

Chapel Bells

JANUARY 2023

PASTORS MESSAGE

I trust you had a wonderful Christmas, despite the howling winds and at times icy conditions with temperatures taking a plunge below zero. Jeff and I stayed pretty much at home enjoying the warm light of candles in the windows and snuggling under blankets, except for going to church. We both want to thank each of you for being such a big part of our Christmas. All the cards and gifts! We deeply appreciate being with you throughout the year, but Christmas is special isn't it? Church was so beautiful and warm. The singing was so heartwarming. And nothing compares to singing Silent Night to candlelight!

By now, some of you have begun taking

down decorations and storing away ornaments for next year. My tradition is to leave everything in place until after the day of Epiphany, (January 5) when the three wise men visit the infant Jesus and his mother, Mary.

At the beginning of Advent, I'm in no hurry to put up the symbols of Christmas in our home either... deciding what is to be placed where and what has lost its luster and needs to be recycled takes days. Something new might even appear. Little by little everything finds a place. Each week more ornaments are added to the tree.

Christmas is over now, and the reverse is happening. A large stuffed Santa gets tucked back

into the closet. As days pass, the ornaments come off the tree and with the lights are carefully laid into the plastic storage bin stored under my bed. It takes time. The nativity scene is usually the last to be put away. I'm not sure why.

I'm in no rush to forget what Advent with its hope, peace, love, and joy brought to my heart. I don't want to put that away only to remember again next Advent just how important they are to my daily living.

This year I'm starting a new tradition. I am placing one bright red ornament on my desk as a reminder...as a symbol of all that the Christmas Spirit brings. It is going to sit right there all year long.

Happy New Year!



PASTOR'S HOURS

Pastor Bonnie will be in the church office on Thursdays from noon to 6 PM. Stop by for a visit! Friday and Saturday are Pastor's weekend. In an emergency, please call **262-416-5094**.

NEW E-MAIL ADDRESS:

DRESS: saint-paulserin.pastor@gmail.com for church related e-mail correspondence.

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study will be held at 1 pm on the first and second Thursdays of the month. Our first meeting will be on the 5th. We will begin with reading the Gospel of Mark. Bring your questions! Oh, and a Bible will come

in handy or use one of the church's.



GUILD NEWS

THANK YOU one and all for helping make St. Paul's 31st annual Cookie Walk on December 3 a big success! It takes many hands to deliver posters, post road signs, set up and clean up, create and donate beautiful holiday items to sell at the silent auction, invite neighbors and friends, work and shop at the sale, and bake, bake, and bake some more cookies!!!

Our customers all know to expect beautiful cookies for their holiday platters and that is what makes our Cookie Walk special. Bakers, this year you outdid

yourselves! Thank you from the Women's Guild!

The next Guild meeting will be on Thursday, January 19, at noon. Bring a bag lunch and Marilyn will furnish a dessert. Betty Z. will lead a devotion. All St. Paul's women are invited. January is a great time to come and join us.

You'll see pictures from the 2022 Cookie Walk throughout this issue of Chapel Bells....



MISSION COMMITTEE

The good people of St. Paul's - Erin have put their Christmas spirits into this project for the third year and your Mission Committee sends a huge thank you for the time, money and thoughtfulness you have donated to these children. This year we opened our hearts to 17 third graders in our extended community of Milwaukee. A special thanks to the people who chose to sponsor a child and fill

their bag, to the people who gave money so the bags could have extra food treats and gifts, to Betty Pellmann who crocheted scarves and neck warmers for each child (and one for the teacher) and to Bill Chase who packed the gifts into each bag. Bless your hearts for your kindness.



COUNCIL'S NOTES

Steve Manuell, Susan Miller, and Jo Swanson are serving as our nominating committee this year. If they approach you to fill a vacancy on a committee or the Council, please consider serving your church in this manner.

Our church's annual meeting will be held on Sunday, February 5 in the sanctuary at 10:45 a.m. shortly after worship. The 2023 budget will need to be approved and vacancies on the

Council and other committees will need to be filled. Please plan to attend.

All committee reports are due either by email to Bernice Dieball or to be put in folder in the office by Sunday, January 22.

The next council meeting will be on Monday, January 9 at 6:00 p.m. In-

put from church members is always appreciated and anyone is welcome to attend.



CHILI DINNER & HOMEMADE PIE SALE



The annual Chili Dinner fundraiser will be Sunday February 26 from 11 am to 2:00pm.

This is one of the fundraisers that supports our general budget. Each member will be asked for a food donation to make the chili. Donation slips will be handed out in late January. This

year's fundraiser will also include a homemade pie sale. Please see Betty Zimplemann if you are willing to bake a pie. A sign-up sheet to help on February 26 can be found in the fellowship hall. If you have any questions, please contact Connie Johnson.



WHY DOES GENEROSITY MATTER?

By the Rev. Jeanne Tyler

I love to give. When I was a child, I saved my allowance for a year and then spent it on Christmas gifts for my family. I still trust my instinct to be as generous as I can be. I learned this from my mother and by giving to church. The offering was a important part of worship because a portion of the offering went to support mission and ministry.

Giving of time talent and monies is a way of investing in the mission and ministry of the Wisconsin Conference. Our family benefited from Wisconsin Confer-

ence camps. I have kept that childlike love of giving because it feels good to me. In hopes of transformation, I trust my gifts to God.



CONFERENCE OFFICE MOVING TO DAYCHOLAH CENTER

excerpt from *Generosity Forward Newsletter* of the Wisconsin Conference

Trade-offs are a fact of life, of course, and in this case the Wisconsin Conference made a prayerful but nevertheless painful choice to list for sale the Trost Center in DeForest, a longtime home of the Conference Staff. With the shift to virtual work, however, the Trost Center is largely unused, and good steward-

ship requires us to apply our resources where they will do the most good. Proceeds of the Trost Center sale will be invested in Daycholah, which will in turn become the Conference headquarters, though the staff will continue to work remotely most of the time. (Daycholah is the original tribal name for Green Lake where the former Pilgrim Center was located.)



Greeters for January:
****NEEDED****

Please see the sign up sheet on the coffee & conversation table to sign up to greet throughout the year..

Liturgist

1/1 Jo Swanson
1/8 Kim Kersten
1/15 Bernie Chase
1/22 Cindy Cain
1/29 Jill Paddock

Coffee & Conversations Hosts:

1/1—Jackopin Family
1/8—Guild Cookies

*No matter who you are or
where you are on life's
journey, you are welcome
here.*



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Colgate, WI 53017
262-628-2319 or
262-416-5094
www.stpaulserin.org

THOUGHTS, PRAYERS, AND CELEBRATIONS

Please remember with your prayers, cards, calls, and visits: Marilyn Dieball, Rick Guetzke, Ron Smith, Beulah Timm, Ken Snow, Erik Johnson, and James Leifer.

CONGRATULATIONS to Charmaine Deuhring for having her family New Year's Eve "ball drop" tradition published in *Our Wisconsin* magazine. Check it out. It's on page 66.

SOMETHING TO SHARE

God of God... Chandran Devanesen, India

Only the sound of an infant
Crying in the night,
A familiar, homely, human sound
Like the sound of hooves on flagstones,
Like the rattle of chains tethering cattle
Like the crunch of straw in the mouths of the oxen,
Like the rustle of hay tossed into a manger.

Light of light ...
Only the light of a star
Falling on an infant in a crib
Like the light in a shepherd's lantern,
Like the light in the eyes of a mother,
Like the light in the learning of wise men,
Like the light that lightens each dawn.

Very God of very God ...
Only a pillow of straw
And an infant in rags and tatters
Like the weather-worn blankets of shepherds,
Like dusty, travel-stained garments of travelers,
Like old cloths stuffed in a stable window
To keep the draught out and cattle warm.
God is with us, simply with us.



Church Council Meeting Minutes
St. Paul's United Church of Christ
November 14, 2022

Meeting was called to order at 6:05pm by President Charmaine Duehring. Those in attendance were Connie Johnson, Pastor Bonnie Jacque, Lucy Krapfl, Kay O'Keane, Charmaine Duehring, Cheryl Fischer, and Janene Kluever. Carl Roock and Kim Kersten were unable to be with us.

Robert Koepcke and Chris Keadles were the two members of the Conflict Resolution Team from the Association. They presented how they took care of conflicts within the congregation. They have listened to problems during the pandemic and there was lack of respect. They suggest a relational covenant with just the council or the congregation, sending questionnaires to both if needed. They thought it could be completed in one or two sessions and the goal would be to achieve each to be better Christians. They suggested that it could be proactive, especially with new members. Key points were to be better Christians on how we act and treat each other. Their fees are \$120 per hour for conflict workshop or \$300 plus mileage. We could include committee members, also.

Pastor Bonnie signed her contracts to be our permanent minister. Charmaine signed and she would get the signed contract to Bret Miller.

The October 30th congregational meeting minutes were approved. October council meeting minutes were approved as corrected. The financials are still doing well. WE Energies bill is still not correct but will show up to be correct in the new future. Financials were approved. Pastor Bonnie has had one confirmation class so far. Her Pastor hours will be Thursdays, from Noon to 6:00pm. She is not on call Fridays and Saturdays. She would like to have Bible Studies on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month, possibly at 1:00pm, starting in January. She has visited with Sheila Anderson at Froedtert Hospital in Menomonee Falls. She would like to hold a Blue Christmas service on December 14th, at 7:00pm. We should let other churches be aware that we are presenting this service, if they are not, and it was suggested we could put it on the Hartford Radio station.

Pastor Bonnie will get a separate cell phone using whatever phone and plan works for her. The church phone will remain, but with a different message to reach Pastor Bonnie. We will get the new cell phone number on Chapel Bells.

All Council members can remain in office in year of 2023. We need three people on the nominating committee. We will need the nominations back by January 22nd, The need is one for the endowment committee and two for the Personnell Committee. We will need to check prices for internet through Spectrum prices and put on the budget, also the cost for Bonnie cleaning and Jill playing, increase the budget prices and costs on the music to increase.

Chili Dinner in February will have pie sales and flyers will need to be distributed.
Meeting was adjourned at 8:12pm and next meeting will be December 12th at 6:00pm.



January 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 Worship <i>Bram Miller</i>	2	3 <i>Seniors</i>	4 <i>Rick Guetzke</i>	5 Bible Study 1 PM <i>Bill Chase</i> <i>Bill Evert</i>	6	7
8 9:30 Worship	9 Council Meeting 6 PM	10	11 <i>Payton Weber</i>	12 Bible Study 1 PM Confirmation 6 PM <i>Katelyn Nelson</i> <i>Jack & Charmaine</i> <i>Duerhing Anniversary</i>	13	14
15 9:30 Worship	16	17 <i>Jim Swanson</i>	18	19 Women's Guild <i>Cliff Braden</i> <i>Polly Edgar</i>	20 <i>Rebecca Osher</i> <i>John & Polly Edgar's</i> <i>Anniversary</i>	21
22 9:30 Worship	23 Chapel Bells items due	24	25	26	27	28 <i>Jennie Harvey</i> <i>Jeffery Jackopin</i>
29 9:30 Worship	30	31				