



# THE EPISTLE OF ST. PAUL

September 2018

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For an electronic  
version of  
**THE EPISTLE**,  
please visit our  
website at:  
[www.stpaulnch.com](http://www.stpaulnch.com)

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## *Worship Opportunities*

### Sundays:

**9:50 AM** Traditional  
Worship in Sanctuary  
Sunday School

## Ponderings From The Pastor

### *INVESTING IN GOD'S FUTURE: LISTENING*

HAVE YOU EVER tried to carry a tub of water, or some other liquid? Some of whatever is in that tub *always* sloshes out on your pants and your shoes! No matter how carefully you try to be, no matter how steady and slowly you try to walk, or how level and even you try to keep that tub...SLOSH!

That's because liquid so easily transfers energy. Notice how even the slightest little breeze will ripple a puddle or a pond. By yourself, it seems virtually impossible to carry that tub without spilling some of it. You just can't walk slow enough, or slow down slowly enough, without some of the inertia of your movement being transferred into that tub and pushing the liquid inside over the edge, even if just a little!

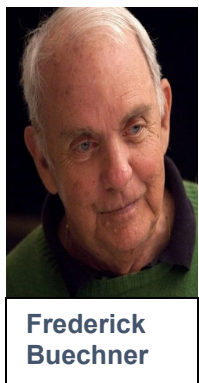
But add another person, and try it. You still have to be careful and at least a little coordinated ...but *together*, the two of you have a much better chance of getting the tub from point A to point B without spilling it, or at least without spilling as much as you would have on your own!

Sure, it's a silly little example—but it seems we're made to *need* each other. This is nowhere more true than in the Church today...and in *our* church.

This month—on September 13 to be exact—St. Paul UCC will launch *New Beginnings*. And I will tell you right now that it will be a *total flop* if we decide we don't need each other! Should any one of us choose not to need the rest of us, that person will single-handedly diminish the overall chance for a positive and successful outcome. And should two or more band together and decide in a little group not to need any other group, or the larger group...well, we will to that further extent be wasting our precious time and money. We need each other. We need each other's stories, experiences, and weird personalities! We need each other's successes and failures, foibles and fascinations.

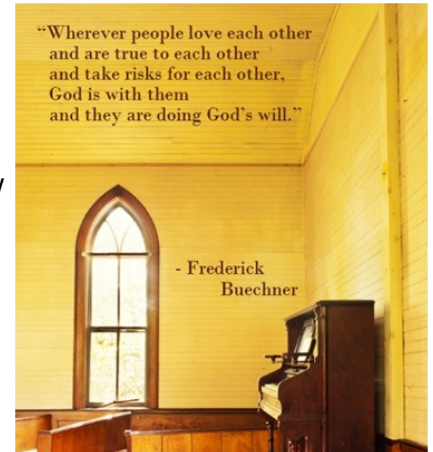
And above all else we need to LISTEN TO EACH OTHER. Your story and my story may be vastly different—but they are also much more the *same*—*more than we ever truly realize*.

In Listening To Your Life, the great Frederick Buechner writes about why this is so...



**Frederick  
Buechner**

*"LIFE BATTERS AND shapes us in all sorts of ways before it's done, but those original selves which we were born with and which I believe we continue in some measure to be no matter what are selves which still echo with the holiness of their origin. I believe that what Genesis suggests is that this original self, with the print of God's thumb still upon it, is the most essential part of who we are and is buried deep in all of us as a source of wisdom and strength*



## Ponderings From The Pastor (continued)

*and healing which we can draw upon or, with our terrible freedom, not draw upon as we choose. I think that among other things all real art comes from that deepest self—painting, writing music, dance, all of it that in some way nourishes the spirit and enriches the understanding. I think that our truest prayers come from there too, the often unspoken, unbidden prayers that can rise out of the lives of unbelievers as well as believers whether they recognize them as prayers or not. And I think that from there also come our best dreams and our times of gladdest playing and taking it easy and all those moments when we find ourselves being better or stronger or braver or wiser than we are.”*

This is *not* to say of course that we should never speak up or hold our tongue when we have something to offer—especially something pertinent or relevant. Not at all—there can be no listening without some speaking! But listening must be *afforded at least equal time* on my part and yours as speaking. We need to really hear and experience each other’s “original selves,” to hear each other’s truest prayers—especially those unspoken and unbidden ones—and really try to experience one another’s hidden art and wisdom and strength...so that all this can maybe refine and maybe even reshape our own selves and our group self, our church.

I’ll be praying for this—that we will deeply appreciate more and more how we need each other and need to listen with respect, dignity and care to one another, throughout the New Beginnings process. I ask you to join me in this prayer, and to ask God to help *you* yourself be a good listener, to give you self-insight and growing self-awareness.....and for God to help us all to “*find ourselves being better or stronger or braver or wiser than we are.*”

*SHALOM,*

*Pastor Barry*

*In Loving Memory*

GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

IN Memory of Gladys Elsasser

Nola & Jan Apro

Dot Kahle

Alice Blum

Lois & Dick Manifold

Linda Woods

FACEBOOK PAGE

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Paul-United-Church-of-Christ-NCH/451020504934791>.

# News and Updates

The next Council meeting is Monday,  
September 17, 2018 7:00 PM.

## Council News

Your New Council is "back" in session and ready to begin working for the church and making things happen. If you find that you have questions or concerns in a particular area of the building or within a committee, please be sure to talk with the chairman of the committee with your question or concern. Here is the list of all members of the Church Council.

President - Judith Lewis-Combs - 729-3152  
Secretary - Nancy Klusmeier - 923-1369  
Treasurer - Anne Zimmer - 513-260-0573  
Nurture Team - Linda Woods - 513-289-5335  
Welcome Team - Diane Banker - 522-3318  
Endowment - Jan Apro - 931-2417

Vice President - Jan Apro - 931-2417  
Finance - Donna Hodson - 904-333-9422  
Care Team - Margie Fassnacht - 574-0354  
Facilities - Rick Davis - 574-8345  
Worship Team - Vicki Ritz - 741-7868  
Sr. Minister - 513-317-8146

Office Administrator - Office - Anne Zimmer - 931-2205



### OCTOBER EPISTLE DEADLINE

The Epistle deadline for the October edition is Wednesday, September 19, 2018. Please submit the information either by email to Anne or drop it in the Epistle box in the main office. There is also a folder in the blue mailbox outside the office.



### PLEASE HELP US with LIGHTS AND DOORS

On several occurrences lately, we have found an outside door unlocked. Please be sure to check doors before you leave, especially if you are the last one out.

Please do your diligence to make sure that the lights are off in the building when you leave.

Thank you





## *The “New Beginnings” Corner*

*Keeping YOU Up To Date on our  
Church-Wide Vision Process!*

*WATCH HERE in each month's “Epistle” for Updates and Information*

### **MEET OUR ASSESSOR/FACILITATOR! : The Rev. Doug Pfeiffer**



Doug has over 35 years of experience serving churches and church-related agencies. His ministry experience spans a wide array of positions, from associate pastor, to pastor, senior pastor, college chaplain, college instructor, and college counselor, as well as positions on regional (middle judicatory) staff.

He has served in Texas, Florida, Missouri, Nebraska, and Iowa, and is currently the senior pastor at First Christian Church of Adel, Iowa. Doug also has served on and led regional and national teams focused on local church transformation, youth ministry, and new church start ministry. He is a published author and has contributed articles and led workshops on organizational dynamics and change. He has also coached several congregations in revitalization and transformational processes.

In his spare time, Doug trains for triathlons and enjoys biking, reading books, swimming, watching movies, running, journaling, hiking, kayaking, and nordic and alpine skiing. He and his wife Debbie enjoy life together, their family, and their two dogs in Adel, Iowa.

### **MARK YOU CALENDARS!!**

**New Beginnings** is coming soon! Phase one will be on **Thursday, September 13**: our on-site assessment with the Rev. Doug Pfeiffer (from Hope Partnership for Missional Transformation). That evening, Doug will lead an Appreciative Inquiry session at 7 PM. **ALL church leaders--Staff, Council, teachers, and committee or group members--**are invited and encouraged to attend this meeting. Our goal is to try to limit the number of attendees to about 30 (per Doug's request, due to time limitations--allowing enough time for good questions and answers!). If you wish to attend and are NOT part of a SPUCC group, team, or committee, call Pastor Barry for an update on available slots! (513-317-8146)





St. Paul UCC  
Holiday Craft Show



Saturday, October 27, 2018

10 am - 3 pm

Come do your Christmas Shopping with us.

All In One Place

Quality Homemade/Handmade Gifts

Pottery, Crystal Jewelry, Quilted Items, Baby Items,

Bath Bombs, Sugars Scrubs,

Wooden Items, Paper Crafting,

Handmade Cards, Wreaths, Vinyl Crafts,

Hand-Woven Baskets and more.

Retail Direct Sales Entrepreneurs

Food and Refreshments

Multiple Basket Raffle



St. Paul UCC , North College Hill  
(Fellowship Hall, upstairs, downstairs)

6997 Hamilton Ave.

Cincinnati, OH 45231

513-931-2205

For Additional Information

call Lynn Kluesener 513-266-6890

Free Admission



# From The Nurture Team

## Samaritan Purse ("Shoe Box") Project

We will once again be filling shoe boxes for needy children overseas. The shoe boxes are filled and wrapped in November so they can be shipped for the children to receive at Christmas. Last year we filled 36 shoe boxes and would like to match that again this year. In order to do this WE NEED YOUR HELP by donating items from the list below or by making a monetary donation and we will do the shopping. Monetary donations can also help to cover the shipping costs. Empty shoe boxes are also needed to fill!

The following are items needed to fill the shoe boxes: **NEW UPDATED LIST**

Doll	Bandages	Small Manual Pencil Sharpener	Underwear
Stuffed Animal	Sunglasses	Colored Pencils	Socks
Harmonica or Kazoo	Small Cars, Trucks	Pencil Case	Flip-flops
Hairbrush	Jump Ropes	Crayons and Markers	Hats
Toothbrush	Yo-yo	Pens	Scarf
Washcloths	Hacky Sack Balls	Coloring Books, Puzzles	Mittens
Packaged Bar Soap	Water Bottle	Plastic Dinosaurs	Hair bows/barrettes
Small Tote Bags	Small Purses	Pencils	Watercolor paints
Paintbrushes	Canvas/Paper	Play Dough w/ plastic cookie cutters	Slinky
Small etch a sketch	Flashlight w/batteries	Compact Mirror	Blank Index Cards
Safety Scissors	Rulers/Protractors	Chalkboard/ chalk	Binoculars
Small Frisbee	Small Kites	Bead Jewelry/Bead Kit	Sewing Kit
Fabric, 1-2 yards	Ribbon	Gardening Kit, Gloves, Hand Tools	Building Blocks
Playing Cards	Marbles	Tool Kits (Plastic too)	Tennis Ball
Baseball/ Mitt	Bandana	Bright Colored Rope/Twine	Fishing Kit

Soccer Ball with Manual Air Pump or Kickball w/ pump– this is a *favorite* for both boys *and* girls! Last year we found that Wal-Mart had THE BEST price on soccer balls & air pumps.

Items that we cannot send include candy, toothpaste, gum, used items, war-related items such as toy guns, knives or military figures, chocolate or food of any kind, drink mixes, liquids or lotions, glass or aerosol containers.

It may seem early to be thinking about this, but if we get an early start, we can take advantage of sales or other bargains over the next few months! NOW IS THE TIME TO BUY SCHOOL SUPPLIES. All the Back to school prices are great for making your dollar go even farther.

Please consider helping with this important mission of St Paul UCC. Items for the shoe boxes and monetary donations (clearly earmarked "for Samaritan Purse Project") can be brought to the church office. Monetary donations can also be placed in the offering plate. Please let Anne Zimmer or Linda Woods know if you would like to help fill the shoe boxes in November – it's a lot of fun! As always, we greatly appreciate the generous support of our St Paul family!



Thank you everyone for items already brought in.... we appreciate your participation!

## St. Paul United Church of Christ

6997 Hamilton Avenue Cincinnati, OH 45231

931-2205

## 2018 NUT &amp; CANDY SALE

We are offering FRESH NUTS AND CANDY for the holidays at a lower than suggested retail price.

*Thank you for your support - proceeds will benefit the General Fund.*

Oz	Description	Cost	Qty	Total Cost
16 oz	Fancy Pecan Halves Natural	\$11.00		
16 oz	Pecan Pieces	\$11.00		
16 oz.	Smoked Pecans	\$11.00		
16 oz	Light Walnut - Halves & Pieces	\$11.00		
16 oz	Deluxe Mixed Nuts	\$11.00		
16 oz	Giant Whole Cashews	\$11.00		
16 oz.	Pistachios	\$10.00		
16 oz.	Chipotle Mixed Nuts	\$12.00		
16 oz.	Honey Roasted Cashews	\$11.00		
16 oz	Praline Pecans	\$10.00		
16 oz.	Heart Healthy Nut Mix	\$10.00		
16 oz	Almond Cranberry Granola Mix	\$9.00		
16 oz	Sweet and Salty Trail Mix	\$9.00		
16 oz.	Milk Chocolate Coated Cashews	\$11.00		
16 oz	Milk Chocolate Coated Jumbo Raisins	\$7.00		
16 oz	Milk Chocolate Bridge Mix	\$9.00		
16 oz	Dark Chocolate Coated Almonds	\$10.00		
16 oz	Milk Chocolate Coated Peanuts	\$8.00		
16 oz	Giant Malted Milk Balls	\$8.00		
16 oz	Dark Chocolate Cranberries	\$8.00		
16 oz	Gummi Bears	\$7.00		
9 oz	Chocolate Pecan Clusters Turtles	\$10.00		
8 oz	Mint Melt A Ways	\$10.00		
8 oz	Dark Chocolate Sea Salt Caramels	\$10.00		
8oz	Dark Chocolate Peanut Butter Melts with Sea Salt	\$10.00		
			Total	

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: St. Paul United Church of Christ

**Payment Due at time of Order**

We will notify you when orders have arrived

**Questions? Call Judith 729-3152**

Last day to place your order: Sunday, September 23, 2018.

**NO GUARANTEE FOR LATE ORDERS**

**ORDERING TODAY LETS US KNOW HOW MANY CASES WE NEED TO PURCHASE.**

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so that you can turn in your Nut Order on the  
other side



## St. Paul UCC Holiday Craft Show

We are in need of any donations of large Baskets or Containers for use in making raffle baskets for our upcoming Holiday Craft Show at St Paul that you may have around your home. Please bring them to church each Sunday and put them in or on the table in the room outside the main office (by the kitchenette).



We are also accepting any gift cards, new items that are wrapped or in boxes that can be added to create 'theme' baskets for us to raffle at church. (Ex. Spa, candle, kitchen, children, holiday, wine, sports, etc.)

Thank you for your support in making this a successful St. Paul Community Event and Fundraiser!

If you have questions, please contact:

Trudy Jester, 513-314-2148

Lois Bates, 513-284-2148

Trecy Bates-Webb, 513-233-5361



Raffle tickets will be available soon!

## Mission Partner News

### MT. HEALTHY PANTRY NEEDS

Deoderant, Bar Soap  
Tooth Paste, Shampoo  
Toilet Paper, Tooth Brushes

Canned Fruit, Cereal

You can bring items to the main office and we will be sure to get it delivered.



Community Fundraiser Event  
Friends, Food, and Fundraising

To Support

Mt Healthy Alliance Inc. Food Pantry

3<sup>rd</sup> week of each month

Mon-Sat 6am to 3pm

Thurs 6am to 8pm



We'll earn 10% of sales when you present this flyer at

9894 Colerain Avenue (in Central Plaza  
next door to A Sweet Life Cupcakes and  
Crafts)

\*Flyer must accompany check donation\*

Please do not share the flyer with other guests at the restaurant

### Meijer Simply Give Campaign to Benefit the Mt. Healthy Alliance:

Through September 15, Simply Give Cards will be available at the Stone Creek Meijer store (3711 Stone Creek Blvd., 45251).

Take a card to the checkout and tell the cashier how much you would like to donate.

Meijer will match that amount at the end of the campaign in the form of Meijer food-only gift cards.

At this time, there are no double match days.  
Donations are greatly appreciated!



## St. Paul Youth

Well, the summer is almost over and our youth have headed back to school. What great things they have done this summer, for the church and each other. If you have been in the courtyard or in the front of the church you can see their hard work, pulling weeds, planting things, and helping with the care of the courtyard. Many hours have been spent under the supervision of Miss Vickie (the green thumb leader). We are very proud of the SPY. With the fundraising they have done this summer, we were able to go to the Kluesener Farm for a campout. What a great time we had. Everything from swimming, fishing, star glazing, to just sitting around the campfire eating s'mores. Thank you to everyone who helped, especially, Paul, John, Tom, Vickie, Barry, Mike and Tom Kluesener!



Our annual pool party on August 25<sup>th</sup> has come and gone. We had a great time. Thank you to Rev. Barry for playing "drown the minister," thanks to Tom Bryant for cooking and a huge thank you to Vickie and Kim for setting up and cleaning up. Watch for upcoming events and projects. If you have any questions or wish to help, please contact, Pastor Joan, 470-2321, Vickie Bryant, 238-7127 and Kim Ferry, 485-0016.



## SCOUTING NEWS

The Cub Scouts has a new and exciting year ahead of them. The Cub Scout program is now accepting girls into their program. Many of the leaders are very excited about this.



To give you a little bit more information, all girls who join the program, will be in a separate group of all girls, but they will do the same program as the boys. We are looking forward to this new part of the Scouting program and all the it can now offer to the girls as well.

The Troop is making plans for outings and trips for the upcoming fall season. Nothing is in stone yet, but the boys do have some great ideas.

The Crew is planning a fundraiser, a Spaghetti Dinner here at St. Paul on Saturday, November 10th, 5:00 - 6:30 PM. A couple of our youth will be here on Sunday's to sell tickets. Would you please purchase a ticket and come join us for dinner?

It is also that time of year again for Popcorn. You may also see some Cubbies and/or Venture Crew members here on Sunday's selling popcorn.

As always, thank you for all your support to the Scouting programs here at St. Paul UCC.

## School Days, School Days

We are excited to start another year of fun and learning. The Nursery School children and staff will be back in the building starting September 4th.

The children are ready to learn about colors, numbers, letters and lots more. We have two new staff members joining us this year. We welcome Jessica Whitis and Jenny Birdsong.



Apples always remind me of a teacher and the fall season. Did you know that if you cut an apple in half that you will see a star inside? Well, that is what our staff is always seeing in out students, shining stars....

We are glad to be back in the building for another great year of learning.

Karen Rieman  
and staff



# SEPTEMBER



9/1 Matthew Cooper	9/17 Rebekah Tholking	9/23 Howard Page
9/2 Dawn Page	9/19 Stephenie Fassnacht	9/25 Matthew Allen
9/3 Jessika Combs	9/20 Joan Allen	9/27 David Holmes
9/8 John Allen	9/21 Lynn Kluesener	Robert Reed
9/9 Brayden Bierkan	9/22 Darwin Yung	9/30 Jo Miller
9/15 Davis Allen		
Mary Lou Heiden		



10/1 Bob Combs	10/11 Lilliana Bierkan	10/22 Joe Jester
10/2 Ruth Meissner	10/12 Carolyn Push	10/25 John Allen
10/3 Jenny Cornish	10/14 David Schleutker	Dick Manifold
10/6 Judith Lewis-Combs	10/19 Evan Heitman	10/28 Judith Boyce
10/8 Eric Reed	Melissa Jensen	10/29 Heather Kelsey
10/9 Nathan Beresford	10/20 Teina Tallarigo	10/30 Scott Leist
Cheryl Bordenkircher		



*Please Continue to Remember in Prayer:*

Nan Grow  
Our servicemen and women  
Peggy Adams  
Chad Willcocks  
Melody Hoff  
Kathy Aker  
Ginny DuPriest  
Debbie DuPriest  
Erma Amrein  
Mike Mathauer  
John Allen  
Gay Steinhauer  
Norma Carrier  
Alice Graber

Don Beresford  
Tony Mancini  
Helen Mason  
Jessica Obert  
Paul LaMott  
Gay D. Smith  
Rev. Virginia Duffy  
Ruth Meissner  
Barbara Williamson  
Skip Zimmer  
Mike Chalfin  
Elaine Sloan  
Nancy Lanza  
Bonnie Rogers

Barb Walbrun  
Alberta Hahn  
James Stokes  
Tommy Moorehead  
Howard Seaman  
Jack Lawler  
Lindsay Pitcher  
Carl Summe  
The Elsasser Family  
June Ward  
Howard Heineke  
Kim Caudell  
Christine Schlegel  
Paul Maus  
Mike Cornish



Please keep the office informed on the status of those you have placed on the prayer list.

*Please Continue to Remember in Prayer our HomeBound:*

Geraldine Cooper  
Mary Lou Heiden  
Joyce Seesing  
Dolores Ungerbuehler

Bob Dickman  
Charlotte McCauley  
Dot Sunnenberg  
Sharon Wagner

Marian Faller  
Albert Mueller  
Anne Timme  
Lucille Walters

*If you would like to add  
someone to the prayer  
list, please call the office.*



# September 2018

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Standing Dates: Mondays: Crafty Critters - 10 AM Scouts: 6:30 - 9:00 PM Tuesday: Community Dinner 5:00 PM weekly Fridays/Saturdays: AA Meeting 8 PM						1
						
2	3 Labor Day Office Closed	4	5	6 Disciple Group 7 PM Chapel	7	8
9 Communion Rally Day  1st Day Choir Back	10	11	12 Executive Mtg. 5 PM  PRC Mtg. 6:30 PM	13 Staff Mtg. 10AM  New Beginnings 3 PM - Staff  New Beginnings Mtg. 7 PM	14	15
16	17 Nurture Mtg. 5:30 PM  Council Mtg. 7 PM	18	19 Epistle Articles Due	20 Cluster 2 Mtg 7 PM	21	22
23 30	24	25	26	27 Disciple Dinner & Closing Worship 6 PM	28	29

St. Paul United Church of Christ  
6997 Hamilton Ave.  
Cincinnati, OH 45231



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Cincinnati, Ohio 45231  
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Website: [www.stpaulinch.com](http://www.stpaulinch.com)  
Email: [office@stpaulinch.com](mailto:office@stpaulinch.com)  
Office Hours 9:00 a.m.–2:00 p.m. Monday - Wednesday  
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Thursday - Friday

Nursery School Staff: Karen A. Rieiman, Director  
Susan Ehrhardt, Amy Miller, Angela Oaks, and Jenny Birdsong

Church Staff:  
Rev. Barry Bordenkircher, Sr. Minister  
Joan Allen, Lay Minister  
Rick Tallarigo, Organist/Interim Music Director  
Anne Zimmer, Office Administrator  
Jim Maybury, Sexton  
Anne Zimmer, Treasurer

Parish Nurses: Vicki Celenza, R.N.,  
Coordinator  
Roxanne Reed, R.N.

