

**St. Pauls
United Church of Christ**



Fifth Sunday of Easter

Sunday, April 28, 2024

**St. Pauls United Church of Christ
Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin**

(* = YOU MAY STAND.)

PRELUDE

RINGING THE BELLS, WELCOMING THE LIGHT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome Back Guest Musician Abmi Emig

***CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from the UCC Statement of Faith):*

Leader: Friends: on the fifth Sunday of the season of Easter,

ALL: God again calls us into this church,

Leader: That we might glorify God's name,

ALL: Singing our songs of praise and thanksgiving,

Leader: Proclaiming the gospel to all the world,

ALL: And experiencing God's presence,

Leader: Even now as we pray:

***INVOCATION:**

Leader: Ever-present God - equip us as instruments of your peace.

Weave us together by your Spirit, that we may show forth your power seen in the life and ministry of your Son, Jesus. Gather us in your love.

Open our hearts and minds to know you and glorify your name. Amen.

***OPENING SONG:** "We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God"

#64 (vs. 1 and 3)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION:**

Leader: Righteous God - we are your hands, your heart, your

spirit. As your people, we are called to manifest a gospel of love, justice, reconciliation and peace. But our concern for a just and

peaceful world too often falls short of your glory. Forgive us. Dwell with us as we seek spiritual energy for the work you have called us

to do. Amen.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON:**

Pastor: Friends - God's love was revealed in this way: God's own Son was sent into the world to atone for our sins, that we might live through Christ. On behalf of the God who abides with us even now, be assured that in Christ we have been forgiven and set free to receive God's peace.

***SHARING GOD'S PEACE:**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord, Jesus Christ, be with you all.

ALL: And, also, with you.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS:

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Rebecca Olson

Drew Olson

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

Pastor: By your baptism, you were made one with us in the body of Christ, the church. Today we rejoice in your pilgrimage of faith which has brought you to this time and place. We give thanks for every community of faith that has been your spiritual home, and we celebrate your presence in this household of faith.

Having been called to unite with us as members of this church, I would ask:

Pastor: Do you hereby profess your faith in Jesus Christ, God's Son, our risen Lord and Savior? If so, please say, "I do."

ALL: I do.

Pastor: And do you, also, profess your faith in the presence of God's Holy Spirit, which creates and renews the church? If so, please say, "I do."

ALL: I do.

Pastor: Do you promise to participate in the life of this community of faith, sharing in the worship of God and the ministry and mission of this church? If so, please say, "I do."

ALL: I do.

WELCOME & GREETING

Pastor: Let us, the members of St. Pauls UCC express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

(congregation please stand)

***CONGREGATION: We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church.**

We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the Church of Jesus Christ.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

(congregation may be seated)

Pastor: In the name of Jesus Christ, and on behalf of St. Pauls, we extend to you gifts and the hand of Christian love, welcoming you into the company of this local church.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS

(new members are welcomed back to the pews with applause)

READING FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

Liturgist's Reading: Ephesians 4:11 - 16 (P. 1413)

Pastor's Reading: Acts 8:26 - 31 (P. 1315)

SERMON: "Equipped to Build" **The Rev. Stephen J. Davidson**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

...We ask these things in the name of Jesus who taught us to say when we pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (ALL QV)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***SERMON SONG:** “Spirit of the Living God” #259

***CALL TO DISCIPLESHIP** *(from the UCC Statement of Faith)*

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,
and to your deeds we testify:

 You call the worlds into being,
 created persons in your own image
 and set before each one the ways of life and death.

 You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.

 You judge people and nations by your righteous will,
 declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior,
 you have come to us
 and shared our common lot,
 conquering sin and death
 and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
 creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
 binding in covenant faithful people
 of all ages, tongues, and races ...

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Leader: The Holy Spirit comes down to us as a gift of God's presence, compassion and grace. We honor and build the realm of God through faithful stewardship of God's gifts. We are called to present ourselves as witnesses of the God who has called us to give of ourselves and our gifts in a spirit of generosity.

OFFERTORY



(Please place your offering in the plates as they are passed, give through your usual method, or click on the QR code to the left by using your cell phone camera and clicking on the St. Pauls Giving website.)

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God for all that love has done
Creator, Christ, and Spirit one. Amen.*

*DEDICATION

Leader: Holy God, as we present our gifts, equip us to be your people. May the offerings we share today be a source of hope for the poor. Help us to live out your commandment to love others, to reach out to sisters and brothers, that together we might build the body of Christ. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN:** “Renew Your Church” #463 (vs. 1 and 4)

*BENEDICTION:

Pastor: Having sung our songs of praise,

ALL: Having heard God’s inspired word,

Pastor: We are equipped now to build the body of Christ,

ALL: To be God’s faithful people,

Pastor: To show forth God’s love,

ALL: Empowered by the Holy Spirit,

Pastor: That all may be one,

ALL: One community of justice and peace.

Pastor: Go in peace, and may God go with you always.

ALL: Amen.

*POSTLUDE

Adapted from *Much Fruit: Liturgical Resources for the Fifth Sunday of Easter, Year B, and PAAM Sunday*, was written by the Rev. Mitchell Young, pastor of Montebello Plymouth Congregational Church, UCC in Montebello, CA with acknowledgements to Federico “Fred” Alimboyao, Junko Ashida, Roland and Josie Faustino, Rev. Ronald Fujiyoshi, Tomoko Hino, Dick Hom, Pastor Randon Jello, Lori Katayama, Rev. Hyo-Jung Kim, Kahu Kekapa Lee, Lutie Lee, Kahu Kenneth Makuakane, Rev. Dr. Ernie Reyes, Mac and Bien Reyes, Foai Tanuvasa, the late Rev. Sepulona Tanuvasa, Rev. Teogenes Tawagon, Rev. Dr. Felix Villanueva, Rev. Young Jun Yang. Thanks! Explore how God is still speaking in Montebello at www.montebelloucc.org



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RESOURCES FOR PERSONAL DEVOTIONS

Lectionary Readings for May 5, 2024 *Sixth Sunday of Easter*

~Acts 10:44-48

~1 John 5:1-6

~Psalm 98

~John 15:9-17

LITURGIST SCHEDULE:

Apr 28 Steve Hoagland
May 5 Pam Gibowski
May 12 John Rubatt

USHER SCHEDULE:

Apr 28 Team #4: Medrow, Schweigert, Maury, L. Hoagland
May 5 Team #5: Nooyen, Toebe, Tracy
May 12 Team #6: Dethloff, Krohn

GREETER SCHEDULE:

Apr 28 Shawn Frank
May 5 Blaine Harris
May 12 Pam & Bill Gibowski

COFFEE HOUR HOST:

Shawn Frank & Elaine Laabs
Chris Sparrow & Darlene Eisen
Cathy Schnabel

COURTESY DRIVER:

Apr 28 Chris Sparrow
May 5 Pam & Bill Gibowski
May 12 Sue Schuelke

OUR STAFF:

Interim Pastor: Reverend Stephen J. Davidson
Guest Musician: Ahmi Emig
Bell Choir Director: Chris Sparrow
Pastor Emeritus: Russell Knoth
Admin. Assistant: Michelle "Mickey" Jegl

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You can reach the office at 262-251-5160 or  
email [saintpaulsinthefalls@gmail.com](mailto:saintpaulsinthefalls@gmail.com)

Pastor Steve can be reached on his cell at (989) 388-7657 or  
email: [davidson@charter.net](mailto:davidson@charter.net)

**OFFICE HOURS**

Mickey: **Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday, 8:30am - 2pm,**  
**Sunday, 10:30am-11am**

Pastor Steve: Wednesday 10am-12pm or by appointment

**OFFICE HOUR CHANGES, NOTE ABOVE**



**CPR (Church and Pastor Relations Committee) MEMBERS**

|                   |                               |
|-------------------|-------------------------------|
| Julie Loth        | jmhloth@gmail.com             |
| Mike Dethloff     | mdethloff62@gmail.com         |
| Terry Tracy       | terencepatricktracy@gmail.com |
| Amy Krohn         | jakrohn@sbcglobal.net         |
| Sue Schuelke      | sschuelk@charter.net          |
| Jennifer Seehaver | jennifer@seehaver.com         |

**Don't forget to complete the Who's In The Pews Form  
located on the end of the pew near the main aisle.  
**PLEASE** put completed forms in the offertory plate.**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## OFFICE HOUR CHANGES

See two pages back

### STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING

The Strengthen the Church (STC) Offering reflects the shared commitment of people across the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. Conferences and the national setting equally share the gifts given by members and friends through their local congregations. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations. By your generosity to this offering, you build up the Body of Christ.

As God calls our congregations to be the church in new ways, your generosity will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches and develop the spiritual life in our youth and young adults. St. Pauls will receive the **STC offering on Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 2024**. Contributions can be made online at any time. Go to <https://support.ucc.org/ways-to-give/our-churchs-wider-mission/strengthen-the-church/strengthen-the-church-give#>

### TREASURER NEEDED

We are still in need of a volunteer to sit on the Church Cabinet and perform the treasurer duties. If you can balance a checkbook and understand how to pay bills electronically, we can teach you the rest. Prior treasurer's include: Tom Lindow & Amy Dethloff; they'd be happy to answer your questions. We need a detail oriented person willing to give some time to do the Lord's work.

If interested, please contact Mickey or Chris Sparrow.

### NEW MEMBERS

New members are being received today, April 28.

It's not too late to become a member. Just because you missed the ceremony today, we will have future ceremonies. If you desire to be received as a member of this community, either by letter of transfer or profession of faith, please contact the pastor. According to our Constitution, only active members of the church have the right and the privilege to vote at called meetings of the congregation.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## **SUNDAY, APRIL 28**

- 9:30am - Service
- 10:45am - Fellowship
- 10:45am - CPR Meeting

## **TUESDAY, APRIL 30**

- 7:30pm - Bell Choir practice

## **WEDNESDAY, MAY 1**

- 6:15pm - Cabinet
- 7:30pm - Board of Trustees
- 7:30pm - Board of Deacons

## **SATURDAY, MAY 4**

- 9:00am - Meditation Group (for more info, contact Terry Tracy, [terencepatricktracy@gmail.com](mailto:terencepatricktracy@gmail.com))

## **SUNDAY, MAY 5**

- 9:30am - Service - Pastor Steve Davidson's Goodbye
- 9:45am - Children's Church (last class before summer break)
- 10:45am - Fellowship
- 3:30pm - Confirmation Class - Volunteer Service Project at St. Ben's, Milwaukee

## **TUESDAY, MAY 7**

- 7:30pm - Bell Choir practice

## **SATURDAY, MAY 11**

- 8am - 1pm - BLOOD DRIVE, please register
- 9:00am - Meditation Group (for more info, contact Terry Tracy, [terencepatricktracy@gmail.com](mailto:terencepatricktracy@gmail.com))

## **SUNDAY, MAY 12**

### *Mother's Day*

- 9:30am - Service (Guest Pastor: Rev. Jim Gorman)
- 10:45am - Fellowship
- 10:45am - Prayer Shawl Ministry

# BLOOD DRIVE

Hope springs  
eternal

DONATE  
BLOOD

**Saturday  
MAY**

**11**

**8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.**

**Helpful tip:  
Make sure to eat a healthy  
meal and drink plenty of  
water before donating.**

## **ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST BLOOD DRIVE**

In Guild Hall - St. Paul's United Church of Christ  
N89 W16856 Appleton Avenue, Menomonee Falls

Make appt. by scanning the QR Code at bottom of  
flyer, OR call 1-877-232-4376 for assistance.

- \*Donors critically needed, so please make your appt.  
and donate AND please ask others to donate.
- \*Give blood, get a FREE Mt. Olympus Water Park  
ticket, to be used this Summer!
- \*You could WIN \$1000 IN GIFT CARDS to Great Wolf  
Lodge, in our "Make A Splash Sweepstakes"!

DO WE NOT EXPECT A SAFE &  
ADEQUATE BLOOD SUPPLY IN  
OUR TIME OF NEED? YES!!!!

