

MARCH 2023

the EPISTLE



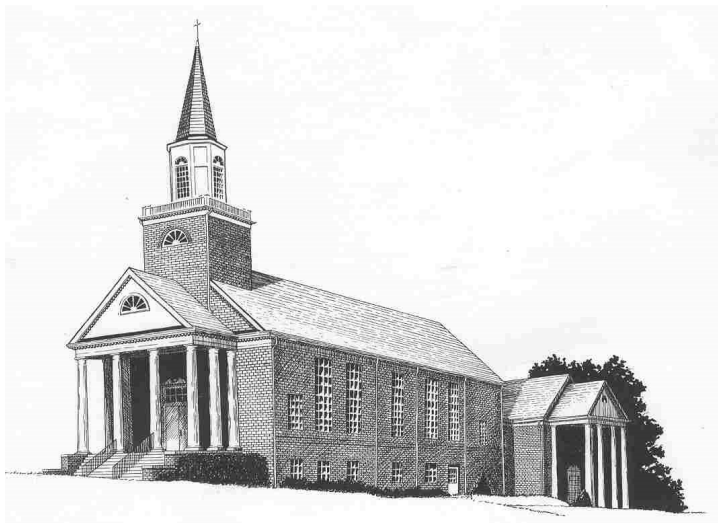
Dear Lord,

Give us the eyes to see your glory that surrounds us each day. May our desire to create more space for you grow beyond what we can imagine right now. Give us a hunger to be more like you as we show forth your divine Love in all that we do. And Lord, just as the dawn comes with its exact precision, help us to trust that You move in our lives with a timing that is perfect. Amen.

Welcome to March, family!!! We are excited about all that is in store for us this month. Our new steeple is complete, the Shrove Tuesday pancakes were amazing, and our Ash Wednesday service was filled with the presence of God. And now, in the midst of the many amazing activities happening each day at Saint Paul's, here are a few things you certainly don't want to miss this month: (1) our quarterly Family Gathering where we get to ask questions and hear updates will be **Wednesday, March 1** at 6:30pm, (2) our new bishop of the Florida Conference, Bishop Tom Berlin, will be a special guest preacher during the 11:00 a.m. service on Sunday, March 27, and (3) all are invited to participate with us at the Capital Area Justice Ministry's Nehemiah Action Rally on **Monday, March 27** at 6:00 p.m. You'll hear more about all of these and more in the coming days and weeks.

And finally, in the words of 3 John 2:2, "Beloved, we pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, as it goes well with your soul." May peace be your companion and may joy fill your hearts.

With Gratitude,
Pastor Latricia Scriven and Pastor Becky Rokitowski



MARCH CALENDAR

- Mar. 1 Family Talk, Sanders Hall
6:30 p.m.
- Mar. 6 Ed Wynn Luncheon, 10:30 a.m.
Sanders Hall
- Mar. 11-13 Spring Camping Trip
Sopchoppy
- Mar. 13 Congregational Care, Rm 326
10:30 a.m.
- Mar. 14 United Women in Faith
10:00 a.m., Sanders Hall
- Mar. 18 Manna on Meridian
8:00 a.m., Faith Presbyterian
- Mar. 19 Youth Programming, 6:00 p.m.
Sanders Hall

Contemporary Service, 7:00 p.m.
Sanders Hall
- Mar. 25 Soul Food Distribution
Lake Ella, 9:30 a.m.

Date Night, Nursery, 5:00 p.m.
- Mar. 27 Nehemiah Action Rally
- Mar. 31 Youth Easter Egg Stuffing Party
& Palm Cross Making in
Sanders Hall, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

MARCH events

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith will be meeting on **Tuesday, March 14**, at 10:00 in Sanders Hall. We will be assembling Easter buckets that will be given to the families who live at Maryland Oaks. Watch in the Weekly Notes for more details.

All women of the church are welcome. If you have any questions please contact Peggy Harter, 850-339-1356 or harterp97@gmail.com.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DISCUSSION GROUP

Come for the dinner and fellowship and stay for the deep dive on Sunday's topics. During Lent, we will continue our look at "wholeness" in a community context as we engage in issues of justice. These discussions will be led by your Pastors, Latricia and Becky. Starts **March 8** and we will meet in room 310 on Wednesdays, 6:30-7:30 p.m. No need to sign up - just come as you are.

SPRING CAMPING TRIP

March 10 - 13. Start your Spring Break with us in the great outdoors at Myron B. Hodge city park in Sopchoppy, FL! Located just under an hour away from Tallahassee this park sits along the banks of the Sopchoppy River and has all the amenities of the state parks with the perks of being in a small town. We will stay three nights starting Friday and leaving Monday morning by 12:00 p.m. Contact Bridget with any questions at: 850-408-5528 or bridget@saintpaulsumc.org. For more park info visit: <https://www.sopchoppy.org/myron-b-hodge-city-park.html>. Sign up: <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/formspringcamping2023>.

YOUTH BICYCLE HOUSE PROJECT

On **Saturday, March 25**, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Rooted will be teaming up with our CHEERS Sunday School class for a local service opportunity with the Bicycle House Project. Our students will have the opportunity to assist with some tasks that are necessary to the Bicycle House Project's operation. The Bicycle House Project gives bikes to those that do not have a car and need a different form of transportation. They are making a huge difference in our community and we are blessed to have the opportunity to serve with them. A big thank you to the CHEERS Sunday School class for involving us!

MEN'S READING COMMUNITY

All men are invited to a Lenten (six week) discussion 8:30-9:30 a.m. at Ology Brewing Northside, 2910 Kerry Forest Parkway **February 28 - April 4**.

Savior: What the Bible Says about the Cross by Magrey de-Vega. "An accessible study of multiple atonement theories resulting in a rich, worshipful encounter with the true meaning of salvation--God making all things new in Christ. The result is a rich, worshipful encounter with the true meaning of salvation--God making all things new in Christ." Please contact Nic Fugate (ndfugate@gmail.com) or David Gill (davidmurrahgill@gmail.com) for more information.

SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Join us on **Sunday, March 19**, in Sanders Hall for worship through contemporary music, a message, 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.

THIRSTY THURSDAYS

Are you looking for love in all the wrong places? Try something different this year for Lent 2023.

Thursday mornings at 7:00 a.m., in the Chapel, join Dora Thomas in exploring a love connection like no other. There's something about prayer that connects us to ourselves, God, and each other. It's a love that allows us to simply be and rest for just a moment. Doesn't that sound divine? Peace, if even for only a moment.

Together, we'll practice and discuss our experience of reading Scripture with a spiritual mind (Lectio Divina), journaling, and exploring favored prayers like St Francis' Prayer for Peace. Along the way, we'll look at a few others and talk about their impact on our everyday life.

When: 7:00 a.m., Thursday, March 2 - April 6

Where: Saint Paul's Chapel

What: Living Well in Love: spiritual practices for a life in love

Why: We just need it, and so does the world!

How: experience and explore spiritual practices through conversation and practice.

FYI.... There will be coffee. And, we'll break at 7:45 a.m. to begin our day in the world.

CREATION care

WORLD WATER DAY

World Water Day on **March 22** points to a creation justice issue: across the globe, according to the United Nations, 2.2 billion people are without access to safe water. Help make clean water a reality by supporting organizations like Wakulla Springs Alliance locally and Planet Water Foundation internationally. Read on for more ideas and opportunities to keep our water clean!



KEEP TALLAHASSEE BEAUTIFUL! LAKE ELLA CLEAN UP

March 4, 9:00 a.m., Meet at Generations Park

Your family, Sunday School class, or Scout group can help us keep Lake Ella healthy and be part of the citywide Keep Tallahassee Beautiful Super Clean Sweep event by volunteering on March 4. We will have free t-shirts, drinks, and snacks for everyone who participates. Wear water boots if you'd like to work the shoreline or close-toed shoes on land. We will have trash grabbers, bags, and gloves but feel free to bring your own. Kids of all ages love this activity! Meet at Generations Park overlooking Lake Ella at 8:55 a.m. at Saint Paul's UMC. Contact Cara Fleischer at cares4creation@gmail.com with any questions and sign up at our Facebook event.

CREATION CARE & HYDR0SWAP

Did you know that it takes around 1,800 gallons of water to make one pair of jeans?!



Creation Care Leaders Jessie Perry and Cara Fleischer help hydr0swappers make t-shirts tote bags.

Saint Paul's Creation Care team partnered with hydr0swap in February to raise awareness about water scarcity, pollution, and the fashion industry. First, leaders Jessie Perry and Cara Fleischer had a great time teaching a t-shirt bag-making workshop at the hydr0swap on February 11 at Oyster City Brewing Company. Then hydr0swap founder Laura LaChapelle visited our Rooted Youth Group on February 15 where she shared the benefits of shopping at thrift stores and having swaps instead of buying new fashion. Any group can host their own swap and Creation Care can help. Email Cara at cares4creation@gmail.com for more details.

MARCH CREATION CARE TIP:

Did you know that the greatest consumer of water (about 40%) in your house is your toilet? Older models use about 5.5 gallons per flush, so switching to a new toilet that uses only 1.6 gallons really adds up!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 2 Dylan Chandler, Cynthia Jordan
- 3 James Fernandes, Gary Limbaugh, LuAnn Stiles, Ian Swanson, Scott Waltz
- 4 Jenni Cox
- 6 Bruce Archer
- 7 Stokely Hayes
- 8 MaryAnne Helton
- 11 Tom Block, Linda Fletcher
- 12 Ellen Tuttle, Mike Zeigler
- 13 Carolyn Wiemer
- 14 Willow Broadfoot, Jack Getman, Don Griesheimer, Marcella Sheetz
- 16 Louise Carpenter, Nathanael Scott, Sue Whitfield
- 17 Ed Kast, Angie Martin
- 18 Lynn Gilbert
- 19 Greg Perry, Rollen Thomas
- 21 Olivia Barlow, Sophie Eychaner
- 22 Seamus Fernandes, Ken Taylor
- 24 John Apthorp, Grant Barber, Andrew Fischer
- 25 Willa Almlof, Robert Hawken
- 26 Cameron Moret
- 27 Billie Joiner, William Knight, Kyndal Wallace, Fotena Zirps
- 28 Katie Pernell
- 29 Henry Alexander, Rodney Atherton
- 31 Cleveland Fischer

MISSION ministries

MANNA ON MERIDIAN

The number of families in need keeps increasing and we manage to keep supplying groceries each month. Please keep bringing boxes of cereal, (**but not the big Family size please,**) and paper bags, and tee shirts size large or bigger. Thanks to all who donated on Super Bowl Sunday! Manna distribution is **March 18**, from **7:30-10:00 a.m.** at Faith Presbyterian Church with bagging the week before.

FROM OUR SISTER CHURCH IN HAITI

I greet the brothers and sisters of Saint Paul's Florida Church. I am really happy that we continue to pray for the congregation of Soisson. We also always pray for each other. I have 2 prayers. One is for a sister named Sylviane Volcy, she is paralyzed and I have to go to the sacrament ball at her home. Pray for me for my work, the situation of the country has a big impact on it, they have to make available 10 employees for 2 times. Pray for me personally for a project I would like to set up a printing and copying service and sell school materials and some books for the church I have to buy a printer and some materials to make a multiservice because I want my economic signature to change I don't feel there is a future at my job I count on your prayers a lot. God bless you are our friend Baby.

INTERNATIONAL RESCUE COMMITTEE (IRC)

Thanks, Saint Paul's, for welcoming and supporting a refugee family from Guatemala! We have a dedicated HOME Team partnering with the International Rescue Committee working with a family of five as they resettle in Tallahassee.



MUSIC

at Saint Paul's

MUSIC AT SAINT PAUL'S

Our **Youth Choir** hosted 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 are so very grateful to all who supported our Pancake Dinner fundraiser and your generous donations. If you were not able to attend the dinner, and would like to offer your support, you may make checks payable to SPUMC, memo: Youth Choir PT (pass-through account). All youth are invited to join our Youth Choir which meets on **Wednesday evenings, 7:00 - 7:45 p.m.** in room 200, immediately following Rooted (our Youth Ministry).

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 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. We rehearse on **Wednesday afternoons 4:30 - 5:30**, with 4:00 p.m. drop-off available. Contact Stephany Nystrand for more info. (stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com.)

Preschool Music and Arts: we have a unique opportunity for your preschoolers, ages 3-4, which meets concurrently with Kids@Art, from **4:30 - 5:30 on Wednesday afternoons**. Developmentally appropriate music activities including: singing, playing instruments, creative movement, and Bible Stories, crafts and play-time with Beth Wilde and staff. We invite all children ages 3-4 to join us! Contact Gaye (gaye@saintpaulsumc.org) for more info.

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 Jake and Laura Alexander. Jake is our newest golf cart driver on Sunday mornings. He also trimmed up the trees around the playground. He and Laura help with Kids@Art and were instrumental in organizing and volunteering with VBS last summer. Laura serves on the Governing Board as an at-large member and on the International Rescue Committee HOME Team. They are always willing to lend a helping hand.



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

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.

March Menu:

March 1- Taco Bar
March 8 - Barbecue chicken
March 15 - Corned beef & cabbage
March 22 - Stuffed pasta shells
March 29 - Sun-dried tomato chicken

YOUTH rooted

LAKE ELLA CLEANUP WITH CREATION CARE MINISTRY

On **Saturday, March 4, 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.**, Rooted will be serving with our Creation Care ministry as we clean up Lake Ella. Pick up and drop off for the event will take place at the church. Come out and help us take care of our beautiful lake!

SUNDAY YOUTH NIGHT

On **Sunday, March 19, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.** Rooted will be having Sunday Night Youth! This program is filled with dinner, games, worship and discussion. It is a great event for students to bring a friend to, or for anyone new to join. If you are interested in helping provide dinner for our youth, please contact Zac Prasse at zac@saintpaulsumc.org

"CAMP NIGHT" AT THE FSU/TCC WESLEY FOUNDATION

On **Wednesday, March 22, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.**, Rooted will be heading to the FSU/TCC Wesley Foundation for "Camp Night". This event is a promotional program to give students a glimpse at what happens at Warren Willis United Methodist Camp, that they will have the opportunity to attend this summer. The night will be full of games, worship, dinner, a message about what Warren Willis Camp is, followed by testimonies from people that have gone as a camper. Saint Paul's will be providing transportation for any youth that would like to attend. We ask that participating youth be at the church by 5:30 to load the bus, and parents to be back at the church for pickup by 8:15. Youth will be eating dinner at the event, so parents don't need to sign up your youth for Wednesday Night Dinner that evening.

EASTER JUBILEE EGG STUFFING

On **Friday, March 31**, Rooted will be prepping for our Easter Jubilee from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. in Sanders Hall. We will be stuffing eggs and doing other small tasks necessary to have our Easter Jubilee the next morning. We will have Pizza for dinner and make the Easter Egg Stuffing a party! Pastor Becky will also be leading a group making Palm Crosses. All are invited to join us.



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 invites all grade-schoolers to stretch and strengthen their worship art skills with us every **Wednesday** from **4:00 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.** For more info contact Bridget at bridget@saintpaulsumc.org. To get started sign up here: <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/kidsart2022-2023>.



DATE NIGHT

Saturday, March 25 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. Contact Director of Nursery Beth Wilde with any questions or concerns at: beth@saintpaulsumc.org. Signup: <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/date nightmarch2023>.

PARENTS MORNING OUT

Parents Morning Out (PMO) has a lot to smile about every morning! It is a great start to the day seeing so many happy faces coming to play and learn available **Monday – Friday from 8:45 a.m. - 12:15 p.m.** and a lunch bunch option. Now Enrolling ages 6 months - 4 years old. Contact Director Beth Wilde at beth@saintpaulsumc.org or to see more info. complete the interest form here: <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/6dbb99PMOinterest22-23>.

EASTER EGG HUNT & JUBILEE

Saturday April 1, from **10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.** Festivities include: face painting, crafting, a cake walk, a bounce house, a photo booth with special farm animal guests little goats Poppy & Petunia and last but not least a special Lady Bug Release!

Egg Hunt for Ages 5 and up will begin promptly at 10:15 a.m. in Generations Park. Egg Hunt for Ages 4 and under will begin at 10:30 a.m. sharp in the Sprouts Park.



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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

SAVE THE DATE!

Extreme Explorers will kick off this summer, May 30 - June 2.

Vacation Bible School (VBS) is happening June 26 - June 30

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
beth@saintpaulsumc.org

Music Performance Associate

Gaye Herndon
gaye@saintpaulsumc.org

Adult Choirs Director

Cynthia Prescott
prescottc1360@gmail.com

Kids@Art Choir Director

Stephany Nystrand
stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com

Youth Director

Zac Prasse
zac@saintpaulsumc.org

Contemporary Worship Leader

Ben Reid

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