

# The Epistle of St. Paul's

July 2024

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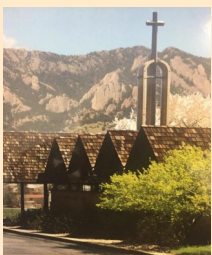
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## *From The Pastor's Desk...*

This month marks the start of our sixth year together at St. Paul's. I marvel at this in part because this is the third-longest period that I've lived anywhere in my life and the second-longest place that I've served during my ministerial career.

July will see the beginning of my annual summer sermon series. The series, inspired by *Peculiar Treasures: A Biblical Who's Who* by Frederick Buechner, will invite us to consider how people just like us, people with flaws and strengths, hopes and fears, emotional baggage and spiritual gifts, have something to share and teach us. This year's series looks at some of the persons found in the scriptures who perhaps don't get as much attention as those whose names adorn buildings and who are depicted in art and hymns. From the Old Testament we will hear about Balaam, Bathsheba, Gehazi, and Gideon, while the stories of Onesimus, Zaccheus, and Festus will come from the New Testament.

There will be moments in these sermons that will give us cause to chuckle and learn something new, hopefully something from each of these persons and their stories that will enable us to see our own faith journey anew. At least that is what I am hoping will happen!

My hope is that by sharing these stories, we will come to the realization that each of us has a story to tell. Some of our stories are familiar to those with whom we share our fellowship. We have shared with others what is important in our faith and in our relationships with the faith community. We have shared and made known how we see God and the importance, or lack thereof, of that same God in our lives. Other parts of our story are only available as seen through the eyes of those who have known us and shared their impressions of us and our faith with people we may never know.

As we begin a new month, I encourage each of us to give serious consideration to the attitudes, activities, and beliefs that illustrate our relationship with God and with the faith community. Someone is going to tell your story. It's up to you to make sure the story is told accurately and well.

Every blessing, *Pastor Charles*

**Ladies Lunch Bunch** will meet on Thursday, July 11, at 11:45 a.m. at Parma Trattoria & Mozzarella Bar (Village Shops at Colony Square, 1132 W. Dillon Road, Louisville). We are not meeting on Thursday, July 4, as it is a holiday. Please R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, July 9, to Suzanne Polacek (Suzanne.Polacek@gmail.com / 303-709-6676).

**Breakfast Fellowship** will meet on **Saturday, July 13**, at 8:00 a.m. at Le Peep (2525 Arapahoe Ave, Boulder, next to McGuckin's hardware). No reservations necessary. All are welcome!

**Women's Summer Book Group** meets weekly via **Zoom on Thursdays from 3:00 to 4:30**. We are reading and discussing *Somehow – Thoughts on Love* by Anne Lamott. The book is available on Amazon and in local bookstores. Please join us if you enjoy lively and interesting discussion. Belinda will be happy to send you the Zoom link.

**Hank Troy will provide music for the service on July 21. We will have an ICE CREAM SOCIAL during Fellowship Time after the service that day.**

**Virtual Adult Mission u Study: "Welcome Home"  
2024 Summer – Free Online Study**

**Dates:** July 9, 16, 23, 30 (Tuesdays)

**Times:** 7:00 to 9:30 p.m.

**Study Leader:** Janeen Hill

**Study Book:** *Welcome Home*

**Study Description:** This study explores how we can know God as an intimate friend who welcomes us. The study leads participants outward so that what starts in our homes expands to welcoming others to join us in our work as co-creators to establish God's kin-dom on earth. Save the dates!

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

## Free Virtual Book Discussion with Author Susan Mettes

**Host:** National Office of United Women in Faith

**Format:** Via Zoom

**Date:** August 6, 2024, 5:00-6:00 p.m.

**Book:** *"The Loneliness Epidemic: Why So Many of Us Feel Alone and How Leaders Can Respond"*

Join United Women in Faith members and friends for a special book discussion with author Susan Mettes. Pre-reading of the book is not required, but it will enrich your experience of the author's talk. Registration is accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. The link for online registration will be in News You Can Use.

**Questions?** Contact Belinda Alkula at 303-916-2349 / Belinda.Alkula@gmail.com.



United  
Women  
in Faith

**St. Paul's former pastor Ed Paup's eldest daughter, Tammy Paup, passed away on Father's Day.** While Ed was serving at St. Paul's, Tammy received a kidney transplant; nevertheless, she wasn't expected to live past age 12. She died at age 56. She lived with her mother, who has been her close companion and sole caregiver since Ed's passing in 2012. Please keep her mother, sisters, and extended family in your prayers.

If you'd like to send a note or card to the family, Carol's address is 1101 Calle del Valle, Rio Communities, NM 87002. **The service of celebration for Tammy will take place at 11:00 a.m. on August 3** at FUMC of Belen, Belen, NM. Tammy's family hopes the service will be live-streamed, but that is yet to be decided. Watch News You Can Use for more details.

### July Birthdays

7-1 Michele Matthews  
7-3 Marcia Roberts  
7-14 Heidi Soha  
7-15 Bobby Dahlstrom  
7-18 Austin Cooper  
7-22 Steve Batch  
7-23 Scott Glancy  
7-24 Marcia Hult  
7-26 Joyce Brandon

### July Anniversaries

Larry Esposito and Diane McKnight  
07-26-1975

### **JULY PREACHING SCHEDULE**

*This month Pastor Charles begins  
his summer sermon series.*

#### **July 7**

*"On the road with Balaam's A\*\*"*  
Numbers 22:1-14 and 22:22-35

#### **July 14**

*"Gideon should have known better"*  
Exodus 20:1-11, Judges 8:22-26

#### **July 21**

*"Bathsheba's question"*  
2 Samuel 11:1-4a and 12:16-24a, 1 Kings 1:28-37

#### **July 28**

*"Don't annoy the prophet (like Gehazi did)"*  
2 Kings 5:1-27

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