

United Methodist Church Newsletter



NOVEMBER

2023



stpaulneunitedmethodistchurch.com

Office hours
Tues-Thurs
9am –3:00 pm
754-4247

Staff

Rev. Dr. Susan Murithi

Church Secretary
Carrie Hancock

Custodian
Integrated Life Choices
Call Church 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

November 2023 Newsletter

On the last week of October this year, we held a big celebration in our church. We called it the Stewardship celebration Sunday. It was a wonderful time where the whole church showed up for good food and fellowship. The meal was catered, but some sisters in our church wanted to sweeten the party and made desserts even though we had hoped not to bother them with cooking or baking this time. We just wanted for people to come and enjoy.

The event was meant to thank our congregation for their giving. Through the financial resources and the time they give in their service, our church has been able to accomplish many ministries this year. I believe we have made an impact in God's kingdom and the world is a better place because a church in St. Paul has been obedient to what God calls them to be. Children have been fed, youth have been taught the good news and loved, the gospel has been preached, families in need have been cared for, and even special needs children in far away Kenya have received our love.

On that same day, we ushered in our stewardship series. Rev Richard Randolph our guest speaker for the day reminded us that generous giving transforms us. Zacchaeus who was moved by the kindness of Jesus was so grateful that he gave generously. This kind of giving in turn transformed him and he was a changed man from that day on. The focus of our series is gratitude. In other words, we are learning that our giving to God should stem from a sense of gratitude rather than duty. If God has done anything for us this year worthy celebrating, if it is worth saying thank you to him with our financial gifts, if we have tasted God's and love, then our right response is gratitude. This may be reflected through our giving to God's work and acts of kindness to other people.

God has been good to us, he has blessed us with life, health, family, and friends among many other things. Some people might treat Gods blessings casually, but as Jesus followers, we want to embrace a grateful heart no matter what! We aspire to be grateful people not because we got everything we wanted in life, but because God is good and kind to us.

Happy Thanksgiving! *Amen*
Pastor Susan

October Attendance

October 1st:	39 In-person 22 Views/YouTube
October 8th:	55 In-person 16 Views/YouTube
October 15th:	46 In-person 16 Views/YouTube
October 22nd:	62 In-person 14 Views/YouTube
October 29th:	71 In-person 10 Views/YouTube

October Offering Totals

October 1st:	\$4,000
October 8th:	\$1,532
October 15th:	\$1,048
October 22nd:	\$1,529
October 29th:	\$1,251

NOVEMBER

1st	Youth Group 6:15pm Fall Bible Study— 7:30pm	19th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School-after worship Charge Conference—Trinity UMC 3pm
5th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am— Communion Children's Sunday School-after worship Daylight Savings Time ends— <i>Fall back!</i>	22nd	NO Youth Group
8th	Youth Group 6:15pm Fall Bible Study— 7:30pm— Last one!	23rd	Thanksgiving
12th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School-after worship	26th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School-after worship
14th	UWF meeting— 1:30pm	27th	Christmas/Advent Decorating 1pm
15th	Youth Group 6:15pm	29th	Youth Group 6:15pm
18th	UMC helps with Food Pantry 9-11am		

UWF Award Presentation



Pictured above-members of the UWF- from left to right, Charlene Craig, Theda Van Horn, and Mary Ann Rickertsen

On Sunday, October 22nd, Theda Van Horn was awarded by the *United Women of Faith* a Special Mission Recognition Award during worship service. This is for all her work not only here at the church, but throughout our community. *Congratulations, Theda!*

Our Worship Committee Requests your Help

The holidays are creeping up on us once again!

Please, if able and willing, consider coming to help decorate the church for the Advent season.

On **Sunday, November 26th**, after worship service, we need some strong people to help carry and set up some of the heavy items from the outside shed.

Then on **Monday, November 27th**, starting at 1:00 pm please meet in the Fellowship Hall if you would like to help with the decorating.

Please consider helping on either one of these days to get our church ready for the Advent season.

All are welcome!



Nov 5	Steve Hancock	Nov 19	Adam Rensch
Nov 9	Shana Berggren	Nov 19	Melissa Butt
Nov 11	Jeanne Bruntz	Nov 26	Kent Naylor
Nov 13	Eric Spilinek	Nov 28	Mary Ann Rickertsen
Nov 15	Matt Harrington		



Nov 9	Mike & Katelin Coghlan
Nov 25	Dan & Daylene Fox
Nov 30	Gary and Charlene Craig



All Faiths Christmas Luncheon

This yearly luncheon will be held on Wednesday, December 6th, 2023 at the Christ Lutheran Church. It will start at 12:00 noon.

All are welcome!



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. **November 18th** 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 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.

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)	



Christmas Cheer 2024



What a great start to Christmas Cheer! Thank you to all of you that contributed in some way to the Silent Auction on the 29th. The money donated will be a good start toward helping our Cheer families have a Merry Christmas! A total of \$350 was given towards this cause. If you were unable to be there on the 29th, don't worry, there is still plenty of time and ways to help.

Applications are now available at Chamber of Commerce and Citizens Bank as well as our church. If you, or anyone you know is needing some help, please know these applications are available. They are due back to our church by **November 17th**. On **November 26th** gift tags will be available for you to select from our tree. The gifts need to be returned to our church by **December 15th**. We are also collecting gloves, hats, mittens and socks to give away, particularly adult sizes. If you aren't able to do any shopping, financial donations may be made to the church or directly at Citizens Bank. Please make checks out to Howard County Christmas Cheer. There will be more information and a donation box available on **November 26th**.

Thank you so much
Christmas Cheer Committee



*'Tis the Season
Of Giving*

2023 Charge Conference

This year's Charge Conference is scheduled for November 19th at 3:00pm.

It will be at Trinity United Methodist in Grand Island. Their address is 511 North Elm Street. All members are welcome and encouraged to come!

United Methodist Church of St. Paul **MISSION STATEMENT**

'Making and Nurturing Disciples'

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 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 OR Mike McCarthy	750-2117-Nancy (775)-830-9521 -Mike	Vanice Bahensky	754-7873	Lory Thomsen	754-4286

United Women of Faith

The UWF met on October 10th 2023 at 1:30 PM at the church. Charlene called the meeting to order. Devotions were given by Ursula relating to Peace on Earth.

Present were Charlene, Jackie, Ursula, Theda, Marilyn, Dorthea, Darlene and Rose.

Ongoing prayers for couples Harold and Mary Ann, Carol and Mike, Claude and Ursula, and for Susan Ross, Daylene Fox, Cheryl Yoder, Delsene, and Darwin.

Minutes of last meeting approved as read.

Treasurers report- by Jackie: balance on hand \$1195.73. Past year's budget was approximately \$1400.00. The decrease in funds is due to decreased meetings and decreased members.

Charlene proposes: Is it possible for members to step up our giving? Building Blocks Foster Care of O'Neill, NE sent a letter requesting donations. It was tabled due to insufficient funds.

Correspondence: New program book introduced. Epworth Village summer newsletter discussed. Fall fundraiser for Epworth- do we donate now? It was tabled until November. Fall district UWF newsletter addressed. Charlene and Carol will be attending District meeting in Wood River on Saturday, October 14th.

Response issues in back of dining hall for reading. Sally Vonner is new CEO.

Old business: Nothing

New business: Date and time of future meetings discussed. Also, format of meetings. No changes made. Bring giving jars for next month Thank Offering. Meeting adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Theda, Jackie and Dorthea gave a presentation on their visit to the Genoa Indian Museum and School.

Next meeting Tuesday November 14th at 1:30 PM.

Darlene-lesson, Devotions-Theda and Lunch- Dorthea.

-Ursula Sorlie



United Women in Faith (UMW)

The next meeting of the
UWF will be on
November 14th at 1:30pm.
All ladies are welcome!



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November

