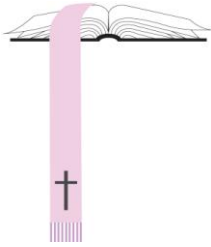


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Rhonda's Reflections

A church member recently asked me what plans I might have for the next 1-5 years at St. Paul's United Church of Christ. My initial response was mostly a joke--survive the pandemic. It's difficult to make plans amidst so much uncertainty.

When we don't know what next month will bring, it's hard to even think of next year. We're living in a season of cancelled plans.

However, it occurred to me later on--we are not living in a season of cancelled purpose.

What plan do I have for St. Paul's UCC? The plan is to focus on our purpose:

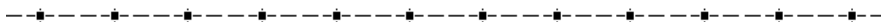
- 1) We will continue to ground ourselves in scripture
- 2) We will continue to ground ourselves in prayer. We will pray for God's will to be done, and for our eyes to be opened to how God is calling us into the future.
- 3) We will continue our focus on mission, both through service and advocacy. Care for the world is in the DNA of the United Church of Christ denomination, and is crucial to moving forward.
- 4) We will use this time to better understand what is "essential" in the life of the church, and to consider our future accordingly.
- 5) We will continue to give thanks.

Today, I invite you to read a brief section of Psalm 78 found on the next page. When you are done, pray the Lord's prayer. While you're praying, linger on the line "Thy will be done." May it be so.

“God established a law for Jacob
and set up Instruction for Israel,
ordering our ancestors
to teach them to their children.

I hope you'll tune in Sunday either for in person worship at 10:30, on our web page at www.spuccsm.com, on our Facebook page or on the television on cable digital channel 1 or non-digital channel 2, every Sunday at 10:30 a.m. and on Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Rhonda



Updates will be through **Call-Em-All**, and also posted on our webpage: www.stpaulsuccsm.com and our Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/St-Pauls-United-Church-of-Christ-St-Marys-Ohio-244329649061259/>

ELEVATOR UPDATE: We continue to make progress on the elevator project. Most outside work has been completed and we are currently in a bit of a lull waiting for the actual elevator to be shipped. Some of the drywalling and painting has been started inside. We are still hoping to have it completed by early October. You will find in this issue of the Communicator a printout of all income and expenses to date for the project. If you have any questions, please feel free to ask Lynda Hadley. As of this writing, we still need \$39,500.00 to fully pay for the project. If you haven't yet made a donation to support the project, now is the time!! Hopefully, you have been able to accumulate some funds with our "change up the elevator" fundraiser.

Now it's time to start thinking about our GRAND OPENING celebration. We are tentatively looking at early October with a half hour celebration before the 10:30 service. Our mystery celebrity is scheduled to arrive in the parking lot around 10:00. After opening remarks, we will have a "champagne" toast and then our raffle winner will embark on the very first ride!! You still have time to be entered in the drawing to be our winner. A \$250.00 donation will make you eligible for the drawing which will be held during the September 13th service.

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU FOR SUPPORTING THIS UPLIFTING FUNDRAISER

Our highest gratitude and appreciation goes out to Lynda Hadley. For 20+ years Lynda has voluntarily taken care of our church flower beds and landscaping around the church. We are grateful for your loving touch and dedication.



FREE FLOWERS

We have Sedum and Hostas in the church landscaping that need to be thinned out this fall. Also, I have Black-eyed Susan's that also need new homes. If you are interested in any of these perennials, please contact Lynda Hadley – (419) 305-3668.

-----■-----

AGAPE MISSION

I know that times are tough right now. 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 1262 rolls of toilet paper (goal is 2000) and we have collected 687 bars of soap. Monetary donations are very much encouraged at this time. You can make the check out to Jane Nuss, and I will go and purchase these items. You can mail a check to the church or to me 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.

Stay Strong and Safe,
Jane Nuss

-----■-----



WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

Sunday, October 4th we will celebrate World Communion Sunday. In theory, there will be Christians all around the world taking communion every hour for 24 hours throughout the day. We will all be as one in our faith.

-----■-----■-----■-----■-----■-----■-----■-----■-----■-----

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment. Care for the poor.

Forgive often. Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

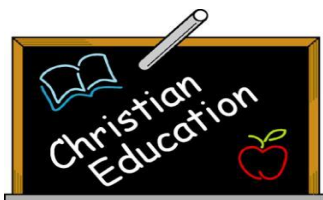
Embrace diversity. Love God. Enjoy this life.



BREAKING BREAD COMMUNITY MEAL

Breaking Bread starting again (unless circumstances require otherwise). Thursday, Sept 10, 2020. Serving from **4:30 to 5:15pm** (unless food is all gone before this). **Grab and Go from your car only.** Looking forward to providing delicious free meals to our community. Every Thursday except the first Thursday of the month.

- September 10
- September 17
- September 24



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS!

Watch our church Facebook page
for more news and updates.

3 – Alyvia Schaaf	19 – Jacklyn Leffel
6 – Dean Tangeman	28 – Andrew Leffel
11 – Liam Bradley	29 – Charley Spencer
15 – Kaylee Clausing	

Message from Mary

Christian Ed Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 8th, 6:30 pm in Fellowship Hall.

Sunday, September 20th is **RALLY SUNDAY!** I appreciate your interest in our young people, and the growth of our church family. For attendance at Sunday school, we will be taking the temperature of the children at the Sunday school entrance. Parents, please wait while we check your child's temperature. Individual pencil boxes with supplies will be issued so that there is no sharing of items. The mask rules will apply according to the rules of our local schools (No one under the age of 5 has to wear a mask). Cleaning measures will be taken before and after Sunday school. We appreciate everyone's cooperation.

Sunday School Supplies needed, please help, if you can.

Narrow paint brushes

Colored molding clay

Glue sticks

Colored construction paper

Drawing pads

Small spray bottles

Colored pencils

Kleenex

Pencil boxes

Thank you,

Mary Holtzapple, Christian Education and Nurture Coordinator

Aluminum Can Recycling for the Youth Group

Thank you to everyone who is saving aluminum cans for the **YOUTH GROUP**. We will continue to save, collect, and recycle cans. Cans need to be **rinsed out** and brought to St. Paul's - **just leave them behind the curtain under the stairs of the Creation Station door**. If you have a lot of cans and would like to just take them on to recycling and donate the money, it may be just as easy once they are in your vehicle. Thank you for your support

WOMEN'S NEWS

The Fall Harvest Meal & Bake Sale scheduled for October 7 will not be held this year due to Covid-19. This event is our largest fund raiser and this means we will not be able to donate to many of the non-profit organizations and church needs we help support. We are still receiving money from the **Kroger Community Rewards Program**. To date there are 33 households participating and \$128.69 was earned this last quarter. This program costs nothing to participate and it would be great if more families would join! Perhaps your funds go elsewhere but you no longer participate in that group? It is easy to change your donation allocation! All you have to do is sign up online with your Kroger card. Go to www.krogercommunityrewards.com to sign up and register your Kroger Plus card. NPO# is SK5720. If you do not use the internet, please contact Kris Vanderhorst, 419-733-2112.

TAKE NOTE

The September Women's Guild meeting will not be held this year.

HELP PRESERVE AN ENDANGERED SPECIES!!

We are talking about the Women's Guild!!

This was the title of an article written by Marge Schmidt (how many years ago?) that still applies today! Rebecca and Hannah Circles are still active, but would love to have more members attend their monthly meetings. Hannah meets on the 2nd Tuesday at 10:00 am and then usually go out for lunch. Rebecca meets on the 3rd Monday at 1:00. No talents are needed to attend. Just enjoy the fellowship! Samaritan Sisters does not have a set meeting time every month, but do projects throughout the year. We communicate mostly through email, so if you want to be updated, let Jane or Kris know.

The Guild so appreciates all the help we get from all the women. Please think about volunteering to help with Bingo, funeral dinners, Fall Harvest Meal, Soup and Sandwich, noodle making, etc. Maybe you have a new idea for a fund raiser or a need of the church!

Check out the 2020-2021 booklet for many opportunities to help.

QUILTERS

Our quilting ladies meet on Wednesdays from 9 a.m. to ??? in the sewing room. Questions? Call Margaret Hunter at 419-733-4332.
(Note: We don't meet in the summer months)

BUSY NEEDLES

Our Busy Needles ladies meet in the old kitchen on the 4th Tuesday of each month from 9 a.m. to?? We knot lap robes and comforters for local nursing homes, VA hospitals, Shriners hospitals in Cincinnati and Lexington, Ky., and anyone in need to

keep warm. We are looking for anyone wanting to help with this Mission. If you can thread a needle, we need you. Thanks for everyone who has donated fabric and yarn to this Mission. It is through the donations of many that this program has continued for over 35 years. It only costs the church for the electricity we use in a few short hours. For more information, call Margaret 419-733-4332. *(Note: We don't meet in the summer months)*

DO YOU CROCHET OR KNIT? HELP NEEDED!

Looking for volunteers that are able to help out with making baby afghans. Yarn is available in the sewing room if needed.
Questions? Call Margaret Hunter at (419) 733-4332.

~~*~*~*

WORD OF THANKS TO THE WOMEN'S GUILD

Thank you for the gift card to Varsity Lanes. Once they open, we will have a pizza party.
Many thanks to all of you in our time of sadness.

God bless each of you,
Ron, Margaret and Melinda Hunter



- **To the New Elevator Fund in memory of Maria McCune:**
Neal McCune



Dear St. Paul's UCC,

I sincerely appreciate the grant that was gifted to me from the members of our church. This grant will truly make a difference for me while affording college and other expenses. I am grateful for our loving church and its impact on my heart since I was young. I am confident that God will lead me faithfully through college and more. Our church and high school members will always hold a spot in my heart. Thank you so much St. Paul's, for everything.

Love,

Allie Vanderhorst

~~*~*~*

A special thank you to Melinda "Mindy" Hunter (daughter of Ron and Margaret Hunter) for donating hand sanitizer and cleaning supplies to be used to sanitize the sanctuary. It is very much appreciated.

The COVID Cleaning Crew

~~*~*~*

THANK YOU!

I am really grateful to my church family and everyone who has supported me over the years. I also really appreciate the money I received from the Steva/Kohler Grant Scholarships that will help me continue my education in Music Therapy.

Thankful and grateful as ever,
Leah Strand

~~*~*~*

Dear St. Paul's UCC,

Thank you to the members of your church for the kind gift to Defiance College. Your support is important to our success, and is very appreciated.

Sincerely,

Sheri McCoy, Advancement Services Specialist

~~*~*~*

Dear Pastor Rhonda and the Women's Guild,

Thank you so much for thinking of me with the wonderful graduation gifts. It was truly appreciated!

Meg Moeller

~~*~*~*

Dear St. Paul's UCC,

Thank you so much for your gift to Heidelberg University. The university is indeed grateful to be the recipient of such a kind and thoughtful gift.

Thank you again,

Jen Brickner, Senior Coordinator for Donor Relations

~~*~*~*

Dear St. Paul's and the Mission Endowment Committee:

We truly appreciate your donation to the Harden House! The end is in sight thanks to this loving community.

Thanks again,

Joe and Bev Hurlburt, THE ROC

~~*~*~*

Church family,

We had a big party planned on July 12th for Willis Henschen's 100th birthday on July 8th. Instead, we had a card shower from our church family and a lot of other friends. Beautiful cards (50 cards) and messages.

We thank everyone,
Ruth and Willis Henschen

~~*~*~*

Hello All,

I just wanted to thank the scholarship committee for the nice college scholarship! I will be graduating June of 2021 with my bachelors in Marketing. From there, I plan on continuing my schooling, and I will be pursuing my masters in Communication. I hope that everyone is staying healthy during all of this craziness.

Thanks Again,
Natalie Ginter

~~*~*~*

Dear Church family,

Thank you for the generous scholarship, this will help with furthering my education at The Ohio State University in Columbus. I am pursuing my dream of becoming as Physical Therapist. Thank you for your continuous love and support of me.

Courtney Nuss

~~*~*~*

The Mission and Outreach Committee would like to thank you for all donations for the clean-up kits, God Bless. Pray we have no Fall Floods.

Mission and Outreach Committee

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Auglaize Co. Crisis Center Board, staff and families served through this agency, we would like to thank you for your most generous donations of blankets for our young clients. It is due to your generosity that we can continue to serve families throughout Auglaize County.

Our Deepest Gratitude
Auglaize County Crisis Center

~~*~*~*

Dear St. Paul's Mission and Outreach,
Thank you for your continued support of the Gospel Tent. All sponsors will be carried over to the 2021 Auglaize County Fair (due to Covid this year).

The Auglaize County Agricultural Society and Gospel Tent

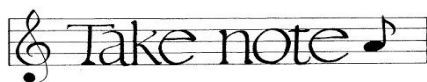
CHURCH INFO

CALL-EM-ALL - Please let the church office know if you are experiencing any problems with the Call-Em-All phone messages. **Also, if you would like to be removed from the calling list, listen to the broadcast and at the end follow their directions to 'opt out' of any future broadcasts - this will remove your number from the calling list.** Thank you!

'BREAKING BREAD' COMMUNITY DINNER - If you would like to make a financial contribution to help with costs for the weekly community dinner, these will be gratefully accepted. Donations can be placed in the Sunday offering plate or mailed to the church office. Please be sure to indicate your name on the envelope if you would like to receive credit on your giving statement. Contributions of #10 canned food are also accepted.

We're sorry to see you go . . .

Earlier in the year, member Tonie Might moved to Troy, Ohio to be closer to family. Now that she has established her residence in Troy, she really misses her church family and has transferred her membership to St. John's UCC there in Troy. If you would like Tonie's address, please contact the church office.



- ☎ If you will be going to the hospital or if someone you know is hospitalized, please call the church office and let us know.
- ☎ Please call the church office with address corrections or if you do not see your **Birthday** or **Anniversary** listed during the correct month. Call 419-394-3811. Thank you!!
- ☎ **Cell phone # for Pastor Rhonda** (563) 210-3508
- 📧 **rhainer@bright.net** – Rev. Hainer's e-mail address.
- 📧 **smucc@bright.net** - church e-mail address. Use this to e-mail articles for the newsletter/messages for the Sunday bulletin.
- 📧 **christianed@bright.net** - Christian Education and Youth Director email address.
- 📧 **cschmidt@stpaulsuccsm.com** to contact Carol Schmidt for the Email Prayer Team Requests.
- 📧 **spmedia@bright.net** – to contact Jim Huckemeyer or Rich Spencer email address.
- 💻 **www.stpaulsuccsm.com** - church web site address and most current worship service videos can be seen here.
- 💻 **Televised worship service**- our worship service here at St. Paul's is shown on **TSC 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.

STAFF OF ST. PAUL'S UCC:

... **Rev. Rhonda Hainer, Pastor**
... **Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant**
... **Amy & Mark Dieringer, Youth Directors**
... **Jim Huckemeyer, Director of Music**
... **Andrea Spencer, Organist**
... **Ann Vogel, Organist**
... **Cynthia Hanover, Pianist**
... **Bob Schumacher, Custodian**
... **Rich Spencer, Audio and Video**
... **Carol Schmidt, Email Prayer Team Contact**
... **Mary Holtzapple, Christian Ed Coordinator**
... **Kim Opperma, Church School Superintendent**
... **Amy Keller, Confirmation Teacher**
... **Kim Opperman, Nursery Supervisor**

Kroger Fund Raiser for the Women's Guild – If you would like to support Women's Guild with the Kroger fundraiser, log on to: www.krogercommunityrewards.com to sign up & register your Kroger Plus card. **NPO# is SK5720**. If you do not use the internet, but would like to sign up, please contact Jane Nuss or Kris Vanderhorst.

EYEGASSES FOR THE NEEDY - collected by the church school classes. Donated glasses should be placed in the basket at the North entrance to the sanctuary.

LIFT CHAIR is available for 'loan' to anyone in the church who might have a need for it. Please call the church office for more information.

ATLAS 600 VISION MACHINE – QUANTITY OF 2 - to assist those who have vision problems with reading books, newspapers, prescription labels, writing personal checks or viewing family photographs - making this possible with video magnifiers.

WALKERS - If you have need of a walker for assistance in getting around, please call the church office. One of our church members has several different type walkers, which are available for loan.

RESTROOM ITEMS: If you have a need for shower chairs, toilet seat elevators and hand-held shower adapters, please call the church office. One of our church members has graciously donated a few of these items.

LAMINATOR - available in the church office. This is used by the Sunday School teachers for classroom projects and activities and by the office staff. We will also laminate items for church members for a fee of \$1.00 per item (**NOTE: maximum size we can laminate is 8 ½ x 11 inches**).

OFFERING ENVELOPES - are distributed by quarterly mailing. Please notify the church office if you are not receiving envelopes and would like to be added to this mailing list. Also.....**PLEASE NOTIFY THE CHURCH OFFICE IF YOU HAVE A CHANGE OF ADDRESS.**

COPIES - if you need copies made of any personal items, you may stop by the church office and we will be glad to make them for you. If it is a large project, it is best to call ahead. **Cost for making copies for church members is 15 cents per copy if you use the office paper or 10 cents per copy if you bring your own paper.**

THE DVD/CD DUPLICATOR in the church office enables us to make multiple copies of the morning worship service. Please call the church office to request a copy. **The charge for duplicating a DVD will be \$2.00 each.** Monthly sets of worship DVD's can also be mailed at a cost of \$10.00 per month. Call the church office for more information.

Opportunities Available

Have you ever considered serving on the church Consistory or has it been a while since you served on Consistory? We are currently looking for new deacons and elders to serve three (3) year terms beginning in January 2021. It is a great way to get to know other members in the church. 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.

2020 CHURCH OFFICIALS

President of Congregation	Luke Leffel
Vice-president of Congregation	Jeff Dieringer
President of Consistory	Ralph Heckler
Vice-president of Consistory	Marsha Landers

2020 Members of Consistory

Elders:	Ralph Heckler	Virginia Burroughs
	Jane Nuss	Marsha Landers
	Joan Leffel	Mary Holtzapple
Deacons:	Becky Rasaweher	Victor Long
	Carol Waesch	Luke Leffel
	Lynn Schmidt	Melinda Silber
	Lynda Hadley	Kellie Kill
	Susan Braun	Linda McDonald
	Jennifer Ginter	Susan Spencer

Trustees: Greg Walter, Kyle Opperman and Larry Kill

FINANCIAL REPORT

June 2020:

Current Fund:

- Budgeted through June 30, 2020 = \$134,364.00
- Received through June 30, 2020 = \$105,851.00
- Expenses through June 30, 2020 = \$114,211.30
- Received through June 30, **2019** = \$112,820.17

Mission Fund:

- Budgeted through June 30, 2020 = \$ 7,500.00
- Received through June 30, 2020 = \$ 7,250.00
- Received through June 30, **2019** = \$ 6,845.00

Status of 2020 Budget:

Current Fund:

- Budgeted through July 31, 2020 = \$156,758.00
- Budgeted through July 19, 2020 = \$151,159.50
- Received through July 19, 2020 = \$119,110.26

Mission Fund:

- Budgeted through July 31, 2020 = \$ 8,750.00
- Budgeted through July 19, 2020 = \$ 8,437.50
- Received through July 19, 2020 = \$ 7,913.00

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 2020:

Current Fund:

- Budgeted through July 31, 2020 = \$156,758.00
- Received through July 31, 2020 = \$105,851.00
- Expenses through July 31, 2020 = \$135,734.31
- Received through July 31, **2019** = \$126,395.19

Mission Fund:

- Budgeted through July 31, 2020 = \$ 8,750.00
- Received through July 31, 2020 = \$ 9,608.00
- Received through July 31, **2019** = \$ 7,330.00

Status of 2020 Budget:

Current Fund:

- Budgeted through Aug. 31, 2020 = \$179,152.00
- Budgeted through Aug. 16, 2020 = \$170,194.40
- Received through Aug. 16, 2020 = \$114,762.00

Mission Fund:

- Budgeted through Aug. 31, 2020 = \$10,000.00
- Budgeted through Aug. 16, 2020 = \$ 9,500.00
- Received through Aug. 16, 2020 = \$10,483.00

MINUTES OF THE JULY 8, 2020 CONSISTORY MEETING IN THE CHURCH SANCTUARY

The regular meeting of St. Paul's UCC Consistory was called to order at 5:59 p.m. by President Ralph Heckler. Pastor Rhonda Hainer opened the meeting with a passage from Philippians Chapter 1, followed by prayer.

Present: *Elders:* Marsha Landers, Jane Nuss, Mary Holtzapple, Joni Leffel, Virginia Burroughs, and Ralph Heckler; *Trustees:* Kyle Opperman, Larry Kill, and Greg Walter; *Deacons:* Carolyn Waesch, Lynda Hadley, Lynn Schmidt, Luke Leffel, Linda McDonald, Melinda Silber, and Kelly Kill. Also present were Pastor Rhonda Hainer, Treasurer, David Dickman, Custodian Bob Schumacher, and Administrative Assistant Carolyn Garrison. Guest Jeanette Tangeman.

Breaking Bread: Jeanette Tangeman

- Jeanette thanked everyone who "took care" of us at the Sunday service (i.e. COVID safety measures).
- After talking with some of the Breaking Bread workers, we will re-open the second week of September with drive through style only. There may be a total of six or seven workers at any given time and they will be spread out.

Christian Ed & Nurture: Mary Holtzapple

- There will be no July meeting. We will meet the first part of August.
- Notices were sent out for positions of a Sunday School Nursery Teacher, Superintendent and someone for the Café. We are in need of someone to be the CE&N Secretary.
- Mary will be mailing out Sunday school registration forms to all families next week.
- There will be no “Café” until maybe the first of the year.
- Gave Sarah Walter permission to purchase study Bibles.
- Adult Forum can still meet in Fellowship Hall and couples can sit together.

Minutes:

- Minutes from the June 4, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Joan Leffel made a motion to approve the minutes. Kyle Opperman seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report: David Dickman

- David reviewed the Financial Report for the month of June 2020. There being no other questions, President Ralph asked to file the financial report for review by the church Administrative Assistant.

President's Report: No report

Pastor's Report: Pastor Rhonda

- Rhonda was very pleased with the beautiful and Christ like way the congregation cared for one another at our first service back in the sanctuary last Sunday with 61 in attendance and all but 2 wore a mask and social distanced safely. She thanked the COVID-19 committee for their ongoing sanitation of the sanctuary, to Ralph Heckler for providing the congregation with the explanation of why we are expecting worshippers to wear masks and other protocol, and reminded all that the service is available through TSC and our webpage and on our Facebook page.

We want people to feel as comfortable as they can in choosing to worship in person or virtually.

- Rhonda shared with the Consistory that she will be on vacation next week with Jeanette Tangeman preaching on the 19th. Jeanette and Pastor Katherine Beckett will be available for pastoral care.

Loose Offering Designation: Ralph Heckler

- President Ralph opened discussion of where to designate the loose offering for the month. After some discussion, Kelly Kill made a motion to designate July and August for Agape. Joan Leffel seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Budget and Finance: David Dickman

- First Financial Bank held a webinar for the Cares Act Grant and how to apply for forgiveness.
- Reminder that the Budget Committee will be meeting the first part of October for the 2021 Budget. Let David know if you have numbers that you want to change and/or add.

Trustees: Greg Walter

- Trustees raised the front lights so as to not block the screen.
- Organ needs a repair done. Ann informed President Ralph that she has been working around the issue and the repair can wait until the organ company comes for the fall tuning.
- Carolyn's office AC unit has not been cooling like it should. New Knoxville Supply has been in twice and they discovered that when the AC unit is on in the Pastor's office, the unit in Carolyn's office quits working properly. NK Supply is looking into the issue.
- Church telephone system died. A new one has been ordered and should be installed soon.

Elders: No Report

Deacons: Lynn Schmidt

- Lynn asked that someone with a key to the office stick around so that the Sunday offering can be locked up.

Christian Mission and Outreach: Lynda Hadley

- Christian Mission and Outreach are requesting charitable checks from their fund to go to The ROC (Hardin House), County Fair Gospel Tent, Agape, and Templed Hills Renovation Fund.

Personnel: No Report

Elevator Committee: Lynda Hadley

- Construction is progressing and going well. Glenn and Bill met with the contractors today. Inspectors have been in and inspections have passed. Brick work is almost done and they are ready to start drywall and insulation. Waiting on the elevator to arrive. We are still in need of around \$40,000 yet.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Jane Nuss asked about having funerals here at the church. After some discussion, Kyle Opperman made a motion to allow funerals, but no meals following. Linda McDonald seconded. Motion carried.
- Pastor Rhonda asked about outside groups meeting at the church such as the Japanese classes, Aspire GED and Cub Scouts. Following some discussion, it was decided that if they meet, it is their responsibility and not ours (i.e. COVID-19).

President Ralph asked if there are any other committees needing to report. There being no further regular business, Kyle Opperman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Marsha Landers seconded. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ralph Heckler, 2020 Consistory President
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant

MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 12, 2020 CONSISTORY MEETING IN FELLOWSHIP HALL

The regular meeting of St. Paul's UCC Consistory was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by President Ralph Heckler. Pastor Rhonda Hainer opened the meeting with a passage from Mathew 14 as a follow-up to last Sunday sermon inviting all to reflect and consider what it means for St. Paul's UCC to 'get out of the boat', as Peter did. She followed this with prayer.

Present: *Elders:* Marsha Landers, Jane Nuss, Joni Leffel, Virginia Burroughs, and Ralph Heckler; *Trustees:* Kyle Opperman, Larry Kill, and Greg Walter; *Deacons:* Carolyn Waesch, Lynda Hadley, Becky Rasaweher, Susan Braun, Jennifer Ginter, Susan Spencer, Lynn Schmidt, Linda McDonald, Melinda Silber, and Kelly Kill. Also present were Pastor Rhonda Hainer, Treasurer, David Dickman, Custodian Bob Schumacher, and Administrative Assistant Carolyn Garrison.

Christian Ed & Nurture: No report due to Mary being ill.

Minutes:

- Minutes from the July 8, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Jane Nuss made a motion to approve the minutes. Lynda Hadley seconded. Motion carried.

Financial Report: David Dickman

- David reviewed the Financial Report for the month of July 2020. There being no other questions, President Ralph asked to file the financial report for review by the church Administrative Assistant.

President's Report: Ralph Heckler

- Ralph presented a sales flyer from Four-U Office Supplies for the sale of a hand sanitizer stand. The consensus was that we are satisfied with what we have.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Rhonda

- Rhonda discussed her sermon “Get out of the Boat” and what God is calling us to in our community.

Loose Offering Designation: Ralph Heckler

- President Ralph opened discussion of where to designate the loose offering for the month. Jennifer Ginter suggested the Auglaize County Council on Aging as they are making “care packages” for those who are unable to come in due to Covid. There were no other suggestions made. Lynda Hadley made a motion to designate the September loose offering to the Council on Aging. Linda McDonald seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Budget and Finance: David Dickman

- The Budget Committee will be meeting in late September for the 2021 Budget. Let David know if you have numbers that you want to change and/or add.
- Bills for the elevator have been coming in, some of them have been larger ones.

Trustees: Greg Walter

- The office A/C has been fixed.
- Trustees are in the process of obtaining quotes to seal both parking lots.
- The new phone system is up and running well.
- Pastor Rhonda thanked Lynda Hadley for the wonderful job she does keeping up with the flower beds around the church.

Elders: Jane Nuss

- Communion went well. Next communion is scheduled for August 30th with the Confirmation class.

Deacons: No report

Christian Mission and Outreach: Lynda Hadley

- The committee has received a Thank You note from The ROC for the donation given in July.

Personnel: No Report

Elevator Committee: Lynda Hadley

- Lynda reviewed the elevator funding through July 31, 2020. \$39,486.00 is still needed. Extra expenses, such as the City requiring us to replace the sewer line to the street and changing the pitch of the roof due to power lines, have been going through the Contingency Fund.
- The elevator is due to be delivered this week. Once the elevator is up and running, we need to think about cleaning the entry area.
- Lynda asked everyone to be thinking about the new “green area” located by the High Street entrance.
- Currently looking at the first weekend in October to hopefully have the “Grand Opening” of the elevator. Lynda asked if we want to dedicate the new screens, sound system and elevator on the same day. It was the consensus of the Consistory to combine the dedications.

Church Directory: Susan Spencer

- Currently we are scheduled to do church directory photos beginning October 30th. Susan asked if we should continue with that date or delay due to Covid? After discussion, Joni Leffel made a motion to delay until 2021 or 2022. Virginia Burroughs seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

New Business:

- Pastor Rhonda, Ralph and Marsha met prior to Consistory meeting to discuss what to do about Sunday School and Rally Day scheduled for August 23rd. There is still a lot to do to get ready. Marsha spoke with Mary Holtzapple and Mary was in agreement to delaying Rally Day until September 20th. This is being done in hopes of seeing what happens with our school system being back in session. Joni Leffel made a motion to delay Rally Day until September 20th. Kyle Opperman seconded the motion. Motion carried.
- Church service time goes back to 10:30 a.m. on August 23rd. Should we open the Nursery or not? After some discussion, it was the consensus of Consistory to have the Nursery

open in case it is needed. Carolyn will do a Call-Em-All regarding the time change, Rally Day postponement and the Nursery being available.

- The question arose about whether we should continue taking the temperature of members when they arrive for services, and do we think that doing so is deterring members from coming to services. After some discussion, it was decided that temperature taking has become more common place with businesses and that it should continue before people enter the sanctuary. There was discussion about the 9:00 a.m. summer service time and thoughts were shared regarding next summer with the consensus being that we will go back to 10 a.m. worship in the summer.
- Mark and Amy Dieringer have discussed doing their High School Sunday School class virtually. Marsha Landers suggested that Sunday School cut from one hour to 45 minutes. Mary Holtzapple is to discuss this with her Christian Education and Nurture Committee and let them decide.
- Because of Covid, Pastor Rhonda suggested some possibilities instead of the children coming forward for the time with children during the service.
- The question was asked about doing two services again. With Covid, this would require “cleaning and sanitizing” between services and that two services would also mean two different congregations gathering for worship which had occurred in the past. The decision was made to reopen the balconies with the start of the 10:30 a.m. service. Pastor Rhonda indicated that our focus will continue to be a blended service of traditional and contemporary.

President Ralph asked if there are any other committees needing to report. There being no further regular business, Kyle Opperman

made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Jane Nuss seconded.
Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ralph Heckler, 2020 Consistory President
Carolyn Garrison, Administrative Assistant



DON'T FORGET

Deadline for articles, announcements, etc. for the **October** issue of The Communicator will be **September 18th** at 9 a.m.



"I downloaded them from a cloud."

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