEachern), Jennifer & Tammy Lee (granddaughter & daughter, Barb Siemers), Courtney Matthew McEachern, Kim McEachern (daughters-in-law, Helene & Neil McEachern), Judy Robin (aunt, Lucinda Chavez), Trudy Clark-Schiller (daughter, April & Steve Clark), Denise St.Louis (sister-in-law of Marjie Barnard), Nicholas Surre great-grandson, Helene McEachern), Victoria Witcher (daughter, Cheryl Stewart), and Carol Wiley (cousin, Cindy Romas).

Congregations' Parents: Michael Bailey (father of Christie Smart), Robert Brainard (father, Ed Brainard), Jan Filpus (mother, Julia-Joy Miller), John Sharp (father, Gina Hribik), Carol Kuhn (mother-in-law, Lori Kuhn), Laura O'Neil (mother, Shawn Block), and Anna Thompson (mother, Lucinda Chavez).

Church Members & Friends in Nursing or Rehab Care:

Donald Babin - *Carolyn's Corner*, 17890 Parkridge Dr., Riverview, 48193; Mary Dubke - hospice - *Amy's Place*, 41346 Llorac Lane, Northville 48167; Terry Dyer - *Heartland Healthcare Center*, 9150 Allen Rd., Allen Park, 48101; Pam Holland (daughter, Viola Holland), Esther Perry - *Bellbrook Assisted Living*, 873 West Avon Rd., Unit 209 H, Rochester Hills, 48307; Eleanor Rossi - *Maple Heights*, 4600 Allen Rd, Room 415, Allen Park, 48101; Melissa Rossi -17652 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, 48125; Sheryl Schwab - 14141 Pennsylvania Rd., Riverview, 48193, and Betty Steinhauer - *Rivergate Health Center*, 14141 Pennsylvania Rd., Riverview, 48193.

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