

St. Paul's News

MARCH 2017



St. Paul's,

The gospel of John begins with these words, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it" (John 1:1-5). From the very beginning, John tells us that Jesus has come to bring us everlasting and abundant life and shine light into our often dark world.

This year, with the start of March we also begin the Christian season of Lent, the period of forty days (not counting Sundays) the leads up to our celebration of Easter. It has been the tradition of the church for centuries for Lent to be a season of spiritual preparation. Often times you might have heard of people giving something up for Lent which can be a helpful practice to help us focus more on Christ during these weeks.

Lent is also about taking time to learn more about who Jesus is in our lives and how we are called to respond as we move towards holy week and our remembrance of the death of the resurrection of Christ. This is where the gospel of John comes in. John

gives us a clear picture of who Jesus is, why Jesus was born, died, and rose again, and how we might live as followers of Christ.

This lent you will have two opportunities to explore the gospel of John. In our worship services we will be looking at the miracles of Jesus that are in the gospel. Through these stories will discuss both what these miracles tell us about Jesus and also what our response may in our lives today. I encourage you to be faithful in your worship attendance this lent as we seek to grow and learn together.

Second, we will be offering a bible study on the gospel of John at the church. It will begin on March 8th and will continue on Wednesdays during Lent. It will meet from 7:00pm-8:00pm. Together we will read the gospel and learn its stories. This study is great as both an introduction to the gospel and for those who wish to dig deeper into a single book of the bible. Even if you haven't done a bible study before I encourage you to consider this one.

As we begin observing the season of Lent, I encourage us to make this a season of spiritual growth and renewal. Join us in worship or bible study. Spend time in prayer or in reading of scripture. Seek to serve and love others. Let us prepare our hearts and lives to celebration the resurrection of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

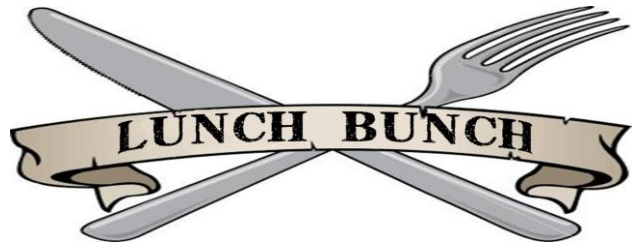
Peace
Pastor Hannah



No March Birthdays



If you are over 80 and would like your birthday listed, contact the church office



Tuesday

Lunch Bunch

(This is for men & women)

American Family Restaurant

Fostoria OH

March 28, 2017

Contact Marilou Hill for details



If you would like to donate flowers for the altar any time during the year, please call the church office at (419) 447-1743.

419-447-0376





Mission Report



February Mission Giving:

Blanket Sunday, February 12- \$738.00. Thanks for the donations we received to help Church World Services provide blankets and tools to those in need around the world.

Third Sunday Ingathering Offering- \$101.30. First Call for Help distributes these funds to those in need in our community.

March 12-April 9 we will have a table available in the sanctuary for non-perishable food items which will be donated to the FISH Food Pantry here in Tiffin. Please put items on the table when you come for worship.

March 26 we will have a special offering for One Great Hour of Sharing. Watch your bulletin for inserts and details about the use of these funds.



Table Favor Committee

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday April 11th, 1:30 pm. We will work on table favors for Easter and the month of May at that time. Think Spring!

Additional Responsibilities For Pastor Hannah

On Sunday February 26th it was announced that starting on March 1st St. Paul's will be assisting Melmore UMC in providing pastoral care and administration. The pastor of Melmore UMC needed to retire mid-year due to health concerns. There will be two lay people who will take turns as supply preachers for Melmore on Sunday mornings. Pastor Hannah has been appointed to be available for pastoral visitation, funerals, and general administration assistance. She will also be going to Melmore for worship two times during the next four months to provide communion to the congregation. On those Sundays, other arrangements will be made for St. Paul's. In mid-May, the Staff Parish Relations Committees of both churches will meet with the District Superintendent to discuss how to proceed following July 1st, 2017.

If you have any questions or concerns about this change please speak to Pastor Hannah or a member of the Staff Parish Relations Committee. Please also keep our brothers and sisters at Melmore UMC and retiring Pastor Jane-Ann Clark in your prayers as they go through this transition.



Donations of canned goods for Sharing Kitchen's give-away table are currently needed. Sharing kitchen will no longer be receiving weekly donations of canned goods from Kroger. A box will be placed in the Fellowship Hall each Sunday where you can drop off an item or two to help those in need. Thanks so much!!



If your son or daughter is in Third Grade and older and would like to acolyte, please contact Jill Lindhorst at 419-443-0273 Please consider helping us!





Community Lenten Services

*Sponsored by the Seneca County
Ministerial Association*

Each Friday March 10—April 14

12 noon—1:00pm

*A light meal will be followed by worship at
the following places of ministry:*

March 10th—Autumnwood Care Center

670 East State Route 18

March 17th—First Lutheran Church

300 Melmore Street

March 24th—The Salvation Army

505 E. Market Street

March 31st—First Christian Church

2016 S County Road 19

April 7th—Old Trinity Episcopal Church

125 E Market Street

**April 14th—Good Friday Service (No
Meal)**

**First Presbyterian Church—96 S. Monroe
Street**



YOUTH FELLOWSHIP EVENTS

The Youth Fellowship is collecting items to donate to the Seneca County Humane Society during the month of March. Items needed are scoop-able (non-clumping) cat litter, dry cat food, dry dog food, cat toys and treats, dog toys and treats, paper towels and bleach. Items will be collected until the end of March and delivered to the Humane Society by the Youth.

Youth Fellowship is providing a spaghetti dinner on Sunday March 19th at 12:00 pm. Donations of food are appreciated. Monetary donations will support the Youth Fellowship.

Please contact Rob or Amy Ochier with any questions about these events.

LENT BIBLE STUDY

JOHN: THE GOSPEL OF LIGHT AND LIFE A LENT BIBLE STUDY

WEDNESDAYS

MARCH 8TH- APRIL 12TH

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

IN THE CHURCH PARLOR

***Please join us this Lent for
a six week study of the
gospel of John. We will
learn together through
conversation, video
presentations, and
studying the scripture.
Come discover more about
who Jesus is and how Jesus
changes our lives.***



Easter Egg Hunt

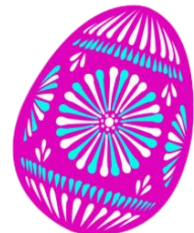
**Saturday, April 15th from 10-
11:30 am in St. Paul's
Fellowship Hall for children in
Preschool-6th Grade**

**(Preschoolers need to be
accompanied by an adult)**

**Activities include the Easter
Story, crafts, egg hunt and
games.**

**Donations of wrapped candy
are needed. Please put them
in parlor kitchen. Adult and
teen helpers needed.**

**Questions Contact Melody
Woessner 419-447-7837 or
melodywoessner@yahoo.com**





It's time to start planning for summer camp!

Summer camp brochures have arrived at the church. Pick one up on the tables in the back of the sanctuary or find more information online at campwanake.org. Camp programs are available for children and youth from Kindergarten through High School. Church funds are available to families to help with the cost. Talk to Pastor Hannah for more information.



**Newsletter deadline for the April
Newsletter is March 17, 2017.**

Please **email** to secretary@tiffinstpauls.org



Thanks to all who supported the Youth Club Program!! Youth Club just completed its 37th year! Thanks to our church for continuing to sponsor this program and also for some anonymous donations. Our average attendance each week was 12 children. We had a great team of 15 faithful adults and teens preparing and leading our activities each week. Thanks to all who volunteered their time and talents to make this program possible!!!

-Melody Woessner

Thank you, Thank you, Thank you!! It is with a grateful heart I write this to Thank all of my church family for your love and support, of our daughter Alaina and her fiancé Ryan. The calls, cards, and monies given have been amazing! I cannot express enough thanks. Consider this a hug of thanks to all who gave to them. Please keep them in your prayers as they are married on the 29th of April and their new home will be built soon.

-Sandy & Fred Ritter

