

# TIDINGS

St. Paul United Church of Christ

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Senior Pastor - Rev. Dr. Geoffrey G. Drutchas

Minister of Christian Education - Pastor Cheryl Schalm

May 2018

## **PASTOR'S PEACE**

This past week the Reverend Bill Kren was honored with a "Person of the Year" Award from the Romulus Chamber of Commerce. It was a great-turnaround. In years past, Bill, the former executive director for the Chamber, was often presenting the same recognition award to others. At the Chamber's gala event, held at the Raddison Hotel near Metro Airport on Friday evening, April 27, Bill was both toasted and a little roasted by his friends who appreciate his many contributions over the years to a half-dozen community organizations and programs. My wife and I were among those on hand and felt privileged to be there: we count Bill and his wife, Sue, as great friends.

There was a wonderful half-page article about Bill in a recent News-Herald issue, accompanied by a handsome picture. The article detailed a lot of Bill's life and career. But it didn't tell the full story. It completely missed the St. Paul connection which was pretty important for Bill's life and calling. As Bill himself tells it, he owes the St. Paul congregation a lot.

Years ago, he started dating a girl with a beautiful voice named Sue, who was confirmed in faith at St. Paul and a member of our choir. Back then, Bill was a Catholic kid (in line with his Slovenian heritage—something he shares with Melania Trump). But love led him to start worshiping with Sue in our sanctuary. They were married here. Moreover, Bill decided to become a church member.

Of course, as the folks in Romulus know, when Bill does something he does it all the way. Before he knew it, Bill was serving on our church Council, elected by the congregation. It gave him a first-hand chance to see how a congregation like our own works, including the important interaction between minister and Council. What Bill saw he liked. A few years later when a job transfer prompted him and Sue to move to southern Ohio, they sought out another church they could join. In the midst of it all, Bill also realized that God was calling him to give his life to service on behalf of the church and the wider community. Responding to that call, Bill decided to pursue seminary studies and ordained ministry. Over the several decades that followed, Bill served Christian churches in Ohio, Indiana, and Michigan. In 1998, he began an eight-year

pastoral stint at the Community United Methodist Church in Romulus, which returned him and Sue closer to home. This was followed by his tenure as executive director for the Romulus Chamber of Commerce.

I remember first crossing paths with Bill at Oakwood Hospital (now Beaumont) in Dearborn where we were both visiting church members. He was always friendly, unassuming, and sincere. His deep and abiding Christian faith announces itself quietly in what he says and in the way he acts without any fuss or bravado. Imagine my surprise and delight when Bill and Sue showed up at St. Paul Church on Sunday morning to worship. Bill had finished up his ministry at the Romulus Community Methodist Church. He and Sue decided to make St. Paul their spiritual home again.

One thing leads to another. Sue rejoined our Chancel Choir. I invited Bill to step into the pulpit upon occasion. He also started to preach at some of our other United Church of Christ congregations locally. Small surprise: everyone loved him. Bill not only brings a warm pastoral presence to worship services where he presides but also a great smile and terrific sense of humor. It was not long before the Dearborn Congregational Church (UCC) invited him to become their full-time minister. Our loss was definitely their gain. He and the Dearborn congregation have had a wonderful time together in ministry.

This past year has been particularly rough for Bill. Sue too. Probably due to exposure to Agent Orange during his service years in Vietnam, Bill developed lung cancer that showed up due to broken ribs. He has since been undergoing treatment at the University of Michigan Hospital and, more recently, the Veterans Hospital in Ann Arbor. Throughout his treatment, he has proved to be a real trooper, balancing both hospital visits and his continuing ministry well.

The writer Ernest Hemingway once defined courage as "grace under pressure." I can't think of a more graceful guy than Bill in spite of all the stresses of cancer and his continued calling. His life is an example of faith in action in every way.

I hope that you'll keep Bill and Sue in your own prayers, as well as extend him your personal, warm word of congratulations for being named "Person of the Year" whenever you next meet. May we all be glad and feel privileged that this man for all seasons has been a part of our lives and our congregation.

***--Shalom, Pastor Geoff Drutchas***

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EDITORIAL**

In celebration of mothers throughout the world of every race, color and creed, Christian Education offers this tribute.

A mother's love is something that no one can explain. It is made of deep devotion and of sacrifice and pain. It is endless and unselfish.

And enduring come what may, for nothing can destroy it or take that love away. It is patient and forgiving when all others are forsaking.

And it never fails or falters even though the heart is breaking. It believes beyond believing when the world around condemns. And it glows with all the beauty of the

rarest, brightest gems. It is far beyond defining. It defies all explanation. And it still remains a secret like the mysteries of creation. A many splendored miracle man cannot understand and another wondrous evidence of God's tender guiding hand. ~ Helen Steiner Rice

Happy Mother's Day!

***In Christ, Pastor Cheryl Schalm, Minister of Christian Education***

## **Christian Education Plans for Upcoming Events**

**Youth Prepare for Annual Summer Mission Trip.** The "2018" Detroit & Muskegon summer mission trip themed, "My Name Is..." is quickly approaching. The "My Name Is..." project was birthed by the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and it was born from a need to remember that every number represents a person. People always want to know the numbers. They want to know the number of meals provided by a soup kitchen, the number of people served, the tons of food provided to needy families, the number of children who attend various programs. They want to know how many men and women benefit from addiction programs and how many remain drug free. While statistics and numbers are important, they can never tell the whole story. They cannot capture the impact of the services provided, the kindness demonstrated and the love shared with countless people who are often forgotten. People, all people, are more than just mere numbers. *"The sheep hear his voice, and he calls his own sheep by name and leads them out (John 10:3).* Because "their" name matters; because every name matters, "My Name Is..." will serve as the theme of the "2018" summer mission trip.

Over the course of the week participants will be reviewing scripture and discussing the importance of serving people and not numbers. Additionally, they will explore and reflect upon their own identity in Christ. All interested youth (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade) should contact Pastor Schalm. Spots are limited and will be granted on a first come, first serve basis.

**Youth Stock Now Available for Purchase.** The youth will be selling stock to help fund their summer mission trip. For a donation, shareholders will be assured a personal letter from a youth mission trip participant, their name placed upon the Rock Hard in Faith mission trip banner and the knowledge that they have helped to shape a life in Christ. Youth stock can be purchased during coffee hour after April 1st.

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS SOUGHT.** Over the course of the summer children will have the opportunity to learn how to apply God's word to their daily living. Through Biblical lessons and activities the children will explore God's word and discover for themselves how they are called to apply these lessons to their daily living. In order for the summer Sunday School program to be successful adults are needed to lead the weekly lessons. The summer Sunday School program will begin on June 24<sup>th</sup> and conclude on September 9<sup>th</sup> with Rally Sunday and the Sunday School Open House.

Due to lower attendance over the summer all children pre-school through fifth grade will meet together in the upstairs' Westroom. Older youth will meet with Pastor Schalm in the Senior High classroom. Please consider visiting the Welcome Center on Sunday to select a date to share your faith with the children of St. Paul. All curriculum, materials and snacks are provided.

JUNE 24th	The Lord's Prayer	_____
JULY 1st	The Birds of the Air	_____
JULY 8 <sup>TH</sup>	The Golden Rule	_____
JULY 15 <sup>TH</sup>	The Widow's Coins	_____
JULY 22 <sup>nd</sup>	The Two Houses	_____
JULY 29 <sup>TH</sup>	****PICNIC SUNDAY****	
AUGUST 5 <sup>TH</sup>	The Two Debtors	_____
AUGUST 12 <sup>TH</sup>	The Mustard Seed and the Yeast	_____
AUGUST 19 <sup>TH</sup>	The Pharisee and the Tax Collector	_____
AUGUST 26 <sup>TH</sup>	The Ten Talents	_____
SEPTEMBER 2 <sup>nd</sup>	The Man in the Synagogue	_____

**Calling All College Students and Recent High School Graduates.** Christian Education is in need of pictures and 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 and pictures to Pastor Schalm or to the church office.

Pictures will be displayed on the "College Connection" board and students will be added to the quarterly "College Connection" mailing list.

**\*Thirsty Thursday's Young Adult Bible Study & Fellowship**

***Jesus said to them, "I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. - John 6:35***

Whether you have been a regular or are considering coming for the first time, we welcome and look forward to your company and participation.

***"Thirsty Thursdays"***

**The What:** Young Adult Bible Study

**The Why:** Rehydration: Daily living and life can be dehydrating!

**The Where:** The Schalm's. 26868 Winslow Drive. Flat Rock

**The When:** Thursday evenings

**The Time:** 7:00 p.m. – 8:30 p.m

**\*Rock Hard in Faith Youth Fellowship upcoming activities include:**

Rock Hard in Faith Youth Fellowship membership is open to all 6<sup>th</sup> – 12<sup>th</sup> grade students. Through a variety of events and activities the group participates in lesson, service, fun & fellowship. For more information on the upcoming events see Pastor Schalm.

May

*Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup> – Rummage Sale Assistance*

We will gather at the church at 10:00 a.m. to assist with the tear-down and clean-up of the all church rummage sale. Each year the Men's and Women's Fellowship make a large contribution towards the youth summer mission trip. As a thank you, we will be supporting their fundraiser which helps to fund us.

*Saturday, May 19<sup>th</sup> – Car Wash & Bottle Drive*

We will be gathering at the church at 10:00 a.m. for a car wash to raise funds for the "2018" summer mission trip. The car wash and bottle drive will be held from 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

*Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup> – Flower Sale*

This is our big fundraiser! Pre-ordered flowers will be picked up before, between and after services. Youth will need to help carry orders to member's cars. In addition, youth will need to work the Kiosk during coffee hour throughout the month of April to gather the order forms. Please sign the sheet located on the youth board.

**June**

*Sunday, June 3<sup>rd</sup> – Lunch, Bottle Return & Parent Youth Mission Trip Meeting*

We will gather for lunch following the 10:30 a.m. worship service in the Confirmation classroom. After lunch we will head out to return all of the cans and bottles we have collected. The parent/youth mission trip meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m.

*Sunday, June 17<sup>th</sup> – Youth Service & Depart for Mission Trip*

We will gather for the 9:30 a.m. youth service and spring program. I will be in need of participants! After service we will depart for our mission trip.

**EVENTS YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS**

**Rummage Sale Help Needed**

The St. Paul Spring Rummage opens its door on Thursday, May 3, and volunteer help is needed inside and out to host the all-church fundraising event. The rummage sale will continue through Saturday morning at 11 a.m., followed by clean-up.

During the sale, volunteer help is invited at check-out stations and also to help re-sort and rearrange items being displayed for purchase. As the sale concludes, unsold items will need to be bagged and boxed for pickup by Tried & True, a resale shop that assists the developmentally disabled.

On the Tuesday and Wednesday prior to the sale, volunteers will be sorting, organizing, and price-marking items in West Room, Fellowship Hall, and the garage. Our church's women's organizations coordinate indoor sales with the Men's Fellowship

hosting the garage sale of furniture and larger goods. All proceeds support church-related building and ministry outreach projects. For more information about volunteering, contact the church office (313-291-1221).

### **Pastor Joins for National Day of Prayer**

Pastor Geoff Drutchas will be joining other Taylor clergy in observance of the National Day of Prayer at the Cameron Priebe Plaza outside the Taylor City Hall on Thursday, May 3, 12 noon. The outdoor prayer event is open to all Downriver residents with seating provided. Like other clergy present, Pastor Drutchas will be offering a brief prayer our nation and local community.

Pastor Drutchas has also been invited to deliver the invocation at the opening of the Taylor City Council meeting on Tuesday, May 1, in the Council chambers.

### **St. Paul Softball Team Getting Organized**

St. Paul's softball team is getting organized in anticipation of the summer season ahead. St. Paul Church member Chris (Mink) Rogers will captain a co-ed team to compete in the Downriver Church League. All games are held under the lights at Thorn Park on Tuesday evenings. Thorn Park is located at the Brownstown Recreation Center at Telegraph and King Roads. First game is Tuesday, May 8th. The complete schedule will be posted soon.

New players are always needed and welcome to complete the team roster. To sign up for the softball season, contact the church office (313-291-1221) or speak with Chris Rogers.

### **'Fifties' Comes Again and Promises 'Every Daughter' Banquet Fun**

Poodle skirts, blue suede shoes, and bouffant do-s may be all the rage again as the annual 'Every Daughter' Banquet at St. Paul United Church remembers the 50's as a part of the fun and pleasure planned for Thursday, May 10, 6-8:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. It's a 50's theme dress-up affair with special music from that era. A buffet-style dinner that night will include chicken, meatballs, Mac & Cheese, mashed potatoes, green beans, salad, Coleslaw, rolls, dessert and beverage. There will be a 50/50 raffle, as well as special basket door prizes.

Hosted by the St. Paul Dorcas Society, plus the Women's and Men's Fellowships, the 'Every Daughter' Banquet is open to all moms, daughters, daughters-in-law, grandmothers and more. You don't have to have a mom or daughter present to join the fun.

Advance ticket purchase is required—no tickets will be sold at the door. The last day to purchase tickets is Sunday, May 6. Tickets are available at the KIOSK table in Fellowship Hall during coffee hour or by calling the church office (313-291-1221). Tickets are \$5 each with children 12 and under free. The doors open at 5:30 p.m. that Thursday night.

### **Cradle Roll Service Honors Newborns on Mother's Day**

Infants born over the past last year to members of our congregation will be honored at the annual St. Paul Cradle Roll Service on Sunday, May 13. As part of the service, parents are invited to process through the sanctuary cradling their babies in their arms as individual names are read and the congregation tinkles hand-held bells in their honor. Pastor Geoffrey Drutchas will offer a prayer for parents and children at the chancel steps.

Our Children's Choir will also be singing at the 10:30 a.m. service that morning with the Chancel Choir and soloists also providing additional special music in honor of mothers.

Parents and grandparents are invited to bring framed photos of their babies to be placed on the altar prior to the morning service. Please contact the church office (313-291-1221) if you would like to participate or include a child or grandchild in the roster of those acknowledged and honored.

**Muffins for Mom Celebration** The Men's Fellowship will be honoring the women of St. Paul on Sunday, May 13<sup>th</sup> with a special, Muffins for Mom continental breakfast. The celebration will be held between the morning worship services, 9:45 a.m. -10:45 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. All ladies should mark their planners for this special event.

### **Birthday 'Bash' for Our Christian Churches at Pentecost Services**

Pentecost will be celebrated with a parade, pew communion, and some very special music as our congregation celebrates the birthday of the Christian church at worship services on Sunday, May 20, 9 and 10:30 a.m. The sanctuary will be "dressed" in red for the occasion, the color most associated with the holy spirit which descended upon Jesus' followers when they were most discouraged, renewing them in the faith and courage needed to provide leadership for a fledgling church.

Church members and friends are also invited to come dressed in red as well as part of the seasonal celebration recalling the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Christ's earliest disciples, often described as the "birthday of the church." Red Hat ladies are invited to wear their red hats for the Sunday morning services.

As a part of the morning services there will be a dramatic reading from the New Testament Book of Acts of the Apostles recalling the first Christian Pentecost. Pastor Drutchas will be preaching on discerning the presence of the spirit. Our morning services will culminate with pew communion open to all adult, baptized worshippers with Pastor Drutchas and Schalm and the elders presiding.

Plan on being present for an inspired, spirited service!

**12<sup>th</sup> Annual Flower and Bake Sale.** "Spring" we hope, is soon to arrive. Mother's Day is fast approaching and it is time to think flowers. Again this year the youth will be selling flats of flowers, planters, hanging baskets, vegetable plants and more. Members and friends will have the opportunity to pre-order their flowers and plants from Block's Farm Market and have them delivered to the church on Sunday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. Upon delivery the youth will carry and load them into your vehicle.

No hanging baskets or planters will be available for sale the day of pick-up so it is important that you pre-order. Order forms can be secured during coffee hour, in the church office or at the Christian Education Welcome Center. In addition to the flowers, the youth will also be holding a bake sale and collecting all your unwanted cans & bottles during the flower sale. Any questions, please contact Pastor Schalm.

## **Caregivers Meet on Third May Monday**

The St. Paul Caregivers' group will meet for their monthly gathering on Monday, May 21, 7:30 p.m. in the church parlor. The Caregivers group meet to share experiences and to provide mutual spiritual support in providing assistance and care to family members and friends. Led by Pastor Geoff Drutchas and Parish Nurse Kathy Williams, each session finishes no later than 9 p.m. All conversations within the group setting are confidential and newcomers are invited. For more information contact the church office (313-291-1221)

**Red Hot Purple Angels - May 24** – Thursday - Russian Tea Room, [The Royal Eagle], 18745 Old Homestead, Harper Woods, MI 48225. 313.521.1894. High Tea will be at 12 noon. The cost is \$26 per person. Kathy Williams is the contact. Check the bulletin board for more info.

We will carpool from church time **10 AM**. We will view the gardens when we arrive and if possible view the synagogue. In the tradition of the Grand and Elegant Court of Imperial Russia, the Royal Eagle offers a seven-course Russian Tea luncheon. Guests to the Tea Luncheon will enjoy seven delicious courses. Here are some examples of what you can expect. English-Style Cucumber Star Tea Sandwiches, Roast Beef Canape with Horseradish Dipping Sauce, Brie-Cranberry Chutney Canape, Smoked Salmon Lox with Dill and Capers, Ukrainian Borscht, Paprika-Infused Chicken Skewers with Herb-Garlic Sauce ...and our luscious Dessert Sampler. Our guests are welcomed to walk the grounds and enjoy the beautiful gardens, but please remember that we are located on the grounds of a monastery and that, in order to preserve the unique atmosphere for which our guests have been known to travel hundreds of miles, ***we ask that standards of dress and behavior be observed: No shorts, short skirts, or tank-tops, please; no smoking, gum chewing or ringing cell phones;*** and please maintain control of young children. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Next month is an afternoon ride on the Diamond Jack's boat

## **Veterans Honored During Memorial Weekend Sunday**

Members and friends of the St. Paul congregation who served in the Armed Forces-Army, Navy, Air Force, Marines, Coast Guard, and National Guard - will be recognized during the Memorial Weekend Sunday services on May 27. A special time during worship that morning will highlight their service with their names read aloud. A prayer of thanks will also be offered for their role as peacemakers and peacekeepers.

In keeping with Memorial Weekend tradition at St. Paul Church, there will be a flag processional at the start of our worship together.

## **Annual Music Sunday Lets Talent Shine**

The talent of Chancel and Handbell Choirs will be shining on Sunday, June 3, as Music Director Tracy Hoffman leads them in an inspired performance of sacred music, both traditional and contemporary. "I Just Came to Praise the Lord" will be the signal anthem for the morning as the choirs, plus ensembles and soloists, share almost a dozen songs that come right from the heart of our faith.

This will be the second Music Sunday under Tracy Hoffman's baton. Newly-hired last year, he led the Chancel choir in their closing performance as Music Director Mark Ennis finished his many years of service to the music ministry of our church. In addition to

the morning's music, there will be scripture lessons and other readings highlighting the power of melody for our life together in church.

This is a family-and-friend-friendly service—a great time to introduce others to our ministry together at St. Paul. To mark the finale of the choir season, there will be special refreshments in Fellowship Hall between services, starting at 10 a.m. Mark your calendars now for a “Praise the Lord” morning.

### **'Hope Changes Things' is Community 'Blessfest' Theme**

Downriver's annual 'Blessfest' will be held in Taylor on June 2, sponsored by local churches and hosted on site at the New Hope Assembly of God. This year's theme: “Hope Changes Things.” Scheduled for 12 noon to 3 p.m., the event offers free health screenings, dental exams, job opportunities, basic need resources, workshops, and a “Kid's Zone” with activities for children ages 5-11. The first five hundred people to arrive will also get donated groceries.

More than thirty agencies and organizations, including Beaumont and Henry Ford Hospitals, will be on hand to connect participants with available community services. Participating churches include St. Paul, along with Harvest Worship Center, New Wine Community Church, Northline Baptist, PTM Ministries, Zion Missionary Baptist Church, and New Hope Assembly of God. The 'Blessfest' event represents another example of how our local Christian churches are working together ecumenically to strengthen our community and support families in need.

New Hope Church is located at 14000 Racho Road in Taylor, between Northline and Eureka Roads. Volunteers are needed to help greet arriving participants as well as distribute food. For more information, contact the St. Paul Church office (313-291-1221)

### **'Happy Soles' 5K Run Benefits Fish & Loaves Food Pantry**

The ninth annual “Happy Soles” 5K Run/Walk will be held on Sunday, June 10, in Heritage Park, Taylor. A benefit for the Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry, the “Happy Soles” 5K Run/Walk follows a certified USAT & F in the sylvan setting of Taylor's Heritage Park.

Open to runners and walkers of all ability and age, the course is “flat and fast.” Awards will be given to the top three runners, male and female, in fifteen age groups, as well as to the first, second, and third overall winner, male and female, and the first male and female overall Master winner. The first three hundred finishers will take home a ribboned custom medal.

The 5K Run/Walk begins at 8 a.m. in front of the open-air Sheridan Pavilion, preceded by a 7:30 a.m. “fun run” for children around Coan Lake.

There is a \$25 entry fee for registrations made before June 2, which also guarantees a TEC T-shirt. Registration from June 2-9 is \$30 and on the morning of the race \$35. Race packets can be picked up at the Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry, 25670 Northline Road, Taylor, 9 to 12 noon on Saturday, June 9, or on race day, 6:30-7:30 a.m., at the Sheridan Pavilion. All proceeds support the Fish & Loaves Community Food Pantry which assists families facing “food insecurity” in seven Downriver communities.

For more information or to register online: [happysoles5k@flcfp.org](mailto:happysoles5k@flcfp.org).

## **Baccalaureate Sunday Honors New Grads**

High school, college, and continuing education graduates will be recognized at the Baccalaureate Service held on Sunday, June 10, 9 and 10:30 a.m. Robed graduates will be coming down the center aisle at the start of services with Senior Pastor Geoffrey Drutchas. At a time of prayer, Pastor Drutchas will individually acknowledge each of the graduates who are either members, or children or grandchildren of our church members. Pastor Drutchas will be preaching this morning on finding our life purpose.

If you or someone in your family is receiving a degree this spring, or has received a degree since last June (including a G.E.D.), please contact Cindy Romas in the church office (313-291-1221) **no later than Wednesday, June 6, 2018** in order to be recognized as a part of Baccalaureate Sunday.

**2018 Father Child Outing** The annual St. Paul Father-Child Outing will be held on Thursday, June 14<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 - 8:00 pm at Sportway in Brownstown. Go-Karting, Mini Golf, and Batting Cages will all be part of the activities for adults and children. A light pizza supper with beverages and dessert will be served promptly at 6:15 pm, followed by the evening activities.

As in past years, the St. Paul Men's Fellowship will be covering all the costs. Participation is limited to St. Paul members and their children and grandchildren. Reservations are needed to ensure an accurate headcount for meal and ticket purchase. To RSVP contact the church office at (313) 291-1221 no later than Monday, June 11<sup>th</sup>. Sportway of Brownstown is located at 19640 Allen Road (west side of the street) between Sibley and King Roads. *Men's Fellowship*

**Sunday School and Youth Service Scheduled for June 17th.** On Sunday, June 17th, members of Rock Hard in Faith Youth Fellowship will lead the single 9:30 a.m. Worship Service. In addition to the youth led service and the blessing of mission trip participants, the Sunday School children will be sharing the Gospel Alphabet and performing songs they have learned throughout the year. Plan now to join your church family for this annual Spring Program worship service. Children are asked to participate in a rehearsal that will be held on Saturday, June 16<sup>th</sup>. All young people interested in participating in the service should contact Pastor Schalm.

**Christian Education is Gearing up for "Camp Moose on the Loose, Discovering God's Forever Forgiveness".** Children, pre-school through sixth grade should plan now to do a little camping this summer. This year's Vacation Bible School program, will be taking place at St. Paul UCC from July 23<sup>RD</sup> through July 26<sup>th</sup>. Parents and members of the congregation are encouraged and invited to then join their children for the VBS family finale and closing program that will coincide with the annual picnic held on July 29<sup>th</sup>. In addition to picnic activities, all attending can look forward to lunch, games, a waterslide and a special music presentation offered by VBS participants.

To ensure a successful Vacation Bible School program volunteers are needed to be station leaders, to help set-up and tear down decorations, lead and guide children to their various stations, assist station leaders, participate in skits, work the registration desk, and help with promotion.

Early registration and round-up will begin on July 22nd during Coffee Hour. All those interested in helping with the program or in registering their children should see Pastor Schalm.

**Looking Ahead** - St. Paul will once again will host a Vendor Arcade at the annual All Church Picnic, July 29, 2018. If you would like to be a vendor or know someone who would like to participate, please contact Sharon Leonard by phone or email at: sleonard1985@yahoo.com for more information.

## **HEALTH MINISTRIES**

**Exercise Classes** - Exercise is important to our health. Classes are scheduled on Mondays and Wednesdays at 2 PM in the West Room unless otherwise advertised. Delissa is our instructor. She is a wonderful trainer with a Christian philosophy. Participants have notice increased strength and balance. A donation of \$3-5 is suggested for each day class attended. Beginning May 14, 10 sessions of Enhanced Fitness will be sponsored by the American Kidney Foundation at no cost. Please plan to join us.

**First-Aid & CPR Classes** - First-Aid and CPR with AED recertification classes, are planned for May 17, 19 and 20. Please contact Kathy Williams

**Blood Drive** – You can sign up now for an appointment for the June 19 blood drive from 1 PM to 6:45 PM. Contact Kathy Williams or go online and sign up yourself at <https://www.redcrossblood.org/>

**Shalom** – Chronic disease group meeting. We usually meet the 2nd Monday on each month at 1PM. Our next meeting is May 14 at 1 P.M. Check the MorningTide for additional information regarding topics and/or speakers.

**TOPS, - (Take Off Pounds Sensibly)** - is a weight support group. TOPS is nonprofit and noncommercial. St Paul will be hosting the TOPS Chapter 9744, Taylor, MI beginning April 2. TOPS does not sell, promote, or endorse any products. TOPS provides the support, encouragement and educational opportunities needed to make healthy, permanent lifestyle changes. TOPS also provides motivational rallies, workshops and retreats. Meetings are held on Monday nights with weight in starting at 6:00 p.m. Meeting starts at 6:30 p.m. and ending approximately by 7:15 p.m., in the West Room. Membership is open to all women, men, teens and children 18 years old down to 7 years old, with parent permission. The first visit is free with no obligation to join. Bring a friend if you like. If you decide to join, a TOPS member will help you fill out a simple application form at the meeting. Dues are \$32 each year to the national and \$5/month for the local chapter.

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

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY AND HAPPY ANNIVERSARY**

### **May St. Paul Member and Friend Anniversaries:**

Happy Anniversary to the following couples: Dave and Jackie Vandercook (61 years), Ida and Robert Black (47 years), Lori and Ron Rogers (33 years), David Sr. and Pamela Lange (25 years), Kathleen and Daniel Galeski (24 years), Jennifer and Michael Isaacs (22 years), Brian and Kelly Elliott (14 years), Ryan and Selena Erickson (14 years) and Spencer and Rebecca Warren (12 years).

### **May St. Paul Member and Friend Birthdays:**

Happy Birthday to the following members and friends: Beverly Traver, Daisy Stedman, Mary Dubke, Joan Homeister, Harold Foley, Dorothy Boltz, Mary Faremouth, Glen Sigman, Shirley Robinson, Rev. Norman Kirsch, David Lange Sr, Allen Gunther, Rosemarie Laslo, Wand Mink, Virginia Butzlaff, William McGahey, Nancy Koszalka, Wendy Warner, Peggy Staten, Mark Bresky, Terry Povlich, Ellen Ludlam, Kay Kaszubowski, James Armstrong, Suzanne Ronald, Wendy Balaka, Cheryl Schalm, Dori Lamberti, Kevin Winter, Aaron Johnson, Cynthia Winter, Daniel Melton, DeAnna Frazier, Julia-Joy Miller, Kristi Caruso, Kacey Wlasuk, Adam Tidwell, Jennifer Lee, Summer Herkimer, Katherine Martinez, Alex Brandt, Samuel-Jay Martin and Olivia Drapeau.

### **May St. Paul Youth Birthdays:**

Happy Birthday to the following youth: Destiny Kessler, Emily Pedersen, Andrew Caruso, Kaitlyn Isaacs, Angel Staten, Joshua Mathias, Ethan Warren, Andrew Hipp, Isabella Magyar, Alivia McGahey, Kenzie Fisher, Gavin Wlasuk, Kimberly Staffeld, Mackenzie Kremer, Naaman Drutchas, Bradley Kessler and Charlotte MacZink.

We apologize if we missed your Anniversary or Birthday, but it's because our records don't include all your personal information, please feel free to contact the Church office at (313) 291-1221 and we will gladly update your personal information for you.

## **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Candlelight Services Keep the 'Light of Christ' Burning During Power Failure**

An overnight ice storm on Sunday, April 15, caused a power failure at our church and surrounding neighborhoods. But that didn't halt worship services. Sturdy St. Paul members who braved poor road conditions found candlelight services awaiting them. Improvising for the occasion, worshipers sat nearest the windows in order to capture the most light to read their hymnals. Several choir members held up cell phone flashlights to assist Church Organist Sally Sigman read her music at the piano. Pastor Geoff Drutchas preached extemporaneously based on the sermon he intended to deliver but couldn't read. Our congregation was one of the few in the affected Downriver area which did not cancel services that morning.

Power was restored to St. Paul Church at 5 p.m. the following day. However, given the uncertainty of when power would be restored, all Monday church programs and activities were cancelled at 11 o'clock that morning. An email notice was sent to church members advising them of the Monday closure.

## **2018 St. Paul Membership Directories now available**

Distribution of the 2018 St. Paul Membership Directories will continue through the month of May. Please ask the Deacon or an Usher at any Sunday Morning Worship Service or call the Church Office at (313) 2891-1221 for your copy. Although every effort was made to ensure the accuracy of the information it's still possible that some of the information may be inaccurate. As you look through your new directory and notice any mistakes please contact Dan Case at (734) 558-2585. We want to make sure that all mistakes are corrected for the 2019 directory. Just a note, if you're looking for a cell phone number and there is no three digit prefix for the number the default is always (313). Thank you for your patience and understanding.

## **Christian Education Seeks "2018 - 2019" Nursery Attendant**

It will be with a deep sense of gratitude and sadness that Christian Education and the nursery age children of St. Paul bid nursery attendant, Christine Schwab farewell at the close of the Sunday School year in June. While Christine will continue attending St. Paul, she will no longer be serving in the capacity of nursery attendant. Christine has been a true blessing and a wonderful asset. She will be greatly missed by all.

As a result of Christine's departure Christian Education is seeking a new nursery attendant. The position requires that candidates be 21 years of age or older, complete the "Reduce the Risk" program (offered at the church) and a background check (done at the church). The position pays \$15.00 per service (\$30.00 per two service Sundays). All interested parties should contact Pastor Cheryl Schalm or Sheri Herkimer, Chairperson Christian Education.

## **Volunteer needed for St. Paul Sign Board**

The Building and Grounds Ministry is looking for a volunteer or volunteers to maintain our large St. Paul advertising sign, located to the West of the Church on Goddard Road. Responsibilities would be to update the sign as events are happening at St. Paul (ie: Fish Dinners, Rummage Sale, Blood Drives, etc), training will be provided. Anyone interested in volunteering to take over the responsibility for updating the advertising sign should see either Michael Isaacs, John Smith or David Badarak, our St. Paul Trustees.

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

Scripture readers and ushers are needed to read during Sunday morning services at 9 and 10:30 a.m. No previous experience is needed and training can be provided.

Copies of all readings for lectors, based on the Good News (NIV) translation found in our pew bibles, are available on Thursday or Friday of each week and for your convenience can be emailed to you by our church's administrative assistant, Cindy Romas.

Those interested in volunteering as lectors and ushers are asked to notify the church office and Pastor Geoffrey Drutchas by completing a Make-a-Wish card from the sanctuary pews and adding it to the morning office plate.

## **Buildings and Grounds Adds Narthex Improvements**

The St. Paul Buildings & Grounds Team recently made improvements to our church narthex where members enter our church on Sunday mornings. A new, double-section coat rack was installed along the back wall to accommodate coats of worshipping church members. A new, smaller name tag cabinet was constructed by Charlie Barnard and

installed next to the new side entrance across from the lavatory. Members can retrieve and return name tags to the cabinet as they come and go from church on Sunday mornings. A small, attractive, free-standing sign was also placed in the narthex asking worshippers and visitors to refrain from bringing food or beverages into the sanctuary.

This past month Buildings & Grounds members also had mop-up work to do when a power failure and shut-down of our electrical sump pump caused a minor floor of two inches of water in the basement area below the Fellowship Hall stage. Fortunately, items stored in the basement area are kept in plastic bins, ensuring that everything remained dry and clean. Trustee John Smith loaned a generator so that the sump power could be restored.

**Audio Copies of St. Paul Sunday Worship Services** are available for your listening pleasure. Just log onto the St. Paul Web Site "stpaulucctaylor.org", select the "Our Worship Together" tab, then the Worship Services (Audio)" tab. Directions are given on the Service page. Services are also available on the Mobile application as well. If you have any questions, please contact Gary Peters, Michael Isaacs or Dan Case.

## **MEMORIAL DONATIIONS**

### **Christian Education Growth Fund**

In Memory of: *William Crawford Wiley* From: Cindy Romas

### **Generational Endowment Fund**

In Memory of: *Sara Kauffman* From: Women's Fellowship

### **Tree of Faith Leaf**

In Memory of: *Conrad & Caroline Batchelder* From: Bonnie Batchelder

## **JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**Thank You to the April Merry Mailers:** Karen Hill, Toni Hill, and Sandi Rose.

**ROSE ON THE PULPIT** celebrates the birth of Ellie Rebecca Jenkins, born March 10, 2018 to Hannah Johnson & Trevor Jenkins. St. Paul Grandparents are Aaron & Rebecca Markey Johnson.

**ROSE ON THE PULPIT** celebrates the birth of Esther Reign Valentin, born on March 13, 2018 to Joel & Courtney Valentin. St. Paul Great Uncle is Michael Natzke.

**ROSE ON THE PULPIT** celebrates the birth of Leia Lynn Rodgers, born March 19, 2018 to Wayne & Ashley Rodgers. St. Paul Great Grandmother is Brenda Tank. St. Paul Great-Great Grandmother is Beverly Libby.

**Special THANK YOU to the following people who help to make the 2018 Easter Breakfast a success:** Gary and Pat Staffeld, Charlie and Marjie Barnard, Steve and April Clark, Stuart Block, Candace Poet, James Poet, Phil Jensen, Michael Isaacs, Ed Brainard, Bill McGahey, Karen Hill, Toni Hill and Dan Case. St. Paul Building and Grounds Ministry.

**A THOUSAND 'THANK YOU'S'** to all the members and friends at St. Paul Church from Lisa Wild at Easter.

**Thank you** to all the St. Paul members for the cards & prayers while I was in the hospital and recovering. Thanks to Pastor Geoff and Kathy for all of their visits. Doris Hilliker.

**LOVE AND DEEPEST SYMPATHY** to Shirley Koths and family on the loss of daughter-in-law Denise, who passed away April 7, 2018 at the age of 58 years in Texas. Funeral was April 13, 2018. Rev. Geoffrey Drutchas officiated. Arrangements by Howe-Peterson Funeral Home, Taylor Chapel.

**LOVE AND DEEPEST SYMPATHY** to Pam & Dave Badarak on the loss of Dave's mom, Edna, who passed away April 18, 2018 at the age of 93 years. Funeral service was Saturday, April 21, 2018. Rev. Geoffrey Drutchas officiated. Arrangements by Howe-Peterson Funeral Home, Taylor Chapel and Phillips Funeral Home, South Lyon.

**LOVE AND DEEPEST SYMPATHY** to the Zabik family on the loss of mother & grandmother, Judith Zabik, who passed away April 22, 2018 at the age of 75 years. Funeral service was Saturday, April 28, 2018. Reverend Geoffrey Drutchas officiated. Arrangements by Michigan Memorial Funeral Home, Flat Rock Chapel.

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

**Fellowship of Concern – Prayer List:** Prayers are requested for the following church members and friends: Marjie Barnard, Megan Barnosky, Ryan Block, Betty Caufield, Shirley Drobil, Phill Felske, Oren Forsyth, Danielle Gardner, Barbara Gish, Kyle Hard, Doris Hilliker, Henrietta Hinzman, Randy Jensen (Beaumont, Dearborn), Pam Jones, Ruth Kenosian, John King, Nancy Kittendorf, Nancy Koszalka, Shirley Koths, Rev. Bill Kren, Doris Lincoln (hospice), John Montgomery (hospice), Patricia Olsen, Joan Rensel, Bob Robinson, Shirley Rohr, Eleanor Rossi, Beverly Sitz, Sue Spears, Kevin Staffeld, Brenda Tank, Jeannette Wackro, Lorelee Wilson (Southshore Hospital), Carol Wioncek, and Brad Zabik. *Please contact the church office if your family member or friend needs to be listed longer than three weeks or their health has been restored.*

**Please Pray for our Congregations Extended Family:** Brenda & Bonnie (friends, Daisy Stedman), Helen Belcher (aunt, Sue Mrowka), Justin Collins (son-in-law, Gerri King), Rebecca Havenstein Coughlin (daughter, Shirley Havenstein), Mary Faremont (sister, Richard Wagner), Allison Files (granddaughter, John & Barb Smith), Gabriella Gomez (niece, Darlene Babin), Bret & Val Gergly (friends, Sue Mrowka on the loss of Val's mother), Robert Grigg (friend, Schalm family), Lynn Harbin (sister, John Smith), Tamsey Hoffman (friend, Sue Mrowka), Kevin Johnson (grandson, Patricia Olson) Richard Jones, Justin Kurtz (friend, Chelsey Schalm), Joanne LeFleur (daughter, Helene & Neil McEachern), Jennifer Lee (granddaughter, Barb Siemers), Chris Lunsford (friend, Velma McGee), Courtney Matthew McEachern, Kim McEachern (daughter-in-laws, Helene & Neil McEachern), Scott Miller (son, Fred Miller), James Newsome (friend, Barb Schultz), Nicki Pappas (friend, Velma McGee), Brian Reid (friend, Sue Mrowka), Lynda & Paul Reside (sister-in-law, brother, Arlene Felske), Robert Rider (brother, Virginia

Butzlaff), Judy Robin (aunt, Lucinda Chavez), Trudy Clark-Schiller (daughter, April & Steve Clark), Richard Sherman (brother, Anne Blanchard), Joyce Smith (sister, the late Harry Thompson), Lynn Smith (sister, John Smith), David Staten (brother-in-law, Peggy Staten), Nicholas Surre (great-grandson, Helene McEachern), Paul Tetreau (nephew, Kathy & Gary Peters), Donna Vercande (cousin, Kathy Williams), and Victoria Witcher (daughter, Cheryl Stewart).

**Please Pray for our Congregations' Parents:** Michael Bailey (father of Christie Smart), Robert Brainard (father, Ed Brainard), Jan Filpus (mother of Julia-Joy Miller), Bruce Gaither (father, Rebecca Warren), Carol Kuhn (mother-in-law of Lori Kuhn), Stella Ludlam (mother-in-law, Ellen Ludlam), Laura O'Neil (mother, Shawn Block), Bill Pinage (father of Brenda Buzo), Sheryl Schwab (mother of Mary Hard & Christine Schwab), and Anna Thompson (mother, Lucinda Chavez).

**Church Members & Friend in Nursing or Rehab Care:** Mary Dubke (Amy's Place, 41346 Llorac Lane, Northville 48167), Melva Haglund (Rivergate Health Center, 14041 Pennsylvania Rd., Riverview, 48193), Ilene Krogman (Applewood Nursing Center, 18500 Van Horn Rd, Room #124, Woodhaven, 48183), Helen Parrish (9637 Janet, Taylor, 48180), Eleanor Rossi (Maple Heights, 4600 Allen Rd, Room 415, Allen Park, MI 48101), Melissa Rossi (17652 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, 48125), Vernagene Schafer (Borgess Gardens, 3057 Gull Rd, Kalamazoo, 49048), Betty Steinhauer (Rivergate Health Center, 14041 Pennsylvania Rd. Riverview, 48193) Grace Torango (Rivergate Health Center, 14041 Pennsylvania Rd., Riverview, 48193), and Lisa Wild (Anestic Care Residence, 21071 Tiffany Dr., Woodhaven, 48183).

**Remember Members and friends in our Military:** President Donald Trump, John DeGroat (friend, Don Gardner), Brandon Felske (Air Force, Grandson, Phill & Arlene Felske), Cade Ferguson (Navy, nephew, Patrick Ferguson), 1st Lieutenant Tyler Gillespey (Army, Tacoma, Washington, grandson, Murl & Judy Nieman), Jeremy House (Army, nephew, Ennis & Ostrowski families), Ens. Elizabeth Huntoon (Italy, friend, Jackie Jacobs), James Hurst, Ryan Jernigan (Marines, nephew, Cindy Romas), Kevin Johnson & Stephen Johnson (Navy, grandsons, Patricia Olson), PFC Mitchell Kaczmarek (Marines, nephew, Dan & Lisa Childress), Ryan Klimek (son, Troy & Sheila Klimek), Shawn Laque, Jeff Lassa (Air Force Reserve, son, Evelyn Lassa), Kyle Lassa (Korea, son, Evelyn Lassa), Michaela Lassa (Indiana, Air Force Reserve, daughter-in-law of Evelyn Lassa), Brett Lubic, Chuck Lundine (Nebraska), Brian McCleary (Iraq, brother, Michael McCleary), Jaden Maus (Air Force, Netherlands, granddaughter, Dave & Pam Badarak), Michael Olsen (friend, Richard Williams), CPL Michael Ounanian (Marines, Afghanistan, Grandson, Barb Williams, Volunteer, Fish & Loaves), Dain Runyan (Marines, nephew, Cindy Romas), Nick Sell (friend, Don Gardner), Nicholas Smith (Navy, Florida, husband, Morgan Gillespey-Smith), Sam Smith (nephew, Jeanne & Gene Edwards), Lawrence Stephens (Air Force, New Jersey), Gary Szekely (nephew, Will Tank), Garrett Waggoner (Navy, son, Heidi & David Waggoner), Jason Warner (step-son, Wendy Warner), Christopher Wendt (Navy, Florida, nephew, Cindy Romas), and Brandon Williams (brother, Heather Williams Dykowski).

Link to our online: [CHURCH CALENDAR](#)