SAINT PAUL'S UMC

NOVEMBER 2026

Welcome. Share. Serve.



November is an exciting month in the life of our church:

- **November 10th:** Saint Paul's UMC volunteers support PIE Night at Garlough Elementary School.
- **November 20th, 6:30 pm:** There will be a Joyful Noise Puppet Productions puppet show.
- **November 29th, 3:00 pm:** The Floras will bring their Country Gospel sound to our church in concert.
- **November 29th** is also the First Sunday of Advent, as we begin our preparation for and celebration of Christmas!
- **Thanksgiving** celebrates the help and survival aids American Indians gave the Puritans when they first arrived on the continent as well as everything we are thankful for in our faith and families.
- **Our Stewardship Campaign is "Stewardship: Receiving, Living and Sharing."** Through your favorite scripture, prayer and testimony, we glorify God by sharing our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness for the upbuilding of the Kingdom.

Lastly, I would like to know what studies would interest you? In addition to Advent and Lent studies we have led a grief group, and a Social Principles study. If you have ideas, let me know.

Peace,
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
Website: www.stpaulsmn.org

Join us for worship on Sundays! 10:00 am



CHRISTIANS GATHERING TOGETHER

Upcoming Worship

NOVEMBER 1

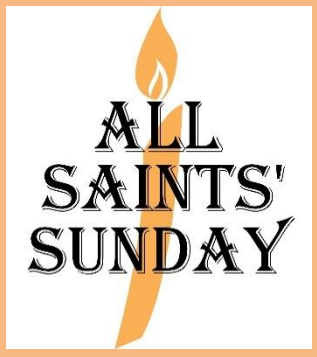
ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

We will commemorate All Saints' Day on Sunday, November 1st

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.

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 29

UNITED METHODISTS 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

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.



CHRISTIANS GATHERING TOGETHER

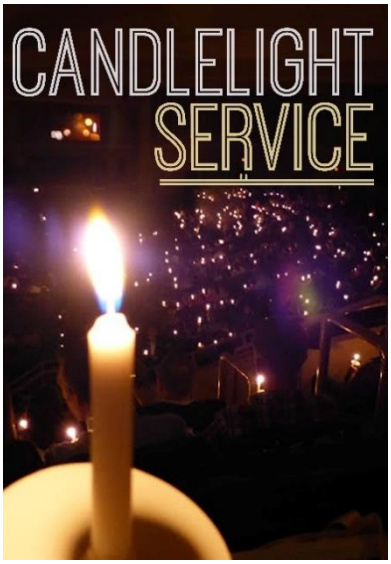
Christmas/Advent

CELEBRATE THE BIRTH OF CHRIST

December 13
10:00 am
In celebration of the coming of Christ, on Sunday, December 13th , 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 Handbell Choir and the lighting of candles.



Christmas Chancel Choir Rehearsals Begin
November 4th, 7:00 pm
If you enjoy singing Christmas music, join the Chancel Choir for performances during the December 13th and Christmas Eve worship services.

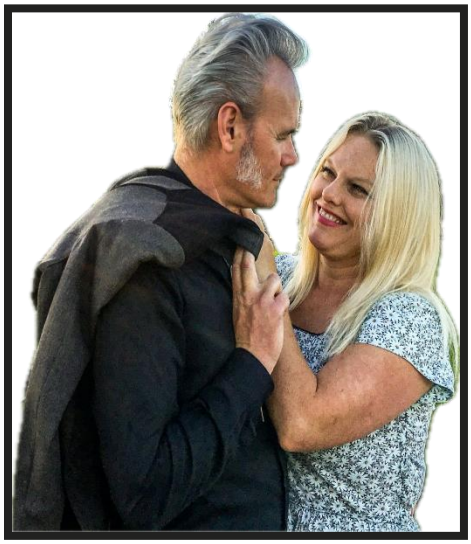




CHRISTIANS GATHERING TOGETHER

Upcoming Events

THE FLORAS NOVEMBER 29 3:00 pm



Last community concert for the year! Join in as Saint Paul's UMC hosts The Floras, Sunday, November 29th @ 3:00 pm. A great way to 'kick-off' the holidays. Mark & Lisa Flora have been singing together since 1989. The singing duo features plenty of harmonies while Mark plays a Gretsch guitar and Lisa performs on an upright string bass. They are also in a popular 50s rock 'n' roll band called The Holy Rocka Rollaz and have traveled coast to coast performing in theaters, state fairs and private events. They created The Floras to accommodate the budgets for the many senior living, assisted living and memory care communities. We are fortunate to host them and the concert will be followed by coffee and cookies in Fellowship Hall. Invite EVERYONE! If nothing else, come for the Christmas cookies 😁 and fellowship! You don't want to miss it!

'Pop-Up' Art Display

Are you creative, e.g. paintings, stitchery, quilting, pottery, poetry, writings? Would you like an opportunity to 'show off' all your hard work? In conjunction with our November 29th concert where Saint. Paul's is hosting The Flora's, we are inviting anyone who wishes to bring an item or two to come that Sunday afternoon after 2:00 pm and before the 3:00 pm concert to display their item in Fellowship Hall. The items will be on display during 'cookies and coffee' time following the concert. Even if you are not an artist, plan to come for the concert and stay after to not only enjoy Christmas cookies but view the creativity of our friends and neighbors!

JOYFUL NOISE PUPPET PRODUCTIONS

Calling all children and children at heart!

Joyful Noise Puppet Productions is coming to Saint Paul's United Methodist Church this fall. We are planning Friday evening entertainment once a month. Come and enjoy a few familiar (or not so familiar) stories told by our spectacular puppets. This is the perfect time to bring your grandchildren, neighborhood children or anyone who loves a good laugh.

The production is free.

Show dates:

Friday, November 20, 6:30 pm
Friday, December 18, 6:30 pm

GROWING IN FAITH
AND FRIENDSHIP

Small Groups

SMALL GROUPS

Places of connection, growth, and support

Sunday Adult Education
Sundays, 8:45 am

We are once again using the Wired Word format, which is a study of a current events from a scriptural standpoint. You'd be surprised how often the problems of today were similar to those faced centuries ago. Biblical truths have a way of solving some pretty knotty issues.

Pastor Josh will announce the Wired Word subject matter on Sunday morning and the this information will be repeated in the weekly email to the congregation. Then the study will be done on the Sunday following his announcement. This will give both the study leaders and those attending time to be mulling over the matters being discussed. The slightly earlier hour will allow those that need to practice for choir or bells a chance to get in on the discussion as well. Coffee will be provided, so sleepy heads should have no excuse to nod off in class.

The Stitching Collective

Dust off your unfinished craft and head over to Saint Paul's. You will have plenty of friends to encourage your progress and admire your work. Quilting, embroidery, painting, beading, coloring or any other creative endeavor is welcome! If you haven't got a project, you are welcome to join us for the fellowship and inspiration.

We meet the second and fourth Wednesdays, from 9:30-noon in the Fellowship Hall. There is no charge to attend, but we won't take the blame for the fortune you spend at the arts and crafts shop.

Fall meeting dates:
Wednesday, Oct. 28, 9:30 am
Wednesday, Nov.11, 9:30 am
Wednesday, Dec. 9, 9:30 am

(We will not meet on dates close to Thanksgiving and Christmas).

Handbell and Chancel Choirs

Choir rehearsals are held every Wednesday night – Handbell Choir at 6:00 pm and Chancel Choir at 7:00 pm. If you enjoy music and want to be part of something that brings beauty and encouragement to our worship services, contact Lane Skoglund-Anderson for more information.





SUPPORT OF THE CHURCH AND ITS MISSION

Finance

November is Stewardship Month

Stewardship is a year-long process but in November we have a special focus on our Stewardship commitments for the coming year. This fall, we are embarking on a deeply personal journey for our 2027 Annual Stewardship Campaign. Over the years, we have seen how God moves through this community. This year, we want to look at stewardship through a new lens: the scripture that shapes us.

Instead of focusing solely on numbers or budgets, our upcoming campaign will focus on the favorite Bible verses of our own members regarding the giving of our gifts, time, and talents. Scripture is full of reminders about the joy of generosity, the calling to serve, and the truth that everything we have belongs to God. We will focus on which of these teachings resonate most with you.

We are excited to compile these meaningful verses into a special church-wide devotional pamphlet. This collection will feature favorite scriptures and brief reflections submitted by members of our church family. The devotional will be distributed to everyone at the beginning of the Stewardship Campaign. Our goal is for every member to use this devotional for personal prayer and reflection as they contemplate their giving commitments for 2027.

During our November services, we will focus on meaningful verses submitted by our members. Each week both our sermons and personal testimonials from members will center on these chosen scriptures, exploring why they are important to our faith and how they inspire our approach to giving. This journey will conclude on Commitment Sunday, November 29th, fittingly falling on Thanksgiving weekend.

Thank you for your continued generosity, your dedication of time, and the unique talents you bring to our church family. Together, let us look forward to how God will use our shared gifts in 2027!

Blessings,
Kae Lovaas Jewell, Finance Chair

	September 2026	2026 Year-to-Date
General Fund Gifts	$ 9,493	$ 158,558
Less General Fund Expenses	$ 18,465	$ 172,305
Balance	$ (8,972)	$ (13,747)
Less Unpaid Apportionments	$ 2,066	$ 6,198
Balance After Unpaid Apportionments.	$ (11,038)	$ (19,445)

Mendota Heights Fire Department

The Mendota Heights Fire Department Fire Relief Association is reaching out to ask for your support. The Mendota Heights Fire Department is made up of dedicated paid-on-call firefights who live and work right here in the Mendota Heights community. …...The Fire Relief Association exists to support those firefighters directly. Funds go toward recruitment and retention efforts, training and equipment, and public outreach and education…….If you are willing to invest in the people who protect this community, we would be grateful for your contribution. Donations can be made by mailing a check to: Mendota Heights Fire Relief Association, 2121 Dodd Rd., Mendota Heights MN 55120.

SPREADING THE WORD

Mission Accomplished



NEIGHBORS INC. THANKSGIVING APPEAL

Neighbors Inc is asking for all the sides to accompany a turkey. The following items will help provide a holiday meal to neighbors. Every donation received helps keep costs down and extend the budget in order to serve more families.

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

And there is a great need for cereal for kids...think Kix, Cheerios or Honey Puffs – and you can always donate dollars to Neighbors Inc. Write your check to Saint Paul's UMC and in the memo line, note "Food Shelf."



NEIGHBORS INC. HOLIDAY PROGRAM

St. Paul's plans to participate in the Holiday Gift Program designed to connect community sponsors with families who need help with gifts for children and seniors. Similar to last year, the plan is to "adopt" one senior and two kids. The program starts in October and usually concludes before Thanksgiving. Once we receive the recipients' wish list, we always only have a short time to shop. Per Neighbors Inc, the most important thing is stick with the wish list. The budget is approximately $100 per person and folks can team up to purchase items on the list. Watch for further details and updates with the items for our recipients. A fun activity during the Christmas season!

For the last quarter of the year, our 'joe' dollars will go to Emma Norton's Corner Store. The 'corner store' is a free or deeply discounted store for residents where they can acquire items using "Emma Bucks" earned through community involvement rather than cash. Many of Emma's residents shop at the store for gifts for family members for the holidays with their earned 'bucks' so be generous!

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

PATHFINDERS

PATHFINDERS AND PRAYERS

At our October meeting we had a wonderful discussion about our favorite prayers. Some came with their own handwritten petitions to God, others with favorite saint's prayers and some with those they had memorized in childhood and which still remained with them. It is pretty obvious that we have a group of very committed Christians who regularly communicate with the Almighty.

Speaking of prayer, Pathfinders urges everyone at St, Paul's to include Guillermo Berman Ramirez in your prayers during November. Guillermo "Willie" has been serving in the Methodist Church of Mexico since 2000 as the Volunteers in Mission (VIM) Mexico coordinator assisting US mission teams on their logistics and partnership with local churches and communities. Willie joined GBGM in 2008 and in 2010, became the director for Manos Juntas Mexico, a nonprofit established in Rio Bravo, Tamaulipas, Mexico, right on the border with McAllen, TX.

Since then, Manos Juntas started a journey from building small houses for the underprivileged and running a medical center for the community where teams serve, to developing ongoing programs and ways to become self-supported. Today, the Manos Juntas staff manages the coordination of mission teams from many US churches.

Willie empowers the locals to administrate a medical center, school, orphanage, daycare, and an afterschool program, as well as other spaces for programs and missions.

The core values for Manos Juntas have changed from dependency on US teams and US monetary support to partnership, empowerment, and self-sustainability for each of the programs and activities Manos Juntas has created.

Willie has been married for 31 years, and the couple has two adult children. The Bermans live happily in Reynosa. Willie is an engineer by trade and remains excited about the possibility of new partnerships, while traveling frequently to visit US congregations to report on his work. Bless Willie and his great work to the south of us.

PATHFINDERS BOOK STUDY

"A Gift from the Sea" by Anne Morrow Lindbergh

This fall and winter, you are invited to join a thoughtful and encouraging monthly book study as we read Lindbergh's classic 1955 book, *"A Gift from the Sea."* Through her honest and reflective writing, Lindbergh explores the challenges and blessings of life, love, relationships, work, solitude, and the search for a meaningful life. Her reflections offer many opportunities for Christian conversation about how God meets us in both the extraordinary and the ordinary moments of our lives.Each month we will read a portion of the book and explore related Bible passages. Together, we will consider questions such as: Where do we notice God's presence? What helps us make room for prayer, rest, relationships, and service? How might Scripture illuminate the wisdom and questions Lindbergh raises?We will meet at 1 p.m on: November 19, 2026, December 17, 2026, January 21, 2027, and February 18, 2027. Used copies of the book are available inexpensively online. A time to read. A time to reflect. A time to grow together in faith.

TALK WITH GOD

Lord, Hear Our Prayers

Prayer Concerns
Health Concerns:
All homebound with health problems
Additional:
We pray for true peace in the Middle East: That local populations have self-determination. Where civilians and the vulnerable are protected. We grieve the lives already lost and the many yet caught in violence. We pray for a day when war is no more, when resources for unlimited war go instead to caring for those in need.
Guillermo Berman Ramirez, serving the Methodist Church in Mexico
Healing for complicated and fractured family relationships
For the lonely
For an end to violence and racism in our communities



About Us

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Adult Education: 8:45 am
Worship: 10:00 am
Communion: 1st Sunday of the month

LIVESTREAM VIDEO

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: Deb Curran

SAINT PAUL'S STAFF:

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

Director of Music Ministry:
Lane Skoglund-Anderson,
laneskoglund@icloud.com

Administrative Assistant:
Diane Pelinka, *info@stpaulsmn.org*

SAINT PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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



NEW MEMBER

Rhonda Reams

October 4, 2026

516 Humboldt Ave. #207
St. Paul MN 55107
952-452-1500
Rhondarr1961@yahoo.com



NOVEMBER 1st

November 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 **All Saints Sunday** 8:45 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship w/Communion *12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza worship*	**2**	**3**	**4** 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm *Nueva Esperanza Bible Study*	**5**	**6**	**7**
8 8:45 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship *12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza worship*	**9**	**10**	**11** 9:30 am Craft Group 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	**12**	**13**	**14**
15 8:45 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship *12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza worship*	**16** 6:30 pm *4H*	**17**	**18** 10:30 am Central Leadership Meeting 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal 6:30 pm *Nueva Esperanza Bible Study*	**19** 1:00 pm Pathfinders	**20** 6:30 pm Puppet Show	**21**
22 8:45 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship *12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza worship*	**23**	**24**	**25** 6:00 pm Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 pm Choir Rehearsal	**26** **Thanksgiving** Office Closed	**27** Office Closed	**28**
29 8:45 am Adult Ed 10:00 am Worship w/Communion *12:00 pm Nueva Esperanza worship* 3:00 pm The Floras	**30**					

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®