

THE TOWER

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



June 2021
Our first Mobile
Resource Center



2022

**St. Paul
Mobile Resource Center
is Five Years Old!**



2024



2025



2023



2026



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THE FAITHFUL DEPARTED

William J. Bush - December 6, 2025
 Brian Buchanan - December 21, 2025
 William (Bill) Smith - December 27, 2025
 Pat Miller - February 23, 2026
 Ann Collins - April 19, 2026

IN MEMORY OF ...

In memory of Jim Moore,
 from...
 Carl & Glenna Heimerdinger
 Betty Matthews
 Harvey & Lynn Hite
 Peaceful Families PLLC
 Kathleen Adams & Nancy Weber



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!

Prayer Requests: Send prayer requests or sign up to receive the Prayer Chain by emailing prayer@stpaulchurchky.org. The Prayer Chain is emailed throughout the week as prayer requests are received.

Sunday morning worship livestream

The Sunday morning worship service is now livestreaming on the St. Paul YouTube channel - youtube.com/ - search for StPaulUMCLouKY. Or scan the QR code to the right. Visit our channel and subscribe!



You can also visit the St. Paul website (stpaulchurchky.org) and follow the link on the homepage.



Jimmy and I want to thank everyone for your kind expressions of sympathy since the death of my Brother-in-law, David Riggle. Your hugs, cards, prayers and gifts meant so much to us. You surely served us as the Body of Christ. My sister, Emlyn Riggle and her children were blessed by your generosity and are so grateful.

Love, D'Anna Switzer

NEXT TOWER DEADLINE!
Thursday, June 18

Evolution of the St. Paul Resource Center

by Sara Ferebee, Director of Communications and Outreach



It's hard to believe that our first Mobile Resource Center (MRC) took place five years ago this month. The MRC began as a post-Covid solution to serving the needs of the unsheltered and low-income members of our community after our weekly onsite Resource Center was shuttered due to the pandemic.

At our first MRC in June 2021, about ten volunteers served around 40-50 guests on the sidewalk outside Fourth Avenue United Methodist Church, as part of their Open Door Community Ministries lunch program. We brought new underwear, used clothing, shoes, hygiene items, and water. We have been there every second Saturday of the month since then (with only a couple of cancellations). In May 2026, over 25 volunteers served 115 guests! We have drastically increased the amount of resources we take and have expanded our offerings to include on-the-go and pantry food, as well as prayer support. Our volunteer numbers have steadily increased as well. Those who volunteer once often choose to return. Several confirmation students and families have become regular volunteers after serving during the confirmation process. We now have a "deep bench" of volunteers, which means we rarely lack the coverage we need each second Saturday. Unfortunately, when we do not have enough volunteers, we are unable to offer prayer support in the chapel. We would love to get to the point where we can offer that support at every event.

On a weekly basis at St. Paul, we continue to serve those in need during our Resource Center hours on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10am-1pm. Those who stop by can request all the same items we take to the MRC. In the past, Pastor Darren and I assisted these visitors, which was a meaningful but time-consuming task. But in recent months, volunteers have begun assisting with the process, which has been a wonderful experience for both those serving and being served. When not serving guests, these volunteers also spend time sorting donations, sizing clothing, and organizing items in the Resource Center.

Did you know? Any clothing donations we can't use for the Resource Center are donated to the United Methodist Mountain Mission. Extra food is donated to local food pantries, including the Highlands Community Ministry pantry, or to the Open Door Community Ministries kitchen at Fourth Ave UMC.

The Future of the Resource Center

While the Resource Center has made a lot of positive changes over the years, there are still so many things we hope to do in the future to assist those we serve. As you will read in the Trustees Report on page 5, renovations on the "white house" will begin soon. If you are not aware, the white house is a St. Paul property that sits next to the playground and small parking lot. In the near future, the Resource Center will move into the first floor, where we will be able to allow guests into the building (which we cannot do now) to use the restroom, take showers, choose their own clothing and hygiene products, and have a snack or simply take a break from the hardships of the streets.

Hard fact: There are only a few places throughout the city where the unsheltered can take a shower, and none of those are near the Highlands. Likewise, there are very few options for using the bathroom. We are beyond grateful that we will soon be able to fill that gap.

We will also have laundry facilities. Guests can leave their worn clothes behind to be washed and redistributed, keeping usable clothes out of the landfills. We will need additional volunteers to help with the laundry, so keep that in mind if you are looking for a way to plug in!

In January, the Resource Center received a Good Samaritan grant from the Kentucky Annual Conference of the UMC. Those funds are helping to purchase additional food for the MRC, transportation totes, and storage for the new Resource Center in the white house. We also plan to purchase an outdoor donation bin where people can donate gently used clothing and other supplies for the Resource Center without having to enter the building.

Over the years, we have not only grown our services, we have grown our community. We have developed friendships with many of those we serve. We know their names and faces, and they know ours. We know what types of clothing they like, the sizes they wear, their favorite colors, and preferred snacks. And most of all, we offer compassion and receive it in return.

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ. - Galatians 6:2

CURRENT RESOURCE CENTER NEEDS

- Men's jeans (esp. small sizes, 29-33)
- Men's shoes (all sizes)
- Men's short-sleeved t-shirts and shorts
- Backpacks
- Tarps
- Bras (esp. larger sizes)
- Reading glasses
- Books, all genres, and large-print Bibles

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

We had around 25 wonderful volunteers who served 115 guests at our May Mobile Resource Center!

Fifth Anniversary Mobile Resource Center

at Fourth Ave UMC's
Open Door Community Ministry

Saturday, June 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 at our website, or you can scan the QR code.



The Crayon Project is a five-week sermon series about the beautiful work of grace in and through our lives. Each week, we will explore how God's grace gathers up the broken pieces, reshapes them through the seasons of waiting and change, forming us into a community sent out to love.

As part of the series, you are invited to bring in old, broken, or discarded crayons. These small fragments will become a visible sign of what grace can do. What seems worn out, finished or no longer useful can be made new.

Then, on June 21, we will give you something created from your crayons - something you can use to reach out and offer a word of encouragement to someone else.

Grace does not waste any of our experiences. Grace gathers them, remaking them into something full of possibility and blessing.

Series Schedule:

- May 24: Gather there Fragments (John 6:1-13)
- May 31: Reworking (Jeremiah 18:1-6)
- June 7: The Holy Stillness (Lamentations 3:25-26)
- June 14: Many Parts, Made One (1 Corinthians 12:12-27)
- June 21: Redeemed & Sent to Love (John 21:15-19)


St Paul UMC Trustees Update - June 2026

Installation of 121 solar panels should begin soon. Part of the panels will be installed on the roof of the Family Life Center and part on the roof of the white house. Installation is scheduled to begin the week of May 25 and continue the week of June 1.

Best Waterproofing has been working with us to find out the cause of the water damage in the McAdams Hall. They have worked on the area outside the room where water seems to be standing and have done repairs to the downspout. Highland Roofing has repaired part of the gutter over the same area. When it appears that waterproofing has been successful, we will have repairs and painting done in the sanctuary and in McAdams. Currently, we are waiting for a heavy rain to test the work that has been done.

We are having the balcony in the sanctuary checked to make sure it is structurally sound. This is not because we think there is a problem but in order to be extra careful after the very heavy lighting for the Boars Head production was in the balcony. We have contracted with Senler, Campbell and Associates Inc. Part of the floor in the balcony will be torn up to check supports.

A contract with Denis Littrell & Associates, Inc has been signed for work on the white house, including installation of air conditioning and a gas furnace. The installation of HVAC will begin soon. Curt Jones is chair of the committee working on the renovation. HVAC and bathrooms will be completed first and then other improvements made, as funds become available. The plan is that in the near future, this building will serve

as the St. Paul outreach center with a large area of the first floor devoted to our Resource Center, including two bathrooms with showers that the unhoused individuals we serve can use for hygiene. There will also be access to a washer and dryer, and there will be more storage for clothes, food, and other items needed. Boy Scouts and Cub scouts will have an office on second floor. There will be meeting rooms for scouts and for other groups, including outside groups such as AA as well as Sunday School and Bible Study groups. This move will also free up space in the church currently used by the Resource Center. However, work can only be done as we have funds. Please consider making a donation to this project. Every little bit helps. You may write a check, designating "white house," or give online at our website (or scan ); choose "white house" fund from the dropdown menu. Also, please keep this project in your prayers.

The St. Paul Communications Team is working on new directional signage for our campus. The goal is to improve the experience of visitors attempting to gain entrance and to let people know about some of our programs such as AA, the Resource Center and the HCM Childcare.

Of course, there are always repairs and updates needed in our older buildings. Trustees have a long list. Some things can be done by volunteers. We plan to have a volunteer work day this summer. More details to come on that.

Submitted by B. J. Fore, Trustee Chair

Habitat House 2026

Members of St. Paul have been invited to help build the 2026 Interfaith House. We will partner with seven other churches to build a house in August for Jerome and Anesie and their six children.

We have been asked to contribute \$10,000 and labor to build at 6508 Lower Hunters Trace. To prepare for this adventure, we will need prayers, money, builders, and coordinators.

More information will follow.

PRACTICE LOVE ❤️
PRACTICE KINDNESS 😊
PRACTICE PEACE ☮️
PRACTICE JESUS ✝️
REPEAT !!
**THIS MESSAGE BROUGHT TO YOU BY
THE RESILIENCE TEAM**

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 15-18

6-8pm

SHINING A LIGHT ON
WHO JESUS REALLY IS

ILLUMINATION
STATION™
JOHN 8:12

For age 3 through
rising 5th graders

Register your child today!
\$10/first child
\$5/each sibling



We want YOU: Please volunteer June 15-18!

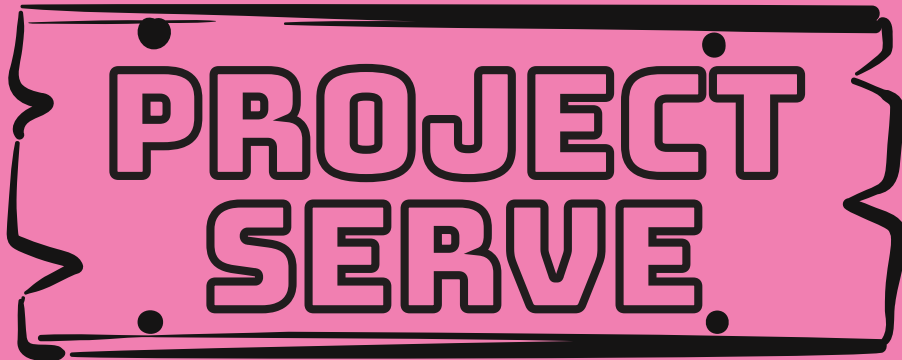
Vacation Bible School and Project Serve are an energizing and impactful week of ministry. The crafts are messy, the games are sweaty, the service projects can be brutal, and the children sometimes ask deep theological questions with a mouth full of pretzels. Beneath all the noise, something beautiful is happening: we're planting Gospel seeds in little hearts! We are helping kids and tweens learn who Jesus is and how deeply He loves them. And we're doing it together—as a church family! Everyone offers their time as an act of worship, and the volunteers grow closer to other volunteers—adults and youth—in ways that can only happen when serving shoulder-to-shoulder. Please jump in and make an eternal impact this month! Text/call Tracy at 972-567-5419, or email tracy@stpaulchurchky.org.

Tweens Camp-out

Last month, we took 9 of our tweens camping at O'Bannon Woods State Park. We snacked, hiked, enjoyed s'mores around the campfire, played on the playground, climbed the fire tower, and enjoyed a relaxing night under the stars! THANK YOU to Caroline Pieroni & Karin Pulliam for chaperoning!



ST. PAUL TWEENS



2026

June 15-18
1-5pm

Service projects
each day
and a lock-in!

For grades 5-7

Register your Tween today!



St. Paul Annual Kids Music Camp!

July 13-17, 9am-12pm
Performances on Sunday, July 19, 9am and 11am, Gym

Music Camp is for kids entering grades 2-7. Performances will be shared with the congregation July 19, 9am and 11am in the gym. Our musical this year, "A Technicolor Promise," is a fun and whimsical retelling of the story of Noah and of God's faithful promise to all of humankind. During the week, kids will participate in rehearsal sessions, snack time, crafts, indoor and outdoor games, movement, and hands-on time with various percussion instruments! Feel free to invite friends and neighbors to participate in camp, or to come to our Sunday morning performances!



Registration Fee is \$40 - scholarships available.

Register using [this form](#) or scan the code.



United Methodist Church Constitutional Amendment on Racism

By Graeme Donovan, Lay Delegate to Annual Conference

The General Conference of the United Methodist Church (UMC) in April 2024 proposed four amendments to the Constitution of the worldwide Church. They had to be ratified by every Annual Conference to be confirmed. When the Kentucky Annual Conference took their vote on ratification in June 2025, there was some debate on the floor about one of those amendments – the one that strengthened the language on the Church’s determination to oppose racism and combat it. I’m happy to report that all four of the proposed amendments were passed decisively last Fall by the United Methodist Church worldwide, and have therefore gone into effect.

The amendment on racism strengthens Article V of the Constitution of the UMC, which now reads as follows:

The United Methodist Church proclaims that from God’s goodness and love, God created all persons as God’s unique and beloved children. Racism opposes God’s law, goodness and love and diminishes the image of God in each person. Fueled by white privilege, white supremacy and colonialism, the sin of racism has been a destructive scourge on global society and throughout the history of The United Methodist Church. It continues to destroy our communities, harm persons, obstruct unity and undermine God’s work in this world. Racism must be eradicated. Therefore, The United Methodist Church commits to confronting and eliminating all forms of racism, racial inequity, colonialism, white privilege and white supremacy, in every facet of its life and in society at large.

This year, the need for this stronger Amendment has been made urgent by events that are fueling racism in our society. Two developments stand out:

Targeting of immigrants for detention and deportation on the basis of their race.

Decisions by the Supreme Court effectively dismantling the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

One of our Kentucky Annual Conference’s five discipleship priorities is “Disrupting and Dismantling Racism and Discrimination”. That’s not going to happen without work. Our Conference Commission on Religion and Race has undertaken a series of activities this year, to advance this work. Their program continues at Annual Conference, May 31 to June 3, at Christ United Methodist Church in Louisville. I’ll report to you later on what happens at Conference.

One of the goals of St. Paul is to maintain a diversity ministry to help us connect with the diverse greater community to which we belong. To do this effectively, we need to keep doing the work of eradicating racism in ourselves; every one of us who has ever done this work knows it’s an ongoing task, in which I urge us all to engage so that we can be God’s witnesses in our challenging times.

Game Day

Every last Thursday, 1:00-3:00pm

Game Day | Thursday, May 28, 1-3pm (last Thursday of each month) | All ages and stages are invited to come together for an afternoon playing games, such as Rummy-Cue, Rook, Pit, and more. Bring your friends! If there is a game you enjoy, please bring it with you!



June Hymn of the Month: *He Calls Me Friend*

by Dr. Lori Elbert, Director of Koinonia Worship

Our June hymn of the month will also be our children's moment song and part of our VBS. The song, *He Calls Me Friend*, comes from City Alight the music ministry of St. Paul's Church Castle Hill in Sydney Australia. The vision of City Alight is to write songs with biblically rich lyrics and simple melodies for the Christian church to sing. This song is an excellent example of that vision. It comes from the album *Simple Songs for Young and Old*.

Each stanza of the song lists a different attribute of Jesus. He is faithful, mighty, kind, and Savior. The Chorus lists off a few of the names we have for Jesus: True King, Lord of Creation, Eternal Ruler, Hope, Peace, and Wonderful Savior. Each chorus ends with the affirmation of our joy that Jesus calls us friend. This little hymn is full of biblical references set to a melody that is easy and fun to sing.

As we move into summer, I hope this new hymn will help us all meditate on who Jesus really is and the wonder that Jesus calls us friends.

Verse 1

I have a friend, a faithful friend
And Jesus is His name
He will not leave, He stands by me
My Shepherd He remains

Verse 2

I have a friend, a mighty friend
And Jesus is His name
I shall not fear, He holds me near
His strength will keep me safe

Chorus

His name is True King Lord of creation
Ruler without end
I call Him Hope, Peace, Wonderful Saviour
And what joy that Jesus calls me friend!

Verse 3

I have a friend, the kindest friend
And Jesus is His name
He hears my cry, by day or night
And wipes my tears away (Chorus)

Verse 4

I have a friend, a Savior friend
And Jesus is His name
He fought for me on Calvary
And trampled on the grave! (Chorus)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=siNZJzyjpLU>

Mental Health Awareness

Depression doesn't always look like tears. Sometimes it looks like exhaustion, silence, isolation, and pretending to be okay for everyone else. You never know who might need this simple reminder to hold on.

Know this: You are loved, cherished, valued, and deeply needed.

There are solutions; there is hope; and your life matters! Call 988 to talk to someone. Be kind to others. You never know what someone is going through.

We have resources in our community to help - Seven County Services, Norton Healthcare, U of L Healthcare, NAMI (National Alliance for Mental Health), and Wellspring.

There is hope; don't be afraid to reach out! People care but don't always know what to do.

Education creates awareness – Awareness creates understanding – Understanding creates healing.

Just be kind!

GET CONNECTED – SMALL GROUPS

United Women in Faith

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

Our June meeting will be our annual Pledge Service, "A Pilgrimage for Mission."

It is an opportunity to celebrate the work of United Women in Faith and commit to this ongoing work through a financial gift. We call this commitment a "Pledge to Mission Giving" because this offering funds the mission of United Women in Faith at a local, conference, national and international levels. Please join us.

Faith Quilters

Tuesday, June 16 (third Tuesdays)
10am-2pm, Room 100

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.

Men's Group

Every Other Monday, 7:00pm, Common Cup
June 1, 15, and 29

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

Prayer Beading Group

Sunday, June 14
Noon, Common Cup

Prayer beads are given to those who are in the hospital or grieving, as well as new St. Paul members. 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.

Women of the Word Summer Edition

Wednesdays, 10:00am, Room 113

All women are invited to come together for prayer and study this summer. We will be using the readings from The Upper Room. The Wednesday reading has study questions in the back. You can pick one up at church.

Please come when you can and engage your heart and mind with a loving group of women who enjoy studying God's Word and applying it to life.

Want to find out more? Please call Gail Henson at 648-2201 or grhenson@gmail.com

SPAMS Hawaiian Luau!

June 11 at noon

McAdams Social Hall



SPAMS invites you to its first ever Hawaiian luau!

Lunch will be served at 12:00pm. Cost is \$10.00.

Prizes will be awarded for bingo and best tropical outfits!!



From the Safety Team

June is National Safety Month

June is recognized as National Safety Month, an annual observance dedicated to raising awareness about safety and preventing injuries at work, home, and in the community.

National Safety Month (NSM) was established by the National Safety Council in 1996 to increase awareness of leading safety and health risks and reduce unintentional injuries and deaths in the United States. The observance spans the entire month of June, with each week focusing on specific safety topics such as preventing incidents before they start, staying safe on the roads, promoting holistic worker health, and preventing slips, trips, and falls.

Purpose and Importance

The primary goal of National Safety Month is to educate the public, workplaces, and communities about safety best practices and preventive measures. By identifying risks and promoting safe behaviors, NSM helps reduce accidents, injuries, and fatalities. Observing safety practices also contributes to mental and emotional well-being, providing a sense of security and reducing stress.

How to Participate

- Individuals, organizations, and communities can engage in National Safety Month through a variety of activities:
- Safety Workshops and Drills: Conduct first aid, CPR, or emergency preparedness drills at home or at work.
- Road and Vehicle Safety: Take defensive driving courses, perform vehicle safety checks, and promote pedestrian awareness.

- Workplace Safety Programs: Implement safety seminars, provide personal protective equipment (PPE), and encourage reporting of hazards.
- Home and Community Safety: Identify fall hazards, create first aid kits, teach safe storage of medications, and participate in community safety fairs.
- Digital and Educational Campaigns: Share safety tips on social media using #NationalSafetyMonth, organize virtual safety quizzes, or run safety poster contests.

Weekly Themes

Each week of June highlights a different aspect of safety:

- Moving Safety Forward: Promote a culture of safety and CPR/AED awareness.
- Staying Safe on the Roads: Focus on reducing traffic-related injuries and crashes.
- Promoting Holistic Worker Health: Address mental, physical, and emotional well-being.
- Preventing Slips, Trips, and Falls: Target common hazards at work and home.

By participating in these activities and spreading awareness, individuals and organizations contribute to a safer environment for everyone, reinforcing the importance of safety in daily life. June is recognized as National Safety Month, an annual observance dedicated to raising awareness about safety and preventing injuries at work, home, and in the community.

Source: National Safety Council: National Safety Month - National Safety Council

Retrieved 5/14/26

Do you like to...
greet church family and friends; and meet new people?

Do you have...
law enforcement and/or medical experience that you would like to share should an emergency arise at St. Paul?

Are you...
observant about your surroundings and people's behavior?

Have you...
ever been told that you are good in a crisis?

If so, the St. Paul Safety Team needs you!

Contact:

Rod Kincaid, Chair, St. Paul Safety Team
Email: Rodkincaid@hotmail.com

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THE TOWER

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Children's Choir
Spring Concert

LET IT SHINE!

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