

THE PORTLIGHT

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



November 2024

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Our 50th Annual Holiday Bazaar & Attic Treasures is here!

Friday, Nov. 8, 9am - 6pm
Saturday, Nov. 9, 9am - 3pm

Invite your friends and neighbors. Get your holiday shopping done now and relax with a delicious lunch or treat from our Bazaar Bistro.

See page 5 for details and how you can help.



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

Greetings Members and Friends of The PORT,

After December 31, 2024, I will start a one-year Leave of Absence and I will no longer be assigned to The PORT. I must resolve a personal matter in Liberia. It means traveling to Liberia. Please keep my family and I in your prayers. It has been a blessing serving as your Pastor for three plus years. These years fostered an opportunity to grow, learn and develop skills for servant leadership. Thanks for the words of encouragement, words of forgiveness, and words of honesty. I will really miss everyone. May God continue to bless The PORT beyond measure. I am grateful.

As we enter the eleventh month of the year it marks the beginning of winter in the Northern Hemisphere and summer in the Southern Hemisphere. It is the month to share gratitude while praying for God's will for the Presidential, Federal, States, and local Elections of the United States of America.

The PORT, God is good all the time, and all the time, God is good! While a statement like that may sound a bit "cliche," we must realize it's true! This month let's be thankful.

Thankfulness is a mindset! The Bible shares many scriptures on the importance of being thankful, giving thanks, and even entering into times of worship WITH thanksgiving!

Psalm 100:4 (NKJV) 4 Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him and bless His name.

The Psalmist was clear that one of the best ways to enter God's presence is with a thankful heart. When we are grateful, we are also mindful that the blessings we experience in life are not a result of our works and giftings alone. We depend

on a mighty God who provides and guides!

One of the very first lessons we, as parents and grandparents, teach our young ones is the importance of being thankful. I have no doubt God, our Heavenly Father, takes great joy in hearing words of thanks from the grateful hearts of His children.

1 Thessalonians 5:18 (NKJV) 18 in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. The Apostle Paul told the early church that it was essential to give thanks "in everything" we may go through. Although, there are many things we may find challenging to be thankful "for," such as the death of a loved one, we CAN be thankful "in" those circumstances knowing that God will help us go through that journey.

Life can be challenging at times, but I would encourage you to ask the Lord to help you be thankful. Begin to think of specific things or people you are grateful for and express your thanks to the Lord!

There's a beautiful old hymn that speaks of this called "Count Your Blessings." The chorus lyrics are as follows:

Count your blessings; name them one by one.
Count your blessings, see what God has done.
Count your blessings; name them one by one.
Count your many blessings, see what God has done!


Blessings in Christ,



Pastor Henry



November Schedule for Sunday Volunteers

	Nov. 3	Nov. 10	Nov. 17	Nov. 24
Welcomers	Greg Jurek	Heather Anderson Greg Jurek	Steve & Kathy Soucy	Heather Anderson Lynn Livingston
Ushers	Bruce Benson Wayne Andersen Sharon Beckler	Trent Olson Pat Ekstrom Kathy Soucy	Scott Swenson Greg Jurek Jocelyn Medzagoh	Pam Rose Greg Jurek Kathy Soucy
Reader	Pat Ekstrom	Melinda Matton	Neil Anderson	Kathy Soucy
Sound	Leo Castro	Eric Richardson- Mahre	Tim Madsen	Leo Castro
Media	Barb Andrus	Nancy Hagerty	Tim Madsen	Nancy Hagerty
Livestream	Clint Andrus	Scott Swenson	Daisy Castro	Tim Hagerty
Closer	Don Anderson	Scott Swenson	Tom Wellman	Tom Wellman
Counters	Pam Rose Jon Krogsrud	Pam Rose Steve Soucy	Tom Wellman Steve Soucy	Tom Wellman Wayne Andersen
Communion Stewards	Daniel & Tracy Baker			

Youth and Family Ministries

The family of Jeff and Dorothy Chamberlain thanks the PAUMC congregation for their kindness and support over the many years they were both members. And a very special thank you to Pastor Henry and Judy Richardson-Mahre for making their Celebration of Life service so memorable!



We will be having the Attic Treasures' sale during the Holiday Bazaar in the Wesley Room on Nov. 8 and 9. If you have any used holiday or household items for donation, or winter clothing and accessories for men, women, or kids, please contact either Becky Rice, Janene Haugen, Traci Darnell or Beth Cameron to arrange drop off. Please come see us when you visit the Bazaar!

Congregational Care

Birthday Blessings to our November Friends!

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| 03 - Carl Darnell | 18 - Sue Wells |
| 06 - John Lounsbury | 20 - Eric Richardson-Mahre |
| 09 - Bruce Benson | 22 - Todd Rasmussen |
| 09 - Kathy Swenson | 29 - Joan Whitehead |
| 13 - Mary Nelson | 30 - Dave Smith |



If you have a birthday during this month but your name isn't on our list, please let us know, so we can update our records for next year.

Mission Outreach

Walker Methodist Give a Little Gift

During November, please consider making a monetary donation to the "Give a Little Gift Fund" through the Walker Methodist Health Center. This fund allows their team members to create small care packages or gifts for their residents during the holiday season.

Donations: Please make your check out to PAUMC and in the memo line put Give a Little Gift. Donations must be made by 11/24/24 so that our check can be received at Walker by 12/1/24.

Thank you for your generosity.

Nancy Hagerty and Pam Rose
Mission Outreach Co-chairs



MARK YOUR CALENDAR! Please join us for our annual food packing event at **Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)**. Your hands are so essential in the fight against world hunger – you make it possible for us to keep sending nutritious meals to starving kids worldwide.

WHEN: December 28th
TIME: 9:30-11:15 AM
WHERE: Eagan Packing Center - 990 Lone Oak Road, Suite 136, Eagan, MN 55121

REGISTER ONLINE: Using the Join Code WW8YK1, please register at:
<http://www.fmsc.org/join-group?joincode=WW8YK1>

A sign-up sheet will be at the Welcome Desk later in the month when it's closer to the event.

SupPORT Monthly Dinners

Our first two monthly dinners were successful as we welcomed some new faces from the community and had supper together. Thank you to the volunteers who came together to prepare and cook the meals, set the tables, serve, and then clean up afterward. Our guests were filled with good food and good conversation, and they felt the warm hospitality of The PORT.

Our next SupPORT Monthly Dinner will be

on Wednesday, November 20th at 5:30pm. Please look for the sign-up sheet at the Welcome Desk and sign up to help. Our promise as United Methodists is to be of service to others and this is a great way to do that. If November doesn't work with your schedule, please commit to helping us with one of the next monthly dinners on December 18th, January 15th, or February 21st.

~ The PORT Leadership Team

Bazaar Week: November 4th - 9th

Our **50th Annual Holiday Bazaar** is on the way! This is the single largest event our church sponsors and everything donated comes from our Port members! Our sale has an excellent reputation and folks really do plan for it as part of their holiday traditions.

As with every important task at The Port, we are looking for everyone's support. **The Bazaar will be held on Friday, Nov. 8 from 9 to 6 and Saturday, Nov. 9 from 9 to 3.** We have many areas to staff so please consider volunteering as often as you can throughout the week.

How can you help right now?

- Complete any craft items** you're donating and bring them to church by November 3rd.
- Donate a gift basket** for the silent auction (or the funds for one and we'll shop for you) by November 3. Include an inventory of what's included and the cost for the items. (No perishable food, please.)
- Take fliers to distribute** to family and friends or to post in windows or on bulletin boards of places you frequent such as coffee shops, hair and nail salons, libraries, bakeries, etc.
- Make something for the bake sale.** We need sweet breads, cookies, bars, pies, snack mixes, fudge, or holiday treats to sell on Friday and Saturday. We will provide trays you can use to pack your goods and instructions to help with labeling and packaging. Our bakery ladies will do the pricing so you don't have to worry about that.
- Donate gently used fall and holiday items** for the Attic Treasures which is sponsored by the Youth and Family Ministries.
- Use your social media platforms** to get the word out and invite your friends and neighbors.

The schedule for "Bazaar Week" is as follows:

Monday, Nov. 4, 6:30pm - Pricing of sale items. Can you help tag items? We will need all personal craft donations by this time. We will NOT be able to accept donations later as we will not have time to price them.

(Tuesday, Nov. 5 pricing TBD due to election.)

Wednesday, Nov. 6, 11am – Gather tables and set up the room layout. We need strong backs to carry tables and display stands up from the basement and from around the building. At **1pm** we will cover the tables with cloths.

Thursday, Nov. 7, 10am to 6pm – Display merchandise, decorate room. Attic Treasures will need help pricing and displaying their merchandise in the Wesley Room. **Bake Sale** goods can be dropped off Thursday after 10am and we will need more goods on Friday to stock our tables for Saturday.

Friday, Nov. 8, 9am to 6pm, and Saturday, Nov. 9, 9am to 3pm we are open for business and we need YOU! Please sign up to work as many hours as you can. You'll be standing or sitting behind the tables listing the items our guests are buying on a tablet for them to pay at the central cashier. You will not need to handle money, just offer a smile and a warm "hello". This is a great way to meet our neighbors and to show them the warm hospitality of The Port. It's a very fun time!

Saturday at 3pm we'll clean the room and haul the tables back to storage. Strong backs and legs will be needed again. With lots of help we should be done by 5pm.

Thank you all in advance for your support of this long-standing labor of love. We sincerely hope you will come often this week to help us get ready and to join in the fun! This is a great way for high school students to get volunteer hours too.

Please pray for the success of our Holiday Bazaar and for the strength and health of our workers and guests. We hope to see you all there! If none of this is possible for you, then come down and visit, eat and shop. You won't be sorry!

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

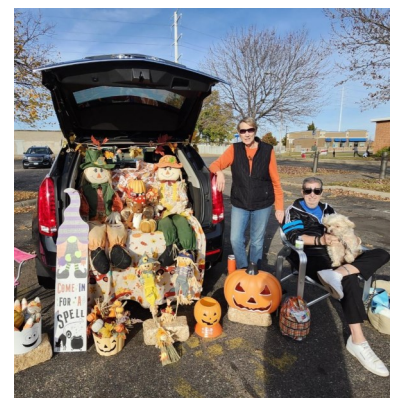
Janene Haugen (Attic Treasures) at 612-940-4408



Our 2nd Annual Trunk or Treat was a Big Success!

With unseasonably warm weather in the 70's we had a great turnout of "trunks" and "treat-seekers!" Thank you to all who joined in the fun with cleverly decorated trunk themes and fun costumes. Your creativity made our guests very happy!

Extra thanks to the Hagerty's for bringing your fire pit and the makings for the s'mores! With limited space, here are pictures of just a few of the participants.



November

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
3 All Saints Sunday 10:00 am Worship / Communion 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship	 4 6:30 pm Bazaar Pricing	 5 ELECTION DAY  6:30 pm Bazaar Pricing	6 11:00am Bazaar Room setup 6:30 pm Worship Leaders' Rehearsal	 7 10:00 am Bazaar Setup	1 8 50th Annual Holiday Bazaar & Attic Treasures 9:00am - 6:00pm	2 9 50th Annual Holiday Bazaar & Attic Treasures 9:00am - 3:00pm
10 Veterans Sunday 10:00 am Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship	11 Happy Veterans Day Thank you for serving!	12	13	14 December Newsletter Deadline	15	16
17 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship	18	19	20 COMMUNITY DINNERS  Support Monthly Dinner - 5:30pm - 7pm	21	22	23
24 10:00 am Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship	25	26	27	28 Happy Thanksgiving! 	29	30

Could you serve on Sunday mornings? Please ask any volunteer or contact the church office or Pastor Henry.

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



GIVE+
Electronic Giving Options



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL
PLEASE EXPEDITE

Join us for in-person and livestreaming worship on Sundays at 10:00am.
Sunday School classes for children and youth are on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

Staff

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Greg Jurek (Custodian)

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YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/c/PortlandAvenueUnitedMethodistChurch>