

St. Paul's Newsletter

November 2018



St. Paul's Ev. Lutheran Church
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Matthew 5

Jesus Teaches the Disciples and Crowds

5 Jesus saw the crowds. So he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him. ² Then he began to teach them. Blessed are they.. . .



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“St. Paul’s Church is a community of believers in Jesus Christ committed to helping all people by actively practicing the Gospel in word and deed.”

PASTOR'S LETTER

Here is a wonderful selection of Scripture for the month of November—the month of Thanksgiving. It's "sweet and short." It goes like this: **"Be joyful always; pray continually; give thanks in all circumstances, for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus"** (1 Thess. 5:16-18).

Thanksgiving Day, on Thursday, the 22nd, is one of my all-time favorites. It avoids the hustle and bustle of Christmas, and it has little impact on special service preparations. The Thanksgiving Day service, once again held at 10:00 a.m., is just another simple opportunity to gather and give thanks for the many blessings of the year. I like that! I like the idea of setting away time to reflect on personal blessings because God, indeed, has blessed me **"in all circumstances."**

As matter of fact, when I think of some of the many blessings that we all enjoy as members of St. Paul's—our good health, our comfortable homes, our abundance of food and drink, our beautiful church, our security in the United States of America, the beautiful scenery of New England, and, well, there's just too much to add—I'm reminded of the Scripture quoted above, where it says to **"Be joyful always and to pray continually."**

We all have been touched by God's hand in different ways and at different times. We have all felt the unexplainable push to go here or to go there; we have all felt compelled at one time or another to do this or to do that. And when we look back at the events of our lives, we generally end up saying something like this: "I don't know how I did that at that time or I don't know why I did that when such and such happened. All I do know is that I've made it to this point and God has blessed me all the way."

That's what Thanksgiving is all about—recognizing the hand of God or, and I quote, **"God's will for you in Christ Jesus"** over the course of your life and giving thanks that God becomes so personally involved in all of our lives. So then, enjoy the days ahead and, please, join us at 10:00 a.m. on the 22nd of the month to give thanks and praise for all that God in Christ Jesus does in our behalf.

In Christ,

Pastor Schultz



NOVEMBER 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 9:30 Team 1 James Woods
4 Worship 10:00am No Sunday school Bible Class 9:00am 	5	6 Deacons Meeting 7:00pm	7	8	9	10 9:30 Team 2 Rose Kolawole
11 Worship 10:00am Communion Bible Class 9:00am No Sunday school VETERANS DAY 	12	13	14 Gbarnga Board Meeting 7:00pm	15 Council Meeting 7:00pm	16	17 9:30 Team 3 Richleau Norris
18 Worship 10:00am Bible Class 9:00am	19	20	21	22 service 10:00 am 	23	24 9:30 Team 4 David Martin
25 Worship 10:00am Communion Bible Class 9:00am	26	27	28	29	30	

Nov. 3 Erika Wallington

Nov. 5 Kenneth A. Russell

Nov. 6 Michele Russell Wallace

Nov. 12 William Varfley

Nov. 13 Antionette Dahn

David Ballah Jr.

Randell Z. Dauda

Nov. 15 Cianneh Akoiwala



Nov. 17 Elizabeth Barclay

Nov. 20 Martin Kuepker

Nov. 22 Erika Rennert-May

Nov. 24 Kevin Kehyei

Nov. 25 Spencer Seitz, Sr.

Nov. 26 Tiffany Russell

Nov. 27 Joan Schultz



Nov. 3 Mr. & Mrs. Mack Makor (38th)

Nov. 4 Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Robinson
(11th)

NOVEMBER ALTAR SCHEDULE 2018

	READER/ACOLYTES	COMM. ASSISTANT	ALTAR GUILD	USHERS
4	Titi Adekeye Dane Watson	Steven Nagbe Bill Oehlkers	Mary Abbenante Hellen Miller	Leela Ballah Seaniah Ballah Solomon Paye Hardlyn Dauda
11	David Martin Titi Adekeye		Mary Abbenante Hellen Miller	Rick Sinnigen Mack Makor Onu Stevens Andrew Mastrostefano
18	Rick Sinnigen Christopher Dauda	Joe Norris Rick Sinnigen	Mary Abbenante Hellen Miller	Kim King, Bill King Dennis Kollie Helen Miller
25	Danlette Norris George Roberts		Mary Abbenante Hellen Miller	Kevin Kehyei Danlette Norris George Dauda Grace Dauda

MINUTES OF CHURCH COUNCIL

Sept. 20, 2018

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Church Council was called to order at 7:20 p.m., on Thursday, Sept. 20, 2018, by Finance Committee Chair Richard Sinnigen at the request of Secretary David Martin. Present were: Mr. Sinnigen, Mr. Martin, Financial Secretary Donna Buco, Chairperson of the Board of Deacons Joe Norris, Chairperson of the Board of Social Ministry Danlette Norris, and Pastor Leon Schultz. The meeting opened with a prayer offered by Pastor.

Approval of Minutes. A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2018, Church Council meeting.

Treasurer's Report. Dan Robinson sent in the Treasurer's Report for the period Jan. 1 through Aug. 31, 2018. Total income during this period was \$138,599.58 and total disbursements were \$120,894.87, resulting in net ordinary income of \$17,704.71. The balance of Memorial Funds as of Aug. 31, 2018, is \$247,615.04.

Pastor's Report. Pastor reported that attendance at worship over the summer has been good, averaging 125-130 on a Sunday. Of note, we have had an increase in baptisms with Sebastian Michael Smith on July 8, Erza Zota Makor and Raynna Anais Sajous on Sept. 9, and Emonie Summer on Sept. 16, 2018. Bible Class and Sunday School will start in October. The children will go downstairs for Sunday School after the reading of the Gospel on the second, third, and fourth Sundays of the month. The first and fifth Sunday of the month will be a family worship Sunday, and the children will remain upstairs. This schedule will allow the Sunday School teachers to participate in the full worship service on some Sundays.

Deacons. Joe Norris reported that the Deacons did not meet but that they would meet next month. The photo directory of the congregation is almost complete with the final corrections being made. The projected cost for the directory is \$35 per copy. This figure prompted extended discussion by the Council. It was decided that an effort will be made to produce the directory ourselves without using a professional printer. Danlette called Richlieu Norris and asked him to give the computer file containing the photographs to Donna. Donna will attempt to put together a directory on the church computer. Rick Sinnigen offered to help Donna with this.

Trustees. David Martin reported that the carpeting in the school basement which was damaged by flooding will be removed and replaced with tile on Saturday, Sept. 29. David is planning to paint the gas pipes located outside the kitchen on Sept. 22. The Trustees want to have the frame of the Rose window caulked and painted before the new plexiglass shield is installed. Trustee Rich Norris has assumed responsibility for cutting the grass on a weekly basis. Tree planting is scheduled for Saturday, Oct. 20, beginning at 8:30 a.m. David will be seeking volunteers to help with the planting and watering.

Finance. Rick Sinnigen said he had nothing to report.

Social Ministry. Danlette Norris reported that the freezer has been purchased. Members of Social Ministry continue to visit the sick and shut-ins. The Women's Tea will be held on Sept. 30, and the money raised will benefit the Gbarnga Lutheran Mission School.

Old Business. Tree Planting. David reported that the Providence Neighborhood Planting Program had asked if St. Paul's would consent to some of our asphalt inside the small parking lot being cut to allow each tree to have a 4 x 6 feet spot of bare ground. This would allow the trees to be planted inside the fence. If St. Paul's declines, a lesser number of trees will be planted outside of the fence. After discussion, **a motion was made, seconded, and passed that St. Paul's not consent to having the asphalt in the small parking lot cut.**

Trash Collection. Joe thanked Rick Sinnigen for his work in obtaining the new trash collection contractor. There have been no problems since the change over. David noted that the trash contract states that there is a \$100 charge for every tire that is placed in the dumpster. David said to contact him if there are tires to be disposed.

New Business. Litter. The following motion was made by David Martin, seconded by Rick Sinnigen, and passed: "Because the appearance of the church and its grounds is a factor in whether people choose to worship at St. Paul's, and because that appearance can be marred by litter, effective Jan. 1, 2019, the duties of the church secretary shall include picking up litter from the church grounds on a daily basis, and to compensate her for performing this task, which is outside the scope of those normally performed by a church secretary, her annual compensation shall be increased by 2%, which increase shall be in addition to any cost of living increase recommended by the Board of Deacons and/or Board of Finance for 2019."

Alarm. Danlette reported that over the summer she has had to respond to the church on four occasions after being contacted by the alarm company. Each time she found nothing amiss. David will check with Dan to see if we have been charged as a result of these alarms.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m. with recitation of The Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

David L. Martin, Secretary

This motion was rescinded at the Oct. 18, 2018, Church Council meeting.

These minutes were approved at the Oct. 18, 2018, Church Council meeting.