



ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH
August 20th, 2023

*Through Faith, we walk on the path Jesus set for us.
The people of St. Paul's Belong... Believe... Love... Listen... Lead.*



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WE APPROACH OUR GRACIOUS GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME VU 415 God We Praise You for the Morning (verses 1&4) (1L)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY

We proudly and lovingly acknowledge the land and territory that we stand and pray on as a congregation and family of the church. We acknowledge and pray for the peoples, ancestors and presence of the Indigenous peoples of the traditional territory of Treaty #8 and Metis Region 6. Together we will live as treaty people, together we will help each other live as faithful stewards of God's creation.

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

**In the dog days of the summer,
we gather to worship, to have the fire of the Spirit lit in our souls.**
In this season of growth, as the earth puts out food,
we gather to worship, to be fed and energized.
As followers of Christ, we greet each other with Christ's peace...

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

We light this candle as a sign of God's Spirit at work in the world,
may its light brighten our spirits, may the light of God shining through us brighten the world.
As Spirit-filled people we open our hearts to God's presence.

OPENING PRAYER

Wellspring of Joy, overflow our lives with hope.
**In this time of worship, may we drink deeply of your refreshing welcome.
Lighten the burden of cares that weigh upon us.
May we carry your welcome into the world, bearing the face of Christ to those we meet. Amen**
(Written by Wetaskiwin Writers <https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer>)

Gathering Hymn VU 402 We Are One (CCLI)

WE SHARE AS GOD'S CHILDREN THE BIBLE'S STORY IN WORD AND IN SONG:

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER FOR & ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Gracious God, you blow life's breath into our lungs.
We live in you, we live through you.
You call us to live lives marked by forgiveness, love, hope, compassion.

And we strive to do so.

But if we are honest,

sometimes our lives are marked by resentment, dis-interest, fear, self-centeredness

God of Grace,

when we get it right celebrate with us, when we miss the mark gently guide us back to the path of wisdom.

...time of silent prayer...

God is gracious and merciful. God celebrates our successes and mourns our mis-steps. God continues to call us back to the Way with forgiveness and grace and mercy.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

- ❖ Genesis 45:1-15
- ❖ Psalm 133
- ❖ Romans 11:1-2a,29-32
- ❖ Matthew 15:10-28

A MOMENT OF REFLECTION

(trusting that God is at work in our midst we allow the words we have heard to settle and stir in our souls)

SERMON *Did I Hear That Right?*

Hymn VU 288 Great is Thy Faithfulness (1L)

WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD AND PREPARE FOR MINISTRY IN THE

THE OFFERING

Mission Minute - [Being There for Refugees and Migrants in Morocco](#)

The Invitation:

Sung Dedication VU 537 Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands (PD)

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

LORD'S PRAYER

Hymn MV 154 Deep in Our Hearts (1L)

COMMISSIONING:

God calls us all beloved.

We go to love what God loves.

Accept your calling to love, to heal, to seek justice, and to reconcile.

We answer God's call in all we say and do.

The courage of Christ attend you.

The love of God surround you.

The Holy Spirit guide you.

Amen.

(Written by *Wetaskiwin Writers* <https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer>)

SUNG BENEDICTION: VU 298 When You Walk from Here (1L) (Sung Twice)

POSTLUDE

Announcements

Ministry by: *The Congregation*

Enabling Minister: *Rev. Gord Waldie* Church Office: *Carla Johnson*

Telephone: *(780-532-2415)* Email: stpaulsucgp@gmail.com

Sunday School: *Your name here?*

Youth Ministry: *Your name here?* Music Director: *Alison White.*

If you have a prayer request, please write it down in our prayer book on the table at the entrance into worship. Your needs will be added to our community prayer.

Thank you

If you have noticed someone missing from our congregation, please contact them by phone or visit them in person. You may be their "angel"

***** NEW EMAIL ADDRESS FOR THE OFFICE *****

Please note that we are moving to a new email address for the office.

So please start using stpaulsucgp@gmail.com

For Emails and E Transfers!

Rev. Gord will be away on holidays from July 17- August 20th -During this time please call the office for Pastoral Care concerns and Carla will forward them to the right person.

Thinking About Financial Stewardship in the Summer "Like the Sower, sometimes we share our time, talents, and money in places or with people where growth is not possible. Sometimes we feel our efforts choked out by thorns; sometimes our endeavours spring up but end up being scorched. But when we share ourselves generously, patiently, and consistently, we do find good soil." (UC worship resource) In the summer we often have the opportunity to offer generous hospitality. Look around the sanctuary, Is there someone you could invite to the social time after the service? Your generosity counts wherever and however it is happens.
Martha for the Stewardship and Finance Team

We are in need of Scripture Readers and Door Greeters every Sunday. Please sign the lists in the foyer if you would like to volunteer to help during the worship services.

Moved?? New to the Church??

If you have moved, or you are new to the Church, please stop by the church office or send Carla a quick email (stpaulsucgp@gmail.com) with your new details so we can keep our records up to date! Thank you! .

ATTENTION ALL HOUSEHOLDS

Have you joined St. Paul's Recyclable program yet?

St. Paul's has an easy fund raiser to help with the Church renovations. All you need to do is bag up all your empty bottles, cans and milk jugs and put our **church id # 1468-2415** visible on each bag and drop them off at the bottle depot on Resources Road and before you leave, check in with the cashier and let them know how many bags/boxes on bottles/can you dropped off.

We're planning ahead for another **fruit pie making fundraiser** this fall, and we will gratefully accept donations of fruit throughout these summer months.

Please put bags of berries and cut up fruit in the upright freezer in the downstairs kitchen. **Please do not add spices, or sugar... just the fruit!** 🍊 🍓 🍒 🍎 🍌 🍇

FUN"draiser: Celebrations can be recognized and shared by renting the LED sign for a day or week. Contact Carla in the office for more details, samples etc. We are offering this at \$10.00/day or \$50.00 / week
Birthdays / Anniversaries / Mother's Day / Father's Day / New House / New Baby / Graduation / or any other celebration / special recognition you can think of.

SAVE THE DATES:

Sound Bath – 7:00 pm – Wednesday –August 23rd and 30th

Join Liz in the Large basement - North East doors will be open 6:45

Relax, Release, Renew... experience the soothing sounds of Alchemy Crystal Bowls!

Bring whatever you need to feel comfortable while lying or sitting; Cost: donation (suggested \$20)

SPECIAL DATES / INFORMATION ITEMS:

Mon., Aug 21st – 2 pm – 8 pm - Drop off day for Garage Sale

Tue., Aug 22nd – 9 am – 5 pm Sorting and pricing garage sale items

Wed., Aug. 23rd 9 am – 5 pm - Sorting and pricing garage sale items

Wed., Aug. 23rd – 7:00 pm - Sound Bath

Thu Aug 24th – 9 am – 5 pm Sorting and pricing garage sale items

Thu., Aug. 24th – 5 pm - 8 pm - Garage sale opens

Fri., Aug 25th – 9 am – 8 pm - Garage sale open

Fri., Aug. 25th - cancelled -Pizza 'n' Games Night – we're at Garage Sale 😊

Sat., Aug 26th – 10 am - 1:00 pm - Garage sale (then clean up until done)

Wed., Aug. 30th – 4:00 – 7:00 pm Value Village FUNDrive Bag your clothing, coats, boots, shoes, linens, purses, belts and/or bedding and drop off in church parking lot.

Wed., Aug. 30th – 7:00 pm - Sound Bath

Thu., Sept 1st – Deadline for newsletter coming out on September 4th

Theme: *The United Church of Canada seeks to be a church of communities united in inspiring worship.*

Wed., Sept 6th – 1:30 – UCW meeting – in the Friendship Room All ladies welcome, no more "Units"

Fri., Sept 8th - 102 St Stitchers – 9 am – 12:00 noon – in the Friendship Rm

Sun., Sep. 10th – Sunday School Kickoff Sunday

Sun., Sep. 10th – 2:30 pm - Sunday FUN Day at the Dawson Property

Tue., Sept 12th – 7:00 pm – 8:30 pm - Registration and Fun Night for Explorers and CGIT

Wed., Sep 13th to Sun., Sep 17th – Women's Weekend at Camp Wohelo n Pigeon Lake. Registration deadline September 6th. Registration is now open. [Information poster can be found here](#) **Registration deadline is Sept., 6, 2023.** Make sure to claim your spot. Options for 4, 3, or 2 nights available - rates listed on the attached [registration form](#). We've chosen a theme of "Blast from the Past" and hope to spend some time reminiscing about past events and all the joy we've shared at Wohelo as this could well be the last one.

?? ANYONE GOING TO ABBOTSFORD, BC ??

November "10000 Villages" Sale

Neither Edmonton, nor Calgary are able to supply items for a sale this year. Donna Macklin is talking with Abbotsford but shipping costs are prohibitive. So, they are wondering if there is anyone travelling close to Abbotsford or coming from Abbotsford that could bring some boxes of items to hold a sale in November.

If you might be able to help, please call Donna Macklin 780-532-0677.

Community News

RESIDENTS INVITED TO SUBMIT MEMORIES TO SAY FAREWELL TO THE LEISURE CENTRE

The City of Grande Prairie invites residents to submit stories, photos and memories until September 8, 2023 to celebrate the Leisure Centre's impact on our community ahead of its scheduled demolition. Submissions can be made on the City's engagement website at engage.cityofgp.com/leisurecentre.

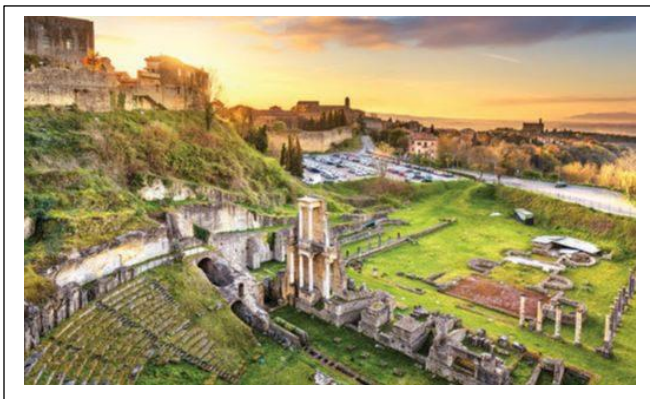
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CRAFTERS, MAKERS, JEWELRY, Sale and Luncheon – Will be happening in the basement on Saturday, October 14th. 10 am – 2 pm Do you have crafts, fabric, and stitching supplies you will never use or some jewelry you will never wear? We'd like to help those items get to someone who can use them. Please drop items at church before Fri., October 13th

Do you make/have items for sale, maybe you'd like to buy a table and join in the fun and sell your items to our visitors. The UCW will be looking for donations of baking. UCW & 102 St Stitchers will be there to host you. Come and browse, have a cup of tea or coffee and a light lunch, and then take your treasures home.

Tell your friends 😊 Set up will be on Friday, Oct 13th - 9 am to 12 noon Tables will cost \$20.00. with the proceeds to go to [Babies' Best Start](#) program at the Friendship Centre. Call the office to book a table please.

Did you know that because of Meta and Google's response to Bill C-18 you're being locked out of Canadian news on social media? That will likely include all of *Broadview's* stories, too. In light of these drastic changes, the best way to ensure you can continue to access digital stories that nourish your mind and heart is to **sign up for one or more of *Broadview's* FREE newsletters**, including *The Focus*, which exclusively delivers United Church news. Don't wait! Sign up at Broadview.org/newsletter.



Virtual Tour: Central Italy

Tues. Aug. 22, 2023 - 5PM ET

Guide: Ione

Inspired by the famous book of D.H. Lawrence "Etruscan places" Ione will show you around the province of Viterbo, which stretches in a beautiful territory between Rome and Tuscany where the Etruscan civilization flourished in the 7th BC, filled with incredible naturalistic and historical towns, from the Etruscan to the Medieval Ages, unspoiled by mass tourism.

[Free Registration](#)

Ban Ads for Gambling Has the dramatic rise in advertisements for gambling while you are watching your favourite sports alarmed you? Are you looking for ways to respond? The [Campaign to Ban Advertising for Gambling](#) is looking for volunteers to join their effort.

You can support the recently introduced Senate Bill, S-269, An Act respecting a national framework on advertising for sports betting, on their [website](#).

At its 36th General Council in August of 1997, The United Church of Canada passed the *Gambling Advertisements* resolution to "appeal to the Federal Government to restrict gambling advertisements to an extent comparable to restrictions on hard liquor and tobacco; and to request congregations and individuals of the United Church to make similar appeals to their Members of Parliament." ([United Church Commons > What We Believe and Why > Economic Justice](#))



[Image credit: Canva]



St Paul's Sunday Funday Church Picnic Intergenerational Event.

Sunday September 10, 2023 at 2:30 pm

Swimming, games and gathering 'round the fire

Please bring some finger food and a drink. Bring your desire to have fun being active or by sitting and visiting (you may want to bring your favourite camp chair although there are many chairs available on site).

Hotdogs and/or corn (?)
coffee, and water will be available.
The pool (warm water and indoors)
and hot tub is suitable for all ages.



Location – the home of Jarvis and Kim Dawson.
Call Martha or the Church office for directions.

Please note that this event will go rain or shine.
Call the Church office if you need more information.
780-532-2415



FINANCIAL DONATIONS

Interac e-Transfer is a simple, convenient, and secure way to send and receive money directly from one bank account to another. All you need is access to online or mobile banking through a participating financial institution, and you can send money to St. Paul's United Church — without sharing any personal financial information. It's a great alternative to cheques and cash.

To give using Interac e-Transfer please use this email address to send your donation to St. Paul's United Church - stpaulsucgp@gmail.com

In the note field of your transaction request, please indicate your envelope number (if you have one) and what fund(s) you are wanting your donation to go to. You can split your donation between funds (Example: If your donation is \$100 your note could say - \$25 GF, \$50 MS, \$25 OU or any other combination of amounts and funds you would like to support).

Fund: (Code)

- General Fund (GF)
- Mission and Service (MS)
- Capital Fund (CA)
- Outreach (OU)

Any donations made without a fund code will be considered a "General Funds" donation.

Offering Envelopes - Making your donation using a set of offering envelopes is the easiest way to ensure you receive a tax receipt for your donation(s). If you don't have a set of offering envelopes, and would like some, please contact Carla in the church office. Also, please make sure you indicate your envelope # on your donation(s) so it can be accorded to the correct person

Sign up for PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance)...just talk to Carla and she'll send you the form to fill out.

Canada Helps – You can also donate through Canada Helps. (Please note - These donations will be receipted by Canada Helps directly, not St Paul's United Church) <https://stpaulsuc.ca/index.php/donate/>