



The Link

October 2018

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

As a child, my family had an eat-in kitchen with a big kitchen table. I had a place of my very own at that table. We all did. There were never signs to mark whose spot belonged to whom, but we all knew. When my sister went off to college, her place remained empty, unless we had a guest for dinner. There was a sense of belonging around the table. The family wasn't quite complete unless all the spots were filled.

One of the most powerful symbols of the Christian faith is realized when we come around Christ's table in Holy Communion. Christ has set a table where everyone has a place, where all may be fed, and where individuals from all walks of life become one family.

For eighty-five years, Christian churches have been celebrating World Communion Sunday the first weekend in October. The practices vary from place to place and between diverse Christian denominations, but that is part of the beauty of this wonderful tradition. World Communion Sunday is one of my favorite Christian celebrations because it affirms our unity in the midst of great diversity.

There is something special about the gift of bread. Bread is one of those universal foods. Every culture has its own variation, from focaccia and pumpnickel to tortillas and naan. And something unique and almost magical happens when we break bread together.

Five years ago, I went on a silent retreat. As I planned for the retreat, the one thing I decided early on was that I wanted to bake some homemade bread as a spiritual exercise. I made all of my preparations, gather all my ingredients, and headed off for three days of quiet solitude and freshly baked bread. When I arrived at the retreat center, I set to work. Within a few hours, I had two loaves ready to go. They smelled wonderful, and I could hardly wait to take the first bite. But as I paused to give thanks, I realized something was missing. I didn't have anyone to share it with.

The breaking of bread holds an important place in our Christian tradition because Jesus made it special. But it is worth noting that all of those bread-breaking stories that we love so much, from the Feeding of the 5,000 to the Last Supper, have something in common. In every case, Jesus had gathered his disciples *together*. When we think about our personal stories of breaking bread, we come to realize that it is the company, not the food, which makes it worthwhile. It's not the Thanksgiving turkey, stuffing, and pumpkin pie that make the day special, but rather the family that has gathered together to share them.

So for one Sunday this October, and every year, we gather together in the spirit of Christ, recognizing the miracle that is the Body of Christ, focusing not so much on the elements of the bread and the cup we share, but on the Body that is Christ's Church. Our UCC motto is taken from part of the prayer Jesus prayed in the upper room after sharing the Last Supper with those first disciples. He prayed for his followers who would become the Church, asking God "that they may all be one" (John 17:21). For one beautiful moment on October 7th, we will be. Come and claim your place at the table!

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Becky

***ST. PAUL UCC's
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE***

Nov. 3rd - 9AM – 3PM

Cookie/Candy Walk, Lunch Stand, Crafts/Vendor Booths

*Proceeds support Youth Programs at St. Paul UCC
For Information about booth space
call the Church office for more details.*



**LOAVES & FISHES
IS MOVING**

As of Thursday, October 18th, St. Paul UCC will be the temporary home of the Loaves and Fishes weekly community meal. We are making the kitchen, Timmermeister Hall, and some dry storage space available for the next several months while Loaves and Fishes searches for a permanent home. Churches will still rotate on a weekly basis to cook and serve the meal. Remember that all are welcome at the Loaves and Fishes meal on Thursday evenings.



God's Storehouse Thanksgiving Food Drive

We will once again be collecting food for Thanksgiving meals for the families of God's Storehouse.

Because of your donations, and others in the community, God's Storehouse will be able to provide Thanksgiving dinners for more than 50 families. They are also mindful of so many other needs. You can help by bringing in the following items:

- ◆ Boxed Mashed Potatoes
- ◆ Gravy Mix (either in an envelope or can)
- ◆ Can of fruit (peaches or peach cocktail)
- ◆ Boxed Stuffing Mix
- ◆ Dessert item (such as cake mix with icing, cookie mix or other dessert mix)
- ◆ Dinner rolls (tube)

Please bring items to Timmermeister Hall by **Monday, November 5**
We can also use monetary donations for meat to complete the meal.

Thank you for helping St. Paul UCC fulfill its mission to feed God's children!

Thank you!



Our Church Family

With caring thoughts...


Our deepest sympathy and condolences on the passing of **Jane Rickert** who passed on Wednesday, September 19, 2018.

Wedding

Congratulations on the marriage of Brandon Todd Helms and Kala Renee Knoch on **Saturday, August 25, 2018**. Kala is the daughter of Keith and Rita Knoch.

Happy Anniversary!!

O c t o b e r	10/03/1987	Kevin & Jennifer Frische
	10/04/1957	Don & Alice Fischbach
	10/10/1980	Tony & Cindy Quellhorst
	10/12/1991	Mark & Cheryl Erb
	10/13/2007	Justin & Dena Wireman
	10/16/1999	Tom & Kristina Hunter
	10/19/1996	Wayland & Treasa Detrick
	10/22/1977	Bart & Elisha Smith
	10/23/1993	David & Dawn Rankin
	10/25/1975	Jeff & Kristine Beane
	10/26/2011	Josh & Catherine Copeland
	10/27/1984	Kirk & Gayle Azbell



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
to our
St. Paul Youth!

October

Broderick Schlosser	10/04/2012
Quinn Steinke	10/05/2015
Addison Schneider	10/07/2009
Alexis Schneider	10/07/2009
Paison Preston	10/09/2008
Eli Erb	10/09/2016



Happy Birthday to...

10/01	Chloe Adkins	10/09	Kayla Bowersock	10/20	Jonathan Zwiebel
10/01	Bert Presar	10/09	Tracy McDonald	10/23	Thomas Freytag
10/01	Jane Myers	10/10	Matthew Bartlett	10/23	Tyler Spearhart
10/02	David Rankin	10/10	Jason Childress	10/24	Tiffanie Adkins
10/03	Lindy Schlenker	10/14	Drew McCullough	10/25	Jessica Freytag
10/04	Don Fischbach	10/15	Don Brautigam	10/25	Larry Winkler
10/04	Lee Martin	10/15	Joann Camper	10/26	Linsey Paul
10/05	Jason Bartlett	10/16	James Smith	10/26	Miriam Smith
10/05	Christine Miller	10/17	Brad Kaeck	10/26	John Gilroy
10/05	Matthew Presar	10/19	Judy Quellhorst	10/26	Andrea Brookhart
10/05	Gregory Hengstler	10/20	Emile Thiedt	10/28	Deb Kaeck
10/06	Marilyn Hengstler	10/20	Emily Schlenker	10/30	Gayle Azbell
10/06	Cheryl Short			10/30	Lauren Erb
10/08	Jackie Martin			10/30	Kenneth Hengstler



General Fund

General Fund Monthly Budget	\$ 26,253.55
Given to General Fund through Sept. 23	\$16,434.91
Difference	\$ 9,818.64
Given to Benevolences through Sept 23	\$1,434.00
General Fund Budget Year to Date	\$236,281.96
Given to General Fund so far this year	\$161,105.91
Difference	\$75,176.05
Given to Benevolences so far this year	\$11,398.50

Benevolence Giving for October ~ OCWM



Donate to Neighbors in Need

We are currently collecting donations for the UCC's Neighbors in Need special mission offering.

Neighbors in Need supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering.

Please donate in the month of October to support justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Please make checks payable to: St. Paul UCC, with "Neighbors in Need" in the memo. Thank you!

Meetings and Events

REQUEST

With all the tours coming to Wapakoneta and visits to St. Paul next year for the 50th anniversary of Neil Armstrong, Dan Bennett is going to make a memorial to Neil. He is asking for any pictures or items from St. Paul in the mid to late 1940's when Neil attended. He is going to stress more of Neil's life at St. Paul with some items from the 1969 vigil and his work at NASA. If you would have anything Dan can use please let him or the church office know.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

Pastor Becky will be leading a class for those interested in officially joining the membership of St. Paul UCC. The two-week class will be held Sunday, October 28 and November 4 in the St. Paul UCC library immediately following 10:15 worship. New members will be received into the congregation at the 10:15 worship service on Sunday, November 11. If you have any questions see Pastor Becky.

EVERGREEN CEMETERY

We will be having a trimming party at the Evergreen Cemetery on Silver St. on **Saturday, Oct 20 starting at 9:00 AM.** St. Paul has been dedicated to keeping up this cemetery for a while now, and Dan Bennett has been a faithful servant to this mission, however, some more hands are needed at this time. Please bring your favorite equipment for trimming and getting shrubs, trees and plants back in shape.

OFFERING ENVELOPES

We will be ordering offering envelopes for 2019 soon. If you presently get offering envelopes and do not wish to please let Cindy in the church office know as soon as possible. If you wish to receive envelopes and do not please let Cindy know this also.

FAITH FORMATION TEAM

The Faith Formation Team will be meeting on Monday, October 1st at 6:00PM. We will be discussing how FEAST and Sunday School are going so far. Also looking ahead to Heifer Sunday and the Cookie/Candy Walk and Bazaar. **All are Welcome!!!**

CIRCLE ONE

Monthly meetings are the 1st Thursday of the month at 1:30PM in the Ritter Room. Our next scheduled meeting is **Thursday, October 4th.** We provide support and fellowship for each other. Monthly collection enrich our church and community projects. Please join us!!!!

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

On Sunday, **November 4th** we will be celebrating All-Saints Sunday. We will have a special service of remembrance along with a celebration of Holy Communion at each worship service that morning. Please join us as we remember those faithful saints of St. Paul UCC who have entered Life Eternal in the past year.

SAVE THE DATE FAITH PROMISE SUNDAY NOVEMBER 18, 2018

We will have a fellowship dinner following the 10:15AM worship service in celebration of our renewed Faith Promises. Be looking for more information in the coming weeks.

HALLOWEEN PARADE TRICK OR TREAT

The Wapak Halloween Parade will be on **Thursday, October 18th.** Trick of treat is on **Thursday, October 25th.**



October 2018



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	<p><i>1</i></p> <p>6:00PM Faith Formation Meeting</p>	<p><i>2</i></p> <p>6:30PM Suicide Survivors Support Group</p>	<p><i>3</i></p> <p>3:00PM FEAST 6-6:45PM Youth-Choir 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>4</i></p> <p>1:30PM Circle One 6:30PM Group Study</p>	<p><i>5</i></p>	<p><i>6</i></p>
<p><i>7</i></p> <p>8:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:00AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion World Communion Sunday</p>	<p><i>8</i></p> <p>6PM Church Council</p>	<p><i>9</i></p> <p>6:00PM Roots & Shoots</p>	<p><i>10</i></p> <p>3:00PM FEAST 6-6:45PM Youth Choir 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>11</i></p> <p>6:30PM Group Study</p>	<p><i>12</i></p>	<p><i>13</i></p> <p>9AM—12Noon CRI Sorting in Buckland 11:00AM Craft Workshop</p>
<p><i>14</i></p> <p>8:15AM Worship 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship w/ Gideon Mission Moment 5-7:00PM Confirmation Class</p>	<p><i>15</i></p>	<p><i>16</i></p> <p>6:30PM Suicide Survivors Support Group</p>	<p><i>17</i></p> <p>3:00PM FEAST 6-6:45PM Youth Choir 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>18</i></p> <p>4:30-6:30 Loaves & Fishes at St. Paul UCC Wapak Halloween Parade</p>	<p><i>19</i></p>	<p><i>20</i></p> <p>9:00AM Evergreen Cemetery Clean Up</p>
<p><i>21</i></p> <p>8:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion w/Gale Gebhart 9:00 AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship w/ Gale Gebhart</p>	<p><i>22</i></p>	<p><i>23</i></p> <p>6:00PM Mission Committee Meeting</p>	<p><i>24</i></p> <p>3:00PM FEAST 6-6:45PM Youth Choir 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>	<p><i>25</i></p> <p>4:30-6:30 Loaves & Fishes at St. Paul UCC Wapak Trick or Treat</p>	<p><i>26</i></p>	<p><i>27</i></p>
<p><i>28</i></p> <p>8:15AM Worship 9AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship 11:15AM New Members Class 5-7:00PM Confirmation Class</p>	<p><i>29</i></p>	<p><i>30</i></p>	<p><i>31</i></p> <p>3:00PM FEAST 6-6:45PM Youth Choir 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir</p>			

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Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895
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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



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.