The Scribe

St. Paul UCC
144 E Palatine Road, Palatine IL 60067
(847) 358-0399 www.stpaul-ucc.org
January 2025

Pastor's Pen.....

The month of January always brings with it a sense of newness and an underlying optimism that there is a chance for improvement. Resolutions to make a change for the better are on everyone's mind. And, to a certain extent, such thinking is necessary if one is to see any growth and development among life's endeavors. The old adage remains: "*The definition of 'insanity' is doing the same thing over and over again while expecting a different result."* How true that is! How very, very true!

But it's equally true, however, that just because one tries something new, a good outcome isn't guaranteed. Some new ideas have proven to be disasters. For example, Napoleon tried using new tactics at Waterloo and that is what led to his downfall. In the past, he had been successful by concentrating his forces on a single point, which enabled him to punch a hole in the enemy's lines. But for some reason, though, at Waterloo he decided to "innovate" and spread his forces out to the degree that his own lines became too thin. The result was that he then lacked concentrated firepower, which gave the UK coalition a tactical edge, bringing about his defeat.

Then, at Little Big Horn, a similar thing happened between General George Custer and Chief Sitting Bull. When Custer decided to try something new with his cavalry *(he split them up),* Chief Sitting Bull saw an opportunity with the 7th Cav's now thinned out forces.....and the rest is history. Literally.

Then, there was the Ford Motor Company with their Edsel.....yet another innovation story that speaks for itself.

So, just because something is "new," that doesn't mean it's a good idea. Conversely, just because something is "old," also doesn't mean that it's obsolete. This is why at the start of a new year or a new opportunity, one must always ask God for wisdom — not unlike as King Solomon did in 1 Kings 3:1-15. Because, when trying to make an important decision, one needs wisdom to think about what is good, and true, and right. In the end, only what is good, and true, and right is what will prevail. But whatever is *not* good, and true, and right will eventually go the way of Waterloo, Little Big Horn, and the Ford Edsel.

May your New Year be filled with everything that is good, and right, and true....and may it work out well for you!

David

St. Paul UCC Executive Board Members: Sharon Altergott (Spiritual Life Board Rep.), Karen Connor (Spiritual Life Board Rep.), Tom Donat, Randy Everett (Admin. Board Rep.), Robert Kraft and David Mercer (Staff Rep).

Pastoral visitation is available to those who are hospitalized, temporarily laid up at home, or going through rehab at a facility. Because hospitals and other institutions do not notify the church when a patient is admitted, we need for you or your family member to notify us. We will be more than happy to accommodate your request for pastoral care. Please note also that the pastor may be reached for emergencies at (224) 386-6285 (cell phone).

Pastor David's procedure in visiting St. Paul's shut-ins, as well as, those members who have a difficult time getting to church is to offer support, bring Holy Communion (their option) and to let them know we journey together in worship. Pastor David understands that scheduling may depend on frequency of doctor's appointments or the church member's schedule. Visitation is always available, however, as the shut-in member's health and life situation may change and more extensive pastoral care is needed. Any church member or their family member desiring more frequent pastoral visitation, or to be placed on the visitation list in the first place should contact the church office at (847)-358-0399 to make arrangements.

"Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord." (James 5:14)

The Pastoral Relations Committee is Available To You

Do you have an idea, a question, a comment, or a concern that you would like for Pastor David to know about? You have a couple of options available to you.

First, you may speak directly with the pastor. Our pastor is here for ALL of St. Paul's members and he welcomes communication from ALL members. If you aren't comfortable in speaking directly with the pastor, however, then your second option is to go through the Pastoral Relations Committee.

Their purpose is to foster good relations between pastor and parish through open and thoughtful communication.

St. Paul's Pastoral Relations Committee members are:
Debbie Everett (Chair); Tom Donat, Jim Frost, and Bob Kolze.

Dick Kolze

Gloria & Orrin Helms
Edward & Karen Rogan
Cherrie Wickstrom

Janet Degner

Cherrie Wickstrom

January Birthdays

7 Karen Connor 19 Jeff Florey
26 Judith Zimmer and Mark Faust Jr.
23 Mark Faust Sr. 28 Gloria Helms 29 Diane Nosek

If there is anyone I missed, please call the church office, so we can update our records. Thank you!

Diane Nosek will be celebrating a milestone birthday on the 29th of January! Enjoy it!!

The deadline to turn in your 2024 Annual Reports is Monday January 6, 2025 .

I will need to compile them to have ready on January 7th before I leave for vacation.

If you need a copy of last year's report, please request via email and I will send it to you.
I appreciate your help!

If you ordered a beautiful poinsettia plant, please pick it up after service on Sunday the 29th

Paper to protect them are by the table in the East Entrance.

" Be Well St. Paul" is ready to go.

"Take care of your body. It's the only place you have to live." Jim Rohn.

The health committee has designed a special program to help our members establish a healthy lifestyle. This program will help guide you in determining steps to take that will enable you to improve your life choices.

It is an individual program designed to increase energy, move more,
eat healthy, and make connections.

Available for everyone! No tests, no reporting to anyone except yourself.

Winter Get Together

Back by popular demand we will be holding the dinner get together one Thursday evening during January, February, and March 2025. We do have a new location this time which will be Annie's Restaurant located at 154 W. Northwest Hwy.

You may know this as a breakfast lunch place but, they do have some evenings when dinner is served. We will be in a separate room and will order off the menu.

Please know that separate checks will be provided.

Our first date is Thursday, January 16th at 5:30 p.m. Sign up is due after service on Sunday, January 12th so that reservation count is correct. Sign up sheet is located in the East Entrance.

We hope that you will consider joining us for an enjoyable fellowship time.

Undecorating the Sanctuary

Unfortunately the time has come to take down our Christmas decorations at the church. We know that nobody enjoys this, but it has to be done.

Please consider helping as many hands will make it easier. Saturday, January 11th at 10:00 am

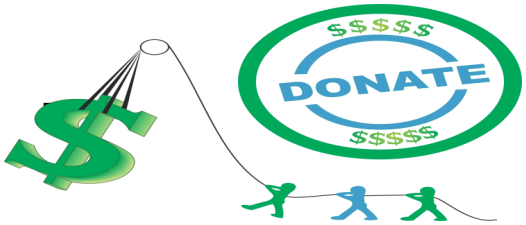
Please let Debbie Brennan know

Care Team Announcements

The St. Paul CARE Team's purpose is to acknowledge and show care and concern for our church members' various life events such as birthdays, membership, anniversaries, joys, and challenges.

Beginning in January 2025, please contact Kim Cichon and Mary Faust and/or Debbie Brennan in the church office with any joys (milestone wedding, anniversaries, births in the family, graduations, etc.) and/or concerns (upcoming surgery, deaths in the family, etc.) that you would like to share with our team.

Thank you so much.
Kim Cichon kimmy4443@gmail.com)
Mary Faust (mefmbf4@aol.com)



2024 Donations (Benevolence, Watch's Fund and Heifer International)

Just to provide you with a recap of the monetary donations that have been distributed thus far for 2024 are as follows:

Benevolences
- Neighbors in Need - $330.00
- OCWM Our Church's Wider Mission - $785.00
- OGHS One Great Hour of Sharing - $1,510.00
- Wach's Fund has provided $1,446.32 in financial assistance to residents of Palatine

Heifer International - $421.00

BOOK EXCHANGE – 2025

The Health Committee will hold the annual Book Exchange in January.

Please begin to save your books, CD's, DVD, and magazines.

You can bring your items starting on Jan. 5th.

It's SOUPER BOWL time!!! Although the Bears aren't in the game, YOU can be. **Between January 26th through February 9th** we'll be collecting soups to help fill the shelves at the Palatine Township food pantry.

In addition to soups, they need pasta sauces, pasta noodles, dried beans (black or pinto), canned tomatoes (diced or chunks) and broths.

Let's show Palatine Township's Food Pantry how St. Paul can help 'tackle' hunger.

Thank you from Community Outreach.

community outreach

Raise Right makes all your gift shopping easy. Birthdays, baby and wedding showers, house warming gifts or for just for your personal use.

There are so many choices of gift cards on www.raiseright.com and the website will show you how much the Community Outreach program will earn off of every card purchase.

You receive 100% of the gift card amount you purchase, and the VISA cards do not have an activation fee.

Place your order by January 12 and get your cards January 19.

If you have any questions, please see Sue Lech or email at s.lech@comcast.net

Below is the Raise Right (Scrip) form , print it off and fill it out. If you go to www.raiseright.com you can see all of the gift cards that are available.

There is no activation fee on the VISA gift cards

St Paul United Church of Christ/Palatine, IL

Name	email or phone
Check #	Order total

Date

Common products	QTY	Total
Amazon $10.00		$
Amazon $100.00		$
Amazon $25.00		$
Dairy Queen $10.00		$
Jewel Osco $100.00		$
Jewel Osco $50.00		$
Mariano's (IL) $100.00		$
Mariano's (IL) $50.00		$
Starbucks $25.00		$
Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee		$
Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee		$
Visa Gift Card - No Activation Fee		$
Walgreens $100.00		$
Walgreens $25.00		$
Walmart $100.00		$
Walmart $25.00		$
Walmart $50.00		$

Product	QTY	Total
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PRAYERS FOR OUR COMMUNITY OF FAMILY AND FRIENDS

Family and Friends of Janet Degner
Family and Friends of Richard "Dick" Kolze

Ed Bartelt, friend of Charlotte Mally
Doris Brztowski
Karen and Carol Douglas
Nick & Michael Drost
Ed, cousin of Jackie Schultze
Elena, daughter-in-law of Mary Carlisle
Jeff Florey
Bob Hasselmann, brother of Shirley Shimka
Matthew & Michael Hayford
Carol Hennings, sister of Pat Kolze
The Hernandez Family, neighbors of Melissa Gumm
Larry Ingram
Ashley Karr, friend of the Everetts
Bruce & Barb Kerlin, parents of Bruce Kerlin
Jay Kolze, nephew of Bob & Pat Kolze
Leeland Korman
Larry Layman, brother of Shirley Kolze
Russell Nebbia, father-in-law to Nicholas Drost
Ethel Otto
Holly Petersen
John Riley, friend of Melissa Gumm
Kathy Schuett, sister of Sharon Giles Khan
Mary Schultz, neighbor of Nancy Perry
Sharon, neighbor of Bob & Pat Kolze
Bonnie Stallone, daughter of Jim & Shirley Schimka
Sherry Stephens, sister of Shirley Kolze
Beverly Young
Rosann friend of Sharon Khan
Cassandra Trost

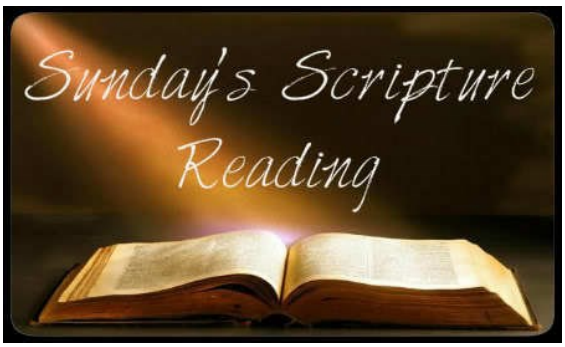
SERVING CHRIST IN WORSHIP

January Usher Captain:
Chuck Oberly

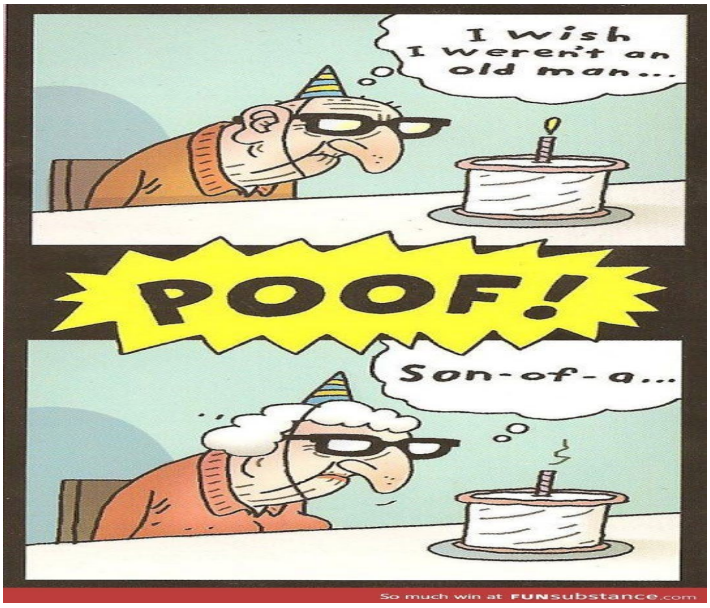
January Readers:
5: Tom Donat
12:
19: Kim Cichon
26:

January Greeters:
5: Janet Olsen
12: Barb and Chuck Oberly
19: Shay Storm
26:Maria O'Brien

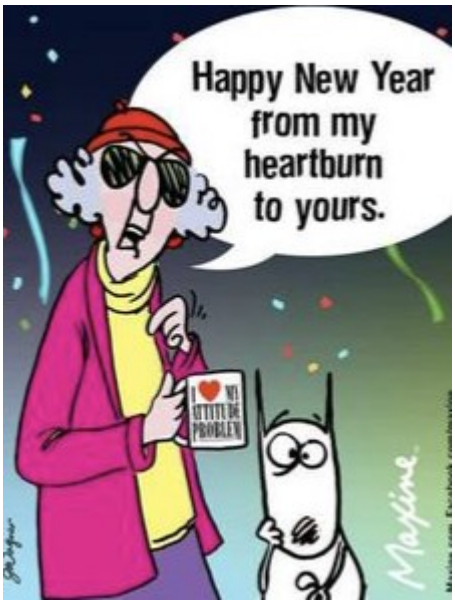
Lectionary for January
5:Psalm 147: 12-20, Ephesians 1:3-14, John 1: 10-18
12: Isaiah 43: 1-7, Acts 8: 14-17, Luke 3:15-17, 21-22
19:Isiah 62: 1-5, 1 Corinthians 12:1-11, John 2: 1-11
26:Nehemiah 8: 1-3, 5-6, 8-10, 1 Corinthians 12: 12-31a, Luke 4: 14-21



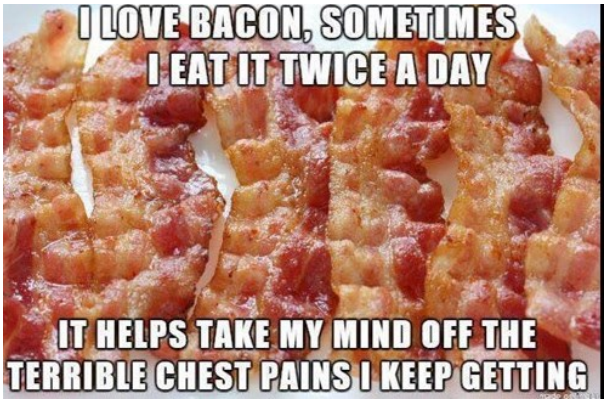
IT DRIVES ME NUTS TO LIVE SO CLOSE TO THAT PRIVATE COUNTRY CLUB, AND I CAN'T PLAY GOLF THERE.
LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE. YOU CAN HARDLY PLAY GOLF ANYWHERE.


I wish I weren't an old man...
POOF!
Son-of-a...
So much win at FUNsubstance.com

The older we get... the less we care!


Happy New Year from my heartburn to yours.
Maxine

I've been calling you all day.
That's a calculator.


I LOVE BACON, SOMETIMES I EAT IT TWICE A DAY
IT HELPS TAKE MY MIND OFF THE TERRIBLE CHEST PAINS I KEEP GETTING

Getting older has some benefits... Call it a "Senior Moment" and you can get away with pretty much anything!

New Year's Word Search

J A N U A R Y F R I E N A C E
F R I E N D S Y A S R I L A H
N E Y S E R T I E M O W B L C
B S I L Y F A E N E I Y A E O
N O C R N V N V E Y D L B N U
A L D C L O C K L T I E Y D N
R U V E W M I D N I G H T A T
V T O A S T W S N O L Y I R D
G I A N I N G S E V E U A R O
C O N F E T T I T M I N G S W
R N O L C E L E B R A T I O N
A J A N U E L V E I M K E R A
Y P A R T Y H A A P Y S E V W
N E W Y E A R C L O K S O R Y
S H A P P Y E B A L L R E S O

BABY
BALL
CALENDAR
CELEBRATION
CLOCK
CONFETTI
COUNTDOWN
EVE
FAMILY
FRIENDS
HAPPY
JANUARY
MIDNIGHT
NEW YEAR
NOISEMAKER
PARTY
RESOLUTION
TOAST

CRAYONSANDCRAVINGS.COM