

Why

WHY DOESN'T GOD ANSWER MY PRAYERS?

Happy
4th
of July



God Bless America!



July 5, 2015

Welcome from Pastor Bob

Welcome to St. Paul United Methodist Church! Whether you're a long-time member or a first time guest, I'm glad you're worshipping with us during our "Why?" series. We are asking some of the tough questions that confront many believers as we journey in our faith. As Christians, we should never be afraid to ask questions or express doubts. This is what allows our faith to grow deeper!

I hope you will take part in supporting our Youth Group on their out of state retreat through prayer or communicating by e-mails. Be sure to read page 6 or visit the Connection Center for more information.

If you would like to know more about St. Paul, our ministries, and our mission to Glorify God, Grow in Faith, and Give in Love, I invite you to look through this bulletin and visit our website at stpaulumc.org

I'm so excited about what the Lord is doing here at St. Paul, and so grateful to have each of you be a part of it.

Bob Martin, Senior Pastor



Glorify God ♥ Grow in Faith ♥ Give in Love

Glorify God

9:00 Traditional Worship

Patriotic Sing-Along
Welcome

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------|
| *Greet | <i>Oh How He Loves You And Me</i> | |
| *Hymns | <i>Standing on the Promises</i> | No. 374 |
| | <i>It's Me, It's Me, O Lord</i> | No. 352 |
| Apostle's Creed | | No. 881 |
| Prayer | Lord's Prayer | No. 895 |
| Offertory | <i>The Majesty and Glory of Your Name</i> | Sanctuary Choir |

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Message "Why Doesn't God Answer My Prayers?"
Pastor Bob Martin
John 14:13-14

Holy Communion *Broken for You*

| | | |
|---------------|---|---------|
| *Closing Hymn | <i>Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling</i> | No. 348 |
| *Benediction | | |
| *Postlude | | |

*Please stand, if you are able.

If you need assistance, please let an usher know and they would be happy to help. Baby changing tables are located in both men and women's restrooms.

10:30 Contemporary Worship Snapshot

A typical contemporary worship at St. Paul lasts about an hour. Our worship is filled with current Christian music from our praise band. You are invited to sing along with the words on the screens, or simply enjoy the music. Our scripture and message are the same theme as the 9 a.m. worship. Today we are serving Communion. You do not need to be a member or a United Methodist to partake in the sacrament. All are welcome at the table. You'll notice every week there's time in our service to give financially. While this is something we're called to do in scripture, it's also just our way of saying, "We love our church and we want to support it!" However, our guests should feel no pressure to give today.



ABOUT
60 MIN.



PASSIONATE
MUSIC



NO
PRESSURE

VISITING US TODAY?

If you're visiting us today, welcome! We're glad you're here. We hope you find St. Paul a welcoming place to worship, and that you feel God's love. To find out more about us we invite you to:



VISIT OUR CONNECTION CENTER
If you have questions or would like to talk to someone about St. Paul and what we offer, visit the Connection Center to the side of the lobby. We would love to speak with you!



VISIT OUR
WEBSITE
stpaulumc.org



JOIN OUR
MAILING LIST



LIKE OUR
FACEBOOK:
[StPaulUMCLargo](https://www.facebook.com/StPaulUMCLargo)

Glorify God

Online Giving

If you need a convenient way to make recurring contributions or you plan to make an additional gift, we encourage you to use our electronic giving options.



To set up a recurring giving schedule, or to give a one time gift online, visit our website stpaulumc.org and click the Giving button, or use this QR code.

Flowers

- ♥ Jewel Ahrns in memory of her husband, Pete
- ♥ Kay and Larry Lashbrook, with thanks and glory to God for our 8th wedding anniversary.

Want to honor a special person or event? You can give a flower bouquet to the Glory of God. Call the church office at 584-8165, visit the Giving page on our website, or e-mail church@stpaulumc.org. Bouquets are \$40. Be sure to include your inscription with your order. Flowers can be picked up after the second worship or at the church office during the week.

Deaths

Please pray for the families of the people listed below, who've recently passed on:

George Robinson
Jean Thomas
Pat Zdenek



Patriotic Sing-Along Before Worship Today
Join us for a patriotic sing-along TODAY before 9:00 worship. It will be great time to share in song, celebrate **Independence Day** and sing praises. Let's prepare our hearts, minds and voices for worship! Our sing-along will begin before the 9:00 worship begins so be sure to be in place early so you don't miss out.

To Make a Prayer Request

- * Drop your prayer request in the offering plate.
- * Call our prayer line at 727-559-PRAY(7729) around the clock to leave a prayer need.

Hear Our Prayer

Please pray for the people listed below with immediate needs:

| | |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|
| Audrey and Michelle Talbert | Jim Lucky |
| Allison and Elise Hall | Joanne Hamilton |
| Andrew and Richard Anna Savas | John Fady |
| Austin | Judy Fowler |
| Barb and Jody | Karrie McKnight |
| Barbara and Eric | Kat Farhangi |
| Barbara Street | Kenneth A. |
| Bert and Son | Kevin |
| Betty Smith | Kevin and Vicki |
| Betty Thomaidis | Kim Morris |
| Bev and Family | Kristi B. |
| Bill and Charlie | Liza |
| Bob Hartel | Madonna Spence |
| Bridgett Tomlin | Margaret Simpson |
| Bud Haskell | Mark LaPolla |
| Butch | Mary Moore |
| Chris Dugan | Melissa |
| Chris Southerland | Merricks Family |
| Chuck and Doris | Mike and Family |
| Connie and Mike | Moe |
| Dave and Do | Nancy Otte |
| David Halliburton | Neeva |
| David Halliburton | Patrick McMillan |
| Dede VanHooser | Peg McConnell |
| Dixie and Chuck | Peter |
| Doris Mahony | Rev. Richard Burton |
| Elsie Punt | Rich Stemboroski |
| Evelyn Anderson | Rollin Brannan |
| George | Rose and Frank |
| Imogene McConnell | Sandra and Family |
| Jace Michael | Sean |
| Jackson | Steve Harvey |
| Jean | Steven Pruitt |
| Jeff and Family | Todd Smyzer |
| Jenny Walter | Tom and Glenda Neville |
| Jerry Spaulding | Tyler Gray |
| Jewel Ahrns | Youth students |
| | Warnell |

Grow in Faith

Adult Studies

Adult Sunday Morning Classes

Adults of any age are invited to join one of our Sunday school classes. All classes gather at 10:15 a.m.

Inspirations - Purple Door Classroom (101) in **Bldg C**

Crusaders - Conference Room 1 (Pack-a-Sack Room) in **Bldg B**

Friendship - Choir Room in **Bldg C**

Bereans - Room 201 (Community Room) in the CLEC



Experience God's Grace

Saturday, August 15 | 5:30 p.m.

Have you ever heard of the Walk to Emmaus? Two disciples of Jesus were traveling from Jerusalem to Emmaus following the death of Jesus. As they walked, a person unknown to them walked with them and explained the scriptures. When they arrived at the city of Emmaus, the disciples urged the stranger to join them for dinner. As the stranger took bread, blessed, broke and shared it with them, their eyes were opened and they recognized the risen Christ. They rushed back to Jerusalem to share the good news with others. (Luke 24:13-35).

Imagine how overwhelmed and excited they must have been. What if you had the opportunity to attend a similar experience of spiritual renewal where you have the opportunity to meet Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed through other believers?

The Aldersgate Emmaus Community will have a night of fellowship, worship, devotion and communion here at St. Paul on Saturday, August 15 at 5:30 p.m. The gathering is in the LuAnne Willey Fellowship Hall (CLEC), with doors opening at 5:00 p.m. This is a fantastic opportunity to get a glimpse into how the Emmaus experience has changed the lives of fellow believers and how Christ is actively working in their lives as disciples. As an added bonus, we begin with a pot luck dinner.

All are invited. Please prayerfully consider attending this worthwhile event to share the evening with your **brothers and sisters in Christ**. And don't forget to share a taste of one of your favorite foods with others!

For more information, please contact Keith Stanton at 424-9833.



JOY (Just Older Youth) Pot Luck
Older adults are invited to join us in the Christian Life Enrichment Center at 10:30 a.m., for fellowship, lessons, and prayer. This Tuesday, July 7, Rev. Jeanette Burton will teach, and we will have a covered dish pot luck with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. Come join us and bring your favorite dish to share! For more contact David McKee at 584-8165 x228.

Older adults are invited to join us in the Christian Life Enrichment Center at 10:30 a.m., for fellowship, lessons, and prayer. This Tuesday, July 7, Rev. Jeanette Burton will teach, and we will have a covered dish pot luck with grilled hamburgers and hot dogs. Come join us and bring your favorite dish to share! For more contact David McKee at 584-8165 x228.

Adults Ages 18-35



IGNITE

IGNITE's Sunday meetings are on hiatus until Sunday, July 26 at 7 p.m. in room 202 of the Christian Life Enrichment Center.

Christian Life Enrichment Center.



On Friday, July 17, IGNITE is hosting a poolside barbecue off campus from 7 to 10 p.m. Graduating seniors from the youth group are invited! For more information e-mail IGNITE leader Felix Koutsourais at c24go1@aol.com

Like the IGNITE Facebook to keep up to date on all their activities.





St. Paul Family Camping Retreat

November 6-8 | Lakewood Retreat – Brooksville, FL

Join us this fall for a fun camping retreat for all ages! There will be group activities, meals and worship times as well as activities like swimming, fishing, mini golf, canoeing, and lots more. Visit lakewoodretreat.org to learn about the camp site.

The deadline to sign up is Friday, July 31. Visit stpaulumc.org, and fill out the online form. There are multiple lodging options for the camping retreat so that everyone can participate:

- Tent Camping Site - \$20
- Pop Up Camper Site - \$30
- Motel Room – \$160

In addition to your group or family's lodging, the cost is only \$20/person, which covers the use of the facilities and amenities. St. Paul will provide hamburgers and hot dogs on Sat. night and we encourage everyone to bring a side dish or dessert to share. Each family/group will provide their own additional meals throughout the retreat. We hope you'll invite friends to come be a part of the retreat and connect with our St. Paul family! For more information contact Bobby Van Duyne at bobby.v@stpaulumc.org

Faith in Real Life

Wednesdays | 6 p.m. | Mariposa Café

All adults are invited to join us on Wednesdays this summer for coffee, desserts and discussions of faith. Coffee is served at 6 p.m. and discussion begins at 6:30 p.m. Kids are welcome to join their parents and hang out with the group at 6 p.m. before separating out to the Worship Arts Class at 6:30 p.m.

We discuss a different topic each week, so you can come and go as your summer schedule allows. Due to the nature of some topics discussed, we suggest that students attend our Worship Arts class.

Construction Update

The rainy season has definitely arrived! Several days last week, work had to stop due to strong storms. This was a short week with the 4th of July holiday so much of the week has been catch-up. While roof and painting work has been interrupted, work inside has continued to move forward. We are wasting no time. In the Christian Life Enrichment Center kitchen, the ceiling was taken down. Pipes were checked and rewrapped as needed. A new ceiling grid system was installed and new, more energy efficient lights have been installed to meet code requirements. The kitchen should be finished this week with the new lights installed and new ceiling tiles. Wrapping of pipes continues in Bldg B (Nursery).

This past week, work started in the sanctuary balcony. A new drip ceiling has been installed for ductwork. The air handler was replaced and will now feed both the balcony and the Connection Center. Soon we will take out the window unit that drips on people as they leave the west side door in the back of the sanctuary. It will be replaced with a solid piece of glass after we replace the windows in the Bldg C (Children's Building). Due to some flashing being cut on the flat roof of Bldg C at some point in the past, allowing the fasteners to attach the flat roof has been a challenge. The roofing contractor thinks they have found a good way to fasten the roof down, and weather permitting, this will be worked on this week and finalized by the end of next week. Once that is done, the gutters and downspouts can be installed. **We've been anxious to get this finished to stop the water leaks.**

The big boom has been here this week so the CLEC bell tower exterior could be painted, sealing it from leaking inside the walls. With the strong possibility of storms every day this week, painting will continue whenever there is time for paint to dry between storms. As a result, mornings will be very busy with painting while keeping an eye on the weather. In any cases where we are concerned about adequate paint coverage, the company has repainted those areas to assure that our exterior is sealed properly to give us the 10 -15 year protection we need.

Please continue to keep this project bathed in prayer. We have been moving forward consistently and I remain convinced that it is the prayers of the faithful that have kept this project on or ahead of schedule. **Keep 'em coming!**

Blessings,
Arch Johnston
Executive Director of Church Administration

Grow in Faith



Youth 6th-12th Grade, Alison Van Duyne,
Youth Ministry Director, alison.v@stpaulumc.org

There are no Youth activities this week due to the Teen Valley Ranch retreat. Regular activities on Sunday, Tuesday and Wednesdays resume next week.



Support Our Youth Students at TVR

The Teen Valley Ranch retreat is a meaningful trip for our students each year. Our youth leaders have witnessed countless hearts and lives being changed as our students spend time with the Lord on this retreat. This year, we all have an opportunity to take part in this transformative experience for our youth.

EMAIL a Student

Visit our Connection Center and take a tag with a student's name and the e-mail address where you can reach them while they're on retreat. Each day of the retreat (July 6-11) e-mails are printed out and delivered as part of a daily mail call. We want our students to be flooded with love during each mail call! Some of our church leaders have committed to a student, but we need to make sure every student is receiving our support! Send the student on your tag encouragement, strengthening Bible verses, or other supportive messages to help lift them up and open their hearts as they walk with the Lord this week.

Please only take a tag if you can commit to sending a note to your student each day.

PRAY for Our Students

Prayer is one of the most profound ways we can reach out to God and to others. Remember the students listed below in your prayers all week.

Middle School

Ryan Cole
Payton Daniele
William Delgado
Kayla Dixon
Chris Dugan
Kaylyn Goehl
Trey Harris
Mary Huntley
Matthew Johnson
Hunter Marks-Strnad
Hunter Mayes
Patrick Teehan-McMillan
Merina Tribbie
Nick Ward
Emma Wolf
James White

Jordan Hale
Joshua Hale
Courtney Harkness
Jeremy Hobson
Emma Hughes
Mary Hughes
Braeden Johnson
Parker Johnson
Jamison Lake
Madison Lake
Chase Lopez
Tyler Pitts
Kaila Powell
Grace Robinson
Libby Rogers
Brittani Schiller
Lauren Schmitt
Taylor Schmitt
Nick Scordino
Rebecca Scordino
Oliver Tribbie
Jack Tuthill
Jenna Tuthill
Trey Wolfe

High School

Philip Benoit
Ciara Bouchard
Brooke Brady
Daniel Bryan
Kyleigh Dunn

Sunday, July 19 our youth will lead worship and share some of their TVR experiences and testimonials. Through them, we will all have the chance to feel the power of God and how He touches their lives.



Grow in Faith



Children *infant-5th grade*

Sunday Morning Lil' Kidz Care

Lil' Kidz Care is available every Sunday for infants to 4-year-olds, at 8:45 a.m. in Bldg B Lil Kidz Rooms. You will sign in and be given a pick-up card that you will need to pick-up your child.

Sunday Morning Lil' Kidz Class

Our preschool class for 3 to 4 year-olds meets at 10:30 a.m. in the Red Door Room of Bldg C.

Sunday Morning for K-5

Sunday Morning Small Group at 9:00 a.m.
South Fellowship Hall in Bldg C.

Sunday Morning Worship at 10:30 a.m.
South Fellowship Hall in Bldg C.



Worship Arts Class

Wednesdays | 6:30 p.m. | Community Room 201 (CLEC)
All kids pre-K through 6th grade are invited to our Summer Worship Arts Class! Kids learn about the elements of worship in a creative way and spend time in singing and praise. Kids in 3rd grade and older will also have the chance to play instruments as part of a praise band! Parents are invited to join in the "Faith in Real Life" group while the kids are in class. (See page 4.)

Parent's Morning Out

If you need some time to yourself, Parent's Morning Out is an affordable, safe, fun place for your kids. PMO is available Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost is \$20 per day, per child. Reserve a spot by calling the Children's Ministry at 584-8165.



FREE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL FOR THE
WHOLE FAMILY

August 3 - 7 | 6:15-8:30 p.m.

Minion Factory: *Who(m) do you serve?*

This summer our free VBS week will be held at night and it is for families to enjoy together! Your family can attend the entire week or just sign up for specific nights. We provide dinner, music, and activities for the entire family each night.

FREE REGISTRATION ONLINE
www.stpaulumc.org



Vacation Bible School Volunteers Needed

Thank you to those who have offered to help with our Children's Ministry and VBS! We have had a great response but we still have jobs we can use your help with at this year's evening VBS from August 3-7. If you can help serve food, lead activities, decorate or help in other ways, visit our website - stpaulumc.org - and fill out the online sign-up form. We would love for you to help all week, but if you can only help for a day or two we have individual sign-ups for each day. Any and all help is appreciated!

Give in Love



Back to School Jubilee

For the second year, our Missions and Outreach Ministry will distribute school supplies, backpacks, socks, shoe vouchers and other back to school items to children ages K-8 whose parents can't afford to supply them for the new school year. We are counting on your generosity again this year as we will be reaching 300 students, 100 more than last year! There are several ways you can help:

Donate Supplies

Visit the school bus in the sanctuary lobby on Sundays, or at the church office during the week, and take a few of the tags. Each tag represents a small part of the supplies the children need. If each of us takes a tag or two, we can meet the need together. You can drop off purchased supplies in the blue shopping cart in the lobby on Sunday or at the church office during the week.

Volunteer

We need help as we prepare for the event, as well as on the day of the event. We have jobs for people of all ages and abilities. If you would like to serve, please fill out our online form at stpaulumc.org or pick up a paper form in the Connection Center and put it in the offering plate or return it to the Connection Center.

Monetary Donations

If you would like to make a monetary donation, you can place it in the offering plate. Be sure your offering is labelled "Back to School Jubilee." These donations will be used to fund the purchase of shoe vouchers so each child can get a pair of shoes that fit.

Donate Board Games to Summer Camp

Camp XP needs board games for our younger kids ages 6-8 years old. If you have board games you no longer use that are appropriate for young children, and have all their pieces, you can drop them off at the church office Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

If you would like to donate other items such as food and other supplies, check our website for a full list of items needed - stpaulumc.org



Want to help our preschool?

Below is a wish list of items that the preschool needs. Items with the highest priority are marked with a *. If you can donate any of these items, drop them off at the preschool office during the week.

- *tissues
- *wipes
- *spoons
- *play-doh
- batteries (AA, AAA, D and C)
- dish soap
- hand soap
- glue
- washable paint
- stickers
- paper plates
- coffee filters
- construction paper
- freezer bags
- plastic bags
- craft items
- sand toys
- bubbles
- hula hoops
- balls
- band-aids
- masking tape
- duct tape
- paper towel tubes

Support Youth at TVR

Our youth will be on their retreat to Teen Valley Ranch from July 5 to 11. This is a transformative time for many of them, a chance for them to meet or reconnect with the Lord. We're calling on our congregation to support them through prayer and notes. If you would like to take part please visit page 6 for more information.

Coming this Week

Sunday, July 5

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Courtyard Coffee | 8:30 AM |
| Lil' Kidz Nursery | 8:45 AM |
| Patriotic Sing-Along | 8:45 AM |
| Traditional Worship | 9:00 AM |
| Lil' Kidz Small Group | 9:00 AM |
| Bereans | 10:15 AM |
| Crusaders | 10:15 AM |
| Friendship | 10:15 AM |
| Inspirations | 10:15 AM |
| Courtyard Coffee | 10:30 AM |
| Homeless Feeding | 3:30 PM |

Monday, July 6

| | |
|-------------------|---------|
| Bells of St. Paul | 5:30 PM |
| Stephen Ministry | 6:30 PM |
| Boy Scouts | 7:00 PM |

Tuesday, July 7

| | |
|----------------------------|----------|
| Sonrise Men's Study | 6:30 AM |
| Parent's Morning Out | 8:30 AM |
| JOY (Just Older Youth) | 10:30 AM |
| Recovery by Faith | 6:30 PM |

Wednesday, July 8

| | |
|-----------------------|---------|
| Faith in Real Life | 6:00 PM |
| Handicapable Ministry | 6:15 PM |
| Worship Arts Class | 6:30 PM |

Thursday, July 9

| | |
|----------------------|---------|
| Men's Bible Study | 7:00 AM |
| Parent's Morning Out | 8:30 AM |
| Prayer Shawl | 5:30 PM |
| Choir Practice | 7:00 PM |
| Intercessory Prayer | 7:00 PM |

Friday, July 10

Church Office Closed

Saturday, July 11

| | |
|------------|---------|
| Basketball | 8:00 AM |
|------------|---------|

*

E-mail church@stpaulumc.org or call the church office if you have an event to schedule.



Thanks to all our Habitat Build Day Volunteers!

Early Friday morning, June 26, ten volunteers from St. Paul Church arrived ready to work on a new Habitat for Humanity home being built here in Largo for the Acevedo family. The home is being built with volunteers supplied by local churches and is the area's first Faith Build in five years. The St. Paul crew worked diligently all day (from 7:30 a.m. until 2:30 p.m.) applying Hardee board as the siding of the house. This involved lots of cutting, carrying, climbing scaffolding, nailing and caulking.

This gift of love hits the nail right on the head as our church seeks various ways to address the needs of people who live in our surrounding neighborhoods. Thanks to all our volunteers: Carlton and Ann Ward, Joel Johnson, Steve Brower, Suzy Baad, Nils Giere, Ed and Carol Cook and Deb and Garrett Digman for their hard work. Special thanks to Garrett and his wife Deb, for taking the lead in organizing this volunteer work day!

Time after time St. Paul has responded to the call for volunteers to step forward and help with activities and events that benefit others in the community. With this project Habitat had more who wanted to help than they had open spots to fill, and we thank you all for your willingness to serve. May we all seek ways to use the gifts, talents and skills God has provided, so when another call for help is extended in the future we will exclaim: "Lord, count me in!"



The Habitat House is well under way!



Suzy Baad, Garrett and Deb Digman, Ann Ward



Ed and Carol Cook

Visit our Facebook for more pictures:
StPaulUMCLargo

Good News



JOY Ministry Reaches Out to Shut-Ins

Donna Koller and her sister Nancy Starry have been members and volunteers of the JOY (Just Older Youth) Ministry for years at St. Paul. These two lovable sisters have huge servant-hearts that demonstrate what it means to reach out to others with the love of **the Lord. One of Donna's acts** of love is to prepare JOY "Goodie Bags" and have them delivered to shut-ins, the sick, and the lonely. The last week of June, twelve JOY Ministry Goodie Cans (pictured at right) were delivered to appreciative members and friends of the church.



Jack Hartmann concert

Summer at Son Kissed Preschool

The students and teachers at Son Kissed Preschool are enjoying special activities and theme days throughout the summer!

Recently our SKP students, along with Camp XP campers, participated in an interactive concert by nationally recognized singer, songwriter and author, Jack Hartmann. Hartmann's music focuses mainly on curriculum based educational songs that teach and entertain the kids. All ages were singing, dancing and learning during the concert!



Our preschool students also had a great time during their "Water Day" as the kids splashed around, slide down water slides and enjoyed watermelon snacks.

Visit Facebook for more pictures:
[SonKissedPreschool](#)

Camp XP Is Swimming Along

Our Camp XP campers are almost halfway through the summer! Last week they took a field trip to the Clearwater Aquarium for their "Finding Nemo" themed week. They also visited the Highland Rec where they got to swim like fish themselves. The message they explored all week was how God helps us make the right choices. This week their theme is based on "The Incredibles." We all like superheroes, but Jesus is our real hero!

Visit Facebook for more pictures:
[StPaulUMCLargo](#)



The Reverend Bob Martin, Senior Pastor

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Office Hours: 8 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday-Thursday

E-mail: church@stpaulumc.org

Prayer: (727) 559-PRAY

www.stpaulumc.org

