



# St. Paul United Methodist Church

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## A Dwelling Place For God

What is the church? I prefer the definition given in Ephesians chapter 2, where the church is described as, "the household of God built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. In Him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God." (Eph. 2:19b-22 NRSV, italics mine)

Not in a spirit of meanness or condescension, but in wonder and amazement, my mother would say about someone, "God certainly broke the mold when he made him or her!" As I look back on the last three years that I have been privileged to serve as the pastor of St. Paul and witness all that God is doing here in and through our shared ministries, I daily stand in wonder and amazement and cannot help to say, "God certainly broke the mold when he made St. Paul UMC!"

St. Paul is unique. St. Paul is three distinct worshipping communities: Sunday morning, Tuesday lunch, and Hispanic growing in faith, hope, and love. St. Paul is a Matthew 25 church: feeding the hungry, clothing the naked, giving cool water to the thirsty, comforting the sick, visiting the prisoner. St. Paul courageously takes a stand and speaks out against injustice and oppression in the world and in the church as messengers bearing the good news of God's love for all people revealed in Jesus. St. Paul is dozens and dozens of partnering churches and organizations, hundreds and hundreds of individuals and volunteers, and a small but dedicated, hardworking and loving staff. The Book of Acts speaks of the early apostles (messengers), "performing many miraculous signs and wonders among the people." (5:12)

If you are part of God's on-going work at St. Paul, you are aware that signs and wonders of the power of God's love in Christ did not end two thousand years ago! They happen here every day. I stand in wonder and amazement as I try to comprehend all that God is doing with apparently so little: three small congregations, just a handful of staff, a very old building (1883), located in a poor neighborhood. How does God do it? The answer is right there in Eph 2:22: together we are being built in the Spirit into a dwelling place for God. Living, loving, serving together in the Spirit enables signs and wonders to happen! *Together* is all of us.

Yes, St. Paul is unique. Our uniqueness requires a new model of leadership that reflects the ministry that is shared among so many. For 2014, we have established a governing board that will be chaired by retired Pastor Bob Knell. Representatives from each of our three worshipping communities, leaders from our partnering churches and the church administrator will make up the board. We will let you know throughout the year how God is leading us in strengthening current ministries and exploring new ones.

Please continue to support God's important work at St. Paul in this new year through your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness. Together, in the Spirit, we are building a dwelling place for God!

In wonder and amazement of Christ's love, Pastor George Brewer

### PANTRY NEEDS LIST

Canned Fruit	Canned Soups	Dish Soap
Canned Meat	Canned Veggies	Shampoo
Cereal	Oatmeal	Toilet Paper
Pancake	Syrup	Toothpaste
Macaroni Cheese	Jam/Jelly	
Hot Chocolate	Peanut butter	
Drink mixes	Sloppy Joe sauce	
Saltine crackers	Sugar	

### Church Needs:

Men's Winter Hats and Gloves

Plastic & Paper Grocery bags & Holiday bags

### Stuff Shoppe Needs:

Good, Gently Used Coats & Warm Blankets



### **Servant Opportunities:**



- \* Tutors to teach English
- \* Food Pantry Escort
- \* Hostess/Host for the Pantry waiting room
- \* OBB Tax Counselors

**At a Glimpse...During November 2013,**  
with your support, St. Paul...

- Served 1479 **nutritious hot meals** at **Tuesday lunch** and **Saturday breakfast**.
- Provided **groceries** to **1017 individuals** for **15,255 meals** through the **Emergency Food Pantry**.
- Put over **1000 pieces** of good used **clothing** into the hands of many grateful people and made \$479.00 for the Outreach Ministry.

### **ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST WOMEN SUPPORTS HEALTHY FAMILIES, HEALTHY PLANET INITIATIVE**

In an article posted on the General Board of Church and Society *Healthy Families, Healthy Planet* website, the question was asked—What if Jesus never knew his mother? What if she would have died giving birth? We can only imagine the harsh and dangerous circumstances in which Mary gave birth over 2,000 years ago. Like Mary, still today too many women face labor and delivery in hard and dangerous circumstances and give birth to their babies without medical care in unsafe and unsanitary conditions. Annually 4 million infants die within a month of being born. When a mother dies, it dramatically increases the risk of death for her babies.

United Methodist Women are committed to turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world, and we support the *Healthy Families, Healthy Planet* initiative of the General Board of Church and Society. Connect with your local UMW unit and discuss how you can incorporate family planning and maternal health into your church's social justice priorities. When you are down at St. Paul, be sure to check out the United Methodist Women bulletin board as you come in the 4<sup>th</sup> street entrance to learn more about the *Healthy Families, Healthy Planet* initiative or visit [www.umchealthyfamilies.org](http://www.umchealthyfamilies.org).

# St. Paul UMC Semi-Annual Steak Dinner

## **MENU**

**Cubed Steak  
with Mushroom Gravy  
Green Beans  
Baked Potatoes  
Tossed Salad or Applesauce  
Dinner Roll Beverage  
Homemade Desserts**

**Saturday, March 15, 2014  
From 4:30pm - 7:00pm**



**Adults \$9.00  
Children (10 & younger)  
\$4.50**

# **Come Dine with Us!**

# JANUARY



# 2014

philipmartin.info

**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
<p><u>General guidelines for keeping your home warm and efficient:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clean or replace furnace filters every month.</li> <li>Set your thermostat to 68°F when you're at home and awake.</li> <li>Seal air leaks in the attic, basement and crawlspace, and also around windows and doors.</li> <li>Insulate inside of windows with heavy-duty, clear plastic sheets.</li> <li>Weather-strip doors that lead to cold or outside areas.</li> <li>Wrap and insulate waterlines to prevent them from freezing.</li> <li>Repair leaky faucets.</li> </ul>			<p>1 <b>HAPPY NEW YEAR</b></p> <p><b>CHURCH CLOSED</b></p>	<p>2 <b>Bring on the NEW YEAR!</b></p> <p><b>CHURCH CLOSED</b></p>	<p>3 <b>CHURCH CLOSED</b></p>	<p>4 Community Breakfast 9am Served by Belmont UMC</p> <p>Worship in Spanish 5:30pm</p>
<p>5 Sunday School 10:00am</p> <p>Worship Celebration 11:00am</p>	<p>6 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p> <p>ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm</p>	<p>7 Worship 11:20am Lunch Served by Spring Valley UMC</p> <p>Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p>	<p>8 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p> <p>Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Spanish Bible Study 6:30pm—7:45pm</p>	<p>9 ESOL Classes 10am—11:45am</p> <p>Koffee Hour 11:00am</p> <p>Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p>	<p>10  55</p>	<p>11 Community Breakfast 9am Served by Englewood UMC</p> <p>Worship in Spanish 5:30pm</p>
<p>12 Sunday School 10:00am</p> <p>Worship Celebration 11:00am</p>	<p>13 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p> <p>ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm</p>	<p>14 Worship 11:20am Lunch Served by St. Paul</p> <p>Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p>	<p>15 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p> <p>Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Spanish Bible Study 6:30pm—7:45pm</p>	<p>16 ESOL Classes 10am—11:45am</p> <p>Koffee Hour 11:00am</p> <p>Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p>	<p>17  55</p>	<p>18 Community Breakfast 9am Served by Normandy UMC</p> <p>Worship in Spanish 5:30pm</p>
<p>19 Sunday School 10:00am</p> <p>Worship Celebration 11:00am</p>	<p>20 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY</p> <p><b>CHURCH CLOSED</b></p>	<p>21 Worship 11:20am Lunch Served by Centerville UMC</p> <p>Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p>	<p>22 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p> <p>Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Spanish Bible Study 6:30pm—7:45pm</p>	<p>23 ESOL Classes 10am—11:45am</p> <p>Koffee Hour 11:00am</p> <p>Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p>	<p>24  55</p>	<p>25 Community Breakfast 9am Served by Community UMC</p> <p>Worship in Spanish 5:30pm</p>
<p>26 Sunday School 10:00am</p> <p>Worship Celebration 11:00am</p>	<p>27 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p> <p>ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm</p>	<p>28 Worship 11:20am Lunch Served by Look to Jesus Ministries</p> <p>Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p>	<p>29 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p> <p>Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Spanish Bible Study 6:30pm—7:45pm</p>	<p>30 ESOL Classes 10am—11:45am</p> <p>Koffee Hour 11:00am</p> <p>Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm</p>	<p>31  55</p>	

## Volunteer Spotlight



Sometimes, volunteerism is a family affair. This is the case at the Daniels household. Ralph and Janice Daniels, Christ UMC members, wear many volunteer hats in church and community. Ralph is the face of the St. Paul Food Pantry every Monday and takes his responsibility very seriously. He insists that St. Paul maintain the highest standards in seeing that folks receive good, nutritious food to feed their families. Other weekdays, Ralph can also be seen assisting Jerry Murphy as they work to complete the beautiful new flooring downstairs. Janice recently was our photographer for the Normandy Breakfast with Santa. She answered a call at the last minute and did a superb job! Each family received a beautiful picture with Santa Claus. They are both Benefit Bank Tax Counselors who give a great deal of time to St. Paul during tax season. In addition to active participation in civic organizations, the Daniels give generously of themselves at St. Paul as well as Christ UMC. Congratulations and keep up the good work.

At St. Paul UMC, we always end the year with gratitude and thanks to God for all our many blessings. Here is a sampling of some of our recent gifts:

- The Parents Shop on December 7th was filled with wonderful toys & clothes because of very generous donations. Over 34 families experienced the dignity of purchasing affordable gifts for their children.
- The Children's Santa Shop gave all children & youth in our programs an opportunity to give nice gifts to all their family members. All the gifts were donated. They were also wrapped by Santa's helpers from Eastmont UMC, Centerville UMC and Normandy UMC. We thank Peggy Hewitt for coordinating the wrapping project so well.
- Christmas on Campus at U.D. was Friday, December 6th. University of Dayton students sponsored 41 Young Peacemakers for a wonderful evening of fun, games and gifts.
- Continuing a 28 year tradition, Normandy UMC sponsored a festive Breakfast with Santa on December 14th. Over 89 children plus their parents were served breakfast. The children had their pictures taken with Santa who, with his helpers, also distributed wonderful gifts. A special thanks to Janice Daniels for taking the pictures. We are very grateful to Joe and Sharon Steele, who did a great job organizing Breakfast with Santa this year. We were especially thankful for the one of Santa's Helpers who was bilingual.
- Our Las Posadas Service was a very meaningful experience for approximately 60 people. Thank you to all the staff and volunteers who planned the program, participated in the program and cooked all the delicious food.

### HUMAN RELATIONS DAY!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 19, 2014

**Your Gift Today...Help To Overcome Injustice & Empowers Those Struggling to Survive.**

#### *your GIFT MAKES CHANGE POSSIBLE*

Because of a Human Relations Day grant, United Methodists of all ages travel to Washington, D.C., where about 30 seminars on national and international affairs per year take place at the United Methodist building across from the U.S. Capitol.

The high-impact seminars date back more than half a century with luminaries such as Eleanor Roosevelt and Hubert Humphrey. The sessions empower and equip participants to put their faith together with action steps to change their world.

#### *VIGILANT VOICES SPEAK OUT.*

After each group chooses a topic — poverty and homelessness, human trafficking, immigration, environmental justice — seminar designer Susan Burton tailors a unique learning experience.

"The program," she said, "offers us the opportunity to increase our knowledge of ourselves and our faith, increase our knowledge of injustices impacting our brothers and sisters in our own communities and throughout the world, and identify new ways to use our voices — staying awake

#### *DONATE TODAY. YOUR GIFT MATTERS.*

Your donation empowers those struggling to survive and equips change agents. The United Methodist Human Relations Day offering provides Lindsay and countless others with the resources to transform the world. Thank you for your generous gift.

