

MARCH 2025

the EPISTLE



MARCH CALENDAR

- Mar 1 Crafty Crop, 10:00, Sanders Hall
- Mar 4 Alzheimer's Lunch, 11:30, Parlor
Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner, 5:30pm, Sanders Hall
- Mar 5 Ash Wednesday service, 6:30pm, Sanctuary
- Mar 6 MomCo, 9:30, Sanders Hall
Circle of Support, 10:00, Parlor
- Mar 10 Congregational Care mt, 10:30, Room 326
- Mar 11 United Women in Faith, 10:00, Sanders Hall
- Mar 15 Manna on Meridian, 8:00am, Faith Presbyterian
- Mar 18 Ed Wynn lunch, 10:30, Sanders Hall
- Mar 20 MomCo, 9:30, Sanders Hall
Circle of Support, 10:00, Parlor
- Mar 24 Governing Board mt, 6:30 Parlor
- Mar 29 Soul Food, 9:30, Lake Ella

Lenten Season

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

March 4- 5:30pm

Ash Wednesday Service

March 5- 6:30pm

Sunday Lenten Study Groups

Beginning March 9- 9:45am

Monday Lenten Study Group

Beginning March 10- 9:30am

Wednesday Lenten Study Group

Beginning March 12- 6:00pm

CREATION *care*

GLOBAL WARMING– HOW CAN WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN 2025?

In February, we made six suggestions to reduce energy consumption in our homes by making a few small changes; this month let's see what we can do when leave our homes and travel.

Local Travel

- Admittedly, Tallahassee does not offer a variety of public transportation but we do have a good local bus system – StarMetro. If you, like me, haven't taken a look at the website you may be surprised. There is an app, Moovit, that allows you to put in your starting and ending locations and provides you with routes and schedules to reach your destination. www.moovitapp.com. You might find that a short walk and a bus ride will get you to many of your regular destinations.
- The Community Transportation Coordinator (CTC) Program assists individuals who are unable to transport themselves due to disability, age or income with destination – destination transport for employment, educational, or medical needs. See: www.talgove.com/DAR.
- Consider carpooling, biking and combining errands to minimize single driver car trips.
- Also, locally, we can support and advocate for improvements in public infrastructure service that will help make public transportation more accessible and appealing to more people. We can take the opportunities to lobby for converting the fleets of county vehicles to electric.

Distance Travel

When you are traveling for business or personal reasons you may have more opportunities to decrease your carbon footprint.

- Getting there
 - o Choose a train or bus over a plane, a plane over a cruise ship
 - o Choose a direct flight (good luck from Tallahassee)
 - o Pack lightly to reduce fuel load
- Once you arrive
 - o Walk or utilize public transportation
 - o Stay at hotels that prioritize sustainability
 - o Choose electric or hybrid cars for rentals
 - o Conserve energy at your rental – turn of lights, AC, and electronics when you are out on

the town.

- Utilize Carbon Offsets

Carbon Offsets are sold as a way to make up for the emissions created when traveling by investing in projects that reduce greenhouse gas emissions elsewhere. The results are mixed and controversial. The Sierra Club has an article on the offsets at: www.sierraclub.org/sierra/do-carbon-offsets-really-work.

If you have your own unique ways to reduce your footprint please share your tips with me:

creationcare@saintpaulsumc.org

MARCH *events*

SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Join us every Sunday evening for our shared Contemporary Worship Service with Good Samaritan UMC, in Sanders Hall. This service begins at **6:00pm**. All are welcome to come.

MEN'S READING COMMUNITY

The Men's Reading Group meets on Tuesday mornings at Ology Northside. They gather each **Tuesday at 8:30am**.

This group is discussing Dietrich Bonhoeffer's "The Cost of Discipleship". Written in 1937 as Hitler was rising, this book was reviewed in London: "A rigorously patient exposition of the Sermon on the Mount which compels the reader to face himself, and God, in any situation. A very moving book, lived as well as written." If you are interested in learning more about this group contact David Gill or Nic Fugate-davidmurraygill@gmail.com ndfugate@gmail.com

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith will be meeting on Tuesday, March 11, at 10:00am in Sanders Hall. All women of the church are invited to come and enjoy a morning of education, service, and fellowship. If you have questions, please contact Erma Sever at 850-510-5807 or ermasever@comcast.net.

CRAFTY CROP

This month, Crafty Crop is on Feb 28/Mar 1

Bring your projects and table space will be provided. The fellowship begins on **Friday at 4:00pm** in Sanders Hall. You may leave your projects all set up to continue the fun on **Saturday at 10:00am**. Any questions and/or to sign up, contact Jill Merryday (850-443-9428).

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

- 2 Cynthia Jordan
- 3 James Fernandes, Gary Limbaugh, Ian Swanson
- 4 Jenni Cox, Kirby Ann Thomas
- 6 Bruce Archer
- 8 Mary Anne Helton
- 11 Linda Fletcher
- 12 Mike Zeigler
- 13 Carolyn Wiemer
- 14 Don Griesheimer, Marcella Sheetz
- 16 Nathanael Scott, Sue Whitfield
- 18 Walter Kolb
- 19 Greg Perry, Rollen Thomas
- 21 Olivia Barlow, Sophie Eychaner
- 22 Seamus Fernandes, Ken Taylor
- 24 John Apthorp, Andrew Fischer, Jennifer Hauer
- 25 Willa Almlof, Sarah Hanson, Bob Hawken, Leslie Peacock
- 27 Bill Knight, Walter Morris
- 29 Henry Alexander, Rodney Atherton, Lydia Rios
- 31 Cleveland Fischer

MISSION ministries

MANNA ON MERIDIAN

Manna on Meridian is a local joint ministry between five local churches that Saint Paul's is a critical part of. We provide groceries, produce and other essentials to hundreds of our food insecure neighbors every month.

If you would like to donate to this ministry, we are always in need of regular sized boxes of cereal, and cans of soup. These donations can be dropped off either at the church office or in the new drop off boxes located just outside Sander's Hall (in the hallway leading to the Parlour stairwell)

If you are interested in volunteering there are lots of opportunities including bagging groceries, preparing produce bags, or picking up donations from our retail partners. Help is always particularly needed at our large month distribution that takes place on the 3rd Saturday of the month from 8-10 AM at Faith Presbyterian, just a mile north of Saint Pau's on Meridian.

For any questions or if you are interested in volunteer opportunities, please contact Kevin Scott at kevingscott@yahoo.com or 850-261-7900

JAIL AND PRISON MINISTRY

On March 21, 2025, the Jail and Prison Ministry will host a "Community Conversation on Restorative Justice" in Sanders Hall beginning 6:00pm. This is a conversation the Ministry started in 2017, putting Saint Paul's in the center of such discussions in Leon County. We look forward to that conversation continuing as we also coalesce with others during legislative session to have laws on the books that support restorative justice.

CAPITAL AREA JUSTICE MINISTRY

Capital Area Justice Ministry has been busy this year! At the January 29th Leon Co Commissioner meeting, more than 150 CAJM members showed up to demand action on affordable housing. Two out of five commissioners voted in support of CAJM's proposal. A motion was made (and unanimously supported by the Commission) requesting the Housing Finance Authority (HFA) to meet with CAJM and other stakeholders to develop a model for Leon County. The Commission also agreed to consider a budget proposal in their FY 2026 budget workshop that would allocate county general revenue funds for affordable housing—combining those funds with existing state dollars to increase the number of affordable housing units.

Upcoming Dates:

Tuesday, March 4, 2025 at 6PM

Pep Rally @ The Enrichment Center (2344 Lake Bradford Rd) Network members, team leaders, and clergy gather to hear and approve our issue strategy for the Nehemiah Action, and to confirm their commitments to each bring 3.

Monday, March 31, 2025 at 6:30pm

Nehemiah Action @ The Enrichment Center (2344 Lake Bradford Rd)

Saint Paul's goal is to bring 125 people to Nehemiah Action! Please mark your calendars and make plans to join us

MUSIC *at Saint Paul's*

MUSIC MINISTRY AT SAINT PAUL'S

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner:

Our Youth Choir will be hosting the annual Pancake Dinner to raise funds to attend Music Camp. Your generous donations will help committed choir members attend this annual week-long intensive study in music and the worship arts to help build our worship leaders of the present and future. Our congregation benefits greatly through this opportunity as we see and experience their leadership in our worship services and the full life of our church, growing the disciples they are called to be. Come out and support our efforts on Tuesday, March 4; serving begins at 5:30pm. Please make reservations through the sign up in Weekly Notes or by calling the church office so that we have plenty of food!

The Covenant Chancel Choir and Guest Musicians will be presenting their Cantata, "Worthy Is the Lamb!: Revered King, Rejected Messiah, Risen Savior," for the 11:00 a.m. service on Palm Sunday, April 13. You are invited to join us! Rehearsals are on Tuesday evenings from 6:45-7:15 in the choir room.

Dress Rehearsal will be on Saturday, April 12, 10:00 a.m. to 12 noon. Nursery is provided.

Contact Cynthia Prescott: prescottc1360@gmail.com

The Kids@Art Choir is presently working on our spring musical, "Malice in the Palace," by Tom Long and Allen Pote. This telling of the story of Esther includes "a beautiful and spirited heroine, a dark-hearted villain, a twisting plot full of danger and intrigue, and in the midst of this, a powerful message...the smallest person acting bravely can make an enormous difference, for God has placed us where we are for a reason." Children, Grades K-5, are invited to join us as we prepare to present this musical on May 14 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. Contact Stephany Nystrand for more info stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com

Our Youth Choir (Grades 6-12) meets on Wednesdays from 7:00-7:45 in Room 200. We're looking forward to hosting the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner and leading the Ash Wednesday service on March 5, 6:30pm.

Se'lah is an ensemble of adults who love to praise God through song but can't commit to sing in worship every Sunday. This group rehearses Tuesday evenings at 7:30 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 Covenant Chancel Choir for special occasions. A nursery/childcare is provided. Contact Cynthia Prescott, Adult Choirs Director prescottc1360@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY

nights

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

During the month of March, we will be offering our church wide Lenten Study on Wednesday evenings at 6pm. Please make sure you have signed up for a study.

<https://saintpaulsumc.breezechms.com/form/lentenstudy2025>

The Wednesday Lenten study group will begin on March 12th. On March 5th, we will have our Ash Wednesday service at 6:30pm in the Sanctuary.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER MENUS

On Wednesdays, the doors open at 5:00 and we serve food from 5:15 until 6:00. The cost is \$8 for adults and \$4 for children 10 and under. Dinner includes entrée, sides, salad, drinks and dessert. Kids meals are chicken nuggets, fruit mac and cheese.

Mar 5– Chicken Florentine

Mar 12– Chili & Rice

Mar 19– Shepherd's Pie

Mar 26– Italian Sausage, Peppers, & Onions

YOUTH

rooted

GREETINGS!

Saint Paul's Rooted Youth have been very busy! The Chili Cook-off on Feb 9th was a huge success. Your support raised \$2545 for the youth mission trip this summer. We are so grateful and are excited to get to work as the hands and feet of Jesus.

Confirmation is in full swing. We are diligently learning about the foundations of Methodism and broadening our biblical knowledge. We will host The Rooted Confirmation Lock-In at Saint Paul's campus on Friday, Mar 7th 5pm- Saturday, Mar 8th 11am. The retreat will include dinner, lessons, games, snacks, breakfast, and morning devotion. Thank you so much to Pastor Latricia, Pastor MaryAnn, and Ms. Dora Thomas for guiding us through this important Christian milestone.

The Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner will be on Tuesday March 4th at 5:30. Proceeds for this dinner help the Youth Choir attend Music Camp this summer at Warren Willis. Thank you to Ms. Gaye for leading our fantastic Youth Choir!

UPCOMING DATES

March 4th– 5:30pm-

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Dinner

March 7th-8th- Confirmation Lock-in

April 6th- Confirmation Sunday

Confirmation Lessons- Sundays 5pm-7:30pm
through April

YOUTH PROGRAMMING

Youth Sunday School- Sundays- 9:45-10:45

Study Hall- Wednesdays 3:30-5

Wednesday Night Dinners- 5:15 (make sure to RSVP)

Wednesday Night Rooted- 6-7

Youth Choir- Wednesdays- 7-8

Sunday Rooted– will resume after Confirmation



FAMILY events

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Summer is going to be here before we know it! Registration for VBS begins on March 1st. VBS is open to rising Kindergarteners-rising 5th grade.

Our annual Easter Jubilee will be on Saturday, April 19th. Mark your calendars and make plans to join

JOYFUL BEGINNINGS – SUMMER PROGRAM

Details about our summer programs will be coming out soon! We will share info on our website and in Weekly Notes. If you have any questions about Joyful Beginnings, please contact beth@saintpaulsumc.org

SAINT PAUL'S SUMMER "PLAY" LIST

- Promotion Sunday**
Move up to the next Sunday School class
June 1st
- Extreme Explorers**
Half-day field trips around Tallahassee for rising 3rd-5th graders.
June 2nd-6th
- Joyful Beginnings Summer Camp**
Weekly Camps full of fun and friends for children 1 yo through rising 4th grade.
June 2nd-August 1st
- Vacation Bible School**
Join us for a week of singing, crafting, science, and loads fun at Camp Hope.
June 22nd-27th
- Children's Sunday School**
We have one class during the summer after our one morning worship service.
June 1st- August 10th

JOIN US!

Email Lestie@SaintPaulsUMC.org for more information about attending or volunteering for these Summer Playtimes

SAINT PAUL'S UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

SAVE THE DATE

JUNE 23RD-27TH

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL



1700 North Meridian Road
Tallahassee, Florida 32303
850-385-5146
www.saintpaulsumc.org

SUNDAYS AT SAINT PAUL'S

8:30am Worship
9:45am Sunday School for all ages
11:00am Worship
6:00pm Contemporary Service

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 4:00pm
Friday - Closed

Find us on  at SaintPaulsUnitedMethodistChurch

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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

Communications

Amy Leach
amy@saintpaulsumc.org

Financial Assistant

Melissa Edelstein

Church Treasurer

Timothy Scott

Dir. Of Early Childhood Min.

Beth Wilde
beth@saintpaulsumc.org

Dir. Of Children & Family Ministries

Leslie Scott
leslie@saintpaulsumc.org

Youth Director

Casey Fernandes
casey@saintpaulsumc.org

Dir. Of Music & Worship Arts

Gaye Herndon
gaye@saintpaulsumc.org

Adult Choirs Director

Cynthia Prescott
prescott1360@gmail.com

Kids@Art Choir Director

Stephany Nystrand
stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com

Sexton

Jonathan Leach
jonathan@saintpaulsumc.org

Website Administrator

WPTallahassee

Video Coordinator

Jay Wirth

OUR BISHOP

Rev. Tom Berlin

OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. Catherine Fluck-Price

OUR MISSIONARIES

Delbert & Sandy Groves,
Zambia