

The Epistle of St. Paul's

June 2024

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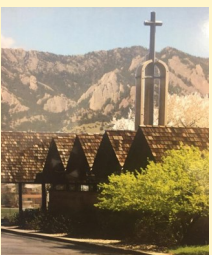
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From The Pastor's Desk...

Nine years ago, in June 2015, I was on a journey that I had dreamed of for many years. I went on a pilgrimage to Ávila, Spain, the birthplace Teresa Sánchez de Cepeda y Ahumada, known as Teresa of Jesus to her contemporaries and more commonly as Teresa of Ávila to us today. That year, 2015, was the 500th anniversary of the birth of "The Saint," as she is known in Spain. Each June, I revisit this pilgrimage in my mind and once again find myself wandering the streets of Madrid, Córdoba, Seville, Granada, Toledo, and Ávila. While in Spain, I saw historical sites, visited numerous museums and cultural sites, and immersed myself in all things connected with this amazing woman. (Go on the trip with me by visiting the entries for June 2015 on the Alkula blog at <https://alkula.blogspot.com/2015/06/>.)

I had developed a fondness for this sixteenth-century Carmelite nun, church reformer, and mystic when I discovered one of her writings, *The Interior Castle*, in seminary. This book opened my eyes to the understanding that faith, church, religion, spirituality, and so on are all mere terms used to explain that there is more, much more, to our God than we have allowed ourselves to know or experience. You have heard me say many times in the past five years that prayer, faith formation, and worship are essential activities for anyone calling themselves a Christian. I would put it to you that a pilgrimage is another essential aspect of our spiritual growth. Some pilgrimages, like mine, involve travel to distant places; others involve walking a labyrinth or reading a spiritual classic. Faith, you see, is a way of life, and it is never meant to be static or stagnant.

Here is one of my favorite quotes from St. Teresa, a reminder to us all that we are in a state of constant spiritual formation and that we are being formed in the likeness of God for the service of our God:

"May today there be peace within. May you trust God that you are exactly where you are meant to be. May you not forget the infinite possibilities that are born of faith. May you use those gifts that you have received and pass on the love that has been given to you. May you be content knowing you are a child of God. Let this presence settle into your bones, and allow your soul the freedom to sing, dance, praise and love. It is there for each and every one of us."

My pilgrimage was but one way to grow in faith. As we bring our fifth year together to a close this month, I hope and pray that you will discover the way that leads you closer in your walk with God and with the St. Paul's UMC community.

Every blessing, *Pastor Charles*

Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, June 6, at 11:45 a.m. at Murphy's Tap House (585 McCaslin Blvd., Louisville). Please R.S.V.P. by Tuesday, June 4, to Michele Matthews (mlmatt@comcast.net / 303-817-2541).

Breakfast Fellowship will meet on **Saturday, June 8**, 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 Update

There will be a Zoom meeting **Thursday, June 13, at 3:00 p.m.** to get organized. We'll decide on this summer's book, get a meeting schedule set, and just generally check in with each other. If you have been a part of this group before, Belinda will send you the Zoom link. If you are joining us for the first time (welcome!), let Belinda (belinda.alkula@gmail.com) know; she'll be sure you get the link to join the meeting. All are encouraged to bring book suggestions; if you can let Belinda know the titles of suggested books by Tuesday, June 11, , she can work her magic and have the information ready to present to the group. Thursday, June 13 at 3:00 p.m.—put it on your calendar!

Calling all musicians, friends of musicians, family members of musicians, and lovers of music—we need your help filling out the summer special music calendar. If you or anyone you know would be interested and willing to provide special music this summer, please let Amy Abshire know at amy_abshire@msn.com. Currently, every Sunday except July 21 is available! Thanks in advance for your help.

Sew What is on hiatus for the summer months.

Meetings will resume in September.

Long-time St. Paul's member Ann Abbott died May 3, 2024.

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!

Social Media @ St. Paul’s UMC

If you want to know what is happening this summer at St. Paul's UMC, go to our social media platforms for news, information, and just plain fun! We have a blog, a Facebook page, Flickr photo albums, a website (which includes our up-to-date calendar), and a YouTube channel.

BLOG: On our blog, www.bolderstpauls.blogspot.com, we keep an active journal of the life of the St. Paul’s UMC. Here you’ll find announcements, pictures of church events, and much more!

FACEBOOK: Like & share the good news of St. Paul’s on our Facebook page, @Boulderstpauls.

FLICKR: If a picture is worth a thousand words, imagine what more than 2,300 photos has to say! We have photos from the life and ministries of St. Paul’s, which is a great way to stay current with what is going on at the church or just to stroll down memory lane. Visit www.flickr.com/photos/191486305@N02.

YOUTUBE: Visit our YouTube channel, @st.paulsunitedmethodistchu3647, for videos of our worship services. We also have playlists with Wesleyan hymns, United Methodist history, and so much more. Be sure to like the videos you watch!

WEBSITE: Our website, www.stpaulsboulder.com, contains a wealth of information including an up-to-date calendar that illustrates the life of our congregation.

YELP*: Give us some love by giving a Yelp* review!

GOOGLE / GOOGLE MAPS / MAPQUEST: Go to Google.com & Google Maps and give us a review. Visit Mapquest and make St. Paul’s United Methodist Church a favorite destination!

June Birthdays

6-4 Jessica Sawyer
6-4 Diana Meade
6-12 Steve Bainbridge
6-26 Betty Herrell

June Anniversaries

6-1 Dennis and Marcia Hult
6-12 John and Lorie Courier
6-13 Steve and Sandy Bainbridge
6-20 Tim and Sandi Cook
6-23 Jim and Joey Vander Vorste
6-25 Austin and Joan Cooper
6-30 Don and Peggy Fritschel

JUNE PREACHING SCHEDULE

June 2

"What is the cost of Sabbath?"
2 Corinthians 4:5-12, Mark 2:23-3:6

June 9

"A stockpile of glory"
Mark 3:20-35, 2 Corinthians 4:13-21

June 16

"Let it sow, let it sow, let it sow"
2 Corinthians 5:6-10, Mark 4:26-34

June 23

Rev. Janeen Hill preaching

June 30

"The power that is present"
2 Corinthians 8:7-15, Mark 5:21, 24b-34

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