



# The Spirit

Monthly Newsletter | St Paul United Methodist Church | JANUARY 2021

## A Word from the Pastor. . .

I ran across the story of two men on a bicycle built for two. They were going uphill and the going was tough. When they finally reached the top one of the men looked at the other and barely managed to find enough breath to say, "I wasn't sure if we would make it." The other man replied, "I know ... if I hadn't kept my foot on the brake, I think we would have rolled backwards!!!"

Most things in life worth doing take some effort. We each have choices to make and work to do for worthwhile goals to be achieved. This is true whether we are hoping for financial gain, a quality education, physical well-being, good relationships, or spiritual growth. Most of us would not mind too much if "our ship came in" and we won a million dollars or something. Having our desires handed to us without any effort on our part sometimes sounds like a good thing. It usually does not happen that way, though. Failure to realize this may result in us simply being part of the

audience observing our own life go by. We can easily find ourselves being an obstacle to our own goals and dreams rather than being the one achieving them.

Some goals involve working with other people. There are ways to do that which have good results. We are unlikely to find someone who will keep pumping to make the bicycle go uphill if we are using the brakes.

What would you like to have happen in your life? What would you like to see changed in the world? What are you doing about it?

We have just finished a challenging year and 2021 will undoubtedly have its own challenges. We can count on God to do amazing things. Will we each chose to do our part?

Your Pastor,  
Emery

## Nursery

Nursery for 0-2 year olds will be available starting Sunday, Jan. 10, for both the 9 & 11 a.m. Worship Services, and at 10:00 a.m. for the Sunday School hour.

## Sunday School

**Starting Sunday, January 10**

**Children & Youth** will resume Sunday School at 10:00 a.m. on Sun., Jan. 10! Information about in person and online access will be coming soon. Be sure to email the church office to get access to **Rightnow MEDIA**.

**Questions?? Ashley Daniel 918-348-4906**

Email: [muskogeesaintpaul@gmail.com](mailto:muskogeesaintpaul@gmail.com)

**Face masks required, and must be free of any symptoms of illness.**

## Youth

# Welcome!!



## **JANUARY DATES TO REMEMBER**

Tues., Jan. 12	10:00 a.m.—United Methodist Women's Meeting
Thurs., Jan 14	11:00 a.m.—Worship Committee Meeting
	5:30 p.m.—Trustees Meeting
Mon., Jan 18	Learning Tree & CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED (MLK)
<b>Tues., Jan 19</b>	<b>5:30 p.m.—Finance Committee Meeting</b>
Fri., Jan 29	Kathryn Lathim Scholarships Due
Mon., Jan 25	5:30 p.m.—Church Council Meeting

**CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED FOR  
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY  
JANUARY 18, 2021**

## **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 29, 2021.



### **Confirmation Class for Youth**

Emery and Ashley will be co-teaching a class on basic Christian beliefs and the United Methodist Church. The class is intended for youth in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and up. Those who complete the class will have the opportunity to become full members of the church if they wish. The class will begin in the last week of January and will last 8 weeks. Those who are interested in the class should visit with Emery or Ashley as soon as possible. The specific time and dates will be based on the availability of those who wish to participate. This will also help us decide whether to do the class in person (with masks and physical distancing) or by Zoom.

### **Finance Committee**

**5:30 PM**

**Tuesday,  
January 19**



### **Church Council (Virtual) Mtg**

**5:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 25**

**ZOOM or via phone**

Documentation, links, & instructions will be sent out prior to the meeting. If you have questions contact the church office.



### **St. Paul text-alerts**

If you would like to receive a text alert from the church when there are changes to our schedule or some other news that we feel everyone should be aware of, sign up at this link: <https://www.remind.com/join/stpaul01>





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



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
1/08 Lucy Wernitz	1/23 Bill Southwick
1/09 Nita Keys	1/27 Darren Magady
1/09 Sheena Underwood	1/28 Abbie Hughes
1/11 Parris Boies	1/28 Alex Wallace
1/11 Johnny Broome	1/29 Zac Pittman
1/11 Toni Monroe	1/29 Katey Sherrick
1/12 Eric Blackwood	1/30 Jo Gibbs
1/12 Tyson Mather	

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



United  
Methodist  
Women

**10:00 a.m.**

**Tuesday, Jan. 12  
Fellowship Hall**

The United Methodist Women's group will meet in the upstairs Fellowship Hall at **10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 12.** UMW is open to all ladies of the church. For more information you can contact Joan Odell at 918-207-9067.

## Memorial Gifts

**Earlene Coplan:** Joe & Linda Foster

**Lyle Nelson:** Charlene Schoeppel, Dr. & Mrs. Ted Hine

## Prayer Concerns

Gladys Waite	Kristi Wilson-Harris	Johnny Cook	Dan Myers	Bob Pruden	Mary Willhite
Susan Gourd	Jamie Hibbs	Raymond Sewell	Larry Christensen	John Ross Maloy	Barbara Fillman
Jack & LouAnn Morrow	Ellen Roberts	Susan Asquith	Anne Pringle	Barbara Synar	Emmerson Carr
Mildred Noblin-Henderson	Phyllis Coplan	Sidney Daniels	Joe Gilbert	Greg Hoggard	Lowery Family
Seymour Family	Nelson Family	Ong Family			

## COVID-19 Essentials: (and many, many others . . .)

Stay Home Services Employees	James Hilfiger	Sarah Ruefer	Allison Ruefer-Roberts	Joe Broome
Good Shepherd Clinic Volunteers	Lindsay Nicholson	Kathy Beene	Aaron & Krissy Ritchie	Tom/Cherie Baker
Teachers/Students/Administration	Terra Curry	First UMC, Mskg	New Hope Assembly	

## Nursing Home/Homebound

Virginia Riede, Edward Warren, Fred Bliss, Nita Keys, Edna Terpening, Margaret Procter, Susan Auten, Mable Eagan, Doreen Causon, Sandy Hine, Lavell Bailey, Myrna Stretch, Wanda Jean Gile, Frank/Lucy Wernitz, Herman Ensign

## Armed Forces

Vann Beard, Trenton Cox, Matthew Hamilton, Tyler Hinds, Col. Kimberly Howerton, Cale Hughes, Briana Hull-Moreno, Cpt. Ashley Lampe, Jeffrey Laughlin, Steven Mashburn, Devin Riede, Kaylin Riede, Kevin Winters

## Sound Booth volunteers needed

*We are in need of a few volunteers to help with the sound booth at the 11:00 a.m. worship service on Sundays. If you can help out, please contact **Doug Hendricks** 918-348-2810. We've worked hard to make it "point & click" friendly.*



**Remember to call the church office 918-687-7571 BEFORE scheduling a meeting or resuming SS Classes.**

# JANUARY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
3 <b>COMMUNION SERVICE</b> Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream	4	5	6   7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	7	1  8	2  9
10 Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream 10:00 AM Sunday School	11	12  10:00 a.m. UMW Meeting	13   7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	14  11:00 a.m. Worship Committee Meeting  5:30 p.m. Trustees Meeting	15	16
17 Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream 10:00 AM Sunday School	18 <b>Martin Luther King Jr. Day</b>  <b>CHURCH OFFICES CLOSED</b>	19  5:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting	20   7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	21	22  	23
24 Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream 10:00 AM Sunday School	25  5:30 p.m. Church Council Meeting ZOOM or via phone	26	27   7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	28	29	30
31 Worship Services 9:00 & 11:00 am Sanctuary 11am Livestream 10:00 AM Sunday School	1  	2	3   7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	4	5	6

## Weekly at St. Paul:

### Sunday:

AM 9:00 Worship—Sanctuary  
10:00 Sunday School (Nursery/Adult only)  
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 7:00 Chancel Choir Ladies

### Thursday:

AM 7:00 Donut Hole Group (AA)  
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

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

*\*Return Services Requested*



## Sunday Volunteers

### 9:00 a.m. Ushers:

**January 3:** Virgil Rose, Ben Robinson  
**January 10:** Marilyn Gilder, Jo Gibbs  
**January 17:** Omar Reed  
**January 24:** Christina Booher, Oleta Smith  
**January 31:** Bob & Bonnie Dunkelberger

### 9:45 a.m. Greeters

**January 3:** Ray Griffin  
**January 10:** Jim/Darlene Davis  
**January 17:** Judy Hoffman  
**January 24:** Charlene Schoeppel  
**January 31:** Virgil Rose

### 10:45 a.m. Greeters

Ed/Pam Johnson, Carl/MaryBeth Scott  
Becky Hearon, Janey Boydston  
Becky Hearon, Billie Flinn  
Charlene Schoeppel  
Holly Hughes

### 11:00 a.m. Ushers:

**January 3:** Weldon Key, Ed Johnson, Robert Hall, Mike Pierceall  
**January 10:** Ron Wright, Todd Graybill, Bill Settle, John Griffin  
**January 17:** Tracey Szabo, Melissa Raper, Rachael Gilliam, Erin Goss  
**January 24:** Eric Elgin, Don Elgin, Calvin Moore, Roy Flinn, Michael Blakeslee  
**January 31:** Johnny Broome, Bob Woods, Scott Hensley, Ron Coplan, Will Coplan

### Sound Board:

Sound Board & Video Doug Hendricks, Don Anderson, Jim Morris  
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. . .

**January 3:** Weldon & Barbara Key: In memory of Barbara's parents Armel & Louise Walden  
**January 10:** Jim & Jennifer Neely, in honor of Ineta Bebb and the entire Chancel Choir.  
**January 17:** Friendship Sunday School Class in loving memory of Lyle Nelson on his birthday, January 8.  
**January 24:** Jim Judy Payne: In memory of our parents: Jack & Irene Mills, and Hollis & Leona Payne.  
**January 31:** Ray Griffin, in loving memory of Nancy Griffin on her birthday, February 4.

### Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Fridays 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### Church email:

Muskogeesaintpaul@gmail.com

### New procedure for safety at church

The church doors will now be locked during business hours.  
When you arrive please call the church office at 918-687-7571 to enter the building. Thank you for helping us all stay safe.



The family of **Lyle Nelson** invite all to an online memorial service on St. Paul UMC's [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#) pages at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 9. For safety, only the family will gather in person at the church. The recording will remain online to view at a later time, if needed.