

Rooted in the past,
Living faithfully in the present

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

August
2020

*“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

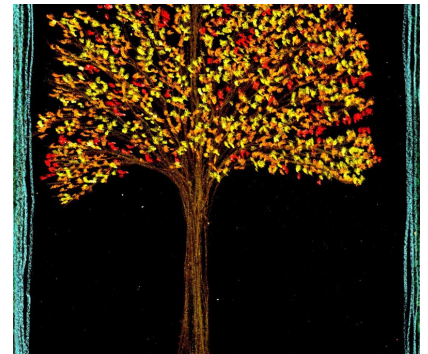
**God
is still
speaking,**

UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

DEALING WITH CHANGE

Genesis 14:1-12 and Matthew 17:14-27.

Matthew 17:22-23 “When they came together in Galilee, he said to them, “The Son of Man is going to be delivered into the hands of men. They will kill him, and on the third day he will be raised to life.” And the disciples were filled with grief. (NIV)



The disciples appear to have missed the point. Jesus has told them about His death and resurrection, but they got hung up on the bad part of His message. Of course, it could be that they were shocked and couldn't get past the image of Christ being killed. I guess if we had been in their shoes at the same time, we might have dwelled on it, too. This shows us how human the disciples really were, which means we can often relate to their natural responses to all Christ said or did.

We live in immensely transitional times, so it's very easy to get downhearted about all the things beyond our control. We can choose to be fearful about the future or we can decide to remain faithful to the values that we personally embrace. Change is never easy, but it can be an opportunity to consolidate our reliance on God. I personally have found that when I'm faced with turbulent transitions, I pray more often and more deeply. This makes me understand how much I actually depend upon God to help me endure and enables me to eventually overcome my changing circumstances. Instead of dwelling on my difficulties, I prayerfully hand them over to God, letting Him do what I can't, and allowing Him to lead

Prayer: Lord Jesus, You perfectly understand our present circumstances. Embrace us at this moment in time and lead us each day. In Your Holy Name, we pray.

SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – JULY 19, 2020

Establishment: Art. IV, Sec. B of the Constitution required 10% of voting members to be present. We had 101 members on January 1, 2019. A total of 10 members are needed. 15 members were present.

A special congregational meeting was called for the purpose of voting on the spending of \$14,728.00 in order to replace 13 windows on the first floor of the church. Bryan Canter made the presentation. The windows will come from Champion Windows and will be installed and sealed. A motion was made to approve the expenditure. Pat Beatty/Chuck Clark. The motion passed. Meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by
Judith S Brewer



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING 7/12/2020

Meeting Held in the Sanctuary Due To Covid-19.

OPENING PRAYER – Barb Flory

CALL TO ORDER – Barb Flory

Establishment of quorum: Art. IV, Sec. B of the Constitution required 10% of voting members to be present. We had 101 members on January 1, 2019. A total of 10 members are needed. 23 members were present for the meeting.

Approval of Agenda as amended. Added – presentation on safety measures by Larry Adams. Motion to approve. Roger Britton/Chuck Clark. Motion passed.

Approval of Minutes for November 2019. Motion to approve. Bryan Canter/Chuck Clark. Motion passed.

Installation of Search Committee Members. Carl Batliner, Jennifer Batliner, Cindy Burnett & Barb Flory were installed.

Installation of Council Members. Proposed leadership for 2019-2020.

Co-Moderators: Rick Lyons and Barb Flory

Secretary: Judy Brewer

Treasurer: Chuck Clark

Property: Rick Lyons and Larry Adams

Budget & Investment: Bryan Canter

Fellowship: Chuck Clark

Service: Julie Ratliff and Judy Brewer

Worship: Barb Flory and Darlene Adams

Motion made to accept the council members. Jennifer Batliner/Roger Britton

Presentation of safety procedures in the event of an active shooter – Larry Adams.

Team Updates are printed in the Annual Report which was handed out during the meeting.

- Julie Ratliff – Service team – added food is being collected to donate to the Food Pantry.
- Bryan Canter – Budget & Investment – reported that the budget is doing good.
- Co-Moderators' Comments - None

United Church Of Christ Statement Of Faith was read aloud by those in attendance.

Respectfully submitted by
Judith S Brewer,



AUGUST VOLUNTEERS

| Date | Ushers | Liturgists | Open/Close |
|-----------|----------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| August 2 | Larry & Darlene Adams | Dan Flory | John Williams |
| August 9 | Carl & Jennifer Batliner | Chuck Clark | John Williams |
| August 16 | Tom & Marsha Shibley | Corrine Lowman | John Williams |
| August 23 | Chuck Clark, Cindy Burnett | Pat Beatty | John Williams |
| August 30 | Steve & Judy Greene | Mike Ratliff | John Williams |



July 12, 2020
 St. Paul's said goodbye to our interim Pastor Don Erickson as he embarks on his new journey in Connecticut. We commemorated his time with us with this beautiful plate and would of celebrated him more but Covid made that difficult. Thank you for the time you spent here Rev. Don and good luck with this next season in your life!

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



- Virginia Elam Lorraine Clark Cleo Habig*
- Amanda Lorig*
- Carroll Stein Charlene Hale Frances Stoutenborough*
- Shirley Fore Dan Meeker Mike Davies*
- Kathryn O'Connor Kubn Velma Griffith*



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

Church Office Hours

The Church Emergency phone is being monitored. If there is a Pastoral Emergency please call 513-320-7441

ANN'S OFFICE HOURS
TUES-WED-THURS
11AM-2PM
 Email and phones are checked while away for important messages.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

COUNCIL MINUTES FROM JULY 12, 2020

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

ABSENT: Rick Lyons

OPENING PRAYER: Barb

APPROVAL OF MINUTES from June 14, 2020. Approved as written. Chuck/Larry

APPROVAL OF AGENDA. Agenda amended – added #6 – Subsequent Sundays and #7 – Bronze Plaque.

Approved as amended. Bryan/Chuck

TREASURER'S REPORT. A new power surge & battery back up was purchased for Ann's office at a cost of \$90.94. Motion made to accept report and file for audit.

PASTOR'S REPORT – As this was Rev. Don's last Sunday, there was no report.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Rev. Don's asked that his exit interview be in written form. He will mail it to the church.
2. Cell Phone. Now that Rev. Don is leaving, who will monitor the cell phone? It was decided that it could be given to Ann to monitor. It was also decided that the emergency number can be listed in the bulletin and newsletter but not on the website. That number is reserved for church members.
3. Additional windows. It was decided to replace 13 windows on the first floor. Champion Windows has given an estimate of \$14,728.00 to replace and seal the windows. A motion was made to accept the offer and put it before the church members for a vote. Chuck/Julie. Motion passed.
4. The choir robes are in need of cleaning. A motion was made to email Marsha and find out where to get the robes cleaned and to send them to be cleaned. Julie/Darlene. Motion passed.
It was decided to have Barb talk to Marsha on behalf of council concerning her salary and a possible ten month working schedule.
5. Funerals – how to cover until we get a new interim. Dan Flory will cover. If he is already booked, another UCC Church minister will be sought to cover – possibly from Germantown or Springboro.
6. Subsequent Sundays. Katherine Peterson-Madden Will give the message on July 19 & 26. Jim Tredwick will be here on the 2nd of August for Communion Sunday.
7. Bronze Plaque. A bronze plaque in memory of Wilma Gade by Pat Beatty's daughter Elizabeth Banks needs to be purchased and placed on the sound system. Judy will check the council minutes to see who is in charge of getting this done.

OLD BUSINESS – None

CO-MODERATORS' REPORTS – Barb & Rick. None

SERVICE – Julie & Judy. Food donations are being collected for the Food Pantry.

WORSHIP – Barb & Darlene. None

FELLOWSHIP – Duty assignments are assigned through the end of July. New assignments are coming.

PROPERTY – Rick & Larry. Larry did some weed eating and spraying.

BUDGET & FINANCE – Bryan. Everything is good.

NEXT MEETING: August 9, 2020.

NEXT MONTH OPENING PRAYER: Judy

Attendance: June 2020 77 (19/4 week average)

June 2019 148 (30/5 week average)

Respectfully submitted by
Judith S Brewer,
Church Council Secretary

August 2019

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

| | | | | | | |
|--|--------------|----|----|-----------------------|----|----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 2 In person service 10:15 Communion | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 In person service 10:15 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 Woodworkers | 14 | 15 |
| 16 In person service 10:15 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 In person service 10:15 30 In person service | 24 31 | 25 | 26 | 27 Woodworkers | 28 | 29 |

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

Church Office Hours Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursday 11:00 am-2:00 pm
Office 513-422-4519 Emergency Pastoral Line 513-320-7441 **E Mail:** stpaulsuccmidd@att.net
WEB PAGE: stpaulsuccmidd.org

