



The Link

January 2019

St. Paul United Church of Christ
101 South Perry Street • PO Box 147 • Wapakoneta, OH 45895
Phone: (419) 738-2215 Fax: (419) 738-2076
Email: cindy@stpaulucc.com Website: www.stpaulucc.com
www.facebook.com/StPaulWapakoneta



SUNDAY'S NEWS

*"Star of wonder, star of night,
star with royal beauty bright...
Westward leading,
still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light!"*

A little over two thousand years ago, sages looked to the sky and dared to follow a single star. They left their homes without knowing their destination or how long they would be traveling. They had no way of knowing where the road ahead would take them or what might befall them along the way. All they had was the promise of prophesy and the hope of a brighter future.

As we say goodbye to 2018, we look ahead to another year. There are always many unknowns when we turn the page on the calendar, and we each have a choice as to how we will face those unknowns. Beginning the new year is not unlike setting out on a journey. When it comes to journeys, I have always been a planner. I like the AAA TripTik—telling me exactly which turns to make. It wasn't until I met my husband that I learned to be more spontaneous in my travels. Adrian has taught me to leave room for a little adventure. Our first vacation after moving to Auglaize County in 2010, we set out with our tent in the back of the car and no destination in mind beyond a general direction. Over the course of two weeks, we met people, found places, and experienced things we never would have seen if we had planned every detail of the trip.

Our lives of faith are meant to be not only about the destination, but about the journey. Like the magi of old, God sets us on a course following a star, and we are called to follow God's lead. Following the star takes courage. It takes great faith. But if we are willing to follow, we have the opportunity to experience a life of wonder.

We have many plans in place for the year ahead. In 2019, we will continue to live out God's call through various ministries. Whether through our Called to Care program, youth ministries, adult classes, FEAST, summer lunch, music ministries, prayer efforts, or our collective worship, we know God's light will shine in and through the life of this congregation. Even so, for every aspect of ministry that we can anticipate in the coming year, there are countless more unknowns. How will God use us as instruments of peace, justice, and hope in the lives of those around us? In what ways will we grow and change? How will our relationships with God and with one another deepen in the months ahead?

In many ways, we have no way of knowing what the next year will bring. But we know that the still-speaking God of infinite possibility calls us to continue on this journey of faith together. So we set our faces toward the starlight and set off once again, trusting that if we follow in faith, God will lead us ever closer to Christ.

Peace and blessing,

Pastor Becky

PASTOR BECKY ON VACATION

Pastor Becky will be on vacation through Saturday, January 5, 2019. In case of a pastoral emergency during this time, please contact Rev. Elaine Mike-sell (419-234-5675) or Rev. Adrian Sunday (567-356-6163), or you may call the church office.

FEAST Spring 2019

The next session of FEAST will begin January 16, 2019. We have lots of great classes to start off the New Year.

1st Session classes include:

Cooking Fun – Learn the basics...reading a recipe, measuring, preparation and food safety, table setting, and food presentation. They will be completing a cookbook with everything they have learned by the end of the class.

Bling Art and Crafts – Make or decorate your own planner for the New Year. We will make fun jewelry and crafts to add sparkle to your life.

String Art, Dream Catchers and a few surprises- (4th grade and up) Learn art projects that you can use for many years to come. The string art project will be Wapak Redskins logo, finish or begin a beautiful dream catcher and lots more. When you are finished with this class, you will have several nice projects to keep and the knowledge to make them again.

Mini Space Camp – This will be taught by a staff member from the Armstrong Museum. All new sessions and projects will make space travel and the science behind it, exciting. You will learn about the Moon and the planets in our solar system and in the universe beyond the stars.

2nd Sessions classes include:

Hand Chimes for 3rd graders and up. This is a beginner class to learn to play hand chimes. We will teach you all you need to know to learn about these fun instruments. We will perform in church a couple of Sundays.

Parables – Learn about the stories and lessons that were taught by Jesus. These stories are still relevant today and help us learn how to follow Christ.

Bible Stories Come Alive – New Testament Bible stories and fun activities to help us learn the stories and their meanings.

The Youth Choir, Middle School Youth, and Senior High (CIA) groups meet after supper.

We would like to see all of our youth participate in this program. Registration forms can be found in the sanctuary or the church office. Please send or drop off your registration form or call the church office before January 7, 2019.

Our Church Family

With caring thoughts...

Our deepest sympathy and condolences on the passing of **Gary Herman** who passed on Saturday, December 15, 2018.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences on the passing of **Will Cook** who passed on Wednesday, December 26, 2018.

Happy Anniversary!!

01/05/1958	Wayne & Judy Quellhorst
01/05/1980	Jack Sr. & Cindy Preston
01/08/1950	Carl & Wanda Kogge
01/16/2010	Nathan & Rudy Elizabeth Mathewson
01/18/1997	Tom & Pat Schlenker
01/21/1951	Ernie & Marilyn Hengstler



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

to our

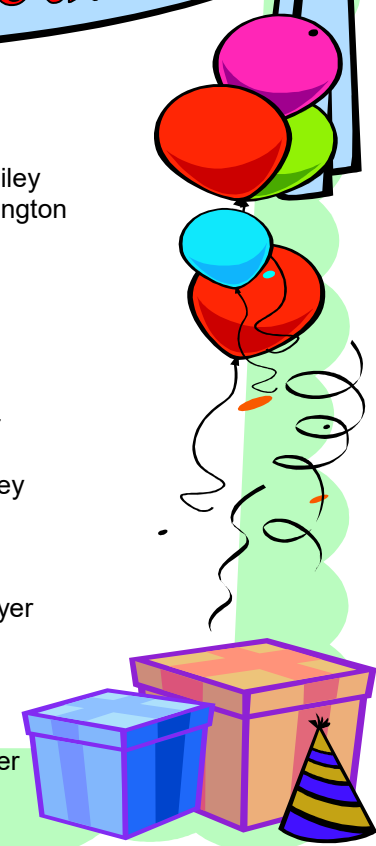
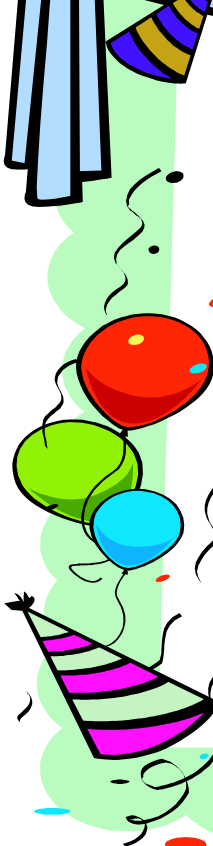
St. Paul Youth!

January

✓ Makenna Smith	1/10/2006
✓ Madison Loy	1/12/2009
✓ Braydon Wireman	1/15/2010
✓ Lucas Steinke	1/18/2012
✓ Audra Schaub	1/23/2001
✓ Callen Martin	1/23/2014
✓ Anna Madding	1/24/2001
✓ Cate Allemeier	1/25/2005
✓ Caitlin Wiedenbein	1/31/2002

Happy Birthday to you...

01/02	Dan Howe	01/15	Bernard Azbell
01/02	David Hibner	01/15	Dennis Kohler
01/04	Harold Werling	01/16	Linda Coil
01/04	Nathan Mathewson	01/16	Amy Weber Bailey
01/04	Lindsey Cairns	01/16	Katherine Wellington
01/05	Diane Schlenker	01/17	Thomas Braun
01/06	Jack Prater	01/18	Becky Sunday
01/06	Wayne Quellhorst	01/18	Linda Presar
01/06	Janet Schuler	01/19	Jeff Zwiebel
01/06	Emil George	01/19	Judy Zwiebel
01/07	Kay Wellington	01/20	Larisa Sutton
01/07	Dan Bennett	01/20	Marilyn Deever
01/07	Benjamin Warner	01/20	Kathy Frick
01/09	Donna Azbell	01/20	Elaine Pumphrey
01/09	Ellen Brautigam	01/21	Don Warner
01/09	Toby Shaw	01/21	Amber Detrick
01/09	Adam Webb	01/22	Jack Acheson
01/10	Ellen Brautigam	01/22	Steve Nuesmeyer
01/11	William Baker	01/22	James Hearn
01/12	Emerson Recob	01/24	Anna Madding
01/12	Jerry Clark	01/24	Carly Jarvis
01/12	Anne Bennett	01/24	Lori Schroer
01/14	Mikayla Halfhill	01/24	Maggie Bowsher
01/14	Louise Jung	01/25	Wanda Kogge
01/14	Ian Wiedenbein	01/28	Mike Schaub
		01/29	Tara Johnston





Meetings and Events

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

The church office will be closed on Monday, January 1, 2019 to observe New Years Day and also on Monday, January 21, 2019 in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day.

ANNUAL MEETING & SPAGHETTI DINNER

The St. Paul UCC Annual Meeting will be held after a special unified worship service at 10:15AM on **Sunday, January 27, 2019**. Please plan to stay after the meeting for a Spaghetti Dinner fundraiser benefitting the Senior High CIA Youth Group. Dinner will include spaghetti, garlic bread, salad, cupcakes, and beverages. Join us!!!!

PRAYER PARTNER REVEAL POTLUCK SUNDAY, JANUARY 6

If you participated in Partners in Prayer during 2018, you and your family are invited to attend our annual "reveal" potluck immediately following 10:15AM worship on **Sunday, January 6**. It's a wonderful opportunity to say "thank you" to those who have prayed faithfully over the last year.

NEW OUTLOOK

Get ready to tap your toes! New Outlook will be returning to St. Paul UCC for both worship services on **Sunday, January 20, 2019**. Invite your friends and neighbors to join us for worship. A special love offering will be collected after worship for the musicians.

CIRCLE ONE

Circle One will meet the first Thursday of every month September through May. The next meeting will be on **Thursday, January 3rd** at 1:30PM in the multipurpose room. We welcome newcomers. If you have a free after-

FAITH FORMATION MEETING

Faith Formation will be meeting Monday, January 7, 2019 at 6:00PM. Please plan to attend.

PARTNERS IN PRAYER

We are planning on doing secret prayer partners again this year. We all need prayers everyday of our lives to keep us going and to nurture our faith. And I know I firmly believe that we can never have too many people praying for us as well. Becoming a secret prayer partner is a fun way to encourage the practice of daily prayer, being able to do something nice for the person you are praying for (and we all know "It is more blessed to give than receive". All while you know that someone is praying for you as well. A real win-win situation. If you are interested in being a secret prayer partner in 2019, **please sign up by Sunday, January 20, 2019**. New prayer partners will be assigned around February 1. Please find a form to fill out on the following page or stop in the church office anytime.

STORING OF THE GREENS

After another beautiful season at St. Paul UCC, it's time to put the trees and garlands away for another year. Please join us Sunday, January 6, 2019 at 6:00PM to help put the church Christmas decorations away. Many hands make light work!!

Be a Prayer Partner in 2019!

Partners in Prayer—St. Paul United Church of Christ

A secret intercessory prayer partner is someone committed to intentionally pray for another person every day for the next year (2019).

- If you sign up to become a prayer partner, partner names will be drawn randomly by the church staff.
- You will be given the name of a person to pray for. That person will not know you are praying for them.
- Also, your name will be given to someone else to pray for you. That person will not be known to you.
- Prayer partner names and relevant information will be delivered around February 1st.
- Occasional anonymous greeting cards and gestures of friendship to prayer partners are appropriate but not necessary.
- A “Partners in Prayer” gathering will be held next January (2020), where secret prayer partners will be revealed.

In addition to praying for your prayer partner, please remember to keep St. Paul UCC, our various congregational ministries, and our wider community in your daily prayers.

Partners in Prayer 2019 Secret Intercessory Prayer Partner Sign-up

Please complete and return your form to the church office or place it in the offering plate during worship by Sunday, January 20th.

Please print:

Name _____

Mailing Adress _____

City _____ ZipCode _____

Telephone _____ Birthday _____

Any other information, important dates, or special prayer requests to share with your prayer partner:

Family _____

Work: _____

Interests: _____

Important dates (and why they are important): _____

Special prayer requests: _____

General Fund

Approved General Fund Monthly Budget	\$ 26,253.55
Given to General Fund for Month of December	\$ 38,440.65
Difference	\$ 12,187.10
Given to Benevolences for Month of December	\$ 1,863.50
Approved General Fund Budget Year to Date	\$315,042.61
Given to General Fund so far this year	\$235,325.56
Difference	\$ 79,717.05
Given to Benevolences so far this year	\$17,148.00

(Does not included December 30, 2018 offering)

Benevolence Giving for January ~ Crisis Center



CHURCH VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE

The YMCA is once again organizing a Sunday night volleyball league. This league is open to anyone over the age of 15 and is Co-Ed. The cost is \$10 per player. Each team can contain up to 12 players, but must have at least 3 women at each game. Sign up in the breezeway to join the St. Paul UCC team. Deadline to sign up is Sunday, January 6, 2019.





January 2019



Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

		1	2	3	4	5
		<p>Church Office Closed</p> <p>Rev Becky on vacation</p>	<p>6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>1:30PM Circle One</p> <p>4:30-6:30 Loaves & Fishes</p>		
<p>6 8:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:00AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion 6:00PM Take Down the Greens 5-7:00PM 8th Grade Confirmation Class</p>	<p>7 6:00PM Faith Formation</p>	<p>8 6:30PM Loaves & Fishes Meeting</p>	<p>9 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>10 4:30-6:30 Loaves & Fishes</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12 9AM-12PM CRI Sorting</p>
<p>13 8:15AM Worship 9:00AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship 11:30 Prayer Partners Luncheon</p>	<p>14 6:00PM Church Council Meeting</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16 3:00PM FEAST 6:30PM Youth Choir 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>17 4:30-6:30 Loaves & Fishes</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19</p>
<p>20 8:15AM Worship w/ New Outlook 9:00AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship w/ New Outlook 5-7:00PM 8th Grade Confirmation Class</p>	<p>21 No School Church Office Closed Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</p>	<p>22 6:00PM Mission Committee</p>	<p>23 3:00PM FEAST 6:30PM Youth Choir 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>24 4:30-6:30 Loaves & Fishes</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p>
<p>27 9:00AM Sunday School 10:15AM Unified Service 11:30AM Annual Meeting Follow Worship— Sr. High Spaghetti Dinner Fund Raiser</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30 3:00PM FEAST 6:30PM Youth Choir 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p>31 4:30-6:30 Loaves & Fishes—St. Paul Serving</p>		

St. Paul United Church of Christ
101 South Perry Street
PO Box 147
Wapakoneta, OH 45895



Non Profit Organization
U. S. Postage Paid
Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895
Permit No. 5

Church Office

Phone (419) 738-2215
Fax (419) 738-2076
Website: www.stpaulucc.com
Email: cindy@stpaulucc.com

Rev. Becky Sunday, Pastor

Study (419) 738-6216
Cell (567) 356-6773
Email becky@stpaulucc.com

Rev. Elaine Mikesell, Pastor Emerita

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

LET'S GET TOGETHER !

Regular Worship Times

Sunday Mornings 8:15 & 10:15 AM
Sunday School 9AM
Children's Church during 10:15 worship

Annual Congregational Meeting
Sunday, January 27 immediately
following the 10:15 unified
worship service
Spaghetti Dinner to Follow



ST. PAUL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Wapakoneta, Ohio

Our MISSION

As a congregation of God's people, we welcome and encourage all to join in fellowship, joyful and inspirational worship and faithful stewardship. United in Christ, we support and nurture one another in personal development and spiritual growth. We strive to reflect Christ's Love and to spread God's Word throughout our community and the world.