

# United Methodist Church Newsletter



## JUNE/JULY

2023

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



**Summer  
Office hours  
Tues-Thurs  
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  
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

### A Holy Spirit Story: From The Mother Of A Marine

Excerpt from the Wake-Up Call (May 6<sup>th</sup> 2023)

Today's Holy Spirit story comes to us from Anna Hogan. It is a gripping story that involves a recent international tragedy that we will all likely remember.

I am the mother of four United States Marines. On August 30, 2021, one of my sons called to tell me he would be going to Afghanistan on a mission. From the field somewhere deep in the Middle East, he said goodbye via Facetime.

We both cried.

"Mom, I have to go. There are women and children that need to be rescued."

This began the hardest nine days of my life as a mother.

My body held tension between anxiety and fear. I attempted to live a normal life for the first twenty-four hours, but that proved to be impossible. Within a few hours, I received eleven text messages from different women and families in my church.

"We are praying."

"We just saw the news, praying for you."

"I'm bringing you dinner, even if you don't want it."

I could hardly read them or respond. I decided to take a walk to the pond at the end of the road in my neighborhood. As I walked, I prayed, "God, please protect my boy. Put a shield around him and let him live."

I prayed for the soldiers, and my mind was reeling with all the "what ifs." Within a few days, the mission began to unfold on CNN and every other news source. It seemed to be everywhere. It was Sunday morning, and the pastor prayed for my boy and two others. He announced there would be a prayer service the next day.

I decided to attend. Unable to pray aloud, I rested my head on my folded arms and listened.

So I listened. I listened to the prayers of the people. I heard the groans of the Spirit in the prayers of my friends—pleas for protection, for God to keep these soldiers alive. In this place of desperation, I felt the Spirit's comfort.

I knew there was nothing left in me but to wait. The next day the news broke to the world that thirteen men had been killed at the Abby Gate.

My heart shattered.

I wept for the mothers and families of those twelve Marines and one Corpsman.

Days passed, and I had no idea if my son was injured, alive, or dead.

Sunday morning, I headed to worship. I needed it. I needed to sing to the only one who would one day bring true peace; who would make all things new.

During the sermon, my phone rang. It was my son. He had been unable to call until he could borrow a phone because the blast destroyed his cell phone. Many were injured that day, my son included, but I will never ever forget the comfort of the Spirit moving through prayer those nine days.

He is always with us. And he will pray for us. See Romans 8:26

# JUNE

4th	Worship 10am Guest Pastor Dorthea Fairbanks
11th	Worship 10am Guest Pastor Bill Stovall
13th	UWF meeting 1:30 pm
15th	UMC helps with Lunch Bunch
17th	UMC helps at the Food Pantry 9-11am
18th	Worship 10am Guest Pastor Bill Stovall
25th	Worship 10am Guest Pastor Dorthea Fairbanks

## Lunch Bunch

The church will once again be helping out with Lunch Bunch this summer. We have set the dates for the church as June 15th and July 13th, both Thursdays. If interested in helping out on these days, please contact Mary Ann Rickertsen or the church office. The church is currently taking donations for this cause if interested in giving. Anything given will be used to purchase hamburger or needed food items.



# JULY

2nd	Worship 10 am
5th	Vacation Bible School— 5-8 pm
6th	Vacation Bible School— 5-8 pm
7th	Vacation Bible School— 9am to noon
9th	Worship in the City Park— 10 am
13th	UMC helps with Lunch Bunch
15th	UMC helps at Food Pantry 9-11 am
16th	Worship 10 am
23rd	Worship 10 am
30th	Worship 10 am



## VBS 2023

When:  
**July 5th-7th**

**July 5-6**  
will be from 5-8 pm

**July 7th**  
will be from  
9 am-12 pm

The theme this year is  
'*Knights of North Castle*'.  
For easy sign up, please go online to  
register at: [www.stpaulvbs.com](http://www.stpaulvbs.com)  
This will be held here at UMC.  
**A Worship in the St. Paul City Park  
will be on June 9th at 10 am.**

Any questions, please give the church  
office a call!

# Blessing of the Bikes



Blessing of the Bikes was held on the last day of school ~  
May 19th~ at St. Mark's Lutheran Church in St. Paul.

There were five stations for kids to stop at: Bike safety, obstacle course, bike  
decoration, bike tune-up, and of course,  
a station to have their bikes blessed!  
This event was sponsored by UMC and St. Mark's.





## May Attendance

May 7th:	50 In-person 87 Views/FB
May 14th:	77 In-person 53 Views/FB
May 21st:	42 In-person 54 Views/FB
May 28th:	29 In-person 45 views/FB

## May Offering Totals

May 7th:	\$2,971
May 14th:	\$2,277
May 21st:	\$842
May 28th:	Not Yet Deposited



June 4	Vanice Bahensky	June 20	Connie Snow
June 8	Lily Sazama	June 23	Brandon Nyberg
June 8	DeEtte Lukasiewicz	June 25	Kayla Hawkins
June 9	Faith Murithi	June 26	Luke Thompson
June 11	Dave Snow	June 26	George Wall
June 12	Lynda Berggren	June 30	Kiaya Radke
June 15	Erika Klassen		

## *Happy Anniversary*

June 1	Anthony & Michaela Esquitin
June 4	Jason & Kayla Hawkins
June 6	Chris & Teresa Pedersen
June 7	Bob & Francine Rasmussen
June 10	Tom Powell & Linda Jacobsen
June 11	George & Marilyn Wall
June 12	Harold & Mary Ann Rickertsen
June 12	Eric & Jazmyne Spilinek
June 12	Stan & Cleo Edwards
June 13	Tom & Pat Knutson
June 15	Larry & Deidre Hurlburt
June 17	Claude & Ursula Sorlie
June 30	Jason & Lisa Porter



July 3	Jared Rasmussen	July 20	Toni Bentz
July 12	Theda Van Horn	July 22	Rebecca Bentz
July 14	Bowen Rudolf	July 22	Sarah Egger
July 14	Mike McCarthy	July 22	Landon Vogel
July 18	Stacie Swanson	July 23	Mike Phillips
July 20	Dennis Jameson	July 27	Tracie Dearmont



July 12	Dave & Nancy Harrington
July 12	Alex & Sarah Egger
July 24	Vincent & Emily Christensen
July 27	Loren & Heather Pearson
July 27	Luke & Brenda Thompson



## Want to join the Prayer Chain?

If you would be interested in joining the Prayer Chain, please let Jackie Cook or the church office know. We need you! Please read on page 6 to find out the details of how it works!



## 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.

**June 17th and July 15th** are the next work dates. 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	Tuesday
9:00-11:00 am	4:00-6:00 pm

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

### 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	Pudding
Brownie mixes	Jello
Cookies	Canned fruit- any kind
Bar Soap	Cereal
Pork and Beans	Frosting
Crackers(Salad & Soup)	Dish Soap
Laundry Soap	Shampoo/Conditioner
Paper Towels	Toilet Tissue
Flour	Ketchup/Mustard
Juice-any kind	Pie Crusts
Mayo	Pancake Mix/Syrup
Spaghetti Sauce	Toothbrushes/Toothpaste
Salad Dressings(Ranch/Dorothy Lynch)	

# Sunday

**Worship time 10:00 a.m.**

## Adult Bible Study

Sunday morning 9:00 am  
(on Summer break!)

## 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.**

<b>Marilyn Wall</b>	754-5100	<b>Martha Voigt</b>	<b>754-4666</b>	<b>Jackie Cook</b>	<b>754-9115</b>
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 <b>OR</b> Mike McCarthy	750-2117-Nancy (775)-830-9521 -Mike	Vanice Bahensky	754-7873	Lory Thomsen	754-4286

## **United Women of Faith**

United Women in Faith met May 9<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 12pm for a Salad Luncheon. Charlene Craig called the meeting to order after the Luncheon. Ursula Sorlie gave the devotions using a poem on aging and thoughts from the book "I Am Not Old but the Best is yet to Come". She closed with prayer. We need to pray for the Graduates from high school, and members with

health issues-Susan Ross and Daylene Fox. We recited the UWF purpose.

Mary Ann Rickertsen read the minutes and they were approved as read.

Mary Ann Rickertsen gave the Treasurer's report, in the absence of Jackie Cook, with a balance of \$1273.63.

**Bills:** Charlene Craig \$24.00 for the Response magazine.

**Correspondence:** Mission U is July 21-22. The topic is "Living the Kingdom: Lord's Prayer as a Spiritual Practice for Social Transformation" also sessions for youth and children. Other e-mail news - "What's happening in the Methodist Church" copies were handed out. Since 2019 about 2000 Methodist churches world-wide have left, but 40,000 Methodist churches left.

**Old Business:** April 16<sup>th</sup> UWF served Fellowship with two guest speakers from Midwest Dist. Center. Thanks to Cheryl Yoder and Jackie Cook for setting up and Cheryl Yoder, Deb Wells, Charlene Craig and Mary Ann Rickertsen for food and everyone that helped serve and clean up.

**New Business:** Vacation Bible School dates July 5,6 and 7 at varying times.

Next meeting June 13<sup>th</sup> at 1:30. Lesson - Mary Ann Rickertsen,  
Lunch - Ursula Sorlie, - Devotions Marilyn Wall.

Lesson was given by Cheryl Yoder, telling of what her responsibility was for the 29 years she was with The Nebraska Department of Human Services.

Mary Ann Rickertsen

Secretary



### United Women in Faith (UMW)

The next meeting of the  
UWF will be on  
**June 13th at 1:30 pm**  
in the church fellowship hall.  
All ladies are welcome!



**United Methodist Church**  
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