

Thank you for Serving!		
	Today – September 14	Next Sunday – September 21
LITURGIST:	Claire Childress	Ross Mecham
USHERS:	Ronald & Geraldine Hollandsworth	David Johnson & Debbie Lawrence
ACOLYTES:	Ellie Johnson	Ezra Arthur
SECURITY TEAM:	David Linkous & David Johnson	David Linkous & David Johnson
ALTAR TEAM:	Mike & Sherri Derflinger	Mike & Sherri Derflinger

This Week at St. Paul		
Sun, Sept 14	Frank Wickham & JOY Classes	9:00AM-9:50AM
	Worship Service	10:00AM
Mon, Sept 15	Den Meetings, FH & Classrooms	2:00PM
	Baby Shop Client Pick Up	10:00AM-12:00PM
	Church Council, JOY Classroom	7:00PM
Tues, Sept 16	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00PM-8:00PM
	SPRC, JOY Classroom	7:00PM
Wed, Sept 17	DEADLINE, October Newsletter Submissions	3:30PM
	Wonderful Wednesday	
	Potluck Meal	6:00PM
	Community Children’s Choir	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Guest Presenter Todd Fitch	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Chancel Choir	7:15PM-8:30PM
Thurs, Sept 18	Life Recovery Ministry-Candlelight Vigil	7:00PM
	Retired Teachers, FH	11:00AM-2:00PM
	UMM, FH	6:30PM

Next Week		
Sun, Sept 21	Frank Wickham & JOY Classes	9:00AM- 9:50AM
	Worship Service	10:00AM
Tues, Sept 23	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00PM-8:00PM
Wed, Sept 24	Wonderful Wednesday	
	Potluck Meal	6:00PM
	Community Children’s Choir	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Guest Presenter Dr. Riane Bolin	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Chancel Choir	7:15PM-8:30PM
	Life Recovery Ministry, JOY Classroom	7:00PM

Mike Derflinger, Pastor, 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  
Robin Raines, Custodian, rainesrobin88@yahoo.com



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220 West Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073  
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Web: www.stpaulvaumc.org  
Church office hours Monday – Friday 9:00AM – 3:30PM

Public page - https://www.facebook.com/stpaulcбург  
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—

Season: Pentecost  
September 14, 2025 Ten O’Clock  
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 have an abbreviated service today. After our service, the Baby Shop in our Activities Building will have an Open House so you can see the volume of items which go out to the families we serve, and Council Chair Brad DeGeorge will facilitate a discussion in the sanctuary on youth ministry and children’s ministry. You are welcome to attend either one. God bless you now and always.

Gathering & Prelude Carolyn Mills, Pianist/Organist; Brandis Godwin, Violinist  
“Jesus Saves”, “I Am Praying for You”, “I Am Thine, O Lord”

Welcome Pastor Mike Derflinger

\*Opening Unison Prayer Liturgist Claire Childress  
Come Holy Spirit! As we gather for worship, may your peace and joy descend upon us like a gentle dove. Fill our souls with your comfort and assurance. We long for peace and joy that only You can provide, O Lord, and we offer our prayer with souls open to your calming embrace. With gratitude we say, Amen.

\*Song ♪89 “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”, all vv. Liturgist Claire Childress

Anthem “If You Love Me” Chancel Choir

Children’s Message Pastor Mike Derflinger  
Children may go to Children’s Church at this time.

Announcements and Sharing our Joys and Concerns Pastor Mike Derflinger

Unison Prayer	Liturgist Claire Childress	
<b>Holy God, Creator of all people and all nations: it is with sorrow and apprehension that we remember the tragic events that occurred on September 11, 2001. We entrust the families, friends, and all who mourn the loss of loved ones to your loving care. We also pray for ourselves as we seek Your strength and guidance. We live in the aftermath of this tragedy and under the shadow of all future acts of aggression which seem to occur daily. We stand in need of Your assistance.</b>		
<i>Individual, silent prayers.</i>		
Words of Assurance		
After each petition, all respond: <i>Lord Jesus Christ, hear our prayer.</i>		
The Lord’s Prayer		
Instrumental	<i>“Sonatina, Opus 27, No. 12”</i>	
	Carolyn Mills, Pianist/Organist; Brandis Godwin, Violinist	
Scripture	<b>Matthew 9:35-38</b>	Liturgist Claire Childress
Message	<b>Jesus’ Prayer Request To Us</b>	Pastor Mike Derflinger
Offertory Prayer		Liturgist Claire Childress
<b>Heavenly Father, thank you for your abundant generosity! Bless each online and in-person giver and gift to strengthen your Church and further your Kingdom, and bless us as cheerful givers. In Jesus’ name. Amen.</b>		
Offertory	<i>“’Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus”</i>	
	Carolyn Mills, Pianist/Organist; Brandis Godwin, Violinist	
*Doxology		
*Recap		
*Closing Song	<b>♫549 “Where Charity and Love Prevail”, all vv.</b>	
*Benediction		
*Postlude	<b><i>“We’ve A Story to Tell”, “Forward Through the Ages”</i></b>	
	Carolyn Mills, Pianist/Organist; Brandis Godwin, Violinist	
<i>The side entrance to the Activities Building will be open for easier access.</i>		
<i>Our discussion on youth ministry and children’s ministry will begin shortly.</i>		

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.

You can schedule a visit with Pastor Mike in your home or in the church office. Please call the church office or speak with Pastor Mike to arrange a visit. Phone call visits can also be scheduled for your convenience.

September 14, 2025	Message Notes	Title:
1.		
2.		
3.		
September is Staff Appreciation Month! We would like to take this opportunity to recognize our staff, and thank them for their years of service at St. Paul.		
Carolyn Mills - 16 years		
Robin Raines - 15 years		
Carol Slaughter - 9 years		
Thank you to each of our staff members, who keep St. Paul running smoothly. We appreciate you!		
~ SPRC		

Wonderful Wednesdays Times of Sharing! All sharing times 6:30-7:00.  
Dinner is 6:00-6:30. Children’s Community Choir meets from 6:30-7:00.  
The format is a 15-20 minutes sharing with a Q&A afterwards in the fellowship hall.  
09/17: On behalf of Council, Todd Fitch will facilitate a brainstorming session on Saint Paul’s new and upcoming Vision Statement.  
09/24: Dr. Riane Bolin of RU shares what is happening in the Criminal Justice programs there and what is being offered in our communities. Riane has sung in the past two Cantatas and their two children are in the community children's choir.  
10/01: open.  
10/08: Elizabeth Wray, Commission on Aging.  
10/15: open.  
10/22: open.  
10/29: CHS Homecoming parade. No WW. Carolyn will decide about chancel choir rehearsal.  
Interested in sharing? Contact Sherri King at 304-320-1368

The first floor of the Activities Building is closed until further notice. We have some water damage in the kitchen and are addressing it. Groups scheduled to use the AB are being offered the fellowship hall and classrooms. Life Recovery Group will relocate to meet in the JOY classroom on WW until further notice. ~ Board of Trustees

Please take notice of the new ground covering on our playground. The playground is the property of Saint Paul and used by our Preschool and church family, and widely used by children and families in our community. The work was done by S and M Lawn and Landscaping. Many thanks to our Board of Trustees and the “sweat equity” by several members!

**Stewardship Campaign for 2025**

36 families in 37 households comprising 56 people for a total of \$176,944.  
You can turn in an Estimate of Giving Card for the remainder of 2025. Thank you.

**September Stewardship**

AMOUNT NEEDED FOR SEPTEMBER \$29,379. We have four Sundays in September.  
September Offering Counters: Doris Elliott, Wayne Bishop

TOTAL SEPTEMBER STEWARDSHIP	09/07	Total
General Fund – Offerings and Loose Plate	\$3,213	\$3,213
General Fund – Online Giving	\$1,599.63	\$1,599.63

SPECIAL OFFERINGS	09/07	Total
Communion Offering (Annual Conference Ministries)	\$49	\$49
Christiansburg Fire Dept.	\$100	\$100

To give an offering, you may place your gift in one of the offering plates located at the front of the sanctuary, or in the narthex (entrance). You can also mail it to the church office, or give online.  
We invite you to use the offering envelopes in the pew. God bless you!

Worship Attendance September 7, 2025				
In-Person Adults	Children’s Church	Livestreaming (Real Time)	YouTube (Recorded)	Total Worship
67	10	10	64	151

**We are creating a parent’s lounge in room 104.** This will be a nicer, comfortable room where parents can relax as their kids rehearse next door in the community children’s choir room. Room 104 will also be used for small groups to meet. Items that were used for facility management will find a home here or be donated.

**We need another Altar Team in 2026.** Altar Teams serve a month at a time changing the paraments, setting up Holy Communion, and filling the altar candles and acolyte candle lighter. Each team serves 2 different months. Please speak with Pastor Mike.

**PRAYER LIST – Team Matthew is our Caring Team this week**  
SPUMC Congregation, *friends, family members and neighbors*

**Cancer Patients:** Tommy Flinchum, Shirley Hodge, Gary Sparks  
*Roger Adkins, Loran Albin, Rob Bedford, Stephanie Boyd, Jennifer Canevari, Tina Cooper, Jamie Epperly, Lynn Huether (niece of Jim Mattox), Ruth Jones, Fran Kreider, Danny Lucas, Dana Nelson, Billy Proffitt, Sasha Simpkins’ mother*

**Parkinson’s:** Jim Clark, Clara Sowers Lynn Huether niece of Jim Mattox

**Alzheimer’s:** Susan Chase, Roger Woolwine  
*Gerald Mills*

**Health Issues:** Peggy Chafin, Scottie Dickenson, Ed Hayes, Anna Lee Lawrence, Becca King-Mallory, Bill Streich  
*Todd Brooks, Sherry Burke, the family of Jean & Tommy Dalton, Rob Holland, Jonathon Hudson (leg amputation) and his wife Julie, Tim & Jackie Rosche (Jackie has dementia), Stephanie Turner, Al & Louise Whealton, Mary & Don Wiggett, Sue Williams*

**Stroke:** Bob Chapin (in May), Vickie Charlton, Bonnie Cochran, Jordan McCoy

**Pregnancy:** Eliza Kerr (December), Tara Underwood (high risk, 7 wks to go)

**Anticipating Surgery:** Sandra Hayes 10/6, thymus  
*David Peyton 9/16, knee replacement*

**Recuperating from Surgery at Home:** Nancy Mattox

**Hospitalized:** Bonnie Cochran, Radford Hospital with blood clots in her legs

**Praises:** *birth of Nolan Hugh Anderson, first great grandchild of Joe & Margie Vitale. birth of Sullivan James Mallory to Cam and Becca King-Mallory. birth of Imani Mave Mason, 2<sup>nd</sup> granddaughter of Mace & Louise Mason. Stephanie Turner spent the night alone for first time in a long time. Jennifer Canevari completed chemo treatments.*

**Youth & Children:**  
*Claire Shores, 3, leukemia*

**Grieving:** Family of Hassell Boothe, SPUMC member 1999-2025  
*Family of the Aunt of Tracy McCoy*

*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!*

**Pastor Mike will be speaking with more area churches about participating in an interdenominational youth group for Grades 6-12.** Three churches have expressed interest.

**Flowers on the alter today** are in celebration of the 62<sup>nd</sup> wedding anniversary of Gary and Patsy Sparks. GOD IS GOOD!

**Birthday Celebrations this week** – Faye Chrisman & Dotte Foster on September 15<sup>th</sup>; Shan Carroll, Debbie Lawrence, & Denise Warren on September 16<sup>th</sup>; Rich Alvis, Jane Collins, & Kelly Light on September 18<sup>th</sup>; Sherri Derflinger, Jay Mellott, & Timothy Nelson on September 19<sup>th</sup>; Bonnie Rutherford on September 20<sup>th</sup>.  
*Happy Birthday to all!*

**Wedding Anniversary Celebrations this week** – Gary & Patsy Sparks on September 14<sup>th</sup>; Ross & Sara Mecham on September 16<sup>th</sup>.  
*Happy Anniversary to all!*

**Please remember our members in assisted living:**

Ruth Boothe, Rm 308, Kroontje Health Care Center, 1000 Litton Ln.,  
Blacksburg, VA 24060, Cell: 919-906-5097

Wayne & Dolores Brockenbrough, Apt.217, English Meadows, 3400 South Point Dr.,  
Blacksburg, VA 24060

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

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

Marg Modlin, 3719 Knollridge Rd., Salem, VA 24153

Wilma Snuffer, Q6, 3939 Daugherty Rd., Salem, VA 24153

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

Roger & Brenda Woolwine, Manchester Commons – Woodside Place,  
6351 West Lake Road, Erie, PA 16505 (Brenda’s Cell Number: 540-320-0986)

**And our dear friends and neighbors:**

Former Pastor: Rev. Art & Willie Wingfield, 650 N Jefferson St., Apt. 218,  
Roanoke, VA 24016

Mary Childress, Rm 113, Commonwealth Senior Living, 201 Wheatland Ct.,  
Christiansburg, VA 24073

**Until further notice DO NOT OPEN ANY WINDOWS IN THE CHURCH.** Will give notice when we can open windows again.  
Thanks, Patsy

**Wonderful Wednesdays has resumed.**  
Sherri King will receive McDonald’s Happy Meal orders for the kids.

**The choir year is beginning nicely!** The Chancel Choir has begun rehearsal for a few weeks now. These folks are such a great group of people! The fellowship is special. I NEED their good fellowship in my week! If you are looking for a meaningful place to serve, choir could be just what you need! I know that It’s what I need for my week...the fellowship and the joy in being together is so nice. Join us!  
**Our Community Children’s Choir** got started on Wednesday night with so much joy! We sang songs, clapped rhythms, played lots of instruments and enjoyed movement activities. We had 12 children (6 were new children to come and see what we are about!) We also had both boys who aged out of choir decide to join us as youth helpers!  
~ Carolyn Mills

**To All Men!** We have *To Our House* coming up November 29 - December 13 and the wrapping booth around 11/25. These are good things and can we reach out more!  
We're such good singers, maybe we could go caroling this year! I've talked to people at Asbury UMC about joining the men there for one of their monthly Sunday breakfasts so we can get to know our neighboring men. There is so much we can do together! **So, let's gather on 9/18 at 6:30pm in the fellowship hall for some light supper and robust conversation about good things we have been doing and new things to do!** Come on out! Put in your two cents! See you Thursday!!  
~ Tom Bell [TGBTG]

**September is National Recovery Month Theme: Recovery is REAL (Restoring Every Aspect of Life)**  
The key messages and weekly themes below reflect these dimensions and offer a foundation for you to develop content that resonates with your audience.  
Feel free to use these themes and key messages to develop tailored posts throughout the month.  
If you prefer, pre-crafted social media content is also available.

**Week 3: Community**  
This week highlights how a sense of belonging can help people on their recovery journey.

- Key Messages:**
- Building social networks and a sense of community can support recovery. You are not alone, and together we can make a difference.
  - Be the voice of recovery – nothing about us, without us. Share your story!
  - You have not met all the people who will love you.
  - Family, friends, and peers together put the “we” in wellness.

**September is Suicide Awareness Month Theme: Together in Strength, Dignity, Hope, and Purpose.**  
The following key messages and weekly themes provide a foundation for developing messages and posts that resonate with your specific audiences throughout the month. Feel free to use these messages as well as the sample social media shareables in the toolkit.

**Week 3: September 15–19**  
**Improving care and outcomes for people at risk for suicide**

This week focuses on the importance of improving care and outcomes for people at risk for suicide through effective pathways to care and collaborative safety planning.

- Key Messages:**
- Accessibility and visibility of resources is crucial so that those in need of support can easily find care. Establishing clear pathways to care encourages help-seeking and saves lives.
  - Working together on a safety plan gives people a sense of control and hope.
  - Suicide prevention isn’t about just one moment; it is about continued care over time. Ongoing support and follow-up care builds trust and supports long-term healing and recovery.
  - When someone is having suicidal thoughts, connection, thorough planning, and dedicated follow-up care create a vital structure of safety and support.
  - Everyone deserves access to treatments that work. Promoting evidence-based care is key to suicide prevention.
  - Continuity of care ensures ongoing support and long-term healing.
  - Prioritizing self-care is a vital way to support your mental well-being and reduce the risk of suicide. This includes simple, consistent actions like getting enough sleep, eating nutritious food, engaging in regular physical activity, and finding healthy ways to manage stress, such as mindfulness, hobbies, or spending time in nature

**The previous choir room downstairs off from the fellowship hall will be our History and Archives Room.** Many thanks to Dan Rhudy for building a fine wood bookcase and installing new lighting, to Robin Raines for her cleaning and care of the steps and floor. A new wall base and curtains and/or blinds will be added. A part of the room will be a meeting area, and a part will be a workroom area designed for the delicate work of handling and preserving historical and archival materials. Pastor Mike and Historian Joe Cox will be addressing a number of questions. We will let you know when we need help moving items from the 3rd floor to the H&A room.

**Are your friends or family looking for a great space to host their next event or meeting?**  
Our Activities Building offers a spacious, well-maintained venue at a very reasonable price, making it an excellent alternative to other rental options in the area. Whether you are planning a family gathering, community event, or business meeting, the AB provides a welcoming atmosphere and convenient amenities to suit your needs. Not only will people get great value for their money, but will also be supporting a local church that serves and supports the community. We highly recommend you consider referring our Activities Building for your friend’s and family's next event—it’s a great choice for both their budget and their experience! Please contact the church office for the facility use agreement. ~ The Stewardship Committee

**Wanda Garrison has moved to Pleasant Hill Iowa where she has more family.** Her new address is 1500 Edgewater Drive, Apt. 218, Pleasant Hill IA 50327. Her cell and email remain the same. Wanda has peace and contentment with this move. Prayers for Wanda as she makes this transition.

**Mary Adkins has moved to High Point NC to be closer to the health care she needs.** Roger is here completing some home maintenance projects and will then join her. Her new address is Solista Senior Living, 1573 Skeet Club Rd. Apt. 317, High Point, NC 27265. Her cell and email remain the same. Prayers for Roger and Mary as they make this transition.

**Our Homecoming is September 28<sup>th</sup>!** Our theme is Missions. Our meal will be catered by Mission BBQ. All you have to do is come to worship and to eat! How does that sound?! See you here on the 28<sup>th</sup>!