FEBRUARY

**Saturday, 2nd**

9:00 am Praise Team Rehearsal

**Sunday, 3rd**

8:00 am Praise Team Rehearsal

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal

10:00 am Worship Service/Communion

 Sunday School

11:30am-noon Children’s Choir

12-2 pm SYG Super Bowl Party

**Wednesday, 6th**

9am-2 pm Scrappers

1:00 pm Godspeed

6:30 pm Men of St. Paul’s

7:30 pm Confirmation Class

**Thursday 7th**

7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

**Friday, 8th**

6:30 pmLeave for SYG Retreat

**Saturday, 9th**

9:00 am Praise Team Rehearsal

 SYG Retreat

**Sunday, 10th**

8:00 am Praise Team Rehearsal

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal

10:00 amWorship Service

 Sunday School

11:30am-noon Children’s Choir

2:30 pm Return - SYG Retreat

**Monday, 11th**

7:30 pm Consistory

**Wednesday, 13th**

1:00 pm Godspeed

7:30 pm Confirmation Class

**Thursday, 14th**

7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

**Saturday, 16th**

9:00 am Praise Team Rehearsal

**Sunday, 17th**

8:00 am Praise Team Rehearsal

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal

10:00 amWorship Service

 Sunday School

11:30am-noon Children’s Choir

 Soup Swap

6:00 pm Senior Youth Group

**Wednesday, 20th**

9am-2 pm Scrappers

1:00 pm Godspeed

7:30 pm Confirmation Class

**Thursday, 21st**

7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

\*\*\*\*TIDINGS DEADLINE\*\*\*\*

**Saturday, 23rd**

8-10 am Applebee’s Flapjack Fundraiser

9:00 am Praise Team Rehearsal

**Sunday, 24th**

8:00 am Praise Team Rehearsal

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal

10:00 am Worship Service

 Sunday School

11:30am-noon Children’s Choir

**Monday, 25th**

7:30 pm Transition Team Meeting

**Wednesday, 27th**

1:00 pm Godspeed

7:30 pm Confirmation Class

**Thursday, 28th**

7:30 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal

**Pastor Rich takes Friday Off.**

**UPCOMING EVENTS:**

March 3 – Congregational Meeting

March 6 – Ash Wednesday Service @ UMC

March 10 – New Member luncheon

March 17 – New Members Received

March 13, 20, 27 – Lenten Suppers

March 24-30 – Fish

February 2019

Greetings

“Do we have to go to church?” asked the child.

Dad answered, “For the last time I am telling you, get your coat and get in the car!”

“BUT,” and before the child could say other word Dad said, “FINE, stay home we are going to church.”

As the family was getting in the car, the child ran to the front door, flung it open and shouted, “I don’t want to stay home by myself!”

Dad said, “It is your choice.”

It doesn’t matter what your age is when it comes to going to church you have to choose. Unfortunately our culture presents us with wide range of options to choose from on Sunday morning. It also presents us with a wide range of excuses.

The weather was bad, Pastor was away, was out late last night, don’t like the music, God knows how I feel about Him, don’t need to go to church to worship God.

The last excuse I suppose is a valid one, but do they? Does that person actually make time to worship?

I hope they do, just as much as I hope the people who come to church aren’t just coming to church. I don’t recall a specific passage that states, You Shall Go to Church! There are however more than 100 verses that state, **“Worship the Lord..”** and more than 100 verses that state, **“Praise the Lord…”**

One of the best ways to help us remember who our God is and who we are to him is to worship him. In worship, when we turn the gaze of our hearts away from ourselves and our needs and onto Jesus, a divine shift happens that brings a great good to our lives. Our enormous struggles and concerns become much less overwhelming in the face of our powerful, loving Jesus. In worship, we remember that we have been bought with his precious blood. We remember who we belong to.

You are Jesus’s beloved: **“I belong to my beloved, and his desire is for me”** - Song 7:10. He cares for you and those you love beyond telling. You are forever loved.

Worshipping him is our opportunity to love him. It is our response to being loved, forgiven, and known. It is our chance to offer our thanks for being seen, chosen, wanted, understood, cherished, and made new! Worship is our response to seeing Jesus as he really is: worthy, beautiful, endlessly good, kind, forgiving, generous, wonderful, and utterly completely for us.

Worship is an intimate encounter with God that changes us by aligning our spirits with truth even when it doesn’t feel true. We pour ourselves out onto him, and he pours himself into us. It is a divine uneven exchange that ministers to his heart and renews our own.

Our worship of Jesus pushes back the kingdom of darkness and ushers in the kingdom of God. It changes the atmosphere around us so that others can sense that we were with Jesus.

Godspeed

Pastor Rich

**WORSHIP**

Feb 3 - Communion

Lk 4:21-30

What & Who Do You Believe

Feb 10 - Youth Retreat

Psalm 131, Ephesians 4:1-13

Privilege and Humility

Feb 17 - Youth Sunday

2 Corinthians 5:17

Jesus Changes Everything

Feb 24

Mt 13:44

Incidental Discoveries

**FEBRUARY ’S COMMUNION OFFERING**

February’s communion offering will be used to cover expenses we incur while hosting Fish. We will be hosting FISH Hospitality the week of March 24-30

**![C:\Users\Carol\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\3NE507FC\potato_and_savoy_cabbage_soup_2[1].jpg]()**

**SOUPS ON!**

**February 17**

On Sunday, February 17 you will have a chance to exchange $5 for a quart of home -made soup.

January’s Soup Swap raised $320

If you are willing to make some soup there is a sign up in the narthex or contact Pam Sarch @ 732-501-5837

**PRAYER of the MONTH**

God we praise You for the seasonal changes that so many of us witness first hand each year. Even though we can predict an inevitable shift in weather, each time a new wave of beauty ushers onto the scene we are reminded of the amazing way You have created the earth. The beauty in each season reminds us of Your creativity and finite care for life, especially ours.

Forgive us for allowing the cold, gray skies and short dark winter days to steal the joy of our hearts. Soften our hearts to look beyond the inconvenience of the season.

Bless us with hearts more like Jesus, patient and perseverant. Watch over our cloud of despair that threatens to set in with the gray skies. Bring bright memories of sunshine and warmth to the top of our minds when we need to be reminded that just as sure as the winter came, it will go. Help us to enjoy every day You bless us with on this earth, seeking Your purpose first, and always, through every kind of weather.

In Jesus Name, Amen

**MEN OF ST. PAUL’S**

The men of St. Paul’s are invited to gather on Wednesday, February 6that 6:30pm for supper and fellowship.

**SR. YOUTH GROUP**

This month’s Sunday meeting dates and times.

February 3 @ 12:00PM - 2:00PM

SPYG - Super Bowl II party. Flag football, table football, Blitz Card game and food.

Sunday, February 17 @ 6:00PM - 8:00PM

Regular meeting of fun,, fellowship & faith.

**![C:\Users\Carol\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\INetCache\IE\86TMI1CW\Applebee's.svg[1].png]()**

**Applebee’s Flapjack**

**Fund Raiser**

**February 23, 2019**

**8am - 10am**

The Senior Youth Group is hosting this fund raiser for the benefit of the church.

Tickets are available after worship or at the church office.

$11 for adults

$ 8 for seniors

$ 7 for children 5 - 12 years old

Children under 5 are free.

**ASH WEDNESDAY**

**March 6, 2019**

This year’s joint Ash Wednesday service will be at the Milltown Methodist Church.

The service time is 7:30PM

**LENT FAMILY NIGHT DINNERS**

The first of our five Wednesday night dinner will be March 13. The dinners start at 6:30pm followed by a worship service at 7:30pm. Suggested donation for dinner is $10.

The theme of this year’s Lenten worship services is: He Chose the Nails

**SCRAP BOOKING**

Do you have photos you don’t know what to do with Join our Scrapbooking Club. We meet two Wednesdays a month (2/6 & 2/20) in the social hall from 10am – 2 pm, $5.00, bring your lunch. Call Donna Lucid to RSVP or with any questions at 908-331-1758.

**FINANCIALS**

DEC. 2018 YR to DATE

Income $ 41,472.04 $254,422.45

Expense $ 28,221,19 $292,578.44

Gain/(Loss) $ 13,250.85 ($ 38,155.99)

**2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

Remember this: **Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows generously will also reap generously. Each of you should give what you have decided in your heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to bless you abundantly, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work.**

In this passage Paul gives us reasons to give generously:

Giving is the *best investment* you can make

Like the harvest, giving is planting seeds.

The farmer will reap far more than what

was sown (v.6): ‘A stingy planter gets a

stingy crop; a lavish planter gets a lavish

crop’

This applies to everything in life. What you

give to the Lord he multiplies – your time

gifts, ambitions and money.

**NEW MEMBERS**

Sunday, March 10 there will be a luncheon at 12:00pm in the social hall for anyone who is interested in joining St. Paul’s Church or is interested in learning more about our church. New members will be received on Sunday, March 17 during the Sunday morning worship service.

Please contact the church office if you will be attending the luncheon. 732-828-0020 or stpaulschurch@optonline.net

**Consistory Minutes**
January 14, 2019

**In Attendance:** Debbie Paley, Debbie Kovacs, Karen Gourley, Lois Jessen, Greg Reeves, Nick Bamond, John Garback, Matt Park, Lois Jessen, Beckie Rumen, Sean Sullivan, Pastor Rich

Meeting called to order at 7:40pm by Pastor Rich who opened the meeting with a devotion from a recent Daily Slice. Philippians 4:19 states “And my God will meet all your needs according to the riches of his glory in Christ Jesus.” We are reminded to be in constant prayer and open our hearts and mind to what God has to say. We are comforted knowing God is in charge and we can trust him in this process of finding a new pastor for our church.

December’s meeting minutes were approved without change. Motioned by Matt P./Seconded by Karen G.

**Correspondence**
- We received a note from Milltown Fire Department regarding their upcoming banquet. We will designate January’s communion offering for MFD.

**Finances**
- Our gain for December is $13,250.85. YTD loss is $38,155.99.
- We budgeted $188,962.16 for current envelopes and received approximately $30,000 less in 2018.
- Good Day Nursery made an error in their 2018 payments (paid 2017 amounts) and paid $70 less per month. This mistake will be corrected.
- Debbie P. explained the YTD Miscellaneous/Grants items which totaled $5,886.18. The majority of this amount was the staff bonuses. The cost of newly installed defibrillator was included in this line item, but the cost was offset by 2 donations that offset that expense.
- We will increase our tithing for 2019 to 8.5%.
- The Super Bowl pool is up and running and will be sent out to the congregation via e-mail. $1500 will go to the church and $1500 will be given out in prize money. If anyone would like to complete boxes/payments in person, they may do during coffee hour.

**Consistory**
Communion
- February 3 – Team 4

Communion Offering/Benevolence
- January’s Communion Offering – Milltown Fire Department
- February’s Communion Offering – FISH
These offerings were approved by consistory; Motioned by Greg R/Seconded by Matt P.

Worship
- February 10 – Lois Jessen will be preaching

**Ministry Teams**
Church & Family
- Lenten Family Dinners will take place every Wednesday night, 3/13 – 4/10. Debbie Cheeseman agreed to help facilitate. Meal will be catered by Jeff Vitanza and desserts will be provided by those who attend.

Spiritual Life
- The Ash Wednesday service will be held at the Methodist Church on March 6th
- 1 of the 4 ushers will now be responsible for greeting; we also discussed important items to share with our first-time attendees

Education
- New adult study (Godspeed) began this week focusing on slowing down and doing things in God’s time.
- Senior Youth Group
 - February 3 – Super Bowl Party
 - February 8-10 – Retreat – Jesus Changes Everything
 - February 17 – Youth Sunday
 - February 23 – Applebee’s Flapjack Fundraiser – proceeds will go to the church

Property
- There is no need to replace the oven in the parsonage at this time.
- Pastor Rich shared a list of work projects that need to be completed.
- The furnace in the education building was not working on Monday and was serviced by Gold Medal. Our heating contract expires soon; Pastor Rich will contact local churches to get recommendations for another company.

Old Business
- Our stained glass window project is wrapping up. Work should be completed this week although we need a warmer day to complete the final step of sealing.

New Business
- The following people were elected to continue in their positions: President – Sean Sullivan, Vice President – Dave Hastings, Secretary – Beckie Rumen
- The following people were appointed to their positions: Financial Secretary – Debbie Paley, Scholarship – Kate Heavers, Lois Jessen, Grace Kothari

Future Dates
- Transition Team Meeting – January 28
- Consistory – February 11

Meeting adjourned at 8:48pm, Pastor Rich closed the meeting with Prayer Concerns and the Lord’s Prayer. Motioned by Lois J./Matt P.

**myEoffering**

**Have you signed up?**

myEoffering is electronic giving that enables you to make your offering using electronic fund transfer or credit card.

It is as easy as going to:

[www.myEoffering.com](http://www.myEoffering.com) and signing up.

myEoffering will allow your weekly offering to continue uninterrupted, enabling us to fund our ministry of bring God’s Love to the heart of the community.



**FELLOWSHIP HOUR**

HOSTS NEEDED:

You are responsible for providing treats, juice of the children and milk for coffee.

Coffee, cups, plates, napkins, plastic utensils and sweeteners are provided.

SIGN UP TO HOST

@ coffee hour or contact:

Julie Park 732-545-4266

mj1park@optonline.net or

Tracy Rucinski 732-545-6982

traysee7413@yahoo.com.

**HEAD USHERS FOR**

**FEBRUARY**

3 Consistory Team #4

10 Karen Gourley

17 Senior Youth Group Youth Sunday

24 Melanie Dwyer

**GREETERS FOR**

**FEBRUARY**

3 Debbie Cheeseman

10 Connie Michaels & Carol Calantoni

17 Ken Skalla

24 Julie Park

Greeters are asked to arrive at church by 9:20 a.m.

**GREETER COORDINATOR**

Judy Skalla

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## Music at St. Paul’s

**Musical ensembles**

Children’s Choir meets after Sunday school, from 11:30 to noon in the chapel of the church school building, and we welcome new singers in grades 1-6.

Adult Choir rehearses from 7:30 to 9 pm on Thursdays in the choir room.

Come join us; new singers are always welcome!

Praise band rehearses Saturdays from 9-10:30 am and Sundays 8-9 am, both in the sanctuary. We welcome new musicians and particularly could use an additional bassist and occasional sound technician.

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**Nursing Home Visit**

On Sunday, Feb. 17, at 2 pm, please join the St. Paul’s Choir at Preferred Care in Old Bridge!

We will be singing and playing some hymns and classic love songs, like “Let Me Call You Sweetheart,” and “I Can’t Help Falling in Love With You.”

You don’t have to be a choir member to come; just be willing to sing along or bring an instrument.

No RSVP required, but speak to Emily if you have questions or would like to carpool.

The address is

6989 Route 18 South

Old Bridge, NJ 08857

(GPS Address: 36 Sequoia Drive)

When we received the donation of a used piano at Christmas, we were able to donate the small spinet piano in the school chapel. Preferred Care in Old Bridge was happy to receive it, and we’ll get to hear this gift in action on Feb. 17.

**GENERAL FUND**

VALUE OF PIANO/COST OF MOVING

 Harry & Catherine Costello

**MEMORIAL FUND**

BARBARA & LEONARD HAAS

 Betty Miller

**RESURRECTION WINDOW**

LOUISE HIPKO

 Wayne & Sharon Bacchetti

DOUGLAS WEBER

MARY MIGLIORE

 Arlene Mowery

ST. PAUL’S CHURCH

Founded in 1872

So. Main St. & W. Lakewood Ave.

Rev. Richard H. Weyer, Pastor

Emily Sensenbach-Gopal,

Director of Music

Church Office 732 828-0020

FAX # 732 828-0027

stpaulschurch@optonline.net

www.stpaulsmilltownnj.org

Please leave a message if no one is available.

Church Secretary Mrs. Carol Lagowski

Office hours: 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Financial Secretary Mrs. Debbie Paley

 (address inquiries to church office)

Please address all financial inquiries to the Church Office.

NEXT TIDINGS DEADLINE –

Thursday, February 21st

2019 CONSISTORY

Elders:

Melanie Dwyer

Karen Gourley

David Hasting

Lois Jessen

Matt Park

Greg Reeves

Nikki Wesen

Deacons:

Nicholas Bamond

John Garback

Debbie Kovacs

Robert Ramsen

Tracy Rucinski

Beckie Rumen

Sean Sullivan

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Save time and prevent mistakes by writing your parishioner number on your checks and envelopes. Example: 002W

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

Please notify the church office if any of the following changes occur in your household: address change, phone number change, email change, marriage, separation/divorce, death, birth, adoption, adult child(ren) moving out, or a family member being moved to a rehab. or nursing home.

We would like to keep our membership list up-to-date, but we need YOUR cooperation to do so!

ST. PAUL’S CHURCH

62 South Main Street

Milltown, NJ 08850

(732) 828-0020

**FEBRUARY, 2019**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATES TO REMEMBER:

February 3 & 18 - SYG

February 6 – Men of St. Paul’s

February 6 & 20 - Scrappers

February 8-10 – SYG Retreat

February 14 – Consistory

February 17 – Soup Swap

 Nursing Home Visit

February 23 – Applebee’s Fundraiser

February 25 – Transition Team Meeting

**TIDINGS**

**Worship Service 10:00 a.m.**

**Sunday School 10:00 a.m.**

**Rev. Richard H. Weyer, Pastor**

**DATED MATERIAL**

January 22, 2018

