



Here We Stand

O God, from my youth you have taught me, and I still proclaim your wondrous deeds. So even to old age and gray hair, O God, do not forsake me, until I proclaim your might to another generation, your power to all those to come.

Psalms 71:17-18

HAVE QUESTIONS or need to meet to discuss participation? Would you like to have a presentation at your church? Call Ray or Linda at 888.225.2111.



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Michigan District, LCMS Here We Stand Update

September 2021

A Caring Community in Pontiac

St. Paul Community, Pontiac, located in an impoverished area about 20 miles northwest of Detroit, seeks to serve its neighbors by providing for their needs. The church's Facebook page profile reads, "Located in the heart of a struggling Pontiac, MI. Our focus is to bring more people to believe that Jesus is their Lord and Savior!"

According to St. Paul Community's pastor, Rev. Chris Jung, every day there is someone in need, whether be it for food, clothing, or even for a phone (the church helps them get a government-issued phone). They have a clothing closet and a food pantry that are open twice a week, and on Wednesdays they hold a Bible study and serve a hot meal. Jung says the meal has been drive-thru only this year, and they can serve anywhere from 2-70 meals a week. On Fridays they hold "Friday Foods"—a giveaway of food collected from grocery stores and restaurants by a mission through Trinity, Utica.

St. Paul Community's Parish Nurse also serves by holding vaccination clinics, blood pressure checks, health care classes, and first-aid classes. They held a flu vaccination clinic last October and had a turnout of about 38 people—many more than they expected.

Caring for the children in the community is also a priority for the church, which held a Vacation Bible School at the end of July. The VBS had two components: one for the grade school children and another for the preteens and teen-



St. Paul Community's Parish Nurse Mary (I) talking with members.

Photos by Jeff Heisner/Michigan District, LCMS

agers. The teens did different cultural activities and service projects throughout Metro Detroit.

St. Paul Community is also currently in the process of planning an improvement program that will include an outdoor pavilion, new children's playground, and a half-court basketball court. Pastor Jung says, "It will take a while to get all of that done, but we are ticking along."

The ministry at St. Paul Community, Pontiac is part of the A2E initiative supported by the Michigan District's Here We Stand Campaign. For more information, visit herewestand.michigandistrict.org.

Campaign Progress

Over \$8.88 million in gifts, pledges, and congregational goals to date.

Congregation Highlights

We would like to thank St. John, Cheboygan; Lamb of God, Flint; St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth; St. John, Rochester; Christ Our King, Saline; and St. Matthew, Westland for their most recent gifts to the campaign.