# THETOWER

#### ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH







From kids to seniors, St. Paul folks have enjoyed faith, fellowship, and fun this spring!

Enjoy these glimpses from the SPAMS Spring Fling, Children's Choir Spring Concert, Confirmation, Youth Futures, Youth Coffeehouse Concert, and Senior Banquet.









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#### **NEXT TOWER DEADLINE!**

June 16, 2022 at 5:00pm

Submit articles and/or pictures to Sara Ferebee at <a href="mailto:sara@stpaulchurchky.org">sara@stpaulchurchky.org</a>.

#### **DEATHS SINCE ALL SAINTS DAY 2021**

Carter Reynolds - November 18, 2021
Tom Follacchio - November 18, 2021
David Doyle - November 24, 2021
John Robert "Bob" Lewis - November 30, 2021
J.T. Johnston - December 10, 2021
Glenn A. McCoy - December 12, 2021
Dorothy "Dot" Kitchen - January 16, 2022
Harold Fischer - January 19, 2022
Debi Huff - January 19, 2022
Ben Wadler - February 18, 2022
Betty Atcher - April 18, 2022
Donna Stoess - May 13, 2022

#### **MEMORIALS**

**In memory of Betty Atcher** by Wilma Couch

**In memory of Donna Stoess** by Carl and Glenna Heimerdinger



We are currently accepting sponsors for altar flowers for the 11am service. Please contact B.J. Fore (Betty.jo.fore@gmail.com



or 502 458-2702) if you would like to sponsor the arrangements in honor of or in memory of someone. Cost is generally \$90 plus, depending upon the type of flowers ordered.

#### **STAY CONNECTED!**



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.



#### 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 502-459-1595.

**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!** 

#### SEE LIKE JESUS; BE LIKE JESUS

Sara Ferebee, Director of Communications and Outreach

"For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.'

"Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?' "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" - Matthew 25: 34-405

I have a copy of the Bible called *The Poverty and Justice Bible*, which highlights in orange all the biblical passages that illustrate God's passion for issues of poverty and justice. As you might guess, this passage from Matthew 25 is completely highlighted in orange. You'll find another reference to this passage in Graeme Donovan's article about St. Paul's emerging Diversity Ministry on page 4 of this issue of the Tower. *It's an important passage*.

When I read this well-worn passage, I am most struck by Jesus identifying with those in need. He sees himself in each of those people - the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the imprisoned. Likewise, we are to see Jesus in everyone we encounter and treat them with compassion. See like Jesus; be like Jesus.

If you attended worship or watched online on May 22, you heard a brief presentation by Anna Twyman, a member of the St. Paul Vision Team, regarding the work of the St. Paul Resource Center. You also saw a video showing the evolution of the Resource Center, which had to pivot when the pandemic hit to find new ways to continue serving the community. If you missed the video, you can watch it and learn more about the Resource Center at our website: <a href="https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/the-resource-center/">https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/the-resource-center/</a>.

MOBILE RESOURCE CENTER

Mobile Resource Center One-Year Anniversary Saturday, June 11 As Anna noted in her comments, the Resource Center is currently St. Paul's primary outreach to

the community - it is one of many ways the St. Paul congregation seeks to see and be like Jesus. While the Resource Center continues to provide for folks who stop by the church in need of assistance, we also share our resources with other ministries and organizations, such as Highland Community Ministries. And we have entered into a partnership with Fourth Avenue UMC to serve those in the inner city and Old Louisville, via our Mobile Resource Center (MRC). On the second Saturday of each month, we load up the St. Paul bus with clothing, shoes, toiletries, and other necessities to serve guests at the Open Door Community Ministry (ODCM), operated by Fourth Avenue UMC on the corner of Fourth Avenue and St. Catherine Street in Old Louisville.

At one of our first MRCs, one of our volunteers was helping a guest find an item he needed. The volunteer was friendly but had gone directly into salesperson mode: "What size can I help you find?" The guest stated his size but then said, "It's more than just giving me clothes. Talk with me like I'm a person, like I matter." I'm paraphrasing, but essentially, this guest was challenging the volunteer to see him as a fellow human being, not just as someone in need - to see him the way Jesus sees him. To the volunteer's credit, he welcomed the challenge, thanking the guest for his honesty. To be like Jesus and do as he asked us to do, we must see others the way Jesus sees them.

On June 11, 2022, the Mobile Resource Center (MRC) will celebrate one year of operation. On June 12, Jack Steiner will be at St. Paul for one of our Sunday Morning Forums. We will discuss the work that St. Paul UMC and Fourth Ave UMC are doing together to see and be like Jesus.

For more information on the Sunday Morning Forums, visit page 7. If you would like to learn more about the Resource Center and how you can get involved, email me at <a href="mailto:sara@stpaulchurchky.org">sara@stpaulchurchky.org</a> or visit <a href="mailto:https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/the-resource-center/">https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/the-resource-center/</a>.

#### **Vision Team Goal #5: Diversity Ministry**

"I was a stranger and you welcomed me." "I was a stranger, and you did not welcome me." Matthew 25: 35, 43. Are you ready to welcome strangers at St. Paul?

"The early centuries of the Christian church, which included periodic persecution, were also a period of explosive growth, due (in part) to the communal compassion that distinguished believers: their care for widows and orphans; their welcoming of strangers and concern for the outcast." - Michael Gerson, Washington Post, November 2, 2015.

On February 7, 2022, the Vision Team and the Strategic Renovation Team agreed to change the name of its # 5 Goal to 'Diversity Ministry': and to include in this goal three things to start with: Partnership with Coke Memorial UMC, Refugee Ministry, and Habitat work.

Recently, two of these initiatives accomplished major steps forward: On March 4, 2022, St. Paul concluded successfully its agreement with Kentucky Refugee Ministries for financial and other support to settling the 11-member Khalili family from Afghanistan; and on April 30, 2022, the latest Habitat House was dedicated. It's cause for celebration that these major achievements happened even in the midst of Covid.

**Refugee Ministry:** Near midnight on November 30, 2021, a 12-person group from St. Paul met the Khalili family at the Louisville International Airport. The church bus took them to their rental home for their first night in Louisville. The initial welcoming



team grew to nearly forty volunteers who provided both in-kind and financial assistance for rent, food, clothing, toiletries, linen, furniture, home furnishings, appliances,

table ware, rugs, draperies, TV, cell phones, a computer, sewing machine, bicycles, and toys. The team also assisted the family with orientation to the city, outings, transportation, shopping, home repairs, school enrollment, and learning English. Many on the team want to help another family. For more

information about future refugee work, contact Brad Matthews at <a href="mailto:bamatthews47@gmail.com">bamatthews47@gmail.com</a>.

**Habitat Ministry:** Following their agreement with Habitat, a group from St. Paul started their construction work in October, 2021, of a home to be owned by Ardo Samriye and her family from Somalia, who arrived in Louisville as refugees some

time ago. The four bedroom house off Cane Run Road was built by seven persons from St. Paul (led by Ray Fore) in collaboration with teams from two other United Methodist churches: St. Matthews and St. John. In spite of difficulties finding enough people to help because of Covid, the house was finished in a relatively short period of



time. Under Ray's leadership, St. Paul has assisted with 14 houses since beginning Habitat work in 1995. For more information about future Habitat work and the inspiring personal story of Ardo Samriye, contact Ray Fore at papa.fore@gmail.com.

**Coke Memorial Partnership:** The partnership was launched about two years ago, in the form of St. Paul/Coke conversations via Zoom that focused on increasing understanding of racism and healing racial divides. Seven such events were held successfully, bringing the two churches to the point



where joint community activities would be the next focus. One such activity was held in 2021 when the two churches sponsored a health fair to raise awareness of medical facilities and

wellness help available in the neighborhood of Coke Memorial. Going forward, conversations will focus on ways of deepening and extending joint activities. For more information about the ongoing partnership with Coke Memorial UMC, contact David Green at <a href="mailto:qreen6kids@bellsouth.net">qreen6kids@bellsouth.net</a>.

If you have questions or comments regarding this goal, please reach out to Graeme Donovan at donovangraeme@gmail.com.

#### **Staff Spotlight:**

### Jim Murphy Project Coordinator



You might ask, "Why is a person who has been retired for 15 years working again?" And I ask that question, too. Here's why. There is a task that needs to be done, and I have some history with the task and am willing to learn how to do what needs to be done, to serve St. Paul. But, more importantly, to serve my God.

In November of 2019, Pastor Darren asked if I would be willing to assist with property matters of the church on a part-time, short-term basis. In June of 2020, an associate pastor would be appointed that would assume the tasks of a church administrator.



In the interim, there was a need for someone to see that the various property concerns were addressed. I think there were two circumstances that lead Pastor Darren to ask me. First, I was leading a project to upgrade the lighting for our stained glass window that faces Bardstown Road, as a volunteer and concerned church member,

and second, I had served on the church staff as the church administrator at St. Paul for ten years from 1997 to 2007. Since I was familiar with the building and its needs and knew some of the contractors that maintained various systems, it was fairly easy for me to accept the position.

When Pastor Dustin joined the staff in July of 2020, I helped him get oriented to his new responsibilities, then retired again. However, I hung around as a volunteer to try to organize what had been our archives. Various items and records had been stored in various places in various ways, and I hoped to get them in better shape.

Early in 2021, when it was discovered that there was a problem with our financial administrator functions, I again stepped in to help resolve the situation. So here I am, presently working as a financial administrator with the help of Pastor Darren and Pastor Dustin to maintain the accounting and reporting functions that give the congregation confidence that the finances of the church are handled properly. When a new financial administrator is hired and trained, I hope to again join the ranks of the retired, spending more time on the golf course than in the finance office.

I came to St. Paul as an ordained Deacon in the United Methodist Church to serve on staff as the Director of Ministries and Administration. Prior to coming here, I was on staff at First United Methodist Church in Lexington, Kentucky where I served for 23 years. I started there as Director of Youth and Education. I was certified as a Director of Christian Education by the United Methodist Church in 1979 and was consecrated as a Diaconal Minister that same year by the Kentucky Annual Conference. Through the years at First UMC, I transitioned to the position of Director of Program and Administration and was certified as a Church Administrator by the

Council on Finance and Administration of the United Methodist Church and the National Association of Church Business Administration.

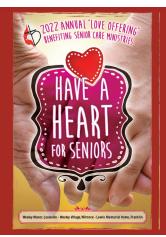


I think what I most want to say about my employment in the church is that every step I took and every certification, consecration, and ordination I accomplished was to affirm my calling to serve Christ and his church in the best way I could.

#### **June Mission Focus:**

## **Wesley Manor**

#### **Collection and Donation Drive**



#### Have a Heart for Seniors - Sunday, June 12

St. Paul will be supporting Wesley Manor during the month of June in two ways:

- by receiving donations on "Have a Heart for Seniors" Sunday, June 12
- collecting items needed for their activities programming

"This important day supports our charitable care ministry and marks our collective show of support for those seniors who have made a difference in our lives, churches, and communities.

"Charitable Care costs Wesley Manor an average of \$80 per day per recipient - or \$1.5 million annually. Because of charitable care funds, we have never had to ask a resident to leave our community due to lack of funds.

"By giving a generous contribution to the Have a Heart for Seniors Love Offering, you will be supporting a long Wesleyan/Methodist tradition of ministry to older adults."

- Wesley Manor website

Make checks out to St. Paul UMC and designate "Wesley Manor."

Watch the following video for more information about Wesley Manor and the "Have a Heart for Seniors" fundraiser:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rwtcnMG84eo The video will also be shown during worship on Sunday, June 12.

We will collect the following items to support the activities programming at Wesley Manor. Drop off donations in the designated collection bins in the lobbies of both St. Paul buildings.

- Word search books
- Adult coloring books + crayons or markers
  - Crossword puzzle books
    - Small stuffed animals
- Snacks such as M&M's, mixed nuts, Crunch & Munch, Moon Pies, Goldfish
  - Kleenex
  - Paper towels



The Kentucky Annual Conference meets in Owensboro, KY June 6-8. In addition to Pastors Darren and Dustin, St. Paul is represented by our lay delegates, Graeme Donovan and Bob Helvey. Jim Murphy will be attending as a retired Deacon. Pastor Darren will also be serving as the incoming Conference Secretary.

### **SUNDAY MORNING FORUMS**

#### 10:00-10:40AM IN MCADAMS HALL

Join us on Sunday mornings, beginning May 29, to learn about a variety of topics of interest to our congregation.

May 29 - Information Meeting about Holy Land Trip in 2023

June 5 - Updates on General Conference Delay\*

June 12 - Mobile Resource Center Partnership with Open Door Ministry

June 19 - Annual Conference Update



\*Do you have questions about the General Conference delay? If so, please send them to <u>darren@</u> <u>stpaulchurchky.org</u> and we will try to address them as part of the Sunday Morning Forum on June 5.

## Church Picnic!

Sunday, June 26 - 10:00am-1:00pm

Join us for a day of food and fellowship!

We will have one service at 10:00am in the sanctuary, followed by food and fellowship on the lawn.

Guest Preacher: Rev. George Strunk

Inflatables • Games • Prayer Beading • Compassion Bags • and More!

The meal will be catered by Mark's Feed Store.

To help us plan appropriately, please let us know if you plan to attend and if you have any dietary restrictions by filling out the registration form: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/5n92sh27">https://tinyurl.com/5n92sh27</a>
There will also be a sign-up sheet at the Information Center on the 2nd Floor.



## Youth News!



#### **Camp Loucon!**

St. Paul will again be paying half of campers' regular tuition for Camp Loucon this summer. When you register your student you will pay the deposit then send the confirmation/receipt to youth@stpaulchurchky.org. This will allow us to contact Loucon directly to pay half for those students. You will then be responsible for half the cost of tuition minus the deposit that you already paid.

#### **Fusion Trip!**

Please be in prayer for our 22 students and 7 adults as they travel to Atlanta, GA; Perry, GA; and Nashville, TN. They will be visiting the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, leading worship at First UMC of Perry, and participating in evening worship with their Youth Group. They will also serve at Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry in Perry, Halo Group in Perry, The Bridge Ministry in Nashville, and Harvest Hands in Nashville.

#### **Summer Schedule:**

June 4-8 Fusion Trip

June 16 - Climb NÚLU

June 23 - Thursday afternoon hangout

June 26 - Church picnic

June 30 - Putt Putt

July 7 - Thursday afternoon hangout

July 10 - Holiday World!

July 11-17 Music Camp

July 14 - Thursday afternoon hangout

July 21 - Thursday afternoon hangout

July 28 - Service project day

July 31 - Bats game

August 14 - Back to School Bash

Schedule subject to change. Sign up for the Youth email, check the Youth social media channels, or keep an eye on the St. Paul website to stay informed.

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 Futures**

Thank you again to everyone for continuing to support the youth of St Paul through Youth Futures and beyond. It was so heartening to see how many of our congregation stood to say they had been involved in either the St. Paul Youth program or another youth program.

It isn't too late to donate! You can go to <u>stpaulchurchky.org/giving</u> (or scan the QR code) and choose "Youth Futures" or send a check to St. Paul marked "Youth Futures."







## Congratulations to our 2022 High School and College Graduates!

#### **High School Graduates**

#### Micah Alt

Graduated from Atherton High School Attending University of Kentucky to study business

#### **Francis Curtis**

Graduated from duPont Manual High School Attending Colorado College to study psychology and art

#### **Maddie Goulder**

Graduated from Atherton High School Attending University of Missouri to study sports journalism

#### **Christopher Timm**

Graduated from Atherton High School Attending Rhodes College on the pre-med track

#### Sierra Williamson

Graduated from duPont Manual High School Attending University of Kentucky to study music



**High School Seniors** 

Pictured (I to r): Christopher Timm, Sierra Williamson, Maddie Goulder, and Francis Curtis (head shot)

#### **College Graduates**

#### **Calvin Cowherd**

Graduated from Asbury University after following their pre-Physical Therapy track.

#### **Hunter Jennings**

Graduated from Centre College with a degree in Behavioral Neuroscience

#### Julia Kilcourse

Graduated from the University of Kentucky with a degree in Special Education

## KIDS, YOUTH, AND FAMILY SUMMER FUN!

## CHILDREN AND YOUTH SUMMER ACTIVITIES

YOUTH FUSION TRIP
June 4-8

#### **MUSIC CAMP**

#### July 11-15 | Performances on Sunday, July 17

All kids entering grades 2-7 are invited to this unforgettable week of music and fun!

#### **CAMP LOUCON SIGN-UPS**

St. Paul will pay half of your child's summer camp registration cost! Register at <a href="www.loucon.org">www.loucon.org</a> under Tier 2, and then email your statement to <a href="youth@stpaulchurchky.org">youth@stpaulchurchky.org</a>.

#### **BACK TO SCHOOL BASH | Sunday, August 14**

Keep an eye on the St. Paul website and weekly emails for updates as the date approaches.

## Family-Friendly Summer Events!

Thursday, June 16: Climb NULU

Thursday, June 30: Putt Putt

Sunday, July 31: Bats Game

Watch for updates in the bulletin and weekly email in the weeks to come!

#### Church Picnic! Sunday, June 26

See page 7 for details

#### St. Paul Retreat to Recharge and Renew Set for Sept. 24

Most definitions of "retreat" include the concept of drawing back from daily responsibilities. The military defines retreat as moving away from danger. Sometimes our lives are like that; we feel like we are fighting schedules and responsibilities every day. Our minds and souls need rest, and sometimes we just have to schedule it.



With that in mind, the St. Paul Discipleship and Spiritual Formation Team is planning a Fall retreat for Saturday, Sept. 24 at the Mount St. Francis Retreat Center on Spirituality from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. It is a lovely

property, just 15 minutes from downtown Louisville, in Mount St. Francis, IN.

Marilyn Stoner is putting together an agenda to guide us through a gentle day of reflection, discussion, along with creative activities like journaling, drawing, and time for quiet. We will also explore nature as the center includes 400 acres of hiking trails, through trees, over bridges and around lakes. Rev. Dustin Woods and Debbie Wesslund are joining Marilyn in serving as guides for the event.

Our church has held retreats before, and while these events offer time for rest, they also allow us to get to know each other better as we are not focused on achieving any task other than restoration for the days ahead.

We hope it is a time for rest and renewal, letting go of difficulties of the past and embracing the beauty

of God's world and of the life we have been given. As the event gets closer we will provide more details, including plans for lunch and asking for participants to bring snacks to share.



Mark your calendars to attend the retreat. Here's a link you can use to find out more about the facility - <a href="https://mountsaintfrancis.org">https://mountsaintfrancis.org</a>.

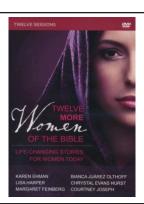
You may sign up now if you like by scanning the QR code or visiting: <a href="https://tinyurl.com/yvz8fubz">https://tinyurl.com/yvz8fubz</a>



If you have questions or suggestions regarding the event, feel free to contact Marilyn at <u>marilynstoner@fastmail.fm</u>, Dustin Woods at <u>dustin@stpaulchurchky.org</u>, or Debbie at <u>dwesslund1@icloud.com</u>.

#### Summer Bible Study for Women!

Starts June 1 | 10:00-11:30am | Room 113
All women are invited to the summer Bible study *Twelve More Women of the Bible*. This 12-week, DVD-based study will be one that you can drop in and out of, depending on your summer schedule. Each week will feature a short video about women from the Old and New Testaments, the lessons she teaches, and a group discussion. The books are \$10.00. Sign up at the church office or contact Gail Henson (648-2201) or <a href="mailto:grand-



## Portland Promise Center Work Day Saturday, June 18 • 10:00 to 2:00

We need your help to get our building and grounds ready for our new Early Child Education Program! This is a perfect opportunity for your church, work or family groups to serve in the Portland neighborhood.

We have indoor jobs and outdoor jobs that fit all skill levels.

To sign your group up, contact Eurana at 502-776-2635 or ehorton@portlandpromise.org.

## Join the St. Paul United Methodist Church Staff

We currently have three positions open.

**Administrative Assistant** extends hospitality through the church office by welcoming guests,

answering phones and coordinating other duties in the office. The position is part time, includes generous Paid Time Off, and pension is provided.

**Financial Administrator** processes payroll, accounts payable, creates financial reports and other items related to the finances of the church. The position is part time, includes generous Paid Time Off, and pension is provided.

**Director of Family and Children Ministry** works to created Christian education experiences for families and children from nursery age through sixth grade. The position is full-time. Generous Paid Time Off, pension and healthcare are provided.

Applicants interested in these positions should send a letter of introduction and a resume to: <a href="mailto:info@stpaulchurchky.org">info@stpaulchurchky.org</a>

DOWNLOAD FULL DESCRIPTIONS HERE: <a href="https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/job-openings/">https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/job-openings/</a>

# SPAMS River Cruise on the Mary Miller Steamboat

#### Tuesday, June 28

Boarding time is 11:30am and the cruise is from 12:00-2:00pm.

St. Paul Adult Ministry for Seniors will take a day trip on the Mary Miller steamboat.

Our trip includes lunch on the steamboat. Tickets are \$30.50 per person (including lunch), or \$17.50 (without lunch). Snacks and hot dogs also available for purchase.

Watch for additional updates in the weekly email and bulletin. Please sign-up at the Information Center.



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

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