

Rooted in the past,
Living faithfully in the present

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

August
2019

*“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

Dear St. Paulians!

This is my first note to you all. There is a well know saying I am sure you've heard, "first impressions are everything." I've never liked that saying, to be honest. However, it can't be denied that first impressions matter. So what do I want you to take away as a first impression as I write these words? My greatest hope in this regard is that you will finish this note feeling welcomed and encouraged to come say hello, introduce yourself, and maybe even give our Sunday gathering at 10:15 am a try.

In support of this hope I'd like to say that I look forward to meeting each and everyone of you. As things get settled, I hope to have a coffee hour on a weekday for you to come sit and have a cup of coffee with me. Maybe at the Triple Moon which I am already loving!

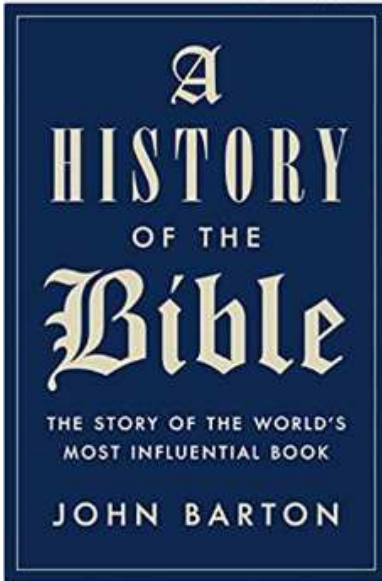
As for who I am, which you may be wondering about, I am a friendly introvert, meaning I love hanging out with people yet also like my 'alone time'. That said, in my role as pastor I am more the former. I love to teach and write. I also love poetry (writing and reading) and music. I am rediscovering my love of movies as well these days. My 11 year-old son and I made our now completed summer project watching all 23 of the Marvel Comic Universe movies, the last one being *Spider-Man: Homecoming*. Most of all, and on a whole other level, I love my family. My wife and I will celebrate 25 years of marriage in September! And our son remains a bundle of joy to us.

As I close here, be sure to note the Religious Education class in September. I am hoping it will be a fun time of learning and fellowship. Invite the young people in your lives! Also, looking to the future a little bit, be watching for a book-signing somewhere in Middletown. A book I've written, *A Life Lived and Laid Down for Friends* will be published in the fall or winter.

Most importantly, see you Sunday!

Blessings,
Don

www.revdonerickson.blogspot.com



In September, Rev. Don will be offering a Religious Education course on Wednesday afternoon. Beginning Wednesday, September 4th, at 2 pm, we will meet at Triple Moon Coffee. We will be discussing the new book, A History of the Bible, by Oxford scholar John Barton. The 10-week course will be great for young people curious about what this thing called the Bible is all about. Rev Don, who was a Religious Studies major, will take an academic approach to the subject and foster discussion first and foremost. Please pass the word! And if you will join us, order the book as well



The 2nd Annual Middletown PRIDE Event was a huge success this year with many more in attendance. St. Paul's was able to give a small amount this year to help support this important event. What an awesome opportunity for community support with the Pride Patrol creating a peaceful barrier between protestors and the free mom/dad hug area. Great job to all the sponsors and organizers of this event!

June Income \$11,831.74
(\$3596.00 from offering.)
Expenses were \$3770.93
Special Offering: Crayons to Computers
\$60.00



August Volunteer Schedule

Date	Greeters	Refreshments	Ushers	Liturgist	Open/Close
4th	C. Burnett C. Lowman	C. Kinyalocets	L. Adams D. Adams J. Rockwell	C. Batliner	J. Williams
Communion M & J Ratliff (come forward)					
11th	C. Kinyalocets J. Kinyalocets	B. Flory	P. Beatty M. Shibley T. Shibley	C. Lowman	
18th	J. Green	S. Canter	C. Batliner J. Batliner R. Lyons	P. Beatty	
25th	J. Rockwell	J. Rockwell	C. Kinyalocets C. Burnett C. Clark	C. Kinyalocets	



Our Shut-ins...
 Virginia Elam
 Cleo Habig
 Amanda Lorig
 Carroll Stein
 Charlene Hale
 Frances Stoutenborough

PRAYER CONCERNS:

Please continue to remember those that are homebound and others that are dealing with on-going health concerns.

OUR MILITARY PERSONAL...Chase McConehea & Jake Burley

AUGUST
 13 Haley Canter
 17 Tammy Allen
 21 Roger Britton
 26 Marcia Shibley



Church Office Hours

PASTOR DON'S OFFICE HOURS

TUES-WED 9:30 am –2pm

Thursday by appointment

If there is a specific need please call or email the office to schedule an appointment

ANN'S OFFICE HOURS

TUES-WED-THURS

11AM-2PM

Email and phones are checked while away for important messages.

ST. PAUL'S UCC
MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

COUNCIL MINUTES

JULY 14, 2019

PRESENT: Rev. Don Erickson, Darlene Adams, Rick Lyons, Chuck Clark, Barb Flory, Judy Brewer, Bryan Canter.

OPENING PRAYER: Chuck

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from June 9, 2019. Approved with change of date from July 9 to July 14 for the next meeting. Chuck/Bryan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA Approved with additions under unfinished and new business. Chuck/Darlene

TREASURER'S REPORT Approved to file for audit with the checking of one line item. Bryan/Rick

PASTOR'S REPORT

1. Church needs to do a self-study as a first step toward finding a called pastor.
2. Rev. Don would like to start a bible study group. One idea is to do a study of the history of Christianity. This would probably occur in the evening to reach more people.
3. Discussed ways to get the word out about our church – newspaper, Facebook page.

CO-MODERATORS' REPORTS – Barb & Rick Welcomed Rev. Don.

SERVICE – Julie & Judy – No report at this time.

WORSHIP – Barb – looking for summer music. July 28 – Mike Ratliff & Aug. 11 – Steve Pierce is scheduled so far.

FELLOWSHIP – Chuck – any report on video? Chuck has not heard back from the group.

PROPERTY & MAINTENANCE – Rick – see under new business for property. Under maintenance – the grounds outside were looking shabby. Rick, Chuck & Ginger cleaned up the grounds. The graffiti on the outside back wall needs to be power washed off.

BUDGET & FINANCE – Bryan – Our cash is up a little and the stock market is doing good. The expenses are down.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Council vacant seat – Larry Adams has agreed to come back for one year to fill the vacant seat. Motion made to accept Larry back on the board. Motion passed. Barb/Chuck

NEW BUSINESS

1. Air conditioner – What was thought to be a leak in the coolant system is not the problem. The compressor is bad and is not worth replacing.
2. Roof – The roof that needs repair is the single steeple structure in the front. Rick expects quotes in the next couple of weeks. The gutters on the main church are deteriorating and should be replaced.
3. Grounds – See above under Property & Maintenance.
4. Attic lights – Electric lights need to be strung across the length of the sanctuary attic to make it easier to see when walking between the joists and lift the can lights out to replace the bulbs.
5. Back-to-School donations per Ann's e-mail – We agreed to give a donation to the Back to School Fair in an amount not to exceed \$500.00. This is for the south side and 2nd ward school children. The donation will help purchase hot dogs/buns/wrappers for the event that is going to serve over 1,000 Middletown School students.
6. Office Accountability with new interim – Ann is working for Rev. Don and the church council. As for the council, Chuck will be the person who goes to Ann with questions. Ann had a question concerning how to enter Rev. Don's salary. Does he want it as a 1099 or W2? He will discuss it with Ann. Also, the Covenant Agreement still needs to be signed.
7. Website – Ann would like to manage the church website through GoDaddy. The council is agreeable with this.
8. Communion Service – Discussed ways that the church has observed communion in the past. Coming forward seems to be the preferred method.

NEXT MEETING: Sunday, August 11 after worship

NEXT MONTH OPENING PRAYER: Judy

Attendance: June 2019 148 (30/5 week average)

June 2018 127 (32/4 week average)

Respectfully submitted by
Judy Brewer,
Church Council Secretary

August 2019

Sun

Mon



Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11  Steve Pearce Council 11:30am	12	13	14	15	16	17
18  Kip Moore	19	20	21	22	23	24
25 Lunch Bunch TJ Chumps 11:30 am	26	27	28	29	30	31

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. Don Erickson, Pastor
Marsha Minge, Choir Director • Barbara Flory, Pianist

Pastors Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday 9:30a.m—2:00 p.m. Thursday by appointment
Church Office Hours Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 11:00 am-2:00 pm
Office 513-422-4519 **E Mail:** stpaulsuccmidd@att.net
WEB PAGE: stpaulsuccmidd.org

