THE TOWER

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love



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NEXT TOWER DEADLINE! Thursday, October 16 at 5:00pm

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:

Bonny Evans Kathy Adams & Nancy Weber Sue Harper Women of the Word Bible Study

In memory of Mary Helen Hulker, from:

Betty Matthews Kathy Adams & Nancy Weber Ruth Black

In memory of Rev. Ed Henry, from:

Betty Matthews Kathy Adams & Nancy Weber Harvey & Carolyn Matheny Ruth Black

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!



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.



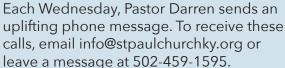
Connect with St. Paul Church on Facebook and Instagram.



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.



Pastor Darren's Weekly Phone Message



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!

They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love

One of the great blessings of ministry is seeing members of all ages coming together to participate in the life of the church. Seeing children and youth in worship is a special joy. Their presence reminds us of the vibrant future God is shaping in our midst. Perhaps this joy feels so important to me because I didn't grow up in church myself. The church found me when I was a teenager.

My youth group welcomed me with open arms. They remembered my birthday one year with a cake decorated like a driver's license, celebrating my new learner's permit. Apparently, they thought my driving needed plenty of prayer because they gave me my first Bible too - something I still treasure. Their kindness showed me the love of Christ in tangible ways.

Singing was important in that youth group, and the very first Christian song I ever learned was "They Will Know We Are Christians by Our Love." Looking back, I can see what a gift it was that this was my first song of faith. It set the foundation for everything I've come to believe about God and discipleship. The early church believed so deeply in the way of love that they declared, "The only thing that counts is faith expressing itself through love" (Galatians 5:6).

This October, we invite you to join us on a journey we're calling "The Way of Love." The Christian life is rooted in God's boundless love—a love for everyone, everywhere. It is a love that connects us, calls us to trust, and compels us to share hope with the world. Love is the bridge that links us to God and one another.

As we explore this theme together, we'll see how stewardship—our giving, serving, and daily living—is a faithful response to God's first loving us. Each Sunday will focus on a different dimension of this journey, with special opportunities to put love into action.

On the schedule, you'll notice three wonderful times for fellowship: St. Paul Day at Loucon, Homecoming Sunday, and the Fall Festival. Please mark your calendar as we celebrate the ties that bind us together. My prayer is that October will be a time for each of us to renew our commitment to walk in the Way of Love and to practice being bridge builders in the world.

Blessings,

Darren

October 5

The Way of Love: Love is for Everyone Everywhere John 3:14-21

Focus: World Communion Sunday

On this global day of unity, we remember that God's love knows no boundaries. Around Christ's table, people from every nation and language are drawn together by God's redeeming love.

October 12

The Way of Love: Love Connects

John 15:4-8

Focus: Children's Sabbath Sunday.

Jesus calls us to abide in him as the true vine. When we are connected to Christ, we are also connected to one another. On this day we celebrate the children of our church and renew our call to nurture faith across generations.

October 19

The Way of Love: Love Trusts

1 Corinthians 13 Focus: Service Sunday

Love always trusts. As we bring our gifts, pledge cards, and Waller-Williams donations, we place our faith in God to multiply what we offer for the good of others.

October 26

The Way of Love: Love Shares Hope

Colossians 3:12-17

Focus: Homecoming Sunday / One Service 10am

Love overflows in hope. We give thanks for Christ who is our hope and commit ourselves to sharing that hope through generosity and mission.

Special Note: We'll have refreshments after worship as you choose a way to share hope:

- Box up a Waller-Williams Thanksgiving box.
- Write a note to a St. Paul member who isn't able to attend in person.
- Make Prayer Beads.
- Pack Compassion Bags.
- Create chalk art and words of hope on the sidewalk.

October 29 - Fall Festival

November 2 - All Saints Sunday



Homecoming Sunday: Celebrating What Matters Most

There's no place like home. And on October 26, we're inviting our entire church family to come together for a special one-service Sunday at 10am.

We're gathering for one special service to celebrate what truly matters: growing in faith, serving others, and rediscovering the joy of belonging to God's family.

Whether you've been a part of our community for years or are looking for a place to call home, we hope you'll join us.

Come. Be renewed. Belong.



Sunday, October 26, 10:00am One service in the Sanctuary, followed by refreshments and service projects.

After worship, let's come together to serve the community in the following ways:

Waller-Williams Thanksgiving Box Assembly

McAdams Social Hall

Prayer Beading and Writing Cards to Homebound Members Room 113 Assembling Compassion Bags and Hygiene Kits
Room 100

Chalk Art

Sidewalk between buildings

Refreshments will be served outside, pending the weather.

Online Worship Update - Migrating to YouTube Beginning November 30

Due to some changes at Facebook, we plan to transition to our YouTube channel to stream the 11:00am Sunday morning worship service, beginning the first Sunday in Advent, November 30.

Our <u>YouTube channel</u> has had somewhat limited use over the years, but there are some past videos that might be of interest to you.

Please visit <u>our channel</u> and subscribe! You can also scan the QR code to access our channel.







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 Lake meditation Folk dancing Scavenger hunts for all ages Supper S'mores around the Art, haiku, crafts Board games campfire Whispering Falls Watercolor class and more! hike Registration fees: \$20 per person or \$50 per family. Final Call! Scholarships available. Contact Amy Johnson at We need 30 more folks to sign up for spsgamy@gmail.com St. Paul Day at Loucon by October 5, Register at our website as of this writing. or scan the code. If we don't make our minimum number, we'll need to cancel the event. Please sign up today!



Children's Ministry News!



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!











Tweens (4th-6th graders) meet on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month from 5-7pm. 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 meetings will take place on the 12th and 26th.

St. Paul Children's Music Opportunities

Wednesday evenings during Wesley Night







Music Milestones Class

6-6:30pm | Room 306 For Ages 3-5 | Kids experiment with vocal sounds, singing, rhythm instruments, movement, and games.

Joyful Song Choir

7-8pm | Room 306 For Grades 1-3| Kids are taught basics of beat, rhythm, and pitch matching. Creativity is encouraged through instruments and music games. This group sings monthly for worship services.

Wesleyan Choir

7-8pm | Room 302 For Grades 4-6 | Basic music concepts are solidified using games, instruments, folk and sacred songs. Kids learn to blend as a choir, fostering community and trust. This group also sings monthly for worship services.



HOT DOG DINNER FREE COSTUMES

OR WEAR YOUR OWN!

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!



PARENTS NIGHT OUT

OCTOBER 24 • 5:30-8:30PM



Kids up to age 12 are invited to eat pizza, make a craft, play in the gym, and watch a movie!

\$25/first child \$5/each additional child

Cash or check only, please. You may pay in advance at the church office or when you drop off your kids at the event.



SAVE THE DATE!

Kids Worship Night - November 16, 4-6pm

October Hymn of the Month: Come to the Table of Mercy

Liturgy is something we do every Sunday in both of our services. Liturgy literally means "the work of the people." Sometimes liturgy comes in the form of responsive readings, prayers, or sermons. But liturgy is also the songs we sing. This month's hymn *Come to the Table of Mercy* serves a very specific liturgical purpose – the invitation to Holy Communion.

Come to the table of mercy, prepared with the wine and the bread. All who are hungry and thirsty, come and your souls will be fed. Come at the Lord's invitation; receive from his nail-scarred hand. Eat of the bread of salvation; drink of the blood of the Lamb.

CCLI Song # 675056 Claire Cloninger | Martin J. Nyström © 1991 Integrity's Hosanna! Music; Curb Word Music As you can see, these lyrics invite us to Christ's table with reminders of what is offered there. In fact, Claire Cloniger and Martin Nyström were tasked to write it for just that purpose in 1990. They wanted to write something simple and "non-wordy" in the composer's words. While we use songs as liturgy often, this song is very singular in its purpose.

The tune for this short hymn is very singable. You will surely find yourself humming it as the month progresses. Because the tune and the text were created together, the tune highlights the meaning of the text by rising to its highest note on "Come at the Lord's invitation."

Remember that all are welcome at Christ's Table, which Christ prepared for us through his life, death, and resurrection.

Listen to the hymn here: https://tinyurl.com/zeptbw76

St. Paul Chancel Choir



Looking for connection, belonging and fun? If you enjoy singing, and want to become more connected at St. Paul, the Chancel Choir is the group for you! We rehearse on Thursdays at 7:00pm in Room 302. Each week in the 11:00am traditional service, we support the congregational singing and present anthems from a wide range of styles and periods. The Chancel Choir presents our annual Advent Lessons & Carols service in early December, and they sing a prelude for our Christmas Eve services. Our Chancel Choir is featured in the Boar's Head & Yule log Festival at the end of December.

les six to Perform at St. Paul

The wind/piano ensemble, les six, will perform a special 10-year anniversary concert in the St. Paul Sanctuary on Saturday, October 18 at 7 pm.



The sextet is comprised of a woodwind quintet: flute, oboe, clarinet, bassoon and horn, with piano as the sixth instrument. St. Paul member Nan Tate is the bassoonist with this group.

Ten years ago, on October 4, 2015, the sextet performed their first concert at the University of Louisville featuring Francis Poulenc's "Sextet." Now, after more than 50 performances, the group will reprise the Poulenc "Sextet" and also perform works by the other five composers in the group's namesake "les slx:" Georges Auric, Louis Durey, Arthur Honegger, Darius Milhaud, and Germaine Tailleferre.

The concert is free. Visitors are asked to provide a monetary offering to St. Paul's Resource Center; a link for this will be provided in the program.

Waller-Williams Thanksgiving Boxes

The Waller-Williams Environmental School is a JCPS school for students with severe emotional or behavioral issues. Each year, St. Paul partners with Waller-Williams to provide Thanksgiving boxes to the families of their students. Each box contains all the items for a Thanksgiving meal, except for the turkey, which is provided by another partner.

Last year, St. Paul delivered nearly 100 Thanksgiving boxes to the Waller-Williams school. This year, Waller-Williams has 93 students, and St. Paul will again provide Thanksgiving boxes to these students' families.

Here's how you can help!

1. Donate a Food Item!

Visit one of the Thanksgiving Box bulletin boards in the gym or outside McAdams

Social Hall. Select a food item that you would like to purchase (e.g., "10 cans of green beans" or

"10 boxes of cake mix"), then **bring those items to the church no later than Sunday, October 19**.

We will have an opportunity for you to bring your donation to the worship service that day.

2. Help us pack the Thanksgiving Boxes

On October 26, we will celebrate Homecoming Sunday with one service at 10am, followed by refreshments and several service opportunities. **One of those projects will be packing the Thanksgiving boxes after the 10:00am service** in McAdams Social Hall!

Mobile Resource Center

at Fourth Ave UMC's Open Door Community Ministry

Saturday, October 11 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 September, we served nearly 80 of our unsheltered and low-income neighbors.

CURRENT RESOURCE CENTER NEEDS

- Men's Shoes! (esp. sizes 11-12)
- Jackets and hoodies
- Large women's tops (sizes 3x-5x)
- Bras (esp. sizes 40+)
- New socks and underwear (men & women)

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



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.

Through December 10

6:00-6:30pm Music Milestones (Prek & K) - Rm. 302 5:00-6:30pm Gym time and homework help for 1st-oth Jam and Hangout - Youth Center Youth Jam and Hangout - Youth Center 6:30-7:00pm Gym time for age 3-K Childcare for ages 5 and under will be available during Wesley Night from 6:00pm-8:00pm in room 202. 6:00-6:30pm Music Milestones (Prek & K) - km. 3
6:00-6:30pm Gym time and homework help for 1st-6th araders - Gym 6:30-7:00pm Tourn Jam and Hangour

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 McAdams Social Hall

October 1 No Wesley Night - Fall Break

October 8-22 Survive and Thrive -

Mental Health and Wellness

(see page 11)

No Wesley Night - Fall Festival

Love Does Book Study

Thanksgiving Break

November 26 No Wesley Night -

December 17

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



December 10 **Christmas Party**

and Cookie Exchange

Longest Night Service

Find details on current studies and programs at our website!

October 29

Nov. 5-Dec. 3



SIRVIFE Charting a path toward mental wellness with children, youth, and adults A Wesley Night Program

A Wesley Night Program

Wednesdays, October 8, 15, and 22, during Wesley Night 7:00pm, McAdams Social Hall

Education creates awareness; awareness creates understanding; understanding creates healing.

Join us for this informative three-part series on recognizing, preventing, and living with mental illness.

Session1: Recognizing Mental Illness in Children; suicide and depression awareness and prevention

Speakers: Child Psychiatrist Dr. Felissa P. Goldstein DFAPA, DFAAP Nancy Brooks, Executive Director of NAMI-National Association for Mental Illness

Session 2: Recognizing Mental Illness in Adults; suicide and depression awareness and prevention.

Speakers: Adult Psychiatrist Dr. Jennifer Wood and Vice President Adult Services Seven Counties Jean Romano, LPCC-S, Seven Counties Services

Session 3: Living with Hope and Thriving

Speaker: Kathy Dobbins, Wellspring CEO, along with peer stories of thriving

Youth News!



October

10/5 Regular Youth 10/11 Regular Youth 10/18 (SATURDAY) St. Paul Day at Loucon 10/19 Youth Bonfire 10/26 Regular Youth 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

12/7 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

12/6 (SATURDAY) Boar's Head First Rehearsal

January

1/3 Progressive

VISION TEAM REPORT:

Spiritual Formation, Christian Education, and Small Group Engagement

by Gail Henson

John Wesley would ask, "How is it with your soul?" What is it your heart needs to nurture your faith, whether it is the size of a mustard seed or a branch rooted in Christ?

In John 15, Jesus said, "I am the vine and you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit." In Matthew 13:31, Jesus says that faith even the size of a mustard seed can lead to great things. Are you feeling part of that Vine or that you have faith the size of a mustard seed?

Spiritual formation and Christian education were identified as being very important on this year's survey of the Vision Team goals, so this month we invite you to look at ways you can nurture your faith and grow spiritually.

What is your faith story? At Wesley Night in September, we heard people tell stories of their faith formation at St. Paul. Over and over, people referenced spiritual formation groups like the Disciple study, Companions in Christ, the Walk to Emmaus, all Upper Room programs, as well as prayer groups, retreats, Bible studies, and Sunday

school. What works for you to nurture your faith?

Spirituality is part of everything we do as Christians–from our daily routines to the art, literature, and music that bring us joy; God's creation and environment; the spirituality of service; and prayer time.

We affirm that we are all part of the Body of Christ, engrafted into Christ. We encourage you to consider how you can grow in faith this year. It may be through participating in current groups or suggesting a new group.

With stewardship season upon us, you can fill out the brochure "Ready to Serve" to indicate where you'd like to be involved in ministry or what you'd like to participate in to grow your faith. You can pick up a copy of the *Get Connected* booklet (or find it at our website) to see where you can plug into a group to grow your faith.

Each person is on a unique journey of faith and formation. Find out what St. Paul has for you to help you grow in faith.

Game Day at St. Paul

Thursday, October 23, 1:00-3:00pm, McAdams Social Hall

All ages welcome!

All ages and stages are invited to come together for an afternoon playing games, such as Rummy-Cue, Rook, Pit, and more. Would you like to lead a game? Reach out to Glenda Young at gkyoung1@charter.net.

Bring your friends!

Sign up at the Information Center.



GET CONNECTED - SMALL GROUPS

United Women in Faith

Tuesday, October 14 (second Tuesdays) 10:00am, Room 113

We will begin our study from the fourth quarter of the United Women in Faith program book *Carrying Our Faith Forward*. The title is "Water as Hospitality." This lesson explores how we should live in community with our sisters. Our focus will be how to create and support a sisterhood of grace.

Men's Group

Every Other Monday, 7:00pm, 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, October 21 (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, October 12, 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

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.

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

Resilience Corner

We Want to Hear Your Story!

The Resilience Team wants to thank everyone that participated in the September Wesley Night series - Tell Us Your Story. Special memories and experiences were shared, filling the room with emotion, laughter, and connection. Old friendships were restored, and new friendships were made.

We are still requesting that you provide your story to be placed in our online storybook, and in The Tower, where they can be shared and enjoyed. 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?

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

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

I attended and loved the Boar's Head Festival for years, taking my children when they were little, and introducing it to friends. At that time I was pretty much a lapsed Catholic. Four-five years ago my granddaughter, Josephine, started going to choir at St. Paul on Wednesday evenings. I was so impressed with how loving the choir leaders were with the kids. When Josephine's choir group sang at the Sunday service, I attended to see and hear her. I found people at St. Paul to be so welcoming and kind. I found Rev. Brandon's sermons uplifting. They fed me the spiritual food I didn't know I was missing. I started attending the Wesley night meetings. The first time I went, Glenda welcomed me to sit at her table. I will never forget that kindness.

I was interested in joining one of the Sunday school groups, when one day at church, Amy Johnson invited me to join her group. Through Amy and Melody Medley, I learned more about the Methodist faith and St. Paul. In our group I enjoyed our book discussions focusing on social justice. Peggy Lutes welcomed me to help at the Valentine Party. BJ and Ray Fore welcomed me to help with the home-cooked meal on Wesley night. These activities gave me a real sense of belonging. So joining St. Paul was a wonderful process. I'm incredibly grateful to have found this spiritual home.

Mary Jo Moore

NEW MERCH ALERT!

Boar's Head Sweatshirts are headed this way! Tell your friends - tell your family - tell your pet hamster! Pre-orders are already rolling in, and we can't wait to get these into your hands.

Choose black or green, adult sizes S-XL, \$25 each. Crewneck sweatshirt with logo centered on front; sheet music for "The Boar's Head Carol" on back. Email your order to tracy@stpaulchurchky.org - also let us know if you need it shipped for an extra fee!



Pledge Card: My Commitment to St. Paul in 2026 NAME(S): _____ ADDRESS: PHONE: _____ EMAIL: I am interested in serving in the following ways at St. Paul: I/We would like to support St. Paul's ministries and giving for our community and beyond. I/We estimate my/our giving to the 2026 budget will total: _____ weekly, _____ monthly, or _____ annually. If you participate in e-giving, please remember to login to your account to update your giving amount if you are making a change in 2026. Visit the St. Paul website or scan the code above for more information on e-giving. I/We commit to pray for the ministry of St. Paul UMC. I/We commit to attend worship _____ times per month. I/We would like information about St. Paul's endowed giving program. Please clip this card, fill it out, and return it or mail it to the church office. You may also fill out the online Pledge Card at our website. Scan the code with your phone's camera for quick access.

St. Paul United Methodist Church

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