

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

ST. PAUL'S PAGES

JUNE/JULY 2015

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*St. Paul United Methodist Church
Christiansburg, Virginia*



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

ST. PAUL'S PAGES

JUNE/JULY

A Memo from Michael

The Virginia Annual Conference will be meeting in Roanoke from Friday morning June 19, until noon on Sunday, June 21. I always look forward to catching up with my friends who are colleagues in ministry and some members of former churches! There are important highlights of annual conference such as the annual memorial and ordination services. And, there is business to be conducted.

One of the most important things that we will be doing at this annual conference will be the election of lay and clergy delegates to the 2016 General Conference. It is important for us to remember that while General Conference only meets every four years it is the only body which can speak on behalf of The United Methodist Church and make changes to The Book of Discipline which governs the way that we United Methodists do church at every level from our local congregations to our Central Conferences in other nations.

Please join me in prayer for the sessions of this year's annual conference and for the preparations for the next General Conference. In addition to the election of delegates this year, we will be discussing some resolutions while meeting in Roanoke. One resolution that we will consider will be whether or not the Virginia Conference will request that General Conference drop some of the language in The Book of Discipline concerning the United Methodist Church's position on homosexuality. The resolution, if passed, would recommend that the General Conference delete from the Discipline the following statement, "The United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice incompatible with Christian teaching."

Our denomination, like many others, has been involved in much discussion for a number of years over our understanding of

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human sexuality. United Methodists are not all of the same mind on the subject. Those who support changing the current language in the Discipline contend that the incompatibility phrase contradicts other statements that indicate that we affirm the sacred worth of every individual.

Those who support the current position and language in the Discipline believe that there is no real contradiction in recognizing the sacred worth of every person while saying that the practice of homosexuality is incompatible with Christian teaching. Those who hold to this thinking believe that the authority of Scripture is at stake.

If the resolution discussed at annual conference comes to a vote, I will be voting against it as I do not believe that there is a contradiction between recognizing that God loves and cares for every person while also saying that some behaviors are incompatible with Christian teaching.

The last thing that will take place at annual conference will be a worship service where Bishop Cho will set the pastoral appointments for the coming conference year. I am coming to the close of my ministry with you after five years. The Rev. Moon-sup "Paul" Song will be coming to you as your pastor. I promise to continue in prayers for you and for Paul and his family in these days of transition. Donna and I deeply appreciate the care that you have shared with us. We ask that you remember us in your prayers while you also pray for your new parsonage family.

Blessings to you and yours,

Pastor Michael

Blessings

June Birthdays

Brenda Woolwine—1
 Josie Bishop—1
 Sami Oty—2
 Kasey Bowler—3
 Kelli Buhrdorf—6
 Roger Woolwine—15
 Leah Copeland—16
 Cynthia Ferguson—19
 Chip Lawson—20
 Patty Lusk—22
 Emily Fitch—23
 Juanita Thomas—24
 Inessa Cooper—24
 Alex Barrett—26
 Tiffany Cunningham—28
 Vickie Sciarretta—30
 Treva Toothman—30



Communion Offering

Where does your Communion Offering go?

During the Months of March 21—May 19 we gave assistance in the amount of \$2,390 to 69 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.

FILL THE BUS---2015-2016---SCHOOL YEAR

St Paul UMW will partner with United Way for the coming school year to help fill the bus with school supplies for all schools located in Montgomery County.

Go to www.mcps.org/SupplyList.html to see the list provided for each school. The current lists are for 2014-2015 but these are basics items that are needed each year so they may be used for the coming year.

There will be collection boxes located at both entrances of the sanctuary during the months of June and July for you donations. Please help support the UMW and also are county schools.

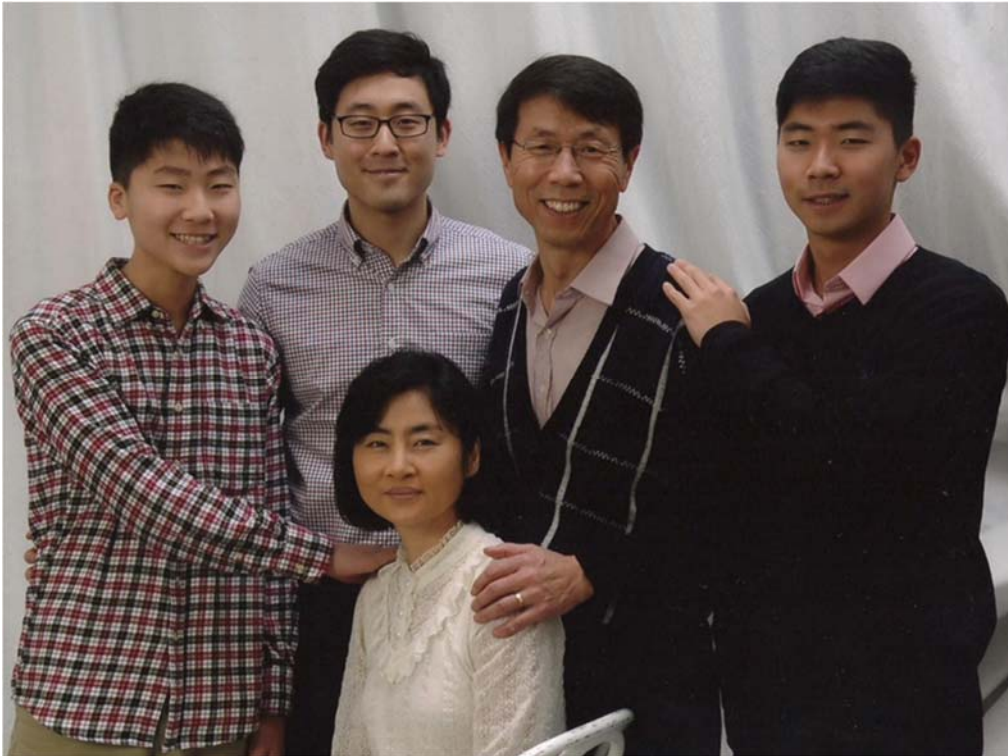
If any question, contact Patsy at 731-1402 or 357-1402.

Thank you for your help and support in this project.

St Paul UMW

VBS Helpers Needed!

St. Paul UMC's 2015 VBS will be held July 20-23 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm each evening. This year's theme is SonTreasure Island—Where Kids Explore God's Love! One of the 5 areas of love being discussed is GIVING. Please consider modeling God's love for our youngsters by giving your time and talents in serving them during VBS. There are many ways to serve so see Joyce Stevens or Elaine Clark to get the ball rolling!



New Pastor's Profile

Name: Rev. Moon-sup "Paul" Song, D.Min.

Age: 56. He was born in South Korea in 1959, came to the United States in 1988, and he became a citizen.

Education:

Soongsil University, BA., 1982

Seoul Methodist Seminary, M Th., 1988.

Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington DC, M Div., 1992.

Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington DC, Doctor of Ministry, 2000.

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Ministry:

Ordained as Deacon in 1992, and Elder in 1994.

Since Rev. Song served the First Church in Hampton in 1992 as Associate Pastor, he has served as Senior pastor the Bowling Green/Shiloh Charge in Ashland District, Wesley in Winchester, Arlington Temple in Arlington, Washington Farm in Alexandria, and Tabernacle in Fredericksburg.

He has served in connectional ministry in the area of Conference Board of Discipleship, District Council on Ministry, and District Committee of Ordained Ministry. Currently he has served the Annual Conference Board of Ordained Ministry.

Family:

Rev. Song has married to Mihwa Kim Song for 26 years. They have three children.

Joseph Wesley Song, 26, went to Duke University and currently he is the third year student at the Mt. Sinai School of Medicine, New York.

Timothy Hayoung Song, 22, is the Junior at Virginia Tech., majoring Chemical Engineering.

Daniel Jinyoung Song, 14, is the 8th Grader at Ni River Middle School, and is going to go High School this Fall.

“I am delighted to serve Christ Jesus our Lord by serving St. Paul, and to grow together with you in faith. I am looking forward to getting to know you.”



Scout News

Flag Day – Sunday, June 14 – 6:00 PM

With the help of St. Paul UMM and the VFW, we hope celebrate the U.S. holiday with a special flag retirement ceremony as well as a fun patriotic movie outside around the campfire. Food TBA later.



District Day Camp – Week of June 22-26

The Cub Scouts and Pack volunteers will be riding the St. Paul bus to/ from Randolph Park for space exploration at this New River District event.



Spring Recruitment – OPEN NOW

If you know of a young boy ages 6-10 who wants outdoor adventures while learning citizenship and fitness skills, please encourage participation in Cub Scouting and Pack 145 by visiting any of our activities listed on www.CubPack145.com or through our Contact Us webpage.

SonTreasure Island – Where Kids Explore the Love of God!



St. Paul United Methodist Church invites all children Pre-K through Grade 5 in our community to SonTreasure Island on July 20-23 where kids will explore and find the greatest treasure of all—God's love! They will learn the five essential characteristics of God's love as they explore His Word through the life of Jesus.

Art, "Island Rhythm" music, daily Bible time and mission activities, as well as snack time, are included in this VBS Island Adventure.

Please register by completing the registration form found in the VBS brochure in the "Forms for Download" section of the St. Paul UMC website at <http://www.stpaulvumc.org/vbs2015> and returning the form to the St. Paul UMC office. Pre-registration is encouraged. VBS registration brochures can also be found in the church's office and in the church narthex.

Call 540-382-2410 for additional information.

Samaritan Offering

A Good Samaritan has come to mean any person who helps another without thought or reward. Yet there are many other ways of being a Samaritan – a person who is generous and compassionate in helping others: being a helping hand, a supporter, an advocate, and a protector are just a few descriptions that come to mind. At the heart of the mission of Virginia United Methodist Homes, Inc. (VUMH) is the Samaritan Program, a benevolent fund which provides financial assistance to residents who have outlived their monetary resources and, through no fault of their own, can no longer afford the full cost of their care. Benevolent assistance through this program has been given in VUMH communities since 1948. During 2014, the Samaritan Program provided \$965,749 in benevolent care which allowed residents to remain in their “home” at their respective VUMH community.

Your gift to the Samaritan Offering supports residents in our VUMH communities who have been blessed by longevity but have outlived their financial resources. Samaritan gifts are not used for operational, capital, or administrative cost but are instead made available only for benevolent care. Your gift ensures someone’s personal security and peace of mind.

Samaritan Offering gifts, which are received from Mother’s Day, May 10th, through Father’s Day, June 21st, may be designated to any of our VUHM communities. Undesignated gifts will be used where the need is greatest. Both designated and undesignated gifts serve the same purpose: to provide financial assistance to residents whose ability to pay for care has been diminished. Please consider making a gift today to help those who are in need of your generosity. You truly can make a difference in someone’s life. Contributions can be made through the church regular or special offering. You can also visit the VUMH website at www.vumh.org to give online or to print a donor gift form which can be mailed directly to VUMH. For more information, call VUMH at (800) 474-8700 or (888) 673-1031 toll free.

Virginia United Methodist Homes

UMW NEWS

Wow! The UMW has been very busy with projects and other activities. I will give you a glimpse of what we have accomplished in the past two months.

The Prayer Shawl Ministry has completed, prayed over and distributed more than 20 shawls to very appreciative friends.

SPRING INTO MISSION PANCAKE SUPPER in April was a success and brought in \$355.00 for local missions.

Our UMW contributed two Belk shopping bags of bras to the **Save The Girls project**.

Thirteen ladies from St. Paul attended the Spiritual Life Retreat at Camp Alta Mons where some 950+ bras were collected to send to Third World countries where the women freed from human trafficking can sell bras to help themselves financially.

Graduating CHS seniors were recognized at the Music Sunday worship service on May 17. That number included several grandchildren* of St. Paul Members: *Tanner Akers, Brian Collins, Kady Cox, Matthew Jordan, Ellie Wade, Madison Williams. **BHS** Sarah Fitch. Auburn High *Annah Lester, MHS W. Va. *Elizabeth Blemings. College and other graduates included Taylor Newman—VT, *Benjamin Blemings—Miami U. of Ohio. Joe Rakestraw PhD from VT. Congratulations to all and their families.

Boxes are placed in the narthex and at the side entrance to the sanctuary into which new underpants and new panties are being collected for the Christmas Store. This project is in cooperation with other churches and organizations to try to collect 10,000 pairs of undies for the 2015 Christmas Store.

Of course it takes a lot of coordinating of Circle members led by their officers to get these things done. Circle 4 has added 3 new members and has interesting programs; Circle 2 celebrated Bernadine Lester's 99th birthday with a tour and "party" at MCEAP store; Circle 5 is very much involved with our new and on-going projects; Circle 3 had Lindsey from The Women's Resource Center speak at their most recent meeting.

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The UMW will be collecting school supplies to Fill the Bus. Watch for the collections boxes in late June and July.

UMW Day at Ferrum College takes place on June 6th; we will carpool from the church parking lot, leaving at 8AM.

Annual Conference comes up June 19-21 in Roanoke. A Women's breakfast and volunteer activities are available for the UMW.

Reservations are still available for the **Gospel Music Show at Wolfhart House** on August 16. The church bus will be available for the UMW as well as our St. Paul Church family.

For further information contact Margaret Woolwine at 382-7346.

St. Paul UMW and Montgomery County Christmas Store Mission Partnership

Imagine not having underwear! It's something that most of us take for granted-underwear. And although it does not seem possible, there are children who do not have underwear because it is the last thing that some parents can afford. And even though it isn't obvious to others, the child knows. It affects how he feels about himself, it makes it difficult to participate in gym class, and it makes it hard to face the school day with confidence.

The Montgomery County Christmas Store is pairing with local groups, including St. Paul UMW, in sponsoring an "Undies Drive" to collect NEW underwear in all sizes for children and teens (2T-XL Teens). Our goal is to provide 5 pairs of undies for each child who qualifies for shopping at the Christmas Store in December. We need to collect 10,000 pairs of underwear for boys and girls!

A collection box for NEW underwear for children sizes 2T-XL teens will be found at each entrance to the St. Paul sanctuary. Please consider picking up a package or two of children's underwear when shopping at Wal Mart, Target, etc. and placing them in the donation boxes. This is an easy way to make a difference in the lives of our community's youngsters.

Donation boxes will be available through mid- June.



Another wonderful year of learning is coming to an end before Memorial Day weekend. The 3-year old and 4-year-old preschoolers have had an exciting year. The 3-year olds will be promoted on May 19 and the graduation for rising kindergarteners will be also on May 19.

Please encourage families to start the children on the right steps towards lifelong learning by attending a preschool program. St. Paul offers terrific opportunities for young children with the help of wonderful preschool teachers. Currently, the 2015-16 school year one (1) openings in 4 year old program and six (6) openings in 3 year old program

July Birthdays

Matthew Bravo—1
 Brittany Ferguson—1
 Kevin Buhrdorf—4
 Jim Kirk—4
 Meaghan Wade—6
 Karen Cox—8
 Carol Gunter—8
 Anita Poff—9
 Layla Peters—9
 Betty Linkous—11
 Sandra Chapin—12
 Jeremy Williams—13
 Ross Blount—13

Kathy Davis—13
 Amanda Chrisley—15
 Carolyn Mills—16
 Flora Gutshall—17
 Lynette Reed—19
 Ainsley Altizer—20
 Paul Cassell—21
 Gwen Ward—21
 David Rhudy—22
 Sherri Altizer—24
 Russell Williams—24
 Hunter Blount—25
 Patsy Sparks—26

Lucy Draper—26
 Michael Duncan—27
 Cindy Poteat—28
 George Rust IV—29
 Nancy Mattox—30



Communion Available for Home Celebration

At the last Gathering of Caring Teams we were reminded of our Home Communion Servers who are available for those who are not able to attend church services on a regular basis because of health or other reasons. We have three Teams of Servers: Sandy and Bob Chapin; Sue Speed; and Peggy and Jerome Long who have been trained and are most willing to serve Communion to those who desire it in their home.

We are delighted to be able to offer this "celebration" to our church members and family. It is a joy for us to extend this sacrament as a sign of God's Love and as an expression of our concern for each other. If you would like to have Communion in your home, please let the church office know of your desire. (Carol Gunter—382-2410)



Sunday, June 21st and Father's Day – The UMM will organize and conduct the 10:00 AM church service. The UMM will be working on providing Summer Movie Nights to St. Paul church families. The UMM are gathering suggestions and a list of willing volunteers to help provide summer movies. Please contact Henry Bass at 320-1591 or attend the May meeting so dates can be organized and advertised as soon as possible.



The UMM will be working on providing **Summer Movie Nights** to St. Paul church families. The UMM are gathering suggestions and a list of willing volunteers to help provide summer movies. Please contact Henry Bass at 320-1591 or attend the May meeting so dates can be organized and advertised as soon as possible

June 2015 Calendar

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

Thursday, June 4
7:00 pm—Finance Committee

Monday, June 15
7:00 pm—Church Council

United Methodist Women—June 9
2:00 pm—Circle 4
7:00 pm—Circle 2

Sunday, June 14—Pastor Michael's last Sunday

Thursday, June 1
6:30 pm—United Methodist Men

Tuesdays
9:00 pm—Prayer Group

Annual Conference
June 19—21

June 11
10:00 am—Circle 5
7:00 pm—Circle 3

July 2015 Calendar

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

Sunday, July 5—Pastor Paul Song's first Sunday

August/September Newsletter Deadline
Friday, July 17

*Mark
your
Calendar*

Vacation Bible School
Monday, July 20—Thursday, July 23