

People to People weekend is Oct. 29 and 30. Needs this month are crackers, macaroni and cheese, spaghetti noodles and sauce, pork and beans, peanut butter, and complete pancake mix. Also needed are cleaning supplies, paper towels, toilet paper, feminine products, and diapers (size 5 and larger). Last month, we sent 17 bags of food and household goods. Let's try to better that this month! Delivery will be Nov. 1.

Don't forget the ice cream social on Sept. 25 in which all money donated will go to People to People to purchase bikes for their Christmas project. Money from Thrivent will be donated in conjunction with this. We will be collecting donations throughout October. Please put your money in the jar in the Narthex.



We are updating our college addresses for care packages. Please give your student's address to Ruth Peterman (669-2118) or Shae in the church office as soon as possible.

Empty Nesters will meet Saturday October 15th no later than 2:30 p.m. to carpool to Malabar Farms for a delightful Fall adventure. If you have questions please contact the Roots at 330-336-5461.

What is mission? Who is our neighbor? How might we be a part of what God is doing both globally and locally? The ELCA Glocal Mission Event will lead participants to discuss those questions and more. The "Glocal" Event will be at Trinity Lutheran Seminary in Columbus on November 11-12, 2011. (Worship at these events is always wonderful). If you would like to go, please see Pastor Pam.

Akron-Wooster Conference  
Fall Gathering  
November 5, 2011  
9:30a - 12:30p (lunch) - 1:30p  
Messiah Lutheran, Green, OH  
Guest Speaker: Deb Johanyak,  
author of "Behind the Veil"  
See Kathy Meitzler or Ruth Peterman  
for reservations.

14th Biennial Convention of the  
NEOSWO of the ELCA  
October 7-8, 2011  
St. Paul Lutheran, Newcomerstown, OH  
Theme: Make Straight Your Paths, Proverbs 3:6  
The primary purpose of this convention is to  
conduct the business of the organization.  
Officers & cluster representatives will be elected.  
This is an opportunity for you to serve this  
organization & the women of NE Ohio.  
Make plans now to attend.  
Contact Kathy Meitzler, 669-3283.

**St. Paul Lutheran Church**  
777 S. Summit St. Smithville, Ohio 44677  
330-669-2111  
www.stpaulslutheran.org; stplc@sssnet.com  
Interim Pastor Pamela Kelly  
SATURDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: 6:30 P.M.  
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE: 9:30 A.M.  
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 10:45 A.M.



SMITHVILLE, OH  
ST. PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH

# The Epistle

Dear Friends in Christ,

When we began our "Seeds of Faith" stewardship emphasis we did not know we would be meeting and greeting our prospective pastor, Pastor Christine Buyok, in the middle of it. Yet I am growing to like the parallels between planting new seeds and new relationships with pastor and people this offers us. We truly have been preparing the soil for this since May of 2010. We looked at our history last year at stewardship time. We have had 163 years of meeting our challenges and answering God's call. We have worshipped, studied, prayed, and laughed together.

In getting ready for this stewardship time I read about Johnny Appleseed. Apparently he did not like to graft branches onto trees, even though that would have sped up the process of a new landowner having enough trees to claim the land. He preferred to plant seeds. What I discovered about apple seeds is that they are not as alike as we believe – each seed has the potential to be its own type of apple tree. In other words, you don't have a standard red delicious or Jonathan seed.

Soon we will plant the seeds of a new relationship between pastor and people. Like Johnny, I believe it's best to plant a new seed and not try to graft one branch onto an existing tree. This gives the relationship time to bear its own fruit.

Can I ask you a favor? Do a little gardening around your heart between now and then. Root out all of the dead and not useful chaff. You know what chaff I mean – old resentments toward past pastors, a sense that "the way we've always done it" is the way we should keep doing it, any unrealistic expectations. Then work the soil of your heart a bit. In what ways can you open a place for this new planting? Can you pray for her and her family? Can you think of one or two ways you can help in this transition?

Finally, remember when a new seed is planted it needs time to establish a root system before you see growth. Please water this seed with your prayers, patience, and most of all your worship presence. You are truly a warm hearted people. I know you can do this.

Sincerely,

Pastor Pam



“Do it again,” the choir director said. “We feel rhythm only when the body has it memorized. Then we sing it correctly by habit.”

Much of our life depends upon habit. Who can know what sequences of muscle movements we use to tie a shoe, or drive a car? God did us a favor when he made us creatures of habit. One organist I know said, “If I had to stop and think every time I played a key, soon you’d look for a new organist.” Habits have power. We survive by forming good ones.

But habits can make slaves of us also. Those who bite their nails or wake up in time to go to work even though it’s Saturday know the control of addiction. Almost anything, good or bad, can become a habit. Do it once and it’s easier to do the next time. Someone said, “It would be easier to find a man who has never sinned than to find one who has not committed the same sin twice.”

“Sew an art, reap a habit. Sew a habit, reap a character.”

That insight recognizes the importance of a single decision. Everything we do sets up a pattern. Deliberate choices today become second nature tomorrow.

“Sing it right until it becomes a habit,” the choir director urged.

The writer to the Hebrews said, “. . . not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some.” We have important choices to make!

Belong to the choir requires us to share at least one good routine with Jesus. It can also be said of us, “As his custom was, he entered the temple to worship.”

We had a wonderful first night of rehearsals this past Wednesday, welcoming returning members and rejoicing in new ones! However, there is always, always room for more. Why don’t you make this the year that you start another good routine with Jesus by joining a choir?

Blessings,

*Holly*

Treasurer’s Report  
August 1 – 31, 2011

Total income for August was \$13,162.42. The budgeted funds need \$15,688.00 per month and we received \$11,305.42 toward those expenses. This was a shortage of \$4,382.58. Bills paid totaled \$8,438.95.

Year-to-Date Income vs. Budget

	Amount Received	Amount Budgeted	Actual Expenses
Current Account	\$115,866.48	\$115,336.68	
Total received including “designated gifts”	\$132,205.47		\$96,190.86

In His Name,

10/2	Kathy Meitzler	10/12	Alvin Rehm
10/3	Dan & Mary Rehm	10/13	Bob & Linda Lance
10/4	Lillian Renninger	10/15	Firman Weaver
10/6	Jack Rohr	10/16	Van Simpson
10/6	Mark Spademan	10/17	Tim Chambers
10/6	Jaren Weaver	10/22	B.J. Hoffman
10/8	Emma Shehy	10/23	Dempsey & Pamela Root
10/10	Carol Lantz	10/23	Dan & Kim Hostetler
10/10	Ruth Peterman	10/25	Marilyn Tokheim
10/12	Jillian Mann	10/27	Grayson Smith



Exciting News from the Call Committee

After interviewing three pastors possessing the ministry strengths and gifts needed by the people here at St. Paul’s; after listening to sermons in person or on DVD’s or CD’s of each of the candidates; after prayerful discussion, debate, and deliberation; the call committee **voted unanimously**, by confidential ballot, to recommend Rev. Christine Buyok as the next pastor of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Pastor Kristy, as she calls herself, asserts that her areas of expertise are preaching and worship leadership, children’s ministry, evangelism and mission, pastoral care and visitation, and Christian education. Her additional areas of strength are youth and family ministry, innovation and creativity, teaching, family life, and social ministry. Of the top 5 ministry skills that the call committee felt were most required of our pastor, Pastor Kristy demonstrates all 5! The committee found her to be very friendly and outgoing and passionate about her ministries. Her internship congregation rated **preaching** as her strongest gift, and she says her “goal in leading worship is to proclaim a Living God who is as active today as in the past and to invite all to join in the old, old story.” Her references we called said she was organized, enthusiastic, **very compassionate**, bubbly and funny, a good motivator, and an all-around authentic person. She admits to being a “natural extrovert who enjoys spending time with others and (is) not hesitant in proclaiming Christ as part of that relationship.” She “loves to teach and would like the opportunity to do so both to adults and children.” Pastor Buyok proudly admits to being “passionate about making Christ known through teaching, serving, singing, praying, and living a life where God’s love is evident in word and deed.”

Traveling from South Carolina, where her present parish is located, Pastor Kristy and her family will worship with us on **Sunday morning, October 2**. She and her husband Ernie have two children: Kailyn, 13; and Evan, 8. You can talk with them with coffee and doughnuts in hand after the service. Then, after Sunday School, at 11:30, there will be a **congregational gathering** to meet Pastor and her family, to ask questions of her, and get to know her better, as she will us! Following this “meet and greet,” the Buyok family will be excused momentarily so that an official vote can be taken to call her as our pastor.

Continue to pray for our congregation, but also pray for Pastor Kristy, her family, and her congregation, as God continues to guide all of us. The call committee thanks council and the congregation for your support, prayers, and patience. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, talk to any of the call committee: Tom Boreman, Donna Fetzer, Jerry Meitzler, Lorinda Wolbaugh, Duane Eggeman, and Mark Spademan. We have worked together beautifully with different opinions, distinctive ministry goals and dreams, and fresh perspectives for the singularly significant and exclusive purpose of **discerning God’s vision** for our congregational family.

## Serving Christ on Saturday Evenings in October

	October 1	October 8	October 15	October 22	October 29
<b>Worship Leader:</b>	Pastor Pam	Brian Miller	Brian Miller	Brian Miller	Brian Miller
<b>Reader:</b>	NEEDED	NEEDED	Hans Kwee	NEEDED	NEEDED
<b>Greeter/Usher:</b>	B. & L. Lance	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED
<b>Nursery:</b>	M. Hostetler	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED
<b>Refreshments:</b>	P. Schorle	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED	NEEDED
<b>Communion Asst:</b>	NEEDED				
<b>Communion Set Up &amp; Clean Up:</b>	NEEDED				

## Serving Christ on Sunday Mornings in October

	October 2	October 9	October 16	October 23	October 30
<b>Lay Reader:</b>	Dan Hostetler	Mark Spademan	Donna Fetzer	Pat Simpson	Lyn Miller
<b>Acolyte:</b>	Ethan Mann				
<b>Nursery:</b>	Lesley Miller	Ruth Peterman	Mary Lou Diehl	Madeline Boreman	Lorinda Wolbaugh
<b>Greeters/Ushers:</b>	Mary Lou Diehl Duane Eggeman	J. & K. Meitzler	B. & W. Wagner	S. & N. Carr	Eleanor Gordon Bob Race
<b>Communion Assistant:</b>	Lynn Moomaw				
<b>Altar Care:</b>	Steve & Nancy Carr				
<b>Bread Baker:</b>	Lyn Miller				

## Prayer Requests

### *Your prayers are requested for:*

The families of **Jennifer Keller** and **Bill Weiser**, and **Karrie Dodez Jerry Hutchison** (healing), **Lillian Renninger** (stroke), **Libby Wagner** (undiagnosed muscle pain), **Ginny Barker** (cancer), **Jeff Mark** (cancer), **Nathan Rehm** (hearing), **Shirley Fetter** (health), **Gary Zimmerman** (health), **Vera Skender** (cancer), **Bernie Caldwell** (skin cancer), and **Tyler King**.

## Altar Flowers

October 2 Dan & Mary Rehm  
 October 9 Stephanie & Anthony Carmean  
 October 16 Bob & Linda Lance  
 October 23 Merrilee Sayre  
 October 30 Deb Zimmerman



Dave Wolbaugh



Dan & Mary Rehm

Dear friends at St. Paul....

After much consideration, and talking with my family when they were all here this summer, I have decided to transfer my membership back to Zion Lutheran where my family attended for 40 years.

I would like to thank all of you for your support and prayers in the 11 years I've been a member of St. Paul. Your prayers and cards have meant much to me, as have the tapes and programs that the "tape deliverers" have brought me. I enjoyed my visits with all of you. I hope our paths will cross often, and I'd be happy to have you stop and say 'hello' if you are in Wooster anytime.

Sincerely,

Phyllis Reinheimer



*See you in Sunday School!*

Primary Sunday School this year is going to "meet" some of the Old Testament heroes and heroines: we will be introduced to Abraham and Sarah, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Deborah, and Joshua all before Advent/Christmas.

The teachers for 1st-5th grades will be Adrienne Karlen, Stephanie Carmean and Lesley Miller. Ruth Peterman will be with the Preschoolers and Kindergarteners. Pastor Pam will be leading the Jr. High/High School group.

In October we will be collecting soap for our offering- for LWR- one bar per family would be great! Any child is always welcome to join us- opening is about 10:35-10:45, with class until 11:30 AM. COME, JOIN US and bring a friend!!

If you have any questions or comments- please feel to talk with Jacki Leatherman, Sunday School Coordinator.

St. Paul Council Meeting: September 12, 2011

All members present except Pat C. & Dan H. Devotions were led by Mark M.

Minutes of August 8, 2011 were approved as written. M/S/P Sylvia/Bob

Treasurer's report was approved as submitted. M/S/P Holly/Larry

Tom Boreman reported from the Call Committee. They have asked Christy Buyok to come to a meet/greet with the congregation at a future date.

Motion made to have a congregational vote on acceptance/non-acceptance of Christy B. immediately following the meet/greet. M/S/P Marcia/Holly

Pastor's report was reviewed. The Johnny Appleseed theme (Seeds of Faith) will continue thru the stewardship campaign. We had the best August attendance for several years.

Motion to give \$100 to the Wayne United Chaplin Ministries from the Pastor's Discretionary fund. M/S/P Holly/Bob Pastor Jordan asked for this donation which has been done in the past. It goes to the Wayne Co. Jail & Dunlap Hospital.

Motion to pay in advance the Green Twp. Ministers dues of \$100 now & not wait until Dec. because they need the gas money. M/S/P Holly/Bob

Motion to send the budgeted amount of \$2000 of the Missionary support to Dr.'s Tom & Karen Asher. M/S/P Holly/Bob

Motion to purchase a Baptismal Pulpit hanging from memorial funds for approximately \$300. M/S/P Holly/Marcia

Sunday school classes begin September 18<sup>th</sup>. Pastor reviewed the classes.

Motion that Council commits \$300 per youth/adult chaperon who apply to attend the New Orleans Youth Gathering in 2012. M/S/P Marcia/Bob

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

Next meeting is October 10<sup>th</sup>

Devotions: Pat C

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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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.

						<b>1</b> 5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
<b>2</b> 9:30a Worship 10:45a SS 11:30a “Meet & Greet” Pastor Buyok	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b> 6:30-8p Adult Bible Study @ Church	<b>5</b> 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	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
<b>9</b> 9:30a Worship 10:30a H.S. Choir 10:45a SS	<b>10</b> 1-3p Vesper Circle 6:30p Council Mtg.	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 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	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 2:30p Empty Nesters 5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
<b>16</b> 9:30a Worship 10:45a SS	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b> 6:30-8p Adult Bible Study @ Church	<b>19</b> 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	<b>20</b>  12p	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> 5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship
<b>23/30</b> 9:30a Worship 10:30a H.S. Choir (23rd only) 10:45a SS	<b>24/31</b> 	<b>25</b> 7p Free Spirits	<b>26</b> 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	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 5:25p Band Practice 6:30p Worship