

# the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

May/June 2023



St. Paul's  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
Rochester, Michigan

May/June 2023

## 50 Days of Easter to the Birthday of the Church



I hope that these great 50 Days of Easter are a blessing as we journey together towards Pentecost, the birthday of the Church. In the early church, new Christians were often baptized and confirmed in this time. On **May 21**, we look forward to **welcoming 18 confirmands** as they affirm their baptismal vows for themselves. Join us in the Sanctuary that day for our all-church worship service and our celebration afterwards. We also have several baptisms scheduled from over the next few months as we'll welcome the newest preparatory members of St. Paul's.

**Wouldn't it be great to welcome 50 new members** into our family of faith at St. Paul's as we journey through this season? We're hoping to do just that over the next couple of months as we travel towards our Pentecost celebrations on May 28 and into June. If you're not already a member or baptized, let's chat. I'd love to share why St. Paul's is a great place for you and/or your family to grow in your faith together as we inspire others to live and love like Jesus.

If you are a member, then I hope that you will join me in inviting someone to join you for our Pentecost birthday celebration following worship on May 28. In fact, I hope you invite someone to one of the after-church events or one of our **United Methodism 101 classes**. Even if you are already a member, it's a great opportunity to remember who we are as United Methodists. Throughout this time, we'll be reviewing some of the same in our series Welcome to the Family.

**We have a change in worship times beginning June 18** since both of our services have continued to grow in the past year.

### Summer Schedule:

**Open Door Service at 9:30 a.m. in the Garden of Hope (in Hickey Hall in bad weather)**

**Traditional Service at 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

We're thrilled to be able to offer diverse worship experiences with different time options for our communities around us.

With a variety of fun activities and sermon series planned for the summer, now is an incredible time to join us for worship on Sunday mornings. Our clergy, staff, and lay leadership are excited to be able to lead us into this amazing future that God has for us together. We can't wait to see you at St. Paul's!

Blessings,

*Elbert Dulworth*  
Senior Pastor

## Volunteer Appreciation

**Sunday, April 30 following worship**

Join us as we give a HUGE thank you to all the volunteers who make St. Paul's a warm and welcoming place filled with God's love. We appreciate you and the difference you make! **Join us for a cupcake party in the courtyard following worship.** All are welcome. Rain plan location is Hickey Hall.



## Vespers Thursdays on Facebook

Join Pastor Rick Kress for vespers - a time to unwind, reflect,

and connect with God at the end of the day. Each 10-minute reflection is aimed at practical ways to live a life with God. Find us on Facebook at St. Paul's United Methodist Church - Rochester or get the link at [stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org). Over 100 vesper reflections are available with new ones added every week.

## United Methodism 101

**Tuesdays, June 6 & 13**

**7 - 8:30 p.m. in the Parlor**

How do you answer when you're asked why you are a United Methodist? Do you ever wonder who or what a United Methodist is, believes, wants to be? Whether you have been a part of this denomination forever and need a refresher course, or are relatively new to us and needing more information, United Methodism 101 is for you! Rev. Judy May looks at how we have become part of a church that has grown from one man's experience to a movement that covers the world. Contact the office at 248-651-9361 or [office@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:office@stpaulsrochester.org) to register.



## Special Mother's Day Concert

### Classical Bells

**Sunday, May 14; 4 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

Classical Bells brings music to life with their unique interpretative style, a technique they call "Ringing in Color™". Each show features musical selections in a wide variety of genres - classical, jazz, inspirational, even ragtime and swing! This eclectic programming, combined with sensitive musical interpretation, technical skill, informal choreography, and a dash of humor, gives Classical Bells the well-deserved reputation of Michigan's Premier Handbell Ensemble.

This group of seasoned professionals, led by artistic director, Darlene Ebersole, has performed in concerts nationwide and has appeared as the featured performers with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra and the Michigan Opera Theater. Free will offering.

# HARMONY IN THE HILLS



## Looking Ahead - Big Summer Concert!

### Raleigh Ringers

**Wednesday, July 12; 7:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary**

The Raleigh Ringers, internationally acclaimed, advanced, community handbell choir from Raleigh, NC, will dazzle concert audiences with unique interpretations of sacred, secular and popular music, including famous rock 'n roll tunes arranged just for handbells. Tickets are \$25 available at [iTickets.com](http://iTickets.com).



## Here Comes SUMMER FUN!

### St. Paul's at the Ball Park

**Friday, June 16; 6:30 p.m.**

**Game time: 7:05 p.m.**

**Jimmy John Field**

**7171 Auburn Road, Utica**

Join us for a baseball game between the Utica Unicorns and the Birmingham/Bloomfield Beavers. Tickets include all-you-can-eat BBQ buffet, spectacular fireworks after the show, and many family activities. Kids will have a chance to run the bases as well as meet their favorite mascot. St. Paul's will be reserving a space at the Jimmy John Field Patio. Purchase tickets with a link (available soon) on our website and in the Connector.

## Looking Ahead - St. Paul's goes to the movies

### Movies in the Moonlight

**Saturday, August 5; 8:30 p.m. Downtown Rochester**

Grab your friends, family and a chair to meet up for Movies in the Moonlight in downtown Rochester. Admission is free!

## PrayerWorks

### Would you like to be more regular with prayer?

Are you interested in praying for others? The St. Paul's PrayerWorks ministry is a simple way for you to deepen your prayer life and make it easier to pray. It works like this:

- Groups of 3 meet or talk regularly to pray.
- Groups decide how and when to meet.
- Prayer list and aids are sent weekly.
- There are no meetings or committees.

This ministry is it's third year, with many groups of 3. **Find two people to join you!** For more information, contact Rick Kress at 586-612-0772 or [RKress@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:RKress@stpaulsrochester.org) or Marilyn Kress at [Marilyn.kress@gmail.com](mailto:Marilyn.kress@gmail.com) or 586-212-9065.

**PrayerWorks for the important people and situations in our lives!**





**HUGS** For mothers & grandmothers of all ages  
**Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11 a.m. in Room 132**

**May 3 Ruminations with Rev. Dulworth** Please join us for a special presentation from Rev. Dulworth. Stay afterwards for **LUNCH BUNCH 11:30-12:30** Bring an ingredient to include in a salad and stay for lunch. Bring your little ones as we linger over lunch.

**May 10 Rummage Sale!** Help sort and organize during our normal HUGS meeting time. Come as early as 9 a.m. or stay for lunch. If you'd like to help out at other times this week, they'd appreciate the extra hands. Childcare is available both Wednesday and Friday if anyone is free to provide extra hands on Friday. Contact Kathy Lutey at [drlutey2@wowway.com](mailto:drlutey2@wowway.com).

**May 17 Coffee & Conversation** Planning for summer of fun and maybe even think about fall. Feel free to bring a snack to share — we'll have the coffee ready!

**May 24 End of Year Celebration 11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. in the Parlor** Join us for great conversation and food as we celebrate spring and catch up with friends. Bring a dish to pass — a formal invite will be sent closer to the event.

**May 31 Happiness Is... A Walk in the Park 10 - 11 a.m. at Rochester Municipal Park** Start the summer HUGS season with a nice morning stroll while the kids are still in school.

See the calendar at [stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org) for more information. HUGS observes the Rochester Community Schools calendar. When schools are closed, HUGS will not meet.  
 \* Childcare is available by reservation.



## Women's LIFE Friday

**Fridays, June 9 - 23**  
**9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor or on Zoom**  
 Rev. Rick Kress will be joining us again for this study. Come, enjoy learning from his interactive style of teaching (with no homework!) For further details, contact Nancy Fidler at [nnfidler@gmail.com](mailto:nnfidler@gmail.com) or 248-933-1981.

\* Childcare available by reservation - To reserve childcare, use the HUGS reservation signup at [signupgenius.com/go/70a0849aaaa22a13-hugs](https://signupgenius.com/go/70a0849aaaa22a13-hugs) at least 3 business days prior to class.

## United Methodist Men

**Saturdays, May 6 & June 3**  
**8 a.m. in Hickey Hall**  
 All men are welcome to join us for breakfast and brotherhood. No RSVP necessary. Invite a guest! Contact Dave deSteiger at 248-376-0416 for more information. Join us!



## J.O.Y.

**Just Older Youth**  
**Tuesday, May 16**  
**12 p.m. in Hickey Hall**  
 Year end picnic - No need to bring your lunch that day... just come and enjoy our time together. Bring a friends! Watch the Connector for program details. Please RSVP to Rev. May at [JMay@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:JMay@stpaulsrochester.org). We will resume JOY in September.



## SPARK Book Group

**Thursday, 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor**  
**May 18 June 15**  
*Well Behaved Wives* *Anxious People*  
 Amy Sue Nathan Fredrik Bachman  
 Join us! We welcome new members!  
 Call Linda Burnard at 248-765-5511.

## UWF Book Club

**Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. in Room 132**  
 Join us for our discussions:  
**May 18** *Stamped; Racism, Antiracism and You* by Ibram X. Kendi & Jason Reynolds  
**June 15** *The Four Winds* by Kristin Hannah  
 For more information email Pastor April at [AGutierrez@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:AGutierrez@stpaulsrochester.org).



## Learning to Walk with God

**Thursdays, May 4 - September 14**  
**9 - 10 a.m. in Rochester Park**  
 We're back! Get exercise, socialize, and ponder how to better follow in Jesus' footsteps. Discuss the meaning of Christian songs/hymns related to walking with Jesus/God. Come with an open mind and discover the connection between physical and spiritual health. All ability levels are welcome.

Once a month, we venture out to another site to provide us with a little variety. Email Judy Smouter at [smouterj@comcast.net](mailto:smouterj@comcast.net) by April 27.

## United Women in Faith

### Honoring our Mothers

**Deadline is May 8**

For Mother's Day we ask that you remember your mother, either living or passed, by contributing to the United Women in Faith. All funds raised will be used to support our mission projects.



The names of the mothers will be displayed at the May 14 worship services. Deadline is May 8 to be included in the Mother's Day service.

Please submit your name and mother's name to:  
 St. Paul's UWF — attn. Debbie Kelly  
 620 Romeo St. Rochester, MI 48307

Make checks to 'United Women in Faith' with 'Honoring our Mothers' in the memo line. To give on-line, select 'Mother's Day' giving option at [stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org), and email the names to [Debbie@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Debbie@stpaulsrochester.org).

## United Women in Faith

We Believe Love in Action Can Change the World



### May & June Circle Meetings

- **Patience Circle** - Tuesday, May 16: Spring Dinner. Thursday, June 8; Lunch out, location TBD
- **Faith Circle** - Tuesday, May 16; Spring Dinner. Wednesday, June 14; 1 p.m. luncheon at Olive Garden.
- **New Hope Circle** - Tuesday, May 16; Spring Dinner. No June meeting.

**Executive Board Meeting:** Thursday, August 17; 9 a.m. in Parlor/Zoom



## 2023 Spring Sale

**Friday, May 12** **Saturday, May 13**  
**9 a.m.-4 p.m.** **9 a.m.-noon**  
 Join in this GIANT Mission Project!

**We Need Your Things - Drop off:**  
**Monday, May 8; 5 - 8 p.m.**  
**Tuesday, May 9; 9 a.m. - 8 p.m.**  
**Hickey Hall drop off** — adult clothing/shoes, jewelry, all household items, furniture  
**Lower level drop off** — children's clothing, toys, baby items, books/media, holiday decorations, crafts

**Volunteers are needed!**  
**Sign up by clicking the 'Volunteer Sign-up' button at [stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org).**  
 Please give a few hours Monday, May 8 through Saturday, May 13.  
 Questions? Call Kathy Lutey at 248-375-0958.

### Please label size of bedding and tablecloths.

We do not accept: computers or components, printers, televisions, large appliances, batteries, tires, waterbeds, built-in-type appliances, air conditioners, building supplies, storm windows, non-working electrical appliances, old textbooks, magazines or Christmas trees. We cannot accept cribs due to government regulations.

## United Women in Faith Spring Dinner & Program

**Tuesday, May 16**  
**6 p.m. - Circle Meetings**  
**6:30 p.m. - Dinner; Hickey Hall**  
**7:15 p.m. - Program; Hickey Hall**



UWF invites you to join us for a wonderful evening of fellowship, food and an interesting program. Gather at 6 p.m. for circle meetings followed by a salad potluck dinner in Hickey Hall. **Please bring a salad to share.** Jill Crouchman and Karen Reynolds will speak on their trip to see the Oberammergau Passion Play at 7:15 p.m. A World Thank Offering will be collected for Global Ministries which provide Christ like care around the world. Please RSVP to your circle chair or the church office at 248-651-9361.

## Mission Corner Recap of Activity

### Mission Challenge 2023

#### Raise \$25,000 for Improvements to Henri Dennis School

Many updates are needed to the Henri Dennis School campus including improvements to the library, science laboratory and computer laboratory. The computer lab presently does not have computers - students only learn computer theory in school. Computers are needed, but with that, air conditioning is required so that the computers are not destroyed. **We ask for your support.** Please note **MC2023** when making your donation. Donations can be made online through the Give tab at [stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org) or by check sent to St. Paul's UMC, 620 Romeo Street, Rochester, MI 48307.



### St. Paul's Community Garden Volunteers

**Saturday, April 29; 1 p.m. - Garden cleanup, early planting**

**Sunday, June 4; 4 p.m. - Second planting**

The St. Paul's Community Garden mission is to grow healthy vegetables and donate 100% to the Neighborhood House Food Pantry in Rochester. **We need volunteers** throughout the summer to help plant, water, harvest at the garden site, and deliver to the food pantry.



**No previous gardening experience is needed.** Some volunteers come weekly, and some come for just the plantings or cleanups. You can choose your own level of time commitment. For more information or to get added to our garden email contact list, please contact Rob Patten at [robpattenjr@comcast.net](mailto:robpattenjr@comcast.net).

### Looking to Sign-up? New Page on Website

St. Paul's depends on its volunteers to help with the many tasks needed to run our vibrant, active church. We often provide links to sign-up sheets, but it can be hard to find the link again. There is a new Volunteer Sign-up page on our website that has links to the current sign-ups for Rummage Sale, Welcome Center hosts, greeters, coffee hour and more. You can access the page by clicking on the **Volunteer Sign-up** button on our homepage.

Volunteer Sign-up



### Children's Sunday School

Through Sunday, June 11

(No Sunday school May 28) Consider sending a card to your child's Sunday school teacher and all of our support volunteers to thank them for their amazing work this year to support faith development for the youngest among us. If you need any details, contact Amy Heitman at [Amy@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Amy@stpaulsrochester.org).



### Lemonade Brigade

Sundays, June 25, July 30 & August 27

Children 5<sup>th</sup> grade and under will meet in Room 122 during 11 a.m. worship to get set for the Lemonade Stand. Stop by and enjoy a cool cup of lemonade. **Come and join the fun!**



### College Graduate Recognition

If you have a student who has recently graduated from college or post-college and would like their name printed in the worship program, please send their **name, college and degree** to Debbie Kelly at [Debbie@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Debbie@stpaulsrochester.org) by **May 22**.

High School Seniors

### Graduation Video Filming

Sunday, May 21

5:30 p.m. in Garden of Hope

We will be filming a graduation video which will be shown on June 11 during our worship services. Wear your cap and gown and meet us in the Garden of Hope (Hickey Hall if it is raining).

### Graduation Photo Op

There will be a large grad sign on St. Paul's lawn for photos beginning **May 21**. Bring your family and friends and share your pictures on your favorite social media site. Tag us on our Instagram account, [@Stpaulsumcrochester](https://www.instagram.com/Stpaulsumcrochester).

### Graduate Sunday

Sunday, June 11; 10 a.m. services

Our HS seniors will be recognized during worship. A brunch will follow in Hickey Hall for the students and their families, as well as St. Paul's scholarship recipients. Wear your cap and gown. RSVP to [Jodi@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Jodi@stpaulsrochester.org).



Friends welcome!

### MS & HS Youth Group

Sunday, May 7

5 - 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall Lend a Hand

This will be our last youth group of the school year.

Dinner will be served.

Check out our youth newsletter for summer activities.



### Mandatory Worktrip Itinerary Meeting

Sunday, May 21; 5 p.m. in Hickey Hall

All students going on worktrip and their parents must attend!

All paperwork and fees due.

Hurricane Ian Disaster Relief

### High School Worktrip

Estero, FL; June 18 - 24

Please pray for safe travels and a successful week for our youth and adult volunteers as they travel to Florida.

**Student Worktrippers:** Carlos Avalos, Olivia Deir, Max Morse, Myles Morse, John Price, Andrew Sundquist

**Adults:** Amy Heitman, Krista Hughes, Kevin Price, Grant Renny, and Jodi Stuermer

Contact Jodi Stuermer at [Jodi@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Jodi@stpaulsrochester.org) for more info.

### Worktrip Commissioning

Sunday, June 11

10 a.m. Sanctuary

Join us June 11 for the commissioning of our worktrip participants and wish them well.

### Third Thursday Dinner Out

All HS youth are welcome for a FREE dinner out. Bring friends and a big appetite.



Thursday, May 18

6:30 p.m.

Buddy's Pizza

2612 N. Squirrel, Auburn Hills

Thursday, June 15

6:30 p.m.

Sushi Kafe

1264 Walton Blvd. R.H.

## Summer Worship Schedule Begins June 18

**9:30 a.m. Open Door Outdoors** (Garden of Hope)  
An inspiring way to begin Sunday morning among friends! (In Hickey Hall in bad weather)

**11 a.m. Traditional Service** (Sanctuary)  
We give God glory and praise through engaging and meaning-filled ritual in welcoming community.



Registration begins in May  
**Vacation Bible School**  
**July 17 - 21; 9 a.m. to noon**  
Launch into an out-of-this-world adventure that will leave an impression that will last a lifetime! VBS is an amazing week for our entire church family. **Volunteers needed!** Please email Amy Heitman at [Amy@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Amy@stpaulsrochester.org) if you can help. Registration begins in May for children age 4 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP Worship with us!

### Traditional Worship at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary

#### May

7	Acts 11:1-18	A Bigger Family Table	Rev. Dulworth
14	Philippians 1:3-11	Family Ties	Rev. Dulworth
21	Acts 1:1-11	What Are You Waiting For?	Rev. Dr. Gutierrez
28		Worship in Hickey Hall	

#### June

4	Matthew 28:16-20	A Calling and a Promise	Rev. Kress
11	Joshua 1:1-9	Called to Courage	Rev. Dulworth

### Open Door Worship at 10 a.m. in Hickey Hall

#### May

7	Acts 11:1-18	A Bigger Family Table	Rev. Kress
14	Philippians 1:3-11	Family Ties	Rev. Dr. Gutierrez
21		Worship in Sanctuary	
28	Acts 2:1-21	Catching the Wind	Rev. Dulworth

#### June

4		Worship in Sanctuary	
11	Joshua 1:1-9	Called to Courage	Rev. Dr. Gutierrez

### NEW! Summer Schedule Begins

### Worship Outdoors at 9:30 a.m. • 11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

#### June

18	Exodus 20:8-11	Lemonade	Rev. Dr. Gutierrez
25	Jonah 2:1-10	What Jonah Learned Inside the Whale	Rev. Dulworth

## Sermon Series May/June



### Registration for Fall 2023

Young Preschool: T, Th  
Preschool: M, W, F  
Pre-K: M - F  
9 a.m. to noon

St. Paul's provides high-quality learning with emphasis on the individuality of each child. Our certified teaching staff will engage your child in hands-on experiences and exploration activities that nurture their basic developmental needs: physical, language, cognitive, social, and emotional.

Applications available online  
[stpaulsrochester.org/preschool/](http://stpaulsrochester.org/preschool/)