

THE PORTLIGHT

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



October 2024

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JOIN US for our 2nd Annual



“Trunk or Treat” at The PORT Sunday, October 27th, 4:00pm – 6:00pm

(We will move indoors if the weather is poor.)

DETAILS:

- Enjoy Trick or Treating in a safe family environment
- Bonfire with S'mores fixings
- Best decorated trunk theme contest (set up at 3pm)
- Everyone is invited! Bring your friends and neighbors!

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,

In a world of mixed-up priorities, it is so essential to make frequent “trips” to the Word of God so that we can once again be reminded of the vital importance of allowing God to be first place in our lives.

I wanted to take a moment to send this message of encouragement today. Many of us are walking through moments of difficulty in our lives. Notice I used the word “moment”, because I believe we are often captivated by what seems to be difficulties that will last “forever”, yet in light of eternity, it is just a moment!

The Bible says in Romans 8:28 (NKJV): “And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose.”

As human beings, we usually like to feel “in control”. Let's take the steering wheel of a vehicle for instance. When you're in a car with other people, especially someone who tends to have a little more of a lead foot than you would have, it can be quite an amazing test for you. If you are sitting in the passenger's seat, you look down and realize that the middle portion of the carpet on the floor in front of you has been matted down from people who have been in the same seat before, and you know this is going to be quite a ride. I'm sure you've found out like I have they don't make brakes for the passenger's side of the car!

You see, when we are not in the driver's seat, we feel very out of control at times. There may be times when you wish you were in the driver's seat of your life and could steer the problems out of your life the moment they ar-

rive. We want to steer clear of the pain and difficulty that comes with the problems, and look forward to the bright sunny days of driving ahead.

Well, let me assure you that even in those times you are not in control, God knows all about it, and He will be there for you “if” you cry out to Him for His help.

I want to help to lighten your burden today by letting you know that you don't have to always be in control! God wants to shower His peace and strength upon your life, however, we must allow Him to do so.

Friends, the Lord is already in control, so let Him tell you what to do next. Pray, read scripture, and follow the example Christ left for us: perfect submission.

Let us pray...*Father, we have tried to control our life and even to control other people's behavior to suit our purposes: forgive us. You are the King of our heart, one and only Sovereign, Lord of all. Thank you that I don't have to be in control because YOU are. Thank you for perfect leadership, for your [omniscient](#) command of every situation, and for loving us while you hold all things together. In the name of Jesus, Amen.*


Blessings,



Pastor Henry



October Schedule for Sunday Volunteers

| | Oct. 6 | Oct. 13 | Oct. 20 | Oct. 27 |
|-------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Welcomers | LaVonne Robinson Sue Wells | Greg Jurek | Heather Anderson Lynn Livingston | Heather Anderson Gloria Wilson-Bahun |
| Ushers | Bruce Benson Greg Jurek Pam Rose | Scott Swenson Pat Ekstrom Trent Olson | Bruce Benson Melinda Matton Kathy Soucy | Bruce Benson Myron & Ginny Karki |
| Reader | Neil Anderson | Kathy Bell | Frederick Wilson- Bahun | Scott Rice |
| Sound | Tim Madsen | Eric Richardson- Mahre | Tim Madsen | Leo Castro |
| Media | Tim Madsen | Barb Andrus | Tim Madsen | Nancy Hagerty |
| Livestream | Scott Swenson | | Daisy Castro | Tim Hagerty |
| Closer | Wayne Andersen | Wayne Andersen | Harvey Erstad | Steve Knopp |
| Counters | Merlin Gilbertson Wayne Andersen | Merlin Gilbertson Wayne Andersen | Pam Rose Trenton Olson | Pam Rose Jon Krogsrud |
| Communion Stewards | Daniel & Tracy Baker |  | | |



Congregational Care

Birthday Blessings to our October Friends!

- | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 01 - Beth Cameron | 17 - Janea Medzagoh |
| 04 - Daniel Dray | 18 - Fran Carpenter |
| 05 - Greg Jurek | 19 - Jake Rasmussen |
| 07 - Tim Hagerty | 20 - Katherine Quam |
| 11 - Ginny Karki | - Joanne Sanftner |
| 16 - Emilia Runck | 24 - Jerry Solheim |
| - Steve Soucy | - Gloria Wilson-Bahum |
| | 26 - Marlus Jackson |



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

Education Foundation of Bloomington

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 models for learning.

In memory of Russ and Carol Cox, 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. For your monetary donation towards this mission outreach project, please write Scholarship in the memo of your check.



~ Nancy Hagerty & Pam Rose
Mission Outreach Co-chairs

Successful collection in August for VEAP!

Our mission for the month of August was to collect spices and condiments to be donated to VEAP.

Thanks to everyone who contributed toward this effort. We also collected monetary donations in the amount of \$100 and food basket donations (\$65) were sent too.

SupPORT Monthly Dinners

Our first monthly dinner was held on September 18 and it was a big success! We served 28 people including 3 guests from the community. Thank you to the many volunteers who came together to prepare and cook the meal, set the tables, serve, and then clean up afterward. A delicious spaghetti dinner was served and people 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, October 16th. Please watch 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 October doesn't work with your schedule, please commit to helping us with one of the next monthly dinners on November 20 or December 18.

~ The PORT Leadership Team

Holiday Bazaar News

It's coming so fast! Our **50th Annual Holiday Bazaar** will be held on Friday, November 8th, 9am to 6pm, and Saturday, November 9th, 9am to 3pm. We are so proud of this long-standing and well-loved tradition, as it is our church's largest community event, and our biggest fundraising event of the year! 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'll serve yummy food, and we will have our famous bake sale too. The Youth and Family Ministries team will also be managing 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 27.**

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. 5th. 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 6th, 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!

Please contact any of the following with questions:

Lynn Livingston, 952-797-2645

Lori Livingston, 612-240-2640

Kathy Soucy, 612-226-2085





Pastor Henry and his father watch on as the Wilson-Bahun kids take turns with their mom, Gloria.



Scott Swenson, Lynn Livingston, Barb Andrus and Kathy Swenson were a foursome with the Dolopei's right behind them!



The Hagerty and Knopp families had fun, and Steve was their big winner!

**It was a great day for
"The PORT Open"
at The Links at
Dred Scott Park on
Sunday, 9/22!**

We had 32 golfers and lots of friendly competition to go around. Chris Rudie was the grand champ with Steve Knopp in a close 2nd place. It was a beautiful day and a great outing for fellowship! Thanks to all who joined in the fun!







Kathy Soucy and Beth Cameron are waiting their turn while Trenton Olson tee's off!



Judy Rudie (Joe Anderson's daughter) brought 11 of her family members to play! Their son Chris had the overall lowest score at 47!

OCTOBER 2024

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|---|---|------------------------------|---|---|---|-----|
| |  | 1 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop | 2 9:30am Bazaar Workshop | 3 9:30am Bazaar Workshop | 4 | 5 |
| 6 World Communion Sunday 10:00 am Worship / Communion 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship | 7 | 8 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop | 9 6:30pm Worship Leaders' Rehearsal | 10 9:30am Bazaar Workshop | 11 | 12 |
| 13 10:00 am Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship | 14 November Newsletter Deadline | 15 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop | 16  SupPERT Monthly Dinner - 5:30pm - 7pm | 17 9:30am Bazaar Workshop | 18 | 19 |
| 20 10:00 am Worship 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship | 21 | 22 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop | 23 6:30pm Worship Leaders' Rehearsal | 24 9:30am Bazaar Workshop | 25 | 26 |
| 27 10:00 am Worship/Sunday School 11:00 am Coffee Fellowship 3pm Set up in parking lot 4pm - 6pm Trunk or Treat! | 28 | 29 6:30pm Bazaar Workshop | 30 | 31 9:30am Bazaar Workshop  |  | |

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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