

# St. Paul United Methodist Church

MARCH 2012



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 Power of God at Work! The story of Steve Nichols

I have been at St. Paul for nearly a year now and God is doing amazing things in my life. I grew up as a Methodist Christian and went to church on a regular basis. I was very close to my grandmother until, when I was 7, she was killed in a tornado. That was a difficult time for me. I loved her and didn't understand why God would take her from me. I became angry with God and didn't really have any use for Him or for His church. It wasn't long before I was doing things that would lead me into big trouble. I started drinking when I was 10 and, at age 13, I began using drugs. In a period of just a few years, I lost 3 good friends to death and my anger and frustration toward God continued to grow. When I got out of high school, I entered the military but my drug and alcohol use led to a dishonorable discharge. I was feeling lost and very unloved and I began looking for love in all the wrong places. I met my ex-wife, who I married not because I loved her but because I wanted someone to love me. She was an alcoholic and I continued using drugs and, not long into our relationship, my drug addiction led me to prison for 17 years. I had hit the low point of my life.

While I was in jail, I met Carl Marsh, a guy who loved Jesus inside the walls of a jail cell. He began to tell me how good Jesus was and what He could do for me if I'd just trust Him. I had been angry with God for so long that I had never taken the time to think about what He HAS done for me....I'm still alive....I still have my health....I'm still able to work.....and I began praying and seeking Him again. I felt convicted of some of my past sins and mistakes and made a commitment to Him that I was going to change my life with His help.

In prison, God opened the door for me to go to college at Columbus State. I finished third in my class and graduated as a dental lab technician. I made false teeth and partials for seven years. When I finally got out of prison, I was living on the streets under a bridge. I heard about Good Shepherd Ministries and applied to live there and when I got accepted, I was told I had to find a church. Since I had grown up Methodist and lived close, I walked to St. Paul one day to worship and I've gone there ever since. I have felt love and acceptance from the people ever since I walked in the door. I have been given a second chance by God by my friends and family at St. Paul through opportunities to serve and to give back. I love St. Paul and the family I have at this church. But most of all, I love God and thank Him for everything He has done for me! Without Him, it's all downhill....for me....and for you! Thanks to Him, the joy of the Lord is my strength. Praise Him!

~as told to Pastor Jeff Cartwright

Sunday Worship

9:30 am

Tuesday Community Lunch 12:00 noon

Tuesday Worship

11:30 am

Saturday Breakfast

9:00 am

**Great Food!**

**St. Paul UMC  
Semi- Annual  
Steak Dinner**



**Saturday, March 31, 2012  
from 4:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.**

101 Huffman Ave.      (937) 252-4467

**MENU**

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

**Adults \$8.00 and Children (10 & under) \$4.00  
Come Dine With Us!**







Office Hours 9:00am—3:00pm

Pantry Hours 10:00am—2:45pm M,W,TH

Stuff Shoppe 10:00am—2:45pm M,W,TH  
12 noon—2:00pm T



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Koffee Hour 11:00am  Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm	2 ESOL Classes 10am—12 noon	3 Community Breakfast Served by Korean UMC  Sub Making Project
4 Worship Celebration 9:30am Sunday School Children's Breakfast following	5 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm	6 Worship 11:30am Lunch Served by Eastmont UMC Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm Ministry Team Meeting 6:00pm AA Diversity 7pm	7 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm Youth to Christ UMC 3:30 Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Pathfinders 6:30pm Sp. Bible Study 6:30pm—7:30pm	8 Koffee Hour 11:00am  Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm	9 ESOL Classes 10am—12 noon  	10 Community Breakfast Served by Englewood UMC
11 Worship Celebration 9:30am Sunday School Children's Breakfast  UMW Fellowship 12noon	12 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm	13 Worship 11:30am Lunch Served by Tipp City UMC  Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  AA Diversity 7pm	14 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm Youth to Christ UMC 3:30 Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Cybersafety 6:30 Sp. Bible Study 6:30pm—7:30pm	15 Koffee Hour 11:00am  Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm	16 ESOL Classes 10am—12 noon	17 Community Breakfast Served by Normandy UMC  A Faithful Response 9:30am—2:30pm Normandy UMC
18 Worship Celebration 9:30am Sunday School Children's Breakfast following	19 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm	20 Worship 11:30am Lunch Served by Fairview UMC  Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  AA Diversity 7pm	21 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm Youth to Christ UMC 3:30 Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Pathfinders 6:30 Sp. Bible Study 6:30pm—7:30pm	22 Koffee Hour 11:00am  Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm	23 ESOL Classes 10am—12 noon  	24 Community Breakfast Served by Community UMC
25 Worship Celebration 9:30am Sunday School Children's Breakfast Following Spanish Worship Service 5:30pm	26 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm	27 Worship 11:30am Lunch Served by Lewisburg UMC  Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  AA Diversity 7pm	28 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Pathfinders 6:30 Spanish Bible Study 6:30pm—7:30pm	29 Koffee Hour 11:00am  Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm  ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm	30 ESOL Classes 10am—12 noon	31 Community Breakfast Served by St. Charles Catholic Church  STEAK DINNER 4:30PM—7:00PM

New in 2012!

- ◆ St. Paul bid Donna Pingrey farewell when she retired December 31, 2011 as Intake Social Worker from the food pantry. Donna has relocated to Georgia.
- ◆ St. Paul welcomed Cora Crain in January as our new Pantry Intake Worker. Cora and her family are very involved in St. Paul's ministry.
- ◆ In January, Rebekah Clapp arrived in Dayton and began leading our Spanish Bible Study as a volunteer. In February, Rebekah joined the St. Paul staff as Coordinator of the ESOL Program. Rebekah is a recent graduate of Asbury College and recently married to Ben. She has been immersed in the life of the United Methodist Church as a 'Preacher's Kid' in Western Pennsylvania Conference. Rebekah will represent her home conference at General Conference.
- ◆ Take a look at our new website [www.stpauldayton.org](http://www.stpauldayton.org)! Thanks to a class at Sinclair Community College for the web design; thanks to Arthur Mills, Jr. for technical assistance; and thanks to Tawnya Lambert who will be maintaining it.





**HANG ON!**  
**LET US CONNECT YOU TO YOUR FULL REFUND**

Too often, Ohioans lose out on getting their maximum tax return because of high filing fees.

Hang On! The Ohio Benefit Bank is here to help, making it convenient and easy to file your state and federal tax returns.

If you earned \$60,000 or less last year, please contact the St. Paul UMC Benefit Bank at 937-252-4467 and make an appointment with a trained volunteer counselor. We can assist in filing 2011, 2010, 2009 & 2008 federal and state taxes. We can also file FAFSA forms.

**We look forward to assisting you.**

**Visit [www.thebenefitbank.com](http://www.thebenefitbank.com) or call 1-800-648-1176 for more information.**

**The Stuff Shoppe (Thrift Store)...**

- will have specials (bag sale) beginning March 12th.
- is **CLOSED** Monday, March 26th thru Thursday, March 29th.
- We will reopen on Monday, April 2nd with a new collection of **Spring & Summer clothing.**

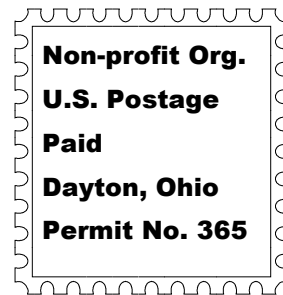
**At a Glimpse...During January 2012, with your support, St. Paul...**

- Served **1,490 nutritious hot meals** at **Tuesday lunch** and **Saturday breakfast.**
- Provided groceries to **1,094 individuals for 16,410 meals** through the **Choice Food Pantry.**
- Put over **1,000 pieces** of good used **clothing** into the hands of many grateful people and made \$518.00 for the Outreach Ministry.

<b>Hunger is Not a Choice...</b>	<b>Giving is...</b>	
As more people are hit by the economic crisis, we anticipate the need in our Food Pantry may continue to increase. Here is a list of some of the items we are always in need of...		
<b>Canned Meat</b> (ex. tuna, spam,...)	<b>Canned Fruit</b> (ex. pineapple,...)	<b>Canned Vegetables</b> (mixed veggies, peas...)
<b>Canned Soup/Ramen Noodles</b>	<b>Cereal &amp; Oatmeal</b>	<b>Jelly/Jam</b>
<b>Dry Beans</b> (Great Northern, Pinto,...)	<b>Kidney Beans</b>	<b>Juice</b>
<b>Pancake Mix</b>	<b>Pancake Syrup</b>	<b>Mac &amp; Cheese</b>
<b>Taxable Items Needs:</b>	<b>Bar Soap/Diapers</b> (all sizes)	<b>Saltine Crackers</b>
	<b>Laundry Soap</b>	<b>Kleenex</b>
		<b>Toothbrushes &amp; Paste</b>
<b>CHURCH NEEDS:</b>	<b>Plastic/ Paper Grocery bags</b>	<b>Vacuum Cleaner</b>



**St. Paul United Methodist Church**  
**101 Huffman Ave.**  
**Dayton, Ohio 45403**  
**(937) 252-4467 Fax: (937) 254-5227**



**ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED**



**Join Us...  
 Steak Dinner  
 Saturday, March 31, 2012  
 4:30-7pm**

[www.stpauldayton.org](http://www.stpauldayton.org)

[office@stpauldayton.org](mailto:office@stpauldayton.org)



**One Great Hour of Sharing**

*"Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind."  
 ~Psalm 107:8 NRSV*

Children and adults from various communities had already assembled and were eagerly waiting, when the UMCOR delegation finally reached remote Mutumbami, Zimbabwe. Today was the day the children would take home school supplies from

UMCOR's Sager Brown depot.

As the contents of the kits were announced, the eager crowd reacted: notebooks (smile, clapping), scissors (smiles, clapping), an eraser, a ruler, crayons (more smiles and clapping), pencils (LOUD CHEERS!!!). "Never have I seen such excitement about six pencils!" said UMCOR'S Melissa Crutchfield, moved to find something so commonplace in her homeland was so prized in this struggling community.

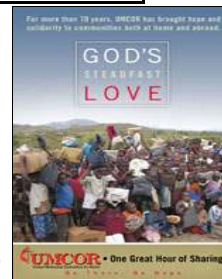
This year marks UMCOR Sager Brown's twentieth anniversary of bringing joy and hope in the form of relief kits to communities around the world-whether school supplies to children in Africa eager to study, or cleaning buckets to families in the United States mucking out their homes after a hurricane.

**God's Steadfast Love**

So much of what UMCOR does is about revealing God's steadfast love for humankind. For more than 70 years, UMCOR has brought hope and solidarity to communities both at home and abroad in the wake of disaster, and support and expertise to those on a path to development. UMCOR's relief-supply ministry is part of those efforts, gathering the cleaning buckets to ship to those seeking to become self-sufficient or to rebuild lives and communities following an emergency.

**ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

Join United Methodist everywhere by participating in the special offering that supports UMCOR'S vital work. Your gifts to **One Great Hour of Sharing** lay the foundation for UMCOR to manifest God's steadfast love throughout the world. Please Give Generously on Sunday, March 18, 2012.



**Your Generous Gifts**

benefits The United Methodist Committee on Relief located at the General Board of Global Ministries. With this offering, The United Methodist Church rebuilds lives and communities around the world by helping the United Methodist Committee on Relief keep its promise that 100% of your designated gift goes to specific causes.