

FEBRUARY 2023

the EPISTLE



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- Feb. 1 Church 201 Class, Room 301
6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 3 Crafty Crop, Parlor
4:00 p.m.
- Feb. 4 Crafty Crop, Parlor
11:00 a.m.
- Feb. 8 Church 201 Class, Room 301
6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 12 Youth Superbowl Party
2914 Woodside Drive
- Feb. 13 Congregational Care
10:30 a.m., Room 326
- Feb. 14 United Women in Faith
10:00 a.m., Sanders Hall
- Feb. 15 Church 201 Class, Room 301
6:30 p.m.
- Feb. 18 Manna on Meridian
8:00 a.m. Faith Presbyterian

Date Night,
5:00 p.m., Nursery
- Feb. 19 Youth/Adult Contemporary
Service, 5:00 p.m.
Sanders Hall
- Feb. 21 Shrove Tuesday, Pancake Dinner
5:00 p.m., Sanders Hall
- Feb. 22 Ash Wednesday Service
6:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- Feb. 24-26 Women's Retreat
St. George Island
- Feb. 25 Soul Food Distribution
Lake Ella
- Feb. 27 Governing Board Meeting
6:30 p.m., Parlor

preparing
your heart for
LENT

FEBRUARY events

CRAFTY CROP

Join us for our Christmas Crafty Crop with some fun gal-friends **February 3-4** in the Parlor! Bring your projects and table space will be provided. The fellowship begins on **Friday at 4:00 p.m.** You may leave your projects all set up to continue the fun on **Saturday at 11:00 a.m.** Any questions and/or to sign up, contact Jill Merryday (850-443-9428). Be sure to request to join the "Crafty Crop @ Saint Paul's" Facebook Group if you would like notifications of our upcoming events!

MEN'S READING COMMUNITY

The Men's Reading Community meet **every Tuesday through February 14**. We meet from **8:30 - 9:30 a.m.** at Ology Brewing Company, 2910 Kerry Forest Parkway, Unit 8 for breakfast. This gives us an opportunity to gather and fulfill the mission, vision, and discipleship strategy of the church by being a faithful group of disciples. If you are interested or would like more information please contact David Gill, davidmurraygill@gmail.com, or Nic Fugate, ndfugate@gmail.com.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith, formerly United Methodist Women, will be meeting **Tuesday, February 14, at 10:00 a.m.** in Sanders Hall.

Come and join us for a time of fellowship, education and service. All women of the church are welcome. If you have any questions please contact Peggy Harter, 850-339-1356 or harterp97@gmail.com.

SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Join us on **Sunday, February 19**, in Sanders Hall for worship through contemporary music, a message, communion, and discussion time. All are welcome to come. Youth programming runs 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. and worship will be 7:00 - 8:00 p.m. Nursery is available for the little ones. This will be the new time going forward, and we will have a Sunday Night Worship Experience every third Sunday of the month.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Our Ash Wednesday service will be at **6:30 p.m.** on **February 22** in the Sanctuary. Dinner will still be served 5:30-6:30 in Sanders Hall. Join us as we begin the season of Lent with the imposition of ashes. This year's service will be led by the Youth Choir.

2023 WOMEN'S RETREAT

February 24-26, 2023, St. George Island Plantation

Cost per person: \$160

Our Annual Women's Retreat will be **February 24-26, 2023. Deadline to Register is February 9**. to join with ladies of Saint Paul's for a time to renew and refresh in your walk with Jesus. Our retreat speaker will be Rev. Michelle Shrader, Pastor of Good Samaritan UMC. We will stay in homes on St. George Island. The cost per person is \$160. Contact Elaine McConaughay or Jill Merryday with any questions. <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/womensretreat2023>.

This online form will serve as your registration and reserve your spot. Registration includes lodging, materials, lunch & dinner on Saturday. In order to keep the registration fee low, each house will be responsible for providing their own breakfast food and beverages. "House Moms" will coordinate with their housemates.

Required Responses: Name, Email, Phone, Special needs, Roommate preference (Give us a list of people you won't mind sharing a bed/roommate with. Please let us know if you're willing to sleep on an air mattress.

CREATION care

MOSAIC GARDEN UPDATE

It is collard green season and we harvest our plants once a month to donate to Manna on Meridian. Learn how to grow these hardy and nutritious greens and join in the harvesting team by contacting Jessie Perry at perry386@msn.com.



Thank you to our volunteers in this photo: Teresa Morris, Margaret Hardee, Peggy Harter, Jan Cuddington, Yvonne Brownlie, and Anne Wilde.



CREATION CARE TIP

Clean Up Your Laundry Routine -- Wool Dryer Balls

Did you know that you can use **wool dryer balls** instead of dryer sheets as an earth-friendly alternative? Wool dryer balls create pockets of air in the dryer, which reduces the amount of time it takes to dry a load.

- Save dryer time and energy.
- Save money.
- Cut down on static and wrinkles.
- Cut out toxins from chemical dryer sheets and fabric softeners.
- Use your favorite essential oil fragrances to make your laundry smell great.
- Find them at local stores.

Small changes add up to making a big difference for the earth!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Ann Ashcroft, Carter Perry
Magdalene Waltz
- 2 Mary Jo Batailles, Mary Maud Sharpe
- 3 Stacy Joiner, Ryan James Kline, Jr.
Alan Raynor
- 6 Kathy Marsh
- 7 George Aphthorp, Micah Goodpasture,
Karena Perry, William Perry
- 8 Karen James
- 10 Mary Roberts
- 11 Bill Corry, Brenda Dawes, Trinh Jones,
Campbell Pernel, Karen Randolph
- 13 David Beverly, Isabella Chan,
Jan Cuddington, Noah Dobson
- 15 Chris Morris
- 16 Bill Knight
- 17 Helena Schrader
- 18 Charles Field V, Cynthia Jonsson
- 19 Lilly McDermott
- 20 Olga Martin, Mary Pat Peacock
- 22 Babs Powell, Judy Ray
- 23 Carol Swing
- 25 Mary Ann Brown
- 26 Wyatt Beckman-Dowell
- 27 Charlotte Droessler, Eden Hatfield
- 28 Susan Fristoe, Brayden Ward



MISSION ministries

MANNA ON MERIDIAN

Thank you for all your help with Manna on Meridian during 2022. We were able to distribute 3100 bags of groceries and produce to local households last year. We were serving an average of 120 per month in 2020, but that number rose to 260 per month by the end of 2022. This costs in excess of \$6000 per month.

What continues to distinguish Manna from many other food pantries is that it is a gift without questions asked. No federal funds are accepted, nor does Manna purchase food from federally supported programs. Our goal is to serve all those in need with dignity and respect without having to ask for personal information.

You can continue to show your support with cereal donations (Please do not give the largest- Family size boxes as they take up too much room in the bags), bogo items ie cans of veggies, tuna, chicken, peanut butter, clean t shirts size large or bigger to make reusable produce bags, and of course financial donations.

Saint Paul's is the lead church again in April which means we fill the bags and provide the volunteers. Past volunteers will be contacted but if you would like to participate, email Barb Block at tallahasseebarb@yahoo.com or 850 241 2642.

Saint Paul's has supported this program since it began in 2010. Thank you again.

Manna distribution is **February 18**, from **7:30-10:00 a.m.** at Faith Presbyterian Church with bagging the week before.

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (IRC)

Saint Paul's has a HOME team of volunteers who are helping the International Rescue Committee (IRC) provide opportunities for refugees, forced to flee violence and persecution, to rebuild their lives in Tallahassee. We have had two training sessions and have begun collecting furnishings for the apartment our family will live in. If you know of any low rent housing, please let us know. Those places are hard to find.

As you can imagine, we need a lot of things to completely furnish an apartment for a family who is arriving with nothing. Many of you have already begun making donations or mentioning items that you have and are willing to give to the family. We appreciate everything very much and will continue to let you know our needs and gladly accept your donations. Please contact Yvonne Brownlie at 850-284-4653 or ybrownlie60@yahoo.com regarding donations.

FLORIDA UNITED METHODIST CHILDREN'S HOME CHRISTMAS GRATITUDE

We want to express sincere gratitude for your support of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home at Christmas. We were completely over whelmed by the amazing response to the Christmas gift cards, as well as those who brought gifts and provided financial support. {Church family at Saint Paul's provided cash and gift cards valued at \$1080.00} Thanks to you, the children woke up on Christmas morning to find toys and gift cards under the tree. Additionally, each cottage celebrated a homecooked Christmas meal with hot chocolate, cookies and a birthday cake for Jesus, honoring God's greatest gift that we ever received. Thank you for your support of our children and families!

SOUPER BOWL SUNDAY

February 12 is Super Bowl Sunday, and we know many of you are making plans for an evening filled with football. It's also SOUPER Bowl Sunday at Saint Paul's! Come and worship in the morning and bring with you canned food and dry goods donations for Manna on Meridian. Read up above for all the items they are in need of. We will bank the chancel rail with all that we collect!

MUSIC

at Saint Paul's

Our Youth Choir will be hosting the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on **Tuesday, February 21**, to raise money to attend Music Camp in June. Music Camp is a unique opportunity for us to work with experts in the various fields of the worship arts in honing our skills as worship leaders. We spend a week in choir rehearsals and instrumental ensembles with dynamic, nationally known conductors, take classes in liturgical dance, visual arts, worship planning, drumming, and drama, and then apply these skills in leading worship daily and a final Concert. We come home better equipped to serve our congregation as worship leaders. We hope you will support us by attending the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and donating to our Music Camp trip.

We will also be leading the Ash Wednesday Service the following evening at 6:30 in the Sanctuary.

The Kids@Art Choir is presently working on our spring musical, "The Sailor's Bible," by Allen Pote and Tom Long. This delightful and hilarious musical includes three Bible stories with nautical settings: Noah, Jonah, and Paul's Shipwreck. These stories tell of how "only the power of God is greater than the natural forces of wind and wave; only the presence of God can bring peace to the hurricanes of life." Children, Grades K-5, are invited to join us as we prepare to present this musical on **May 10 at 6:00 p.m.** in the sanctuary. We rehearse on Wednesday afternoons 4:30-5:30, with 4:00 p.m. drop-off

PALM SUNDAY CANTATA

The Adult Choirs are presenting an Easter cantata "*A Journey to Hope*" on Palm Sunday, April 2, and would like to invite you to join us. We rehearse the cantata music on **Tuesday evenings** from **6:45 - 7:15 p.m.** in the choir room. There are books and practice CDs available. We hope to see you Tuesday at 6:45.

Contact Cynthia Prescott at prescottc1360@gmail.com or (850) 556-0168 for more information.

THANKS

a latte!

In every Epistle we are going to take a moment to spotlight two volunteers that are making a difference and serving at Saint Paul's. These volunteers will receive a special coffee mug along with a \$5 gift card to Black Dog Café as a token of appreciation for all their hard work.

This month we would like to thank Jenni and Kevin Cox for serving as our Co-Lay-Leaders in 2022, and again in 2023. As lay leaders they are also chairing the Governing Board, keeping this group of leaders organized and on task. Their spiritually mature counsel and leadership has been priceless through last year's pastoral transition and into the visioning and planning for all that this year will contain. Jenni is also involved with MOPS and serves on the Children and Family Ministry Team, and Kevin and Jenni are currently teaching the 4-5th grade Sunday School class. For all you do... Thanks-A-Latte!



Kevin & Jenni Cox

WEDNESDAY nights

Wednesday nights are back in full swing with lots of ways for you to grow, serve, and connect! Nursery is available. Please contact Beth Wilde, beth@saintpaulsumc.org to sign up for childcare. Here is the schedule and details:

EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT

4:30-5:30 Kids@Art / Pre-School Music & Arts
4:30-5:30 Walking on Wednesdays (W.O.W)
5:30-6:30 Dinner in Sanders Hall
6:00-7:00 Rooted Youth Program
6:30-7:30 Adult Classes
7:00-7:45 Youth Choir

CHURCH 201

Church 201 started **January 25** and will run thru **February 15**. Gary Eggebraaten is leading this 4-week class on Spiritual Gifts, right after Wednesday Night Dinner from (6:15-7:30) in Room 310. We hope you can join us to learn more about how God gifts us so that we can be a blessing to others. Sign-ups in the Weekly Notes or call the church office.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

The doors open at 5:00 and we serve food from 5:30 until 6:30. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and under. Come and enjoy a home-cooked meal and visit with church friends.

February Menu:

Feb. 1- Chicken Enchilada
Feb. 8 - Pork Adabo
Feb. 15 - Beef Stroganoff
Feb. 22 - Kielbasa with Vegetables

YOUTH rooted

ROOTED OPEN HOUSE

On **Sunday, February 5**, Rooted will be hosting an Open House in Sanders Hall at **6:00 p.m.** This will be a meeting open to anybody who has interest in our ministry. We will discuss some of the year's goals, summer dates, and more.

SUPER BOWL PARTY

On **Sunday, February 12, 6:00-8:00 p.m.** Rooted will be hosting a Super Bowl Party at the Rokitowski house, 2914 Woodside Drive! The night will be full of football food, yard games, the first half of the game, and more. We are asking High schoolers to bring a drink and middle schoolers to bring a dessert!



Youth Lock-In from January



FAMILY events

Sunday School for all ages every week from 9:45 -10:40 a.m. including Pre-K, K-2 grade and 3-5 grade classes. Youth and adult classes are also available. Nursery open to children 6 months- 5 years old all morning.

CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES

Nursery – Level 200, Secure access please ring the door bell. Ages 6 months up to 5 years of age available from 8:00 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. includes pre-school Sunday school instruction.

Grades K-1 – Foundation Level Room

Contact: Jo Ellen Brown (foundation, first room on right)

Grades 2-5 – Foundation, center “Art” Room

Lead by Jenni & Kevin Cox



KIDS@ART

Kids@Art welcomes newcomers to this exciting afternoon of worship arts activities. Happening every **Wednesday** from **4:30 - 5:30 p.m.**, with drop-off starting at 4:00 p.m. Open to all K-5th grade children. Contact Bridget for more information at Bridget@saintpaulsumc.org. Sign up here: <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/kidsart2022-2023>.

PARENTS MORNING OUT



Parents Morning Out (PMO) gives every child a chance to make first friends, crafts, music and explore nature. Now enrolling ages 6 months - 5 years old. Hours are: **Monday - Friday 8:45 - 12:15** with more options. To learn more or schedule a tour contact Director Beth Wilde (850) 559-1523.

DATE NIGHT

Saturday, February 18 from **5:00 - 8:00 p.m.** Enjoy an evening out with your special someone or simply enjoy some much-needed quiet time. Our wonderful nursery staff will take care of your little ones while you get out for a few hours. Signup: <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/datenightfeb182023>

VALENTINE MAKING PARTY

Wednesday, February 8 from **6:30 - 7:30 p.m.** in the Parlor. The Children's Ministry welcomes all ages to stamp, sticker and share a kind word by making a valentine. All cards and supplies will be provided.

LOOKING AHEAD

FAMILY TALK

March 1, after the Wednesday Night Dinner we will have another gathering where you can ask questions and where your pastors and leaders will share about things going on in the life of the church. We are changing the name to "Family Talk" instead of Town Hall. These are open discussion times. We aren't taking any official votes or making big decisions at these meetings.

EASTER JUBILEE

Mark your calendars for **April 1** for our annual Easter celebration for the whole family! There will be more information in the March Epistle, but we know you don't want to miss all the fun and festivities. We will be looking for volunteers, so see Bridget if you are interested in helping.



1700 North Meridian Road
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www.saintpaulsumc.org

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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

SUNDAY MORNINGS AT SAINT PAUL'S

8:30 a.m. & 11:00 a.m. Worship
9:45 a.m. Sunday School for all ages

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Friday - Closed

Find us on  at SaintPaulsUnitedMethodistChurch

OUR STAFF AND EMAILS

Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Latricia Scriven
latricia@saintpaulsumc.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. Becky Rokitowski
becky@saintpaulsumc.org

Church Administrator

Linda Fletcher
linda@saintpaulsumc.org

Director of Children's & Family Ministries

Bridget Weisbrod
bridget@saintpaulsumc.org

Nursery Director

Beth Wilde
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Music Performance Associate

Gaye Herndon
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Adult Choirs Director

Cynthia Prescott
prescottc1360@gmail.com

Kids@Art Choir Director

Stephany Nystrand
stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com

Youth Director

Zac Prasse
zac@saintpaulsumc.org

Kitchen Coordinator

Ted Rokitowski

Sexton

Simon Webb

Website Administrator

Ryan Kline

Videographer

Jay Wirth

Church Treasurer

Timothy Scott

OUR BISHOP

Rev. Dr. Kenneth H. Carter, Jr.

OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. Wayne Waytt

OUR MISSIONARIES

Delbert and Sandy Groves,
Zambia