

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
"We Shine for All Through Christ"
St. Marys, Ohio

September 21, 2025 Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 am

Order of Service
Welcome to our Worship Service today.
Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
CHIMES
WELCOME
PRELUDE Reflections on 'Morning Has Broken' arr. John Carter

***CALL TO WORSHIP**
Leader: O God, the world is filled with hurt and sorrow.
People: We come seeking Your mercy and strength.
Leader: How long, O Lord? Will You be angry forever?
People: Do not remember against us the sins of the past, but let Your compassion come quickly to meet us.
Leader: Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of Your name.
People: Deliver us and forgive our sins, for Your name's sake.
Leader: We come to worship the God of mercy,
People: Our God, who brings healing, hope, and salvation.

***MORNING PRAYER**
God of heaven and earth, this morning we lift our voices in praise. From the rising of the sun to its setting, Your name is to be praised! You are exalted above the nations, yet You draw near to those who are poor and hurting. You raise the needy from the dust and set them in places of honor. You remember the forgotten and give joy where there was once sorrow. So today we come before You in awe and thanksgiving. Lift our hearts as we worship, open our ears to hear Your Word, and shape our lives to reflect Your glory. Blessed be the name of the Lord. It is in this spirit that we pray together, Our Father...

***HYMN #257 "What Wondrous Love Is This"**

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY
Announcements Joys and Concerns Visitors

REPORT ON GENERAL SYNOD 35
Delegates Rev. Rhonda and Rev. David Hainer

***PASSING OF THE PEACE (Offer God's peace to those nearby)**
Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.
People: and also with you.

***HYMN #352 "Spirit Song"**

OUR OFFERINGS TO GOD
OFFERTORY "Great is Thy Faithfulness" arr. Pam Gervais
***DOXOLOGY *PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

THE GOSPEL LESSON LUKE 16:1-9

PASTORAL PRAYER

SERMON "Grace in the Mess" Pastor Ed Karges

***HYMN #51 "How Great Thou Art"**

***Benediction**

POSTLUDE "Joyful, Joyful Calypso" arr. John Darter

*Denotes those who are able are invited to stand in body and in spirit.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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ST. MARYS, OH 45885
CHURCH OFFICE: (419) 394-3811
CHURCH FAX: (419) 394-8733
EMAIL: SMUCC@BRIGHT.NET
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PASTOR ED KARGES
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PRAYER REQUEST EMAIL (CAROL SCHMIDT): CSCHMIDT@STPAULSUCCSM.COM
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EMAIL: JN2021@GMAIL.COM

Back Bay Missionary: Rev. Jeanette Tangeman
Audio and Video: Rich Spencer
Pianist/Music Coordinator: Becky Anderson
Organist: Andrea Spencer
Pianist: Kathlene Larson
Children's Ministry: Jane Nuss
Confirmation: Amy Keller
Administrative Assistant: Steve Slawson
Missionaries: All Members of our Congregation

Multi-Media: Jim Huckemeyer
Multi-Media: Derick Johnson
Organist: Ann Vogel
Organist: Darryl Smith
Youth Director: Nick Frankenhauser
Children's Music: Maddy Frankenhauser
Church Historian: Fred Scheer
Custodians: Brad and Nam Gehrlich

Liturgist: Bryan Lynch
Our Giving to God, September 14, 2025
Current - \$ 2,641 / Mission - \$ 151
(Includes Vanco e-giving for the week)
Attendance – 133

Loose offering today will go to the Current Fund

Altar Flowers are given today by Kay Burd in honor of her parents,
Bob & Leota Nedderman

PRAYER CANDLES

If you would like someone to light a candle for you, place a card in the basket (located in the back center of the sanctuary) and a designated helper will light a candle for you.



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, Ohio
September 21, 2025

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



FALL CAFETERIA 2025

Chicken or Swiss Steak

Craft/Bake Sale 1:00 – 6:30pm in Heritage Hall



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.

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

WELCOME TO ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL TODDLER CARE – We have a Nursery available for those that need it. Children in 1st Grade and older should remain in the church.

HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE restroom is located on the sanctuary level near the Hospitality 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**, each Sunday, 10:00 am, and again Monday evenings at 7:00 pm.

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.

THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Handicap Accessible and Live Streamed

Today	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Morning Worship with Pastor Ed Karges
Monday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Tuesday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Wednesday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
	9:00 am	Quilting
Thursday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
	4:30 pm – 5:15 pm	Breaking Bread
	6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Bible Study in Heritage Hall
Friday	9:00 am – 2:00 pm	Church Office Hours
Next Sunday	9:00 am	Sunday School
	10:00 am	Morning Worship with Pastor Ed Karges

Interested in joining our church? Please see Pastor Ed for information.

PRAYER REQUESTS

- *Please continue praying for: Sidney Smith, Jeff Lemming, and Lucas Knatz*
- *Stonie Patterson, Jr., friend of Wynette Mase, who is struggling with advanced cancer*
- *All Legacy Members and Shut-ins, and the caregivers who provide them care,*

➤ *All those illnesses which cannot be seen.*

All prayer requests should 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.

If anyone would like to become a member of the prayer team and receive emails/ updates for prayer requests, please submit your email address to Carol Schmidt at: lschmidt@bright.net or text 419-394-6164.

ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS

Reminder, our Adult Bible Study, “Love God, Love Self, Love Neighbor” with Pastor Ed, meets on Thursdays, 6:30–7:30 pm in Heritage Hall.

Fall Cafeteria is coming up, Wednesday October 1st !!

The Adult Forum Class will start up again on Sunday, October 5th at 8:45 am.

The children will be singing in the morning Worship Service on October 5th.

Our Neighbors in Need offering is Sunday, October 5th. This is a special mission offering for the United Church of Christ, supporting 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.

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.

We currently have no Liturgists scheduled after next week.



What a day we had for Rally Day 2025!! We were blessed to have our Sunday School start off with great numbers in attendance, along with lots of youth to help and have some fun together. Our fellowship hall was filled with laughter, Western spirit, and the mouth-watering aromas of chili and brownies. **Thank you to everyone who cooked, baked, voted, and joined in the fun!!** You helped make this day such a blessing for our church family. Alongside the fun, we also carried out our Rally Day mission project: A food drive for AGAPE Ministries. The men and women of the church squared off in a friendly competition, and together we collected almost 300 lbs. of food. **By the way, the women brought in 50 lbs. more than the men.** Thank you for your generosity; these gifts will make a real difference for families in need. This day could not have happened without the hard work of our participants, organizers, and volunteers. From Chili chefs and Brownie bakers, to decorators, servers, our Firefighter Friends, 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 last ‘Breaking Bread’ meal of the year will be this Thursday, September 25th, as the Kitchen Remodel will begin after the Fall Cafeteria. We have put together a list of some other upcoming meals in the area:

Mondays—Living Hope Church 1130 Indiana Ave, St. Marys

Eat in or carryout, serving 5:00 – 6:30 pm.

Wednesdays—Grace Church 1001 Holly St, St. Marys

Eat in or carryout, serving 4:00 - 5:45 pm.(no carryout 2nd Wed. of the month)

St. Marys ‘Giving Thanks’ Meal: Thanksgiving Day, Nov 27, 11:00am—1:00pm at the High School, Eat in or Carryout. For shut in delivery please call Joni Gatton, 419-305-1997 no later than Nov 25, the Tuesday before the dinner.

Food Distribution: AGAPE Ministries (419) 394-8700 Call for details

09.21.25 Scripture

LUKE 16:1-9

The Parable of the Dishonest Manager

16 Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. ² So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management because you cannot be my manager any longer.’ ³ Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. ⁴ I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ ⁵ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ ⁶ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ ⁷ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ ⁸ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly, for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light. ⁹ And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone they may welcome you into the eternal homes.

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