



United
Church of
Christ

JUNE 2021

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

114 S Broad St. Middletown, OH 45044



"By listening to the still speaking God, we seek to connect people to God and to others through worship, service, and fellowship."

We are a church that values:
Welcome
Fellowship
Outreach
Tradition

A Message from Our Pastor

Alleluia! Masks Begone!

It's been a long 1 1/2 yrs where masks were needed everywhere you went. Now, we can be freed of these glasses-steaming devices and actually see people's faces! Of course we still need to be careful and not totally abandon caution when in a crowd.

Hopefully, we can see more of your faces in worship with us on Sunday mornings again. If you are fully vaccinated, masks are not needed and we will practice some social distancing in the pews to accommodate those people who still feel uncomfortable.

Now that this COVID is slowly retreating, we can start to make plans to do more reaching out with our ministries and with our social gatherings. My hope is that you will find time to join with us in this effort.

We know it has been a real challenge for all of us during this past year and a half. But through all of this, we have survived and even thrived. God has been with us throughout and we need to give him thanks for his guidance and strength for us to muddle our way through all of this. Then we need to find ways to give thanks to Him by looking for opportunities to be of service to each other through the workings of the church.

If we band together as a worshiping community, there is no end to what we can accomplish in doing Christ's ministries here in Middletown.

I look forward to meeting many of you face to face and working with you in helping to make our community a better place to live in as we bring hope and joy to those we meet.

Shalom,
Pastor Rich

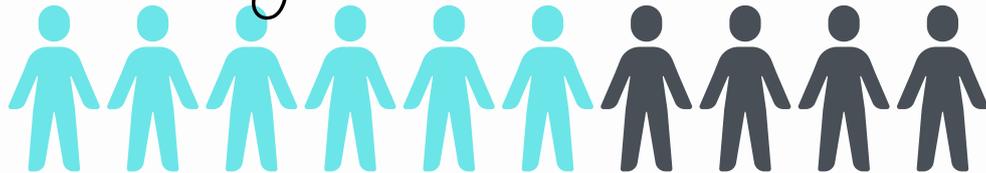


FEEDBACK



As you may have noticed The Messenger has a new look. We have updated the look and our using a new program. We would love to know how you feel about the new look. Feel free to call the office or email and let us know what you like and don't like. Don't worry if you hate the new look the old one is not gone.

June Volunteers



Date	Greaterers	Ushers	Liturgists	Open/Close
June 6	J. Ratliff	L & D Adams	C. Batliner	J. Rockwell
June 13	I. Adams	C. & J. Batliner	TBD	J. Rockwell
June 20	R. Lyons	T. & M. Shibley	J. Brewer	J. Rockwell
June 20	J. Williams	J. Rockwell/R. Lyons	M. Ratliff	J. Rockwell



INCOME & EXPENSES



We continue to pray for our home bound members and those with on-going health concerns:

Virginia Elam Lorraine Clark
 Charlene Hale
 Frances Stoutenborough
 Margaret Morrison & Family
 Cindy Burnett Pat Beatty
 Calleigh Barraclough



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES – MAY 16, 2021

PRESENT: Rick Lyons, Barb Flory, Chuck Clark, Julie Ratliff, Rev. Luh

OPENING PRAYER: Barb

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from April 11, 2021. Motion made to approve - Julie/Chuck Motion passed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: Motion to approve. Chuck/Julie. Motion passed.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Nothing out of the ordinary to report. Motion to approve to file for audit. Julie/Rick

PASTOR'S REPORT: Pastor's Report
May 16, 2021

This past month I was able to finally get into live visits with some of my nursing home residents – Charlene Hale and Virginia Elam and several visits to Pat Beatty and Cindy Burnett.

Our Clothes Closet is going along well so far – we still are not swamped with customers, but that day will come, I'm sure.

Worship is doing well and next week we will celebrate Pentecost with Communion.

I will be doing a worship service at Mt. Pleasant Nursing Home, sometime in the near future.

Bible Study continues along every Tuesday afternoon.

I have been meeting monthly with MAMA (Middletown Area Ministerial Alliance).

Due to some delays, it is hoped we can have a Bell Choir performance perhaps next month.

Sunday, June 4th we will honor our High School graduates (there are two) during worship. Perhaps we can have a small reception after in Friendship Hall?

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Rich

NEW BUSINESS

1. High school graduates Danny Kishler and Brielle Adams will be recognized during the service on June 6. Gifts were discussed and decided. Chuck/Julie Since the covid guidelines have been relaxed, we will have individual refreshments in Friendship Hall following the service.
2. Carl and Jennifer Batliner have volunteered to serve on Council. Since we did not have our May Congregational Meeting to vote on council members because of covid guidelines, we'll have a short meeting after worship on May 30 to vote. Annual reports will be distributed at that time.
3. We have been approached by a Seventh Day Adventist church about using our building. We discussed some guidelines and will meet with them to learn if our guidelines are agreeable.
4. Covid protocol—since guidelines have been relaxed, we discussed our procedures and decided to keep communion, offering plates, and taped off pews the same for a while longer. We will have a gathering in Friendship Hall with individual servings after the graduate recognition on June 6.
5. Rev. Luh mentioned the possibility of starting a scholarship or award for a high school senior (not necessarily from our church). A decision was tabled until another time.
6. Ann gave us an updated Messenger cover page for discussion. We decided she could send out an updated one and see what the response is.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Plastering—Rick and Larry will meet with a plasterer on Friday. They are still gathering estimates.
2. Ann gave us an update on her health.

CO-MODERATORS' REPORTS - Barb & Rick No report at the time.

SERVICE - Julie & Judy No report at this time.

WORSHIP – Barb—I'm working on lining up special summer music.

FELLOWSHIP - Chuck. No report at this time.

PROPERTY - Rick No report at this time.

BUDGET & FINANCE - Bryan No report at this time

NEXT MEETING: June 9, 2021

NEXT MONTH OPENING PRAYER:

Respectfully submitted by
Barbara Flory
Acting Secretary



HAT'S OFF

This month we celebrate our custodian, Jim Rockwell. He's the man who keeps this building clean! He is ever ready to help out with clean-up and the many other projects that we are engaged in during the year. He takes care of the lights and gets everything ship shape for people when they come in for worship, meetings, funerals, weddings.

Jim is a dedicated worker who does a lot behind the scenes and we really appreciate his efforts week in and week out. Our Hat's are off to you, Jim, for a job well done!



We are getting more customers each week. Our donations are coming in at a fast clip. We are in need of volunteers to help out on Tuesdays from 10-1. If interested, please let the Office know or call me at 937-993-5464



Middletown Interfaith
Clothes Closet
We've Got you Covered



On Sunday, May 23, Susan S. Luh, wife of Pastor Rich, and Sabrina L.M. Barraclough, granddaughter of Pastor Rich, joined the church during morning worship.

Sue is a retired RN and proud grandmother of six grandchildren. She worked on Habitat for Humanity, Christian Ed and helps with the Barracuda swim team.

Sabrina is finishing her junior year at Miamisburg High School and is a member of the Marching Band, Winds, Jazz Band, Symphony Band, Pep Band and Star City Band. She also is Superintendent of our Church School and a member of the Bell Choir.

We are proud to add them to our roster and wish them well in their continued spiritual journey



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June 2021

SSUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Closet Closet 10-1 Bible study 1pm	2	3	4	5
6 Graduate Celebration 10:15 am	7	8 Closet Closet 10-1 Bible study 1pm	9	10	11	12
13 Worship 10:15 am	14	15 Closet Closet 10-1 Bible study 1pm	16	17	18	19
20  Worship 10:15 am	21	22 Closet Closet 10-1 Bible study 1pm	23	24	25	26
28 Worship 10:15 am	29	30 Closet Closet 10-1 Bible study 1pm				

June Special Offering
CRAYONS TO COMPUTERS

St.Paul's UCC
114 S.Broad St.
Middletown, OH 45044



OPEN AND AFFIRMING

10:15 a.m. Worship Service
Nursery Provided • Lift to Sanctuary • Handicap Accessible
Holy Communion celebrated on the first Sunday of the month.

Rev. Rich Luh, Pastor
Marsha Minge, Choir Director • Barbara Flory, Pianist

Office Hours Tuesday-Thursday, 9:30am-2pm or By appointment

Church Office Hours Tuesday-Thursday 11am-2pm
Office 513-422-4519
E Mail: stpaulsuccmidd@att.net WEB PAGE: stpaulsuccmidd.org
