

THE TOWER

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

New air conditioning units
are lifted onto the roof of
the Family Life Center.

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On the Cover:

A crane lowers the new air conditioning units onto the roof of the Family Life Center. Our thanks to B. J. Fore and the Trustees for this progress on the HVAC repairs for St. Paul.

THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

Barbara Byers - January 3, 2025
 Tom Temple, Sr. - January 25, 2025
 Ann Jereau - April 1, 2025
 Leo Wright - April 22, 2025
 Pam Record - June 12, 2025
 Nancy Krause - July 15, 2025
 Mary Helen Hulker - August 14, 2025
 Rev. Ed Henry - August 25, 2025

MEMORIALS

In memory of Nancy Krause,
 from Bob & Marg Suffill.

In memory of Nancy Krause,
 from Betty Matthews.

In memory of Nancy Krause,
 from Sue Diebold.

In memory of Nancy Krause, from
 Women of the Word Bible Study Group.

In memory of Nancy Krause, from Love
 One Another Sunday School Class.

NEXT TOWER DEADLINE!

Thursday, September 18 at 5:00pm

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](#) and [Instagram](#).

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!**

Wesley Night *together*



Wesley Night is a time for all ages to come together for dinner, deepening of friendships, and drawing closer to the Lord through music, study, and prayer.

September 10-December 10

Children & Youth

6:00-6:30pm Music Milestones (PreK & K) - Rm. 302
 6:00-6:30pm Gym time and homework help for 1st-6th graders - Gym
 6:30-8:00pm Youth Jam and Hangout - Youth Center
 6:30-7:00pm Gym time for age 3-K (bring a trusted adult with you!)
 7:00-8:00pm Joyful Song (1st-3rd grade) - Room 306
 7:00-8:00pm Wesleyan Choir (4th-6th) - Room 302

Childcare for ages 5 and under will be available during Wesley Night from 6:00pm-8:00pm in room 202.

Wesley Night kicks off with Dinner

Join us at 6:00pm in McAdams Social Hall to share a meal and conversation with new and old friends alike.

The menu changes week-to-week. You'll find the upcoming menus at our website, as well as the Sunday bulletin.

Adult Fall Programs

7:00pm in room 113

September 10-24 Sharing our Story (*More on page 10*)
 October 1 No Wesley Night - Fall Break
 October 8-22 Survive and Thrive - Mental Health and Wellness
 October 29 No Wesley Night - Fall Festival
 Nov. 5-Dec. 3 Love Does Book Study
 November 26 No Wesley Night - Thanksgiving Break

December 10

December 17

Christmas Party and Cookie Exchange
 Longest Night Service

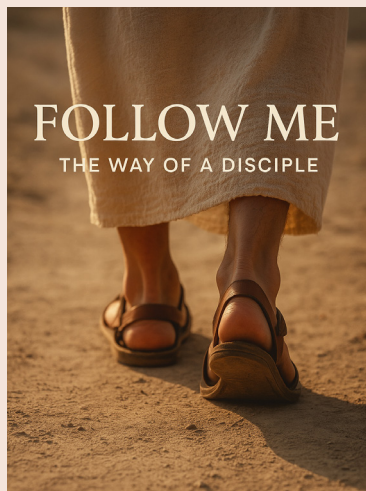
Find details on current studies and programs at our website!

Please RSVP for dinner at our website or scan the code --->>>



Follow Me: The Way of a Disciple Sermon Series

"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of people." (Matthew 4:19)



Discipleship is more than a label—it's a lifelong journey of walking with Jesus. Each step calls us deeper into faith, stretching us beyond our comfort zone and into transformation. Jesus invites us not only to believe, but to follow.

This new sermon series, "Follow Me: The Way of a Disciple," will guide us through what it means to truly live as a disciple of Christ. Together, we'll explore the invitation, the challenges, and the promises of discipleship. Each week will focus on a next faithful step—how we can listen, respond, and grow in Christ's way.

September 7 -

The Call: Come and See – John 1:35-51

Jesus' first words to His disciples were simple: "Come and see." Before anything else, He invites us into relationship. What does it mean to answer His call today?

September 14

The Cost: Take Up Your Cross – Luke 9:23-27

Following Jesus requires more than admiration—it requires surrender. We'll wrestle with what it means to lay down our own way in order to embrace His.

September 21

The Character: Abide and Grow – John 15:1-11

Discipleship is not a one-time decision but a daily abiding. Jesus reminds us that we are branches meant to grow and bear fruit through His life flowing in us.

Through Scripture, story, and prayer, this series will invite us to follow Jesus with deeper trust, courage, and joy.

SPAMS Outing to Claudia Sanders Dinner House

Thursday, September 11

Bus departs at 11am

Join SPAMS on September 11, as we travel to Shelbyville, KY. for lunch at Claudia Sanders Dinner House! They are famous for their fried chicken and down-home Southern cooking.

Please sign up at the Information Center or call the church office at 502-459-1595.



St. Paul Day at Camp Loucon Saturday, October 18

Join your St. Paul family for a day of fun
and fellowship at Camp Loucon!

- Team building
- Folk dancing
- Supper
- S'mores around the campfire
- Whispering Falls hike
- Lake meditation
- Scavenger hunts for all ages
- Art, haiku, crafts
- Board games
- and more!

Registration fees:
\$20 per person or \$50 per family.

Scholarships available.
Contact Amy Johnson at
spsgamy@gmail.com

Register at our website
or scan the code.



Youth News!

September

9/7 Regular Youth
9/14 Regular Youth
9/18 (THURSDAY) Portland Promise Center Trivia Night
hosted by St. Paul Youth
9/21 Regular Youth
9/28 No Youth (Fall Break)

October

10/5 Regular Youth
10/11 Regular Youth
10/18 (SATURDAY) St. Paul Day at Loucon
10/19 Regular Youth
10/26 Fall Fun Evening (location TBD)
10/29 (WEDNESDAY) Fall Festival
Additional October service option: Portland Promise
Center Trunk or Treat date TBD

November

11/2 Regular Youth
11/7 - 11/9 - Retreat @ Loucon
11/16 Regular Youth
11/23 Regular Youth
11/30 No Youth (Thanksgiving Wknd)

December

12/6 (SATURDAY) Boar's Head First Rehearsal
12/7 Regular Youth
12/13 (SATURDAY) Breakfast with Santa
12/14 Regular Youth / Christmas-y fun evening
12/17 (WEDNESDAY) - Christmas Caroling
12/21 Ice Skating (after church)
12/28 No Youth (Boar's Head Dress Rehearsal)
12/29 Boar's Head
12/30 Boar's Head

January

1/3 Progressive Dinner



Children's Ministry News!



Tweens (4th-6th graders) meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from 5-7pm. Our first meeting for the fall semester is September 14! At each meeting, we will complete a service project, eat dinner, read and discuss a chapter from the book of Galatians, and enjoy game time!



October 12, 9am and 11am worship services

Get ready for the ONE Sunday each year when our kids "take over" the services! They will be singing, reading Scripture, leading prayers, handing out bulletins, and collecting the offering. You won't want to miss this special Sunday!

FALL FESTIVAL OCT. 29 6-8pm

Trunk-or-treat, petting zoo, cotton candy, popcorn, inflatable corn maze, pumpkin decorating, bobbing for apples, fire truck visit, fire pit & s'mores, sensory corner, and carnival games ... you don't want to miss this year's fall festival!

Wear a costume and bring your friends along!

**HOT DOG
DINNER**
FREE COSTUMES
OR WEAR YOUR OWN!



Questions? Please contact Tracy Martin, Director of Family and Children's Ministries, at tracy@stpaulchurchky.org.

VISION TEAM REPORT: FIND YOUR COMMUNITY AT ST. PAUL

by Allison Olsen

Hello, everyone! It's the beginning of a new school year, and this is the time of year for families to get back into the familiar routines of school and kids' activities. This is also the time when Sunday schools, choirs, and Wesley nights start back up! I eagerly look forward to this time of year. I love catching up with friends, hearing about family vacations, starting new topics in Sunday school, and gathering on Wednesday evenings for Wesley night dinners and activities. Yes, I love my St. Paul community!

Last fall, the Vision Team conducted a church-wide survey to find out what was on everyone's hearts about the different ministries at St Paul. The topic that was most frequently mentioned was the Family, Children and Youth ministries. Since then, the Children and Youth teams have been working on all the feedback that was received.

Here are some of the things being worked on:

- encourage participation in the Sunday school program
- continue to offer worship opportunities for kids such as: kid's worship nights with different themes, singing in worship, and doing readings in worship
- offer a weekday morning gathering for stay-at-home parents and their children (babies up to age 4) that will include parent hang time as well as a fun music time with their kids
- offer connection for 25 to 40 year olds and consider opportunities for this age group to meet outside of Sunday mornings
- offer a family retreat at Camp Loucon
- Family/Children/Youth Ministry is the foundation of our church

The Children and Youth Teams provide so many ways for our kiddos to be really involved in our church choir, tweens, youth group, and so much more. Clearly, we want our children to have the opportunity to be in a vibrant community where they feel safe, valued, and where they can experience God's love.

We know that these things are important for our kids, but do we seek that out for ourselves? What would your ideal community here at St. Paul look like? What would make you excited to show up every Sunday morning, or Wednesday evening? Connecting with friends? Learning about God? Getting together for a game of pick-up basketball in the gym? Serving together? Just having a conversation in the Common Cup? Or maybe having a group to work on social

justice issues would be your thing. I encourage you to take a few minutes to think about what you want your community at St. Paul to look like. Then, let's work together to make that happen!

There are so many wonderful opportunities to be involved at St. Paul this fall and to create the community you want to be a part of here. Even if you have been attending services for years, it's never too late to try a new Sunday school class, a Wesley night study, or come out for the family retreat day at Camp Loucon on October 18th to make some new connections.

Let's all dare to dream about how being a part of St. Paul United Methodist Church can be the thriving community where we all want to be.

For more information about all these ministries, check out the **Getting Connected at St. Paul** booklet, which you find at our website under Connect or in print around the church.

For more information on the Children's Ministry, contact Tracy Martin at tracy@stpaulchurchky.org.

For more information about the Youth Programs contact Billy and Janet Sewell at youth@stpaulchurchky.org.

For more information about the Children's and Youth choirs, contact Karla Temple at karla@stpaulchurchky.org.



**HOMECOMING
SUNDAY**

COME. BE RENEWED. BELONG

Save the Date!

Sunday, October 26, 10:00am

Sanctuary

More details to come!

September Hymn of the Month: *There is One Gospel*

What makes a song a good one for congregational singing? Not just any faith-based song will do. There are two main criteria we look for when we are choosing songs for worship. First, the song must be strong theologically. It must put forth true things about God, God's world, our relationship to God, and/or God's work in our world. Second, it must be musically accessible to the people singing it. Briefly put, it must be singable. If the range is too wide or the melody too hard to follow, the people just won't sing. These two criteria are especially important when introducing new songs into our congregation's rotation of hymns and songs.

"There is One Gospel" by CitiAlight, the worship ministry of St. Paul's Castle Hill in Sydney, Australia, meets both of those criteria. This song joyfully proclaims the Gospel as we sing it. We are reminded that the Gospel of Jesus Christ is the only thing we can stand on, and that Gospel is that Jesus Christ came to earth, died on the cross for our sins, rose from the dead, through his resurrection gave us hope, and created the Church to represent him on earth, and will one day bring us home to heaven.

The melody is also very singable. It has mostly motion by step, with only a few skips to add flavor. The 6/8 meter makes the song joyful and bouncy. It makes you want to throw your arms over the shoulders of your friends as you sing along. At the risk of being crude, it has the singability of a good drinking song.

Some of you will already know this great hymn, for others it will be brand new. As we sing this song this month, may the truth of the Gospel and the joy it brings go deep into our souls as we sing to one another.

Verse 1

There is one Gospel on which I stand
For all eternity.
It is my story, my Father's plan,
The Son has rescued me.

Oh, what a Gospel, Oh, what a peace.
My highest joy and my deepest need/
Now and forever, He is my light.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Verse 2

There is one Gospel to which I cling,
All else I count as loss.
For there, where justice and mercy meet,
He saved me on the cross.
No more I boast in what I can bring,
No more I carry the weight of sin.
For He has brought me from death to life.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Verse 3

There is one Gospel where hope is found,
The empty tomb still speaks.
For death could not keep my Saviour down,
He lives and I am free.
Now on my Saviour, I fix my eyes,
My life is His and His hope is mine!
For He has promised I, too, will rise
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Verse 4

And in this Gospel, the Church is one,
We do not walk alone.
We have His Spirit as we press on
To lead us safely home.
And when in glory still I will sing
Of this old story that rescued me.
Praise to my Saviour, the King of life.
I stand in the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Listen here: [CityAlight - There is One Gospel \(Live\)](#)

Online Worship Update

Due to some changes at Facebook, we plan to transition to our YouTube channel to stream Sunday morning worship, beginning the first Sunday in Advent, November 30. Our [YouTube channel](#) has had somewhat limited use over the years, but there are some past videos that might be of interest to you. Please visit our channel and subscribe!



Mobile Resource Center

at Fourth Ave UMC's
Open Door Community Ministry

Saturday, September 13
10:45am-12:45pm

It takes a **minimum of 20 volunteers** to cover our needs. We'd love to have you join us!

You can sign up to volunteer here:

stpaulchurchky.org/mobile-resource-center/

In August, we served nearly 80 of our unsheltered and low-income neighbors.



RESOURCE CENTER NEEDS

What do we need?

Men's Jeans!

When do we need them?

NOW!

Our men's jeans cabinet is quite depleted. Men, please check your closets and donate your gently-used jeans!



- Men's Shoes! (esp. sizes 11-12)
- Lightweight jackets and hoodies
- Large shopping bags and totes that can hold jackets and coats.



Thank you for helping us fill our on-the-go food cabinet! We had enough to share with the little pantry across the street!

Our Amazon wish list can be found here: <https://a.co/hULmRMs>

Safety Team Tips

It is getting to be that time of year when activities are increasing daily at church.

Here are some tips to keep you, and your fellow churchgoers, safe.

Do not let anyone in the building you do not know.

Lock your vehicle and don't leave valuables in sight. If you have to leave them in your vehicle, lock them in the trunk.

Always walk to your car in a group.

Always be aware of your surroundings.

If you encounter someone who makes you feel uncomfortable, do not engage. Walk away from them and let a staff member or safety team member know about the individual.

The Highlands has seen an increase in our unsheltered community. Our Resource Center offers support to this community on Mondays and

Wednesday from 10am-1pm, providing clothing, hygiene, and food to meet their everyday needs. Most of these visitors are respectful and grateful, and they appreciate a friendly "Hello." If you encounter one of these visitors who asks you for money, please do not comply. Let them know the church can offer assistance with basic necessities. The information about our Resource Center hours is on the glass door at the elevator entrance. On occasion, we encounter someone who is having a medical or mental emergency, which could make them agitated or violent. If you see someone in this condition, please walk away and reach out to a staff member.

We always need volunteers to help man the doors on Sunday mornings and for various events. No experience necessary. Reach out to Rod Kincaid (rodkincaid@hotmail.com), Alice Abbott-Moore (aabbott-moore@outlook.com), or Tony Glass (Lab1dobie@gmail.com) if you would be interested in helping out.

Tony Glass, Safety Team

Resilience Corner

We Want to Hear Your Story!

This is an opportunity to get to know each other better, deepen our friendships, and really connect... AND have FUN doing it.

Tell us how you came to St. Paul. What or who brought you here? What was that first experience like? What happened that reached out and touched you and kept you coming back?

Instructions: Submit your story to us (The Resilience Team) and we'll have various opportunities to share

them - during Wesley Night in September, on the church website, in the Tower, on a bulletin board....

To submit your story or for any questions or assistance, please contact:

Peggy Lutes - (502)649-7998, peggy.lutes@gmail.com or Joanne Milo - (502)552-7291, jmilo58@yahoo.com

Please read the first story that has been submitted:

My St. Paul Story: How I got Here; Why I stayed.

About the time Joanne was looking for a church with contemporary music, we were both looking for a handsome sanctuary for our wedding. I knew little about modern Christian music other than I liked it. The clincher for joining St. Paul was Pastor Gibson's comment we could save five hundred dollars on the ceremony by becoming members.

That was a little more than ten years ago. But the reason I stayed wasn't just the music. Until St. Paul, I'd been pretty rootless: first as a child of missionaries, then as a Coast Guardsman, and finally, an Army civilian - mostly sub-Saharan Africa and Western Europe. I wasn't connected in any meaningful way to any congregation or denomination. My spiritual life drifted and sputtered.

At St. Paul, my extracurricular involvement is welcomed and encouraged. Opportunities to grow, serve and live abundantly abound. I'm building relationships. And if I listen - still a challenge - I'm enriched by different perspectives

and those with deeper faith. St. Paul is well stocked with what I call "urban missionaries": saints active in our own body of believers while contributing to communities outside our walls. They are the dynamic duos like Graeme and Jane, BJ and Ray, Paul and Debbie, Jimmy and D'Anna, Gail and Ed; and the super singles like Glenda, Genie, Donna and Carl. Too many to name here.

Another significant reason for staying is the spirit of inclusiveness that emanates from the sacrament of communion. I never, ever, get tired of hearing the invitation to everyone that the table is the Lord's and all are welcome to the celebration.

Jon J. Fleshman



Sharing Our Story - Wesley Night program

Join us during Wesley Nights on September 10, 17, and 24 at 7:00pm for "Sharing Our Story!" You will hear from three St. Paul members each night, as they share their stories of how they came to and stayed at St. Paul.

GET CONNECTED – SMALL GROUPS

United Women in Faith

**Tuesday, September 9 (second Tuesdays)
10:00am, Room 113**

United Women in Faith will meet Tuesday, September 9, at 10:00 a.m. in room 113. Our theme will be "What Does Faithfulness Mean to You?". We will continue to talk about how to carry our faith forward in our ever changing world. Please join us.

Men's Group

**Every Other Monday, 7:00pm,
September 8 & 22, Common Cup**

The St. Paul Men's group invites participants to walk alongside one another in the Christian faith. The group is open to all men.

Faith Quilters

**Tuesday, September 16 (third Tuesdays)
10:00am-2:00pm | Room 100**
(quilting from home also welcome)

Faith Quilters gather for fellowship and work every third Tuesday of each month except December. From 10:00am to 2:00pm, we iron, cut, audition, and stitch cotton fabric for quilts. We welcome new participants, experienced at quilting or not. All piecing and quilting is machine sewn.

All of our quilts stay in the local area and are distributed here through Project Linus, a national non-profit organization with chapters in all 50 states.

Prayer Beading Group

Sunday, September 14, Noon, Common Cup

Prayer beads are given to those who are in the hospital or grieving. They are also given to those who have joined St. Paul.

Making prayer beads is a fun and prayerful way to join in fellowship with others, while creating a compassionate gift for someone in need of support.

No experience necessary! Join us every second Sunday in the Common Cup.

Women of the Word Bible Study

Wednesdays, 10:00am, Room 113

To all the Women of St. Paul,

If you're looking for a small group to deepen your faith and your knowledge of the Bible, we would love for you to check out the Women of the Word. This is one of the longest continuous-running groups at St. Paul, and while the membership changes over time, the spirit is strong and sweet. Come check us out.

We meet every Wednesday from 10:00-11:30 in Room 113 to pray, study God's Word together, and grow in our relationship with God.

We'll begin September 10 with two six-week studies:

Adam Hamilton - [The Message of Jesus: Words that Changed the World](#)

Melissa Spoelstra - [The Names of God](#)

Each study has a book (\$15, payable to St. Paul) that goes with it, but you don't need to get it if you don't wish.

We start with sharing God-sightings and prayer concerns, then move to the 20-minute video and scripture study. We have a lot of good snacks midway through the lesson. We close with prayer. The format is such that if you miss a week or two, you can jump back in.

We hope you'll check us out September 10!

If you have questions, please give Gail Henson a call at 648-2201 or email at grhenson@gmail.com.

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THE TOWER

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

**SPAMS High Tea
was delightful!**

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St. Paul Church
A UNITED METHODIST COMMUNITY