



“THE SPIRE”

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Pastor Maurice Horne

Greeting in the name of Christ!

We just celebrated Thanksgiving on November 25th, and I pray that during all that has happened this year that you were still able to be thankful and count your blessings and not your miseries.

We celebrated our Church Charge Conference on November 28th. We are so thankful to be able to say: “And are we yet alive”.

We will begin another year of ministry facing new challenges, with new faith and new hope.

The season of Advent has arrived! Advent is the beginning of the Christian year and includes the four Sundays before Christmas. November 28th was the first Sunday of Advent this year. In the Book of Worship, it says that the word, Advent, comes from the Latin word “Adventus” which means coming. Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. Jesus is coming back soon! Let us be prepared for his second return.

We will begin our 4-week Advent Bible Study on Wednesday, December 1 at 6:00 pm. We will study Paul’s prison letters. These letters are Philippians, Colossians, Philemon, and Ephesians. This is a joint Zoom Bible study with First UMC. I pray that you can join us.

There will be a Christmas Eve service on Friday, December 24th at 6:30 pm. I hope that you can join us as we celebrate the birth of Christ.

It seems so strange that we are approaching the end of another year. As we approach the end of the year 2021, let us reflect on all that has happened this year, as we move forward and pray for the strength and courage to face what lies ahead in the new coming year. God is good all the time, and all the time God is good.

Next year, I will be celebrating 45 years of pastoral ministry. I have served in the United Methodist Church for 31 of these years. This has been a wonderful journey for me and my family. I have decided to retire on July 1, 2022. Rev. Dr. Boayue and Bishop Bard have already been informed.

I ask for your prayers as I prepare to move forward in July for a new phase in my life called “retirement”. Thank you for allowing me to serve as your pastor.

Remember to pray for our sick and shut in. If you have not seen or heard from someone in the congregation in a while, please give them a call to see how they are doing. Until next month, may God richly bless you.

Rev. Maurice Horne



December 2021

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*Snowflakes
are Unique
and so are
We*

Life's Journey to Perfection

Is there something
you’d like to see
in “The Spire”?

Call or email the office
by the 15th of each Month
(248) 338-8233
stpaulumcbh@gmail.com

FINANCE TEAM NOTES:

The Finance team is happy to announce that our PPP, Payroll Protection Program, 2nd Draw loan for 2021 for \$13,800 has been Forgiven. This means we do not have to pay it back. St. Paul applied for the 2nd Draw and received the loan for \$13,800. The Forgiveness means that we do not have to pay the loan back because it has been Forgiven. We have been officially notified, but they still have go to review it and change their mind. The loan was supposed to be used for payroll costs and indeed, we used it to pay our payroll costs.

This brings our total Paycheck Protection Program loans for 2020 and 2021 to \$24,200. All of this has been Forgiven by the Small Business Administration through the legislation from Congress.

Just remember, this program has not been continued into 2022. We are on our own. This is one of the reasons the Stewardship Campaign for 2022 is so important.

Doug Sweeder
Finance Chairperson



2021 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN NEWS:

Our 2021 Stewardship campaign is complete. We have a total of pledged, Above and Beyond one-time gifts and estimated Offering Income of \$64,000 for 2022. Our Above and Beyond one time gift request solicited over \$4,000 in support. We are very pleased with this commitment of support to the Above and Beyond one-time gifts.

The \$64,000 support for 2022 is \$3,600 less than last year. It is less than we hoped to receive, but more than we feared we might have received. For our St. Paul church family this is good support. It is less than what we need to balance our estimated expenses. This is not an unusual situation, but this year it is a wider gap. Your Finance Team will keep you informed about our financial status in the new year.

Doug Sweeder
Finance Chairperson

Please, keep in your prayers. . .

- ♥ All our St. Paul Family and those who are shut-in
- ♥ Our Nation and its leaders
- ♥ For all those affected by shooting tragedies
- ♥ Small business owners
- ♥ Those who have lost a loved one this year
- ♥ That 2022 will bring us all an abundance of health, happiness and prosperity
- ♥ Our Pastor and his family
- ♥ All those who are in need at this Holiday Season.



Birthday's & Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary to. . .

12/20 — Sue and Doug Sweeder

Happy Birthday to. . .

12/13 — Fay Alston

12/16 — Carol Kelley

12/19 — Darlene White

12/30 — Marcus Kelley



15 Ways to Take Care of Yourself This Christmas

1. Pray. Ask God for the strength & stamina to accomplish all He has for you to do in a day.
2. Prepare yourself. Spend time in God's presence each morning.
3. Just say no. Allow yourself freedom to make the best yes for you & your family.
4. Choose clothing options that make you feel good about yourself even on the busiest of days.
5. Narrow down your tasks & activities. Keep ones with greatest importance. Let the other ones go.
6. Mark your calendar with "me time." Read a good book. Relax in a hot bath.
7. Set the tone in your home with your favorite candle and soothing music.
8. Don't cut your sleep short. Keep a consistent sleep schedule so you have the energy and mental fortitude to accomplish your tasks each day.
9. Pay attention to what you tell yourself. Don't give in to negativity.
10. Give yourself grace. If you fail at something, remember God's mercies are new each morning.
11. Plan in advance to have healthy treats on hand that boost your energy. Cut the sugar.
12. Schedule physical exercise each day. Even 15 minutes lifts your mood & combats fatigue.
13. Enjoy the simple things in life. Caroling with your family. Watch your favorite Christmas movie.
14. Break the routine! Give yourself the freedom to do something different.
15. Plan one day each week to take a break from holiday preparations.



Our food collection for Lighthouse was a wonderful success!! Even though we had a shorter time for collection this year everyone was so generous to share. Thank you, thank you to everyone who stopped by and donated. For in as much as we do for others, we do for Him.

Thank*
You!



Here in December

Lunch in the Parlor

Do you miss gathering with your friends and family from St. Paul UMC? Well, we certainly do! We will be meeting on Friday, December 10 at 1:00pm to share our lunches and a bit of conversation. Everyone is welcome to join us. Simply bring your lunch (we do have a microwave), a mask if you're more comfortable and prepare to enjoy some fellowship time. Contact Marjorie Kumar at zorokumar1@aol.com or the church office for more information.

Thursday Go-to-Meetin'

Missing connecting with our St. Paul friends and family? Well, no more! Join us for Thursday Go-to-Meetin' using a remote app. No travel time required. It's a time of fellowship, devotions, and a beverage of your choice. For more information or to join the fun, contact Marjorie Kumar at zorokumar1@aol.com.



From The Staff

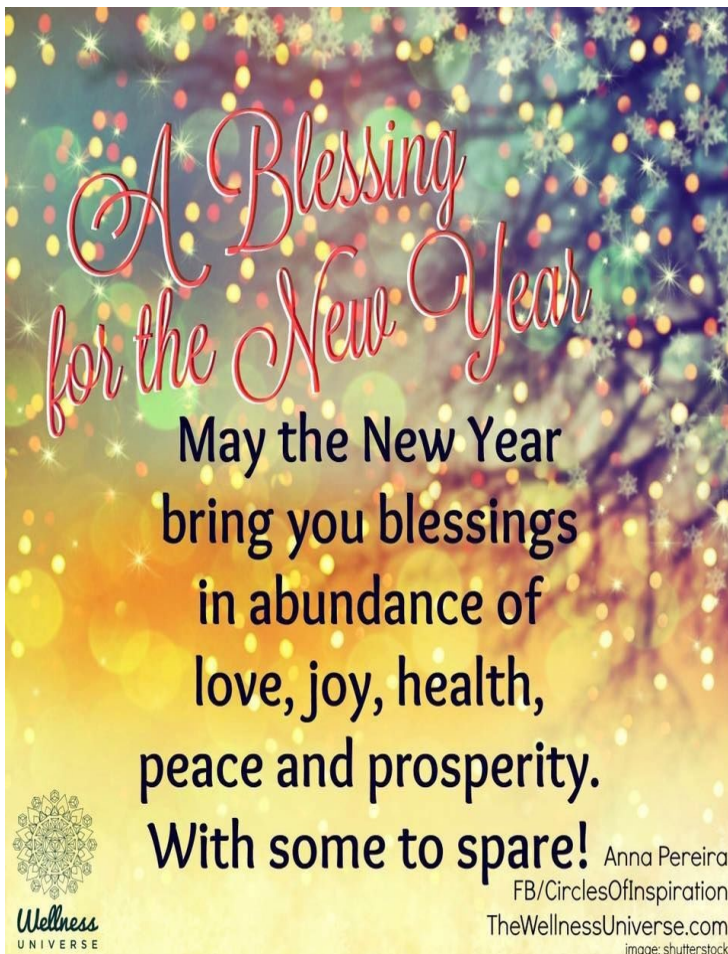
It is always our distinct honor and pleasure to serve here and be a part of the St. Paul family. We want to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their kindness, generosity, help and support during what has been a year of challenge. From our homes to yours, we wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year! (Feliz Navidad y Un Feliz Año Nuevo). Let us look forward to 2022 with great hope and in fellowship with Christ.

Pastor Maurice Horne

Judy White

Irene Sanchez

Cece Tamm



<i>Sun.</i>	<i>Mon.</i>	<i>Tue.</i>	<i>Wed.</i>	<i>Thu.</i>	<i>Fri.</i>	<i>Sat.</i>
			1 6:30pm — GTAC 7pm — Tai Chi	2 10am — Thursday Go-to-Meetin' virtual coffee hour	3	4 9am — Shotokan 10am — GTAC
5 9:45am — Worship Service 12pm — GTAC	6 7pm — Tai Chi	7 6pm — Shotokan	8 6:30pm — GTAC 7pm — Tai Chi	9 10am — Thursday Go-to-Meetin' virtual coffee hour	10 1pm — Lunch in the Parlor	11 9am — Shotokan
12 9:45am — Worship Service 12pm — GTAC	13 7pm — Tai Chi	14 6pm — Shotokan	15 6:30pm — GTAC 7pm — Tai Chi	16 10am — Thursday Go-to-Meetin' virtual coffee hour	17	18 9am — Shotokan
19 9:45am — Worship Service 12pm — GTAC	20 7pm — Tai Chi	21 6pm — Shotokan	22 6:30pm — GTAC 7pm — Tai Chi	23	24 Church office Closed Christmas Eve 6:30pm Worship Service	25 
26 9:45am — Worship Service 12pm — GTAC	27 7pm — Tai Chi	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve	



DECEMBER



2021