

MAY 2023

the EPISTLE



WELCOME TO MAY!

They say, "April showers bring May flowers." The poem *May Is Pretty, May Is Mild* by Annette Wynne puts it this way:

*May is pretty, May is mild,
Dances like a happy child;
Sing out, robin; spring out, flowers;
April went with all her showers,
And the world is green again.*

*Come out, children, to the glen,
To the meadows, to the wood,
For the earth is clean and good,
And the sky is clear and blue,
And bright May is calling you!*

*May is pretty, May is mild,
Dances like a happy child,
On a blessed holiday,
Come out, children, join the play!*

May this month bring you a season of unexpected beauty and moments to dance, laugh, and play, as we experience the beauty of God's glorious creation!

~ Pastor Latricia



MAY CALENDAR

- May 1 Ed Wynn SS Class Luncheon
10:30 a.m., Sanders Hall
- May 2 District Youth Meeting
6:30 p.m., Room 325
- May 9 United Women in Faith
10:00 a.m., Sanders Hall
- May 10 Kids@Art Musical, 6:30 p.m.
Sanctuary
- May 12 Crafty Crop, 5:00 p.m., Parlor
Capital Bells Concert
7:00 p.m., Sanctuary
- May 13 Crafty Crop, 10:00 a.m., Parlor
- May 15 Congregational Care
10:30 a.m., Room 326
Trustees Meeting
5:30 p.m., Room 325
- May 17 Child & Youth Protection
Training, 6:30 p.m., Sanders Hall
- May 20 Manna on Meridian
8:00 a.m., Faith Presbyterian
- May 21 Youth Programming,
Sanders Hall, 6:00 p.m.
Contemporary Service,
Sanders Hall, 7:00 p.m.
- May 22-25 Summer Kick Off
- May 22 Governing Board
6:30 p.m., Parlor
- May 23 Kitchen Committee
10:00 a.m., Library
- May 27 Soul Food Distribution
9:30 a.m., Lake Ella
- May 29 Office Closed
- May 30-June 2 Extreme Explorers

MAY events

MEN'S READING COMMUNITY

The Men's Reading Community meet **every Tuesday**. 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, davidmurrahgill@gmail.com, or Nic Fugate, ndfugate@gmail.com.

SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Join us on **Sunday, May 21**, 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. Sunday Night Worship Experience is every third Sunday of the month.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith will be meeting on **Tuesday, May 9**, in Sanders Hall. We will be doing our traditional May luncheon so we will be meeting at 11:00 a.m. rather than our traditional 10:00. This will be a salad luncheon, so please bring a salad or a dessert to share. All women of the church are welcome. If you have any questions please contact Peggy Harter, 850-339-1356 or harterp97@gmail.com.

4-WEEK CREATION CARE STUDY

Join us for this timely Creation Care Study Series that aims to challenge and inspire you. Based on articles written by today's leading Christian authors and published by Christianity Today magazines, this study fosters deep, authentic, and relevant discussion that will challenge and grow any small group. Creation Care addresses the problem of how we as Christians can appropriately deal with the difficult topics of stewardship, the environment, climate change, and more. Classes will be on **Wednesday evenings, 6:30-7:30 p.m., April 26 - May 17**. Email Cara Fleischer at Cares4Creation@gmail.com for a copy of the book.

UPDATE FROM THE TRUSTEES

What an exciting time at Saint Paul's! In addition to all the wonderful things happening in our various ministries, the Trustees have been quite busy. In the last several months, we have installed a new steeple at a cost of over \$400,000, upgraded the parking area around the Sanctuary and Education buildings at a cost of over \$117,000, reroofed and repaired wood rot at the associate parsonage at a cost of over \$4,000, and by the time this is printed we will be well on the way to completing the painting of the exterior of the Sanctuary building at a cost of about \$32,000.

Because of deferred maintenance, these repairs hit us all at one time. The severity of the damages to those parts of our campus made it necessary to tackle those projects first.

However, other big ticket items will unfortunately have to be deferred to another time due to lack of funds. Some of those items include the reroofing of the senior parsonage, Sanctuary, education building and Alzheimer's buildings, re-carpeting the Sanctuary, repairing the pews in the Sanctuary, and replacing the buses (the big bus is over 20 years old) before they become unsafe to use for transportation.

Please know that we are always looking at the various buildings that we own and attempting to keep them in good working order so that we can focus on being the "...heart, hands, and feet of Christ".

HOW WOULD YOU LIKE YOUR EPISTLE?

Would you rather receive this newsletter by email? Send a message to linda@saintpaulsumc.org and we will switch your delivery method.

CREATION care

AW, SPRING...

...CLEANING!

Time to clear out old habits and plant some new ones! For the sake of Father God, Mother Earth, and all children now and to come, here are some Creation Care habits worth cultivating. An effective way to change a habit is to anchor it with another action you are committed to and do regularly. Try these prompts for a better, cleaner spring.

1. When you are spring cleaning and realize you no longer need something, resist the temptation just to toss it! Take the time to find a place to donate instead. Your efforts avoid adding to landfills and to air and land pollution.
2. Use earth-friendly cleaning products. Stores now carry cleaners that are easier on the environment and have less packaging. From recycled content paper goods to laundry soap sheets, we have more options than ever when shopping. These products might cost a little more than conventional ones but the positive impact on the planet is well worth it.
3. It is good for the soil to mulch leaves and yard trimmings in a pile or on your flower beds. You can also put them in a paper lawn bag for curb pick up. Please don't burn yard waste because it creates noxious, smoky air that is harmful to breathe.
4. Reduce or eliminate pesticides and fertilizers around your home and yard. These run off into our waterways and cause damage to the beneficial animals who live in our yard. Instead, look into adding native plants and



LADYBUG JUBILEE



We had fun with all the visitors who came by the garden to help us release 10,000 ladybugs on April 1. These beneficial are good for the organic garden and are a great way to get rid of aphid infestations without chemicals. You can even order them through the mail from Amazon!



Jan Cuddington showed children how to release ladybugs into the garden.



Margaret Hardee read Ladybug stories in the garden.



Pastor Latricia had fun getting the word out about Ladybug Jubilee.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Sarah Godwin
- 2 Jill Merryday
- 3 Sandy Collar, Kaia Martin, Jack Wilde
- 5 Cindy Bennett, Laura Block
- 7 Malinda Horton, Charlotte Keaton
- 8 Norberto Chan
- 10 Summerlyn Burger, Teagan Field
- 11 Ivy Kesti
- 12 Linda Sellers
- 13 Cynthia Prescott
- 14 Harber Herndon, Matthew Swanson
- 15 Debbie Chellman, Jessie Perry, Wilbur Stiles, II
- 16 Charlotte Chellman
- 17 Amber Abels, Emma Phelps-Lackey
- 19 Nic Fugate, Jim Goodpasture
- 20 Dave Cuddington, Julie McBride, John Peacock, Teresa Shippy, Myrna Thomas
- 21 Amanda Broadfoot
- 22 Dean Kindley
- 25 Barbara Bauldree, Dora Thomas
- 26 Gloria Wurst Priest
- 28 Ashley Barnes, Kirsten Underhill
- 29 Brenda Abstein, Barbara Block, Beth Wilde
- 30 Melissa Buie, Kim Thomas
- 31 Patrick McDermott

MOSAIC GARDEN IS GROWING TOMATOES FOR MANNA

If you enjoy gardening we'd love for you to volunteer in our garden this spring and summer with harvesting tomatoes and more. Contact Jessie Perry at perry386@msn.com.

MISSION ministries

UPDATE MANNA ON MERIDIAN

We are serving over 260 households per month, a 56% increase over a two-year period. The sustained need in our community and the rising price of groceries have depleted our resources (49% increase in prices in a six-month period). We are asking that families consider donating to Manna on Meridian on a monthly basis throughout 2023. Monetary donations can be made by noting Manna on your checks to Saint Paul's.

If you would prefer to give food directly to Manna, the food items that are most needed are:

- 16 - 18 oz. boxes of cereal (something on the healthier side like cornflakes or cheerios)
- 16 - 17 oz. jars of peanut butter
- canned soups, especially those with pop tops
- canned vegetables/legumes (i.e., whole kernel corn, green beans, green peas, black beans, baked beans/pork n' beans)
- canned protein (i.e., canned chicken breast and canned tuna)

We are financially secure for the next few months. We will be partnering with Second Harvest- it will take several months to calculate how much that saves us.



These Saint Paul's members served our food insecure neighborhood @ Manna on Meridian April 15, 2023

METHODIST UNITED IN PRAYER

We are prayer partners with the Methodist Church in Yaguaramas, Cuba. They pray for us every week and we are blessed. We prayed for them as they experienced many power outages in the past year. God provided them with a generator so they have.

Please pray for these siblings in Christ as they are making disciples of Jesus Christ in a difficult situation. Their pastor is Rev. Rolando Delgado. They are still plagued by Dengue Fever and there are shortages of food and other supplies.

Mr. Terry Denham of Tallahassee has led over 20 mission trips to Cuba and he is hoping to lead another one in February or March 2024. This trip is open to anyone who is interested in visiting our prayer partners in Cuba. Contact davidmura-hgill@gmail.com for more information.



Your Missions giving supports the FAMU Wesley Foundation. Thank you for your faithful giving!



Impact FAMU Wesley Foundation Open House & Building Dedication on March 26

We envision in these two building:

- | | |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Worship & Bible study | Praise dance! |
| Yoga/work out classes | Movie & game nights |
| Social events | Prayer room |
| Pastor's office | Kitchen, sharing meals |
| Shared living space for 8 students | |

MUSIC

at Saint Paul's

THE SAILOR'S BIBLE

by Allen Pote and Tom Long
presented by the Kids@Art Choir

Wednesday, May 10, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary

You are invited to join us for the performance of this delightful and insightful musical in three acts which focus on the stories of 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."

IT'S ABOUT TIME!

We will be hosting our community auditioned handbell choir, Capitol Bells, for a concert in our sanctuary on **Friday, May 12, 7:00 p.m.** They will be presenting a program based on the theme, "It's About Time." Please join us for an evening of beautifully performed handbell music and support this great community choir. Our own Freddie Schrader is a member of this group.

MUSIC MINISTRY CELEBRATION SUNDAY MAY 21

During the worship services on **May 21** we will be celebrating the music ministry of our church. The different musical groups will be performing and celebrating God using their gifts. Come show your appreciation for the gifts in worship that these musicians share weekly.

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 Rev. David and Susan Gill for all their hard work and dedication. David is a retired pastor of the Florida Conference and Susan is a retired school teacher, but they haven't let retirement slow down their service to the Lord. David serves as the chair of the Missions committee (and also fills the roll of Serve Coordinator on the Core Ministry Team), and Susan assists a lot in that work. He is also on the Prayer Team and Congregational Care Team, and has been co-leading the Men's Reading Community on Tuesday mornings. Susan volunteers as a granmop with MOPS and as a substitute teacher for the kids Sunday School. She is also involved in the community with Moms Demand Action. Both David and Susan serve as mentors at Kate Sullivan Elementary and are members of the New Horizon Sunday School class. To both of you – THANKS-A-LATTE!



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. Reservations should be received by Monday at noon.

May Menu:

May 3 - Taco Bar

May 10 - Orange Chicken

May 17 - Lasagna (meat & vegetarian)

May 24 - Pulled Pork

May 31 - Enchiladas (meat & vegetarian)

Dinner also includes salad, drinks, and dessert. The kids meals are chicken nuggets, fresh fruit and a cheese stick.

YOUTH rooted

MAY 21ST THROUGH 25TH SUMMER KICKOFF

From May 21 through May 25, Rooted will be having "Summer Kickoff"! Summer Kickoff is a series of events we will be doing in the afternoons during the last week of school. If your youth likes games, rock climbing, snow cones, swimming and more; this is the week for them!

SUMMER 2023 ANNOUNCEMENTS AND INFORMATION

Summer is just around the corner and we are planning an awesome summer for our youth! If you are interested in learning more about our summer programs, go to the weekly notes and select "Youth Ministry Updates". There you will have the option to read our weekly newsletter that has all of our summer activities and information. Also feel free to reach out to me with any questions regarding summer information. I am available by text, call or email. We hope to see you soon!

SUMMER KICKOFF SCHEDULE:

May 21 - Sunday Night Youth // 6 - 8 p.m.

Join us as we welcome our incoming 6th graders and honor our seniors before this last week of school!

May 22 - Big Easy Snowballs and Games at Saint Paul's // 2 - 4 p.m.

Monday we will meet at the church and walk to Big Easy Snowballs. After we are full of snowcones, we will head back to the church to play some surprise games!

May 23 - Park Day at Tom Brown // 2 - 4 p.m.

Tuesday we will meet at Tom Brown in the open field next to the dog park and have the ultimate park day. We will have plenty of games, snacks, and drinks. Come get outside and play!

May 24 - Tallahassee Rock Gym // 3 - 5 p.m.

Wednesday we will meet at the Tallahassee Rock Gym for two hours of bouldering. The rock gym has a variety of climbs that are perfect for youth of varying skill level. This event costs \$15 per youth to attend.

May 25 - Wakulla Springs // 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Thursday we will meet at Saint Paul's and load the buses to head to Wakulla Springs! Make sure your youth brings a packed lunch to eat inside the park. We will return to Saint Paul's for pickup at 4 p.m.



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



Grades 2-5 with Kevin & Jenni Cox

Make note there is no May Date night; the next date night will be **June 17**. Watch for the sign up in your weekly notes, website and facebook page.

EXTREME EXPLORERS

Tuesday - Friday May 30 – June 2
from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Open to all rising 3rd-5th graders (meaning the grade your child will be in the fall 2023). Come join the adventure to nearby natural parks and attractions. Each day will be a new place to explore: Florida Caverns & Blue Springs, Redemptive Love Farm, Wakulla Springs, and a Blueberry Picking & Beach Picnic at Wacissa Springs.

Sign up for your explorers: <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/ExtremeExplorers2023>

Sign up to Chaperone with Extreme Explorers:
<https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/EEvolunteers2023>

PMO SUMMER SESSIONS

We are taking reservations now.

Contact Director Beth Wilde for more info. at

beth@saintpaulsumc.org

Sign up here to be counted in on the summer camp style fun for your little one! <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/04e8bepmosummer2023>

KIDS@ART

Kids@Art will be sharing some really good news at their end of the school musical, “The Sailor’s Bible,” on **Wednesday, May 10, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Sanctuary.



Kids@Art Musical Rehearsal

CHILD AND YOUTH PROTECTION TRAINING

If you volunteer with our children or youth, our annual training will be on **Wednesday, May 17 from 6:30 - 7:45 p.m. in Sanders Hall**, right after dinner. Please plan to be there so we can work together to keep our children safe.

“SPIRIT WEEK – SENSING GOD” IS VBS

June 26 - June 30 from 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Open to all rising K -to 5 th Graders (meaning the grade your child will enter in the fall of 2023). Nursery will be available to all children of volunteers. For more info contact Bridget at bridget@saintpaulsumc.org.

Sign up now to secure your spot: <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/Spiritweekvbs2023>

Volunteers are needed and welcome to sign up here:
<https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/vbsvolunteers2023>

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850-385-5146
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

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. Tom Berlin

OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. Wayne Waytt

OUR MISSIONARIES

Delbert and Sandy Groves,
Zambia