

CHAPEL BELLS

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



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Luke 11: 1-13 was the assigned text for last Sunday. My meditation focused on the Lord's prayer and not much about the parable Jesus told in Luke 11: 5-8: "And he said to them, "Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, 'Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.' And he answers from within, 'Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.' I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything out of friendship, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs."

Have you ever had a persistent knock on the door at midnight? Jesus asked a rhetorical question about friendship and giving what someone needs. Many translations interpret this persistent knocking to instruct us to be persistent in prayer. The Greek word used here is shameless. Shame on you for not opening the door for a friend who was out of food for a guest. Hospitality requires that much of the friend.

Jesus says "even you know how to give good gifts"...shame on you for thinking that God doesn't.

I have had calls from people in distress and had to deny them. I felt ashamed. I would have helped if it was in my power to do so. I have hung up the phone and cried. What I am thankful for is that they felt comfortable enough to even call me. The really important thing is being able to ask because sometimes we let our pride get in our way.

And they thanked me despite my inability to fill their need. Their thank you was not given to be polite; this was a thanks for valuing them by listening, really listening. I made a follow up call to one particular person. She was doing alright.

How far would you go for a friend? How far would you go for a stranger?



NEW MEMBERS

On July 27th, St. Paul's welcomed Misti S. and her son, Truett into our faith family. They live in Slinger and Truett attends Slinger High School. If you have not introduced yourself to them, please do so.

AUGUST	GREETERS	LITURGIST
3	Bill & LouAnn E. Communion - Connie J. & Vicki D.	Eugene D.
10	Lucy K. & Debbie S. - Greet only - Need someone for candles & offering	Kim K.
17	John & Lynn D.	John D.
24	Kay O'K.	Jill L.
31	Bernie C. & Cindy C.	Curt H.

WOMEN'S GUILD

Rather than a July meeting, Guild members and friends made a trip to the Fireside Dinner Theater in Fort Atkinson. Dinner was delicious and we all enjoyed the play -- "The Last Potluck Supper." Many church groups were in the audience and from the laughter, they recognized conversations and events experienced at their own church basement potlucks. A fun trip!

Our August Guild meeting will be held on Thursday, August 21, at noon. St. Paul's women are all welcome. Bring a bag lunch and Jo S. will bring dessert to share. Lynn D. will attend and tell us about a recent family trip to Italy.

Thank you to Peggy A. for making the cake to welcome our new members, Misti & Truett.



We are so grateful for all the ways Cindy C. has taken leadership roles at St. Paul's. Since she became Council President, she has found herself feeling overwhelmed. As a result, following the July 21st Council meeting, she has resigned as Trustee and the Presidency. She will remain

as a "techie", send out liturgy e-mails to liturgists, work on the new directory, sing in the choir, etc. Plus, she has Irish Fest duties coming up and trips planned. Many thanks Cindy!

Thank you to Kay O'K. who will be leading council meetings as Vice-President until an additional council member is found. At that point, the council will appoint a new President.

Thank you to the Creation Care Committee who has begun a new tradition of giving new members a large canvas shopping bag.

Thank you to Peggy A. for her always special cake and added ice cream for the reception for new members, Misti and Truett.

Thank you to Sandy S for providing us with Beulah's aprons to commemorate what would have been her 103rd Birthday.



Guild outing at the Fireside Theater. The Last Potluck Dinner



Please remember with your prayers, cards, calls and visits: Jill P., Dick N. Family., Ron and Diane S., Joyce O’K, Mark G., John and Polly E. and the Below’s. Charmaine D. entered Froedtert Hospital on July 25th. She will be there for at least three weeks. Please call Jack for updates.

OUR SYMPATHY

The funeral for Dick N. will take place on July 31 at Krause Funeral Home Brookfield with visitation begins at 10 am and services at noon. He passed away on July 24th. Please keep Judy and his family in your thoughts and prayers.



August 24th is the **Richfield Parade!** Our “Little St. Paul’s Church” will be in the parade. We will have an abbreviated worship service so we can attend.

September 7th will be our **Vintage Car and Clothes Sunday.** If you can’t come up with period clothes, try to wear black. Similar to last year, the women and children will sit on the south side benches and the men in the north.

September 14th is our **WORSHIP IN THE PARK, BRAT FRY/KICKBALL TOURNAMENT AND AUCTION AT MONCHES PARK.**

October 12th will be a **Blessing of the Animals** service in the parking lots unless the weather prohibits. It wouldn’t snow in October would it? Oh, the only animals Pastor Bonnie will not bless...mice and rats. She’s okay with snakes, which might surprise you.

SOMETHING TO SHARE

This month I am sharing two excerpts from Richard Wagamese book, “Embers”. Richard was an Ojibwe Canadian author.

Trust

ME: Sometimes, when things are hardest, it feels like Creator’s not listening.

OLD WOMAN: Creator can do whatever Creator chooses. When we are in doubt or confusion or fear, She could send us thunderbolts or lightning or a huge pile of unexpected cash. But most of the time, she sends people. People are the miracles that emerge from the ripped and worn pattern of your life and help you stitch it back together. You learn to see patterns better then.

Happiness

I’m learning that happiness is an emotion that’s a result of circumstances, joy, though, is a spiritual engagement with the world based on gratitude. It’s not the big things that make me grateful and bring me joy. It’s more the glory of the small: a touch, a smile, a kind word spoken or received, that first morning hug, the sound of friends talking in our home, the quiet that surrounds prayer, the smell of sacred medicines burning, sunlight on my face, the sound of birds and walking mindfully, each footfall planted humbly on the earth.



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 virtually via our [YouTube Channel](#), 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

Church Address: 495 St. Augustine Road, Colgate, WI 53017

Pastor Bonnie’s Office Hours: Thursdays from 10 AM to 2 PM. Stop by for a visit. Friday and Saturday are Pastor’s weekend

August 2025



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Tom P. Misti S.	2
3 9:30 Worship	4	5 Seniors 10:30 Bill & LouAnn E. & John & Lynn D. Anniversary	6	7	8 Chelsea B. Lori S.	9
10 9:30 Worship	11 Council Mtg. 6 PM	12 Cindy C.	13	14	15 Levi J.	16 Clara B. Ron S.
17 9:30 Worship	18	19 Ari M. Ava R.	20	21 Women's Guild	22	23
24 9:30 Worship Richfield Parade Anna O.	25 Diane S.	26	27 Marilyn D.	28	29 Jeff M.	30
31 9:30 Worship						