

January 14, 2021

outlook

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



*To make an apt answer is a joy to anyone,
and a word in season, how good it is!*
-Proverbs 15.23 NRSV

One of the facets of a voice is that its utterances are ephemeral:
the sound only hangs in the air for a moment.
And while their memory's impact may continue beyond the moment a
statement is made,
a voice is most powerful when it speaks "a word in season."
This weekend: Sunday and our Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration on
Monday,
are two opportunities for us to be reminded of the power in our own voices,
if we will continue to speak good news in a hurting world.
I hope you'll join us for both of these livestreamed gatherings.

-Pastor Jonathan

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

In Your Healing & Grace for:

- Marianne Mickle
- Pat Bolton (Sherri Bolton's mother)
- Leona Hastie
- 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 Hospice Care:

- Alice Hart (Brad Hart's mother)

In Compassionate Memorial Prayers for the Families & Friends of:

- Mel Struthers (Ann)

celebration



Congratulations Sophie!

St. Paul's would like to congratulate Sophie Mboli for receiving her citizenship on December 18, 2020! Sophie has been a maintenance assistant at St. Paul's since September 2017. Sophie came to the US in 2015. Congratulations Sophie!

update

on St. Paul's Response to the COVID Pandemic

On January 10, Bishop Laurie Haller of the Iowa United Methodist Church lifted her directive that churches be closed to all group activities. We are now allowed to follow local recommendations which take into consideration the amount of local positive tests, hospitalizations, and deaths.

Using guidelines from the Linn County Health Department, we will **return to allowing limited small group activities inside our church building.** Worship, however, will continue online only.

Be reminded that anyone over 65 or anyone with underlying medical conditions is still advised to continue with online participation or alternate methods which limit face to face contact. However, we also recognize that the choice is for each person to make.

[Read Complete Article on St. Paul's COVID Response](#)

music ministry



The pipe organ at St. Paul's will be under a renovation project. 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](#)

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



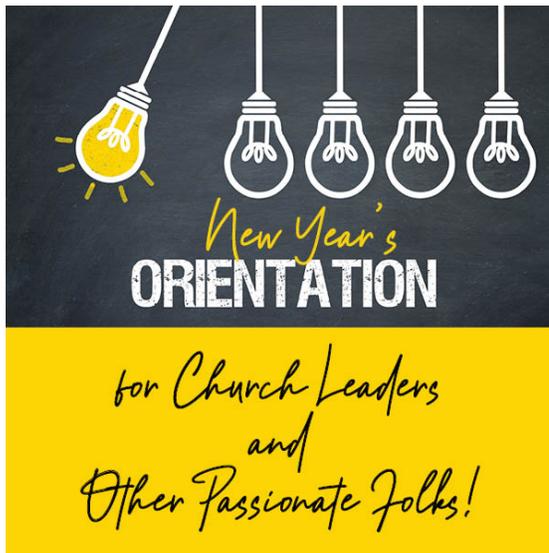
The beginning of each new year is often a time we consider what new things we want to do or ways we want to regain some lost ground from the year before, but all of that starts in an earlier question: which voices do we want to hear and how do they guide us into wisdom and faithfulness?

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

for our new sermon series "VOICE"

Worship Guide for January 17

upcoming events



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 sroth@stpaulsumc.org or 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.



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

Martin Luther King Jr. Day celebration as we gather to consider his legacy, hear his message with 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 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.

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 you 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.

children & youth

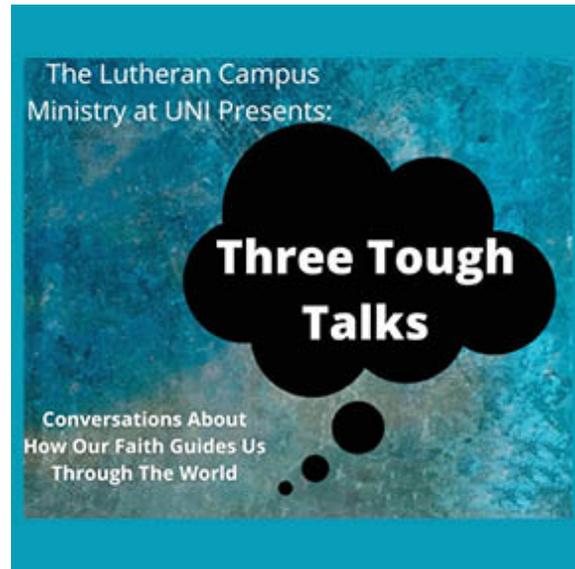
Tough Faith Talks:
Race & Faith
Sunday January 17th 6:30pm on Zoom. For All Families and Mid-High/Senior High Youth Youth

"Faith and Race," will feature performances and stories from three artists: Agape*, Joe Davis, and Teddy the Brave. The following links are short videos that give you an introduction of the artists and their work.

- Agape* and Joe Davis: <https://youtu.be/GLO6p3Xu9e8>
- Website: hiphopoutreach.com
- Teddy the Brave: <https://youtu.be/jukCVQCRpqU>
- Website: teddythebrave.com

Each of these artists bring stories to life through music, poetry, acting, spoken word, and more. Their collaboration and connection to the stories lift each other up, shed light on racial experiences, and offer views into others' lives, and reflection on our own lives and experiences.

Check your emails for zoom link or email Becca Nims (Youth Ministry Director) at rnims@stpaulsumc.org for the link



[Three Tough Talks Event Link](#)

Children & Youth Families

Join us for an afternoon of sledding on February 7th from 2:00-4:00 pm. We will meet at (Squaw Creek) Wanatee Park - 1700 Big Bluestem

Family Sledding

FEBRUARY 7TH
2:00-4:00PM



Dr., Marion. Bring your own sled, masks and social distancing guidelines will be followed.

Mid-Week Check-in: Wednesday's in January

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