

St. Paul Ministries

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



To all the gracious and loving members of St. Paul's family:

We'd like to extend to you a heartfelt invitation to join us this Christmas in celebrating a homecoming the likes of which we have never before experienced. The journey has been arduous. There were times we were not sure that St. Paul would survive. There were engineering problems to solve, financial obstacles to overcome, and volunteers to answer God's call. But now because of everyone's help we are stepping out of the cold and coming home to the warm confines of a revitalized St. Paul ready to continue serving our community for as long as God wills it.

Our ordeal this year has been much like the cold and dangerous journey of Joseph and Mary from Nazareth to Bethlehem. By faith they made their way over the mountains with many hidden dangers. And when there was no room at the inn, undaunted they settled into a stable cave. Yet their love for each other

and for the child soon to be born transformed that dingiest of caves into the warmest of homecomings for the child that made everything possible. And those who were faithful joined the whole universe in this homecoming.

In this busiest of seasons we must tell ourselves to stop and recall the joy and peace of mind we felt as children with even the thought of coming home to a warm place surrounded by the love of family. The desire for that feeling of belonging never



dies in our hearts. We here at St. Paul know that our journey could not have been made without the help of so many. Soon we will return to worshipping in our sanctuary which will be warm with heat and with hearts! We feel that is a jubilant reason to sing God's praises and invite all of you that made it possible to celebrate this homecoming with us. Please come home to St. Paul! Because without you it would not have happened.

May God bless you and all those dear to you this Christmas season!

Dan Vanoli

December Program Calendar

- 1 Breakfast served by Belmont UMC
- 4 Lunch served by Phillipsburg UMC
- 6 Koffee Hour 11am Las Amigas 6:45pm
- 8 Breakfast served by Aley UMC in basement Parents' Christmas Shop 9:30am – 11:00am [by invitation only]
- 10 Children's Santa Shop
- 11 Lunch served by Germantown UMC Children's Santa Shop
- 12 Gift Wrapping
 Children's Santa Shop
- 13 Koffee Hour 11am
 Gift Wrapping
 Children's Santa Shop
 Las Amigas 6:45pm
- 14 Gift Wrapping
- Breakfast With Santa by Normandy UMC [by invitation only]Regular Breakfast served by NormandyUMC in basement
- 16 Las Posadas Service & Celebration 7pm
- 17 Kids Connection [Monday & Tuesday groups]
- 18 Lunch served by Concord UMC Kids Connection [Wednesday & Thursday groups]
- 19 No Kids Connection
- 20 Koffee Hour 11amNo Kids Connection
- 22 Breakfast served by Belmont UMC Youth
- 29 Breakfast served by St. Charles Catholic Church

*Church office and outreach programs will be closed Monday, December 24 through Tuesday, January 2, 2019

*No Las Amigas December 20 and 27

December Worship Schedule:

Sunday, December 2 – 1st Sunday of Advent 10am *We plan to be back in the Sanctuary with heat!!!

Sunday, December $9-2^{nd}$ Sunday of Advent 10am

Sunday, December 16 – 3rd Sunday of Advent 10am Las Posadas Service 7pm

Sunday, December 23 – 4th Sunday of Advent 10am Monday, December 24 – Candlelight Christmas Eve Service 7pm

Sunday, December 30 – 1st Sunday of Christmas 10am

*No Hispanic worship Dec. 23 and Dec. 30



Dear Friends:

You are cordially invited to attend our annual Christmas Celebration

Las Posadas —

Sunday, December 16, 2018 at 7 p.m.

to be held at

St. Paul United Methodist Church 101 Huffman Avenue, Dayton, Ohio 45403

After the service, please join us in the activity hall for dinner. Join in the fun as the children break open the piñatas.

Please bring a covered dish or dessert to share, if possible.

We look forward to seeing you here!