

St. Paul's Mission Newsletter

Fall 2023



To share the good news of our Lord, Jesus Christ, by direct involvement with those in our community, and around the world through missionaries.

Meet the Mission Committee:

Candace James

My husband Art and I started visiting Ocean Grove in 2003. We would come for the big flea market twice a year. We fell in love with the town and began coming for weekends or just for the day to walk around.

Finally, when we were both retired, we decided to rent a place for a month off season to see if we really wanted to live here. We were here in October of 2017. We loved it! The weather was perfect every day. The beach was beautiful and we were introduced to St. Paul's Church. We were hooked. We had our realtor start looking for houses for us before our month was up.

Our house search was a little frustrating because our wish list and our budget didn't quite match, but in February 2018 we purchased our house on Clark Avenue. We started spending so much time here, that in 2020 we sold our house in Bucks County, PA. and moved here full time.

We started attending St. Paul's right away and felt welcomed from the start. It was exciting to learn about all the wonderful missions that the church participated in. Something for everyone to be a part of!

It was impressive to see the number of children and older youth attending the Anchored Ministries. We were happy to have found such an active church!

Back in Bucks, we were involved with a homeless advocacy group, so I was glad to be able to help with the Women's Hospitality mission this winter. Everyone needs a safe place to sleep, warm clothes, food and to know that someone cares.



In 2022, I became a member of St. Paul's and am looking forward to many years of enjoying the music, the message and fellowship here. There are so many ways to serve here with our time, talents and treasures. By showing our love we can be a blessing and be blessed!

Colossians 3 : 14-15 :”Most of all let love guide your life for then the whole church will stay together in perfect harmony. Let the peace of heart which comes from Christ be always present in your hearts and lives. And always be thankful!”

Recent Mission Activities:

Allegria Worship Ministry

We aim to follow Christ's teaching to take care of the widows/widowers. We do this by sharing Christ's gospel to the residents of the Allegria Assisted Living Facility with a full Christian service every Sunday. We are in actively recruiting volunteers to help with greeting, music - both singing and playing, preaching, and special events. Call Josephine Braneky for any information @ 973-650-8218 or Josephine.braneky@gmail.com.



Daysprings Ministry

Life continues to be a challenge for our friends in Haiti. Reports of gang violence, gas and food shortages, kidnappings, and murders continue to dominate the news coverage. In August Haiti was hit by tropical storm Franklin, which caused wide spread flooding throughout the region. Despite all of this, our friends still go to church early every Sunday morning and the children attend the Dayspring Schools where they are provided a nutritious meal and a sense of stability despite all that is happening.



St. Paul's continues to support one of the Dayspring churches and sponsor a Dayspring school nutrition program in Ganthier, Haiti. Ganthier made it into the US news back in the fall of 2021 when the local gang, 400 Mawozo kidnapped 17 American missionaries, who were eventually released. As you can imagine, the school has not just become a necessity for knowledge but it offers some protection, a stable environment,

and the steady source of food which we provide. We supply approximately 100 children with lunch 5 days a week for \$1,200/month. Donations to this program has been declining and we are asking people to please consider join with us as a monthly partner. If 60 families were to give just \$20 every month to the Haiti Lunch program it would be self-sustaining. Donations may be given in the offering plate, mailed in, or online through the church website or mobile app.

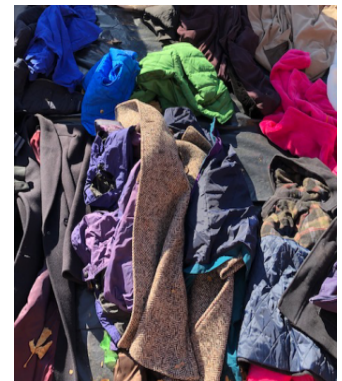
Upcoming Mission Opportunities

Missions Dinner

Come and let us say thank you, enjoy a delicious Italian meal and meet the missionaries you help to support. The Missions Dinner will be on October 20, 2023 at 6:00pm in Fellowship Hall. This is a free event open to all members and attendees of St. Paul's where you will get to learn about the missions you support. Around the room will be displays for each of the mission partners where you can speak with a representative about their organization. You will then sit with one of the partners and get to continue the conversation over a dinner prepared for you by the Mission Committee. Signups for the dinner will begin on October 1st, downstairs in Fellowship Hall between the services. You may also signup by emailing missions@oceangrovechurch.com.

Jersey Shore Rescue Mission Coat Drive:

Do you have any new or gently used coats you are looking to clear out of your closet? Great! We will be collecting coats for the Jersey Shore Rescue Mission Coat Giveaway again this year. These coats will be given to men, women, and children in need. Please bring your gently used coats to the church from October 30th through November 12th. If you are interested in helping hand out coats on the day of the event, November 18th 9:30-4p, please email Volunteer & Events Manager, Debbie McKenna, at (973) 538-6337 or dmckenna@marketstreet.org.



Annual HEART Craft Fair:

Come check out all the local vendors at this year's HEART Craft Fair in Fellowship Hall on November 18th from 9am-4pm. There will be a ton of unique handmade gifts, stocking stuffers and Christmas items for sale. Come on out and get a jump start on all your Christmas shopping! After your done shopping be sure to swing by the kitchen where the Mission Committee will be hard at work preparing a light lunch and bake sale. Come chat with us while we fill your order for a sandwich, hot soup, and a cookie, or two. All food proceeds will go to the general mission fund. If you are interested in volunteering to help in

the kitchen or donating items for the bake sale you can email missions@oceangrovechurch.com.

Thanksgiving Dinner:

Fall is here and that means it's time for us to start planning Thanksgiving Dinner. This event is always one of the highlights of our year and we are so excited to get started. We will have a sign up table down in Fellowship Hall starting in October 30th for people wishing to donate money, turkeys, or themselves. There are lots of opportunities to serve, both prior to and the day of, so don't be shy. Whether you can give us only an hour or can come every day, we need you. Email Leslie at missions@oceangrovechurch.com for more information.

Ocean Grove Church Missions Facebook Page

If you want to get the most up to date information about what is going on with missions at St Paul's go to the Ocean Grove Church Missions page on Facebook. Click follow to get the updates directly to your news feed!

Monthly Communion Offerings:

October: Thanksgiving Dinner as Ocean Grove Church

November: Angel Fund

December: "Jesus' Birthday Offering" going to CUMAC in Patterson and the Neighborhood Center in Camden

Financial Giving

Thank you for your generous support these past few months!

May - Jersey Shore Rescue Mission: \$ 1,425

June - Nafasi: \$ 734

July - Allison Stump, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship: \$ 559

How to Give

There are many ways you can donate to St Paul's. There is the traditional way of donations in the offering or by mail, but for the more tech savvy, you may give online or by downloading the Give+ App on your phone.

To give online:

Go to www.oceangrovechurch.com and select the yellow DONATE button.

To give via Mobile App:

Download the Vanco Mobile App