

St. Paul's News

July 2013



From the Pastor's Pen:

St. Paul's,

Last week was our Annual Conference, the yearly gathering that our United Methodist conference, East Ohio, holds to report, celebrate, and look ahead to the future. The theme this year was "Jesus is Calling," and our worship time together focused on what and how Jesus is calling us individual and as part of the church. Throughout the committee report and resolutions, this theme of "Jesus is Calling" was continually emphasized.

Overall, it seems as though our conference is moving in a positive direction. We continue to be financially stable thanks mainly to the high number of churches paying their full amount of apportionments, something that we here at St. Paul's continue to do. While membership of churches does continue to decline, I am proud to report that St. Paul's is in the roughly 1/3 of churches in the conferences whose average worship attendance either increased or remained the same in the past year. Our conference also continues to remain strong in our support of missions both locally and around the world. The 3 C's program, something that is unique to our East Ohio Conference, continues to remain strong with much work including monetary donations and short term mission trips being done to help develop churches, clinics, and classrooms in Liberia, Sierra Leone, Russia, and Zimbabwe. In addition

our health kits that we brought to Lakeside joined a semi-truck load of other relief kits to go to the Midwest Distribution center to be used as emergency relief.

While there were no major changes voted on during Annual Conference that will directly impact St. Paul's, I encourage us to continue to keep all churches in our conference in prayer as many of them will face pastoral transitions and other new circumstances in the upcoming weeks. Also continue to pray for the great work that our churches are able to do together in the mission field around our world.

Peace,

Pastor Hannah



New Member Meeting

Are you new to St. Paul's and desire to be more involved? Have you been attending for a long time and are still wondering what membership is all about? Have you ever thought about joining the church? If you answered yes to any of these questions, please consider attending a brief meeting following worship on July 21st as we prepare for a New Member Sunday in August. If you are unable to attend on the 21st, talk to Pastor Hannah about arranging another time.

Special Birthdays

July

14 – Leanne Wolff

15 – Susan Slemmer

If you are over 80 and would like your birthday listed, contact the church office.



Prayer Focus

How similar are the concerns from month to month! We always remember those coping with natural disasters that need our prayers. Keep the hurricane and tornado victims in prayer even as we focus on the victims of wildfires in California and Colorado. I know of one family who, like many, had only 15 minutes to gather such belongings as they could and to evacuate before their home was engulfed. Prayers of thanksgiving for the first responders who help in these emergencies. Floods displaced many in Calgary. In India, flash floods left 1000 dead, 40,000 stranded and thousands missing. Pray for help and comfort for all of those.

Violence in Mid-East continues unabated. Certainly prayers are needed for Syria where in a country just over 20 million people; the death toll has surged past 70,000. More than 1.4 million have fled the country and 4.25 million are internally displaced and 6.8 million are in need of food, water and medical care. As other nations get involved all of this can only increase. Pray too for Iraq which seems to be teetering on the verge of civil war. Over 2000 persons have been killed in domestic violence since April.

Around the world the number of children dying before age 5 has decreased but one group remains at high risk: newborns born to poor families. Save the Children found that babies born to parents in poorest fifth of the population died 40 percent more often than those in the richest fifth. Rich countries also have problems. The US has the highest rate of income inequality in the Western world and the largest number of children who die on the day of their birth. More than 11,000 babies die on the same day they are born, 50% more than in all other industrialized nations combined. Let

us pray not only for these children but that governments and medical practitioners can reduce these staggering numbers.

Prayers of Praise for the successful Alive event where many of our children and adults found renewal. Praise for those adults who give of their time and compassion to make this happen. Praise to for those who are helping with One Room Sunday School this summer. The Bible School program during this month also needs our prayers. Prayers of thanksgiving for the Sharing Kitchen's successful Christmas in June and those who made it possible. And for all the volunteers who have made the Kitchen program possible for over 25 years.

As Tiny Tim said, God bless us everyone.

Leanne Wolff
Church and Society



Lunch Bunch



(includes women **and men**)
July 23, 2012 at noon –
Ft. Ball Pizza Palace –
Jennifer Fox is the contact
person – (419-443-8165)

Table Favor Committee

Flag Day table favors were delivered in June and our July 4th favors are ready and waiting. It is nice to have some free time to take a break over summer. We probably won't meet again until September. Residents at Friedman Village, Seneca House and Ruffin Care enjoy their monthly treats. Thanks for your help!



ST. PAUL'S IN MISSION

St. Paul's continues to remember and assist many in need in both our community and around the world.

There is an opportunity for you to purchase items for children who need school supplies again this summer. This is to take place in July, so watch for details of needed items. Carol Graham will keep us posted on the details.

St. Paul's will provide volunteers to cook and serve the Sharing Kitchen lunches on November 4th and 7th. Please mark your calendar now so you will save those days to help hungry people in our community.

This summer the children are collecting "Nickels for Nets". These funds are to provide people in Africa and other areas with bed nets to keep mosquitoes from biting and causing malaria. You may ask the children to take your nickels (or dollars if you prefer) or you may put your money in the jar in their room yourself.

Special thanks to the youth for coordinating the health kits again this year. Each year we aim to send more to Annual Conference than the year before.

On July 14th there will be a lunch following the worship service. Sandwiches (ham/cheese and hot dogs) and beverages will be provided. Members are asked to bring a salad or desert to share. The donations will go to Vacation Bible School and Youth Club. Mark your calendar now!!



Sharing Kitchen

As schools closed in May more children began attending the Kitchen. During the nine serving days of the month 411 adults and 332 children were served by 118 volunteers. Please encourage anyone

whom you might know is need of a meal to come to the Kitchen.

On June 22 the Kitchen celebrated Christmas in June. Gifts were presented to the 110 adults and children who attended. This was double the number attending the event in 2012. Thanks for those who worked and for those who contributed items or funds for this event.



THANK YOU!! Have you noticed all the beautiful flowers blooming outside the church? Karen Kinstler, along with the help of Rich and other St. Paul's gardeners, provides us with beautiful flowers from early spring through fall. We enjoy seeing them bloom as the seasons change! Thanks, Karen, for the extra care given outside our church building! We appreciate the many ways St. Paul's members volunteer in and around our building!

Thanks to all of you who have hosted or helped with coffee hour. Everyone enjoys the fellowship with others at St. Paul's and it is only possible because of all of you. If you are new to our congregation and would like to try it some Sunday, let Kathy Daniels or me know and we will help you out. Again, my thanks to all of you "bakers"!

- Sally McDonald



VBS Work Nights & Donations Needed

The work nights for this year's VBS will be held on July 2, 8, 9, 10, & 11 from 7 – 9 pm. Please contact Kyle Paxson for more information. 567-220-6115.

The VBS staff is looking for donations of red and white tablecloths and balloons. We would also be interested in borrowing anything representative of the countries of Japan, Zimbabwe, the United Kingdom, Australia and Mexico that could be used as decorations. Please drop anything off in the corner room off the Helen Bean Room with your name on the bottom of it, so we can return it after VBS.



HOORAY FOR THE VOLUNTEERS

St. Paul's has many wonderful people giving of their time and expertise. The following is just an example of how they are donating their time:

The church and the parsonage have been enhanced with beautiful flowers, shrub trimming and landscaping by many capable hands.

A new roof on the church garage has new shingles...thanks to the brave men that climbed up and did a terrific job.

Members who are constantly on alert at the church and parsonage for any problems such as malfunctioning equipment, leaky toilets, burned out light bulbs and the list is endless.

Members who give tours of our beautiful church, prepare the flowers for the altar each week, give a helping hand in the office.

There are people who are cleaning the church weekly. This is a never ending job and we could certainly use some extra help, especially during the months of July and

Aug. Please contact Kathy Daniel or Rich Kinstler.

These are just a few of the accomplishments done by members. There are so many more members who donate their time on a weekly basis.

**WE THANK ALL OF YOU AND GOD
BLESS EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU.**

Marilou Hill
Secretary of St. Paul's Trustees



Coed Just for Fun - Church Softball League

Anyone interested in playing church softball this summer, please contact Rob Ochier (567-220-9676). This year we have joined with our neighbors, First Presbyterian, to form a team. The league is open to anyone, Jr. High aged and up. Games are played on Friday nights across from the Tiffin YMCA. Feel free to come and play or come and root on St. Paul's. Wear your St. Paul's shirts to show your team spirit!

6/28 – 7 pm – vs Faith UMC
7/12 – 8 pm – vs New Beginnings
7/19 – 7 pm – vs Harmony UMC
7/26 – 9 pm – vs St. John's UCC
8/2 – 6 pm – vs Bascom UCC
8/9 – 6 pm – vs First Lutheran
8/16 – 8 pm – vs Tiffin Catholic
8/23 – 8 pm – vs Christ's Church





Save The Date! St. Paul's will be doing a new pictorial directory this fall. The dates to have your picture taken are going to be September 23rd and 24th from 3:00-8:00pm. Actual time scheduling will happen in late August and more information will be available then. There is no cost to have your picture taken for the directory; the only cost occurs if you chose to buy pictures. So start practicing your smiles!



Summer is here, so the youth will not be meeting regularly during the summer. In the fall, we will be meeting on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month.

Thanks to everyone who donated items for the health kits that were sent to Annual Conference. This year we sent 24 kits, 6 more than last year!

Many of the youth will be assisting in VBS again this year. VBS is July 14th – 18th this summer.



Alive Festival 2013

A group of thirty youth and adults from St. Paul's UMC attended the Alive Music Festival at Atwood Lake Park this year. For four days we listened to music and speakers that were inspiring. God is doing some amazing things in the lives of our youth and it was inspiring to see.

We will be sharing our experiences with the congregation during worship on either August 4th or 11th. We want to thank all of you for your support to make this experience possible. We have already begun to plan for next year. If you would like to join us, mark your calendars for June 18 – 21, 2014!

Personally, we would like to thank the other adults who took 4 days of their summer to attend the festival with us. Without them it would have been impossible to give the youth the experience that they had.

-Rob and Amy



Alive 2013 Group Picture



**Newsletter deadline for
August Newsletter is
July 19th**

Please **email or place on disk** in MS Word format (.doc) to amynuala@yahoo.com



Vacation Bible School 2013

July 14 - 18
from 6:00 - 8:30 p.m.
at St. Paul's UMC

Everywhere Fun Fair: Where God's World Comes Together is an interactive, energizing, Bible-based program that gives children a chance to discover God's welcoming love. At this exciting, kid-friendly global fair, your children will experience the love of Jesus, meet welcoming neighbors from the Bible, and explore the everyday life of neighbors from Japan, Zimbabwe, the United Kingdom, Australia and Mexico. Kids will learn that God's love welcomes everyone, as they understand how to love and serve God and be a neighbor to the world.

**Don't miss our closing
program on July 18
at 8:00 at St. Paul's!**

If you would like to help with VBS but are unable to,
there are donation boxes in the back of the sanctuary
to help with VBS expenses.



Contact Kyle Paxson
or Kendullin Fortney for
more information or if you'd
like to help!

**You must love the Lord your God
with all your heart, with all your
being, with all your strength,
and with all your mind, and love
your neighbor as yourself.**

(Luke 10:27)

*If you'd like to donate cookies or
have items we could borrow for
decorations, please let us know.*