

*Saint Paul United Methodist Church*

# ST. PAUL'S PAGES

**APRIL/MAY 2015**

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*St. Paul United Methodist Church  
Christiansburg, Virginia*

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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

**The people of The United Methodist Church®**

## *From the Pastor's Study*

Spring has officially arrived! At least that's what the calendar says. I'm still waiting for it to look and feel like springtime. When spring comes things change. The temperatures warm up. There are more hours of daylight. The grass gets greener and flowers begin to blossom and flourish. When springtime arrives we are able to spend less time with indoor activities and more time engaged in outdoor activities; a little more golf, a little more tennis or fishing or whatever brings us joy and pleasure.

Yes, the arrival of spring means that some things change. Yet, there are changes taking place in our lives all of the time and not just in one season of the year. The arrival of a newborn can occur in any season of the year. That joyous experience changes the composition of our families. Likewise, the loss of a loved one also brings change to family life. Job transfers can occur at any time of the year and that implies significant change for us as individuals and for our families.

Easter is only days away and the gospel story of Easter proclaims the hope that we may have for a transformed life in and through Jesus Christ. The resurrection of Jesus not only validated his life's work but it also speaks to us of the promise that God so graciously offers to us of forgiveness and new life. What a wondrous change that we may know of and experience because God's love became

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incarnate in Jesus and overcame the power of even death!

Speaking of change, on Sunday, March 22, Patsy Sparks, the chairperson of our Staff-Parish Committee, and I announced that there will be a change in pastoral leadership at St. Paul Church effective July 1. Bishop Young Jin Cho and his cabinet have projected that I will become the pastor at The Church of the Good Shepherd in Vienna and that the next pastor at St. Paul will be the Rev. Paul Song who will move from Tabernacle Church in Fredericksburg.

I am grateful for the time that I have had to share ministry with you and will pray for God's continued blessings upon this congregation. I would ask that you keep me and Donna in your prayers and also Paul and Kim Song and their sons in prayer as we all prepare for the transition.

Blessings to each of you,

Pastor Michael

## *April Birthdays*

Ruth Boothe—1  
 Betty Semones—1  
 Tempest Reed—5  
 Gary Sparks—6  
 Mia Bravo—7  
 Polly McMillan—8  
 Anna Burns—10  
 Sarah Bravo—11  
 Annell Winbery—12  
 Joyce Lester—13  
 Carol Cornish—14  
 Bryce Wade—15  
 Bernadine Lester—15  
 Todd Altizer—16  
 Tina Sheppard—16  
 Anne Lawson—17  
 Charlton McCoy—17  
 Justin Bowler—19  
 Bob Chapin—19  
 Bob Cornish—22  
 Joseph Rakestraw—24  
 Matthew Jordan—26  
 Daniel Warren—28



### ***Communion Offering***

Where does your Communion Offering go?

During the Months of January 20—March 20 we gave assistance in the amount of \$1,891 to 49 individuals/families in the Christiansburg area. This has helped these families keep their electric on, food on their table, a place to live and in other ways where there is need. The needs seem to be greater at this time. Your special Communion offering makes this possible. Thank you.

## **News**

### ***News from Montgomery County Emergency Assistance Program***

MCEAP is proud to announce that we are in the process of purchasing a new home for our Thrift Store and more. We will never have to move again, yeah! Could you possibly help us obtain the down payment? All of your generosity is a tax deduction. I would like to thank you in advance for your gift, we could not do this without you!

God bless you—and here's to the next 40 years.

Margie Vitale, Manager, Vice—President

### ***Definitions of the Church***

The church is not a refrigerator for preserving perishable piety. It is a dynamo for changing human wills with power.

The church is not a store to furnish hammocks for the lazy. It is an equipping house that offers well-fitted yokes for drawing life's loads.

The church is not a place to dodge life's difficulties. It is a place that furnishes strength and courage to meet them.

### ***United Methodist Women News***

Dear St. Paul Church Family,

The St. Paul unit of the UMW enjoyed a busy December with individual Circles meeting for their Christmas activities which included socials, Blessing Bag offerings, and joining other churches in wrapping gifts at the NRV Mall for MCEAP. The net profit for MCEAP was an astounding \$9,156.88.

Although Circles do not meet in January, we are gearing up for regular meetings and programs.

Patsy Sparks, UMW Vice President and program chairman is making final plans for our big Mission event in February. The church family is invited to the Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper; come and bring a friend. The proceeds will go to a local charity. The time is 5:30 pm—7:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. \$Donations for food.

At the worship service on January 25, our UMW presented the 2014 Special Mission Recognition certificates and pins to Mary Adkins, Carolyn Mills, and Charles DeHart. A past president's pin with gravel was presented to Jackie Buhrdorf for her leadership of the St. Paul Unit.

On Saturday, January 31 several members of the UMW Executive Board participated in an officer training session at First Salem UMC.

Are you saving postage stamps and canned soup labels and do not know where to put them? Go in the Willing Workers classroom and on the right you will see the mailbox for stamps and the can for labels. Deposit them there and thank you so much for your contribution to Missions.

In the next Newsletter you will hear from the Circles too.

May God continue to bless each of you,

Margaret Woolwine, President

*May Birthdays*

Gene Peyton—1  
 Louise Quesenberry—2  
 Sara Charlton—4  
 Carmen Thompson—4  
 Doug Kanney—6  
 Ian Jordan—7  
 Lucille Dobbins—8  
 Steven Feggeler—9  
 Kris Buhrdorf—9  
 Rachel Feggeler—9  
 Rusty McCoy—9  
 Owen Tucker—12  
 Jackie Sutphin—12

Erin Birchfield—13  
 Melissa Gunter—14  
 Dave Duncan—16  
 Jerome Long—17  
 James Pharis—18  
 Lee Cooper—18  
 Brooks Sherman—18  
 Josephine Miles—20  
 Fred Koziol—20  
 Stuart Cochran—20  
 Julia Dickenson—21  
 Jace Thompson—24  
 Tommy Myers—25

Sharon Davis—25  
 John Eanes—30  
 Marietta Hanks—31  
 Jim Moye—31  
 Jane Stafford—31  
 Jean Woodyard—31  
 Dolly Goss—31



# ALLELUIA!

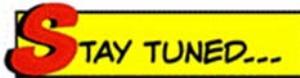
CHRIST IS ALIVE!

## Scout News Continued

With the discontinuation of the Cub Scout Belt Loop program in June and a Pack attempt to earn 100 Belt Loops by June 1st, Cub Scouts will earn a unique BL and see the benefits of this sport.

Tuesday, June 2nd – Pack Promotion Picnic at 6:30 PM

Time to celebrate the grand 2014-2015 Scout Year! Grilled meal will be provided along with the promotion of all ranks.



Pack 145 Yard Sale & Rescheduled Overnight Camping at Starlite Drive-In



Spring Recruitment – Starts April 1st

No foolin'! Cub Scouting is where the fun is! A balanced program of outdoor, citizenship, and sportsmanship adventures await boys ages 5-10 years old. Know of a friend or family member very interested in the adventures that Cub Scouts and Pack 145 can offer? Please encourage him to join! Visit [www.CubPack145.com](http://www.CubPack145.com) and the "JOIN TODAY" webpage.



## *St. Paul UMC Preschool*

Registration is open for the 2015-2016 school year. Preschoolers are planning an Easter celebration. The 4-year old students are looking forward to field trips and their graduation in May. It is hoped to have some play-ground improvements finished by June.

**Yummy!**



**Yummy!**

Thanks from Cub Scout Pack 145 to the United Methodist Men for a scrumptious Spaghetti Night Dinner in March! The monies raised will help many more of our Pack and UMM joint projects!

*EVENTS*  
for  
*Cub Scout PACK 145*

Sunday, April 12th - Webelos Den #4 & Bear Den #6  
 Sunday, April 19th - Tiger Den #7  
 Sunday, April 26th - Wolf Den #1  
 Tuesday, April 28th - Pillowcase Project at 7:00 PM

Americorp Volunteers from VT will be offering this FREE American Red Cross class in the Activity Building to our Cub Scouts and siblings to learn about disasters and how to be safe in avoiding or evacuating. Each child will be able to design his own pillowcase and receive a workbook for family discussion. St. Paul UMC children ages 5-10 are invited to attend. Please contact Lisa Bass to sign-up so there will be enough materials.



Sunday, May 3rd - Webelos Den #4 and Tiger Den #7  
 Sunday, May 10th - Bear Den #6  
 Sunday, May 17th - Wolf Den #7  
 Saturday, May 23rd - Pack 145 helping VFW with flag posting at Sunset Cemetery (11th year)  
 Tuesday, May 26th - Golf Belt Loop Night at Auburn Hills Golf Course

**UMW NEWS**

**The St. Paul UMW UNIT** (The 4 Circles comprise the UNIT.) is actively engaged in and/or planning several outstanding mission activities and events.

**The Prayer Shawl ministry** led by Donna Copeland and Lucy Draper is actively knitting and crocheting shawls for recipients who are temporarily or terminally ill and in need of a warm and comfy shawl that has been prayed over especially for them.

**The UMW Unit** is promoting the Reading Program this year for reading, enlightenment, and enjoyment. There is a wide variety of books, including children's books, from which to choose. All are found in the UMW meeting room.

Ladies, have you noticed the nice hand lotions in the restrooms? Each Circle chose a restroom to be responsible for. Let us know what you think.

**On April 18th** the UMW plans to carpool to Camp Alta Mons (Crockett Springs UMC) for the annual Spiritual Life District meeting. Emphasis will be on supporting those women who have been rescued from human trafficking, by donating underwear for them to sell in order to earn money to provide for their needs. A delightful lunch will be served in the Altamons dining room. Circle members need to check with their chairpersons concerning registration.

**The Shrove Tuesday pancake supper** for missions didn't happen due to bad weather; however, it has a new name, **SPRING INTO MISSION**, and is scheduled for **TUESDAY, APRIL 21st** in the Fellowship Hall from 5-7pm. Mark this date on your calendar and come enjoy breakfast for supper AND support our local missions.

**June 6th** is designated UMW Day at Ferrum College and that too will be a carpool event with early registration. Check with your Circle Chairman.

**June 19-21 is Virginia Annual Conference in Roanoke.** Because the location is so close this will be a good year to participate in volunteer activities and to attend the Women's Breakfast. The Circles contribute to UMCOR through offerings designated to Mission Kits at the Conference. Get details from Circle Chairman.

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On August 16th the UMW is sponsoring trip to Wohlfahrt Haus Dinner Theater on (Sunday) August 16, 2015. Show will be Gospel Jubilee at 3pm. Plans are to take the church bus and if needed carpooling will also be provided.

Call the theater at 276-223-0891 to make your reservation. Tell them you will be with St Paul UMC and the cost is \$42.36 plus tip.

Refunds will be given prior to one week before show, after that you receive credit for a future show.

Once reservation is made please let Margaret Woolwine (382-7346) or Patsy Sparks (731-1402) know so we have a list of those planning to attend.

I suggest you make your reservation as soon as possible as they book up quickly.

Any questions call Patsy.

### ***Happenings in Circle 5***

In February, Janet Shelburne provided a Circle 5 program/update on children's Sunday School at St. Paul – very exciting to see what it happening there! \$100 was donated to the family of Sophie, a youngster in St. Paul Preschool who has health needs. Plans were made to assist with the Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper which was postponed because of inclement weather. We plan to participate in the rescheduled supper on April 21. Ladies of Circle 5 participated in Call to Prayer and Self Denial in March and donated \$50 to this event. Several circle members are participating in the Prayer Shawl Ministry as well as in the UMW reading program. Plans are in the works for participation in the Spiritual Life Retreat at Camp Alta Mons in April.

### ***Circle 4 News***

Circle 4 has decided to sponsor a local missionary who is serving in the eastern part of the US. We feel that local sponsorship is important and she will likely be able to visit to tell what she is doing and how we can help her. Her name is Mary Kay Horton from Riner, VA.

Although our membership is small, we are active and will welcome and encourage ladies new to our church as well as those who have been at St. Paul and for whatever reason have not been ready to become a part of a Circle until now. Our program chairman, Nancy Mattox, always presents interesting and timely programs.

We meet at 2pm in the Willing Workers/UMW classroom on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. Call Marietta Hanks for information at 382-3335.

### *News from Circle 3*

We met on March 12 at St Paul UMC in the Willing Workers Class Room. We had the Prayer & Self Denial Program in February & then we had the Pledge Service Program in March. We shared some encouraging stories about Easter and prayed together for the many needs that we shared. There are many events coming up in the near future for the Roanoke District & we discussed the deadlines to be sure that we plan ahead. We will also help with the Pancake Dinner that has been rescheduled for April 21. Our next meeting is scheduled for April 9.



### *Mission Continues*

The UMM initiates spiritual growth opportunities for all men of the church. Men of different gifts, graces and areas of interest are encouraged to attend our monthly meetings on the third Thursday at 6:30 PM.

Thursday, March 19th

Thursday, April 16th

Thursday, May 21st

There are many opportunities for participation to continue the goals within St. Paul UMC and the community along with our charter with Cub Scout pack 145.

## *April 2015 Calendar*

### Sundays

9:00am—Sunday School  
10:00 am - Worship

### Thursday, April 2

11:45 am—Senior Fellowship/Luncheon

### Wednesday, April 15

6:00 pm—Covered dish dinner

### Wednesday, April 1

No Wednesday Night programs

### Wednesdays

10:00 am—Bible Study  
6:30 pm—Handbells  
6:30 pm—Children's Choir  
7:00 pm—Children's Program  
7:00 pm—Adult Study  
7:15 pm—Choir

### Tuesday, April 21

5:30 pm—Pancake Supper

### Thursday, May 21

6:30 pm—United Methodist Men

### Thursday, April 2

7:00 pm- Maundy Thursday  
Service at St Paul shared with  
Christiansburg Presbyterian

### Tuesdays

9:00 am—Prayer Group  
10:00 am—Joy Singers

### Sunday, April 19

11:15 am—Church Council

### United Methodist Women—April 9

10:00 am—Circle 5  
7:00 pm—Circle 3

### April 14

2:00 pm—Circle 4  
7:00 pm—Circle 2



## *May 2015 Calendar*

### Sundays

Worship—10:00 am  
Sunday School—9:00 am

### Each Tuesday

Prayer Group—9:00 am  
Joy Singers—10:00 am

### Each Wednesday

10:00 am—Ladies Bible Study  
6:00 pm—Dinner (1st & 3rd Wednesday)  
6:30 pm—Children's Choir  
7:00 pm—Youth  
7:00 pm—Children's Program  
7:00 pm—Adult Study  
7:15 pm—Adult Choir

### Wednesday Dinners

6:00 pm—May 3 & 20

### June/July Newsletter Deadline

Friday, May 15

### Thursday, May 7

Senior Fellowship Luncheon—11:45 am

### United Methodist Men

Thursday, May 21—6:30 pm

### United Methodist Women

Executive Committee—May 19-7:00 pm

### Circle Meetings

2:00 pm—May 12—Circle 4  
7:00 pm—May 12—Circle 2  
10:00 am—May 14—Circle 5  
7:00 pm—May 14—Circle 3

Mark  
your  
Calendar