

Celebrating 130 Years

Church steeple rising to the Laramie sky since 1890

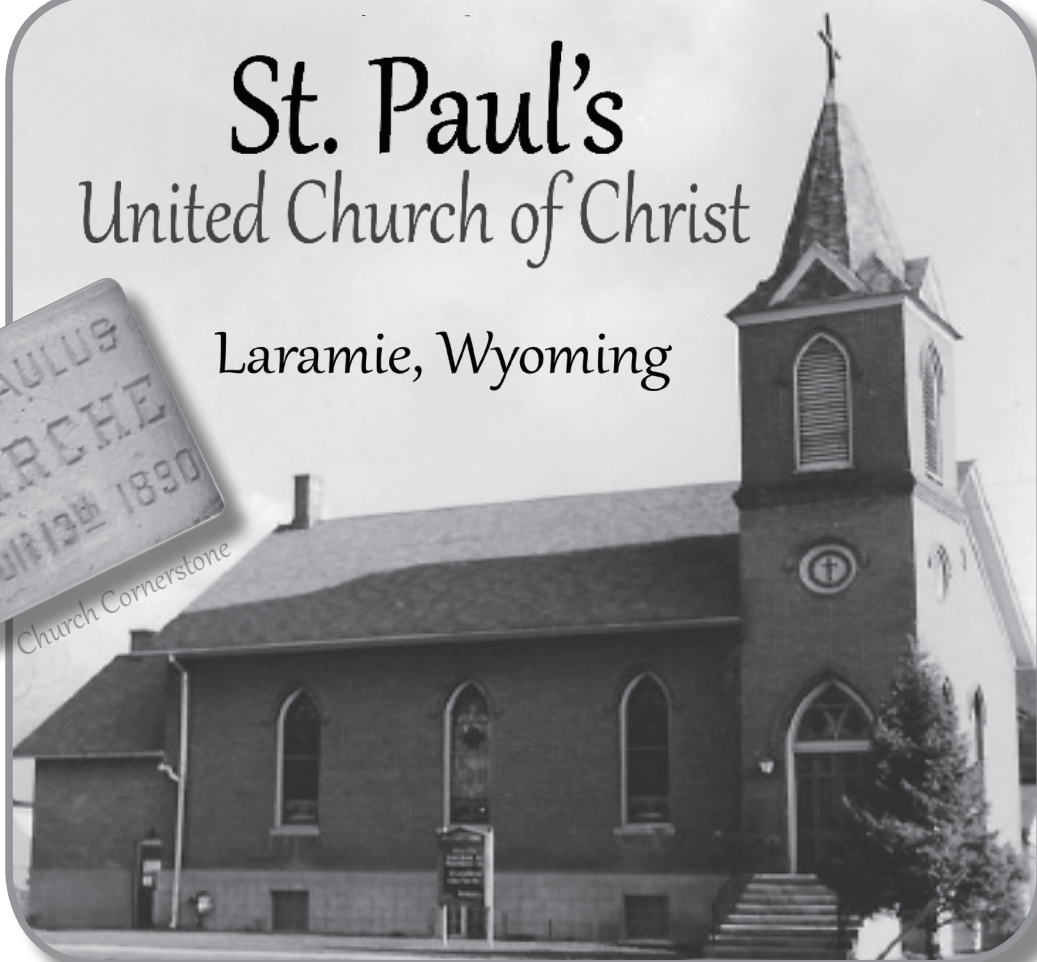
July 2020

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

Laramie, Wyoming



Church Cornerstone



Letter from Rev. Ken Ingram

Minister 2016 to present

I have been blessed to serve St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Laramie for the past three plus years. In the past I have lived in Colorado and attended seminary in Denver. After my time in Texas, I knew that I wanted to pastor a church, in the mountains, or close to the mountains. St. Paul's had an opening and I have always felt blessed that I was the one called to serve here. I am friends with the past four ministers, so when I was being called to St. Paul's I was able to contact two of them. Both of them told me that I would like it here, that the members and congregation were caring, loving, and accepting people. That helped me in my discernment. I now know that what they said was absolutely true.



There have been a lot of physical changes at St. Paul's in three years. The kitchen was finished the first year I was here. We started planning for a sanctuary update and repairs to the stained glass windows in the second year. The church was able to purchase a grand piano for worship. Our choir was reformed, and has been singing for us monthly. PFLAG began meeting in our space, as did the Death Café and some 12-step groups. We have been partners with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship as we provided support for Family Promise of Albany County. Just after I came here, I wrote on the board in the office: "We will make our church building a place of ministry and service." Having groups use our space is one way we do that.

In my third year, the sanctuary update was started, a contract for the windows was signed, and we began to plan for our 130th birthday celebration. Then our world was upended as the COVID-19 pandemic hit our country. We started to worship on-line via *zoom*. This has allowed St. Paul's to connect with members and former members who have moved away. One member who moved away is soon to start seminary and St. Paul's has taken him into care during his seminary time. It has been quite some time since St. Paul's has had a seminary student in care.

What does St. Paul's mean to me? St. Paul's is one of the most generous and caring congregations I have been a member of. Together we are making differences in lives, not just for members of the congregation, but with the many gifts that we give to others. We are small but mighty; that's what I think of when I think of St. Paul's. The church has accomplished much within the Laramie community. I am glad that the church community that is St. Paul's has been so supportive of helping and doing in Laramie. While we have this beautiful building, our service takes place outside our walls and our church community supports that.

Today, the sanctuary is almost completed. It is a great blend of the old and the new; though it is sometimes hard to see what is old and what is new. Frankie Spiegelberg, a descendant of one of our original builders, managed the project for us and did so with care. Betty Holmes wrote a book about St. Paul's that was published early in 2020. There is so much history in these walls. At the end of our worship services I say: "Our worship has ended, let our service begin." And with this 130th birthday, our service is just beginning.

Letter from Rev. Jamie Kepros

Minister 2011 - 2014

Of most historical significance to the church during my time there was the sale of Springbrook Apartments after the HUD mortgage was paid off, and decades of low-income housing had been provided to the community. The small but dedicated congregation came together to handle the sale and subsequent investment of a substantial sum of money. I was privileged to see a congregation that had been used to just scraping by become a congregation able to make several important improvements to the church building and give generously to other non-profits in Laramie.



Of most personal significance during my time at St. Paul's was relating to its people. The people who had taken a risk to become an "Open and Affirming" congregation not long before I arrived. These dear souls welcomed me into ministry with them and went about the work of God's church with faith and hope in both challenging and prosperous times.



Letter from Rev. Todd Smiedendorf

Interim Minister 2008 - 2010

Congratulations on 130 years of ministry in your building!

I'm deeply appreciative that I was a small part of it and touched by the time we spent together in ministry.

It was a tough time in the fall of 2008 at SPUCC yet somehow we found our way through to calling a new minister by January of 2011. It was a tough time for me, too, when I arrived and, in a different way, when I left. The time we spent together helped me remember that I did have gifts for parish ministry when in the right place. You were that right place for me (even when a Christmas day snowstorm kept me stranded in Laramie)! Ministering with you was heartening for me. Thank you.



I went on to serve as *Senior Minister* of my former home church, Washington Park UCC in Denver, for 7.5 years (2011 - 2018) before accepting a Call to be the interim Bridge Minister at University Congregational UCC of Seattle. I will likely finish there sometime this year and focus on ministry work with my wife, Allison (pastorandpriestess.com). I still live near Boulder.

I thank you all for the privilege of serving your congregation. Your ministry fills such an important need in Wyoming and in Laramie. Sending love and encouragement to keep it going!

Blessings,
Todd

*Todd Smiedendorf (he/him/his), Bridge Minister for Vision and Stewardship
University Congregational UCC
Seattle, WA
303-882-9631*

Letter from Rev. Sally Palmer

Minister 1982 - 2008

St. Paul's United Church of Christ: 130 Years of Courageous Peace

I remember the year that lightning struck St. Paul's. It was a Sunday and Mike and I were closing up when there came a huge "crack"—and we saw the stained glass window in the hall start to shatter into a hundred artful pieces. I held the pieces in place while Mike called Mark Holder, a nearby Trustee. We put cardboard around the fracture and called Irving's Hardwood Furnishing for stained glass repair. It took a long time, but the pieces of spiritual art were put back together, again. In my heart, this is the symbol of St. Paul's—seeking peace again, and yet again, and yet again.



Such is the history of 130 years. St. Paul's has welcomed the stranger and helped them feel at home in the greater mercy of God. It has been a calm in the midst of the storm. St. Paul's used to say, with the help of Ellie Workman: *"We are the steeple people,"* and that meant we lift our worries, our grief, our conflicts to God.

As *"steeple people,"* St. Paul's began as a German Lutheran Church and stayed faithful in spite of discrimination against Germans during World War I and II. It was from a reconciling spirit that Rev. Wichmann was able to serve for so long. He was a widower with six children and German descent.

What it means to be calm in the midst of the storm was experienced again at the height of the Cold War. It was then that a bride, Vicki Goodin, gave her fiance not a fishing pole, but a peace pole. It was a wedding gift and has stood in the church's rock garden ever since. It was the second such pole in Wyoming and has declared for many years: *"May peace prevail on earth."*

St. Paul's honored peace not just by proclaiming it, but by sponsoring the first Soviets to visit the state of Wyoming. Fr. Nicolai Orlov and Fr. Michael Melnikov preached from the pulpit at St. Paul's (see photo on next page). And, they were heartily welcomed. Babe Kaisler hosted fund-raisers and hosted Soviets to her ranch. In her letter to Russians, this is what Babe said: *"My family has its roots in the soil of Wyoming and the way we've learned to survive with snowstorms, disease and hard times is that we found a lesson in God's peace. You see, we came from different parts of the world, but we always respected each other. We knew we had to accept each other in order to get along."*

Letter from Rev. Sally Palmer - cont.

So, for 130 years, St. Paul's has not only been the “*steeple people*”—folks who are willing to risk HOPE when the world is shattered by fear. But, St. Paul's has also been a force of putting hope into action—by hiring the first woman minister, by building low-income apartments, by starting the Soup Kitchen and Interfaith Good Sam, by sponsoring two refugee families, by providing a home to dear Dr. Li., to serving with our Muslim neighbors, to offering hospitality to Twelve Steps and PFLAG, to being compassionate Christians who value the United Church of Christ. It is because its inclusiveness is based on a hope beyond us, that we can truly pray: “...*that they may all be one.*”

Rev. Dr. Sally Palmer



“Hunger for Peace” photo from Rev. Sally Palmer. Rev. Sally is pictured second from left and the Soviet religious leaders on a ten day visit to Wyoming are pictured on the right. Photo was taken in January of 1989.

Letter from Paul Cors

Member of St. Paul's for over 50 years

A few thoughts about St. Paul's Building ---



The exterior is nicely proportioned, though not outstanding. The use of the local red brick is interesting, as there are few other buildings using it that still exist. Although it is not very good brick, it has endured 130 years.

The building's worst flaw is that long stairway to the main entrance. That was probably thought to be elegant in 1890, but it's daunting to mobility impaired people today. The recent rebuilding of the stairway is not as ugly as the preceding one, but it's still a flaw.

The German language cornerstone (pictured on right) puts the church firmly in a historical and cultural context. Thank goodness they didn't use the outdated German Gothic letters, which nobody can read any more.



Once one is inside, St. Paul's greatest glory is wonderfully revealed -- the stained glass windows (some pictured below). Though they are dated and the donors named, the makers identity has been lost except for the Holy Spirit window in the vestibule which was the work of a St. Louis firm. The stained glass windows are simply superb, both artistically and spiritually and they are an enormous gift to all who see them.



Letter from Paul Cors - cont.

And don't overlook the west window. It's behind us during worship, but if you came to the church when the sun is low in the western sky, you will find the sanctuary filled with a golden aura that is almost transcendent. It's too bad that UCC churches don't normally have vesper services. They would be wonderfully inspiring at St. Paul's.

The altar is a baroque masterpiece of intricate woodwork; the work (or so I've been told) of George Spiegelberg alone. It must have taken years to complete. The high pulpit (no longer so lofty I guess) is totally German in style, though recent pastors have chosen not to use it.

The building's listing on the National Register of Historic Places is due to the hard work of Emma Rice, a lifelong member. I think this may be the only Wyoming church listed in the National Register.

The downstairs has undergone many changes during my membership with the church. The current restrooms, kitchen and fellowship hall are all recent makeovers. The changes have improved both the function and attractiveness of the rooms and everything is much better than what was there when I arrived in 1969.

There have been a couple of near disasters which we survived. The Holy Spirit window was damaged when lightning shattered a tree across the street and sent a flying branch into it, but a local glass artist was able to restore it. More recent was the basement flood from a broken water pipe -- a terrible chore to clean, but no structural damage.

And finally, there is an elevator so people like Sam Burkett and I can regularly get to worship. Hallelujah!



Picture by Wendy Perkins

St. Paul's United Church of Christ congregational picture on the steps described by Paul in the second paragraph of his letter. September 2019.

Letter from Carol Uhl

2020 Church Council President

Member of St. Paul's since 1987

Dear St. Paul's United Church of Christ (UCC) community,

I was not born in Wyoming, but I got here as soon as I could. I grew up in a UCC church called St. John's UCC in Lansdale, Pennsylvania. It was a big church that was much larger than St. Paul's; both the building and the membership. We had a minister and an associate minister. My mother was a Sunday School teacher most of her life.

We had Sunday School classes from nursery to adult; including three elementary classes, junior high and senior high classes, and adult classes. I attended Sunday School from birth and went to youth fellowship events through secondary school. We had a children's choir and an adult choir called the Chancel Choir. We also had a handbell choir. My confirmation class had about 20 kids in it. So, you see, I had a much different early church experience than "Laramie's little German Church."

I did shop around for a church when I arrived in Laramie. I must say, though, that I have never been to a friendlier, more caring church than St. Paul's. Perhaps, it's because we are small. Maybe it's because we believe that all are welcome here wherever we are on our spiritual journey. And maybe it's because we just like each other.

St. Paul's has had its problems, as many of you remember. We've had financial crises, disagreements that split us, membership losses, and even floods. But we have also had births, marriages, new members, financial luck, parties and celebrations, and causes that brought us together. Psychologists and sociologists say that people need to belong to a community to be healthy. I think we are a pretty good little community. That's why I'm here, and that's why I stay.



Carol Uhl



St. Paul's Church ***Laramie, Wyoming*** ***Name of church over the years***

**Deutsche Evangelische
Lutherische St. Paulus Gemeinde**
Original German name when
church was founded in 1886. Eng-
lish translation: *German Evangeli-
cal Lutheran St. Paul's Church.*

←←←**1886**

1904 →→→

**St. Paul's
German Evangelical Church**
The Lutheran Synod was unable
to supply ministers to Laramie
so the church voted to become
affiliated with the Evangelical
Synod of North America in 1901,
with official affiliation in 1904.

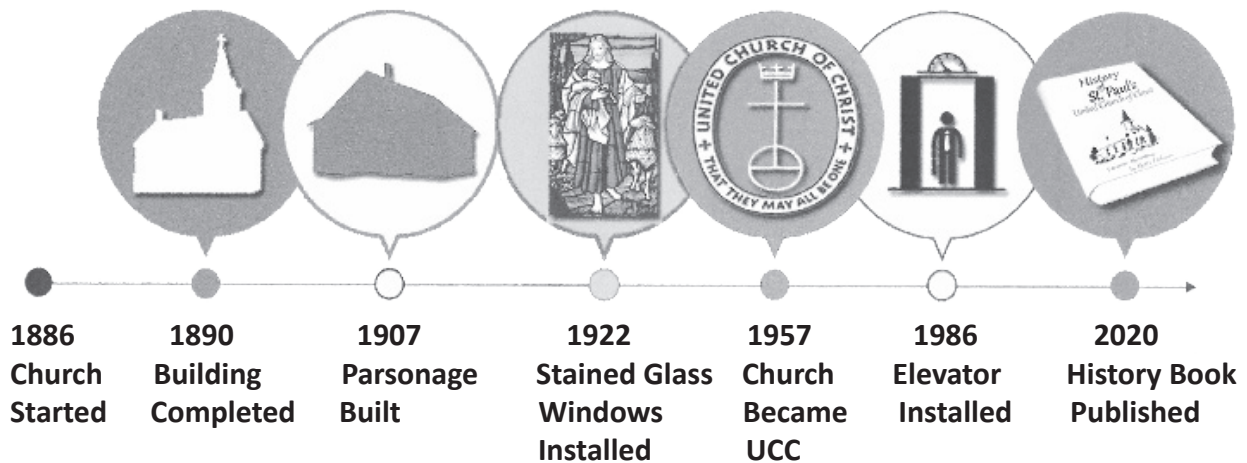
**St. Paul's
Evangelical & Reformed Church**
The Evangelical Synod (1840)
united with the German Re-
formed Church (1725) in 1934.

←←←**1934**

1957 →→→

**St. Paul's
United Church of Christ**
In 1957, the Evangelical and Re-
formed churches merged with
the Congregational Christian
churches to become United
Church of Christ.

Historic Time Line of St. Paul's Church



- May 1886 Men of German descent gathered to discuss starting a new church in Laramie.
- Dec. 1886 Call for first pastor. There were 30 charter members.
- January 1887 First worship held with Rev. Johann Frank presiding.
- 1887 Minister salary was \$55 a month. Decreased to \$40 a month by 1897.
- 1889 Lot of land purchased on corner of Garfield and Sixth Street for \$1,000.
- Dec. 1890 Building of church completed at cost of \$4,000.
- January 1891 Building dedication ceremony held.
- 1898 Church almost closed due to pastor vacancy.
- 1901 Church affiliation switched to German Evangelical Synod of North America (from German Lutheran Synod).
- 1907 Church Parsonage built at cost of \$1,800.
- 1917-1918 Church minister under scrutiny during World War I.
- 1922 Major improvements included stained glass windows, electric lights, wooden altar, pastor study and basement bathrooms. Total cost was \$6,500.
- Late 1920's Basement built by hand under the parsonage.
- 1930 Curb and gutters were added around the church property.
- 1932 Last sermon preached in German.
- 1933 Mimeographed Sunday bulletins were used for the first time.

Historic Time Line of St. Paul's Church

- 1934 With a national merger, the church became "Evangelical and Reformed."
- 1936 Remaining debt of over \$2,000 from 1922 improvements paid off. The *Great Depression* slowed down the repayments.
- 1937 New custom light fixtures for the upstairs were ordered and installed.
- 1938 Church foundation waterproofed by building trench and then pouring cement all around the foundation.
- 1938-39 Stained glass windows on west end of sanctuary were added.
- 1940 Basement remodeled with hardwood floors, steel beams, new ceiling, new kitchen, new walls, new windows and new furnace. Cost was \$4,200.
- 1941 Gold memorial cross for altar given by Heinemann family in memory of their son Otto, who died at the age of seven in 1921.
- 1946 Stained glass window above entry doors installed.
- 1947 Church reached financial independence and was no longer a mission church.
- 1949 Monthly church newsletter "*The Chimes*" was printed for the first time and continued until 1966.
- 1952 A 21 bell Carillon was attached to the organ.
- 1953 *Revised Standard Version* of Bible introduced.
- 1957 Church became United Church of Christ.
- 1961 Proposed merger with First Christian Church of Laramie failed.
- 1962 Brick memorial planters along north wall dedicated. Addition of required "EXIT" signs resulted in a rewiring of the church.
- 1968 Kitchen remodeled with stainless steel sinks and tables. Furnace was added in the ceiling of the basement hallway.
- 1970 Used organ was purchased at cost of \$1,155. The back stairway was carpeted.
- 1971 Building of Springbrook Apartments completed.
- 1976 St. Paul's became first church in Laramie to call a female minister.
- 1977 Balcony was refurbished.
- 1983 Walls in rest rooms and kitchen were waterproofed. Protection added to art glass windows.
- 1983 Church listed on National Register of Historic Places.
- 1983 Old coal room in basement converted to a record storage room.

Historic Time Line of St. Paul's Church

- 1986 Rest rooms remodeled for handicap access. Three-stop elevator installed. Two new furnaces installed. Two offices built above the kitchen. Total cost was \$44,000.
- 1991 New Rogers organ added in front of church. Peace Pole, the second one in Wyoming, was dedicated.
- 1995 Endowment Fund started. The fund would later be named "Special Gifts."
- 2009 Church designated as "Open and Affirming."
- 2011 Springbrook Apartments sold.
- 2012 Tuckpointing completed on all bricks. Large old spruce tree removed. Main entry stairs replaced.
- 2013 Basement meeting room updated by refinishing hardwood floors, painting walls and ceiling, and purchasing new furniture.
- 2017 Kitchen completely updated.
- 2018 Laramie PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) started monthly meetings at St. Paul's.
- 2020 Church's upstairs main room renovated along with updates for entry way and balcony. New outdoor protection planned for stained glass windows.





List of Pastors


Photos on next page



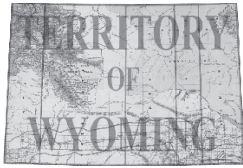
- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) Johann Frank | 1886-1887 (December to August) |
| 2) Christian Thomsen | 1887-1894 (October to June) |
| 3) Julius Gomppenberg | 1894-1895 (July to November) |
| 4) Walther Eickmann | 1896-1898 (June to November) |
| <i>Vacant for a year</i> | <i>Church almost closed its doors</i> |
| 5) Ed F. Pinkert | 1899-1902 (November to May) |
| 6) Adolph Walton | 1902-1908 (October to January) |
| 7) O. G. Wichmann | 1908-1918 (April to September) |
| 8) B. H. Leesman | 1919 (January to February) |
| 9) William Schmidt | 1919-1920 (March to April) |
| 10) O. F. Geisler | 1920-1925 (May to March) |
| 11) O. E. Pinkert | 1925-1926 (June to September) |
| 12) August Doellefeld | 1927-1932 (January to November) |
| <i>Rev. Doellefeld was the last pastor to speak German</i> | |
| 13) Robert J. Young | 1933-1942 (August to April) |
| 14) Ernst Press | 1942-1947 (September to August) |
| 15) Hugh McFadden* | 1948 (<i>Interim from Methodist Church</i>) |
| 16) John McCormick | 1948-1953 (July to May) |
| 17) Roy Anderson | 1953-1956 (July to November) |
| 18) Robert Knapp | 1957-1962 (June to June) |
| 19) Carl Sullenberger | 1962-1966 (August to December) |
| 20) James A. Bull* | 1967 (<i>Interim</i>) |
| 21) Armin Munz | 1967-1972 (October to April) |
| 22) Robert Owen | 1973-1975 (May to August) |
| 23) Allen VanderMeulen Jr.* | 1975-1976 (<i>Interim</i>) |
| 24) Mary E. Greene | 1976-1981 (August to July) |
| 25) John Steinberg* | 1981 (<i>Interim</i>) |
| 26) Sally Palmer | 1982-2008 (January to Spring) |
| 27) Todd Smiedendorf* | 2008-2010 (<i>Interim, Sept. to Dec.</i>) |
| 28) Jamie Kepros | 2011-2014 (January to November) |
| 29) Jack Wiczorek* | 2014-2016 (<i>Interim, Dec. to Feb.</i>) |
| 30) Ken Ingram | 2016 (March to present) |

* *Interim pastor, no photo on following page*




Pastors of St. Paul's Church - Laramie, Wyoming


Interesting Tidbits of Information



Incorporation

The congregation was officially incorporated under the laws of the Territory of Wyoming on July 5, 1888. The corporation established a German church and German school in Laramie. At the time, there were six Trustees.

Theme of Trinity

The initial construction of the church building was designed to place emphasis on the Trinity. This is depicted by the group of three windows on the north, south and west sides of the church and the three circular windows in the tower.

Neighborhood Chimes

Starting in the spring of 1959, the church's tower chimes were played for 15 minutes every day starting at about 5:30 PM. The goal was to give people in the neighborhood a chance to pause, give thanks, and find strength and guidance to complete daily tasks.



Potato Pancake Supper

For several years, dating back to the start of the church, the Women's Guild sponsored a Potato Pancake Supper. The dinner was called a "special German treat" and everyone looked forward to it.

First Baptism



According to the 100th year history notes, the first baptism in Laramie for the newly formed German church was performed by Rev. Johann Frank on November 21, 1886. The first wedding was on March 30, 1887.

Highest Paid Minister

A standing joke with early ministers was that the minister at St. Paul's was the highest paid minister in the whole denomination because the church was located at 7,200 feet elevation.

First German Church

St. Paul's was the first German church to be built in Wyoming and was the seventh church to be built in Laramie.



Laramie Soup Kitchen



During St. Paul's week at the soup kitchen in January of 1988, the number of meals served varied from 14 to 28. A Soup Kitchen donation box was kept at the church so people could donate canned goods. The Laramie Soup Kitchen started in 1983.

National Register Quote



According to a document on file with the National Register, "St. Paul's Church is the oldest remaining church structure in Laramie. It is representative of the conservative influences exerted by religious groups in isolated western communities. Churches made significant contributions toward permanent, well ordered, civil-minded communities in western boom towns."

Assembling the Altar



The large new wooden altar with a cross on the top, a picture of the Last Supper in the center bottom and the large painting of Jesus in Gethsemane in the middle arrived at the church in 1922 in five large pieces. It was carefully assembled by a team of Spiegelberg men (Will, Walter and George).

Interesting Tidbits of Information

2010 MISSION STATEMENT *St. Paul's United Church of Christ*

To be an emphatically inclusive, progressive community on the path of Christ, seeking justice and peace for all creation through creative ceremony and celebration, soulful questioning, and acts of compassion and service.



A Penny an Inch


At the June 1936 meeting of the Women's Society, a tape measure was used to determine each person's waist size and everyone was assessed a penny for each inch. Total collected was \$9.09, with the smallest amount paid of 22¢.

Supplemental Income

Rev. Wichmann (pastor 1908-1918) was a single dad with six children to feed. He supplemented his pastor salary by teaching German at the high school and the University of Wyoming.


Open and Affirming

St. Paul's voted to become an open and affirming (ONA) church in 2009. The national UCC website states ONA "is a movement of more than 1,500 churches and other ministries in the United Church of Christ that welcome lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) members. More than 350,000 members of the UCC belong to ONA churches—and the movement is growing rapidly." ONA churches take seriously the Bible's admonition to "accept one another, just as Christ accepted you, in order to bring praise to God." (Romans 15:7)



Entrance Stained Glass Window


The window over the front entrance door was replaced in 1946. The stained glass window was a gift from the Wahl family in memory of Mrs. Anna Wahl. There are three symbols in the window. The center symbol of the hand of God represents God's almighty power. The symbol on the left is two crossed keys. One key represents how sin locks a person out of God's blessings. The second key reminds us Christ unlocks the door. The third symbol of an anchor dates back to ancient Roman times when Christian symbols had to appear innocent to avoid persecution. The cross bars on the anchor represent the cross of Christ. The sketch on the left is from the January 1946 Church newsletter called *The Reminder*.



Wyoming Turns 50

Wyoming

Church members from St. Paul's and "11,000 souls in Laramie" joined to celebrate the 50th birthday of Wyoming on July 10th, 1940. Rev. Young reminded everyone that only three days after Wyoming became a state, the cornerstone was laid for St. Paul's church on July 13, 1890.



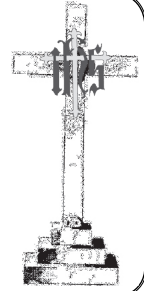
Interesting Tidbits of Information

Missing Title

The church applied for a loan of \$2,000 in 1940 to update the basement. A copy of the property title was needed to finalize the loan. Imagine everyone's surprise when it was discovered the church did not have a clear title to the property. The title was never recorded in the Courthouse because the original owner of the land, Mr. Feast, never received his papers from the Union Pacific Railroad.

Altar Gold Cross

The gold cross on the altar was dedicated on Easter Sunday in 1941. The cross was donated by the William Heinemann family in memory of their first son, Otto, who died at the age of seven in 1921. The "IHS" letters on the cross are a contraction derived from the Greek word ΙΗΣΟΥΣ, Jesus. Sketch on the right appeared in the April 1941 monthly church newsletter.



Wine For Communion During Prohibition

During the era of prohibition, Rev. Doellefeld made wine out of red beets so he would have wine for communion. He also gave some of the wine to church members who needed medicine. One older woman at the time had stomach cancer and the wine helped to ease her pain.



Church Finances for April 1922

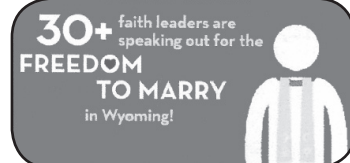
The early financial ledgers were all written in German. English appears in a ledger for the first time in 1922. The total income for the month of April 1922 was \$128.11. Total expenses for the month were \$130.63. Expenses included \$100 for the pastor's salary, \$2 for lights, \$3.76 for the phone and \$9.50 for coal.

1922 Church Improvements

Minutes from a Trustees meeting in 1922 recorded the motion to order the carved wood items for the church. The 1922 minutes were the first ones recorded in English, with all previous minutes recorded in German. The treasurer was instructed to order the following items from St. Luke's House; #804 - pulpit with steps, #502 - baptism fountain and #784 - altar.

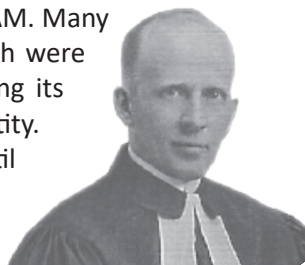
Freedom to Marry

Rev. Jamie Kepros joined 30 other faith leaders in Wyoming to organize the "Freedom to Marry" movement in Wyoming. Part of Rev. Jamie's commitment statement read: "Jesus didn't say anything about same-sex marriage, but he did say a lot about justice, inclusion and love."



English Services of 1924

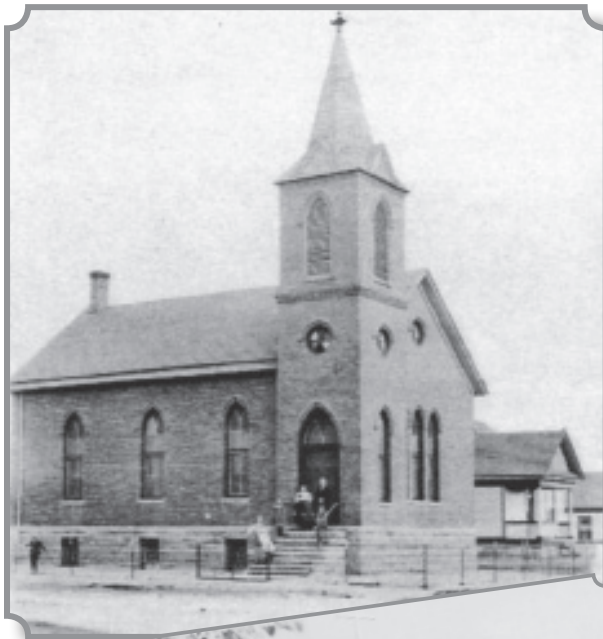
The Trustees voted in 1924 to conduct English services every Sunday from 11:00 AM until Noon. German services would be held every other Sunday from 9:00 AM until 10:00 AM. Many of the old German families of the church were not happy and felt the church was losing its German roots and part of its historic identity. Rev. O. F. Geisler, pastor from 1920 until 1925, was able to conduct services in both English and German.



Early Laramie

The church's 100th anniversary book had information about the early days in Laramie. In May of 1868, the town had "about 5,000 souls with one-third being respectable and two-thirds being gamblers, robbers and prostitutes."

Our Church Building Through the Years



St. Paul's United Church of Christ - 2020



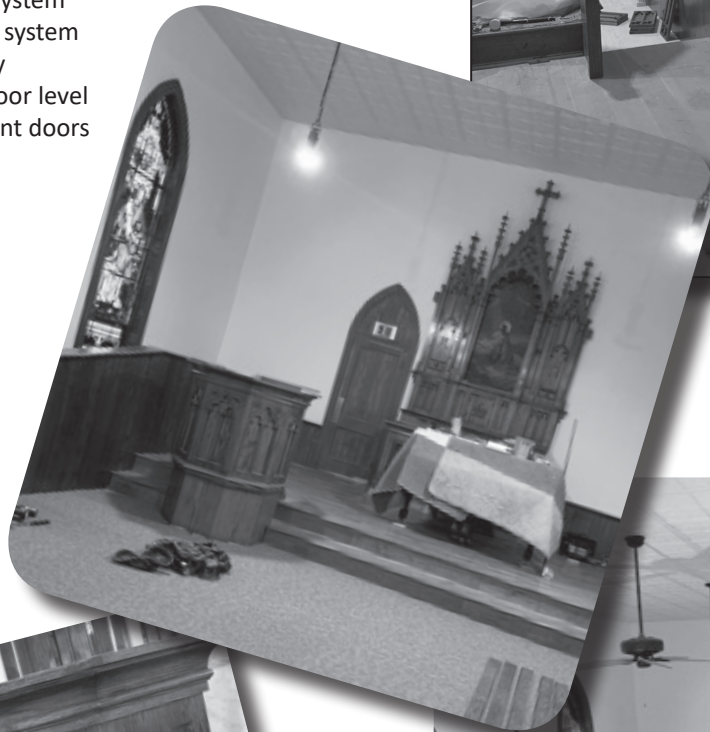
Our Church Interior Through the Years



Building Renovations 2020

Renovations included:

- Adding ramp to altar area
- Removing 4 layers of wall paper
- Painting walls
- Installing wood floor on raised platform
- Installing dropped ceiling
- Adding new carpet
- Moving piano and organ to raised platform
- Adding spotlights above stained glass windows on north side
- Carpeting stairs to balcony
- Updating electrical work
- Updating speaker system
- Installing projector system
- Renovating balcony
- Moving pulpit to floor level
- Replacing entry front doors



Installation of Interior Ramp in 2020



Completed Renovations 2020



More Information on Church History

Several church historical documents can be downloaded from the church's history web page at: <https://www.ucclaramie.org/history-of-st-pauls.html> (or do a key word search on the web for "history St. Paul's UCC, Laramie, Wyoming.") Historical documents include: the 50th anniversary booklet, the 60th anniversary booklet, the 100th anniversary booklet, the history book of confirmation classes (1887-1990) and the 100th anniversary booklet for the church building. The web page also includes select photos and other historical information.

Additionally, a church history book can be purchased at lulu.com (key word search for "St. Paul's Laramie, WY"). Books may also be available for purchase at the church.

