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Thanksgiving Dinner

You are invited to The Thanksgiving Dinner on Sunday evening November 24 beginning at 5:30.

Make your reservation by calling the church office today at 419-886-3521.

The suggested donation is \$6.00 a person.

Following the meal, Raylene Hlavaty, will portray Fanny Crosby in first person and in costume. Fanny Crosby is

known as the Queen of the Gospel Hymn and the blind poetess. She is the author of the well-known hymns: "Blessed Assurance," "Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior" and "To God Be the Glory." Born in 1820, she became blind at six weeks old. Rather than hinder, blindness gave her an ear for rhyme and an opportunity for education. She believed that God had ordained her blindness for His glory. By



the time of her death in 1915, she had written more than 8,000 hymns, many of which are still sung today.

Covenant Renewal

The heart of the ministry at St. Paul Lutheran Church is the covenant. We believe that the Holy Spirit calls each Christian to do ministry in Jesus’ name, that the Holy Spirit equips each Christian with the necessary gifts and abilities, and that—just like Jesus’ disciples—ministry is done in teams. To form a team and to do ministry, we require a covenant.

Often covenants are seen as busy paperwork. However, they are actually designed to do three important things.

First, they invite each team to spend time in prayer listening to what God is asking them to do before actually

jumping in and doing it. One of the great sins in the church is that we often tell God what we are doing and then ask God to bless it. We want every team to pray first. There is to be no "Ready. Fire. Aim."

Second, covenants are designed to be safeguards so that the team does not violate the beliefs and values of St. Paul Lutheran Church nor of God. Each team member is expected to tell the rest of the team when it’s work violates our core values and beliefs.

Third, ministry needs team work. The work is hard and challenging. One of the de-

ceptions taught by our world is that each of us is able to "do it on our own" when the truth is that God designed us to be incomplete without each other. We are meant to bring the best—and the worst—of ourselves to this ministry so that my weakness is covered by your strength and your weakness is covered by my strength.

To encourage us all to make covenant formation an integral component of our life together, **every budget request must be submitted by a team with a valid, updated covenant. The deadline to submit budget requests is November 17th.**



We are excited to offer the **Yellow Roses Bible Study** here at St. Paul Lutheran Church. The study and documentary provides young girls with a lot to think and talk about with young girls ages 13—17. **Yellow Roses** offers a chance for young girls to learn about real challenges

faced in the real world by real girls, but helps girls to achieve real hope that is only possible through Jesus Christ.

The class will be taught by Ashley DeFrancisco and Katy Lang.

The eight week study will

begin, Sunday, January 5th from 4:00 to 5:30. Space is limited to ten girls. If you would like to sign up please call Ashley at 419-496-9612.

Our eight week session will end with a tea party ceremony in honor of the girls completion of the class.

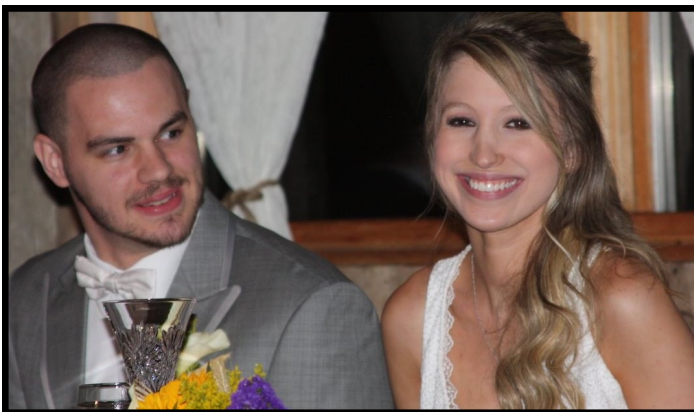
THE 2014

FLOWER CHART

is on the bulletin board in front of the Community Room.

Sign up early if you have a special date.

The cost of the flowers is \$36.00 each week.



Jj and Lauren (Brooks) Osco are all smiles at their wedding reception on Saturday evening, November 2. Lauren’s sister Lindsey has just given them a moving toast. They were married at St. Stephen Martyr Lutheran Church in Canton by Pastor Doug. (They live in Canton and all his family is from there.) This photo was taken by proud mother Lisa Brooks.

New Class for Parents of Sunday School Kids

The children of Janis and Joel Marhenke after supper each night read the story and do the activity suggested by the leaflet they have received at the end of Sunday School. In fact, if Joel and Janis happen to miss a night, the children ask, “Are we going to talk about Jesus tonight.”

Janis has found this time to be invaluable and would like

to encourage other parents to try it too. She is inviting all parents of Sunday School age children to join her on Sunday mornings—starting November 17th—to read through the stories, discuss the questions and activities for the upcoming week, and thus be familiar with the stories before looking at them with the children.

55+ Club Presents:

Amelia Island, St. Augustine & Jacksonville, FL

Enjoy a 7 days and 6 nights in sunny Florida from February 23—March 1, 2014. Visits will be made at St. Augustine, our oldest city, the fountain of youth, historic St. George Street, and Amelia Island. There will also be stops at Kingsley Plantation and a narrated cruise on the St. John’s River. If interested, please call Margie Armstrong at 740-694-0817.

THE 2014 OFFERING ENVELOPES

are available in the back of the church for you to pick up, please. They will be mailed to anyone who calls the church office and requests it.

CANTATA PRACTICE

is Wednesday night at 8:15 p.m. *Bethlehem’s Child*, “a lovely cantata,” will be performed Sunday, December 22, at both services.

Poinsettias

Every year we decorate our church chancel with the beautiful Christmas plant, the Poinsettia. You are invited to purchase a 5-7 bloom **red** poinsettia at a cost of \$10.00. Following the worship services on Christmas Eve, you may take it home to decorate your own home.

Orders must be placed by November 28.

Name of Donor _____

(As you wish to have it appear in the bulletin.)

Given in memory of / in honor of *(circle one)* _____

Number desired _____ Amount enclosed _____

There are two CD's still available from
Pastor Doug of the
WELCA Convention Worship Service.

Library News

Many interesting books, compact discs and movies are in St. Paul's library. Among the categories are Bible and Theological Studies, Children, Youth, Counseling, Grief, Spirituality, Poetry, and Fiction.

Several donations have been made recently”
Who's Who in the Bible: An Illustrated Guide by Dr Stephen Motyer; **Proof of Heaven: A Neurosurgeon's Journey into the Afterlife** by Eben Alexander, M.D.; and **Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three Essential Prayers** by Anne Lamott.

Also donated is a series of seven historical-fiction novels, written by Bodie and

Brock Thoene. These novels about the life and times of Jesus are called the **A.D. Chronicles**, and were published between 2003 and 2007. The books' titles are **First Light, Second Touch, Third Watch, Fourth Dawn, Fifth Seal, Sixth Covenant, and Seventh Day.**

All you have to do to borrow items for two weeks is to write your name, the titles of the items and the date on the clipboard on the bookshelf. When you return them, just put them in the “re-shelve” bin and note the date in the space next to your name on the list.

Welcome Baby Knight



Columbus Jonah Knight was born to Clint and Carrie Knight (and named after Clint's grandfather – Columbus John) Monday, October 7th. He weighed 8 lbs. and was 18 1/2 inches long. He joins two sisters, Mariah and Eliza at home. Carrie and Columbus are doing great.

Funny Stories

Recently Pastor Doug made a reference in one of his sermons to Yoda, the wise Jedi from Star Wars, and he was amazed that more of the congregation members did not know who Yoda was. So Kathy Frank told Pastor Doug this story:

“Our grandson Jacob would have known exactly about whom you were talking for he knows everything about Star Wars. In fact, his parents recently bought a new car and Jacob insisted on going to the dealership with them. They tried to discourage him because there would be a lot of waiting around

and not much for a young boy to do, but he would not take “no” for an answer. On the drive over he was so excited. However, his parents were puzzled when they arrived at the Toyota dealership and Jacob was quite obviously disappointed. All became clear when he said, “Where are all the toy Yodas?”

Cara Marhenke recently brought her mother Janis to school for Grandparent's/ Parent's Day. At lunch she introduced Janis to one of her classmates by saying. “I know that she looks like my Grandmother but she is really my Mom.”

Gift of the Month Thank You Notes Received

In November we set up the Giving Tree to collect Christmas gifts for both Country Meadow residents and the youth at The Village Network, Mt. Vernon. As usual the tree will be in the hallway of the community room with individual tags on it for each gift needed.



Donations Delivered

On Sunday, October 13 we took our Lutheran World Relief donations to the semi truck being loaded at Seville. This year we sent:

- 1 large box of soap
- 4 sewing kits
- 2 personal care kits
- 22 school bogs
- 11 large quilts

A big thank you to Gayle and Sue Kanz for driving up with the boxes.

Bikes Needed!

The residents of The Village Network in Mt. Vernon would like to have some bikes to ride, so if you are thinking of upgrading your bike, or have perhaps outgrown one you might consider donating the old one to the youth who would really appreciate it. Contact Ashley if you can help.



Dear St. Paul Lutheran and the Elderberries,

I really appreciate the cookies and candy! It means a lot that you guys still think of me! Everything is going very well down here and I'm getting involved. I hope everything up there is going well! I still pray every day and think about the church often.

Thanks Again,
Luke Golden

Dear St. Paul Friends and Family,

Thank you for the delicious cheer basket. It was a welcomed surprise and made me feel closer to home.

*Thanks again,
Sydney Boyd*

Dear Elderberries,

Thank you for everything. It was a great surprise to find a box full of goodies at my doorstep. I enjoyed all the homemade goodies! Thank you for all that you do to bring joy to military members away from home. It was gratefully appreciated.

Thanks again
Hilary Dotson,

Sra USAF

Dear St. Paul Lutheran Church,

Thank you for your donation of \$150, medical supplies and suet cakes for the feathered friends of the Ohio Bird Sanctuary. Your gifts will aid the Sanctuary in the operation of an admission free, living bird museum and will provide the necessary food and supplies to help injured birds return to the wild.

The sanctuary is busy with fall field trips and is currently providing rehabilitation care to: 1 Baltimore oriole, 2 Cedar waxwing, 1 Red-tailed Hawk, 1 Turkey Vulture, 1 Great-horned Owl and 2 Peregrine Falcons. Thank you for choosing the Sanctuary as part of your charitable giving.

Come join us for our public programming:

- Saturday at 1:00 p.m. **Bird Encounters** at the Sanctuary
- Saturday evenings April through November: **Bird of Prey** show at Mohican Resort at 7:00 p.m.

See our website for more details
www.ojobirdsanctuary.com,

Sincerely,
Gail Laux, Executive Director



Dear Friends and Family,

Thank you all so much for your prayers, thoughts and cards over the past month and a half. Your support has been overwhelming and amazing! The hugs have been great, too! Thank you all for being such a great church family!

Love,
Sabrina

Thank you all so much for a wonderful convention, and, honestly, the best food in Ohio! Including coffee!! Everyone was so nice here. The service and music wonderful. Plan: coming back down for a service or two. Keep the road plowed!

*Love Much
Thanks to all!
Denise Moore*

Thanks for the box of sweets. I really appreciate your thoughtfulness and caring. Thanks for thinking of me.

Austin Boyd

New Stove

We have someone looking for an electric stove. If you have one you would like to donate please call Ashley at 419-496-9612.



The leaves are changing color and falling all over Bellville. That means it's time to think about the Rake-n-Run Service Project!

Attention St. Paul Youth and Families

This service project is for all ages to come together and help out our longtime, faithful members with their fall clean-up chores, such as raking leaves and cleaning windows. This year, **Rake-n-Run will take place Sunday, November 10, from 1:30 to 4:30 pm. (Rain Date will be November 17)** Please contact Ashley to sign up for this event!

Do you need some help with fall chores? Do you have an elderly or homebound neighbor that needs help? This is your chance to get the help you need. Please contact Ashley De-Francisco 419-496-9612 or the church office 419-886-3521 to get your name on the list, or simply fill out the form below and return it to the church office.

_____ PLEASE RETURN BOTTOM PORTION TO THE CHURCH OFFICE _____

_____ Rake leaves

_____ Clean Windows

_____ Other Chores (please give a brief description of the work to be done)

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____



Pastor Doug's Letter: All Saints Day, 2013

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Grace and peace to you this All Saints Day from He-Who-Is,

He-Who-Was and

He-Who-Is-to-Come;

from the Great Shepherd of the Sheep;

from the A and the Z; from the first born from the dead;

from the King of Kings and the Lord of Lords;

from the Bright Morning Star;

from the Lamb who stands as if slain;

from Jesus Christ who is all this and more.

Never forget whom we serve.

Never forget who serves us.

Never forget what Jesus does:

- His becoming human gives us our humanity back.
- His baptism names him, and us, as children of God.
- His filling with the Holy Spirit fills us with the Holy Spirit.
- His resisting temptations enables us to resist temptation.
- His teachings open the door to abundant life.
- His healings give us life and hope.
- His casting out of evil spirits delivers us from evil and rescues us from despair.
- His holy meal fills us with himself and makes all our meals holy.
- His passion strengthens us.
- His flogging brings good out of all suffering.
- His cross bears all our weights and wounds.
- His death destroys all our deaths.
- His rising fills us with resurrection.
- His command gives us purpose and presence.
- His ascending enables the Spirit's descent upon us.
- His ruling at the right hand of God gives us protection and power.
- His return fulfills all the promises of God.

Peace,

Pastor Doug

Happy Birthday

Happy Anniversary

- 3 Barbara Noblet
- 4 Vicky Sakala
- 4 Sunnee Ammons
- 6 Daniel Wood
- 6 Raymond Broeske
- 7 Kenny Barr
- 7 Sharon Smith
- 9 Nancy Backensto
- 11 Lane Leedy
- 13 Rod Bly
- 16 Bonnie Brenneman
- 16 Carolyn Stoner
- 16 Paul Wood
- 18 Richard Gehrisch
- 18 Kathy Frank
- 18 Sabrina Pugh
- 21 James Boyd
- 21 Beth Fry
- 21 Rich Hoover
- 22 Brianna Price
- 23 Amy Helinski
- 24 Paula Worner
- 25 Sherri Brokaw
- 25 Mark Albert
- 26 Marge Armstrong
- 26 Clint Knight
- 28 Samantha Stoner
- 30 Joel Marhenke
- 30 Sandra Stricker

- November 1, 1957 John & Carol Cornell
- November 1, 1975 Larry & Luanne Dill
- November 2, 1986 Gayle & Susan Kanz
- November 11, 1990 John & Sheila Pifer
- November 15, 1953 Richard & Ruth Brokaw
- November 20, 1993 Norbert & Barbara Peiker
- November 23, 1975 Gary & Cheryl Lantz
- November 25, 2006 Pete & Lyndsey Anderson

Remember Our Shut-Ins

Wedgewood Estates

600 South Trimble Road,
Mansfield, OH 44906

George Ridenour, Bea Tawse

Oak Grove Manor

1670 Crider Road,
Mansfield, OH 44903

Jean Reed

Country Meadow Care Center

4910 Algire Rd,
Bellville, OH 44813

Barb Noblet

Liberty Nursing Home

535 Lexington Avenue
Mansfield, OH 44907

Roberta Loescher

Homebound Church Family:

Ella Jane Fry

Financial Picture for October

	October 2013			January 1 through October 31, 2013			Annual Budget	Remaining Budget	November Budget
	Actual	Budget	Over (Under)	Actual	Budget	Over (Under)			
Giving									
General Fund	\$ 18,056.16	\$ 19,775.19	\$ (1,719.03)	\$ 178,180.04	\$ 184,279.81	\$ (6,099.77)	\$ 227,350.70	\$ 49,176.17	\$ 16,902.16
Building Fund	\$ 5,056.40	\$ 6,558.24	\$ (1,501.84)	\$ 50,767.20	\$ 60,865.66	\$ (10,098.46)	\$ 75,398.48	\$ 24,631.28	\$ 5,605.42
World Hunger Fund	\$ 1,097.34	\$ 1,402.61	\$ (305.27)	\$ 13,871.90	\$ 14,026.09	\$ (154.19)	\$ 16,831.31	\$ 2,959.41	\$ 1,402.61
Love Fund	\$ 960.52	\$ 1,115.37	\$ (154.85)	\$ 10,647.58	\$ 11,153.73	\$ (506.15)	\$ 13,384.48	\$ 2,736.90	\$ 1,115.37
Scholarship Fund	\$ 377.00	\$ 386.58	\$ (9.58)	\$ 3,101.00	\$ 3,865.83	\$ (764.83)	\$ 4,639.00	\$ 1,538.00	\$ 386.58
Endowment Fund	\$ 420.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 555.00	\$ -	\$ 555.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Technology Fund	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ 4,805.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 805.00	\$ 4,800.00	\$ (5.00)	\$ 400.00
Designated Fund	\$ 830.50	\$ -	\$ 830.50	\$ 21,024.81	\$ -	\$ 21,024.81	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 27,197.92	\$ 29,637.99	\$ (2,440.07)	\$ 282,952.53	\$ 278,191.13	\$ 4,761.40	\$ 342,403.97	\$ 81,036.76	\$ 30,250.45
Expenses									
General Fund	\$ 19,829.83	\$ 20,311.00	\$ (481.17)	\$ 185,500.44	\$ 187,126.96	\$ (1,626.52)	\$ 227,230.04	\$ 41,729.60	\$ 17,250.64
Building Fund	\$ 5,336.82	\$ 5,132.20	\$ 204.62	\$ 52,633.63	\$ 52,090.66	\$ 542.97	\$ 58,834.18	\$ 6,700.55	\$ 5,132.21
World Hunger Fund	\$ 1,097.34	\$ 1,402.61	\$ (305.27)	\$ 13,871.90	\$ 14,026.09	\$ (154.19)	\$ 16,831.31	\$ 2,959.41	\$ 1,402.61
Love Fund	\$ 1,845.03	\$ 1,115.37	\$ 729.66	\$ 12,093.68	\$ 11,153.73	\$ 939.95	\$ 13,384.48	\$ 1,290.80	\$ 1,115.37
Scholarship Fund	\$ -	\$ 386.58	\$ (386.58)	\$ 2,250.00	\$ 3,865.83	\$ (1,615.83)	\$ 4,639.00	\$ 2,389.00	\$ 386.58
Endowment Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 432.00	\$ -	\$ 432.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Technology Fund	\$ 354.70	\$ 400.00	\$ (45.30)	\$ 4,901.70	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 901.70	\$ 4,800.00	\$ (101.70)	\$ -
Designated Fund	\$ 1,970.48	\$ -	\$ 1,970.48	\$ 27,251.53	\$ -	\$ 27,251.53	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
Total	\$ 30,434.20	\$ 28,747.77	\$ 1,686.43	\$ 298,934.88	\$ 272,263.27	\$ 26,671.61	\$ 325,719.01	\$ 54,967.66	\$ 25,287.41
Fund Summary	Beginning Balance	Income	Expenses	Ending Balance	Projected November, 2013				
General Fund	\$ 20,240.40	\$ 18,056.16	\$ 19,829.83	\$ 18,466.73	\$ 16,902.16	\$ 17,250.64	\$ 18,118.25		
Building Fund	\$ 12,960.85	\$ 5,056.40	\$ 5,336.82	\$ 12,680.43	\$ 5,605.42	\$ 5,132.21	\$ 13,153.65		
World Hunger Fund	\$ -	\$ 1,097.34	\$ 1,097.34	\$ -	\$ 1,402.61	\$ 1,402.61	\$ -		
Love Fund	\$ 3,977.64	\$ 960.52	\$ 1,845.03	\$ 3,093.13	\$ 1,115.37	\$ 1,115.37	\$ 3,093.13		
Scholarship Fund	\$ 4,123.53	\$ 377.00	\$ -	\$ 4,500.53	\$ 386.58	\$ 386.58	\$ 4,500.53		
Endowment Fund	\$ 2,924.35	\$ 420.00	\$ -	\$ 3,344.35	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,344.35		
Technology Fund	\$ 292.53	\$ 400.00	\$ 354.70	\$ 337.83	\$ 400.00	\$ -	\$ 737.83		
Designated Funds	\$ 8,572.65	\$ 830.50	\$ 1,970.48	\$ 7,432.67	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,432.67		
Total	\$ 53,091.95	\$ 27,197.92	\$ 30,434.20	\$ 49,855.67	\$ 25,812.15	\$ 25,287.41	\$ 50,380.41		
General Fund October, 2013		\$ 18,056.16	\$ 19,829.83	\$ (1,773.67)	YTD \$ 178,180.04	\$ 185,500.44	\$ (7,320.40)		
Building Fund October 2013		\$ 5,056.40	\$ 5,336.82	\$ (280.42)	YTD \$ 50,767.20	\$ 52,633.63	\$ (1,866.43)		

Worship Services for November

November 3 All Saints Sunday

Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18 Psalm 149 Ephesians 1:11-23 Luke 6:20-31

Blessed, Hessed, and Ptooy

Today is All Saint’s Sunday, and we remember all those who have died and all those who have been baptized in the past year. We pray a blessing upon them and upon their families. We also ask God’s blessing upon all those whom Jesus calls the blessed.



November 10 25th Sunday after Pentecost

Job 19:23-27a Psalm 17:1-9 2 Thess. 2:1-5, 13-17 Luke 20:27-38

What Happens After Death?

What happens after death? This question has been around for thousands of years, and we still do not KNOW. We have beliefs and philosophies that answer this question, but we do not and cannot KNOW. Curiously, the asking of the question has less to do with what happens after death and more about what happens before death.



November 17 26th Sunday after Pentecost

Malachi 4:1–2a Psalm 98 2 Thess. 3:6–13 Luke 21:5–19

Future Tense

A popular theme in the movies and in books are “jumpers.” These are people who can leave one time and place and jump to another. Jumping, however, is not just an imaginary possibility. In one sense historical dramas or space fantasies are jumpers on the large scale. The audience is invited to jump to another time and place, usually for the purpose of making commentary on our own time and place, and the reason that this works is that we spend a great deal of our time jumping.



November 24 Christ the King

Jeremiah 23:1-6 Psalm 46 Colossians 1:11-20 Luke 23:33-43

Carpentry & Wiki-Religion

Today is **Christ the King** Sunday, the final Sunday of the church year. There is a triple theme interwoven in the concept of Christ the King, Christ who was King, Christ who is King, and Christ who will be King. But **Christ the King** is not some ethereal, spiritual, religious sounding vagueness unconnected with the day to day realities of our lives. It is solid, reliable, and relevant.



Guardian's Minutes: October 24, 2013

Present for the meeting were: Pastor Doug, Chris Laux, Lisa Brooks, Stacy Wright, and Mindy Wood. Michael Murray was unable to attend. Paul Martin attended part of the meeting to present the Finance Team Report.

Chris Laux opened the meeting with devotions. After reflection and discussion, the devotional time was ended with prayer

REPORTS:

- The minutes from the Guardian's meeting of September 11, 2013 were reviewed and accepted.
- The Treasurer's Report was presented by Paul Martin as well as the Finance Team Report. Paul Martin presented the Finance Team Report with graphs comparing 2011, 2012 and 2013 'Giving and Expenses' for the General Fund, 'Giving and Expenses' for the Building Fund and 'Average Attendance' for those years. Stacy Wright asked for clarification regarding the total difference between 'giving' and actual 'expenses' and when the Guardians should be concerned when spending exceeds 'giving' (as has been the trend through this year's summer months.) Paul explained that historically 'giving' is slow during the months June -August; September saw an increase in 'giving' and his expectation is that we will continue to see this increase through the rest of the year (especially since December is a five Sunday month and Christmas occurs). Overall, the Finance Team currently feels that St. Paul is in a good financial position.
- Paul Martin also presented a Proposed Budgeting Process. He explained that since we are a "Covenant-driven" church, all teams requesting funds will complete a new Covenant Form that would be in effect from January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014. The team leaders would then make a presentation to the Ministry Body explaining their team's mission and how much money they would need and why. A discussion was held regarding having the presentations during the worship service vs. during the Sunday School hour on Stewardship Sunday or the week prior to that Sunday. Chris Laux suggested that there should be an overseer to the Budgeting Process.

OLD BUSINESS:

- The Journey Forward Initiative members (Stacy, Lisa and Doug) have not yet had their meeting with Bonnie Peltomaa, the Richland Ashland County Journey Forward's Convener. They have also not met as a group to evaluate the Ministry Fair.
- Skip Hursh's proposal for a new roof over the office wing is currently on hold since he has not contacted the Building Resource Providers. The recommendation of the Ministry Leaders is that we do not accept this proposal.
- Youth Group: Pastor Doug reported that Ashley DeFrancisco has planned all the activities for the Youth Group and is working on finding leaders for the activities. The plan is still to split the junior and senior high groups.

NEW BUSINESS:

- The Guardians voted to place the flag in the sanctuary with four in favor of it and one abstention.
- Chris Laux and Pastor Doug will meet Thursday November 7 to do staff evaluations.
- The Guardian's next meeting will be November 14 at 7 p.m. Mindy Wood volunteered to do devotions.
- The meeting was adjourned with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,
Mindy Wood, Secretary

Ministry Leaders Meeting : October 22, 2013

Present for the meeting were: Pastor Doug, Nancy Martin, Paul Garn, Doug Shirk, Paul Martin, Janis Marhenke, Judy Coppersmith and Barb Hoover. Chris Laux was absent.

Nancy Martin opened the meeting with devotions and prayer.

Paul Martin presented a report on giving and expenses by the month and cumulative for this year. He also presented a 2014 budget proposal and timeline. There was a lengthy discussion on the process for 2014. Nancy and Judy will need to meet and get information together for Paul to begin his process.

Calendars were handed out and updated with additions.

The Ministry Leaders will meet Tuesday, January 14th at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Barb Hoover

Final Bishop's Letter: October 10, 2013



Six years and nine months.

Early on in my tenure I developed the habit of answering to the day when asked "How long have you been bishop?" I don't know why I started doing this but the practice stuck and it became a little joke amongst us.

Time is a funny thing. It expands and contracts. When one is anxious, the passage of time can seem like an eternity. When pressed, time seems to fly. When we are very young the years seem to unfold before us endlessly. When we are old time is fleeting. But there is always time. And somehow we expect that there will always be more of it.

I thought there would be more time – more time to work and laugh and weep with our dear synod staff, more time to be with all of you in congregations, more time to be with our deaconesses, associates in ministry and pastors, more time to work in this corner of the Lord's vineyard called the Northeastern Ohio Synod. When there suddenly is no more time all of the missed opportunities become apparent. I guess this is part of the human condition; we see time as endless but forget that our part of it is finite.

In the Incarnation the temporal and the eternal meet. Joined with the death and resurrection of Christ in baptism, our fleeting lives become everlasting. St. Paul wrote, "...your life is hid with Christ in God." (Colossians 3.3) The only catch is that we have to be willing to let go.

This synod will be in good hands – the staff's, interim bishop Marcus Miller's certainly. But you will always be God's hands. There is a lot of good work to do. People need to be introduced to Jesus Christ. Those who already have been introduced need to deepen their relationship with him and to live that out by sharing the abundant life promised by Jesus. The Journey Forward process will help us to do this. I will not be here to see this process through. And if it is truly a process none of us will be here to see it through. But that doesn't matter. We do what we can in the time allotted to us and then let go trusting that the Lord will raise up new laborers in their time.

Six years and nine months. I am deeply grateful for this time. I have been changed by you for the good. It is time for me to let go. I can do that in the faith that nothing is lost in Christ.

God be with you all.

Peace,

Elizabeth A. Eaton, Bishop

Elderberries to See Italy Photos

The Elderberries meet Wednesday, November 13 at 10:00 a.m. in the upstairs Sunday School Room, the third one on the left side. If you don't want to use the steps the elevator is available. Carolyn Stoner will be talking about her trip to Italy and showing her photos..

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 8:15 Artsel Worship 9:30 Generations Alive! 10:30 Rejoice! Worship 12:00 Cr In Use	4 5:30 Weight Watchers 6:30 Reunion Group 7:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Bible Study 7:00 D. View Bingo 8:00 AA	5 6:30 Yoga 7:00 Reunion Group CR In Use	6 6:15 Catechism 7 th 7:00 Artsel Praise Team 7:30 Choir 7:30 Catechism 8 th	7 4:00 Painter's Alive 5:00 Community Dinner 6:00 Prayer Gathering	8 1:30 Bible Study 5:00 Cr In Use	9 CR In Use
10 8:15 Artsel Worship 9:30 Generations Alive! 10:30 Rejoice! Worship	11 5:30 Weight Watchers 6:30 Reunion Group 7:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Bible Study 8:00 AA	12 6:30 Yoga 7:00 Finance Team 7:00 Reunion Group	13 10:00 Elderberries 6:15 Catechism 7 th 7:00 Artsel Praise Team 7:30 Choir 7:30 Catechism 8 th	14 2:30 Reunion Group 4:00 Painter's Alive 6:00 Prayer Gathering 6:00 Lions Club	15 1:30 Bible Study	16 6:30 Men's Breakfast - V&M 7:30 Men's Reunion Grps.
17 8:15 Artsel Worship 9:30 Generations Alive! 10:30 Rejoice! Worship	18 5:30 Weight Watchers 6:30 Reunion Group 7:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Bible Study 8:00 AA	19 6:30 Yoga 7:00 Reunion Group	20 6:15 Catechism 7 th 7:00 Artsel Praise Team 7:30 Choir 7:30 Catechism 8 th	21 4:00 Painter's Alive 6:00 Prayer Gathering	22 1:30 Bible Study	23
24 8:15 Artsel Worship 9:30 Generations Alive! 10:30 Rejoice! Worship	25 5:30 Weight Watchers 6:30 Reunion Group 7:00 Reunion Group 7:00 Bible Study 8:00 AA	26 6:30 Yoga 7:00 Reunion Group	27 7:00 Artsel Praise Team 7:30 Choir	28 Happy Thanksgiving CR In Use	29 1:30 Bible Study	30 6:30 Men's Breakfast - V&M 7:30 Men's Reunion Grps.

2013

Judy Coppersmith praying before helping with Hallow-Weenie.



Enjoying the meal at the church dinner.

Photo by Elaine Dotson

The St. Paul Epistle

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www.splc-bellville.org

8:15 AM
Arise! Worship Service
Acoustical Guitar Music

9:30 AM
Adult & Kids Learning

10:30 AM
Rejoice! Worship Service
Organ Music
Nursery Available

Holy Communion Weekly

Handicapped Accessible



OUR MISSION:

Living & Sharing God's Love



OUR VISION:

We live & share our faith in Jesus Christ by:

- ◇ Trusting God with all our heart.
- ◇ Learning God's desire for us.
- ◇ Telling others about God's love,
- ◇ Caring for others using the gifts God gives us.