

ST. PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

122 W. Michigan Avenue

Saline, MI 48176

www.uccstpaul.org

Address Service Requested

TO:

SERVICES: 9:30am 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: 1:00p—4:00p (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

ST PAUL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

JULY / AUGUST 2010 Newsletter

PASTOR PATTI'S PONDERINGS

Go the extra mile; do unto others as you would have them do unto you; don't worry, be happy... these are day-to-day proverbs. Did you know they have roots in the teachings of Jesus? What do they mean? What difference does it make if we practice them with our whole hearts?

Beginning June 27, I will preach a summer sermons sermon series on the Tall Teachings of Jesus:

Be salt and light (6/27) Matthew 5:13-14
Go the extra mile (7/10) Matthew 5:38-42
Love your enemies (7/18) Matthew 5:43-48
Be a secret pal (8/8) Matthew 6:1-4
Don't worry, be happy (8/22) Matthew 6:25-34
Practice the golden rule (8/29) Matthew 7:12

You've probably heard these saying before. Many of them are part of our culture, and are easier said than done! Jesus was/is an amazing teacher—he has a way of turning our ideas upside-down. He has a way of describing relationships that sticks. He has a way of challenging us to live differently, that actually helps us change and grow, and be transformed!

Change begins with vision. So, I'd like to invite you to ponder this question with me.

The Pastor's Question of the Month:

What do you hope the ministry of St. Paul UCC looks like 5 years from now?

Make a list. If this church could grow and become all you dream and hope it can be for God's glory, what would that look like in 5 years?

Really. Stop for a minute and make the list.

Now, I invite you to imagine God calling you to be the change you see. How shall we then live, if we want to grow into the fullness of God's potential?

Our study this summer will help us listen to Jesus, our brother and friend, guide and living Word, as we seek to open ourselves to God's transforming power.

Pastor Patti

MI CONFERENCE 2010 ANNUAL MEETING – May 14 & 15

Rochester,MI — I was the lone delegate from St Paul to this meeting of our Conference. We as a congregation are missing so much by not attending these events. One does not only learn new ways of doing things, but also create new and lasting friendships with folks around the state.

The educational events on Friday were outstanding—one of the best in past years! We were challenged to change our habits as well as our minds. That was “fodder” for lots of discussion during free time or at the table during meals. It is amazing what that challenge meant to different people!

Opening plenary sessions was held in the afternoon and a great creative worship service concluded the day’s activities for the adults. The Rev. Dr. David Wheeler, host pastor, gave a very interesting message on “How Can a Church Be Born Again?” The music used in this service is being given to our choir to be used by them and possibly the congregation. The young people had a “lock in” at the Bloomfield Hills UCC and I understand it was a “hit” with those attending!!

Saturday morning opened with a breakfast provided by the church, budget hearings, hymn sing and the Keynote Address by Martha Grace Reese. The 3 points that she emphasized were: Making God real through prayer, use real words when we talk about our faith, and look beyond our own church walls. She has written 4 books and many of our congregations in the MI Conference have studied at least 1 or all 4 of the books and are experiencing “New life” within their congregations.

Next we attended workshops of our choosing. Our church secretary chose mine and it was a wonderful choice. Thank you, Karen!! I attended the one concerning church growth and with one click on your computer you can find out all kinds of data about our community that would help us in meeting the needs of our neighbors. (This is possible because the MI Conf. provides this program with our OCWM offerings—a very tangible way for us to see our gifts being available for our use). The website is www.michucc.org and push button on missioninsight.com. the second plenary session was held at 11:00am in which we learned there were 91 of the 156 churches represented, 78 clergy, 72 delegates, and 72 visitors present. We voted on officers, board members, General Synod delegates (which will be held in Florida in 2011), voted on the budget, resolutions and standing rules for 2011. I attended the Women’s luncheon at noon with a message from the outgoing president of the Board of Directors. There was another workshop session as well as looking at all the displays and purchasing items at the bookstore and Church World Service booths. The day closed with a parade of dignitaries and banners from our local congregations and different task groups. Our Intern, Wally Tatara, was a member of this elite group!! This preceded a wonderful Closing Worship with installation of officers and communion. Scripture lessons were acted out rather than just reading of words. It was not a “performance”, but illustrating how our God-given gifts can be used as an integral part of our praise worship.

I came home exhausted, but challenged to be a better Christian and with the hope and prayer that St Paul UCC will be represented more fully next year!!

Thanks for this opportunity to share with you.

Sincerely,
Bertha Booker

OUTREACH & MISSION

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT TO:

Cass Corridor, Ronald Mc Donald House meals, E-Home Bingo, coffee hour and loose change bucket donations, and UCC Strengthen the Church gifts.

MONTHLY OPPORTUNITIES:

Outreach and Mission Meeting	July 5 and August 2	7:00 p.m.
Cass Corridor	July 24 and August 28	
E-Home Bingo	July 20 and August 17	
Ronald McDonald House Meal	July 22 and August 26	
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:

Donations to the Coffee hours on June 27 and July 4 and collections in the loose change bucket June 20 through July 11 are being used to help defray the costs of sending a semi truck full of clothing, household items, furniture, hospital beds, etc. in the end of July to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota. These items have been collected by Sisters On A Mission and now fill 2 large garages.

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, and Joyce Hanselmann

ACTIVITIES



Proceeds from the Ice Cream Social and Country Store were \$2,732 which will go towards the Sanctuary Lighting Project.

Thank you to all who volunteered and donated to the Ice Cream Social. Your efforts are greatly appreciated!!

There will be a Pretzel Sale and Swiss Steak Dinner time to be announced soon!

Thank you to all who have participated in hosting the Coffee Hours. We can still use help, please see the sign up sheet on the Opportunity Table.



SUMMER LABYRINTH 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 site of the raised beds of our newly planted community garden, behind the church garage. Walking the labyrinth generally takes 20-30 minutes to complete.

Tuesday, July 6 7:00 pm

Sunday, August 22 11:00 am

QUILTING UPDATES

The Loving Hands Quilt Group continues to meet every 1st Saturday of the month for a Sit & Sew from 10:00am—2:00pm. Join us and bring any project you wish to work on. We have snacks, coffee and tea, you may bring a packed lunch to eat at noon.

The Prayer Quilt Ministry continues to provide prayer quilts and prayer squares to both members and non-members as requested. If you or someone you know would like to receive a prayer square for any reason, you may speak to Pastor Patti, or contact the church office. Your request may be private if you wish.

The Loving Hands Quilt Group ran the Country Store at the Ice Cream Social this year. The quilt raffle raised \$350 towards the Sanctuary Lighting Project!! The Country Store raised \$250 which also goes towards the Sanctuary Lighting Project! Thanks to all who donated craft items and baked goods for the sale!



The Loving Hands Quilt Group will hold another Christmas Craft Bazaar and Bake Sale this year. This year it will be held on Saturday, December 11, 2010. Please mark your calendars! You may wish to begin starting on your craft items to donate now.

The Loving Hands Quilt Group supports the Dundee Chapter of Quilts For Kids (an international non-profit 501(c)3 charitable organization). Several members of our church are members of the Dundee Chapter.

Volunteer sewers and quilters create quilts for children in hospitals who have life threatening illnesses such as cancer and for children who have been abused. Currently the Dundee Chapter provides quilts to U of M's—Mott's Children's Hospital in Ann Arbor and the Monroe County Child Advocacy Center in Monroe.



The Chapter is looking for sewers and quilters to make quilts for the children, if you or someone you know who may be interested in helping, please see below on how to contact them. You may request a "quilt kit" with precut fabric & pattern to sew. If you would like to make a donation of brightly colored 100% cotton children's fabric or a monetary donation to help purchase fabric, please see Gayle Rogers, Mary Ann Sweet or Karen Basile. You may also visit our website at www.MichiganQuiltsForKids.com or call Karen Basile at (734) 279-1513 or email at Karen.basile@michiganquiltsforkids.com



THANK YOU CARDS FROM WALLY TATARA

Dear Friends at St Paul,

I can't thank you enough for the wonderful stole's you presented to me. The stole's are exactly the kind I would have purchased for myself. Wearing them will always remind me of the great experiences and friends I have at St Paul. Thank you again for everything.

Sincerely, Wally

Dear Friends; - Staff Parish Group

Thanks for the nice surprise—the flowers were great on my first big day on my own. They were not only beautiful but they proved to give me a little luck as all went well this first Sunday. Thanks again for all the time and effort you gave me this past year—because of you—I am at St James.

~ Wally

FROM THE DESK OF GERALD MILLER

Music and Respect

God loves all music although some lyrics are questionable. We here at St. Paul enjoy a wide variety of praise music. Not all of us enjoy the same types, which is okay. The one thing we must practice is respect for others in their choices of music. It's okay to not like certain types but not okay to openly complain to all who will listen. We must all learn to adjust and to tolerate others in their choices. If for some reason you don't care for certain music that is to be presented on a particular Sunday you do have the right to exercise your right to attend or not to attend. Let respect rule our decisions. Downgrading choices that others make is less productive.

Gerald Miller

BOOK GROUP FORMING

We are forming a group to read and discuss "Unbinding the Gospel" written by Martha Reese. We have purchased 10 copies of the book Unbinding the Gospel, and one copy each of her other books for the group to use as a reference. Cost per book is \$18.40. (checks payable to St. Paul UCC). If you have an interest in being part of the book group and/or would like to purchase a copy, contact Tom Fraser or Pastor Patti. Once people have signed up, we will arrange a time to meet to organize the group.

IGNITING LEADERSHIP EVENT—ROADTRIP TO CLEVELAND

Join others who Refused to Lead a Dying Church. Come, learn, hear and converse with one of America's leading church strategists. Paul Nixon, author and church renewal expert, will present a one-day intensive workshop based on his popular and best-selling book: *I Refuse to Lead a Dying Church*. At only \$100, this full-day conference is 90% off the cost of an individual consultation with Paul Nixon, and includes both the conference materials and lunch. There is a special UCC price for hotel rooms at the Radisson Hotel Gateway for the night before the conference. Registration deadline is Friday, August 6. 651 Huron Road, Cleveland, Ohio. Pastor Patti and two council members will attend and invite others to join in what will fuel a very stimulating conversation about our church's future direction. Contact Pastor Patti, Darryl Girbach or Peter Schoenfeld for more information, or see the website at <http://act.ucc.org/site/Calendar/1482476465?>