

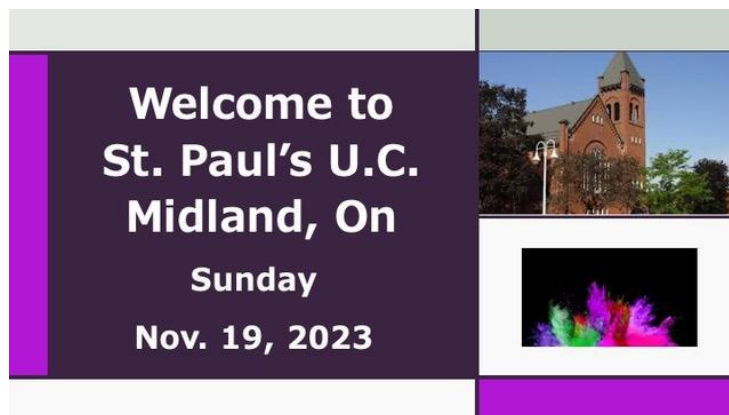
### From the Minister

I want to thank those of you who contributed to our Foodgrains campaign, as we seek to join others to alleviate hunger in the world and assist struggling countries to build viable farms and businesses to reduce the suffering of poverty. To complete our campaign, we invite you to a very special evening on Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> where we will join with St. John's U.C. from Elmvale for a final fundraiser for the Foodgrains Bank. It is a special cantata written for this very purpose and from those who have heard it, I understand it is beautiful and inspiring. Please plan to attend and invite others to join you.

On a very different note, I want to thank Victoria Warwick, Shaun McIntosh and Peggy Wallace for stepping in and picking up my pieces of last week's worship service.

### Worship

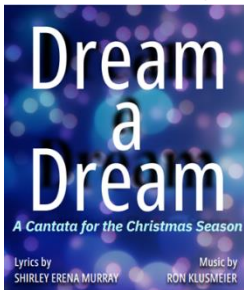
Click the link and join us virtually on this if you are unable to attend in person.



<https://youtube.com/live/XQQvFZiw8mk?feature=share>

### Dream a Dream – A Cantata Fundraiser for the Foodgrains Bank

St. Paul's joins with St. John's United Church, Elmvale in a **Foodgrains Fundraiser** this **Sunday November 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.** here at St. Paul's. No tickets are required for this event but attendees are asked to make a generous donation to support ending global hunger. Canadian Foodgrains receives 100% of donations received and tax receipts are issued for donations of \$10 or more.



### Feeding the Hungry

**Our Foodgrains Campaign** will continue until **November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023**. If you would like to donate, please make your cheque payable to St Paul's United Church with a note that is for the Canadian Foodgrains Campaign. You can also donate by e-transfer to [stpaulsunity@rogers.com](mailto:stpaulsunity@rogers.com). So far with your generous donations, we have raised a total of \$7,070. Another \$2,500 will be added to this using our Trust Funds, bringing our **St. Paul's total to date to \$9,570**. Our donations are then matched 4:1 by the Canadian Government.

## In-Person Coffee Hour

Our next in-person coffee is **this Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>** following worship. Joan Lavin is the Captain of the Greeters for November.



## Minister Search Team Update

Our search for a new minister has begun with the committee holding their very first meeting last week. Rev Will Haughton (Shining Waters Pastoral



Relations Liaison) was invited to give direction to the team and answer questions. Going forward, this wonderful group of individuals will pull together a description of St Paul's and our community for the Living Faith Profile, financial viability and job description outline that will all be approved by the congregation early on in 2024.

**Back Row** (l-r)-Larry Brocklebank, Murray Lockhart, Joanne Purchase, Carolyn Hendry and Rev Will Haughton, **Front Row** (l-r)-Julianna Shaw, Marilyn Broome, Heather McDonald and myself (Sue Dorion). Missing from photo was Victoria Tovell.

## Connecting Together- Come Join Us!

Come join us and make connections with others as we take time for conversation, storytelling, tea/treats, fun and fellowship. Our Connections Team starts up again this week and will continue **every Thursday** until December 14<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is welcome to join us in the Atrium at St. Paul's from **2:00 to 3:30 p.m.** Pop in, have a seat and touch base with others.

## Congregational Life

Our deepest condolences to Velma Bertram on the passing of her sister late last week. Please keep this family in your thoughts and prayers.

## Grieving Together

Death is never easy and grief can be a difficult and lonely journey. St. Paul's is offering two grief groups for those who have lost a loved one to death recently. There is a men's group and a women's Group. The men's group meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month starting January 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, while the women's group meets weekly on Tuesdays. Consider engaging in a confidential and caring conversation with others who have travelled the journey of loss in recent years.

**Women's Grief Group** - Women who have recently experienced the death of a loved one are invited to join a peer led faith group to remember, share stories and support each other as we explore the journey of grief. We will meet weekly for 8 weeks **starting on November 21<sup>st</sup>** from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. at the church, with the final 3 weeks being post-Christmas. Please contact Linda Fong at (709) 290-1790 or email her at [lindafong1@gmail.com](mailto:lindafong1@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining. Please note her area code is 709 not 705.

## Men's Breakfast Gathering

Our next men's breakfast gathering will take place on Saturday, November 25<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Mom's Restaurant. Gather with the guys for some food, fellowship and interesting conversation. All men of the congregation are welcome.



## **Food and Fellowship Dinner**

On **Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup>**, 2023, we will be having our last Food and Fellowship dinner for 2023! Take-out will be at 4:30 p.m. and eat-in starting at 4:45 p.m. The menu will be chicken breast and scalloped potatoes, hot vegetable, dinner roll and pumpkin dessert. Eat-in meals will include tea or coffee. Cost is \$20/meal and children's meals will also be available at a cost of \$10, payable to the church office in advance by cash, cheque or e-transfer. **Please place your order no later than November 26<sup>th</sup>**. Thank you for supporting the work of St. Paul's.

## **St. Paul's Outreach**

**The Guesthouse Dinner Program:** Did you know that prior to COVID, St. Paul's had a group of dedicated volunteers who prepared dinner once a month for the Guesthouse? We want to rebuild this team and need your help. This is an opportunity for very flexible volunteering. Whether you want to be part of a team or would like to create your own group of friends and family to make a meal, we would appreciate your help. Please reach out to Kathy for more details at [volunteerspucmidland@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerspucmidland@gmail.com)

**Santa Claus Parade Hot Chocolate Outreach** - The Santa Clause Parade is just around the corner on **November 25<sup>th</sup>**. If you can come out and help us to make hot chocolate and hand it out to parade watchers, please join us from 9:00 a.m. to noon for a family friendly activity. This is a great opportunity for anyone that is needing their high school community hours. **We only have two volunteers at this point and we need six to make it work smoothly, so if you can help, please contact Kathy at [volunteerspucmidland@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerspucmidland@gmail.com)**

## **Christmas is coming – help us get ready**

**Poinsettia Fundraiser:** Bay Sound Choirs are offering a fundraiser for this holiday season, with a variety of beautiful live poinsettias, tropical planters and tabletop greenery centrepieces from Bradford Greenhouses. Order forms are available at the church and **need to be returned to Victoria no later than Monday November 20<sup>th</sup>** with full payment by either cash or cheque **payable to Bay Sound Singers**. Order pick-up will be on Friday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at St. Paul's between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. Any questions can be directed to Katie Goulbourne at [akgoulbourne@rogers.com](mailto:akgoulbourne@rogers.com) or Tammy Brown at [tamara\\_l\\_brown@hotmail.com](mailto:tamara_l_brown@hotmail.com)



**Decorating the Sanctuary:** The Worship Committee will be decorating the Sanctuary for Christmas on **Friday, December 1<sup>st</sup>**, starting at 10:30 a.m. If you're able to help, please contact Cathy Metzgar at 705-527-5784 or by e-mail at [bycatmet@gmail.com](mailto:bycatmet@gmail.com).

**UCW Christmas Goodie Sale:** The UCW is once again having their annual sale of homemade goodies. The boxes are \$20 each, payable when you **pick up your order at the church on December 13<sup>th</sup>**, between 1:00 and 3:00 p.m. You must **pre-order** by November 29<sup>th</sup> by calling Marlis Dupuis at 705-209-0884. If you can donate some baking, please contact Barb Carswell at 705-955-2619. Money raised will be used for the many local and global charities that our UCW supports.

The **UCW Christmas Luncheon will be on Tuesday December 12<sup>th</sup>** at noon in the Atrium, with lunch being catered. All ladies of the UCW are welcome. If you are planning to attend, please let us know by either calling the church office on Tuesday or Thursday mornings between 9:00 a.m. and noon or by calling Judy McConnell at 705-529-1826 or by email to [officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com](mailto:officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com)

## **Upcoming concerts at St. Paul's**

**Bay Sound Christmas Concert:** Bay Sound Choirs present "Christmas is a Feeling" on **Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>** at 7:00 p.m. here at St. Paul's. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for youth and ages five and under are free. Tickets will be available at the door or on their website at [baysound.ca](http://baysound.ca).

**VOX Huronia Community Choir** presents "The Sounds of Christmas" on **Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.**, with special guests the Bell A'Peal Handbell Choir. Tickets are \$20 and are available at Johnstone's Music Land, VOX choir members, Hear Well Be Well Inc. (at 483 King Street) and at the door.

## **Office Hours**

The office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9 a.m. until noon.

## **This Week's Minute for Mission**

### **Kindergarten in a refugee camp**

Being a child in a refugee camp means facing lots of uncertainty at a very young age. In addition to food and water being scarce, education is generally not easily accessible. Some children were born in the camps, while others fled with their families at a very young age. Either way, living in a refugee camp means children may not learn crucial cognitive and social skills.



Since 1950, the Joint Christian Committee for Social Service (JCC) has provided skills training and services to refugees living in a refugee camp in Lebanon. One of their incredible initiatives is a kindergarten program where children can engage in learning in a happy and secure place.

Hundreds of children have graduated from JCC's kindergarten program with the skills they need to thrive. After graduating, children continue in schools that welcome the basic knowledge and values they have learned. Your generosity through [Mission and Service](#) helps keep children learning all around the world. Thank you.

**Blessings everyone,**

**Minister** – Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam, St. Paul's United Church **705-433-1224**,  
[minspucmidland@gmail.com](mailto:minspucmidland@gmail.com)

**Church Administrator** – Louise Therrien, (Wednesday mornings 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 at the church),  
[stpaulsunited@rogers.com](mailto:stpaulsunited@rogers.com) **705-526-1640 (home office)**

**Administrative Assistant** – Judy McConnell (Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00)  
[officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com](mailto:officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com) 705-526-6077