

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 2016



Dear Members and Friends,

Be the change you wish to see in the world.

These are words spoken by Gandhi.

As Gandhi heard the people of India bemoan the fact that they were under the rule of the British he encouraged all to act as free people. Masses of people responded and over time India gained its freedom.

Be the change you wish to see in church.

These are my words to you.

The change I have heard many St. Paul members yearn to see is a full sanctuary with an even age distribution, which means many more young people. We can see this happen on November 6th at 10 a.m. It is a single worship service Sunday. If we each bring a person who usually doesn't attend worship then our Sanctuary will be filled. If we each invite, bring and sit with a person in their 20's or 30's then the full sanctuary will have an even age distribution.

Be the change you wish to see on November 6th at 10 a.m.

Invite, bring and sit with a special someone you know in their 20's or 30's

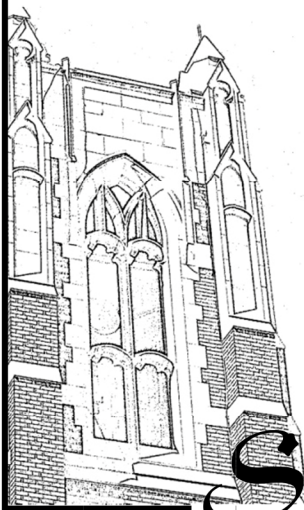
What I ask of you is not easy. Ushering in change is never easy. But it is possible.
Be the change you wish to see.

Blessings, Pastor Scott

Fruitful Living Series

October Focus- Loving and Serving Others

The practice of Risk-Taking Mission and Service involves offering ourselves in purposeful service to others in need, making a positive difference even at significant personal cost and inconvenience to our own lives. We serve.



St. Paul in Spiration

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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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Fruitful Living Small Group Invitation

One key for the ongoing and growing vibrancy of our St. Paul congregation is the development of small groups where people can learn, feel welcomed, grow spiritually, find support, join in mission work and enjoy friendships. A small group will meet after each Worship service, plus Sundays at 4:30 p.m. and Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the library. Please visit a small group.

Fall Themes:

October-	Loving and Serving Others	The Practice of Risk-Taking Mission and Service
November-	The Grace of Giving	The Practice of Extravagant Generosity
December-	Advent-Christmas	Celebrating the Birth of Jesus

Annual Charge Conference

This year St. Paul will host Maplewood, Olive Crest, Tri-Community and Hanson Park for our combined 2016 Church Conferences on October 16 at 4 p.m. Following worship we will celebrate our goals, review budgetary items and approve leadership lists. All are welcome.

Stewardship Gatherings

Mark a time on your calendar now to celebrate all we do at St. Paul.

What brings joy to your heart as you think of the activities at St. Paul?

Share those thoughts in celebration with others.

Be present for the unveiling of the first detailed line-item balanced budget for St. Paul UMC in over a decade. Look at the details and ask as many questions as you would like.

Gatherings will be held: November 6 at 3 p.m. and 5 p.m.

November 9 at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m.

November 13 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m.

Locations to be announced. Would you like to host a gathering? If so, call the church office.

Summer Worship Attendance – July 2 through September 18

Saturday Evening and Sunday Morning

This Summer- 207 per Sunday Last Summer – 179 per Sunday

An Invitation from our New Bishop

All are invited to a celebration service at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at St. Mark's United Methodist Church in Lincoln, Nebraska. For those of you who can't attend in person, I invite you to watch the livestream broadcast online at www.greatplainsumc.org/livestream.

Bishop Ruben Saenz Jr.

October Worship

Fall is here and students have returned to their schedules of learning. As United Methodist we join Christians around the world in the annual observance of World Communion, celebrated **October 01/02**. On World Communion Sunday our communal offering helps to provide scholarships for national and international graduate students whom God has gifted to learn and to serve. A special musical offering from members of our new Bhutanese worshipping congregation, Samjana Rai and Mani Rai will offer a musical gift as part of morning worship at 9:15 and 10:30. Both Rai families were sponsored by the St. Paul congregation in partnership with Lutheran Family Services as they came to the United States...Mani and his family in 2010 and Samjana and her family in 2014. What a delight that we now welcome them as part of this worship where, around the world, the body of Christ celebrates oneness! We also welcome the Solid Brass Quartet and David Schack, guest organist back with us at the 10:30 service.

Our annual "Blessing of the Animals" celebration will be on the beautiful and balmy (we have it on good authority!) afternoon of **October 02** at 3:00 p.m. in the East Courtyard. That gives all time to worship, have lunch, load up that unique someone (four legged or other) that touches your life by their mere presence, and meet for a unique blessing! Special treats, both animal and otherwise, will be provided by our Children's Ministries and Congregational Care Teams.

The M & M service on **October 19** 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.

The Children's Ministries annual presentation of Bibles to our third graders will happen at the Fusion service the weekend of **October 23**.

The last weekend of October, **29/30**, our services will reflect our All Saints remembrance with the celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion and the reading of the names of members and friends of St. Paul Church who have joined the 'church triumphant' in the past year.

Preaching Schedule

October 1/2	Rev. Shreve preaching, Holy Communion Mark 8:34-38 (focus on vs. 35) In Service to Others
October 8/9	Rev. Shreve preaching Matthew 20:20-28 (focus on vs. 27-28) An Essential Truth
October 15/16	Rev. Marta Wheeler preaching Luke 6:31-36, Training the Heart
October 22/23	Rev. Shreve preaching Micah 6:1-8 (focus on vs. 8), Faithful Social Witness
October 29/30	Rev. Shreve preaching, Holy Communion Hebrews 11 & 12:1-2, All Saints Day Celebration

A Heartfelt Thank You

The St. Paul Memorial Committee in cooperation with the Board of Trustees wishes to thank the families of **Marion Dodrill**, **Shirley Drake** and **Betty White** whose memorial funds were used to help purchase new windows in the clergy and membership offices on the main level.

It is through the generosity of St. Paul members and friends that we are able to continue to keep our facilities an honor to God and a source of pride in the Benson/Omaha community.

The Mercy & Justice Team encourage you to consider participating in the 32nd annual Church World Service CROP Walk. The event will take place on October 9 and will begin at Luther Memorial Church, 61st & Western Avenue.

Registration for the walk will begin at 1:00 p.m., and the actual walk starts at 2:00 p.m. St. Paul UMC will be a water stop for the walkers. The Mercy & Justice Team will be organizing and manning the water stop.

If you would prefer not to walk, you can still participate by making a donation. There will be an opportunity to sponsor a walker and make your donation before and after the worship services on October 2 and 3.

CROP Hunger Walks help to provide food and water, as well as resources that empower people to meet their own needs. From seeds and tools to wells and water systems, the key is people working together to identify their own development priorities, their strengths and their needs - something Church World Service has learned through 70 years of working in partnership around the world.



Refugee Clothes Closet

Many thanks to those who helped make the August BART clothes closet another success. Please mark your calendars for the last refugee clothes closet this year. It will be held on Saturday, October 22nd at Immanuel Lutheran Church, 2725 North 60th Avenue from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. The focus will be on including warm clothing, coats, caps, scarves, gloves, mittens and boots. Most of the refugees arriving in Omaha are from climates not needing our type of winter gear. As always there is a need for clothes from babies to small and medium sized adults.

Donations may begin October 17, with a call to the church office at 402-553-5061 or BART Chairman, Bev Hornig will be in the church basement on Wednesday, October 19 from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Set-up will be on Thursday, October 20 from 2:30 to 4:00. If you are able to help with set-up or at the closet, please call Bev at 402-658-8933.

Save HyVee Receipts for St. Paul Childcare & Preschool

Please save HyVee receipts from September 1 through December 31 to benefit our Childcare & Preschool. Bring the receipts to the church office or put them in one of the special boxes located around the church.



**September
Mission Shares
Offering
\$752.35**

Habitat House



The roof trusses are in place, and some of the framing has begun on the inside of the house.
(Photo taken on September 18)

Mental Illness Spiritual Support – God is our Refuge and our 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. Each month this space will include a scripture passage and comment on mental health to encourage understanding and health. In addition to what is noted here, a good resource for further information can be accessed at the National Alliance on Mental Illness, www.nami.org or the Nebraska Family Helpline at 800-866-8660.

WE RECOGNIZE THAT MENTAL ILLNESS ARE MEDICAL ILLNESSES THAT MAY HAVE ENVIRONMENTAL TRIGGERS - "I will be glad and rejoice in your love for you saw my affliction and knew the anguish of my soul."
Psalm 31:7

Mental illness is not simply aggression or strange actions that a person chooses. Like every other disease, there is a physical component. The affected organ is the brain. Something is wrong in the brain to cause symptoms that manifest themselves in behavior changes or mood swings. The changes are not anything the person can control any more than they can control symptoms of other diseases, such as pain, weakness, trembling, or debility. Like other diseases, medicine is used to restore a proper balance and reduce symptoms, allowing proper functioning. People who have mental illness need as much medical help as a person with more observable physical problems. Someone must do what the person cannot do himself to get appropriate treatment. With a disorder of the mind it is just as impossible to organize thoughts to obtain help as it is to walk with a broken leg.

Children's Ministry News

We will be handing out Bibles during the prayer time of the Fusion service October 23. If any question please email srosenberger@stpaulomaha.org.

We also will be having boo bash on October 25 with Childcare. More information later.

Stephanie Rosenberger
Children's Ministry Director



Blessing of the Animals

Sunday, October 2
3:00 p.m., East Courtyard
All animals welcome
Please bring your pet on a leash or in a carrier.



Save the date for an all Church Halloween Bash and Trunk or Treat—
October 25th, from 5:30-7.
Join us for a fun day of ghosts, ghouls and treats. Dinner will be served and there will be treats for all ages!

Learning, Serving, Playing, and Praying

The Youth Sunday School has been going well with increased participation and attendance. Thank you, Priscilla and Lisa!

We will be meeting at The Roof from 4:30-6 pm on October 2nd, 16th, and 23rd.

On Sunday, October 9th at 1 pm, the youth will be walking in the CROP Walk in order to raise funds for hunger. They will be seeking sponsors; if you're able to donate please let me or the youth know. We will join hundreds of others at Luther Memorial Lutheran Church, 1031 Sunset Trail, near 61st and Blondo St. It should be a piece of cake after walking in 90 plus degrees last year!

Youth groups from around the district are being invited to the Haunted House and Scavenger Hunt on Saturday, October 29th, from 8-10pm. We are planning for middle school and older children only. Please let me know of other churches that might want to come! We are asking each person to bring an item for Youth Emergency Services and plan to stuff the Tzedakah box that evening.

Once the Haunted House is over, we will begin the lock-in for St. Paul youth which will last until early Sunday morning.

We welcome new friends each time we meet.

Thank you for your prayers and support for the young people of St. Paul!

Rev. Marta Wheeler



Lay Servant Ministries

Missouri River District Lay Servant Ministries Courses

Friday, Oct. 7 (5:00-10:00 pm) &
Saturday, Oct. 8 (9:00 am—4:00 pm)
at Papillion St. Paul,
324 S. Jackson Street, Papillion, NE

Registration Deadline: September 30

\$20.00 class fee to cover Friday dinner and Saturday morning snack & lunch is payable with registration to Great Plains UMC-Missouri River District

Classes offered:

- Basic Course
- You Can Preach! Plus Preaching with Multiple Intelligence Theory
- Growing Spiritually through Daily Disciplines
- Lead in Stewardship: Afire with God

More information and a registration form can be found at <http://www.greatplainsumc.org/layservantministryresources>.

Save the Date: November 17 for the Holiday Shopping Fair

There will be more than 20 crafters and direct sales reps in Fellowship Hall from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Warm treats will also be available all day. Admission will be free with your toiletry donation to be given to Youth Emergency Service.

Do you have any questions about the Holiday Shopping Fair? If so, call Katy Smith at 402-556-3885 or email her at ksmith@stpaulomaha.org.

Letter from Rev. Kathy Rice

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

In the summer of 2013 there were some decisions made regarding opportunities for how we care for one another. Each congregation has many more needs than one pastor can deal with alone. Some are long-term needs and some are only crisis needs.

Dr. Johnson and I looked at a couple of different caring ministries and decided on Stephen Ministries (Caregivers) for this congregation. I went to the Leadership Training Program in Pittsburg, PA, that summer and came back with much enthusiasm and hope for an active ministry at St. Paul.

In the first training class there were four members who were trained and commissioned. The current training class is happening with Northwest Hills Church and there are four participants with one of them being from St. Paul.

Stephen caregivers have been assigned to care for six persons since we began. Some relationships have been longer than others. Many persons I have asked, however, have declined the opportunity. Each of us has different gifts and different needs. This is one way in which those gifts and needs can be shared for good.

Since we began in August, 2013, I have been the leader of the Stephen Ministry program. This has been a paid position at half-time, 20 hours per week. I have been very grateful and blessed by this gift. In the life of this church, however, it is time for a change. As of December 31, 2016, the Stephen Leader position will no longer be a paid position. I plan to continue in some way with the program but not as much as I have for the last 3 years. Our budget situation dictates that some items need to be cut from the budget. This position is one of those items.

Each of us makes decisions based on differing information and circumstances. I find that I am ready to be fully retired...finally. I look forward to different challenges and opportunities in my life and the life of this congregation.

Thank you for the challenge and the opportunity.

Rev. Kathy Rice

Stephen Care-Givers

We have begun a new training class for Stephen Caregivers. We are sharing the training with Northwest Hills Church and we plan to be completed by the first of the year. If you are in a crisis and need someone to talk to, please feel free to contact Kathy Rice or Scott Shreve. All sharing is completely confidential.

United Methodist Women

The next meeting of the United Methodist Women will be on Wednesday, October 5, 2016. We begin with a time of fellowship at 9:30 AM and the program begins at 10:00 AM. This month's program is to be Steve Griffith of Nebraskans for Alternatives to the Death Penalty. All members and friends are welcome to hear this important program.

UMW NEWS

Featuring the activities of the United Methodist Women of St. Paul UMC. Oct.'16

EXECUTIVE BOARD

President:
Kathy Rice
Vice President
Linda Mead
Secretary
Jackie Pospisil
Ass't. Secretary
Jan Walker
Treasurer
Pat Leslie
Advisor
Judy Stransky

Remember...

**Naomi/Rebecca serve
in October
Ruth serves
in November.**

We are saving HyVee receipts dated September 1 through December 31 for St. Paul Childcare!

Please continue to save box tops and soup Labels.

**IS
YOUR PLEDGE
UP TO
DATE ?**

**Come and join us for our
October 5 meeting.
Coffee at 9:30 am followed by
Rev. Steve Griffith
speaking on the topic of
NEBRASKANS FOR
ALTERNATIVES TO THE
DEATH PENALTY**

Everyone is welcome to attend.

**The St. Paul Youth continue to collect
items for the Youth Emergency
Services program.**

**Most needed at this time are
Feminine Hygiene products.
Please bring items to the meeting.**

MINI-MART IN NOVEMBER

Congratulations

To Connie Crawford in the birth of her granddaughter, Lillian Mae Churchill, born September 21. Lillian's parents are Adam & Amy Churchill.

To Brittany and John Vinchattle in the baptism of their daughter, Maisy Kay, on September 21. Maisy's big brothers are Kasen and Brooks.



Recent Hospitalizations

Rozanne Christensen, Ralph Erts

Christian Sympathy

To Libby and Brandon Taylor and family in the death of Libby's grandmother.

Thank You

A big Thank You for all the cards, notes and calls after my accident.

St. Paul people are the best.

Thanks again.

Sue Sherman

Memorials

For Mildred Taylor—Vance Taylor

For Diane Tjaden—Sue Bobek

For Mary Buono—Judy Buono

For David Shestak—Constance & Danny Carruthers

Honorarium

For Mary Jane Lightner—Howard Kaiman

Thank You for the Scholarship

Thank you for awarding me the Clarence Schoenhair Youth Scholarship. I truly appreciate the support this is providing me as I attend Metro Community College. I will be majoring in Culinary Arts—Pastry and Baking.


I graduated May 17 from Benson High Magnet and enrolled in college on the 19th. I am excited to start this new part of my life. My first day of college is September 6th. I have already met with my counselor and advisor, and have received my schedule for the 1st quarter.

Due to the culinary classes I took while attending Benson High School and the Career Center, I will be starting college with 14.5 credits and a 3.25 GPA. I have been interested in cooking and baking since I was young. My future plans include opening my own bakery someday.

Once again, I am truly grateful for your support and am glad to be a part of St. Paul United Methodist Church. I will make you proud that you chose me to be the recipient of this scholarship.

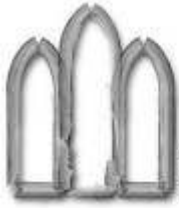
Jason Evenson

The Dinner Group will meet on Saturday, October 29, at Spezia. Meet outside the chapel after the 5:00 p.m. worship service, or meet the group at Spezia, 3125 South 72 Street, at approximately 6:30 p.m. All adults are welcome.



Book Club

"A Man Called Ove" by Fredrick Backman is the book the Book Club will be discussing at their October meeting. The Book Club meets at Immanuel Village on Saturday, October 8, at 8:30 a.m. For directions, call Dee Maycock at 402-571-5599.



Saint Paul
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5410 Corby Street, Omaha, NE 68104

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inWorship

Saturday Evening

5:00 p.m.—Roth Chapel

Sunday Morning

9:15 a.m. FUSION—Fellowship Hall

10:30 a.m.—Sanctuary

12:30 p.m. African National Service



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**