

Rooted in the past,
Living faithfully in the present

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

May 2021

*“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

**God
is still
speaking,**

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

HAPPY MOTHERS DAY!

May 9th we celebrate our mothers – those who are still with us and those who have passed. We remember the sacrifices, the heartaches, the encouraging words and most of all, the love they showered upon us growing up. So, whether you were blessed with having a loving mother or stepmom, we celebrate their contributions to our development as children growing up and hopefully carrying on in life with the same qualities that made them so unique.

Mothers are gifts from God to be appreciated whenever we can. Too often we take advantage of this precious gift of love and do some of the dumbest, thoughtless things to each other and to them. Now is the time to amend our actions and words and truly be thankful for the opportunity we have to salute them, one and all!

Let's show our affections to our families on this day and in particular, the one who brings (or has brought) forth the ray of God's love into our lives.

On May 31st, we also salute those people who have gone before us on Memorial Day. We honor those who have made an impact on our lives over the years. Again, they have been given to us as special gifts by God, to be cherished and to learn from. So as many plant flowers at the grave, may we remember the hope they planted in our hearts in the years we had the privilege to have known and loved them.

A Mother's Love

There are times when only a mother's love
Can understand our tears,
Can soothe our disappoints
And calm all of our fears.

There are times when only a mother's love
Can share the joy we feel
When something we've dreamed about
Quite suddenly is real.

There are times when only a mother's faith
Can help us on life's way
And inspire in us the confidence
We need from day to day.

For a mother's heart and a mother's faith
And a mother's steadfast love
Were fashioned by the angels
And sent from God above.

--Author Unknown





May Congregational Meeting

Council has decided that due to Covid they are going to respect social distancing and ere on the side of safety and cancel the May congregational Meeting. Reports will still be handed out to keep you informed of all things St. Paul’s November meeting will be 11/28.



Church clean up day is
 May 1 @ 9am ! Rain Day is
 May 8 @ 9am



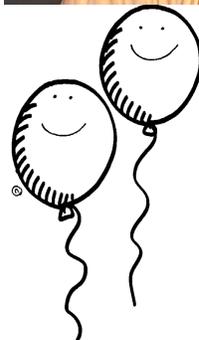
Its that time of year again to enroll in the Community rewards program. Follow the link to sign up.
<https://www.kroger.com/account/communityrewards>
 /



We continue to pray for our homebound membes rand those with on-going health concerns:

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

Prayers for our service men and women..
Chase McConnehea Jake Burley



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

CHURCH COUNCIL MINUTES - APRIL 11, 2021

PRESENT: Bryan Canter, Rick Lyons, Barb Flory, Chuck Clark, Judy Brewer, Julie Ratliff,
Darlene Adams & Larry Adams

OPENING PRAYER: Bryan

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from March 14, 2021. Motion made to approve as amended - Bible study is on Tuesday not Wednesday. Chuck/Bryan. Motion passed.

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

TREASURER'S REPORT: Nothing out of the ordinary to report. Church Windows and the realtime report are close to being in sync. Motion to approve to file for audit. Julie/Larry.

PASTOR'S REPORT:

March was a busy month. It started with a Memorial Service for Dan Meeker on March 6th. Then we had **Holy Week** events - Palm Sunday service followed by the installation that afternoon on March 28th. I participated in the Maundy Thursday service and did a mini Sermon at the Good Friday service - both at First Christian Service.

Clothes Closet - 5 men came to assist in hauling shelves and racks from the Episcopal Church on March 31st. It looks like we are going to have to use the old nursery as well as the library because there just isn't enough space to put out all the clothes that have been donated. But we seem to be getting more people to volunteer to help sort and stack the clothing we get.

I spoke at the **Kiwanis Club ZOOM** Meeting on April 1st about the Clothes Closet.

I have **visited Cindy Burnett** and gave her Communion on March 30th.

Our **Bible Study** continues to meet every Tuesday afternoon at 1pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Pastor Rich

NEW BUSINESS

1. Monthly benevolences for 2021 - April - December:

April - Abilities First.

May - Strengthen the Church

June - Crayons to Computers.

July/August - No Special offering

September - *Clothes Closet.

October - Neighbors in Need

November - Shalom.

December - Veterans of the Cross

* Motion made to change from Child Sponsorship to Clothes Closet. The Child Sponsorship is now covered in the budget. Julie/Chuck. Motion passed.

2. Graduate recognition. We will be recognizing Danny Kisler during the church service on June 6th. The gift is to be determined.

3. Set date for the congregational meeting. A motion was made to have the Congregational meeting on November 28th. Bryan/Darlene Motion passed.

4. Slate of officers - As this is Darlene Adams last meeting, we will need to find a replacement for her. Barb will try to find one.

5. Annual reports are due to Ann by April 30th.

6. Spring clean-up. The date was set for May 1st at 9am if weather permits. Back-up date is May 8.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Clothing Closet update. No one has come yet to get clothes.

2. Plastering - more estimates? Larry has one more person to call.

3. Rick - outreach idea. A St. Paul's Church calendar was again discussed. Rick will be in charge of the project. Everyone else on council will help.

The feasibility of also having the church picture put on the front of the weekly church bulletin was also discussed. This will need further research.

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

SERVICE - Julie & Judy No report at this time.

WORSHIP - Barb & Darlene No report at this time.

FELLOWSHIP - Chuck. No report at this time.

PROPERTY - Rick & Larry The boiler inspection will be on Tuesday.

BUDGET & FINANCE - Bryan We are status quo on our funds.

NEXT MEETING: May 9, 2021

NEXT MONTH OPENING PRAYER: Barb

Attendance: March 2021 - 89 (22/4 week average)

March 2021 - 74 (14/5 week average). Beginning of Covid

Respectfully submitted by,
Judith S Brewer,
Church Council Secretary

MAY



DATE	GREETERS	USHERS	LITURGIST	OPEN/CLOSE
05/02/2021	R. Lyons	L & D Adams	Carl B.	Jim R.
05/09/2021	J. Rockwell	C. & J. Batliner	Corrine L.	Jim R.
05/16/2021	J. Williams	T & M Shibley	Judy B.	Jim R.
05/23/2021	C. Clark	R. Lyons	Marsha M.	Jim R.
		C. Lowman		
05/30/2021	C. Batliner	J. Williams	Chuck C.	Jim R.
		C. Clark		

May 2021

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1  Clean up Day starts @ 9am
2 Worship 10:15 Handbell Practice 11:30	3	4 Clothes Closet 10-1pm Bible Study 1pm	5	6	7	8  Rain day for Clean up Day starts @ 9am
9 Worship 10:15 Happy Mothers Day! 	10	11 Clothes Closet 10-1pm Bible Study 1pm	12	13	14	15
16 Worship 10:15 Council 11:30 am	17	18 Clothes Closet 10-1pm Bible Study 1pm	19	20	21	22
23 Worship 10:15	24	25 Clothes Closet 10-1pm Bible Study 1pm	26	27	28	29
30 Worship 10:15	31  Memorial Day REMEMBER AND HONOR					

HAT'S OFF

This month we salute Darlene and Larry Adams. Both of these people work diligently for the church in many different ways. Larry is our man to be here when repairs need to be done. He guides the repair people as to what needs fixing. Larry and Darlene take care of decorating the Friendship Hall for Christmas and take care of refreshments for special occasions, such as the recent Installation. They have both been active members of the Church Council over the years and today we salute them for all their dedicated service to



Middletown Interfaith Clothes Closet

We had our first customer in April and we know more are to come. We deeply appreciate the wonderful contributions of clothing brought in thus far. We are now extending our space into the old Nursery Room. We operate from 10-1 every Tuesday and people can bring in clothing Tuesday-Thursday from 10-12.



May 1st @ 9am we will be having our annual Spring clean up day!
Rain Date May 8th...



May 16th – BELLS

Our Bell Choir will perform on Sunday, May 16th. We hope you can attend to enjoy the presentation of this group. If any would be interested to join us, please let Barb know. We'd love to have you!

May 23rd – Pentecost Sunday

We will celebrate the birthday of the church on this Sunday with Communion. Please try to come out and join us for our weekly services. We do practice social distancing for your safety.




PENTECOST SUNDAY

Lord Jesus, as God's Spirit came down and rested upon you,
May the same Spirit rest on us, Bestowing his sevenfold gifts.

First, grant us the gift of understanding,
By which your precepts may enlighten our minds.

Second, grant us counsel, by which we may follow
in your footsteps on the path of righteousness.

Third, grant us courage, by which we may ward off the enemy's attacks.

Fourth, grant us knowledge, by which we can distinguish good from evil.

Fifth, grant us piety, by which we may acquire compassionate hearts.

Sixth, grant us fear, by which we may draw back from evil
and submit to what is good. Seventh, grant us wisdom,
that we may taste fully the life-giving sweetness of your love.

Amen





Mother's Day

Second Sunday of May



APPRECIATION
BEAUTIFUL
BREAKFAST
CANDY
CHARMING
COMFORT
DEVOTED
FLOWERS
FORGIVING
GIFTS

GUIDANCE
HUGS
JEWELRY
JOY
KISSES
LAUGHTER
LOVE
MATERNAL
MOM
MOTHER

NURTURE
PERFUME
PROTECTIVE
SHARE
TELEPHONE
TENDER
THE BEST
WARM
WISE



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
114 S. BROAD STREET
MIDDLETOWN OHIO 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, 930am-2pm or By appointment

Church Office Hours Tuesday-Thursday 11am-2pm

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