



St. Paul's Weekly Update – June 1, 2023

From the Minister

I want to begin by thanking our volunteers who hosted a welcome celebration for our newest Members and Adherents last Sunday. The Congregational Life committee organized this, under the direction of Sheila Thompson. I also want to thank the volunteers under the direction of Carol MacDonald, who planted our gardens, enhancing beauty and a peaceful setting for those who are in the downtown core. We had a volunteer assist in the office this week while others attended meetings, worked with children and stepped in where needed. Thank you for all that you do for the health of our congregation and community. It is much appreciated. It is people of this congregation who volunteer that make a difference. For this we can indeed give God thanks and sing a "happy allelujah"!

Worship

This coming Sunday is a communion Sunday and if you are one of our online congregants, we invite you to have a beverage and bread/cracker to join us. The Worship committee will be testing the use of paper muffin cups instead of a plastic bag for our communion cracker. They would appreciate your feedback. Below is the link for this week's service. Please join us.



<https://youtube.com/live/ZUbrlgOwxhQ?feature=share>

Worship with us in person on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. or online. Click the link above to go directly to the service or visit our website at www.stpaulsmidland.org

In-Person Coffee Hour

Join us this **Sunday, June 4th** after the worship service for in-person coffee hour. Sheila Thompson's team will be hosting this week, and Sheila is also the Captain of the Greeters for June.



ZOOM Coffee Hour

Our next ZOOM coffee will be on Sunday, June 11th at 1:00 p.m. You can join using the same link as before: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89969004401>

Please note that this will be the last ZOOM coffee hour of the summer, resuming in the fall.

Volunteer Opportunity

The Congregational Life committee is looking for a few friendly folks who would enjoy connecting by telephone or by personal visit with some of our St. Paul's family who are home-bound. Please contact Sheila for more information at rmsmt2612@gmail.com or 705-526-2186.

Gardeners Needed

We are still looking for some eager gardeners to help us out with the church gardens. If you have any questions about what this involves, please call Carol MacDonald at (705) 828-2158.

Calling All Campers

St. Paul's is committed to helping children and youth get to camp, which is why we offer a financial subsidy for all our camping programs. Please reach out to Rebecca if you would like to discuss this option or for more information regarding our camps. She can be reached at (226) 339-8218 or by e-mail at rebeccaamadei@gmail.com

Camp Awesome: (Vacation Bible School): This is for children ages 5 to 12 and will be held here at St. Paul's (in the morning) during the week of August 8th – 12th. All children, grandchildren and friends are welcome!

Camp Simpresca: This is for children ages 6 to 16 and programs run throughout the summer. Enjoy a variety of summer activities right here in Midland on Georgian Bay! There are three-and six-night camps available. Registration is now open and you can register for any of these camps at <https://simpresca.campbrainregistration.com/>.

Camp Micah This one is for high-school youth and is being held from August 20th to 25th near Bancroft Ontario. Explore topics around human and land justice, non-violent approaches to conflict, and challenge messaging that comes from our consumer-governed world. Enjoy kayaking, high ropes, rock climbing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, campfires and more. Visit campmicah.ca to register or speak with Rebecca.

Faith Formation

On June 15, the Moderator of the United Church of Canada, the Right Reverent Doctor Carmen Lansdowne will be meeting with the Young Adults of the United Church at St. Paul's United Church in Orillia, to share in conversation and reflection. At this gathering, we will join together in theological thought, as shared by four theological reflectors, conversation and fellowship. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jeffery Dale, Minister for Justice and Faith Formation at jdale@united-church.ca. Jeffrey will work with you to ensure your dietary needs are met, accommodations are met (including transportation and overnight hotel accommodations where needed) and if needed, a stipend is provided for you to attend the meeting – recognizing young adults will need to miss a day of work to attend.

Congregational News

The Congregational Life Committee is looking for a couple volunteers to help at our booth for a couple of hours during the Butter Tart Festival on June 10th. Please contact Sheila Thompson at 705-526-2186 if you can help. Don't forget to drop by our booth on the church lawn on that day!

Calling all men in the congregation! Victoria invites you to come out and sing - just a "one shot" gig. Rehearsal will be on Thursday night, June 8 at 7:00 p.m. at St Paul's then singing at the Worship Service Sunday, June 11. Music will be provided at rehearsal - no preparation needed. Victoria looks forward to having as many of you join us as possible.

The United Church Women (UCW) are having a potluck luncheon on Tuesday June 13th at 11:45 at the church. All women of the congregation are invited! If you would like to attend, please call Judy McConnell at 705 529-1826 or email at Itsally58@gmail.com. Please let us know by June 9th if you plan to attend.

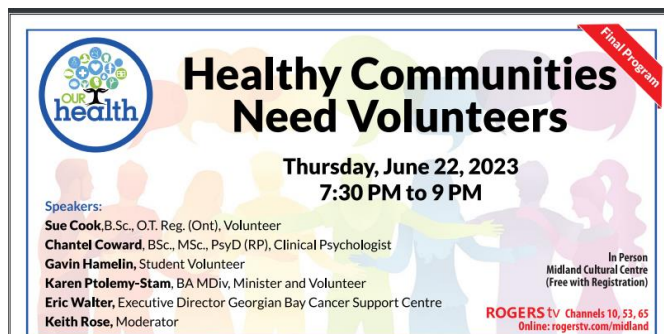
The UCW is part of the Gift of Grace Soup Kitchen and **once a week** in August, we provide them with 8 loaves of sandwiches. If you can help, please contact Barb Carswell at 705-526-5957.

Volunteers Wanted: We are looking for volunteers who would be willing to work with Karen and the Worship Team to record some outdoor Acknowledgements of the Land. Please contact Karen if you are interested. We will also need one or two artists to assist in a project that will be used for Penetecost Sunday.

Bay Sound Choir Concert "Spring into Summer" is this Saturday, June 3rd at 7:00 p.m. here at St. Paul's, featuring special guest Vox Femina. Tickets can be purchased online or at the door at a cost of \$20 for adults and \$15 for youth. This concert is free for children under 5 years old.

St. Paul's in the Community

The Midland Cultural Centre is hosting A "Healthy Communities Need Volunteers" program on June 22nd at 7:30 p.m., celebrating volunteers and how their time, energy and skills create healthier communities. The program features a number of guest speakers, including Karen Ptolemy-Stam, who will speaking on behalf of St. Paul's. This is a free event, but you must register in advance with the Midland Cultural Centre.



This Week's Minute for Mission

Storytelling is a powerful way to preserve and share history. The



theatre performance, Bunk #7, does just that. Bunk #7 shares the true story of six boys rioting against the mistreatment and many forms of abuse they received at Edmonton Indian Residential School in St. Albert, Alberta, in the early 1960s. Written by the late Nisga'a MLA Larry Guno, the play is based on his own experience at the residential school and named for his bunk number.

**GOD'S MISSION
OUR GIFTS**

The cast features Indigenous youth and young adults, offering a powerful way for the cast and audiences to learn and share the story of cultural resilience. In November 2021, the play premiered at Raven Theatre in British Columbia to a full audience. With overwhelming support, the performers went on a tour of northwestern BC to share the transformative journey. Your gifts to Mission & Service open opportunities for storytelling to move forward in an impactful and powerful way. Thank you for your generosity.

Blessings everyone,

Minister – Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam, St. Paul's United Church **705-433-1224**
minsputcmidland@gmail.com

Church Administrator – Louise Therrien, (Tues. Wed. Thurs.) **705-526-1640**
e-mail stpaulsunited@rogers.com
Louise works at the church office from 8:30 a.m. to noon on Wednesdays only.

Office Secretary – Jane Quigley (Tues. Thurs.) mornings 9:00 a.m. - 12 at the church.
705-526-6077.