



St. Paul's Weekly Update – Sept.22, 2022

Worship

On September 30th, people all across Canada will wear orange shirts to remember and honour Indigenous children who were taken from their communities and their families and sent to residential institutions. This year, Indigenous communities across the country continue to share the truth they have always known - that many of the children who never returned home remain on the grounds of those institutions in unmarked burial sites. These communities are now seeking to honour the missing children.



As September 25th is the Sunday just before Orange Shirt Day, I invite you to join me in wearing an orange shirt to church as we take time to pray for not only our Indigenous, but for all of us who mourn the tragic deaths of so many children in our country.

Worship with us in person at 10:00 a.m. or on-line. Visit our website at www.stpaulsmidland.org and use the direct YouTube link at the top of the page, or simply go to YouTube and subscribe to our channel. Just type in "St. Paul's Midland" and you will find us.

Men's Breakfast Gathering

Our next men's breakfast gathering will be **this Saturday September 24th at 9:00 a.m. at Mom's Restaurant**. Gather with the guys for some food, fellowship and interesting conversation. All men are welcome to join.



Return of St. Paul's in-person Social Hour and Zoom Coffee Hour



Our next **ZOOM Coffee Hour is this Sunday, September 25th**. You can use the same link as before:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89969004401>

Please note that Colleen will join the ZOOM coffee hour this Sunday from her new home in Brandon, so you will have an opportunity to say your goodbyes at that time. She is looking forward to seeing everyone and having a chance to reconnect with you.

UCW Garage Sale

The UCW's indoor garage sale is this Saturday, September 24th from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. You can drop off your items on September 22nd between 1:00 and 4:00 p.m. and again on Friday September 23rd from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.



If you're unable to get your items to the church yourself, pick up can be arranged by calling Judy McConnell at 705-529-1826.

We can sell items such as toys, books, games, puzzles, dishes, glassware, small appliances (in working order please), clothing, bedding, jewellery, DVDs, small furniture items, tools. We cannot accept large furniture items or very heavy items.

You can donate, shop or do both – cash only please. Come on out, have some fun while helping St. Paul's UCW continue their good work!!

Official Board

The Official Board meets on **Tuesday, September 27th** at 7:00 p.m. All Committee Chairs, please have your reports on your groups' activities (since the last meeting in June) to the church office no later than September 22nd, so they can be included with the agenda.

Discovery Kids and Youth Group

Welcome back from summer holidays to our Discovery Kids and Youth Group. For the first time since the pandemic, children are being invited back into the Sanctuary for the Theme Conversation and Christ Candle lighting at the beginning of each service. Children will go up to DK as a group for lessons after that.

Congregational Life

Our next St. Paul's take-out dinner is this coming Wednesday, September 28th, to support the work of St. Paul's. The menu is lasagna, Caesar salad, bread and dessert for \$20.00. Pick up time will be from 4:30 to 5:00 at the Atrium door. Cost is \$20.00 per meal, payable to the church office in advance. You can pay by e-transfer, cheque or cash. There will be a maximum of 65 meals sold. **Deadline for ordering is 4:00 p.m. on Tuesday September 27th.**



PHOTO DIRECTORY 2022:

After a two-year delay, it looks like we are finally ready to go with St. Paul's photo directory! This is scheduled for the week of October 19th to 22nd, 2022. To book your appointment, Sue Sauve will have a sign-up book in the Atrium on Sundays, before and after worship. You can also email Sue at suemsauve@gmail.com for an appointment time. Each booking gets a free photo directory and a free 8 x 10 colour photo. **Please note** that there will be a Congregational photo taken on Sunday, October 9, 2022, after the Thanksgiving worship service. Please plan to attend.

PASTORAL CARE:

If you know of anyone who is in hospital or in need of pastoral care please contact me, Karen at 705-433-1224.

This Week's Minute for Mission

GOD'S MISSION
OUR GIFTS



Women bear the brunt of effects of climate change in Zambia.

In areas where historically there has been little rain, now there are floods, and where there were floods, now there are droughts. That's how Shadrack Chembe, the Monitoring and Evaluation Manager at Women for Change—an organization in Zambia that strives to improve conditions in rural communities by empowering women and

girls—describes the changing climate in Zambia. Women bear the brunt.

"In Zambia, women are still responsible for collecting firewood and charcoal and making food. Now, because of climate change, they have to walk a longer distance to gather firewood. Charcoal is harder to get. That means it's harder to make food. At the same time, women aren't involved in the decision-making processes that impact this work," explains Chembe.

Women for Change was established in 1992, and its long-standing partnership with the United Church stretches back to 1995. From the beginning, mobilizing communities to share ideas and best practices has been key to the work. Since its inception, 1,500 community groups have been established, with 25-40 people in each group and representatives from each forming associations. The groups discuss a variety of justice-related topics. Building climate resiliency by preparing for, recovering from, and adapting to drastically changing weather patterns is a priority.

Weather extremes due to climate change coupled with companies promoting seeds that only produce a single crop increasingly put people at risk.

"The majority of farmers are poor. They can't buy seeds, but companies have created seeds that force farmers to have to purchase them each year," says Chembe. "Groups discuss how they can save and share seeds, what they can plant with longer or shorter rains, and if there are traditional methods that can increase food production," he says, adding, "We are grateful for the United Church's support. The church has really been there for many years, helping us build awareness and resiliency. It's been a real partnership."

Your gifts through [Mission & Service](#) support long-term, life-changing work through committed partners like Women for Change. Thank you.

Blessings everyone,

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e-mail stpaulsunited@rogers.com
Louise works at the church office from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Thursdays only.