

Established June 10, 1975

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O: 319-200-1066

C: 712-730-0049

Foundation.Director@StPaulsUMC.org

1340 Third Ave SE

Cedar Rapids, IA 52403



CLARK SCHOLARSHIP FOR WELLINGTON HEIGHTS

by Jerry Oakland, Executive Director

For the past two years the Leola Z. Clark Scholarship has been awarded to a graduating high school student who resides in Wellington Heights. The Foundation's board of directors gave a new focus to this scholarship after receiving a recommendation from St. Paul's Sending to Serve ministry team which is helping our church focus on the neighborhood around us.

Last year's recipient was Skylar Howe, a 2021 graduate of Prairie High School. She received a \$2,800 scholarship, to be awarded over the four years of her college career. I checked in recently with Skylar, who is a freshman at Mount Mercy University and this is what she tells me: "I'm doing well. My major is Mathematics and I have also added a minor in Spanish. I enjoy learning both of these very much and hope to find a career where I can use both in the future. I plan on returning to Mount Mercy next year."

Keep up the good work, Skylar!

Applications are due April 30th for this year's Clark Scholarship. If you know any graduating student who lives in Wellington Heights, please urge them to find more information and a link to the online application process at www.stpaulsumc.org/scholarships or contact executive director Jerry Oakland at Foundation.Director@StPaulsUMC.org.



Several Scholarships to Be Awarded

Several other scholarships also will be awarded this May to students pursuing higher education. Because of gifts from church members over many years, \$13,500 is available for college education as well as \$3,500 for ministerial candidates in seminary. For more information, see the website as listed above.

ANNUITIES PROVIDE INCOME AND CHARITY

by Bob Rush, member of the Foundation Board



When you are looking for ways to support St. Paul's you should not feel like you have to choose between your philanthropic goals and financial security. One gift that allows you to support the church while receiving fixed payments for life is a charitable gift annuity (CGA). This gift involves a simple contract between you and the church. In return for a gift of cash or securities, the church agrees to pay you, and up to one other individual, a fixed amount of income for life (an annuity).

When you create a charitable gift annuity there are tax benefits, including a federal income tax charitable deduction at the time you make the gift.

However, not only does this gift provide you with regular payments and tax benefits, it also allows St. Paul's to benefit because the remainder of the fund goes to the Foundation after the last annuity payment has been made.

tax benefits, it also allows St. Paul's to benefit because the remainder of the fund goes to the Foundation after the last annuity payment has been made.

To consider establishing a charitable gift annuity, as I have done, please contact executive director Jerry Oakland at Foundation.Director@StPaulsUMC.org.

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."

DEVELOPING A THEOLOGY OF STEWARDSHIP

By Jim Steggall, Chair, Stewardship Ministry Team, St. Paul's UMC

During the past year our church's Stewardship Team has been working with the national firm Horizons Stewardship to review and assess the stewardship practices at St. Paul's. The funding for this project was provided by St. Paul's UMC Foundation. The Horizons' report, "Next Level Generosity," includes twelve strategies for growing the overall culture of stewardship, giving, and generosity.



One of the strategies is to develop a clearly articulated theology of stewardship that provides a common language for talking about money and giving. To that end, the St. Paul's Generosity Team has drafted the following **Generosity Statement**.

Generosity Statement

St. Paul's UMC recognizes that God is the giver of the gift of life itself. We have responded to the call of Jesus Christ to receive the gift of salvation and to become disciples. As Christians, we recognize everything we have comes from God, and we are simply sharing these gifts for Kingdom work. Through our tithes and offerings, we demonstrate in a tangible way our love for God and our neighbors. Each year, we ask our faith community to commit their tithes and offerings for the coming year in support of our church's ministry and mission. We do this for three reasons:

- *All we have is a gift from God, so we believe that giving to God's work is an act of worship.*
- *St. Paul's UMC expresses our commitment to God through our prayers, presence, gifts service and witness. Giving is an expectation of membership. The church does not specify how much an individual should give, but we hope each person will commit a percentage of their income and increase that amount as they are able. A biblical tithe is 10% of income.*
- *Annual giving makes possible worship, programs for children and students, Bible studies, small groups, pastoral care and support, mission trips, community service, and building and operational needs.*

Stewardship involves our whole being—our talent, time and effort, and financial resources. It is how we express to God our appreciation for the gift of life in Jesus Christ using God's Church as an instrument through which we dedicate ourselves.

Thank you for your commitment to our church with your regular gifts to the General Fund to support the on-going ministries of the church and with your special gifts to support a variety of ministries and projects.

We also encourage you to include the Foundation in your planned giving. For more information on ways to give a legacy gift to the Foundation, a gift which supports the church in perpetuity, please contact executive director Jerry Oakland at Foundation.Director@StPaulsUMC.org.

YOU ARE INVITED!

The Directors of St. Paul's United Methodist Church Foundation
Invite you to be their guest(s) at the Thirteenth Annual

John Wesley Heritage Society Luncheon

Tuesday, August 16, 2022, 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Cedar Rapids Marriott, 1200 Collins Road NE

Introductions – Speakers – Announcements

Please make your reservation by Friday, August 5

Email: Foundation.Director@StPaulsUMC.org

COME TO THE ANNUAL JOHN WESLEY HERITAGE SOCIETY LUNCHEON

Who should attend this annual event? You should! Especially if you are already a member of the John Wesley Heritage Society (JWHS) or if you would consider becoming a member of the JWHS.

Have you included the church in your estate planning? Have you donated to one of the permanent endowment funds of the Foundation? Have you considered supporting the ministry of St. Paul's UMC for future generations? Then you are a candidate for membership in the JWHS and should plan to attend this event.

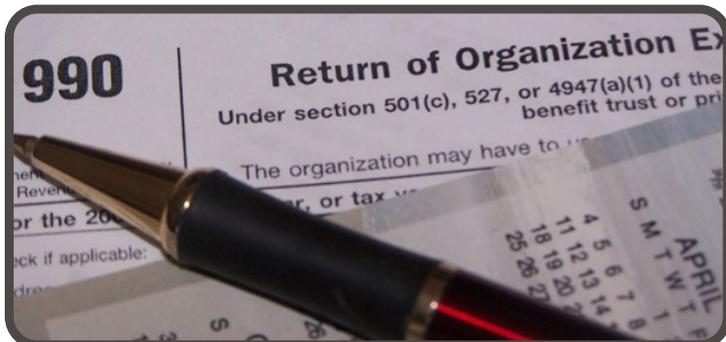
Tom Sears has recruited Dean G. Sujin Pak of Boston University School of Theology to be one of our virtual speakers. She will be joined by Assistant Dean of Development Ray Joyce and our own St. Paul's member, Eric Falley, a seminary student and a recipient of one of our seminary scholarships. They will talk about the role that philanthropy plays in supporting the preparation of ministerial leadership in the United Methodist Church.

The JWHS was established in 2008 to recognize those who have made known to the staff of the Foundation that they have made plans to include St. Paul's UMC or St. Paul's UMC Foundation in their estate gifts or who have made contributions of \$1,000 or more to the Foundation or to a Greater Cedar Rapids Community Foundation Fund for which St. Paul's is a beneficiary.

Currently there are 77 individuals or couples who are named as members. Will you join them? Please consider how you might give a legacy gift to help support the ongoing ministries of St. Paul's UMC for generations to come. All you need to do is simply contact executive director Jerry Oakland at Foundation.Director@StPaulsUMC.org.



FOUNDATION'S FINANCIAL REPORTS AVAILABLE



Each year the board of directors of St. Paul's UMC Foundation contracts with an independent CPA firm to review our financial reports and prepare the required IRS Form 990. Koppenhaver & Associates, PC of Mount Vernon has completed its reports for the year ending September 31, 2021. If you are interested in seeing a copy of them, please contact executive director Jerry Oakland at Foundation.Director@StPaulsUMC.org.

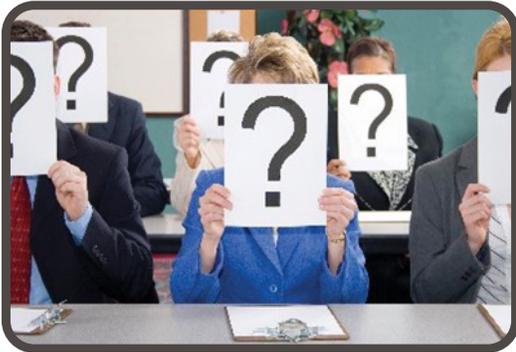
CREATE A LIVING LEGACY –

Include St. Paul's United Methodist Church in Your Estate Plans

WILL STOCKS LIFE INSURANCE CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITY PENSION BENEFICIARY TRUSTS

WAS IT YOU??

By Jerry Oakland, Executive Director



Recently I was told that one of our church members had just updated their will. Was that you? If so, good for you!

Even better news was to hear that you had decided to include St. Paul's UMC as a beneficiary of your will or of your investment. Great! Like so many others, you must have a fondness for St. Paul's and a desire to know that its ministries will carry on long after we are no longer here. What a blessing it is that you have prepared for a gift to be given that will make a difference in the lives of people in the church and in our community. This, truly, will be recognized as a "legacy gift."

Here's the next step, though. Please be in touch with me so that we can discuss preparing documentation about how you would like that gift to be

used. Some gifts come to the church while others come to St. Paul's Foundation – and the gifts are handled differently. Having your input recorded will guide board members when the gift is received.

By the way, "Thank You!" Thank you from your friends at St. Paul's, both now and for generations to come.

INSULATION ABOVE SANCTUARY REPLACED

In December the church's Board of Trustees, chaired by Mark Fleming, had Kinzler Construction remove all the old insulation that was above the sanctuary. There was not enough insulation to meet current standards and its coverage was quite spotty. New insulation was blown in to cover the ceiling, improving the rating from R9 to R38. This should provide people in the sanctuary with a more comfortable experience while significantly reducing the energy required to heat and cool the space.

While most derecho-related expenses were covered by insurance, the problems with the insulation were not storm-related. The Trustees paid for this church improvement from their Capital Projects Fund, which receives annual distributions from the Foundation. Therefore, no General Fund money was needed. We are grateful for those who have left bequests or who have given gifts to endow this sort of project.



HOW TO GIVE A LEGACY GIFT TO THE FOUNDATION

By Jerry Oakland, Executive Director



Over the years members of St. Paul's United Methodist Church have left legacy gifts to establish multiple permanent endowment funds which give financial support to a variety of ministries of the Church. The principal amount of all gifts given is preserved while a portion of earnings is distributed annually.

When you give a gift, whether now or at some date in the future, you have several funds to choose to give to. However, these seven funds are the ones that most often receive contributions:

- 1.0 Unrestricted Gifts Fund
- 2.1 Church Operating Budget Fund
- 3.5 Congregational Emergency Fund
- 4.2 Capital Projects Fund

- 4.4 Sullivan Building Preservation Fund
- 5.1 Morgan Congregational Care Fund
- 9.3 St. Paul's Scholarship Fund

Gifts may be given directly to St. Paul's UMC Foundation, however, if the gift is coming from an IRA it should be given to the Church with the notation that the gift is to be kept "in perpetuity." For more information, please call me at 712-730-0049.