

St. Paul's News

May 2013



From the Pastor's Pen:

St. Paul's,

It's hard to believe that spring is among us and summer is just around the corner. This is one of my favorite times of the year, as the weather warms, the leaves are back on the trees, flowers bloom, and we see so many signs of new life and creation around us. It reminds me of the many new things that God is always working in our own lives and in the life of our church and the ways in which God is always providing hope and life for us.

It is fitting then that the month of May is going to be a very exciting one in the life of our church. It is going to be a month of much celebration of many in our church family. Be sure to pay attention to and join us for these important dates.

May 12th—We will celebrate our youth as they lead our worship service. Be sure to join us and see the hard work that they have put into planning and leading this worship service.

May 19th—We will celebrate the work that God is doing in the lives of our recent High School and College graduates. This is also Pentecost, the day that the church traditionally celebrates its birth and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

May 26th—We will celebrate and remember those in our congregation who have passed

on to eternal life this past year. Join us as we honor and remember their lives and the impact that they all had on our church community.

June 2nd—We will celebrate Confirmation Sunday. Be sure to join us as we honor and welcome into full membership several of our young people who have worked hard the past few months to learn and grow in their faith.

It is truly an exciting time in the life of our church. I hope and pray that many of you will be able to join us for these celebrations in our worship services.

Peace,

Pastor Hannah



Special Birthdays *May*

No May Birthdays

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



Prayer Focus

I'm sure you've been praying as the horrible events unfolded in Boston. Prayers of thanksgiving for the many brave responders, law officers and all involved for the hunt for the accused. We also need prayers for the families of those who have died and prayers of healing for those wounded. Unhappily the tragedies are not short-lived. Those with serious injuries especially those who lost limbs have long recoveries ahead. Some will undoubtedly suffer post-traumatic distress as well. Difficult as it seems prayers are also in order for the suspects and their families. They need God's help. While this kind of violence is rare here, it is commonplace around the world particularly in Afghanistan and Iraq. Many of our veterans from these areas continue to suffer both from the injuries and PTSD.

The victims of the explosion in West, TX also need our prayers. At this point it is unclear how many died but hundreds were injured and more lost their homes. At least this one apparently wasn't man-made crime. But the disruption of lives, loss of property and stress are real trauma calling for prayer. As I write the flood waters are rising in the mid-west and those affected also need our prayers. Experience tells us that the effects of such events last far longer than the news coverage.

Hunger is also a concern in much of the world. It is particularly acute in Greece now. After years of high unemployment many families have gone through their savings and can no longer afford food. Children are severely affected, many with malnutrition. Unlike here, there is no public assistance, no school lunch programs. In Egypt a fuel shortage has sent food prices soaring making it difficult to import wheat and to harvest this year's crop. Lest we forget, there are many here in the US who are also "food deprived." All of us who

know no hunger should keep hungry people everywhere in our prayers.

Prayers of praise for our confirmation class. And for our children's choir and bell choir who have often led us in worship this year. As the school year comes to an end, let us keep all our school children and teachers in prayer as they retool, refresh.

Leanne Wolff
Church and Society



4th Tuesday Lunch Bunch (includes women & men)

May 28 – at noon
Olive Garden in Findlay

Shirley Counselman will join us.
Marilyn Hutchins is the
contact 419-447-9720

Table Favor Committee

Tuesday, May 14, 2013, 1:30 pm

We will work on at least two projects this month and possibly three. That will allow us free time to enjoy warm, summer days.



Sharing Kitchen

The Sharing Kitchen was open 8 days as the weather blew warm and cold, rain and snow in March. During that time we served 340 adults and 13 children. The food was prepared and served by 121 volunteers. The Kitchen couldn't operate without the work of the Sharing Partners volunteers. But neither could we operate without the faithful work of the "regulars" who show up day after day. Thanks to them all! Praise God we can share our bounty with those in need of a good meal and fellowship.



THANK YOU! To Gary Bigley for his many hours of volunteer time at St. Paul's! Gary keeps the acolyte lighters in working order, fills pew holders with giving envelopes as needed and counts money on Sundays for the finance committee. His assistance with bulletin and newsletter assembly helps the church office run more efficiently. We appreciate the many ways our volunteers offer assistance at St. Paul's!

Thank you to all who helped make the Easter Egg Hunt a success! We had 36 children attend along with many parents and grandparents. Thanks to all who donated candy. We greatly appreciate all who helped on Friday evening with all the preparations and all who led and assisted with the activities and clean up on Saturday.



ALIVE FESTIVAL 2013

**Tickets still
available!**

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 For more information, contact Rob Ochier.

Upcoming Dates to Remember:

June 1st – Car Wash – time and location TBD – watch for announcements

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



St. Paul's In Mission

Spring has arrived and Ann will be back by the time this newsletter is printed.

\$240.00 was collected for Sharing Kitchen through our special Easter envelopes.

Alternate Easter Lilies-

Henderson Mission Team - \$141.00

Sharing Kitchen - \$13.00

33 jars of Peanut Butter were collected for Haiti during the month of March.

Watch for boxes to appear soon for Health Kit items. These kits will be assembled by Youth Fellowship members and go to Lakeside in June.

St. Paul's members have been very supportive of our missions work and we appreciated all their generous donations!

Kathy Daniel



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 May 26th. 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 June Newsletter is May 19th

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



The youth are planning a great service for Sunday, May 12th! We hope you are able to join us. We are also looking forward to the end of the school year! Youth Fellowship is open to anyone in grades 6-12. Contact Rob or Amy Ochier for more information. Bring a friend or two!!

Upcoming Schedule:

Sunday, May 5th – 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm,
Practicing for the youth service.

Saturday, May 11th – 6:30 pm – 8:00 pm,
We will do a final run through for the youth service.

Sunday, May 12th – 9:15 am, be at the church to get ready for the service and greet the congregation as they arrive for worship.

There will not be a meeting on May 19th because Rob and Amy will be in NC.





Mark Your Calendars!

Everywhere FUN FAIR

**More
Information
Coming
Soon!**

Vacation Bible School 2013

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

