



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



St. Paul's Church

"The Light" Newsletter
November 2019 Edition

A message from Pastor Paul Forrey ~

Installation Service 2:00pm Sunday November 10

Patricia and I are excited for the upcoming Service of Installation on November 10! This service will be our opportunity as a congregation to seal our covenantal partnership. Rev. Carl Robinson, SONKA Designated Minister, will be present to confirm and celebrate the covenant between a local church and a newly called pastor and teacher and to reaffirm the covenantal relationship of all the churches in the association. Pastors and members from other area UCC congregations will join us for the service to participate in the covenant.

During our regular service in the morning of November 10, we will explore the nature of “covenant” and examine the specific elements of the covenant between a pastor and a congregation in the UCC. If a covenant is formed through mutually expressed promises, then what are the promises expressed between a pastor and a congregation? What are the promises expressed between a UCC congregation and the regional association? We will take a close look at these promises during our November 10 morning service so that we are prepared that afternoon to express those promises in good faith.

At a Service of Installation, the newly installed pastor typically designates a recipient for the offerings collected during the service. I have chosen to designate the offering to Our Church’s Wider Mission (OCWM) of the UCC. OCWM supports a diverse range of local, national, and global ministries of our denomination. Our congregation, as do most UCC congregations, supports OCWM through our mission budget each year.

Some of the ministries supported by OCWM include:

The Office of General Ministries. The Office of General Ministries includes the office of the President and General Minister of the denomination, manages the biennial meeting of General Synod, and houses the denominational Publishing, Identity and Communications office.

Local Church Ministries supports the local church in many ways, including through the work of the Ministerial Excellence, Support, and Authorization Team (MESA). MESA supports Authorized Ministers (Ordained, Licensed and Commissioned) in our denomination from the first inklings of their calling through a healthy retirement. MESA’s ministry is a collaborative effort intertwined with Conferences, Associations, and Committees on Ministry. MESA provided the resources and process by which the St. Paul’s UCC Search Committee and I made contact and journeyed together through the ministerial search process.

Local Church Ministries also supports pastors, lay leaders, and congregations through the work of the Congregational Vitality and Discipleship Team and provides quality resources pastors and worship leaders.

Wider Church Ministries most widely known for the mission outreach work of the UCC because of our disaster ministries. This arm of the church also serves congregations and other settings of the church who strive to discover how to become more inclusive.

Wider Church Ministries also supports the work of Global Ministries, a UCC-Disciples of Christ partnership that promotes a vision of justice and peace around the world.

The vision of **Justice and Witness Ministries** is of a more just, peaceful and compassionate world that honors all of God's creation but leaders are needed throughout our churches and communities to help share, pursue and achieve this vision.

Patricia and I hope that you will plan to participate in the November 10 Service of Installation and will generously share resources with Our Church's Wider Mission.

Queen City Bronze Concert ~ 4:00pm Sunday December 1

Plan an afternoon with Cincinnati's premier handbell ensemble playing a mix of favorite holiday music!



CHURCH TIDBITS

THANK YOU

I wanted to thank you so much for the wonderful luncheon for my father's memorial service. There was enough left over to feed us most of the week! I will forever be thankful for your preparation, service and fellowship!
From the bottom of my heart....Melinda Schamer

I am putting some historical documents together for St. Paul's and am in need of pictures of activities or groups. The older the picture the better, but I can use pictures from any decade!



If you can identify the people in the picture and the event – please write on a separate paper. I can copy the pictures and give the originals back to you.

Thank you,
Evelyn Dietz

From: St. Paul's Church: Program for Child Care booklet ~ 1965

Yet, St. Paul's Church prides itself upon the fact that we are a family church. It is wonderful to see families sit together and worship together –and the response to the Junior Sermon is a 'vision' as to what the future can hold for Christ's Mission through the community of St. Paul's Church.

Christmas Around the World Party

St. Paul's Christian Education Committee is hosting a Christmas Around the World Party for children **preschool through 5th grade on Saturday Dec. 14 at 10 to 11:30 a.m.**

We're taking a "flight" around the world where children will learn about Christmas traditions in other cultures: from Sweden to Mexico, Germany to Australia. At each stop of their trip, they'll get to make crafts, enjoy games, learn songs, taste treats, and have an awesome time.

This event is open to all St. Paul's youngsters, their friends, family members and other children in our community. If you're able to let someone on the CE committee know how many children in your group will be attending that would be great as we plan out these activities. If you're planning on sharing this experience with toddlers (that may want a little extra attention), it may be best if you plan on attending as well.

We look forward to seeing you there.

White Gift Season Is Near

If you are new to our congregation and don't know what White Gift is, I'll explain. Each year we contact the Campbell County School system for help in learning of families who need help during the Christmas holidays. They send us the age, sex, sizes, and preferred toys for each of the children in the families we are given. Starting Sunday, November 24th this information along with instructions will be placed on Christmas symbols for each child. Each child in a family has the same symbol, identifying the child and the family. Church members look at the symbols, decide which ones they want, sign a sheet of paper next to the symbols they take, go shopping for the clothing or toys on their symbols, wrap them, and bring them to church on White Gift Sunday December 15th. We usually adopt 10 to 15 families and each child usually has 3 or 4 symbols, so there are plenty for everyone. Symbols are available this year November 24th, December 1st, and December 8th. The gifts are checked off and boxed for pick up.

We also give each family boxes of food, cleaning items, and personal hygiene items. Most of the food comes from 2 of our elementary schools, who have a Thanksgiving Food Drive. We supplement those items where needed. We will pack the boxes with food and gifts at 9 am on Monday, December 23rd downstairs in the fellowship hall, and that evening the families will come to pick them up in time for Christmas.

What can you do? Check out the symbols to decide which gifts you would like to buy. Volunteer with Mindy Connell to pack boxes of food (You could even see if she needs help before then.) and volunteer with me to check off gifts, do a little supplemental wrapping, and help load cars that evening when the families come. White Gift is St. Paul's family helping other families.

God is smiling!

Charlene Rogers

A Note from the Worship Committee

We appreciate having the fresh flowers on the altar to honor or remember loved ones. For several years we have asked those who request the flowers to donate \$30.00. The actual cost of the flowers is \$60.00. If you would like to purchase flowers to honor or remember someone, we are asking that your donation be closer to the actual cost if possible.

History Corner: Conclusion to St. Paul's Constitution 1923

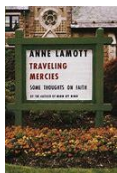
All concerned should bear in mind that mutual consideration and good sense will go far to ensure harmony in ascertaining the will of the assembly. Those who have a point to carry can best do by courtesy and reasonableness. People can be led where they refuse to be driven. Light is a better guide than heat. And let those who love discussion remember that "brevity is the soul of wit".



To the women of St. Paul's – thank you so much for supporting the unique needs of middle school girls at CCMS. Because of your generosity, we collected 207 pairs of underwear! Thank you for your thoughtfulness,
Your Mission Committee

Upcoming Events

Fall Book Club - November 4 & 18
6:30-7:30 in the Parish House
Traveling Mercies by Anne LaMott



As the author puts it, "My coming to faith did not start with a leap but rather a series of staggers." At once tough, personal, affectionate, wise, and very funny, *Traveling Mercies* tells in exuberant detail how Anne Lamott learned to shine the light of faith on the darkest part of ordinary life, exposing surprising pockets of meaning and hope.

Movie Night - November 3 "The Public" PG-13
An act of civil disobedience turns into a standoff with police when homeless people in Cincinnati take over the public library to seek shelter from the bitter cold.
Dinner 4:30, Movie 5:30 & discussion



Women's Fellowship Opportunity

Some of the ladies from the former Women's Guild would like to meet for lunch once per month. We will meet the first Monday of each month beginning December 2nd at 11:00 a.m. at O'Charley's Restaurant. All ladies are invited to share in this fellowship!

Caroling – December 8th time TBA



Christmas Skit

December 15
During worship

Practices during Sunday
School time

THOSE WHO SERVE IN NOVEMBER

Liturgist

Nov. 3 Karey Thomas
10 Marion Gosney
17 Debbie Fowee
24 Amity Kukla

Coffee

Nov. 3 Debbie Yeager
10 The Hayslettes
17 Tim Ash
24 Patricia Ross

Acolyte

Nov. 3 Logan Hayslette
10 Shae Weinel
17 Mitchel Haddix
24 Greyson Ballinger

Communion Set-up: Nov. 3 - Mindy Connell & Audrey Thomas

Ushers:

Nov. 3 10:30 Asbury Turner, Jim Miller,
Gary Sperry and Debbie Fowee

Nov. 10 10:30 Leah McDonald and Cameron McDonald

Nov. 17 10:30 Marion & Dorothy Gosney

Nov. 24 10:30 Shawn Hayslette & Pat Schuchter

IF YOU CANNOT MAKE YOUR ASSIGNED DATE, PLEASE TRADE
WITH SOMEONE ELSE AND LET THE CHURCH OFFICE KNOW

NOVEMBER

Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Terri Lewis	2 Ron & Joanne Laws
2 Mike Dietz	26 years
2 Hannah Winstel	
3 Helen Bain	7 Ralph & Anna Olson
3 Janice Painter	60 years
5 Mary Weinel	
7 Ben Losey	11 Mike & Evelyn Dietz
10 Nick Snelling	17 years
12 Pat Schuchter	
14 Kelsey Miller	11 Jim & Peach Webb
15 Jeanne Greiser	41 years
17 Pat Markus	
17 Benjamin Franzen	24 Asbury & Carole Turner
21 Eric Bihl	55 years
21 Lindsey Buechel	
21 Benjamin Knipper	29 Lance & Judy Munninghoff
23 Everett Harrison	5 years



PRESENT: President-Connie Ballinger, Vice President-Daryl Knauer, Recording Secretary-Debbie Yeager, Treasurer-Sandy Smith, C.E.-Evelyn Dietz, Missions-Karen Zimmerman, Worship-Fred Losey, and Pastor Paul Forrey.

Connie opened the meeting and Pastor Paul led us in prayer. Council recited the Council Covenant together.

- 1) **SECRETARY'S REPORT**---Minutes from the August meeting were reviewed. A motion to accept the minutes as written was made by Fred Losey and seconded by Daryl Knauer. Motion carried.
- 2) **TREASURER'S REPORT**—August 2019 Expense and Temporary Accounts were reviewed. Motion to accept reports and pay bills was made by Evelyn Dietz and seconded by Daryl Knauer. Motion carried.
- 3) **PASTOR'S REPORT**---Pastor Paul reported the following:
 - He thanked the leadership committees for their work and faithfulness to the church's mission.
 - He is looking into two long-term projects:
 - 1) **Church Management Software Solution**—After examining several, he is most interested in one that is web-based. He and Craig will begin showing this solution to our leadership committees for their input in the discussion.
 - 2) **Website Redesign**—He and Craig are at the beginning stage of redesigning the Church's website. Craig is exploring design options and Paul is focusing on content. Currently our webpages present information the audience for which is ourselves. Our website should present information for the intended audience of newcomers exploring our church.
 - The UCC clergy group is planning a pulpit exchange for Sept. 22, Sept. 29, and Oct. 6. He will only participate one week. The sermon theme for the series is Living Confidently. Pastor Paul will be preaching at another UCC church on Sept. 29, and Rev. Keith Haithcock from St. John's UCC in Bellevue will be at St. Paul's that day. There will be a picnic for the participating churches at Highland Hills Park on Oct. 6.
 - Pastor Paul's ministerial status has been transferred to SONKA. He is waiting to hear about possible dates for his installation.
 - People have asked about donations for hurricane relief. The UCC is focused on long-term recovery, not immediate relief.

- 4) TRUSTEES' REPORT--- Fred reported the following:
- The primary Sunday School classroom is being used as the "lab" room as the remodeling of the lower level progresses and work is going well.
 - Drains on an air conditioner clogged and caused some issues in the sacristy.
 - The flower beds have been weeded.
 - The parking lot repaving project is finished.
 - Darlene's computer had to be replaced after being damaged in a storm.
 - Ben has reminded the Trustees that we need a new snowblower.
- 5) CHRISTIAN EDUCATION---Evelyn reported the following:
- Book Club will begin on Oct 7. The book is *Traveling Mercies* by Anne Lamott.
 - Movie Night will be Nov. 3. The movie is *The Public*, filmed in Cincinnati.
 - Caroling will be on Dec. 8.
 - The children's Christmas skit will be on Dec. 15.
- 6) MISSIONS COMMITTEE---Karen reported the following:
- There were four volunteers from St. Paul's at HONK on Saturday, Aug. 17. The next date is Nov. 16.
 - Our last volunteer date for Family Promise was Aug. 20.
 - Isaiah Ministry is the last Saturday of each month.
 - Thank you to Evelyn Dietz for gathering and delivering over 200 pairs of new girls' and women's underwear for a special need at CCMS Resource Center.
 - We are looking at possible day trips for mission trips in 2020.
 - Mindy Connell is coordinating our end of the year giving with the racetrack.
 - Charlene Rogers is coordinating White gift Sunday in December.
 - The committee is currently revising the Mission Opportunities brochure.
- 7) WORSHIP COMMITTEE---Fred reported the following:
- We are making preparations for All Saints Sunday.
 - We have purchased 3 UCC brochures to include in our visitor giftbags.
 - Carespring Ministry will begin again on Sept. 15 at 2:00. Evelyn Kiefer is the contact person.
 - Usher training will be held on Sunday, Sept. 22 at 9:30.

- The committee's budget will be discussed at the October meeting.

8) STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE—

- August giving---\$12,685.00 (includes profit from Summer Social)

9) VICE PRESIDENT'S REPORT---Daryl reported the following:

- In a meeting with Pastor Paul and Daryl, Ben Losey said it would be helpful if he had a credit card to purchase supplies and fuel as needed. Daryl will contact BB&T to get a card for Ben. He will provide Sandy with receipts for purchases.
- Pastor Paul has asked that the Staff-Parish Team be re-established. Daryl provided council members with a hand-out which explained the formation, purpose, and responsibilities of this team. Evelyn Dietz, Jeanne Greiser, and Karen Zimmerman have agreed to serve on this team along with Daryl, as Vice President and Council representative. Fred made a motion that council affirm the re-establishment of the Staff-Parish Team with the members who have agreed to serve and the vice-president. Sandy seconded and motion carried. The team's first meeting with Paul will be Sept. 16.

10) PRESIDENT'S REPORT—Connie reported the following:

Unfinished Business

- Council job descriptions are due and Connie has received several.
- Budgets are due by the October meeting. The budget will be discussed at the November meeting and the budget will be approved by Council to be presented to the Congregation for approval at the December Congregational Meeting.

Next Council Meeting is Oct. 8, 2019 at 7 PM in the Parish Conference Room. Evelyn Dietz motioned to adjourn; Sandy Smith seconded. Motion carried. Meeting ended with Council reciting the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Yeager, Recording Secretary

St. Paul's Church

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