



St. Paul Ministries

101 Huffman Avenue • Dayton, OH 45403

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Visit our website: stpauldayton.org

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



Not just live but interactive!

Last March, when COVID caused us to worship in place, we at St. Paul finally took the leap and went “online.” Having a virtual presence wasn’t on the top of the necessities list for this one hundred and thirty seven year old congregation, but staying connected to one another certainly was!

In the first months we worshiped together on Zoom, each in our own homes. We learned how to navigate the application and taught one another. But soon enough, we missed our beautiful sanctuary and needed to find a way to safely return to it. We did so in a “stone soup” sort of way. One family contributed web-cameras and another gave an old computer; we pulled a smart TV from a classroom to be used as a monitor, and we put our heads together to connect our very old sound system to the Zoom call. By the grace of God, it worked! (Although all the cords and cables running throughout the front of the sanctuary were a nightmare!)

Although we would much rather be all together in person, we have found that gathering on Zoom might be the next best thing. Our “online” worship is not pre-recorded or even live-streamed, but it is interactive. On Sunday mornings we log into the Zoom call, some in the sanctuary and others from home. Everyone, whether at home or in the sanctuary can see and hear everyone else. Each person is able to participate in worship whether by reading Scripture, adding to our discussions, reporting praises and prayer requests, or even by simply nodding along. We’ve learned that with this technology neither sickness nor snow, distance nor disease can keep us from worshipping together!



As we realized the extreme benefit of integrating at-home and in-person worship through technology, we decided that being virtual is not temporary, therefore it is now the time to upgrade our audio-visual system to one that is more functional and permanent. We put a team together to research, develop, and implement a plan for the upgrade which includes replacing the sound system, speakers, and hand-me-down computer, updating our microphones, and purchasing cameras to replace the small webcams that we had been using. The team has also been tasked with not allowing technology to infringe on the beauty of our 1883 sanctuary. With the help of Blaine and Jerry, who have run cables, hung TVs, and even re-purposed an unused organ, we have found new, inconspicuous homes for our devices.

Generous donations in the amount of \$4,300 from our church family have allowed us to implement approximately half of the necessary upgrade. To complete the project we need an additional \$5,500. Are you able to partner with us to reach our goal? Checks should be made payable to St. Paul UMC (with a memo: “Interactive Technology”) to the church at 101 Huffman Ave., Dayton, Ohio 45403. Any amount you are able to contribute will be greatly appreciated.

We praise the Lord because in this time we have not simply survived, but we have unexpectedly discovered that we have thrived as a truly interactive body of Christ. Thank you for being a part of this body!

Blessings,

Rev. Elizabeth Heft



Academy for Spiritual and Social Practice

2021 WINTER OFFERINGS

All events listed will be conducted via Zoom. To receive a link, email:
academyforspiritualpractice@gmail.com

WOMEN

RISE

UP

Sacred Stories of Resistance For Today's Revolution

Thursdays at 7:00pm ET
February 18 thru March 25

You probably have listened and read the Bible stories of Women--named and unnamed--many times. This Lenten season we invite you to re-acquaint yourself with these stories and explore them from the perspective and place where you find yourself in 2021. Along with our Bibles, we will be using the text, *Women Rise Up*, by Katey Zeh, to expand our reference points and reflect on the culture we live in. Katey encourages us to look beyond the words on the page and see how these ancient stories intersect with issues women are currently facing.

Each week of Lent, we will come together via Zoom to focus on one of these stories. We will find layers of richness that come from our reflecting and sharing as a group.

This is not just a study for women. Men are also invited and encouraged to register.

Facilitators for this study:

Linda Bales Todd
Marcia Florkey
Cecelia Long
Becky Ruple
Beth Vanoli

Author, Katey Zeh, will be joining us for the first session to share her vision and journey in writing the book.

Virtual Prayer Circle

Join St. Paul's drop-in Contemplative Prayer Circle. We gather on Zoom every Wednesday at 3pm and Saturday at 10am for Centering Prayer, reflective readings and discussions.

Getting Comfortable on Zoom: A fun way to learn Zoom

- More "**Basic Zoom**" sessions are scheduled for Thursday, February 18 at 2:00pm and Tuesday, March 2 at 7:00pm.
- Small groups are currently forming for a new workshop, "**Hosting a Zoom Meeting.**" If you would like your name placed on a list of interested people, email:
academyforspiritualpractice@gmail.com

FREE TAX PREPARATION

For families earning \$70,000 or less
St. Paul United Methodist Church
101 Huffman Ave, Dayton OH 45403

First come, first served!

- Note for this year: Drop off tax materials
January 25 – April 9, 2021
M, W, Th, F 9am – 1pm

Please bring:

- W-2 (2020)
- Forms and packet from 2019
- Tax-deductible receipts
- Bank name, account number, routing number
- Photo ID
- Dependents' social security cards

Service provided by



Volunteer Income Tax
Assistance program



The Sub Sale is back by popular demand!

Our delicious freshly made subs come with ham, salami, bologna, cheese, onions, banana peppers and pizza sauce on a 6" bun. The cost is \$4.00.

You may place a sub order with payment beginning Monday, February 8, 2021. All orders and money must be in by **Friday, March 5**. Subs will be available for pickup on Friday, March 12 from 12 noon-1 p.m.

Please spread the word and help make this sub sale a successful fundraiser for St. Paul United Methodist Women!

St. Paul UMC Semi-Annual Steak Dinner

!!!CARRY OUT ONLY!!!

Saturday, April 17, 2021

4-6 p.m.

Adults - \$10 / Children - \$5

Please call 937-252-4467 to reserve your meals.

Reservation deadline is Friday, April 9 at 1 p.m.

***Meal Pickup:** Enter church through sanctuary or office doors, wearing a mask. Wait in sanctuary (social distancing) for your order. Exit by office door.*

There will be a limited number of handicap parking spaces on 4th St. and on Huffman Ave. for curbside order and delivery.



MENU

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



Hispanic-Latino Ministry Update

The Lenten season begins on **Ash Wednesday, February 17**. We will be offering a **bilingual service via Zoom** starting at **7:30 p.m.**. The ashes and the bulletin will be mailed via the U.S. Postal Service to each participant the week before. If you wish to receive ashes, send your mailing address to Rev. Susan Whigham at saintpauldaytonnews@gmail.com by February 10, 2021. We hope you will join us!

A Spanish language Lenten study created by Amelia Boomershine and Rev. Susan Whigham will be offered **via Zoom in each Thursday evening during Lent from 7:30-8:45 p.m.** Amelia has been studying Spanish for a couple of years, and she will offer Scripture from the Heart from the book of Mark during each session. We look forward to Amelia's participation in this study.

Following are a few photos of our Christmas Worship celebration, and of families receiving gifts generously donated by our partners at Normandy UMC. Thanks to a generous donation, each family also received a \$50.00 Kroger gift card. And, finally, thanks to our partners at the Life Enrichment Center, our hispanic families were able to purchase gifts at discounted rates from the LEC's Christmas shop.



Pantry Needs:

Canned vegetables
Canned fruit
Canned meat
Cereal
Shelf milk
Macaroni & Cheese
Pasta
Boxed Potatoes & Rice

Canned beans
Tomato Soup
Chicken/noodle Soup
Vegetable Soup
Crackers
Salty Snacks
Peanut Butter
Jelly

Razors & shaving cream
Deodorant
Shampoo
Soap
Toilet paper
Paper towels
Toothpaste
Dish Soap