

# Chapel Bells

## St. Paul's U.C.C.-Erin

262-628-2319

[www.StPaulsErin.org](http://www.StPaulsErin.org)



March, 2026

### PASTOR'S MESSAGE

My calendar identifies March 6th as World Day of Prayer. World Day of Prayer is not something to gloss over. Prayer is so powerful and the thought of folks across the globe saying the same prayer is very impactful.

According to [worlddayofprayer.net](http://worlddayofprayer.net), each year this global ecumenical movement begins on the first Friday of March on the international dateline, in Samoa. Early in the morning, Christian women begin praying for our world. As the earth rotates, a great wave of prayer begins to build. It sweeps across the Pacific, touching Fiji and New Zealand, rolling on through Asia: Japan, the Philippines, Korea and Bangladesh. The countries of Africa, and the Middle East are next. The wave reaches the shores of Europe as the day dawns there. Across the Atlantic, it moves onwards, the Caribbean, the Americas, and on to the Pacific again until the sun finally sets over American Samoa where the final service takes place. A worldwide circle of prayer is complete.

The prayer to be shared is:

God of the poor, we cry out to you to help families who are struggling to meet their basic needs. We give thanks and praise for all those who keep moving forward despite even the most difficult circumstances.

God, giver of life, continue to strengthen and comfort all who are weary from the burdens of life and direct the hearts of those who can help.

Loving Jesus, compassionate healer, we lift up those who live with poor mental health, often made worse by poverty, stress, and daily life. Walk with them and show them that their lives have immeasurable value. Help us create societies that respect and care for all.

Loving Jesus, you called us to come with all the burdens that weigh us down. Here we are! Help us to cast our cares on you and lighten these loads.

Holy Spirit, be our comforter in times of distress. Grant us the faith to keep moving forward even when the path seems impossible. When we cannot see a way forward, be our guide.

Help us to be a light to others, sharing hope and extending a helping hand where we can. We trust in your promise that you will never leave us or forsake us. Amen.

I fully intend to join this wave of prayer when I open my eyes on March 6th. Will you do the same?

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

March 28th from 10am - Noon

Community Event!! Invite your family, friends and neighbors!!

Egg Hunt ~ Crafts~ Snacks and Hot coffee!!

\*Graciously accepting Candy donations to help the Easter Bunny!!

### **College Care Packages**

The mission maniacs are getting ready to send packages filled with LOVE in a couple months! If you have any kids or

grandkids in college, please email [jodischuppel@yahoo.com](mailto:jodischuppel@yahoo.com) with name and address!

\*Also accepting donations!!! Thank you for your support!



## WISCONSIN UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST OUTDOOR MINISTRY



As we get ready to host an amazing 2026 camp season, it's the little things that truly add up Daycholah's Camp Amazon Wishlist helps us stock up on essentials that make camp special, safe, and magical for our campers.

If you're able, please consider supporting camp by purchasing an item from our wishlist: <https://a.co/07EjaTjm>



Prefer to support camp through a platform other than Amazon? No problem at all. Just reach out to camp staff and we'll happily make that happen! Thank you for being part of the Daycholah community and helping us prepare for another unforgettable summer.

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### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



March 1st is the start of our OGHS stewardship campaign. This offering supports funding for disaster relief, refugee assistance, and development efforts around the globe. Through our support comprehensive programs in the areas of healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing and women's empowerment.

By partnering with Global Ministries and international response efforts, OGHS maximizes its impact. Our contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities.

As always, no one is required to contribute, but encouraged. You may use the envelopes included with your bulletin on March 1st or an envelope clearly marked for OGHS and your name. We will be collecting your donations until March 15th.

Thank you!

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### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME BEGINS

Yes, we will be losing an hour of sleep. Clocks are turned back an hour on Sunday, March 8th. CHURCH starts at 9:30 am. Apparently if you want to skip this jumping back and forth an hour, Hawaii and most of Arizona are the states to live.

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### BIBLE STUDY

You are invited to participate in a discussion of Matt Miofsky's book Fail, What to do When Things Go Wrong based on the book of Jeremiah. We will meet March 12th at 1:30 pm Watch for further announcements as to location. There is no homework and you do not need to purchase the book. The section we will be focused on is entitled "The Do-Over".



MARCH	GREETERS	LITURGIST
1 <sup>st</sup>	Roy & Carol K.	Curt H.
8 <sup>th</sup>	Bill & LouAnn E.	Cheri J.
15 <sup>th</sup>	Kay O'K. & Judy N.	Kim K.
22 <sup>nd</sup>	Dave & Betty Z.	Jill L.
29 <sup>th</sup>	Lee A. & Jack D.	Steve M.



### **PALM SUNDAY MARCH 29TH**

Doesn't that seem early this year? It is. The reason has to do with our calendar system. Easter typically falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox. Got that? We will celebrate with palms and read of Jesus' entry into Jerusalem according to Matthew 21: 1-11. Hosanna!

### **COMBINED MAUNDY THURSDAY/GOOD FRIDAY SERVICE**

We will gather on April 2nd at 7 pm to enter into the story of Jesus' death. This is a very solemn and sacred service.

### **EASTER SUNDAY**

Come prepared to sing with joy in your heart. Service will be held at 9:30 am. Invite your family and friends. All are welcome!

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### **WOMEN'S GUILD**



Beginning in March, future Guild meetings will be held on the third **Wednesday** of the month. Everyone change your calendars!

The Guild will host coffee and conversation following worship on Sunday, March 15, with a PI DAY theme. It is our way to thank everyone in the congregation for supporting our Guild events throughout the year—especially St. Paul's popular Christmas Cookie Walk. To build anticipation and enthusiasm, think about—**BLUEBERRY / PECAN / KEY LIME / THREE BERRY / CUSTARD / RASPBERRY / PUMPKIN, PECAN CHEESECAKE and CHERRY!**

Our next meeting will be on **Wednesday**, March 18, at noon. Bring a bag lunch and dessert will be furnished. All St. Paul's women are invited.

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### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Please remember with your prayers, cards, calls, and visits: Diana S., Joyce O'K., Mark G., Betty Z., John and Polly E., Mary and Tom G., Lucy K., Peggy A., Betty P., Steve M. and Cheri J. It was wonderful to have Lucy and Tom and Mary in church, but our continued prayers are appreciated.

### **THANK YOU!**

Jack D. hung a large mirror in the pastor's office. It looks great. Many thanks.

Jill S. did a fantastic job of arranging the Versti Blood Drive on February 9th, and to those who gave blood. Thank You!

Please extend a heartfelt thank you to Kay and Fred for their time and efforts served on the Church Council. And, extend a thank you to Mark K. and Jill S. for accepting a position on the Church Council.

Thanks go out to Deb S., Brett M., John D. and advisor Connie J. for creating our Investment Committee. Their guidance is much appreciated.

Thank you to LouAnn E. for her 47 years as St. Paul's Memorial Fund secretary.

Thank you to Misti S. for volunteering to write thank you letters to Memorial Fund contributors.

We also need to extend a thank you to Bernice D. and Dieball family members for their many, many, many volunteer hours with special thanks for publishing our 2025 Annual Report.

While as of this writing the Chili Dinner and Pie Sale have not taken place, HUGE thanks to Connie and Erik J and family members for organizing this fund-raising event, as well as to Betty Z for managing the pie sale!!!!

Of course, thanks to everyone who contributed pies and ingredients and fulfilled various chores.



LouAnn E. would like to thank St. Paul's UCC for the beautiful flower arrangement and flower shop puzzle that was presented to her at the annual meeting on February 15, 2026 for her 47 years as St. Paul's memorial fund secretary.

**CHILI LUNCH & PIE SALE**

Thank you to all our volunteers and bakers who help make the annual church fundraiser a success. More information will be posted once the final numbers are in.

**CONGRATULATIONS!**

Congratulations to Emma, Peggy and Bill A.'s granddaughter, for placing 1st in Grand Champions for choir. AND, she went to the State Competition for piano. Very proud of you, Emma.

**SOMETHING TO SHARE**

*What Doesn't Play By the Rules written by Rev. Sarah Speed*

I come into the room  
calculating

I come into the room  
ready to apologize,  
ready to make amends,  
ready to tell you all the things I'll do to make it better,

but you put your arms around me.

Grace is the ocean

that softens the edges.  
Grace is rain in the desert –

you're not sure whether to

laugh, cry or dance.  
Grace is a miracle,  
all by itself.  
In a scorekeeping world,  
grace doesn't play by the rules.

I come into the room  
calculating what I've done.

You say there's grace here.

It feels like a miracle.  
I don't know whether to

Laugh, cry, or dance.

Nate W. earned a Gold Medal at the Skills USA competition. WTG Nate!

Our church wrestling champion, Levi, took part in the Mukwonago Grizzly Open. He did extremely well.

**TEMPORARY HELP NEEDED**

Wanda will be out of town March 8 - 27. We are looking for someone to do a light cleaning (make sure garbage & recycling is out and no big mess). Cleaning up crumbs & stuff from coffee & conversation, etc. A short list of must do's would be provided. Please reach out to Wanda if you are able to help, even a week or two.



**VOLUNTEER NEEDED FOR MANAGING WEBSITE AND YOUTUBE CHANNEL**



YouTube  
St Paul's UCC Erin church service ...

We are looking for a volunteer to manage the church website including posting weekly updates along with someone to manage the church YouTube channel which involves

editing weekly service. If you would like more information on what is involved, please contact Connie Johnson at [ecfamily5@gmail.com](mailto:ecfamily5@gmail.com) or (262) 313 7672.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ  
Church Council Meeting Minutes January 12, 2026

The Church Council meeting came to order at 6 p.m. Those in attendance were Kay O., Pastor Bonnie, Fred D., Curt H., Vicki D., and Connie J. via phone. Debbie S. was excused. Pastor Bonnie led the group in an opening prayer.

The December Council Meeting minutes were approved with one correction. The December Financial Reports were reviewed and approved.

Pastor's Report-Seven people attended the Blue Christmas service. Forty people attended the Christmas Eve service at 2:30, 80 attended at 4:30. Other fellow pastors had one service. Will review for next year. We have three regular attendees of Bible study. We would like to increase attendees. Pastor would like to invite Rev. LeeAnn Rose to help us with planning for the future. How can we increase volunteers? Can we break down volunteer opportunities into smaller tasks?

Kay will follow up with Committee chairs and request a description of tasks and members. Jill and Bonnie plan to attend "the Many", a musical workshop. Altar committee to order new "Reserved" signs for the pews. Kay will make an announcement at the Annual meeting that we should pass the offering plate within the pews. Blood drive at church on February 9. Public and members may sign up to donate. Nominating committee needs to nominate 2 council members. Bonnie will check with Misti S. and Cheri J. for help with Memorial Fund.

Liaison Report-Christian Ed-no report. Creation Care-no report. Building and grounds-Fred-Jack will follow up regarding doors. Guild-Vicki-Meets this week. Financial-Connie-Had successful first meeting. Next meeting end of January. Music-Vicki- no report. Altar-Kay-no report.

2026 Budget. Reviewed line items with increase or decreases and reviewed offering pledges. Reviewed Association dues, insurance, and increased budget \$300 for advertising. Budgeting 112,000 for offerings. Compensation for Bonnie and Jill approved. Council motioned and approved 2026 budget. Will ask for Congregational approval for parking lot sealing, door replacement, and washing of the church.

Chili lunch is February 22. Connie will work on donations from congregation. Plan to make 5 roasters of Chili based on last year's attendance. Will charge \$10 per lunch. Ham sandwiches and possibly grilled cheese will also be available for purchase. Betty Z. will organize the pie sale. Connie plans to have flyers ready by January 25.

The Council Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m. The next Council Meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2026, at 6 p.m.

# March 2026



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
1 9:30 Worship	2	3	5 4 Seniors Carol K Roy & Carol K Anniversary	Gary & Cathy B. Anniversary	6	7 
8 9:30 Worship Lee A	9 Council Mtg. 6 PM  Bonnie J.G	10	11 .	12 Bible Study 1:30 PM Kim K	13	14  Joyce O.K
15 9:30 Worship	16 Eugene D	17 	18 Women's Guild  Mark K	19	20 Tom G	21
22 9:30 Worship Alan S Mark & Kim K & Eugene & Vicki D Anniversary	23	24 Annabelle B  Chapel Bells items due to Donna	25	26	27	28 Easter Egg Hunt 10 AM—Noon
29 9:30 Worship Palm Sunday	30	31 Curt H				