



St. Paul United Methodist Church

*Empowered by the love of Jesus Christ,
St. Paul United Methodist Church opens doors
of service, justice and peace to the world,
and windows to a life in Christ for all people.*

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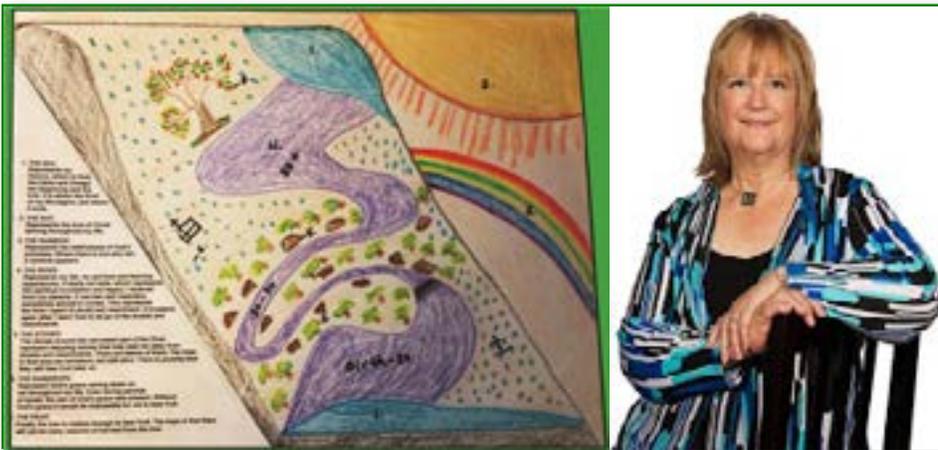


The River of Life

by Susan Whigham

Have you ever thought about the similarity between a meandering river and our spiritual journeys as beloved sons and daughters of God?

As I work on the candidacy process toward becoming a Licensed Local Pastor in order to better minister to and with the Hispanic community at St. Paul United Methodist Church, I recently had an opportunity to reflect on these similarities in a mentoring session, and came up with this childlike drawing as a result.



In a nutshell, the drawing summarizes my life story:

- 1. THE SEA** represents my Source, which is God, the Alpha and Omega, the Beginning and the End. It is where the river of my life begins and where it ends.
- 2. THE SUN** represents the love of Christ shinging throughout my life.
- 3. THE RAINBOW** represents the faithfulness of God's promises. Where there is sun and rain, a rainbow appears.
- 4. THE RIVER** represents my life, my spiritual journey and learning experiences. It starts out wide, which symbolizes the spiritual foundation and legacy I received from my parents. It narrows and meanders, sometimes almost in circles. This represents the time I spent harboring doubts and resentments. The river broadens again after I learn how to let go of the negativity that holds me back.
- 5. THE TWELVE STEPPING STONES** placed around the narrowest part of the river represent the principles that led me away from doubts and resentments. The trees in that area are immature, but still alive. There is promise that they will bear fruit later on.
- 6. THE RAINDROPS** represent God's grace raining down through it all. Even when I didn't deserve it, the rain of God's grace was present. Without God's grace I would be unable to bear fruit.
- 7. THE FRUIT.** Finally the tree is ready to bear fruit! The hope is that my tree will yet produce many seasons of harvest.

I am excited to begin this next phase of my journey with all of you at St. Paul. Thank you for your loving support and acceptance, as well as for your prayers, as I seek to become better equipped to serve.

Note: Susan's candidacy for Licensed Local Pastor was unanimously approved on September 21, 2015 by St. Paul's P-SPRC with Rev. Wendy Lybarger, Assistant to the District Superintendent, presiding.



This Christmas Give the Gift of Dignity

Once again this year, St. Paul UMC will sponsor the **Parents' Christmas Shop** for the parents of children and youth in Young Peacemakers' Club, Hispanic Ministries and Sunday School.

We are seeking new gifts for children 0-17 years in the \$5-\$100 price range. The shop needs toys, clothing, shoes, electronics, sports equipment, gift cards and money to buy items.

The hard working parents of our children will purchase the gifts at a price affordable to them. We, at St. Paul, believe that there is dignity for families in providing their own Christmas gifts for their children.

If you are puzzled about what to donate, ask your child or grandchild! In our November newsletter, there will be a Christmas Wish List compiled by the children.

In addition, the children get an opportunity to shop for their families in the Santa Shop held the week after the Parents' Christmas Shop. Small gifts for men, women, teens and children in the \$1-\$5 price range are needed. The Santa Shop allows our children the joy of giving as well as receiving.

Let's work together to make this a meaningful event for everyone involved. The Parents' Christmas Shop will be **Saturday, December 5**. If possible, **please make all donations by December 1**.

Please help St. Paul find individuals and groups who would like to partner with us on this Christmas endeavor.





Young Peacemakers' Club

The Young Peacemakers' Club is off to a good start for this school year. Beth Wiley, the program director, welcomes back two work-study students from UD: McKenzie Troyano and Natalia Hernandez. In addition, we welcome



Hannah Dunne, Theresa Schneider and Taylor Chambers to the program. Taylor is from Oakwood, is a psychology major and plans to graduate in 2018. Theresa is from Cincinnati, has a double major in Human Rights and Spanish, and will graduate in 2016. In addition to YPC, Theresa is also working with children in our Hispanic programs. Hannah is from Illinois, is a psychology major and plans to graduate in 2018. Our UD federal work-study students, along with the UD Big Brothers/Big Sisters make it possible for our children to have one-on-one attention and homework help.

This year there are 20 children enrolled in Jr. Peacemakers and 17 children enrolled in Sr. Peacemakers. The volunteers from Normancy UMC have returned to do Bible stories and crafts with the children. Cora Crain has returned as YPC's very popular cook! We're off to a good start with a good group of very enthusiastic children.

October 4, 2015 is World Communion Sunday. For more information or to donate online, please follow this link:

<http://www.umcsgiving.org/ministry-articles/world-communion-sunday>

St. Paul UMC semi-annual steak dinner

Saturday, October 24, 2015

4:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Adults — \$10.00

Children (12 & Younger) — \$5.00

Reservations Accepted

Come dine with us!

MENU

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





October 2015

sunday	monday	tuesday	wednesday	thursday	friday	saturday
Office Hours: M-F:.....9 a.m.–3 p.m. Food Pantry: M, W, TH:10 a.m.–2:45 p.m. Stuff Shoppe: M, W TH:10 a.m.–2:45 p.m. T:12:30 p.m.–2:00 p.m.		Sunday Worship Attendance: 8/30/2015 39 9/6/2015 43 9/13/2015 31 9/20/2015 25		1 KOFFEE HOUR 11 a.m. Jr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m.	2	3 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9 a.m. Served by Belmont UMC Spanish Bible Study 11 a.m.–1:15 p.m.
4 WORSHIP SERVICE 11 a.m. United Methodist Women following Worship	5 Sr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m. Huffman Neighborhood Association Meeting 7:00 p.m.	6 WORSHIP 11:20 a.m. LUNCH – 12 noon Served by St. James UMC Jr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m. Zumba 7–8 p.m.	7 ESOL Classes 10 a.m.–12 Noon Sr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m. Las Amigas 6:45–8:15 p.m.	8 KOFFEE HOUR 11 a.m. Jr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m.	9	10 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9 a.m. Served by Aley UMC Spanish Bible Study 11 a.m.–1:15 p.
11 WORSHIP SERVICE 11 a.m. Holy Currencies Team Meeting following Worship	12 Sr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m.	13 WORSHIP 11:20 a.m. LUNCH 12 noon Served by Volunteers of America Jr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m. Zumba 7–8 p.m.	14 ESOL Classes 10 a.m.–12 Noon Sr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m. Las Amigas 6:45–8:15 p.m.	15 KOFFEE HOUR 11 a.m. Jr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m.	16	17 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9 a.m. Served by Normandy UMC Spanish Bible Study 11 a.m.–1:15 p.m.
18 WORSHIP SERVICE 11 a.m. Holy Currencies Team Meeting following Worship	19 Sr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m.	20 WORSHIP 11:20 a.m. LUNCH 12 noon Served by Tipp City UMW Gov. Brd. 1 p.m. Jr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m. Zumba 7–8 p.m.	21 ESOL Classes 10 a.m.–12 Noon Sr. Peacemakers 4:00–6:30 p.m. Las Amigas 6:45–8:15 p.m.	22 KOFFEE HOUR 11 a.m. Jr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m.	23	24 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9 a.m. Served by Belmont UMC Youth Spanish Bible Study 11 a.m.–1:15 p.m. STEAK DINNER
25 WORSHIP SERVICE 11 a.m. Church Conference Grace UMC 2:30 p.m.–5 p.m. Choir Practice 6 p.m.	26 Sr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m.	27 WORSHIP 11:20 a.m. LUNCH 12 noon Served by Phillipsburg UMC Jr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m. Zumba 7–8 p.m.	28 ESOL Classes 10 a.m.–12 Noon Sr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m. Las Amigas 6:45–8:15 p.m.	29 KOFFEE HOUR 11 a.m. Jr. Peacemakers 4–6:30 p.m.	30	31 COMMUNITY BREAKFAST 9 a.m. Served by St. Charles Catholic Church Spanish Bible Study 11 a.m.–1:15 p.m.



volunteer spotlight

Feed 5000 is a long-running project of Christ United Methodist Church. Inspired by Jesus' feeding of the 5000, our dedicated partners at Christ UMC seek to feed as many people as possible. Individuals and families are asked to shop for specific items and place them in a box provided by the project leaders. The boxes are then delivered to several food pantries several times each year. Each box contains: 2 cans meat, 2 cans vegetables, 2 cans fruit, 2 cans soup, 1 box hot cereal, 1 can milk, 1 lb. pasta, 1 can spaghetti sauce, 2 boxes macaroni and cheese or rice, 1 lb. dried beans or 1 can baked beans, and 1 jar peanut butter. Our experience at St. Paul is that these food items are always needed in the food pantry. Currently, because The Foodbank is providing fresh vegetables exclusively, we are buying canned vegetables weekly. Please help if you can.

We are so thankful for all the volunteers at Christ UMC for staying on the journey with us! Please consider taking the food list printed above, and collecting those items at your church.



Visit
our website
at

<http://www.stpauldayton.org>

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St. Paul Church
A United Methodist
Community



At a glimpse

During August 2015, with your support, St. Paul UMC

- served **1596 delicious hot meals** at **Tuesday lunch** and **Saturday breakfast**;
- provided groceries for **10,725 meals**; **1313 lbs. of donated food**; **1925 lbs. of donated bread and pastries** through the **Emergency Food Pantry**;
- put over **1000 pieces** of good used **clothing** and household items into the hands of many grateful people and made \$535.00 for the Outreach Ministry. The Stuff Shoppe had a Grand Reopening in April with new spring and summer merchandise.

Servant Opportunities

- Food Pantry Escorts
- Host/Hostess for the Pantry waiting room
- Volunteer office receptionist



A community Christmas Choir is being created for St. Paul United Methodist Church. All are welcome! The choir will perform Sunday, December 20 during worship and Christmas Eve, Thursday, December 24. The rehearsals that have been scheduled are Sunday evenings, Sept. 27, Oct. 25 and Nov. 29 from 6–7:30 p.m.