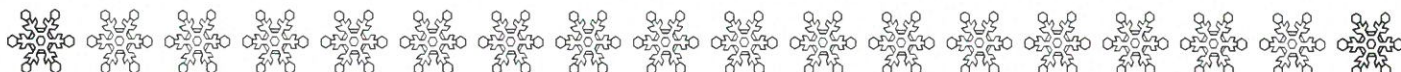


# ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## MESSENGER

January 2023

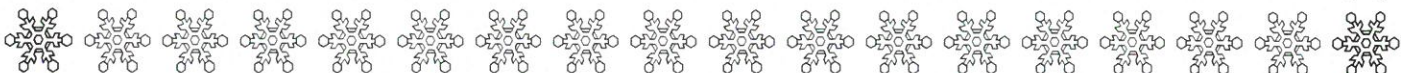


To the beloved St. Paul UMC family, Happy New Year!

Time is fair to everyone, and no one can resist or ignore it. Many of you had a New Year's Eve party to let it go and receive a new year. However, when we think about it, January 1 is just the day after December 31. There is nothing new such as we have had the same 24 hours a day and 31 days of January. Each season would come after a few months, Spring, Summer, Fall, and winter, and then the cycle would repeat. If we stay like that for the next 12 months, we will welcome 2024 again as a 'new year.'

In effect, the same time is repeated precisely every year. In such a flow of time, there is virtually nothing we can say 'first.' Ecclesiastes says, "What has been is what will be, and what has been done is what will be done; there is nothing new under the sun. Is there a thing of which it is said, "See, this is new"? It has already been in the ages before us." (Ecclesiastes 1:9-10, NRSV) Indeed, "There's nothing new on this earth." No matter how much we make a fuss and excitement while saying 'Happy New Year,' there is nothing particularly new. It's just something I've seen every year. Nevertheless, people greet the new year with new expectations every year. Why? There is nothing new in the flow of time, but something creates 'newness.' What could it be?

Continued on Page 2



January



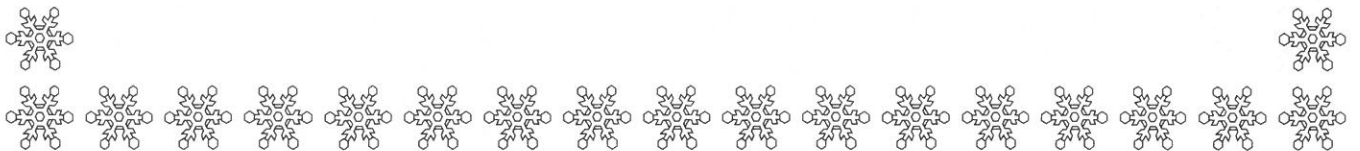
Then, what makes the new year a new year is 'opportunity.' It is not a 'new situation,' but a 'new year' because a 'new opportunity' is given. No matter how we lived in the past, we are given a new opportunity to create a different life. Let's assume that our life ended on December 31, 2022. If so, we wouldn't have been given the year 2023. And I wouldn't have thought of doing something new. However, that opportunity remains since we have lived like this to greet the New Year.

The problem is our reality that the content of life stays mostly the same, even if it becomes a new year. Doing the same thing year after year often misses the opportunity to be renewed. Wouldn't it be great if people who had lived chaotically and set clear life goals now used the time given to them wisely and lived in an orderly way? But in reality, it takes work to do. No matter how firm our new year's resolution is, we know it's short-lived many times. Remember... "There is nothing new in this world."

Then, is there a way to make the New Year a 'chance for a new life'? THERE IS! The starting point of all newness is 'God.' God is the creator of order out of chaos. We need to include God in every part of our lives. We have to confess that a new time of every year is not just given for granted. We must realize that no new opportunity is given to us unless God allows it. And we must start living according to God's expectations and will for us in the flow and rhythm of time. We must invite Jesus daily and ask him to rule and guide us. In this way, we walk with God day by day, month by month, and year by year, and live for the kingdom of God. Then God can create something new even through our life, which has nothing different. God changes the 'land of chaos' into a 'land of order' and turns the 'land of death' into a 'land of life.' That's the true blessing we should receive in the new year.

May God bless you this new year!

From Pastor Baek





**Safe Nights Volunteer Training  
Monday January 23rd at 7pm via Zoom**

If you're interested in volunteering for Safe Nights this year at St Paul, please join us for a virtual training session on Monday January 23 at 7pm.

We will cover the basics of the Safe Nights program, volunteer duties, available slots at St. Paul, and some specifics about the program and guests this year.

Please contact Jessica Holmberg for more information and the Zoom meeting link at [jholmberg114@gmail.com](mailto:jholmberg114@gmail.com), 410-610-3614.

**SPUMC COVID Statement**

"COVID 19 and its variants are still with us. Health Care Professionals continue to recommend vaccinations and booster shots. St Paul believes masks are a personal choice and will continue to provide them at the entrance along with hand sanitizer. And as always, if you don't feel well, please stay home and visit us on-line!"

January

We are no longer collecting shoe boxes. Now is a good time to look for

Christmas coloring books.

Thank you, Colleen ~ Shoe Box Ministry



## GIFT CARDS



Every Sunday, food cards for Giant and Weis are available to purchase in the CLC. This assists in our operating budget.

**SMILE**

### **"SMILE" Food Pantry Donations**

**Non-perishable grocery items are collected the 1st Sunday of each month in St. Paul's parking lot!**

### **Office Contacts & Information**

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Myungha Baek  
Church Email: PastorBaek@stpaulumc-lusby.org

**Youth Pastor:** Rev. Dr. Dave Showalter  
Church E-Mail: dave4godsteens.stpaul@comcast.net

**Admin. Assistant:** Kathy Matthews  
Church E-Mail: kmatthews@stpaulumc-lusby.org

**OFFICE PHONE: 410.326.4475**

January

### Lost and Found

SPUMC has a "Lost and Found" basket stationed in the lobby of the Christian Life Center. Items are soon to be donated or disposed of if unclaimed.

Please check the basket when you're at the CLC or contact Kathy at the church office if you have any questions.



Call the Prayer Chain when you need a prayer for yourself or others. Activate it by calling anyone on the list anytime, day or night.

When called, they will pray for your concern and pass the concern on to the other prayer chain members. Do not hesitate to use the power our gracious Lord has given us. Call on Him for help and guidance.

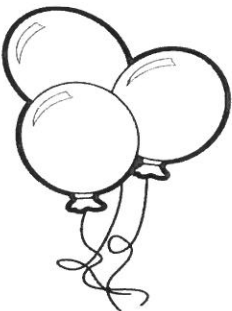
John & Sessaly Boyd	410-326-4390	Cal & Carolyn Colvin	301-862-3273
Ben & Vonnie Dansberger	410-326-2994	Ruth Humphreys	410-326-4687
John & Robin Read	443-404-8559	Andy & Beth Rogers	410-326-6346
Dave & Debby Showalter	410-326-2150	Susan Leins Baker	410-326-6234

January

## BIRTHDAYS!



FISSEL, Nancy	01/01
LANGLEY, Billy	01/01
MITCHELL III, Ronnie	01/01
MULDOON, Brian	01/01
SCHMIDT, Cian	01/01
SCHMIDT, Evan	01/01
WRIGHT, Mark	01/01
MCCREADY, Ann	01/02
POUNCEY, Sarah	01/04
ROGERS, Andrew "Sam"	01/07
MACKIEWICZ, Myrna	01/08
CORNETT, Alexis	01/09
ELLISON, Dylan	01/09
ROGERS, Emily	01/11
WINES, Stefanie	01/12
BETIT, Krissi	01/13
MCCREADY, Casey	01/13
CARVER, Benjamin	01/14
SNYDER, Jim	01/15
DUNN, Hannah	01/16
KYLE, Elaine	01/19
LEWIS, Jennifer	01/19
EBERT, Stefanie	01/21
NICHOLSON, Scott	01/22
HOWARD, Keith	01/23
HOWARD, Roger	01/24
BOYD, Sessaly	01/25
CARVER, Naomi	01/26
CAVE, Kenneth	01/26
SHIPPERT, Stacey	01/27
WILLS, Trevor	01/27
HARVEY, Adam	01/28
HARVEY, Ashton	01/28
DANSBERGER, Vonnie	01/29
STEWART, Na'ila	01/29
KYLE, Charles	01/30
NUNLEY, Elias	01/31



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>1</p> <p><b>SPUMPS Winter Break</b></p> <p>10am - Combined</p> <p>6pm - Youth - The Zone</p>	<p>2</p> <p><b>Office Close</b></p> <p>6:45pm - Bible Study @</p>	<p>3</p> <p>9am - HeartFELT</p> <p>5pm - OLSS</p> <p>6:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop#451, FH</p>	<p>4</p> <p>6:15pm - Praise Band, AC</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6pm - Trustees, Library</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop # 451 FH</p>	<p>6</p> <p><b>Office Closes at Noon</b></p> <p>4:30pm - OLSS/BB AC</p> <p>8pm - AA @ FH</p>	
<p>8</p> <p>9am - Traditional</p> <p>10am - Adult SS- FH</p> <p>10am - Children SS</p> <p>11am - Contemporary</p> <p>6pm - Youth - The Zone</p>	<p>9</p> <p>6:45pm - Bible Study @</p>	<p>10</p> <p>9am - HeartFELT</p> <p>10:30am - Women's Bible</p> <p>5pm - OLSS</p> <p>6:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop#451, FH</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:15pm - Praise Band, AC</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>6:30pm - Lay pastor</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p>	<p>12</p> <p>6:45pm - Scouts /AC</p> <p>5:30pm - Finance / FH @</p> <p>6:30pm - Church Council</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop #451 FH</p>	<p>13</p> <p><b>Office Closes at Noon</b></p> <p>4:30pm - OLSS</p> <p>8pm - AA @ FH</p>	
<p>15</p> <p>9am - Traditional</p> <p>10am - Adult SS- FH</p> <p>10am - Children SS</p> <p>11am - Contemporary</p> <p>6pm - Youth - The Zone</p>	<p>16</p> <p><b>MLK Day Office &amp;</b></p> <p>6pm - Tide 10U / Baseball</p> <p>6:45pm - Bible Study @</p>	<p>17</p> <p>9am - HeartFELT</p> <p>5pm - OLSS</p> <p>6:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop#451, FH</p>	<p>18</p> <p>4pm - Newsletter Article</p> <p>6:15pm - Praise Band, AC</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p>	<p>19</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop #451 FH</p>	<p>20</p> <p><b>Office Closes at Noon</b></p> <p>4:30pm - OLSS</p> <p>8pm - AA @ FH</p>	
<p>22</p> <p>9am - Traditional</p> <p>10am - Adult SS- FH</p> <p>10am - Children SS</p> <p>11am - Contemporary</p> <p>6pm - Worship comm</p> <p>6pm - Youth - The Zone</p>	<p>23</p> <p>6pm - Tide 10 U Baseball</p> <p>6:45pm - Bible Study @</p> <p>7pm - Safe Night</p>	<p>24</p> <p>9am - HeartFELT</p> <p>5pm - OLSS</p> <p>6:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop#451, FH</p> <p>7pm - SPRC Rm. 11</p>	<p>25</p> <p>6:15pm - Praise Band, AC</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p>	<p>26</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop #451 FH</p>	<p>27</p> <p><b>Office Closes at Noon</b></p> <p>7am - Scouts Pine</p> <p><b>SPUMPS Closes @ 2:30 /</b></p> <p>8am - Trustee Wc</p> <p>6pm - BS Troop #451 AC</p> <p>8pm - AA @ FH</p>	
<p>29</p> <p>9am - Traditional</p> <p>10am - Adult SS- FH</p> <p>10am - Children SS</p> <p>10am - Fellowship CLC</p> <p>11am - Contemporary</p> <p>6pm - Youth - The Zone</p>	<p>30</p> <p>4:30pm - OLSS</p> <p>6:45pm - Bible Study @</p>	<p>31</p> <p>9am - HeartFELT</p> <p>5pm - OLSS</p> <p>6:30pm - Bible Study</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop#451, FH</p>	<p>1</p> <p>6:15pm - Praise Band, AC</p> <p>6:30pm - Choir Practice</p> <p>7:30pm - AA, FH</p>	<p>2</p> <p>6pm - Trustees, Library</p> <p>7pm - BS Troop # 451 FH</p>	<p>3</p> <p><b>Office Closes at Noon</b></p> <p>4:30pm - OLSS</p> <p>8pm - AA @ FH</p>	