

THE TOWER

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Midterm Quilt Blessing
See page 4.

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DEATHS SINCE ALL SAINTS DAY 2020

- Bill Dickinson - October 14, 2020
- Meredith Garrett (Jones) - November 18, 2020
- Bob DeWeese - November 25, 2020
- Sharon Horn - December 11, 2020
- Helen Barrier - December 18, 2020
- Gloria Wenz - December 20, 2020
- Don Bierman - December 24, 2020
- Allan Morris - December 27, 2020
- Dan Challman - January 13, 2021
- Margaret Shepherd - February 1, 2021
- Clarke Megill - February 4, 2021
- Les Black - February 12, 2021
- Joyce Roos - February 14, 2021
- Betty Frank - February 26, 2021
- Beth Challman - March 22, 2021
- Mary Helen Zimmerman - April 12, 2021
- Gerry Snyder - April 16, 2021
- Jan Deaton - April 24, 2021
- Pauletta Matthews - June 4, 2021
- Helen Kuhn - July 24, 2021
- Linda Goulder - August 5, 2021
- Marilyn Bierman - August 21, 2021
- Malcolm Roessler - October 7, 2021

TOWER DEADLINE SCHEDULE!

December Tower: Thursday, Nov. 11, 5pm

Submit articles and/or pictures to Sara Ferebee at sara@stpaulchurchky.org.



St. Paul Weekly Email - Stay informed!

Stay informed about the news and happenings at St. Paul. Subscribe at our website or email info@stpaulchurchky.org.



Pastor Darren's Weekly Phone Message



Each Wednesday, Pastor Darren sends an uplifting phone message. To receive these calls, email info@stpaulchurchky.org or leave a message at 459-1595.



WEBSITE: The St. Paul website is our communications hub! To keep up with all the St. Paul news and activities, visit StPaulChurchKY.org. Bookmark it!



Connect with St. Paul Church on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

Prayer Requests: Send prayer requests or sign up to receive the Prayer Chain by emailing prayer@stpaulchurchky.org or by filling out the form at the **St. Paul website**. *The Prayer Chain is emailed throughout the week as prayer requests are received.*

Worship Recordings: Our Sunday morning worship service is video-recorded. Find the recordings at StPaulChurchKY.org/sermons, or follow the link under **Recorded Worship Services!**
Podcast: We've also restarted our [St. Paul podcast](#), where the sermon will be available each week.

ROOTED IN CHRIST, GROUNDED IN LOVE

REV. DARREN BRANDON, SENIOR PASTOR

"I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love."
(Ephesians 3:16-17)

In our recent church-wide book study on **Sacred Rhythms**, the author writes about repotting plants. "Part of the pleasure of it all is setting them in a larger space where there is fresh dirt and room for the root system to spread out, and knowing that spaciousness will produce mounds of flowers throughout the season." (Ruth Haley Barton, 63)

A healthy plant needs the right conditions to grow, and so do we. I invite you to reflect with me on this simple question, "What part of our lives needs a fresh start?" We've spent the last month exploring rhythms that help us center our lives in Christ. The themes of gratefulness, which are part of our November celebrations, give us the right environment to grow in Christ.

Being together in worship strengthens our connection with God and one another. As you plan the weeks of November, may they include a time to pause and give thanks in worship.

Each November I revisit the words of Brother David Steindl-Rast, who suggests that the practice of gratefulness leads to a happy life. He writes, "We all want to be happy. We all have that in common. Many people would say, 'that is simple'. When you are happy, you are grateful." Think again.



We all know people who have everything it would take to be happy, and they are not. They want something else or more of the same, and they are not happy. We also know people who have misfortunes that none of us would want, yet they are happy. They radiate happiness. It is not happiness that makes us grateful but gratefulness that makes us happy."

I want to invite you to prepare your heart for worship by practicing these three simple steps.

STOP - become present, awake, aware, receptive. Build stop signs in your life.
- "Be still and know that I am God." Psalm 46:10

LOOK - notice, observe, consider.
- "Look at the birds of the air and the flowers of the field." Matthew 6

GO - acknowledge, take action, do something with the opportunity and awareness that gratefulness offers you.
- "Be thankful in every circumstance."
1 Thessalonians 5:18

I hope to see you in worship as we center our lives in Christ that we may be rooted and grounded in love.

Grace and Peace,

Darren

October 31: "**Rooted in Christ, Growing in Love**"
November 7: "**All Saints Sunday**"
November 14: "**Homecoming**"
November 21: "**Commitment Sunday**"

Note: To learn more about the work of Brother David Steindl-Rast visit <https://gratefulness.org>.

Human Sexuality Survey Results

Recently, the Strategic Renovation Team sent a survey to active members of St. Paul to understand their thoughts on the Book of Discipline's current language on same sex marriage and ordination of gay clergy. The results have been tabulated and will be mailed to those active St. Paul participants who were invited to respond to the survey.

Based on the survey results and comments made by the respondents, we are designing two Fireside chats to provide an opportunity for further discussion. "Everyone is invited to attend both of these Fireside chats, which will differ in focus. Please sign up for either or both of these important meetings."

The first Fireside Chat will be held by Zoom Tuesday, November 16 at 7:00pm and the second will be in person in the gym at St. Paul, Tuesday, November 30 at 7:00pm.

For questions, please contact SRT member Ann Curtis at annOcurtis@gmail.com or 502-727-9799.

To join the November 16 Zoom meeting, please register in advance here:

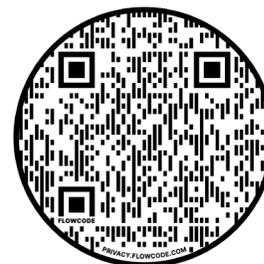
https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZco-fuyprzMoGd2YIEUR246AAdEWPNf2C_Wg

To RSVP for the November 30 in-person Fireside Chat, please sign up here or scan the QR code with your phone's camera for quick access:

<https://stpaulchurchky.shelbnextchms.com/external/form/f46e65f4-7438-4eb0-a9cf-0bc8ed8b247b>

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Scan the QR code with your phone's camera for quick access to registration links.



Midterm Quilt Blessing

On October 19, 2021, members of the Faith Quilters gathered to bless the 32 quilts they have made since March 2021.

Instead of waiting until the annual quilt blessing in March, they chose to get this batch of quilts into Project Linus distribution and around the bodies of local children in crisis, as soon as possible.



Vision Team Update

Earlier this year, many members of our congregation participated in a church survey and a Vision Summit to express our hopes, visions, and goals for our church going forward. The Strategic Renovation Team took these ideas and developed them into ten goals for St. Paul to be accomplished over the next three years. A Vision Team was formed consisting of ten members to help facilitate the efforts of staff and ministry teams working in these areas. Each member has taken responsibility for one goal.

Following is a list of each of these ten goals, the member of the Vision Team with responsibility for that goal and their email addresses. Feel free to reach out to any of the Vision Team members if you have any questions or suggestions.

1. Vision Team Organization. Implement a plan to ensure the Vision Team assumes ownership of St. Paul's Vision over the next three years. Member: Ed Henson: edhenson1@bellsouth.net
2. Align Church Staffing. Work with staff and ministry teams to ensure church staffing is structured to execute the church's vision, priorities and goals. Members: Carrie Burns: carrieburns@bellsouth.net and Graeme Donovan: donovangraeme@gmail.com.
3. White House. Make a decision on the future of the white house and implement that decision. Member: Jason Ramsey: jdr Ramsey321@gmail.com.
4. Senior Adults Ministry. Re-establish and implement a senior adult ministry to better incorporate and support senior adults. Member: Jon Fleshman: dettofranoi@yahoo.com.
5. Coke Memorial Partnership. Partner with Coke Memorial United Methodist Church to build a collaborative ministry (discipleship, fellowship, mission, justice, etc.) Member: Graeme Donovan: donovangraeme@gmail.com.
6. Resource Center. Develop the St. Paul Resource Center to be operating and staffed by volunteers and a dedicated staff person and serve 300 people monthly within three years. Member: Anna Twyman: atwyman34@gmail.com.
7. Volunteer Involvement. By the end of 2023 have 300 people in our congregation involved in one of St. Paul's ministries. Develop the attitude that "Every member has a ministry." Track this participation using our church's software. Member: Gail Henson: grhenson@gmail.com.
8. Small Group Worship. Goal is within 3 years to have 75% of our average worship attendance participate in a recurring activity outside of worship (including small groups, Sunday School classes, Bible studies, etc.) at least on a quarterly basis. Member: John Smithers: jsmithers369@gmail.com.
9. Young Adults Ministry. Develop our ministry to young adults and college-age adults, with the three year goal of having 75 people participating annually in our young adult ministry and 30 people participating in a college-age ministry. Member: Tammi Kinser: tammi.kinser@att.net.
10. Family / Children / Youth Ministry. Continue to develop our family ministry, providing resources to equip, support and encourage families in the community to grow together in Christ. The goal would be to have 75 members participating by the end of 2023. Member: Beth Rose: bethhoperose@icloud.com.

While many of these goals have specific number goals, the main focus is for the church to strive to develop vibrant ministries in each of these areas.

St. Paul has faced several challenges in recent years and has challenges in front of us, but never underestimate the power of the Holy Spirit to continue to bring us together and move us forward for God's purpose and to reflect God's love.

Again, don't hesitate to reach out to any member of the Vision Team with any thoughts, questions or suggestions you might have.

Ed Henson, Vision Team Chair, edhenson1@bellsouth.net

Continuing Conversations with Coke Memorial UMC

Please join the discussion of the August 31 webinar presented by Shelia Wise Rowe, author of **Healing Racial Trauma: The Road to Resilience**. Pastor Shirley Burke organized this event for the KY United Methodist Clergy Conference. (The first 5 minutes are introductions. The first half deals with types of racial trauma and common responses including Fleeing, Folding, Fighting, and Forfeiting. The second half deals with what is needed for healing from racial trauma including creating safe spaces, where trauma is recognized as real, forgiveness, repentance, repair and reconciliation. Each half is about 75 minutes. The last fifteen minutes after the break include prayers from the facilitators.)

Recording of the webinar can be found at this link: https://youtu.be/PFU0Q_apMzg

All are welcome to join the Zoom call on Thursday, November 4 at 7:15pm for a discussion of the content of the webinar. Please watch the first half of the webinar video through 1:12 and record your comments and questions before the Zoom meeting on Oct. 7.

Topic: Continuing Conversations

Time: 7:15pm
Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89779833795>

Guided Meditation

November Schedule

Mondays November 1 & 15 at 7pm by Conference Call
Wednesdays November 3 & 17 at 10:30am on Zoom.

Email Marilyn Stoner at marilynstoner@fastmail.fm for details on joining the groups.

More info:

www.stpaulchurchky.org/guided-meditation/



Engaging Wellbeing: Simpler, Humbler, Blessed

Adult Retreat Day with Joe Grant

Postponed until
April 23, 2022



Save the date!

"SING NOEL"

A worship celebration
featuring St. Paul youth and children's choirs

December 5 at 6:30pm

Join us Sunday evening, December 5, as we usher in the season of Advent with joyful worship and favorite carols of the season!

Wesley Night Continues on Wednesday evenings!

Advent Study begins on November 3



New Baking Ministry for all ages | Wednesdays at 5:00pm | Common Cup | Details below.

Meal | 6:00-7:00pm | Please register in advance by calling the church office (459-1595) or by emailing Pastor Dustin at dustin@stpaulchurchky.org.

Children's Choirs for ages three through sixth grade | All kids are welcome to join the fun!

- 6:00pm - Music Milestones Class for ages 3-5
- 7:00pm - Joyful Song Choir for grades 1-3
- 7:00pm - Wesleyan Choir for grades 4-6.

Kids Club | Grades 1-6 | 6:30-7:00pm | Gym

Youth Jam and Hang Out | Grades 7-12 | 6:30-8:00pm | Youth Center

Wesley Night Bible Study | *Advent study beginning November 3*



Meanings of Advent

Beginning Wednesday, November 3, and concluding on Wednesday, December 8, Pastor Dustin and Pastor Darren will co-lead an Advent experience to prepare our hearts for Christmas. The study begins at 7:00pm each Wednesday. The first part of the hour will focus on Meanings of Advent and end with a Service of Evening Prayers.

Halfway through the study, we will host a Service of Gratitude and Healing on Wednesday, November 17, using the Advent themes of waiting and the promise of Christ's coming.

Note: There will be no Wesley Night the week of Thanksgiving.

Mission and Outreach

November Mission Focus: Waller-Williams Christmas Stockings

Last year's Christmas stockings were a huge hit with the students at Waller-Williams! So St. Paul is going to offer some Christmas cheer again this year! Please choose a child from the list, buy a Christmas stocking, fill it with goodies, label it with the Teacher ID for that student (e.g., "Miller 1" or "Gonzalez 3" so we can get it to the right kid), then drop it off at St. Paul by November 30! You can stop by during office hours (Monday and Wednesday, 10am-1pm) or come to our curbside drop-off on Sunday, November 29 from 1:30-2:30pm. If you need us to pick up your stocking, email sara@stpaulchurchky.org.

If you are not able to do the shopping yourself, you may choose a child and donate money, and we'll shop for you! You can write a check or donate online at the secure church website Giving page, and put the Teacher ID in the notes so we shop for the right student.

You can use the child's list of "likes" and their "dream" stocking to guide you in selecting items for the stocking. You are not expected to buy all the things the child has listed; that's just a guide to give you some hints about the types of things that would put a smile on their faces when they receive the stocking! And of course, they would all love some candy! We don't expect anyone to spend more than \$20 on a stocking. We would love for each stocking to be filled to the brim, so if you buy gift cards, please add some candy or other small goodies to fill it up! Thank you for your generosity in making Christmas special for the kids at the Waller-Williams school!



We are still working on setting up the Sign-up Genius link, but once it is ready, you will find it here:

<https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/christmas-stockings/>

Drop-off options!

- **DROP OFF** items at St. Paul - Mondays and Wednesdays, 10:00am-1:00pm.
- **PICK-UP** - Contact Sara at sara@stpaulchurchky.org to arrange a pick-up.

Deadline: Wednesday, December 1

St. Paul's Ongoing Mission Partners:

[Highlands Community Ministries](#)
[Smoketown Family Wellness Center \(SFWC\)](#)
[United Methodist Children's Home](#)
[United Methodist Mountain Mission](#)

St. Paul Mobile Resource Center

at Fourth Avenue UMC's Open Door Ministry



Saturday, November 13
11:00am-1:00pm



WE NEED YOU!



St. Paul's Mobile Resource Center is serving an average of 85-100 people each second Saturday of the month. We desperately need additional volunteers! And we can promise you a meaningful experience!



If you would like to volunteer to help with this event, sign up at this SignUpGenius form:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084ea4a62ba6fe3-mobile>

Questions? Contact Sara Ferebee, Director of Communications & Outreach,
at sara@stpaulchurchky.org

We always need donations for both our in-house Resource Center and our Mobile Resource Center. To make your donation shopping a little easier, you can purchase from our wish lists, which will ship the items directly to the church (you can access the lists at the St. Paul website):

Amazon Wish List: <https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2KBB4ZUB5F8QJ?>

Dollar Days Wish List: <https://www.dollardays.com/stpaulresourcecenter/wishlist.html>

United Methodist Mountain Mission (UMMM)



The UMMM accepts donations of gently used clothing and household items to stock their eight Opportunity Stores, which provide affordable access to everyday items across eastern Kentucky.

Our next United Methodist Mountain Mission pickup is scheduled for Tuesday, December 14.

Please bring your boxed donations to St. Paul on Mondays or Wednesdays, 10am-1pm.

UMMM has asked that donations be placed in a box to help with loading their truck.

It is helpful if you can wait until closer to the pickup date to drop off your items.

Almohamad Family Update

Members of a Syrian refugee family celebrated their fifth anniversary in the United States this September with some of the original St. Paul support team volunteers. Through Kentucky Refugee Ministries the church provided the Almohamads six months of logistical assistance such as driving them to doctors' appointments and showing them how to ride the bus. Donations of food, clothing, furniture, toys and money toward utility bills and rent were made by individual members and the church. Despite the language barrier, mission execution led to enjoyable cultural exchanges that blossomed into lasting friendships. The youngest four of Muna and Ahmad's eight sons came with them to America and are doing well: two are in grade school; one graduated from high school and is working part-time while attending community college; the oldest went to work shortly after he arrived and has added a couple of entrepreneurial endeavors to his busy schedule. The four oldest brothers are married with children and live in Turkey. They all Skype often and their shared dream is an in-person reunion. In the meantime, the Louisville Almohamads are applying for citizenship. (In the photograph with the Almohamads are the Ramseys, the Fleshmans and Jan Krause.)



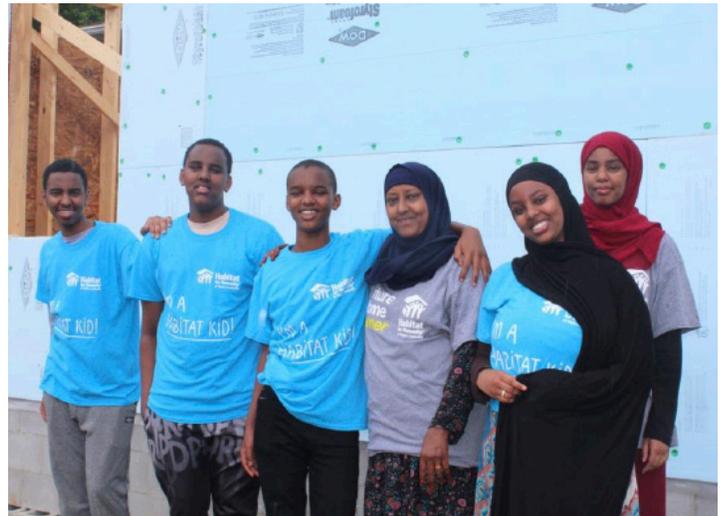
HABITAT HOUSE BUILD

Nearly all the walls are built in preparation for Raise-the-Roof weekend, October 21-23, for the United Methodist Habitat House Build. St. Paul will provide the meal on Thursday, and the Ground Blessing will be on Saturday.

If you would like to volunteer to help at the build site on future work days, please sign up at this link: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/904084ea4a62ba6fe3-habitat>

If you would like to help with providing lunch for the workers, please contact Glenna Heimerding-er at 777-2776 or purplgrl@gmail.com.

If you have questions, you may contact Ray Fore at 458-2702 or papa.fore@gmail.com.



SUPPORT OUR MINISTRY PARTNERS

Highlands Community Ministries Christmas Giving

HCM provides many services to people in our community who have trouble making ends meet. This year, we are asking our congregation to provide gift cards for HCM clients. We are one of several churches participating in this activity.

Due to Covid, this approach was used last year and was a great success with very positive feedback from the recipients. This is a simple way to reach out to those in need. St. Paul has exhibited generosity to this program for many years. Let's do it again!

Gift cards from Target, Kroger, Walmart (\$25-\$30)

**Place in envelope labeled to HCM and drop off at St Paul on Sunday mornings, or Monday or Wednesday 10:00am-1:00pm or mail cards to church
Please have your gift cards to St. Paul by Monday, November 29.**

Thank you for helping some of our neighbors experience the Love of Christmas.

Portland Promise Center Early Education Program

(taken from their e-newsletter)

Here at the Portland Promise Center, we are always trying to listen to community needs as we fulfill our mission to enrich the lives of children and youth physically, educationally, and spiritually. The Covid pandemic has brought significant changes to the ways our community interacts, but one specific need has remained consistent: the need for Early Education Programs.

Helping preschool-aged children get the right educational start is an important component for their future school success. The Portland Promise Center wants to be a part of meeting this need in our community, so we are beginning the process of launching an Early Education Program at our Center.

This new venture is going to require renovations to our current facility, new staff trained in early education, and creativity in building a successful program. We would love to have you begin praying with us as our ministry grows to meet this need. Also, please consider supporting this important program. Children are waiting and we can't do this without you!

Donate here:

<https://www.portlandpromise.org/donate/>

Checks can be mailed to:

Portland Promise Center
PO Box 11865, Louisville, KY 40251

Smoketown Family Wellness Center Tutoring

Smoketown Family Wellness Center (SFWC) is one of St. Paul's ministry partners. Dr. Julia Mitchell, a St. Paul member, is a pediatrician at SFWC. Please consider this volunteer opportunity she has shared.

Smoketown Family Wellness Center is offering a safe space for children in the neighborhood to work on their homework and get assistance as needed, and they are in need of volunteers.

If you are interested in tutoring, please contact Dr. Julia Mitchell at julianemitchell@gmail.com.

We are tentatively planning for Tuesday and Thursday afternoons 3:30-5:00pm for grades 1-12. We will cap attendance for students at likely 12-15 per session to allow desks to be spaced adequately.

Masks will be worn. We are hoping for 3-4 volunteers per session. (It is quite possible that only a few students will show for the services but we want to ensure we have adequate volunteer support before we advertise to the community.)





Dear St. Paul Children's Ministry Families,

It is with a heavy heart that St. Paul Children's Ministry will only be offering essential programming until further notice, due to the lack of volunteers during this Covid season. Ms. Tori has reached out in several attempts through the bulletin, St. Paul KICS & Tweens Facebook page, and in the Children's Ministry weekly email over the past few months in an attempt to recruit volunteers. Sadly, very few volunteers have come forward, meaning we can only offer limited and essential programming at this time. At St. Paul, we hope and pray more volunteers will come forward so that we may continue God's calling upon our ministry.

Below is the tentative schedule for the rest of the 2021 season. Please note that this does not affect any of the Children's Music Ministry programming. In this return to the essentials, we remain committed to a vital spiritual education and experience for our kids and this time of scaling back may allow space for families that need it while we pour more of our energy into the fundamentals of our children's experience here at St. Paul.

Sunday School!

Sundays from 10:00-10:50am. Email Ms. Tori at tori@stpaulchurchky.org for an online Sunday school if your family would like an online option!

Children's Chapel

During the 9:00am and 11:00am service! Join Ms. Tori after the children's moment for sacred circle time! We will return for the closing song/hymn.

KICS & Tweens

KICS & Tweens meets every 4th Sunday from 4:00 to 5:30pm.

Wesley Night

Baking Ministry, 5:00-6:00pm, Common Cup Kids Club, 6:30-7:00pm



Mark your calendar for these Upcoming Events!

Breakfast with Santa on December 11.
KICS & Tweens Christmas Party on December 18.

If you would like to volunteer for St. Paul's Children's Ministry programs, Ms. Tori would love to talk with you!

Please email her at tori@stpaulchurchky.org!

Stay up to date with all of our great Children's Ministry programs and events:

- subscribe to our weekly email at the Children's Ministry webpage:

<https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/kids/>

- visit the St. Paul Kids & Tweens Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulchurchkids>



Youth News!

Sunday Morning Service Projects:

The Youth Ministry Team has decided that instead of a traditional Sunday School we will take that hour to do service projects. So far these have included prayer beading, resource center organizing, and cooking for our unhoused neighbors. We could use a couple of additional volunteers to help make these projects happen! If you are willing to lead a Sunday Morning Service Project with the youth please email youth@stpaulchurchky.org.

"Youth Group Details:

Our current Sunday night schedule is as follows:

6:00pm - Dinner outside provided by youth families. Please see below for more details on meals and how to sign up!

6:30pm - Activity in the Gym / Parking Lot / Youth Center

7:00pm - Group Worship in the Youth Center. This will include a lesson as well as small group time.

Please remember to bring your refillable water bottle and Bible every week!

Schedule:

November 7 - Regular Youth
November 14 - Regular Youth
November 21 - Regular Youth
November 28 - No Youth Group (Thanksgiving)
December 5 - No Youth Group (Advent Service)
December 12 - Regular Youth
December 19 - Progressive Dinner (New Date)
December 26 - No Youth Group (Christmas Break)

January 2 - No Youth Group (Christmas Break)
January 9 - Gronk! Night / Youth Lite
January 16 - Activity & service project
January 23 - Regular Youth
January 30 - Regular Youth
February 6 - Regular Youth
February 13 - Regular Youth
February 18 - 19 - Lock in!
February 20 - No Youth (recover from lock in)
February 27 - Regular Youth
March 6 - Regular Youth
March 13 - Regular Youth
March 20 - Regular Youth
March 27 - No Youth Group (JCPS Spring Break)
April 3 - Youth Hangout after Church; No Youth Group (JCPS Spring Break)
April 10 - Regular Youth
April 17 - No Youth Group (Easter)
April 24 - Regular Youth
May 1 - Regular Youth
May 8 - No Youth Group (Mother's Day)
May 15 - Regular Youth
May 22 - Senior Banquet



To stay up-to-date on Youth events, please:
- subscribe to our mailing list - at the bottom of the St. Paul Youth webpage: www.stpaulchurchky.org/youth/
- join the [St. Paul Youth Facebook Group](#)
- follow @stp_youth_group on Instagram
- follow @stpaulumc_youth on Twitter

Youth Ministry Director Search Update

The youth search team has met two times and has finalized a job description for the church's youth director position. Lorie Williamson was elected as chair of the team, which consists of nine members from staff, youth parents, and volunteers.

On October 1st this job description was posted to United Methodist Conference websites and is in the process of being posted to church staffing

websites and seminaries. As applications come in, they are reviewed by the team and interviews are given to strong candidates. The search continues to go well.

More updates will follow. If anyone is interested in applying or knows someone who would be interested, they can contact dustin@stpaulchurchky.org for more information.

Boar's Head 2021

We are working diligently to make this year's Boar's Head safely happen. After much prayer and discussion we have decided to move forward with 3 performances, one each night December 29, 30, and 31. Tickets will be limited and the performance will be staged in such a way to limit the number of people on stage. We are reaching out to fill casting with both volunteers and professionals to see if this is a viable plan. We are, of course, continuing to monitor the COVID situation and will adjust as necessary. We will not hold the dinners this year, to further reduce the possibilities of spreading the virus. To put on the Festival, we are asking for contributions to cover equipment rental, professional musicians and other staff that make the event extra special. You may send a check to the church, or give online to the Boar's Head fund. Thank you.



Troop 40's 100th Anniversary

In 2022, Boy Scout Troop 40 will celebrate its 100th anniversary as an active troop. To help our preparations, we are seeking photographs of scouting activities from former members or leaders of Troop 40. Please send copies of old photos or other memorabilia to Troop 40 in care of St. Paul, or email to Bill Fenton at william.fenton@twc.com.

Thank you in advance for any contributions!



Staff Spotlight: Jim McFarland, Director of Music & Organist



I arrived at St. Paul in March of 2013. My time here has been filled with many wonderful moments of worship weekly on Sunday mornings, in services of Healing and Wholeness, services of Sound and Silence, and in special services throughout the year, concerts, and Festivals. Throughout these experiences, I have found St. Paul to be a community that appreciates the highest quality music, and authentic worship in all its forms. Some of my favorite services at St. Paul are our Lessons & Carols service in Advent, and our Christmas Eve services with candlelight and carols.

My typical work week involves choosing music, practicing the piano and the organ, organizing music for the various groups. During more normal times, I also spend several evenings each week in rehearsal with the Chancel Choir, Bells of St. Paul, Wesleyan Choir, Youth Choir, and several times a year with our Church Orchestra. I cherish the time I get to spend with all of the talented people in all of our musical



groups, and I especially appreciate the opportunity to compose and arrange music for the groups when I can. Weekly planning involves choosing music for Preludes, Offertories, Postludes, as well as hymns,

anthems, solos, and other service music. Long-term planning for Advent, Christmas, Lent, Holy Week, and Pentecost is ongoing throughout the year as I am continually reviewing new music to purchase, writing articles, preparing publicity, and searching through our library to find just the right piece for each service and each season. Weekly Staff and Worship Team meetings are a welcome opportunity to gather and share the work we each are doing, and to share time in prayer with one another.

In addition to practicing on our wonderful organ and pianos, I am responsible for arranging for the maintenance and upkeep of all of our instruments. In addition to our beautiful Noack pipe organ, we have 11 pianos, 1 harpsichord, 4 octaves of Handbells, and 1 octave of Handchimes. St. Paul's music library boasts over 1000 pieces of music for choir, soloists, and ensembles. These titles have been catalogued and boxed so that they will last for many years to

come. As I order new music, I add it to our digital catalogue and assign a box, number, and space on the shelf.

Even though it may seem as though we plan and present the Louisville Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival in December each year, it is actually a year round process which I oversee with the help of my colleagues and the Boar's Head Steering Committee. We meet several times a year to plan for each year's Festival, plan the publicity, and begin to raise funds. We also store and maintain our set pieces, and a dazzling array of priceless costumes. Each year, I prepare the proposed budget for the Festival, engage the caterers for the meal, arrange for the equipment we rent, and hire all of the professional musicians who help our Festival remain such a beautiful pageant.

In addition to my other duties, I also have the privilege of playing for weddings at St. Paul. It is a delight to meet with the couples to help them choose the music for their wedding, and to spend a little time showing off our organ to them! While I usually have plenty of time to plan music for a wedding, I often have little notice when it comes to planning for funerals or memorial services. It is an honor to be a part of these celebrations of life, and to help the families mourn their loss by gathering to sing and remember, and to pray.

Summers are no time for goofing off here at St. Paul, as I am usually preparing for our Youth Choir Tour in early June, our Music Camp week in July, and scheduling some time for family, and for attending a conference or workshop so that I can renew my musical spirit and spend time making music with other church musicians. Each of these events last a week, but the preparations are happening throughout the year. Our graded Choir program is a treasure for our children and Youth, and a wonderful outreach opportunity for the community. In July and August, I begin my planning for the coming year of rehearsals, worship, special services, and concert events.

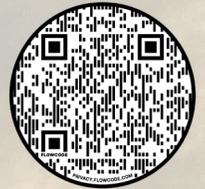


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