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### Pastor's Thoughts

November brings change of seasons to the Midwest. Temperatures drop. Leaves fall. Sometimes snow falls too. Time changes. Some leave and arrive home in the dark. The Holiday season looms large. For some it is a time of great family gatherings, Currier and Ives or Norman Rockwell prints come to life around your family table. For some, it is a time of reflection and solitude. Many get swept up in the busyness of planning, cleaning, cooking, entertaining, decorating, shopping, shopping and more shopping.

This December I invite you to consider the rhythm of your days with intentionality. I invite you to a holy holiday season of sacred joy and connection and wholeness. That may mean you change the rhythm of the past and drum a new beat for your present.

Our Advent theme this year is Sacred Rhythms Resounding. Each week we will explore ancient stories which invite us into rhythm of change, connectedness, wholeness and joy. We will follow the beat of the universe that emanates in our own bodies bringing spiritual connection to the Divine and all others.

Join us for worship on Sunday mornings in December. Wednesdays at 6:30 p.m. there will be a drumming circle as well. Everyone has a heartbeat to add to the music of the spheres. All are invited. Bring a drum if you have one, but there will be lots of drums and percussion instruments for you to try out as well. Bring a friend to worship this holy, holiday season.

Peace,



# Mid-Week **CONNECT** Classes



## Scouts BSA Troop 12

Saint Paul United Methodist Church has been a sponsor of the Troop 12 Boy Scouts since 1911. Scott Sutter is the Scoutmaster.

News of what the troop has been up to will be included in the newsletter periodically.

- In June 15 scouts and 9 adults attended a summer camp at the Lake of the Ozarks. The weather was good and everyone had a great time.
- In July the activity was attending Worlds of Fun, which 7 scouts and 5 adults did.
- Throughout July and August the scouts met weekly to work on advancement.
- In August a Court of Honor was held to recognize the scouts who progressed to a higher rank and awarded merit badges they completed through the summer.
- Weekend campouts began in September and 13 scouts and 4 adults traveled to Wildwood Lake.

## Psalms

**6:30 p.m. in the Office Conference Room**

The Psalms has been one of the most beloved books of the Bible for millennia. In this Bible study we will take a closer look at the Book of Psalms as it spans the fullness of the human experience, and explore how it informs our speech and dynamic relationship with God. Led by Pastor Jed Linder.

## Sacred Drumming

**Begins December 4 at 6:00 p.m.**

Please join Rev. Jane Florence for this seasonal Advent class. Everyone has a heartbeat to add to the music of the spheres. All are invited to our drum circle, where we will practice sacred drumming bringing our bodies together in a spiritual connection to one another and the Divine. Bring a drum if you have one, but there will be lots of drums and percussion instruments for you to try out as well. Led by Rev. Jane Florence.



## Mid-Week Connect: Advent for Kids

**Wednesday Nights**

**November 20 - December 18**

**From 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.**

We will focus on Advent as a time to prepare for Christ's coming through crafts, prayer and missions.

## SPRC Announcement

Staff Parish Relations Committee is excited to announce that Paul Robinson will be our new Lead Director of Music and Worship Arts Ministries. Paul will be joining Saint Paul UMC staff in January as Bill Wyman moves into retirement at the end of December.

A graduate of the Manhattan School of Music in New York City (vocal performance), Paul took a six-year detour managing health clubs in Southern California and running a personal training studio in his hometown St. Louis before being drawn back to his musical roots. During his time in St. Louis, Paul frequently performed with the St. Louis Symphony, the Bach Society of St. Louis and Union Avenue Opera. In 2013, he felt God calling him out of the fitness industry and into music ministry and shortly thereafter, Paul and his family were on their way to First Presbyterian Church in Rapid City, SD. Paul directs the Chancel Choir and Praise Team and serves as the organist for Sunday services. An avid composer, his choral and instrumental pieces are regularly presented as a part of worship. Paul has recently been engaged as a featured soloist or directed performances with the Dakota Choral Union, Black Hills Community Theatre, the Black Hills Playhouse and the Black Hills Symphony Orchestra. He is married to Martha, and they have two daughters - Emsley and Astoria.

We are excited about the gifts and graces that Paul brings to Saint Paul and look forward to welcoming his family in our midst.



**Paul Robinson**  
Lead Director of Music and  
Worship Arts Ministries

## Friday Noon Concerts

### 2019 Season

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#### November 1

Southeast High School  
(Jazz Choir and Madrigal Choir)

#### December 6

William McMullen and Catherine  
Herbener (Oboe, Piano,  
Harpichord)



## Save the Date: Farewell to Dr. Wyman

**December 15 at 12:00 p.m.**  
**in the Bevins Family Life Center**

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We will hold a fellowship Lunch honoring Bill Wyman's 41 years of ministry at Saint Paul. Please join in this celebration of gratitude for his musical leadership here for four decades.



## Chancel Chat

### Thanksgiving

I am not much into genealogy but my brother spends a lot of time exploring family history. So, I know the Wyman family in America come over from England with the initial wave of settlers to Plymouth Colony. It is fascinating to consider that my ancestors might have shared the first Thanksgiving in America. History says that this national holiday originated in 1621 as a time of thankfulness for a bountiful harvest. Some of our thankfulness is expressed through song. Hymns like "Come Ye Thankful People Come" give us an opportunity to do this. Quoting from Elise Eslinger's introduction to the latest edition of Upper Room Worship Book,

"the new worship book is grounded in that hospitable Wesleyan spirit that holds together what some might separate, personal and social holiness, sacramental and evangelical practices, warmth of heart and strength of mind." As we enter November, the Chancel Choir will be singing in worship music that supports the "thankfulness" of late fall with warmth of heart and strength of mind.

The first Sunday of November is All Saints Day and the choir will honor those who have departed us with a beautiful and profound setting of "In Remembrance". We will anticipate Thanksgiving holiday with "Come ye Thankful People, Come" assisted by a brass ensemble collaborating with our organist Willa Foster Jones. This year the annual Thanksgiving Eve service will be hosted by First Plymouth Congregational Church. I hope you will join us for this wonderful service of appreciation November 27, 7:00 p.m.

Bill Wyman  
Director of Music

## First Friday Music and Art Concert

**November 1 at 12:10 p.m.**

This month's First Friday Saint Paul Music and Art Concert Series features two local high school vocal ensembles.

The program will include Ars Nova, a 12 member vocal jazz ensemble and Bel Canto, a 21 member renaissance ensemble. Both ensembles are directed by Lincoln Southeast High School vocal music director Melissa Noonan.

There is no charge for this concert. Opportunity for a free-will donation will be provided. Lunch is available for purchase. A performance on the Saint Paul McKinley Bells will precede the concert. Further information may be obtained by calling the church at

**(402) 477-6951.**

## Joys and Concerns

### Sympathy to the friends and family of:

- Sympathy to the family and friends of Helen Wiebers who transitioned to new Life on Oct. 3, 2019.

### New Members:

- Caity Seiser Bentzinger - Joined 9-22-19

**Please let the church office know of deaths and births that we may share in your joys and concerns.**

# United Methodist Women News

## Grateful Together

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**Saturday, November 2**

**Set up at 9:30 a.m.**

Food Distribution starts at 10:00 a.m.  
First Presbyterian Church, 18th & F

**Tuesday, November 5**

**Saint Paul Cookie Walk baking  
6:00 p.m. in the Kitchen**

We will be baking cookies for the Saint Paul  
Cookie Walk.

## Turn the Page

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**Monday, November 4 at 7:00 p.m.  
in Room 145**

We will discuss the book Women Rowing  
North: Navigating Life's Currents and  
Flourishing As We Age by Mary Pipher with  
Barbara Jo Burns leading the discussion.

**Monday, December 2**

We will discuss The 2019 One Lincoln Book:  
Two Young Migrants and the Making of an  
American Life by Lauren Markham. Visitors  
and new members are always welcome.

## Wesley Group

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**Thursday, November 25 at 11:30 a.m.  
in the Dining Room**

Lunch will be served first, followed by the  
business meeting. Mary Louise Dutcher  
will then present the program based on  
a chapter in a book we are considering  
studying. **Questions? Call Debbie Marshall  
at 402-742-5920.**

## Community

## Thanksgiving Service

**Wednesday, November 27  
7:00 p.m. at First Plymouth UCC**

We will join with our friends at  
First Plymouth UCC for our annual  
Thanksgiving service. Each year we  
alternate locations and preachers. This  
year it will be at First Plymouth, 2000  
D Street, and Rev Jane Florence will be  
preaching. Both of our choirs combine  
to bring songs of Thanksgiving. All are  
welcome.

## Blue Christmas Service

**Saturday, December 7 at 6:00 p.m.  
in the Chapel**

The holidays are filled with joy and  
delight, but oftentimes there is grief and  
heartache to process as well. Perhaps you  
are missing a loved one this year or have  
had another life transition or sorrow in the  
year. All are invited to our special worship  
service that creates space to honor these  
emotions as well.

# Small Groups and Gatherings

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## Non-Fiction Book Group

**Tuesday, November 12  
at 7:00 p.m.  
in Room 155**

The book that will be discussed is The Second Mountain: The Quest for a Moral Life by David Brooks. No need to register, just come!

## Wednesday Morning Book Discussion

**November 20 at 10:00 a.m.**

**Room 155**

Come join us for a great discussion of the children's classic novel, Anne of Green Gables by L.M Montgomery (along with coffee, cookies, & fellowship) at the Saint Paul UMC.

**NOTE: This is the 3rd Wednesday rather than the usual 4th Wednesday meeting day of the month due to the Thanksgiving Holiday.**

Questions or more info? Contact Judy Jensen at (402) 420-6370



## Let's Go to the Movies

**Monday, Oct. 28**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Meeting Place:**  
Scooter's Coffee at  
70th and Pioneers  
**Movie:** "Judy"

## Giving Card Reminder

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If you have not returned your Estimate of Giving card for 2020, please send or bring it to the church this week. You may also email our Financial Manager, [swaldman@saintpaulumc.org](mailto:swaldman@saintpaulumc.org) your intended giving amount. **By sharing with us your intentions: \* we are able to plan our programming and honor your gift with responsible stewardship\*** you are more likely to give deliberately and thoughtfully.

## Saint Paul Seniors

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**Tuesday, November 12 at 12:00 p.m.**

The Nebraska Christian Men's Chorus will be presenting a variety of music, including patriotic, popular and sacred music. They will be performing for the November Saint Paul Seniors on Tuesday, November 12th. The Nebraska Christian Men's Chorus is a small group of men who enjoy singing. They sing for many nursing homes, retirement centers, and groups like Saint Paul Seniors. Earl Higgins sings with this group.

# Sunday Morning Classes from 9:45 - 10:30 a.m.

## Romans

### In the Library (Room 153)

We will explore Paul's epistle to the Roman church to learn how his instructions helped them to lead Christian lives. In addition, we will examine how those directions apply to us as individuals and as a community of faith. A study Bible will be very helpful. Led by Pat Staver.

## Paine Parlor

### Paine Parlor

Relevant topics of interest are selected by class members who take turns providing leadership for discussion and study. Subjects range from current issues, developments and ministries in the United Methodist Church, theology, and spiritual growth. Class meets weekly in the Paine Parlor.

## Chapel Class

### Room 145

This long-time group focuses on a variety of topics including various Bible Studies and current events. This month, we begin a study on the Gospel of John. Led by Jay Funk.

## Bible Times

### Starts at 9:00 a.m. in the Office Conference Room (Room 131)

This Saint Paul staple studies both Biblical history and the early Christian and Jewish beliefs that serve as the foundation of the Christian movement. Led by Bill Wood.

## Reading the Bible Again for the First Time

### The Chapel

This class follows Marcus Borg's seminal book on taking the Bible seriously without necessarily taking it literally. Through this course, we will follow Borg as he explores the Scripture's history as a sacred text, while we discover how this timeless wisdom speaks to our contemporary lives. Led by Pastors Jane Florence and Jed Linder in the Chapel.

## New Sunday Morning Classes coming soon for Advent and Christmas!

### The Jesse Tree

#### Begins Sunday, December 1 at 9:45 am

The Jesse Tree is an ancient, Advent practice that remembers God's providential care leading up to the birth of Christ. We will decorate a Jesse Tree with ornaments corresponding to the ancient stories of Israel. Led by Pastor Jed Linder.

### The Christmas Gift of Reading

#### Beginning Sunday, December 1 at 9:45 am in the Library (Room 153)

This class is for parents, grandparents, and any other family or friends who are interested in giving the amazing gift of reading with a child. Join us Sunday mornings this December when we will explore the value of reading with children and then choose books from our library to share with children over the holidays. Led by Judi Cook and others.



**Jed Linder**

Associate Pastor

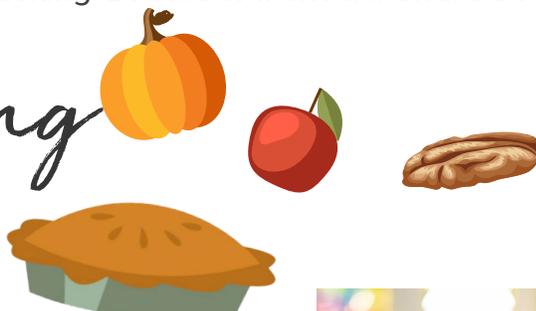
Register for all adult classes on the weekly connect card, on the Church Center App, or by emailing Jed Linder at [jlinder@saintpaulumc.org](mailto:jlinder@saintpaulumc.org).

## Youth Ministries



Join us as we celebrate Thanksgiving and all things Friendship! We will be enjoying a full Thanksgiving Feast together, watching a Charlie Brown Thanksgiving and doing some "Turkey Bowling" You do not want to miss out on this evening of great food, a time to celebrate and yes frozen turkey chucking. Be sure to invite a friend! 6:00 - 9:00 p.m.

## Thanksgiving Pie Fundraiser



**Pre Order: November 1-20**

**Pickup: November 27**

**\$12 per pie**

- The Saint Paul Youth Group is having a Thanksgiving Pie fundraiser in support of our Summer Youth Mission Trip.
- Pies are handmade by Youth attending the Summer Mission Trip
- All pies are pre-order only (Nov. 1st–Nov. 20th) and will be available for pickup on Wednesday, Nov. 27th from 12:00-5:00pm.
- Apple pies will be frozen and ready to cook with complete baking instructions. Pumpkin and Pecan pies will be fully cooked and ready to serve.
- All proceeds will go towards our Summer Youth Mission Trip Fund.

**To order pies, complete and submit an order or visit the church website at [www.saintpaulumc.org](http://www.saintpaulumc.org)**



**Mitch Connelly**

Director of Youth Ministries

Register for Youth Ministry events on the weekly connect card, on the Church Center App, or by emailing Mitch Connelly at [mconnelly@saintpaulumc.org](mailto:mconnelly@saintpaulumc.org).

# Children and Family Opportunities



## Holiday Cookie Walk: Volunteers Needed!

Fall is in the air and that means baking yummy goodies! Saint Paul is getting ready for the annual Holiday Cookie Walk on December 6th and would love your help in bringing this annual tradition to life! We have a few different ways you can help with this event! Check out the details below!

**Bake at Home:** bake a few dozen cookies or other delicious treats at home. Drop off goodies by December 5.

**Bake at Church:** help bake at church (Email or call the church office for dates and times)

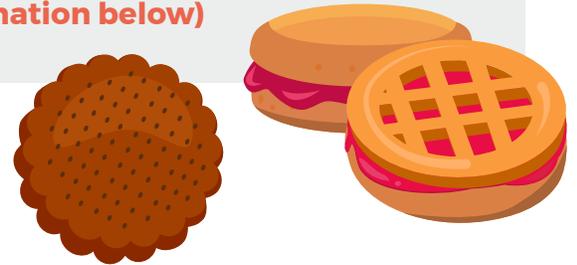
**Frost at Church:** Help frost and sprinkle cut-out cookies at church on December 5.

**Set up:** Help set tables and tray cookies on December 5.

**Cookie Walk Volunteer:** Help on the day of the Cookie Walk by busing tables, refilling trays and clean up.



**Questions? Contact Cathy Link (information below)**



*Hanging  
of the  
Greens*

**Sunday, November 24  
Dinner 5-5:30 p.m.  
Decorating will begin  
following dinner**

Join us for an evening of decorating, music, cookies, cider and plenty of fellowship and fun for all ages! Dinner will be served in the Dining Room from 5:00–5:30 p.m. courtesy of SPYG. Please sign up on the Event Registration in the weekly bulletin.

**Questions? Contact Mitch Connelly  
477-6951 or  
mconnelly@saintpaulumc.org**



**Cathy Link**

Director of Children and Family Ministries

Register for these events on the weekly connect card, on the Church Center App, or by emailing Cathy Link at [clink@saintpaulumc.org](mailto:clink@saintpaulumc.org).



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**November 2019**

RETURN SERVICE  
REQUESTED



## Sacred Rhythms Resounding

Wednesday drum circle 6:30 p.m.

### December Worship

Saturdays 6:00 p.m.

Sundays 8:45 and 10:45 a.m.

Christmas Eve  
4:00, 7:00 and 10:00 p.m.

