

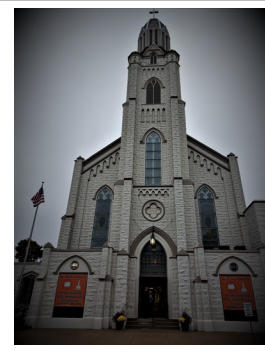


# St. Paul's Church

500 N. Downing St.  
Piqua, OH 45356

1846-2021

175 Years serving God and Community



Adult Sunday School 9:00 A.M.  
Youth Sunday School 9:30 A.M.  
Church Service 10:15 A.M.  
Nursery Care Provided ...

October 11, 2021

## Church Council Executive Committee:

- President, Steve Schulz
- Vice-President, Terry Walker
- Secretary, Vicki Couchois
- Treasurer, Brad Petry



*Edward & Marietta Gebhart*

## A Message from Pastor Keith

Greetings!

We all have a story! You have a story and I have a story. His-story and Her-story. Part of my story sits in my office at home on a shelf. I am in possession of a little red crystal goblet my Great-great grandparents, Edward and Marietta Gebhart, purchased while at the 1901 Pan American Exposition in Buffalo New York. While there, Vice President Teddy Roosevelt spoke and President William McKinley was assassinated while attending the festivities. The little glass was the starting conversation in the Gebhart family these 120 years. That little cup holds numerous memories in my story.

In the Gospel of Matthew (chapter 1) and the Gospel of Luke (chapter 3) is Jesus' story. Matthew shares the genealogy of Jesus through Joseph and Luke shares the genealogy through Mary (that is why there are some diverse names in comparing Jesus' genealogy.

First, Jesus is a true man (Luke 3) as the "son of Adam". Jesus is well acquainted with the stresses, griefs, struggles and temptations of human existence in the flesh. Secondly, Matthew describes Jesus' story as a true Jew as the "Son of Abraham". All the promises of God to Israel were fulfilled through Jesus's story. Thirdly, Jesus is described as a true King as the "Son of David". And lastly, Jesus is authenticated as the Messiah in His story by being described as the "Son of God", our true Savior. Jesus' story understands our struggles and weaknesses, brings the promises of God to fruition and in our lives, brings God's victory over Satan and sin as King of kings, and brings us to eternal life with Him as our Savior! What a story!

## **A message from our Music Director**

*Pastor, Jason Townsend*

“How Great Thou Art” Carl Boberg and some friends were returning home to Mönsterås from Kronobäck, Sweeden, where they had participated in an afternoon service. Presently a thundercloud appeared on the horizon, and soon lightning flashed across the sky. Strong winds swept over the meadows and billowing fields of grain. The thunder pealed in loud claps. Then rain came in cool fresh showers. In a little while the storm was over, and a rainbow appeared. When Boberg arrived home, he opened the window and saw the bay of Mönsterås like a mirror before him... From the woods on the other side of the bay, he heard the song of a thrush... the church bells were tolling in the quiet evening. It was this series of sights, sounds, and experiences that inspired the writing of the song, O Store Gud “How Great Thou Art”

## **Lunch Lady**

*April Toopes*



From: August 16th-September 21st

St. James box: 740 lunches

St. Paul's box: 246 lunches

Total: 986 lunches

\*Big Thank you to Micki Heater for packing lunches in St. Paul's Box while I continue at St. James.

\*Also, I want to thank everyone that has donated food and money, and those who helped put our blessing box up.

Very exciting that our new box is being utilized every day and has helped to feed the less fortunate.

## **Facilities Manager**

*Dick Harrod*

It is hard to believe that summer is almost a memory. Why does time speed by us at light speed and yet there never seems to be enough time to get everything done? With recent “turn of events” I have become more aware of how precious each hour of the day is. I need to express my gratitude to my “St. Paul's Family” for looking out for me over these past few weeks. What a wonderful group of people you are. Thank you so much for your sincere and caring hearts. I'm doing fine and with God's help I will continue to ensure that St. Paul's is a clean and safe place to worship. I do need to ask, and remind each and every one of you, that when you come into the church for whatever reason, please turn the lights off and close all doors. It is important to close the door as a fire safety measure. Open doors allow oxygen to feed the flames. Should a fire occur, closed doors would help contain the spread of the flames.

## A message from our Youth Director

Erica Petry

Hello St. Paul's Church families. The kids are reading the first book in *The Secret of the Hidden Scrolls*, The Beginning in Youth Bible Study. We are learning the foundation of how it all began. God is our creator and Jesus is our salvation. This series is so amazing. Watching the kids and their reactions is truly the greatest blessing.

Now, on to the events that our youth and so many of you have participated in... On August 22 we had baptisms. 14 youth and adults were baptized. It was definitely a glorious sight to behold! September 8, the youth and many other members did a free community pancake dinner. We served 75 meals out the door and dropped off 20 dinners to the Piqua Fire Department as a thank you for all they do for the community. On September 18th, St. Paul's Church participated in the Taste of Piqua. As the youth director, they put me in charge of the infamous apple dumplings. I was so grateful for all the guidance of Joyce Ashton and all who worked so hard to get the apple dumplings made. We made 35 pans (315 dumplings) plus 18 pans (216 servings) of samples for Taste of Piqua. Wow!



On Sunday October 3rd, we had the honor of participating in the special service to commemorate the 175th Anniversary of the church. Senior members of St. Paul's, Sterkel Coyne and Carlyne Mabbitt, brought the "Light of Christ" in to the sanctuary at the beginning of the service. The youth of the church (our future) brought the "Light of Christ" out of the sanctuary into the world at the end of the service. This is very symbolic and very important. Amber Townsend and Shelby Petry carried the candles followed by Savannah Gress, Izzy Herron, Megan Gebhart and Garrett Petry. These children did a wonderful job. It was very touching and there was no shortage of tears.

So, to wrap up the Christian Education & Youth Group side, we are getting ready for fall things, such as the annual Trick-or-Treat, youth Thanksgiving activities, making apple butter, and "giving thanks" cards. We will be handing out the Good Samaritan Christmas Shoeboxes soon. To everyone, thank you for all your guidance, your inspiration and support. It means the world to me. I wouldn't be able to do it without you. Have a blessed fall,

## Pulpit Humor

A fourth grader celebrated his birthday on crutches, so he couldn't carry the cupcakes into school without help. His sixth-grade brother was asked to help his brother carry them in. "I could," he said, "but I'd prefer not to." Spotting a teaching moment, the boy's father asked the sixth-grader, "What would Jesus do?" The young boy answered, "Jesus would heal him so he could carry his own cupcakes."

## **SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

*Vicki Couchois, Secretary*

### SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

**AUG:** (1) Financial Info: Total General Fund Assets July 31, 2021, \$70,056.67; Total Endowments \$788,283.26. (2) Christian Education reported there will be 14 adults and children baptized at the Rehabilitation Center. (3) Board of Elders reported that on August 23, three new members will be received into St. Paul's Membership and Noah Townsend will be honored as a 2021 graduate of Sidney High School. (4) Trustees reported that the contract has been signed with Hemm's Glass for replacement of the doors at the Church. (5) A motion was approved designating October 3, 2021, as the day to celebrate St. Paul's 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. (6) A Love Gift of \$250 was approved for the Nicholas Rehabilitation Center for allowing St. Paul's to use their facility for 14 Baptisms. (7) Notes of thanks were read from Marcia Niswonger for the funeral lunch and condolences expressed by everyone in the death of her husband Gary; from Joe and Marty Loughlin for allowing them to use the Fellowship Hall for the funeral lunch for Sandy Bettelon; and from Dave and Marilyn Halteman for the special plaque given to them prior to their moving to Columbus.

**SEPT:** (1) Financial Info: Total General Fund Assets August 31, 2021 \$75,205.26; Endowments \$788,523.24. (2) Heard a report from April Toopes that from August 16 through September 21 there were 956 lunches given out through the Blessing Boxes. (3) Heard a report from Bob Heater regarding the October 3 Morning Worship Service celebrating the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of St. Paul's. A representative of the City of Piqua will present a Proclamation declaring October 3 as St. Paul's Day in Piqua. Marcia Niswonger and Don Smith are in charge of decorations, a Candlelight Service is planned and Sterkel Coyne and Carolyn Mabbitt will bring forth the candles. Nancy Schelle wrote and will read the Call to Worship. There will be recognition of special guests and former Pastors. Refreshments will be served in the Fellowship Hall before and after worship. Pat McKinney will read the Candlelight Litany. Special music is planned and a group picture will be taken after the service.

## **Conservative Congregational Christian Conference (CCCC)**

*To members and friends of St. Paul's Church, Piqua, Ohio on the occasion of your 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary:*

*"I am praising God for the milestone your church is celebrating. To think that your church saw her start in 1846 speaks volumes as to her perseverance in the face of struggles. Those early days of settlement in the Southwest quadrant of Ohio were particularly challenging for the planting and sustaining of churches. St. Paul's is to be commended for not only taking root in the area but also for her long presence over the course of almost two full centuries. I believe our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ is well pleased with her courage and endurance.*

*I pray that St. Paul's will fully establish herself as a beacon to surrounding Pastors and Churches who are seeking a home with a conservative, evangelical body. May the Holy Spirit continue to move St. Paul's to do so until the Lord returns in glory".*

*Serving Christ with you,  
Reverend Timothy B. Dubeau, CCCC Mideast Regional Pastor*

## **Conservative Congregational Christian Conference (CCCC) Statement of Polity**

1. We believe that Jesus Christ is the Head of His body, the Church universal, and of each local church.
2. We believe that each local church is in itself a complete church, and therefore autonomous and possesses all rights and responsibilities of the church by the Holy Spirit as set forth in the Holy Scriptures.
3. We believe that Jesus Christ exercises His authority in each local church by the Holy Spirit and through the Holy Scriptures.
4. We believe that each local church is ultimately answerable only to Jesus Christ, and not to any association, conference, council, synod, or any other ecclesiastical body.
5. We believe that it is proper and beneficial for each local church to seek fellowship and counsel of other such local churches.

**Time to “Pack the Pantry” for the Bethany Center Food Pantry. Bring nonperishable items to church and place them in or near the container at the front entrance. The items will be delivered to the Bethany Center.**

**Alcoholics Anonymous Meetings:** Sunday’s 6 - 7 P.M. and Wednesday’s 8 – 9 P.M. Enter through the Greene St. door.

**We would like to hear from you! What is your favorite bible verse or do you have a special prayer request? Write it down and place it in the “giving plate” or mail it to:**

**St. Paul’s Church  
500 N Downing St.  
Piqua, OH 45356**

**You can also email: [mmsillman@gmail.com](mailto:mmsillman@gmail.com)**

**Thank you and God Bless**

## **2021 Calendar:**

*Calendar will be updated throughout the year*

October is National Clergy Month

October 18, 175 Anniversary of St. Paul’s Church

October 28<sup>th</sup>, 6-8 Trick or Treat

October 31, Halloween

November 11, Veterans Day

November 13, Downtown Horse Parade 7:00 P.M

November 22, Decorate for Christmas

November 25, Thanksgiving

December 11, Caldwell District Christmas Tour 5-8 P.M.

December 24, Christmas Eve Service 7:00 P.M.

December 25, Merry Christmas