



The Senior Pastor's Letter

Let the Wise Listen

Proverbs 1:5 ESV declares, "Let the wise hear and increase in learning, and the one who understands obtain guidance."

This verse, in the opening chapter of the book of Proverbs, captures a timeless call to humility, growth, and discernment. This call resonates deeply — not only as a spiritual imperative but as a cultural and theological anchor. Its emphasis on listening, learning, and seeking guidance aligns with our legacy of resilience, liberation, and communal wisdom.

Our Wesleyan roots emphasize a theology of grace — prevenient, justifying, and sanctifying. We encourage one another to grow in holiness through a lifelong process of discipleship. Proverbs 1:5 mirrors this journey: the wise are not static in their knowledge but are called to "increase in learning." Wisdom is not merely intellectual but spiritual — formed through Scripture, tradition, reason, and experience. This verse becomes a mandate for us to remain teachable, open to God's ongoing revelation, and committed to spiritual maturity.

Our denomination's emphasis on connectionalism — our belief in the interdependence of congregations — also finds resonance in Proverbs 1:5. The pursuit of wisdom and guidance is not a solitary endeavor but a communal one. When we love one another, when we grow in wisdom together, we're stronger together. In small groups and Bible studies, we are encouraged to listen to one another, share insights, and hold each other accountable. This communal pursuit of understanding reflects the Proverbs 1:5 dual emphasis on hearing and growing.

This verse takes on additional layers of meaning. Historically, the church has been a sanctuary of wisdom — a place where enslaved and oppressed people gathered not only to worship but to strategize, educate, and survive. The act of listening — whether to elders, preachers, or the Spirit — was often a matter of life and death. In this context, "let the wise hear" becomes a call to attentiveness in the face of injustice, a reminder that wisdom is forged in struggle. In the brokenness of our world, the struggle is real.

Proverbs 1:5 also aligns with the themes of liberation theology, which have shaped much of our shared theological reflection. The verse's call to seek guidance is not passive; it is an active pursuit of justice, truth, and transformation.

Continued on next page....

Inside

- 2 Contact Us
- 2 Office Hours
- 2 Welcoming Statement
- 2 Scam Season
- 3 Thoughts from Pastor Joey
- 3 Still Wednesday
- 4 Sympathy
- 4 All Saints Recognition
- 4 Send a Card or Note
- 4 Thank You, Thank You
- 5 Lectionary & Worship Schedule
- 5 Music Sunday Invitation
- 5 UMC Student Sunday
- 6 Lay Leader Reflections
- 6 Stronger Together in Stewardship Season
- 7 Community Thanksgiving Worship
- 7 Craft Fair
- 7 Bible & Brews
- 8 SPY Schedule
- 8 Sermon Safari
- 8 Sunday School
- 9 Hunger Ministry
- 9 Stamps for the Wounded
- 9 Music Ministries
- 10 Pancakes!
- 10 Taste & Sing
- 10 Lydia Circle
- 10 Lay Readers
- 10 Yarn Ministry
- 11 Prayerwaves
- 11 Sipping Ministry
- 11 Stephen Ministers
- 11 Welcome Team
- 11 Cards & Care
- 11 SAM Leadership

The Senior Pastor's Letter

...Continued from front page.

In the face of systemic racism, economic inequality, and social marginalization, we turn to Scripture for direction. Proverbs 1:5 becomes a rallying cry: to listen to the cries of the oppressed, to learn from history, and to seek divine guidance for the work of liberation.

This theological orientation is evident in the ministries of many of our congregations today. Whether through social justice initiatives, educational programs, or prophetic preaching, our churches embody the wisdom of Proverbs 1:5. They teach that understanding is not merely cognitive but ethical — that to “obtain guidance” is to discern how to act justly, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

Proverbs 1:5 is more than a proverb — it is a way of life. It calls us to humility, to the discipline of listening, and to the courage of seeking guidance. It affirms that wisdom is not the possession of the elite but the inheritance of those who are willing to learn, even in the midst of suffering. This verse affirms a legacy of faith that listens, learns, and leads with holy wisdom.

Peace,
Pastor Sheridan

Welcoming Statement



We, the community of St. Paul's United Methodist Church, Kensington, welcome you in love. Jesus Christ accepts all, excluding none. So we welcome and affirm you who are gay, straight, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or queer. We welcome you without regard to your sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, national origin, culture, race, ethnicity, ability, education, or age. We welcome you no matter your immigration, marital, or economic status. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, we welcome and affirm you as one of God's children into our community of God's unbounded love. All are celebrated here and all are safe.

Scam Season



Scammers will use public information (like the pastor's name) to create fake email addresses and pose as church leaders, asking for money or gift cards. This is an especially popular scam at Christmas time!

Contributions should only be made through stpaulsk.org/giving or sent to the church's physical address at 10401 Armory Avenue, Kensington MD, 20895.

Contact Us

SENIOR PASTOR

Rev. Sheridan Allmond
sallmond@stpaulsk.org
301-933-7933 ext. 101

ASSOCIATE PASTOR

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason
joeyhm@stpaulsk.org
301-933-7933 ext. 103

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC

Mr. N. Thomas Pedersen
tpedersen@stpaulsk.org

ORGANIST

Mr. Marvin Mills
mmills@stpaulsk.org

DIRECTOR OF COMMUNICATIONS & ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Erin Bone Steele
stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org
301-933-7933 ext. 100

FACILITIES MANAGER & BOOKKEEPER

Ms. Tracey Furman
tfurman@stpaulsk.org
301-933-7933 ext. 106

Visit us online at
[stpaulsk.org/community/
meet-the-staff](http://stpaulsk.org/community/meet-the-staff)

Office Hours

Drop-in and Telephone Hours
Monday - Thursday
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

To meet with specific clergy or staff, or for access to the building outside these hours, please make an appointment. Individual availability varies!

Please note: St. Paul's is closed on federal holidays.

Thoughts from Pastor Joey

As we move through the month of November, Pastor Sheridan and I are inviting the congregation into a season of focused prayer as we mark the end of the Christian year, which concludes on November 23, 2025 with Christ the King Sunday.

This past year has brought with it many burdens, injustices, and sorrows. These are realities that call us into prayer and into deeper hope for the coming reign of Christ. It feels both timely and faithful to end the year praying for the breaking of all forms of oppression.

Scripture gives voice to this hope. The prophet Isaiah declares, "Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the straps of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke?" (Isaiah 58:6). This reminds us that we are more than passive observers. We are called to join with God in the work of justice and liberation. The chains we build throughout this month represent the very injustices and burdens that God longs to break.

This vision of faithful action invites us to bring the injustices of our world before God—not just in thought, but in tangible, prayerful ways.

Each Sunday in November, slips of paper will be available in the Narthex or the Octagon for you to write down an example of oppression that weighs on your heart. These slips will be linked together to form paper chains that will grow throughout the month, symbolizing the weight and reality of the brokenness in our world.

Then, on Christ the King Sunday, as we proclaim the good news that Christ reigns over all powers and principalities, we will break the chains together, offering our prayers to God and embodying our hope that Christ will ultimately triumph over every form of evil and oppression.

We hope you'll join us in this prayerful practice as we journey toward the hope of Christ's reign.



Still Wednesday

Looking for some calm and stillness in your life, a deeper connection to God and community? Come check out Still Wednesday at 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary or Octagon each week. Light a candle and listen to a variety of prayer forms and themes. Each week is a bit different but there is usually 20 minutes of silent prayer. Bring a journal if you have one (or we can provide it). That's all you need, plus an open heart to listen and be receptive to the Holy Spirit. All are welcome!



Annunciation

by Marie Howe

Listen

Even if I don't see it again—nor ever feel it
I know it is—and that if once it hailed me
it ever does—

And so it is myself I want to turn in that
direction

not as towards a place, but it was a tilting
within myself,

as one turns a mirror to flash the light to
where

it isn't—I was blinded like that—and swam
in what shone at me

only able to endure it by being no one and so
specifically myself I thought I'd die
from being loved like that.

Sympathy

The St. Paul's community offers our deepest sympathies for those who have lost loved ones.



Erin Bone Steele and family
following the death of her father
William T. "Tom" Bone III

Pat & Steve Warren
following the death of Pat's brother
Homer "Pnut" Burdick

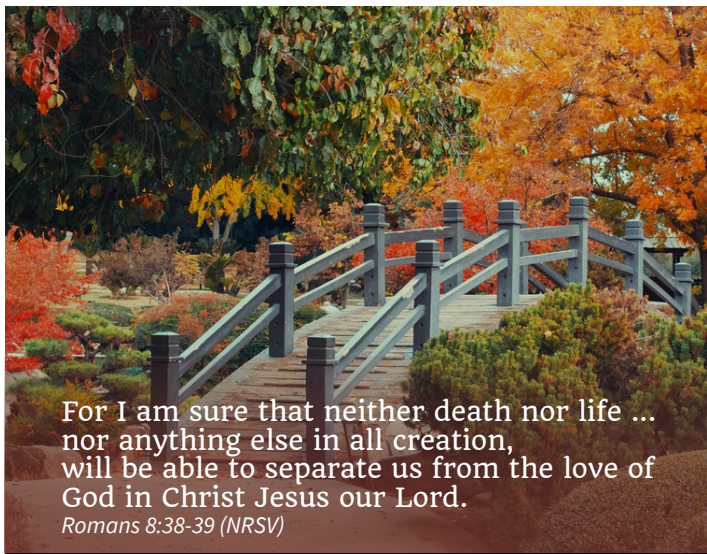
All Saints Sunday

As part of the All Saints Sunday worship service on November 2, 2025, we lift up the names of those members who died in the past calendar year:

Bill Butz
Melinda Fox Proctor
Susie Propes
Larry D. Shinn
Byron Zeigler

As is our custom, the names of loved ones who passed away during the previous year are also printed in the special Memorial Bulletin.

The *PDF version is available at stpaulsk.org/worship/memorials and paper copies can be mailed upon request.



For I am sure that neither death nor life ...
nor anything else in all creation,
will be able to separate us from the love of
God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Romans 8:38-39 (NRSV)

Send a Card or Note

The following St. Paul's members are currently limited in their abilities to participate in the life of the church in-person, and appreciate your thoughts and expressions of care.

Mrs. Mabel Baker
3616 Littledale Rd
Apt 302B
Kensington MD 20895

Dr. Jo Campa
301 Russell Ave
Wilson Building, #219
Gaithersburg MD 20877

Mrs. Mary Lou DeHaven
900 N. Taylor St.
Apt. 421 West Tower
Arlington, VA 22201

Mrs. Dorothea Depenbrock
6602 Greyswood Road
Larmax Home
North Bethesda MD 20817

Mrs. Carol MacIntyre
2100 Merrifields Dr.
Silver Spring MD 20906

Mrs. Marybelle Waldroff
9901 Capitol View Ave
Silver Spring MD 20910



Thank You, Thank You

Dear Brothers and Sisters from St. Paul's,

Thank you for your help with the food and the gift card you give to us every month. The Christmas gift we receive as a gift card is always so generous and allows me to prepare a gift for my great-grandchild. It is deeply appreciated and I happily accept. God bless all of you.

Sincerely,
Juana Vasquez

Dear St. Paul's,

Thank you for your generous gifts during the "Big Dreams Start with a Full Backpack" campaign. Your kindness and commitment helped bring us closer to our goal of helping 6,000 students in our community go back to school with backpacks filled with age-appropriate supplies. Your contribution helped ease the financial pressures many families experience during the back-to-school season. Most importantly, it helped equip children with the tools they need to learn and thrive. We are deeply grateful for your partnership.

Sincerely,
Allenteena Bernard, Interfaith Works

Lectionary & Worship Schedule

Sunday, November 2 - All Saints Sunday

9:00 AM Worship with Communion

10:30 AM Worship with Communion & Sanctuary Choir

Scripture - 2 Thessalonians 1:1-4, 11-12

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, preaching

Sunday, November 9

9:00 AM Worship with Communion

10:30 AM Worship with Sanctuary Choir

Scripture - Luke 20:27-38

Rev. Sheridan Allmond, preaching

Sunday, November 16

9:00 AM Worship with Communion

10:30 AM Worship with Sanctuary Choir

Scripture - Isaiah 65:17-25

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, preaching

Sunday, November 23

9:00 AM Worship with Communion

10:30 AM Worship with Sanctuary Choir

Scripture - Colossians 1:11-20

Rev. Sheridan Allmond, preaching

Sunday, November 30 - First Sunday in Advent

Fifth Sunday, One Community (No 9:00 worship)

10:30 AM Worship with Sanctuary Choir

Scripture - Isaiah 2:1-5

Rev. Joey Heath-Mason, preaching

Worship Livestreaming Sundays, 10:30 AM

stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home

UMC Special Sunday: Student Day

United Methodist Student Day emphasizes the value of education. Every dollar collected through this special offering goes directly to UMC scholarships for undergraduates or graduate students. Recognizing education as a key investment in the church's future, the initiative began as a Children's Fund in 1872 and was renamed Student Day in 1940. Student Day has long been celebrated on the last Sunday of November, when many students in the U.S. are home for Thanksgiving. You can give to this connectional offering using special envelopes on November 30 or at stpaulsk.org/giving.



Looking Ahead: Music Sunday

A Note from Tom Pedersen

Advent is a time of preparation and hope, celebrating the extraordinary gift of Jesus Christ, the Son of God and Son of Man. On Sunday, December 7, at 10:30 AM, the Music Department will come together with soloists, orchestra, choir, and congregation to worship as a community, preparing the way of the Lord.

During this service, Christina Griffin, the director of our children's choir, will be the featured soprano soloist for Marvin Mills's beautiful arrangement of *Rise, Shepherds, and Follow*, which is scored for strings, woodwinds, horn, and organ. Marvin's setting serves as a powerful call for us to rise and follow the star to Bethlehem. The lyrics repeatedly urge the shepherds to leave their herds and follow the star — a wonderful sentiment for this season.

We will also hear an exceptional setting of *The Magnificat* by composer Taylor Scott Davis. His setting, which includes a verse in English in a modern voice, will be sung by Soprano Anna Phillips Brown. Anna will be joined by the Sanctuary Choir, strings, winds, harp, and percussion. The text of the Magnificat highlights God's mercy, strength, and justice — lifting the lowly, filling the hungry with good things, and sending the rich away empty. It also emphasizes God's faithfulness to the promises made to Abraham and his descendants forever — powerful words for this Advent Season.

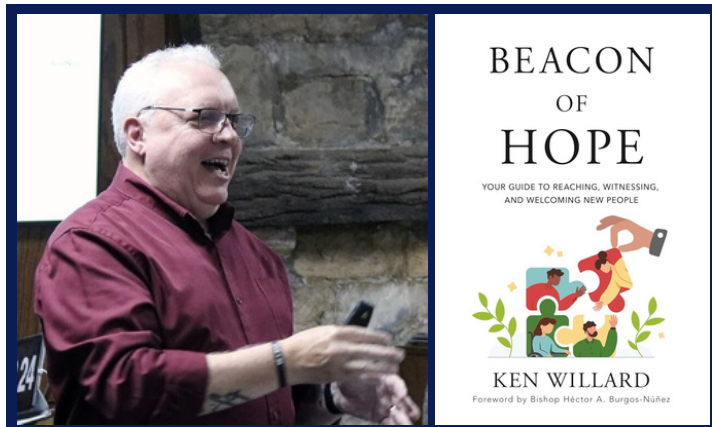
In the composer's own words: "The Magnificat text is rich and historic, and although it seems to be an unwritten rule, each composer gets one opportunity to express what the text means to them. Is it possible to capture the transformation of Mary from a typical teenage girl to God's chosen one? Can five movements effectively convey the range of emotions this story evokes? What elements help in narrating the story, and which may come off as overly dramatic?"

I encourage you to join us for Advent Music Sunday! Bring friends, share the hope of the Shepherds, the voice of Mary, and the good news that Jesus will be among us once again this Christmas morning.

Lay Leader Reflections

From Anne Dean, Lay Leader

In October, a few of us joined “Reaching and Welcoming New People,” a BWC Training Tuesday with Ken Willard, Director of Faith Communities ReNEWal for the West Virginia Conference of the UMC and author of “Beacon of Hope: Your Guide to Reaching, Witnessing, and Welcoming New People.” Ken talked about how we can embody the love of Christ in ways that are authentic, intentional, and transformative. There were four points that stuck with me:



1. *A Guest vs. A Visitor.* This really blew up the chat! A guest you are prepared to receive, a visitor is random. What if instead of readying for visitors, we readied for guests? There's always a seat for a guest!
2. *Helping people know what to do* in all aspects (think building signage, bulletins, website, the works). Ken recommended looking at our website and physical plant once a year with “first timers eyes” to make sure people know how to find us. He also talked about looking at ways to make space ADA accessible wherever possible.
3. *Introducing ourselves* - this one is harder for me but also one SAM (St. Paul's administrative leadership council) recently talked about. When I see new-to-me faces, I assume others have been going to St. Paul's longer than I have been, and I do not proactively introduce myself as a result. Let's all push past worries and say hi to all the new faces!
4. *Engaging with the community* - Ken told a story about one church who did a prayer walk through their rural community, which led to a dinner with neighbors, who were all farmers and brought a literal farm-to-table meal to share. What would it look like for us at St. Paul's to do a neighborhood prayer walk?

Stronger Together

As our 40 Days of Prayer in Stewardship Season continues, we are hearing powerful stories of how God has worked through our St. Paul's community over the years. Each one reminds us that we are, indeed, Stronger Together. One member shared a memory from more than 30 years ago:

“In 1991, my husband lost his job unexpectedly. We had three young sons, and he was out of work for more than two years. Our friends at St. Paul's supported us with prayers, calls, cards, and financial help. We could not have made it through that difficult time without the love of the kind people of St. Paul's. We will never forget it.”

While this story took place decades ago, it reflects something that is still true today. Again and again, we see the people of St. Paul's showing up for one another — in times of need, in seasons of joy, and in the daily work of faith and service. That's what it means to be Stronger Together.

As we approach the final weeks of our stewardship campaign, we give thanks for all the ways your generosity continues to strengthen this church's ministry — from feeding neighbors through our Hunger Ministry, to nurturing youth through SPY, to caring for one another through Stephen Ministry and prayer.

Please remember that pledge forms will be received **Sunday, November 16**. Thank you for the many ways you give of yourself — through your prayers, your presence, and your generosity. Together, we are living proof that St. Paul's is Stronger Together. Our goal this year is \$450,000 in pledges, representing a small but meaningful increase over last year. Your pledge helps St. Paul's plan faithfully for the year ahead, ensuring that we can continue to feed bodies, minds, and spirits in the year to come. Through your prayers, your giving, and your stories, you remind us every day that we are Stronger Together.



Thanksgiving Worship with our Neighbors

*Tuesday, November 25
7:30 PM*

North Chevy Chase Christian Church (8814 Kensington Parkway, Chevy Chase MD, 20815) is excited to be hosting the Annual Interfaith Thanksgiving Service for the Kensington & Chevy Chase areas. Come together with neighbors and friends for this warm, welcoming worship service celebrating the spirit of Thanksgiving with neighbors from a variety of faith traditions and local congregations.



Craft Fair

November 9 & 16

The annual fall fundraising craft fair supported by St. Paul's Yarn Ministry will be held on November 9 and 16, 2025 in the Narthex. Come do some early holiday shopping! All items are new and handmade by friends of St. Paul's.



We will have a variety of handmade items ranging from canned jams, marmalade, chutney, snacks, food mixes, holiday decorations, sewn bags, knitted and crochet items, and much more! Make a list now so you don't forget to shop for family, teachers, co-workers, neighbors, friends and especially anyone who would welcome a token of kindness this season. All proceeds from the 2025 Craft Fair sale will be used to support local homeless facilities.

Bible & Brews

Saturday, November 15, 5:00-6:00 PM



All are welcome at this monthly gathering for interfaith conversations with Pastor Joey, Rabbi Adam, and friends from Temple Emanuel. All our meetings are family friendly and take place at a local Kensington watering hole with food and beverages that you can purchase as you like. We rotate locations depending on the weather and other special events in the area. (BabyCat, Stella Point Grille, and Knowles Station Wine & Co. have appeared as regular choices this year!)

Want to know more? Reach out to Pastor Joey at joeyhm@stpaulsk.org.

SPY Schedule



SPY Meeting Schedule for 2025 (subject to change)

- Nov. 2: regular meeting
- Nov. 9: regular meeting
- Nov. 16: regular meeting
- Nov. 23: regular meeting
- Nov. 30: NO SPY (Thanksgiving weekend)
- Dec. 7: regular meeting
- Dec. 14: Field Trip! Winter Garden of Lights at Brookside Gardens
- Dec. 21: NO SPY (Christmas Break)
- Dec. 28: NO SPY (Christmas Break)

SPY (St. Paul's Youth) is a welcoming space where middle and high schoolers can grow in faith, build lasting friendships, and feel at home in our church community. We meet most Sunday evenings, 7:00-8:30 PM in the church's Multipurpose Room for pizza, games, and Bible study. Parents of kids in grades 6-12, reach out to Pastor Sheridan so your youth can get involved and you can receive the weekly email re-cap from our volunteer SPY leaders about SPY lessons and activities! Visit stpaulsk.org/community/youth for more!



Zoom Sermon Safari

Wednesdays, 4:00-5:00 PM by Zoom

In this come-when-you-can, drop-in Zoom-based study, participants watch a video of a sermon and then discuss it together. Some of our sessions have featured sermons from such notable speakers as Diana Butler Bass, Senator Rev. Raphael Warnock, and Mariann Budde, Bishop of the National Cathedral. For more information or to receive the Zoom link, contact Dr. Meg Baker at megbaker@verizon.net.

Sunday School News

Sunday School classes continue to meet this fall on most Sundays at 10:30. Grades K-2 meet in Room 200 and Grades 3-5 meet in the Parlor. Children in Pre-K and younger gather in the Nursery. Parents and guardians should drop off at the classroom and pick up at the classroom immediately after worship. Please find the online registration and emergency contact form for Sunday School students at stpaulsk.org/community/children.

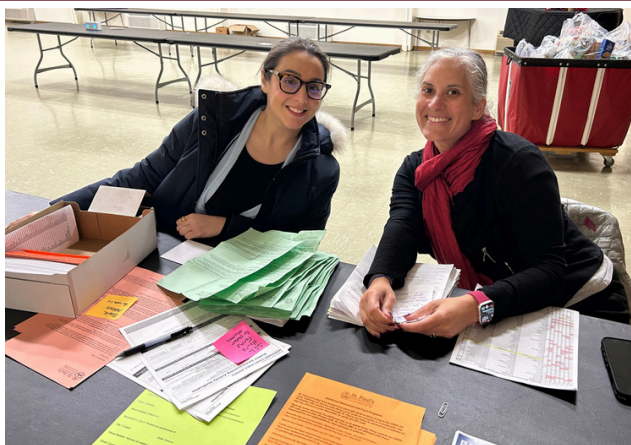
Please note that children attend worship with their families on the first Sunday of each month as well as on the fifth Sunday, if applicable, so no Sunday School classes will be held on Nov. 2, Nov. 30, or Dec. 7.

We are especially short of helpers this fall! Parents of children in grades K-5 are encouraged to volunteer to help with Sunday School so we can keep the program going. For more information, please contact coordinator Meg Baker at sundayschool@stpaulsk.org.



*Photos: Above: Anne Dean leads grades K-2.
Below: Pat & Lesley Maloney guide the lesson for grades 3-5.*

Hunger Ministry for Times Like These



From left to right: Volunteers organize packed grocery bags while recipients enjoy warm coffee and tea around the tables; managing the check-in desk; distributing breads and takeaway dinners from our partners at Campus Kitchens.

As predicted, government-backed safety-net food programs are under pressure and we have seen an uptick in individuals seeking food assistance. While we are fortunate to be able to make some bulk food purchases through partners at the Capitol Area Food Bank, your donations that help us overcome supply-chain issues while we feed over 150 households each month. We continue a “fall focus” on **hearty soups** (in cans or boxes) and **cooking oil** (approx 48 oz. bottle). We always have a need for **protein sources** like canned tuna and peanut butter. The full list of monthly essentials is below! Financial donations help us provide families with a grocery store gift card, so they can purchase fresh or frozen produce, dairy, or meat, or personal hygiene products. You can make a secure financial contribution toward bulk food orders and grocery cards at stpaulsk.org/giving.

- **peanut butter**
- **canned tuna or salmon**
- **canned chicken**
- **canned vegetables**
- **canned fruit or applesauce**
- **cooking oil**
- **boxed milk or oat milk**
- **cold cereal**
- **instant oatmeal**
- **soup**
- **rice**
- **beans**
- **pasta**
- **pasta sauce (plastic jars)**

PLEASE - & - THANK - YOU

- **NO dirty or damaged containers**
- **NO items beyond their “best by” or “sell by” dates.**
- **NO glass. Glass breaks and creates a hazard (and a mess!) for volunteers and recipients.**

Interested in volunteering? Reach out to our volunteer coordinator Mr. Pat Maloney at hunger@stpaulsk.org.

Stamps for the Wounded



St. Paul's invites your donations of stamps and stamp-collecting materials! Ginny Hagberg and the Maryland Family & Community Education/Homemakers Association will take stamps to Stamps for the Wounded, a program serving disabled veterans. Stamp collecting offers therapeutic benefits for veterans recovering in hospitals or at home. Please donate: used stamps (do not remove from the envelope paper), mint stamps & sheets, stamp albums or other philatelic supplies, stamp catalogs less than 5 years old. Please find the donation box in the church office.

Music Ministry at St. Paul's

Our Music Ministry is an important part of the worship experience at St. Paul's, and we have a place for everyone, from experienced musicians to those interested in learning something new! Contact Tom Pedersen, Director of Music, at tpedersen@stpaulsk.org. **Sanctuary Choir** meets Sundays, 9:30 AM. Open to adults and youth grades 7 and up. Meet at 9:30 AM on Sundays in room 211 and sing for the 10:30 AM worship service. Singers are welcome on a week-to-week or continuing basis. **Joyful Ringers** meet Wednesdays, 7:00-8:00 PM. A handbell choir for adults that promises fun and fellowship. We are excited to welcome new ringers!

Pancakes!



Saturday, November 1 and December 6

Enjoy breakfast at the all-you-care-to-eat Pancake Breakfast! From September through June, the United Methodist Men and volunteers serve delicious pancakes, scrambled eggs, sage sausage, grits, fruit, and beverages, plus seasonal specialties, on the first Saturday of the month! Invite your friends and neighbors to join us in the Fellowship Hall. Serving hours are 8:00 to 10:30 AM. Diners are asked to make a generous donation at the door. Proceeds benefit local charities and causes at St. Paul's.

Taste & Sing

*Tuesday
November 18
12:00-1:30 PM
Octagon Room*



Come enjoy a casual time of food and song! We start by singing through some hymns from the UM Hymnal - feel free to request your favorites! No musical expertise necessary! Tom Pedersen, director of music, will be at the piano. Then Erin Steele will guide us through a short program about a composer, lyricist, or theme, offering a deeper dive into the stories behind some of our worship songs. Our time together culminates with fellowship over a tasty lunch prepared by Ginny Hagberg. (\$5 donation)

Lydia Circle



Lydia Circle sisters gather in the Octagon once a month for fellowship, service projects, and refreshments, usually on the first Wednesday of the month, 2:30-4:00 PM. All women interested in participating are welcome. Because schedules can change, please contact Susan Schwarz at susan10748@aol.com or 301-339-8242 so you have the latest information about meetings.

Lay Readers Wanted



We're looking for lay readers! These volunteers lead the Call to Worship and Opening Prayer and read the Scripture in worship. On Communion Sunday, these people also assist the pastors by holding the communion cup. There's even time to prepare ahead; Lay Readers receive a copy of the bulletin no later than the Friday before they serve. To read at the 9:00 AM worship service, please sign up at <http://tinyurl.com/42v2k5em>. If you are interested in the 10:30 AM Lay Reader opportunities, or if you have questions, please contact our Lay Reader coordinator Marge Higgins at higginsmarge@gmail.com.

Yarn Ministry

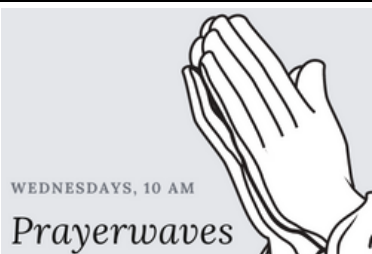


Mondays, November 10 & 24, 7:00-8:30 PM

Bring your crochet, knit, or other project and craft alongside friends. St. Paul's Yarn Ministry is busy this month sponsoring the craft fair in November, with all proceeds going to great charitable causes. In the past, Yarn Ministry members are also regularly involved in ministries providing warm knitted or crafted hats, scarves, or mittens for shelters or other disadvantaged people in the winter months. Consider joining us!

Ways to Be Involved

Many groups meet regularly during the year, and there are many ways to get involved with ministries, outreach, and hospitality at St. Paul's. Here are some of the groups inviting you to join in ministry and fellowship.



Wednesdays at 10:00 AM

Prayerwaves meets each week by phone. We take turns lifting up the needs of the church, community, and the world. On Wednesday, dial 425-436-6326 a few minutes before 10:00 AM. Enter access code 774042 followed by the # sign. If you would like to receive the prayer list by email, please contact Erin Steele in the church office at stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org.



This time for fellowship with drinks and snacks after worship occurs whenever a family, class, or groups offers to host. You might serve the ever-popular coffee and cookies... or it might be lemonade and cheese crackers, tea and tarts, cider and donuts, cocoa and candy canes... you decide! To host, simply add your name or group to the chart on the office bulletin board and take an instructions sheet (also available for download at stpaulsk.org/community/calendar-events).



Would life feel better right now if you had someone to listen to your worries and cares? Stephen Ministers are there for you! Stephen Ministers have received special training to provide one-on-one Christian care to those who are experiencing challenging life events. To learn how you or someone you know can receive care – or how to become a Stephen Minister – contact Martha Lipscomb, Stephen Leader, at mmlipscomb@verizon.net or 301-518-1642.

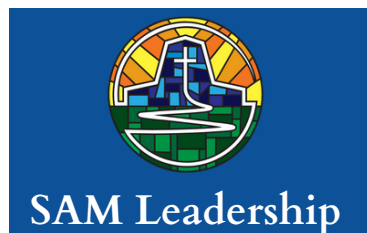


Few things better demonstrate our hospitality than making sure all of our members and friends receive a warm welcome upon arrival at church, and that new Sunday morning visitors can get some simple questions answered! Please consider participating in St. Paul's Welcome Ministry. We are always looking for volunteers to cover the welcome table by the Sanctuary doors and guide people as they enter for worship. Families are invited to volunteer together!



St. Paul's makes every effort to reach out to those who are experiencing times of sickness, grief, change, or celebration by providing greeting cards each week. On typical Sundays, anyone can stop by the Welcome Desk to pick up a pre-addressed, pre-stamped card. You can write a personal note or simply sign the card and drop it in the mail. We know card recipients are truly thankful for the notes that come their way.

Want to send your own card later, or spend some time in prayer for our members and friends? Pick up a Congregational Care list at the welcome desk on Sunday mornings. Please note that the Congregational Care list is not exhaustive. For privacy reasons, St. Paul's only shares information if given permission to do so by the person(s) involved or an immediate family member. If you have information to share please contact Erin Steele in the church office at stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org.



Church leaders at St. Paul's serve in a unified board known as the Simplified Accountability Model, or SAM. The SAM umbrella covers Ministry, Strategy, Accountability, and Leadership to guide such things as the church mission and ministry focus, finances, and personnel. SAM meets by Zoom and all meetings are open to the public. Contact chairperson Rachel Stalcup (rachelstalcup@gmail.com) for the meeting schedule and the Zoom link, or if you have questions.



St. Paul's

United Methodist Church

10401 Armory Avenue
Kensington, MD 20895

stpaulsk.org | 301-933-7933

Worship with St. Paul's

Worship in the Sanctuary

Sundays, November 2, 9, 16, 23

9:00 AM • Worship with Weekly Communion

10:30 AM • Worship with Sanctuary Choir

November 30 • 10:30 AM only for Fifth Sunday, One Community worship

Worship-at-Home

Livestreaming every Sunday at 10:30 AM

stpaulsk.org/worship/worship-at-home

November 2025

Epistle Options

Email (color) or Mail (black & white):

Email stpaulsunited@stpaulsk.org
to be added to the distribution list

Download (color)

stpaulsk.org/community/epistle-weekly-news