

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

October 2024

Thursday October 3rd	Rummage Sale - 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
Friday October 4th	Rummage Sale - 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.
Saturday October 5th	Rummage Sale - 9:00 a.m. until 11:00 a.m.
Sunday October 6th	Church Service and Sunday School - 10:00 am - Worldwide Communion Sunday
Sunday, October 13th	Church Service & Sunday School - 10:00 am
Sunday, October 20th	Church Service & Sunday School - 10:00 am Kick off of "Operation Christmas Child" Trunk or Treat - 4:00 - 6:00 pm
Sunday, October 27th	Reformation Sunday Church Service & Sunday School - 10:00 am

November 2024

Sunday, November 3rd	Church Service and Sunday School - 10:00 am
Sunday November 10th	Church Service & Sunday School - 10:00 am
Sunday, November 17th	Church Service & Sunday School - 10:00 am Boxes due for "Operation Christmas Child"
Sunday, November 24th	Church Service & Sunday School - 10:00 am
Thursday, November 28th	Thanksgiving - Office Closed
Friday, November 29th	Office Closed

PASTOR'S PEACE

Reading over material for Sunday worship I came across this writing and feel it is worthy of sharing.

At this point, I want to be both careful and clear. I am not advocating for an a-political vision of Christianity. I believe God cares about our politics. Indeed, if we recall that the root of the word "politics" is the Greek polis – "people" – then it's vitally important, I think, to affirm (Martin) Luther's conviction that God is at work in our political and governmental structures to care for God's people.

But if not a-political, perhaps at least non-partisan. That is, can we imagine that God is at work in and through someone who bears the name of Christ but disagrees with us profoundly on an issue that is important to us? Can we make room in our worship and fellowship for those who disagree with us without labeling them? Can we try to stop, at least for a moment, trying to convince someone else of why they are wrong – or, worse, condemning because they believe differently than we do – and try to understand what experiences have shaped those views? Can we imagine that given the enormity of the challenges in front of us, there may be good ideas coming from persons who hold different perspectives and commitments than we do? Can we accept a cup of cold water from someone who does not follow us?

Writing in September 2018, Rev. David Loose shared these thoughts. The scriptural base for his message came from Mark 8:40,41.

. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

Realizing these words were written 16 years ago, I find that the questions are relevant for today. Jesus came and taught for the building of God's kingdom. He called for open hearts and open minds, not guided by the dividing issues of the day, but by the love of God. It is a time to review our identity, individually and as a community. The tensions within our lives, our community, the nation and the world are great. It is often difficult to have conversations because of differing viewpoints.

We live in a diverse world, but it is a world created by the one God who loves all and calls for us to follow in God's teachings. As followers of Jesus, we are blessed by his teachings and the example he lived, for in that, they will know we are Christians.

See you in Church,
Rev. Linda

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION EDITORIAL

Reformation Sunday

On Reformation Sunday, November 3rd, 6th grade students will receive Bibles as part of the special service commemorating the birth of the Protestant Faith.

MISSION OUTREACH

Operation Christmas Child Kick-off

St. Paul's monthly mission for October will benefit children in need throughout the world. Operation Christmas Child, a shoebox ministry providing Christmas gifts and an introduction to Christ will kick-off on Sunday, October 20th. All church members will be invited and encouraged to pick up a wrapped shoebox in the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour, fill it with small Christmas gifts (a brochure with gift ideas will be included), tag the box with the appropriate label that will be included and return the box by November 17th. All filled shoeboxes will be distributed to children in need throughout the world.

Those not able to fill a shoebox are encouraged to purchase small gifts (hygiene items, small toys, crayons, small notebooks, ect.) and place them in the box located in the narthex. All items will be used to fill shoeboxes.

A huge thank you to Jane Dykowski who wrapped all the shoe boxes and to all those who assisted with September's outreach providing two lunches for Christnet guest and needed items for the day shelter.

Please contact Pastor Schalm with any questions.

ALL CHURCH EVENTS

Trunk or Treat

When: Sunday, October 20th

Where: St. Paul, UCC circular drive

Time: 4:00 p.m. - Hot dogs & chips, caramel apples, pumpkin decorating

5:00 p.m. - Trunk or Treat

5:30 p.m. - Hayride

Candy donations are being sought and can be dropped off in the office or the tub located at the welcome center in the Christian Education department.

Please contact Sheri Herkimer if you are interested in assisting with this event.

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sew "N" Sew Gals to Meet

Thursday, October 17th 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.

2024 Budget Status

Our actual income YTD is \$149,008 and our actual expenses YTD are \$152,435 a difference of \$3,427 this is a negative difference of \$2,526 from last month. Our General Fund, which is the fund we use to pay our expenses (salaries, utilities, etc) is at \$21,832 an increase of about \$1,000 from last month, this is a positive trend. As I said last month I am only going to talk about actual income vs expenses as we move forward. Work has begun on the 2025 budget as we look to cut expenses moving forward. I will have a proposal for the congregation to review on Sunday, November 10th after the Worship Service. I thought you might be interested in a breakdown by percentage of our budget: 61% - Salaries and Benefits, 12% - Utilities, 9% - Facility Services, 5% - Office, 3% - Benevolence, 3% Insurance, 3% - Building/Maintenance/Supplies, 2% - Christian Education, 1% - Information Technology and 1% - Other. If you have questions please feel free to give me a call. Dan Case - St. Paul Treasurer

Burial Graves for Sale

The St. Paul Memorial Ministry has four graves available for immediate purchase. The graves are located at Michigan Memorial Park in Huron Township. The four graves are all together and located in Section 22 "Garden of Apostles" with a retail value of \$1,825 per grave, the asking price is only \$1,000 per grave. Once purchased the graves may also be used as partial payment (full retail value) for purchase of a spot in their above ground burial sites or their indoor and outdoor cremation niches as well. You have many options available to you. Please contact any member of the Memorial Ministry if you are interested.

2024 Membership Directory

The 2024 Membership Directory is scheduled for release in October.

October is National Church Safety and Security Month

National Church Safety and Security Month is a time for heightening awareness on preventing fires and injuries and reviewing ways to be secure in our worship setting. St. Paul Safety and Security Ministry meets on a regular basis and reviews church policies with regards to providing a safe environment in which to worship. You can identify members of your Emergency Response Team (ERT) by the yellow and red arm bands or red badges hanging around their necks that they wear during St. Paul services and at our larger events. If you are interested in joining the ERT or becoming a member of the Safety and Security Ministry please contact Dan Case.

Special Detroit Metropolitan Association Meeting

At a special Detroit Metropolitan Association meeting a special resolution was presented to combine the Detroit Metropolitan Association (17 Churches) with the Eastern Association (10 Churches). This resolution was approved by both the DMA and the EA and will be presented for final approval to the Michigan Conference at their annual meeting on November 1st. The new Association will continue to utilize the title of Detroit Metropolitan Association.

Safety and Security

This month we will continue to highlight some safety measures that are in place at the Church to help keep you informed. This month we will be covering the **Building Evacuation Plan**.

The objectives of an evacuation drill are:

- Give our members and staff an opportunity to practice emergency procedures in a simulated but safe environment.
- Determine if members of the Emergency Response Team understand and can carry out their duties
- Evaluating the effectiveness of our evacuation procedures and determining necessary changes or adjustments to procedures to improve performance
- Complying with local fire codes and insurance company requirements.

If a building evacuation is initiated, for your own safety, **YOU MUST EVACUATE** when asked to do so.

Important "do's and don'ts" are:

- Remain Calm. Proceed as quickly as possible in an orderly manner.
- Follow the instructions of the **Emergency Response Team**.
- If you occupy an enclosed room, close the door as you leave.
- Take only essential personal items with you. **DO NOT** return for coats, purses, briefcases, etc., after you have left the building.
- Once out of the building, proceed to the designated assembly area (Green or Red based on the building exit).

PARENTS, all children in the 2nd Floor Sunday School will be escorted by staff to an assembly area. Children may be picked up from their designated assembly area after the "**all clear**" signal is given, but not before.

Do not return to the building until the "**all clear**" signal is given.

Note: Emergency Response Team members will be assigned to assist all disabled persons during evacuation.

Neighbors In Need Mission Offering – Received in October

This Mission offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. A large portion of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of ministries, advocacy efforts and direct service programs. This offering also supports our American Indian neighbors in the UCC through the Council for American Indian Ministries. There are over 20 UCC congregations on reservations primarily in the states of North and South Dakota and Minnesota. Neighbors In Need helps make another world possible, it needs your support.

An offering envelope is included in this Tidings. If you misplace the envelope, any regular envelope indicating "Neighbors In Need" may be used. There will also be offering envelopes in the pews as well. Place your envelope in the offering

plate on Sunday, drop it off to our Church Office, or US Postal mail. Make checks payable to St. Paul UCC Church and indicate the offering name on the memo line.

You may also use Vanco, our electronic online and mobile giving source for Your "Neighbors In Need" donation. Visit us online at www.stpaulucctaylor.org/giving, locate the Online Giving button and select "Neighbors In Need" 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

Exercise classes are held on Wednesday's from 10:30 -11:30 A.M. in Fellowship Hall or the West room. Our instructor Delissa Hampton is there every step of the way to cheer you on to work at whatever pace you can do. All exercises can be done in a seated or standing position with or with the use of a chair, or a combination of both. A small donation of \$3 to \$5 is suggested, but not expected for each class you attend. Hope to see you soon. Can't make it to class, but want to join us from home? Join us on ZOOM. You must be able to access the internet by computer, I-pad, or phone with video availability. The information to join the class is on www.stpaulucctaylor.org Health Activities (stpaulucctaylor.org) If you would like to participate or have any questions, contact the office or Kathy Williams.

Meditation Class for Body and Soul

Meditation has helped me for years. A meditation class helps with relaxation, concentration, decreasing stress and is good for the soul. We will try out 3 weekly sessions. Probable times 11:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. Nov 6, 13 and 20. Please contact Kathy Williams if you are interested. Other times can be considered.

CPR & First-aid Class

People are needed with certification of CPR & First aid. Heartsaver, CPR with AED CLASS & First-aid Class by the American Heart Association will be offer October 11 form 5:30 – 9:30 PM for CPR, then October 12, 1-5 PM for First aid. The class takes about 7.5 – 8 hours divided into two 4 our sessions. One on CPR the other first-aid. The certification lasts for two years. Books are distributed for reading two weeks prior to class. For safety reasons, we try to have at least one person in each sub-organization within our church. We never know when an emergency may occur. Please contact Kathy Williams if you are interested in taking the class. If you are already certified, it would be helpful to add you to our list. Thanks for your consideration.

Health/Medical Supplies Available

If you have or need medical supplies, such as walkers, wheelchairs, please contact our parish nurse or the office. We need more canes if anyone has extra canes or other equipment.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

ChristNet Rotating Shelter Looks to Continue Operation for 2025

Soon we will be ushering in some much colder weather making the need for homeless shelters all the greater. As most of you are aware, St. Paul has served and supported the Christ Net rotating shelter and program for several decades or better. When the COVID pandemic struck the rotating shelter was halted. Churches began providing and delivering dinner meals to the hotel in which guests were being housed.

ChristNet is going to continue the rotating shelter at the beginning of next year (January). They are canvassing churches to inquire about their interest and availability to participate. Participating churches will be expected to host guests from Sunday to Saturday for a one-week time period. Guests will arrive at the host church in the evening. Upon arrival they will be fed dinner prepared by the host church. Guests will over-night at the church utilizing sleeping bags and blow-up mattresses. In the morning they will be transported by van to the day center where they will receive breakfast and lunch and the opportunity to shower.

If you, or perhaps a group you may be involved with whether inside or outside of the church; book club, scouts, card club, athletic team, etc., would be interested in more information or in assisting with hosting guests please contact the Church Office at (313) 291-1221. We will need to cover two shifts with a minimum of one male and one female per shift. Additionally, we will need individuals and groups to prepare, serve and clean-up following dinner. The St. Paul Council has approved our participation for 2025, our week is still pending.

Liturgists are 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.

Choir Update

We are currently looking to hire a Music/Choir Director. In the meantime, we are going to be assembling the church choir beginning in October. We look forward to seeing all current members, past members and any new voices interested in joining. As we move forward, our current choir members are directing the congregation in hymns, singing and/or playing special music. Please contact the church office (313) 291-1221 if interested.

Volunteers 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.

Volunteer still needed to manage our three flags in front of the Church

We are looking for an individual or a couple who would be interested in managing the three Flag Poles in front of the Church. Flags would need to be replaced as required and the American Flag moved to half-mast on special occasions. If you are interested please contact the Office at (313) 291-1221.

Positions still open for 2025 Council

It's not too early to start thinking about joining the St. Paul Council in 2025, each position is for a three year cycle. Positions for 2025 include: 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Elder, Trustee and Deacon. We are also still in need of a Deacon for two years and a Trustee for one year. Please prayerfully consider taking one of these positions on our church council. Description of these positions can be obtained by contacting the church office. If you have any questions please contact Trustee Toni Hill or Michael Isaacs.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

A Special **Thank You** to all who helped make the Fall Rummage Sale a huge success. Women's and Men's Fellowship

MEMORIALS

MEMORIAL FUND:

In Memory of: *Harold Foley* From: Wendy Malwitz, Phyllis Pawlowski, Rev & Mrs Norm Kirsch, Dan & Dorothy Evison, Mr & Mrs Dennis Bielak, Mr & Mrs Rick Gray, Joan & Denise Foley, Paula Strawshine, Cleora & Bill Pattenauade, Felicia Cooper- Dupuie

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

In Memory of: *Henk Vander Woude* From: Gary & Pat Staffeld

FACILITY IMPROVEMENT FUND:

In Memory of: *Harold Foley* From: Dan & Deborah Case

TREE OF FAITH LEAF:

In Memory of: *Harold Foley* From: Fred & Mary Miller

WE ASK FOR YOUR PRAYERS FOR

Church Members and Friends: Robert Black, Marion Bolen, Barbara Brewer, Juliu Enesey, Kyle Hard, Justine Kimbler, Betty Mayfield, Fred Miller, Dan Newton, Bill Pattenauade, Shirley Robinson, Sandi Rose, DeAnna Schalm, Barbara Schultz, Dennis Schmoekel, Sally Sigman, Joan Smarr, John Smith, Sue Spears, Linda Tank, and Carol Wioncek.

Extended Family: Susan & Dennis Bennett (sister, brother-in-law of Karen Hill), Rhonda Wioncek Berndt, Ted Butkin, Ailani Flores (friends, Rosemarie Laslo), Alicia Hagen, Brody Howell (nephew, Justine Kimber), Tony Koths, Sue Milatz, F. Scott Miller (son, Fred Miller), Debi and Al Petri, Jerry Rossi, Randy Snelson, Rachel Tank (Daughter, Tom & Linda Tank), Anna Thomson (mother, Lucinda Chavez), Diana William.

Church Members & Friends in Extended Care or Rehab Care:

Judy Albright, Allegria Village, 15081 Ford Rd., Apt. 606, Dearborn, 48126-4642; **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**, Rivergate Terrace, 14141 Pennsylvania Rd., Riverview, 48193; **Joe & Betty Mayfield**, Atria Kinghaven, 14800 King Rd. Apt. 308, Riverview, 48193; **Lois Rice**, Burcham Hills, 2700 Burcham Dr., Apt. 536, East Lansing, 48823-9977; **Melissa Rossi** -17652 Colgate, Dearborn Heights, 48125; **Barbara Schultz**, Randall Residence at Encore Village, 10801 E. Grand River, Room 212, Brighton, 48116; **Sally Sigman**, Atria Kinghaven, 14800 King Rd., Room 116, Riverview, 48193; Office: 734-479-5000; **Bert Thompson**, Optalis Health & Rehabilitation, 9150 Allen Rd, Allen Park; Office: 313-386-2150.

Staff Job Position Highlights

For the months of October we will be highlighting the position of **Director of Christian Education**.

Accountability

- A. The DCE shall at all times and on all occasions, both in doctrine and living, be a faithful servant of our Lord Jesus Christ, and have an understanding and appreciation of the United Church of Christ.
- B. The DCE shall be accountable and responsible to the Church Council through the Christian Education Committee for programming and policies.
- C. The DCE is administratively accountable to the Senior Pastor.

I. Administrative Functions

The DCE shall:

- A. Make a report of his or her activities at the monthly Christian Education and Council meetings, and to the Congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting.
- B. Maintain regular office hours.
- D. Attend Council, Christian Education Committee, and Cabinet meetings, as required.

II. Denominational / Professional

The DCE shall:

- A. Participate in all appropriate DMA, Michigan Conference, and community activities/meetings and act as a representative for St. Paul at these events as required (AUCE/GLAUCE, Youth Meetings, etc.)
- B. Attend workshops, seminars, and training opportunities as appropriate.

III. Personal Study

The DCE shall participate in continuing training/educational opportunities to enhance professional development

Christian Educational Responsibilities

I. Church School Organization and Administration

The DCE is responsible for the direction and supervision of the Church School, in cooperation with the Christian Education Committee. Together they shall determine objectives and long-range plans, establish programs and policies and oversee and evaluate the educational ministries of the Church.

The DCE shall:

- A. Along with the Sunday School Superintendents, oversee the administration of the educational work of the Church School program including nursery, pre-school, elementary, junior and senior high.
- B. Along with the Christian Education Committee, oversee the administration of the Vacation Bible School Program.
- C. Lead in the selection, development, and evaluation of curricula.
- D. Lead in the recruitment and training of teachers.
- E. Assist the Sunday School Superintendent to help plan and/or lead regularly scheduled teacher meetings.
- F. Along with the Sunday School Superintendent, ensure that supplies and equipment necessary for the Church School program are purchased and available.
- G. Prepare and deliver a "Children's Sermon" once each month (negotiable).
- H. Develop and coordinate a children's worship activity for the Sunday Church School program.
- I. Provide leadership and/or help plan, and attend all Church School functions (i.e. Open House, Christmas Program, etc.).
- J. Develop and coordinate a Summer Church School program.

II. Youth Ministry

The DCE shall oversee the Youth Ministry Program in cooperation with the Christian Education Committee, Youth Advisors and other lay people.

- A. Assist the Youth Advisors in planning, preparing and attending Youth Fellowship events and special activities (i.e. National Youth Event, Mission trips, service projects, etc.).
- B. Assist the Christian Education Committee in the recruitment and orientation of Youth Advisors.
- C. Act as liaison with the UCC Conference and Detroit Metropolitan Association for youth events.
- D. Assist the Christian Education Committee/Youth Advisors/Youth Group in the development and recruitment of a youth minister. (if approved)

III. Family Ministries

The DCE shall develop, implement and monitor the growth of special programs intended to enhance the overall Christian Education Program at St. Paul (i.e. MOMS, LTD, etc.)

V. Additional Duties and Responsibilities

The DCE shall:

- A. Participate with the Christian Education Committee in the development of church policy regarding educational programming for all age groups in the church (i.e. Child Sexual Abuse, AIDS Training, etc.).
- B. Develop a process of recruitment, training, and support for volunteer leadership.
- C. Work with the Christian Education Committee in developing a yearly budget, planning calendar, and event calendar for the Christian Education program.

Term and Support

Salary, covered expenses, health insurance, annuities and vacation shall be covered by the "Memorandum of Understanding" negotiated between the DCE and the St. Paul Trustees. Holidays and disability shall be covered under the St. Paul policies as approved by the St. Paul Council for all staff members.

Evaluation

A formal evaluation shall be conducted on an annual basis by the Christian Education Committee and in close consultation with the St. Paul Executive Committee, including a review with the Senior Pastor. The evaluation will be filed in the DCE's personnel folder

* In the event that the Assistant Pastor is unable to teach the first year Confirmation Class, the DCE may be responsible for this.