

NOVEMBER 2023

# the EPISTLE



## PRAYER OF GRATITUDE

O Lord, as we prepare to celebrate and give thanks this year, may we find it in our hearts to be grateful no matter what.

May we praise you for what we can do and praise you in spite of what we can't. May we thank you for what is and what isn't, for what is going well and for what is not.

May we thank you for what brings us joy and even for that which brings us grief, for if our grief testifies to anything, it testifies to the depths of our love.

Bless us and keep us, dear God, we pray, and turn our hearts ever and always toward your all-encompassing light, you who are our creator and savior, our redeemer and friend.

Amen and amen.

written by Sarah Buteux.  
Posted on MINEmergent's Daily  
Communique, January 18, 2013

## NOVEMBER CALENDAR

- Nov. 4 Sleep In Heavenly Peace  
Bed Build, 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
Parking Lot
- Nov. 5 Alternative Christmas Market  
8:30 a.m., Sanders Hall
- Nov. 6 Ed Wynn Luncheon,  
10:30 a.m., Sanders Hall
- Nov. 10 Office Closed for Holiday  
Crafty Crop, 5:00 p.m.  
Sanders Hall
- Nov. 10-11 Peace & Justice Pilgrimage
- Nov. 10-12 Fall Camping Trip
- Nov. 11 Crafty Crop, 10:00 a.m.  
Sanders Hall
- Nov. 13 Congregational Care,  
10:30 a.m., Room 326
- Nov. 14 United Women in Faith  
10:00 a.m., Sanders Hall
- Nov. 16 Healing Hearts Recital  
5:30 p.m., Sanders Hall
- Nov. 18 Manna on Meridian, 8:00 a.m.  
Faith Presbyterian
- Nov. 19 Church Wide Thanksgiving  
Dinner, 12:00 p.m.,  
Sanders Hall
- Nov. 20 Trustees Meeting, 5:30 p.m.  
Room 325
- Nov. 23-24 Office Closed for Holiday
- Nov. 25 Soul Food Distribution  
9:30 a.m., Lake Ella
- Nov. 27 Governing Board, 6:30 p.m.  
Parlor

# NOVEMBER

## events

### SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Join us **every Sunday**, 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 upon request, contact [beth@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:beth@saintpaulsumc.org).

### FALL CAMPING TRIP

**November 10-12**

Come enjoy a weekend outdoors with friends in fellowship at Reed Bingham State Park in Adel, GA! Located only 1.5 hours away from Tallahassee. Our group has several sites reserved next to each other with space for a few more Tent Campers. Sign up details in the weekly notes. For more information contact Bridget Weisbrod at (850) 408-5528.

### UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith will be meeting on **Tuesday, November 14**, at 10:00 in Sanders Hall. Our speaker for the morning will be sharing with us about Elder Care Services, an organization that Saint Paul's supports in a variety of ways.

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

### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY - NOV 5TH

The list below are the members of Saint Paul's that have passed away since last All Saints Day and who we will be honoring on November 5.

Monna Blommel  
Ron Braswell  
Virginia Burley  
Louise Carpenter  
Dot Carroll  
Norberto Chan, II  
Roberta Hardison  
Anne Humphrey  
Bill Jones

Dorothea Kalinosky  
Jimmy Ragans  
Bill Schildt  
Mary Maud Sharpe  
Frances Stiles  
Ed Stripling  
Doug Williams  
Ruth Ann Wynn

### MEN'S READING COMMUNITY

We continue to have two options for the Men's Reading Community: Tuesdays 8:30 a.m. at Ology Northside led by David Gill, or Wednesday Evenings at 6:15 p.m. in Room 301 at Saint Paul's UMC led by Nic Fugate.

### CHURCHWIDE THANKSGIVING DINNER

Please join your Saint Paul's family in Sanders Hall for Thanksgiving Dinner on **Sunday, November 19th**, at 12:15 p.m. following 11:00 a.m. worship. Bring your favorite side dish to share. Turkey and drinks will be provided!

### COMMITMENT SUNDAY

On **November 19**, we will offer our commitments of time, talents, gifts, service, witness, tithes, and offerings to the Lord and Saint Paul's UMC. Please bring your pledge card with you to worship if you have not already turned it into the church office.

### HANGING OF THE GREENS

Mark your calendars now so that you don't miss out! **December 3, 7:00 p.m.**, we'll welcome in the Advent season with Saint Paul's rich tradition of decorating our sanctuary, hearing readings/explanations about the history of the symbols of our decorations, singing carols, and hearing all of our performing choirs' anthems. We will need lots of help from individuals, families, and groups, and you will have an opportunity to sign up soon. We will not have our regular evening contemporary service that evening as all are invited to join us for Hanging of the Greens.

### WORSHIP DURING DECEMBER

During the entire month of December we will combine our two morning worship services and worship together at 9:30 a.m. with Sunday School following. We have special events and/ or musical offerings happening every Sunday in December and we don't want anyone to miss out. Christmas Eve is also on a Sunday this year. Check out the front cover for all the special events happening in December and make sure to mark your calendars!

# MUSIC

## at Saint Paul's

**Music Ministry is a vital part of the worship life of Saint Paul's. During the month of November we are busily working on our Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas offerings.**

**Preschool Music Group (for ages 3-4):** meets from 5:10 - 5:30 on Wednesday afternoons. This group is a developmentally appropriate music program for children ages 3-4 which incorporates singing, playing instruments, and movement, setting the foundation for building our future worship leaders. Contact Gaye Herndon ([gaye@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:gaye@saintpaulsumc.org))

**Kids@Art (Children's Worship Arts Program for Grades K-5):** is preparing for our many Advent programs and offerings. We are learning about and making Chrismons for the tree in Sanders Hall, learning music for the Hanging of the Greens and the Service of Lessons and Carols presented by the entire Music Ministry, and rehearsing for our musical, "Room for Christmas," by Mark Burrows which will be presented on **December 13**, 6:45 p.m., in the sanctuary. (Contact Stephany Nystrand: [stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com))

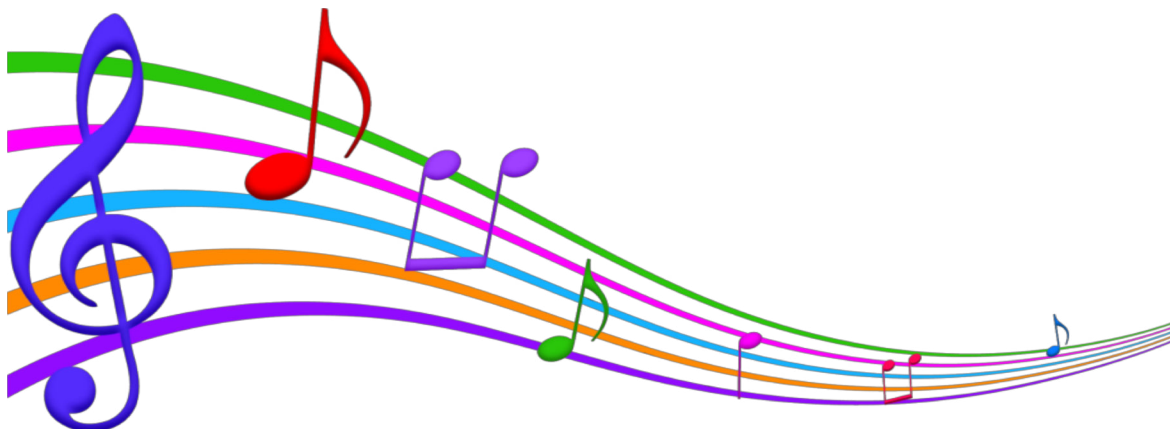
**Youth Choir (grades 6-12):** rehearses on Wednesday evenings, 7:00-7:45, in Room 200. We are preparing special music for the Hanging of the Greens and the Music Ministries' Service of Lessons and Carols. (Contact Gaye Herndon: [gaye@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:gaye@saintpaulsumc.org))

**Saint Paul's Dancers:** are preparing a processional dance for the Hanging of the Greens on **December 3**. (Contact Stephany Nystrand: [stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com))

**Covenant Chancel Choir:** sings for the 11:00 a.m. (and occasionally 8:30 a.m.) services. This choir also presents and leads special seasonal services. We rehearse on Tuesdays from 6:15-7:15 p.m. and warm-up on Sunday mornings at 10:35. We are preparing to help lead the Hanging of the Greens on **December 3**, 7:00 p.m. and our Service of Lessons and Carols on **December 10**, 9:30 a.m. A nursery/childcare is provided. If members want to sit with their families during worship, they leave the choir loft after the anthem. (Contact Cynthia Prescott, Adult Choirs Director: [prescottc1360@gmail.com](mailto:prescottc1360@gmail.com))

**Se'lah:** is an ensemble of adults who love to praise God through song but can't commit to singing in worship every Sunday. This group rehearses Tuesday evenings, 7:30 - 8:30, in the choir room. They perform a variety of music and sing in a variety of places. This group sings once a month in worship and occasionally with the Covenant Chancel Choir for special occasions. They are preparing for the Advent and Christmas seasons. A nursery/childcare is provided. Contact Cynthia Prescott, Adult Choirs Director: [prescottc1360@gmail.com](mailto:prescottc1360@gmail.com).

**Handbell Choir:** rehearses on Sundays from 5:45 - 6:45. We will be participating in the community event, Ring in the Season, to be held at First Baptist Church, Tallahassee, on **December 3**, 4:00 p.m. and will be playing for our Hanging of the Greens and Service of Lessons and Carols.



# YOUTH rooted

## **November 4th - Bunk Bed Build**

On November 4th, Rooted is going to be participating in the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Bunk Bed Build! The event will run from 8:45 - 12pm, sign ups are available in the weekly notes and Youth Newsletter. Youth can also sign up the morning of the build.

## **November 7th, 6:30 - Youth Ministry Meeting**

On November 7th Rooted will be having a Youth Ministry Meeting. These meetings are open to any adults that are parents of youth or volunteer regularly with the youth! At our meeting we will look back at the fall and look ahead towards the winter season. This is a great opportunity to learn more about what we do at Rooted, and share your input on some ideas for future events!

## **November 19th - Thanksgiving Potluck at Sunday Night Youth**

On Sunday the 19th, SNY dinner is going to be a Thanksgiving Potluck! We are asking for guys to bring a drink, Middle School girls to bring a dessert, and High School girls to bring a side.

## **Important Program Dates:**

November 12th - No Sunday Night Youth (Veterans Day Weekend)

November 22nd - No UMYF (Thanksgiving break)

November 26th - No Sunday Night Youth (Thanksgiving break)

November 29th - Program resumes with UMYF

# WEDNESDAY nights

## **EVERY WEDNESDAY NIGHT**

3:00-5:00 SPARKS  
5:10-5:30 Preschool Music Group  
5:15-6:30 Dinner in Sanders Hall  
6:00-7:00 Kids@Art  
6:00-7:00 Rooted Youth Program  
6:15-7:30 Adult Classes  
7:00-7:45 Youth Choir

## **CHURCH 101**

Are you new to being a Christian, new to Saint Paul's, or maybe just in need of a refresher on the basics? This class covers basic Christian beliefs, Methodism, putting our faith into practice and how you can become more involved at Saint Paul's. Meets **through November 15** from 6:15 - 7:15 p.m. in Room 310. Led by Gary Eggebraaten.

## **WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER**

The doors open at 5:00 and we serve food from 5:15 until 6:30. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and under. Reservations should be received by Monday at noon.

### **November Menu:**

**November 1** - BBQ Pork

**November 8** - Baked Potato Bar w/ Chili

**November 15** - Enchiladas

**November 22** - NO DINNER OR PROGRAMMING

**November 29** - Chicken and Rice

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



# CREATION care

## SUPPORT CREATION CARE AT THE 2023 ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET

*The earth belongs to God! Everything in all the world is his! Psalm 24:1*

*We are so grateful for your support that allows us to grow hundreds of pounds of food a year to donate to Manna on Meridian Food Bank, provide outreach and education about nature and sustainability, and celebrate God's earth with outings. Visit our table at the Alternative Christmas Market and learn how you can get involved!*

### ♥ FRIEND OF THE MOSAIC GARDEN

\$50 - Maintaining a healthy garden requires yearly renourishment of soil, seeds, plants, equipment, and supplies. All of the organic vegetables we grow are given to Manna on Meridian food bank, so becoming a Friend of the Mosaic Garden will help provide healthy vegetables to food-insecure people in our community all year long.

### ALL CREATURES GREAT AND SMALL

The Blessing of the Animals was wonderful time of fellowship and praise for our pets! So many sweet animals were celebrated including lots of dogs, two rats, a cat, a bird, and a hedgehog. Pastor Latricia and Pastor Becky led the service and pet blessings, Mandie Barber took photos of our pets on a beautiful fall backdrop, and David August played music during the service. The Pastors also invited dog walkers from Lake Ella to join our service and to receive pet blessings. See more photos on our Saint Paul's Creation Care Facebook group.



*Blessing of the Animals*

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Lydia Crawford
- 2 Amelia Fugate, Charles O'Keefe
- 4 T.E. Roberts
- 5 Cadha Byford, Carolyn Drake
- 7 Jerry Eychaner, Nolan Pupo
- 8 MaryAnn Piccioni, Madeline Scott
- 9 Ross Moret, Steve Shackelford, David Young
- 10 Taylor Novak, Ikem Okoli, Onyinye Okoli, Gail Wallace
- 12 Emma Perry
- 13 Brian Fernandes, Dave Ragsdale
- 14 Skyler Burger, Britton Tully
- 15 Andrew Underhill
- 16 Blair Andrews, Ermine Owenby
- 18 John DePew
- 19 Hugh Merryday
- 21 Patty Atherton, Natalie Monteiro, Bridget Weisbrod
- 22 Thomas Byford, Claire Pupo
- 23 Robert Tully, Screven Watson, Julia Woodward
- 24 Becky Rokitowski
- 25 David Steingart
- 26 Ken Lewis, Chuck Prescott
- 30 Virginia Pelham, Makaylah Verheyen, Peggy Wright

# MISSION ministries

## CHILDREN'S HOME CHRISTMAS WISH LIST

We are excited as we approach Christmas once again and get ready to celebrate the pageantry, plays, carols, parties, nativities, Christmas trees, worship services, gifts and gift cards! Our annual Christmas Gift Card drive is now beginning which gives us the opportunity to demonstrate the amazing love of Christ through our gifts as we contemplate and celebrate God's gift to us through his Son. We invite you to participate with us in this endeavor by purchasing gift cards to be given throughout our Children's Home ministry to bless the children we serve.

We ask that, if not done so already, the gift card denomination be written somewhere on the gift card. Please include a gift card receipt with each gift card as this will help us with processing the gift cards. Please drop off your gift card at the church office or give to Janet Clark the Children's Home representative by **December 5**.

## SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE BED BUILD

**Saturday, November 4 - 8:45 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.**

Saint Paul's United Methodist Church is partnering with the Tallahassee Chapter of Sleep In Heavenly Peace to build 15 bunk beds for children in the area that are in need of a bed to sleep in at night. This will be our 5th year for working on this mission and will enable us to have provided 150 children with a bed to call their own!

Additional information on how to volunteer for the event will be available at a later date in the Saint Paul's Weekly Notes. Any questions, please contact Jerry Roney at 708-363-3948 or Roney.jm@comcast.net



## ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET

Before you begin your Christmas shopping this fall, please save the date for our "Alternative Christmas Market"

**Sunday, November 5**

**8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

in Sanders Hall you can visit our local church members who will be happy to share with you how Saint Paul's is serving the needs of our community.

*For example:*

Capital Area Justice Ministry ~ Creation Care  
International Rescue Committee helping refugees  
Jail and Prison Ministry ~ Elder Care  
Manna on Meridian ~ Alzheimer's Project  
Sleep in Heavenly Peace ~ Soul Food  
United Methodist Children's Home  
Yaguaramas Methodist Church, Cuba  
Wesley Foundations at FSU/TCC and FAMU

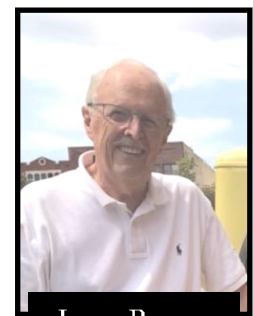
*And more to be added to the Market*

*GIVE GIFTS THAT GIVE TWICE when you donate to one of these missions you will receive a Christmas card to send to your loved ones notifying them that a gift to help others has been given in their name.*

# THANKS *a latte!*



Barbara Block



Jerry Roney

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 week we want to highlight two of our Mission leaders: Barbara Block who coordinates our Saint Paul's Manna on Meridian Team, and Jerry Roney who coordinates our Sleep in Heavenly Peace Team. We are so thankful to all those who volunteer in the many missions of Saint Paul's, and especially for those who step up and take on a leadership role. You are SO APPRECIATED! And to Barb and Jerry—Thanks-A-Latte!



# FAMILY events

## SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES FOR ALL AGES

**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 Sunday school instruction.

**Children's classes** are located on the "Foundation Level" (Facing Lake Ella) of the children's wing.

- K-1 grade class led by Mrs. Jo Ellen Brown & Gigi Ebert
- 2-3 grade class led by Mrs. Faye Miller & Volunteers
- 3-5 grade class led by Mr. Kevin & Mrs. Jenni Cox

## SPARKS

**SPARKS hands on Art & Science** afterschool ministry every Wednesday, we welcome all K-5th graders to join us and offer church bus pick up from Gilchrist and Sealy elementary. Drop in any time after 3:00 p.m. at Generations Park.

- |             |   |
|-------------|---|
| 3:00 - 3:35 | Supervised Park Play                                  |
| 3:40 - 3:55 | Snack & Scripture Sharing                             |
| 4:00 - 4:25 | Hands on Art Making with Ms. Courtney and Ms. Megan   |
| 4:30 - 4:55 | Science Experiments with Ms. Leslie, and Ms. Kjersten |

For more information contact [beth@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:beth@saintpaulsumc.org).



## DATE NIGHT

**Saturday, November 18, 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

Enjoy an evening out with your special someone or simply enjoy some much-needed quiet time while our experienced staff care for your little ones. Contact Director Beth Wilde at: [beth@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:beth@saintpaulsumc.org).

## PARENTS MORNING OUT & PRESCHOOL

Our Parent's Morning Out and Preschool is a fun and safe place for children of all backgrounds to come together and foster a joy of learning through Christ's love. We accomplish this through cooperative and imaginative play. We also offer formal lessons in phonics, math and social and emotional intelligence. We have limited spots available for little ones to join in on the fun. Please let Beth Wilde, our Director of Early Childhood Ministries, know if you are interested in learning more.

[Beth@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:Beth@saintpaulsumc.org)



## MOMSnexT

**November 9** from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. This is the next big thing for Moms and is a ministry geared toward working parents of preschoolers and older children into elementary school ages but welcomes all. Monthly meetings, no child-care at this time. For more info. contact Mandi Houston at [amandabradley078@gmail.com](mailto:amandabradley078@gmail.com). Church Camp Trip – Friday, November 10 - Sunday, November 12.





1700 North Meridian Road  
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[www.saintpaulsumc.org](http://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  
7:00 p.m. Contemporary Service

### CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
Friday - Closed  
850-385-5146

Find us on  at SaintPaulsUnitedMethodistChurch

### OUR STAFF AND EMAILS

#### Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Latricia Scriven  
[latricia@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:latricia@saintpaulsumc.org)

#### Associate Pastor

Rev. Becky Rokitowski  
[becky@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:becky@saintpaulsumc.org)

#### Church Administrator

Linda Fletcher  
[linda@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:linda@saintpaulsumc.org)

#### Dir. of Children & Family Ministries

TBD

#### Dir. of Early Childhood Ministries

Beth Wilde  
[beth@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:beth@saintpaulsumc.org)

#### Dir. of Music & Worship Arts

Gaye Herndon  
[gaye@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:gaye@saintpaulsumc.org)

#### Adult Choirs Director

Cynthia Prescott  
[prescottc1360@gmail.com](mailto:prescottc1360@gmail.com)

#### Kids@Art Choir Director

Stephany Nystrand  
[stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com](mailto:stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com)

#### Dir. of Youth Ministries

Zac Prasse  
[zac@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:zac@saintpaulsumc.org)

#### Contemporary Worship Leader

Ben Reid  
[ben@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:ben@saintpaulsumc.org)

#### Kitchen Coordinator

Ted Rokitowski  
[ted@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:ted@saintpaulsumc.org)

#### 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