

## WELCOME FOUNDATION DIRECTOR

**Established June 10, 1975**

### FOUNDATION BOARD

Cindy Edge  
*Chair*

David Mahlke  
*Vice-Chair*

Bob Rush  
*Secretary*

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Cynde Clymer

Judy Fitzgibbons

Greer Fry

Ed Holstrom

Dannie Keck

Lana Lodge

Dale Moore

Gregg Nelson

Rev. Jonathan Heifner  
*Lead Pastor*

Brice Anton-Jensen  
*Church Council Chair*

Matt Preston  
*Ministry of Finance Chair*

Jerry Oakland  
*Director of Ministry Support*

### Executive Director

Linda Henecke

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1340 Third Ave SE

Cedar Rapids, IA 52403

**R**ecently appointed Executive Director of St. Paul's United Methodist Foundation, Linda Henecke, comes to the Foundation with an extensive background in development strategies, setting policies and establishing priorities. Having retired after 28 years as President and CEO of the nonprofit organization, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Cedar Rapids and East Central Iowa (BBBS), Linda recognizes the importance of ongoing financial support and planning needed to sustain and grow an organization.



Linda, a member of Lovely Lane United Methodist Church, feels blessed to assist in leading the confirmation class of eleven middle schoolers, to serve on the board for Lovely Lane's preschool/afterschool program and to worship each week with her mother and sister. Her two adult children live with their families in Iowa City and Kansas City.

Having attended Linn Mar schools and furthered her education at Coe College Linda is very familiar with Cedar Rapids and the surrounding communities. In her leisure time, Linda is an avid outdoor enthusiast, camping and kayaking at Pleasant Creek almost daily from the first hint of spring until the earliest signs of winter.

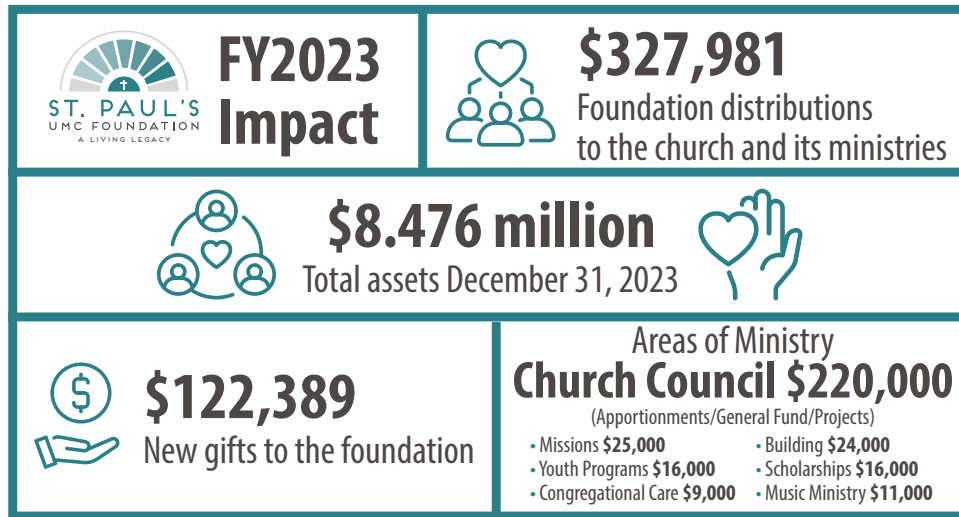
As a lifetime Methodist, Linda understands the overall mission and priorities of the church. Linda remarked, "The work of the Foundation appeals to me because my faith and church are the most important parts of my life and because of that I have included the church in my will. I look forward to becoming acquainted with members of St. Paul's and to assist them in the "giving journey."

### Mission Statement

*Foster a vibrant spirit of Christian Stewardship and generosity to create a perpetual source of earnings, which strengthens the financial capabilities of St. Paul's UMC and assists the church in fulfilling its stated mission "St Paul's United Methodist Church: a people GATHERED, FORMED, and SENT by God's Grace."*



# FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS



St. Paul's Foundation has a rich history of supporting the church and its ministries. This snapshot shows the foundation's amazing impact. Thank you to everyone who has made a gift to the foundation! You are making wonderful things possible.

A special thanks to **Jerry Oakland** for providing strong leadership to the foundation for nearly 7 years. Jerry's vision and hard work create a bright future for St. Paul's and the community.

## New Leadership Support Funds

Out of love for the church, respect for its clergy leadership, and appreciation for the complex administrative skills required by the church's administrative staff, new funds have been established at the foundation. A warm thank you to Dave Mather for inspiring this vision, which includes:

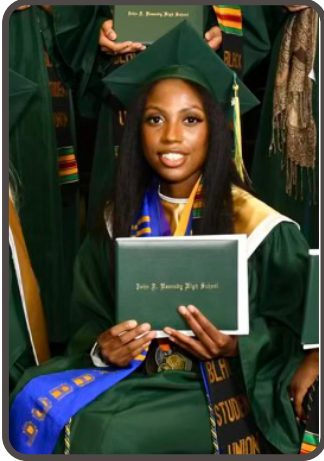
- Support for clergy and key lay staff
- Ensuring compensation that is competitive for those roles.
- Providing supplemental compensation beyond what would be possible when depending solely on the General fund.

The foundation leaders and board would like to talk with you about your dreams to ensure strong ministries through St. Paul's Church. We invite you to speak to any board member or Linda Henecke.

# THE IMPACT OF FOUNDATION GIFTS

Your gifts to the foundation make life better for people. One of the many ways foundation gifts make an impact is through scholarships.

2023 scholarship recipient Gentine Nzoyikorera shares her experiences at Kirkwood last fall. During her first semester of college, she describes waking up in a hurry with no time for breakfast, just a quick snack, before dashing out the door. She pauses briefly to grab her uniform because she works after class is over. She is pursuing a dental assistant degree. Though it has been hard to manage,



she still finds time to indulge in her hobbies, which include dance and music.

The biggest adjustment for Gentine has been balancing her life and time. She found that high school, by comparison, was more lax. Then, people were more directly involved in her academics. Now, that responsibility falls on her.

Gentine is motivated by her goal to be part of the few dental professionals of color in the US! She is finding support through her friends, her advisor, and her family. She shared that her faith has kept her motivated through the most uncertain times. That brings her peace when nothing else can.

Best wishes Gentine! The St. Paul's family is proud of you and supports your dreams.

Last year, twenty-two scholarships were awarded for a total of \$16,000.

## 2024 SCHOLARSHIPS



Watch for 2024 scholarship opportunities to open soon.

- Coming in February
- Find the application and details at [StPaulsUMC.org/scholarships](http://StPaulsUMC.org/scholarships)
- Deadline in April

## JOHN WESLEY HERITAGE SOCIETY

The John Wesley Heritage Society invites you to join us! The society holds a luncheon each Septemeber to celebrate and inform St. Paul's community about the foundation. The luncheon is a great way to learn how thoughtful planning helps ensure a vibrant future for St. Paul's Church. Everyone is welcome! There are currently 98 members of the John Wesley Society.



Highlights of last year's luncheon include keynote speaker Lois Buntz, author of *Generosity and Gender*, and former CEO of United Way of East Central Iowa. Lois has meaningful insights to share about women's roles in giving, noting that women are often mistakenly overlooked in those discussions. The research and Lois' experience have found that "women are often more generous than men in all areas of giving other than politics and sports".

To learn more or to confirm your interest in attending, please email [Lhenecke@stpaulsumc.org](mailto:Lhenecke@stpaulsumc.org).

ST. PAUL'S UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH OF  
CEDAR RAPIDS FOUNDATION

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## WELCOME TO NEW BOARD MEMBER GREGG NELSON

The St. Paul's Foundation Board of Directors is pleased to welcome back Gregg Nelson. Gregg has served on the board previously and was chair of the Investment Committee. He has a passion for Investing and behavioral economics.

Many of you know Gregg as he has been a St. Paul's member for 35 years. He has been continually active in church committees, serving on Finance, Stewardship, Lay Leader Development, and Church Council. He has also been an usher.

His volunteerism at St. Paul's also included multiple roles in laity, serving as Lay Leader, Lay Minister, and Stephen Minister. He was also a Teaching Leader for Bible Study Fellowship for six years.

Gregg and Kate were married for 31 years; sadly, Kate passed away in 2012. Gregg has two daughters Emily and Meaghan, one granddaughter Grace who is almost 3, and is expecting a new arrival in April! Gregg retired from Cargill in 2012. The Foundation is delighted to have Gregg back on the board.

