

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

ST. PAUL'S PAGES

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Phone: 540-382-2410

E-mail: info@stpaulvaumc.org

Web: www.stpaulvaumc.org



*St. Paul United Methodist Church
Christiansburg, Virginia*

Handwritten signature



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

From the Pastor's Study

Virtual or Authentic life

This past March there was a legendary “Go” game in Seoul, South Korea. “Go” is an ancient board game for two players, utilizing strategy and logic. The “Go” game on March was the competition between AlphaGo, a computer programed with Go playing software, invented by Google’s DeepMind, and one of the world’s best human Go players, Yi Sedol. They played five competitions and AlphaGo defeated Yi four to one. Since this competition, worldwide attention has been focused on Artificial Intelligence (AI), how it has already impacted almost all areas of human life, and how it could possibly contribute to improve the quality of human life in the future; medicine, healthcare, military, education, video games, ecology, etc. AI looks like a blue-ocean industry, with endless opportunity, for computer related technology. Some scientists predict that in 15 years the human brain will become a hybrid of biology and technology, and in 30 or 40 years the majority of human brain function of information and thought process will be non-biological, replaced by AI.

In my biological brain, I am wondering if we would actually be happier in life with AI. Of course AI can contribute a lot to improve the quality of human life. But I think that human life is more than informational and technological processes, which is primarily the function of the left side of the human brain; logic, analysis, mathematic and computation. Human life is also lived by the function of the right side of the human brain, creativity, intuition, imagination and feeling. AlphaGo was programmed only to win the

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game with no emotion or feeling while Yi Sedol played the game with human emotion, laughing, sighing, twisting his face when the game did not go well.

Our hope of life comes from the authentic life that God created in us in God's image. Jesus gave us the hope, "I have come that they may have life, and have it abundantly." (John 10:10). The abundant life is a gift from God, living with a heart of flesh and not with a heart of stone (Ezekiel 36:26). It is a holistic life living in the heart, the mind, the soul and the spirit. We know it by experience when we love, when we serve, when we lose the game, when we fail, when we weep, when we sacrifice, when we surrender to God, when we humble ourselves before God, and when we experience all kinds of human emotions. Jesus teaches us the authentic joy of life in his Beatitudes (Matthew 5:1-12).

Authentic life is a living human life, not a life of machine or technology. It is the life created by God. Therefore the happiness and joy of life comes from it. It is the life eternal, sustained by the sanctifying grace of God, by the power of the Holy Spirit. Jesus encourages us, "In this world, you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world." (John 16:33). He promised his presence, "Surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." (Matthew 28:20).

Blessings to you in the name of the risen Lord,

Moonsup "Paul" Song

Pastor

May Birthdays

Gene Peyton—1
Louise Quesenberry—2
Carmen Thompson—4
Doug Kanney—6
Ian Jordan—7
Lucille Dobbins—8
Kris Buhrdorf—9
Rusty McCoy—9
Rachel Feggeler—9
Steven Feggeler—9
Noah Petry - 12
Owen Tucker—12
Jackie Sutphin—12
Erin Birchfield—13
Melissa Gunter—14
Dave Duncan—16
Jerome Long—17
James Pharis—18
Brooks Sherman—18
Fred Koziol—20
Stuart Cochran—20
Josephine Miles—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

Dear God:
Enlighten what's dark in me . . .
Strengthen what's weak in me . . .
Mend what's broken in me . . .
Bind what's bruised in me . . .
Heal what's sick in me . . .
and lastly
Revive whatever peace and love
Has died in me . . .

Amen.

Author Unknown

Graduates of St. Paul Church Family

Matthew Feggeler — Christiansburg High School

Claire Elizabeth Gasser — Seton Catholic High School, Manassas, Va

(Margaret Woolwine's granddaughter)

Megan Phelps — Spotswood High School, Harrisonburg, Va

(Flora Phelps Gutshall' granddaughter)

Callie Gunoe—Radford High School

(Henry & Doris Nixon's granddaughter)

Makayla Dale Burlingame — Auburn High School

(Carol Gunter's granddaughter)

Nick Carroll — Christiansburg High School

Rachel Pauli — Christiansburg High School

Cadet Maggie Straub—VMI

(Omar & Brenda Ross' granddaughter)

Joseph Wesley Song — Ican School of Medicine at Mt. Sinai, NY

Ross Carroll — Virginia Tech

CUB SCOUTING

EVENTS
for
Cub Scout PACK 145



Memorial Day

Sunday, May 8 – Wolf Den #7 & Webelos Den #6

Saturday, May 14 – Pack 145 & Venture Crew 42 Yard Sale 7 AM -

Noon

Sunday, May 15 – Bear Den #1

Tuesday, May 24 – Pack Promotion Picnic at 6:30 PM

Saturday, May 28 – Pack 145 helping VFW with flag posting at Sunset Cemetery (12th year)

Week of June 6th – Cub Scout Day Camp at St. Paul UMC

Religious Emblem for Cub Scouts – TBD possibly during VBS



Spring Recruitment – Started 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 and the "JOIN TODAY" webpage.



Cub Scout Day Camp – Pack 145 Style

Our Pack 145 and any new recruits will have the opportunity to become “trained” in various jobs during the week of June 6th: firefighting, law enforcement, rescue, lifeguarding and astronauts. Set at St. Paul UMC Activity Building with a variety of field trips to have fun while becoming aware and caring about the hard work of our everyday heroes. Registration is now open for Cub Scout boys who are aged 6-10 years old. Contact Lisa Bass for a form. Cost = \$30.00

Planning Meeting – May 3rd at 7:00 PM and May 31st at 6:30 PM

Parent Meeting – May 31st at 7:30 PM



St Paul UMC Preschool

Registration is still open for the 2016-2017 school year. There are still open slots in both the 3-year and 4-year old programs. The 4-year old students are looking forward to field trips and their graduation in May.

Research of our Preschool history has shown that our mission began in 1971 which makes this the 35th year! The Preschool Committee is still collecting stories and photographs! Please help us collect and record our St. Paul history. During the summer, a new sign will be constructed to advertise the wonderful preschool program and its established date.

June Birthdays

Brenda Woolwine—1	Josie Bishop—1	Sami Oty —2
Kasey Bowler—3	Kelli Buhrdorf—6	Megan Arthur—13
Roger Woolwine—15	Cynthia Ferguson —19	Chip Lawson—20
Patty Lusk—22	Emily Fitch—23	Juanita Thomas—24
Inessa Cooper—24	Alex Barrett—26	Irene Arthur—27
Vickie Sciarretta—30	Treva Toothman—30	

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Alta Mons News

SUMMER CAMP REGISTRATION: Online Registration for Summer Camp 2016 is officially OPEN! Our theme for the summer is "Mysteries of Faith" and we are already hard at work planning for the summer! Paper brochures will be mailed in the coming weeks, but go ahead and check out the camp schedule & register online TODAY by visiting our website at: <http://www.altamons.org/summer-camp>

New sermon series this Summer

According to Church Calendar, Sunday after Pentecost or Kingdomtide is the longest season of the Christian Calendar. This year it begins May 22 until Nov.20. The liturgical color of this season is green, symbolizing growing and maturing in faith. This season reminds us of a time to reflect on doing the work of God's Kingdom and a time to grow spiritually. God invites us to grow "until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." (Ephesians 4:13)

"Growth Points" is new sermon series during this Summer, beginning May 22 until August. We read the Scripture and meditate 11 growth points. Come to worship and grow spiritually!

Special Announcements

Confirmation Class 2016

Erin Marie Birchfield, Nathaniel Dale Birchfield, Dawn Marie Cornish, Gloria Faith Cornish, Rachel Feggeler, Jamie Fox, Jack Elliott Thompson, Jace Andrew Thompson, Foster Williams, Rally Williams, Oakley Williams

Confirmation Reception – May 22(Sun), after worship in the fellowship hall.

All are invited.

Confirmation Sunday ---- June 5

We confirm or baptize all confirmands during worship.

Summer Office hours on Friday

From June thru August, Church office closed at Noon on each Friday.

Virginia Annual Conference ---- June 17-19, at Berglund Center in Roanoke.

Pastor Paul and Tom Bell attend as St. Paul delegates and Sue Speed as District delegate.

Welcome

Beginning June, Michelle West comes to St. Paul as a new staff, Director of Children, Youth, and Adult Ministry.

Michelle West is thrilled to be returning to the New River Valley as Director of Children, Youth, and Family ministries. A Hokie Alum, Michelle graduated in 2012 with her BA in History. For the past four years she has been down in Durham, North Carolina at Duke University earning her Masters of Divinity. Michelle's favorite past times are playing with her two black cats, walking her dog, Yoga and Pilates, swimming, and drinking tea. She is an amateur apple sauce connoisseur (it's her favorite food... no, really) and loves to garden as well. While Michelle has lots of experience in multiple churches and ministerial settings, her employment in seminary was mainly working with Lemurs!

Report from MCEAP regarding where our resources went in 2015

Anyone wanting to see a full audit of MCEAP's books are welcome to by contacting Jennifer Poff Cooper, Treasurer of MCEAP, cooperjp@nrvunwired.net

	#Persons Receiving	# Times Service	Units of Service	Dollars Expended
<u>Emergency Assistance</u>				
Unknown Service	4	4	0	\$0.00
Applications Prepared	663	680	694	\$142,652.82
Clothing	444	501	525	\$17,590.00
Health	1	1	1	\$34.02
Material Goods Provided	37	37	62	\$9,865.00
No Service	189	233	151	\$15,293.05
Rent or Mortgage Assistance	564	568	562	\$177,221.24
Unservd	393	489	484	\$35,797.48
<u>Utility Assistance</u>	1,319	1,556	1,524	\$283,899.49
Program Total	N/A	4,069	4,003	\$682,353.10
<u>Nutrition</u>				
Food Assistance	2,403	4,581	62,150	\$679,390.00
<u>Unservd</u>	112	116	152	\$123.00
Program Total	N/A	4,697	63,302	\$679,513.00



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. Our calendar features:

Thursday, May 19th will feature grilled hamburgers.

June Father's Day Church Service

There are many more opportunities for participation to continue the goals within St. Paul UMC and the community along with our charter with Cub Scout Pack 145. St. Paul men are encouraged to attend and new/old members should bring a friend.



Experience the Thrill of Visiting Egypt!

St. Paul United Methodist Church invites all children Pre-K through Grade 5 in our community to **VBS 2016: Egypt – Joseph’s Journey from Prison to Palace.** This journey will happen on July 18-21, 6:00-8:00 pm each evening at St. Paul UMC. Join Joseph as he swats away scorpions in a dark prison cell...stroll through the golden splendor of Pharaoh's palace... experience exotic sights and smells in an Egyptian bazaar...be carried away by music wafting through enticing desert air. What a week of fun—and lasting Bible learning!

From Opening to Closing and everything in between, kids are transported to ancient Egypt where they'll meet Bible-times heroes, visit the Egyptian marketplace and spend time exploring firsthand the unique culture of Joseph's world.

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/vbs2016> and returning the form to the St. Paul UMC office. Pre-registration is encouraged. VBS registration brochures can also be found in the church office and in the church narthex.

Call 540-382-2410 for additional information.

United Methodist Women

Mission involvement especially for women and children is the main emphasis for United Methodist Women, as you will see from the following notes from the Circles and UMW Unit here at St. Paul.



Examples of this emphasis were shared with me:

- Birthday recognitions each month.
- Greeting cards to members at Kroontje as well as at home.
- Bereavement meals (each Circle has a month 4 times a year).
- Support for Women's Resource Center using suggestions from the Center.
- Supported MCEAP Spring Food Drive.
- Treasury Gifts in memory and to St. Paul Mission Trip and other local missions.
- Contributed to feeding supper to Wesley Foundation students in March.
- Collected bras for District project for Free the Girls and postage stamps and designated box tops as well.
- Individual Circle programs appropriate for the month.

St. Paul UMW members attended the annual District Spiritual Life Retreat at Crockett Springs UMC at Camp Alta Mons on April 16. Our Unit boasted the MOST members present!!! We took bras for Save the Girls (approximately 40 garments) and contributed muffins for the breakfast social hour. The Keynote speaker made a touching presentation on RECOGNIZING GOD'S GRACE as she had experienced it through her marriage and after. Thanks to God. Ladies who attended Spiritual Life Retreat were Marietta Hanks, Margaret Ann Peyton, Jamie Graybeal, Peggy Anderson, Susan Chase, Peggy Streich, Donna Chafin, Patsy Sparks, Kim Song, Faye Chrisman and Margaret Woolwine.

We are anticipating the Blue Plate Special Meal, honoring graduating seniors, and making plans for the new UMW year which starts September 1. The nominating committee consisting of Donna Chafin, Lucy Draper and Peggy Anderson will soon be starting their search for several new Unit officers.



May 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

<p>1 <i>Sunday</i> School—9:00 am Worship—10:00 am Confirmation Class—5:30 pm 5:30 pm</p>	<p>2</p>	<p>3 <i>Prayer Group-</i> 9:00 am Joy Singers— 10:00 am</p>	<p>4 <i>Ladies Study</i> 10:00 am Dinner-6:00pm Children's choir- 6:30pm Adult Study- 7:00pm Choir-7:15pm</p>	<p>5 <i>Shawl Minis-</i> try—10:00 am Senior Fellow- ship—11:45am</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>
<p>8 <i>Sunday</i> School—9:00 am Worship—10:00 Confirmation Class—5:30 pm</p>	<p>9</p>	<p>10 <i>Prayer</i> Group-9:00am Joy Singers- 10:00am Circle 4-2:00pm Circle 3-7:00pm</p>	<p>11 Regular Wednesday Schedule</p>	<p>12 Circle 5- 10:00am</p>	<p>13</p>	<p>14</p>
<p>15 <i>Sunday</i> School—9:00 am Worship—10:00 Confirmation Class—5:30 pm</p>	<p>16 Church Council 7:00 pm</p>	<p>17 Prayer Group- 9:00 am Joy Singers— 10:00 am</p>	<p>18 Regular Wednesday Schedule</p>	<p>19 <i>Prayer</i> Shawl Ministry- 10:00am Unit6ed Meth- odist Men- 6:30pm</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>
<p>22 <i>Sunday</i> School—9:00 am Worship—10:00 Confirmation Class—5:30 pm</p>	<p>23</p>	<p>24 <i>Prayer</i> Group-9:00 am Joy Singers— 10:00 am UMW Executive 7:00pm</p>	<p>25 Regular Wednes- day Schedule</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>
<p>29 <i>Sunday</i> School—9:00 am Worship—10:00 Last Confirma- tion Class—5:30 pm</p>	<p>30 Memorial Day Church Office Closed</p>	<p>31</p>				

June 2016

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 Choir Practice 7:15 pm	2	3 Half day Fridays begin	4
5 Confirmation Sunday Sunday School -9:00am Worship-10am	6	7 Prayer Group— 9:00am	8 Choir Practice 7:15pm (last practice)	9 Circle 5- 10:00am	10	11
12 Sunday School-9:00am Worship-10am	13	14 Prayer Group— 9:00am Circle 4-2 pm Circle 3-7 pm	15	16	17 Annual Confer- ence Begins	18
19 Sunday School-9:00am Worship-10am Men lead Wor- ship	20	21 Prayer Group— 9:00am	22	23	24	25
26 Sunday School-9:00am Worship-10am	27	28 Prayer Group— 9:00am	29	30		