

January 7, 2021

# outlook

St. Paul's United Methodist Church: a people GATHERED, FORMED, and SENT by God's grace.



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Friends,

With all of you, I am deeply troubled by the acts of January 6 in our country's capital city and our capitol building. I grieve the persuasive words that fostered this distrust, the violence, and the idea that physical force is the way to solve our concerns. I grieve rhetoric of intimidation, belittlement, or threat.

Friends, we know this is not the way. As people of faith we look to God, as so many did yesterday, praying for actions of justice, and ultimately, for God's peace.

If you desire a better way, friends, the only way is through the healing that love of neighbor offers. Even when we don't see how love could work, it can.

- When love creates safe spaces for deep listening.
- When love opens our eyes to the common humanity between us.
- When love recognizes that we need each other.
- When love notices that all are not treated equally.
- When love calls for justice.
- When love gives us hope of God's power, beyond our own, to be working for the healing of our world.
- When love compels us to be a reflection of this way of Jesus Christ.

I am asking you, as our General Rules declare, to Do No harm, Do Good, and Attend to the Ordinances of God (...stay in love with God!).

As we individually live in such a way, our St. Paul's UMC community will continue to welcome all who come seeking this better way.

- Our church community will continue to reach out in a witness of love, by God's grace.
- Our church community will continue to engage all who ask questions of life, conflict, community, and faith.
- Our church community will continue to be one of care, action, and prayer.

For God is at work this very day.

May you find hope in the transforming power of our loving God and our partnership in God's presence.

Grace & peace to you,  
Pastor Sherrie



## Learning to Pray

Folding our hands before prayer is a way to show God that we are talking to him. At ELC, we believe that the most important aspect of mealtime prayer is thanking God, but that is not all, the practice of prayer is foundational to a child's faith.

We invite you to practice our mealtime prayer at home with your little one.

"We thank you God, for things to share.  
For food and friends and loving care. Amen."

## prayers

*What came into being through the Word was life, and the life was the light for all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light. --John 1:3b-5*

Light of the world, hear our prayers:

- In hope, through vaccines developed to protect against Covid 19
- In care, and concern for those impacted financially, physically, and emotionally by the pandemic and derecho
- Of encouragement throughout the holidays for all in need, for all in grief

In Your Healing & Grace for:

- Marianne Mickle
- Pat Bolton (Sherri Bolton's mother)
- Leona Hastie
- Alice Hart (Brad Hart's mother)
- Sally Ford
- Gottlieb Bollin (Kristin Simon's son)
- Rev. Melisa Bracht-Wagner
- Judy and Bill Schatz
- Harry Baumann (Mark Baumann's father)
- Larry Jensen (Brice Anton Jensen's father)
- Angie Stookey

- Mary Gade (Milt)
- Charles Edwards (Lora Lea)
- Esther Miceli
- Charman Banks (John)
- Marti & Spence Grayson (Dave Mahlke's sister and brother-in-law)
- Quinn Anton Jensen (Nancy & Brice Anton Jensen's son)
- Cheri Young (Gene & Carrie Young's daughter)
- Linda Hadley
- Ryan Vick
- Kris Yahn (Steve)

In Compassionate Memorial Prayers  
for the Families & Friends of:

- Mel Struthers (Ann)
- Laverne Tucker

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## thank you



Dear Friends,

Your kind messages of condolence after the loss of our beloved daughter, Tiffani, have been greatly appreciated. We received comfort and strength from all your uplifting words and acts of kindness. It is hard to imagine how different life is going to be for us, but we are thankful for God's love and to have the support of treasured friends like all of you.

Peace,  
L.J. and Holli Schneekloth

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## music ministry

The pipe organ at St. Paul's will be under a renovation project beginning next Monday, January 11. Details about the history of the instrument and the project are detailed in a video that follows this paragraph. The video provides a connection to people in the congregation and the wider community



to know what is taking place since the church building is not open to gatherings where such information could be disseminated. Please contact Mark Baumann, Coordinator of Music Ministries, for more information. Thank you for your support.

History of St. Paul's UMC Pipe Organ Video

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## worship

- Sunday Facebook Live Worship - 9:00 am
- African Nationals Sunday Facebook Live Worship - 12:30 pm
- **Past Sermon Videos**
- **Services on Cable TV**
- **Get Connected with St. Paul's UMC**



### Sermon Series: Voice

The beginning of each new year is often a time we consider what new things we want to do or ways we want to regain some lost ground from the year before, but all of that starts in an earlier question: which voices do we want to hear and how do they guide us into wisdom and faithfulness?

Join us at 9:00 am on Facebook Live, Sundays, January 3, 10, 17

for our new sermon series "VOICE"

Worship Guide for January 10

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## upcoming events

## Music Ministry Note

Our pipe organ is  
"out for repairs"  
for about 6 weeks.

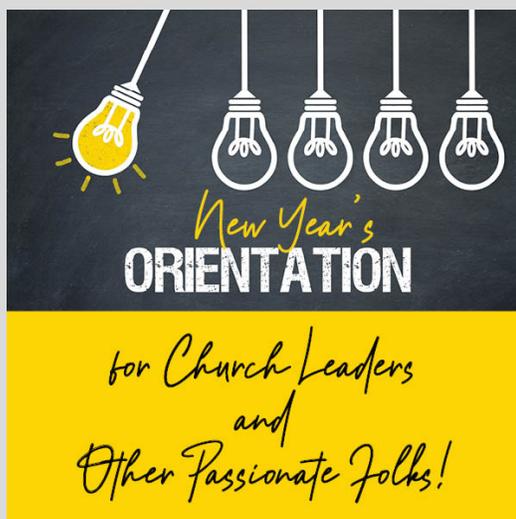
Learn more through our short video at  
[stpaulsumc.org/announcements](http://stpaulsumc.org/announcements)

## St. Paul's Pipe Organ - Volunteers Needed

We are having maintenance work on the organ, the week of January 11th and we need volunteers to help the people with cleaning. We would like to have twelve volunteers that could rotate between 7:00 am to 6:00 pm for that week, Monday through Friday. We would like to have enough people to come different times and days of the

week. **If you can come for just a certain time during a day or a few days a week that will help.** My understanding is that it is light work just giving a helping hand to the people doing the work. 4-6 people are needed from 7 to 6 each day of the week. Please contact Kristin Simon at the church office (319-363-2058, [ksimon@stpaulsumc.org](mailto:ksimon@stpaulsumc.org)) to let us know if you can help. We will have all the sanitary supplies ready for workers to be safe.

Thank you,  
sincerely, Mark Fleming and Mark Baumann



## New Year's Orientation for Church Leaders and Other Passionate Folks!

If you are serving in a leadership role this coming year or want to learn more about our visioning plans for the future, please plan to join our New Year's Orientation.

When: **Saturday, January 16,  
9:00-10:15 am**

Where: Zoom Video Conference

Please reserve your spot by emailing [roth@stpaulsumc.org](mailto:roth@stpaulsumc.org) or [ksimon@stpaulsumc.org](mailto:ksimon@stpaulsumc.org) and you will receive an email reply with the zoom link for this event.

## 2021 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration

Please join us for our annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration as we gather to consider his legacy, hear his message with



We the People:  
Protest and Peace  
**DR. MLK JR. DAY  
CELEBRATION**

recognized for diligently working for justice in Linn County.

Hosted by St. Paul's United Methodist Church in collaboration with Coe College, First Light Christian Fellowship, Mount Mercy University, Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, and the NAACP. With special thanks to: African American Museum of Iowa, Cedar Rapids Public Library, Cedar Rapids, Civil Rights Commission, and Iowa City Public Library.

fresh ears, and accept his prophetic call to resist injustice in the forms it presents itself as we commit to work for justice. [Click here for link to St. Paul's Facebook.](#)

Monday, January 18, 2021 at 7:00 pm, St. Paul's will Facebook live stream our annual celebration with music and reflections. The annual "Dr. Percy and Lileah Harris 'Who Is My Neighbor' Award" will be awarded to an adult and a high school student who will be

Dr. MLK Jr. Celebration Flyer 2021

## New Reading for 2021

Start the new year out right and enjoy being inside on these cold winter days by reading some good books. Here are some you might want to check out: (Reviewed by Irene Visser)

- Women Rise Up by Katey Zeh quotes Scripture that tells the stories of ten biblical women that describes how they were treated, oppressed, and ignored as unimportant. She asks you to read their stories recognizing their experience, wisdom and sisterhood. She connects them to contemporary global gender issues, using examples from her own life. She demands that women rise up and take their rightful place in today's world, starting in the church.
- Babbitt and Joan by Denise Turu. A rabbit and phone, are close friends never spending time apart. Babbitt finally leaves Joan at home as he goes off to have a great adventure. This colorful picture book was written for children, but has a message as well for adults. Read it to your grandchildren. They'll love it and so will you!



The UMW Reading books are available for your to check out at the home of Gayle and Kate Buroker. It's easy to check out a book, just call Kate to make an appointment, wear your mask (hand sanitizer is available) and

come peruse the books. If you know which book you would like, let Kate know and you can make a non-contact pickup at 2922 Alleghany Dr. NE. Call 362-5285 or 929-2109 to make your appointment. And remember, you don't have to be a United Methodist Women to check out these books. They are available and good reading for anyone.

## A Young Adults Mission Trip - June 2021

St Paul's is sponsoring a mission trip for young adults ages 19 - 30 to take place June 5th-13th of 2021. We will be going through Experience Mission to Pike County in Kentucky. The cost will be roughly \$700 per person with scholarships available. You can look over the details of the trip at <https://experiencemission.org/mission-trips/appalachia-kentucky>

Please follow the link below and fill out the application form if this is something you would like to participate in. Forms are due January 31, 2021.

**Email the form below to:**

Lee Ann Dielschneider ([leeann.dielschneider@gmail.com](mailto:leeann.dielschneider@gmail.com))

**Or Mail to:**

Lee Ann Dielschneider  
6259 33<sup>rd</sup> Ave Dr  
Shellsburg, IA 52332

Short Term Mission Team - Member Application

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# children & youth

## Families (All Ages)

Winter is here, the pandemic drags on, and yet, we all need to burn off some energy somehow. With limited access to the places we relied on in past years (remember museums?), it's time to get creative.

We want to see your households snow creations. From December 30th – January 15th bundle up, get creative and take a picture of your creation! Send your pictures to Becca Nims ([rnims@stpaulsumc.org](mailto:rnims@stpaulsumc.org)).

Creations will be posted on social media for final voting. Creations will be voted on for most creative, degree of difficulty and artistic expression.

Winning Households will receive a family night pack – including a gift card for pizza, family games and snacks!

## Confirmation

8th Grade Confirmation starts back up on January 3rd at 10:30am on Zoom.

Click below link to join Zoom meeting:



Senior High Sunday Night  
Small Group  
**Starting January 10, 6:30 pm on  
Zoom**

GOALS: Nehemiah grew to understand the tension of having a dream and pursuing it, because he had a big goal inspired by a big problem. Big goals and big problems, these are things in life that will continue to exist together. And sometimes, like Nehemiah, we can get stuck because **God-sized goals require God-sized gratitude. Big**

**difficulties can inspire God-sized goals, and God gives us strength to pursue God-sized goals.**

JOIN US ON SUNDAY NIGHTS AS WE TAKE A LOOK AT OUR OWN BIG GOALS.

Click below link to join Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85881625696>

Mid-Week Check-in:  
**Wednesday's in January (starting January 13th)**

Mid-High (5th-8th) and Senior High (9th-12th) join us on Wednesday nights at 7:00pm for games, a short devotion and a check-in on what's happening in our lives. We will be joined with our friends from Cedar Falls, First United Methodist.

Click below link to join Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89108263785>

## stewardship

- [3 Ways to Give](#)
- [St. Paul's App](#)

[stpaulsumc.org](http://stpaulsumc.org)