

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.

March 23, 2023



REMEMBER IN PRAYERS



Remember in Prayer: Fran Angstadt, Della Armbrister, Jadrian Atkins, Roy Batchelor, Amanda Bean, Geneva Berry, Danny Bird, Maya Britt, Becky Branson, J.T. Brooks, Hack & Pat Broyles, John Burgon, Sr., Diana Burton, William Byrd, Lindsey Cardwell, Stan Carpenter, Brittany Carter, Ingrid Catron, Sherry Corvin, Granger Davis, Keith Dossett, George & Clara Farthing, Michelle Fisher, Alfred Grace, Rohna Harkless, Irene Hager, Anisa Hall, John Hammer, Nathaniel, Kayla, & Victoria Hammer, Greg Hash, Jennifer Hart, Tom & Jenn Hodges, Charlie Hubert, Debbie Flinchum Jackson, Dwight Jones, Janet Jones, Al Kanner, Karen Karnei, Bill Marshall, Danny McDaniel, Michael Melton, Mary Midkiff, John Moody, C.D. Moore, Dave Moore, Mary Nichols, Lynne Perry, Peg Phillips, George "Bud" Porter, William Reagan, Velma Reed, Wes Robinson, Juanita Seagle, Candra Seaton, Amelia Sharitz, Sandy Shockley, Lilly Spondike, Jim & Pres Stanley, David Starke, Alfred & Daaine Stephens, Cathy Stewart, Luke Taylor, Mary E. Turpin, Liz Udell, Patsye Underwood, Darrell Ward, Betty Wolford, Mary Jane Wysor.

FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN



Because of this many of his disciples turned back and no longer went about with him. So, Jesus asked the twelve, "Do you also wish to go away?"

John 6:66

Sometimes it's not easy following Jesus; not easy being faithful; not even listening to him is always pleasant. As Jesus described discipleship and what would be expected of the many who originally followed him, the cost seemed too high. The sacrifice too great and the commitment he asked too demanding.

It is the same among his followers now a days. They seem to be true disciples but when faithfulness and commitment came into play, they often silently "slip away." Jesus always had a "crowd" around him that the Bible differentiates from his true followers. The crowd, loved the stirring teaching, coveted his healing power, longed to be miraculously fed. But when following Jesus and being faithful involved commitment, dedication and inconvenience, they turned back.

Jesus turned and looked at his disciples and asked them to make a decision. I'm convinced he did so not so he would know who could count on (I suspect he already knew). He asked them to totally commit to him and his work, regardless of costs. Being faithful is more than just signing up and showing up occasionally. Being faithful is daily, sometimes hourly, making the choice to live for him regardless of the cost, inconvenience or sacrifice involved. Forgive my crudeness but faithfulness is like pregnancy – you either are or you are not.

This Lenten season offers us a chance to examine our faithfulness to the vows we took when we professed our faith in Christ and St Paul UMC. How faithful am I being with my prayers, my presence, my gifts and my service. Is my commitment to the crowd and convenience or the Christ and his mission. Grace is certainly free; discipleship will cost you. As you approach the celebration of Easter, I invite you to recommit your life to Christ, the one who gave everything for you and to this church, St Paul. Both need every one of you going forward.

In Christ's Service, Lon


2023

Attendance for Sunday February & March
9:00 Son Light Worship 80, 60, 42, 63
10:55 Worship 64, 61, 30, 67
Sunday School 28, 28, 8, 17

Were You There? Did you Share? Budget Giving Received Worship Service and Sunday School							
Received	Received	Received	Received	Received	Received	Budget	
Feb 26	Mar 5	Mar 12	Mar 19		YTD	2023	
\$7,261	\$12,141	\$1,505	\$8,115		\$78,738	\$347,400	

PARTNER WITH US IN MINISTRY



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

PASTOR LON'S PREACHING FORECAST FOR APRIL & MAY

Holy Week - April 2nd – Palm Sunday Scripture: Matthew 21: 1-11 Sermon: I Love a Parade	April 16th Scripture: John 20: 19-31 Sermon: Seeing Is Believing
April 6th – Maundy Thursday Holy Communion 6pm Scripture: John 13: 1-17 Sermon: Remember Me	April 23rd Scripture: Luke 24: 13-35 Sermon: Heart Burn
April 7th – Good Friday – Tenebrae at 7 pm	April 30th Scripture: 1 Peter 2: 19-25 Sermon: Following the Shepherd
April 9th – Resurrection Sunday – Easter Sunday Easter Sunrise Service – 7 am – The worship service and breakfast will be at St Paul UMC – Tim Irving, speaker from Wytheville Baptist Church SonLight & Traditional Service Scripture: Matthew 28: 1-10 Sermon: Early Birds of a Different Type	May 7th SonLight Scripture: John 14: 1-14 Sermon: His Will; His Way Traditional Service Musical Cantata

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and Christian love go to Kevin & Linda Fiorini and their family in the death of Kevin's sister Marsha Landsbaugh on Wednesday, March 1, 2023.

Our sympathy and Christian love go to Dearl & Diana Kegley and their family in the death of their son Chad Kegley on Thursday, March 9, 2023.

Our sympathy and Christian love go to Scot & Denise Davis, Aaron & Emily Kline, CJ & Molly Earles, Nick & Abbie Succop and their families in the death of Rochie "Jackie" Astrid Davis on Monday, March 13, 2023.

Our sympathy and Christian love go to Susan Counts Tickle, Harry & Betty Counts Johnston, and Dennis R. Counts, Jr., and their families in the death of Dennis "Reed" Counts on Saturday, March 18, 2023

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Haskell "Hack" Broyles:

Operating Budget: Mark & Zella Dillon, Sandy Shockley

In Memory of Clarence Justice:

Maintenance: Sandy Shockley

In Memory of Charles Shockley:

Operating Budget: Sandy Shockley

In Memory of Roy & Frances Irvin:

Preschool: Sandy Shockley

In Memory of Elmer & Edna Shockley:

Relay for Life: Sandy Shockley

In Memory of Harry Angstadt:

Sanctuary Audio/Visual: Don & Sharon Alexander

General Endowment: Johnny & Sarah Beamer

Music: Jack & Clayta Bryant, G.W. & Gail Catron, Mary & Zella Dillon, Terry Suarez, Jerry & Judy Willis, Curt & Jackie Campbell, Sandy Shockley

Operating Budget: Anna Bush, Bob & Ernestine Dalton, Dick & Linda Phillippi, Jean Russo, Eric & Deb Vrsansky, Elaine Evans, Jerry & Eller Farmer, Tim & Lisa Alderman, Wilma Snyder

KEGLEY – THANK YOU

We are so grateful for the outpouring of love and sympathy by our St. Paul family during our time of grief in the tragic loss of our son Chad. Thank you for your prayers, cards, visits, food and flowers. Your thoughtfulness will never be forgotten. We love our St. Paul family.

Love, Dearl, Diana, Brad & Carter Kegley

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jake & Jessica Dehart Lewis are excited to announce the arrival of their son, Oscar Wylder Lewis.

March 20, 2023 – 7 lbs. 1 oz.

Grandparents Meade & Teresa Lewis

Rob Moody and Maggie Maurer are excited to announce the arrival of their son Jackson John Moody

March 15, 2023 - 6 pounds

Grandparents John & Debbie Moody and big bother William

JUSTICE & MERCY – HEIFER PROJECT



"Give a man a fish, you feed him for a day. Teach a man to fish, you feed him for a lifetime"

Wise words from the Chinese proverb - Heifer International does just that.

They break the vicious cycle of poverty by providing families with livestock, training and information in order to improve and sustain their way of life.

They don't just give animals. Heifer connects farmers to resources and support.

They train them on proper animal care.

They teach them to grow crops without hurting the environment.

They help families sell their goods.

They teach that women are as strong as men.

They provide clean water with irrigation systems and wells.

They make sure families have money to send their children to school.

They encourage families to pass on their knowledge and gifts to others in the community.

Heifer International has been helping families for over 75 years. This Easter season, won't you help us fill an ark? Consider the money you spend on chocolate bunnies and eggs and marshmallow chicks. Instead help us purchase real animals for a sustainable way of life. A flock of chicks, ducks or geese are only \$20. A trio of rabbits is \$60. A goat, sheep or pig is \$120 and a heifer is \$500.

We challenge each Sunday School class, small group and youth to join in this exciting project. With so many farm families in our community, everyone knows the value of an animal.

Contributions can be made by check payable to St. Paul and marked Heifer - there are also Easter offering envelopes around the church that can be used for your donation. The preschool embraced this project last year raising over \$500 in change. They will once again partner with us on this exciting project.

Thank you for your support!!

Justice and Mercy Team

YOU ARE INVITED – DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM

The United Women in Faith are having a program on Domestic Violence on Monday, May 1, 2023 at 2:00 pm in Wesley Hall. Sheriff Charles Foster will greet us. His representative, Mr. Harry Street, will help us understand how the law deals with this problem. Hallie Cushman, a young lady from Hillsville, will tell us about her best friend’s experience. Everyone is welcome to attend.

SOUP & THE WORD

March 28, 2023 – Soup & the Word – Wytheville Baptist – 12 Noon

April 4, 2023 – Soup & the Word – Wytheville Presbyterian – 12 Noon

GRADUATES WILL BE HONOR IN MAY

2023 High School and College Graduates will be honor in May (date to be announced). Please contact Cheryl Grubb, with name(s), contact information (phone and email) of graduate by April 30th.

FLOWERING OF THE CROSS – EASTER MORNING APRIL 9, 2023



A time-honored tradition at St Paul is the flowering of a cross placed in the sanctuary on Easter morning. Everyone is encouraged to bring flowers to adorn it as they arrive at church. Those attending early service can do so before or after they worship. Those attending the later service, please do so before the service. The cross will be relocated outside as a witness to our community and a celebration of the resurrection. He is risen! He is risen indeed!

RETIREMENT CELEBRATIONS – LON TOBIN & LAWN WALTERS

Retirement Celebration for two very special people. Please save the dates, more information to follow.
May 6th – Lawn Walters
May 27th – Lon Tobin

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



MOTHER’S DAY ROSES



If you would like to place a rose in the church on Mother’s Day, Sunday, May 14th in memory or in honor of a special mother, please fill out the form and include \$7.00 for each rose with your order.

____ Yes, I would like to order _____ rose(s).

In Memory of: _____

In Honor of: _____

From: _____

Orders must be place by Sunday, May 7th.