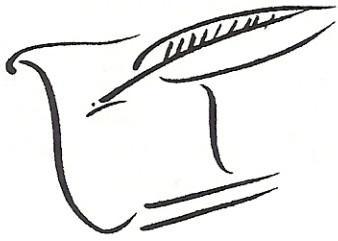


# St. Paul's News

September 2012



## *From the Pastor's Pen:*

### People of St. Paul's

This time of the year has always been associated with dreaming in my life. While sleeping, the months of August and early September have always been ripe with first day of school dreams. As far back as I can remember I have always had a series of back to school dreams right before the first day of school happens that inevitably involve something strange or something going horribly wrong. This year, since I am finally not going back to school I thought that I would be off the hook with these dreams. Not the case. In the past week I have had dreams about going back to both high school and college, so it seems as though the trend is not ending anytime soon.

However, despite these strange dreams while sleeping, I have also found this time of year prime for daytime dreams. Not daydreaming, but a time of newness when you can imagine and hope for what the new year of school has in store. It is a time for transitions, a time for fresh starts as the summer begins to fade, and the cooling refreshment of fall begins. It is a time for goals, hopes for what can happen, and who we can become in the upcoming year.

During this time of dreaming, I have also been thinking about dreams for St. Paul's. Now is an excellent time for us to be dreaming. To be dreaming about who we

are and who we are becoming. There are many opportunities for St. Paul's. Many directions that we could go. Which ones are in your dreams? One of my favorite worship songs is "God of this City" by Chris Tomlin. One of the verses and chorus says, "You're the Light in this darkness, You're the Hope to the hopeless, You're the Peace to the restless, You are, There is no one like our God, For greater things have yet to come, And greater things are still to be done in this City."

Sisters and Brothers in Christ, greater things are still to be done here, at St. Paul's, in our community, and in our world. What greater things are you dreaming of? I would encourage you to take some time this month to pray about what God is calling St. Paul's to do and how you may be a part of it. Then when you have a dream, tell somebody, share it with our community so that we can continue to dream together but also move towards doing together.

Peace,

*Pastor Hannah*

## Special Birthdays *September*

21 – Elaine Yager

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





## Prayer Focus

Unhappily prayers are still needed for those for whom we prayed last month. Problems natural and man-made continue to plague God's children. Don't take any off your prayer list. UMCOR works with those in emergencies. Should you wish to do more than pray Google UMCOR and name of disaster (ex. UMCOR Syria) for how to help.

Natural disasters continue to plague us and others around the world. Wildfires still rage throughout the United States as the drought continues. Thousands have lost homes, belongings and pets. One firefighter has been killed and areas the size of Vermont have been blackened. The effects both human and natural will last for years. Elsewhere the drought is affecting food production with the corn crop destroyed in many areas and soybeans struggling. Farmers have difficulty feeding livestock and some are selling off dairy herds. Devastating to those whose livelihood is affected, this will also lead to higher prices in milk, meat and eggs and eventually to many food products causing distress to low income persons. Pray for all of those.

Elsewhere natural disasters have ravaged many areas. At least three hundred were killed by an Iranian earthquake. North Korea (169 killed, 212,000 homeless) and the Philippines (over 50 dead, 250,000 evacuated) suffered large floods. Sometimes it's difficult to pray for those in nations where governments are repressive but these victims are all God's children.

The war continues in Afghanistan with people in all elements being killed each day. We also need to pray for those returning, traumatized military who are committing suicide in record numbers. The war in Syria continues to rage with well over 17,000 killed thus far. There seems to be no end of this. Relief workers are having a

difficult time helping the innocents. Thousands are also homeless and living in refugee camps many in Turkey. There are also concerns this strife may spread to Turkey. Both nations are mostly Sunni Muslims with large minorities of Alawite Muslims. Alawites control Syria and are the minority experiencing harassment in Turkey. Pray for all of those involved that the suffering may soon stop.

Here at home let us pray for our political process that it not become more vitriolic and hate filled. Be concerned when politicians express un-Christian ideas such as "Shoot all persons trying to cross the Mexican border" and "Some rape is legitimate." Will we never learn?

Pray also for the start of St. Paul's activities as the new church year begins. Give special prayers for our Sunday School program.

Leanne Wolff  
Church and Society



## Lunch Bunch



(now includes women **and men**) September 25, 2012  
at noon – Backroads Café  
in Attica – Marilyn Hutchins  
is the contact person – (419-447-9720)

## Table Favor Committee

We will return to our monthly schedule on October 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:30pm. This month we have been making table favors for nine years as a treat for residents at Friedman Village and Seneca House. New crafters are always welcome to join us. All projects are easy to do with basic crafting skills. We learn as we go along. Thanks for our loyal crafters and ample supplies for our projects!

- Kathy Daniel, Coordinator



### Sharing Kitchen

Of interest in July was the increase in the number of children served when schools were not in session. While it is difficult for those of us who are well fed to realize, a high percentage of Tiffin school children are on the special food program during the school year. Praise God these children have the opportunity for a good meal during the summer.

During the month of July 148 volunteers worked 9 serving days to provide meals for 391 adults and 63 children.



### ST. PAUL'S IN MISSION

Although summer has been a time to vacation and relax, the needs of those around us don't take a vacation. There are still many needs which we at St. Paul's can meet.

As the children go back to school we have helped by donating 324 pencils, 64 erasers, 42 rulers and \$17.26. Many of these came from the children who attended Vacation Bible School. Thanks, kids! And thanks to all the others who brought in school supplies.

The Third Sunday Yellow Buckets continue to be available for your contributions to those in our community who have unexpected needs.

On August 29<sup>th</sup> we will have a table at the Heidelberg community day. Students will be given candy as well as bottles of water, pencils and brochures with information about St. Paul's. This will be repeated at Tiffin University on September 12<sup>th</sup>.

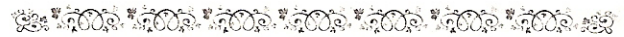
St. Paul's will be responsible for cooking and serving Sharing Kitchen meals on October 15<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>, so mark your

calendar now.

In October we will again do the Samaritan's Purse Christmas Shoebox project. This year there will be boxes for you to take home and fill. A list of suggested items will be included so you will know what to put in the boxes. Watch for more details.

Some other projects and special Sundays for you to watch for this fall are World Wide Communion on October 7<sup>th</sup>, UM Student Day on November 25<sup>th</sup> and the Alternative Gift Fair.

Please watch for information about Human Trafficking and be alert to any situation you might see that indicates a person could be caught up in this.



Are you new to St. Paul's and interested in becoming a member? Have you been here for a while and are wanting to take a step towards membership? Do you wonder what membership is all about and why you should consider it? We are going to be receiving new members at St. Paul's in our worship service on Sunday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>. If you are interested please speak to Pastor Hannah before Sunday September 9<sup>th</sup>.



Trinity United Church of Christ in Tiffin, OH will be having a luncheon on Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, during Tiffin's Heritage Festival. All food is homemade and served inside the church in a "bee free" environment. Serving times are 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturday and 11:00 am to 2:00 pm on Sunday. A bake sale and craft tables will also be featured.



Sunday School begins on Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:15 am. There are classes for everyone! Feel free to take your coffee hour snacks to class with you. Here are the class locations and teachers for the 2012-2013 program year:

Pre-K – Kindergarten: taught by Melody Woessner and meets in the room by the pastor's office.

Grades 1-3: taught by Kyle Paxson and meets in the Helen Bean Room

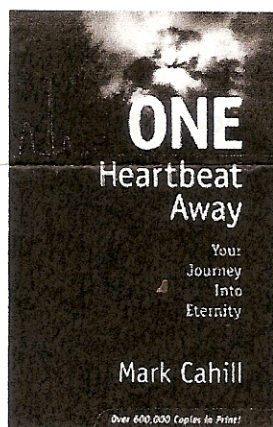
Grades 4-6: taught by Angie McGinnis and meets in the room next to the junior church room

Grades 7-12: taught by Amy Ochier and meets in the Richard Spencer Youth Room

Adults: taught by Pastor Hannah and meets in the Parlor.



The first meeting of the new school year will be on Sunday, September 16<sup>th</sup> in the Richard Spencer Youth Room at 6:30pm. We will be electing officers, representatives and planning the first few months of our year. Bring your calendars and be ready to plan!! Meetings this year are going to be the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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!!



Youth in grades 7-12, join Amy in Sunday School beginning on September 2<sup>nd</sup>. We will be studying the book *One Heartbeat Away* by Mark Cahill. The youth that attended Alive in June heard Mark speak and were given his books to read. If you

attended Alive and have this book, bring it with you. If you don't have the book, we have one for you. Visit [www.markcahill.org](http://www.markcahill.org) to read reviews of the book. Mark will be speaking in Fremont in November and we are planning on going there to hear him speak again. Please join us and bring a friend.



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

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