

THE PORTLIGHT

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



Summer at PAUMC Celebrated with Two Outdoor Worship Events

(See pages 6-7 for more pictures.)

PAUMC's Program Year Kicks Off September 11!

September 2022

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 in Christ,

Once again, we are coming to the close of another summer. For many, it seems the summer days go by way too fast and for a few others, these days simply signify another season just around the corner... football season! Actually, during the month of September as many are settling back into their schools and jobs following vacation, we also know this is a time for people to look to the church once again for inspiration and fellowship. The Bible tells us in Heb. 10:25 "Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see the day approaching."

Here at The Port, we want to be a welcoming church so that when people are looking for a church to attend, their search stops right here! While we would love to see our church grow, this is far from being the only reason to be a welcoming church. We live in a day and age that people need to hear the truth of the Word of God, which is constant and true even in a world of relativism regarding moral truths. I hope we may consider praying to God to have the mindset of inviting someone to church.

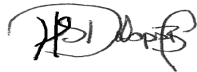
Recently Church, I came across these following statements which is the truth about the those without a church to call home: "Eighty-two percent of the unchurched are at least somewhat likely to attend church if invited." – Dr. Thom Rainer, The Unchurched Next Door. "Only two percent of church members invite an unchurched person to church. Ninety-eight percent of church-goers never extend an invitation in a given year." – Dr. Thom Rainer, The Unchurched Next Door "A study including more than 15,000 adults revealed that about two-thirds are willing to receive information about a local church from a family member and 56 percent from a friend or neighbor. The message is clear that the unchurched are open to conversations about church." – Philip Nation, LifeWay Research

"Four percent of formerly church members are actively looking for a church to attend regularly (other than their previous church). Six percent would prefer to resume attending regularly in the same church they had attended. The largest group, 62 percent, is not actively looking but is open to the idea of attending church regularly again." – Scott McConnell, LifeWay Research

"Clearly we can encourage Christians to pray that the unchurched would sense God calling them back, but God works through His people. The survey showed that many would respond to an invitation from a friend or acquaintance (41 percent), their children (25 percent), or an adult family member (25 percent)." – Scott McConnell, LifeWay Research.

"The issue of affinity also surfaced in the responses. Thirty-five percent indicated that they would be inspired to attend church 'if I knew there were people like me there.'" – Scott McConnell, LifeWay Research "Much to the surprise of the 'Chicken Little' crowd, people are still going to church. And more people would attend if given one simple thing – an invitation." – Philip Nation, LifeWay Research.

I am praying that we will embrace the reality of being Invitational, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.



Pastor Henry



Sunday School Is Back: Preschoolers through 12th Graders Welcome!

Sunday School classes will resume for all kids (preschool to grade 12) on Sunday, September 11, 2022. Ages preschool to grade 5 will be meeting downstairs every Sunday except the first Sunday of the month (Family Worship Sunday). Middle and High School kids will meet the 2nd and 4th Sunday of the month. If you are new to The Port or know any kids looking to learn about God and Jesus in a fun and safe environment, please invite them. We have a fun year planned and are excited to welcome you all back!

the B-I-B-L-E THROUGH THE BIBLE ONE BOOK AT A TIME UNIT 1 - GENESIS - EZRA



The Preschool to Grade 5 class will be starting a new curriculum where we will learning about the books of the Bible. We will start with Genesis on September 11 and work through Ezra this fall. This curriculum offers activities for both younger and older kids in our class. Please join us! We have so much to learn! Teachers: Janene Haugen, Traci Darnell, Rebecca Rice, Lynn Livingston and Laurette Lawson.

We are looking to update our list of substitutes. Please let Janene or Beth know if you are willing to help out.

Save the Dates

October 16: Third Grade Bible presentation
October 30: "Harvest Party" in the Education Wing
December 11: Children's Christmas Program

~Janene Haugen, Sunday School Co-Chair



Middle School/High School Sunday School will also begin class on September 11, meeting on the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month in the upper loft next to the Fellowship Hall. The curriculum is from Cokesbury LINC (Living in Christ) which asks a Question of the Day and explores our Purpose with a Cultural Connection and Topic. Here is a link to a sample from LINC <https://cdn.cokesbury.com/images/community/cokesburyportals/lincsample.pdf>
We look forward to sharing the love of Christ with each of your children.

~Beth Cameron, Sunday School Co-Chair



Spiritual Growth

SEPTEMBER Schedule for Sunday Volunteers

	September 4	September 11	September 18	September 25
Welcomer/ Greeter	Neil Anderson	Melinda Matton	Beth Cameron	Ginny Karki
Ushers	Bruce Benson* Jocelyne Medzagoh Pam Rose	Wayne Andersen* Sharon Beckler Kathy Soucy	Trenton Olson* Myron Karki Ginny Karki	Wayne Andersen* Sharon Beckler Laurette Lawson
Reader	Melinda Matton	Neil Anderson	John Hepola	Kathy Bell
Sound	Tim Madsen	Eric Richardson-Mahre	Tim Madsen	Eric Richardson-Mahre
Media	Nancy Hagerty	Dave Smith	Tim Madsen	Nancy Hagerty
Livestream Tech	Dave Smith	Blake Mahre	Scott Swenson	Tim Hagerty
Closer	Wayne Andersen	Tom Wellman	Tom Wellman	Harvey Erstad
Counters	Pam Rose Wayne Andersen	Tom Wellman Mike Moreland	Tom Wellman Mike Moreland	Tom Wellman Steve Soucy
Communion Stewards	Dan Baker Tracy Baker			
Communion Servers	_____			

Willing to serve on Sunday mornings?
 Let the office know and we'll put you in touch
 with the appropriate coordinator

Congregational Care

We celebrate YOU during SEPTEMBER

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

- | | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------|
| 04 - Ardy Anderson | 15 - Paul Schesso | 25 - Clara Haugen |
| 06 - Cash Minks | 18 - Oliver Darnell | 27 - Jerry Janes |
| 08 - Joaquina Lawson | 20 - Travis Runck | 28 - Barb Andrus |
| 13 - Steven Fischer | 21 - Joy Plourde | |



September Mission Outreach— Supplies for Nurse's Office at Kennedy High School

In September we are helping the nurse at Kennedy High School in Bloomington stock her closet for kids in need. The items she is requesting are frequently needed and often difficult to replenish:

- Feminine pads (not super thick but not panty liners, the thin type with wings is the most popular)
- “Regular” tampons
- Granola bars, breakfast bars (Nutrigrain or similar)
- Juice boxes
- Reusable water bottles (for the kids to fill & keep) - gently used, clean ones are fine
- Black leggings for girls (sizes S-XL, any quantity) - gently used, clean ones are fine
- Socks (ankle or no-show type)

Donations can be dropped off at church in the shopping cart in the narthex.

From Nurse Kari Miller at Kennedy: “These are the most common items we go through, and quickly. Thank you so much for thinking of us!”

~ Melinda Matton, Mission Outreach

Thank You from Cornerstone

Dear Members of Portland Avenue United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for your generous gift of meals to the families in Cornerstone's emergency Shelter. We are truly grateful for all the ways you support those impacted by violence in our shared community.

*Courtney Poja
Director of Advancement
Cornerstone*



VEAP Food Drive

Steve & Kathy Soucy load up and transport our food pantry donations, delivering them to VEAP. Linda Schesso and Nancy & Tim Hagerty operated the food drive-through drop off at The Port, collecting 150 pounds of food! Thank you, everyone who donated and made this a success.



Valley View School Supplies Drive

On August 22, the teachers at Valley View were greeted with much needed school supplies and donuts to start the year off. They were so happy to get the supplies and a treat on their first day back to school. Thanks to all who donated!

~Linda Schesso, Mission Outreach Chair

Outdoor Worship, Picnic, and a Birthday





Worship

Guests from Liberia, and Our Summer Intern Says Goodbye to The Port

In August we welcomed Rev. Priscilla Legay Jaiah to first service. Rev. Jaiah is a missionary with the Board of Global Ministries of The United Methodist Church and the Superintendent of Ganta Mission Station of the United Methodist Church in Ganta Liberia, West Africa. She presented on her works with the people of Nimba County, Liberia—the home county of Pastor Henry. One highlight of her presentation was the Gipo Vocational Technical Institute, which now partners with Enlighten Nimba, whose mission is to equip young people with marketable vocational skills that can serve as a source of income. Rev. Jaiah invited The Port to pray and partner with her mission and ministry.



~Pastor Henry Dolopei

Dear Members and Friends of The Port,

In August Pastor Henry gave me the opportunity to preach to all of you, as it was the last Sunday of my internship program at PAUMC. I preached on the theme "The Father's Good Pleasure" from Luke 12: 32-40.



Before my sermon, a missionary from Liberia, Rev. Priscilla Jaiah, shared mission stories from Liberia. Also visiting The Port that day to hear me preach was my childhood friend Monconjay Kiawon from elementary school in Liberia (right). She moved to the US along with her family due to the civil war at home.



It has been a wonderful time working and learning at PAUMC, and I truly appreciate the love and support from Pastor Henry, Kathryn, and the entire congregation. It is my hope and prayer that PAUMC will achieve its goal of membership growth as its sole desire. Love and peace to you.

~Deinah Quire, Intern Minister

Trustees

Busy Summer for Repairs and Purchases at The Port

The Trustees have had a steady stream of expensive equipment break-downs and needed repairs this summer. There was no summer break at church! We are grateful for their care of our church's physical structure.



After much research, the Trustees chose US Mechanical to replace our large water heater, which took a few hours to install.



Delivery drivers (with Steve and Harvey in front) carefully fit the new refrigerator under the doorways.



Steve Knopp assists Harvey Erstad in replacing a stolen part of our sprinkler system as well as moving the apparatus inside to keep it protected. By doing it themselves, they saved the church a large financial insurance deductible.



After considering a smaller refrigerator and researching various brands, Chair Don Anderson and the Trustees found the church a fine, large, American-made commercial refrigerator that should last many years to come.

A New Baby in the Family

Bob and Janene Haugen share a joy and a prayer of thanksgiving for the birth of their first grandchild, Harvey Davis Schroeder, born July 3, 2022. Mom and Dad, Alina & Nikolaus Schroeder, and baby are all doing great!



Little Harvey all decked out for his nap



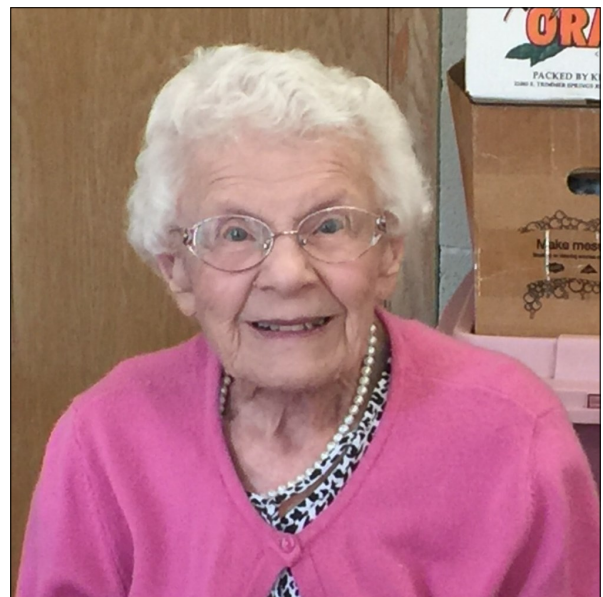
Janene Haugen with her new grandson

A Very Special Member Turns 100

Marcie Huser celebrated her 100th birthday recently and The Port was happy to share part of the celebration with her at our outdoor worship in August and at Tuesday morning craft workshop. Marcie has had the unique experience of being here during every single one of our wonderful pastors. She joined in 1955 with her husband George, and she continues to be as involved as ever in what keeps our church so special. Happy Birthday from all of us, Marcie!


Thoughts from Marcie's friend LaVonne Robinson:

I have known Marcie since 1960 when we joined PAUMC. I did not really get to know her until bazaar workshop. Her life has always impressed me. Marcie was in the armed forces, attended college, married George, and raised five children. All of her children went to college at the same time! She is also blessed with eight grandchildren and three great-grandchildren. Marcie worked at her mother's dress shop and worked at Pilgrim Dry Cleaners in Bloomington for many years. She loves to read and grow tomatoes. She also loves company. At bazaar workshop on Thursday mornings, she shows most of us up with her ability to crochet, knit, and hand-sew many of our craft projects. In addition, she brings great homemade treats for our break! She has been such a joy and good friend to me. I wish her the happiest of birthdays.



Marcie at Tuesday Morning Bazaar Workshop 2022



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			<p>TUNE IN FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP ONLINE @ 10:00 AM: https://www.youtube.com/c/PortlandAvenueUnitedMethodistChurch</p>			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
10:00am Worship/ Communion with guests UMC Distant Members	LABOR DAY	6:30pm Bazaar Wkshp	Choir Practice Resumes: 6:15pm Sonrise Rehl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	9:30am Bazaar Wkshp	11:00am Joe Anderson Celebration of Life / Memorial Service	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
Church Program Year Begins 10:00am Worship / Sunday School 11:15am Mission Outreach		6:00pm Trustees 6:30 Bazaar Wkshp	6:00pm Confirmation Classes Begin (Zoom) 6:15pm Sonrise Rehl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	Newsletter Deadline 9:30am Bazaar Wkshp 6:30pm Caregivers Support Group		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
10:00am Worship / Sunday School		6:30pm Bazaar Wkshp	6:00pm Confirmation Class (Zoom) 6:15pm Sonrise Rehl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	9:30am Bazaar Wkshp 		
25	26	27	28	29	30	
10:00am Worship / Sunday School 11:00am New Member Mtg		6:30pm Bazaar Wkshp	6:00pm Confirmation Class (Zoom) 6:15pm Sonrise Rehl 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal	9:30am Bazaar Wkshp		

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
with Sunday School during worship.

Staff

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