

St. Paul's News

September 2013



From the Pastor's Pen:

St. Paul's,

It's hard to believe that summer is already over and fall is here. As we enter the time of year when the leaves begin to change and the weather cools we are also at a time of the year when we think about starting new things. So I thought that it would be a good time to remind you of some existing opportunities here at St. Paul's and let you know about some new things starting.

Thanks to the leadership of Chris Armstrong with assistance from Kathy Daniel we started a prayer card ministry this summer and are sending cards to those in the congregation that we are keeping in prayer. Many of you have already gotten into the habit of signing the cards during coffee hour in the fellowship hall. A reminder that if you know somebody who would appreciate a card to let the church office know.

With the beginning of September many of our Christian Education opportunities will be restarting. Sunday School begins September 1st. The Adult Class will begin with a Max Lucado study entitled, "Grace: More Than We Deserve, Greater Than We Imagine." All are invited to join in Sunday School at 11:15 every Sunday.

In addition, we will also be beginning a weeknight Bible Study on Mondays at 7:00pm. This study will begin on September

9th and we will begin with gospel of Mark. Bring you bibles and a willingness to dig deep in the word of God. More information about this study will be available in the bulletin in the upcoming weeks.

If you have any questions about these opportunities or any ideas for anything that you would like to try please feel free to let me know. Looking forward to moving in the next few months with you.

Peace,

Pastor Hannah



Sharing Kitchen

The summer school vacations and the continued difficult economic times here in Tiffin are reflected in July activities at the Sharing Kitchen. During the month 570 adults were served as well as 134 children, a total of 704 guests. This is one of the busiest months in several years. In the same period in 2012 a total of 454 persons were served and in 2011 there were 516 guests. Meals were prepared and served by 142 volunteers in the 9 days the Kitchen was open.

Special Birthdays *September*

21 – Kathryn White

If you are over 80 and would like your birthday listed, contact the church office.



Prayer Focus

It is difficult to write this month as almost all of the concerns are “repeats.” The Mid-east war situation is particularly distressing. Egypt is almost in civil war as I write. Over 1000 Islamists have been killed and thousands more injured. The number grows daily and no solution is on the horizon. Please pray for all the Egyptian people. Prayers are especially needed for the Christians. Neither side likes them and they are being killed and churches destroyed. The Syrian struggle continues with much blood shed. At the present time there are 550,000 refugees living in Jordan with similar numbers in Lebanon and Turkey plus several thousand in Kurdish Iraq. More are Pray God internally displaced, some living in caves. Pray God to show these peoples there are other ways to resolve differences than killing.

Doctors Without Borders have left Somalia after 18 years because of continuing violence there. In Iraq last month 1057 were killed and 2500 wounded in that civil strife. Pray too for success in the Israeli-Palestinian peace talk and the end of the sporadic violence there.

Another continuing concern is the abuse of children in the US. The F.B.I. in a recent three day national sweep arrested 159 men charged with forcing 105 teenage girls, some as young as 13, to work as prostitutes. The most arrests were next door in Detroit. In Indiana 166 arrests of producers of child pornography have been made. On a happier note, Ohio is creating a safe shelter in Toledo for trafficked runaways. Incredible isn't it?

Hunger in the US remains a persistent problem. The AP reported that 46.2 million or 15% of the population are living in poverty. A majority of Americans reaching

age 60 have experienced some form of economic insecurity—unemployment, poverty or welfare use. Pray that we better use our resources to alleviate these conditions.

Prayers of thanksgiving for doctors in Israel treating over 150 Syrian casualties discreetly spirited across the hostile frontier for often lifesaving treatments. Although Israel and Syria have long been in a state of war but the treatment costing hundreds of thousands of dollars is paid for by the Israeli government.

Prayers for the many suffering natural disasters. The effects of floods, drought and wildfires continue in the US. In India floods have killed 580 with over 5000 missing.

And prayers for the teachers and students as schools open. Prayers for our Church School as we the winter schedule begins. And prayers of thanksgiving for those who made One Room Sunday School possible.

Leanne Wolff
Church and Society



Lunch Bunch



(includes women **and men**)
September 24, 2013 at
noon – “Kathy’s” Corner in
Arcadia – Kathy Daniel is
the contact person – (419-448-8418)

Table Favor Committee

Supplies are being collected to assemble September table favors. Monday, September 9, 1:30 pm has been chosen as our work day. Congratulations for nine years of crafting from my faithful helpers!

-Kathy Daniel, Coordinator

ST. PAUL'S IN MISSION

Our next Missions committee meeting will be on Thursday, September 12, 7:00 pm. This will be a time of planning of our fall projects and deciding how to share duties with new members. We are approaching a busy season and there will be many ways to support Missions at St. Paul's UMC.

Tiffin University and Heidelberg University students are back in town. Both universities have scheduled Community Days where Pastor Hannah will represent St. Paul's church with a table of goodies as hand-outs and advertisements to encourage them to attend worship with us. TU students will have attended Community Day on August 22. Heidelberg students look forward to doing that on September 10. Some of our Missions Committee members have baked cookies to share with these students.

We continue to appreciate support from the congregation as donations come in on Third Sundays for First Call for Help. These funds are used to help Tiffin area residents who are in need of assistance.

Summer Sunday School children have been collecting "Nickels for Nets"! Their jar will be emptied soon and we will see how well they have done.

World Wide Communion Sunday will be October 6th. Special envelopes will be included in that Sunday's bulletin. Your donations will support scholarships for racial and ethnic students in the United States and international students will have the opportunity to attend college. Thank you for your giving!



THANK YOU!! To Kyle Paxson and Kendullin Fourtney for their leadership as VBS Directors in July. What a good job they did carrying out the VBS theme, "Everywhere Fun Fair"! All participants, regardless of age, enjoyed this week-long experience (in spite of hot & humid weather) to learn how to be a good neighbor. For all the decorating, VBS fun and un-decorating, THANK YOU! To all who helped in any way, THANK YOU! We are blessed by your presence!

Dear St. Paul's Administrative Council and congregation members,

I want to thank you for helping me take advantage of Taylor's church-matching grant. College is becoming increasingly expensive and students usually need help paying for it. I believe that Taylor is the place God wants me to continue my schooling. Students, professors, and faculty members have shown me God's love and I have grown in my beliefs while attending Taylor. I like my friends and my major, and I'm glad that my home church continues to help me further my education and growth. Thank you for allowing me to ask for donations and for your generous contributions. May God bless you and keep you.

Thank you,
Nathan Armstrong



Save The Date! St. Paul's will be doing a new pictorial directory this fall. The dates to have your picture taken are going to be September 23rd and 24th from 3:00-8:00pm. There is no cost to have your picture taken for the directory; the only cost occurs if you chose to buy pictures. So start practicing your smiles!



Sunday School begins on Sunday, September 1st at 11:15 am. There are classes for everyone! Feel free to your coffee hour snacks to class with you. Here are the class locations and teachers for the 2013-2014 program year:

Pre-K – Kindergarten: taught by Melody Woessner and meets in the room by the pastor's office.

Grades 1-3: taught by Kyle Paxson and meets in the Helen Bean Room

Grades 4-6: taught by Angie McGinnis and meets in the room next to the junior church room

Grades 7-12: taught by Hillary Chapman and meets in the Richard Spencer Youth Room

Adults: taught by Pastor Hannah and meets in the Parlor.



Newsletter deadline for October Newsletter is September 19th

Please **email or place on disk** in MS Word format (.doc) to amynuala@yahoo.com



In the fall, we will be meeting on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month. The first meeting of the new school year will be on Sunday, September 15th in the Richard Spencer Youth Room at 6:30pm. At this meeting we will brainstorm new ideas for this coming school year and plan the next few months' activities. Youth Fellowship is open to anyone in grades 6 – 12. Contact Amy or Rob Ochier with any questions or concerns.



APPLE DUMPLINGS are BACK!!!!

The Alive group is bringing back this popular fundraiser this fall! Apple Dumplings will be available for sale after the Heritage Festival parade, Saturday, Sept. 21st from noon until supplies last.

Workdays are scheduled for 8/31, 9/7, and 9/14 from 8am – 4pm. Everyone is welcome to help for a little or as much as you are able. Donations of ingredients are also needed. Please contact Angie McGinnis or Carrie Hawk with questions or concerns.