

TIDINGS

St. Paul United Church of Christ
24158 Goddard Road, Taylor, Michigan 48180-3910
(313) 291-1221
email: stpaulucctaylor@stpaulucctaylor.org
www.stpaulucctaylor.org
Interim Sr. Pastor - Rev. Linda Anderson
Minister of Christian Education - Pastor Cheryl Schalm

Calendar of Events

June 2024

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| Sunday June 2nd | Church Service - Sunday School - 10 am - Communion |
| Sunday June 9th | Church Service - 10 am - Music Sunday |
| Sunday June 16th | Church Service - 10 am - Baccalaureate Sunday -
Father's Day - Donuts for Dad / Fellowship Hall |
| Sunday June 23rd | Church Service - 10 am - Summer Sunday School |
| Sunday June 30th | Church Service - 10 am - Summer Sunday School |

July 2024

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| Sunday, July 7th | Church Service - 10 am - Communion - Summer Sunday
School |
| Sunday, July 14th | Church Service - 10 am - Summer Sunday School -
Semi-Annual Mtg 11:00 am |
| Sunday, July 21st | Church Service - 10 am - Summer Sunday School |
| Sunday, July 28th | Church Service - 10 am under the tent - Summer Picnic |

From Rev. Linda

It is easy to look back. We all do it, and it can be a good thing. The point to remember is that while we look, we can't go back. Life changes and we have to move forward within the family, community and world we live in. This is not always easy. It is simply the direction we all have to move.

At St. Paul, the move forward currently includes seeking and calling a Senior Minister to journey with the congregation as the collective faith journey of the church continues. This is a difficult task and, as we all are realizing, not accomplished quickly. As many clergy are retiring and seminary graduations are declining in number, the search becomes more difficult. Traditionally, the transition from the departure of one settled minister and the calling of a new minister can easily take a couple of years or so. The search committee at St. Paul is working hard at a difficult task. Prayers and patience are what they have asked for. It is one way we can all support them.

In this time of transition, it is my joy to be with you, serving as Interim minister at St. Paul. The church moves forward with past traditions and experiencing new ways of being "the church". It is a time to look back, review the past and move forward. Your ideas and thoughts are vital. What is it from the past that means the most to you? What are some of your ideas and thoughts for the future? How is it that we could be working to build God's kingdom here on earth? Our world needs the work of each of us. Look around and consider what we can do individually and as a church community. I'd like to hear your ideas.

A few years ago, offering thoughts still worthy of consideration, The United Church of Christ engaged in a promotion providing churches behavioral guidelines. Here is a part of that promotion:

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment. Care for the poor. Embrace diversity.
Reject racism. Forgive often. Love God. Fight for the powerless.
Share earthly and spiritual resources. Enjoy this life.

Let us at St. Paul diligently work at being the Church! I would like to hear your thoughts.

Peace and Blessings,

Linda

THANK YOU FROM YOUR COUNCIL PRESIDENT

A letter has recently come to my attention from the United Church of Christ National Office that I would like to share, in part, with all of you as follows:

"Dear United Church of Christ Community:

We at the National office hope this message finds you well. We wanted to take a moment to extend our heartfelt gratitude to each and every one of you who contributed to this year's One Great Hour of Sharing Offering.

Your generosity is truly making a remarkable impact in the lives of individuals and communities both near and far. As a vital part of the United Church of Christ's special mission offerings, the One Great Hour of Sharing supports disaster relief, refugee aid, and development projects, embodying the essence of Love of Neighbor.

This year, our local congregations and members came together in a powerful display of solidarity, embodying the message from Matthew 5:14: "You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world." Your contributions have helped illuminate countless lives, bringing hope, healing, and resilience to those in need.

Once again, thank you for your generosity and compassion. Together, we are shining brightly as a beacon of hope and love in our community and beyond.

*With gratitude,
Your United Church of Christ National
Office"*

Again, I want to thank all of you for your generous support of our many Stewardship Offerings here at St Paul United Church of Christ. They are so very much appreciated and will continue to help all those in need.

Suzanne Mrowka
Council President
St Paul United Church of Christ

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EDITORIAL

With Mother's Day behind us and Father's Day before us I would like to share the following story that was shared with me some time ago. It speaks to our children's greatest need, a parent's time and presence.

A man came home from work late again, tired and irritated. He found his 5-year-old son waiting for him at the door. "Daddy, may I ask you a question?" The dad replied: "Yeah, sure, what is it?" "Daddy, how much money do you make an hour?"

The dad got mad and said, "That's none of your business! Why do you want to know?" The little boy said, "I just want to know. Please tell me, how much do you make an hour?"

The dad, wanting to sit down and relax, said, "If you must know, I make \$20 an hour." The little boy sighed and bowed his head. Looking up, he asked, "Daddy, may I borrow \$10 please?"

The father flew off the handle, "If the only reason you wanted to know how much money I make is so that you can hit me up for some cash to buy some stupid toy, then you march yourself straight to your room and go to bed. You're so selfish. I work long, hard hours every day and don't have time for this."

The little boy quietly went to his room and shut the door. The dad sat down and started to get even madder about the nerve of his little boy. How dare he ask questions only to get some money. After an hour or so, the man had calmed down, and started to think that maybe he was a bit hard on his boy. Maybe his son really needed the money for something important. And so, the father went up to his boy's room and opened it, "Are you asleep, son?"

"No daddy. I'm awake," replied the boy. "I've been thinking, maybe I was too hard on you earlier. It's been a long day, and I took it out on you. Here's that 10 bucks you asked for."

The little boy sat straight up, beaming. "Oh, thank you, daddy!" he exclaimed. Then, reaching under his pillow, he pulled out a wad of crumpled up bills.

The dad, seeing that the boy already had some money, started to get angry again. The little boy slowly counted out his money, and then looked up at his dad. The dad, now ticked off, demanded to know what was going on, "Why did you want more money if you already had some?" The little boy replied, "Because I didn't have enough, but now I do. Daddy, I have \$20 now...and I'd like to buy an hour of your time."

Our time is one of our most valuable resources. Let us spend and invest it wisely. Happy Father's Day to all our wonderful Fathers and Father figures.

In Christ, Pastor Cheryl Schalm

Christian Education Activities

Vacation Bible School, A Community Event

"HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD IN HIS HANDS," will serve as this year's Vacation Bible School theme. The fun packed week will begin on Sunday, July 21 and run through Thursday, July 25th. Each evening beginning at 6:30 p.m. and concluding at 8:30 p.m. children will participate in a variety of activities to include Bible adventures, song & dance, crafts, games and snacks.

Children are encouraged to invite and bring their friends. In addition, VBS will be open to the community. As a result, the outing to Willow Metropark for lunch and swimming will be held on August 6th rather than during the VBS week. Children should plan now for a week of fun and adventure as we explore with wonder, God's beautiful creation. Families should watch their mail for information to come.

Summer Sunday School Teachers Needed

Summer Sunday School begins on June 16th and concludes on September 8th with Rally Sunday. Christian Education is in need of Summer Sunday School teachers July 7th – September 1st. Thank you to Helen St. Louis for teaching the first three Sundays. Please prayerfully consider leading a lesson over the summer. All materials will be provided. Lessons and the sign-up sheet are located on the upstairs Welcome Center desk. Please see Pastor Schalm with any questions.

Christian Education to Celebrate Men of the Congregation

On June 16th, Father's Day, Christian Education will be celebrating Dads as well as all men of the congregation with a "Donuts for Dads" continental breakfast. The celebration will take place in the Fellowship Hall following the morning worship service. Mark your planners now!

Rock Hard in Faith Youth Happenings

Annual Youth Flower Sale Held on May 5th

The youth would like to thank everyone who gave up their Saturday evening to help pick up flowers and fill flower orders. In addition, they would like to thank all those who purchased flowers. A huge shout out to Candace Poet for chairing this fundraiser.

All monies raised from the Youth Flower Sale support the youth mission trip and other youth activities and events.

Youth Summer Mission Trip to be Held June 24 - June 28

Sent to Serve, will be the theme of this year's youth mission trip. As Christians, we are called to spread the Good News of God's goodness, love, grace, and salvation. As followers of Christ, we are to be obedient to His ways, caring for those in need and putting others before ourselves. Over the course of the week, youth will be doing just that. Along with their chaperones and mission site leaders, they will be serving the homeless, disabled, families and children being supported through various outreach programs.

It is my hope and prayer that through witness and service offered and received, participants will grow a larger heart for Christ and a deeper understanding of His love and promises.

In addition to serving, we will partake in daily devotions and enjoy fun evening activities. See Pastor Schalm for an informational packet.

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.

ALL CHURCH EVENTS

Mission Sunday

During the month of May church members were invited to bring in hygiene items for Veterans. All items were dedicated on May 23rd during the Memorial Weekend Sunday service.

During the month of June members are encouraged to bring in packs of diapers for our "Diapers for Jesus" outreach. All diapers will be donated to the Downriver Pregnancy Resource Center. Diapers will benefit single mothers and parents struggling financially.

Music Sunday is June 9th

There is plenty of Music to look forward to on Sunday June 9th as the entire church service will be filled with glorious music praising our God by the Chancel Choir under the direction of Tracy Hoffman.

Semi-Annual Meeting to be held July 14th

The Semi-Annual Meeting of the St. Paul Congregation will be held on Sunday, July 14th, immediately after the morning worship service. The meeting is expected to be relatively brief. A mid-year financial report will be shared by the treasurer as well as reports from a couple of other ministries to let everyone know what has happened at St. Paul since the beginning of 2024.

St. Paul church members are asked to sign in for the meeting once they have arrived to help establish a quorum. Look for the table in the narthex as you enter the church through the front or side doors.

St. Paul Men's Fellowship Ministry to host their Eighth Annual "Steak Fry"

The event will take place at the Church sometime in August the date is still TBD. Actual date will be published in the Morning Tide and the July/August Tidings. The men of St. Paul will be available to assist you with the grilling of a New York Strip Steak or a BBQ Chicken Breast, your choice. Dinner will also include a Baked Potato (Regular or Sweet), Corn on the Cob, Garlic Bread, Salad, Dessert and Beverage. For an extra \$3 you can purchase an optional shrimp skewer with five pcs. of shrimp. You will want to purchase your ticket in advance to reserve your steak or chicken, since only a limited number of steaks and chicken will be available at the door for purchase. Tickets are \$18 per person and will be available at the Kiosk Table during July Coffee Hour or by calling the Church Office at (313) 291-1221 or Jim Poet at (734) 718-3137. All "Grill Masters" are invited to participate, if you have any questions please feel free to contact Jim Poet, Gary Staffeld, or Dan Case. It promises to be an enjoyable evening so come on down and bring your friends.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

2024 Budget Status

Giving for the month of April was down compared to last month our actual income was \$14,482 with a budget income of \$24,112. Year-to-date we are currently \$20,606 under our budgeted income. Our actual expenses were \$22,191 with a budgeted expense of \$24,721. Year-to-date our budgeted expenses are \$17,735 under the budget. We appreciate all of your continued support. Just a quick reminder that with the reduced volume of donations we are only counting money twice a month so it may take a couple of weeks for your checks to clear. If you have any questions about a non-cashed check please contact me directly.
Dan Case - St. Paul Treasurer

Sew "N" Sew Gals to Meet

Thursday, June 20th 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 Janet Staffeld, chairwoman, for more info.

Safety and Security

For the next couple of months we will be highlighting some safety measures that are in place at the Church to help keep you informed. This month we will be covering **FIRE EMERGENCY**.

In the event you discover a small fire, notify a member of the Emergency Response Team or a member of the church staff immediately. If the fire is beyond the point of a safe attempt to extinguish it call 911 immediately and do the following:

- Follow the St. Paul Building Evacuation Plan. (located throughout the Church)
- Do not Panic, Remain Calm.
- Members of the ERT or Staff will provide help for the disabled persons in the building.
- Isolate the fire by closing doors.
- Proceed to one of the outside designated assembly areas. Parents know that their children will be taken to these areas.
- Do not break windows - Oxygen feeds a fire.
- Be aware that moving your vehicle could hinder access by emergency vehicles.

Fire Extinguishers locations are as follows: 1. By Church Front Doors, 2. Top of Balcony Steps, 3. Family Room foyer, 4. East Lobby, 5. Boiler Room, 6. Fellowship Hall by pop machine, 7. Hallway from Fellowship Hall to West Lobby, 8. Stage Basement, 9. West Lobby, 10. Kitchen (special grease extinguisher), 11. Fellowship Hall Emergency Exit, 12. West Room Emergency Exit, 13. 2nd floor Hallway outside Movie Room, 14. 2nd floor in stairs to stage, and 15. 2nd floor West reception area.

TO OPERATE FIRE EXTINGUISHER

(P) Pull Pin

(A) Aim at Bottom of Fire

(S) Squeeze Trigger

(S) Sweep Base of Fire Side to Side

HEALTH MINISTRIES

Exercise Class Continues

Exercise classes are held on Wednesday's from 10:30 -11:30 A.M. in Fellowship Hall or the West room. **No class June 19 and 26 and July 3 and 4.** Our instructor Delissa Hampton is there every step of the way to cheer you on to work at whatever pace you can do. All exercises can be done in a seated or standing position with or with the use of a chair, or a combination of both. We will also be meeting on the first Thursday of the month starting on June 6, from 10:30 -11:30 A.M. A small donation of \$3 to \$5 is suggested, but not expected for each class you attend. Hope to see you soon. 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. The information to join the class is on www.stpaulucctaylor.org [Health Activities \(stpaulucctaylor.org\)](http://www.stpaulucctaylor.org/Health_Activities) If you would like to participate or have any questions, contact the office or Kathy Williams.

PATH and Hypertension classes being Offered at no cost.

The National Kidney Foundation offers a variety of health classes. Go to [HBP Control | National Kidney Foundation of Michigan \(nkfm.org\)](http://www.nkfm.org) for the hypertension

control class beginning May 29 at the Taylor Senior Center. Other programs go to [Programs | National Kidney Foundation of Michigan \(nkfm.org\)](http://Programs | National Kidney Foundation of Michigan (nkfm.org))

CPR & First-aid Class

We did not have enough participants to hold the class. If you are interested in participating in the future, please contact Kathy Williams or leave a message in/for the office. People are needed with certification of CPR & First aid. Heartsaver, CPR with AED CLASS & First-aid Class by the American Heart Association will be offered late summer or early fall. If you are already certified, it would be helpful to add you to our list. Following church on May 19, there was a demonstration of hand-on-only CPR in the West Room. Participants watched a short video, then practice CPR and received feedback

Health/Medical Supplies Available

If you have or need medical supplies, such as walkers, wheelchairs, please contact our parish nurse or the office. We need more canes if anyone has extra canes or other equipment.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Liturgists are needed for Sunday Services

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

Volunteer needed to manage our three flags in front of the Church

We are looking for an individual or a couple who would be interested in managing the three Flag Poles in front of the Church. Flags would need to be replaced as required and the American Flag moved to half-mast on special occasions. If you are interested please contact the Office at (313) 291-1221.

Council Seeks to Fill Two Positions

The church council has two positions that need to be filled. Someone is needed to fill the position of 2nd year Trustee and the position of 3rd year Deacon. Description of these positions can be obtained by contacting the church office. Please prayerfully consider taking one of these positions to complete our church council. If you have any questions please contact Trustee Toni Hill or Michael Isaacs.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

A special **Thank YOU** to all of those people who helped make the Spring Rummage Sale a huge success.

A special **Thank You** to all of those people who helped to make the Every Daughter Banquet a success and a special **Thank You** to Pat Staffeld for her donation of two cakes for the dessert.

MEMORIALS

MEMORIAL FUND:

In Memory of: *Mary Darty* From: Debbie Hamilton

In Memory of: *Shirley Havenstein* From: Irene Stoner

In Memory of: *William Zabik* From: William & Sandra McGahey

In Memory of: *Robert Weigel* From: Barb Schultz & Family

FACILITY IMPROVEMENT FUND:

In Memory of: *Robert Weigel* From: Larry Kurtzel, Dan & Dorothy Evison

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR

Church Members and Friends: Kyle Hard, Justine Kimbler, Betty Mayfield, Fred Miller, Dan Newton, Bill Pattenaude, Lois Rice, Shirley Robinson, Sandi Rose, Barbara Schultz, Christine Schwab, Sally Sigman, Joan Smarr, Sue Spears, Linda Tank, Jeannette Wackro, Carol Wioncek.

Extended Family: Susan & Dennis Bennett (sister, brother-in-law of Karen Hill), Rhonda Wioncek Berndt, Diane Brainard (mom, Ed Brainard), Sherry Burchard (daughter, Sandy and Jack Burchard), Ted Butkin, Ailani Flores (friends of Rosemarie Laslo), Brody Howell (nephew, Justine Kimber), Sue Milatz, Debi and Al Petri, Jerry Rossi, Randy Snelson, Rachel Tank (Daughter, Tom & Linda Tank).

Church Members & Friends in Extended Care or Rehab Care:

Judy Albright, Allegria Village, 15081 Ford Rd., Apt. 606, Dearborn, 48126-4642; Darlene Babin, American House, 16333 Allen Rd., Room 213, Southgate, 48195; Dave Cowper, Hampton Manor of Woodhaven, 22125 Van Horn Rd., Room 308, Woodhaven 48183; Dennis Nagy, Hampton Manor of Trenton, 5999 Fort Street, Room #425, Trenton, 48183, Office 734-561-8006; *Melissa Rossi* -17652 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, 48125; Barbara Schultz, Randall Residence at Encore Village, 10801 E. Grand River, Room 212, Brighton, 48116; *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.

Council Position Highlights

For the month of June we will be highlighting the position of **DEACON**. A listing of all current council members is posted on the welcome board in the west lobby.

Duties of the Deacon

The Deacons serve to maintain order and good behavior at all services of worship of the Congregation and other meetings of the Church. They are responsible for ensuring that our sanctuary is ready and equipped for worship.

1. COUNCIL / CABINET

- a. Attend monthly Council meetings, as scheduled.
- b. Attend special Council meetings, as scheduled.
- c. Attend quarterly Cabinet meetings, as scheduled. (Senior Deacon only)
- d. Attend yearly Council Retreat.

- e. Work Coffee Hour or special events when Council has volunteered to host.
- f. The Senior Deacon shall provide a written report including attendance records for each Council meeting.
- g. Attend the Semi-Annual and Annual meetings.
- h. Prepare report for Annual Meeting.

2. **CHURCH SERVICES**

- a. Responsible to provide a schedule of greeters, ushers and acolytes for all Church services, or appoint and supervise an Usher/Greeter/Acolyte Coordinator.
 - 1. Provide training and supervision for ushers, greeters and acolytes.
- b. Responsible for ringing of the church bell during all Church services and to train and maintain an up-to-date list of members who have volunteered to ring the bell. (Funerals are handled by the Sexton)
- c. Responsible to receive the offering at all Church Services and ensure their safekeeping by bagging and dropping into the Office safe.
- d. Reserve pews in the Sanctuary, when requested.
- e. Verify hymn boards are correct per the bulletin.
- f. Verify that flowers / rose are on the altar / pulpit.
- g. Unlock and lock Church doors prior to and after all services.
- h. Verify that the heat or air-conditioning are on prior to worship services.
- i. Maintain attendance records for all Church services.
- j. Ensure Sanctuary, Narthex and Ushers room are cleaned after each Church service.
- k. Replace pads / pencils in attendance books, as required.

3. **SPECIAL**

- a. Responsible for training and to maintain an up-to-date list of Auxiliary Deacons who have been approved by the St. Paul Council.
- b. One Deacon shall serve on the Worship Ministry.
- c. Responsible for ensuring that pew cards are stocked on a regular basis or appoint and supervise a Pew Card Coordinator.
- d. The Deacons shall oversee the Altar Guild to ensure that altar candles are filled properly, and altar hangings are done correctly.