

# the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

January 2019



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St. Paul's

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rochester, Michigan

January 2019



## Happy New Year!

As we begin 2019, I am excited about the opportunities for mission and ministry that await us. In worship there will be sermon series on the Three Simple Rules (Sanctuary) and Prayer (Open Door). Each series will encourage us to grow and deepen our faith. This is also a time when people make resolutions to be more intentional about their spiritual lives. As always, we welcome everyone who may be connecting or reconnecting with God as a part of our church community. So, please take a moment and consider who you could invite to attend church with you. The number one reason why people don't attend a church is that no one has invited them. We have so much to offer here at St. Paul's for all ages, and I hope that you'll join me in inviting and welcoming first time guests to our church. I will be praying for God to help us all see the opportunities we have to reach out in our communities.

Together, we will continue leading people to become faithful disciples of Jesus Christ who are transforming their lives, communities, and the world. To God be the glory!

Yours in Christ,  
*Rev. David Eardley*

## On Finances:

The church continues to have a deficit at the end of November due to lost pledge revenue and continued higher salary cost and maintenance. We have used funds from previous year's surplus and some funds from cash reserves to make our payments. In addition we have not fully paid the Methodist Conference Apportionment this year and have communicated to the Superintendent that we will not be paying the full amount this year.



## Finance Committee Corner

We have begun the budgeting process for 2019 and each committee has been asked to review plans and financial needs in light of the current funding concerns that exist. When we have a full appreciation of the pledge revenue expected for next year, the clergy and committee chairs will meet to help prepare a balanced budget plan for 2019. The plan will be reviewed and approved by the Finance Committee and Administrative Board early in 2019.

If you intend to pledge for 2019 and have not yet done so, please send in your pledge card so we can have the best information possible for our budgeting process.

We continue to make progress on our facility improvement effort (Project IMPACT). We have now reached \$530,000 of pledges towards our goal of \$880,000 for Project IMPACT. Sanctuary lighting, new Sanctuary carpet, enhanced building security and completion of our multi-year effort to resurface the parking lots are projects on the list for the future. I plan on continuing my pledge to Project IMPACT for a fourth year to help meet the goal. Perhaps you might consider doing so as well.

*Ron DiLiddo*  
Chair Finance Committee



## Help Needed!

**Thursday, January 3; 9 a.m. - noon**

Volunteers are needed to put away all the Advent decorations. Please contact Sandy Heller at 248-613-2935 or [prshoes3@hotmail.com](mailto:prshoes3@hotmail.com).



## UMW Sunday

**Sunday, January 13; 9 & 11 a.m. services**

The United Methodist Women will have their Installation of Officers for 2019 during the 11 a.m. worship service and recognize individuals for their dedication and service to St. Paul's.



## 2019 Ministry Opportunity Join the Parish Visitors Team

Are you looking for a way to honor your membership vows of time and service? The Parish Visitors team is the place for you! The members of this team adopt one of our home bound members and visit once a month and stay in touch with phone calls or notes. The visits are a way for our church members to stay connected to St. Paul's and for the team members to share the love of Christ with those of our church family that cannot attend worship or special church events. If you would like to join the team or want more information, please contact Rev. May at 586-242-1555.

## Sunday Adult Studies

Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.

### Family Life Active Couples & Singles, 50 & older; Rickard Chapel

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

Jan 6 Thomas Jefferson & his Bible - G. Fry

Jan 13 What's Your Legacy- J. Regan

Jan 20 Bible Quiz - W. Creps

Jan 27 Mission Project

### 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 and Spiritual Levels; Room 131

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



## showcase St. Paul's

A Gallery Walk of Ministry Opportunities

Gallery Walk of Ministry Opportunities, Conversations and Foods

### Showcase St. Paul's

Sunday, January 27

10 - 11 a.m. and 12 - 1:30 p.m. in Narthex, Parlor and Hickey Hall

Learn about the ministries, missions and service teams at St. Paul's and enjoy casual time together while enjoying great food at this gallery walk event. There is so much exciting news to share about St. Paul's that one room cannot contain it all! Booths will be set up throughout the church with information, friendly faces and finger food for you to greet new and old friends and learn about the ministries, groups and missions that make St. Paul's the wonderful place that it is. Contact Marilyn Kress at [marilyn.kress@gmail.com](mailto:marilyn.kress@gmail.com) with questions.

## HARMONY IN THE HILLS



R Jazz Vespers

### Paul Keller Orchestra

Sunday, January 27; 4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

This talented group is one of Michigan's finest, oldest, most respected jazz big bands. Suggested donation \$15.

# Classes & Groups



## Seeker's Study God Unbound

**Mondays, January 7 - February 18**  
**1 - 2:30 p.m. in Room 132**

Explore Paul's letter to the church in Galatia and be inspired to move with Christ to the margin of society, where God's kingdom flourishes. Move with the Holy Spirit into the new, unfolding Reformation. Email Rev. May [JMay@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:JMay@stpaulsrochester.org) to order a book (\$10). All are welcome!



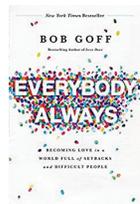
## Prayer 101

**Tuesdays, January 8 - 29**  
**7 p.m. in Room 132**

Do you get distracted or struggle to find the time for prayer in your daily life? Do you have questions about who or what to pray for? Do you want to understand more about prayer as a spiritual discipline and how it helps us grow on our journey of faith? Please join Pastor Erin as we use our bodies, minds, and spirits and everybody can learn something new! Please contact Pastor Erin at [EFitzgerald@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:EFitzgerald@stpaulsrochester.org) to register.



Come together with other women to make a friend... be a friend... laugh... dig into God's Word together and discover new ways to Live In Faith Everyday.



## Everybody Always

**Mondays, January 7 - February 11**  
**7 - 9 p.m. in Room 128-129**

What would happen if we stopped worrying about difficult people and instead simply love everybody? Built around Bob Goff's hilarious and insightful storytelling, each chapter will show us what it means to love without inhibition, insecurity, or restriction. Come check it out! Register by contacting Shelly Cowling at [gracenotemin@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gracenotemin@sbcglobal.net). Books are \$15 and will be available at the first session.



## Genesis/Exodus

**Fridays, January 11 - April 26**  
**9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor**

**Come early for coffee and refreshments!**

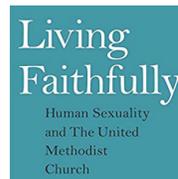
Join us this winter as, together, we explore the many familiar stories in these first two books in the Bible. This segment of the popular Disciple Fast Track DVD curriculum

helps us see how God interacts with Adam & Eve, Abraham & Sarah, Moses and so many others. It can be eye opening to realize how their life struggles & faith journeys mirror ours.

Call the office at 248-651-9361 to register by January 7. Pay for books (\$16) at the first class. \*Childcare available by reservation.

## Living Faithfully

**Tuesdays, January 8 - 29**  
**7 p.m. in Rickard Chapel**

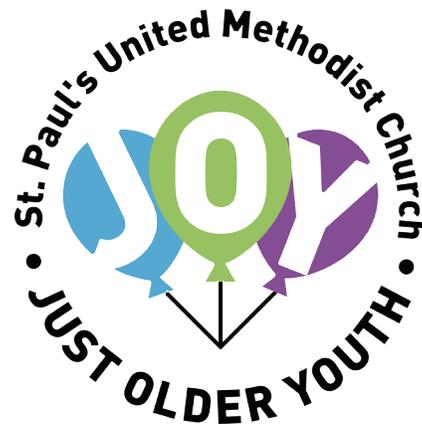


In preparation for February's General Conference on human sexuality and inclusion, the clergy will be leading a 4-week study

using the book: **Living Faithfully; Human Sexuality and the United Methodist Church**. This study is open to everyone. Books (\$10) are available for purchase in the church office.

\*Childcare available by reservation.

YAHA's is now JOY - Just Older Youth



New year, new name, new friends!

## Just Older Youth

**Tuesday, January 22**  
**12 - 2 p.m. in Hickey Hall**

YAHA's is now JOY...Just Older Youth... and we invite anyone 65 and above to join us at noon every third Tuesday from September through May for lunch, fellowship and activity. Bring lunch - coffee, tea and dessert are provided. DATE CHANGE FOR JANUARY...due to the holiday, we will meet on January 22. Our program will feature Kelly Scheer from The Blossom Collection, showing us how to "Flip the Script"...moving from "I can't do that!" to "Yes I can!" Bring a friend! **Please RSVP by January 18 by calling the church office at 248-651-9361.**

## United Methodist Men's Breakfast

Saturday, January 5  
8 a.m. in Hickey Hall

All men are welcome! Start your Saturday with a great breakfast and some brotherhood, and invite a guest! Contact Dave deSteiger at 248-376-0416.



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

### HUGS Resumes January 9

"Rise up, this matter is in your hands. We will support you, so take courage and do it." Whether we are tackling a new goal, taking on a cause that touches our heart or figuring out a plan of action because life is leading us down an unexpected path, we take courage knowing there's an amazing community of faith uplifting us, supporting us and providing Christ-like care. **We hope you will join us!**

See [stpaulsrochester.org/calendar/](http://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.

**\* 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.

## United Methodist Women

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



### January Circle Meetings

- **Patience Circle** - No meeting. Attend UMW Sunday.
- **Faith Circle** - Thursday, January 10 at 1 p.m. in the Parlor - Program by Rev. Judy May.
- **New Hope Circle** - Thursday, January 10 at 7 p.m. at Pat Holden's home - Program by Rev. Judy May.

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

## UMW Donates \$49,659

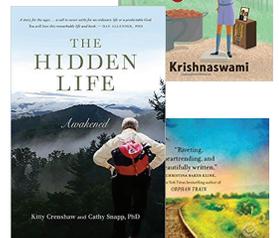
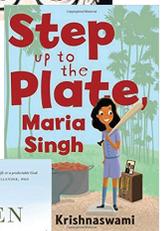
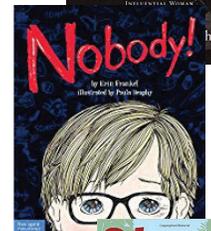
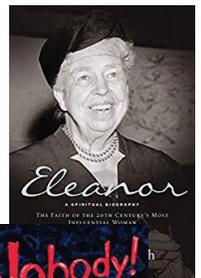
On December 13, the UMW Executive Board met for their annual Spend-Down meeting to decide where to donate the un-budgeted money raised during the year. Because of your generosity and a successful year, they had **\$30,000** to donate on top of the \$1,400 in extra giving and \$18,259 budgeted giving already donated during the year. In 2018 the UMW donated **\$49,659** to missions!

**Thank you for your generous support of the UMW and all its projects!**

## UMW Reading Program

The UMW has donated ten new books to the St. Paul's library:

- *Eleanor: A Spiritual Biography - The Faith of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century's Most Influential Woman* by Harold Ivan Smith
- *Nobody! A Story about Overcoming Bullying in Schools* by Erin Frankel and Paula Heaphy
- *The Hidden Life Awakened* by Kitty Crenshaw and Cathy Snapp, PhD
- *The Same Sky: A Novel* by Amanda Eyre Ward
- *The Soulmaking Room* by Dee Dee Rishe
- *Threading My Prayer Rug - One Woman's Journey from Pakistani Muslim to American Muslim* by Sabeeha Rehman
- *Step Up to the Plate, Maria Singh* by Uma Krishnaswami
- *We Are All Fast-Food Workers Now - The Global Uprising Against Poverty Wages* by Annelise Orleck
- *When Did Everybody Else Get So Old? - Indignities, Compromises and the Unexpected Grace of Midlife* by Jennifer Grant
- *Where Do We Go From Here - Chaos or Community* by Martin Luther King, Jr. and Coretta Scott King



**Check them out!**



## St. Paul's 2019 Mission Project Methodist Children's Home Society

St. Paul's Missions Council has selected Methodist Children's Home Society 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. Therapists who work with the children know the value of animal therapy, as it is one way the kids can build positive attachments with gentle and loving companions (alpacas, horses, goats, sheep).

Methodist Children's Home Society provides individualized and residential treatment, care, and advocacy to children impacted by abuse, neglect, and trauma. They have provided steadfast and

vital social services to families for 101 years on their campus in Redford, MI. Methodist Children's Home Society builds communities where every child and family has a safer and brighter future, and partners with churches and organizations that seek to ensure the health and welfare of "the least of these". MCHS currently houses 60 boys (ages 5-18) on campus and works with over 4,000 adoptive and foster care families in the state of Michigan.

Our involvement and partnership at MCHS will include people of all ages and at all stages of faith. We will have regular opportunities for individuals and families to actively engage relationships with children and families through holiday events, summer activities, mentoring and tutoring programs. We will also collect donations of clothes, diapers, formula, school supplies, etc. and coordinate service projects on MCHS's 80 acre campus.

To learn about MCHS, visit their website at [mchsmi.org](http://mchsmi.org). To get involved in any of these projects please contact Pastor Erin Fitzgerald at [EFitzgerald@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:EFitzgerald@stpaulsrochester.org) or Larry Hice, Chair of Missions Council at [larryhttp@aol.com](http://larryhttp@aol.com). You can also sign up to tour Methodist Children's Home Society in person during the month of February.

## Warm Coats for Baldwin

In the past 7 years, the generous congregation of St. Paul's has donated approximately 1200 new winter coats for the Baldwin Center store where clients "shop" for their family members before Christmas. Members of our congregation who volunteer at the store report that the coats are some of the first things chosen.

Please shop the post-holiday sales and purchase coats for next year's store. All sizes, infant through adult, are needed. 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. **Thank you for helping us make a difference in our local community.**



## Christmas Food Basket Program - Thank You!

The Mission Council thanks you for your generous support of the Christmas Food Basket Program.



Together we raised \$11,000 to support over 100 families this holiday season. On behalf of our partners, The Rochester Area Neighborhood House and Hollywood Market, we thank you for another successful drive and distribution of food to families in our hometown. **Thank you for making a huge difference this holiday season.**



## Eagle Scout Project

Dear St. Paul's Family and Friends,  
Thank you for your support during my Eagle Project. I became an Eagle Scout on December 9, 2018. Thank you for the sock and money donations and especially the prayers. I collected 3,172 pairs of socks for Baldwin Center. These socks helped men, women and children.

*David Rider*

## Summer Camp Fair

Sunday, January 13

8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. in the Narthex



As you begin making plans for summer, make sure you check out all of the faith based, week-long

summer camp opportunities through the United Methodist Church. There will be representatives from:

- Wesley Woods
- Crystal Springs
- Judson Collins
- Lake Louise

This fair will invite you to consider a wide range of great options that are available for children and youth of all ages.

## Cabin Fever?

## Parents' Night Out

Friday, January 25

6 - 8:30 p.m. in the Lounge and Room 122-123

Families are invited to drop off their kids and enjoy two and one



half luxurious hours of freedom. We will feed them dinner and entertain them with arts and crafts, games and playtime with church friends. Ages infant to fifth grade welcome.

\$5 donation accepted.

## Scouting News: Female Scout Troop Introductory Meeting

Sunday, January 13 at 4:30 p.m. in Room 122-123

St. Paul's is now chartering Troop 456 for females in addition to the existing Troop 123 for males. The Scouting program is not co-ed, but rather is accepting girls and making female-only units for the older program. Troop 456 already has 8 members with plans to grow further, and is the first female troop in the Rochester area. We'll have an introductory meeting January 13 with regular weekly meetings beginning February 6.

Camping, independence, leadership and fun is what Troop 123

and Troop 456 are all about. Contact David White at [transamdave2000@yahoo.com](mailto:transamdave2000@yahoo.com) for information.



## Middle School Youth Group

All 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and their friends

Sundays, 6 - 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall

Follows Shine, Confirmation and Journey.

Jan 6

Star Light

Jan 13

Forecast: The Future is Bright

Jan 20

Blanket Palooza 5.0 service project

Jan 27

Winter Wonderland

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



## High School Youth Group

All 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> grade students and their friends

Sundays, 5 - 7 p.m. in the Lounge

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

Jan 6

Follow the Star

Jan 13

YouLead (Youth Leadership team)

Jan 20

Blanket Palooza 5.0 service project

Jan 27

Out of Bounds

No matter what the activity, laughter is guaranteed!



## Mission South Dakota Worktrip Fundraiser

Jan 20 Sell Super Bowl subs 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Narthex/Hickey Hall

Jan 27 Sell Super Bowl subs 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Narthex/Hickey Hall

## Super Bowl Subs

Sales:

January 20 & 27

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

in Narthex and Outside of Hickey Hall

Sub sales are back again! For just \$10 you get a turkey or ham sub sandwich loaded with meat, chips and cookies. Subs are

great to eat as you enjoy the game - or order a dozen and be the hit of

your party! Proceeds support the High School Youth summer worktrip to

Mission, SD June 22-29. **Are you ready for some football!?**

Distribution:

February 3





**NEW! Save the Date!**

## **Living In Color**

**Introductory Meeting February 12**  
**Multicultural and Multiracial Support Group**  
**Explore How We Live and Connect with Society**

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, contact Rev. Carter M. Grimmatt at 248-651-9361 or email [livingincolor@gmail.com](mailto:livingincolor@gmail.com).



### **Need a New Year's Resolution?**

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 timeline, 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. Go to [stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org) and click on the GIVE tab for enrollment information or call the church office at 248-651-9361.

**Be an eGiver and join the electronic age!**

## **Holy Communion**

**January 6 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.

## **Noisy Offering**

**Sunday, January 13**

We will be collecting a "noisy" offering with proceeds supporting **Cass**. **Please bring your coins!**



## **Blood Pressure Clinic**

**Sunday, January 13**

**9:45 - 11 a.m. & noon - 12:30 p.m.**

**in the Narthex**

Have your blood pressure checked and pick up information on lung disease and smoking.



## **Upcoming Baptism Dates**

**Sunday, January 27 and 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...**

### **February**

- 2<sup>nd</sup>** UMM Breakfast Support For Caregivers
- 3<sup>rd</sup>** Superbowl Sub Sale
- 12<sup>th</sup>** Living in Color
- 19<sup>th</sup>** JOY - Just Older Youth
- 24<sup>th</sup>** Harmony in the Hills Concert Zenith Brass 4:30 p.m.

## **SUNDAY WORSHIP Worship with us!**

**Contemporary Service - 9 a.m. · Traditional Service - 11 a.m.**

<b>6</b>	<b>Epiphany - Holy Communion - Dedication of Memorials</b>		
	John 1:1-18	Footsteps in the Snow	Rev. Kress
<b>13</b>	<b>UMW Sunday</b>		
	Mark 16:1-8, 15	Women Who Love Jesus	Rev. Fitzgerald
<b>20</b>	<b>1 Corinthians 12:1-11</b>	World Changers Do No Harm	Rev. Eardley
<b>27</b>	<b>Baptism</b>		
	1 Corinthians 12:12-31	World Changers Do Good	Rev. Eardley

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

<b>6</b>	<b>Psalm 121:1-8</b>	HELP	Rev. Fitzgerald
<b>13</b>	<b>Psalm 136</b>	THANKS	Rev. May
<b>20</b>	<b>Psalm 139:1-14</b>	WOW	Rev. Fitzgerald
<b>27</b>	<b>Psalm 119:10-16</b>	USE ME	Rev. Fitzgerald

## **Sermon Series January**