



THE SPIRIT



MONTHLY NEWSLETTER | ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | JULY 2025

St. Paul UMC

2130 W. Okmulgee
Muskogee, OK 74401

918-687-7571

church@stpaulmuskogee.com

Pastor, Rev. Dylan Ward

918-537-1605

Rev.DylanWard

@stpaulmuskogee.com

Music Ministries, Ineta Bebb

918-869-7201

ibebb@stpaulmuskogee.com

Director of Children & Youth

Barbara Kent

918-687-7571

bkent@stpaulmuskogee.com

Nursery & Pre-School

Beth Dunn

918-577-0938

bethtucker61@yahoo.com

Business Administrator

Lynnette Lewis

918-687-7571

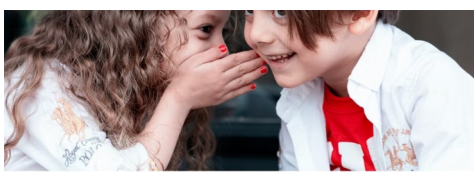
llewis@stpaulmuskogee.com

Administrative Assistant

Joanne Nilsson

918-687-7571

adminassistant@stpaulmuskogee.com



INVITE SOMEONE TO CHURCH

From Rev. Dylan's desk . . .

What does it mean to be a member of a church? Does it even matter?

I've been reflecting on this recently since we've had some folks join St. Paul. Over the last two weeks we have welcomed Judy Seymour and Chris McBeath into membership at St. Paul! And this has given me a chance to reflect on the meaning of membership.



New Members Are Joining

In our membership vows we promise to be faithful members of Christ's holy church and to be loyal to Christ through The United Methodist, to do all in our power to strengthen its ministries, and to faithfully participate at St. Paul by our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

These are some intense promises. Especially when we realize we are making them not only with those in the room with us, but also with God. Promises made with God become judged in relation to how faithful God is with the promises he makes. This is a high bar.

But the question remains: does membership even matter anymore? I think it does. Membership in a church says that we have claimed a people as our own. We declare we want to do life with each other, through the good and bad. The people of that church become our chosen family. And like family, we don't always agree or see eye-to-eye. But through a commitment to God through the church, we say that we will lead with grace and commit to seeing the good, the true, and the beautiful in one another.

Being part of a church, having the courage to take vows, and then the integrity to uphold those vows matters because the church is the bride of Christ. And we cannot say we love the groom if we do not love, care for, and protect his bride.

I think summer is a great time to decide to be part of the body of Christ and support it with our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness. And it is worthwhile whether we make that decision for the first time or we recommit to being faithful to the vows we already took.

Welcome to the family of St. Paul, Judy and Chris!

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Dylan Ward



**Project
Transformation®**

Transforming Communities
Through Relationships

**2025 Summer Reading Camp
10AM-Noon Reading Buddies
until July 24 Mon. - Thurs.**

**Provide or sponsor an intern meal
Call or text Barbara Kent at 918-840-0104**

Vacation Bible School

July 28 - 31

8:45 am to Noon

preschool and up!



VBS is the cornerstone of outreach for our St. Paul children's department. From registration to walking with the kids from room to room, to teaching a craft, or the lessons, you are needed.

Maybe you feel that your contribution will be too little, but with God even the smallest things make a huge difference! ***So, let's discover the bigness of God in the smallest of things!***

Call Barbara today at 918-840-0104.



New Members!

WELCOME!

Chris McBeath

2344 Fredonia

Muskogee, OK 74403

918-855-1401

Judy Seymour

4410 Emporia St.

Muskogee, OK 74401

405-570-2112



**Finance
Committee
Meeting
Mon., July 28
5:30 p.m.**



Church Council Meeting



**6:30 p.m. Monday, July 28
in the Large Conference Room**

REACH PEOPLE FOR CHRIST, DEVELOP DEEPLY COMMITTED CHRISTIANS



JULY



SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
29	30 9am-3pm Project Transformation Reading Buddies 10:00 a.m. to Noon	1 11:00 a.m. Bible Study	2 9am-3pm Project Transformation 6:00 p.m. Youth Group	3 NO PROJECT TRANSFORMATION	4 CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED NO CARD SR. LUNCHES Happy Independence Day!	5
6 COMMUNION SERVICE Worship Services 8:45 am - Rowsey Chapel 10:00 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Sanctuary	7 9am-3pm Project Transformation Reading Buddies 10:00 a.m. to Noon	8 11:00 a.m. Bible Study	9 6:00 p.m. Youth Group	10 9am-3pm Project Transformation	11	12
13 Worship Services 8:45 am - Rowsey Chapel 10:00 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Sanctuary	14 9am-3pm Project Transformation Reading Buddies 10:00 a.m. to Noon	15 11:00 a.m. Bible Study Growin' in Grace @ EGAN (3-5 Grade)	16 6:00 p.m. Youth Group	17 9am-3pm Project Transformation	18	19
20 Worship Services 8:45 am - Rowsey Chapel 10:00 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Sanctuary	21 9am-3pm Project Transformation Reading Buddies 10:00 a.m. to Noon 5:30 pm Finance Committee 6:30 pm Church Council	22 11:00 a.m. Bible Study	23 6:00 p.m. Youth Group	24 9am-3pm Project Transformation LAST DAY OF PT!	25	26
27 Worship Services 8:45 am - Rowsey Chapel 10:00 am - Sunday School 11:00 am - Sanctuary	28 8:45 AM - NOON VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL	29 NO BIBLE STUDY	30	31	1 August	2

Weekly at St. Paul:

Monday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
9:00 Project Transformation
CARD Senior Nutrition Program

Tuesday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
9:00 Project Transformation
CARD Senior Nutrition Program
9:30 Staff Meeting
11:00 Open Bible Study
PM 12:00 Al-Anon
6:00 Emotions Anonymous (1st & 3rd)

Wednesday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
9:00 Project Transformation
CARD Senior Nutrition Program
PM 6:00 Youth Group (6-12 Grade)

Thursday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
9:00 Project Transformation
CARD Senior Nutrition Program
PM 6:30 It's in the Book (AA) Women only
6:30 Good Shepherd Clinic (1st & 3rd)

Friday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)
9:00 CARD Senior Nutrition Program

Saturday:

AM 9:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)

Sunday:

AM 8:45 Worship—Rowsey Chapel
10:00 Sunday School
11:00 Worship—Sanctuary

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS
Mon.—Thurs. 8AM-4PM & Fri. 8AM-3PM

REACH PEOPLE FOR CHRIST, DEVELOP DEEPLY COMMITTED CHRISTIANS

Birthdays

1 Muriel Saunders	16 Jennie Elgin
1 Renee Lamb	18 Douglas Boos
2 Jolene Kirkes	19 Calvin Moore
5 Carolyn Blevins	19 Laurie Fuller
5 Esther Lowery	19 Dallas Vanderford
5 Alison Lambert	20 Jan McKinne
7 Cheryl Daniels	20 Weldon Stout
10 Lynne Wallis	22 Dr. Fred Ruefer
10 Jane Durnil	22 Fleet Griffin
10 David James	22 John Griffin
10 Fred Bengé	24 Caitlin Danter
11 Laird Armstrong	25 Blake Coburn
11 Kyle Kent	25 Darlene Davis
12 Alex Yandell	25 Sarah Gile
13 Harper Wilson	28 Fred Winters
15 Jeffrey Roberts	28 Charlotte Houser
16 Ed Johnson	29 Dennis Smith
16 Ladd Elgin	29 Jim Neely



Anniversaries

7 Johnny & Glenda Broome
14 Earnie & Marilyn Gilder
17 Joe & Athlyn Pool
21 Gary & Lynette Lambert
28 Larry & Paula Christensen
29 Brandi & Jason Jones
29 Preston & Kay Rogers

Altar Flowers

to the glory of God

July 6	Johnny & Glenda Broome, in honor of our 52 nd Wedding Anniversary, July 7.
July 13	Lee & Tiffany Egdorf, in celebration of their third grandchild, Roran Alan Egdorf, born June 13, 2025.
July 20	Larry & Paula Christensen, in honor of our Wedding Anniversary on July 28.
July 27	Don & Jane Hammond in loving memory of Nancy Wright on her birthday, July 31.

USHER MINISTRY

8:45 a.m. Ushers

1st Sun.:	Jim Davis, Mark Unger
2nd Sun.:	Marilyn Gilder, Jo Gibbs
3rd Sun.:	Omar Reed, Virgil Rose
4th Sun.:	Don Elgin, Omar Reed
5th Sun.:	Bob & Bonnie Belle Dunkelberger



11:00 a.m. Ushers

1st Sun.:	Mike Pierceall, Michael Blakeslee, Ted Hine, Ed Johnson, Weldon Key
2nd Sun.:	Ron Wright , Don Elgin, Todd Graybill, John Griffin, Scott Kanny, Manny Ramirez
3rd Sun.:	Johnny Broome , Scott & Sam Hensley, Jim Neely, Bob Woods
4th Sun.:	Erin Goss , Diane Beach, Jenee' Hensley, Amber Hilfiger, Patty Ramirez, Margaret Thacker
5th Sun.:	Roy Flinn , Taylor Foster, this could be you

GREETER MINISTRY

8:45 a.m.

11:00 a.m.

1st Sun.:	L. & P. Christensen	Ed & Pam Johnson
2nd Sun.:	this could be you	J. Boydston, Ted Hine
3rd Sun.:	Christina Booher	B. Flinn / B. Hearon
4th Sun.:	L. & P. Christensen	Sidney Daniels
5th Sun.:	this could be you	J. Boydston/B. Hearon

VAN MINISTRY

1st Sun.:	Drivers: Kelly & Diane Beach Caller: Linda Foster
2nd Sun.:	Drivers: Scott & Sam Hensley Caller: Joan Odell
3rd Sun.:	Driver: Robbie Evans, Tamra Scherer Caller: Renee McMillin
4th Sun.:	Driver: Roy & Billie Flinn Caller: Margaret Thacker
5th Sun.:	Driver: this could be you Caller: Sidney Daniels

