

Join us Rogation Sunday, May 4
Bagpipes & Ice Cream Social



The Mini-Messenger

News and Highlights
St. Paul's Episcopal Church • Akron, Ohio

May 2025

The Mini-Messenger is a brief news update sent out in months between our regular full-sized newsletter.

From the Rector

Visiting the Ancient World

Our Tuesday Bible study is just about finished with *The Book of Acts*, written by Luke as a companion to the gospel he wrote. It's been a fascinating, in-depth study of the birth of Christianity. Without *Acts* "we could not have reconstructed the course of Paul's intrepid missionary career or known how the gospel spread to strategic cities of the Roman World." (John Stott, *The Spirit, The Church, The World*, page 5). The gospel did spread, and amazingly so! In just a short time after the ministry and resurrection of Jesus, the Greco-Roman world was evangelized. Paul and his teams—yes, it was very much a collaborative movement—were key players.

On Tuesdays, those whom Paul Gaston calls our "scripture scholars" visit the ancient world in imagination. In May, a group of travelers, led by Susan Tiffany, will visit sites in Greece in reality. They will follow in the footsteps of Paul, calling to mind his dedicated evangelism, and—ideally, among other things—thus be reminded of just how wonderful it is to be brought into Christ's flock *and* to be sent out into the world in the power of the Spirit. May we who aren't making the trip nonetheless be similarly bowled over by the grace of God that propelled the apostles.

Warmly, in Christ,
Mark +

Stephen Ministry

Be THAT Person

Be that person who cares for others. Be that person who hears God calling and answers. Be that person who is willing to serve and be involved in a life changing ministry. The St. Paul's Stephen Ministry is looking for parishioners who are ready to commit to using their God given talents and gifts in helping others. We are looking for men and women who want to make a difference in another person's life. To hear more about what is involved in becoming a Stephen Minister, please contact:

Bonnie Severt at 330-328-2453
Jan Burns-Nowicki at 330-715-8557
Carrie Searle at 330-836-9327 ext 121



Stephen Ministry is Recruiting

Stephen Ministry is a ministry that belongs to the whole church. We are looking for men and women who are willing to train to become a Stephen Minister. Stephen Ministers help those in our congregation that are facing challenges and who need a listening, empathetic person to walk with them. Reach out to Stephen Leaders Bonnie Severt (330-328-2453), Jan Burns-Nowicki (330-715-8557) or Carrie Searle (330-836-9327 ext. 121) to learn more about how you are the perfect person to become a Stephen Minister.

Adult Education

Adult Forum — Sundays at 9:00am, Parish Hall

What Does the Book of Revelation Reveal?

In a new series, St. Paul's clergy will describe important contexts for understanding the Book of Revelation and suggest what we might "take away" from it as we celebrate the 40 days of Eastertide.

May 4 – "Revelations" Before & After the Book of Revelation

To approach the Book of Revelation, it helps to know about other Christian apocalypses—both those written both before the Book (I and II Thessalonians, the Synoptic Gospels, Jude, II Peter) and those written after the formation of the New Testament. What do they have in common with the Book of Revelation? How are they different? How does awareness of these other "revelations" clarify the distinctiveness of the Book of Revelation? *The Rev. Paul Gaston*

May 11 – Questions We Ask About the Book of Revelation—and How We Answer Them

What is the motivation behind the Book of Revelation? How would its first readers have interpreted it? Who (other than John of Patmos) are candidates for authorship? What kind of structure does the book follow? How do we know the meaning of the symbols in the book? Why are there so many "sevens"? *The Rev. Paul Gaston*

Africa Education Partnership Update

May 18 – At the Adult Forum, Angela DiMezza will give an update about the AEP (Africa Education Partnership) and Sponsorship Opportunities

ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH


1361 W. Market St. • Akron, Ohio 44313 • 330-836-9327 • StPaulsAkron.org

Upcoming Events

M-F 4/28-5/2	Scholastic Book Fair benefitsNursery School, 9:30am- 4:00pm, G-5
Thu, May 1	Choir Rehearsal, 6:45–8:15pm, Choir Room. Weekly
May 2-4	Youth Confirmation Retreat, Bellwether Farm, Wakeman Ohio
May 3-12	Pilgrimage to Greece
Sun, May 4	Rogation Sunday, Bagpipes and Ice Cream Social
Mon, May 5	Final Doctoral Recital by Kelsey Berg, 4:00pm, Church
	Monday Crafters Group, 1:00pm, Family Room. Weekly
Tue, May 6	Lunchtime Bible Study, noon, G-4. Weekly
	Needlework Guild, 6:30pm, Parish Hall. 1st & 3rd Tuesdays
Wed, May 7	Community Meal, 6:00pm, Assembly Hall. Weekly
	Canceled: Evening Compline , resumes May 14
Thu, May 8	Needlework Guild, 1:00pm, Parish Hall. 2nd & 4th Thursdays
Sun, May 11	Blood Pressure Checks, 8:30–10:00am, Family Room. Monthly
Wed, May 14	Evening Compline, 7:45pm, Zoom. Weekly
Sun, May 18	Africa Education Partnership Update by Angela DiMezza, 9:00am, Parish Hall
	Last Day of Church School and Youth/Confirmation
	Wrapped in Prayer Group, 11:15am, Family Room. Every 3rd Sunday
Mon, May 26	Memorial Day, Church Office Closed
Thur, May 29	Healing Service, noon, Chapel
Sun, Jun 8	Pentecost
	Mitzvah Day, “Dress a Girl Around the World,” 1:00–4:00pm, Parish Hall
Fri, Jun 13	Men’s Quarterly Dinner, 6:30pm, Parish Hall
Sun, Jun 15	Trinity Sunday
M-WJun 16-18	Vacation Bible School, 9:00am–Noon

Class of 2025

If you have someone in your family who is graduating from High School or College, we would like to know! Please list the graduate’s name and their high school or college. Leave details at the Front Desk or call the church by Monday, May 19th. *Thank you!*



Join Us On Sundays

8:00am	Eucharist, Chapel
9:00am	Adult Forum, Parish Hall
10:00am	Eucharist, Church
	Education Hour, 2nd Floor

Lunchtime Bible Study—Tuesdays at noon, G-4
Discussions of the Book of Acts, led by St. Paul’s clergy, will continue to the conclusion of the book. Join us for our one-hour brown bag discussions now through Tuesday, June 10th.

Evening Compline—Wednesdays at 7:45pm, Zoom
Let’s quiet our hearts together for “good night” prayers. To connect online go to: zoom.us/join
Meeting ID: 844 1828 4802 Passcode: 942011

Healing Service in May
Thursday, May 29, noon, Chapel
No one can journey through life without being scarred emotionally, physically, and spiritually. That is why prayer for healing is a vital part of our Christian life. St. Paul’s addresses our mutual need for healing prayer at a quarterly Healing Service on Thursday, May 29th at noon in the chapel. Come and receive prayer for yourself or others and be blessed.


Vacation Bible School 2025
Mon–Wed, June 16–18 from 9:00am–noon
“TRUE NORTH”—Trusting Jesus in a Wild World
This year’s VBS is “True North” where kids will learn to find their way in a world gone wild knowing that Jesus is their steadfast and unshakeable friend forever! VBS camp is for children ages 4-12. Sign up on our website at: www.stpaulsakron.org/vacation-bible-school

Nursery School Now Enrolling
We are currently enrolling Preschool & Pre-K children, ages 3, 4, and 5 for the 2025/26 school year. Full & half days available.

Suicide Loss Support Group
Thursday evenings, 6:00-8:00pm in June and July
A support group for family and friends of those who have died by suicide. Facilitated by an Episcopal priest whose daughter died by suicide and a Nurse Practitioner whose fiancé died by suicide. A safe place to support one another. A simple meal and study materials provided. Held at St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church, 8667 Shepard Rd. Macedonia, OH 44056. RSVP to Joan Luthanen: 216-408-6351 or joanluthanen@gmail.com

Healing Prayers
Every first Sunday of the month, prayers for healing are available at the communion rail for those who choose.

Flowers to the Glory of God
New Altar Flower Dedications for May 2025
May 4
In honor of Jane Sanders 100th birthday; given by Mark and Judy Seward
May 11
In loving memory of Edward Sawyer; given by Bill Silver



Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Akron, Ohio
Permit No. 9

ST. PAUL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1361 West Market Street
Akron, Ohio 44313
Phone: 330-836-9327
StPaulsAkron.org