

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.

August 24, 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, 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, Liz Udell, Bob Walker, Shirley Waller, Mary Jane Wysor, Steve Young.

PASTOR PEN



"Greetings St. Paul Family!
It has been a beautiful season of change in this past month. I have enjoyed getting to know you all thus far, and look forward to listening to even more of your stories of life and faith.

As our local schools have begun a new school year and our preschool at St. Paul will begin theirs soon, it made me think about our own responses to change and transition. Proverbs 3:5-6 says, "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make your paths straight." Summer will soon turn to fall and new beginnings are all around us.

We may be tempted to lean into our own understanding and try to take on more than we can handle. Change can do that to us. It makes us want to reach for what we feel that we can control. But we know what is true and good relies outside of our control. When this world tries to tell us that we should hold the reins, we are called to remember the One who reigns over our lives each day.

I pray September is full of joy and opportunities to lean on God's understanding so that we can better see the new paths he sets before us!

In Christ's love and grace, Pastor Gracie Gray

				August Newsletter						
WERE YOU THERE? DID YOU SHARE?							Nov			NEEDED
							through	YTD as of	2026 ANNUAL	THROUGH
	19-Jul	26-Jul	July YTD*	02-Aug	12-Aug	16-Aug	16-Aug	16-Aug	PLAN	EOY
Attendance										
Sunday School	9	8		23	11	11				
SonLight Worship	96	90		87	92	92				
Traditional Worship	60	70		73	68	68				
Total Worship Attendance	156	160		160	171	171				
Ministry Plan Offering Received	\$ 3,838	\$ 3,847		\$ 7,907	\$ 7,235	\$ 2,437				
			\$270,308.00				\$ 17,579	\$287,887.00	\$ 450,363	\$162,476.00

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

SYMPATHY

Our sympathy and Christian love go to Jimmy Dean Underwood, Robyn Underwood, Barry & Crystal Underwood, Bryan Under-wood, Dreama Underwood Walters, Stacy & and Angel Underwood Spangler and their families in the death of their mother Patsye Ann Robinson Underwood on Thursday, August 6, 2026.

MEMORIALS

In Memory of Belle Neighbors:
Music: Carolyn Robinson

In Memory of Patsye Underwood:
Music: Tom & Betsy Ely
Maintenance: G.W. & Gail Catron, Don & Sharon Alexander

In Memory of BeBe Martel:
Relay for Life: Carolyn Robinson

In Memory of Shirley Caudill:
Maintenance: G.W. & Gail Catron

CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING



Church Council reports on Tuesday, September 15th.
Church Council meeting on Thursday, September 24th.
Everyone is welcome to attend.



PRESCHOOL DATES

Open House – Thursday, September 3rd from 5:30 to 8:00 pm

First Day of School – Tuesday, September 8th

Preschool Board Meeting – Tuesday, September 15th at 5:30 pm

Welcome to a wonderful new school year! We are praying for your family and are so excited to watch your little one learn, grow, and shine in God’s love.
~St. Paul UMC

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."
Proverbs 3:5-6

CAMP DICKENSON – OPEN HOUSE – SATURDAY, OCTOBER 3RD



Join us at Camp Dickenson on October 3 from 2-6 pm for our Open House! This is a FREE event, and all are welcome. There will be activities, music, and dinner.

We will also have a ribbon-cutting celebration for our newly renovated Lodge!

DISTRICT SERVICES/MEETNGS

District Superintendent set dates for the services/meetings listed below.

October 7-Bishop's Day with the New River District
St Paul UMC-6:00-8:00PM
The Bishop will lead a service for all Laity and Clergy.

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.

LADIES NIGHT OUT – THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2026



Ladies Night Out is an informative program concerning breast cancer. Gift bags will be given to each registrant. Door Prizes and Refreshments!

Wytheville Meeting Center doors open at 5:00 pm, program starts at 6:00 pm

SLEEP IN HEAVENLY PEACE

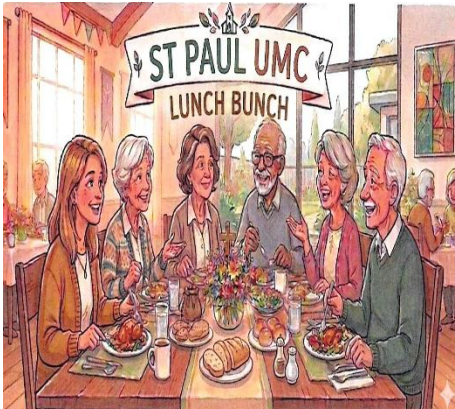
If interested in helping reduce child bedlessness in our local community, you can find more information at SHPBEDS.org or contact Randy Hales in person or at Randy.Hales@shpbeds.org

KIDS & YOUTH MINISTRY



September 13th - Sunday Nights start back
2027 (Save the Dates)
January 22-24rd - REZ 2027
July 10-14th - The Great Escape (Middle School Camp)
Summer 2027 - High School Trip (TBD)

ST PAUL UMC LUNCH BUNCH



Craving food, fun and fellowship? Come join your church friends for lunch on the last Tuesday of every month! We will gather at a different local restaurant each month to enjoy a warm, low-key atmosphere and plenty of laughs.

- No RSVP required: Just show up and join the fun.
- When & Where: Meet inside the restaurant's front entrance at 11:30 am.
- Guests welcome: Feel free to bring a friend!
- Details: Separate checks will be requested for each person.
- Weather policy: For everyone's safety, lunch will be canceled if there is snowy or icy weather.

Questions? Contact Debbie Verbeck (507-358-2731) or Shane Sledd (276-759-6130)

St Paul UMC Lunch Bunch Calendar for 2026

September When: Tuesday, September 29th, 11:30 am Where: Italian Garden - 1480 E Main St., (by Rural King) Cost: Lunch entrees range from \$8 to \$11	October When: Tuesday, October 27th, 11:30 am Where: Papa Taso's - 1965 E Main St. Cost: Sandwich entrees range from \$5 to \$7
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	December When: Tuesday, December 29th, 11:30 am Where: Grayson Restaurant - 100 Grayson Rd. Cost: Lunch entrees range from \$5 to \$13

CAMP DICKENSON – THE GREAT GATHERING – YOUNG ADULT RETREAT



October 23-25, 2026, Friday 6:30 pm – Sunday 1:00 pm – God calls all people to lives of love, compassion, service, faithfulness, and purpose in many different ways.

The Great Gathering is a FREE event for young adults seeking a weekend of fellowship, reflection, and recreation.

Together, we will explore what God is calling us to do in our lives. Whether it's vocation ministry or lay leadership, each of us can answer a call to ministry.

Register for the Great Gathering: <https://www.campdickenson.com/the-great-gathering>

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

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