

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

ST. PAUL'S PAGES

JUNE/JULY 2014

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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®

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JUNE/JULY, 2014

From the Pastor's Study

A few weeks ago Pastor Doug Kanney informed me of his desire to retire from his position as Minister of Discipleship. He has shared a letter with our Staff-Parish Relations Committee stating his desire.

I want to take this opportunity to say that I have personally been blessed by having Doug serve on our staff on a part-time basis. His previous experience as the Senior Pastor of this congregation has proven to be an invaluable source of information and assistance. He has exercised care in his respect for the role and function of other staff members as well as the work of the two senior pastors that he has worked with including me. He has been a source of encouragement. He has always had a smile ready to share as well as a proverb; either "We're all in this thing together." Or, "Life isn't easy." I wonder if anyone has kept a record of all of his "Dougisms?" Or, should we call his sayings "Dougverbs?"

I have great respect for Doug Kanney's love for his family and his love for the Church. I have often been amazed at how many things Doug has actively been involved with after his retirement from full-time ministry. Could anyone spend any amount of time around him without learning that he is a graduate of Emory and Henry College? And, he gives of his time and energy to his alma mater by serving on one of their boards today.

I am glad that I can call Doug my colleague in ministry. But, I am happier to consider him my friend and my brother in Christ. I know that the members and friends of this congregation will want to take a moment to express their

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gratitude to Doug for the work that he has done these past five years as a part-time member of our staff. I believe that he will still make himself available to be on call during some of those times when the pastor is away but, I am sure that we will all do what we can to respect the fact that he will be retired.

Our Staff-Parish Committee has not yet figured out the proper course of action concerning our need for staffing. During the past couple of months we have lost two other part-time staff; our Youth Coordinator and our Director of Music. We know that we need additional staff; however, we also know that mid-sized churches like ours cannot afford to have paid staff for every area of ministry in the church even if we are using part-time people. We have some challenging decisions to make and prayer will be crucial to the process of discerning how best to proceed in addressing our staffing needs. This time of discernment also becomes a time when all of us may prayerfully search our hearts to see how we may each use our own spiritual gifts to further the cause of Christ in and through this community of faith.

Blessings to each of you,

Pastor Michael

Fifth Sunday in June

On Sunday, June 29th we will have a pot luck brunch/luncheon in the fellowship hall immediately following the 10:00 worship service. Bring a dish or two and join us for a special time together.



June Birthdays

Brenda Woolwine—1
 Josie Bishop—1
 Sami Oty—2
 Casey Bowler—3
 Kelli Buhrdorf—6
 McKenzie White—13
 Roger Woolwine—15
 Leah Copeland—16
 Cynthia Ferguson—19
 Chip Lawson—20
 Patty Lusk—22
 Juanita Thomas—24
 Emily Fitch—23
 Inessa Cooper—24
 Alex Barrett—26
 Irene Arthur—27
 Tiffany Cunningham—28
 Vicki Sciarretta—30
 Treva Toothman—30





July Birthdays

Matthew Bravo—1
 Brittany Ferguson—1
 Kevin Buhrdorf—4
 Jim Kirk—4
 Meaghan Wade—6
 Carol Gunter—8
 Karen Cox—8
 Layla Peters—9
 Anita Poff—9
 Ken Paxton—10
 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
 Lucy Draper—26
 Patsy Sparks—26
 Michael Duncan—27
 Ruby Clarkson—27

Cindy Poteat—28
 George Rust IV—29
 Nancy Mattox—30



Registration is now open for kindergarten boys. These rising 1st-graders (and OLDER BOYS, too) are able to join Cub Scouting NOW! If join before June 1st, they can to take advantage of all this summer's camping opportunities and Pack activities then start a new Scout Year with their dens in August. For more information and see the activities, visit www.CubPack145.com OR our Facebook page!

Communion Offering

Where does your Communion Offering go?

From March 26th to May 20th, we gave assistance in the amount of \$2,656 to 71 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.

UMW News-What's happening at St. Paul UMC?

Circles do not meet in July & August

June 10 Circle 2 meets 7pm & Circle 4 meets 2pm

June 12 Circle 3 meets 7pm & Circle 5 meets 10am

Exec Board Meets 7pm Resource Room-No meeting June/July Next is 8/26/14.

Circle 3 is responsible for bereavement, cleaning the kitchen and gathering items for the Women's Resource center during the month of June & Circle 4 will take care of these things in July. Thanks to Circle 5 for taking care of this in April and Circle 2 for taking care of these items in May.

If you would like to donate money for the kits for Annual Conference from UMW, please make your check payable to St. Paul UMC. Be sure to let Carol know that it is for the kits so that it is deposited in an account for that. Then Carol will have the treasurer cut one check to be taken to conference for that purpose. Give to her prior to 6/15.

UMW is still collecting stamps & labels (Box tops & Soup labels). You can make a difference! We can all make a difference through this ministry of missions. The labels & box tops are sent to Henry Fork for the children there to get supplies. The stamps are sent to Richmond and resold there to make money for missions of the UMW. If you have a question about what is accepted, you can check on line at Labels for Education or you may email Jackie Buhrdorf at buhrdorf@vt.edu. You can also call at 540-230-9556. If you do not bring them with you, you can leave them at the church office with Carol & she can put them in my box.

There has been an idea brought to my attention regarding a prayer shawl ministry, if you have an interest in being involved in this, please let me know. We would like to have more discussion with those interested, to know how to proceed.

We are busy doing God's work. All ladies are welcome to join. Come visit a circle and see where you would like to be involved. We all can make a difference!



UNITED METHODIST MEN

The UMM is ready to celebrate Father's Day and will be taking the reins of the June 15th Sunday Service.

The June monthly meeting will be Thursday, June 19th. Please RSVP your attendance to your phone-tree captain or Henry Bass to ensure that there is the right amount of food.

Summer time is a great season for growth. If you haven't attended a UMM meeting, give it a try! UMM does good work in a relaxing atmosphere.

Be A Volunteer Care Giver (one who gives care to others)

Now, you might think I want you to take on "care giving" as a profession, rather I want you to be a "care giver" in general, as a volunteer! Some simple and easy suggestions:

You can comfort others with warmth and care...

You can cheer others up by lending an ear...

You can escort and go with others through life's events...

You can help to manage the needs of others...

You can bring fun and joy into the lives of others...

You can touch the lives of others in so many ways...

You can be available to do your part...

"Volunteers as a Work of the Heart"

Pastor Doug, Minister of Discipleship

ST. PAUL UMC FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE

JUNE 2014

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul,

Your Finance Committee wishes to update you on the state of our finances for 2014 (as of Sunday, May 18th). Our total Budget Offering after 20 weeks is \$134,641.00. We are \$24,339.00 behind on our Budget as of this date. We need \$8,000 per week to fully fund our Budget. To date, our weekly average is \$6,732.00.

This is a concern to your Finance Committee as we are entering our summer season which is generally lighter on our giving. Before you leave to go on vacation, please remember our budget needs and arrange to continue your giving during this time.

As noted in the 2013-2014 issue of "Mission Opportunities":

"While it would be wonderful if we could reach out personally to everyone who needs our help, we know that is impossible. But when we join with other members of our congregation, put money into the offering plate, and participate in the carefully planned system of United Methodist Mission and Ministry, our gifts can stretch around the world, helping those in need and spreading the love of Jesus Christ, even in places where we can't go."

In summary, thank you for your generous gifts and contributions to our church as we continue to strive to be good stewards of God's gifts.

Randy Gardner



In cooperation with the Virginia Tech Corporate Research Center, Pack 145 had stocked a pond that can be seen off the 460 Bypass and with easy access to the community. An inaugural Fishing Rodeo will be held on Sunday, June 1st from 4:30 – 6:30 PM. Free and all St. Paul children are invited to attend. Details and directions are located on www.CubPack145.com



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Jungle Safari – Where Kids Explore the Nature of God!

St. Paul United Methodist Church invites all children Pre-K through Grade 5 in our community to our Jungle Safari VBS on July 20 – 24. Kids will explore the nature of God and learn the five essential characteristics of God as they explore his Nature and the wonders of the natural jungle He created.

Art, music, physical education, “Zip-Line Bible Time” and “Serve with a Mighty Purpose” mission activities, as well as snack time, are included in this VBS Jungle Safari.

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/vbs2014> 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.

NEW SUNDAY SCHEDULE FOR THE SUMMER

Beginning Memorial Day Weekend, May 25th through Labor Day Weekend, August 31st we will be having Sunday School at 9:00 am followed by Worship at 10:00 am.

This will be effective during the summer months only.

Church Picnic

The Church Picnic will be on July 20th at 4:30 pm at the church. Bring a dish or two and enjoy good food and fellowship. This will also be the beginning of our Vacation Bible School.



ST. PAUL



Another successful Preschool 2013-2014 Year has ended!

Graduation was held for 20 four-year olds on May 20th. They are well prepared and on their way to kindergarten. The three-year olds were promoted that morning.

St. Paul UMC is proud of our teachers, Jennifer Carroll and Theresa Pauli, for their dedication to this program.

Registration is still open for the 2014-2015 year. If you know of a young family, please proudly promote St. Paul UMCs Preschool!



PACK 145

Pack 145 has is pleased to announce that 100% of our Cub Scouts have earned all their requirements and more to advance to their next rank! An Award Ceremony and Promotion Picnic will be held on Tuesday, June 3rd at 6:30 PM. St. Paul UMC members are invited to attend around the campfire pit.

Pack 145 Summer Events:



1st - (Sunday) Fishing Rodeo at CRC Pond 4:30-6:30 PM

3rd - (Tuesday) Pack Promotion Picnic 6:30 PM

14th - (Saturday) VFW Flag Retirement Ceremony 8:30 AM



15th - (Week of) Day Camp Pack 145 Style!

18th (Friday-Sunday) Webelos Campout



3rd - (Sunday) Webelos Resident Camp

10th - (Sunday) Pack Planning Meeting 6:30 PM

12th – Montgomery County Schools Open

14th – TBA Cub Scout Recruitment Event

17th - (Sunday) New Cub Scout Orientation 3:00 PM

26th - (Tuesday) 1st Pack Meeting 7:00 PM

TBD - (Friday) Pack Drive-In Movie 7:00 PM

The Gift of Life (for Caring)!

Jesus said, "I have come that they (you and me) may have life and have it abundantly!" John 10:10

Just recently I found this quote by Seneca the Younger, a Roman statesman and philosopher (3 B.C. – A.D. 65) who shared a thought of what life is all about.

He said, "Life's like a play; it's not the length but the excellence of the acting that matters."

Now, I don't know about you, but I am not wise enough to think such deep and heady thoughts, so I am grateful for those who are able to put into words what the real and true meaning of life is all about. Yes, it is the "excellence" of the acting in life that really matters. Some have said it this way, "it's not how long we live, but the quality of the life we live!"

And, the quality of our life is often determined by what gives us passion in life, what makes our heart flutter, our pulse quicken and what in surprise and excitement gives meaning and purpose to our days and years!

I would like to suggest that for many of us it is the matter of giving our life, our lives for a purpose and reason greater than ourselves. To give our life away in caring and service to others is what in the final analysis makes our life most real and valuable to us and especially to others.

So, to quote Jesus once again, he said, for our benefit, "I have come that you and I may have life more abundantly," and He follows up this gift with words of encouragement and direction for us to be involved and caring in the lives and life of others! So, go in peace, and may the abundant life go with you as well!

Ole Doug, pie, cake, ice cream and banana pudding

"Kind word can be short and easy to speak, but their echoes are truly endless." Mother Teresa (1910-1997)



ANNUAL CONFERENCE

United Methodist Church

The Virginia Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church will be meeting in the City of Hampton from Friday, June 20, through Sunday, June 22. Mr. Tom Bell is our church's Lay Member of Annual Conference and he will be attending the annual conference sessions along with Pastor Michael.



The clergy and laity who attend annual conference will join in times of worship and Bible study. There will be reports from various conference boards and agencies. There will be recommendations regarding budgets for the next calendar year and discussion around a few resolutions. There will be special times of celebration as some members of the clergy will be ordained and some will be licensed. During the closing worship service Bishop Young Jin Cho will set the appointments of pastors for the next conference year. It will be a busy time for those in attendance at our annual conference. Let's keep our pastor and our lay member in our prayers during those days!

NEW ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Administrative Board at its May 19, meeting approved the recommendations made by the Council on Ministries for a new organizational structure for our committees. Council on Ministries had been working on these recommendations since last fall when the Administrative Board approved a proposal from COM for a new organizational model. COM has prayerfully and deliberately sought to make recommendations that will bring our committees into compliance with the Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church and also create a structure that will streamline decision making processes that will ultimately enable us to be more efficient and effective in ministry. The end result will be the merging of some committees and the clarification of the responsibilities of some other committees. Our goal is to have this new structure implemented in January of 2015. More information about this new organizational structure will be shared during the next few months.

June 2014 Calendar

Sundays , June 1-29
9:00 am—Sunday School
10:00 am—Worship

Sunday, June 8—10:00 am
Music Sunday
Recognition of Graduates

Tuesdays
Prayer Group-9:00 am

Circle Meetings
Tuesday, June 10—Circle 4-2:00 pm
Circle 2—7:00 pm
Thursday, June 12— Circle 5— 10:00 am
Circle 3 —7:00 pm

Special Meetings
Council on Ministries
Monday, June 2, 7:00 pm

United Methodist Men
Thursday, June 19—6:30 pm

Staff Parish Committee
Monday, June 9, 7:00 pm

July 2014 Calendar

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

Tuesdays
Prayer Group, 9:00 am

Vacation Bible School
July 20-24

Newsletter Deadline
July 21-August/Sept. issue

Church Picnic
July 20—4:30 pm

Special Meetings
Finance Committee
Monday, July 28— 6:00 pm

Church Office Closed
July 4

Administrative Board
Monday, July 28—7:00 pm