

TIDINGS

St. Paul United Church of Christ
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Minister of Christian Education - Pastor Cheryl Schalm

January 2023

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 2023

- Sunday January 1 - Church Service and Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Supply Pastor - Elders
- Sunday January 8 - Church Service and Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Supply Pastor - Pastor Cheryl Schalm
Communion Served
Removal of Christmas Decorations
- Sunday January 15 - Church Service and Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Supply Pastor - Pastor Linda Anderson
2023 Annual Congregational Meeting - 11 a.m.
- Monday January 16 - Office Closed
- Sunday January 22 - Church Service and Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Supply Pastor - Pastor Carrie Orlando
Installation of Council Members
C.E. Family Fun Day
- Sunday January 29 - Church Service and Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Supply Pastor - Pastor Cheryl Schalm

MOMENT OF SHARING

Dear Congregation,

December 26, 2022

As we walk through the Twelve Days of Christmas and approach the new season of Epiphany, bringing to a close our ministry of 34 years together with our long-time Senior Pastor Geoff Drutchas, I have two important items to share with you.

The first announcement is that our congregation is in need of lay leaders to fill some remaining Council office vacancies. Although St. Paul members Jane Dykowski and Cheryl Smith have accepted nominations to serve as Council elder and deacon respectively, nominees are still needed for 2nd Vice-President, Secretary, and Trustee. All nominations are for three-year terms. Everything of significance we do, we do in cooperation with others. With Rev Geoff's pending retirement, the call for lay leadership to step forward at this critical point in our ministry is beyond vital.

A Latin phrase to consider is: "**Finis origine pendet**" translated: "**The end depends upon the beginning.**" How are we going to begin our future ministry together? How will we serve one another as we serve Jesus the Christ? As we transition to our future may each of us reflect on the lessons of Matthew 20:25-28 which promote lessons of servant leadership as well as:

- **1 Peter 4:10 As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace.**
- **Romans 14:19 So then let us pursue what makes for peace and for mutual upbuilding.**
- **Isaiah 6:8 Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"**
- **Hebrews 13:16 Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.**

Please prayerfully consider serving on the council and contact one of the Trustees if you believe the Lord is calling you to serve on the council: **MICHAEL ISAACS, FRED MILLER AND TONI HILL.**

The second announcement regards the efforts of our pastoral search. Of the eight profiles St Paul has received, an Intentional Interim Minister has been provisioned to us by the name of Rev. George Reed who is currently serving at St John's UCC in Germantown, Ohio. According to the UCC Michigan Conference Search and Call Process the governing board of respective congregations with the help of the Michigan Conference (in our case) selects and calls Interim Ministers. Your Council has voted unanimously to appoint Rev. George Reed as St. Paul's Intentional Interim Minister. Rev. George Reed will be stepping into the pulpit as St. Paul's Intentional Interim Minister beginning Feb 5, 2023. Rev. George Reed will remain as St. Paul's Intentional Interim Minister until this congregation votes to call a new Senior Pastor. Rev. George Reed, a former

elementary school teacher, has led an impeccable career with outstanding credentials as an Intentional Interim Minister since 2006 beginning with the Methodist Church and joining the UCC in 2012. Below is an autobiography.



George Reed, Intentional Interim Minister

Rev. Reed is from Bradford, Ohio and graduated from Wright St. University with a B.S. in Elementary Education. He taught in elementary school before being called to the ministry. He has his Master of Divinity from the United Theological Seminary in Dayton. He has also studied at the Institute of Formative Spirituality in Pittsburgh and the College of Preachers in the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C. He is a published author of various articles on sermons based on Gospel texts, lectionary worship aids, sourcebooks of worship, weddings, and funeral resources, and co-authored *The Road to Hallelujah*, a book of devotional activities to be used from Advent to Epiphany.

Rev. Reed was ordained as a Methodist minister serving several Methodist Churches before becoming a Certified Interim Pastor. He has since served 9 churches as an intentional interim. After many years as a pastor, he had the calling to do intentional interim ministry. He has training in Interim Ministry Network, Calling and Caring Ministries, Neuro Linguistic Programming Master Certification, Conflict Resolution, Mediation, Advanced Clergy Clinic, Working with Anxious Congregations, Here I Stand (Using Belief Systems Charts to Change), Facilitating Healthy Pastor Congregation Relationships, Healthy Congregation Facilitator, ChurchSmart, Systems Theory with Special Application to Congregational Life, and more.

While Rev. George Reed serves as our Intentional Interim Minister, The Search Team will continue the discernment process for a new Senior Pastor. The United Church of Christ has truly come through for our congregation in providing us with an Intentional Interim Minister of the caliber we find in Rev. George Reed. This takes pressure off the Search Team and I hope relieves anxiety for each of you as members of our congregation.

With an Intentional Interim Minister in place, St. Paul becomes attractive for pastoral candidates who will know they will not be following in the immediate footsteps of a long-tenured pastor, but that of an Intentional Interim Minister. UCC history has shown that pastors who immediately follow a long-tenured pastor, without an interim pastor in-between, all too often end up becoming a short-tenured pastor.

In closing, please consider serving a role on the council in support of our Intentional Interim Minister Rev. George Reed who is very excited to lead us in worship at St Paul. Our Council and Congregation will need to help Rev. George Reed as he aids us. Serving on Council gives you the chance to do both.

David Lange

Aaron B Johnson

Serving in Jesus the Christ,

Dave Lange, St Paul UCC Council President, Taylor, Mi USA

Aaron B Johnson, St. Paul UCC Council President-Elect, Taylor, Mi USA

Through Jesus the Christ we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in the hope of sharing the Glory of God. -Romans 5:2.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EDITORIAL

When Christ was born, so was our hope. ~Max Lucado

“Christmas invites us to believe the wildest of promises: God became one of us so we could become one with Him. He did away with every barrier, fence, sin, bent, debt, and grave. Anything that might keep us from him was demolished. He only awaits our word to walk through the door.

Let us invite Him in. Let us escort Him to the seat of honor, and pull out His chair. Let us clear the table: clear the calendar. Call the kids and neighbors. Christ is here.

Let us listen as God whispers. “No mess turns me back; no smell turns me off. I live so to live in a life like yours. Every heart can be a manger. Every day can be a Christmas. Let “Joy to the World” be sung on winter nights, during spring showers, summer afternoons and autumn mornings. The Christmas miracle is a year-long celebration (Max Lucado, Because of Bethlehem).”

As we enter the New Year with the assurance of many changes, let us hold tight to the promises of our Lord and Savior. Let us place the pen in His hands and allow Him to author our next chapter. Then let us commit and dedicate ourselves to whatever role He cast us in.

Happiest of New Year to you and yours!

~In Christ, Pastor Cheryl Schalm, Minister of Christian Education

Christian Education Activities

THANK YOU, THANK YOU AND THANK YOU!

The youth group would like to thank everyone who baked and donated cookies for the Cookie Walk held on December 18th following the Sunday School Christmas pageant. There was a wonderful variety of cookies for participants to choose from as a result of your generosity and support. YOU ARE SO APPRECIATED and we are so GRATEFUL for those who baked and purchased cookies.

The youth made \$450.00 from the Cookie Walk. The proceeds will help to fund their “2023” mission trip. Thank you again!

Meditation Monday's Young Adult Bible Study & Fellowship

Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. - John 6:35

All post-high school young adults are invited and encouraged to join the Young Adult Bible Study group. We will resume meeting at Pastor Schalm's on Monday's at 7:00 p.m. beginning January 9th. Whether you have been a regular or are considering coming for the first time, we welcome and look forward to your company and participation. Please contact Pastor Schalm if you would like to participate.

Calling all College Students and Recent High School Graduates

Christian Education is in need of addresses of all St. Paul UCC college students and High School graduates enrolled in continuing education programs (trade school, skill programs, apprenticeships, etc.). Please forward addresses to Pastor Schalm or to the church office.

Sunday School Winter Wonderland Blast

Christian Education will be holding a Winter Wonderland Blast party following service on January 22nd. Children and church members will have the opportunity to decorate cookies, make a smore' and a winter craft, play in the jump house and partake of food and fellowship. Children and church members are invited to wear their favorite winter attire for a winter picture next to the gigantic snowman. Mark your planner now to attend!

Sunday School Children to Bring Valentine Day Cheer

During the Sunday School hour on February 5th and 12th, the children will be making and decorating Valentine Cards for the residence of Applewood Nursing Home. The cards will be dropped off at Applewood for delivery by staff on Valentine's Day.

Super Bowl Fundraiser

Rock Hard in Faith Youth Fellowship will be holding their Superbowl fundraiser on Sunday, February 12th. They will be taking orders for Sub sandwiches, soup, and cookies beginning mid-January. Watch your Morning Tide for more details.

Christian Education Seeks a Nursery Attendant

As we move forward with the hope and anticipation of reopening the nursery, Christian Education finds themselves in search of a nursery attendant.

Anyone interested in caring for our youngest treasures on Sunday morning during the worship hour should contact Pastor Schalm. The attendant receives \$20.00 per service and is paid once a month. The nursery is located in the church's family room located at the back of the sanctuary. The worship service can be viewed via the television located in the family room.

ALL CHURCH EVENTS

Supply Pastors to Assist in the Pulpit for the month of January

During the month of January we will have several supply pastors sharing their message with the congregation until the Interim Pastor is able to begin preaching in February. Pastor Cheryl Schalm will preach for the 2nd and 5th Sundays, Pastor Linda Anderson for the 3rd Sunday and Pastor Carrie Orlando for the 4th Sunday. The 1st Sunday of January will be led by our church Elders, Mark Ennis, Barb Schultz and Patricia Staffeld.

Epiphany Season Start Celebrated with Communion Sacrament

The new season of Epiphany will be celebrated with the communion sacrament on Sunday, January 8th. Officially beginning with Three Kings' Day, January 6th, Epiphany extends for six weeks following the Twelve Days of Christmas. It is symbolized by the Bethlehem star which the Wise Men-Kings followed to reach Jesus' manger side.

Those arriving for sanctuary worship on the first Sunday of Epiphany morning will receive individualized, sealed communion wafers and juice cup from the elders and ushers greeting them in the narthex. These communion "kits" can be opened at the time of the sacrament. However, you may want to partly peel back the seals in advance readiness.

Those joining worship at home via Facebook live streaming are encouraged to make use of bread or cracker with grape juice from their own kitchen supplies. All communion elements, whether in church or home, will be consecrated by Pastor Schalm as part of communion prayers.

At St. Paul Church we observe an open communion which means that participants do not need to be formal members of the congregation to share in the sacred meal. Instead, what is simply asked is that we be baptized Christians of adult age who seek to walk more closely with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. All participants, whether at home or church, are called to share in this time with a spirit of profound reverence.

Annual Congregational Meeting Set For Third January Sunday

The annual meeting of the congregation will be held on Sunday, January 15th, immediately following the 10 a.m. service. Outgoing President David Lange and President elect Aaron Johnson will preside at the annual meeting with presentations by the Treasurer.

Upon arriving on Sunday morning January 15th for both the worship and meeting, St. Paul members are asked to sign in at the narthex table to help establish a quorum. Everyone's participation counts. A printed copy of our church's annual report, which will be referenced throughout the meeting will be available for pick-up. A deacon will be on hand to answer any questions you may have about sign-in, morning worship, or the meeting.

At the beginning of the service the annual meeting will be called to order to establish the council members attending and to establish a quorum. Once that is completed the meeting will be suspended until the service concludes. When the meeting is re-established, minutes of the semi-annual meeting will be approved, end-of-year reports from Church Council members (elders, deacons, and trustees)

and various committees and organizations of our congregation will be shared. A presentation of the financial report for 2022 will be followed by a proposal and approval for a 2023 unified budget. Also, a slate of candidates for the Church Council will be presented by the trustees for a vote of the congregation to fulfill positions of elder, deacon, secretary, trustee and second vice president.

Please plan on attending this very important meeting of the congregation.

Newly Elected Council Members to be Installed

Newly elected Council Members for 2nd Vice-President, elder, deacon, trustee and secretary will be installed to their respective positions on January 22, 2023 during the 10 a.m. service.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

2022 Donation Statements

The 2022 donation statements will be mailed out to each household in early January. If you have any questions regarding your 2022 statement please contact Annette Thie, Financial Secretary or Dan Case, Treasurer.

Save the Date to Help Save a Life - Blood Drive Thursday, February 16

Mark your calendars now for our next blood drive. Donors are needed. More information will be shared at a later time as to when and how you can begin to sign up to donate. If you are unable to donate, perhaps you can find someone that you know to donate. Hours will be from 1 to 6:45 p.m. Thanks for your consideration.

HEALTH MINISTRIES

Exercise Class Wednesday's

Time to start fulfilling one of your New Year's Resolutions. A good way to start off the new year is by joining us for our weekly exercise class on Wednesday's from 10:30 -11:30 a.m. Our instructor Delissa will lead you through a variety of exercises each session. All exercises can be done in a seated position with the use of a chair, a standing position or a combination of both. Can't make it to class, but want to join us from home? Join us on ZOOM. You must be able to access the internet by computer, I-pad, or phone with video availability. You do not have to have to show on camera during class, but you will need to be able to see the instructor. You can also find the zoom link on our St Paul website under 'What's Happening' Health Activities. If you would like to participate or have any questions, contact Parish Nurse Kathy Williams.

Our Daily Bread Devotional Availability

The first quarter 2023 Daily Bread edition is now available by contacting Kathy Williams or calling the church office to have one mailed to you, or by asking the Deacons on Sunday for a copy. We have regular and large prints available. Please specify the print type that you want.

In need of medical equipment? Contact Parish Nurse Kathy Williams or the church office and let them know what you are needing.

JOYS AND CONCERN

Rose on the Pulpit celebrates the birth of *Colton Wyatt Kronemann*, born November 28, 2022 to Roy and Rebecca Parant Kronemann. St. Paul Grandparents: Walter and Janet Parant Ray. St. Paul Great-Grandparent: Irene Stoner. Sibling: Nora; *Liam Jacob Rischel*, born December 16, 2022 to Jacob Rischel and DeAnna Schalm. St. Paul Grandparents are Jim and Pastor Cheryl Schalm; *Grayson Walter Siemers*, born December 19, 2022, to Steven and Tania Siemers. St. Paul Great-Grandparent is Barbara Siemers.

Condolences: Family and friends of Beverly Goodell who passed away December 1, 2022, at the age of 92 years. Memorial Service will be private; Family and friends of Miles Church who passed away December 2, 2022, at the age of 87 years. Funeral was December 9 at St. Paul UCC, Taylor. Pastor Drutchas officiated. Arrangements: Howe-Peterson Funeral Home, Taylor Chapel.

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

MEMORIAL FUND:

In Honor of: *Rev. Geoffrey Drutchas* From: The Drutchas Family- Chicago

HEALTH MINISTRIES FUND:

In Memory of: *Beverly Goodell* From: Jane Dykowski

In Memory of: *Miles Church* From: Jane Dykowski

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR

Church Members and Friends: Kim Beyar, Dan Case, Debbie Case, Margo Charette, John Dubke, Hayden Forsyth, Barb Gish, Kyle Hard, Carrie Hill, Wayne Jones, Justine Kimbler, Judy Kirsch, Rev. Norm Kirsch, Sheila Klimek, Gloria Lakatos, Neil McEachern, Jeff MacZink, Michelle Mellin, Jeff Natzke, Bob Robinson, Shirley Robinson, Eleanor Rossi, Jerry Rossi, Gabriel Siadak, Sally Sigman, Beverly Sitz, Sue Spears, Sandi Rose, Joan Smarr, Dianne Sturgeon, Linda Tank, Bert Thompson, Lorelee Wilson, Shelly Wilson, and Emily Winter.

Extended Family: Rhonda Wioncek Berndt, Karen Collett, Philip and Connie Linne Alberts, Dawn Sturgeon Anderson, Susan Barnard, Mary Board (daughter, Clifford Board), Lynn Case, Josh Edelbrock, Arthur Jensen (son, Phil Jensen), Talama Braba (Judy Albright's daughter), Kim Cichowicz, Courtney Daoust, Joseph Gawne (husband, Rebecca Romas), Gabriella Gomez (niece, Darlene Babin), Donna Greca (friend, Peggy Staten), Raymond Harmon, Kevin & Steven Johnson (grandsons, Patricia Olson) Richard Jones, Jeff Kasher, Tom Koths, Janet Kren, Joyce LaBlanc (friend, Peggy Staten), Joanne LeFleur (daughter, Helene & Neil McEachern), Jennifer & Tammy Lee (granddaughter & daughter, Barb Siemers), Courtney McEachern Matthews, Kim McEachern (daughters-in-law, Helene & Neil McEachern), Sue Milatz, Debi Petri, Judy Robin (aunt, Lucinda Chavez), Jerry Rossi, Tammi Sherman, Kevin Siemers, Mary & Darrell Smith, Debbie Smitt, Debra Stavros, Brenda Stockwell, Nicholas Surre (great-grandson, Helene McEachern), Sharon Thompson, Bill Warner, Robin Weiner and Victoria Witcher (daughter, Cheryl Stewart).

Congregations' Parents: Ronald & Myrna Matthews (parents, Brenda Rossi), Robert Brainard (father, Ed Brainard), Jan Filpus (mother, Julia-Joy Miller), Vicki Simon (mother, Michael Isaacs), and Bruce and Pat Vernor (parents, Eileen Vernor Drutchas).

Church Members & Friends in Nursing or Rehab Care:

Loretta Kurtzel- The Bellaire Senior Living, 12621 Hale Street, Riverview, 48193;
Esther Perry - Bellbrook Assisted Living, 873 West Avon Rd., Unit 209 H, Rochester Hills, 48307; *Eleanor Rossi* - Lakeland Nursing Center, 500 Williams St., Angola, IN 46703, *Melissa Rossi* -17652 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, 48125.