

February 2023

Issue 102

Volume 2

Sharing Good News

St. Paul's UCC Delano, Minnesota



Did you know?

Pastors Who Have Served St. Paul's

1879 to 1883	REV. LANGE, (traveling pastor)
1883 to 1891	REV. UHLMAN
1891 to 1892	REV. C. MAYER
1892 to 1900	REV. K. ZEYER
1900 to 1905	REV. F. BRENNECKE
1905 to 1906	REV. BEIRSDORF
1906 to 1910	REV. C. RAASE
1910 to 1918	REV. WILLIAM WELTGE
1918 to 1941	REV. ED. MERZ
1942 to 1946	REV. H. KEHLE
1946 to 1950	REV. J. G. MEINERS
1950 to 1957	REV. OTTO RAPP
1957 to 1957	REV. HARRY STROESSNER
1958 to 1963	REV. CLYDE M. LEE
1963 to 1967	REV. JAMES PARKER
1968 to 1974	REV. A. A. KOSOWER
1974 to 1989	REV. GERHARD MEINERS
1989 to 1990	REV. RONALD ZIEMER
1990 to 1995	REV. WAYNE DALTON
1996 to 2003	REV. JEFF HAGAMAN
2004 to 2006	REV. KEN IHA
2007 to 2011	REV. RICHARD FLYNN
2012	REV. NANCY
2013 to present	REV. BRIDGET HAEFNER

Birthdays

02/17 Tracy Gripentrog

02/20 Joyce Specht

02/28 Sarah Czech

Dates to be Noted

02/05 Communion

02/14 Valentine's Day

02/19 Annual Meeting (following fellowship)

02/20 Presidents' Day

***Fellowship Hosts**

02/05 Hagerty

02/12 Open

02/19 Potluck

02/26 Open

Council Member Election

If interested in standing for one of the two council seats will be put forward at the Annual Meeting. Outgoing council members may wish to stand for another term. They will advise on the day of the annual meeting. Voting will ensue.

New Members Inducted on January 22, 2022



Front Row: Laura, Charlotte, Will and Ben Johnson Second Row: Gretchen Stewart, Pastor Bridget Haefner and Michael Johnson. Third Row: James Woiwar, Peter Lucht, GERALYN Lucht and Kevin Handt.

A big thanks to all of you who participated at the Helping Hands Delano (food shelf) in January. We helped many families packing up their food items and placing them in their vehicles.

If you want to participate in the future, we are scheduled for next January in 2024.

EcoSense

Coal giving way to renewables.

Wind, solar will be chief source of electricity by 2025.

The International Energy Agency (IEA) recently released a report that stated the growth in renewable power capacity is set to double by 2027, worldwide, and that renewables are poised to overtake coal as the largest source of electricity generation by early 2025. This is being driven in large part by the global energy crisis linked to the war in Ukraine. Fatih Birol, the IEA executive director said in a news release, “This is a clear example of how the current energy crisis can be a historic turning point toward a cleaner and more secure energy system.”

The report revised last year’s forecast of renewable growth upward by 30% after the introduction of new policies by some of the world’s largest emitters, like the European Union, the United States, and China. Over the next 5 years the global energy crisis is expected to accelerate renewable energy growth as countries embrace low-emissions technology in response to soaring fossil fuel prices. These technologies include wind turbines, solar panels, nuclear power, hydrogen fuels, electric vehicles, and electric heat pumps.

The United States passed the Inflation Reduction Act in 2022 that, among many investments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, made an “unforeseen” expansion in long-term tax credits for solar and wind projects extending through 2032, according to Heymi Bahar, a senior analyst at the IEA, and a lead author of the report. Previously, these tax credits had been revised a few years at a time. Extending the credits until 2032 provides better certainty for investors, which is important in the energy industry.

The recent momentum in renewable energy growth is not enough to help the world limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, said Doug Vine, director of energy analysis at the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions. Scientists have calculated that meeting the 1.5 degree goal would require countries to curb or offset all carbon dioxide emissions by 2050. “We are still not there,” Bahar said, but the agency’s new report indicates that narrowing the gap is “within the reach of government policies and actions.”

This article was written by Elena Shao of the New York Times, and found by Mike Hagerty



Lani Brown-Worley gave James Woiwor a check from our church donating \$2,500 to the Well Water Improvement Program in Liberia.

St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Council Meeting Minutes
January 8th, 2023

Call to Order- Dave @ 11:01AM

Additions or Deletions to Agenda- None

Review and approval of Council Minutes from December 11, 2022.

Jim motioned to accept minutes with one additional Meeting date added, Judy seconded, motion carried. Mike will update and send to office.

Review and approval of financial statements- Finished up end of year issues. Good cash position with nice year end contributions. Shala motioned to accept Financial Statements, Mike made a second and motion carried.

Pastor's Report- Christmas season suggestions for next year would be to add more voices in the services. Next Bible Study will be "Acts" and the date is TBD. Bridget will write up for Newsletter.

Newsletter Ideas- Still need more input. Maybe publish less frequently? Personal stories? Background on Members? Newsletter Captain?

Old Business

Website/Social Media improvement update by Mike & Jim – no year-end update. Church clean- up ongoing (spider webs, ice issues, ice dams). Maybe salt/sand avail at doors. Orange caution cones? Dave will attack source of snow on roof.

New Business

Celebrate new members on 1/22/23 with Pancake Breakfast; budget planning meeting to follow breakfast.

Culturally Responsive Dinner 2023 plans. Lani will advise going forward. Will have more at church this year with special occasions at the Barn.

Charlie Leck pew cards – Need sample to approve and present at Annual Meeting. Annual Meeting = 2/19/23

Donation envelopes for UCC offerings – Bridget will check with UCC and advise. No Christmas fund donation for 2022.

Library plan update – in progress and- Shala to keep us advised.

Envelopes will no longer be provided for St Pauls' in Delano. There are old ones available.

Fundraising will continue in January for a well to provide clean water in Liberia.

Goal is \$2500. A motion was made by Mike to have the church cover any financial shortfall to reach our goal. Shala offered a second and motion carried.

No new Council meeting set at this time. Dave made a motion to adjourn, Jim offered a second and motion carried at 12:19 PM.

***February Cultural Responsive Dinner

On Saturday, February 25 we will study and celebrate the people, culture, and food of **Puerto Rico**. Unlike all other cultural dinners, the people of Puerto Rico are citizens of the United States.

Located directly north of Venezuela between the Caribbean Sea and the Atlantic Ocean, someone leaving Miami, Florida would travel between Cuba and the Bahamas, pass Haiti and the Dominican Republic to reach the capitol city of San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Tourists remark that the food of Puerto Rico is not hot and spicy as some may suspect. This is good news to many of us as we have experienced overly spicy food with some cultures. Puerto Rico dishes will be very appealing to our more sensitive taste buds.

For our Cultural Responsive dinners the Church Council decided we will move to the fellowship hall in the church during the winter months.

At 4:00 people, who are interested in learning about the history of Puerto Rico starting with Columbus, can meet to watch a video and discuss the details.

At 5:00 we will start the dinner putting out the Puerto Rican foods to sample while listening to the music of the country. Next, we will respond to ten questions for discussion as we have in previous times, covering immigration, contributions to the arts, politics, and literature, and the positive and negative impacts of immigration and relationships to the mainland.

Finally, we will discuss other cultures for future months and vote for our next country. This summer we have a family of immigrants from Bangladesh who have agreed to share their stories.

You will soon receive an email with assorted Puerto Rican recipes for your consideration. Select one of those to make or research others for you to bring to the dinner. Remember those who prefer not to cook can donate money for paper products used at the dinners.



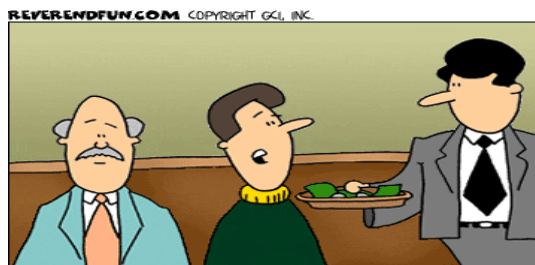
Financial Review

January 1—31, 2023

Income (offerings): \$10,076

Total Expenses: \$ 4,947

Total Income: \$ 5,129



NO THANKS ... I'VE GOT PLENTY

Sharing Good News

*St. Paul's United Church of Christ
201 Buffalo Street
P.O. Box 187
Delano, MN 55328*

February 2023



Pastor Bridget Haefner

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Pastor Phone: (952) 457-1085



Pastor Bridget's Usual Office Hours

Mondays: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Thursdays: 9:30 am - 11:30 pm

(Other times as requested. Call Bridget anytime!)

All are welcome at our in-person services, Sundays at 9:15 AM, or a Zoom link is also available.

Email: delanoucc@gmail.com