

ACCEPT
BLESS
CONNECT



St. Paul United Church of Christ



THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL

December 2021



What's Happening

DECEMBER 11TH 9 -11 AM
BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

DECEMBER 24TH -
CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE
MUSIC PRIOR - SERVICE AT 5 PM

DECEMBER 25TH
MERRY CHRISTMAS

DECEMBER 31ST/ JANUARY 1ST
HAPPY NEW YEAR

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St. Paul United
Church of Christ
6997 Hamilton Ave.
Cincinnati, OH
45231

Ph. 513-931-2205

Fax 513-931-2206

Email:

office@stpaulnch.com

Website:

www.stpaulnch.com

Worship

Opportunities

Sundays:

10:00 AM Traditional

Worship in Sanctuary



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INTEREST IN JOINING CRAFTY CRITTERS

The Craft Critters are interested in starting to meet again.
Is anyone interested in joining the critters for fun and fellowship?

Let the office know if you are interested. A new date and time will be determined once they know who all is interested in joining the group.

News and Updates Council News

The next Council meeting is Monday, January 17th, at 6:30 PM.

We have new members in the Church Council. We have many things going on in the church at this time. We are always striving to make St. Paul a place you can definitely call YOUR church HOME. If you find that you have questions or concerns in a particular area of the building or within a committee, please be sure to talk with the chairman of the committee with your question or concern. Here is the list of all members of the Church Council.

President	Judith Lewis-Combs	513-729-3152	jlewiscombs@gmail.com
Vice President	Margaret Maybury	513-382-9904	maybury@xavier.edu
Finance	Steve Lighthall	513-276-2697	lighthall.sh@gmail.com
Care Team	Robin Lighthall	513-325-9961	lighthallr76@gmail.com
Nurture Team	Louise Pitcher	513-266-4456	
Facilities	Skip Zimmer	513-578-5211	skip.zimmer83@gmail.com
Worship/Evangelism	Trudy Jester	513-314-1784	tjester719@aol.com
Communication/Tech Team	Mike Bartholomew	513-477-5614	mbartholomew@fuse.net
Endowment	Jan Apro	931-2417	janola@fuse.net

Office Administrator/Treasurer- Office - Anne Zimmer - 931-2205/513-260-0573
office@stpaulnch.com or ajczimmerii@fuse.net

Lay Minister Joan Allen 513-470-2321 jla_20@yhoo.com

The Council is still in need of a Secretary. If you are interested, or know of someone who is interested, please contact Judith or the office.

JANUARY EPISTLE DEADLINE



The Epistle deadline for the January edition is Tuesday, December 21, 2021. Please submit the information either by email to Anne or drop it in the Epistle box in the main office. There is also a folder in the blue mailbox outside the office.

COMMUNITY DINNER

Our weekly community dinners are continuing as CARRY OUT only.
Tuesday's 5:00-6:30 PM

It will be carry out for awhile until we are allowed to have bigger groups of people indoors. Stay tuned for updates.

FACEBOOK PAGE

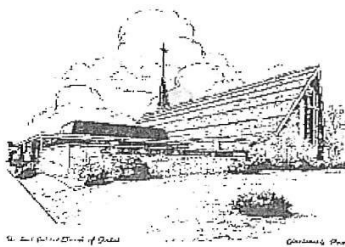
We started a new Facebook Page. Here is the new link!
<https://www.facebook.com/St-Paul-UCC-North-College-Hill-OH-116458329993166>

The following resignation was received from Pastor Joan Allen on November 20, 2021, but dated November 22, 2021. Council was notified and a Special Council Meeting was called for Tuesday, November 23, 2021. At that time each council member received a copy of the resignation. We (council) accepted, with regret, her decision. Should Pastor Joan request a reference for future employment, one will, of course, be provided.

St. Paul UCC is thankful for all of her hard work and services not only to St. Paul, but also to the community. We wish her the best in her future endeavors.

Prayerfully,

Judith Lewis-Combs
St. Paul Council



St. Paul United Church of Christ

North College Hill

6997 Hamilton Avenue
Cincinnati, OH 45231
513-931-2205/Telephone
513-931-2206 Fax

Email: office@stpaulnch.com



November 22, 2021

President and Council of St. Paul UCC

After prayerfully considering all my options, I have decided to end my services to St. Paul as of December, 31, 2021. So, I'm officially removing myself from all committees, and pastoral services as of that time. I will complete all the services that have been planned without malice or insurrection. I care very deeply for the health of St. Paul and want the parting to be on amicable terms. There is so much this church has to offer and with God's help, St. Paul will complete its missions.

I will have everything removed from the office that I currently using by that time. I will turn in all keys also, at time.

This will give the Council enough time to work with John Specht or whichever way they choose to go with the spirituality of St. Paul and its members.

Sincerely,

Pastor Joan Allen

From The Council

Many of you have been asking about our meetings with St. Paul Blue Rock. We originally met to discuss what we may have in common with each other. There are many community related services we share within our respective communities.

After a second meeting we were informed that Blue Rock is actively seeking a full time pastor. We originally discussed a shared pulpit scenario or even merging. Unfortunately neither church wants to give up their building.

We have Head Start and Early Learning Center to consider. In order to discuss further options, I would welcome any suggestions from the Congregation and also active participation in future meetings. If you are a member of St. Paul and are willing to meet with members of Old Blue Rock, please notify any council member or leave a message with the Office Administrator and we will arrange a time and place to meet and discuss any and all options.

Thank you for your consideration and we hope to hear from you.

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

In Loving Memory

In Memory of Ruth Meissner

Erma Amrein	Carol & Mike Chalfin
Dot Kahle	Pam & Scott Leist
Jane & Wayne Schleutker	Linda Woods

In Memory of Alice Blum

Erma Amrein	Marie Blum
Carol & Mike Chalfin	Crafty Critters
Dot Kahle	Pam & Scott Leist
Mary Poulin	Jane & Wayne Schleutker
Linda Woods	

Tis the season to be jolly! Take a walk down the Learning Center's hallways and you will suddenly feel the spirit of Christmas!

Before we jump into Christmas, let's recap some November fun! We celebrated our annual "Donuts with Dudes!" Each child enjoyed some one-on-one time with their favorite dude! Dads, Grandpas, and Uncles enjoyed the morning with us.

We ended November talking about being thankful. Our "little turkeys" shared what they are thankful for. My favorite response out of a pre-k student was, "Thank you Jesus for making my mom and dad because I love them!"

Now on to December! This month we will celebrate and focus on Jesus' birthday. We are looking forward to a nativity meet-up at Paul R Young Funeral Home. This will allow families to feed the animals and see the nativity up close and together.

The teachers are currently planning Polar Express Day! Children will wear pajamas to school and experience our version of the Polar Express!

From all of us in the Learning Center, we wish you a blessed Christmas and wonderful New Year!

Judy Staudigel
and Staff



SCOUTING NEWS

The troop has been busy working on advancements and their Rank requirements. They also finished their Family Life merit badge with the help and many thanks to Pastor Joan.

The units will be holding a "Friendsgiving" in time for Christmas. This will be a meal totally prepared outside using our dutch ovens, charcoal, and the turkey fryer. Planned on the menu is turkey, dressing, sweet potato casserole, mashed potatoes, broccoli, rolls, and of course yummy pecan and pumpkin pies.

We will be cooking on Saturday, December 18th. If you are in the neighborhood, stop by and see them learning how to cook using dutch ovens outside. We will be good as long as it isn't raining. Already sending up good thoughts for a great day!



ONLINE GIVING

We do have online giving set up for St. Paul. If you choose to use our online giving, here is the link, <https://ca4b2388.churchtrac.com/give>. Once in the system, you can input your envelope number and it records directly to your record. If you have questions, please let us know. All financial help at this time is much needed and appreciated.

Thanks so much,
Finance Team

Merry Christmas, from our house to yours. Advent and Christmas are very important to the church as we remember what great things our Lord has done for us. We need to open our hearts and hear those Christmas Stories, over and over again. What great love our Lord has for us. May this season help you to find hope, peace, love and joy, for our God is a great and good. My Christmas Prayer now and for always is that each member of St. Paul find peace in the Lord, Strength in the Lord's goodness, and as much love as the Lord has for you.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

Born, new beginnings, a new way to look at yesterday and work for tomorrow. God should always be first in our planning and hopes for tomorrow.

I have been very graced to be not only a member of St. Paul since 1972, but a part of the ministry staff for the last 10 years. Yes, it's been 10 years since I finished lay school. A choice that I made 15 years ago, to work with this church in its ministry and work for the missions of God. God does speak to us in different ways, some of us are a little more hardheaded and God has no choice but to push us. I was pushed and very grateful. I have gotten to know several of the members very closely and for those friendship I give praise to God. However, I have found that sometimes change is very necessary for growth. For those reasons, I have submitted the following letter to council.

President and Council of St. Paul UCC

After prayerfully considering all my options, I have decided to end my services to St. Paul as of December 31, 2021. So, I'm officially removing myself from all committees, and pastoral services as of that time. I will complete all the services that have been planned without malice or insurrection. I care very deeply for the health of St. Paul and want the parting to be on amicable terms. There is so much this church has to offer and with God's help, St. Paul will complete its missions.

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Sincerely, Pastor Joan Allen

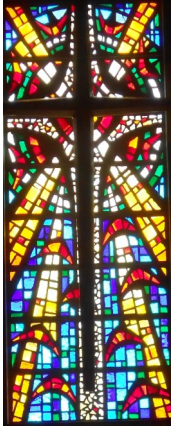
I'm sure there are tons of questions, but I would like everyone to consider this. When Pastor Barry left, I made it very clear to the council then, I do not want His job. As you see no one can do another person ministry, you must do your own. That was my intent. God called me not to fill shoes but to walk differently. I will always love St. Paul; its members and I will be taking with me lots of memories. I will continue to pray for your future and that you find God's vision and mission.

Blessings

Pastor Joan Allen



Care/Mission Team



COAT DRIVE

Thank you to everyone that donated coats, hats, scarves, and gloves! We collected 106 coats with boxes of gloves, hats, and scarves. 17 new coats were taken to NCH Schools. Other donations included new clothing items. 29 pieces of children's clothes, 29 pairs of socks, and 59 pairs of PJ's. Coats that remained were taken to the Mary Magdalene House.



BREAKFAST WITH SANTA

December 11th - 9 –11 AM

We had an OVERWHELMING response to our Breakfast with Santa! Pre-registration was required and our spaces filled up in TWO days! 75 children from all areas of the city along with their families will enjoy a pancake breakfast including cookie decorating, ornament making, and a visit with Santa where they will receive a gift and a photo! The Care Team welcomes anyone that wants to volunteer to join in on the fun! We have space for you! Please contact Robin Lighthall.



CALLING ALL BAKERS!!

Care/Mission Team is putting together cookie trays for the NCH Police Department and Fire Department. Would you be able to bake a batch of cookies? Or even a couple of dozen?

The team wants to assemble these the week of December 12th and deliver them. Please bring cookies in on that Sunday so that they can put the platters together! Thank you for helping to say thanks to the police and fire departments.



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SHOE DRIVE

We will be collecting for shoes for NCH Elementary. The goal is go purchase those in February and to deliver to the school at that time. Please continue to bring in your aluminum cans. Cash donations can be made as well. Please mark your donation for the Shoe fund.

Cowboy Chili Lunch





12/6 Melissa Holmes
Debra Nungester
12/11 Stephen Rogers
Trecy Webb
12/14 Lynda Stagman

12/18 Janet Lerch
12/20 Cheryl Bartholomew
12/23 Terry DuPriest
12/26 Jesse McIlhaney

12/29 Lois Bates
Louise Pitcher
12/30 Vickie Bryant
Brian Tobergta



1/7 Jim Mueller
1/11 Nola Apro

1/15 Mary Heineke
1/18 Roy Push

1/25 Rick Davis
1/26 Charles Rogge
1/30 Riley Overholts

**Home Bound Members and
Special Prayer Request**


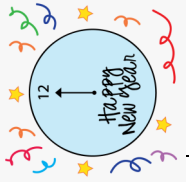
*Doris Dunn Mary Heineke Ruth Hoeweler Nancy Lanza Melitta & John Marx
Elmer Seesing Gay Steinhauer Anne Timme Sharon Wagner*

Our Service Men and Women

*Peggy Adams Chad Wilcocks Kathy Aker Alice Graber Tony Mancini Gay D. Smith
Elaine Sloan James Stokes Howard Seaman June Ward Kim Caudell Rhonda Lahman
Marlene Sheward Barb Nuckols Jesse McIlhaney Ann Way Harper Manning
Terri & Walt Schoch Judy Brown Lindsey Niehaus Kim Gutnecht Cathy Criswell
Becky Blount Mike Kennedy Verna Cowan Richard Huff Theo Gruber Adele Yung
Joann Ernst Don Beinke Gloria Stagman Bonny Pollard Suzanne Lohbeck
Andy Campbell Diane H. Laura Kristal Judy Boyce Paulette Lawrence
Trudy Jester Jerry Oberjohann Huletta Smith's Family Donna Jee Angie and Shaun Oaks
Ray Woods Family Johnny Whitaker Ruth Meissner Family Alice Blum Family Sandy SeEVERS*

*Please keep the office informed when
Names can be removed or need to be added.*

December 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 ELC - Chapel Chat MHCC - Board Mtg 6-8:30 PM	2 HS - No School AA Meeting 8 PM	3 AA Meeting 8 PM	4 AA Meeting 8 PM
5 Second Sunday of Advent Communion Pastor Joan	6 Scouts 7:30-9 PM	7 Dinner 5-6:30 PM	8	9 HS - No School ELC - Meet at Nativity AA Meeting 8 PM	10 AA Meeting 8 PM	11 AA Meeting 8 PM
12 Third Sunday of Advent Rev. John Specht MHCC use FH 12:30- 4:00 PM	13 Scouts 7:30-9 PM	14 Dinner 5-6:30 PM	15	16 HS - No School ELC - 4 Christmas Party AA Meeting 8 PM	17 AA Meeting 8 PM	18 Scouts FH 12-8 PM AA Meeting 8 PM Cafe
19 Fourth Sunday of Advent Pastor Joan Allen FH In Use 3-8 PM	20 HS - No School Scouts 7:30-9 PM	21 Epistle Articles Due ELC - 3 & Pre-K Christmas Parties Dinner 5-6:30 PM	22 ELC - No School	23 24 Office Closed Christmas Eve Service - 5 PM AA Meeting 8 PM	24 Office Closed	25 Merry Christmas  AA Meeting 8 PM
26 Church Closed	27 HS - No School ELC - No School	28 Dinner 5-6:30 PM	29 Office Closed	30 New Year's Eve AA Meeting 8 PM	31 Office Closed	

The Mt. Healthy
Alliance Presents...
A Christmas Concert,
Performed by 
The Jazz Trio

Featuring jazz pianist, Jim Connerley, whose name appears on over twenty CDs! Along with his own jazz trio, Jim leads the United Methodist Jazz Trio, a group who performs jazz treatments of hymns and spirituals. Their album, *Spirit Songs*, received critical acclaim from jazz and liturgical circles.

Saturday, December 11, 2021
4:00 PM

Mt. Healthy United Methodist Church
7612 Perry Street • Mt. Healthy, OH • 45231

The concert and refreshments are FREE!
But donations to support the
Mt. Healthy Alliance are welcome!

Please make checks payable to the
Mt. Healthy Alliance. Thank you for
supporting social services
in the 45231 community!