ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER

June 2022

God's Miracle Math

Sometimes we think miracles only happened in the Biblical times or other parts of the world. Miracles occur today, too, but they do not develop in a vacuum. They grow from what we have, not from what we don't have. When we need to pay our bills, we know God does not throw money from heaven to pay our bills.

I have many experiences in that regard. Yet when we saw someone else's financial need, it was hard for us to surrender, to give the money to the needy. We still required that money for our necessities. However, once we shared what we had with others, it came back later – from someone's generosity, our labor, or an unexpected source. As we experienced this more and more, we learned about God's math and what it means to have financial freedom.

How many of you have so much that you freely give it away? Very few. We always desire more. But God always asks us to surrender and place in His hands what we have. He takes our gifts and multiplies them. I'm always amazed by God's math.

Please think of the boy who surrendered his five loaves of bread and two fish to Christ. Overwhelmed by the multitude, I would have thought, "What can my little lunch do? I only have a little. I'm also hungry." I would do human math and save it for myself. That boy gave his lunch to Jesus. What courage and trust in God he had! Then, the miracle took place. Jesus used what he already had and multiplied it. A little in the hand of God is a lot. When it is shared, it multiplies. Jesus appreciated the two



pennies that the widow donated. When Jesus' friends needed wine at the wedding, he didn't simply make the wine appear. He took what they had, water, and turned it into wine. It is how miracles come about. It is God's math.

I see miracles in our churches every day. Please think of families that need some food, and their refrigerator is filled by our support (SMILE and HEARTFELT). Please think of the children who receive support from our Christmas season 'shoebox' ministry. Please think of the people whose needs are filled by our support (PDF: Pastor's Discretionary Fund).

Please think of the person who comes on Sunday discouraged and finds connection through our worship service. Think of a person whose life is changed when reading the Bible. Those are just a few of the miracles in St. Paul UMC. Again, miracles do not happen in a vacuum. They grow through the generous gifts from your heart and wallet; we need to do it more and more as the Apostle Paul encouraged people in Thessalonica, "Now concerning love of the brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anyone write to you, for you yourselves have been taught by God to love one another, and indeed you do love all the brothers and sisters throughout Macedonia. But we urge you, brothers and sisters, to do so more and more. (1 Thessalonians 4:9-10)."

I'm so proud of your generosity. Let us continue to be miracle makers!



During the month of May, St. Paul Uprising! Uth "took a look at God's world" in a sense. What can be our response to a world in turmoil? Our May 1 gathering held the theme "In a Perfect World" as we recognized our world is far from the perfection in which God created it. The purpose of our gathering was to give our students a chance to consider what it might be like "in a perfect world." Our underlying theme foundation to consider the persons we might be and things we might do to be God's church of students, the "City On A Hill" Jesus spoke of…and how to "get there!" We watched and "dissected" a video entitled "Love Your Neighbor As Yourself," focusing on the actions taken and then discussed if there were the same or similar things we could do to more clearly and powerfully show God's love to others. We also discussed ways we could make our actions "point toward Jesus" rather than to ourselves before finishing by identifying things we felt would and would not exist in a "perfect" world. We finalized our time by returning to Jesus's "Two Great Commandments" and a review of the Uprising!'s purpose to "CROSS" in order to fulfill the church's mission. (Our words are C - <u>Care</u> for one another as a Christian family/R - <u>Reach</u> R friends by living Jesus' love/O - <u>Offer</u> our lives as acts of Worship of God/S - <u>Share</u> in our search of God's Word and for God's purpose for our lives/S - <u>Serve</u> God thru serving others)

May 8 was Mother's Day, so as is our tradition we took it to share God's love with the mothers and mother-figures in our lives (and honor them by giving them a break from transporting, cooking, and helping lead youth discussions!). Then on May 15 we returned to Uprising! where we continued to "look at our world" by tackling a question that surveys over the years have shown to be the #1 obstacle to faith. That question is "Why is there suffering in this world?" We segmented our deep-dive into person's given reactions to this question from a faith (or non-faith) perspective. Responses are often, "Because suffering exists, there can be no God, or God isn't all knowing, or God isn't all powerful, or God can't be all loving." As you can guess, this generated a lot of discussion with reasonable answers a loving God has for each of the questions raised. We also acknowledged that there are things we often refer to as "suffering" that are merely "issues" or "problems" or "challenges," some of which benefit us. Besides The Holy Bible, another main source for this discussion was Lee Strobel's book "The Case For Faith."

We look to June with excitement as 3 of our St. Paul Uprising! Uth will graduate from Patuxent HS on June 1! Then on June 5 (Pentecost Sunday!), 5 of our group will be baptized and confirmed into membership with our St. Paul family. We'll also acknowledge our graduates on that day and we hope for a big turnout of our church family to support them all!



2022 Confirmation Service | Senior Sunday Service

Our 2022 Confirmation Class participants are on track to take their vows to serve Jesus as Lord and Savior through their church family on Pentecost Sunday, June 5. All five will be baptized and confirmed. We will also acknowledge our 2022 graduates. We are in the midst of planning that service with the intent to have a church family celebration at conclusion.

We have taught our 2022 confirmands about being a **<u>community</u>** of believers in the God of the Bible, in Jesus Christ as Savior of us all, and in God's Holy Spirit as our life-giving Guide and Advocate. That morning as they are baptized and pledge their vows of membership, we, their St. Paul church family will reaffirm our membership vows of helping them to grow as disciples, as together we love and serve God in community. As God adopts us all in baptism, the church in turn adopts those being baptized and confirmed into the family of Christian faith and service. Please mark your calendars and plan to be part of this service and celebration as we witness and celebrate our newest members and our 2022 graduates and show them that our support for them continues. We will have further announcements as our plans for that day advance.

2022 Confirmation Service / Senior Sunday Service and Reception/Church Picnic

Our 2022 Confirmation Class participants are on track to take their vows to serve Jesus as Lord and Savior through their church family on Pentecost Sunday, June 5. All five will be baptized and confirmed. We will also acknowledge our 2022 graduates. Our plans are for this to be a combined time of worship and celebration in this manner: Our normal 11:00am worship service WILL OCCUR AT **10:30am** in the Activity Center. We'll then break to travel to the water-front at the end of Stores Road in Olivet (just beyond Olivet United Methodist Church) where we plan to reconvene the service about 20 minutes later and will perform baptisms in the water and confirmations at the waterfront on the property of Sandy and Tommy Younger. At the conclusion of the service at the water, we will continue our gathering there on -site at the waterfront for a Confirmation reception/Church picnic to celebrate our newest members! We will also celebrate our graduating High School seniors and will be acknowledging them during our worship time. (Our "bad-weatherback-up-plan" would be to complete the service on-site and then have the reception/celebration in the Activity & Worship Center immediately following the service.)

We have taught our 2022 confirmands about being a **<u>community</u>** of believers in the God of the Bible, in Jesus Christ as Savior of us all, and in God's Holy Spirit as our life-giving Guide and Advocate. That morning as they are baptized and pledge their vows of membership, we, their St. Paul church family will reaffirm our membership vows of helping them to grow as disciples, as together we love and serve God in community. As God adopts us all in baptism, the church in turn adopts those being baptized and confirmed into the family of Christian faith and service. Please mark your calendars and plan to be part of this service and celebration as we witness and celebrate our newest members and also our 2022 graduates and show them that our support for them continues.

We ask each family to bring a potluck luncheon dish to share and lawn chairs for your family as we live our vows, greeting our newest members, graduates and their families. Fried chicken will be provided.

We have a need for volunteers willing to team on items-to-be-done for our celebration picnic. Please let Youth Pastor Dave or Debby Showalter know if/how you can help with the picnic reception. Or please fill out the area below where you can help and send that part to Youth Pastor Dave. (The waterfront/picnic site is just beyond Olivet UMC and is about 10 minutes from St. Paul UMC.)

Transport St. Paul tables to and from the waterfront/picnic site:		//	
	Name		Phone
Provide a canopy or tent to and from the waterfront site:	//		
(<u>Need 3</u>)	Name		Phone
On-site canopy set up/break down assistance:	//		
	Name	Phone	
Transport picnic supplies (plates/napkins/plasticware/drink containers) to the site.			//
	Na	me	Phone
Help with food & supplies set-up in canopy/on tables at beginning of picnic.		1	//
	Na	me	Phone

(In case of inclement weather that prevents our baptisms and celebration picnic to be outdoors, we will conduct the entire service on-site at St. Paul and do our celebration picnic in the Activity & Worship Center once we set up tables & chairs.)

Thanks in advance and All God's Continued, Absolute & Extravagant Best 4 Each of U & UR Families!!



~ JUNE ~

St. Paul UMC Finances as of 30 April 2022

	Actual (YTD)	Budget (YTD)	Annual Budget	Annual %
Contributions	\$ 106,857.24	\$138,054.60	\$410,241.85	26.0%
Expenses	\$118,212.62	\$132,379.50	\$410,241.85	28.8%

The St. Paul UMC congregations has graciously made an additional \$16,024.68 in benevolent (restricted giving) to benefit the ministries, missions and those in need in 2022.

Current Month (Mar)	Actual	Budget	Variance (better / (worse)	Annual %
Contributions	\$ 25,133.58	\$ 34,898.40	(\$9,764.82)	-28.0%
Expenses	\$28,475.42	\$ 33,338.88	\$4,863.46	14.6%

╋

amazonsmile

You shop. Amazon gives.

Amazon donates 0.5% of the price of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to the charitable organization of your choice. AmazonSmile is the same Amazon you know. Same products, same prices, same service. Support **St Paul United Methodist** by starting your shopping going to the St Paul Website @ www.stpaul-lusby.org and hitting the AMAZONSMILE link.

Thanks to all the congregation members and others who have selected St. Paul United Methodist Church as your Amazon Smile charity. As a direct result of this and people shopping online using <u>smile.amazon.com</u>, we recently received a quarterly donation from Amazon in the amount of \$96.65 which will be placed in our Reserve fund. Please stay safe, healthy, and continue to shop at <u>smile.amazon.com</u> when it makes sense for you to do so.

Your St. Paul UMC Finance Committee



We had meetings on May 24, 2022, about the change of UMC/GMC.

The meeting videos are available now.

1) You can find them on St. Paul's website, www.stpaulumc-lusby.org.

Please click the 'Church Events' tab in the menu on the top.

3) Please scroll down once you get to the 'Church Events' page. You won't miss the videos.

Going the second mile

In Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, he teaches, "If anyone forces you to go one mile, go also the second mile" (Matthew 5:41, NRSV). Back then, Jews were subject to Roman rule and often compulsory service. Commoners could be forced to fetch water, carry baggage and perform other menial tasks. So Jesus suggests that rather than complying with gritted teeth and muttered curses, people offer to carry the pack a second mile as well.

These days, the second (or extra) mile denotes going beyond what's expected or required, whether in effort or kindness. In *Going the Second Mile*, Mel Blackaby describes the concept as "the difference between living as a good person and enjoying life as a child of God." He explains, "When you 'do your best' for someone, you go the first mile. When God does his best through you, you experience the second mile. This can happen only when you let Christ in you take over and empower you to accomplish what is impossible by your natural abilities. While others see you on the first mile, they see Christ on the second."

—adapted from The Wired Word



Christian symbol

SEED—The Bible often uses seeds as symbols of faith or God's Word. In the Old Testament, seeds also refer to offspring. Jesus said people who believe in him can perform mighty deeds with "faith the size of a mustard seed" (Luke 17:6, NRSV). Many of Jesus' teachings use seed imagery; for example, in the parable of the four soils, he said the seed, God's Word, can grow only when people hear it, "hold it fast in an honest and good heart, and bear fruit with patient endurance" (Luke 8:15, NRSV).





We are now accepting registration for the 2022-2023 School Year.

A \$75 non-refundable registration fee is required to hold your spot.

*Contact the SPUMPS Director @ spumps07@yahoo.com or by calling 410-326-3615 for more information or to schedule a tour.



Anthony Bennett - breathing problems Ashlyn Barrett - heart issues Ava Brame - health issues Benjamin Kindsvater - Crohn's disease Bill Clothier - lung issues Charlie Rivers - heart disease Crystal Seibel - fighting MS Debi Jagodzinski - health issues Dorothy Gaylord - health issues Edith Thomas - heart attack Elizabeth Baltimore - stroke Ernie Amos Heather Dolan - lime & liver disease Jake Campbell Janet Cave Jeanne Harris Jeff White Jessica Pohlman Jim Bainham - health issues Jim Sypult - pulmonary fibrosis Joanna Polanskl - Alzheimer's Jovce Matthew Judy Fewell Kirk Taylor - health issues Marie Barrett Martha Bliss Martha Jefferson & family Mary Ann Cranford **Rick Matthews - breathing issues** Roger Ward - health issues **Rose Barrett** Sam Williams Sue Mackey – fighting MS Teresa Gibson - health issues Tim Allor - lyme disease William Cave





Billy Bobb Bob Wilson Bruce Dickonson – throat Cheryl Belles - ovarian **Denise Herrington - breast** Darlene Fromhart **Emily Shooks** Flora Scarcia **George Richards** Henry Reiss James Newman Jenne Rothwell - breast Jerry Curtis - bone, lung, brain Joe Dodson Jovanni Licalzi – LCH Keith Kretchman – lymphoma Kelly Smith Luanne Barnas - breast Marjorie Hall - behind the eye Maxwel Guidoitz - liver Rebecca Cecil Rosalinda Smith – breast Sandy Webb Sara Strange - stage 4 Suzanne – Multiple Myeloma



Call the Prayer Chain when you need prayer for yourself or others. Activate it by calling anyone on the list, anytime, day or night. When called, they will pray for your concern and pass the concern on to the other

prayer chain members. Do not hesitate to use the power our gracious Lord has given us. Call on Him for help and guidance.

John & Sessaly Boyd 410 326-4390 Cal & Carolyn Colvin Ben & Vonnie Dansberger Ruth Dixon Ruth Humphreys John & Robin Read Andy & Beth Rogers Dave & Debby Showalter Susan Leins Baker

301 862-3273 410 326-2994 410 326-3821 410 326-4687 443 404-8559 410 326-6346 410 326-2150 410 326-6234



ADAMS, Ashley	06/03
ARTZ, Sandy	06/03
HUMPHREYS, Carla	06/04
BEARD, A. Gregory	06/10
READ, Mark	06/10
SCROGGS, Savannah	06/10
HOLMBERG III, Carl	06/11
KINDSVATER, Elizabeth	06/12
SHEA, Kiersten	06/12
THOMAS, Helen	06/12
HALSTEAD, Robert	06/15
SAMS, David	06/16
SCRUGGS, Kandra	06/17
FOUSE, James	06/20
MILLING, Carla	06/21
POUNCEY, Jason	06/21
GRAY, Gabriella	06/22
SULLIVAN, Allison	06/22
TURLINGTON, Hunter	06/22
DIGEORGE, Krista	06/25
POWELL, Braden	06/26
HUMPHREYS, Ronald	06/27
MACKIEWICZ, Stephen	06/28
MULVEY, Jackie	06/28
POUNCEY, Livy	06/28
ALLOR, Timothy	06/29
BERTELSEN, Ellen	06/29
NICHOLSON, Stephen	06/29
FOUSE Jr., Stephen	06/30



Submissions for the July newsletter deadline is July 20, 2022 Thank you.

Office Contacts & Information

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Myungha Baek
Church E-Mail:	PastorBaek.stpaul@comcast.net

 Youth Pastor:
 Rev. Dr. Dave Showalter

 Church E-Mail:
 dave4godsteens.stpaul@comcast.net

Office Administrator: Church E-Mail: **Teri Herren** therren.stpaul@comcast.net

OFFICE PHONE: 410.326.4475

OFFICE HOURS:

At this time, there will physically be a person in the office as follows:

Monday: Tuesday—Thursday Fridays 10am to 1pm 10am to 3pm 9am to 12pm

PLEASE ALWAYS FEEL FREE TO CALL TO SET-UP AN APPOINTMENT IF YOU HAVE A NEED OUTSIDE OF THOSE HOURS.

"SMILE" Food Pantry Donations

Non-Perishable grocery items are collected the 1st Sunday of each month in St. Paul's parking lot!

June 2022 Special Days Some of the special days celebrated in June are:

- Day of Pentecost June 5, 2022
- Trinity Sunday June 12, 2022
- Flag Day June 14, 2022
- Father's Day June 19, 2022
- Summer Begins June 21, 2022











no one

00

Ũ 0 ٥



EVERY SUNDAY: 11:00am - "LIVESTREAM" INDOOR Worship Service in the Sanctuary

EVERY SUNDAY: 9:00am "LIVESTREAM" <u>INDOOR/DRIVE-IN</u> Worship Service in the Sanctuary/Sanctuary Parking Lot



St. Paul United Methodist Church 11000 HG Trueman Road Lusby, MD 20657 (410) 326-4475 (410) 326-4475 5tpaulumc-lusby.org

moo.liemp@ofniomuluedt2



Online Giving QR Code

