

# SAINT PAUL'S UMC

WELCOME. SHARE. SERVE.



NOVEMBER  
2025



Thanksgiving is just around the corner so I would like to take a moment to express my thankfulness for Saint Paul's UMC and all the ways you give and serve. Three of us are paid staff. Each of you is a servant and beloved child of God. Some of you are often in the forefront of activity and are easily recognized. Many of you serve and give in ways unknown and sometimes unnoticed. All of you support the church in many ways.

You participate in small groups, book and Bible studies. You attend church, greet, light candles, read liturgy, give to the offering, and make and serve fellowship hour treats. You make worship transcripts, slideshows, and care for the Communion elements. You contribute to the content of the newsletter. You sing or play bells, organ and piano for God's glory and our enjoyment. You care for our church with your prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. You visit our members. You chair or participate in a ministry team. You prepare and clean up after meals and church events. You enable our ministry by caring diligently for lawn mowing, snow removal, and the other needs of the building and property. You oversee our finances and our mission projects and giving. You support many outreach projects and events. You support Neighbors Inc., Brighter Minds, 4H and many other organizations. You provide Nueva Esperanza a place to worship. You support our Annual Conference with apportionments.

You support each other as friends through all seasons of the year and all seasons of life. This is not all you do! No letter could contain everything. I THANK YOU for giving all you can in your prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. Through your labors of love, we glorify God and do all the good we can as Saint Paul's UMC.

Happy Thanksgiving, *Pastor Josh*

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)  
Website: [www.stpaulsmn.org](http://www.stpaulsmn.org)

Join us for worship  
on Sundays! 10:00 am



WHAT'S HAPPENING

# At Church

## CHRISTMAS CONCERT

**Sunday, November 30  
3:00 pm**

Start your holiday season with a free community event! Saint Paul's UMC is hosting a concert the first Sunday in Advent, November 30<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 pm featuring very talented musicians. Come and enjoy vocalist, Grace Eunhye Hyun, who is currently pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts in

Voice, and pianist, Bitna Jeong, who is pursuing a Doctor of Musical Arts in Piano Performance from the University of Minnesota. Eunhye has performed widely including solo recitals and opera productions and teaches voice and choral conducting. Bitna currently serves as a professional accompanist at universities and performs with civic orchestras, community concert choirs and as a church musician. Stay and enjoy some holiday cookies before you leave, too. Please invite your friends and neighbors and enjoy these gifted musicians!



**NOVEMBER 16  
9:30—11:30 am**

## FLU SHOT CLINIC

Cub Pharmacy will be here before and after worship to provide a free flu shot clinic .



CHRISTIANS GATHERING  
TOGETHER

## Christmas/Advent

### CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST



**December 14**

**10:00 am**

In celebration of the coming of Christ, on Sunday, December 14<sup>th</sup>, our Chancel Choir will present: **Christmas in Song**, with special music.

**December 24**

**4:00 pm**

Christmas Eve worship with special music by the Chancel Choir and Bell Choir and the lighting of candles.



## 2025 Christmas Poinsettia Order Form

**Deadline: November 2, 2025**

**Make checks payable to: St. Paul's UMC/ "Poinsettias" in the memo section**

**8" Poinsettias with gold pot/ \$22 each**

**Purchased by:** \_\_\_\_\_

**List name(s) in honor of/ memory of/ thanks for (circle one)**

| <u>How Many</u> | <u>Cost</u> | <u>Total Order Cost</u> |
|-----------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| White _____     | _____       | _____                   |
| Red _____       | _____       |                         |
| Pink _____      | _____       |                         |



CHRISTIANS GATHERING  
TOGETHER

# Upcoming Worship Events

**NOVEMBER 2**

## **ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY**

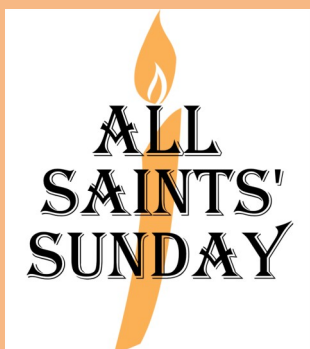
**We light candles to honor the impact  
loved ones lives have had on us.**

We will commemorate All Saints' Day on  
Sunday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>.

A candle will be lit on the altar at the beginning  
of the service for each of the Saint Paul's  
members who have passed since last All Saints'  
Day—Virginia Gebhart, Marion O'Connor, and  
Myrle Voynovich.

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.

Please note the end of Daylight Saving Time that  
weekend.



**NOVEMBER 30**

## **UNITED METHODIST STUDENT DAY**

United Methodist Student Day was the original  
Special Sunday founded by United Methodist  
Church Sunday Schools who collected offerings  
to help advance education for their children.

Every year, General Board of Higher Education  
and Ministry awards an average of \$5.5 million in  
financial aid to United Methodist students. The  
offering taken on United Methodist Student Day  
is one opportunity to support these scholarships.  
Every dollar – **yes 100%** - received goes towards  
supporting and educating a new generation of  
principled Christian leaders for the church and the  
world. Supporting this Special Sunday is truly an  
investment in our future.

[www.umc.org/en/content/united-methodist-student-day-sunday-ministry-article](http://www.umc.org/en/content/united-methodist-student-day-sunday-ministry-article)

Special offering envelopes will be available in  
pews along with a QR code you may scan to give  
electronically, or you may just write "Student  
Day" in the memo section of your check and  
place it in the offering plates.





## SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION

# Finance

## FINANCIALS

### Growing in Christ: A Journey of Faithful Stewardship

As the leaves change and we enter this new season, we are also embarking on a new spiritual season: our annual Stewardship Campaign. Our theme for the year, *"Growing in Christ"*, is an invitation for each of us to consider how our lives – our time, talents, and treasures - can be a fertile ground for God's work. Stewardship is not simply about what we give, but about how we live.

This year, our campaign will focus on five key practices that help us grow more deeply rooted in our faith.

**1. Celebration:** A life of good stewardship begins with a spirit of gratitude. We celebrate the

abundant blessings God has poured into our lives. Celebration reminds us that all we have is a gift, and a joyful heart is the first step toward generosity. Let us take time to celebrate and give thanks for God's overwhelming grace.

**2. Servanthood:** Following Jesus means adopting the mindset of a servant. Jesus himself humbled himself to serve others, and he calls us to do the same. This campaign is a chance to reflect on how we can use our unique gifts to serve one another within the church and our wider community.

**3. Listening for the Holy Spirit:** A growing relationship with Christ involves intentional listening. The Holy Spirit guides and empowers us, but we must first create space to hear that still, small voice. As we consider our commitments for the coming year, we

encourage you to spend time in prayer, asking the Holy Spirit for guidance on how you can best use your resources to advance God's kingdom.

**4. Reflection on Scripture:** Scripture is our foundation for understanding how God calls us to live. By reflecting on the Word, we gain insight into God's will for our lives and are equipped to live as faithful disciples. This campaign is a great opportunity to explore how the Bible shapes our understanding of generosity, trust, and our role in God's mission.

**5. Living in the Name of Christ:** Our ultimate goal is to live our lives in a way that points others toward Jesus. This involves embodying his teachings in our actions, attitudes, and priorities. When we commit our

*(continued on page 6)*

Below is the church financial information as of the end of September.

|                                     | <u>September 2025</u> | <u>2025 Year-to-Date</u> |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| General Fund Gifts                  | \$ 9,817              | \$ 143,464               |
| Less General Fund Expenses          | \$ 17,456             | \$ 170,163               |
| Balance                             | \$ (7,639)            | \$ (26,699)              |
| Less Unpaid Apportionments          | \$ 2,146              | \$ 6,438                 |
| Balance After Unpaid Apportionments | \$ (9,785)            | \$ (33,137)              |

### Coffee with a Cause

As a way to support our community, as you enjoy a cup of coffee during fellowship time this next month, consider dropping a few dollars in the box for Emma Norton's Corner Store! It is a free or deeply discounted "corner store" for residents, where they can acquire items using "Emma Bucks" earned through community involvement, rather than cash. All donations are appreciated!

(continued from page 5)

## FINANCIALS

### Growing in Christ: A Journey of Faithful Stewardship

time, talent and treasures as stewards, we are actively participating in the ongoing work of Christ in the world and are becoming living members of his body.



### A CALL TO ACTION

As you prayerfully consider your commitment to our church this year, remember that this is a chance to invest in your own spiritual growth. In the coming weeks you will receive more information about how you can participate. Please join us in prayer as we seek to be faithful and grow together in Christ. ☒

Blessings,

Kae Lovaas Jewell, Finance Chair



LEARNING FOR ALL AGES

## Adult Education

### THE WIRED WORD

**Sundays, 9:00 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 9:00 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.





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

# Pathfinders

## KEEP ON THE PATH

**Next Meeting:**  
**Thursday, November 20**  
**1:00 pm**

### JOY – GRACE – PEACE??

Our October meeting was a wonderful mix of the above words. Helen Kuruvilla gave us a lovely story about the famed violinist Paganini, who played from the soul, and she pointed out the vast difference between happiness and joy—the former being

a little like a sugar high that soon dissolves, but joy is full and satisfying.

Nancy Pierson gave us a thoughtful study of the meaning of Grace, which is a gift from God and something none of us deserve or can earn. His love surrounds us no matter what we say, do or act. I once heard it said it was the very air we breathe.

We learned with delight of the wonderful artists that will be performing for all of on Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm. In the hospitable tradition of Saint Paul's we agreed to provide Christmas cookies and coffee for our church family, neighbors and guests who

attend.

Speaking of hospitality, Diane Siebert provided the treats as well as your usual interesting prize to the lucky winner of her drawing.

We agreed that praying for Peace with Grace apparently yielded some good results in the Gaza/Israel situation. However, there is much work ahead and we will continue to pray for peace both here and abroad.

Our next meeting is November 20<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. All are welcome!

*Rhea Nyquist*





SPREADING THE WORD

# Mission Accomplished

## Neighbors Inc. Thanksgiving Appeal

Neighbors Inc. is asking for the following items to help provide a warm and dignified holiday meal to our neighbors. Every donation received helps keep costs down and extend the budget. They are aiming to collect 300 of each of the following items:

- Instant Potatoes
- Cranberry Sauce
- Stuffing
- Canned Vegetables
- Gravy or Gravy Packets

This November, when you are shopping for your family Thanksgiving get-together, consider purchasing a few extra items for Neighbors Inc. and help fill up the box in the narthex.

It will be appreciated!



## Neighbors Inc. Holiday Program

This year, Saint Paul's will be participating in Neighbors Inc.'s Holiday Gift Program designed to connect community sponsors with families who need help with gifts for children and seniors. Saint Paul's plans to "adopt" two seniors and two kids.

The program starts the week of October 20<sup>th</sup> and concludes before Thanksgiving. Once we receive the recipients' wish lists, we will only have about three weeks to shop. Per Neighbors Inc., the most important thing is to follow each list. The budget is approximately \$100 per person. Folks can team up to purchase items on the list. Watch for the tree in the narthex and sign up sheet with the items for our recipients and keep in mind the very short shopping window. A fun activity







TALK WITH GOD

# Lord Hear Our Prayers

*Please contact the church, 651-452-5683, with your joys and concerns*



GROWING IN FAITH  
AND FRIENDSHIP

# Small Groups

**The Stitching Collective:** Meets November 12<sup>th</sup> and December 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 am—noon. Questions? Contact Kathy Brooks.

**The Game Group:** Discontinued due to lack of interest.

**The Men's Group:** Activities designed for discipleship, fellowship and service. Contact John Grinager or Randy Garcia



MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

# About Us

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Adult Education: 9:00 am  
(during the school year)  
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:

Rev. Dr. Joshua Steward  
Office Hours: 9:30 am—12:00 pm  
Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and  
by appointment  
[ministerjosh@gmail.com](mailto:ministerjosh@gmail.com)

### 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

## Neighbors Inc Community Event Thank You

Neighbors Inc. hosted a free community event at Two Rivers High School, October 11<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all who joined Pastor Josh and greeted our neighbors!

## Garlough School Parents In Education Night

Volunteers from Saint Paul's helped serve over 200 students and family members during the September P.I.E. night. Thanks to Tim and Andrea Larson for donating the apples included with the meal.

## Turkey Casserole Luncheon Thank You

Thank you to everyone who enjoyed the luncheon October 19<sup>th</sup> and donated! A special thank you to Carol Rix who was our main chef and organizer. We raised over \$800 for missions!

*Nancy Pierson, Outreach Chair*



Remember to turn your clocks  
back on November 2<sup>nd</sup>!



The office will be closed  
November 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> in  
observance of  
Thanksgiving.



## Kae Jewell

934 S. Highview Circle  
Mendota Heights MN 55118



# November 2025

| Sunday                                                                                                                     | Monday                                                                                | Tuesday                                                | Wednesday                                                                                                              | Thursday                                | Friday                     | Saturday |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------|
| Daylight Saving Time Ends<br>November 2 <sup>nd</sup>                                                                      |                                                                                       |                                                        |                                                                                                                        |                                         |                            | 1        |
| <b>2 All Saints Sunday</b><br>9:00 am Adult Ed<br>10:00 am Worship w/ Communion<br><i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i> | 3                                                                                     | 4                                                      | <b>5</b><br>6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal<br>7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal<br><i>7:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Study</i>      | 6                                       | 7                          | 8        |
| <b>9</b><br>9:00 am Adult Ed<br>10:00 am Worship<br><i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>                                | 10                                                                                    | 11                                                     | <b>12</b><br>9:30 am Stitching Collective Craft Group<br>6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal<br>7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal | 13                                      | 14                         | 15       |
| <b>16 Flu Shot Clinic</b><br>9:00 am Adult Ed<br>10:00 am Worship<br><i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>               | <b>17</b><br>6:00 pm 4H                                                               | <b>18</b><br>2:30 pm Outreach Mtg<br>4:45 pm PIE Night | <b>19</b><br>6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal<br>7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal<br><i>7:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Study</i>     | <b>20</b><br>1:00 pm Pathfinders        | 21                         | 22       |
| <b>23</b><br>9:00 am Adult Ed<br>10:00 am Worship<br><i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i>                               | <b>24</b><br>6:00 pm Finance Mtg                                                      | 25                                                     | <b>26</b><br>6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal<br>7:00 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal                                             | <b>27 Thanksgiving</b><br>Office Closed | <b>28</b><br>Office Closed | 29       |
| <b>30</b><br>9:00 am Adult Ed<br>10:00 am Worship<br><i>12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza Worship</i><br>3:00 pm Christmas Concert  | <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](mailto:info@stpaulsmn.org)

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

**CHRISTMAS  
CONCERT  
Sunday  
November 30  
3:00 pm**

