

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. PERRY STREET • ST. MARYS, OHIO,

45885 419-394-3811 opt.3

www.stpaulsuccsm.com

OCTOBER 2026

THE COMMUNICATOR

“Food for Thought, Food for the Soul, and Some Mashed Potatoes on the Side.”

Most of us have learned how to pretend to love people. We know how to smile. We know how to shake hands. We know how to say, “It’s so good to see you!” And, if necessary, we can usually maintain that smile until they are safely out of the room.

Apparently, the Apostle Paul knew something about human nature. In Romans 12:9 he writes, “Let love be genuine.” In other words: Don’t just pretend to love people. Really love them. That sounds simple until actual people get involved.

Because genuine love requires more than being polite. It means making room for people. Listening to them. Welcome them. Noticing the person standing alone. Sitting with someone we don’t know very well. Sometimes it means giving someone our time when we had planned to give them about thirty seconds.

That is where hospitality becomes more than setting out coffee, cookies, and enough food to feed a small army. Christian hospitality is creating space in our lives where another person can discover, “There is room here for me.” And that can change a life.

This October, maybe we can pay attention to the difference between being friendly and being genuinely welcoming. A friendly church says, “We’re glad you came.” A hospitable church says, “There’s a place for you here.” And sometimes the first glimpse someone gets of the love of Christ begins when one of us simply makes room.

Now, if there are mashed potatoes involved too, that probably doesn’t hurt.



SPECIAL TIMES

Adult Forum 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:00 am

Sunday Worship 10:00am

Sunday Service Live
Streamed on Facebook
and YouTube

**Televised Service -
TSC Cable, Channel 2,
Digital Channel 1
(1 week delay)**

Monday @ 7:00 pm



**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
201 N. PERRY ST. ST. MARYS, OH 45885**

FALL HARVEST MEAL & MARKET 2026

Wednesday, October 7th, 2026, 4:30pm – 6:30pm
Chicken or Swiss Steak Adults \$12, Children (11 and under) \$6
Bake Sale – Locally Grown Produce – Fall Decor
1:00pm – 6:30pm in Heritage Hall



Join us and dine in the Fellowship
Hall, or you can drive-through
carryout by entering the main
parking lot from High Street.

***Tickets can be purchased at the
church office or at the door, or
from Jane Laird or Jane Nuss.***

The Bulletin Board

- ❖ If you will be going to the hospital or if someone you know is hospitalized, please call the church office and let us know. The hospitals do not generally inform churches when a member is admitted, due to confidentiality.
- ❖ Please email the church office at: smucc@bright.net with address corrections, or if you do not see your Birthday or Anniversary listed during the correct month. Or you can call 419-394-3811 so we can get it corrected.
- ❖ CALL-EM-ALL: Please let the church office know if you are experiencing any issues with the Call-Em-All phone messages. Also, if you would like to be removed from the call list, listen to the broadcast and at the end follow their directions to “opt out” of any future broadcasts. This will remove your number from the calling list.
- ❖ ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE: *Don't forget that we have online giving! It is available now by downloading Vanco Payment Solutions onto your mobile device by going to the app store or Google Play and search for “**Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement**”. The download is free. We also have a button on our website that will also take you to the Vanco site. This service is available for your convenience!*
- ❖ OFFERING ENVELOPES - are distributed by quarterly mailing. Please notify the church office if you are not receiving envelopes and would like to be added to this mailing list. Also, if you are giving through VANCO and no longer wish to receive giving envelopes, please let the office know so we can stop the envelopes.
- ❖ COPIES: If you need copies made of any personal items, you may stop by the office, and we will be glad to make them for you. The cost for making copies for church members is 15 cents per copy if you use the office paper, or 10 cents per copy if you bring your own.
- ❖ If you would be willing to Volunteer to help fold the Newsletters for mailing, please email us at: smucc@bright.net and we will add you to the list. This only takes less than two hours, once per month.
- ❖ If you would be interested in receiving the Newsletter via email, rather than through the mail, please notify the church office and we will add you to the email list. This lowers the Church's printing costs, paper usage and postage expense.



Attention bakers, gardeners, crafters, and anyone with a hobby or project they would like to share. The Women's Guild's Fall Harvest Meal and Market on October 7th is looking for baked goods, fall produce (pumpkins, gourds, vegetables, etc.), handmade Fall decor, and any projects like honey, wood crafts, etc. to be donated to the market. Please contact Jane Nuss or Jane Laird with any questions. Also, Please invite your family, friends, neighbors to join us for the Market and Meal to celebrate the fall season!

The Neighbors in Need offering supports ministries of justice and compassion, with one-third of the offering given to the Council for American Indian Ministries and the remaining two-thirds supporting



**Neighbors
in Need**

UCC justice ministries. In 2025 the Neighbors in Need Offering supported 26 grant recipients across the UCC who were engaged in projects of direct service and advocacy. This year, the date for the 2026 Neighbors in Need offering is October 4th. Thank you for your support and generosity!

All Saints Sunday, November 1, 2026

“I thank my God every time I remember you.” Philippians 1:3

November 1 is All Saints Day, a day when we pause to remember and give thanks for those who have touched our lives, shaped our faith, shared their love with us, and now rest in God's eternal care.

During our All Saints Sunday worship, we will remember by name those from our church family who have passed away during the past year. As each name is spoken, a candle will be lit and a chime rung in their memory.

We also invite everyone in the congregation to participate in our **Banner of Bells**. During the three Sundays preceding All Saints Sunday, the banner will be displayed in the sanctuary. Beside it you will find bells, ribbon, and pins. You are invited to place a bell on the banner in memory of a family member, friend, teacher, mentor, or anyone whose life has touched yours. You may also bring a small bell of your own, and you may hang as many bells as you wish.

Each bell represents a life remembered, a story treasured, and a person for whom we can say:

“I thank my God every time I remember you.”



The annual **Warm Winter Coat Drive** for AGAPE will run from **September 19th – October 30th** this year!

Donation Information: Donations can be left in the barrel in the back of the Sanctuary, or they can be dropped off at the **Agape Ministries, Inc. Client Services Building** Monday–Friday: 9:00am – 4:30pm, or at the **Thrift Store** on Saturdays from 9:00am - 2:30pm.

(If leaving at the thrift store, please be sure to tell the staff that your donation is for the Warm Winter Coat Drive.)



CONSISTORY 2027

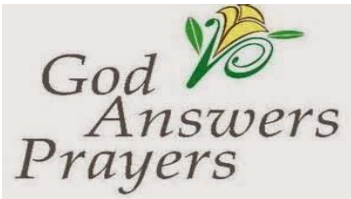
Our congregation is currently seeking dedicated members to step into one of these **two-year volunteer positions for Deacons and Elders, and a three-year position for Trustees**. We need to fill **four deacons, two elders, and one trustee** - roles that our church cannot function without. Deacons greet our members, pass out bulletins and collect offering. They rotate every other month and assist with monthly communion. Elders are responsible for assisting Pastor Ed with communion, counting congregational votes, and helping with holiday services. Trustees will directly oversee, guide, and make critical decisions regarding our building's maintenance and repairs.

We are asking you to consider serving your church family in one of these positions. These roles represent a meaningful opportunity to put your faith into action and directly shape the life and future of our faith family. If you feel called to serve or simply want to learn more, please see Jane Laird or Kyle Opperman. You can also chat with any one of our current Deacons, Elders, or Trustees about the positions and any questions you may have. Thank You !



CARE MINISTRY

You are invited to the Caregiving from the Heart Support Group held at St. Paul's on **the first Monday of each month, at 7pm in the Chapel**. This is a gathering for any caregivers (and others who are involved), whether you are providing care within your home, within your loved one's home, or if your loved one resides in a care facility. Sessions will be led by Rev. Jeanette Tangeman (or Ruth Knous in Jeanette's absence). This gathering is to support each other, learn from each other, and find helpful resources. Questions? Please contact: Jeanette at 419-234-7935, or Ruth Knous at 419-953-6274.



PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer Team: Prayer requests are welcome for any concern or thanksgiving. Requests are kept confidential and not included in the public worship screen unless specifically requested. Contact Carol Schmidt with a prayer request at: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com, the church office, or text 419-305-6164.

H.E.A.L.

HEAL is a once-a-month grief support group which provides a safe place where you or perhaps a friend of yours who has experienced a deep loss can feel surrounded by others who are walking the same or similar path. Too often well-meaning friends and family try to empathize with us in our grief by saying "I know how you feel". The truth is, no one really knows how you feel. Everyone must deal with bereavement in their own unique way. Grief does not go away or disappear in a few months, contrary to what others might expect and tell you. It is important to allow yourself time to grieve and time to begin to reshape the world that has changed all around you. Pastor Ed Karges invites you to come and experience comfort and a safe place of belonging, the Third Thursday of each month at 1:30 p.m. The HEAL group meets in the chapel at St. Paul's UCC.

BREAKING BREAD COMMUNITY DINNER NEWS

Breaking Bread will be serving from **4:30 to 5:15pm** (unless food is all gone before then). **Grab and Go from your car only**. We are honored to provide delicious, free meals to our community. Meals are served every Thursday except the first one of each month.

Want to contribute to help with costs for the weekly community dinner? Donations will be gratefully accepted. Donations can be placed in the Sunday offering plate or mailed to the church office. Contributions of #10 canned food are also accepted.



Upcoming Meals:

October	8
October	15
October	22
October	29



QUILTERS:

*Our quilting ladies meet
on Wednesdays from
9:00 am until ?? in the
sewing room. Questions?
Call Margaret Hunter at
419-733-4332.*



Bingo will be held on the following Tuesdays:

Oct. 6th – Vancrest 6:30 – 7:30 pm

Nov. 3rd – Otterbein 5:30 pm – 6:30 pm

Dec. 1st – Vancrest 6:30 – 7:30 pm

We are in need of BINGO helpers and cookies

*Please call Janice Katterheinrich at
(419) 394-3264 to let her know if
you can help in any way.*

ATTENTION

LADIES OF ST. PAUL'S

**There will be a Ladies' Luncheon at
the Bowling Alley on Thursday, October
1st at 11:30 am. All the ladies of the
church are welcome to attend.**

A BIG THANK YOU to
everyone who has donated toilet
paper for AGAPE! so far this
year! We have donated about
800 rolls so far, but the need
continues and AGAPE has lost
other sources that they
previously had. Rolls can be left
in the Hospitality Room, or if
you would prefer to donate the
\$\$ rather than purchase the
rolls, you can place it in the
Offering Plate and we can make
the purchase and deliver.



Have you ever wanted to put your faith into action and make a real difference in someone's life? Our annual trip to Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, MS is now taking reservations for March 14-20, 2027. Each year many from St. Paul's and some others as well discover they have made a life changing difference in the lives of God's children in Biloxi through our 100+ year old UCC Mission there... and in their own lives as well. No matter your skills or perceived lack of them, there is always something you can do. If you are interested, please talk with Jeanette Tangeman, 419-234-7935, or one of the many folks who have gone before and already are signing up again.

THANK YOU!

Dear St. Paul's UCC,

I want to thank you for all of the cards and words of sympathy for the Death of my brother, Jeff Lemming. Thank you for all of your cards and Prayers during his illness. I really appreciate the "remembrance Candle" That was sent after his death. It is Beautiful!

In his service,
Larry and Kelly Kill

FINANCIAL REPORT



FINANCIAL REPORT

August 2026

Current Fund:

Budgeted through Aug. 31, 2026 = \$ 180,339.12
Received through Aug. 31, 2026 = \$ 139,212.33
Expenses through Aug. 31, 2026 = \$ 149,213.03
Received through Aug. 31, 2025 = \$ 146,153.00

Mission Fund:

Budgeted through Aug. 31, 2026 = \$ 10,000.00
Received through Aug. 31, 2026 = \$ 10,339.00
Received through Aug. 31, 2025 = \$ 8,605.00

Status of 2026 Budget:

Current Fund:

Budgeted through Sept. 30, 2026 = \$ 202,881.51
Budgeted through Sept. 13, 2026 = \$ 191,610.32
Received through Sept. 13, 2026 = \$ 147,081.25

Mission Fund:

Budgeted through Sept. 30, 2026 = \$ 11,250.00
Budgeted through Sept. 13, 2026 = \$ 10,625.00
Received through Sept. 13, 2026 = \$ 10,906.76

Rev. Ed Karges, Pastor

(260) 409-0974 edwardkarges74@gmail.com

Steve Slawson - Administrative Assistant

Jane Nuss - Children's Ministry Coordinator

Maddy Frankenhauser - Children's Music Director

Amy Keller - Confirmation Teacher

Nick Frankenhauser - Youth Director

Becky Anderson - Church Pianist, and

Volunteer Coordinator / Special Music

Andrea Spencer - Organist

Ann Vogel - Organist

Darryl Smith - Organist

Jeanette Tangeman - Back Bay Missionary

Rich Spencer - Audio and Video

Jim Huckemeyer - Multi-Media

Derick Johnson - Multi-Media

Brad and Nam Gehrlich - Custodians

Fred Scheer - Church Historian

Church email: smucc@bright.net

Website: www.stpaulsuccsm.com

Email for Prayer Team: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com

or text Carol at (419) 305-6164

Email for Christian Education: jnl2021@gmail.com

Email for Youth Director: franken.nick@gmail.com

Email for media: spmedia@bright.net

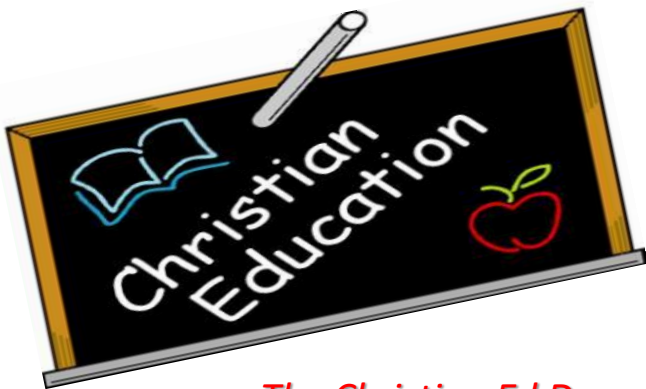
A Great Time Was Had at Rally Day 2026 !!

We were blessed to have our Sunday School start off with great numbers in attendance! The fellowship hall was filled with laughter, fun and the aromas of Pork and Pineapple.

Thank you to everyone who cooked, baked, voted, and joined in the fun!!

This day could not have happened without the hard work of our participants, organizers, and volunteers. From Chefs and Dessert-Makers, to decorators, servers, and all who helped clean up afterwards, **We Thank You All!** Rally Day reminded us that when we share our gifts, whether in cooking, serving, or giving, **God Multiplies the Blessing!!**





The Christian Ed Department will be handing out candy again this year for Trick or Treat on Thursday, October 29th. If you would like to donate candy to this event it would be greatly appreciated !!

Sunday School for this year started off with another great RALLY DAY! This event was Luau-themed. The games that morning were pass the Coconut, a ring a pineapple, and limbo. There were 30 plus children in attendance that day. They had a Great Time! We ended the morning with prayer. The Children will sing on Sunday, October 4th, on World-Wide Communion Day.

ATTENTION, ALL PARENTS AND YOUTH MEMBERS,

The Christian Education ministry is sponsoring a trip to Cedar Point on Saturday, October 17th for all youth in 6-12th grade and volunteer chaperones. Tickets must be registered for in advance and will cost \$25 each. Transportation will be provided by the church, and ONE guest per student is allowed. Details about Registration and permission slips will be available soon.

Thanks,
Nick

Youth Mission Trip

Mark your calendars for June 14-20, 2027. Greg and Sarah Walter along with Dave and Kara Birt will be taking the youth on a mission trip to High Country UCC in North Carolina. We're looking for 16 high school and college age youth to join us. Contact Sarah 419-305-1952 to sign up and answer any questions you might have at this time.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS!

9 – ETHAN FRANKENHAUSER

18 – BECKETT CLARK



Aluminum Can Recycling for the Youth Group

Thank you to everyone who is saving aluminum cans for the **YOUTH GROUP**. We will continue to save, collect, and recycle cans. The cans should be **rinsed out** and brought to St. Paul's - **Just leave them behind the curtain under the stairs of the Creation Station door.** If you have a lot of cans and would like to take them to the recycling center and donate the money, that may be just as easy once they are in your vehicle. Thank you for your support!!

FALL

O D I U C R I S P M T N B O V J N B Q Q Z G P U
G E Z E M J Z T M K W O K A P P L E A L X Q O U
A S H Y A I P Q Z J I C Q B A U T U M N U I X W
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M A H P N S E D Y N O R C H A R D I F T W E Y T
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BOUNTIFUL
FLANNEL
BREEZY
ORANGE
CIDER
COZY

HALLOWEEN
OCTOBER
CHILLY
SQUASH
CRISP
FALL

SEPTEMBER
ORCHARD
COLORS
YELLOW
GEESE
RAKE

NOVEMBER
PUMPKIN
GOLDEN
APPLE
PEARS

CRUNCHY
AUTUMN
LEAVES
BRISK
TREES

OCTOBER

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

1—Andrea Clark
2—Mike Laird
Tom Peterson
Nathan Long
3—Brennan Brown
4—Sandra Clausing
8—Michelle Wale
Kendra Eymor
Renee Caywood
9—Connie Frey
Kim Opperman
10—James Nuss
11—Kelly Harner
Kim Hertenstein
Marilyn Schroer
12—Lori Scheer
Michael Briggs
Melinda Nedderman
13—Sue Schnelle
14—William Nuss
15—Jean Smith
Amanda McDonald
Karen Felts

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!!

16—Tami Sanford
17—Sheryl Gray
Jenny Luedeke
Traci Lauth
18—Ralph Heckler
20—Tom Deitsch
Cara Mabry
23—Deb Carmean
Craig Gottschalk
Tyler Nuss
24—Laura Yelton
Brad Speckman
25—Kenneth Koeper
Leah Walter
26—Melissa Burden
27—Marsha Heckler
Caleb Turner
28—Brooke Turner
29—Ronald Ketchum
30—Kellie Harris
31—Karl Sollman
Kayla Settlemyre

2—Steve & Penny Brown
3—Steve & Sara Katterheinrich
4—Jerry & Jen Lucas
6—David & Kara Birt
7—Daryl & Cara Mabry
13—Chad & Leslie Laman
14—Glenn & Lynda Hadley
16—James & Neva Rowen
18—Bret & Jennifer Gaston
21—Richard & Paige Canfield
22—Charles & Jennifer Tuttle
23—Kyle & Aimee Opperman
24—Andrew & Brooke Bradley

October

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 11:30 am Ladies Luncheon @Bowling Alley Personnel Committee 6:00pm Spiritual Gifts Class 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	2	3
4 <u>World Communion Day</u> Children Sing	5 Caregiving Support Group 7:00 pm	6 BINGO @ Vancrest 6:30pm	7 Quilting 9:00am <u>FALL HARVEST</u> Bake Sale 1:00pm – 6:30pm Meal 4:30 pm – 6:30 pm	8 Breaking Bread 4:30pm–5:15pm Spiritual Gifts Class 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	9	10
11	12	13	14 Quilting 9:00am Consistory 6:00 pm	15 H.E.A.L. 1:30pm Breaking Bread 4:30pm–5:15pm Spiritual Gifts Class 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	16	17
18 Rebecca Circle 1:00 pm	19	20	21 Quilting 9:00am	22 Breaking Bread 4:30pm–5:15pm Spiritual Gifts Class 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm	23	24
25	26	27	28 Quilting 9:00am	29 Breaking Bread 4:30pm–5:15pm <u>Parking Lot</u> <u>Trick or Treat</u> <u>6:00pm – 7:30pm</u>	30	31
PASTOR			ED MISSION TRIP			



THE COMMUNICATOR
St. Paul's United Church of Christ
201 N. Perry Street
St. Marys, OH 45885
(419) 394-3811, opt. 3

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