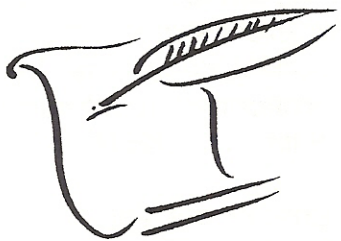


St. Paul's News

October 2012



From the Pastor's Pen:

People of St. Paul's

It continues to be an honor and a joy to serve as your pastor. I have been impressed with how you have welcomed me into your church and your community during the past few months.

As we continue to grow as a community, it is important that all feel welcome in our congregation. All of us, no matter our age or how long we have been at St. Paul's are perfect to welcome others. Here are a few simple tips about how we can welcome visitors in our worship service:

- Start welcoming early. Most visitors have decided whether or not a church is friendly within two minutes of worship beginning. 40% make up their minds about a church before even seeing the pastor.
- Practice the "rule of 10"—try to greet everybody who is sitting within 10 feet of you every Sunday in worship.
- Know that most people who visit our church will leave within three minutes after our worship service is over. Try to greet visitors first after the service and talk to friends second.
- Work together as a congregation to remember and use names of both visitors and members

- Offer to escort a visitor to coffee hour. Promise to sit with them so that they will know that they will not be left alone.

Want more ideas? Visit this website: [http://www.churchleadership.com/pdfs/50Ways/50 Ways to Build Strength in Welcoming New People.pdf](http://www.churchleadership.com/pdfs/50Ways/50%20Ways%20to%20Build%20Strength%20in%20Welcoming%20New%20People.pdf) or ask me to print out the list for you if you don't have access to the internet.

Together, we can be and are becoming a faithful and welcoming community of disciples. It is a joy to be in this process with you.

Peace,
Pastor Hannah



Sharing Kitchen

We continued to see a large number of children during the month of August. That will dwindle when school begins. We need to keep in our hearts the many children in Tiffin who are living below poverty and receive free or low cost meals at school. Hard to believe, isn't it?

During the 10 serving days of the month of August, 76 children and 497 adults were served. This was made possible by the help of the 155 volunteers.

Special Birthdays *October*

20 – Kathryn White

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



Prayer Focus

October's "bright blue weather" brings cheer to those of us who are so blessed. But we know there are many here and around the world who

need our prayers. While it has been replaced on our front pages, the war in Syria goes on. Insurgents and government forces continue to fight, to destroy property while civilians including women and children are attacked and uprooted. At this point over 600,000 have fled their homes including 264,000 in Aleppo. At least 250,000 have entered Iraq, Turkey and Lebanon where tent cities are filling rapidly and services including food and water are in short supply. Do pray and if you'd like to help more see UMCOR information in this newsletter.

Added to that violence we should be praying for the turmoil in the Arab world incited by an American-made film attacking Mohammed. It is tragic that Americans have been killed and property destroyed because of someone filled with hate. Not the first time; remember the pastor who burned the Koran? Let us pray that all religions can respect each other.

Remember the families of the 100 people killed and 100,000 made homeless by earthquakes in China. Pray too for those here who continue to suffer from the effects of drought, fire and flood. We also need to remember that the number of Americans living in poverty, while unchanged from last year, remains at 15%. Many have some help such as food stamps but many do not.

A recent issue of the Christian Science Monitor focused on human exploitation and slavery. While sex-trafficking is always a problem here and abroad, the authors point out that other forms of human slavery are also debilitating. Our clothes from Asia, the Middle East or Latin American, fish we eat

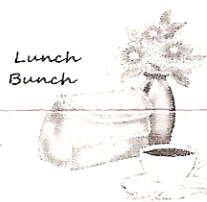
from Asia and West Africa, cocoa production for many of our chocolate treats, rubber in Asia and African are at the root of the problem. Adults and children (300,000 in cocoa alone) are forced to work for little or no pay, for excessive hours and in hazardous working conditions. Let us pray for these downtrodden as we consume their products. Or limit our use of them.

Let us also pray for our Youth Club as it begins another year. Pray that many children will be reached and give prayers of thanksgiving for all of those who volunteer their time on Wednesday evenings.

Leanne Wolff
Church and Society



Lunch Bunch



(now includes women and men) October 23, 2012 at noon – TJ Willie's – Mary McClung is the contact person – (419-448-1935)

Table Favor Committee

We will return to our monthly schedule on October 9th at 1:30pm. New crafters are always welcome to join us. All projects are easy to do with basic crafting skills. We learn as we go along. Plan to join us in the kitchen annex as we prepare candy cups with Halloween treats for the residents at Friedman Village and Seneca House.

- Kathy Daniel, Coordinator



ST. PAUL'S IN MISSION

Many Heidelberg students were refreshed with a bottle of water and a piece of candy during the "Around the Town" community

day. They also received a bookmark with information about St. Paul's, thanks to the work of Kathy Daniel. Several expressed an interest in visiting the church and finding a church home. Please welcome them when they are in the worship service. In October there will be a table set up at Tiffin University. If you would like to get a brief taste of campus life and meet some great young people please volunteer to help with this project. Call the pastor or the church office to volunteer.

Have you marked your calendar for October 15th and 18th? Those are the days St. Paul's will be cooking and serving the Ecumenical Sharing Kitchen meals. Many hands will be needed. Watch for a sign-up sheet on the kitchen door.

Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox project is coming up soon. You will be given an opportunity to take home one or more boxes and fill them with items for children around the world. A list of suggested items will be included.

Also coming up this fall are World Wide Communion Sunday on October 7th and United Methodist Student Day on November 25th. Then we will have an Alternative Gift Fair and Angel Tree as we move toward the winter season.



DISASTER AID FOR SYRIA

The stories coming from Syria paint a bleak picture indeed. Of one thing we can be sure, many Syrians have been forced from their homes and thousands have left the country for refugee tent cities in Turkey, Lebanon and Iraq where they lack the basic necessities of life. They are being helped by many organizations including UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief).

Should you want to help you can make a contribution by sending your check or

offering to St. Paul's and marking it for UMCOR Syria. Our treasurers will see it gets to the right place. If you are choosing between relief agencies remember that all of your gift goes to the site indicated. We pay the overhead with our One Great Hour of Sharing in March.



YOUTH CLUB

Program for all area children - Preschool - 6th Grade

Drop-In Registration

Wednesday, October 3, 6:00-7:00 pm

St. Paul's United Methodist Church
46 Madison St. 419-447-1743

Youth Club meets Wednesdays Oct. 10 - Feb. 27 from 5:30-7:30.

Complete schedule available at registration.

Activities include:

Bible Study, Crafts, Gym, Games and Dinner. There is no charge and friends are welcome.



As we begin a new fall season, we are thankful for a loving and caring church family here at St. Paul's. We want to continue to remind our entire church that the safety of our congregation, especially our children is the job of us all. Let us all work together to make sure our young children are supervised when they are in our church building, especially on Sunday mornings.



The first meeting of the new school year was held on Sunday, September 16th in the Richard Spencer Youth Room at 6:30pm. Meetings this year are going to be the 1st and 3rd Sundays of every month unless we have a special activity taking place. Youth Fellowship is open to anyone in grades 6-12. Contact Rob or Amy Ochier for more information. Bring a friend or two!!

October 7th – 6:30p – 8:00p - Decorating Cookies for the Bake Sale – the youth want to have fall cut out cookies to decorate to sell at a bake sale. It was decided that each family bring 2 dozen cut out cookies to the meeting along with anything needed to decorate them. We will decorate as a group and freeze the cookies for a bake sale the next week. While we are decorating the cookies, we will discuss representatives and some other ideas they had for the youth group.

October 14th – after church – Bake Sale – we will sell the cookies along with any other items that are donated.

October 21st – 6:30p – 8:00p – Fall Costume Party – The youth will work in pairs to plan and run a different activity for the youth to participate in during the party. Bring your own drink and a snack to share.

November 3rd (Saturday) - leave the church at 5:00pm – We are going to go to listen to Mark Cahill speak at Fremont Alliance

Church in Fremont. Depending on how many will be going we may need a parent or two to drive.

November 10th (Saturday) – Annual Lock-In starting at 6pm



*We know
that all
things work
together
for good for
those who
love God....*

Romans 8:28



**Newsletter deadline for the
November Newsletter is
October 19th**

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

