Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

Romans 15:13 May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

I love this passage from Romans. It speaks to my soul so often. It reminds me that God is a God of hope. If there are times that we feel less than hopeful, we can turn to our Father. He is hope incarnate. Jesus was the hope of heaven that became man to offer hope to all of us.

When we turn to God, this God of hope, he can fill us with joy and with his peace. All he asks of us is that we trust in Him.

God offers us the opportunity to be overflowing with hope as His Holy Spirit works within us and within our lives! What a wonderful promise of God. As we enter into this new season of Spring, let us lean into this promise of a hope filled, peace filled, joy filled season of spring and coming summer.

We had a wonderful Easter at St. Paul's. Holy week was a busy time of worship and remembering the sacrifice Jesus made for us.

We were blessed to celebrate together as a church family by participating in a traditional seder meal on Maundy Thursday.

Several St. Paul's members came to hear the community choir that I participated in for the Good Friday service at the UCC in Republic. It was such a moving night of worship through song.

Our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday went off without a hitch. It is obvious that folks at St. Paul's are veterans of hosting the Easter Egg Hunt. I excitedly shared the Easter story with the children and they were such good listeners! What a privilege to share the story of Jesus with

as all those who volunteered, for overseeing this special time.

Easter worship was wonderful! We shared wonderful times of worship at Sunrise Service (where we flowered the Easter Cross) and at our Traditional Service. We celebrated the Risen Christ through special music and beautiful choral music and through scripture and teaching. Special thanks to those who stepped forward to share of themselves in worship. Thanks to our AV operator, Rob Ochier, to our choir director, Maria Gerber, and our organist, Laura Wallrabenstein, as well as all choir members and also Amy Ochier for offering special music. Also, thanks to Robert Hawk for overseeing the Easter breakfast. You made Easter at St. Paul's a wonderful experience.

We are entering into another busy time for the church. In the coming weeks, we will be honoring graduates and mothers in our worship service on May 12th. There is information about the graduates later in this newsletter. Check it out! Please be praying for these young people as they transition into college, internships or a new vocation. Pray also for their parents as they navigate these changing times.

We will also recognize those who we have lost this past year during our worship service on May 26^{th} .

Annual conference and youth annual conference are just around the corner. St. Paul's is taking five youth to YAC this year. Please be praying for these young people as they encounter God in a new way as they participate in youth annual conference. So many things going on at St. Paul's!

God continues to call us into His service and we trust His call. He calls us to continue to reach people and introduce them to Jesus and his life-saving grace. Our church is proud of the work that we are doing and will continue to do.

Blessings ~ Pastor Charlene





April Missions Report:

Third Sunday Ingathering Offering \$30.00 will be donated to First Call for Help to assist those in need in our community.

Our special offering for UMCOR which some of us know as One Great Hour of Sharing was collected on March 31st. The total collected was \$540.00.

Alternate Easter Lilies offering was collected for Sharing Kitchen \$59.00 and Youth Annual Conference \$66.00.

The \$180.00 Special Easter Offering Envelope donations will go to Flat Rock Homes.

During the month of May, baskets will be available to donate to UMCOR for Health Kits. Donations can be made from Sunday May 12 – 26. These funds will be delivered at Annual Conference in June.

May 5 - Native American Sunday Offering

Thanks to church members for their continued support for all our missions projects!

-Kathy Daniel for Missions Committee



TABLE FAVOR COMMITTEE

The Table Favor Committee will not be meeting in May.



ALL ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR LUNCH BUNCH

Tuesday May 28th

12:00 pm

GW's – 275 S. Washington Street. Tiffin, Ohio

Contact Gary Bigley for information 419-448-4680

From Christian Ed: GRAIDUATE



On May 12th, we will recognize our graduates during worship. Robbie Lindhorst, Connor McGinnis, Gavin Robison and Nic Somodi will be recognized. Please let the office know if we have missed someone. Thanks!



It's time to start planning for summer camp!

Summer camp brochures have arrived at the church. See Kyle Paxson if you would like information about camp or check online at campwanake.org.

Camp programs are available for children and youth from Kindergarten through High School. Church funds are available to families to help with the cost. Talk to Pastor Charlene for more information.



Thank you to all who donated candy and plastic eggs for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! Thank you to all who helped with filling and hiding eggs and preparing the crafts and pinatas. Thanks to all who lead the activities at the egg hunt. We had 24 children attend and they listened very intently to Pastor Charlene as she shared the Easter story with them. What a blessing!

TEAM MINISTRY UPDATE

Collaborative Vision Team: I am interested in putting together a team of lay people who could help us strengthen our connection with Republic Trinity and Melmore UMC. As a pastoral team, Pastor Amy Vittorio and I believe that we are Better Together. We believe that we can better serve one another and our communities if each church is able to work collaboratively. Would you consider helping us by serving on this collaborative team? Please let Pastor Charlene know if you are interested. We are hoping to meet Thursday, May 16th.

MELMORE UMC/REPUBLIC TRINITY UMC:

We just completed our combined confirmation class. We were excited to have six young people participate in confirmation. Pastor Charlene and Pastor Amy will be confirming these young people into their home church on Sunday, June 2nd. Please pray for these young people (Dominic, Tammera, Cameron, Cowan, Martina, and Cole) as they continue on their journey of faith. Thanks to Donna McConahay for serving as a faith mentor for these confirmation students.



Connor McGinnis is graduating from Columbian High School on May 18. He has also completed the Building Trades program at Sentinel Career and Technology Center and will receive his Career Passport on May 14th. Connor is pursuing an apprenticeship with the Ohio Carpenters' Joint Apprenticeship Training Program. He has felt called to help people with the skills he is learning and is looking forward to the opportunities God has for him.

Gavin Robison Gavin Robison will graduate from Townsend Community School. He has been accepted at Heidelberg University to study History.

Robbie Lindhorst will be graduating from Tiffin Columbian High School and Sentinel Career and Technology Center. In the fall, he will attend Tiffin University majoring in Computer and Information Systems.

Nicholas Somodi will be graduating from Calvert Catholic Schools and Sentinel Career Center.

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