



The frost will soon be on the pumpkin! We have been blessed with a beautiful autumn, hope you have taken the time to enjoy it. Soon the autumn colors will disappear for the beauty of a new snow fall. Yes, I said the beauty of a snow fall! We can find the blessings in all of our seasons of life. During the month of November we have the opportunity to stop and spend a day giving thanks. On Thanksgiving Eve we will have a soup supper followed by a time of worship. During this time of worship we will take time to think about all the blessings we have received in 2014. And then we will move on to the next season – Advent! A season when we will prepare ourselves for the celebration of the greatest gift humanity has received, the birth of Jesus the Christ. We can carry our “thanksgiving” from November into the Advent season.

Another way we can continue our “thanksgiving” every day is by using and sharing our time, talent, and resources with a spirit of joy and generosity. We can think of numerous ways we can share what our Creator has given us. Giving our time to others, like our children and youth of our families, church and community is one of the greatest “investments” we can make. As we move into 2015, we will be looking at ways we can work with the schools of our community. It may also mean giving of our money and resources in addition to our time. During 2015 we will be talking with our neighborhood schools to see how we can be supportive. How can you be a part of this “thanksgiving” opportunity in the coming year? We will be asking each other how we can be a part of this important endeavor.

Have a great autumn, a fulfilling Thanksgiving, a meaningful Advent, and a New Year filled with compassion!

Dr. Keith W. Johnson,
Lead Pastor

Important Dates in November

Nov. 2	Daylight Savings Time Ends
Nov. 8 & 9	Stephen Ministry Commissioning
Nov. 15 & 16	Commitment Weekend
Nov. 19	M&M Worship Service
Nov. 22 & 23	UMW Mini Mart
Nov. 26	Thanksgiving Eve Soup Supper Thanksgiving Eve Worship



Saint Paul Church

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Lead Pastor

Rev. Jerry Brabec
Minister of Worship

FaraNita Dunbar
Director of Children's Ministries

Kathy Rice
Director of Stephen Ministry

Doug Olson
Youth & Adult Ministries

Sue Bobek,
Membership Secretary &
Administrative Assistant to the
Lead Pastor

Connie Almgren
Financial Secretary

Sue Bacon
Communications Coordinator

Derek Wolfe
Building Engineer

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Katy Smith, Director

Community Counseling

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Mary Kate Hoffman, LMHP

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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Commitment Weekend November 15 & 16

"Living and Working in God's World to Nurture Growth and Diversity through Christ."

This is our vision statement for 2015. In order to make this come alive we need your commitment!

We will have our financial commitment weekend on the dates above. Please give your prayerful consideration as to how you can make our vision come alive, with your prayers, presence, witness, talents and financial commitment.

Election Year Advice from John Wesley

In 1774, John Wesley, co-founder of the Methodist Church, offered this advice to people who'd be voting.

- Vote, without fee or reward, for the person you judge most worthy.
- Speak no evil of the person you vote against.
- Take care your spirits aren't sharpened against those who voted on the other side.

Youth Ministries Director, Kristin Malone, Resigns

After much tearful and prayerful consideration, I've come to the difficult conclusion that after 6 years it's time for me to "retire" from the Youth Director position. I have been so blessed with such an amazing and talented group of Youth. It has been an honor and privilege to have been allowed to participate in their faith journey. They will always have a place in my heart as my other kids.

My grant position at the VA will finish next year. I plan to be getting my house ready for sale in the spring and will start a job search. I'm prepared to follow the path God has in store for me - travel? local? far away? Who knows, but I'm sure his plan is perfect!

Kristin Malone

New Youth Ministries Director

Hi! Many of you know me already, but let me introduce myself anyway. I'm Doug Olson, currently the Adult Ministries Coordinator, and beginning this month, I'll also be the Director of Youth Ministries. I remember good lessons and good times from my days in St. Paul youth group back in the 70's, and I want our youth today to have the same opportunity for faith and fellowship. I was a youth group sponsor when my children were that age, and I appreciate the challenge and the rewards of working with young people. I look forward to meeting and working with our youth, their parents, and everyone who supports St. Paul Youth activities.



Doug Olson

in *W*orship

As part of the congregational reflection on Stewardship, November weekly worship will underscore the five United Methodist vows of membership:

Prayer:

The annual celebration of All Saints Day, that time we remember the “great cloud of witnesses” as the apostle Paul called them, is upon us. At all services the weekend of **November 01 and 02**, we will commune and pause in prayerful silence to honor those from Saint Paul Church that have joined the church triumphant in the past year. There will be the reading of names and singing the songs of faith as well. As part of worship at the 8:15 and 11:05 hours the celebration will include an offering of Joseph Haydn’s “Little Organ Mass” with guest organist, David Schack and a string trio from the Omaha Symphony, joined by soprano, Beth Asbjornsen. The congregation will be integrally involved, responding to the sung Latin text with English spoken liturgy.

Presence:

For the past year, four individuals have been journeying toward consecration as Stephen Ministers. After many months of training Elizabeth Elsasser, El Siebert, Jan Tuttle, and Charlene Wilcox will join the ranks of thousands of those who have answered God’s call to caring ministry. Their installation will grace each service **November 08/09**, as we reflect on God’s presence in our lives.

Gifts:

The beautiful leaves of fall serve as gentle reminders of the gifts of time, talent and financial resources received from God as we dedicate of 2015 Stewardship commitments in worship **November 15/16**.

We honor the gifts of the laity Wednesday, **November 19** at the 7:00 p.m. M& M service as we hear from Libby and Brandon Taylor and their daughter, Dorothy. The Taylor’s are relative newcomers to Saint Paul, joining in 2012 and Saturday evening worshippers have had the great good pleasure of watching Dorothy grow into a sweet and inquisitive three-year old.

Service:

We honor the many ways in which members and friends of Saint Paul Church serve this community of faith as we worship on **November 22/23**. Ushers, greeters, musicians, Sunday School volunteers, phone callers and answerers, liturgists, prayer volunteers...and the list goes on and on!

Witness:

The annual celebration of our Thanksgiving Eve service will be held on Wednesday, **November 26** at 7:00 p.m. This service has traditionally been a time for reunions of family and friends to offer thanks for God’s continued blessings. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be observed as the community of faith pays witness to the honoring of this national holiday. The Saint Paul Youth will be serving a soup/sandwich supper in Fellowship Hall at 5:00 as part of the evening’s festivities. Part of our evening worship will be spent dressing the Sanctuary in preparation of the Advent season, which begins November 29/30. Finally, the light of the Angel Tree will begin to glow as we conclude this night of remembering God’s bounty in our lives and the blessings we enjoy.



**October World
Communion
Special Offering
\$435**



**Set your clock
back one hour
Saturday night,
November 1**

November Communal Offering

An important element in the receiving of Christ's holy meal is how we respond to the invitation. Through our monthly communal offering we respond to being the body of Christ in a truly tangible way. On November 01/02 our second mile giving will help support the denominational special offering for the **Ministerial Education Fund**. The sacramental observance on this weekend reminds us of the church's affirmation that we continue to share the responsibility for education of our clergy. It is one of the seven apportioned funds that enables United Methodists to do together what no church, district, or annual conference could do alone.

Through the MEF and other funds, each individual, each family, each congregation gives a fair share for the church's work. All of our 13 seminaries make scholarships available to qualified United Methodist students. These funds are in addition to money students receive from annual conference MEF dollars.

Twenty-five percent of MEF apportioned dollars are retained in annual conferences, preparing candidates for ministry, to support continuing education for pastors and clergy recruitment and to provide financial aid for students. The MEF is at the heart of preparing people for making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Kuber Rai Family Update

Members of the St. Paul Mercy & Justice Team continue their ministry to the Kuber Rai Family. October has been a busy month, acclimating the family to new surroundings, grocery shopping and an outing (see picture) to the world's finest zoo, the Henry Doorly!

Thankfully, a large contingent of relatives had previously been settled in Omaha, which has made Lutheran Family Services and the team's job much easier. Plans are being made to welcome our new friends through a potluck reception.



Harvest Bags

We remember those less fortunate by bringing the gifts of canned or boxed food items for donation to the Pearl United Methodist Food Pantry. This collection is in cooperation with our mission team's outreach.

Harvest bags will be distributed the weekends of **November 08/09** and **15/16** with their return requested by Thanksgiving Eve worship on Wednesday, November 26.



Hat & Mitten Tree Returns

Starting November 2, look for the Hat & Mitten Tree in the Gathering Area. All hats, mittens and scarves collected will be given to schools in our area for distribution to children who need them.



St. Paul K.I.D.S. Corner

Camp Fontanelle

November 1, 2014 1-4pm

**9677 County Road 3,
Fontanelle, Nebraska 68044**

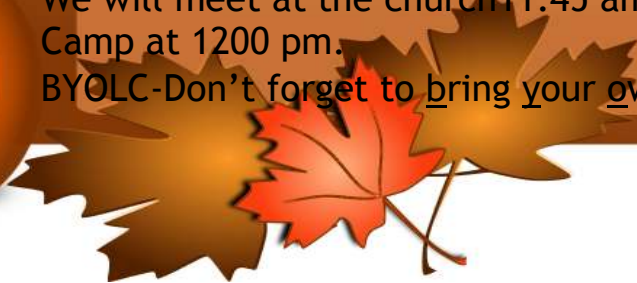
We invite you to take a Fall Break with us. Bring your family and a few friends and we'll bring the lunch and we can spend time sharing and eating by the fire pit, walking through a pumpkin patch and corn maze.

To RSVP or for additional information please email the Children's Ministry Director, Fara at fdunbar@stpaulomaha.org or the Childhood Learning Center Director, Katy at ksmith@stpaulomaha.org.

The Cost is \$7.00/per person (*lunch included*)

We will meet at the church 11:45 am and caravan down to Camp at 1200 pm.

BYOLC-Don't forget to bring your own lawn chair!



SAVE THE DATE:



Sunday, December 7, 2014 ADVENT FAIR

Monday, December 22, 2014 (time TBA) Christmas Program sponsored by Children's Ministry Team and Childhood Learning Center

An Act of Compassion

DONATE LIFE NEBRASKA will be celebrated November 14-16, 2014. The organization invites you to celebrate National Donor Sabbath with us when members of faith communities throughout the country will focus on the healing gifts passed on through organ, eye and tissue donors.

We ask your assistance in educating yourself and others about the critical need for more registered donors. Nearly 125,000 people in the U.S. are in desperate need of lifesaving transplants, and thousands more can be healed through tissue and cornea transplants. The key to solving this public health crisis is having more people register as organ, eye and tissue donors. More than 400 people are waiting right here in Nebraska for the Gift of Life.

All of the world's major religions consider organ donation to be a final act of kindness and generosity, yet research has shown that one of the main reasons people do not register is the belief that it is against their religion. With your help, we can eliminate this all too common misconception and offer this opportunity to sign up on our Nebraska Donor Registry as a true act of compassion and generosity. You can sign up when you renew your driver's license. Each person who registers can potentially help up to 60 people.

Health Ministry Team

Stephen Care Givers

The Stephen Care Givers training group will experience their last training on October 29, 2014. On November 8 and 9 they will be commissioned as Stephen Caregivers during each worship service that weekend. Please come to provide your support and feel free to ask any questions about the program that you may have. If you have a special need for a caregiver, please contact Keith Johnson or Kathy Rice. Our faithful and committed caregivers are Elizabeth El-sasser, El Siebert, Jan Tuttle and Charlene Wilcox.



NEW STUDY ON TUESDAYS

The Tuesday Study Group has just started a new eight week exploration of Wesleyan theology. Our text is "The Wesleyan Way" by our bishop, Rev. Dr. Scott Jones. During this study, we will see how John Wesley's teachings, formulated in England during the 18th century, are still applicable to our society and the problems we face today. Each week we will have material to read from the book, a video with an introduction from the Bishop and a presentation to kick off our discussion, and then share our understanding of what we have learned and how it applies to our lives. Please join us Tuesday at 10 am in the Library.

Book Club

"Mrs. Lincoln's Dressmaker" by Jennifer Chiaverini, is the book the Book Club will be discussing at their November meeting. The Book Club meets at Immanuel Village on Saturday, November 15, at 8:30 a.m. For directions, call Dee Maycock at 402-571-5599. Please feel free to come even if you have not read the book.

Addressing Poverty in our Community

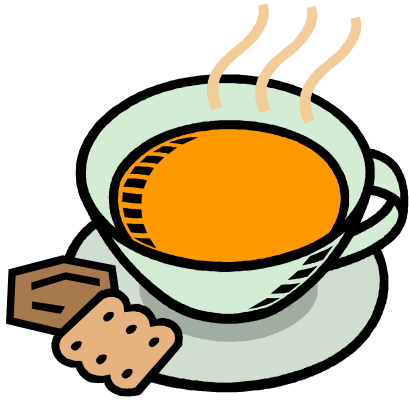
The Saint Paul Women's Book Club has changed their regular second Saturday meeting time of November 8 to the third, Saturday, November 15, so members can attend the forum at First United Methodist, "Bringing Forth the Kingdom: Addressing Poverty in Our Community", on November 8. The forum is free and is from 8:00 a.m. to 12:15 a.m. at First United Methodist Church.

Reservations must be received by October 27, and can be made by calling FUMC or fumcpovertyforum@fumcomaha.org.

We would love to have a good representation from St. Paul supporting the efforts of the Poverty Education and Advocacy Team of FUMC.

Next Church Council Meeting  **Monday, November 17, at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**
Everyone is invited!

 **The Dinner Group will not meet in November or December.**



Soup's on!

Family and Friends of Saint Paul UMC:
Join us on Wednesday, November 26th,
from 5:00 pm-6:45 pm,
for a delicious soup Dinner.

The Youth Ministries, along with
Saint Paul UMC Childcare and Preschool,
have whipped up delicious soups
for you to enjoy on this chilly day!

A suggested donation of \$3.00 gets you in the door.

Make sure you save room for dessert! We will be
offering delicious baked goodies.

Please plan to join us to warm your tummy with soup,
and then nourish your soul at
Thanksgiving Eve Worship in the sanctuary at 7 pm.

(Hint: if you have soup Wednesday evening, it leaves
more room for turkey on Thanksgiving!)

UMW NEWS

Featuring the activities of the United Methodist Women of Saint Paul UMC. NOV. 2014

EXECUTIVE BOARD

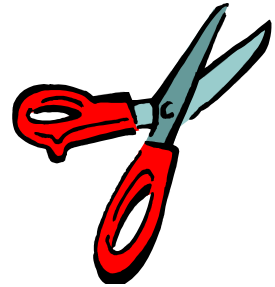
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NEXT GENERAL MEETING
NOVEMBER 5, 2014
COFFEE AT 9:30, PROGRAM AT 10 AM

The program is a memorial service in memory of our members who died in the last year, including communion.

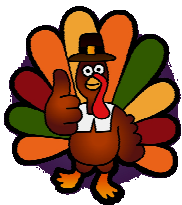
Naomi & Rebecca
Circles
Serve in
November.

PLEASE SAVE THESE:
CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS
Please turn in the whole label.
GENERAL MILLS BOX TOPS
HYVEE RECEIPTS 'til 12/31



Pledges are due
to Pat Leslie
by December 1

Support the Church Women United Nut Sales
Proceeds go to the Omaha Street School
and Youth Emergency Services
Order now!
Contact Mary Ann Kirchner, 402-397-9711



Holiday Mini Mart
Delicious Foods and Crafts for the
Thanksgiving and Christmas Seasons.
November 22 & 23
in the Gathering Areas



Recent Hospitalizations

Lyle (George) Matthews, Margaret Reid, Dave Sidebottom, Sue Sherman, Lucille Sullivan

Christian Sympathy

To Betty Johnson in the death of her brother.

To Jeanette Peyton in the death of her sister.

To the friends of Marjorie Nalls in her death.

To Deanna Anderson and family in the death of her mother, Virginia Cudabeck.

To Don Wilcox and family in the death of his wife, Nedra.

To Dorothy Lea and family in the death of her husband, Fred.

Congratulations

To Elizabeth Springer and Robert Connors on their October 17 wedding.

To Tony & Rene Schnoor on the baptism of their daughter, Islaya Lynn, on October 12.

Memorials

For Virginia Cudaback—Dick & Pat Whiteman, Jerry Brabec, Gladys Lantz, Phyllis Solomon, Janice Biga

For Bill & Grace Taylor—Terri Westphalen

For Carl Buono—Judy Buono

For Don Bentley—Helen Kensinger

For Leland Tompsett—Cheryl Bedell

For Amelia Biga—Helen Kensinger

For Marjorie Nalls—Dee Maycock, Jerry Brabec

For Nedra Wilcox—Ken & Jan Walker

For Ralph Brown & Tracey Lorey—Betty Brown

Honorarium

For Gladys Lantz—Grace Beck & Peggy Sterling

Congratulations

To Diane and Ed Klima on Diane's baptism on October 11.





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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



in^Worship

Saturday Evening

5:00 p.m.—Roth Chapel

Sunday Morning

8:15 and 11:05 a.m.—Sanctuary

9:35 a.m. FUSION—Fellowship Hall

12:30 p.m. African National Service

(Nursery care available for all Sunday services)



Monday through Friday—If the Omaha Public Schools are closed because of inclement weather, the church office, preschool, and child care are all closed, and all meetings and other activities are canceled.

Saturday and Sunday Worship Service cancellation announcements:

1. Call the church office (402-556-2433)
2. Check the website (www.stpaulomaha.org)
3. Check the KETV, Channel 7 cancellation board.

in^Office

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