



The Link

December
2011

St. Paul United Church of Christ
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Thoughts from our Interim Senior Minister, Rev. Joe Pumphrey

Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs."

(John 21:15)

Thanksgiving is a time for giving thanks for God's many blessings. It is also a time for remembering. One Thanksgiving was a special time for my childhood family. It took place in Columbus, Ohio sometime between 1935 and 1940. The exact year I cannot recall since I was between three and eight years of age. No one is now living who can give me the exact year the event took place.

My folks leased a restaurant in 1935. Jobs were scarce and both Mom and Dad knew how to cook and serve hungry people. Dad worked as a short order cook in college and my Mom put herself through college as a waitress in an upscale tea room in Columbus. A college education did not guarantee a job in 1935 any more than in 2011!

The restaurant was not large compared to those of today. It was a "family" enterprise. Mom ran the kitchen, Dad ran the front, and my older brother and I did the dishes by hand. I was so small I had to stand on a chair to reach the sink. (Child labor laws were not in force for family owned businesses.) Our restaurant was located straight across the street, Cleveland Avenue, from the grade school where my brother and I attended.

The grade school principal asked a favor of my dad. He indicated he knew there would be some of the children in the grade school who would not be having much of a Thanksgiving meal, if any, that year. He wondered if Dad and Mom would be willing and/or able to prepare a Thanksgiving dinner for a few of the most desperate children. They agreed to do so. They only asked how many. Preparations were begun. As the day grew near the principal informed my folks that some of the parents of the children asked if it would be possible for them to come with their children to the Thanksgiving dinner. A small dinner suddenly grew large.

A meat company, David Davies, from whom my folks bought their meat, voluntarily offered to provide the turkey for the meal. The mayor of Columbus came to our restaurant and carved the turkey. One of the local newspapers took pictures and wrote an article for the paper. What started as a small act of kindness turned out to be an event that has stuck in my memory for over seventy years.

Pumphrey's Restaurant no longer exists. The last time I visited my old neighborhood the grade school was still in operation. It would be interesting to know if any of those young, hungry children are still alive or even recall that special Thanksgiving Dinner provided so many years ago.

"Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brethren, you did it to me," is thanks enough. Happy Thanksgiving to one and all!

"Rev. Joe" and Elaine

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Saturday, December 24th

5PM Family Worship
with Holy Communion

11PM Candlelight Service
with Holy Communion

Special Music begins at
10:20PM

A Note from Rev. Becky Sunday

Words Matter

Have you ever heard the phrase “what’s in a word?” I recently participated in a family festival sponsored by the Crisis Center of Auglaize County and its partners. My part in the festival was a brief puppet show and children’s activity about the effect words can have on us. At one point, one of the puppets announced to the audience the oft-quoted adage, “sticks and stones may break my bones, but words can never hurt me.” But she knew it wasn’t true.

The truth is that our words have far more power than we are sometimes willing to recognize. Throughout my life I have had many scrapes and bruises. I have come to understand that words have the power to hurt far worse than knocked funny bones or skinned knees. What’s more, I have also come to realize that the pain of words spoken out of hatred or carelessness stays with us much longer than any kind of physical pain.

Far too often we let our words fly before giving much thought to how they might affect others. We use harsh words in moments of anger, forgetting that we can’t simply “take them back” later. Once it’s out there, it’s out there for good. Sometimes we use our words to get a laugh from others, not paying attention to the fact that we might gain our own popularity at someone else’s expense. Our words have the power to cut down dreams, to tear apart families, to crush hope.

But words potentially have another kind of power. Words can have the power to build up, to heal, and to empower. The opening words of our Bible demonstrate the positive potential of words. Our entire universe exists because God spoke words of creative energy and life. As we head into the seasons of Advent and Christmas, we should remember that in Jesus the Christ, the Word of God has come to dwell among us. It is a Word of hope and love, truth and light. It is a Word that speaks grace and mercy—a Word that brings healing to shattered hearts in a broken world. May we remember that if Christ truly dwells within us, our own words can have that same power.

Peace and blessings,

Pastor Becky

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ...And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father’s only son, full of grace and truth.”

—John 1:1, 14



SR. HIGH PARENTS PLEASE NOTE :

The C.I.A. (Christians In Action) Sr. High Youth Group schedule in December and January will vary from our normal LOGOS schedule. The last regular Wednesday meeting for Sr. High youth this fall will be November 30. Sr. Highs **will not meet** on December 7th. For Sr. Highs only, the first Wednesday meeting of the new semester will be February 1, 2012. The youth will meet for three extra weeks at the end of spring semester to make up for sessions missed in December and January. If you have any questions, please contact Pastor Becky.

COME SEE THE NATIVITY STORY (PG) on FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23th



On **Friday, December 23th at 6:30PM**, we will be showing *The Nativity Story* (PG) in Timmermeister Hall. Join us for munchies and a movie celebrating the true meaning of the Christmas season. This is a film for young and old (and everyone in-between!).

Scouting News

Scouting is completing its 101st year.

This has been another spectacular year for the troop. The troop is now up to 50 registered scouts. In November Chris Schwartz was awarded his Eagle Scout and next year will be going on to West Point. Ross Kohler received his Eagle Scout award with bronze palm (meaning he has done work beyond Eagle award). The Troop has 4 current Eagle Scouts, 15 Life Scouts, 9 Star Scouts, 7 First Class Scouts. We have had 196 merit badges thus far this year alone. Eagle scout candidate Jon Eaton finished an Eagle project at Buckland's UCC repairing the parking lot and landscaping this last summer. We travelled as far south as the Shawnee State Forest to as far north as the Sleeping Bear Dunes in Michigan. Most of the boys camped at least 14 nights this year so far with 20 different adult leaders camping.

We are looking forward to 2012. We continue to welcome all young men who would like to grow in scouting. In 2012 it will bring great adventures to include white water rafting and the Smoky Mountains.

YOU ARE ALL INVITED!

Revs. Adrian and Becky Sunday would like to invite you to a Christmas open house on **Saturday, December 17th at their home** (211 N. Main St., Buckland—just south of Buckland UCC). Drop by anytime from **1PM to 5PM**. Becky and Adrian hope to see you there!

PARENTS NIGHT OUT—FRIDAY DECEMBER 16



On **Friday, December 16th** we will once again entertain your kids for a Parents' Night Out. Just drop your kids off at the church from **5PM to 10PM**, and we'll take care of the rest! Enjoy the extra time to shop, take care of last-minute holiday plans, or just

relax a bit during the busy season. Meanwhile, your kids will enjoy a pajama party with activities inspired by *A Charlie Brown Christmas*. Kids will watch the classic film, enjoy snacks, make their own Christmas tree ornaments, sing songs, and play games. All children, infants through elementary ages, are welcome. Sign up in the breezeway or contact Pastor Becky by **Sunday, December 11th** if you would like your children to participate.

5TH SUNDAY CHOIR

I would like to thank everyone who participated in and supported our Fifth Sunday Choir for October. We had a wonderful turnout for our first time performing! It was great to see faces from both the choir and the congregation up on the steps singing together. We are extremely lucky to have a congregation that is so supportive of our choirs and music program, and I am especially thankful to serve in a church that is willing to try new things and create new traditions together. Please join us for our next Fifth Sunday Choir on **January 29th at 9:30AM** in the sanctuary. I hope to see you all there!!

Wendy Schlenker

Be a Prayer Partner in 2012! Partners in Prayer—St. Paul United Church of Christ

A secret intercessory prayer partner is someone committed to intentionally pray for another person every day for the next year (2012).

If you sign up to become a prayer partner, partner names will be drawn randomly by the ministerial staff.

You will be given the name of a person to pray for. That person will not know you are praying for them.

Also, your name will be given to someone else to pray for you. That person will not be known to you. Prayer partner names and relevant information will be delivered during the first week of 2012

Occasional anonymous greeting cards and gestures of friendship to prayer partners are appropriate but not necessary.

A "Partners in Prayer" gathering will be held next January (2013), where secret prayers partners will be revealed.

In addition to praying for your prayer partner, please remember to keep St. Paul UCC, our various congregational ministries, and our wider community in your daily prayers.

Partners in Prayer 2012 Secret Intercessory Prayer Partner Sign-up

Please complete and return your form to the church office or place it in the offering plate during worship by Christmas Sunday, December 25th.

Please print:

Name _____

Street or PO Box _____

Town _____ ZipCode _____

Telephone _____ Birthday _____

Any other information, important dates, or special prayer requests to share with your prayer partner:

Family: _____

Work: _____

Interests: _____

Important dates (and why they are important): _____

Special prayer requests: _____

Pray without ceasing. | Thessalonians 5:17

November Highlights from Church Council

- ◆ Meeting was called to order by President Short @ 6:00 and Pastor Joe led the group in prayer.
- ◆ Secretary's minutes were read and approved.
- ◆ Thank-you note was received from Shirley Baughman for her retirement gift as accompanist for the Cherub Choir.

Treasurer's Report:

- ◆ General Fund as of 11-14-11 was \$16,740.34 with an estimated \$6,000. 00 over the next two Sundays. Total expenses for the month are approximately \$13,813.67 with an estimated income vs. expense total of \$8,926.67 credit.
- ◆ Treasurer's report was accepted.

Hot Topic:

- ◆ Annual Fund OCWM – much discussion was held on the total pledge to be submitted by St. Paul U.C.C. As to date, projected shortage for the 2011 pledge of \$6,000.00 is approximately \$779.25.
- ◆ Kim Klein motioned to keep the same amount of \$6,000.00 for the 2012 year.

Trustee Report:

- ◆ Roof estimate was received from Cotterman's agreeing that repairs are not to exceed \$1825.00. Copy of the estimate and pictures of damage are on file with church secretary.

Elder Report:

- ◆ Search for Financial Secretary Update was given by Linda Unrue. To date, only one resume has been received prior to the council meeting.
- ◆ Deadline for resumes due was set for Wednesday, November 23rd. Search may need to be outside of the congregation.

Deacon Report:

- ◆ Faith Promise mailing was mailed on Thursday, November 10th. Pledge cards have already been received in the mail or the offering plates.

Vice President's Report:

- ◆ A letter was answered from a concerned mother discussed during October's council meeting.
- ◆ Kim has asked for volunteers to help Brenda Wellington clean-up after the Thanksgiving dinner on Sunday.

Pastors' Reports:

- ◆ Joe & Becky's reports were given to the council.

Old Business:

- ◆ Established the Pastoral Relations Committee for Rev. Sunday. The three members on this committee are: Jill Jarvis, Craig Nolte, and Jane Myers.

New Business:

- ◆ There was no new business to discuss.

Adjournment of the meeting and a reminder the next meeting in Monday December 12th 2011 at 6:00 pm. All members of the congregation are welcome.

If you are interested in being on Church Council, please contact Kim Klein @ Lukekim88@yahoo.com or 567-204-1202.

BOY SCOUT COMMUNITY FOOD DRIVE



The Boy Scout Community Food Drive 2011 held on Saturday, October 15th was a great success thanks to the efforts of our local Scouts! A total of 3,262 pounds of non-perishable food was collected and delivered to God's Storehouse and Mercy Unlimited.

A heartfelt THANK YOU to all our Scouts, Leaders, parents, donors, and volunteers, including NHS members, for a job VERY WELL DONE in another effort to help our local struggling families. Both food pantries so appreciate this significant boost food reserves.

THANK YOU CIRCLE ONE!!



SINCERE THANKS to Circle 1 members and all who contributed food and groceries to the special September project "Make a Difference". Your generosity is greatly appreciated by the volunteers as well as the recipient families served by God's Storehouse. Thank you for truly making a difference.

Christian Education News

from MARILYN DEEVER, CE Director

SUNDAY SCHOOL DECORATES COOKIES FOR HEIFER PROJECT

The Sunday school had a lot of fun decorating 200 animal-shaped cookies to "sell" for Heifer Project International. What a sticky mess! But the big news is that \$309.40 was donated for the cookies Sunday morning after worship. We had sheep covered in coconut, bees with bright yellow frosting, chicks that were decorated in yellow, and pink pigs. There were candy sprinkles, mini chocolate chips, and globs of icing but the cookies emerged beautifully decorated and they were delicious!

Thank you to all who donated. Thank you to **Janice Wright** for baking 200 animal cookies. Thanks also to **Cheryl Short, Linda Unrue, Mark Vaughn, and Nancy Buettner** for cleaning tables, washing utensils, and, along with some parents, helping the little ones decorate cookies.

The Sunday school will continue our collection for HPI until the end of the year. An insert is found in this Link highlighting some of what Heifer Project International does throughout the world. Purchasing animals through donations makes a wonderful Christmas present for a friend or relative. My mom's name is Bernice and her nickname is "Bee". One of her friends buys a gift of Honeybees for her each year. Mom is delighted. Her gift includes a bee package, hive and training in the latest beekeeping techniques. Other gifts include farm animals, llamas, geese, fish fingerlings with training in fish farming, and many more. These gifts help provide an impoverished village with food, milk, warm clothing, trees, especially fruit-bearing trees, and income through farming. All of these gifts continue to produce more food and offspring improving the lives for countless families and children.

Let's pass on our faith and charity over and over again where our generosity, kindness, and vision are needed the most.

We will continue to receive donations through the end of the year. Checks may be made payable to St Paul UCC with HPI noted on the check.

For more information or a look at the gift catalog, please see me. Give life-saving gifts this holiday season.

PET TOYS AND TREATS DECORATE OUR TREE

The Sunday school and Logos kids are helping the Auglaize County Humane Society by bringing in the items in the following list and decorating the large Christmas tree in Timmermeister Hall.



Items they need--

- ◆ Paper towels
- ◆ Dry/canned cat food
- ◆ Dry/canned dog food
- ◆ Cat litter
- ◆ Clorox bleach
- ◆ Dawn liquid dish soap
- ◆ Flea spray or drops
- ◆ Pinesol, Windex, etc.
- ◆ Laundry detergent

Items they would like to have--



- ◆ Dog toys—ones they can chew
- ◆ Dog or cat treats
- ◆ Pet beds or furniture
- ◆ Litter boxes
- ◆ Food and water dishes
- ◆ Leashes
- ◆ Monetary donations

If you would like to help us decorate our Christmas tree, please bring any of these items to Timmermeister Hall or the church office. If you would like to give a monetary donation, we will give it to the humane society or we will shop for you. Thanks for your help taking care of the little "critters" that are having a tough time.

Next Christian Education Board will be Monday, December 5th at 6PM. Any further Christmas plans will be discussed plus any upcoming activities as we will not be meeting in January. All are welcome!!

LOGOS BAZAAR UPDATE

Extra special thanks to everyone who helped the Logos Bazaar run so smoothly, from table set up to Saturdays tear down and everyone in between. We couldn't have done it without you. Thanks again!!

Sheri Sherman
Booth Coordinator



THE SECOND SEMESTER OF LOGOS BEGINS JANUARY 18th

Just a reminder..... Logos tuition for second semester will be coming due soon. We are trying to save the cost of sending a reminder notice to everyone. We would appreciate it if you could help us out. Just give me a call if you need the amount owed for 2nd semester or if you need a scholarship. Thanks!



Thank you to all who have paid so far.



I would like to thank each and every person that helped with the cookie and candy walk. Again it was very successful.

We gave up trying to count the cookies. There were so many and we sold them all. If you made cookies or candy, they were all greatly needed and appreciated. If you bought cookies or candy, thank you. Those of you who donated money for supplies helped out tremendously.

My faithful crew members must be thanked personally. They work very hard each year. **Deb Kaeck, Cheri Brandt, Cindy Strasburg, Michelle Smith, and Katelyn Lochard** were in the nursery area sorting and putting cookies on trays. **Alexis Hoelscher, Allison Nolte, and Mikayla Halfhill** put boxes together, worked the crowd by taking samples around, carried trays, and did whatever I needed them to do. **Gary Halfhill** and **Eileen Briscoe** manned the scales and cashier area.

Joy to the World!

Submitted by Cheryl Short

Christmas is just around the corner, especially if you have been in any stores since the 1st of November! With all the goings-on, Sandy Miller, the editor of DevoZine, writes of her way of thinking of Christmas:

“As I look forward to Christmas this year, it is incredible to think about God’s coming to earth as one of us and experiencing life through a human body. The Son of God was born into the world as a vulnerable baby, totally dependent on the love and care of others. Growing up, Jesus felt the thrill of learning and the torment of rejection. He knew the bond of friendship and the string of betrayal. He experienced the full range of human emotion—from sheer joy to agonizing grief. He lived and loved to the fullest; he suffered pain and death. He understands everything we go through because he has been there. Jesus, the Word of God, became flesh and blood so that we might encounter God’s love in a way we could understand. Truly Jesus is Emmanuel, God-with-us!”

Go deeper and read John 1:1-14 “*The Word Became Flesh*”

Huge Thank You!

Elisha Smith and **Kay Wellington** rolled hundreds of buckeyes and **Cindy Strasburg** and **Jim Huckemeyer** dipped those same hundreds of buckeyes. **Gary Halfhill** is the Master Chef of the operation. His family has used this recipe for years.

Last, I would like to thank my brother, **Louie Erb, Jr.** Every year he loans us the scale from Erb Poultry. This scale makes it very easy for us to weigh and figure the cost. The scale does it all.

Well over \$900.00 was made from the Cookie and Candy Walk alone. It goes for such a worthwhile purpose. At the end of the day we all go home very tired, with aching feet and legs, but happy hearts. We are a great congregation. It takes all of us to accomplish this every year.

My sincere thanks to everyone – shall we do it again next year?

Pam Halfhill

THE LOGOS BAZAAR AND COOKIE WALK-- A HOLIDAY PREVIEW

Saturday, Nov 5 was a very festive day filled with lots of shopping and lots of fun!

Our Logos Holiday Bazaar and Cookie Walk was held in conjunction with the Wapakoneta Downtown Holiday Open House.

Lots of hard work and organization took place preceding the Big Day! Fourteen vendors rented 17 tables and their wares were many and varied: Gold Canyon Candles, antiques, handmade items—wreaths, decorations, stitchery items, Thirty-One Purses, Premier Design Jewelry, Longaberger baskets and pottery, The Patisserie (all natural dog treats), and a new “Kid’s Shopping” booth where children could purchase reasonably priced items for family members and friends.

Sheri Sherman thought of everything! She came up with the idea for the “Kids Shopping” booth, personally contacted all the vendors, and set up Timmermeister Hall so that all could display their wares attractively. Sheri also figured out several ways to show hospitality to our vendors. Sheri’s husband, **Harry**, was also a very patient and hard working helper. Thank you so much for the major gift of time and talent!! Sheri has a special “Thank You” to her helpers also in this Link.

A HUGE Thank You to **Pam Halfhill**, who once again, organized the Cookie and Candy Walk. Thanks to all who made and gathered dozens and dozens and dozens of cookies and candies. Please see Pam’s article in this Link.

The Women’s Guild under the direction of **Tami Zwez** prepared and hosted the lunch during the Bazaar. The food was delicious and having the lunch brought many “shoppers” that ate lunch and then shopped at the booths and bought cookies and candy. Many thanks to Tami and her crew!

Thank you to **Craig Nolte** who set up the sound system for Christmas music for everyone’s enjoyment. **Allison Nolte** also worked the sound system as needed during the bazaar.

A special treat was provided by the **Halfhill family**. We received a visit from The Singsation Carolers who sang for us bringing lots of holiday cheer to our bazaar.

The Bazaar profits are \$1481.63. This includes the booth rental and the Cookie and Candy Walk. The Women’s Guild made \$109.00. All of the proceeds from the booth rental and Cookie Walk go for our Logos Program—equipment, supplies, and scholarships. THANK YOU SO MUCH, EVERYONE!!

THANKSGIVING FOOD DRIVE A SUCCESS!

Thank you to everyone who donated food and helped with the Thanksgiving food collection. The St. Paul Confirmation Class worked diligently on this project. They are **Alexis Hoelscher, Katelyn Lochard, Cort Merricle, Allison Nolte, Ben Schroer, Charlie Sutton, Ryan Vaughn, Logan Wiedenbein, Michael Zwez**. The confirmands brought our church’s mission statement to life, and many families in our community will experience Christ’s love as a result. What a great group of kids and what a great growing experience for them! It is wonderful that our congregation was so supportive of their efforts. This support was vital to the success of the project and showed them that our congregation supports and values them.

As a church we collected enough food to put together 86 Thanksgiving dinners which included either a turkey or a ham that was purchased with monetary donations. This is eight more bags than last year. Children from Cammy’s Place Day Care also donated food items which were greatly appreciated. Thank you to **Jona Limbert** for coordinating this project with the day care.

Finally, much thanks goes to **Carol Berg**, Director of God’s Storehouse, who helped with many aspects of this project and to **Laura Kinstle** who came up with the idea so many years ago.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Lori Schroer

Thanksgiving Project Update...

One more day of turkey and dinner bag distribution remains as this is written. Therefore, totals will not be complete until Wednesday, Nov. 23rd.

However, you may be assured that this gift from you, the members of St. Paul Church, has been very warmly received and appreciated by the recipient families.

The Confirmation Class has done an outstanding job of collecting food, preparing the gift bags, transporting turkeys.

For the first time, no additional foods needed to be purchased to complete the project except a few packages of rolls. Special thanks to the youth and to **Lori Schroer** for a superior job!! **Laura Kinstle** will be very happy to know how well they accomplished the mission outreach that she originated.

THANK YOU EVERYONE – for making Thanksgiving a special time for many families in our community, school district and beyond.

God’s Storehouse



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA ORDERS

*Poinsettias may be ordered for display in our sanctuary at Christmas time by filling in the attached order blank and putting it, with your check, in the Sunday offering plate, or mailing it to the church office. The flowers can be ordered in either red or white and will be encased in **GOLD** foil with a **RED** bow. They will be delivered to the church by Sunday, December 18th. There will be a notice in the bulletin acknowledging all memorial poinsettias. All flowers may be picked up after the Christmas Eve services.*

All orders are due by SUNDAY, December 11th and must be accompanied by a check made out to St. Paul UCC.

Poinsettia Order Form

Name _____

Phone _____

	Quantity	Red or White	Total
6 1/2" pot at \$ 8.99 ea.	_____	_____	_____
7 1/2" pot at \$12.99 ea.	_____	_____	_____
8 1/2" pot at \$15.99 ea.	_____	_____	_____
		<i>Order Total</i>	_____



The dedication in the bulletin should read:

(Example: In memory of _____ (or use: in honor of; in celebration of) and given by _____.)

Mail to: St. Paul UCC PO Box 147 Wapakoneta, OH 45895 PH(419) 738-2215

WHAT IS YOUR COST OF LIVING?

By Laura Kinstle

It is quite normal for people living in today's economy to think about their cost of living. Maybe we live according to our income or when we are tempted to use our credit cards to often, we tend to live beyond our means.

It is the every popular competitiveness of wanting to keep up with the Joneses. We see our neighbors or relatives have a new car or the latest electronic equipment. And, yes, the children beg to have the same as their friends so you must buy a Wii and a laptop computer.

But, doesn't this constant competition and living beyond your means start to take a toll on you? Do you ever get to the place that buying material things does not bring the happiness you thought it would? I think if you look at yourself closely, you would have to answer yes.

As a Christian, you don't have to be in competition with anyone. Your cost of living is what you portray yourself to your family and others. And, you first must learn to love yourself as Jesus loves you no matter what imperfections you may have. And those imperfections will enable you to have feeling for others and to love them and treat them kindly.

I came to that hard realization today when my husband and I took my ailing dachshund Hannah to the veterinarian.

I am in a wheelchair and my husband was so

considerate of me that he knew I needed to go along with Hannah. She follows me wherever I go and keeps a constant watch over me. In fact, we also took our other dachshund, Minnie along because she is so close to Hannah she can't be alone without her.

We knew Hannah was sick by the constant coughing and her advanced age. We had rescued her from the animal shelter almost four years ago. She was badly abused and we decided to give her a good home for as long as she lived. Of course we love to spoil our dogs and treat them as our children since we will never have any of our own. And, dogs have that unconditional love that gets you through your own life's ups and downs.

When the veterinarian showed us the x-ray today that her heart was enlarged, her airway restricted to a very narrow margin and she had severe bronchitis, I realized that life should not be measured by what we wish to acquire but what we already have. Hannah may only have a month or so to live, but I can give her as much love as anyone else can even though I am confined to a wheelchair. And, I can pray for her lying down in bed as well as walking.

What matters most in life is living each day to its fullest loving those who mean the most to you. So, don't be tempted to let your cost of living mean more to you than living in a Christian way for those you love.

2011-2012 Tri-County Dartball Schedule

December 8, 2011

- ◆ Jackson North at Jackson Twp
- ◆ Anna at Clay
- ◆ Harvest Baptist at Moulton
- ◆ Wapakoneta Salem at Montra
- ◆ Botkins at Jackson South
- ◆ Wapak First Methodist at Wapak UCC

December 22, 2011

- ◆ Botkins at Anna
- ◆ Wapak UCC at Moulton
- ◆ Wapak Salem at Jackson North
- ◆ Jackson South at Clay
- ◆ Montra at Jackson Twp
- ◆ Wapak First Methodist at Harvest Baptist

December 15, 2011

- ◆ Montra at Botkins
- ◆ Wapak UCC at Jackson South
- ◆ Wapak First Methodist at Wapak Salem
- ◆ Clay at Harvest Baptist
- ◆ Moulton at Jackson Twp
- ◆ Jackson North at Anna



December 29, 2011

- ◆ Anna at Wapak UCC
- ◆ Moulton at Wapak Salem
- ◆ Jackson North at Jackson South
- ◆ Clay at Montra
- ◆ Jackson Twp at Wapak First Methodist
- ◆ Harvest Baptist at Botkins

Wishing you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year

*From Your Friends at
St. Paul United Church of Christ*



Our Church Family

SYMPATHY



Our deepest sympathy and condolences to **Edith Rivers and her family** on the passing of Edith's sister-in-law, Doris Frey, who passed away on Saturday, November 5, 2011.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to **Pat Brown and her family** on the passing of Pat's mother, Norma Jeanne Lontz, who passed away on Sunday, November 6, 2011.

Our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family and friends of **Jane Pitthan Keller**, who passed away on Sunday, November 20, 2011.


BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENT



Congratulations to **James and Kerri (Hunter) Smith** on the birth of a son, **Rylan Knox**, born November 21, 2011 at 4:13PM and weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. He is welcomed home by big sisters **Makenna** and **Addison**.

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

Congratulations to **Drew Dorner** who recently passed the bar exam and is working in Columbus. Drew is the grandson of **Helen Brown** and the son of **Jeff and Kay Dorner**.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY
to our
St. Paul Youth!

December

✓ Ezra Wellington	12/03/05
✓ Seth Andrus	12/05/95
✓ Lauren Miller	12/05/06
✓ Caleb Zwiebel	12/10/94
✓ Nathan Schroer	12/12/98
✓ Addison Smith	12/12/07
✓ Landon Brandt	12/23/04
✓ Chandler Kaeck	12/26/95
✓ Caleb Schlenker	12/26/99
✓ Kurt Schlenker	12/26/99
✓ Olivia Allemeier	12/27/06
✓ Cole Zwiebel	12/29/98
✓ Braden Fisher	12/29/04



→ **If you have additional information to share regarding our church members, please call the church office at (419) 738-2215 or email kristina@stpaulucc.com.**

→ **To save the church postage, consider receiving your monthly Link by email. It will be in full color! Please send your request to kristina@stpaulucc.com. THANK YOU!!**

Meetings and Events

BOOK CLUB MEETING



The next book club meeting will be held in the Multipurpose Room on **Tuesday, December 13th at 7PM**. They will discuss the book, *“Three Wishes”* by Barbara Delinsky. If you need a copy of the book or more information, please contact Hannah Kohler in the church office at (419) 738-2215. Anyone is welcome to attend.

IN STITCHES— NO MEETING IN DECEMBER

In Stitches will **NOT** be meeting during the month of December but will resume meeting after the first of the year. Please see next month’s newsletter for further details.



BLOODMOBILE

American Red Cross will be here on **Thursday, December 15th at 11:30 AM until 5:30 PM**.



To schedule your time please call **1-800-GIVE-LIFE**. Walk-ins are welcome.

WOMEN’S GUILD

Women’s Guild will be meeting on **Tuesday, December 13th at 12noon** at Coffey Cup. Please bring a small gift for an exchange and a personal care item for God’s Storehouse. All women of the church and their friends are encouraged to attend.

CIRCLE ONE

Circle One will be meeting in the multi-purpose room at **12noon on Thursday, December 1st** for their Christmas lunch. Please bring a dish to pass, white elephant and something to share. All are always welcome.

CIRCLE THREE

Circle Three will be meeting at Coffey Cup at **11:30AM on Thursday, December 15th**. All are welcome.

PARTNERS IN PRAYER POTLUCK— SUNDAY, JANUARY 8, 2012

There will be a potluck luncheon in Timmermeister Hall on **Sunday, January 8th** following the 10:15 worship service for those who participated in St. Paul’s Partners in Prayer program in 2011 and their families. We have prayed for one another for an entire year! Now it’s time to reveal our prayer partners, share some fellowship with each other, and give thanks for what God has done in our midst. Please bring table service and a dish to share.

HAPPY NEW YEAR



December 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 12PM Circle One for Christmas lunch	2	3 Hometown Holiday Celebration **Hot dogs & refreshments being served 10AM—2 PM in Fellowship Hall
4 8:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:00AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship 6:00PM Companions	5 6 PM C.E. Board Mtg	6 West Central Ohio Autism Committee 6:30—8PM	7 Last Night of LOGOS 6:15PM Cherub Choir 6:15PM Daughters of Christ 6:30PM Bell Choir 7:30PM Chancel Choir Becky—out at Cleveland Youth Adult Leadership →	8 WCL Poinsettia Pickup in Timmermeister Hall 9-5PM	9	10
11 8:15AM Worship 9:00AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship 6:00PM Companions	12 6 PM Church Council	13 12PM Women's Guild at Coffey Cup	14	15  American RedCross 11:30AM—5:30PM Bloodmobile 1:30PM Circle Three	16 Parents Night Out 5—10PM 	17 Revs. Adrian & Becky Open House at their parsonage in Buckland 1—5PM
18 8:15AM Worship w/ Holy Communion 9:00AM Sunday School 10:15AM Worship 6:00PM Companions	19	20 7 PM Book Club "Three Wishes" by Barbara De- linsky 7—8:30PM Suicide Prevention Coalition	21	22	23 Church Office Closed 7PM Nativity Story 	24 5PM Family Worship AND 11PM Candlelight Service 
25 Merry Christmas!! 10:15AM Unified Worship 	26 Church Office Closed	27	28	29	30 Loaves and Fishes	31 A HAPPY NEW YEAR 