

FEBRUARY 2024

the EPISTLE



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

- Feb. 1 MOPS Leadership Meeting, 9:30 a.m. Sanders Hall
Circle of Support Group, 10:00 a.m., Parlor
100 Women Who Care, 5:00 p.m., Sanders Hall
- Feb. 2 Crafty Crop, 3.00 p.m., Sanders Hall
- Feb. 3 Crafty Crop, 10:00 a.m., SH
- Feb. 5 Ed Wynn Luncheon, 10:30 a.m., Sanders Hall
- Feb. 7 Valentine Card Party, 6:30 p.m., Parlor
- Feb. 8 MOPS Meeting, 9:30 a.m. Sanders Hall
Mom's Next, 6:30 p.m., SH
- Feb. 12 Congregational Care, 10:30 a.m., Room 326
- Feb. 13 United Women in Faith, 10:00 a.m., Sanders Hall
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper, 5:30 p.m. Sanders Hall
- Feb. 14 Ash Wednesday Service, 6:30 p.m., Sanctuary
- Feb. 15 Circle of Support Group, 10:00 a.m., Parlor
- Feb. 17 Manna on Meridian, 8:00 a.m. Faith Presbyterian
Date Night, 5:00 p.m., Nursery
- Feb. 22 MOPS Meeting, 9:30 a.m., Sanders Hall
- Feb. 24 Soul Food Distribution, 9:30 a.m., Lake Ella
- Feb. 26 Governing Board Meeting 6:30 p.m., Parlor

For God
SO LOVED THE WORLD
THAT HE GAVE HIS
ONLY
BEGOTTEN
SON SO
THAT WHOEVER
BELIEVES
IN HIM SHALL
HAVE EVERLASTING
Life

John 3:16

FEBRUARY events

CRAFTY CROP

Join us for Crafty Crop with some fun gal-friends **February 2 & 3** in Sanders Hall! Bring your projects and table space will be provided. The fellowship begins on **Friday at 3:00 p.m.** You may leave your projects all set up to continue the fun on **Saturday at 10:00 a.m.** Any questions and/or to sign up, contact Jill Merryday (850-443-9428).

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith will be meeting on **Tuesday, February 13** at 10:00 a.m. in Sanders Hall. Our guest speaker for the morning will be Gail Christy Jones, past President of Florida Conference United Methodist Women. She will be speaking on pledging and where the money goes once it is received. Come join us for a morning of education, service and fellowship.

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

ASH WEDNESDAY

Our Ash Wednesday service will be at **6:30 p.m.** on **February 14** in the Sanctuary. Dinner will still be served 5:15 - 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.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER

On **Tuesday, February 13**, our Youth Choir will host the annual Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner to raise funds for our trip to Music Camp. This Camp experience teaches us how to be better worship leaders and disciples. Generous donations are asked for support of our Youth Choir Music Camp trip.

Menu: Pancakes, Bacon, Grits, Yogurt Bar, Beverages, and King Cake

Serving begins at 5:30. Please make reservations through the Church Office or the Breeze signup link so that we have plenty of food!

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 every Sunday evenings for *Grace After Dark*, our Contemporary Worship Service, in Sanders Hall. 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.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Come to our Town Hall meeting on **Wednesday, February 21** at 6:30 p.m. in Sanders Hall to hear about what is going on at Saint Paul's. The pastors, and other leaders will be there to answer any questions you have.

LENTEN STUDY

Our Lenten study will begin on **February 28** and run for four weeks, through March 27. The class will be at 6:30 p.m. in Room 310.



CREATION *Care*

Creation Care Tip: Protecting Fruit Trees and Plants During Freezing Weather

You may notice that we cover our fruit trees and Mosaic Garden plants when the temperatures dip. We've consulted the experts at UF/IFAS Extension Service for the details on the best practices for protecting plants, and share those with you here.

How to best cover your plants, from the experts:

- Use a non-plastic covering. Frost cloths can be found at hardware stores and garden centers, or large blankets or bedsheets also work.
- The covering should drape over the plant and reach the ground. Use bricks or other weights to hold the covering to the ground.
- Do not "lollipop" young trees, essentially covering the leaves and branches and tying it off at the upper trunk. This does not protect the tree.

Less cold-tolerant plants are going to get knocked back once we get temperatures below 40 degrees, and they would likely die once we get to 32 degrees and below. For cold-sensitive crops, like certain citrus, when we get to the mid- or upper-20's, young trees should be protected.

UF/IFAS Leon County Extension
@uf_leon

There's a right way and a wrong way to cover trees and shrubs for frost protection. Lollipops (second image) where the cloth is wrapped around the tree and tied to the trunk are a waste of time. Ideally your cloth reaches the ground to trap heat in. buff.ly/3f43Nwv



UF/IFAS Extension Leon County demonstrates (from left) the correct and incorrect way to protect plants during cold snaps. (Photo credit: Molly Jameson, UF/IFAS Extension Leon County)

Proper covering techniques make all the difference. Instead of sheets or blankets, we have had better results with reusable frost cloth that is made for this purpose. Surrounding the base with holiday lights also helps keep the trees warm.

Wire or PVC hoops can be used to help secure frost cloth and keep the cloth from damaging sensitive plant stems and leaves. Bricks, sticks, soil, or garden staples should be used along the perimeter of the frost cloth to prevent nighttime gusts from blowing the cloth off your garden beds or landscape plants.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Anne Ashcroft, Carter Perry, Magdalene Waltz
- 2 Mary Jo Batailles, Kathryn McBride
- 3 Stacy Joiner, Ryan Kline, Jr., Alan Raynor
- 6 Kathy Marsh, Michael Miller
- 7 George Apthorp, Karena Perry, William Perry, Tristin Steingart, Micah Goodpasture
- 10 Mary Roberts
- 11 Bill Corry, Brenda Dawes, Trinh Jones, Campbell Pernell, Karen Randolph
- 13 David Beverly, Isabella Chan, Jan Cuddington, Noah Dobson
- 15 Chris Morris
- 16 Chip Knight, Annelise Rios
- 17 Leni Schrader
- 18 Charles Field, V
- 19 Lily McDermott
- 20 Olga Martin, Mary Pat Peacock
- 22 Babs Powell, Judy Ray
- 23 Carol Swing
- 25 Mary Ann Brown
- 26 Watt Beekman-Dowell
- 27 Charlotte Droessler, Judy Galloway, Eden Hatfield
- 28 Susan Fristoe

MISSION ministries

Everybody can be great...because anybody can serve. You don't have to have a college degree to serve. You don't have to make your subject and verb agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace. A soul generated by love.

Martin Luther King, Jr.

MANNA ON MERIDIAN

2023 was an exciting year at Manna on Meridian. During this past year we expanded our footprint within our Community, secured a donation of peanut butter from Southwest Georgia farmers valued at over \$6,000, formalized our relationship with Second Harvest of the Big Bend (SHBB), and began a partnership with Publix through SHBB to provide weekly bread and baked goods to our neighbors on Sundays. We served dry goods and fresh produce to over 3,200 families this past year at an average cost of approximately \$22 per household. The average number of people in each household is 3 so we reached over 9,600 individuals last year. Our partnership with SHBB will help us continue to bring down cost per household in 2024, but your continued financial support would be greatly appreciated so we can continue to support our neighbors.

In 2020, we served approximately 1,980 households, averaging 165 per month.

In 2021, we served approximately 2,390 households, averaging 199 per month.

In 2022, we served approximately 3,120 households, averaging 260 per month.

In 2023, we served approximately 3,220 households, averaging 268 per month.

We thank you for your faithful service and continuous commitment to Manna this past year. We hope that the changes you have seen at Manna and the impact you have witnessed will continue to energize you to donate and to volunteer with Manna in 2024.

IF YOU ARE CALLED TO SERVE THROUGH SAINT PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, HERE ARE SOME OPPORTUNITIES IN FEBRUARY:

"Creation Care " will be working in our Mosaic Garden on the spring garden. The vegetables will be give away to the needy at "Manna on Meridian" on **Saturday, February 17** 7:00 - 9:30 a.m., behind Faith Presbyterian Church.

You can serve our unhoused neighbors at Lake Ella with our "Soul Food" team on **Saturday, February 24**. Meet at 9:00 a.m. in Sanders Hall to pack up the hot breakfast, groceries, clothing and shoes, personal care kits, etc. and then bless our neighbors at the Lake Ella parking lot on the south side of Lake Ella Drive.

You can also find ways to serve the children and youth ministries of Saint Paul's within the other articles in this newsletter.

Thank you for being the church which has as one of its core values: "We will be people who do the **RIGHT THING**, even when it is uncomfortable; even when it costs us something." (from the CORE VALUES of Saint Paul's UMC). If you have any questions, please email davidmurrahgill@gmail.com

MUSIC

at Saint Paul's

Our **Youth Choir** will be hosting the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner on Tuesday, February 13, at 5:30 p.m., 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 p.m. in the Sanctuary.

The **Kids@Art Choir** is presently working on our spring musical, "Storms," by Mark Burrows. This very thoughtful and well written musical focuses on our ability to weather the storms of life because of Jesus' promises. Children, Grades K-5, are invited to join us as we prepare to present this musical on May 15 at 6:45 p.m. in the sanctuary. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in the Children's music room, 200.

We will also be singing for the 11:00 a.m. service on February 25. Contact Stephany Nystrand for more info. (stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com.)

The **Covenant Chancel Choir** will be presenting "Sacred Places: a Pilgrimage of Promise" by Joseph Martin, inspired by Early American Song, on Sunday, March 24, 11:00 a.m. service, accompanied by an instrumental ensemble. Through this Cantata, we will walk together through the sacred places of the "ancient roads of Nazareth, the golden shores of Galilee, climb rugged hills and trek the weathered stone streets, and take refuge in the quiet gardens and rest beneath olive trees" on a journey to the cross. You are invited to join us in preparing for the presentation of this cantata. Cantata rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings at 6:45 in the choir room, and rehearsal CD's are available; a nursery is provided. Contact Cynthia Prescott (prescottc1360@gmail.com)



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:

WEDNESDAY AT SAINT PAUL'S

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

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. Come and enjoy a home-cooked meal and visit with church friends.

February Menu:

Feb. 7 – Baked Chicken
Feb. 14 – Roast Beef w/Veggies
Feb. 21 – BBQ Ribs
Feb. 28 – Fried Chicken Wings

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

YOUTH rooted

YOUTH WINTER RETREAT

Rooted is having a Winter Retreat **February 2 - 4!** This is going to be a weekend full of on and off campus activities. We will spend each evening worshipping together. As well as spend time having faith based conversations in small groups. We will eat meals together. And have lots of fun games and activities. It is going to be a blast!

SUPERBOWL PARTY

Sunday, February 11 - Check the weekly notes for more information about this.

VALENTINES DAY

Wednesday, February 14 we will still be having UMYF as normal.





FAMILY events

Sunday School for all ages every week from 9:45 -10:45 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.

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

KIDS@ART

Kids@Art welcomes newcomers to this exciting evening of worship arts activities. Happening every **Wednesday** from **6:00 - 7:00 p.m.** Open to all K-5th grade children. Sign up here: [https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/kids art2022-2023](https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/kids%20art2022-2023).

HUGE THANKS TO EVERYONE

Huge thanks to Bob Raynor and family, Wade Pierce and all those who contributed time, energy and funds to get our little playground back up and running so quickly.



The kids were so excited!

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. Please let Beth Wilde, our Director of Early Childhood Ministries, know if you are interested in learning more. Beth@saintpaulsumc.org

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.



IT'S SAINT PAUL'S DATE NIGHT!

Mark your calendars for a Valentines date night! **February 17** 5:00 - 8:00 p.m.. Drop the kids off with us and enjoy a night out! Contact Beth Wilde, our Director of Early Childhood Ministries to learn more. beth@saintpaulsumc.org

SUMMER 2024! MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Music Camp, Leesburg, FL

June 9-14 (5th graders through youth)

Vacation Bible School

June 24-28 (Kindergarten through 5th)

Warren Willis Summer Camp, Leesburg, FL

July 8-13 (3rd-12th graders)

Extreme Explorers Week - TBD (2nd-5th graders)



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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. Sunday Evening 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

Associate Pastor

Rev. MaryAnn Piccioni
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TBD

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Kitchen Coordinator

Shannon Allen

Sexton

Simon Webb

Website Administrator

WPTallahassee

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