

THE EPISTLE



July—a month of transitions

Greetings to each of you! Merle and I are excited to begin a new season of ministry with you at St. Paul UMC, Saluda. I have heard many favorable comments about this congregation and community as people have become aware of my new appointment here. It seems there is a strong foundation in place here for us to build upon as we move forward into God's plans for this church in this community. Please help me and Merle become familiar with our new surroundings by sharing your stories, your hopes, and your concerns for this community and our ministry together. We ask for your patience as we learn your names and your family connections.

As we begin the month of July, I am reminded of the many transitions that occur in this month. It is a time of celebrating your ministry with one pastor and of preparing for future ministry with a new one. It is a time of moving farther away from one school year and closer to the next. July is a time when our schedules and routines often change, knowing that the "new normal" we will soon resume may differ somewhat from the "old normal" of this past year.

At the recent gathering of the South Carolina Annual Conference, Rev. Susan Leonard-Ray, the Anderson District Superintendent, reminded the body that the Christian Church, as a whole, is in a time of transition. Perhaps you have noticed changes in attitudes and behaviors about church over the past couple of decades. Indeed, the Church is right in the middle of a transition that seems to occur about every 500 years, according to author Phyllis Tickle. If you look back in 500 hundred year increments, you will see the Protestant Reformation of 1517, the Great East-West Schism of 1054, the fall of the Roman Empire around 590, and the birth of the Church 500 years before that. Currently, the Church is feeling the friction of another seismic shift as our modern institution seeks to serve in a post-modern world.

This brief history lesson is an attempt to say, "Fear not! We have been here before." Through each transition of culture and the Church, we have seen that the timeless message of the Gospel of Jesus Christ continues to transform lives and redeem our world. It is my prayer that together we will embrace this time of transition, and work in new and creative ways to find the "new normal" that communicates God's saving grace to a world in need.

In God's care,

Pastor Susan

Welcome Susan Maddox

Please join us for lunch in the Family Life Center on Sunday, July 2, immediately following the 10 A.M. worship service. We will welcome our new pastor, Rev. Susan Maddox, and have a pre-July 4th lunch of BBQ. Hope to see you there.

Attention College Students

The Nurture Committee wants to continue to remember our college students again this fall with cards and care packages! We know many of you may have new addresses with the new school year so if you are a college student or the parent of a college student please call the church office with your brand new address. We want to keep you close in our thoughts and prayers while you are away from us!

Jesus and Me

All ages of youth and children (except nursery) will meet in the Family Life Center for JAM on Sunday mornings at 9 A.M until further notice.

Vacation Bible School



VBS will have a kick off and registration night on Sunday, July 30th. We will begin at 5:30. There will be supper and a waterslide.

Monday, July 31 and Tuesday, August 1 there will be supper beginning at 5:30 followed by classes. We will dismiss from the Family Life Center at 7:30 p.m. There will be something for everyone. All ages are encouraged to come and join the fun!

We will conclude VBS Wednesday, August 2 with a celebration. There will be supper and music that night but no classes.



Prayer List

Nursing Home: Dorothy Phillips, Ann Thompson, Billy Coleman, Clyde Wade, Kathleen Padgett, Allene Able

Shut Ins: Ruby Herlong, Linda Beber

Members: Rev. James Grigsby, Rose Eva Rankin, Peg Bolton, Grace Minick, Bill Perkins, Eileen Quattlebaum, Billy Higbee, Patsy Quattlebaum, Helen Humphries, Russell Altman

Friends and Family: Charlie Beber, Reba Bodie, Tyler Stegall, Russell Durst, Carol Snipes and her mother, Skylar Knight, Jessica Suggs, Andrea Stevens, Gloria Edwards, John Higgins, Michael Stevens, Harriett Ryan, Robert Metts, Mike Skinner, Stan Smith, Butch Bledsoe, Kayla Matthews, Chuck and Sandra Collard

Those Battling Cancer: Calvin Martin, Billy Wall, Sheryl Maffett, Pam Williams, Ron Depin, Annette Latham, Anthony Corley, Kathy Dodgen, Fred Parkman, Patty Coleman, Myra Bennett, Delores Lester, Stacy Irwin, Lucy Ackerman Higgins, Lee Ann Sample Riegar, Avie Sox, Cyndi Keats, Don Hancock, Harvey Sauls, Arnold Stone, Richard Eargle, Pee wee Bledsoe, Brenda Coleman, Chad Arant, Joye Hutto, Charles Taylor, Nancy Ann Coleman Wooten, Josh Enlow, Brad Coleman

Military: Chris Crouch, Chuck Bearon, Ryan Caulder, Robbie Grafton, Brandon Bryan, Shannon Corley, Parker Hite, Patrick Wilson, Matthew Rollins, Ben Walker

(Please call the Church office and let me know of any prayer concerns that need to be added or removed, so that together we can keep the church informed. Thank you, Jill)

Birthdays and Anniversaries

2-Scott Stevens

3-Brenda Turner

5-Lee Sawyer, M/M Griff Dorn

7-Jane Guy, Ashton Langford

8- Marinelle Riley

9-Susan Berry, Van Shealy

10-Ellen Rhodes, M/M Allen Wilson

12-Hunter Grigsby Herlong

13-Sheree Shealy, Jerry Rhodes

14-Lynn Anderson

16-Samuel Stevens, Connie Sample

17-Toni Smith, M/M Bill Perkins

19-Lee Pryor

21-Joyce Smith

22-D/M Ralph Riley, M/M Jack Griffith,
Rhonda Rankin, Donna Rankin

23-M/M Van Shealy

25-Alice Herlong Powe

27-Zack DeLoache, Linda Beber

28-M/M Frank Stover, Dicky McDaniel

29- Pam Horne, Bela Herlong, Jill Able,
Miranda Wertz

30-Keith Hendrix, M/M Bob Shealy

31-Rene Miller, M/M Ryan Martin

Thank You

Dear St. Paul Church Family,
Thank you for all the cards, calls, texts, and acts of compassion, but most of all thank you for your prayers for me and my family during this time. It is a comfort to have such a loving and God-filled church family for support during times of need. We are humbled and blessed.

Love,
Russell Altman & family

St. Paul UMC,
Thank you so much for the book and the breakfast. I appreciate all the love, support, and prayers throughout the years. It is nice to know my church family is always there for me.

Love,
Rebekah

St. Paul United Methodist Church

102 E. Butler Ave
Saluda, SC 29138

Phone: 864-445-2232
E-mail: stpaulsaluda@embargo.com

VBS REGISTRATION FORM



Name_____

Sex M F Birth Date_____ Grade_____ Age_____

Allergies_____

Household/Adult Primary Contact

Relationship to Participants: Self Mother Father Guardian Other

Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Phone_____