

the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

February 2019

in
the



St. Paul's

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rochester, Michigan

February 2019

Pastor's Message



For God so loved the world...

I love these words from John's Gospel. At St. Paul's, these words give us a vision for being the church. If you are new to our community, then let me tell you that you are loved right now... God loves you, and we do too. During worship, we give praise to the God who loves you and me and the world through Jesus Christ. As we grow in our faith and live it out each day, we share God's love with each other and especially to those in need or hurting all around us. I believe what the Apostle Paul once wrote: "Love builds up." I invite you to take this Evangel with you and discover a little more about our church. Pray about what activities or special events that you would like to attend and then mark them in your calendar. Experience God's love and our love building you up and maybe even helping you to share God's love with those around you. Your presence is a blessing to me and this church.

In Christ,

Rev. David Eardley



New Member Class

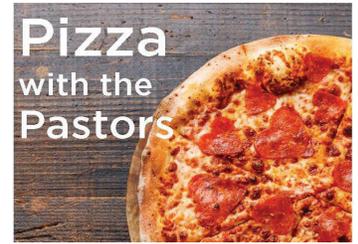
If you are interested in joining our church or learning more about our ministries, please attend our new Getting to Know sessions.

Getting to Know the Pastors

Sunday, February 10

12:15 - 1:15 p.m. in Hickey Hall

If you have attended one service or you are a returning guest, we invite you to join us for a quick and informal lunch where you'll have an opportunity to meet our pastors. We want to get to know you! Reservations are not necessary. We'll bring the pizza and the pastors. We really hope you'll join us!



Getting to Know You

Sunday, February 17

10 - 11 a.m. in the Parlor

Getting to Know St. Paul's

Sunday, February 24

10 - 11 a.m. in the Parlor

Getting to Know St. Paul's Family

Sunday, March 3 at 9 & 11 a.m. services

We welcome those who choose to become members of St. Paul's at the service of their choice.

You are welcome to attend any or all of these sessions.

Call the church office at 248-651-9361 if you have any questions or plan to attend.

CliftonStrengths®



Strengths Discovery Workshop

Saturday, February 23

9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in the Parlor

As a church, we believe that God has given you unique gifts and strengths to use each and every day in ministry. We want to help you discover those gifts and strengths, and find new places to lead and serve at St. Paul's in 2019. Please contact Pastor Erin Fitzgerald at EFitzgerald@stpaulsrochester.org if you are interested in completing a Strengths Finder inventory and participating in a Strengths Discovery Workshop. We will supply you with additional information and all workshop materials.

e-GIVING MADE EZ

Sign up for eGiving

Be an eGiver and join the electronic age!

Sign up for eGiving this year and spend more time on other priorities. It is simple and an easy way to make your contribution to St. Paul's. Set up your giving time-line, amount and payment option (checking, saving, or credit card). Have your contribution assigned to your Every Member Commitment pledge, a mission project or Project IMPACT.

It all can be done with just a few clicks in a secure manner. Click on the GIVE tab at stpaulsrochester.org for enrollment information or call the church office at 248-651-9361.

HARMONY IN THE HILLS



Zenith Brass

Sunday, February 24

4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Come and see Detroit's premier high school brass ensemble, made up of thirty talented youth musicians in our area.

This all-brass and percussion ensemble performs music in a variety of styles: baroque, classical, romantic, 20th century, plus jazz, shows and movies.

A free will offering will be collected.



Finance Committee Corner

On Finances:

Although the books are still being closed for 2018, it is clear we will have a deficit of approximately \$30,000 to \$35,000 for 2018. In addition we did not pay approximately \$65,000 of the apportionment to the Conference. This compares to small surpluses in 2016 and 2017 for the operating budget and full payment in both years for the apportionment.

The Every Member Commitment committee continues to work on the stewardship campaign. As of January 8, the committee has received 364 pledges summing to a commitment of \$1.12 million. At this time last year we had 398 pledges that summed to \$1.18 million. If you have not had the opportunity to complete an Every Member Commitment card or sign up for electronic contributions please do so.

The Finance Committee will be working on a budget for 2019 and will review and approve the budget at the committee's January 23 meeting. Each activity in the church has submitted its spending plan for the upcoming year and the Finance Committee will estimate revenue based on pledges and expected non-pledged income. A balanced spending plan will be approved at the January 23 meeting and forwarded to the Administrative Board Committee for final approval.

The Trustees had their first meeting of 2019 on January 9 and prioritized improving Sanctuary lighting and completing the parking lot resurfacing in 2019. It is being planned to have improved lighting by Easter and the parking lot will be done probably in August. To date, Project IMPACT donations have totaled \$494,000. Thank you for your commitment to maintaining and improving our church campus.

Ron DiLiddo

Chair Finance Committee

Classes & Groups



Two Classes Offered!

The Bare Book Bible Study

Thursdays, February 7 - March 21

1 p.m. in Room 132 and 7 p.m. in Room 132

We will start this "Bare Book Bible Study" with the Old Testament. This Bible study is an opportunity for us to take our time to learn, discuss and share, not only the stories of the Bible, but how people responded to God then, and how we respond to those same lessons now. This study requires no special books, tapes or study guides. As the class progresses we may consult materials to add to our understanding, but for now, all we need is you, and your Bible. To register, please contact Rev. Carter Grimmatt at 248-651-9361 or CGrimmett@stpaulsrochester.org.

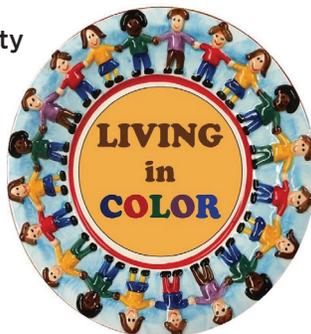
Multi-cultural and Multi-racial Support Group
Explore How We Live and Connect with Society

Living In Color

Tuesday, February 12

6:30 p.m. in Rickard Chapel

Starting in February, a new support community will be forming and meeting at St. Paul's. It will be a supportive network of individuals gathering to discuss the unique concerns of being a multi-cultural or multi-racial family by birth, adoption, or marriage where you can share your concerns, frustrations and solutions in a safe, supportive setting.



The first get-to-know-you gathering will be Tuesday, February 12 at 6:30 p.m. in Rickard Chapel. Your children are welcome as they get to know others as well. Fun activities, coffee groups, play groups, speakers, and regular support meetings will be offered. This will be the first of many opportunities to learn from parents like you, who look for ways to positively navigate multi-cultural and multi-racial issues. Members will initiate programs of interest created by the support group.

We are looking forward to supporting the reality of **Living In Color**. For more information please contact Rev. Carter M. Grimmatt at 248-651-9361 or email livingincolor@gmail.com.



Monday 7 p.m. Class

NEW session begins March 4

Contact Shelly Cowling for more information.

Scowling@stpaulsrochester.org

* **Childcare available by reservation** - To reserve childcare, call the church office at 248-651-9361 ext. 114 by 3 p.m. at least 2 business days prior to the first class.

Cancer Support Group

Thursday, January 31 - March 21

7 p.m. in Room 132

This group is for those with cancer or who have ever had cancer, as well as family members and friends of those with cancer. Each meeting includes a speaker on various topics followed by sharing time. The support and growth experienced in these groups is invaluable and amazing. For more information, call the church office at 248-651-9361.



All men are welcome!

United Methodist

Men's Breakfast

Saturday, February 2

8 a.m. in Hickey Hall

Please join us for some breakfast and brotherhood! We start a new DVD series by Max Lucado called **Anxious for Nothing**. No study prep necessary, just bring yourself, and invite others! Contact Dave deSteiger at 248-376-0416.

Iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another. Proverbs 27:17



J.O.Y.

Tuesday,

February 19

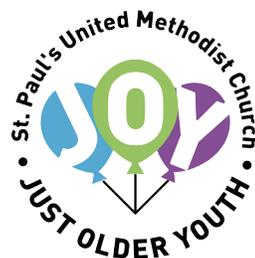
12 - 2 p.m. in

Hickey Hall

Come, spread the JOY!!...We are now Just Older

Adults (formerly YAHA's) who meet for a brown bag lunch, fellowship, dessert and a special program or service project. If you are 65 and up, we welcome you! Invite your friends and neighbors to be part of this special part of the St. Paul's family. We will have a special guest to entertain us...Victor Borge! You won't want to miss it. Be the JOY in the new year!

Please RSVP by February 18 by calling the church office at 248-651-9361.





HUGS Humor, Understanding, Growth and Support Mothers and grandmothers of all ages Wednesdays; 9:30 - 11 a.m. Room 132

Feb 6 Friendships Don't Just Happen: Join us for Shasta Nelson's insightful book on friendships. Although you are welcome to purchase her book and read along with us, we'll do the work and give you the scoop and show video clips to get the conversations rolling.

First Wednesday Lunch Bunch 11:30 a.m. Bring an ingredient to include in a salad and stay for lunch. Bring your little guys in with us as we linger over conversation and lunch.

Feb 13 Wayback Wednesday: Old-school Valentine's Day celebrations with a twist. Beat the winter blues with some fun surprises. Bring a treat to share or just come as you are for coffee and conversation.

Feb 20 Friendships Don't Just Happen: Cheryl Adams: This wraps up our great study on friendships.

Feb 27 Meet & Greet and Planning: Inspired to invite a new mom to HUGS? Why wait? We'll have an informal session to get to know each other better. We'll also map out our March 27 Blessings in a Backpack evening mission project.

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.

United Methodist Women

"Serve one another in love..." Galatians 5:13



February Circle Meetings

- **New Hope Circle** - Thursday, February 7 at 7 p.m. at Jill Crouchman's home - View **Everybody Always** video.
- **Patience Circle** - Thursday, February 14 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor - Getting to Know our New Sister, Pastor Erin Fitzgerald.
- **Faith Circle** - Thursday, February 14 at 1 p.m. in the Parlor - Program TBD.

Executive Board Meeting: Thursday, February 21; 9 a.m. in the Parlor.



2018 Mission Pin Recipients

Each year, St. Paul's United Methodist Women recognize dedicated individuals for outstanding service. On Sunday, January 13, **Jane Chamberlain, Pat Centurione, Diane Donoghue, and Pat Holden** were recognized for their dedicated service in 2018 to St. Paul's and to the UMW mission work.

Sunday Adult Studies Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.

Family Life Active Adults, 50 & older; Rickard Chapel

A welcoming place to learn, share, and enjoy discussions and presentations on a variety of Christian issues and topics.

February 3 St. Paul's Financial Update - Ron DiLiddo

February 10 Thomas Jefferson and his Bible - Grant Fry

February 17 Racing through Life - Larry Heflin

February 26 Dual or Duel Citizenship - Jim Krikau

Faith & Friends Spiritual Growth Study; Room 132

We begin a 12-week study of Colossians and Philemon as we learn principles for living and interacting with others with God's grace.

Open Hearts All Ages, Stages & Spiritual Levels; Room 131

For singles & couples, parents & non-parents participate in engaging studies and discussions. All are welcome!

Missions

Warm Coats for Baldwin

Have you ever been cold? Did you ever leave your house thinking it was warm only to discover that Mother Nature had turned ugly? We have neighbors who face this problem every day... and it is a "fixable" problem. St. Paul's will again be collecting NEW winter coats for Baldwin Center in Pontiac. Please shop the post-holiday sales and purchase coats in all sizes, infant through adult. Cash donations are also accepted. Please write "Coats for Baldwin" on the memo line of your check.

Drop off donations in the Narthex February 3 - March 10.

Last year we collected 180 coats. Can we top that this year? Contact Roxanne Cleveland at 248-371-0382 with questions. **Let's make winter just a little warmer for our neighbors.**



Needed at Baldwin Center Mens Winter Gloves and Coffee

Baldwin Center is in desperate need of **mens winter gloves** (size L and XL). They also need pre-ground, regular **coffee** (no decaf). If you can help with these needs, please drop off your donation in the Baldwin Center box in the Narthex.



Save the Date!

Join the St. Paul's Community Garden Volunteer Group

The St. Paul's Community garden mission is to grow healthy vegetables and donate 100% to the Rochester Area Neighborhood House which is a local food pantry that provides food for families that can't afford to feed themselves or their children. Please save these dates in your calendar to join us and learn more about the Community Garden and how to get involved. We need volunteers to help plant, water, harvest, and deliver to the food pantry.

No previous gardening experience is needed!

**Thursday, March 7
7 p.m. in Room 132**

Informational meeting to learn about the garden and also how to grow seeds indoors.

**Thursday, May 2
7 p.m. in Room 132**

Planning meeting to lay out the plots and plan which vegetables we will plant.

For more information or to get added to our garden email contact list, please contact Rob Patten at robpattenjr@comcast.net.

Volunteers Needed!

Baldwin Center Soup Kitchen

The Baldwin Center in Pontiac provides invaluable services to hurting people, in part because the people of St. Paul's care. **The Baldwin Soup Kitchen is in need of volunteers!** Join with others from St. Paul's and help at the many opportunities available:

Every Monday

8 a.m. - 1 p.m. Preparing lunch

Second Monday of the month

10 a.m. - 1 p.m. Serving lunch

Fourth Thursday, September - June

5 - 7:30 p.m. Serving prepared plated dinners to after school children.

To volunteer, please contact Susan Heacock at 248-853-5696.



Super Bowl Subs

Sales: January 20 & 27

8:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Narthex & Hickey Hall

Distribution: February 3

10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Outside Hickey Hall

For just \$10 you get a turkey or ham sub sandwich loaded with meat, chips and cookies. Proceeds support the High School Youth summer worktrip to Mission, SD June 22-29.

Thank you for your support!



We are working with Ms. Kathryn Woodstock at MCHS to develop a list of monthly activities that will appeal to families, individuals and groups. Activities may include:

- Movie night with the children
- Halloween costume drive
- Easter egg hunt
- Thanksgiving craft-fest
- Spring clean-up on campus
- Winter activity.
- Participating in annual MCHS Golf Classic

Look for more information in the Connector, the Evangel and worship programs.

Our goal is to involve as many people as possible to engage, enlighten and educate. We have set five dates for members of St. Paul's to tour the MCHS campus and facilities. A link in the Connector will be available for you to sign up for any of the following dates:

February 25
10 a.m.

February 26
1 p.m.

February 27
10 a.m.

February 28
4 p.m.

March 3
1:30 p.m.

To get involved please contact Pastor Erin at EFitzgerald@stpaulsrochester.org or Larry Hice at larryhttp@aol.com.

Middle School Youth Group

All 6th - 8th grade students and their friends
Sundays, 6 - 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall

Follows Shine, Confirmation and Journey.

Feb 3 No Youth Group

Feb 10 Candy Wars

Feb 17 No Youth Group

Feb 24 Gifts Galore - Ash Wednesday Prep

Come hang out with us. Youth Group is a great way to start your week!



High School Youth Group

All 9th - 12th grade students and their friends
Sundays, 5 - 7 p.m. in the Lounge

Small groups, dinner (\$3), youth group fun!

Feb 3 No Youth Group

Feb 10 Out 'n About - Fun off-site event

Feb 17 No Youth Group

Feb 24 Mad Skillz - Ash Wednesday Prep

No matter what the activity, laughter is guaranteed!



Mission, South Dakota Worktrip Fundraiser

Feb 2 Super Bowl sub making 10 a.m. St. Paul's Kitchen

Feb 3 Super Bowl sub distribution 10 a.m. Hickey Hallway

2019 Mission Project

Methodist Children's Home Society

St. Paul's Mission Council has selected Methodist Children's Home Society (MCHS) as our 2019 Mission project. Our goal is to raise \$30,000 to help build a barn and launch a new Animal Assisted Therapy Program at MCHS.

We also want to offer additional opportunities for the St. Paul's family to engage in this wonderful program. The generosity of St. Paul's has been proven, but beyond just writing a check, let's all get skin in the game and become part of the MCHS family.



St. Paul's Preschool Registration for Fall 2019

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

Open Registration begins February 1, 2019.
Applications available online or in church office.

St. Paul's 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.

Email us today at preschool@stpaulsrochester.org to save a spot for your child. See our website at stpaulsrochester.org/preschool/.

Scholarships Available Application Deadline is April 15, 2019.
Applications and information available at stpaulsrochester.org
(Follow 'Scholarship' quick link at bottom of homepage).

St. Paul's Scholarship

Scholarships are available to eligible members of St. Paul's United Methodist Church who have demonstrated service to the church or community. Scholarships may be used for tuition or room and board at an accredited college or university, vocational program, apprenticeship or training program.



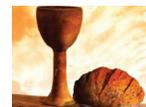
St. Paul's United Methodist Women Scholarship



St. Paul's UMW offer scholarships for women and youth members of St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Scholarships in the amount of \$250 will be available for higher education and summer camp.

Holy Communion

February 3 at 9 & 11 a.m. Worship Services



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.



Scout Sunday

Sunday, February 10
9 & 11 a.m. in Sanctuary

All scouts are encouraged to wear their scout uniform and be recognized for their participation in scouting.

Noisy Offering

Sunday, February 10

We will be collecting a "noisy" offering with proceeds supporting **Methodist Children's Home Society**. Please bring your coins!



Blood Pressure Clinic

Sunday, February 10
9:45 - 11 a.m. &
noon - 12:30 p.m.
in the Narthex

Have your blood pressure checked and pick up information on cardiac health and stroke.



SUNDAY WORSHIP Worship with us!

Contemporary Service - 9 a.m. • Traditional Service - 11 a.m.

3 Holy Communion

1 Cor. 13:1-13 World Changers stay in Love with God Rev. Eardley

10 Scout Sunday

Luke 5:1-11 Do Not Be Afraid Rev. Eardley

17 Luke 6:17-26 Blessed are you when you're poor Rev. Grimmett

24 2019 General Conference in St. Louis, MO

Luke 6:27-38 Love Your Enemies Rev. Eardley

The Open Door Service • Modern - 11 a.m. in Hickey Hall

3 Luke 10:25-27 Everything Happens for a Reason Rev. Fitzgerald

10 James 2:14-16 God Helps Those Who Help Themselves Rev. Fitzgerald

17 1 Cor. 10:12-13 God Won't Give Me More Than I Can Handle Rev. Fitzgerald

24 1 Timothy 6:1-12 Money is the Root of All Evil Rev. Fitzgerald

Sermon Series February

Upcoming Baptism Dates

Sunday, March 10

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is an important event in the life of a child and the Church and is open to children and adults.



For more information, contact the office at 248-651-9361.

Looking Ahead to March

- 2nd UMM Breakfast
- Support For Caregivers
- 3rd Harmony in the Hills Concert
- 6th Ash Wednesday
- 19th JOY - Just Older Youth
- 29th Lenten Concert at noon