

# Epistle

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

October 2019

## REFLECTIONS FROM PASTOR AMY JO

### Reaching Out with Christ's Love

October will be an exciting month at Saint Paul's UMC, with both Vacation Bible School during MEA break and our annual Turkey Dinner, Bake Sale, and Craft Sale. Both of these events reach out to the larger Mendota Heights community with Christ's love. Proceeds from the turkey dinner benefit missions through the UMW, reaching out to those in need with Christ's love. The turkey dinner also gives us an opportunity to meet our neighbors and show hospitality—reminding our neighbors of the friendly, welcoming atmosphere of Saint Paul's UMC.

Vacation Bible School is another opportunity to introduce the children of our community to a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ. Currently, in the United States, statistics show us that the younger generations are the least likely to be actively involved in a religious community. So, we focus on the need in younger generations to learn about the Christian faith and have an opportunity to commit their lives to following Jesus. We reach out with

Christ's love, believing that the importance of that relationship with God can make all of the difference in the world for each child.

A prayer by Henri Nouwen reminds us about the importance and centrality of our relationship with God in our lives:

“O Lord, who else, or what else can I desire but you? You are my Lord, Lord of my heart, mind, and soul. . . . Why then, do I keep expecting happiness and satisfaction outside of you? Why do I keep relating to you as one of my many relationships, instead of my only relationship, in which all other ones are grounded?”

Our hope is for every child in Mendota Heights to be able to have a relationship with Jesus that is at the center of their lives. The fun curriculum of “*To Mars and Beyond*” should bring the themes of the Gospel to life for the children in ways that delight them and fill them with joy.

Please join us to volunteer with both the Turkey Dinner, Craft/Bake Sale and with Vacation Bible School over MEA break. Both of these events provide opportunities to share Christ's love in service through relationships. Let's shine God's light brightly in Mendota Heights!

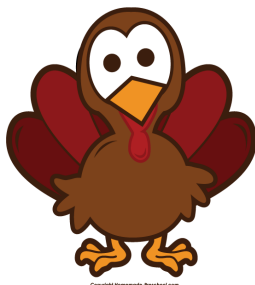




What a joy! Saint Paul's UMC has new playground equipment installed on our front lawn and the children have been thoroughly enjoying it. The new playground has been made possible through a donation in memory of Dorothy Grinager, and additional funding from our memorial fund and a special donation.

Thank you to the Grinager family and others who gave memorial funds to make this possible.

## **TURKEY DINNER AND BAKE/ CRAFT SALE OCTOBER 23<sup>rd</sup>**



St. Paul's famous "reservations-only" Turkey Dinner and Craft/Bake Sale will be held Wednesday, October 23<sup>rd</sup>. Seatings for the dinner are at 4:30 pm, 5:30 pm and 6:30 pm. Take out meals are also available and can be obtained for 5:00 pm or 6:00 pm. Tickets for the dinner are \$15 for adults, \$6 for children from 3 to 10 years of age and free for those under 3. Tickets can be procured by calling the church office or purchasing them directly from the UMW during church coffee hours in October. There is no necessity to have reservations or tickets for the Craft Bake/Sale.

Workers are needed for the dinner and craft sale, so if you would like to help out there is a sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall or call Carol Rix (952-221-4869) for cooking, serving, and cleaning up duties. Call Bettie Robinson (651-207-8643) if you have crafts or food delicacies to donate or would like to work at displaying and selling them that evening.

This is an event that puts our church "on the map" in our community and since the proceeds are used for mission work, it makes it even better. Who can argue with good food, good fellowship and just plain goodness?



## CHILDREN AND YOUTH

Helping families  
nurture lifelong  
disciples of Christ



## VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL DURING MEA OCTOBER 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup>

This MEA (October 17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup>) St. Paul's UMC is offering a special Vacation Bible School Camp to help accommodate working parents and offer our kids a fantastic camp experience where they can learn and grow together. We are inviting your child to join us Thursday, October 17<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 am-3:00 pm, and Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, from 9:00 am-5:00 pm, with a special wrap-up Neighborhood BBQ from 5:00 -7:00 pm for the whole family. Cost is \$20 per child.

This VBS 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! Every day is guaranteed to be filled with fun, laughter, fellowship and friendships, learning, music, crafts, and games.

We are still looking for adult chaperones to join us - either for the whole time, or to just come and stay with us for part of the day. We would also love any 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth to join us as camp counselors. If you are interested, please let Lani Thompson know at [lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org](mailto:lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org).

## CONFIRMATION

### 2019-2020

Confirmation is open to all 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> graders as well as any older youth who have not been confirmed yet. We meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month from 6:00-8:00 pm. We have eight youth participating this year: Bridget Arnold, Taylor Taurinskas, Kira Sattler, Morgan Carter, Kate Murphy, Madison Hudella, Savannah Raj, and Alex Bur.

In September we welcomed our new youth to our Confirmation Group and celebrated the start of a new year. We began with a meal, had a few Get-to-know-you games and mixers, discussed "*What is Confirmation?*" and the importance of why we do it, and had a presentation of the Confirmation program for 2019-2020.

Our next class is on October 9<sup>th</sup> and we will be talking about "*Creation, Sin, and Reconciliation*".



# REACHING OUT

Living our faith  
and connecting  
with our  
neighbors



## NEIGHBORS' DUCK RACES, SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5<sup>th</sup>

**11:00 am - 3:00 pm**

**Location:** Southview Blvd  
South St. Paul

**Activities:** In addition to the races – which will run approximately every 15 minutes – check out the meet and greet opportunities with Delbert the Duck mascot, play games, make crafts and get your temporary duck tattoo! Youth coloring contest winners will also be announced.

**Cost\*:** Ducks are \$5 each and can be purchased by completing a duck adoption certificate available at St. Paul's UMC (on the narthex table closer to the date of the event), [www.neighborsmn.org](http://www.neighborsmn.org) or at the event. Most of the kid's activities are free, although some games may require a fee to play.

**Prizes:** This year's grand prize is a \$500 shopping trip to a local retailer of the winner's choice!

\*All proceeds go to Neighbors, Inc., for programs serving low-income people in northern Dakota County.

## NEIGHBORS' NUMBERS

\$412.50 from St. Paul's UMC.

\$500.00 from UMW.

1,156 pounds of groceries.

This is through August 31, 2019.

## NEIGHBORS' FOOD SHELF - MOST NEEDED ITEMS

Jelly, Baking Supplies (Oil, Flour, Sugar), Canned Meats, Soup and Cereal (hot and cold).

Collection bins are in the narthex.

## WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6<sup>th</sup>

World Communion Sunday is a celebration observed by various Christian denominations. Your generous gifts fund graduate racial-ethnic World Communion Scholarships, with at least one-half of the annual amount reserved for ministries beyond the United States. Donations also provide for undergraduate U.S. Ethnic Scholarship and Ethnic In-Service Training programs.

Special offering envelopes will be available in bulletins or you may just write "World Communion" in the memo section of your check.



## FALL KICK-OFF

Our Fall Kick-off celebration was on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup> this year. Kidz 2gether worship for Fall-Kick off was a huge success! With the theme of “Welcome” we had children and youth greeting, handing out bulletins, acolyting, making and presenting the theme board, reading prayers, being puppeteers, and serving communion. Pastor Amy Jo also provided a blessing over all the children's backpacks in recognition of them starting a new school year. What a fantastic service!

We weren't going to let a little rain stop our Fall Kick-off celebration! Our day ended with a delicious lunch of walking tacos provided by the Baker family. Thank you Bakers! The celebration outside included live music from the *The Methodicals*. The kids bounced, slid, danced, played in the ball pit, had their faces painted and enjoyed never ending snow cones! How fun!





## FINANCE

### Support of our church and its mission



### WHAT'S NEW?

I came across an article recently by Marelisa Febrega. She is a lawyer and entrepreneur who blogs about creativity, productivity and getting the most out of life. In this particular article she focused on gratitude. It was an interesting article and had the usual conversation about how gratitude is good for our overall health. It also mentioned the use of a gratitude journal. There were statistics quoted which showed a strong relationship between a sense of gratitude and a higher quality of life. So far I hadn't read anything new. Then I got to the conclusion and that is where the insight occurred.

*gratitude to your experiences, instead of waiting for a positive experience in order to feel grateful;*” Wow! Gratitude is not a passive endeavor, waiting for something good to happen so I can feel grateful. Gratitude is *finding* the goodness in life. Everything that happens has something for which I can feel gratitude. I love this idea and hope to integrate it into my daily life.

What occurred in your life today that created a feeling of gratitude? Today, I'm feeling gratitude for the spiritual oasis that I find within our congregation. A place where we share Christ's love in service through relationships.

Here is the line that brought me up short. *“Today, start bringing*

Grace and Peace,  
Kae Jewell

### Finance Update Through 9/30/2019

General Fund Income	\$164,386.60
Less General Fund Expenses	<u>\$174,554.43</u>
Balance	\$ (10,167.83)
Less Unpaid Apportionments	<u>\$ 21,494.00</u>
Deficit After Unpaid Apportionments	\$ (31,661.83)

### ROAD CONSTRUCTION

Road construction may make getting to church the regular way difficult. If the Wesley/Dodd road intersection is blocked, you may reach the church by going thru The Village. (Be aware that some of these streets are also under construction.)

- Turn in to Market Street (the main entrance to The Village)
- Turn left on to Linden St. (the first intersection after Gateway Bank)
- Turn left on to South Lane
- Turn left on to Wesley Lane and follow until you reach the church

The City has promised us that at least one entrance to the parking lot/church will be open at all times.

## EVENTS

What's  
happening and  
when



### NEIGHBORHOOD BARBEQUE PICNIC FRIDAY

**OCTOBER 18<sup>th</sup>**

**5:00—7:00 pm**

Join us on Friday, October 18<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 -7:00 pm for a neighborhood outdoor BBQ at St. Paul's UMC. As part of our Healthy Church Initiative and a wrap up celebration for our Vacation Bible School during MEA, we will be grilling and relaxing outside, enjoying the company of our friends and neighbors and sitting around a wonderful campfire. And of course there will be plenty of s'mores!

### ALL SAINTS' DAY SUNDAY

**NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup>**

We will commemorate All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 3<sup>rd</sup>.

During this meaningful service, all will be invited to light a candle in memory of family members, relatives and friends who have gone on to be with the Lord since last year's service.



## UMW SAFARI PARTY!

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 am**

All women are invited to St. Paul's UMC for brunch and to enjoy a presentation about Kae Jewell's trip to Africa!

RSVP by October 26<sup>th</sup> to: [bjorgens51@yahoo.com](mailto:bjorgens51@yahoo.com)

Please reference "November 2<sup>nd</sup> Event" in the subject line and

Indicate if childcare is needed.

You do **not** need to be a UMW member to attend!



# SMALL GROUPS

United with purpose



## UMW CIRCLES

### Ruth Circle

Ruth Circle will meet Monday, October 21<sup>st</sup>. **NOTE:** Meeting time is changing to 10:00 am. Questions? Contact Annie McGuire, 651-254-7265.

### Rebekah Circle

Rebekah Circle will meet on October 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 am at church. We will be making goodies for the Turkey dinner boutique, reading the book of John, and having coffee and dessert. Why would you want to miss this? We welcome everyone! Questions please call Beda Lewis at 652-554-3600.

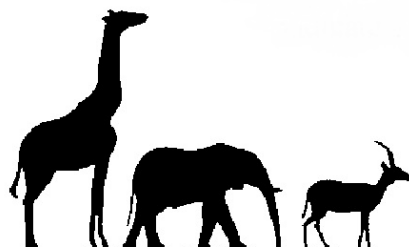
### Rachel Circle

Rachel circle will not meet in October. Questions? Contact Barb Jorgenson, 651-414-0054.

## UMW SAFARI PARTY SATURDAY

**NOVEMBER 2<sup>nd</sup>, 10:00 am**

Please see details on page 7.



## MEN'S GROUP

The Men's Group will not meet in October.

## SUNDAY ADULT ED

Bertelsen Library

Sundays, 9:30 am

Using *Faithlink*, a weekly curriculum, each Sunday this fall we will address a current event and discuss it, along with a Christian point of view, with as many viewpoints as possible. Topics will be fresh every Sunday! Join us as we connect faith and life. Charles Duddingston will convene.

## WEDNESDAY ADULT ED BOOK GROUP

Bertelsen Library

Beginning October 2<sup>nd</sup>, noon

*Mountaintop Moments* by Ed Robb

Starting on Wednesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup>, you are invited to discuss with

Charles Duddingston "mountain top moments", when Old

Testament history and God's

revelation are made relevant to our daily living.

- ♦ Oct. 2: Mount Sinai, Mount of God's Law
- ♦ Oct. 9: Mount Carmel, Mount of Decision
- ♦ Oct. 16: Mount Olivet, Mount of Blessing.

Books are available to purchase on the narthex table for a \$10 donation to Garlough School but they are not required for participation. Bring a sandwich and a friend!





**Please pray for the following:**

**Joys:**

\$1,135 for missions raised from the UMW Rummage Sale  
Students and teachers back to school

**Deaths:**

Mary Bell, September 25<sup>th</sup>  
Pam Watkins, Dawn Everling's cousin, September 19<sup>th</sup>

**Health Concerns:**

Cheryl Anderson's nephew, Dan, having cancer surgery  
Brad Paulson recovering from a broken vertebrae in his neck from a fall  
Amber, awaiting test results for a breast lump  
Barb Helmken, health issues  
Jerry Moffitt will be able to have a successful hip replacement in October  
Chrisana Tripodi's husband, Greg, for ongoing health concerns  
Chuck Everling's sister, Betty, in hospice with cancer  
Larry Brandenburg, Dana Nyhus' dad, for quick recovery after hip surgery  
John Schmidt surgery for wrists and ankle, basal cell skin cancer on ankle  
Mike LaGuire's daughter, Cheryl, with a new breast cancer diagnosis  
Daniel Berntsen, Shirley Holmay's friend and former co-worker,  
very seriously injured when hit by a vehicle while riding his bicycle to work  
Kathy Detert's neighbor, Mary, with bone cancer  
Barb Goin's friend, Laurie, finished 3<sup>rd</sup> round of chemo with more to come  
Nancy Grinager's sister-in-law, Dedra, fighting lung cancer  
Jo Reck's mother, struggling with near blindness  
All homebound with health problems

**Additional:**

Those affected by Hurricane Dorian  
For guidance in search for new job and relief from financial hardship  
For guidance for our President

*Please call the office with joys and concerns*

**THE 5 FINGER PRAYER FROM CHILDREN'S CHAT**

Thumb: Those closest to you, your family  
Pointer: Those that point you in the right direction: teachers, doctors, pastors  
Index (tallest): Those that lead us: government, military, police  
Ring (weakest): Those that are weak, in trouble, or in pain  
Pinkie (smallest): Ourselves and our own needs.

**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

**SUNDAY SCHEDULE**

Education Hour for all: 9:30 am

Worship: 10:30 am

**2<sup>nd</sup> SUNDAYS SCHEDULE**

Education Hour for all: 9:30 am

Kidz 2gether Worship: 10:30 am

Brunch: 11:30 am

Communion will be offered the 1<sup>st</sup>  
and 2<sup>nd</sup> Sundays of every month.

**CENTRAL LEADERSHIP**

**CHAIR:** Leslie Watkins

**ST. PAUL'S STAFF:**

**Pastor:** Rev. Amy Jo Bur,  
[pastor@stpaulsmn.org](mailto:pastor@stpaulsmn.org)

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

Lani Thompson,  
[lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org](mailto:lani.thompson@stpaulsmn.org)

**Director of Music Ministry:**

Lane Skoglund-Anderson,  
[laneskoglundanderson@gmail.com](mailto:laneskoglundanderson@gmail.com)

**Administrative Assistant:**

Diane Pelinka,  
[info@stpaulsmn.org](mailto:info@stpaulsmn.org)



# grat·i·tude

[grat i tood]

*noun*

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

We had another successful  
rummage/bake sale and raised  
\$1,135 for missions.

A big thank you to all the  
volunteers who helped make this a  
success.

*St. Paul's UMW*

## THANK YOU TO THE COUNTERS IN AUGUST

Brent Cuttell

Barb Goin

Kae Jewell

Patricia Lamski

Rhea Nyquist

Jude Rikala

Bettie Robinson

Bob Walker

.....We are continually inspired  
by the generosity of people like  
you who answer the call to sup-  
port our community and help your  
neighbors thrive. Thank you for  
your gift (\$412.50 and 212  
pounds of food) and for being a  
part of the Neighbors family.  
With gratitude,

*Beth Skwira*

*Dir. of Mission Advancement  
(full letter on bulletin board)*



**Dave and Carol Rix**  
No longer have a landline.

**Sheila Kitzman**  
No longer has a landline.  
Cell: 651-788-6189.



**Mary Bell**  
September 25, 2019



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME ENDS NOVEMBER 3<sup>rd</sup></b> <i>Remember to turn your clocks back one hour!</i>		<b>1</b>  <i>6:30 pm Yoga</i>	<b>2</b> 12:00 pm Book Club 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 9:30 am Education Hour 10:30 am Worship w/ Communion Pizza and Corn Maze 4:30 pm & 5:30 pm Music 2gether	<b>7</b>  <i>10:30 am Music 2gether</i>	<b>8</b>  <i>6:30 pm Yoga</i>	<b>9</b> 12:00 pm Book Club 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	<b>10</b> <i>10:00 am Quilters</i>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13</b> 9:30 am Education Hour 10:30 am Kidz 2gether Worship w/Communion 4:30 pm & 5:30 pm Music 2gether	<b>14</b>  <i>10:30 am Music 2gether</i>	<b>15</b>  <i>6:30 pm Yoga</i>	<b>16</b> 11:00 am Rebekah Circle, church 12:00 pm Book Club 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	<b>17</b>  <b>Vacation Bible School</b>	<b>18</b> Newsletter Deadline 5:00 pm Neighborhood Picnic	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 9:30 am Education Hour 10:30 am Worship 4:30 pm & 5:30 pm Music 2gether	<b>21</b> <i>10:30 am Music Together</i> 10:00 am Ruth Circle, church ( <b>NEW TIME</b> ) 6:00 pm Finance Mtg 6:45 pm 4H	<b>22</b>  <i>No Yoga</i>	<b>23</b>  <b>Turkey Dinner</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 9:30 am Education Hour 10:30 am Worship 4:30 pm & 5:30 pm Music 2gether	<b>28</b> <i>10:30 am Music Together</i> 6:00 pm UMW Executive Mtg 6:00 pm Central Leadership Mtg	<b>29</b>  <i>6:30 pm Yoga</i>	<b>30</b> 12:00 pm Book Club 6:00 pm Handbell Choir 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	<b>31</b>		



**St. Paul's United Methodist Church**

700 Wesley Lane  
Mendota Heights MN 55118

Phone: 651-452-5683  
Email: [info@stpaulsmn.org](mailto:info@stpaulsmn.org)

NON PROFIT ORG.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
TWIN CITIES MN  
PERMIT #2316

*Address Service Requested*

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

**Turkey Dinner & Craft/Bake Sale**  
**October 23<sup>rd</sup>**

