

# Inspiration

NEWS OF SAINT PAUL BENSON

AUGUST 2023

## PASTORAL PERSPECTIVE



**“I’m filled with deep gratitude for each of the remarkable ways you contribute to the life of Saint Paul Benson.**

**Your presence, giving, dedication, prayers and commitment testify to the power of Christ’s love working through us - a great source of encouragement and inspiration.”**

*Faith*

Rev. Faith Kubai

I wish also to thank you all for your calmness and for your unwavering support and composure during the recent upheaval. During challenging times, it is easy for doubts to arise and for unity to falter. However, your steadfastness has reminded us that we are not just a congregation, we are a family bound by shared beliefs and commitment to support one another. Through prayers, we were able to have a fruitful conversation and now we are stronger as clergy members with renewed sense of purpose and dedication to serve our beloved church.

I further want to express my heartfelt thanks for being an integral part of our church family. Together, we create a tapestry of faith, love, and support that binds us as one body in Christ. As members of Saint Paul community, we are called to embrace and embody the essence of Christian fellowship. Together, we form a united body of believers, each with unique gifts and talents, all essential for the edification and growth of the Church. I am continuously reminded of the words of the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 1:4, “I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus”.

As we journey together as a Church, I encourage each one of you to consider becoming even more actively involved in our community as we all embark to the great Revival. Our Church offers a diverse range of groups and ministries that cater to various interest and spiritual giftings. These groups provide opportunities for personal growth, deeper connections and collective impart as we serve people that God has entrusted us in this season.

Whether it is joining prayer group to intercede for our church and the world, participating in outreach programs to extend compassion to the needy, being part of worship team to glorify God through music, or engaging with our youth and children ministries to mentor and nurture the next generation - each group plays a crucial role in building a vibrant and thriving Church community.

## 12 Ways to Grow

SAINT PAUL

**It’s Time for YOU to Take Saint Paul into the Future!**

**Grab a buddy, review the options, and share your ideas with Rev. Faith!**

1. Worship team/ choir
2. Prayer group/ intercessory prayer team
3. Outreach / evangelism team
4. Hospitality
5. Mission team
6. Greeters team
7. Stewardship team
8. Technology team
9. Sunday school/ small group leaders
10. Men’s/Women’s ministries
11. Youth ministry
12. Children’s ministry

In 1 Peter 4:10, we are reminded that “each of you should use the gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms. “Each one of you possesses unique gifts, talents, and passions that can be put to incredible use within our church community”.

I invite you to prayerfully consider where God is leading you to serve, something that aligns with your interest and passions. Your involvement in different groups will not only bless others but will also enrich your spiritual journey. In 1 Corinthians 12:12, the Apostle Paul beautifully illustrates the idea of the church as a body: “For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.” This analogy emphasizes the value of each individual in the congregation. Each one of you is integral to the functioning and vitality of our church.

SAINT PAUL *Benson*  
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SaintPaulBenson.org

*Staff*

Rev. Faith Kubai  
Lead Pastor

Rev. Jerry Brabec  
Minister of Worship

Rev. Marta Wheeler  
Associate Pastor  
Spiritual Director & Faith  
Formation  
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Noni Cambridge  
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The Inspiration is published  
monthly. Submit info by the 19<sup>th</sup> of  
the month to be included in the  
next month's issue.

**SERMON-BY-PHONE**  
**(402) 210-2091**



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.

**CONVERSATIONS  
WITH CLERGY**

Join us for these special gatherings, designed to  
foster conversations about the possibilities in  
casting a new vision for Saint Paul Benson.

You will engage in a candid discussion with your  
dedicated clergy members who will share their  
insights and plans for the future of our Church. **The  
input and ideas of every member of our  
congregation are truly valued, as it is YOUR  
unwavering support and dedication that make  
our church a vibrant and nurturing community.**

The conversations will include, among others:

- A presentation of our church vision for the  
coming years, outlining our aspirations and the  
path we aim to tread.
- A constructive exchange of ideas with our  
clergy members, where we welcome your  
questions and input.
- Opportunity to get involved and actively  
contribute to the growth and development of  
our church family.
- Fellowship and ice cream, allowing us to bond  
and strengthen with one another.

You are invited to attend any or all sessions.

**ALL SESSIONS TO BE HELD IN CLARK PARLOR**

**Thursday, August 24 7:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, August 27 11:15 a.m.**

**Wednesday, August 30 10:00 a.m.**

Please mark the appropriate date(s) on your  
calendar and feel free to invite a friend, family  
member or neighbor who would be willing to share  
this empowering experience with us.

**Your presence is crucial in  
shaping the future of Saint Paul  
where God is calling us to a new  
thing! Will you answer the call?**

**PRAYERS** *for God's People*

*Notes of Thanks*

"...the way Saint Paul shares its resources with the  
community shows what a wonderful faith community you  
are. Thank you so much for your help with our play."

- Anastasis Theatre Co.

To Carla Stephenson for the new Christian Flag  
unfurled on the Saint Paul east lawn flagpole.

*Christian Sympathy*

To Mary Miller in the death of her husband, David

From the Desk of . . .

*Rev. Marta Wheeler*

It's been good to see many of you or visit  
on the phone these past weeks. Thank you all for  
your faithfulness to Saint Paul and your  
willingness to serve in so many ways. We  
appreciate you and send our blessings!

**SHOWER OF FLOWERS**

TUESDAY, AUGUST 29 | 9:30 AM

Join me for an immersion of plants and flowers  
as Holy Listening goes to Lauritzen Gardens!  
Seeking inner quietude, we will wander and pray  
in the presence of flowers in full bloom and  
fragrance.

**TEENS AND PARENTS MEET**

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13 | 11:15 AM

We will meet in the Library to plan for youth  
events for the coming year. Bring your great  
ideas and calendars!

**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 10 | 11:15 AM

We look forward to a new school year! All K-6  
children are invited to participate and learn  
more about the Christian faith through story,  
song, crafts, and drama. Fun!

*inWorship* Rev. Jerry  
Brabec

**Shout 'em Out!**

Worship at 5 & 10 the month of August will be  
celebrated with an extended time of singing  
and we're counting on you to share your  
favorites. Our annual 'shout & sing' always  
yields a harvest of delightful songs and stories  
of faith while we "sing lustily and with good  
courage" as founder, John Wesley, put it!



United  
Women  
in Faith

*All Women Welcome!*

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2**

9:30 AM ROOM 111

COFFEE & PROGRAM



RED CROSS

**BLOOD  
DRIVE**

SUNDAY  
AUGUST 6

8 AM - 1 PM  
FELLOWSHIP HALL

**CHOOSE YOUR DONATION  
TIME ONLINE**

RedCrossBlood.org

Enter Zip Code 68104  
to Find this Drive

**WOMEN'S BOOK CLUB**

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

**"THIS PLACE OF WONDER"**

By Barbara O'Neal

"In the wake of a personal tragedy, four women  
face the past, their futures, and each other in a  
novel of broken ties and healing"

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 12 | 9 AM**

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



RETURNS AUGUST 30!  
JOIN US EACH WEDNESDAY  
4 PM | ROOM 111

*Our August Calendar*

COMMUNAL OFFERING: MINISTERIAL EDUCATION FUND

This month's special offering supports the Ministerial Education Fund  
(MEF). 40% of funds go to theological schools based on UMC student  
enrollment, and 25% to seminaries for basic support. Additional funds  
support spiritual formation and continuing ed programs; and local annual  
conference assistance for clergy and those in process towards ordination.

**OFFICE HOURS**

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

**SUNDAYS**

8:45 AM	Soul Journeys for Women	Library
10:00 AM	Worship	
	In-Person in the Sanctuary and YouTube Livestream	
11:00 AM	Nepali Worship	Fellowship Hall
3:00 PM	Prayer Service (8/6, 8/20, 8/27)	Roth Chapel
<b>MONDAYS</b>		
9:00 AM	Lectio Divina	Offsite
10:30 AM	Morning Book Study	Library
<b>TUESDAYS</b>		
10:00 AM	Staff Meeting	Library
1:30 PM	Prayer Shawl Ministry	Library
7:00 PM	Rev. Kubai Book Study (begins 8/22)	Zoom
<b>SATURDAYS</b>		
5:00 PM	Worship	Roth Chapel

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**TUESDAY, AUGUST 1**

8:00 AM	ENOA Foster Grandparents	Fellowship Hall
3:30 PM	Omaha Girls Rock	Room 254-60

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2**

9:30 AM	United Women in Faith (UWF)	Room 111
2:00 PM	Omaha Girls Rock	Room 254-60

**SUNDAY, AUGUST 6**

8:00 AM	Red Cross Blood Drive	Fellowship Hall
3:00 PM	SNAP! Theatre	Wesley Hall

**MONDAY, AUGUST 7**

6:00 PM	SNAP! Theatre	Wesley Hall
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**TUESDAY, AUGUST 8**

3:30 PM	Omaha Girls Rock	Room 254-60
7:00 PM	SNAP! Theatre	Wesley Hall

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9**

2:00 PM	Omaha Girls Rock	Room 254-60
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**SATURDAY, AUGUST 12**

9:00 AM	Book Club	Immanuel Village
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**SUNDAY, AUGUST 13**

3:00 PM	District Superintendent Installation	Grace UMC
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**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16**

3:00 PM	Holy Listening	Immanuel Village
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**FRIDAY, AUGUST 18**

7:00 PM	Bel Canto Duo Concert	Courtyard
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**TUESDAY, AUGUST 29**

9:30 AM	Holy Listening	Lauritzen Gardens
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**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 30**

4:00 PM	Tai Chi	Room 111
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**THURSDAY, AUGUST 31**

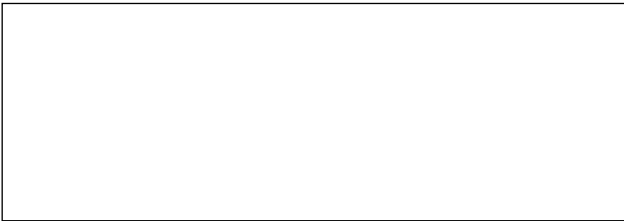
9:00 AM	ENOA Senior Companions	Fellowship Hall
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



# Service of Installation

FOR REV. STEPHANIE AHLSCHEWEDE

*Superintendent, Missouri River & Elkhorn Valley East Districts*

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13 | 3 PM

GRACE UMC/IGLESIA COMUNITARIA DE OMAHA  
2418 E STREET

## SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

# BEL CANTO DUO

LIVE ON THE LAWN



DARCI GRIFFITH GAMERL (OBOE/ENGLISH HORN)  
& DAVID DOWNING (CELLO)

JOIN US AT SAINT PAUL BENSON!

FRIDAYS // 7PM  
AUGUST 18 SEPTEMBER 8

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

PREMIERING  
FOUR CATHER TABLEAUX