



# St. Paul Ministries

101 Huffman Avenue • Dayton, OH 45403  
937-252-4467 • FAX: 937-254-5227

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



We have a God who never gives up on us.

This message of hope is a part of the St. Paul legacy. We serve people every day who are on the edge of giving up, whose problems and backgrounds put them at great risk and whose troubles are multiple and complex. Then add to this the COVID-19 epidemic, a global threat, and you might well think we would tank. But we know that trouble produces endurance, endurance produces character and character produces hope. (Romans 5:3,4)

When everyone was shutting down, we were encouraged by our partnership with Dayton Public Health to stay open. The at-risk people we serve needed to have a place to connect with for housing, Medicaid sign up, counseling, food, and clothing. We have served as an anchor through all these months while consistently practicing and modeling safety measures.



Because we are small (but with big hearts and a strong sense of responsibility) we have been able, through our partnerships, to restructure. We are adaptable and innovative. These days, like many days in the past reveal that we can care and reach far beyond what we have even historically done.

Sometime our greatest barriers have been our own thinking. The pandemic made us rethink and quickly learn that in the 21st century we need to be online and make distance worship and study available to our friends and members. Through the growing St. Paul Academy spiritual and social justice practices are available far beyond the walls of St Paul. With the addition of a new AmeriCorps Vista worker, St. Paul is providing tutoring two days a week for Dayton Public children whose only option is online learning. Elementary children are being tutored by UD students who can do work-study hours at no cost to the church and are providing valuable one-on-one time with the children. Parents are relieved.

Everything we do today is the fruit of deep, connected relationships and shared goals with you, our broader community. You have been essential in the ministry here in East Dayton. With Great Thanksgiving in 2020 we celebrate the unity, generosity, ingenuity, and endurance of the people of God. Together we Press On.

May you be blessed as you have blessed others,

Rev. Dr. Steve Gill

## Thanksgiving 2020 with the Hispanic Community at St. Paul

We will not offer our Multicultural Thanksgiving Dinner this year, to avoid a super-spreading event during the pandemic. Instead, we will have a special Thanksgiving Worship service, using all of the safety precautions available to us to prevent the spread of the virus. There will be testimonies of thanksgiving, moments of worship and praise, reading of Scripture and, thanks to generous donations of coats (Christ United Methodist Church in Kettering) and Thanksgiving boxes (Crossroads Church) which contain a frozen turkey and all the trimmings to celebrate a lovely Thanksgiving at home, it promises to be a festive occasion despite the pandemic. Once again, God bless all of you who have kept our immigrant community in your thoughts and prayers, and have added hands and feet to your prayers through generous giving.

**\* St. Paul will be closed on November 26 and 27 for the Thanksgiving holiday \***



ADVENT OFFERING FROM ACADEMY FOR SPIRITUAL AND SOCIAL PRACTICES

## A Virtual Retreat for Women's Christmas

*BY WAY of the HEART from Jan Richardson*

Sundays beginning November 29 thru December 20; 3-4pm

If you are interested in learning more, email Beth Vanoli:  
vanolibeth@gmail.com

### Activities Update:

- + Our first ever Drive-Thru Steak Dinner was held October 17 with great success! We had 100 dinner reservations and with some very generous donations, we made over \$1700! Thank you so very much for all the support and volunteer hours.
- + The United Methodist Women held a sub sale on Friday, November 6 in order to fulfill our organizational pledge for 2020. We prepared 224 subs and made over \$700 which included some nice donations! Thanks to all the volunteers and salespeople!
- + Once again this year, Christ United Methodist Church furnished our children and youth with beautiful warm new winter coats. We are extremely grateful for this generous gift of love!
- + Even though we have been experiencing beautiful fall weather, we know that winter is coming. David's United Church of Christ has already brought us our yearly supply of handmade fleece hats and gloves. We will be able to distribute these to our children as well as people coming to pick up meals on Tuesday and Saturday. Thank you for this wonderful act of kindness!
- + Gifts are beginning to pour in for our Santa Shop where our children shop for all the members of their immediate family. If you would like to donate, gifts are needed in the \$5 - \$10 range for men, women, youth, and children of all ages. Pam Hamby has lined up gift wrappers to wrap all the selections after the children have shopped.

### Pantry Needs:

Canned vegetables	Canned beans	Razors & shaving cream
Canned fruit	Tomato Soup	Deodorant
Canned meat	Chicken/noodle Soup	Shampoo
Cereal	Vegetable Soup	Soap
Shelf milk	Crackers	Toilet paper
Macaroni & Cheese	Salty Snacks	Paper towels
Pasta	Peanut Butter	Toothpaste
Boxed Potatoes & Rice	Jelly	Dish Soap

