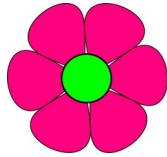
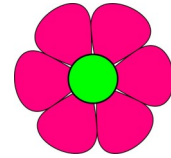


United Methodist Church



APRIL
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

April Newsletter: Living As Easter People

Happy Easter! Did we not already do that last Sunday? One may wonder. Is it not over yet? Not really! It is still Easter because it isn't just a one-day affair. Rather, it's a season. The early church celebrated Easter for fifty days. Christians marked this season with joyous music and intentional spiritual renewal. It was a period to celebrate Christ's victory over death and the forces of evil, giving God's people renewed hope of God's promise of new life in Christ. Following the resurrection, Jesus appeared to his disciples over a period of forty days, teaching them about the kingdom of God and commissioning them to spread the Good News to all nations. On Pentecost, which was the fiftieth day, the Holy Spirit descended upon the disciples, empowering them to proclaim the Gospel with boldness and authority.

A resurrected life however, goes on even beyond the fifty days. The Easter life that Christ calls us to live is an everyday life from the moment we get to know him to the day he calls us home. We pursue a new life and new creation and seek to grow in our relationship with God through prayer, worship, and acts of service. We also extend God's grace to others as taught by Jesus. We become agents of transformation, as we seek to bring healing to the broken world.

Living as the people of Easter means being a light in a world that sometimes feels as if it is covered in total darkness. As people of Easter, we move into the mission field carrying the light of Jesus. Praying for the sick, feeding the hungry, embracing the poor, and loving the outcasts. Just as nature is showing signs of new life in the springtime, we too are called to undergo a spiritual rebirth, shedding our old ways, and embracing the abundant life that Christ offers. We strive to become more fully the people that God created us to be.

Ultimately, living as the people of Easter means bearing witness to the reality of Christ's resurrection in the world. It means proclaiming the Good News of salvation. We are ambassadors of Christ, we are called to share the hope and joy of Easter with others, inviting them to experience the transformative love of God for themselves. In doing so, we participate in God's ongoing work of redemption and renewal and contribute to the building of a kingdom where God is king, and life is just and wholesome. So, allow me to continue the celebration we started on Sunday, and invite you to deliberately live as an active agent of God's kingdom. Happy Easter!

Pastor Susan Murithi



APRIL



3rd	Youth Group 6:15pm	17th	Youth Group 6:15pm
7th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am– Communion Children’s Sunday School-during worship	20th	UMC helps with Food Pantry 9-11am
9th	UWF meeting– 1:30pm Admin Council meeting– 7pm	21st	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children’s Sunday School-during worship Home Group– Craigs– 5:00pm
10th	Youth Group 6:15pm	24th	Youth Group 6:15pm
14th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children’s Sunday School-during worship Home Group-Harringtons– 4:30pm	28th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children’s Sunday School-during worship
15th	Home Group– Fairbanks– 5:30pm	29th	Hospital Auxiliary Spring Luncheon-held in the Fellowship Hall 11am-1pm

March Attendance

March 3rd:	44 In-person 26 Views/YouTube
March 10th:	54 In-person 30 Views/YouTube
March 17th:	57 In-person 31 Views/YouTube
March 24th: <i>Palm Sunday</i>	62 In-person 18 Views/YouTube
March 29th: <i>Good Friday</i>	32 In-person 19 Views/YouTube
March 31st: <i>Easter day(10am)</i> <i>Sunrise service</i>	87 In-person 21 Views/YouTube 27 In-person

March Offering Totals

March 3rd:	\$2,695
March 10th:	\$5,250
March 17th:	\$1,578
March 24th: <i>Palm Sunday</i>	\$1,770
March 31st: <i>Easter day</i>	\$1,548

St. Paul Home Group Communities!

Welcome to St. Paul Home Group Communities! 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. Our congregation is starting Home Group Communities started March 2024. The groups will meet monthly for fellowship and to learn from scripture and each other. These groups will afford every member a belonging and bring authenticity in sharing life's joys and struggles. They will also build community through fellowship, support, and friendships while deepening discipleship through God's word.

Please contact the church office if interested in joining a group.

Special thanks to our Pilot volunteer Hosts:
The Craigs, The Harringtons, and the Fairbanks.

Harringtons next Home Group: April 14th at 4:30pm
 Fairbanks next Home Group: April 15th at 5:30pm
 Craigs next Home Group: April 21st at 5:00pm



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

Kunene Special School

The Kunene Special School in Kenya was able to purchase 10 tables and 20 benches for their dining hall with the money that was collected at our 2023 Christmas Eve offering. They were also able to install window panes, paint the windows, doors, floors and walls in the dining hall.



April 1	Nancy Harrington	April 17	Daylene Fox
April 3	Russ Schwenk	April 18	Harold Rickertsen
April 4	Brock Nielsen	April 21	Jordan Norman
April 8	Audrey Anderson	April 22	Darlene Hansen
April 8	Geoff Murithi Iringo	April 22	Heather Pearson
April 12	Jackson Ohde	April 23	Rikki Thompson
April 13	Jason Hawkins	April 24	Marilyn Wall
April 13	Nick Pedersen	April 24	Kingston Sack
April 14	Susan Murithi	April 25	Andrew Thomsen

Did you know.....

The UWF is still collecting
Best Choice
brand labels (bar codes)?

These are sent in for reimbursement after a certain amount has been reached. This helps the UWF in their ministry throughout the year. Please consider cutting out and donating labels for this cause. There is a basket in the Narthex of the church to place these.

The UWF ladies thank you!

Happy Anniversary

April 1	Lonny & Janet Thomsen
April 3	Don & Lynda Berggren



United Methodist Church of St. Paul
MISSION STATEMENT
'Making and Nurturing Disciples'



UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

United Women in Faith met March 12, 2024 at the church. Members present were Darla Voigt, Jackie Cook, Deb Wells, Cheryl Yoder and Mary Ann Rickertsen.

Darla Voigt opened the meeting in the absence of our co-presidents.

Mary Ann Rickertsen read the minutes of the February meeting.

They were approved as corrected.

Jackie Cook gave the treasurers report with a balance of \$748.73.

Correspondence: Fall Great Plains Annual Conference in York during Sept. Response Magazine has a list of the Reading Program. Forward from Kansas UWF Ministry to Incarcerated Families copies were on the table to read.

Old Business: Thanks to the following : Those doing the skit, Mary Ann Rickertsen for writing the thank you to the Bahensky family, Theda Van Horn for a reader at WDOP and Cheryl Yoder and Darla Voigt donating 3 dozen cookies each for lunch. St Peter and Paul Church are host in 2025. Kitchen and Fellowship cleaning will be February 27 and March 1.

New Business: March 23, 2024 UWF birthday. Deb Wells made a motion we give \$75 to the Legacy Fund. Cheryl Yoder Seconded. Carried. Small family home groups meeting once a month the next three months. Call the church office or the group leader if you are interested.

Next meeting April 9th at 1:30. Lesson - Darla Voigt, Deb Wells - Devotions, Lunch - Mary Ann Rickertsen.

Meeting adjourned.

Darla Voigt gave the lesson using Mathew 5: 13 asking do you hear.

A very interesting discussion followed.

Mary Ann Rickertsen, Secretary



United Women in Faith (UMW)

The next meeting of the
UWF will be on
April 9th at 1:30pm.
All ladies are welcome!



United Methodist Church
1320 Baxter Street
St. Paul, NE 68873
308-754-4247
stpaulneumc@gmail.com

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