



# The Epistle

## Gift Planning Opportunities in June

On Monday, May 8, 2023 I met with Pastor Karl Biermann, the ELCA Regional Gift Planner to discuss topics related to Planned Giving.

Perhaps you are wondering what the difference is between an Estate Plan and Planned Giving.

An estate is the total net worth of an individual, such as real estate, bank accounts, and investment accounts. An Estate Plan involves many documents including wills, trusts, power of attorneys (generally for health and finances) as well as beneficiary forms that state where a person, upon his/her death, wishes his/her assets to go.

Planned Giving (also called gift planning or legacy planning) is a way for a person to contribute a gift to a charity or an organization, such as St. Paul Lutheran Church, beyond that person's lifetime.

Pastor Biermann discussed three parts of Planned Giving:

1. What are an individual's goals? What are some resources that help a individual achieve these goals?

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*Thank  
You*

**A THANK-YOU  
FROM  
PENNY HUBER**

Penny Huber thanks St. Paul family and friends for their prayers and greeting cards during her recent hospitalization. She found them very comforting. Thank you!

## **Gift Planning Opportunities in June**

*(Continued from page 1)*

2. What are the congregation's policies on planned giving, such as a Gift Acceptance policy and an Endowment Fund?
3. Developing a list of institutional or investment opportunities where endowment fund can provide income for an organization, such as St. Paul or the Synod

Pastor Biermann will be at St. Paul on Sunday, June 25, to discuss Planned Giving during the Adult Forum and to deliver the sermon that day. He will be available after the worship service to discuss Planned Giving with anyone who is interested. If you are interested in meeting with him, there will be a sign-up sheet in the Narthex. Before meeting with Pastor Biermann please think about:

1. Your goals – where do you wish your assets to go
2. A brief biography of yourself
3. A copy of your will
  - a. How does the will achieve your goals?

Pastor Biermann will often refer a person to your Certified Public Accountant, your Financial Advisor, your Estate Planner for further advice.

Even though I have an Estate Plan in place, Pastor Biermann provided much useful information and suggested several items to consider beyond what was in the current Estate Plan. Do you have questions about making an Estate Plan-Planned Giving? Pastor Biermann is a wonderful source of information!

Carole Replogle

## Holy Spirit at Work at St. Paul



“The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or

where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.” *John 3:8*

This week we celebrate Pentecost. The Holy Spirit fell upon the believers gathered in Jerusalem and equipped them to speak the Gospel in the native language of all the people who were in the city. Throughout the Book of Acts, the Holy Spirit sends and equips the apostles to specific individuals and communities who are ready to hear the good news of

forgiveness of sin and eternal life through Jesus Christ.

You were given that same Holy Spirit in your baptism and that same Spirit calls, enlightens, and sends you and the whole church throughout the world.

This newsletter is full of examples of how the Holy Spirit is at work in this congregation for mutual upbuilding of the Body of Christ and for the care of our community. As you read through it, consider to whom in your life the Holy Spirit might be sending you to share that they have forgiveness of sin, love, and life eternal in Jesus' name.

In Christ,  
Pastor Emily Beckering

## Focus on Property Committee, with Dennis King

*Have you ever wondered how a close-knit congregation like St. Paul has so much impact on the world outside our building? The answer is our amazing committees! Over the next few months, members of each committee will tell you about their work and what motivates them to serve in that ministry. This month the Property Committee is featured, with testimonies from Dennis King.*

### **1. What led you to become involved in this committee?**

*Dennis:* I got started in the Property Committee after the many years I watched Elmer Lohmeier do so much work on the church. He took so much care in keeping it in good repair and the old boilers working and running in tip top shape. After Elmer got sick, the maintenance fell off a

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## Christian Education Expands Fall Offerings

We involved with Christian Education are hoping to start strong in the fall. We discussed different VBS and outreach options for the summer, but came to the conclusion that focusing on our next school year would be most beneficial to growing our youth. In order to have a place for all youth to feel welcome and fulfilled, the committee decided to aim to have four classes. The ages will be 3-6, 7-10, 11-14, and 15-18.

This is where we appeal to you, the congregation. We realize that this plan requires many more adults to be involved. We also recognize that everyone has a lot going on in their lives. So, keeping this in mind, we would be thrilled if you are willing to teach the entire year, but we have other options. We welcome everyone willing to teach a month, a quarter year,

or a half year; really, whatever works for your schedule.

Our thought in this approach is that everyone has a different thought process. The kids will benefit from getting to learn with different adults. Most importantly, the kids will know the adults in our congregation want to have an active role in their lives to help grow their faith and have fun with them. If you are interested in helping with this ambitious endeavor, please sign up in the Narthex. Or you are welcome to contact me at 513-571-8341 or [besssturgill3@gmail.com](mailto:besssturgill3@gmail.com).

I look forward to communicating with many of you!

Thank you,  
Bess Sturgill,  
Christian Education Committee Chair

## Celebrations in June



6 Jeff Baumiller,  
Doug Lohmeier  
7 Dottie Deloatch

**8 Michael and Kim  
Coulehan**

9 Kay Fox

10 Loretta Forst

16 Ian Cathcart

**17 Daryl & Cindy Flege**

18 Nelson Langefeld

**19 John & Jeni Cathcart**

21 Allan Harbaugh

24 Gary Gries

25 Noah Moorhouse

26 Jim Sturgill

**28 Jim & Bess Sturgill**

28 Katy Thompson  
Waddell

**30 David and Emily Nutt**

## HundredX: Earn money for St. Paul by rating brands!

Can you spare a few minutes to help us raise \$15,000?

St. Paul Lutheran Church has the opportunity to partner with HundredX (Express Feedback for Good) to raise \$15,000!!

It's free and straightforward to help us - without giving any money or selling anything!

Sign up and fill out surveys on brands that you are familiar with using, like McDonald's, Starbucks, and Kroger, as well as many other products and services. The surveys take less than a minute each. For example: to reach our maximum goal of \$15,000.00, our members need to submit a total of 9375 surveys.

Given that we will have 30 days to submit surveys (June 5 through July 4, 2023), we would need to submit 312 surveys each day. Hypothetically, this would be 45 members submitting 7 surveys each day would reach our goal.

Good News! You are able to share the HundredX link with family and friends, as many as possible, and their surveys count toward our goal!! The minimum age to participate is 18.

Each survey is worth \$1.60 in value for St. Paul Lutheran Church. We will be using the funds generated from HundredX for operational expenses as well as to defray

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## Support St. Paul at Kroger!

*Did you know that St. Paul benefits from the Kroger Community Rewards Program? Just follow the directions below to increase your church offering at no cost to yourself!*

### **One-time step: Link your Kroger Plus Card to St. Paul.**

- Visit [kroger.com/account/communityrewards](https://www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards) and log in with your Kroger account. (Kroger customer service can help with this.)

- Search for “St. Paul Lutheran Church” or organization number TG880.
- Click the ENROLL button under St. Paul’s name & address.
- After this, each purchase with your Plus card will generate donations to St. Paul!

*Unfortunately St. Paul no longer receives rewards from Amazon, as the Amazon Smile program has been discontinued.*

## May 2023 Council Corner

The Church Council met on Monday, May 15, 2023.

Linda Miller presented the Financial Report and explained that our expenses are higher than our offerings. The Finance Committee will meet to consider strategies to address this shortfall.

We have not heard from the Lord of Life church member interested in using our stage for auditions and performances.

We have no new information to report to the Organ Taskforce.

Council supported holding our annual picnic at St. Paul on Sunday, July 23, to coincide with our St. Paul Ice Cream Social.

A Reading resident asked if St. Paul would consider chartering an American Heritage Girls Troop. After reviewing the financial and personnel commitments, the Council decided not to charter the troop.

Carole Replogle agreed to serve as the Council Liaison to the Property Committee for June and July.

Council approved Brad Majewski's request to join St. Paul Lutheran Church as a member.

The next meeting of the Church Council will be on Monday, June 19, at 7:00 pm.

Submitted by Chet Laine  
on behalf of the Church Council

## HundredX: Earn money for St. Paul by rating brands!

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other costs and expenses to move forward with St. Paul Lutheran Church into the future.

I (Holly) work for Princeton City Schools, which is where the HundredX idea originated. We were able to generate \$30,000 through this program!

The HundredX Express Feedback for Good program will begin June 1 through July 4.

There will be more information to come, as the HundredX program gets closer.

Please check out HundredX at: [hundredx.com/how-it-works](https://hundredx.com/how-it-works)

If you have any questions, please contact Holly Ford at: [hollyjford@yahoo.com](mailto:hollyjford@yahoo.com).

Holly Ford

# St. Paul Lutheran Church

**LOCATION KEY**  
 S = sanctuary  
 N = narthex  
 L = library  
 FH = fellowship hall  
 US = upstairs  
 O = outside  
 Z = Zoom

## Mission Statement

Growing a Christian community where each is valued, accepted, and loved.

513-821-0987 | [mail@stpaulreading.org](mailto:mail@stpaulreading.org)

# June 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 28 <b>Day of Pentecost</b> 10:30 am Worship (S) 2 pm <i>The Chosen</i> Bible study (N)	May 29 7 am Decorate Memorial Day Parade float 8 am Leave for parade starting location	May 30	May 31 2:30 pm Bible Study (N/Z)	June 1 HundredX Fund-raiser begins	2 11:30 am-5:30 pm Church reserved for cleaning	3 Pastor Beckering and 2 members attend the Southern Ohio Synod Assembly
4 <b>Holy Trinity</b> 10:30 am Worship (S) After Worship: Evangelism Committee (L) 2 pm <i>The Chosen</i> Bible study (N)	5	6	7 2:30 pm Bible Study (N/Z)	8 6 pm Scouts BSA (N/L)	9 11:30 am-5:30 pm Church reserved for cleaning	10
11 <b>2 Pentecost</b> 10:30 am Worship (S) After worship: Stewardship Committee 2 pm <i>The Chosen</i> Bible study (N)	12	13 6:30 pm Venture Scouts (FH)	14 2:30 pm Bible Study (N/Z)	15	16 11:30 am-5:30 pm Church reserved for cleaning	17
18 <b>3 Pentecost</b> 10:30 am Worship (S) 2 pm <i>The Chosen</i> Bible study (N)	19 7 pm Council Meeting (FH)  **Epistle Articles Due**	20	21 2:30 pm Bible Study (N/Z)	22 6 pm Scouts BSA (N/L)	23 11:30 am-5:30 pm Church reserved for cleaning	24
25 <b>4 Pentecost: New Member Joining</b> 9 am Estate Planning Workshop (N) 10:30 am Worship (S) After worship: Reception of New Members 12:15 pm Estate Planning Appointments (Rev. Karl Biermann) 2 pm <i>The Chosen</i> Bible study (N)	26	27 6:30 pm Venture Scouts (FH)	28 2:30 pm Bible Study (N/Z)	29	30 11:30 am-5:30 pm Church reserved for cleaning	July 1



*Rev. Torie Front and St. John's UCC, Reading, invite St Paul members to join them on an educational trip to Israel.*



## January 2024 Trip to Israel "Bible Land Discovery"

Join us for an 8-day Bible Land Discovery educational trip of a lifetime! You will see Bethlehem, Shepherds' Field, Church of the Nativity, Kasr el Yehud, Jericho, Qumran, Dead Sea, Church of the Loaves and Fish at Tabgha, Mount of Beatitudes, Capernaum, Magdala, Mount Zion, the Upper Room, the Temple Mount, Western Wall, Mount of Olives, the Garden of Gethsemane, Pool of Bethesda, and much more. Walk where Jesus walked. See where Jesus taught, healed, was born, died, and was resurrected. Learn from a registered guide during this **educational** time in The Holy Land.

**Depart: January 24, 2024**

**Cost: \$2698 (from New York)**

*Life Changing!*

To register, go to: <https://www.eo.travelwithus.com/tours/hl24d#eotours>

Find the January 24, 2024 date and click on "Register Now!" to the right

Tour Host ID: 61099

*Questions? Contact Rev. Torie Front  
[revtorie@gmail.com](mailto:revtorie@gmail.com) or 513/ 823-0447*

*Faith Enhancing!*





## Focus on Property Committee, with Dennis King

(Continued from page 3)

bit, and we had different ministers and interim ministers and money became a problem. Jim Forst and Nelson Langefeld were Property Chairs. I was on council and was a liaison to the property committee for a while! They needed a chairperson, so I stepped in. I thought it to be very important to do what I could to help get some things done. I have been in real estate 41 years in September and have had many contacts that could do the work at reasonable prices. I knew some things that were very important to be maintained. Jim Miller has taken on so many of the technical things in the church.

### **2. How has being on this committee impacted your life?**

*Dennis:* Being on Property has impacted me by making me more efficient in managing my time—knowing I have a full-time job and with a schedule that can change every day. Being a small congregation, many people wear several hats. I know how busy everyone is and I should ask for more help more often. When I do ask, people step forward with their time and talents, and the work gets done by many so it is easier and faster. I remember seeing the video of when the church

was built and how so many people did what they could to help to keep the costs down, like personally hand-staining each piece of the ceiling boards on both sides in the sanctuary!

### **3. Explain to members how they can become involved with this committee**

*Dennis:* We need people to help with weeding, planting, pruning etc. on the grounds of the church a couple of times a year. We could use help with regular chores such as watering plants, snow shoveling, and clearing the basement stairwell of leaves and trash. Each week we need people to open and close the church building and help with coffee. There is also a need for volunteers to help with the Live Streaming during services. The photos/scenes/music displayed along each part in the service makes for a better viewing experience. It also makes it easier on the people operating the cameras and live streaming.

### **4. How would you encourage others to join this committee?**

*Dennis:* To join the Property Committee, members can contact me at 513-378-5463 or [dennis@dennisking.com](mailto:dennis@dennisking.com). The church has been here since 1862 and I hope it continues to grow and prosper for another 161 years.

## Our Life Together

To reach Pastor directly, please call the pastoral line at 513-760-5884.

If you have requests for the Prayer Chain, or to remove a person from the list, please contact the office at 513-821-0987 or [mail@stpaulreading.org](mailto:mail@stpaulreading.org).

We pray for **Samantha Asbrock** (Marie Calhoun's friend); **Berkeley** (Carol Curless's great-grandson); **Jeannie Allen** (Faith Pirrmann's friend); **Teresa Bell** (former member); **Chrissi Bergt** (Kate Wollenburg's cousin); **Stephen Black** (Kim Coulehan's nephew); **Nancy Boone** (Gary Gries' sister); **Brett** (Kings' step-nephew); **Jodie Calhoun**; **Casey** (Cindy Sieckman's niece); **John Cathcart**; **Christy** (Terri DeAngelis' daughter); **Pat Coldiron**; **Kathy Curless**; **Katie Demopoulos** (Diana Hawkins's niece); **Karen Doan** (Jean Winkle's daughter); **Jeremy Doan** (Jean Winkle's grandson); **Sara Eble** (Portmanns' friend); **Jane Erbeck**; **Nancy Erbeck**; **Larry Faulkner** (Freda's son); **Justin Feldman** (Bess Sturgill's father); **Cindy Flege**; **Lee Frank** (Barbara Moorhouse's niece's husband); **Darrell Frasure** (St. Paul neighbor); **Jeanne Fuller**; **Clara Garcia** (Cindy Mayhugh's sister); **Lena Gibson** (Pirrmanns' stepsister); **Nathaniel Gibson** (Les Eckerle's step-nephew); **Janie Grandy** (in-law of DeAngelis-Willet family); **Don Grau Jr.**; **Ron Harbaugh**; **Chrissy Harris**; **Sandy Hatcher** (Linda Holt's sister); **Elain Heskamp**; **Ed Hirt**; **Andrew Horton**; **Penny and Larry Huber**; **Ellen Hunter** (Jeni Cathcart's grandmother); **Kate** (granddaughter of Dennis King's friend); **Mike Keefe** (Millers' neighbor); **Ken Keith** (Kris Keith's dad); **Chelsea King**; **Dennis King**; **Jackie King**; **Janet King**; **Earl**

**(Buddy) King** (Dennis's brother); **Marilyn Kline** (Cindy Sieckman's neighbor); **Loretta Kombrink** (Marilyn Portmann's aunt); **Tom and Mike Koze and family** (friends of Faith Pirrmann); **Chet Laine**; **Kelsee Lainhart** (friend of Kings); **Nelson Langefeld**; **Yvonne Lowery** (St. Paul Players); **Carroll Mayhugh Sr.** (Carroll Mayhugh's father); **Carroll and Cindy Mayhugh**; **Jessica Mayhugh & family** (Mayhughs' niece-in-law); **Samantha Mersch** (Mayhughs' daughter, Sarah Papin's sister); **Jack Miller** (Becky Betsch's uncle); **Linda Miller**; **Mary Mills** (St. Paul Players); **Jessica Mink** (Donald Harris's cousin); **Barbara Moorhouse**; **Charlie Myers** (Coulehans' family friend); **Jean Nolte**; **Carol, Jim, and Jeannie Oerther** (Portmanns' sister and family); **Ann Ohr** (Barbara Moorhouse's cousin); **Richard Osborn** (Betty Pack's brother); **Rosie Osborn** (Betty Pack's sister); **Tom Osborn** (Betty Pack's nephew); **Tom Pack** (Betty Pack's son); **Eric Papin**; **LaCartha Pate** (Jeanne Wagner's friend); **Linda Perin** (Moorhouses' cousin); **Nick Pirrmann**; **Bob Price** (Kings' friend); **Barry Prince**; **Dick Replogle** (Linda Miller's brother); **Christopher Rolfes** (Anne's son); **Mike and Judy Ryan** (friends of the Kings); **Sara and Evan** (Barbara Moorhouse's cousins); **James Savoy** (Jean Winkle's great-grandson); **Scott Schadel** (friend of McDowells); **Shawn Schnetzer** (Sturgills' cousin); **Sheila Schultz** (Betty Pack's friend); **Shannon and Dane** (friends of Riddle family); **Sharpshier family** (Kings' neighbors); **Knox Shepherd** (grandson of Pr. Vicki Garber); **Kate Sheridan** (Kings' family friend); **Kim Sieckman**; **John Smith** (Elain Heskamp's brother); **Michelle Snavely** (Laines' daughter); **Scott**

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## Inside Story Headline

(Continued from page 10)

**Songer; Judy Songer** (friends of Jean Winkle); **Crosley Spelman** (Spelmans' grandson); **Kathy Spelman and family** (Joyce's sister-in-law); **Michael Steele** (Mayhughs' nephew); **Frank Sturgill** (Jim's dad); **Britney Jean Teems** (Jean Winkle's granddaughter); **Randy Thaman** (friend of Marie Calhoun); **Geri Toland** (Carole Replogle's neighbor); **Lish Trasser** (friend of DeAngelis-Willet family); **Treasure** (Les Eckerle's cousin); **Ralph Turner** (friend of Dennis King); **Jeanne Wagner; Melinda Wakefield** (Sherry Bronner's friend); **Daryl Wesselman** (Betty Pack's granddaughter); **Leslie Willet; Jean Winkle; Susan Winkle** (Jean Winkle's daughter-in-law); **Kate Wollenburg and family; Judy Young** (Janet King's sister); **Barb Zeh** (Jeni Cathcart's mom).

We pray for those with ongoing health concerns who are unable to come to church every week:

**Betty Hoffmann, Betty Kline, Shirley Lathrop, Barbara Moorhouse, Jean Nolte.**

We pray for our armed forces members:

**Graham Barton** (Fords' neighbor); **Paul Cordes** (Elinor Schieman's grandson); **Victoria Derry** (Elinor Schieman's great-granddaughter); **Jared Forst** (Loretta's grandson); **Beau Glenn** (Karen Koehl's son-in-law); **Kylie Hahn** (Gretta Hahn's granddaughter); **Donald Hosea** (Karen Koehl's son); **Samuel McLoughlin** (friend of Cindy Sieckman); **Scott Minton** (Becky Betsch's brother); **Jobeth Ramirez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Joshua Rodriguez** (friend of Karen Koehl); **Trent Schwegman** (cousin to the Erbecks and Fords); **Dustin Silvey; Alex Wisecup** (son of Nadine and Barry Wisecup).

## June Ministry Schedule

Date	Feast	Assisting Minister	Lesson Reader	Acolyte	Book Bearer	Livestreamers
June 4	Holy Trinity	Nancy Erbeck	Sherry Bronner	Teagan Cathcart	Kathryn Keith	John Cathcart, TBA
June 11	2 Pentecost	John Cathcart	Marie Calhoun			Nick Huitger, Chet Laine
June 18	3 Pentecost	Nancy Erbeck	TBA			Noah Moorhouse
June 25	4 Pentecost	Donald Harris	Sherry Bronner			John Cathcart, Chet Laine

**St. Paul  
Lutheran Church**

***Mission  
Statement:***

Growing a Christian  
community where  
each is valued, ac-  
cepted, and loved.

# Annual Church Picnic

JULY 23  
AFTER WORSHIP

EAST LAWN  
(JENNY LIND ST.)

PLEASE BRING A  
DISH TO SHARE



**St. Paul  
Lutheran Church**

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PLEASE  
PLACE  
STAMP  
HERE

