

United Methodist Church Newsletter

January

2022

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
Darwin Lee

Finance
Dave Harrington

Staff/Parish Relations
Bob Rasmussen

Worship
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UMW
Charlene Craig
Carol Phillips

Education
Nancy Harrington

Auditor
Larry Hurlburt

January 2022 Newsletter: Any Resolutions?

It is a New Year friends! God has gifted us again! Some of you have your new year resolutions ready to go, others do not make them anymore. We had a fellowship with some friends the other day and we were asked to name our new year resolutions. Some gave some really good ones, others said that they had none. They stopped making those resolutions because they realized that they never go beyond February. If one is doing extremely well that year, he/she might get to March, and that is how some gave up on resolutions and decided to just try to live each day faithfully. So what do you think about resolutions? To have them or not to have them?

That depends, one might derive great motivation from setting a goal, having an aspiration of what they want to achieve. They may fail in March and April, but they are okay picking it up in July before dropping it again in August. They may salvage it for a few days in November before it is time to make them again in January. Other people might feel really frustrated if they slacken down sometimes at the end of January and they may resolve to not set any long-term goals ever again.

No matter where you gravitate on these two attitudes, I think we should all listen to the direction God has for us in the new year. Taking time to pray, think, and reflect on what kind of a person God wants us to be this year. This may be done by listening to God's word. God knows what the year will be like and maybe his word will give a better guidance on how we can live out our lives. How about asking God to give us a guiding scripture for 2022? J.D Walt makes this prayer for the new year, *"I want more of your words, which endure forever. Would you lead me to a verse, a passage, a text for 2022—one I could immerse myself in? I want for your Word to be written on my heart. So, I offer you my good aspirations and receive from you your deeper intentions. Open your Word to me and let the same Holy Spirit who breathed it into being breathe it into my deepest mind and heart. Amen."* Isn't that a beautiful prayer for the new Year? May you receive a word from God that will be your guiding light in 2022. Amen

Pastor Susan Murithi



JANUARY CALENDAR

Jan 1	New Year's Day!	Jan 18	Finance Meeting 7 pm
Jan 2	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School– after Worship	Jan 19	Youth Group 6:15 pm Choir at 7:30pm
Jan 5	Youth Group 6:15 pm Choir at 7:30pm	Jan 23	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School– after Worship Confirmation after Worship
Jan 9	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School– after Worship Confirmation group meets after Worship	Jan 25	Bible Study– at Ursula Sorlie's home-1PM
Jan 12	Youth Group 6:15 pm Choir at 7:30pm	Jan 26	Youth Group 6:15 pm Choir at 7:30pm Young Family Group 6:45 pm
Jan 15	UMC to help with Food Pantry 9-11 am		
Jan 16	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School– after Worship	Jan 30	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School– after Worship

Young Family's Group

This newly created group welcomes couples and single parents with kids ages 0–12th Grade. Our current study is about raising children in a tech obsessed world. This group will meet next on January 26th at the church at 6:45 pm. If you have any questions, please let the office know.

United Methodist Women

There is NO January UMW Meeting. The next scheduled meeting of the UMW will be February 8th at 1:30 pm in the church fellowship hall.

Prayer Group!

The Prayer Group will not meet in January. Their next meeting will be February 16th at 11am at the church.

Please know that if at any time a member of this prayer group or any other individual would like to use the church chapel, it is open for prayer, meditation or silent reflection. Please feel free to use it during church hours.



The Youth Group worked on a tile project in December. Gifts for loved ones for the Christmas season.

Looks great!



Sunday

Worship time 10:00 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

Confirmation

Every other Sunday-
After worship
Jan. dates 1/9 and 1/23

Prayer Group

Wednesdays at 11:00am

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.

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 "milk fund" on your check memo.



Did you know.....

The UMW is still collecting *Best Choice* brand labels?

These are sent in for reimbursement after a certain amount has been reached. This helps the UMW in their ministry throughout the year. Please consider cutting out and donating labels this coming year. There is a basket in the Narthex of the church to bring these to. *The ladies thank you!*

December Attendance

December 5th:	90 In-person 109 views/FB
December 12th:	86 In-person 187 views/FB
December 19th:	145 In-person (includes 13 at Matelyn service) 63 views/FB
Christmas Eve:	130 In-person 70 views/FB
December 26th:	30 In-person 92 views/FB

December Offering Totals

December 5th:	\$3,997
December 12th:	\$2,967
December 19th:	\$2,675
Christmas Eve:	\$1,148
December 26th:	\$6,774



Ministerial Appreciation Dinner

On Dec. 21st, many joined together for fellowship (and good food!). The meal was a mixture of American and Kenyan cuisine. This was a *thank you* to those in the church who have helped in all ministries of the church.

Happy Anniversary

No Anniversaries this month

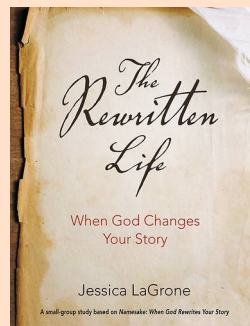


Jan 1	Claude Sorlie	Jan 13	Emily Christensen
Jan 2	Russ Swigart	Jan 14	Ashley Meyer
Jan 5	Diane Johnson	Jan 14	Jeff Vogel
Jan 7	Maxine Hoselton	Jan 18	Martha Voigt
Jan 8	Marvin Schwenk	Jan 19	Cash Wemhoff
Jan 8	Darby Greenway	Jan 19	Anthony Esquitin
Jan 10	Austin Starkey	Jan 23	Lisa Porter
Jan 11	Tim Ross	Jan 24	Erica Krauss
Jan 12	Becky Schwenk		

The Bible Study that has been held at Ursula Sorlie's home will resume on

January 25th at 1pm.

We are doing a wonderful study called "*The Rewritten Life: When God Changes your Story*" by Jessica LaGrone. Please join us for this life transforming study!



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.

January 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

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

Brownie mixes

Applesauce

Pork and Beans

Salad Crackers

Laundry Soap

Paper Towels

Chocolate Pudding

Jello-Not Strawberry

Mandarin Oranges

Frosting

Dish Soap

Shampoo

Toilet Tissue

Food Pantry hours

Saturday
9:00-11:00 am

Tuesday
4:00-6:00 pm

February is the month for United Methodist Church to donate to the Food Pantry.

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist met Tuesday December 14th, 2021. Charlene Craig opened the meeting. Charlene Craig gave the devotions, "Patch Work our Advocate" with scripture I Peter 5:6-11. Everyone recited the UMW purpose.

The minutes were read and approved as corrected (Annual Community Christmas luncheon). **Treasurer's report** was given with a balance of \$1073.10. We discussed year end giving. Theda Van Horn made a motion to give away \$500. Seconded. Carried. Amounts given: Food Pantry \$150, Epworth Village \$100, Salvation Army \$50, Big Garden \$50, Crisis Center \$50, Hope Harbor \$50 and Heifer International \$50.

Marilyn Wall shared a letter she received from Marian Odabasi. Charlene Craig reported the UMW bulletin board is almost finished. The flood buckets were picked up by the district since the November meeting.

New Business: Volunteers for the snacks for confirmation class are Mary Ann Rickertsen Jan. 9th and Charlene Craig Jan. 23rd. Volunteers to make desserts for Pastor Susan's Thank You dinner on December 22 are Carol Phillips, Charlene Craig, Rose Ross and Mary Ann Rickertsen. Next meeting February 8th at 1:30. Devotions will be given by Theda Van Horn, Lunch Rose Ross and lesson leader to be determined.

Meeting adjourned. Jackie Cook gave the lesson. Mary Ann Rickertsen served.

Secretary
Mary Ann Rickertsen

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.

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		

Christmas Cheer



Thank you, thank you, thank you! December is such a busy month for everyone. I don't think I need to remind you of all the activities that have taken place this month, and that's just in our church alone. Having said that, I want you to know how much the Christmas Cheer committee appreciates all that you did for several Howard County families. Maybe you bought some gifts, or possibly donated some money, others prayed for us and the families that applied. No matter how you helped, there are 20 families, including 38 children that benefited from your generosity this year!

They may not be able to thank you but we certainly will.

Again, thank you, thank you, thank you!

We look forward to helping more Howard County families in 2022.

If you are interested in helping with this outreach, please contact Pastor Susan or one of our committee members. We can always use your help.

Mike and Carol Phillips

Claude and Ursula Sorlie

Barb Lepper and Linda McKnight, St. Mark's Lutheran



Christmas Carols!!

On December 8th the Youth Group and several church volunteers took a trip to Matelyn and a few community homes to spread the joy of Christmas through caroling!

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January

