



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](http://www.stpaulsodessa.org), CCLI 11305346 and Streaming Lic. 21184487

## Epiphany Sunday

January 4, 2026, 8:30 AM Service, ASL & Livestreaming

WE ENTER GOD'S GATES WITH PRAISE

WELCOME WITH MUSIC AND IMAGES

### GATHERING MUSIC AND PHOTOS:

Duane Dillard - Music Ministry, Mark Holden - Photographer & Curator, Gail Garner – ASL Interpreter

### \*LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

The Schrum Family

One: The Magi followed a star leading them to the Light of the World.

**Many: The candle flame reminds us that the Light of the World is in our midst.**

One: Like a beacon leading us to the Promised Land, the light of God shines in the world.

**Many: As followers of Jesus, the Light of the World, we center ourselves for worship.**

**All Singing: Walk in the light, beautiful light; come where his love and his mercy are bright. Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the Light of the World. Green Hymnal, 2056**

### GATHERING:

Liturgist – Ann Newswanger

### PRAISE AND WORSHIP:

*Blessed Assurance*

Red Hymnal 369

**\*OPENING PRAYER: (all praying): Gracious God, we come into your presence with joy and praise, grateful for the gift of Christ Jesus in our lives. Light of God, illumine the path that leads us to healing, hope, and salvation. Glory of God, fill this sanctuary and expose the darkness that stalks our souls. Light of God, shine with such brightness that we marvel in awe. Glory of God, fill each temple of the Holy Spirit present today. Light of God, Glory of God, we welcome you in this place. Amen**

### WORDS FOR YOUNG BELIEVERS:

*Peace for the Children*

Green Hymnal 3125

*Peace for the children, peace, peace. Peace for the children we pray. Following the path of One of peace, we work for healing, we work for peace, peace for the children today.*

Susie Cate shares a blessing with our children!

### PASS THE PEACE: (safely share words and signs of blessing)

*I Love You With The Love Of The Lord*

Words and Music by Jim Golbert. CCLI Song #10130

*I love you with the love of the Lord, yes, I love you with the love of the Lord. I can see in you the glory of my King, and I love you with the love of the Lord.*

### FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 60: 1-6 (CEB)

Arise! Shine! Your light has come;  
the Lord's glory has shone upon you.

<sup>2</sup> Though darkness covers the earth  
and gloom the nations,  
the Lord will shine upon you;  
God's glory will appear over you.

<sup>3</sup> Nations will come to your light  
and kings to your dawning radiance.

<sup>4</sup> Lift up your eyes and look all around:  
they are all gathered; they have come to you.

Your sons will come from far away,  
and your daughters on caregivers' hips.

<sup>5</sup> Then you will see and be radiant;  
your heart will tremble and open wide,  
because the sea's abundance will be turned over to you;  
the nations' wealth will come to you.

<sup>6</sup> Countless camels will cover your land,  
young camels from Midian and Ephah.

They will all come from Sheba,  
carrying gold and incense,  
proclaiming the Lord's praises.

**\*GOSPEL LESSON: *Matthew 2: 1-12* (CEB)**

After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in the territory of Judea during the rule of King Herod, magi came from the east to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> They asked, "Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We've seen his star in the east, and we've come to honor him."

<sup>3</sup> When King Herod heard this, he was troubled, and everyone in Jerusalem was troubled with him. <sup>4</sup> He gathered all the chief priests and the legal experts and asked them where the Christ was to be born. <sup>5</sup> They said, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for this is what the prophet wrote:

<sup>6</sup> *You, Bethlehem, land of Judah,  
by no means are you least among the rulers of Judah,  
because from you will come one who governs,  
who will shepherd my people Israel."*

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod secretly called for the magi and found out from them the time when the star had first appeared. <sup>8</sup> He sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search carefully for the child. When you've found him, report to me so that I too may go and honor him." <sup>9</sup> When they heard the king, they went; and look, the star they had seen in the east went ahead of them until it stood over the place where the child was. <sup>10</sup> When they saw the star, they were filled with joy. <sup>11</sup> They entered the house and saw the child with Mary his mother. Falling to their knees, they honored him. Then they opened their treasure chests and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. <sup>12</sup> Because they were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they went back to their own country by another route.

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

HYMN OF PREPARATION: *The Church's One Foundation* Red Hymnal 545

THE MESSAGE: "Seeking God's Light" Pastor Linda Ray

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (*You may speak aloud your joys and concerns.*)

**WE GIVE THANKS**

OFFERTORY REMINDERS

Today's **Yellow Hat** mission offering support to **1/05/25 Friends of Zoar** (Steve Johnson).

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (all praying): **Gracious God, we would like to be among those who saw the coming of the Christ Child, those who dropped all that they were doing and traveled to worship the coming of God's love into this world. We would like to be those who cared for God in infant vulnerability; who tickled and cuddled and comforted the growing child, that he might know love and safety. And yet, merciful God, we must recognize all the times we are more like Herod. Whenever we in our actions or in our inactions, find our own need for control more compelling than the needs of others for health and safety. Whenever we cling to the security of our privilege, rather than standing up for the rights of the oppressed. Whenever we are complicit in the harming of innocents for the sake of profit, or power, or because we fear to know, and to change, the injustices of this world. Loving God, we confess our sins against you and one**

**another, and pray that you will fill us with your light, that we may live our lives as true disciples in your name, without counting the cost. In the name of Christ, the one who showed us the way, we pray. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Pastor Linda Ray  
Officiant Server – Barbara Bonham

**Reader 2 (singing) :** The Lord be with you.

*Communion Setting 2257-a*

**ALL:** And also with you.

**Reader 2:** Lift up your hearts.

**ALL:** We lift them up to the Lord.

**Reader 2:** 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 formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*Communion Setting 2257-b*

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

**Reader 2:** Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ, whom you sent in the fullness of time to be a light to the nations. You scatter the proud in the imagination of their hearts and have mercy on those who fear you from generation to generation. You put down the mighty from their thrones and exalt those of low degree. You fill the hungry with good things, and the rich you send empty away. Your own Son came among us as a servant to be Emmanuel, your presence with us. He humbled himself in obedience to your will and freely accepted death on a cross. 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.

(Lifting the bread) On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, 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.”

**Reader 1:** (Lifting the cup) When the supper was over, Jesus took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to the 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:

*Communion Setting 2257-c*

**ALL:** Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

**Reader 2:** 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 for ever.

*Communion Setting 2257-d*

**ALL:** Amen. Amen. Amen. Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

**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.**

COMMUNION SONG: *Here Is Bread, Here Is Wine* Black Hymnal 2266

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

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY AND SERVICE

CLOSING MUSIC: *Victory in Jesus* Red Hymnal 370

***SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY***

Liturgist: Ann Newwanger

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

Communion Officiant/Server: Barbara Bonham

Duane Dillard, Music Ministry

Rev. Linda Driver Ray, Pastor	<a href="mailto:PastorLinda@stpaulsodessa.org">PastorLinda@stpaulsodessa.org</a>	(540) 207-1787
Bonnie Valeski, Admin. Asst.	<a href="mailto:bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org">bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org</a>	(302) 378-2420
Alice Mullins, Financial/Treasurer	<a href="mailto:stpodessa@stpaulsodessa.org">stpodessa@stpaulsodessa.org</a>	(302) 293-9956
Duane Dillard, Minister of Music	<a href="mailto:duanedillard@gmail.com">duanedillard@gmail.com</a>	(443) 593-2470
Jin Kyung Seo, Organist/Accompanist	<a href="mailto:jinksblue@gmail.com">jinksblue@gmail.com</a>	
Dr. Kathleen Shannon/Director of Music	<a href="mailto:kathleenmshannon@gmail.com">kathleenmshannon@gmail.com</a>	

**ANNOUNCEMENTS - THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S:**

<b>Sunday 1/4</b>	<b>Worship Services 8:30AM with Livestreaming and ASL and 11AM Traditional, Adult &amp; Children's Bible Study 9:45AM, Choir Practice 9:45AM, Pak-A-Sak Sunday</b>
<b>Monday 1/5</b>	<b>Adult Bible Study 10AM, Witness Team Mtg. 1:30 PM, Trustees Committee Mtg 6:30 PM</b>
<b>Tuesday 1/6</b>	<b>Health Ministries Team Mtg 2 PM, Adult Bible Study 6:30PM</b>
<b>Wednesday 1/7</b>	<b>ASL 4:30 PM, TOPS 5 PM, Handbell Choir 6 PM, Chancel Choir 7 PM</b>
<b>Thursday 1/8</b>	<b>Prayer and Praise Team 10 AM</b>
<b>Friday 1/9</b>	
<b>Saturday 1/10</b>	<b>Women Moving Forward Mtg, 10 AM AA Mtg 7PM</b>

**FROM THE MISSION/OUTREACH TEAM:** Dear St. Paul's family, Thank you, once again, for the outpouring of generosity from our church for the adopt-a-family mission! We assisted in providing gifts for 10 families in the MOT area making their Christmases just a little merrier this year. Your love and sense of compassion is overwhelming and amazing! Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a happy, healthy 2026! With love, The Mission/Outreach Team

**STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES TO DATE: Per Alice Mullins/Treasurer 59 pledges \$196,972.**

Packets and extra cards are still available in Fellowship Hall. Please **return your financial pledge card in a sealed envelope, addressed to Alice Mullins, Treasurer** and put it in the collection basket or put them in the locked black box on the wall at the side, back door, or put them in the black box on the wall at the top of the steps to the church office marked 'TREASURER/FINANCIAL' or you can give them directly to Alice Mullins (only Alice). This is so we maintain your privacy and the safety of your financial information.

The Time and Talent and the Prayer and Worship cards can be put in the collection plate or given to Pastor Linda.

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MONTHLY & YTD BUDGET TOTALS/MELISSA BROOKS CHAIR:**

November Income \$ 23,473  
November Expense (\$25,211)

YTD Income \$ 295,323

YTD Expense (\$282,944)

November Yellow Hat:

Congo Partnership \$ 2978

Pay It Forward Foundation \$221

Adopt-A-Family \$823.86

United Methodist Student Day \$381.86

Mosaic of Delaware \$ 351.14

Total: \$2,075.68

**ATTENTION BOOKIES OF ST. PAUL'S!!** After the chat meeting of women and discussing with the Nurture Committee, we've decided to start a Book Club. We will meet every other month starting in January. Our first meeting will include author FAYE GREEN who is a past member of our church. Her latest book is called THE FINEST COTTON. This 2025 fiction novel is about a grandmother named Lucille Cotton and her opinionated talking cat, which causes her grandchildren to react to her travels and escapades.

Faye will be joining us in January to discuss her book and how she started writing. I am taking orders for the book and picking them up from Faye the last week in November. The books are \$15 and I will have them at church the weekend after Thanksgiving. This should give everyone plenty of time to read it before we meet with her. As soon as I have the date in January I will send out the information. Please feel free to ask friends to join us. Contact Nadine Johnson at [Nadine.faye.johnson@gmail.com](mailto:Nadine.faye.johnson@gmail.com) or call 973-600-7976 if you would like to order a book.

**UMM DATES TO REMEMBER: Family Outing Saturday January 17, 2026 2:00PM** at the University of Delaware Basketball game. Please contact Mark Holden, at 802-279-8100 or [mark@maholden.com](mailto:mark@maholden.com).

**Next UMM Breakfast is February 28, 2026.**

**JOY GROUP SAVE THE DATE!**

We have booked yet another JOY event at Sight & Sound in Lancaster!! We will be going to see "JOSHUA" on **Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 3:00 p.m.** At this point, 50 seats have been reserved. There is no payment due until after the 1<sup>st</sup> of the year, but if you are contemplating attending the show, and if you might consider purchasing ticket(s) as a Christmas gift, please let us know so we can put your name on the list. Contact Karen Ellis at [iluvbrmuda@gmail.com](mailto:iluvbrmuda@gmail.com) or Nadine Johnson at [nadine.faye.johnson@gmail.com](mailto:nadine.faye.johnson@gmail.com) with questions or to sign up for what promises to be another amazing show!!

**BIRTHDAYS:** January 4 – Cindra Holland; January 5 – Bill Hutchison; January 6 – Hap Bonham; January 9 – Dave Anderson

**ANNIVERSARIES:** January 9 – Mike & Ally Kennedy

**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 **complete the card with instructions on the Narthex bulletin board.** You can email Bonnie at anytime to see if slots are taken on the chart, [bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org](mailto:bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org).

You can also still call Bonnie or email the church office at [bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org](mailto: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 (9am in summer) 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.**

**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](mailto:bonnie@stpaulsodessa.org).

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

**PRAYERS FOR:** Carolyn Akin, Jonathan Brooks, John Guy, Levi Schrum and family, Nancy- sister of Alice Rizzo, Ethan Porter, George, Dylan Green, Kevin Quiveors – Al Calbazana’s brother-in-law, 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, Georgiana Fennemore, Blain Shoun, Skip Bason, Cindra Holland’s mother, who is currently hospitalized and seriously ill, for Jessica Schrum and family, as her father, John Carmichael, begins his cancer treatment journey and her mom, Sandra, his caretaker, Chris Foote, Danny Skeans, Dave Koski, Deena Greenwood, Leah Elliott & Phil Elliott in their health struggles, Alice Mullins’ sister Sue Austin who has been ill, Jeanne Buckworth, Lauren – granddaughter to a friend of Sue Haberstroh recovering from surgery after a bad car accident, Giancarlo and family - the great-grandson baby of Carole & John Harmon who needs prayers with his continuing critical health struggles, Dave Sydnor, Bruce Vanmeter – cousin to Beth O’Grady, on his recovery after heart transplant surgery, Elayne Guy, all those Church members families and friends currently fighting illnesses, Jordan Ingram, son of Allen & Mary Ingram, as he suffers through breakthrough seizures and medication adjustments, for Dave Corby as he recovers from his surgery, the family of Linda Sydnor as they deal with health issues, Shirley Walker on the recent passing of her son, Patricia Bower on the death of her brother and her health issues, Sharan Duren on her health issues, for Lauren Kable -daughter of Faye Taylor who is having neck surgery on 1/6/26.

### **Upcoming Yellow Hat Schedule for January 2026**

**1/4/26 Friends of Zoar (Steve Johnson)**

**1/11/26 Our Daily Bread (Sue Holden)**

**1/18/26 Red Cross**

**1/25/26 Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge (Cathy Blanco, Melanie Blanco)**

**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 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)*

## **MISSIONS AND CONTACT INFORMATION**

### **WEEKLY GATHERINGS – CHURCH BUILDING**

OFFICE HOURS Tuesday -Thursday, 9 AM-2 PM

- TOPS Meeting – Wednesdays 5:00 PM. Beginning in December
- St. Paul's Prayer and Praise Group Ministry – Thursdays 10 AM @Carole Harmon's Home
- St. Paul's Handbell Rehearsal – Wednesdays 6PM
- St. Paul's Choir Rehearsal –Sundays @9:45AM
- AA Meeting – Saturdays 7 PM

### **MONTHLY GATHERINGS**

- Finance Meeting – 2nd Monday 6:30 PM
- Trustees Meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> Monday 6:30 PM
- SPRC Meeting – 4th Thursday 6:30 PM
- Leadership Meeting – 3rd Tuesday 6:30PM
- Friends of Zoar Meeting – 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday 6PM

**Sunday Adult Bible Study** will resume 9/14/2025, 9:45AM

**Children's Sunday School** will resume 9/14/2025, 9:45AM

**Adult Bible Study** - Monday's 10AM

### **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](mailto: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 at 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](http://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 the second Wednesday of every 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 [iluvbr-muda@gmail.com](mailto:iluvbr-muda@gmail.com) and Nadine Johnson at [nadine.faye.johnson@gmail.com](mailto: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.ourdailybreadmot.com/volunteer>. Contact Sue Holden, Missions Co-Chair, at 802-324-6167, [susieq2951@aol.com](mailto:susieq2951@aol.com).



*Hot Meal Service*

**Our Daily Bread serves 7 meals a week.**

◆

**Lunch:** Tuesday & Thursday • 12:00pm–1:00pm  
(Dine-In Only)

**Dinner:** Monday–Friday • 5:00pm–6:00pm  
(Dine-In or Take Out)

days/times for meal service remain the same each week  
menus are subject to change



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 our pantry is bare and needs these items:**

- **pasta/pasta sauce**
- **canned items like Chef Boyardee, beef stew, Spam, chicken, tuna**
- **canned fruit**
- **peanut butter and jelly**
- **any boxed items like mac'n cheese, stuffing, mashed potatoes**

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

Chef Boyardee, beef stew, Spam ,pancake mix/syrup, snacks - cookies, crackers etc. Toiletries are stocked for now.

**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.