

# St. Paul's



**November  
2021**

# THE BEACON

**HAPPY**  
*thanksgiving*



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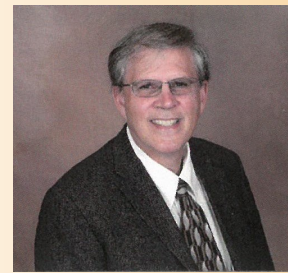
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Dear Friends,

Thank you for your cards, notes and gifts celebrating Pastor's Appreciation. Joyce and I both enjoyed reading through the book I received and were touched by the thoughts and sentiments expressed. I am humbled and grateful.

St. Paul's is currently experiencing some great blessings. We have wonderful teachers in our Kids Konnect program on Sunday mornings. These servants are creative, spiritual, loving, experienced educators who do a tremendous job sharing our faith with our children. I often think if people only knew how great our teachers are, the Kids Konnect program would be filled with children in Sundays.

God has poured out financial blessings on our church family. This says to me that God has special plans for our church's future ministry. This is an opportunity for us to seek God's face in being the best stewards we can be to share the Gospel with more and more people. How can we share God's love and Word with folks who are needing to receive them? Will you pray about what God would have us do to accomplish this?

We have small groups (Christ Centered Connections) regularly meeting every week or two. People's lives are being impacted by God's Spirit in these safe, virtual groups where people are connecting through sharing, prayer and spiritual conversation. Currently we have several groups meeting, led by laypeople, and a new short term group has just begun for people who have recently lost a loved one. If you are not in a group, I strongly urge you to consider trying one. The testimonies of our participants is these groups make a positive difference in their faith.

We have continued to be blessed with increasing attendance in worship and the gift of visitors. Numerous people have commented to me on the power and beauty of our music in praising and worshipping God. The Spirit has moved in our sanctuary on Sunday mornings.

Thank you, God, for all of these blessings at St. Paul's and more!

*Peace*

*Pastor Greg*

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Rev. Gregory Lucas, Pastor  
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Website: [www.stpaulsucc-cl.org](http://www.stpaulsucc-cl.org)  
Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: [stpauls\\_ucc\\_cl](https://www.facebook.com/stpauls_ucc_cl)  
**Summer Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.**  
Via Facebook Live or streaming on website.  
**Church Office Hours**  
**8:30 a.m.— 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday**



## November Beacon Council News



Dear Church Family,

At last night's Council meeting we elected officers as St. Paul's Constitution requires us to do in November. It is hard to comprehend that almost an entire year has gone by! I am honored to report that I have been elected to serve another term as President and pleased to add that Rob Revak has been elected to support me as Vice President in 2022. We have accomplished much and yet still have much left to do. I ask for your prayers as your Council and its officers seek to discern God's will for our Church and its future.

As many of you learned at our Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting last month, one of the initiatives Council embarked on in 2021 was a review of our existing committee structure with a view towards enabling greater efficiencies, improving communication and decision making, and reducing member burnout. We hope to accomplish this by centralizing the corporate formalities of electing officers, taking minutes, and holding regularly scheduled meeting in six ministries: the Care Ministry, the Operations Ministry, the Finance Ministry, the Worship Ministry, the Pastoral Relations Ministry, and The Technology Ministry. This will also have the effect of creating synergies by consolidating related ministries together in one of these six Ministries. As I have previously mentioned, this proposed structure will not eliminate the ability for members, as desired, to carry out and participate in the important work of current ministries, but it will relieve and consolidate the burden of observing the corporate formalities mentioned above by having them handled by the six proposed Ministries.

Since you will likely have questions about how we transition to this proposed structure and how it will work, I will be conducting several informational sessions to explain these details and do my best to answer your questions. The first of these sessions will be held in November for the chairs of existing committees, and will be followed by several other sessions that will be open to anyone who wants to attend. Please keep in mind that we are implementing this new structure on a trial basis, and will make changes as we go along and see what works best. Assuming we conclude, based on input from the Congregation, that the proposed structure accomplishes the end goals we hope it will, the Congregation will vote at one of our regularly scheduled 2022 congregational meetings to amend St Paul's Constitution to reflect the new structure.

Another initiative Council devoted its energy to in 2021 was to fund, recruit, and hire for the position of Program Director. I am very pleased to inform you that we have hired a highly qualified individual to lead this initiative, who will start in January 2022. Stay tuned for further details in December about this exciting development and the individual we have hired to lead it.

As we prepare to enter the Thanksgiving season, I give thanks for the many blessings God has showered upon St. Paul's and pray for His continued grace, abundance, and guidance as we continue to serve St. Paul's and the surrounding community, and in so doing, serve Him.

Amen,

*Nancy Bellis, Church Council President*



# Let's Celebrate Birthdays



Ann Kummerow	11/3
Todd Fredrick	11/6
Bill Deuerling	11/9
Nolan Van Hoorn	11/9
Michael Czosnyka	11/9
Barbie Fredrick	11/10
Jan Lloyd-Gohl	11/13
John Gulino	11/13
George Heck	11/15
Elizabeth Speros	11/15
Faith Lotesto	11/17

Glenn Berg	11/17
David Seibt	11/18
Dan Pagnotta	11/21
Timothy Monahan	11/21
Jill Albertsen	11/23
Logan Fredrick	11/23
Kevin Kruse	11/24
Dennis Radet	11/24
Gary Voss	11/25
Kevin Lang	11/28



Nancy Schmitz	12/3
Arlene Kopsell	12/6
William Jelinek	12/7
Milton Diedrick	12/9
John Kennedy	12/12
Adam Kay	12/13
Jared Kay	12/13

Lon Schmidt	12/17
Jo Ellen Roxworthy	12/22
Wendy Domanico	12/22
Eric Domanico	12/25
Marsha Britt	12/27
Rylee Whetham	12/29



# Church News



## 2021

The fair for this year will be ending soon. We know for many years that this event has been a time our church family has collectively came together in God's spirit to offer our talents and services in so many ways for what has also been our major fundraiser. Karen Radovich gets all credit for thinking creatively and out-of-the box in creating a "faux version" in 2020. Just like last year, this year the results are well over what we could even imagine. In our communication to each other, we have exchanged texts that included: "It is amazing." "PTL, which is Praise the Lord," and then "Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord" because repetition in a church setting can be joyfully shared.

As of the first week of November, St. Paul's has had **\$12,300** donated. Any additional updates will be posted in the Church Chatter.

Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. These words of gratitude are exuberantly expressed to all of you and to God for uniting us together in purpose, love and service.

*Faux Fall Fair 2021 Co-Chairs -  
Karen Radovich and Elizabeth Speros*

*"For if the willingness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has, not according to what one does not have." 2 Corinthians 8:12*

**ACTUAL  
AMOUNT  
\$12,300**





# Church News



## Mary Circle Update Let's give it another try!!

Mary Circle will meet **Thursday, November 18<sup>th</sup>** in Fellowship Hall from 1:00 pm—3:00 pm

Please come and gather with friends for fellowship and a sharing of ideas as we end 2021 and move on to 2022. Topics of discussion, December meeting, Officers, possible Candy Sale.

Hope to see you all there. Dessert will be served.

*Mary Circle Officers,  
Karen Radovich, Nancy Kramer and Laurie Revak*



November 21st  
At 5:00 pm



# Church News



## St. Paul's Fall Food Drive Returns!

St. Paul's will once again be holding a **Fall Food Drive** to benefit the Crystal Lake Food Pantry and the many local families it serves. Last year we had to hold a drive-up and food drop off in our parking lot. This year we are pleased to be back to in-person services and will holding our food drive in-person on **Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>**.

**Bring your food items on November 21<sup>st</sup> or drop them off at the church during week prior between 8:30 am and 2:30 pm.**

We will also accept checks made out to the Crystal Lake Food Pantry. There is a drop box for checks in the white food pantry cart in the Narthex. (Please supply your own bags due to bag shortage).

For those of us who have been working monthly at the food pantry, we have seen how bare the shelves are becoming and more and more families rely on food they receive from the food pantry to help them make ends meet. Your generous donations in food or money will go a long way to support our neighbors in need as a way to "CONNECT" with our community.

Some of the commonly needed items are: pasta of any kind, chili, flour, sugar, canned beans, cereal, canned tuna, canned fruit, spaghetti sauce, toilet paper, and for our furry friends, any sort of dog food.

Thanks in advance!

*Laurie Revak and Cheryl Triefenbach*



The Crystal Lake Food Pantry continues to help our neighbors in need. We now allow neighbors into the facility to select the food they can use. Masks are required for both neighbors and volunteers, social distancing is encouraged.

During these trying pandemic times the pantry has done a great job adapting and making sure resources remained available.

St. Paul's will again be participating in the large community wide food collection in November, until that time please remember the first Sunday of the month, Communion Sunday, has traditionally been a day designated for Food Pantry contributions. It would be great to keep that going.

Food can be placed in the white cart near the Market Place and we will be sure it gets to the pantry. Our service day in one Friday a month. If you are interested in becoming a volunteer please let me know.

Thank you for all your support.

*Laurie Revak 814-245-6899  
Cheryl Triefenbach*



# Church News

This year the altar guild will be ordering white and red poinsettias from Renee's in Ridgefield, the same place we ordered our Easter Lilies. They will be \$10 each and you can put the order form and check in the offering plate or send your order to church. Someone will be in the narthex to take your orders for a couple of weeks in November.

We will let you know those dates by the first part of November. The deadline for ordering will be **Nov. 28th**. We are currently taking orders now.

*Altar guild*



## It's time to order your CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS!

This year you have your choice of two poinsettia colors, indicate your selection below.  
All plants have 5-8 blooms per 6" pot.

\_\_\_ Classic Red



\_\_\_ White



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to order \_\_\_ Poinsettias at \$10.00 each.  
Enclosed is my check/cash for \$ \_\_\_\_.



### MEMORIAL LISTING

\_\_\_\_\_

### HONOR LISTING

\_\_\_\_\_

Deadline for Ordering  
November 28th, 2021

Please return your order form with payment to an Altar Guild member or the Church Office.

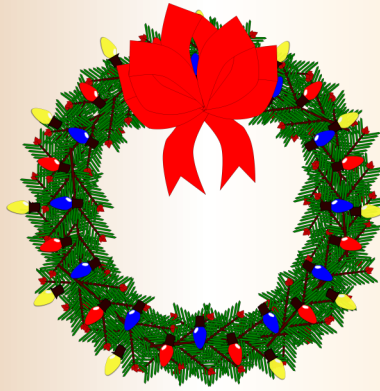
Thank you.

All plants are available to be taken home after the Christmas Eve service.





# Church News



## COOKIE AND SMALL BREAD BAKERS NEEDED

FOR THIS YEAR'S WREATH OF FRIENDSHIP

On **Saturday, December 11th**, we will sponsor our annual *Wreath of Friendship*. Poinsettias and delicious baked goods are delivered to members and friends of St. Paul's who have lost loved ones during the year. We also remember and honor our homebound friends with this gift from our church family.

Please put the *Wreath of Friendship* on your **December** "to do" list. You can help us by:

- ◆ Donating baked goods, (cookies and small breads)
- ◆ Donating your time and delivering the gift.
- ◆ And/or making a monetary donation to assist with the cost of the poinsettias.



If you can help us, please contact Sheryl Gee or church office. Baked goods should be delivered to church by **10:00 a.m. Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**.

Please circle **Saturday, December 11<sup>th</sup>** on your calendar today and keep the Wreath of Friendship in your thoughts and prayers.

Thank you,

*Wreath of Friendship Ministry*



## ST. PAUL'S BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

**Sunday, December 19, 2021, 3:00 p.m.**

Worship is filled with remembrance and hope for anyone feeling the pain of loss, or loss of a way of life, or any circumstance that makes finding joy during the Christmas season difficult. This service will be held both in person and on line.

For those of you watching on line, there will be an opportunity to interact virtually on Facebook by providing a name of love one lost, or any pain you are experiencing. Prayer requests will also be received.

Please contact the church office if you are attending in person, so we may provide for everyone. **815-455-5096** or [www.stpaulsucc-cl.org](http://www.stpaulsucc-cl.org) Light refreshments will be served after the service. As usual masks will be required.



# Church News



Once again, St. Paul's will participate in North Elementary School's Holiday Assistance Program. We will be sponsoring ten families that are in need for the holiday. Information and family "wish lists" will be available at the information desk prior to Sunday's service, as well as after the service.

There is no designated amount to be spent. Whatever you can provide will be greatly appreciated. Gifts should be wrapped and clearly labeled and returned to church by the last week of November.

Your generosity during this difficult time is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call.

*Wendy Manser*

815-245-0058



## North Elementary Student Snack Locker

Because of my contact with North Elementary school through our Kids Hope USA partnership, I asked and learned there is a need for a supplemental supply of pre-packaged individual snacks for some kids whose parents are unable to provide them. The front office maintains a small snack locker for these kids, so they will not be left with nothing while their classmates eat ones packed from home.

Ideal items St. Paul's can donate are Goldfish, pretzels, fruit roll-up snacks, Cheez-Its, and other multi-pack items on the healthier side as opposed to candy and potato chips. *And, as we all know, nothing with peanuts or other nuts.*

I will have a designated box in the narthex area for these food goods. The plan will be for me to drop off our donated items one or twice a month throughout the school year. I supplied six boxes already, and the administrative assistant said this was a great start. Please let me know if you have any questions at [elsperos@yahoo.com](mailto:elsperos@yahoo.com) or (815) 341-6979.





# Church News



## McHenry County Services...at *YOUR* Fingertips!

St. Paul's **TPIRC** team continues to meet monthly to discuss ways to enhance our church for the benefit of all members and attending friends and also to better connect and serve our community.

In late September we participated (virtually) in the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual UCC **TPIRC Educational Summit**, sponsored by the United Church of Christ Building and Loan Fund. We were challenged to look honestly at how we are using the gifts our church currently has – including the buildings, all their rooms, and all the surrounding grounds. Dream and pray about what God is calling us to do with these blessings! What are we doing with what we already have?

We also continue to assess our new church website and how to enhance what it offers. The TPIRC team has been researching what additional and useful information could be added to better serve our members.

We have found that our local human services agency, the **United Way of McHenry County**, has an excellent website where you can find help and answers to your needs by simply putting in your zip code. Visit: [www.findhelp211.org](http://www.findhelp211.org) A more direct, and perhaps easier, method is to just call their directory at: **211**

**Dialing 2-1-1 in McHenry County will connect you to a call center** that will direct you to an appropriate social service agency or nonprofit organization. Trained specialists can quickly assess your needs and offer knowledgeable information and referral for services including rent and utility assistance, food banks, affordable housing, health resources, child care, elderly care, financial counseling, job training, and much more. 2-1-1 is simple to remember, accessible to everyone, and available 24/7/365 at no cost.

We will be adding this very helpful information to St. Paul's website. Remember and share! **Dial 2-1-1** in McHenry County for human and social service assistance.

*Cathy Schmidt*  
*TPIRC Team Member*



# Church News

## *Adult Choir Returns*

The Adult Choir resume this Fall with a new rehearsal schedule. The Choir will be rehearsing Sunday mornings from 8:30 am - 9:30 am., before the 10:00 am Church service.

New members are welcome. If you love to sing, we'd love to have you join the fun! Some choir member will not be returning, and we really need **YOUR** voice!

If you have any questions please call Lon Schmidt.  
**815-459-7948**



## ANNOUNCING DIRECTOR POSTION

We are **EXCITED** to announce that St. Paul's is seeking to add the paid position of a Christian Youth Director to our church staff. Responsibilities will be to create and lead our Sunday children's service, along with the help of our Sunday school teachers and BOCE. This position will also lead our youth group (grades 6-12), their Sunday school program, and youth activities.

This position is a paid part-time (10 hours/week) role and will report to our Board of Christian Education along with input from Pastor Greg. If you know of anyone with a strong Christian background, able to relate well to children/youth, and possessing energy and enthusiasm for this type of opportunity, please have them send a letter or resume to: [TPIRC485@gmail.com](mailto:TPIRC485@gmail.com) for consideration.



# Thank You



## SUNDAY SERVICE

If you would like to donate flowers in honor or memory of a loved one, please notify Cheryl Triefenbach. She can be reached by e-mail [ctrief@gmail.com](mailto:ctrief@gmail.com) or phone 815-382-9367.





# Usher & Greeter Schedule

November  
Sunday Worship  
10:00 a.m.

## USHERS

### NOVEMBER 7

Jim Henneman—Captain  
Laura Henneman, Rebecca Eckhart  
Greeter: Lon & Cathy Schmidt  
Lay Reader: Dylan Eckhardt

### NOVEMBER 14

Ken Thrun - Captain  
Rob Revak, Laurie Revak  
Greeter: Elizabeth Speros  
Lay Reader: George Heck

### NOVEMBER 21

Arlene Tuscano - Captain  
Wendy Manser, Wendy Dominico  
Greeter: Jim & Janet Henneman  
Lay Reader: Rob Revak

### THANKSGIVING SERVICE 5:00 PM

TBD

### NOVEMBER 28

John Whetham - Captain  
Linda Ticknor, Steve Tobin  
Greeter: Donna Butler  
Lay Reader: Arlene Tuscano

December  
Sunday Worship  
10:00 a.m.

## USHERS

### DECEMBER 5

Ken Thrun - Captain  
Linda Ticknor, Steve Tobin  
Greeter: TBD  
Lay Reader: TBD

### DECEMBER 12

Rob Revak - Captain  
Laurie Revak, Wendy Dominico  
Greeter: TBD  
Lay Reader: TBD

### DECEMBER 19

John Whetham - Captain  
Nancy Bellis, Kevin Kruse  
Greeter: TBD  
Lay Reader: TBD

### BLUE CHRISTMAS 3:00 pm

Ken & Karen Hansen  
TBD

### DECEMBER 24

### CHRISTMAS EVE 7:00 pm

John Whetham - Captain  
Nancy Bellis, Kevin Kruse  
Greeter: TBD  
Lay Reader: TBD

### DECEMBER 26

Ken Hansen - Captain  
Karen Hansen, Bill Berghorn  
Greeter: TBD  
Lay Reader: TBD



# St. Paul's Prayer List

## St. Paul's Members

Connie Burdloff, Ruth Costello, Jan Czosnyka, Marianne Spencer, Shirley Huddle

## St. Paul's Homebound Friends

Martha Hughes, Arlene Kopsell, Barb Biscomb

## Deceased Members and Friends

Robert Chappell, Kim Weiss

## Friends

Larry Skipper, David Ainger, George Werres, Jess Etten, Jerry Mecaskey,  
Sweeney Family, Blenann Gee, Kirk Steinhaus, Tom Braun

## 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)





## 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 - [info@stpaulsucccl.org](mailto:info@stpaulsucccl.org)

Office Manager, Lena Vocalino  
815-459-5096 - [info@stpaulsucccl.org](mailto:info@stpaulsucccl.org)

### Church Council

Nancy Bellis, Council President  
312-493-5144 - [nkbconsulting@yahoo.com](mailto:nkbconsulting@yahoo.com)

Jan Rickard, Council Vice President  
815-459-2287 - [jrick4@sbcglobal.net](mailto:jrick4@sbcglobal.net)

Elizabeth Speros, Secretary  
815-341-6979 - [elsperos@yahoo.com](mailto:elsperos@yahoo.com)

Fred Mullard, Treasurer  
224-629-3755 - [mullard@mc.net](mailto:mullard@mc.net)

Jennifer Good, Financial Secretary  
815-245-3287 - [jennifer.a.good@gmail.com](mailto:jennifer.a.good@gmail.com)

Amanda Lotesto - [amandalotesto@yahoo.com](mailto:amandalotesto@yahoo.com)

Jane Dawson - [dawson247@comcast.net](mailto:dawson247@comcast.net)

Rob Revak - [robrrr52@gmail.com](mailto:robrrr52@gmail.com)

Gary Gee - [ggwn@aol.com](mailto:ggwn@aol.com)

## NEXT BEACON

December 17th, 2021

All articles are due in the church  
office by December 10th.



# Give the Gift of SCRIP

### IN STOCK SCRIP CARDS as of August 2, 2021

Amazon	8 @ \$25
Buffalo Wild Wings	3 @ \$25
Buona Beef	7 @ \$10
Chili's	6 @ \$25
Chipotle	7 @ \$10
Darden	6 @ \$25
Fannie May	7 @ \$10
IHOP	2 @ \$25
Jewel	1 @ \$25/20 @ \$100
Kohl's	8 @ \$25
LL Bean	2 @ \$100
Mariano's	3 @ \$50
Menards	2 @ \$100
Mobil	5 @ \$50
PF Chang	1 @ \$25
Panera	8 @ \$10/ 2 @ \$25
Red Lobster	8 @ \$25
Shell	3 @ \$50
Speedway	6 @ \$25/ 1 @ \$100
Starbucks	5 @ \$10/ 2 @ \$25
Target	4 @ \$25
Walgreens	4 @ \$25
Walmart	6 @ \$100/4 @ \$250

With so many cards still in stock, I am currently only replenishing those purchased on a regular basis. If you need any of the above cards, they can be dropped off at church for pick up. If you want to order any particular cards, please let me know. As always, checks are made payable to St. Paul's.

**Karen Radovich** [mailto:\(nuknees@mc.net\)](mailto: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. you can reload or buy cards to go straight to your phone!