

Thank you for Serving!		
	Today – November 30	Next Sunday – December 7
LITURGIST:	Ross Mecham	Marjorie Vitale
USHERS:	Dan & Ann Rhudy	Tom Bell & Connie Bell
ACOLYTES:	Nolan Arthur	
SECURITY TEAM:	Joe Cox & Ronald Hollandsworth	Tom Bell & Jim Mattox
ALTAR TEAM:	Leslie & Sonia Badillo	Ronald & Geraldine Hollandsworth

This Week at St. Paul		
Sun, Nov 30	Frank Wickham & JOY Classes	9:00AM-9:50AM
	Worship Service-First Sunday of Advent	10:00AM
	Hand Bell Choir Performs	
Mon, Dec 1	Baby Shop, Sort/Bag Donations	9:30AM-12:00PM
	Trustees, JOY Classroom	7:00PM
	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00PM-8:00PM
Tues, Dec 2	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00PM-8:00PM
Wed, Dec 3	Wonderful Wednesday	
	Meal	6:00PM
	Community Children’s Choir	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Presenter: Pastor Mike, Advent Meditation	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Chancel Choir	7:15PM-8:30PM
	Life Recovery Ministry, AB	7:00PM
Thurs, Dec 4	Baby Shop, Pack Orders	9:30AM-12:00PM
	Staff-Parish Relations Committee, JOY Classroom	7:00PM
	Baby Shop, Pack Orders	9:30AM-12:00PM
Fri, Dec 5	Baby Shop, Pack Orders	9:30AM-12:00PM
Sat, Dec 6	Baby Shop, Clients Pick Up Orders	9:30AM-12:00PM
Next Week		
Sun, Dec 7	Frank Wickham & JOY Classes	9:00AM- 9:50AM
	Worship Service-Second Sunday of Advent	10:00AM
	Holy Communion	
Mon, Dec 8	Community Children’s Choir Sing	
	Staff Meeting, Spare Office	9:00AM
	VA Native Plant Society, FH	6:30PM-8:30PM
Tues, Dec 9	Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal	7:00PM-8:00PM
Wed, Dec 10	Wonderful Wednesday	
	Meal	6:00PM
	Community Children’s Choir	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Presenter: Pastor Mike, Advent Meditation	6:30PM-7:00PM
	Chancel Choir	7:15PM-8:30PM
	Life Recovery Ministry, AB	7:00PM
Thurs, Dec 11	Ruth Circle, Brew da Bean	10:00AM
Fri, Dec 12	Baby Shop, Pack Orders	9:30AM-12:00PM
	Christmas Parade, Main St.	7:00PM
	Pack 145 After Parade Hot Chocolate, FH	
Sat, Dec 13	To Our House Ends-Move Out, AB	



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/stpaulcburg>
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—

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 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.**

*Stop. Take a moment. We are moving from one feasting to another. Breathe deeply.
We have arrived again at the beginning of the journey through Advent. Our theme is
“All Earth is Waiting.” We’re glad you’re here.*

Gathering & Prelude

“Come, Blessed One, Come”

David Paxton

Welcome

Pastor Mike Derflinger

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Isaiah 2:4

The Arthur Family
Brooks, Meagan, Ezra, Nolan, & Daphne

*Call to Worship

Liturgist Ross Mecham

Liturgist: Beloved, once again, we embark on the Advent path that points us to the coming of Jesus and His birth.

People: We journey together toward the day that all the earth awaits.

Liturgist: We remember the signs and the times that heralded the arrival of the baby Jesus, God Incarnate.

People: We tell the stories once again as we learn how to discern the signs and the times, watching for glimpses of God’s here-and-not-yet kingdom among us.

Liturgist: Come, let us worship God who shines a light to guide us on the path to peace and flourishing for all creation.

People: We worship as we walk together toward the day that all the Earth awaits.

*Opening Hymn	Liturgist Ross Mecham	
♪196 “Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus”, both vv. ♪210 “All Earth is Waiting”, all vv.		
*Unison Advent Prayer	Liturgist Ross Mecham	
Lord Jesus Christ, kindle in us the desire to remain awake and active in the anticipation of celebrating Your birth. You are Emmanuel, God with us. Receive our worship and love, so that when we celebrate your arrival, in the manger mild and when You return, we will recognize Your face and voice, and adore You again. Amen.		
Anthem	“Prepare for the Coming of the Lord” Lloyd Larson	Chancel Choir
Children’s Message	Pastor Mike Derflinger	
Community Hand Bell Choir	Angela Lambert, Director	
“Away in a Manger”, “Little Drummer Boy”, “Go Tell It on the Mountain”, “The First Noel”		
Announcements	Pastor Mike Derflinger	
Sharing our Prayer Concerns		
Unison Prayer	Liturgist Ross Mecham	
Holy One, all the Earth is preparing for the celebration of Your birth. All the Earth is waiting to see You in the witness of your Church. The dawn of a new time of being faithful to You is upon us.		
Forgive us when sleepiness takes its toll, when our discussions become battles, and when our judgment and self-judgment outweigh our faith.		
Be gracious to us. Move us to reveal your Light and to live as You have called us in respect of others, in self-respect, in mutual dialogue, and in healthy living so that everything we do reflects your light. 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		
Instrumental	“Angels from the Realms of Glory” James Montgomery, 1771-1854	
Scripture	Luke 1:26-32, 46-50	Liturgist Ross Mecham
Message	U the Steward of Your Time	Pastor Mike Derflinger

Response to God’s Word	pp. 34, 35, and 38	
Reception of New Members		
Unison Offertory Prayer	Liturgist Ross Mecham	
	Ever-Watchful and Watching God, we offer our tithes and offerings to You and the work of Your Church. We do so as a community to prepare our hearts, our hands, and our world for Your coming reign. We are locked in to the “someday” You are already shaping through our love, our justice, our lives and our generosity. In Jesus’ name. Amen.	
Offertory	“The Birthday of a King” William Harold Neidlinger	
*Doxology		
*Closing Hymns	♫230 “O Little Town of Bethlehem”, all vv., v.3 a cappella	
*Benediction		
*Postlude	“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” Plainsong, 13 th century	

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.

Birthday Celebrations this week – Nolan Arthur, John Floyd, & Butch Lucento on November 30th; Glenn Cochran, Sueanna Courtmanche, & Becky Quesenberry on December 1st; Vickie Charlton & Lynn Rader on December 2nd; Averie Nelson on December 3rd; Stephanie Nelson & Judy Williamson on December 4th; Wilma Snuffer on December 5th; Penny Kanney & Pat Simpson on December 6th.
Happy Birthday to all!

Wedding Anniversary Celebrations this week – Pepper & Vicki Sciarretta on November 30th.
Happy Anniversary!

The Community Hand Bell Choir will play Sunday, December 21st at Good Shepherd Baptist Church.

The 2025 Advent Devotionals from The Society of St. Andrew are on the table in the narthex. There are some also at the other two entrances to the sanctuary – at the lift and the side door.

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.

November Stewardship

AMOUNT NEEDED FOR NOVEMBER \$29,379. We have five Sundays in November.
November Offering Counters: Ashley Johnson, Ken Skidmore

<u>TOTAL NOVEMBER STEWARDSHIP</u>	<u>11/23</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Fund – Offerings and Loose Plate	\$1,848	\$17,841.54
General Fund – Online Giving	\$1,008.40	\$5,446.80

<u>SPECIAL OFFERINGS</u>	<u>11/23</u>	<u>Total</u>
Communion Offering (MCEAP)	\$	\$115
Baby Shop	\$130	\$340
UMCOR	\$	\$100
Fellowship Hall Use	\$	\$100
To Our House	\$990	\$1,186
Flower Fund	\$75	\$75

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!

<u>Worship Attendance November 23, 2025</u>				
<u>In-Person Adults</u>	<u>Children’s Church</u>	<u>Livestreaming (Real Time)</u>	<u>YouTube (Recorded)</u>	<u>Total Worship</u>
98	12	N/A	N/A	110

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, Tina Cooper, Jamie Epperly, Skip Fenton, Tommy Harris, Ruth Jones, Sue Lough (godmother to Beth Brown’s daughter), Danny Lucas, Dana Nelson, Susan Perry (Margie Vitale’s sister), Billy Proffitt, Sasha Simpkins’ mother

Parkinson’s: Jim Clark, Clara Sowers

Alzheimer’s: Susan Chase, Roger Woolwine
Gerald Mills

Health Issues: Dubby Charlton, Ed & Sandra Hayes, Sherri King, Brian Porter, Tabitha Rust
Sherry Burke, Susan Burnett, Barbara Clevenger, Missy Foster-wife of Dotte Foster’s grandson, Jonathon Hudson (leg amputation) and wife Julie, Tim & Jackie Rosche (Jackie has dementia), Tina Smith, Wayne Spencer, Al & Louise Whealton, Mary & Don Wiggett, Sue Williams

Stroke: Bob Chapin, Vickie Charlton, Bonnie Cochran, Jordan McCoy

Pregnancy: Eliza Kerr (December)

Anticipating Surgery: *Stephanie Turner to have 4th arm surgery at Duke on 12/3*

Unspoken: *Amy Bishop*

Recuperating from Surgery at Home:
Brian Porter’s mom, broke hip 2nd time.

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

Additional Prayers: for the Johnson Family, for our Nation.

Praises: Wayne Bishop is declared cancer free!

Grieving: Family of Andy Porter

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!

Congratulations to our newly trained acolytes:
Edgar Kersey, Owen Kersey, Isaiah Mallory, and Rose Mallory

Thank you for joining our acolyte team and serving in this important role for our worship services!

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, rm. 208, 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 (Hospice called in)
- 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

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
We need to move a bookcase with glass doors from the 3rd floor down to the new Archives Room. This will probably require 3 or 4 volunteers, 2 dollies, and a few minutes after a November church service. Please leave your name and the best Sunday for you with the church office.
~ Joe Cox

CURRENT MISSIONS

Spread the Warmth! St. Paul Coat Drive
Winter is around the corner and there are children in our community who need our help. We are collecting winter new and gently used coats for children (all sizes) until **Sunday, December 7**. 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.

Next Sunday’s Communion Offering will go to MCEAP.

- Hosting To Our House (TOH) – November 29th through December 13th**
Update:
- **Dinners:** We have the dinners for the first week provided. Thank you!!
 - **Financial support needed:** For our second week. We need about \$500 to provide breakfast and lunch for all the guests from 12/6-12/12. Please put donations of cash, checks, or gift cards into the offering plate or drop off/mail them to the Church office. Clearly mark your check or envelope with "TOH" and it will be gathered together and presented to the TOH program.
 - **Gift bags** for the guests: pending
 - **Medical screening:** being arranged, needs not identified yet
 - **Move in/out** & church contacts for TOH staff: Will coordinate with UMM
~ Tom Bell, UMM President, tom72bell@aol.com

U the Steward: Stewardship 2026
Look for a mailing in December.