



"Everyday people living hands on,
heart in for Jesus."

St. Paul's

United Methodist Church
3334 Breton Road SE.
Grand Rapids, MI 49512

616.949.0880 • grstpaulsumc.org

Pastor: Rev. Virginia Heller
269.274.9416 • pastorgini54@yahoo.com

June 2021 Messenger

HURTING WORLD OFFERING

The Street Children Ministry is run by the General Board of Global Ministries and serves over 300 children and 100 adults who live in slums in Cambodia who were moved by their government to a new area. The new area has no school for children, no source of income, no clean drinking water, and no spiritual or mental support. The vision of this ministry is to help create a world in which marginalized people can experience the love of God and receive mentoring on their faith walk as they grow in Christ. The ongoing mission is to share the gospel and love of God by funding children's education, teaching vocational skills, and providing health care to the sick and nutritional support to the undernourished. They strive for goals to give hope to the hopeless, shine light to those experiencing darkness in their lives, and share the love of God with all. Please prayerfully consider supporting this important ministry by contributing to the June Hurting World Offering.

St. Paul's United Methodist Church

3334 Breton Road, S.E.
Grand Rapids, MI 49512
Phone: (616) 949-0880

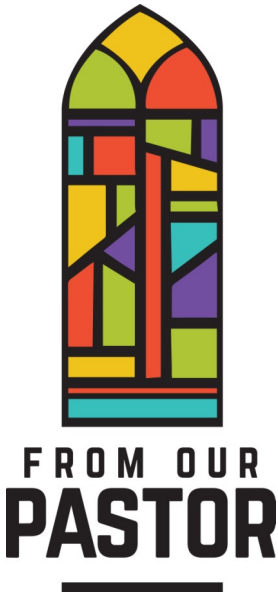
Email:

grstpaulsumc@gmail.com

Website:

www.grstpaulsumc.org





Pastor's Message...

I'm retiring. I'm retiring? Am I really retiring? Yup. Guess so. I received my letter from the Bishop confirming this event.

My kids and I want to thank you for the care you've given us. It's only been three years and yet so much has happened. We've sang, danced, cried, laughed, and shared. You allowed me to visit my parents several times as Dad was dying. You aided my kids in attending. They are still in grateful awe. Mother lived with me for close to a year. It was a very important time for both of us.

I have watched many of you grow in your faith. It is always an honor and amazing blessing for a pastor to witness this. I know that I have probably hindered some of you in your faith journey, too. I wish this were not so, but we are human. I pray for all of you.

While I face retirement with some trepidation, I also am so excited about this next leg in the journey. Of course, a big part of that is Callen! What an incredible blessing a child is! I am also looking to see what types of missions I will be involved in.

Thank you, everyone, for the blessing you have been to me, and to St. Paul's. God bless you.



Worship.

June 6 - Dick Witvoet preaching

June 13 - Music Sunday

June 20 - Annual Conference report

June 27 - Pastor's last Sunday

Anyone wishing to be a reader, sing or participate in any way, please contact the Pastor (269-274-9416). There will be a time for sharing after the service.



A Note of Appreciation. . .

Dear St. Paul's family,
We so appreciate your heart felt sympathies and support in the recent death of Bonnie

White. Your prayers, cards, and community have lifted us more than you know.
Love, Ron & Pam



Gil and I have appreciated the friendship of all the members of St. Paul's during our attendance

here. I loved working with Sunday school children and their families, The Logan's, Mairs, the Saleese, and Hulls. I treasured working with Carol Ward, as well as Dorothy and Orlan Lehmann, Michele and Tom Orsborn, Pam Gombert, Peg Edverson, Pastor Gini and others who lent a hand in Sunday school. Mission Committee was particularly enjoyable, and members were patient and forgiving while I learned. Gil and I will leave the church the first of June. Thank you all for your friendship to us.

Marilynn and Gil Springman



Good-byes-

Pastor's Gini's last service with us will be on June 27. If you have a reading or a song you would like to share with her and the congregation on that day— please contact Pastor Gini.

Watch for a special box where you may put cards or notes for her or you may mail them to the church.

Hellos - Pastor Bri's first service with us will be on July 11. The worship committee is planning a warm welcome.

There will be a box for cards, notes, gift cards, etc. for Pastor Bri and her family. There will also be a basket if you would like to share goodies or other gifts for them.



We are making a gift for Pastor Bri. Please put your name, address, and phone number on a 3x5 card. Then put three things you would like her to know about you. It can be fun facts, such as you like to knit. It can be helpful, such as you like to mow or cook or sing. It may be something serious. Maybe you have cancer or are taking care of a loved one.

Please put them in an envelope marked "Pastor Bri, 3x5." You may drop them off at church, mail them, or give them to Pastor Gini. They will be read only by Pastor Bri. Thank you!

A Little of This, A Little of That. . . .



Brunch Bunch Brunch bunch will be Friday, June 11 at 9:00 am outside at the church. If you have any questions, please contact Peg Edverson - pedvenson@gmail.com or 455-8167.



The Thursday evening Bible Study just completed their Psalms study. Though we are not doing a formal study this summer, we will be gathering once a month for fellowship and prayer. Feel free to join us on the following dates: 6/17, 7/22, 8/19 at 6:30 pm. Bring a lawn chair and join the group at the church. We will gather outside (weather permitting).



A memorial service for Georgene Greene to celebrate a wondrous, well-lived life will be held at Brightside Community Church, 8175 Broadmore Ave, SE, Caledonia, MI on Tuesday, June 1st at 3:00pm. The family would like you to consider donating to the Macayla Lee Kohn Scholarship. Georgene actively supported this fund with volunteering and donations. This fund was created by friends of hers and provides scholarships to Caledonia School seniors. Georgene has touched the lives of many of the past recipients. Please make checks payable to Macayla Lee Kohn Scholarship. Mail to 6269 Montmorency Dr. Caledonia, MI 49316. Attn: Jessica Kohn. Please put Georgene's name on the memo line. Or you can venmo @MacaylaLee-KohnsScholarship. The family thanks you for your prayers and continued support. We will miss our matriarch dearly.



St. Paul's Church Council Meeting Summary

May 18, 2021

Pastor Gini – 1) She was not at the meeting, but sent information on upcoming worship services. On June 6, Dick Witvoet will preach, since Pastor Gini will be at Annual Conference. June 13 is music Sunday. June 20 will be an annual conference report by Pastor Gini and Peg Edverson. June 27 is Gini's last Sunday. Anyone wishing to read, sing or participate that day is asked to contact the pastor. Peg Cargill will preach on July 4. July 11 will be Pastor Bri's first Sunday. **2)** Three by five index cards are being passed out for church members to write down their name, contact info, and something about themselves to help introduce people at St. Paul's to Pastor Bri. **3)** Council is tabling discussion about mask wearing and singing in church until our next meeting. They hope to gather feedback from the congregation and Pastor Bri. The safety of some members who can't be vaccinated for medical reasons and young children are a concern.

Over the Wall – Books for Hamilton students are ready to go to the teachers. Labels were printed this year instead of church members signing the inside of each book.

Missions – Upcoming Hurting World offerings are: May – Church World Service (an UMCOR grant for border shelters), June – Street children in Cambodia, July – Red Bird Clinic and Health Center in KY, and August – Native American Youth Ministry.

SPRC – 1) Two boxes will be available for cards, notes, and gift cards. One for Pastor Gini's retirement and one for Pastor Bri's welcome. We will also put together a welcome basket of home-made gift items for Bri. These boxes will be available at church on May 30, and June 6 and 13. **2)** Staff hours for Heather and Scott to be at church will be determined once the new pastor is here. **3)** A decision about an organist will also be made once Pastor Bri is here. **4)** A question was asked about a substitute for Fran Hesley (as pianist) in case she wants to take time off. That is SPRC's duty to find a sub.

Finance – Financial reports from January to April were distributed. Our current deficit of \$11,489.15 is very close to what was planned for this time of the year in the budget. The hope is that giving will increase in the summer and fall, as it usually does.

Trustees – 1) Painting at the parsonage is complete, with many thanks to all who helped. **2)** Doors have been installed, back yard pruning completed, and internet set up at the parsonage. **3)** Carpeting will be installed the week of May 24. **4)** People to help clean the parsonage will be needed – probably the weekend after Memorial Day – around June 4 or 5. Talk to Glenn Gould if you want to help.

213 Task Force – They will be meeting in the near future.

Scouts – They will be holding a Court of Honor on Monday, May 24 at 6:30 pm on the lawn at church. Church members are invited to help celebrate the scout's and leader's accomplishments.

Nominating Committee – 1) Pastor Gini Heller and Peg Edverson have put together job descriptions for committee heads.

Miscellaneous – 1) Pastor Gini and Peg Edverson will be attending Annual Conference virtually on June 3-6. **2)** Pastor Bri has asked for favorite scriptures from leadership of the church. **3)** Glenn Gould is looking at changing the church's email format. Nothing is decided at this point.

The next regular church council meeting will be Tuesday, June 15, 2021 at 7 pm.