### ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

September 2025

**201** N. PERRY STREET • ST. MARYS, OH 45885 419-394-3811 opt. 3 www.stpaulsuccsm.com

### THE COMMUNICATOR

### "Another Way Home"

The Magi had done it, they had followed the star, found the child, offered their gifts, and worshiped Him. Job well done! Now it was time to head home. But Matthew tells us something curious: "Having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route" (Matthew 2:12).

I imagine one of them saying, "Wait, we're going where? That road has potholes! My donkey doesn't do well on detours!" But they obeyed anyway. They trusted God enough to take a different way.

Sometimes following Jesus means you don't go back the same way you came. He may nudge you to take another path—away from old habits, away from danger, or even away from comfort. And yes, sometimes it's inconvenient, like when your GPS says, "Recalculating..." just after you finally figured out where you really are.

But the good news is this: when God redirects us, He is not trying to make life harder. He's leading us to safety, to growth, and to a deeper walk with Him. The Magi still got home, but by trusting God's new direction, they got there in peace.

So maybe Jesus is asking you to take "another way" in some area of your life. If so, don't worry, He knows the route, even if you don't. And unlike your GPS, He never gets you stuck on a dead-end road!

Pastor Ed



### **SPECIAL TIMES**

Sunday School 9:00 am (beginning Sept 14th)

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



### RALLY DAY IS SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14<sup>TH</sup>!!

Join us for a Western-themed Rally Day as we celebrate the start of Sunday School at 9:00am.

After the morning Worship Service we will have a <u>Chili Cookoff and Brownie Showdown!!</u>



### Saddle Up for Rally Day!

### Chili Cookoff, Brownie Showdown, and Food Drive Competition

Dust off your cowboy hats and polish your boots—it's time for our Rally Day celebration! This year we're hosting a **Chili Cookoff and Brownie Showdown** with a western theme. There will be great food, fun competition, music, and a special mission project for us all to join.

### **Chili Cookoff Categories and Prizes**

- Best Overall Chili (People's Choice) 75.00
- Spiciest Chili 40.00
- Most Creative Chili 40.00
- Kid Favorite Chili 40.00
- **Firefighters' Favorite Chili 55.00** (chosen by our local fire department guests!)

### **Brownie Showdown Categories**

- Best Chocolate Flavor 50.00
- Most Unique Brownie 35.00
- Kid Favorite Brownie 30.00
- Firefighters' Favorite Brownie 35.00



### **Rules & Expectations for Contestants**

Bring your chili in a crockpot to the tables in the Fellowship Hall. Bring at least **6–7 quarts of chili** in a crockpot (sample size for ~100 people). Each entry will be given a number at the registration table. Chili should be ready to serve after the Worship Service. Two oz. serving cups will be available for each contestant to provide for those judging the contest.

Bring **3–4 dozen brownies**, pre-cut into 1" squares for tasting. Please provide an ingredient list for allergy safety. Cups will be provided to put your small squares into.

Be creative—fun names for your chili or brownies are encouraged!

Everyone attending gets to taste and vote in the "People's Choice" categories.

Not a Chili or Brownie fan? No problem! We will also be serving shredded Chicken Sandwiches, Salad, Fruit, Mac & Cheese and more. So, everyone can enjoy the feast and Fellowship.





<u>Rally Day Food Drive:</u> Along with the fun, Rally Day is a time to reach out in service. This year our Mission Project is a "Food Drive for AGAPE Ministries", and we're making it a little competitive! It's Men vs. Women in a friendly rivalry to see who can bring the most from the list of needed foods: Peanut Butter, Canned Soup, Canned Fruit, Canned Vegetables, Canned Stew, Canned Fish, Canned Beans, Pasta (especially Whole Grain) and Rice (especially Brown Rice).

Bring your donations starting Sunday, August 31st through Rally Day and leave in the two barrels located in the middle area of the Sanctuary: Pink for the Women and Blue for the Men. Let's see who wins the Bragging Rights while helping families in need!

Rally Day is more than a fun kickoff—it's a time to gather, laugh, eat, and serve together as the family of God. So, round up your best recipes, bring a generous spirit for the food drive, and join us for a rootin'-tootin' good time!

### FALL CAFETERIA 2025

Wednesday, October 1st, 2025, 5:00pm - 6:30pm Chicken or Swiss Steak Adults \$11, Children (11 and under) \$6 Craft/Bake Sale 1:00 - 6:30pm in Heritage Hall

St. Paul's United church of Christ 201 N. Perry St. St. Marys, OH 45885



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.

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### <u>Volunteers Needed !!</u>

### Fall Cafeteria /Craft and bake Sale

The Women's Guild's annual Cafeteria/Craft and Bake Sale will be held on Wednesday, October 1, 2025. Many volunteers and helpers are needed to make this an enjoyable, successful event. There are many ways for you to help! Donations of craft projects and bake sale items are needed as well as volunteers to help with the sale that day. Set-up helpers, servers, dining room and carry out assistants, and clean up crews are needed for the cafeteria meal. Pies and Angel Food cakes are needed to serve as desserts for the meal. Please consider giving of your time and talents toward this major fundraiser for the Women's Guild. Contact Jane Laird at 419-231-1736 or e-mail <a href="mailto:jlaird612@gmail.com">jlaird612@gmail.com</a>. Sign—up sheets will also be available after the Worship Service on Sundays and also in the church office. Thank You!!



### **KROGER REWARDS UPDATE:**

Money received from Kroger's Reward Program from 02/01/25 to 04/20/25 was \$72.23, and from 05/01/25 to 07/21/25 was \$74.51.

37 households are participating and we appreciate your help. If you would like more information on how to join this program, contact Kris Vanderhorst at 419-394-2112.

A big 'Thank You' to everyone who has continued to bring in toilet paper during these hot summer months! It is greatly appreciated at Agape, as their client list is growing. Our current total, as of August 1<sup>st</sup> was 1124 rolls. Too hot to shop? Terri or Janet can do it for you! Just put the \$ in the offering plate, designated for toilet paper for Agape and we will make the purchase for you.

It is time for AGAPE's Winter Coat Drive! Donations can be dropped off at the **Agape Ministries' Client Services Building** Monday–Friday: 9:00am—4:30pm Or at the **Thrift Store** on Saturdays from 9:00 AM – 2:30 PM. OR, there will be a barrel here at the church that you can place the coats in.





### **Prayer and Care Ministry**

**Prayer Team:** Prayer requests are welcome for any concern or thanksgiving. Requests are kept confidential and not included in public worship screen unless specifically requested. Contact Carol Schmidt with a prayer request at: <a href="mailto:cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com">cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com</a>, Carol's cell (419) 305-6164, or the church office.

You are invited to the "Caregiving from the Heart Support Group" held at St. Paul's. The September meeting will be on the 8th at 7:00 pm in the church Chapel. 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. The session will be led by Rev. Jeanette Tangeman. The purpose of the gathering is to support each other, learn from each other, and locate helpful resources.

Please call Jeanette at 419-234-7935, if you have any questions.

### 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 3rd Thursday of each month at 1:30 pm in the chapel at St. Paul's UCC.

### Adult Bible Study – Love God, Love Self, Love Neighbor Thursdays, September 18 – November 6 6:30PM – 7:30 PM | Chapel

Join Pastor Ed on an 8-week journey into one of Jesus' most powerful teachings: The call to love God, love ourselves, and love our neighbors. Together, we'll explore what these commands mean for our daily lives and how they shape the way we follow Christ.

Our time each week will include teaching, open discussion, and practical ways to live out God's call to love.

**Week 1 (Sept. 18):** The Greatest Commandment – More Than a Slogan Scripture: Matthew 22:36–40; Mark 12:28–34

Come ready to learn, share, and grow in faith. All are welcome—bring your Bible, your questions, and maybe even a friend!



Breaking Bread will be serving from **4:30pm to 5:15pm**, unless food is all gone. **Grab and Go from your car only.** We look forward to providing delicious free meals to our community every Thursday except the 1st Thursday of the month.

<u>Upcoming Dates:</u> <u>Sept. 11</u> <u>Sept. 18</u> <u>Sept. 25</u>

If you would like to make a financial contribution to help with costs for the weekly community dinner, these will be gratefully accepted. Donations may be placed in the Sunday offering plate or mailed to the church office.

Due to kitchen remodeling, the last Breaking Bread Dinner for this year will be the last Thursday of September, the 25<sup>th</sup>. Meals will resume as usual the second Thursday of January, on the 8<sup>th</sup>.

So far, we have raised over \$ 16,000.00 for the Kitchen Remodel! Keep it coming, work is scheduled to begin after the Fall Cafeteria.

The September Ladies' Luncheon will be held on Thursday, September 4th at 11:30am at CJ Highmark's.

Here is your opportunity to change lives:

Our yearly mission trip to Back Bay Mission, Biloxi, MS, is scheduled for March 22-28, 2026. It seems a long way off but time flies. If you are interested please let Jeanette Tangeman know, and she will get you all the information you need.

Call or Text 419-234-7935, or email: <u>tangeman@ohiolink.net</u>.

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



Bingo will be held on the following Tuesdays:

**Sept. 2** – Vancrest 6:30–7:30 pm

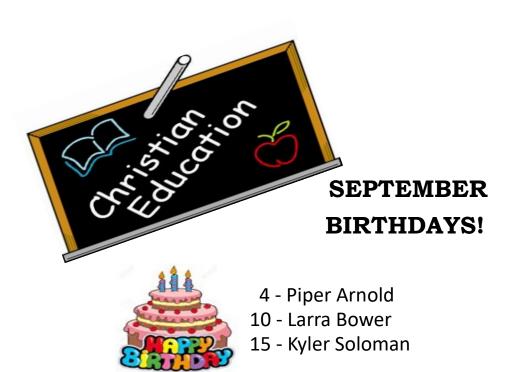
**Oct.** 7 — Otterbein 5:30—6:30 pm

### We are in need of BINGO helpers and cookies

Please call Janice Katterheinrich at (419) 394-3264 to let her know if you <sup>7</sup> can help in any way.

### **CONFIRMATION NEWS**

In past years the Christian Education & Nurture Committee has postponed Confirmation classes for small groups or single students. Experience has shown that students have a better learning experience when in larger groups. This year any student entering 8th grade is encouraged to attend Sunday School on Sunday morning beginning on Rally Day, September 14th at 9:00am in the gathering room. Confirmation classes will resume next Fall. If you have any questions please contact Amy Keller. Thank you.



Well, Summer has FLOWN by! School has already started, and it is time for RALLY DAY and Sunday School!! We will meet at 9:00am on Sunday, September 14th in the Gathering Room for a time of Worship and Games. Then, after the morning Worship Service will be a Western-Themed RALLY DAY Celebration with a Chili Cook-Off and Brownie Showdown.

Don't forget your Western Wear: Boots, Bandanas, and big smile. Saddle up and let's ride into a season of Faith, Friendship and Fellowship!

Going forward, Sunday School will meet weekly at 9:00 am, with the Worship Service at 10:00 am.



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. Cans need to 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, it may be just as easy once they are in your vehicle. Thank you for your support.

### ST. PAUL'S HISTORY

### NOTES, STORIES, FACTS FROM THE PAST ISSUE 4



New Church Dedication 1915

### THE BADERTSCHER MINISTRY 1886-1888

The Rev. Christian Badertscher began his pastorate on October 1st, 1886. It seems that his decision to accept the call was an act of faith inasmuch as the congregation was in a disheartened mood, and he had been warned that sooner or later the organization was doomed to disband. Because of the zeal with which he applied himself to his task, however, and his refusal to be daunted by the various obstacles, the congregation was impressed and led to the place where they were ready to consider the erection of a new church. At a meeting of the congregation held on March 27th, 1887, the congregation adopted a resolution "To build a brick church costing not more than \$4,000.00". The building was completed in 1888 and served the congregation until in the spring of 1919 when it was wrecked after the completion of the present structure. After it was built it stood as a testimony to the faith and courage of the congregation. The Sunday school was held in the balcony, and the auditorium was considered large enough for all days to come. The total cost of the building was somewhat in excess of \$4,000.00.



### Rev. Peter S. Kohler 1900-1913

Rev. Peter S. Kohler of the Reformed Church of Crestline, Ohio, was elected to the pastorate of St. Paul's on February 11, 1900, and began his work here on May 1, 1900. The people were very anxious to make the advent of their pastor as encouraging as possible; therefore before his coming the interior of the church was redecorated, the <u>old high pulpit</u> by a new and more modern one, and the constitution of the congregation was revised and amended to agree with the prescribed constitution for any congregation of the Reformed Church in the United States.



Graduation Congratulations to: Kalie Gayer! Kalie graduated from Ohio University on May 3, 2025 with a degree in Nursing. She is currently working in Cleveland at Fairview Hospital, which is part of Cleveland Clinic Health System.



St. Paul's UCC Scholarship Committee,

Thank you very much for your generous scholarship money. I will use it for my tuition as I attend UNOH for Accounting. Your support is greatly appreciated! Thanks, Cody Birt

Dear St. Paul's family, Thank you for money towards my Sports Camp payment. I look forward to this week every year. I had so much fun this year, and can't wait for next year!

Thanks again, Aubrey Birt

Dear St. Paul's United Church of Christ,

Thank you for your generous gift to Back Bay Mission! Your gift makes it possible to meet the most urgent needs of the poor and marginalized of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

Your gift is at work helping a homeowner stay in their home, providing a homeless person with an apartment, giving someone enough food to make it to their next paycheck, and many other ways.

Most importantly, your gift is at work making sure that Back Bay Mission is here to provide a safe and welcoming environment to everyone who comes through our doors. Thank you for partnering with us through your generous gift. We—and those we serve—are ever grateful.

### Thank you for the Tools!!

Grace and Peace,

James Pennington,

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### We wish to extend our deepest sympathies to:

The family of Ron Hall, at the loss of his mother, Betty Hall.

Larry Kill and family, at the loss of Larry's mother, Gladys.

The Brown family, at the loss of their Son in the recent building collapse.

We pray God's Peace and Comfort during this time.



### **Recent Memorial Gifts in Memory of Betty Hall:**

Bill & Jane Nuss
Janice Katterheinrich
Mark & Katie Moeller
Ron & Diane Meyer
Randy & Kelly Hirschfeld
Judd & Gloria Morrison

The recent building collapse in downtown St. Marys affected four tenant families, as well as the family of the man who lost his life under the rubble.

The Christian Mission and Outreach Committee has made a donation of \$500 to be divided among the five affected families. The Congregation has donated another \$900. Should you wish to make a donation, please send it directly to:

Auglaize County C.E.R.T. 209 South Blackhoof St, Suite 206, Wapakoneta, OH 45895.

In the 'memo' section of your check, write: 305 East Spring Street victims and funeral expenses for Chris Brown. Thank you for your generosity!

Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks,

### FINANCIAL REPORT

### **July 2025**

### **Current Fund:**

Budgeted through July 31, 2025 = \$ 155,695.75 Received through July 31, 2025 = \$ 132,544.00 Expenses through July 31, 2025 = \$ 130,783.00 Received through July 31, 2024 = \$ 125,557.00

### **Mission Fund:**

Budgeted through July 31, 2025 = \$ 8,750.00 Received through July 31, 2025 = \$ 7,623.00 Received through July 31, 2024 = \$ 9,704.94

### **STATUS OF 2025 BUDGET:** Current Fund:

Budgeted through Aug. 31, 2025 = \$ 177,938.00 Budgeted through Aug. 17, 2025 = \$ 169,041.10 Received through Aug. 17, 2025 = \$ 141,831.00

### **Mission Fund:**

Budgeted through Aug. 31, 2025 = \$ 10,000.00 Budgeted through Aug. 17, 2025 = \$ 9,500.00 Received through Aug. 17, 2025 = \$ 8,239.00

### SEPTEMBER LOOSE AND SPECIAL OFFERINGS

September 7 organ Fund September 14 breaking bread



Work on the Organ continues. Don't forget to be an Organ Donor!!



### Major league baseball

Q D U т  $\mathbf{z}$ т S 94 Z. Y T  $\mathbf{Q}$ R D L T L W Z O S R T

ANGELS BREWERS GIANTS NATIONALS Pirates ROYALS ASTROS CARDINALS INDIANSS ORIOLES RAYS TIGERS ATHLETICS Cubs MARINERS PADRES REDS TWINS

BLUEJAYS DIAMONDBACKS MARLINS PHILLIES REDSOX WHITESOX BRAVES DODGERS Mets PIRATES ROCKIES YANKEES



- 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 are not permitted to inform churches when a member is admitted.
- 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, call 419-394-3811.
- <u>CALL-EM-ALL:</u> 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 <u>Vanco Payment Solutions</u> 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 church 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 stuff the Newsletters for mailing, please email us at <a href="mailto:smucc@bright.net">smucc@bright.net</a> and we will add you to the list. This only takes about 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.
- We are ALWAYS in need of Liturgists and volunteers to bring flowers for the altar. The **2025** Altar Flower Chart and Liturgist Sign-Up Sheets are posted on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment in the Sanctuary.

Reminder about our Neighbors in Need offering the first Sunday in October:

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. 13

## SEPTEMBER

## Happy Birthdav!!

- 3 Darlene Hollman Kyle Denney
  - 4 Daryl Mabry
- 6 Glenn Hadley
- Stacy Regedanz 9 - Janet Gibson Joyce Roth
- Ruth Anne Foote
  - 10 Danielle Fargo Derrick Gray
- 12 Jennifer Gaston Anne Schaefer
- 13 Missy Wourms
- Charley Walter 14 - Jeff Dieringer
- 15 Kay May
- Brandon Nedderman
  - 16 Diane Steinbrunner Greg Winget
- 17 Marilyn Dickman Diana Prichard Mary Schumm

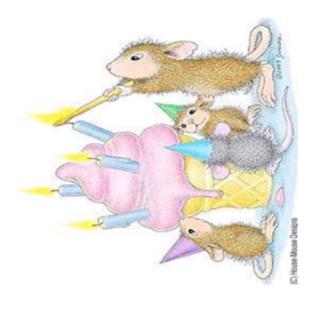
- 18 Emily Klosterman Kathy McGee
  - 19 Kiley Burd
- 20 Amy Frilling Mike Hirschfeld
- Sharon Gottschalk
  - Dale Schmidt
- Shawn McGee
- 22 Thomas Luedeke Sidney Smith
  - Jordan Hollman Mike McDonald
- Karen Schaaf Bower Daniel Lemmerman 24 - Brenda Ridings Steve Hays
- 25 Robert Roth

Kyle Schaaf

- 29 Anna Laird Coffey Charley Spencer
  - 30 Derick Johnson

## Happy Anniversary!!

- 4 Tom & Alison Craft
- 6 Andy & Alicia Slone 14 Michael & Ashley Hirschfeld 17 Shawn & Kathy McGee 22 Bill & Amy Lauth
- 24 Larry & Stacy Regedanz Darren & Heidi Meade
  - 27 Tim & Sandi Hirschfeld
    - Rich & Susan Spencer
      - Gary & Leslie James 30 - Eric & Lori Now



# September

## 2025

Saturday	9	13	20	27	
Friday	5	12	Deadline for Articles or Information for the October Newsletter	56	
Thursday	Ladies Luncheon 4 at CJ Highmarks 11:30am Personnel Committee Meeting 6:00 pm	Breaking Bread 4:30 Pm – 5:15 Pm	18 H.E.A.L. 1:30 pm Breaking Bread 4:30 Pm – 5:15 Pm Bible Study - Chapel 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Breaking Bread 4:30 Pm – 5:15 Pm Bible Study - Chapel 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	
Wednesday	3 Quilting 9:00 am	Quilting 9:00 am	Quilting 9:00 am KIDKONNECT 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm	Quilting 9:00 am	
Tuesday	BINGO at Vancrest 6:30 pm	6	16	23	30
Monday	LABOR DAY CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED	8 Caregiving Support Group 7:00 pm	Rebecca Circle 1:00 pm	22	29
Sunday		7	RALLY DAY !! START OF SUNDAY SCHOOL	2.1	28

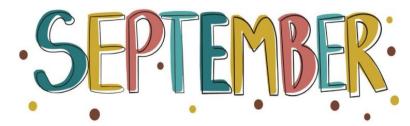
Rev. Ed Karges, Interim Pastor (260) 409-0974 edwardkarges74@gmail.com Steve Slawson, Administrative Assistant Jane Nuss, Children's Ministry Coordinator Maddy Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director Becky Anderson, Church Pianist, and **Volunteer Coordinator of Special Music** Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist Andrea Spencer, Organist Ann Vogel, Organist **Darryl Smith, Organist** Kathlene Larson, Pianist/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

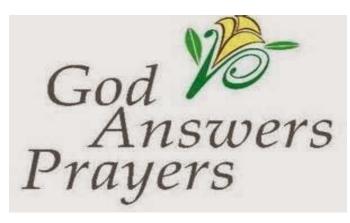
Email for Prayer Team: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com or text Carol at (419) 305-6164.

Email for Christian Education: jnjl2021@gmail.com Email for Youth Director: franken.nick@gmail.com

Email for media: spmedia@bright.net







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