



The following council members will be installed on Sunday Jan. 8th.

President: Pat Chambers, V. President: Mark Miller, Secretary: Holly Boreman, Larry Allen, Lynn Buss, Dan Hostetler, Marcia Lowe, Kathy Meitzler, Bob Race, and Sylvia Wheeler.

Thank you to Bob Lance for his years of service.

Pastor Kristy's installation will be Sunday January 22nd. A Carry-In dinner will follow the morning service. Please make every effort to attend this special occasion.

A Light Lock-In Is Coming!

(What's a Light Lock-In? Well "Light" is the theme but fun is the goal!)

January 13th at 6:00p

All Youth 1st -12th Grades are invited.

Friends are welcome too!

Please let us know your T-Shirt size when signing up and bring \$5 for dinner.

(We also need adult volunteers.)

See Pastor Kristy for more information!

People to People weekend is Jan. 28th and 29th. Let's focus on cold-weather foods - canned soups, crackers, mac and cheese, tea and cocoa mixes. Items will be delivered Tues., Jan. 31st. Thanks for all your donations in 2011. We sent over 140 bags/boxes of food, household items, and toys! Great work!!



The 2012 Envelopes have been placed in mailboxes. If you do not currently have a giving number, and would like one, please let me know. Also, please note that in order to decrease printing costs, many of the numbers have been changed for the new year. Thank you. Shae Evans, Financial Secretary

Empty Nesters will meet at Jake's on Lincolnway East (formerly the Amish Door) on Sat., Jan. 14th at 6:00 p.m. Please RSVP to Kathy or Jerry Meitzler by Jan. 8th.



New Teen Sunday School Class

Starting on January 29th, Pastor Kristy will be teaching a new Sunday School Class for Teens. Come ready to learn about your faith in a fun, new way!

St. Paul Lutheran Church

777 S. Summit St. Smithville, Ohio 44677

330-669-2111

www.stpaulslutheran.org; stplc@sssnet.com

Pastor Kristy Buyok

SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: 6:30 P.M.

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: 9:30 A.M.

SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:45 A.M.



January 2012

SMITHVILLE, OH

ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

The Epistle

Pastor's Ponderings

Well, Christmas has come and gone once again. Soon, if not already, decorations will be packed up and tucked away, out of town guests return home and school starts back. Life goes back to normal, more-or-less. Time keeps on moving forward. Moving out of such a big holiday into January can seem rather anti-climactic and disappointing. It's easy for a small day like Epiphany to slip by barely noticed.

Do you know that great piece in the Gospel of John which reads, "The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it." That's the image I have of Epiphany. When those wise men saw the star appear over Bethlehem, it was the first time anyone outside of that region witnessed that light. That's when non-Jewish people like you and me first got a glimpse of the greatness of a God made flesh, living as a humble human, walking among us! How amazing must that have been?

As this month un-folds, there are several special things happening. There will be a Lock-In centered on the theme of "light," the new council members will be installed and I will be officially installed as your new pastor. I hope that in all of those things, and in our daily lives, we can catch a glimmer of Christ's light. I hope we all have an epiphany of our own, a realization of how close God really is, walking among us, shining as brightly as ever! I hope God amazes us again and again when we discover that light for ourselves and when others see that light shining in us.

In the month I've been with you, I have seen God's light in you: Shining out as we laugh together, sing together, pray together, eat together! And I'm so thankful to be here to see it; to be a light-bearer with you.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Kristy



The Congregational Meeting will be held Sunday January 15th following the service. The 2011 Annual Church Report will be presented. We value your participation in this meeting, so please make every effort to attend. **Chairs of committees and other ministries of St. Paul are asked to submit their annual reports to Shae by January 3rd.**

Choir Corner

I want to thank the choirs, instrumentalists, liturgists, ushers, nursery attendant, crucifer, and Pastor Kristy for a job well done at *A Festival of Lessons and Carols*. Everyone did an outstanding job and I thank you for all your hard work and dedication. I also want to thank everyone who attended and for the many nice compliments we received!

After a little time off in December, all choir rehearsals and dinner will resume at their normal times on January 4, 2012. High School Choir resumes on January 8. New members are always welcome!

I hope all of you had a truly blessed Christmas and I wish you a peaceful New Year.

Blessings,
Holly

Getting to Know Pastor Kristy...The Early Years

The first of a three part series by Pat Chambers

Moundsville, WV was home to Pastor Kristy until the age of 20. Her father, originally from Wheeling, served in Africa during WWII where he met his future wife while staying on her family's property. Pastor Kristy's mother's family had relocated to Rabat, Morocco from France during the war. After the war the family returned to France where they still are today, and Pastor Kristy's parents settled in West Virginia.

As a child Pastor Kristy was always on the go. The outdoors was her playground as she spent most of her time playing with the neighborhood children: making forts, climbing trees, exploring the creek, riding bikes; there was always something to occupy her time. If the weather kept her inside, she read constantly; everything! The youngest of four children by ten years, her family all still live in the Moundsville area.

Pastor Kristy remembers starting her days early in the morning with her mother leading Bible readings and lessons in French. A devote Catholic, Pastor's mother would then take her children to morning mass and from there the children would be off to school. While studying for confirmation Pastor Kristy started questioning some of the Catholic doctrine and met several times with her Priest for answers to her concerns. Not being able to resolve these issues, she decided not to be confirmed but still attended church regularly.

High school was a busy time for Pastor Kristy as she was actively involved in as many clubs and organizations as possible! She loved studying literature and dreamed of someday becoming an author. She also loved poetry and to this day continues to write. It was during this time that Pastor Kristy got her first job as a cashier at Ames Department Store. From this experience she started thinking about a career in business which she later studied in college.

1/7	Olivia Mann	1/21	Deb Zimmerman
1/12	Autumn Anderson	1/26	Nathan Rehm
1/13	Duane Eggeman	1/28	Tim Brookover
1/13	Andrea Spademan	1/28	Aaron Rehm
1/16	Margaret Moomaw	1/29	Linda Lance
1/17	Haley Blough		



Thank You!

My Dear Friends in Christ,

Thank you so much for all of your cards, well-wishes, songs, and monetary gifts you gave me as I left St. Paul's. I have put the money away until I think of something wonderful to use it for. I have read (and re-read) your cards and well-wishes and cherish them. I am praying for all of you this Advent season. May it be, for all of us, "according to your will, O God." Stay open to the Spirit. Sincerely - Pastor Pam

Thank you for the goody box. Like always, it's a treat to open it up and see / eat what's inside. I've been receiving them for 8 years, this being the last one, and appreciate the effort that goes into them. I also would like to thank the congregation for the generous monetary gift towards my medical mission trip to Vietnam. It was truly unexpected! As I had to fund the trip myself, I greatly appreciate the support of those who donated. It was an amazing trip. Thank you all again. - Katie Chambers

Thank you to all who gave selflessly to the Pastor's Discretionary Fund in the past few months. Your generosity was felt deeply and appreciated more than you will ever know! May the Lord continue to bless you as you have blessed others.

I just wanted to take a moment to personally thank you for your most generous donation of \$611.25 to People to People. Your gift will help us in so many ways to continue to minister to those in need in our area, and to help spread hope. May God bless each and every one of you! Sincerely - Lydia Stahl

We would like to thank you for your kindness and thoughtfulness over the Christmas weekend. We appreciate all the cards, gifts, and goodies! - Pastor Kristy and Family

Dear Senior Choir and Celebration Ringers, Thank you for the beautiful flowers. It is a stunning arrangement and a wonderful addition to our Christmas decorations. I hope you know how much I enjoy being with all of you on Wednesday evenings, laughing and making music together. It's the highlight of my week!! Thank you, again, and Happy New Year! Blessings, Holly

Dear St. Paul Lutheran Church, Thank you very much for the wonderful package. I also thank you for the great many years spent with the church. Sincerely, Ben Hamilton

Thank you for your generous donation. May God bless you for your kindness. - Breakaway Comm.

Thank you for your recent contribution to Habitat for Humanity in Wayne County. You have contributed to the dream of eliminating substandard housing in Wayne County and throughout the world. Housing God's people is a great and tangible product of Habitat, but the real ministry is in building relationships for the foundation of strong communities. We are most appreciative of your continued support of our ministry. God bless you all.

Serving Christ on Saturday Evenings in January

<u>Worship Leader:</u>	January 7 Brian Miller	January 14 Pastor Kristy	January 21 Pastor Kristy	January 28 Pastor Kristy
<u>Reader:</u>	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED
<u>Greeter/Usher:</u>	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED
<u>Nursery:</u>	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED
<u>Refreshments:</u>	NEEDED	NEEDED	Lyn Miller	NEEDED
<u>Communion Asst:</u>			NEEDED	
<u>Communion Set Up & Clean Up:</u>			NEEDED	

Serving Christ on Sunday Mornings in January

	January 1	January 8	January 15	January 22	January 29
<u>Lay Reader:</u>	Donna Fetzer	Pat Simpson	Tim Preston	Bob Race	Mark Miller
<u>Acolyte:</u>	Kailyn Buyok				
<u>Nursery:</u>	Ruth Peterman	Joyce Blough	Madeline Boreman	Lesley Miller	Sarah B. / Kailyn B.
<u>Greeters/Ushers:</u>	Kristen Percy Alex Anderson	D. & M. Moomaw	D. & L. Wolbaugh	Deb Zimmerman Tim Chambers	L. & S. Allen
<u>Communion Assistant:</u>	Dan Hosteller				
<u>Altar Care:</u>	Sandy Allen & Dave Wolbaugh				
<u>Bread Baker:</u>	Lyn Miller				

Prayer Requests

Your prayers are requested for:

Wanda Wagner (recovering from surgery), **Mary Lou** Diehl (recovering from surgery), **Bill** Wagner (seizure), **Lillian** Renninger (stroke), **Ginny** Barker (cancer), **Shirley** Fetter (health), **Gary** Zimmerman (health), and **Vera** Skender (cancer).

Altar Flowers

January 8	Ann Buss
January 15	NEEDED
January 22	Deb Zimmerman
January 29	Tim & Pat Chambers



Dempsey Root



Jerry & Kathy Meitzler

St. Paul Council Meeting December 12, 2011

All members present except: Pat C., Lynn B.

Devotions were led by Marcia L.

Motion to accept the November 14th & November 16th minutes as written. M/S/P Holly/Larry

Treasurer's report was approved as reported by Nancy C. M/S/P Marcia/Holly

Pastor Kristy's report was reviewed. Her official day off will be Mondays. Communion for Saturday night service will return to the 3rd Saturday of the month starting in January, 2012.

Motion to purchase Sundays & Seasons on line with monies taken from the current fund for no more than \$350. M/S/P Holly/Dan

Worship & music reported that Pastors' Installation will be January 22, 2012. The annual congregational meeting will be January 15, 2012 after the Sunday 9:30AM service. The installation of council members will be January 8, 2012. This committee's next meeting will be in January.

The newly formed Mutual Ministry Committee consists of: Lorinda W., Jerry M., Stephanie C., Tom B., & Mark S. They will meet in January.

This ballot of council officers: President: Pat Chambers; Vice President: Mark Miller; Secretary: Holly Boreman was agreed to by council. This unanimous ballot was voted on & passed. Dan/Mark

Vice President, Mark M. thanked Bob Lance, who was going off of council for serving.

Respectfully submitted in Christ's name, Kathy Meitzler, secretary

Treasurer's Report November 1 – 30, 2011

Budgeted funds need \$ 15,688.00 per month to meet the budget that was passed last November. This November only \$ 12,506.49 was collected; a shortage of \$ 3,181.51. Total income received was \$ 16,473.55 including \$ 1075.00 for Pastor Pam. Bills paid totaled \$ 10,345.11.

Year-to-Date Income vs. Budget

	Amount Received	Amount Budgeted	Actual Expenses
Current Account	\$ 156,990.32	\$ 158,587.92	
Total received including "designated gifts"	\$ 182,523.18		\$ 131,852.03



In His Name,
Nancy Carr, Treasurer

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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January

This calendar and the "Serving Christ" list on the other side is designed so that it can be detached from the newsletter and placed in a convenient place for your usefulness.

1 9:30a Worship	2	3 6:30-8p Adult Bible Study @ Church	4 9:00 a Project Day 5:30-6:30p Meal 5:45-6:10p Choir Chime Choir 6:30-6:55p Junior Choir 6:30-7:00p Cherub Choir 7:00-8:00p Senior Choir 8:00-9:00p Celebration Ringers	5	6	7 5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
8 9:30a Worship 10:30a H.S. Choir 10:45a SS	9 1-3p Vesper Circle 6:30p Council Mtg.	10	11 5:30-6:30p Meal 5:45-6:10p Choir Chime Choir 6:30-6:55p Junior Choir 6:30-7:00p Cherub Choir 7:00-8:00p Senior Choir 8:00-9:00p Celebration Ringers	12	13	14 5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
15 9:30a Worship 10:45a SS PK-6th gr. 10:45a Congregational Meeting	16 	17 6:30-8p Adult Bible Study @ Church	18 5:30-6:30p Meal 5:45-6:10p Choir Chime Choir 6:30-6:55p Junior Choir 6:30-7:00p Cherub Choir 7:00-8:00p Senior Choir 8:00-9:00p Celebration Ringers	19	20	21 5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
22 9:30a Worship (Installation Service) 10:45a Carry-In	23 	24 7p Free Spirits	25 5:30-6:30p Meal 5:45-6:10p Choir Chime Choir 6:30-6:55p Junior Choir 6:30-7:00p Cherub Choir 7:00-8:00p Senior Choir 8:00-9:00p Celebration Ringers	26 12p Worship & Music Comm. Mtg.	27	28 5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
29 9:30a Worship 10:30a H.S. Choir 10:45a SS	30	31				