

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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

MAY 2023



THE COMMUNICATOR

Rhonda's Reflections

Every day during Lent this year, a colleague, Rev. Cindy Hickman, has asked the question "What does Love look like?" I found her words inspiring, especially since I lived in Iowa for 20 + years, and I offer them as my reflections for the month.

Today, love looks like this: Thank the Iowa Hawkeyes Women's Basketball Team for their commitment to their sport this season. (Commitment is a form of love.)

- Thank them for their assists and rebounds. (Assisting and rebounding are forms of love too.)
- Thank them for picking up a basketball years ago and catching a dream and following it. (Catching a dream and following it is a path to love.)
- Thank them for the hours and hours of practice. (Persistence requires love, and love requires persistence.)
- Thank them for their grit and strength. Millions of young people watched and reconsidered their own grit and strength. (Grit and strength are love too.)
- Thank them for every beautiful swish. (Talent well-used is inspiring. Love again.)
- Thank them for every time, they supported one another, pulling each other up off the floor, patting a hand after a missed free throw, huddling together. (Supporting each other: love again.)
- Thank them for being friends who appreciate one another's talents. (Appreciation. Yes, love.)
- Thank them for bringing excitement and joy into our lives in the last few weeks. (Joy is an expression of love.)
- Thank them for elevating their sport. (Elevating, it's on the love list too.)

Thank their coaches, too, who serve as role models for their team. (Serving as a role model, living up to high standards so that others can set high standards too. Sure that's love.)

You may be thinking, "My team doesn't wear black and gold. I am a red and white, or yellow and red sort of person." Disregard the colors. Think of these young women simply as young people who worked their hardest.

See you in church,
Rhonda

SPECIAL TIMES

Sunday School and Adult
Forum 9:15 am

Sunday Worship 10:30 am

Summer Worship June 4th-
September 10th 10:00 am

Sunday Service Live
Streamed on Facebook and
YouTube

• **Televised Service - TSC-
Cable, Channel 2 , Digital
Channel 1**

• **Sunday @ 10:30 am
(1 week delay)**

• **Monday @ 7:00 pm**





FAQ About Restoring the 1954 Schantz Organ

What will happen to the organ during the renovation?

The following is a quote from Luke Tegtmeier from Schantz Organ Company:

"The process to rebuild an organ is really a two-part process. Replacing all of the 67-year-old leather in the mechanisms in the chamber is one part. The second part is upgrading the console electrical system, which includes some work in the chamber."

By having an updated organ with 21st-century technology, the instrument will be greatly expanded in flexibility and usability making it more inviting to recruit and retain future organists.



... when the mechanisms (leather) fail, the organ has holes in its sound production.

Our two cents worth

From the Stewardship Committee

In February we began leaving 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.

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 cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com, 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. **Which meets on the first Monday each month at 7p 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 (or Ruth Knous in Jeanette's absence). The purpose of the gathering is to support each other, learn from each other, and find helpful resources. Please call Jeanette at 419-234-7935, or Ruth Knous at 419-953-6274 if any questions.



**Become
Part of
Our
Church
Family**

Join us for our "Third Sunday Membership Opportunity" on the third Sunday of the month

Sunday, May 21st at 11:45 am

Following the 10:30 am Worship Service

If you are interested in learning more about becoming a member of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, we invite you to our "Third Sunday" membership opportunity. You can meet with the Pastor following the worship services on the Third Sunday of each month. If you would like to join, you will be received into membership at that time. New members will then be recognized during worship the following Sunday (or the next Sunday you will be in attendance).

We meet in the Chapel (fka Library).



Mark your calendar —Special dates in MAY

PENTECOST: **Sunday, May 28th**, is the celebration of Pentecost (the birthday of the Christian Church). Please ***wear red to worship*** that day. Communion will be offered.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH: **On Sunday, May 21st**, we will be receiving the Strengthen the Church special mission offering of the United Church of Christ, which builds the UCC's future. It funds new congregations and renews existing ones. It supports programs for youth and young adults and nurtures current and future leaders, aids the "God is Still Speaking" Ministry to spread our message of inclusivity. An envelope for this special offering will be included in your bulletin on that Sunday.

DECORATE THE ALTAR FOR PENTECOST

Everyone is welcome to donate RED flowers to decorate the sanctuary for Pentecost. We are going to widen the selection this year and use more than just geraniums! Have your flowers in the Hospitality Room (fka Elevette Room) on **Saturday, May 27th by 12:00**. The flowers that aren't picked up after church will be planted outside in the flowerbeds .



Helping Each other Adjust to Loss H.E.A.L.

HEAL is St. Paul's grief group of people who gather monthly on the **third Thursday at 1:30** to **Help Each other Adjust to Loss**. Pastor Rhonda is a trained bereavement counselor, and leads this group for anyone who has recently or long ago experienced a loss of a loved one and would like a safe place to share their feelings. **HEAL** grief group is open to all faiths. The next meeting is **May 18, 2023, 1:30 p.m.** in the Chapel (fka the old library).



Turkey & Syria Earthquake Appeal

The news continues to unfold about the devastating earthquake on the border of Turkey and Syria. The UCC has issued an appeal to help in the recovery efforts in that area. Amid this uncertainty, you can be certain that with your financial donation, the UCC will be there helping those in need. When making your check out, write the check to St. Paul's UCC, and be sure to write Turkey and Syria in the memo line so that your money goes in the correct account. Thank you.



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.

- May 11
- May 18
- May 25

BREAKING BREAD COMMUNITY DINNER NEWS

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.

EASTER ALTAR FLOWER DONATIONS

In memory of loved ones Sara and Gary Seewer

In memory of Bill and Sis Krugh

In memory of Vern Luedeke

In loving memory of Lee Clausing, from Sandra

In memory of loved ones Fred and Pam Scheer

Lori Scheer

Margaret Hunter

Lynda and Glenn Hadley

Marsha Landers

Bernie and Marilyn Schroer

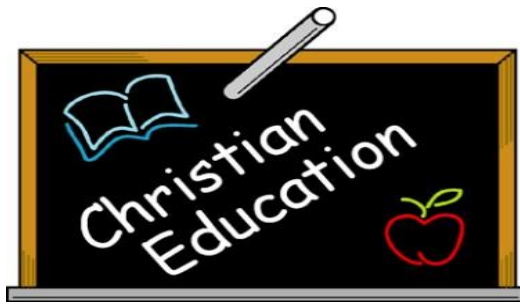
Golden Sunday

We will celebrate Golden Sunday a little earlier this year on June 11th. 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 11th** and following worship there will be a luncheon for those members and their **spouses/significant others/or your guest**. Please complete the RSVP form and send to or drop off at the church office, or place it in the offering plate on a Sunday morning. You may also call the office to let Carolyn know you are attending. **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 by JUNE 8th

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

_____ **# attending**



8 – Ella McCord 24 – Merritt Burke
9 – Lucy Klosterman 31 – Sophie James
18 – Ellie McCord

**LAST DAY OF SUNDAY
SCHOOL IS MAY 14TH!**

**MAY
BIRTHDAYS!**



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

Our youth group had an overnighter on April 8 at the church and then prepared the annual Easter morning breakfast. The Jr. High youth helped them as well on Sunday morning. All the youth did a wonderful job and the breakfast was wonderful.

All youth were involved in the Palm Sunday service on April 2. Nursery to 12th grade had a part of the service that was led entirely by the youth. Nursery to 8th grade had a Palm Sunday program during the service and the Senior High youth helped with readings, offerings and musical talents. I feel like the word “blessed” is overused at times, but we truly are BLESSED with youth that are excited to be at church and are willing to service the church in whatever areas we ask. We are also thankful for the parents that bring our younger youth, because without you, we would not have faithful attendance that we do each Sunday.

Contact Jane Nuss or Joni Leffel if you have a camper that is going to church camp. We will need to pay the church portion in early May, so that parents will know what unpaid balance they have to pay before the final payment.

Our 6th/7th/8th grade classes had a night out at Varsity Lanes for bowling and pizza. It was well attended, and they had a lot of fun. Thank you to the teachers and parents that helped with that.

IMPORTANT DATES COMING UP:

Jane and Joni will be making pancakes and sausage for the Sunday School children on May 14th during Sunday School. This will be a “fun” Sunday and will also be the last day of Sunday School until the fall.

Vacation Bible School is May 30, May 31 and June 1 from 6-8pm.

Senior Breakfast: May 21st is Senior Day and Scholarship Day. High School graduating seniors must RSVP to the invite that they will be receiving. Scholarships will be handed out during the worship service.

Looking several months ahead... on Sunday, September 10, 2023, we will resume Sunday School. This will give those that enjoy a weekend away on Labor Day.

Keep checking our Sunday School Facebook page, we try to post pictures from Sunday School on there every week.



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



TAKE NOTE: Due to a lack of interest, the Women's Retreat scheduled in June, has been canceled.

ATTENTION **LADIES OF ST. PAUL'S**

There will be a Ladies Luncheon at JT's on Thursday, May 4th at 11:30 a.m. All of the ladies of the church are welcome. Please **RSVP to the church office or Jane Nuss by Noon on the Monday before the luncheon.**

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)**



Bingo will be held on the following Tuesdays:

May 2nd – Vancrest 6:15-7:15p
June 6th— Otterbein 5:30-6:30p

We are in need of BINGO
helpers and cookies

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

High School **YOUTH GROUP** St. Paul's UCC

This time of year, is always paradoxical for Youth Group--the beginning of the Sunday School year seems so long ago, and yet at the same time it feels like it flew by us. April and May are typically busy for us, and this year was no exception. After the High School Youth overnighter on Holy Saturday, both the High School and Middle School Youth groups hosted Easter breakfast after the Sunrise Service. A special thanks go out to Amy Keller for decorating Fellowship Hall! As appropriate for the post-Easter Season, the high school Youth studied the Book of Acts on Sunday mornings, and we held our final fellowship event of this Sunday School year by relieving some stress during a Nerf arena battle at Escape Wapak. The last day of Sunday School will be May 14th, Mother's Day, and the yearly Scholarship Breakfast will be held on May 21st, where current Seniors and graduates currently in college will be honored and awarded financial aid from the church. Finally, several High School Youth members and graduates will be traveling to Biloxi, Mississippi in June to take part in a mission trip to Back Bay Mission, and others will participate in various summer camps at Temples Hills.

That wraps up my second year as Youth Director for St. Paul's UCC. I have been blessed to learn so much more about God, our church, and these wonderfully impressive teens than I ever imagined I would. I thank all our Youth, parents, and staff for their unwavering support this year, and I pray that everyone has a healthy and joyful summer! ~ Nick

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL NEWS



Vacation Bible School is three evenings this year and will be held on May 30, May 31, and June 1 from 6p-8p. Nursery through 6th Grade. Singing, games, crafts, daily lessons on How You Can Let Your Light "Shine". Any questions, see Amy Keller. **Registration form is enclosed herein.**

VBS Mission for the kids and congregation members: Microwaveable Mac-n-Cheese cups. These can be dropped off in the Hospitality Room (fka Elevette Room).

Graduation/College/Scholarship Sunday Breakfast and Recognition

On Sunday, May 21 at 9:30 there will be a breakfast in Fellowship Hall for the 2023 graduates, college students, and those receiving scholarships.

At the 10:30 a.m. service we will be honoring those graduating from high school; those home from college; and those who'll be receiving scholarships this year from our congregation. It will be great to hear from each one about her or his plans for the future and news about their progress in their studies.

Come to worship and support of all these young ones, of whom we all are so proud.

Please let the church office know if you will be attending by May 17. We look forward to seeing you all.

2023 GRADUATES

Tyler Birt
Adam "AJ" Dieringer
Karlie Lucas

Charley Spencer
Brooke Turner

Come to worship and support of all these young people of whom we all are so proud of!

THANK YOU!

Dear Friends,

Your recent work camp time spent at the Back Bay Mission was a blessed event for many! Undoubtedly, there was a good impact on both our client's lives as well as yours. We trust whenever you reflect on that time, it will summon a smile. It surely does for those you helped. Your selfless acts of kindness and service restore a comfort and are a breath of hope for many in need on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. We look forward to the day you can join us again and continue giving. May God bless you in your journey of faith!

Gratefully,

Craig Steenkamp, Jeanette Tangeman, Samantha Bell, Julie, Joyce and Todd

~*~*~*~

Thank you to my church family for the fun and nice Valentines. Also, thank you to the Sunday School kids for the huge Valentine with all of their signatures! All of these Valentines made for a very happy Valentine's Day. Thank you.

Ruth Dustman

2023 CHURCH OFFICIALS

President of Congregation Greg Leffel
Vice-president of Congregation Bill Nuss
President of Consistory 2023 Kevin Gehres
VP of Consistory 2023 Susan Braun

2023 Members of Consistory

Elders:	Janet Gibson	Susan Braun
	Kevin Gehres	Lori Now
	Diane Gayer	Marsha Heckler
Deacons:	Vicke Miller-McGee	Fred Scheer
	Carol Waesch	Tom Dickman
	Becky Anderson	Jill Dickman
	Carol Schmidt	Jen Lucas
	Carol Gehres	Marsha Landers
	Kelly Kill	Ruth Knous
Trustees:	DeWayne Marsee	Tim Hirschfeld
	Larry Kill	



MARK YOUR CALENDAR

June 18th following worship
there will be a Pot-Luck
Carry-In Luncheon
Celebrating Rev. Jeanette's
25th Anniversary of her
Ordination!
(tableware, drinks and
dessert provided)



Jane Nuss has stepped down as our Agape representative. Janet Gibson and Terri Kerns have agreed to fill the position of representing St. Paul's on the Agape Board/Meetings. Thank you Jane for all of your hard work.

Welcome aboard Janet and Terri!

SUMMER WORSHIP TIME CHANGE

Please note that starting JUNE 4th, we will begin our summer worship time of 10:00 a.m. We will return to our regular worship time of 10:30 a.m. on "Rally Day" Sunday, September 10th.

FINANCIAL REPORT

February 2023

Current Fund:

Budgeted through March 31, 2023	= \$ 68,880.00
Received through March 31, 2023	= \$ 57,634.75
Expenses through March 31, 2023	= \$ 59,082.11
Received through March 31, 2022	= \$ 54,581.62

Mission Fund:

Budgeted through March 31, 2023	= \$ 3,750.00
Received through March 31, 2023	= \$ 2,256.00
Received through March 31, 2022	= \$ 2149.09

STATUS OF 2023 BUDGET:

Current Fund:

Budgeted through April 30, 2023	= \$ 91,840.00
Budgeted through April 16, 2023	= \$ 82,656.00
Received through April 16, 2023	= \$ 68,984.94

Mission Fund:

Budgeted through April 30, 2023	= \$ 5,000.00
Budgeted through April 16, 2023	= \$ 4,500.00
Received through April 16, 2023	= \$ 3,156.00



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

Nellie Krauss – April 13, 2023*

John Hall—April 21, 2023*

*Indicates Pastor Rhonda conducted services



- ◆ To the Memorial fund in memory of Carol McDonald: St. Paul's Women's Guild
- ◆ To the Organ fund in memory of Nellie Krauss: Bob and Sue Schumacher

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE APRIL 12, 2023 CONSISTORY MEETING

- Pastor Rhonda noted that the 25th Ordination Anniversary celebration for Jeanette Tangeman is set for the June 18th service, with Rev. Dan Busch present to share in the recognition. Following the service, everyone is invited to a potluck lunch in Fellowship Hall.
 - Trustees shared they are working on stump removal, basketball backboard replacement, and repair of a leak on the roof in the Christian Education building stairwell.
 - Christian Education & Nurture shared the last day of Sunday School is May 14, with resuming on September 10. Vacation Bible School scheduled for May 30, 31, and June 3. Back Bay Mission trip for youth has 10 youth and 4 adults set to go June 10 - 17.
 - Christian Mission and Outreach shared that Pastor Rhonda has communicated with Jeannie Szilagyi, (Sharing America's Resources Abroad), and is planning to be present on May 21st to share S.A.R.A.'s efforts in the Ukraine.
- In New Business, the Consistory voted to rename the Elevette Room to the Hospitality Room, and the former Library to the Chapel. Additionally, a motion passed for summer worship to start at 10:00am, beginning with June 4th.

Full Consistory Minutes are available upon request in the church office.

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!
- ♦ **VANCO electronic giving** - Download 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.
- ♦ **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.**

NAME: _____

DATE: _____

★ Memorial Day Word Search ★

Anthem Fallen
 Ceremony
 Flowers Veterans
 Honor
 Service Memorial
 Arlington
 Civil war Patriotic
 Battle
 Military Soldier
 Decoration
 Tribute Country
 Marines

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

COOL2BKIDS



Deadline for articles, announcements, etc. for the June 2023 Communicator will be May 18th

Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assist.
Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director
Tracy Winget, Sunday Nursery Supervisor
Cynthia Hanover, Choir/Church Pianist
Ann Vogel, Organist
Andrea Spencer, Organist
Maddy Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director
Brad and Nam Gehrlich, Custodians
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video
Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary
Joan Leffel and Jane Nuss,
Children's Ministry Coordinators
Becky Anderson, Church Pianist, and
Volunteer Coordinator of Special Music

Church email: smucc@bright.net
Website: www.stpaulsuccsm.com
Email for Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer: rhainer@bright.net
Rev. Rhonda's cell phone number: (563) 210-3508
Email for Prayer Team: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com
Email for Christian Education: jnjl2021@gmail.com
Email for Youth Director: franken.nick@gmail.com
Email for media: spmedia@bright.net



2023

THE COMMUNICATOR

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
201 N. Perry Street
St. Marys, OH 45885
(419) 394-3811, opt. 3

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