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Rhonda's Reflections



For God's Sake, Take a Break

The apostles gathered together with Jesus and reported all they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away by yourselves to a deserted place and rest a while." People were coming and going in great numbers, and they had no opportunity even to eat. So they went off in the boat by themselves to a deserted place.

Mark 6:30-32

All around me recently it seems I am hearing the same response coming from children, to teens, to young adults, parents, even retirees, all saying refrains such as, "I'm tired. I'm worn out. I don't have a free moment."

Being a parent is one of those jobs where you never really get to rest. Even on a vacation, a parent never stops performing the tasks of being a parent: providing, driving, disciplining. That's one reason why so many people desire a vacation **after** their *vacation*.

There are some people who never rest from work. They have a cell phone to their ear at home, at a restaurant, and of course, at a hotel during their vacation. Their jobs might be pretty demanding and hopefully they perform their tasks well for their employer, but they always seem preoccupied.

Jesus tried to have his apostles take a break and rest in Mark 6. They had been so consumed with the crowds and had not even had a chance to eat. So Jesus took them to a deserted place. However, the crowds found them there too, so Jesus continued to teach. It does not say what the apostles did during that time, but I am going to guess it wasn't genuine rest.

Everyone needs a rest. The problem is we fail to understand how important it is to rest. We think rest is void of action. Not only is resting an action in itself, it is sometimes the only time we have to spend with God one-on-one. How can we truly say a relationship with God is important when we never spend time alone with God? To not take the time to rest in God's presence is poor stewardship of time. Apostles need it. Workers need it. Parents need it. Everyone needs rest. Some say we never rest because we feel we do not have permission to rest and people will see us as lazy. Read Mark 6. Sometimes circumstances make it hard to rest, but you have surely been given permission: from Jesus himself.

See you in Church,
Rev. Rhonda



Hope For the Holidays



For some, November, and December are the most difficult, emotionally-loaded months of the year. More than any other time, this particular string of holidays and seasonal changes doesn't end up feeling like the most wonderful time of the year after all. Instead, it can trigger difficult feelings like sadness, stress, anxiety, and depression. Grief from loved ones lost, trauma from holidays past, the cold dark weather, the lasting effect of COVID-19, there are many factors that make the holiday season hard for people. Join us for a workshop led by Pastor Rhonda Hainer, which will address the reasons why the holidays are hard. Learn strategies to cope with the season's blues, and make the holidays a hopeful time again. **There is no charge for this workshop.**

- **Understanding Holiday Blues:** Sunday, November 7th 3:00 pm -4 :30 pm in Heritage Hall examines the season's depression triggers and offers strategies to battle them.
-

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 will meet in the church's old library November 17th at 1:00 p.m. and is open for anyone who is seeking comfort, clarity, hope for a path forward.

Honoring Loved Ones through Endowment Gifts

Is it possible to honor a loved one by establishing an Endowment or Scholarship Fund or by giving to one that already exists? The answer is **yes**. Establishing an endowment or supporting an existing endowment is a wonderful way to provide a lasting and meaningful gift in remembrance of a special person and at the same time help others in need. Many people appreciate the opportunity to make a gift in honor of a special person, knowing that their donation honors the life of the deceased individual and also supports a purpose which the deceased held dear.

What should I do?

- Talk with Memorial Chairperson Rich Spencer, for information on existing endowments at St. Paul's that may serve your needs the most.
- If you would like to establish your own endowment or scholarship fund, please contact Rich Spencer, Memorial Chairperson or Pastor Rhonda.



A Stewardship Moment

A Word About Stewardship

- *"How shall I make a return to God for all the good God has done for me?" (Psalm 116:12)*
- Stewardship, quite simply, is recognizing that everything we have and everything we are is a gift from God and being grateful and generous with those gifts. We aren't "owners" of anything, we are merely "stewards" of the gifts that God has given us.
- Stewardship isn't a process, or a campaign, or an accounting of our gifts. Rather, it is a lifestyle rooted in gratitude and generosity. The whole point of stewardship is to help each other strengthen our relationship with God! The foundation of stewardship is prayer – talking and listening to God every day, throughout the day. Stewardship means putting complete trust in God, in all things.
- Stewardship means sharing all of our gifts, especially that one that means the most to you. By sharing all of our gifts, it helps us keep God first in everything, from putting other

“gods” before God. It helps us live “God-centered” lives and not “self-centered” lives. Of all the gifts that God gives us, the one God wants the most is our heart. God wants us to share out of love, not out of obligation. When we align our thoughts and actions with God’s plan and use our gifts in the way God intended, our lives become transformed with Joy, Love, Mercy and Peace!

TIME CHANGE!!

Don't forget to set your clock
BACK one hour on November
7th



AGAPE MISSION: The latest total for TP is 1836 rolls we **only need 164 more rolls to meet our goal**. Soap so far we have 1474 bars of soap. We only need **26 more bars** the we have met our goal. Thank you to all who has help make this TP and soap drive a successful . Agape has really benefitted from all your support in the pass and now. Thank you Jane Nuss.

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 take you to the Vanco site. This service is available for your convenience!

Five Reasons Why Online Giving is the Smartest Way to Give

Our online church management software (Vanco) allows members to sign in and update their own membership information, including setting up automatic bank withdrawals (or credit card gifts) for their giving to the church's mission. This no-hassle, envelope-free, first-fruits method of giving is used by many of St. Paul's members. Why?

1. It's good stewardship. It's less work for you and counters and the church treasurer. It saves time and resources that can be used for outreach and ministry rather than bookkeeping.
2. It's safe. Studies have shown that secure electronic transfers reduce the chance of fraud, mistakes, lost checks, and piracy by two-thirds over traditional envelope/check/cash giving.
3. It's user friendly. All members who give online can log on at their home computers and monitor their giving, change the amount of their deductions and designations and frequency of gifts without having to file forms with the church office.
4. It's eco-friendly. There's no paperwork, no checks, no envelopes – no waste. It's the green way to give.
5. It enhances your worship experience. No more digging through your purse or wallet during the service trying to find your checkbook or envelopes. Your focus can remain on worshipping God.

CUSTODIAN POSITION OPEN

St. Paul's United Church of Christ is seeking a responsible and committed person(s) to fill the following part-time position.

CUSTODIAN

This part-time position (20 – 25 hours per week) keeps our Church facilities and grounds clean and orderly. The custodian reports to and works with the Trustees and will be

responsible for the following:

- Perform daily, weekly, monthly, and yearly cleaning tasks to maintain excellent level of cleanliness throughout the church.
- Remove trash as needed as part of regular duties and following special events.
- Requisition and maintain cleaning supplies and paper products.
- Identify and notify Trustees of concerns related to the church facility, and opportunities where additional volunteers are needed to accomplish large cleaning projects.
- Perform basic maintenance (changing light bulbs) and seasonal maintenance (mowing lawn, snow removal from sidewalks).
- Close the Church per schedule when activities are complete for the day.
- Interact with church and community members in a positive and cooperative manner.

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. Equal Opportunity Employer.

NURSERY SUPERVISOR POSITION AVAILABLE

St. Paul's United Church of Christ is seeking a responsible and committed person(s) to fill the following part-time positions.

Nursery Supervisor

This part-time position is responsible for maintaining a safe and healthy environment for children (birth through Kindergarten) while their parents/guardians attend Sunday morning worship.

- Arrive 15 minutes prior to worship to open Nursery and

remain until all children are picked up following service.

- Monitor and encourage safe play among the children.
- Maintain a sign-in record of children in nursery, parent contact information and any special information (allergies, etc.).
- Change diapers and assist children with bathroom trips as needed.
- Respond appropriately in emergencies.
- Supervise toy clean up.
- Identify own replacement in the event that you are unavailable to work on a Sunday. (The replacement must be an approved volunteer with a background check on file.)
- Interact with church and community members in a positive and cooperative manner.

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. Equal Opportunity Employer. The candidate will be subject to a background check.

GIVING THANKS COMMUNITY MEAL

Due of COVID, we will be doing carry out only again this year. It will be on Thursday, November 25, 2021, from 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m. Instead of coming in the east entrance at the Memorial High School commons area, we will be handing out meals on the east side but the next door south of the commons area. No need to get out of car. There will be deliveries to shut-ins contact phone number for that is Patty at The Evening Leader 419-394-7414.

We are asking for any donations of desserts from each church, so

that everyone can enjoy a true Thanksgiving meal. You can drop off desserts from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Wayne Street United Methodist Church on Wednesday, November 24, 2021. Then from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at the high school, again at the door south of the commons area on the east side of the school. Please **no Jell-O or soft desserts** for they are too hard to pack for carry out.



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.

- November 11
- November 18

NOTICE of Meal Schedule Change:

There will be **NO MEAL** Thursday, November 25 (Thanksgiving)

There will be **NO MEALS in the month of December**

Breaking Bread Staff are taking a Holiday Break!

Please join us back here on January 13th! Thank you.

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.



The Family Room Event

“What is your favorite meal that Mom made when you were growing up?” That was the question my sister-in-law Valerie asked during a recent visit as we were finishing up our meal together. It was fun listening to each other’s favorites. Next time you are gathered together with family or friends ask the same question and listen to each other’s stories. Our memories shared might be from long ago or something from last week. The more we learn about each other, the more we strengthen our bonds with one another.

November seems to be the time of year when we dedicate more time to what we are thankful for in our lives. This brings to mind the wonderful words that come from Genesis 12:2. “We are blessed to be a blessing.” God tells Abram that he will bless him so that he will be a blessing. That message is for us, too! God has blessed us so that in our everyday lives we can bless others and pass it on. Share a smile, send an encouraging note, ask someone about their day and really listen. May the blessings you share and receive fill you with the love of God!

Your friend in Christ,
Amy Keller

UPCOMING NEWS: *In December we will be planning to go caroling on a Sunday afternoon and meet back at church for donuts and hot chocolate. Keep watching for details.*

BACK BAY MISSION TRIP

Is it time for a life changing experience? I am putting together a trip to Back Bay Mission for March 20, 2022 and we need to start

planning now. Perhaps you went before, or maybe you have been promising yourself that one day you will go, or perhaps this is all new to you. We will spend a week in Biloxi, Mississippi “strengthening neighborhoods, seeking justice and transforming lives” by working in construction, the food pantry, soup kitchen and Micah Day Center for the Homeless. You do not have to have a particular skill or work in any area where you are not comfortable. Minimum age is 14, maximum age??? You can truly put your faith into action and change someone’s life...and yours as well. Please see Jeanette Tangeman or call me at 419-234-7935 for more information. Several people from St. Paul’s have gone, often more than once and they would talk with you as well. Looking forward to serving Christ with you.

Jim’s Musical Notes



"Count Your Blessings" **(1897)**

It's impossible to be thankful and, at the same time, grumpy, cantankerous, critical, or ill-tempered. That's a lesson Johnson Oatman wanted to teach young people in his song, "Count Your Blessings."

Johnson was born in New Jersey just before the Civil War. His father had a powerful voice which some people claimed was the best singing voice in the East. That's why, as a boy, Johnson, Jr., always wanted to stand beside his father in church.

When Johnson was a young man, he stood alongside his father in another way. He became a partner in Johnson Oatman & Son, his dad's mercantile business. At age 19, Johnson joined the Methodist Episcopal Church and was ordained into the ministry. He often preached, but Johnson never entered the fulltime

pastorate, for he enjoyed the business world and found it paid his bills, giving him freedom to minister without cost.

In 1982, with his father's voice undoubtedly ringing in his memory, Johnson began writing hymns. He averaged 200 hymns and gospel songs a year--5,000 during the course of his lifetime, among them "Higher Ground," "No, Not One," "The Last Mile of the Way," and this one, "Count Your Blessings," which was published in a song book for young people in 1897. It reflected Johnson's optimistic faith, and has been a lesson to many ever since.

Martin Luther: "The greater God's gifts and works, the less they are regarded."

A hungry man is more thankful for his morsel than a rich man for his heavily-laden table. A lonely woman in a nursing home will appreciate a visit more than a popular woman with a party thrown in her honor.

Count your Blessings. Name them One by One.

Taken from "Then Sings My Soul" by Robert J. Morgan
2003 Thomas Nelson Publishers



**NOVEMBER
BIRTHDAYS**

3 – Isaac Wibbeler	21 – Colt Bower
10 – Braelyn Howell	21 – Presley Anderson
13 – Aubrey Birt	24 – Ryen Chisholm
17 – Toby Yahl	25 – Oliver Daggerhart
20 – Rhett Chisholm	27 – Zoey Briggs
21 – Sophie Burden	28 – Karlie Lucas

August Perfect Attendance

<u>Nursery</u> Jillian Frankenhouser Jameson McGee Berkley Knous <u>Pre-K</u> Lucy Klosterman Austin Winget Jeb McGee <u>Kindergarten</u> Elliot Bower <u>1st Grade</u> Amelia Klosterman Maya McDonald Allie Long <u>2nd Grade</u> Toby Turner Harrison Silber <u>3rd Grade</u> Dylan Winget Adelyn Clark Ethan Frankenhouser Carson Long <u>4th Grade</u> Kenny Briggs	<u>5th Grade</u> Beckett Clark Nolan Frankenhouser Aubrey Birt Emily Turner <u>6th Grade</u> Ava Winget Ryen Chisholm Vincent Walters <u>7th Grade</u> Avery Dieringer <u>8th Grade</u> <u>9th Grade</u> Caleb Turner <u>10th Grade</u> Cody Birt Brian Speckman Rhett Chisholm <u>11th Grade</u> Brooke Turner Tyler Birt <u>12th Grade</u> Kendall Dieringer
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Stewardship Is Good for Children

Just as the stewardship way of life is a fulfilling and joyful lifestyle for adults, it is also a very good lifestyle to teach our children. Consider the benefits:

- **Stewardship can help build self-esteem.** The advertisements that children hear in the commercial world often carry the underlying, subtle message that you are not

good enough the way you are and therefore you need to acquire this product or that product to make you acceptable. In church kids need to hear a different message. They need to hear that God has already blessed them with all the gifts and talents that they will need. In fact, God has given them an abundance of good things and they have enough to share.

- **Stewardship can make children happier.** Unfortunately, in today's world, children are bombarded with materialistic messages that often lead to a sense of entitlement and to frustration and dissatisfaction with life. In contrast, stewardship encourages an attitude of gratitude. Experts tell us that children usually form their attitudes about sharing sometime between the ages of 6 and 10. They will either develop an entitlement attitude – *"The world owes me."* *"I don't have enough."* Or a stewardship attitude – *"I have been blessed."* *"I am happy to share."* It is impossible to be grateful and unhappy at the same time. As we count our blessings, we naturally find a sense of peace and contentment.
- **Stewardship helps children set priorities.** As children learn that they are called to give back something to God they also learn that they must let go of some of their own wants. Stewardship teaches children the difference between needs and wants. Children learn to concentrate on their blessings rather than on what they want.
- **Stewardship prepares children for their adult role in the Church.** Children need to learn that stewardship is not just a service project that they must do before they can be confirmed or graduate. Stewardship is a way of life. It is the way a good Christian lives every day of every year.



For World Wide Communion Day on Sunday, October 3rd, some of the Sunday School children walked to our worship altar with loaves of bread representing various countries of the world. Pastor Rhonda and that Sunday's liturgist helped them to place it on the altar. If you haven't watched the online service of that Sunday, you should. It was nice seeing it from another angle of the cameras.

Sunday, October 10th, we had seven Third Graders receive their Bibles during worship service. We also had 10 Nursery-Pre-K children receive their first Bibles during their Sunday School class. The Nursery-Pre-K Bibles are Bibles with children stories and colorful pictures at their level. The Third Grade Bibles are Bibles that they can start to look for Bible verses and read the Bible at their level. We hope that all the children enjoy Bible reading time at home.

Sunday Oct. 17th, the Nursery to 2nd grade classes sang a Grandparent song, 3rd grade to 5th grade read a poem about how wonderful Grandparents really are and to finish out our participation in the worship service the 6th to 8th grade classes performed a skit on "Back in the Day". Costumes included...and we had a hard time figuring out the kids with their costumes. They have all practiced so hard for this and did a wonderful job! Thank you to Children's Music Director Maddy Frankenhauser for

organizing this and to the children and teachers for helping with their performance. We heard many great comments about the performance. Our St. Paul's kids are truly talented and we are enjoying working with them.

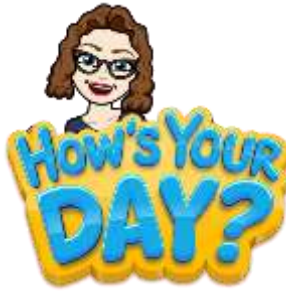
Don't forget that an ALL-CHURCH Family Fall Fun Day is planned for Sunday, October 31 at the Bill and Jane Nuss farm. Lots of fun things have been planned for this intergenerational fun day. More information will be sent home on Oct. 31st as a reminder.

If you've walked the educational wing lower hallway you will see many new things in decorations. The footprints are the children's impression of walking in God's footprints with their names on their footprints. The trees in the hall have acquired "colorful falling leaves", which is their attendance in September. October is pumpkins on a fence. The younger children painted falling leaves for extra autumn decorations in the hallway. November will be turkeys and their hand tracings for what they are thankful for. When we ask them what they wanted to do in December and January, they gave us a lot of ideas! Any time the children can help Jane and Joni out with ideas, it's a win for everyone!

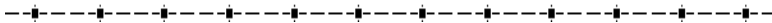
Jane and Joni are truly thankful for our teachers, our children, our parents and our church members. When we ask for help, we get it and that is what makes St. Paul's UCC a step above the rest! Thank you for the support you have given us. We are enjoying our new roles within the church.

Have a Happy Thanksgiving!

Jane Nuss and Joan Leffel



When we hear happy excited comments from the children, we know we are doing something right! The month at the end of one Sunday School time in the Gathering Room we have some kids that play the piano and one parents walked in and walked out with their ears covered. Ironically, it doesn't phase Jane and Joni. One Sunday after the younger kids were done practicing songs, we sang and grooved to an upbeat rendition of This Little Light of Mine and then watched the Duck Race video. The marvels of You Tube, the kids were so excited



BREAK BAGS FOR AGAPE

(See enclosed list of items needed)

The Christian Education and Nurture committee is partnering with Agape to collect food for the December Break Bags. Agape has provided us with the list of food they will need to fill the December Break Bags. There is a copy of the list enclosed with this newsletter. The church will not be handing out the break bags this year, only helping to provide the food for them. This will be the mission project for Sunday School for October and November. We are asking church members to help us collect this food. Collection boxes will be placed in the sanctuary, marked Break Bag Food collection. Food collected will be taken to Agape for Agape to fill and distribute the Break Bags. Thank you for your help!



High School YOUTH GROUP St. Paul's UCC

Greetings, Everyone!

In October the Youth Group attendance continued to grow, and we continued to use *The Chosen* web series to learn more about the beginnings of Jesus' ministry and the gathering of his Apostles. We were also fortunate enough to have a visit from Pastor Rhonda one of our Sundays--you never know where or when she'll turn up!

In news for November, Sunday evening hangouts will be making a return. This is especially good news for youth members who can't typically make it to the Sunday morning meeting. Details about these meetings will be sent through Remind.

I hope to see all the youth on Sundays!

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





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

- Leona Peterman – October 15, 2021*

*Indicates Pastor Rhonda conducted services.



- **To the Memorial Fund in memory of Leona Peterman: St. Paul's Women's Guild**
-



On behalf of St. Paul's United Church of Christ, we would like to express our appreciation to Brian Scheer for donating several cases of legal-size white paper! Thank you also to Fred and Pam Scheer for hauling it back from Cincinnati and delivering it to the church. The donation is very much appreciated and will last for a very long time!

Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant

Dear members of St. Paul's:

It is my sincere pleasure to thank you for your recent gift, through the Northwest Ohio Association of UCC, to Heidelberg University. It is so heartening when we receive a gift from a donor that allows us to say "yes" to one or more of our students.

The university is indeed grateful to the recipient of such a kind and thoughtful gift.

Thank you again.

Sincerely,

Sue Berryman, Director of The Heidelberg Fund

Dear St. Paul's UCC,

Thank you to the members of your church for the kind gift to Defiance College. We are always grateful to be remembered by St. Paul's!


Sincerely,

Sheri McCoy

Advancement Services Specialist





- ☎ 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.


 **jnj12021@gmail.com**- Christian Ministry Directors email address.

 **franken.nick@gmail.com**- High School 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**
... **Nick Frankenhauser, Youth Director**
... **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**
... **Jane Nuss & Joan Leffel, Christian Ministry Directors**
... **Kim Opperman, Church School Superintendent**
... **Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher**
... **Kim Opperman, Nursery Supervisor**

EYEGASSES 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 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.

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

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

2021 Members of Consistory

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

FINANCIAL REPORT

September 2021:

Current Fund:

- Budgeted through September 30, 2021 = \$197,569.53
- Received through September 30, 2021 = \$160,184.76
- Expenses through September 30, 2021 = \$175,313.59
- Received through September 30, 2020 = \$158,809.62

Mission Fund:

- Budgeted through September 30, 2021 = \$ 11,250.00
- Received through September 30, 2021 = \$ 9,076.00
- Received through September 30, 2020 = \$ 10,019.23

Status of 2021 Budget:

Current Fund:

- Budgeted through October 31, 2021 = \$219,521.70
- Budgeted through October 17, 2021 = \$210,740.85
- Received through October 17, 2021 = \$174,195.04

Mission Fund:

- Budgeted through October 31, 2021 = \$ 12,500.00
 - Budgeted through October 17, 2021 = \$ 12,000.00
 - Received through October 17, 2021 = \$ 9,551.00
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UNAPPROVED MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 13, 2021 CONSISTORY MEETING

The regular meeting of St. Paul's UCC Consistory was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President Marsha Landers. Pastor Rhonda opened the meeting asking those in attendance to recite the Doxology with her and then led the meeting with prayer.

Present: *Elders:* Lori Now, Kevin Gehres, Joan Leffel and Marsha Landers; *Trustees:* Larry Kill, and DeWayne Marsee; *Deacons:* Lynda Hadley, Melinda Silber, Jennifer Ginter, Jill Dickman, Susan Braun, Susan Spencer, Lynn Schmidt, Carol Schmidt, Linda McDonald, Becky Anderson, Jen Lucas, and Kelly Kill. Also present were, Treasurer, David Dickman, Administrative Assistant Carolyn Garrison, and Custodian Bob Schumacher.

Minutes:

- Minutes from the September 8, 2021, meeting were reviewed. Lori Now made a motion to approve the minutes. Joan Leffel seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report: David Dickman

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

President's Report: Marsha Landers

- Marsha received a nomination for Bill Nuss to replace Mary Holtzapple as an Elder. Jill Dickman made a motion to accept Bill as the replacement. Lori Now seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Need some volunteers to make calls to members to ask them to be on the next Consistory. Jill Dickman, Carol Schmidt and Marsha Landers all volunteered.

- In 2024, St. Paul's will be celebrating 175 years. We will be forming a committee soon and are looking for ideas for the celebration.

Pastor's Report: Rhonda Hainer

- World Communion Sunday was well attended. The children brought forward breads from around the world. Communion with portable cups went well.
- Third grade Bibles were distributed and went well.
- Sunday school children are performing a skit for grandparents and the congregation this Sunday.
- Church pictorial directory sign up is going well.
- Long Range Planning meeting has been delayed due to Pastor Jim's knee surgery.
- Visited the area senior living centers and brought communion to shut-ins.
- Rich is currently working on getting the live stream of the worship service running.
- The Women's Guild Fall Cafeteria/Bake and Craft sale was a success.
- Family Ministries -A Fall Family Fun Afternoon is planned at the Nuss farm on Oct 31.
- Our youth are going to Cedar Point on October 31st.
- Letter of invitation to the All-Saints Day Worship Service have been sent out to the families who have lost loved ones in the past year.
- The Pastoral Relations Committee has met for their regular meeting. Rhonda reported that the momentum of the congregation is back on track and that more people and families have returned to worship and Sunday School. Rhonda gave a report on her activities including a review of her vacation schedule since Jan. 1. Of her 6 weeks of vacation including Sundays stated in her contract, thus far Rhonda used 3 weeks/Sundays as vacation. In addition, one week/Sunday was used for bereavement leave when her

mother died. One week/Sunday was used for Continuing Education.

The committee concurred that Pastor Rhonda's leadership and the overall ministry of St. Paul's was strong and positive.

Loose Offering:

- President Marsha asked for suggestions for the November 14th loose offering. Carolyn suggested Goodfellows for the upcoming Christmas season. Jen Lucas made a motion to accept Goodfellows as the designated offering recipient. Mindy Silber seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Budget and Finance: David Dickman

- David reviewed the preliminary draft of the 2022 Budget

Personnel: Jen Lucas

- The committee would like the available custodian position run in the bulletin again, and for members to share the job opening with friends and family. Jen asked Carolyn to send a copy of the available position to The Vine, local churches for their bulletins and to our area UCC churches.
- Kim Opperman is resigning her position with the Nursery effective November 14th.
- There is a Personnel meeting scheduled on Tuesday where we will be discussing these positions.

Trustees: DeWayne Marsee

- Trustees filled an area along High Street with soil and sewed grass seed.
- Trustees have filled in the alley area with asphalt where the electrical lines are buried.
- Currently working on our surveillance camera system. The issue is wiring and may require burying conduit in the courtyard area.
- We have spoken with Rich Spencer about what is needed internet wise for our live streaming. We will need a higher

speed, which will increase our monthly internet bill somewhat.

Elders: Lori Now

- If we are to continue using the disposable communion cups with wafers, we are going to need more. With Covid still around, we will need to order more cups.

Deacons: Lynn Schmidt

- No report.

Christian Mission and Outreach: Jill Dickman

- We are in receipt of a letter from Heather Dawson with CRU. Heather is reaching out to us asking for a financial donation for her missionary trip to Southern Asia. In 2016, CMO donated \$50 to Elizabeth Sampson for her CRU missionary trip. CMO is willing to recommend the same donation. Becky Anderson made a motion for CMO to donate \$50 to Heather for her missionary trip. Kelly Kill seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Christian Education and Nurture: Joan Leffel

- No Report

Stewardship Committee: Kevin Gehres

- No report

Hospitality Committee: Marsha Landers

- There will be a cookies and punch reception honoring Bob Schumacher and his retirement following worship on October 31st.

Church Directory: Susan Spencer

- Approximately 60 families have signed up for photo sessions. Susan has visited our shut-ins and those in the nursing homes and has taken their photos. If you don't want to have your picture taken, or you've recently had photos taken, you can submit a photo in jpeg format along with \$15.

Old Business:

- Kevin Gehres reported that with the \$250 grant received from the UCC and the loose offering received for the

personal hygiene kits and disaster buckets, we have a total of \$1559 for him to spend on purchasing the items for those kits/buckets. Kevin said that his goal was to get enough for 10 buckets and 10 hygiene kits, but now he can do approximately 16 of each. Once all of the items are gathered, Kevin will be delivering them to Church World Service in Columbus.

New Business:

- Lynda Hadley mentioned that Rich Spencer made an amazing video for our Thomas Patten Award and requested that the video be shared during one of our worship services as well as on Facebook. Pastor Rhonda mentioned that the Conference Minister, David Longhiggins, would like to preach for us sometime in January and present the award to us at that time.
- There are table lamps, coffee table and end tables in the old Library that are not being used any longer. Lori Now made a motion to donate the items to Agape. Joan Leffel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further matters to discuss, the regular meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m. and went into Executive Session

Respectfully submitted,

Marsha Landers, 2021 Consistory President

Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant



DON'T FORGET

Deadline for articles, announcements, etc. for the December issue of The Communicator will be November 17th. (Early due to Thanksgiving holiday)



Thanksgiving



BOUNTY
CRANBERRIES
DRESSING
FAMILY
GATHER
GRATITUDE
GRAVY

GREEN BEANS
HAM
HARVEST
NOVEMBER
PARADE
PIE
PUMPKIN

SHARING
STUFFING
THANKSGIVING
THURSDAY
TURKEY

