

Epistle

*A welcoming community
sharing Christ's love
in service
through relationships.
Welcome. Share. Serve.*

June 2019

REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR AMY JO

A Good Fit

One of the joys of the church universal is that each congregation (and each person) who is part of the church has their own unique gifts, interests, and style to add to the whole of Christ's body. As we begin implementing the Healthy Church Initiative recommendations for Saint Paul's UMC, we seek to move forward in a way that faithfully honors God and is "a good fit" for our specific congregation. The first recommendation with which we are moving forward is:

Recommendation #4: Right-size the Organizational Structure. Currently there are over 50 leadership positions within your organizational structure of committees. This is around/above 50% of your average worship attendance and is one of the things we believe will affect the capacity to change. Currently you are a smaller church, but your organizational structure is creating a demand of time and responsibility that is more suited for a larger institutional

church. With the help of your coach we want you to "right-size" your organizational structure to provide the necessary leadership to accomplish your vision which also frees up individuals time and responsibilities to help in other capacities.



At the Church Council meeting on May 23, the Church Council approved a smaller leadership structure for our congregation. We are currently in the process of finalizing the details and notifying people regarding changes. The intent is that this new, smaller structure will allow fewer people to be attending administrative meetings, and more people having time to participate in other ministries of

the church, such as men's group, serving at Neighbor's Inc. or Garlough School, United Methodist Women, and book club, to name a few. As our leadership committees grow smaller, their main focus will be on policies of the church, planning for the future, and coordinating volunteers. The committee will reach out to volunteers across the church in order to accomplish its goals, rather than trying to do the work with only the people serving on the committee. Please expect calls /e-mails from members of the leadership team from time-to-time as they call upon all of our church members to serve. An inventory of spiritual gifts, interests, and skills will be provided soon to help us better know where people have interests and gifts for participating in the life of the church. But, don't wait for the formal inventory! If you have a gift that you would like to share, please write it down on the blue card so that the Saint Paul's UMC leadership team knows and can call upon you to serve.

(continued on page 2)

(continued from page 1)

We are thankful for the many leaders who have been serving faithfully at Saint Paul's UMC. Some of these leaders will now step down from committee leadership and begin serving in other areas of the church. Others will continue to serve in leadership in the new committee structure. Thank you for your service!

We hope that the new structure is a good fit for Saint Paul's UMC and helps us to live out our mission to be a welcoming community sharing Christ's love in service through relationships. We will try the new structure out and evaluate its efficacy at the end of the calendar year and then again in one year, making changes as necessary. May God guide us and give us wisdom as we move forward. ☿

**Barbara Fillion**

730 S. Plaza Dr. #204
Mendota Heights MN 55120
651-587-6806

Barbara loves St. Paul UMC's music, friendships and opportunities to participate in the community.

She is retired and enjoys reading, knitting and swimming. Barbara has a son and daughter and two grandchildren.



CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Helping families
nurture lifelong
disciples of Christ



ONE ROOM SUNDAY SCHOOL JUNE 2nd

During the summer, we combine both of our children's Sunday School classes into one—One Room Sunday School (ORSS).

ORSS begins June 2nd and starts at approximately 10:15 am, after Children's Chat in worship.

We like to give our regular Sunday school teachers throughout the year a summer break. If you have an interest in helping teach one Sunday this summer, please contact Lani Thompson at lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org or go to this link to sign up online: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080B48A5A928A1FA7-oneroom>

3rd AND 4th GRADE BIBLES

On May 19th we presented Bibles to eight children in 3rd and 4th grade.

Presenting Bibles to children is a long standing tradition in the United Methodist Church. When the church gives children a Bible in worship it is not only a memorable and important faith milestone in their life, but a big part of the continuation of their lifelong faith journey. We present children with a new Bible at this age in the hopes that they will not only learn how to read scripture, but they will be able to use their knowledge of the Bible in order to deepen their faith and relationship with God.



L to R: Raymond Renard, Matti Nyhus, Andrew Anderson, Archer Jedlicka, Grant Jedlicka, Mitchell Howard

TEACHER APPRECIATION

Also on May 19th we said a special THANK YOU to all of our Sunday School teachers and volunteers. The children and youth handed out flowers during worship and personally thanked all the volunteers who help make all we do possible.

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MEET THE 2019 CONFIRMAND MALLORY BRANDECKER

On May 19th we confirmed Mallory Brandecker as an official member of Saint Paul's United Methodist Church.

Mallory's parents are Bob and Jamie Brandecker. She has one sister, Abby.

Mallory enjoys softball, volleyball and dance and hopes to have a

Faith Statement:

I think God/Jesus is: Loving friend. Always there through everything. Creator. A friend that will never let go. My best friend.

I think that the Bible is:

A library. Intelligent. A faithful library filled with history. Wisdom. Peaceful and loving stories from different points of view.

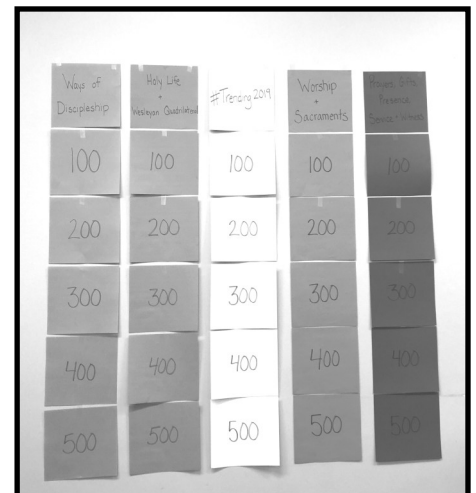
I think the church is:

A loving and safe place to share your thoughts and feelings with God/Jesus. Filled with such caring citizens. Filled with family that will never ever give up on you no matter what. Church is the loving community.



CONFIRMATION

In May we had our final Confirmation class of the 2018/2019 school year. We spent time reflecting on all the lessons and topics we had discussed over the year and then played a version of Confirmation Jeopardy that covered all those lessons. The youth had a lot of fun with it and it was a great way to recap all that they had learned. Our Confirmation program will be paused for the summer but will start back up with a exciting kick-off on September 11th.



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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT CAMP KORONIS JULY 8th – 10th

Camp Wesley, overnight VBS, will be held July 8th-10th for children who have finished kindergarten-5th grade and adults who are kids at heart and would like to volunteer.

Camp Wesley will help kids discover the wonders of God's universe. With the theme - *To Mars and Beyond* -they'll become voyagers on a journey through space, exploring where God's power can take them. Your

children will learn how God walked with heroes of the Bible, and that God is always with them, too. This adventure will have out-of-this-world fun, learning, and timeless Bible stories that will inspire kids to give glory to God, who is able to do far beyond all that we could ask or imagine!

The cost of camp is \$175. To make sure we are providing the best camp experience possible, we will need a minimum of 10 children to register by June 8th. Please contact Lani Thompson at lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org for registrations, questions or to volunteer.

FINANCE Support of our church and its mission



WHAT'S IN YOUR CHECK REGISTER?

I am frequently torn between amusement and annoyance by TV commercials. CapitalOne has had some memorable ones out recently with the tagline "What's in **your** wallet?"

That reminds me of one of our former pastors who said, "You can tell a lot about a person by reading their check register." I particularly think of that remark when tax time arrives and I go through my check registers in an effort to define my tax year. Check registers do say a lot about people and how they spend their God given resources. If you spend a lot at the grocery store, you probably love to cook, enter-

tain and eat. If you have a lot of money devoted to your vehicles, you probably have a little love affair going there.

We live in a wonderful country where we can choose to spend on things that bring us and the people we love joy. And, as people of faith, we can choose to spread that joy to the world around us through our giving. We are totally in charge of keeping our lives and our checkbooks in balance. And it is true that our spiritual and emotional health depend on a good balance between ourselves and others. So every once in awhile it is a good idea to say to yourself, "What's in **your** check register?"

Rhea Nyquist - Finance Team

REACHING OUT

Living our faith
and connecting
with our
neighbors



MENDAKOTA PARK CELEBRATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 1st

Join us as we reach out to connect with people in the community at the annual Mendakota Parks Celebration on June 1st. Volunteers are needed. Please contact Lani Thompson, lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org if you can help.

GARLOUGH SCHOOL TEACHER AND STAFF APPRECIATION

LUNCHEON, JUNE 6th

Saint Paul's UMC is putting on a Staff Appreciation Luncheon at Garlough Elementary on June 6th at 11:00 am as a way to thank all the teachers and staff for all they do. We are still in need of a volunteers to join us to help set-up, serve, and clean up, as well as help with donations of cookies or bars. Please contact Carol Egan at merryhands@gmail.com or Bev Momsen at momsenb@comcast.net if you are interested in participating.

SUMMER MEALS AT SOMERSET ELEMENTARY

The Saint Paul's UMC mission team will be serving lunches at Somerset Elementary on July 8th-11th from 10:00 am-12:30 pm and they would love for you to join them! If you are interested in serving kids a good nutritional meal, contact Lani at lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org.

MISSION TRIP

JULY 20—28, 2019

This July 20th-28th, St. Paul's UMC will be going to Charleston, West Virginia for a week long Mission Trip through YouthWorks, to help serve in a community struggling through poverty. This will be a inter-generational mission trip for youth who have finished 6th grade through adults. During our week in Charleston, our group will have the opportunity to learn firsthand about the people, history, and the culture of the city.

We will serve and build relationships with a variety of people in Charleston through local organizations like the Boys and Girls Club, Union Mission, Covenant House, and local senior centers. We will help at a food shelf, volunteer at a clothing distribution center, serve a meal at a soup kitchen, work at an elder care facility, and help at the local community children's camp. During the evenings we will worship with a local congregation and feast with friends old and new at a community potluck.

If you are interested in joining us or have questions, contact Lani Thompson, lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org.

EVENTS

What's
happening and
when

PENTECOST SUNDAY JUNE 9th



One of the principal days of the Christian year, Pentecost is celebrated on the 50th day after Easter. The Greek word pentecoste means "fiftieth day."

Pentecost is the day on which the Christian church commemorates the coming of the Holy Spirit upon the apostles and others assembled in Jerusalem. It marks the beginning of the Christian church and is often referred to as the birthday of the church.

Please **wear red** to worship to symbolize the fire of God's spirit! A field of red filling the pews will surely have an impact, creating lasting memories for everyone, memories of the fire of the Holy Spirit.

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SUMMER PICNIC

JUNE 30th

On Sunday, June 30th, from 12:00—3:00 pm everyone at Saint Paul's UMC is invited to attend a special children and families picnic at Harmon Park, 230 Bernard St. W., West St. Paul. We have a lot of new parents and children at Saint Paul's UMC and would like to take a relaxing day to help get everyone acquainted. While the children run and enjoy the playground equipment and splash pad, parents can sit back and get to know each other a little better. We will have plenty of hotdogs to grill as well as chips and lemonade, and everyone is encouraged to bring a side dish to share if they are able.



Join us at the

Church Picnic!

CHANCEL CHOIR PRACTICE JUNE 30th

The Chancel Choir will be singing in worship on June 30th. Please arrive for practice that Sunday morning at 9:00 am.

SMALL GROUPS

United with Purpose



UMW CIRCLES

UMW Picnic

The UMW picnic will be held on Monday June 3rd, 6:00 pm at Cecelia Burbach's club house, 6931 Inverness Trail, Inver Grove Heights, 55077. They will eat at 6:00 pm and their program will begin at 7:00 pm; *Safeguarding Our Seniors* presented by Kathleen Moore of the BBB. All are welcome to join them for the meal, (please bring a dish to share) or just come for the program.

Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will not meet in June, July or August. Questions? Contact Annie McGuire, 651-254-7265.

Rebekah Circle

Rebekah Circle will not meet in June, July or August. Questions? Call Beda Lewis at 651-554-3600.

Rachel Circle

Rachel Circle will not meet in June, July or August. Questions: Contact Barb Jorgenson, 651-414-0054.



SUNDAY ADULT

EDUCATION, 9:00 am BERTELSEN LIBRARY

On June 2nd we will finish our discussion of William Willimon's *"Fear of the Other: No Fear in Love."* **Please note the new summer time—9:00 am.**

On June 9th, 16th, and 23rd we will discuss David Brooks' *"Second Mountain."* A book is not necessary. You are invited! Please join us!

There will be no meetings in July and August.

WEDNESDAY ADULT EDUCATION BOOK GROUP, NOON

BERTELSEN LIBRARY

From May 1st—June 26th, we will read *"Falling Upward: A Spirituality for the Two Halves of Life"* by Richard Rohr. Charles Duddingston will convene the event.

WEEDING VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are still needed to weed this summer. If you follow the link below, there is a sign-up sheet where you can schedule a two-week time frame that works well for your schedule. You may also call the office, 651-452-5683, to sign up for available dates. Thank you to the volunteers who have already stopped by to get our gardens ready for the growing season. I appreciate all of your efforts to keep Saint Paul's UMC looking beautiful!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/508094DA5AF23A5FA7-saint>



Please pray for the following:

Joys:

Barb Helmken's friend, Dolores, cancer free
Confirmation of Mallory Brandecker
Teachers and leaders of our children and youth

Deaths:

Cheryl Anderson's friend, Lois Magnusson, May 16th
Dorothy Smith, May 9th
Marvin Rix, father of David Rix, May 5th

Health Concerns:

Chrisana Tripodi's husband, Greg, for ongoing health issues
Jerry Moffitt's twin, John, recovering from neck surgery
Barb Goin's friend, Laurie, recurrence of brain cancer
Thomas, with kidney stones that require extra attention
Nancy Grinager's sister-in-law, Dedra, fighting lung cancer
Sherry Ziemkowski-LaGuire, undergoing chemotherapy for uterine cancer
Barb Helmken; for Lisa with breast and ovarian cancer, John; Phil, with leukemia
Kae Jewell's uncle, Bob Grich, with a re-occurrence of lung cancer
Jo Reck's mother, struggling with near blindness
All homebound with health problems

Please call the office with joys and concerns

**OFFICE HOURS:**

Monday - Friday: 8:00 am - noon

LANI'S OFFICE HOURS:

Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
10:00 am - 6:00 pm

Tuesday, 12:00—8:00 pm

**SUMMER SUNDAY
SCHEDULE**

Adult Education: 9:00 am
Worship: 10:00 am
One Room Sunday School 10:15 am

2nd SUNDAYS SCHEDULE

Adult Education: 9:00 am
Kidz 2gether Worship: 10:00 am
Brunch: 11:00 am
Communion will be offered the 1st
and 2nd Sundays of every month.

CHURCH COUNCIL CHAIR:

Leslie Watkins

ST. PAUL'S STAFF:

Pastor: Rev. Amy Jo Bur,
pastor@stpaulsmn.org

**Director of Children, Youth and
Mission:**

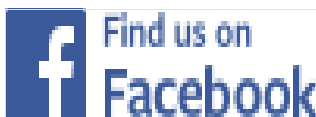
Lani Thompson,
lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org

Director of Music Ministry:

Lane Skoglund-Anderson,
laneskoglundanderson@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Diane Pelinka,
info@stpaulsmn.org

**grat-i-tude**

[grat i tood]

noun

the quality of being
thankful; readiness
to show appreciation
for and to return
kindness

Thank you to everyone who
helped with the UMW Rummage/
Bake Sale. We had another
successful sale raising \$1,183.08
for missions!

**THANK YOU TO THE
COUNTERS IN MAY**

Brent Cuttell
Barb Goin
Barb Jorgenson
Rhea Nyquist
Jude Rikala
David Roper
Bob Walker
Melissa Wilson

**Dorothy Smith**

Dorothy passed away in Prior
Lake on May 9, 2019. She and
her husband, Vince, were beloved
members of St. Paul's UMC since
1992. They were married for over
61 years before he passed in 2013.
Condolences may be sent to their
daughter:

Chris Blanchette
4660 Lanewood Lane N.
Maple Grove MN 55311


**SCHEDULE
BEGINS JUNE 2**

- ♦ Worship hour will begin
at **10:00 am**. Mark your
calendars!
- ♦ One Room Sunday
School (ORSS)
starts at approximately
10:15 am, after
Children's Chat in
worship.

DIRECTORY UPDATES

Bill & Lois Gydesen

6305 Burnham Circle (correction)
#300

Inver Grove Heights MN 55076

John Grinager new cell phone:
651-247-0277

Bob Wilson new email:
squirlob@icloud.com



May 5, 2019

Ayla and Hayley Karas

Daughters of:

Danny and Juanita Karas
4040 Dehrer Way
Inver Grove Heights MN

JUNE

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:00 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion 10:15 am One Room Sunday School	3 <i>10:00 am Music Together</i> 6:00 pm UMW Picnic, Burbach's community room	4	5 12:00 pm Book Club	6 11:00 am Teacher Recognition Lunch at Garlough Elem.	7	1 11:00 am Mendakota Park Celebration <hr/> 8 11:00 am Sharon Holmes Celebration
9 Pentecost 9:00 am Adult Ed and Chancel Choir practice 10:00 am Kidz 2gether Worship w/Baptism & Communion—no One Room Sunday School 11:00 am 2 nd Sunday Pasta Salad Brunch	10 <i>10:00 am Music Together</i>	11 <i>Quilting Retreat</i>	12 12:00 pm Book Club	13	14 Newsletter Deadline	15 <i>12:30 pm Private piano recital</i>
16 Father's Day 9:00 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am One Room Sunday School	17 <i>10:00 am Music Together</i> 6:00 pm Council Mtg <i>6:45 pm 4H</i>	18 <i>6:00 pm Yoga</i> Annual Conference, St. Cloud	19 12:00 pm Book Club	20	21	22
23 9:00 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am One Room Sunday School	24 <i>10:00 am Music Together</i>	25 <i>6:00 pm Yoga</i>	26 12:00 pm Book Club	27	28	29
30 9:00 am Chancel Choir practice 10:00 am Worship 10:15 am One Room Sunday School 12:00 pm Picnic, Harmon Park	<p><i>Italicized events are conducted by outside groups renting space at the church.</i></p> <p><i>Pastor Amy Jo will be on vacation June 24th—30th. In the event of a pastoral emergency, contact Rev. Jenny Larsen of Christ UMC—Maplewood, 612-408-0173.</i></p>					

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

700 Wesley Lane
Mendota Heights MN 55118

Phone: 651-452-5683
Email: info@stpaulsmn.org

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Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
The People of the United Methodist Church®

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL AT CAMP KORONIS
JULY 8th – 10th

