| Thank you for Serving! | | |
|---|---|---|
| | **Today – September 28** | **Next Sunday – October 5** |
| **LITURGIST:** | Priscilla Rollins | Marjorie Vitale |
| **USHERS:** | Les & Sonia Badillo | Rusty & Tracy McCoy |
| **ACOLYTES:** | Daphne Arthur | Isaac Johnson |
| **SECURITY TEAM:** | David Linkous & David Johnson | Wayne Bishop & Vaughn Michael |
| **ALTAR TEAM:** | Mike & Sherri Derflinger | Jim & Nancy Mattox |

**This Week at St. Paul**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sun, Sept 28 | Frank Wickham & JOY Classes | 9:00AM-9:50AM |
| | Worship Service– Homecoming | 10:00AM |
| | Fellowship Meal after Worship, FH | |
| | Pack 145 Meeting, FH & Classrooms | 2:00PM |
| Mon, Sept 29 | Baby Shop Pack Up Orders | 10:00AM-12:00PM |
| Tues, Sept 30 | Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal | 7:00PM-8:00PM |
| Wed, Oct 1 | Wonderful Wednesday | |
| | Potluck Meal | 6:00PM |
| | Community Children's Choir | 6:30PM-7:00PM |
| | Guest Presenter Women's Resource Center | 6:30PM-7:00PM |
| | Chancel Choir | 7:15PM-8:30PM |
| | Life Recovery Ministry, JOY Classroom | 7:00PM |
| Thurs, Oct 2 | Baby Shop Pack Up Orders | 9:30AM-12:00PM |
| Fri, Oct 3 | Baby Shop Pack Up Orders | 9:30AM-12:00PM |
| Sat, Oct 4 | Baby Shop Client Pick Up | 9:30AM-12:00PM |

**Next Week**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Sun, Oct 5 | Frank Wickham & JOY Classes | 9:00AM- 9:50AM |
| | Worship Service – Holy Communion Sunday | 10:00AM |
| Mon, Oct 6 | Baby Shop Client Pick Up | 10:00AM-12:00PM |
| | Trustees, JOY Classroom | 7:00PM |
| Tues, Oct 7 | Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal | 7:00PM-8:00PM |
| | Church Council, JOY Classroom | 7:00PM |
| Wed, Oct 8 | Wonderful Wednesday | |
| | Potluck Meal | 6:00PM |
| | Community Children's Choir | 6:30PM-7:00PM |
| | Guest Presenter | 6:30PM-7:00PM |
| | Chancel Choir | 7:15PM-8:30PM |
| | Life Recovery Ministry, JOY Classroom | 7:00PM |
| Thurs, Oct 9 | Ruth Circle, Agape Center | 1:00PM |

# *St. Paul United Methodist Church*

*220 West Main Street, Christiansburg, VA 24073*

**Our 206th Year in Christiansburg**
**Our 63rd Homecoming Anniversary at Our Present Location**

**September 28, 2025**
**Ten O'Clock**

**Theme: Outreach and Missions**

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

*Welcome to Homecoming 2025! We are glad you are here! Please take time to sign in on our attendance pad, and leave a prayer request with contact information for our Caring Teams. Thank you and God bless you in this time of worship and fellowship!*

Gathering & Prelude — Pianist Carolyn Mills, Violinist Brandis Godwin
***"He Lifted Me", "Since Jesus Came Into My Heart", "In My Heart There Rings a Melody"***

Welcome — Pastor Mike Derflinger

*Call to Worship — Liturgist Priscilla Rollins

Liturgist: On this Homecoming Sunday, Children of God, we gather to worship, to sing with joy the grace and the good works God is doing in our midst!

**People: We gather to encounter the life-giving message of God's love, who redeems us to be bearers of the Gospel every day in loving words and actions.**

Liturgist: Ready your hearts. God is here!

**People: May our time be a blessing of strengthened fellowship that ushers in a new season in ministry. No matter where we go, how far we venture, it is always good to know that we can come home! Praise God on this Homecoming Sunday!**

*Hymns — ♫378 ***"Amazing Grace", vv. 1,2,3*** — Liturgist Priscilla Rollins
♫553 ***"And Are We Yet Alive", vv. 1,2,3,6***

*The Apostles' Creed 881 — Traditional Version — Liturgist Priscilla Rollins

Anthem — ***"Do Lord, Remember Me"*** — Chancel Choir

Scripture — **Matthew 5:13-16** — Liturgist Priscilla Rollins

Community Children's Choir — Carolyn Mills, Director
***"This is the Day", "Jesus Loves Me", "Life Without Jesus"***
***"Into My Heart", "Give Me A BE Attitude"***

Mission — The Baby Shop — Ashley Johnson

Song — ♫77 ***"How Great Thou Art", vv. 1,2***

Mission — UMC International Mission Experience — Jackie Nutter

Song — ♫546 ***"The Church's One Foundation", vv. 1,2,6***

Mission — MCEAP — Margie Vitale

Song — ♫192 ***"There's a Spirit in the Air", vv. 1,4,5***

Mission — Rise Against Hunger — Pastor Mike Derflinger

Instrumental — ***"Sonatina in G"*** — Pianist Carolyn Mills, Violinist Brandis Godwin

Offertory Prayer — Liturgist Priscilla Rollins

**Loving God, we thank you for this Homecoming Day, for the joy of being together again and for all the blessings you have poured into our lives, community, and world. We are grateful for the faithfulness of our Saint Paul family, for the memories shared here, for your leading us to these missions and others, and for the hope of all that is to come.**

**As we receive this love offering for the Community Children's Choir, and for all that we give back to You today, bless the givers and bless the gifts. Use them and all of us to build up your church, extend your kingdom, and serve those in need. May our generosity be a reflection of your abundant love and a testament to your enduring presence among us. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Offertory — ***"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"*** — Pianist Carolyn Mills, Violinist Brandis Godwin

*Doxology

*Hymn — ♫98 ***"To God Be the Glory", vv. 1,3***

*Blessing for our Meal — Pastor Mike Derflinger

*Postlude — ***"I Will Serve Thee", "Freely, Freely"*** — Pianist Carolyn Mills, Violinist Brandis Godwin

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Many thanks to our Nurture Team, Historian Joe Cox for our displays, Outreach co-leads Todd Fitch and Diann Eaton and Team for helping to select our speakers, Carolyn Mills and the Chancel Choir and Community Children's Choir for special music, and for each of you – in-person and virtual – for being present in today's service and our fellowship meal afterward.

A big "Thank You!" to Meagan Arthur for leading our Children's Church today!

Our thanks to Chair Ron Hollandsworth and our Finance Team for allocating the funds for our catered meal by Mission BBQ. We really appreciate you making this possible for us!

Are you interested in receiving our weekly emails and monthly newsletter via email? Please leave it for us in the Attendance Pad in your pew.

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**Flowers are placed on the altar today -** Happy heavenly birthday Curtis and Mommy.
~ Margie Vitale

**Flowers are placed on the altar today** in celebration of Jim Simpkins 99th birthday!
~ The Goss Family

**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

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

## 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 | 09/21 | Total |
|---|---|---|
| General Fund – Offerings and Loose Plate | $1,775 | $9,768 |
| General Fund – Online Giving | $1,105.11 | $4,947.31 |

| SPECIAL OFFERINGS | 09/21 | Total |
|---|---|---|
| Communion Offering (Annual Conference Ministries) | $10 | $59 |
| Christiansburg Fire Dept. | $100 | $100 |
| Baby Shop | $100 | $300 |
| Memorial for Hassell Boothe | $100 | $100 |
| Missions Donation | $200 | $200 |
| Use of Fellowship Hall | $35 | $35 |

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 21, 2025 | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **In-Person Adults** | **Children's Church** | **Livestreaming (Real Time)** | **YouTube (Recorded)** | **Total Worship** |
| **59** | **5** | **14** | **94** | **172** |

## PRAYER LIST – Team Mark 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, Tommy Harris, 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
*Todd Brooks, Sherry Burke, Barbara Clevenger, the family of Jean & Tommy Dalton, Rob Holland, Jonathon Hudson (leg amputation) and his wife Julie, Tim & Jackie Rosche (Jackie has dementia), Tina Smith, Wayne Spencer, 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, 6 wks to go)

**Anticipating Surgery:** Sandra Hayes 10/6, thymus

**Unspoken:** *Amy Bishop*

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

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

**Youth & Children:**
*Claire Shores, 3, leukemia, Ellie Johnson, injured elbow*

*Praise for a pharmaceutical company out of Boston who received FDA approval for a new drug they developed that will repair heart mutations within babies – both in-vitro and after birth – who test positive for Barth Syndrome. Submitted by Beth Brown whose son David works for the company.*

*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!*

**Birthday Celebrations this week –** Sara Mecham on September 28th; Anna Lee Lawrence & Andrew Skidmore on September 29th; John Benson on September 30th; Deanne Lane on October 1st; Ken Farrar, Dennis Heltzel, & Cathy Nester on October 2nd; Jim Simpkins on October 3rd.

***Happy Birthday to all!***

**<u>Wonderful Wednesdays Times of Sharing! All sharing times 6:30-7:00.</u>**
**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.***
***Sherri King will receive McDonald's Happy Meal orders for the kids.***

10/01: Outreach Wellness Coordinator from Women's Resource Center.
10/08: Connie Bell and Karen Birchfield on our Prayer Shawl Ministry.
10/15: open.
10/22: Elizabeth Wray, Commission on Aging.
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.** 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!

**Sabrina Porter is serving as Youth Director on an interim basis** as Staff-Parish Relations drafts a job description for the staff position of Children's and Youth Programs/ Media Coordinator. This is a working position title. When the draft is complete, SPR will meet with the families of St. Paul for further input.

**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.

**Youth Save the Dates!**

*Sunday October 5 after church will be youth pumpkin carving and painting.
*Sunday October 12 in the afternoon the youth will participate in Fall Clean-up. If a member needs assistance with pulling weeds, raking leaves etc. Please let Sabrina Porter know: 540-392-3952, sabbyc9@gmail.com. We already have 1 member interested.
*Sunday October 26 youth will participate in the Trunk or Treat with the Scouts. More information to follow.
*Wednesday October 29 youth will have a float in the CHS homecoming parade. More information to follow.

**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

**Many thanks to our Board of Trustees and everyone who has worked on getting our new outdoor digital sign up and running!** Todd Fitch and Brooks Arthur are monitoring it and receiving content for display, and Carol Slaughter is backup.

**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

**Chancel Choir**

Joyce Bishop
Sherry Bishop
Karen Birchfield
John Eanes
Bobbi Jo Journey
Barry King
Sherri King
Brian Porter

**Community Children's Choir**

Daphne Arthur
Ezra Arthur
Anna Bolin
Paige Frederick
Sara Beth Frederick
Ellie Johnson
Edgar Kersey
Owen Kersey
William Kersey
Isaiah Mallory
Rose Mallory
Braxton McClaugherty
Zoey McClaugherty
Jillian Miller
Piper West

**Youth Helpers**

Nolan Arthur
Isaac Johnson

**Today we receive a love offering to benefit our Community Children's Choir.** We're thinking a quality polo shirt and khaki pants for each child when they sing in churches, nursing homes, and other venues. Please use an envelope in your pew and write "Community Children's Choir" or "CCC" so counters can distinguish it from other offerings. Thank you for supporting the Community Children's Choir.

**Many thanks to Life Recovery Ministry Lead Greg Journey for planning and leading our Community Candlelight Vigil on September 17th.** Eleven people attended. This was our first service to remember family and friends lost to suicide and overdose.

**October is Stewardship Month.** Our Finance Team will meet soon to finalize our plans.

**Ruth Circle** will meet at 1 pm on Thursday, October 9, at the Agape Center on Cambria Street (parking in the rear of the building). An 11:30 am lunch plan is TBD

**For the month of October, the St. Paul United Women in Faith is sponsoring a Peanut Butter Collection Drive for the Montgomery County Christmas Store.** A box will be at each entrance to the sanctuary for this purpose. This food item is especially needed at the store.
Many families are in need. Let's give generously to help these families. Doing good for others is a good way to show love for our neighbors!

***Here are some Fun Facts for Homecoming 2025 that you may find interesting.***

*As of September 25, 2025, we have 442 members.*

- *349 local members, 93 out-of-area members.*
- *239 women, 203 men.*
- *Most popular birth years: 1946 (20), 1951 (18), 1945 (16), 1968 (15).*

***Ten Eldest Members:***
Jim Simpkins, 98, C'burg VA; Bess Wicks, 97, Freeport FL; Wilma Snuffer, 96, Salem VA; Myrtle Ann Jones Rice, 96, C'burg VA; Wayne Brockenbrough, 95 and Delores Brockenbrough, 95, B'burg VA; Pat Simpson, 94, C'burg VA; Iris Simpkins, 93, C'burg VA; Peggy Chafin, 92, C'burg; VA; Shirley Hodge, 92, C'burg VA.

***Ten Newest Members, All Local:***
Barry & Sherri King, Cam and Becca King-Mallory, affiliate members Ross & Sara Mecham and Nicole Isley, Priscilla Rollins, Betsy Rittenhouse, Rob Chafin.

***Ten Members Farthest Away:***
Shauna Spanos, Salt Lake City UT; Carolyn Bucklen, Albuquerque NM; Thomas Hawkins, Spring TX; Paula *Epperly* Walker, Naples FL; Scott & Carla Clabaugh, Hammond LA; Michelle Klawitter, Sebring FL; Peggy Long, Melbourne FL; Jay & Kim Newman, Milton FL.

***Ten Longest Members:***
Peggy Chafin, j. 05.02.42; Wayne Bishop, j. 04.06.52; Mike "Butch" Martin, j. 04.06.52; Arthur Poff, Jr., j. 03.25.56; Glenn Cochran, j. 04.14.57; Rebecca Graham, j. 04.15.57; Arthur Hamrick, j. 04.14.57; Daniel Hamrick, 04.14.57; Jenny Wise, 03.30.58.
Jane Collins, j. 01.26.60.

***Our Youngest Members:***
Noah Petry, George Rust IV, Isabelle Petry, Gloria Cornish, Nate Birchfield, Jace Thompson, Dawn Cornish, Erin Birchfield, Rally Williams, Oakley Williams, Emily Fitch, Jack Thompson

**AN INVITATION TO COME BE APPRECIATED**
St Paul family; for our participation in the **To Our House (TOH) program**, the following invitation has been extended to us. This would be a good opportunity for those with questions about TOH to get those answered and see how it complements other community service programs.
To Our House (TOH) -- recognition of volunteers
St Paul volunteers for and supporters of TOH
for selfless dedication and invaluable resources
**Thursday, October 2, 4-6 PM**
The HUB in the New River Community Action Offices
206 3rd Avenue, Radford, VA
Light hors d'oeuvres will be served