

SAINT PAUL'S UMC

WELCOME. SHARE. SERVE.



SEPTEMBER
2025



The UMC has a proud history of respecting labor and supporting workers. Here are four such stances from our recent Social Principles. The 2025-2028 Social Principles are now available from Cokesbury.

Collective Bargaining: “We support the right of all public and private employees and employers to organize for collective bargaining into unions and other groups of their own choosing. Further, we support the right of both parties to protection in so doing and their responsibility to bargain in good faith within the framework of the public interest. In order that the rights of all members of the society may be maintained and promoted, we support innovative bargaining procedures that include representatives of the public interest in negotiation... We reject the use of violence by either party during collective bargaining or any labor/management disagreement. We likewise reject the permanent replacement of a worker who engages in a lawful strike.”

Work and Leisure: “Every person has the right to a job at a living wage. Where the private sector cannot or does not provide jobs for all who seek and need them, it is the responsibility of government to provide for the creation of such jobs... We believe that persons come before profits. We deplore the selfish spirit that often pervades our economic life... We support policies that would reverse the increasing concentration of business and industry into monopolies.”

Consumption: “Consumers should exercise their economic power to encourage the manufacture of goods that are necessary and beneficial to humanity while avoiding the desecration of the environment in either production or consumption. Consumers should avoid purchasing products made in conditions where workers are being exploited... We call upon consumers, including local congregations and Church-related institutions, to organize to achieve these goals...”

(continued on page 2)

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
Website: www.stpaulsmn.org

Join us for worship
on Sundays! 10:00 am

Poverty: "...As a church, we are called to support the poor and challenge the rich. To begin to alleviate poverty, we support such policies as: adequate income maintenance, quality education, decent housing, job training, meaningful employment opportunities, adequate medical and hospital care, humanization and radical revisions of welfare programs, work for peace in conflict areas and efforts to protect creation's integrity. Since low wages are often a cause of poverty, employers should pay their employees a wage that does not require them to depend upon government subsidies...Poverty most often has systemic causes, and therefore we do not hold poor people morally responsible for their economic state."

Thank workers for their labor!

Happy Labor Day - Pastor Josh ☘

GROWING THROUGH LOSS

Growing Through Loss provides:

- Support for adults who have experienced a loss
- Information about the grieving process
- Caring and support from others who are also grieving
- Sharing of memories and feelings in a confidential setting
- One-on-One Support

Support for the following losses:

- Loss of Spouse
- Loss of Child
- Loss of Parent
- Loss of Other Loved Ones
- Loss through Suicide
- Life Transitions: i.e., Job Loss, Loss of Health, Broken Relationships, Mid-Life Changes

Following the speaker, breakout groups will be offered and will be facilitated by trained leaders who understand the grieving process. You will be asked at registration which support group you wish to join. One-on-one listeners will also be available each week.



Growing Through Loss
Twin Cities South Suburban Coalition

Fall Series Guest Speakers

September 11, 2025

"Understanding the Basic Characteristics of Grief"

Paul Johnson

Retired Grief Specialist

September 18, 2025

"When We Experience Multiple Deaths"

Ted Bowman

Grief Educator & Consultant

September 25, 2025

"The Dreams We Grieve, the Purpose We Build"

Chris Markov

Licensed Marriage & Family Therapist

October 2, 2025

"Honoring Your Loved Ones During the Holidays"

Erin Hente

Certified Life Coach

October 9, 2025

"Service of Remembrance"

Rev. Dr. Brett Vander Berg

Pastor, Peace Church, Reformed



Growing Through Loss

Time:

Registration: 6:00PM–6:30PM

Speaker: 6:30PM–7:20PM

Support Groups: 7:30PM–8:15PM

Place:

Peace Church, Reformed

2180 Glory Drive

Eagan, MN 55122

(651) 683-9808

Suggested Donation:

\$5.00 per session

(All proceeds support the
Growing Through Loss ministry)

Each session is complete in itself.

You are welcome to attend one or all.

Spring Series 2026

Church of St. Michael, Farmington

Tuesdays, April 7-May 5



LEARNING FOR ALL AGES

Rally Sunday with Adult Education

RALLY SUNDAY AND THE WIRED WORD

**September 7th
with Adult Education at
9:00 am in the
Bertelsen Library**

**Rally 'Round Your
Church
(and Grandchildren?)**

Saint Paul's UMC has, to my knowledge, always celebrated the Sunday following Labor Day as Rally Day. Kids are back in school, vacations are becoming few and far between and it is time to get into gear again and follow that sometimes relentless work/school cycle. Rally Day is a great tradition and one we plan to continue. We hope to make **Sunday, September 7th**, a special Rally Day.

Imagine my delight when I flipped my calendar to

Sunday, September 7, and saw that our Rally Day was, in the secular world, known as "*Grandparents Day*." That seems to be too great of a coincidence to ignore. What better gift to a grandparent than to be able to show off your darling little ones to your church friends? Spread the word to your children that this would be the best gift ever. In fact it wouldn't hurt

if the parents of those tots came, too. Would do them good and maybe they would enjoy the experience and keep coming.

We are lucky to have Professor Walter Judd lead our Adult Education Class again this year. *The Wired Word* is a great way to understand current events through the wisdom of the Bible. Not all of us interpret things

quite the same way and thus, the fun. Spirited discussion ensues. This year the classes start promptly at **9:00 am** in the Bertelsen Library. Join us to learn and also get to know your church friends even better. Who knows, if children and grandchildren start attending on a regular basis, we can put the classrooms down the hall to use as well.

Rhea Nyquist





GROWING IN FAITH
AND FRIENDSHIP

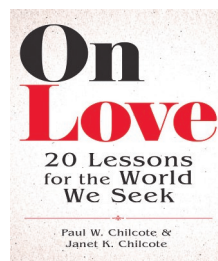
Small Groups

SMALL GROUPS

Places of connection, growth, and support

Tuesday Adult Education

In *On Love*, Paul and Janet Chilcote reveal how everyday moments can become transformative acts of love. Drawing from their rich life experiences, they offer twenty essential practices that anyone can do now. Each chapter in the six-week study shares relatable stories and simple practices that fit naturally into your daily routines. Gatherings will begin on September 9th at 4:00 pm. Books are available for purchase for \$15 on the narthex table.



The Stitching Collective

The Stitching Collective is continuing! We will again meet on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month, 9:30 am-12:00 pm. Our first fall meeting will be September 24th. The fall schedule is as follows:

- September 24
- October 8 and 22
- November 12, (no meeting on November 26)
- December 10, (no meeting on December 24)

Bring your own project or come for inspiration! We've had embroiderers, quilters, painters, sketchers, beading, and rug hooking. All creative endeavors are welcome! Bring your friends. Contact: Kathy Brooks

The Game Group

The Game Group will begin meeting on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month on October 8th, 2:00 pm, with bingo! Share joy and laughter—feel free to bring your favorite games. Contact: Jo Reck

The Men's Group

The Men's group will have a speaker and light supper in October. Details will be forthcoming.
Contact: John Grinager

Handbell and Chancel Choirs

Beginning September 3rd, choir rehearsals start up again every Wednesday night – Handbell Choir at 6:00 pm and Chancel Choir at 7:00 pm. If you enjoy singing and want to be part of something that brings beauty and encouragement to our worship services, contact Lane Skoglund-Anderson for more information.





SPEADING THE WORD

Mission Accomplished

Neighbors, Inc. Community Event

Neighbors, Inc. is hosting a free community event at Two Rivers High School, October 11th, from 9:00 am - 1:00 pm. There will be Community Resource tables to connect event-goers with valuable local organizations and services. Pastor Josh plans to attend to represent Saint Paul's UMC. You can join Pastor Josh welcoming event-goers!

Note: There will be two time slots. You can volunteer from 9:00 am - 11:00 am or 11:00 am - 1:00 pm. Look for the sign up sheet in the narthex. A great way to meet your neighbors!

Neighbors, Inc. Challenge

Even though kids are going back to school, Neighbors, Inc. is still challenged with filling food requests for those facing food insecurity. Neighbors is increasing their food budget by 33% to cover needs and Neighbors Nook serves an additional 300 households each week. It was nice these summer months to see Saint Paul's rising to the challenge filling our box in the narthex with food donations! Let's continue to challenge ourselves and buy an item or two for Neighbors, Inc. as we grocery shop. If not sure what to shop for, protein items are always a good choice. It will be great if our box in the narthex continues to be filled!

Neighbors, Inc. Update

From January 2025 through June 2025, Saint Paul's UMC has donated:

- \$2,812.75 in financial contributions
- 185 pounds of food (269 if you count July's donation)

Garlough School Drive

One last opportunity to donate monetarily for Garlough school supplies. They have asked for dollars instead of school supplies as again, for the 2025-26 school year, families will NOT buy individual school supplies for their students. The PTO will source all necessary supplies in bulk for the entire school. For those of us at Saint Paul's who would like to support Garlough Elementary School, please note in the memo line of your check your dollars are for Garlough's school supplies. Thank you.



SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION

Finance

FINANCIALS

Summer is a great time for family fun and travel. With that in mind, I'm about to head off on vacation so you are getting a short report this month!

But as I leave town, I know that my automatic payments to church are set up and my gifts to the church will continue, even when I am unable to attend in person. Have you set up automatic payments? It is easy to do.

You can set up regular ACH transfers. For additional information on how to do this, contact Dana Brandenburg at danabrandenburg@hotmail.com. You can also go into the VANCO Mobile app and set up regular giving or a one-time gift by either credit card or bank transfer. It's a great way to go on vacation and know that the church will be able to continue to meet its obligations.

One comment on the financials below. We have spent about \$27,000 to repair

the parking lot and about \$3,200 to replace the kitchen range. Those expenses are included in the general fund expenses for now. A transfer will be made from our investment accounts to cover these expenses when the final bills are paid.

Below is a summary of our financial picture.

Blessings,
Kae Lovaas Jewell
Finance Chair

	<u>July 2025</u>	<u>2025 Year-to-Date</u>
General Fund Gifts	\$ 14,339	\$ 129,988
Less General Fund Expenses	\$ 46,207	\$ 135,378
Balance	\$ (31,868)	\$ (5,390)
Less Unpaid Apportionments	\$ 2,146	\$ 2,146
Balance After Unpaid Apportionments	\$ (34,014)	\$ (7,536)

Thank You

Dear Friends in ministry,

Thank you! The dear people you just helped with your gift may never have the opportunity to meet you, but if they did, I am certain their response would be—*Thank you!*..... Together, may we continue to reveal the love of God for men, women, and children of all ethnic, racial, cultural and national backgrounds and demonstrate the healing power of the gospel with those who suffer.

Grace and Peace, *Roland Fernandes,*

General Secretary, General Board of Global Ministries and UMCOR

UMCOR US Disaster Response and Recovery (901670) \$845 received 6/24/25

UMCOR Where Most Needed (99895) \$1,341 received 6/24/25

Coffee with a Cause

For September, dollars collected from those enjoying Sunday morning libations will go toward the school supply drive for Garlough. Consider donating a dollar or two as you enjoy fellowship time Sunday morning and know your donations do matter!



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

Pathfinders

KEEP ON THE PATH

Next Meeting:
Thursday, September 18
1:00 pm

If you want to know each other better, if you want a better relationship to God, if you just enjoy a little fellowship with like-minded people, then Pathfinders is the place for you. We meet the third Thursday of every month at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. It is a time of sharing personal stories of faith and learning what our

church family is planning for the future. We like to think our meetings are a time for us to reset our moral compasses and learn the path God has chosen us to follow. All are welcome. Come, bring a friend.

It's A Wrap!

Saint Paul's friends and neighbors enjoyed a fun evening listening to Olin and Emily of the Pan-handlers 'laying down the rhythm' with steel drums. They shared some history of steel drums (originated in Trinidad) and we learned, even today, drums are ordered from the same manufacturer that produces oil drums. We were delighted with a variety of tunes and even Trinidad's version of 'Happy Birthday'.

Good times!





WHAT'S HAPPENING

At Church

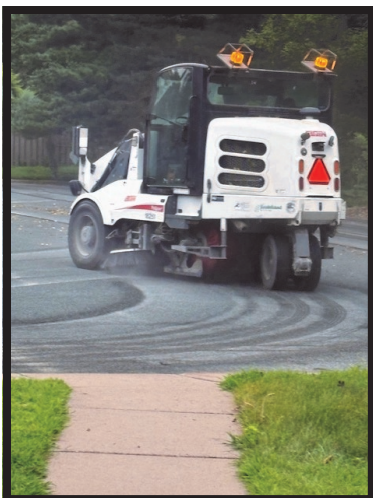


New Stove

August 1, 2025

Broken Tree Branch

August 8, 2025



Sweeping and Striping the Parking Lot

August 12, 2025



TALK WITH GOD

Lord Hear Our Prayers

Prayer Concerns

Additional:

Healing for complicated and fractured family relationships

For those affected by the floods in Texas

For love to prevail over chaos-to love our neighbor

For all people to be able to enjoy individual freedom across the globe

For the people of Ukraine and the end of the war

For the lonely

For the people in the Middle East

For an end to violence and racism in our communities

Contact the church office, 651-452-5683, with joys and concerns.

The office will be closed,
Monday, September 1st,
in recognition of Labor Day.





MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

About Us

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Adult Education: 9:00 am
(during the school year)
Worship: 10:00 am
Communion: 1st Sunday of the month

LIVESTREAM VIDEO

WORSHIP

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

CENTRAL LEADERSHIP

CHAIR: Andrea Larson

ST. PAUL'S STAFF:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Steward
Office Hours: 10:00 am—2:00 pm
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and
by appointment
ministerjosh@gmail.com

Director of Music Ministry:

Lane Skoglund-Anderson,
laneskoglundanderson@gmail.com

Administrative Assistant:

Diane Pelinka, info@stpaulsmn.org

SAINT PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



Sherry LaGuire

Died: July 27, 2025

Please send cards of sympathy to her
husband:
Mike LaGuire
1565 Quarry Rd. #326
Eagan MN 55121

John and Barb Goin

10519 Holiday Hills Dr.
Rogers AR 72756

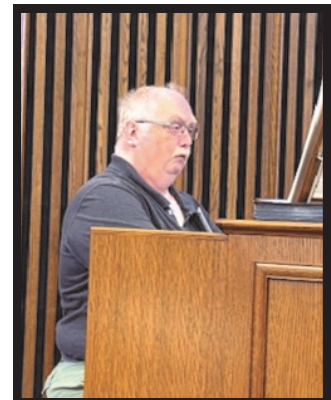
Bettie Robinson

Willows of Ramsey Hill
80 North Mackubin
St. Paul MN 55102
Bettie: 651-369-9070
Office: 651-313-5481



Evie Odland

Guest pianist
July 27, 2025



Merlin Simon

Guest organist
August 3, 2025



September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Office Closed for Labor Day	2	3 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	4	5	6
7 Rally Sunday 9:00 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship w/ Communion <i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>	8	9 4:00 pm Book Group	10 6:00 pm Confirmation 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	11	12	13
14 9:00 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship <i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>	15 6:00 pm 4H	16 3:30 pm Outreach Mtg 4:00 pm Book Group	17 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	18 1:00 pm Pathfinders	19	20
21 9:00 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship <i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>	22	23 4:00 pm Book Group	24 9:30 am Stitching Collective 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	25 PIE Night	26	27
28 9:00 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship <i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>	29	30 4:00 pm Book Group				

Italicized events are conducted by outside groups renting space at the church.

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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Address Service Requested

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



RALLY SUNDAY
September 7, 2025