Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

It feels like I should be writing “Happy New Year!” as well. In many ways, September is a month of beginnings, in particular a new school year. We keep all students, teachers, board members, and staff in our prayers for this 2017-18 school year. At St. Paul’s, we begin our fall worship and ministry calendars on Sunday, September 10. Join us for 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services, Christian education for all ages, and lots of other great opportunities to grow in our faith. September is also the time to begin signing up for our fall all-church study using Adam Hamilton’s great book, Creed: What Christians Believe and Why. This will be a great opportunity to be part of a meaningful short-term Grow Group. I highly recommend it!

We’ve had a great summer at St. Paul’s, sowing seeds of faith and new life, and I look forward to seeing all that God has in store for us as we continue to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of our community and the world!

Yours in Christ,

Rev. David Eardley

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Do It All in Jesus’ Name

Stephen Ministers bring Christian care to those in need. They use words and deeds to express Christ’s care for others; listening and comforting, calling on the training they have received and employing the tools of faith. If this job description fits your personal goals for ministry, consider becoming a Stephen Minister.

**A training class starts in late September.** It meets Thursday evenings for 18 weeks, with commissioning in April. For more information, contact Susan Sonye at susansonye@comcast.net or Nancy Seiter at nisleit@aol.com. Applications available in the church office. Application deadline is September 15. Come, join this rewarding and worthwhile ministry.

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St. Paul's Community Garden

**Off To a Great Start!**

With a goal to create a community garden and donate 100% of the produce to Neighborhood House and provide our neighbors with fresh healthy vegetables, our garden is thriving. So far, we have delivered 114 pounds of fresh produce with much more to come. We would love to have you join this mission! You will find it rewarding, educational, fun, and a great way to help our neighbors. Please contact Rob Patten at robpattenjr@comcast.net.

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Membership Directory Update Planned

**Photos and Updates Needed**

The Membership Committee is preparing an update to our Pictorial Membership Directory. Information from the church database will be updated and used for the new directory. **Cards to submit information will be available at designated tables in both Hickey Hall and the Narthex.** We will take a your photo to add to the directory if you would like to update it but don’t have a current one to submit. Photos will be small so a close-up showing head and shoulders is preferable. If you prefer to submit your own photo or if no changes are required, notify Karen Rider at Karen@stpaulsrochester.org.

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Grounded

**Sunday, September 24**

**7 - 9 p.m. in Hickey Hall**

Youth and people of all ages are invited to join us for a coffeehouse night filled with chill vibes and local talent. Enjoy our coffee and dessert stations and then at 8 p.m. local band, Kimball, will be performing. Facebook.com/kimballmusicpage/
**Chancel Choir**  
**Wednesdays, starts September 6**  
7:30 - 9 p.m. in the Choir Room  
Sings at the 11 a.m. worship service September through June and performs major works with orchestra periodically.

**Praise Team**  
**Thursdays; 6-8 p.m. in Sanctuary**  
Vocalists and instrumentalists lead music at the 9 a.m. worship service and other services as needed. Weekly commitment is not required. **Drummer Needed:** If you play, know someone who plays, or haven’t picked up a pair of sticks since high school, please email Shelly Cowling at SCowling@stpaulsrochester.org.

**Epworth Choir**  
**Wednesdays, starts September 13**  
7 - 8:30 p.m. in Room 128-129  
Provides music for our 9 a.m. worship service September through May. Open to those in 8th grade through adult.

**Wesley Ringers**  
**Thursdays, starts August 24**  
7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in Bell Room  
This handbell choir plays the third Sunday of the month in both services, October through May. Also plays for weddings, funerals and attends symposiums and festivals.

**St. Paul’s Brass**  
**Mondays; 7:30 p.m. in Balcony**  
Rehearses and plays periodically.

**Music Ministry** Join us!  
Our music groups are all very welcoming small groups. New members are welcome any time without audition!

**Sunday Adult Studies**  
10 a.m. Sundays beginning September 10

**Family Life**  
**Active Couples & Singles, 50 & older; Rickard Chapel**  
A welcoming place to learn and share as we enjoy discussions and presentations on a variety of Christian issues and topics. We are also known for our sense of humor as we grow in Christian fellowship. Please visit and see if you don’t feel right at home!

**Faith & Friends**  
**Spiritual Growth Study; Room 132**  
Who is the Holy Spirit? How does He change our lives? How does He work in the world? We begin the fall with *Meeting the Spirit* by Douglas Connelly. You will see that the Spirit of God is eager to work in your life to draw you closer to God. Join us!

**Open Hearts**  
**All Ages, Stages and Spiritual Levels; Room 131**  
Open Doors is becoming Open Hearts. For singles & couples, parents & non-parents. All are welcome!

**Support for Caregivers Group**  
**Saturday, September 9; 9:30 a.m. in Room 132**  
Being a caregiver requires the difficult task of meeting the physical, emotional and often the financial needs of the family members and friends we love, who are limited in the ways they can manage their lives independently. St. Paul’s has a group of caregivers that meet monthly to support each other emotionally, while renewing our spirits, as well as sharing caregiving ideas and new resources. It is difficult to care for others when we struggle to care of ourselves. Contact Diane Donoghue at 248 872-7582 for more information. **You don’t have to do this alone!**

**Walk to Emmaus Informational Meetings**  
**Sundays, September 10 & 24; 5 p.m. in Rickard Chapel**  
**September 17; 10 a.m. in the Balcony**  
Learn more about this 72 hour encounter with the Holy Spirit. Attend an informational meeting at St. Paul’s to learn about October walks in our area. Contact Rev. Grimmett at CGrimmett@stpaulsrochester.org.

**Save the Date!**  
**Human Trafficking Seminar**  
**Sunday, October 22**  
**6 p.m. in Hickey Hall**  
United Methodist Women and St. Paul’s Health Ministries is providing a seminar on Human Trafficking. This is a difficult subject but impacts our local community as well as the global stage and economy. Come and learn what is happening in our community, what to be aware of and how to prevent this abuse. Presentation is by Rev. Dr. Bonita Laudemann who has been working in this field in Oakland County with law enforcement and hospital staff. This will be the High School Youth Group event on October 22. All High school youth are invited but need their parent’s permission to attend.
Classes & Groups

**Disciple Fast Track** Part 1 of 2
Sundays, September 10 – November 12
6 - 7:30 p.m. in the Library

*Disciple Fast Track* is for busy people seeking comprehensive engagement with the entire bible. Read a manageable 3-5 chapters daily in preparation for the weekly meetings. Part 1 covers the Old Testament. Part 2 will be offered in January. Call the office at 248-651-9361 by August 28 to register. Books for this segment ($15) will be distributed at the first class.

**United Methodist Men**
Saturday, September 9
8 a.m. in Hickey Hall
All men are welcome to join us for breakfast and brotherhood. Please invite a guest! Contact Dave deSteiger at 248-652-8225. The United Methodist Men meet the first Saturday of the month, September through June. Join us!

**The Rest of the Gospel**
Thursdays, September 14 - November 16
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor

*The Rest of the Gospel* is for busy people seeking comprehensive engagement with the entire bible. Read a manageable 3-5 chapters daily in preparation for the weekly meetings. Part 1 covers the Old Testament. Part 2 will be offered in January. Call the office at 248-651-9361 by August 28 to register. Books for this segment ($15) will be distributed at the first class.

**Young At Heart Adults**
Tuesday, September 19
YAHAs is a group for retirees or anyone who wish to participate.
11 a.m.: Visiting in Hickey Hall
Noon: Bring your own brown bag lunch and dessert will be provided at no charge. Please make a reservation at 248-651-9361 so that we know how many tables are needed.
1 p.m.: Program in the Parlor - Meet our new pastor, Rev. Carter Grimmett.

**A Disciple’s Path**
Fridays, September 8 - October 27
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor

*A Disciple’s Path* is for busy people seeking comprehensive engagement with the entire bible. Read a manageable 3-5 chapters daily in preparation for the weekly meetings. Part 1 covers the Old Testament. Part 2 will be offered in January. Call the office at 248-651-9361 by August 28 to register. Books for this segment ($15) will be distributed at the first class.

**SPARK: Book Group**
Thursday, September 21
12:30 p.m. in the Parlor
Join us as we discuss *Sisterhood of Spies* by Elizabeth McIntosh. We welcome new members! If you have questions, call Karen Clemons at 248-656-5183.

**Seamless**
Mondays, September 11 - November 13
7 - 9 p.m. in Room 128-129

*Seamless* covers the people, places, and promises of the Bible, tying them together into the greater story of Scripture. Whether you’ve grown up hearing Bible stories or you’re exploring Scripture for the first time, the full story of the Bible can be overwhelming. Experience the Bible as a whole as you gain clarity and confidence in your understanding of Scripture. Discover a bibical context that reshapes and brings to life stories from the Old and New Testaments. Books ($15) will be available at the first class. Please register with Shelly Cowling at gracenotemin@sbcglobal.net.

**SPARK: Book Group**
Thursday, September 21
12:30 p.m. in the Parlor
Join us as we discuss *Sisterhood of Spies* by Elizabeth McIntosh. We welcome new members! If you have questions, call Karen Clemons at 248-656-5183.
Prayer Shawl and Quilt Ministries Combining
Second Tuesday the Month
1 - 2:30 p.m. in Room 132
The Prayer Shawl and Quilt Ministry groups are combining to knit, crochet, hand sew, quilt, or select fabrics/yarn for working at home. Pleasant conversation occurs while creating prayer shawls and prayer quilts the congregation can give to a loved one in need of compassion during loss or stressful times in their life. The ministry group prays over each item and a prayer card is attached before it is available in the Narthex. Shawls or quilts are a cozy reminder of the love and support God intends for all. If you would like to contribute in any way, we need your help! We welcome all who would like to participate or learn. Contact Donna Heflin at heflin.donnaj@gmail.com or 248-505-6413.

Donations Needed!
Quilt Show & Silent Auction
To Benefit Tiny Home Project
Please consider donating handmade quilts or quilted items for this great mission project. Donations will be accepted until October 18 for the November 10 -11 show and silent auction. Contact Donna at Heflin, donnaj@gmail.com or Amy at amy.ritenburgh@gmail.com.

* Childcare available by reservation.
To reserve childcare, call the church office at 248-651-9361 ext. 114 by 3 p.m. at least two business days prior to the first class.

United Methodist Women’s Annual Meeting
Thursday, September 14
6 p.m. - Circle Meetings
6:30 p.m. - Light Supper in Parlor
7:15 p.m. - Business Meeting in Parlor
If you would like to know more about UMW or Circles, this is a great opportunity to visit a Circle and meet some new people! All Circles will hold their September meetings and then we’ll have fellowship and a light supper provided by the Executive Board. A short business meeting follows during which the membership will vote on the 2018 budget and slate of officers, and new members will be inducted. Information will be available on upcoming fundraisers and events. Questions? Contact Kathy Swisher at swish1770@aol.com.

HUGS. Humor, Understanding, Growth and Support
For mothers and grandmothers of all ages
Wednesdays at 9:30 - 11 a.m. in Room 132
Think on Things -Letting God’s Light Shine Through
The average person has about 10,000 separate thoughts each day. Each one represents a choice you make, a decision to think about this, and not about that. So this year, we will take an inventory of our thoughts and how they shape our individual lives, our families’ world and the larger community. We will let God’s light shine through all things and shape the way we react to our world.
September 13  Mugs & Hugs - 10 - 11:30 a.m. Ease into the new year with a field trip to Grand Traverse Pie Company next to Papa Joe’s (6920 N. Rochester Road 248-438-5110). It’s very kid friendly and there’s ample room for us to spread out, so feel free to bring your little guys!
September 20  Meet and Greet - We will chat about what it means to be God’s light bearers as Paul suggested in Philippians 4:8 and filling your minds and meditating on things true, noble, reputable, authentic, compelling and gracious. When we illuminate our faith, we eliminate the shadows caused by our doubts. There will be some fun activities that you won’t want to miss! We look forward to welcoming new faces and catching up with old friends.
September 27  Crafting and Conversation - We will continue our discussion of how we let God’s light shine through all things. We will do an easy craft that requires no expertise to complete to use as a reminder to “think on these things” as Paul suggested. You won’t want to miss it!
See stpaulsrochester.org/calendar/ for more detailed information.
HUGS observes the Rochester Community Schools calendar. When schools are closed, HUGS will not meet.
*Childcare is available by reservation.
Red Bird Work Trip Meeting  
Thursday, September 14  
7 p.m. in Room 131  
Each October, St. Paul’s sends a group to Red Bird Mission to participate in a week long work project that benefits local residents. Come learn more about this mission opportunity. Please consider joining our team!  
This year’s trip is October 15-21.  
Please contact Chuck Lingenfelter at crlingenfelter@comcast.net, or Bruce Ohms at brbrohs@sbcglobal.net for information.  

Chronic poverty, lack of jobs, poor housing, rugged mountainous terrain challenge the residents located in Eastern Kentucky. Since 1921, Red Bird Mission has met many of the needs through their ministry in education, health and wellness, community outreach, economic opportunity, and community housing improvement.

Paper Craft Assembly Meetings  
Thursdays, September 14, October 19 & November 9  
1 - 4 p.m. in Room 132.  
The Membership Committee is planning a greeting card sale for Sunday, November 19 before and after church services. Our goal is to raise funds for our 2017 Tiny Homes Mission Project. Please help at our craft assembly dates. If you would like to donate cards or any paper crafted item to this project or help assemble projects, contact Paula Krikau at paulakrikau@sbcglobal.net or call 248-601-3722. Help raise funds for Tiny Homes.

Confirmation  
Parent/Student Meeting & Dinner  
September 10  
5 - 7 p.m. in the Parlor  
RSVP by September 5  
Call 248-651-9361  

We invite 7th graders to participate in this year’s Confirmation experience led by Rev. Carter Grimmett and Mr. & Mrs. Loeds. During our studies throughout the year, we will work together to learn more about the United Methodist Church, take field trips to learn other religious practices, have entertaining lock-ins, all while learning more about the Bible and becoming closer to God and others.  
Cost for the class is $85 which includes the cost of dinners. Classes will run from September through April, concluding with Confirmation on April 22. To register, contact Debbie Kelly at debbie@stpaulsrochester.org.

Journey: 8th Grade Small Group  
Open to all 8th graders and their friends  
Begins Sunday, September 10  
5 - 6 p.m. in Room 131  
The goal of Journey is to continue to engage students spiritually after confirmation and support them as they continue their faith journey. Through Journey we will provide fun and interesting opportunities for the students to get to know each other and mature in their faith. Middle School Youth group follows Journey at 6 p.m. with dinner and large group activities!

Shine: 6th Grade Small Group  
Open to all 6th graders and their friends  
Sundays beginning September 10  
5 - 6 p.m. in Room 132  
Transitioning from Children’s Ministry to Youth Group can be exciting and a little overwhelming for our 6th grade students. Shine is a space and specific time where our 6th grade youth can explore their faith with their peers. Each week we’ll encounter God with each other; we will explore, grow and learn to shine our lights through games, interactive discussions and digging into scripture. Middle School Youth group follows Shine at 6 p.m. with dinner and large group activities.
Youth & Children

Middle School Youth Group
All 6th - 8th graders and their friends
Sundays beginning September 10
6 - 7 p.m. in Rooms 122-123
The Middle School Youth Group environment is lively and fun, designed to help youth explore their faith, while making friends in a safe place where all are welcome. The night begins with a light dinner ($3). We will play games and have creative discussions and activities geared to strengthen our relationships with God and each other. Come hang out with us. Youth Group is a great way to start your week!

High School Youth Group
All 9th - 12th graders and their friends
Sundays beginning September 10
5 - 7 p.m. in the Lounge
In our High School Youth Group we strive to provide a welcoming, relaxed atmosphere for teens to be themselves, form friendships, explore their faith, and grow closer in their relationship with God. We participate in various activities throughout the year, including small group discussions, fun games, service projects, large group activities, and off campus events. A light dinner ($3) is served at 6 p.m.
No matter what the activity, laughter is guaranteed!

Impact
Sunday 10 a.m. Youth Programming
Beginning September 10; Lounge
Impact is a time where youth can join together, grow in faith, and make a difference in our community. We will have weekly topics focusing on how to incorporate faith into our daily lives through prayer and a healthy lifestyle. Each month we will be doing a service project to benefit various groups and charities. This may include making toys for an animal shelter, compiling care packages for the military, or creating cards for those who are homebound. Where there is a need, Impact will try to assist. Snacks will be provided.
Bring your friends! Impact isn't just a class, it's a way of life.

Pray for Me Campaign
Calling all 6th - 12th graders
AND adults 20-60+ years
We are resuming this terrific program in October. The Pray for Me Campaign is a movement designed to create multi-generational relationships through prayer. Every young person in the church has an opportunity to be supported by a team of adults praying for him/her throughout the school year. It's going to be life changing!
To sign up or for more information email jodi@stpaulsrochester.org.

Infant/toddler childcare
Each Sunday
8:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.
Bring your little ones into the Infant Nursery and Toddler Room for care and sharing of God's love at the 9, 10 and 11 a.m. hours.

Acolytes Needed
Training: Sunday, October 8
4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary
An acolyte assists in worship by candle lighting or carrying the cross. Youth in 4th - 7th grade are invited to attend the training and serve as acolytes during the year. Please contact the church office at 248-651-9361 to register.
Holy Communion September 3 at 10 a.m.
The sacrament of Holy Communion celebrates the presence of Christ and helps us find strength for Christian living. In the United Methodist Church, communion is open to all who intend to lead a Christian life.

Noisy Offering
Sunday, September 10
We will be collecting a “noisy” offering with proceeds supporting Spotlight Church. Please bring your coins!

Blood Pressure Clinic
Sunday, September 10
9:45 - 11 a.m. & noon - 12:30 p.m. in the Narthex
Have your blood pressure checked and get valuable information about Health of Children and Youth.

Upcoming Baptism Dates
September 17 & November 26
The sacrament of Holy Baptism is an important event in the life of a child and the Church. The sacrament of baptism is open to children and adults. We know that families need time to plan and “gather the clan” for the day. For more information, contact the office at 248-651-9361.

Save your Stuff!
Drop off - October 10 & 11
Fall Sale - October 13 & 14
Volunteers always needed!
Email drlutey2@wowway.com

SUNDAY WORSHIP  Worship with us!

3  Traditional - 10 a.m. in Sanctuary
   Matthew 14:13-21  Invitation  Rev. Kress
10  Fall Schedule Begins  Contemporary - 9 a.m. · Traditional - 11 a.m.
   Romans 12:1-8  Community  Rev. Eardley
17  Baptisms
   Romans 12:9-12  Life with God  Rev. Eardley
24  Brooksie Way Race - Tiny Home Project
   Romans 13:8-14  Service  Rev. Grimmett

3  The Open Door Service · Modern - 10 a.m. in Hickey Hall
   John 10:10  Simplify: From Exhausted to Energized  Rev. Reynolds
10  Fall Schedule Begins  Modern - 11 a.m. in Hickey Hall
   Genesis 32:24-32  Simplify: From Wounded to Whole  Rev. Reynolds
17  Baptisms
   1 Corinthians 15:58  Simplify: From Drifting to Focused  Rev. Reynolds
24  Brooksie Way Race - Tiny Home Project
   Ecclesiastes 3  Simplify: From Stuck to Moving On  Rev. Reynolds

Sermon Series  September

Looking Ahead...  October
1st  Welcome Back, Welcome In
World Communion Sunday
7th  Hands 4 Detroit
   UMM Breakfast
9-14th  Rummage Sale Week
15th  Marriage Renewal
   Harmony in the Hills Concert
15-21st  Red Bird Mission Trip
17th  YAHAs
22nd  EMC Pledge Sunday
   Human Trafficking Seminar

Young 3’s class:  T, Th
3’s class:  M, W, F
4’s class:  M - F
9 a.m. to noon

Register NOW - Space is limited!
St. Paul’s Preschool provides high-quality learning with emphasis on the individuality of each child. Our certified teaching staff will engage your child in hands-on experiences and exploration activities that nurture their basic developmental needs: physical, language, cognitive, social, and emotional.

Schedule a tour!  Email: preschool@stpaulsrochester.org.
Learn more at our website: stpaulsrochester.org/preschool.