

United Methodist Church



May
2025



stpaulneunitedmethodistchurch.com

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

Staff

Rev. Nicole
Schwartz-Eck

Church Secretary
Carrie Hancock

Custodian
Integrated Life Choices
Call Church Office

Committee Chairpersons:

Admin Council
Bob Rasmussen

Board of Trustees
Doug Voigt

Finance
Dave Harrington

Staff/Parish Relations
Tom Knutson

Worship
Darla Voigt

Mission-Outreach
Mary Ann Rickertsen

UMM
Jeremiah Eck

UWF
Deb Wells

Education
Nancy Harrington

Celebrating Milestones and Embracing New Journeys

As the school year draws to a close, we celebrate the wonderful achievements of our graduating students! Whether they are finishing high school, college, or another significant chapter of their education, we lift them up in prayer as they embark on exciting new beginnings. May God's wisdom guide their steps and His grace illuminate their paths. May they remember who and whose they are. We are so proud of their hard work and dedication!

Let's also hold all of the teachers in and students in prayer as they enter into summer. Pray for safety, renewal, and continued growth this summer.

Get Ready to Roll! Road Trip: On the Go With God VBS is Coming!

Buckle up for adventure! Our Vacation Bible School, Road Trip: On the Go With God, is just around the corner, running from Wednesday, May 21st to Friday, May 23rd! Get ready for three fun-filled days of exploring God's word through exciting stories, engaging activities, catchy songs, and delicious snacks. This year's VBS will take us on a journey of faith, discovering how God is with us wherever we go. You can register on the St. Paul VBS website, stpaulvbs.mycokesburyvbs.com. Don't miss out on this fantastic opportunity for your children to grow in their faith and make lasting memories. To learn more, talk to Nancy Harrington!

Honoring the Women Who Shape Us: Happy Mother's Day!

This month, we take a special moment to celebrate Mother's Day on Sunday, May 11th. We give thanks for the incredible women in our lives – our mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, aunts, mentors, teachers, and all those who have nurtured and guided us with their love and faith.

These are the women who have often been the first to teach us about God's love, to pray with us, and to model a life of faith. They have shaped our hearts, encouraged our spirits, and shown us the power of compassion and perseverance. As I think about the women, I first think of my mother, my grandmother, and my aunts who shaped my faith daily. But I also think of women such as Diane Eichelberger, who was one of my earliest Sunday School Teachers, Margie Ridgeway, who taught me about the intersection between faith and social justice, and Sydna Deckard who saw me as a pastor before I could even imagine that. I think about the first clergywomen I encountered, like Rev. Kay Scarborough, that I met on the UMW Southern US Mission Study Tour. I think about those who have walked alongside me as mentors and clergy sisters. Who are the women who you think about that shaped your faith? Who have been leaders in the church? On Mother's Day, let us take the opportunity to express our gratitude for their unwavering support and the profound impact they have had on our lives and our faith journey.

—Pastor Nicole



1 st	No Community Office Hrs— Pastor Nicole at Conference	18 th	Adult Sunday School 9am— Last one until Fall 2025! Worship 10 am— Baptism Children's Church during worship— Last one until Fall 2025! UMM meeting after worship service in F.H. Voigts/Craig Home group meeting 6pm
4 th	Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am— Communion Children's Church during worship Native American Ministries Sunday -offering	20 th	UWF meeting 1:30pm
7 th	St. Paul Youth Group 6:30pm Finance meeting 7:30pm	21 st	VBS— 2:30-5:30pm
8 th	Community Office Hrs—8-10am -Location: Bedhead	22 nd	No Community Office hours VBS 9am-noon
11 th	Mother's Day Adult Sunday School 9am Worship 10 am Children's Church during worship	23 rd	VBS 9am-noon
12 th	Fairbanks Home Group 2pm	25 th	Worship 10 am
14 th	St. Paul Youth Group 6:30pm— Last one until Fall 2025	28 th	Administrative Council meeting 7pm
15 th	Community Office Hrs—8-10am -Location: Bedhead	29 th	Community Office hours 8-10 am— Bedhead
17 th	UMC helps Food Pantry 9-11am		

Attention:

Please note that Pastor Nicole will never ask for gift cards through text or email. Should you receive a questionable email or text of this nature and had any questions on it's validity, please get ahold of Pastor Nicole by phone or in person. It has been brought to our attention that at least one member of the church has received a questionable email from Pastor Nicole. Any questions, please give the church office a call.



Sunday

Worship time 10:00 a.m.

Adult Bible Study

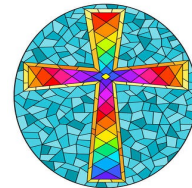
Sunday morning 9:00 am

Children's Education

Children's Church
-during Worship service

Nursing Home services

On Sunday, **June 1st**, Pastor Nicole will visit both Brookefield and Matelyn in St. Paul to do worship services. Brookefield service is at 1:30 and Matelyn is at 2:30pm. Anyone is invited *and encouraged* to come to these services.



May 2	Brad Wells	May 21	Loren Studley
May 4	Machell Naylor	May 27	Gordon Knuth
May 7	Thaddeus Radke	May 27	Easton Klassen
May 8	Linnea Vogel	May 28	Aidan Anderson
May 14	Linda Jacobsen	May 28	Crysta Naylor
May 15	Vanessa Ritter	May 29	Oakley Hawkins
May 16	Kent Meyer	May 29	Brandon Starkey
May 20	Mikaleh Esquitin		

United Methodist Church of St. Paul

MISSION STATEMENT

'Making and Nurturing Disciples'

Happy Anniversary

May 13	Jarold & Linda Jacobsen
May 25	Jeff & Stacy Vogel
May 28	Dave & Connie Snow



April Attendance

April 6th:	60 In-person 18 Views/YouTube
April 13th:	58 In-person 19 Views/YouTube
April 17th: <i>Maundy Thursday</i>	52 In-person
April 18th: <i>Good Friday</i>	26 In-person 18 Views/YouTube
April 20th: <i>Easter Sunrise Service</i>	32 In-person
April 20th: <i>Easter 10am Service</i>	95 In-person 19 Views/YouTube
April 27th:	71 In-person 14 Views/YouTube

April Offering Totals

April 6th:	\$4,959
April 13th:	\$906
April 20th:	\$892
April 27th:	Not Yet Deposited



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	750-4319	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	Mary Pearson	308-219-0060
Cleo Edwards	754-4853	Charlotte Rasmussen	308-968-3375	Brenda Starkey	750-7967
Nancy OR Mike McCarthy	750-2117-Nancy (775)-830-9521 -Mike	Susan Hartley	(641)-485-7349	Becky Schwenk	750-4590
				Lory Thomsen	754-4286

Camp Fontanelle Summer Camps and Retreats

Summer will be here before we know it!
That means lining up kid's activities, and one of those could
be Summer Camp!

Camp Fontanelle is an excellent choice.
To see the types of kid's camps and/or to register, please go to:
<https://www.campfontanelle.com/summer-camps/>

Scholarships are available!



Teacher's Prayers

At St. Paul United Methodist Church, we have made a commitment to our local schools. This has stemmed from both the commitment the Great Plains Annual Conference (Kansas and Nebraska) of the United Methodist Church made entering into partnerships with public schools in their communities to support schools, teachers, and students and our own desire to support the schools, teachers, and students to see our community and world transformed in positive ways.

St. Paul United Methodist Church has several ways that we hope to fulfill this commitment and find new ways to partner with our schools. This year, our congregation is praying for the teachers, administrators, and staff of schools by name, each for a week. If you know of teachers from our congregation that teach at other districts or substitute teachers that would not be listed on the St. Paul district website, please let Pastor Nicole or the church office know so we can add them to our teacher prayers. Thank You!

Each Sunday, we will begin praying for the following teachers:

May 4– Boyd Bowder, Stephanie Holdsworth, Maria Montemagni, Doug Voigt, Alex Lindsay

May 11– Danielle Spencer, Catherine Lemmerman, Marcia Wardyn, Trisha Hedman, Libby Beck, Nancy Harrington

May 18– Curt Dubas, Jason Meinecke, Dan Scheer, Marty Mrkvicka, Janelle Morgan, Philip Thede



A Note from the UMC Trustees Committee

From Doug Voigt, Trustees Chairperson:

Dear Parishioners,

The following is what I would like to have done this summer. If you can sign up and take one of these projects or work with a group of people or even find someone to do your work for you, fantastic. Some of the items are one-time jobs and others are throughout the summer and fall. The trustees will take any help you can offer, for two weeks, one month, etc. You may let me know of any of the projects you want to adopt as your own or I can tell they are done because the weeds are gone. My phone number is 308-750-3973 if you have any questions.

The following is a list of things that need to be done as soon as we can get them done:

- *Parking lot & islands--- either sprayed or pull weeds every two weeks. Till late fall.
- *Pull, spray, and clean up weeds and pine cones along-side walk on the south side of the church or west side of parking lot. (takes about one time every 2-3 weeks) Till late fall.
- *Need to replace parking lot lights on light pole. Need some kind of lift, tractor bucket to change out old bulbs.
- *Clean out and caulk the roof seam between the fellowship hall and sanctuary.
- *Redo the landscaping on east side of church.
- *Spray and or pull weeds around church where we have rock. Till late fall.
- *Replace broken sprinklers before the grass burns up. Asap.
- *Replace burnt out bulb on south exit door motion lights.

Please let Doug know if you can help out in any way, it would be appreciated!



United Methodist Men



The United Methodist Men have scheduled a meeting time for May 18th after worship service in the Fellowship Hall. This is an opportunity to learn more about this group and also to join if interested. Any questions on the Methodist Men please contact Jeremiah Eck.

Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The United Methodist Church



Honoring our 2025 Graduates during Worship service on 4/27/25. Pictured from left to right: Pastor Nicole Schwartz-Eck, Lily Sazama, Addison Ruzicka, Alyssa Ritter, and Audrey Anderson.

2025 Graduating Seniors

Congrats to all the 2025 high school graduates! We have several graduating seniors that have been involved with the church over the years. For over 20 years, the Memorial Committee has awarded scholarships to graduating seniors from our church. This year all four of the students that applied will receive a \$500 scholarship. They are Addison Brown, Audrey Anderson, Alyssa Ritter and Addison Ruzicka. We wish them all the best of luck as they further their education.

Around our Connection

Take a look at what's happening around us!

Click on the links in blue to learn more.

Bishop Richard Wilke, creator of Disciple Bible Study, dies Easter morning:

<https://www.greatplainsumc.org/newsdetail/bishop-richard-wilke-creator-of-disciple-bible-study-dies-easter-morning-19049098>

United Methodists worldwide remembering Pope Francis:

<https://www.umnews.org/en/news/united-methodists-remember-pope-francis>

Early Response Team training sessions set for June 21 @ Norfolk UMC

Want to bring hope to someone?

Be a smiling face?

Make a lasting difference?

Our Disaster Response Ministry is the place for you! Come be a person of hope and make a difference in the life of a survivor following a disaster. Any youth in high school and individuals 18 years old and older are needed in our ministry. To become a credentialed Early Response Team individual, you must go through UMCOR training.

[**Early Response Team Training \(ERT\) - Norfolk NE 6/21/2025**](#)

Local churches, you can help others by joining the 12 x 12 Club

Become an important part of our ministry of compassion and care!

1. Register your church with htapley@greatplainsumc.org
2. Simply make 12 of each UMCOR Relief Kit: <https://umcmmission.org/relief-supplies/>
3. Store them at your local church.
4. If they have not been called for in six months, give them to a local organization, family, school, or business in your community.
5. Repeat the process!

Great Plains United Methodist Men Newsletter

<https://gp-email.brtapp.com/files/ummen/gp+ummen+newsletter+2025.04.13.pdf>



FOOD PANTRY



Please consider donating items for the Howard Greeley 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.

Brownie mixes	Pork & Beans
Jelly	Pudding
Cookies	Syrup
Cereal	Shampoo/Conditioner
Crackers (Salad & Soup)	Spaghetti sauce
Dish soap	Toilet paper
Flour	Toothpaste
Hamburger Helper	Canned fruit
Jello	Salad Dressing- (Ranch, Dorothy Lynch)
Ketchup/Mustard	Frosting/Cake Mixes
Laundry soap-small bottles	
Mayo	
Pancake mix	

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.

May 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	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.



Happy 70th Wedding Anniversary!

You are invited to help celebrate Harold and Mary Ann Rickertsen as they reach a milestone!

On June 15th, please join them for coffee and cake after the worship service to celebrate 70 years in marriage!

(Actual anniversary date is June 12th.)

Churches Praying for Churches

Every year each church receives a list of UMC churches to pray over each week. Please join us in lifting these churches up in prayer this month.

May 4th- Clarks/Pierce Chapel

May 11th- Columbus First

May 18th- Doniphan/Rosedale

May 25th- Elba/Palmer/Wolbach



UNITED WOMEN OF FAITH

UWF meeting April 15, 2025

Meeting: Call to order by Deb.

Present: Pastor Nicole, Jackie Cook, Carol Phillips, Charlene Craig, Theda Van Horn, Cheryl Yoder, Dorteia Fairbanks, Mary Ann Rickertsen, Mitzy Randall, and Ursula Sorlie.

Devotions: by Ursula- An Easter Message

Purpose: stated by all

Minutes of previous meeting: read by secretary Ursula Sorlie. Correction-World Day of Prayer date changed from March 28 to March 7th.

Treasurers Report: by Jackie. Previous balance \$858.68 BOH \$890.12.

No outstanding bills or checks.

Correspondence: No new correspondence. 2 bolts of material taken to Goodwill and material taken to St. Paul's Lutheran and First Faith Grace Foundation by Carol. This is material that had been donated to our church.

Old Business: District Spring Event in Albion, NE. Sat. April 26th- no one is able to attend.

New Business: Senior Sunday will be Sunday, April 27th with a reception following church service during fellowship time. Memorial Committee has 4 scholarships to be given to graduates.

VBS is May 21-23. We will provide a meal on Friday the 23rd, We plan to serve mac and cheese, chicken nuggets and fruit. Ladies will sign up to help and bring cookies.

Church Easter Activities Reminders:

Maundy Thursday- Stations of Jesus' Life- 4:30pm-6pm

Good Friday- Tenebrae Service 7pm

Easter Sunday- Sunrise service at 6:45am at the Voigts home.

Regular service at 10am.

Community Services- April 27th- Brookefield@1:30pm, Matelyn @2:30pm

Community Office hours Thursdays- 8-10am at Bedhead.

UMC help at the Food Pantry April 19th 9-11am

Children's Bibles have been passed out except 2. No cards have recently been sent out.

Will send one to Rose's daughter as a get well wish. Pastor will place cards out in the Fellowship Hall for signatures on Easter Sunday.

Lesson given by Cheryl- *Be the Light to Someone's Darkness through the Gospel.*

Next meeting- May 20th at 1:30pm. Devotion-Theda, Lesson- Carol, Lunch- Ursula

Reported by Ursula Sorlie, Secretary



United Women in Faith (UMW)

The next meeting of the
UWF will be on
May 20th at 1:30pm.
All ladies are welcome!



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

May

