

SECOND SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

11:00am

January 2, 2022



The Gift of Wisdom to Trust God's Plan!

AS WE GATHER

Have you tired of those Christmas gifts yet, or are you still enjoying them? God gave Solomon the gift of wisdom. God's wisdom was a gift Solomon displayed vividly at times, but at other times, it seemed he had regifted it. In Jesus, we see the gift of God's wisdom on full display when He is found in the temple, at age 12, asking questions and providing answers beyond His years. God continues to reveal His wisdom to us through the Bible. **What is your plan** for connecting with God and His wisdom this year?

PRESERVICE MUSIC

WELCOME — Pastor Christopher Fairbairn

RINGING OF THE BELL

Days of Elijah

These are the days of Elijah
 Declaring the word of the Lord, yeah
 And these are the days of Your servant,
 Moses
 Righteousness being restored

These are the days of great trials
 Of famine and darkness and sword
 Still we are the voice in the desert
 crying
 Prepare ye the way of the Lord!

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds
 Shining like the sun, at the trumpet's
 call
 Lift your voice, (it's) the year of Jubilee
 Out of Zion's hill, salvation comes

And these are the days of Ezekiel
 The dry bones becoming as flesh
 And these are the days of Your servant,
 David
 Rebuilding the temple of praise

And these are the days of the harvest
 The fields are all white in the world

And we are the laborers in Your
 vineyard
 Declaring the Word of the Lord

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds
 Shining like the sun at the trumpet's call
 Lift your voice, (it's) the year of Jubilee
 Out of Zion's hill, salvation comes

There's no God like Jehovah!
 There's no God like Jehovah!
 There's no God like Jehovah!
 There's no God like Jehovah! (2X)

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds
 Shining like the sun, at the trumpet's
 call
 Lift your voice, (it's) the year of Jubilee
 Out of Zion's hill, salvation comes

Behold He comes, riding on the clouds
 Shining like the sun, at the trumpet's
 call
 Lift your voice, (it's) the year of Jubilee
 Out of Zion's hill, salvation comes
 Out of Zion's hill, salvation comes
 Out of Zion's hill, salvation comes

Confession and Absolution

Stand

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Dear friends, our own sin and our inability to free ourselves are the reasons a Savior was born. And if we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Kneel/Stand

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Stand

Service of the Word

Kyrie

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

God our Father, our Creator and Redeemer, when the time was right, You sent forth Your Son into this world. Through Him, You chose us for salvation that we might live to the praise of Your glory. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we ever remain firm in faith and bear fruit, until we possess the eternal inheritance prepared for us before the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Old Testament Reading *1 Kings 3:4–15*

(Solomon prays to the Lord for wisdom.)

⁴ The most important of these places of worship was at Gibeon, so the king went there and sacrificed 1,000 burnt offerings. ⁵ That night the Lord appeared to Solomon in a dream, and God said, “What do you want? Ask, and I will give it to you!”

⁶ Solomon replied, “You showed great and faithful love to your servant my father, David, because he was honest and true and faithful to you. And you have continued to show this great and faithful love to him today by giving him a son to sit on his throne.

⁷ “Now, O Lord my God, you have made me king instead of my father, David, but I am like a little child who doesn’t know his way around. ⁸ And here I am in the midst of your own chosen people, a nation so great and numerous they cannot be counted!

⁹ Give me an understanding heart so that I can govern your people well and know the difference between right and wrong. For who by himself is able to govern this great people of yours?”

¹⁰ The Lord was pleased that Solomon had asked for wisdom. ¹¹ So God replied, “Because you have asked for wisdom in governing my people with justice and have not asked for a long life or wealth or the death of your enemies— ¹² I will give you what you asked for! I will give you a wise and understanding heart such as no one else has had or ever will have! ¹³ And I will also give you what you did not ask for— riches and fame! No other king in all the world will be compared to you for the rest of your life! ¹⁴ And if you follow me and obey my decrees and my commands as your father, David, did, I will give you a long life.”

¹⁵ Then Solomon woke up and realized it had been a dream. He returned to Jerusalem and stood before the Ark of the Lord’s Covenant, where he sacrificed burnt offerings and peace offerings. Then he invited all his officials to a great banquet.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle *Ephesians 1:3–14*

God chose us before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless in His sight.

Reader: ³ All praise to God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly realms because we are united with Christ. ⁴ Even before he made the world, God loved us and chose us in Christ to be holy and without fault in his eyes.

© ⁵ God decided in advance to adopt us into his own family by bringing us to himself through Jesus Christ. This is what he wanted to do, and it gave him great pleasure.

Reader: ⁶ So we praise God for the glorious grace he has poured out on us who belong to his dear Son. ⁷ He is so rich in kindness and grace that he purchased our freedom with the blood of his Son and forgave our sins. ⁸ He has showered his kindness on us, along with all wisdom and understanding.

© ⁹ God has now revealed to us his mysterious plan regarding Christ, a plan to fulfill his own good pleasure. ¹⁰ And this is the plan: At the right time he will bring everything together under the authority of Christ—everything in heaven and on earth. ¹¹ Furthermore, because we are united with Christ, we have received an inheritance from God, for he chose us in advance, and he makes everything work out according to his plan.

Reader: ¹² God's purpose was that we Jews who were the first to trust in Christ would bring praise and glory to God. ¹³ And now you Gentiles have also heard the truth, the Good News that God saves you. And when you believed in Christ, he identified you as his own by giving you the Holy Spirit, whom he promised long ago. ¹⁴ The Spirit is God's guarantee that he will give us the inheritance he promised and that he has purchased us to be his own people. He did this so we would praise and glorify him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

© Thanks be to God.

Control

Here I am all my intentions
 All my obsessions I wanna lay them all
 down
 In Your hands only Your love is vital
 Though I'm not entitled
 Still You call me Your child

Chorus

God You don't need me but somehow
 You want me
 Oh how You love me somehow that
 frees me
 To take my hands off of my life
 And the way it should go
 Oh God You don't need me but
 somehow You want me
 Oh how You love me somehow that
 frees me
 To open my hands up and give You
 control
 (I give You control)

I've had plans shattered and broken
 Things I have hoped in fall through my
 hands
 You have plans to redeem and restore
 me
 You're behind and before me
 Oh help me believe

Chorus

God You don't need me but somehow
 You want me
 Oh how You love me somehow that
 frees me
 To take my hands off of my life
 And the way it should go
 Oh God You don't need me but
 somehow You want me
 Oh how You love me somehow that
 frees me
 To open my hands up and give You
 control
 (I give You control)

Bridge

You want me
 Somehow You want me
 The King of Heaven wants me
 So this world has lost its grip on me
 (2X)

Chorus

God You don't need me but somehow
 You want me
 Oh how You love me somehow that
 frees me
 To take my hands off of my life
 And the way it should go
 Oh God You don't need me but
 somehow You want me
 Oh how You love me somehow that
 frees me

To open my hands up and give You
control
(I give You control)

Stand

Holy Gospel

Luke 2:40–52

Jesus goes to Passover in Jerusalem and shows He is about the things of His Father.

Reader: ⁴⁰ There the child grew up healthy and strong. He was filled with wisdom, and God's favor was on him.

⁴¹ Every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the Passover festival.

⁴² When Jesus was twelve years old, they attended the festival as usual. ⁴³ After the celebration was over, they started home to Nazareth, but Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents didn't miss him at first, ⁴⁴ because they assumed he was among the other travelers. But when he didn't show up that evening, they started looking for him among their relatives and friends.

⁴⁵ When they couldn't find him, they went back to Jerusalem to search for him there. ⁴⁶ Three days later they finally discovered him in the Temple, sitting

among the religious teachers, listening to them and asking questions. ⁴⁷ All who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

⁴⁸ His parents didn't know what to think. "Son," his mother said to him, "why have you done this to us? Your father and I have been frantic, searching for you everywhere." ⁴⁹ "But why did you need to search?" he asked. "Didn't you know that I must be in my Father's house?"

⁵⁰ But they didn't understand what he meant.

⁵¹ Then he returned to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. And his mother stored all these things in her heart.

People: ⁵² **Jesus grew in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and all the people.**

Reader: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

 **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

**☐ I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ✠ of the world to come. Amen.**

*Sit***Lord, Make Us Worthy (Nathalie Sleeth)****Soloist / Barbara Hoffmeier****Sermon – Pastor Christopher Fairbairn****Prayer of the Church**

Pastor: Let us go to God in prayer for ourselves, for God's people around the world, and for all people in their various circumstances.

Lord, we pray for this New Year that is here, that You continue to bless us, Your people chosen before the foundation of the world, so that we may be a blessing to others. Fill us with the wisdom of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we pray for all who lead—in government, in the public and private sectors, and in Your Church—that they lead with Your wisdom so that the decisions they make are in line with Your will for all people. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we pray for all who are hurting, grieving, and struggling in their heart, soul, strength, and mind, [*especially . . .*] that they experience Your dear, sweet love for them as You lead, guide, and provide for them. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we pray for those who are beginning this year with goals to read the Bible and learn more about You, that You connect them with Your people so that, as with Philip and the Ethiopian, there is someone to help them understand the mystery of Your will. Lord, in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your dear love; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

Sit

OFFERING OF OUR TITHES AND GIFTS

If you brought your offering today, you are welcome to leave it in the offering plates you will find at the front and back of the church. **Thank you.**

We invite our guests and members to fill out our Friendship Card during worship, which is found on the back of the pew. Please leave your card at the end of the pew near the center aisle as you leave.

Lord I Need You

Lord, I need You, Lord, I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense,
my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

So, Teach my song to rise to You
When temptation comes my way
When I cannot stand
I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay

When I cannot stand
I'll fall on You
Jesus, You're my hope and stay

Chorus
Lord, I need You, Lord, I need You
Every hour I need You
My one defense,
my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You (2x)

My one defense,
my righteousness
Oh God, how I need You

Service of the Sacrament

Please see our communion policy stated on the inside front cover.

Preface

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Lord's Prayer

C **Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory**

forever and ever. Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

G And also with you.



Sit

Distribution

COMMUNION WINE: For those who may not be able to take regular wine, we offer non-alcoholic wine, which is the light colored wine in the center of the communion tray.

++ We offer **Gluten-free** wafers upon request. ++

The Father's House

Sometimes on this journey
I get lost in my mistakes
What looks to me like weakness
Is a canvas for Your strength

My story isn't over my story's just
begun
Failure won't define me
'Cause that's what my Father does
Failure won't define me
'Cause that's what my Father does

Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house

Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house

Arrival's not the endgame
The journey's where You are
You never wanted perfect
You just wanted my heart

And the story isn't over
If the story isn't good
Failure's never final
When the Father's in the room

Failure's never final
When the Father's in the room

Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house

Prodigals come home the helpless find
hope
Love is on the move
When the Father's in the room
Prison doors fling wide the dead come
to life
Love is on the move
When the Father's in the room

The Heart of Worship

When the music fades,
All is stripped away,
And I simply come.
Longing just to bring
Something that's of worth
That will touch Your heart.

I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself
Is not what You have required.
You search much deeper within
Through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart.

Miracles take place the cynical find faith
Love is breaking through
When the Father's in the room
Jericho walls are quaking
Strongholds now are shaking
Love is breaking through
When the Father's in the room

Love is breaking through
When the Father's in the room

Oo lay your burdens down
Oo here in the Father's house
Check your shame at the door
'Cause it ain't welcome anymore
Oo you're in the Father's house

Oo you're in the Father's house

Chorus
I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You,
all about You, Jesus.
I'm sorry, Lord for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You,
all about You Jesus.

King of endless worth,
No one could express
How much You deserve.
Though I'm weak and poor
All I have is Yours,
Every single breath.

I'll bring You more than a song
 For a song in itself
 Is not what You have required.
 You search much deeper within
 Through the way things appear
 You're looking into my heart.

Chorus

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
 And it's all about You,
 all about You, Jesus.
 I'm sorry, Lord for the thing I've made it
 When it's all about You,
 all about You Jesus.

Stand

Post-Communion Collect

P Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benediction

P When you heard the Word of truth and believed in Christ, you were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit. As you have heard His Word, and give thanks for the power of His Spirit, go as His chosen people in praise of His name.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

Shout to the Lord

My Jesus, my Savior
 Lord, there is none like You.
 All of my days, I want to praise
 The wonders of Your mighty love.

My comfort, my shelter,
 Tower of refuge and strength.
 Let every breath, all that I am
 Never cease to worship You.

Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us
 sing
 Power and majesty, praise to the King!
 Mountains bow down and the seas will
 roar
 At the sound of Your name

I sing for joy at the work of Your hands
 Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand;
 Nothing compares to the promise I
 have in You

Nothing compares to the promise I
 have in You

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book
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WHERE WE SERVE

<i>Preacher/Officiant</i>	<i>Pastor Christopher Fairbairn</i>	
<i>Music Director</i>	<i>Paul Ventimiglia</i>	
<i>Family Life Director</i>	<i>Jeanette Koch</i>	
<i>Elder</i>	<i>Bob McGuigan</i>	
<i>Ushers</i>	<i>Mark Baumgarten</i>	<i>Ernie Edick</i>
<i>Welcome Center</i>	<i>Pat McGuigan</i>	
<i>Greeters</i>	<i>Verseman Family</i>	
<i>Counters</i>	<i>Jan Greulich</i>	<i>Frank Newman</i>
	<i>George Foor</i>	
<i>Altar Society</i>	<i>Nancy Berg</i>	<i>Kara Patterson</i>
	<i>Kellen Patterson</i>	
<i>Tech Team</i>	<i>Shibu George</i>	



Attendance Last week :

Sunday 12.26.2021 10:00am - 47 Communion - 40

(12.24.2021 – 6pm – 88, 8pm – 100, 10pm – 34 = 222 communion – 14)

(12.25.2021 – 10am - 55 communion – 40)

Donations needed each week for Church and School – \$9,808

Received week of 12.26.2021- for Church (Envelopes plus loose plate)\$39,863*

**total includes online giving*

Bible Study and Small Group Opportunities –

SUNDAYS: *Join us for bible study and fellowship @ 9:45am in the church Parish Hall.*

WEDNESDAYS: *Ladies bible study @ 9:15am – church parish hall.*

SATURDAYS: *Men’s Bible Study – Every second and fourth Saturday @ 9:30am – Parish Hall*

2	JAN, SUN	● 8:30 – 9:30am	Worship with Communion
		● 9:45 – 10:45am	Confirmation Class
		● 9:45 – 10:45am	Sunday School
		● 11am – 12pm	Worship with Communion
		● 12 – 5pm	Carol Kandah- Parish Hall Rental church parish hall
3	JAN, MON	● 6 – 7pm	Board of Elders church office
		● 6:30 – 7:30pm	Bd. of Christian Ed. room #1
		● 7 – 8pm	Board of Social Ministry parish hall
		● 7:30 – 9pm	Always Basketball
4	JAN, TUE	● 5 – 8pm	Family of God Ladies Dinner and Bible Study
5	JAN, WED	● 9:15 – 11:15am	Women's Bible Study parish hall
		● 3:30 – 4:30pm	Bible Quizzing church parish hall
		● 6 – 9pm	Always Basketball
		● 6:30 – 8:30pm	Stephen Ministry Training parish hall
6	JAN, THU	● 8:30am – 3:30pm	School Music Classes church parish hall
		● 5:30 – 7pm	Choir parish hall
		● 7:30 – 9pm	Always Basketball gym
7	JAN, FRI	● 6 – 7:30pm	Always Basketball
		● 7 – 9pm	AA Mtg. church parish hall
8	JAN, SAT	● 9 – 10:30am	Always Basketball

Remember Our Shut-Ins

Esther Helland
 16896 Country Knoll Drive
 Northville, MI 48268
 734.459.2159

Altar Flowers this week are :

In memory of Dorothy Busch, Emma Copeland, Vi Tabor and Elaine Cash from Ruth Natiw

Please arrange to pick up your flowers after the 10am service.

The Board of Social Ministry will be taking Christmas decorations down tomorrow, Jan. 3. We will begin again at 4:00 PM. Any **HELP** will be greatly appreciated!

Dear St Paul's members - this is from the organization that received our 125 Flood Buckets in honor of our 125th Anniversary. Thank you for your participation and support with this ministry outreach.

During Advent, we ponder the mystery of our Lord coming to us in our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. He has shown great mercy to us and teaches us how to pour out ourselves for our neighbor. We thank you for your service in the LERT program and look forward to working alongside you in the days to come. The Lord continue to have mercy on you and grant you peace.

Merry Christmas from your brothers and sisters at LCMS Disaster Response!

Rev. Dr. Ross Johnson

Jenna McMiller

Rev. Michael Meyer

Deaconess Sandy Bowers

Rev. Rob Wurst

And let us not grow weary while doing good, for in due season we shall reap if we do not lose heart. Therefore, as we have opportunity, let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:9-10

FAMILY OF GOD NEWS: We have completed TWELVE YEARS of serving at the Family of God mission in Detroit. God has provided many volunteers through the years and we thank you all for your faithfulness and support. We especially acknowledge Mary Lewis and Ruth Fisher for organizing 6 to 10 dozen brownies every month and those who baked regularly. (It isn't necessary to go into the inner city to serve as a missionary!) Our shoppers have mostly been Janet Wisner, Nancy Crenshaw Berg, and Marilyn Edick. They've managed to keep our costs to about \$3 for 40 to 120 servings, as the attendance has changed through the years. Our kitchen crew changes with the seasons but Linda Johnson, Kim Johnson, Doris Oltersdorf, Nancy Crenshaw Berg, and the Hoffmeier's have logged the most hours and provided excellent service. And then our servers have varied over the years but it has especially been a joy to see multiple family members serve together. Some come directly from work and others have come with the Hoffmeier van, which has put on many miles through the years. God has always provided safe journeys and we thank HIM for that. *Donations can be made to our designated account. The check made out to St Paul Lutheran Church, Memo line: Family of God Mission Meals. Thrivent Gift Cards are needed to continue funding the meals.* Please consider getting involved with this mission opportunity. We have signed up again for every third Wednesday in 2022. Contact Barbara or Will Hoffmeier for more information: #248.756.3035.

Those 16 volunteers with the December 15th meal: Nancy Crenshaw Berg, Anne Burgess, Chris Burgess, Marilyn Bruehan, Marilyn Edick, Chris Englert, Kelly Englert, Ruth Fisher, Barbara Hoffmeier, Will Hoffmeier, Kathy Hoener, Kim Johnson, Linda Johnson, Rich Mai, Sue Mai, Doris Oltersdorf. The menu was: Au Gratin Potatoes with diced ham, peas and carrots, buttered rolls, brownies, a three layered jello, and individual beverages. They really appreciated the special Christmas jello which was a real treat for the 50 people that came for the evening meal.

Be a missionary with your MITE Box by giving and praying for LWML's approved mission grants for the upcoming year. For the month of January, Women in Christ is highlighting a \$15,000 grant entitled, "Filling Haitian Tummies Opens Ears to the Gospel." Trinity HOPE in Franklin, Tennessee, hosts a feeding ministry, based on the premise that children must first be nourished physically so to be enabled to be nourished with God's word and concentrate on learning. Please thank God for this ministry and add coins to your MITE box. January is one of four times this year that Women in Christ will be collecting MITE boxes.

Thank you St. Paul Family for all the cards and especially for the wonderful carolers that came to my home Sunday 12.19.21. It was really wonderful! Love Ruth Balko.

COUNTERS NEEDED – The Board of Finance is in need of volunteers to help count the weekly offering. It takes approximately 1 – 1 ½ hours, once every 6 weeks at a convenient time. To volunteer or for more information please contact: Jan paver – 248-349-8850 or Dave Tischler – 248-346-2366.

EXCITING NEWS!!!

St. Paul's Endowment Fund has reached a balance of over \$65,000! Our Endowment Fund was created in 2011 with an initial goal of \$50,000. Now that we have hit that initial goal, we will be able to starting making grants beginning in 2022 and each year thereafter. The larger the balance continues to grow, the larger the grants we are allowed to extend and expand Christ's ministry through the congregation. We are grateful for God's blessings of this wonderful news on the 125th year anniversary of our church. Stay tuned for more information to come...

ALTAR FLOWERS - The following dates are available for altar flowers: January 23 - two vases, March 6 - one vase and March 20 - one vase. The price for a vase of flowers is \$15.00. If you would like to place an order please call Ruth Natiw, 248-348-7875.
