



# The Link

September  
2015

## St. Paul United Church of Christ

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## Words of encouragement from Rev. Becky Sunday

It's hard to believe that another summer is behind us. For many churches, summer is a time when programming comes to a halt, and everyone takes a little break from the hectic schedules they keep the rest of the year. Here at St. Paul UCC, it seems we have been an exception to this rule. Even though our summer schedule has been different than the regular program year, we have been very active over the past few months.

The first year of our summer lunch program was a great success. After all the numbers were in, we served a total of 2,129 lunches on-site and gave away 797 take-home food bags. I want to thank every volunteer who donated time, money, or food to make this a positive experience. Special thanks also to our Lay Ministries Coordinator, Tami Zwez, for her excellent work in leading this initiative along with members of the Mission Committee. This new ministry has been a valued asset to our community—one that we will be excited to carry into the future as we continue to be committed to feeding God's children.

This summer also saw a wonderful mission experience for five of our members at Crossroad Child and Family Services in Fort Wayne. Our youth and adults helped with grounds work, as well as sorting box tops and Campbell's labels, preparing Halloween gifts for the Crossroad kids, and making decorations for their upcoming donor dinner—all while learning about a valuable ministry that serves the most vulnerable children and families in our region.

We also shared another great Vacation Bible School experience with our friends from First English Lutheran, had some fabulous summer music, and hosted a missionary who works with our covenant partners in El Salvador. We had wonderful fellowship at our summer hog roast, began work on our new pictorial directory, and the list goes on!

As we turn the calendar page from August to September, we see the end of summer and celebrate the start of a new season. As we celebrate Rally Day our focus turns, and soon our fall programming will be well under way. That means Sunday School for all ages, FEAST, Senior High CIA Youth, Confirmation, and choirs will all be resuming.

I hope you will join us for our Rally Day celebration on **Sunday, September 13**. Beginning at 9:00am, we will gather for our Sunday School kick-off, followed by a special **unified worship service at 10:15am** and more festivities to follow.

I want to leave you with a thought from the Apostle Paul from his letter to the church at Philippi: "From now on, brothers and sisters, if anything is excellent and if anything is admirable, focus your thoughts on these things: all that is true, all that is holy, all that is just, and all that is worthy of praise" (Phil 4:8, CEB). We have had many such things to celebrate this summer, and there is much, much more to come!

Peace and blessings,  
Pastor Becky

The Christian Education/Faith Formation Team will have a special meeting on Wednesday, September 9th at 6:00PM. This meeting is for anyone involved with FEAST (which starts the following Wednesday, September 16th). We should have numbers for class size at that time.

# NEWS FROM COUNCIL

It is a pleasure to share with you this good news! On August 10<sup>th</sup> at the last meeting of Church Council, members of Council unanimously voted in recommendation to the Congregation for the hiring of Reverend Janice Burns-Watson as Associate Pastor and Director of Faith Formation. This action was taken in response to Reverend Sunday's and the Personnel Committee's favorable recommendations to Council.

You may recall that we have had three part-time positions available in the Church: Associate Pastor, Director of Faith Formation, and Director of Worship Arts. Our plan has been to fill any two of those three positions with a full time individual. Over the last six months we have interviewed a number of talented lay candidates that inquired with interest about performing the Duties of Director of Faith Formation and Worship Arts as a full-time position. Recently we have also interviewed Pastoral candidates interested in the Associate Pastor and Faith Formation positions as a full time position. It was the intention of Council to patiently wait until we felt we had identified the right candidate that had the potential to be an outstanding resource to our emerging ministerial priorities. I'm pleased to share that those most directly involved in the recruiting process feel that Reverend Burns-Watson is the candidate we've been waiting for.

Pastor Burns-Watson is presently serving as pastor to the Hocking Valley Parish in Chauncey, OH. This parish is made up of five small congregations in rural, southeastern Ohio. Pastor Burns-Watson is mother to three children: Naima, 19, is a student at Columbus State University. Nathanael, 13, is an 8<sup>th</sup> grader and active in the marching band. Abby, 11, is in the 6<sup>th</sup> grade and into One Direction and is an avid reader.

She has been ordained for twenty years. Straight out of seminary Pastor Burns-Watson was called as a part of the first group of missionaries under the joint umbrella of the newly formed joint mission of the UCC's and Disciples of Christ. She served as a missionary in Kenya for three years. Since returning from overseas she has served a variety of ministry positions with both the UCC and Disciples, as well as serving as a Hospice and Hospital chaplain. She has special training as a Spiritual Director, Mediator and Children's Worship and Wonder Story Teller Trainer. She believes her special gifts are in the areas of pastoral care and children's ministry and mission.

Pastor Burns-Watson grew up in Western Indiana, so the flat farm land around Wapakoneta feels like home for her. She recently developed a new hobby in photography and she hopes to spend more time pursuing it. She also enjoys hiking, especially with her kids; yoga; and a great cup of coffee or tea. On Sunday, September 27, Reverend Burns-Watson will be visiting and worshipping with us at St. Paul. She will be participating in a unified service that day. Following worship, there will be a brief Congregational meeting to consider the recommendation of Council to hire Reverend Burns-Watson. A time of fellowship will follow the congregation meeting.

The Personnel Committee and Church Mice have been working to help make arrangements for Janice's weekend with us. There are two opportunities for you to meet her and introduce yourselves to Pastor Burns-Watson prior to the congregational meeting. First, on Saturday September 26 from 12:30pm-1:30pm there will be a "Dutch Treat" luncheon at the Coffee Cup. There will be a buffet lunch for \$11 per person including tip. Individuals will be responsible for the costs of their own meals. The second opportunity to visit with Pastor Burns-Watson will be at 9:00 am prior to worship on Sunday, September 27. Pastor Burns-Watson will be available until 9:45 am in the fellowship hall. Come have a cup of coffee and meet Janice.

Following worship and the congregational meeting on the 27<sup>th</sup> there will be a time of fellowship. We'll be able to welcome Pastor Burns-Watson to our ministry and visit in Timmermiester Hall. I hope that you will plan to stay and visit for a while and enjoy some of the special treats that will be available.

## I'M STILL WAITING

### By Laura Kinstle

If there is one thing I'm not good at is waiting. I can never wait for the mail to arrive soon enough. I can't wait until we get home from our shopping trip, to see my two babies (my dogs).

We made a move to a retirement community last November and found out that it is not handicapped accessible to me (especially with a fused straight leg). I know I'm the exception to the rule. But, honestly how difficult can it get when you can't reach the kitchen faucet, put your makeup on with a hand mirror and can't even load and unload the washer/dryer. I'm one that has to keep busy all the time and it is really difficult when you can't reach anything to do anything.

As each month came along, I found myself more and more depressed living in our current situation. Then one day I had a discussion with my husband and said there had to be some place in this world that I could live and live more independently. I prayed and prayed about it and then one day I said to my husband that we had a friend who builds duplexes and would he give him a call to see if he had any openings.

He didn't have any duplexes open but was going to build some at a location back in Wapakoneta in the spring. We asked if he would consider us to move in and he gave us a definite "yes". I knew my prayers were answered.

But, I am not familiar with construction and didn't realize all the time it takes to build something. Each month my husband calls and we hear it will be another month and then another month until completion.

I am still waiting as of this date and I must say I find it hard to know how to cope. But, the only way I can cope is to turn it over to God and realize that in his due time, we will be moved.

Have you ever waited for God to answer your prayers? Maybe you're in the waiting room at the hospital wondering if your loved one made it through surgery. Maybe you have a son or daughter in the military in harms way and you're waiting to receive a letter from them. Or, maybe you're waiting for your child to come home from school and are in hope the school bully will final let him alone.

But, the only thing we can do to get us through all this waiting is to pray and turn it over to God. Even Jesus had to wait in the Garden of Gethsemane. And if he could endure that, we must try, too.

Sometimes it is easier said than done, but I find it comforting to pray any time I have the feeling of dread. I know that God will be with me and carry me through the waiting.

Yes, I'm still waiting but God is waiting for my next prayer and hoping I can find comfort in him. Will you find comfort, too?

## NEW MEMBERS

If you know of anyone wanting to become a member of St Paul UCC, Pastor Becky will be holding classes on **September 20th and 27th** with new members being received by the congregation at the **10:15 worship on September 27th**. Please contact Pastor Becky or call the church office.

## CONFIRMATION PARENT MEETING

Pastor Becky will be holding a confirmation parent meeting on **September 3, 2015** for any parent of 8th graders that will be joining this years confirmation class. The meeting is scheduled for **7:00PM** at the church. Any questions please call the church office.

## WOMEN'S GUILD CANDY & NUT SALES



Start planning now for your holiday baking and entertaining. We will be offering all the fine nuts and candy and snack mixes you have enjoyed in the past. However, this year we will be taking orders in October for delivery in early November. Watch for our catalogs, enjoy samples and place your orders in October.



**ST. PAUL UCC's**

# **HOLIDAY BAZAAR**

*featuring*

*Vendor Booths - Cookie/Candy Walk & Luncheon*



**Nov. 7<sup>th</sup> 9AM – 3PM**

In conjunction with the Wapakoneta Downtown Holiday Open House



**Lunch Served 11AM-2PM**

*\*\*Lunch is served by the ladies of the Guild. Featuring: homemade soups & sandwiches, along with desserts & beverages.*

**We are looking for vendors.**

SIGN-UP fee for a booth is \$30.00. If you are interested, please contact Sheri Sherman at 419-738-2187 or the Church Office.

# COUNCIL CHAT

- Capital Repair and Replacement Update – A property committee meeting is being planned for September to discuss projects for next year.
- Jack Preston presented to the council the recommendation of the personnel committee to enter into negotiations with Rev. Janice Burns-Watson for the full-time position of Associate Pastor. The position is a combination of two part-time positions; Director of Faith Formation and Associate Pastor.
- Called to Card – Kay Wellington reported that there have been 27 visits made to 27 homebound friends by 18 Call to Care partners. Kay added that more volunteers are needed due to the increase of requests for visits.
- The Living Endowment Board- Jim Hearn reported that the brochure outlining gift giving opportunities is close to being completed.
- The Summer Lunch Program has finished and was a great success. We have been approved for next year.
- Faith Promise Sunday, November 22, 2015, will be celebrated with a unified service. A potluck dinner will follow the service.

# SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM

**A GREAT BIG THANK YOU** to everyone who made the Summer Lunch program a huge success. Volunteers “lunch ladies and a few men” joined us for a hot school lunch from 11:30AM to 12:30PM, Monday thru Thursday for 9 weeks. We had lots of fun and made many new friends. Every day a special treat was handed out, games were played, and crafts were enjoyed by everyone. The volunteers cooked, cleaned, counted, shopped, handed out milk, carried trays, made weekend take home bags, baked yummy cookies, helped with programs, played games with participants, taught Twinkle, Twinkle Little Star with hand chimes, and many times just filled in where the need was at the present time. Our volunteers included: Lori, Ben, Nate and Ellie Schroer, Diane Schlenker, Pat and Tom Shaw, Karen Ruck,

Vicki Smith, Cheryl Short, Naomi Carnes, Cindy Erb, Mindy Webb, Janet Hoskins, Annie Mullins, Nancy Newland, Sarah Hewlett, Gary Laszewski, Jan Schlenker, Carol Berg, Jack Preston, Jane Myers, Betty Wiedenbein, Jill and Colin Jarvis, Wendy, Alec, and Sidney Schlenker, Shannon, Nick, Caleb, Xavier, Damien, and Ty Lamb, Bridgette Leitz, Carla Shappell, Susan and Alex Stinebaugh, Tammy Nuesmeyer, Janet Winkler, Tami Zvez, Rev. Becky Sunday, Autumn Swanson-Girl Scout Programming, OSU Extension Programming, and Family Video.

**A Special Thank You** to Bill Bowersock. He made the church look clean and shiny everyday and always set up whatever we needed for the week with a smile.



# CHURCH DIRECTORY

## Last Chance to Be in the Church Directory

Once again this year St Paul UCC is asking you to help create a church directory. The last directory was published over five years ago. Every family photographed receives a complimentary directory and an 8x10 portrait at no cost. You can sign up at the church on Sunday mornings after each service or sign up online at our church web site at <http://stpaulucc.com>. We go to press October 3 and we have just a few portrait appointments available Tuesday-Saturday, September 8-12, 2015. You can submit a photo for the directory, it will cost the church \$10 for each submitted photo and we are asking for a \$10 donation with each submitted photo whenever possible. The submitter will receive a free directory.

## Need Snapshots for Church Directory

We need snapshots of church activities for the directory. Many people take casual pictures with their cell phones that could really enhance the story we are trying to tell in the directory. If you have a picture that you think will help us tell about our church mission in feeding people, bringing religious music into their lives, and reaching out with mission programs like the Summer Lunch Program, please send it to Bill Miller, [bill@cyberpro.com](mailto:bill@cyberpro.com).



# Our Church Family

## With caring thoughts...

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to **Jane Rickert and her family** on the passing of Jane's sister, Carmen Shaw Van Doren. Carmen passed on August 14, 2015.

## Happy Anniversary!!

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09/01/1996	Rod & Linda Carter
09/04/1993	Michael & Angela Hosterman
09/05/1981	Bill & Diane Method
09/05/1987	Doug & Sherrie Fisher
09/16/2006	Nathan & Terri Bailey
09/06/2006	Sean & Amy Runkel
09/16/1989	David & Lisa Mittelkamp
09/17/1966	Don & Mary Rohrbaugh
09/18/2006	Jim Jr. & Jessica Hearn
09/19/1964	Bill & Linda Baker
09/20/1997	Scott & Heidi Leek
09/21/2013	Travis & Christy Limbert
09/22/1956	Bernard & Donna Azbell
09/24/1988	Keith & Rita Knoch
09/26/1987	Jeff & Mary Adkins
09/27/1953	Lewis Sr. & Helen Erb
09/27/1959	Charles (Ed) & Marilyn Lee
09/27/1986	Jeff & Judy Zwiebel
09/28/2002	Shane & Jamie Allemeier
09/29/1979	Mick & Kathy Haehn
09/29/1990	John & Diane Ferguson



**HAPPY BIRTHDAY**  
to our  
**St. Paul Youth!**

### September

Reed Miller	9/01/2008
Hannah Schaub	9/03/2003
Hope Ann Erb	9/10/2013
Penny Closson	9/12/2002
Drew Peachey	9/13/2000
Haakon Moninger	9/15/2006



## Happy Birthday to you..'

09/01	Linda Carter	09/10	Roberta Hengstler	09/20	Dale Schmidt
09/01	John Zwez	09/10	Susan Bartlett	09/21	Jean Gilroy
09/02	Robert Bidwell	09/13	Mark Erb	09/21	Jordan Kaeck
09/03	Carolyn Edwards	09/13	Heidi Leek	09/22	Rodney Schey
09/03	Wayland Detrick	09/14	Pat Shaw	09/23	Lauren Hengstler
09/04	Ken Kohler	09/15	Don Rohrbaugh	09/23	Jona Limbert
09/04	Sheri Sherman	09/15	Alicia Smith	09/24	Dan Schroer
09/04	Jim Brautigam	09/15	Tom Stinebaugh	09/24	Jessie Groh
09/04	Brenda Ward	09/16	Sharon Knoch	09/26	Robert Camper
09/05	Jeff Brown	09/17	Barb Smith	09/26	Deborah Bailey
09/05	Jennifer Frische	09/17	Jim Smith	09/27	Dudley Schuler
09/07	Shirley Baughman	09/17	Larry Thiedt	09/28	Chelsie Steinke
09/08	Howard Hershberger	09/17	Mark Vaughn	09/28	Morgan Adkins
09/08	Keith Kohler	09/18	Barb Kohler	09/30	Brian Warner
09/08	Sally Presar	09/18	Kim Azbell	09/30	Rudy Elizabeth
09/08	Jeff Smith	09/18	Ammie Coolidge		Mathewson
09/10	Martha Baker	09/20	Bill Bowersock		

# Meetings and Events

## RALLY DAY

Rally Day is **Sunday, September 13th**. We are having a unified service at 10:15. Following service there will be a potluck dinner with Faith Formation providing Erb's Chicken and drinks. Please bring your own table service and a side dish of dessert to share. There is a sign-up sheet in the breezeway to give us an estimate for the amount of chicken needed. You may also call the church office at 419-738-2215. Please sign-up by September 6th.

## SERVANTS DAY

Servants Day will be **September 12 from 8 AM until 4 PM**. Breakfast and lunch will be provided. It will be based over at St. Joseph's church. The volunteer sign up list is on the bulletin board between the church office and the kitchen. You will be contacted about your job assignment before September 12 so you can come prepared. If your

## OHIO CONFERENCE UCC

Ohio Conference UCC Annual Gathering will be September 26, 2015. Visit [www.ocucc.org](http://www.ocucc.org) or see Pastor Becky for details.

## WOMEN'S GUILD

Women's Guild will begin meeting again on **Tuesday, September 8th** at **1:30PM**. ALL women of the church and their friends are encouraged to attend. Please join in for fellowship, faith, and fun.

## CIRCLE ONE

Our next scheduled meeting is **Thursday, September 3rd** at 1:30PM in the Ritter Room.. We meet the 1st Thursday of every month September—May. Please plan to join us.

## CIRCLE THREE

Circle Three meets on the third Thursday of the month from September through May. The meeting of Circle Three will be on **Thursday, September 17th** at 11:30 A.M. at the Coffey Cup Restaurant. Please join us, all are welcome.

## 1 Hour Early Dismissal

1 hour early dismissal for all Wapakoneta schools on Wednesday, September 23rd. As in prior years, when there is an early dismissal there will be no transportation from the schools and no homework table time. FEAST will then start at 4:00 with Session 1 class. Please remember to send a note to the Elementary School that day as to what your child/children should do to get home or wherever they go on regular days.

## IN NEED OF THE FOLLOWING

St Paul is in need of drivers to pick up students after school on Wednesdays for Feast. Also, volunteers to help with Feast as: Assist a class teacher, hall monitors, kitchen clean up, table parents, etc. There will be a meeting for feast on **Wednesday, September 9, at 6:00PM**. Feast starts on Wednesday, September 15th.

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## Grandparent/Grandchild Camp

We enjoyed our adventures at Grandparent/Grandchild Camp at Camp Pilgrim Hill making new friends and learning how to show God's love to others. We had fun shooting bottle rockets, swimming in the rain, playing ball, and getting all muddy making sculptures from clay that we dug out of the ground, and of course eating the great food. But our favorite activity was learning to dance the Virginia Reel. Thank you to our church for your support.  
Addison Smith, Nikolas Hunter, Nancy Hunter

# RALLY DAY

## SEPTEMBER 13, 2015

### SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School classes will start up on this Sunday at 9:00AM. For 3 years old—7th grade we will meet in Timmermeister Hall for our opening, then go to our classes. This year we want everyone to 'CONNECT' to Sunday School EVERY SUNDAY!!!!!! Dr. Parmie Herman's adult class will also start this Sunday at 8:45 AM.

### UNIFIED SERVICE

There will be a unified service following Sunday School at 10:15AM. Following the service will be a potluck dinner with Faith Formation providing Erb Chicken and drinks. There is a sign-up sheet in the breezeway for the dinner to give us an idea of how much chicken to have. Please bring your own table service and a side dish or dessert to share.

### SENIOR DINNER CELEBRATION

The Senior Dinner Celebration is scheduled for **Sunday, September 20<sup>th</sup>** at 11:30. Please sign up on the sheet in the breezeway. We will need to know how many people will be attending, if you would like to have tossed salad or cole slaw, and if you would like to have a white potato or sweet potato. Dessert will be home baked pies by Ladies Aux of the Buckland United Church of Christ.

### FAIR RAFFLE WINNERS

St Paul United Church of Christ announces the 2015 Auglaize County Fair Raffle Winners:

1st Prize -Weekend at Great Wolf Lodge  
Winner—Amy Korn of Wapak

2nd Prize-Family Membership at the  
Toledo Zoo

Winner—Evaline Herren of  
Cridersville

3rd Prize-10 passes to the Wapa Theater

Winner—Amy Zwez of Wapak

Congratulations to our winners and thank you to everyone who participated.

# General Fund

Approved General Fund Monthly Budget	\$26,808.69
Given to General Fund through August 23, 2015	\$13,870.00
Difference	<b>\$12,938.69</b>

Given to Benevolences for the Month of August	\$ 1,102.00
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Approved General Fund Budget Year to Date	\$214,469.52
Given to General Fund so far this year	\$145,488.56
Difference	<b>\$ 68,980.96</b>

Given to Benevolences so far this year	\$ 11,191.31
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## *Benevolence Giving for September~ St Paul Families in Need*

### WEDNESDAYS—Sept. 16—Dec 9

# Feast Schedule

- 3:00-4:00-Study Tables
- 4:00-4:45-Class **Session One**
- 4:45-5:30-Class **Session Two**
- 5:30-6:30-Feast Lesson for the week and Dinner
- 6:30-7:15-Class **Session Three**
- 7:15-7:30—Final Pick-up. All participants need to be checked out by 7:30 p.m.

#### **Session One:**

- Cardboard Village
- Creative Construction (Grade 2 and up)
- Painting and Crafting
- Fun with Sewing

#### **Session Two:**

- Hand Chimes (3<sup>rd</sup> grade and up)
- Superheroes of the Bible
- Painting and Crafting (Repeat of Session One)
- Fun with Frosting

#### **Session Three:**

- Cherub Choir (4yrs -4<sup>th</sup> grade)
- Middle School Youth Group (Grades 5-7)
- Sr. High CIA (Christians in Action) Youth Group (Grades 8-12)

This is shaping up to be a wonderful time of faith and family experiences. We hope you are able to join the FEAST.

# September 2015



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<i>1</i> 7—8:30PM Suicide Survivors Support Group	<i>2</i>	<i>3</i> 1:30PM Circle One  7:00PM Information Confirmation Class Parent Meeting	<i>4</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>6</i> 8:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion 10:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion	<i>7</i> <b>Church Office Closed</b>  Labor Day	<i>8</i> 1:30PM Women's Guild  Directory Pictures 2-9PM	<i>9</i> 6:00PM Faith Formation Meeting  Directory Pictures 2-9PM	<i>10</i> 5:00PM Executive Committee Meeting  Directory Pictures 2-9PM	<i>11</i>  Directory Pictures 2-9PM	<i>12</i> 9AM—12Noon CRI Sorting in Buckland  Servants Day  Directory Pictures 9:30 to 4:30
<i>13</i> Rally Day 9:00AM Sunday School 10:15AM Unified Worship w/Potluck dinner	<i>14</i> 6PM Church Council	<i>15</i>	<i>16</i> 3:00PM FEAST 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir	<i>17</i> 11:30AM Circle Three  6:00PM Stewardship Committee Meeting	<i>18</i>	<i>19</i>
<i>20</i> 8:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM New Member Class 10:15AM Worship 11:30AM Church MICE 11:30AM Senior Dinner	<i>21</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>23</i> 1 hour early dismissal for school  4:00PM FEAST 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir	<i>24</i>	<i>25</i>	<i>26</i> 12:30-1:30PM Fellowship lunch to meet Rev. Burns-Watson at Coffee Cup
<i>27</i> 9:00AM Sunday School 9:00AM New Member Class 10:15AM Unified Worship w/receiving of new members and meet Rev. Burns-Watson	<i>28</i> 6:00PM Personnel Committee Meeting	<i>29</i>	<i>30</i> 3:00PM FEAST 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir			

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101 South Perry Street  
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Permit No. 5

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Rev. Becky Sunday, Senior Pastor

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

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

**Church Office Closed**  
**September 7, 2015**

**Labor Day**



**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.*