

the EPISTLE



Welcome to our Summer issue of the Epistle! In here you find out about events happening at Saint Paul's during May, June, and July!

Upcoming Events-May/June/July

Combined Morning Worship begins

May 24- 9:30am

Alzheimer's lunch

May 19, June 16,
July 21
11:30am-Parlor

Circle of Support

May 7 & 14, June 4 & 18,
July 9 & 23
10am-Parlor

Ed Wynn lunch

May 20, June 17,
July 15
10:30am-SH

Governing Board

June 1 & 29, July 27
6:30pm-Rm 327

Manna on Meridian

May 16, June 20, July 18
8am-Faith Pres

Soul Food

May 23, June 27, July 25
9:30am-Lake Ella

Sunday Night Youth

On pause for summer

United Women in Faith

Spaghetti Dinner-
July 15

Note from Pastor Carolyn- Living the Continued Story of Hope

Now that Easter is "over," we find ourselves in the beautiful season of Eastertide. The resurrection is not just a past event, but an ongoing, transformative power that moves us forward. Just as the disciples were changed by seeing the risen Lord, we are invited to live with that same resurrection hope in our daily lives.

We have so many wonderful ministry happenings in these next few months that will give us beautiful glimpses of Christ's hope for the world. One of the most exciting worship moments coming up is Confirmation Sunday on May 10. We will confirm nine students, baptize several of them, and baptize an infant that same day! How fortunate are we as a church that we get to be a part of these amazing new beginnings!? And just a few weeks after that we will usher in the Holy Spirit on Pentecost Sunday, May 24. Be sure and wear red and expect some chaos.

The month of June begins a full summer of ministry activities for our children and youth that includes Explorers, Youth Week, Music Camp, Vacation Bible School and Mission trip- Whew!

It's going to be a wonderful season at Saint Pauls and I look forward to experiencing it with you. If you are traveling this summer don't forget that you can keep up with all things Saint Pauls through our Weekly Notes and online worship. You can also continue your ministry giving online or through your bank bill pay. May the Lord bless and keep us.

CREATION *care*

WALKING ON SUNSHINE

After an amazing Creation Care Sunday, we got very excited for the future months of lots of time outside. With that though, we can't help but remember that enjoying nature is as crucial as defending it.

These twin duties of appreciation and stewardship are sacred responsibilities that our team knows brings us closer to God. This summer season, with its abundance of life and beauty, presents amazing opportunities to immerse ourselves in The Lord's creation. Here are a few to look out for:

1) Wildlife After Dark

May 14th: Beer, wine, food trucks, oh my! All of those 21+ are invited to join the North Florida Wildlife Center for a fun evening that will include encounters, live music, local vendors, local spirits, and more. You will be one of the first people to meet their critically endangered cotton-topped tamarin, Elsa's, new triplets, which are incredibly rare for this species.

2) Music Under The Oaks

Until July 23rd: Join Levitt AMP Tallahassee every 2nd and 4th Thursday of the month from April to July 2026 for free concerts under the shade of the oak trees at the beautiful Lewis Park, located at 311-317 E Park Ave. This series will present eight free, family-friendly concerts to the public this Spring and Summer. Get ready for a diverse lineup of high-caliber talent spanning genres from folk, country, jazz & funk to surf rock & R&B.

3) 21st Annual Tomato Festival

June 7th: The Annual Tomato Festival is a family fun event for all! For 21 years now, folks have gathered to enjoy great food, music, games, and of course, local tomatoes. The event includes music, tomato sandwiches, a farmers market showcasing some of the area's best local farm products, local beer garden, a tomato contest, prepared food vendors, games for kids, an awesome raffle, and more all at the beautiful Goodwood Museum & Gardens! Proceeds from this event go to the Red Hills Small Farm Alliance, a 501c3 non-profit organization supporting our local food system.

SAVE THE DATE:

Ride the Wave, Sea the Solution: ReThink Energy Florida's Breakfast Fundraiser

June 6th, 10AM: Join ReThink Energy Florida and our Creation Care team here at St. Paul's for a chance to enjoy a morning of great good food, updates on their incredible work and a raffle you won't want to miss. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect with the ReThink community, learn more about their impact, and support the mission of creating a better earth.

rethinkenergyflorida.org

STAY IN TOUCH!

CaresForCreation@gmail.com & facebook.com/groups/spumcccreationcare/

MAY-JULY 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.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Our final United Women in Faith meeting before the summer break will be on Tuesday, May 12, beginning at 11:00 a.m. This will be our annual luncheon, with delicious salads and desserts and ample opportunities to socialize. All women of the church are invited and encouraged to join in the fun!

Even though we suspend monthly meetings in the summer, we will be busy in May and June preparing for our third annual Spaghetti Dinner and Auction to be held on July 15. This has quickly become a can't miss church-wide event! We invite all ladies to join United Women in Faith as we plan, prepare, and produce a family event that, while fun for all, also allows us to raise funds that will be used to support numerous agencies, organizations, and events in our community. This past year, we provided support for Ronald McDonald House, Honor Flight, Second Harvest, Women Veterans Unite, The Ripple Project, Refuge House, Sleep in Heavenly Peace, Brehon Institute, and Elder Care Services.

Please contact Erma Sever, ermasever@comcast.net, or 850-510-5807, with any questions about United Women in Faith, or to be added to our email group to receive information on upcoming meetings and events.

Upcoming meetings/events:

Tuesday, May 12th– 11:00am

Wednesday, July 15th– Spaghetti Dinner

MEN'S READING GROUP

All men are invited to join us in the Men's Reading Community which meets Tuesdays, 8:30-9:30am to discuss a book together at Ology Brewing Northside, 2910 Kerry Forest Pkwy, Unit 8.

The summer schedule may change for this group; please keep an eye out for updates in Weekly Notes. For more information contact David Gill, davidmurraygill@gmail.com

SILVER LINERS

Silver Liners has been busy this spring! They had a lunch & movie event in March and then travelled to Wakulla Springs in April.

They are currently making plans for summer events...keep an eye out for details.

BIRTHDAYS AT SAINT PAUL'S

Since our Epistle issues are now covering multiple months, we have not been able to fit in our birthday list. However, we know some of you love to keep up with these special days...if you wish to receive a list of birthdays each month, please contact the office and we will mail you a birthday section.

MISSION ministries

MANNA ON MERIDIAN

Manna on Meridian has our big monthly distributions the third Saturday of every month from 8-9:30 at the Manna building behind Faith Presbyterian's main building. These are our largest distributions and during them we typically serve around 300 families!

The upcoming dates for the Saturday distributions are:

- May 16th
- June 20th
- July 18th

If you are interesting in helping us serve our neighbors you can:

- reach out to Kevin Scott (kevingscott@yahoo.com) to learn more about volunteer opportunities
- leave donations of canned soup, boxes of cereal or other shelf-stable food items either in the marked bins outside Sanders Hall (towards the bathrooms) or at the church office

Your continued support is having a great impact in our community. During the month of March, we served 756 families comprising 2669 individuals. Thank you for all the donations and all the folks who volunteer to help keep this ministry running!

CAPITAL AREA JUSTICE MINISTRY

Join us May 19 as we celebrate our victories from the Nehemiah Action and look ahead to our fall listening sessions and fundraising drive. RSVP here: <https://www.capitalareajustice.org/event/2026-celebration/>

PRAYING FOR IMMIGRATION JUSTICE

Praying for Immigration Justice prayer vigils continue at the steps of the Historic Capitol AT 5:00 pm Sundays in solidarity with the prayer vigil held at the same time in the Everglades.

All persons of faith and conscience are welcome to come and pray that all persons will be treated with dignity and given due process.

NEW MISSIONARY

Saint Paul's is delighted that one of our own members is now a United Methodist missionary!

Our new missionary is Dr. Charissa Jaeger-Sander and her 3 year assignment is to the seminary in San Jose, Costa Rica. We will be having a special Sunday in late summer to introduce Charissa's mission work and having an "international dinner" to raise some funds for her support.

MUSIC at Saint Paul's

MUSIC MINISTRY AT SAINT PAUL'S May-July

That's My King!

Sel'ah will present a concert of sacred music in various styles on Sunday, May 3, 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. They will be joined by guest instrumentalists for this delightful evening of praise-filled worship. An offering will be taken to support the needs of the Adult Choirs outside of our general budget. Bring friends and family!

Kids@Art present: Down By the Creek Bank

Our Kids@Art will present the classic, timeless, children's musical, "Down By the Creek Bank," on Wednesday, May 6, at 6:45 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Join us as we sing, act, dance, and enjoy the fun and fellowship of the Creek Bank picnic, learning stories of the Bible, praising God, and asking, "Is There Anything I Can Do For You?" You don't want to miss this one! Doors open at 6:30.

Music Camp:

13 Youth, 3 Chaperones, 3 Youth Team Members, and 8 Adults from our congregation will attend the week-long Fellowship of Worship Artists annual Church Music and Worship Arts Workshop June 8-13 at the Warren Willis Conference Center in Fruitland Park. We are grateful for your support in helping our Youth attend, and we would appreciate your prayers as we learn and grow as worship leaders. You will directly benefit as they will be implementing the things they learn at camp in the worship life of our church in the coming years.

Most of our choirs and music groups will be taking a break for the summer and look forward to resuming our regular schedules in August.

SUMMER SUNDAYS

9:30AM-WORSHIP- SANCTUARY

10:45AM-11:45AM- SUNDAY SCHOOL FOR ALL AGES

6:00PM- CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP-SANDERS HALL

BEGINNING SUNDAY, MAY 24TH

WEDNESDAY

nights

WEDNESDAY NIGHT CLASSES

Wow! Another season of Wednesday Nights is coming to a close!

We will have two Wednesday Nights in May. On May 6th, we will gather to watch our Kids@Art program perform their spring musical. This will begin at 6:45pm in the Sanctuary.

On May 13th, we will offer a Children and Youth Protection Policy training session. This is required for all those who volunteer with our children and/or youth.

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.

To sign up for dinners– A sign up link can be found in Weekly Notes and you can also use the pew pads on Sunday mornings to rsvp for the current week.

*****The last dinner of the season will be on May 13th.**

YOUTH

rooted

We are so grateful for the incredible support shown at the youth chili cook-off! It was such a fun and meaningful time of fellowship, and your participation truly makes a difference in our youth ministry. Thank you for showing up, contributing, and investing in our youth.

Right now we are in the middle of Confirmation season with Confirmation Sunday coming up. Our Confirmands are asking important questions and learning so much about their faith. We appreciate the hard work from our adult volunteers and the lessons from Pastor Carolyn.

As we look ahead, we are gearing up for a busy and exciting summer filled with opportunities for growth, connection, and faith formation. Our calendar includes a camp-out, Youth Week, Warren Willis Camp, Music Camp, and our mission trip. Each of these experiences plays an important role in helping our youth deepen their faith and build lasting relationships.

We are also thrilled to welcome our youth intern, Eli, who will be joining us this summer. We are looking forward to his energy, leadership, and care he will bring to our ministry.

Thank you again for your continued prayers, encouragement, and support. It truly takes a village, and we are so thankful to be part of such a loving and supportive church community.

Blessings,
Casey



FAMILY *events*

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Extreme Explorers

Are you ready for a week of fun with 20 of your closet church friends? Make sure you are signed up to maximize the fun your summer can contain with Extreme Explorers. We will be heading out June 1st through the 5th, each morning at 9 AM, to explore somewhere around Tallahassee. Will you get to count manatees and alligators in the Black Lagoon? Catch a living fossil from the ocean? Watch a private screening of a movie? Possibilities are (almost) unlimited. This year, we will gather at the Foundation and hit the road at 9 AM. We will adventure together and return to church for lunch. We will play some games and have some fun together at church until 3 PM, when parents will pick up our tired adventurers to rest up for the next day. This week of outings is designed for rising 3rd-5th graders, but there is often room for siblings or best friends who may not fit into that age group. If you have any questions, please contact Leslie Scott at Leslie@SaintPaulsUMC.org.

VBS

We are so excited to get on the open road this year with VBS. We will be exploring Route 66 and all the ways that God is always with us. Our Vacation Bible School is open to rising Kindergartners through rising fifth graders. Our more experienced road warriors are needed, too! We welcome youth (rising sixth and up) and adults to volunteer in so many ways! We need road-trip snack-makers, artist assistants, music-makers, storytellers, and the all-important shepherds. Please make sure you are signed up for your role, attendee or volunteer, by May 31st to ensure that you will have a T-shirt (if you need one).

Children's Ministry Happenings over the Summer

While May is already super packed with end of the school year recitals, graduations, and parties. June is ready to go with Extreme Explorers and Vacation Bible School. July is much more laid back, possibly because it's so hot. Don't worry, though! You will still get to see all your church friends at Sunday School, Play Days, and introducing "Meet Me at..." We will set dates for families and friends to meet each other to share a meal, play around, and cool off. Be on the lookout for the dates in Weekly Notes and on Facebook.





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

SUNDAYS AT SAINT PAUL'S

*This schedule begins on May 24th
 9:30am Worship
 10:45am Sunday School for all ages
 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
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Associate Pastor

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OUR BISHOP

Rev. Tom Berlin

**OUR DISTRICT
 SUPERINTENDENT**

Rev. Catherine Fluck-Price

OUR MISSIONARIES

Dr. Charissa Jaeger-Sander