

Thank you for Serving!

	Today – March 3	Next Sunday – March 10
LITURGIST:	Ashley Johnson	Jim Mattox
USHERS:	Leslie & Sonia Badillo	Shirley Hodge & Debbie Lawrence
SECURITY TEAM:	Joe Cox & Ron Hollandsworth	Joe Cox & Ron Hollandsworth
ALTAR TEAM:	Leslie & Sonia Badillo	Leslie & Sonia Badillo

This Week at St. Paul

Sun, Mar 3	Sunday School Classes – JOY Class, Frank Wickham Class, Children, Youth Scouts-Robotics Competition	9:00AM-9:50AM
Mon, Mar 4	Trustees, Willing Workers Room	7:00PM
Tues, Mar 5	Preschool Open House	6:00PM-7:00PM
Wed, Mar 6	Preschool Board Meeting, Preschool Room Wonderful Wednesday: Lenten Gathering Potluck Meal Children’s Choir, rm. 103 Lenten Gathering Chancel Choir	12:15PM 11:00AM-12:00PM 6:00PM-6:45PM 6:30PM-7:00PM 7:00PM-7:45PM 7:15PM-TBA
Thurs, Mar 7	Homeschool Orchestra, Old Choir Room SPRC Meeting, Willing Workers Room	10:00AM-12:00PM 7:00PM

Next Week

Sun, Mar 10	Sunday School Classes – JOY Class, Frank Wickham Class, Children, Youth Daylight Savings Time Begins Den Meetings	9:00AM- 9:50AM
Wed, Mar 13	No MCPS; No Preschool, Teacher Work Day Wonderful Wednesday: Lenten Gathering Potluck Meal Children’s Choir, rm. 103 Lenten Gathering Chancel Choir	11:00AM-12:00PM 6:00PM-6:45PM 6:30PM-7:00PM 7:00PM-7:45PM 7:15PM-TBA
Thurs, Mar 14	Life Line Screening, Fellowship Hall Homeschool Orchestra, Old Choir Room Ruth, El Bronco then Willing Workers Room	8:30AM-5:00PM 10:00AM-12:00PM 11:30AM, 1:00PM
Fri, Mar 15	Baby Shop Pack Up Orders, VOLUNTEERS NEEDED	10:00AM-12:00PM



Saint Paul United Methodist Church

220 West Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073

Phone: (540)382-2410 Fax: (540)382-1373

Web: www.stpaulvaumc.org

Church office hours Monday – Friday 9:00AM – 3:30PM



Public page - <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulburg>

Private page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stpaulvaumc>

<https://www.youtube.com/c/StPaulUMCChristiansburgVA>

St Paul envisions

**“Growing into a most Vibrant, Joyful Christian Community,
Unified in Loving Service to our Neighbors, for the Glory of God.”**

--Vision Statement, approved by Church Council, 2018--

**March 3, 2024
Morning Worship**

**3rd Sunday in Lent
Ten O’Clock**

*A nursery is provided for your children from a few months to age 5.
Masking is optional in the sanctuary and throughout the building.
We support any person who wishes to wear a mask.
We encourage the use of hand sanitizer and responsible physical distancing.
We offer a room with a TV carrying the service in the Willing Worker’s
room next to the sanctuary for anyone who would like to use it.
Please ask an usher for assistance for handicap access.
Please turn your cell phone off or mute during worship.*

***Please stand for these acts of worship as you are able.**

Welcome! We are glad to see you today, whether in-person or virtual! Today we look at John 6:32-40 and continue our Lenten series entitled, The I Am Sayings of Jesus. God bless you!

Gathering and Prelude

“Andante”

Ludwig van Beethoven from the Piano Sonata, Op. 79, arranged by Todd Kendall

Welcome

Pastor Mike Derflinger

***Call to Worship**

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

L: All who are gathered here this day – virtual and in-person – are welcome in the sight of the Lord. Come to this place of healing and feeding.

P: We come from times of stress and worry, needing God’s healing love.

Blessed be the Lord, who cleanses and heals our lives.

L: The Bread of Life has come among us.

P: The Bread of Life is none other than Jesus Christ, God’s beloved Son!

***Opening Hymns**

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

♫140 “Great is Thy Faithfulness”, all vv.

♫630 “Become to Us the Living Bread”, all vv.

***Affirmation of Faith**

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

Along life’s pathways, we search continually for signs to point us in positive and right directions. God has given us a sign which points us to healing, hope, and salvation: that is the sign of the Bread of Life. We do not have to hunger and thirst after the things which cannot sustain us. Now we can be fed and nourished by Christ! Open our hearts in gratitude, Lord, for all the wondrous things you have done for us. Open our minds to hear your words of hope for us today. AMEN.

Anthem

“Here Is Love” (from “Covenant of Grace”) Chancel Choir

Tune: DYMA GARIAD, Words by William Rees (1802-1883),
Music by Robert Lowry (1826-1899), Arranged by Joseph M. Martin

Children’s Choir

**“Behold! Behold!”
“Into My Heart”
“Down in My Heart”
“Life Without Jesus is Like a Donut”**

Announcements

Pastor Mike Derflinger

Sharing our Requests and Praises

Pastor Mike Derflinger

Unison Prayer of Confession

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

Heavenly Father, how wonderful to know that You are my Provider and Deliverer, my Sustainer and Helper, my Hope and Strength, my Lord and my God. The difficulties and dangers at home and abroad seem to increase with every passing day. As I pray, help me to look away from the circumstances of life which can become overwhelming. As I confess, keep the eyes of my heart fixed on Jesus who upholds all things by the strength of His infinite power, and who holds me fast in the palm of His hands; to whom be all honor and glory, AMEN.

All pray in silence.

Words of Assurance

Prayer Concerns

After each petition, all respond: *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

The Lord’s Prayer

Hymn of Preparation

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

♫614 **“For the Bread Which You Have Broken”, all vv.**

Scripture

John 6:32-40

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

Message

**I Am the Bread of Life
Series: The I Am Sayings of Jesus**

Pastor Mike Derflinger

Holy Communion

Prayer after Communion

Pastor Mike Derflinger

Sustaining God, thank you for this holy meal. May we always come to you. Continue to provide us with your living bread daily so that we might be brought to eternal life. Help us share your living bread with all who will receive it; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Unison Offering Prayer

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

Thank you, our Father, for the Bread that came down from heaven to die our death and purchase our pardon on the cross. May our tithes and offerings reflect your commitment to your purposes. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Offertory

“Elegy”

by Franklin Ritter

***Doxology**

***Recap**

***Closing Hymns**

♫172 **“My Jesus, I Love Thee”, vv. 1,2**
♫301 **“Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross”, vv. 1,2**

***Benediction**

***Postlude**

“Allegro”

George Frederic Handel. Arranged by Lani Smith from the “Flute Sonata in e minor”

If you are new to St. Paul, please let us know you are here by filling out the attendance pad in the pew. How may we serve you? Check the boxes which apply to you and leave it in the pew, and leave us a best contact phone and email. Thank you.

Sermon Notes

Daylight Savings Time begins next Sunday. Remember to turn your clocks one hour ahead on Saturday night.

Please remember our members in assisted living:

Hassell Boothe, rm. 210, VA Vet Care Center, 4550 Shenandoah Ave. NW, Roanoke, VA 24017

Susan Chase, rm.106, Commonwealth Senior Living, 201 Wheatland Ct.,
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Lois Chambers, rm. B10, Commonwealth Assisted Living, 7486 Lee Hwy, Radford, VA 24141

Kathy Davis, 328 Fieldstone Ln., Blacksburg, VA 24060
(540-250-2163 - mail cards to Rachel Link, 1534 Catawba Rd., Blacksburg, VA 24060)

Patrick & Jill Graybeal, 750 SE Cary Parkway #1016, Cary, NC 27511

Louise Quesenberry, rm. 34A, Spring Oak Senior Living, 1140 W. Main St.,
Christiansburg, VA 24073

Margaret Woolwine, rm 235, English Meadows, 3400 South Point Dr., Blacksburg, VA 24060

Please remember our members receiving rehab:

Marg Modlin, rm 308, Richfield Living Health Center, 3719 Knollridge Rd., Salem, VA 24153,
no guests at this time

Church Office Hours: 9:00AM-3:30PM

Worship Attendance February 25, 2024				
In-Person Adults	Children's Church	Livestreaming (Real Time)	YouTube (Recorded)	Total Worship
67	7	15	60	149

Mike Derflinger, Pastor, pastor@stpaulvaumc.org, mikederflinger@vaumc.org, 540-631-4469

Carol Slaughter, Administrative Assistant, office@stpaulvaumc.org, 540-382-2410

Carolyn Mills, Organist & Director of Choirs, millsmusic@hotmail.com

Elliott Petry, Director of Youth Ministries, soccerguy24@hotmail.com

Matt Birchfield, Facilities Manager, facilities@stpaulvaumc.org

Robin Raines, Custodian, rainesrobin88@yahoo.com

PRAYER LIST – Team Matthew is our Caring Team this week.

Cancer Patients: Roger Adkins; Wayne Bishop; Jeremy Compton; Missy Craighead; Jamie Epperly; David Jones; Danny Lucas; Dale Nelson; Gary Sparks; Sherri (in MD)

Anticipating Surgery: Jessica Petry

Health Issues: Ginger & Gene Barton (family of Peggy & Robert Chafin); Ruth Boothe; Sandy Cox; Lynwood & Dotte Foster; Gerald & Carolyn Mills; Robin Raines; Ernie Simpson; Wilma Snuffer; Peggy Streich; Don & Mary Wiggett and daughter Katherine (Peggy Streich's sister, her husband, and their daughter); all who have colds and flu; everyone with Parkinson's; all who have Alzheimer's and dementia related conditions.

Josh Adams - the young man in bad car accident where the driver died - home from hospital but having a hard time reliving the crash. His address: Josh Adams 6843 Fair Oaks Rd., Roanoke, VA 24019

If you wish to place someone on the prayer list for prayer only, please contact the church office, or write their name on the attendance pad with "prayer" after their name.

If a person would like to receive ministry from our caring teams (cards, phone calls, visits, food, etc.) please list an address/phone number for our caring teams. Thank you!

Flowers are placed on the altar today in memory and celebration of Issy Williamson on her birthday.
~ Love Diann Eaton

Birthday Celebrations this week – Kay Porter on March 3rd; Alec Anderson on March 5th; Margaret Ann Peyton on March 6th; Melissa Akers and Hayley Tucker on March 8th; Susan Chase on March 9th.
Happy Birthday to all!

The Community Hand Bell Choir will hold the first practice on **Tuesday, March 12th at 7:00PM** in the Hand Bell Room (Room 301). All who are interested in joining or learning more about this new community-based music ministry are welcome to attend! No experience needed, just a desire to learn and have fun!

On **March 14**, Ruth Circle plans to lunch at El Bronco Mexican Restaurant at 11:30 am, followed by a meeting in the Willing Workers Classroom at 1:00 pm. Mark those calendars!
ALL women invited!

Security Teams – the Security Teams is in need of 2 more people to join the teams. Please see Ken Skidmore for more information.

We are in great need of Liturgists for the coming year. If you are interested, have any questions or would like to go ahead and be put on the schedule just contact Nancy Mattox at jimnancymat@gmail.com or call 540-320-9058. Thank you!

Stewardship Team - If you are interested in being on the Stewardship Team, please contact Sabrina Porter at 540-392-3952 or at sabbyc9@gmail.com

From Pastor Mike

I feel strongly that we should use this Lenten season to reach out to our church family and neighbors. For the next three Wednesdays in Lent on March 6th through March 20th, we will have **Lenten gatherings** at 11am and 7pm. God has made us so that we need mutual support and fellowship. We'll meet in the JOY classroom.

We are not duplicating the ministry of our Caring Teams, but we are mindful of what people are going through as we offer friendship, support, and prayer. Please bring names of people who are on your heart. I will bring names, too.

Each Wednesday, we will share a devotional, spend time in prayer, celebrate Holy Communion, and share pointers and guidelines on ways to reach out. We will do our reaching out/contacting between Wednesdays so that our time together can be sharing the results of our efforts.

As we are given permission, we will share concerns with our Caring Teams and during worship. If we are told something in confidence, it remains confidential.

If the scheduled times do not suit your schedule, let me know and we can work something out.
- Pastor Mike

Bus Ministry Committee – The St. Paul Bus Ministry Committee has met twice this year. Ann Rhudy, Lou Ann Thompson, Glenn Cochran, John Eanes, and Todd Fitch serve with me. Due to recent electrical issues with the bus and the need for a state inspection, the bus is away from St. Paul. We are having a complete third-party mechanical and electrical systems evaluation of the bus. Once this is complete the bus will be inspected and readied for continued use.

The committee has also been focusing on developing a multifaceted bus ministry program that reaches more members of the congregation and community. Once we have this program defined, then we will focus on preparing a recommendation to Church Council for an appropriate replacement bus. The committee invites your participation in our discussions. Share your ideas with committee members.
~ Respectfully, Brad DeGeorge, Bus Ministry Committee Chair

Upcoming Events – All are welcome!

Saturday, March 23 is Paul Bunyan Day at Camp Alta Mons.

Come out to help clean up Alta Mons for the busy summer season! Volunteers of ALL AGES are welcome and needed! Meet at the Dining Hall at 9 AM to begin the day's work of log splitting, raking, trail clearing, mattress washing, pool cleaning, and more. Lots of fun for the whole family! Lunch in the Dining Hall to follow in the afternoon - FREE as a thank you for your service!

2842 Crockett Springs Road Shawsville, VA 24162 540-268-2409

Sunday, March 24 is Palm Sunday.

- All children are invited to wave palm branches in the processional. Please meet in the Joy classroom before worship begins.
- Community Children's Choir will sing.
- Our choir will present their Easter Cantata.

Sunday, March 31 is Easter Sunday.

- 7:30am – Easter sunrise worship service with breakfast afterwards.
- 9:30am – Flowering of the Cross, front lawn.
- 10:00am – Easter morning worship.

General Conference is quickly approaching and will be April 22 – May 3 at the Charlotte Convention Center, Charlotte NC.

Stay up to date on the expectations and proposed legislation with these resources:

www.vaumc.org – The Virginia Conference web site.

www.umc.org – The United Methodist Church web site.

www.resourceumc.org – The official General Conference web site. A one-time fee of \$49.99 allows you to create an account with the Advance Daily Christian Advocate and have ongoing access through General Conference, including all future updates.

www.umcjustice.org – The web site of the General Board of Church and Society has submitted Seven Book of Discipline petitions; Fifty-seven Book of Resolutions petitions; and Ten new proposed resolutions.

www.umnews.org – The news agency service of the United Methodist Church.

General Conference is the top policy-making body of The United Methodist Church, which meets once every four years. The General Conference can revise church law, as well as adopt resolutions on current moral, social, public policy and economic issues. It also approves plans and budgets for denomination-wide programs.