

United Methodist Church



FEBRUARY



2024

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
Bob Rasmussen

Board of Trustees
Jared Rasmussen

Finance
Dave Harrington

Staff/Parish Relations
Tom Knutson

Worship
Darla Voigt

Mission-Outreach
Mary Ann Rickertsen

UMM
Tom Knutson

UWF
Charlene Craig
Carol Phillips

Education
Nancy Harrington

Home/Small Groups in Church: Building Community, Growing Faith

Fellowship with other Christians helps us discover the true essence of community. In the setting of a small group fellowship, we share our joys, struggles, and spiritual journeys. We also get a sense of belonging, creating a supportive environment where members can build lasting relationships that extend beyond the Sunday service.

Growth as disciples of Christ best happens in the context of community. Doing life together with a group of people who are on the same journey is vital. As wonderful as Sunday morning gatherings are, they are not enough for good discipleship. Life's challenges that a Christian may have encountered throughout the week are met with the collective strength of a community united in faith. Whether facing personal hardships, celebrating achievements, or navigating the complexities of daily life, the small group becomes a source of inspiration, comfort, and solidarity.

Accountability is another powerful aspect of a small group. In these close-knit circles, individuals are held responsible for their spiritual growth and actions. Spiritual growth becomes a shared journey. By coming together regularly, members engage in meaningful discussions, study scripture, and pray for one another. These intentional activities contribute to a deeper faith, fostering an environment where everyone is encouraged towards love and good deeds.

To achieve this goal of fostering community, our church is inviting families to consider hosting a home group in their house. Volunteering to be a small group leader is an opportunity to contribute to the spiritual well-being of our church family. You will work with the pastor to determine the program and the materials that one might need for the meetings. If you host a small group, you become a facilitator of meaningful connections and enable spiritual growth in the lives of fellow church members. You will also have an opportunity to invite your neighbors and family members to a non-threatening smaller community of faith. Your own spiritual journey will thrive as you help your church build a stronger, more connected church community.


Join us in this journey of growth, connection, and community. Together, let's make our church a place where every member feels known, supported, and encouraged on their unique path of faith, and welcome our neighbors to be part of God's family.
Will you host a home group? If not ready just yet, would consider joining one?

Blessings, Pastor Susan



FEBRUARY



4th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am— Communion Children's Sunday School-after worship	18th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Sunday School-after worship
7th	Youth Group 6:15pm	19th	Ministerial Association Presentation here at UMC 6pm-FREE event! Topic this month: Dealing with Dependency & Addiction 
11th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am— Baptisms and New Members received during worship Children's Sunday School-after worship	21st	Youth Group 6:15pm Lent Study begins 11am-Dorthea 7pm— Pastor Susan
13th	UWF meeting— 1:30pm	25th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am-Introducing our 2024 Leadership Team Children's Sunday School-after worship
14th	Youth Group 6:00pm Ash Wednesday Service 6:30pm Valentine's Day	28th	Youth Group 6:15pm Lent Study 11am-Dorthea 7pm— Pastor Susan
17th	UMC helps with Food Pantry 9-11am		

January Attendance

January 7th::	60 In-person Views/YouTube
January 14th:	NO SERVICE TODAY Too Cold!
January 21st:	42In-person 19 Views/YouTube
January 28th:	52 In-person 12 Views/YouTube

January Offering Totals

January 7th:	\$11,848
January 14th:	NO SERVICE TODAY Too Cold!
January 21st:	\$812
January 28th:	Not Deposited yet

Soup Supper

The soup supper that was held on January 24th was a wonderful success. A big thank you to those that helped pull it all together– by making soup, desserts, providing bread/crackers, and those that volunteered their time to organize, help set up and serve our community and congregation. We couldn't do it without all of you!

This soup supper brought in \$2,040.25.



Ash Wednesday service will be held at the church on February 14th at 6:30pm.

Ash Wednesday emphasizes a dual encounter: we confront our own mortality and confess our sin before God within the community of faith.

We hope you can join us!

A Lent Study begins on Wednesday,

February 21st. There will be two sessions you may sign up for: 11:00am or 7:00pm. The 11am session will be led by Rev. Dorthea and the 7pm session will be led by Pastor Susan. The book that will be used for this study is "Altar'd: The Transforming Power of Surrender" by Susan O. Kent.

Altars have always represented change. Join us for Lent as we discover how Jesus transforms and heals us through altars. Please sign up for this study in the Narthex or call the church office as books will need to be ordered.





Feb 1	Robyn Rasmussen	Feb 14	Kelby Feeney
Feb 2	Logan Berggren	Feb 15	Mark Starkey
Feb 2	Addie Ruzicka	Feb 17	Rose Ross
Feb 11	Marlene Kremlacek	Feb 19	Doug Voigt
Feb 13	Ryan Rasmussen	Feb 27	James Hansen
Feb 14	Adam Feeney		



Feb. 4	Paul & Toni Bentz
Feb. 14	Gordon & Diane Knuth
Feb 15	Russ & Becky Schwenk

United Women in Faith (UMW)

The next meeting of the
UWF will be on
February 13th at 1:30pm.
All ladies are welcome!



FOOD PANTRY



February is Food Pantry month here at UMC.

Please consider donating items for the Howard Greeley
Food pantry. We take items at any time, but in
February we ramp up our giving!

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.
February 17th 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- Saltines)	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

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'

Home/Small Groups (10-15 people)

Welcome to Home/Small Groups! We know that Growth as disciples of Christ best happens in the context of community. Doing life together with a group of people who are on the same journey is vital. Smaller groups are important for any church community. These groups meet bi-weekly or monthly for fellowship and to learn from scripture and each other.

As wonderful as Sunday morning gatherings are, they are not enough for good discipleship. Small groups afford every member a belonging and bring authenticity in sharing life's joys and struggles. In fellowship, we support, encourage, and even hold each other accountable to the work God is doing in each of our lives.

We are in need of volunteers to host home groups for the months of March, April and May as a pilot study to see the feasibility of these groups in our church. If God is calling you to host one of these groups, please let the church office or the pastor know about it.

God bless

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

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