

United Methodist Church Newsletter



JANUARY

2023



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
Jared Rasmussen

Finance
Dave Harrington

Staff/Parish Relations
Bob Rasmussen

Worship
Darla Voigt

Mission-Outreach
Mary Ann Rickertsen

UMM
Tom Knutson

UWF
Charlene Craig
Carol Phillips

Education
Nancy Harrington

Auditor
Larry Hurlburt

2023 January Newsletter: What is Your Dream?

When I was younger, I dreamt a lot. Sometimes I had logical dreams that made sense; other times, I had crazy weird dreams. For example, I once dreamed that I had wings, and I flew all over town as the other kids cheered for me. It was a very exciting dream. Another time I dreamt a scary dream. I couldn't remember all the specific details except that I struggled with it and was very happy when I finally woke up. It might have had to do with the heavy dinner just before bed, but all those dreams I had appeared so real to me. The Merriam dictionary defines these kinds of dreams as a series of thoughts, images, or emotions occurring during sleep.

There is, however, a different definition of a dream from the same dictionary. These are the aspirations that we have for something better in our lives, as in "strongly desired goals or purposes." I want to talk about the second type of dream, dreams inspired by the holy spirit, visions of what God wants for you.

So, if I may ask, what is your dream for 2023? Where is God leading you? What are you visualizing for your life? What possibilities do you want to imagine in Christ? There are the new year's resolutions. Of course, those will go on until February or mid-March usually, and to the end of the year for the very disciplined among us, then there are God-inspired dreams. Those things we visualize about God's will for us. For example, what does God want me to do, what is the purpose of my being alive in 2023? Having a dream or a purpose for the year 2023 will give your new year meaning and significance. God already has a purpose and plan for your new year. In Jeremiah 29:11, the Bible says, "For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future."

God has a plan for you, but what is your dream? Do you hope to fit into God's plan for you this new year? How do you plan to walk in friendship with God? What are you planning to do with the talents God has given you this year? How are you planning to live in authentic relationships such that people will know and love of Christ through your life? Every year, God gives us a chance to honor him with our lives. Every year is an opportunity to please God, to spend quality time with him, to serve others, to show kindness, and to love deeply. What are you going to do with this new opportunity? What are your dreams regarding your faith journey in the year 2023? Have a blessed year full of God-inspired dreams. Happy 2023!

Pastor Susan

JANUARY

1st	Worship 10am-Guest Pastor: Dorthea Fairbanks New Year's Day	17th	Bible Study with Ursula
4th	Youth group 6:15pm Choir 7:30pm	18th	Prayer Group 11am Youth group 6:15pm Choir 7:30pm
8th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10am– Baptism Children's Sunday School– after worship	21st	UMC helps at Food Pantry 9-11am
10th	UWF meeting 1:30pm Admin Council meeting 7pm	22nd	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Children's Sunday School– after worship
11th	Youth group 6:15pm Young Family's Group 6:30pm Choir 7:30pm	25th	Youth group 6:15pm Choir 7:30pm
15th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Children's Sunday School– after worship	29th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10am Children's Sunday School– after worship

December Attendance

December 4th:	92 In-person 114 Views/FB
December 11th:	68 In-person 133 Views/FB
December 18th:	124 In-person 120 views/FB
December 24th:	118 In-person 124 views/FB
December 25th:	55 In-person 97 views/FB

December Offering Totals

December 4th:	\$3,664
December 11th:	\$1,913
December 18th:	\$6,335
December 24th: (<i>Kenya offering</i>)	\$1,201
December 25th:	\$8,224

Christmas Cheer!

Thank you, thank you, thank you! December is always 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. 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 23 families, including over 50 children that benefited from your generosity this year! They may not be able to thank you but we certainly will.

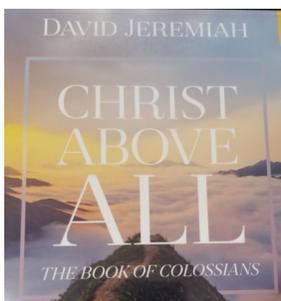
Again, thank you so much! We look forward to helping more Howard County families in 2023.

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



Cherri Klinginsmith, Carol Phillips, Claude and Ursula Sorlie – UMC

Barb Lepper, Linda McKnight, Sheryl and Alan Kusak – St. Mark's Lutheran



A new bible study will begin in January and will be led by Ursula Sorlie. The first date for this study will be on Jan. 17th. This next session will be covering the book *Christ Above All, The book of Colossians*, by David Jeremiah. In *Christ Above All*, Dr. Jeremiah goes verse by verse through Colossians to help you come to better know who Jesus is theologically and how to live in light of this. In Colossians, the Lord led the apostle Paul to paint one of the most vivid portraits of Jesus Christ in all of Scripture to help us believers understand that Christ is above all and superior to any belief system promoted by any false voices.

We invite you all to join us!

Please let Ursula Sorlie or the Church Office know if you would like to attend.



Birthdays of the Month

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

Happy Anniversary

NO January Anniversaries

United Women in Faith (UMW)

The next meeting of the UWF will be on
January 10th at
1:30 pm in the church
 fellowship hall.
 All ladies are welcome!

Youth meals

Wednesdays are pretty popular with the youth, and they especially enjoy the meals and desserts that are provided to them. If you would be able to make a meal or dessert, there are a couple ways to go about it. There is a Sign up Genius link that you can sign up under, or you may just call the church office and your name can be written down for a certain date. For *any* information on this, please contact the church office!

A big *Thank You* to those who have helped with this ministry!



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.

January 21st is the 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.

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



United Methodist Church of St. Paul
MISSION STATEMENT

'Making and Nurturing Disciples'

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	Darla Voigt	750-1401	Charlene Craig	754-5503
Nancy Harrington	750-0279	Rose Ross	754-4993	Mary Ann Rickertsen	754-4038
Theda Van Horn	754-4541	Cherri & Scott Klinginsmith	750-0615	DeEtte Lukasiewicz	750-0246
Cleo Edwards	754-4853	Charlotte Rasmussen	308-863-2281	Brenda Starkey	750-7967
Nancy Rudolf OR Mike McCarthy	750-2117-Nancy (775)-830-9521 -Mike	Vanice Bahensky	754-7873	Lory Thomsen	754-4286
Ashley Meyer	308-627-2808				

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