



St. Paul's United Methodist Church

# The Slate 2.0

Volume 2, Issue 3

March 2020

## St. Paul's UMC

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Office Hours:  
Monday  
9:00am - 1:00pm

Tuesday - Thursday  
9:00am - 3:00pm

Friday  
CLOSED



For more information about the United Methodist Church, please visit [umc.org](http://umc.org).  
Our Michigan UMC Conference information can be found at [michiganumc.org](http://michiganumc.org).  
St. Paul's is part of the Heritage District, and that website is [heritage.michiganumc.org](http://heritage.michiganumc.org).

## Special Session Called for March 7th

*A special session of the Michigan Annual Conference is being called on March 7, 2020, by Bishop David Bard, to consider forwarding Protocol legislation on to the 2020 General Conference.*

The special session will be held on Saturday, March 7, 2020, 1:30 pm – 4:30 pm at Goodrich Chapel on the campus of Albion College in Albion, Michigan. Albion College is a United Methodist-affiliated institution.

On January 3, 2020, a diverse 16-member group of United Methodist bishops and other leaders offered a proposal that would preserve The United Methodist Church while allowing traditionalist-minded congregations to form a new denomination. The separating group would receive \$25 million in United Methodist funds and would keep its local church properties. The proposal has since been developed into legislation that on March 7<sup>th</sup> the Michigan Conference will consider sending to the 2020 General Conference.

Michigan is one of three annual conferences considering the Protocol, but the only U.S. conference doing so. → The Philippines Annual Conference meet February 12-14 and endorsed and sent the legislation to General Conference. Sierra Leone will take up the legislation in their Annual Conference session meeting March 4-8. →

Under the rules of The Michigan Conference, general conference legislation is not amendable, so Annual Conference members at the special session will vote to send, or not to send, the legislation brought before them, as is, for action at the 2020

General Conference. It will be Michigan's eight delegates to GC2020 who will be among those voting on the substance of the protocol and other legislation that comes before the body in Minneapolis, May 5-15.

In his monthly blog, Bishop Bard said, "Michigan United Methodists that gather for this special session of annual conference will decide if we want to serve the wider church by forwarding this legislation. Delegates to General Conference will decide what to do with the legislation." He added, "I am calling our annual conference into special session because I believe in this liminal season, the delegates to General Conference need the opportunity to consider every good option for the future of our church."

The members of this special session of the Michigan Annual Conference will be all the clergy members of the conference along with the lay members or alternates who were last seated at the 2019 Annual Conference.

In gathering, the special session will support Albion First UMC's Baby Pantry. They accept any brand of diaper (newborn to 4); Enfamil or Similac formula products appreciated. Gifts to the Baby Pantry may be placed in a trailer that will be parked close to Goodrich Chapel. Checks, made payable to Albion First UMC with memo to Baby Pantry, are also welcome. Pastor Melodye will take any donations from St. Paul's with her on March 7<sup>th</sup>. There is a box in Fellowship Hall labeled "Albion Baby Pantry" that you can drop donations in, or you can bring them into the church office.



**Here are more short biographies of past Scholarship recipients:**

**Jennifer Fedosky Benavente**, early 2000s, graduated from the University of Toledo with a BS in Math Education. She lives in Monroe with her family, including the often seen around St. Paul's, Jack and Kate. She works in test development and certification for the National Board of Respiratory Care.

**Brian Brodie** is a graduate in Christian Ministries from Ohio Christian University. He is currently a multi-media supervisor for Southwest Christian Church, a megachurch in Louisville, Kentucky.

**Jake Skarbek** earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Michigan University in 2011. He lives in Portage Michigan and works for PNC Bank in the credit card fraud and investigation department.

Know that your gifts of prayers, support and monies were important contributions to these members of St. Paul's family. And if you would like to see your family featured, please contact the office with your personal information

**Christ Kids will meet every Wednesday in March 6:00pm - 7:30pm.**

We will also host the annual "Cans Film Festival" at **10am on Sunday, March 15th**. There will be a movie during the Sunday School hour that day, and your ticket for admission will be a canned item. If you are unable to make it that day, or if you are not able to watch the movie with us, but would like to make a donation, please bring yours that day or drop them off at the church office. Your support is greatly appreciated!



**March UMYF Schedule:**

- 1 - 4:00pm - Toledo Walleye Faith and Family Night
- 8 - 6:00pm - UMYF Meeting
- 15 - 6:00pm - UMYF Meeting
- 22 - 6:00pm - UMYF Meeting (Kids vs Adult Volleyball Game)
- 29 - 10:30am - Usher at 11am Service  
6:00pm - UMYF Meeting

**Inclement weather notice**

Please note if Monroe Public Schools is closed due to inclement weather, St. Paul's will also cancel Christian Education activities for that day. If in doubt, contact the church office or Alisha Cooley

*The United*

*Methodist Church*

*Open Hearts*

*Open Minds*

*Open Doors*



## Hop Into Spring

Join us on **Sunday, March 22nd**  
when we bring back the  
"12:12 Potluck"



We will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 12:12 pm  
(after the 11:00 am Worship).

**This is time set aside just for  
Food and Fellowship!**



UMW will provide beverages and table service.  
Please bring a dish to share.



As promised in last month's Slate, here are the details for UMW's March meeting.

Mark your calendar for **Sunday, March 22nd at 12:12 p.m.** and join us for an all-church "Hop into Spring" potluck.

The UMW will provide beverages and table service.

Please bring a dish to share. Come enjoy a tasty meal.

We will fellowship with old friends and make new ones. Hope to see you there!

Sue Fleming and Kathy Heatherly

### 2020 UMW Reading Program:

The 2020 reading list is on the UMW website: [www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram](http://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram).

**Education for Mission:** *The Pilgrim Journey: A History of Pilgrimage in the Western World*

**Leadership Development:** *Which Way Lord? Exploring Your Life's Purpose in the Journeys of Paul*

**Nurturing Community:** *The End of the Island: Finding Life in the Movements of Human Suffering, Pain, and Loss*

**Social Action:** *Immigration and Justice for our Neighbors*

**Spiritual Growth:** *If I Should Die Before I Live: Meditations for Seniors*

# March Worship Leaders

<b>Date:</b>	<b>March 1 9:00am</b>	<b>March 8 9:00am</b>	<b>March 15 9:00am</b>	<b>March 22 9:00am</b>	<b>March 29 9:00am</b>
Ushers:	Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley, Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven	Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley, Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven	Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley, Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven	Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley, Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven	Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley, Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven
Acolytes:	Joseph Dinwoody	Sophia Nolff & Caitlyn Nolff	Marilyn Tyner & Harrison Tyner	Jimmy Maylen	Joseph Dinwoody
Liturgist:	Daniel Snow	Mary Kay Hamilton	Stephanie Metzger	Mary Vergowven	Mary Kay Hamilton
Communion Stewards:	Mary Kay Hamilton and Susan Myers				
	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>11:00 am</b>	<b>11:00am</b>	<b>11:00am</b>
Ushers:	Cheryl Brophy, Julie Linn, Yvonne Gnaedinger	Pascale Clevinger, Karen Zeestraten, Gordon Doster	Tom Paterson, Bob Paterson, Jerry Spence, Will Paterson	**USHERS NEEDED	UMYF
Acolytes:	Jack Benavente and Kate Benavente	Alex Roa-Garcia	Jack Benavente and Kate Benavente	Alex Roa-Garcia	Josie Mehki and Emmett Mehki
Liturgist:	Jennifer Benavente	Ann Nickel- Swinkey	John VanOudheusden	Ken Jaynes	Susan Myers
Communion Stewards:	Jannet Low and Daniel Snow				

## St. Paul's United Methodist Church Staff

Pastor	Rev. Melodye Surgeon VanOudheusden
Director of Christian Education	Alisha Cooley
Director of Music	John C. Tyner
Director of Children's Choirs	Elise Dinwoody
Organist	Jay Jacobs
Office Personnel	Cathy Butson and Susan Myers
Treasurer	Jeanette Fedosky
Financial Secretary	Linda Spenoso
Custodial Staff	Kelly Leask, Dale Rathbun, Brian Metzger, Theresa Rathbun, Ron Ivey, John Fedosky, Alison Roa-Garcia
Nursery Staff	Jacob Gladieux, Audrey Cooley, Kaitlyn Volpi, Kylie Jacobs



Sounds of Joy Community Singers Presents

# Bob Hope's USO Variety Show

Concert and  
Dessert Bar

Tickets: \$15 each  
or 2 for \$25  
Kids under 5 are free

St. Paul's United Methodist Church  
Friday, March 20th and  
Saturday, March 21st  
7:30pm

Call 242-3000 for tickets

## March Birthday List

- 2 - Dorothy Mortiboy
- 5 - Josie Mehki
- 7 - Kyle Rouser
- 8 - Audrey Cooley
- 11 - Cathy Brodie, Blaine Zimmerman
- 12 - Christopher Butson
- 14 - Griffin Linn
- 16 - Lynne Allen
- 17 - Chloe Pabin
- 18 - Kelsey Pabin
- 22 - Jordyn Helser-Young, Kendall Himebauch,  
Cathy Spalding
- 23 - John Salisbury
- 26 - Kaylee Allen, Charlotte Dinwoody,  
Lauren McCain, Taylor Thompson
- 27 - Susan Helser, Fritz Shull
- 28 - Amy Smith
- 29 - Gabriella LaRoy
- 30 - Michelle Davis

\*Did we miss someone?  
Please be sure to contact the  
office and let us know!

## April Birthday List

- 1 - Bonnie Boggs, Sandra Hudkins, Barbara Kinne
- 3 - Joe Saum
- 5 - Ruth Degraaf, Raegan Himebauch
- 6 - Sophia Nolff
- 7 - Sydney Linn
- 8 - Janet Volker
- 10 - Jack Benavente, Jack Volker
- 11 - Sarah Cawood, Jim Jacobs
- 12 - Jeffrey Favreau
- 13 - Cathy Butson, Melodye VanOudheusden
- 14 - Betty Morris, Fran Rayce,
- 15 - Sara Grzywinski, Marc Himebauch, Sandy  
McMurray
- 17 - Stacy Burhart
- 18 - Alyse, Jacobs, Cera Balk, Logan Plath
- 20 - Michael Himebauch
- 22 - Alexa Cooley, Bernice Deering
- 23 - Hank Green
- 24 - Olivia Gladieux
- 25 - Geri Pleuss, Judie Wiseman
- 26 - Bill Brodie
- 27 - Cailaen Dinwoody
- 30 - Peggy Plath



## St. Paul's Church Family:

Prayer concerns, Birthdays, and other information about your St. Paul's church family.

### Remember in your prayers...

St. Paul's has been praying for the following members over the past month for various reasons. Please continue to pray for them, that the Lord will give them what they need most right now...

Brad Lewis, George Stoner, John Jacobs, Sharon Balk, Dale Rathbun,

Do you have a prayer request you'd like your church family to know about? Contact the church office so we can alert the Prayer Chain. If you'd like to be part of the prayer chain, let us know! (Please note: due to the confident nature of some prayer requests, **we always seek the permission of those the prayer request involves before we send it out in the prayer chain.** Thank you for your understanding).

## *Stewardship: Applying Biblical Principals March 2020*

How rich are you? Most of us would respond to that question with a recitation of our material possessions. We would list bank accounts and their contents, stocks, bonds, houses, vehicles, and other so-called assets as tangible evidence of our wealth.

But is that how rich we are? Not really. Adrian Rogers said this, "If you want to know how rich you are, add up everything you have that money can't buy and what you've sent on to heaven. That's how rich you really are."

There are two ways to send money on to heaven, or as the Bible phrases it, to "lay up treasures in heaven." One is to give to the work of the Lord. As we do that, particularly through giving our tithes and offerings here at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, we make deposits in what one writer described as the "Bank of Heaven."

Another way to accomplish that goal is to give to meet the needs of other people. That's the admonition provided by the Apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 6:17-19 when he instructed Timothy, "As for those who in the present age are rich, command them not to be haughty, or to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but rather on God. . . . They are to do good, to be rich in good works, generous, and ready to share."

Compared to many people in the world, all of us — to one degree or another — have been richly blessed by God. That's why we need to apply Paul's counsel to our lives. As we follow his instruction, giving in the name of the Lord Jesus to meet the needs of others, we "lay up treasures" for the coming age.

One of the primary reasons God provides material blessings to us is that we might through those material provisions minister in his name to other people. According to Matthew 25:40, when we do that, even to what Jesus described as the "least" of his brethren, it is as though we have done it unto him.

As one writer expressed it so well, "Investing in the lives of others and growing in our relationship with God are spiritual treasures. They are not subject to destruction or thievery. They are fully protected. Their value never diminishes." Or as an anonymous poet wrote, "Shall the great Judge say, when my task is through, that my soul had gathered some riches, too? Or shall at the last it be mine to find that all I had worked for was left behind?"

As you consider your true wealth and what really counts for eternity, think about this: How much better to be a poor person who is spiritually rich than a rich person who is spiritually poor.

How rich are you?



### Worship Committee Update

The Worship Committee did not meet in February, but will meet on Thursday, March 5th at 7:00pm

Thank you to all those who sent in the congregational survey! We had an overwhelming response! Over 100 of you let us know your thoughts and feelings about the Worship here at St. Paul's. Please continue to pray for the Worship Committee and we sort through all the surveys and try our best

to take steps to lead the congregation forward.

**There continues to be a need for additional ushers (especially in the 11:00am service) and greeters.**

We look forward to seeing you and worshipping with you on Sundays!

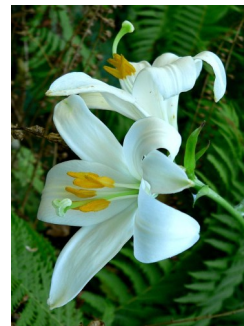
### **Heritage District Communications Coordinator Job Posting:**

There is a 10 hour per week job opening for someone to work with the District Superintendent and Executive Assistant to send announcements, post on social media, etc. If you would like more information about this part time position, please contact the church office and we will give you a copy of the posting. Resumes will be accepted until March 6th. You can also contact Brad Luck at blucky33@comcast.net as he is accepting the resumes for this position.



### It is time to place your order for Easter Lilies or Tulips.

6" Lilies	\$6.50	_____
6" Tulips	\$6.00	_____



Given in memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Given in honor of \_\_\_\_\_


By \_\_\_\_\_

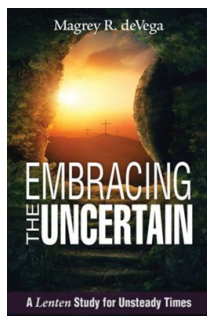
Amount enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

My plant will be an orphan and can be given away. \_\_\_\_\_

Orders must be in by Tuesday, March 24th, 2020

# March 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1 9:00am-Worship with Communion 10:00am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship with Communion 6:00pm - UMYF	2 7:00pm-Eve Circle Meeting	3 6:00pm-GodWorks!	4 6:00pm-Lenten Book Study 6:00pm-Christ Kids 6:15pm-Praise Ringers 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	5 10:00am-Sounds of Joy Singers 7:00pm-Worship Committee Mtg	6 12:30pm-6:00pm-Blood Drive	7 1:30pm-Special Session of Michigan UMC at Albion College	
8 <span style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px;">Spring Forward</span> 9:00am-Worship 10:00am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 6:00pm-UMYF	9	10 ELECTION  6:00pm-GodWorks!	11 9:30am-Mary/Martha Crafters 12:00pm-Kiwanis Meeting 6:00pm-Lenten Book Study 6:00pm-Christ Kids 6:15pm-Praise Ringers 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	12 10:00am-Sounds of Joy Singers 6:00pm-Boy Scout Meeting	13	14	
15 9:00am-Worship 10:00am-Sunday School 10:00am-Youth Cans Film Festival 11:00am-Worship 6:00pm-UMYF	16	17 1:00pm-Garden Club Mtg. 6:00pm-GodWorks!	18 12:00pm-Kiwanis Meeting 6:00pm-Lenten Book Study 6:00pm-Christ Kids 6:15pm-Praise Ringers 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	19 10:00am-Sounds of Joy 6:00pm-Boy Scout Meeting 7:00pm-SPRC Meeting	20 7:30pm-Sounds of Joy Spring Concert and Dessert Bar	21 7:30pm-Sounds of Joy Spring Concert and Dessert Bar	
22 9:00am-Worship 10:00am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 12:12pm-Potluck 6:00pm-UMYF	23	24 6:00pm-GodWorks!	25 9:30am-Mary/Martha Crafters 12:00pm-Kiwanis Meeting 6:00pm-Lenten Book Study 6:00pm-Christ Kids 6:15pm-Praise Ringers 7:30pm-Chancel Choir	26 10:00am-Sounds of Joy Singers 6:00pm Boy Scouts	27	28	
29 9:00am-Worship 10:00am-Sunday School 11:00am-Worship 6:00pm-UMYF	30	31 6:00pm-GodWorks!					



**It's not too late!  
Lenten Book Study:**

Starting Wednesday, March 4th, we will have our Lenten Study for six weeks at 6:00 pm. We will study the book "Embracing the Uncertain: A Lenten Study for Unsteady Times". Pastor Melodye will be leading this study and will meet in the Parlor. Books for this study are \$8 each and you can sign up at the church, or call to let us know you'd like to attend.