

# The Lamplighter

St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
West Deptford, NJ  
November-December  
2022

## Sunday School Bazaar & Yard Sale, Nov. 5th

We will hold our annual Sunday School Bazaar & Yard Sale on Saturday, November 5, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., rain or shine.

Items for sale include: holiday decorations, handmade crafts, jewelry, boutique, baked goods, deli items, and yard sale/white elephants.

Breakfast and lunch will be served, including homemade cinnamon buns and homemade soup. Bring the family!

All proceeds benefit the Sunday School, allowing us to purchase materials and offer Vacation Bible School.



*Elaine Luoma*

PUMPKIN PARTY was a fun Sunday School event!  
Awesome costumes and a visit from Logan!

## Winner, Winner, Chicken Dinner!

Rode's Chicken BBQ  
Dinner is back!

When: Sunday, Nov. 13th

Time: 11 am—3 pm

**TAKE OUT ONLY**

Advance tickets: \$14 (A limited quantity of tickets may be available at the door \$15, but no guarantees!)

**Menu:** Rode's Half-Chicken, Homemade Coleslaw, Baked Beans, Corn, Roll & Butter, Dessert

For tickets please call Sharon Rutter: 856.848.5021 or email at [shrutter2@gmail.com](mailto:shrutter2@gmail.com)



PHOTO (left): We had some great help back in April at our last Chicken BBQ!



If you see either Mary Ann or Denise at church, you may put in your tickets requests with them as well.

Please make all checks payable to "St. Paul's UMC" and remember to not mail checks to the church.



Ranch  
Sunday

# PRAYER Requests

## ALL Prayers:

For our country, For the Ukrainian people, For peace, Logan S needs ongoing prayer & family, Cameron always needs prayer & family, Sharon starting chemo, CB lungs, Dottie D health issues, Jim L medical procedure, Family & friends of Eleanor M, Judy R dialysis migraines neuropathy, Rick bladder surgery healing well, Theo, Lil Q fall, Barb J still healing from fall, Hannah P recent surgery, Family & friends of Dorothy H, PD vacation, Pastor George praise was with us, Sue T at home and caregivers, Becky C lung cancer, Joyce concerned about friends, Ida & Jack O elderly not doing well, Judy L rough times, Family & friends of Miriam S, Penny L heart cath, Steve hosp tests, Len H tests, Lynne not feeling well, Unspoken requests, Kathie's friend worried medical issues, Valerie mental & physical health challenges, Family Promise, Our SS & their party, Lillie L in CHOP & family, Matthew from Australia, Bernice N lost another sister, Pat's granddaughter age 3 hand surg, Pat health issues, Eleanor health issues, Angus mom dying in Canada, Darlene close to passing, Jerry blood clot, Diane breast cancer surgery, Chris T healing from arm surgery, Dottie D home from hospital very weak, Ruth S home from ManorCare after UTI, Unspoken needs & requests, Mary S fell off treadmill hurting, Kelly breast cancer,

Sharon R starting chemo, Jeff health challenges, Ann foot surgery, Kim new health issues, Ann fighting cancer, Bishop John Schol, District Supt. Glenn Conaway, Sue job interview, Michele C battling cancer, Lil Q praise turning 100, Megan D home from hosp keep praying, Joseph healing and faith, Denise recovering brain aneurysm, Residents of FL and SC affected by hurricane, Friend's son back to using, Tyler's boss critical condition accident & family, Nephew's father scan spot on lungs, Two friends with cancer, Carla's niece diabetes & very fast heartbeat, Family & friends of Dave H, Joyce N infection in leg, Tara breast health issues, Joyce very ill hospital, Paul B heart attack Dixie abscessed tooth, Patty covid & pneumonia, Tonya drug & alcohol addiction, Pastor Dave & family, Tyler S sad and stressed, Mary & Harley S adjusting to school, Glenda fell but okay, Diane F breast cancer, Steve D in rehab, Annette D healing

**Every week:** All those in need, unspoken requests, all service men/women, our nation and leaders.

## Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Mary B., Joyce N., Hope T., Gerry M., Chris S., Janet B., Terry D., Corey T., Ruth S.

## Serving in the Military:

Caitlyn Um, Daniel Domeraski, Kailey Roller, Gabby Townsley, Dan Solano, Chris Yard, Rachel Rachuba, Donna Rachuba, Ed Schwebel, Brandon Howell, Shaina Serrano

## Shut-Ins & Nursing Home Residents:

Edie M., Ron & Eve C., Rosie P., Mary B., Gloria L.

## November Birthdays & Anniversaries

2- Tori Spinella  
 3- Carla Branyan  
 3- Sandy Spellman  
 4- Meghan & Nick Beidle  
 4- Chris Taylor  
 4- Dick Wagner  
 5- Lori Brown  
 8- Mikayla Wright  
 9- Erika Haase  
 9- Mike Keegan  
 9- Ariel Morgan  
 11- Brayden Zirbser  
 12- Barbara Jones  
 12- Edith McC Carson  
 12- Brenda Toppin  
 13- Dominic Haase  
 15- Penny Budd  
 16 - Katie Panetta  
 17- Mike & Joanne Keegan  
 19- Daniel Dugan Jr.  
 23- Luke Wright  
 24- Abigail DiVento  
 24- Evan Haase  
 24- Nancy Jones  
 24- Sandy Wagner  
 25- Dave & Patty Fish  
 25- Deanna Kyser  
 26- Grayson Luoma  
 27- Betsy Hosier  
 30- Matt Huesser

## December Birthdays & Anniversaries

1- Gerry Miller  
 3- Joe & Barbara Jones  
 4- Pat Parker  
 7- Nina Marie Englett  
 7- Eve Cervantes  
 7- Nancy & Tom Jones  
 8- Carol Strock  
 9- Aaron Toppin  
 11- Emma Grace Domeraski  
 15- Ella Rose Kaiser  
 16- Jacob Panetta  
 16- Amy & Christian White  
 18 - Jeffrey Morris, Jr.  
 19- Kieran Hartnett  
 20- Betsy & Jeff Hartnett  
 21- Patricia Davis  
 21- Blair Weber  
 24- Nicholas Heister  
 24- Steven Lawson  
 25- Jesus  
 26- Margaret Reichert  
 27- Rich Favretto  
 28- Alexis Favretto  
 31- Scarlett Hartnett  
 31- Gabriel Jones



**CHEERS TO 100 YEARS!!**  
 Our dear Lillian Quillin turned 100 in October. She is an amazing lady and a wonderful Christian... and she's on Facebook!!

### THE LAMPLIGHTER

Bimonthly Newsletter of  
 St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
 PO Box 125, West Deptford, NJ 08086  
 Pastor: Rev. Dave Delaney  
 Phone (856) 845-6638  
 E-mail pastor@stpaulsthorofare.com  
 Sunday Morning Worship ..... 9:30 a.m.  
 Sunday School ..... 10:45 a.m.

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# Welcoming the Glory of the Lord

*The Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified... Luke 2: 9b*

Have you ever paid close attention to Luke's historic reporting of the Christmas story? I know that every Advent/Christmas season I make sure that once again I hear Linus share the reading from the Gospel of Luke on 'A Charlie Brown Christmas.' I try to watch it on TV to help the ratings, but I own at least two DVD copies as well. Here's Linus taking center stage reading from the King James version of the Gospels:

*And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them.*

But it's the next words that have caught my attention as I start to consider Christmas 2022, and perhaps it's the particular image of Christmas gifts that I found online that led me to the second part of verse 9. "*The Lord's glory shone around them, and they were terrified.*" It made me consider my Christmas mornings ... my God connection.

Just imagine WHAT IF one box under your Christmas tree held the glory of the Lord, and when you opened it you were surrounded by the presence of God and Christ amidst your many gifts that the jolly old elf brought down the chimney. And what if God asked, "What are you doing this Christmas ... celebrating my Son's birth, I see." Would you be terrified? I know I would be.



We have allowed our politicians to focus on whether clerks in stores say Merry Christmas even if they hold other traditions of faith that might lead them to want to say Happy Hanukkah instead. We have become angry during the Christmas season, vocally expressing our displeasure both at those clerks and also over other shoppers who bought the last item on our list; perhaps we lay on the horn at the shopping plaza when an older driver becomes confused because after all ... it is Christmas, and you need to get your shopping done.

All too many individuals have reduced their God and Christ connection to the one-hour (please no longer than one hour pastor because we must get ready for Christmas) Christmas Eve worship services that allow them to sing Silent Night Holy Night before becoming silent about Jesus throughout the rest of the year—even on the date reserved to celebrate the love gift of God for all humanity.

So imagine this Christmas season that the glory of the Lord shone upon you and the angel of the Lord appeared. What can you think of doing for our God? Our Savior? Jesus, whose birth we celebrate this season?

Will this be the Christmas season in which your crèche/manger scene has prominence amongst your decorations? Is this the Advent season when you will invite family and friends to come to worship at St. Paul's—not just on Christmas Eve but on the Sundays leading up to Christmas? Will Christmas 2022 be the Christmas when

you make sure your children, grandchildren, nephews, and nieces know that December 25th is a special day, and it's not about the glowing red nose on a storybook reindeer.

Can you share your celebration of the reality of Jesus Christ... the joy you have not just for yourself but for the world? Can you be like the shepherds who were momentarily filled with fear but upon gazing at Jesus they: "*returned glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.*"

Jesus ... a Christmas gift worth sharing in 2022 and beyond! And we each have received that special gift ... PRAISE GOD! (Right? Praise God?)

*Pastor Dave*



## Outreach

### Wrapping Up the Year

#### Upcoming Mission Projects & Offerings

- **November**
  - ◇ Our first Sunday offering (Nov. 6) will benefit our Discretionary Fund.
  - ◇ On the third Sunday (Nov. 20) the offering is for the Neighborhood Center of Camden.

The Neighborhood Center in Camden focuses on a two-generation approach to lifting families out of poverty. They are committed to providing a safe space for Academic achievement, Athletic accomplishment, and a flourishing Arts program.

- **December**
  - ◇ Our first Sunday offering (Dec. 4) is United Methodist Student Day.
  - ◇ Our third Sunday (Dec. 18) will be supporting the Angel Wreath & Shared Ministries.

Everyone looks forward to the Angel Wreath Mission. We hope this year you will be able to take an angel from our wreath and do some shopping for the needy in our community.

Many thanks to all of the St. Paul's family for your generous outpouring of support to our Mission Projects during these difficult times. We remain a community of love for all.



## Community Relations Team News

Gather your favorite recipes. In January we will start collecting them for the St. Paul's Cookbook. Appetizers, entrees, soups, and desserts. If it's a family favorite, we want to include it. I am sure we will see a few from Chef PD in the book.

Sunday Soup will be back on December 4th. Cabbage beef soup, one of the specialties from the Piston Diner.

Back by popular demand, the Palm Sunday Pancake Breakfast. More details coming later.

Don't forget, if you shop at ShopRite, gift cards are available every Sunday from Mary Ann. The church receives 5% and you get face value in groceries.

*The CRT*

### SOUP SUNDAY



1st Sunday of the month

**Next Soup Sunday: Dec. 4**  
**Flavor: Cabbage Beef**

Order online or by calling  
or seeing Mary Ann Jones.

Thanks to the PISTON  
Diner for the delicious soup!

## Flute Concerts at St. Paul's

We are very pleased to announce a partnership with the Gloucester Co. Flute Ensemble. We will host two concerts with them this year:

- Sunday, November 13 at 4 p.m.
- Sunday, December 18 at 1 p.m.

The GCFE is a community group of adult flute players who perform quality music for events in the South Jersey area. Flutists from Gloucester County and the surrounding area have the opportunity to perform in a choir, while striving to improve musicianship in a supportive and congenial environment. The members represent a range of professions and have diverse musical backgrounds; many have rediscovered their love of

playing the flute after time away establishing careers and families.

The Ensemble was founded by Jeanne Andrews, a Deptford resident and music teacher at Petway Elementary School in Vineland. Last year Andrews was honored to be one of 219 music teachers from across the country named quarter finalists for the 2022 Music Educator Award, presented by the Recording Academy and the Grammy Foundation.





# Join our Potluck Celebration on December 1st

Mark down on your calendar  
**THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1st at  
6 pm!!!**

If you love St. Paul's United Methodist Church and you enjoy eating, then we want you to be with us as we celebrate the ministry of our church this past year and as we look into the future! We are going to party that evening with our District Superintendent, Rev. Glenn Conaway while holding our annual church "charge conference," the business meeting of the church.

We have so much to celebrate at St. Paul's, and the Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas season is the perfect time to enjoy each other's company while recognizing that we have a pretty awesome church for worship, mission, and friendships!

We have not had a potluck dinner since before COVID when we held Friday night potluck meals for our



Family Promise Friday Candy Bingo nights. Those nights will not be coming back under the new structure of Family Promise, but it is about time for us to enjoy a meal together!

Everyone is invited and you don't have to feel obliged to bring anything, but we are asking for some of you to bring side dishes to share. We will be purchasing some food and I will be making a main course plus some soup and perhaps even one of the desserts that I have made recently on PD@930 IN THE KITCHEN. If you are going to bring a side dish

please contact me so that we can make sure we are offering a variety of dishes for all of us to enjoy. Email [pdatstpauls@gmail.com](mailto:pdatstpauls@gmail.com).

Our business meeting starts at 6:30 pm but it's not very involved or lengthy because things are going so well at St. Paul's! Yes, there is a scheduled choir practice that evening but you can still eat, celebrate, share in the business meeting, and practice with the choir.

Starting the meal at 6 pm means it will be an early night, so mark it on your calendar and get ready to celebrate and party. You as a friend or member of St. Paul's have helped make 2022 an incredible fantastic year in mission and ministry for God and Christ!!!

I can't wait to start thinking about the party we will have next year!!!

*Pastor Dave*

*Heaven  
and  
Nature  
Sing*  
**Christmas Carol Sing**  
*Friday, December 2, 2022*  
*Join us to celebrate  
the season!*  
*Refreshments following.*

**Holiday  
Worship  
Schedule**  
**Christmas Eve**  
**Worship**  
*Saturday, December 24*  
**5 & 7 p.m.**  
*Service of Carols and  
Candlelight*  
**Please Join Us!**

**Sunday School  
Pageant & Party**  
**Sunday, Dec. 18**  
**Pageant 9:30 a.m.**  
**Party 10:45 a.m.**  
**All families are invited!**

# Celebrating our Food Pantry's 12th Year!

St. Paul's Food Pantry is about to celebrate our 12th year of service to the community! When I started this journey more than a decade ago, I was focused on what I could do for the church and the community. I had no idea just how much this mission would bring to me personally. I tend to be a bit shy around those outside of my family and friends, and I don't often step outside of that comfort zone. I'm known for my love of organization and my ability to whip things into shape (not literally whip, but you know what I mean). Family and friends often tease me about this. When Pastor Val Garron approached me more than a decade ago, my fingers tingled. I couldn't help myself, so I took a chance and I am so happy that I did.

Today, St. Paul's Food Pantry distributes food twice a month. We have a wonderful group of volunteers, and we'd be lost without them. During the height of the pandemic, we had to pivot to food deliveries and distribution outdoors. Our volunteers are quick to do whatever is needed, including braving the elements and sharing smiles and kind words with the folks we serve. They really embody the spirit of our mission – to share God's love through service. Never has such care and kindness been more needed. There are amazing people in our church family, and I'm better for knowing them.

The growth we were able to achieve in our food pantry put St. Paul's in the spotlight. This past Spring, the CEO of the Food Bank of South Jersey invited me to join their Board as a representative of the

food pantries in Gloucester County. It was time for me to take another chance and stretch a bit further outside my comfort zone.

With support and encouragement from my friends and family (including my church family), I accepted the invitation. The Board members are warm, welcoming, and invested in serving the communities of South Jersey as best as possible. I'm proud to represent our church and food pantry.

Finally, I would like to recognize all of the members of the church for your time, your donations of food, your financial support, and your

encouragement. Your contributions are vital to the support St. Paul's Food Pantry provides to this community. On behalf of the pantry and the people we serve, thank you and may God bless you.

*Carol Strock*

Food Pantry Coordinator





COMMUNITY

## Thanksgiving

WORSHIP SERVICE

### Thanksgiving Worship

Sun., Nov. 20

5:00 pm  
National Park UMC

Bring food donations  
to church to benefit  
our food pantry

*Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and  
into his courts with praise. Be thankful unto  
him and bless his name. Psalm 100:4*





**BRIDGE OVER TROUBLED WATER:** We were blessed by a flute solo from Barbara Jones's granddaughter, Emilee Townsley on August 28th. We were also blessed by Barbara's testimony that Sunday. What a wonderful family!



**UNDIE SUNDAYS** were a great success!

Thanks so much to Chris & Charlie Taylor for collecting underwear and pjs for Seeds of Hope in Camden.

A number of children were happy to start school with new underwear.



**CHURCH DÉCOR EXPERT:** Many thanks to Chris McGee for this beautiful table display in Hickman Hall. Chris always does a beautiful seasonal display, and we thank her for her continued dedication to creating beautiful tablescapes to enhance our worship.



**THANK YOU, TEACHERS!** On Rally Day, September 11, we not only enjoyed seeing our kids back, but also installed our new teachers for this Sunday School year. Many thanks to them for taking on this important ministry, and especially to Sunday School Superintendent Elaine Luoma.



**THANK YOU** for your donations to Ukraine! We raised almost \$3,000 to purchase tourniquets and batteries and other supplies that were desperately needed by the patriots of the Ukraine. We welcomed PD's former youth group member Cindy Dretel, and it was an honor to receive this beautiful piece of art, which will always remain in our church as a reminder of our connection to the people of the Ukraine.



# Children's Ministry



## What Are Your Favorite Hymns or Songs?

I love music, and that is probably obvious because I am St. Paul's Music Director. It is such a privilege and pleasure to play music in church, because it allows me to worship God in a special way that is described in Scripture.

As Music Director, I want to hear from you as to the hymns/songs of faith that you would like to hear. Every Sunday morning, I play music of my choosing before worship starts and during the offertory. I would like to play what you would like to hear during those moments in faith, so I am asking you to e-mail or call me with your suggestions [Gsteeffee@hotmail.com](mailto:Gsteeffee@hotmail.com) or 856-582-1984.

Isn't our choir great?! Their voices just make me feel so good each Sunday. I would love to have more members in the choir, so if you have ever considered singing in a choir ours would be the perfect place to start. However, I know some of you don't have the time for a year-long commitment so I would like to offer you the opportunity to sing with the choir during the Advent and Christmas season. Just call or email me if you are interested.

*Glenda*



RALLY DAY was the second Sunday in September, and we were thrilled to welcome our kids back to Sunday School! They read scripture and helped out during worship that Sunday, as some of our kids do every Sunday. Zack leads us in the offertory prayer, and we have had a number of children as acolytes. A healthy church welcomes kids in worship!!





# Many Opportunities to Join Us

"If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old is gone ... the new has come!" 2 Corinthians 5:17

It's almost time to make those New Year's resolutions that won't be kept for more than a few weeks because we are creatures of habit. When you found Jesus Christ for your life ... were you changed forever or did the old come back to rule the roost?

Yes, 2022 is quickly slipping away but before the New Year arrives, our church, St. Paul's United Methodist Church, is offering numerous opportunities to worship, to be with friends, and to have a good time with people of faith!

In November, the men have breakfasts on November 5th and November 16th at 8 am at the Piston Diner in Westville.



November 5th is that amazing Holiday Bazaar where you just might find one or more special treasures that someone else just couldn't use. I found my waffle maker at last year's Bazaar!

On November 6th we celebrate the saints of our church and share in Holy Communion!

November 13th is the CHICKEN BARBECUE featuring Rode's delicious chicken with all the fixins! This is an important fund raiser for the church and it's our

opportunity to connect friends and family with St. Paul's! Also on the 13th is the first concert with our new partners, the Gloucester County Flute Ensemble!

Sunday, November 20th at 5 pm we travel to National Park to share in our thanksgiving to God with other local United Methodist churches. Charlie Taylor from our church will be providing the music.

Advent arrives on November 27th leading us up to the Children's Pageant on December 18th. December 18th is also the Parsonage Open House beginning at 11:30. Donna, Megan, and I would love to have you stop by for some food and conversation.

*Pastor Dave*

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## Celebrate & Spread the Word!

There's a party goin' on right here  
A celebration to last throughout the years

So bring your good times and your laughter too!

St. Paul's United Methodist Church of West Deptford has a lot to celebrate as we wrap up the year 2022!!! We are a vital congregation that is active in missions and ministry!! We worship passionately with joy, welcoming anyone who chooses to join us! Any and every member of the world can join us for worship, ministry, and leadership! We celebrate loving God and loving neighbors!



If you are like me, when you have something wonderful happening in your life you want your friends, family, neighbors, co-workers, and the entire world to know about it!!! You want to give everyone a chance to get in with the joy and happiness!!!

Frankly, we don't do that with church. We keep the joy ... the peace ... the comfort of friends ... to ourselves.

So, as this year heads towards its end, I would like to INVITE YOU to use your social media to invite your friends to church!

In the coming weeks, we will be posting a variety of graphics and storylines to our FACEBOOK page, our TWITTER, and our INSTAGRAM. All you have to do is SHARE what we post to your friends and family; you don't even have to comment, but you can comment if you'd like.

To make sure that St. Paul's thrives, we need to make sure we grow! We need new families coming to church and we need old friends coming back home to feel connected with God and Christ.

You don't have to RSVP to this invitation, but I sure hope you will begin the habit of sharing St. Paul's posts on your social media.