

Men, how's your praying?

"In every place the men should pray." -- 1 Timothy 2.8

Well, men, how's your praying? I wasn't ever taught or shown how to pray - not even in seminary - but I want to be a lot better at what God is asking of me. How about you? Using the book, *Prayer*, by Timothy Keller, let's help each other be the men God wants us to be: praying men.



Time and date of this new Bible study will be determined by the group. Email tjsternberg@saintpaulsonline.org to reserve your spot.

"Becoming a Better Disciple"

Our on-going journey as Jesus followers requires us to be mindful of our Spiritual God-given giftedness and how to actively exercise those gifts. If you would like to learn more on how to become a more fully developing disciple, please consider signing on for this 7-week study focusing on -- **Your Transformation.**



This class begins Wednesday, April 28th, in the large Conference Room, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. Pastor Paul and Carol will be facilitating the gathering and it will be limited to a maximum of 9 participants.

Sign up in the Gathering Space.

"Be Daniel strong!"

We're excited to announce a new Bible study with our wellness in mind.

The Daniel Plan takes us on a journey of faith, food, fitness, focus and friends.

Beginning May 4th, we will meet every Tuesday evening for six weeks from 6:00-8:00 pm. A short video along with group discussion and healthy snacks will be planned every week. Pastor Rick Warren leads the videos with faith and scripture, along with his team of experts, they will give us a better idea of how to treat our bodies as the temple that God intended. We will learn recipes, meditation, and many tips to all-over wellness. We will have our own experts come in and help us understand the 5 F's better. From group walks, meal planning, Pastor-led talk, and a fitness lesson. Let's go on this adventure together to trust the Lord and be Daniel strong!

* This is open to all adult age groups and fitness levels. This really is about all-over health and wellness.* The cost is \$10 for materials. See Beth Heisey if you have questions or for details.



"If you have a mom, there is nowhere you are likely to go where a prayer has not already been."

—Robert Brault

May message from Pastor Tim

The month of May has been an exciting month in the life of the Christian church for many years because it is usually in the month of May that young teenagers publicly confess their faith and are confirmed in that faith by the church. And we will experience this again in 2021!

However, say 'Goodbye' to the tradition. The latest Gallop polls and Pew polls say the same thing they've said for decades: the traffic light is yellow and it's been yellow for a very long time. "For the first time since Gallup began asking in 1937, the proportion of Americans who consider themselves a member of a church, synagogue, or mosque has fallen below 50%."

50% of Generation X does not belong to a church. 64% of millennials do not belong to a church. Expect 50 - 60% of church attenders, *as well as pastors, to pass on to their eternal rest in the next 20 to 25 years. To say it another way, in 20 years, half of the people who are in church today won't be and they won't be replaced by younger folks. And this includes pastors.*

You've probably heard me say, "Membership isn't in the Bible but participation is." Sadly, though, the number of participants is not increasing in America. There are many reasons why this is the case and Gallop did a poll back in 2017 which might help houses of prayer keep or increase their numbers. They asked "What is a major factor in why you attend a church?" The results were clear:

→ 75% of people said "sermons or talks that teach you more about Scripture and help you connect religion to your own life" were a major factor in attendance. Okay, awesome factoid. And that one is on me and Pastor Paul (and all pastors) to advance our skills quickly, powerfully, and prayerfully.

→ 60% said "Spiritual programs geared toward children and teenagers" and "Lots of community outreach and volunteer opportunities" were major factors. Again, awesome feedback. This one is on us. We're working hard on finding a youth leader, the right youth leader for our kids. And our MATS are up to the task of giving us "lots" of opportunities to love our neighbors.

So where are we to go with all of this information? Forward!, of course, following God's Holy Spirit. The preached word of God, and the lived word of God, are the powerful magnet that draws people to the church. This is where the Spirit is moving and working. Let's lay aside every weight that would slow us down and rise up to the experience of loving God and loving others.

And let's **partner with and encourage** our young teenagers who are being confirmed - their future looks very challenging. Remind them that all things are possible with our living, reigning, and returning Lord Jesus! God is faithful and will never leave us!



It's Spring Clean-Up time!

After a long, but mild, Winter, Spring has arrived. Just as your gardens and flowerbeds at home need some Spring TLC, so does the landscape here at St. Paul's.

Saturday, May 15, 2021, at 9:00 has been designated as "Spring Clean-up Day" at the church. The Boy Scouts will be helping, but any help we can get from our members is greatly appreciated. Last year, we were done by 11:30 am. The major target area this year is to do some bush and shrub trimming, transplanting some perennials, and planting some annuals to brighten our landscape.



If you cannot make it on May 15, please let me know and another day can be arranged. There is always something that needs to be done to/with the landscape. I can be reached at the church office on Monday or Wednesday mornings at (419) 893-0205 x 205 or canau-mann@saintpaulonline.org.

IMPORTANT building use reminders

Following a year of cancelled meetings and events, we are busy again. That's a good thing but it means we can no longer just show up at the church any evening and assume that we can use a particular room because nothing else will be going on at the church. So that there will be no scheduling conflicts, it's time for a reminder to church groups and MATs to schedule your meetings and church activities with the church office. Those desiring to use space in the church must contact the church secretary during office hours (8:00 am – noon & 1:00 – 4:30 pm, Monday-Friday) at 419-893-0205 or via email to bjguth@saintpaulonline.org. Requests for repetitive use of the church facilities can also be taken care of in this way. Special events might require the completion of a Building Use Agreement form.

Some other important reminders for those who use our space:

- ◆ Clean all tabletops and chairs, if used. Leave room as clean and picked-up as you found it so that it is ready for the next event.
- ◆ Close all windows and turn off lights of the room(s) used. If you are the last one to leave at night and there are hallway lights on, please turn out the lights.
- ◆ Parents must be responsible for the children that they bring.
- ◆ The church has very limited janitorial service. Trash should be bagged and bags should be taken to the outside dumpster.
- ◆ Please be considerate of other groups meeting in the building.



Remember our "Little Free Library"

Due to the pandemic and virtual learning, books for children are in high demand. We are in desperate need of children's books (pre-K—grade 2) for our "Little Free Library".

Please place your donations in the box in the Gathering Space. Thank you!



Your old glasses can give new life

Millions in developing nations lack access to basic eye care services. The Lions Club has recognized the urgent need for corrective lenses and continues to lend their support.

If you have old eye glasses that you are no longer using, please bring them to the church, drop them off in the basket on the counter by the Outreach Board and we will recycle them through the Lion's Club. Questions? Contact Gary Langenderfer.



Health Matters

Pastor Paul Doerfler

"So be truly glad! There is wonderful joy ahead, even though it is necessary for you to endure many trials for a while. These trials are only to test your faith, to show that it is strong and pure. It is being tested as fire tests and purifies gold-- and your faith is far more precious to God than mere gold. So if your faith remains strong after being tried by fiery trials, it will bring you much praise and glory and honor on the day when Jesus Christ is revealed to the whole world. You love him even though you have never seen him. Though you do not see him, you trust him; and even now you are happy with a glorious, inexpressible joy." 1 PE 1:6-8 (NLT)

Peter is speaking about Jesus followers and their future deliverance. The peace and joy assured in knowing about one's eternal salvation. Experiencing Jesus' glory is, perhaps, in some ways partially similar to when Jesus declared, "It is finished." Finally, there would be no more pain, suffering, or distress. But, there was so much more in these words of Jesus.

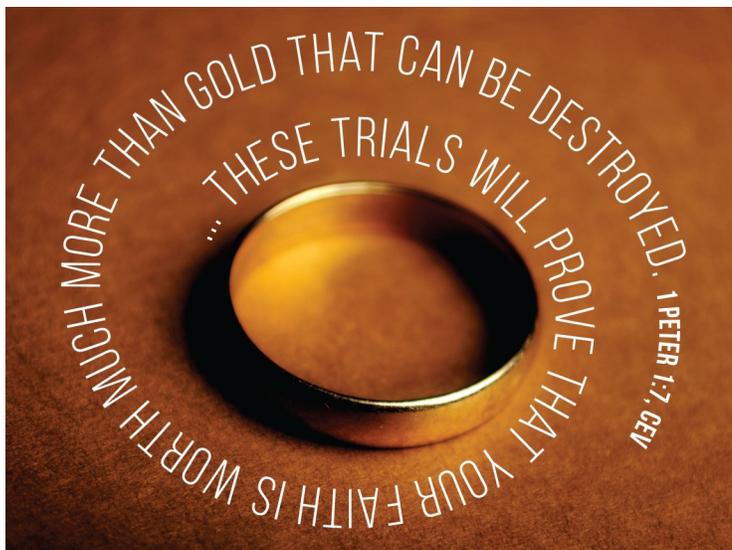
One of our greatest challenges is to be *presently* enduring, while at the same time staying *future* focused. Billy Graham once wrote:

I have found in my travels that those who keep Heaven in view remain serene and cheerful in the darkest day. If the glories of Heaven were more real to us, if we lived less for material things and more for things eternal and spiritual, we would be less easily disturbed by this present life.

So what's the key for us to "keep Heaven in view" and make it through our inevitable trails with that *true joy* and *gladness* Peter is referring to? Certainly, our faith is a primary contributor. Not only is it invaluable in our daily journey through life, but Peter points to our **trials of faith** as also being of great significance. He's talking about us growing in Christ without saying *those* words.

Faith lasts infinitely longer and connects us intimately in relationship with our Creator and Sustainer, God. Unlike anything this temporal world offers us. Peter says our faith is actually purified in the testing which life's circumstances bring. Our Heavenly Father endorses a faith directed toward Jesus Christ, weathered by the trials of this life, and then shown to be true by the love and joy that results. Towards God and in relationship with each other.

Like the second generation of Christians of Peter's time, we too have come to Christ in faith and have plenty opportunity to grow in our love of Him. If we allow our life-trials to *refine* our faith, they then can also help us grow in the depth of our human capacity to love.



Through God's Word and the presence of the Holy Spirit, we adore Jesus. We love God, not because he physically walks with humans like in the beginning any longer. But, because the Holy Spirit causes us to begin to appreciate just how much He first loved us. So much that He died for both you and for me. A reason to nurture our faith to its utmost.

Your joy is not about less suffering as much as it is about being forgiven unto eternity. ***"Who is it that overcomes the world?"*** asks 1 JN 5:5, ***"Only he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God."*** God bless and strengthen you in your growing faith in and through Jesus. Now and forever more.

Kick start your week



Start your week off with God and join us for Monday Morning Prayer at 7:30 AM, live every week!

You can also watch this video later in the day or, if you don't have Facebook, you can watch on our Youtube channel at "St. Paul's Maumee", or head over to this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UClwI4hLqmSoeuc44KOoeVSg>.

Children's Ministry News

St. Paul's Children's Ministry would like to thank everyone who made this year's Easter Egg Hunt & Breakfast a success!

We also would like to give a huge shout out to our kids! They did a great job with their songs on Easter Sunday!



Connections Corner

During Holy Week, we had 43 attendees at the "Walk with Jesus." We hope all were blessed by this event and will join us again next year!

Additionally, a huge "Thank You" to all the volunteers who came out to help guide and pray with the attendees. We could not have pulled this off without your support. And, of course, the front office staff who assisted with little last minute requests from our team, we sincerely appreciate each and every one of you!



May Prayer Focus: Holy Spirit

"And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 13:52)

**Ask ...
Seek ...
Knock ...**



God:

We ask you to fill us with a fresh overflowing of your Holy Spirit each and every day. We want to seek you, follow you, and serve you with all our mind, heart, body, and soul. Only through the power of the Holy Spirit can we be obedient to your call upon our lives. Help us to be rooted in Your Word. Transform us, Holy Spirit, and bring a fresh fire of revival on your Body at St. Paul's that we may hunger and thirst for what you desire of us in the days ahead.

In Jesus' Name we pray.

Amen.

News from the Outreach M.A.T.

"Showing God's Love Through You"

OUR MISSION:
Providing local outreach opportunities for individuals by caring for the needs of others.

Outreach M.A.T. Co-Directors: Sue Schad (419-893-2330), Teri Henry, Beth Heisey, Carol Doerfler with the St. Paul's church family.

Check out the slides, weekly bulletin, weekly email, and the monthly *Communicator* for news on ministries that are happening at St. Paul's and how you can help!

You CAN make a difference!

Outreach MAT Ministry Assistance Extension Number

The voicemail extension for all Outreach Board ministry assistance is extension 220. Call the church number (419-893-0205) then dial 220. The Outreach MAT schedules food pantry appointments as well as providing monetary assistance with rent, utilities, and other needs.

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### **LOOKING TO THE FUTURE —**

**Women's Retreat—**  
Friday—Sunday,  
August 27—29,  
Lady of the Pines, Fremont,  
Ohio

### **Continues from Column 1**

#### Prayer Corner

Many of you have noticed the special area in the back corner of the sanctuary where there are pull-out folding doors, chairs, and a small fountain. Our Prayer Corner is reserved for folks in need of prayer or who wish to have a quiet, private area for individual prayer before or after each worship service.

#### Aldi's Plastic, Handled Bags

Because of restricted supply from Aldi's, Outreach MAT's collection of plastic, handled bags used to pack the Holiday Baskets is dwindling.



We are no longer allowed to buy the bulk boxes of bags. We could use your help! If you shop at Aldi's, please consider purchasing a dozen bags for our use when we do the July 4th Food Baskets. We need about 150 bags. The bags are white, plastic, and have white handles and are \$0.10 each. Thank you, in advance, for your generosity, if you can help us!

#### Ronald McDonald House pull tab ministry

The Outreach MAT is asking you to begin saving pull tabs from aluminum cans including soup and vegetable cans to support the mission of Ronald McDonald House Charities. RMHC recycles the tabs to supplement the food budget that provides meals to families during their stay, at no cost to them. There is a container in the Gathering Space as well as in the Fellowship Hall.

### **Continues from Column 2**

If you would like to learn more about RMHC and/or other volunteer opportunities, please contact Carol Doerfler at [doerflers@toast2.net](mailto:doerflers@toast2.net).

#### Baby University (a Mosaic ministry)

Baby University ministers to families in Toledo's Old South End. They are collecting children's books especially board books (hard cover). Research proves that reading to children from



birth (or even before birth) every day for the first five years prepares them for success when they start formal schooling. Parents are their children's first and most important teachers.

We, as a congregation, can help them achieve their mission by providing them with books. There will be a collection container in the Gathering Space to put the books. Thank you for helping this important, but vulnerable part of our population!

#### Halos of Hope (chemo caps)

Many thanks to the ladies who are knitting and crocheting chemo caps for this ministry. We have made over 2,800 CAPS since this ministry started! We are making a DIFFERENCE!

This ministry uses volunteers to knit or crochet caps for individuals who are undergoing treatment for cancer. If you knit or crochet and would like to

(Continues on Page 7...)

**News from the Outreach M.A.T. Continued from Page 6**

use your gift to help others, please contact Sue Schad for more information about this exciting opportunity to make a difference. Our chemo caps go to The Toledo Clinic Cancer Center, St. Luke’s Cancer Center, UTMC Dana Cancer Center, Mercy Cancer Center, and the Victory Center.

**God’s Storehouse (St. Paul’s food pantry)**

God’s Storehouse, our food pantry, is St. Paul Lutheran’s “hand up” for families in the area who are struggling to make ends meet in these difficult times.

**God’s Storehouse May Shopping list:**

Dill pickles, canned chicken, canned pasta (like Beefaroni), Bisquick, maple syrup, strawberry and grape jelly, mandarin oranges, mayonnaise, any kind of Jiffy Mix, crackers, waxed beans, beets, peas, spinach, relish, any red or yellow Jello, crushed or chunk pineapple, boxed mashed potatoes, Pop Tarts, Hamburger Helper, Tuna Helper, chocolate or vanilla frosting.



If you are shopping and think of it, buy two and donate one to God’s Storehouse. We thank you, in advance, for your generosity! Please place your donations in the wooden bins back by the coat racks in the Gathering Space/narthex.

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The Outreach MAT would like to thank the anonymous St.

Continued from Column 1

Paul’s members who are continually contributing items, monetary gifts, or time for our ministries. We are so honored to be the “visible” face of St. Paul’s for the local families we help, but we would like to express our gratitude to all of you who are always helping out without any kind of recognition.

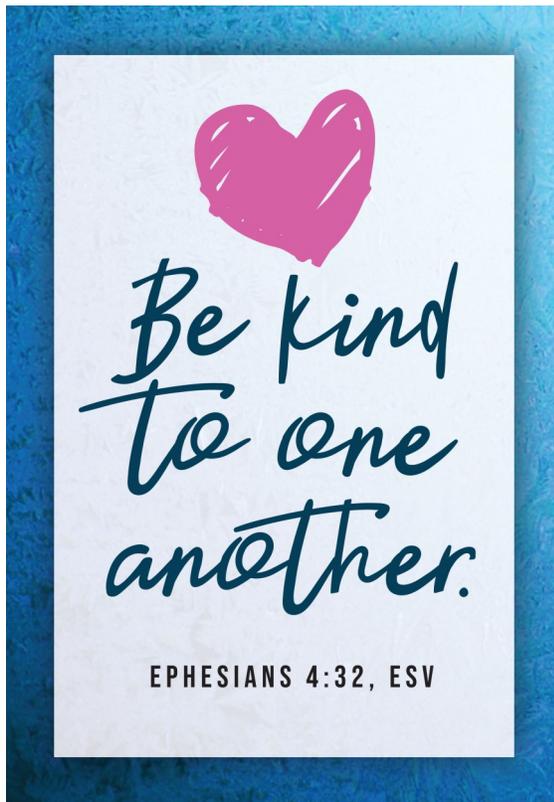


The King will reply, “I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of those brothers and sisters of mine, you did for Me.” (MT 25:40)

Above and beyond

When 20-year-old Hunter Shamatt lost his wallet while traveling to a wedding a few years ago, he assumed its contents — including \$60 in cash — were gone forever.

But not only did someone return the wallet and everything inside it; the good Samaritan also added money. “I rounded your cash up to an even \$100 so you can celebrate getting your wallet back,” read a note signed with the initials TB.



Hunter’s mom, who posted a photo of the note on Facebook, said her faith in humanity was restored. The world’s “not as grim as it’s being made out to be,” Jeannie Shamatt wrote.

Like the good Samaritan in Luke 10:25-37, “TB” — who turned out to be Todd Brown of Omaha — went above and beyond in expressing kindness to a stranger. May we do likewise, bandaging one another’s wounds, providing comfort, sacrificing our resources and showing mercy, all in Jesus’ name.

—Stephanie Martin

Missionary Martial Arts meeting at St. Paul's

Everyone (ages 5+. Yes, even adults!) is invited to join us on Saturday mornings at 9:00 am for karate.

Sensi Kip has 37 years of experience, 6th degree black belt and has been running his Missionary Martial Arts program for 7 years! From a ministry standpoint, their goal is to make people stronger, more comfortable in their faith and bolder in their willingness to witness and share with others. From a Martial arts standpoint, this is not sport karate. The goal is to teach people to strike hard and defend themselves. The biggest reason we train is so we never have to fight.

The cost is just a \$1/person donation that will go to the church for using the space! Just show up and come join us!!

*

Walking with Grandpa and Grandma

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma,
Their steps are short like mine.
They don't say, "Now hurry up."
They always take their time.

I like to walk with Grandpa and Grandma,
Their eyes see things like mine do ...
Wee pebbles bright, a funny cloud,
Half hidden drops of dew.

Most people have to hurry,
They do not stop and see.
I'm glad that God made Grandpa and Grandma
Unrushed and young like me.

—Author unknown



Special gifts received

A special memorial contribution to St. Paul's has been given in memory of GLENN IRWIN by: Charmaine McClellan.

A special memorial contribution to St. Paul's has been given in memory of THEODORE SHARLOW by: Charmaine McClellan, Darrell & Judy Converse, Judithe Bee

A special memorial contribution to St. Paul's has been given in memory of DONNA WOLLENSCHLAGER by: Charmaine McClellan

A special memorial contribution to St. Paul's has been given in memory of KENNETH SNYDER by: Elizabeth Condon, Louis & Ruth Ann Boehk

Keep moving!

As they proudly processed across the stage to receive their diplomas, each graduate heard two messages from the principal: "Congratulations!" (in a loud voice) and "Keep moving" (in a whisper). Although the administrator was merely trying to facilitate the flow, she was actually offering sound advice to the young adults: Don't stop or stagnate! Proceed from here and continue learning. This is the beginning, not the end, of a journey. Keep moving!

*

"If at first you don't succeed, try doing it the way mom told you to in the beginning."

Saturday Stitchin'

Join us for a Saturday morning of knitting, crocheting, cross stitching, or fleece blanket making on **Saturday, May 1st**. Want to learn how to knit or crochet? Bring an H crochet hook or size 8 or 9 knitting needles and 4 ply worsted yarn with you. Come at 9:30 am to the Gathering Space and stay until 12 noon to learn or to sit and work on a continuing project. Not working on a project? Come and just chat with friends and enjoy the conversation and a snack or two. Bring a snack to share, if you wish. Enjoy some time doing something you love with good friends.



Ladies Lunch and Dinner Bunch News!

Ladies of all ages are invited to meet at Sahara Restaurant, on Dussel Drive, on Thursday, May 20, at 11:30 am OR 6:00 pm to enjoy good food and good company together. Bring a friend. Contact Sue Schad with any questions.



Bible Quiz

Acts 1:1 (NIV) reads: "In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach." What "former book" did the author write to Theophilus?

- A. Matthew
- B. Mark
- C. Luke
- D. John



Answer: C (See Luke 1:1-4.)

Have a few minutes? Stop by our blog!

Have you stopped by our blog recently?

One of the features of our website (www.stpaulslive.com) is the St. Paul's Staff Blog. The church staff shares the writing duties and publishes new blog posts (inspirational and/or informational) as often as we can. Our M.A.T. leaders have recently been invited to write for the blog, also.

The Staff Blog can be found under the "Resources" drop-down menu but can be easily found, also, at the bottom of the Homepage.



Altar Flower dates available

Two May Sundays are available on the Altar Flower calendar. If you are interested in placing flowers on the altar on either Sunday, May 16 or 30, please call Becky in the church office (419-893-0205).

As a reminder, the cost is \$20.00.

Stay informed

Members and friends of St. Paul's:

Please be aware that the state of Ohio's recommendations, regulations, and mandates regarding Covid-19 change regularly. We encourage everyone to stay informed about official Ohio government and health policies. And however you feel comfortable and safe worshipping with us, we at St. Paul's remain committed to preaching and living God's good news in Jesus our Lord, every day and every Sunday, guided by his Spirit.

A WORSHIP NOTE:

Communion bread and wine is passed to those who come to the Lord's Supper by an individual who has sanitized their hands. This helps us to minimize possible cross-contamination.

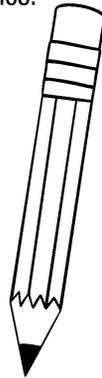


WHERE IN THE WORLD?

Jesus commands us to be his witnesses. This craft is a reminder to reach out to all our "circles."

What you need:

- 5 bowls or cups (assorted sizes)
- Construction paper
- Pencil
- Scissors
- Brad fastener
- Crayons or markers



What you do:

1. Place the bowls and cups upside down, each on a different color of paper. Trace around the circles and cut them out.
2. With a pencil, pierce a small hole atop each circle. Layer circles on each other from largest to smallest, aligning the holes. Insert the brad through all layers.
3. Starting in the center, label the circles *my house*, *my city*, *my state*, *my country*, *the world*. Draw a picture on each one.
4. Pray, asking Jesus how you can spread his message.

PUZZLE



A lasting promise

Before ascending into heaven, Jesus speaks a final promise to the disciples.

Directions: Use the picture clues to find the letters. Then write that word below to complete Acts 1:8, NIV.

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

Find a letter that's in  but not in . _____

"But you will receive _____ when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

ACTS 1:8, NIV

Answers: power

The Communicator
is published monthly by

St. Paul's Lutheran Church
112 E. Wayne Street
Maumee, Ohio 43537

Ph: 419-893-0205
Fx: 419-893-0876

Web Site: www.stpaulslive.com

In the event of an emergency
and it's after hours, you may reach Pastor
Paul at **419-382-5747**.

Office Hours:
Mon-Fri: 8:00 am-noon & 1:00-4:30 pm

Pastoral Staff:

Rev. Dr. Timothy J. Sternberg
Rev. Paul S. Doerfler

Sunday Schedule:

8:30 am Traditional Service (drive-in &
in-Sanctuary)
10:30 am Modern Service (drive-in &
in-Sanctuary)

Everyone is welcome!

Trustees:

Sue Schad—President
Russ Leggett—Vice President
Barb Corrello—Treasurer
Adam Wagner— Secretary

COMMUNICATOR
DEADLINE

As a reminder, the deadline for the
Communicator is the 15th of the
month at 8:00 am. IF the 15th is on a
weekend, the deadline is the following
Monday at 8:00 am.

Submissions for repeated printing
must be earmarked with the specific
publication dates.

Editor reserves the right to edit for
content and space. Thank you so much
for meeting the deadline!

A prayer for Memorial Day

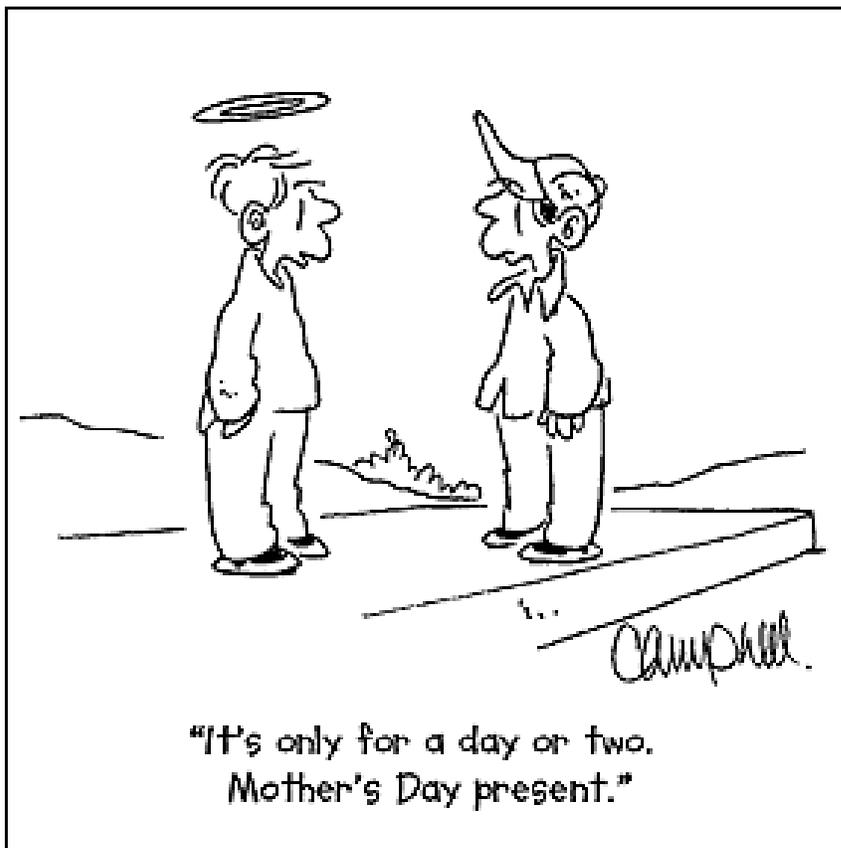
We remember, O Lord, all those people throughout the years who have made the supreme sacrifice for our country, for liberty, for us. Whenever we breathe the air of freedom or claim the right to justice or



enjoy the privilege of worship, fill us with gratitude for those who selflessly gave the last full measure of devotion — their very lives — for our benefit.

May these brave men and women now know the joy of eternity and your presence. And may the families of the fallen receive comfort and peace amid their grief. Help us as we minister to their needs. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*



Who We Are

We believe that God is willing and able to do more than we can ask, think or imagine. We believe that He has positioned us to fulfill our calling to reach out into Maumee, Toledo, and the nations with His love.

We are a Bible-based, caring church family that desires to grow in Christian faith. As a congregation, our most earnest desire, programming and efforts are focused toward reaching out to the world with the great news of salvation found in Jesus Christ. And we would like to reach out to you too.

If you do not have a church home, and if you are searching for a warm, welcoming place to learn, grow, and invest your time and talents, please consider worshipping with us.

Mission & Vision

ST. PAUL'S MISSION:

In response to Christ's great commission to share the Gospel with the whole world, St. Paul's Lutheran Church is called to make disciples by connecting the unconnected to Jesus Christ and together growing in full devotion to Him.

ST. PAUL'S VISION:

Do L.I.F.E: Love. Inspire. Forgive. Encourage. L.I.F.E: The building blocks of authentic, Christ-centered community.

Prepared Especially For:

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Maumee, Ohio 43537

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