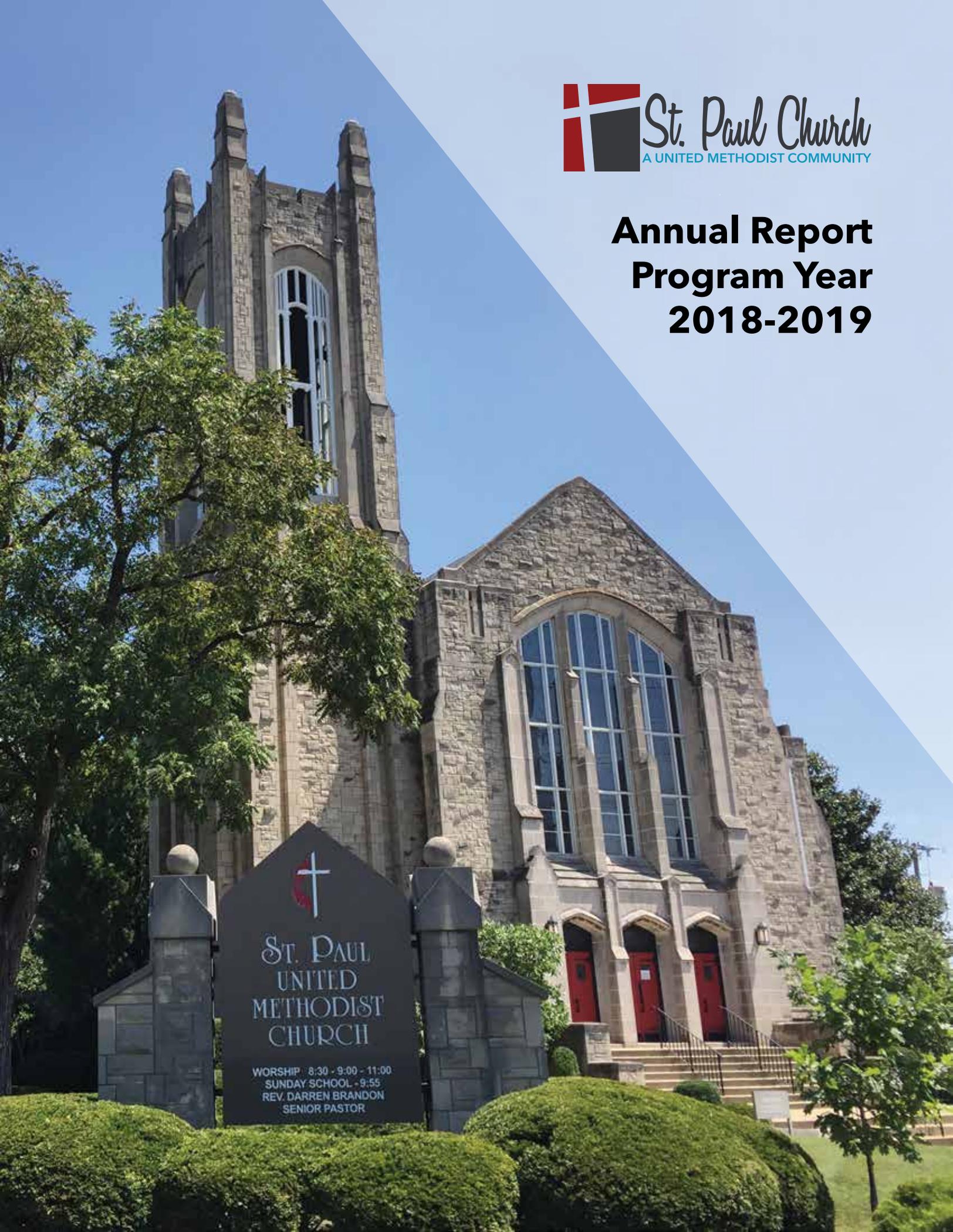




St. Paul Church
A UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY

Annual Report Program Year 2018-2019



ST. PAUL
UNITED
METHODIST
CHURCH

WORSHIP - 8:30 - 9:00 - 11:00
SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9:55
REV. DARREN BRANDON
SENIOR PASTOR



St. Paul has a vibrant legacy of ministry that began over 100 years ago. As the world endured World War I, a group of folks gathered for worship in a storefront on Dundee Road.

By 1923, St. Paul Church moved to its new location on the corner of Douglass Blvd. and Bardstown Rd. In the midst of the Great Depression, the church decided to create a sign of hope and built a portion of our current campus in 1931.



The sanctuary and bell tower was dedicated in 1944. Stained glass windows were installed in 1964. St. Paul Church installed its Noack organ in 2000 and added the Family Life Center in 2001. At each stage of St. Paul's history, the congregation has taken the next faithful step. St. Paul's faithfulness in uncertain times has created a legacy of connection, caring, and commitment.

As we begin our Legacy campaign, I am pleased to share with you some good news. The estate of Helen Tetzl has given us a gift of \$800,000. In the coming months, we'll explore how we can use this gift to invest in our past, present, and future.

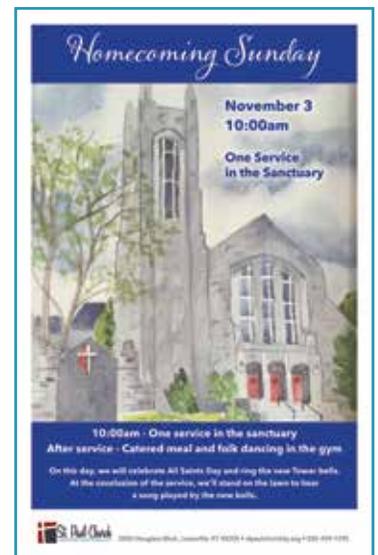


Our Legacy Campaign began with a wonderful expression of praise as our choirs led us in "Blessing of the Bells." The focus on legacy will conclude with an expression of unity on November 3 as we gather in one worship service at 10am for Homecoming Sunday. The day will include observing All Saints Day, "Ringing of the Bells", a fellowship meal, photo booth, and folk dancing.

Together our generosity is creating spaces where people can experience grace. Will you join us in taking the next faithful step in 2020? We have some ambitious plans for the new year and much of it includes building on our strong foundation. In the pages of this annual report, you can see the impact of your generosity.

God wants to do wonderful things here at St. Paul in and through us. Will you help us write the next chapter of St. Paul's legacy? We need your support and ask that you consider how you will pledge to share your time, talent, and treasure.

Grace and Peace,
Darren Brandon





St. Paul is a worshipping community and our worship overflows from our Sunday morning gatherings out into the world through our everyday lives. We gather as people from all walks of life and all of life's circumstances, sharing our joys, our sorrows, our questions, and our doubts. Through various styles of worship and various offerings of services, the Worship and Music ministry seeks to help form Christ in each worshiper to be the light of God in the world.

The Worship and Music ministry offers two traditional services at 8:30a.m. and 11:00a.m. on Sunday mornings. At 9:00a.m., we also worship in a more casual, contemporary style at KOINONIA, which includes communion each week. The music ministry performs and sponsors concerts in the beautiful sanctuary space. The Worship and Music ministry also helps form the next generations of worshipers by teaching them to sing the songs of faith through children's and youth choirs, as well as youth band.

Additionally, we offer opportunities for praise through instrumental music as a part of our Bells of St. Paul handbell ensemble and our St. Paul Orchestra, which perform throughout the year.

SANCTUARY RENOVATION

Countless gallons of paint!
 110+ light fixtures converted to LED bulbs,
 Special thanks to Jim Murphy, Ray Fore,
 Jerry Bodine and
 Alex the Handyman.



BOAR'S HEAD FESTIVAL



2,200 attendees at the Boar's Head Festival
 150 Boar's Head volunteers - from kindergarten to senior adults

WORSHIP

150+ services celebrated
 500+ songs of faith sung



CHOIRS

25+ in the Chancel Choir
 48 in Youth Choir
 45 children in three choirs

14 participants Bells of St. Paul Handbell Ensemble.

BELLS

200+ attended the first bi-annual Handbell Massed Ring in April (30 ringers from 3 area churches, with over 200 bells rung)



9 new tower bells
 1 new octave of handbells
 100+ bells, chimes and other instruments played



BANNERS

19 worship banners consecrated



Worship and Music

St. Paul members have spread the love of God throughout our community and beyond. Helping those in need at our Resource Center, supporting Portland Promise Center, building for Habitat for Humanity, and feeding Waller Williams kids and their families.

13th HABITAT FOR HUMANITY HOME

\$25,000 donated to Habitat for Humanity with 37 volunteers donating their time and 14 groups donating lunches



RESOURCE CENTER

795 visits to the Wednesday Morning Resource Center
10+ Volunteers



PORTLAND PROMISE

\$21,500 Raised for Portland Promise Center



HELPING THE NEEDY

Over 700 new pairs of socks collected for the homeless



THANKSGIVING BOXES

150 Thanksgiving boxes donated to Waller Williams



COMMUNITY SUPPORT

324 AA meetings held
104 Depression & Bipolar Support Group meetings
52 line dancing classes
208 yoga classes held

BELIZE

8 children sponsored for school in Belize for the 2019/2020 school year



STEWARDSHIP OF THE EARTH

3137 KWH produced this year from our solar panels



Missions

The Discipleship team encompasses our shared life as we seek to grow individually and as a community in our understanding of who we are as the body of Christ. Study and engagement in the practices that deepen our faith are crucial to Christian transformation. The story of scripture and the tradition of the Church are tools we can use to become more faithful disciples.

At St. Paul, members and friends are invited to practice discipleship and strengthen their faith through classes, small groups, and reading resources. Through these practices, individuals continue their journey into the

heart of God. God is at work through the Spirit as we participate in practices and experiences that transform our hearts to become more Christ-like.

Our Wesley Night programming offered four studies, averaging about 70 attendees per night. Topics included Nonviolent Communication, the book of Galatians, and the Animate! video discussion series on faith.

Our 2019 Touched Twice clinic saw 80 volunteers serving 200 guests who received medical, dental, and legal assistance, as well as food, clothing, and fellowship.

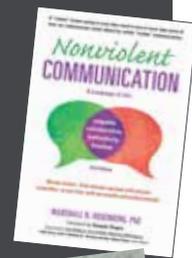
TOUCHED TWICE

200 guests served by approximately 80 volunteers



WESLEY NIGHT

70 attendees per night;
770 in total attendance
3 fall programs
3 spring programs
24 shared meals



SPAMS

**St. Paul
Adult
Ministries for
Seniors**

The SPAMS took 4 trips and hosted 4 Lunch & Learn events with average attendance of 16 people per event. Trips included a visit to Clifty Falls, Derby Dinner Playhouse, and the Thrive Center.



SMALL GROUPS

12 Sunday morning small groups with approximately 83 weekly attendees
10 additional small groups with approximately 74 attendees



Discipleship

LABYRINTH EXPERIENCES

15 participants on the Labyrinth Bus Tour
12 seekers on the Advent Labyrinth Walk
40 attendees at the Lenten Labyrinth Concert
and Service of Healing



The Spiritual Formation Team seeks to offer opportunities for growth in understanding, love, and wisdom as God's beloved children through experience of prayer, study, silence, worship, and community. Team members lead and support two weekly Guided Meditation groups, two monthly prayer beading groups, book studies, on- and off-site labyrinth walks and retreat days, a curated resource room, programs for caregivers and end-of-life resources, devotional guides for Advent and Lent, special services for healing, Longest Night, and Ash Wednesday.

The team reinforces the church-wide theme of the Power of Connection by partnering with the Resilience, Senior Adult, Discipleship, Children's Ministry, and Confirmation teams to support their ministries and hopes to offer opportunities for people to connect with God and others to strengthen the spiritual growth of our members so that they can connect with the work of God's Kingdom in the world.

STAR WORDS

450 words distributed

"I believe the more I study my Star Word, the more I will discover about me!"



RETREATS

18 participants at the Music and Movement Retreat at Valaterra
10 attendees at the Caregivers Retreat

"I enjoyed it all! So glad to be with church friends and meet new friends."

MEDITATION

2 groups
10 weekly participants



PRAYER BEADS

13 beading sessions with an average of 12 participants



STUDIES & SPECIAL SERVICES

Walking on Eggshells Program – 42
Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible discussion – 8
Good Friday Noon Service – 25
Longest Night Service – 25
Service of Sound and Silence – 9

Spiritual Formation

The youth at St. Paul have many different personalities and interests, but one of the clearest ways you can see their commonality is in their willingness to say yes when it comes to living as disciples. While on the FUSION 2019 tour (a week-long trip the youth choir and youth group take annually), the youth of St. Paul ministered in the Detroit area by singing at Mosaic Midtown Church and St. Patrick's Senior Center, participating in neighborhood clean-up projects, ministering to underprivileged senior adults, and packing craft kits for school children.

Again and again, these youth move beyond their comfort zones to share the love of Christ. They do not sit idly by when they're called to put their faith into action. They do not complain when it's inconvenient to put their faith into action. These youth seize the opportunities placed in front of them by saying yes. They travel outside of their homes to meet people who are different from themselves; they demonstrate compassion and understanding. They are dedicated to living their faith and exploring their spirituality and should be encouraged as they continue to say yes. These youth are not the church of the future; they are the church of the present.

YOUTH GROUP

40 young people regularly attending on Sunday evenings.



SENIOR BANQUET

5 seniors, supported by lots of friends and family.



FUSION

32 youth and 6 adults ministered through music and outreach projects on the annual youth group and youth choir trip in June.



CONFIRMATION

7 confirmands were supported by 7 Friends in Faith



PROJECT SERVE

16 youth participated in Project Serve, supporting the Portland Promise Center VBS



YOUTH RETREAT

35 campers at Camp Loucon



Youth

MUSIC CAMP

55+ children and youth participants in annual Summer Music Camp



Children are a vital part of St. Paul. They are our contributors, attendees, and members. These children are part of the church now, not just the future, and for this reason, it's vital that they feel valued and connected at St. Paul. The Children and Family Team provides opportunities for them to connect and grow in their faith. Amy Bishop, the Director of Children and Family Ministries, creates a team of volunteers who show up every Sunday morning to teach children about Jesus and living a life following Christ.

The Children and Family team isn't just committed to the kids who run around St. Paul, but rather, all of God's children. That's why you can often find the team planning opportunities designed for all kids in the community. This past program year, they hosted their annual Fall Festival and Breakfast with Santa. Before Lent began, they gathered over 100 people in McAdams Hall for a Fat Tuesday dinner. In April, they partnered with the Spiritual Formation team to host the Easter Eggpalooza. These community events provided another avenue to bring people from different walks of life together and share Christian community.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

55 kids, 30 volunteers



SUNDAY SCHOOL

30 children per week learning and growing



TWEENS

16 tweens enjoying fellowship



KICS

15 mission-focused kids



CHILDREN'S CHURCH

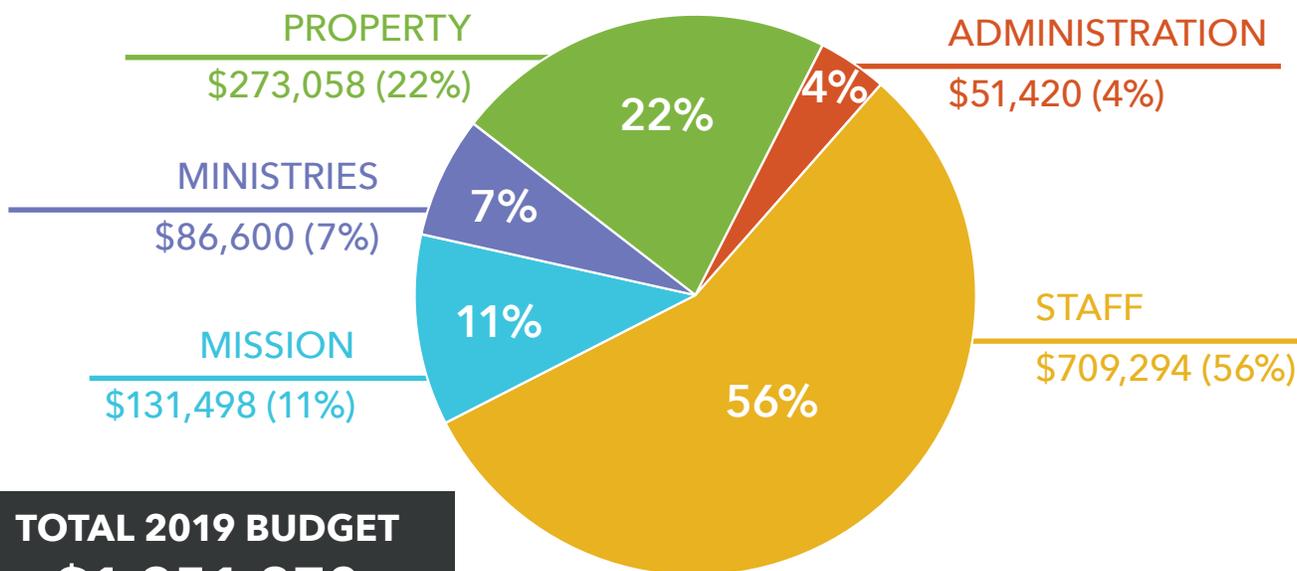
30 kids worshipping



Children

Finances

2019 BUDGET OVERVIEW



CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE KENTUCKY CONFERENCE

St. Paul's contributions to the Kentucky Conference fund mission and ministry happening in our region, nation, and world, such as: camp and retreats, college ministries, natural disaster relief, and minister education.

\$115,957

**HIGHLAND
COMMUNITY
MINISTRIES**

\$5,000



**ENDOWMENT
AS OF AUGUST 2019**

\$1,211,709

NON-BUDGETED GIVING BY ST. PAUL MEMBERS

The St. Paul community went above and beyond in their giving this past year. On top of donations made directly to St. Paul, this community supported the following with extravagant gifts: 13th Habitat for Humanity House, Portland Promise Center, Waller Williams School, solar panels, parking lot resurfacing, sanctuary repairs, a new octave of handbells, new lighting for the stained glass windows, Boar's Head lighting, nine new tower bells, and more. Thank you!

SCOUTS

90 Cub Scouts registered in Troop 40
6 Boy Scouts attending the World Scout Jamboree
8 Girl Scouts bringing awareness to abused children



Scouts supporting the Ark's Red, White, and Blue Parade in July



THE ARK

19 Arkettes
10 Volunteers
10 gatherings per year



The Bible tells us God told Noah to build an Ark. Now, that was no small feat as Noah was not an ark builder, and likely was not even a carpenter. Besides, even if he built it, there was no river nearby to float it on. But, God told Noah just to build it; God would take care of all of the details, and would lead him one step at a time.

Then, one day, the ark was done! Noah boarded with his wife, his sons, his son's wives, and two of every creature God had created. The rains fell, and the ark floated. Oh, what a journey they were in for!

Seven years ago God told another of His children to build an ark. He was met with the usual objections, but instructed to just build that ark. He would take care of all of the details, and He would lead one step at a time. That Ark became St. Paul's Ministry with Adults with Special Needs.

Now, each month, 30 of us gather to celebrate and encourage each other as we travel together with God. We have Bible thoughts, prayer, music, crafts, games, special guests, and great food. Oh, what a journey we have been on!

Community

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
2000 DOUGLASS BOULEVARD
LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY 40205
502-459-1595
WWW.STPAULCHURCHKY.ORG

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