

ST. PAUL UMC
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NON-PROFIT
Organization
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St. Paul United Methodist Church
is a fellowship of believers
UNITED by god's love,
GUIDED by god's word,
EMPOWERED by god's grace, and
COMMITTED to sharing our faith in
Jesus Christ with everyone.

October 12, 2026



REMEMBER IN PRAYER



Remember in Prayer: Jadrian Atkins, Shannon Ball, Roy Batchelor, Geneva Berry, Gail & Wilson Bethard, Danny Bird, Maya Britt, J.T. Brooks, Lil Bryant, William Byrd, Anna Bush, Linda Butt, Jackie Campbell, Lindsey Cardwell, Stan Carpenter, Brittany Carter, Lindsey Crigger, Sherry Corvin, Granger Davis, Regan Davis, Keith Dossett, Kenny & Sandy Ervin, George & Clara Farthing, Kevin Fiorini, Alfred Grace, Anisa Hall, Jennifer Hart, Buster Hounshell, George James, Janet Jones, Al Kanner, Terry Webb Kash, Karen Karnei, Diana Kegley, Bonnie Lucas, Carolyn & Michael Melton, Mary Midkiff, C.D. Moore, Dave Moore, George “Bud” Porter, Carol Ray, William Reagan, Misty Catron Rogers, Kathy Sherowsky, Lilly Spondike, Sharon Sowers, Lib Stanley, Cathy Stanley, David Starke, Cathy Stewart, Luke Taylor, Mary E. Turpin, Andy & Liz Udell, Bob Walker, Shirley Waller, Mary Jane Wysor, Steve Young.

PASTOR PEN



Greetings St. Paul!
I've been pondering the first two verses of Psalm 125. I encourage you to go and read the entirety of the chapter, as it is not long. The first two verses read, "Those who trust in the Lord are like Mount Zion, which cannot be moved but abides forever. As the mountains surround Jerusalem, so the Lord surrounds his people from this time on and forevermore."

The psalms are not meant to be picked at, piece by piece, but rather, they are meant to show us a picture. Envision with me, a mountain. A mountain strong and sturdy. As days, nights, months, and years pass, this mountain remains the same. It does not move or change, but remains strong through the seasons. Now imagine mountains like this, surrounding you, St. Paul. This is what the practice of trusting in God looks like. Trusting in God and God's timing is no easy task for anyone. I believe we all would simply prefer to know God's timing on our own time. We would love to sync watches with God and wouldn't that be convenient?

Faith requires trusting in God. The more we put faith into practice of that trust, mountains of strength are built. When we do our due diligence in practicing patience and courage in simply trusting and not always having the need to understand as the world tries to convince us we do, we can be assured that we are surrounded by God's loving care, protection and strength.

I pray that each one of you feel God's presence of peace this month as we practice that trusting faith together.
In Christ's peace, Rev. Gracie Gray

WERE YOU THERE? DID YOU SHARE?				Oct			NEEDED
				through	YTD as of	2026 ANNUAL	THROUGH
	27-Sep	Sept YTD*	04-Oct	04-Oct	04-Oct	PLAN	EOY
Attendance							
Sunday School	0		0				
SonLight Worship	98		94				
Traditional Worship	66		83				
Total Worship Attendance	164		177				
Ministry Plan Offering Received	\$ 2,138		\$ 9,530				
		\$325,120.00		\$ 9,530	\$334,650.00	\$ 450,363	\$115,713.00

PARTNER WITH US IN MINISTRY



- 1. GIVE BY MAIL (Cash, Check)
330 Church Street, Wytheville, VA 24382
- 2. GIVE ONLINE (Debit, Credit, Draft)
<https://stpaulumc.church>
Donation button/link is on homepage – Giving tab
[CLICK HERE *DONATIONS AND GIVING](#)
- 3. GIVE BY MONTHLY BANK DRAFT
Request form from church office 276-228-5539
- 4. GIVE VIA CHURCH CENTER APP 
Available in app store

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and Christian love go to Beverly “Bev” and E R Hughes and family in the passing of Bev’s sister, Betty Lynn Burr Albert on Saturday, October 3, 2026.

MEMORIALS

- In Memory of Dr Robert “Bob” Moore:
Music: Virginia Whitaker, Tom & Betsy Ely
Maintenance: Jack & Clayta Bryant, Don & Sharon Alexander
General Endowment: Johnny & Sarah Beamer
Operating Budget: Bob & Ernestine Dalton
Undesigned: Carolyn Buchanan, Jim & Beth Watt, Bill & Farron Smith

- In Memory of Lewis “Boo” Shelton, Jr.:
Music: Virginia Whitaker

- In Memory of Betty Albert:
Music: Tom & Betsy Ely

UWF & YANSY MEETINGS

United Women of Faith meeting Monday, November 5th at 2 pm in Wesley Fellowship Hall, program on by Norma Brown – Justice & Mercy updated.

December 7th at 12:00 PM (Noon): Our annual UWF Christmas luncheon, I always look forward to this special time together, remember to remind your friends of this date so that can put in their calendar. More information to follow.
UWF President: Linda Fiorini

Yansy Meeting, Tuesday, November 3rd at 7:00 pm in Wesley Hall – Mary Boenke

JUSTICE & MERCY – UPDATES

The Wythe County Care Portal is an efficient way to serve families in our area. They coordinate with churches and other agencies in the area for quick response to urgent needs. Care Portal's main focus is to keep bio families together and help support foster families in our area. Requests are entered by DSS, school guidance counselors and other agencies in our community, We can respond to take the lead on projects if we have resources available, other times individuals in the community will provide funds in order for us to fulfil the request.

There are 3 main ways to help - be a SHOPPER, be a MOVER or be a financial SUPPORTER. We will host a light breakfast meeting on Sunday, October 25 in Wesley Hall at 10 am between services for more information and the opportunity to volunteer for our response team.

October Focus - Care Portal Team building. We are looking for volunteers to participate on our Response Team - this could mean being a shopper or someone who can help with more physical projects like moving furniture. We will also accept cash donations to help us meet the needs of families in Wythe County. The Team will host a breakfast meeting on Sunday, October 25 during the Sunday School hour to further explain the Care Portal project and sign-up volunteers.

November Focus - Provide support of the annual Thanks By Giving meal. This is always a very rewarding experience as we provide a hot Thanksgiving meal to those in need in our community. There are many ways to help - food prep the night before, packing the meals or delivering the meals within the Town of Wytheville Thursday morning. This is an excellent family service project that takes only about 2 hours from 11 am - 1 pm.

For the more athletic crowd - come out to support the Open Door Cafe by running/walking in the Stuffed Strut! All proceeds help provide meals to our community all year long.

December Focus - We will sponsor the children in Wythe County who have parents in the New River Jail in addition to several children at Spiller Elementary on our Angel Tree. We will provide 2 gifts per child - one clothing item and a "fun" item. This is always a heartwarming project to make the holidays merrier for kids in need.

We will also complete our giving to achieve 5 Star Status as well as paying out budgeted donations to various local agencies.

As always, we thank the St. Paul congregation for their continued support of our projects - together we are making a difference in our community and around the world.

Thank you, St. Paul Family, for your generous support!

ST PAUL UMC LUNCH BUNCH



St Paul UMC Lunch Bunch Calendar for 2026
No RSVP – Everyone is welcome!

October When: Tuesday, October 27th, 11:30 am Where: Papa Taso’s - 1965 E Main St. Cost: Sandwich entrees range from \$5 to \$7	December When: Tuesday, December 29th, 11:30 am Where: Grayson Restaurant - 100 Grayson Rd. Cost: Lunch entrees range from \$5 to \$13
November When: Tuesday, November 24th, 11:30 am Where: Moon Dog Brick Oven - 205 E Main St. Cost: Pizza, sub and pasta entrees start around \$8	Contact Information: Debbie Verbeck, 507-358-2731 or VerbeckDebbie@yahoo.com

ORNAMENT PAINTING WORKSHOP



Christmas is Coming! And we’re creating memories, one ornament at a time. Grab a brush and get ready for a morning full of holiday magic. We’re hosting an **ornament painting workshop on Tuesday, November 3rd**, and the glazing table is open to the entire church family.

Paint-Your-Own Holiday Ornaments
Cost: \$25 (includes three ornaments or a small tray)
When: Tuesday, November 3, 2026 at 10 am
Where: Laurel Creek Pottery, 420 East Main Street, Wytheville, VA
All ages are welcome. (Children under 13 must be accompanied by an adult.)
Contact Information:
Debbie Verbeck, 507-358-2731 or VerbeckDebbie@yahoo.com
(Contact Debbie to for a detailed flyer, and to register.)
Shane Sledd, 276-759-6130 or shane.sledd@stpaulumc.church

DISTRICT SERVICES/MEETNGS

October 18-New River District Conference – St Paul UMC-3PM

The District Superintendent will preside over our District Conference that will set our District Budget and Leadership for 2027 as well as celebrate the ministries of 2026.

St. Paul's Charge Conference on Sunday, November 1st at St. Paul in Wesley Hall at 4 pm

Get to know the new District Superintendent, Don Shelor, and share about why you love St. Paul. It is a time where you can ask questions, voice concerns and also share in any hopes/dreams for the future of ministry in your church!

CHURCH STREET TRUNK OR TREAT



WE NEED CANDY!
CHURCH STREET TRUNK OR TREAT
Saturday, October 31, 2026 from 6 – 8:00 pm
Please help us make Trunk or Treat a success!
We are asking for donations of:
Individually wrapped bagged candy or monetary donations

Please bring your donations to the Church Office by Wednesday, October 21st.
Thank you for helping us provide a fun and sweet evening for our community!

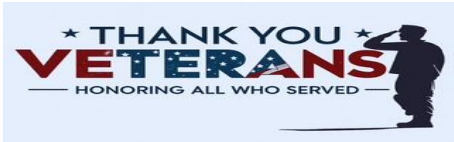
KIDS & YOUTH MINISTRY



Sunday Night Gatherings 5 -6:30 pm – Dinner provided Please consider volunteering to make and serve meals on Sunday nights. Shane Sledd, 276-759-6130 or shane.sledd@stpaulumc.church

October 18th – Sunday Night Gatherings	November 22th – Sunday Night Gatherings
October 25th – Sunday Night Gatherings	January 22-24h – REZ 2027 (MS & HS)
November 1st – Sunday Night Gatherings	June 14-19th – Serve Orlando (HS Trip)
November 8th – Sunday Night Gatherings	July 10 -14th – The Great Escape (MS Camp)
November 15th – Sunday Night Gatherings	

VETERANS DAY BRUNCH



Are you a veteran or active military member at St Paul UMC? We want to honor you! Join your fellow church veterans and military members for a special brunch this Veterans Day. Drop by to connect, share experiences, and enjoy a meal in a welcoming space. The brunch will conclude with a

Veterans Day prayer from Pastor Gracie.
Veterans Day Brunch – Wednesday, November 11, 2026 at 10:00 am (special prayer at 11:11 am)
Franklin Street House - All St Paul UMC veterans and active military members
RSVP: Sunday, November 8th to Debbie Verbeck (507-358-2731) or verbeckdebbie@yahoo.com, or Shane Sledd, 276-759-6130 or shane.sledd@stpaulumc.church

WYTHEVILLE CONCERT SERIES

2026-27

 WYTHEVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

17th Season!

Wytheville Concert Series

Concerts are presented by Wytheville Community College, St. John's Episcopal Church, WCC Educational Foundation and the MacDowell Music Club
Artistic Director Kevin Matheson, kstrings1@hotmail.com 540-577-4916

Broadway & Opera Favorites

Soprano Adelaide Trombetta,
Tenor Michael Nim,
Kevin & Bryan Matheson,
& Melia Garber

Friday, November 13 at 7:00 p.m.
St. John's Episcopal Church





CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Information for Gracie Gray, Email: pastor.gracie@stpaulumc.church Cell: 423-260-3633
Contact Information for Shane Sledd, Email: shane.sledd@stpaulumc.church Cell: 276-759-9130

Please remember to update the church office with changes in mailing address, landline, email address and cell phone numbers by contacting Cheryl Grubb in the church office at 228-5539 or by email cheryl.grubb@stpaulumc.church
Please contact the church office to schedule events, 276-228-5539 or cheryl.grubb@stpaulumc.church

Limited office hours – Monday, October 16th to Wednesday, October 28th.