



The Spirit

Monthly Newsletter | St Paul United Methodist Church | January 2022

Rev. Emery Mason
580-618-2054

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Rev. Mason's email: rev.emerymason@gmail.com

Church Office
918-687-7571

"Do Some Hard Things"

The beginning of a new year is a time when many of us are evaluating how to plot our course forward in a good way. Even when it is not a new year, as T.S. Eliot said, "Every moment is a fresh beginning."

In my own reflections I have been mindful that "the path of least resistance" is not always the best path. It is easy to base choices on what will make us comfortable (or at least not too uncomfortable). Many of us like the way that "things have always been done" and are disinclined to entertain change. We are inclined to still be mad at whomever we have been mad at. Thinking new thoughts might strain our brain, so it's much easier to assume that our own previous thoughts have always been correct. Getting "stretched" might be unpleasant so we want none of that. Doing a "big thing" often looks like an "impossible thing."

God invites us to a better world. Part of the calling is to be participants in creating it. Answering that call does not happen without choices and willingness to do hard things. There may be days when circumstances or emotions make it difficult to even get out of bed. In the words of Ann Voskamp, "Brilliant doesn't matter, if you can't get out of bed."

Get started. What is God calling you to? What are the steps needed to get there? Walk the path, one step at a time.

Your Pastor,

Emery

TELL IT TO JESUS

1 Are you weary, are you heavyhearted?
Tell it to Jesus, Tell it to Jesus;
Are you grieving over joys departed?
Tell it to Jesus alone.

Chorus:
Tell it to Jesus, tell it to Jesus,
He is a friend that's well known;
You've no other such a friend or brother,
Tell it to Jesus alone.



2 Do the tears flow down your cheeks unbidden?
Tell it to Jesus, Tell it to Jesus;
Have you sins that to men's eyes are hidden?
Tell it to Jesus alone. [Chorus]

3 Do you fear the gath'ring clouds of sorrow?
Tell it to Jesus, Tell it to Jesus;
Are you anxious what shall be tomorrow?
Tell it to Jesus alone. [Chorus]

4 Are you troubled at the thought of dying?
Tell it to Jesus, Tell it to Jesus;
For Christ's coming kingdom are you sighing?
Tell it to Jesus alone. [Chorus]

Meetings this month

BACKPACK Ministry

10:00 a.m. Wednesdays
January 12 & 26
meet in the Weight Room

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
5:30 PM THURSDAY, JANUARY 13



CARE MINISTRY MEETING
6:30 p.m. - Parlor
Thursday, Jan. 13

Finance Committee
5:30 PM
Thursday,
January 20



Different date!



CHURCH GROWTH COMMITTEE MEETING
6:30 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 27
Large Conf. Rm



Church Council Meeting
5:30 p.m. Mon., Jan. 24
Meet in Children's Chapel

Please pray for each of these committees as they meet together to guide and direct future endeavors at St. Paul UMC.

STAFF @ ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

918-687-7571

2130 W. Okmulgee, Muskogee, OK 74401

muskogeesaintpaul@gmail.com

Bishop of the Oklahoma Conference
Green Country District Superintendent

Jimmy Nunn
Terry Koehn

Pastor
Music Ministry
Nursery/Early Learning
Learning Tree Ministries
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Emery Mason
Ineta Bebb
Beth Dunn
Margaret Wagner
Lynnette Lewis
Joanne Nilsson
Barbara Kent

View our Worship Service on [Facebook](#) or [YouTube](#)

Project Transformation 2022



Applications for Site Supervisor for Project Transformation are now being accepted.

For more information or to apply, send resume & references to muskogeesaintpaul@gmail.com

Project Transformation is a community reading program for elementary aged children that operates during the months of June & July.

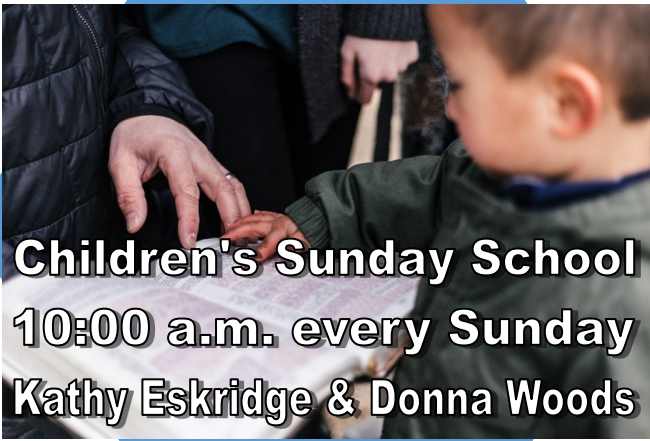
Qualifications: Bachelor's Degree preferred, experience & interest in working with elementary and college aged youth. Experience with reading remediation, preferably an elementary reading specialist. Excellent interpersonal and communication skills, strong problem-solving ability, efficient planning and organization skills, knowledge and awareness of community resources and organizations, cultural sensitivity and ability to work with diverse populations.

Looking for ways to "serve the Lord with gladness" in 2022?

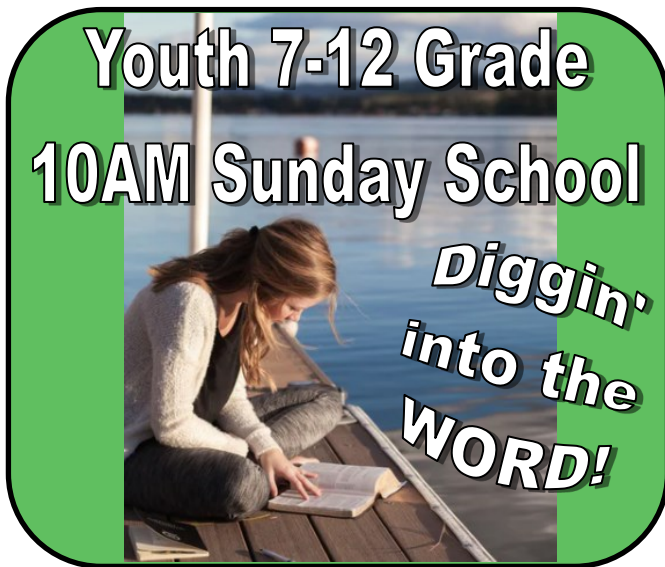
How about volunteering to open/close the church building on Sundays?
If we have enough helpers, we can create a schedule so that it's just once a month.



Contact Ineta at 918-869-7201



Children's Sunday School
10:00 a.m. every Sunday
Kathy Eskridge & Donna Woods



Wednesday Youth Group will resume on Wed., January 19.



St. Paul has a great resource FREE to you!

This **FREE** resource is just an email away! Email Joanne at the church office and she will send you a link to access **rightnow MEDIA**. The App can be downloaded onto your phone or tablet.

muskogeesaintpaul@gmail.com

Rehearsals 7PM - Wednesdays

CHANCEL CHOIR



10:00 a.m. Thursdays
Ladies Handbell
Choir Rehearsals

Kathryn Lathim College Scholarship



Church members who are college students may apply for the Kathryn Lathim Scholarship. Applications are in the church office, and are due back by Friday, January 28, 2022.



Learning Tree Preschool
Spring 2022 School Year

2 to 4 years old

9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Mon / Wed / Fri

Applications in the Atrium
or on the church website



SHARE YOUR FAMILY FUN!

It's been a hard year being so cautious with the pandemic. Let's show off what we have been doing and share pictures with each other. You can share them on our Facebook page or email pictures it to the church office. Let's encourage each other as best we can!

muskogeesaintpaul@gmail.com



Communion Service
Sunday, February 6

Communion elements may be picked up at the church office anytime Mon.-Fri. 9am-4pm for those staying "safer@home."

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1/01 Rick Clovis | 1/12 Cleon McClain |
| 1/03 Joe Foster | 1/14 Jean Gile |
| 1/03 Lillian VanHauen | 1/15 Chris Garrison |
| 1/05 Ed Gage | 1/15 Earl VanHauen |
| 1/05 Tracey Szabo | 1/16 Mark Goodspeed |
| 1/06 Ann Davis | 1/16 P.J. Rogers |
| 1/06 Jean Shuman | 1/16 Sue Vanderford |
| 1/06 Bonnie Dunkelberger | 1/16 Steven Wallis |
| 1/07 Mallie Dickman | 1/17 Shannon Evans |
| 1/07 Bhavani Indu | 1/20 Jetton Hodge |
| 1/07 Julie Roberts | 1/21 Lena Morris |
| 1/08 Raylie Clemens | 1/23 Cheryl Jackson-Nelson |
| 1/08 Michele Seymour | 1/23 Ben Robinson |
| 1/09 Sheena Underwood | 1/23 Bill Southwick |
| 1/11 Parris Boies | 1/27 Darren Magady |
| 1/11 Johnny Broome | 1/28 Abbie Hughes |
| 1/11 Toni Monroe | 1/28 Alex Wallace |
| 1/12 Eric Blackwood | 1/29 Zac Pittman |
| 1/12 Tyson Mather | 1/29 Katey Sherrick |
| | 1/30 Jo Gibbs |

Happy Anniversary

- | |
|------------------------------|
| 1/11 Ed & Pam Johnson |
| 1/14 Sam & Pennie Bennett |
| 1/26 Andrew & Cassie Bachman |
| 1/27 Martin & Ineta Bebb |
| 1/31 David & Krinna Hix |



All events/meetings must be scheduled through the church office 918-687-7571



Church Offices Closed on Monday, Jan. 17

SP PRAYER LIST

A memorial service for Lee Griffin will be held at St. Paul at 11:30 a.m. on Monday, January 10.

We lift up in prayer the family of Virginia Riede during this time of loss. The viewing will be held from 2-7 p.m. on Monday, January 10, at St. Paul. The funeral will be at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, January 11, at St. Paul.


- | | | | | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------------|
| Kristi Wilson-Harris | Bob Pruden | Mary Willhite | Jamie Hibbs | Raymond Sewell | Larry Christensen |
| John Ross Maloy | Barbara Fillman | Ellen Roberts | Anne Pringle | Donna Garrison | Phyllis Coplan |
| Greg Hoggard | Jim Payne | Dennis Bowersock | Pam Stevens | Barbara Parker | Elliott Miller |
| Tim Dunn | Pam Jestice | Wayne Calkin | Keith Hunt | Roy Berry | Charles Halliburton |
| Tamra Scherer | Fred Winters | Lisa Mason | Jim Wilcox | Linda Garrison | |

Nursing Home/Homebound: Fred Bliss, Edna Terpening, Susan Auten, Doreen Causon, Lavell Bailey, Frank Werntz, April Felts

Armed Forces: Vann Beard, Trenton Cox, Matthew Hamilton, Tyler Hinds, Col. Kimberly Howerton, Cale Hughes, Cpt. Ashley Lampe, Jeffrey Laughlin, Steven Mashburn, Devin Riede, Kaylin Riede

To add or update prayer requests please email Joanne at the church office: muskogeesaintpaul@gmail.com

JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2 COMMUNION SERVICE Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream 10:00 AM Sunday School	3	4	5	6 10:00 a.m. Ladies Handbell Choir Reh.	7 	8
9 Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream 10:00 AM Sunday School	10	11 10:00 a.m. UMW Meeting 5:30 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty	12 10:00 a.m. Backpack Ministry - Weight Rm 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	13 10:00 a.m. Ladies Handbell Choir Reh. 5:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting 6:30 p.m. Mtg Care Ministry	14	15
16 Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream 10:00 AM Sunday School	17 Martin Luther King Jr. Day CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED	18 5:30 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty	19 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	20 10:00 a.m. Ladies Handbell Choir Reh. 5:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting	21	22 10:00 a.m. Green Country District Leadership Training in Pryor
23 Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream 10:00 AM Sunday School	24 5:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting	25 5:30 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty	26 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	27 10:00 a.m. Ladies Handbell Choir Reh. 6:30 p.m. Church Growth Meeting	28	29
30 Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream 10:00 AM Sunday School	31	1  5:30 p.m. Bridges Out of Poverty	2 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	3 10:00 a.m. Ladies Handbell Choir Reh.	4	5

Weekly at St. Paul:

Sunday:

AM 9:00 Worship—Sanctuary
10:00 Sunday School for everyone!
11:00 Worship—Sanctuary

Monday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
9:00 Learning Tree Preschool
10:15 Staff Meeting

Tuesday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
PM 12:00 Al-Anon

Wednesday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
9:00 Learning Tree Preschool
PM 6:00 Youth Group
7:00 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Thursday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
10:00 Ladies Handbell Choir Rehearsal
PM 6:30 It's in the Book (AA) Women only
6:30 Good Shepherd Clinic

Friday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
9:00 Learning Tree Preschool

Saturday:

AM 9:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
PM 6:30 It's in the Book (AA) Women only

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS:

8:30 AM - 4:30 PM
Monday-Thursday
Friday 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

******IMPORTANT INFORMATION
SHORT DEADLINE******



Green Country District

Oklahoma Conference of
The United Methodist Church

**Saturday,
January 15**

What: Lay Servant Advanced Class Rediscovering Your Spiritual Gifts (Limit 25 students)

When: Saturday, January 15, from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Deadline for registering is Friday, Jan. 7, 2022

Where: in Claremore at the Vessel campus

Who: Rev. Ray Crawford is leading the course

Cost: \$25 covers the book and a light breakfast and lunch

The class is open to servants having completed the Lay Servant Basic course and who have not completed an advanced course in the past 3 years. All students must read the course book prior to class and be prepared discuss the material in class and small groups. The Gifts inventory will be completed and discussed in the latter part of the day. You will receive the book by mail or can pick up in the District Office. Please contact Richard Ryan at 580-305-5844 or the Green Country District Office @ 918-923-6199 or greencountrydistrict@okumc.org to register.

Richard Ryan, District Lay Servant Director

P-I-S-T-E-R

**Green Country
District Leadership
Training Event**

Saturday, Jan. 22, 2022

**10:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. @ Pryor FUMC
400 E. Graham, Pryor, OK 74361**

We are returning to offering basic training. Workshops will be offered for SPPRC, Trustees and Finance, with an opening workshop on Single Accountable Board Structure. New or returning leaders - all are welcome and encouraged to attend. More info @ Registration site.

Schedule:

9:30am	Check In
10am—11:30am	Single Accountable Board Structure Workshop for all churches currently using or those thinking about changing to this structure
11:45—12:45pm	Lunch with a Session on Lay Leadership
1:00—2:30pm	Individual Workshops SPPRC—Taught by Rev. Dr. Terry Koehn, D.S. TRUSTEES—Taught by Fred Sordhal, Atty at Law FINANCE— Taught by Brenda Scrivner, D.A.

Register @ <https://okumc.brtaapp.com/registrations/manage/25373>

T-R-A-I-N-I-N-G

St. Paul United Methodist Church
2130 West Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401

**Return Services Requested*



Sunday Volunteers

9:00 a.m. Ushers

- Jan. 2:** Virgil Rose, Ben Robinson
Jan. 9: Marilyn Gilder, Jo Gibbs
Jan. 16: Omar Reed
Jan. 23: Christina Booher, Oleta Smith
Jan. 30: Bob & Bonnie Dunkelberger

Greeters: 9:45 a.m.

- | | |
|-----------------|--------------------|
| Jan. 2: | Ray Griffin |
| Jan. 9: | Ted Hine |
| Jan. 16: | Judy Hoffman |
| Jan. 23: | Charlene Schoeppel |
| Jan. 30: | Virgil Rose |

10:45 a.m.

- | |
|--------------------|
| Ed/Pam Johnson |
| Charlene Schoeppel |
| Billie Flinn |
| Charlene Schoeppel |
| Holly Hughes |

11:00 a.m. Ushers

- Jan. 2:** Weldon Key, Ed Johnson, Robert Hall, Mike Pierceall, Ted Hine
Jan 9: Eric Elgin, Don Elgin, Calvin Moore, Roy Flinn, Michael Blakeslee
Jan 16: Johnny Broome, Bob Woods, Scott Hensley, Ron & Will Coplan
Jan. 23: Ron Wright, Todd Graybill, Bill Settle, John Griffin
Jan. 30: Tracey Szabo, Rachael Ritchie, Erin Goss

Sound Board:

Doug Hendricks, Don Anderson, Dennis Hendricks

St. Paul United Methodist Church records events & services. Attending events & services grants St. Paul permission to use your likeness in photograph, video, or other digital media ("photo") in any and all of its publications, including web-based publications, without payment or other consideration.

Altar Flowers:

To the Glory of God and in; honor/memory of. . .

- Jan. 2:** Weldon & Barbara Key, in memory of Barbara's parents, Arnel & Louise Walden.
Jan. 9: Jim & Jennifer Neely, in honor of Ineta Bebb and the entire Chancel Choir.
Jan. 16: Janey Boydston, in memory of Max Boydston
Jan. 23: Dennis Smith, in memory of Susan Asquith
Jan. 30: Ray Griffin, in loving memory of Nancy Griffin on her birthday, February 4.

Church office email:

muskogeesaintpaul@gmail.com