

The Visitor

November 2011

St. Paul United Church of Christ

Mission: 1

11.1.11 - 11.11.11
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MISSION: 1 is a life giving shared mission project initiated by The United Church of Christ from November 1—11, to feed the hungry and confront food-related injustice.

St. Paul UCC Missions Team asks that our congregation participate in Mission 1 by collecting specific food items to create Thanksgiving baskets for 11 families in the surrounding area. Each box will be valued at approximately \$60, and you can help the Mission 1 effort by donating the needed food items for the boxes, or Manna gift cards to area grocers for the purchase of frozen turkeys and other perishable vegetable items. You can bring your items to the church at any time between Sunday, November 1—Sunday, November 13. Manna card purchases are due to Marion Miller no later than Sunday, November 6.

A list of needed items for the Thanksgiving basket project is located on page 5 of *The Visitor* for your convenience at the grocery store. Manna forms are located in the narthex. To help, or for more information, please call Tammy Knutson, Missions Chairperson, at 847-637-6750.

every day
is **thanks** giving

Congregational Meeting



The Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on Sunday, November 13, immediately following the morning worship service.

Information about the FY 2012 budget, and the leadership roster for the upcoming year will be discussed and presented for congregational approval. For more information please call Kirby Drayer, Council President, at 847-776-7598.

A Note from Pastor Jana

Every year as the holiday of Thanksgiving approaches, I begin to think about these words of Abraham Lincoln in his proclamation of October 3, 1863:

“...I do therefore invite my fellow citizens in every part of the United States, and also those who are at sea and those who are sojourning in foreign lands, to set apart and observe the last Thursday of November next, as a day of Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens. And I recommend to them that while offering up the ascriptions justly due to Him for such singular deliverances and blessings, they do also, with humble penitence for our national perverseness and disobedience, commend to his tender care all those who have become widows, orphans, mourners or sufferers in the lamentable civil strife in which we are unavoidably engaged, and fervently implore the interposition of the Almighty Hand to heal the wounds of the nation and to restore it as soon as may be consistent with the Divine purposes to the full enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and Union.”

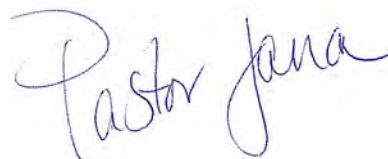
Many folks do not realize that Lincoln, not our beloved pilgrims, was the one who set the precedent for the holiday as we celebrate it each November. Nor do folks realize that Lincoln chose to establish Thanksgiving as a formal day of giving praise to God after it was suggested to him by a prominent magazine editor of the time who wanted the day to be “a fixed day of thanksgiving for the union.” The ironic thing is that the union was not *fixed* at this time in our history. It was as broken as it ever could have been.

A careful reading of the full text would show you that Lincoln was well aware that the union would not be fixed through an imposed day of national thanksgiving. However, I think the thing that impresses me the most about Lincoln’s decision to celebrate this national day of thanksgiving is this: his actions are motivated by *faith in the steadfast power of God’s abundance*. In the midst of the nation’s darkest time, Lincoln acknowledged that nothing, not even war and strife, has more power than God’s love for us.

As disciples of Christ, we are called to daily live these sentiments...understanding that true restoration begins with remembering that it is God from whom all our blessings flow. We are living a true state of thanksgiving only when we offer praise to God in the same breath in which we are uttering our confessions to God. Restoration/penitence; thanksgiving/confession – they are all wrapped together in the heart of the disciple.

May God bless you this Thanksgiving season with the enjoyment of peace, harmony, tranquility and union...

Grace and Peace -



Missions

Missions

You can help Spread The Warmth! Of God's love this fall and winter season by helping the Missions Team collect coats, hats, mittens, gloves and scarves to be given to children in need at Sunnyhill School in Carpentersville. The school is a part of the Barrington area School District.



Spread The Warmth!

The coat collection was announced in worship on Sunday, October 23, and already there are several coats in the collection box locate in Fellowship Hall. Coats can be new or gently used, and can be sizes ranging from child to adult. A member of the Missions Team will be taking the first collection of coats to Sunnyhill prior to Thanksgiving.

Scarves, mittens, gloves and hats can be brought now, or when the annual Mitten Tree is placed in Memorial Hall. The tree will be up On Sunday, November 27.

For more information or to help with Spread The Warmth! please call Tammy Knutson, Missions Chairperson at 847-637-6750.



CROPWALK

Crop Walk 2011

Thanks to the walkers and sponsors who participated in the October 16 Barrington Area CROP Hunger Walk. Your concern for those in need is greatly appreciated. Collection totals will be announced in the near future.

Lisa Blakeslee
St. Paul CROP Committee

Toy Collection



This year the annual Christmas gift program at St. Paul will be to collect toys of all types. This replaces the previous program of selecting a child's name and then purchasing items on the list for that child. This year's collection of individual toys will help to reach a greater number of children with holiday cheer!

Please bring new toys to church beginning on Sunday, November 27. The toys will then be donated to a local toy distribution charity in mid-December.

Upcoming Advent Events



Hanging of the Greens

The annual Hanging of the Greens day to decorate for the Advent Season will be held on Saturday, November 26, at 9 AM. Please meet in the sanctuary to help make the church look its festive best! For more information please call Marty Gregory, Church Sexton, at 847-381-4283.



Advent Season begins in worship on Sunday, November 27, with the Advent Sermon series, *BEHOLD!* exploring the expectancy, preparation, faith and promise the Advent season brings. Each week worshippers will be invited to behold and see the glory of God's kingdom of hope, peace, joy and love.



Advent Candle Lighting

During worship persons are needed to help with the Advent candle lighting each week. This involves the lighting of the candle for the week and a short reading. Sign-up for candle lighting is located on the bulleting board in Memorial Hall.



Advent Devotional

The Annual Advent Devotional Booklet written by members and friends of St. Paul will be available on Sunday, November 27 during worship.

Thank you to Terry Loncaric for organizing the project for this year!

Special Worship Dates in the Holiday Season

Sunday, December 18

A Day of Love—9:15 AM Bell Concert
Chancel Choir also performing
Advent Potluck Breakfast

Saturday, December 24

Christmas Eve Family Service—5:30 PM
Traditional—10:30 PM

Sunday, December 25

Christmas Day—9:30 to 10 AM
A shortened service of singing and hearing
the Christmas story.

Sunday, January 1

New Year's Day—9:30 to 10 AM
A shortened service of signing and hearing
the story of hope.

MISSION 1:

Non-Perishable Food Items for the baskets:

\$25 gift card for turkey
Flour
Sugar
Pumpkin pie mix – Margo will purchase these
Evaporated milk 12 oz. can
Jiffy pie crust mix (add water only version)
Cranberry sauce canned
Shortening
Stuffing/Dressing box (Stovetop)
Green beans canned
Corn canned
Crispy French onions (French's)
Low sodium mushroom soup canned (Healthy Request)
Sweet potatoes canned
Mixed vegetables canned
Pie tin
Instant potatoes

Last Minute Items to be purchased with donated money for the basket:

Eggs
Rolls
Potatoes

Advent Season Poinsettia Order

The time has come to sponsor poinsettias for the altar during Advent Season. Please indicate which size poinsettia and the number of plants you wish to sponsor. Please return form and payment to the offering plate or office by November 20.



Order Your Poinsettias

I would like to order:

_____ \$10 ea. 4-5 Flowers per Plant

_____ \$20 ea. 9+ Flowers per Plant

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

In recognition of: _____

Name: _____

Phone: _____



Focused on Fundraising

START YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY!

Manna Cards are perfect for all those jobs you do every week like grocery shopping, home repairs, and last minute meals away from home! More than just gift cards, these cards work just like cash AND the church receives a percentage of the sale.

New Merchants: Target, Burlington Coat Factory, Cabela's, DSW, Gordman's, IHOP, Pier 1 Imports, REI, Ross.

Order forms are in the Narthex or call the church office at 847-381-0460. For a complete listing of all Manna card providers and their up-to-date discounts (including specials) you can go to www.mannagroup.net. Orders are due Sunday, November 6.



Check out the selection of Halloween and Thanksgiving books on the Library rack in Memorial Hall. Book loan is two weeks; so please bring your books back for others to enjoy.

Beginning on Sunday, November 27, the rack will be stocked with all of our Christmas books! If you have questions or suggestions, please talk to Kim Roessler, 847-526-7503.

CAMP CHRISTMAS 2011



Children's Nativity

Camp Christmas 2011 is on its way! This wonderful day of learning and fun for kids ages 4 yrs– 5th grade will be held on Saturday, December 10, 9 AM–Noon.

During camp the kids will take a journey to the ancient city of Jesus' birth to learn about some of the things that may have been happening in the town. We will make cookies, create lots of crafts, hear the Nativity story and play all kinds of great games!

Registration forms are available in the Narthex and Memorial Hall. Fee for the day is \$25 per child; \$45 family maximum. Registration is limited so you will want to get your kids and grandkids registered early!

To help with Camp Christmas please call Karen Harding at or Pastor Jana at 847-381-0460.



There's something for you...

Women's Breakfast Bunch will meet for a delicious breakfast on Saturday, November 12, at 9 AM, at the home of Marion Miller.



All women of St. Paul and their friends are invited and encouraged to attend. For more information please call Marion Miller at 381-1647.

Women's Fellowship will meet on Thursday, November 3 at noon, for a light luncheon to honor Dorothy Lange in Memorial Hall at noon. For more information please call Marion Miller at 847-381-1647.

MEN'S RETREAT



The Annual Men's Retreat with St. Matthews UCC and Yorkville UCC is Friday, November 11 - Sunday, November 13, at Tower Hill Camp in MI. Cost is \$120 per person.

If you have questions, please call Pete Ducharme 847-526-0748.



Theater Outings

A trip to see "White Christmas" at Marriott's Lincolnshire Theatre is scheduled by our 'Socially Speaking' Group on Sunday November 27th, 5:00 p.m. Tickets cost \$38 and must be reserved with Ruth Gregory (847-381-4382) by Sunday, November 6.

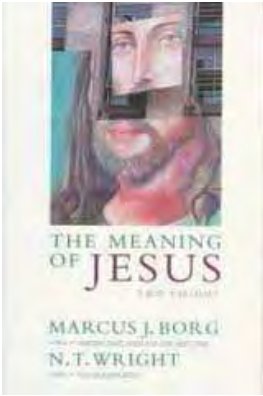


A Women's Retreat is being planned for Friday, November 11, 7 PM—Saturday, November 12, 5 PM, at the home of Lauri Ducharme in Wauconda.

The retreat will be facilitated by Pastor Jana. Cost for the retreat will be \$45 per person. For more information, please call Pastor Jana at 847-381-0460.

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Learning Lunch



On Sunday, November 20, St. Paul will hold a Learning Lunch book discussion, from 11:30 AM—2 PM, in the Library in the Christian Education wing. The book to be discussed is *The Meaning of Jesus: Two Visions* by Marcus Borg and N. T. Wright.

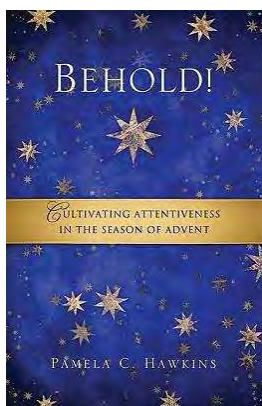
In this valuable book, historical Jesus scholars Borg and Wright engage in a lively debate on the significance of historical Jesus research for the Christian faith. Each of the seven sections of the book contains alternating chapters by the two authors.

Everyone is invited to attend this Learning Lunch. Please read the book prior to the class and come prepared to offer your thoughts about what you have read. Lunch will be ordered and can be paid for that day. Please sign-up on the bulletin board in Memorial Hall if you plan to attend.



Advent Study Opportunity

Advent is the perfect season to spend time in reflection and prayer. St. Paul will offer an Advent Study, on Sundays, November 27-December 18, at 11:30 AM.



The group will use the book *Behold! Cultivating Attentiveness in the Season of Advent*. The book draws the reader into a prayerful Advent, to be attentive to the expectancy, preparation, faith and promise that Advent holds.

Each week the participants will examine how they allow the busyness of the season to obscure the stunning story of Christ's birth through prayer, meditation, scripture and group discussion. As we learn to see anew the wonder, beauty and challenge of God-with-us we will find that we have already received gifts from the intentional practice of communing with God during the season.

Everyone is invited to attend the group. Cost is \$15 per person to cover the cost of your workbook. Sign-up on the bulletin board in Memorial Hall by November 15 to reserve your spot!



Prayer List

We are grateful for health and joy restored through God's abundant grace and powerful love. Please keep these people in your thoughts and prayers this month as they go through challenging times.

CELEBRATIONS & JOYS

High School Athletics
Cora's Baptism
Anniversaries
Weddings
Celebrating milestones with grandchild
Bachmann's 16th wedding anniversary
The Spirit moving through our congregation
CROP Walk in Barrington
Friends visiting
Birthdays
Healings & Recoveries

Family Visiting
Birthdays
Great Weather
Bells playing in worship
Family Visiting
Employment
Travel
Good test results
Sunday School

PRAYERS FOR STRENGTH AND HEALING

*Pat Gehrke
*Joan Greenwood
*Bud Goodmonson
*Jean Ward
*Barb Whistle, Sally Price's sister
*Elaine, Cathy Pezdirtz's foster daughter
*Rachel, Cathy Pezdirtz's friend
*Mike Chwalisz, Steve Chwalisz's brother
*George Pezdirtz
*Harold, Walt Hempenius' brother-in-law
*Lori Gustafson, Lynn Minton's mother
*Carolyn Roberts, friend of Sue Schick
*Patrick Anderson, friend of Kirby Drayer
*Diana's husband, friend of Pam Ransom
*Luke & Jacob, friends of Shelley Carlson
*Darrin Kennedy, Betty Henriksson's nephew
*Donna, Shelley Carlson's daughter's best friend
*Elizabeth's husband, Lauri Ducharme's friend
*Don Rubino
*Paul, Donna Wilson's husband
*Shelley Carlson's granddaughter on mission in Sierra Leone
*Johnny, friend of Mike Minton
*Edgar, friend of Bachmann's
*Catherine & John Ullrich, friends of Larry Breidenbach & Tim Michelson

*Burt Wendt
*Auli Hartikainen
*Jeannine Moore
*Cody Hamelberg
*Paul, Donna Wilson's husband
*Tom Rylatt's nephew
*Joann, Sue Schick's friend
*Conrad, Linda Palm's father
*Donna Salmon, Mary Krabbe's sister
*Gene Randle, Judy Randle's husband
*Mildred Gregory, Marty's stepmom
*Jodi, friend of Cathy Pezdirtz
*Christie Murphy, Megan Lavery's aunt
*Carol Mauro, cousin of Ruth Vorel
*Jessica Simmons, friend of Barb Neal
*Liz, friend of Lynn Minton
*Rudy, Eric Bachmann's uncle
*Linda, Kirby Drayer's friend
*Carol, friend of Jeannine Moore
*Irene & Deb, friends of Pam Ransom
*Dottie Pieskor, friend of Gregory's
*Carmen, Robb Fanning's friend

PRAYERS OF CONDOLENCES

The Family of Nancy Hohfeler, Cathy Pezdirtz's friend
The Family of Mike Vukovich, Karen Harding's friend
The Family of Jay Hennegen, Larry Breidenbach's friend
The Family of Rob Gresco, friend of Mike Vorel

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD

*World Hunger
*Southern states of US
*Orphans of African AIDS epidemic
*People in Turkey, Libya, Africa

***Please keep in your thoughts and prayers our Troops serving our country,** and especially Staff Sgt. Joseph Konieczny; Christopher Millonzi; Marcus Kuiper; Master Gunnery Sgt. Mark Hempenius, Capt. Keith Katzenberger, Steven Floyd, Shawn Killinan, Andrew Miller, Gunnery Sergeant Adam Bendrud, LCP Michael Hempenius; Lt. Col. Geoff Crawford.

Please remember our members who are home-bound. Prayers, visits, calls and cards are appreciated so much. Bill Altenburg, Lillian Ankele, Betty Bielke, Gladys Frick, Gladys Johnson, Ruth Lindburg, Wally Moeller, Henrietta Sturm, and Lillian Stangl.

St. Paul Ministry Support

Ushers & Greeters



Greeters

November 6 Heather Hernandez
 November 13 Larry Breidenbach
 November 20 Karen Kalkbrenner
 November 27 Kirk Murdock

Ushers

November 6	Marion Miller Sue Schick	Dee McCarthy Sue Robertson
November 13	Mary Krabbe OPEN	Ralph Gaulke Jason Maravelias
November 20	Tim Michelson David Holtermann	Walt Hempenius Rose Chen
November 27	Ron Hamelberg Bill Bishop	Paul Thompson Kirk Murdock

Lay Liturgists

Lay Liturgists

November 6 Fred Schick
 November 13 Kathleen Bolger
 November 20 Shelley Carlson
 November 27 Sue Schick



Coffee Fellowship

Coffee Hosts

November 6 Barb Nester & Chris Schmitt
 November 13 OPEN
 November 20 Tammy Knutson
 November 27 OPEN

Help is always needed for Sunday Servers. Please call:

Marty Gregory for ushering	847-381-4382
Ruth Gregory for greeting	847-381-4382
Sally & Dick Price for coffee hosting	847-359-1358
Jason Maravelias for lay liturgists	847-217-6236

Contributions for October 2011



October 2, 2011: \$8,005	October 9, 2011: \$2,693
October 16, 2011: \$2,292	October 23, 2011: \$6,383
Month-to-Date: \$19,373	

“God is able to provide you with every blessing so that . . . you may share abundantly in every good work.”
 — 2 Corinthians 9:8

FINANCE

FINANCE



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p><i>*EVERY WEDNESDAY</i></p> <p>6 PM Bells 7 PM Chancel Choir</p>	7 PM Disciple 4	1 7:30 PM AA	2* 5PM Staff Mtg 8 PM Praise Team	3 8:30 AM WW 12 PM Women's Fellowship	4 Office Closed	5  7:30 AM WW Turn Back Clocks 1 hour!
6 9:30 AM Worship	7 7 PM Disciple 4	8 10:30 AM Staff Mtg 7:30 PM AA	9* Noon Bible Study 8 PM Praise Team	10 8:30 AM WW 7 PM Finance Mtg	11 Office Closed Women & Men's Retreats	12 7:30 AM WW 9 AM Women's Breakfast Bunch
13 9:30 AM Worship 10:45 Congregational Meeting	14 <i>Articles due for next issue of The Visitor</i> 7 PM Disciple 4	15 10:30 AM Staff Mtg 7:30 PM AA	16* 8 PM Praise Team	17 8:30 AM WW	18 Office Closed 7 PM REEL People	19 7:30 AM WW
20 9:30 AM Worship/ Praise Sunday 11 AM Christian Ed.	21 <i>Council Reports due to the Church Office</i> No Disciple 4	22 10:30 AM Staff Mtg 7 PM Council 7:30 PM AA	23*	24  Office Closed	25 Office Closed	26 7:30 AM WW 9 AM Hanging of the Greens
27 9:30 AM 1st Advent Worship 11 AM Worship Mtg	28 7 PM Disciple 4	29 10:30 AM Staff Mtg	30*			

Our Mission: Welcoming all people and transforming all of our lives through Christ's gospel.

11	November Calendar
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Inside this issue:

www.stpauluccbarrington.org

Barrington, IL 60010

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St. Paul United Church of Christ

St. Paul UCC Visitor

Contact us anytime at:

St. Paul United Church of Christ

Tel/847-381-0460

Fax/847-381-0463

www.stpauluccbarrington.org

Rev. Jana Chwalisz—Pastor

jchwalisz@aol.com

Martin Gregory—Church Sexton

Renee Kruper—Music Director

Deb Weaver—Office Manager

Tiffany France—Youth Director

Dawn Hamelberg—Kiddee Keep

Church email

stpauluccchurch@yahoo.com

Worship/Church School

9:30 AM Every Sunday

