



In This Month's Voice...

St. Paul Star of The Month

You know them well

Don't Miss It!

CYYAC is almost here!

Trustee's Tablet

YOU are needed this month

4644 Snap

A H.S. Grant Writer Shares

Recipe of The Month

Will return next month

Black History Corner

Will return next month

**Share the newsletter with
someone and invite them
to experience St. Paul**

Invite Someone this Wednesday!



**Edited, Published & All Articles Written
by Traci Simmons unless otherwise
indicated.**

Proof-reading by Nelson H. Simmons



The Doors of The Church Are OPEN!

Limited Edition

Vol. 2, No. 4 June 2021

Places Everyone!

Over 15 years ago, I was the Lay Day speaker for St. Paul. The title of my speech was, "If Every Church Member Were Just Like Me, What Kind of Church Would My Church Be?" It's pretty self-explanatory, but I remember that I posed several questions to the congregation. What would our church be like if everyone attended Bible Study like you do? What would our church be like if everyone volunteered or served as much or as little as you do? What would our church be like if everyone had the exact same attitude you have? If everyone in the church gave as you do, what would St. Paul be like? Think about your service, your attitude, your attendance, the money you give. If every pew were filled with a bunch of insert your name here, could our church survive?

For the past month or so, I just haven't had my act together. I sit down to do things that I know need to get done, and I just won't follow through. I missed a couple of deadlines which by God's grace were forgiven; I continue to make excuses for why I'm slacking; and my favorite statement to myself has been, "I can always do it later." I had to make myself sit down to complete...ok, to even start this month's newsletter. Thankfully every church member has not been like me. I even tried to solicit a little pity from my pastor, telling him how unmotivated I've been. But instead of coddling me, his response was, "Well you're the only one who can change that." The nerve of him to suggest that I should be the one to change myself!

I believe that God feels the same way about able-bodied Christians. There is numerous scripture in the Bible about hard work and serving God through the work that we do. God is not impressed, persuaded or interested in our excuses. He needs laborers.

Today St. Paul workers, I say thanks to all of you! To every Missionary, Usher, Singer, Musician, Organizer, Facilitator, Cleaner, Shopper, Speaker, Steward, Administrator, and Donor, you have put in the work and you have stood the test. You have picked up the slack and kept it moving.

On the 27th of this month, the church scattered will once again become the church gathered. It will have been 476 days since we last communed together inside of the building. Wow. We have been to church in our pajamas, listened to the sermon over coffee and eggs, attended Bible Study from our cars, baked a chicken in Church Conference; and some have even showered through Sunday School. But "Bedside C.M.E." will soon come to a close, and the cover that some have been taking will be pulled off—literally!

What God ordained long ago has been proven— *we are* in fact the church, and our work can never stop. Once the doors of 4644 S. Dearborn are again opened, what kind of church member will you be? There is a need for you in the service of God. There is a place for you to serve God through St. Paul. Take **your** place and watch what God will do through you!

"An excuse is only good to the one who is giving it" Famous Quote



Blessings & Peace

Rev. Dr. Curlee L. Adams

Senior Pastor

Saint Paul CME Church



June 27th

Mark 10:45

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

To My St. Paul Family,

Your pastor loves you and is looking forward to seeing all of you on June 27th! To God be the glory!

A Word on Re-entry from Our Pastor

An email will go out next week with detailed information regarding returning to the building for Sunday worship service. Everyone’s health and safety is top priority, and all procedures put in place exist for that purpose.

Every person who enters the building will be required to complete a Covid-19 form. This form may be filled out at the church, or accessed on-line through the church website.

Those entering will also need to sign a waiver form ensuring they are aware of the risks associated with gatherings, and removing liability from the church.

Be prepared also to have your temperature recorded as an initial assessment of your health. Please do not be offended if your temperature reading indicates that you should leave the building and return after a certain amount of time or negative Covid test report. For now, Bible Study and Church Conference will remain virtual.

At this point, everyone except for those in the choir stand will be asked to wear a mask. Only vaccinated persons will be allowed into the choir stand at this point. Rules and procedures will evolve as the condition of this pandemic dictates. Until then, we will praise our way through with wisdom and the assurance that only our mighty God can give.

Trustee’s Tablet

Hello St.Paul,

The Trustee Board will be hosting a church clean up Sat June 26th from 9am -1pm. We need everybody's help. We will be organized into teams. Team-work makes the dream work. Please come out and join us. Lunch will be provided. Pray with us for a successful day.

Thank you, Sis. Ridgley



Please join me in congratulating our new Trustee Board President, Sis. Trina Ridgley! The Trustee Board is eager to move forward with her leadership and other new officers: Bro.David Hibbler, Vice-President; Sis. Francettia Worlds, Secretary; and Dr. Rutherford Simmons, Chaplain. The torch has been passed from one who has worked diligently at the forefront for many years, Bro. Clarence Highsmith. Bro. Highsmith is still in love and fellowship with his church, he is simply shifting gears a bit and allowing new blood to take the wheel. St. Paul has benefited greatly from the time and love dedicated to the position by Trustee President Highsmith. Let’s be sure to make our appreciation known to him in days to come!



Traci Simmons

MISSIONARY NEWS

Submitted by Sandra Simmons

The St. Paul Missionary Society held its annual election for the 2021-2022 conference year on May 7, 2021. The new missionary officers are:

President – Sis. Autumn Evins
1st Vice-President – Sis. Ardella Davis
2nd Vice President – Sis. Gail Hibbler
Secretary – Sis. Yolanda Doss
Asst. Secretary – Sis. Gwendolyn Ross
Treasurer – Sis. Sandra Simmons

I asked the outgoing President, Sis. Frances Evins to reflect on her five years as Missionary President. Here is her response. *“In reflecting on my time as our St. Paul Local Missionary President, I would like to share that God has been my constant guide. Serving from October 2016 until June 2021, I have grown in grace. As a legacy Missionary President, serving in various capacities of our Zion has brought me joy. I am most proud of the missionary institutes and educational workshops at the forefront of my service. As a missionary, you are always thinking of others and how to serve the Kingdom of God. As I transition to other areas of ministry, I am most proud of my legacy, Sister Autumn Evins, our youngest elected Missionary President. To God be the glory for all the things He has done and continues to do with our Missionary Society. Thank you, God, for the opportunity to serve your people!”*

I also asked President-Elect, Sis. Autumn Evins what her vision is for the Missionary Society. Here is her response. *“As St. Paul's second young adult Missionary President, the future of the Missionary Society is at the forefront of my vision. Youth and young adults are the future of the church, and the future is now. I am seeking to establish new connections within our local churches and expand on our existing relationships. We, as missionaries, must know what it means to be part of the Society. Therefore, I envision expanding missionaries' knowledge by hosting a "Missionary Bible Study." I intend on establishing partnerships with local merchants to sponsor the Elnora Palmer Hamb Scholarship Fund using the 501c3. In all that we accomplish as a Missionary Society, we will focus collectively on creating opportunities for growth and having a positive impact as Christians on our community.”*



Newly elected Missionary President, Autumn Evins



Chicago Dist. Missionaries preparing for mission work



Sis. Ardella Davis (L) & Sis. Autumn Evins (R)



Sis. Frances Evins (L) & Sis. Faye Walker (R)

On Saturday May 22nd, St. Paul Missionaries Ardella Davis, Autumn Evins, Frances Evins, and Elnora Hamb, joined with Chicago District Missionaries in “Meals for Millions” to share with the homeless in our city. The group visited two areas of Tent City in the south and west loop areas of Chicago to bless people with various hygiene products, canned goods, socks, T-shirts, and other much needed items. Sis. Ardella Davis stated, *“I was shocked that there was one site I knew nothing about.”* noting that there are so many more homeless people living in our city than most of us are aware of. *“We laughed, talked, and prayed together. Everyone was thankful and friendly, and wanted to know if we would be coming back.”* Sis. Davis said.

Thank you Missionaries of St. Paul for your humility, service, and dedication to something greater than yourselves.

Women's Day Reflections

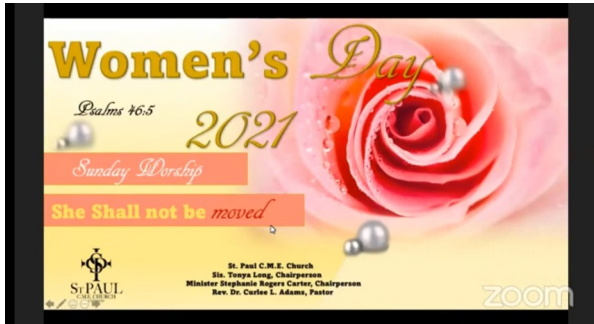
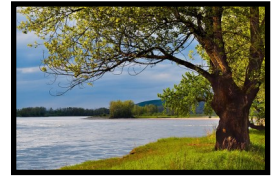
By Tonya Long

Our Annual Women's Day was celebrated on Sunday May 16, 2021. Our theme, "She Shall Not Be Moved," was taken from Psalm 46:5 "God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved: God shall help her at break of day." We had a well mix of strong, beautiful women participate in the morning worship service.

Our morning speaker was our very own Frances Evins. Her message entitled "BE STILL...YOU ARE NOT GOING TO FALL," left us feeling strong and powerful, knowing that God will not let us fall. We also acknowledged four very strong ladies in our congregation: Sis. Maya Doss, Sis. Kayla Adams, Sis. Twanda Carroll, and Sis. Maxine Smith

We will try our best to reschedule our Saturday program. Thank you all for a job well done and special thanks to my co-chair, Min. Stephanie Rogers-Carter!

Sis. Johnita Mitchell blessed us as she used technology to harmonize with herself singing, "I Shall Not Be Moved."



Cook County Bar Association 107th Installation and Awards Program

June 11, 2021

6:00 PM

Abbington Distinctive Banquets



Congratulations Justice Bertina Lampkin for being honored by the Cook County Bar Association with the *Kenneth E. Wilson Historical Award!*

Justice Lampkin was supported by family, friends, and St. Paul family .

Don't Miss It!

Bible Study (virtual)

Wednesdays 6:30 p.m.

The Minor Prophets/Joel

Sunday School

Youth, Young Adult, Adult Classes

9 a.m.

Young Adult Bible Study/Leady by Sis

Autumn Evins

Every other Friday, 6:30—7 p.m.

Children's Day

Sunday June 13th

Church Conference

Monday June 14th 6:30 p.m.

Men's Day

Sunday June 20th

Leadership Training School

Saturday June 26th

St. Paul Movie Night

Saturday June 26th

Official Church Re-Opening

Sunday June 27th

CYYAC21

June 30th—July 2nd

Please visit www.stpaulcme-chi.com
for details and more information

SUNDAY JUNE 27TH!



Graduates & Awards Recognition

Sis. Jacqueline Prince, Trial
Sermon 2 PM



Elnora P. Hamb Scholarship Presentations

Re-Opening Reception



*We can't wait to **safely** celebrate!*

St. Paul Star of The Month

In 1907 a group of 15 CME members banded together in faith and courage to organize a Methodist Mission, the first Christian Methodist Episcopal church in the city of Chicago. Nine of the founders were Pastor and Mrs. Walls, Mother Reeves, Leah Thomas, Irene Battle (Harden), L. C. Wheeler, Lena Jones (Rice), George Hilary and W. W. Peters. St. Paul first location was 4008 S. State Street under the leadership of Rev J. H. T. Walls.

A year later, St. Paul moved its services to the Emmanuel Society of the United Evangelical Church on Dearborn Street. Emanuel's congregation worshipped in the mornings and St. Paul worshipped in the evenings. Only a few months had passed when the members of St. Paul were able to purchase the Church. And in subsequent years, they were able to purchase two more lots adjacent to the existing church from the Emanuel Society of the United Evangelical Church. As the church grew in membership, ministries were formed and St. Paul was well on its way saving souls and serving the community.

Let's show some love to the June Star, **Y-O-U!** **YOU** have been members of St. Paul between two months and 90 years. **YOU** have served in many ministries and worked in various capacities. **YOU** continue to sacrifice your time, your finances, and your many gifts and talents. **YOU** have served as children, trained up children, and offer yourselves still as seniors. **YOU** have supported one another through happy times and tragedy, and **YOU** have demonstrated the true meaning of church family.

When **YOU** could have given up and thrown in the towel, **YOU** reached for God's word, you reached for one another, you reached deep into your faith and left Satan in the dust. St. Paul, there is no one else like **YOU!** Let us show some love for this month's St. Paul Star, **YOU!**

By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you love one another.

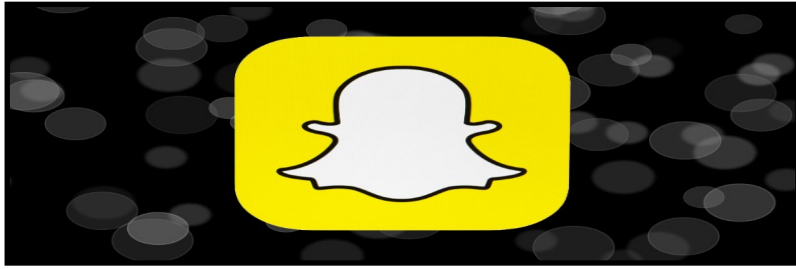
John 13:35



St Paul is committed to H.E.L.P.ing the community through **Hospitality** that is radical, **Evangelism** that is community wide, **Love** that is Christ like and **Prayer** and **Praise** that is consistent. Stop by and experience St. Paul!

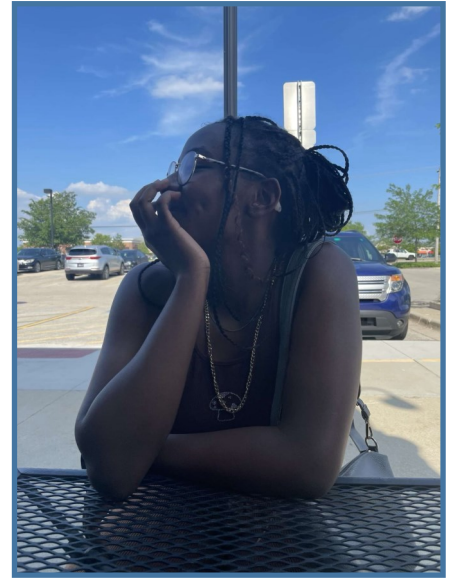
Stpaulcme-chi.com





Lauren is a rising sophomore at Metea Valley High School in Aurora, IL. A few of Lauren's extracurricular activities and interests include track, dance, piano, Girl Scouts, and video creation & editing.

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6
4
4
SNAP



Submitted by [Lauren Simmons](#)

How Do You See God Working During This Pandemic?

During this CoronaVirus Pandemic, our lives have been filled with sadness, pain, and death, but we've also experienced hope, miracles and togetherness. This has been a hard time for all, but God is still working during this pandemic. An example of this would be the speed at which the vaccine was created. A vaccine usually takes years to develop, but due to God's grace and love, He performed a miracle by speeding up the process of the Covid-19 vaccine. Millions of people worldwide are now getting the vaccine.

Though there have been hundreds of thousands of deaths in the United States alone, and millions worldwide, God has continued to give us strength to cope and hope for the future. There have been members of my church that have gotten the virus and passed away from it but there are also people who have gotten it and survived. These experiences have taught me to cherish my loved ones.

Even though we've had to quarantine and practice social distancing, God has also shown us that we can still stay connected through technology. Even our elders are learning new technology. We've learned to worship together through Zoom and we can also have face-to-face contacts with our family and friends through Google Meets and other applications. Conference calls have become even more popular.

Throughout this pandemic and even with all of the bad things that have happened, God has given us the opportunity to take a break from our busy lives, connect with each other and build deeper relationships.

Lauren's name was mistakenly omitted from the April 2021 newsletter as an Elizabeth Johnson Encouragement Grant participant.