

### **From Our Minister – Karen Ptolemy-Stam**

Pentecost is a great time in the church calendar. On this special day we celebrate the presence of the Holy Spirit in the early church and in our lives. We explore the ways in which the spirit of God lives and works. The colour red is the colour of Pentecost. The early church was born in a time of fear and confusion – Jesus' death and resurrection. Yet people's lives were changed. They sensed the spirit of God in their midst. It gave them courage and strength to proclaim the gospel of Christ.

This Sunday is my second last Sunday at St. Paul's and I found myself pondering the many ways in which I have sensed the spirit at work in our congregation. You are the congregation. You live your faith not only in worship but in different ways. Volunteers who give of their time, wisdom, energy, vision and hearts, work for the good of all are God's gifts to all of us. The Spirit guides us. The Spirit moves us to be all that we can be. For that I am grateful.

### **Worship – Sunday, May 19 2024**

Join us for this special Pentecost Service either in person or by clicking the link below and watching on-line. All are welcome!



<https://youtube.com/live/8v6yw47m4n4?feature=share>

### **St. Paul's website**

Want to know what's going on St. Paul's? Visit our **website** at <https://www.stpaulsmidland.org/> There is lots of information and worth the look. You can also follow us on **Facebook** at <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=st.%20paul%27s%20united%20church>

### **In-Person Coffee Hour**

Our next in-person coffee is this **Sunday May 19<sup>th</sup>**, following worship

### **Save the date – Karen's Last Sunday:**

Karen's last Sunday at St. Paul's will be on **May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Please plan to attend the service at 10:00 a.m., followed by a reception in the Great Hall.

## **Discovery Kids Updates**

This Sunday Discovery Kids will be discussing the Moose Hide Campaign. The [Moose Hide Campaign | An Indigenous led grassroots movement to end gender-based violence](#)  
If you would like to participate or learn more, additional pins are available on the Faith Formation Bulletin Board at the top of the stairs from the kitchen.

## **Save the Dates – Discovery Kid’s Families:**

Faith Formation is excited to share the dates of two exciting events:



- **Sundaes on Sunday June 23rd**

To celebrate the friendships that have formed and all the ways we have learned and grown in faith this year, all Discovery Kids Families are invited to join us after worship on June 23rd for an ice cream celebration.

- **Camp Awesome - August 12-16**

More details to follow but be sure to know it’s always an AWESome time.

## **Butter Tart Festival Fundraiser**



St. Paul's will be holding a '**loonie raffle**' during this year's Butter Tart Festival **on June 8<sup>th</sup>**. Please consider making a donation to our prize table and/or volunteering for a couple of hours that day. If you would like to make a donation to the prize table but don't know what to offer, gift cards are a good idea. Lots of choices and you can choose a denomination that you're comfortable with. Please contact Sheila at 705-526-2186 or by e-mail at [rmsmt2612@gmail.com](mailto:rmsmt2612@gmail.com)) for further info.

## **Bay Sound Concert**

On Saturday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul's, Bay Sound Choirs presents "**Music Changes the World**". Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$15 for youth and children under five are free. Tickets are available on their website at [www.baysound.ca](http://www.baysound.ca) and will also be available at the door.



## **Volunteer Opportunity**

The St. Paul's kitchen has received "Community Kitchen" approval from the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit. One of the requirements is for us to have some kitchen volunteers to have their Safe Food Handling certificate. We are looking for leadership volunteers to complete the online training and as we have some training funds left in our Community Service Recovery Fund, we will be able to reimburse you for the costs. We also will be planning a celebration lunch for all who complete the course. The course will take approximately eight hours to complete but can be completed over a couple of days. The link is <https://ingoodhands.ca/> from the Thunder Bay District Health Unit.

Please contact Kathy or Zena if you have any questions. You can e-mail Kathy at [volunteerspucmidland@gmail.com](mailto:volunteerspucmidland@gmail.com)

## **This Week's Minute for Mission**



Project Ploughshares is a Canadian peace research institute with a focus on disarmament efforts and international security. It is also one of our dedicated Mission and Service partners. Project Ploughshares' important efforts come with many barriers, including discouragement, pushback, and regular exposure to mentally draining work.

Duncan Etches started his journey with Project Ploughshares as a supporter. When he saw an opportunity to be The United Church of Canada representative on the management committee, he felt it was time to step into the key role. He comments on how wise and inspirational the whole team is, sharing that "they keep hope in impossible situations."

Project Ploughshares includes people from diverse backgrounds who are all deeply committed to making the world a better place. Rooted in the ethics of Christianity—peace, reconciliation, and justice—their work connects with people inside and outside faith communities. Members are respected and invited to be part of important conversations.

Your support through [Mission and Service](#) provides encouragement and hope to leaders of Project Ploughshares, a vital connection point for those passionate about global peace and security. Thank you.

### **Blessings everyone**

**Minister** – Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam, **705-433-1224**, [minsucmidland@gmail.com](mailto:minsucmidland@gmail.com)

**Church Administrator** – Louise Therrien, (Wednesday mornings 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 at the church), [stpaulsunited@rogers.com](mailto:stpaulsunited@rogers.com) **705-526-1640 (home office)**

**Administrative Assistant** – Judy McConnell (**Tuesday and Thursday mornings, 9:00 a.m. to 12:00**) [officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com](mailto:officesecretaryspuc@gmail.com) 705-526-6077

**The office is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings between 9:00 a.m. and noon.**