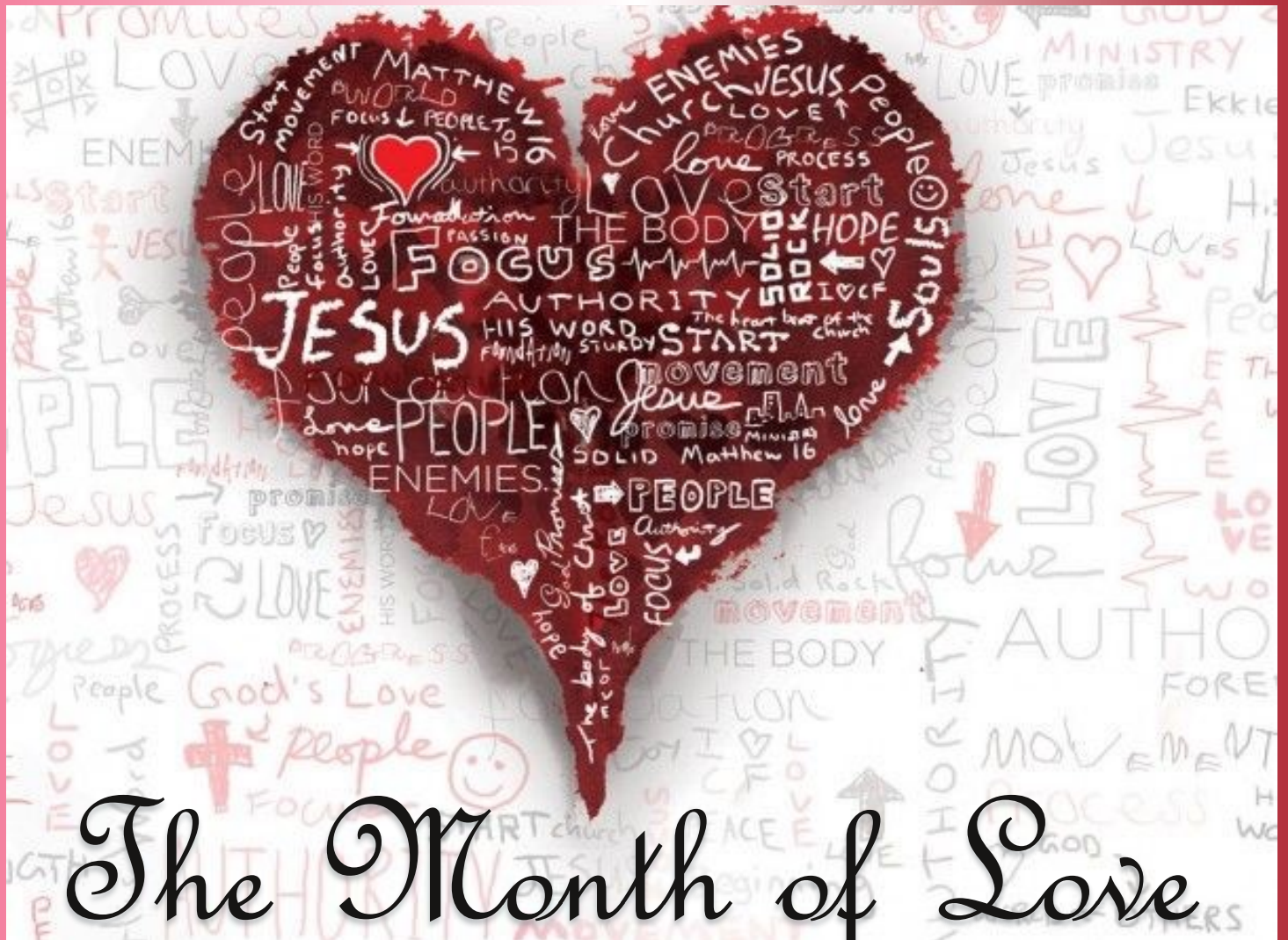




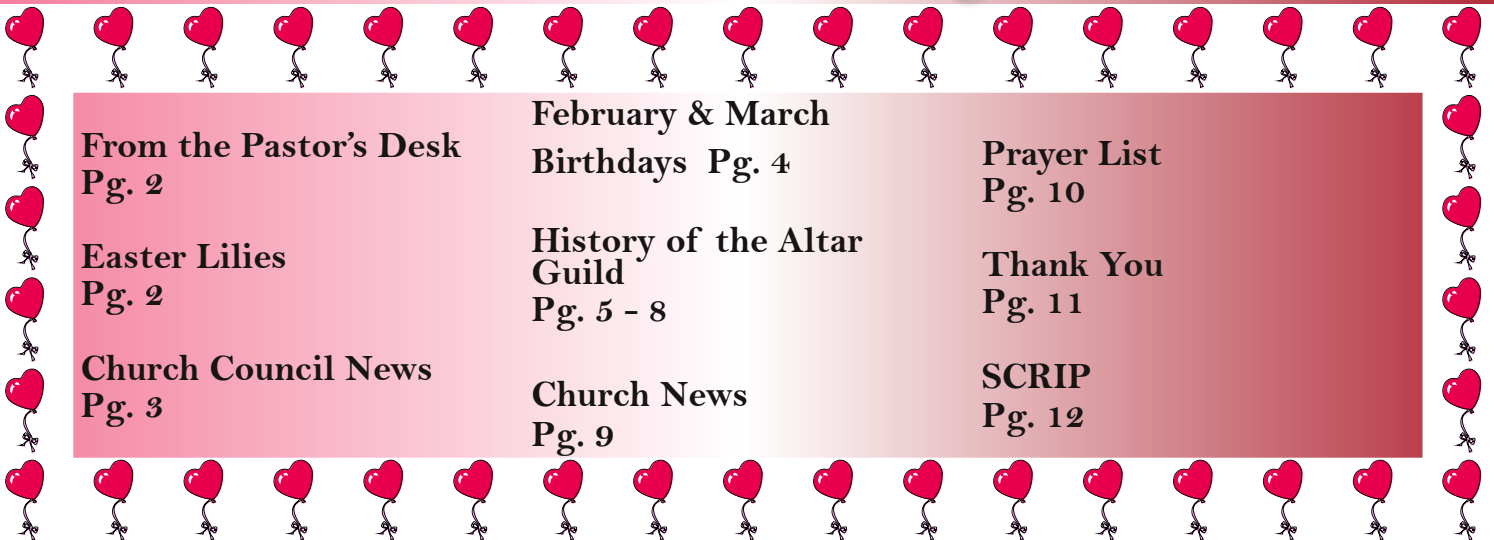
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OF CHRIST

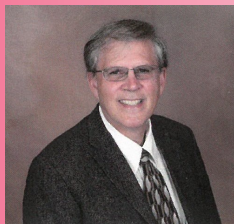
2021

THE BEACON



The Month of Love





Dear Friends,

I believe the church is at her best when she is giving away. That begs the question: What do we at St. Paul's have that we can give away?

We could say a number of things. We can give away food. We do that regularly through the Crystal Lake Food Pantry. We can give away money. We do that through donations to needy families and important ministries: such as the sponsorship of children literally living around the world. We can give away beautiful music. We do that through gifted, dedicated and spirit-filled musicians. We can give away experiences. We do that through worship services, Bible studies, Christ Centered Connection groups and other events.

I think all of these are important. But I think the Church, at her very best, gives away a message. It is a message about God's love for the world given through Jesus Christ. Because it is God's love for the world, we can give this message away to EVERYONE. It is a message that includes purpose and hope. Because it is a message that includes purpose and hope, we can give this message away to ANYONE.

We have this message of God's love. We have it because someone gave it to us. Let us give it away - to EVERYONE and ANYONE!

Pastor Greg

Peace,

Pastor Greg

revgl@stpaulsucccl.org

485 Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL
Rev. Gregory Lucas, Pastor

Phone: 815-459-5096

E-mail: info@stpaulsucccl.org

Website: www.stpaulsucc-cl.org

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter & Instagram:
[stpaulsucc-cl](https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsucc-cl)

One Sunday Worship Service 10:30 a.m.
Via Facebook Live or streaming on website.

Church Office Hours
8:30 a.m.— 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

Easter Lilies

Since we are still doing live stream services and don't know when we will be back in church, the altar guild is still planning to sell lilies to decorate the altar on Easter. We will be getting lilies only this year from Renee's in Ridgefield, where we purchased the flowers last year and they will still be \$10. We are asking you to fill out the enclosed form and return it to church with your payment by March 14th.

You may pick up your lily on Monday, April 5th at church from 10-2 or from 4-6. If you can't make those times, contact Cheryll Triefenbach and we will arrange for someone to meet you at church for pickup.

Cheryll Triefenbach



Easter Lilies

Deadline for Ordering:
Sunday, March 14, 2021

_____ Easter Lilies at \$10.00 each

All plants will be available to take home from 10 am - 2 pm or 4 pm - 6 pm on Monday, April 5th.

Please write your listing as you would like it to appear in the Easter bulletin. Thank you.

Memorial Listing

Honor Listing

Neither or Other

Enclosed is my payment for \$_____

Name: _____

Please print names clearly

Place your order form and payment and mail to:

St. Paul's Church 485 W. Woodstock St., Crystal Lake, IL 60014



Dear Church Family,

As we turn the page on last year and enter into the second month of this new year (how time flies!), I am filled with a sense of relief and hope. Relief that 2020 is behind us and hope knowing that each passing day in 2021 brings us closer to being

together in-person again in worship and fellowship. I am thinking that Church members are experiencing many varied and at times conflicting emotions. Sadness and grief over the many losses and hardships we have had to endure (including not being able to worship together in Church), anger and frustration that we are not yet able to be with our loved ones and one another with the freedom we once knew, anxiety from the uncertainty fostered by the unpredictable times we are in, and yet, despite it all, the beginning stages of excitement and renewed energy as we anticipate a future where we emerge from the long dark tunnel that has defined the last 10 months. It seems as if it has been forever!

As challenging as this has all been, we have much to be thankful for. St. Paul's has continued its ministry under Pastor Greg's steadfast leadership and found creative ways to connect with one another. Our weekly online worship and Christian education services, Pastor Greg's daily devotions, and our Wednesday evening Bible study classes are just some of the ways we are staying connected and continuing to nurture our faith and spiritual needs. Soon we will be adding to these faith-enhancing opportunities with the commencement of the Christ Centered Connection groups you have been hearing about. Anyone can participate in these intimate and confidential groups (no prior experience necessary!) to read and discuss scriptures, pray together, share joys and concerns, and connect with fellow members of our Church community. More information about these groups will be in the Church Chatter. And last, but not least, we conducted our Annual Meeting at the end of January with a well-attended Zoom meeting, and I am happy to report all items on the Agenda requiring a vote were overwhelmingly approved.

Despite all this ongoing activity, I know that we are still longing to be back in Church worshipping and seeing one another. There is no substitute for that personal connection. The Church Council and the Emergency Management Committee recently sent a letter (via email) outlining our actions to date and our plans regarding our Church reopening. If for some reason you did not receive it, please call the Church Office and Lena, our Office Manager, will make sure you get a copy. Please know that we are focused on preparing our Church for reopening and join us in praying that the metrics and health environment will continue to improve so that we will be in a position to implement our reopening plans soon.

As we anxiously await this time, I wanted to close with a reference to one of my favorite passages from the Bible, one that has always comforted me in times of worry and uncertainty, which we most assuredly are all in. In Matthew 6:25-29, Jesus tells his Disciples ***"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or drink; or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothes? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they do not sow or reap or store away in barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more valuable than they? ²⁷Can any one of you by worrying add a single hour to your life? ²⁸"And why do you worry about clothes? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin. ²⁹And yet I say to you that not even Solomon in all his splendor was dressed like one of these."***

In the midst of all of our worry about what the future holds and how we can make it through these challenging and anxious times, God has a plan for us. Let us trust that He will deliver us from our present challenges and that we will all be together again in His House soon.

May God bless us all,

Nancy Bellis

Nancy Bellis
Council President

Let's Celebrate Birthdays



Karen Christensen	2/1
Scott McDowd	2/2
Alexander Elizarra	2/3
Jake Monahan	2/4
Lauren Henneman	2/4
Calvin Reckamp	2/4
Hunter Fredrick	2/5
Harry Speros	2/7
Marilyn McGuire	2/9
Richard Hautzinger	2/9
Jan Czosnyka	2/11
Fred Mullard	2/11
Olivia Pagnotta	2/14

Thomas Matterness	2/14
CJ Rogers	2/16
Anthony Tuscano	2/16
Bonnie Goldman	2/17
Lyn Woodman	2/17
Rodney Hopkins	2/18
Sondra Matterness	2/19
Cheryll Triefenbach	2/19
Donna Layne-Albano	2/19
Noah Middaugh	2/23
Arlene Tuscano	2/26
Jennifer Wikman	2/26
Andrew Chappell	2/26



Sharon Dieball	3/1
Luke Eckhardt	3/2
Rosanne Zickus	3/3
Mary Gonzales	3/6
Michael Dul	3/8
David Kranz	3/8
Ronald Johnson	3/9
Barb Kriegel	3/9
Abigail Wikma	3/9

Meg Reckamp	3/11
Lisa MacKenzie	3/13
Catherine Schmidt	3/13
John Arvidson	3/17
Jean Nulle	3/18
Regina Lombardo	3/19
Deborah Sroka	3/20
Jennifer Campisi	3/22

Joe Rickard	3/23
Betty Eslick	3/24
Riley MacKenzie	3/24
Donald Roxworthy	3/25
Ken Thrun	3/27
Mary Katenhusen	3/28
Janice Bordignon	3/31
Eric Dawson	3/31

History of the Altar Guild

In 1985 the Altar Guild chairmanship was handed over to Cheryll Triefenbach by the former chairperson, Claudia Russell and in the information was a list of the original duties of the guild. Those duties were listed as:

1. Twice a year, usually before Easter and Christmas, or as required, polish furniture in the sanctuary (altar Lectern, Pulpit, Pews, Organ, etc.). Use Guardsman, Miniwax or other quality cleaning/polish, not Pledge or spray type waxes.
2. Twice a year, or as needed, polish the communion chalice and the offering plates.
3. Twice a year, or as needed, remove accumulated wax from the altar, candelabra and carpet.
4. Schedule an annual workday in the Spring to wash windows, clean light troughs and shampoo the carpet.

Our scheduled duties have changed a bit since these “rules” were made and we are responsible for some of the things on that list but others have either been done away with or taken over by the Building and Grounds committee.

Our current duties are:

1. Changing the paraments for the season, according to the calendar or event.
2. Keeping track of the flower calendar in the narthex ,on which people can sign up to have flowers on the altar in memory or honor of a family member or friend.
3. Refill any needed information in the pew containers .
4. Purchase a white rose for a baptism and make sure the baptismal font and pitcher of water are available for the pastor to use.
5. Prepare communion once a month or whenever needed.
6. Keep the candles on the altar filled with oil.
7. Make plans to decorate for Easter, Advent and Christmas, using other members of the church to assist as needed.

The guild doesn't operate on a budget from the church and most of the money we have to use either comes from donations by individuals, groups or some profit from the poinsettias or lilies that we sell to the congregation, which usually isn't very much if anything. Originally the guild had their own bank account, but in 1999, the account was combined with the general funds of the church. We now keep some petty cash to use for things we need to purchase, such as wine, grape juice, oil for the candles, etc. but large purchases have to be approved by the financial secretary.

Karen Radovich wrote recently in the Beacon about the statues of Mary, Joseph and Baby Jesus that were purchased by the Altar Guild when Fran Bucher, the late mother of Janet and Lois Bucher was on the guild. After so many years, the paint was chipping off parts of Mary , so Karen Radovich has repainted her.

In 1990 many pages had to be replaced in the altar Bible because water leaked in from above.

The communion trays were refinished in 1991 but I am not sure if altar guild funds were used for that or if they were a memorial.

History of the Altar Guild

Many beautiful things used in worship were donated by people, not purchased with altar guild funds but are used at times during the year. The beautiful paraments that we use for different seasons of the church were donated in 2003 by the Berg family in memory of former members, Holger and Esther Hakansson who were the parents of Susen Berg.

Shirley Berghorn donated the lovely advent wreath stand that was used for the first time this past Advent and Christmas in memory of her mother, Lucille Pedersen.

There are other items in the sanctuary that were donated and they are:

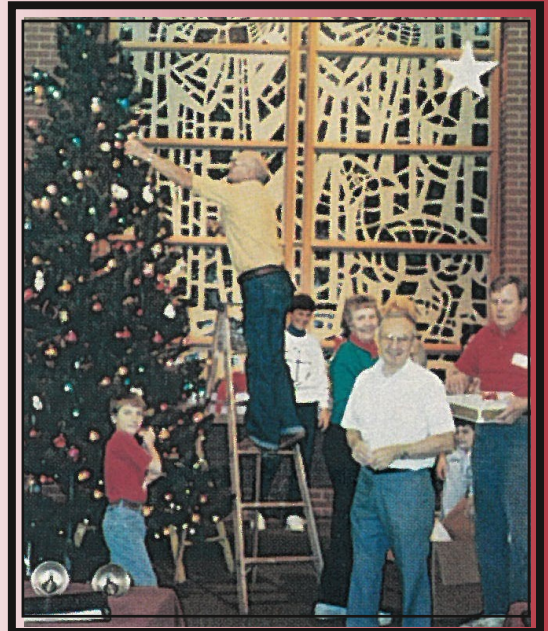
1. The bells on the rack in the front of the sanctuary were purchased by church members John and Lucille Pierce in 1964. In the early 1980s, Art Bucher made the rack on which the bells hang.
2. The original window in the front of the sanctuary was replaced by the beautiful stained glass window that was donated in memory of Katharina Heisler by her daughter, Mary Reichwein. Katharina was Janet Bucher's grandmother.
3. In 1985 Bev Jeffers, who was the choir accompanist at the time donated the grand piano that is now used every Sunday.
4. The eternal flame that hangs in the front of the sanctuary was donated by former members, Lowell and Dee Long, in memory of their only child, Jim, who died of cancer at the age of 19.
5. The cabinet in the rear of the sanctuary was donated by former member, Mary Cummings, in memory of her husband, Joe, who served as usher captain for many years.
6. New hymnals were purchased and most were donated and on the inside of each book are names of the people who are either honored or memorialized.
7. The air conditioning, that we are all so grateful for on a hot summer day was donated by church members.
8. The piano bench and damp chaser hooked to the piano that keeps the piano in tune better was donated by Lon and Cathy Schmidt in memory of Lon's mother, Mary Wickart.

The Altar Guild is an important committee of the church and about the only one that has remained active during the past year during the pandemic. We have been very fortunate to have many members donate flowers that has added so much beauty to the live stream services and we hope that donations will still be coming as the church closure continues and when we are open again.

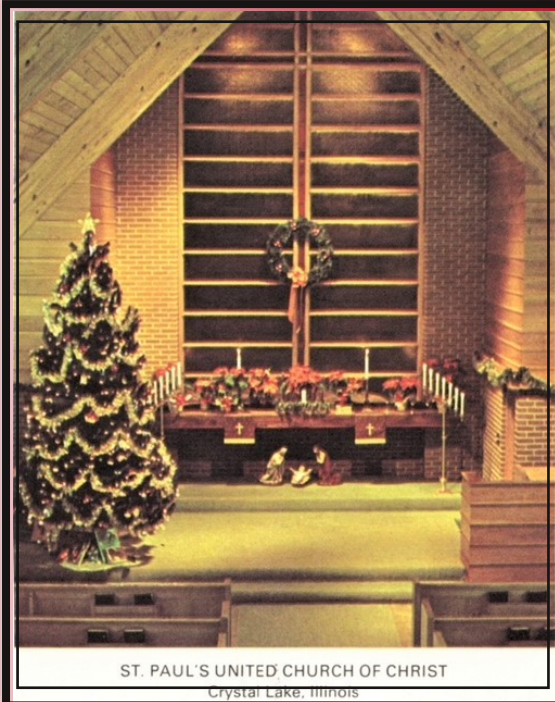
We are in the process of planning for Lent and the Easter service and you will see a form to fill out to purchase lilies for Easter in the Beacon and continuing in the Church Chatter. Please consider purchasing one in memory or honor of a friend or relative. All the necessary information will be in the Beacon and on the form.

Those currently on the Altar Guild are: **Shirley Berghorn, Jan Czosnyka, Karen Hansen, Sondra Matterness, Arlene Tuscano and Cheryl Triefenbach.**

History of the Altar Guild Church Family Memories



History of the Altar Guild Church Family Memories



Church News

Christ-Centered Connections

On behalf of the Church Council and the TPRIC committee, you are invited to share a Christ-Centered Connection with other members of St. Paul's. Soon, 30 minute online connections will be offered at various times during the week. These structured, confidential gatherings will be facilitated by fellow members and are an opportunity for people who are desiring more Christian connections. They will include a time for "checking in," prayer, and scripture. As Jesus said, "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there I am in the midst of them." (Matthew 18:20)

If you would like to be included, e-mail Lena @ info@stpaulsucccl.org or call the office at **815-459-5096** with the best day and time to meet. Initially the groups intends on meeting twice per month.

Jim Henneman

Compassion Child

As many of you know, we as a church sponsor Andrian (Now 14 years old!!) from East Indonesia through Compassion International. Usually, I do a brief presentation during service each year and after service, collect \$38 contributions from those willing to cover one month of sponsorship. This year, I will be encouraging this remotely. If you are willing and able to help with Andrian's sponsorship costs, would you please let me know by calling or texting me at 224-357-0180 so I can make sure we have the costs for this year covered. From there you can just write a check to St Paul's and put "Compassion" in the memo and submit to the church office as you usually would. Also, if anyone would like to send a letter to Andiron, just let me know and I'll get you some stationary and a stamped and addressed envelope. Also, please let me know if you are interested in sponsoring a child yourself. I can get you signed up.

Laura Middaugh

St. Paul's Prayer List

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

St. Paul's Members

Brian Kriegel, Dolores Broker, Ginny Covalt, Marianne Spencer, Jim Butler, Shirley Huddle, Martha Hughes

St. Paul's Homebound Friends

Martha Hughes, Arlene Kopsell, Barb Biscomb

Deceased Members and Friends

Ginny Katenhusen, Helen Sroka, Mary Ann Benz, Harold Wittig, Ron Ebel, Charles Grumprecht, Bob Covalt, Emmeth Broker, Ginger Jacobson, Walter Sterling, Larry Eslick, Tom Lindblom

Friends

Bill Jelinek, Seeger Family, Jan DeJulius, Joan Whelchel, Miranda, Denise Carpenter, Mike Broker, Chris Rook, Luca Lanford, Christina, Teresa, Brent, Loyce McNutt, Rosie, Jody Oker, Martha Triefenbach, Lisa Almquist, Patty Van Hoorn, Sister Vassa, Lily, Ashley Kelley

Military - Stateside

Beth Roxworthy & Todd Whetham

Sponsored Children

Alberly (Dominican Republic), Andrian (Indonesia), Daniel W. (Indonesia), Nicole V. (Bolivia), Nicole S. (USA), Tran Thi Chin (Vietnam), Breny (Columbia), Alfred (Tanzania), Dereje (Ethiopia), Isack S. (Tanzania), Maria, Jobenta M. (Haiti), Emyli (Guatemala)





Dear St. Paul Family,

The family of Emmeth Broker would like to thank everyone for your cards, thoughts and mostly your prayers.

Your thoughtfulness was greatly appreciated.

God bless all of you,

Dolores Broker & Family

Dear St. Paul Family,

Thank you so much for all the cards and prayers for myself and our daughter Trina. We are blessed to have such a caring Pastor and church family.

Love and Prayers to all of you.

Sondra Matterness

St. Paul's Vision

Call to serve

Our

Neighbors' and Members'

Needs by

Engaging as

Christ's people

Through service and Love

Follow Us on Social Media!

Keep up with St. Paul's latest news, information, and connection. LIKE our pages and share our posts on social media.



Church Staff

Reverend Gregory Lucas

815-459-5096 - revgl@stpaulsucccl.org

Office Manager, Lena Vocalino

815-459-5096 - info@stpaulsucccl.org

Church Council

Nancy Bellis, Council President

312-493-5144 - nkbcconsulting@yahoo.com

Jan Rickard, Council Vice President

815-459-2287 - jrick4@sbcglobal.net

Elizabeth Speros, Secretary

815-341-6979 - elsperos@yahoo.com

Fred Mullard, Treasurer

224-629-3755 - mullard@mc.net

Jennifer Good, Financial Secretary

815-245-3287 - jennifer.a.good@gmail.com

Amanda Lotesto - amandalotesto@yahoo.com

Jane Dawson - dawson247@comcast.net

Rob Revak - robrrr52@gmail.com

Gary Gee - ggwn@aol.com

John McGuire - jmcguire@matrix-ps.com

NEXT BEACON

March, 8, 2021

All articles are due in the church office by Monday, March 1st.



Give the Gift of SCRIP

IN STOCK SCRIP CARDS as of February 4, 2021

Amazon	3 @ \$25
BP	3 @ \$50
Buffalo Wild Wings	3 @ \$25
Buona Beef	8 @ \$10
Chili's	4 @ \$25
Chipotle	3 @ \$10
Darden	4 @ \$25
Fannie May	5 @ \$10
IHOP	2 @ \$25
Jewel	5 @ \$25/ 12 @ \$100
Kohl's	12 @ \$25
LL Bean	2 @ \$100
Mariano's	3 @ \$50
Meijer	2 @ \$50
Menards	1 @ \$100
Mobil	1 @ \$50
PF Chang	2 @ \$25
Panera	10 @ \$10/ 2 @ \$25
Shell	8 @ \$25/ 2 @ \$50
Speedway	8 @ \$25/ 1 @ \$100
Stein Mart	1 @ \$25
Starbucks	9 @ \$10/ 2 @ \$25
Subway	4 @ \$10
Target	5 @ \$25
Walgreens	6 @ \$25
Walmart	5 @ \$100/ 4 @ \$250

With so many cards still in stock, the small February order replenished only those purchased on a regular basis. If you need any of the above cards, depending on road conditions, they can be dropped off at church for pick up. As always, checks are made payable to St. Paul's.

Karen Radovich (nuknees@mc.net)

EASY AND CONVENIENT

These products make it easy to earn on the go.

PrestoPay™

The secure online payment system for families that lets them pay for orders and receive e-gift cards and reload their cards immediately.

MyScripWallet™

Our mobile website where families can buy physical gift cards, reloads, and eGift cards. Directly onto their phones great for when you are in line at a store. your can reload or buy cards to go straight to your phone!