



St. Paul's United Methodist Church of Odessa
Reaching Up Reaching In Reaching Out
Pastor Linda Ray, 406 Main Street, Odessa, DE 302-378-2420
www.stpaulsodessa.org

Laity Sunday

October 30, 2022, 11:00 AM Service
WE ENTER GOD'S GATES WITH PRAISE

WELCOME WITH MUSIC AND IMAGES

PRELUDE

Instrumental

Amy Brown
Mark Holden, Photographer & Curator

*CALL TO WORSHIP * *Indicates please stand in body or in spirit*

One: When we need to climb a tree to look for help, Christ proclaims,

Many: "I am coming to your house today."

One: When we feel lost, and have nowhere to turn, Christ assures us,

Many: "I am coming to your house today."

One: Christ is coming. Christ is with us even now.

Many: Worship the Lord with joy and praise.

*OPENING HYMN

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Red Hymnal 158

REFLECTION:

A Lay Servant's Meditation

Melissa Brooks, Lay Servant

CHILDREN'S TIME

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Black Hymnal 2193

Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place; Lord, listen to your children praying, send us love, send us power, send us grace.

Ellie Leuliette shares a blessing with our children!

FIRST LESSON: *2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12*

1 From Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy:

To the church of the Thessalonians, which is in God our Father, and in the Lord Jesus Christ.² Grace and peace to all of you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.³ Brothers and sisters, we must always thank God for you. This is only right because your faithfulness is growing by leaps and bounds, and the love that all of you have for each other is increasing. ⁴ That's why we ourselves are bragging about you in God's churches. We tell about your endurance and faithfulness in all the harassments and trouble that you have put up with. ¹¹ We are constantly praying for you for this: that our God will make you worthy of his calling and accomplish every good desire and faithful work by his power. ¹² Then the name of our Lord Jesus will be honored by you, and you will be honored by him, consistent with the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

Amazing Grace, vv. 1,2,3,6

Red Hymnal 378

*GOSPEL LESSON: *Luke 19:1-10*

¹⁹ Jesus entered Jericho and was passing through town. ² A man there named Zacchaeus, a ruler among tax collectors, was rich. ³ He was trying to see who Jesus was, but, being a short man, he couldn't because of the crowd. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed up a sycamore tree so he could see Jesus, who was about to pass that way. ⁵ When Jesus came to that spot, he looked up and said, "Zacchaeus, come down at once. I must stay in your home today." ⁶ So Zacchaeus came down at once, happy to welcome Jesus. ⁷ Everyone who saw this grumbled, saying, "He has gone to be the guest of a sinner." ⁸ Zacchaeus stopped and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. When the Lord Jesus ascended, he promised to be with us always, in the power of your Word and Holy Spirit.

(Lifting and breaking the bread) On the night in which he gave himself up for us he took bread, gave God thanks, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples and said, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

(Lifting the cup) When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to God, gave it to his disciples, and said "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

ALL: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

ALL: AMEN. AMEN. AMEN.

Pastor: Let us join our hearts and voices in the prayer that Jesus taught us:

Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, the Power and the Glory Forever. AMEN.

(The congregation will come forward to partake of the bread and cup.)

Pastor: Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

WE GO IN THE SPIRIT!

SENDING HYMN

Living for Jesus

Black Hymnal 2149

*BENEDICTION Go forth without shame to proclaim the goodness of God. Go forth to spread God's love with all, giving thanks for how much you are loved. Go forth, knowing that the wind of the Spirit blows you to where you need to be. Amen

POSTLUDE

Amy Brown

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Liturgist: Jeanne Buckworth

Audio/Video: Charlii Miller & John Littell

Communion Officiant/Server: Kris Knarr Elliott

Ushers:Ellie & Dick Leuliette, John & Patti Harmer, June Stemmler, John Harmon, Denis Shaffer, Laura Widger

Musicians: Amy Brown. Director of Music Ministry

ASL Interpreter: Gail Garner

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Linda Driver Ray, Pastor	lindaray@vaumc.org	(540) 207-1787
Bonnie Valeski, Admin. Asst.	bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org	(302) 378-2420
Alice Mullins, Financial/Treasurer	alice.mullins@hotmail.com	(302) 293-9956
Amy Brown, Music Ministry Director	amyrowebrown@gmail.com	(480) 677-0910
Duane Dillard, Minister of Music	duanedillard@gmail.com	(443) 593-2470

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S:

Sunday 10/30	Worship Service @8:30 AM & 11:00 AM, Sunday School & Adult Bible Study @9:45
Monday 10/31	9:00 AM Men’s Bible Study, Boy Scouts, 6-8 PM
Tuesday 11/01	Cub Scouts 6-8 PM
Wednesday 11/02	TOPS Mtg @ 6:00 PM, Handbell Rehearsal @6:00 PM, Choir Rehearsal @7:10 PM
Thursday 11/03	Prayer & Praise Team Mtg @ 10:00 AM @ Carole Harmon’s Home, 238 Drawyers Drive, Middletown DE 19709, All welcome!
Friday 11/04	N/A
Saturday 11/05	Church Yard Clean-Up of Large Debris 9-12 noon, AA Mtg @ 7:00 PM

OUTSIDE CLEAN-UP OF LARGE DEBRIS November 5, Saturday, from 9 AM-12 PM.

Charlii Miller will be heading up this event. It will be removal of large tree limbs in the back lot along with raking of pinecones and debris. *We need hardy individuals and preferably no small children for their own safety. Please bring tools, gloves, pick-ups and trailers to haul debris away.* Please contact Charlii Miller or Barbara Lynn Manlove with questions.

OUTSIDE CLEAN-UP of SMALL DEBRIS AND INSIDE CLEAN-UP OF CHURCH November 19, Saturday from 9 AM-12 PM.

Pastor Linda and Barbara Lynn will be heading up this event. This will be cleaning up the outside yards of leaves, small sticks etc., and inside will be cleaning of the Church, Fellowship Hall, rooms, etc.. There will be a task board for you to choose which task best utilizes your abilities and gifts. Please contact Pastor Linda, Barbara Lynn of the Church Office with questions.

Both events are in anticipation of St. Pauls’ UMC being a host for Christmas in Odessa on December 3, the first Saturday in December!! We all want our church to SHINE with PRIDE so please come out to help!

UMCOR CLEANING KIT collected for all of October for Hurricane Ian relief efforts. Please check the Church bulletin boards, and emails for the list of supplies to fill the buckets. A sample bucket is in Fellowship Hall, filled buckets and supplies to fill buckets are very welcomed. Buckets have been donated through the efforts of Charlotte Miller!

UMCOR Cleaning Kit

- . One 32-64 oz. bottle liquid laundry detergent
 - . One 16-40 oz. bottle liquid concentrate household cleaner
 - o No spray cleaners
 - . One 16-34 oz. bottle dish soap
 - . One 4-8 oz. pump spray air freshener (liquid, not gel)
 - . One 6-14 oz. pump spray insect repellent (pack of 10-20 wipes also acceptable) o Pump spray bottles must have protective covers
 - . One scrub brush
 - o With or without handle
 - . 18 re-useable cleaning wipes o No terrycloth, microfiber or paper towels
 - o Remove from packaging
 - . Five scouring pads
 - o No stainless-steel pads with soap in them o Remove from packaging
 - . 36-50 clothespins
 - . One 50-100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic line)
 - . 24 roll of heavy-duty trash bags (33-45-gallon sizes)
 - o Remove from packaging
 - . Five N95 particulate respirator dust masks (1-3 mm thickness)
 - o No surgical masks
 - . Two pairs kitchen gloves - durable for multiple uses
 - o Remove from packaging
 - . One pair work gloves - cotton with leather palm or all leather
- Most items can be found at Dollar Stores and Walmart...

PRAYER REQUEST BOX is available in the Narthex along with the prayer request cards. Just complete the form, fold, and drop in the box on the corner shelf located at the second set of doors into Fellowship Hall.



ST. PAUL'S
United Methodist Church of Odessa
Reaching Up, Reaching In, Reaching Out

St. Paul's Mission Statement

Reaching Up to praise God in vibrant worship

God calls us to live out our discipleship grounded in Christ's awakening us to the glory and majesty of God in all creation, and we respond together by worshiping God with our gratitude and praise. Standing or lifting our hands high are both ancient postures of worship, and so our dance of discipleship involves reaching up with our hearts, souls, and bodies, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

*Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise. Give thanks to him, bless his name.
For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.*

Psalms 100:4-5 (NRSV)

Reaching In to deepen our spiritual walk with Christ

Christ accepts us as we are, and then calls us to follow him and learn from him, growing in our spiritual walk-through practices the church calls spiritual disciplines: prayer, fasting, meditation, studying God's Word,

individually and with others. As we grow in the knowledge of God, we discover more about the extraordinary plans God has for our lives.

“If you continue in my word, you are truly my disciples; and you will know the truth, and the truth will make you free.”
John 8:31-32 (NRSV)

Reaching Out with acts of love and compassion

Here’s where it all comes together! Assured of God’s eternal love, strengthened by the grace and knowledge of Christ, we are ready for the Holy Spirit to kindle a fire in our lives, gifting us for the labor of love God has prepared for us to accomplish. Having fallen in love with God, we love and serve our neighbors.

“Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.”
Matthew 25:40 (NRSV)

Current list of Committees, Chairs and Members as of 05/2022

Pastor	Rev. Linda Driver Ray
Ministry Candidate	Min. Adrienne Dillard
Lay Leadership	Janet Miller, Melissa Brooks, Mark Holden
Church Leadership Co-Chairs	Steve Johnson & Cathy Blanco
Trustee Chair	Charlii Miller
Trustee Committee	Charlii Miller, John Littell, Lynda Lambert
	Rev. Linda Driver Ray (Ex-Officio), Barbara
	Lynn Manlove, Don Mueller, John Cate,
	Cathy Blanco, Steve Johnson
SPRC Chair	Rick Pulling
SPRC Committee	Rick Pulling, Nancee Bleistine, Ellie Leuliette,
	June Stemmler, Janet Miller, Rev. Linda Driver Ray
	(Ex-Officio), Joy Littell, Cathy Blanco, Steve Johnson
Finance Chair	Vacant/Hap Bonham – Interim Chair
Treasurer	Alice Mullins
Finance Committee	Hap Bonham, Angela Christian, Carolyn Stanley
	Rev. Linda Driver Ray (Ex-Officio), Sandy Urstadt,
	Ann Baker, Alan Martin, Melissa Brooks
Worship Arts Committee	Barbara Lynn Manlove, Ellie Leuliette
	Nancee Bleistine, Janet Miller
Missions	Sue Holden, Dawn Buckworth, Sandy & Bob
	Urstadt, Charlotte Miller, Nadine Johnson
	Karen Ellis, Patti & John Harmer, Barbara
	Bonham, Joy Littell, Mark Holden, Nancy Judd,
	Ann Newswanger

Please contact Bonnie Valeski at bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org with any changes or additions

MISSIONS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

WEEKLY GATHERINGS – CHURCH BUILDING

OFFICE HOURS Tuesday -Thursday, 9AM-2:00PM

- Boy Scouts –Mondays 7-8:30PM
- Cub Scouts –Tuesdays 6-8PM, beginning Sept. 20th
- TOPS Meeting – Wednesdays 6 PM.
- St. Paul's Prayer and Praise Group Ministry – Thursdays 10 AM
- St. Paul's Handbell Rehearsal – Wednesdays at 6 PM in the Music Room
- St. Paul's Choir Rehearsal – Wednesday at 7:10 PM in the Sanctuary
- AA Meeting – Saturdays 7 PM

MONTHLY GATHERINGS

- Finance Meeting – 2nd Monday 6:30 PM
- Trustees Meeting – 2nd Tuesday 6:30 PM
- SPRC Meeting – 4th Thursday 6:30 PM
- Leadership Meeting – 3rd Tuesday 6:30 PM
- PFLAG Meeting – 3rd Thursday 6:30 PM
- Reconciling Ministries – 2nd Thursday, 6:30 PM, beginning in September

Reconciling Ministries Informational Meetings

The purpose of the Reconciling Group, is to create opportunities to engage in dialogue, build relationships and advocate for the LGBTQIA community. So it is clear, the Reconciling Group's Mission is informational and to supply a forum to discuss and advocate for the LGBTQIA community. This group has no authority to make changes in Policy. Policy changes can ONLY be done by the General Conference. The Reconciling Group meets via Zoom the Second Thursday of the month at 6:30, beginning September 8th, via Zoom - <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77700823122?pwd=R1ZMcFV0cGMrNmF1WjJhVTlSRmVKdz09>

Our guest presenter is Rev. Patti Ravilious who will bring the group up to date on the latest news, both locally and internationally, regarding the United Methodist Church on this topic, and she will also share a bit of the history of how and why the UM Church got to this point. Please join us - Mark Holden

Upcoming Yellow Hat Schedule for November 2022:

<http://www.stpaulsodessa.org/VANCOOnlineGiving>

11/06 Colette W Bleistine-Paying It Forward Foundation by Nancy Bleistine

11/13 Adopt-A-Family (Brenda Shaffer & Youth)

11/20 Neighborhood House

11/27 United Methodist Student Day

Men's Bible Study

Mondays October 3, 10, 17, 24, 31 at 9:00 at the Church. Bring your Bible and a friend. You will be fed. We will continue and hopefully finish the study of Hebrews.

Adult Bible Study will begin as a hybrid meeting, (in-person and Zoom), October 16, 2022 in Fellowship Hall at 9:45 – 10:45 AM. Zoom Mtg. ID 886 735 4733, Passcode 779997.

Flowers for Worship

If you are interested in honoring a loved one with flowers at the altar on a particular Sunday, we are asking you to contact Alicia Blackwell, from Wildflowers by Alicia to place your order. Alicia can be reached at (302) 593-9884. Also, please email the church office so we make sure the information is added in the bulletin.

Compassionate Card Ministry

The Compassionate Card Ministry is made up of 20 dedicated members of our congregation who create hand-made cards and encouraging messages to those in our directory, within our congregation, those on our prayer

lists and others who are brought to our attention. Our purpose is to spread kindness and love to others through uplifting and personalized sentiments on hand-made cards. If you are not in our directory and would like to be added to our list, or if you know someone who would benefit from the blessing of a card, please contact Nancee Bleistine, nbleistine@yahoo.com or 609-217-1924.

Prayer and Praise Group Ministry

Carole Harmon hosts a prayer circle, currently Thursday mornings at 10 AM - in person. Please contact Carole if you are interested in joining the group or have a special prayer request. You can also find prayer request cards and box on the corner shelf in the Narthex.

VANCO: Manage Your Giving Online

Giving online is easy and allows you to set up automatic recurring contributions and view your complete online giving history from anywhere you have access to the Internet. Simply follow these easy steps:

- 1) Visit the church website at www.stpaulsodessa.org and click on the VANCO Online Giving button to the left of the screen.
- 3) Click on the Link to Online Giving thru VANCO button, then
- 4) Follow the onscreen instructions to create an online profile and to schedule your RECURRING CONTRIBUTIONS.

Family Life

Children's Sunday School will begin again on October 23, 2022, at 9:45 -10:45 AM via Zoom, ID 868 3752 1062, Passcode 817993.

Love Thy Neighbor Fund

Our "Love Thy Neighbor Fund" was created to help those in need in the MOT community. This fund may support a time in someone's life when he/she may need a little kindness and generosity to help endure and survive a challenging situation. If you can donate, please make checks payable to St. Paul's UMC and then write in the memo area it is for "Love Thy Neighbor Fund." Please note, this fund is SEPARATE from the Yellow Hat. Thank you, Love Thy Neighbor Committee

Deep Roots

Nadine Johnson & Karen Ellis continue to work with the "Deep Roots" mission. This group works with families who are disconnected through homelessness and provides transitional shelter and other services to families in need. They need your help as they continue to contact members of the church to help with making meals once a month feeding approximately 50+ individuals. Here's hoping you will be able to help us with this very important and necessary mission. Thanks so much! Contact Karen Ellis at iluvbrmuda@gmail.com and Nadine Johnson at nadine.faye.johnson@gmail.com

Our Daily Bread Food Donations

214 N Broad St, Middletown, DE 19709

Volunteers Needed – day and evening hours and different areas of need, filling bags, handing out meals, etc. Volunteer Opportunities can be found at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10COE4FAEA82CA3F5CF8-volunteer>. Volunteer opportunities for late October and November – several slots for Clean Up and one more person to help with donations on Tuesday. Please consider a few hours of your time to help those much less fortunate. Contact Sue Holden, Missions Co-Chair, at 802-324-6167, susieq2951@aol.com, with any questions. Also, find information and volunteer sign-up forms on the website, <https://www.ourdailybreadmot.com>. **On-line Training Coming Soon!**

ODB is most thankful to all who donate either monetarily or in kind. Your generosity helps ODB feed those in our community who are facing food insecurity. Listed below are the items needed to stuff our side bags and other items that are needed on a regular basis. Donations can be dropped off on Tuesday from 9:15 to 11:30 a.m.

- Individual bottles of water

- Individual bags of salty snacks
- Individual packets of sweet snacks
- Individual fruit cups and/or applesauce
- Fresh fruit (apples, bananas, oranges)
- Boxes of breakfast cereal
- Boxes of mashed potatoes
- White bread
- Baked beans (large cans)
- Gallon size zip-loc bags
- Lg black garbage bags
- Cans of soup

Thank you for any and all kindnesses!

Neighborhood House

Neighborhood House really appreciates St. Paul's ongoing support in so many ways. At this point, we are low on some items in the food pantry. These items are especially needed right now in our food pantry, though all donations are gladly accepted with the inventory being low now.

- Peanut butter
- Jelly
- Cereal
- Tuna/Tuna Helper
- Tissues
- Spaghetti/Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Frozen meats/canned meats (Spam, Chef Boyardee, beef stew etc.)
- Soup

Donations can be left inside the Church. We look forward to another great year working together to feed the hungry. Thanks to all, Marilyn Hendershot, Family Services Specialist, Neighborhood House, Inc.

PFLAG Meeting

Meetings are held at 6:30 PM on the 3rd Thursday of each month, presently via Zoom. Please join us if you would like to be supported or offer support and please spread the word to all corners of our communities. We are currently working on a system which will help youth who have been rejected by their parents, find families who will help them. Please contact Mark Holden, (Mark@maholden.com) or call 802-279-8100.

JOYS & CONCERNS: If you know someone, you'd like to add to our prayer list, please email the church office or visit the church website (www.stpaulsodessa.org) to complete a prayer request. **There is also a Prayer Box in the Narthex in which you can drop your completed request.** Please email the office when someone can be taken OFF the list. If you or a loved one needs a pastoral visit, please call or email the church office to schedule.

Prayers for: Noel Lukens; Matthew Smith; Naomi Betts; Jerrod Bolline; Sue Holden's sister, Betsey Snipes; Bill Smith; Beth; Matt & Louise Latocha; Carol Myers; Darryl Dillard; Kathy Golden; Jessica Schrum and Family; Joyce, Aunt to Angela Christian; Dave Corby; Kenzel Messick; David Dudgeon; Kimberly, Ike Guessford; Theresa, sister to Estelle Peters, Pat Williams, Jimmy Williams, Jim Wilhelm and father, Seth Holden, Pastor Danese Collin, Daniel Moore.

Birthdays: October 30 – Leah Apps; November 1 – Kinme Reeves; November 2 – Gene Messick; November 4 – Nick Pompeo

Anniversaries: October 30 – Mark & Sue Holden