

# the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

September 2022

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St. Paul's  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Rochester, Michigan

September 2022

# Pastor's Message



## September at St. Paul's

As the refreshing breezes soon tame the hot summer sun while school bells ring, as footballs are kicked into the air while referees blow their whistles, and as leaves begin to change while chipmunks store up their rations, the fall will be upon us yet again. At St. Paul's, we're planning for a joy-filled return as our children's and youth ministry teams, choirs and musical ensembles, adult small group studies, and so many more ministries are gearing up for this new season.

In September, I'll be starting a new series in the Sanctuary. In **The Gospel According to Peanuts**, we'll share some of the wonderful wit, wisdom, and inspiration of one of my favorite theologians and comic strip authors, Charles M.

Schulz. On Sunday, September 18, don't miss our **Fall '22 Kick-off** event following our worship services. We'll have great food, fun, music, and more for people of all ages. Come out and invite a friend to join us as we kick off this great season. At the end of the month, you'll have to catch one of Skycraft Theatre Work's performances of **You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown**.

On a personal note, thank you for the gracious and warm welcome that you have shared with me and Dawn as we have joined you at St. Paul's. We have already fallen in love with you and this community and are excited to share in ministry with you as together we inspire people to live and to love like Jesus.

Blessings,

*Elbert Dulworth*  
Senior Pastor



## Music Ministry

Music is the heart of St. Paul's. Our music groups are all very welcoming small groups. New members are welcome without audition!

### St. Paul's Choir

Wednesdays, starts September 7  
7:30 - 9 p.m. in the Choir Room  
Sings for the 10 a.m. Sanctuary  
worship service September  
through June and performs major  
works with orchestra periodically.

### Harmonics Praise Team

Thursdays, scheduled as needed  
12 p.m. in Hickey Hall  
Vocalists and instrumentalists  
perform occasionally for the  
Sanctuary worship service.

### Open Door Band

Plays 10 a.m. in Hickey Hall  
A ragamuffin group of artists and  
technicians of all ages and walks  
of life. This band leads worship  
for the Open Door service  
Sundays at 10 a.m. in Hickey Hall.

### Wesley Ringers

Thursdays, starts September 15  
7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in Bell Room  
This handbell choir plays the third  
Sunday of the month, September  
through May. Directed by Al Fisk.

## Kick the Ball, Charlie Brown! Fall '22 Kick-off

Sunday, September 18

10 a.m. Worship in Sanctuary

11 a.m. Celebration on North Lawn

After worship on September 18, we will take over the front of St. Paul's, from the Hickey Hall entrance to the Garden of Hope, as we kick-off Fall with an outdoor event that will include food, music, bounce houses, ice cream, cider, donuts, a mission opportunity (see page 6), lots of fun (of course) and a few other surprises.

Rev. Dulworth will focus his message on the gospel as taught through the comics of Charles M. Schulz and **Peanuts**. Please mark your calendar and join us for this very exciting celebration. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held in Hickey Hall.





**Dine with Nine**  
Introductory Meeting  
Sunday, September 11  
11 a.m.; Room 128-129

Dine with Nine is an adult fellowship program for people

who 1) like people, and 2) like to eat. It's about good conversation and meaningful fellowship.

Whether you're new to St. Paul's or have been a lifetime member, Dine with Nine is a way to nourish your soul and build community by meeting and spending time with new people.

Join us as we put together random groups of nine people who will dine together throughout the year. The goal is simple. You'll be assigned to a group of nine, and each person or couple in your group will host a dinner once throughout the next year. You can host in your home, set up a potluck picnic, or organize an outing to a local restaurant. Your group sets the dates and times that work for you. It's meant to be flexible.

We hope you'll join us! If interested, please email Beth and Tom Talbert at [talbert.beth@gmail.com](mailto:talbert.beth@gmail.com). We'll launch the program on September 11 with cider and donuts and organize into groups of 9. We look forward to sharing this time together. If you aren't able to attend on September 11 but want to participate, please let us know.

**'Stay in Touch' List**

For many St. Paul's members, attending worship or other programs is no longer an option. Others may not yet be comfortable meeting in-person because of health concerns. However, we still want to stay in touch! If you would like to be added to, or remain on, our Stay in Touch list please contact Karen Rider at [Karen@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Karen@stpaulsrochester.org) or 248-651-9361 or Rev. May at [JMay@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:JMay@stpaulsrochester.org) so that we can stay connected.

# HARMONY IN THE HILLS



**Anastasia Rizikov**

Sunday, September 25  
4:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Join us for a delightful afternoon concert by award winning pianist, Anastasia Rizikov.

Suggested donation \$15.



# You're A Good Man, CHARLIE BROWN

**Performances in Hickey Hall**

Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Sep 29	Sep 30	Oct 1	Oct 2
7 p.m.	7 p.m.	3 & 7 p.m	3 p.m.

St. Paul's premiere theatre troupe returns this fall with some help from the Peanut's gang. Join us for a weekend of memorable performances in Hickey Hall. Enjoy a vibrant musical with a cast of characters pulled straight from the comic strip - Charlie Brown, Sally, Linus, Lucy, Schroeder, and of course Snoopy! Directed by Sam Wright, featuring music direction by Zak Kwiecinski, and choreography by Bridget Johnson.

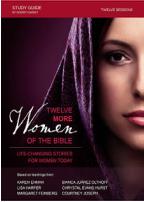
**Purchase tickets** at <https://www.onthestage.tickets/show/skycraft-theatre-works>. This link is also on our website at [stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org).

Thank you all for supporting SkyCraft!

# Classes & Groups



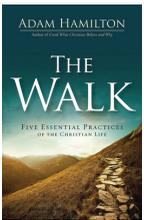
Come together with other women to make a friend... be a friend... laugh... dig into God's Word together and discover new ways to Live In Faith Everyday.



## Women's LIFE Friday

Fridays, September 9 - October 14  
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor or on Zoom  
Join us at 9:15 a.m. for social time  
Led by Nancy Fidler & Jean Meyers

Our fall study of **Twelve More Women of the Bible** focuses six New Testament women and lessons on "Living in Faith Everyday." We love having new people join us! Class includes a short video, followed by group and table discussions. Books (\$12) are optional. Contact Nancy Fidler at [nnfidler@gmail.com](mailto:nnfidler@gmail.com) or 248-933-1981 to reserve a book or find out more.



## Women's LIFE Monday Night

Mondays, September 12 - October 24  
7 - 9 p.m.; Hybrid: Room 128-129 or Zoom

In **The Walk: Five Essential Practices of the Christian Life**, Adam Hamilton focuses on five essential spiritual practices that are rooted in Jesus' own walk with God and taught throughout the New Testament. Join us as we explore the essential practices of worship, study, serving, giving, and bearing witness to our faith. For more info or to reserve a book, contact Rebecca Lawson at [rjlawson3912@gmail.com](mailto:rjlawson3912@gmail.com) or 248-568-6382.



## Seeker's Study

Mondays, beginning September 12  
1 - 2:30 p.m. in Room 132

Everyone is invited to be part of this warm and welcoming group as we study **A New Kind of Christianity-Ten Questions That Are Transforming the Faith** by Brian McLaren. Explore whether the church is in sync with our deepest beliefs and commitments, how we might articulate our faith, what is the good news the gospel proclaims, how should we think about people of other faiths and more. The book may be ordered in paperback from Amazon or other book sellers.



## J.O.Y. Just Older Youth

Tuesday, September 20  
12 p.m. in Hickey Hall

Everyone 60 plus is invited to bring a bag lunch and share in the fellowship. Coffee, tea and dessert is provided. A program or in house service project follows lunch. This month get better acquainted with special guest, Rev. Elbert Dulworth, as he shares his amazing, 500 mile walking adventure in Spain.



2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of the Month

## Prayer Shawl

September 13  
1 - 2:30 p.m.  
Room 132

## Quilts

September 13  
2:30 - 4 p.m.  
Room 132

Welcome to all who want to learn to quilt, knit or crochet. We have supplies to share. Ideas for new projects are welcome for our mission quilts, prayer shawls or Handmade Treasures to be sold at church, Kris Kringle, and other outlets. **Join us!** Contact Donna Heflin at 248-505-6413.



## SPARK Book Group

Thursday, September 15  
1:30 p.m. in the Parlor

Join us as we read *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles. We welcome new members! Questions? Please contact Linda Burnard at 248-765-5511.



## Blood Drive

Monday,  
September 19  
1 - 7 p.m.  
in Hickey Hall

The need for blood is great all year long, but in the summer the need is much greater than the supply. What better gift to give someone than the gift of life. You can schedule an appointment by calling Bill Molloy at 248-892-1705 or go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) and enter sponsor code 'stpaulunited'. **Please consider giving blood this time even if you have never given before.**



## Learning to Walk with God Thursdays; 9 a.m. in Rochester Park

Join us through September as we exercise, enjoy nature, reflect on scripture and have a lot of fun. Most weeks, we meet at the Rochester Municipal Park (in the parking lot by the Police Station). Once a month we venture out to another park. Please contact walk leader, Judy Smouter, at [smouterj@comcast.net](mailto:smouterj@comcast.net) if you wish to join us to verify the walk location.

## United Methodist Men Saturday, September 10 8 a.m. in Hickey Hall

All men are welcome! Start the fall season off with some brotherhood, breakfast, and a meet & greet and brief address by Rev. Elbert Dulworth. No RSVP necessary. Invite a guest! Contact Dave deSteiger at 248-376-0416. **Join us!**



## Early Bird Men's Group Wednesday, September 21 6:30 - 7:30 a.m. in the Parlor

All men are welcome for small group discussions on various topics, devotions, book studies, and sermons. Enjoy a refreshing mid-month reminder of God's ever-present grace. Contact Larry Heflin at [HLarry2828@gmail.com](mailto:HLarry2828@gmail.com) or Bob Johnson at [bobgj@prodigy.net](mailto:bobgj@prodigy.net).

### \* 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 Women in Faith Annual Meeting

Tuesday, September 13

6 p.m. Circle Meetings

6:30 p.m. Light Dinner in Parlor

7 p.m. - Business Meeting in Parlor

Join us for our Annual Meeting to experience the love and support of a great group of Christian women. To find a group that meets your needs, contact Karen Reynolds at [kjr975@gmail.com](mailto:kjr975@gmail.com).

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 2023 budget and slate of officers, and new members will be inducted. Information will be available on upcoming fundraisers and events.



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

Our meetings are designed for busy women on the go, so there is little homework, but always great discussions! Even when we schedule a multi-week series, each week runs independently of the others,

so you can join when you can without feeling like you are missing something. We also plan a few evening events so that our working moms can still plug into HUGS fellowship. **We are able to offer childcare again!** On nice days, we may chat outside at St Paul's playground so the littles can play as we enjoy each others' company. Our current info will be in our emails and our private Facebook page. 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) to be added to the list.

**HUGS Monthly Mission: Blessings in a Backpack** See more information on page 6.

**7 Mugs & Hugs** OFF SITE at Dessert Oasis, 336 S. Main St., Rochester

**14 Meet and Greet** Official kick-off welcoming new faces and catching up with old friends!

**21 Looking Inward, Reaching Outward** Join us for fellowship as we identify monthly service opportunities.

**28 Prayer Stations** A perfect time to reboot, try out some different prayer/meditation practices and get inspired by our theme verse. Also, bring a book, take a book. Anything left over can be donated to the rummage sale.

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.

# Missions



## Hands with Detroit Saturday, October 1

Are you ready to be part of a great project? The Greater Detroit District UMC has announced the annual **Hands With Detroit** service day, this year focused on Cass Community Social Services.

There will be volunteer opportunities for kitchen help, grounds clean up, maintenance projects, document destruction, creating a dog park, helping to prepare the Fox Family Center and more. Projects will be available for ages 10 and up, so the entire family can get involved. Find more information and registration at: [Handswithdetroit.org](http://Handswithdetroit.org).

## Mission Challenge 2022 Update

We continue to make progress on our **Mission Challenge 2022** goal of \$30,000. Through the end of June, we had raised just over \$10,000. 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

Baldwin will use donated funds to support their meal programs. MCHS will use the funds to support their foster care programs and Cass will use the funds to cover expenses related to the move from the Scott Center to the new family shelter, Fox Center.

**Accept the challenge and be a part of this effort.**



## Missions Donations to UMCOR

Thanks to your generosity, we were able to donate \$3000 to United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR) from our second quarter Designated Giving accounts. This money comes at a critical time as UMCOR continues to offer relief and aid to victims of natural disasters on a local, national and international basis. This includes the people of eastern Kentucky who have been impacted by the recent flooding.

Our neighbors need our help!

## Blessings in a Backpack

**Sunday, September 18 - Collection cart in Narthex**  
The **Missions Team** is partnering with the **HUGS Mom's Group** to support **Blessings in a Backpack**.

This Rochester Community Schools program supports students with weekend snacks/supplements. Even in Rochester, food security and hunger are a continuing concern. We will be collecting the following items on Sunday, September 18 during the Fall '22 Worship Kick-Off Event:

- Peanut butter/jelly 12 - 16 oz. in plastic jars
- Fruit breakfast bars (any type)
- Single serving cereals
- Single serving fruit cups
- Knorr Pasta Sides (Alfredo, Butter & Herb, Cheddar Broccoli, Butter)
- Canned chicken breast (small cans, any brand)

Please drop off your donation, in the collection cart in the Narthex. Let's load the truck and collect so much food we have to make two trips to deliver it to the Food Pantry.



## Confirmation & Youth Group Parent Gathering Sundays, beginning September 18 5 p.m. in the Parlor

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 for our first fall session on Sunday, September 18. We'll connect with others, worship and enjoy a nice meal. Just come or contact Rachel Henry at [Rachel@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Rachel@stpaulsrochester.org) for more information. Programming will be available for elementary age students.



## Looking Ahead Third Grade Bibles Sunday, October 2 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Third graders will receive their Bibles on October 2 during 10 a.m. worship. If you would like your child to receive a bible, please contact Amy Heitman at [Amy@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Amy@stpaulsrochester.org).

## High School Youth Group

All 9<sup>th</sup> - 12<sup>th</sup> graders & their friends  
Sundays beginning September 11  
5 - 7 p.m. in the Lounge

Are you looking for a way to unwind and have fun after a crazy week? Are you yearning to make an impact in your community? Our High School Youth Group is the place for you and your friends. We provide a relaxed atmosphere for teens to be themselves, explore their faith, help out others and have fun. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. unless we are off campus (\$5 per week or \$110 for the year). We will meet in Hickey Hall.

**Good times are guaranteed!**

**September 11** Youth Group Kick Off!

**September 18** See You at the Pole

**September 25** YouLead



## Middle School Youth Group

All 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> graders & their friends  
Sundays beginning September 11  
5 - 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall

Are you looking for a fun and relaxing way to start your week? Our Middle School Youth Group is lively and fun! We provide a safe place where you can be yourself. Our

activities are geared to strengthen our relationships with God and each other, help out the community and have fun. Dinner is served at 6:30 p.m. unless we are off campus (\$5 per meal, \$110 for the year).

**Friends are welcome anytime.**

**September 11** Youth Group Kick Off!  
Parent Meeting for Confirmation

**September 18** See You at the Pole

**September 25** Youth for Youth



**Third Thursday Dinner Out**  
Thursday, September 15  
6:30 p.m. at Red Knapp's  
304 S. Main St. Rochester

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

## Keep our Students in your Prayers

Continue to pray for all the students (and their families) as their fall semester begins. They need our support and prayers for peace and strength with school demands, family schedules, mental health issues, and shutting out the negativity from our hectic world. May they feel comfort in God's presence and knowing they have a team of adults praying for them.

## Sunday School is BACK September 11 During Worship in Room 122

All children in K- 5<sup>th</sup> grade are invited to join our children's Sunday School class in Room 122 during 10 a.m. worship. We are beginning with a "one-room schoolhouse" model with everyone together in one class, learning about this amazing God who loves us, no matter what. Children will be excused from worship and then you can pick them up downstairs in the Education Wing in Room 122.



## Child Care RETURNS September 11

All children, preschool and younger, are invited to join us in Room 127 for childcare during worship. Our staff will take good care of your little ones as you worship at 10 a.m. Childcare children can be dropped off at 9:50 a.m. and picked up after worship.

## Confirmation Parent Meeting & Dinner September 11; 5 - 7 p.m. in the Parlor Youth Attend Youth Group 5 - 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall

We invite 7<sup>th</sup> graders to participate in this year's Confirmation experience led by Rev. Dr. Gutierrez and Rev. May. 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 retreats, all while learning more about the Bible and becoming closer to God and others. **First retreat is Saturday, September 24.** Classes begin in October and run through Confirmation on May 7. Cost for the class is \$90. **Register by September 21** by contacting Debbie Kelly at [debbie@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:debbie@stpaulsrochester.org). **Any student 7<sup>th</sup> grade and older is welcome to participate.**





## Holy Communion September 4

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.



## Blood Pressure Clinic

Sunday, September 11

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

September 18 & November 27

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



## Save your Stuff!

**NEW!** Drop off:

Monday, Oct 3 from 5 - 8 p.m.

Tuesday, Oct 4 from 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Sale Days: October 7 & 8

Volunteers always needed!

Email [drlutey2@wowway.com](mailto:drlutey2@wowway.com).



St. Paul's  
**PRESCHOOL**

A few spots left in Young 3's Class

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

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

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.

**Schedule a tour!** Email: [preschool@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:preschool@stpaulsrochester.org).

**Learn more at our website:** [stpaulsrochester.org/preschool](http://stpaulsrochester.org/preschool).

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

### Traditional - 10 a.m. in Sanctuary

4 Genesis 37:18-28 Dream on, Snoopy! Rev. Kress

### Fall Schedule Begins - Children, Youth & Adult Programming, Youth Group

11 Matthew 8:23-27 Searching for Security with Linus Rev. Dulworth

### 18 Baptisms • Fall Kick-off Celebration

John 4:7-12 Kick the Ball, Charlie Brown! Rev. Dulworth

25 Luke 5:17-26 Holding Out Hope...in a Pumpkin Patch Rev. Dr. Gutierrez

### The Open Door Service • 10 a.m. in Hickey Hall

4 Genesis 37:18-28 Dream on, Snoopy! Rev. Dr. Gutierrez

### Fall Schedule Begins - Children, Youth & Adult Programming, Youth Group

11 Matthew 8:23-27 Searching for Security with Linus Rev. Dr. Gutierrez

### 18 Fall Kick-off Celebration • One service in the Sanctuary

25 Luke 5:17-26 Holding Out Hope...in a Pumpkin Patch Rev. Dulworth

## Sermon Series **September**

## Looking Ahead...

### October

1 <sup>st</sup>	UMM Breakfast
2 <sup>nd</sup>	World Communion Sunday
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Grade Bible Sunday
3-8 <sup>th</sup>	Rummage Sale Week
	Red Bird Mission Trip
16 <sup>th</sup>	Marriage Renewal
	Harmony in the Hills Concert
	Lynn Davis
18 <sup>th</sup>	J.O.Y.
23 <sup>rd</sup>	Generosity Sunday
30 <sup>th</sup>	October Fun - Trick or Eat