

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

MESSENGER

June 2023



Lead A Life Worthy of the Calling

“I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to lead a life worthy of the calling to which you have been called... “ (Ephesians 4:1)

What is to live a life worthy of calling? If we look at the context where it is written, we know that we are called to be connected to the other members of the body and learn to follow Christ, building up one another.

God institutes a church as the body of Christ to express God’s love and purpose for the world. It is a mystery. God never calls a church to be perfect. The church is rather a group of people who see themselves as imperfect. Church is a group of people who share struggles like Paul, who desperately confessed in Romans 7:15-16, “I do not understand my own actions. For I do not do what I want, but I do the very thing I hate. Now if I do what I do not want, I agree that the law is good. But in fact, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me.” And he continues, “Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death? Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord. (v24, 25)

Therefore, Church is a group of people who dare to be vulnerable, saying, ‘I need you, and You also need me. “Unlike our expectation, Church is a messy place. Because it is a messy place, the church is a place filled with song, ‘Grace greater than our sins.”

God intends our faith to be personal yet communal, not private. We are members of one body. God calls us to be a church to learn how to live together with all our differences of skin color, class, values, sexuality, or political views. Living together as a church is a prophetic calling in our divisive world.

Summer is right around the corner. Some people say that we all go slow, including a church in the summer season. But I don’t think God said that, and I don’t think Bible said that, either. We have beautiful four seasons in our area. But there’s no slow or fast season in God’s love. There’s always ‘unchangeable, unconditional love of God’ No matter how hot or cold it is, God’s love always protects us and leads our lives in God’s way.

And there are always people whom God sent to us. It's called 'Church'. The church is not a building. It's 'people,' called 'people' from the darkness by God. Look around you. There is joy in sharing our life. We will be here for you. Come, belong, and experience the mystery of being the body of Christ.

There's a song, "I need you to survive," by Hezekiah Walker.

I need you, you need me. We're all a part of God's body.

Stand with me, agree with me. We're all a part of God's body.

It is his will that every need be supplied.

You are important to me, I need you to survive.

You are important to me, I need you to survive.

I need you, you need me. We're all a part of God's body.

Stand with me, agree with me. We're all a part of God's body.

It is his will that every need be supplied.

You are important to me, I need you to survive.

You are important to me, I need you to survive.

I pray for you, you pray for me. I love you, I need you to survive.

I won't harm you with words from my mouth. I love you, I need you to survive.

It is his will, that every need be supplied. You are important to me, I need you to survive.

Dear St. Paul UMC family, see you at church!

From, Rev. Myungha Baek



As we travel into the (much anticipated!) end of our school year and toward summer, St. Paul Uprising! Uth will be dedicating our gathering times to the last few episodes of our “Life Revealed” series. “Life Revealed,” based on the book of Acts, sends us into Jesus’s instruction to His disciples and His transforming imprint on Paul’s life to create, expand, and guide the early church. The series provides questions for us to think about and challenges us to apply Acts to our everyday lives. We have also begun to work with Miss Keri to prepare for Vacation Bible School to be held at the end of June, an effort we plan to continue until VBS week when we join in to help disciple and guide our younger ones.

Between sessions centered on our “Life Revealed” series, we watched the 2nd installation of C.S. Lewis’s “Chronicles of Narnia,” this time viewing “Prince Caspian” and then discussing the allegorical references to God’s Kingdom vs. the kingdom of the world, how good and evil present at times, and other parallels.

The summer months will see “The Uprising!” combining fun, service, witness and learning as is our typical pattern.

HS Sunday school has spent several weeks considering areas of apologetics (defense of our Christian beliefs) through viewing and discussing Q & A sessions of Dr. William Lane Craig who was a contributor to Lee Strobel’s ground-breaking book “The Case For Christ.” Going forward, we have asked if we can utilize some of our Sunday school time assisting with pre-work we might can help with in the run-up to VBS.

Youth Pastor Dave

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR ST. PAUL UMC 2023 GRADUATING SENIORS

Kayden Chandler (Great Mills HS, St. Mary's County)

Mason Chandler (Great Mills HS, St. Mary's County)

Olivia Pouncey (Patuxent HS)

Wyatt Rickwood (Patuxent HS)

Madilynne (Madi) Spencer (Patuxent HS)

Hunter Turlington (Patuxent HS)

Ella Ulrey (Patuxent HS)

Lay Leader

Donna House

I hope you were as excited as I was to have “The Passing of the Peace” back as part of our worship service on May 7th. How exciting to be able to share again in such a special way and to greet each other during the communion liturgy with “Peace be with you!” I am looking forward to the first Sunday of each month to continue this meaningful ritual.

St. Paul United Methodist Church has much to celebrate. We came strongly through the many Covid restrictions that kept us physically apart for so long. Through it all, SPUMC still ministered to our community in so many ways through Vacation Bible School, Candy Dash, Trunk or Treat, Uprising “Uth” Group, Backpack Program, and so much more. Just as the world was getting back to normal, St. Paul UMC began the discernment process for disaffiliation. Your Church Council voted to stop the process due to lack of participation by the congregation, and I am happy to say we will remain a United Methodist Church.

I am excited to welcome new members into our congregation on May 28th. St. Paul UMC has many opportunities to grow through our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. I look forward to worshipping with you and for your future involvement in our church family.

Sunday School

Susan Baker

Report by Susan Baker

Contact text/call 410-474-3896

The main goal for Sunday School Ministry is to increase Sunday School attendance.

Class Reports:

The adult class has an average attendance of 3 attendees with 1 facilitator/ teacher for the month of April. The discussions have been about "Wesley's 22 Questions". We are still looking for shared leadership for the adult class. We will also need a fill in facilitator for June as Joan's husband will have surgery.

The high school class has an attendance of 4-5 students with 3 adult teachers.

The elementary class has an attendance of 3-8 students with 2 adult teachers. we continue to use the Dig In lessons Bible In One Year by Group. Thank you to Carol Howard for filling in when I was absent.

Requests:

Please continue to pray daily for our Sunday School Ministry as God guides you. Please continue to consider your participation in a class as a student, teacher/facilitator or helper.

Thank you to all those who help make the Sunday School ministry possible by teaching, attending, and praying for us!

Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Worship

Susan Kennedy

April Attendance:

9:00 – Average 65

11:00 – Average 22

Upcoming

Next Worship Committee meeting is Sunday, July 16.

SPUMPS

Full time & Part-time slots available for SPUMPS 2023/2024 school year.

Contact SPUMPS at 410-326-3615 or spumps07@yahoo.com

Please share with others who may be interested.

Thank you.

Susan Quisenberry, Director/SPUMPS

We can't wait to shine Jesus' light!

Please join us for a STELLAR summer VBS! June 26 – June 30 8:50 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

Register online www.stpaulumc-lusby.org (Click on the tab at the top “St. Paul UMC Events”) or register using <https://vbspro.events/p/events/26ee40> or scan the QR code in the picture below.

Registration is \$20/Child (\$30 family max) + \$10/shirt(optional)

*T-shirt requests due by June 2nd



If you have any questions, please contact us at spumcvbs@gmail.com. Hope you see you then!

Prayer Requests

Call the Prayer Chain when you need a 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
Andy & Beth Rogers 410-326-6346
Dave & Debby Showalter 410-326-2150
Susan Leins Baker.....410-326-6234

SMILE

<http://smileinc.org>

SENIOR FRIDAYS New Policy

All Seniors ages 62 and older receive 50% off on all clothing to be worn by the cardholder only. The following items are excluded – jewelry, furs, leather, shoes, and new items. Proof of age is required. Discount only applies to person named on the discount card. **All previous cards need to be reissued so please see the receptionist at the front desk.**

THRIFT STORE SHOPPING SCHEDULE

Wednesday – Thursday – Friday 10 am to 2 pm

Saturday 9 am to 12 pm

Donation Hours and Rules

Wednesday – Thursday – Friday 10 am to 1:15 pm

Saturday 9 am to 11:15 am

“SMILE” FOOD PANTRY DONATIONS

Non-perishable grocery items are collected the 1st Sunday of each month at our parish. A donation box is located in the lobby of the CLC.

We gladly accept “gently used items” and will help you unload. Please be mindful of the following items that are NOT accept: tv cabinets, computers, mattresses, china cabinets, entertainment centers, drop-side cribs, nonworking items, upholstered furniture with rips or stains, molded or mildewed items, magazines, or printers.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Lilly Lankford	6/1	Allison Sullivan	6/22
Ashley Adams	6/3	Hunter Turlington	6/22
Sandy Artz	6/3	Krista DiGeorge	6/25
Carla Humphreys	6/4	Ronald Humphreys	6/27
Rhys Felsher	6/8	Stephen Mackiewicz	6/28
A. Gregory Beard	6/10	Jackie Mulvey	6/28
Mark Read	6/10	Marty Nash	6/28
Savannah Scroggs	6/10	Livy Pouncy	6/28
Elizabeth Kindsvater	6/12	Timothy Allor	6/29
Robert Halstead	6/15	Ellen Bertelsen	6/29
James Fouse	6/20	Stephen Nicholson	6/29
Carla Milling	6/21	Stephen Fouse, Jr.	6/30
Kathy Matthews	6/21		
Gabriella Gray	6/22		

OFFICE CONTACTS & INFORMATION

Senior Pastor: **Rev. Myungha Baek**
Church Email: PastorBaek@stpaulumc-lusby.org

Youth Pastor: **Rev. Dr. Dave Showalter**
Church E-Mail: dave4godsteens.stpaul@comcast.net

Admin. Assistant: **Kathy Matthews**
Church E-Mail: kmatthews@stpaulumc-lusby.org

OFFICE PHONE: **410.326.4475**

OFFICE EMAIL: **stpaulumcinfo@gmail.com**

SPUMC COVID Statement

“COVID 19 and its variants are still with us. Health Care Professionals continue to recommend vaccinations and booster shots. St. Paul believes masks are a personal choice and will continue to provide them at the entrance along with hand sanitizer. And as always, if you don’t feel well, please stay home and visit us online!”

LOST AND FOUND

SPUMC has a “Lost and Found” basket stationed in the lobby of the Christian Life Center.

Contact Kathy at the church office if you have any questions.

**Submissions for the July
Messenger are due June 14.**
Thank you

GIFT CARDS

Every Sunday, food cards for Giant and Weis are available to purchase in the CLC. This assists in our operating budget.



St. Paul United Methodist Church

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410-326 – 4475

<https://stpaulumc-lusby.org/>

<https://www.facebook.com/StPaulLusby>

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