

# the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

May/June 2024



St. Paul's

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rochester, Michigan

May/June 2024

# Pastor's Message

## What does the Holy Spirit look like?

In 1935, the Rev. Henry H. Tweedy, a Congregational clergyman, penned the words of a beautiful hymn for Pentecost, "O Spirit of the living God, thou light and fire divine, descend upon thy church once more and make it truly thine. Fill it with love and joy and power, with righteousness and peace; till Christ shall dwell in human hearts, and sin and sorrow cease." Tweedy uses words like "light, fire, love, joy, power, righteousness, peace, wind of God, wisdom" and so much more to describe the Holy Spirit. In the Spirit, we find the very gift of life, breath, and strength.



With Pentecost and Confirmation coming up on May 19, it seems appropriate that throughout this month, we are asking ourselves, "So what does the Holy Spirit look like?" Like wind, fire, power, and so much more, it can be hard to pin down the Spirit of God. On the other hand, the signs of the Spirit's presence around us are unmistakable for those with eyes to see and hearts to respond to God's work among us. In the eyes of our children, in a song sung by the choir, in a note from a friend, in a hug from a sibling in Christ, or through a can of food at the food pantry, we remember and remind others that we are not alone for God is with us. This is the work of the Spirit that continues to mold us and transform us.

So what are you waiting for? How is it that you see the Spirit at work in your life? Better yet, how are you being moved by the Spirit to bring life and love; to re-present God's presence in the world around you? I can't wait to see you in worship as we explore how God is moving among us at St. Paul's.

Blessings,  
*Elbert Dulworth*  
Senior Pastor

### June Sermon Series: Questions Jesus Asked

Perhaps you've heard it said that "A good question is better than a brilliant answer." As we turn to our faith for answers we find that Jesus was often one to ask the best questions of those around him. In fact, the Gospels record some 307 questions that Jesus asked. Questions help us to understand our world, our faith, and our lives as we discover how to live and love like Jesus more fully each day. Inspired by the book, **Questions Jesus Asked**, by Magrey daVega, we'll be looking at some of the questions that Jesus asked as we reflect on their importance for us today.



Don't Miss It!

### Social Media: The Good, the Bad & the Ugly Tuesday, April 23

7 - 9 p.m. in Hickey Hall

St. Paul's Adult Ministries, Health Ministries and Stephen Ministries will host a seminar on social media and the mental and physical impact of social media on people of all ages. Dangers and benefits will be discussed along with healthy strategies for social media use.

Featured speakers will be:

- **Adam Hamilton**, Clinical Director  
Oakland Community Health Network
- **Sgt. Jonathan Elges**, Computer Crime Unit  
Oakland County Sheriff Department
- **Christina Harvey**, MPH, Health Education  
Consultant, Oakland Schools
- **Andrea Zellner**, Learning Design Consultant,  
Oakland Schools

This is a free program that is open to the public.

Welcome,  
Confirmands!  
Sunday, May 19  
11 a.m. service



Reception following worship in Narthex

On May 19, celebrate the confirmation of St. Paul's youth as they become the newest members of the church. We invite you to greet and welcome them at a reception in the Narthex following the 11 a.m. service.



## Special Mother's Day Concert **Paul Keller and Company** Sunday, May 12; 7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Join us for a Mother's Day concert by Paul Keller and Company. This special performance will include a loving, musical tribute to mothers everywhere, past and present. Swinging renditions of familiar favorites by Duke Ellington, Nat King Cole and Benny Goodman are highlights. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students under 18. Tickets are available at the door or at [stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org).

# HARMONY IN THE HILLS



## Concerts in the Garden Wednesday, June 26

7 p.m. in Garden of Hope

Featuring Juan Riveros, virtuosic harp

Bring a lawn chair and enjoy great music in a beautiful setting. Free admission.

## New Member Class **Discover St. Paul's** Sunday, May 5 in Parlor 10:30 a.m. - noon OR 12:15 - 1:45 p.m.



If you are new to St. Paul's, we would like to help you and your family connect with people in the church. Learn more about small groups and ministry teams that are offered, visit with the pastors, learn more about the United Methodist Church, and tour the building. We think you will discover St. Paul's is for you! We will welcome those who choose to become members later this spring at both worship services. A light meal will be provided. Sign up at the Welcome Center in the Narthex or in Hickey Hall. **Need childcare? Scan QR code to make a reservation no later than Friday, May 3.** If you have any questions, please call the office at 248-651-9361 or contact Marilyn Kress at 586-212-9065.



## United Women in Faith **Honoring our Mothers** Deadline is May 6

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 UWF mission projects.



The names will be printed in the worship program at the May 12 worship services. **Deadline is May 6** 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 online, select 'Mother's Day' giving option at [stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org), and email the names to [Debbie@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Debbie@stpaulsrochester.org).

# Classes & Groups



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

**May 1 March Madness - in May** We narrow down our Bible verses to see which one is the ultimate victor. Come and find out what exciting things are on the horizon for us.

**May 8 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 help on Friday. Volunteer using QR code in Rummage Sale section on page 5

**May 15 Beat the Next Chapter Blues with Bluey** Watch a few episodes to spark a conversation about kiddos in transition; to help whether they're starting kindergarten, ready for life after graduation or anywhere in between.

**May 22 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 29 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. **Scan QR code to reserve childcare.**

**United Methodist Men**  
Saturday, May 4  
8 a.m. in Hickey Hall

All men are welcome to join us for breakfast and brotherhood. No RSVP necessary. Invite a guest! **Join us!** Contact Dave deSteiger at 248-376-0416 for more information.



**SPARK Book Group**

Thursday, 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor  
May 16 June 20

*The Nurses*

*Horse*

Amanda Skenandore Geraldine Brooks  
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 16** *Land of Silence* by Tessa Afshar

**June 20** *Beating Guns: Hope for People*

*who are Weary of Violence* by Shaine Claibore and Michael Martin

Please contact Nancy Shannon at [nancgs@aol.com](mailto:nancgs@aol.com) with questions.



Come together with other women  
to make a friend... be a friend...  
laugh... dig into God's Word together  
and discover new ways to **Live In Faith Everyday.**

**Women's LIFE Friday** Come! Live! Love! Guidance for Life  
Fridays June 7 - 28

9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor or on Zoom

Leaders: Nancy Fidler & Sharon Hiller

This summer, we will base our gatherings on our classmate Sharon Hiller's recently published book, a compilation of thoughts that came during quiet times over a period of three years. Our focus themes will be Love, Joy, Peace, Hope & Healing. Books are not required but are available on most websites. We hope you'll invite your friends to join in on this special time. For further information, contact Nancy 248-933-1981 or [nnfidler@gmail.com](mailto:nnfidler@gmail.com).

**Seeker's Study**

Mondays, until June 3

1 - 2:30 p.m. Parlor/Zoom

We continue our study of  
**Sacred Resistance** by Rev.

Ginger Gaines-Cirelli, lead pastor of Foundry UMC in Washington, DC. Seeker's Study will break for the summer and resume September 9.



## United Methodism 101

Wednesday, April 24 & May 1; Parlor 10 - 11:30 a.m. OR 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Do you wonder what a United Methodist is, believes, or wants to be? Whether you have been a part of this denomination forever or are new and need more information, United Methodism 101 is for you! Contact the office at 248-651-9361 to register.



## Learning to Walk with God

Thursdays, May 2 - August 29  
9 - 10 a.m. in Rochester Park

Walk with us for physical exercise, socializing, and a spiritual component that gives everyone thoughts to ponder about how to better follow in Jesus' footsteps. Discuss and reflect upon the meaning of inspiring prose and poetry written by Christian authors and how scripture compliments the message. **All ability levels are welcome.**

Please email Judy Smouter at [smouterj@comcast.net](mailto:smouterj@comcast.net) by April 29 if you plan to participate.

## J.O.Y.

Tuesday, May 21  
12 p.m. in Hickey Hall

Join us for a brown bag lunch with coffee and dessert provided, and hear an update on what took place at the General Conference of the United Methodist in North Carolina in April.

Tuesday, June 18  
12 p.m. in Hickey Hall

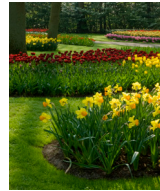
Will be our last meeting until fall. No need to bring your lunch...it's picnic time! Everything will be provided.



## United Women in Faith

We Believe Love in Action Can Change the World  
May/June Circle Meetings

- **New Hope Circle** - Help with Rummage Sale.
- **Faith Circle** - Help at Rummage Sale. Wednesday, June 12 at 1 p.m. Lunch at Olive Garden.
- **Patience Circle** - Help at Rummage Sale. Thursday, June 13 at 9:30 a.m. Tour Humble Design in Pontiac/ Lunch.



## United Women in Faith Spring Dinner

Tuesday, April 30; 6 - 8 p.m. in Hickey Hall

UWF invites you to a wonderful evening of fellowship and food with a program by Rev. Cora Glass. Please bring a salad to share. RSVP to circle chair.

## Spring Rummage Sale

Friday, May 10      Saturday, May 11  
9 a.m.- 4 p.m.      9 a.m.- noon

Join in this GIANT Mission Project!

**We Need Your Things - Drop off:**

**Monday, May 6; 5 - 8 p.m.**

**Tuesday, May 7; 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!**

Please give a few hours Sunday, May 5 through Saturday, May 11.

Scan the QR code to volunteer or Sign up by clicking the 'Volunteer Sign-up' button at



[stpaulsrochester.org](http://stpaulsrochester.org).

**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.

**Donating Jewelry:** Sometimes jewelry gets missed if it is in a regular donation bag. If you want to bring jewelry in early, please leave it in the designated box in the main office. On Sundays, you may leave it in a box at the Welcome Desk in the Narthex or at Open Door. Please share this information with others at church.

**Donations for Unique Boutique:** If you have designer clothing, purses, scarves, etc. please pack them separately and take donations directly to Room 122-123.

**Thank you for your generous support!**

## Mission Corner Recap of Activity

Halfway There!

### Mission Challenge 2024

Raise \$20,000 for Lighthouse Family Shelter in Pontiac

Mission Council is pleased to report we are **half way to our goal** to raise money to convert first floor restrooms at Lighthouse Family Shelter to be wheelchair accessible.



Lighthouse Family Shelter houses 18 families, on average 60 people. The Family Shelter is intended to be a short-term fix, with the goal being to set the families up with permanent housing. Upon their arrival the families are assigned a case worker who helps them during the transition. The program has a 95% success rate for families staying in the permanent housing for two years after assignment.

**Please help us meet our goal to support this worthy cause.**

### St. Paul's Community Garden Volunteers

Saturday, April 27; 1 - 3 p.m. - Garden cleanup, early planting

Sunday, June 2; 1 - 3 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).

### Hands with Detroit

Saturday, April 27; 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Cass Community Social Services

St. Paul's is organizing a team to work at Hands with Detroit at Cass Community Social Services. We will be helping both in the kitchen and with maintenance projects. We will also be **providing 50 hygiene kits** assembled by St. Paul's Youth Group. Please contact John Kelly at [jpkelly1909@gmail.com](mailto:jpkelly1909@gmail.com) to join us.



### All Together in Church

**Sunday, May 26** all children are invited to be in worship with their families. There will be no childcare or Sunday school due to the holiday weekend.

### Children's Sunday School

**Through Sunday, June 9**

The last day of Sunday school and childcare will be June 9 as we begin our summer schedule. Please remember to bring busy bags for your children as we worship throughout the summer. Check in at the Welcome Center for children's activity kits during worship.



### Children & Youth Music

**Sunday, April 28 & May 5**

Youth Choir: 4:15 - 5:10 p.m.

Children's Choir: 5:15 - 6 p.m.

Choir Room

All children and youth are invited to participate in the music program which will be showcased on Sunday, May 12 at the 11 a.m. service.



## 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 Linda Jeffries at [Linda@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Linda@stpaulsrochester.org) by **May 20**.

## Graduate Sunday

**Sunday, June 9; 11 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) by **May 30**.



## Third Thursday Dinner Out

**Thursday, May 18 at 6:30 p.m.**  
PF Chang's; 122 N. Squirrel, RH All HS youth are welcome for a **FREE** dinner out. Bring friends and a big appetite.

End of Year Party!

**MS & HS Youth Group**  
**Sunday, May 5; 5 - 7:30 p.m.**  
**Sky Zone Shelby Township**

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

Please **RSVP before April 24** and fill out a waiver at [waiver.haveablast.roller.app/skyzonestshelbytownship](http://waiver.haveablast.roller.app/skyzonestshelbytownship) to attend. Friends are welcome if they have a completed waiver. **Check out our youth newsletter for summer activities.**



## Mandatory Worktrip Itinerary Meeting

**Sunday, May 19; 5 p.m. in Hickey Hall**

All students going on worktrip and their parents **must attend!**  
All paperwork and fees due.

## High School Worktrip

**Rosebud Reservation Mission**  
**June 15 - 22**

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

**Student Worktrippers:** Olivia Deir, Christian Janiske, Kyle Beckwith, Max Morse, Myles Morse, John Price, Carly Bruce, Natalie Sapp, Isaac Faruga, Will Schaefer, Jacob Evans.

**Adults:** Amy Heitman, Kevin Price, Grant Renny, Kim Merola, Lynn Loeb, Keith Loeb, and Jodi Stuermer. Contact Jodi Stuermer at [Jodi@stpaulsrochester.org](mailto:Jodi@stpaulsrochester.org) for more info.

## Worktrip

**Commissioning**  
**Sunday, June 9**

**11 a.m. Sanctuary**  
Join us June 9 for the commissioning of our worktrip participants and wish them well.

## Worktrip Report

**Sunday, June 30**  
**11 a.m. in the Sanctuary**

Join us for this youth led worship service which will highlight our trip to Mission, SD.



Save the Date!

# Vacation Bible School

**July 22 - 26** 9 a.m. to noon  
Dive into friendship with God

**Registration open May 1 - July 8**  
for children 4 - 5<sup>th</sup> grade.



**All campers and volunteers register online**



### Blood Pressure Clinic

Sunday, May 12 & June 9  
10:30 - 11 a.m. & 12 - 12:30 p.m. in the Narthex  
Stop by to have your blood pressure checked.

## SUNDAY WORSHIP Worship with us!

**The Open Door Service**    •    **Traditional Service**  
9:30 a.m. in Hickey Hall                      11 a.m. in Sanctuary

<b>May</b>	5 <b>Communion</b> Acts 10:44-48    The Holy Spirit: A Pre-existing Condition    Rev. Dulworth	
	12 <b>Baptism • Mother's Day</b> Acts 1:1-11                      Can I Get a Witness?                      Rev. Kress	
	19 <b>Pentecost • Confirmation</b> Acts 2:1-21                      Help Us to Dream                      Rev. Dulworth	
	26 John 3:1-17                      Living the Mystery                      Rev. Dulworth	

<b>June</b>	2 <b>Annual Conference</b> Mark 8:22-38    Who Do You Say That I Am?                      Rev. Kress	
	9 <b>Graduate Sunday</b> Matthew 6:25-34    Why Do You Worry?                      Rev. Dulworth	

### SUMMER SCHEDULE

**The Open Door Service**    •    **Traditional Service**  
9:30 a.m. Outdoors under Portico                      11 a.m. in Sanctuary

16 <b>Father's Day</b>	John 1:35-42    What Are You Looking For?                      Rev. Dulworth	
23	John 8:1-11                      Has No One Condemned You?                      Rev. Dulworth	
30	John 21:15-19                      Do You Love Me?                      Rev. May	

## SERMON SERIES May/June

### Holy Communion

May 5 & June 2  
9:30 a.m. Hickey Hall  
& 11 a.m. Sanctuary



The sacrament of Holy Communion celebrates the presence of Christ and helps us find strength for Christian living. In the United Methodist Church, communion is open to all who intend to lead a Christian life.



### Upcoming Baptisms

May 12 & July 21

The sacrament of Holy Baptism is an important event in the life of a child and the Church and is open to children and adults. For more information, contact the office at 248-651-9361.

### Blood Drive

Monday, May 13 & June 17  
11 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Hickey Hall



The need for blood is great all year long. Schedule an appointment by calling Bill Molloy at 248-892-1705 or go to [redcrossblood.org](http://redcrossblood.org) (sponsor code 'stpaulunited').

### Looking Ahead...

#### July

- 10<sup>th</sup> Concert in the Garden
- 15<sup>th</sup> Blood Drive
- 22-26<sup>th</sup> Vacation Bible School
- 28<sup>th</sup> VBS Sunday

#### August

- 12<sup>th</sup> Blood Drive
- 14<sup>th</sup> Concert in the Garden