

OCTOBER 2025

the EPISTLE



OCTOBER SERMON SERIES

Join us for some “spooky”
Sundays in October!

October 5 - Afraid of the Dark?

October 12 - Ghost Sightings

October 19 - Creepy Things

October 26 - Weird Stories

OCTOBER CALENDAR

Oct 1	Care Portal training, 7:00, Room 327
Oct 2	Circle of Support, 10:00, Parlor
Oct 3	Creation Care meeting, 10:00, Ground Ops
Oct 5	Sunday Night Youth, 5:00, Parlor Blessing of the Animals, 6:00, Outdoor Chapel
Oct 6	Congregational Care mt, 10:30, Room 326
Oct 8	CAJM– Conversations on Justice, 6:00, Sanders Hall
Oct 14	United Women in Faith, 10:00, Sanders Hall
Oct 16	Circle of Support, 10:00, Parlor
Oct 18	Manna on Meridian, 8:00, Faith Presbyterian
Oct 19	Sunday Night Youth, 5:00, Parlor
Oct 21	Ed Wynn lunch, 10:30, Sanders Hall Alzheimer’s lunch, 11:30, Parlor
Oct 24	Crafty Crop, 4:00, Sanders Hall
Oct 25	Soul Food, 9:30, Lake Ella Crafty Crop, 10:00, Sanders Hall
Oct 26	Trunk or Treat, 3:30, Parking lot
Oct 27	Governing Board mt, 6:30 Parlor

CREATION *care*

ROOTED IN RESPONSIBILITY- CREATION CARE AS SPIRITUAL PRACTICE

October: Harvesting Hope — Food, Faith, & Community

October brings harvest season and a chance to connect Creation Care with food justice. Whether it's supporting local farmers, organizing a food drive, or planting seeds in a community garden, we honor God's abundance when we care for the land and ensure no one goes hungry.

Let's explore sustainable eating as spiritual practice, guided by generosity and love for our neighbor.

Scripture: "The land yields its harvest; God, our God, blesses us." — Psalm 67:6

Call to Action: Participate in or host a fall fellowship meal featuring locally sourced dishes. Add a food blessing and invite others to contribute sustainably grown items.

NexTrex Updates

Our plastic collection program with NexTrex has been extraordinarily successful! We had no idea that our congregation here at Saint Paul's would participate with such vigor! We were given until the end of 2025 to meet our goal of 1,000 pounds of plastic collected and to be rewarded a LOVELY GREEN BENCH!!!! Due to the congregation's overwhelming participation, we believe our GOAL will be reached by OCTOBER!!!

Members of our creation care team have coordinated and met each week at SPUMC to sort through the OVERFLOWING boxes and bags of plastic collected during the week. Along with the sorting, came some education of the various types of plastic (what is eligible for the Trex program and what is not). With these eye-opening perspectives, we realized how we can curtail our shopping and purchasing of particular items. If items we buy are contained in the plastic that cannot be recycled, we may choose to omit this product or choose a different product in packaging that CAN BE RECYCLED. Just as we are good stewards of this AMAZING PLANET EARTH we have been given by God, there is always room to improve by doing things that are less of a footprint nationally and globally.

THANK YOU and HATS OFF to SPUMC congregation for SOARING ABOVE (as you so often do) with your robust and continued support of this program. Let us continue to be good stewards of God's Creation.

***REMEMBER SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12 WILL BE THE LAST DAY TO BRING IN PLASTIC!!!!

Blessing of the Animals

Let's give thanks for fur, feathers, and friendship in all its unique forms at the Blessing of the Animals Sunset Service over Lake Ella. **Sunday, October 5** from 6 - 7 pm- Outdoor Chapel on the corner of Lake Ella Drive and Moss Street. All leashed/contained pets are welcome.

Join us at our 2025 Blessing of the Animals for an uplifting message that we are called to love all of God's creation. We will have a brief worship service and celebrate the unique relationship we have with our pets, and then each owner is invited to bring their pet forward for an individual blessing. A festive fall display area will include a pet photo booth for you and your pet. Questions? Email Cares4Creation@gmail.com

Creation Care Friday Meetings

Join the Creation Care team on **Friday, October 3rd** at 10:00 am at Ground Ops for their first Friday meeting. They will continue to meet at Ground Ops on the first Friday of each month. Hope to see you there!

OCTOBER events

SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Join us every Sunday evening for our Contemporary Worship Service 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 8:00am**.

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, **October 14**, at 10:00 in Sanders Hall. Our speaker for the morning will be Jerry Roney who will share information on the Sleep in Heavenly Peace project. Come join us for a morning of education, service, and fellowship. If you have questions, please contact Erma Sever, 850-510-5807, or ermasever@comcast.net.

CRAFTY CROP

Come join Crafty Crop on **October 24th & 25th**. 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!!

- 1 Jackson Quinton
- 2 Karen Hahn
- 3 Rose Byford, Janie Knight
- 5 Addy Fischer, Ben Spivey, Wren Thacker
- 6 Elizabeth Fugate, Teresa Morris
- 7 Sandy Barlow
- 9 Stephany Nystrand, Zac Prasse, Joyce Thomas
- 10 Nicole McDermott
- 11 Julie Letchworth
- 12 Carole Beckham, Lillian Reese, Andrew Wynn
- 13 Elizabeth Okoli, Cara Thacker
- 16 Andrew Cox
- 17 Casey Fernandes
- 18 Michael McBride
- 19 Mike Sever
- 20 Jaston Herndon
- 21 Michael Dobson, Gary Eggebraaten, Jeremiah Rios
- 22 Jim Pfost
- 26 Charlene Doud, Debbie Eggebraaten, David Gill, Tiffany McNabb
- 27 Gwynne Fulkman
- 28 Kristin Kline
- 29 Miles Dilger, Linda Pelc, Lyn Shoffstall
- 30 Kay Fussell, Trey McNabb, Rick Miller, Danny Thomas
- 31 Beth Harwood

MISSION ministries

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

Bed Build- October 18th

We will be hosting our 8th Annual Bed Build with the local chapter of Sleep In Heavenly Peace at Saint Paul's United Methodist Church. We will start building at 9:00 am. We will be building 15 Bunk Beds which will provide 30 beds to children in the Big Bend area that currently do not have a bed to call their own. Several of the bunk beds that we will be building for these children will be delivered and set up the same day. The need for these beds is still great as the Big Bend area currently has a need for more than 500 beds!

Ways To Help

1. Volunteer to build beds on **October 18th**
2. Donate blankets, sheets, pillows and mattress pads for the beds. (Twin Size)
3. Contribute financially to support the cost of the Bed Build

Volunteer Sign-Up Information will be forthcoming in the Weekly Notes.

Any questions, contact Jerry Roney- 708-363-3948 or Roney.jm@comcast.net

CAPITAL AREA JUSTICE MINISTRY

Upcoming events:

October 8th at 6PM Sander's Hall - Conversations on Justice

Join Saint Paul's justice leaders as we update the congregation on the Capital Area Justice Ministry's initiatives and we discuss candidly about our community and how we can make Tallahassee a more loving and just community.

Network Assembly is 6:00 pm on **October 28th** at the Old West Florida Enrichment Center (2344 Lake Bradford Rd). RSVP at <https://www.capitalareajustice.org/events/>.

We invite you to be a Justice Ministry Member by:

- **4:** Attend 4 assemblies
- **3:** Bring 3 to the Nehemiah Action
- **2:** Invest \$200 each year
- **1:** To build 1 Beloved Community

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS MARKET- SAVE THE DATE

Sunday November 16th- 9:30am-12:30pm in Sanders Hall

We invite you to come do your Christmas shopping for your loved ones and friends AND give a blessing to those in need at the same time! We have many mission projects led, served, and sustained by the people of Saint Paul's UMC. Come and talk with these local "missionaries" and find out how you can help.

MUSIC *at Saint Paul's*

MUSIC MINISTRY AT SAINT PAUL'S

As we move into October, all of our music ensembles and choirs are beginning work on our Thanksgiving, Advent, and Christmas offerings. Now is a great time to join us!

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)

Kids@Art (Children's Worship Arts Program for Grades K-5): will begin working on our Advent Art and all of our Advent musical offerings. All children in Grades K-5 are invited to join us on Wednesday evenings, 6:00-7:00 p.m. in the Children's Music Room, #200. (Contact Stephany Nystrand: stephanymusictherapy@yahoo.com)

Youth Choir: All Youth, Grades 6-12, are invited to join us. Rehearsals are on Wednesday evenings, 7:00-7:45, in the Music Room (200) of the Children's Wing. (Contact Gaye Herndon: gaye@saintpaulsumc.org)

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 **Friday, December 5, 7:00 p.m.**

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 have begun work on our special Advent offerings and invite you to join us!

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)

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. We are working on our special Advent/Christmas offerings and invite you to join us! (Contact Cynthia Prescott: prescottc1360@gmail.com.)

WEDNESDAY nights

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Our second session of fall classes will begin on Wednesday, October 15th. We will offer two classes at 6:00pm. You can sign up thru Weekly Notes.

Fall classes– Session 2:

6:00– Women’s Study - “Bad Girls of the Bible”

6:00– A Class on Jürgen Moltmann's *The Source of Life*

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNERS

Dinner begins at 5:15. Adults eat for \$8 and kids 10 and under are \$4. Reservations are required and need to be in each week by Mondays at noon.

Oct 1

Taco Night (Youth Cooking)

Oct 8

Cheeseburger & Home fries

Oct 15

Veggie or meat lasagna

Oct 22

Breakfast for dinner
(kids– grilled bacon & cheese biscuit)

Oct 29

Ziti & meatballs (kids– cheeseburger sliders)

YOUTH rooted

GREETINGS!

Rooted Youth has been rocking this fall! Our 3rd Wednesday Dinners have been such a big success, thank you to everyone who has come out and supported these nights. Your encouragement means so much to our youth and keeps the energy going strong.

Looking ahead, sign-ups are open for our November Youth Lock-In, don’t miss it! You can also bless our teens by sponsoring a Sunday Night Youth Dinner (if cooking isn't your thing, a Costco gift card would be appreciated!). And keep an eye out for Rock the Universe sign-ups coming soon. Thank you for your support and prayers for our Youth Ministry!

Blessings,
Casey





FAMILY *events*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY HAPPENINGS

Celebrating Play Day!

On October 4th, we will be hosting our first-ever "Play-Day" for Kindergarten-5th-grade kids. It will be a day of fun, crafts, and snacks as well as learning about God and his love. This will work like a one-day VBS for children in our church community. We will be transported to Egypt to learn about Moses and his time there, as well as how he led his people out of there. There is a sign up in Weekly Notes if you are interested. We hope to make these a more regular occurrence. The cost will be \$10 per attendee. Check-in will be at 1pm and pick-up will be at 5pm. If there are any questions, please contact leslie@saintpaulsumc.org

Trunk or Treat

We will be hosting our annual Trunk or Treat on Sunday, October 26th, beginning at 3:30 pm. This is a big event for us where we have lots of our surrounding community join us! Last year, we had over 200 people attend (or at least that's how many packages of Goldfish were handed out!) This year, once again, we are counting on our congregation to create trunks to hand out treats. The sign-up to participate is available in Weekly Notes. We are hoping to see our old favorites as well as new ideas. If you have questions please let me know at leslie@saintpaulsumc.org





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. Carolyn Williamson
carolyn@saintpaulsumc.org

Associate Pastor

Rev. MaryAnn Piccioni
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Kids@Art Choir Director

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jonathan@saintpaulsumc.org

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WPTallahassee

Video Coordinator

Jay Wirth

OUR BISHOP

Rev. Tom Berlin

OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. Catherine Fluck-Price

OUR MISSIONARIES

Delbert & Sandy Groves,
Zambia