

# SAINT PAUL'S UMC

WELCOME. SHARE. SERVE.



APRIL  
2025



*“Grace and peace to you from God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.”* That’s how the apostle Paul starts his second letter to the Thessalonian Christians. Sounds kind of formal and ‘churchy’, but I’ll say it anyway as a greeting to you from your new interim pastor. I’m very glad to be with you even though it will be relatively short!

I’m also glad that it gets to be during this time of year which is particularly meaningful in the life of the Church—Lent, Good Friday, Maundy Thursday and Resurrection Sunday.

We’ve already started a Lenten Bible study/discussion. We’re thinking together about whether Lent is a time of scarcity or abundance. We’ll expand this beyond the season of Lent to think about that in our relationship with God. Do we approach that relationship from a posture/attitude of scarcity or abundance?

I know for much of my life (and maybe to a degree still) I approached God from a place of scarcity—meaning: a place of fear or a place of wondering what God really thought of me.

What a difference it makes to approach God from a place of abundance—believing that I (you) are of infinite worth, that I (you) are deeply loved by God.

Isaiah 43:1 says: *“But now, this is what the Lord says—he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: ‘Fear not, I have redeemed you; I have summoned you by name; you are mine.’”* Try inserting your name in place of ‘Jacob’ and ‘Israel’ in that reading and see how that feels!

As we walk together these weeks, it is a message you will hear frequently from me. I hope you will be encouraged by it and maybe even start to believe it a little more.

*Pastor Bill Robertson*

A welcoming community  
sharing Christ’s love in  
service through relationships.

700 Wesley Lane/Mendota Heights MN/55118  
Phone: 651-452-5683 Email: [info@stpaulsmn.org](mailto:info@stpaulsmn.org)

Join us for worship  
on Sundays! 10:00 am



WHAT'S HAPPENING

# Holy Week

## HOLY WEEK

*Holy Week is a sacred time for Christians to remember Jesus' final week as he journeyed to the cross.*

### PALM SUNDAY

*Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>*

- ◆ 10:00 am Worship

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

*Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup>*

- ◆ 7:00 pm Worship with Communion

### GOOD FRIDAY

*Friday, April 18<sup>th</sup>*

- ◆ 4:00 pm Worship

### EASTER SUNDAY

*Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>*

- ◆ 10:00 am Worship

## The Easter Flowers are given to the Glory of God

-In loving Memory of-

Yeen Chong  
 Elina Curran  
 Loved ones  
 Our parents  
 Family  
 Parents, Jack and Agnes Lovaas,  
 and husband, Ralph Jewell  
 Tom Lewis  
 Harold and Hilda McCorkhill  
 Judy Moffitt and Don Jorgenson  
 Our fathers, Don Deitner and  
 Marvin Rix  
 My family

by Curtis Almberg  
 by Deb Curran  
 by Pat Fritsche  
 by John and Nancy Shaw Grinager  
 by Shirley Holmay  
 by Kae Jewell  
  
 by Beda Lewis  
 by Jan Marshall  
 by Jerry Moffitt and Barb Jorgenson  
 by Dave and Carol Rix  
  
 by Diane Siebert

-In Thanks for-

Saint Paul's UMC spirit  
 My church family  
 Seven grandchildren and  
 one great-grand baby

by Andrea Larson  
 by Deanna Sellers  
 by Rhea Nyquist



## CHRISTIANS GATHERING TOGETHER

# Upcoming Events

## RUMMAGE SALE

**Saturday**

**April 26, 9:00 am—3:00 pm**

*If any questions, please talk to/contact*

**Nancy Pierson 612-965-6475**



This is our big fund raiser! Monies raised go towards missions. With the support of our neighbors and congregation last year, Saint Paul's was able to donate \$2,000 to food shelves and \$1,000 to UMCOR for hurricane relief!

Please consider donating, shopping and helping. We need many volunteers! Spread the word to friends and neighbors!

All items need to be sorted! Please bring donated items to church before Friday. Tuesday through Thursday donations help our volunteers.

See ways to help on page 5.

## BACH SOCIETY

**Mini Mobile Pop-Up Concert**

**Saturday**

**May 24, 2:00 pm**



Mark your calendars for what I am sure will be a treat! Over the course of an afternoon, musicians play in 4-5 different locations in a neighborhood to present 20-minute pop-up concerts. Saint Paul's UMC is lucky to have been given the opportunity to host a Bach Society Mini-Mobile Pop-Up Concert on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 pm! Help spread the word to neighbors and friends!

## NATIVE PLANT CLASS

**Tuesday**

**June 3, 6:00 pm**



Leslie Pilgrim, founder of Neighborhood Greening and editor of the publication *The Butterfly Effect*, will teach a class on conservation gardening. Leslie has both a certificate in ecological restoration and a Watershed Technician certification from the University of Minnesota. She has a deep passion for helping rescue our rapidly deteriorating environment. Plan to attend, learn more about native plants, and see some of the shrubs and trees we have around the church. It will be an informative evening.



LEARNING FOR ALL AGES

# Adult Education

## THE WIRED WORD

Sundays, 9:15 am  
Bertelsen Library

*Biblical commentary and discussion questions related to a topic in the news*

The mission of *The Wired Word* is to supply churches with solid scriptural material to help in facilitating group discussions about important matters of faith raised by news of the week. The lessons encourage class dialogue on how to apply God's word to everyday life and engage class members with thought-provoking, stimulating discussions on messages contained in the Bible.

Adult education meets on Sundays at 9:15 am in the Bertelsen Library. Walter Judd leads *The Wired Word* discussions.

If you would like an email sent to you on Thursday with that upcoming Sunday's topic, please contact the church at [info@stpaulsmn.org](mailto:info@stpaulsmn.org) with your name and email address.

## LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

Tuesdays, 4:00 pm

*"Is Lent a Time of Scarcity or Abundance?"*

Our Lenten Bible Study is a sacred time for reflection, spiritual growth, and community. As we journey through this holy season together, we'll explore a selected scripture to help us love God more and experience His love for us more.

We began on March 18<sup>th</sup> and will meet every Tuesday through April 15<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 pm. All are welcome. Attend one or all.



## SMALL GROUP MINISTRIES

*Our small groups are a place of connection, growth, and support*

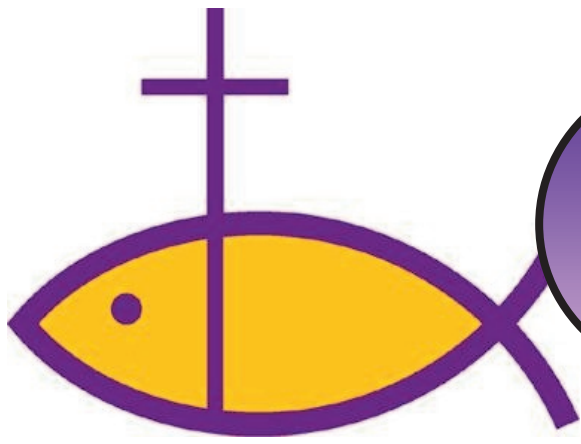
**The Stitching Collective:** April 9<sup>th</sup> and April 30<sup>th</sup> (date change due to Rummage Sale), 9:30—11:30 am  
Spend creative time with other crafters—bring your own project. Contact: Kathy Brooks

**The Game Group:** April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2:00 pm

Share joy and laughter—feel free to bring your favorite games. Contact: Cynthia Peterfeso

**The Men's Group:** March 30<sup>th</sup>, 5:30 pm

Activities designed for discipleship, fellowship and service. Contact John Grinager or Randy Garcia



REACHING OUT TO OTHERS

# Mission Accomplished

**GATHER.  
SERVE.**

## HOW EVERYONE CAN HELP WITH THE CHURCH RUMMAGE SALE FUNDRAISER

- Save brown paper grocery bags - needed during the sale
- Collect boxes (15" x 12" x 10") - needed for sorting/packing up items not sold
- Starting the middle of April, advertise the sale
- Post on your Facebook page
- Post on your community page
- Look for opportunities to post on event boards
- Monday, April 21<sup>st</sup>, **9:00 am** (need 2 volunteers)  
Set tables up in all rooms for sale
- Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> - Friday April 25<sup>th</sup> from **9:00 am – 2:00 pm**  
Sort donated clothing by size  
Move/consolidate like items by assigned room  
Help display/price non-clothing items  
Post signage needed to direct/assist shoppers
- Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, **9:00 am**  
Greet shoppers as they enter the church **9:00 am – 2:00 pm** (2 volunteers)  
Assist shoppers at the jewelry display in narthex bagging small items **9:00 am – 2:00 pm** (2 volunteers)  
Staff each room sorting rummage/assisting shoppers **9:00 am – 3:00 pm** (4 – 5 volunteers)  
Cashier/assist at the checkout and premium table **9:00 am – 3:00 pm** (4 - 6 volunteers)  
Bagging/boxing leftovers at the end of the sale **3:30 pm – 4:30 pm** (many volunteers)  
Tear down tables, boxes not used, vacuum and reset church for Sunday morning **4:00 pm – until done** (many volunteers)  
Take boxed leftover rummage not accepted by Epilepsy Foundation to other charities (all)

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### Coffee with a Cause

For the months of April, May and June, our morning coffee dollars will go to *Neighbors Inc.* Donations are always down over the summer months and yet, that is when there is an increase in need as kids are home and not getting meals in school. Consider donating a few dollars when you enjoy fellowship time on Sunday mornings. It is for a great cause!





GET READY,  
GRAB YOUR MORAL COMPASS,  
ON YOUR MARK AND GO

# Pathfinders

## APRIL PRAYER CONCERNS

At our March gathering we had a lively discussion of the meaning of Lent and what we were doing or not doing to honor those 40 days. Nancy Pierson filled us in on the happenings from the Outreach Team and what work needs to be happening for a successful Rummage Sale the Saturday following Easter.

Our prayer concerns for our nation centered on the need for unity and respect for differing views and a commitment for all of us to “agree to disagree with a smile and love for each other.” Internationally, concern

was voiced over program cuts that might fuel widespread hunger. We agreed to pray for new avenues of food to open up to the hungry across the world.

Our study focused on Lent and Nagasaki. We had a quick history lesson on the ups and downs of Christianity in Japan and the irony that the second atomic bomb was dropped on the heart of Christian movement in Japan. Nagasaki was not the original target but because of overcast skies in Kokura and a dwindling fuel tank the bomber carrying the “Fat Boy” dropped its load on St. Mary’s Cathedral. Ironically the three bombs manufactured, one a test bomb in New Mexico, the next one targeting Hiroshima, followed by Nagasaki were called the “Trinity Project.”

Satan must have laughed. However, the tiny band of Christians left in Nagasaki gave us all a legacy of forgiveness that would have made Jesus proud. “*Father, forgive them for they know not what they do,*” Jesus’ famous words on the cross, became the way they conducted themselves after that horrible day. And like the yeast that raises the loaf, their sacrifice and forgiving response made peace possible.

We plan to meet next on **Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm.** Andrea Larson has agreed to do the study and I just bet it will be a delight. We are not a private clique – we are open to all. We’d love to have you come and join us.

*Rhea Nyquist*

## 2024 BENEVOLENT GIVING

Through our conference giving in 2024, we donated \$4,765 by supporting

- Human Resources Day (\$75)
  - Love Offering (\$529)
- Native American Ministries (\$227)
  - Peace with Justice (\$70)
- UMCOR (\$3,854 includes Pathfinder donation) and
  - World Communion (\$10)

We continued our generosity with local giving totaling \$6,523 through

- Keystone Food Drive (\$173)
- Neighbors Inc (\$4,568 includes Food Drive, Diapers Drive, Advent Offering and Pathfinder donations)
  - Emma Norton (\$1,184 includes Coffee with Cause and Pathfinder donations)
  - Garlough Environmental Magnet School supplies (\$598)

Even though a small congregation, we are mighty and do make a difference! What a great effort!



## SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION

# Finance

## FINANCIALS

*Happy Easter!*



We are in the midst of the Lenten season, a time for reflection, renewal and preparation for Easter. As we celebrate the meaning of Easter, we also celebrate our commitment to our community.

At Saint Paul’s UMC, we have a tradition of a special offering at Easter. You recently received a letter outlining how your Easter gifts will support the work and missions of our church. Your Outreach team, in

conjunction with conference leadership, made the decision that our Easter gifts will be shared between Emma Norton Restoring Waters, Garlough School’s Every Meal project and the mission of our congregation.

As you engage in Lenten reflections, please consider how you can support these important community needs. Your generous and thoughtful giving will make a real difference in the lives of those who need our love and support.

There are multiple ways for you to give. Easter envelopes were recently mailed to your home and will also be in the pews. You can put a gift in the offering plate with a notation that it is dedicated to the Easter offering. Feel free to mail a gift to the office. Finally, we always appreciate the ease of electronic giving. You can go to your app store and download Vanco Mobile. You need to look for “Saint Paul’s United Methodist Church.” Note that Saint is spelled out. You can also access electronic giving

via the QR code on the card in the pews. When you are in the app, there is an area to select where your gift will be directed. Select the Lent/ Advent offering for your Easter gift.

As you consider your support to the Easter offering, please also consider the sacrifices that Jesus endured during his 40 days in the wilderness. During those 40 days, Jesus used his time for spiritual renewal, prayer and preparation for his eventual sacrifice on the cross. May your Lenten journey lead to a time of peace and new insights.

Below is a summary of the finances of the church as of the end of February. Your questions and comments are always welcome.

Blessings,  
*Kae Lovaas Jewell*  
Finance Chair

	<u>February 2025</u>	<u>2025 Year-to-Date</u>
General Fund Gifts	\$ 12,315	\$19,544
Less General Fund Expenses	\$ 9,569	\$26,419
Balance	\$ 2,746	\$ (6,875)
Less Unpaid Apportionments	\$ 2,146	\$ 4,292
Balance After Unpaid Apportionments	\$ 600	\$(11,167)



HELPING FAMILIES NURTURE  
LIFELONG DISCIPLES OF CHRIST

# Children & Youth

## CONFIRMATION

Wednesday, April 9  
6:00 pm

The next Confirmation class for youth ages 6<sup>th</sup> grade and older will be held on Wednesday, **April 9<sup>th</sup>**, 6:00-7:30 pm, with dinner provided.

Classes will continue during the school year on the second Wednesday of each month.



MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

# About US



Thank you to Andrea Larson for sewing the new Lenten altar cloth!

She rescued unsold ties from our last rummage sale and recycled them in to this memorable and creative parament.

Several of our church family members recognize the ties of their loved ones!





MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

# About Us

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Adult Education: 9:15am  
Worship: 10:00 am  
Communion: 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month

## LIVESTREAM VIDEO

### WORSHIP

Available on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/stpaulsmn](http://www.facebook.com/stpaulsmn)), YouTube (St. Paul's UMC Mendota Heights) and the church's website, [www.stpaulsmn.org](http://www.stpaulsmn.org)

## CENTRAL LEADERSHIP

**CHAIR:** Andrea Larson

## ST. PAUL'S STAFF:

### Interim Pastor:

Rev. William Robertson  
[wsrobby1@gmail.com](mailto:wsrobby1@gmail.com)

### Appointed Pastor (starting July 1, 2025):

Rev. Dr. Joshua Steward

### 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)

## SAINT PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

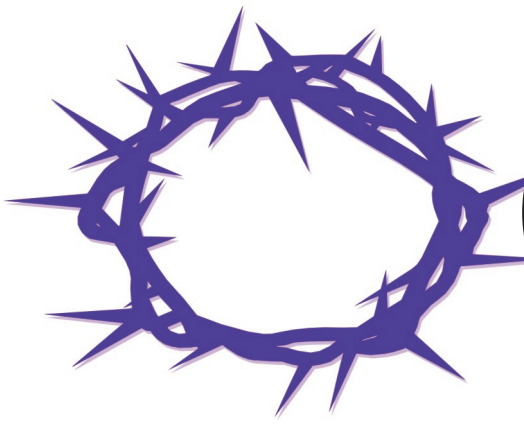
700 Wesley Lane  
Mendota Heights MN 55118  
651-452-5683



Interim Pastor Rev. Bill Robertson's first Sunday at Saint Paul's UMC  
March 16, 2025



Rev. Carol Zaagsma led us in Communion  
March 2, 2025



# April 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		<b>1</b> 2:00 pm Game Day 4:00 pm Lenten Bible Study	<b>2</b> 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> 9:15 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion <i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> 4:00 pm Lenten Bible Study  4:45 pm PIE Night Garlough School	<b>9</b> 9:30 am Stitching Collective Group 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 6:00 pm Confirmation 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>13 Palm Sunday</b> 9:15 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship <i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b> 4:00 pm Lenten Bible Study	<b>16</b> 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<b>17</b> 1:00 pm Pathfinders 7:00 pm Maundy Thursday Worship w/Communion	<b>18</b> 4:00 pm Good Friday Worship	<b>19</b>
<b>20 EASTER</b> 9:15 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship <i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>	<b>21</b> 6:00 pm 4H  Rummage Sale Set-Up	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 9:00 am—3:00 pm Rummage Sale
<b>27</b> 9:15 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship <i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b> 9:30 am Stitching Collective Group 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<i>Italicized events are conducted by outside groups renting space at the church.</i>		

**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®

**HOLY WEEK**

*Holy Week is a sacred time  
for Christians to remember  
Jesus' final week as he  
journeyed to the cross.*

**PALM SUNDAY**

*Sunday, April 13<sup>th</sup>*

- ◆ 10:00 am Worship

**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

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