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# *Rhonda's Reflections*



## **What's Your Point?**

### ***Read Mark 10:35-45***

Do you remember a time when you felt important because of your association with someone else? Maybe it was in school and you got to hang with the cool kids. Maybe it was being asked to lunch by company leadership. Perhaps it even happened at church when you spent more time than usual with your new friend, the Pastor.

As humans we sometimes think our friends, acquaintances, or colleagues elevate our status. It is true that whom we surround ourselves with is important. Parents are correct when tell their children to hang out with the right crowd. Successful people do most times achieve success by surrounding themselves with other successful people. But the reality is that who we really are is mostly determined by our own actions, not the actions of others.

The trap for a Christian is the belief that it is enough to simply associate with Jesus Christ. James and John thought something similar in Mark's Gospel when they asked for seats of prominence next to Jesus in his coming Kingdom. But Jesus explained to them that essentially it is not who you associate with that makes all the difference, it is becoming like those with whom you associate. We are called to become Jesus in the world, to be a servant of all, just as he chose to do.

I bet it was great for the first disciples to hang with Jesus. But in the end, the goal was not for others to look at them and think they were so wonderful. The goal was for others to look at them and see not themselves, but only Jesus who always pointed to God.

See you in Church,  
Rev. Rhonda

## **RESUMING WORSHIP ACTIVITIES**

These past 14 months have been a great challenge for all of us. With the announcement from Gov. Mike DeWine that all coronavirus public health orders will be lifted June 2, the St. Paul's Consistory are excited to announce that beginning with our first Sunday in June, June 6<sup>th</sup>, we will be resuming worship activities...singing without wearing masks, passing the offering plate, passing the peace, and sitting together in worship, normal communion.

- Thank you for your patience, your prayer support and financial support!
- Thank you for your understanding!
- Thank you for your partnership in ministry!
- Thank you to the incredible staff and COVID Care Team at St. Paul's for all their hard work these past 14 months!
- Thank you to the Consistory for making important and difficult decisions!
- Thank you for all who give of their time and talents behind the scenes at St. Paul's!
- Thank you for your faithfulness and generosity, and for sharing the St. Paul's worship videos with family and friends!
- Thanks be to God for YOU!

Marsha Landers, President of Consistory  
Lynda Hadley, Vice President of Consistory  
Rev. Rhonda Hainer

## Helping Each other Adjust to Loss

We can all agree this has been a difficult year, full of challenges and many losses. It has been especially painful for those who are grieving the death of a loved one. Many are longing to be heard, to have their pain acknowledged. They have a need to tell their stories, to be assured that someone is listening and cares, without advice or criticism. HEAL is the St. Paul's grief support group led by Pastor Rhonda Hainer, who is trained to assist persons in times of loss, struggle, or crisis. **HEAL** or **H**elping **E**ach other **A**djust to **L**oss meets once a month, in the church lounge on June 17th at 1:00 p.m. and is open for anyone who is seeking comfort, clarity, hope for a path forward.

## SUMMER WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

Please note that starting **June 6, 2021**, we will begin our summer worship time at **10:00 a.m.** We will return to our regular worship time of 10:30 a.m. on "Rally Day" Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2021. Please take note of the new Summer Worship Time as well as the earlier date for Rally Sunday.

**Interested in becoming a member?** Contact Pastor Rhonda to set up a time to learn the process for formally joining St. Paul's UCC. You'll learn more about who we are, our beliefs, and our mission. You'll also get to hear the story of our church and discuss what it means to be a member of this congregation through serving, growing in your faith journey, moving toward generosity, and more. You'll have the opportunity to join the church at the end of the class if you choose. If you have any questions, contact [rhainer@bright.net](mailto:rhainer@bright.net) or 563-210-3508.

## AGAPE MISSION

Our ***goal again this year is 2000.*** Let's get rolling early this year and put the rolls in the Elevette Room. Currently, our totals are 1065 rolls of toilet paper and 441 bars of soap. If you would like for me to purchase rolls for you, I can do this. Just give your donation to me or the office. I will be glad to help out. So, let's just keep the paper rolling. Thank you for your past and present support of Agape projects. Jane Nuss.

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**Golden Sunday** We will celebrate Golden Sunday a little earlier this year on June 13<sup>th</sup>. Golden Sunday is a day in which we recognize those who are celebrating 50 years or more of marriage, those who are 80 years 'young' or older and those who have been members of St. Paul's 50 years or more. This celebration will take place on **Sunday, June 13th** and following worship there will be a luncheon for those members and their spouses/significant others. Below is an RSVP form for you to complete and send to or drop off at the church office or you may place it in the offering plate on a Sunday morning. You may also call the office to let me know you are attending. **Carolyn does have a 'Master List' of the categories listed above; however, information on some of the members is missing. If this is your first year to be added, please contact Carolyn so that she can be sure you are included.**

### **RSVP FOR GOLDEN SUNDAY, JUNE 13th**

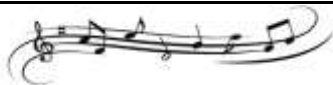
\_\_\_\_\_ **Yes, I/we will attend the worship and luncheon.**

\_\_\_\_\_ **# attending**

## 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 "GivePlus Church" 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!*

## Jim's Musical Notes



### **The Story Behind the song: "The Solid Rock"**

By Lindsay Terry

"So ignorant was I that I did not know there was a God. My Sundays were spent on the streets (of London) in play." Those were the words of Edward Mote, who rose from an unruly childhood to become a great writer and minister. He composed only one song, but a great song it is, indeed. It has been a favorite of people around the world.

In his early adult years, Mote attended Tottenham Court Road Chapel where he heard sermons by the noted John Hyatt. He soon learned from Hyatt's sermons that Jesus Christ could take away all the fears of life and give him the peace of heart and mind that he had long desired.

He became a carpenter apprentice and through hard labor and conscientious efforts came to own his own cabinet shop. One day while walking to his work, he began thinking that he should write a hymn. Before he reached his shop he had the chorus:

“On Christ the solid rock I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand.”

Before the day ended, he had four stanzas. The following Sunday, he visited in the home of a friend, a minister, whose wife was at the point of death. During the afternoon, they read from the scriptures and prayed with her. As the preacher looked for a hymnal to sing from, as was his custom, he could find none. Mote reached into his pocket and pulled out his verses and asked if they might be sung to her. And so they were. She seemed to enjoy them very much. Mote was so pleased that she found comfort in his verses, he had 1,000 copies printed for distribution among his friends.

“My hope is built on nothing less  
Than Jesus’ blood and righteousness.  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,  
But wholly lean on Jesus’ name.”

Chorus:

“On Christ the solid Rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.”

Sometime later, Edward Mote became a Baptist preacher. His efforts made it possible for a house of worship to be built for his congregation. They were so grateful they offered to deed the property to him, but he replied, “I do not want the Chapel, I want only the pulpit; and when I cease to preach Christ, then turn me out of that.”

He served this congregation for more than 20 years, never missing a single Sunday for any cause.

In his 77th year, as he lay on his bed of sickness, he replied, “I think I am going to heaven. Yes, I am nearing port. The truths I have preached I am now living upon, and they will do to die upon. Ah! The precious blood, which takes away all our sins. It is this,

which makes peace with God.”

What a victorious ending of a useful life. He was reared in a godless home, learned an honorable trade and gave it all up to become a preacher. His memory will remain for generations because he took time one day to write a simple gospel song.

“Therefore whosoever heareth  
these sayings of mine, and doeth them,  
I will liken him unto a wise man,  
which built his house upon a rock.”

- Matthew 7:2

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## **BREAKING BREAD COMMUNITY MEAL**

Breaking Bread will be serving from **4:30 to 5:15pm** (unless food is all gone before this). **Grab and Go from your car only.** Looking forward to providing delicious free meals to our community. Every Thursday except the first Thursday of the month.

- June 10
- June 17
- June 24

**BREAKING BREAD' COMMUNITY DINNER** - If you would like to make a financial contribution to help with costs for the weekly community dinner, these 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.





## JUNE BIRTHDAYS

4 – Taylor Rager	11 – Arianna Ickes
5 – Jaxson Collins	13 – Kenny Briggs
6 – Madison Milner	14 – Emrie Powell
7 – Wyland McCollum	20 – Jebediah McGee
8 – Audra Clark	20 – Evelyn Wale
10 – Hunter Winget	23 – Haley Anderson
10 – Avery Dieringer	28 – Tricia Yahl
10 – Ben McChesney-McDonald	

### 2020-2021 FAITHFUL ATTENDANCE

*Congratulations and thank you to the parents and grandparents for bringing your kids!! We appreciate all of you support!!*

<b><u>Faithful Attendance (missing 4 or less Sundays):</u></b> 🏆🏆🏆	
Jillian Frankenhouser	Ava Winget
Lucy Klosterman	Ryen Chisholm
Arianna Ickes	Vincent Walter
Toby Turner	Lincoln James
Amelia Klosterman	Avery Dieringer
Ethan Frankenhouser	Audra Clark
Henry Klosterman	Riley Anderson
Nolan Frankenhouser	Hunter Winget
Caleb Turner	Ollie Chisholm
Cody Birt	Madilyn Mauter
Tyler Birt	Brynn Clark
Emma Birt	Brian Speckman
<b><u>Sunday School Participation</u></b>	Kaylee Clausing
🏆🏆🏆	Sophie James
	Rhett Chisholm
	Ashlie Nuss

Elli Powell	Ray Walter
Grant Powell	Brooke Turner
Colt Bower	AJ Dieringer
Austin Winget	Charley Spencer
Savannah Hills	Kendall Dieringer
Graham James	Brett Speckman
Presley Anderson	Joey Vanderhorst
Harrison Silber	Brad Speckman
Adelyn Clark	Tricia Yahl
Dylan Winget	Lindsey Clausing
Beckett Clark	Katie Lucas
Haley Anderson	Lucy Spencer
	Leah Walter

### **MESSAGE FROM MARY**

Fifteen months ago God lead me to the Christian Ed Coordinator position. It has truly been a joy working with the children, parents, teachers and congregation. The love and support I have received from everyone has been overwhelming. My volunteer teaching staff has been wonderful and I can't thank them enough for all of their help these last 15 months. I also want to thank all of the Vacation Bible School volunteers for helping with the VBS program this year. A special thanks to Amy Keller for all of her help and support throughout the Sunday School year and especially with the total planning of VBS and its curriculum. Also, I want to thank all of you who have donated supplies for the Sunday School year as well as for VBS. Without all of these volunteers and helpers, I don't know what I would've done. That being said, due to recent health issues, I feel that God now wants me to take care of myself and my husband, John, as we try to heal our bodies and regain strength. Thank you all for allowing me to be your Christian Ed Coordinator these past 15 months. Again, thank you everyone for your support. Love and faith to each of you.

Mary Holtzapple

## **CHILDREN'S MINISTRY COORDINATOR POSITION AVAILABLE**

St. Paul's United Church of Christ is seeking a dedicated and energetic person to fill the position of Children's Ministry Coordinator. This part-time position is part of a robust children's Christian Education program.

Children's Ministry Coordinator will be responsible for the following:

- Work closely with the Church School Superintendent, teachers and classes as a consultant and resource.
- Provide ongoing teacher training and support.
- Promote Sunday School attendance and growth.
- Arrange group classes and work with Superintendent to keep records up to date.
- Coordinate, order and inventory curriculum materials and supplies.
- Coordinate and support Sunday School Volunteers
- Coordinate summertime Christian Education including Vacation Bible School.
- Work closely with the Director of Children's Choirs for event planning and special services
- Plan and promote children and youth involvement in worship and Congregational activities.
- Organize the Sunday School opening activities in the Gathering Room weekly
- Attend as a voting member of Christian Education and Nurture meetings. Attend other church meetings as needed.
- Communicate with Congregation through monthly newsletter and website.

- Create and maintain a “Call Em All” list for communicating Sunday School information.
- Promote the SHINE vision statement by serving, helping, inviting, nurturing and enlightening

To apply please submit a resume and cover letter to St. Paul’s United Church of Christ, 201 N. Perry St., St. Marys, OH 45885 Attn: Personnel Committee. The required documents can also be submitted via email at [smucc@bright.net](mailto:smucc@bright.net). Equal Opportunity Employer.



## CONGRATULATIONS 2021 St. Paul’s UCC Graduates

Emma Birt	Wyland McCollum	Lucy Spencer
Lindsey Clausing	Alex Mauter	Leah Walter
Austin Gottschalk	Taylor Rager	Reece Wheeler
Katie Lucas	Brad Speckman	Tricia Yahl

## “OUR GRADUATES” CLASS OF 2021

- ◆ **Emma Birt** plans to attend Wright State University Lake Campus majoring in accounting.
- ◆ **Lindsey Clausing** will attend Sinclair Community College to study as a physical therapy assistant.
- ◆ **Austin Gottschalk** plans to work for a year then attend college to study drafting.
- ◆ **Katie Lucas** will attend Ohio Wesleyan University to study business administration. She will also play soccer for the women’s team.

- ◆ **Alex Mauter** plans to attend Bowling Green State University to major in criminal justice.
- ◆ **Wyland McCollum** will enter the Marines in July.
- ◆ **Taylor Rager** will attend Bowling Green State University and major in social work.
- ◆ **Brad Speckman** will attend University of Northwestern Ohio to study automotive management.
- ◆ **Lucy Spencer** is waitlisted for the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. If she receives an appointment, she would be in the government program. If she does not enter this year, she will attend Wright State University Lake Campus.
- ◆ **Leah Walter** plans to attend University of Toledo majoring in environmental engineering.
- ◆ **Reece Wheeler** will attend Bowling Green State University to study business-supply chain management.
- ◆ **Tricia Yahl** will attend GROB and Rhodes State College to major in mechanical and electrical engineering.

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### **CHURCH GRANT RECIPIENTS**

The Grant Committee met in April to determine the recipients of the 2021 Grants. Grants were awarded to the following members:

Allie Vanderhorst  
 Emma Wibbeler  
 Kyle Lucas  
 Charles Walter  
 Clare Caywood  
 Katie Lucas  
 Emma Birt  
 Leah Walter  
 Kaylie Gayer

Courtney Nuss  
 Abigail Tuttle  
 Leah Strand  
 Howie Spencer  
 Carly Caywood  
 Lindsay Clausing  
 Brad Speckman  
 Lucy Spencer  
 Reece Wheeler

The committee congratulates this year's recipients and wishes them the best of luck as they move toward attaining their educational goals. You make us proud.



**Rally Day** = Sunday, August 22nd, is Rally Sunday. Sunday School/Confirmation returns at 9 a.m. The worship service time returns to 10:30 am. Most important is that it is the Sunday to which we are calling all of the St. Paul's church family to return from summer activities to study and worship God.

Making study and worship a priority in our lives as Christians is critical to the growth of our personal faith and witness. So, if you haven't already, make Sunday, August 22<sup>nd</sup> the day you'll commit to becoming regular in worship and more active in your church family's life.

**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 just take them on to recycling and donate the money, it may be just as easy once they are in your vehicle. Thank you for your support.



# BAPTISMS

On June 6, 2021, the church through baptism welcomed Jillian Mae Frankenhauser. Jillian is the daughter of Nick and Maddy Frankenhauser. Jillian has two older brothers, Nolan and Ethan. Welcome to the St. Paul's family

\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

On June 6, 2021, the church through baptism welcomed Carter Michael Opperman. Carter is the son of Kim Opperman, grandson of Marsha Landers and nephew of Kyle Opperman. Welcome to the St. Paul's family.

\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

On June 6, 2021, the church through baptism welcomed Savannah E. Hills. Savannah is the daughter of Aimee Hills. Welcome to the St. Paul's family.



On Sunday, June 6, 2021, St. Paul's welcomed two new members to the congregation! Nicholas (Nick) and Madeline (Maddy) Frankenhauser. Nick is our new Youth Director and Maddy is the Director of Children's Music. Nick and Maddy have three children, Nolan, Ethan and Jillian. Welcome to St. Paul's UCC!!

# WOMEN'S NEWS

## **Breakfast held for graduates and scholarship**

**recipients:** Breakfast for graduating seniors was held in Fellowship Hall on Sunday, May 16<sup>th</sup>. College students receiving grant money and the high school class were also invited. Mark Dieringer opened with prayer. Gifts from Christian Education and Women's Guild were passed out. The students then shared their plans for the fall.

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

**KROGER REWARDS UPDATE:** Thanks for supporting this program! Our supporters (34 households) who shopped at **Kroger** between **2-1-2021** and **4-30-2021** have contributed to our **\$122.79** total donation. Thank you for your continued support of your local Kroger store.

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## ***ARE YOU CRAFTY? DO YOU KEEP YOURSELF BUSY WITH CRAFTS OR HOBBIES?***

The Women's Guild would like to have another Craft Show to coincide with their Fall Harvest Meal/Bake Sale. If you have the extra time this summer, maybe you could make and donate a craft?

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## **QUILTERS**

Our quilting ladies meet on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to ??? in the sewing room. Questions? Call Margaret Hunter at 419-733-4332.  
***(Note: We don't meet in the summer months)***





Dear St. Paul's,

It is my sincere pleasure to thank you for your recent gift to Heidelberg University. The university is indeed grateful to be the recipient of such a kind and thoughtful gift. This gift provides a lasting legacy and makes a significant difference to the well-being of the institution.

Thank you again,

Ashley Helmsteter, Executive Director of Alumni  
Engagement & Major Gifts, Heidelberg University

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

Dear Church family,

Thank you to everyone for helping me celebrate my 100<sup>th</sup> birthday with cards, notes, flowers, gifts, visits and phone calls. Everything was very much appreciated.

Norma Lhamon

~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*~\*

Thank you to the members of your church for the kind gift to Defiance College. As we come to the end of our fiscal year, we are grateful for your help in meeting our annual goal.

Sincerely,

Michele Tinker

Interim Director of Development, Defiance College



Our sympathy to the family and friends of the following member(s) who have passed away since the last newsletter:

- Aileen Duncan – April 27, 2021\*\*
- Rodney Martin – May 3, 2021\*\*\*
- Lorene Metz – May 10, 2021\*

*\*Indicates Pastor Rhonda conducted service*












*\*\*Indicates a family member conducted the service*

*\*\*\*Indicates the Hospice Chaplain conducted the service*



- **To the Elevator Fund in memory of Dorothy McMullen:**  
Sharon Gottschalk
  - **To the Memorial Fund in memory of Dorothy McMullen:**  
Grace Young, Donna and Dean Mann, Linda and David Huston, Carol Knatz, Virginia Burroughs, Vernon and Julia Paul.
  - **To the Memorial Fund in memory of Pastor Rhonda's mother, Agnes Hemenway:** 2021 Consistory
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# The Bulletin Board

-  If you will be going to the hospital or if someone you know is hospitalized, please call the church office and let us know.
-  Please call the church office with address corrections or if you do not see your **Birthday** or **Anniversary** listed during the correct month. Call 419-394-3811. Thank you!!
-  **CALL-EM-ALL** - Please let the church office know if you are experiencing any problems with the Call-Em-All phone messages. **Also, if you would like to be removed from the calling 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.** Thank you!
-  **Cell phone #** for Pastor Rhonda (563) 210-3508
-  **rhainer@bright.net** – Rev. Hainer's e-mail address.
-  **smucc@bright.net** - church e-mail address. Use this to e-mail articles for the newsletter/messages for the Sunday bulletin.
-  **christianed@bright.net** - Christian Education and Youth Director email address.
-  **cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com** to contact Carol Schmidt for the Email Prayer Team Requests.
-  **spmedia@bright.net** – to contact Jim Huckemeyer or Rich Spencer email address.
-  **www.stpaulsuccsm.com** - church web site address and most current worship service videos can be seen here.
-  **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. There is a one week delay of the service shown.

## **STAFF OF ST. PAUL'S UCC:**

... **Rev. Rhonda Hainer, Pastor**  
... **Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant**  
... **Amy & Mark Dieringer, Youth Directors**  
... **Jim Huckemeyer, Director of Music**  
... **Maddy Frankenhauser, Director of Children's Music**  
... **Andrea Spencer, Organist**  
... **Ann Vogel, Organist**  
... **Cynthia Hanover, Pianist**  
... **Becky Anderson, Pianist**  
... **Bob Schumacher, Custodian**  
... **Rich Spencer, Audio and Video**  
... **Carol Schmidt, Email Prayer Team Contact**  
... **Mary Holtzapple, Christian Ed Coordinator**  
... **Kim Opperman, Church School Superintendent**  
... **Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher**  
... **Kim Opperman, Nursery Supervisor**

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**EYEGLASSES FOR THE NEEDY** - collected by the church school classes. Donated glasses should be placed in the basket at the North entrance to the sanctuary.

**Kroger Fund Raiser for the Women's Guild** – If you would like to support Women's Guild with the Kroger fundraiser, log on to: [www.krogercommunityrewards.com](http://www.krogercommunityrewards.com) to sign up & register your Kroger Plus card. **NPO# is SK5720**. If you do not use the internet, but would like to sign up, please contact Jane Nuss or Kris Vanderhorst.

**LIFT CHAIR** is available for 'loan' to anyone in the church who might have a need for it. Please call the church office for more information.

**ATLAS 600 VISION MACHINE – QUANTITY OF 2** - to assist those who have vision problems with reading books, newspapers, prescription labels, writing personal checks or viewing family photographs - making this possible with video magnifiers.

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**WALKERS** - If you have need of a walker for assistance in getting around, please call the church office. One of our church members has several different type walkers, which are available for loan.

**RESTROOM ITEMS:** If you have a need for shower chairs, toilet seat elevators and hand-held shower adapters, please call the church office. One of our church members has graciously donated a few of these items.

**LAMINATOR** - available in the church office. This is used by the Sunday School teachers for classroom projects and activities and by the office staff. We will also laminate items for church members for a fee of \$1.00 per item (**NOTE: maximum size we can laminate is 8 ½ x 11 inches**).

**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.....**PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**

**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. If it is a large project, it is best to call ahead. **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 paper.**

**THE DVD/CD DUPLICATOR** in the church office enables us to make multiple copies of the morning worship service. Please call the church office to request a copy. **The charge for duplicating a DVD will be \$2.00 each.** Monthly sets of worship DVD's can also be mailed at a cost of \$10.00 per month. Call the church office for more information.

## **2021 CHURCH OFFICIALS**

<b>President of Congregation</b>	Jeff Dieringer
<b>Vice-president of Congregation</b>	Darren Caywood
<b>President of Consistory 2021</b>	Marsha Landers
<b>Vice-president of Consistory 2021</b>	Lynda Hadley

### **2021 Members of Consistory**

<b>Elders:</b>	Jane Nuss	Marsha Landers
	Joan Leffel	Mary Holtzapple
	Kevin Gehres	Lori Now
<b>Deacons:</b>	Lynn Schmidt	Melinda Silber
	Lynda Hadley	Kelly Kill
	Susan Braun	Linda McDonald
	Jennifer Ginter	Susan Spencer
	Becky Anderson	Jill Dickman
	Carol Schmidt	Jen Lucas
<b>Trustees:</b>	Kyle Opperman, Larry Kill and DeWayne Marsee	

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## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

### **April 2021:**

#### **Current Fund:**

- Budgeted through April 30, 2021 = \$ 87,808.68
- Received through April 30, 2021 = \$ 81,363.61
- Expenses through April 30, 2021 = \$ 79,933.73
- Received through April 30, 2020 = \$ 77,484.25

#### **Mission Fund:**

- Budgeted through April 30, 2021 = \$ 5,000.00
- Received through April 30, 2021 = \$ 3,798.00
- Received through April 30, 2020 = \$ 4,930.00

## **Status of 2021 Budget:**

### **Current Fund:**

- Budgeted through May 31, 2021 = \$ 109,760.85
- Budgeted through May 16, 2021 = \$ 100,980.00
- Received through May 16, 2021 = \$ 103,190.82

### **Mission Fund:**

- Budgeted through May 31, 2021 = \$ 6,250.00
  - Budgeted through May 16, 2021 = \$ 5,750.00
  - Received through May 16, 2021 = \$ 5,622.00
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## **MINUTES OF THE MAY 12, 2021 CONSISTORY MEETING**

The regular meeting of St. Paul's UCC Consistory was called to order at 6:02 p.m. by President Marsha Landers. Pastor Rhonda opened the meeting with a review of our church covenant followed by prayer.

**Present:** *Elders:* Jane Nuss, Mary Holtzapple, Kevin Gehres, Joan Leffel and Marsha Landers; *Trustees:* Larry Kill, and Kyle Opperman; *Deacons:* Lynda Hadley, Melinda Silber, Susan Spencer, Kelly Kill, Jennifer Ginter, Carol and Lynn Schmidt, Linda McDonald, Becky Anderson, Jill Dickman and Jen Lucas. Also present were, Treasurer, David Dickman, Administrative Assistant Carolyn Garrison, Custodian Bob Schumacher and guest Jim Huckemeyer.

### **Christian Education and Nurture:** Mary Holtzapple

- Christian Ed held a meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> to discuss the upcoming Vacation Bible School, Senior Breakfast and volunteers for VBS.
- Sunday School children will be planting flowers around the church this coming Sunday.
- We have nine kids signed up to go to church camp this summer. The amount attending is down due to Covid.

Administrative Assistant, Carolyn Garrison, asked Consistory how much is the church going to pay toward the cost for each child? There is \$4,000 in the church budget and in the past, there have been various amounts given each child depending on the outcome of who won the mission they held earlier in the spring. Jill Dickman made a motion to pay \$250 toward each child attending church camp. Mary Holtzaple seconded. Motion carried.

**Minutes:**

- Minutes from the March 10, 2021, meeting were reviewed. Carol Schmidt made a motion to approve the minutes. Jane Nuss seconded. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** David Dickman

- David reviewed the Financial Report for the month of March 2021. There being no other questions, President Marsha asked to file the financial report for review by the church Administrative Assistant.

**President's Report:** No report

**Pastor's Report:** Rhonda Hainer

- Pastor Rhonda picked up on some items that were “tabled” last month while she was away on vacation:
  - Request for two worship services in the summer. Rhonda explained that moving to two services given the post-pandemic experience is **not** an option for this church as with most churches, our attendance is lower than pre-pandemic. Splitting the attendance into two worship services will reduce the size even more and create the feelings of failure. It would be better to lose a few more at one service rather than to have two services.
  - Another item tabled last month was the church time for summer. Rhonda stated that she participated in a Continuing Education course sponsored by the UCC which fulfilled the boundary training that clergy have to complete yearly. This particular course was



led by Rev. Jim Keith of the Riverside Church in New York City with 150 Ohio clergy in attendance (via zoom). It was the position of the majority of the participants that churches should maintain the same worship schedule as they do the rest of the year for the following reasons. Continuity is important, change is difficult, and no one schedule is the same for everybody. It is better that we stay with the same time. If you choose to schedule worship at a different time. Rhonda stated that she would support Consistory's decision, as that is up to Consistory to decide.

- Another item, according to the CDC, it has been confirmed that there is a low risk of getting Covid by surface contact, so we have returned the hymnals to the pews given the CDC advice and given the fact that many in our congregation have been vaccinated, Rhonda recommended that we resume passing the offering plates and return to normal communion. Rhonda went on to say that she sees doing this as a reasonable action as it still safeguards the lives of people. Rhonda stated that because she does feel better to be cautious, given our commitment to the health of each other, she does recommend that we continue to social distance in the pews as we do already, maintain "The Wave," and wearing masks since that is the guidance of the CDC.
- In April Rhonda stated that she attended (via Zoom) the Heartland Conference Annual Meeting with Jim Huckemeyer, Kevin Gehres, as well as Jeanette Tangeman.
- The Grief Support Group that was held around the holidays will be resuming May 20<sup>th</sup> at 1 p.m.
- Rhonda stated that she has plans to start inviting small groups out to her home for cookouts with the hopes of

trying to get to know more and more of the families that are not in attendance currently.

- Rhonda has been a part of the VBS planning and will be one of the Leaders.
- The church had one student confirmed and one baby baptized. Up and coming there is a family that would like to join the church as well as a baptism of their child. There are also two more baptisms scheduled.
- Rhonda shared information with the Consistory that the St. Marys Ministerium is planning a community worship at Summerfest to be held Sunday morning, August 15<sup>th</sup>. Last year prior to the festival being canceled, we declined the invite due to the lack of enforcement of wearing masks.
- Rhonda expressed some of the “dreams” that she has to include:
  - -a hog roast and family activities for Rally Day in August.
  - -a church outdoor “movie night” using the old screen and the vacant lot next to the church. --An evening gathering called “Seek and Soak” once a month where we have people come together and sing hymns and have prayer time, no sermon, but a time to seek God and soak in God.
- Rhonda said that she has a call into someone who does long range planning and would like to move forward with that as soon as she can get that person secured, and to find out what that may entail as we are to that point that we tabled last year because of Covid. Jen Lucas has stepped back from leading the Long-Range Committee due to her commitment to heading up the Personnel Committee. Rhonda went on to say that she believes that it would be a good move for us to have someone to come in and work with us to plan for the future, where we are going, who we are, and what we are about.

**Loose Offering:** Marsha Landers

- The Loose Offering for June was decided at the March Consistory Meeting. The Loose Offering for July will be decided at the June Consistory Meeting

**Budget and Finance:** No Report

**Trustees:** Kyle Opperman

- The boiler has been fixed and has passed inspections.
- The parking lot will be sealed once the temperature is above 75°.
- Thank you to everyone who helped mulch the flower beds around the church

**Elders:** No report

**Deacons:** Lynn Schmidt

- Due to resuming the passing of the offering/communion plates, a chart has been prepared and is being passed around for the various sections of the sanctuary to cover. Starting in June, please be in attendance for your regular Deacon duties.

**Christian Mission and Outreach:** No report

**Personnel:** Jen Lucas

- Will discuss in Executive Session.
- Mary Holtzapple asked if we need to do background checks on the VBS volunteers since it will be held in one room with all volunteers in attendance together. Joan Leffel made a motion to not have background checks completed. Kyle Opperman seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Stewardship Committee:** No report

**Old Business:**

- Marsha Landers asked about combining the Evangelism Committee with Christian Mission and Outreach as well as Breaking Bread since they basically work off of each other. Lynda Hadley made a motion to combine the committees. Jill Dickman seconded. Motion carried.
- Marsha Landers asked if anyone had any suggestions to renaming the Elevette Room as was discussed at the April

Consistory meeting. Jen Lucas made a motion to leave the room named as is. Larry Kill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Marsha Landers asked about our summer worship schedule, date it starts and what time is best. Jill Dickman suggested our normal 10 a.m. summer time as it is difficult for the older generation to get here at 9 a.m. Joan Leffel stated that she has been asked by some members about having two services, one being an early service. Pastor Rhonda reiterated the disadvantages she explained during her Pastor's report and how post-pandemic continuity is important. Kevin Gehres made a motion to keep the summer worship time at 10 a.m. beginning June 6<sup>th</sup>. Kyle Opperman seconded. Motion passed. Jim Huckemeyer asked what the date will be to return to the 10:30 a.m. worship time. Pastor Rhonda stated that it will return to 10:30 a.m. on Rally Day, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**New Business:** None

The regular meeting adjourned at 6:45 pm and went into executive session which then adjourned at 7:05 pm. Kyle Opperman made the motion to adjourn and Larry Kill seconded.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marsha Landers, 2021 Consistory President  
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant



**DON'T FORGET**

***Deadline for articles, announcements, etc. for the July/August Double Issue of The Communicator will be June 17<sup>th</sup>.***



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

# US Flag Day Word Search



STARS AND STRIPES

HALF-STAFF

PATRIOTIC

NATIONAL ANTHEM

UNION JACK

AMERICAN

US FLAG DAY

FLAG POLE

NATIONAL

VEXILLOLOGY

HALF-MAST

OFFICIAL

BETSY ROSS

OLD GLORY

THIRTEEN



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