

# St. Paul's News

June 2013



*From the Pastor's Pen:*

St. Paul's,

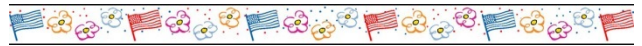
Summer has arrived! I hope that you are all looking forward to some warmer weather and perhaps a vacation, camping trip, or other fun summertime activity. The season of summer makes me think of some of the great Psalms praising God for creation like these verses from Psalm 148, "Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from heaven! Praise God on the heights! Praise God, all of you who are his messengers! Praise God, all of you who comprise his heavenly forces! Sun and moon, praise God! All of you bright stars, praise God! You highest heaven, praise God! Do the same, you waters that are above the sky! Let all of these praise the LORD's name because God gave the command and they were created! God set them in place always and forever. God made a law that will not be broken."

We worship and serve a Great God. A God that deserves to be praised for all that God has created and done for us. And the good news is, while we do worship God together on Sunday mornings, church isn't the only place where we can worship. Wherever life may take you this summer, I encourage you to take some time and praise God for the gifts and goodness you see and experience.

You can take a moment to whisper "Thank you, God" while spending time with those close to you. Lift up a silent praise to God

while standing on the shore of the lake or ocean. Give God some applause when you are cheering on your favorite sports team whether that be a professional team or the team your child or grandchild plays on. Wherever this month takes you, take some time to worship and praise God.

Peace,  
*Pastor Hannah*



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 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> 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!

## Special Birthdays

*June*

No June Birthdays

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



## Prayer Focus

The poet reminds us, "What is so rare as a day in June?" For many days, and many of us, that's a truism. But not for all of God's children. As usual the need for prayer exceeds our comprehension. This is tornado season and already the damage from winds, hail, heavy rain and flooding has been great with loss of both lives and property. The damage in More OK is beyond belief. So many yet to be accounted for! Like so many natural disasters, the effects of these will be felt for months and years. People are just beginning to recover from last year's Hurricane Sandy so those new victims have a long path ahead of them. . Elsewhere in the world earthquakes are another form of natural disaster. A May 7.0 quake in Sichuan province China killed 200 and left about 100,000 homeless. Let's keep those affected by wind, fire and flood in our prayers always

As for the rest of the world, man's inhumanity to man continues. It's amazing how unloving we can be. In two days, I compiled the following list of this type of event from the New York Times: Attacks on militants in Nigeria, Violence in Afghanistan including 6 dead in one attack in Kandahar, fighting, refugees, hunger and lack of water in Syria, In Pakistan an official killed and 13 killed in bombings in Mosques, North Korean missile tests, Torture of detainees in Syria, Dozens killed in Iraqi bombings, Toxic oil wastes piling up in Canada about to be shipped to the US, Increasing military suicides, Increasing sexual misconduct in military. And that's just a two day list! The horrible deaths of over 1100 in the Bangladesh factory weren't even mentioned! I'm sure there are more but this should keep us praying for the month as these are on-going problems for us humans.

This is also the time of year to send prayers of praise for the school teachers and Sunday School teachers who have worked all year with our children. Prayers for the children as they enjoy the summer vacations are also in order. We are grateful also for our members who are graduating from high school and college and ask for God's blessings as they start new phases of their lives.

June is Annual Conference month and we should ask for insights and blessing as that assembly of United Methodists assemble to plan for the coming year.

May your June be filled with roses, which to me symbolize God's unending Grace

Leanne Wolff  
Church and Society



Between the time Leanne sent me her article yesterday and me sitting down to work on the newsletter today (May 21<sup>st</sup>), Moore, Oklahoma has been hit by terrible storms and tornadoes. UMCOR has already responded and has put out the call for donations. From their Facebook page: "You can best help those whose lives were changed by the storms by donating to the United Methodist Committee on Relief's U.S. Disaster Response Advance #901670 or by texting "RESPONSE" to 80888 to give \$10 to UMCOR." Please consider donating to UMCOR's fund, donating health kit items for the youth to send to UMCOR (see below article for list of items), and pray for all those affected by this disaster.

- Amy Ochier



#### **4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday Lunch Bunch** (includes women & men)

June 25 – at noon  
Moreno's in Carey, Oh

Ann Harry is the contact 419-448-0074

#### **Table Favor Committee**

Thanks to my faithful crew, we have table favors complete for the next three months. We assembled favors for over 65 residents to enjoy at Seneca House, Friedman Village and Ruffing Family Care Center on County Road 6. Now we can relax and enjoy the summer!



#### **Sharing Kitchen**

There were 10 serving days at the Kitchen in April. During that time 454 adults and 21 children attended. The preparation and serving of the meals was done by 140 volunteers.

Special thanks to Karen Kinstler and others who worked during Saturdays when Shirley Smith was recovering from surgery. How blessed the mission is with so many willing helpers!



THANK YOU! Carolyn Gittinger covers many "behind the scenes" rolls at St. Paul's. She sings in the adult choir on Sunday mornings and is a member of the adult bell choir. After church she assists financial secretaries as they count money from the Sunday offering. She records giving records throughout the year and produces year-end statements. This past season she supervised the meal preparation for Youth Club. These are a few of the tasks on her list of many.

Thanks to all our volunteers for all the do to support the programs at St. Paul's!



#### **ALIVE FESTIVAL 2013**

The Youth Fellowship is planning a trip to the Christian Music Festival, Alive. The festival is to be held June 19-22 at Atwood Lake Park. We are inviting **EVERYONE** who is interested in attending to join us. If you are at all interested in going, please let Rob Ochier know so he can give you the information you need. You do not need to commit to attending all 4 days. To view the artists and speakers scheduled, as well as the other activities available at Alive, visit [www.alive.org](http://www.alive.org) For more information, contact Rob Ochier.

#### **Upcoming Dates to Remember:**

June 9<sup>th</sup> – 6:30 pm – Meeting for participants. We will be going over last minute details and practice putting up the tents in the gym.



#### **Administrative Council Highlights for the April 25, 2013 Meeting**

Financial: Receipts were good for March. Utility costs have increased. Giving for non-budgeted items was higher last year. Darrin McGinnis and Amy Vittorio will be additional financial secretaries.

Lay Leadership: Paul Fortney was elected as a member of the board of trustees to replace Bud Eley. The committee will meet to nominate officers for the coming year. Someone is needed to attend Annual Conference from June 17<sup>th</sup> to 20<sup>th</sup>.

Education and Youth: Over \$300 was donated during the spaghetti dinner to go toward Alive! The Easter egg hunt was

successful. The education committee will provide the coffee hour on May 19<sup>th</sup> for graduates and June 2<sup>nd</sup> for the confirmation class. VBS is scheduled for July 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Missions: Thirty-three jars of peanut butter were donated for Haiti. Food was given for FISH during Lent. \$408 was raised for Alive at the January soup and sandwich luncheon. The Easter offering for the Sharing Kitchen was over \$215.

Trustees: Bids are being taken for painting the outside trim of the church. Volunteers are encouraged to help with the painting to save money. Improvements will be made to the sound system. The parsonage heat pump and water heater are being studied.

Worship: Four special Sundays will be May 12<sup>th</sup> – Youth Sunday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – graduates, May 26<sup>th</sup> – Memorial Sunday, June 2<sup>nd</sup> – confirmation class.

Staff/Parish: Job descriptions for the staff are being updated. A luncheon will be held in August to honor the church's volunteers.

Sharing Kitchen: Attendance was up in April. Many food donations continue to come in.

Pastor: It was agreed that we will prepare for a new photo directory this fall.



### **Administrative Council Highlights for the May 23, 2013 Meeting**

Financial: Expenses and receipts are on budget as of the end of April. Utility costs were higher this year because of colder weather. Apportionments are paid to date.

Lay Leadership: The committee is contacting past and potential officers by telephone this year. The slate should be ready soon. A delegate to Annual

Conference June 17 – 20, 2013 is still needed.

Education: VBS plans are underway. College graduates were honored on May 19. The confirmation class is to be received and honored on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Children's Sunday School will be held during the worship hour throughout the summer. Karen Kinstler has been giving piano lessons to several young people.

Missions: The youth are coordinating the health kit project again this year. Kits are to be brought to the church by the beginning of June and will be taken to Annual Conference. A fund raising lunch is to be held on July 14<sup>th</sup>. The Easter offering of \$270 was designated for the Sharing Kitchen.

Trustees: A new heat pump will be purchased for the parsonage. Quotes are being gathered for upgrades to the sound system. The Sharing Kitchen provided funds to help with the maintenance fund. Bids are being accepted for painting the trim on the church. This is a major expense and will only be for the front exterior of the church for now. The Sharing Kitchen will provide funds and volunteers to shingle the roof of the frame garage. Tiffin Scenic Studios is making and donating curtains for the two church offices. Those members who have been cleaning the church and planting flowers were thanked.

Pastor Hannah is looking into a program in which we were invited to participate. It is called "Helping Congregations Live up to Their Potential".

A new pictorial directory is scheduled to be made in the fall. Members will be contacted by the Universal company out of Mansfield to set up appointments. Dates for the picture taking are September 23 and 24.

The 2013 goals were reviewed and groups are encouraged to carry them out.



Nathan Armstrong presented a letter telling of his experiences at Taylor University and inviting St. Paul's to make donations which the university will match. Members' individual gifts marked with Nathan's name in the memo line can be made out to the church and will be sent by the treasurer to the university.



### Health Kits

The Youth are once again collecting items to send Health Kits for UMCOR to Annual Conference. The following items are needed for each health kit and are to be placed in Ziploc bags. You may donate a complete health kit or any individual items and we will assemble them for you. Last year St. Paul's sent 18 health kits! Boxes will be located at the back of the sanctuary until June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Thanks!!

- 1 hand towel (15" X 25" up to 17" X 27", no kitchen towels)
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-sized brushes)
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1 included to pay for toothpaste (which UMCOR purchases)

### Newsletter deadline for the July Newsletter is June 23<sup>rd</sup> (moved back since I will be at Alive)

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



The youth led a great service on Sunday, May 12<sup>th</sup>. We hope you enjoyed learning about Paul and Silas sharing the message of God's love. The special music and contemporary songs chosen by the youth really added to the youths' service. A special thank you from Rob and Amy to all the parents for making sure the youth were at the extra practices.

The youth are taking the summer off from their regular meeting schedule. We will be assembling health kits in June and many of us will be attending the Alive Festival in June.

Have a GREAT summer!!!!





# 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.*