

We are God's people working together to accomplish something bigger than ourselves, effecting change in our community, in our nation, and around the world – all in the name of Jesus Christ.

Monthly News of St. Paul United Methodist Church

October 2017



Gifts for Ministry

Time is a funny thing. Every year when my birthday comes along, I feel that time is slipping through my fingers. Conversely, when we are waiting for the birth of a child, minutes seem like hours. Time passes slowly for children and they can't help but say, "are we there yet?" I seem to be more patient than I used to be, but a day rarely goes by that I don't wonder, "Am I doing what you want me to, God? Am I there yet, God?"

John O'Donohue wrote about these thoughts, *"The sense of transience haunts nearly every heart. You feel that you could suddenly arrive at your last day incredulous that that was it; it was all over."*

Each day we make choices about how we will spend our time. Psalm 139 shapes our choices, "the Lord has made you beautifully and incredibly." Every individual is chock-full of special gifts to be explored. We shape one another with words, glances, and hugs. Giving someone confidence is especially important when speaking with children and youth. Fostering positive attributes in young people is essential because they are still trying to figure out their call in life.

In I Peter 4:10, we hear these words, *"Instead of discounting our gifts, or the gifts of others, we might offer a blessing in order to inspire another to have more confidence in their gifts. Do you treasure your relationship with the Divine and with others? Developing these gifts is one of the greatest gifts of the church."*

Each of you has been given special abilities to be used to help one another. Pass on Spirit blessings and keep your eyes open for the unfolding of miracles in God's time. We truly are created to need one another.

Rev. Marta Wheeler

Second Sundays-Families Connecting

A special time for families with pre-school, grade school, and teen children to connect

When? 2nd Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

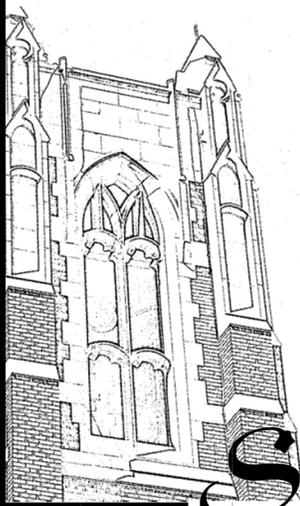
October 8th, November 12th and December 10th

Worship will begin with a dedicated time with young worshippers in mind

After a children's message from the pastor, the children will depart for Sunday School

Following the service families are welcome for food and activities in the Parlor

Reach out to your extended family, friends, neighbors; let them know that St. Paul Church welcomes them!



St. Paul in Spiration

Saint Paul Church

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Minister of Worship
402-676-4751

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Associate Pastor
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Katy Smith, Director

Community Counseling
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Julie Lord, LIMHP & PLADC

The Inspiration is published monthly. Information is due to the editor by the 19th of the month to be included in the next issue.

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Stewardship- Sustainable Future-Balanced Budget

-Our goal in 2017 is to live with a balanced budget as we grow in sharing the love of Christ in our mission and ministry. This is a large goal since we have not had a balanced budget in over five years. Yet, we planned well last fall to make this possibility a reality this year.

Results through September 20th

Church Gifts & Income \$350,801 Church Expenses \$328,654

Child Development Center Income \$418,485 CDC Expenses \$410,214

Thanks for your support, prayers and ongoing participation!

Commission on the Way Forward

As the Commission on a Way Forward prepares for its next meeting, the moderators are asking all United Methodists to continue to pray for the Commission members as they work to discern options for a way forward for The United Methodist Church in the midst of disagreement regarding the disciplinary stance related to human sexuality.

The 32-member Commission, appointed by the Council of Bishops to assist the bishops in discerning a way forward, issued a status report. Among the things indicated in the report was the challenging nature of the global context of the church, noting that concerns and goals related to human sexuality vary widely across the globe and that Central Conferences, like the U.S. Jurisdictions, are not of one mind on ordination and marriage of LGBTQ persons.

The Commission is expected to share some of the ideas and its work so far and gather feedback from the bishops at the November meeting of the Council of Bishops. The commission will likely complete its work in the later part of 2018 in readiness for the Special Session of General Conference, which is set for February 23-26, 2019, in St. Louis, Missouri.

You can also learn more about the Commission via:

- UMC.org/wayforward
- facebook.com/UMCforward
- twitter.com/UMCforward
- instagram.com/UMCforward

Wednesday Evenings

October 4	Wednesday 7p.m. Study with Pastor Jerry
October 11	Wednesday 7p.m. Study with Pastor Scott
October 18	Wednesday 7p.m. M&M service
October 25	Wednesday 7p.m. with Pastor Marta

Worship Attendance Average

August Worship attendance:	2017	217
	2016	210
	2015	193

World Communion Weekend

As its title would connote, World Communion is a celebration of the holy Sacrament far and wide! St. Paul Church will join with Christians around the world in the annual observance, this year celebrated **September 30/October 01**. On World Communion Sunday the communal offering helps to provide scholarships for national and international students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve. Special ministry *through* music as part of 10:30 worship will include David Schack, organ and the Solid Brass Quartet. We will also have a musical time of sharing with our Burundian and Bhutanese sisters and brothers.

Presentation of Bibles

The Children's Ministries annual presentation of Bibles to all St. Paul third graders will happen as part of family worship at 10:30 a.m. the weekend of **October 08**.

October M&M Service

The M & M service on **October 18** continues to feature personal testimonies reminding us of "how St. Paul has helped my spiritual journey." We celebrate the mid-month observance of Holy Communion with a variety of lay speakers and musicians. This month we hear from Jay Searles.

Single Sunday Service

November 05, our sixth single Sunday service at 10:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary, will reflect the All Saints remembrance with the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion and a reading of the names of members and friends of St. Paul Church who have joined the 'church triumphant' in the past year. A special ministry *through* music will be provided by the Nova String Quartet.

Preaching Schedule

Words of Freedom from Philippians

Sept 30/Oct 1	Rev. Shreve	Matthew 21-23-32 Gifts from God for Ministry-Vision
October 7/8	Rev. Shreve	Philippians 2:1-13 Words of Freedom-In the Interest of Others
October 14/15	Rev. Shreve	Philippians 3:4b-14 Words of Freedom-Through Faith in Christ
October 21/22	Rev. Shreve	Philippians 4:1-9 Words of Freedom-By Rejoicing in the Lord
October 28/29	Rev. Wheeler	Philippians 4:10-20 Words of Freedom-In the Strength of Christ

Do You Have a Third Grader?

As mentioned above, third grade students will receive Bibles on Sunday, October 8. The Bibles are a gift from the church and are sponsored by the Children's Ministry Team. If you have a third grader, make sure that a Bible is reserved for your child. Please notify the church office (402-556-2433) as soon as possible, giving the correct spelling of your child's name.

The Bibles will be presented to the third graders during worship so the congregation of St. Paul may share in this celebration.

CROP Walk—October 8

There's still time to register for the CROP Walk. There will be tables set up outside the worship services the weekend of September 30/October 1. You will also have an opportunity to help sponsor a walker.

Fight hunger globally and in our own community.



School Supplies for Guatemala

Your Guatemala mission team that will be leaving on November 3 for 9 days to help build stoves have a request for school supplies for an orphanage school that we supply items to each trip. If you would like to help fill our duffel bag, you may drop items off in the church office by October 31. All items will be greatly appreciated.

Thanks for your support!

Mary Cave, Connie Crawford, Marjorie Shreve, Greg and Charlene Wilcox

Bringing Forth the Kingdom A Conversation about Housing in our Community



October 21
8:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

**First United
Methodist Church
7020 Cass Street**

**Co-Sponsors:
Clair Memorial UMC &
First UMC**

There is no fee to attend, but advance registration is appreciated. Register online at www.fumcomaha.org.



**September
Special
Offering for
Mission Shares**

\$918.00

UMCOR Disaster Relief Update

UMCOR is working to provide support and relief to those impacted by hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria. As of September 19 St. Paul members and friends have donated \$2,161.02 to UMCOR relief through St. Paul UMC. Donations can also be made online, at www.umcor.org.

As always, 100% of your donation goes for relief efforts since administration costs do not come out of your donation.

Mental Illness Spiritual Support – God is our Refuge and Strength

It is easy to talk about physical health and even spiritual health within our culture but conversations about mental health are more difficult to have. Yet, maintaining good health includes body, mind and spirit. If you are looking for resources in this area they can be accessed at the National Alliance on Mental Illness, www.nami.org, the Nebraska Family Helpline operated by Boys Town at 800-866-8660 or the Community Counselor at St. Paul, Julie Lord.

Learning, Serving, Praying, and Playing

Oct. 1st-Christian concert for all district youth. More information to follow. Pastor Scott will also have Confirmation class in the afternoon. I'll be involved with a spiritual retreat for women.

Oct. 8th-Crop WALK! 1:30 registration at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church. Pledges will be accepted towards the walk.

October 15th-Sunday-4-5:30 pm-Will meet in the youth room while the Confirmation class meets in the Library.

October 21st, Saturday, 6:30-10pm, leave church at 5:15 pm for Camp Fontanelle. We plan to help with the scary corn maze, petting barn, jumping pillows, etc.

October 29th-4-5:30 pm-We plan to meet in the youth room.

We appreciate your support and prayers of the youth. We are growing closer to God and one another as we meet in the name of Jesus Christ and seek to serve God.

Rev. Marta Wheeler

Confirmation Class

Classes and Worship Leadership Schedules

October 1	4 –5:30	Exploring the Trinity with Rev. Brabec and Rev. Shreve
October 8	9:15 a.m.	Leading the Psalms in the Fusion Worship Service
October 15	4-5:30	Caring for God's Creation with Rev. Shreve

Cancer-Fighting Veggies

Give cruciferous vegetables a try, if you haven't already. This vegetable family includes kale, cauliflower, broccoli, and Brussels sprouts. You might already be familiar with their ability to help prevent cancer. But cruciferous veggies, as well as dark-green leafy and deep-yellow orange vegetables, may also have a protective role with other diseases, such as cataracts, heart disease and stroke. Try to include this group of vegetables in your diet at least two to three times per week. They are best when raw or lightly cooked.

Here's to our healthy eating!

Health Ministry Team

Save your HyVee Receipts

Save your HyVee grocery, catering and gas receipts dated September 1 through December 31. St. Paul Childcare and Preschool will receive a percentage of the total receipts collected. Look for the specially marked boxes in the gathering areas or bring them to the church office.



UMW Update

Our Saturday, October 7 meeting is at 9:30 in the Parlor, all are welcome. Mr. Don Kleine will speak and the topic is **Human Trafficking. All Are Welcome! Men Included!**

Donald J. Kleine has been an Assistant United States Attorney in the District of Nebraska since October, 2012. As an Assistant United States Attorney, his primary responsibilities include among other things, the investigation and prosecution of crimes involving human trafficking and immigration violations.

We had the first meeting of our UMW Green Team. The team will research and prepare a short note on how to be more environmentally healthy for each Inspiration and suggest ideas for making our meetings more environmentally friendly.

Our next Mini-Mart will be November 11-12 so Christmas and Thanksgiving themed items will be available.

The UMW had our first fall meeting on September 6, 2017 and Jeanie Brayman, a retired teacher, gave a history of Cuba. She showed slides of her recent trip there with an educational group. It was quite interesting and enlightening and highlighted the local artists. We had 26 in attendance.

Marjorie Shreve, President

UMW Green Team

In an effort to become more environmentally friendly UMW members are asked to donate EXTRA (not new and not Styrofoam) products for use at our meetings. We will use the left over products at our meetings. When they are gone we will consider transitioning to reusable products. Please bring any donations to our October 7 meeting. Next meeting October 16 at 1:30 in the library.

Let's Be Healthy Together!



Life Line Screening, a leading provider of community-based preventive health screenings, will offer their affordable, non-invasive and painless health screenings at St Paul United Methodist Church on 11/20/2017. Five screenings will be offered that scan for potential health problems related to: blocked arteries which is a leading cause of stroke; abdominal aortic aneurysms which can lead to a ruptured aorta; hardening of the arteries in the legs which is a strong predictor of heart disease; atrial fibrillation or irregular heart beat which is closely tied to stroke risk; and a bone density screening, for men and women, used to assess the risk of osteoporosis. Register for a Wellness Package which includes 4 vascular tests and osteoporosis screening from \$149 (\$139 with our member discount). All five screenings take 60-90 minutes to complete. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call 1-888-653-6441 or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/communitycircle or text the word circle to 797979.

Nebraska Methodist College Health Fair & Pancake Breakfast

St. Paul United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall

Saturday, October 21, 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

- ◆ Flu shots (ages 16 and over)
- ◆ Blood sugar screenings
- ◆ Blood pressure screenings
- ◆ BMI's



**Did we say it is FREE?
Yes, FREE, no charge!**



**CONVERSATIONS
WITH CLERGY**

**THIS FALL AT
ST. PAUL**

**JOIN PASTORS SCOTT, MARTA & JERRY TO
EXPLORE THE THEMES OF SUNDAY'S SERMON
WEDNESDAYS AT 7PM ~ ROTH CHAPEL**

OCTOBER 2017

UMW NEWS

<p>EXECUTIVE BOARD ***** President Marjorie Shreve Vice President Linda Mead Secretary Jackie Pospisil Ass't. Secretary Jan Walker Treasurer Pat Leslie Advisor</p>	<p><u>Saturday Meeting on October 7</u></p> <p>UMW General Meeting will be Saturday, October 7, at 9:30 a.m. in the Parlor.</p> <p>The program is on Human Trafficking, presented by Kim Raewert & Don Kleine, Jr., U.S. Attorneys.</p>
<p>HOSTING IN OCTOBER Ruth</p>	<p>Continue saving box tops and labels. Place them in the envelope on the UMW board.</p> <p>Mission Focus Sarah Roemer (GMF US-2) Birthday September 2</p> <p>Mission Witness "Teachers touch eternity. One student at a time."</p> <p>Save your HyVee receipts (grocery, catering, gas) dated September 1 to December 31. The St. Paul Childcare & Preschool will receive a percentage of the total receipts collected. Look for the specially marked boxes in the gathering areas or bring them to the church office.</p> <p>The next Mini Mart is November 11 & 12.</p> <p>2018 National Assembly registrations are due by November 30, 2017. Contact Marjorie Shreve or check the UMW bulletin board if you would like more information.</p>

Christian Sympathy

To Jo Harman in the death of her husband, Ken.

To the friends and family of Charlotte Schmidt in her death.

To Jane Crannell in the death of her husband, John.

Congratulations

To Chris Jones (our building engineer) & Kristyn Dandeneau (one of our preschool teachers) on their September 8 wedding.

Recent Hospitalizations

Jane Ott, David DeGross, Carol Gatzemeyer, Jeremy Shirk, Sylvia Coons, Milford Spicka, Judy Mayer, Clyde Arnold

Memorials

For Mary Buono—Judy Buono

For Jane Webber—Frank Webber

For John Crannell—Dee Maycock

For Lew Corbaley—Dee Maycock

Habitat for Humanity House

St. Paul UMC members and friends have been helping build a Habitat for Humanity house at 3905 North 22nd Street. St. Paul UMC is part of a coalition of 20 faith organizations building this house.

Currently the building is ahead of schedule. The roof is on, the doors and windows are all in, and the inside framing is done. Work on the siding has begun.

Members of the St. Paul Mercy & Justice team prepared and served lunch to the workers on Saturday, September 16.

Work will continue until early December, so if you are interested in helping, there is still time to sign up. Registration is done online. For more information, contact Kent Bacon at kbacon@abbnebraska.com or 402-533-2208.



The Dinner Group will meet on Saturday, October 21, at Old Chicago. Meet outside the chapel after the 5:00 p.m. worship service, or meet the group at Old Chicago, 425 North 78 St., at approximately 6:30 p.m. All adults are welcome.



Book Club

"Born a Crime" by Trevor Noah is the book the Book Club will be discussing at their October meeting. The Book Club meets at Immanuel Village on Saturday, October 14, at 8:30 a.m. For directions, call Dee Maycock at 402-571-5599.

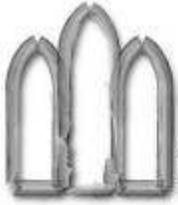
Stephen Ministry in Action

From a Stephen Ministry care receiver:

My Stephen Minister (caregiver) listens—really listens. I never realized how helpful and healing such a simple act can be.

Michelle





Saint Paul
United Methodist Church
5410 Corby Street, Omaha, NE 68104

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inWorship

Saturday Evenings

5:00 p.m.—Roth Chapel

Sunday Mornings

9:15 a.m. FUSION—Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m.—Sanctuary

12:30 p.m. African & Bhutan Services



inOffice

Monday - Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Sunday: 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Saint Paul in **Spiration**