



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

CHAPEL BELLS

June, 2025

My June calendar looks full of fun! Let's Be The Church Together.

June 1st, the seventh Sunday after Easter, includes a celebration of communion, followed by an open invitation to attend a baseball game at Monches Park with all the usual baseball eats and music. Game starts at noon.

Pastor Bonnie and Cindy C. will be attending the Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting from June 5th through the 8th. It's a time to gather with clergy friends and learn what the United Church of Christ is up to. Note that Pastor Bonnie will not be in the office on the 5th.

Pentecost, often referred to as the Birthday of the Church, is on June 8th. The liturgical color for Pentecost is **RED!!!** If you have anything **RED** in your closet, wear it to church!

The wedding of Anna K. and Scott H. will take place on June 12. It will be small but lovely.

June 15th is Father's Day. Pastor Bonnie is asking for your answer to the question: What did you learn from your father? Wearing a tie and/or a hat would be appropriate. (There may be a special treat for the fathers who attend worship.)

The wedding of a young couple, Aeoli and Robbie, will be held on June 21st. While they are not members, they have worshiped with us in the past and hopefully we will see them again in the future.

There are lots of June birthdays and anniversaries as well.

June and the beginning of Summer is vacation time for many. Don't forget to join us on YouTube!

WOMEN'S GUILD

Our trip to the Fireside Dinner Theater to see "The Last Potluck Supper" is on track for July 18. We will not have a regular Guild meeting that month.



Ideas for Guild participation in St. Paul's 185th anniversary celebration in October were considered, but no decision was made.

We formed a committee to consider ways that Guild duties and leadership could be divided and shared so our group can continue supporting St. Paul's into the future. Our group is not growing and members are aging out of projects historically handled by the Guild. We had to give up serving funeral lunches, relying on caterers in the future. Our popular Soup and Bread Luncheon was abandoned a few years ago, potlucks and our Cookie Walk are becoming more difficult. Hopefully our committee can identify ideas to spread involvement to make Guild projects more doable. The committee is Debbie G, Jo S, Vickie L and Carol K. Any ideas would be welcomed!

Our next Guild meeting is June 19 at noon. St. Paul's women are invited and encouraged to bring a bag lunch and join us. Debbie G. will furnish a dessert.



COFFEE WITH BONNIE AND BIBLE STUDY

This month we will meet on June 26th at 10 am. The first one there starts the coffee! Pastor Bonnie will start us off with an ice breaker. We will be exploring Psalm 1 this month.

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH

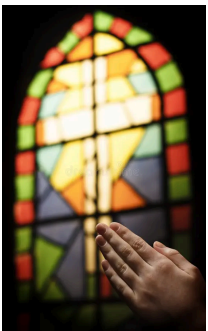
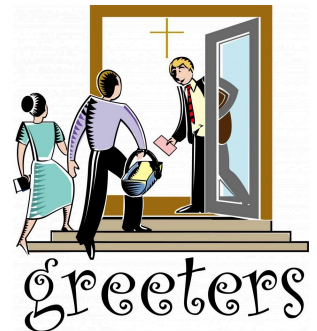
We will begin collecting the Strengthen the Church offering on May 25th and finish on Pentecost Sunday, June 8th. This offering supports new and renewing churches, youth and young adults, and leadership development across the United Church of Christ. You will find envelopes for your use in the pews. Please remember to include your name.

**STRENGTHEN
THE CHURCH
OFFERING**

NEW GUIDELINES FOR GREETERS, ETC.

The council approved new guidelines for Greeters as listed below.

1. Arrive by 9:10
 - a. Using large print, print your first name on a name tag (stored in the Greeters stand).
2. Welcome people as they arrive.
 - a. Encourage first time guests to sign into the guest book (if first time)
 - b. Shake hands and offer a bulletin.
3. At 9:25, light altar candles. Start from the cross and work your way down. (Candle lighters are stored on the back of greeters stand)
4. Pastor will dim the lights at 9:25 at which time the congregation will quiet and prepare themselves for service.
5. Once the bell is rung, turn the lights back on (there are three switches labeled top-middle-bottom that should be turned on)
6. Offering – come forward for the plates as the offering time is being introduced.
 - a. There is an offering plate in the balcony, which will be brought down and added to the collection plate when you reach the back of the church.
 - b. Wait in the back of the church until the Doxology begins, then bring the plates forward and hand them to the Pastor.
7. During the second to last verse of the final hymn, proceed forward and extinguish the candles. Start from the bottom and work toward the cross.



A TIME TO PREPARE OUR HEARTS FOR WORSHIP

The church council has requested that the sanctuary lights be dimmed as a signal to enter into five minutes of quiet before worship. This is a time to settle yourself and listen to Jill's Prelude and, of course, pray. The lights will return to full brightness with the ringing of the bell.

SYMPATHY

We extend our heartfelt sympathy to the family of Bob Staus, Adam's father. Pastor Bonnie presided at his funeral on May 24th.

Vicki L.'s family also experienced the tragic death of her niece's husband. Please keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers as they grieve.



Our prayers extend to the families of those who lost loved ones in the recent hurricanes.

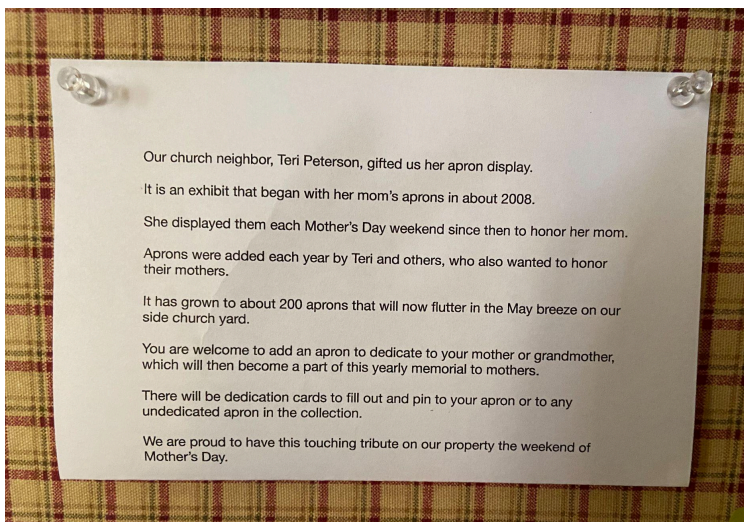
St. Paul's has always been extremely proud of our youth and it is no different this year. Together we celebrate those who graduate from 8th grade: Lucy's grandsons Max and Alex. Her granddaughter, Elliott graduates from Arrowhead High School. Bill & LouAnn's granddaughter, Aubrey, as well as Jack & Charmaine's grandson, Christopher, graduated from Hartford High School. Joyce O'K's granddaughter, Liv, graduates from High School and will

be attending the University of Minnesota in Fall. Kay O'K's grandson, Kyle, graduated from the University of Wisconsin Madison with a degree in civil engineering. If I missed someone, please let me know so we can celebrate as a church family.

Congratulations also go to Emma A-Z for her musical talents! She has gone to the state music competition for 7 years and this year she placed in the top one-third!!! We are very proud of you, Emma.

We are also proud of Nolan W. He was part of the Hartford fifth grade team to attend the Junior Achievement of Wisconsin event. Nolan was his team's Utility Engineer! Congratulations to you!

THANK YOU



Thank you to Teri P. for gifting us with her Aprons in the Wind project to honor mother's. She was so helpful in bringing this artful use of wind and aprons to our property. There were many folks stopping and reading about the individual aprons. Next year, we will attempt more advertising.

Aprons in the Wind was spectacular thanks to Lynn and John D., Betty Z., Carol K., Jill P., and others who not only installed the project but said a prayer with each apron hung for the wind to spread far and wide.





Thanks to Sandy S. for entrusting Beulah's aprons for Aprons in the Wind.

Thanks to Lynn D. for the Dirt Cake on Earth Day Sunday.

Thanks to Connie J. for keeping our website up-to-date!

Thanks to Brett and Susan M. for the donation of a garden hose.

Thank you to Cindy C. for volunteering to attend the Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting at Green Lake. Thanks to our Sunday School Teachers (Jodi S., Debbie S., Rachel H. and Janene K.) did an outstanding job with our youth again this year. Ladies, we are grateful for all your time and effort.

JUNE	GREETERS	LITURGIST
1	Norb and Barb B. Dave and Betty Z.-Communion	Charmaine D.
8	Allan and Sharon S.	Katie G.
15	Mark and Debbie G.	Bernice D.
22	Bill and LouAnn E.	Kay O'K.
29	Vicki and Eugene D.	Cindy C.

THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS

Ron and Diane S., Joyce O'K., Marvin S., Mark G., Charmaine D., John and Polly E., Jill P., Cheryl F., Kim K., the family of Bob Staus.

RECYCLE

If you have plastic or paper bags to share, please give them to Debbie G. She has a friend who makes mats for those in shelters. In addition, Curt H. has volunteered to deliver plastic bags to be recycled.

SOMETHING TO SHARE

Maybe You Could Lower the Bar?

by [Mary Luti](#) | published on May 20, 2025 | Daily Devotions - UCC

Jesus said, "By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." – John 13:35 (NRSV)

Ack. There it is again. The thing that signals to the world that we belong to you, Jesus. Love. Love among disciples. Love for neighbor. Love for the enemy.

There's no getting around it. But what if we can't do it?

I can't. I try, but self-preoccupation is a permanent squatter in the house of my heart. Even with the help of your grace, I doubt I'll evict it this side of the grave.

So, would you consider lowering the bar?

Instead of commanding me to love others, maybe settle for something more entry-level, like inflicting as little harm as possible on people? I might manage that, although even bare restraint is challenging these days.

Not that I actually go around inflicting a lot of harm (probably because I don't get that many chances). But I do say a lot of harm and I think harm even more, because don't they deserve it, the rich and powerful who positively exult in being cruel?

I know what you're going to say. I'm just telling you that if the bar were a tad lower, I'd have a better chance of clearing it.

Like I said before, maybe you could not say, "Love others, like, *really* love them," but instead say something like, "See that one, over there? Good, now repeat after me: 'There goes a human being burdened enough, they don't need me piling on.'"

Would not piling on count? Because honestly, these days, down love's long road, it's about as far as I'm likely to get.

Prayer

If not love, Jesus, then at least let me not pile on.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Church Council Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2025

The Church Council Meeting came to order at 6 p.m. Those in attendance were Pastor Bonnie, Cindy Cain, Connie Johnson, Fred Dieball, Kay O'Keane, Debbie Schlafer, Vicki Dost, and Jack Duehring (guest).

Jack Duehring checked the front door of the church. They are okay, but sometimes people leave it unlocked, or the door locks easily. Jack received 3 proposals:

#1 Hollow steel panel door and frame- primed, not painted \$11,945.00.

#2 Metal door, steel insulated, wood grain, auto close and auto lock, but may exit. May have a window, \$11,592.00.

#3 Aluminum door, insulated, no window. No frame needed. Auto close and auto lock but may exit. \$ 6892.00.

Thank you, Jack, for looking into this. We will discuss more at the May meeting.

The March Council Meeting minutes were approved. The March Financial Report was reviewed and approved. Discussed if we should put financial information in Chapel Bells. Will discuss further at May meeting.

Bonnie attended the Creation Care workshop in Fond Du Lac. The Duwell's will put aprons up for Mother's Day. Discussed preparing our hearts for worship. Combined Coffee with Bonnie and Bible study had 7 attendees.

New directory- Vicki Dost, Lynn Duwell, and Cindy Cain will put it together.
Gift for Sunday school teachers-Kay volunteered to shop.

Liaison reports: Building and grounds- report on front door from Jack. Christian Education- egg hunt had great turnout, lots of kids. Fun!!! May 18th will be an auction fund raiser. More into to come. Guild- no report. Creation care- talking about organizational chart. Technology- going well. Fellowship- on hiatus. Music- no report. Bonnie will thank Jill in Chapel Bells. Mission- Undy 500 to start soon.

Organizational chart and mission statement- members to contact liaison committees and get list of members. Reviewed the current Mission statement. Bonnie will send out a few examples for the May meeting. Cindy moved this to the June meeting.

Contract for cutting season \$415/month approved. Discussion regarding coffee and water. The church water is tested yearly. No concerns. For technology, can we add another screen for the balcony, or can we raise the lights? Fred will follow up with Dave and Jack.

Kay and Bonnie will be available while Cindy is on vacation 4/19-5/10.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45. Our next meeting is Monday May 12, 2025.



June 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 9:30 Worship	2	3 Seniors	4	5 Wisconsin Conference Annual Meeting 5th—8th	6 Kay O'K.	7
8 9:30 Worship Pentecost Sunday— wear RED	10 9 6 PM Council Meeting	Cheryl F.	11 Allan & Sharon S. Anniversary	12 Anna K. & Scott H. Wedding	13	14 Jeff & Tracy M.'s Anniversary
15 9:30 Worship Father's Day Carol R. & Jill L.'s Anniversary	16	17 Vicki D.	18 James L.	19 Women's Guild Madelyn M. Nate W.	20 Isabel H.	21 Aeli O & Robbie B Wedding
22 9:30 Worship New Member Meeting Shirley J.	23	24	25	26v Coffee w/Bonnie & Bible study	27	28
29 9:30 Worship	30					