

# TIDINGS

St. Paul United Church of Christ  
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[www.stpaulucctaylor.org](http://www.stpaulucctaylor.org)  
Interim Pastor - Rev. George Reed  
Minister of Christian Education - Pastor Cheryl Schalm

**October 2023**

## **Calendar of Events**

Sunday October 1st- Church Service - World Wide Communion - 10:00 a.m.  
Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.

Tuesday October 3rd - Last day for Rummage Sale Drop-off - NOON

Thursday October 5th - Rummage Sale - 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Friday October 6th - Rummage Sale - 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.

Saturday October 7th - Last day of Rummage Sale - 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.

Sunday October 8th - Church Service & Sunday School - 10.00 a.m.

Sunday October 15th - Church Service & Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.

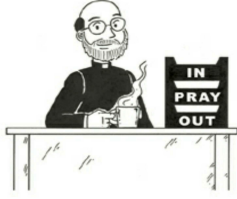
Thursday October 19th - Blood Drive - 1:00 p.m. to 6:45 p.m.

Sunday October 22nd - Church Service & Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.

Saturday October 28th - Trunk or Treat 4:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Sunday October 29th - Reformation Sunday  
Church Service & Sunday School - 10:00 a.m.  
Kick off of "Operation Christmas Child"

## **A WORD FROM THE PASTOR**



*Dear Friends,*

*The first Sunday in October we will celebrate World Communion Sunday. It is a special day of remembering that the Body of Christ is not limited to our congregation, our denomination, or our country. The Body of Christ is universal. It stretches beyond any limits of space and we are connected with all who follow Christ. We will have several different breads during communion to help us remember the great diversity in the Church.*

*In November we will celebrate Totenfest (All Saints Sunday) where we will remember that the Body of Christ is not limited in time as well as space. We will give thanks for the lives of those who have entered into the Church Triumphant in the last year. We will again celebrate Holy Communion and remember that we are at the table with Our Lord and with all members of the Body of Christ.*

*These two celebrations are reminders of our unity across time and space with all the Church. May we carry this thought with us throughout the year as we interact with others within and beyond this congregation.*

The Reverend George Reed  
Interim Senior Pastor

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EDITORIAL**

*"In Him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace." ~Ephesians 1:7*

After grooming and caring for a yard all summer long, I find winter gardening most delightful. I can scroll the seed catalogs and yard and garden magazines, admiring the beauty without one weed in site or plant that needs to be watered.

Come June, as I kneel in the dirt, it will be a much different story. Weeds, bugs, thistles, blisters and sunburn will serve to remind me of the resolution I made just months prior "to not plant so much and to purchase vegetables versus grow them."

I will begin to question whether or not the cucumbers, tomatoes, beans, zucchini and peppers will survive, or will they serve as a "Bunny Buffet" like they did the prior year. Knowing myself like I do, I will be tempted to give up and to throw in the towel. Why put in all the time and effort on something that may not bear any fruit?

Our tendency to abandon our commitments makes it easier for us to wonder about our Lord's commitment to us. We may ask ourselves, at what point will God stand up, dust off his hands, and decide that loving us is no longer worth it?

We may begin to think that we have used up our quota of grace. That we've prayed too often or asked for too many things. Perhaps we might even think that He has decided to walk away in disgust or frustration.

No, No, and No! Our Heavenly Father's love for us never runs out. Nor does He run from us. His measureless love for us will never stop flowing. In Christ, we have redemption, the Bible, God's Word tells us so. God's love and pardon are ever-present realities. He is rich in grace and love toward us.

God's love defies description. It resists all attempts to measure it. We need this love in more ways than we can count. We do not deserve it nor can we earn it, but God lavishes love upon us anyway. His love for us is beyond measure.

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

## **Christian Education Activities**

### **St. Paul UCC HALLOWEEN**

When: Saturday, October 28<sup>th</sup>

Where: St. Paul, UCC circular drive

Time: 4:00 p.m. - hot dogs & chips, caramel apples, pumpkin decorating

5:00 p.m. - trunk or treat

5:30 p.m. - hayride

Candy donations are being sought and can be dropped in the office or the tub located at the welcome center in the Christian education department.

Please contact Sheri Herkimer or Pastor Schalm if you are interested in assisting with this event.

### **Reformation Sunday**

On Reformation Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> grade students will receive Bibles as part of the special service commemorating the birth of the Protestant Faith.

### **Operation Christmas Child Kick-off**

Christian Education will kick-off their Operation Christmas Child shoebox campaign on Sunday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. All church members will be invited and encouraged to pick up a wrapped shoebox in the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour, fill it with small Christmas gifts ( a brochure with gift ideas will be included), tag the box with the appropriate label that will be included and return the box by November 19<sup>th</sup>. All filled shoe boxes will be distributed to children in need throughout the world.

## **Rock Hard in Faith Youth Happenings**

### OCTOBER:

Saturday, October 7th, / 10:30 a.m.

Assist in bagging rummage sale items for donation pick-up.

Sunday, October 15<sup>th</sup> 11:30 a.m.

Kackleberry Farm Fall Festival (Monroe-Carleton) / Cornmaze, Pumpkin Patch, Mega-slide, Corn Popper, Barrel Train, Pig Races, Farm Animals, Sunflower Field, Hayrides, Rat Rollers, Corn Hole, Donuts & Cider, & Concessions. Cost: \$15.00

Saturday October 28th/Trunk or Treat

We will host the Haunted Hallway if there is enough participation to do so.

### NOVEMBER:

Friday, November 17<sup>th</sup> 5:00 p.m.

We will gather for pizza at Pastor Schalm's prior to heading to the Toledo Zoo Lights Before Christmas display. Cost approx. \$20.00 (Dependent on number attending)

Sunday, November 19<sup>th</sup>

Lunch & pack up Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes and deliver to collection center

### **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 (734) 255-0935 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.

## **COUNCIL PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE: Salvation Moments**

*"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to us by which we must be saved."*

*Acts 4:10-12*

*As suggested by the Apostle Paul, Salvation carries treasures with Christ:*

### **FORGIVEN**

*Then he took the cup, gave thanks and offered it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." (Matthew 26:27-28 NIV)*

### **ETERNITY WITH FATHER GOD**

*For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16 NIV)*

### **GOD'S LOVE**

*For I am convinced that neither death nor life, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38-39 NIV)*

### **FELLOWSHIP & FRIENDSHIP**

*What is more, I consider everything a loss compared to the surpassing greatness of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them rubbish, that I may gain Christ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ—the righteousness that comes from God and is by faith. I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the fellowship of sharing in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, (Philippians 3:8-10 NIV)*

### **JOY**

*If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love. I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends. (John 15:10-13 NIV)*

### **FULFILLMENT**

*Blessed are you who hunger now, for you will be satisfied. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. (Luke 6:21 NIV – THE BEATITUDES)*

### **PEACE**

*Peace, I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid. (John 14:27 NIV)*

*"Salvation is not just a one-time promise for when we die. It's a moment-by-moment possibility while we live." – Retired Pastor Shane Hipp, Mars Hill Bible Church Grand Rapids, Michigan. As Retired Pastor Shane suggests, we don't have to wait to die to have our salvation in Christ. We can have our salvation in Christ now in every moment of our lives.*

*And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. Romans 13:11-12 NIV*

*When did Peter have his moments of salvation? Was it when he heard the rooster crow after denying Christ three times or walking on the water on the stormy sea or confessing Jesus as Messiah, the Son of God? Peter had multiple salvation moments throughout each of these occasions and multiple more throughout his life and ministry. Let us challenge ourselves to find our own salvation moments in our lives in the here and now and in so doing help someone see their salvation moments in Jesus the Christ.*

*There are many ways we can share Salvation Moments. Among the many opportunities, the homeless are in need of Salvation Moments too. Pastor Cheryl Schalm provided a Moment of Sharing with Christnet seeking to reinstate rotating host churches for the homeless beginning in January 2024. At minimum we need one male and one female to work an evening shift for one night. We need enough volunteers for a full week in January 2024. We also need volunteers to prepare evening meals that week. During COVID federal funding was provided for Christnet to shelter evening guests in a hotel. Hotel funding is no longer available. An evening shelter run by Wayne Metro houses 30 people. Staff at Wayne Metro only allows accommodation for 15 guests. Wayne Metro and Christnet are turning to rotating churches to help with demand which exceeds a wait list of over 100 people seeking shelter in the winter evenings. St. Paul UCC Taylor has traditionally started the church rotation season and if we have enough volunteers we can resume the tradition. Staying up all night to volunteer after working all day is understandably difficult, especially for those who need to be at work the next day. Please prayerfully consider volunteering at St Paul to host the Christnet guests should your circumstances allow. Please contact either Pastor Cheryl Schalm or Rev. Reed if you can volunteer. Please prayerfully consider Christnet volunteer opportunities to share a Salvation Moment with Christnet guests in the name of Jesus the Christ.*

## **ALL CHURCH EVENTS**

### **"Advent by Candlelight" Program Kicks off Holiday Season**

Sponsored by the Christian Education Ministry, our annual "Advent by Candlelight" program is being held on Sunday, Dec. 3, from 6:45-8:45 PM. This is where one woman hosts a table and asks about seven other ladies to join her for an advent program, fellowship and dessert. There will be a sign up sheet during coffee hour all through November, or you can contact Debbie Case. (debbiescase@aol.com). It is quite easy to be a hostess and I will have envelopes for each hostess with all the information. There will also be a sign up sheet for ladies that do not want to host a table but would like to attend. We will do our best to find a place for every lady that would like to attend.

Deadline to sign up is Sunday, Nov. 19th. The table arrangement in the hall is based on the order that you sign your group up by. I will need to know total numbers at each table by Nov. 26th.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

### **Council is seeking two Elders**

We have been able the last few months to have volunteers fill in for these positions when necessary. Please prayerfully consider taking one of these positions. If you are in need of a complete description of what the position entails please contact the church office and Cindy will give you a copy.

- Elder to complete the remaining term (ending January, 2024), vacated by Barb Shultz
- Elder to complete the remaining term (ending January, 2026), vacated by Pat Staffeld

Anyone wishing to serve in one of these Elder capacities please contact Aaron Johnson at 1-313-244-2420.

### **Lectors are needed for Sunday Services**

If you would like to volunteer or would like more information please contact Rev. Reed or Cindy Romas in the church office. No experience needed. All information is provided to you.

### **Rummage Sale Donations Sought—Volunteers Needed**

The annual St. Paul Fall Rummage Sale will be held Thursday through Friday, October 5-7. Rummage sale hours will be Thursday & Friday 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Rummage donations were welcomed starting Monday September 11th when we ask that items be distributed and dropped-off to designated tables. All donated clothing, household goods, and equipment should be clean and in a good state of repair. Last day and time for donations is Tuesday October 3rd at noon. This will give them time to finish sorting before the sale.

The Fellowship Hall will be closed for all other activities until the rummage sale finishes. Beyond set-up, help is needed to host the actual sale and clean-up afterwards on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday morning during the first week in October. To volunteer, please contact the church office (313-291-1221). All proceeds from the rummage sale support church-related projects.

### **ChristNet Rotating Shelter Looks to Resume Operation**

Soon, far too soon in my opinion, we will be ushering in some much colder weather making the need for homeless shelters all the greater. As most of you are aware, St. Paul has served and supported the Christ Net rotating shelter and program for several decades or better. When the covid pandemic struck the rotating shelter was halted. Churches began providing and delivering dinner meals to the hotel in which guests were being housed.

After three plus years, ChristNet is hoping to re-open the rotating shelter at the beginning of next year (January). They are canvassing churches to inquire about their interest and availability to participate. Participating churches will be expected to host guests from Sunday to Saturday for a one-week time period.

Guests will arrive at the host church in the evening. Upon arrival they will be fed dinner prepared by the host church. Guests will over-night at the church utilizing sleeping bags and blow-up mattresses. In the morning they will be transported by van to the day center where they will receive breakfast and lunch and the opportunity to shower.

If you, or perhaps a group you may be involved with whether inside or outside of the church; book club, scouts, card club, athletic team, etc., would be interested in more information or in assisting with hosting guest please sign the sheet at the Kiosk in Fellowship Hall or in the Narthex. We will need to cover two shifts with a minimum of one male and one female per shift. Additionally, we will need individuals and groups to prepare, serve and clean-up following dinner. If you feel the Spirit calling you to chair and over-see a host week here at St. Paul, please contact Pastor Schalm.

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **St. Paul Bookkeeper Position**

After six years of service, our current bookkeeper, Elizabeth Bisaro has decided to resign her position to spend more time with her family and their family business. She has truly been a joy to work with over the past six years and will be missed by the office staff and myself.

I am happy to announce that Lori Kuhn has agreed to come on board as our new Bookkeeper, effective immediately. Many of you may already know Lori since she is the sister of our own Pastor Schalm. If you happen to see either Elizabeth or Lori at the Church, please make sure you wish them well on their new journeys.  
Dan Case - Treasurer

### **Neighbors In Need Mission Offering – Received in October**

This Mission offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. A large portion of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of ministries, advocacy efforts and direct service programs. This offering also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC through the Council for American Indian Ministries. There are over 20 UCC congregations on reservations primarily in the states of North and South Dakota and Minnesota. Neighbors In Need helps make another world possible, it needs your support.

**An offering envelope is included in this Tidings.** If you misplace the envelope, any regular envelope indicating "Neighbors In Need" may be used. There will also be offering envelopes in the pews as well. Place your envelope in the offering plate on Sunday, drop it off to our Church Office, or US Postal mail. Make checks payable to St. Paul UCC Church and indicate the offering name on the memo line.

**You may also use Vanco**, our electronic online and mobile giving source for Your "Neighbors In Need" donation. Visit us online at [www.stpaulucctaylor.org/giving](http://www.stpaulucctaylor.org/giving), locate the Online Giving button and select "Neighbors In Need" and enter the amount of your donation.

Your prayerful gift helps God's spirit move and speak in our congregations for generations to come. On behalf of the Stewardship of St. Paul, Thank You.



### **Sew "N" Sew Gals to Meet**

Thursday, October 19th at 10 AM in the West Room. Bring a sandwich, dessert and coffee are provided. No sewing experience necessary. Join us for 'food for thought.' Contact Sharon Leonard, chairwoman, for more info.

### **Burial Graves for Sale**

The St. Paul Memorial Ministry has four graves available for immediate purchase. The graves are located at Michigan Memorial Park in Huron Township. The four graves are all together and located in Section 22 "Garden of Apostles" with a retail value of \$1,825 per grave, the asking price is only \$1,000 per grave. Once purchased the graves may also be used as partial payment (full retail value) for purchase of a spot in their above ground burial sites or their indoor and outdoor cremation niches as well. You have many options available to you. Please contact any member of the Memorial Ministry if you are interested.

### **2023 Budget Status**

Donations through August of 2023 are still down from last year, we are currently under budget by approximately \$43,000 from our projected income. The good news is that our expenses are approximately \$30,000 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. Dan Case St Paul Treasurer

## **HEALTH MINISTRIES**

### **Exercise Class Continues on 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.

### **Blood Drive Scheduled for Thursday, October 19, 1- 6:45 PM**

Donors are needed for our next blood drive. If you are unable to donate, perhaps you can find someone that you know to donate. Hours are from 1 to 6:45 PM. Thanks for your consideration. It is important to sign up ahead of time. There needs to be 59 days between donations. Watch the MorningTide and email for when you can sign up.

**Directions for sign-up.** It is important to sign up ahead of time. There needs to be 59 days between donations. Please contact Kathy Williams, if you have questions or want her to sign you up for a time slot from 1 PM – 6:45 PM. You can make appointments for/at your own convenience through the Internet. Visit [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) In the upper right-hand corner, type in 48180 (the Zip

code for Taylor) and click on the arrow. Then the left column will show dates for the Taylor area. Choose refine search 'refine date' range to search the calendar for February, click on 'refine results'. It will read 'St. Paul United Church of Christ' Taylor, MI 48180. Click on 'see times'. Sign up for your time slot. You will need to register & obtain a password. IDs & passwords are case sensitive. Register for a time. On the day of the drive, you can also download to your phone or print out a **Rapid Pass** prior to coming to the drive. You can read the educational materials & complete the health history online to save some time at the blood drive. If you have questions about eligibility, you can look at eligibility requirements on [www.redcrossblood.org](http://www.redcrossblood.org) or contact the Red Cross blood donation center at 866-236-3276.

### **Health/Medical Supplies Available**

If you have or need medical supplies, such as walkers, wheelchairs, please contact Kathy Williams or the office.

### **Our Daily Bread Devotional Availability**

If you are interested in reading Our 'Daily Bread', please contact the office. The editions are available in large print and regular print. Please specify the print type that you want. They come every three months. Kathy Williams can send a copy to you via US mail, or you may ask the usher to give you one from the narthex if they are available.

## **JOYS AND CONCERN**

**Baptized Unto the Lord:** Colton Wyatt Kronemann, born November 28, 2023 to Roy and Rebecca Parant Kronemann. Baptized September 17, 2023. Grand-parents: Walter & Janet Parant Ray. Great-Grandparent: Irene Stoner. Sibling: Nora.

**Condolences:** to Lois Rice on the loss of dear friend, Mac Gardner, who passed away September 3, 2023, at the age of 97 years. Funeral service will be private; Howard and Shelly Wilson on the loss of Howard's mother, Lorelee Wilson, who passed away September 21, 2023, at the age of 94 years. Funeral service will be held in Niagara Falls, New York.

### **Thanks**

I would like to thank the following people that helped in the kitchen for the Picnic. Crystal Poet, Jim Poet, Diane Poet, Dee Salsbury, Jennifer Ruffner, Tim Ruffner, Wendy Warner, Rev. Reed, Gary Staffeld, Tom Tank, Toni Hill, John Smith, and Eddie Brainard. Also, a huge thanks to Block's Stand for donating all the Corn, Veggies, and Fruit. Dan Case for getting all the supplies. Thanks for making the Picnic successful. Kitchen Leader Candace Poet

## **WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR**

**Church Members and Friends:** Judy Albright, Bernie Baca, Margo Charette, Elaine Cowper, Mark Ennis, Kyle Hard, Carrie Hill, Wayne Jones, Judy Kirsch, Rev. Norm Kirsch, Nancy Kittendorf, Sheila Klimek, Neil McEachern, Jeff MacZink, Jeff Natzke, Bill Pattenaude, Lois Rice, Shirley Robinson, Jerry Rossi, Barbara Schultz, Gabriel Siadak, Sally Sigman, Joan Smarr, Sue Spears, Sue Stern, Dianne Sturgeon.

**Extended Family:** Rhonda Wioncek Berndt, Diane Brainard, Ted Butkin, Lynn Case, Marybeth Staffeld Gibbs (daughter, Roy & Mary), Arthur Jensen (son, Phil Jensen), Donna Greca (friend, Peggy Staten), Raymond Harmon, Sue Milatz, Debi and Al Petri, Jerry Rossi, Randy Snelson, Rachel Tank (Daughter, Tom & Linda Tank), Barbara Wiley (sister-in-law, Cindy Romas), and Jane Zeuner (friend, Sandi Rose).

### **Church Members & Friends in Nursing or Rehab Care:**

Darlene Babin, American House, 16333 Allen Rd., Room 213, Southgate, 48195; *Esther Perry* - Bellbrook Assisted Living, 873 West Avon Rd., Unit 209 H, Rochester Hills, 48307; *Melissa Rossi* -17652 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, 48125. *Sally Sigman* - Atria Kinghaven, 14800 King Rd., Room 116, Riverview, 48193; Office: 734-479-5000; *Bert Thompson*, Optalis Health & Rehabilitation, 9150 Allen Rd, Allen Park; Office: 313-386-2150.