

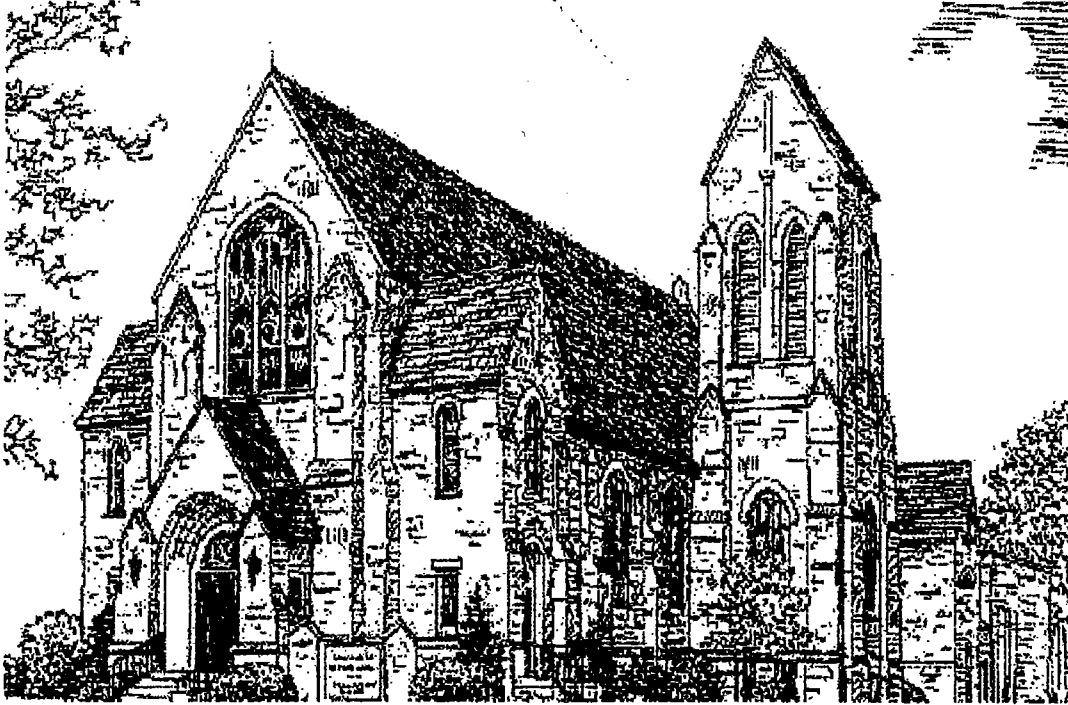
# **THE CHIMES**

**St. Paul United Church of Christ**

**Oak Harbor, Ohio**

**February, 2021**

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## **DATES TO REMEMBER**

**Monday, February 1<sup>st</sup>: Church Council**

**Sunday, February 7<sup>th</sup>: Worship w/ Holy Communion**

**Wed., February 17<sup>th</sup>: Ash Wednesday service 7:30pm**

**Wed., February 24<sup>th</sup>: Mid-week Lenten service 7:30pm**

**Tuesday 6pm Book Conversation (via Zoom)**

## **TWILIGHT REFLECTIONS**

"Again, daddy! Read it again (for the fifth time) proclaims my 3-year-old son!" many years ago. Today, I'll read to my granddaughter and the same request is made again and again. Many of us have experienced this very same scenario, haven't we? Again, and again. The repetition is predictable and for the young child it is comforting, it is how they learn to communicate, or understand that even their tiny, innocent voices can make a difference in behavior of others with whom we interact, and one day they will learn that what they say and do will define who they are as human beings again and again.

As we approach this season of Lent, we understand this season to be a time in our spiritual walk with Jesus that is predictable, repetitive and shapes our identity as followers of Jesus. Lenten rituals, both familiar and new, guide our daily actions and remind us we are as God's beloved. Lent reminds us that, again and again, suffering and brokenness find us. We doubt again, we lament again, we mess up again and again. Once again, we learn about love, about forgiveness, about the cross and about how we live in this world as Christians. In this season we ask, again, 'how long, O God?' Amid the motion, blur and chaos of our lives, God offers a promise to us again. God proclaims through the life and death of Jesus that 'I choose you; I love you; I will lead you to new life!' Again, and again God breaks the cycle and offers us a second chance, another reading, or another promise of God's eternal love for us.

Throughout the season of Lent, Pastor Scott and Pastor Dan will reflect on our Lenten theme, 'again and again.' The theme will provide a clear invitation in time when so much is not clear. Even if we are worshiping apart, we come to God again and again with our prayers, our dreams, our hopes, and our doubts. Even if from a distance, we will continue to be community to one another --- even when it is difficult -- we still choose one another over and over again. We will continue to love God with the same persistence in which, God chooses and claims us. In this season, we need rituals, both familiar and new, to remember again, how God transforms us, forgives us, and shows us another way. Repetition, like a child asking a parent to read the story again, helps our children to learn, to communicate, to feel, and to understand. Lent is that season that shapes us into more authentic and more faithful disciples of Jesus, the Christ. Join us each Sunday during Lent and our midweek Lenten service and explore with us the meaning of again and again in the context of our Christian faith. Bring all of who you are to God and trust that God meet us once again, where we are over and over again. Come and join our pilgrim walk!

***Pastor Dan***

## **LENTEN MIDWEEK PLANS!**

I am happy to share with the members of St. Paul that we will once again come together to worship during the season of Lent. Although we are not able to provide a meal prior to the service, we are happy to gather. We'll gather at 7:30 in the sanctuary, join together in a hymn sing each week and we'll explore the Lenten themes through worship and fellowship. The Lenten Schedule and themes are below:

February 17	Ash Wednesday will include communion
February 24	Vulnerability
March 3	Trusting
March 10	Seeing a New Way
March 17	New Life
March 24	A Temporary Home

## **BCS FOOD PANTRY SUGGESTED MONTHLY DONATIONS-FEB.**

- Pancake Mix
- Syrup
- Mayonnaise
- Jelly
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrush
- Kleenex
- Cake Mix
- Frosting
- Hand Soap
- Laundry Detergent

## **BOOK CONVERSATION TO BEGIN!**

Many of you have shared with the pastors how you would appreciate opportunities for Christian growth and discipleship beyond Sunday morning worship and adult Bible Study. You've talked about book studies and small groups where your faith can be nurtured and fellowship can happen. During the season of Advent we offered an ecumenical opportunity to explore the book, *Advent Conspiracy* and during this season of Lent, we would like to continue this effort by gathering a group together during this season to read, study and explore a book written by Marcus J. Borg and entitled, "*Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time: The Historical Jesus and the Heart of Contemporary Faith.*" The study will begin on Tuesday, February 23 at 6 p.m. Many congregations across our nation have studied the works of Marcus J. Borg and have expressed a renewal of their faith, finding the words, scholarship and stories that provide a new language by which to express their adult faith. This conversation will be held on Zoom. If you are interested in being a part of this conversation, please let Pastor Dan know. You are free to purchase your own copy of ***Meeting Jesus Again for the First Time*** or you can pick up a copy of the book at the church. I am really looking forward to having this conversation with you.

## **DEADLINE FOR MARCH CHIMES, 9AM WED., FEBRUARY 17<sup>th</sup>**

The deadline for the March issue of The Chimes is 9am, Wednesday, February 17th. Assembly and mailing is tentatively scheduled for 9am Wednesday, February 24<sup>th</sup>.

# FEBRUARY

- 1 Ex. 25-26 Ps. 14
- 2 Ex. 27-28 Prov. 14
- 3 Ex. 29-30 Ps. 15
- 4 Ex. 31-32 Prov. 15
- 5 *Reflect on God as Lord of All*
- 6 Ex. 33-34 Ps. 16
- 7 Ex. 35-36 Prov. 16
- 8 Ex. 37-38 Ps. 17
- 9 Ex. 39-40 Prov. 17
- 10 Lev. 1-3 Ps. 18
- 11 Lev. 4-5 Prov. 18
- 12 *Reflect on God as Counselor*
- 13 Lev. 6-7 Ps. 19
- 14 Lev. 8-10 Prov. 19
- 15 Lev. 11-12 Ps. 20
- 16 Lev. 13-15 Prov. 20
- 17 Lev. 16-17 Ps. 21
- 18 Lev. 18-20 Prov. 21
- 19 *Reflect on God as Faithful*
- 20 Lev. 21-22 Ps. 22
- 21 Lev. 23-25 Prov. 22
- 22 Lev. 26-27 Ps. 23
- 23 Num. 1-3 Prov. 23
- 24 Num. 4-6 Ps. 24
- 25 Num. 7-9 Prov. 24
- 26 *Reflect on God as Author*
- 27 Num. 10-12 Ps. 25
- 28 Num. 13-15 Prov. 25

- Matt. 23
- Matt. 24
- Matt. 25
- Matt. 26
- Matt. 27
- Matt. 28
- Mark 1
- Mark 2
- Mark 3-4
- Mark 5
- Mark 6
- Mark 7
- Mark 8
- Mark 9
- Mark 10
- Mark 11
- Mark 12
- Mark 13
- Mark 14
- Mark 15
- Mark 16
- Luke 1
- Luke 2
- Luke 3

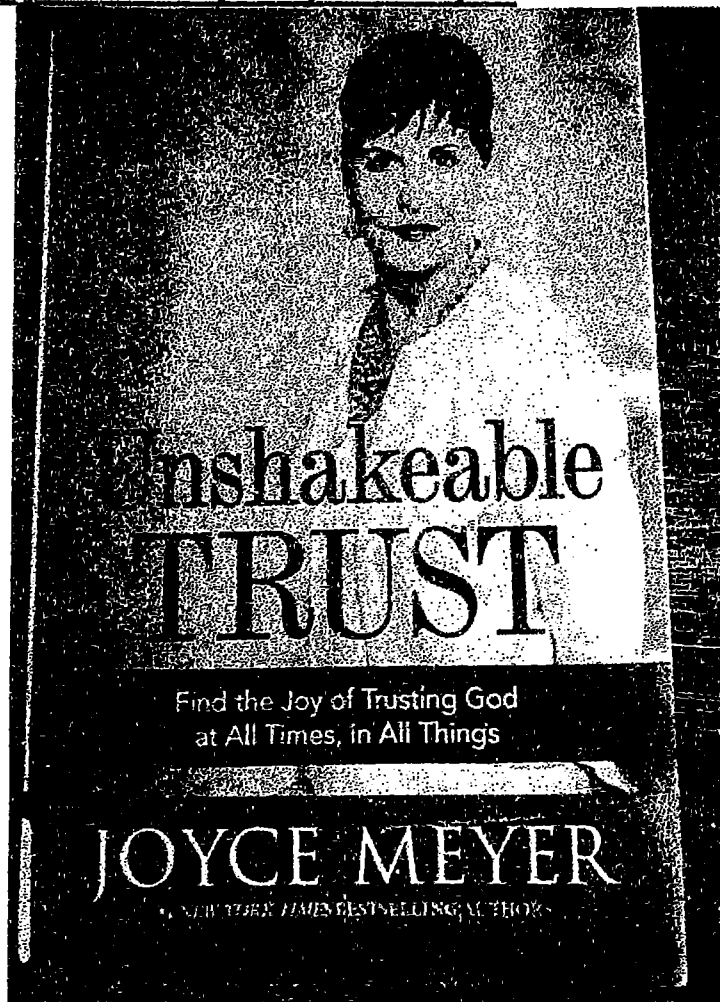
# MARCH

- 1 Num. 16-18 Ps. 26
- 2 Num. 19-21 Prov. 26
- 3 Num. 22-23 Ps. 27
- 4 Num. 24-26 Prov. 27
- 5 *Reflect on God as Redeemer*
- 6 Num. 27-29 Ps. 28
- 7 Num. 30-33 Prov. 28
- 8 Num. 34-36 Ps. 29
- 9 Deut. 1-2 Prov. 29
- 10 Deut. 3-4 Ps. 30
- 11 Deut. 5-6 Prov. 30
- 12 *Reflect on God as Helper*
- 13 Deut. 7-8 Ps. 31
- 14 Deut. 9-10 Prov. 31
- 15 Deut. 11-12 Ps. 32
- 16 Deut. 13-14 Eccl. 1:1-11
- 17 Deut. 15-16 Ps. 33
- 18 Deut. 17-18 Eccl. 1:12-18
- 19 *Reflect on God as Peace*
- 20 Deut. 19-20 Ps. 34
- 21 Deut. 21-22 Eccl. 2:1-17
- 22 Deut. 23-24 Ps. 35
- 23 Deut. 25-26 Eccl. 2:18-26
- 24 Deut. 27-28 Ps. 26
- 25 Deut. 29-30 Eccl. 3:1-8
- 26 *Reflect on God as Messiah*
- 27 Deut. 31-32 Ps. 37
- 28 Deut. 33-34 Eccl. 3:9-22
- 29 Joshua 1-2 Ps. 38
- 30 Joshua 3-4 Eccl. 4:1-6
- 31 Joshua 5-6 Ps. 29

- Luke 4
- Luke 5
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- John 4
- John 5
- John 6

**CHRISTIAN BOOK CORNER – FEBRUARY 2021**

**“Unshakeable Trust” by Joyce Meyer**



This month's book is entitled "Unshakeable Trust" by Joyce Meyer. How do you trust God when bad things happen? In the midst of illness, stress, financial hardships, pandemics or trauma, it's natural to ask "Why?" These thoughts are normal, but you can get beyond them to a place of dependence on our good Heavenly Father. In "Unshakeable Trust", Joyce Meyer explores what a life lived in the fullness of faith looks like. Drawing on her own life experiences and from God's Word, she leads readers to a place of confident assurance, a place of knowing that God has your best in mind.

***Beth Witt***

## **LOCAL AND WIDER CHURCH ONLINE RESOURCES...**

- Church website: [www.stpauluccoh.org](http://www.stpauluccoh.org).
- Facebook: search for "St. Paul UCC (Oak Harbor)"
- Northwest Ohio Association UCC website: [www.nwoa.org](http://www.nwoa.org)
- Ohio Conference UCC website: [www.ocucc.org](http://www.ocucc.org)
- United Church of Christ website: [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org)

## **ST. PAUL UCC LEADERSHIP**

### **Pastoral Staff**

Interim Pastor	Rev. Daniel Sather
Associate Pastor	Rev. Scott Cunningham

### **Support Staff**

Office Manager	Carol Pennington
Financial Secretary	Cindy Dixon
Custodian	Duane Jess

### **Church Council Members and Ministry Teams**

Keith Green –President	Lucas Jess – Finance
Lynn DeTray – Vice Pres.	John Crosser – Worship & Music
Denise DeTray – Treasurer	Becky Tong–Pastor-Parish Relations
Sandy Shearon – Secretary	Ted Harder – Evangelism
Craig Collins – Christian Education & Family Ministries	
Cindy Harder – Congregational Life & Fellowship	
Christina Barron – Mission and Stewardship	
Dave Witt – Trustees	

### **A THOUGHT FOR THE FUTURE**

When making financial decisions for the future, please consider how much can be accomplished by St. Paul Church in general and by our estate funds in particular because of the generous gifts left to the congregation through Wills and Trusts. The future support of St. Paul UCC and its capital projects and mission work draws upon gifts such as these. Please remember to keep St. Paul UCC and its future ministries in your prayers and plans. If you need more information or would like to confidentially discuss how you can provide long-term support for your church, please contact Pastor Dan or Pastor Scott.

## SCHEDULE OF FEBRUARY WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Feb. 7	Organist Acolyte Head Usher Altar Flowers (delivery)	Bonnie Daniels Jack Barron Lucas Jess Kimm Krehmke
Feb. 14	Organist Acolyte Head Usher Altar Flowers (delivery)	Beth Witt Ethan DeTray Lucas Jess Kimm Krehmke
Feb. 17 <i>Ash</i> <i>Wednesday</i>	Organist Acolyte Head Usher	Beth Witt NA Lucas Jess
Feb. 21	Organist Acolyte Head Usher Altar Flowers (delivery)	Sue Tomor Nicholas Heishman Lucas Jess Kimm Krehmke
Feb. 28	Organist Acolyte Head Usher Altar Flowers (delivery)	Bonnie Daniels Olivia DeTray Lucas Jess Kimm Krehmke



## JANUARY WORSHIP ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS

Date	Service	Attendance	Offering
December 24	Worship- (both services)	☼ 31/69	☼ \$2571
December 27	Worship	♥28	♥\$1065
January 3	Worship	40	†\$2121
January 10	Worship	49	††\$1947
January 17	Worship	46	††† \$3458
January 24	Worship	43	†††† \$▲
January 31	Worship	▲	††††† \$▲
Averages (Jan.)	Worship	▶45	▶\$2509
☼ Plus \$24 – Christmas Fund	†† Plus \$72 – Benevolence;	†††† - ▲	▲ - unavailable at time of printing
♥ Plus \$80 - Benevolence	††† Plus \$175 – Benevolence		▶ Not incl. ♥, ♥♥, ▲, ☼
† Plus \$122.50 - Benevolence			

**2021 Year-to-Date Budget (as of 1/24/2021): \$17,187 (\$5729 weekly)**

**2021 Year-to-Date Offering Budget (as of 1/24/2021): \$7,526**

# CELEBRATIONS

## **Happy Birthday in February to:**

- 1 Dean Brough
- 3 Zach Porter, Antonio Adkins, Carolyn Witt
- 4 MaKenzie Rife
- 6 Kevin Straub, Ben Gyde
- 7 Isabela Riffle, Katie Myerholtz, Sue Tomor
- 9 Tes Smarkel, Carroll Mylander
- 10 Derek Gottron, Kendal Barron
- 11 Laine McGuire
- 12 Brooke Harder, Parker Wilkins, Jennifer Wilkins
- 13 Ken Gyde
- 16 Kevin Favro, Waylon Ritter
- 19 Kathleen Winters
- 21 Joan Thompson
- 22 Luann Reif
- 23 Adam Swope, Nancy Hillman
- 24 Emilie Petersen, Dan Brough
- 25 Jim Betcher
- 27 Jennifer Thompson, Jeremiah Helle
- 28 Marty Perkins, Donna Myers, George Thompson

## **Happy Anniversary in February to:**

- 3 Frederick & Sandra Burks Schnoor
- 9 Lynn & Doris Harder
- 19 Joel & Rebekah Witkowski
- 24 Charles & Mary Hill
- 25 Bryant & Stephanie Whitcomb

*Should you be listed here? If your special date does not appear, it is only because we are not aware of it. Please contact the church office to let us know! (Please also advise us of any errors...)*



**WE WOULD LIKE TO THANK THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE:** Pastor Dan for his visit; Dave and Lois for the delicious meal and visit; Kim for delivering the beautiful altar flowers; Laura for the fruit basket; Brad for communion; Dave and Beth for the delicious lasagna meal; and everyone for their thoughts and prayers.

We sincerely appreciate being part of such a wonderful church family.

Thanks again,

***David and Mary Orman***

**THANKS TO MY ST. PAUL CHURCH FAMILY** for the prayers and concern expressed during my recent illness. It was all greatly appreciated.

***Duane Jess***



**Thanks!**

**THANK YOU** for the very generous Christmas bonus. We appreciate and are grateful for this gift. We plan to use the money to make some of our hopes and dreams come true. This past year has been a challenging year but we gotten through it all together.

***Blessings- Pastor Scott, Kristen, and Lily Cunningham***

**WHAT A KIND AND GENEROUS** Christmas bonus from the members of St. Paul United Church of Christ. I am truly surprised and blessed with the kindness of so many of our church members. Thank you so much for your gifts and your thoughtfulness. It has been a privilege to serve you through the year. I am looking forward to the times we can be together in worship, in ministry, or in the work of the church as we continue the faithful work of this congregation. Thank you so very, very much.

***Pastor Dan Sather***



# Thanks!

**A HUGE THANK YOU** from the Epiphany committee to all of the actors including Alan Diefenthaler and Kimm Krehmke (Adam and Eve) Bob Rosiak (the voice of God and Satan and several prophets) Ted Harder and Sandy Shearon (Abram and Melchizadek) our three shepherds doubling as chorale readers ( Karen Dages , Dean and Kami Brough), our angel - Tes Smarkel, 3 Wisemen - Marty and Duane Perkins and Michael Moseley, Herod the Great portrayed by Ken Perkins and Stephanie Genzman narrated, and the Holy Family - Kora Perkins as Mary and Josh Johnson as Joseph. Peter, portrayed by Dave Hegemier escorted our guests into the sanctuary to hear the words and the mathematics of the prophet Daniel portrayed by Josh Hegemier. Also, a huge thank you to our cookie bakers and Marty Barron for serving refreshments and Kami for her art talents, Sandy, Ted, Karen and Lynn for props and coordinating, and Pastor Scott for the technology assistance and Pastor Dan for the beautiful indoor service. Also, a thank you to the youth that contributed a prophetic reading - Marty, Duane & Kora Perkins, Billy and Sofia Zunk. Also a special thank you to Karen Dages for her recruiting efforts and multiple trips to provide scenery. Thanks to Sue Tomor as our organist for the Epiphany service. And, of course, thank you to all that came out on a chilly January evening to walk the journey with us!! And thank you Lynn for being my fellow guide!

**Denise DeTray**

## Church Council Minutes

Monday, January 4, 2021 Virtual

**Council Members Present:** Christina Barron, Lynn DeTray, Denise DeTray, Sandy Shearon, Keith Green, Cindy Harder, Ted Harder, Craig Collins, John Crosser, Dave Witt, Becky Tong, Pastor Scott & Pastor Dan. Nathan Barron, guest (Search Team). Absent - Lucas Jess  
Council President Keith Green called the meeting to order.

**Search Team:** Nathan gave Council the Search Team update.  
Keith had devotions & led the opening prayer.

**Secretaries Minutes:** Minutes from the December council meeting were approved.

### Treasurer's Report as of 1/3/21

Checking Account Balance	\$50,727.23
Current Income	\$38,993.73
Current Month Expense	\$51,417.23
Current Month Benevolence Income	\$3,379.19
Current Month Benevolence Expenses	\$9,896.04
Year to Date Income	\$311,929.06
Year to Date Restricted Endowment Fund Income	\$89,531.64
Year to Date Expense	\$312,209.59
Year to Date Benevolence Income	\$26,609.21
Year to Date Benevolence Expenses	\$25,876.46

Denise had just received the report & will email it to all council members. She reviewed the accounts & will be sure that there is a note about our year end outcome for the January 24 Congregational meeting. Treasurer's report was placed on file.

**Memorial Fund:** The year-end report was presented to Council. The Memorial Fund Committee asked for approval to purchase a roll of stamps @ \$55.00. Motion made by Keith Green, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Denise DeTray. Motion passed.

**Trustees:** Salt needs purchased. Lynn DeTray will purchase & take to the church. Dave Witt is looking into an Air Filtration system that could be added to our current system. Ted Harder & Doug Beck will be assisting with the Janitorial duties in Duane's absence.

**Safety and Security:** The doors have been rekeyed. Keys are available for sign out.

**Congregational Life and Fellowship:** No Report.

**Pastor-Parish Relations:** No report.

**Evangelism:** No report.

**Christian Education & Family Ministries and Youth Fellowship:** The Social Media Christmas Light Scavenger Hunt for families went well. The C.E. Virtual Christmas Pageant was short but well received.

**Mission and Stewardship:** Eight Holiday Cheer Baskets were delivered. They received several large hams from Materion for the baskets & shared with the Food Pantry. The Angel tree went well. The next meeting is January 25, 2021.

**Finance Team:** No report.

**Worship and Music:** The next team meeting is January 19<sup>th</sup> to address Lent & Easter services.

**Associate Pastor's Report:** Pastor Scott asked to discuss mask wearing. After much discussion it was evident that the congregation is very conscientious about wearing masks during Sunday services. The Covid Protocol that Council has published indicates that there should not be other events scheduled at

this time. Council will follow the Heartland Conference guidelines should any issues arise with Pastoral Care due to the pandemic.

**Senior Pastor's Report:** Pastor Dan shared the Prayer list with Council & reviewed his Monthly activity report with Council. He read a Thank You note from Marie Wittman. He is still missing some Team Annual Reports. These must be turned in as quickly as possible so that Carol has time to get them into the Annual Report that will be published for the January Congregational meeting.

**Old Business:**

- **Food Pantry:** The insurance policy has been received & will be filed appropriately.

**New Business:**

- **Election of Officers:**

- President, Keith Green, motion-Craig Collins, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lynn DeTray, passed
- Vice President, Lynn DeTray, motion-Denise DeTray, 2<sup>nd</sup> Sandy Shearon, passed
- Secretary, Sandy Shearon, motion-Keith Green, 2<sup>nd</sup> Denise DeTray, passed
- Treasurer, Denise DeTray, motion-Sandy Shearon, 2<sup>nd</sup> Lynn DeTray, passed

- **Team Assignments:**

- Trustees: Dave Witt
- Safety & Security: Lynn DeTray
- Pastor Parish Relations: Becky Tong
- Finance: Lucas Jess
- Evangelism: Ted Harder
- Christian Education, Family Ministries & Youth Fellowship: Craig Collins
- Mission & Stewardship: Christina Barron
- Congregational Life & Fellowship: Cindy Harder
- Worship & Music: John Crosser

- **Head Usher Schedule:** Each month was assigned per Council requests.

- **2021 Meeting dates:** Council will continue to meet on the first Monday of each month, changing as required for Holidays.

- **Co-Chairs for the Teams:** Keith suggested that each team appoint a co-chair.

- **Technology Team:** Pastor Scott presented a request to invest in a new Router for the Sanctuary & Google Mesh to network the equipment. This will enhance our building's network capabilities for wireless printers, Smart TV's in the Sunday School rooms, etc. Keith made a motion to spend up to \$500 for same. Becky Tong gave the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Motion passed.

- **Team List:** Keith composed & shared a Team list with emails & phone numbers.

**Next Meeting:** Monday, February 1, 2021 – 6:30pm; Devotions & Head Usher-Lucas Jess

Respectfully submitted,

Sandy Shearon

# Loving embraces

Express your love and friendship with handcrafted bracelets.



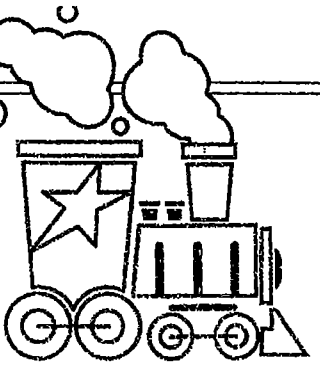
## What you need:

- Adult help
- Bowl of boiling water
- Wide wooden craft sticks
- Glass cup
- Markers, paint or decorative tape

## What you do:

1. Pour about 3 cups of boiling water into a bowl. Soak sticks in the water about 30 minutes.
2. Remove sticks and slowly, gently bend them into a curve.
3. To maintain the shape, place curved sticks inside a glass cup overnight to dry completely.
4. Remove and decorate the bracelets, which make fun Valentine's Day gifts.

# PUZZLE



## A famous friendship

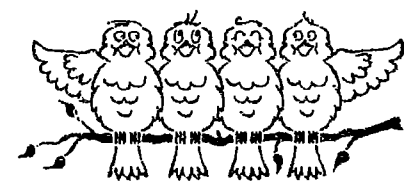
In the Bible, Ruth and Naomi are known for their loving friendship.

Directions: Using the key, fill in the blanks to see what Ruth says to Naomi.

“

J O U A U    A C O    E E E  
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 N L U A    A C O A    N U E N A U  
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RUTH 1:16, NIV



W	A		E	T
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Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to noon, Monday to Friday (please call in advance)

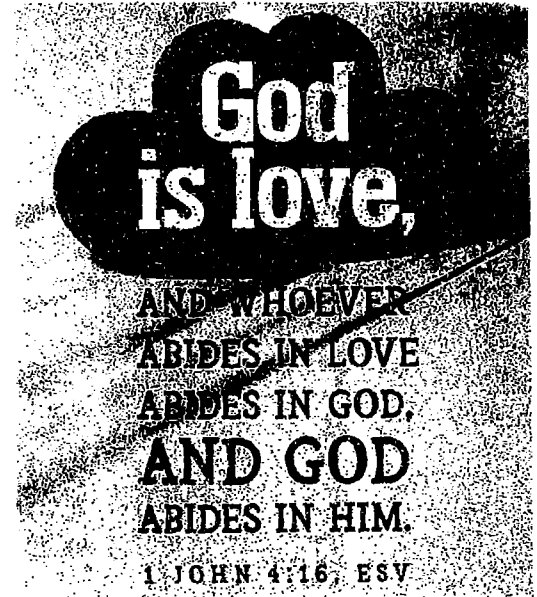
Office Phones: (419) 898-0852; Fax (419) 754-2101

Carol Pennington, Office Manager

Office e-mail: [office@stpauluccoh.org](mailto:office@stpauluccoh.org)

Rev. Dan Sather, Interim Pastor, [pastordan@stpauluccoh.org](mailto:pastordan@stpauluccoh.org), 812-483-9656

Rev. Scott Cunningham, Assoc. Pastor [scottcunningham34@gmail.com](mailto:scottcunningham34@gmail.com), 815-354-2803  
(home/cell)



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