

THE PORTLIGHT

A newsletter for members and friends of Portland Avenue United Methodist Church



2017 Holiday Bazaar



November 10, 9am-8pm

November 11, 9am-3pm

- ◇ Gifts and Decorations
- ◇ Silent Auction ◇ Bake Sale
- ◇ Lunch, Dinner & Treats
- ◇ Free Popcorn

(more details on page 6)



2017 Holiday Bazaar

November 2017

Our Mission

"To grow followers of Jesus who change the world."

Our Vision

"To be a safe harbor along life's journey."

The **P**  **ORT**
A safe harbor along life's journey.

Pastor's Message *Rev. Carol Zaagsma*

I was talking recently with one of our members during a hospital visit when the topic of conversation switched to the holidays. As we reflected on Thanksgiving and Christmas, and how they are times families often get together, we came to the realization that there is a sense of belonging that the holidays bring. Even when a family isn't getting along...or even when tensions rise amid a disagreement... "belonging" is the word for the day because just the act of showing up, of being there, is an affirmation of one's belonging to the family.

I've been quite fortunate because I have a family that I actually enjoy being with. This is true of my immediate family, who all live in Missouri, as well as those I call family locally here in Minnesota.

I know that not everyone is as lucky. So when I came across a recipe for a feud-free gathering a few years ago, I kept it, and will share it with you now.

The idea comes from Jennifer Kern Collins, a certified life coach from Minneapolis, and author of *A Drama-Free Way: A Thought-Management Guide to Navigating Chaos and Thriving*. Some time ago, Gail Rosenblum wrote about Collins' book in her column in the Star Tribune.

One of Collins' suggestions is to jot down the names of everyone coming to your Thanksgiving dinner. Now, write at least one thing you honestly appreciate about every single one of them. What better way to shift your attitude than to start with your own way of thinking about others?

"Nobody wants to be triggered into drama, but our families are hot spots," Collins says. "It's only natural that hard feelings will come to the surface when people who haven't seen each other for a while, and have had issues in the past, suddenly find themselves in close quarters."

It's important to realize that family members who are critical of one another are being that way for reasons that have little to do with the object of their criticism. Reacting to their criticism in a way that creates drama just gives them a greater soapbox to stand on.

A big breakthrough in her reflections on navigating chaos was the realization that "she did not have to be the solution."

Collins suggests that we ask ourselves the following on Thanksgiving: "What if I don't have to be the one to fix anything [or anyone's problems]? What if I just let go and relax and enjoy this pumpkin pie?"

One way to work at that is to keep "defusing" statements in mind that would let a family member know that they are being heard. For example, to someone's uninvited suggestions, you might say, "Thanks, I'll give that some thought." Or if someone is getting agitated, you might say, "I see that you're really upset." And at the same time, tell yourself, "I don't need him or her to agree with me for this to be right for me."

Another important step is to prepare for the triggers. When you feel your anxiety rising or your emotions coming on strong, politely excuse yourself and walk away. Maybe spend a little time away from others in a room by yourself. Retreat to the bathroom if necessary. Sometimes all you need is a little time and space to yourself to improve your outlook.

At the end of the day, you want to remember that, despite those differences of opinion that are inevitable between people, you gathered together in the first place because you belong, one to another. And as Collins reminds us, "We have the opportunity to be more loving, more kind, more forgiving. We have the opportunity to remember that family love is more important than drama."

May peace be with you in the coming holidays,

Pastor Carol



November 2017



Nov. 5 Madolyn & Olivia
 Nov. 12 Katelyn & Oliver
 Nov. 19 Janea & Joshua
 Nov. 26 Jeremiah & Becca

Youth Group News



November 4th we will have the fall lock in at Hillcrest. Send your junior/senior high kids, friends, cousins and grandchildren. We will meet at Hillcrest @ 8pm and have games, movies and snacks for the night. Cost is \$10 per youth and that will help cover the cost of an amazing night we will never forget!

November 18th we will shift our focus to those who are in more need than us. We will be going to Feed My Starving Children to help pack meals for children who are less fortunate. This is always an event we look forward to as giving back is extremely important to us.

Third Grade Bible Presentation

Congratulations to Rebecca and Olivia on receiving their Third Grade Bibles on Sunday, October 29.

November Schedule for Sunday Volunteers

	November 05	November 12	November 19	November 26
Coffee & Treats	Carol Emdy & JoAnne Volden	Clara Haugen & Carl Darnell	The Richardson Family	Volunteer Needed
Greeters	Jeff Chamberlain & Lynn Furda	George Dalin, Jack Cornforth	JoAnne Volden, Carol Emdy	Joel Sponsel, Paul Sponsel
Ushers	Wayne Andersen, Sharon Beckler, Linda Schesso	Guy Moore, Scott Swenson, Bob Deese, Jack Cornforth	Bruce Benson, Pat Ekstrom, Jim & Marilyn Anderson	Steve & Kathy Soucy, Pat Ekstrom, Jack Cornforth
Welcomers	Barb & Bob Deese	Paul Richardson	Lynn Livingston	Jeff Chamberlain
Reader	Steve Soucy	Rod Bacheller	Megan Mahre	Bob Deese
Sound	Dave Smith	Tim Madsen	Eric Richardson-Mahre	Tim Madsen
Media	Dave Smith	Dave Smith	Barb Andrus	Nathan Peine
Nursery	Mary Lou Johnson	Janet Rush	Denise Carroll	Linda Lounsbury
Closer	Wayne Andersen	Jeff Carroll	Harvey Erstad	Jeff Carroll
Communion Stewards	Sharon Beckler, Wayne Andersen	<p>Want to serve on Sunday mornings? Let the office know and we'll put you in touch with the appropriate coordinator</p>		
Communion Servers	Jim & Marilyn Anderson, Mary Nelson, Verne Witt			

Spiritual Growth

All Saints Sunday - November 5

This is a day of honoring the current Saints in our lives, as well as remembering those from our congregation who died in the last year.

Veterans Sunday - November 12

This is a day of recognizing the past and present military service from those in our congregation. Please contact the church office at 952-888-6070 or email paumc@paumc.org by Wednesday, November 8 to add any new names of veterans, years of service, branch, where served, and any medals or commendations received.

Poinsettias for the Christmas Garden

Order your red poinsettias by Sunday, November 12, to participate in this year's Christmas Garden. The cost is \$11.00 per plant. Please see Ellen Smith on Sunday before or after worship to place your order or call her at 952-884-8609. Plants can be taken home after the Christmas Eve service on Sunday, December 24, at 4:30 pm.

Hanging of the Greens

Mark your calendar now for this annual holiday tradition of decorating our building for Christmas. We'll begin at 10:00 am on Saturday, December 2. It should take only an hour or so if we have enough people pitching in.

Mission Outreach

Feed My Starving Children Recap

A great group from The PORT went to Feed My Starving Children in Eagan on October 14. We had a great time packing 49,248 meals, which will feed 135 kids for a whole year.

Give a Little Gift Recap

Many thanks to those who participated in Walker Methodist Health Center's "Give a Little Gift" drive. Our donations will ensure that each resident will receive a meaningful gift at Christmas. We remember the words the Lord Jesus himself said: "It is more blessed to give than to receive." (Acts 20:35)

United Methodist Student Day

We will receive this special UMC offering on Sunday, November 26. This offering is designated for scholarships for United Methodist students.

Operation Christmas Child



November is the month to fill a shoebox with items to send to children around the world through Operation Christmas Child. Shoeboxes and packing labels will be available soon in the narthex. Please return by Dec. 3.

Here are some basic instructions. Please note that some guidelines have changed due to increased customs regulations: Start with a quality "wow" item such as a stuffed animal, soccer ball with pump, or clothing outfit that will capture the child's attention the instant he or she opens the box. Then fill in the rest of the box with other fun toys, hygiene items, and school supplies.

Do not include: candy or gum; toothpaste; used or damaged items; war-related items such as toy guns, knives, or military figures; chocolate or food; seeds; fruit rolls or other fruit snacks; drink mixes (powdered or liquid); liquids or lotions; medications or vitamins; breakable items such as snow globes or glass containers; aerosol cans.

We celebrate YOU during NOVEMBER

If you have a birthday during the month of November but your name isn't on our list, PLEASE LET US KNOW, so we can update our records for next year.



03 - Carl Darnell	09 - Bruce Benson	18 - Sue Wells	27 - Mary Lou Johnson
Joyce Faircloth	10 - Nathan Peine	21 - Madolyn Hanson	29 - Joan Whitehead
Jordan Lawson	13 - Mary Nelson	22 - Todd Rasmussen	30 - David Smith

A Time to Remember

Pastor Carol and the Congregational Care Team will host "A Time to Remember" in the Wesley Room on Saturday, November 18 at 2:00 pm. The event will conclude with light refreshments served around 3:30 pm.

This is a gathering for those who are grieving the loss of a loved one, a relationship, or other life separation. It is a time of sharing and listening to stories with others who gather that afternoon. You are encouraged to bring a photograph or other memento to show. Transportation is available. RSVP by calling the church office at (952) 888-6070 or emailing carol.zaagsma@paumc.org by Wednesday, November 15.

From the Mailbox

Address Updates

Tom Wellman - new email: notes2tlw@gmail.com

Heather Anderson - new email: torchlakegirl@yahoo.com

Bob Rathbun
Minnesota Veteran's Home
Building 6-1, Room 108
5101 Minnehaha Ave
Minneapolis, MN 55417

Regina Robinson
1075 Shakopee Ave N
Shakopee, MN 55379

Thank You

Thank you so much for your acts of love and kindness during the Homegoing of our dearly beloved sister Shirley. Pastor Claiborn and I are so grateful to PAUMC and Pastor Carol.

~Dr. Hazel Claiborn, Pastor Claiborn,
& The Potter's House of Jesus Christ family

Button Button who's got the Button ??

In October of 2016 I learned how to crochet kitchen towels. I challenged myself to crochet 65 towels for the 2017 bazaar. When you come to the bazaar next week, please stop by the North Pole Needlework table and take a look at the over 80 different towels I have crocheted and donated to the church.

Little did I know when I took on this project, that one of the biggest (and most expensive) obstacles would be to find the right button for each towel. This is where I could use your help. I am looking for any donations of buttons you may have that are roughly the size of a quarter.

Once the 2017 bazaar is over, I will begin working on a whole new batch of towels for the 2018 bazaar. My goal for next year, with your help, is to crochet 100 kitchen towels. You can bring the buttons to church on Sunday mornings or drop them off at the office with a note.

Thanks for your help.
Linda Dicks



Holiday Bazaar

Holiday Bazaar

Friday, Nov 10, from 9am – 8pm

Saturday, Nov 11, from 9am – 3pm



The Holiday Bazaar is our largest community event of the year, and we're excited to welcome our many guests.

We are very blessed to have so many talented and crafty members working together and on their own throughout the year to create handcrafted items! All of the craft items we sell are made and 100% donated to the bazaar. We do not sell space to outside crafters or take items on consignment.

How can you help? Many ways:

Advertising. Please take a few fliers to neighbors and friends, as well as your favorite restaurants, stores, dry cleaners, coffee shop, barbershop, etc. Every bulletin board around town should have one of our fliers on it! Also, share the event on your Facebook page.

Bake Sale. We need lots of baked and canned goods! Foam trays for packing are available at church on Sunday mornings or during office hours.

Volunteer your time. Please make a note of the schedule below and find time to help us get ready for this event. We always need more hands during the day on Thursday to get the merchandise displayed.

Important Bake Sale Reminders

1. We have styrofoam trays available for packaging bake sale items. Please take as many as you'll need so that we will have a uniform looking display.
2. Place trays inside zip lock bags or use plastic wrap securely fastened around the trays.
3. Please label your food items with what they are and also make sure to note if they contain nuts.
4. Do not bring items that need refrigeration.
5. Canned goods must be sealed properly. For any questions, please see LaVonne Robinson and Betty Belk.
6. We will need items for both Friday and Saturday. Donations can be dropped off starting Thursday, and fresh baked goods are happily received on Friday or early Saturday morning to replenish shelves.

Bazaar Week Schedule

Monday, Nov 6 and Tuesday, Nov 7 (6:30pm-9pm). Pricing merchandise in the bazaar room.

Please bring your non-perishable craft items so that we can get them priced for sale. Provide a cost of materials used and a recommended selling price.

Wednesday, Nov 8 (12pm-6pm). Set-up tables and shelves (12-2pm), decorate room (2-5pm), and move merchandise from work room (5-6pm).

Thursday, Nov 9 (10am-7pm). Display merchandise, accept bake sale items.

BAZAAR OPEN – Friday, Nov 10 (9am-8pm).

Need lots of workers to cover shifts.

BAZAAR OPEN – Saturday, Nov 11 (9am-3pm).

Need lots of workers to cover shifts.

Sunday, Nov 12: After worship. Pack up remaining merchandise and clean-up Fellowship Hall. We will be open to sell right after the church service and then we'll swiftly move into the clean-up phase. We'll need to haul tables and chairs back to their rooms, and the merchandise back to the bazaar room. It will only take an hour or so if we have plenty of help.

Remember-bring yard signs back to church today!

We know that the sole reason for our success every year is the generosity of YOU, our church members. It certainly takes a lot of work to get this event ready for the public, and we're hoping that we can once again count on every one of you to help.

Please volunteer on your Connection Card, and say YES when you are asked. We promise that you will have fun and you'll be glad you took the time out of your busy schedule to be a part of this rich holiday tradition. Thank you!



Portland Avenue United Methodist Church
8000 Portland Ave. S., Bloomington, MN 55420



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE

Join us for worship on Sundays at 10:00 am
Sunday School (8:45 am) and Coffee Fellowship (9:30 am)

Staff

Rev. Carol Zaagsma (Pastor) carol.zaagsma@paumc.org (cell phone for emergencies 651-329-7878)
Britt Halaas (Administrative Assistant) paumc@paumc.org
Peggy Larson (Music Director) peggylarson@comcast.net
Dale Miller (Accompanist) miller.daler@gmail.com
Judy Richardson-Mahre (SonRise Singers Director) jembrm@charter.net
Mary Nelson (Handbells Director) nelsonc2m@aol.com
Paul Herrmann (Custodian) 612-916-3376

Church Office E-mail: PAUMC@paumc.org
PAUMC Website: www.paumc.org
www.facebook.com/pages/Portland-Avenue-United-Methodist-Church/109195009206962

November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
5 8:45am Handbells 8:45am Education 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship/ Communion 11:00am Confirmation 11:00am Bazaar Streamers	6 6:30pm Bazaar Pricing 7:00pm Hagerty Small Group	7 7am—8pm General Election 6:30pm Bazaar Pricing 7:00pm Smith's Small Group	8 1:00pm Pastor Carol's Small Group 6:15pm Sonrise Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Pastor Carol's Small Group	9 10am-7pm—Bazaar Prep	10 9:00am - 8:00 pm Holiday Bazaar	11 9:00am - 3:00 pm Holiday Bazaar
12 8:45am Handbells 8:45am Education 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship 11:15am Bazaar Clean- up	13 7:00pm Hagerty's Small Group	14 7:00pm Smith's Small Group	15 1:00pm Pastor Carol's Small Group 6:15pm Sonrise Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm Pastor Carol's Small Group	16	17	18 2:00pm A Time to Remember
19 PLEDGE SUNDAY 8:45am Handbells 8:45am Education 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship 11:00am Charge Conf. to set Pastor's 2018 salary 11:15am Mission Out reach	20 6:00pm Trustees	21	22 6:15pm Sonrise Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	23 Thanksgiving — Office Closed	24	25
26 8:45am Handbells 8:45am Education 9:30am Fellowship 10:00am Worship	27	28	29 6:15pm Sonrise Rehearsal 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	30		