

# the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

March 2022

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St. Paul's  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Rochester, Michigan

March 2022

# Pastor's Message



**Welcome** to the March 2022 Evangel! If this is your first time receiving one, then let thank me you for doing so and reading the valuable information inside. At St. Paul's our mission is "inspiring people to live and love like Jesus." No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Throughout March we're on the Lenten journey, intentionally making time for God in our lives. Each week we'll be focusing on a particular spiritual discipline and inviting the church to experience God and God's presence through these acts of faith. Please see the church's website or our weekly worship programs for more information.

Inside this month's Evangel are ways to grow your faith, special events for inviting your family and friends, mission opportunities to care for our neighbors, and becoming a member of our church... check it out! We'd love to share this journey of following Jesus with you and your family and friends.

Yours in Christ,

*Rev. David Eardley*

## Pastoral Changes Announced

### Rev. David Eardley Re-Appointed

Bishop David Alan Bard has appointed Rev. David Eardley as Senior Pastor of Grosse Pointe United Methodist Church, effective July 1, 2022.



We are grateful for the nearly nine years that Rev. Eardley has given to our congregation, and the many contributions he has made.

While we are sad that he will be leaving our church in July, we celebrate all that God has accomplished through our time together as Senior Pastor and congregation.

We are also planning a celebration of his ministry at St. Paul's and to say farewell and thank you to Rev. Eardley, Sara, and Ryan on Sunday, June 19. More details will follow plans are formalized.

### We welcome Rev. Elbert Dulworth

Bishop David Alan Bard has appointed Rev. Elbert Dulworth as Senior Pastor of Rochester St. Paul's United Methodist Church effective July 1, 2022.



Rev. Elbert Dulworth has served as the Senior Pastor at First United Methodist Church in Birmingham, Michigan, since June 2017. Prior to arriving in Birmingham, Elbert served on the Michigan Area Cabinet as the Marquette District Superintendent. An ordained elder in the Michigan Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, he has also served as the lead pastor of congregations in southwest Wisconsin, the Upper Peninsula, and Laingsburg, MI.

Elbert and his wife, Dawn, enjoy camping in their travel trailer, cooking great foods with friends, time with family, musical and theatrical productions, and travelling to new places around the world. While they do not have any children of their own, they have hosted five exchange students, enjoy time with several nieces and nephews, and adore their adopted boxer, Ginger.

Elbert and Dawn look forward to serving in ministry as part of the excellent team that are the staff, leaders, and members of St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

Did you know?

## Annual Endowment Fund Report

The Permanent Endowment Committee reports activity for 2021 and hopes to raise awareness and grow the Endowment fund.

St. Paul's Endowment Fund promotes and develops religious, charitable and educational activities. We welcome your questions or requests for additional information.

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Opening Balance January 1, 2021</b>        | \$629,669 |
| <b>Closing Balance December 31, 2021</b>      | \$704,068 |
| <b>Gifts Received in 2021</b>                 | \$0       |
| <b>Available Funds for Grants per Charter</b> | \$22,614  |
| <b>Grants Requested</b>                       | \$18,990  |
| <b>Grants Approved</b>                        | \$18,990  |
| <b>Funds Distributed</b>                      | \$11,879  |

The Permanent Endowment Committee welcomes and encourages gifts and bequests to be designated to the Endowment Fund. Gifts shall include, but not be limited to, cash, stocks, bonds, certificates of deposit, real estate, and personal property. The donor may transfer such property to the Endowment Fund by outright gift, life estate gift, or any one of several deferred giving arrangements (planned giving). We welcome your questions or requests for additional information. Contact Larry Hice at [Larryhttp@aol.com](mailto:Larryhttp@aol.com).

## Ash Wednesday Worship

Wednesday, March 2  
12 p.m. on Facebook

A virtual service will be available on Facebook. Find us at St Paul's United Methodist Church-Rochester.



## 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall

Begin Lent with this youth-led special service with music, prayers, an inspiring message, Holy Communion and the imposition of ashes.

## Lent Labyrinth

Available in Lent in the Narthex

A labyrinth is a spiritual tool used for prayer, meditation, calm and connection with God. Walk the path to the center, pause and retrace the path back again. The labyrinth journey consists of three stages: releasing as you start, receiving as you pause, returning as you journey back.



## Church Family Comes to Campus

Sunday, March 20; 5 - 6 p.m. Hickey Hall

Food scarcity remains a constant way of life for many of our neighbors. Please bring food items to restock the Food Pantry. Specific needs will be listed in the Connector.

Thanks for your support.



# HARMONY IN THE HILLS



**March 18**  
David W. Smith  
Gospel Musician



**March 25**  
Christa Grix  
Harpist

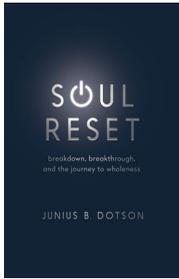


**April 1**  
Sarah Simko  
Organ & Harpsichord



**April 8**  
Terry Herald & Barbara Ogar  
Guitar & Flute Duo

# Classes & Groups



## Lenten All-Church Study

### **Soul Reset** Breakdown, Breakthrough, and the Journey to Wholeness

“Everything seemed fine - until it wasn't. Rev. Junius Dotson was preaching at a funeral when suddenly he realized he wasn't going to make it through the service. The next thing he knew, he was in an ambulance on the way to the ER, where he was

diagnosed with extreme exhaustion. Recalling his own journey through grief, depression, burnout, and emotional breakdown, Dotson is passionate about calling for a Soul Reset for pastors, church leaders, and all disciples of Jesus Christ.” **Small groups are forming** to discuss this book and the companion DVD. Books (\$11) are available at church. Interested in joining a small group? Contact Rachel Henry at [Rachel@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Rachel@stpaulsrochester.org) for more information.



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.

## Women's LIFE - Soul Reset

Both classes will participate in the Lenten all-church study. Anyone is welcome!

**Mondays, March 7 - 28**  
**7 - 9 p.m. in Room 128-129**

For more information or to register please contact Rebecca Lawson at [rjlawson3912@gmail.com](mailto:rjlawson3912@gmail.com) or 248-568-6382.

**Fridays, March 4 - April 15**  
**9:30-11:30 a.m.**

**Hybrid: In Parlor or Zoom**  
Leaders: Nancy Fidler, Sharon Hiller & Sue Peters. For more information contact Nancy Fidler at [Fidlers4@comcast.net](mailto:Fidlers4@comcast.net).

## Sunday Adult Studies Sundays at 11 a.m.

**Faith & Friends Spiritual Growth Study; Room 132 (or Zoom)** Drop in at anytime to participate in our studies. We are a warm and welcoming class who have been together since the late 1990's.

**March 6 - 27:** Soul Reset Chapters 1 - 4  
Contact Judy Smouter at [smouterj@comcast.net](mailto:smouterj@comcast.net).

**Family Life Active Couples and Singles, 50 & up; Rickard Chapel** A welcoming place to learn and share as we enjoy discussions and presentations on a variety of Christian issues and topics. Join us and see if you don't feel right at home!

**March 6:** Meet & Greet

**March 13:** Sue Sonye - Lost and Found

**March 20:** Camille Doerr - What are You Thinking?

**March 27:** Larry Heflin - Do You Know the Bible Quiz

Contact Cyndee Andrews at 248-370-0970 or [csa4646@aol.com](mailto:csa4646@aol.com).

## Early Bird Men's Group

**Wednesday, March 16**  
**6:30 a.m. in the Parlor**

All men are welcome for devotions, conversation, and prayer. Contact Larry Heflin at [HLarry2828@gmail.com](mailto:HLarry2828@gmail.com) or Bob Johnson at [bobgj@prodigy.net](mailto:bobgj@prodigy.net).



## SPARK Book Group

**Thursday, March 17**  
**1:30 p.m. in the Parlor**

Join us as we discuss *The Four Winds* by Kristen Hannah. We welcome new members! Questions? Call Linda Burnard at 248-765-5511.



## New Member Class

**Sunday, March 20**  
**3:30 - 5 p.m. in the Parlor**

Please attend the New Member Class if you interested in becoming a member of St. Paul's and would like to learn more about the mission of St. Paul's, small groups and the many ministry teams that are offered. At the end of the meeting, we will welcome new members. Pictures will be taken and shown in worship the following Sunday. Sign up at the Welcome Center in the Narthex or Hickey Hall or contact Marilyn Kress at 586-212-9065 or [marilyn.kress@gmail.com](mailto:marilyn.kress@gmail.com).

# Classes & Groups

## United Methodist Men

Saturday, March 5  
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](mailto:drdesteiger@ray-electric.com).



## Prayer Shawl & Quilt Ministries

Tuesday, March 8 in Room 132

Prayer Shawls  
1 - 2:30 p.m.

Quilt Ministry  
2:30 - 4 p.m.

Yarn and fabric available to make at home if you prefer or make a project during the meeting. Arrangements can be made to turn in your creation for donation. Masks are required.



## United Methodist Women

“Serve one another in love...” Galatians 5:13

### March Circle Meetings

- **Faith Circle** - Wednesday, March 9 at 1 p.m. in the Parlor.
- **Patience Circle** - Thursday, March 10 at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor- Rob Patten on the Community Garden.
- **New Hope Circle** - Thursday, March 10 at 7 p.m. on Zoom. Program: Moms Demand Action. Contact Jean Meyers at [jeanameyers@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanameyers@yahoo.com) for Zoom link.

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



## HUGS Humor, Understanding, Growth and Support

Mothers and grandmothers of all ages  
Wednesday; 9:30 - 11 a.m. Room 132

In light of the uncertainty with the current Covid strains, we recognize that we may have to be creative with our March HUGS gatherings. To make sure we all show up at the right place, we'll rely on our weekly emails and Facebook posts. We welcome newcomers looking for fellowship with other Christian Moms! If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email Sue Evans at [suecamevans@yahoo.com](mailto:suecamevans@yahoo.com) or Steph Walker at [stephaniewalker.288@gmail.com](mailto:stephaniewalker.288@gmail.com).

See [stpaulsrochester.org/calendar/](http://stpaulsrochester.org/calendar/) for more detailed information.

### New Hope Circle Hosts:

## Mom Demand Action - Suzanne Fabick

Thursday, March 10 at 7 p.m. on Zoom

Join New Hope Circle for a presentation about the morality and ethics of gun violence issues and the Be Smart program by Suzanne Fabick. The presentation will be on Zoom to make it easier for more people to attend. Please contact Jean Meyers at [jeanameyers@yahoo.com](mailto:jeanameyers@yahoo.com) for Zoom link.

### Save the Date!

## UMW Lenten Prayer Service

Wednesday, April 6

10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Join St. Paul's United Methodist Women for the Annual Prayer Service, with a time of quiet prayer and reflection. Come, and find peace in the midst of a chaotic world. Please RSVP to (248) 651-9361.



## That Takes the Cake Sale

Sunday, April 10

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, April 9; 12 - 2 p.m. in the Narthex. Call Jane Chamberlain at 586-323-2537 to sign up as a baker.

# Missions

## Mission Challenge 2022

### Raise \$30,000 for Local Mission Partners

Covid continues to plague our community and make life more difficult for the under-served, under-fed and un-housed.

Our local mission partners are hanging on by their fingernails and their fight continues 24/7/365. Mission Council decided to focus our 2022 Mission Project fundraising efforts on supporting these local mission partners.



### Mission Challenge 2022 is simple.

All contributions to MC2022 will be evenly divided among:

- Baldwin Center
- Cass Community Social Services
- Habitat for Humanity
- Methodist Children's Home Society
- Rochester Area Neighborhood House

Our goal is to raise \$30,000, which is consistent with previous mission project goals. MC2022 is a stretch goal, over and above our normal mission activities and giving.



MC2022 does not ignore or preclude our support for Red Bird Mission, UMCOR, or scholarship support for Liberian students at Henri Dennis School and Kakata-Farmington School. As a church, we will

remain open to all mission opportunities as they present themselves. St. Paul's has proven many times that we can meet any challenge.

**We ask for your support.** Please note MC2022 when making your donation.

**BALDWIN CENTER**  
Feed, Clothe, Educate, Empower



## Warm Coats for Baldwin

### Drop off donations by March 6

In the past 9 years, the generous congregation of St. Paul's has donated approximately 1700 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. **All sizes, infant through adult, are needed. Cash donations are also accepted.** Please write "Coats for Baldwin" on the memo line of your check. Contact Roxanne Cleveland at 248-371-0382 with questions.



## Mission Corner

Recap of Activity  
Glimpse of the Future

## Missions Updates

### Baldwin Center

Following our request in February, we did get additional volunteers to serve meals at Baldwin Center. Unfortunately, as soon as we got the extra help, Baldwin had to suspend meal service by volunteers due to a surge in Covid. The good news is that we delivered over 100 handmade blankets and three boxes of socks which was very much appreciated. More socks will be delivered soon.

### Cash Donations

Your continuing generosity allowed us to make cash donations from fourth quarter designated accounts.

### Cass Community Social Services

will receive \$2000, which we hope to multiply at the Cass breakfast in March.

**UMCOR** will receive a check for \$5,000 which will be used in their efforts to aid in local and national disaster situations.

**Neighborhood House:** Even after we provided \$25,000 to Neighborhood House for the purchase of a new van, additional donations were received. This allowed us to provide \$10,000 to Neighborhood House for the purchase of new computers for the staff so that they may serve their clients more effectively and efficiently.

### Church Family Comes to Campus

Our February 6 Church Family Comes to Campus event was a tremendous success. Thanks to Club 45 children for help in loading a pickup truck full of your donations. We collected 660 pounds of canned goods and personal care products for the Neighborhood House Food Pantry.

**The Missions Council appreciates your support and your prayers.**

## Lenten Devotions for Children

Each Sunday during Lent, your child will receive a Lenten Devotion packet during worship to take home. There will be weekly prayers, activities, and questions to talk about as you develop your faith together. Packets are available each week at 10 a.m. in both worship services.

## Club 45

**Sunday, March 20**

**5 - 6:30 p.m. outside Hickey Hall**

Calling all 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> graders!

Join us to help with our Church Family Comes to Campus event. Then plan to stay and play outside.

**It will be a ton of fun!** Email [Amy@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Amy@stpaulsrochester.org) to say I'll be there!



New Time!

## Armor for Life

Looking to the Cross  
Sundays at 4 p.m. in the Parlor

All 8<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to join Grant and Cam Renny who will lead a class exploring Bible stories and how they pertain to our current lives. This class will follow the Sunday school class calendar.

## Middle School Youth Group

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

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

**Mar 6** Soul Reset with a food twist

**Mar 13** This Way or That?

**Mar 20** Random Acts of Kindness

**Mar 27** No Youth Group - Spring Break

## High School Youth Group

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

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

**Mar 6** Master or Disaster Chef

**Mar 13** Soul Reset

**Mar 20** Worktrip meeting / YouLead

**Mar 27** No Youth Group - Spring Break

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



## Third Thursday Dinner Out

**Thursday, March 17**

**6:30 p.m.; Shake Shack 66 N. Adams, RH**

All HS youth are welcome for a FREE dinner out. Bring friends and a big appetite.

## Monthly Parent Gathering

for Parents of Youth & Confirmands

**Sunday, March 27; 5 p.m. in Room 122-123**

Do you need a soft place to land that is faith-based and grace-filled? Come as you are, drop your child at youth group or confirmation and join us as we gather to connect with others and enjoy a meal. Next scheduled date is April 24. Childcare will be available.

Email [Rachel@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Rachel@stpaulsrochester.org) for more information.

## Scholarships Available

Application Deadline is April 15

Applications and information available at [stpaulsrochester.org](http://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.

**Don't wait until the last minute! Start your application now!**



# St. Paul's PRESCHOOL

stpaulsrochester.org/preschool

## St. Paul's Preschool - Registration for Fall 2022

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

### Registration is OPEN for Fall 2022.

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.

Applications available online or in church office.

See our website at [stpaulsrochester.org/preschool/](http://stpaulsrochester.org/preschool/).



### Let's stay connected!

#### We want to Pray for You

We would love to pray for your children and youth, grandchildren, nieces and nephews, godchildren, or any child you know in need of prayer. Please send his/her name, school, grade and your contact information to:

[amy@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:amy@stpaulsrochester.org) or

[jodi@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:jodi@stpaulsrochester.org).



### Upcoming Baptisms

#### Sunday, May 8

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.



### Holy Communion

Ash Wednesday, March 2      Sunday, March 6  
 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall      10 a.m. in Sanctuary  
 & Hickey Hall

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.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP Worship with us!

### Worship at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

|    |   |                         |              |
|----|---|-------------------------|--------------|
| 6  | Communion • Prayer, Anointing and Healing |                         |              |
|    | Luke 4:1-11                               | Choices                 | Rev. Eardley |
| 13 | Luke 13:31-35                             | The Cost of Love        | Rev. Kress   |
| 20 | Luke 13:1-9                               | Did they deserve it?    | Rev. Eardley |
| 27 | 2 Corinthians 5:16-21                     | Reconciliation Ministry | Rev. May     |

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

|    |                  |                           |                |
|----|------------------|---------------------------|----------------|
| 6  | Matthew 11:28-30 | How is it with your soul? | Rev. Gutierrez |
| 13 | Luke 13:31-35    | It's Always the Third Day | Rev. May       |
| 20 | Luke 10:38-42    | It's Not All on Me        | Rev. Gutierrez |
| 27 | 1 Kings 19:5-9   | Take Care of Yourself     | Rev. Eardley   |

## Sermon Series March

### Looking Ahead... April

|                  |                                 |
|------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup>  | Lenten Concert at noon          |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup>  | UMM Breakfast                   |
|                  | Support for Caregivers          |
| 6 <sup>th</sup>  | UMW Lenten Prayer Event         |
| 8 <sup>th</sup>  | Lenten Concert at noon          |
| 10 <sup>th</sup> | Palm Sunday                     |
|                  | That Takes the Cake Sale        |
| 14 <sup>th</sup> | Holy Thursday Worship 7 p.m.    |
| 15 <sup>th</sup> | Church Office Closed            |
|                  | Good Friday Worship 12 p.m.     |
|                  | Service of Compline 7:30 p.m.   |
| 17 <sup>th</sup> | Easter Sunday                   |
|                  | 9 & 11 a.m. Traditional Worship |
| 18 <sup>th</sup> | Church Office Closed            |
| 21 <sup>st</sup> | SPARK Book Group                |
| 29 <sup>th</sup> | Nightingale Concert             |