

the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

July/August 2024



St. Paul's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rochester, Michigan

July/August 2024

Pastor's Message

Summer is Here!

School is out. Fireworks are bursting in the night sky. Baseball is in full swing. Family vacations are beginning to take place. Camping trips are on the calendar. The lakes and beaches are full. Summer is here!

This beautiful season is in full swing at St. Paul's as well. Harmony in the Hills concerts are in full swing! Don't forget to grab a chair and invite a friend to join you in the Garden of Hope for these wonderful evening events.

This July, you'll want to join us for Sunday worship outdoors at 9:30 a.m. or indoors at 11 a.m. We'll be headed to the beach as we meet **Jesus at the Lake** and review some of his greatest teachings on the Sea of Galilee. What could be more fun than some time at the lake in the summer? Most importantly, don't forget to sign up your children and tell everyone else about the awesome week of Vacation Bible School we have planned with an undersea adventure theme at **Scuba VBS** from July 22 - 26, followed by VBS worship on Sunday, July 28.

In August, the re-creation continues for us as we explore change and God's hand in it through a fun series entitled, **Re-Shaped: What We're Made For**. Join us for **Campfire and a Movie** on Wednesday, August 7 from 8 - 10:30 p.m. at the parsonage firepit (see page 7). I can't wait to be re-created together with you this summer. I look forward to seeing you at St. Paul's where everyone can experience a sense of belonging as we inspire others to live and love like Jesus.

Blessings,
Elbert Dulworth
Senior Pastor



Garden Club Meeting Plants of the Bible at St. Paul's
Wednesday, July 10; 9 a.m. - noon in Garden of Hope
Gardeners of all abilities are welcome to join the NEW Garden Club. The July meeting will begin with a brief program about Bible plants growing on property with a walking tour including history and plant information. Following the program, the group will tackle gardening projects as needed. Please bring your own garden tools, gloves, and water bottle. Dress for the weather. Comfortable shoes, hat, and sunscreen are suggested. For more information, contact Sigrid Grace at sigridorchard@gmail.com.



Chair Yoga
Tuesdays at 2 p.m. in the Narthex
Not doing anything on Tuesdays at 2?
Your chair yoga friends invite you to join them for forty-five minutes of self-care for body and spirit with our very special instructor, Kristi Paul. The cost is \$10 per session, and it's the best \$10 you will spend all week. Come and spend your summer Tuesdays with us!

Celebrate the animals that make our lives special.



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, August 18; 9:30 a.m. South Lawn at Outdoor Service

All pets are welcome to attend the outdoor worship service on the south lawn under the shade trees and receive a blessing. Please bring your own lawn chair or blanket to sit on. All pets must be crated or leashed. Retractable leashes should be avoided. Bring supplies so you are able to clean up after your own pet, if needed.

Don't have a pet? Children are encouraged to bring a stuffed animal and receive a blessing as well. Bring a picture if your pet cannot attend in person. Pets will receive a certificate and bag of treats. Invite your friends and family!

There will be a designated 'No Pet Zone' on the grass during the service, so those who prefer to enjoy pets from a distance may do so. **Please note:** This event takes place during the 9:30 a.m. outdoor worship service only.

For more information, contact Marilyn Kress at 586-212-9065 or marilyn.kress@gmail.com.



St. Paul's Preschool Register for Fall 2024

Mommy & Me for 2's: F 9:30-11 a.m.

Young Preschool: T, Th 9 a.m.-noon

Preschool: M, W, F 9 a.m.-noon

Pre-K: M - F 9 a.m.-noon

St. Paul's provides Christian-based, high-quality learning with emphasis on the individuality of each child. Our qualified 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.

Apply Online at stpaulsrochester.org/school.

HARMONY IN THE HILLS

Concerts in the Garden
Wednesdays at 7 p.m. in the Garden of Hope
Bring a lawn chair and enjoy great music in the garden. Free admission.

June 26 . Juan Riveros Virtuosic harp	July 10 . North Star Sax Quartet	August 14 String Quartet DSO Musicians
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In case of inclement weather, the concert will be held indoors.

Classes & Groups



SPARK Book Group

Thursdays, 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor

July 18

In Five Years
by Rebecca Serle

August 15

The Measure
by Nikki Erlich

Join us! We welcome new members! Questions?
Please contact Linda Burnard at 248-765-5511.



HUGS

For mothers & grandmothers of all ages

In summer, we meet at parks and other fun sites, with info on our private Facebook page. Contact Sue at suecamevans@yahoo.com or Steph at stephaniewalker.288@gmail.com.

Concert at Rochester Municipal Park featuring Jello Shots
Thursday, July 18; 7 p.m. at Rochester Park Band Shelter
Bring your blanket, chairs and snacks. We'll gather at 6:40 p.m. and sit together.

Cookie Decorating with Lynn Loeb
Tuesday, July 23; 7 p.m. at 163 Sugar Pine Rd. RH
Bring appetizers and desserts to share while decorating cookies. We'll collect a donation for work trip 2025 to support a great cause while having fun.



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.

Looking Ahead

Women's LIFE Friday

Fridays in September

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

Join us in September for a study of *Signs and Wonders: A Beginners Guide to the Miracles of Jesus* by Dr. Amy Jill Levine. Leaders: Nancy Fidler and Jean Meyers. Watch for further details in the Connector in late summer or contact Nancy Fidler at nnfidler@gmail.com or 248-933-1981.



Learning to Walk with God

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

Join us and enjoy God's creation, dive into and discuss spiritual readings, socialize, and occasionally play Biblical or nature-based games. Contact leader Judy Smouter at smouterj@comcast.net if you decide to join us to verify details of the upcoming walk.

All ability levels are welcome.



Mission Corner

Recap of Activity

Almost There! Can you put us over the top?

Mission Challenge 2024

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

Mission Council is pleased to report we are **almost 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.**



New Mission Initiative

Plus One Program

St. Paul's will be joining Neighborhood House Food Pantry's Plus One Program. Each time you attend church, bring one extra item for the Food Pantry. Each month we'll post a list of items currently needed. Please place your donations in the cart in the Narthex or in Hickey Hall.

Food Pantry Wish List

Rochester Area Neighborhood House Food Pantry currently needs: cereal, instant oatmeal, pasta sauce, tomato sauce, sloppy Joes, white & brown rice, canned mushrooms, pinto beans, canned pineapple, canned chicken.



St. Paul's Scholarship Fund Matching Grant

This year marks the 10-year anniversary of the scholarship fund at St. Paul's United Methodist Church. Over the past ten years, the Education Council has awarded 65 college scholarships to students from our congregation, totaling over \$85,000. This year there were ten recipients who each received a \$1,000 scholarship on June 9. These scholarships have been made possible by the generous donations from members of St. Paul's UMC to the St. Paul's Scholarship Fund.

This summer we have an exciting challenge!

We would like to continue to replenish our scholarship fund. We have a \$3,000 matching grant from an anonymous church member and are inviting you to donate before the end of July to unlock these funds.

If you donate before July 31, your gifts will be matched up to \$3,000.

Make a donation: You can give electronically through the St. Paul's website, stpaulsrochester.org. The QR code will direct you to our giving page where you can designate your gift for the St. Paul's Scholarship Fund. Checks can be written to St. Paul's UMC with 'St. Paul's Scholarship Fund' in the memo line and mailed to 620 Romeo Street, Rochester, MI 48307.



Thank you for helping our youth as they pursue their dreams!

Vacation Bible School



SUMMER

diving into friendship with god

July 22 - 26
9 a.m. - noon

Registration Open until July 8
stpaulsrochester.org
All campers & volunteers register online



VBS Mission Project

Please help us with our mission project!

Bring in school supplies to the Narthex from July 22 - July 28 to be distributed to our local community through RANH/Assistance League's Blast Off 2 School.

For a list of requested items please see the link in the Connector or our website.

Worktrip Report

Sunday, June 30

11 a.m. in the Sanctuary

Please join us as we share our worktrip report and video. Thank you for your prayers and support of this important mission.



2024 Worktrip Participants

Youth: Kyle Beckwith, Carly Bruce, Olivia Deir, Jacob Evans, Isaac Faruga, Christian Janiske, Max Morse, Myles Morse, John Price, Natalie Sapp, Will Schaefer. **Adults:** Amy Heitman, Keith Loeb, Lynn Loeb, Kim Merola, Kevin Price, Grant Renny, Jodi Stuermer.

Food is good for the soul

Meet and Eat

Thursday, July 25; 6:30 p.m.

Lipumas, 621 N. Main St. Rochester

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



VBS Sunday

Sunday, July 28

11 a.m. in Hickey Hall

Join us as we celebrate with the church family all that we learned in Scuba VBS about diving into friendship with God. Wear your VBS t-shirt.

Fire Pit Fun

Tuesday, July 16 at 6:30 - 8 p.m.

St. Paul's Fire Pit at 632 Romeo St.

All MS and HS students and friends are welcome to hang out and enjoy an evening of food and fun.

Family FUN!

Campfire and a Movie

Wednesday, August 7 at 8 - 10:30 p.m.

St. Paul's Fire Pit at 632 Romeo St.

All ages are welcome. Anyone younger than 6th grade must be with a parent or guardian. Bring a blanket to lay on. We will have snacks and watch a movie. *Weather permitting*



SUMMER SCHEDULE **Worship with us!**

9:30 a.m. The Open Door Outdoors (under south canopy)

This casual service in an outdoor setting focuses on touching people's lives with God's love through messages relevant to daily life. The contemporary worship music is led by a worship band. (In Hickey Hall in inclement weather)

11 a.m. Traditional Service (Sanctuary)

This liturgical worship service features mostly classical music, hymns, sermon, and congregational readings. Through engaging and meaning-filled ritual, we give God glory and praise in welcoming community.

Livestream View the worship services Sundays at 9:30 & 11 a.m. on Facebook (St. Paul's United Methodist Church-Rochester). Services can also be viewed at stpaulsrochester.org.

July

7 Holy Communion

John 21:1-14 Jesus at the Lake: Empty Nets Rev. Dulworth

14 Mark 1:16-20 Jesus at the Lake: A New Calling Rev. Dulworth

21 Baptism

Mark 4:35-41 A Boat, On the Lake, In a Sudden Storm Rev. May

28 VBS Sunday - in Hickey Hall

John 13:34 Scuba VBS Amy Heitman

August

4 Holy Communion

Jeremiah 18:1-6 We Were Made for This Rev. Dulworth

11 2 Kings 5:1-17 Inside Out Rev. Kress

18 John 12:20-26 Everything Changes Rev. Dulworth

25 Matthew 14:22-31a Be Encouraged Rev. Dulworth



SERMON SERIES **July/August**

Holy Communion

July 7 & August 4

9:30 a.m. Outdoors

& 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

July 21 & September 22

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, July 15

& August 12

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 (sponsor code 'stpaulunited').



Looking Ahead

September

- 1st Last outdoor worship
- 2nd Labor Day - Office Closed
- 7th Men's Breakfast
- Support for Caregivers
- 8th Fall Kick-Off and Resume
- Sunday School/Youth Group
- 9th Blood Drive
- 10th UWF Annual Meeting
- 15th New Member Class
- 19th SPARK Book Group
- UWF Book Club
- 29th 3rd Grade Bibles
- Harmony in the Hills Concert