



Established June 10, 1975

The Messenger

July 2017 • Volume 9 Issue 2

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Oakland Begins as Executive Director

As the new Executive Director of St. Paul's UMC Foundation, I look forward to working with you as together we strive to strengthen the ministries of our church. I am a retired UM clergy, having served churches in Sioux City, Pleasantville, Mason City, Dubuque, and Storm Lake. I was district superintendent of the Muscatine District for six years. Since 2011 my wife, Barb, and I have lived in Marion and been a part of the St. Paul's community. We have three daughters and 9 grandchildren, so our home is full when everybody comes to visit.

Over the years I have enjoyed working with donors and helping to establish endowments. I attended my first planned giving seminar 25 years ago! In retirement I worked at Matthew 25 and coordinated its \$1.8 million capital campaign.

Though I am often involved in administrative activities, I enjoy pastoral care ministries. Visiting with folks and hearing their stories, being a listener as people are making life-changing decisions, and praying with others -- all are activities which have shaped my ministry. I look forward to sharing such times with many of you.

St. Paul's Foundation was created to support St. Paul's Church and help fund its ministries. The question I want to explore is, "Do our Foundation's policies, procedures, and practices provide the maximum benefit possible to St. Paul's UMC?" Great things have been done with the financial support that has flowed to the church because of endowments -- which have been funded by you and by our predecessors in philanthropy.

As I begin as director, a primary responsibility for me is to be open to each of you as you ponder what has been important to you about St. Paul's and about your faith in Jesus Christ. And, then, together we might explore how you can create "a living legacy" to continue those ministries.

Plan Your Giving: Make a Bequest

If you are considering naming St. Paul's UMC Foundation as a beneficiary in your will, think carefully about what you want to give, and how. Then meet with your attorney to discuss your plans and update your will, if necessary.

A planned gift to the Foundation can be as simple as one simple sentence saying, "After all my bills are paid, I want 'x' percent of my estate to go to St. Paul's United Methodist Church Foundation." That is all. Ten percent is considered a tithe - your gift may be more or less than 10%.

Upon receipt of your bequest, the Foundation will invest your gift in its portfolio. Each year the earnings will be distributed to the church to help fund various ministries. If you have a specific ministry you would like to support, please talk to our executive director about drafting an agreement letter specifying your desires.

A gift to St. Paul's Foundation, as many others through the years have discovered, is one way to extend your commitment and stewardship, providing support in perpetuity for the church's mission and ministries.



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 "To know and follow Christ and to help others know and follow Christ."

St. Paul's Foundation Remembered by Former Church Member

The St. Paul's UMC Foundation received word earlier this year that former member, Henry E. Haegg, Jr., had died in his home in Naples, Florida on February 25, 2017 and that St. Paul's UMC Foundation was named as a beneficiary of his estate. This word came as a pleasant surprise because Henry had moved away from Cedar Rapids nearly 50 years ago and current Church and Foundation staff did not know him. From information contained in his obituary, published in the Naples Daily News, and several long-time Church members, the following information about this generous benefactor, has been gleaned.



Henry was born December 8, 1923, in Cedar Rapids, IA to Henry and Bertha Haegg. Raised and educated through high school in Cedar Rapids, he enrolled in Iowa State College where he earned Mechanical and Civil Engineering degrees. During WWII Henry served on Okinawa as a Naval Ensign; subsequently he earned a MBA at Harvard Business School.

He returned to Cedar Rapids to work with his father's construction business. In 1958 he founded Central Services Company in Cedar Rapids, whose early business was retail coal, roofing and construction. Over time the name became Haegg Construction Company and emphasis became cement construction of streets and roads for cities and states.

Henry and Margaret (Peg) Halpin were married November 28, 1969 in Cedar Rapids and moved to Naples, FL in 1970. Peg passed away February 14, 2008.

A 32nd Degree Mason, Henry traveled worldwide, documenting his travels with thousands of photos.

Like his father before him, Henry was active in various community and college affairs. Known as a dependable, dedicated worker, he served on a number of volunteer management committees and as Board Chair for Cedar Rapids' St. Luke's Hospital. He was also a significant fundraiser for causes in which he supported. He was also an active member of St. Paul's, serving on the Board of Trustees, Church Property Committee and ushering regularly for Sunday worship services. Though quiet about his philanthropy, Henry was fond of and generous to both the Naples and Cedar Rapids communities.

Henry had genuine concern for people and their well being, including his extensive family. The following note by grandchild Shannon Zuzek reflects feelings held commonly for Grandpa Henry, "Last night much love traveled with Grandpa Henry as he made his way to heaven. I am so grateful this longtime bachelor accepted the package deal of 5 children and 2 grandchildren (with more to come) when he and my Gabba fell in love. He quietly made a lasting impact on countless lives in his 93 years, and I am lucky to have been one of them."

A Celebration of Life was held March 16, 2017 at St. John's Episcopal Church, Naples, FL.

John Wesley Heritage Society Luncheon Held



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Nearly 70 persons attended the annual John Wesley Heritage Society Luncheon on June 14 at the Cedar Rapids Marriott.

Former Foundation director, Kevin Gowdy, gave the keynote address, speaking about the changing role of endowment funds for churches. Kevin cited current church trends and the critical nature of endowments. As congregations age there has been a significant increase in endowments. Members recognize that a portion of their financial blessings should be given back to God. Churches should look at how they might invest in themselves for the future. We cannot be static in the way we look at our funds, and it is important to teach those who come after us to be good stewards.

Lorna Barnes described the creative planning she has done to perpetuate her support for St. Paul's UMC through endowments. To illustrate the value of endowed gifts, Pastor Keith Pitts spoke about how the endowments for youth are being placed to good use.

One new member to the Society, Patricia Meier, was named. Another member, Harlan McCaw, who died last November, was remembered with gratitude.

2017 Scholarship Awards

The St. Paul's UMC Foundation has been the grateful recipient of many gifts in support of students pursuing their educational dreams. The Foundation has awarded scholarships this year to the following individuals:

St. Paul's Scholarship - \$750 each

Mary Azelborn – Daughter of Brian and Laura Azelborn, 2015 graduate of Cedar Rapids Washington High School, 3rd year student, Iowa State University

Emily DeJong – Daughter of Chaun and Heidi DeJong, 2015 graduate of Linn-Mar High School, 3rd year student, Luther College

Sarah Lodge – Daughter of Kevin and Lana Lodge, 2015 graduate of Cedar Rapids Washington High School, 3rd year student, Luther College

Sophie Mboli – Member of our African National congregation, 1st year student, Kirkwood Community College

Taylor Miller – Daughter of Jim and Jennifer Miller, 2015 graduate of Cedar Rapids Jefferson High School, 3rd year student, University of Northern Iowa

Natasha Nichols – Daughter of Dana and Suzanne Nichols, 2017 graduate of Cedar Rapids Washington High School, 1st year student, University of Tampa

Ryley Radack – Son of David and Dawn Radack, 2017 graduate of Linn-Mar High School, 1st year student, Iowa State University

Grace Ridnour – Daughter of Georgana Ridnour, 2014 graduate of Cedar Rapids Kennedy High School, 4th year student, University of Iowa

Thomas Smeed - Son of Bill and Christy Smeed, 2017 graduate of Cedar Rapids Kennedy High School, 1st year student, Iowa State University

R. J. & Grace Noonan Scholarship - \$500

Bronwyn May – Daughter of Andrew and Cathy May, 2016 Graduate of Cedar Rapids Washington High School, 2nd year student, University of Northern Iowa

Fran & Stan Richardson Scholarship - \$1,000

Connor DeJong – Son of Chaun and Heidi DeJong, 2017 graduate of Linn-Mar High School, 1st year student, Wartburg College

Dr. Mary E. Wilson Scholarship - \$1,000

Shelby Williams – Daughter of Laura and Paul Williams, 2017 graduate of Cedar Rapids Kennedy High School, 1st year student, Cornell College

St. Paul's Seminary Scholarship - \$2,500

Keith Pitts – Masters Program, University of Dubuque Seminary

Leola Clark Scholarships - \$450

In addition to scholarships awarded by the Foundation, one \$450 scholarship has been awarded to a graduating senior by each of the seven public high schools in the Cedar Rapids Metro area, made possible by a gift from the late Leola Clark, a long-time St. Paul's UMC member. This fund is administered by the Foundation but the counseling staffs at each school choose the recipient. None of this year's recipients is a St. Paul's member.

St. Paul's UMC Foundation Supports Ministries

The sole mission of the Foundation is to support the ministries of St. Paul's UMC. Each year the Foundation grants to the church funds restricted for specific ministries as well as undesignated funds for the Church Council to distribute. Recently, the council allocated money to support ministries for children, youth, the arts, spiritual formation, and the African Nationals' quest for citizenship.

Thanks to Foundation funding and other sources, children who have been in FOCUS, a preschool program at St. Paul's, and other children of the neighborhood are provided a safe, supportive faith-based educational program each summer through SPRINT. Over the years, SPRINT has made a difference in many children's lives and the young people in turn have made a difference in others' lives.

Who doesn't like getting a care package? The 5th - 12th graders of St. Paul's and their families gather snack items and write encouraging notes to St. Paul's college freshmen and sophomores. The Foundation undesignated fund pays for the mailing of these donated treats, thus keeping our college students connected with the church.

The African Nationals, in the English language learning program at St. Paul's, are eager to learn the information needed to pass the citizenship test and to become United States citizens. Foundation funds helped purchase the learning materials necessary for this endeavor.

A new Arts Ministry received startup funds from the Foundation. These funds will help provide materials for the ministry plus honoraria for visiting artists. A summer program of offerings is currently being designed with the goal of strengthening the spiritual development of St. Paul's congregation.

The Church Council used Foundation funds to match the Easter offering in the amount of \$12,000 to support Church World Service. This organization helps refugees resettle and rebuild their lives in the United States by finding welcoming communities that will offer dignity and belonging to the refugees.

Restricted Funds Used for Mission Work

In the past year the Church's "Sending to Serve Committee" has dispersed money from various Foundation Endowed Funds for mission work. The following specific community organizations or programs have been recipients:

Mission of Hope	\$2,304
Neighborhood Meals	1,500
Family Promise of Linn County	5,000
Matthew 25	2,000
His Hands Free Clinic	1,000
Helping Hands Ministries	3,000
Kids against Hunger	1,500
St. Paul's Emergency Relief Fund	3,500
St. Paul's Mission Trip to Jamaica	3,000
St. Paul's Ingathering Projects	1,500
St. Paul's SPRINT Program	1,500
St. Paul's African National Congregation	1,000
Books without Borders	250
Total	\$27,054

Each of the above ministries received funding only because someone cared and gave to the St. Paul's Foundation. The income and earnings from the investment of those gifts allow St. Paul's to reach out in ministries to many and to make a difference in their lives.