

# 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

### May 2025

Sunday, May 4th	Church Service - Communion & Sunday School 10:00 am Blue Jean Sunday, Flower Sale
Thursday, May 8th	Spring Rummage Sale (9:00 am - 4:00 pm)
Friday, May 9th	Spring Rummage Sale (9:00 am - 4:00 pm)
Saturday, May 10th	Spring Rummage Sale (9:00 am - 11:00 am)
Sunday, May 11th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am Happy Mother's Day - Muffins for Mom
Friday, May 16th	Girl Scout Banquet
Sunday, May 18th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Tuesday, May 20th	Cabinet Meeting 6:30 pm
Thursday, May 22nd	Every Daughter Banquet
Sunday, May 25th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Monday, May 26th	Memorial Day - Office Closed

### June 2025

Sunday, June 1st	Church Service - Music Sunday - Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday, June 8th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am Pentecost - Communion
Sunday, June 15th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am Father's Day — Donuts for Dad, Baccalaureate Sunday
Sunday, June 22nd	Church Service & Summer Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday, June 29th	Church Service & Summer 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 peddle 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.

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*

## **May COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY**

In honor of the youth, past and present, who annually did a 30 hour famine to benefit World Vision, we will be collecting monetary gifts on their behalf during the month of May. World Vision International is an ecumenical Christian humanitarian aid, development, and advocacy organization. It provides emergency and advocacy work for those living in poverty and struck with natural disasters and war. They report the following:

- **Food insecurity is growing:** Over 258 million people across 58 countries face crisis or higher levels of food insecurity, according to the World Food Program (WFP).
- **The war in Ukraine, Israel and Gaza are impacting global hunger:** Even before the war began, food insecurity was rising worldwide.
- **Food insecurity forces families into distressing choices:** When families don't have enough to eat or money to buy food, they must often make difficult and dangerous decisions that impact their children's well-being and put them at risk of violence.
- **Millions of children are dangerously malnourished:** 30 million children are suffering from wasting (also known as acute malnutrition).

In addition to collecting funds, we will be collecting non-perishable food items for Fish & Loaves, our local food pantry. All checks can be made out to St. Paul United Church of Christ and marked World Vision on the memo line. One check will then be sent to World Vision in June. Food donations can be dropped in the box located in the Narthex.

Thank you for all your support and generosity.  
Pastor Schalm

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES**

### **Sunday School**

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

### **2025 Confirmation Classes to Resume**

We will be starting a new Confirmation Class starting the beginning of September 2025. We would like to have everything in place by June 1st. If you have, or know of a child, that has not been confirmed, or will be starting 8th or 9th grade in Sept 2025, please contact the office (313) 291-1221 before June 1st.

### **Christian Education Annual Flower Sale**

Once again there will be an annual flower sale. The flowers will be coming from Blocks Stand and Greenhouse. There will be a variety of flowers available for you to purchase, there will be everything from hanging baskets, flats, patio pots, veggie plants, and more. Stop by and see what there is to purchase. There will be **NO** order forms this year. If you have any questions or would like additional information, See Candace Poet or Jim Poet any Sunday before or after church. Feel free to call me (734) 942-7195. Pick up date for the flowers will be **May 4<sup>th</sup>** before/after the worship service.

## **Vacation Bible School**

"SHIPS ON THE SEAS" will serve as this year's Vacation Bible School theme. This year's fun packed activities will begin on Monday, July 21st and run through Wednesday, July 23rd. Each evening beginning at 6:30 p.m. and concluding at 8:30 p.m. children will participate in a variety of activities which includes Bible adventures, song & dance, crafts, games and snacks.

Children are encouraged to invite and bring their friends. In addition, Children should plan now for fun and adventure as we explore with wonder, God's beautiful creation. Families should watch the church emails for additional information to come.

## **ALL CHURCH EVENTS**

### **St. Paul Spring Rummage Sale —Volunteers Needed**

The annual St. Paul Spring Rummage Sale will be held Thursday through Saturday, May 8th, 9th, and 10th. Rummage sale hours will be Thursday & Friday 9 am to 4 pm, Saturday 9 am to 11 am. Rummage Sale donations will be accepted through noon on Tuesday, May 6th. 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.

The Fellowship Hall and West Room will be closed for all other activities until the rummage sale finishes. Help is needed to host the actual sale and clean-up afterwards on Saturday morning. To volunteer, please contact the church office (313) 291-1221. All proceeds from the rummage sale support church-related projects.

### **Women of the Church and Infants to be honored on Sunday May 11th**

Sunday May 11th 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.

Parents are invited to place a photo of their child on the altar for the length of the service. 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, compliments of Block Greenhouse.

### **Muffins for Mom Celebration to be Held on Mother's Day**

The Men's Fellowship will be honoring the women of our congregation on Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup> with a special Muffins for Mom continental breakfast. The celebration will be held after the morning worship service, in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies should mark their planners for this special event.

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

Thursday, May 15th 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.

## **Mother Daughter Banquet**

Calling all moms, daughters, daughters-in-law, grandmothers and more. You're all invited to the annual "Every Daughter Banquet" at St. Paul Church on Thursday, May 22nd , 6:00 - 8:30 pm in Fellowship Hall. Doors open at 5:30 p.m. The theme for this year's event is "**Garden Party**", so dress up and join in the fun. We are asking all of the ladies to wear their finest and largest hat this year.

A buffet-style dinner will be served with a menu that includes chicken, meatballs, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad bar, rolls, dessert, and beverage—all for \$5 per person. Children 5 years old and younger are free. Special entertainment will be provided by the "Harmony Town Chorus".

Special prizes will be given out during the evening, recognizing our guests. There will also be a 50/50 raffle and basket door prizes. This is a not-to-be missed event in the life of our congregation. Church members can purchase tickets in the Narthex before and after Sunday Worship Service. Advance ticket purchase is required, **no tickets will be sold at the door**. The last day to purchase tickets is Sunday, May 18th.

This year's "Every Daughter Banquet" is being jointly hosted by the Girl Scouts, Women's Fellowship and Men's Fellowship.

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **2025 Budget Status - Thank You for your Continued Support**

I will continue to report only our actual income and expenses for the remainder of 2025. Our actual income for March was \$21,010.19 and our actual expenses for March were \$13,985.53 , a difference of \$7,024.66 which is a positive balance for the month. We are currently \$3,820.34 positive for the year. Our General Fund, which is the fund we use to pay our expenses (salaries, utilities, etc) is at \$37,988 an increase of \$6,525 from February. These are both positive trends. If you have any questions about our budget please feel free to give me a call. Dan Case - St. Paul Treasurer

### **Qualified Charitable Distribution**

St. Paul members have been asking about Qualified Charitable Distributions and if St. Paul qualifies. The answer is **YES**, the Secure 2.0 Act of 2022 changed the age for Minimum Required Distributions from 72 to 73 years of age, however it had no impact on Qualified Charitable Distributions. QCD is a direct transfer of funds from your IRA custodian, payable to a qualified charity, St. Paul does qualify. QCDs can be counted toward satisfying your minimum required distributions (MRDs) for the year. Since it is already excluded from your taxable income, you can't take the itemized deduction (charitable donation) again. That would be double-dipping. While many IRAs are eligible for QCDs—there are requirements:

- You must be 70½ or older to be eligible to make a QCD.
- The maximum annual amount that can qualify for a QCD is \$100,000. This applies to the sum of QCDs made to one or more charities in a calendar year.
- For a QCD to count towards your current year's MRD, the funds must come out of your IRA, generally by December 31.

If you have additional questions or want to start QCD donations please contact Daniel Case, St. Paul Treasurer.

## **Pastoral Care**

If you find yourself or your family in need of pastoral care please call the Church Office at (313) 291-1221, Monday through Friday from 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. If after hours please leave a message our voicemail is checked daily. In the case of an emergency please contact Tim Ruffner our President or Rev. Anderson.

## **Council Positions Still Open**

Council Positions still open are: 2nd Vice-President (3 year commitment), two Deacons (2 year and 3 year commitment). A special Thank You to Conrad Heidt for accepting the three year Trustee position. Please prayerfully consider filling these positions. A complete description of the positions can be obtained by contacting the church office or by speaking to a Trustee.

## **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 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) under "What's Happening", "Health Activities". If you would like to participate or have any questions, contact the office or Kathy Williams.

### **Meditation Class**

Meditation class will be held on Thursdays, following the exercise class at approximately 12 noon in the parlor.

### **CPR & First-aid Class April 11 and 12 update.**

Heartsaver, CPR with AED CLASS & First-aid Class by the American Heart Association were held on Friday, April 11 and 12. Nine persons completed the course. Thanks to those that participated.

### **Update for Our Call List Is Needed.**

Please contact the office if you are or know of someone who doesn't get email notifications regarding the death or serious illness of a church member. We have not done this in a long time. It is important to reach out to those members. Also, if you are willing to make calls, contact Kathy Williams.

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

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

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **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.

### **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.

### **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.

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

A special **Thank You** to the following people who have helped with the 2025 Drive-Thru Fish Dinners: Gary Staffeld, Diane Poet, Toni Hill, James Poet, Eric Poet, Dan Evison, Dorothy Evison, Helen St. Louis, Sue Mrowka, Karen Hill, Tim Ruffner, Dan Case, Vicky Grant, Pandora Sidak, Rodney Gish, Marilyn Lang, Elizabeth Isaacs, Kaitlyn Isaacs, Mark Ennis, Sharon Podpora, Tom Tank, Sandra Rose, Jeff MacZink, Gail Teleflora, Dee Salsbury, Crystal Poet, Pat Staffeld and Gail Denman. A special **Thank You** to Ann Snelson for her donation of apple pies and the yummy chocolate cookies she made for the kitchen helpers. A special **Thank You** to Gail Denman for making the brownies used for the Fish Dinners this year. A special **Thank You** to Rene Seymour for the fantastic Pineapple Upside Down Cake she made.

A special **Thank You** to the following people who helped move the Trailer and set-up the Rummage Sale Tent: Tom Tank, Gary Staffeld, Harold Fick, James Poet, Diane Poet, Eric Poet, Michael Isaacs, Dan Case, Dale Simon, and Dee Salsbury. Men's Fellowship

**Condolences:** to the family and friends of **Gloria Lakatos** who passed away March 3, 2025 at the age of 96 years. Funeral was March 8, 2025. to the family and friends of **Muriel Baxter** who passed away March 24, 2025 at the age of 89 years. There was no funeral/ memorial service; to Lori Rogers, Harold Fick, Pauline Arndt and families on the loss of **Edward H. Krueger** who passed away March 28, 2025 at the age of 90 years. Funeral was March 31, 2025; Family & Friends of **Carol Mae Wioncek**, who passed away April 14, 2025, at the age of 89 years. Funeral was April 19, 2025.

## **MEMORIALS**

### **MEMORIAL FUND:**

In Memory of: *Gloria Lakatos* From: Thelma Poet, Jim Poet Family, Gary & Pat Staffeld

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

### **FACILITY IMPROVEMENT FUND:**

In Memory of: *Gloria Lakatos* From: Dan & Deborah Case

In Memory of: *Donna Lange* From: Larry Kurtzel

In Memory of: *Edward Kroeger* From: St Paul Christian Education

### **WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP FUND:**

In Memory of: *Gloria Lakatos* From: Mark & Ruth Kenosian

### **MUSIC GROWTH FUND:**

In Memory of: *Barb Schultz* From: The Staten Family

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

**Church Members and Friends:** Paula Block, Denise Foley, Julius Enesey, Justine Kimbler, Brent Kuhn, Dave Lange, Sr., Rosemarie Laslo, Joe Mayfield, Dave Schmoekel, Robert Black, Barbara Gish, Kyle Hard, Krystal Grant, Pam Jones, Bill Pattenau, Thelma Poet, Maeve Rischel, Bob Robinson, Shirley Robinson, Sandi Rose, Joan Smarr, John Smith, Sue Spears, William Stears, Jr., Bridget Stephens, Sue Stern, Linda Tank, and Leah Wagner.

**Extended Family:** Susan & Dennis Bennett (sister, brother-in-law, Karen Hill), Rhonda Wioncek Berndt, Ted Butkin, Nora Cousino (sister-in-law, Helen St. Louis), Ailani Flores (friends, Rosemarie Laslo), Freeman Floyd, Phyllis Frost, (mom, Teri Staffeld), Alicia Hagen, Krystal Grant (daughter-in-law, Vickie Grant), Tony Kothes, Jennifer Lee, Jeff MacZink, Sue Milatz, F. Scott Miller (son, Fred Miller), Steve Newberry, Debi and Al Petri, Kelly Potter, Linda Schutter (friend, Sandi Rose), Julie Renner, Jerry Rossi, Kevin Siemers, Vicki Simon (mother, 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.