



St Peter and St Paul United Church of Christ

May 12, 2024

John Webb, Organist

If you are visiting us for the first time, welcome!  
Thank you for joining us, we're happy you are here.

Please make sure to sign-in in the Narthex and include your name and email so we can keep you updated on upcoming events and special worship services.

\*Please stand if you are able and comfortable

**Congregation reads text in bold print**

*In our liturgy, A: is all our voices. L: is the liturgist's voice P: is the Pastor's voice*

Pre-Service Music ~ 9:55 a.m.

Please enter the sanctuary to prepare for worship

Bringing Christ's light into Worship

*Brody Strahn, Acolyte*

Prayer Requests, Joys and Concerns

*Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse*

*Live stream begins*

Welcome and Announcements

*Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse*

Prelude - Meditation on "Holy Manna" by Marilyn Rinehart

*John T. Webb, Organist*

**\*Call to Worship**

*Bob Hedspeth, Liturgist*

L: Let us praise God for sending Jesus Christ to offer his saving love to us all.

**A: We give God all our praises.**

L: Let our hearts be filled with joyful celebration for the fulfillment of God's promises.

**A: We open our hearts to receive the joy of Christ.**

L: Let us move forward with Jesus Christ as our guiding light.

**A: The light of Jesus Christ is shining in each of us.**

L: Come, let us worship our Risen Christ, whose love and light guide us still.

\*Hymn

*"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"*

**No. 585**

**\*Invocation**

**A: Ever present God, we are grateful that you meet us right where we are. Speaking our language and giving us the blessed assurance that you are with us. In your name we pray. Amen.**

**\*Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

L: Life-giving God,

**A: We find joy in your newness of life through Jesus Christ. Help us to feel the joy of inhaling and exhaling the breath of life in every season. Transform us when we come together as your beloved and diverse creation. Guide us in our praise as we seek your saving love toward a world where there is peace and justice for all. Amen.**

**\*Words of Grace**

P: Loving God, in Christ we see the fulfillment of your promise to be with us always. Forgive us when we lose faith in your compassion for all creation. Help us to see the great sacrifice of the Risen Christ as an example of your undying love for us all. Knit us together in our relationship with you and all of creation. Hear our prayer, O God. Amen.

**A: We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

\*Gloria Patri (Glory be to the Father)

No 35

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

*Please be seated.*

**Prayers for Moms and All Women of Faith** *(Note parts for men, women, and all)*

L: God of Generations, we celebrate the lives of the women who fought the good fight and stood up for the Gospel and the truth of Scripture, yesterday and today.

**A: Strengthen our voice of proclamation. Give us ears to hear, and hearts to serve you.**

Men: God of Life, we give thanks for the bold women among us today who serve with a sense of holy purpose in their vocations as workers, ministers, business people; daughters, mothers, grandmothers'; friends, sisters and mothers. Empower us by faith and bless our vocations at home and in the church.

**A: Inspire us to encourage one another in fellowship, laughter, hospitality and sharing.**

L: We pray through the stories of faith: Of Miriam, Deborah, Hannah, Ruth, Naomi, Esther; Jesus' mother Mary, Mary Magdalene, Lydia, Priscilla, Martha and Mary, and many others in the Bible, each of who were leaders of faith in their time.

May we learn from the stories of their faith and dedication, to believe more deeply, serve more fully, and carry out a diversity of ministries in the name of God,

**A: Thank you for the fellowship we have in Christ through God the Creator, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit.**

Women: Loving God, we pray for the men throughout the ages who support and encourage women in their journey to use their God-given gifts for your purpose. We give thanks for Aaron, Isaiah, Boaz, Joseph, Lazarus, James, Thomas, Timothy; and the Apostles who wrote down the message of faith for us. We continue to learn from your disciples who traveled with you, Jesus.

**A: Give us courage to work together with no divisions, to proclaim your grace and hope. In your mercy, hear all of our prayers.**

P: Protect all women who are in any trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or adversity. Lift up men who lift up women. Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, soothe the suffering, guide the addicted, shield the grieving, and all for your love's sake. Continue to bless us all to be a blessing!

**A: Thank you for the men that cooked and fed us breakfast to celebrate all the women whose gifts serve the congregation in so many ways. Make us your bold and faithful servants, celebrating the gifts of all people, this day and always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Time for Silent Prayer ~ Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Challenge Week #2 – Take time to thank God for who God is – Psalm 86:5

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Prayer Through Song

*"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"*

No 306

**Hear our prayer, O Lord, hear our prayer, O Lord; incline thine ear to us, and grant us Your peace. Amen.**

**Young People's Message!**

*All young people are invited to come forward for their own special time with the Pastor.*

## **The Holy Scriptures**

### **First Reading – Ephesians 4: 1-6, 11-16**

<sup>1</sup> I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called, <sup>2</sup> with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, <sup>3</sup> making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.

<sup>4</sup> There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, <sup>5</sup> one Lord, one faith, one baptism, <sup>6</sup> one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all.

<sup>11</sup> The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, <sup>12</sup> to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, <sup>13</sup> until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

### **The Gospel – John 16:24-33**

<sup>24</sup> Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete. <sup>25</sup> "I have said these things to you in figures of speech. The hour is coming when I will no longer speak to you in figures, but will tell you plainly of the Father.

<sup>26</sup> On that day you will ask in my name. I do not say to you that I will ask the Father on your behalf; <sup>27</sup> for the Father himself loves you, because you have loved me and have believed that I came from God.

<sup>28</sup> I came from the Father and have come into the world; again, I am leaving the world and am going to the Father." <sup>29</sup> His disciples said, "Yes, now you are speaking plainly, not in any figure of speech! <sup>30</sup> Now we know that you know all things, and do not need to have anyone question you; by this we believe that you came from God." <sup>31</sup> Jesus answered them, "Do you now believe? <sup>32</sup> The hour is coming, indeed it has come, when you will be scattered, each one to his home, and you will leave me alone. Yet I am not alone because the Father is with me. <sup>33</sup> I have said this to you, so that in me you may have peace. In the world you face persecution. But take courage; I have conquered the world!"

*Message*

*“Live Like Anna, Work Like Lydia”*

*Pastor Teri Lynn Stackhouse*

**\*Affirmation of Faith ~ From the Baptismal Service**

P: Hear the words of Jesus: I am the vine; you are the branches. Anyone who abides in me, and I in that person, is the one who bears much fruit. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you will, and it shall be done for you.

If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love. These things I have spoken to you, that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be full.<sup>18</sup>

P: Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

**A: I renounce them.**

P: Do you believe in God the Father?

**A: I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**A: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead.\***

**On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**A: I believe in the Holy Spirit, the universal Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

P: You are no longer strangers and sojourners, but you are equally citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus alone being the cornerstone, in whom the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in Christ; in whom you also are built into it for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.<sup>20</sup>

\*Hymn

*"Open My Eyes, That I May See"*

**No. 586**

**\*Invitation to Generosity**

**Jesus offers us fullness of life, protecting us and advocating for our needs. We are shepherds too. Stewards of the world and its resources, both locally and globally. What will we give to join Jesus in the work of building beloved community in the world?**

\*Doxology (Praise)

No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\* Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

**Gracious God, thank you for your gift of Jesus Christ, who cares for us and protects us.  
With these gifts we return to you, help us care for others in our communities and around  
the world. Help us to be shepherds of others, for you, as you have been the Good Shepherd  
for us. Amen.**

\*Hymn

*“My Life Flows On in Endless Song”*

No. 619

**\*Benediction**

**P: Today you have received the gift of Christ’s protective, unceasing love for you. Because you  
are beloved, may all that you do and all that you are be a reflection of that love.**

**A: We will reach out, fight for the powerless, help the weak, and provide for the needy,  
because Jesus provides for us. Amen.**

\*Benediction Response

**He Lives! He Lives! Christ Jesus Lives today!**

**He walks with me and talks with me along life’s narrow way.**

**He Lives! He Lives! salvation to impart!**

**You ask me how I know he lives? He lives within my heart!**

Postlude - Joyful, Joyful by Albert L. Travis

*John T. Webb, Organist*

*Thank you for worshipping with us at St. Peter and St. Paul United Church of Christ!*

3001 Queen City Ave, Cincinnati, OH 45238

Current Office Hours: W, Th, & Fri. 10am – 2pm (W & Th remotely) ~ Sat 9-12pm + 513-661-3745

In case of pastoral care emergency, please call the office, Deb Boland,

or Pastor Teri Lynn at 513-250-6460

spspuccoffice@gmail.com + www.spspucc.org All Hymns copied from Chalice Hymnal - Red Pew  
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# Announcements



On June 9<sup>th</sup> we will be honoring those who have recently graduated or will graduate from high school, college, graduate or professional schools. If you have a loved one you would like to be included in our Graduation Sunday please provide their name to the Church Office by June 1st.

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## Community Meal – Clothing Donations

Thanks to everyone who has donated clothing to our Community Meal. We have received an abundance of donations recently and need time to sort and organize them. If you have clothing donations for the church, could you hold onto them for a couple weeks to give us time to sort through the inventory we have. If you have any questions or are interested in helping to sort through items please see Jackie Frank.

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**Nursery Summer Volunteers Needed**  
**Please see Tammi if you are interested**  
**in volunteering on Sundays**  
**(don't forget we have snacks and AC 😊)**

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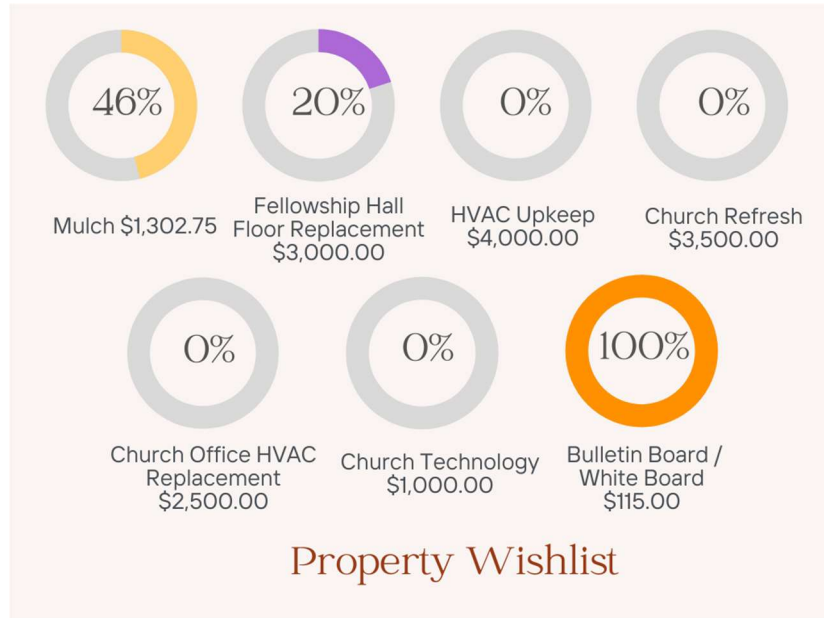
Do you speak any German, French, Japanese,  
Swahili, Italian, or another language?

If so, let us know! We are looking for members that would be interested in participating reading the story in Acts 2 on Pentecost Sunday, by reading two or three verses of the scripture in a language other than English.



# Property Wish List

The Property Department is asking for donations to help with the cost of maintaining areas of the church. If you are able to help, please fill out the form located in the Narthex and return it with your donation. We will update the graph each week so you can see the progress of our goals.



Beginning on May 30th, we will be starting a grief recovery group. These meetings will be held on Thursday evening for 6 weeks (skipping July 4<sup>th</sup>). If you are interested in attending, please sign up on the sheet hanging on communication corner with your preferences. These will be open to the public so if you know someone is interested, please pass the information along.



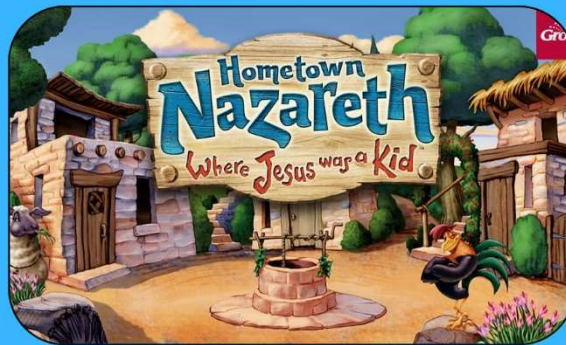
## ST. PETER & ST. PAUL UCC MONTHLY COMMUNITY MEAL

- FREE MEAL
- A FOOD BAG TO TAKE HOME
- CLOTHING AND HOUSEWARE DONATIONS
- ALL ARE WELCOME
- NO DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED



MAY 18TH, 2024 | 10:30AM - 12:00PM  
(3RD SATURDAY EVERY MONTH)

## SAVE THE DATE



**Vacation Bible School**  
**July 15-19**  
**6:00-8:30pm**  
**St Peter & St Paul UCC**  
**3001 Queen City Ave,**  
**Cincinnati, OH 45238**



**FOLLOW**  
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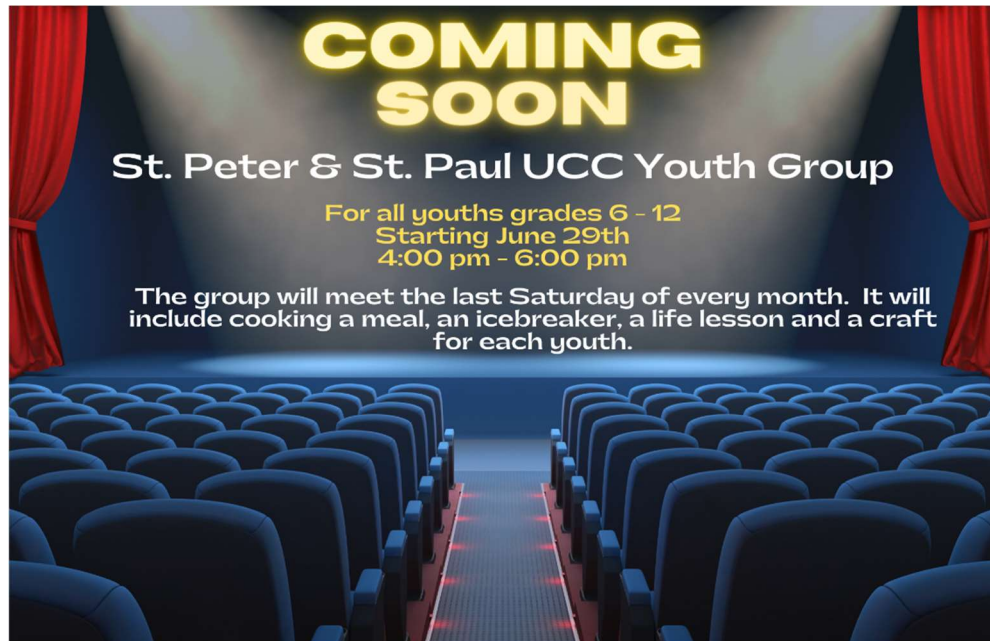


**FOLLOW**  
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**Spread  
The  
News!!**



## **Community News**

The annual **Hunger Walk** is on May 27. It is a major fundraiser for Washington UCC's food ministries. We purchase food for community lunch, Camp Cupboard and Closet, Homework Club and Summer program with the funds raised. Please support their team!  
- <https://give.freestorefoodbank.org/team/580546>

### **Summer Program at Washington June - July**

Statistics bear out that at-risk children who have meaningful relationships with adults are less likely to engage in risky behavior.

The summer program at Washington partners children up with youth from other communities offering experiences and engagement for everyone.

This year we are expecting groups from Winchester KY, Strasburg OH, St. Charles MO, Orrville OH, Evans City PA, Holgate OH, Avon Lake OH, and West Liberty OH.

Our programming this summer will also include a Social Emotional Learning unit to guide our children to better self-awareness and self-regulation. We will also have a reading and writing component and the children will create their own books.

**Please see the flyer on communication if you'd like to volunteer.**

# MAY 2024

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			<b>1</b> Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> Church & Ministry - 11:30 am F.H.	<b>7</b> Food Pick-up - 12-2 pm.	<b>8</b> Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Knitting/Crocheting Group - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>11</b>
Communion			<b>15</b> Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Knitting/Crocheting Group - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>18</b> Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> Property - 7pm - Par.	<b>15</b> Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Knitting/Crocheting Group - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>18</b> Community Meal 10:30 - 12 - F.H.
Mother's Day Breakfast - 8:30 am F.H.			<b>22</b> Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H. Book Club 5:30 - 7PM F.H.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Knitting/Crocheting Group - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>25</b> Steering & Search Committees - 11:00 am
<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b> Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H. Book Club 5:30 - 7PM F.H.	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> Knitting/Crocheting Group - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	<b>25</b> Steering & Search Committees - 11:00 am
PENTECOST COME, HOLY SPIRIT Communion			<b>29</b> Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Knitting/Crocheting Group - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	
<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> Council - 7 pm - Rm. 107	<b>29</b> Choir 7 - 8:30 pm - Sanctuary Ladies Bible Study - 4-6 pm F.H.	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b> Knitting/Crocheting Group - 10 am - 12 pm - Library	
	<b>HAPPY</b> ★ ★ ★ <b>MEMORIAL</b> <b>DAY</b> ★ ★ ★					