

St. Paul's

September
2024



THE BEACON

The Beacon logo, consisting of three concentric, semi-circular lines in red and pink, resembling a signal or a beacon.

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NEXT BEACON
October 11th
All articles are
due in by 10/4

September
2024

Words from Wang

ST. PAUL'S UCC



As a pastor, there are times when it becomes difficult to say the things that need to be said. It is therefore helpful to offer another's perspective on certain matters of importance. So, rather than share "Words From Wang" (my own words), I wish to share someone else's words: opinion columnist Mark Tidsworth.

Tidsworth laments that our way of being church has aged out; that the way many churches continue to operate clearly reflects a bygone culture. While at the same time, the Holy Spirit is actually ready and waiting to rise up in our churches and inspire us with holy imagination and creativity. But too many pastors live with this sinking feeling that too much water has already passed under the bridge for adaptive change to ever be a possibility.

Present and future pastors want congregations to know that they are ready to engage in more mission-congruent risk-taking and that they are ready to help churches step out in faith. Pastors also want their church members to know that this requires sufficient numbers of willing members to support holy experimenting in order for it to be acceptable and embraced.

As I have made numerous attempts to convey some of these realities to you in the past fourteen months, Tidsworth makes some additional points about the pastor's role in being prophetic in the pulpit, saying that you will hear statements in sermons with which you disagree. Guess what? This is normal. Whenever we encounter the gospel, we quickly notice the gap between how we are living and to whom we are called to become. So, expect to be uncomfortable when that gap becomes apparent.

In addition to this, people's sense of smell for anything even remotely political is on hyperdrive these days in our divided cultural context. So many pastors report that their sermons are interpreted as political statements when, 10 years ago, those same sermons would not be received as political.

Let's face it. The gospel is political, just not partisan. When taken seriously, the gospel influences every area of life, including our politics. Yet, the gospel holds up better than any political party. Our higher loyalty is to Christ. So, expect to hear biblical passages that run counter to your political party's platform and be challenged to live to a higher standard than your political party encourages. Every pastor hopes you will embrace this dynamic, so try to tone down your hyped-up reactivity when anything sounds remotely political coming from the pulpit.

And as a postscript, Tidsworth speaks to a new reality in churches today. Sadly, there are people who learn that church is an easy place to push others around, since so many other people believe being nice (passive) is more important than being truthful. This allows certain people to become church bullies who intimidate and silence others. Their misguided efforts are focused on actually restraining change, believing doing what they always have done in just the way they always have done it is actually spiritually responsible leadership.

While the vocal minority continues to hold power, the silent majority usually sits back to watch things play out, and sometimes for far too long. But when a church member finds his/her voice and speaks out against bullying or obstruction, then progress is far more likely to happen. But at every level, in addition to good communication, building trust and rapport is crucial. Throw in a good dose of empathy and compassion for all God's people, and the potential for transformation dramatically increases. May it be so for building up the body of Christ and for sustaining a future built on faith, hope, and love.

Mark Tidsworth is founder and team leader for Pinnacle Leadership Associates. Ordained in the Baptist tradition, Mark is an ecumenical Christian minister based in Chapin, S.C.

Words from Wang

ST. PAUL'S UCC



Worship Opportunities

September 22nd

18th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Mark 9:30-37

Sermon Theme: *Contrary to Popular Belief*

Note: This will be Pastor Bob's last Sunday

September 29th

19th Sunday After Pentecost

Scripture: Esther 7:1-6,9-10; 9:20-22

Sermon Theme: TBD

Guest Pastor Dave Inglis

Let's Celebrate Birthdays



Donna Butler	9/1
Gordy Triefenbach	9/3
Linda Christensen	9/6
Lena Vocalino	9/8
Kathi Seibt	9/9
Barbara Jelinek	9/10
Dave Loehner	9/12
Bill Eich	9/17
Jessica Butler	9/17
Luann Hopkins	9/18
Gerilyn Whetham	9/18

Margaret Tobin	9/19
Robelle Feffer	9/20
Connie Chappell	9/20
Tom Braun	9/21
Jackie Mason	9/26
Jordan Lotesto	9/26
Meghan Scheeweiss	9/26
Warren Spencer	9/26
Becky Berg	9/27
Linda Kranz	9/29
Randy Kriegel	9/29
Krista Huffman	9/29



Jim Ticknor	10/1
Lynn Virzi	10/3
Lisa Sadlik	10/4
Rebecca Johnson	10/7
Julie Moore	10/7
Joan Bourdage	10/10
Ken Hansen	10/11
Nancy Lutz	10/14
Mary Benz	10/15
John Whetham	10/15

Dolores Broker	10/16
Emily Butler	10/16
Ginny Deuerling	10/21
Samuel Reckamp	10/21
Bob Wang	10/21
Caitlin Monahan	10/23
Abby Pagnotta	10/24
Jan Rickard	10/25
Donna Reber	10/26
Trent Eckhardt	10/28

CHURCH NEWS



Three Sundays from now St. Paul's will host the McHenry County Crop Hunger Walk October 6th, 2024

Each week leading up to the walk, a challenge will be proposed.

9/18

Bee the Change. 9/22 find someone at church to walk with you! Sponsor each other! It is all about being the good in the world. Can you help to be the change in the world? Walkers, sponsors and prayers are needed.

9/18 Challenge

Challenge #4: Reading, Writing, Arithmetic & Recess

Education is a powerful tool that enables individuals to succeed and provide for themselves, their families and the greater community. Venture over to a school or education center in your area. Your support through the CROP Hunger Walk provides education to many in the global community.

Take a photo and send to Linda Ticknor at lindaticknor@gmail.com.

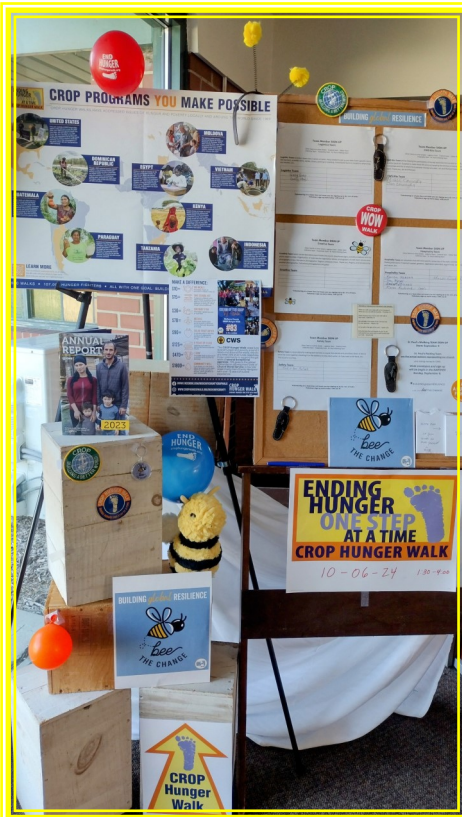
"BEE" is the change; Bee the good in the world.



CHURCH NEWS

CROP HUNGER WALK
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

BEE THE CHANGE



MAKE A DIFFERENCE:

- \$10= 100 MEALS**
Provides meals to families in need in the US
- \$15= CWS SCHOOL KIT**
Supports children who need these supplies, when they're recovering from a disaster or living in other tough circumstances
- \$30= 500 BABY FISH**
Provides a great source of nutrition
- \$70= BEEHIVE**
Provides stable jobs working with nutritious honey that can be eaten and sold
- \$90= SOLAR FRUIT DRYER**
A reliable way to dry the fruits and vegetables families sell to earn a living
- \$125= 8 YEARS OF CLASS**
Helping a student in Kenya achieve a brighter future
- \$470= 1 COW**
Provides both a source of nutrition and income for families
- \$1800= COMMUNITY WELL**
Cuts down on the time it takes farmers to get clean water so they can go to school, plant gardens or start businesses

CREAM OF THE CROP Top Walk
McHenry County CROP Hunger Walk
#83 in the nation

CWS
The CROP Hunger Walk raises fund to end hunger and poverty around the world and around the world, one step at a time! 25% of all funds raised stay in our community to support the good work of several exceptional agencies. 75% goes to the global humanitarian development work of Church World Service (a four-star rated charity from Charity Navigator with over 75 years of trusted experience).

LEARN MORE
Visit our website at www.crophungerwalk.org or call 800-444-4444. We'll get you up to speed on all the ways you can help.

WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/MCHENRYCOUNTYCROPWALK
WWW.CROPHUNGERWALK.ORG/MCHENRYCOUNTY

CROP HUNGER WALK
ENDING HUNGER ONE STEP AT A TIME

CROP PROGRAMS YOU MAKE POSSIBLE
CROP HUNGER WALKS HAVE ADDRESSED ISSUES OF HUNGER AND POVERTY LOCALLY AND AROUND THE WORLD SINCE 1969

UNITED STATES
CROP Hunger Walks have addressed issues of hunger and poverty locally and around the world since 1969. In the US, CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

GUATEMALA
CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

EGYPT
CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

VIETNAM
CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

MOLDOVA
CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

KENYA
CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

PARAGUAY
CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

TANZANIA
CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

INDONESIA
CROP Hunger Walks have helped over 100,000 people in need.

LEARN MORE
Visit our website at www.crophungerwalk.org or call 800-444-4444. We'll get you up to speed on all the ways you can help.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE:
\$10= 100 MEALS
Provides meals to families in need in the US

500 WALKS • 107,000 HUNGER FIGHTERS • ALL WITH ONE GOAL: BUILD

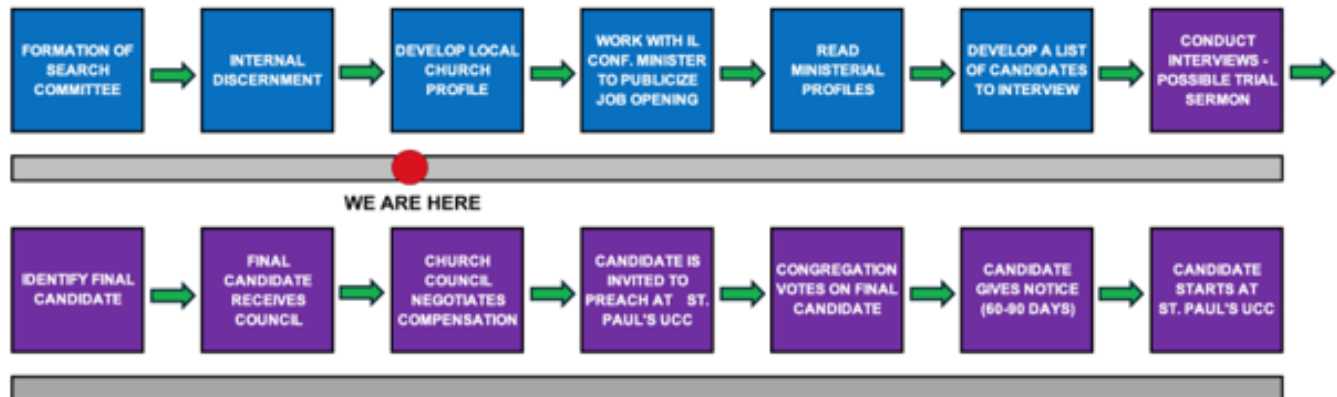
CHURCH NEWS

Pastor Search Process

The Pastoral Search Committee is a group of congregants who have volunteered their time and talents to help our church in this important mission and are the group most involved in the search for a new minister. The committee's first big job will be to complete a Local Church Profile that reflects who we are and what our priorities are as a congregation. Once our profile is published on the UCC Ministry Opportunities web page, the committee will begin to receive and review profiles of potential candidates.

Below is an overview of where we are at in the pastor search process, and what to expect as we move through the various steps. We will be updating our progress in upcoming Beacon articles with new information and details as the search continues.

PASTORAL SEARCH PROGRESS



Pastoral Search Committee

Jim Henneman	Bill Eich
Shirley Berghorn	Jennifer Good
Cathy Schmidt	Kevin Kruse
Mary Katenhusen	Regina Lombardo-Click
Lauren Henneman	Ken Thrun
Steve Tobin	

CHURCH NEWS



Here we are in September, and our summer is but a memory. I hope you have been enjoying the beautiful Columbarium area.

It has come to our attention that a lot of articles have been placed there. Although these are very endearing, we cannot allow them to stay longer than 2 weeks, or in the case of flowers, until they have died and no longer look good. We do not want to discourage this practice, but just to let you know that any removed articles will be moved to the rear of the Columbarium and you may retrieve them from there.

Perhaps you have suggestions for something permanent that could be purchased for the area for all to enjoy. This, of course, would be upon approval of the committee. I trust you understand the Columbarium committee is just trying to keep the area neat and tidy.

If you have any questions or comments, you may call Karen Hansen at 815-455-1385.



REMINDER

On October 20th, 2024, we will once again hold a congregational meeting directly after the 10 a.m. service. The main purpose of this meeting will be to elect new council members as well as BOCE members. As of this writing, we have two returning council members and no BOCE members.

It is **URGENT** that we fill these positions. Prayerfully consider donating a small amount of time and your talents to keep St. Paul's operating. We are at a crucial time in our church's history.

Wendy Manser
Council President

USHER SCHEDULE

**September
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.**

USHERS

September 22nd

Ken Hansen - Captain
Wendy Manser & John Vogt
Greeter: Sandy MacMillian
Liturgist: **TBD**

September 29th

John Whetham - Captain
Gene & Lynn Virzi
Greeters: Donna Layne-Albano
Liturgist: **TBD**

[Updated 9/13/24](#)

**October
Sunday Worship
10:00 a.m.**

USHERS

October 6th

Jim Henneman - Captain
Lauren Henneman & Elizabeth Speros
Greeter: Bill & Michelle Eich
Liturgist: **TBD**

October 13th

Sheryl Gee - Captain
Gary Gee & Jane Dawson
Greeters: Sharon Dieball
Liturgist: **TBD**

October 20th

Ken Hansen - Captain
Karen Hansen & Wendy Domanico
Greeters: Donna Butler
Liturgist: **TBD**

October 27th

John Whetham - Captain
Wendy Manser & Bill Eich
Greeter: **TBD**
Liturgist: **TBD**

ST. PAUL'S PRAYER LIST



St. Paul's Members

Ruth Costello

St. Paul's Homebound Friends

Warren Spencer, George Heck

Deceased Members and Friends

Jack Cameron

Wakan MovesCamp-Grandson-in-law of the Roxworthy's

Friends

Tom and Peg Monley, Wayne Peterson

Military - Stateside

Leland, Todd Whetham, Beth Roxworthy



Sponsored Children

Alberly (Dominican Republic), Andrian (Indonesia), Daniel W. (Indonesia), Nicole V. (Bolivia), Nicole S. (USA), Tran Thi Chin (Vietnam), Breny (Columbia), Alfred (Tanzania), Isack S. (Tanzania), Maria, Jobenta M. (Haiti), Emyli (Guatemala)

St. Paul's UCC
485 Woodstock Street, Crystal Lake, IL 60014

Phone: 815-459-5096

E-mail: info@stpaulsucccl.org | Website: www.stpaulsucc-cl.org

Follow us on Facebook & Instagram: [stpauls_ucc_cl](https://www.facebook.com/stpauls_ucc_cl)

Sunday Worship Service 10:00 a.m.
Via Facebook Live or streaming on website.

Church Office Hours | 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Monday-Friday

St. Paul's Vision

Call to serve

Our

Neighbors' and Members'

Needs by

Engaging as

Christ's people

Through service and Love

Follow Us on Social Media!

Keep up with St. Paul's latest news, information, and connection. LIKE and share our on social media.



Church Staff

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Church Council

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Donna Butler, Council Vice President

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Linda Ticknor, Secretary

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Fred Mullard, Treasurer

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Jennifer Good, Financial Secretary

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Steve Tobin

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Give the Gift of SCRIP



IN STOCK SCRIP CARDS

Amazon	5 @ \$25
BP Amoco	1 @ \$50
Best Buy	1 @ \$25
Buffalo Wild Wings	2 @ \$25
Carter's	4 @ \$25
Chili's	3 @ \$25
Chipotle	2 @ \$10
Darden (Olive Garden)	4 @ \$25
Dunkin'	5 @ \$10
Home Depot	1 @ \$100
Jewel	8 @ \$25/12 @ \$100
LL Bean	1 @ \$100
Mariano's	4 @ \$50
Menards	2 @ \$100
Shell	6 @ \$50
Speedway	4 @ \$25/1 @ \$100
Starbucks	7 @ \$10
Steinmart	1 @ \$25
Subway	3 @ \$10
Synergy (Mobile)	4 @ \$50
TJ Maxx (Sierra, HomeGoods, Marshall)	1 @ \$100
Ulta	1 @ \$25
Walmart	2 @ \$100—/10 @ \$250

If you need any of the above cards, they can be dropped off at church for pick up. If you want to order any particular cards, please let me know. As always, checks are made payable to St. Paul's. **Karen Radovich nuknees@mc.net**

EASY AND CONVENIENT

These products make it easy to earn on the go.

PrestoPay™

The secure online payment system for families that lets them pay for orders and receive e-gift cards and reload their cards immediately.

MyScripWallet™

Our mobile website where families can buy physical gift cards, reloads, and eGift cards. Directly onto their phones great for when you are in line at a store. you can reload or buy cards to go straight to your phone!