

the EVANGEL

St. Paul's Newsletter

November 2025



St. Paul's
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
Rochester, Michigan

November 2025

Pastor's Message

Rejoice always. Pray continually. Give thanks in every situation because this is God's will for you in Christ Jesus.
I Thessalonians 5:18, CEB

Gratitude

As November rolls around each year, our hearts are moved to a deep sense of gratitude as we reflect on our blessings. Thanksgiving has a way of refocusing our hearts on what's really important in life. We'll begin the month celebrating the lives of our saints on All Saints Sunday as we give thanks for those whose lives and love impacted us and were transferred to the Church eternal and triumphant this past year. Deep gratitude also moves us to a deeper sense of generosity as we share from our abundance with others as they did with us.

In this month of giving thanks for God's abundance, I hope you will join me for our Night of 1,000 Blessings on November 16 from 5 - 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall. This fall, we will be sharing more blessings than we have so far on any of these nights as we put together 2,400 rice and soy kits that will provide 14,400 meals. God can do wonderful things through us when we come together as God's people. What is even better is that this is a cross-generational opportunity for people of all different abilities. Please invite your friends and neighbors to join us for this amazing night.

Believe it or not, before the month is out, we will be hanging the greens and preparing the building for the Advent and Christmas seasons. Ready or not, God is on the move just as the days on the calendar fly by. In this season, we will also spend some time reflecting on **The Power of Words**. In Scrabble, letters have value that create words with even greater values. In life, words have value as well as power. They have the power to build up or tear down. Throughout this month, we will talk about how our words can impact people and the world around us. Proverbs 16:24 states, "Pleasant words are flowing honey, sweet to the taste and healing to the bones."

May the words we offer along with our actions bring life and love to the world around us this month and always.

Blessings,

Elbert Dulworth

Senior Pastor



Foodie Fellowship Family Mixer

Saturday, November 8
5:30 - 7:30 p.m. in Hickey Hall

The OH! Outreach & Hospitality Committee (formerly FISH) hosts a new event with music and dinner while we get to know each other better. There will be entertainment and crafts for kids as well. Starter questions at each table initiate conversation and we'll rotate from table to table to get a chance to talk to everyone. Bring a friend! Email Shari Purdie at sharipurdie@yahoo.com with questions.



New Member Class

Discover St. Paul's

Sunday, November 16

10:30 a.m. - noon OR

12:15 - 1:30 p.m. in the Parlor

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 on November 23. Sign up at the Welcome Center in the Narthex or in Hickey Hall. Childcare will be available only at the 10:30 a.m. class. Please email Amy Heitman at Amy@stpaulsrochester.org if you need childcare. Contact Marilyn Kress at marilyn.kress@gmail.com or 586-212-9065 for more information.



Annual Church Conference

Thursday, November 13

7 p.m. in Hickey Hall

All St. Paul's members and friends are invited to attend. Rev. Dr. Darryl Totty, chair.

HARMONY IN THE HILLS



Autumn Blues

Beth Stalker & Jimmy Smith Quartet

Friday, November 14

7 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Don't miss this concert! The incomparable vocalist and metro-Detroit recording artist, Beth Stalker, will be joined by the Jimmy Smith Quartet, performing jazz and Autumn Blues.

Admission is free.

Donations greatly appreciated.



Marriage Renewal Service

Sunday, November 16

9:30 & 11 a.m. services

Couples celebrating their 5th, 10th wedding anniversary, etc. (in 5-year increments), or any anniversary over 50 years, are invited to participate. Call the office at 248-651-9361 by **Monday, November 3** to have names printed in the worship program.



Give Thanks Prayer Vigil

Saturday, November 22

8:30 a.m. - noon in Rickard Chapel

This is a special prayer gathering to:

- Give thanks for your blessings.
- Share your feelings with Father God.
- Thank your Creator for life.
- Give your love to Savior Jesus.
- Receive God's abundant love.
- Listen to the Holy Spirit's guidance.
- Let God relax, refresh, and renew your being.
- Receive God's goodness.

We will open with communion, have stations for healing, creating, thanking, petitioning, and reading, and a closing at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome to come for a short time or a longer time of prayer.

Harvesting Thanks Calling Event

November 17, 20, & 21

6 - 7:45 p.m. Meet in Rickard Chapel

In preparation for the Prayer Vigil, a team will be calling people in the congregation to check in and receive prayer requests and gratitude prayers that will be shared at the prayer vigil. We will pray for all requests together that evening at 7:45 p.m. **The team will be using their cell phones, so if there is an unknown number at that time, we hope you will answer and share your requests with us.**

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday, November 23; After 11 a.m. worship

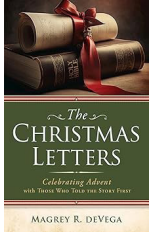
Join us in decorating St. Paul's for the Advent season. We will gather for a light lunch in the Parlor after the 11 a.m. service. Afterwards, we will set up and decorate trees throughout the church.



Classes & Groups



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

Fridays, November 7 - December 5 (Except Nov 28)
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. in the Parlor or on Zoom

Come beginning at 9:15 a.m. for coffee

The Christmas Letters: Celebrating Advent with Those Who Told the Story First Come join us as we explore

some of the Epistles in the New Testament to hear about the miracle of Christ's birth from those who first told the story. Author Magrey deVega's videos will provide the basis of our discussions.

Books are not required but can be ordered online. For further information or to sign up, contact Nancy Fidler at 248-933-1981 or nnfidler@gmail.com.

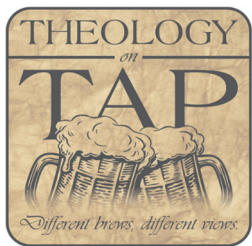


J.O.Y. Just Older Youth

Tuesday, November 18

12 p.m. in Hickey Hall

JOY will meet for a brown bag lunch; coffee and dessert provided. Everyone 60+ is invited to share food, fellowship and service projects. Bring your friends and neighbors. **Everyone is welcome!**



Theology on Tap

Tuesday, November 18 at 7 p.m.

Rochester Mills 400 Water St. Rochester

The Beer & Hymns folks are shaking it up with a new gathering in a new place. Join in a lively discussion of contemporary topics from different faith perspectives. St. Paul's provides the appetizers; participants buy their own drinks.



Early Bird Men's Group

Wednesday, November 19; 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.

United Methodist Men's Breakfast

Saturday, November 1
8 a.m. in the Parlor



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



Support for Caregivers

Saturday, November 1

9:30 a.m. in Rickard Chapel

You don't have to do this alone! Join this group of caregivers who support each other emotionally while renewing spirits and sharing ideas and resources. It is difficult to care for others when we struggle to care for ourselves.



SPARK Book Group

Thursday, November 20

1:30 p.m. in the Parlor

Join us as we read *The God of the Woods* by Liz Moore. We welcome new members! Contact Linda Burnard at 248-765-5511.

UWF Book Club

Thursday, November 20

5:30 p.m. in Room 132



Join us for a discussion of *The Little Book of Joy* by His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Desmond Tutu and *Grandpa's Window* by Laura Gehi. Please contact Nancy Shannon at nancgs@aol.com with questions.



THANK YOU!

Rummage Sale Results

Raised \$24,500 for Missions

Thank you to all our volunteers — you are amazing! Thanks to all who donated items and food. Thanks to all who purchased items. Proceeds will be given to charities supported by the United Women in Faith. **Thank you to ALL who made this sale a GIANT success!**

United Women in Faith

We Believe Love in Action Can Change the World

November Circle Meetings

- **New Hope Circle** - Thursday November 6 at 7 p.m. in Rickard Chapel. Planning for next year.
- **Faith Circle** - Wednesday, November 12 at 1 p.m. in the Library.
- **Patience Circle** - Thursday, November 13 at 9 a.m. in the Parlor. Sending our Faith Forward - Make Thanksgiving cards for homebound.

Executive Board Meetings: Thursday, November 20; 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor.
Spend-Down Meeting is Thursday, December 9; 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor.



United Women in Faith

That Takes the Cake Sale

Sunday, November 23

9 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. in the Narthex

Homemade coffee cakes and other treats will be for sale with proceeds supporting UWF missions locally and around the world. Drop off coffee cakes Saturday, November 22 between 12 - 2 p.m. in the Narthex. Items must be individually wrapped for sale. Contact Jane Chamberlain at 586-323-2537.



HUGS. Humor, Understanding, Growth and Support

For mothers and grandmothers of all ages

Wednesdays at 9 - 11:30 a.m. in Room 132

Nov 5 The Me Project - Kathi Lipp Cont'd Fun and creative ways to bring back the sense of purpose and vitality that comes with living out the plans and dreams God has planted in our hearts. You can easily follow along even if you missed the first week!

Nov 12 The Me Project - Kathi Lipp Cont'd We wrap the study up today and start executing our plans.

Nov 19 Mugs & HUGS - Off Campus 9:45 - 11 a.m. The Brew Coffee Shop (296 W Tienken, RH)

With the holiday season fast approaching, the tension has amped up for busy Moms. Share tips for keeping the "holy" in our holidays over a cup of coffee. Kiddos are welcome! There are always plenty of helping hands to help with the little ones.

Nov 26 No HUGS Happy Thanksgiving!

See stpaulsrochester.org/calendar/ for more detailed information.



Scan QR code to reserve childcare. HUGS observes the Rochester Community Schools calendar. When schools are closed, HUGS will not meet.



Missions



Night of 1000 Blessings

Sunday, November 16; 5 - 7 p.m. in Hickey Hall

We are teaming up with Midwest Mission to pack rice and soy blessing bags with the goal of providing meals to feed 14,400 people! These blessing bags meet hunger needs, but also nutritional needs to provide lasting energy. Each bag feeds 6 people and includes vitamin pack, dehydrated vegetables, soy and white rice.

This will be our largest Night of 1000 Blessings yet and **we need more than 100 volunteers to help**. We already have table leaders in place, but workers, setup crew and clean-up crew are needed. Please let us know that you will be coming by signing up now. Scan the QR code at the right to get more information about the event and sign up for one of the 100 slots still open. **We can't do it without you!**



This is a great mission opportunity for families!

Mission Challenge 2026

The Mission Council has chosen **Kids Empowered On the Move** as our challenge for 2026. St. Paul's will be working with Kimber Bishop-Yanke to identify a specific project most needed by the organization.

Kids Empowered On the Move is an Oakland County organization that helps women and children experiencing homelessness. If they receive a call before a family is homeless, they try to work out solutions with their current housing; if the family is beyond that and are already on the homelessness journey, they help them navigate and move people forward wherever they are. Families are helped with their basic needs, including food, clothing, and shelter, which usually includes emergency hotel rooms as there are only 18 beds for families in Oakland County. Kids Empowered On the Move tries to help families navigate through the system with whatever is needed to move a family to the next level on their homeless to home journey.



Christmas Food Mission Project 2025

Again this year, St. Paul's has committed to help about 100 families with our partners at Rochester Area Neighborhood House. Our program has changed in the last few years, and clients report they prefer the newer system. Therefore, we will provide Kroger gift cards to Neighborhood House clients as a way of making their Christmas a little brighter.



We need your support to make the holidays a little better for our neighbors in need.

To make a financial donation, please write "Christmas Baskets" on the envelope and on the memo line of your check made out to St. Paul's UMC or scan the QR code to **Give Online** and select **Christmas Baskets** on the drop-down menu.



Meet & Eat

**Wednesday, November 12
6:30 p.m. at Golden Eagle
1447 N. Rochester Rd. Rochester Hills**
All High School students and friends are welcome. Dinner is FREE. RSVP to Jodi@stpaulsrochester.org.





Halloween Candy Leftovers

We need your leftover Halloween candy! We will send it off to our college students so they can feel our love from afar. Drop candy in the church office or in Room 206.

College Address Reminder

St. Paul's wants to keep in touch with your college student throughout the year and send them a care package in early December.

Parents: If you would like your college student to receive a care package, please email his/her address to Jodi@stpaulsrochester.org by **November 9**. Thanks!



St. Paul's Preschool Corner Fall FUN!

We are enjoying the fall season with our preschoolers! October was an exciting month filled with learning, laughter, and fun. We kicked off the season with our first field trip to Westview Orchard. The children had a wonderful time picking apples and pumpkins, taking a wagon ride, visiting the animals, and enjoying delicious donuts and cider. Another highlight will be our Halloween Parade. Our preschoolers will wear their costumes, play festive games, and receive treats from their families and our church staff.

As we look ahead to Thanksgiving, we are taking time to reflect on everything we are thankful for. We are especially grateful for our preschool families, our church family, and our amazing youth group prayer buddies, who recently gifted our preschoolers with thoughtful prayer puppies. Their kindness truly warmed our hearts.

If you know someone interested in learning more about our preschool, please have them contact us at preschool@stpaulsrochester.org. Thank you for supporting our joyful preschool community!

Warm regards,
Ms. Michelle Staarmann
St. Paul's Preschool Director

MS Youth Group

All 6th - 8th graders & their friends

Sundays; 5 - 7 p.m. Hickey Hall

Nov 2	No Youth Group
Nov 9	Operation Christmas Child/ Thanksgiving Dinner
Nov 16	Night of 1000 Blessings
Nov 23	YouLead/College Care Packages
Nov 30	No Youth Group



HS Youth Group All 9th - 12th graders & their friends

Sundays; 5 - 7 p.m. in the Lounge

Nov 2	No Youth Group
Nov 9	Operation Christmas Child/Thanksgiving Dinner
Nov 16	Night of 1000 Blessings
Nov 23	YouLead/Decorate Christmas Trees
Nov 30	No Youth Group

Sign up today!

High School Worktrip Registrations Due Nov 9

Our summer worktrip is a life-changing experience for both youth and adult volunteers. This trip gives our teenagers an opportunity to invest in something bigger than themselves, explore a new area and culture, and make a difference in a struggling community. We will be partnering with Team Effort in Gatlinburg, TN, June 21-27, 2026.





Holy Communion

November 2 at 9:30 & 11 a.m. services

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.



Blood Pressure Clinic

Sunday, November 9

10:30 - 11 a.m. &

12 - 12:30 p.m. in the Narthex

Stop by between services to have your blood pressure checked.



Blood Drive

Tuesday, November 11

11 a.m. - 5 p.m. in 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').



Upcoming Baptism Dates

Sunday, October 26 & November 30

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



stpaulsrochester.org/preschool

Looking Ahead... December

- 2nd Christmas and Candlelight
- 4th SPARK Luncheon
- 5th Advent Concert at noon
- 6th UMM Breakfast
- 7th Support for Caregivers
- Baby's First Christmas
- Cass Breakfast
- Rochester Community
- Christmas Concert
- 8th Poinsettia Orders Due
- Blood Drive
- 12th Advent Concert at noon
- RSO Concert 8 p.m.
- 13th A Merry Little Christmas Party
- 14th Cookie Sale
- 16th JOY Just Older Youth
- Beer & Carols
- 18th Blue Christmas Service
- 21st All Music Sunday
- Poinsettia Sunday
- 24th Christmas Eve Worship
- Family Service - 4 p.m.
- Candlelight Service - 7 p.m.
- Candlelight Service - 10 p.m.
- 25th Merry Christmas! Office Closed
- 28th Worship 9:30 a.m. Hickey Hall
- 31st New Year's Eve Office Closed

SUNDAY WORSHIP Worship with us!

The Open Door Service

9:30 a.m. in Hickey Hall

Traditional Service

11 a.m. in Sanctuary

2 All Saints Sunday

James 3:7b-10

Tearing Down or Building Up

Rev. Dulworth

9 James 1:19

Hurtful or Life-Giving

Rev. Kress

16 Marriage Renewal Sunday

1 Corinthians (select verses)

Religion and Politics

Rev. Dulworth

23 John 1:1, 14

In the Beginning Was the Word

Rev. May

30 Luke 2:1-5

King of Kings

Rev. Dulworth

SERMON SERIES November