the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

November 2021

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St. Paul's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rochester, Michigan

Gratitude

Welcome to St. Paul's United Methodist Church! In everything, we are striving to inspire people to live and love like Jesus. This is what drives us as we worship, serve, and grow in our faith together. November's ministry focus is on gratitude, and how it is an expression of our brave faith in Jesus Christ. As Thanksgiving nears, this month gives us an opportunity to reflect on God's generosity in our lives. If you'd like to know more about our church, or have any questions, please feel free to contact me at deardley@stpaulsrochester.org. Now, let's grow in our faith and inspire people to live and love like Jesus!

Gratefully yours in Christ,
Rev. David Eardley

BRAVE faith

Stewardship Campaign

There's still time to complete and return your 2022 Brave Faith Estimate of Giving cards. Please go to our church stpaulsrochester.org to complete your card online and to see our Brave Faith video. Together, we continue to pray: **"God, how is my brave faith inspiring me to give?"**

NIGHTINGALE CONCERT SERIES

Nightingale Concert

Friday, November 5; 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall

In August, Nightingale was forced to cancel their concert due to widespread power outages. Now they're back to jam with us one last time before they close their 2021 season. If you've missed live music this past year, join us for some good old rock and roll. Great tunes, performed by great friends.

Dual-Art

Sunday, November 7
10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Join us for an uplifting worship service with special music provided by Tyler Kivel and Nicholas Schmelter.

HARMONY IN THE HILLS

Frank Pitts & Friends in Concert

Friday, November 12
7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Local vocalist Frank Pitts presents an evening of music featuring both jazz and classical vocal stylings. Suggested donation $15.

Upcoming Concerts:

Dec 3	Knight Vernon, pianist
Dec 10	Dr. Randall plays the hymnal in marathon session
Dec 12	The Motor City Brass Band
Dec 17	Carolyn Thibideau, Organist
Dec 19	All Music Sunday

Deck the Halls

Sunday, November 21
after the 10 a.m. services

Join us in decorating St. Paul's for the Advent season. We will gather for a light lunch in the Parlor after the 10 a.m. service on Sunday, November 21. Afterwards, we will set up and decorate trees throughout the church. If you are interested, please contact Forrest Boughner at fboughner@yahoo.com or Amy Schultz at sacredrock1@yahoo.com.

SEND a CARD! GET a CARD!

Act of Kindness Project

The Membership Committee has a new opportunity for you to connect with another member of St. Paul's. Sign up and send a greeting card to someone at St. Paul's. All who sign up will receive a card in the mail.

There are 2 easy steps:

1. Click on the link https://forms.gle/AzoMsmeukQ1H2AC88 and complete the requested information. You will receive the name and address of a person who has also signed up.
2. During the designated time, send a greeting card with your signature to the person whose contact information you receive.

- NO long term commitment - This is a one-time ask!
- You provide the greeting card and stamp.
- Sign up before **November 5**
- **November 11 – 14:** One name and address will be sent by email to each person who signed up.
- **November 15 - 21:** Send your card.
- Before **November 26**: You should receive a card in the mail.

Questions? Contact Sandy Heller at 248-613-2935 or Marilyn Kress at 586-212-9065 or Marilyn.kress@gmail.com.

3rd Sunday Mission Opportunity

Sunday, November 21
11 a.m. in Hickey Hall

Join us as we pack shoeboxes for **Operation Christmas Child.** We are collecting donations to fill the shoeboxes through November 14 in the bin outside of Hickey Hall, the Sanctuary or in Jodi's office, Room 206. We will have the donated items available to fill the shoeboxes on November 21. This is a fun and rewarding activity for all ages!

Shoebox Gift Suggestions:

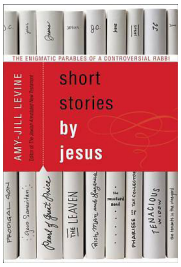
- toys or a ball
- stuffed animal
- socks
- small musical instrument - harmonica or woodwind recorder
- crafts and activities
- hygiene items
- reusable plastic containers: cup, water bottle, plate, bowl
- wrist watch
- sunglasses
- school supplies - NO liquid glue
- NO food allowed

More ideas can be found at samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child.

Classes & Groups

Adult Ministry

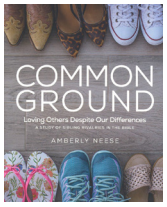
St. Paul's has over twenty Adult Ministry leaders facilitating small groups, support groups and Bible study classes. If you are interested in joining a group or possibly starting one of your own, please contact Rachel Henry at Rachel@stpaulsrochester.org for more information.



Women's LIFE Friday - Short Stories by Jesus

Fridays, November 12 - December 10
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor
Leaders: Nancy Fidler, Jean Meyers

We continue our study of **Short Stories by Jesus** by Amy-Jill Levine, a deeper look into some of Jesus' parables. To learn more, please contact Nancy Fidler at Fidlers4@comcast.net.



Women's LIFE Monday Nights

Mondays, November 15 - December 13
7 - 9 p.m. in Room 128-129

Join us as we study Amberly Neese's **Common Ground, Loving Others Despite Our Differences.** "Stories from the Old and New Testament will point us to peace and reconciliation in all our relationships, reassuring us that it is possible to find common ground with everyone - despite our differences." To register contact Rebecca Lawson at rjlawson3912@gmail.com or 248-568-6382.

Sunday Adult Studies

Sundays at 11 a.m.

Faith & Friends Spiritual Growth Study; Room 132

All are welcome to join our friendly group, eager to grow in Faith.

Nov 7 We conclude our study of **Courage**.

Nov 14 & 21 Navigating Isaiah

For further information contact Judy Smouter at smouterj@comcast.net.

Family Life Active Couples and 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. Please visit and see if you don't feel right at home! We plan meet in-person however Covid concerns may force us to meet on Zoom. For more information, contact Cyndee Andrews at csa4646@aol.com or 248-370-0970.

Caregiver Support Group

1st Saturday of the Month
9:30 a.m. in Rickard Chapel

If you are caring for a loved one with medical needs, you have a hard job. St. Paul's has a support group where we share our experiences, our resources and help each other through this journey. Join us so we can give each other the care we need. Contact Diane Donoghue at 248 872-7582 with questions.

United Methodist Men

Saturday, November 6
8 a.m. on Zoom

All men invited, guests always welcome. When we are unable to meet for breakfast due to health protocols, we meet via Zoom. Contact Dave deSteiger at 248-376-0416 or drdesteiger@ray-electric.com.

NEW! 3rd Wednesday of the Month

Early Bird Men's Group

Wednesday, November 17
6:30 a.m. in the Parlor

Join us for devotions, conversation, and prayer as we grow in Christ's love and live out our faith. All men are welcome! Contact Larry Heflin at HLarry2828@gmail.com or Bob Johnson at bobgj@prodigy.net for more information.

SPARK: Book Group

Thursday, November 18
1:30 p.m. in the Parlor

Join us as we discuss *Women in Sunlight* by Frances Mayes. We welcome new members! If you have questions, call Linda Burnard at 248-736-1893.

That Takes the Cake Sale

Sunday, November 14
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Narthex

Homemade coffee cakes will be for sale. Proceeds support UMW Missions locally and around the world. Drop off coffee cakes Saturday, November 13; 12 - 2 p.m. in the Narthex. Please call Jane Chamberlain at 586-323-2537 to sign up as a baker. **Coffee cakes and breads of all varieties are the only items being accepted and must be individually wrapped for sale.**

Prayer Shawl Ministry

2nd Tuesday of the Month
1 - 2:30 p.m. in Room 132

All are welcome even if you wish to learn. Masks are required. The prayer shawls are located in the Narthex during services for anyone to take for giving to others in need of comfort.

Quilt & Handmade Treasures Ministry

2nd Tuesday of the Month
2:30 - 4 p.m. in Room 132

We meet together to create lap quilts for others in need of comfort. Quilts are located in the Narthex during services. Handmade Treasures are created to sell at church or other events, raising funds for church missions. All proceeds are donated. Fabrics and threads can be provided.

United Methodist Women

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

United Methodist Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

November Circle Meetings

- **Patience Circle** - Thursday, November 11 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor.
- **Faith Circle** - Thursday, November 11 at 1 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **New Hope Circle** - Thursday, November 11 at 7 p.m. in Rickard Chapel; Program by Rev. April Gutierrez.

Executive Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 18 at 9 a.m. in the Parlor.

VIRTUAL Rummage Sale

Donation submissions accepted until November 6
Purchase items November 11 - 20
Drop off items that sell at Church on December 1
Pick up purchased items December 3

St. Paul's VIRTUAL Rummage SALE

Please join us in raising money for missions through St. Paul's United Methodist Women. Since in-person sales are not possible at this time, we invite you to participate in an online virtual sale. As always, all money raised will benefit women, children and youth.

See more information at stpaulsrochester.org - follow Rummage Sale quicklink at the bottom of the homepage.

HUGS. Humor, Understanding, Growth and Support

For mothers and grandmothers of all ages
Wednesdays at 9:30 - 11 a.m. in the Parlor (unless otherwise noted)

HUMOR · UNDERSTANDING · GROWTH · SUPPORT · HUGS

November 3 Gaining Time for Gratitude Field trip to Cranberry Lake Park (388 W Predmore Road, Oakland Twp., Michigan 48363) Enjoy the Storybook Garden and prayer labyrinth created by St Paul's High School Youth.

November 10 Growing our Gratitude We will share ways we teach our kiddos gratitude and consider how the lessons change as they age.

November 17 Giving Gratitude Remember our October craft? Let's share our Getting HUGS wisdom with other moms who need it. Feel free to bring a friend for fellowship time.

November 24 No HUGS Enjoy Thanksgiving with your families!

See stpaulsrochester.org/calendar/ for more detailed information. HUGS observes the Rochester Community Schools calendar. When schools are closed, HUGS will not meet. *Childcare unavailable at this time.

Mission Corner

Recap of Activity
Glimpse of the Future

Neighborhood House Van Project:

Outstanding Job, Church! As of the end of September we are so close to our $25,000 goal as donations have climbed to $19,500. Just one final push and that new van will be helping our neighbors all over the Rochester area. The Missions Council appreciates your faithful giving!

Baldwin Center:

Our **Church Family Comes to Church event in October** collected over 600 pounds of bottled water, individually wrapped snacks, Ziplock bags, diapers and Pull-ups for our friends at Baldwin Center. We also now have a list of 13 volunteers that Susan Heacock will be calling to help make lunches on the second Monday of each month. If you would like to join the team, call Susan at 248-853-5696.

Coats for Baldwin:

Huge kudos to Roxanne Cleveland who continues to lead the Coats for Baldwin drive. So far this year, St. Paul's has donated 330 coats to Baldwin Center which is 95 more than we did all of last year. Just another example of "walking the path" and helping our neighbors!

Christmas Basket Mission Project 2021

The good news is that we have committed to help at least 100 families in need with our partners at Neighborhood House. The bad news is that, again this year, we will not have a reliable source for food and grocery items. As with most businesses these days, the supply chain continues to be unreliable and our friends at Hollywood Market can not commit that they will be able to supply the necessary items. However, we shall not be dismayed nor discouraged! We will again provide Hollywood Market gift certificates to Neighborhood House clients as a way of making their Christmas a little brighter. We are searching for ways to involve as many of the St Paul's family as possible, so stay tuned for details.

To make a financial donation, please write "Christmas Baskets" on the envelope and on the memo line of your check made out to St. Paul's UMC or donate online at stpaulsrochester.org and click on **Give** tab.

Red Bird Mission and School

Red Bird Mission and School in Beverly, KY is **celebrating 100 years** of being a United Methodist Mission/School. Unfortunately, due to COVID, the planned in-person celebrations will not be held. Instead, look for videos of the event on Facebook.

Red Bird's Homecoming Challenge is looking to raise $300,000. Continuing through 2021, all gifts will be matched.

- Donate to St. Pauls online or by check and designate Red Bird Mission.
- Give directly to Red Bird Mission:
  Red Bird Mission, Inc.
  70 Queensdale Center
  Beverly KY 40913-9607
  Attn: Tim Crawford
  (St. Paul's UMC Rochester in memo line please)
- Red Bird website: http://rbmission.org/donate/

Another way to support Red Bird Mission is with **AmazonSmile**. Amazon purchases have generated $6,267 for Red Bird Mission/School. Shop at smile.amazon.com to support Red Bird Mission.

As with all churches, schools and ministries, Red Bird has been hard hit with the COVID virus decimating plans, volunteer groups, and in all areas of ministry. Please prayerful consider ways that you can help.

Club 45

For 4th and 5th Graders
Sunday, November 7
2 - 3:30 p.m.
Cranberry Lake Farm in Oakland Township

Come out and help put the garden to bed for the winter AND meet up with your church friends. Email Amy Heitman at Amy@stpaulsrochester.org to let her know your child can be there.

Halloween Candy Leftovers

St. Paul's is collecting candy to send care packages to our college students. Please drop off your leftover candy in Jodi Stuermer's office (Room 206) or with Karen in church office. Thanks for making our college students feel loved as they gear up for exams!

College Address Reminder

St. Paul's wants to keep in touch with your college student throughout the year and send them a care package in early December. **Parents:** If you would like your college student to receive a care package, please email his/her address to Jodi@stpaulsrochester.org by **November 14**. Thanks!

Middle School Youth Group

All 6th - 8th graders and their friends
Sundays, 5 - 6:30 p.m. in Hickey Hall
Dinner $5.

November 7 Road Rally
November 14 Operation Christmas Child
November 21 Youth for Youth
November 28 No Youth Group

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, 5 - 6:30 p.m. in Hickey Hall
Dinner $5.

November 7 Road Rally
November 14 Operation Christmas Child
November 21 YouLEAD
November 28 No Youth Group

No matter what the activity, laughter is guaranteed!

Kickoff event!
Join us for a free meal at our Food truck

Make Mealtime Family Time

Sunday, October 31; 11 a.m. in the Courtyard

This is an exciting new initiative designed to encourage families to make mealtime a priority. The goal: Five meals together each week. Begin with one and work your way up. Enjoy mealtime conversation before clean-up begins. Keep the mealtime atmosphere friendly and warm. Make mealtime family time while eating out. Invite Jesus to your family mealtimes, saying a prayer of thanks before each meal. Turn off and put away all devices. You will receive resources by email that will help facilitate great interactions during meals. These resources are simple and useful whether you are a parent, grandparent, or sharing a meal with a friend. If you would like to be included in this program email Jodi Stuermer, jodi@stpaulsrochester.org.

Better Together **Sundays following 10 a.m. worship**

Do you miss the days of hanging out and chatting in person? Are you hoping to meet friends from all walks of life and age groups? Our goal is simple — we want to hang out, get to know each other, give back to the community, and maybe learn something new along the way, all in a relaxed environment. Each month we will join our church friends for a mission project. Come and check us out!

November 7 & 14 Join us for a casual chat; meet in the courtyard (in the Youth Lounge if it rains)
November 21 Operation Christmas Child service project; meet in Hickey Hall
November 28 No programming due to Thanksgiving holiday

*For parents who participate in Sunday classes other than Better Together, their students will be able to gather in the Youth Lounge each week for Christian Education.

Holy Communion

November 7 at all 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.

Blood Pressure Clinic

Sunday, November 14
11 - 11:30 a.m. in the Narthex

Stop by to have your blood pressure checked. Masks must be worn while having blood pressure checked.

Upcoming Baptism Dates

November 28 & January 19

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

Annual Charge Conference

Sunday, November 14
4 p.m. via Zoom

Similar to 2020, this year's annual Charge Conference with our District Superintendent, Rev. Dr. Charles Boayue, Jr., will be held on Zoom. At a charge conference attendance is limited to members of the Ad Board and retired ordained clergy, who hold their charge conference membership at St. Paul's UMC.

SUNDAY WORSHIP Worship with us!

Worship at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

7	Communion		
	Luke 15:11-24	The Courage of Love	Rev. May
14	Veterans Sunday		
	Mark 10:13-16	The Joy of Courage	Rev. Eardley
21	Mark 12:41-44	The Gratitude of Courage	Rev. May
28	Baptisms • First Sunday in Advent		
	Phillipians 1:3-11	Thanking God for You	Rev. Eardley

Open Door Worship at 10 a.m. in Hickey Hall

7	Luke 9:1-6	Who do you Love?	Rev. Gutierrez
14	Hebr. 10:11-14, 19-25	Dwelling in Confidence	Rev. Kress
21	Revelation 1:4b-8	Dwelling in Love	Rev. Gutierrez
28	1 Thessalonians 3:9-13	Homesick	Rev. May

BETTER TOGETHER at 11 a.m.

7 Prayer and Anointing
14 Getting to Know St. Paul's
21 Missions - Operation Christmas Child
28 No programming due to Thanksgiving

Sermon Series November

Looking Forward. . . December

2nd	SPARK Book Group luncheon
3rd	Advent Concert at noon
4th	UMM Breakfast
5th	Virtual Rochester Community Christmas Concert
7th	Christmas and Candlelight
10th	Advent Concert at noon
12th	Cookie Sale
17th	Advent Concert at noon
19th	All Music Sunday
23rd	Las Posadas Christmas Worship 7 p.m.
24th	Christmas Eve Worship Family Service 4 p.m. Candlelight Service 7 p.m. Candlelight Service 10 p.m.
25th	Merry Christmas! Church closed
26th	10 a.m. Worship - Sanctuary
31st	New Year's Eve