



## *From the Pastor's Desk*

I am writing this the week before Holy Week to be printed and sent for folks to read after Easter. I am writing about what is yet to come, about the future, about what we have not yet seen. I think this is the work of a pastor – always looking ahead, dreaming about what is next, planning for the future. We have completed the Rise Up campaign... so what's next?

I have already begun training for the next phase called Tune In. Peggy Hahn, the Executive Director of LEAD (the organization that will work with us in the Tune In process), writes, "The Tune In Process is designed to raise the awareness of those who are listening in order to listen more like God. We begin listening to connect what the Holy Spirit is doing in us with what the Holy Spirit is doing in others. This sacred listening is more like prayerful discernment than a dinner conversation. Deep listening means tuning in to God more clearly, with a firm belief that God is working in others just as surely as God is working in our own lives. The purpose of this kind of listening is to lead the congregation into new partnerships, participating in God's mission in new ways. The Tune In Process includes an expectation that something new will be discovered. We can't predict this 'new' thing at the beginning of the journey. In fact, the best way to mess up the process is to enter into it with a specific outcome in mind!"

I'm very excited about this process and where the Holy Spirit will call us into mission with our neighbors. This is a process and it won't happen overnight. I anticipate it will take us about a year to get through all the listening and develop a plan for us to implement.

We begin with a listening team. A Facilitator who is skilled at and enjoys pulling people together to move in the same direction. A Communicator who has an ear for details and a knack for

conjuring feelings in those they are speaking with. A Sharer who is the one at a party listening to three conversations at once and quickly spotting the emergent theme. A Connector who knows what everyone needs and has to offer. A Curator who has a practiced eye to see quality, even in chaos, and can articulate what is needed to achieve it. And a Builder who brings order and structure wherever they go.

I am looking and listening for people to join this listening team. We will begin with Bible study and prayer to listen for God's voice then we will listen to God in the congregation and finally to God in our neighborhood. Won't YOU prayerfully consider joining this listening team?  
Grace and peace,

*Pastor Bonnie*



### **A Note from the Treasurer**

Bills and payroll are scheduled to be paid April 12<sup>th</sup> and April 26<sup>th</sup>. Please submit paperwork at least one day prior to these dates in order for checks to be issued.

### **Church Council**

Julie Lusk, Council President  
Jim Weston, President Elect  
Cathy Stuewer, Council Secretary  
Diane Merkau, Treasurer  
Sue Atfield, Financial Secretary  
Paige Koglin, Asst. Financial Secretary  
Don Strauss, Financial Representative  
Laurie Morris, Evangelism Rep  
Amy Lutz, Parish Education Rep & Chair  
Chris Matts, Properties Rep & Chair  
Kay Schnur, Stewardship Rep  
Cindy Duncan & Amy Fabick, Worship Reps  
Alex Stuewer, Youth Representative  
Rich Cochrill, Youth Team Chair

# Summer of Service Opportunities Needed

Summer of Service is being sponsored by the Youth Team. It will be an opportunity for intergenerational service for adults and youth of all ages instead of a traditional Vacation Bible School. Summer of Service is a challenge to the entire congregation in which families or small teams will get together and serve/volunteer a minimum of once a month during June, July and August. We need your help! We are compiling a list of possible summer service opportunities. There will be a sheet in the narthex to list agencies in need of volunteers, service opportunities at church, and individuals in need of assistance. Please include the name of the agency, a brief description of service activity and contact information OR a description of a need at the church and the person to contact OR the name of an individual in need of assistance, a brief description of the tasks needed and contact information.



**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Food Truck at St. Paul**  
**May 19<sup>th</sup> at 11 a.m.**

Workers need to be at the church at 10 a.m.  
Watch for a signup sheet!

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## KROGER COMMUNITY REWARDS

We have GREAT news to share with all our Community Rewards charities, once again this year we will be suspending the re-enrollment process. This means members will NOT need to re-enroll their Kroger Plus card to continue to earn for the charity they have chosen. As always new members will be able to join the program at any time.

## 1) Kroger Community Rewards

**Program.** St. Paul will receive rewards from your purchases at Kroger. To use the rewards program you can register online at [krogercommunityrewards.com](http://krogercommunityrewards.com). All **current participants** in the Kroger Community Rewards Program **do not** need to re-enroll this year in order to earn funds for St. Paul. The rewards program runs from May 2017 to May 2018. Our NPO number is 90228. **Registration is online only.** Last quarter St. Paul earned \$113.78 in rewards.

**2) Newsletter:** The newsletter deadline for the May Ray is Sunday, April 15, 2018. Articles may be submitted via e-mail ([stpaulww@comcast.net](mailto:stpaulww@comcast.net)), on a disk (IBM Format) or in writing.

**4)** Please make sure that if you need to borrow something from the church that you check the book and make sure no one else has reserved that item. If it is available, it needs to be signed out with the church office. I will leave the rental book on top of the filing cabinet in the church office so people know where it is.

**WHEN DROPPING ITEMS OFF IN THE CHURCH OFFICE: PLEASE** leave a note indicating for whom the items are intended. Thank you!

*Church Secretary Hours:*  
*Monday – Friday 9am to 1 pm*

Diane,  
Church  
Secretary



## CHURCH COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS March 12, 2018

The minutes of our monthly Council meetings, along with individual Committee reports, are posted on the bulletin board outside the Noah room and we encourage you to take a moment or two to read them to keep informed on what is taking place throughout our church.

A decision has been made for our congregation to proceed with the Tune In process using a LEAD coach. Thrivent Choice monies will be used to pay for this program. We are excited about this opportunity and invite you to join with Council and the LEAD team as we look to our future while listening to God, our congregation and our neighborhood!

The Evangelism team thanks us for praying for their mission. They are working on a vision statement and invite you to share your ideas about what's on your mind and heart with them. Stewardship would like to encourage those of you who currently share your time and talents to invite a friend to do it with you. Help them learn the task and feel they are more a part of our church. Worship & Music had the keyboard repaired and Amy is excited to be able to use it for recording once again as well. We will be holding one service from Memorial Day through Labor Day once again this summer. What a wonderful opportunity for ALL of us to be together.

Pastor Bonnie will be sharing a portion of her Holy Land slide show on the Blue Water Healthy Living Magazine's website with a link to our church's website. Another great opportunity to share the amazing things that are happening at St. Paul!!



There will be a garden planning meeting April 16 at 7 pm at the church. Everyone who is interested is welcome to attend.

## STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

Your Stewardship Committee thanks you again for your gifts of pants, underwear, socks, gloves and mittens for Michigamme and Indian Woods Elementary Schools! They were SO appreciative of what they received! Thanks to you for helping our local community! And being good neighbors!

Secondly, we thank those who volunteered for the time and talent tasks! You all are so generous! We would like to encourage you to ask others, who might not feel comfortable volunteering themselves, to help you as you perform the tasks. Many hands make light work, but also, make people feel more a part of the church.

We are currently in the planning stages for our own church stewardship drive in the fall. Stewardship describes how a follower of Jesus Christ faithfully travels through this life. We are stewards every day! We hope to plan a program that will help you grow in your understanding of biblical stewardship. Something to look forward to!

## Rise Up!

Thank you to everyone for helping make our Rise Up campaign a tremendous success! Our goal was to raise \$9500 and we more than doubled that amount. Our final total was \$22,774. What a commitment to our future!

The synod has already begun training with the first workshop on legal issues held March 10th. We had five from our congregation attend this workshop and learned valuable information on current issues for churches.

Future training will help us learn more ways to serve through stewardship workshops and also ways to expand our evangelism. This is exciting and I can't wait to see how we will grow, learn and share. Our Tune In process will begin in the next few months and help us find what are the needs of our immediate community. We will assess our gifts and how to use them to impact our community.

It was a pleasure and a gift to me to lead this campaign and I know St. Paul will Rise Up! and continue to spread the Good News.

Yours in Christ,

Margaret Hanselman

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## Join us for a Movie Night Sponsored by the Youth Team

The youth team will host a movie night on Saturday, May 5 at 6:00pm. The movie shown will be *All Saints* and a pot-luck nacho bar will be available in honor of Cinco de Mayo. Jason Reim will facilitate a faith based discussion about the movie at the end of the event. Please sign up in the narthex for the movie and to bring an item for the nacho bar.

*All Saints* is based on the inspiring true story of a salesman-turned-pastor, the tiny church he was ordered to shut down, and a group of refugees from Southeast Asia. Together, they risked everything to plant seeds for a future that might just save them all.

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Dear St. Paul Church Congregation,



Thank you so much for your generous donations in our bake sale. We really appreciate it. We are so thankful and are very excited to go to confirmation camp.

Brooke, Lucy & Amelia

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***SAVE THE DATE***

*October 5-6 Women's Retreat*

