

ST. PAUL UMC

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<http://stpaulumc.church/>

Lon Tobin, Pastor

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.

November 19, 2021



REMEMBER IN PRAYERS



Remember in Prayer: Harry & Fran Angstadt, Jadrian Atkins, Roy Batchelor, Rusty Beamer, Geneva Berry, Maya Britt, J.T. Brooks, Hack & Pat Broyles, John Burgon, Sr., Diana Burton, William Byrd, Lindsey Cardwell, Stan Carpenter, Brittany Carter, Ingrid Catron, Sherry Corvin, Reed Counts, Granger Davis, Jennifer Hunter Davis, Keith Dossett, George & Clara Farthing, Mary Frazer, Kathryn Gregory, Alfred Grace, Bill Haga, Irene Hager, Anisa Hall, John Hammer, Nathaniel, Kayla, & Victoria Hammer, Jennifer Hart, Tom & Jenn Hodges, Charlie Hubert, Dwight Jones, Janet Jones, Al Kanner, Bill Marshall, Danny McDaniel, Michael Melton, Mary Midkiff, John Moody, C.D. Moore, Dave Moore, Betty Nuckols, Lynne Perry, Linda Phillips, Peg Phillips, George "Bud" Porter, Monae Rankin, William Reagan, Wes Robinson, Juanita Seagle, Candra Seaton, Amelia Sharitz, Sandy Shockley, Lilly Spondike, David Starke, Cathy Stewart, Luke Taylor, Mary E. Turpin, Liz Udell, Patsye Underwood, Norman Wilhott, Bill Whitaker, Betty Wolford, Mary Jane Wysor.

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

"Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10



Only a few doors down from my office, it patiently waits to share its serenity with me. I have admired our Prayer Garden since the first evening I came to St Paul for my introductory meeting with the Staff Parish Relations Committee before I officially became St Paul's pastor. It is the intersection of Eden and Zion right here on Church Street.

There are plants and flowers there – demonstrations of God's creative imagination. It is sounded on all sides by the towering walls of the church, wrapping you, as it were, in His protective care. And there are chairs on which to sit – comfortable enough to make you feel welcome, but not so relaxed that you're tempted to doze off and miss the blessing of fellowship with the Divine. Above, the

sky and heaven itself stream in on golden rays of the sun and cool breezes – refreshing body and soul. And, of course, God is there waiting for me – not to scold me because I'm late or angry because this is not the first time His waiting was disappointed by my absence – but because He longs to be with me.

I rush past it on my way to meetings. I pass on my way to worship. I pass it on my way to the bathroom. I often muse how nice it would be to just be there and sit in God's presence, but too often I pass by because the distractions of life clutter the promise; the daily grind keeps me from the very thing I need the most. It just seems more expedient, more "responsible," more productive to rush by promising myself that tomorrow will find me there – a new Eden and site of my re-creation. Tomorrow, I promise, the mundane and minutia of life will not deter me from what gives me life; when a time-sensitive option becomes a spiritual priority.

Funny thing about gardens, life and prayer: all that beauty and yet just “one more thing” when the weeds that seem to always be there choke out the beauty. Keeping up with appearances and schedules too often preclude us from the purpose for which we are created – to glorify God and enjoy Him forever (*Westminster Shorter Confession*). I think if I were Adam of old, God would ask, with tear-in-eye not only where I was but where have I been – not angry over my absence, but hurting because I’ve carelessly neglected His love, provision and presence.

Well, that settles it. Today is the day. I will not become distracted. I will not let the “squeaking wheels” I foolishly interpret as my life, demand the grease of my attention! I’m headed for the prayer garden to spend time with the One who loves me and gave Himself for me. Oh, excuse me, that’s my phone.

In Christ’s Service, Lon


Attendance for Sunday
October - November
9:00 Son Light Worship 59, 68, 55
10:55 Worship 54, 60, 68
Sunday School

Were You There? Did you Share? Budget Giving Received Worship Service and Sunday School						
Received	Received	Received	Received	Received	Received	Budget
Oct 31	Nov 7	Nov 14			YTD	2021
\$5,555	\$12,066	\$5,797			\$313,549	\$427,961

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



PASTOR LON’S MESSAGE & WORSHIP MUSIC ONLINE – LIVE CHAT INSTRUCTIONS

Hello St. Paul Family,
Our Sunday morning Virtual Worship Service at 10:00 am and can be reached via the following link:
<http://stpaulumc.church/>
We have received some questions about participating in “live chat” during the Virtual Worship Service premiere at 10 am. Here are some tips that may be helpful: 1. You must have a Gmail account to be able to chat.
2. You must be signed into your Gmail/Google account.
3. Once signed in, you can click into where it says “say something” and begin typing. Then click the send icon. Give it a try - it is wonderful to “see” folks chatting on Sunday morning!

IN HONOR

In Honor of Dempsey Craig, Bill Craig, Don Alexander & Steve Wire:
Operating Budget: Doris Kincer

UMW CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON



The United Methodist Women will have their Christmas luncheon on Monday, December 6th at noon at the Franklin Street House. Janet Montgomery will cater the meal and the cost is \$12.50 per person. This is an open invitation to all women in the church. We encourage each UMW member to invite a guest. We look forward to a delicious meal and fun fellowship. If you plan to attend, please let Betsy Ely know by Monday, November 29th.

CURRENT COLLEGE STUDENTS

The Lydia Sunday school class is updating the list of college students and we could use your help. If you are, or have a child who is, a college student, could you please leave their current address with Cheryl in the church office? We’d really appreciate it!! We want to let them know that they are in our thoughts and prayers while they attend school.

PASTOR LON'S PREACHING FORECAST FOR OCTOBER & NOVEMBER

Advent Begins

November 28th – Hanging of the Greens Combined Service 10:30 am

Virtual Service: Scripture: Luke 17: 12-19 Sermon: “Ten Were Cured; One Was Made Well”

December 5th – No Communion

Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4 Sermon: “Pre-holiday Housecleaning”

Virtual Service: TBD

December 12th

Scripture: Luke 3: 7-18 Sermon: “Beyond the Glitz and Glimmer”

Virtual: Scripture: Malachi 3:1-4 Sermon: “Pre-holiday Housecleaning”

December 19th – St Paul Choir Cantata

Combined Service 10:55 am

Virtual Scripture: Luke 3: 7-18 Sermon: “Beyond the Glitz and Glimmer”

December 24th – Christmas Eve – One Service at 6pm

Scripture: Luke 2: 1-20 Sermon: Wishing You a Hopeful Christmas

December 26th

Scripture: Luke 2: 41-52 Sermon: What Are We Going to Do With That Boy?

Virtual: TBD

January 2nd – Epiphany

Scripture: Matthew 2: 1-12 Sermon: “Now There’s a Bright Idea”

Virtual: Scripture: Luke 2: 41-52 Sermon: What Are We Going to Do With That Boy?

CONGRATULATIONS – ST PAUL RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

Southwest Virginia Relay for Life

FIRST PLACE

ST. PAUL RELAY FOR LIFE TEAM

\$8,236.50

In the last 3 years, we have raised approximately, \$23,000 for cancer research and education.

(SWVA total \$71,987.81, goal was \$125,000)

St. Paul Relay for Life Team

Equals – Dependability + Commitment + Passion + Teamwork

Equals – The Best team

If you are interested in joining St Paul Relay for Life, please contact Mary Copenhaver

THANK YOU TO MEMBERS OF THE CONGREGATION FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

Congratulations on a job well done!!!

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

If you're looking for a great way to share with your families this Christmas season, use this reverse advent calendar to track items each day during December to add to a donation box!

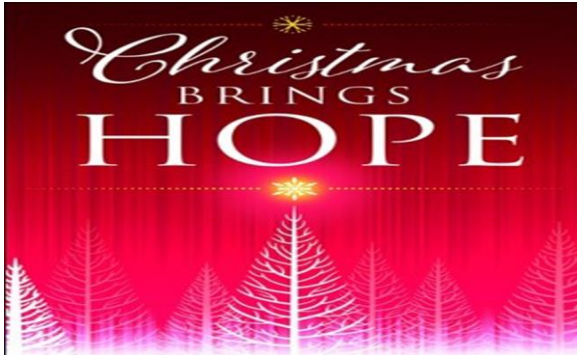
Each day take an item from your pantry and put it into a box or basket at the end of the month (or soon after), box up your goodies and bring them to a local food bank. It's that easy!

This is such an amazing way to easily give back this year, and will not only bless those in need in your community, but also keep your family focused on the true meaning in this season.

Of course, you can always choose to do this same concept in a different way ~ maybe put \$1 in a basket each day and donate the money you save at the end of the month to Agape Food Pantry or Hope Packs.

December 1 – Box Cereal	December 13 – Bag Beans
December 2 – Peanut Butter	December 14 – Box of Rice
December 3 – Stuffing Mix	December 15 – Box of Crackers
December 4 – Instant Potatoes	December 16 – Box of Oatmeal
December 5 – Marconi & Cheese Box	December 17 – Box of Pasta
December 6 – Can Fruit	December 18 – Spaghetti Sauce
December 7 – Can Meat	December 19 – Chicken Noodle Soup
December 8 – Can Tomatoes	December 20 – Tomato Soup
December 9 – Dessert Mix	December 21 – Can Corn
December 10 – Applesauce	December 22 – Can Mixed Vegetables
December 11 – Can Potatoes	December 23 – Can Carrots
December 12 – Cranberry Sauce	December 24 – Can Green Beans

HANGING OF THE GREENS



Christmas – A Season of Hope
 Hanging of the Greens
 Sunday, November 28th
 10:30 a.m.
 Combined Worship Service
 The Wonder of the Manger
 God wants us to come to the manger.
 Imagine that we are there on that silent, holy night.

JOB OPENING – PART-TIME SONLIGHT SERVICE COORDINATOR POSITION

St Paul UMC is looking for an individual with appropriate computer and audio/visual skills to coordinate the church’s 9am contemporary worship service. Experience is a plus. Those interested may submit a resume to the church office 330 Church Street, Wytheville, VA 24382 or by email to cheryl.grubb@stpaulumc.church

ST PAUL & COMMUNITY EVENTS

November 28th – First Sunday of Advent Hanging of the Greens Combined Service 10:30 am	December 3th – “A Christmas to Remember” Main Street Event – 6 pm – 9 pm, Main Street, Wytheville. Shopping, food, music, & more
December 4th – Wytheville Christmas Parade – 5 pm	December 4th – Wytheville Concert Series - Christmas Favorites – Soprano, Leslie Mabe and The Rainier Trio St Paul UMC Sanctuary – 7 pm
December 6th – UMW Christmas Luncheon – 12 Noon – Franklin Street House, Catered cost \$12.50 per person	December 16th – St Paul Preschool Christmas Program
December 19th – Fourth Sunday of Advent St Paul Choir Christmas Cantata Combine Service 10:55 am	December 24th – Christmas Eve Service – 6 pm

WYTHEVILLE CONCERT SERIES

	Christmas Favorites – Soprano Leslie Mabe and the Rainier Trio, Saturday, December 4th at 7:00 pm St Paul UMC		Roanoke Ballet Theatre and the Rainier Trio, Saturday, January 22th at 7:00 pm. Location TBA
	Rachmaninoff, Fuchs and Lachner The Rainier Trio Saturday, March 19th at 7:00 pm Location TBA		Sonatas by Dvorak and Beethoven’s “Kreutzer” Judy Clark, piano ~ Kevin Matheson, violin, Saturday, April 30th at 7:00 pm St John’s Episcopal Church

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS AND CONTACT INFORMATION

Contact Information for Pastor Lon Tobin Cell Phone: 276-620-4125 Email: lon.tobin@stpaulumc.church

Please remember to update the church office with changes in mailing address, landline 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