

Thank you for Serving!		
	Today – October 12	Next Sunday – October 19
LITURGIST:	Ashley Johnson	Tom Bell
USHERS:	Marjorie Vitale & Priscilla Rollins	Patsy Sparks & Faye Chrisman
ACOLYTES:	Ellie Johnson	Ezra Arthur
SECURITY TEAM:	Wayne Bishop & Ken Skidmore	Wayne Bishop & Ken Skidmore
ALTAR TEAM:	Jim & Nancy Mattox	Jim & Nancy Mattox

This Week at St. Paul		
Sun, Oct 12	Frank Wickham & JOY Classes	9:00AM-9:50AM
	Worship Service	10:00AM
	Youth Fall Clean Up	After Worship
	Cub Pack 145 Den Meetings, FH	2:00PM
Mon, Oct 13	Staff Meeting, Spare Office	9:00AM
	Baby Shop Client Pick Up	10:00AM-12:00PM
Tues, Oct 14	Christiansburg Lions Club, FH	6:30PM-8:30PM
	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00PM-8:00PM
	Esther Circle, Penny Kanney’s House	7:00PM
Wed, Oct 15	Wonderful Wednesday	
	Meal: spaghetti, salad. Bring a side or dessert	6:00PM
	Community Children’s Choir	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Guest Presenter- Ross Mecham, Lions Club	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Chancel Choir	7:15PM-8:30PM
	Life Recovery Ministry, JOY Classroom	7:00PM
Thurs, Oct 16	No MCPS, No Preschool Fall Break	
	UMM, Fellowship Hall	6:30PM
Fri, Oct 17	No MCPS, No Preschool Fall Break	
	Baby Shop Pack Up Orders	9:30AM-12:00PM
Next Week		
Sun, Oct 19	Frank Wickham & JOY Classes	9:00AM- 9:50AM
	Worship Service	10:00AM
Mon, Oct 20	Baby Shop Client Pick Up	10:00AM-12:00PM
	Church Council, JOY Classroom	7:00PM
Tues, Oct 21	DEADLINE-November Newsletter Submissions	12:00PM
	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00PM-8:00PM
Wed, Oct 22	Wonderful Wednesday	
	Meal	6:00PM
	Community Children’s Choir	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Guest Presenter- Elizabeth Wray, Comm.on Aging	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Chancel Choir	7:15PM-8:30PM
	Life Recovery Ministry, JOY Classroom	7:00PM



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

 Like us on Facebook



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

October 12, 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're pausing our Stewardship series to explore it from a different angle. Today’s message is on Jesus’ story of the pearl of great value. God bless you as we worship.

Gathering & Prelude

“Blessed Assurance”

Phoebe Knapp

Welcome

Pastor Mike Derflinger

*Call to Worship

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

Liturgist: No greater value can be placed on anything than the Kingdom of Heaven.

People: There is no comparison of God’s Kingdom with anything of earthy value.

Liturgist: If we value earthly things too much, we may risk losing the Kingdom. The choice is ours.

People: Lord Jesus Christ, give us discernment for the glory of your name. We want more than anything in the world to be in God’s Kingdom. May God help us to keep our priorities in order!!

*Songs

♪733 **“Marching to Zion”, vv. 1,2**

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

*Responsive Reading 830, 831

Verses from Psalm 107

Liturgist Ashley Johnson

Anthem

“I Trust In the Lord”

Joseph M. Martin

Children’s Message

Pastor Mike Derflinger

Children may go to Children’s Church at this time.

Announcements and Sharing our Joys and Concerns		
Unison Prayer of Confession	Liturgist Ashley Johnson	
Dear Lord, forgive us when we take for granted your sacrifice on the cross, the grace you give each day, and our entrance into your Kingdom and Heaven. Convince us of the choices we must make, that we may not be led astray.		
<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>“There Is a Balm in Gilead”</i>	Traditional Spiritual
Scripture	Matthew 13:45,46	Liturgist Ashley Johnson
Message	The Quest for the Best	Pastor Mike Derflinger
Offertory Prayer	Liturgist Ashley Johnson	
Gracious and Eternal God, you deserve the thanksgiving of everyone everywhere for you are God of all: responsive, generous, and compassionate. Bless and multiply these gifts for the Holy Spirit’s use; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.		
Offertory	<i>“Glory and Grace”</i>	Virginia Harmony, 1831
*Doxology		
*Recap		
*Closing Songs	♪453 <i>“More Love to Thee, O Christ”, vv. 1-4</i> ♪452 <i>“My Faith Looks Up to Thee”, vv. 1,2</i>	
*Benediction		
*Postlude	<i>Postlude on “St. Denio”</i>	Walter C. Smith

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.

October 12, 2025	Matthew 13:45,46	Message Notes
1. _____		
2. _____		
3. _____		

What Some Writers Have Said the Pearl of Great Value is...

3 Hard Questions: _____

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.
Sherri King will receive McDonald’s Happy Meal orders for the kids.

10/15: Ross Mecham, Lions Club.
10/22: Elizabeth Wray, Commission on Aging.
10/29: CHS Homecoming parade. No WW. Carolyn will decide about chancel choir rehearsal.
Interested in sharing in 2026? Contact Sherri King at 304-320-1368!

Esther Circle will meet at 7:00pm Tuesday, October 14th at Penny Kanney’s house. All women are welcome. For information contact Elaine Clark 540-239-0434.

UMM Meeting! Thursday, October 16 at 6:30pm
UMM Vision: **Every man in the UMC, an effective disciple of Jesus Christ**
Gather in the Fellowship Hall for a pitch-in supper with fellowship and planning.

We light a purple candle on the altar to remind us that October is Mental Health Awareness Month. Various events are being held to promote mental well-being and provide support to those affected by mental illness. This is a time to raise awareness about mental health issues, reduce stigma, be compassionate, and to encourage people to seek help if they are struggling. World Mental Health Day was Oct. 10. In our country, October is

- National Depression and Mental Health Screening Month
- Health Literacy Month
- ADHD Awareness Month
- Bullying Prevention Month

Observed focus weeks throughout October are:
Mental Illness Awareness Week (First week of October)
OCD Awareness Week (Second week of October)
National Health Education Week (Third week of October)
Explore ways to get involved!

~ Outreach Team

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.

October Stewardship

AMOUNT NEEDED FOR OCTOBER \$29,379. We have four Sundays in October.
October Offering Counters: Ashley Johnson, Ken Skidmore

TOTAL OCTOBER STEWARDSHIP	10/05	Total
General Fund – Offerings and Loose Plate	\$5,595	\$5,595
General Fund – Online Giving	\$1,629.41	\$1,629.41

SPECIAL OFFERINGS	10/05	Total
Communion Offering (MCEAP)	\$135	\$135
Baby Shop	\$320	\$320
Memorial for Hassell Boothe	\$50	\$50
Community Children’s Choir	\$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 October 5, 2025				
In-Person Adults	Children’s Church	Livestreaming (Real Time)	YouTube (Recorded)	Total Worship
72	8	7	49	136

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, organist@stpaulvaumc.org
Robin Raines, Custodian, rainesrobin88@yahoo.com

PRAYER LIST – Team Luke 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, Dalton Close & the Close Family, Tina Cooper, Jamie Epperly, Tommy Harris, Ruth Jones, Danny Lucas, Dale Nelson, Dana Nelson, Billy Proffitt, Sasha Simpkins’ mother

Parkinson’s: Jim Clark, Clara Sowers

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, Susan Burnett, Barbara Clevenger, 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, 3 wks to go)

Anticipating Surgery: *Stephanie Turner 3 to 4 arm surgeries at Duke.*

Unspoken: *Amy Bishop*

Recuperating from Surgery at Home: Sandra Hayes

Hospitalized: Jordan McCoy Roanoke Memorial, had a second craniectomy and is recovering well in the hospital.

Praises: Becca King-Mallory is feeling much better. She received good reports on her scans, and was able to attend a hand bell rehearsal recently. She is slowly returning to work. *Stephanie Turner received a good report from her cultures.*

Youth & Children:
*Dalton Close & the Close Family, Dalton is 16, diagnosed with Stage 4 Diffuse Midline Glioma
Claire Shores, 3, leukemia*

Grieving: Family & friends of Fran Kreider cancer patient and former SPUMC member
*Baggett Family & friends loss of mother and wife
Family of Lynn Huether, cancer patient, niece of Jim Mattox*

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 – Isabelle Petry & Janet Shelburne on October 12th; Mary Adkins on October 13th; Ann Rhudy on October 14th; Thomas Hawkins, Jeff Linkous, & Glenn Wilson on October 18th.
Happy Birthday to all!

Wedding Anniversary Celebrations this week – Brian & Sabrina Porter on October 17th.
Happy Anniversary!

October is Pastor Appreciation Month! During the month of October, a ‘love basket’ will be available in the Narthex before and after Worship Services. During the week the basket will be in the Church office with Carol. Your gifts will be presented to Pastor Mike and Sherri on the last Sunday of October. Let’s take this month to let Pastor Mike know how much we appreciate him here at St. Paul!
~ SPRC

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

Bonnie Cochran, 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



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!

Youth Save the Dates!
*Sunday October 12 in the afternoon the youth will participate in Fall Clean-up Up. If a member needs assistance with pulling weeds, raking leaves etc. Please let Sabrina Porter know. 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 Christiansburg homecoming parade. More information to follow.

Spread the Warmth! St. Paul Coat Drive
Starting Sunday, October 5 and ending, Sunday, December 7, St. Paul will be collecting winter new and gently used coats for children (all sizes). It may seem unseasonably warm right now, but winter is around the corner and there are children in our community who need our help. Infant sizes to Size 6 will be given to the baby shop. Size 7 to 16 will be donated to the Montgomery County Christmas Store. Donations can be dropped off in the large wooden box in the narthex or on the stage in the fellowship hall.

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.

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.

We need another Altar Team in 2026. Please speak with Pastor Mike.