

United Methodist Church Newsletter

Office Hours
Tuesday-Friday
9:00 a.m.—3:00 pm
754-4247

Staff

Rev. Dr. Susan Murithi

Church Secretary
Carrie Hancock

Custodian
Integrated Life Choices
Call Office

Committee Chairpersons:

Admin Council
Mikaleh Esquittin

Board of Trustees
Janet Thomsen
Darwin Lee

Finance
Dave Snow

Staff/Parish Relations
Bob Rasmussen

Worship
Darla Voigt

Mission-Outreach
Mary Ann Rickertsen

UMM
Dave Snow
Tom Knutson

UMW
Charlene Craig
Carol Phillips

Education
Nancy Harrington

Auditor
Larry Hurlburt



MAY
2021



stpaulneunitedmethodistchurch.com

May 2021 Newsletter: Happy Mother's Day

In a few days we will be celebrating mothers' day. It is one of the major holidays in our country. Mother's Day was first celebrated in the United States in 1907 by a Methodist woman, Anna Jarvis who held a service to honor her mother at St Andrews Methodist church in Grafton West Virginia. Anna wanted to honor not only her mother but all mothers for the enormous contribution they make in society. Through Anna's effort, President Woodrow Wilson signed a proclamation in 1914 declaring the second Sunday in May as a national holiday to honor mothers.

Although the declaration was a big step forward towards honoring mothers. The day quickly became greatly commercialized making it a business venture. Huge profits are made every May as a multitude of shoppers run to the store to make up for all the time they have neglected calling mom or spending time with her. We all know that our moms deserve more than we have done throughout the year, therefore we do not mind spending a few more dollars to make up for it. But maybe a Mother's Day gift ought not to be about dollars and much shopping. Although shopping for our mothers is important, better gifts might be non-commercial.

First, moms deserve time, not one day in a year, but as many days as we can possibly give. Creating time out of our busy schedules to spend with moms mean a lot to them. It is obvious that some of us work far away from home but finding time to spend with mom means the world to her. It might not be every day, but it could be made intentional and deliberate. Calling mom often should be part of our schedule. Sometimes a call to mom does not have to be about talking anything serious, but for her to tell us whatsoever she fancies, and for us to listen and be present.

Second, live a life that makes mom proud of the way she raised you. R.E Lybrand gives a story that goes like this, "One day, several convicts were in a prison library flipping through a merchandise catalog. On one of the pages there was the picture of a lovely home. One of the prisoners said, "Man, I sure wish I could give my mother a house like that to live in." Another prisoner pointed to the nice car that was pictured in front of the house and said, "No, I'd rather give my ma a car like that, so she could come to see me once in a while." Then the two men noticed their friend, Bill, just staring blankly at the magazine, so they asked him to say what he would like to give his mother. After thinking for a few minutes, he looked at them with tears in his eyes and said, in a sorrowful tone, "I wish I could give my mother a more honorable son." That young man was grieving about the fact that his dishonorable life and actions had dishonored his mother."

So, maybe we will give our moms more than a card and a flower this year. For those whose moms might have already departed to glory, we can still honor her by embracing some noble ideals she left for us. For yet others whose moms were never there, we could honor other mother figures in our lives, people who have nurtured and loved us in a motherly fashion. They deserve our honor. Happy Mother's Day.

Pastor Susan Murithi



Happy Mother's
Day!



Masks

Beginning on May 23rd, masks will be *optional* during worship service. We will once again start a sign up sheet for Ushers and Greeters. Please let the office know if you would be interested in helping with this!

March Attendance

March 7th:	61 In-person 120 views/FB
March 14th:	40 In-person 148 views/FB
March 21st:	59 In-person 82 views/FB
March 28th:	66 In-person 84 views/FB

March Offering Totals

March 7th:	\$2,997
March 14th:	\$1,191
March 21st:	\$2,152
March 28th:	\$3,378



Blessing of the Bikes

There will be a Blessing of the Bikes on May 21st (the last day of school!) at 2:00pm.

We will be joining in with the St. Mark's Lutheran church as we have in the past for this event.

Please bring your bikes to St. Mark's and join in on the fun!

Congratulations Graduates!

UMC would like to congratulate all the high school graduates of 2021.

Special recognition go to our church families of:

Logan Vogel,
Gunnar Nyberg
and
Kaden Kocian



APRIL Attendance

April 4th(Easter):	150 total In-person Includes 47 Good Friday and 35 Sunrise Service 164 Total views/FB Includes 91 views for Good Friday
April 11th:	50 In-person 81 views/FB
April 18th:	63 In-person 62 views/FB
April 25th:	70 In-person 72 views/FB

APRIL Offerings

April 4th(Easter):	\$6,408
April 11th:	\$628
April 18th:	\$3,707
April 25th:	\$988



MAY at a Glance

May 2	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School- after Worship
May 5	Youth Group 6:15 pm
May 6	Admin Council Meeting 7:00 pm
May 9	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School- after Worship
May 11	UMW meeting 1:30 pm in F.H.
May 12	Prayer Group 11:00 am Youth Group 6:15 pm- Last night!
May 15	UMC helps with Food Pantry
May 16	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School- after Worship
May 19	Prayer Group 11:00 am
May 21	Blessing of the Bikes at St. Marks 2:00pm
May 23	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am
May 26	Prayer Group 11:00 am
May 30	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am

United Methodist Women

The UMW will be meeting in the church Fellowship Hall on Tuesday, May 11th at 1:30 pm.
All ladies are welcome!

Prayer Group

Prayer group will begin again on May 12th. It will be held every Wednesday at 11am at the church and will run May-July.

All are welcome!



Sunday

Worship time 10:00 a.m.

Fellowship 9:30 and 11:00 a.m.*

Adult Bible Study

Sunday morning 9:00 am

Children's Education

Sunday School 11:00 am.
-after Worship

Youth Group

Wednesday evenings 6:15 pm
during school year

Thursday

Come 'n Go Coffee 10:00-11:00*
a.m.*

Prayer Group

Wednesdays at 11:00am

***Fellowship and Come and Go Coffee time have been suspended until further notice.**

United Methodist Church of St. Paul

MISSION STATEMENT

'Making and Nurturing Disciples'

We are starting a new prayer request list. If you would like your name added to this list, please let the church office know.

Thank you



Note: We can only publish prayer concerns with the permission of the people involved. Also, the Pastor often does not find out about hospitalizations. HIPPA regulations do not allow the hospital to call unless they are requested to do so. Please give us a call (Church 754-4247) if you or someone you know is in the hospital or desires a call. Thank you for your help.

Food Pantry

The **Food Pantry** here in St. Paul is always looking for food donations. Please help us stock the shelves. Any food or paper item is accepted but these items are in high demand every month.

- | | |
|------------------|----------------------|
| Hamburger Helper | Chocolate Pudding |
| Brownie mixes | Jello-Not Strawberry |
| Applesauce | Mandarin Oranges |
| Pork and Beans | Frosting |
| Salad Crackers | Dish Soap |
| Laundry Soap | Shampoo |
| Paper Towels | Toilet Tissue |



If you are unable to come to in person worship, please feel free to watch services on-line on Facebook under *United Methodist Church in St. Paul, Nebraska*. These services are now a live-streamed service! If you can't watch on Sunday Morning, you can always watch anytime under the "videos" section. We encourage you all to do so!

Also kindly 'like' our church Facebook page and share our services with friends.

Food Pantry hours

Saturday
9:00-11:00 am

Tuesday
4:00-6:00 pm

Beginning in 2018, February will be the month for United Methodist Church to donate to the Food Pantry.



Food Pantry

The United Methodist Church is responsible for operating the Food Pantry every third Saturday from 9-11 am. If you could volunteer to help any one of these Saturdays, it would be greatly appreciated.

May 15th is our next work date. Precautions are taken to insure the health and protection of both the worker and the consumer.

Thank you, Theda Van Horn



May 1	Alyssa Swanson	May 19	Darwin Lee
May 2	Brad Wells	May 20	Mikaleh Esquitin
May 3	Jeovany Cole-Lopez	May 21	Loren Studley
May 4	Machell Naylor	May 25	Mick McDowell
May 7	Thaddeus Radke	May 26	Deidre Hurlburt
May 8	Linnea Vogel	May 27	Gordon Knuth
May 13	Kelly Gebhardt		Macy Porter
May 14	Linda Jacobsen	May 28	Christa Naylor
May 16	Kent Meyer		Aiden Anderson
May 18	Alex Coslor	May 29	Brandon Starkey
	Nathan Swanson		

Happy Anniversary

May 13	Jarold and Linda Jacobsen
May 20	Buck and Dixie Buxton
May 25	Jeff and Stacy Vogel
May 28	Dave and Connie Snow
May 29	Tom and Sheryl Mortimer

UMC Christmas Offering Helps Children in Kenya Go To School

An offering that was taken during our Christmas Eve service 2020 has helped retain 15 children in school in Kenya! This enabled them to continue in their education uninterrupted. This was done through an organization called the Nyambene Child Ministry of Kenya.

A little background on this...

Primary education in Kenya is free, although students are required to own or wear a school uniform. An average uniform can cost from \$35-\$50. School uniforms are detrimental to access of education. With our offering gift of \$350, they were able to help 15 children from vulnerable families to aid them in the continuation of their education. So a big thank you to those of you that gave to this cause!



A child gets measured for a new uniform
(Left picture)



Trying it on!
A child tries on their new uniform
(Right picture)





Quilters and Crafters

Thanks to the newspaper article about our fidget quilts, we have had three people donate fabric to us. We are very grateful for the donations; what we can't use, we are sharing with St. Marks and Presbyterian Church sewing groups. If you or a friend are interested in finding out more about the Quilters and Crafters please let one of us know. We'd love to have you join us!

Mary Ann Rickertsen, Ursula Sorlie, Connie Snow, Carol Phillips and Marian Odabasi

Ecclesiastes 4, a time to weep and a time to laugh,
Ecclesiastes 7, a time to tear and a time to mend.



There's nothing that makes us laugh with joy as much as sorting through fabric and notions!

May Day

The Youth Group made 50 May Day baskets for Matelyn residents.



Vacation Bible School

The church is planning on having a Vacation Bible School this summer! We will be needing volunteers, so please let the church know if interested in helping.

This is tentatively planned for the first full week in July. Stay tuned for more information!





United Methodist Church Prayer Chain

The purpose of the prayer chain is to offer special prayers for individuals in critical need. The chain cannot be activated without the permission of the family in need. Call prayer requests to the church office 754-4247. The prayer request will be called to the first person on these lists. Each caller then calls the next person on the list. If that person is unavailable, a call should be placed to the following name and contact made with the first party later in the day. Last name on list does not call anyone. We are in need of more people joining the prayer chain. Praying for each other is an important ministry that we can do for our church family. If you would be interested in becoming part of this mission, please contact the church office.

Marilyn Wall	754-5100	Martha Voigt	754-4666	Jackie Cook	754-9115
Deb Wells	754-5620	Rose Ross	754-4993	Charlene Craig	754-5503
Nancy Harrington	750-0279	Darla Voigt	750-1401	Mary Ann Rickertsen	754-4038
Theda Van Horn	754-4541	Lory Thomsen	754-4286	DeEtte Lukasiewicz	750-0246
Cleo Edwards	754-4853	Charlotte Rasmussen	308-863-2281	Brenda Starkey	750-7967
Ashley Meyer	308-627-2808	Vanice Bahensky	754-7873	LuAnn Todd	308-380-5022

We are in need of more people joining the prayer chain. All you have to do is pray for someone as the requests are made. Please consider this request to help.

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women met April 13, 2021 at 1:30 PM. Charlene Craig opened the meeting. The devotions were given by LuAnn Todd. Charlene Craig offered prayer. The purpose was recited by everyone.

The minutes were read and approved as read.

The treasurers report was given. February income \$236.25 for a balance of \$1028.23, March receipts of \$91.00, expense of \$193.00 leaving a balance of \$926.23.

Old Business: Marian Odabasi made a motion to take up an offering for the UMCOR kits. Theda VanHorn seconded.

Carried. Theda VanHorn and Jackie Cook will collect the greeting cards and take them to the Thrift Store.

New Business: Deb Wells said the Memorial committee is considering buying a few lighter tables for the fellowship room. She asked if we would want round or oblong tables.

Marian Odabasi gave the mission minute about the early history of United Methodist Women.

Pastor Susan Murithi gave an interesting lesson on Racism.

Mary Ann Rickertsen will give the devotions and Charlene Craig will serve lunch for the May meeting.

Meeting adjourned.
Mary Ann Rickertsen served lunch.

Mary Ann Rickertsen, Secretary

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