

Rooted in the past,
Living faithfully in the present

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

November
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 Congregants,

Good day to you all. I pray all is well with each of you. November begins the busy season at St. Paul's UCC. Yes, Advent is coming, and things don't slow down. But in November we stop to express and exhibit our gratitude for all the blessings we know. And part of deep, faithful gratitude is that it turns to giving back and caring for our world. Gratitude and Stewardship are two sides of the coin we call Faith.

November 10 will be our annual Stewardship Sunday. The theme for this year is "The Way." Jesus makes the bold claim in John 14:6 that he is the way, the truth, and the life, and that meeting God is not possible without this way, truth, and life. What is certain, Jesus' Way was one of gratitude and stewardship. Jesus lived a life poured out as one of gratitude to his Father. And in so doing, Jesus cared for and lifted up the world around him. We are called to do the same.

So, in the coming weeks, I ask that you pray about and consider ways you can give back and be good stewards of St. Paul's. Yes, committing to give financially to the church is a wonderful way to give back and live as a good steward. However, there are other ways. Volunteering to be part of Sunday services is a great way, too. Volunteering as an usher, liturgist, a "goody-provider" and server for coffee time after service are some examples of giving back and being a good steward. To make it easy, we will have sign-up sheets in the Fellowship Hall.

There are also countless ways to give back to the Middletown community. How does this amount to being good stewards of St. Paul's? In this age of struggling churches, being an evangelist through community service and representing St. Paul's as you do is vital. So, volunteering in the community and representing St. Paul's in the process is an ideal form of stewardship. Here are some upcoming opportunities: on Stewardship Sunday, you join me and others in planting trees at Meadow Ridge Park in Middletown from 12 to 3pm as part of the Trillion Trees Campaign, a project dedicated to planting trees to combat climate change. Another volunteer opportunity is serving food to the homeless for SHALOM. (St. Paul's will be donating food and serving dinner on Sunday, March 1st and breakfast on Monday, March 2nd at the First United Methodist Church right next door. We're also on the wait list to provide food the week of December 15th.) As for St. Paul's need for stewardship, it is obvious to those who've attended a service recently, that we along with many churches our size are struggling. The struggle is not financial as much as it is membership numbers. Being stewards in the community as a way to tell St. Paul's story is vital. It is vital to both St. Paul's and St. Paul's next minister, in my humble opinion.

That said, November 17th is our budgetary congregational meeting. It will happen after Sunday service. We ask that if you can make it, please do.

In Christ,

Rev. Don Erickson

Interim Minister

Autumn has us hopping here at St. Paul's UCC! Here's what's up...



- November 3 Totenfest
- November 10 Stewardship Sunday
- November 10 planting Tree
Volunteering, Meadow Ridge Park
12-3 pm
- November 17 Congregational Meeting

Please join us in worship on November 3rd as we honor the lives of these beloved members of St. Paul's.

Doris Jean Rothfuss
Joseph Burnett
Virginia Johnson

December 3, 2018
March 1, 2019
August 4, 2019

**In Loving
memory**
 OF THOSE WHO ARE
forever
 IN OUR HEARTS

today & always



**SUNDAY
SCHOOL**
For Children....



We are looking for volunteers to help in the nursery when we have children attend with their parents on a as needed basis. If you are interested please see Rev. Don.



St. Paul's is eternally grateful for all of our supporters and past congregants. We were able to purchase a new sound system at the beginning of the year thanks to Elizabeth Beatty Banks who made a generous donation in name of Wilma Gade. We appreciate that so much and we will be purchasing a commemorative plaque to memorialize that donation. Thank you once again!



NOVEMBER

- 1st Chuck Clark
- 5th Julie Ratliff
- 8th Cleo Habig
- 12th Jennifer Batliner
- 17th Julie Meeker-Kishler
- 19th Cindy Burnett
Velma Griffith



DON'T FORGET TIME CHANGE IS NOVEMBER 3RD. SET YOUR CLOCKS BACK 1 HOUR!



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

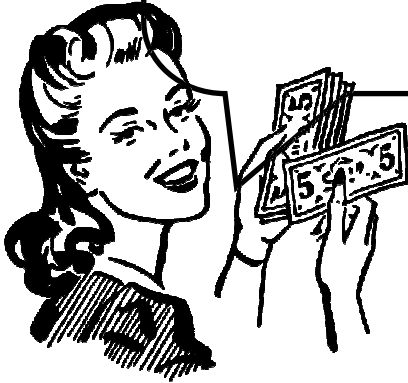
*Virginia Elam Lorraine Clark Cleo Habig Amanda Lorig
Carroll Stein Charlene Hale Frances Stoutenborough Shirley Fore Darlene Moss Kathryn(O'Conner) Kuhn*

November Volunteer Schedule

<u>Date</u>	<u>Greeters</u>	<u>Refreshments</u>	<u>Ushers</u>	<u>Liturgist</u>	<u>Communion</u>	<u>Open/Close</u>
11/3	C. Clark R. Lyons	L. Britton	D. Adams L. Adams C. Lowman	D. Flory	M. Ratliff J. Ratliff	M. Ratliff
11/10	J. Rockwell C. Clark	B Flory	C. Batliner J. Batliner R. Lyons	N. Fisher		
11/17	J. Williams A. Turner	J. Rockwell	C. Kinyalocets L. Adams D. Adams	C. Batliner		
11/24	C. Kinyalocets J. Kinyalocets	J. Batliner	J. Rockwell M. Shibley T. Shibley	C. Kinyalocets		

Congregational Meeting

November 17th after worship, we will vote on the budget. The budget for 2020 was mailed. If you didn't receive one, call the office. Please bring your copy with you that morning.



St. Paul's has a long standing tradition of participating in the Shalom Ministry during the winter months. That will continue this year. If you are interested in volunteering or donating please see one of the council members. We will be serving the Shalom guests this year on December 15 & 16 and March 1 & 2.



Name _____

Phone # _____

_____ 6.5" pot with 5-7 (red only) blooms \$10.00 ea

Total Due \$ _____

In Memory of _____

In Honor of _____

Orders Due by 11/25/2018

Payment is due at time of order

DON'T FORGET TO ORDER YOUR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS !

We are collecting orders for Christmas Poinsettias...

They come in 6.5 inch pot with 5-7 blooms.

They are available in red only this year.

The cost is \$10.00 per pot.

You may pick up an order form in church or call the church office.

All orders must be received by 11/19.

You can pick up your poinsettias after service on 12/24.

You can also call the office and place your order if that would be easier.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

MIDDLETOWN, OHIO

COUNCIL MINUTES.

OCTOBER 13, 2019

PRESENT: Barb Flory, Chuck Clark, Bryan Canter, Julie Ratliff, Larry Adams, Judy Brewer,
Rev. Don Erickson. ABSENT: Rick Lyons

OPENING PRAYER: Rev. Don

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPT. 8, 2019 - Julie/Bryan

APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Julie/Bryan

TREASURER'S REPORT - Approved to file for audit. Chuck will check the water usage.

PASTOR'S REPORT - Rev. Don

Rev. Don has continued to utilize social media to help foster engagement and interest in the Church. He would like to occasionally have the worship service in the chapel to promote a feeling of connection among those attending. A system whereby folks can request a Pastoral visit has been put in place. Bible Study continues on Tuesdays with an average of 6 attending. St. Paul's outreach to the community is going to be vital to its future success and even survival. This presents a dilemma in that the age of the congregation and the limitations that come with this makes it difficult to volunteer other than keeping the church going. Rev. Don will not be in the pulpit the 17th or 24th of November. Lastly, Rev. Don has been comparing the old Church Profile with the new UCC Church Profile template and they are significantly different. He has started filling in the blanks based on his understanding and insight.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Profile progress. See above in the Pastor's Report.
2. November Congregational Meeting - to vote on budget - date? November 17, 2019.
3. Totenfest: Date? - November 3, 2019
4. SHALOM dates. March 1-dinner, March 2-breakfast; Dec. 15-dinner, Dec. 16-Breakfast.
5. Budget. Bryan & Ann will work on the budget and a email will be sent to council Members for their okay.
6. Giving statements for members. They will go out in November as agreed last year.
7. Stewardship Sunday date-letters? Time and talent cards? UCC Stewardship Sunday is 11/10. Time & talent paper will be included in the bulletin on Nov. 10.
8. Sunday school teachers and curriculum. We will see if anyone volunteers on the talent Cards.
9. Commemoration - for Wilma Gade. The money for the sound system was donated by Elizabeth Beatty Banks, Pat Beatty's daughter. A motion was made to place the Suggested plaque on the sound system. Motion passed. Chuck/Julie
10. Ann & Office. Ann has upcoming surgery and will be out of the office. Dates unknown At this time.
11. Poinsettia orders will be taken in the near future for the Christmas season. The color will Be 6" pots, red with gold foil and will cost \$10.00 each.
12. Letter received from SONKA asking for a larger donation to Our Church's Wider Mission. A motion was made to continue with the same amount. Motion passed. Chuck/Darlene

October Minutes (Cont)

OLD BUSINESS

1. Snack sale 10/27. There are 5 volunteers who will bring 8-10 sandwich size bags.
2. Search committee suggestions. The need for additional people to be on the search Committee will be announced during church service. Also, a note will be put in the Newsletter.
3. ALICE training. A police trainer has not been found. Right now, we have procedures in Place that protect us as best we can. Procedures need to be written so that those who Are downstairs will know what to do.

CO-MODERATORS' REPORTS - Barb & Rick. Barb thanked Rev. Don for taking care of the Music before the service.

SERVICE - Julie & Judy. Snack sale on Oct. 27.

WORSHIP - Barb & Darlene. See #8 in New Business.

FELLOWSHIP - Chuck. Volunteer assignment sheet has been completed. AT&T work completed. Chuck brought his pressure washer and got most of the graffiti off the back wall of The church.

PROPERTY - Rick & Larry. All the heaters upstairs have been cleaned, the radiators drained and both boilers are working. Larry will be getting a quote for the suggested copper flashing for the roof. Also, we will need sealant for the brick on the old part of the building. The cost quoted is \$14,750.00. This will be part of the budget vote at the November Congregational meeting.

BUDGET & FINANCE - Bryan. Mutual funds are doing well

NEXT MEETING: November 10

NEXT MONTH OPENING PRAYER: Rick

Attendance: September 2019 - 150. (30/5 week average)
September 2018 - 163. (32/5 week average)

Respectfully submitted by
Judith S Brewer,
Church Council secretary





<p style="text-align: center;">September Total Income \$11,530.58 (\$3783.00 from Sunday donations) September Expenses \$10,578.38</p>

November 2019



Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

					1	2
3 Totenfest  Turn your clock back	4	5 Bible Study 2pm	6 Choir 4:30	7	8	9
10 Stewardship Sunday Council 11:30	11	12 Bible Study 2pm	13 Choir 4:30	14	15	16
17 Congregational Meeting	18 Pastor	19 Bible Study 2pm Don	20 Choir 4:30	21 on	22 vacation	23
24 Lunch Bunch Rivertown Brewery	25	26 Bible Study 2pm	27 Choir 4:30	28 	29	30

* Bible studies are held at Triple Moon Coffee shop 1100 Central Avenue, Middletown

Special Offering for November is Shalom

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 9:30 am-1:30pm Thursday by appointment
Office Hours Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 11:00a.m.– 2:00 p.m.
Office 513-422-4519 **E Mail:** stpaulsuccmidd@att.net
WEB PAGE: stpaulsuccmidd.org

