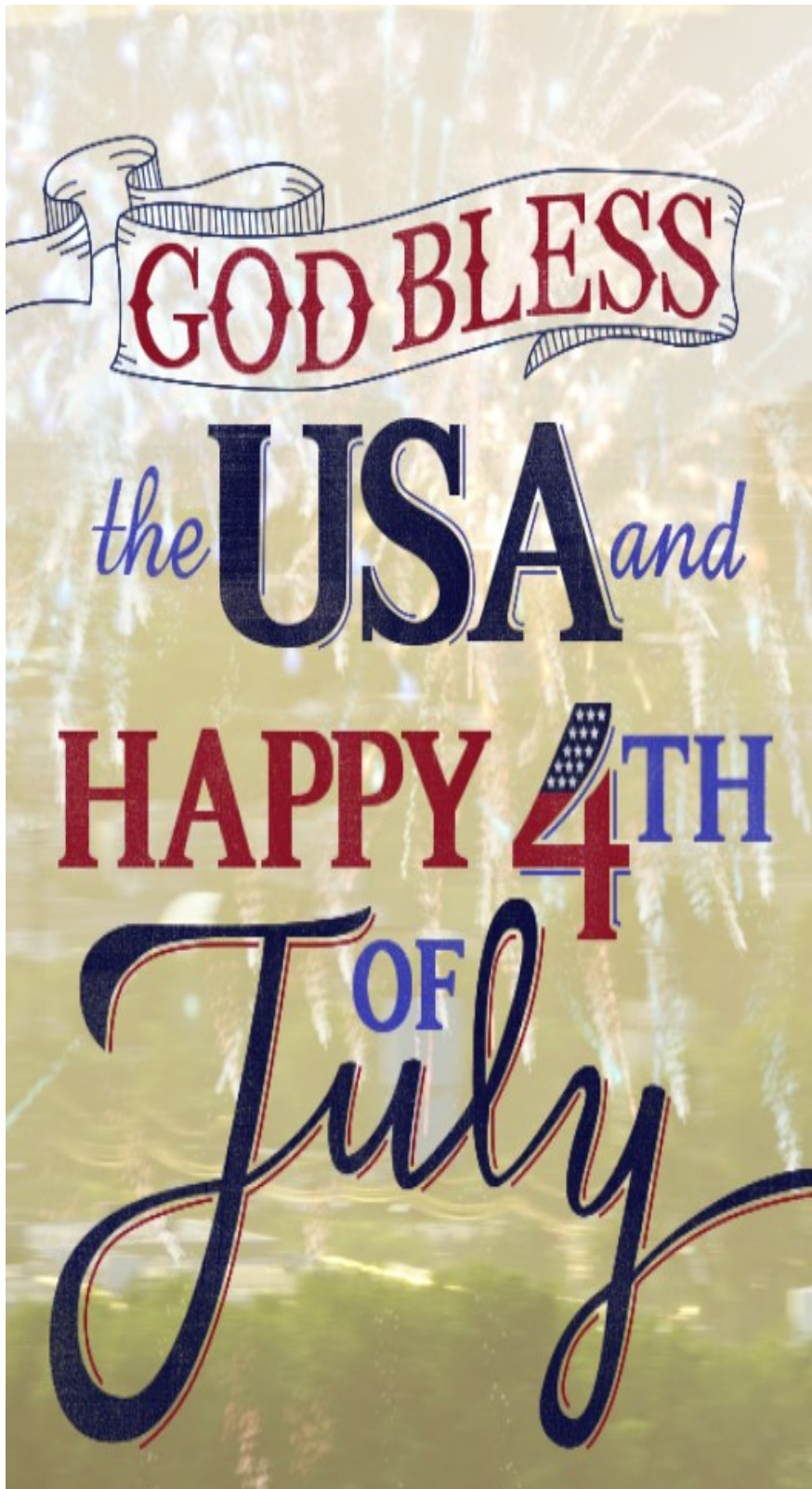


the EPISTLE

JULY 2023



JULY CALENDAR

- July 3 Ed Wynn SS Class Luncheon
10:30 a.m., Sanders Hall
- July 4 Office Closed
- July 5 PMO Summer Session begins
- July 10-14 Warren Willis Camp
- July 10 Manna on Meridian Bagging
3:00 p.m., Faith Presbyterian
- July 15 Manna on Meridian
8:00 a.m., Faith Presbyterian
- July 16 Watercolor Society, 1:30 p.m.
Parlor
- July 17 Trustee's Meeting, 5:30 p.m.,
Room 325
- July 19 Youth Pizza & Trivia
6:00 p.m., Parlor
- July 26 Youth Bowling at Capital Lanes
2:00 p.m.
- July 28 PMO Summer Session ends
- Crafty Crop, 5:00 p.m.,
Sanders Hall
- July 29 Crafty Crop, 10:00 a.m.,
Sanders Hall
- July 30 Church-wide Fellowship
12:00 - 3:00 p.m.,
FSU Rez

JULY events

SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Join us on **Sunday, July 16**, 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.



CHURCH-WIDE PICNIC

Mark your calendars for our church wide family picnic at the "FSU Rez" on **Sunday July 30** from **12:00 - 3:00 p.m.** Come on in, gate fees are paid for and we have the "Garnet" pavilion reserved by the lakefront until 6:00 p.m. For more information on all the amenities offered at the park please visit: <https://campusrec.fsu.edu/outdoors/>

Saint Paul's will provide hotdogs, burgers and drinks. Everyone else please bring a side dish to share.

SAINT PAUL'S STEPS UP AGAIN

The Cheers Sunday School Class Project to collect used bicycles has been completed and the results are in. Thanks to the Saint Paul's congregation's generous contributions of bicycles, time and money, many needy folks in our community will benefit. Cheers teamed up with Bicycle House, a Tallahassee non-profit, to provide refurbished bikes to people who need them. In all, 37 bikes were donated to Bicycle House, along with \$2,268 in cash (including \$500 from the Cheers Class). The cash can be used to purchase things like tires, tubes, seats and locks that will help make the bikes as good as new. In addition, 4 individuals from Saint Paul's are donating their time to work with other volunteers at Bicycle House to make those old bikes bright and shiny. And, Saint Paul's Youth have used Bicycle House as a field trip to learn more about the value of this service to the community.

During its 12 years of operations in Tallahassee, Bicycle House has given away thousands of bikes to people who need them and have never charged a penny to a recipient. So, the Cheers Sunday School Class says ... Thanks Saint Paul's!



SABBATH MONTH

As part of our faith, we practice a weekly rhythm of work and rest. Sabbath time is important for us to be healthy, to make sure we are not consumed with work, and to take time to appreciate life. In the Old Testament, when this practice is introduced, it is important that not just the faithful rest, but that they also give others the opportunity to rest – their employees, their animals, and even the land. Rest is necessary.

You may be looking at our July calendar and thinking, there isn't a whole lot going on this month. That is intentional. At Saint Paul's, we treat July as a Sabbath month. All of our committees that are able to take a break do so. We have simplified to one worship service for the summer. Our staff members usually each take some vacation time.

We encourage you to engage in the practice of Sabbath in your life. Whether this is a daily moment of reflection and silence, a weekly day to unplug from your phone and computer, or the summer or winter season of clearing your calendar. Sabbath is about disengaging from the work and daily grind and engaging in connection with God and loved ones. Playtime is not just for children, it is a spiritual discipline!

CREATION *care*

SUMMER HARVEST IN THE MOSAIC GARDEN

The Mosaic Garden is bursting with tomatoes thanks to our dedicated garden team led by Jessie Perry & Yvonne Brownlie including Anne Wilde, Teresa Morris, Jan Cuddington, Peggy Harter, and Charlotte Keaton. We harvested around 30 pounds of tomatoes and collard greens in June to share with food banks in our community who love receiving our fresh, organic vegetables. Thank you to Katherine Cox for coming out to harvest with us in June! We are always looking for help with harvesting and it is a great activity for families, so contact Jessie at perry386@msn.com to join in the fun.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Linda Leach, Terry Shoffstall
- 2 Justin Ward
- 4 Jay Helton
- 6 Sarah Helton
- 7 Joan DePew
- 8 Nancy Breslin, Sybil Palmer
- 9 Heather Burger, Becky Hawken, Betty Porterfield
- 10 Lily Griesheimer, Elaine McConaughay, Phyllis McCranie, Jessie Schrimsher
- 11 Jan Lewis, James Ross
- 13 Beth Raynor
- 14 Bob Caldwell
- 16 Daniel Godwin, Livia Nystrand, Bob Raynor
- 17 Betsy Oven, Simon Webb
- 18 Ashley Apthorp, Cayle Bryant
- 19 Charles Field IV, Barbara Linthicum
- 20 Katherine Cox, Lee Ann Franceschi
- 21 Jerry Roney, Ann Schroeder
- 22 Faith Moody, Okenwa Okoli, Hans Schroeder
- 23 Gena Farnell, Bob Godwin
- 24 Ardrey Silverblade
- 27 Kimberly Amos-Tata, Danielle Foster, Hanna Joiner, Jim McConaughay, Cole Thomas
- 28 Tallulah Field, Elizabeth Gardner
- 29 Bettye Roberts, Sarabeth Snuggs
- 30 Doris Pollock



MISSION ministries

HURRICANE RESPONSE THROUGH OUR CHURCH

Dear Saint Paul's Church,

Thank you for your wonderful response to the hurricanes over the past years! Our church sent hurricane recovery mission teams to the areas hit hardest by Hurricanes Katrina, Hermine, Irma, and Michael (three Saturdays removing debris from yards near Marianna, two rebuilding work weeks near Greenville and Port St. Joe). Then we were prevented from working in close proximity with others by the COVID pandemic. We were still able to hire professionals to repair the homes of several people in Port St. Joe and Havana. We are now into the hurricane season again and need to build a team of volunteers to prepare for helping after the next storm.

We need many kinds of help (skilled and unskilled labor, painters, cleaners, comforters, etc.) so if you are interested in helping us form a team of volunteers, Will you please email Don Griesheimer, dgriesheimer@comcast.net?

Thank you! David Gill, for our Mission Lay Team

Disaster Response Front Team Volunteer

Position Summary: A trained volunteer who is prepared to deploy, as part of a team, into a disaster impacted area within the conference, to assess scope of damage, identify urgent needs and evaluate available and needed resources to support the local UM response in the community.

FROM OUR SISTER CHURCH IN SOISSON HAITI

Good evening to our brothers and sisters in Florida. I greet you in the name of Jesus our savior. We are glad that we answered our email despite the delay it took, we are pleased, we continue to ask for prayers for the different needs that we mentioned in the last emails and we ask for prayers for a steward in the congregation whose father died for this family, the Michel family, we take the opportunity to thank you for your prayers because the situation of insecurity that was developing in the area is beginning to improve and the faithful regain their perseverance, we bless the name of God, may God bless. Your friend Pastor Baby.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF OUR RECOVERY MISSIONS FROM CHARLIE GUYTON

In addition to Hurricane relief, we had an earthquake relief trip to Haiti (co-led by John Apthorp and me) and several follow up trips to our sister church led by Flo or Lee Anne.

Hurricane Katrina: We sent multiple teams over four to five years (in some years we sent more than one team) to Louisiana and Mississippi in response to Hurricane Katrina. Bob Raynor led most of those trips.

Tuscaloosa Tornado: We sent at least one team in response to the devastating tornado in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Bob Raynor led that team.

North Florida Flooding: We sent one team to Lake City to address flood damage, which I recall was related to rains from a tropical storm. Bob led that team as well.

Hurricane Ivan: We sent one week long team to Pensacola to repair homes damaged by Hurricane Ivan. I led that team.

Hurricane Irma: We sent two teams to the Jacksonville area to address flooding associated with Hurricane Irma, which hit South Florida and moved up the Peninsula. It was a tropical storm when it reached North Florida, but it caused the St John's River to back up, causing catastrophic flooding. I led those two teams.

Hurricane Michael: We sent ten teams over two to three years to the Florida Panhandle in response to Hurricane Michael. An initial consultation trip was made to Mariana. At least three day trips were made to Mariana to clean up storm debris. Two week long trips were made to Mariana to repair multiple homes there and in the surrounding area. Two week long trips to Port St. Joe were made to repair homes. Another two trips were made to Carrabelle to repair a storm-damaged house. I or Don Griesheimer organized or lead most of those trips.

We look forward to seeing you when you are up here.

Love to all, Charlie Guyton

MANNA ON MERIDIAN

Thanks to your generous donations, Manna has remained solvent for now. Saint Paul's is the lead church for the distribution on **August 19**. If you are available to help between 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. please contact Barb Block at tallahasseebarb@yahoo.com.

MUSIC

at Saint Paul's

As we move into the Summer season, Kids@Art, Youth Choir, and Handbell Choir will be taking a break and resume in August for the start of a new season.

KIDS@ART (CHILDREN'S WORSHIP ARTS PROGRAM)

Our children's worship arts-based program will change times for the coming school year. We will be meeting on Wednesdays, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., immediately following Wednesday Night Dinners. All children, grades K-5, are invited to join us for Children's Choir, instrument playing, drama, sacred dance and movement, visual arts, and more. We'll begin on August 16, and in our first unit of study, we'll be preparing to lead the entirety of our Services of Worship on September 17. Watch for sign-up opportunities coming in July!

YOUTH SUNDAY: AUGUST 6

Our Youth Choir, along with all of our other Youth, will be leading the 9:30 a.m. Service of Worship on Sunday, August 6. Our seniors will be giving the message and singing a solo, others will be giving testimonies about their mission trip and Music Camp experiences, and the Youth Choir will be singing and leading the congregational songs. Several of our Youth Choir members will also be contributing to our worship experience by using skills learned at Music Camp to create our altar-scape. We'll also have the Blessing of the Backpacks. We look forward to this special worship experience to lead us into the new school year.

YOUTH

rooted

FAMILY-HOSTED YOUTH EVENTS

Youth families have volunteered to host summer events on the weeks where we are not already participating in things like Extreme Explorers, Music Camp, Summer Camp, or VBS.

July 19 - 6-8 p.m. Pizza & Trivia in the Parlor led by the Nystrand / Cox / Fugate families.

July 26 - 2-4 p.m. Bowling at Capital Lanes led by the Underhill family. We will have pizza and drinks. Bring \$5 to help offset the cost.

SUMMER CAMP AND MISSION TRIP

The youth had a great time in June at Music Camp, and volunteering at VBS! In July, many of our youth are headed to Warren Willis Camp July 10-15. Please be praying for them as they travel there and for a week filled with fun and growing in their faith.

From August 1-5, Rooted will be teaming up with Trinity UMC Youth to serve in the urban Tampa Bay area. We will be partnering with Metropolitan Ministries, as well as Feeding Tampa Bay to provide assistance in their food warehouses as well as outreach services. We will end our week with a day spent at Busch Gardens before returning home. Please pray for God to move through our youth and the amazing work they will do on this trip! (Registration for this is closed, but you can contact Pastor Becky in the church office to see if there are any available spots due to cancellations).

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 want to give a very special word of thanks to Leslie and Kevin Scott! Leslie and Kevin joined Saint Paul's last October, and both jumped right in with serving and attend the Coffee Chat Sunday School class.

Leslie volunteered to help organize and run VBS this summer alongside Bridget, our Director of Children's Ministry. Leslie is also active in the leadership of Mothers of Preschoolers (MOPS).

Kevin volunteers regularly with Manna on Meridian and 2nd Harvest of the Big Bend. They do all this while raising their two children, Nathanael and Madeline, modeling for them what it looks like to give back. To Kevin and Leslie - Thanks-a-latte!



CONGREGATIONAL CARE



**NEED A RIDE OR
WILLING TO GIVE ONE?**

Help us restart our ride-share program!

RIIDE-SHARE FOR WORSHIP

Before the pandemic, we had a team that provided rides to members of our congregation who were unable to drive. We would like to restart this program by matching people who need rides with those who are able to drive, and who live nearby. If you know someone that needs a ride, or if you are willing to drive, please fill out the form below.

COMMUNION AND VISITATIONS

If you are no longer able to come to worship in person, and would like someone to bring Communion to you at home, please call the church office to let us know, or email Pastor Becky at becky@saintpaulsumc.org.

If you would like to be a part of the visitation and communion team that takes Communion to our homebound folks, we need your help! We would love to be able to take Communion on the first Sunday of the month to all of our homebound members that wish to receive it.

BEREAVEMENT TEAM

We are organizing a bereavement team to help coordinate funerals and funeral receptions. Sometimes Sunday School classes provide the food for these, other times families have them catered. We want to help ease the grief and financial burden on families when they experience the loss of a loved one. Mary Ann Brown will be chairing this team. Please contact her directly if you are interested in serving. She volunteers in the church office on Monday mornings.

OTHER WAYS TO VOLUNTEER

Various subcommittees of our Care Team provide meals to those who are ill or recovering from surgery, send cards to members in times of extra care, deliver flowers to those in need of encouragement, and pray weekly for the needs of our congregation. Our next monthly meeting is **August 21 at 10:30 a.m. in room 326**. We would love to have you join us.



FAMILY events

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.

Combined Class for all elementary ages – Foundation Level “Art Room”

Summer school will be led by Margot Almond and friends.

Contact Bridget for more info. bridget@saintpaulsumc.org

DATE NIGHT

July 22, 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.

Sign up: <https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/datenightjune172023>

PMO SUMMER SESSIONS

Our hearts and hands are FULL, a huge praise! Anyone wanting to learn more please contact Director Beth Wilde, beth@saintpaulsumc.org.



MOTHERS OF PRESCHOOLERS “MOPS”

“MOPS” registration is open to all moms of children ages birth thru kindergarten. This year’s theme is, “Say Yes” and we hope you do. Meetings are twice a month on **Thursdays from 9:30 – 11:30 starting with a kickoff party August 17.**

For more info contact Coordinator Leslie Scott at narcissus52@gmail.com



“Say Yes” to join MOPS here:



“Say Yes” to helping! Mentor Moms are important members of this ministry and are women who have raised children into school or beyond and can share their stories and experience. Mentor moms attend 2 meetings/month and enjoy brunch and great company! Nursery volunteers are the hands to the heart of this group and help care for children ages 12months- 5years of age during the mom’s meetings. This offering to care for the smallest among us gives the Moms a much needed time to connect with other women in the same stage of life and be renewed in spirit.



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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 Rokitoski
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Church Administrator

Linda Fletcher
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Director of Children's & Family Ministries

Bridget Weisbrod
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Nursery Director

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Kids@Art Choir Director

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Contemporary Worship Leader

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Kitchen Coordinator

Ted Rokitoski
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Sexton

Simon Webb

Website Administrator

Ryan Kline

Video Coordinator

Jay Wirth

Church Treasurer

Timothy Scott

OUR BISHOP

Rev. Tom Berlin

OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. Clarke Campbell-Evans

OUR MISSIONARIES

Delbert and Sandy Groves,
Zambia