

# ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

201 N. PERRY STREET • ST. MARYS, OHIO, 45885  
419-394-3811 opt. 3\* [www.stpaulsuccsm.com](http://www.stpaulsuccsm.com)

## THE COMMUNICATOR APRIL 2026

**"Food For Thought, Food for the Soul and Some Mashed Potatoes on the Side."**

### HE LIVES!

Easter morning begins with a question that still echoes across the centuries: *"Why do you look for the living among the dead?"* (Luke 24:5).

Those words were spoken to the women who had come to the tomb expecting to find Jesus where the dead are placed. They came with spices, grief, and resignation. In their minds, the story was over.

But God had something else in mind.

The tomb was empty. Christ was alive. And suddenly the question was no longer about death, but about where we expect to find life.

That question still speaks to us today. Do we look for Jesus among the living? Do we expect Christ to be active in the world around us? Do we believe that the risen Christ is still at work, in our church, in our community, and in our own lives?

Easter reminds us that Jesus is not confined to the pages of Scripture or the memories of the past. Christ is present and alive. We see him whenever forgiveness replaces bitterness, when hope rises where despair once lived, when kindness is offered freely, and when people gather together in faith and love.

The resurrection is not only something we remember, it is something we live.

Because Christ lives, hope lives.

Because Christ lives, love continues its work.

Because Christ lives, the church is not simply preserving the past but participating in God's ongoing work in the world.

So, this Easter, lift your eyes. Look for the living Christ among the living.

And do not be surprised when you find him at work all around you.

**He is risen! He lives!**



### SPECIAL TIMES

Sunday School 9:00 am  
Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Sunday Service Live  
Streamed on Facebook and  
YouTube

**Televised Service - TSC  
Cable, Channel 2 ,  
Digital Channel 1  
(1 week delay)  
Monday @ 7:00 pm**

### EASTER SUNRISE

#### BREAKFAST

St. Paul's UCC High School and Middle School Youth Groups will once again be hosting an Easter Breakfast after the Sunrise Service on April 5th. The breakfast is free to all members and guests of the church, although donations are accepted. All funds donated will go to Breaking Bread! We hope you will join us for good food and fellowship as we give praise to God for the sacrifice of His Son and the Good News that it brings to us!

# EASTER SEASON



MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE, APRIL 2nd, 7:00 PM

GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE, APRIL 3rd, 7:00 PM

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EASTER SUNDAY SUNRISE SERVICE, 7:00 AM

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST, 8:00 AM

EASTER SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP, 10:00 AM

## EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST

St. Paul's UCC High School and Middle School Youth Groups will once again be hosting an Easter Breakfast after the Sunrise Service on April 5th. The breakfast is free to all members and guests of the church, although donations are accepted. All funds donated will go to Breaking Bread! If you would like to donate any pastries to help with this breakfast, that would be much appreciated. We hope you will join us for good food and fellowship as we give praise to God for the sacrifice of His Son and the Good News that it brings to us!



## Rest, Pray, Listen in the Chapel

Although the Midweek Lenten services have come and gone, we would like to remind you that the Chapel is available anytime during office hours, and prior to or following worship services. Everyone is invited to stop by the Chapel if you need a moment or longer to rest, pray, and listen for God's voice.



**Donations of spring flowers for the Easter Services would be greatly appreciated. Please have your flowers in the Hospitality Room by 2:00 pm on Saturday, April 4th.**

**—Worship and Arts Committee**

# Congregation Connection Directory

Copies Available at Both Entrances to Our  
Church Sanctuary or

Contact Us to Have a Copy Mailed or Emailed  
to You at Home

Use Your God-Given Talents to Help Others and  
Strengthen Our Church Community



It's Not Too Late to Join Us... You Can Sign Up as a Volunteer  
or Local Business Provider by Filling Out Our Survey!

Questions? Send an Email to: [SMstewardship@gmail.com](mailto:SMstewardship@gmail.com),  
Contact our Church Office or Speak to a Member of the  
Stewardship Committee: Stephanie Marsee, Dane Marsee,  
Marsha Landers, Jane Laird, Kara Birt and Pastor Ed.





## **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 looking forward to providing delicious, free meals to our community, every Thursday except the first Thursday of the month.

**Upcoming Dates:**      **April 9**      **April 16**      **April 23**      **April 30**

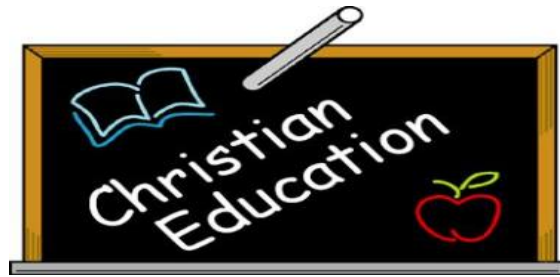
Want to contribute to help with costs for the weekly community dinner? Donations will be gratefully accepted. Donations can be placed in the Sunday offering plate or mailed to the church office. Please be sure to indicate your name on the envelope if you would like to receive credit on your giving statement. Contributions of #10 canned food are also accepted. If you so desire, you can use this QR Code to go directly to the VANCO site to donate.



Breaking Bread Community Meal



Sunday School Children assemble 200 Health Kits on March 15th, 2026



- The Sunday School Children have been studying Jesus' journey thru Lent.
- On Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> the children assembled 200 Health Kits for Disaster Relief.
- Information about Church Camp is available in the office.
- The Children sing in the Worship Service on Palm Sunday.
- They will also sing in the Worship Service on May 10th.
- Sunday, May 17th will be the last time Sunday School meets for this school year.
- VBS will be the first week of June.

7—Claydon Miller  
 8—Harrison Silber  
 8—Savannah Hills  
 19—Renlie Hartsock



Greetings, All!,

Spring has finally sprung (at least I hope it has by the time you read this). St. Paul's high school youth have spent a busy March studying Lent and Holy Week traditions, learning about the Last Supper, Jesus praying in Gethsemane, and the Crucifixion itself. The Youth Group also assisted with Sunday school one morning, both teaching about and demonstrating service leadership through teaching about Jesus washing the feet of his disciples. Several Youth members also participated in a fellowship outing where we attended a "rage room" and played laser tag at Escape Wapak, a change of pace from our normal escape room antics.

It also won't be long until May is here and we have to say goodbye to our seniors, whose leadership, faith, and humor will be sorely missed. Mark your calendars for May 17th to help us honor our graduates.

In Christ,  
 Nick Frankenhauser  
 Youth Director



**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, please donate the money to the youth. Thank you for your support!!

# ST. PAUL'S HISTORY

NOTES, STORIES,  
FACTS  
FROM THE PAST  
ISSUE 10



COME AND JOIN US FOR THE LENTEN SEASON.  
EASTER IS APRIL 5th. LETS FILL THE CHURCH!

DON'T FORGET TO HAVE YOUR SPRING FLOWERS TO THE CHURCH  
ON SATURDAY, APRIL 4TH AT 2:00 PM.



## FINANCIAL REPORT

### FEBRUARY 2026

#### Current Fund:

Budgeted through February 28, 2026 = \$ 45,084.78  
Received through February 28, 2026 = \$ 24,537.00  
Expenses through February 28, 2026 = \$ 37,303.00  
Received through February 28, 2025 = \$ 27,018.70

#### Mission Fund:

Budgeted through February 28, 2026 = \$ 2,500.00  
Received through February 28, 2026 = \$ 1,469.00  
Received through February 28, 2025 = \$ 1,325.00

### Status of 2026 Budget:

#### Current Fund:

Budgeted through March 31, 2026 = \$ 67,627.17  
Budgeted through March 15, 2026 = \$ 58,610.22  
Received through March 15, 2026 = \$ 38,430.00

#### Mission Fund:

Budgeted through March 31, 2026 = \$ 3,750.00  
Budgeted through March 15, 2026 = \$ 3,250.00  
Received through March 15, 2026 = \$ 2,152.00

### APRIL LOOSE OFFERINGS

- ♦ April 5—Organ Refurbishing Fund
- ♦ April 12—Current Fund

### **ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE**

*Don't forget that we now have online giving! It can be accessed 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!*

*Thank  
You*

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for the Valentine's Day Card and Gift Card! I appreciate your kindness, it means so much!

Thanks again,

Brynn Clark

St. Paul's Church Family,

Thank you for the card and the Subway gift card. I appreciate your continued support. Thank You for thinking of me!

Love,

Sophie James



**The Pastoral Search Committee and Consistory will hold a Congregational meeting on Sunday, April 12, 2026 immediately after the service for the purpose of presenting our recommendation for our settled pastor. A letter will be mailed to every member/family with more details. Please plan to attend the meeting on April 12, 2026 after the 10:00 a.m. Worship Service.**

**REMINDER: *The Deadline for articles, announcements, etc. for the May/June 2026 Communicator will be April 22nd.***

- ◆ 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 inform churches when a member is admitted.
- ◆ Please email the church office at: [smucc@bright.net](mailto:smucc@bright.net) with address corrections, or if your Birthday or Anniversary is not listed in the correct month. Or, 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 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 prepare the Newsletters for mailing, please email us at [smucc@bright.net](mailto: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 also postage expense.

## APRIL BIRTHDAYS!

- 2 - Sierra Merritt
- 3 - Jill Dickman
- 5 - Jennifer Ginter  
Jill Bush
- 6 - Joey Vanderhorst
- 7 - Judy Cooper  
Juanita Masonbrink
- 8 - John T. Holtzapple  
Sara Dieringer
- 9 - Nick Frankenhauser
- 10 - Steve Ginter  
Kristy Wilson
- 11 - Donny Carroll Jr.
- 12 - Maryann Andrews  
Mandy Miller  
Todd Sullivan
- 13 - Sharon Sullivan  
Charlett Wolfe
- 14 - David Miller
- 15 - Mary McDonald
- 16 - Andy Seipel
- 17 - Jane Nuss
- 18 - JoAnn Bambauer  
Larry Griesdorn  
Carol Gehres  
Emma Birt
- 21 - Lynda Hadley
- 22 - Donnie Farley  
Karen James  
Carolyn Schuller

- 23 - Renee Raymond  
Chris Anderson  
Paul Henning  
Alicia Slone
- 25 - Janice Katterheinrich  
Steve Katterheinrich  
Marlene Long  
Susan Spencer
- 26 - Kalie Gayer
- 27 - Judy Waesch  
Heidi Lemmerman  
Brittney Lauth
- 28 - Ronald Kline
- 30 - Larry Fischbach



## APRIL ANNIVERSARIES!

- 6 - Anna & Jonathan Coffey
- 7 - Laura & Chase Drewes
- 8 - Duane & Cynthia Thomas
- 12 - Jason & Andrea Clark
- 13 - Todd & Patty Sullivan
- 20 - Kevin & Amy Turner
- 21 - Dale & Kimberly Miller  
Rees & Deb McKee
- 25 - Bob & Ruth Griesdorn
- 27 - Michael & Sheryl Gray  
Tony & Linda McDonald  
Bob & Pam Prater
- 28 - Marsha & Greg Landers
- 29 - William & Jane Nuss



# April

# 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Quilting 9:00 am	2 Ladies Luncheon @ <u>CJ Highmarks</u> 11:30 am Maunder Thursday Service 7:00 pm	3 Good Friday Service 7:00 pm	4
<u>Resurrection</u> <u>Day !!</u>	5 Caregiving Support Group 7:00 pm	6 BINGO/Otterbein 5:30 pm	7 Quilting 9:00 am Consistory 6:00pm	8 Breaking Bread 4:30pm – 5:15pm 6:00pm Personnel Committee	9 Breaking Bread 4:30pm – 5:15pm 6:00pm Personnel Committee	10 11
Congregation Meeting After the Morning Worship Service	12	13	14 Quilting 9:00 am	15 Quilting 9:00 am	16 H.E.A.L. 1:30 pm Breaking Bread 4:30pm – 5:15pm	17 18
19	20 Rebecca Circle 1:00 pm	21	22 Quilting 9:00 am	23 Breaking Bread 4:30pm – 5:15pm	24	25
26	27	28	29 Quilting 9:00 am	30 Breaking Bread 4:30pm – 5:15pm		

