



St. Paul's Weekly Update – Oct. 20, 2022

From the Minister

This coming Saturday evening, there will be a wonderful concert at the church. The performers are in different community choirs as well as our own. I know that it will be a great evening. What is also truly wonderful about it, besides the singing and music, is that these choirs are coming together to help us out. They are gathering to raise money for our furnace. It is an act of kindness for them to give us their time and talent. We are excited to have many of them back in our building, finally able to sing again. I am grateful, as I hope you the people of St. Paul's are, for this event on our behalf. **Please plan to attend at 7:00 p.m., Saturday Oct. 22nd.** Please also help us **get the word out and bring others with you.** This concert is a freewill offering and together, we can help pay for this costly furnace. Come join us!

Worship

Worship with us in person at 10:00 a.m. or on-line. Visit our website at www.stpaulsmidland.org and use the direct YouTube link at the top of the page, or simply go to YouTube and subscribe to our channel. Just type in "St. Paul's Midland" and you will find us.

Last Sunday, we launched our annual **Foodgrains Campaign**, which will continue until Nov. 30th. Once again, we will match all donations from our Trust Fund, up to a maximum of \$2,500. Please consider making a donation. You can donate by cash, cheque (made payable to St. Paul's United Church) or by e-transfer. For every dollar that you give the Canadian government matches it 4 to 1.



Men's Breakfast Gathering

Our next men's breakfast gathering will be on Saturday October 29th at 9:00 a.m. at Mom's Restaurant. Gather with the guys for some food, fellowship and interesting conversation. All men are welcome to join.

St. Paul's Coffee Hour

Our ZOOM coffee hour is this **Sunday October 23rd at 1:00 p.m.** We invite you all to join. You can use the same link as before: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89969004401>. All are welcome.



Office Hours

The office is now open again on **Tuesday and Thursday mornings** between **9 a.m. and 12 noon.**

Fundraising Concert

The St. Paul's Choir is excited to announce that there will be a fundraising concert at the church this **Saturday, October 22 starting at 7:00 p.m.** Money raised in a free will offering will go toward paying for the new furnace.



This concert will be the first local choir concert in quite some time and will include **MANY** local musicians. Groups taking part are St Paul's Choir, Bay Sound Singers (adults formerly Serenata), Bay Sound Children's Choir, Bay Sound VIVO, Bell A'Peal Handbell Choir, Georgian Bay Ringmasters Handchime Choir, Vox Community Choir, Vox Femina.

It'll be quite the gathering! Each group will do a couple of pieces and the theme, of course, will be about keeping warm! **Mark your calendar and invite others to join you – you won't want to miss this!**

Congregational Life

Our next take-out dinner is this coming week on **Wednesday, October 26th** with pick-up in the Atrium from **4:30 to 5:00 p.m.** We will be serving chicken parmesan with pasta and sauce, a hot vegetable, Caesar salad, bread and dessert. Cost is \$20.00 per meal, payable to the church office in advance, by cheque, e-transfer or cash. **There will be a maximum of 65 meals sold so order early.** Proceeds go to the life and work of St. Paul's.



Grandmother's Helping Hands Huronia will host their African Luncheon on **Monday October 24th at 12:00 p.m.** at the Royal Canadian Legion, located at 196 Queen Street in Midland. Payment is by donation only. Please note that there will also be a silent auction. All proceeds will go towards The Stephen Lewis Foundation Grandmother's Campaign. To reserve a table, please contact Cathy by phone at 705-527-1324. Thank you!

The final garden clean-up of the year will be taking place this **Tuesday October 25th at 1:00 p.m.** Please bring your own shovel and garden clippers if you would like to help. We are looking forward to seeing all our volunteers for a good turnout. Your support is greatly appreciated. Please contact Carol MacDonald by phone at 705-828-2158 for more information.

PASTORAL CARE:

If you know of anyone who is in hospital or in need of pastoral care please contact me, Karen at 705-433-1224.

Faith Formation

Discovery Kids are invited back into the Sanctuary for the Theme Conversation and Christ Candle lighting at the beginning of each service. Children will go up to DK as a group for lessons after that.

Outreach

Interested in social justice? Working with the marginalized? Feeding the hungry? The Outreach committee is starting back up with regular meetings in November and would like to invite you to

consider joining them as part of St. Paul's outreach to our community and global community. Please contact the office if you are interested.

Furnace update:

To date, we have raised \$48,751.32 of the \$85,000. We are grateful for all donations already received. In order to meet our target of paying for new furnace equipment, we need to continue our campaign. If you are able to assist, it would be greatly appreciated."

This Week's Minute for Mission

Your generosity serves as a reminder of the loving spirit of God.

**GOD'S MISSION
OUR GIFTS**

Since the Russian invasion of Ukraine began on February 24, Mission & Service partners have been responding to the needs of those impacted by the war. Below is an update about some of the ways your generosity is helping to provide life-saving support through our global partnerships.

With the freezing cold of winter looming, ACT Alliance (Action by Churches Together) is working hard to ensure that those affected by the conflict have safe, warm, and dignified accommodation. As schools are being used to shelter refugees and internally displaced people, ACT is making certain children can continue to access education.

In the earliest days of the crisis, one of our partners—Hungarian Interchurch Aid—opened welcome points at borders for those driving and walking across the border and transitioned to support those arriving by train. They have now opened a centralized refugee hub. In Poland, our partner the Lutheran World Federation is hosting cash support centres, providing refugee families with money to meet their basic needs.

Throughout affected regions, Mission & Service partners are helping people access essentials like food, water, and hygiene.

Church leaders are also on the ground providing spiritual comfort. Father Eugen Omu is a Romanian Orthodox priest who is staffing a refugee welcome centre in Sculeni, Romania. "It is important to have priests here," he says. "When someone sees a priest, it reminds them of God and gives them courage to face what is to come."

Our church partners are at the forefront of the emergency response in Ukraine with help from faithful supporters like you.

Your generosity serves as a reminder of the loving spirit of God, providing care and encouragement when and where it is most needed.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Blessings everyone,

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Louise works at the church office from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Thursdays only.