



St. Paul United Methodist Church- August 2012 Newsletter

EMPOWERED by the love of Jesus Christ , St. Paul United Methodist Church will open doors of service, justice and peace to the world, and windows into a life in Christ for all people.

The New Jim Crow, Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness, is a New York Time Best Seller (paperback, nonfiction) by Michelle Alexander. Ms. Alexander currently serves as an associate professor of law at The Ohio State University. Previously, she served as director of the Racial Justice Project for the ACLU of Northern California as well as a clerk for Justice Harry Blackmun on the U.S. Supreme Court. In the preface, the author defines her specific audience as people who cares deeply about racial justice but who may not yet appreciate the magnitude of the crisis. For this reason, The New Jim Crow was selected for the 2012 United Methodist Women's Reading Program as a bonus book. Ms. Alexander has written the book for all those trapped within America's latest caste system and consequently locked out of mainstream society.

Mass incarceration has emerged in the last 30 years in the U.S. as a stunningly comprehensive and well disguised system of racialized social control that functions in a manner strikingly similar to Jim Crow. This shift in U.S. policy began with the War On Drugs, a campaign slogan initiated by Ronald Reagan. It is mind-boggling to realize that the War On Drugs began at a time when illegal drug use was on the decline. "The impact of the drug war has been astounding. In less than 30 years, the U.S. penal population exploded from around 300,000 to more that 2 million, with drug convictions accounting for the majority of the increase. The United States now has the highest rate of incarceration in the world" states Ms. Alexander.

The War On Drugs has become a self-fulfilling prophecy which has led to the privatization of prisons [for profit]. The prisons have been placed mainly in poor rural communities to boost the economy. In the 1970's, the National Advisory Commission on Criminal Justice Standards and Goals recommended that no new penal institutions should be built and exciting institutions for juveniles should be closed! There was and still is overwhelming evidence that these institutions create crime rather than prevent it.

Politicians have provided U.S. citizens with a perception that 'welfare queens' and 'drug dealers' are all African Americans. Studies show that people of all colors use and sell drugs at remarkably similar rates. Actual surveys suggest that white youth are more likely to engage in drug crime than people of color. But one would never guess this to be true when our prisons and jails are overflowing with black and brown drug offenders. In some states, black men have been admitted to prison on drug charges at rates 20 to 50 times greater than those of white men.

From the staggering facts brought to light in The New Jim Crow comes a new understanding of the roles played by prosecutors, defense attorneys and judges in this relatively new system. The local law enforcement agencies have been particularly impacted by new laws providing grants specifically for fighting drug crime and permitting them to confiscate assets during drug searches even if there is no conviction. An individual may even be labeled a felon in many states without serving any prison time. As a felon, he or she may not be able to vote, obtain a drivers license, get a job, get public assistance or live in public housing.

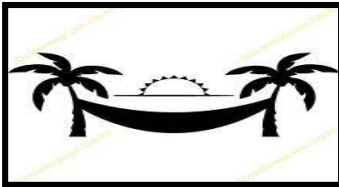
In the foreword to the book, Cornel West states that "there is no doubt that if young white people were incarcerated at the same rates as young black people, the issue would be a national emergency. But it is also true that if young black middle and upper class people were incarcerated at the same rates as young black poor people, black leaders would focus much more on the Prison-Industrial Complex."

This book states that the nature of our criminal justice system has changed. It is no longer concerned primarily with the prevention and punishment of crime, but rather with the management and control of the dispossessed. Please read the book and gather a group for study. Volunteers from St. Paul are ready to help.

Bob Hadley, a retired attorney and an Urban Missioner from Christ UMC, Kettering to St. Paul UMC recently led a small group study on the New York Times Best Seller, The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander. The book is an eye opener to say the very least! Each of the eight participants came up with at least one thing he or she could do to raise awareness on this critical topic. I offered to write a book review and share it with several audiences.

-Joan Johnson

August 2012



Office Hours

9:00am–3:00pm M–F

Food Pantry

10:00am–2:45pm M,W,TH

Stuff Shoppe

10:00am–2:45pm M,W,TH

12:30pm–2:00pm T



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 	2 Koffee Hour 11:00am	3 	4 Community Breakfast 9:00am Served by Belmont UMC
5 Worship Celebration 9:30am 	6 Young Peacemakers' Club Parent Interviews	7 Worship 11:20am Lunch Served by Tipp City UMC AA Diversity 7:00pm Alex Awad Christ UMC 7:30pm	8 Young Peacemakers' Club Parent Interviews	9 Koffee Hour 11:00am	10 	11 Community Breakfast 9:00am Served by Aley UMC
12 Worship Celebration 9:30am	13 	14 Worship 11:20am Lunch Served by Union UMC AA Diversity 7:00pm	15	16 Koffee Hour 11:00am 	17	18 Community Breakfast 9:00am Served by Normandy UMC
19 Worship Celebration 9:30am	20	21 Worship 11:20am Lunch Served by Sugar Valley UMC Lead Team Meeting 6:00pm AA Diversity 7:00pm	22	23 Koffee Hour 11:00am	24 	25 Community Breakfast 9:00am Served by Belmont UMC Youth
26 Worship Celebration 9:30am WOC Hispanic Ministries Picnic	27 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm–6:30pm ESOL Classes 6:00pm–8:00pm	28 Worship 11:20am Lunch Served by Community UMC Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm–6:30pm AA Diversity 7:00pm	29 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm–6:30pm Las Amigas 5:00pm–6:30pm Spansk Bible Study 6:30pm–7:30pm	30 Koffee Hour 11:00am Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm–6:30pm ESOL Classes 6:00pm–8:00pm	31 	

West Ohio Conference Cooperative School of Christian Mission 2012

St. Paul United Methodist Church was very well represented at this year's School of Christian Mission.

Attending the Week Adult School : Joan Johnson, Registrar; Beth Vanoli, newly elected Communications Coordinator and Beth Wiley.

Attending the Week Youth School: Justin Ankeney, Jose Arredondo, Paul Crain, Jarett Crain, Eric Geer, Jessie Geer, C.J. Hopkins, Victoria Martinez & Dayana Palma.

Weekend Event: Cora Crain, Robin Gann, Tawnya Lambert & Shawna Martinez

Young Adult: Tatiana Lozaya

Spanish Track: Paula Godinez, Maggie Monreal, Maricela Quintaro & Irene Urvieta

Children: Jeremiah Jimenez, Esteban Lozoya & Wesley Ruiz and Youth: Marlin Urvieta

This year's study topics were especially meaningful for all the St. Paul participants: "Poverty" and "Immigration and the Bible". It was a time of spiritual renewal as well as a very enlightening educational experience.



Dayton Public Schools go back into session on Wednesday, August 15. Our afterschool program, Young Peacemakers Club will resume on Monday, August 27 from 4:00pm-6:30pm for the Senior Peacemakers and on Tuesday, August 28 from 4:00pm-6:30pm for the Junior Peacemakers. Registration forms are available in the church office. Parent interviews may be scheduled for Monday, August 6 or Wednesday, August 8.

Youth Leadership Circle News

The St. Paul youth have not been idle during their summer break. They have been busy working at the church—weeding, cleaning the van, unloading the Food Bank truck, preparing and serving up a wonderful Tuesday lunch, helping with the yearly yard sale, and doing any other odd jobs that need to be done. Although the kids have been actively serving at St. Paul since school ended in the spring, they still have had time to enjoy a week at the Cooperative School of Christian Mission on the Ohio Northern University campus. Thanks to scholarships provided by United Methodist Women, the members of the YLC were able to learn about missions and social justice issues, take part in inspirational worship, and enjoy the fellowship of other youth from around the conference. The youth plan to finish off the summer by spending a day swimming and picnicking together before heading off to school for another year.

At a Glimpse...During May & June 2012, with your support, St. Paul...

- Served **3338 nutritious hot meals** at Tuesday lunch and Saturday breakfast.
- Provided **groceries to 1802 individuals** for **27,030 meals** through the **Emergency Food Pantry**.
- Put over **1500 pieces** of good used **clothing** into the hands of many grateful people and made \$744.00 for the Outreach Ministry.

Hispanic Ministries...

Everyone is invited for a community picnic to Celebrate God's work within the West Ohio Conference Hispanic Ministries. Please join us at John Bryant State Park on Sunday, August 26, 2012 from 12:00-5:00 p.m. for food, games, crafts and rock climbing. Grilled Meats, Water and Lemonade are provided. Please bring a side dish to share. For more info, please contact Karen Brantley at kbrantley@wocumc.org or 614-844-6200 ext. 313. Check the calendar for Hispanic Ministry Programs that are resuming at St. Paul UMC.



Come & Worship With Us!

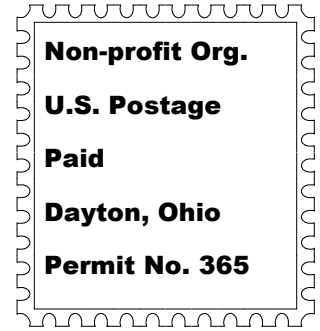
Sunday Worship 9:30am

Tuesday Worship 11: 30am

St. Paul United Methodist Church

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Dayton, Ohio 45403
(937) 252-4467

Fax: (937) 254-5227



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



Bless our children as they begin a new school year. May they be filled with the excitement of new possibilities.

www.stpauldayton.org

office@stpauldayton.org

Pantry Needs:



- | | |
|---|--|
| Box Potatoes (instant, au gratin, etc...) | Canned Fruit (Mixed Fruit, Pineapple,..) |
| Canned Meat (Tuna, Spam, Etc...) | Canned Veggies (Corn, Peas, etc...) |
| Drink mixes Mac & Cheese | Ketchup Mustard |
| Pancake mix Syrup | Pasta noodles (Spaghetti, Egg noodles, etc...) |
| Dry Beans (Pinto, Navy,...) | Saltine Crackers |
| Bar soap Dish soap Laundry Soap Toothpaste | |

School Supplies Needs List:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Highlighters | #2 Pencils | Ink Pens | Markers |
| Colored Pencils | Crayons | Pencil Pouches | Compass/Protractors |
| Pocket Folders | Binders (1", 2") | Dividers | Glue |
| Kleenex | Paper Towels | Memory Sticks | Copy Paper |
| New Book Bags | Calculators | Flash Cards | Hand Sanitizer |
| Index Cards | Dry Erase Markers | Post-It Notes | |

