



The giving tree is bearing fruit, thanks to the members who have responded. THANK YOU! Our giving tree is a great example of what can happen when we work together each doing what we can. This is a part of the "miracle" that happens when the disciples of Christ work together. We often look for miracles and miss their presence. Miracles are all around us and many times we are among the ones helping the miracle to happen. Whenever we "join forces" with others and respond to someone else's need – a miracle happens. When a Habitat House is built it is a miracle to see a vacant lot become a home. When a tornado strikes and new life replaces the destruction – a miracle happens. When a person's life is shaken by ill health and the prayer support and hugs come, the person feels cared for – a miracle happens.

We don't often think about what we can do when we pool our resources. Goals are met, mission outreach occurs, and people's needs are addressed. The strength of the church is found in what individuals can do "collectively." Thank you for doing your part to strengthen the mission work and outreach of the church. Together we can change situations, people's lives, bring hope where there is destruction, and cause the love of God to become a reality in the lives of others.

The giving tree is about financial support – but it is also about what we can do TOGETHER, each giving and sharing our resources and our talents. I wonder what "miracles" will happen in the months ahead? I guess we will find out together!

Grace and Peace,
Dr. Keith W. Johnson, Lead Pastor

Important Dates in September

September 3	UMW General Meeting
September 7	Children's & Youth Sunday School Begins Congregational Care Team to Crowell Home
September 13	Walk, Run, Bike, Golf Fitness Day
September 15	Church Council Meeting
September 21	Third Grade Bible Presentation
September 22	"Danger in the Building" Presentation
September 27	Dinner Group Goes to McKennas
Sept. 27/28	UMW Weekend



Saint Paul Church

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Director of Children's Ministries

Kristin Malone
Director of Youth Ministries

Kathy Rice
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Doug Olson
Adult Ministry Coordinator

Sue Bobek,
Membership Secretary &
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Director of Children's Ministries

Dana Crisman, who has been Saint Paul UMC's Director of Children's Ministries for almost 8 years, has resigned from her position. Dana has been working on her master's degree and needs to do student teaching to finish up her degree. We thank Dana for her years of service and wish her well with her new endeavors.

We are currently looking for someone to fill the Director of Children's Ministries position, which is a part-time position of approximately 25 hours per week. Required hours are Sundays from approximately 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, and a Thursday staff meeting from 12:30 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. each week. Most of the remaining hours are flexible. A laptop and cell phone are provided.

If you know someone who is interested in this position, please have him or her call the church office at 402-556-2433 for more information.

Sunday Morning Nursery Staff Needed

We are looking for individuals 19 years old or older to teach our nursery children during our worship services. Hours are 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. You do not have to teach every Sunday. This is a paid position.

Contact Katy Smith, Childcare/Preschool Director, at 402-556-3885.

Fall Sunday School Begins September 7

Please join us on Sunday, September 7th for our Fall Sunday School Kick-Off! Sunday School begins with approximately 10 minutes of music in Room 250 at 9:30 a.m. Then the children go to their classrooms, which are:

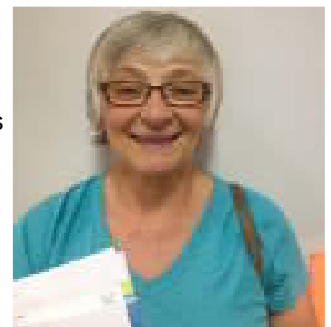
Preschool ages 3-5	Room 254
Kindergarten/1st Grade	Room 302
2nd, 3rd, 4th Grade	Room 313
5th & 6th Grade	Room 319

If you have any questions, please call the church office at 402-556-2433.

Saint Paul Preschool

When Preschool began the new school year on August 25, a familiar face was present. Deborah Hickman has taught in our preschool program for the last six years as a teacher and substitute. She has over 15 years of Early Childhood and Elementary Education, and has been a kindergarten teacher in the Omaha Public Schools.

Deborah worked hard during the weeks before Preschool began to get everything ready. Other teachers in the Preschool are Ms. Kee Kee and Ms. Shaw.



Deborah Hickman

Next Church Council Meeting

Monday, September 15,
at 7:00 p.m.
in Fellowship Hall
Everyone is invited!

Worship Notes

Have you felt the bite of the dog days of summer? Labor Day is always the harbinger of change, whether it be in routine or the pollen count. Rehearsals for Joy Bells, Folk Gospel and Chancel Choirs, and practicing Fusion musicians—it all means worship and praise, but you are needed, too! Come to a rehearsal, give someone a #question, Facebook a friend, just participate!

After eight weeks of only two Sunday morning services, we return to our 8:15/9:35/11:05 worship times on Sunday, **September 07**. Many have offered positive comments about the two service line up and discussion will be, no doubt, lively at the September Church Council meeting where the change will be reviewed. There is much to discern, but never let it be said that St. Paul is afraid of change!

Back in the line up of worship offerings is the M & M service held the third Wednesday of each month, September 2014 – June 2015. Our focus for the series continues to revolve around the gifts of the laity, with special speakers and musicians gracing the Roth Chapel beginning **September 17** at 7:00 p.m. The Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated at each observance.

We close the month by honoring United Methodist Women as part of worship on **September 27/28**, with members of the local UMW organization serving as ushers and worship leaders. The annual observance of World Communion will be celebrated during worship **October 05/06**.

The Holidays Are Upon Us

On Wednesday, September 24, as the setting sun brings a close to another day, the festivities ushering in the year 5775 begin for Jews around the world. With the sounding of the shofar--the ram's horn--Rosh Hashanah is the celebration of New Year and begins a time of self reflection and determination of how to live a Godly life. The Day of Atonement --Yom Kippur on October 04-- is the symbolic closing of the gates of heaven for another year, the inscription on the Book of Life having been written. Again the shofar is sounded, again Jews have been called to live according to the words of the prophet Micah, "And what does the Lord require of you? That you seek justice, love kindness and walk humbly with your God."

Special Offering

The envelopes for your gift to **Habitat for Humanity** will remain in the pews and in the online giving accessed by QR through September. We thank Kent Bacon and the Carpenter's Crew for the build and Gail Cody, the Youth group, Charlene Wilcox, Orene Taylor and the members of the Mercy and Justice Team who supplied meals for the August 09/10 blitz. A special thanks to those who have contributed financially toward our \$500 commitment for the build.

A New Home

How exciting to announce that the Ragu and Dhan Maya Rai family have moved into their three bedroom/two bathroom Habitat home on North 37th Street. The hours of patient waiting and sweat equity were rewarded by a house blessing in late August.

The picture below shows the Rai family at the dedication of their new Habitat home.





**August Communion
Special Offering:
Epworth Village
\$420.00**

The Wait Is Over: The New Family Rai!

In our relationship with Lutheran Family Services we have welcomed another Rai family, Kuber and Tika Maya and their daughters Sunita, Samjana and Apshana, from Bhutan. We have been told that the surname Rai is a common one in Bhutan, but this is yet another extraordinary family. By the time you read this article, the Mercy and Justice Team and other St. Paul volunteers will have thoroughly cleaned and readied the family's two bedroom apartment on North 48th Street (August 22,) moved furniture and staged it appropriately (August 23) shopped for groceries and added finishing touches to decorating (August 24,) and officially greeted the family at Eppley Airport and taken them to their new American home for their first culturally authentic meal (August 25.) Way to go, St. Paul! A special thank you to the members of Antioch, Christian Adventure, Corinthian and Soul Journeys adult Sunday school classes and Chancel, Joy and Folk Gospel Choirs who contributed "the whole nine yards". Following a week of down time we will be ready to commence the work of resettlement partners as advocated by LFS. **YOU** are still needed to volunteer an hour per week to be in relationship with our new family; please contact Orene Taylor, Charlene Wilcox or the church office. We ask your continuing prayers for this ministry and for a time when all native peoples will be able to live in their country in peace.

Be a Blessing to Others

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. In September our second mile giving will help support the **Lay Missionary Planting Network**. The LMPN leadership training consists of ten modules with specific purposes that encourage participants to consider how they are called to help plant new United Methodist congregations. The curriculum is based on scripture, basic theology and practice of The United Methodist Church, research and best practices in church planting, and the experience of other United Methodist churches. Highlights include these topics and tools:

- spiritual disciplines of prayer, worship and study in the Wesleyan tradition
- reading & evangelizing the mission field
- preaching & teaching
- pastoral responsibilities in the United Methodist system
- discipling & mentoring leaders
- growing & multiplying ministries
- Christian stewardship
- creating ministry action plan

The ultimate goal of the curriculum is to equip lay persons with the knowledge, skills, and abilities to be United Methodist church planters. We approach the curriculum development with the conviction that all persons, whether clergy or laity, have been called by God for specific ministries, for which we want to prepare them. Some participants will be appointed to plant churches, while others will answer God's call to serve with the planters on launch teams. The curriculum allows for moments of reflection and opportunities to ponder the planter assessment and discernment process. This includes a network training experience to help clarify the learner's sense of call and solidify the person's commitment to church planting. The air waves and news sources abound with stories of the increasingly dismal outlook for today's church reaching out to make a difference. It is the people of the United Methodist Church that feel called to do something--anything they can to alleviate the chasm. Give as you feel led on **September 06/07** or another time during the month. Simply mark your donation LMPN...God will do the rest!



SAVE THE DATE
32nd Annual
Crop Hunger Walk,
Sunday, October 12
61st & Western
New route starting @ Luther Memorial Church



Help is Needed
 Can you serve dinner at Siena/Francis House on Tuesday, September 2, from 5:00-7:00 p.m.? Call the church office, 402-556-2433, to sign up.

Serving dinner

Carpenter's Crew 2014 Habitat for Humanity House



Before the build started



After the first weekend of work



During the second weekend of work



During the third weekend of work



Javier and Maria with their children
Javier Jr. and Jacqueline.

The Family Who Will Live in the Home

In 1998 Javier Chavez moved to the United States from Mexico, settling in Sioux City, Iowa. In 2002 Maria moved to the U.S. and re-connected with Javier, who she had known in Mexico. They married and had their first child, Jacqueline. Jacqueline was born deaf and Maria and Javier began coming to Omaha for her medical care in preparation for a cochlear implant. They found that Omaha had better school and service options to help Jacqueline, including speech therapy following her implant. Javier, who works for Tyson, took a job transfer and moved his family to Omaha.

Since then they have welcomed little Javier into the family and moved into a small apartment in west Omaha. As their family grew the Chavez's began to tire of paying rent and wished for a home of their own where the kids could have more space to play.

As they have progressed through the program Javier and Maria have enjoyed learning how to trim out doors and paint. They are excited to put in flowers and make their new house a home.

Youth Moment

Sept 7	No Youth Group
Sept 13th	11am - 5pm Ft. Omaha Pow Wow
Sept 14th	Sunday School Only
Sept 20th	Camp Fontanelle BBQ 11-2pm
Sept 21st	Sunday School Only
Oct 11th	Stand Up for Poverty Youth Mission 9 - 3pm
Oct 12	Crop Walk - Youth will provide a water station from 12-2pm
Nov 26th	Youth Soup Supper Fundraiser

Celiac Disease

National Celiac Disease Awareness Day is September 13th. Celiac disease is an autoimmune digestive disease that damages the villi of the small intestine and interferes with absorption of nutrients from food. This causes the body to attack itself every time a person with this disease consumes gluten foods. This is why so many products now promote if they are gluten free. Gluten is the protein found in wheat, barley and rye. It is amazing the foods that contain wheat. At first glance of a chicken nugget, one's brain only thinks chicken. But what is wrapped around the chicken? It is a wheat based product. Even a product like malt vinegar is processed with barley. The National Foundation for Celiac Awareness NFCA states that 3 million Americans have Celiac disease, only 17 percent are diagnosed with it. The disease has many different symptoms. Common ones are as follows:

- Bloating or Gas
- Fatigue
- Headaches
- Constipation or Diarrhea
- Itchy Skin Rash
- Depression
- Delayed Growth/poor weight gain in childhood

Quick story—I had a friend who had many of the symptoms and was tested two times for the disease and it came back negative. Yet when she took all gluten out of her diet all symptoms went away. Does this mean that she was misdiagnosed? No, you can be gluten intolerant and not have Celiac disease. A gluten free diet can help with many other health concerns also such as diabetes, heart disease and some cancers. Please check out the NFCA website for more information on the disease and related issues with gluten intolerance. www.celiaccentral.org



Health Ministry Team

Danger in the Building

The Health Ministry Team is sponsoring a presentation on Monday, September 22, at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. "Danger in the Building" refers to an active shooter, and the presentation will give suggestions for steps to be taken if this situation should occur at Saint Paul UMC. Dr. Keith Johnson and Doug Olson will be the presenters.

Refreshments will be served at 6:45 p.m. before the presentation.

Flu Shots

**Sunday, October 5,
9:00 am to 11:00 am
in the Membership Office**



**Please watch for more
Information.**

Electronic Giving

Smart phone users can scan the QR code on the right to give using your debit card.



Internet users can go to the Saint Paul website, www.stpaulomaha.org, and click on the "Onling Giving" button.

Whichever form of electronic giving you choose, you can now give to each month's communal offering by choosing the "Special Communal Offering" category.

Third Grade Bible Presentation

Save the dates of Saturday, September 20, and Sunday, September 21, for Third Grade Bible Weekend. If you are a third grader, watch for your letter and registration card in the mail. Bibles will be given at all services that weekend—you pick the service when you want to receive your Bible. If you are fourth grade and above and have not received a Bible, please pick up and fill out a reservation card in the church office.

Walk, Run, Bike, Golf Fitness Day



BIKE



HIKE



On Saturday, September 13, we will hold our 2nd annual fitness celebration. Members are invited to participate in their favorite form of exercise and then meet at Ester Pilster Park (89th and Boyd) at 10 am for refreshments and fellowship. Those interested in golf at Eagle Run need to contact Steve Dohe at 402-558-0281 by September 5. Tee times will be announced on September 6. This event is sponsored by the Adult Ministry and Congregational Care Teams.

Tuesday Morning Study Group

Our studies continue with The 5 Practices of Fruitful Congregations, beginning on Sep 2 at 10 am in the Reading Room. This 6 week study explores what congregations can do to be more effective in welcoming new members, and assisting them to become active disciples, engaged in ministry and outreach.

Following this study, we will begin The Wesleyan Way, an 8 week course by our Bishop, Rev. Dr. Scott Jones. This course will lead us through Wesleyan principles that have been around since the founding of our denomination, but may not get the attention needed in today's world. Please plan to join us on Tuesday mornings for an experience of learning and sharing!

Child Care needs your help!

Are you doing a little fall cleaning?? If so, be on the lookout for new and used toys you may want to donate to Childcare. Here is a list of items we need!

- Board games
- Play food and dishes
- Dress up clothes
- Rattles and infant toys
- Books (board and paper)
- Building blocks
- Rugs with street and cities
- Art Supplies
- Smocks
- Plastic bugs, and any science materials

Also if you would like to help donate but don't have toys at home, we have a list of materials that need to be purchased through an educational store.

Katy Smith, Childcare & Preschool Director

UMW NEWS

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

EXECUTIVE BOARD

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

NEXT GENERAL MEETING IS
SEPTEMBER 3, 2014
COFFEE AT 9:30, PROGRAM AT 10 AM

Carol Brown, a retired registered
Dietitian, will be our speaker.

Join us as we plan for UMW Sunday **September 27-28.**

RUTH CIRCLE
WILL HOST THE
SEPTEMBER
MEETING.

CAMPBELL SOUP LABELS

Please turn in the whole label.

Thank you!



CHURCH WOMEN
UNITED
FESTIVAL OF
TABLES
COMING SOON!

Have you sent in your money for the **Bakeless Bakesale**? There is still time to contribute.

Our first Mini-Mart of the fall will be
October 4/5.



MISSIONARY OF THE MONTH

VIRGINIA CANAFAX
Birthday September 13

Serves in the mission field
wherever needed.

UMW Weekend will be September 27/28.

The services on that weekend will be led by the members of the UMW, and Rev. Kathy Rice will be doing the preaching. We will also host a fellowship time in the library for all the women of the congregation after each service. An opportunity to learn more about the United Methodist Women.

Recent Hospitalizations

Jane Ott, Virginia Richards, Judy Mayer, Doris Ryan, Mani Rai, Helen Kensinger, Carol Brush, Jeanette Ekberg, Arlin Evenson

Christian Sympathy

To Betty Brown in the deaths of her husband, Ralph, and daughter, Tracey.

To Carla & Gene Crisafulli and family in the death of her father, Don Bentley.

To Jan & Stefan Biga and family in the death of his mother, Amelia Biga.

To Melinda & Keith Johnson and family in the death of her father.

Congratulations

To Krysta Hixson & Daniel Harvey on their July 26 marriage.

To Beth Herzinger & Brian Knarr on their August 8 marriage celebration.

To Brittany & John Vinchattle on the baptism of their son, Brooks Dean. Brooks' big brother is Kasen.



Book Club

"I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings" by Maya Angelou is the book the Book Club will be discussing at their September meeting. The Book Club meets at Immanuel Village on Saturday, September 13, 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.

Memorials

For Andrew Nielsen—Maxine Therkelsen

For Ruth Anderson—Dee Maycock, Betty White, Helen Kensinger

For Richard & Rose McDonald—Sandra Evenson, Sandra Arlin & Jason Evenson

For Don Bentley—Fred Nash & Darlene Spencer Nash, Corinthian Class, Jerry Brabec

For Amelia Biga—Dorothy Abbott, Bob & Joanna Lonnecker, Cheryl Bedell, Betty White, C. Jane Rumbaugh

For Ralph & Tracey Brown—Betty Brown

For Kevin Gatzemeyer—Rozanne Christensen

Honorarium

In honor of the marriage of Krysta Hixson & Daniel Harvey—Jerry Brabec

Thank You

It is with much emotion that I say "Thank you so much" for trusting me with the Saint Paul United Methodist Preschool program for 38 years." It was a very difficult decision for me to submit my resignation this year, for this church and its membership has become an extension of my own family. I know I have made lifetime friends and I am truly most grateful.

I thank those of you who have sent me cards and letters on my retirement, and I want Saint Paul members to know you will always remain in my prayers. I miss my little ones, and, of course, their families; however, I know Katy Smith and Deb Hickman will do a wonderful job in their new positions.

Judy Tesar



The Dinner Group will meet on Saturday, September 27, at McKenna's. Meet outside the chapel after the 5:00 p.m. worship service, or meet the group at McKenna's, 74th & Pacific Streets, at approximately 6:30 p.m. All adults are welcome.



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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



in^Worship

Saturday Evening

5:00 p.m.—Roth Chapel

Sunday Morning—August Service Times

8:30 a.m.—Sanctuary

10:00 a.m. FUSION—Fellowship Hall

12:30 p.m. African National Service

(Nursery care available for all Sunday services)

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