



November 24, 2019

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

A Big Ask

Rev. Dr. Kandace Brooks

The mission of Saint Paul's United Methodist Church is to be a faithful community of disciples who serve as the heart, hands and feet of Christ so that all people come to know the love of God.

Haleluia

Music by Leonard Cohen/Words by Kuana Torres Kahele

Here is the newborn King from heaven; Let us sing praises
This is Christ our Savior, The heavenly Father of the world. Haleluia

Come all and see the newborn King of Bethlehem
So beautiful is the child of the Virgin Mary, beautiful indeed
True God of the world. Haleluia

Jesus is Christ; Let us worship him on the Sabbath day, Haleluia
The Father of the highest heavens, our Savior, the King. Haleluia



What a wonderful Sunday we had last week – brava to our many missions groups for the successful Alternative Christmas Market which allows us to support our missional outreach beyond our Operating Budget. Thank you for your generosity in supporting these missions:

Creation Care - \$860.00
Florida United Methodist Children's Home - \$275
Iglesia Metodista de Yaguaramas - \$775
Jail and Prison Ministry - \$335
Kate Sullivan Elementary School - \$379
Manna on Meridian - \$150
Sleep in Heavenly Peace - \$1295
Soul Food - \$275
TOTAL - \$4324

It was really good to have Pastor Isaac Isayde and his wife Tania from our sister church in Yaguaramas, with us in worship last Sunday. We were able to share many hopes and dreams for our continued relationship with our sister church, and they were able to connect with several folks from around the conference.

In addition to all this, we received our first batch of pledge cards for our BEGIN WITH LOVE Stewardship Campaign for 2020. This fund, as you know, is for the support of our Operating Budget, which includes everything from staff salaries and benefits, to utilities and insurance payments, apportionments, building upkeep, and ministry support. I wanted to let you know that after our first week, we have received 93 pledges to total \$383,850.84. This is a solid start towards planning for our 2020 budget, and I thank you for your response. However, for us to make budget decisions that reflect good stewardship of your giving, we will need a more complete picture. May I invite you to either bring your completed pledge card to worship, or in your absence, fill out the [online pledge card](#).

Today we celebrate the joy of fellowship that we enjoy at Saint Paul's at our Thanksgiving Dinner following the 11:00 a.m. service. Please join us!

~ Pastor Kandace

Around Saint Paul's

MUSIC AT SAINT PAUL'S

Toddler and Preschool Music Groups will not meet this coming Wednesday, but will resume on December 4.

SPARKS Choir will not rehearse this week, but WILL sing for the Hanging of the Greens on Sunday, December 1, 4:15 p.m. We'll meet for warm-ups at 4:30 in the sanctuary. Wear casual holiday clothes. We will resume December 4 for our dress rehearsal for "The Christmas Scene Revisited." The performance will be Wednesday, December 11, 6:30 in the Sanctuary.

Saint Paul's Dancers rehearse this afternoon at 4:15 in the Sanctuary.

Youth Choir meets this afternoon at 4:30 in the Choir Room. We'll sing for the Hanging of the Greens Sunday, December 1, 5:00 p.m. Our warm-up time is 4:00 p.m.

Handbell Choir rehearses at 5:30 this afternoon in the sanctuary. We'll play for the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services and the 5:00 p.m. Hanging of the Greens on December 1.

Covenant Chancel Choir meets Tuesdays from 6:00 - 7:15 p.m. in the Choir Room. This choir sings at the 11:00 worship service weekly and occasionally at the 8:30 service. We, also, perform Christmas and Easter cantatas. We would love for you to try us out. Email Cynthia Prescott at prescottc1360@gmail.com to learn more.

Se'lah If you want to sing but can't commit to singing weekly in worship, Se'lah is for you! We rehearse Tuesdays, 7:30 - 8:30 p.m. in the Choir Room. This group sings once a month in the worship services and gives an annual concert. Email Cynthia Prescott at prescottc1360@gmail.com for details.

YOUTH SUNDAY SCHOOL is studying *UNAFRAID - Living with Courage and Hope in Uncertain Times* by Adam Hamilton. The study guide was written expressly for youth and there are accompanying videos we'll watch each week. And, as with every youth lesson series, we'll have group-building games, snacks, and more! Every Sunday at 9:45 in room 211.

THANKSGIVING COVERED DISH DINNER Today, at 12:15 in Sanders Hall. Everyone is welcome.

POINSETTIAS SALES - Our ROOTED youth are selling poinsettias as a fundraiser. They are in the breezeway between Sunday School and the 11:00 a.m. service, or you can use the envelope in the pew. Poinsettias are \$14 each.

HELP ON WEDNESDAY NIGHT - The kitchen needs volunteers to collect money and check people in for dinner, and help serve meals on Wednesday evenings. If you would like to help please contact the church office, 385-5146.

COLLEGE CARE PACKAGES - Sometimes when kids go away to college it can be a time of disconnect from the church. We want to let our college students know we haven't forgotten them, and send a little bit of love and encouragement to them before their December exams. If you have a college student in your family, please email becky@saintpaulsumc.org with their current school address. If you would like to help create and send these care packages, make a note on the attendance pads, or email Rev. Becky to be added to the team.

BOY SCOUTS SELLING CHRISTMAS TREES - The Boy Scout Christmas Tree lot opens Friday, November 29, 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m. Regular hours are Monday - Friday 5:00 - 8:00 p.m., Saturdays 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m., and Sundays 12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m. Trees of all sizes, as well as wreaths, are available. Buying your Christmas tree from Troop 115 supports young men in our church and community. For more information, refer to the Troop's website, www.troop115.us.

Around Saint Paul's

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS

Dinner in Sanders Hall - 5:15 - 6:15 p.m. Reservations due by midnight Monday by calling 385-5146 or online at saintpaulsumc.org. \$7 adults, \$3 ages 4 - 12. November 27: No Wednesday evening dinner or studies.

UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME GIFT CARD WISH

LIST - As Christmas moves closer, we are excited to share our annual Christmas gift card drive during a season in which gift-giving and generosity are especially celebrated. The gift cards will be distributed across the Children's Home ministry to the children we serve. We would be most grateful for gift cards in increments of \$10, \$20, \$25 and \$50 from stores such as Walmart, Kohl's, Famous Footwear and Gamestop. Also, restaurants to treat the children over Christmas break like Golden Corral, Papa John's, Chick-Fil-A, McDonalds and Darden restaurants. Please include a gift card receipt and write the denomination on the card if not shown. Thank you for providing Christmas cheer! Some of our children have never experienced a real Christmas. Please see Janet Clark, the Children's Home Representative for Saint Paul's. She will be collecting gift cards November 17 through December 1.

CHRISTMAS MOVIE NIGHT

- Come see "The Star: The Story of the First Christmas." starting at 6:00 p.m. in Sanders Hall for all ages. Bring your camp chairs, pillow and blanket for the kids! Remember to RSVP for Dinner on the Facebook Event, or by calling the church office. Dinner begins at 5:30 p.m. with Homemade Pizza, Salad Bar, Christmas Cookies and Popcorn for the movie!

CHRISTMAS CANTATA

- Every culture in the world has its own Christmas legacy of song. Wherever there is Christian worship, the eternal story of the holy family is decorated with a lavish diversity of tuneful praise. From intimate lullabies to angelic acclamations, the music of Christmas covers the earth with its message love and peace. The Covenant Chancel Choir will present *The Song Heard 'Round the World* Sunday, December 8 at both the 8:30 and 11:00 services. Come and experience the songs of cultures all around the world as we celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

WOMEN'S RETREAT - Stronger than the Storm, Saint George Island.

February 6-8, 2020. Cost is \$150.00. Please sign up on the church web site, www.saintpaulsumc.org, under "Quick Links".

This Week at Saint Paul's

Sunday, November 24

4:15 pm SP Dancers/S
4:30 pm Youth Choir/CR
5:30 pm Handbells/S

Monday, November 25

7:45 am MoLab/300 & 301
8:00 am Classical Conversations/All Rms
6:30 pm Trustees/325
7:00 pm Missions Team Meeting/300

Tuesday, November 26

7:45 am MoLab/300 & 301
6:00 pm Covenant Chancel Choir/CR
7:30 pm Se'lah Choir/CR

Wednesday, November 27

7:45 am MoLab/300 & 301
10:30am Creation Care T-shirt bags/309
10:30am Soul Food Bagging/308

Thursday, November 28

Church Office Closed

Friday, November 29

Church Office Closed

9:00 am Boy Scouts Selling Christmas Trees

Saturday, November 30

9:00 am Boy Scouts Selling Christmas Trees
9:30 am Soul Food Distribution/
Lake Ella



As a Spirit-formed **living expression of the kingdom of God**, the vision of Saint Paul's United Methodist Church is to **glorify God** wholeheartedly, **grow** the community of the faithful, **nurture** the faithfulness of that community, **alleviate suffering** wherever it is found and **advocate** for **social justice**.

WELCOME, GUESTS!

We are glad you have chosen to worship with us today. Nurseries for ages infant to five years are located in the lower level of the sanctuary building. One of our friendly ushers can give directions to restrooms.

AIDS FOR THE VISUALLY AND HEARING IMPAIRED

Are available from our ushers. Kindly return the large-print hymnal at the end of worship. We, also, have hearing loops for hearing aids with t-coil technology.

NAME TAGS

Name tags help us get to know one another better. They are located in the narthexes. If you need a name tag, please indicate so on the attendance pad so we can make one for you. Please wear your name tag each week during worship.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

A wide variety of adult Sunday School classes and age-appropriate classes for children and youth are offered at 9:45. For details, visit the welcome table in Sanders Hall or call our office.

INTERESTED IN JOINING SAINT PAUL'S?

If you are interested in becoming a member of Saint Paul's, please indicate so on the attendance pad. We will set a date for you to be received with joy!

Financial Snapshot				
Expenses to date:	\$781,720.00	Average weekly expenses (2018): \$18,269.00		
Income to date:	\$739,364.00			
Actual Income:	November 3	November 10	November 17	November 24
	\$24,048.00	\$16,669.00	\$22,548.00	
Nov. 17 attendance: 8:30: 82 11:00: 179 Sunday School: 121				

We encourage you to give on-line - No wallet required! It's fast, safe, and secure. Use your phone's camera and hover over the image to go directly to the webpage for online giving. Or use this link to access online giving. <https://www.saintpaulsumc.org/give/>



Saint Paul's Staff

Rev. Dr. Kandace Brooks, Senior Pastor
 Rev. Becky Rokitowski, Associate Pastor
 Cynthia Prescott, Adult Choirs
 Gaye Herndon, Music Performance Associate
 Jill Merryday, Director of Children's Ministries
 Peggy Benton, Ministry Coordinator
 Kambea Chan, Children's Ministry Assistant
 Laurie Batten, Church Administrator

Linda Fletcher, Publishing Specialist
 Raymond Pandley, II, Youth Ministry Assistant
 Simon Webb, Lead Sexton
 Odis Williams, Assistant Sexton
 Betsy Gingery, Kitchen Coordinator
 Bridget Weisbrod, Nursery Coordinator