

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

Calendar of Events

June 2025

Sunday, June 1st	Church Service - Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday, June 8th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am Music Sunday - 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 10:00 am
Sunday, June 29th	Church Service 10:00 am

July 2025

Thursday, July 4th	July 4th Holiday - Office Closed
Sunday, July 6th	Church Service 10:00 am
Sunday, July 13	Church Service 10:00 am Semi-Annual Meeting 11:00 am
Sunday, July 20th	Church Service 10:00 am
Monday, July 21st - Wednesday July 23rd	Vacation Bible School - 6:30 - 8:30 pm
Sunday, July 27th	Church Service - 10 am under the tent - Summer Picnic

August 2025

Sunday, August 3rd	Church Service - Communion 10:00 am
Sunday, August 10th	Church Service 10:00 am
Sunday, August 17th	Church Service 10:00 am
Saturday, August 23rd	Annual Kitchen Cleaning - 9:00 - Noon
Sunday, August 24th	Church Service 10:00 am
Sunday, August 31st	Church Service 10:00 am

INTERIM SENIOR PASTOR

I've been busy lately. Busier than usual it seems. You know how it is. Hours and days are filled with things I choose to do, activities I enjoy with family and friends, working at St. Paul, volunteering as a character in the Underground Railroad reenactment and more. I enjoy the outdoor yard work. I at least try at a garden. There are things that have to be done, laundry, grocery shopping and bills to be paid.

I get busy and easily overlook time for personal meditation, prayer and reflection. Not taking this time reflects in my attitude and actions throughout the day. These quiet times are important times for each of us and they can easily be overlooked. One way I like to ensure a bit of personal time is to follow the UCC Daily Devotional on the internet. Written by a variety of people they offer a spiritual reflection worthy of time, consideration and prayer.

Here is a devotional written in March of this year by UCC Pastor Donna Schaper.

For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, "You shall love your neighbor as yourself." - Galatians 5:14 (NRSV)

Chapter 5 of Galatians is worth a good long read. It is about the subject of Christian freedom, which the writer imagines is a kind of slavery to love. It is about the difference between the law and grace, using circumcision as an example, concluding that it matters little if we are or are not circumcised. Instead it matters a lot how we talk about the subject to each other.

Maybe you don't need to read this chapter. You may have no issues about right and wrong cultural customs, the right way to dress for church, the right foods to eat in Lent. You may never have spoken of chocolate cake as "sinful" or scoffed at someone who was obese. You may attend church meetings and tolerate all the points of view expressed by other members. If so, skip this chapter.

If, however, you find yourself coiled culturally, intolerant of difference, unkind when someone smokes in public or brings a dog to a meeting, turn to Galatians 5 and sit down for the long read. You will learn what it means to be in love with each other. You will also be brought to attention by the warning that sometimes when we "bite and devour each other," we actually find ourselves chewed up, even consumed.

Be Kind. Fall in love. Think less about circumcision, ancient or modern, and more about love.

If you would like to know more about the UCC Daily Devotionals, go to the UCC web site or let me know.

Working together, building for the Kingdom of God, there is much that we can do.

Peace and Blessings,
Linda

ALL CHURCH JUNE / JULY MISSION OUTREACH

Thank you to everyone who donated to the May outreach to help eradicate world hunger. All donations will be sent to World Vision, a Christian non-profit dedicated to feeding children and their families throughout the world. All food donations will be taken to the Fish & Loaves local food pantry.

Throughout the months of June and July church members will have the opportunity to support the Christian Education department as they plan and prepare for this year's Vacation Bible School program, ***Sailing to the Lighthouse***.

While additional items will be added to list, the following items are needed and would be greatly appreciated:

- Cardboard boxes of various sizes
- Red, white, brown and gold paint (see Candace Poet with questions)
- Pretzels (tiny)
- M&MS (milk chocolate)
- 1 box of Rice Krispie cereal
- Boxes of blue jello
- Empty tubes from paper towel rolls
- Powdered Country Time Lemonade
- Powdered Fruit Punch Mix
- Box of Cinnamon Toast Crunch, or similar
- CHILDREN – Bring your children, grandchildren, neighbors, and friends and your swimming suits every day.

Vacation Bible School will be open to the community and held July 21-23. If you are interested in helping in any capacity contact Candace Poet or Debbie Case.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES

Sunday School

Church regular Sunday School continues through June 15th at 10:00 am every Sunday upstairs.

Vacation Bible School

"SAILING TO THE LIGHTHOUSE" 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

Music Sunday is June 8th

There is plenty of MUSIC to look forward to on Sunday June 8th as the entire church service will be filled with glorious music praising our God by the Chancel Choir under the direction of Ava Janus. Special guest include Michelle Good and her harp.

Donuts for Dad

On June 15th, 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!

Graduates Honored at Annual Baccalaureate Service

This special service is scheduled for Sunday, June 15th. 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. 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.

Sew "N" Sew Gals to Meet

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

Semi-Annual Meeting to be held July 13th

The Semi-Annual Meeting of the St. Paul Congregation will be held on Sunday, July 13th, 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 2025.

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

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 April was \$13,975.00 and our actual expenses for March were \$14,876.75 , a difference of \$901.75 which is a negative balance for the month. We are still currently \$2,854.72 positive for the year. Our General Fund, which is the fund we use to pay our expenses (salaries, utilities, etc) is at \$36,532.81 a decrease of \$1,401.75 from March. If you have any questions about our budget please feel free to give me a call. Dan 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 Seeks to Fill FOUR Positions

Council Positions still open are: 2nd Vice-President (3 year commitment), 1st Vice-President (2 year commitment), two Deacons (2 year and 3 year commitment). A complete description of the positions can be obtained by contacting the church office or by speaking to a Trustee.

St. Paul Memorial Grove

Memorial Grove has two memorial trees remaining. A total of eight trees have already been purchased. The trees are Cleveland Select Pear trees which have a beautiful white flower in the spring of the year.. You may have noticed the trees as you drive around the circle driveway. St. Paul Memorial Grove is at the North end of our property behind the Kitchen and Fellowship Hall. A \$250 donation to the Memorial Ministry will purchase one of the trees with a 12 x 12 x 6 inch granite marker under the tree. The marker can have up to three lines of inscription. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact any member of the Memorial Ministry or the Building and Grounds Ministry.

St. Paul Email System is designed to keep you informed

Communication with you, our members and friends is very important to us at St. Paul, one method we use to keep members informed about upcoming and current activities is our email system. More than 250 of our members currently receive a short email about current activities, future events, funeral notifications, and many other interesting items including the monthly St. Paul Tidings.

If you are not currently registered for the e-mail system or your email address has changed, all you need to do is visit the homepage of our website, "stpaulucctaylor.org", and simply click on the "Join Our Email List" button. If you have any questions or comments on the e-mail system, you can contact any member of the IT ministry, Gary Peters, Michael Isaacs or Dan Case.

Sunday Worship Facebook Live Videos to Change

Due to a recent policy change by Facebook we will no longer be able to archive past Facebook Live Videos. Effective July 1, 2025 Facebook will only archive 30 days of our Worship Services. If there is a particular service that you wish to save you will have to log into Facebook and save it to your personal account before July 1, 2025. If you have any questions regarding the change please contact, Michael Isaacs, Gary Peters or Dan Case.

Strengthen the Church Mission Offering – Received in June

This offering of the UCC church represents the time of Pentecost, the Birthday of the Christian Church. We will be receiving this offering any Sunday during the month of June.

Please join in planting the seeds needed to grow and sustain our UCC denomination by making a gift to 'Strengthen the Church' offering.

Funds raised support leadership development, new church starts, revitalization of older churches, and youth ministries. Let us realize our best hopes for the future, by investing in the visions that are rooted in the traditions of our diverse congregations.

An offering envelope is included in this Tidings. If you misplace this envelope, there will be offering envelopes in the Narathex, or use any envelope and indicate "Strengthen the Church Offering". You may place your offering in the offering box as you enter the sanctuary on any Sunday, use the US Postal service mail, or drop off your offering to our Church Office. Checks may be payable to St. Paul UCC Church and indicate the offering name on the memo line.

You may also use Vanco, our electronic online mobile giving source for your Strengthen the Church donation. It is very easy to set-up a donation, visit us online at www.stpaulucctaylor.org/giving, locate the Online Giving button, select Strengthen the Church 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

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 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.

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.

Volunteers needed to host Coffee Hour in December

We are looking for volunteers to host Coffee Hour for three Sundays in December. All you need to do is purchase the donuts and serve the coffee, tea and donuts. All other supplies are provided by the Church.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

A special **Thank You** to all of those people who helped make the Spring Rummage Sale a huge success. Womens' Fellowship raised a little over \$4,800 and the Men's Fellowship raised a little over \$1,700.

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 and cookies for the dessert. Also a special Thank You to Blocks Greenhouse for their donation of flowers for the event. A great time was had by all who attended. St. Paul Girl Scouts and Women's and Men's Fellowship.

A special **Thank You** to the Poet Family for hosting Coffee Hour on Sunday, April 13th.

Condolences to the family & friends of Ruth Bianco who passed away May 9, 2025, at the age of 92 years. Funeral was May 20, 2025 at St. Paul UCC, Taylor. Pastor Cheryl Schalm officiated. Arrangements: Martenson Family of Funeral Homes, Allen Park Chapel.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR

Church Members and Friends: Paula Block, Denise Foley, Julius Enesey, Dorothy Evison, Justine Kimbler, Dave Lange, Sr., Rosemarie Laslo, Joe Mayfield, Dave Schmoekel, Barbara Gish, Kyle Hard, Krystal Grant, Pam Jones, Bill Pattenaude, Thelma Poet, Maeve Rischel, Bob Robinson, Shirley Robinson, Sandi Rose, Joan Smarr, John Smith, Sue Spears, Kathe Stears, 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 Koths, Jennifer Lee, Jeff MacZink, Sue Milatz, Steve Newberry, Debi and Al Petri, 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.