

ST. PAUL'S UCC ERIN CHAPEL BELLS

495 St. Augustine Road Colgate, WI 53017 262-628-2319 or 262-416-5094

www.stpaulserin.org saintpaulserin.pastor@gmail.com

October, 2023

PASTOR'S MESSAGE

We are currently following the Exodus story of the Israelites journey from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land. Longer than most Biblical stories, this is a whole saga about faith.

When you get right down to it, it's about God's attempts to be recognized and loved. In reference to the Crossing of the Red Sea, Exodus 14: 17 reads: "But me, (meaning God) I'll make the Egyptians stubborn, so that they will go in after them, (the Israelites into the Red Sea) and I'll gain honor at the expense of Pharaoh, all his army, his chariots, and his cavalry." Throughout the story there are insights into God's desire to be known and to trust that God is God.

We have been using a suitcase to hold different objects that represent the story. So far, we have shoes and a walking stick, which were the items God instructed them to take as they left Egypt. We have boots representing the Crossing of the Red Sea and bread to symbolize the manna God provided in the wilderness. A large rock and a container of water will be added to remind us that God produced water from a rock!

October will bring us five more objects:

A book of rules as we speak about community as living rightly using the Ten Commandments.

A toy cow to remind us of the story of the Golden Calf and community meaning trusting together.

This is probably my favorite – a mirror, so we can see God in each other.

Lots of different kinds of gloves for community is passing on the vision.

Community is welcoming the new/change will be represented by a pair of glasses and binoculars to see far off into the future.

Hopefully we will have a reader's theater or two as well as a repeat performance by our resident rapper, Erik Johnson. We will continue to sing *We're Moving On*, which also tells the story of the Israelites journey. If anyone has old barn gloves or any other types of gloves to contribute to the suitcase on October 15th, please feel free.

COFFEE
with
PASTOR



COFFEE WITH PASTOR BONNIE

Fiddleheads in Menomonee Falls is our October destination for Coffee with Pastor Bonnie. It's simply an opportunity to visit over a cup of coffee or whatever you prefer to drink. It's Dutch treat and no reservation is necessary. Hope to see you around 10 on October 26th!

PASTOR BONNIE APOLOGIZES

Back in September, I had the greeters include an envelope with the bulletins for the OCWM, Our Church's Wider Mission, offering. That wasn't necessary as we pay the OCWM offering out of our budget. If you had already made a donation, please speak to Sharon as to how you would like to designate that money.

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY is October 1st. We are once again inviting you to share a bread (either homemade or purchased) of your own ethnicity or of another ethnic tradition. We will include these at Coffee and Conversation along with plenty of butter. You might want to create a note about the bread and a recipe!



Worship will focus on the rules we live by; the choir will sing and, of course, communion. We will also collect the Neighbors In Need offering. All NIN donations are spent within the United States and are voluntary.



BIBLE STUDY meets at 1 pm in the Pastor's office on the second Thursday of the month, which is October 12th this month. We are discussing the Book of Job, which asks the age-old question, "Why do the Good Suffer"?

Anyone can come, even if you missed last month. We will be happy to fill you in. We will be focusing on Chapters 4 through 27. That only sounds like a lot, it's poetry and reads fast. We will be looking at the different arguments proposed and how Job responds.

ST. PAULS GUILD

The Guild did not meet in September, but that does not mean we were not busy! The Brat Fry at Fox Bros. Piggly Wiggly was successful and fun. It was a beautiful day, the brats and burgers were delicious, the homemade cookie sale was popular, we had great helpers and happy customers. When St. Paul's members are out and about in the community, we meet neighbors and let the community know what a friendly bunch we are. Thanks to all who helped make it a great day!



Thanks also to the Kitchen Refurbishing Committee! The kitchen is getting brighter and more orderly already and the job has just begun. Guild members Debbie B., Lucy K., and LouAnn E. and get 'er done guys Neil W, Bill E. and Jack D. are working hard. THANK YOU! Can't wait to see the finished kitchen.

The next Guild meeting will be on October 19 at noon. I hope all St. Paul's women know they are welcome and will bring a bag lunch and join us.

CREATION CARE RETREAT

Pastor Bonnie will be spending Friday, October 13 through Saturday, October 14, at the Daycholah Center (Green Lake) for a retreat offered by the Conference Creation Care Committee. Daniel Cooperrider, the author of *Speak with the Earth and It Will Teach You*, is the featured guest.

Speaking of *Speak with the Earth and It Will Teach You*, the books have been ordered and should arrive soon. The plan is to meet in April of 2024 to discuss the first Part entitled Rivers. The thought is to actually meet at a river! The May discussion will center around the Mountains Chapters and meet on a mountain???? The June discussion is about trees and perhaps we will meet in a park. The final section is called Clouds. I'm open to any suggestions as to where to meet. More information to follow.

ADULT CHANGING TABLE

Kim Kersten and Pastor Bonnie have made calls to the Milwaukee County Zoo and to the American Family Field where the Brewer's play ball to inquire if they have an interest in the Adult Height-Adjustable Changing Table we have to offer. As of this writing, neither of us have had a return call. Yes, that is frustrating, but patience I am told is a virtue. Perhaps, by the time you read this, our table will have found a home. Your prayers are appreciated.

COUNCIL NOTES

❖ **Tools**

The tools that were in the kitchen junk drawer have been moved into a tool box. The tool box is now located in the old furnace room next to the safe. Included are hammers, screwdrivers, tape measure, wrenches, nails, screws, etc. Please return any tools you might use to the toolbox.

❖ **Christmas Dates**

The children's Christmas Program will be on Sunday, December 17 during worship. Christmas Eve services will be at 9:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Both services will be similar, so choose one to attend. There will not be a Christmas Day Service.

❖ **Envelopes**

If you will need a new box of envelopes for 2024, please contact our Financial Secretary, Sharon Schlafer by October 15 so they can be ordered. Her email is: sschalfer9928@gmail.com. Her phone number is 262-628-9228.

❖ **Committee Budgets**

2024 Committee budgets should be turned in to the office or a council member or emailed to Charmaine (jkduehring@hotmail.com) by Sunday, October 15. The council will begin working on the 2024 budget at their next meeting on Monday, October 16.

❖ **Church Use Fees**

The council adopted a new schedule of Church Use Fees at their September meeting to bring our prices in line with what other area churches are charging. A signed Building Use Form should always be filled out for non-members.

Members		Non-Members
Use of Church	\$50	\$600 (includes custodian fee)
Honorarium for Pastor for funeral	\$200	\$250
Honorarium for Pastor for wedding	\$200	\$350
Organist Fee	\$150	\$175

❖ **Church record sorting and organizing**

The next dates to help with the organization of church records are:

Thursday, October 12 2:00 to 3:30

Tuesday, October 24 6:30 to 7:30

❖ Our next council meeting is scheduled for Monday, October 16 at 6 p.m. Visitors are always welcome.



October 1st – Cindy Cain
October 8th – Jill Paddock
October 15th – Jacquie Branchford
October 22nd – Curt Hulterstrum
October 29th – Eugene Dost



October 1st – Chelsea Becker & Levi
October 8th – Cheri & Corey Johnson
October 15th – Steve & Alice
Manuell
October 22nd – **NEEDED
October 29th – **NEEDED



ST. PAUL'S BRAT FRY AT THE MONCHES RECREATION PARK

The Brat Fry was a resounding success but we couldn't have done it without you! Because of your support we raised \$8,010!!

We would like to thank everyone; whether you signed up to help at the park, made a donation, sold or purchased raffle tickets, joined us for worship or stopped in to enjoy the kickball games and music, it all contributed to the success of the event. The outdoor worship was a great way to start the day! This truly was an effort by the entire congregation and we appreciate your enthusiastic support. We are already looking forward to next year!

MISSION COMMITTEE

August and September found the generous folks at St. Paul's hard at work addressing the needs of our neighbors in Hawaii with a total donation of \$1158.63 going towards Maui relief as a result of the devastating fires there.

We collected pounds and pounds of school supplies to be donated to our local food pantries. The food pantries will then offer them to local kids who need some extra help gathering the supplies they will need for the beginning of the school year.

Now through October 15, the St. Paul Congregation and our neighbors are invited to clean out your closets and gather all unused medical supplies and over-the-counter medications. They also need empty pill bottles with covers - like the pill bottles your prescriptions come in from the pharmacy. Medications should be unopened and not expired. Please remove all labels and personal information. We will collect everything in the church basement. There is also a covered box next to the blue front doors where items can go if the church is not open. A friend of Janene Kluever will be taking them to share with people in Guatemala. Please direct all questions to Janene.

 thankful, grateful, blessed 

THANK YOU

This is a new addition to our monthly Chapel Bells. It is an attempt to thank those who often go unthanked. I will do my best, but there will be times I leave someone out. If that happens, I apologize in advance. Pastor Bonnie

Please join me in thanking the **Church Brat Fry Committee** for going above and beyond!!!! Thanks to them our General Fund is \$8,010 richer! Thanks to them, it was a smoothly run all day event. Anyone, including the boys in the band, and the kickball teams, who had any part in making that happen are greatly appreciated.

Often unthanked but nonetheless vital are those who make the church work. Thank you to Connie Johnson, Sharon Schlafer, Cheryl Fischer, Bernice Dieball, Cindy Cain, Donna Runte, Charmaine Duehring, "Blondie" and Jill Lotzow.

A thank you is extended to our September Liturgists: Carl Roock, Kim Kersten and Mason Weber, and Bernie Chase. Greeters in September were Cheryl Fischer and Judy Nell, Curt and Kerrie Hulterstrum, Vicki and Eugene Dost and Kim Kersten and Mason Weber. Thank You.



A standing ovation goes to Erik Johnson for his rap! If you missed it, hopefully he will share his rapper skills again soon.

Thank you to Charmaine Duehring who has taken on the daunting task of going through and organizing all of our church records. If you have a bit of time to help, speak to Charmaine, she would be very grateful. A thanks goes to Jill Lotzow for cleaning and organizing the music file cabinet.

Special thanks to Jack Duehring for constructing our wheeled Food Pantry cart. It works great! Now, let's fill it up!

Another special thanks goes to Neil Weber who has been working on the wiring in the church kitchen and Bill Evert who lent a hand.

Speaking of the kitchen, a thank you goes to Lucy Krapfl, Debbie Braden, LuAnn Evert and Debbie Gettelman. These ladies (and Bill Evert) have stripped wallpaper, cleaned out cupboards and have a plan for a much

improved and awesome kitchen.

Another thank you, this one goes to Janene Kluever. Janene organized a collection to be taken to Guatemala of empty medicine vials, braces such as wrist or knee braces and unopened new over-the-counter medications. There is a tub to place your contributions in for this worthy cause in Fellowship Hall.

A thank you goes to all those who sent cards or visited Ken Snow, Joyce O'Keane and/or Betty Zimpelman. Your thoughtfulness is appreciated.

Many thanks to those who assisted at the Women's Guild Brat Fry! It was a beautiful day, the brats, hamburgers, cookies, etc. were tasty.



IN OUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS Ron Smith, Beulah Timm, Joyce O'Keane, Ken Snow, Jill Paddock and Betty Zimpelman.

SOMETHING TO SHARE

As a young mother of three, I struggled with the concept of God. Why then I'm not sure, but it hit me hard. I believed God is love but that was about it. My neighbor, and the pastor's wife, gifted me with a book written by Madeleine L'Engle. I devoured that book and was hungry for more. It turns out Madeleine was a prolific writer. She wrote *A Wrinkle in Time*, which has become a well-loved youth novel.

I reread a few of her books and underlined and turned corners on lots of pages. At one point I even wrote her a letter and SHE WROTE ME BACK! I had written to her about something that changed my viewpoint of the Bible in general... "I believe in God with all kinds of doubts." That's when she became my personal God mother.

As of late, I have been reading a lot of Kate Bowler's works. I have shared devotions from her book *Good Enough* at Bible Study and the Guild. Just this week she used a Thomas Merton quote, "It is, therefore, a very great thing to be little" as the basis of a devotion she titled *A Blessing for Being Human*, which follows:

“Blessed are we, living in this small space, in these bodies we now inhabit, within the walls of circumstance, in these short years and finite strength, and with eyes that see only so far. We are fragile, contingent beings. (This is not only true of those of us of the more senior years, but any age. Bonnie)

Yet blessed are we, recognizing that it is our limits as well as our gifts that can shape the natural contours of what is possible, that guide us to what is ours to do.

Blessed are we when it is not our greatness that speaks, but our littleness. For it is our vulnerability that is the truest thing about us, the place where mutual connection is possible, where competition ends, and community begins.

And oh, how blessed are we in our fragility and dependence and brokenness, knowing that You, O God, hold all things together.

There is no cure for being human...but for each other, we are all good medicine.”

That line that says: “You, O God, hold all things together” is so powerful, I had to share it with you.



Like us on Facebook: “St. Paul’s United Church of Christ Erin” AND “St. Paul’s Mission Maniacs”

Receive our E-Blasts: Please let us know if you would like to be added or have a new email address

If you would like to ask for prayers, share a joy or have an announcement, when attending worship via Zoom, please enter it in the chat or email Pastor Bonnie prior

to service.

Check out the Church Website: stpaulserin.org. Visit the News & Resources tab and click on Worship Resources for a recording of Sunday’s Worship.

Church Email Address: saintpaulserin.pastor@gmail.com

Church/Pastor’s Phone Number: 262-416-5094

Pastor Bonnie’s Office Hours: Thursdays from noon to 6 PM. Stop by for a visit. Friday and Saturday are Pastor’s weekend.

Church Council Meeting Minutes

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

June 12th, 2023

Meeting was called to order by Council President, Charmaine Duehring, at 6:00 PM. Those in attendance were Carl Rook, Lucy Krapfl, Charmaine Duehring, Connie Johnson, Kim Kersten, Janene Kluever, Cherly Fischer and Pastor Bonnie Jacque. Not in attendance was Kay O'Keane.

The May meeting minutes were approved.

May Financials: We are ahead of budget with our loose offerings. The financial report was approved.

Pastor's Report: Pastor Bonnie suggested raising the membership fee for weddings and funerals from \$150 to \$200 and the fee for the organist from \$100 to \$150 to be comparable with other churches. She did home visits.

Liaison Reports:

Building & Grounds: The lighting on the front sign is out and will need to be repaired. Bids are still being gathered for roofing of the steeple. Gas meter needs to be replaced.

Guild: The kitchen will be painted.

Music: Jill cleaned out all the old material that was in the file cabinets.

Other items:

Piggly Wiggly Brat fry: This event had a profit of \$982. The next one is on September 16th.

Brat Fry at Monches: Sunday, September 10th. There may be a kickball tournament. A formation of a committee was suggested to delegate the different jobs for this event.

Food Pantry Storage: Jack Duehring will build wood crates with wheels to store the donated food. The food will be taken monthly to the food pantry.

Pastor John Helt: Pastor John's 45th anniversary of his ordination was held the last Sunday in June.

Memorial Donation: Lucy Krapfl will donate a Quick Fire Hydrangea in memory of David Schramm and Gilbert Krapfl to replace the Crabapple Tree that was cut down.

Record Keeping: The council spent the remainder of the meeting going through file cabinets and closets organizing important documents and recycling outdated material.

Next meeting date: August 7th, 2023 at 6:00 PM. Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.



October 2023



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 Worship World Communion Day Bernice Dieball Marvin & Kathy Schlafer's Anniversary	2	3 Seniors Mason Weber	4	5	6	7
8 9:30 Worship	9 Jacob Staus	10	11	12 Bible Study 1 PM Record Clean up 2-3:30 Neil & Debra Weber's Anniversary	13	14
15 9:30 Worship	16 Council Meeting 6 PM Karl Roock	17	18	19 Women's Guild 12 Noon Neil Weber Mike & Shirley Janichek's Anniversary	20	21 Haleigh Yesko
22 9:30 Worship	23 Cheri Johnson Chapel Bells items due	24 Record Clean up 6:30-7:30	25 Tommy Klemmer Jean Sutter	26 Coffee w/Bonnie 10 AM	27	28
29 9:30 Worship	30	31 Lewe Jossart				