

# United Methodist Church Newsletter



## October 2021



[stpaulneunitedmethodistchurch.com](http://stpaulneunitedmethodistchurch.com)

**Office Hours**  
Tues-Fri  
9am –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 Esquitin

Board of Trustees  
Janet Thomsen  
Darwin Lee

Finance  
Tom Powell

Staff/Parish Relations  
Bob Rasmussen

Worship  
Darla Voigt

Mission-Outreach  
Mary Ann Rickertsen

UMM  
Tom Knutson

UMW  
Charlene Craig  
Carol Phillips

Education  
Nancy Harrington

Auditor  
Larry Hurlburt

## October 2021 Newsletter: I won't leave my friend behind

A friend of mine once read a book that she absolutely loved. She called me after she was done reading and said, "Susan, do you love books? I thought for a minute and told her that it depends. There are books that I love to read and then there are those that I have to read, either for school or for continued education in my ministry. She started telling me about this book by a certain author; "you need to read it. It is amazing, I promise you that you won't keep it down until you are done." I thanked her and decided to look for that book just for curiosity purposes. That book has topped the list of my best reads to this day.

But books aside, this episode makes me think of our believe as Christians, when we discover Jesus and how amazing he is, what do we do with that information? Do we call our friends and invite them to try him, or do we just keep it to ourselves? Is it because we are not sure if this faith works or is it that we haven't experienced it deeply ourselves and thus do not quite have much to say about it?

A story in John 4 tells of a Samaritan woman who had an encounter with Jesus. They had had a conversation at the well. The scripture tells us that the woman was convicted and believed in him. But she did not stop there, verse 28 says that "leaving her water jar, she went back to the town and said to the people, <sup>29</sup> "Come, see a man who told me everything I ever did. (One who knows me inside and out), Could this be the Messiah?" And they went out to see for themselves.

See, when we experience Christ and his goodness, the difference Jesus makes in life, we run out to tell others about it. It is not an option to be quiet about it. We go out to the villages like the Samaritan woman. We call people, we text them, we email them, whatever it takes, but we tell them about Jesus. It is what my friend did with that book she read, she called me to tell me about her discovery of an amazing book.

Have you been telling people who Jesus is lately? What he has done for you? The change he brought to your life. This is a beautiful experience. If you feel like you have nothing to share, maybe it is time to ask the Lord to reveal himself to you with such clarity that you will want to tell everyone, come, and see!

Having a witnessing month.

Pastor Susan Murithi





## Clean-up day!

There will be a Fall Clean-up day  
on  
October 9th, starting bright and early  
at 9 am.

If you are available, able and willing, please join us on this day at the church to help with a well needed cleanup of the church– inside and out! You are encouraged to bring your own cleaning supplies, gloves, etc. that you think may come in handy on this day.

*The raincheck date for this will be October 16th, same time.*

## *Pumpkins and Gourds needed:*



We would like to decorate the outside of the church with some fall décor. If you can donate any real pumpkins or gourds, please bring them to the church October 17th or after. *Thanks!*

### September Attendance

September 5th:	51 In-person 48 views/FB
September 12th:	55 In-person 66 views/FB
September 19th:	74 In-person 80 views/FB
September 26th:	54 In-person 46 views/FB

### September Offering Totals

September 5th:	\$2,115
September 12th:	\$1,844
September 19th:	\$1,531
September 26th:	\$700

### Youth Fellowship Collection

The church will be taking up a monetary collection starting this month for Youth Fellowship. This will go towards the Youth Group meals on Wednesday evenings and also will help to feed the kids going through Confirmation this Fall.

If you are interested in giving to this cause you may make a check out to the church, with a note or memo that it is for 'Youth Fellowship' or 'Youth Meal'.

***Thank you!***

### **School Children Milk Money**

Our church is committed to give milk money to the St. Paul Public Schools for those children who otherwise would not have it available. Please keep this mission in your prayers and consider donating to this wonderful cause. Make sure and note it on your check.



### Prayer Group!

The prayer group will resume on October 6th, 2021 at 11 am at the church.

## United Methodist Women

The UMW will be meeting for lunch at the Sweet Shoppe at 11:30 am on Tuesday, October 12th. All ladies are welcome!

### Bible Study

A new bible study will start on October 5th. This will be held at the home of Ursula Sorlie and will start at 1:00 pm. The group will meet every other Tuesday. If interested in joining this group or have any questions, you may call Ursula at (308)754-2086. Everyone is welcome!

### JUMPSTART:

#### Ideas and Inspiration for Post Pandemic

This is a four-hour gathering for all men and women in Nebraska and Kansas interested in hearing and sharing message of God's activities and the hope that God brings.

This is scheduled for Nov. 13th from 10:30 am to 2:30 pm at the First United Methodist Church in Hastings, NE.

The content of this gathering will include lunch/snacks, plus a variety of speakers, music and worship.

Cost: \$10 payable on arrival, but please email or phone/text that you can make it so food, etc. can be planned. Message your contact info and how many registering to: Doug Kalleson, [dkallesen@nev.rr.com](mailto:dkallesen@nev.rr.com) or (402)-563-1570 for landline/voicemail or (402)-909-4088 for text/voicemail.

## 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 during the school year

### **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

**Confirmation**– Sunday at 11:20 -every other Sunday Starting Oct. 3rd



**\*Fellowship and Come and Go Coffee have been suspended until further**

## **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.*

## Epworth Village Heart of the Matter It takes a village

Once again on October 15<sup>th</sup> Epworth Village is having their Benefit and Auction. Beginning on October 8<sup>th</sup> through the 15<sup>th</sup> they will hold an online auction. The night of October 15<sup>th</sup> they will have a live auction and program. In addition to a financial donation, United Methodist Women has donated some items for their online auction. Pictured below are the items from our church.

These pillows measure 18 ½" by 18 ½". The cross stitch is done by hand.



This Halloween table runner is approximately 52" long and 19 ½" wide . There are two matching, reversible placemats. Also some plates, cups and napkins.

This third item is a round centerpiece/table topper with two smaller matching placemats. There are also some plates, napkins and a coordinating hand towel.



If you would like to bid on these, or any other item on the online auction, please go to this link:  
<http://www.charityauction.bid/epworthvillage2021>

Please visit their website or call Epworth Village if you have any questions about this event. Their number is 402-362-3353 and ask for Mary Plock

## 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.

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



Oct 1	Katelin Coghlan	Oct 18	CaLee Thomsen
Oct 3	Todd Alberts	Oct 21	Don Berggren
Oct. 3	Amanda Rasmussen	Oct 22	Carol Phillips
Oct 4	Ann Tuma	Oct 25	Kaitlyn Kezeor
Oct 11	Linda Jacobsen	Oct 25	Carol Bushousen
Oct 12	Cleo Edwards	Oct 27	Caleb Coslor
Oct 13	Jennifer Mitteis	Oct 27	Rachael Kellogg
Oct 16	Arianne Killinger	Oct 28	Susie Wolfert
Oct 17	Marilyn Brehm		

## *Happy Anniversary*

October 2	Todd and Terri Alberts
October 12	Joe and Stacie Swanson
October 13	Tim and Susan Ross
October 15	Bill and Darby Greenway
October 19	Mac and Arianne Killinger
October 24	Nick Pedersen and Susie Wolfert
October 31	Jens and Sue Nielsen



### 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.

**October 16th** 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

### Food Pantry hours

Saturday 9:00-11:00 am	Tuesday 4:00-6:00 pm
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Beginning in 2018, February will be the month for United Methodist Church to donate to the Food Pantry.

Our church would like to encourage everyone to come back to in person worship. Masks are not a requirement at this time but we do have them available if you choose to wear one. Our sanctuary is large which helps to make it easy to social distance.

If you are still 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.





## Christmas is coming!

The Christmas Cheer Committee has met a couple of times to start planning for this year's season of giving. I'd like to welcome Claude and Ursula Sorlie to our group. They will fill the void left by Dave and Connie Snow. Two members from St. Mark's are again helping this year. The applications for this year will be available around the middle of October. Once we have more details worked out I will be able to give you more information. Watch for that and also we'll let you know when we have gift tags available to purchase gifts.

*Thanks  
Mike and Carol Phillips*



## October Calendar

Oct 3	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10am–World Communion Sunday Children's Sunday School– after Worship Confirmation begins– 11:30am
Oct 5	Bible study begins– at Ursula Sorlie's home– 1 PM
Oct 6	Prayer Group resumes 11 am at the church Youth Group 6:15 pm Choir practice 7:30pm
Oct 9	Clean up day at the church 9am
Oct 10	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School– after Worship
Oct 12	UMW meeting 11:30 pm– meet for lunch at the Sweet Shoppe Admin Council Meeting 7 pm
Oct 13	Youth Group 6:15 pm Choir at 7:30pm
Oct 16	UMC helps with Food Pantry 9-11am Raincheck clean up date for the 9th
Oct 17	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School– after Worship Confirmation group meets after Worship
Oct 19	Bible study – at Ursula Sorlie's home– 1 PM
Oct 20	Prayer Group 11 am—visit Matelyn Youth Group 6:15 pm Choir practice 7:30pm
Oct 24	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School– after Worship Charge Conference at 3pm– Wood River UMC
Oct 27	Youth Group 6:15 pm Choir at 7:30pm
Oct 31	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School– after Worship Halloween



## A Success!

Neighborhood Mic Night was held on September 12th in the city park.

We had several performers and some great food! Thank you to all who came to help and enjoy this event!



*Top photo supplied by the Phonograph Herald*

## United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women met September 14, 2021 at 1:30pm. Carol Phillips called the meeting to order. Ursula Sorlie gave the devotions "It Is Not Good But A Good God". The scripture was Ruth 2:12. The minutes were read and approved as corrected. The \$50 was for the Epworth Village fund raiser and the school supplies for the children at Epworth Village. It was agreed to also give the health kit supplies to them.

The treasurers report showed a balance of \$1090.23 at the end of August.

Correspondence: District meeting will be a zoom meeting on October 9<sup>th</sup>. Big Garden is looking for a director. Thanked Rose, Charlene and Ursula for working on the bulletin board.

New Business: Healing and Joy on our Journey to God is our new lesson book. Buzz and LuAnn have moved to LaVista and Karen Killion has moved to Matelyn.

Ursula is starting a Bible Study in her home on October 5<sup>th</sup>. All are welcome. Mary Ann Rickertsen volunteered to fix lunch for the Confirmation class on October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Charlene Craig gave the lesson on paid leave for families after the birth of a baby, average salaries for different occupations and living wage for different sizes of family in Howard County.

We will have lunch at the Sweet Shop at 11:30 am for the October 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Mary Ann Rickertsen will give the lesson and Marilyn Wall the devotions. Meeting adjourned. Marilyn Wall served lunch.

Mary Ann Rickertsen  
Secretary

## 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. 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.

<b>Marilyn Wall</b>	754-5100	Martha Voigt	754-4666	<b>Jackie Cook</b>	<b>754-9115</b>
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



Prairie Rivers District - Advanced Class  
Lay Servant Ministries – Course Opportunity  
*Polity, Practice, and the Mission of the United Methodist Church*

As Laity, our ministry flows from a commitment to Christ's outreaching love and the knowledge that we are called to be missional and carry out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). The "local church is the most significant arena" (BOD ¶120), in which people will come to know Jesus Christ and the U.M.C. will fulfill its mission. Lay Servant Ministries include equipping sessions that are intended to guide participants through thoughtful reflection on the areas of leading, caring, communicating. So that our "witness, leadership, and service inspires others to a deeper commitment to Christ and more effective discipleship (BOD¶266).

**Polity, Practice, and the Mission of the United Methodist Church**

**Saturday**, November 20, 2021 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

**Location:** Hastings Grace United Methodist Church

1832 W 9th St, Hastings, NE 68901

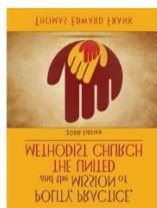
**Co-Leaders:** Rev. Stefanie Hayes and CLS Myron Lautenschlager

Please note: Some pre-work may be required

**Cost:** \$15.00 Payable to Great Plains UMC-Prairie Rivers District (mail in with your registration)

**Note Additional Cost:** \$10.00 Payable upon arrival. Includes snacks and Saturday lunch (make checks payable to Hastings Grace UMC)

**Register by November 5, 2021**



**Required Course Material: Participants Course Book: –**  
Polity, Practice, and the Mission of The United Methodist Church Thomas Edward Frank Participant's Book • AB531 • 978-0-687-33531-2 • \$18.99

**10 study hours are required for Course Certification of Completion**

**Course Participants, Order Your Own Books  
through Cokesbury.com (telephone 800-672-1789)  
or UpperRoom.org (telephone 800-972-0433)**

If questions, please contact either Nancy Spearow at [nspearow@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:nspearow@greatplainsumc.org)  
or Tonja Reed at [prairierivers@greatplainsumc.org](mailto:prairierivers@greatplainsumc.org)

**Great News!** On September 19th, we received 5 new members by transfer and one person was baptized and she also became a member by Profession of Faith.

We want to welcome these new members into our congregation. **Welcome!**



**United Methodist Church**  
1320 Baxter Street  
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