

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

122 W. Michigan Avenue

Saline, MI 48176

www.uccstpaul.org

ST PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

May / June 2010 Newsletter

Address Service Requested

TO:

SERVICES: 10:00am Sunday with Coffee Hour immediately following service

CHURCH STAFF:

Pastor: Rev. Dr. Patti Kenney Phone: 770-9808 Email: pastor@uccstpaul.org
Secretary/Office Manager: Karen Basile Phone: 429-7716 Email: secretary@uccstpaul.org

PASTOR OFFICE HOURS:

Monday: 12:30p—4:30p
Tuesday: 8:30a—12:30p

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday: 12:30p—4:30p (volunteer staff)
Tuesday: 8:30a—2:30p
Wednesday: 8:30a—2:30p
Thursday: 8:30a—2:30p

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council President — Gerald Miller	gerbev@comcast.net	429-2680
Treasurer — Mary Ann Sweet	grambino1@sbcglobal.net	439-3048
Council Members:		
Darryl Girbach (<i>Tech Team</i>)	dgirbach@its.jnj.com	429-8159
Lloyd Girbach (<i>Activities</i>)	kegirbach@yahoo.com	482-5167
Lisa Hartman (<i>O & M</i>)	alhartmanfamily@aol.com	429-4343
Pat Jensen (<i>Bldg & Grounds</i>)	pj419@comcast.net	429-7793
Babs Losee (<i>Christian Ed</i>)	blosee@comcast.net	429-7318
Gayle Rogers (<i>ICM</i>)	grogers1960@verizon.net	944-1476
Peter Schoenfeld (<i>Worship/Music</i>)	pkschoenfeld12@verizon.net	429-5340
Len Winkelman (<i>Memorial</i>)	lew1ng@comcast.net	429-4273

Inside this issue:

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ICE CREAM SOCIAL — JUNE 17th

From the Desk of Gerald Miller

Summer Labyrinth Prayer Walks

PASTOR PATTI'S PONDERINGS—

The Pastor's Question of the Month:

What do you think St. Paul should be doing to help integrate new members into our church?

It can be a difficult thing to move from being an outsider to being an insider. In Saline, I think you are an insider if your ancestors have lived in Saline for the past 100 years. You might be an insider if you have a centennial farm, or if your great-grandparents settled here when the town was just forming. You could possibly be an insider if you remember going to Benny's Bakery when you were a little one, or you can describe how the landscape of the 4 corners has changed over the years. There is something special about the commitment "insiders" feel to the land, to the community of Saline, to its history and to its future.

At St. Paul United Church of Christ, insiders have parents, grandparents or great-grandparents who were founding members of this church. Insiders remember family discussions about when, how and why the church was formed. They can recite the names of at least 4 of 5 of the church pastors they worshipped with through the years. Insiders know how things have always been done, and sometimes even know why. Insiders care about how the church presents itself. Insiders recognize the contributions earlier generations have made, and want to be sure to honor the legacy of those who have gone on before.

Newcomers, 'outsiders,' on the other hand, lack all this knowledge. They do not necessarily see or know the history of this church, or may have sketchy knowledge. They are drawn to who the church is now—to the God that is speaking to them in this place in this moment. Because of this, two kinds of things can happen. They can 'step on' tradition without realizing it, by doing or saying something that does not give proper regard to something important about this church that is hidden from view. Newcomers also bring with them fresh perspectives—new ideas that can help our church grow by drawing us beyond the boundaries of tradition into new ways of thinking and seeing.

PASTOR PATTI (continued)

We have been and are being blessed with many newcomers who are being drawn to St. Paul UCC and who are making this their church home. How might we help integrate them into the life of our church? How can we make transparent the values and traditions of our church to help them see and enjoy them with us? How can we invite forth their fresh perspectives and ideas, to enliven our church with new life and possibilities?

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hold them back, for to such belongs the kingdom of God." Jesus saw the value in the way children see the world, with wonder and delight, with exploration and trust. The newcomers, the "children" of our church are very precious. How can we open up and treasure the gift they are to us?
Pastor Patti

COUNTRY STORE—CRAFTS & BAKED GOODS NEEDED!



We will have the Country Store open again this year at the Ice Cream Social on Thursday, June 17th and are looking for crafters and bakers! We had a great success with the Country Store last year with all of your beautiful crafts and tasty baked goods! Start your craft projects early to be ready in time for the social!

All types of crafts are needed! Some ideas for crafts are: flower crafts, beading, sewing, doll making, painting, candle or soap making, needlework, quilting, stone crafts, pottery, jewelry, embroidery, weaving, woodworking, macramé, latch hook or paper crafts.



Please price your crafts and baked goods in advance. Any unpriced items will be priced the day of the Social. Your crafts may be dropped off any time to the box next to the Opportunity Table through the Sunday prior to the Social or to the church office during the week of the social. Baked goods can be dropped off by 12:00p on the day of the Ice Cream Social.

**ALL PROCEEDS FROM THE COUNTRY STORE
WILL GO TO THE SANCTUARY LIGHTING PROJECT**

OUTREACH & MISSION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO:

Cass Corridor, Ronald Mc Donald House meals, E-Home Bingo, Haiti Relief Fund, loose change bucket for hygiene and baby care kits (\$240), Lenten Folders (OCWM), SASS Easter basket, One Great Hour of Sharing (\$461), Mill Pond Manor Meal

MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES:

Outreach and Mission Meeting	May 3 & June 7	7:00 p.m.
Cass Corridor	May 22 & June 26	
E-Home Bingo	May 18 & June 15	
Ronald McDonald House Meal	May 20 & June 23(Wednesday)	
Loving Yarns Needlework	Thursdays	1:00 - 3:00 pm
Loving Hands Quilt Group	1 st Saturday of month	10:00 am - 2:30 pm

SPECIAL HAPPENINGS:

The donations from the loose change bucket (\$240) were used to finish kits and pay for their shipping. Kits were delivered to Lansing the week of April 19 and will be sent to the Church World Service warehouse. The Millpond Manor Meal on April 13 was a great success with the residents enjoying the meal and listening to Pastor Patti play the piano for them. During Lent 8 communions were served at the E-Home and 9 to other individuals.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITIES:

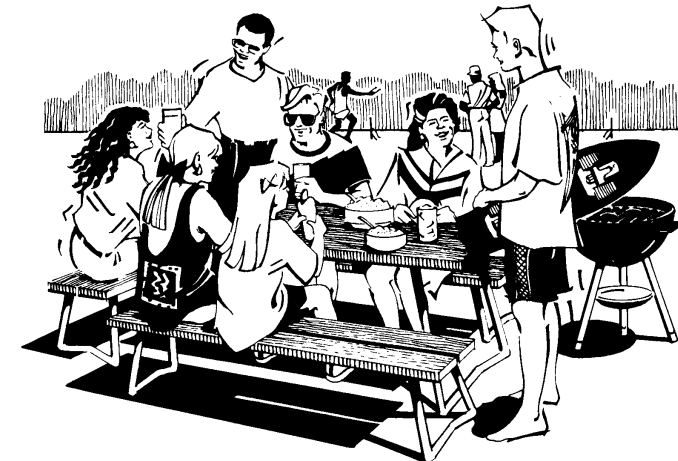
There will be a collection for the UCC Strengthen the Church special offering in June.

BULLETIN BOARD

Check the Bulletin Board outside the Chapel for current Mission activities and thank-you notes.

FOR DETAILS ON OPPORTUNITIES CONTACT:

Kay Girbach, Margaret Auten, Robyn Girbach, Bruce Finkbeiner, Lisa Hartman, Gayle Rogers



ACTIVITIES

Upcoming Events:

- **Ice Cream Social & Country Store — June 17, 2010**

Proceeds from Sauerkraut Supper was \$1,978 which went to the Sanctuary Lighting Project. Proceeds from the Swiss Steak Dinner was \$2,356.90 which is also going towards the Sanctuary Lighting Project.

We are still looking for homemade craft items to be sold at the Country Store during the Ice Cream Social on Thursday, June 17th. We also in need of items for the bake sale. Please see the sign up sheets on the Opportunity Table. Thank You!

We still need help with hosting Coffee Hour's. If your interested but not sure how it works, see Bev Miller or Betsy Marl. You may also use the sign up sheet on the Opportunity Table.



SUMMER LABYRINTH PRAYER WALKS

Have you ever walked a labyrinth before? It is a path woven inside of a circle, that takes you to the center of the circle, then back out again. Christians have walked the labyrinth as a form of prayer for centuries. There is something about the twists and turns in the labyrinth as we move toward and away from the center of the circle that lends itself to prayer, and is like our walk with God.

Join Pastor Patti for labyrinth walks on these summer dates. No previous experience needed. The labyrinth is located near the [future] site of our community garden, behind the church garage. Walking the labyrinth generally takes 20-30 minutes to complete.

Monday, June 14 6:30 pm

Tuesday, July 6 7:00 pm

Sunday, August 22 11:30 am

PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY

The Prayer Quilt Ministry is a ministry of intercessory prayer – the act of praying not for one's self, but for others. You do not have to be a **quilter** to be involved in the Prayer Quilt Ministry. But you do have to be a **pray-er**. **You don't have to be a quilter to be in this ministry. You just have to have a heart to serve.**

A prayer quilt is special. It is a sign that one is loved. It is also a link to a community of people who believe in that person and want the best for them. A prayer quilt is filled with the love and prayers of those who give it. It is a sign that we all belong to each other. A prayer quilt says we are all part of God's family.

Just as it is the ties that hold the prayer quilt together, it is the prayers that are said when they are tied, that bind the quilt's givers to its recipient. These ties join us, not just as a community of faith, but also as a community of human beings. The ties, then, are more than cotton thread. They are the bond between all people-the link between all children of God.

There is no right or wrong way to tie a prayer quilt. While a knot can come untied, the prayers it holds fast cannot be unsaid. Some ties are left untied so that family members, friend, doctors and nurses can tie after the quilt is given.

Our ministry began in September, 2009. We have been honored to give 6 people a prayer quilt and making a difference in their lives.

Currently, we only have 6 members. We NEED more if this ministry is going to succeed. We only meet when there is a quilt to tie. Also, we do have fabric and batting as well as funds to purchase additional fabric, so there is not a cost involved in making a quilt, just your time.

If you don't sew, here are other ways you can help:

Fabric Organization: Donated fabric needs to be sorted, folded and stacked on our shelves in the Fellowship Hall.

Fabric Cutting: Fabric cutters can use a pattern, which we will provide and cut out all of the pieces for a quilt top and place them in a zip-loc bag with pattern instructions. This can be done at home or at church.

Attaching ties: This is the crucial part of the ministry. If you don't know how to insert a tie, we'll show you.....it's easy! We meet at church and tie the quilt, but a quilt can be tied at home, too. If you would like to tie a quilt at home, please let Karen Basile or Mary Ann Sweet know and we will arrange to deliver the quilt to you and pick it up when you're finished. We will also provide floss for tying.

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PRAYER QUILT MINISTRY—continued

Currently, we have 3 women who are making the quilt tops. If we could have just 3 or 4 more that would enable us to make more quilts and not overload the people who are now making them. Our goal is to have several quilts made so that when we receive a request for a prayer quilt, all that will need to be done is inserting the ties.

If you would just like to make a quilt top, that would be fine! We will be happy to put the quilt together and do the binding.

If you would like to volunteer, or would like more information, please contact Karen Basile at the church office secretary@uccstpaul.org, or Mary Ann Sweet (734-439-3048-phone or grambino1@sbcglobal.net-email).

“Do all of the good you can,
By all the means you can,
In all the ways you can,
In all the places you can,
At all the times you can,
To all the people you can,
As long as ever you can.”

John Wesley

We wanted to share with you a thank you card received from a military prayer square recipient:

“I recently received the prayer quilt you sent to me last month., It was a blessing to receive it, but the greatest blessing was knowing there were many people praying for me from your ministry. The military has many benefits, but one of the greatest is getting to interact with the many people around America who have committed their life to Christ and strive to make His love known to everyone they can influence. Specifically, your prayers strengthened me through some very difficult days of training and I am very grateful for that. Thank you for your partnership in service to our savior Jesus the Christ.”

CONFIRMATION

We have three young people who will be confirmed on Sunday, May 23. Brett Braun, Ben Mark and Courtney Poertner. Our new Attendance Registers are their class gift to the church.

FROM THE DESK OF GERALD MILLER

Have you ever heard of the saying “Step up to the plate” or “Putting your Best foot forward”? We have some dedicated people here at St. Paul who rise above the ordinary and work hard for the Church. The biggest problem as I see it is that not enough of us follow suit. We have a tendency to lay back and let others do it all. If I were to figure what percentage of people do all the work I believe it might come out to around 20%. I ask myself what are the 80% doing? How can I encourage them to pitch in? I must confess it does get frustrating.

That being said I want to thank all who took part in the Swiss Steak Dinner. Great success. A big thank you to the Activities committee for their leadership.

Summer is fast approaching. We are considering an outdoor service with a possible picnic afterwards in July. Will keep you posted.

Please consider serving on council or the many committee's that we have. Let's do our part.

Thank You. Gerald Miller.

SERVICE TIME CHANGE

Please mark your calendars

for Sunday, June 6th.

Our service time will change

to 9:30am for the summer.

