

*Saint Paul United Methodist Church*

# ST. PAUL'S PAGES

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**OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2014**



*St. Paul United Methodist Church  
Christiansburg, Virginia*

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Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.  
The people of The United Methodist Church®

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

# ST. PAUL'S PAGES

OCTOBER /NOVEMBER 2014

## *From the Pastor's Study*

So much has changed in our culture during the past fifty years! In the 1950's and '60's one half of American households were young married couples with children under the age of eighteen. Today, twenty-two percent (22%) of American households fit that description.

So much has changed in church life during the past thirty to forty years! Today about twenty percent (20%) of Americans do not claim any religious affiliation at all. That's not just the absence of a connection to a Christian denomination but inclusive of all religious faith traditions. When we narrow our focus to the young adult population of those ages 18 to 35 then the percentage increases to more than one third. All Christian denominations across the nation have witnessed a significant decline in worship attendance since 2002. This is all quite a contrast to just thirty years ago.

The truth is that so much has changed in our culture and church life that many church leaders have had to admit that we just don't know what to do to help our churches and denominations experience a renewal of spiritual vitality. Thankfully, there are some people who have been studying the trends and examining those churches that have found ways to become vital congregations of worship and mission. Some of these experts and consultants are sharing their findings in workshops across the country.

A few of our members will be joining me in participating in a workshop titled "How to Reach New People"

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on October 18th and 19th. We will be meeting at the Henry Fork Service Center for this training event which is sponsored by both the Roanoke and Danville Districts. I am hoping and praying that this event will help those of us who participate to learn some ways that we may help our churches to dream a new dream and to plan for renewed vitality in our faith communities. I invite you to pray for the seven of us who will represent St. Paul Church at this training event. And, please continue your prayers that the Holy Spirit will give us wisdom in these changing times in which we live.

Prayers and Blessings to All,

Pastor Michael

***Special Administrative Board Meeting***

The Administrative Board will meet on Sunday, October 26th at 3:00 pm for the purpose of approving a 2015 Church Budget.

***Roanoke District Conference***

The Roanoke District Conference will be held on Sunday, November 23, 3:00 pm at Bonsack United Methodist Church.

The Pastor, Lay Member to Annual Conference, Lay Leader, At Large delegates, and President of the United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men should make every effort to attend.

***October Birthdays***

- Reba Ellen Worrell-2
- Cathy Nester—2
- Ken Farrar—2
- Edi Bravo—3
- Sally Ayres—3
- Joel Buhyoff—3
- Donna King—3
- Doris Nixon—7
- Brody Blount—7
- Billie Jean Hill - 8
- Chelsea Sheppard—10
- Janet Shelburne—12
- Mary Adkins—13
- Ann Rhudy—14
- Sandra Ridinger—15
- Bettie Moran—18
- George Rust III - 19
- Randy Gardner—21
- Terry Mitchell—22
- Mindi Duncan—22
- Randy Sherman—22
- Carrie Cozart—23
- Dawn Bowler—24
- Harvey Sowers—24
- Dorothy Meredith—25
- Harold Linkous—25
- Ed Sherman—27
- Mike Byrd—27
- Patrick Cox—27
- Mary Whitescarver-27
- Carol Campbell—29





### *November Birthdays*

Elizabeth Blount—1  
 Charles Whitescarver—2  
 Julie Clark—3  
 Donna Chafin—4  
 Mary Lee Bush—5  
 Sue Speed—6  
 Sonia Badillo—7  
 Charles Shadel—8  
 Peggy Anderson—8  
 Matthew Feggeler—8  
 Norma Loudermilk—9  
 Joyce Kanode—10  
 Susan Hood—10  
 Karen Poff—11  
 Ava Grayce Tucker—12

Karen Birchfield—13  
 Alan Sherman—16  
 Pat Paxton—16  
 Terri Mitchell—21  
 Jordan McCoy—22  
 Matt Birchfield—23  
 Bruce Schleicher—25  
 Nora Tucker—25  
 Sandy Cox—27  
 Bob Dickenson—29  
 Kady Cox—29  
 Peggy Long—29  
 Bill Lyons—30  
 Norma Graham—30



### *Communion Offering*

Where does your Communion Offering go?

From July 24th thru September 26th, we gave assistance in the amount of \$1,958 to 52 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.

### *Reminder*

*Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 2nd.*



## ***UMW News***

The United Methodist Women reorganized for the 2014-15 year and is off to an active start. Officers include: President, Margaret Woolwine; Vice-President/Programs, Patsy Sparks; Secretary, Vicki Sciaretta; Treasurer, Brenda Ross. Other Committee Coordinators include Jean Woodyard, Jackie Buhrdorf and Marjorie Vitale. Jackie Buhrdorf is completing her tenure of Secretary for the Roanoke District UMW.

An executive board planning meeting on September 23 produced some creative ideas for our Circles and UMW that we will share as time goes on.

The first meeting of the year was a covered dish supper in the Fellowship Hall that was well attended and closed with an inspiring program presented by Donna Copeland on starting a Prayer Shawl Ministry. The UMW plans to pursue this knit and/or crochet ministry very soon. Watch the church news for details.

Upcoming events include providing supper for the Virginia Tech Wesley Foundation on October 5. And the Annual District Prayer Breakfast to be held at Asbury UMC on Saturday, November 1.

We have 4 Circles in our UMW Unit and each Circle welcomes new members at any meeting.

**Circle 2** meets on the 2nd Tuesday at 7 pm Donna Chafin, Chairman 382-5409\*

**Circle 4** meets on the 2nd Tuesday at 2 pm Marietta Hanks, Chairman 382-3335

**Circle 5** meets on the 2nd Thursday at 10 am Karen Poff, Chairman 382-2887

**Circle 3** meets on the 2nd Thursday at 7 pm Jackie Buhrdorf, Chairman 230-9556

\***Circle 2** continues to meet in the homes of members while the others meet at St. Paul Church.

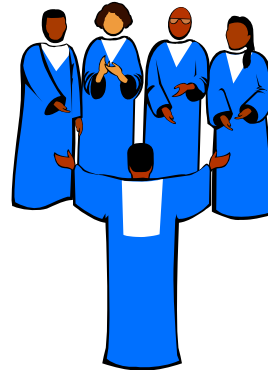
Thank you St. Paul friends for your continuing support of the United Methodist Women.

Margaret Woolwine, President



### ***Music Celebration—Sunday, October 26—4:30 pm***

Please mark your calendars for the 3rd annual music celebration service to benefit MCEAP on Sunday, October 26th at 4:30. This event has grown in the first two years, and we hope to continue the trend. As in years before, an offering will be taken to benefit MCEAP, and we will be joined by fellow musicians from other churches in the community. The simple soup supper will follow the celebration service of sacred songs in the sanctuary, immediately in the fellowship hall. We hope to see you all there. Those attending may bring a soup to share. I will ask the circles of UMW to provide desserts or bread to go with the soups. Last year we raised over \$600 and would like to see the event grow. If you can provide a soup, please call Joel or Lee Buhyoff at 381-4315.



### ***Annual Charge Conference***

Our Annual Charge Conference will be Sunday, November 9th at 12:15 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Members of the Administrative Board are encouraged to make every effort to attend. All members of the congregation are invited to attend also. We will be meeting with our Roanoke District Superintendent, the Rev. Kathleen Overby Webster.

## ST. PAUL UMC FINANCE COMMITTEE UPDATE OCTOBER 2014

Dear Members and Friends of St. Paul,

Your Finance Committee would like to update you on our church's financial picture for 2014 (as of September 21st ). Our total Budget Offering after 38 weeks is \$247,737.00. We are underfunded by \$54,325.00 as of this date.

We need \$8,000 per week to fully fund our Budget. To date, our weekly average is \$6,500.00.

This has been a challenging financial year for St. Paul. Our budget includes funding for three positions on our staff which are currently vacant. Staff/Parish is working toward the goal of finding the right "fit" for these positions.

As our church continues this year and into 2015, we must continue to fully fund our apportionments. May we all be mindful that giving to missions is a high priority of our church. In order to accomplish this, our budgetary goals must first be met.

Your Finance Committee will be meeting in October for the sole purpose of preparing and recommending to your Church Council our budget for 2015. Please keep us in your prayers as we go through this process.

In summary, let's all remember our Mission Statement:

***"Called together by God's Love, given in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we at St. Paul United Methodist Church seek to glorify God, nurture and encourage one another, and serve by word and deed the needs of others in our local and world communities."***

God Bless.

Randy Gardner  
Finance Committee



## 145

Pack 145 continues to sell Campmaster's Popcorn to help raise funds for all its wonderful activities for young boys. If you would like to order some popcorn, please contact anyone of our Cub Scouts or call 381-1077.

### Pack 145 Events:



Pack 145 will be camping at the Starlite Drive-In for the 3rd year on Friday, October 10th. Cub Scouts and families will be watching "The Lego Movie" and will enjoy building with 20,000 Legos provided by the Tuxedo Pandas FIRST Tech Challenge Team 4924. This event will also serve as our "Not Too Late to Join" Cub Scouts. If you know of any boy in grades 1-5 interested in Cub Scouting, please have them contact Pack 145 for a free ticket and see what all the fun is about. Gates open at 5:30 PM and the movie starts at 7:30 PM. Tents need to be set up by 7:15 PM.



Sunday, October 26th beginning at 5:30 PM. This is the 5th year of this cooperative effort with St. Paul UMC, Troop 42 Boy Scouts, Venture Crew 42 and others for this community event. Trunks stay open until the candy is gone. It is hoped that this will be the BIGGEST Trunk-or-Treat event with more St. Paul members decorating their trunks and enjoying the sight of costumed youngsters have a fall festive time.



## UNITED METHODIST MEN

September meeting was a great start to our Fall schedule. We are planning October's meeting for Thursday the 16th. All men in the St Paul church are encouraged to join us! There will be updates on the wrapping booth, local charities and our own Cub Scout Pack.

Then, go ahead and mark your calendars now for the November meeting on Thursday, November 20th with a meal prepared by the Sparks.

**UMM** will be hosting a traditional Football Tailgate.

Instead of the parking lot, we will meet in the Fellowship Hall at 6:30 pm on

**Thursday, October 16th.**

Then, we will finish up in time to cheer on the VT Hokies and we watch the game on ESPN from the comfort of our own home couches.

Please RSVP to Henry Bass b y 10/13/14.





## Children's Choir at St. Paul



**All children of the church and from the community,  
Beginning Kindergartners through 5th graders, are invited  
to sing, move, and play instruments in St Paul Children's Choir  
Wednesday Nights 6:30 – 7:00  
In the Sunday School Room near  
the Front Doors of the Sanctuary**

## Choir at St. Paul



**St Paul Adult Choir has weekly rehearsals on Wednesdays from  
7:15p.m. to 8:15p.m. in the choir room. We welcome anyone who en-  
joys singing, having fun, or just being a smiling face in the choir! See  
you there!**



## PRESCHOOL NEWS

The St. Paul Preschoolers will be spending October with awesome autumn celebrations. There will be a field trip to a pumpkin patch and plans for a Halloween parade followed by a party.

### Thanksgiving and Praise

*Lord, we thank thee for the beauty  
Of the land in which we live;  
Thank thee for the friends and loved ones  
Thou so graciously doth give.*

*Lord, we thank thee for the blessings  
That thy presence doth impart,  
Peace that passeth understanding,  
Joy that satisfies the heart.*

*Lord, we praise thee for the Giver  
Who has claimed us as His own;  
Who, through Lord of highest heaven,  
Makes our humble hearts His home.*

-Neva Brien





### *October 2014 Calendar*

#### **Sundays**

9:50 am—Sunday School  
8:45 & 11:00 am—Worship

#### **Tuesdays**

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

#### **Wednesday Programs**

Dinner—6:00 pm (2nd & 4th Wednesdays)  
Children's Choir—6:30 pm  
Children's Program—7:00 pm  
Adult Study—7:00 pm  
Adult Choir—7:15 pm

#### **Senior Fellowship/Luncheon**

Thursday, October 2, 11:45 am

#### **UMM Meeting**

Thursday, October 16, 6:30 pm

#### **Circle Meetings**

Circle 5—Thursday, October 9, 10:00 am  
Circle 3—Thursday, October 9, 7:00 pm  
Circle 4—Tuesday, October 14, 2:00 pm  
Circle 2—Tuesday, October 14, 7:00 pm

#### **Special Meetings**

Worship/Music/Tech Committee—Thursday, October 2, 7:00 pm  
Caring Teams—Sunday, October 19, 3:00 pm  
Finance Committee—Monday, October 20, 7:00 pm  
Administrative Board—Sunday, October 26, 3:00 pm

#### **Music Celebration**

Sunday, October 26, 4:30 pm

### ***STEPHEN MINISTRY***

#### **Introductory Workshop**

Saturday, November 1, 2014—9:00 am—1:00 pm  
First United Methodist Church  
125 West Main Street, Salem, Va

Session 1: Ministering to Those Experiencing Grief

Session 2: An Introduction to Stephen Ministry

Session 3: How to Care in a Distinctively Christian Way



***November 2014 Calendar***

**Sundays**

9:50 am—Sunday School  
8:45 & 11:00 am—Worship

**Tuesdays**

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

**Newsletter Deadline**

December/January issue, November 20

**Wednesday Programs**

Dinner—6:00 pm (Every 2nd & 4th Wednesday)  
Children's Choir—6:30 pm  
Children's Program—7:00 pm  
Adult Study—7:00 pm  
Adult Choir—7:15 pm

**Senior Fellowship/Luncheon**

Thursday, November 6, 11:45 am

**Church Office Closed**

November 27 & 28

**Charge Conference**

Sunday, November 9, 12:15 pm

**Circle Meetings**

Circle 4—Tuesday, November 11, 2:00 pm  
Circle 2—Tuesday, November 11, 7:00 pm  
Circle 5—Thursday, November 13, 10:00 am  
Circle 3—Thursday, November 13, 7:00 pm