

March 26, 2023	Fifth Sunday in Lent	10:30 a.m.
Order of Service		

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

EXTINGUISHING THE LENTEN CANDLES

We come into your presence, O Lord, with so many burdens and concerns on our hearts. Help us to be open to your words of healing and restoration. Bring us closer to you. Enable us to discern your will for us, that we may serve you more faithfully by serving others in need. In Christ's name, we pray. AMEN.

WE OPEN UP TO GOD

GOD SPEAKS TO US

WE RESPOND WITH FAITH AND COMMITMENT

***POSTLUDE** "Were You There?" Arr. Brenda Dillon
***Denotes those who are able to are invited to stand in body and in spirit**Depart to serve

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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 email: smucc@bright.net website: www.stpaulsuccsm.com
 email for Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer: rhainer@bright.net and cell phone number: (563) 210-3508
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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

LiturgistMaddy Frankenhauser
 AcolytesMiddle School Youth
 Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

Our Giving to God, March 19, 2023
Current - \$9983.00 / Mission - \$40.00
Attendance – 66

Altar flowers today are from Kenneth Braun in celebration of Susan Braun's birthday

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 26, 2023

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



In honor of Auglaize County's 175th Anniversary, St. Patrick Catholic Church, 6959 Glynwood Road, Glynnwood, will host a concert of traditional Irish music by the band Mad Maudlin on Sunday, March 26, 2 pm. The event is open to the public and a free will offering will be accepted. Mad Maudlin is an Ohio-based traditional Celtic folk Band with roots in Scottish and Irish music. The members come from a variety of musical backgrounds including classical, folk, and highland piping.

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 April 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.

~*~*~*~*~

LUNCHEON PLANNED: On Saturday, April 1st, Craig Steenkamp from Back Bay Mission is going to be meeting with folks from some Ohio churches. We are gathering for a casual lunch at 1pm at Buckland UCC with folks from that church as well as folks from St. Paul UCC in Wapakoneta. Everyone is welcome, whether you have ever been to Back Bay or not, and would like to meet Craig and others who have gone. You may remember Craig was here for our shrimp boils. The only thing we need is a basic idea of how many might attend. If you are interested, please let Carolyn know in the office or Jeanette (can text her at number found in church directory) 419-234-7935. Hope you will take advantage of this opportunity.

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?

Name: _____ Date: _____

John 12:1-8

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


Bethany	Expensive	Grace	Jerusalem
Jesus	Judas	Lazarus	Love
Martha	Mary	Nard	Passover
Poor	Worship		

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.
 - 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
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer Fifth Sunday of Lent
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
	7:00 pm	Wednesday Lenten Service
Thurs.	4:30-5:15 pm	Breaking Bread Community Meal
	7:00-8:00 pm	Bell Choir
Next Sun.	9:15 am	Sunday School
	9:15 am	Adult Forum
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer – Palm Sunday

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

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

John 12:1-8

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

Mary Anoints Jesus

12 Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ² There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those reclining with him. ³ Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus's feet, and wiped them^[a] with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴ But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵ "Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?" ⁶ (He said this not because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷ Jesus said, "Leave her alone. She bought it^[b] so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸ You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me."

Philippians 3:4-14

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

⁴ even though I, too, have reason for confidence in the flesh.

If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷ Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸ More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law but one that comes through faith in Christ,^[a] the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰ I want to know Christ^[b] and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

Pressing toward the Goal

¹² Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal,^[c] but I press on to lay hold of that for which Christ^[d] has laid hold of me. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, I do not consider that I have laid hold^[e] of it, but one thing I have laid hold of: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal, toward the prize of the heavenly^[f] call of God in Christ Jesus.