

## Potluck Supper & Church Conference

Our Church Conference will be held on

**Monday, November 18 at St. Paul's.**

We will begin with a potluck supper at 6 p.m. and move on to the business of the church at 6:30. The Church Conference will be led by our District Superintendent Rev. Glenn Conaway.

**Why Should You Come?**  
Besides being a celebration of our ministry, the annual

St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
West Deptford, New Jersey

Potluck Supper and  
**ANNUAL CHURCH CONFERENCE**  
COME, EAT, AND BE HEARD

VISION  
MISSION  
MINISTRY

MONDAY,  
NOVEMBER 18  
6:00 PM

Call Us 856-845-6638  
Our Location 74 Church Street West Deptford, NJ 08086  
Website [stpaulsalive.org](http://stpaulsalive.org)

church conference is when we accomplish the business of the church. We will elect officers and chairpersons, approve the pastor's salary, and conduct the official business of the church.

We're hoping for a large turnout this year, so please try to make it. This is YOUR church— come celebrate our ministry!

Blessings,

*Pastor Dave*

## Christmas Carol Sing December 6

Our annual Christmas Carol Sing will be held on Friday, December 6 at 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Ice Cream Social to follow in Hickman Hall!

Dave and Patty Fish would love for any of you to share your talents with us again. If you would like to do a vocal or instrumental solo or duet, please let Patty know so that she can put you on the schedule. We look forward to this special evening of singing our favorite Christmas carols and celebrating your talents. And Lapp's Ice Cream tops it all off!



**St Paul's will be hosting the Red Cross Blood Drive on:**

Friday, November 29, 12 - 5pm  
Friday, December 27, 12 - 5pm

Our nation's blood supply is fragile - there is a significant need for blood donors! All blood types are in high demand. Please consider donating at this or any local drive.

**Contact the Red Cross at 800-RED-CROSS or at [www.redcross.org](http://www.redcross.org) to schedule your appointment today!**

# Prayer REQUESTS

## ALL Prayers:

For our country  
 For peace  
 For all those in the world who are hungry  
 For everyone who is ill  
 For those affected by war  
 Those affected by hurricanes & tornadoes  
 Logan S headaches  
 Elaine W chemo needs strength  
 Kathie S ongoing cancer treatment  
 Sharon R cancer treatment & tests  
 Janet B at home waiting for God's will  
 Cameron always needs prayer & family  
 Pastor Dave radiation treatment  
 Steve M recovering from neurosurgery & Gerry  
 Joe H recovering from retinal surgery  
 Len H biopsies infection  
 Adam K MS  
 Pat P back pain  
 Martha G hosp health challenges  
 Kathy D auto accident injuries  
 Family & friends of Dottie A  
 Peggy P praise good test results  
 Doug S setback after surgery  
 Teresa and her mother  
 Cathy's brother & family lost 2nd daughter  
 Julie G carotid artery surgery  
 Rosie P moving  
 Doug S praise surgery went well  
 Pat D sick  
 Wayne's brother-in-law hosp  
 Richard M praise doing better  
 Family & friends of Jim G  
 Family & friends of Helene G  
 Allison health issues  
 Janet B praise 94th bday  
 George D hosp stem cell transp & wife Margaret  
 Bert T praise okay now  
 Robert W stroke in ICU

Mary Ann J praise passed test!  
 Carol M still leg & knee problems  
 Eric paraplegic broke femur confined to bed  
 Owen brain surgery  
 Family & friends of Bernadette  
 Liz treatment for cancer  
 Dolores treatment for cancer  
 David K on hospice & wife Laurie  
 Bud M recovering from surgery  
 Carol D in PT for knee  
 Rick new health issues  
 Lorraine cancerous lump neck  
 Glenn L mesothelioma  
 Bill G infection in leg  
 H family grandson drowned  
 Donna's cousin in SC hurricane  
 Family & friends of Rev. Jack Pitman Manor residents covid  
 Denise C chemo  
 Kelli brain tumor and expecting  
 Sue back surgery  
 Emma Grace lump infection  
 Anita lost husband  
 Wayne S knee problems  
 Gloria L bad fall  
 Sandi helping friends  
 Woman crying in ER  
 Jake S age 10 out of options

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

## Ongoing Prayer Concerns:

Joyce N., Gerry M., Janet B., Kathie S., Sharon R., Elaine W., Cindy F., Logan S., Dave D.

## Serving in the Military:

Michael Nahas, Caitlyn Um, Erynn Plasket, Dan Solano, Chris Yard, Rachel Rachuba, Donna Rachuba, Ed Schwebel, Brandon Howell, Shaina Serrano

## Shut-Ins & Nursing Home Residents:

Janet B., Rosie P., Mary B., Gloria L., Barb H., Sue T., Bernice N.

## November Birthdays & Anniversaries

3- Carla Branyan  
 3- Sandy Spellman  
 4- Meghan & Nick Beidle  
 4- Chris Taylor  
 5- Lori Brown  
 7- Peggy & John Pagano  
 8- Mikayla Wright  
 9- Erika Haase  
 9- Mike Keegan  
 9- Ariel Morgan  
 11- Brayden Zirbser  
 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  
 26- Grayson Luoma  
 27- Betsy Hartnett  
 30- Matt Huesser

## December Birthdays & Anniversaries

1- Gerry Miller  
 3- Joe & Barbara Jones  
 4- Julie Gonteski  
 4- Pat Parker  
 7- Nina Marie Englett  
 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  
 17- Terry Dameika  
 19- Kieran Hartnett  
 20- Betsy & Jeff Hartnett  
 21- Patricia Davis  
 24- Nicholas Heister  
 24- Steven Lawson  
 25- Jesus  
 26- Margaret Reichert  
 27- Rich Favretto  
 28- Alexis Favretto  
 31- Scarlett Hartnett  
 31- Gabriel Jones

### 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.

### Staff

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The *LampLighter* is published bimonthly, in Jan., March, May, July, Sept. & Nov. Deadline is the 15th of the month preceding publication. For more info contact Trista C Jones or email



**THANK YOU EVERYONE** that helped with our Chicken BBQ, especially Sharon Rutter, overall chair; Denise Hosier, publicity and online sales chair; and everyone that helped prepare, serve, and/or sell tickets. The West Deptford Police Department was one of our best customers! We are happy to report that it was a sellout! The money earned from this effort will help our church finances!



# These Two Commands of God

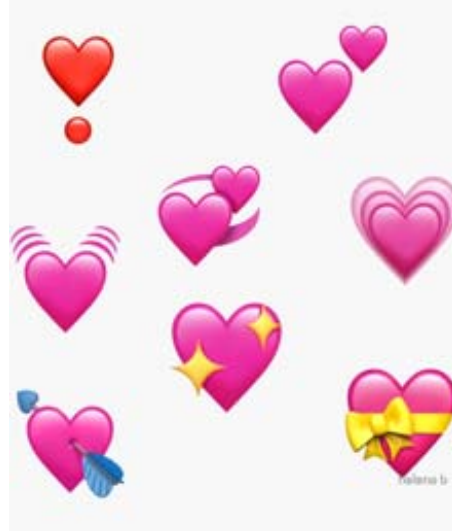
And all the commandments, all the laws and the words of the prophets rest on these two commands of God ... LOVE GOD and LOVE ALL of your neighbors as yourself!

It's the end of another year, which means Thanksgiving and Christmas will soon be our focus, at least until December 26th. It is a season when we declare we are thankful and a season when we make lists of stuff we want. It's a season when people get angry if someone says 'Happy Holidays' even though it is a holiday season.

It's a time when we are focused on us. Our Thanksgiving tradition, our Christmas tree, and our gift lists. But I am in the mood for love, as the song goes.

The other day one of my high school friends put a heart emoji as a comment on one of my morning PD@930 video streams. That was an affirmation that the day's message made this friend happy. Posting hearts online, which I do all the time, is not a statement of love but of appreciation. However, what is wrong with declaring to friends of either sex that you love them? God did tell us to LOVE all our neighbors, not to merely accept them as neighbors.

Are we, or are you, afraid to say you love someone who is not a person in an "involved" relationship or marriage with you? Do you get angry with a person you are in a relationship



with if they tell a friend that they love them?

It is so bizarre how we diminish God's command, and perhaps that is why we find it so easy to join voices of prejudice and division. If we don't love our neighbors then we most certainly can put them down, mock them, or imply they have less value than ourselves.

God and Jesus Christ were clear we are to LOVE all our neighbors!! We are to take care of the poor!! Clear Scriptures, and we also are to love the poor amongst us, we are to love the homeless amongst us, we are to love those different than us. Basically it is all about love.

I am in a text group with several friends who graduated high school with me. Some of us were friends back then but we are all really close now. Our group includes former cheerleaders, athletes, and nerds. The group's members are both

married and single but the one ongoing common message we share in texts and when we see each other is that we truly love each other. We love each other and would do anything to help each other. When Laurie's mother died recently, we all openly told Laurie we love her even though Bob is the love of her life.

So this holiday season, let us be more open about posting hearts on our social media. Let's use the words I LOVE YOU openly with each other, giving others encouragement in life. NEVER EVER criticize someone for sharing the simple words 'I love you' with another human, because God wants us to love all our neighbors.

And, as your Pastor ... please know I LOVE ALL OF YOU!

Blessings,

*Pastor Dave*



## Outreach

### Wrapping Up the Year

#### Upcoming Mission Projects & Offerings

- **November**
  - ◇ Our first Sunday offering (Nov. 3) will benefit the Discretionary Fund.
  - ◇ On the third Sunday (Nov. 17) 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. 1) is United Methodist Student Day.
  - ◇ On the third Sunday (Dec. 15) we 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 our adopted family.

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

*Cheri Clement*

**Community  
OUTREACH**



Gloucester County Flute Ensemble  
**Fall Spectacular!**  
ENJOY A CONCERT FROM  
CLASSICS TO MODERN MUSIC!  
**Sunday, November 17th - 4:00 pm**  
St. Pauls United Methodist Church  
of West Deptford  
74 Church Street  
West Deptford, NJ 08086  
**Free Admission**  
The GCFE is a community of flute  
players committed to working together  
and performing quality flute  
ensemble literature.  
Come check us out!

**Order  
Your  
Poinsettias**

*The Guiding Lights are selling  
**Poinsettias \$10 each***

*Prestige Red, Pure White,  
Christmas Beauty Pink*

**Order forms in church  
or call Carol at  
856-853-1290.**

*Pick-up at the church at  
either Christmas Eve service.*

**Orders due Dec. 1.**  
*Order early to be assured of  
your choice of colors!*

**Sunday  
School  
Pageant &  
Party**



**Sunday, Dec. 22**

**Pageant 9:30 a.m.  
Party 10:45 a.m.**

**All families  
are invited!**





**SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS** were installed on Rally Day, September 8. They are: Molly Coralluzzo & Debbie Richman (Music), Jackie Gullifer (Jr/Sr High School), Mary Ann Jones (Younger Elementary), Carla Branyan (Older Elementary), Danielle Ferrara (Pre K/K), and Elaine Luoma (Superintendent). Thank you all for your volunteer efforts!



**FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERS** are so fantastic! Here are a few of them during one recent drive-through food pantry.



**TAKING THE OFFERING:** Because we are way behind in our giving this year, it was decided that we would pass the plates for the last three months. Thanks to Mary Ann and our kids for stepping up to take on this job! Please give as much as you can over the next few months to try to make up our deficit! Thanks!



# Life is NOT an Easy Journey

“God lets me rest ... in green meadows. God leads me to restful waters.”

I was planning to include an article encouraging the men who are connected with St. Paul's to form a Bible Study together. I have witnessed with joy the powerful testimony of our Women's Wednesday Morning Bible Study where 40 women gather together.

I was going to write about the need for more men to show up to just have breakfast together at 8 am on the first Saturday of the month and the third Wednesday of the month at the Piston Diner. It's a great time of fellowship and friendship plus yummy food. It's also an opportunity to invite friends to connect with church by inviting them to breakfast. Perhaps more importantly, it is a time to talk, which men don't do enough.

And then I went to Fox Chase this week to meet with my doctor. Afterwards I met a remarkable woman named Leah. Clearly she is a woman of faith, and we talked about the need for we humans to realize that we need to find a safe place to talk about our struggles,



our pain, and our frustrations. She was pretty much talking about finding green meadows and still waters, which for men is often very challenging to do because we never want to admit we are hurting, or we are weak, or we just can't do it all.

I can attest to the value of having a therapist. When Megan went home to the Lord, I needed someone who was neutral and beyond family and friends. I discovered a therapist named Francis who stepped in to make things better for me.

Life in the 21st century is not an easy journey, so I want to encourage each of you. When you are feeling challenged, find that

green meadow or the body of water to connect with God by yourself. I urge you that if life's challenges are wearing you down to talk with a neutral party, which can be me, with whom you feel comfortable and free to talk with and listen to.

As for you guys out there... We need friends to talk with. My best friend was just in town from Kansas and we had a quality 2½ hour guy session that started and ended with a hug ... we can be completely honest with each other and I am lucky to have that.

So my plan was to write about guys having breakfast and guys having a Bible Study, but I guess there was more on my mind. I still would love to see more men at our two breakfasts each month and would really love to have a few guys say that they want a Bible Study. But for all of us I urge you to not let life get you down by not talking ... we all deserve a peace that goes beyond understanding and to have our very souls restored to a good place.

Blessings,  
*Pastor Dave*



**Thanksgiving**  
Worship  
Sun., Nov. 24  
5:00 pm  
National Park UMC  
Bring food donations to benefit food pantry

**BAZAAR & YARD SALE**  
Saturday, November 2  
9:00 am - 2:00 pm  
Jewelry ~ Toys  
Holiday Decorations  
White Elephants  
Boutique  
Breakfast & Lunch  
Baked Goods & Deli  
Homemade Soup  
All proceeds go to the  
Sunday School!



# WHAT'S HAPPENING



**WEST DEPTFORD FAMILY FUN DAY:** Many thanks to everyone that helped out at West Deptford Family Fun Day on Sept 21. Volunteers both young and old were welcome. Special thanks to Jim Verfaillie, who organized the day and our booth. Thanks to the Ski family for being there and handing out information on Sunday School, and thanks to PD, who made up a new information blurb inviting people to worship with us.

Christmas  
Eve  
Worship

*Tuesday, December 24*  
7 p.m. **NOTE CHANGE**  
Service of Carols and  
Candlelight  
*Please Join Us!*



**JOIN THE CHOIR!** We practice every Thursday evening at 7 p.m., and everyone is welcome! In September, we all went to Bela's house for a picnic and social time. We have a lot of fun making beautiful music together!



**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** has over 30 members, with an average attendance of at least 25! All ladies are invited to join us. We are reading Max Lucado's book, "Jesus: The God Who Knows Your Name," and really enjoying it. Ladies can join us at any time. Just email our awesome leader Patty Fish to find out where we are in the book.



# Children's Ministry



**SUNDAY SCHOOL** is underway! We celebrated with Rally Day in September, where 3rd grader Grant Dechen was presented with a Bible by Superintendent Elaine Luoma. Since then, the children have their own special Children's Message each Sunday in Church, as well as regular classes after worship. All children are invited to join us!



# St. Paul's Calendar

November 2024

Sunday      Monday      Tuesday      Wednesday      Thursday      Friday      Saturday

27	28	29	30	31	1	2
<p>9:30am Worship 10:45am Sunday School 11:00am - 2:30pm Chicken BBQ 4:30pm Barbara Hoffman Celebration of Life</p>	9:00am Hickman Hall Bazaar setup all day					<p>9:00am - 2:00pm Sunday School Bazaar 8:00pm AA meeting</p>
	<p>7:00pm Guiding Lights HH</p>		<p>7:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm NA Mtg 7:30pm Evening Bible Study Zoom</p>	<p>Halloween Reformation Day 7:00pm Choir practice</p>		
<p>Daylight Saving Time ends 9:30am Worship--All Saints Sunday 10:45am Sunday School Discretionary Fund Offering</p>		<p>Election Day 10:00am Deptford Designers</p>	<p>7:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm NA Mtg 7:30pm Evening Bible Study Zoom</p>	<p>7:00pm Choir practice</p>		<p>8:00pm AA meeting</p>
<p>9:30am Worship 10:45am Sunday School</p>	<p>Veterans Day</p>	<p>9:00am Food Pantry setup HH 6:30pm Woman's Club of WD HH</p>	<p>7:00am Holy Communion 8:30am St. Paul's Food Pantry 10:00am Women's Bible Study 6:00pm Trustees Meeting 7:00pm NA Mtg 7:30pm Evening Bible Study Zoom</p>	<p>7:00pm Choir practice</p>		<p>8:00pm AA meeting</p>
<p>9:30am Worship 10:30am Megan's Pretzel Sunday 10:45am Sunday School 4:00pm Flute Concert 4:00pm Girl Scouts - Friendsgiving Mission offering: Neighborhood Center</p>	<p>6:00pm Potluck &amp; Church Conference 7:00pm Leadership Team</p>	<p>10:00am Deptford Designers</p>	<p>7:00am Holy Communion 10:00am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm NA Mtg 7:30pm Evening Bible Study Zoom</p>	<p>7:00pm Choir practice</p>		<p>8:00pm AA meeting</p>
<p>9:30am Worship 10:45am Sunday School 5:00pm Thanksgiving Worship (Nat'l Park)</p>	<p>7:00pm Guiding Lights HH</p>	<p>9:00am Food Pantry setup HH</p>	<p>7:00am Holy Communion 8:30am St. Paul's Food Pantry 10:00am Women's Bible Study 7:00pm NA Mtg 7:30pm Evening Bible Study Zoom</p>	<p>Thanksgiving Day</p>	<p>11:00am Red Cross Blood Drive</p>	<p>9:00am Decorate church for Christmas 8:00pm AA meeting</p>



# St. Paul's Calendar

December 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p><b>1</b></p> <p>First Sunday of Advent</p> <p><b>9:30am Worship</b> Guest Speaker Rev. Glenn Conaway</p> <p><b>10:45am Sunday School</b></p> <p><b>11:00am Soup Sunday</b></p> <p>United Methodist Student Day Offering</p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>6:00pm Girl Scouts - General meeting</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>7:00am Holy Communion</b></p> <p><b>10:00am Women's Bible Study</b></p> <p><b>11:00am Bev - Hickman Hall</b></p> <p>7:00pm NA Mtg</p> <p><b>7:30pm Evening Bible Study Zoom</b></p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>7:00pm Choir practice</b></p>	<p><b>6</b></p> <p><b>7:00pm Christmas Carol Sing</b></p>	<p><b>7</b></p> <p>8:00pm AA meeting</p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p>Second Sunday of Advent</p> <p><b>9:30am Worship</b></p> <p><b>10:45am Sunday School</b></p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>6:00pm Guiding Lights Christmas Party Pistons</b></p> <p><b>6:00pm Girl Scouts - General meeting</b></p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>9:00am Food Pantry setup HH</b></p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>7:00am Holy Communion</b></p> <p><b>8:30am St. Paul's Food Pantry</b></p> <p><b>6:00pm Trustees Meeting</b></p> <p>7:00pm NA Mtg</p> <p><b>7:30pm Evening Bible Study Zoom</b></p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>7:00pm Choir practice</b></p>	<p><b>13</b></p>	<p><b>14</b></p> <p>8:00pm AA meeting</p>
<p><b>15</b></p> <p>Third Sunday of Advent</p> <p><b>9:30am Worship</b></p> <p><b>10:30am Megan's Pretzel Sunday</b></p> <p><b>10:45am Sunday School</b></p> <p>Mission offering: Angel Wreath &amp; Shared Ministries</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>6:00pm Girl Scouts - General meeting</b></p>	<p><b>17</b></p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>7:00am Holy Communion</b></p> <p>7:00pm NA Mtg</p> <p><b>7:30pm Evening Bible Study Zoom</b></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>7:00pm Choir practice</b></p>	<p><b>20</b></p>	<p><b>21</b></p> <p>8:00pm AA meeting</p>
<p><b>22</b></p> <p>Fourth Sunday of Advent</p> <p><b>9:30am Worship &amp; SS Pageant</b></p> <p><b>10:45am Sunday School Party</b></p>	<p><b>23</b></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p>Christmas Eve</p> <p><b>7:00pm Christmas Eve Worship</b></p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p>Christmas Day</p> <p>7:00pm NA Mtg</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p>First day of Chanukah</p>	<p><b>27</b></p> <p><b>11:30am Red Cross Blood Drive</b></p>	<p><b>28</b></p> <p>8:00pm AA meeting</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>9:30am Worship</b></p>	<p><b>30</b></p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p>New Year's Eve</p>	<p><b>1</b></p> <p>New Year's Day</p> <p><b>7:00am Holy Communion</b></p> <p>7:00pm NA Mtg</p> <p><b>7:30pm Evening Bible Study Zoom</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>7:00pm Choir practice</b></p>	<p><b>3</b></p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p>8:00pm AA meeting</p>