



## Annual Meeting Summary

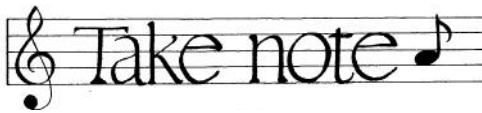
The Annual Meeting of the congregation was held on November 17, 2019. This year the Fellowship Committee provided a wide variety of pasta dishes, salad, and deserts. The delicious meal and joyful table fellowship helped to set the tone for the meeting. The Fellowship hall lighting allowed for the main section to be darkened for viewing the power point presentations while allowing for light on the buffet tables and play area for the children. The meeting was opened with prayer by Pastor Reep. Trisan Ericson, Council President, presented the agenda, presided over the elections and shared examples of the scope of ministry carried out by St. Paul's. Peter O'Connor, Treasurer, presented the proposed 2020 ministry budget, responded to questions, and presented a power point graphing income and expense. He also led the discussion on moving from the construction interest only loan toward securing a 20 year mortgage. The 2020 budget was approved as presented. Also approved was the decision to move forward with a mortgage utilizing monies from the Wilmington Trust Investment portfolio to get us to a \$2,250,000 mortgage amount. Written reports were submitted by all of the staff and committee chairs. Copies of the 2019 Bulletin of Reports are available in the Good Shepherd Gathering Space.



### Building Use Policy

With the renovation complete we find ourselves receiving many and varied requests for the use of our facilities. This precipitated the need for a new policy for utilization of the building. The Congregation Council appointed a sub-committee to draft a Building Use Policy. The group utilized a model provided by the ELCA. Sections were added to reflect particulars of St. Paul's and that it was in compliance with our insurance carrier. The Property Committee then reviewed it and sent it back to Council for final approval. Soon it will be the document that will be utilized for all requests for use of the building. This will be something new for us as

in the past members wanting to utilize the building would simply ask the Pastor or Secretary. Please know that the form is not overly complex and that it is an important step in our living into a new facility.



**The Chancel Choir** has Thursday night rehearsals **beginning at 7:30 p.m.** in the Music Room. Anyone is invited to sing in the choir. Most of the choir members do read music but that is not mandatory. A love of singing and making music for the Lord is the heart and soul of the choir.

**The Handbell Choir** has Thursday night rehearsals **at 6:30 p.m.** There are still some openings available for anyone wishing to join the ensemble. For additional information contact Emily Reep.

**Clean-up Christmas Decorations**—Following the celebration of the Baptism of Our Lord, January 12, we will have Second Sunday Fellowship and then take down the trees, wreaths, garlands and nativity figures. Please plan to stay and help. Thank you, Kristine Gross and the Worship and Arts Committee



# LET US KNOW

Please remember to notify Pastor Reep of any life events (births, illness, deaths, etc.,) that you would like him to be aware of directly or through the office.



**Deadline for the February newsletter is January 15th**

## Faith Formation Opportunities

### Sunday Mornings from 9:15-10:15 AM

**Infants through grade 4** will be learning stories about the early life of Jesus during January. The new year is a great time to bring your children. Come and stay with them as they learn, gather in the Good Shepherd Gathering Space for coffee or join an adult class. All are welcome.

**Grades 5-7** Meeting in the Youth Room with Miss Kelly, children will be discussing the Lord's Prayer and God's Grace.

**Adults** *Esther*—What makes a hero? Ask the question and you may find a surprising nonchalance; "I'm sure other people would have done exactly the same thing." They often say "I was just in the right place at the right time." People become heroes because they take quick action at that "right time" while others stand watching in horror. The true hero recognizes the crisis and moves to meet it. This kind of courage made Esther great—worthy of a book in the Bible. Please join us on Sunday morning at 9:15 a.m. in Christ Hall. We will be reading and discussing: Queen Esther, world events, and heroes.

**Daily Devotional Readings** The new quarterly devotional book called *Christ In Our Home* is available at all entrances to the church. This devotional has a bible reading, thoughts and prayer for each day. Are you more of an electronic reader? Try *God Pause* from Luther Seminary in St. Paul's Minnesota. Sign up and you will receive a daily email with a scripture reading, reflection and prayer. To sign up, click this link or type it into your computer search bar <https://www.luthersem.edu/godpause/default.aspx>

### Online Devotions Group

Patty Snyder, Kathleen Lemke and Kathryn Wicker have been doing an online devotion together since Lent and we would love to have you join us. Currently we are using the Christ in our Home booklet that we get at church, but at the start of Advent we are going to read and use as our devotional: Blue Christmas: Devotions of Light in a Season of Darkness by Todd Outcalt. I bought my copy on Amazon Smiles (with my purchase supporting the church) or you can talk to Patty Snyder about where to get it locally. If you want to join us just email [kathrynwicker@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynwicker@gmail.com) and I'll add you to our google document! It is that easy! And if you miss a day we are good with that because we are all busy!

### Wednesday Bible Study at 10:30 AM

Wednesday morning Bible study meets at 10:30 AM in Christ Hall. The study delves deeply into the readings for the up-coming Sunday assembly. Currently we will be focusing on the gospel of Matthew.

## Create Music and Art at St. Paul's

### Tuesday Evening Program

The Tuesday Evening program for our children continues on Tuesdays at 6:00 PM. The arts component of the program is led by Kelly Moore-Spencer and the music component is led by Emily Reep.

The sessions break out as follows:

#### PreK – Grade 1

6:00 – 6:30 PM Music Room, Main Level

6:30 -7:00 PM Art/Youth Room, Upper Level

#### Grades 2 – 6

6:00 – 6:30 PM Art/Youth Room, Upper Level

6:30 -7:15 PM (Handbells, drums, & songs) Music Room, Main Level

This year the Creative Art part for both groups will be designed around STORYTELLING:

## 2020 Calendar Sale

*Italian Holiday* Makes a great New Year's Gift!

There is still time to get copies of the 2020 Calendar and help the Food Pantry and Preschool. These newly renovated spaces make the hunger ministry better meet the needs of clients through accessibility, and improved refrigeration for fresh produce, and the learning ministry safer, friendlier, and more convenient for students. All proceeds are donated to the Capital Campaign *Building in Faith for Future Generations*.



### Social Ministry Seeking Gently Used Coats

Jackson Elementary School needs coats for the students. This time of year, as the weather begins to change, students often do not have coats. Gently worn clean coats can be donated (students ages are from Kindergarten through Eighth Grade) and placed in the specially marked box. Thank you, Patsy Griffin, for the Committee



Thank you to everyone who helped bake and staff the Cookie Walk and to all those who bought the delicious cookies! We were able to fund an amazing \$2222.00 for medical scholarships for Ansajiye Njinga to complete her Associate's Degree. Thank you all for helping to support our Mpuguso Ministry.



The children at St. Paul's Lutheran preschool spent much of December getting ready for Christmas. Students have been helping their teachers decorate for the holiday; if you have visited the third level and entered a classroom you may have noticed various Christmas trees and colorful Nativity scenes. The children have also been collecting hats and mittens for donation to the church food pantry. Through creating, singing, and giving, the children continue to learn about God's love and being a good neighbor during this holiday season.



Santa and his #1 elf, Elfie, visited the Pre-school! The kids thought long and hard about what they going to ask Santa for!

## Council Highlights

The regular meeting of the Congregation Council was held at the home of Tristan Ericson, President, on December 9, 2019. The meeting was preceded by a dinner at 6:00 PM. The meeting commenced following the meal.

Those in attendance were: Tony Culp, Tristan Ericson, Dan Garber, Peter O'Connor, Pastor Stan Reep, Denise Rider, Harold Sargeant, Kem Vaught, newly elected Ellen Doughty, and special guest, Bishop James Dunlop.

Excused from the meeting were: Nancy Bennett, Richard Griffin, Kathleen Lemke, Jeff Riese, Patty Snyder, Kathryn Wicker, and Tim Yakim.

President Ericson called the meeting to order and provided the opening prayer and devotional reflection. He utilized St. Paul's understanding of the church as the body of Christ as he gave thought to the way the St. Paul's congregation functions. He shared his own observation as to how each member of the body is important; each committee and group within the congregation supporting the whole. He asked the council to complete the blank in the following statement. "It is a \_\_\_\_\_ time at St. Paul's right now. Council members provided a variety of response: exciting, joyous, new, refreshing, challenging, tricky, and good. Conversation ensued.

The agenda was approved as presented.

The minutes from the November meeting were reviewed and approved.

Old Business included the building use policy. Harold provided up-dates on some minor changes to the use form in order to provide the office and staff with clearer information and expectation. It was added that we need to plan and budget for extra staff hours when called for based on the organization utilizing the facility. Harold also provided from the Sabbatical Committee a time line of key events and information needing to be completed and communicated as we move toward the summer of 2021 when plans for Pastor Reep to be away from the parish on sabbatical.

The president reported on the three priorities from the half year retreat: financial outlook, engaging new members and families to St. Paul's, and committee structure. He also gathered feedback from the annual meeting held in November. The overall consensus was that it was a very positive experience for the participants. The power point, the energy regarding ministry and the tone were all beneficial. We would like to try and attract more of our newer members and their families to participate. The suggestion to send out a follow up card about the action taken, tone of the meeting and the importance of taking part in our mission was offered.

New business began with the election of officers. Tristan Ericson, President and Kathryn Wicker, Secretary were nominated and approved. Ellen Doughty was nominated and approved as Vice-President. The Treasurer position will continue with Peter O'Connor until we have more time to consider a workable plan in January. This was moved and approved.

Bishop Dunlop brought greetings from our Synod and announced his desire to be with us was to say thank you for our faithful and ongoing Mission Support. He then shared the importance of our work and mission together; raising up new leaders, providing resources and assistance to congregations, working to redevelop congregations, establishing new worshiping communities, support of our church camps, and the sustaining work of our companion synod and global partners.

The Pastor's written report was provided.

Adjournment followed with closing prayer given by Tony Culp.

Respectfully submitted,

Pastor Reep, Acting secretary



## Epiphany Breakfast

On Sunday January 5 beginning at 9:15 AM in Christ Hall breakfast will be served in conjunction with an intergenerational Epiphany event. Come join in the fun! As we remember the Wiseman bringing gifts to the infant Jesus we are asking you to bring a Word Search or comic book for students at Jackson Elementary School grades K-8. Also bring a "white elephant" gift to add to the fun! Wrap up anything that you do not want or something inexpensive to add to the silliness and the fun of our celebration event. If you can help with the breakfast please contact Tim Yakim.



**Food Pantry—January**  
**Items needed:** Soup, jelly, rice, canned vegetables (carrots, beets, Lima beans), canned meats, mashed potatoes mix and stuffing mix.

We need volunteers to sub on Tuesdays mornings to cover for those on vacations. Please contact Teresa Rohrbaugh if you are able to help in this way. Plastic Bags are always needed. Money donations are gratefully accepted. Please place cash or check in a “special” envelope marked “Pantry”.

We collected 24 turkeys this year for Thanksgiving!



**In Grateful Appreciation**  
Many thanks to those who gave of their time and talent to

make our Christmas liturgies beautiful, meaningful, prayerful, and joyous! The organ and bells, the voices soaring in the beautiful decorated church nave, the instrumentalist, the decorators, the ushers, lectors, deacons and assisting ministers.

Thank you.

**Spiritual Care Volunteers Needed**—Deacon Ellen Doughty is the the full-time staff Chaplain for UPMC Memorial in York, PA. She is always in the process of recruiting, training and scheduling spiritual care volunteers to assist with visits and cover on call times at UPMC Memorial. The Chaplain’s Office provides 24/7 emergency on call which is done from home. Visits are done in house and all Spiritual Care Volunteers are trained. You do not have to have a degree in ministry to do visits or to be on call, just the willingness and desire to walk alongside someone in their time of illness or distress. There are many free training opportunities for Spiritual Care Volunteers.

Applications can be done via paper or online at <https://www.pinnaclehealth.org/giving-back/volunteer/spiritual-care-volunteer-application/> . The online application does not have the reference forms attached so they will need to be printed or they will be sent via email once the application is received. The forms are included in the application above.

If you or someone you know are interested in becoming a Spiritual Care Volunteer and would like to speak with Deacon Ellen about this, you may call her at 717-815-2386 M-F during the day. You may also send her an email at [doughtyed@upmc.edu](mailto:doughtyed@upmc.edu). Thank you!

### **Volunteers needed for Kindergarten Lunch at Jackson Elementary**

Jackson Elementary is looking for volunteers who could give a half hour of their time to help during Kindergarten lunch from 11:50 a.m. to 12:20 p.m. to assist students through the food line, help students open milk, condiment packs, etc., monitor traffic in/out of bathroom, and engage with students in conversation. If anyone is interested in helping, please contact Patsy Griffin. All volunteers will need to have clearances.



### **2020 Flower Chart**

The 2020 flower chart is posted on the Springettsbury vestibule bulletin board. The cost of the flowers is \$30 per vase. You are welcome to sign up to provide one or both vases. After you have signed up, simply make a check payable to St. Paul's Lutheran Church and mark it altar flowers. This is a great way to honor someone, celebrate a milestone in life, or remember a loved one. The flowers may be taken home with you at the conclusion of the 10:30 AM liturgy or you may have them given to someone who is sick, shut it, or hospitalized. If you wish, you can contact the office to reserve a date, and to provide us with all of the correct information for inclusion in the Sunday bulletin. In advance, thank you.



## 2020 Church Offering Envelopes

Church offering envelopes are prepared and are available in the narthex. Please make sure that you pick your envelopes as the new year has begun. If you can't get to the church and would like them to be delivered or mailed to you, simply notify the church office. This is also a great time to consider having your offering sent directly to the church through the many services provided by local banks. Many will permit you to have a check automatically sent from your account weekly or monthly to the church.



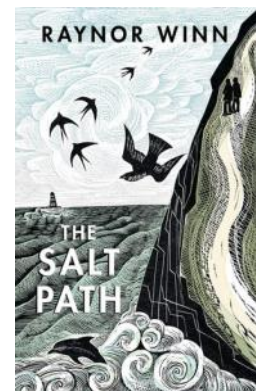
### God's Global Barnyard 2019-20



Yes, the barn animals are stirring.....awaiting new homes with farmers in our country and around the world. These goats, pigs, chickens, and honeybees will help provide a sustainable living for families eager to support themselves. All we have to do is find the *quarter tube* in Good Shepherd Hall where our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> grade Sunday schoolers have set up the God's Global Barnyard center, and deposit your quarters. You also may make contributions in other forms clearly designated. In addition, your generous Advent offerings will be given to this meaningful ministry. A big thank you to our 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> graders for spearheading this project.

**Garden of Memory-** On November 1, 2009 we celebrated the completion of the columbarium on the corner of our property at S. George Street and Springettsbury Avenue, making an improvement to both the neighborhood and our beautiful grounds. Responsible stewardship of the creation God gave us grows, making cremation a popular choice for the "end of life" decisions. It is not or ever will be our intent to make a profit from this service. The intent is to offer an affordable and dignified alternative to current members, former members, and faithful friends. As the pricing was in 2009, it remains the same today, ranging from \$250 to \$1500. If you have spiritual concerns regarding cremation Pastor Reep (717-843-8155) will personally meet with you to answer your questions. Should you want to pursue the details of this service, we have a packet of information that will be provided to you by calling the church office to pick up or have it sent (717-843-8155). The current membership of the Columbarium committee is Tom Ruth, Pastor Reep, Bob Little, Ron Sturges and Larry Gross, all of whom will be glad to answer your questions and/or help you with the documentation should your choice be cremation and internment in our Garden of Memory.

St. Paul's book club will next meet Wednesday, January 15, 2020, at noon. The book selected by one of the members of the book club is *The Salt Path*, by Raynor Winn. A true story, it is a biography of a couple making a remarkable journey by foot. (There are only a few copies in the library so make your hold now or find another way to obtain a copy.) All are welcome to bring a sandwich and join the discussion.



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**STAFF**

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Preschool Director	Deb Becker	<a href="mailto:director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com">director@stpaulspreschoolyork.com</a>



**Worship Schedule**

Sunday Holy Eucharist  
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.  
Education 9:15 a.m.