

# THE SPIRIT OF ST. PAUL'S

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

SPRING 2025

## Written by Pastor Pete Bowmer

When Jesus walked this earth 2000 years ago, he shared love with all sorts of people - poor people, sick people, rich people, enemies, religious and foreigner. This radical inclusion got him into all sorts of trouble. Eventually it paved the way for his death as a political statement on a cross. You see many people were offended by his radical, inclusive love. It threatened their power, sense of control, and way of being in the world.

If you think the love of God is "nice".....think again. The love of God as expressed through Jesus is radical. It is offensive to many and it will get us into trouble, good trouble. You know I'd even argue that if we aren't getting into trouble as Christians, as a Church, for radically loving all those society excludes, then maybe we aren't loving the Jesus way enough!

Take a minute and think about who is excluded in our community at this time? Personally, I see immigrants (being one myself) excluded. How can I radically love immigrants the way Jesus does? I see members of the LGBTQ community threatened. How can I radically love that community the way Jesus does? I see underserved people who live all around us - veterans, people with mental illness and people with physical disabilities excluded from the everyday opportunities we take for granted. How can I, how can we as Church, radically show the love of Jesus to the under served? I also see the elderly and lonely, the homebound, the sick (especially in my association with Mercy St. Vincent Medical Center). How can they be radically loved by this Church representing Jesus?

Yes, Jesus walked this earth 2000 years ago. He still walks this earth, but he wears our shoes. As St. Paul's transitions to a new pastor and new ministries, consider the questions, "where is God calling us to go? To whom is God wanting us to show the radical love of Jesus in our community? Who needs the love of Jesus the most at this point in history?" Prayerfully ask God, "With our limited resources at St Paul's, Lord to whom shall we go?" And then prepare to get into good trouble, because Jesus will be walking in your shoes!



St. Paul's  
Lutheran Church

The church with a heart in the heart of Toledo.



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# WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

## WELCOME SARAH, JEREMY & SHARON!

Welcome to our new members, Sarah Young and Jeremy Pulhug who were received by affirmation of faith and baptism during worship service on February 9th. We also welcome Sharon Boes, Sarah's mother, received by affirmation of faith.

**Pictured from left to right:** Pastor Pete, Sarah Young, Jeremy Pulhug and Sharon Boes.

## WELCOME BACK KATHY & MIKE!

We welcome back Kathy & Mike Schnapp! They will be received as members during worship service on March 2.

**If interested in water baptism or becoming a member,**  
email [pastor.pete@stpaulstoledo.org](mailto:pastor.pete@stpaulstoledo.org)



## Creativi-Tea & Crafts

ENJOY A SCONE AND TEA WHILE CRAFTING  
AT THE MAKERSPACE !

Saturday, March 15  
11am

BIRD HOUSE PAINTING WITH MOLLY MILLER

INFO [WWW.HEARTGALLERYANDSTUDIOS.COM](http://WWW.HEARTGALLERYANDSTUDIOS.COM)  
ST PAULS LUTHERAN • 428 N ERIE • TOLEDO



# PLENTY 4 ALL

## Written by Jack SoRelle

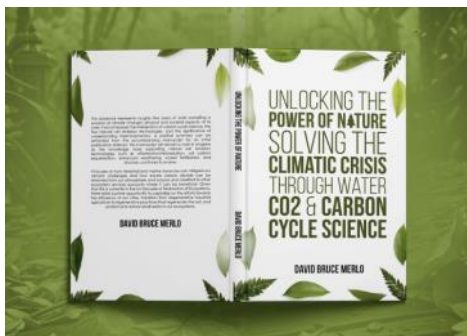
In 2016 Pollycap Ogalo and I organized our first Plenty4All Coop in Ndhiwa, Kenya. Since that time we started 2 other Plenty4All Coops in Lumuruti and Emulama, Kenya. All these are grassroots farming communities with limited water resources and no electricity at all. No lights at night and no way to even charge a cell phone. All cooking is primarily done by burning wood or charcoal. We built rainwater collection systems in all the Coops then provided them with a 12v solar collection system that could power a water pump. This allowed us to store water in tanks on towers and use gravity and drip irrigation systems to grow food. This also provided Coop Members a means of charging their cell phones and some lights.

Over the last 9 years solar technology has changed and made it possible to generate significantly greater amounts of power from smaller solar generator units. These types of solar generators are now available in Kenya and Pollycap and I have started Project Kenya to bring this technology to our Plenty4All Coops. At this point we have already purchased an EcoFlow Delta 2 Max 2400W solar generator and a 160W solar panel for Pollycap in Ndhiwa. This will provide the power we need to build a Plenty4All Training Center in Ndhiwa. We plan on purchasing smaller units for all the Plenty4All Members and the Project Managers. These units will all come with solar panels and Kenya has lots of sunlight.



We will begin by training the Project Managers how to use the EcoFlow River 3 Plus 600W solar generators which they can take home and then teach their Coop Members how to use. We currently have the funds for the 3 systems needed to train the Project Managers but will need to raise money for 15 more units later (\$300 @ unit). We plan on purchasing the first three units during Black Friday sales in November.

Perhaps the most ambitious part of Project Kenya is to build a Plenty4All Training Center. This will be a multipurpose building that can house guests, serve as a classroom, provide space for meetings and offer a clean facility for health services to be provided. It is my intentions to raise funds to build the training center before Nov. 2025. The first stage of construction will be the building itself which will cost approximately \$4000. Inside construction costs are still being considered. After construction is complete it will be possible to bring the Project Managers to stay as guests and receive training for the solar generator systems. As funds are raised for additional EcoFlow River 3 Plus systems they can be shipped directly to the Plenty4All Coop Managers who can train their members.



David Bruce Merlo's book

In creating an opportunity for grassroots farmers to live a more sustainable lifestyle and be able to feed and educate their children Plenty4All has developed projects and programs that have been recognized as being significant in restoring a balance in natural systems that effect climate change. David Bruce Merlo's recent book "Unlocking the Power of Nature Solving the Climatic Crisis Through Water CO2 and Carbon Cycle Science" points out our projects with Biogas, Biochar, Soil restoration, Planting Trees and Solar Energy as methods that can restore a balance to our natural systems. What we have learned we are willing to teach and this is why the Plenty4All Training Center is so important. Bruce's book is available on Patreon : [http://www.patreon.com/D\\_Bruce\\_Merlo](http://www.patreon.com/D_Bruce_Merlo).

[D\\_Bruce\\_Merlo](http://www.patreon.com/D_Bruce_Merlo).

Any contributions to Project Kenya would be greatly appreciated and will make a significant difference in lives of many people. If you are interested in supporting this project and you want more information please contact Jack at [jacksorelle@gmail.com](mailto:jacksorelle@gmail.com) or Pollycap Ogalo at [plenty4allcbo@gmail.com](mailto:plenty4allcbo@gmail.com).

# SUNDAY READINGS

## **MARCH 2**

Exodus 34:29-35  
Psalm 99  
2 Corinthians 3:12-4:2  
Luke 9:28-36 [37-43a]

## **MARCH 9**

Deuteronomy 26:1-11  
Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16  
Romans 10:8b-13  
Luke 4:1-13

## **MARCH 16**

Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18  
Psalm 27  
Philippians 3:17-4:1  
Luke 13:31-35

## **MARCH 23**

Isaiah 55:1-9  
Psalm 63:1-8  
1 Corinthians 10:1-13  
Luke 13:1-9

## **MARCH 30**

Joshua 5:9-12  
Psalm 32  
2 Corinthians 5:16-21  
Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

## **APRIL 6**

Isaiah 43:16-21  
Psalm 126  
Philippians 3:4b-14  
John 12:1-8

## **APRIL 13**

Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Psalm 31:9-16

## **APRIL 13 (cont'd)**

Philippians 2:5-11  
Luke 22:14-23:56

## **APRIL 20**

Acts 10:34-43  
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
1 Corinthians 15:19-26  
Luke 24:1-12

## **APRIL 27**

Acts 5:27-32  
Psalm 118:14-29  
Revelation 1:4-8  
John 20:19-31

## **MAY 4**

Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]  
Psalm 30  
Revelation 5:11-14  
John 21:1-19

## **MAY 11**

Acts 9:36-43  
Psalm 23  
Revelation 7:9-17  
John 10:22-30

## **MAY 18**

Acts 11:1-18  
Psalm 148  
Revelation 21:1-6  
John 13:31-35

## **MAY 25**

Acts 16:9-15  
Psalm 67  
Revelation 21:10, 22-22:5  
John 14:23-29

## **Did you know?**

In 1940 Christmas services were begun at the former Paramount theater in downtown Toledo (now a large parking lot. Attendance on Easter Sunday in 1941 was 4,501.

# CELEBRATIONS



## CELEBRATION OF LIFE

St. Paul's Members celebrated the life of Bob Storer in the HeART Gallery after his memorial service in the Sanctuary. Bob was very involved at St. Paul's and touched many people's lives.



## JEANNE SONNENBERG'S 100TH BIRTHDAY

St. Paul's celebrated long time member, Jeanne Sonnenberg's, 100th birthday!

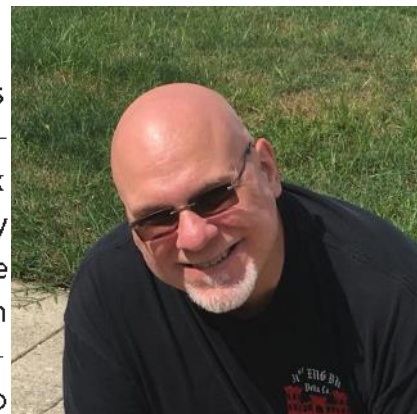
Jeanne would like to thank all who celebrated her for such a milestone birthday by sending cards, flowers and well wishes. She had an exciting day and felt very loved.



# MEET OUR NEW STAFF

## MICHAEL GRUPP-VERBON

Michael is a musician and the owner of Viewpoint Productions LLC, a multimedia company specializing in event management, graphic design and marketing platforms. Michael will work with us to help with publicity for our 501c3 events, especially related to a wider range of ages and geographic areas. At the same time, we hope to increase our visibility with those living in our immediate 43604 zip code. We welcome Michael in this part-time role. Come to the Saturday, March 8 Spring Arts Festival to hear "Tapestry" harp and guitar music by Michael and Denise Grupp-Verbon.



## KENNY FRANKLIN SR

Kenny began working in the Community Heart Café and transitioned into the role of St. Paul's custodian in January. This is a part time role taking care of our beautiful building.



## ESTATE PLANNING

To ensure St. Paul's can continue to share the good news of Jesus into future generations please consider including a bequest to St. Paul's Lutheran Church Toledo in your estate planning. Thank you for your generosity!

## COMMUNITY GARAGE SALE - SATURDAY, MAY 3, 9 AM - 4 PM

Let's go folks! It's time to clean out apartment closets, rooms in the house the basement, even the backyard tool shed - and you can sell it all at our Community Garage Sale! From furniture, frames, and fishing gear to tools toys and toasters - everything will be priced to sell. Jewelry, artwork, paperbacks, sleeping bags, craft supplies, home decor and more will be staged on tables throughout our large building on Saturday, May 3, 9 AM - 4 PM.

Enjoy music while you're browsing, with food concessions available all day long. Not your typical "garage sale" - just a great opportunity for steals and deals! To rent a table (many sizes available) contact Kate Philabaum [kate@stpaulstoledo.org](mailto:kate@stpaulstoledo.org). Carts and elevator available for unloading. Items not sold can be donated to Habitat for Humanity, if you wish.

**Deadline to apply for a table is Saturday, April 26.**



# EASTER EVENTS

## BIBLE CONVERSATIONS - LED BY PASTOR PETE BOWMER

SUNDAYS IN LENT 11:30 - 12:30 PM (3/9, 3/16, 3/23, 3/30 & 4/6)

A soup and salad lunch will be provided. Pastor Pete will lead a conversation based on the weekly reading.

If you are interested in attending, or have questions, please reach out to Pastor Pete , [pastor.pete@stpaulstoledo.org](mailto:pastor.pete@stpaulstoledo.org)

## ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5 - 12:00 PM

This service will be held in the Sanctuary.

## PALM SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY, APRIL 13 - 10:15 AM

This service will be held in the Sanctuary.



## MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

THURSDAY, APRIL 17 - 12:00 PM

This service will be held in the back of the Sanctuary.

## GOOD FRIDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

FRIDAY, APRIL 18 - 5:00 PM

This somber service will be held in the back of the Sanctuary.



## EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

SUNDAY, APRIL 20 - 10:15 AM

The Resurrection celebration will be in the Sanctuary. Easter Lily orders will be available for pickup at this service.

If you are interested in purchasing Easter Lilies, complete an order form in the back of the Sanctuary and return to the office by Sunday, 4/6.

# HEART GALLERY EVENTS

## SPRING ARTS FESTIVAL – SATURDAY, MARCH 8 – 11 AM – 2 PM.



This marks the 3rd year for the festive event that celebrates artwork by members of Athena Arts Society, Ohio's oldest women's art organization. The juried art exhibit features paintings, sculpture, photography, and ceramics. Most items are for sale. The exhibit also challenges local garden club members and designers to create a table setting and/or floral display inspired by works submitted by members of the arts society. This is an opportunity to showcase talent and expertise in flower arranging, table setting and design, with inspiring spring themed tables. The event includes music by "Tapestry" harp and guitar duo, with food and drink stations. Guests are invited to "sip and stroll" three floors of the beautiful historic St Paul's church building with food, art and music surprises around every corner. Cost is \$20.

## LUNCH & LEARN

MARCH 20 – 12:00 PM

March Lunch and Learn is a collage of artwork, spring, and pasta. To honor National Noodle month, our themed lunch will be pasta in all shapes, sizes and flavors. A fine art exhibit "Passages" by Linda Witte-Heinke focuses on Lenten Holy Week Bible verses illustrated in fabric. Other artwork on display is created by students of Northwest Ohio grades K - 8, nominated by their teachers for the exhibit. We welcome spring with a floral demonstration by Jen Linehan, owner of Blooms by Jen in Sylvania. **Join us for this festive start to spring!**

LUNCH & LEARN  
**PASSAGES:  
FIBER EXHIBIT  
BY LINDA  
WITTE-HENKE**  
THURS MARCH 20  
12:00PM

ARTWORK BY NWO  
STUDENTS K-8

PASTA THEMED LUNCH  
FOR NATIONAL NOODLE  
MONTH

FLORAL DEMO BLOOMS  
BY JEN, SYLVANIA

www.heartgalleryandstudios.com  
kate@stpaulstoledo.org

St Pauls Lutheran | HeART Gallery  
428 N. Erie • Toledo • free parking

**Reservations are needed, please contact Kate Philabaum at [kate@stpaulstoledo.org](mailto:kate@stpaulstoledo.org).**



# HEART GALLERY EVENTS

## LUNCH & LEARN

**APRIL 10 - 12:00 PM**

April holds national Earth Day, but this month we look to the skies with Kate Dellebusch from Bowling Green State University. As professor of astronomy and physics, she has a lot to tell us about "What's Happening In Space?".

The gallery will be draped in changing colors, stars and moonscapes for the multimedia presentation. All of this accompanied by an out-of-this-world themed lunch.

**Join us as we create an indoor planetarium - a first!**



LUNCH & LEARN  
**BGSU DEPT OF ASTRONOMY & PHYSICS**  
THURS APRIL 10  
12:00PM

A STAR STUDED, VISUAL LECTURE  
"WHAT'S HAPPENING IN SPACE?" WITH DR. KATE DELLEBUSCH

THEMED LUNCH

[www.heartgalleryandstudios.com](http://www.heartgalleryandstudios.com)  
[kate@stpaulstoledo.org](mailto:kate@stpaulstoledo.org)

St Pauls Lutheran | HeART Gallery  
428 N. Erie • Toledo • free parking

## LUNCH & LEARN

**MAY 8 - 12:00 PM**

Expect to Laugh and Learn at this month's Lunch and Learn! Our "Golden Agers" theme includes music and art by those over 65, proving age is not important unless you're a cheese.

And that's a big clue for our themed lunch: "things that taste better as they age". Perhaps wine, cheese, sourdough bread, salami, smoked salmon, pound cake, pickles, meatloaf and maple syrup will appear on the menu!

*This is our last Lunch & Learn before summer break (June - August).*



LUNCH & LEARN  
**THE GOLDEN AGERS**  
THURS MAY 8  
12:00PM

ENTERTAINMENT & ARTWORK BY SENIORS

[www.heartgalleryandstudios.com](http://www.heartgalleryandstudios.com)  
[kate@stpaulstoledo.org](mailto:kate@stpaulstoledo.org)

St Pauls Lutheran | HeART Gallery  
428 N. Erie • Toledo • free parking

# GATHERINGS

## DONUT MAKING CREW

Thank you to all who volunteered to make donuts for the Nativity Festival. All proceeds from this ministry went to help Community Heart Café.

**Pictured from left to right:**

Larry Montrie, Randy Hutchinson, Jan Montrie and Becky Abitua.



## LUNCH BUNCH

Lunch Bunch has resumed! We hope you can join us for these outings. Watch your email and church bulletins for the restaurant of the month. Hope to see you then!

**Mark your calendars for the upcoming Lunch Bunch Outings!**

- March 9 - Bible Conversations in St. Paul's Sanctuary
- April 13 - TBD
- May - Will not meet due to Mother's Day

Reservations are needed to Cindy Rockwell (419-270-9137) or email [cynthiar@bex.net](mailto:cynthiar@bex.net).

## SAVE THE DATES!

Save the Dates for Party in the Parking lot!! Bigger and better than ever there will be three events this summer with a variety of activities for all ages! More information to come!

- Sunday, June 8 - mural painting
- Sunday, July 13 - bed building
- Sunday, Aug 10 - glass blowing with Toledo Museum of Art

## AZALEA ROSE DAYTON

Welcome the newest member of the Druckemiller family!

Azalea Rose Dayton was born on 12/28/2024.



# CELEBRATE WITH US

## WELCOME!

We are committed to you, the community, and the world around us. We believe God's love embraces all persons equally, no matter their age, ethnicity, race, abilities, gender identity, gender expression, sexual orientation, citizen status, political leanings, religious expression, or any other boundaries the world uses to decide who is worthy and who is not. We are striving to be open and inclusive. We commit to loving YOU and caring for YOU by showing YOU the love of Jesus that we have received freely from God.

## ANNIVERSARIES

### MARCH

Bob & Jacki Druckemiller

### APRIL

Madonna & Pete Bowmer

Dan & Sandy Lazenby

### MAY

Jeanne & Terry Lesniewicz

Pattye & Bill Nicolls

Jack & Michelene SoRelle

**Thank you all for your generosity!**

Scan the QR code to view the



article featuring our mural "Awakening" symbol meanings & additional photos.

## BIRTHDAYS

### MARCH

D'Arcy Leona Nye

Jan Vogelpohl

Sam Gilbert Jr

Betty Kozak

Rachel Jaegly

Betty Moser

Matt Brace

Marie Bowers

Barb Hillyer

### APRIL

Terry Lesniewicz

Xanthe Bowmer

Kayla Mills

Donald Miller

Judy Kolhoff

Brooker Miller

John Schult

### MAY

Jan Montrie

Tenayah Bowmer

Mary Aring

Judi Dauer

Pattye Nicolls

## MEMORIALS (11/22 - 2/25)

**Bob Storer** - Nancy Atkins, Jim Blum, Renee Caris, Betty Moser, Tania O'Brien, Terry & Jeanne Lesniewicz, Jack & Judi Dauer, Diane Pauken, Mike & Kathy Schnapp, Peggy Bumcrots, Jack & Michelene SoRelle, Rachel Jaegly, Tim & Deb Teague, Jill Hognacki, Oscar & Becky Abitua, Larry & Jan Montrie, Aniese Seed, Jean Kornowa, Marjoleine & Mark Gravley, Paula Hielt, Christine Schultz, David & Cindy Skinner, S.L. Moon, Donna Zbinden, Ron & Jan Vogelpohl, Judy & Dan Kolhoff

**Dave Price** - Nancy Atkins, Betty Moser, Paula Hielt

**Dick Hillyer** - Nancy Atkins, Betty Moser, Paula Hielt, Ron & Jan Vogelpohl, Judy & Dan Kolhoff

**Helen Deal** - Oscar & Becky Abitua, Jeanne & Terry Lesniewicz, Jack & Judi Dauer, Betty Moser, Renee Caris, Jim Blum, Doris Coombs, Michael Scherer, Marlene Coop, Jill Calcamuggio, Marilyn Herold, Mark Storer, Joyce Racine, Dorothy Grove, Janet Clough, Donna Zbinden, Ron & Jan Vogelpohl, Judy & Dan Kolhoff

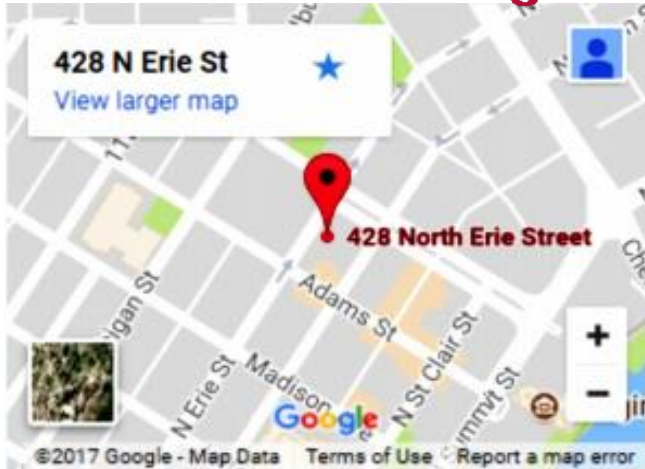
**Marian Cowell** - Oscar & Becky Abitua, Betty Moser, Paula Hielt, Renee Caris, Jim Blum, Wayne & Sandy Ludwig, Dan & Denise Clough, Mark Storer, Carol Leupp, Jill Calcamuggio, Cheryl Kraemer, Dennis Delucia, Dan & Sandy Lazenby, Marianne Jasper, Barbara Hirzel, Scott & Lori Saunders, Donna Zbinden Rose Reising, Ron & Jan Vogelpohl, Mike & Kathy Schnapp, Peggy Bumcrots, Jack & Judi Dauer, Judy & Dan Kolhoff

SUMMER (June, July, August) edition Spirit submissions to [office@stpaulstoledo.org](mailto:office@stpaulstoledo.org)

**Submissions must be received by 5/16.**



## Directions & Parking



## Donate to St. Paul's



## Contact Us

St. Paul's Lutheran Church  
428 N. Erie St  
Toledo, OH 43604  
419-243-4214

[office@stpaulstoledo.org](mailto:office@stpaulstoledo.org)  
[www.stpaulstoledo.org](http://www.stpaulstoledo.org)

### Office Hours

Monday - Friday 9AM - 3PM

### Worship

Sundays 10:15AM led by  
Pastor Peter Bowmer

### Watch Services

[St. Paul's Facebook Page](#)

### Facebook Pages

[St Paul's Lutheran Church](#)  
[HeART Gallery & Studios](#)

### Parking Downtown

**If visiting MON - SAT 7AM - 4PM request a parking validation code from the office to use the Kwik Park lot beside the church.**

Paid on street parking is also available.

Wheelchair accessible entrances are available through the red main Sanctuary entrance off Erie (the far right door with small ramp) and from the parking lot entrance. If entering through the parking lot entrance, go through the Social Room.

The church with a heart in the heart of downtown Toledo.



**St. Paul's**  
Lutheran Church  
428 N. Erie St  
Toledo, OH 43604