

Progressive Spirit

news

ST. PAUL'S United Church of Christ
602 Garfield St., Laramie, WY 82070
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AUGUST – VOLUME 10, ISSUE 8

Pastor's Post



I'm struggling a bit as I sit here, because I know I have an article to write, but I want to read my book!!!! Seriously, I have attended a few meetings recently that have left me with a lot to think about, consider, and bring to St. Paul's. I'm also distracted this week, because I'm at my baby sister's house, and my niece is about to come with my great niece and a great nephew.

I'm excited, as I get to meet our newest two members of the family. What can be a better way to have a vacation?

I attended the Open and Affirming Conference in Milwaukee. I also attended as part of that conference OWL (Our Whole Lives) training, so I can now partner with someone from the UU church in Laramie to provide the training. OWL is sexuality training (DO NOT think old school, health class). I am excited to finally be trained as a facilitator. Look for more information once we are able to develop a schedule.

August

- August 4
 - Pat Slentz, guest
- August 11
 - Communion Sunday
- August 20 – 21
 - Rev. Ken Denver for class
- August 25
 - Council Meeting
- August 29
 - Back to School Bash, Undine Park 4-7 PM

All events are in the Church or Church Basement, unless otherwise noted.

I was also able to attend a Faithful Innovation conference in Minneapolis. One of the good things about attending the conference was that I was awarded a scholarship by our association to attend. So other than my being away, the cost to St. Paul's was very minimal. I got to spend a few days visiting a friend while in Minneapolis. The conference gave me some ideas I want to bring to the council. This conference was not about changing worship, but about ways that we may be able to do more for our community, and ways to bring our presence to a larger audience.

One thing I would like to begin in September, besides the return of Sunday School and the start of Bible Study, is perhaps going out to lunch at least once a month after worship on Sundays. I will take a poll and ask what might be a good place.

Speaking of Bible Study, we will begin bible study at 9:00 am on Sunday, September 8. We will start with The Ten Commandments. If any of our congregation would like to lead some of the sessions, I have the materials all ready to go. Otherwise, you will see me on Sunday mornings at 9:00. I am not sure we will be able to meet every week, but I would hope to meet often. At our first meeting, we will set a schedule. Plan to attend and learn and grow together. I'm excited about this, as I have been wanting to offer another class or something like we have done in the past. I feel that together we can determine the path of our studies, and will set what our next topic will be. Of course, we can't cover the 10 commandments in one session, so this will be a multi week bible study. You DO NOT have to attend each session to be a part of this bible study

As a congregation, we can explore ways to do discipleship, how to be disciples, and explore opportunities. I have a couple of ideas I will be talking with the church council about. Keep an eye out for some opportunities coming up soon.

I Sought the Lord, and he answered me, and delivered me from all my fears. Look to him, and be radiant; so your face shall never be ashamed. This poor soul cried, and was heard by the Lord, and saved from every trouble.

Psalm 34: 4-6

Peace, and Blessings to all,
Rev. Ken

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS



- 10 – Aeslin Mattimoe
- 13 - Paul Cors

If your birthday is not listed, then our directory is not updated with your information. Please let the church know your current contact information, address, phone and birthday/anniversary at stpucc@gmail.com



St. Paul's had a birthday, and next year will be BIG!!

St. Paul's was founded in 1886. On July 13, 1890, the cornerstone was placed at St. Paul's. That was 129 years ago! Who knows, we may be the same size now as the founders of St. Paul's in 1890.

The contents of the cornerstone in 1890:

Copies of the Lutheran Catechism
Church papers
The Lutheran Observer
The Evangelist and the Hausfreund
Copies of the Sentinel and the Times
The minutes of the Synod
The Boomerang
The Book or Rules Governing the Synod
History of the Congregation.



This list was taken from the Laramie Daily Boomerang, dated July 17, 1890

Betty Holmes is writing a book for our 130th anniversary. Also, if you have any historical items or pictures from St. Paul's at home, and would like to get them to included, see Betty.



Worship calendar:

August 2019 Worship Calendar and Church Happenings

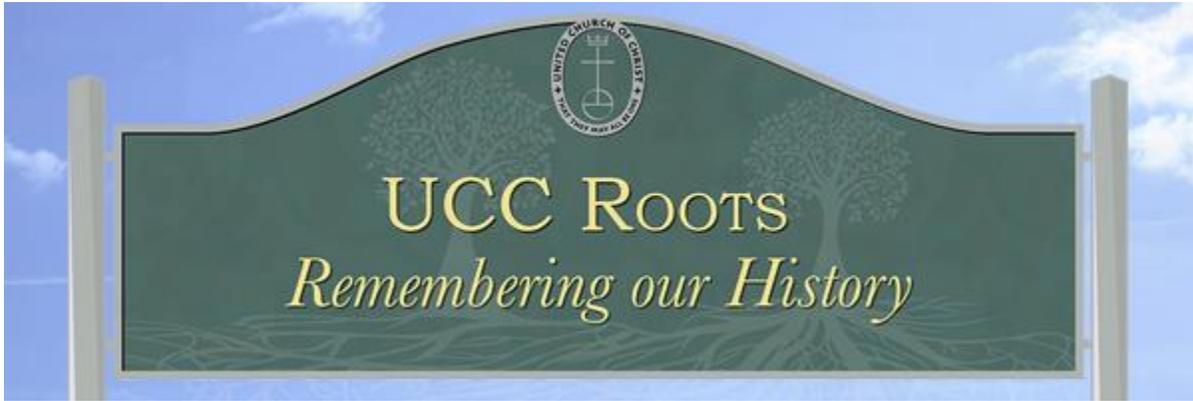
- August 4
 - Guest Preacher – Pat Slentz
 - Worship Leader: Crystal Ballard
- August 11
 - Worship Leader: Aeslin Mattimoe
 - Accompanist: Nathan Sonnenschein
 - NCH 433: In The Bulb There Is A Flower
 - NCH 486: I Must Tell Jesus
 - MV 216: Wherever You May Go
 - Communion
 - NCH 330: Let Us Break Bread Together
 - Psalm 50:1-8,22-23; Luke 12:32-40
- August 18
 - Worship Leader: Brianna Given
 - Accompanist: Sean Stone
 - NCH 475: God's Eye Is On The Sparrow
 - NCH 541: The Asked "Who's My Neighbor"
 - MV 222: May The Peace of God Be Your Peace
 - Jerimiah 23:23-29 and Psalm 82; Luke 12:49-56
- August 25
 - Worship Leader:
 - Accompanist: Nathan Sonnenschein
 - NCH 563: We Cannot Own The Sunlit Sky
 - NCH 312: We Love Your Realm, O God
 - SING 213: Wherever You May Go
 - Psalm 71:1-6; Luke 13:10-17

Flower Chart Sign-ups

There is a flower sign up chart downstairs in the social hall. If you would like to bring flowers for the altar, sign up. After services, you can take the flowers home, or leave them for the next week.

Memoirs/Memories of *St. Paul's United Church of Christ* - Laramie, Wyoming History Book Project

In honor of the 130 year history of St. Paul's Church, a history book is being completed. One section of the book will include memoirs/memories from individuals and families who attended the church over the 130 year church history. If you are interested in being included in the book, please click here to go to the [link on the webpage](#).



She Answered a Call that Seemed Impossible

It was South Carolina in the 1930s. The young woman was always interested in ministry, but she was told that it was impossible for a woman to be a minister. Yet some people encouraged her. She went to church. She studied her Bible. And she was inspired by a black woman who preached in a nearby African American church.

At age eighteen Murdale Cameron Leysath (1924-2013) went to New York City and worked in a Settlement House. A few years later she went back to South Carolina and earned a bachelor's degree in psychology and sociology. From 1945-1948 she worked as a social worker. Yet her sense of calling to ordained ministry persisted. In 1950, she met a Vermont forester (Elwin Leysath). They married and moved to Rutland, VT, joining Grace Congregational Church and becoming part of the United Church of Christ.



Murdale Leysath enjoyed the flexibility of her new church and she sought to reclaim her call to ordained ministry. Her problem was seminary. How could she be ordained without a seminary degree? In spite of that barrier she was encouraged to enroll in the Layman's School at Lancaster Theological Seminary in PA during the summers. The UCC Conference minister in Vermont created a curriculum for her and lined up tutors to coach her. The Women's fellowship raised money to underwrite her travels. Finally, after ten years, in 1965 the Conference declared its desire to ordain her.

As a pastor she helped several local churches unite and expand their mission. She chaired educational programs for Vermont. She served on the Conference Board. Knowledge of her energy and leadership spread.

In 1977 Murdale Leysath became Associate Conference Minister in northern Michigan. From 1982 to 1989 she was Conference Minister of the Minnesota Conference, becoming the first female Conference Minister in the United Church of Christ. Her story is something to celebrate.

Contributor: Barbara Brown Zikmund

St. Paul's
United Church of Christ
602 Garfield St.
Laramie, WY 82070

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:00 a.m.



St. Paul's UCC

Our Mission:

*To be an emphatically inclusive,
progressive community
on the Path of Christ,
seeking justice and peace for all Creation
through creative ceremony and celebration,
soulful questioning,
and acts of compassion and service.*

Rev. Kenneth Ingram
720-289-2394
revken1957@gmail.com
Rev. Ken's hours:
Tue, Wed, Thur, Fri and Sunday
mornings – call first to confirm

IF YOU KNOW OF ANY
ACTIVITIES AROUND TOWN
THAT YOU WOULD LIKE
MENTIONED IN THE WEEKLY
UPDATE OR THE NEWSLETTER,
PLEASE SEND THE
INFORMATION TO REV. KEN AT
STPUCC@GMAIL.COM