



Dear St. Paul's Friends,

Twenty years go by fast, don't they? Especially looking back. Mary and I were pleased with the warmhearted celebration Gretchen Anderson and her Linking Up team put together for us on May 15. It was a fine meal and a chance to savor our friendship. And what fantastic gifts! A beautiful hand-crafted quilt and a generous check for traveling. You know us well! We plan to go to Ireland in 2012.

Thank you for all these things and the kind words of appreciation. The gratitude certainly goes both ways. We appreciate each of you and what we've been able to accomplish together in Christ's name. Here's just a quick review of a *few* highlights.

- 1993 Completed the east entrance and elevator linking the whole building and making it accessible to everyone. Who guessed we'd all use it so much?
- 1994 Tried out contemporary worship at the summer 8:00 service. By 2000, it was year round. By the grace of God we added contemporary, kept traditional, and avoided the worship wars that have hurt other churches.
- 1997 Redecorated the sanctuary. After 14 years, the color scheme and the rich, medium brown pews still bring warm comments and a sense of calm.
- 1998 Changed from associate pastor model to lay staff directing specific ministries. Church attendance was at a low point, and it began to turn around.
- 2004 Remodeled our basement, restrooms, and kitchen. New commercial grade appliances allowed us to host the Community Dinner and Grab 'n Go meal.
- 2006 Sent off the first of several teams to the Gulf to help after Katrina.
Sent out and funded a team of people to start Journey as an outreach ministry to post modern unchurched people in our community.
- 2007 Updated our heating and air conditioning system and gave our traditional service an amazing Phoenix digital organ. Survived the big August flood that put 4 1/2 feet of water in our basement. The church family worked together, showed the love of God throughout the ordeal, and got ready for all the other floods that have followed.

Clearly, that's just the tip of the iceberg. For instance, remember the small groups investing their \$100 bill in acts of kindness during our 40 Days of Community? Or all the great times at VBS or the Alpha course, the No Sale Rummage Sales, or family movies at the balloon fest? In all of it, God has been shaping us and leading us. I'm thankful every day for the outstanding staff that God has blessed us with and their passion to serve him and you. And I'm grateful for the caliber of our lay leadership and each person who shares in our life together in any way.

God bless you all. See you Sunday. We'll be "Offering Christ and Discovering LIFE!"

Pastor Greg Creech

The CIRCUIT RIDER

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FOUND! SUMMER CAMP

AUGUST 7-10
FOR THOSE ENTERING 3RD-5TH GRADES

Cost and Registration

Registration received by June 12: \$150

Registration received between June 13-July 10: \$175

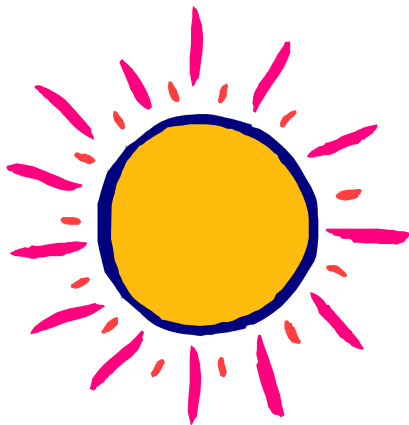
Make checks payable to St. Paul's Church

A \$50 non-refundable deposit is due at time of registration & the remaining balance is due by August 7, 2011. Questions? Contact Laurie Beaty at 419-422-4131 or laurie@stpaulsfindlay.org.



Promotion Sunday

In past years we have “promoted” children to the next grade level in the beginning of June. This year children will remain in their current grade level until the end of summer. Children will be “promoted” in August.



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL

Kids age 3-4th grade are invited to join us for an exciting Summer Sunday School!

We will use a media-driven, interactive, age-appropriate DVD-based curriculum that will help the children learn God's word and hide it in their hearts!

-Preschoolers will meet in their classroom.

-K-4th Graders will meet in the Lion Room.

We will begin using this curriculum on June 5 and continue through August 14. Our workshop based Sunday School will return in September.

The Children's Ministry of St. Paul's exists to help children discover God so they are inspired to love God, themselves, and others.

PandaMania VBS

All children age 3 (and potty-trained) - entering 5th grade are invited to attend this summer's Vacation Bible School! The kids will learn that God is wild about them as they play games, eat snacks, watch video clips, make crafts, sing, and have fun with friends! Invite your friends and family to PandaMania VBS!

Pre-registration required by 7/3/2011 to guarantee t-shirt this year.

VB\$ Volunteer Opportunities

Is God calling you to be a part of this year's amazing VBS week?

You could be as:

Crew Leader: Lead 5-7 children as they (and you!) participate in fun activities throughout the week of VBS. It's an easy, but *very* important role. All you have to do is show up and love children!

Crew Assistant: Help with a small group of kids. You must be going into 6th grade or older to help.

Nursery Caregiver: If you have a special place in your heart for infants & toddlers you could help care for VBS volunteers' 0-2 yr. olds during VBS.

Station Assistant: Help in Crafts, Snack, Cinema, Games, Drama, etc.

Sub: Can't volunteer all 5 nights of VBS, but don't want to miss out on the fun? Let us know.

If God is calling you to help with VB\$ talk with Mandy or Laurie.

**July 17-21
6-8:30 p.m.**



**One Form per
Child Please**

Child's Name _____

Last grade completed _____ Birthday _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Parent/Guardian Name _____

Home Phone _____ Cell # _____

Parent's E-mail _____

In case of emergency, contact _____

Allergies or other medical conditions _____

PandaMania t-shirts are \$6 each. Please indicate t-shirt size and return this form & money to the church or Mandy Stevens.

____ Youth S (6-8) ____ Youth M (10-12)
 ____ Youth L (14-16) ____ Adult S ____ Adult M ____ No T-Shirt

PandaMania music CDs are available for purchase for \$4 each. Please indicate below if you would like to purchase a CD & include the money with this form.

____ Yes, I would like a CD ____ No, I would not

Checks should be made out to St. Paul's Church.

Turn in registration form no later than 7/03/11
Registrations forms turned in after that date cannot be guaranteed a t-shirt.

**You can also register online by visiting
www.stpaulsfindlay.org**

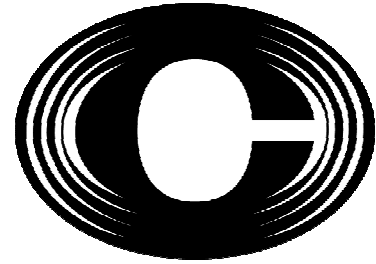
Children's Ministry

CALENDAR

June

- 5 Graduation Sunday
- 6 Graduation Breakfast
- 11-19 HS Leadership Quest
- 24-26 MS Trip to Special Olympics

Please join us for Samuel Eckert's high school graduation celebration which will be shared with his friend, Isaac Steinhour at Isaac's house.
410 Monroe Ave. from 5-9 p.m.
May 28, 2011.



CONNECT

We have finished our Connect schedule for the year and the summer camps and events will begin soon. Check out the website, and keep an eye on your email, for more information as these events are planned and announced.

SUMMER 2011 EVENTS

Dates have been finalized for our summer camps in 2011:

- ❖ High School Leadership Quest: June 11-19
- ❖ Middle School Mission Trip to Special Olympics: June 24-26
- ❖ Middle School Church Camp: July 10-15

For more information, including costs and deadlines, check the website under the "Summer Opps" link. Forms are also available there for download as we have them available.



Hey 5th graders! Did you know that this summer, you get to go to the Middle School Church Camp with the youth ministry? You should have received a brochure for it in the mail. Additional brochures will be available in the youth room if you need them. Contact mark if you have questions or need more information.

The Youth Ministry of St. Paul's exists to inspire youth to become Christ-centered, alive in their faith, and equipped to make a difference.

Northwest Plains Family Camp

Family Luau 6/22-6/26

Widewater Retreat Center

Bring the whole family and experience God

Loving **Us** Always **Un**conditionally

For more information, check out the website:

www.familycamp.herokuapp.com

Registration forms are available online.

Family Camp Mission: To grow families in Christ through Bible Study, fellowship & fun at a camp setting.

Linking Up thanks so many people who contributed to the success of our 'Simcha' (celebration) for Pastor Greg & Mary! In particular, a special thanks goes to Dave & Amy Brehm, Cathy Petersen, Diane Steen, Mary Sutherland, and Phyllis Inbody for their gifts of kitchen management. Also, the ladies who participated in making the quilt gift for the Creech's are listed as follows: Leona Burdock, Diane Egbert, Joan Foreman, Cindy Gangle, Sharon Lodge, Miriam Vance and Gretchen Anderson. Thank you to them for sharing their 'fiber' collections and passions. Finally and most importantly, thank you to the congregation for showing us your financial support in the way of a gift for a trip. You helped collect over \$3300 for Pastor and Mary to enjoy a special trip.

Flower Swap

Thursday, May 26

5-6 p.m.

Dig up any and all plants or flowers you don't want and put them in a plastic bag, cup, whatever and bring them to the church. Please mark what it is and if it prefers sun or shade. Pick up something someone else has to offer. Questions, call Mary Creech @ 419-422-8223

2011 Directory
 Linking Up has received a proof copy of the 2011 picture directory but found many corrections that need to be made. The publishing company will be sending another proof copy after the first round of corrections has been made.
 We appreciate your patience.


SENIOR LUNCHEON

Thursday, June 16

11:30 a.m.

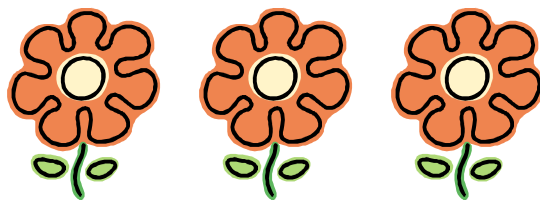
Summer Picnic

On Thursday, June 16, at 11:30 a.m. we will be holding our summer picnic. Sign up at the Welcome Center by Sunday, June 12.



Just Born

Channing Wood Stevens
April 21, 2011
 to
Jole & Brad Stevens



Linking Up

Building Up



Accomplish something millions have said is a life goal—read the entire Bible.

The Bible in 90 Days challenge takes you from Genesis to Revelations in just 12 pages a day. Join us as we experience the Bible together and turn your aspiration into inspiration.

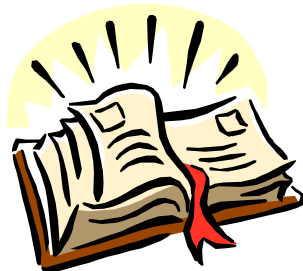
We are starting on June 23 at 6:00 PM.

You can sign up in the Welcome Center or online at www.stpaulsfindlay.org.

Questions? Contact Laurie Beaty at 419-422-4131 or laurie@stpaulsfindlay.org.

Read and Pray today

Read and pray today calendars are available at the Welcome Center and online at www.stpaulsfindlay.org.



Just Born
 Carter John Erford
 May 17, 2011
 to
 Jill & Matt Erford

Community Dinner FREE Gift Schedule

In addition to providing our guests with a delicious meal on the 4th Sunday of every month, we also send them home with a free gift. In 2011, we will give household and personal hygiene items. The guests have expressed their appreciation for receiving these items! If you choose to donate to this ministry at any time during the year, then please leave your donation behind the desk at the Welcome Center or place your donation on the wire shelves just inside the door to the basement.

- ✦ June - paper towels (2 rolls)
- ✦ July - toilet paper (4 rolls)
- ✦ August - tissue (1 large box)

Opportunities to Serve Mark Your Calendar

- ✦ June 28-30 - No Sale Rummage Sale @ Faith Academy
- ✦ July 16 - Mobile Food Pantry
- ✦ August 3-October 6 - Financial Peace University (7-9 p.m.)
- ✦ 2nd Thursday of every month—Grab-n-Go
- ✦ 4th Sunday of every month—Community Dinner

St. Paul's will partner with Chopin Hall on Saturday, July 16 to host a mobile food pantry (MFP). This year **we are in need of someone to volunteer to be the MFP coordinator.** We have hosted several MFPs and they run very

smoothly. We always have plenty of volunteers. The guidelines to successfully host a MFP have been well documented by the Diving In team.

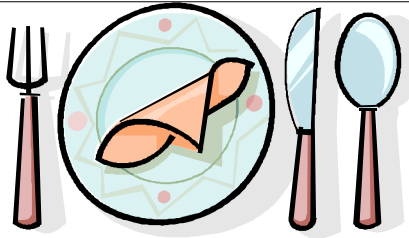
Please consider our request for help! If you're interested in being the coordinator then contact Cathy Petersen @ 419-348-7763 as soon as possible.

Please sign up at the Welcome Center to volunteer at the MFP.

St. Paul's will host a No Sale Rummage Sale (NSRS) at the Faith Academy School on June 30. Please sign up at the Welcome Center to volunteer at the NSRS.

We are going to plant a garden at 345 East Street. The produce from the garden will be used to supplement Community Dinner meals. Excess produce will be frozen and/or canned for preservation and use at a later date. We are looking for volunteers to help plant the garden as soon as the weather permits. We are also looking for volunteers to adopt 1 week during the growing season to water and possibly weed. Information about harvesting and freezing/canning will be forthcoming. Please sign up at the Welcome Center to help with the garden.

Diving In



COMMUNITY DINNER
11:30 a.m.
June 26, 2011

GRAB-N-GO
5:00 p.m.
June 9, 2011



*St. Paul's
 Grab-n-Go
 ministry is an
 extension
 of our
 Community
 Dinners.*

St. Paul's will host a Financial Peace University (FPU) class this fall. This is a 13 week course that will meet from 7-9 p.m. from August 3 through October 26. Dan Wilson will be the facilitator. Please contact Dan if you would like to purchase a membership kit for \$95. Registration will occur closer to August and you will be able to register for the class online or at the Welcome Center.



**KATRINA
 MISSION
 2011
 November 5**

You can be a part of this mission with your gifts. Make your checks to St. Paul's Church. Note "Katrina" on the memo line.

Contact Dave Tharp if you have questions.

419-306-4466

dtharp6821@aol.com

**Chopin Hall
 Mobile Food
 Pantry**

**10,000 pounds
 of food
 to be distributed.
 No income/eligibility
 requirements.**

June 11

First Presbyterian Church
 2330 S. Main St., Findlay

A representative from each family will need to attend to receive food. One person will not be able to receive food for multiple families. Hancock County residents only.

(In case of inclement weather, listen to local radio for cancellation.)

For more details, check out:
<http://neworleansmission.xanga.com/>

Diving In

News about Daniella Elysee, the Haitian Child we Sponsor

For several years now St. Paul's through the Mission Budget has sponsored a child in Haiti whose name is Daniella Elysee. We recently heard from her and learned some details about her life. Here is what we learned.

Daniella is 14 years old and has 5 brothers and 3 sisters. Her father is a market vendor and her mother takes care of the family. At home Daniella helps with sweeping, cooking, washing dishes and doing laundry. She also helps to care for a cat, dog, donkey, chickens and a hog.

She is a Christian and attends one of the Mission possible schools in her area of Haiti. She walks to school and enjoys learning about the Bible, French, Spanish, English, computers, sewing and math. At her church Daniella is part of a bell choir and a vocal choir.

Our monthly sponsorship makes it possible for Daniella to be educated at school and to have a generous meal at lunch time as well. Thank you for supporting the budget at St. Paul's and thereby giving Daniella Elysee a good start in life.

City Mission Need Help

One of their main cooks is going to be off for hip replacement surgery. We have volunteered to prepare the meal for Mondays while she is off. They have the food and the volunteers for serving and clean up. What we will be doing is preparing the meal for them to heat or bake. We can do that Saturday or Sunday and take it to the mission so they can have it in their fridge for Monday. Or if someone wants, they can cook at the Mission. If you would like to be on the list to volunteer please sign up in the Welcome center. With several people involved we won't have a huge commitment of time for any one person.

Hope House Needs Volunteers

This is for weekend staff replacement. You can sign up as little or as often as you like. The shifts are from 9 a.m. - 9 p.m. in 3 hour blocks. This is a very easy volunteer experience. You will sit in with a volunteer on their shift to see how things go. What is required while you are there: answering phones (the phone rarely rings), letting residents in and out of the door which is always locked.

You may need to initial the log when someone takes their medications. There is a TV in the office and it is a good time to catch up on some reading. Please call Shirley at Hope House (419-425-4673 if you are interested. It is a wonderful volunteer opportunity if you are not able to commit regularly scheduled hours and they very much appreciate what you can do. If you have questions, please call Jan Love.

Dividing In



Non-Profit Organization
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Findlay, Ohio

RETURN SERVICE
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CIRCUIT RIDER

Published by
St. Paul's United Methodist Church
Senior Pastor: Greg Creech
Director of Youth Ministry: Mark Lichtle
Directors of Children's Ministry:
Mandy Stevens and Laurie Beaty
Director of Adult Ministry: Laurie Beaty
Office Manager: Kelly Donat



Schedule of Services

Sundays

Contemporary Celebration—8:00 a.m.

Sunday School—9:15 a.m.

Traditional Worship—10:15 a.m.



www.stpaulsfindlay.org