



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 , CCLI 11305346 and Streaming Lic. 21184487

Fourth Sunday in Lent UMCOR Sunday

March 30, 2025, 11 AM Traditional

WELCOME WITH MUSIC AND IMAGES

Mark Holden & June Stemmler, Photographer & Curator, Gail Garner, ASL Interpreter

GREETING

GATHERING WORDS:

Liturgist – Rick Pulling

One: When we struggle to live as you teach us, and we fail to answer your call...

Many: God, your steadfast love surrounds us.

One: When the truth gets stuck in our throat, and we fear what will happen if we speak and if we keep silent...

Many: God, your steadfast love surrounds us.

One: When we open our hearts and let the truth of our sorrows, our sin, our joys, and our doubts flow freely...

Many: God, your steadfast love surrounds us.

One: When our stubborn hearts encounter the grace that teaches and guides us into a life of trust and joyful obedience...

Many: God, your steadfast love surrounds us.

PRAISE AND WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN:

Love Divine All Loves Excelling

Red Hymnal 384

*OPENING PRAYER: (all praying): **Loving God, it was said of the Prodigal Son that he “came to himself.” Help us to wake up to ourselves, and to You. Set us free from the illusion of trying to be perfect so that we might be more fully human. Help us not to chase after an imaginary life, and to find satisfaction in our real lives. And turn us away from our self-rejection so that we might notice Your arms open in welcome. Amen.**

WORDS FOR YOUNG BELIEVERS:

On Eagles Wings

Red Hymnal 143

And God will raise you up on eagles' wings, bear you on the breath of dawn. Make you to shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of God's hands.

Susan Menei shares a blessing with our children!

FIRST LESSON: *Joshua 5: 9-12* (CEB)

Then the Lord said to Joshua, “Today I have rolled away from you the disgrace of Egypt.” So the place was called Gilgal, as it is today.

¹⁰The Israelites camped in Gilgal. They celebrated Passover on the evening of the fourteenth day of the month on the plains of Jericho. ¹¹On the very next day after Passover, they ate food produced in the land: unleavened bread and roasted grain. ¹²The manna stopped on that next day, when they ate food produced in the land. There was no longer any manna for the Israelites. So that year they ate the crops of the land of Canaan.

HYMN OF PREPARATION:

Alas and Did My Savior Bleed

Red Hymnal 294

*GOSPEL LESSON: *Luke 15:1-3,11-32* (CEB)

All the tax collectors and sinners were gathering around Jesus to listen to him. ²The Pharisees and legal experts were grumbling, saying, “This man welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³Jesus told them this parable:

¹¹Jesus said, “A certain man had two sons. ¹²The younger son said to his father, ‘Father, give me my share of the inheritance.’ Then the father divided his estate between them. ¹³Soon afterward, the younger son gathered everything together and took a trip to a land far away. There, he wasted his wealth through extravagant living.

¹⁴“When he had used up his resources, a severe food shortage arose in that country and he began to be in need. ¹⁵He hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶He longed to eat his fill from what the pigs ate, but no one gave him anything. ¹⁷When he came to his senses, he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have more than enough food, but I’m starving to death! ¹⁸I will get up and go to my father, and say to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. ¹⁹I no longer deserve to be called your son. Take me on as one of your hired hands.’” ²⁰So he got up and went to his father.

“While he was still a long way off, his father saw him and was moved with compassion. His father ran to him, hugged him, and kissed him. ²¹Then his son said, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and against you. I no longer deserve to be called your son.’ ²²But the father said to his servants, ‘Quickly, bring out the best robe and put it on him! Put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet! ²³Fetch the fattened calf and slaughter it. We must celebrate with feasting ²⁴because this son of mine was dead and has come back to life! He was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵“Now his older son was in the field. Coming in from the field, he approached the house and heard music and dancing. ²⁶He called one of the servants and asked what was going on. ²⁷The servant replied, ‘Your brother has arrived, and your father has slaughtered the fattened calf because he received his son back safe and sound.’ ²⁸Then the older son was furious and didn’t want to enter in, but his father came out and begged him. ²⁹He answered his father, ‘Look, I’ve served you all these years, and I never disobeyed your instruction. Yet you’ve never given me as much as a young goat so I could celebrate with my friends. ³⁰But when this son of yours returned, after gobbling up your estate on prostitutes, you slaughtered the fattened calf for him.’ ³¹Then his father said, ‘Son, you are always with me, and everything I have is yours. ³²But we had to celebrate and be glad because this brother of yours was dead and is alive. He was lost and is found.’”

One: May this story inspire us all. **ALL: To walk in the way that leads to life**

THE MESSAGE:

“Savior, Servant, Friend: Protector”

Pastor Linda Ray

WE GIVE THANKS

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

THE OFFERTORY: Today’s **Yellow Hat** mission offering supports the **3/30/25 Neighborhood House**.

MUSICAL REFLECTION:

God Is My Strong Salvation by Richard Shehard

Chancel Choir

*THE DOXOLOGY:

Red Hymnal 95

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (all praying): **God, we admit that we are prone to try to hide our sins; to keep our mouths shut and hope we are not found out. But there is no place to hide from you. Our silence only makes us sick in body and spirit. But you delight in forgiving us and in covering our sin. You are glad when we confess our failings and our needs. Hide us, O God, from trouble; teach us the way we should go. Deliver us from our own stubbornness, and draw us near, we pray. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Pastor Linda Ray
Officiant Server – Tracy Walls-Pulling

Reader 1: The Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

Reader 1: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: We lift them up to the Lord.

Reader 1: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

ALL: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Reader 1: It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You brought all things into being and called them good. From the dust of the earth you formed us into your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. When rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights, you bore up the ark on the waters, saved Noah and his family, and made covenant with every living creature on earth. When you led your people to Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights, you gave us your commandments and made us your covenant people. When your people forsook your covenant, your prophet Elijah fasted for forty days and forty nights; and on your holy mountain heard your still small voice. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

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.

Reader 2: Holy are you and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. When you gave him to save us from our sin, your Spirit led him into the wilderness, where he fasted forty days and forty nights to prepare for his ministry. When he suffered and died on a cross for our sin, you raised him to life, presented him alive to the apostles during forty days, and exalted him at your right hand. 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. Now, when we your people prepare for the yearly feast of Easter, you lead us to repentance for sin and the cleansing of our hearts, that during these forty days of Lent we may be gifted and graced to reaffirm the covenant you made with us through Christ.

(Lifting the bread) Before Jesus was betrayed, he gathered with his friends for a meal. Taking the bread, Jesus gave thanks to you and broke it. He gave it to his friends, saying, "Take and eat. I am with you now and forever. Let this meal feed you. Remember me as you eat."

Reader 1: (Lifting the cup) When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and shared it with his followers, saying, "This is the cup of the new covenant, given for the forgiveness of sins. It is a gift for you and for all people. It is my love offered for you. Drink of this and remember 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!

Reader 2: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and cup. Make them be for us the living presence of Jesus Christ, that we might carry that presence into the world. 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.

Reader 2: Let us join our hearts and voices in the prayer that God continues to teach us:

Our Father, who 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.)

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

WE GO IN THE SPIRIT!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY AND SERVICE

SENDING HYMN:

Grace Greater Than All Our Sin

Red Hymnal 365

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Liturgist: Rick Pulling

Audio/Video: Charlii Miller & John Littell & John Cate & Carlotta Cline, Garrett Ray

Communion Officiant/Server: Tracy Walls-Pulling

Ushers: John & Patti Harmer, June Stemmler, John Harmon, Denis Shaffer, Laura Widger, Brett & Ryan Vitsorek

Greeters: Brook Ellis, Laura Widger

Director of Music – Dr. Kathleen Shannon & Organist/Accompanist: Jin Kyung Seo

Altar flowers today are donated by Mary and Allen Ingram, 'in remembrance of our mother, Naomi Betts Ingram and nephew, Richard Kandle'.

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	stpodessa@stpaulsodessa.org	(302) 293-9956
Duane Dillard, Minister of Music	duanedillard@gmail.com	(443) 593-2470
Jin Kyung Seo, Organist/Accompanist	jinksblue@gmail.com	
Dr. Kathleen Shannon/Director of Music	kathleenmshannon@gmail.com	

ANNOUNCEMENTS - THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S:

Sunday 03/30 Worship Services 8:30AM ASL & Livestreaming and 11AM Traditional, 5th Sunday Potluck after the 11AM service, Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:45AM, Spring Clean-up this week through Friday, 4/4/25.

Monday 03/31 Adult Bible Series 9AM

Tuesday 04/01 On Par With God 9AM, ODB, Scouts 6PM

Wednesday 04/02 TOPS Mtg 5:45PM, Handbells Rehearsal 6PM, Choir Rehearsal 7PM.

Thursday 04/03 10AM Prayer and Praise Group, MOT Ministerial Alliance Soup & Study- 12 Noon @St. Paul's

Friday 04/04 6PM Duren/Mills Wedding Rehearsal

Saturday 04/05 4PM Duren/Mills Wedding, AA Mtg 7PM

CONFIRMATION CLASSES: are forming. Please let Pastor Linda know what dates and times would work best for you so that a class can form. Confirmation Class is for any person 12 years old and older who has not made a profession of faith and is interested in/curious about church membership. Looking forward to your input.

THURSDAYS IN LENT-SOUP & STUDY: Beginning **March 13th**, there will be luncheons at noon every Thursday during Lent at St. Paul's led by the MOT Ministerial Alliance.

5TH SUNDAY'S MONTHS: In **March and November**, there will be a potluck fellowship after the 11AM service. *There will still be the regular 8:30AM service.* In **June and August**, there will be the one summer 9AM service, with a potluck fellowship to follow.

ST. PAUL'S SPRING CLEAN-UP: Beginning **March 29th through April 4th**, we will be having the church building and grounds clean-up. There is a wedding here on Saturday, April 5th so all cleaning needs to be accomplished by Friday, April 4th. The 'things to do' cards will be available by the 29th and you can come in anytime to clean inside or outside.

MIDDLETOWN YMCA GOLF OUTING 'SWING FOR A CAUSE': at Back Creek Golf Club, 101 Back Creek Dr., Middletown DE **Monday, May 12, 2025 8AM.** This year's golf event will benefit the Middletown Family YMCA and ensure that no one is turned away for the inability to pay! Your donation ensures that everyone has access to the life-changing programs at the YMCA. Donors support a wide range of programs including but not limited to: Summer Camp for low-income children, at-risk teen programming, drowning prevention, before and after school enrichment, chronic disease prevention and so much more. Prizes, contests

and a special Mother's Day reception will be held! Contact Rick Pulling with questions, or Rich Berry at RBERRY@YMCAD.ORG, 302-616-9622, ext. 1200.

UMM FUNDRAISER: Blue Rocks Game, **Sunday May 18th at 1:05**. Tickets are \$30.00, see Mark Holden for tickets. Mark@maholden.com or 802-279-8100. **End date to get your tickets is May 11th.**

FLOWERS FOR WORSHIP: If you are interested in honoring a loved one with flowers at the altar on a particular Sunday, please use the **Flowers sign-up chart and form with instructions on the Narthex bulletin board.**

You can also still call Bonnie or email the church office at bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org so we make sure the information is added in the bulletin and reserved for you. You can have a florist create a bouquet or you can create your own , (or a plant) and then bring it to the church on Saturday or before the 8:30 am service on Sunday morning.

Our designated florist is Elana's in Middletown, 302-285-0800, please call them early in the week to set up your flower delivery for Saturday to St. Paul's. There will be NO delivery charge.

JOY EVENT UPDATE: "Noah" at Sight and Sound on Thursday, May 1st at 3:00. We have sold all 50 tickets, and if anyone is still interested, we will put their name on a waiting list. The cost per ticket is \$84.55, and checks are payable to Karen Ellis.

Attention all "Noah" attendees: We plan to eat lunch at the Hershey Farm Restaurant before the 3:00 (May 1st) show at Sight & Sound. Our reservation is set for 12:30- 2:00, and the meal will be served family style, in the Gardenview 2 banquet room. The charge for the lunch is \$28.25, and payment is due as soon as possible. Please make checks payable to Karen Ellis. If you do not plan to join us for lunch, we will meet you at the theater probably between 2:15 & 2:30.

In addition, we will be carpooling to Lancaster, so if you are willing to drive others, please let us know. On the other hand, if you need a ride, we will need to know that as well so we can pair up drivers and passengers. Please contact Karen Ellis or Nadine Johnson with this information and/or if you have any questions. Karen Ellis at iluvbrmuda@gmail.com and Nadine Johnson at Nadine.faye.johnson@gmail.com.

JOY EVENT UPDATE: April 6th Children of Eden @ the Everett Theatre This is a reminder that we will be attending the GP & L performance of "Children of Eden" on Sunday, April 6th at 2:00. If you would like to join us, please reach out to Charlotte Miller for tickets (\$16 for adults, \$13 for students). After the show, we plan to have dinner at The Greene Turtle Sports Bar and Grille. If you are able to join us there, PLEASE let either Karen Ellis or Nadine Johnson know so that we can include you in the reservation. You contact Karen Ellis at iluvbrmuda@gmail.com or Nadine Johnson at nadine.faye.johnson@gmail.com. If you have any questions.

WOMEN'S RETREAT: Mark your calendars for the return of the Women's Retreat - **Beach Bible Belonging.** It will be held at St. Paul's on May 17, 2025 from 10AM to 3PM. There will be Devotions, Music, Crafts, and Meditation. Come join us with time to enjoy each other and FUN. *Snacks and beverages will be provided, but please bring your own lunch.* There will be a suggested donation of \$10 to cover expenses. Please RSVP by April 20th to Sue Holden susieq2951@aol.com.

FINANCE NEWS FROM MELISSA BROOKS/CHAIR: February 2025

Income \$ 59,996 Expenses \$ 48,237

BIRTHDAYS: March 30 – Bill Apps, John Morris; March 31 – Lily Widener; April 3 – Barbara Lynn Manlove; April 4 – Brett Vitsorek; April 5 – Reagan Whittington

ANNIVERSARIES: March 23 – Ray & Alice Mullins (*Sorry I skipped over yours last week Alice!*); March 31 – David & Lynda Sydnor

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. You can also email Bonnie Valeski in the Church Office with your request at bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org.

Please be sure to let Bonnie know you want to remove your request. Thank you

PRAYERS FOR: David & Dorothy Dudgeon, Carolyn Akin, Jonathan Brooks, John Guy, Levi Schrum and family, Marilyn Hendershot, Dennis Downes, Jeffrey & Cheryl Martin, Nancy- sister of Alice Rizzo, Ethan Porter, George, Dylan Green, Kevin Quiveors – Al Calbazana’s brother-in-law, and Brenda Shaffer’s nephew, Scott, Mindie, and Bo Pleasanton, Norman Parks, David Sheats, Amanda Branlund who is going through cancer treatment, Terry Sweeney, Michael Whitehead who is doing better but still grateful for prayers, Angela Christian’s mother, Kathy Golden, Sue Austin, Georgiana Fennemore, Phil Elliott, Phil’s parents, Faye Taylor’s nephew Matthew Smith, Bob, Ken, Wells, nephew of Steve Johnson - Matthew, Henry Spencer, Blain Shoun, Justin Marusa – cousin to Cindra Holland, having surgery for lung cancer in January, Skip Bason, Kenzel Messick’s brother Lem – on his recovery to go well, family of a teaching colleague of Pastor Patti’s, Ellie Leuliette & Dick Leuliette, Karen Kolf – sister to Alice Mullins. Jay and Laura, Rebecca Roberts - sister-in-law to Gail Garner going through chemotherapy and other therapies for leukemia, Joe Stemmler, Karen Ellis’ friend Julie who had a stroke recently, Nora Reeves who was in a car accident, Marilyn Dernberger – cousin to Kenzel Messick who had a stroke and surgery and Kenzel’s niece – Heather Dill who is having cancer surgery, Jay & Laura Wedel and family as they battle Laura’s cancer, Hap Bonham as he recovers from recent surgery, Jeff & Cheryl Buckworth on the passing of her mother. Kathleen Golden, Cindra Holland’s mother, who is currently hospitalized and seriously ill. The great-grandson baby of Carole & John Harmon who needs continued prayers, Carl & Patti Ravilious on the passing of Carl’s stepmother, Kris Elliott’s mother-in-law on her recent fall.

Upcoming Yellow Hat Schedule for March 2025

3/02/25 Society of St. Andrews (Pastor Linda)

3/09/25 Mosaic Of Delaware (Mary Ingram)

3/16/25 Harvest Outreach People Project Food Delivery Wilmington (Boxes of Food/Pastor Linda)

3/23/25 Compassionate Card Ministry of St Pauls

3/30/25 Neighborhood House

Please make sure ALL checks are made payable to St. Paul’s UMC, including checks for the Yellow Hat missions, writing the organization’s name on the memo line.

All donations are collected, recorded, entered in the system, and deposited into the Church’s operating account on a weekly basis. Also, on a weekly basis, a check is mailed to the specified yellow hat organization for the total amount collected.

It is very important that donations be placed in the offering plate, yellow hat or mailed to St. Paul’s UMC. You are also welcome to drop off donations in the black box on the wall just inside the side door to the Church, making sure it is secured in an envelope with your name on the front. This is to guarantee acknowledgement of your donations when the yearly contribution statement is sent for tax purposes.

Thank you all for your continued support for St. Paul’s as we are growing in our faith through generosity. *Alice Mullins, Treasurer*



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.*

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)

MISSIONS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

WEEKLY GATHERINGS – CHURCH BUILDING

OFFICE HOURS Tuesday -Thursday, 9 AM-2 PM

- Boy Scouts –Mondays 7-8:30 PM
- Cub Scouts –Tuesdays 6-8 PM
- TOPS Meeting – Wednesdays 5:45 PM.
- St. Paul's Prayer and Praise Group Ministry – Thursdays 10 AM @Carole Harmon's Home
- St. Paul's Handbell Rehearsal – Wednesdays 6 PM
- St. Paul's Choir Rehearsal – Wednesdays 7 PM
- AA Meeting – Saturdays 7 PM

MONTHLY GATHERINGS

- Finance Meeting – 2nd Monday 6:30 PM
- Trustees Meeting – 1st Monday 6:30 PM
- SPRC Meeting – 4th Thursday 6:30 PM
- Leadership Meeting – 3rd Tuesday 6:30 PM
- Reconciling Ministries – TBD

Adult Sunday Bible Study 9:45AM

Children's Sunday School 9:45AM.

Adult Bible Series Mondays 9AM

Flowers for Worship

If you are interested in honoring a loved one with flowers at the altar on a particular Sunday, please use the **Flowers sign-up chart and form with instructions on the Narthex bulletin board.**

You can also still call Bonnie or email the church office at bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org so we make sure the information is added in the bulletin and reserved for you. You can have a florist create a bouquet or you can create your own , (or a plant) and then bring it to the church on Saturday or before the 8:30 am service on Sunday morning. **Our designated florist is Elana's in Middletown, 302-285-0800, please call them early in the week to set up your flower delivery for Saturday to St. Paul's. There will be NO delivery charge.**

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 Ellie Leuliette, 484-432-4673.

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.

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>. 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 11:30AM

- 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 kindness!

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.

Currently we are really low on personal hygiene products as well as some food items:

- 1. Bottled water**
- 2. Toilet paper, Toothpaste, Soap, Shampoo & conditioner**
- 3. Peanut butter & jelly (medium size)**
- 4. Pasta sauce**
- 5. Tuna/Tuna Helper**
- 6. Hamburger Helper**

These non-perishables are needed to keep our pantry stocked:

Chef Boyardee, beef stew, Spam ,pancake mix/syrup, snacks - cookies, crackers etc.

ADDITIONALLY, THERE IS ALWAYS A NEED FOR ADULT SIZED DISPOSABLE DIAPERS AS WELL AS FOR BABIES/CHILDREN IN SIZES 4, 5, AND 6, AND WIPES. WE HAVE NUMEROUS MOMS WITH BABIES AND TODDLERS WHO TAKE THEIR MONEY FOR FOOD AND BILLS TO BUY THEM.

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.