

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



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

THE COMMUNICATOR

MAY/JUNE 2026

“Food For Thought, Food for the Soul and Some Mashed Potatoes on the Side”

I Know I Am Loved! Know That You Are Too!

It is with a full and grateful heart that I share how excited I am to continue this journey with you as your settled pastor here at St. Paul's. Over this past season together, I have come to know this church not just as a place of worship, but as a community of deep faith, care, and connection. To now step into this next chapter together is truly a blessing.

Claudia and I are both incredibly thankful for the welcome, encouragement, and the love you have shown us. You have made this place feel like home, and we are looking forward to continuing to build relationships, share in ministry, and grow in faith alongside each of you.

What excites me most is not just what has been, but what is ahead. I believe God is continuing to call St. Paul's into a vibrant future, one where every person knows they are loved by God, gifted by the Spirit, and invited to be part of something meaningful. Together, we will continue discovering how those gifts come alive in worship, in service, and in our care for one another and our community.

The best days of ministry are not behind us; they are in front of us. I am honored to walk this path with you.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Ed



SPECIAL TIMES

Sunday Worship 10:00 am

SPECIAL EVENTS

Mothers' Day—May 10th

**Graduation Sunday—
May 17th**

**Vacation Bible School—
June 1st — 4th**

Father's Day—June 21st

Golden Sunday—June 28th

Sunday Service Live Streamed
on Facebook and YouTube

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

Our new Settled Pastor, Rev. Ed Karges and wife Claudia



PRAYER MINISTRY

Prayer Team: Prayer requests are welcome for any concern or thanksgiving. Requests are kept confidential and not included in the public worship screen unless specifically requested. Contact Carol Schmidt at: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com, the church office, or text 419-305-6164.

CARE MINISTRY

You are invited to the 'Caregiving from the Heart' Support Group held at St. Paul's on the **1st Monday of each month, 7:00pm in the Chapel**. This is a gathering for any caregivers (and others who are involved), whether you are providing care within your home, within your loved one's home, or if your loved one resides in a care facility. Sessions will be led by Rev. Jeanette Tangeman (or Ruth Knous in Jeanette's absence). This 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 with any questions.

H.E.A.L.

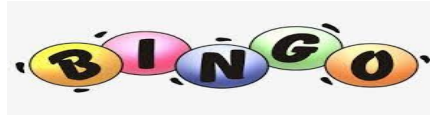
HEAL is a once-a-month grief support group which provides a safe place where you or perhaps a friend of yours who has experienced a deep loss can feel surrounded by others who are walking the same or a similar path. Too often well-meaning friends and family try to empathize with us in our grief by saying "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 Third Thursday of each month at 1:30 pm. The HEAL group meets in the chapel at St. Paul's UCC.



ATTENTION, LADIES OF ST. PAUL'S:

There will be a Ladies Luncheon at 'Do Good' Restaurant on Thursday, May 7th at 11:30am

QUILTERS: Our quilting ladies meet on Wednesdays from 9:00 am 'til ? in the sewing room off of Heritage Hall. Questions? Call Margaret Hunter at 419-733-4332.



Bingo will be held on the following Tuesdays:

Tuesday, May 5th – Vancrest 6:30-7:30 pm

Tuesday, June 2nd – Otterbein 5:30–6:30 pm

Tuesday, July 7th – Vancrest 6:30–7:30 pm

We are in need of BINGO helpers and cookies!!

Please call Janice Katterheinrich at (419) 394-3264 to let her know if you can help work the Bingo or if you can bring cookies.



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. Meals are served every Thursday except the first one of each month.

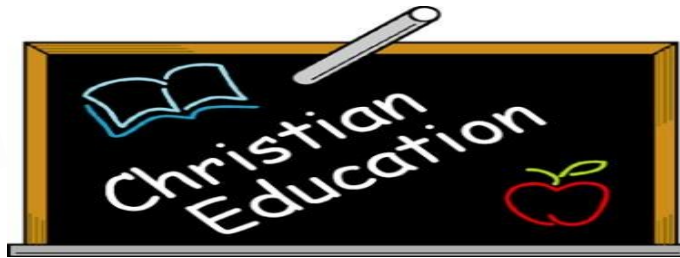
Want to contribute to help with costs for the weekly community dinner? Donations will be gratefully accepted. Donations can be placed in the Sunday offering plate or mailed to the church office. Please be sure to indicate your name on the envelope if you would like to receive credit on your giving statement. 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



Upcoming Meals:

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| May 14 | June 11 |
| May 21 | June 18 |
| May 28 | June 25 |



On Palm Sunday, the Children entered the service waving palms, singing and performing songs for the Congregation. They also had a lesson time "On The Steps" with Pastor Ed.

On Easter Sunday the Sunday school children had a fun day! Sunday School began with singing, followed by a story about Jesus rising from the tomb. Their next adventure was to find eggs that were hidden in the Sanctuary. Inside the eggs were Jellybeans that represented the Christian story. They also planted grass and flower seeds that represented new beginnings.

On April 26th, the children had another fun time of assembling 200 additional Health Kits for Disaster Ministries.

- * May 10th the children will sing in the Worship for Mother's Day
- * May 17th will be the last Sunday School of this school year.
- * VBS is June 1st—4th, 9:30am—12:00pm each day
- * Sports Camp is June 28th—July 4th.

MAY BIRTHDAYS!

- 12—Lyric Marcus
- 19—Channing Rieger
- 24—Merritt Burke

JUNE BIRTHDAYS!

- 8—Audra Clark
- 10—Avery Dieringer
- 10—Ben McDonald
- 10—Hunter Winget
- 11—Arianna Ickes
- 13—Kenny Briggs
- 19—Amani Howell
- 19—Amara Howell
- 20—Jebediah McGee
- 23—Haley Anderson



I can't believe another year of Sunday School and Youth Group are drawing to a close! Firstly, please join me in wishing our graduating seniors all the best in their future endeavors. Things will definitely not be the same next year without them.

Secondly, I am pleased to announce that the high school youth's Easter Breakfast raised over \$350 for Breaking Bread! Thank you all who donated to this important community outreach ministry.

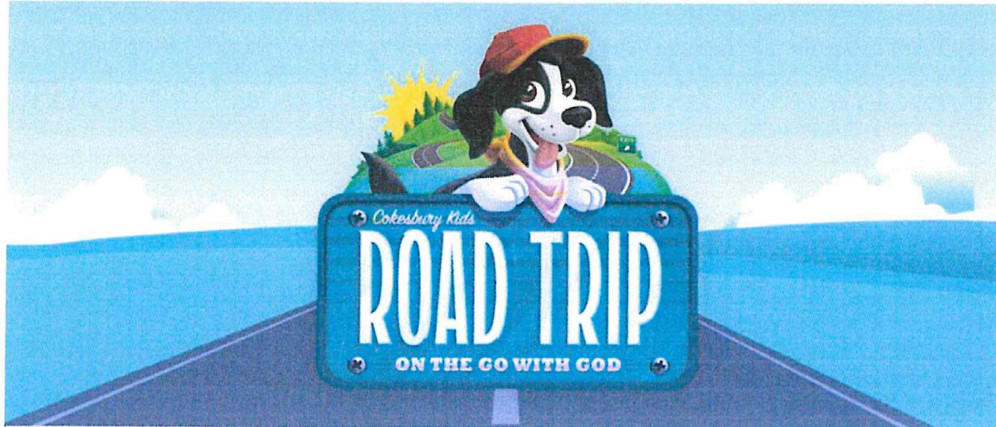
Lastly, a rundown of what Youth Group has been up to: We studied and discussed the tensions that often occur between Christian faith and secular government, in particular what responses are appropriate for a Christian caught up in such a conflict. The high school youth also helped put together many health kits under Pastor Ed's supervision (Congratulations, by the way!), and members of the high school youth and guests participated in an overnighter event at the church.

As usual, Spring has been a-buzzin' here at St. Paul's UCC, and we wish you all a happy summer!

In Christ,

Nick Frankenhauser
Youth Director

ST. PAUL'S VBS NEWS



PLEASE JOIN US FOR ROAD TRIP "ON THE GO WITH GOD"

JUNE 1st-4th 9:30-12:00 LUNCH SERVED AT 11:30 EACH DAY

4 FUN MORNINGS OF INTERACTIVE ACTIVITIES,

CRAFTS, SINGING, BIBLE STORIES, GAMES

AND ENJOYING A TASTY LUNCH

OPEN TO SURROUNDING COMMUNITY

AGES 3 yrs old (must be potty trained) - 6th GRADE

Questions - Please Contact

VBS Director Amy Keller 419-953-6997

Co-Director Jane Nuss or Church Office

201 N. Perry Street - St. Marys

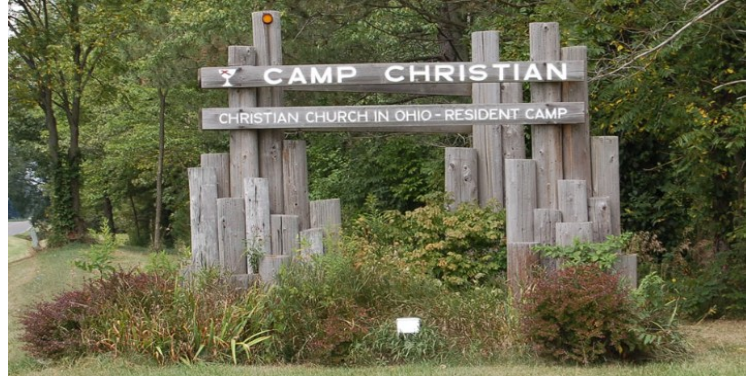
419-394-3811



Scan to Register for VBS



Plan NOW for 2026 Summer



We are excited to share the 2026 Summer Camp Information with you. The Summer Programs at Camp Christian include Children and Youth from Kindergarten through 12th grade, as well as Advance Conferences for Young Adults. Disciples Fellowship Retreats are open to all ages. The United Church of Christ will also be hosting several camps at Camp Christian in 2026. As always, all programs are open to anyone in the correct age bracket. It does not matter where or if you have church membership. Information on the many different programs at CAMP CHRISTIAN can be found on the website. ccinoh.com



We have several kids from St. Paul's attending the SPORTS CAMP that goes from Sunday, June 28th through Saturday, July 4th. This camp is for children and youth, ages 7 to 18.



May 16, 2026

Open House & Pool Construction Blessing—1:00–5:30pm | Dinner & Talent Show—5:30–8:00pm
([RSVP required](#))

The Christian Church in Ohio (Disciples of Christ) joyfully invites our friends, neighbors, and colleagues in the Heartland Conference of the United Church of Christ to our Camp Open House and festivities at Camp Christian on Saturday, May 16, 2026 (1:00 - 8:00pm).

This Camp Open House & Pool Construction Blessing Day will be a celebratory, all-ages gathering to explore the campgrounds, reconnect with camp friends, and bless the next chapter of camp ministry—especially the exciting progress toward our new pool, pool house, and picnic pavilion. This milestone is being made possible through the generous support of those who have given to the ["If Not Now, When? If Not You, Who?"](#) financial campaign.

While the Open House is come-and-go as you wish, an RSVP for the dinner and talent show is required by May 7th. You can RSVP on the website at <https://ccinoh.com/regional-calendar.aspx?events=16149&action=details>

What to Expect:

1:00–3:15pm - Open House Fun — Welcome, camp tours, information fair for all 2026 Summer DOC & UCC Camps, Conferences, & Retreats, scavenger hunt, wagon rides, snacks, fellowship, and more!

4:00pm - Pool Construction Blessing Ceremony — Liturgy, music, prayer, and time for group photos (churches, counselors, staff alumni, and more)

5:30pm - Appetizers & Dinner

6:30pm - Talent Show (or possibly a Hoedown!)

Come for the whole day or drop in for your favorite part—all ages are welcome.

Help Make the Day Welcoming and Wonderful

Whether Camp Christian holds lifelong memories for you, or you've never visited before, this is a beautiful moment to gather, celebrate, and bless what God is building among us.

Let's Dive into Tomorrow with joy, gratitude, and hope!

ST. PAUL'S HISTORY

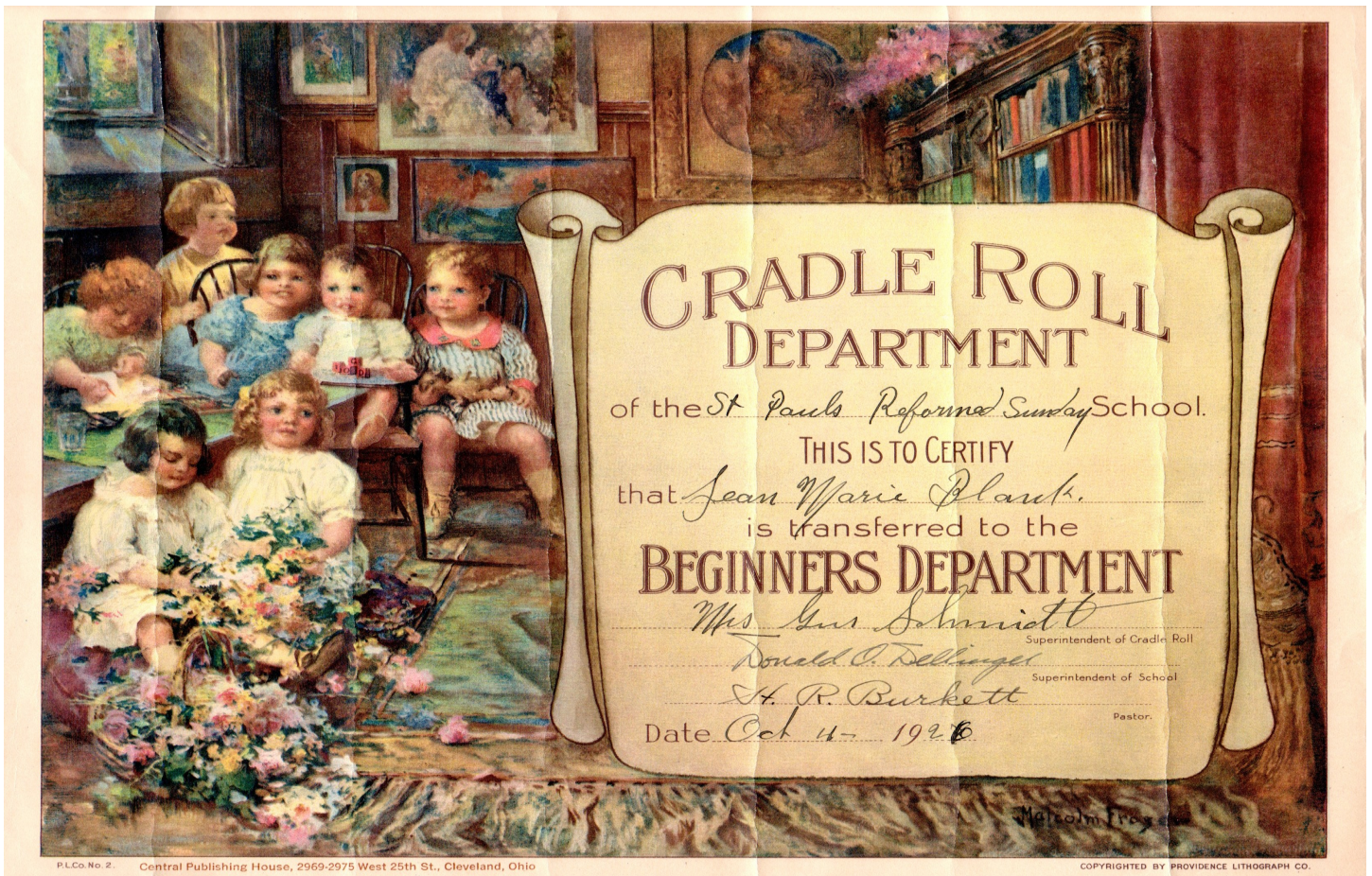
NOTES, STORIES, FACTS

FROM THE PAST

ISSUE 11



This one hundred year old Cradle Roll Certificate was donated by Jean Warner



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Just a reminder...



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



Thank You

Thank you to Gary and Sarah Seewer, Jane and Mike Laird, Kathlene and Richard Larson, Fred and Pam Scheer, Wynette Mase, Jean and Darryl Smith, Neva and Jim Rowan, and Jane and Bill Nuss and everyone else who donated flowers to help make a special Easter Service. - Lori Scheer



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 clients' 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.

Every one of us at Back Bay Mission extends their deepest gratitude for your support of our mission. Regardless of which program you chose to give your time and service to, you aligned with and helped support its vision to "Do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God."

We look forward to the day you can join us again and continue the giving. May God bless you in your journey of Faith!

Gratefully, the Back Bay Mission Crew



We wish to extend our deepest sympathies to the families and friends of:

Grace Young, who passed away on April 21st.

Melinda Hunter, who passed away on April 24th.

We pray God's Peace and Comfort over you, that his Spirit may come alongside, and you feel his presence at this time.



March 2026

Current Fund:

Budgeted through March 31, 2026	= \$ 67,627.17
Received through March 31, 2026	= \$ 48,369.00
Expenses through March 31, 2026	= \$ 55,493.00
Received through March 31, 2025	= \$ 48,722.00

Mission Fund:

Budgeted through March 31, 2026	= \$ 3,750.00
Received through March 31, 2026	= \$ 3,098.00
Received through March 31, 2025	= \$ 2,892.00

Status of 2026 Budget:

Current Fund:

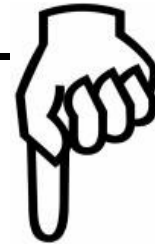
Budgeted through April 30, 2026	= \$ 90,169.56
Budgeted through April 13, 2026	= \$ 78,898.37
Received through April 13, 2026	= \$ 63,085.00

Mission Fund:

Budgeted through April 30, 2026	= \$ 5,000.00
Budgeted through April 13, 2026	= \$ 4,375.00
Received through April 13, 2026	= \$ 3,650.00

ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

*Don't forget that we 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 take you directly to the Vanco site. This service is available for your convenience!*



MAY/JUNE LOOSE OFFERINGS

- ◆ May 3—Organ Refurbishing Fund
- ◆ May 10— Hirschfeld Scholarship Fund
- ◆ June 7—Organ Refurbishing Fund
- ◆ June 14—Disaster Kits

Don't Forget!!

Deadline** for articles, announcements, etc. for the **July/August 2026** Communicator will be **June 17.



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. The 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!**

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. The hospitals do not 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 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 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 smucc@bright.net and we will add you to the list. The time commitment is 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.



The **Strengthen the Church Offering** supports the expansion of ministry and growth of UCC local congregations. Your support of this offering will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities. As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. We will receive the **Strengthen the Church Offering** on Pentecost Sunday, May 24, 2026.



**Birthdays
& Birthdays
Anniversaries**

MAY

- 1 - Sam Moeller
- 2 - Courtney Nuss
Steve Taylor
- 5 - Abbey Thomas
- 6 - David Hainline
Melissa Counts
Maddy Frankenhauser
- 7 - Dennis Katter
Lawrence Kill
Bernard Schroer
Michael J. Selby
- 8 - Jill Lovelace
- 9 - John Braun
- 10 - Thomas Dickman
- 11 - Mary Haley
Terry Lininger
Terri Kerns
- 12 - Marsha Landers
Ann Hudson
- 13 - Kevin Gehres
Kim Strickland

**HAPPY
ANNIVERSARY!
MAY**

- 5 - Aaron & Melissa Wourms
Joel & Kayla Tangeman
- 7 - Sean & Teresa Silver
- 8 - Jim & Darlene Hollman
- 9 - Todd & Emily Klosterman
- 11 - Sidney & Mary Smith
- 13 - Greg and Tracy Winget
- 19 - Daren & Wendy Scott
Mark & Cynthia Briggs
- 24 - Lynn & Carol Schmidt
Bob and Sue Schumacher
- 26 - Ruth and Tom Knous, Jr.
- 27 - Dean & Barbara Phipps
- 29 - George and Dorothy Turpin

- 14 - Mark Briggs
Mark Davis
David Long
Robert Longfellow
- 16 - Melody Grunden
Alaina Frilling
- 20 - Angie McCollum
- 23 - Halie McGee-Kilgore
Mary Ann Rempe
- 24 - Donald Raymond
- 25 - CJ Vanderhorst
Meg Moeller
- 26 - Timothy Lhamon
- 27 - Lindsay Thomas
Mike Kerns
- 28 - Amy Keller
Jim Huckemeyer
- 31 - Jill Bowers



May

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	Caregiving Support Group 7:00 pm	BINGO at Vancrest 6:30 pm	Quilting 9:00 am	Ladies Luncheon at 'Do Good' Restaurant 11:30am Personnel Committee 6:00pm Spiritual Gifts Class 6:30pm – 7:30pm		
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
<u>MOTHER'S</u> <u>DAY</u>			Quilting 9:00 am Consistory 6:00 pm	Breaking Bread 4:30pm–5:15pm Spiritual Gifts Class 6:30pm – 7:30pm		
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Last Day of <u>Sunday School</u> Graduation Sunday	Rebecca Circle 1:00 pm		Quilting 9:00 am	<u>H.E.A.L. 1:30 pm</u> Breaking Bread 4:30pm–5:15pm Spiritual Gifts Class 6:30pm – 7:30pm		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
<u>PENTECOST</u> Strengthen The Church Offering	<u>MEMORIAL</u> <u>DAY</u>		Quilting 9:00 am	Breaking Bread 4:30pm–5:15pm Spiritual Gifts Class 6:30pm – 7:30pm		
31						

JUNE

BIRTHDAYS



ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 - Darren Caywood
Kimberly Overman
Paul Henning
Lori Now
Austin Gottschalk
- 3 - Mary Holtzapple
Jennifer Tuttle
- 4 - Taylor Rager
- 7 - Linda McDonald
Wyland McCollum
- 10 - Bryan Lynch
Scott Lynch
- 11 - Brad Anderson
Allie Vanderhorst
- 12 - Calvin Caywood
Jane Laird
- 14 - Kelly Kill
- 15 - Aaron Braun
Sandra K. Burden
- 16 - Pat Briggs
Kim Miller
Machela Hollman
- 18 - Deb McKee
- 21 - Ron Hall
- 22 - Sue Schumacher
- 23 - Carole Bowman
- 25 - Becky Davis
Jordan Hammitt
Jamey Gottschalk
- 28 - Mick Eymer
Tricia Yahl
- 29 - Kenneth Briggs
Joyce Greenawalt
Kathy Raymond
Barbara Selby
Joan Smith

- 2 - Jeff & Sara Dieringer
- 4 - Steve & Jennifer Ginter
- 5 - Tom & Britney Knous, III
Darryl & Jean Smith
- 6 - Jeff & Julie Speckman
- 8 - Carl & Heather Moeller
- 9 - Thomas and Anne Schaefer
- 10 - Greg & Mary Schumm
- 13 - Richard & Kathlene Larson
- 14 - Darren & Renee Caywood
- 15 - Gary & Sara Seewer
- 16 - John & Ruth Cisco
Shane and Angie McCollum
- 18 - Ronald & Margaret Hunter
Bob & Sandra Burden
- 19 - Ralph & Marsha Heckler
- 21 - Dan & Teresa Knatz
- 22 - Michael J. & Heather Selby
- 25 - Bob & Holly Meeker
- 27 - James & Kristine Vanderhorst
- 28 - Steve & Leslie Hullinger
Steve & Jackie Hays
- 29 - Ron & Carol Jones
- 30 - Michael & Heather McDonald



June

2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 V.B.S. 9:30am-12:00pm Caregiving Support Group 7:00 pm	2 V.B.S. 9:30am-12:00pm BINGO at Otterbein 5:30 pm	3 V.B.S. 9:30am-12:00pm Quilting 9:00 am	4 V.B.S. 9:30am-12:00pm Personnel Committee 6:00pm	5	6
7	8 -----	9 -----PASTOR ED	10 VACATION----- Quilting 9:00 am Consistory 6:00 pm	11 -----	12 -----	13 -----
VBS Children's Program				Breaking Bread 4:30pm-5:15pm		
14	15 -----	16 -----PASTOR ED	17 VACATION----- Quilting 9:00 am	18 ----- H.E.A.L. 1:30 pm Breaking Bread 4:30pm-5:15pm	19 -----	20 -----
	Rebecca Circle 1:00 pm					
21 <u>FATHER'S</u> <u>DAY</u>	22	23	24 Quilting 9:00 am	25 Breaking Bread 4:30pm-5:15pm	26	27
28 <u>GOLDEN</u> <u>SUNDAY</u>	29	30				

Sports Camp is June 28 -- July 4

