

**ST. PAUL'S**  
**United Church of Christ German Township**  
8701 Big Cynthiana Rd  
Evansville, IN 47720

NON-PROFIT  
ORGANIZATION  
U. S. POSTAGE  
EVANSVILLE, IN  
PERMIT NO. 1564



St. Paul's United Church of Christ, German Township  
Church: 812-963-3394 Fax: 812-963-3447  
Office Hours 9:00am-2:00pm Monday-Thursday

### **Church Staff**

**Pastor**  
**Pastoral Assistant**  
**Accompanist**  
**Choir Director**  
**Nursery Attendant**  
**Office Administrator & Bookkeeper**  
**Custodian**

Reverend Terry Farmer	812-602-3571
Jessica Minor	812-430-6326
Rayna Brown	812-449-7952
Noah Farmer	812-963-3394
Kinsey Peralta	812-963-3394
Norma Helm	812-963-3394
Vickie White	812-963-3394

<b>President</b>	Donna Schmidt
<b>Vice President</b>	Daryl Hopple
<b>Secretary</b>	Beth Gilles
<b>Treasurer</b>	Susan Henze

### **Church Council**

Sheila Bender	Janice Ricketts
Steve Sampson	Ruby Deutsch
Bonnie Garwood	
Jeffrey Tillman	

Steve Sampson  
Gary Johnson  
Ron Tillman

### **Trustees**

Tony Steurer  
Randy Ricketts  
Keith Ahrens

Sound System, Bonnie Garwood



**NURSING/REHAB/RETIREMENT HOME**

**Holiday Retirement Village**-812-303-2610  
 1200 W. Buena Vista-47710  
 Peggy Pingel-Apartment 113

**North River Health Campus**-812-876-7256  
 811 E. Baseline Road-Evansville, IN 47725  
 Don & Eva Lasher-Room 605

**Park Terrace Village**-812-423-7468  
 25 S. Boehne Camp Road-Evansville, IN 47712  
 Linda Marshall

**Heritage Nursing Home**-812-429-0700  
 1201 W. Buena Vista-47710  
 Mark Wortman-Room 143

**Individuals At Home**

Bill Moad-5538 #6 School Road-Evansville, IN 47720  
 Marian Coghill-9701 Big Cynthiana Road-Evansville, IN 47720  
 Emaline Alexander-10490 Wilsey Road-New Harmony, IN 47631  
 Helen Johnson-8900 #6 School Road- Evansville, IN 47720  
 Geneva Johnson-5106 Orchard Road- Evansville, IN 47720  
 Joyce Herron-5705 N Happe Road-Evansville, IN 47720  
 Glenna Hale-5718 Plainview Dr.- Evansville, IN 47720  
 Marilyn Schneider-6416Big Cynthiana Road-Evansville, IN 47720

Please remember our members and friends of St. Paul's with a card, phone call, or visit.



9/2	Kaylynn Jones	9/21	Whitney Stinnett
9/4	Helen Johnson	9/21	Geneva Johnson
9/5	Jason Nix	9/23	Elaine Goebel
9/6	Jeff Garrison	9/23	Pat McDonald
9/6	Linda Messel	9/24	Morgan Bobbitt
9/6	Shirley Tillman	9/25	Daniel Weyer
9/7	Carla Lovell	9/25	Carla Carter Wolfe
9/10	Emma Paul	9/26	Lucas Bobbitt
9/10	Janet Johnson	9/27	Becky Brammer
9/15	Scott Yestingsmeier	9/28	Jay Buente
9/16	LaVern Jones	9/30	Becky Deutsch
9/17	Megan Huck	9/30	Krista Nix
9/18	Shirley Besing		

*Pray for our  
Military*

**The men and women serving our country**

**Jonathon and Joshua Kelly** -grandsons of Jim & Joan Baughn & nephews of Leonard & Roberta Lenfers

**August Clarry** - great- grandson of Roland & Alice Garland

**Jacob Toelle**-great nephew of Deborah Schneider

**Joseph Hale**-grandson of Glenna Hale

**Ryan Skeels**-son of Charlie and Beth Skeels

**Keelan Calvert and Gary Huggins**- nephews of Arthur & Ellie Lukenheimer

**Ryan Grover**, US Marine- grandson of Gene and Elaine Goebel

**St Paul's United Church of Christ**  
**FINANCIAL REPORT**  
**July, 2024**



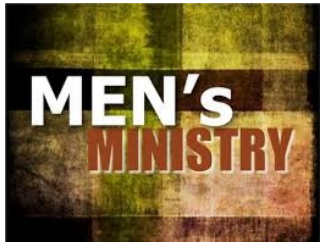
<b>Income</b>	
Contributions	18,322.00
Other Income	
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>18,322.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>	
Payroll & Benefits	12,145.25
Administrative Expenses	359.76
Church Property Maintenance	5,113.45
Outreach & Missions	1,592.06
Nurture & Discipleship	0.00
Worship & Church Renewal	98.28
Congregational Life	0.00
Cemetery	2,000.00
Wedding Reimbursement	350.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>21,658.80</b>

Do we have your up-to-date contact information? As you know we increasingly use electronic technology to communicate with our members. And this means we use several different lists to send out our information. We use the emailing list that allows you to receive the 3M and to also distribute the worship links each Sunday.

We use an automatic calling service to make more urgent announcements that cannot wait for, or are not necessarily well suited for a mailed notice.

We use a different email list to send out prayer requests to those of you who have let us know that you are willing to be part of our prayer team that responds to urgent requests. And finally, we use the U.S. Mail for our monthly newsletter.

If you have changed your phone number, email address or physical address, you might miss out. So, if you make a change (including dropping your landline phone), take a moment and let Norma know. Then we can adjust our records and keep you up to date.



The next Men's Ministry Meeting will be September 24 at 5:30pm. Plan on attending and bring a friend!



SURPRISE BIRTHDAY  
CELEBRATION

*Geneva Johnson*

**100<sup>TH</sup>**

**SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 15, 2024**

**TIME: 11:00**

**ST. PAUL'S CHURCH  
8701 BIG CYNTHIANA RD**

Lunch and refreshments will be provided

**R.S.V.P. NOT REQUIRED, BUT WOULD BE APPRECIATED**

**CHRIS 812-457-7324,**

**SUSAN 812-305-0964, KELLY 812-455-9226**





<b>September 1</b>	<b>15th Sunday after Pentecost and Communion Sunday</b>
<b>Message</b>	<i>The World Changes; God does not</i>
<b>Scripture</b>	James 1: 17-27
<b>September 8</b>	<b>16th Sunday after Pentecost</b>
<b>Message</b>	<i>The Power of Representation</i>
<b>Scripture</b>	Mark 7: 24-30
<b>September 15</b>	<b>17th Sunday after Pentecost</b>
<b>Message</b>	<i>Sweat The Small Stuff</i>
<b>Scripture</b>	James 3: 1-12
<b>September 22</b>	<b>18th Sunday after Pentecost</b>
<b>Message</b>	<i>Executive Session</i>
<b>Scripture</b>	Mark 9: 30-37
<b>September 29</b>	19th Sunday after Pentecost
<b>Message</b>	<i>Hearing with Our Eyes</i>
<b>Scripture</b>	Psalm 19

Did you know?  
 We Accept E-Giving!  
 Use a checking account, savings account, debit or credit card to quickly and easily make your secure one-time or recurring (weekly or monthly) donation.  
 Automating your donations permits uninterrupted giving in the event of vacations, illness or inclement weather closure.  
 Call Norma in the church office for more information.



**AUGUST GAME DAY DATES**

**September 17**

Bring your cards, dominos or other favorites and enjoy some friendly competition and good company. Make plans to be there now.

If you have any questions see Daryl or Susan Hopple.



Sunday Service is livestreamed at 10am. We will still send out the email link post to Facebook and on the website later in the day on Sunday. But you can subscribe to our YouTube channel or just find us on YouTube if you do not wish to wait for the link to be made available in one of these other ways. If you have any questions please feel free to call the office.

# St. Paul's News

stpaulgtchurch@gmail.com / www.stpaulsgermantownship.org / Find us on Facebook St. Paul's UCC German Township

Study Window for September 2024

Looking out my study window, I am thinking about the Ten Commandments.

Time and again, some group or politician starts a ruckus about displaying the Ten Commandments in schools or other publicly owned locations. When they are successful, frequently the version that is displayed is the King James Version (as if God still "spake" in 17<sup>th</sup> century English) displayed on a real or faux set of stone tablets. One of the things that strikes me about these dustups is that somehow God's teachings seem to some to be more important when they are carved in stone. As if the choice of writing material makes them more immutable somehow. God's word chiseled in rock.

Of course, if we consider the teachings of the prophets, of Jesus, and of the Apostles we understand that many more important teachings from God have been given than those first few. And if we are honest, we care very little about observing *all* of them. Been out to lunch on Sunday and ordered the "I am violating the sabbath" plate special? I have. Honor your mother and father? Ever been a teenager? And need I say anything about false witness? Or coveting your neighbor's Camaro? You get the point.

Like legislatures everywhere, scripture gives evidence of a philosophy that says that the way to make things better is to expand the original 10 by creating ever more rules! 613 in the Old Testament by one count. But I have never seen all 613 etched in stone. Likewise, I have not seen the more compelling teachings of Jesus or the interpretations of those teachings by Paul and others, committed to granite. Yet, I certainly do not feel as those are less worthy than the original 10.

I know that some Christians, perhaps many, are seeking a religious life that is clearly delineated by definite rules. Rules that feel permanent and timeless. Rules that are metaphorically engraved in stone. I completely agree that rules do serve a purpose in our religious life. But for me, I do not need them posted on the wall or set outside the main entrance to a public building.

Now before you write me off as some sort of heretic, I want to explain why these types of campaigns leave me a bit cold. And it has to do with Ezekiel 36:26. It records these words of God.

*A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you, and I will remove from your body the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh.*

You cannot write rules very successfully on a piece of flesh. (Before someone says, what about tattoos? Better take a good look at Lev. 19:28.) But you can transform the heart that lives only by adhering to a set of rules into a new heart that may be infused with the Holy Spirit. The Law was given to try to steer humans on the right path. And it can still play that role. But just like cowboys on a cattle drive, they can only get most of the herd to move in *generally* the right direction. But there will be losses, missteps, and strays. Most certainly movement will not be along a completely straight path. But we have been taught that the most important path, however convoluted and surprising it may be, is being "in" Jesus. The same Jesus who broke rules when the situation demanded it. Friends, to live the way that Jesus taught and exemplified takes something deeper and more life changing than just rule enforcement. It takes Spirit-filled living.

The Synoptic Gospels record this familiar story. A rich young man lived a life in full accordance with the law. He wanted to know what he needed to do to inherit eternal life. Jesus told him he needed one more thing designed to shift the man's focus from material wealth and to the plight of his fellow humans. Remember what that was? Elsewhere the Bible reports that Paul was "blameless" under the Law, yet he counted that as loss compared to being in the Messiah. Rules clearly can get us so far...but not all the way home. Jesus will.

So, we can get over the guilt we feel about planting two types of vegetables in our gardens. (Lev. 19:19.) Because we wear clothing made of two different fabrics. (Deut. 22:11.) We failed to build a railing around our roofs. (Deut. 22:8.) Or that we eat cheeseburgers without considering Ex. 23:19, 34:26 and Deut. 14:21. Instead, we must make sure that ours are hearts of flesh, not stone, thereby opening ourselves to the Spirit that seeks to reside in us. We must welcome it in.

But watch out. Doing this will make us new people. New persons in Jesus Christ.

The Spirit blows where it will. Hold onto your hats!

Pastor Terry