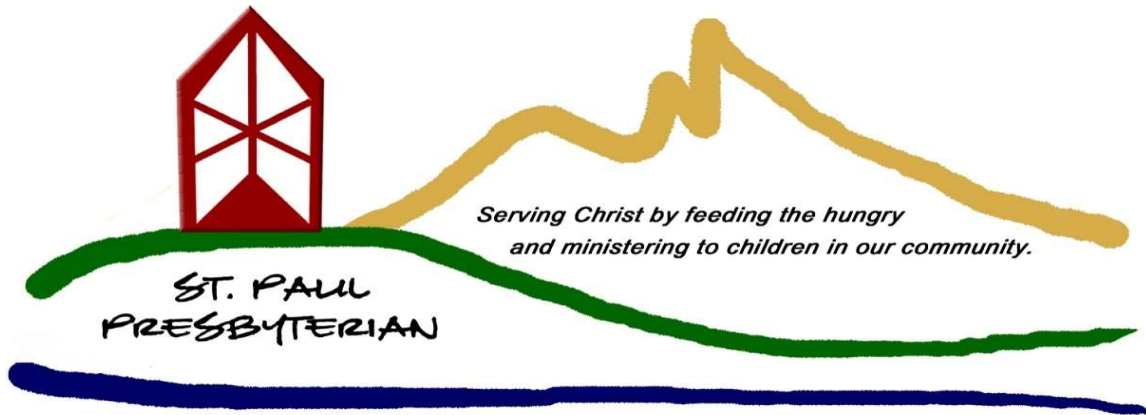


St. Paul Presbyterian Church Epistle

What's happening at St. Paul Presbyterian Church

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A Letter from Rev. Kim Graber

Why is the church always asking for donations?

It's one of the top complaints about church - "They're always asking for money!" Have you ever felt that way?

In October the annual stewardship campaign begins. Some years the church asks for a pledge, not only to the general operating fund, but also a capital campaign funds, or a mortgage debt reduction fund. You are also encouraged to pay your per capita (The fee charged to us per member, to help support the Presbytery and the denomination.)

There are 4 special offerings per year for the Presbyterian Church USA

One Great Hour of Sharing - provides relief to those affected by natural disasters, provides food to the hungry, and helps to empower the poor and oppressed.

The Peacemaking Offering - addressing systems of injustice across the world.

Pentecost Offering - helps the church encourage, develop, and support its young people, and also address the needs of at-risk children.

The Christmas Joy Offering - provides assistance to current and retired church workers in their time of need.

Joann Goss and Pastor Kim went to Zimbabwe last year and asked for money that could be used as needs arose.

SPY (St. Paul Youth) are planning to attend Triennium this year - a worldwide Presbyterian youth event that has been life changing for those who have gone. This will be an ongoing fundraiser so that youth will be able to attend every three years as their ages allow.

The Food Pantry has an ongoing need as the number of families who use it grows.

During Lent, we ask for a free will offering for the Lenten dinners, the proceeds of which, go to the Deacon Fund.

At Easter you can purchase a lily in honor of memory of someone. At Christmas you can purchase a poinsettia for the same purpose.

In May, we have a garage sale to help support Christian Education efforts.

This past Christmas season, we offered the opportunity to purchase part of a cow for the Zimbabwe Central Fund.

And of course, there are many fundraisers for specific one time purposes, and requests for donations of certain items as needed.

None of these special giving opportunities are requirements. They are not offered to cause stress or guilt. They are simply opportunities for you to give according to where your heart leads you. As you consider how God is calling you to share your blessings this year, we pray that we might offer the opportunity that will speak to your heart.

Blessings,

Pastor Kim

Prayer Network

Are you signed up to be part of the St. Paul Prayer Network?

Prayer is an integral part in the life of St. Paul Presbyterian Church. In our worship, we pray for guidance, for forgiveness, for thanksgiving, and for understanding. We also offer prayers of concern or prayers of joy for ourselves and others.

Each month, the deacons from your care groups ask for your prayer needs so we can pray for you.

The St. Paul Deacons have expanded the opportunity for offering our prayers to God as a community through the prayer network. When anyone has a prayer request, it can go out to you in a timely manner. It is a simple process requiring only that you sign up with your email address or, if you do not receive emails, with your phone number. When a prayer request is received, you will be notified so you can offer your prayers of support. The prayer network is open to everyone and we invite all members and friends to be part of it.

To receive requests, there are sign up slips on the guest book table. Fill out and leave in the office.

To ask for prayer, anyone can send their concern or joy by emailing to prayer-network@stppc.org. The request will go out to those who are part of the prayer network.

If you have question, please contact any Deacon.

Our Pantry

Highs and Lows for 2018

When you read this 2018 will be in our collective rearview mirror and 2019 will be straight ahead. Let's take a minute to touch on some highs and lows for the year in our pantry.

Our numbers, visitors to the pantry, continue to grow. This is both a high and a low in that we are growing and serving those in need but it also reflects our economy and folks who are being left out.

Just to share with you some facts. Over one thousand people walked through our pantry doors in 2018. Some are repeat visitors but many are not. Also keep in mind that these folks are shopping for their family members so just, at least, triple that number.

Another high is YOU, St Paul, and your willingness to step up and volunteer. Rarely was the white board outside the pantry, not filled on any given Tuesday. And we are so fortunate to have a couple of folks who are willing to help regularly on Mondays. Just to be able to look ahead and know that people have signed up to work on Monday and Tuesday is such a joy.

We were able to apply for a grant through Food Bank of the Rockies for a freezer. We were awarded the grant and it has greatly enhanced our ability to provide meat, poultry, and fish.

Another high is that I know, from looking at the balance sheet, that some of you make financial contributions throughout the year, to the pantry. Whoever you are, thank you so much. Also, this year we had a grandson of one of our members, who had volunteered this summer in the pantry, give some of his birthday money to our pantry. This was a very impressive gift on many levels.

Now, the only low was our attempt to enroll our visitors in FBR Link2Feed computer program. For many reasons it didn't work out but we are trying to come up with an alternate plan.

In closing without the people of St. Paul and friends Mark and Mary from St. Michael's we would cease to exist. So, thank you, from me and from all our visitors, who regularly thank us.

Jeannie

Session Highlights

The December Session meeting was a shortened meeting as the Deacons and Elders shared an annual meal, a tradition that started a number of years ago. It was an enjoyable dinner with fellowship and friendship.

We thanked outgoing Elders (Gary Childress and Luke Hopkins) and Deacons (Diane Snively, Martin Cobb and Judi Garvey-Lefebvre). We welcomed incoming Elders Shirley Johnson and Gary Crownover and Deacon Reed Holder.

New Ministry unit assignments were finalized. Beginning in 2019 the Chairs and Co-chairs of the following ministry units will begin: Christian Education – Gayle Downen and Gary Crownover; Administration and Personnel - Donna Powell; Finance and Stewardship – Kathleen Hall; Building and Grounds – Liz Ludchak; Worship - David Brantley and Shirley Johnson; Membership and Fellowship – Mary Apodaca and Cathy Walther and Mission and Outreach – Cleve Dixon. Bruce Larson will become the regular building opening Elder and will assist in special tasks as needed. Dave Goss was re-elected Clerk for 2019.

Session also approved the minutes of the Congregational meetings held in 2018 (January 28, July 1 and December 2). This is a change implemented by Denver Presbytery last year. Copies of the congregational meeting minutes will be included in the Annual Report for 2018.

Gayle Downen thanked Pastor Kim for the nice collection of advent devotions that were distributed the morning of December 2. Our thanks to her and Hali for the well done publication.

The Ministry of Finance and Stewardship received Session approval to establish a new special fund to cover major maintenance and capital needs of the building (MMCI). The fund will be initially funded by a transfer of \$5,000 from the Reserve Account along with a generous donation of \$2,500 from a member for a total of \$7,500. These monies with an additional \$2,500 from the Reserve Fund for a total of \$10,000 will be deposited in a new investment vehicle with PILP or a Presbyterian Foundation instrument, depending on the best flexibility for such an investment. The MMCI funds will only be used to cover major maintenance and building physical needs per the policy below:

Major Maintenance and Capital Improvement (MMCI)

Effective with the budget year for 2019, STPPC will establish a “Major Maintenance/Capital Improvement Fund” (MMCI). Disbursements from the MMCI will be for non-budgeted needs and repairs to the STPPC physical plant provided that: a) the acquisition cost has a minimum of \$2,500; and b) the projected useful life is five years or longer. This account will be initially funded with a one-time transfer from the Reserve Savings Account in the amount of

\$5,000. Subsequent funding will occur annually from a line item in the Ministry of Building and Grounds (MBG) operating budget, from designated or non-designated gifts to STPPC, or by other means as may be determined by Session. Monies in the MMCI are to be conservatively invested in funds to promote and insure the preservation of the principal amounts in this fund.

The Session shall review annually the amounts deemed appropriated for the Reserve Savings Account and the Major Maintenance/Capital Improvement Fund. These amounts shall be published in the annual budget.

Session approved the proposed 2019 budget which will be included in the 2018 Annual Report. Kathleen explained that pledges were up 11% over 2018 and that there is a planned deficit of about \$15,000 based on a conservative estimate of non-pledged income.

Ministry of Worship presented and Session approved all special services and communion services for 2019.

January Celebrations

Birthdays

01/01	Dave Goss
01/01	Linda Holder
01/07	Mia Gordon
01/08	Emily Reh
01/08	Gavin Carlson
01/14	Ginger Norman
01/21	Wesley Washburn
01/31	Zane Capobianco

Anniversaries

01/19	Randy Ladd & Donna Powell
01/29	Kay & Robert Cary

January 2019 Calendar of Events

Tuesday, Jan. 1		New Year's Day
	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #2423(Room 7) -CANCELED
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 3(Celebration Center) -CANCELED
Wednesday, Jan. 2	6:00 PM	SP Midweek Gathering(Celebration Center) -CANCELED
	6:00 PM	TL Bible Study(Classroom 10)
	7:30 PM	SP Choir Rehearsal(Sanctuary) -CANCELED
Thursday, Jan. 3	9:30 AM	SP Holistic Health Group(Celebration Center)
	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #1022(Room 7)
	6:30 PM	SP Deacons Meeting(Celebration Center)
Friday, Jan. 4		Office Closed
	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #1327(Celebration Center)
	6:30 PM	Girl Scout Troop Overnight
	7:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #550(Celebration Center)
Saturday, Jan. 5	7:00 AM	TL Prayer Meeting(Sanctuary)
Sunday, Jan. 6	9:00 AM	SP Sunday School (all ages)
	9:50 AM	TL Worship #1(Celebration Center)
	10:15 AM	SP Worship(Sanctuary)
	11:00 AM	SP(Celebration Center)
	11:30 AM	SP Ministry of Buildings and Grounds
	11:30 AM	SP Ministry of Membership and Fellowship
	11:30 AM	SP Social Time(Celebration Center)
	11:45 AM	TL Worship #2(Sanctuary)
	12:15 PM	TL Meal & Meetings (Celebration Center)
	3:30 PM	TL Taekwondo(Celebration Center)
Monday, Jan. 7	6:15 PM	SP Handbell Rehearsal Setup(Sanctuary)
	6:30 PM	SP Ministry of Finance & Stewardship
	6:45 PM	SP Handbell Rehearsal(Sanctuary)
Tuesday, Jan. 8	9:00 AM	SP Food Pantry(Celebration Center)
	3:00 PM	SP Ministry of Christian Education
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 3(Celebration Center)
	6:30 PM	Girl Scout Troop #2423(Room 7)
Wednesday, Jan. 9	6:00 PM	SP Midweek Gathering(Celebration Center)
	6:00 PM	TL Bible Study(Classroom 10)
	7:30 PM	SP Choir Rehearsal(Sanctuary)
Thursday, Jan. 10	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #1022(Room 7)
	6:30 PM	SP Session(Celebration Center)
Friday, Jan. 11		Office Closed
	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #1327(Celebration Center)
	7:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #550(Celebration Center)
Saturday, Jan. 12	7:00 AM	TL Prayer Meeting(Sanctuary)
	8:30 AM	SP Removal of the Greens
Sunday, Jan. 13	9:00 AM	SP Sunday School (all ages)
	9:50 AM	TL Worship #1(Celebration Center)
	10:15 AM	SP Worship(Sanctuary)
	11:00 AM	SP(Celebration Center)
	11:30 AM	SP Deacon Potluck & Presentation(Celebration Center)
	11:30 AM	SP Social Time(Celebration Center)
	11:45 AM	TL Worship #2(Sanctuary)
	12:00 PM	SP SPY
	3:30 PM	TL Taekwondo(Celebration Center)

Monday, Jan. 14	6:15 PM	SP Handbell Rehearsal Setup(Sanctuary)
	6:45 PM	SP Handbell Rehearsal(Sanctuary)
Tuesday, Jan. 15	9:00 AM	SP Food Pantry(Celebration Center)
	9:30 AM	SP Prayer Shawl Ministry(Narthex)
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 3(Celebration Center)
	6:30 PM	Girl Scout Troop #2423(Room 7)
Wednesday, Jan. 16	1:00 PM	SP Agape Bible Study : Kay Boteler
	6:00 PM	SP Midweek Gathering(Celebration Center)
	6:00 PM	TL Bible Study(Classroom 10)
	7:30 PM	SP Choir Rehearsal(Sanctuary)
Thursday, Jan. 17		SP Epistle Articles Due
	9:30 AM	SP Holistic Health Group(Celebration Center)
	11:30 AM	SP Elderberries(Restaurant)
	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #1022(Room 7)
Friday, Jan. 18		Office Closed
	10:00 AM	SP Max Rageth's Memorial Service (Sanctuary)
	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #1327(Celebration Center)
	7:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #550(Celebration Center)
Saturday, Jan. 19	7:00 AM	TL Prayer Meeting(Sanctuary)
	9:00 AM	SP Books and Brunch (In Homes)
	9:00 AM	SP Officer Training (Celebration Center)
Sunday, Jan. 20	9:00 AM	SP Sunday School (all ages)
	9:50 AM	TL Worship #1(Celebration Center)
	10:15 AM	SP Worship(Sanctuary)
	11:00 AM	SP(Celebration Center)
	11:30 AM	SP Ministry of Worship
	11:30 AM	SP Social Time(Celebration Center)
	11:45 AM	TL Worship #2(Sanctuary)
3:30 PM	TL Taekwondo(Celebration Center)	
Monday, Jan. 21		Martin Luther King Day
	6:15 PM	SP Handbell Rehearsal Setup (Sanctuary)
	6:30 PM	SP New Member's Class (Celebration Center)
	6:45 PM	SP Handbell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Tuesday, Jan. 22	9:00 AM	SP Food Pantry (Celebration Center)
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 3 (Celebration Center)
	6:30 PM	Girl Scout Troop #2423(Room 7)
Wednesday, Jan. 23	6:00 PM	SP Midweek Gathering(Celebration Center)
	6:00 PM	TL Bible Study(Classroom 10)
	7:30 PM	SP Choir Rehearsal(Sanctuary)
Thursday, Jan. 24	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #1022(Room 7)
Friday, Jan. 25		Office Closed
	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #1327(Celebration Center)
	7:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #550(Celebration Center)
Saturday, Jan. 26	7:00 AM	TL Prayer Meeting(Sanctuary)
	1:00 PM	Daisy Scouts Event (Celebration Center)
Sunday, Jan. 27	9:00 AM	SP Sunday School (all ages)
	9:50 AM	TL Worship #1(Celebration Center)
	10:15 AM	SP Worship(Sanctuary)
	11:00 AM	SP(Celebration Center)
	11:30 AM	SP Congregational Meeting
	11:30 AM	SP Social Time(Celebration Center)
	11:45 AM	TL Worship #2(Sanctuary)
	12:00 PM	SP SPY
	12:15 PM	TL Meal & Meetings (Celebration Center)

	12:30 PM	SP Rally Day
	3:30 PM	TL Taekwondo(Celebration Center)
	6:30 PM	SP Movie Night (TBD)
Monday, Jan. 28	6:15 PM	SP Handbell Rehearsal Setup (Sanctuary)
	6:30 PM	SP Ministry of Administration & Personnel
	6:45 PM	SP Handbell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Tuesday, Jan. 29	9:00 AM	SP Food Pantry (Celebration Center)
	6:30 PM	Girl Scout Troop #2423
	6:30 PM	Boy Scouts Troop 3 (Celebration Center)
Wednesday, Jan. 30	6:00 PM	SP Midweek Gathering (Celebration Center)
	6:00 PM	TL Bible Study (Classroom 10)
	7:30 PM	SP Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
Thursday, Jan. 31	6:00 PM	Girl Scout Troop #1022 (Room 7)

