

The altar flowers today are from Ann Vogel wishing everyone a blessed Thanksgiving

Thank you Carol Schmidt for singing our hymns today

Our Giving to God November 15, 2020

Current - \$2,828.00 and Mission - \$155.00

Attendance – 90

TAKE NOTE

- **Stop in the Elevette Room and take a look at the crafts that the Women's Guild has for sale. New crafts are added weekly! Christmas is just around the corner!**
- **The Women's Guild are looking for old wooden shutters and scrap boards 4 foot-long 3/4 inch thick, 11 inches wide. If you have these and can part with them, please let Jane Nuss or Joan Leffel know.**
- ✚ **RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN** – You can dispose of your used bulletin in the trash can (recycle bin) by the Perry Street Entrance/Exit or on the bulletin table at the rear of the sanctuary (if you do not wish to take it home). Thank you!

DEACONS NEEDED

Consistory is currently in need of four (4) new deacons to serve three (3) year terms beginning in January 2021. It is a great way to get to know other members in the church. The duties of a Deacon are as follows: Aid in securing funds necessary for the support of the church in its various activities and foster the principles of stewardship. Minister to the physical welfare of the membership of the church. Aid in the distribution of the elements of the Lord's Supper when invited by the Pastor. Assist the Pastor at all worship services and see that adequate personnel are on hand at church services to distribute bulletins and to seat people attending. Take care of the offerings at all services and count those in attendance. After each church service, two (2) Deacons must accompany each other to the office and secure the offering in the church safe. Meeting Requirements: Monthly Consistory and special called.

If you are interested in serving your church on its governing board, there are four ways you can express your interest. You can contact any current Consistory member, the church office, Ralph Heckler, Consistory President, or Marsha Landers, Consistory Vice President.

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
"We Shine For All Through Christ"
St. Marys, Ohio

November 22, 2020 Reign of Christ 10:30a.m.
Order of Service

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES
CHIMES CALL US TO WORSHIP
WELCOME

PRELUDE "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" George Elvey

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: In deep gratitude we come to worship God.
People: **We recognize God as the source of all goodness.**
Leader: All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:
People: **love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God.**
Leader: We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.
People: **We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.**

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

Joys and Concerns of our Church Family
Introduction of Guests

*THE WAVE *(Standing if able, and wave to your neighbor)*

OPENING HYMN 656 "Open the Eyes of My Heart"

PRAYER OF CONFESSION FOR THANKSGIVING

Gracious Creator, you have given us so much, but too often we take those gifts for granted, or as something to which we are entitled. You call us to live in caring community, but too often we place our wants and needs first, with those of others a distant second. You call us to share Your gifts with the world around us, but we are worried that there may not be enough, and our worrying gets in the way of our sharing. For all the times when we mistreat and misuse Your gifts, for all the times we assume that we get what we have by ourselves, forgive us and lead us back to the path of wisdom.

...time of silent prayer...

PASTOR: God is a gracious giver. God is gracious in forgiveness. God calls us to new patterns and new life. We are a forgiven people! Thanks be to God! Amen

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (using debts and debtors)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY MUSIC AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION "We Gather Together" Kremser/Callahan

SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 17:11-19

HYMN 14 "Now Thank We All Our God"

SERMON "A Message for Thanksgiving" Rev. Rhonda Hainer

HYMN 51 "How Great Thou Art"

BENEDICTION Colossians 3: 15-17

*POSTLUDE "Thanksgiving Flourish" Edward Broughton
*Denotes those who are able are invited to stand in body and in spirit Depart to serve

ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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email: smucc@bright.net website: www.stpaulsuccsm.com
email for Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer: rhainer@bright.net and cell phone number: (563) 210-3508
email for prayer team requests to Carol Schmidt: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com
email for Christian Education/Youth Director: christianed@bright.net
email for media: spmedia@bright.net

Rev. Rhonda A. Hainer, Pastor	Mary Holtzapple, Christian Ed Coordinators
Jim Huckemeyer, Director of Music	Cynthia Hanover, Choir Pianist
Ann Vogel, Organist	Andrea Spencer, Organist
Amy & Mark Dieringer, Youth Directors	Kim Opperman, Church School Superintendent
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant	Bob Schumacher, Custodian
Rich Spencer, Audio and Video	Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher
Kim Opperman, Sunday Nursery Supervisor	Jeanette Tangeman, Back Bay Missionary
Madeline Frankenhauser, Children's Music Director	

LiturgistEmma Birt
AcolytesDeacons
Missionaries.....Members of our Congregation

AGAPE MISSION: Times are tough right now, but we can't forget those who are in need of toilet paper and soap for the Agape clients. So far this year we have collected **1566 rolls of toilet paper (goal is 2000)** and we have collected bars of soap. Monetary donations are very much encouraged at this time. You can make the check out to Jane Nuss, and she will go and purchase these items. You can mail a check to the church or to Jane Nuss directly at 13458 Howell Rd., St. Marys, Ohio 45885. If you want to purchase you can set items on the bench in the stairwell of the Christian Ed. Building.



ONLINE GIVING IS AVAILABLE

Don't forget that we now have online giving! It is available now by downloading Vanco Payment Solutions onto your mobile device by going to the app store or Google Play and search for "GivePlus Church". The download is free. We also have a button on our website that will also take you to the Vanco site. This service is available for your convenience!



- Please keep the following people in your prayers: Leah Walter, Janet Keller, Verl Gayer, Dot Silver, Cheryl Kline, Deb Perry (daughter-in-law of Ron & Cheryl Kline), Ed Goldenetz, John Long, David Freewalt, and for all of our military and emergency services.
- Remember to pray for our shut-ins and for their caregivers that take care of them.
- All prayer requests shall be given to the lead person of our Prayer Team, Carol Schmidt: cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com or you can call or text her at 419-305-6164.



The **2020 and 2021** Altar Flower Charts and the Liturgist sign-up sheets are located here in the sanctuary on the bulletin board by the sound system equipment. **Liturgists are always needed!** Please take a moment to sign up. Thank you.

Welcome to St. Paul's United Church of Christ!

- ✚ **DUE TO COVID, OFFERING PLATES WILL NOT BE PASSED IN THE PEWS. Please place your offering in the offering plates before service begins.**
- ✚ **NURSERY AND PRE-SCHOOL TODDLER CARE** For your convenience, we have a staffed nursery located in the educational building. Should it become necessary for you to leave the sanctuary during worship, you can view the morning service on the TV in the nursery.
- ✚ **HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE** rest room is located on the sanctuary level near the elevette room and it also contains a baby changing table.
- ✚ **ENLARGED BULLETINS & HEARING DEVICES** - available if needed (consult an usher).
- ✚ **TELEVISED WORSHIP SERVICE** – our worship service here at St. Paul's is shown on **cable – Digital channel 1 or non-digital channel 2,** every Sunday at 10:30 am and also on Monday evenings at 7:00 pm. There is a one-week delay of the service shown.
- ✚ **WORSHIP SERVICE ON THE INTERNET** – if you do not have TSC cable, you can watch our service on our church web page at www.spuccsm.com, St. Paul's Facebook page, or on YouTube.
- ✚ **RECYCLE YOUR BULLETIN** – on the registers at the North and South entrances you will see a tray where you can place your bulletin to be recycled (if you do not wish to take it home). Thank you!

WELCOME! If you are visiting for the first time, we are Glad you are Here. If you are a returning visitor Welcome Back. Please let our sanctuary doorway greeters know you are visiting and receive a special gift of welcome.



THIS WEEK AT ST. PAUL'S

Sunday	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Adult Forum Sunday School in Heritage Hall
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer
Wed.	9:00 am	Quilting
	6:00 pm	Stabelli/Solomon Wedding rehearsal
Thurs		THANKSGIVING
Fri.		Church office closed
Next Sun.	3:30 pm	Stabelli/Solomon Wedding
	9:15 am	Sunday School/Confirmation
	9:15 am	Adult Forum Sunday School in Heritage Hall
	10:30 am	Worship with Rev. Rhonda Hainer



Hope For The Holidays



For some, November, and December are the most difficult, emotionally-loaded months of the year. More than any other time, this particular string of holidays and seasonal changes doesn't end up feeling like the most wonderful time of the year after all. Instead, it can trigger difficult feelings like sadness, stress, anxiety, and depression. Grief from loved ones lost, trauma from holidays past, the cold dark weather, the lasting effect of COVID-19, there are many factors that make the holiday season hard for people. Join us for one free workshop led by Pastor Rhonda Hainer, which will address the reasons why the holidays are hard. Learn strategies to cope with the season's blues, and make the holidays a hopeful time again. **There is no charge for these workshops. Please wear a mask.**



So, You Wanna Make A Resolution: Thursday, December 3rd, 3:00 pm-4:30 pm in Heritage Hall, will help to create a resolution success plan, as we look toward the new year ahead.



GIVING THANKS COMMUNITY MEAL: This year will be a little different because of COVID-19. We will be doing carry out only, no eating in. It will be on Thursday, November 26, 2020, from 11:00 am to 1:00 p.m. Instead of coming in the east entrance at the Memorial High School commons area, we will be handing out meals on the east side but the next door south of the commons area. No need to get out of car.

I am asking for any donations of desserts from each church, so that everyone can enjoy a true Thanksgiving meal. You can drop off desserts from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm at Wayne Street United Methodist Church. Then from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm at Memorial High School, again at the door south of the commons area on the east side of the school. Please **no Jell-O or soft desserts** for they are too hard to pack for carry out.



MISSION MOMENT

Reigning Compassion

So begins a hymn that many of us will sing during the Thanksgiving season, whether we worship on Thanksgiving Day, Thanksgiving Eve or a Sunday before or after. *We Gather Together*, as the name suggests, is a hymn beloved by those of us who call ourselves congregational because it's all about, well, congregating. Written in the 16th century in the Netherlands as a hymn of celebration of freedom from Spanish rule, it is perhaps surprising that we so often sing this in thanksgiving when it is intended as an anthem to national pride.

On Thanksgiving, many will gather around the table at a feast with families and friends. These gatherings, with their familiar foods and faces can be comforting affairs. Yet, too often our Thanksgiving celebrations turn inward. Although we can take satisfaction in gathering around an intimate table with our beloveds, when we face each other, our backs are turned to the world.

Too often in congregations we do this, too. Comforted by the familiar intimacy of our private feasts and celebrations, our gatherings can become too comfortable, too insular.

The scripture reading from Matthew reminds us that when we feed, clothe and embrace the lost and alone, we are embracing Christ. This scripture in effect encourages us to turn our Thanksgiving table chairs the other way around. If your family and friends are not accustomed to facing that way, it may be uncomfortable to face out into the world and to respond to the needs we see.

So, turn around, face the world, so that we can freely and joyfully sing not just the first, but the last words of that beloved hymn.

*Empowering all by the hope you engender.
Grant wisdom and courage to follow your way.**

*Bayler, Lavon. *We Gather Together*, #421. *The New Century Hymnal*. Word adaptations
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A Prayer for Thanksgiving

Thanksgiving prayer to use when your family gathers...

For the food we are about to share and for those who have worked to harvest, provide and prepare it, we give you thanks.

For all of our friends and family members who have died, (...say the names of specific individuals at this time). For their lives and our memories of them, we give you thanks.

For those who are separated from us in this time with whom we long to share this day, we give you thanks.

For those who are young and have high hopes and so many possibilities for the future, we give you thanks.

For those who are old and for the wisdom they share with us, we give you thanks.

For moments of happiness and joy that brighten our days, we give you thanks.

For every good night's sleep and every good day's work, we give you thanks.

For strong bodies and minds and for opportunities to learn and grow, we give you thanks.

For those who are ill, and for healing and hope, for an end to this pandemic; for those around the world who struggle for daily food, shelter and safety, for your will to use us and others to offer help, we give you thanks.

For your promise to bring healing and care for those ill or in need (...names may be offered) surround them with your love, we give you thanks.

For your Son Jesus Christ, who lived and died and now lives again so that we can be saved, we give you thanks.

Lord God, we lift up our praise and gratitude to you on this Thanksgiving Day, and always. Amen.

Luke 17:11-19

11Now on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus traveled along the border between Samaria and Galilee. **12**As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance **13**and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!"

14When he saw them, he said, "**Go, show yourselves to the priests.**" And as they went, they were cleansed.

15One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. **16**He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan.

17Jesus asked, "**Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? 18**Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" **19**Then he said to him, "**Rise and go; your faith has made you well.**"