

The Epistle of St. Paul's

August 2023

In This Issue

From the Pastor's
Desk...page 1

Community News and
Events...pages 2-3

Preaching Sched-
ule...page 4

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From The Pastor's Desk...

"There is in us an instinct for newness, for renewal, for a liberation of creative power. We seek to awaken in ourselves a force which really changes our lives from within. And yet the same instinct tells us that this change is a recovery of that which is deepest, most original, most personal in ourselves. To be born again is not to become somebody else, but to become ourselves."

—Fr. Thomas Merton, *Choosing to Love the World: On Contemplation*

In the month of August, I am doing something I've not done in many years: take time for vocational renewal. This isn't a vacation. I won't be traveling to a family gathering, tackling projects around the parsonage, or going to some far-off tourist destination. Instead, I will employ the 3 R's of clergy renewal—Rest, Rejuvenate, and Restore—in order to empower my ministry as I lean into the coming years of my vocational life.

During this time renewal, I hope to do as little as possible: that is, there are no projects or activities that I must complete. I do hope to be playing a few rounds of golf, riding my bike (renewing my body by losing a few pounds!), spending time in my studio, and reading *Paradise Lost* by John Milton. The only activity I have put on my calendar in August is going to the Thomas the Apostle Retreat Center in Cody, Wyoming, to take part in a six-day/night workshop in the exploration of the technical meditation of writing an icon.

In a recent message to the Conference from Bishop Oliveto, she concluded by saying: "My prayer for all our churches, pastors, and laity is this: may you put your energies in your church in a new way. Help and encourage one another to learn the unforced rhythms of grace. Find rest for your soul. Discover renewal. Recover your life through the power of Jesus Christ, for if there is one thing I learned over the years, true peace, peace which is more than skin-deep, comes from Christ. Christ is our real rest; Christ is the peace for the soul."

This is what I hope to discover during August, and this is what I hope for the church family: a discovery of the unforced rhythms of grace that will be the mark of our common ministry in the world in which we live and the world in which we serve.

Every blessing,
Pastor Charles

Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet Thursday, August 3, at 11:45 a.m. at Casa Alegre (1006 Pine Street, Louisville). Please R.S.V.P. to Myrle Myers by August 1 (mmyers59@msn.com / 303-810-8044).

Breakfast Fellowship will meet on **Saturday, August 12**, at 8:00 a.m. at Le Peep (2525 Arapahoe Ave, Boulder, next to McGuckin's hardware). No reservations necessary. All are welcome!

Jerry Beaber's memorial service will be on August 26 at 11:00 a.m.

A memorial luncheon for Donna Wasson will be held on Tuesday, September 26, 2023 (time TBD) at St. Paul's UMC in the fellowship hall. All ladies are invited to celebrate the life of Donna Wasson and her active participation in the life of the St. Paul's United Methodist Church family. This will be a catered event. RSVP to Joan Cooper (ajcooperjr@comcast.net / 303-898-8034) by Tuesday, September 19, 2023.

St. Paul's Hearing Loop

Did you know one in five people have hearing loss in America? Even with hearing aids, background noise and reverberation make it difficult for people with hearing loss to hear clearly and easily in church. To help, our church trustees plan to have a hearing loop installed in our sanctuary in early August. This technology will be available to anyone, with or without hearing aids.

If you have hearing aids with Telecoil (T-coil) capability, the hearing loop broadcasts sound from the microphones directly into your hearing aids. You will switch your hearing aid to the T-coil setting to take advantage of the hearing loop. If you are not sure, check with your audiologist or hearing aid provider now to find out if your hearing aids have Telecoil capability and get the function activated if necessary. If you do not have hearing aids, or if yours do not have T-coil, a loop receiver and headset will be available for your use in the back of the sanctuary.

We will be putting up signage and advertising our new hearing loop in the coming weeks, and we look forward to a better, more clear, worship experience for everyone with hearing loss!

Suzanne Polacek is your contact for any questions at suzanne.polacek@gmail.com or 303-709-6676.

August Birthdays

8-3 Jennifer McNabb
8-4 Tim Cook
8-4 Amy Abshire
8-5 Sabrina Bishop
8-8 Kelly Smoot
8-9 Ron Polacek
8-15 Rhea Esposito
8-15 Terri Himes
8-21 Claudia Mills
8-24 Abby Lagemann
8-25 Ella Berlin
8-26 Kathy Lloyd
8-26 Vince Wayland
8-30 Mark Leifeste

August Anniversaries

Amy Abshire and Dan Hays
8-1-1988

Bob and Melanie Muckle
8-10-1985

Frank and Katherine Richardson
8-9-1980

Steve and Michele Matthews
8-15-1975

Scott and Rebecca Glancy
8-16

We are now including wedding anniversaries in the Epistle each month. If your anniversary doesn't appear in the Epistle, please send an email to the office at office@saintpaulsboulder.org, and we will add you and your spouse to the list.

Judy Waller's new address is 801 Gillaspie Dr. #35, Boulder, CO 80305. She is no longer using her land line. She is only using her cell phone (303-818-1759).

St. Paul's second quarter King Soopers share is \$266.82.

See the back page for a list of August guest speakers.

St. Paul's UMC welcomes and affirms people of all sexual orientations, gender identities, and gender expressions.

AUGUST PREACHING SCHEDULE

August 6 / Communion

Message by Larry Esposito

August 13

Message by Sandy Bainbridge

August 20

Message by Angela Baker

August 27

Message by Claudia Mills

This month Pastor Charles is on restorative leave.



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