

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

ST. PAUL'S PAGES

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016

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*St. Paul United Methodist Church
Christiansburg, Virginia*

Handwritten signature



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

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JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2016

From the Pastor's Study

Creating the Covenant

On January 3, the first Sunday of the New Year, we had a Covenant Renewal service during worship. "Covenant" is a term that we read about in the Bible. God made a covenant with God's people; Adam and Eve, Noah, Abraham, Moses, and the people of Israel. God's covenant relationship with God's people is based on the promise God made to them, and on the people's respond to it. Writing our covenant is our response to God's love and grace. A covenant relationship with God is the way of discipleship in the Christian life.

Methodists have inherited our covenant from early Methodists. John Wesley, the founder of the Methodist movement, made the following covenant:

"To witness to Jesus Christ in the world and to follow his teachings through acts of compassion, justice, worship, and devotion under the guidance of the Holy Spirit."

Beginning January 10 until the end of February, we will practice "Creating the Covenant." An eight-week sermon series will be preached on covenant. Covenant small group Bible study will be open for eight weeks. Each leadership group will write its covenant as a guide to doing the work of God and the group members will recite the covenant before the start of their meetings. Church members and friends are invited to write their individual covenants with God as their promise to God.

In his book, "Behavioral Covenants in Congregations,"

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Gilbert R. Rendle wrote a Covenant example for a governing board of the church. We can put the name of each ministry body, committee, on (the Governing Board).

A COVENANT OF LEADERSHIP

Our Promises to God.

We promise to pray, alone and together, to thank God and to ask for God's help in our lives and in our work for our church, and we promise to listen to God's answer to us.

Our Promises to Our Church Family

We promise to demonstrate our leadership and commitment to our church by our example.

We promise to support our church's pastor(s) and staff, so their efforts can be most productive.

We promise to try to discover what is best for our church as a whole, not what might be best for us or for some small group in the church.

Our Promises to Each Other on (the Governing Board)

We promise to respect and care for each other.

We promise to treat our time on (the Board) as an opportunity to make an important gift to our church.

We promise to listen with an open, nonjudgmental mind to the words and ideas of the others in our church and on (the Board).

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January Birthdays

- Becky Pharis—1
- Dubby Charlton—6
- Eric Burlingame—7
- Charles DeHart—8
- Joe Draper—8
- Curtis Chrisman—8
- Cynthia Sowers—8
- Bowman Altizer—9
- Nancy Moye—10
- Jim Mattox—10
- Mary Clark—11
- Jay Newman—12
- Jose' Lugo—15
- David Linkous—15
- Laurie Tucker—18
- Dennis Semones—20
- John Peters—20
- Todd Fitch—21
- Eliza Eaton—22
- Bruce Anderson—25
- Lindsey Peters—26
- Brenda Linkous—28
- Franklin Lawson—29
- Dewey Lusk—29
- Leslie Badillo—30
- Jay Jones—31



(continued from page 2)

We promise to discuss, debate, and disagree openly in (Board) meetings, expressing ourselves as clearly and honestly as possible, so we are certain the [board] understands our point of view.

We promise to support the final decision of (the Board) whether it reflects our view or not.

May the God of Covenant bless you richly,
Moonsup “Paul” Song



The annual Valentine’s Day Event sponsored by the United Methodist Men is scheduled for Saturday, February 20, 2016. Dinner and entertainment will be provided in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets will be sold in the church office. Details about the time, meal, ticket cost and fun planned will be available through church bulletins and flyers after the UMM Dinner on January 21st. The UMM hopes many of our St. Paul members will attend AND also invite friends for this special celebration of love!



Pack 145 is having a great 2016-2017 Scout Year!

AND, they will be celebrating on Tuesday, February 23, 2016 at St. Paul UMC! The theme is Minecraft with skits and awards. Pack 145 is very fortunate to bridge 8 Webelos 2s to Boy Scout Troop 42 along with a special Order of the Arrow presentation. Refreshments will be provided. St. Paul UMC member are welcome to join the fun!



Pack 145 is ready to race in the long-standing Cub Scout tradition of Pinewood Derby racing. Cub Scouts will be competing for show and place awards on the afternoon of Sunday, March 13, 2016. St. Paul UMC members are invited to see the cars and great sportsmanship.



Our St. Paul UMC Preschool has opened its registration for the 2016-2017 School Year. There are still openings in both the 3-Year-Old and 4-Year-Old programs. Registration forms are available in the church office. There is a \$50.00 registration fee. The St. Paul Preschool provides developmentally appropriate and challenging experiences and activities. This occurs right here in the St. Paul UMC building on the second floor. What a wonderful mission to have a preschool program that fosters children's natural growth and development while gaining a positive self-image and loving attitude towards God, family and friends. St. Paul UMC members are asked to help promote the St. Paul Preschool because "Children are a gift from God; they are His reward." Psalm 127:3

The next Preschool Committee Meeting will be Wednesday, February 3, 2016 at noon in the Resource Room.

February Birthdays

Arthur Poff—1	Jack Thompson—3	Meg Clark—3
Louise Collins—4	Terri Moore—7	Bill Ayers—7
Bob Birchfield—10	Hannah Barrett—10	Doris Elliott—11
Mary Joyce Stevens—14	Tracy McCoy—16	Red Phillips—17
Iris Simpkins—17	Mary Sherman—18	Betty Shadel—18
Delia Lugo—19	Jimmy Epperly—20	George Gammon—22
Rally Williams—23	Oakley Williams—23	Henry Nixon—23
Janie Cassell—24	Jean Nelson—28	Kelly Robertson—28

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>



PAUL BUNYAN DAY: Mark your calendar for March 19th! Alta Mons will host its annual Paul Bunyan Day, complete with a baked potato & chili lunch for all volunteers. Families & individuals of all ages are welcome-- there will be tasks for everyone! Start time is 9 AM-- bring work gloves, chain saws, log splitters, rakes, etc. We look forward to seeing you there! <http://www.altamons.org/events-at-alta-mons>

Inclement Weather Policy

When there is snow (and/or ice) on Sunday morning, the Senior Pastor will consult with the Facilities Manager regarding the conditions of roads as well as the church's sidewalks and parking lot. If all services are canceled the cancellations will be announced through local television stations; WDBJ Channel 7 and WSLS Channel 10. If any services are held you are urged to use your best judgment about getting out and trying and trying to attend Sunday School and/or worship. No one should take unnecessary risks for their physical well-being nor risk damaging their or someone else's property such as a car. Sometimes these decisions are easy to make (a foot of snow or an inch of ice is a no brainer!) Sometimes these decisions are not so easy to make. The Senior Pastor will err on the side of caution when making decisions about cancellations due to inclement weather. Your safety and health are very important

I AM THE BIBLE

I am the Bible, God's wonderful library. I am always—and above all—the truth.

To the weary pilgrim, I am a strong staff.

To the one who sits in darkness, I am glorious light.

To those who stumble beneath heavy burdens, I am sweet rest.

To him who has lost his way, I am a safe guide.

To those who are sick in sin, I am healing strength and forgiveness.

To the discouraged, I am a glad message of hope.

To those who are distressed and tossed about by the storms of life, I am an anchor, sure and steady.

To those who search for salvation, I reveal the Savior of the world.

I am the Bible—God's holy Word.



United Methodist Women News

The UMW does not meet in January primarily because of probable inclement weather; however, the Circles needed a time of R and R to recover from the many hours that so many members gave to the Wrapping Booth, the Christmas Store, MCEAP, The Baby Store and other local mission projects.

We are ready to start 2016 with renewed energy and enthusiasm.

Reorganizing the Circles into 3 from 4, made it necessary to revise our Yearbook/Directory which is very important in keeping up with our ladies and aiding in fulfilling the Purpose of the UMW. The revision will be given out to all members at the February meetings.

A dinner in the Fellowship Hall to raise money for Missions is planned for March or April. The actual cash that we have given to local missions may be small compared with the cost of Undies and School Supplies that were purchased by individuals and donated to MCCA and United Way and The Women's Resource Center. One of the Circles donated \$100 and purchased diapers for the Baby Store. All of the Circles are generous in giving to missions.

Margaret Woolwine, President

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN BENEDICTION

May the joy of our united service enrich and beautify our lives and be a mutual blessing to our United Methodist Women, our missionaries, our church and our community; that all may share in bringing the Kingdom of Peace in our World. Amen.

GOD'S MINUTE

**I have only just one minute
Only sixty seconds in it
Forced upon me—can't refuse it
Didn't see it—didn't choose it
But it's up to me to use it
I must suffer if I lose it
Give account if I abuse it
Just a tiny little minute
But eternity is in it!**

Anonymous

The Real Meaning of Prayer

1. **Prayer** is not God doing things for us; Prayer is God helping us to do things for ourselves.
2. **Prayer** does not change circumstances; prayer changes us.
3. **Prayer** is not escape; prayer is conquest.
4. **Prayer** is not so much talking to God as listening to God. Prayer is not so much telling God what we want Him to do as it is listening to see what He wants us to do.



The Way by Adam Hamilton**6 sessions**

Travel with Adam Hamilton as he retraces the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Once again, Hamilton approaches his subject matter with thoughtfulness and wisdom, just as he did with Jesus' crucifixion in *24 Hours That Changed the World* and with Jesus' birth in *The Journey*. Read *The Way* on your own or, for a more in-depth study, enjoy it with a small group or part of a 40-day church-wide emphasis during Lent and Easter or anytime of the year.

Using historical information, archaeological data, and stories of the faith, Hamilton follows in the footsteps of Jesus from his baptism to the temptations to the heart of his ministry, including the people he loved, the parables he taught, the enemies he made, and the healing he brought.

This 40-day focus will help you and your group grow deeper in their faith, learn more about the life of Christ, spend time daily reading and reflecting upon the Scriptures, and invite families, through the children's and youth studies, to grow together in their faith. Additional resources include a DVD, devotional, youth and children editions, and a worship download to help with sermon planning. This study would take us from Ash Wednesday [February 10th through March 6th]. That leaves the Wednesday of Easter week still to plan.

Books of the New Testament

D	R	V	B	H	K	F	G	J	Q	J	M	X	O	B	L	F	I	H	K
L	E	E	J	N	P	A	Y	J	C	O	L	O	S	S	I	A	N	S	K
L	Z	X	X	J	W	O	H	B	S	L	J	O	Y	C	D	O	S	P	S
O	U	T	E	C	E	A	T	E	S	Q	G	P	W	F	P	T	N	H	N
M	T	S	O	F	H	Y	O	F	I	F	P	M	Y	E	A	P	A	I	A
Z	H	U	Y	A	T	Q	M	I	E	E	Y	V	E	C	J	F	I	L	I
L	A	T	G	S	T	I	I	U	T	E	X	G	T	V	D	P	S	E	T
O	Q	I	V	N	A	S	T	E	Y	K	U	S	Z	T	Y	C	E	M	A
Y	T	T	O	A	M	B	R	I	H	U	G	Z	A	Q	O	L	H	O	L
P	H	E	C	I	E	K	G	U	Y	L	J	Z	R	R	J	C	P	N	A
N	I	F	Q	N	L	L	X	Z	E	U	G	H	I	M	U	W	E	A	G
T	U	S	M	O	C	Y	G	U	D	K	E	N	V	W	L	U	N	P	H
Z	E	L	X	L	T	Y	J	E	I	B	T	D	F	Z	Z	P	B	A	H
S	L	B	V	A	M	O	C	Q	R	H	J	W	N	S	N	K	R	C	U
Y	J	P	N	S	G	V	H	E	I	R	E	V	E	L	A	T	I	O	N
J	B	K	T	S	Q	D	W	A	S	N	A	I	P	P	I	L	I	H	P
I	A	T	J	E	M	S	N	R	O	M	A	N	S	Z	I	W	D	T	N
X	J	M	I	H	O	S	X	N	G	O	R	A	Q	X	P	E	Y	D	H
F	P	J	E	T	Y	V	B	Z	M	S	K	R	A	M	L	W	V	G	O
I	W	T	W	S	C	T	B	O	N	A	J	S	A	U	U	Q	X	Q	J

Acts
Colossians
Corinthians
Ephesians
Galatians
Hebrews
James

John
Jude
Luke
Mark
Matthew
Peter
Philemon

Philippians
Revelation
Romans
Thessalonians
Timothy
Titus



February 2016

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Covenant Bible Study <i>each Sunday</i> 6:00 pm	1	2 9:00am - Prayer Group 10:00 am—Joy Singers	3 10am—Study 6:00 pm—Dinner 6:30 pm— Children’s choir 7 pm Bible Study	4 10:00am – Prayer Shawl Ministry 11:45am—First Thursday Fell.	5	6
7 9:00am – Sunday School 10:00 Worship 4:00pm Worship Committee	8	9 9:00 Prayer- Group 10:00-Joy Singers 6:00pm Shrove Dinner	10 10 am-Study 7:00pm—Ash Wednesday Service	11 10:00 am— Circle 5	12	13
14 9:00am –Sunday School 10:00 Worship	15 7:00pm— Church Coun- cil	16 9:00am - Prayer Group 10:00 am—Joy Singers	17 Regular Wednes- day Schedule	18 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry	19	20 Sweetheart Dinner Time TBD
21 9:00am –Sunday School 10:00 Worship	22	23 9:00am Prayer Group 10:00 Joy Singers 7:00pm—UMW Executive	24 Regular Wednesday Schedule	25	26	27
28 9:00am –Sunday School 10:00 Worship	29					