

Inspiration

NEWS FROM SAINT PAUL BENSON

JUNE 2023

Financial News

As first reported to you in the May newsletter, the Administrative Executive Team continues to work with Saint Paul's clergy and staff to improve the financial stability of the church. Peeling back the layers of the budget and financial records has helped us gain an understanding of both our contractual obligations and operating expenses. In addition to payroll, Saint Paul has monthly bills to pay – just as you may have at home – including insurance, pensions, cleaning supplies, and utilities including electric, gas, water, internet, telephone and security system.

And, as in a regular household, unexpected expenses can put cashflow in a bind. Just last week, we received a bid to repair the air conditioning unit that cools the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall. Without this repair, the system can cool at only up to 50% capacity. It may get a bit warm during Sunday worship before the funds to pay for repairs are allocated.

We are currently running a monthly deficit of about \$14,000 between money received and expenses. We were fortunate to draw \$50,000 from the Saint Paul Foundation to help ease cashflow through the month of June. We have been able to find ways to save on some office/building-related expenses, and we are beginning to discuss what we can do to encourage the use of our building by outside organizations.

With the clergy team we have in place, we have hope for the future. You can help by supporting Saint Paul with regular prayers, and, if you are able, please consider an increase in giving.

Please direct any questions to the Administrative Executive Team:

Hank Robinson, Chair, Staff Parish Relations Committee (SPRC), thank.robinson@gmail.com

Krisanne Weimer, Chair, Trustees, weimerk75@gmail.com

Shawn Ammon, Chair, Church Council, shawnammon@cox.net

Jeremy Shirk, Chair, Saint Paul Foundation, jshirkjd@gmail.com

Can You Help?

WISH LIST

The Mercy & Justice Team is collecting donations for the **Pearl Pantry**.

This month, bring your non-perishable items to Mission Central in the back of the Sanctuary.

MOST WANTED:

Peanut Butter
Jelly
Pasta
Beans
Tomato Sauce
Soup

Thank you!

TAKE A
DEEP DIVE
INTO THE
BOOK OF
GENESIS

IN THE BEGINNING

SERMON &
SCRIPTURE
SERIES

JUNE
JULY
AUGUST



*Join UWF on
the Road!*

JOE'S CAFÉ
6564 Maple Street
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7
9:30 AM

**Fun Conversation
& Program**

All Women Welcome!



MASTERSINGERS IN CONCERT JUNE 11

GIRLS ROCK! Celebrate the powerful women of pop music at 6:00 PM Sun., June 11 in our Sanctuary. 10 free tickets available in the church office while they last or buy online (mastersingersomaha.com) or at the door.

SAINT PAUL *Benson*
5410 Corby Street
Omaha, Nebraska 68104

402.556.2433
SaintPaul@StPaulOmaha.org

SaintPaulBenson.org

Staff

Rev. Stephanie Ahlschwede
Lead Pastor

Rev. Faith Kubai
Associate Pastor

Rev. Marta Wheeler
Associate Pastor
Spiritual Director & Faith Formation

Rev. Jerry Brabec
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The Inspiration is published monthly.
Submit info by the 19th of the month
to be included in the next month's
issue. Email Kristin
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SERMON-BY-PHONE
(402) 210-2091



RECONCILING MINISTRIES NETWORK

With God's love as our foundation, we celebrate friendship with all of God's people, affirming all sexual orientations and gender identities. Together, we will seek justice for all and do good in our community, nation and around the world in the name of Jesus Christ.



Rev. Jerry Brabec

Beginning with the communion weekend of **June 03/04**, the Rev.s Kubai and Wheeler start a weekly preaching series of iconic characters found in the Hebrew Scriptures. You will hear stories of faith and servanthood each week as lived by our Genesis forebears. Morning worship will be graced by the presence of the Solid Brass Quartet and David Schack, organist. As part of worship **June 10/11**, we hear from our Youth in their recent Mission experience at Camp Fontanelle. It was my good fortune to lead a devotion with this young and some more mature, but nonetheless energetic, group of giving and loving individuals under the clergy guidance of the Rev. Faith Kubai. Did these folks have spirit or what! Joy Bells will offer a Sunday School classic as part of **June 17/18** worship. Each service will begin with a recap of the recent Great Plains Annual Conference.

The Fifty Great Days of Easter ended with our celebration of Pentecost Memorial Day weekend. We were filled with the spirit of music offered by organist, David Schack and The Choir. Where would we be without the faithful and dedicated leadership of this group of singers each week as part of worship? Their presence, as well as that of the Joy Bells, as we slogged through months of no in-person worship due to the pandemic, made even the emptiest of sanctuaries hospitable. Yes, there was clergy leadership, but Joy Bells and/or The Choir's participation made each service seem more real; more genuine!

You got to have Faith

Rev. Faith Kubai

As this note is written to you, I'm anticipating the excitement of participating in my first Saint Paul Youth Mission trip. I know being at Camp Fontanelle is going to be a great experience for all of us attending. You'll hear all about our adventures during worship June 10/11. Prayers are appreciated!

We will dive into a new preaching and scripture series this summer. **"In The Beginning"** begins at worship June 3/4. We promise exciting stories about God's love for all people and God's involvement in our lives. Plus, you'll get to know the only thing in God's original creation said to be "not good." Join us to solve that riddle!

David's presence these many years is made possible by financial gifts from generous members, as well as the money that is received from the wedding/funeral/Rose Theater "second-mile" work that comes my way. The more than two decades of worship involvement by the Solid Brass Quartet is made possible by loving remembrances and memorials of the saints of Saint Paul, designated by families for this specific use. Many other musical guests come to us via a barter system. **No general budget dollars are used for "special" music.** The inspiration and elevation provided by beautiful music enhances the worship experience like no other. This is God's good gift to us all!

Over 250 items were donated to neighborhood schools through our "Undie Sunday" drive! The Mercy & Justice team thanks you for your generosity.

PRAYERS *for God's People*

Congratulations!

Kaitlyn Waszak earned a Doctorate in Audiology. She will soon begin her professional career as an audiologist in Medford, Oregon.

Honorarium

In honor of the marriage of Morgan Riddle & Mac Miller: Jerry Brabec

Recent Hospitalizations

Les Focht Diana Wenzel
Annette Farquhar Mary Campbell

Memorials

For Marian Bailey: Vance Taylor
For Ralph Anderson: Nikki & Steve Anderson, Susan & Chris Foix
For Mary Buono: Judy Buono
For Nick Stolzer: Marcia Waszak

Christian Sympathy

To the family of Caryl Mae Stearnes in her death. Caryl's life was celebrated at Saint Paul May 18.

To Judy Buono in the death of her aunt.

From the Desk of . . .

Rev. Marta Wheeler

Rev. Faith has invited Rev. Brabec and me to lead devotions with the youth on their mission trip. I am looking forward to showing them around the new labyrinth at Camp Fontanelle when I visit May 31st.

The second week of June, new pastors getting their licenses will be the focus of my attention for two days at St. Benedict Retreat Center near Schuyler, NE.

Consider asking me to a place near you to lead a short prayer service. Rev. Faith will accompany me, and you will have time to visit and get to know what a wonderful person she is!

May the Holy Spirit encourage and enliven each of you!

Holy Listening

You are welcome to attend and greet old friends and make new!

THURSDAY, JUNE 15

10:00 AM

Elk Ridge Village Independent Living
19303 Seward St.

1 PM

The Heritage Memory Care Unit
1111 Sterling Ridge Drive

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

3 PM

Immanuel Village Independent Living
6803 N. 68th Plaza

THURSDAY, JUNE 22

10:00 AM

Astoria (formerly Brighton Gardens)
9220 Western Ave.

WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB

All are welcome either in-person at Immanuel Village or join the fun via Zoom

"DEMON COPPERHEAD"

By Barbara Kingsolver

SATURDAY, JUNE 12 AT 9 AM

Meet on the 2nd floor "Hub" through the south entrance. Call Connie Crawford for info 402-660-8211.

Great Plains UMC Annual Conference

June 7-10 ~ LaVista Conference Center
Voting laity: Charlene Wilcox, Shawn Ammon and Kristin Camp. Rev. Faith Kubai will lead the morning devotional on Friday, June 9.
greatplainsumc.org/annualconference

Our June Calendar

JUNE COMMUNAL OFFERING: PEACE WITH JUSTICE

One of six annual United Methodist special offerings. Donations support programs and ministries to educate, equip and advocate in support of economic, health, and gender justice priorities. 50% of the offering remains in the Great Plains Conference for local programs.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday through Thursday 9:00 – 4:00; Friday 9:00 – 1:00

SUNDAYS

8:45 AM	Soul Journeys for Women	Library
9:30 AM	The Choir Rehearsal (9:15 AM 6/4)	Room 250
10:00 AM	Worship	
	In-Person in the Sanctuary and YouTube Livestream	
11:00 AM	Nepali Worship	Fellowship Hall
3:00 PM	Prayer Service	Roth Chapel

MONDAYS

9:00 AM	Lectio Divina	Offsite
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TUESDAYS

10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Library
1:30 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Library
6:30 PM	Flag Corps Practice	Courtyard

WEDNESDAYS

4:00 PM	Tai Chi	Room 111
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THURSDAYS

5:45 PM	Joy Bells Rehearsal	Balcony
7:00 PM	The Choir Rehearsal	Room 250
7:00 PM	MasterSingers (6/1, 6/8)	Roth Chapel

SATURDAYS

5:00 PM	Worship	Roth Chapel
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THURSDAY, JUNE 1 & FRIDAY, JUNE 2

Youth Mission Trip Continues	Camp Fontanelle
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MONDAY, JUNE 5

6:30 PM	MasterSingers	Roth Chapel
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7

9:30 AM	United Women in Faith	Joe's Café (65/Maple)
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SATURDAY, JUNE 10

9:00 AM	Book Club	Immanuel Village
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SUNDAY, JUNE 11

6:00 PM	MasterSingers Concert	Sanctuary
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14

4:00 PM	Memorial Service	Roth Chapel
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THURSDAY, JUNE 15

11:00 AM	Holy Listening	Elk Ridge Village
1:00 PM	Holy Listening	Sterling Ridge

SATURDAY, JUNE 17

4:30 PM	Joy Bells Rehearsal	Roth Chapel
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WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21

3:00 PM	Holy Listening	Immanuel Village
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THURSDAY, JUNE 22

10:00 AM	Holy Listening	Astoria
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FRIDAY, JUNE 23

7:00 PM	Bel Canto Concert	Courtyard
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SATURDAY, JUNE 24

7:30 AM	Federated Garden Clubs	Room 111
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FRIDAY, JUNE 30

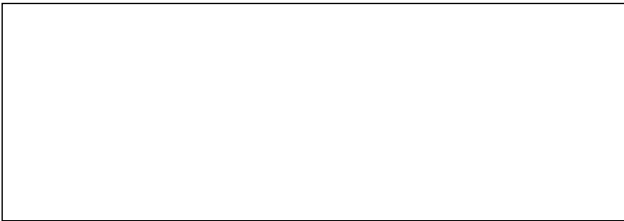
8:00 AM	ENOA Senior Companions	Fellowship Hall
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

BEL CANTO DUO

LIVE ON THE LAWN



DARCI GRIFFITH (ENGLISH HORN) & DAVID DOWNING (CELLO)

JOIN US AT SAINT PAUL BENSON!
FRIDAYS // 7PM
JUNE 23 JULY 28
AUGUST 18 SEPTEMBER 8

COUNTRY CLUB @ NW RADIAL
 BRING A LAWN CHAIR
 WILL MOVE INDOORS IF WEATHER DEMANDS

PREMIERING
FOUR CATHER TABLEAUX

Great Plains UMC Annual Conference
The Church Office will be closed Wed. – Fri., June 7, 8 and 9

Stay Connected



FOLLOW, LIKE, SUBSCRIBE AND FRIEND US!
We're easy to find by searching for "SaintPaulBenson" on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or YouTube.