



St. Paul's Weekly Update—January 19, 2023

Worship

This week we will be reminded that we are part of a global faith community and together in our unique and sometimes very different ways seek to follow Christ and share the Good News.



<https://youtube.com/live/ITnTSZ4F0cI?feature=share>

Worship with us in person at 10:00 a.m. or online. Click the link above us to go directly to the service or 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.

Congregational Life

It is with great sadness that we announce the passing of Mary Graham on Monday, January 16th. Mary was a long-time active member of St. Paul's United Church and was a member of our choir for 55 years! Please keep the Graham family in your thoughts and prayers during this difficult time. Her funeral service will be at the church on **Wednesday, January 25th** with an hour-long visitation at 10:00 a.m. followed by the service. Visitation is also being held at the Nicholl's Funeral Home on Tuesday, January 24th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Our condolences as well to the Alsop family, on the death of both Dave and Marilyn this past week. They died a day or two apart. At this point in time, we do not have any further information. Please keep the Alsop family in your thoughts and prayers.

Congregational Life/Visitors: The Congregational Life committee oversees communication and 'connections' within St. Paul's. We organize Social Hour following church, the Visitors' program, are responsible for the take-out dinners and look for opportunities for social events to engage our congregation. Please give this some thought, our church is our family and we all need to take part.

Official Board Meeting

There will be an official board meeting held on Tuesday, January 31st at 7:00p.m by ZOOM. All members please be sure to attend.

St. Paul's ZOOM Coffee Hour

Our next **ZOOM** coffee hour is **this Sunday, January 22nd** at 1:00 p.m. This is a really fun gathering with lots of laughter and sharing. If you haven't tried it or its been a while, we invite you to join us. It is a way to stay connected, especially for those who are not able to attend church in person and for those in our congregation who do not live locally but join us on online. You can continue to use the same link as before:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89969004401>

In-Person Coffee Hour is Back!

In-person Coffee Hour, every **first** and **third** Sunday, is back starting on **Sunday February 5th**. We are looking forward to gathering together after the worship service once again. Join us and get to know one another and form new connections.

Men's Breakfast Gathering

Our next men's breakfast gathering be on **Saturday January 28^h 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.

Bowling Night!

Mark your calendars as once again we invite you and your friends and family to join us for an **all ages bowling night** on Friday, February 3rd. The event will be at the Knight Haven Bowling Lanes, at 17 Poyntz Street in Penetanguishene, where we will meet at 6:00 p.m. The church will cover the cost of bowling, but if you want to purchase snacks for yourself please bring cash (no debit or credit cards).

Photo Directory

Just to let you know that the Photo Directory has now been proofed by us and sent back to the company. We have been informed that the expected date for it to be ready and sent back to the congregation is about eight weeks. We will provide you with an update on this at the end of March.

Office Hours

The office is open on **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings** from **9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon**. Jane is in the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. You can reach her by email at officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com or by phone at 705-526-6077. Louise is in the office on Wednesday mornings. The remainder of the time (between Tuesday and Thursday until 4:00 p.m.). Louise can be reached at stpaulsunited@rogers.com or at her home phone number 705-526-1640.



Volunteers Needed

As we prepare the Annual Report, it is also a time to reach out to invite you to please consider volunteering here at the church. We have a variety of committees and other volunteer positions available. Without our volunteers, we could not be the church so please prayerfully ponder if you might be able to help. Some of our committees meet in person, others by Zoom. Please

call the church office, Karen or Sue Dorion, our Chair of the Board, and we will be happy to speak to you and explore where you might feel you are able to contribute, even if only for a few hours every now and then.

This Week's Minute for Mission

**GOD'S MISSION
OUR GIFTS**



The scenes are heartbreaking- Families confined to underground subway stations. Children standing alone in endless lines at borders. Mothers printing their names and contact information in permanent marker on their children's backs lest they get separated—or worse.

Since the war started, over 7.9 million refugees had fled Ukraine, 90 percent of them women and children.

Gifts with Vision—the United Church's giving catalogue—has just unveiled its latest gifts to help them.

A gift of \$25 will provide families fleeing from Ukraine with a hygiene package containing items like toothpaste, laundry detergent, and disinfectant. A gift of \$38 will provide one food basket with staples such as cooking oil, buckwheat, canned fish, dried peas, and condensed milk; and \$40 will provide one hygiene package plus a supply of incontinence products.

"What really strikes me about the food basket is the attention to detail. It has chocolate and cookies in it. That speaks volumes about going beyond the survival basics and trying to build morale," says Kathie Murphy, the United Church's Annual Giving Associate. "The hygiene basket is thoughtful, too. It's not just about personal hygiene—it also includes laundry and cleaning products. And remembering incontinence materials for those who need them is all about helping people maintain their dignity."

Sarah Charters, director of the United Church's Philanthropy Unit, is glad the new gifts have been added in time for Christian Family Sunday. "It's a day the church sets aside to reflect on the importance of families. I hope people will be inspired this year to take action for families fleeing Ukraine," says Charters. "We can't end the war in Ukraine, but we can do something to help."

You can give a gift of food and hygiene through Gifts with Vision or by calling 1-844-715-7969.

Thank you for your generous support.

Blessings everyone,

Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam, Minister, St. Paul's United Church 705-433-1224
minsucmidland@gmail.com

Church Administrator – Louise Therrien, (Tues. Wed. Thurs.) 705-526-1640
e-mail stpaulsunited@rogers.com
Louise works at the church office from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays only.