

APRIL 2024

# the EPISTLE



**In honor of April having both  
Holy Humor Sunday and Crea-  
tion Care Sunday...we bring you  
some Earth Day jokes!!**

Why are people always tired on Earth Day?  
Because they just finished a March.

How can you tell the ocean is friendly?  
It waves.

What's the difference between weather and climate?  
You can't weather a tree,  
but you can climate.

What makes the Earth so great?  
It's well-rounded.



## APRIL CALENDAR

- |         |   |
|---------|---|
| Apr. 2  | Ed Wynn Luncheon,<br>10:30 a.m., Sanders Hall<br><br>Alzheimer's Lunch<br>11:30 a.m., Parlor      |
| Apr. 4  | MOPS Leadership Meeting,<br>9:30 a.m. Sanders Hall<br><br>Circle of Support, 10:00 a.m.<br>Parlor |
| Apr. 7  | Mark Schlakman, 9:45 a.m.,<br>Guest Speaker, Sanders Hall   |
| Apr. 8  | Congregational Care,<br>10:30 a.m., Room 326  |
| Apr. 9  | United Women in Faith,<br>10:00 a.m., Sanders Hall  |
| Apr. 11 | MOPS Meeting, 9:30 a.m.<br>Sanders Hall   |
| Apr. 12 | Crafty Crop, 4:00 p.m., Parlor  |
| Apr. 13 | Crafty Crop, 10:00 a.m., Parlor   |
| Apr. 18 | Circle of Support, 10:00 a.m.<br>Parlor   |
| Apr. 20 | Manna on Meridian, 7:00 a.m.<br>Faith Presbyterian<br><br>Work Day at SPUMC, 8:00 a.m.            |
| Apr. 21 | Creation Care Sunday  |
| Apr. 25 | MOPS Meeting, 9:30 a.m.<br>Sanders Hall   |
| Apr. 22 | Governing Board, 6:30 p.m.,<br>Parlor   |
| Apr. 27 | Soul Food Distribution, 9:30 a.m.,<br>Lake Ella   |

# APRIL events

## 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.

## 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.

As our church is studying God's way of justice, Saint Paul's Men's Reading Community is inviting all men to join us Tuesdays at Ology Northside, 8:30-9:30 a.m. to a discussion of **CASTE: The Origin of Our Discontents** by Isabel Wilkerson. *"The Pulitzer Prize-winning author examines the unspoken caste system that has shaped America and shows how our lives today are still defined by a hierarchy of human divisions."*

Begins **April 2** at Ology on Kerry Forest Parkway. If you are interested or would like more information please contact David Gill, davidmurrahgill@gmail.com, or Nic Fugate, ndfugate@gmail.com.

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith will meet on **Tuesday, April 9** at 10:00 a.m. in Sanders Hall. Kay Fussell, one of our long-time members, will be sharing with us about a program she is participating in called "Dress A Girl Around The World." This program is part of Hope 4 Women International, a nondenominational independent Christian organization. Come join us for a morning of education, fellowship and service.

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

## CRAFTY CROP

Join us for Crafty Crop with some fun gal-friends **April 12 and 13** in Sanders Hall! Bring your projects and table space will be provided. The fellowship begins on **Friday at 4:00 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).

## CHURCH WORK DAY

Please put Saturday, **April 20**, from 8:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. on your calendar. **It's the Church Workday!** Come spend time with your church family spiffing up the inside areas of the church and the grounds outside. Sign-ups will start Wednesday, April 3. Coffee will be available starting at 7:30. For questions, call Stephanie Corry at 850-566-4975

## CHEERS GUEST SPEAKER ON APRIL 7

The CHEERS Sunday School Class and Pastor Latricia invite you to join them in a lesson/discussion of human rights led by Mark Schlakman on April 7 during the Sunday School hour in Sander's Hall. Mr. Schlakman met Pastor Latricia when she moderated the God Squad recently. She recommended Mr. Schlakman to CHEERS because of a January class she facilitated for us on the Hamas/Israel/Gaza and larger Palestinian struggle. After discussing the upcoming class with the pastor, we feel that many in the church would benefit from hearing his message.

Mr. Schlakman is a lawyer with a background that includes serving as special counsel to Florida Governor Lawton Chiles, as a senior advisor on The White House staff during the latter stages of Clinton administration, a foreign affairs officer at the outset of the George W. Bush administration and as a special assistant to a four-star Marine Corps general before the general was appointed as chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. Mr. Schlakman current serves as senior program director of the Florida State University Center for the Advancement of Human Rights. He teaches a range of interdisciplinary human rights and national security courses that are cross-listed for grad, honors and undergrad students that are offered jointly through multiple colleges on main campus at FSU, and he has taught Immigration and Refugee Law and Policy at the College of Law.

# CREATION *care*

## EARTH DAY IS APRIL 22nd

The first Earth Day in 1970 mobilized millions of Americans and birthed the modern environmental movement. Since then, Earth Day has evolved into the largest civic event on Earth, energizing billions across 192 countries to take action to safeguard our planet. It means even more to United Methodists as our book of discipline reminds us of our call to care for God's Earth. The Creation Care team started celebrating Earth Day early this year by doing a cleanup at Lake Ella on March 2 on our adopted street -- Lake Ella Drive. Friends, neighbors and city officials joined us to pick up litter along the .6 miles around the lake.

The theme of Earth Day this year is Plastic vs. Planet. We now know how harmful plastic is to life on our planet. It is estimated that up to 199 million tons of plastic are currently in our oceans with 14 million tons added yearly.

The Florida Conference of the United Methodist Church encourages the local church to pursue becoming Plastic & Foam Free by making simple swaps from single use plastic and foam to reusable dishes or those that are made from paper and biodegradable materials like bamboo. Avoid plastic whenever possible and chose aluminum cans over plastic because they are easier to recycle.

Take a look around your own house....almost everything we buy comes in a plastic container or wrapped in plastic! It's a challenge to change our ways, but alternatives are readily available for items we use every day, like dissolvable laundry detergent sheets, re-use zip-lock bags and other re-sealable containers, metal straws, even a "shampoo bar" instead of bottled shampoo.

Every small change adds up to a big difference when we all work together. To learn more, visit [www.earthday.org](http://www.earthday.org).



## Creation Care Sunday – April 21

Saint Paul's will celebrate Creation Care during worship with music, prayers and a message that lifts up our biblical call to be good stewards of God's earth.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Jim Geiger
- 2 Jacob DeGraw, Eileen Patrick, Colin Pernell
- 4 Bliss Amort-Murphy, Betty Weisbrod
- 5 Stan Lantz, Dennis Lee, Wade Pierce, Connie Zeigler
- 6 George Holzapfel
- 7 Carol Chick
- 8 Linda Atherton
- 9 Teresa McRae
- 10 Bob Clift, Kevin Fleischer, Barbara Pearce
- 11 Robert Abels, Tessa Benton
- 12 Karol Selvaggio
- 13 Susan Cornwell, Leroy Irwin
- 14 Susan Griner
- 15 Taylor Verheyen
- 16 Kathy Duval, Bobbi Nute
- 17 Phil Gornicki
- 18 Cheryl Swanson
- 19 Mary Helen Cain, Karl Ward
- 21 Jordan Rios
- 22 June Lynn Townsend
- 23 Autumn Amort-Murphy, Sherrill Ragans
- 24 Kjrsten Henriksen
- 25 Brian Underhill, Hazel Weisbrod
- 27 Betty Goodpasture, Mayra Joiner
- 28 Collins Byford
- 29 Michael Miller
- 30 Colleen Williford

# MISSION ministries

## **MANNA ON MERIDIAN**

Each of the 4 churches on Meridian Road is responsible for providing the bulk of the volunteers on distribution day 3 times a year. Saint Paul's is responsible on **April 20**. (and August and December) Set up begins at 7am and we end by 10am. Please think seriously about volunteering, even if only for part of that time, and contact Barb Block if you plan to be there-850-241-2642 or email [tallahasseebarb@yahoo.com](mailto:tallahasseebarb@yahoo.com).

For anyone not familiar with Manna on Meridian, it is a monthly food distribution program run by 4 churches on Meridian Road - Faith Presbyterian, St. Stevens Lutheran, Saint Paul's, Unitarian Universalist, and joined by Grace Lutheran.

Thanks for your support! Please seriously consider this opportunity and let me know of your availability and any questions.

Barb Block 850-241 2642 or [tallahasseebarb@yahoo.com](mailto:tallahasseebarb@yahoo.com).

## **CAPITAL AREA JUSTICE MINISTRY**

Will you show your love of justice by attending the Capital Area Justice Ministry's NEHEMIAH ACTION? Our church is praying to have at least 100 of our church gather with other people from 16 other houses of worship on **TUESDAY, APRIL 16, 6:30-8:00**. The plan is for 1000 people of the Tallahassee area to show our elected leaders our concern and plans regarding the lack of affordable housing and the plague of gun violence at the Old West Florida Enrichment Center, 2344 Lake Bradford Road. We will be taking our church bus which will leave from our parking lot at 5:30 pm. Email [amy@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:amy@saintpaulsumc.org) to reserve a bus spot. Child care will be offered (10 and under, reservations required) by Beth Wilde in our children's building.

YOUR presence will add power to our requests of our leaders. For example, on February 29, Over 80 CAJM members turned out to press the Blueprint Intergovernmental Agency to continue the process of adding affordable housing to the Blueprint project list. We won by a vote 12-8.

## **UPDATE FROM YAGUARAMAS, CUBA**

Our prayer partner church in Cuba is in a small farming town, Yaguaramas, in the center of Cuba. They are having extremely hard times economically but the church is growing in faith, in conversions, healing, love and joy. Through your giving to our church budget we are financing a free breakfast to 60-70 children at the Methodist Church there each Sunday. Thank you for your giving to nourish these children who are without proper food.

## **THANK YOU FROM THE CHILDREN'S HOME**

I am excited to congratulate Saint Paul's UMC on reaching your \$12.00 per member goal (\$8,172.00) of giving and increasing your gift total to \$13,061.24 to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home during 2023. We at the Children's Home exist as a part of a connection within the Florida Annual Conference, a connection which has enabled a partnership to serve children in need for a very long time. It's an honor to walk alongside pastors and churches in this ministry and look forward to being able to do so for a long time to come. The goal for 2024 remains at \$12.00 per member. Contributions may be sent directly to the Children's Home or through the church as 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday offerings, honorarium and memorial gifts, birthday and anniversary gifts and Christmas gift cards. We know that churches around the conference are involved in various missional efforts, and we are honored that you have continued to support your Children's Home and Madison Youth Ranch.

Sincerely, Elizabeth Gadd, Chief Development Officer- Florida United Methodist Children's Home

**Due to Easter, our next Noisy Sunday Offering will be held on April 7th. Don't forget to bring your change to worship to help us continue to support the Children's Home!**

# MUSIC

## at Saint Paul's

**Youth Choir:** All youth, Grades 6-12, are invited to join our Youth Choir which meets on Wednesday evenings, 7:00-7:45 p.m. in room 200. We're preparing to go to Music Camp in June!

Our **Kids@Art** ministry is presently working on our spring musical, "Storms," by Mark Burrows. We rehearse on Wednesday evenings, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. in room 200. The musical will be presented on **May 15**, 6:45 p.m., in the sanctuary.

**Preschool Music Group:** for preschoolers, ages 3-4, meets on Wednesday afternoons from 5:10 - 5:30 in Room 200. We use developmentally appropriate music activities including: singing, playing instruments, and creative movement to build our worship leaders of the future. We invite children ages 3-4 to join us! Contact Gaye (gaye@saintpaulsumc.org) for more info.

Our **Adult Choirs** invite you to join us as we begin working on new music following all of our special Lent and Easter offerings.

**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. Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings, 6:15-7:15 p.m., in the choir room. A nursery/childcare is provided. If members want to sit with their families during worship, they can leave the choir loft after the anthem. Contact Cynthia Prescott, Adult Choirs Director: 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 currently preparing to present a Concert in the early fall. A nursery/childcare is provided. Contact Cynthia Prescott, Adult Choirs Director: prescottc1360@gmail.com

# SUMMER

## at Saint Paul's

### 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**  
(2nd-5th graders)  
June 3 - 7



# 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](mailto: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  
6:15-7:15 "Savior" Study  
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.

### April Menu:

April 3 – Fried Fish  
April 10 – Meatloaf  
April 17 – Chicken Tenders  
April 24 – Beef Stew

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

# YOUTH rooted

## SUNDAY NIGHT YOUTH

Join us on Sunday nights for food, fun and fellowship!  
Doors open at 5:45 and dinner begins at 6:00.

SNY dates in April – 4/7, 4/14, 4/21, 4/28

## GRADUATE RECOGNITION

We will be recognizing our graduating seniors on Sunday, May 19, at the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. services of worship. Please let us know if you know of anyone in our Saint Paul's family who is graduating this year. Contact Emma ([emma@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:emma@saintpaulsumc.org))

## NEW WEDNESDAY NIGHT STUDY APRIL 10 – MAY 8

We will begin a new Wednesday night study, focusing on the book "Savior: What The Bible Says About The Cross". This 5 week study will be led by Dr. Nick Quinton.

This class will meet in room 300 from 6:15 - 7:15 beginning on **April 8**. Please see the Weekly Notes or the website to sign up.

There is childcare available during this class.





# 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-2 grade class led by Mrs. Jo Ellen Brown & Volunteers
- 3-5 grade class led by Mr. Kevin & Mrs. Jenni Cox

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## CHILDREN'S UPDATE

With Easter behind us, we are looking forward to longer days and hotter weather. Summer brings so much fun into our children's ministry. Specifically in April, we will be preparing for Vacation Bible School. On April 28th, after the 11 o'clock service, we will be having a potluck lunch for all of our VBS volunteers to get together and brainstorm for VBS. If you haven't signed up already to volunteer please do so if you are able. We want to make sure everyone involved is recognized (and gets the t-shirt). Please use the QR code below to register as a volunteer.

VBS Volunteer  
Sign Up



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## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES IN CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Do you want to help foster a love of God in the next generation? Do you have fond memories of fun from your childhood? Do you know who makes that possible? Amazing church volunteers! We are looking for volunteers for Sunday School Assistants and Vacation Bible School Helpers. Any amount of time you give to these children helps shape today and tomorrow in our church. Please contact [leslie@saintpaulsumc.org](mailto:leslie@saintpaulsumc.org) to see where you are needed.

## 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](mailto: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](mailto:beth@saintpaulsumc.org).



## IT'S SAINT PAUL'S DATE NIGHT!

Mark your calendars for a date night! **April 20**, 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](mailto:beth@saintpaulsumc.org).



1700 North Meridian Road  
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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. Sunday Evening Contemporary Service

### 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. MaryAnn Piccioni  
maryann@saintpaulsumc.org

#### Church Administrator

Linda Fletcher  
linda@saintpaulsumc.org

#### Interim Dir. of Children & Family Ministries

Leslie Scott  
leslie@saintpaulsumc.org

#### Communications Coordinator

Amy Leach  
amy@saintpaulsumc.org

#### Dir. of Early Childhood Ministries

Beth Wilde  
beth@saintpaulsumc.org

#### Dir. of Music & Worship Arts

Gaye Herndon  
gaye@saintpaulsumc.org

#### Adult Choirs Director

Cynthia Prescott  
prescottc1360@gmail.com

#### Kids@Art Choir Director

Stephany Nystrand  
stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com

#### Intern Youth Director

Emma Klotz  
emma@saintpaulsumc.org

#### Contemporary Worship Leader

Ben Reid  
ben@saintpaulsumc.org

#### Kitchen Coordinator

Shannon Allen  
Shannon@saintpaulsumc.org

#### 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