



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

Third Sunday of Lent

March 8, 2026, 11:00 AM Service, ASL and Livestreaming
WE ENTER GOD'S GATES WITH PRAISE

WELCOME WITH MUSIC AND IMAGES

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

GREETING **(please stand in body or spirit)*

GATHERING WORDS:

Liturgist – Mike Holland

One: Come, let us worship God!

Many: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

One: Come, let us worship our Shepherd!

Many: We are the sheep of God's pasture, and we follow where God leads us.

One: Come, let us open our hearts!

Many: We receive God's love poured into our hearts through the Spirit.

One: Come, let us worship God, the rock of our salvation!

Many: Let us worship God, whose mercy guides and sustains us on the path of new life!

*OPENING HYMN:

Rock Of Ages

Red Hymnal 361

*OPENING PRAYER (all praying): **Living water, flow through our hearts today. Quench our thirst in our desert wanderings and strengthen us for the road ahead. Shower us in your living water that we may be washed clean in the river of your forgiveness and your grace. We thank you, O God, that you have given us an enduring hope—one which cannot disappoint us or mislead us. We thank you, that through our faith in you and in your Son Jesus Christ, you enter into every believing heart and make us new. Amen**

WORDS FOR YOUNG BELIEVERS:

What A Mighty God We Serve

Green Hymnal 3016

What a mighty God we serve. What a mighty God we serve.

Angels bow before you, heaven and earth adore you. What a mighty God we serve.

Courtney Martin shares a blessing with our children!

FIRST LESSON: *Exodus 17:1-7* (CEB)

The whole Israelite community broke camp and set out from the Sin desert to continue their journey, as the Lord commanded. They set up their camp at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ² The people argued with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink."

Moses said to them, "Why are you arguing with me? Why are you testing the Lord?"

³ But the people were very thirsty for water there, and they complained to Moses, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt to kill us, our children, and our livestock with thirst?"

⁴ So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What should I do with this people? They are getting ready to stone me."

⁵ The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of Israel's elders with you. Take in your hand the shepherd's rod that you used to strike the Nile River, and go. ⁶ I'll be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Hit the rock. Water will come out of it, and the people will be able to drink." Moses did so while Israel's elders watched. ⁷ He called the place Massah and Meribah because the Israelites argued with and tested the Lord, asking, "Is the Lord really with us or not?"

HYMN OF PREPARATION:

Fill My Cup Lord

Red Hymnal 641

*GOSPEL LESSON: *John 4:5-42* (CEB)

He came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, which was near the land Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there. Jesus was tired from his journey, so he sat down at the well. It was about noon.

⁷ A Samaritan woman came to the well to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me some water to drink." ⁸ His disciples had gone into the city to buy him some food.

⁹ The Samaritan woman asked, "Why do you, a Jewish man, ask for something to drink from me, a Samaritan woman?" (Jews and Samaritans didn't associate with each other.)

¹⁰ Jesus responded, "If you recognized God's gift and who is saying to you, 'Give me some water to drink,' you would be asking him and he would give you living water."

¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you don't have a bucket and the well is deep. Where would you get this living water? ¹² You aren't greater than our father Jacob, are you? He gave this well to us, and he drank from it himself, as did his sons and his livestock."

¹³ Jesus answered, "Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but whoever drinks from the water that I will give will never be thirsty again. The water that I give will become in those who drink it a spring of water that bubbles up into eternal life."

¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I will never be thirsty and will never need to come here to draw water!"

¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, get your husband, and come back here."

¹⁷ The woman replied, "I don't have a husband."

"You are right to say, 'I don't have a husband,'" Jesus answered. ¹⁸ "You've had five husbands, and the man you are with now isn't your husband. You've spoken the truth."

¹⁹ The woman said, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you and your people say that it is necessary to worship in Jerusalem."

²¹ Jesus said to her, "Believe me, woman, the time is coming when you and your people will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You and your people worship what you don't know; we worship what we know because salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the time is coming—and is here!—when true worshippers will worship in spirit and truth. The Father looks for those who worship him this way. ²⁴ God is spirit, and it is necessary to worship God in spirit and truth."

²⁵ The woman said, "I know that the Messiah is coming, the one who is called the Christ. When he comes, he will teach everything to us."

²⁶ Jesus said to her, "I Am—the one who speaks with you."

²⁷ Just then, Jesus' disciples arrived and were shocked that he was talking with a woman. But no one asked, "What do you want?" or "Why are you talking with her?" ²⁸ The woman put down her water jar and went into the city. She said to the people, ²⁹ "Come and see a man who has told me everything I've done! Could this man be the Christ?" ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to see Jesus.

³¹ In the meantime the disciples spoke to Jesus, saying, "Rabbi, eat."

³² Jesus said to them, "I have food to eat that you don't know about."

³³ The disciples asked each other, "Has someone brought him food?"

³⁴ Jesus said to them, "I am fed by doing the will of the one who sent me and by completing his work. ³⁵ Don't you have a saying, 'Four more months and then it's time for harvest'? Look, I tell you: open your eyes and notice that the fields are already ripe for the harvest. ³⁶ Those who harvest are receiving their pay and gathering fruit for eternal life so that those who sow and those who harvest can celebrate together. ³⁷ This is a true saying,

that one sows and another harvests. ³⁸ I have sent you to harvest what you didn't work hard for; others worked hard, and you will share in their hard work."

³⁹ Many Samaritans in that city believed in Jesus because of the woman's word when she testified, "He told me everything I've ever done." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to Jesus, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ Many more believed because of his word, ⁴² and they said to the woman, "We no longer believe because of what you said, for we have heard for ourselves and know that this one is truly the savior of the world."

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

THE MESSAGE: "In View of God's Mercy—Mercy in Betrayal"

Pastor Linda Ray

WE GIVE THANKS

OFFERTORY PRAYER: Eternal Spirit, Source of healing and wholeness, receive our grateful hearts for your many blessings. Transform the gifts we bring this day into Christ's promise of live water for the world. Bathe those who are touched by today's offering in your goodness and grace, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

THE OFFERTORY: Today's **Yellow Hat** mission offering supports **3/08/26 Red Bird Mission**.

CHORAL ANTHEM: *Father, Forgive Us* by Craig Courtney

Chancel Choir

*THE DOXOLOGY:

Red Hymnal 95

GATHERING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (all praying): **Eternal God, from the beginning of time, you have called your children into communion with you. Yet we confess that like all the rest, we have turned to our own way and refused your love and grace. Restore us to the joy of knowing you and of recognizing your reign among us, through Jesus Christ, bringer of your good news. Amen.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION:

Pastor Linda Ray

Communion Server- Mike Holland

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, he 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) 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:

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 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.

Reader 2: Now as children of God, may we join in prayer saying together:

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 receive the bread and cup.)

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

WE GO IN THE SPIRIT!

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY AND SERVICE

SENDING HYMN:

Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

Red Hymnal 127

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Liturgist: Mike Holland

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

Communion Officiant/Server: Mike Holland

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

Greeters: Laura Widger, Brook Ellis

Minister of Music: Duane Dillard

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

Altar flowers today are donated by Carlotta Cline in memory of her husband, HG Cline.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Rev. Linda Driver Ray, Pastor

Bonnie Valeski, Admin. Asst.

Alice Mullins, Financial/Treasurer

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Jin Kyung Seo, Organist/Accompanist
Dr. Katheen Shannon, Director of Music

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ANNOUNCEMENTS - THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S:

Sunday 3/08 Daylight Savings Time Begins – Spring Ahead 1 Hour! Worship Services 8:30AM, 11AM with Livestreaming and ASL, Adult & Children's Bible Study 9:45AM, Choir Practice 9:45AM
Monday 3/09 Bible Study 10AM
Tuesday 3/10 ODB, Bible Study 6:30 PM
Wednesday 3/11 Deep Roots Food Drop-off by 4:15PM, TOPS 5 PM, Handbell Choir 6 PM
Thursday 3/12 Prayer and Praise Team 10 AM, Soup and Study at Tree of Life @Noon, Zoar Comm. Mtg, 6PM, MCC Rehearsal 7 PM
Friday 3/13
Saturday 3/14 AA Mtg 7PM

STEWARDSHIP PLEDGES TO DATE: Per Alice Mullins/Treasurer 74 Pledges---Total \$233,132

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.** 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:

January 2026

Total Income \$22,824
Total Expenses (\$25,559)
 (\$ 2,735)

January Yellow Hat

1/4 Friends of Zoar \$384
1/11 Our Daily Bread \$453
1/18 General Missions \$256
1/25 Special Olympics \$273
 \$ 1,366

LENTEN SOUP & STUDY: Every Thursday in Lent at Tree of Life Church, Odessa, at Noon. Everyone is welcome.

ST. PAUL'S BOOK CLUB: We will be meeting on **Wednesday, March 18th at 10:00** in Fellowship Hall. Our book is *Heaven Is for Real* by Lynn Vincent and Todd Burpo. You may get this at the library, Amazon or anywhere else you get your books. Janet Miller will be facilitating the discussion. It is not necessary to read the book in order to attend. Please bring any suggestions for our May gathering. The group can decide what they would like to read at the March meeting. Everyone is welcome!! Thank you, Nadine Johnson

MARCH 29TH FELLOWSHIP POTLUCK: Everyone is invited to bring and share your favorite dish or dessert after the 11AM service. We will continue with two services of 8:30 and 11AM on the fifth Sundays.

HOPE BIKE TOUR COOKIE DRIVE: On **May 9th** Law Enforcement United Road to Hope Bike Tour will be rolling into Rehoboth after the first leg of their journey from Atlantic City to Washington DC. These are police officers and retired police officers from the Northeast. There will be Delaware riders in the mix. They will be spending the night at the Fairfield Inn. I have arranged an evening cookout for about 175 folks. I would ask that St. Paul's bake cookies as we did last year for the riders. It was a HUGE hit and folks are still talking about it. **Please let me know what you are baking and how many and I'll keep a list going.** Store

bought are fine if you don't feel like baking. Some of you just made cash donations; that works too ! Please have your cookies at St. Paul's **NO LATER THAN May 7th at 5 PM** so I can gather them up.

My thanks, Rick Pulling

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 1st 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 or Nadine Johnson at nadine.faye.johnson@gmail.com with questions or to sign up for what promises to be another amazing show!!

BIRTHDAYS: March 8 – Gunner Whitehead, Keith Martin; March 10 – Laura Widgr; March 12 – Heather Sutton; March 13 – Ann Baker, Mila Ballance, Deann Widener, March 14 – Meghan Sydnor.

ANNIVERSARYS: March 10 – Dennis & Helen Downes

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.

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 (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.

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, 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, 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, Elayne Guy, Jordan Ingram, son of Allen & Mary Ingram, as he suffers through breakthrough seizures and medication adjustments, for Dave Corby, 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, Alyssa Chapas, recently diagnosed with breast cancer, who is the daughter to long-time friend of Don Mueller, Alice Mullins' brother recently diagnosed with Parkinson's, Allen Ingram as he continues to heal, Marcia and Dicky Wheeler, Lauren, Joe Stemmler and others struggling with health issues and recovery, Ms. Sarah Mullen as she recovers at home, Alice Mullins' niece, Kimberly Kolf., Patti Harmer as she recovers from knee replacement surgery, Helen George on her health journey.

Yellow Hat Schedule for March 2026

3/01/26 Society of St. Andrews (Pastor Linda)

3/08/26 Red Bird Mission

3/15/26 Harvest Outreach People Project Food Delivery Wilmington (Boxes of Food/Pastor Linda)

3/22/26 Compassionate Card Ministry of St Paul's

3/29/26 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 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 PM. Beginning in December 2025
- St. Paul's Prayer and Praise Group Ministry – Thursdays 10AM @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 – 1st Monday 6:30 PM
- SPRC Meeting – Quarterly Mtgs, 4th Thursday 6:30 PM – April, July, September
- Leadership Meeting – 3rd Tuesday 6:30PM
- Friends of Zoar Meeting – 2nd Thursday 6PM
- Pak-A-Sak Sunday – First Sunday of the Month
- St. Paul's @ODB – Second Tuesday of the Month
- St. Paul's Deep Roots Food Collection – Second Wednesday of the Month

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

Men's Adult Bible Study - April & October, Date & Time TBA

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 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 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

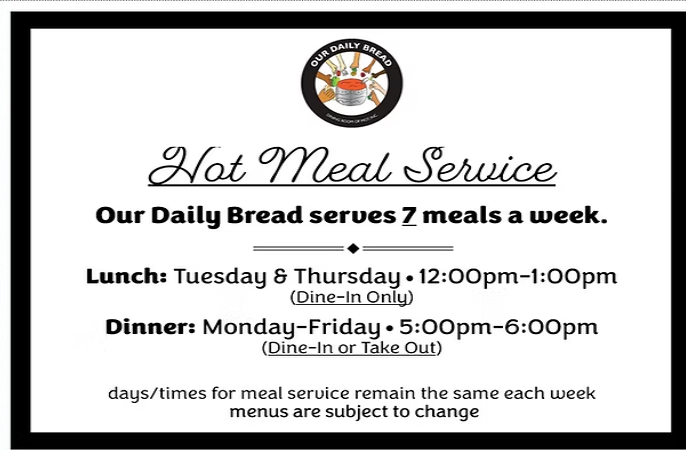
Deep Roots

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 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.ourdailybreadmot.com/volunteer>. Contact Sue Holden, Missions Co-Chair, at 802-324-6167, susieq2951@aol.com.



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.