

## 2017 St. Paul Annual Meeting Reports

### Pastor's Report

Since the last Annual Parish Meeting (November, 2016), in the life of the parish there have been:

- 9 Baptisms with Chrismation
- 4 People received into the Faith by Chrismation
- 1 Wedding
- 2 Funerals.

### Risk Committee

The committee was formed five years ago with the responsibility of identifying and mitigating threats to the safety and security of the congregation, facility, and grounds. This year we recommended updates to the alcohol policy. We also recommended a policy for use of the new play set and fire pit. This resulted in changing the old building use policy to an encompassing facility use policy. These changes will be in the updated St Paul Policies and Procedures Manual. We will continue to monitor all areas of risk with the aide or our parish insurance company's website and inputs for Parish Council. The current members are Jeff Wiese, David Short, Susan Ruh, Tammy Abshear, and David "Jake" Jacob.

### Youth Group

The St. Paul's youth group is available to High School and College aged young adults. Tammy Abshear and David Short are teaming together to teach and direct these spectacular members of our parish. Last year we used **Rejoicing in One Lord, Jesus Christ**, which is a Greek Orthodox curriculum that goes presents various aspects of who Jesus is in our lives and why we should rejoice in Him. This year we are working through another Greek Orthodox curriculum that is walking our youth through the fruit of the Holy Spirit. We also discuss various other current event topics as needed. Our objective in our Sunday class is to teach our youth to be able to think for themselves and apply their Orthodox faith in their everyday lives. We will hope to add some social and service events to our calendars...stay tuned.

### Mission Program

The mission program sent a team comprised of Christina Brausch, Maria Brausch, Rich Helferich, Maria Phillups, and David Short to Charleston, WV to work on homes that were damaged by floods the year before. We worked through the IOCC (International Orthodox Christian Charities) on this trip. We also just finished assembling 54 disaster response clean up buckets for the IOCC. This project was headed up by Maria Brausch and include an additional 27 buckets from the Dayton Greek Orthodox parish. It is a pleasure to report that our parish has been very supportive of our mission activities. With all of the disasters across our country this year, it looks like we will be working with the IOCC again next year to put together another team.

### Church School

The church school/youth group program has 47 students enrolled for 2017-2018. This is a 11% decrease over the enrollment for 2016-2017. Nearly 1/3 of the student enrollment is in the Pre-K to K classroom which emphasizes the current demographics of the St. Paul parish. Each year the church school/youth group sponsors the annual angel tree and at least one other service project. This year the students sponsored a bake sale to help finance Gabriel Brauch's Eagle Scout project. They also helped to assemble clean-up buckets that were sent to the IOCC for those affected by recent hurricanes. The church school is always looking for members to teach or sit as chaperones. Please see Kerrie Wiese if you are interested in helping.