

THE PORTLIGHT

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



Good things are happening at The PORT!

New Groups with Pastor Henry September – December

Prayer Meeting – first Wednesday of every month, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

Bible Study – third Wednesday of every month, 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm

“Trunk or Treat” October 28, 4:00-6:00 pm

Dress up and hand out candy from your car’s trunk or bring a child to trick or treat with us! Setup begins at 3:00 pm.

Other Special Dates at The PORT:

Holiday Bazaar & Attic Treasures: November 10 & 11

Hanging of the Greens & Bingo: December 2 at 10:00 am

Christmas Eve Services: Sunday, December 24 at 10:00 am and 10:00 pm

October 2023

Our Mission

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

Our Vision

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

The **PORT**
A safe harbor along life's journey.

Pastor's Message

The PORT,

Lately I keep wondering about this question, “How Can I Be a Neighbor?” I believe I am a good neighbor, especially to my grumbling neighbor. Yet I keep wondering about the application of this question to others (strangers, homeless, hungry, abused, angry, mentally disabled, minority race, tribe, ethnicity, opinion, belief, and more.) Am I a good neighbor to those I see as “other”? Last month, I took the time to peruse the Word of God to explore my wondering. I came across several scriptures that spoke to me. One of them was “The Good Samaritan” from Luke 10:25-37.

The story from Luke has been made the subject of dramas, artwork, and stresses the moral admonition that we ought to love everyone well. We've heard it all before, right? So how do we hear it, really hear it, today?

I encourage you to consider letting the text speak boldly in its familiarity, while keeping the question Jesus asks us: Who was neighbor to the man beaten and left to die? Or, as we often hear it, “How can we love our neighbor?”

While the answer to that question may appear to be obvious, “The Samaritan,” that is not the answer the expert in the law gave and that Jesus commended. The literal answer the expert gave was “The one who did mercy with him” (Luke 10:37). Jesus’ response, “Go on your way and do likewise” is exactly his response to us. The invitation here is for us to quit “feeling” merciful and actually start “doing” mercy. And it is to do it with those in need, not at them.

Look at all the ways the Samaritan “did mercy”:

1. He came near.
2. He was moved with compassion.
3. He went to him.
4. He bandaged the wounds.
5. He poured oil (a soothing agent) and wine (antiseptic) on the wounds.
6. He put him on his animal.
7. He brought him to an inn.
8. He took care of him at the inn.

All eight of these things were “triage.” All eight were things this man could not do for himself in his condition. So the Samaritan did them. But that wasn't all he did.

When he had to leave, he gave the innkeeper money to keep caring for him, promising to pay more if needed when he returned.

This is a bit of triage, but also something more. The Samaritan wasn't promising to come back right away and keep fixing everything for the man. Instead, he was making it possible for this man to have some kind of community to get him back on his feet again. This is “ministry with.”

This is what it means to be a disciple of Jesus who loves neighbor as self. Sometimes it's about rescue, if that's needed. Sometimes it's about making sure the systems of care and community in a place have what is needed. And sometimes it's about walking away because you trust God and the resources of the community to do what is needed from there.

1. Who is being beaten up on dangerous roads near you and left to die?
2. Who is being chewed up and spit out by the culture, or individuals, or groups or institutions where you are?
3. In what ways is The PORT owning that we are neighbors to these people?
4. In what concrete, physical, hands-on ways are you “doing mercy with them?”

This month, I would love to encourage you to explore the question of “How to Be a Neighbor?” Post on your social media or journal your thoughts. Ask your family, friends, and co-workers as well. Blessings.

Pastor Henry



Spiritual Growth

OCTOBER Schedule for Sunday Volunteers

	Oct 1	Oct 8	Oct 15	Oct 22	Oct 29
Welcomers	Dan Baker Ellen Smith	Myron & Ginny Karki	Tracy Baker Beth Cameron	LaVonne Robinson Marcie Huser	Tim & Dianne Madsen
Ushers	Wayne Andersen Sharon Beckler Mike Moreland	Scott Swenson Trenton Olson Kathy Soucy Curt Willhite	Bruce Benson Greg Jurek Melinda Matton Jocelyne Medzagoh	Trenton Olson Myron Karki Ginny Karki Pam Rose	Wayne Andersen Sharon Beckler Melinda Matton Kathy Soucy
Reader	Neil Anderson	Pam Rose	Tim Hagerty	Curt Willhite	YOUTH
Sound	Tim Madsen	Eric Richardson- Mahre	Dave Smith	Tim Madsen	Eric Richardson- Mahre
Media	Tim Madsen	Dave Smith	Barb Andrus	Tim Madsen	Nancy Hagerty
Livestream	Scott Swenson	Daisy Castro	Clint Andrus	Scott Swenson	Tim Hagerty
Closer	Harvey Erstad	Steve Knopp	Scott Swenson	Wayne Andersen	Clint Andrus
Counters	Merlin Gilbertson Wayne Andersen	Merlin Gilbertson Tom Wellman	Pam Rose JoAnne Volden	Dave Smith JoAnne Volden	Dave Smith JoAnne Volden
Communion Stewards	Daniel & Tracy Baker	We would love to have a few more folks helping on Sunday mornings! Contact the Office with questions.			

Sunday School News

Kids age 4 to grade 5 are invited to attend Sunday School downstairs every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month. This fall we are starting a new curriculum and learning about the Fruits of the Spirit. We sing, we play games, we have snacks, we do crafts, and most importantly we learn about God and Jesus. Contact Janene Haugen with any questions at janenehaugen@charter.net

Kids grades 6 to 12 meet the 2nd and 4th Sundays each month in our Youth Loft.



~ Janene Haugen,
Sunday School Co-Chair

We celebrate YOU during OCTOBER

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



01 - Beth Cameron
03 - Lynn Furda
04 - Daniel Dray
05- Greg Jurek

07 - Tim Hagerty
11 - Ginny Karki
- Jeff Avery
16 - Steve Soucy

16 - Emilia Runck
17 - Janea Medzagoh
18 - Fran Carpenter
19 - Jake Rasmussen

20 - Joanne Sanftner
24 - Gloria Wilson-Bahun
- Jerry Solheim
26 - Marlus Jackson

Mission Outreach

October Mission Outreach Project— Scholarships for Black Students

Years of inequities have led to major life issues for the black community, including poverty and limited housing, job, and education opportunities. It will take a long time to make the systemic changes necessary to bring equity to the black community. Making those changes will take a massive investment. One small action we can take is to contribute to a fund that provides scholarships for black students to become teachers and mod-

els for learning. Our October Mission Outreach offering will go to the Education Foundation of Bloomington, which distributes such scholarships. Please contribute to this worthy cause, which has the promise of making a real difference for the black community well into the future. Donations to the fund may be mailed to the church office, payable to PAUMC, with "October Mission Project" in the memo line; or given securely online at paumc.org/giving and select "Mission Project."

~ Nancy Hagerty, Mission Outreach Chair

New PAUMC Members



In September, Pastor Henry and The PORT recognized three new members: Greg Jurek, Christine Hortenbach & Jon Krogsrud. They have been worshipping with us for a while, but now they are officially members of The PORT and we are so happy they are here to stay! Welcome to our PORT family Greg, Christine, and Jon!

It's time again for our church's longest-standing community event, and our biggest fundraising event of the year! Our 49th Annual Holiday Bazaar will be held on Friday, November 10th, 9am to 6pm, and Saturday, November 11th, 9am to 3pm. We are excited to welcome folks in to see all the beautiful items our church members have made! We are finalizing plans for the Bazaar Bistro, where we serve yummy food, and we will have our famous bake sale too. The Youth and Family Ministries team will hold the Attic Treasures sale, as they do so well!

Over the years, our Bazaar has served as a funding vehicle for projects throughout the church that are outside of our budget. Because we typically raise between \$9000 and \$13,000, the event has been invaluable to the PORT.

Our bazaar's success is solely due to the generosity of our members' donations and hard work every year. We hope you will consider working on craft projects at home that you can donate to the sale. If you need some ideas we have plenty! Feel free to contact one of us for some help. We are always looking for kitchen towels, mittens and scarves, fleece blankets, dog treats or toys, home décor, outdoor décor, yard games, etc. The bulk of our products tend to be Christmas-themed, of course.

We have Tuesday evening and Thursday morning workshop groups meeting at the church to make ornaments and things for the sale. We would love to see a few more people attend for these last few weeks. Please consider coming to one (or both!) of our weekly workshops when you have the time. You do not need to commit to coming every week, just when you have a couple of hours free. All of our projects are done assembly-line style, so you may be painting wood pieces, gluing or cutting.

We will be having a Gift Basket Silent Auction and hope you will consider donating new items for themed baskets that always make wonderful holiday gifts. Some popular theme ideas from past years include movie night basket, dog or cat lovers basket, a chocolate lovers' basket, a coffee or tea basket, a spa basket, wine lover basket, etc. Keep in mind all items must be NEW in original packaging or with tags (no perishables please), and need to fit inside a tabletop basket which we will provide. Just bring the items to church and we will wrap them for display. Please include a note with your name and phone number and the value of the items donated so that we can price the basket appropriately. (If you'd rather donate money we can certainly build a basket for you.)

All craft and gift basket donations, need to be in the bazaar room by Sunday, October 29.

We will hold 2 or 3 pricing sessions leading up to the Bazaar, during which we will look at all the donations and decide on what price they should be given. If you are making something at home, we will need a sample with your name and number attached, along with an account of any money you put into making it. **Because we have a small group working to set up the Bazaar, we will not accept any merchandise donations past Nov. 8th. On this, we have to be firm.**

Our bake sale has a loyal fan base and we see regulars every year who come back to stock up for the holidays. We'll be accepting baked goods starting on Wednesday, November 8th, and remember we especially need donations on Friday for the sale on Saturday. We're always looking for bars, cookies, pastries, pies, cakes, sweet breads, candies, snack mixes, homemade jams and jellies, etc. Information will be available on Sundays for what to make, how to package it, and when to bring it in.

We will need lots of help to get the pricing done, the room set up and the merchandise displayed. We will also need workers to staff the two days of the Bazaar and to help tear down and clean up on Saturday at 3:00. We will not be open after church on Sunday since the room will be needed for the Brazilian Church that morning. Please watch for more details on the specific dates and times when help will be needed. We will have announcements during worship and in the Sunday Bulletins.

Please pray for the success of our bazaar and for the health and safety of our workers and our guests. This fun holiday tradition means so much to many people as it kicks off their holiday season. We have a good time running it, and we truly hope you will consider joining us.

Thank you in advance for your help and participation in this fun annual event!

Feel free to contact any of the following people with any questions:

Lynn Livingston, 952-797-2645

Lori Livingston, 612-240-2640

Kathy Soucy, 612-226-2085

Staffing Change at The PORT

It is with mixed emotions that we say goodbye to our longtime friend and PORT Administrative Coordinator, Kathryn Quam, as she turns another page in her life.



Kathryn has done a wonderful job of adapting to the changing processes that come with a new minister and also the many changes coming her way as the worship model changes here at The PORT. She has kept our office running smoothly and effi-

ciently while always taking the time to make you feel welcome for a chat. New adventures await her and we are happy for that, but we will miss her infectious smile and can-do attitude in our office. Kathryn will be in the office through October 5, if you would like to stop in and say goodbye.

As Kathryn steps aside, we are excited to announce that Lori Livingston will be taking over the office responsibilities. Lori has already been training for a couple of weeks and will be officially on the job October 10.



The new challenges ahead are what makes Lori so enthusiastic about this new life experience. Her knowledge of office management and people skills will serve her well in this position. We will be looking forward to working with Lori in the coming years.

Connecting through Daily Devotional

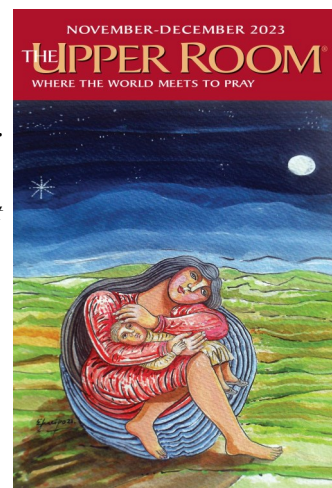
Some of you at The PORT faithfully read the bi-monthly *Upper Room*. These pocket-sized and large-print issues are available in our narthex, next to an envelope asking for a \$1 donation. You can also subscribe yourself too.

This is a wonderful way to stay connected to other believers next door and around the world. It is also a nice gift for homebound members and friends. See the new November-December issue in the narthex now (pictured right).

From their website: *The Upper Room is a daily devotional magazine published in more than 30 languages and 100 countries around the world. The daily meditations are written by readers of the magazine and others interested in sharing their faith experiences through writing—both laity and clergy. The meditations are stories of real people working to live faithfully with the Bible as their touchstone. Every day, readers of The Upper Room around the world read the same story in many different languages and pray the same prayer together.*

Some of our readers share comments on our website (upperroom.org/devotionals), and some writers share extra pieces of their writing on our blog (upperroom.org/devotionals/blog-posts). The daily devotional guide and the community it draws together invite people to experience the following:

- *listen to scripture as God's personal message, linking their stories to God's story;*
- *commune with God in prayer;*
- *see their daily choices and small acts of obedience as part of God's work;*
- *realize our connection through Christ as a universal family of believers.*



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



GIVE+
Electronic Giving Options



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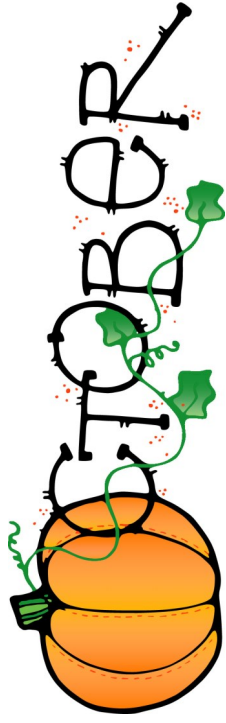
DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE


Join us for in-person and livestreaming worship on Sundays at 10:00am
with Sunday School during worship.

Staff

Rev. Henry Dolopei, II (Pastor) hdolopei@paumc.org Office: 952-888-6070; Cell: 203-508-4874
Kathryn Quam (Administrative Coordinator) paumc@paumc.org Office: 952-888-6070
Dale Miller (Accompanist) miller.daler@gmail.com
Judy Richardson-Mahre (Sonrise Director) jembrm@charter.net
Paul Herrmann (Custodian) Cell: 612-916-3376

Church Office E-mail: PAUMC@paumc.org PAUMC Website: www.paumc.org
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/PortlandAvenueUMC/>
YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/PortlandAvenueUnitedMethodistChurch>



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 World Communion Sunday 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship/ Communion	2	3 6:30pm Bazaar Wkshp	4 6:30pm Prayer Meeting	5 9:30am Bazaar Wkshp	6	7
8 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship/ Sunday School	9	10 6:30pm Bazaar Wkshp	11 6:30pm Worship Leader Rehearsal	12 9:30am Bazaar Wkshp	13	14
15 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship/ Sunday School Portlight newsletter deadline	16	17 6:30pm Bazaar Wkshp	18 6:30pm Bible Study	19 9:30am Bazaar Wkshp	20	21 Newsletter Deadline
22 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship/ Sunday School	23 6:30 pm Church Council (Zoom)	24 6:30pm Bazaar Wkshp	25 6:30 pm Worship Leader Rehearsal	26 9:30am Bazaar Wkshp	27	28 5pm-7pm Trunk or Treat in parking lot
29 9:30am Coffee Fellowship 10:00am Worship/ Sunday School	30	31 Happy Halloween!  6:30pm Bazaar Wkshp	TUNE IN FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP ONLINE @ 10:00 AM: https://www.youtube.com/c/PortlandAvenueUnitedMethodistChurch			