

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
 201 N. PERRY ST., ST. MARYS, OH 45885
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 email: smucc@bright.net website: www.stpaulsuccsm.com
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 email for Christian Education: jnj12021@gmail.com
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Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor
 Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist
 Ann Vogel, Organist
 Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director
 Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant
 Rich Spencer, Audio and Video
 Becky Anderson, Church Pianist, and
 Volunteer Coordinator of Special Music

Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss, Children's Ministry Coordinators
 Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
 Andrea Spencer, Organist
 Madeline Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director
 Brad and Nam Gehrlach, Custodian
 Tracy Winget, Sunday Nursery Supervisor
 Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary

LiturgistRuth Knous
 AcolytesMiddle School Youth
 Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God, March 5, 2023
Current - \$4376.25 / Mission - \$255.00 / OGHS - \$303
Attendance – 64

Our loose offering today is designated to Disaster Kits

During the season of Lent, the old Library has been converted into a Chapel, where different prayer stations will be set up each week.



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, Ohio

March 12, 2023

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."



WOMEN’S OVERNIGHT RETREAT: *ATTENTION WOMEN OF ST PAUL’S:* Women’s Guild would like to host a women’s overnight retreat at the Retreat House in Maria Stein. It would be Friday, June 23rd, starting at 6:00 PM and ending on June 24th at 4:00. We will have a fun filled time with crafts, exercise, spiritual reflection, and most of all, time for yourself and friendship. If you are interested in this time together, please call the office by March 1st, so we can get an idea of how many would love to participate. We will be staying in their dorm room, with a cost of \$25 which is dorm cost and breakfast. But if you would want a room to yourself, that can be arranged, but at your expense. Everything else will be covered by the Guild. Once we get a pretty good count of interest, then more information will follow. Guaranteed to be a fun and memorable weekend.

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You are invited to the Caregiving from the Heart Support Group held here at St. Paul’s. **The group meets on the first Monday of each month at 7p in the church Library.** This is a gathering for any caregivers (and others who are involved) whether you are doing it within your home, within your loved one’s home or if your loved one resides in a care facility. It will be led by Rev. Jeanette Tangeman (or Ruth Knous in Jeanette’s absence) and will be a gathering to support each other, learn from each other, and find helpful resources. Any questions, please call Jeanette at 419-234-7935, or Ruth Knous at 419-953-6274.

Agape Ministries is in need of volunteers! If you are interested, contact Kris Rasneor, Program Manager at Agape Ministries, 419-394-8700.

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Take note that there are colored notecards in the pews. Please take a minute before church to answer the monthly “Stewardship Reflecting Question” that will be printed in the bulletin. Please write your response on your notecard and drop it in the offering plate! You can include your name on your response, or you can remain anonymous. Responses will be compiled and shared on the screens before church services.

March Question: What are 3 examples of being a good steward for your church by using your time, talents and treasures?

John Chapter 9



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|------------|----------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| AFORETIME | AGAIN | AMONG | ANOINTED | ANSWERED |
| ASKED | BECAUSE | BEFORE | BEGGED | BELIEVE |
| BIRTH | BLIND | BROUGHT | CALLED | COMETH |
| DISCIPLES | DIVISION | GROUND | INTERPRETATION | JESUS |
| KEEPETH | LIGHT | MANIFEST | MASTER | MIRACLES |
| NEIGHBOURS | NEITHER | NIGHT | OPENED | OTHERS |
| PARENTS | PASSED | PHARISEES | PROPHET | RECEIVED |
| SABBATH | SAYEST | SAYING | SEEING | SIGHT |
| SILOAM | SINNED | SPITTLE | SPOKEN | THEREFORE |
| WASHED | WORKS | WORLD | | |

WELCOME! Here at St. Paul’s, we strive to create a faith community where ALL God’s people are welcome to come and explore God’s presence in the world. If you are visiting for the first time, we are Glad you are here. If you are a returning visitor, Welcome Back. Please complete the Welcome card located in the pew pocket in front of you and place it in the offering plate. Should you have a prayer request, please complete the Prayer card and place in the offering plate.

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

Don’t forget that we now 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!

- PRAYER REQUESTS**
- Please keep the following people in your prayers: Connie Gibson, Sharon Sullivan, Cheryl Kline, John Hall, Diana Prichard, Shirley Harold, and John Long. Also, pray for all of our military, medical, and emergency services.
 - Please keep Mindy Hunter, daughter of Ron and Margaret Hunter, in your prayers as she recovers from surgery on her hand.
 - Kelly Kill & her family. Kelly's sister, Jeanette Castello, and sister-in-law, Sandy Lemming, are experiencing significant health issues at this time.
 - Remember to pray for our shut-ins and for their caregivers that take care of them.
 - All prayer requests shall be given to the lead person of our Prayer Team, Carol Schmidt: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com, or you can call or text her at 419-305-6164.
- The **2023 Altar Flower Charts, and the Liturgist sign-up sheets** are located here in the sanctuary on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment.



Wednesday Lenten Services
There will be six services, with the last one occurring on March 29th.
Make this worship experience part of your Lenten remembrance.

- Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ!**
- ✚ **NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL TODDLER CARE** - For your convenience, we have a staffed nursery located in the educational building. Should it become necessary for you to leave the sanctuary during worship, you can view the morning service on the TV in the nursery. **PLEASE NOTE** - Only Newborn to Kindergarten age children are permitted in the Nursery during our morning worship service to allow safety for the newborns and toddlers. Children 1st Grade and older need to remain in the church. Thank you for your understanding.
 - ✚ **HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE** restroom is located on the sanctuary level near the elevette room, and it also contains a baby changing table.
 - ✚ **ENLARGED BULLETINS & HEARING DEVICES** - Available if needed (consult an usher).
 - ✚ **TELEVISED WORSHIP SERVICE** - Our worship service here at St. Paul’s is shown on **TSC cable - Digital channel 1 or non-digital channel 2**, every Sunday at 10:30 am and also on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. This is now shown LIVE on Sundays and shown a day later on Mondays.
 - ✚ **WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE INTERNET** – If you do not have TSC cable, you can watch our service on our church web page at www.spuccsm.com or on YouTube.
 - ✚ **EMERGENCY AED** – There is an emergency AED Unit located on the wall behind the soundboard in the Sanctuary.
 - ✚ **RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN** - On the registers at the North and South entrances you will see a tray where you can place your bulletin to be recycled (if you do not wish to take it home). Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL’S		
Today	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Adult Forum
Wed.	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer Third Sunday of Lent
	9:00 am	Quilting
Thurs.	7:00 pm	Wednesday Lenten Service
	1:30 pm	HEAL Group
	4:30-5:15 pm	Breaking Bread Community Meal
Sat.	7-8:00 pm	Bell Choir
	9:30 am	Lenten Breakfast at Wayne Street UMC (free)
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer Fourth Sunday of Lent

WE NEED LITURGISTS! Sign up by sheets by the sound board.

St. Paul’s Grant Applications are now available in the library. Deadline April 1st.

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight

9 As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. ⁴ We^[a] must work the works of him who sent me^[b] while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, ⁷ saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. ⁸ The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." ¹⁰ But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" ¹¹ He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." ¹² They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know."

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. ¹⁴ Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. ¹⁵ Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see." ¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?"

And they were divided. ¹⁷ So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight ¹⁹ and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" ²⁰ His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, ²¹ but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus^[c] to be the Messiah^[d] would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." ²⁵ He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." ²⁶ They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" ²⁷ He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" ²⁸ Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. ²⁹ We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." ³⁰ The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. ³² Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." ³⁴ They answered

him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Spiritual Blindness

³⁵ Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"^[e] ³⁶ He answered, "And who is he, sir?"^[f] Tell me, so that I may believe in him." ³⁷ Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." ³⁸ He said, "Lord,^[g] I believe." And he worshiped him. ³⁹ Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." ⁴⁰ Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" ⁴¹ Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.