



St. Paul's
United Methodist Church

The Messenger

March 2021



Rheanon Mairs	Mar 2
Ryan Caro	Mar 5
Evelyn Mingle	Mar 5
Steve Caro	Mar 6
Judy Werner	Mar 7
Terri Harris	Mar 10
Harriet Slamp	Mar 12
Debbie Vert	Mar 14
Robin Heller	Mar 16
Marilynn Springman	Mar 17
Joan Scott	Mar 24
Rosetta Oosta	Mar 25
Helen Fitz	Mar 26
Dan Penninga	Mar 27
Kelsey Spooner	Mar 27

Welcome!

The appointment of our new Pastor has been announced. Pastor Briony (Bri) Destotell will begin July 1, 2021. Pastor Bri, her husband Mike, Mike's Mom, Cathy and their 2 daughters, Michaela and Braeleigh are moving from Ypsilanti, MI.

We will be planning a warm welcome for Pastor Bri. Together, we will celebrate the ministry of Pastor Gini and thank her for her years of faithful service. We will then begin our shared ministry with the leadership of our new pastor.

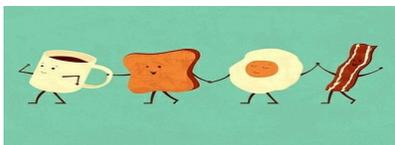
We are so pleased to make this announcement to you, and know that you will enjoy meeting Pastor Bri and her family. Please keep them and Pastor Gini in your prayers during this time of transition.



**St. Paul's United
Methodist Church**
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Brunch Bunch

We will meet via Zoom on Friday, March 5 at 9:00am. Bring your own coffee and join other women for fellowship. Contact Peg Edverson pedverson@gmail.com for the Zoom link.



Missing Emails?

Some members of our congregation are not receiving the emails from church that come through the Realm system. If that is you OR you know someone that is not receiving Realm emails, please contact the church office at 616-949-0880 or grstpaulsumc@gmail.com. You may leave a message and we will make sure you receive emails.



Worship!

Worship will begin in-person on Palm Sunday, March 28th! There will not be congregational singing and all will still have to distance and wear masks. On Maundy Thursday, there will be music and communion offered from 12:00pm-1:00pm and 6:00pm-7:00pm in the sanctuary. Feel free to come and go as you please between these times. Good Friday service will be virtual at 12:00pm.

We will be in-person for worship on Easter! We don't know yet whether the service will be inside or outside. That depends on the weather. What we will do though, is sing one verse of "Christ The Lord Is Risen Today" outside as a congregation.

Feels like rising out of the tomb, doesn't it?

Praise the Lord!

Pastor Gini



The 4th Sunday of Lent is designated as UMCOR Sunday. Our mission committee has decided Our Hurting World Offering for March will go to United Methodist Committee On Relief.

UMCOR is the mission arm of our church. It brings God’s hope, healing and renewal to people whose lives are disrupted by war, conflict, or natural disaster. UMCOR provides survivors not only temporary relief, but long term education and support. UMCOR reaches out to people all over the world.

This is a special offering used to cover UMCOR’s administrative costs which allows them to continue to run their many programs and relief efforts. This means that 100% of every dollar designated for a specific UMCOR project can be spent on that project, rather than on home office administrative costs.

We ask that you prayerfully consider your gift to this wonderful mission. You may designate your offering for “March Hurting World.”

Our congregation has done a wonderful job contributing to The Hurting World Offerings each month. Here is a list of the 2020 amounts and what organizations they went to.

January-Mutambara Mission Hospital	\$553.26
February-Catherine’s Health Center	\$887.00
March-UMCOR Sunday	\$1,230.00
March-Lenten Offering-Sonya Luna	\$525.00
April-Family Promise	\$1,625.00
May-UMCOR COVID-19 Relief	\$1,115.00
June-Flood Disaster Relief	\$570.00
July-Society of St. Andrew	\$685.00
August-Development & Health in Panama	\$440.00
September-Basma Ctr for Disabled Kids	\$355.00
October-Development & Health in Philippines	\$431.00
November-Haiti Artisans for Peace Intl.	\$441.00
December-SECOM & Community House	\$653.34
December-Clark Retirement Home	\$326.66
YWAM support for Laura Williams	\$300.00
In the Image Gifts for Shoes	\$130.00



Spring Flowers of tulips and daffodils will add to our celebration of Easter Sunday on April 4. They will decorate our altar for Easter worship whether it is inside, outside, in-person or virtual. You may purchase a plant in memory of, or to honor someone. The cost for each plant is \$8.00 and checks should be sent to the church with this order form. You may pick up your plants after the service, request that they be delivered to you, or request they be delivered to someone else from our congregation that would benefit from the Joy of Easter. Order deadline is March 21.

Please order (enter number wanted of each):

_____ Tulip _____ Daffodil.

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____.

Flowers given by: _____

Please print name of person(s):

To be honored:

In memory of:

I will pick up flowers after Easter Service _____

(number)

Deliver flowers to me. _____

(number)

Deliver flowers to others from St. Paul's, sharing "Easter Joy" _____

(number)

Signed _____

Lenten & April Hurting World Offering

Our Missionary Support this year is going to Randy Hildebrant.

Randy Hildebrant is a missionary with the General Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church, assigned as a Church and Community Worker at God's Country Cooperative Parish, based in Newberry, Michigan.

The parish consists of seven churches. Randy works with them in community development, leadership development, special projects, and in hosting volunteer-in-mission teams. He travels among and speaks often in the churches. God's County Cooperative Parish has been a transforming community for 30 years.

Randy was formerly with the Rural Revitalization Project of the Elkhorn Valley District of the Nebraska Annual Conference. The Elkhorn project was both spiritual and programmatic, seeking to engage an outward-directed sense of ministry among the laity.

In his congregational revitalization work, Randy asks congregations to answer three questions:

1. Why do people need Christ?
2. Why do people need church?
3. Why do people need this particular church?

"As they answer these questions, they will find their vision and purpose of the congregation," he says.

Prior to his service in the Nebraska Conference in June 2011, Randy was assigned for 10 years to the Jubilee Project, an Appalachian ministry based in Sneedville, Tennessee in the Holston Annual Conference. He has a strong commitment to rural ministry. Earlier in his work, he was assistant pastor of the Franklin United Methodist Church in Franklin, North Carolina.

Randy was born in Oklahoma and studied sports administration at East Central University in Ada.

He is married to Aletha Hildebrant and the couple have two teenaged children, Grace and Adam.

Thank you for your support of our chosen missionary.

Your Missions Committee