



On April 25th, these four ladies received special recognition pins from the United Methodist Women honoring them for their many contributions of time and talent to St. Paul's United Methodist Church.

(Left to right): Sally Knoben, Tasha Timmerman, Meribeth Adams, and Linda Rutter

MESSAGE FROM PAUL BURCH

Thank you for all the get well greetings, cards, and letters while I am in the hospital recovering. It's a long journey, but hopefully I will make it with all your prayers and blessings.

VISITS WITH PASTOR MIKE AGNEW

Sign-up sheets are in the narthex for visits with Pastor Mike. You may also call the church office at 225-3955 to set up a time for a one-on-one visit, a family visit, or a small group setting with a limit of ten people. Pastor Mike is looking forward to meeting and getting to know all of you!

INGATHERING 2021

It's time to start thinking about the Ingathering. It will be held on Saturday, November 6th, in the St. Paul's parking lot. We have 100 school bags to fill this year. **We are asking you to please give monetary donations, so we can purchase the supplies we need to fill the bags.** If you write a check, please make it out to St. Paul's UMC and write "Ingathering" on the memo line. Thanks, so much, for your support.

-St. Paul's Missions and Ingathering Committee

HY-VEE RECEIPTS

Please continue saving your Hy-Vee receipts. You may put them in the basket on the table at the back of the narthex or slip them through the mail slot at the right of the north doors that lead into our Education Wing. Thanks!

NEW CHURCH WEBSITE

St. Paul's has a new website for the church. It is www.cherokeemethodist.com. Go there to see the livestream of our Sunday services. We also have a sermon podcast available there.

OUR SHARED MINISTRY

LITURGISTS FOR AUGUST

August 1	John O'Connor
August 8	Barb Kratz
August 15	Dave Appleby
August 22	Jerri Hunt
August 29	John Cook

GREETERS FOR AUGUST

August 1	Roni Timmerman Ervina Scott
August 8	Darrel and Sue Paulsen
August 15	Joyce Goodrich Roni Timmerman
August 22	Kevin and Karla Wilkie
August 29	Lowell and Sharon Bennink

FLOWERS FOR AUGUST

August 1	Linda Burkhart
August 8	Steve Goodburn
August 15	Bonni Conley
August 22	Gigi Boothby
August 29	Linda Burkhart

WORSHIP ATTENDANCE

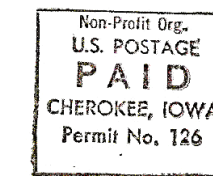
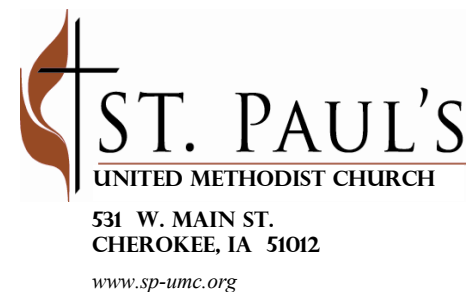
July 4	98
July 11	88
July 18	79
July 25	88

CONTACT INFORMATION

Church phone	(712) 225-3955
Pastor Mike's phone	(563) 506-7412
Meribeth's phone	(712) 221-1530

Pastor Mike Agnew:
michael.agnew@iaumc.net

Meribeth Adams:
meribethadams@outlook.com



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

SMALL GROUP STUDY

REVIVAL: FAITH AS WESLEY LIVED IT

John Wesley's message and his faith continue to speak to 21st century Christians, calling for a revival of our hearts and souls so that our world might be changed. Join us for this six-week study, as we look at Wesley's land, life, ministry, and teachings, using a book and video by Adam Hamilton, pastor at the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection. The cost for the book is \$12. Please sign up by Sunday, August 22nd by calling the church office at 225-3955, or by emailing Pastor Mike at this address: michael.agnew@iaumc.net. This small group study will be held Sundays at 6:30 p.m., starting September 5th.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Phil and Karen Reusch and all of their family. Phil's mother, Margaret Reusch, 92, of Paullina, Iowa passed away on May 20th, at Accura HealthCare in Cherokee. A private graveside service for Margaret Reusch was held on May 25th at Hillside Cemetery in Merrill, Iowa.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Hattie Marie Mackowski, Jared Mackowski, Heather Mackowski, and all of their family. Belle W. Schleef, Hattie's mother and the grandmother of Jared and Heather, passed away on June 28th, following a severe stroke. Belle, 96, returned to the farm where she peacefully transitioned from this life to a life of eternity with our heavenly Father. Funeral services for Belle Schleef were held on Wednesday, July 7th, at the Memorial Presbyterian Church in Cherokee, with Pastor Jonathan Caldwell and Pastor Robert Schleef officiating.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to the family and friends of Phyllis A. Miller. Phyllis Miller, 97, was a longtime member of St. Paul's United Methodist Church and served as the church secretary for 37 years. Phyllis finished her journey 'home' on Thursday, July 1st, at Primrose Retirement Community in Council Bluffs, surrounded by her daughters. She had been a resident of Primrose Retirement Community for the past ten years, where she lived close to her daughter Diana Davis. Funeral services for Phyllis Miller were held on Thursday, July 8th, at St. Paul's United Methodist Church, with Pastor Mike Agnew officiating. Burial was in the Oak Hill Cemetery at Cherokee. If you would like to offer your condolences to Phyllis's family, here is the address for her daughter Diana Davis: 17251 Turnberry Ridge, Council Bluffs, IA 51503.

PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY

We extend our deepest sympathy to Pauline Wolcott and all of her family. Pauline's brother-in-law, James Arthur Wolcott, 89, passed away at his home in Cherokee on Wednesday, July 14th, surrounded by his family. Memorial services for Jim Wolcott were held on Tuesday, July 20th, at the Greenwood-Schubert Funeral Home, with Father Dan Rupp officiating.

WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS

We warmly congratulate Matthew and Samantha Boothby on the birth of their daughter. Ivy Lucille Boothby was born in Sioux City on Tuesday, March 16th. She was welcomed home by her sister Finley. Ivy's very proud grandparents are David and Gigi Boothby of Cherokee and Lance and Jamie Cushman of Spencer, Iowa.



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THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF ST. PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
August 2021

A MOMENT WITH MIKE

It is hard to believe it has been a month already since we have moved to Cherokee! This past month has been a good one, as we have been getting to know many of you through individual and group visits, meetings, worship, and fellowship. I look forward to continuing this in August, so we will continue to have sign-ups in the back of the sanctuary for visits. If you do not think any of the suggested times will work for a visit, feel free to call me to set up a time that works for you.

During my visits, I usually ask two questions. I want to know what you like best about the church and what you would like to see for the church in the future. For most, the answers to both questions are the same. It is apparent that many of you value the sense of community you get in our church. There is a sense of support you get from sharing life together, and that is a valuable aspect of church life that we want to continue to foster.

Most of you state that for the future of the church, you would like to see younger families in our community of faith. This is an important goal, because having new people (of any age) means we are continuing to make new disciples of Jesus Christ. Having younger people will ensure that this church continues to make disciples for generations to come.

The issue of how to get younger people to come to church and why fewer are coming in the first place is a multifaceted one, including local and societal dynamics that have been going on for the last sixty years or so. I have been pastoring churches since 2003, and every church I have served has struggled with this issue, so we are hardly alone. There are no simple answers or formulas to get people to come to church, but it is something we can explore together.

There are things we can do to make it more likely that younger people may come to our church, but I will need your help. I am aware that those reading this newsletter are from all different ages and stages of life. You may not be able to do much physically to help anymore, but you could pray or make phone calls. You may be active and dedicated to the church but wondering what else you could possibly add to your plate. You may be currently inactive and wondering if investing in the church again is worth your time and energy.

We are all in different places, and how you help

may look different, but I want you to know it is worth it. Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ, and the results include changed lives, an improved community, and a better world. That's a worthy mission to engage in if you ask me! As we finish out the summer season and prepare for fall, let's work together to see what is possible. As we do, remember that we are not in this alone. God is with us through the Holy Spirit. Thanks be to God!

-Pastor Mike Agnew

WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS

We warmly congratulate Justin and Jillian Henke on the birth of their son. John Francis Henke was born on Thursday, July 1st at 2:53 p.m. He weighed 8 lb. and was 19.5 inches long. Baby Jack was welcomed home by his brother Thomas Alexander. Jack's very proud grandparents are Annette Galloway of Wicopee, NY and Ted and Tracee Henke of Washta, IA.

WARMEST CONGRATULATIONS

We warmly congratulate Brian and Trish (Taylor) Gobrecht of Fort Dodge on the birth of their son. Oliver John Gobrecht was born on Sunday, July 25th. He was welcomed home by his sister Claire Delores. Oliver's very proud grandparents are Mike and DeAnna Taylor of Cherokee and Jim and Mary Gobrecht of Belmont, Wisconsin. Paul Taylor of Cherokee and John Smidt of Woden, Iowa are Oliver's great-grandparents.

THANK YOU SO MUCH

It is with deepest gratitude and appreciation that the family of Phyllis Miller would like to thank all who attended her service and made generous donations in her name! She loved this church and her church family! We loved hearing favorite stories and those memories with her brought us such great comfort. A special thank you to Pastor Mike, Betty Point and Becky Lickiss for music, and all of the ladies who put on the luncheon after the service. Each of you played such a huge role in helping us celebrate our mom's life! God bless you all!

-Diana Davis, Ginny Locke, and Linda McCall
(daughters of Phyllis Miller)

FROM THE FINANCE COMMITTEE:

It is obvious the COVID pandemic has taken a toll on all of us in one way or another. The same is true for our church finances. As we move into the second half of 2021, we are confident our church family will continue to come together, and the last half will look much better. Here are a few things to consider as we start the second half of this year:

- Checking account has decreased \$12,460 since the first of the year.
- Monthly expenses have averaged \$17,860.
- Monthly giving averaged \$13,750.
- The successful application to the Payroll Protection Program (\$30,200) is part of the giving average.

Bottom line, we are hopeful of making up \$16,000 plus during the second half of the year.

On a positive note, we still have a reasonably good balance in checking which will allow us to stay current with expenses. From our "Reserve Apportionments Account" we will pay the first half of our budgeted 2021 Apportionments (\$4,225.98). We also have a great staff that has worked hard to keep expenses inline. Again, we are confident that as our church continues to open up, with the start of Sunday School and other church events, we will weather this difficult time.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be set sometime the week of September 20th, at which time we will start the 2022 budget process. For all committees that are part of the budget, please review your 2022 needs and let us know if the current budgeted dollars are acceptable.

The committee wants to thank you for your support, and we pray for and appreciate your continued commitment to St. Paul's.

UPDATE ON PAUL BURCH

Paul Burch is now receiving therapy at the Madonna Rehabilitation Hospital following his involvement in a truck-train accident in June. He remains on the path to steadily regaining his strength. Please continue to keep Paul Burch, his wife Karen Koopman, and all of their loved ones in your prayers. Words of encouragement may be sent to this address: Raymond Paul Burch L22, 17500 Burke Street, Omaha, NE 68118.

ANDREA COOK'S HEALTH NEWS

Andrea Cook has been battling cancer since last fall. She has completed five months of chemo and five weeks of radiation. On Friday, July 16th, Andrea had surgery at St. Mary's Hospital in Rochester, Minnesota. She hopes to be home before the end of July. Please keep Andrea and her loved ones in your prayers. Cards and notes may be sent to her home address: 310 Oak Knoll Drive, Cherokee, IA 51012.