

Worship – Sunday, November 17, 2024

Welcome to Fran Hill, our guest preacher this Sunday. If you are not able to join us in-person on Sunday morning at 10 a.m., please click on the link below and join us on-line any time.



“The Spice of Life”
Sunday, November 17, 2024
Guest Preacher: Fran Hill

<https://youtube.com/live/6nOpTAF3nYg?feature=share>

Our Foodgrains Campaign will continue until November 24th, 2024. So far, we have raised **\$6,245**. If you would like to donate, please make your cheque payable to St Paul's United Church with a note that is for the Canadian Foodgrains Campaign. You can also donate by e-transfer to stpaulsunited@rogers.com. Our donations are matched 4:1 by the Canadian Government.

Our next Coffee Hour is this Sunday, November 17th, following worship and will be hosted by Marlis Dupuis and her team.

Joan Lavin is Captain of the Greeters for the month of November.



Official Board Meeting

This is a reminder to all board members of our upcoming meeting on **Tuesday, November 26th at 7:00 p.m.** Please mark your calendars and submit committee reports prior to the meeting to Louise Therrien.

Congregational Life

A message from the Minister Welcoming Committee

The committee which is planning the welcome for our new minister (Sue Dorion, Carolyn Hendry, Mary Jane Deacon, and Louise Leck) has met and begun our preparations.

One important aspect of our welcoming plan is organizing small group gatherings in various homes to meet Kirsty during her first few weeks at St. Paul's. For these meetings to happen, we need volunteers to host four to six people in their homes and provide tea and coffee. If you are hosting, you can invite friends and acquaintances to join with you to meet Kirsty. If you are willing to host a small group gathering, **please let Louise Leck know: 705-526-5389 or 705-528-4951, or louise.leck@gmail.com** as soon as possible. These gatherings will be from **60 to 90 minutes long** and will be scheduled during **the last week of January and the first two weeks of February.**

If you wish **to attend one of these small group gatherings, you may also contact Louise Leck** who will connect you with a group. We will provide specific dates and times for all the groups once we have established who the volunteer hosts are, and work with their availability and Kristy's.

Looking for volunteers to help put up the Nativity Scene. We will be doing this on Thursday, November 21st at 10:00 a.m. If you can help, please let Bruce Wilcox know.

Purchase of new computer for sound booth

Thank you to everyone who made donations towards the new computer for the sound booth. With all of your generous donations, we now have all costs covered. **Great job St. Paul's!**

Automated External Defibrillator



As part of the Automated External Defibrillator ("AED")/Public Access Defibrillation ("PAD") Program between the County of Simcoe Paramedic Services and St. Paul's, the County offers on-site training on the operation of this important life-saving device. It's been some time now since the training was conducted at St. Paul's, so we're looking for individuals who may be willing to participate in this one-day training event. **We now have five people who have volunteered to take the training, so a training date will be**

determined shortly. There is still room for more, so if you're interested, please contact the church office with by phone or by e-mail.

Faith Formation

The next **Adult Social will be on Wednesday, December 4th from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.** in the Great Hall kitchen. We will bake cookies, decorate them and then eat them with a glass of milk! All guys, gals and in-between pals are welcome. Speak to Faith Formation for more information.

DK Open Gym returns for the fall and winter!

Friday November 15th and Friday December 13th from 6:00 to -8:00 p.m. in the Great Hall Drop-in after dinner and let the kids free-play in the gym while you hang out with other parents or just sit and watch while they play. We will have a self-serve light snack and water station.

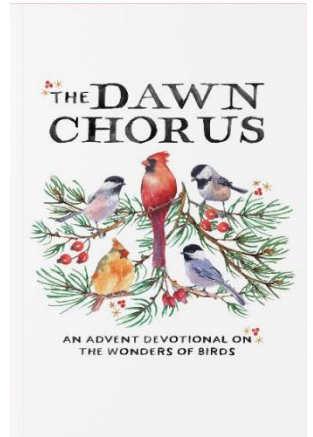
Collecting interest for a Youth Group

Do you know any youth in grades 4-12 who might be interested in participating in some type of youth programming at St. Paul's? If you have interested youth in the grades 4-12 range, please direct questions and feedback to Rebecca.

Advent devotional

Faith Formation is offering an opportunity to participate in an Advent Devotional either in a group or in your own reflective time. The theme is A Dawn Chorus - Songbirds know a thing or two about singing into darkness: in the wee hours of the morning, before the sun appears over the horizon, they begin a great symphony that scientists call the "dawn chorus."

Advent is the church's dawn chorus. In this devotional designed for families of all shapes and sizes, we walk with scripture through the season's four weeks of hope, peace, joy, and love, singing into shadows and looking to the light.



The study group will take place on Thursdays from November 28th to December 19th from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. in the Parlour. If you're interested, please RSVP to Victoria Tovell. To receive a study guide, please fill out this form: <https://forms.gle/K1FY5CeYCF9kPYAx7>

UCW notes and news

Helping those in need: Thank you to everyone who has already contributed much needed items for the Guesthouse Shelter; six big bags full have already been delivered this week. The staff and residents are grateful for the generosity of the St. Paul's congregation. The boxes will remain in the Utility Room off the Atrium so we can continue to collect for our neighbours. [There is a list on the final page of this weekly update with items that they need.](#)

Outreach

Outreach Guesthouse Meals: The dinner preparation team will be supplying meals twice a month (2nd and 4th Wednesday) for the Guesthouse. While we have leaders on each of these days, we are open to extra help. Some ideas for helping include the preparation of a side dish (veggies) or a dessert (prepared at home) OR donate to the benevolent fund to help pay for groceries. If you would want to be involved or for more information, please reach out to Zena (zenapendlebury@hotmail.com) or Kathy (Kathy.stewart@sympatico.ca).

On Sunday, December 1st, we will be having a "**Beat the Deficit Soup Luncheon**", replacing Social Hour. There will be home-made soup, bread, crackers etc., veggies and dip, and ice cream treats, for a donation towards the deficit.



The Bay Sound Choirs ask for your support in our annual poinsettia fundraiser.



Poinsettias in various sizes, table greenery, tropical planters and this year a "Grinch Tree" are available for sale. Orders are to be delivered or emailed to Victoria at warwick.victoria130@gmail.com or dropped off at the church office. Deadline to order is November 22nd and pickup of orders will be on Saturday, December 14 between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. at the King Street entrance to the gym. You can pick up an order form on the table just outside the office. **If you're paying by cheque, make it payable to "Bay Sound Singers".**

We will offer an opportunity for a **Memorial Poinsettia** to be placed on the chancel. If you would like a poinsettia placed in memory of a loved one, please indicate that when ordering

including the name of said person. Names will be listed in the bulletin, mentioned at the December 22nd Sunday morning service as well as Christmas Eve.

Bay Sound Christmas Concert

The Bay Sound Choirs and the Bell A'Peal Handbell Choir present "Angels Sing", on Sunday December 1st at 3:00 p.m. here at St. Paul's. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for youth and under five is free. Tickets are available on their website at www.baysound.ca and will also be available at the door.



St. Paul's website

Want to know what's going on at St. Paul's? Visit our **website** at <https://www.stpaulsmidland.org/>. There is lots of information and worth the look. You can also follow us on **Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=st.%20paul%27s%20united%20church>

Office Hours

The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9:00 a.m. to noon, with Judy in the office on Tuesday and Thursday mornings and Louise is in the office on Wednesday mornings. The balance of the time, Louise works from home so you can reach her by phone any time between 8:30 and 4:00 Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

This Week's Minute for Mission



Supporting practical, long-term solutions to drought and food shortages.

In Zimbabwe, severe drought and food shortages continue to take a toll on communities, but the Zimbabwe Council of Churches is leading efforts to provide support. In partnership with Mission and Service and the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, the Scaling Up Resilience Project focuses on practical, long-term solutions. By emphasizing climate-smart farming, gender equality, and community-driven initiatives, the project is helping families strengthen their resilience and work towards a more secure future.

The challenges facing Zimbabwe are immense, with frequent droughts, unpredictable rains, tropical cyclones, economic instability, and outbreaks of diseases like cholera all contributing to severe food insecurity. In the Bikita and Gutu districts, up to 60% of people are affected, with many families struggling to put food on the table, send their children to school, and are at risk of gender-based violence. Crop failures, especially due to El Niño, have worsened conditions, leaving communities in urgent need of solutions.

The Scaling Up Resilience Program addresses these issues by building on the success of previous humanitarian efforts. It will provide training in gender-sensitive, climate-smart agriculture, strengthen disaster risk management systems, and revive essential community assets, such as water conservation works and irrigation schemes. By promoting gender equality, supporting financial resilience through savings and loans programs, and ensuring that all community members, including the elderly and those with disabilities, are included, the project is creating a brighter future for thousands of people.

Your gifts through [Mission and Service](#) have provided crucial support to partners like the Zimbabwe Council of Churches as they work toward a secure and sustainable future. Your continued support is deeply appreciated.

Blessings everyone

Pastoral Care: Shaun McIntosh **705-427-2466** spuc.studentminister@gmail.com

Church Administrator – Louise Therrien, (Wednesday mornings 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 at the church), stpaulsunity@rogers.com **705-526-1640 (home office)**

Administrative Assistant – Judy McConnell (**Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00**) officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com 705-526-6077

Items needed for Guesthouse Shelter

Pantry items

- Canned fruit
- Canned veggies
- Canned potatoes
- Canned meats
- Rice
- Seasonings
- Salt & pepper
- Sauces
- Cereal
- White & brown sugar
- Coffee
- Coffee whitener
- Oatmeal
- Syrup
- Pasta noodles & sauces
- Flour
- Crackers
- Soups & stews
- Breadcrumbs
- Gravy
- Salad dressings
- Peanut butter & Jam
- Cooking oil
- Hot chocolate
- Snacks

Uncommon donation items

- Socks
- Underwear
- Deodorant
- Shampoo
- Conditioner
- Bar soaps
- Razors
- Towels
- Medicine
- First aid supplies
- Q-tips
- Ear plugs