

THE TOWER

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



Wesleyan Choir Practice with Ms. Karla!
Wednesdays at 7:00pm
Join the fun!

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DEATHS SINCE LAST ALL SAINTS DAY

Terry Byers - December 15, 2022
 Joyce Lynn - December 24, 2022
 Jan Wade - January 4, 2023
 Mary Vise - January 17, 2023
 Mae Claxon - January 20, 2023
 Virginia Dick - February 3, 2023
 Kel Thrush - February 13, 2023
 Carol Gray - February 24, 2023

MEMORIALS

In memory of Jan Wade,
 from Gale & Janice Glascock

In memory of Carol Gray,
 from Betty Matthews

In memory of Kel Thrush,
 from Carl & Glenna Heimerdinger

In memory of David Doyle,
 from the members of St. Paul Chancel Choir

NEXT TOWER DEADLINE!

April 20, 2023 at 5:00pm

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

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!**

Ashes to Joy Reflection

Compiled by Rev. Darren Brandon, Senior Pastor

William Stafford writes, "The way it is there's a thread you follow. It goes among things that change. But it doesn't change. People wonder about what you are pursuing. You have to explain about the thread. But it is hard for others to see. While you hold it you can't get lost. Tragedies happen; people get hurt or die; and you suffer and get old. Nothing you do can stop time's unfolding. You don't ever let go of the thread."

Is there something that goes throughout your life that doesn't change?

What do you hold on to that keeps you from getting lost?

What thread of hope keeps you grounded and connected to the unchangeable in our changing world?

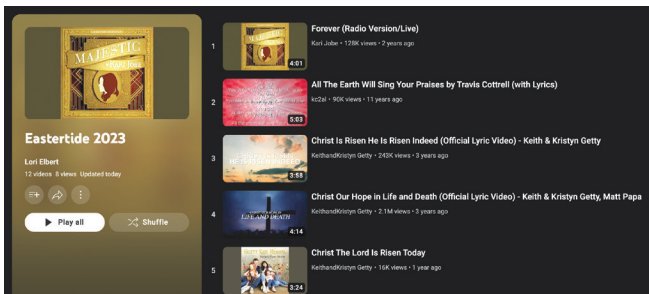


Photo credit by amirali-mirhashemian on Unsplash

Watch a short film by Kathryn Oliver, based on her artistic interpretation of the poem "The Way It Is," by William Stafford: <https://youtu.be/wvv7a4y26Vw>

Closing Prayer:

God is closer than our breathing,
And knows of our needs before we ask.
Bless us as we hold fast to your promise
To always be with us - a thread of hope in our lived experience. Amen



Playlists compiled by Dr. Lori Elbert,
Director of Koinonia Worship

Eastertide Playlist

Want to celebrate the resurrection every day? Here is a YouTube playlist to help you do just that:

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL8oF1AqxPHn1xCixDX8lc6KYHUj7kdfSV>

Playlist of Classic and Favorite Easter Hymns

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rMwPEmUM-P7U&list=PLoFJSytxhVm6UJ-R0DexJXsYBhGxGXVJF>

Windsong Room Eastertide Resources

Carl Helmich, our Windsong Room librarian, has gathered some books to support your journey through the Eastertide season. The Windsong Room is a small, lovely prayer library in room 108 of the main building. Books may be checked out, or you may spend some time reading and praying in the rocking chair.





Holy Week Services

Palm-Passion Sunday - April 2

Koinonia Worship - 9:00am, Gym

Traditional Worship - 11:00am, Sanctuary

Join our children waving palms and celebrating Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem as we begin our journey toward the cross.

The Labyrinth will be available to walk in the Gym from 11:00am-5:00pm to begin your Holy Week observance.

Maundy Thursday Service - April 6

7:30pm in the Gym

Join us as we continue the journey from Ashes to Glory. To understand the true glory of Easter, we must walk through the valley of Holy Week. This service will lead us through the events of the Thursday of Holy Week and the Last Supper in the Upper Room. As we read scripture, hear from some of the participants from that night, sing songs of worship, share in Holy Communion, and participate in prayer stations, we will enter into those events as we see the love of Christ in action.

Noon Good Friday Service - April 7

Noon in the Sanctuary

Join us for a brief meditative service with music, with pastoral meditation on "Words from the Cross and Holy Communion."
This service will also be livestreamed on Facebook Live.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service - April 7

7:30pm in the Sanctuary

This ancient, traditional service of darkness features powerful scripture readings that depict the last day of Jesus' life on earth. Reflective music is led by the Chancel Choir and the Bells of St. Paul Handbell Ensemble. Join us as we relive the world's darkest hour that brought our brightest hope.



Passion Sunday Labyrinth Walk

*Sunday, April 2
11am-5pm in the Gym*

Begin your Holy Week observance by walking the labyrinth. This ancient form of walking prayer offers a unique way to prepare for the journey through Holy Week. As you walk the labyrinth, you can journey alongside Jesus from his triumphal entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday to his suffering on the cross, preparing your heart for the glory of the resurrection on Easter Sunday.

The labyrinth will be available in the gym from 11:00am-5:00pm. You may stop by at any time and walk the labyrinth at your own pace. Labyrinth hosts will be available to answer questions and offer guidance, as needed.



Easter Sunday Services

Sermon: *Alive with Joy*
Rev. Darren Brandon

Sunrise Service

7:30 am on the front lawn

Celebrate the Risen Savior with our joyful Sunrise Service on the front lawn of St. Paul. This service will feature scripture, pastoral message, as well as traditional hymns and music led by vocal quartet.

Koinonia Worship Service

9:00am in the Gym

Rejoice with the Koinonia Worship Team as we celebrate that Christ is Risen! Led by the full Koinonia Worship Team and includes Holy Communion and a pastoral message.

Traditional Worship Service

11:00am in the Sanctuary

Our Traditional Service in the Sanctuary features special music by a Brass Quintet and the Chancel Choir, as well as pastoral message and scripture, ending with the joyful singing of the Hallelujah Chorus.

Childcare

(Birth - 3 years)

Childcare is provided for both the 9:00am & 11:00am services on Sunday mornings starting at 8:45 for infants-3 years in room 200 of the main building.

Childcare is available for any St. Paul event. Email the Children's Ministry Team at stpaulkids@stpaulchurchky.org.

Sunday School

10:00-10:45 am

(3 years-6th grade)

Children explore missions, art, games, cooking, drama/storytelling, science and spiritual practices related to the scripture lesson from worship for the day. This approach gives children a variety of ways to experience and internalize the truths about our Christian faith.

Sunday School Teachers needed!!

Please consider teaching Sunday School! Choose from art, cooking, games, science, storytelling/drama, missions or spiritual practices. A two-week commitment over a 3-week period is all that is needed. Curriculum and materials provided!! Contact stpaulkids@stpaulchurchky.org to help!

Children's Church

We are currently not having Children's Church. Children are invited to remain in worship with their families and follow along with the service and the lesson using materials provided in our Children's Worship Bags and on our Children's Worship Cart. Both of these are provided during each service. This practice gives children the unitive worship experience with the whole church and helps them to participate in our worship services.

Wesley Night

6:00-8:00 pm

(3 years-6th grade)

Wesley Night takes place each Wednesday evening throughout the school year. It is a night for all with dinner, open gym, adult classes and choirs for children. Help yourself get over the midweek hump by joining us!

Open Gym Schedule

Gym time for 1st - 6th grades will now take place from 6:00-6:30pm. One volunteer per week will be needed during this time. Drop off 1st - 6th at the gym at 6:00pm. They will be brought to McAdams Hall for dinner at 6:30pm.

Kindergarten & under are welcome to have gym time after Musical Milestones at 6:30pm with a trusted adult.



Job Opening: Director of Family and Children's Ministries

St. Paul United Methodist Church is seeking to hire a Director of Family and Children's Ministries. The Director of Family and Children's Ministries works to create 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 this position should send a letter of introduction and a resume to: info@stpaulchurchky.org

Wesley NIGHT

Join us for dinner and activities during
Wesley Night - Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00pm!

Learn more about these programs and
studies and RSVP for the meal at this page:

<https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/ministries/wesley-night/>

Or scan the Flowcode to the
right for quick access -->>>



Bible Study: Book of 1 Peter

Wednesdays, April 12-May 10

7:00-8:00pm, McAdams Hall

Wesley Night classes will resume after a break during Holy Week! Our adult study for Wesley Night will be a 4-week Bible study on the Book of 1 Peter, led by Pastor Dustin. We will read and discuss one chapter a week and we will utilize N.T. Wright's commentary, *Early Christian Letters for Everyone: James, Peter, John, and Judah*. These are the same commentaries that people have for the study we just finished on the book of James. If anyone needs a copy, these commentaries can be purchased from the church for \$15 each. All are welcome to attend!



Youth News!

CONFIRMATION 2023

Confirmation classes have begun! This year, we have eight youth in our confirmation class. Please be in prayer for these young people:

Carter Bernard
Sofia Elbert
Quenton Horton
Caroline Keith
Eleanor Keith
Samuel Meadows
Cash Northington
Abe Peña

Confirmation Sunday will be May 7th.

Winter-Spring Youth Schedule:

April

4/2 - No Youth / Palm Sunday (JCPS Spring Break)
4/9 - No Youth / Happy Easter! (JCPS Spring Break)
4/16 - Regular Youth
4/23 - Regular Youth
4/30 - Regular Youth

May

5/7 - Regular Youth
5/14 - No Youth / Mother's Day
5/21 - Senior Banquet

To stay up to date on Youth events:

- Sign up for the Youth email list [here](#)
- Check the Youth Instagram account @stp.youth

General Youth info can be found on the St. Paul [Youth Webpage](#).

Flower Sale!

Order online by April 15

Pick-up April 29

Support Scout Troop 40
and Cub Pack 40!

Order your flowers today!

troop40ky.com/flowers



REAL Good News

Local Action for Climate Care

A Virtual Conversation

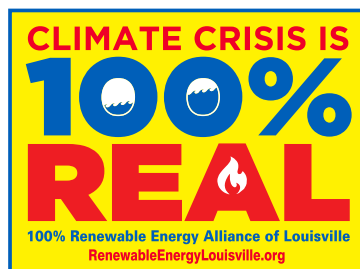
Wednesday, April 26
7:00-8:30pm

How Does a City Go Solar?

Join the members of **REAL**, the Renewable Energy Alliance of Louisville, to consider how other cities have transitioned to solar and how Louisville could do likewise.

Register for this free Zoom event:

<https://tinyurl.com/3xzya46s>



Speakers:

Steve Ricketts

Chair of Ky Solar Energy Society
& Owner of Generation Solar

Ryan Van Velzer

Energy & Environment Reporter
at Louisville Public Media

Andrew Owen

Metro Council District 9

Music by John Gage

Vision Goal 8: Small Group and Member Engagement

by Gail Henson

Inviting. Getting connected. Belonging. Being a part of a group. Encouraging. Growing. Learning together. Working together. Building. Being the Body of Christ.

These verbs describe the aim of Vision Goal 8: Small group and member engagement. This goal seeks to connect and nurture everyone who is part of St. Paul through small groups and through being engaged in the work and life of the church, however that looks. A second part of this goal is to have a significant percentage 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. What's engagement mean for you? What kind of small group will nurture your faith and connection to each other?

While each of one of us is unique as an individual, we are all family as part of the Body of Christ. The Apostle Paul writes in I Corinthians 12:14: "The body does not consist of one member but of many ... As it is, God arranged the members of the body, each one of them, as he chose ... that the members may have the same care for one another. If one member suffers, all suffer together; if one member is honored, all rejoice together." That's a beautiful affirmation about the Body of Christ at St. Paul. Are you more of a hand, an eye, an ear, or a foot?

So simply being part of St. Paul gives you ways to connect and belong. We have over forty small groups that connect and engage folk, some in service, some in study, and others in worship through song or other arts. Check out the Small Group Directory and get plugged in! Need a nudge or a little help getting involved? Shoot the contact person listed an email or talk to one of the pastors!

In essence, we're all parts of one body that work together to make St Paul a joyful community. We all bring different talents to the table. As Paul writes in I Corinthians 12: 4-7: "There are varieties of Gifts, but the same Spirit, and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord, and there are varieties of activities, it is the same God who activates all of the gifts in everyone. To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good." What gifts do you bring to St. Paul?

We affirm that each person has a ministry and role at St. Paul. That means you! There's a place for each of you to share your gifts of talent and time, in ways great and small. You can study the Bible with a small group or get involved beyond the walls. You can pray for people and being a listening ear. You can help cook meals for families in need, be an usher, call shut-ins, teach a class, work on a Habitat House or help with a refugee family. You can sing in the choir or help with the Resource Center. There's a place for you to share your gifts. Not sure where to plug in? In addition to the Small Groups Directory, the *Ready to Serve* form, available at the Information Center, may give you other avenues to engage. Check it out.

At St. Paul, we have been invited and encouraged to be part of the family of Christ. Families grow and change. Our family at St. Paul is always growing and changing, as the Apostle Paul prayed in Ephesians 5, "that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love."

May you find the group and ministry at St. Paul that nurtures you and allows you to engage with this Body of Christ.

Congregational Care Communion Training

Wednesday, April 12
5:00pm in McAdams Hall

All who are interested in providing home communion are welcome to attend training provided by Rev. Darren Brandon. For information, please contact Gail Henson at grhenson@gmail.com.



Photo by Debby Hudson on Unsplash



Mobile Resource Center

Saturday, April 8

11:00am-1:00pm

at Fourth Ave UMC's Open Door Community Ministry

We have a great group of committed volunteers at our Mobile Resource Center, but we'd love to have some more! No long-term commitment needed; join us any month that works for you! You can sign up to volunteer here: <https://www.stpaulchurchky.org/mobile-resource-center/>

Current Resource Center Needs!

- **MEN'S SHOES (especially sturdy shoes and sneakers) in all sizes!**
- Large, department store-type shopping bags or reusable totes
- Blue jeans or casual pants (they like dark colors), especially for men
- Women's bras in all sizes
- Spring jackets, rain gear
- New underwear and socks always needed
- Gently-used, casual clothing always needed



We could also use pop-top cans of ravioli, Vienna sausage (regular flavor), and tuna/chicken (or tuna or chicken meal kit), energy bars, and other easy-to-eat-on-the-go foods for those who stop by St. Paul during the week in need of food.



Kentucky United Methodist Children's Home Offering of Hope

The next Offering of Hope is April 30, 2023!

In 2022 we served 1,433 children, youth and families! This is the highest number we have served in several years - all thanks to your generous support! We are expanding our services in two important ways:

- Due to the COVID pandemic, there has been a significant increase in the need for mental health support for children. In response, the Children's Home is adding staff and expanding its community counseling services across the state to reach more children and families in the Jessamine, Fayette, Daviess, Henderson, and Ohio county areas. Community-based programs serve over 1,000 clients in 2022.
- KyUMH has launched a new program to serve unaccompanied children from other countries that have endured traumatic experiences, and help them find stable homes and a path

towards citizenship. KyUMH was invited to join this program by another United

Methodist children's agency because of our excellence in caring for children in need. The very first child to be placed with his family through our new Caminos program told us, "Thank each and every one of you for taking good care of me. I will always remember you."



Did you know the 5th Sunday Offering began in 1902? That's 121 years ago! The first offering was \$1,259.70 - or approximately \$35,000 in today's dollars. Your gifts are critical to our ministry, even now! Thank you for your generosity.

There are several ways to give for 5th Sunday:

- You can mail a check to PO Box 930, Nicholasville, KY 40340
- You can give on our secure online form via credit card or direct bank transfer at kyumh.org/donate



HCM's Spring Clean!

We are seeking donations of the following personal hygiene items as our stock is very low!

Drop off to our food pantry on
Wed-Thu-Fri, April 5-6-7 between
10 am and 1pm:
1228 E. Breckinridge St.

- Bar Soap
- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Toothbrushes
- Deodorant

- Toilet Paper
- Laundry Pods
- Small bottles of Dishwashing Detergent
- Hand Sanitizer

Highlands Community Blood Drive

Monday, April 17
1:00-5:00pm
Youth Center



To schedule an appointment, please go to RedCrossBlood.org and enter sponsor code: stpaulumclouky

The Red Cross relies on volunteer donors to ensure blood is available to patients all year. In recognition of April's National Volunteer Month, the Red Cross encourages you to invite others to join you as a blood donor. Blood for the 1 in 7 hospital patients needing a transfusion can only come from a volunteer donor. The St. Paul UMC blood drive has pledged 22 units to our hospitals, but so far only has 1 registered. We need 34 more donors to register and give to ensure enough blood is collected for patients. Together with PEANUTS®, we'll remind donors to put kindness into action, and that it's cool to be kind and help save lives. All who come to give will receive an EXCLUSIVE Red Cross and PEANUTS Joe Cool T-shirt, while supplies last.

SPAMS (St. Paul Adult Ministry for Seniors)

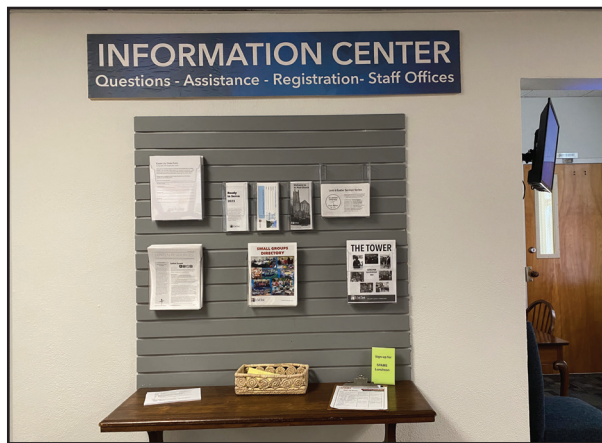
APRIL DINNER AND ENTERTAINMENT



Friday, April 28

5:00pm in McAdams Hall

Join the SPAMS for dinner and entertainment by the St. Paul Wesleyan Choir! Watch for additional information in the Sunday bulletins, Friday emails, and at the SPAMS bulletin board.

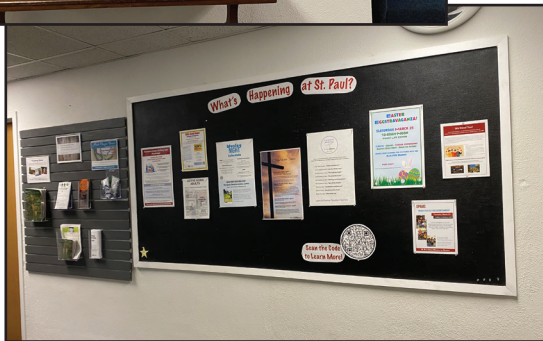


The Information Center

Have you ever read an article in the Tower or weekly email (*we hope you've done both!*) and seen the phrase, "Sign up at the Information Center" and then wondered "Where's that?"

Well, you've probably walked past the Information Center many times. And you may have heard it referenced in different ways - like "the table near the offices."

The Information Center is in the hallway on the second floor near the staff offices. At the Information Center, you will find sign-up sheets for various events, posters about upcoming events and ministries, and take-aways such as brochures and fliers about St. Paul. Stop by sometime and take a look around!



Congregational Potluck

April 23 at Noon

Get your favorite recipes ready, and join us on April 23 for a church potluck! The church will provide the meat (and a vegetarian option).

We will celebrate Earth and God's creation, as it's Spring and Earth Day. We invite individuals or groups to decorate a table with a theme celebrating this! Ideas would be a creative centerpiece on trees, water, air, biodiversity, endangered species, or natural wonders! Get your creative juices going, and sign up at the Information Center to claim a table!



Save the Date!

Our next potluck will take place on Sunday, July 30!



Next Finance and Board Meeting is April 18, 2023

Finance will meet at 6pm followed by the Board at 7pm.
The meetings will take place in McAdams Hall (120).

Photos from the One Team Party on March 18, 2023!



April 2023

HEALTH & WELLNESS

Senior Adult Wellness Class

Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday, 2:00-3:00pm, McAdams Hall

Guided Meditation

Wednesdays, 10:30am, Zoom

SUPPORT GROUPS

AA Groups

Mondays at 6:00pm and 7:30pm, Tuesdays at 7:30pm, Thursdays at 6:00pm, Saturdays at 10:00am & 8:00pm, Sundays at 8:00pm

- GLI AA Meeting

April 13, 6:00pm, McAdams Hall

Depression Bipolar Support Alliance

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7:30pm, Rooms 110 & 113

FELLOWSHIP & CLASSES

Kaleidoscope

Tuesday, April 4, 7:00pm, Youth Center

Men's Group

Mondays, April 10 & 24, 7:00pm, Common Cup

Faith Quilters

Tuesday, April 18, 10:00am, Room 100

Women of the Word Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10:00-11:30am, Room 113

Women's Discernment Group

Thursdays, 10:00am, Zoom

Prayer Beading Group

Sunday, April 16, 1:00pm, Common Cup

Guitar Club

Sunday, April 16, 6:30pm, Room 113

Church Potluck

Sunday, April 23, 12:00-2:00pm, McAdams Hall

SPAMS Event

Thursday, April 27, 5:00pm, McAdams Hall

MUSIC

Chancel Choir

Thursdays, 7:15pm, Choir Room

Bells of St. Paul

Wednesdays, 8:00pm, Room 303

OUTREACH

Resource Center Assistance

Mondays & Wednesdays, 10:00am-1:00pm
Available to those in need of basic necessities.

Mobile Resource Center

April 8, 11:15am-1:00pm,
Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church

WESLEY NIGHTS

Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00pm

(No Wesley Night during Holy Week)

Dinner: 6:00-7:00pm, McAdams Hall

Children's Choirs: See website for details.

Open Gym:

- 6:00-6:30pm (1-6 grade)

- 6:30-7:00pm (K & under with trusted adult)

Adult Study: 7:00-8:00pm, McAdams Hall

CHILDREN & YOUTH

Confirmation Class

Sundays, 10:00am through April

Youth Choir

Sundays, 5:00-6:00pm, Room 302

Youth Group

Sundays, 6:00-8:00pm, McAdams Hall and Youth Center

Scouts

Boy Scouts, Tuesdays, 7:00pm, Gym

Cub Scouts, First and Third Thursdays, 6:00pm, FLC

Scout Flower Sale, April 29 (order by April 15)

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

Palm Sunday, April 2

Worship Services

9am, Gym, and 11am, Sanctuary

Labyrinth Walk

11am-5pm, Gym

Maundy Thursday, April 6

7:30pm in the Gym

Good Friday, April 7

Noon in the Sanctuary (livestream available)

7:30pm in the Sanctuary

Easter Sunday, April 9

7:30am - Sunrise Service, front steps

9:00am - Koinonia Service, Gym

11:00am - Traditional Service, Sanctuary

Church Office Closed on April 10 for Easter Monday.

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ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Holy Land Trip Presentation



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