



Fall Newsletter

St. Paul's United Church, Tillsonburg, ON



MESSAGE FROM REV. KARLENE

Greetings My St. Paul's family & Friends,

The book of Ecclesiastics chapter 3 reminds us

There is a time for everything, and a season for every activity under the heavens:

a time to be born and a time to die, a time to plant and a time to uproot, a time to kill and a time to heal, a time to tear down and a time to build, a time to weep and a time to laugh, a time to mourn and a time to dance, a time to scatter stones and a time to gather them, a time to embrace and a time to refrain from embracing,

In whatever season we find ourselves as I write to you today, the choice is yours how you face it. We can lament on how much we have lost or we can rejoice about how much God has blessed us. One thing we can be assured of as the people of God is that irrespective of how bad things may seem, God continues to remain faithful.

As we go into this Fall let us allow Jesus to walk beside us on this journey and strengthen our faith. I leave you with these words of encouragement from the Apostle Paul

- "What, then, shall we say in response to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us?" - Romans 8:31
- "Rejoice always, pray continually, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus." - 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

*Shalom
Rev Karlene
Fall 2021*

Church Council Message

On behalf of St. Paul's United Church Council I want to welcome each of you back to our in person services each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m., and to those viewing our services via our Live Streaming each morning we are excited to welcome each of you and look forward to the day you return to church in person.

God Bless each of you.

Reg Butcher/Chair
St. Paul's United Church Council



UPCOMING EVENTS:

- Orange Shirt Sunday
September 26
- World Communion Sunday
October 3
- Thanksgiving Sunday
October 10
- Sunday School begins
October 17
- AOTS Sunday
October 17
- St. Paul's Anniversary Sunday
/Annual General Mtg.
October 24
- Remembrance Sunday
October 7
- Frosty Fair Bazaar
November 20

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Opening Committee Report

With a change in the COVID 19 --Provincial Restrictions, it was decided that we should open the sanctuary for Worship effective July 18, 2021. With all the previous protocols still in place (from the fall of 2020) the same procedures were used to ensure the safety of those who chose to attend worship. People pre registered, maintained social distancing, sanitized hands, wore a mask – those protocols were restored as well as being ushered to a reserved seat. There was no singing however we did reinstate the lay reader who does the announcements and reads the scripture.

Again, those attending indicated they were thrilled to be present in the sanctuary for worship. Some others indicated they still very much miss the singing. Some have indicated they still feel safer at home using the live streaming service or viewing on YOU-TUBE at their leisure. Still others indicate they will be attending in person in the fall.

We continue to monitor the rules and restrictions from the Provincial Government/the Southwestern Ontario Public Health officials and the United Church of Canada for changes or new concepts. As a result of the lessening of some restrictions effective September 1, we will be allowing bookings for the Friendship Room, the Banquet Hall and the Multipurpose Room. Several Celebration of Life Services and a wedding have been approved and will take place during the fall. Protocols have been updated for those areas and a contract and booking must be completed at the office. It is very important for all to be safe while at the same time being compliant with all the restrictions that are necessary. Each room has a maximum number of persons who may be in the room and that will need to be enforced. Things are returning to a “new normal.”

The use of the kitchens and serving food continues to be monitored regularly in consultation with a rep from the Southwestern Ontario Public Health – Inspector. Each request requires consultation before a decision is made. There are a lot of factors involved in those decisions.

Stay tuned. We continue to monitor and update as the restrictions change; it is important to be compliant and safe at all times. **Remember to social distance and wear a mask.** We have had discussions about the vaccination needles but to date there has been no decision. Will vaccine shots be mandatory for those attending worship/events at St. Paul’s? That discussion /decision may be re-visited as we move into the fall.

Stay safe, stay healthy and stay in touch.

Respectfully submitted Mary Anne Silverthorn



Stewardship

If you would like to make a donations to the crisis in Haiti please include with your church givings and mark envelope Haiti relief.

The Salvation Army Back pack school program was a great success – thank you to all who donated \$1290 was raised!

MESSY CHURCH



Our Messy church family welcomes new baby Tiago, a little brother for Sage and Scarlett Fisk. We also welcome a new Messy Church family 5 year old Hendrix and 3 year old Mavis. We will continue to drop off activity packages at our families' front doors until the New Year at which time we will reassess required health protocols. Many thanks to our St. Paul's family for your contributions and support of this program. Respectfully,
Norma Collis

UCW NEWS

Bazaar: The Frosty Fair bazaar will be held on Saturday November 20th. Planning is underway. If you are canning or making jams and jellies, please consider making some extra for the bazaar. We need jams, jellies and chili sauce. As well, knitting is always welcome! We need lots of supplies please see the weekly bulletin for more details. Thank you so much for your support!

AOTS NEWS

As for most church groups AOTS has been putting off possible programmes indefinitely. But at this point in time we are proceeding with faith that some things are beginning to happen. Ergo we plan the following events and invite all to join in wherever appropriate and possible.

Annual Church Service Sunday, Oct. 17 - Rayburn Lansdell of Youth For Christ will be our guest preacher.

Sunday, Oct. 24 - Smoked Pork Chop Fundraiser. Curbside pick up. Pork chop, baked potato, veggies and cole slaw plus a butter tart

Cost \$15.00. Advanced sales only. Mark your calendars now. Again, to reserve tickets call Dave Morris at 519 842-4188.

Submitted by Co-Chairs: Dave Collis, Maurice Francis and Dave Morris

Community Kitchen at St. Paul's



We are expecting to start our new season on October 16th, with take-out meals purchased from Dave Beres' Catering.

This programme was very successful last year, but also very expensive. With food costs going up everywhere, we will be paying more for the service.

Our goal is to feed hungry people who have no ability to successfully feed themselves, for whatever reason. In order to meet our goal, we need everyone's help who is fortunate enough to have food in the cupboard, pantry and refrigerator. Please accept this report as a plea for donations.

Thank you
Laurie Drew
Coordinator, Community Kitchen at St. Paul's



In person Sunday school begins Oct. 17. We can't wait to see you back in church!