

### From the Minister

How wonderful this past Sunday to see quite a number of folk back worshipping with us in person as well to welcome a number of new folk. Discovery Kids are back to having a regular gatherings on Sunday mornings, the choir is back and there were many smiles and conversations before and after church. We are a faith community here to support one another, share laughter and love and know that we are not alone as we walk this road of faith. Thanks be to God.!

Also exciting news is that **Shaun McIntosh** begins his university placement with us as part of his course work in his Masters of Divinity program. He will be working as our student minister for **four** hours a week. Although this is not much time, it will allow him to gain insight and experience from a "minister's" perspective as he works toward ordained ministry.

Further in the weekly update you will see more information about our UCW Garage Sale, complimentary luncheon on the 24<sup>th</sup>, another eat in or take out dinner, and other announcements. Hope you can join us whenever you can.

### Worship

**Worship with us in person** at 10:00 a.m. or online. Click on the link below to go directly to the service, or visit our website at [www.stpaulsmidland.org](http://www.stpaulsmidland.org)



<https://youtube.com/live/W7BaioMaiQ8?feature=share>

### Office Hours

The office is open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings from 9 a.m. until noon. **Please note** that Louise is away on vacation from September 8<sup>th</sup> to September 24<sup>th</sup> inclusive. During her absence, the office will remain open on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings. We welcome back **Judy McConnell** who is filling in while Louise is away on holidays. Karen will also be available to answer any enquiries that may arise.

## St. Paul's Outreach Survey 2023 and Luncheon

**On Sunday, Sept. 24<sup>th</sup>** you are invited to join us for a **complimentary working lunch** to learn the results of the recent survey that we asked you to fill out. We will discuss the results and hear your wisdom on what the priorities might be as we begin to get a sense of our future directions. We promise it will be informative and fun as we engage one another on these ideas. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. Our complimentary lunch on Sunday September 24<sup>th</sup> after church is funded by the Community Services Recovery Grant (Government of Canada). I look forward to sharing the survey results with your help and support we can begin to revitalize the St. Paul's Community Outreach Program. Our working lunch will be from 11 till 1:30 and special thanks to the UCW for your help to make this happen. *"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world: it's the only thing that ever has," Margaret Mead*

## Official Board

Members of the Official Board please note that we are meeting in-person and on zoom on Tues. Sept 26/23 at 7:00 p.m.

## In-Person Coffee Hour

Our next in-person coffee hour will be this **Sunday, September 17<sup>th</sup>**. Please **note** that Sheila Thompson is Captain of the Greeters for the month of September.



## UCW Garage Sale!

UCW's annual Garage Sale will take place on **September 16<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.** Please set aside any items in your home that you no longer need or want and we will pass them on for someone else to enjoy, while raising needed funds for our work. Please note that we cannot accept large items of furniture, baby furnishings, sports equipment or pet accessories.

**Drop off of donations will be on Friday, September 15<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.** Donations may be arranged for a different day by contacting Zena. She can be reached by phone at (705) 527-6789 or by email at [zenapendlebury@gmail.com](mailto:zenapendlebury@gmail.com)

## Faith Formation:

**Discovery Kids** has started back with gatherings every Sunday morning. The children start in the sanctuary and join us for the first ten minutes of our worship service, then head up out to be part of a special program designed for them. To register or if you have any questions please email Rebecca Amadei [rebeccaamadei@gamil.com](mailto:rebeccaamadei@gamil.com). We would love to see you!

**IF God is Love Why Be a Jerk** starts this coming Monday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the parlour. There is still space for one or two more if you are interested in joining us for this study group. Contact Karen for more information.

**The Moderator of the United Church is also launching a separate book club with fiction, non-fiction and poetry.** The link below sends you to a trailer which is both fun and informative on this new endeavour. It looks like it will be a very interesting monthly conversation. For more information, please follow the link below:

## **Congregational Life**

Our next eat-in/take-out dinner will be on **Wednesday, September 27, 2023.**

The menu will include lasagna, hot vegetables, coleslaw, bread and dessert. Cost is \$20, payable in advance. Please call the office to reserve your meal and arrange payment. Pick-up at the Atrium door or join us in the Great Hall at 4:30 for a sit-down dinner. Thank you for your support of the work of St. Paul's.

## **Join your friends for a Farm Tour on Sunday, October 1, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.**

We will be given a guided tour of an active Jersey dairy operation including the automatic milking system. The tour will last approximately an hour then, if you like, a short drive will take you to the pumpkin/gourd farm for your holiday decor and photo opportunities. Please contact Sheila if you have any questions or plan to go.

We'll meet at the church at 1:30 to car pool, all ages are welcome, bring a friend.

Our hosts will be two Jones families, the dairy farm is Shady Glen Farms, 1489 Ron Jones Road (Kevin and Caroline Jones and family) and the pumpkin patch is Autumn Harvest Farm, 1470 Old Fort Road. (Steven and Yvonne Jones and family)

## **Men's Breakfast**

**The monthly meeting** will be held at Mom's restaurant on Saturday September 30 at 9:00 am. All men welcome!

## **This Week's Minute for Mission**

### **Every child has the right to learn**

Where would you be if you had no education? School fees, violence, child labour, and discrimination mean that too many children can't go to or stay in school in parts of the world. Every child has the right to learn.



Mission and Service partner Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children (KAACR) brings together child rights organizations to share information about child protection and safeguarding and helps to support children in schools.

Thanks to your support, KAACR has established over 300 child rights clubs in schools. One of these clubs helped Meshack through primary school. A bursary program has helped him pay high school fees, and the child rights club at his school is teaching him how to be a positive role model.

"To start [going to] school was a problem. KAACR has helped me. They encouraged me a lot. They enabled me to start my primary school. Now I'm in high school," Meshack says. "The club is helping us a lot, too. They give us role models to teach us what is bad and help us be confident in whatever we are doing. I'm very happy."



Thank you for helping to break down barriers so every child can go to school, regardless of who they are, where they live, or how much money they have. Your generous support through Mission and Service means that children around the world have the opportunity to go to school thanks to partnerships with organizations like KAACR.

## **Blessings everyone,**

**Minister** – Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam, St. Paul's United Church **705-433-1224**,  
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**Church Administrator** – Louise Therrien, (Wednesday) mornings 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 at the church  
**705-526-1640**, stpaulsunited@rogers.com