

# The Epistle of St. Paul's

September 2021

## In This Issue

*From the Pastor's Desk...page 1*

*Community News and Events...pages 2-3*

*Birthdays, Preaching Schedule...page 4*

## St. Paul's United Methodist Church

4215 Grinnell Avenue

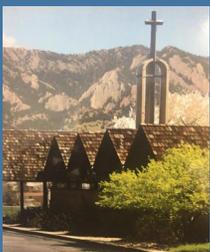
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## *From The Pastor's Desk..*

As I write this in mid-August, St. Paul's has come through seven weeks since our (re) launch of hybrid worship. We are learning how to worship again in-person and continuing to adjust so we can offer a Zoom connection to those unable to be with us each week in the sanctuary.

It has not been particularly easy, this return to the sanctuary and our communal life. There have been technical issues and issues around the liturgy being used, and I have been especially thankful for the grace extended by the congregation as we navigate learning how to do worship in the age of pandemic. It also has not been easy for us to use Zoom in the sanctuary. As with our in-person experiences, there have been some technical issues, and I have been grateful for the grace extended by our virtual participants as we seek to remain connected.

Guiding us in our approach to life in the new world of pandemic ministry that we find ourselves, is a basic understanding of what are known as John Wesley's **Three Simple Rules**: Do no harm. Do good. Stay in love with God.

We have returned to requiring masks be worn whenever we are in the church building and that is, first and foremost, to "*Do no harm.*" We seek to do no harm in our mask wearing because, while we may be vaccinated, the delta variant has shown to be highly infectious, and we don't want to be the cause of someone else getting Covid. We know that members of the church family have been traveling this summer out of state and even out of the country. Being able to travel is nice, but so is looking to the safety and health of others when we return home.

We are seeking to "*Do good*" and continue to worship together, both online and in-person, because this pandemic has demonstrated rather convincingly that we need the connection of our faith community. We also have been able to continue to offer support to our neighbors with the food pantry and the PATH Fund.

We are "*Staying in love with God*" with prayers that are shared via note cards during the in-person worship, on the blog, on our Facebook page, and in a weekly email to the congregation. We are growing in our faith, building each other up through the Wednesday morning virtual fellowship and Thursday's Wired Word email.

The church sign at Grinnell/Gillaspie this week reads: "*It's simple: love God & others.*" This month, when we talk about St. Paul's UMC to our friends, relatives, and neighbors, I hope we will share how we are doing no harm, doing good, and staying in love with God. As we watch summer draw to a close and welcome autumn to the Front Range, I pray that we will stay connected to our faith, to our community, and to our God.

Every blessing, Pastor Charles

## Virtual Blood Drive

September 12-25, 2021

COVID-19 has changed a lot of things, including how we host blood drives. Even though we can't host our in-person blood drive, we can still support the community blood supply. Sign up at the link below to support our virtual blood drive and receive an email invitation to make an appointment at a donation site convenient to you.

Because of you, life doesn't stop. **Sign up today** at <https://northeast.vitalant.org>

### The Financial Secretary will be "out of the office"!

There will be a delay in creating and sending third quarter giving statements as **Martha will be out of the country from September 26-October 10**. Third quarter statements will be sent once she returns. As a reminder, please discontinue sending your monthly donations to Martha's home. Please mail donations to the church at 4215 Grinnell Avenue, Boulder, 80305 or drop them off at the church office. This will be especially helpful while the Batches are on vacation. You can also place your donation in the collection plate at the back of the sanctuary on Sundays, or use our safe and secure web giving option. Go to <https://stpaulschurch.breezechms.com/give/online> to make a one time or recurring donation online. Again, the finance team appreciates your faithful stewardship to St. Paul's UMC.

To add or remove yourself from the **prayer chain**, please email Judy Waller ([judy38waller@gmail.com](mailto:judy38waller@gmail.com)). Prayer chain emails are sent during the week when prayer requests arise between worship services. Sunday's prayer requests are sent to the entire congregation every Monday.

*Thanks to St. Paul's wonderful church family for your kind words, messages, visits, invitations to lunch, and offers of assistance after Wally's death. From Pastor Charles and Belinda's visit that morning to the steady stream of cards, I have appreciated every contact. You've all demonstrated God's love and support.*

*Depending on the Covid situation, we hope to have a memorial service on October 9 at St. Paul's UMC for Wally. Even if that is not possible, my daughters and I have been comforted and supported by your response.*

*Pat Cleaveland*

**Ladies' Lunch Bunch** will meet on Thursday, September 2, at 11:45 a.m. at Old Santa Fe Mexican Grill in Louisville. Please let Joan Cooper know if you are coming. **Men's breakfast** will be on Saturday, September 11, at 8:00 a.m. at Le Peep in Boulder. No reservations necessary.

## United Methodist Women Upcoming Events

### United Methodist Women: We are women with a Purpose!

"United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

### Upcoming UMW Events (All Virtual, Via Zoom)

**People do not have to be members of The United Methodist Church to participate.** Please direct questions to Belinda Alkula (Belinda.Alkula@gmail.com or 303-916-2349).

**September 25 – Saturday:** Peaks Pikes Peak Annual Meeting. Registration details TBA.

**October 8-9 – Friday and Saturday:** Mountain Sky Conference UMW Annual Meeting. The focus will be on spirit and soul care. Special speakers will be zooming in to talk to us—missionaries, deaconesses, and representatives from UMW-supported National Mission Institutions. Registration details TBA.

## It is time to begin thinking about Advent and Christmas...

Pastor Charles is inviting the congregation to participate in the creation of the third annual Advent and Christmas devotional. The theme for this year's devotional is "Chrismons."

1) Select a Chrismon that speaks to you about the coming, life & ministry, or other attribute of the Savior. 2) Write a short reflection on what that Chrismon means to you. 3) Submit it to the office by November 1 either in writing or via email. Pastor Charles will provide entries for the Twelve Days of Christmas and the Day of Epiphany.

The Chrismon symbols are the cross, Latin Cross, Irish or Celtic cross, Triumphant cross, Jerusalem cross, Eastern cross, Upsilon cross, Anchor cross, IHS, the fish, Alpha and Omega, Chi-Rho, Star of David, five-pointed star, Nativity star, eight-pointed star, crown, shepherd's crook or staff, triquerta, trefoil, hands in prayer, scroll, dove, lamp, candle, shell, keys, ship, cup or chalice, angel, babe in manger, lamb, butterfly, heart, lion, and white rose. This list will be available at the usher's table in the sanctuary. Sign up or email the church with your choice.

Rev. Youngwon Seo and Hannah Gu's new address is 5420 Prominence Point  
Colorado Springs, CO 80923

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

## September Birthdays

9-1 Jack Himes  
9-6 Dave Bishop  
9-6 Jackie Bishop  
9-10 Angela Baker  
9-15 Christopher Wahl  
9-16 Lisa Berlin  
9-19 Pat Muckle  
9-20 Jessie Muckle  
9-27 Steve Matthews



## SEPTEMBER PREACHING SCHEDULE

### September 5

*"Dead or Alive?"*

Mark 7:24-30, James 2:1-10, 14-17

**Communion**

### September 12

*"Words, words, words"*

James 3:1-12, Mark 8:27-38

### September 19

*"Foolish is as foolish does"*

Mark 9:30-37, James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

### September 26

*"Who are you for?"*

James 5:13-20, Mark 9:38-50

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