

# TIDINGS

St. Paul United Church of Christ  
24158 Goddard Road, Taylor, Michigan 48180-3910  
(313) 291-1221  
email: [stpaulucctaylor@stpaulucctaylor.org](mailto:stpaulucctaylor@stpaulucctaylor.org)  
[www.stpaulucctaylor.org](http://www.stpaulucctaylor.org)  
Interim Sr. Pastor - Rev. Linda Anderson

## Calendar of Events

### **February 2025**

Saturday, February 1st	St. Paul Wild Game Dinner 5:30 pm
Sunday, February 2nd	Church Service - Communion & Sunday School 10:00 am
Saturday, February 8th	CE Winter Blast 1:00 - 3:30 pm
Sunday, February 9th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday, February 16th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Saturday, February 22nd	Cut Cabbage 8:00 am
Saturday, February 22nd	Cut Peppers and Carrots and Make Coleslaw 9:30 am
Sunday, February 23rd	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am

### **March 2025**

Sunday, March 2nd	Church Service - Communion & Sunday School 10:00 am
Wednesday, March 5th	Ash Wednesday Service 7:00 pm
Sunday, March 9th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Friday, March 14th	First Drive Thru Fish Dinner 3:30 - 6:00 pm
Sunday, March 16th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Friday, March 21st	Second Drive Thru Fish Dinner 3:30 - 6:00 pm
Sunday, March 23rd	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Friday, March 28th	Third Drive Thru Fish Dinner 3:30 - 6:00 pm
Sunday, March 30th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am

## **INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR**

There are any number of reasons for not going to church. While I can't claim to have heard them all, I have certainly heard many. I recall one woman who was scheduled to attend a meeting following worship but didn't get to church. She explained that her husband had been working on her car the day before and when she went to leave home on Sunday morning, the accelerator pedal was gone. She certainly couldn't drive her car without it.

More commonly, there is a scheduling conflict with the kids, or grand kids, sports games. Sometimes people are simply too tired from an activity filled week. Possibly, they don't have the proper clothing to wear. Occasionally, I have heard of individuals who say they don't have an offering to put in the collection plate so they are embarrassed to attend. For some they are busy, out of town and traveling. Others are ill or living with health concerns that keep them from leaving their homes.

As I think of reasons for not attending church, I equally think of reasons to attend. What about you? What do you expect when you think of church? It is easy to think of a building, but that cannot be enough. The church is a collection of individuals with shared common interests. As a Christian church, we are a group of individuals who seek to know and follow Jesus the Christ.

We work at knowing the teachings of Jesus as we serve as his disciples, living, teaching and loving as he did. As Christians, we follow in his ways in our actions and practices on a day-to-day basis. It isn't always easy; we don't always succeed. We know however, that as the beloved Children of God, we always have the opportunity for a new beginning.

Our world is changing, faster than most of us imagined. We need our continuing stability in following Jesus. We have never been told that discipleship would be easy, we know that we will never complete the work that is needed. Still, the work that has been started is ours to continue. We do this together, sharing the frustrations and sharing the joys.

Let me know of your frustrations and joys. I would love to talk to you about them.

Blessings,

Linda

## **MISSION OUTREACH**

Throughout the month of February, we will be collecting donations for the American Red Cross to aid in the LA wildfire relief efforts. Thousands of families have lost their homes to the wildfires with some, losing loved ones.

The need for assistance is great. In addition to monetary donations, members are invited and encouraged to write a card, a letter or note to a family affected by the fires. You can drop it in the box that will be located in the narthex. All cards, letters and notes will be sent at the end of the month to the LA Fire department foundation for distribution to families impacted by the fires.

And most importantly, let us keep all affected in our prayers.

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES**

### **Christian Education Winter Blast**

Sunday School children are encouraged to invite their friends to join them for the "2025" Winter Blast to be held on Saturday, February 8th from 1:00 - 3:30 pm. Activities will include a Bouncy House, Cookie Decorating, and a Winter Craft. Food will also be available for a minimum cost. More details will be available as we get closer to the event. We hope to see you there!

### **Sunday School**

Church Sunday School continues through February at 10:00am every Sunday.

## **ALL CHURCH EVENTS**

### **Lenten Season Start Observed with Ash Wednesday Service**

Lenten season at St. Paul United Church will begin with a service on Ash Wednesday, March 5th, 7:00 p.m. For the Ash Wednesday Service, Pastor Linda Anderson will be administering ashes prepared from the burning of palms from last year's Holy Week observance. Church members and friends will be singly invited to come forth to receive the ashes at the foot of the chancel steps during the service.

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

Thursday, February 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.

### **We need your help to make the Fish Dinner Coleslaw**

It is time to make the coleslaw to be served for the five drive thru fish dinners which begin on March 14th. The brine will be made on Friday, February 21st. On Saturday, February 22nd many hands will be needed starting at 8:00 a.m. when the cabbage will be chopped and prepared. At 9:30 am the task of chopping all the other vegetables that make the coleslaw will begin. When all is ready the brine will be mixed with the chopped vegetables, put into five gallon buckets and stored in the refrigerators until needed. This makes for a great time for fellowship and to show your skills in the kitchen. Please consider joining in the fun. Free Donuts and Coffee will be available for all who help.

## **2025 Lenten Fish Dinners - Volunteers Needed**

Our congregation will be hosting five drive-thru only fish dinners on Fridays during the Lenten Season. The dinners will be hosted on March 14th, 21st, 28th and April 4th and 11th from 3:30 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.. As in past years, the menu will include three breaded pieces of wild-caught Icelandic Cod, French Fries, our church's famous cole slaw, roll with butter, and a pie slice or brownie for an adult meal, Children's meal will be two pieces of fish plus everything else in the adult meal. Cost of the dinners are \$15.00 for adults and \$5.00 for children under 12.

Volunteer help is needed to host all of the dinners. To volunteer, please contact Jim Poet.

## **St. Paul Fifteenth Annual Wild Game Dinner - Get Your Tickets Now**

The St. Paul Building and Grounds Ministry will be hosting its 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Wild Game Dinner on Saturday, February 1, 2025. As always the doors will open at 5:30 pm, hors d'oeuvres at 6:00 pm and a sit-down dinner at 7:00 pm. It's a fun filled evening with raffles, good eating and great fellowship. Tickets are \$45/each and can be purchased at the KIOSK table during Coffee Hour, by calling the Church office at (313) 291-1221 or by calling James Poet, Gary Staffeld, or Dan Case. This is always a **sell out event** so get your tickets early. We are also looking for donations that can be used for raffle items or door prizes.

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Newly Elected Council Members Installed**

Newly elected Council Members were installed to their respective positions on Sunday, January 26th during the 10 a.m. service. Those installed were:

President - Tim Ruffner  
1st Vice President -  
2nd Vice President - Sue Mrowka (3 Year Term)  
Treasurer- Dan Case (one year only)  
Sr. Trustee - Toni Hill (one year only)  
3rd Trustee -  
3rd Elder - Wendy Warner (3 year Term)  
2nd Deacon -  
3rd Deacon -

As you can see we still have many open positions. Please prayerfully consider filling this position. A complete description of the position can be obtained by contacting the church office or by speaking to a Trustee.

### **2024 Donation Statements**

The 2024 donation statements were mailed out to each household in early January. If you have any questions regarding your 2024 statement or didn't receive one please contact Annette Thie, Financial Secretary or Dan Case, Treasurer.

### **New Member Orientation Class to be offered**

St. Paul will be offering a new member orientation class in the first quarter of 2025. If you would like to be part of this class please contact Rev. Anderson or call the Church Office (313) 291-1221.

## **2025 Budget Status - THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT**

For those of you who missed the Annual Meeting our actual income for 2024 was \$224,032 and our actual expenses for 2024 were \$211,022 a difference of \$13,010 which shows a positive balance for 2024. Our General Fund, which is the fund we use to pay our expenses (salaries, utilities, etc) is at \$36,269 an increase of about \$14,256 from 2023. I will continue to only talk about actual income vs actual expenses as we continue through 2025. If you have any questions about our budget please feel free to give me a call. Dan Case - St. Paul Treasurer

## **IT Ministry – Continuing to expand in 2025**

As the church continues the expansion of its Information Technology (IT) needs into 2025, we are looking for volunteers who have an interest in the implementation of new technologies. We continue to utilize Facebook Live for our Sunday Services and that has been working out very well, however it has shown us that we need more than three people to successfully run our Church IT needs. As we continue to expand our live streaming capabilities in 2025, we need additional help to be successful. Experience or knowledge is not a requirement, as we will provide the appropriate training. Communication with our members and friends is one of the most important goals that we are striving for in 2025.

We are looking for people who would like to learn or assist in the following areas: WordPress Websites, Audio/Video Technologies (Streaming, Sound boards, etc.), social media (Facebook Page Accounts, Twitter, etc.) and Data Infrastructure (Computers, Software, Networks, etc.). If you are interested, please contact any member of the IT Ministry. Michael Isaacs, Gary Peters, or Dan Case

## **February is American Heart Month**

How can I live a healthier Lifestyle?

**Eat Better.** Try to make smart choices and swaps to build an overall healthy eating style. Learn how to read and understand food labels to help you make healthier choices.

**Be Active.** Adults should aim for 150 minutes of moderate physical activity or 75 minutes of vigorous activity per week, or a combination of both. You should also include muscle-strengthening activity (like resistance or weight training) at least two days a week.

**Get Sleep.** Adults should aim for an average of 7-9 hours of sleep a day. Healthy sleep promotes healing, improves brain function and reduces the risk for chronic diseases.

**Manage Weight.** Understanding how many calories you take in and your activity level can help you identify changes you want to make. To lose weight, you need to burn more calories than you eat.

**Manage Cholesterol, Blood Sugar and Blood Pressure.** Healthy lifestyle changes, including diet, regular physical activity and weight loss, are first steps in improving your cholesterol, blood sugar and blood pressure. You should have these numbers checked by a healthcare professional regularly. If lifestyle changes alone aren't enough, you may require medications to help control your levels.

Call **1-800-AHA-USA1 (1-800-242-8721)** or **[visitwww.heart.org/aware](http://www.heart.org/aware)** for more information about cardiovascular disease.

## **HEALTH MINISTRIES**

### **Exercise Class Continues**

We are trying to make a change for the new year. Exercise classes will be held on Thursdays from 11 am – 12 n. 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. 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](http://www.stpaulucctaylor.org), "What's Happening" within "Health Activities". If you would like to participate or have any questions, contact the office or Kathy Williams.

### **Meditation Class**

Meditation class will resume beginning Thursday, February 20 following the exercise class at approximately 12 noon.

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

If you have or need medical supplies, such as walkers, wheelchairs, please contact our parish nurse or the office.

## **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

### **Auxiliary Deacons needed**

If you're looking to serve our church but don't want to commit to being on the Council the Auxiliary Deacon position might be right for you. The auxiliary appointees are not required to attend or allowed to vote at the regular Council Meetings. They are only allowed to assist with normal and/or special duties as a Deacon (ie: usher, etc) or cover for the elected position, as required. If you are interested please see any Deacon on Sunday morning.

### **Liturgists are still 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.

### **Ushers and Acolytes Needed for Sunday Morning Services**

Visit our Usher / Acolyte Sign-up board located in the Narthex of the Church. Being an usher or acolyte is as easy as signing your name to the board, you can sign up for a single service or as many services as you want. Experience is not required; the Deacons will be glad to train you prior to the service. All ushers are asked to be at Church thirty minutes prior to the service. Talk to a Deacon on Sunday Morning if you would like additional information.

### **Volunteers are still needed to cover the Office for Administrative Assistant**

The office is looking for volunteers to cover the office functions when the Administrative Assistant is sick or on vacation. Office hours are 9:00 am to 2:00 pm Monday through Friday. If you are interested in volunteering please contact Sue Mrowka, Office Manager.

## **Volunteers are still 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.

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**Baptized Unto the Lord:** Maeve Gracelynn Rischel, born July 13, 2024, to Jake Rischel and DeAnna Schalm and baptized January 26, 2025. Grandparents: James and Cheryl Schalm, and Jeff Rischel. Great-Grandmother: Mary Herkimer. Sibling: Liam.

**Barbara Ann Schultz** passed away Sunday, January 26, 2025 at the age of 84 years. Funeral Service was Saturday, February 1, 2025 at St. Paul United Church of Christ Taylor. Arrangements: Howe-Peterson Funeral Home, Taylor Chapel.

## **MEMORIALS**

### **MEMORIAL FUND:**

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

In Memory of: *William & Shirley Zabik* From: Steve & Deborah Wilkerson

In Memory of: *Lily Radtke* From: The Kenosian Family, Bill & Donna Konarska

### **FACILITY IMPROVEMENT FUND:**

In Memory of: *Shirley Zabik* From: Daniel & Deborah Case

In Memory of: *Lily Radtke* From: Dan & Dorothy Evison

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

**Church Members and Friends:** Debbie Case, Harold Fick, Denise Foley, Gary Peters, Julius Enesey, Justine Kimbler, Rosemarie Laslo, Dave Schmoekel, Robert Black, Barbara Gish, Kyle Hard, Pam Jones, Bill Pattenau, Thelma Poet, Shirley Robinson, Sandi Rose, Joan Smarr, John Smith, Sue Spears, William Stears, Jr., Linda Tank, Leah Wagner, and Carol Wioncek.

**Extended Family:** Susan & Dennis Bennett (sister, brother-in-law of Karen Hill), Rhonda Wioncek Berndt, Ted Butkin, Nora Cousino (sister-in-law, Helen St. Louis), Ailani Flores (friends, Rosemarie Laslo), Freeman Floyd, Alicia Hagen, Tony Kothes, Jennifer Lee, Jeff MacZink, Andrea Matney, Sue Milatz, F. Scott Miller (son, Fred Miller), Debi and Al Petri, Kelly Potter, Tess Richardson, Jerry Rossi, Kevin Siemers, Vicki Simon (mother of Michael Isaacs), Randy Snelson, Rachel Tank (Daughter, Tom & Linda Tank), Blain Tayler, Anna Thomson (mother, Lucinda Chavez), Cindy Twilliger, Diana Williams.

**Church Members & Friends in Extended Care or Rehab Care:**

**Judy Albright**, 17381 Michigan Heights Dr., Romulus, 48174-5911; **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; **Barbara Gish**, American House, 16333 Allen Rd, Apt. 109, Southgate, 48195; **Lois Rice**, Burcham Hills, 2700 Burcham Dr., Apt. 536, East Lansing, 48823-9977; **Melissa Rossi**, 17652 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, 48125; **Sally Sigman**, American House 20300 Fort St., Room 256, Riverview, 48193; **Bert Thompson**, Optalis Health & Rehabilitation, 9150 Allen Rd, Allen Park; Office: 313-386-2150.