



St. Paul's United Methodist Church

The Slate 2.0

Volume 1, Issue 3

March 2019

St. Paul's UMC

201 S. Monroe Street
Monroe, Michigan 48161
734.242.3000

stpaulsmonroe@
sbglobal.net

Office Hours:
Monday & Friday
9:00am - 1:00pm
Tuesday - Thursday
9:00am - 3:00pm

PLEASE NOTE

During the cold weather months, if Monroe Public Schools are closed due to poor road conditions, the church office may also be closed. If you need to come into the office, please call first to be sure someone is here.



*Don't forget -
Daylight Savings
Time begins on
Sunday, March 10th!
Be sure to Spring
Forward one hour!*

Opportunities to Volunteer!

There are lots of ways you can help out at St. Paul's ! If you'd like more information on the opportunities below, please contact the church office at 734-242-3000.



***Children's Message Leader:** It is a great help to Pastor Tracy to have a volunteer lead the children's message on Sundays when we have communion. And it is welcome any Sunday that you may want to speak to the children of the congregation in a more direct way. We have lots of resources we can give you to help plan for your time with the kids.

***Acolyte Coordinator:** We need a volunteer to contact our acolytes each month and schedule them for the upcoming month. This person will also lead a once-a-year training session for new acolytes.

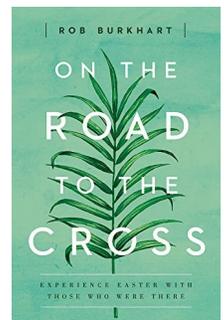
***Communion Stewards:** If you would like to assist Pastor Tracy on the Sundays we have Communion, you are in luck! We would like to add more people to the rotation and will happily train you on what to do.

***Greeters:** Do you like to say hello to friendly faces? Then you are just who we are looking for! We need people to sign up to be greeters at the 9:00am or 11:00am Worship services. If you think this might be a job for you, please see the sign up sheet on the bulletin board across from Fellowship Hall.

***Email Prayer Chain Leader:** If you are handy with email and would like to be involved in the prayer life of St. Paul's, please contact the church office. We are looking for someone to receive emails from the church about prayer requests and send them to a list of members who want to receive these updates.

Lenten Book Study

Please join us on Wednesday evenings at 6:30pm during Lent for our Lenten Book Study. We will meet March 13th - April 17th. This year Pastor Tracy will lead us through the book *On the Road to The Cross* by Rob Burkhardt. Books will be available at the study for \$11.50. Please plan to join us during this time of repentance, fasting and preparation for the coming of Easter.



The Great Water Crisis of 2019

As you probably know, we were alerted around 1:30am on February 1st that the alarm system in the church had been triggered. Once our custodians (past and present) arrived, along with the police and firetrucks, we realized a water line in our fire suppression system had burst due to the cold temperatures, and there was water pouring into the Fellowship Hall. For the next week or more, our staff and volunteers worked almost around the clock to shut off the main water valve to the church, repair the broken pipes, fix drywall, call our insurance company and begin the claim process, make calls and send emails to cancel church for February 3rd, and much more.

As we get closer and closer to closing this chapter of our church history, the Staff Parish Committee shares the following words with you:

A huge thanks from the Staff Parish Committee to our amazing, dedicated staff. In the office: Cathy Butson, Jeanette Fedosky, and Susan Myers. Our custodians: Duane Bair, Brian Metzger, and Dale Rathbun. Trustees: John Fedosky and Mike McCain. And for special assistance: Mark Gladieux and Obie Green.

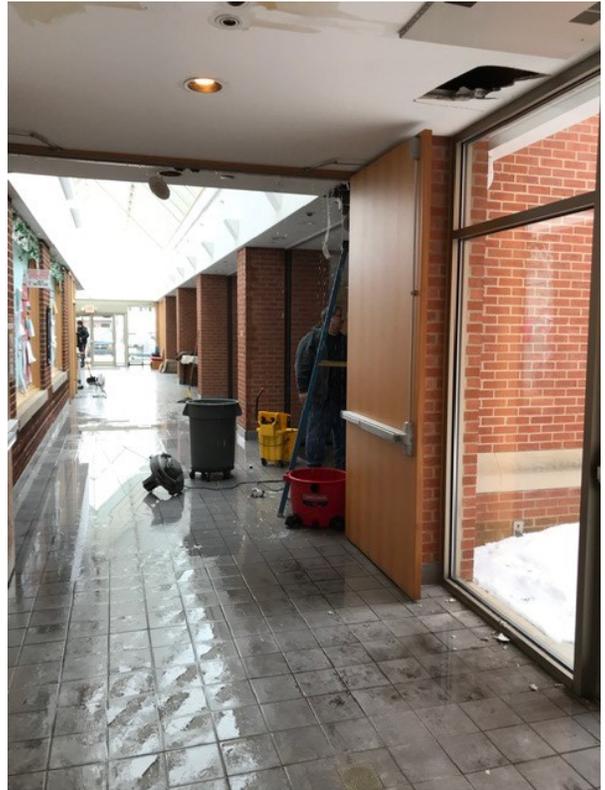
Thank you to all for your extra, exhausting, and dedicated efforts in dealing with our recent water issue.

The **custodial staff** worked many extra hours, coming in in the middle of the night to begin dealing with the water crisis, containing the damage, and beginning the cleanup. **Obie Green** got the first call for the sprinkler alarm and came down to the church at 1:30 a.m. to check out the situation before putting out calls to others. That's dedication! **Mike and John** spent many hours helping as well. **Mark Gladieux** braved the cold to use his expertise to assist in finding the main shutoff.

Our incredible and efficient **office staff** continued working through

the confusion and chaos, supporting the custodial staff, helping to detail and record the damage, making many phone calls to get the assistance needed, all while still completing their usual tasks. **Jeanette** photographed all areas affected and is the contact with the insurance company to minimize our costs and to get the work completed as quickly and efficiently as possible.

Please take the time to seek out and thank these fine folks for their extraordinary efforts.



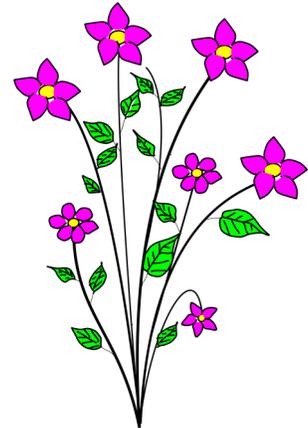
Thank You

Dear St. Paul's Church Members,

Thank you for the wonderful retirement reception held in my honor between services on Sunday, February 10th. After 33 years directing the Children's Choirs, and working with so many talented children and supportive parents, it was heart-warming to receive so many expressions of appreciation. The hand-made quilt tied with SO many knots, and "Thank You" cards, were appreciated more than words can express. I will miss working with the children of St. Paul's and hope you will continue to support the Music Programs at church. Music in schools, as helpful as it is, can not fill the religious music gap in a child's education - only music, and dance, performed in praise to God can do that! Thank you for your MANY years of support for me, and the children of St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

John Fedosky

Altar Flower Sign Up: Don't forget that you can dedicate altar flowers on Sunday mornings. The church receives two arrangements every week. If you would like give these flowers in honor of or in memory of a person or event, please sign up on the sheet in the foyer next to Fellowship Hall. Arrangements only cost \$15 and you can take it with you after the 11am Worship service, or leave it in the office for the staff and visitors to enjoy all week.



March 2019 - Effective Stewardship Applying Bible Principles



Suppose that God allowed you to have one wish. Without limit, you could have anything you desire. You could have unlimited wealth. You could have perfect health and live 1,000 years - or more. You could - like Solomon - have great wisdom. Whatever you want, you may have it. But you only get one wish. What would you choose?

Sad to say, many people would choose great wealth and material possessions. Unfortunately, that would not be a good choice. Listen to the counsel of God as expressed in this contemporary translation of Proverbs 27:20 through Solomon, one of the richest people who ever lived -

"The eyes of man are never satisfied." The behavior and attitude which always wants more has a name: Greed, and it demonstrates itself in our lives as though we were at an auction. If we have \$5, we want \$10; if we have \$10, we want \$20; if we have \$20, we want \$30. Solomon went on to say in Ecclesiastes 5:10, "The lover of money will not be satisfied with money; nor the lover of wealth, with gain."

A better choice would be to ask for God's perspective on life and all that life entails. When we see life as God does, we realize that everything belongs to him, that we are just

managers and stewards, and that only what is done for God will endure for eternity. When we have God's perspective, we will be able to say with the Apostle Paul, "...I have learned to be content with whatever I have."

When we have God's perspective, we will accept with a spirit of peace and restfulness whatever he entrusts to us. And when we have God's perspective, we will put into practice the truth of Hebrews 13:5 - "Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, 'I will never leave or forsake you.'"

St. Paul's United Methodist Women



Save the Date!

St. Paul's UMW will host Bob Huffman on **Thursday, March 28th at 7:00pm**. He will speak on his career as a music therapist. Please mark your calendar and join us for learning, fellowship and dessert.

2019 UMW Reading Program:

The United Methodist Women have a reading program that suggests readings for the year in different categories. The 2019 reading list is now on their website: www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/readingprogram. We will list some of the books in the different categories here monthly, but please visit the website to see the other wonderful options suggested. Once you select a book you are taken to a page with a brief summary of the book as well as a link to where you can purchase the print or electronic version. We hope you will read along with us.

Education for Mission: *Make a Difference - Following Your Passion and Finding your Place to Serve*

Leadership Development: *Fresh Expressions: A New Kind of Methodist Church for People Not in Church*

Nurturing Community: *Dear Ijeawele, or a Feminist Manifesto in Fifteen Suggestions*

Social Action: *Love in a Time of Climate Change: Honoring Creation, Establishing Justice*

Spiritual Growth: *Lessons to Nourish the Soul: Sermons to Encourage and Challenge You*

BLESSED THROUGH PRAYER: Philippians 4:6-7 is one of the most difficult passages in the Bible to obey: Don't worry about anything. Instead, pray about everything. Tell God what you need and thank Him for what He has done. You may have many questions about prayer, including: what should we pray about, or what is Intercessory Prayer? Here are some answers: Pray about what we see around us: brokenness, despair, injustice, crisis events, political figures, family struggles, the education system, etc. Intercessory prayer is prayer on behalf of others. While we may not have direct control over the issues we deal with, with God's help, we can overcome and be grateful in the process. You are personally invited to **come and pray with us every Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.** where we can seek answers to our prayer questions. Please come. If you have any questions, please contact the church office or Duane Bair.



Men's Emmaus Walk
March 14-17, 2019
Plymouth First UMC
45201 N. Territorial Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170

Women's Emmaus Walk
March 21-24, 2019
Plymouth First UMC
45201 N. Territorial Rd.
Plymouth, MI 48170

For more information about the Emmaus Walks, contact the church office or Paula Vergowven.

St. Paul's March Worship Leaders

If you have volunteered as an Usher, Acolyte, or Liturgist, you'll want to keep this page of the newsletter handy! Below is a list of those scheduled to assist in Worship in March Thank you for your service.

Sunday, March 3rd

9:00am - Ushers: Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley,
Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven
Acolyte: Alex Roa-Garcia
Liturgist: Jon Oswald

11:00am- Ushers: Julie Balk, Julie Linn, Yvonne
Gnaedinger
Acolytes: Noah & Micaiah Ivey
Liturgist: Mary Kay Hamilton

Sunday, March 10th

9:00am - Ushers: Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley,
Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven
Acolytes: Noah & Abigail Ivey
Liturgist: Mary Anne Bair

11:00am- Ushers: Pascale Clevinger, Karen
Zeestraten, Gordon Doster
Acolytes: Cera & Jenna Balk
Liturgist: Ann Nickel-Swinkey

Sunday, March 17th

9:00am - Ushers: Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley,
Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven
Acolytes:
Liturgist: Holli Weaver

11:00am- Ushers: Tom Paterson, Bob Paterson,
Will Paterson, Jerry Spence
Acolytes: Jenna Balk & Micaiah Ivey
Liturgist: Yvonne Gnaedinger

Sunday, March 24th

9:00am - Ushers: Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley,
Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven
Acolytes: Noah & Abigail Ivey
Liturgist: Stephanie Metzger

11:00am- Ushers: Emily Short, Tom Short
Acolytes: Sophia and Kathryn Short
Liturgist: Judie Wiseman

Sunday, March 31st

9:00am - Ushers: Jerry Sampsel, Kyle Cooley,
Jeff Weaver, Ken Vergowven
Acolyte: Alex Roa-Garcia
Liturgist: Mary Kay Hamilton

11:00am- Ushers: Youth
Acolytes: Jenna Balk & Micaiah Ivey
Liturgist: Ken Jaynes

We are in need of Ushers, especially for the 4th Sunday of each month, and we would love to have more **Acolytes and Greeters!** If you would be willing to help, even just once a month or once every couple months, please contact the church office at 734.242-3000.

Thank you!

Did You Know?...

One of the largest expenses for St. Paul's each year is the cost of utilities. Last year we paid nearly \$30,000 for electricity, water, and gas for the church and parsonage. It takes a lot to heat and cool this place!

... And Now You Know.

Want to know more about St. Paul's scholarships and our current group of recipients?

One of the most important missions of our church family is the annual privilege of granting of financial gifts to our students at colleges, universities or trade and vocational schools. Once again we have an outstanding group of young adults who are receiving these grants from St. Paul's to further their education.

Four are attending Michigan State: Kelsey Pabin, Allison Rathbun, Brooke Shugarman, and Abigail Snow. Two are at Ohio University in Athens, Ohio; Lauren McCain and Carly Pabin. Taylor Thompson continues at Central Michigan, Alexa Cooley is at Eastern Michigan and Emily Myers is at Wayne State. Hope Brophy is studying at Monroe County Community College, Zach Everly is a year away from a degree at Alma College and Hunter Ochs is a University of Toledo Rocket. Six are in their first year of study and seven of the students are currently on the Dean's List at their respective schools. All are in good standing academically.

Two are pursuing a degree in education, two in a type of engineering, one is in pre-nursing and one in premed. Three are in the social sciences, three are in other pre-professional programs, and one is enrolled in journalism courses.

Students who completed twelve hours or more were awarded grants of five hundred dollars. Those who earned less than full time credits of twelve hours received two hundred fifty dollars. Students may receive no more than five grants and the grants are only for undergraduate work. The grants are a simple gift of support, no strings attached and are open to families and active constituents and their children, on a prorated basis. It is always the hope that if our students one day find themselves in a good position they may remember and support another deserving student.

The scholarships were established more than thirty years ago and are supported by continuing gifts, memorials and pledges as well as an endowment fund established by some forward thinking members of the past. **Gifts are always welcome!** Please contact the office if you would like to make a contribution or long term gift to this important mission.

Let us always support our students and their families with our prayers and uplifting thoughts in this new phase of their lives.





March Birthday List

- 2 - Dorothy Mortiboy
- 5 - Carrie Hilliard, Josephine Mehki
- 7 - Kyle Rouser, Jane Steed
- 8 - Audrey Cooley
- 9 - Madeleine Cooley, Collin Petty
- 10 - Katherine Jaynes, Dennis Vergowven
- 11 - Cathy Brodie, Logan West, Melissa Woodruff,
Blaine Zimmerman
- 12 - Christopher Butson
- 14 - Griffin Linn
- 16 - Lynne Allen, Brianne Barton
- 17 - Chloe Pabin, Nora Weismiller
- 18 - Kelsey Pabin
- 19 - Katie Flynn
- 22 - Jordyn Helser-Young, Kendall Himebauch,
Cathy Spalding
- 23 - John Salisbury
- 24 - Collin Barton, Alyssa Cotterman, Rebecca Rice
- 26 - Kaylee Allen, Caleb Blackwell, Lauren McCain,
Taylor Thompson
- 27 - Susan Helser, Fritz Shull
- 28 - Amy Smith
- 29 - Cayman Herrera, Gabriella LaRoy
- 30 - Michelle Davis, Mason Stephan, Jennie West
- 31 - Micaiah Ivey

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

April Birthday List

- 1 - Sarah Bentley, Bonnie Boggs, Sandra Hudkins,
Barbara Kinne
- 2 - Ashlynn Gaynier
- 3 - Shannon Larkins, Joe Saum
- 5 - Ruth Degraaf, Sarah Grider, Raegan Himebauch
- 6 - Sophia Nolff
- 7 - Marc Herrera, Sydney Linn
- 8 - Janet Volker
- 9 - James Jacobs, Brandon Jacques,
- 10 - Jack Benavente, Angela Ivey, Jack Volker
- 11 - Samuel Allen, Sarah Cawood, Jim Jacobs
- 12 - Jeffrey Favreau, Morgan Keely, Danielle
Stephan
- 13 - Cathy Butson
- 14 - Betty Morris, Fran Rayce
- 15 - Sara Grzywinski, Marc Himebauch, Sandy
McMurray
- 16 - Paul Merman
- 17 - Stacy Burhart
- 18 - Cera Balk, Alyse Jacobs, Logan Plath
- 20 - Michael Himebauch, Nancy McFarlane
- 21 - Emily Moore, Ashley Rathbun
- 22 - Alexa Cooley, Bernice Deering
- 23 - Hank Green, Marina Decator
- 24 - Olivia Gladieux
- 25 - Geri Pleuss, Judie Wiseman
- 26 - Bill Brodie
- 27 - Lynn Baker, Cailaen Dinwoody, Debra Petty
- 28 - Joshua Churchill, Robert Drumm
- 30 - Peggy Plath

March 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
<p>3</p> <p>9:00am- Worship with Communion</p> <p>10:00am- Sunday School</p> <p>11:00am-Worship with Communion</p> <p>6:00pm - UMYF</p>	<p>4</p> <p>7:00pm-Eve Circle Meeting at Fedoksy's</p>	<p>5</p> <p>6:00pm- Worship Committee Meeting</p> <p>6:00pm- God Works! Meal</p>	<p>6</p> <p>12:00pm-Kiwanis</p> <p>6:00pm-Christ's Kids</p> <p>7:00pm - Ash Wednesday Service</p> <p>7:30pm-Chancel Choir</p>	<p>7</p> <p>10am-Sounds of Joy</p> <p>7pm-Blessed Through Prayer</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Blood Drive</p> <p>12:30 - 6:00pm</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>*Daylight Savings Time Begins*</p> <p>9:00am-Worship</p> <p>10:00am-Sunday School</p> <p>11:00am-Worship - New Members Received</p> <p>6pm-UMYF</p>	<p>11</p>	<p>12</p> <p>12pm-Kiwanis Board Meeting</p> <p>2:00pm - Outreach Committee Meeting</p> <p>6:00pm-God Works! Meal</p>	<p>13</p> <p>9:30am - Mary Martha Circle Crafters</p> <p>12:00pm-Kiwanis</p> <p>5:30pm-Youth Choir</p> <p>6:00pm-Christ's Kids</p> <p>6:15pm-Praise Ringers</p> <p>6:30pm - Lenten Study</p> <p>7:30pm-Chancel Choir</p>	<p>14</p> <p>7pm-Blessed Through Prayer</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p>
<p>17</p> <p>9:00am-Worship</p> <p>10:00am-Sunday School</p> <p>10:00am - Youth Cans Film Festival</p> <p>11:00am-Worship</p> <p>12:00pm-UMYF Potato Bake and Auction</p>	<p>18</p> <p>7:00pm - Trustee Meeting</p>	<p>19</p> <p>1:00pm - Lotus Garden Club</p> <p>6:00pm - God Works! Meal</p> <p>7:00pm- Church Council Meeting?</p>	<p>20</p> <p>12:00pm-Kiwanis</p> <p>5:30pm-Youth Choir</p> <p>6:00pm-Christ's Kids</p> <p>6:15pm-Praise Ringers</p> <p>6:30pm - Lenten Study</p> <p>7:30pm-Chancel Choir</p>	<p>21</p> <p>10am-Sounds of Joy</p> <p>7pm-Blessed Through Prayer</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>9:00am-Worship</p> <p>10:00am-Sunday School</p> <p>11:00am-Worship</p> <p>6:00pm-UMYF</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>6:00pm-God Works! Meal</p>	<p>27</p> <p>9:30am - Mary Martha Circle Crafters</p> <p>12:00pm-Kiwanis</p> <p>5:30pm-Youth Choir</p> <p>6:00pm-Christ's Kids</p> <p>6:15pm-Praise Ringers</p> <p>6:30pm - Lenten Study</p> <p>7:30pm-Chancel Choir</p>	<p>28</p> <p>10am-Sounds of Joy</p> <p>6-9pm-Gym in use</p> <p>7pm - UMW Meeting</p> <p>7pm-Blessed Through Prayer</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31</p> <p>9:00am - Worship</p> <p>10:00am - Sunday School</p> <p>11:00am - Worship</p> <p>6:00pm - UMYF</p>						

Special March Events to Note:
 Wednesday, March 6th - Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00pm
 Friday, March 8th - Blood Drive at St. Paul's from 12:30pm - 6:00pm
 Wednesday, March 13th - Lenten Study begins at 6:30pm - will continue through Lent

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For more information on the United Methodist Church, please visit their website: www.umc.org.

More information on our Michigan UMC Conference can be found at: www.michiganumc.org.

We are part of the Heritage District of the Michigan UMC. Our district website is: www.heritage.michiganumc.org

St. Paul's Staff:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Tracy Huffman

Director of Christian Education: Alisha Cooley

Director of Music: John C. Tyner

Director of Children's Choirs: Elise Dinwoody

Organist: Inger Oswald

Office Personnel: Cathy Butson & Susan Myers

Treasurer: Jeanette Fedosky

Financial Secretary: Peggy Plath

Custodial Staff: Dale Rathbun, Kelly Leask, Theresa

Rathbun, Brian Metzger, Duane Bair

Nursery Staff: Audrey Cooley, Jacob Gladieux ,

Ellie Himebauch



*Open Hearts.
Open Minds.
Open Doors.*



HOSPITAL STAY? PLEASE LET US KNOW! If you or a loved one have a stay in the hospital or a rehabilitation center, please call the church office and let us know. We are sometimes given a courtesy call from the hospital Chaplin, but usually we are not made aware of your stay there if you don't let us know. We want to be sure to visit and pray for you if that is what you'd like.

Please 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...

Mike Mortiboy

Mary Anne Bair

Rick Reicherd

Pat Cawood

Pascale Clevinger

Elaine Arting

Marge Burhart (friend of Sue Fleming)

Bob Tyner (brother of John Tyner)

Don Sampsel

James Simmons (friend of Brad & Debbie Lewis)

Amanda (friend of Michelle Davis)

Kelly Leask

Bill, Thomas, Aaron & Evan (friends of Connie Lass)