

St. Paul United Methodist Church

SUMMER 2013



HUNGER IN HUFFMAN

We in Huffman are positioned at the intersection of two distinct demographic groups: relatively affluent, upwardly mobile households, with the ability and resources to lovingly restore and preserve homes from the glory days of Dayton's past, and the reality of neighbors experiencing grinding, abject poverty. Helping to bridge the gap within the neighborhood is St. Paul United Methodist Church at Fourth and Huffman. As a relatively new volunteer in the food pantry, I have come to know the many wonderful programs offered by St. Paul UMC and have quickly discovered that this church is truly a neighborhood treasure in its service to the community.

Food insecurity in our neighborhood appears in many forms, running the gamut from the homeless eating from trashcans, having possibly one hot meal a day from a church or soup kitchen, to those working perhaps two wage-depressed jobs, who manage the rent and utilities but haven't enough for a month's worth of food. These are our neighbors. And although no one church can either solve poverty and hunger, or offer all services to all people, St. Paul UMC can stand with great dignity, knowing that every day, at least for *that* moment, they help relieve the pain and misery of poverty in our corner of Dayton. The food pantry serves only a portion of 45403. Each individual, or family unit, may visit the pantry but once a month, and identification and verification of address is entered into a database for future reference. Yet the pantry serves about 900 people a month, dispensing over two tons of food weekly.

For me, interaction with those who come to the food pantry has been its own reward, and I have learned so much. For instance: The willingness of those currently without work to help each other with whatever training or skills they have, from haircuts and manicures to a man who, with his sewing machine, makes curtains for those who would otherwise have sheets hanging at their windows. The struggle to simply survive is apparent at every turn. "Employers" who exploit and take advantage, landlords indifferent to malfunctioning plumbing or a broken stove or refrigerator, are some of the burdens brought to St. Paul UMC every day. And they respond with as much help as a small church can muster. I've learned that the often rough, combative attitude used as a daily defense by those on the streets seems to melt into a much gentler, more grateful demeanor within the safe confines of the church. I have found it helpful and instructive to witness this side of those whom we usually encounter as caustic, mean-spirited and destructive. A reminder that few people are *all* bad.

The homeless are as varied as any segment of the population. A veteran, so scarred and haunted by the experience of war, can no longer live indoors, because combat has seared his soul in ways we may never comprehend. A soft-spoken former electrical engineer who has no family. Subsequently, after a stroke left him unable to work, it was a short road to homelessness. He's out of his element and finds the shelters too rough and intimidating, so he tries to find unobtrusive and sheltered places to sleep. Many others lack the most basic skills for employment, even if jobs were available, which they are not. And lack of basic skills so often leads to desperation, and desperation, sadly, often leads to anti-social behavior. We are all witness to that outcome on a regular basis. Another lesson learned is that we tend to judge others by our own capabilities. I have quickly come to realize the options and problem solving skills I enjoy, take for granted, and make my life better, are not applicable to those living in a completely different world.

And still, St. Paul UMC soldiers on...feeding the hungry, offering comfort, counsel, and the possibility of another day.

Written by Vicki Morris for the Huffman Historic Neighborhood Newsletter. Vicki volunteers several days a week in our Hospitality Center. She very compassionately offers hospitality and information to the folks who come to use our Choice Supplemental Food Pantry.

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.

AUGUST 2013



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 TU

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Backpack Safety– The U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission estimates there are more than 7,300 backpack-related injuries annually treated by hospitals and doctors.
Tips for backpack use:

- Chose a backpack for your child carefully. It should have ergonomically designed features to enhance safety and comfort.
- Don't overstuff a backpack.
- Ask your children to use both straps when wearing their backpack to evenly distribute the weight.

1
Koffee Hour
 11:00am



3
Community Breakfast
 9:00am
 Served by Belmont UMC

 Spanish Worship
 5:30pm

4
Worship Celebration
 9:30am



6
Worship
 11:20am
 Lunch
 Served by Community UMC

7

8
Koffee Hour
 11:00am

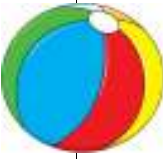


9

10
Community Breakfast
 9:00am
 Served by Aley UMC

 Spanish Worship
 5:30pm

11
Worship Celebration
 9:30am



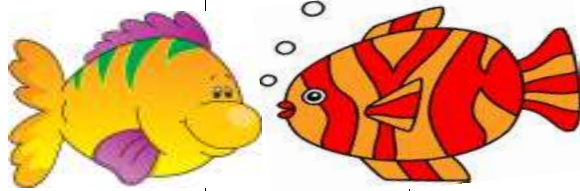
12
YPC Parents' Orientations

13
Worship
 11:20am
 Lunch
 Served by Union UMC

 YPC Parents' Orientations

14

15
Koffee Hour
 11:00am

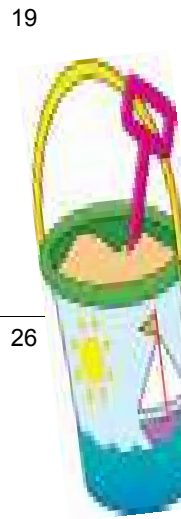


16

17
Community Breakfast
 9:00am
 Served by Normandy UMC

 Spanish Worship
 5:30pm

18
Worship Celebration
 9:30am



20
Ministry Team Meeting 9:00am

Worship
 11:20am
 Lunch
 Served by Tipp City UMC

21

22
Koffee Hour
 11:00am



23
Ministry Team Retreat
 6:30–10:00pm
 Bergamo Retreat Center

24
Retreat Cont'd.
 8:30am–12 noon
 B'fast 9:00am
 Served by Belmont UMC
 Youth Spanish Worship
 5:30pm

25
Worship Celebration
 9:30am

27
Worship
 11:20am
 Lunch
 Served by Sugar Valley UMC

28

29
Koffee Hour
 11:00am



30

31
Community Breakfast
 9:00am
 Served by St. Charles Catholic Church
 Spanish Worship
 5:30pm

West Ohio Conference Cooperative School of Christian Mission 2013

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

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

Week Youth School: Justin Ankeney, Jose Arredondo, Jarett Crain, Paul Crain, Jessie Geer, Chad Hopkins, Alejandro Martinez, Victoria Martinez, Dayana Palma & Marlin Urvieta.

Weekend Event: Robin Gann, Tawnya Lambert, Tatiana Lozaya (Childcare Provider) Shawna Martinez, Steffany Maynard & Tracie Maynard

Weekend Youth Event: Elizabeth Hernandez & Bethany Maynard

Weekend Spanish Track: Paula Godinez, Maggie Mikalauskas, & Bernarda Trejo

Children: Dylan Arredondo, Jeremiah Jimenez, Esteban Lozoya, Jimmy Ramirez & Jose Ramirez

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

Some of our first time attendees received camperships from the W.O.C. United Methodist Women. Our Youth received camperships from Miami Valley District United Methodist Women through their "Community Care" local mission project. Our children received their Scholarships from the West Ohio Conference office. People taking the Spanish Track received scholarships through the West Ohio Conference Hispanic Ministries. Our own St. Paul UMW organization held fundraisers for some of its members. As you can see, there has been a great deal of cooperation to make this level of participation possible. In addition, transportation had to be planned well in advance to transport this number of people the Ohio Northern University and back. Thanks goes to Ruthanne Lamb, who transported 3 youth and to Dan Vanoli who took the St. Paul church van with 7 youth. Our 1995, church van broke down with Dan & the youth near Lima, OH. It was pronounced dead and was salvaged. Many thanks to Christ United Methodist Church, Kettering, for furnishing a van for their return trip. Thanks also goes out to Don & Donnah Faber for loaning their van to transport the weekend group. And many thanks to Rebekah Clapp and Beth Wiley for transporting weekenders.

You are asked to pray about the St. Paul Van situation. Transportation is needed for our Hispanic Ministries, for church group outings, for camp and Mission u. There is also the potential for using a van for worship.



Community Blood Drive

St. Paul UMC will Participating along with several other East Dayton congregations, in a community Blood Drive. The other organizations are St. Mark's Episcopal Church, St. Helen's Catholic Church, Carroll High School and Eastmont UMC.

The Blood Drive is scheduled for Wednesday, September 4th from 4:00pm until 7:00pm at St. Helen's Parish Center on Burkhardt Rd. The Community Blood Center has the Blood Drive posted online (Givingblood.org) so you may register to give blood.

Young Peacemakers' Club After School Program 2013 – 2014

Registrations are being accepted for Young Peacemakers' Club for the 2013 – 2014 school year. St. Paul's after school program is licensed by the state of Ohio and has several components that are very beneficial for children in Kindergarten through Grade 6. Children in grades 4, 5, 6 attend on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00pm – 6:30pm. Children in Kindergarten, grades 1, 2, 3 attend on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4:00pm – 6:30pm. Daily program modules include individualized homework help, a hot freshly prepared meal, Christian education, arts and crafts, and large and small muscle activities. Assisting the YPC staff will be members of the University of Dayton Big Brothers, Big Sisters chapter and Occupational Therapy students from Sinclair Community College. There are a limited number of spaces available for the 2013 – 2014 school year. If interested, you may contact the church office for more information at 252-4467.

St. Paul Hispanic Ministry...

We are looking for volunteer English tutors who can help with our adult ESL classes, beginning in September: Monday and/or Thursday evenings, or during the day throughout the week, we are working on creating our class schedule for the fall. Previous experience and training are not required. Spanish/foreign language aptitude is not required. If you are interested and available, please contact Rebekah Clapp: rclapp1@united.edu or 931.644.7935 or you can call the church office.

Come & Worship With Us!

Sunday Worship-9:30am

Tuesday Worship-11: 30am

Worship in Spanish- Saturday 5:30pm

The children of St. Paul UMC will be heading back to school in a few weeks. Here is a list of School Supplies that will help our families to send their children back to school prepared and

We're Going Back To School



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

- copy paper, construction paper, lined (wide rule) paper, spiral (wide rule) notebooks, index cards
- #2 pencils, colored pencils, pencil sharpener, pencil case, colored markers, crayons, highlighters, dry-erase markers & sharpie markers
- paper clips, 3-ring 1", 1.5" & 2" binders, pocket folders
- stapler, staples, rulers, protractors, glue bottles & sticks, fiskar point scissors, calculator, dictionary
- tissues, paper towels, hand sanitizer, sandwich baggies
- bookbags, socks, underwear

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

- Served **1,355** nutritious hot meals at Tuesday lunch and Saturday breakfast.
- Provided groceries to **1,754** individuals for **26,310** meals through the Emergency Food Pantry.
- Put over **1,600** pieces of good used clothing into the hands of many grateful people and made \$808.00 for the Outreach Ministry.



Food Pantry Donations Needed

- | | | | |
|---|--|--|------------|
| Box Potatoes (instant, au gratin, etc...) | Canned Fruit (Mixed Fruit, Pineapple,..) | | |
| Canned Meat (Tuna, Spam, Etc...) | Canned Veggies (Corn, Peas, etc...) | | |
| Canned Soup (Creamed, Vegetable) | Cereal | | |
| 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 |

Church Needs:

- Food Pantry Escorts
- Hospitality in Food Pantry
- Plastic bags & Papers sacks
- Tutors to teach English (Afternoon & evening)
- Speakers or Activities for the Las Amiga's (Women's) Group
- Dehumidifiers
- Church Van
- Electric Weed Eater
- Fans