



St. Paul Ministries

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St. Paul, a United Methodist Church, and so much more...



Jesus the Re-Visionist

Forty years ago I finished my degree in theology and began full-time ministry in Springfield, Ohio. I had never read the whole Bible much less studied it. I had grown up and attended church and Sunday school, had an above average education and read a massive number of books. Yet I knew almost nothing of the entirety of the Scripture. Fortunately for me and any congregation I was to serve, I recognized my own deficiency; I asked to be appointed as an associate pastor. Through God's abundant Grace I had an extraordinary Godly and humble senior pastor, Herb Massy, who gave me the encouragement to go on a profound spiritual journey.

Within a year I figured out that people who had been in Sunday school for 50 years and more and attended weekly Bible studies frequently couldn't find the Gospel of John in their Bible. I decided that year to stop reading a bunch of books, periodicals, and watching television and to begin a serious relationship with Scripture. I began leading a very in-depth two year study called Bethel Bible Series.

My journey was not about random Biblical knowledge, winning arguments or doing well in Bible trivia games. It wasn't even much about preaching. I was being shaped and formed by the Christ who is the Word. This is called formative reading of Scripture and is tied primarily to the disciplines of contemplation as well as the actual practices of the Christian Life (what I call living prophetically.)

Forty years later I still have a daily practice of contemplating Scripture. In recent years I have been listening and reading along each day to the dailyaudiobible.com (a free app on my phone) in order to experience the entire Bible in a year.

What I discovered now at St. Paul is that I hear dramatically new things as I feed on the Word of God. My context, St. Paul and neighborhood, and my community of highly mission minded believers press me into dramatic new experiences with the Word. Comprehending the scripture is not nearly as important as being formed by the scripture and then living and acting prophetically.

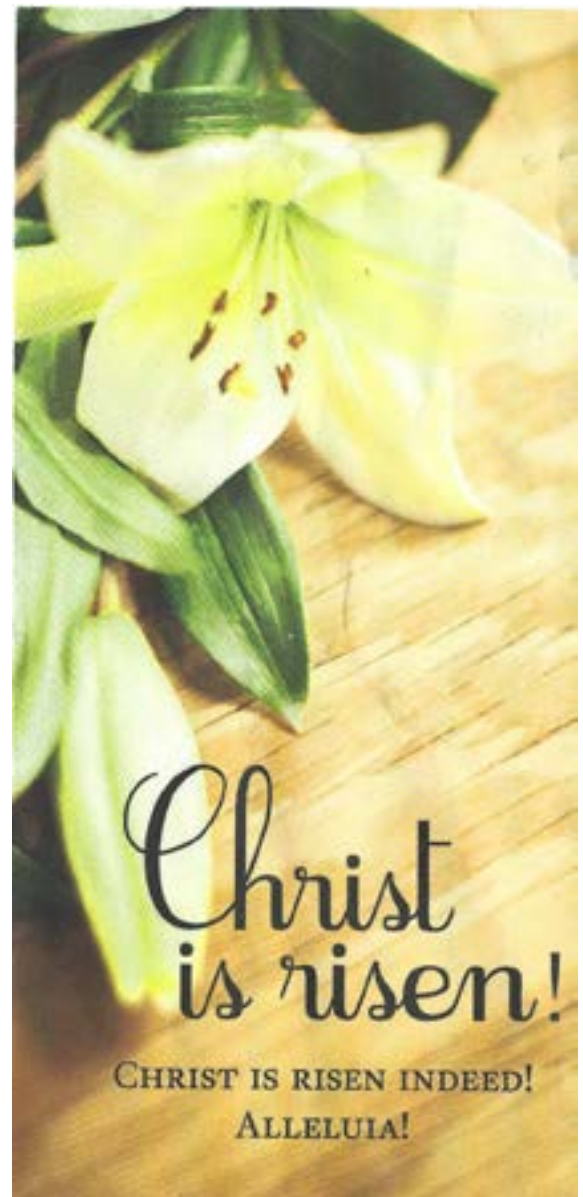
I don't count myself as a Bible Scholar, rather as a man being continually shaped by God's Word (Jesus Christ). In the past months the Spirit has revealed the Christ who's re-visionist teaching on the Hebrew scripture challenged the traditional and exhibited the power of love by dying and rising from the dead. He spoke and lived with authority and the traditionalists were so threatened that they led a mob, a governor and the military to torture and kill Jesus.

When Jesus arose on Easter morning, He conferred a new faith, new life, new way and a new truth. Jesus was not just a Rabbi, or a modifier of the Traditional Jewish teaching. Resurrection punctuated everything with the Kingdom Vision that He had taught and revealed in His earthly life. The Mortal had put on Immortality. A resurrection faith mirrored heaven and earth where God's Kingdom became broadly accessible.

He was not just a re-visionist but the manifestation of the divine intention for all of creation. He is the Christ. Do you know this Jesus? If not, hangout with us at St. Paul. Christ is regularly seen here.

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

Rev. Dr. Steve Gill



NEW ESOL PROGRAM TO OPEN AT THE LIFE ENRICHMENT CENTER

We are pleased to announce that **St. Paul Hispanic-Latino Ministries** in partnership with the **Life Enrichment Center**, the **Miami Valley Career Technology Center / Adult Education, Aspire** and the **Ohio Department of Education** will be offering a brand new ESOL program, scheduled to begin on April 3, 2018.

Classes will be held on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays** from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the **Life Enrichment Center** located at 425 N. Findlay Street, Dayton, OH 45404. **New Student Orientation** sessions are scheduled for April 3, May 1, and June 5.

URGENTLY NEEDED!!!

A dedicated Servant Leader to **coordinate a volunteer childcare service on-site for the new ESOL program**, in accordance with the Safe Sanctuary guidelines of the UMC. Many parents have a great desire to learn English but are unable to attend because of childcare issues. Only one other ESOL program in the greater Dayton area offers childcare. If interested, please send an email with resume attached to:

Rev. Susan Whigham at saintpauldaytonnews@gmail.com
Please allow seven days for a response.



St. Paul's Mission Mites offering for the entire month of March will go to UMCOR. Please give as generously as you are able.



...on these life-changing summer opportunities!

Camp Wesley, near Bellefontaine, is the perfect location for a life-changing week of summer camp. The center of this beautiful place, a 20-acre lake, is surrounded by 225 acres of pine and hardwood forest with rolling activity fields. Our St. Paul campers will spend time each day enjoying all the treasures that this camp has to offer. They will join new friends as they canoe or paddle board across the lake. They will have a blast on the slide, rope swing and climbing walls out on the lake on Adventure Island. Up in the woods, our campers will spend activity time in archery, arts and crafts, nature hikes or working together with friends to overcome the obstacles of the challenge course.

Our campers will have the opportunity to get away from life in their urban environment and spend time growing closer to God. During morning worship, small group Bible study, and evening vespers, they will learn new truths about living a life rooted in Jesus Christ. They will have the opportunity to join a group around a campfire in the evening and talk about all they have learned and experienced during an action-packed day.

Mission u, at Ohio Northern University, is the destination in July for our youth. They will be provided multiple opportunities for educational experiences and fellowship. Their study will be *Is It Just Money? Our Dollars/God's Economy*.

These wonderful opportunities are available to our children and youth because of a grand joint effort with many partners. The cost is shared by each family, St. Paul United Methodist Church, St. Paul United Methodist Women, Miami Valley District United Methodist Women, and West Ohio Conference.



Spring 2018

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.

Needs List

- Food items with pop top cans • Manual can openers
 Shampoo • Soap of all kinds • hangers
 Paper towels • Plastic grocery bags

Spring Calendar:

Regularly-scheduled activities:

- **Sunday Morning Group Study** - 9 a.m.
- **Sunday Worship** - 10 a.m.
- **YPC/Monday & Wednesday - Sr. YPC** - 4 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
- **Tuesday Worship** - 11:40 a.m. followed by lunch at Noon
- **YPC/Tuesday & Thursday - Jr. YPC** - 4 p.m.-6:30 p.m.
- **Thursday - Ladies' Bible Study and Lunch** - 11:30 a.m.
- **Saturday Breakfast / Recovery Group** - 9 a.m.
- **Thursday - Ladies' Bible Study and Lunch** - 11:30 a.m.
- **Hispanic-Latino Ministry** -
 Sunday Fellowship and Worship (Spanish) - 6 p.m.
 Thursdays - Las Amigas (Spanish) - 6:45 p.m.

Lenten Schedule:

- **Sundays during Lent - Special Study after Worship** - 11:15 a.m.
- **March 25 - Palm Sunday Service with Celebration Brass** - 10 a.m.
- **March 29 - Maundy Thursday Dinner & Service** - Carry-in dinner at 6 p.m., Service at 7 p.m.
- **March 30 - Good Friday Walk for Justice** - 12 Noon at Courthouse Square. Pastor Steve will be doing one of the stations of the cross.
- **April 1 - Easter Celebration** - 10 a.m.
Hispanic-Latino Easter Celebration (Spanish) - 7 p.m.

Did you know?

Something as simple as **signing up for our e-newsletter** can help St. Paul save money on postage and free extra funds for outreach. Just send an email with your name and contact information to Rev. Susan Whigham at saintpauldaytonnews@gmail.com, and your email will be placed on our mailing list.

TUESDAY LUNCHES**March**

- 06 Lewisburg UMC
- 13 Spring Valley UMC
- 20 Aley UMC
- 27 Tipp City UMC

April

- 03 Eastmott UMC
- 10 Centerville UMC
- 17 Christ UMC
- 24 Bellbrook UMC

SATURDAY BREAKFASTS**March**

- 03 Belmont UMC
- 10 Englewood UMC
- 17 Normandy UMC
- 24 Community UMC
- 31 St. Charles Catholic Church

April

- 07 Belmont UMC
- 14 Aley UMC
- 21 Normandy UMC
- 28 Belmont UMC Youth

Visit our website at:

<http://www.stpauldayton.org>

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St. Paul United Methodist Church of Dayton



The Power of BOLD

Inspire. Mobilize. Activate.



United Methodist Women Assembly May 18-20, 2018 • Greater Columbus Convention Center

The 19th quadrennial Assembly of United Methodist Women will be May 18 – 20, 2018 in Columbus, OH. It is quite an honor for West Ohio Conference to be the host conference. The event will mark the official celebration of the organization’s 150th anniversary and will also be a return to the location of the first Assembly in 1942.

Featured speakers for Assembly will be Michelle Alexander, author of *The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration in the Age of Colorblindness*; Lehmah Gbowee, 2011 Nobel Peace Prize recipient for her leadership in a women’s movement that brought an end to the 2nd Liberian Civil War in 2003; Katharine Hayhoe, an atmospheric scientist who studies climate change, and was named to TIME magazine’s 100 Most Influential People in the World list for 2014; and the Rev. Hannah Adair Bonner, director of the Wesley Foundation in Tucson, serving the University of Arizona who was recognized as one the 16 Faith Leaders to Watch in 2016.

It is still possible to register for the 2018 Assembly by visiting the website, <http://www.UMWAssembly.org>.



At a Glimpse

In **January & February**, 2018 with your help, St. Paul UMC served . . . 2,393 hot meals (Tuesday Lunch and Saturday Breakfast); . . . provided groceries to 932 people (a total of 13,980 meals) through the Choice Food Pantry; . . . placed more than 1,000 pieces of clothing and household items in the hands of many grateful people; and made a total of \$600.00 for the outreach ministry.