St. Paul's 2025 Annual Report

Annual Meeting – January 18, 2026

Agenda

Prayer
Call to Order — Jeffrey Peters, Council President
Establish Quorum (10% of membership; approximately 15 members)
Adopt Agenda
Approval of Annual Meeting Minutes

Treasurer's Report

- 2026 Financials

Accept Church Committee Reports

Old Business

New Business

- 2026 Proposed Budget
- Nominating Committee report
- Election of Committee and Council Members

Review of church safety information

- OTHER

Reading of Minutes

Adjourn

The Lord's Prayer

ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES—January 19, 2025

Pastor Laurie led us in prayer.

President Mary West called meeting to order @ 10:42- quorum of 38 members was established.
MMSC by Ruth Hopfinger to accept the agenda and Jennifer Eddy. All were in favor.
MMSC by Susan McPherson to accept the minutes from January 21, 2024 and semiannual minutes from July 7, 2024 and Ruth Hopfinger. All in favor.

Treasurer report was reviewed. MMSC by Chris Mahoney to accept minutes and Ruth Hopfinger. All in favor. ed.
Committee reports were reviewed. Chris Mahoney stated from Memorial Committee that the St. Paul's scholarship fund is dependent on donations. She also mentioned the Sauerkraut supper tickets were not an accurate count and stated the hard work done by the take out crew. Tom Baker stated correction in Christian Education report that 7 children were sent to camp. Bev Myers praised the Looking Back report and suggested mention of Mitten Tree giving be included next year. She also questioned the Membership report and requested accurate number be in next report. Flo Nolan questioned the expense from IT report. Danny Neary stated the purchase was for new cords for computer. MMSC by Bev Myers to accept committee reports and Christine Kipfer. All in favor,

Old Businees - None

New Business:
2025 Proposed Budget was presented. No questions from congregation. MMSC by Christine Kipfer to accept 2025 budget and Lisa Neary. All in favor.

Nominating Committee Report:
Deacons- Lisa Knerr, Ruth Hopfinger, Lynn Jacoby; Trustees- Jeff Peters, Roy Ticen;
Christian Education- Becki Peters, Tom Baker; Memorial Committee- Marilyn Wilson;
Pastoral Relations- Bev Myers; Investment Committee- Joanne Ripstein and
Local Mission- Marie Lowe
MMSC by Chris Mahoney to accept the nominating committee report and by Laurie Bellucci. All in favor.

Jeff Peters reviewed church safety policies. There are 7 fire extinguishers in the building, an AED, 2 First aid kits and 2 Bleed kits. Jeff recommended purchase of 2 additional fire extinguishers and 2 smoke detectors. Reminded congregation smoke detectors are not hard wired and 911 will need to be called in case of emergency.

Newsletter option for electronic delivery was raised. Sign up sheet will be available for anyone who wishes to opt in for electronic option.
Easter Sunrise service will be planned at the park on April 20, 2025. More details will follow.

MMSC by Chris Mahoney to close nominations and accept the slate of officers and
Laurie Bellucci. All in favor.
Marie Lowe read the minutes of this annual meeting.
MMSC by Chris Mahoney to accept the minutes as read and Ruth Hopfinger. All in favor.
President Mary West thanked the outgoing members. Council to meet immediately after meeting to elect new officers.
MMSC by Christine Kipfer to adjourn the meeting and Jennifer Eddy. All in favor.
Meeting was adjourned at 11:12 a.m. with the Lord's Prayer said by all.

Respectfully submitted
Marie Lowe
Council Secretary

Looking Back at St. Paul's in 2025

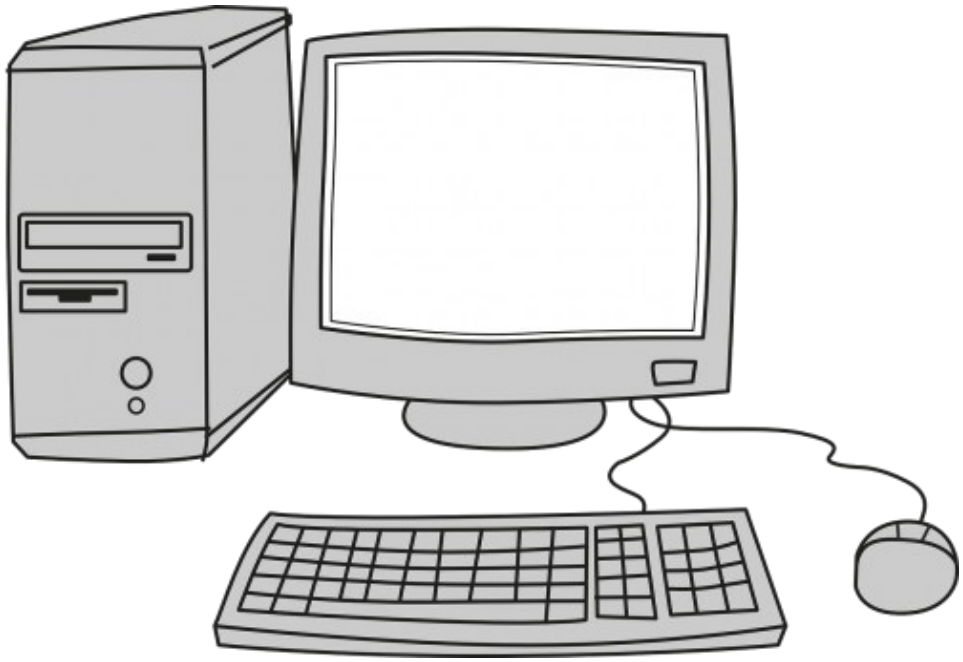
Our 4th Pancake Breakfast in February and Basket raffle open to the public
First Annual Easter Sunrise service in the Attica Park
Held 1, 2 day scrapbook fundraisers for kids for Dunkirk camp
Sent 6 of our children to Dunkirk Camp over the summer
2 Graduates from Attica Central—Emily Peters & Stephanie Silvernail
Went over Fire Drill/Emergency evacuation following worship
Held our congregational picnic – June
St. Paul's joined the Attica Chamber of Commerce
Began having coffee hours in the back of church most Sundays
Sponsored garden stand outside of church for community
Organizing and looking for volunteers for Back to School Picnic
Dunkirk kids hosted a thank you coffee hour to thank Congregation for sending them to camp
Organizing and looking for volunteers for Sauerkraut Supper Leadership committee
Celebrated 50th Year Members: Nancy & Bill Colvenbach & Debra Kirsch.
Served approximately 158 takeouts, 59 eat in , total of 217 people at our annual Sauerkraut Supper along with Christian Education Basket Raffle
Held our 76th annual Candlelight Service
Participated in our 3rd Winterfest event with hot apple crisp, ice cream and mulled cider
Shown 2 movies as part of Winterfest
Christian Education led our children in a beautiful Christmas play

What a fulfilling year we had here at St. Paul's.
Let's hope that 2026 is another fulfilling year for us all!

Media Annual Report

It's been three and a half years since I took over as media minister now, boy time flies. This year has mostly been steady-on with the changes we have made prior, but I've made some breakthroughs in how our sound system functions in the process of procuring our new Ipad, replacing the one that had been having battery retention problems for a while. I was able to get it set up and working with our audio system just the same as the old one! David Williman has continued to be a very large help with running service, taking over in April, September, and December when I left on trips, handling it well! A focus early in the coming year will be updating documentation on the process for the future. Thanks to David Williman, Laurie Bellucci, Lisa Neary, Marylin Wilson, and Sawyer West for helping with running the services this year!

Sincerely,
Daniel Neary



St. Paul's United Church of Christ Memorial Committee
Treasurer's Report 2025

Memorial Fund Balance: December 31, 2024 (including St. Paul's Scholarship monies)		$3221.17
Plus Memorials received:		
Charles Williman		
Larry Taylor		
Ralph and Patricia Furness	$2875.00	
Plus Memorials directed to the		
St. Paul's Scholarship Fund	595.00	
Less disbursements:		
Fire Extinguishers & Smoke Detectors		
Hydrangea	(150.96)	
St. Paul's UCC Scholarships awarded:		
Emily Peters		
Stephanie Silvernail	(400.00)	
Ending Balance: December 31, 2025		$6140.21

There is currently a $475 balance in the St. Paul's UCC Scholarship line item, thanks to generous donations made this past year.
The awarding of scholarships depends on donations made specifically to the Scholarship Fund and, as always, we ask you to consider giving to this fund to keep these opportunities available.
Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,
Cris Mahoney

Envelope Giving Report for 2025

37 boxes of envelopes were issued in 2025.

$	# of boxes
0	1
1 - 99	3
100 - 149	2
150 - 199	0
200 - 249	1
250 - 299	0
300 - 349	0
350 - 399	1
400 - 449	0
450 - 499	0
500 - 749	1
750 - 999	5
1000 - 1499	4
1500 - 1999	2
2000 - 2499	1
2500-2999	6
3000 - 3999	1
4000 - 4999	1
5000 - 5999	4
6000 - 6999	2
7000- 7999	0
8000 - 8999	1
9000- 9999	0
10000 - 14999	0
15000 - 19999	0
20000 - 24999	1
Total	37

Special Giving Envelopes:

	# of envelopes
2025 Initial offiering	23
Church World Service	4
One Great Hour of Sharing	6
Easter	22
Neighbors in Need	5
Strengthen the Church Fund	3
Candle Light Service	22
2025 Christmas Fund	4
2025 Christmas	16
2026 Initial offiering	2

Respectfully submitted,

Lisa Neary

TRUSTEE REPORT 2025

Building Repairs:

Christian Ed wing roof repaired
Installed screens to prevent bird intrusion
Shingle, trim and other minor repairs to roof. More roof work needed.
Refrigerator repaired
Back door film added
Christian Ed wing door worked on. More work needed.

General Building Maintenance:

Lights being changed to LEDs as needed
Smoke alarm batteries changed
Exit lights, timers, outside lights, breakers serviced as needed
Snow removal, yard work as required

Worship/Special Activities:

Set up and breakdown of materials for services in sanctuary and elsewhere, e.g. Easter Sunrise Service, various in-house functions, et. al.

Building Inspections:

Wyoming County: Boiler inspection
Church Mutual Insurance Company
Cintas Fire Inspection

Future projects for consideration:

Roof replacement
Parking lot resurfaced
Front and side doors

Respectfully submitted,
David Williman
Head Trustee

DEACON ANNUAL REPORT 2025

New deacons: Ruth Hopfinger, Lynne Jacoby, and Lisa Knerr.
Laurie reviewed some of the deacon responsibilities: obtaining greeters, ushers, and lay leaders and the months they are assigned. These are reviewed at each monthly meeting.
In April we had a Maundy Thursday service which included a potluck dinner, Good Friday community service, and an Easter Sunrise community service at the village park.
In June we honored our graduates.
Three 50 year members were recognized in October.
The annual Candlelight Service was held in November.
Christmas Eve Service was held at 11:00pm, The confirmands and their mentors lit the candles.
Pastor Laurie's 2026 vacation dates and mission trip were approved and her substitute has been secured.
Due to the rising cost of postage, prayer family cards will be placed in members' mailboxes.
The Deacons would like to thank Laurie Bellucci and John Brandon for their dedication and service. Jennifer Eddy has been nominated for a Deacon position.

Respectfully submitted
Ruth Hopfinger
Deacon's Secretary

Membership Report

Italicized names denote friends of the congregation.

2025 New Member: Sally Furness Dawson
2025 Funerals: Reverend Charles F. Williman, Lawrence Taylor, Becky Holmwood
2025 Interments: *Karen Smigiel*
2025 Deaths: David Valtin
2025 Removal of Membership: Flo Nolan

Local Mission Report

No funds were disbursed in 2025

Sisters in Faith

- Sisters in Faith continued our mission of reaching out to all members.
- We send cards to members that are sick or hospitalized
- We are working on crocheting prayer shawls
- Our annual Christmas party had to be rescheduled due to weather

We are looking forward to more mission projects in 2026.
Please consider joining us.

Pastoral Relations Annual Report

The 2025 Pastoral Relations Committee was comprised of Beverly Myers, Debbie Best, Lisa Knerr and Laurie Bellucci Head Deacon.
The Pastoral Relations Committee met quarterly on February 23, 2025, May 21, 2025, August 24, 2025 and November 9th, 2025, following church services as required.
Pastor discussed coverage/contacts in her absence, vacation schedule, youth mission trip, annual meeting of the New York Conference, Western Association and 2026 Confirmation class and ideas for community outreach.
The next meeting is TBD February 2026.
Church members are encouraged to reach out to Committee members with comments and concerns.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa R. Knerr

St. Paul's UCC Christian Education Committee
Annual Report 2025

Members: Tom Baker, Susan McPherson, Chris Kipfer, Jen Eddy, Becki Peters

Heifer Project: The students decided to buy a pig. The bottles and cans collection bins at the back doors to the church will be used towards that purchase.

Dunkirk Camp:
-We hosted a Soup Lunch fundraiser on 2/02/2025 to raise funds for Dunkirk.
-We hosted a basket raffle at the spring Pancake breakfast hosted by St. Paul's on 3/09.
-We hosted a scrapbook event April 5th and 12th.
-We agreed to give full scholarship amounts for campers, with parents paying the $50 registration fee for regularly attending children.
-We sent 5 children to camp (Madelyn Perry, Josh Kipfer, and the Mest children)
-We hosted another scrapbook Event: October 17th- 18th and 24th-25th, set it up the same as in the spring.
-We hosted a basket raffle at the Sauerkraut Supper to raise funds for next year's campers, this was our best basket raffle so far (Thank you to all who contributed!!).

Pre-School:
-Both 3 and 4 year old classes are full with 18 3 year olds and 16 4 year olds.
-We continue to run without the director's position, Susan continues to take care of immunizations for the program.
-Some wages were adjusted based on the minimum wage increase again.

Sunday School:
-Students passed out palms for Palm Sunday and decorated eggs for the egg hunt on Easter.
-We filled 120 Easter Eggs in advance and held an Easter Egg hunt on Easter.
-We blessed 1 backpack on Rally Day (most kids forgot to bring them).
-Teachers should be using the website Sermons4kids to get weekly lessons.
-We have 2 classes this year, with students ranging in age from 4-10. Committee members take turns teaching, along with Anna Hopfinger. We have no one in the nursery, and someone only goes back as needed. We have 2 students in Confirmation this year, Christopher and Eleanor Eddy. Tom will work them on the days that they don't stay in church.
-We hosted a Halloween party on 10/26 with filled treat bags and activities during church for the kids.
-We held the Advent Workshop on Nov. 23rd during worship, making ornaments for the Christmas tree.
-Students helped decorate the tree during the hanging of the greens on Nov. 30th.
-Susan directed the "Flash Mob - Jesus Breaks In" Christmas play during morning service on 12/21/2025, with 8 children participating, 2 confirmands and 4 previously confirmed students.
We then hosted a birthday party for Jesus downstairs after the service.
-The Souper Bowl of Caring when children collect change during children's time will be on 2/08/2026, the same day as the Super Bowl.

Respectfully Submitted by Becki Peters

2025 PASTOR'S REPORT

Let the same mind be in you that was in Jesus Christ". -Philippians 2:5

How do we put on the mind of Christ? How do we see through his eyes? How do we feel through his heart? How do we learn to respond to the world with that same wholeness and healing love? Christianity isn't about right belief; it's about right practice.

Each week, we gather to worship God together. As your pastor, I prepared 54 sermon messages, including one for our community Easter Dawn Service, and 45 Children's Chats. I officiated at 4 funerals/interments/memorial services. During worship, we received 1 new member, installed church leaders, dedicated Memorials, blessed Sunday School teachers, honored our graduates, and celebrated with 3 Fifty-Year Members. Our children blessed their backpacks as well as the Souper Bowl donations. We celebrated our 76th Candlelight Service and remembered those who passed on during the year. We also have given away over 500 mini-Jesus'.

In other ministry, I supported two weekly Bible Studies and met with the new Confirmation Class 11 times. I met 26 times with the Pre-School classes to talk about faith and being kind to others. I wrote 11 Newsletter articles. The Pastor's Discretionary Fund had no disbursements this year.

I enjoyed 102 visits including shut-in, hospital, office, Communion, and home visits. I attended 203 meetings including Christian Education, Pastoral Relations, Memorial, Deacon, and Council meetings. I joined in Sisters in Faith activities including a Spring Retreat. I helped with the Sauerkraut Supper. I sing in the Chancel Choir. I also continued my ministry of presence at community and sporting events, including the Wyoming County Pike Fair.

The Western Association requires 75 hours of continuing education every three years. I completed 80.5 hours this year. I read 8 books. I attended Boundary Awareness Training and the Culturally Responsive Ministry Training Module 2 (Culture & Sexuality/Gender). I completed Sexual Harassment Prevention Training for Church Employees. I continue to belong to a Community of Practice Group.

I represented you at the New York Conference Annual Meeting. I attended 2 Western New York Area Churches in Covenant meetings plus 4 Installations, 1 Ecclesiastical Council, and 1 Ordination. I continue to mentor a NYSOM student with whom I meet every other month. I attend a weekly on-line Bible Study offered by the UCC church at which we did a Mission Trip in southwest Philadelphia. I sang in 2 Pioneer Community Chorus' cantatas with other church members. I finished my service as a member of the Attica Steering Committee for the Village of Attica Comprehensive Plan.

I feel blessed to have served as your pastor for the past 13 years. I pray that St. Paul's UCC continues to generously worship our Triune God, minister in the ways of Jesus, and be transformed by the Holy Spirit, as we use our God-given gifts to reach out to our community and to each other. May Christ's peace be with us as we move into God's vision for the future.

Godspeed,
The Rev. Lauran Heidenreich

Nominating Committee Report for 2026

Deacons—3 yr term

Justin Kipfer	2024-2026
Lisa Knerr	2024-2026
Ruth Hopfinger	2025-2027
Lynne Jacoby	2025-2027
Jennifer Eddy	2026-2028
Vicki Silvernail	2026-2028

Trustees—3 yr term

Christopher Eddy	2024-2026
Jeffrey Peters	2025-2027
Roy Ticen	2025-2027
David Williman	2026-2028
Tom Baker	2026-2028

Christian Education—3 yr term

Susan McPherson	2024-2026
Christine Kipfer	2024-2026
Becki Peters	2025-2027
Tom Baker	2025-2027
Jennifer Eddy	2026-2028

Memorial Committee—5 yr term

Chris Kipfer	2022-2026
Laurie Bellucci	2023-2027
Diane Storch	2024-2028
Marilyn Wilson	2025-2029
Cris Mahoney	2026-2030

Pastoral Relations—3 yr term

Debbie Best	2024-2026
Beverly Myers	2025-2027
Lisa Knerr	2026-2028

Investment Committee—3 yr term

Lisa Neary	2024-2026
Joanne Ripstein	2025-2027
Justin Kipfer	2026-2028

Local Mission— 3 yr term

Marie Lowe	2025-2027
Beverly Myers	2026-2028

Submitted by:
Nominating Committee
Church Council