

WE GATHER TOGETHER TO ASK THE LORD'S BLESSING

THANKSGIVING REBORN

There was a man named Nicodemus, a Jewish leader who was a Pharisee. After dark one evening, he came to speak with Jesus. "Rabbi," he said, "we all know that God has sent You to teach us. Your miraculous signs are evidence that God is with You." Jesus replied, "I tell you the truth, unless you are born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God... So don't be surprised when I say, 'You (all) must be born again.""[John 3:1-3, 7 NLT]

What's Jesus up to in this conversation with Nicodemus? I believe he is offering an invitation to the world then and to us today: to turn away from one way of living and to seek a life-changing, new life-giving encounter with God through the power of God's Spirit set loose in the world in Jesus.

As the holiday of Thanksgiving approaches this month, are we in need of turning away from what our hyper, consumer-driven culture has turned it into? No longer it seems is Thanksgiving a time for thanking God for God's abundant love and blessings with family and friends. No longer it seems is the holiday a time for gathering around the table and encountering God in the breaking of bread and the lifting up of prayerful thanks. Thanksgiving has become our national holiday for getting and giving to ourselves instead of giving to God and sharing our thanks with others.

I offer up to our extended St. Paul family a prayer of thanksgiving and an invitation for us to offer it to God when we gather at the Thanksgiving Day table this year. It is an adaptation of "A Statement of Faith of the Korean Methodist Church."

We give thanks for the one God, creator and sustainer of all things, Father of all nations, the source of all goodness and beauty, all truth and love.

We give thanks for Jesus, the Christ, God manifest in the flesh, our teacher, example, and Redeemer, the Savior of the world.

We give thanks for the Holy Spirit, God present with us for guidance, for comfort, and for strength.

We give thanks for the forgiveness of sins, in the life of love and prayer, and in grace equal to every need.

We give thanks for the Word of God contained in the Old and New Testaments as the sufficient rule both of faith and practice.

We give thanks for St. Paul Church, the United Methodist Church, and the church universal—all those who are united in the living Lord for the purpose of worship and service.

We give thanks for the Kingdom of God as the divine will realized in human society, and the family of God, where all are sisters and brothers.

We give thanks for the final triumph of righteousness and in the life everlasting in the age to come. Amen!

May the true spirit of thanksgiving be reborn on our 2014 Thanksgiving Day!

In Christ's love,

Pastor George

Conversation For Change



"A Conversation for Change" is an East Dayton Opiate Crime and Overdose Reduction Initiative. The goal has been a pilot project to reduce opiate overdose deaths and document its relationship to crime in East Dayton. A community event will be held at St. Paul UMC on Saturday, November 15th from 12:00-2:00pm. People with heroin/opiate addictions and their family will be invited for a non-confrontational presentation. Each individual will receive information on treatment options, allowing them to choose their own path to recovery. In addition, lunch, refreshments and childcare will be provided. Please call the church office at (937) 252-4467 for more information and to register for the event.

PANTRY NEEDS LIST

Bar Soap

Shampoo

Toothpaste

Diapers (all sizes)

Paper/Plastic Bags

Canned Fruit Canned Meat Canned Soup Canned Vegetables Cereal/Oatmeal Dry Beans Hot Chocolate Mix Instant Mashed Potatoes Jam/Jelly Macaroni & Cheese Pancake Mix/Syrup Pork & Beans



All the children enrolled in Young Peacemakers' Club will give thanks for their families and friends on Monday, Nov. 24th. The YPC students and staff will host their annual Thanksgiving Dinner. In addition to their families, all the UD Big Brothers & Big Sisters and the Sinclair Occupational Therapy Assistants Students will be invited. The YPC children will act as host & hostesses and will serve their guests. Each YPC family will reserve a Thanksgiving turkey courtesy of the Altar High School Key Club!

If your church group or organization would like to participate in a meaningful mission experience, the following 2015 Tuesday Community Lunch dates are available:

> January 6 January 13 Please call 937-252-4467 to reserve a date.

St. Paul UMC needs your help for the Ohio Benefit Banks' tax preparation season. There are great benefits:

- 1. Summers off!
- 2. Make your own schedule!
- 3. Meet great folks!

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4. Work as part of the St. Paul family!



5. Please consider being a tax counselor; training will be provided. Give Tawnya a call at 937-252-4467.

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Hospitality is very important at St. Paul. Our doors open at 9:00am each weekday and some one puts the coffee pots on. Folks in our community know they are always welcome to come in, to rest, chat and warm their bodies. Donations of cans of coffee are needed. Other related needs are tissues and paper towels, hats, gloves & scarves. We would be very thankful if you are able to help.

At a Glimpse...During September 2014, with your support, St. Paul...

- Served **1784 nutritious hot meals** at **Tuesday lunch** and **Saturday breakfast**.
- Provided groceries to 930 individuals for 13,950 meals through the Emergency Food Pantry.
- Put over 1000 pieces of good used clothing into the hands of many grateful people and made \$233.00 for the Outreach Ministry. There were "Bag sales" in September. The Stuff Shoppe (Thrift Store) was closed the last week of the month for cleaning & restocking.

| Newsletter Support: | "For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me." <i>Matthew 25:35-36</i> | | | | | | |
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| Deb Harvey Marilyn Morris | A huge note of "THANKS" to all the WEP WORKERS who enthusiastically do their job and often go the extra mile. | | | | | | |
| Tuesday Lunch ProvidersAldersgate UMCAley UMCBellbrook UMCCenterville UMCChrist UMCCommunity UMCConcord UMCEastmont UMCFairborn St. Luke UMCFairview UMCFaith Community UMCGermantown UMCHope UMCLewisburg UMCMt. Calvary BaptistNew Hope UMC, Preble CoNew Madison UMCNormandy UMCSpring Valley UMCSt. Andrew UMC | FOOD PANTRY VOLUNTEERSRalph DanielsJanice DanielsWanda FoxJoyce KennedyClyde KressJeanne SchierlohMark BlakelyHarold LongRev. Mike Kreutzer & FamilyJoy & Larry BrownVicki MorrisKathy FaderCharmaine JonesLinda Seals | Hispanic Ministries Rev. Randy Coleman Rachel Coleman Rachel Coleman Rosel Figueroa Chuck Shields Jan Dice Hope Pawelski Ruth Pawelski Talya Flowers Mary Ellen Beardmore James Coe Nichole Collini Benefit Bank Janice Daniels Tawnya Lambert Kirby Lupton Shawna Martinez Jane Pearson Jeanne Schierloh Don Pearson | | | | | |
| | William Regalia Stivers special needs youth A Great Big THANK YOU to all of the St. Paul | | | | | | |
| St. Andrew UMC St. Augustine Catholic Ch. St. James UMC St. Paul UMC Sugar Valley UMC Tipp City UMC Union UMC, Union OH | Tuesday Lunch In-House Volunteers Don Beebe Emma Bey Kevin Cromes Mary Deal | Saturday Breakfast Volunteers Matthew Shade Sr. Larry Adkins Pam Adkins | | | | | |
| Saturday Breakfast Provider Aley UMC Belmont UMC Belmont UMC Youth & Eastmont UMC Youth | Rev. Bob Knell Donna Jones Judy Payne Jeanne Shierloh | Thrift Store (Stuff Shoppe) Cheryl Szanto | | | | | |
| Community UMC Englewood UMC Korean UMC Normandy UMC St. Charles Catholic | The Young Peacemakers ClubTara KellerAmy ReeseLinda DanielsViolet TrumboreBig Brothers & Sisters from UDSinclair CC Occupational Therapy | | | | | | |



This is your opportunity to purchase delicious homemade "Buckeye Candy" for \$6.00 a dozen from the United Methodist Women at St. Paul UMC. All orders & money are due by Sunday, December 7th. Your orders will be available for pick up on Sunday,

December 14th.



Dayton LGBT Community Thanksgiving Dinner @ St. Paul UMC :

Saturday night, November 22, 2014, is the date of the Greater Dayton LGBT Community Thanksgiving Dinner. The dinner and program is free to LGBT community, family and friends. The evening begins at 5:30 PM with a social hour

followed by dinner at 6:30 PM. The Center entrée menu will feature turkey, ham with all the fixings and will provide the beverages and tableware to go with the entrees. Please bring a side dish, salad or dessert to share.



* ** ⋇ **Hispanic Ministries {********************************** * This Hispanic Ministries of St. Paul UMC is having a great year with our ESOL

** program! We have over 20 students learning English twice a week because ⋇ of the hard work and commitment of four wonderful volunteers! If you're * interested in helping with this program, please contact us! The children of these parents are being served during their English classes as we have a great group working with them, providing structures activities and games, $\frac{1}{8}$ helping with homework, and being an encouraging influence on their * lives. Our community continues to meet each week for worship on Saturday evenings, where we have recently delved into the practice of Lectio Divina. Our Wednesday night women's group and Bible study is a great op-* portunity for the ladies of the community to be encouraged, fellowship, learn and study and serve together. We are very blessed!

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United Methodist Student Day

Whoever is generous...lends to the LORD, and he will repay him for his deed."—PROVERBS 19:17, IS V

As he was growing up, both of Ricky Blue's parents were addicts. "We often didn't know where our next meal would come from," he recalled. "I thought, 'If God loved me, why would he put me in this situation?" One of the low points in Blue's life came in the seventh grade when his father lost their home in Luling, La., due to gambling.

As one door closed, another opened when a friend invited Blue to attend Luling United Methodist Church. Beginning with Blue's first visit, the congregation embraced him. Members of the church's United Methodist Women group took turns bringing Blue to church each week and



making sure his life was on track. These acts of kindness, including assurance he had food each day, deeply nurtured Blue's faith journey. Throughout his high school days, the church became his extended family, filling the roles of mom, dad, uncles, brothers, aunts and mentors. "Thanks to my home church," Blue said, "I began to understand that God had a purpose for me and the rest of my life." He eventually felt God's call to become an ordained minister. Facing a process of possibly 10 years to become ordained in The United Methodist Church, Blue faced the awesome challenge of financing his education.

November 30, 2014

"I was discouraged because my biological family couldn't help me," he said. "That's when my church family stepped in again and made a difference in my life. My church, with less than 100 members, raised \$4,000 for me to attend school."

The gift of love and support, masterminded by the congregation's United Methodist Women, gave Blue what he needed to begin. In addition to support from the Luling congregation, he sustained his goal with a Gift of Hope scholarship made possible by contributions to the annual church wide United Methodist Student Day offering. "I pray that the people of The United Methodist Church will give to this scholarship fund that encourages and supports new leaders for the church," he said.

Moving forward in faith Blue works at Troy (III.) United Methodist Church, where 100 students are active, thanks largely to his leadership and a corps of volunteers. Blue is a certified candidate for ministry in the Illinois-Great Rivers Annual Conference. His dream is to be appointed to a retreat ministry that will enable him to reach out and minister to other young people.

Your gifts to United Methodist Student Day help students like Ricky Blue continue their education and their faith journey as they strive to make a difference in the world and discern what God planned for them. Please give generously!





e Giving Garden St. Andrew United Methodist Church is a suburban church located in Beavercreek. In the past, their United Methodist Women have participated in our Tuesday Lunch and have donated money. This year a group from the congregation decided to plant a garden with the proceeds coming to St. Paul. The garden idea "burst into being from a seed" [idea] in January, 2014 according to Donna Shoup. The enthusiastic team has cultivated a great variety of organic vegetables includ-

ing lettuce, greens, green beans, beets, yellow squash, zucchini, onions, tomatoes plus some herbs. They ten-

derly wash, bag, and label the veggies and then deliver the produce weekly to St. Paul. Their gifts are put on a table for people to come in and pick up to supplement their groceries.

The "Giving Garden" crew is divided into harvesting and delivery teams. A person who can't do the hard physical work volunteered to be the signup scheduler: a watering chart, a weeding chart, and a delivery chart. This St. Andrew's outreach ministry is intergenerational. There is a core group of 35 people that is supplemented with help from the Boy Scout troop, the Youth group, and the Vacation Bible School children. Donna Shoup shares that the "Giving Garden" has brought people together and warmed their hearts because they are able to make a difference. This project has made the St. Andrew

congregation a partner with St. Paul UMC as we strive to be a Matthew 25 congregation. The folks from St. Andrew generously give of themselves to make a difference in the lives of some very needy people. We give thanks for God's bounty.



CHRISTMAS OPPORTUNITIES

The St. Paul UMC Parents' Christmas Shop will be Saturday, December 6th this year. The Parents' Shop is a wonderful way to help low income parents to provide Christmas for their families. Please help to make this year's

Parents' Shop the biggest and best shopping experience ever!

<u>The following new items valued at</u> \$10 -\$100 are needed or ages birth-17:

Toys and Games Bikes/Scooters Cologne/Perfume Sports Equipment Car/Doll sets Clothes/Shoes

Electronics such as Video Game Systems, DVD players, IPODs, Stereos, etc...

| 2 Office Hours 9:00am—3:00pm M—F 2 Office Hours 9:00am—2:30pm M,W,TH 2 Food Pantry 10:00am—2:30pm M,W,TH | | | | | | |
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| | | - | | | l 2:30pm—2:00pr | |
| | for this i | s God's v | Wed circumst will for yo Thessalonians 5: | ou in | Fri | Sat 1 Community Breakfast 9:00am Served by Belmont UMC |
| Time to change your clock. Worship Celebration 11:00am United Methodist Women Following Worship | _ | 4 Please VOTE! Worship 11:20am Lunch 12 noon Served by Normandy UMC Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm | | 6 Koffee Hour 11:00am Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm | | STEAK DINNER 8 Community Breakfast 9:00am Served by Englewood UMC Worship in Spanish 5:30pm |
| 9 Worship Celebration 11:00am Buckeye Orders due | 10 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm | 11 Worship 11:20am Lunch 12 noon Served by Christ UMC Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm | 12 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Girl Talk 6:30pm—7:30pm Sp. Bible Study | 13 Koffee Hour 11:00am Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm | | 15 Community Breakfast 9:00am Served by Normandy UMC Worship in Spanish 5:30pm |
| 16 Worship Celebration 11:00am Buckeyes Available | 17 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm | 18 Worship 11:20am Lunch 12 noon Served by Lewisburg UMC Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm | 19 Sr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm Las Amigas 5:00pm—6:30pm Girl Talk 6:30pm—7:30pm Sp. Bible Study | 20 Koffee Hour 11:00am Jr. Peacemakers 4:00pm—6:30pm ESOL Classes 6:00pm—8:00pm | | 22 Community Breakfast 9:00am Served by Community UMC GLBT Dinner |
| 23 Worship Celebration 11:00am 30 Worship Celebration 11:00am | 24 Young Peacemakers Club Family Dinner 5:30pm NO ESOL Classes | 25 Worship 11:20am Lunch 12 noon Served by Bellbrook UMC NO Jr. Peacemakers | NO Girl Talk | 27 CHURCH IANKSGIVING | 28 CLOSED DAY | 29 Community Breakfast 9:00am Served by St. Charles Catholic Church No Worship Service |