

**TO: THE RIGHT REVEREND FRANK MADISON REID, III, PRESIDING PRELATE
LADY MARLAA' HALL REID, EPISCOPAL SUPERVISOR
REV. DR. BETTY HOLLEY, PRESIDING ELDER, COLUMBUS/SPRINGFIELD/XENIA DISTRICT**

ST. PAUL AME, ZANESVILLE CHURCH REPORT

At the beginning of this conference year St. Paul Zanesville was challenged to make some major adjustments as a result of smaller attendance and giving. To reduce the financial hemorrhaging, the majority of the church voted to move services into the fellowship hall, a more efficient facility, due to the high cost of operating the much older sanctuary building. There was also a concerted effort to make adjustments to other expense, such as the church & auto insurance, telephone, and internet. Salaries for the pastor and musicians were reviewed, fuel and travel in church van, and community assistance for the needy. In particular, it was discovered that the church's insurance coverage far exceeded what was necessary based on what was actually needed to properly cover the church. Making adjustments to this was most significant in decreasing the yearly expense, while still maintaining the necessary coverage. Also, and fortunately before COVID, the church had established on its web page a way for members and others to pay their offering's online.

In the midst of this pandemic our deepest desire is to continue to help and support others. We had to learn a new way of doing things. Explore ways to connect and volunteer, check on your neighbors, remembering those who are frontline and taking care of ourselves. This conference year has been extremely difficult. Members of the Steward's Board, Trustee Board, The Missionary Society, Church School, Laity Organization, and the congregation have made sure we are doing what God has appointed us to do. "Love him first and our neighbor second".

The following are some other things that St Paul AME has done within the community to extend love, encouragement, and support.

- **Free Community Dinner**- where over served over 100 people. From this fellowship we obtain (3)new members. Our Tuesday Night Bible was converted into an Ecumenical Bible study and participation has grown tremendously. All People are Welcome.
- The Christian Education Department: Provide a community-wide **Fall Festival Wiener Roast**, where fun games were played, the men of the church taught the boys the fundamentals and the safety of campfires. Literature was handed out about the services that St Paul offers.
- The church sponsors the Young People's Division to attend "**National Pink Day**" Women's Basketball game to raise awareness of Breast Cancer for the Ohio State and James Cancer Center.
- The Grace Palmer Women's Missionary Society each member adopted a child from within our congregation to make their holiday a little brighter for Christmas.
- The Young People's Division and the church family collected numerous winter items, coats, gloves, scarves, hats, and hand warmers and donated them to a local homeless shelter, Helping Hands Ministries.

- The Grace Palmer Missionary & the members of the church along with members of our community hosted a Black History Program “Soul Food Fest”, where we donated a monetary gift of \$1000.00 to the local soup kitchen Christ Table.
- Donated Masks to local Assisted Living Facilities
- Made sure our Senior Citizen are safe by doing their shopping, taking them to banks, and training them how to utilize a new way of Technology
- Voter Registration Drive we have established Van Transportation for Souls to Poll
- Donated Pajamas to Muskingum County Children Services for the children who are being placed in fostering care.