

# 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

### **September 2025**

Sunday, September 7th	Church Service, Communion & Rally Sunday, Sunday School Open House
Monday, September 8th	Rummage Sale Set-up - Fellowship Hall / West Room
Tuesday, September 9th	Rummage Sale Drop Off Begins 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Sunday, September 14th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday, September 21st	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday, September 28th	Church Service & Summer Sunday School 10:00 am

### **October 2025**

Thursday, October 2nd	Rummage Sale - 9:00 - 4:00 pm
Friday, October 3rd	Rummage Sale - 9:00 - 4:00 pm
Saturday, October 4th	Rummage Sale - 9:00 - 11:00 am
Sunday, October 5th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am World Wide Communion Sunday
Sunday, October 12th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am
Sunday, October 26th	Church Service & Sunday School 10:00 am Halloween Trunk or Treat

**NOTE:** Beginning with the September Tidings we will be highlighting some of our Church Organizations and Ministry's each month. The intent is to explain what each Organization and Ministry does and hopefully solicit new members for these groups.

## **SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY OUTREACH OPPORTUNITY**

*"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit  
- Matthew 25:35-36*

A huge thank you for the outpouring of support of the August outreach benefiting local veterans in need, many who find themselves homeless and in need. All donated items will be delivered to the Detroit location.

Continuing to serve as the hands and feet of Christ, members of St. Paul UCC will be preparing lunches on a date in September to be determined for the guests of ChristNet, a rotating homeless shelter hosted by local churches. The ChristNet day center, located in Taylor has decreased their business hours due to financial issues resulting from the loss of federal funds and higher operating costs.

On a date waiting to be confirmed, those interested in participating will meet at the church at 5:00 p.m. to prepare 50 sack lunches to be distributed to guests on the following day. Donations being sought include:

- Lunchmeat
- Cheese
- Bread
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Individual Chips (variety packs are fine)
- Individual Snack cakes or cookies
- Fruit (apples, bananas, oranges)
- Bottles of water

Please have all donations to the church by Sunday, September 28<sup>th</sup> in order that I can assess what is still needed. A sign-up sheet will be located in the Narthox.

Peace & Many Blessings ~ Cheryl

### **HOW CAN I HELP AT ST. PAUL**

*"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them. There are different ways of serving but the same Lord is served There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to all for their particular service. The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all "  
— Corinthians 12:4-7*

When men and women feel a genuine sense of belonging to the body of Christ, they inevitably hear Christ calling them to care, share, and help. There are many ways in which members can make a difference in the life of our congregation. But there are several opportunities that especially stand out as we worship together and sustain a variety of ministries. Please consider these:

**Acolyte** — The position of acolyte is one of the oldest in the Christian churches. He or she has responsibility for lighting and extinguishing the chancel candles at the start and finish of our worship services. Please speak with the senior deacon, Jeannette Wackro, about your interest.

**Lector** — On Sunday mornings and at other worship services, volunteers read the scripture lessons aloud to the congregation from the lectern at the front of the church. If you are interested in volunteering to become a lector, please speak with Rev Anderson.

**Bell Ringer** — The present bell in our church belfry has rung for services at St. Paul United Church of Christ since 1911. Bell ringers are needed for the daytime and evening services held during the week. Bell ringing is not difficult, and training is provided. Please speak with the senior deacon, Jeannette Wackro, about your interest.

**Usher** — Prior to every worship service, members of the congregation join Council representatives in greeting and ushering worshipers. Afterwards, the ushers also assist in straightening up the sanctuary so that it is ready for the next service. The shared camaraderie is great. If you are interested in serving as an usher, please speak with the presiding deacon.

**Choir Member** — Our church has Chancel Choir, which provides music for Sunday morning worship and other occasions. Choir volunteers are warmly welcomed. No auditions necessary. Training is provided. Please speak with the Music Director, Ava Janus, about your interest.

**Sound System Technician** — Our church has a sound system which is used during worship. Controls for the sound system are located in a cabinet in the sanctuary balcony. Sound system operational training is available. The position pays \$20 per service. If you would like to volunteer as a sound tech, please speak with a member of the IT Ministry.

**Facebook Live Technician** - Our Church broadcasts our Sunday Services utilizing Facebook Live each week. The church is equipped with a computer, three cameras, two monitors, a switchboard, and other video equipment located in our balcony. Training will be provided. No technical skills are required. The position pays \$20 per service. If you would like to volunteer as a Facebook Live Tech, please speak with a member of the IT Ministry.

**Host Coffee Hour** - Every Sunday after the Worship Service we host a coffee hour. The host would be responsible for ordering and picking up the donuts, usually about three dozen, serving people and cleaning up after Coffee Hour. The coffee, juice, creamers, etc are provided by the Church. Training will be provided. If interested in volunteering, please call the Church Office at (313) 291-1221.

**Christian Education Teacher** — Our congregation has a strong and positive educational ministry for children and youth. Each year, teachers and other classroom volunteers are needed for Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and the Summer Sunday program. Training and guidance is provided. If interested in volunteering, please speak with the Chairperson of Christian Education or the Sunday School Superintendent – Debbie Case, Candace Poet or Katilyn Isaacs.

**Merry Mailer** — Every month a group of volunteers gathers to help collate and prepare for mailing our monthly church newsletter, The Tidings. The collation work is not difficult: the more hands the merrier. If you are interested in joining the Merry Mailers on the fourth Monday of every month, please speak with the office administrative assistant, Cindy Romas.

**Office Helper** — Our church office, which is so central to the wider ministry of our congregation, publishes a monthly newsletter, plus a weekly morning bulletin, to keep members updated and informed. In any given week, one or two church mailings are also prepared and mailed out. Additional help is always needed and appreciated to help ensure that the important work of our church office gets done. If you would like to volunteer, speak with the office administrative assistant, Cindy Romas.

**Visiting Elder** — Our many homebound members appreciate visits from the pastor and church members. Each Visiting Elder takes it upon him or herself to visit the two or three homebound members who can benefit from our pastoral outreach. If you are interested in being a part of this caring ministry, please speak with the Rev Anderson.

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION ACTIVITIES**

### **Sunday School**

Regular Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 14th at 10:00 am each Sunday. If you wish to serve as a teacher or volunteer your help please contact Candace Poet, Deb Case or Kaitlyn Isaacs.

### **Rally Sunday Scheduled for September 7th**

Rally Sunday- September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2025 at 10am. It's that time of year, a new Sunday School program will start with a new curriculum and fun filled activities. Sign-up sheets and forms will be available to fill out.

## **ORGANIZATIONAL / MINISTRY GROUPS**

### **Women's Fellowship**

The Women's Fellowship takes an active role in helping our church by hosting rummage sales, hosting funeral luncheons, co-hosting the Every Daughter Banquet and many other special activities. The money raised from these events are used for the maintenance and improvement of the church, for the purchase of new church equipment, for sponsorship of the youth and girl scouts, to help pay for paper products, to help offset the cost of heat and energy bills, and many other items. The Women's Fellowship meets the 2nd Thursday of every month, with a luncheon in June and December. If you are interested in joining the Women's Fellowship please contact Toni Hill or Dorothy Evison.

### **Men's Fellowship**

The Men's Fellowship Ministry of St. Paul United Church of Christ is committed to promoting family events in our church and community and to support activities that instill wholesome Christian value. We also contribute funds for special needs, sponsor youth activities, sponsor Girl Scouts. We also help the church and its wider mission and enhance its ongoing ministry. Each year the Men's Fellowship hosts the Annual Wild Game Dinner, co-sponsors the Every Daughter Banquet, hosts the annual steak fry, hosts Muffins for Mom, decorate the outside of the church for the Christmas season, and other events. If you are interested in joining please contact any member of the Men's Fellowship.

## **ALL CHURCH EVENTS**

### **Chancel Choir Practice**

Begins Wednesday, September 10, 2025, 7:00 pm. New voices are always welcome. For more information please contact any choir member or Music Director, Ava Janus.

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

Thursday, September 18th 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.

### **Fire Extinguisher Training**

The Safety and Security Ministry will be hosting a fire extinguisher training session in September for all members of the church. The session will be hosted by Westland Fire Extinguisher and will include tips on fire safety as well as hands on training on how to use a fire extinguisher. The actual date will be sent out in an email and posted in the Morning Tide once decided.

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **2026 Council Positions**

It's not too early to start thinking about joining the St. Paul Council in 2026, each position is for a three year cycle. Positions for 2026 include: 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary, Elder, Trustee and Deacon. A complete description of the positions can be obtained by contacting the church office or by speaking to a Trustee.

Council positions still open for 2025 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. Please prayerfully consider taking one of these positions on our church council. If you have any questions please contact Trustee Toni Hill, Conrad Heidt or Michael Isaacs.

### **St. Paul Marketplace**

There is a bulletin board in Fellowship Hall labeled "St. Paul Market Place" the board contains the following categories: For Sale, Events, Coupons, Help Wanted, Services and Information. Members are encouraged to visit and post to the board if they wish to sell something or provide services. There is also a Business Card Display located next to the bulletin board, members are encouraged to add their personal business cards for services they may provide.

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

I am continuing to report only our actual income and expenses for the remainder of 2025. Our actual income for July was \$12,501.00 and our actual expenses for July were \$20,113.62, a difference of \$7,612.62 which is a negative balance for the month. We are currently \$13,449.28 negative for the year. Our General Fund, which is the fund we use to pay our expenses (salaries, utilities, etc) is at \$18,728.81 a decrease of \$8,112.62 from June. Unfortunately these are both negative trends. If you have any questions about our budget please feel free to give me a call. Dan Case - St. Paul Treasurer

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

The annual St. Paul Fall Rummage Sale will be held Thursday through Friday, October 2nd - 4th. Rummage sale hours will be Thursday & Friday 9 am to 4 pm, Saturday 9 am to 11 am. Rummage Sale donations will be welcomed starting Tuesday, September 9th. We ask that items be distributed and dropped-off to designated tables. All donated clothing, household goods, should be clean and in a good state of repair.

Rummage sale set-up in Fellowship Hall starts Monday, September 8th at 9:00 am. If you are available to help in the set up it would be greatly appreciated.

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 Saturday morning. To volunteer, please contact the church office (313) 291-1221. All proceeds from the rummage sale support church-related projects.

## **Rummage Sale Alert! What you can Donate**

This year, the Fall Rummage Sale will take on a new format, as we will not be setting up the garage or the tent on the East side of the Church. In light of this change, we will only be accepting specific items for the sale. To assist you in this process, we have attached a comprehensive list detailing the acceptable items as well as those that we can no longer accept. While this list is not exhaustive, it serves as a helpful guideline to ensure a smooth and successful event. We appreciate your understanding and collaboration as we adapt to these changes.

### **Acceptable items:**

Clothing, shoes, purses, toys, small appliances (can opener, roasters, toaster ovens, etc.), fine china, dinnerware, pots/pans, small electronic items (irons, alarm clocks, calculators, etc.), drapes, DVD, VHS movies, records, books, jewelry, pictures, bedding, decorations (Xmas, Easter, etc.), office supplies, basically any interior item.

### **Non-Acceptable items:**

TV's, monitors, computers, DVD player, VHS players, lamps, tools, outside furniture, inside furniture (tables, couches, chairs, dressers, bed sets, etc.), plumbing items, electrical items, outside equipment (lawn mower, edger, shovel, etc.), luggage, bikes, large outside toys, yard decorations, basically any outside items, large electronic items, or building supplies.

We sincerely apologize for any inconvenience this decision may cause and want to express our deep appreciation for the unwavering support and enthusiasm you have shown for our Rummage Sales in the past. It is with a heavy heart that we announce the discontinuation of the outside portion of the Rummage Sales, a decision made necessary by a shortage of volunteers. We encourage you to reach out to Toni Hill with any questions or clarifications regarding item donations, as we remain committed to fostering open communication and support within our church family.

## **2025 Membership Directory**

The 2025 Membership Directory is scheduled for release in the fourth quarter of 2025. All of your updated information must be submitted by September 14th. Please contact the Church office if any of your information has changed (phone number, address, etc). Please contact Dan Case if you have any questions.

## **St Paul Sitemaps**

You may have noticed the St. Paul Sitemaps located strategically around the building during your last visit to the church. These maps were developed by the Safety and Security Ministry and are placed in certain locations throughout the building for your safety. Each map identifies the location of fire extinguishers, first aid kits, the defibrillator and phones. The maps also identify tornado shelters and provide correct exit routes in case of fire or other emergencies. Please familiarize yourself with these Sitemaps the next time you are in the building. If you have a question about the maps, please see any member of the Safety and Security Ministry.

## **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.

## **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) 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.

### **Updates for Our Call List Are Needed**

Please contact the office if you are or know of someone who doesn't get e-mail 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.

### **Communion for Members who are Unable to Attend Church**

Please contact Kathy Williams or the office if you know of a member who is homebound.

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

A hospital bed is needed for someone in our church. If you have or need medical supplies, such as walkers, wheelchairs, please contact Kathy Williams or the office.

## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Volunteers need to Host Coffee Hour**

We are looking for volunteers to host Coffee Hour for two Sundays in December (12/21 and 12/28). Training will be provided. All the hosts need to do is pick up the donuts, serve and clean up. Coffee Hour is after the worship service. Juice and coffee are provided by the church. If interested please contact the Church Office at (313) 291-1221.

### **Electronic Key Entry System Backup**

We are currently looking for an individual to provide back-up service for our keyless entry systems. Currently we have one individual who manages the system, we need someone to fill in as required when this individual is not available. Training will be provided. Please contact Dan Case if you are interested.

### **Christmas Gift Sale Donations**

Once again a Christmas Gift Sale is being planned for early December. There has been increased interest in the event. There have been several inquiries regarding items to sell and about helping. Therefore, we are planning it again for 2025. The hope is to open the "shop" for a couple December weeks in the West Room. To enhance the inventory, we are soliciting donations of new items you may have which you are unlikely to use. Additionally, we hope to have work days at the church to assemble and prepare items for the sale. Your donations and "crafty" help will be appreciated. Please contact Peggy Staten or Jane Dykowski for more details about donations, helping and the event.

### **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**

**Baptized unto the Lord**, Beau Edwin Ellerbach, born July 16, 2025, and baptized August 17, 2025, to Michael and Kayleen Knofske Ellerbach. Grandparents are Vern and Andrea Holton and Don and Terri Ellerbach. Sponsors are Eldin Hadzircic and Alexis Holton. Sibling is Dawn Ellerbach. Pastor Joy Ziegler officiated.

Dear St. Paul Council and Congregation,

A word of thanks for the golden leaf commemorating the Michigania of the Year honor to me which reflects on what we as pastor and congregation accomplished in providing a safety net for so many in need across Western Wayne County. Thank you all.

God's blessings,

Rev. Geoff Drutchas

Special **Thank You** to all of those volunteers who helped to make this year's picnic a huge success. A great time was had by all. St. Paul Cabinet

Very special **Thank You** to "Blocks Stand and Greenhouse" for donating all of the Corn, Vegetables and Fruit for this year's picnic and steak fry.

Special **Thank You** to those individuals who helped with the Steak Fry. You helped to make it a huge success and enjoyable evening for those in attendance. St Paul Men's Fellowship

Special **Thank You** to the following people who help with the Annual Kitchen Cleaning: Dan Case, Toni Hill, Jane Dykowski, Dan Evison, Dorothy Evison, Dee Salsbury Harold Fick, Kathy Williams, and Dan Case, St. Paul Building and Grounds Ministry.

I would like to **thank** the following people that helped in the kitchen for the Picnic. Crystal Poet, Jim Poet, Diane Poet, Wendy Warner, Hayley Dykowski, Drake Dykowski, John Dykowski, Gary Staffeld, Doug Staffeld, Janet Staffeld, Tim Ruffner, and Eddie Brainard. Dan Case for getting all the supplies. Thanks for making the Picnic successful. Kitchen Leader Candace Poet

I would like to **thank** everyone who donated supplies for VBS "Sailing to the Lighthouse". Many thanks to everyone who helped paint and make all my decorations and decorating the hall for VBS. Thanks to all the station leaders for your help. Superintendent Candace Poet

**Love and Sympathy** to family, friends, and ChristNet family on the loss of Debi Petri, who passed away July 26, 2025, at the age of 61 years. Funeral service was August 1, 2025, Michigan Memorial Park.

## **MEMORIALS**

### **FACILITY IMPROVEMENT FUND:**

In Memory of: *Allen Gunther* From: Allen's Vermont family

### **TREE OF FAITH FUND:**

In Honor of: *Naaman & Alma Drutchas* From: Rev. Geoff Drutchas & Eileen Vernor

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

**Church Members and Friends:** Marjie Barnard, Paula Block, Rev. Geoffrey Drutchas, Denise Foley, Julius Enesey, Justine Kimbler, Dave Lange, Sr., Rosemarie Laslo, Joe Mayfield, Dave Schmoekel, Kyle Hard, Bill Pattenaude, Bob Robinson, Shirley Robinson, Sandi Rose, Joan Smarr, John Smith, Sue Spears, William Stears, Jr., Bridget Stephens, Sue Stern, Linda Tank, Tom Tank.

**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, Alicia Hagen, Tony Kothes, Jennifer Lee, Jeff MacZink, Steve Newberry, Al Petri, Linda Schutter (cousin, Sandi Rose), 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; **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.