

the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

May/June 2025



St. Paul's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rochester, Michigan

May/June 2025

Pastor's Message

"I Am Making All Things New"

In Revelation 21:5 God says, "See, I am making all things new!" Throughout the past several weeks of our **Transforming St. Paul's** capital campaign, we have been praying together, "God, what are you wanting to do through me?" In these days, it has been so exciting to see how God has been at work transforming each of us as we pray for one another and for our mission



at St. Paul's to inspire people to live and love like Jesus. I pray that you have been inspired by the stories that you have heard over the past several weeks as well as our faithful response to God's call for us to restore, renew, and reach out in the next three years so that lives will continue to be connected to and transformed by the gospel of Jesus Christ in the years to come. If you want to know more, please click



on our campaign logo on the homepage of our website stpaulsrochester.org or scan the QR code. On **May 4**, please join us in both services of worship as we offer ourselves, our dreams, and our commitments up to God.

On **May 18**, we'll announce the totals that we have received for the campaign. We'll also be celebrating confirmation that morning for several of our middle school students at our 11 a.m. service in the Sanctuary. You won't want to miss out on seeing how God has been at work in their lives as they've made this amazing journey of faith.

Join us on **June 8** for worship again as we celebrate Pentecost as well as Transformation Sunday when we'll share the totals of our first gifts that have been received towards **Transforming St. Paul's**. Don't forget to wear red for Pentecost. **June 15** we begin our summer schedule with the 9:30 a.m. Open Door worship outdoors under the portico on the south side of the building.

So much is happening as God's Spirit continues to move among us. Celebrating graduates, honoring our mothers, commissioning work trip teams, Concerts in the Garden, preparing for VBS in July, celebrating our fathers, and so much more, there is always a way to connect, worship, learn, grow, and serve together at St. Paul's.

Blessings,
Elbert Dulworth
Senior Pastor



We're Having a Party!

Celebrate St. Paul's!

Sunday, April 27 in Hickey Hall

Brunch: 10:30 a.m. Lunch: 12 p.m.

Celebrate Generosity Sunday with a church-wide celebration and announcement of Capital Campaign Advance Commitment results.

Great Food • Photo Booth

Music • St. Paul's Trivia Game

Make & Take Clay Butterfly

Dessert Bar

Transforming St. Paul's Capital Campaign

Find out more about the capital campaign on our website, stpaulsrochester.org.

There is a wealth of information available from our vision to project lists, detailed plans, FAQ and more. Scan the QR code to go to the capital campaign pages on our website.



Commitment Sunday, May 4

Please join us in both worship services as we offer ourselves, our dreams, and our commitments up to God.

Announcement Sunday, May 18

We'll announce the totals that we have received for the campaign.

Transformation Sunday, June 8

We celebrate Pentecost as well as Transformation Sunday when we'll share the totals of our first gifts that have been received towards Transforming St. Paul's.



James Kibbie

Sunday, May 18; 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Join us for an organ concert by James Kibbie. Dr Kibbie is Professor Emeritus of Organ at the University of Michigan and internationally renowned as an authority of the organ music of Johann Sebastian Bach. This performance will be exceptional and not to be missed! Free-will offering.

HARMONY IN THE HILLS



Concert in the Garden

Wednesday, June 11

7 p.m. in Garden of Hope

Featuring Musica Batteria Marimba Duo

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

United Women in Faith Honoring our Mothers Deadline is May 5

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 11 worship services. **Deadline is May 5** 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, and email the names to Debbie@stpaulsrochester.org.

Welcome, Confirmands!

Sunday, May 18

11 a.m. service in Sanctuary

Reception following worship in Narthex

On May 18, 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.



Did You Register for VBS?

July 21 - 25

9 a.m. - noon

Vacation Bible School is an amazing week for our entire church family.

Volunteers are Needed!

See links to registration information on page 8.



Classes & Groups

Email by April 28

Learning to Walk with God - 2025

Thursdays, May 1 - August 28
9 - 10 a.m. Rochester Municipal Park
and other locations for variety

Connect with your physical and spiritual fitness and well-being. 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 art work, Christian prose and poetry and how scripture compliments the message. We also track our steps and play games with a Christian twist to keep it fun! All ability levels are welcome. When walking in Rochester, park near the Police Station. **Please email walking coordinator, Judy Smouter, at smouterj@comcast.net by April 28** if you plan to participate.



Women's LIFE Friday Paul's Letter to the Colossians

Fridays June 6 - 27
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor or on Zoom
Come at 9:15 a.m. for coffee

Leaders: Rev. Rick Kress & Nancy Fidler

Have you been meaning to read the Bible and not finding the time or not sure where to start? Then, come join us as Rev. Rick guides us through the four chapters of Colossians, an inspiring book written by Paul while he was imprisoned in Rome. Our text will be the Bible, so read it from your favorite version and bring your questions. For more information, contact Nancy 248-933-1981 or nnfidler@gmail.com.

J.O.Y. Just Older Youth

Tuesday, May 20; 12 p.m. in Hickey Hall

Join us for a brown bag lunch with coffee and dessert provided. This group of "60 years of age and up" gathers in Hickey Hall the third Tuesday of the month from September through June and welcomes everyone for food, fellowship and service. For further information, please contact Pastor Judy at 586-242-1555.

Tuesday, June 17; 12 p.m. in Hickey Hall

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



United Methodist Men's Breakfast

Saturday, May 3
8 a.m. in the Parlor

All men are invited for breakfast and brotherhood. Invite a guest. **Join us!** Contact Dave deSteiger at davidrdesteiger@gmail.com.



UWF Book Club

Thursdays, 6 p.m. in Room 132

Join us for our discussions:

May 15

A Right Worthy Woman
by Ruth P Watson

June 19

The Sun Does Shine: The How I found Life and Freedom
Death Row by
Anthony Ray Hinton

Please contact Nancy Shannon at nancgs@aol.com with questions.



Early Bird Men's Group

Wednesday, May 21
6:30 a.m. in the Parlor

Join us for devotions, conversation, and prayer as we grow in Christ's love and live out our faith. All men are welcome! For more information contact Larry Heflin at HLarry2828@gmail.com or Bob Johnson at bobgj@prodigy.net.



SPARK Book Group

Thursday, 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor
May 22

I Must Betray You
by Ruta Sepetys

June 19

The House is on Fire
by Rachel Beanland

Join us! We welcome new members! Call Linda Burnard at 248-765-5511.



HUGS

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

May 7 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 to the right.

May 14 What's on Your Summer Bucket List? We'll share resources about great local activities and chat about ways to maximize summer fun for our families.

May 21 End of Year Celebration

11:45 a.m. - 1:15 p.m. in the Parlor
All year we have been focusing on ways to be joyful, patient and prayerful. So, let's celebrate what we have accomplished! Join us for great conversation and food as we celebrate a great year. Bring a dish to pass if you can — a formal evite with more details will be sent.

May 28 Happiness Is... A Walk in the Park

10 - 11 a.m. in Rochester Municipal Park
Start the summer with a nice morning stroll while the kids are still in school.

Scan QR code to reserve childcare.

HUGS observes the Rochester Community Schools calendar. When schools are closed, HUGS will not meet.

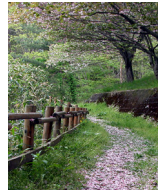


United Women in Faith

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

All Circles: Help at Rummage Sale &
Attend Spring Dinner

- **Faith Circle** - Wednesday, June 11 at 1 p.m. at Olive Garden on Rochester Rd.
- **Patience Circle** - Thursday, June 12 at 10 a.m. tour of Dutton Farms; lunch at Paul's on Main.



United Women in Faith Spring Dinner

Tuesday, May 20; 6 - 8 p.m. in Hickey Hall

UWF invites you to a wonderful evening of fellowship and food with a program by Chris Tull, the director of Humble Design. Please bring a salad to share. RSVP to your circle chair.

Spring Rummage Sale

Friday, May 9
9 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Saturday, May 10
9 a.m. - noon

Join in this GIANT Mission Project!

We Need Your Things - Drop off:

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

Tuesday, May 6; 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 4 through Saturday, May 10.

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

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 Rickard Chapel, the new location of Unique Boutique.

Thank you for your generous support!

Halfway There!

Mission Challenge 2025



Sponsor 100 Students at Henri Dennis School in Liberia

The Mission Council has chosen scholarships for children at Henri W. Dennis United Methodist School in Monrovia, Liberia as the

2025 Mission Project. It costs approximately \$180 to sponsor each student for the school year, and we hope to sponsor 100 students.



To donate, please write 'MC 2025' on the envelope and on the memo line of your check made out to St. Paul's UMC or donate online by scanning the QR code and selecting 'MC 2025' on the drop-down menu.

Community Garden Volunteers

Sunday, May 25; 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. Scan the QR code to sign up to work. For more information or to get added to our garden email contact list, please contact Rob Patten at

robpattenjr@comcast.net.



St. Paul's Preschool Corner

A Word from our Director

April was a wonderful month filled with celebrations! The highlight was, of course, Easter, where we joyfully celebrated the resurrection of Jesus. Our preschoolers love the beautiful spring weather, and it's a delight to be out on the playground, enjoying the fresh air with just our jackets.

We had a fantastic Easter egg hunt around the preschool, which brought so much joy and excitement to our little ones. Every day at school is packed with fun activities that keep our students engaged and learning.

We feel truly blessed to be part of such a wonderful community of preschool families. We're excited about the events we have planned for our last month of the school year. However, it's hard to believe how quickly this year has flown by! We wish our preschool graduates all the best in kindergarten.

If you know any families searching for a preschool, please encourage them to reach out to us. I would love to share more information and arrange a tour of our school.

Thank you for being such an integral part of our preschool family!

Warm regards,
Michelle Staarmann



Children's Sunday School

We will be "All Together in Church" on **May 25** for the holiday. Feel free to bring a busy bag for your child if you would like. Quiet activities are provided during worship. Please ask an usher or ambassador if you have any questions. **The last day of Sunday School will be June 8.**





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 by May 19.

Graduate Sunday

Sunday, June 8; 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 by May 29.



Meet & Eat

Tuesday, May 13 at 6:30 p.m.

Oceania Inn, 37 S. Livernois, RH and

Wednesday, June 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Miguel's Cantina; 870 S. Rochester Rd.

All HS youth are welcome for a FREE dinner. Grab a friend and meet us. RSVP to jodi@stpaulsrochester.org.

End of Year Party!

MS & HS Youth Group

Sunday, May 4; 5 - 7 p.m.

Pump It Up Party! 15117 Commercial Dr.

Shelby Twp. Drop off and pick up at Pump It Up.

This is our last youth group of the school year.

Dinner will be served. Please RSVP to [jodi@](mailto:jodi@stpaulsrochester.org)

stpaulsrochester.org before April 24 and fill out a waiver 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 18; 5 p.m. in Hickey Hall

All students going on worktrip and their parents **must attend!**

All paperwork and fees due.

High School Worktrip

Red Bird Mission in Beverly, KY

June 22 - 28

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

Student Worktrippers: Nora McNiff, Jacob Evans, Cullen Muenk, JR Harma, Nathan Sundquist, Samantha Coen, Kyle Beckwith, Marina Morse, Myles Morse, Natalie Sapp, Isaac Faruga, Will Schaefer, Hannah Eichler, Claire Zywiec, Daniel Boone, Vinnie Vollmayer, Ella Vollmayer.

Adults: Amy Heitman, Patti McGowan, Grant Renny, John Muenk, Ernesto Boone, Jamie Heitman, Jodi Stuermer.

Worktrip Commissioning

Sunday, June 8

11 a.m. Sanctuary

Join us June 8 for the commissioning of our worktrip participants and wish them well.

Worktrip Report

Sunday, July 13

11 a.m. Sanctuary

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

Vacation Bible School



July 21 - 25
9 a.m. to noon

Registration OPEN til July 7 for children 4 - 5th grade.
All campers and volunteers register online.




Blood Pressure Clinic

Sunday, May 11 & June 8

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

9:30 a.m. in Hickey Hall

Traditional Service

11 a.m. in Sanctuary

May

4 Communion • Commitment Sunday

John 21:1-19 Our Calling... Shaping Our Future

Rev. Dulworth

11 Baptism • Mother's Day

Acts 9:36-43 The Fabric of Faith

Rev. Kress

18 Confirmation • Announcement Sunday

John 13:31-35 Confirmed! For What?

Rev. Dulworth

25 Acts 16:9-15 Woven In By a Dream

Rev. May

June

1 Annual Conference

Acts 1:1-11 Don't Just Look Up: Living Out Jesus' Mission

Rev. Kress

8 Pentecost • Graduate Sunday

Acts 2:1-21 The Pentecost Transformation

Rev. Dulworth

SUMMER SCHEDULE

The Open Door Service

9:30 a.m. Outdoors under Portico

Traditional Service

11 a.m. in Sanctuary

15 Father's Day

Prov. 8:1-4, 22-3 Hearing the Trinity in Creation's Chorus

Rev. May

22 1 Kings 19:1-15a Running on Empty

Rev. Kress

29 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14 Asking for More

Rev. May

SERMON SERIES May/June

Holy Communion

May 4 & June 1

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 11 & September 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 12

& June 9

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...

July

9th Concert in the Garden

14th Blood Drive

21-25th Vacation Bible School

27th VBS Sunday

August

11th Blood Drive

20th Concert in the Garden

24th Blessing of Backpacks

31st Last Outdoor Service