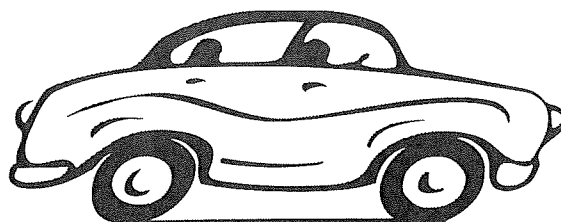


From the Pastor's Desk

Marilyn Knak, who is a member of our synod's BRRICK (Building Racial Reconciliation in Christ's Kingdom) team, has been hosting small group discussions for a year or so about how we, as members of St. Paul, can learn more about how to be anti-racist. We have read *Dear Church – A Love Letter from a Black Preacher to the Whitest Denomination in the U.S.* by Lenny Duncan, watched several movies to compare and contrast them and had some very difficult, yet fruitful, conversations. She also met with the Congregational Council to discuss ways that we can support our African American brothers and sisters in Christ who are members of ELCA congregations in Detroit as they struggle with the health disparities, along with lack of access to stable housing, employment opportunities, sufficient medical treatment that have made the rate of COVID deaths for Black people in Michigan 5 times higher than that of White people. The congregations in Detroit have asked all of the congregations in our synod to commit to solidarity in standing with them as we all work together in addressing racism, returning to worship and supporting one another. Some of the ways we have committed to supporting them are through prayer, continued small group discussions and participating in a synod wide on-line worship service on August 9. If you would like to join in a small group discussion about anti-racism, historical/institutional racism and ways we can support our brothers and sisters in Detroit, please email Marilyn at marandron@sbcglobal.net or Pastor Bonnie at pastorbonniek@gmail.com.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Bonnie



Drive-In Worship

August 2

Our first Drive-In style worship was so successful in July that we will gather again in our parking lot on August 2. The same expectations will apply –

Ushers wearing masks will direct traffic to help you get in line on the paved parking lot side.

People **MUST** stay in their cars

Two services – 8:00 & 10:30

Zoom social hour @ 9:00

Services will be approx. 45 minutes

No admittance to the church building – bathrooms are **NOT** available

Online worship will continue for those not comfortable in joining us in the parking lot

Bulletins (including hymns) will be provided for each person – keep them and recycle them at home

Offering collected at a station next to the ushers

In case of inclement weather including, but not limited to heavy rain, lightning, snow (this is Michigan!), temperature below 50 degrees, high winds worship will be cancelled. Announcement will be on Facebook and our website.

Email Scam

Pastor Bonnie will **NEVER** email you asking for money or gift card purchases! If you receive a suspicious email from her, please call the church or her cell phone to verify it.

*Heartfelt
Thanks!*



Heartfelt thanks for the anonymous financial donation to help with our medical costs. Sincere gratitude also for the many prayers, cards, love and support for us on our difficult journey.

Candy Weston & family



VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED

for the food truck on August 20, 2020. Our Church Council feels that

this food truck is very important because of the huge need for food at this time. Please be there by 9:30, the distribution starts at 11:00. Gloves will be provided for the volunteers. Masks are required.

We will need more volunteers than normal. The food distribution will be the same as in May. Volunteers will box and bag the food and put it in the recipient's cars. If you have extra plastic grocery bags or boxes, please bring them. Also bring any wagons or carts you may have for hauling the food. If you can help, please call or text Laurie Morris at 810-441-3345.



At Home VBS

This summer we partnered with Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church in Bloomfield Hills to do VBS at home. The theme this summer is "Splashed with Love". Each family received a bucket of supplies and lessons to do at home with their family. Martin Luther believed that teaching our children about faith begins at home. The church partnered with families to help facilitate this learning experience. Some of our children are doing VBS with Grandma and some are learning with their parents. A huge "Thank you" to Marcia Conard for driving to Beautiful Savior to pick up our buckets and lessons!

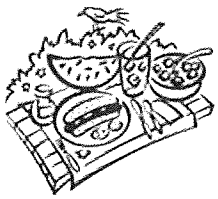


Garden Production – the garden production as of July 20th is 240 pounds.

UPDATE FROM YOUR TREASURER

At the present time, we are current with all bills. Each of us should be grateful that our congregation continues to support the ministry of our church even though we are not able to meet face to face at this time. Pastor Bonnie, Amy Fabick and Diane Biskner are working and finding new ways to continue our ministry and provide our St. Paul family with meaningful worship opportunities. I thank each of you for the support you have shown during this time and pray that we all remain healthy.

Julie Lusk
Treasurer



WELCA SUMMER PICNIC

August 15th
Noon to 2:00 pm
Port Huron Township Park
at 1-94 and Water Street

Bring your own lunch and drink. Picnic tables are available. Bring a lawn chair if you prefer.

To keep us all safe, social distancing will be practiced.

Any questions, call Margaret Hanselman at 810-300-1822 or Carolyn Middleton at 810-937-5002. Hope to see you then.

Re-Opening the Building Committee

Linda Barker, Cathy Stuewer, Marcus Middleton, Chris Matts and Laurie Morris are working with Pastor Bonnie to study the guidelines from our Synod, the CDC, our insurance company and much more for re-opening our building. They have done some things to prepare our building for small groups to gather inside, for community groups that use our building to return and for us to gather in the sanctuary safely for worship. Please hold them in prayer as they work to consider the safest way for our most vulnerable members to gather.



We're excited to share that we've launched online giving at **St. Paul Lutheran Church** through **Tithe.ly**, a safe and secure giving platform that allows you to give one-time or recurring gifts!

To make an online contribution go to our website, stpaul.lutheranph.com, and click on the green "Give" button in the middle of the page, select where your contribution will go (current expenses, GWIP, memorial, etc.) and whether you want it to be recurring or one time. You can use a credit card or bank account. Please consider "Cover Fees" when making your contribution. This covers the nominal fee for processing your contribution.

Thank you for supporting our ministry!



Thank you in advance!

The Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers for council members, officers, and committee representatives with special sets of skills to build our faith community!

The election will be at the November Voters Meeting, and those elected will begin serving on January 1, 2021.

Please consider these positions listed for election this year. We ask that you yourself be open to consideration, and that you volunteer and/or suggest others who might be willing to fill the following positions:

President-Elect. Term commitment 2 years, serves as Council President the 2nd year

Assistant Financial secretary. 2 years. 2nd year is Financial Secretary.

Council Secretary. 2 years.

Evangelism Chair. 2 years.

Finance Chairperson. 2 years.

Worship and Music Representative. 2 years.

Youth Representative. 1 year.

Nominating committee: 4 members, 2 are retiring council members, 2 are from the congregation at large.

Audit committee. 3 years.

Synod Assembly. 2 members, 1 year.

Names may be submitted to the Nominating Committee, during the month of July.

Job descriptions are available through committee members.

Marcus Middleton & Kay Schnur.

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS July 13, 2020

Rich Cochrell led our Chapter 5 discussion of "The Church of Us vs Them".

Online giving is now available as an additional option for receiving contributions/donations to St. Paul. Information was included in the July newsletter. Several people have already used this application to make their contributions.

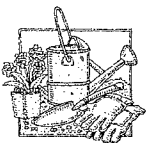
Due to COVID-19 the Stewardsip Committee has postponed the Progressive Dinner until 2021.

Marilyn Knak was our guest speaker and led a discussion on Solidarity in our Synod.

Food Truck is scheduled for August 20.

Our first outdoor worship on 7/5 went smooth. Sound was great, the stage was nicely decorated and the weather was very cooperative. Our next outdoor worship is August 2.

While following Synod guidelines, our re-opening committee has been meeting and preparing a list of tasks that need to be done to insure a safe re-opening of our building.



FLOWER GARDEN VOLUNTEERS

– It's that time of year again to use your green thumb to help **maintain the herb garden and geranium**

beds. This includes weeding, clipping the grass, and watering at least once a week. Volunteers will be signing up for two weeks at a time beginning with the week of July 5. If you are able to volunteer, please contact Joan Fleming at 810 984-4652.

Kroger Community Rewards Program. St. Paul will receive rewards from your purchases at Kroger. To use the rewards program you can register online at krogercommunityrewards.com. All **current participants** in the Kroger Community Rewards Program **do not** need to re-enroll this year in order to earn funds for St. Paul. The rewards program runs from May 2020 to May 2021. Our NPO number is RK460. **Registration is online only.** Last quarter 34 households earned \$93.32 rewards for St. Paul.

Newsletter: The newsletter deadline for the September Ray is Sunday, August 16, 2020. Articles may be submitted via e-mail (stpaulww@comcast.net), on a flash drive or in writing.



**Remember
Our Members
In The Military**

COL. THAD MIDDLETON
2205 TANKER WAY
WICHITA, KS 67210

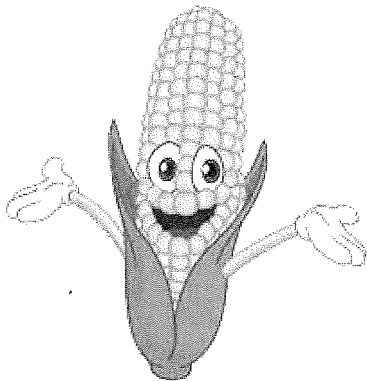


Melba Bartley
Connie Ganger
Lavina Kodet
MaryAnn Meyer



*Prayer
List*

If you would like to add someone to our church prayer list, please email Pastor Bonnie at pastorbonniek@gmail.com. Request received by 9 a.m. on Fridays will be included in worship that Sunday. Those received after that time will be added to Pastor Bonnie's personal list and offered the following Sunday.



Our Annual Neighborhood Thank-You Corn Roast has been postponed until August 2010.
We look forward to food, games and fellowship with our neighbors next summer!

On-line worship opportunities

While we are not able to be face to face in worship in our sanctuary there are still opportunities to gather to hear God's word, to pray, to sing and to be encouraged. Each Sunday at 9:30am on our Facebook page worship is posted for us to gather in our homes at the same time to view worship.

The service is also posted on our website stpaulmlutheranph.com under the "Worship services" tab. We also gather on Zoom each Sunday at 10:30 for a virtual social hour. Here is the link to join us on Zoom –

<https://zoom.us/j/8109829853>