

New Year's Message

FROM THE PASTOR

Pastor Tim's cell - 717-448-4059
Pastor Tim's home - 717-501-4339
Pastor Tim's email - tfunk@susumc.org

Dear Friends,

Most people associate resolutions with the New Year. According to the Barna Group here are the top resolutions categories:

- weight, diet and health (35%);
- money, debt and finances (20%);
- personal improvement (13%);
- addiction (12%);
- job and career (10%);
- educational (6%);
- spiritual or relationship with God (4%).

It is telling that so few Americans say they want to improve their relationship with God. We now live in a society in which so many individuals think they do not need God. Maybe that is a big part of the reason so many fail to keep their New Years' resolution. The Barna Group didn't list that percentage, but I suspect the failure rate is very, very high.

So many people today are trying to turn over a new leaf or become a better person without God's power. Paul said, "I can do all this through him who gives me strength." (Philippians 4:13.) It takes a supernatural power to change the human heart. Another reason people fail at keeping their New Year's Resolution is due to impatience. They try to change, but if it doesn't happen in a month or two they give up. Often, when we seek God's power to change us, we think our transformation should happen immediately. That is not the way it works. Jesus was with his disciples for almost 3 years and even after that amount of time they were not the followers of Christ they should have been. They all ran away from Jesus when he was arrested in the garden. Worse yet, Peter denied his Lord 3 times that evening.

To follow Jesus and become the kind of disciples he desires, and the kind of disciple we desire to be down deep, we must be in it for the long haul. Paul wrote in Philippians 1: 6 "... being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." We have a whole new year ahead of us. To receive power from God requires us to pursue a right relationship with God. Make use of the ministries here at St. Paul's make sure you are focused on the Lord and not yourself. And be patient. Even when you don't feel like coming to church, praying, reading the Scriptures or serving others, do it anyway. Be in it for the long haul because God has a work he wants to complete in you.

In Christ's Love,
Pastor Tim



Join us for New Year's Eve: As has been the tradition, St. Paul's is once again providing a Community Pork and Sauerkraut Dinner. It is Monday, December 31 from 5:00 – 7:00 PM in our Fellowship Hall. This year, like last year, the Community Meal crew will do the cooking and cleaning. As a result, the freewill donations accepted will support the Community Meal outreach. Come and enjoy the food and fellowship. Note: It is best to call the church office (244-2355) ahead of time. Volunteers are needed to cook, serve and clean up. To offer help call the church office 717-244-2355 or Wanda Strickler at 717-244-9052.

The Christmas decorations are to be taken down on Saturday, January 12, starting at 9:00 AM. Volunteers are needed to help. Contact Amy Glock (246-0398) if you have questions.

Holy Communion will be celebrated Sunday, January 13. The elements will be distributed in the pews.

Bible Study: The group is on a Winter Break. Just before Christmas they finished the Gospel of John. The next study is on the Book of Revelation. The first night of that new study is Tuesday, March 5. Pastor Tim leads the sessions which meets in the church lounge Tuesday evenings at 7 PM, weather permitting. Everyone is invited.

The Mid-week Service is a on a winter break, as well. There will be no Wednesday evening services from December 26 through February 27. This first mid-week service of the New Year will be Wednesday, March 6, 7 PM in the Sunday school room.



How do you know when services at St. Paul's are canceled? That is a good question. Here is what we have worked out. The main means of finding out about cancellations is to tune to the ABC affiliate in Harrisburg. It is ABC TV 27, but it may be a different channel on your cable or satellite provider. Then, watch the screen for information regarding St. Paul's, Red Lion. The next place to search would be the church's website, www.saintpauls-um.com. If that doesn't work for you, just call the church office (244-2355) or contact Pastor Tim directly at 501-4339 or 448-4059.

The Next Community Meal is Monday, January 14, 5:00 – 6:00 PM in our Fellowship Hall. This outreach continues to minister to those in the Red Lion Borough who need a hot meal and fellowship. Pass the word along! In December we served over 180 people, our largest crowd yet! We also handed out Bibles to the families with children, hats and scarves made by the ladies of Bethany United Methodist Church and Upper Room devotionals. On the menu for January is beef pot pie, peas, coleslaw, applesauce, roll and beverage.

January 2019 Meetings:

Pre-school Committee – Monday, January 7, 7:00 PM in the lounge.

Preschool Committee: Monday, January 7, 7:00 PM in the lounge,
Finance Committee: Monday, January 21, 7:00 PM in the lounge;
Administrative Council: Thursday, January 24, 7 PM in lounge.

Women in the Word: This class is open to all ladies inside and outside the church. Sharon Funk leads the group in a study based on Kay Arthur's Book, Lord, Is It Warfare? It meets the third Saturday of every month at 9:00 AM in the rear of the Sunday school room. The next session is Saturday, January 19, 9:00 AM in the Sunday school room.

Leaders for 2019: We thank those who have stepped forward to serve in various leadership positions within the structure of St. Paul in 2019. The slate of lay leaders was ratified at the Church Conference on November 11 and is available on the tables at the rear of the sanctuary & the Adult Sunday School room. These leaders assume their responsibilities on January 1, 2019. Please pray for them and Pastor Tim as we move forward with the work of the Lord in this New Year. If you would like to serve on a committee in the future, contact Pastor Tim (717-501-4339). We always are looking for those with vision, ideas and a willingness to get involved.

Members of St. Paul's United Methodist Church who are considering the selection of a cemetery are encouraged to think about the Red Lion Cemetery located on East Gay Street in Red Lion. The Red Lion Cemetery Association, which is nonprofit, non-denominational, and non-sectarian, maintains the grounds. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Carl Hanlin, at 717-246-3325 or Toni Danley, RLCA, Board of Directors, Secretary, Frank Storm & Company at 717-244-4105. Thank you for your consideration.

Mandatory Reporter Training: This seminar is being offered by the Red Lion School District on Thursday, January 10 from 3:00 – 6:00 PM in our Sunday school room. Ms. Katie DiOrio will lead the session. By the end of the three hour seminar you will have received required clearances and be qualified to assist in any children's ministry in our church and in any school in the Red Lion District. There is no cost involved. Please call the church office (717-244-2355) if you wish to attend.



Pre School Fundraiser

Every year our preschool does one fundraiser and this year we will be selling discount cards for local businesses. The cards are selling for \$5 each and are valid Jan. 1, 2019 through the end of 2019. The profit from our fundraiser is used to buy items needed for the preschool or the classroom. Past fundraisers have allowed us to purchase computers, toys, classroom storage & furniture, educational items & more. Some of the discounts include: Hardee's, Subway, Lion Bowling, Cape Horn Pets, Macks Ice Cream by Wendy, The Meadows, Golden Crust, S & S Produce & lots more. Cards may be purchased from the church office.





- 7 - Jane & Ed Fuhrman
- 15 - Ann & Burnell Sprenkle
- 20 - Sue & Mike Smith
- 25 - Ratha & Jeffrey Herrman
- 26 - Donna & Dirk Lister
- 30 - Mindy & Barry Zook



- 1 - Steven Moyer, Dalton Scantling, Jennifer Wivell
- 3 - Melanie Winter
- 4 - Hannah Ferree, Karen Green
- 5 - Ryan Sprenkle, Kathy Vasellas,
- 7 - Nicole Cooper, Stephanie Knaper, Marc McClure, Cheryl Nitchman
- 8 - Kanen Dill
- 9 - Gavin Zieber
- 10 - Travis Adamson, Carl Criswell, Jane Sinibaldi, Barbara Smith
- 11 - Erin Fry
- 12 - Adam Young
- 13 - Jessica Dehoff, Haden Glock, Clyde Farling, Charles Sechrist, Curtis Warren, Terrance Warren
- 14 - Timothy Howell
- 15 - Eileen Mitzel, Janice Myers, Stewart Pomraning, Elizabeth Rhoades
- 16 - Samantha Taylor
- 17 - Garry Roberts, Grant Stephens
- 18 - Megan Farling, Samuel Kern
- 19 - Glenda Bricker
- 20 - Rebekah Howell
- 21 - Andrew Horne
- 22 - Steven Kopp, Connor McCullough, Karen Smith
- 23 - Cole Burg, Todd Burke, Jacob Paules, Jessica Wivell
- 25 - John Arnold, Cynthia Craley, Maurice Grove, Ryan Petzar
- 26 - Amy Barshinger, Mick Knaper, Asher Meek, Bristol Meek
- 27 - Molly Brown, Carlton Grim, Jan Keener
- 28 - Toby Goodling, Arlene Neff, Ryan Poff, Joshua Shirey
- 29 - Nan Horne, Bailey Price
- 30 - Todd Brown, Gavin Yartymyk



Our Christian Sympathies are spoken to the families of Larry Smith, who passed away, Thursday, November 15th and Charlotte Haugh who passed away, Thursday, November 29th.



Ushers

Steven Kopp & Arthur Wells, Captains

Richard Barshinger

Phyllis Gould

Rosemary Wise

Head Ushers

Jan. 6 - Carol Gillmen

13 - Lisa Petzar

20 - William Wise

27 - Arlene Neff

Nursery Helpers

(9:00 AM)

Jan. 6 - Lynne McDaniel

(10:30 AM)



January 15th



Dear Church Members,

The chaos of the holiday season is behind us and we greatly anticipate the more relaxed schedule of January. That said, we truly had a wonderful and meaningful Christmas both personally and within the preschool.

This month, we have no parties to plan, no testing or conferences and are greatly looking forward to a more relaxed schedule. We will however, continue learning and preparing the students for kindergarten.

Our unit for January will be self esteem and learning about our feelings. We will discuss what makes them special and unique and also how to acknowledge their feelings. We also discuss how to appropriately deal with anger. We will continue to learn letters and work on phonics.

appropriately deal with anger. We will continue to learn letters and work on phonics.

We will be going on a field trip this month to Skyline Gymnastics. This is one of the more popular field trips of the year.

The preschool committee is also planning and running our newly offered lunch bunch program. The students who choose to participate bring in a lunch to school and complete crafts and learn all about exploring our world. The kids that have participated so far have really enjoyed it!

Also, we are still selling our discount cards as our annual fundraiser. They are only \$5 and many of the companies listed are in the Red Lion/ Windsor area. See Kay Leibhart if you would like to purchase any. Thanks!

We truly appreciate your continued support of our program.

Sincerely,
Patience Martin

Dear Church Members,

I hope the holiday season was a great one for all of you! In preschool, we are ready to start 2019 off with a bang. The 2-day preschool class has come a long way since September, and we have a lot to cover before the end of the preschool year. We will start January off with reviewing the letters we have learned so far, A through J, and will reach letter "M" by the end of the month. The children will also learn the correct way to handle scissors, along with basic scissor skills. This is always both an exciting and nerve-wracking time for me, as I do not want any of the children getting hurt. The children always have fun learning and practicing this skill! We will also have fun when we visit Lion Bowling this month for our class field trip.

I wish you all a very happy and healthy 2019!

Sincerely,
Tammy Rutzebeck



Church Stewardship

Balance 01/01/2018	100,649.91
Receipts:	
Envelopes	201,971.00
Loose Offering	2,967.75
Sunday School	391.00
Mid-Week	1,020.35
Maintenance	2,049.00
Lent	660.00
Easter	1,586.00
Rental/weddings	6,306.74
Bulletins	850.00
Advent	5.00
Pre School	19,785.00
Staffing	2,049.00
Miscellaneous	4,928.32
Goldman Hall	4,583.34
Parking Lot	2,491.18
Tree of Lights	1,885.00
Total	253,528.68
Expenses:	
Salaries	154,394.83

Related to Salaries	38,454.90
Administration	6,992.88
Program	5,907.47
Miscellaneous	1,604.80
Property	62,126.35
Outreach	17,598.75
Total	287,079.98
Balance 11/30/2018	67,098.61

Our Stewardship this Year to Date, Dec. 12

Receipts needed per week	6,502.00
Total Receipts to date	288,493.93
Total Receipts needed to date	319,008.00

Attendance

Nov. 18 – 9:00 - 94	10:30 - 21	MW -
Nov. 25- 9:00 - 82	10:30 - 24	MW -
Dec. 2 - 900 - 94	10:30 -	MW - 10
Dec. 9 - 9:00 - 82	10:30 - 25	MW - 16



A Big Thank You to everyone for their cards, gifts, prayers & other acts of kindness extended to the staff this Holiday Season. Your generosity and kindness is greatly appreciated! We wish all of you a very Happy & Prosperous New Year.

Tim, Kay, Rick, Madalene, Bill, Hattie, Kent, Matt, Andrea, Patience, Missy, Tammy & Carissa

St. Paul's Family

Activities:

Remember we are **ALL** a part of St. Paul's FAMILY

January's special activities will be listed in the weekly bulletin.

Any questions about these events, contact Andrea Rider at 449-9942 or arider168@comcast.net

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, January 3

3:00 – 7:30 PM

Call 800-733-2767

To schedule your life-saving donation

SIX RESOLUTIONS FOR THE NEW YEAR

During the new year I resolve to:

Forget the past and honor God more.

Live for Christ in the world.

Trust God with a strong faith.

Remain faithful to my church.

Witness to the lost.

Cultivate whatever talents God has given me for His glory and His church.

The Meaning of the New Year

The new year's chief value to us is its spiritual opportunity. A year from now we may be richer or poorer than we are today; stronger in body or weaker; more famous or more obscure.

Whatever these results may be, they will not interpret the real significance of the year. That will only be revealed by the application of finer tests. If the year makes us more patient and courageous, with a purer zeal for righteousness and a consciousness of deeper fellowship with the Spirit of Christ, it will have brought us the richest harvest it can bring.

Whatever else the new year may mean to us, it surely means the opportunity for spiritual attainment. If we go forth into it with the full appreciation of that fact, and the purpose and prayer to redeem the time, we shall estimate our experiences by a true standard and be certain not to fail to gather the choicest fruit of the days.

-George E. Horr