

TIDINGS

St. Paul United Church of Christ
24158 Goddard Road, Taylor, Michigan 48180-3910
313-291-1221 • Fax 313-291-3305
email: stpaulucctaylor@stpaulucctaylor.org
www.stpaulucctaylor.org
Interim Pastor - Rev. George Reed
Minister of Christian Education - Pastor Cheryl Schalm

May 2023

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday May 7th - Church Service - Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Communion Served

Sunday May 14th - Church Service - Sunday School 10 a.m. - Cradle Roll -
Mother's Day - Muffins for Mom/Fellowship Hall

Sunday May 21st - Church Service - Sunday School - 10 a.m.

Sunday May 28th - Church Service - Sunday School - 10 a.m.
Pentecost Sunday

Monday May 29th - Memorial Day - Church Office Closed

June 2023

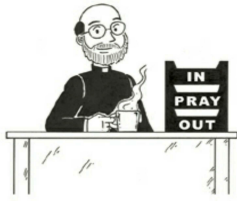
Sunday June 4th - Church Service - Sunday School - 10 a.m. - Communion -
Baccalaureate Sunday

Sunday June 11th - Church Service - Sunday School - 10 a.m. - Music Sunday

Sunday June 18th - Church Service - Children's Program - 10 a.m.
Father's Day - Donuts for Dad/Fellowship Hall

Sunday June 25th - Church Service - 10 a.m.

A WORD FROM THE PASTOR



Dear Friends,

As most of you know, I was ordained in The United Methodist Church. What you may not know is that after the Bishop lays hands and ordains us, we are then given a very special gift: a crystal ball. This is very handy in working with congregations as it allows pastors to discern all the needs and wants of the congregation. We just consult our crystal balls and instantly we know who is in the hospital, who is sick, who wants a visit, who has a question about what we do. It is really a very helpful tool for a pastor to have. Unfortunately, with all the moves that United Methodist clergy go through over the years, many of us end up with a broken crystal ball and there are no replacements offered.

I, alas, find myself in the situation that my crystal ball was shattered during one of my moves and I can no longer rely on it to guide me. I, instead, have to resort to depending on parishioners to talk to me. If you are in the hospital I no longer can know this without someone telling me. If you have a question I cannot give you the answer unless you ask me. If there is something you need from me you will have to tell me what that is.

So if you have questions, concerns, wants, or needs that you want me to address you will have to let me know. Without my crystal ball I cannot know these things just because you talked to someone else about them. Telling the cashier at the grocery or the person who does your hair or the person who picks up your trash or the person beside you in the pew will not do us any good. We are going to have to depend on the old fashioned method of talking to each other instead.

The Reverend George Reed
Interim Senior Pastor

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EDITORIAL

"Let this be written for a future generation, that a people not yet created may praise the Lord." ~ Psalm 102:18

While my grandmothers had different personalities, one thing they had in common was that they loved the Lord. And they were faithful. Whether it be hardships, sorrow, or joy - they took it all to God. Both were quick to pray for their children and their grandchildren. And each of them showed us the love of Jesus in their own way. It wasn't just preached, it was lived out. Sometimes just giving someone, our children and grandchildren our time without being asked speaks volumes.

Raising children is not easy and what we are experiencing in the world today makes it even tougher. As parents, grandparents and caring adults, lines get blurred. It's difficult to know what responsibilities should just be assumed, and

which lines should just never be crossed; especially when raising a child of God in a world that often denies Him. Do we turn our head to keep the peace, or do we stand firm? It can be truly challenging.

When we're struggling to figure out what kind of parent, grandparent or caring adult we want to be, no matter the circumstances, the bottom line is quite simple... One who loves.

When people were asking Jesus which was the greatest commandment, His response was: "Love God with all your heart, mind, and soul. And love others as yourself." -Matthew 22:37-40 He then goes on to say, that's how others will know we are disciples.

Future generations of our family will remember us by how well we loved. Greeting them with a hug and a smile. Listening without judgment. Spending time with no ulterior motives. Calling to check in, just because. Celebrating their accomplishments. Praying through tears. Loving unconditionally. Showing up.

This month we acknowledge and give thanks for all the mothers whether biological, adoptive, or acting who do just that! With hearts of gratitude we celebrate all the mothers who love not only their children, but all children as children of God. HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

"Dear Heavenly Father, If we accomplish nothing else in this life, may it be to show our family how to love others by loving You first."

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

Christian Education Activities

Youth Flower Sale Orders are due May 1st

The youth will continue to accept flower orders until May 1st. All flowers and plants will be delivered from Blocks Greenhouse to the church for pick-up on May 14th. All proceeds from the sale will benefit the summer youth mission trip. The youth thank you in advance for your continued support.

Youth Food & Fundraising

The youth will gather at 5:00 p.m. for a pizza dinner at the church on Saturday, May 13th. Following dinner the youth will head out to Meijer to return bags of donated bottles and cans. Afterwards, they will head to Blocks Greenhouse to gather and load flowers for flower order distribution on May 14th. Contact Pastor Schalm with any questions.

Summer Sunday School Teachers Needed

Christian Education is recruiting summer Sunday School teachers to lead a Sunday School class over the summer. Teachers are needed June 25th throughout September 3rd. All curriculum and materials are provided. Please review the following list and consider signing up to teach a class over the summer. The sign-up sheet is located on the Welcome Center Desk located upstairs in the Christian Education area. Please contact Pastor Schalm with any questions. Thank you for prayerfully considering this wonderful opportunity to share your faith with the children of St. Paul UCC.

June 25 – Love, July 2 – Joy, July 9 – Peace, July 16 – Patience, July 23 – Kindness, July 30 – Generosity, August 6 – Faithfulness, August 13 – Gentleness, August 20 – Self-Control, August 27 – Jonah, September 3 – Solomon’s Prayer for Wisdom

Youth Summer Mission Trip Set for Week of July 16 - July 22

Youth interested in participating in the summer’s mission trip should clear their calendars for the week of July 16-July 22. While confirmation is being awaited on the location of the mission trip and worksites, chaperones have been secured for this week. This week was selected due to the availability of chaperones. More information to come.

Pets Unleashed, Where Jesus Cares Fur You, will serve as the theme for this year’s Vacation Bible School Program. Young people and their families should mark their calendars for the week of July 24 - July 28. As always, friends and neighbors are welcome and encouraged to participate. More information to come.

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. 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 for more information.

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.

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

Women of the Church and Infants to be honored on Sunday May 14th

Sunday May 14th is Mother’s Day and Cradle Roll Sunday. This is the day to recognize the women of the church and all infants born this past year to members of our congregation family at our 10:00 a.m. service.

As part of the service, parents will be invited to bring their child individually to the front of the sanctuary as his or her name is read and the congregation rings hand-held bells in their honor. Please contact the church office (313-291-1221) if

you would like to participate or include a child or grandchild in the Cradle Roll roster. All Women as they leave the sanctuary will be presented with a flower to take home and plant.

Muffins for Mom Celebration to be held May 14th

Once again Men's Fellowship will be hosting this special event which honors all of the mothers and the women of our congregation. The celebration includes a special continental breakfast in the Fellowship Hall after the 10:00 am morning worship service. All ladies should mark their planners for this special event. St. Paul Men's Fellowship

Graduates Honored at Annual Baccalaureate Service

This special service is scheduled for Sunday, June 4. The service will serve to celebrate our graduating seniors, graduating college students, and those receiving special certifications. Robed graduates attending will come down the center aisle at the beginning of worship and will be individually acknowledged at a special time of prayer. In addition, it will be a time of recognition of our Sunday School children. Watch your Morning Tide for more information.

Please alert our church office (313-291-1221) to any high school or college graduates in your family who should be recognized that Sunday.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for "A Chat with Rev. Reed"

Over the next 6 weeks there will be small gatherings of 6 to 8 people per session, for a "Chat with Rev. Reed". The purpose of these gatherings is to give Rev. Reed the opportunity to get to know you as a member and put names to faces, and give you a chance to get to know him a little better too. These gatherings should only last about an hour. The search committee has put together several dates/times for these gatherings.

The dates/times available are as follows:

Sunday - May 7th - 11:15 a.m.

Wednesday - May 10th - 11:00 a.m. or 5:30 p.m.

Monday - May 15th - 7:00 p.m.

Sunday - June 4th - 11:15 a.m.

You can sign-up for any of these days/dates in the narthex on Sunday or by calling the church office at (313)291-1221. It will be a first come first serve basis so that we only have up to 8 people per gathering. If the day/date you want is not available please choose another. If we run out of days/dates and there are still more who wish to participate we will add more dates until all those interested may attend.

2023 Budget Status

Donations for the first quarter of 2023 are down from last year, we are currently under budget by \$15,003.50 from our projected income through March. The good news is that our expenses are \$17,484.19 under budget. We continue to monitor all budget expenses and purchase only items necessary to maintain the church's business. If you have questions or concerns about the budget please feel free to call me or see me at the church. We thank all of you who continue to contribute during these difficult times.

2023 Membership Directory

The 2023 Membership Directory is scheduled for publication mid June. Please notify the office by Monday, May 15, 2023 of any changes to your personal information (phone number, address, new family member, etc). No updates will be allowed after this date, it is very important that the information published in the directory is accurate and up-to-date. Please contact the Church Office if you have any questions. St. Paul Communication Ministry

Sew N Sew Gals to Meet in May

Our next meeting will be Thursday, May 18th at 10 AM in the West Room. Please bring your finished projects, supplies will be available for additional ones. Bring a sandwich for lunch, dessert and coffee will be provided. No sewing skills are needed. If you think you may be interested in joining, please stop by to see what we create! Here is one of the Thank You notes we have received.

Crafters/Sewers/Knitters/Crocheters of St. Paul,

Your generous donation of baby blankets, afghans, quilts, and hats as well as your time are very much appreciated by the patients who receive them. Thank you for letting us at Corewell Health (Beaumont) Trenton share your talents with them. You are what makes our Spread the Love program continue to exist.

*Many Blessings,
Chaplain Jody
and
The Spiritual Support Dept.*

'Happy Soles' 5K Run Benefits Fish & Loaves Food Pantry

The fourteenth annual "Happy Soles" 5K will be held Sunday, June 4, in Heritage Park, Taylor. A benefit for the Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry, the "Happy Soles" 5K Run/Walk/Bike helps put food on the pantry shelves for Downriver families in need.

Open to runners, walkers and bikers of all ability and age, the course is entirely on the Heritage Park grounds. Medals will be given to the first overall winner, male and female; master winner (seniors), male and female; and the top three fastest runners in each age group, male or female. The first 300 finishers will receive a custom medal. All children will receive a participation ribbon (no t-shirt).

'Happy Soles' registration is currently online at runsignup.com/Race/MI/Taylor/HappySoles5kRunWalk. The walk/run registration fee is \$35. For those who opt for a combined bike/run the registration fee is \$45. All registrants prior to May 17 receive a 'Happy Soles' 5K tee-shirt.

The 5K Bike run begins Sunday, 7:45 a.m. in front of the open-air Sheridan Pavilion. The 5K Run/Walk begins at 8:30 a.m. in the same location. Race packets can be picked up on race day, beginning at 7 a.m., at the Sheridan Pavilion.

HEALTH MINISTRIES

Exercise Class Wednesday's

Join other church members on Wednesday's from 10:30 -11:30 a.m. for our weekly exercise class led by our outstanding instructor Delissa. She will lead you through a variety of exercises each week. 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 Kathy Williams. A small donation of \$3 to \$5 is suggested, but not expected for each class you attend. **NO CLASS May 6th.**

JOYS AND CONCERN

A **SPECIAL THANK YOU** to the following people for helping serve and prepare for our drive-thru dinners: Sue Mrowka, Sandi Rose, Toni Hill, Karen Hill, Tim Ruffner, Barb Schultz, Rev. Reed, Jim Poet, Diane Poet, Candace Poet, Eric Poet, Gary Staffeld, Ed Brainard, Silver MacZink, Jeff MacZink, Sharon Podpora, Sandy Ennis, Mark Ennis, Debbie Case, Dan Case, Vicki Grant, Elizabeth Isaacs, Dee Salsbury, and Gene Kincaid.

A **SPECIAL THANK YOU** to the following people who helped to move the Drive-Thru Trailer and set-up the Men's Fellowship tent for the Rummage Sale: Tim Ruffner, James Poet, Eric Poet, Candace Poet, Crystal Poet, Dan Case, Gary Staffeld, Tom Tank, Dale Simon, Harold Fick, Michael Isaacs, Dee Salsbury, Marilyn Lange, and Rodney Gish.

A **SPECIAL THANK YOU** to the following people who helped in the garage during the Spring Rummage Sale: Tom Tank, Dale Simon, Gary Staffeld, Ed Brainard, Dan Case, Rodney Gish. St.Paul Men's Fellowship

MEMORIAL DONATIONS

ORGAN FUND:

In Memory of: *Murlyn Nieman* From: Daniel & Julie Melton, Michelle Gillespey
James & Judith Sumner, Sherry Rye,
Patricia Melton

FACILITY IMPROVEMENT FUND:

In Memory of: *Robert Poet* From: Thelma Poet
In Memory of: *Eleanor Rossi* From: Bruce & Karen Siebarth, Donald & Anna
Staffeld

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION FUND:

In Memory of: *Murlyn Nieman* From: Jane Dykowski

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR

Church Members and Friends: Bernard Baca, Kim Beyar, Margo Charette, John Dubke, Dorothy Evison, Hayden Forsyth, Barb Gish, Kyle Hard, Carrie Hill, Aaron Johnson, Wayne Jones, Judy Kirsch, Rev. Norm Kirsch, Sheila Klimek, Neil McEachern, Jeff MacZink, Michelle Mellin, Jeff Natzke, Bob Robinson, Shirley Robinson, Eleanor Rossi, Jerry Rossi, Gabriel Siadak, Barbara Siemers, Sally Sigman, Beverly Sitz, Sue Spears, Sandi Rose, Joan Smarr, Dianne Sturgeon, Linda Tank, Bert Thompson, Lorelee Wilson, and Shelly Wilson.

Extended Family: Rhonda Wioncek Berndt, Karen Collett, Philip and Connie Linne Alberts, Dawn Sturgeon Anderson, Cliff & Susan Barnard, Mary Board (daughter, Clifford Board), Lynn Case, Josh Edelbrock, Arthur Jensen (son, Phil Jensen), Kim Cichowicz, Courtney Daoust, 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 Whitcher (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.