



St. Paul's Weekly Update – Mar. 14, 2024

From Our Minister – Karen Ptolemy-Stam

Reaching out to others and seeking justice is part of our faith response as followers of Christ. This coming Sunday we will be exploring in the L.I.F.E. (Living in Faith Everyday) sermon and what it means to reach out to some of the world's most vulnerable people. Carol MacDonald and Cathy Pelletier from Grandmothers to Grandmothers and Zena Pendlebury representing St. Paul's partnership with the Guesthouse, our local shelter for those who are unhoused, will explore just two ways in which we can attempt to make a difference in the world. Come join us! Also on Sunday, Apr. 16th we will be sharing in the joy of baptism with two different families. If anyone missed becoming a member last Sunday, this is the last chance to be officially welcomed in a worship service before Karen retires. Please contact Karen directly if you are interested.

Worship – Sunday, Mar. 17th

Join us this Sunday as we continue our Lenten journey. If you are not able to join us in person on Sunday mornings at 10:00 a.m., just click on the link below and you can join us online anytime.

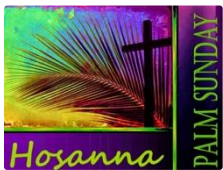


<https://youtube.com/live/EbyHyii17fA?feature=share>

In-Person Coffee Hour

Our next in-person coffee is this **Sunday, Mar. 17th**, following worship compliments of our local Grandmothers to Grandmothers as a gift of thanks to St. Paul's.

Holy Week/Easter Services – Mark Your Calendars



Sunday, March 24/All Ages Palm Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, March 28/24 Maundy Thursday Communion 7:00 p.m.

Friday, March 29/24 Good Friday Service – 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, March 31/24 Easter Sunrise Service, 7:00 a.m. Little Lake Park Breakfast for all 8:00 a.m. Easter Sunday Service 10:00 a.m.



Our Condolences:

It is with sadness that we inform you that Iris Williams' daughter, Sandra Scott, passed away just a few days after her mother on Sat. March 9th. Please continue to keep the Williams and Scott families in your thoughts and prayers.

St. Paul's website

Want to know what's going on St. Paul's? Visit our **website** at <https://www.stpaulsmidland.org/> There is lots of information and worth the look. You can also follow us on **Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=st.%20paul%27s%20united%20church>

A Message from your Stewardship Committee

Your Stewardship Committee provides you with financial updates periodically throughout the year. We keep a close eye on our actual costs compared to the approved budget as well as our cash flow that is used to pay ongoing expenses. After two months, our deficit is over \$23,000 and funds for operating expenses in the bank are trending lower. While it is early in the year, we urge you to keep up your weekly contributions to St Paul's so that the deficit will be manageable later in the year.

Below is a snapshot of our financial status as of the end of Feb. 2024:

Total Income: \$31,707

Total Expenses: \$55,208

Deficit: (\$23,501)

Connecting Together

Join our group **every Thurs.** from **2:00 to 3:00 p.m.** to connect and enjoy time sharing stories, fun, fellowship and to meet new friends. If anyone can display our flyer around town or at your place of work, it would be very much appreciated. Flyers are located on the desk in the atrium. Thank you to our volunteers headed by Louise Leck who are there to support others and enjoy just connecting.

Open Gym Drop-In

Children, families and their friends are invited to an "Open Gym" drop-in in the Great Hall of St. Paul's **this Saturday, Mar. 16th from 6:00 -8:00 p.m.** A small snack, beverage and gym activities will be provided. There is no need to RSVP. Contact Rebecca by email for any questions at dkspumidland@gmail.com. Childcare is not provided so children need to be accompanied by an adult. Come in your best St. Patrick's Day spirit and we hope to see you there!

Captain of the Greeters

Sheila Thompson is Captain of the Greeters for the month of March.

Save the date for our next Lifelong Learning event on **Tues. Apr. 2nd at 7:00 p.m.** We will welcome Holly Archer as our guest speaker. Holly is a local professional artist and art educator. She has just finished a very successful art installation, "A Cultured Diet" at Quest Art Gallery. Holly's conversation will include the art world and entrepreneurship, her recent show and the inspiration behind it. Please join us to hear from this dynamic young woman. Please let Kathy Stewart know if you plan to attend at volunteerspucmidland@gmail.com

National Volunteer Week

On **Wednesday Apr. 17th at 5:00 p.m.**, we will be celebrating our volunteers at a dinner in the Great Hall at St. Paul's. Save the date and stay tuned for more details. This event is made possible through the Community Service Recovery Fund grant.

Office Hours

The office is open on **Tues., Wed. and Thurs.** mornings from **9:00 a.m. until noon.**

This Week's Minute for Mission

"When we come together and get to know each other, we have a community."



Signing up for a course is both exciting and nerve-wracking. We think about what skills we'll learn, how quickly we'll see improvement, and how naturally "talented" we may be.

In Sambir, Ukraine, English teacher Ilona is encouraging her learners to challenge that way of thinking and enjoy the aspect of social time with one another while learning English. This class, supported by [Mission and Service](#) partner ACT Alliance, is part of a psychosocial support program for Ukrainians displaced by war. Ilona and her family were also displaced by the conflict in Ukraine, and she is now actively contributing to the well-being of others in similar situations.

While online learning expands opportunities and access to learning, distance learners miss crucial social engagement and human interaction. Ilona shares, "When we come together and get to know each other, we have a community. We can open up and share our thoughts, feelings, and experiences." In a low-pressure learning environment, students can feel comfortable as they learn skills and learn about each other.

Thank you for the support you show to through [Mission and Service](#) as our neighbours endure the ongoing impacts of war and conflict.

Blessings everyone

Minister – Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam, **705-433-1224**, minspucmidland@gmail.com

Church Administrator – Louise Therrien, (Wednesday mornings 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 at the church), stpaulsunited@rogers.com **705-526-1640 (home office)**

Administrative Assistant – Judy McConnell (**Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00**) officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com 705-526-6077