



JOIN US FOR  
NEW CLASSES ON  
WEDNESDAY  
NIGHTS

**STARTING JAN. 11**

DESSERTS & FELLOWSHIP  
**6 PM**

CLASSES START  
**6:30 PM**

See page 9 for more.



December 25, 2016

Welcome from Pastor Bob

Merry Christmas and thank you for joining us in worship! You have warmed our hearts by being with us as we celebrate this holy season. My hope is you will make new friends today and perhaps rekindle some old friendships as well. The family of St. Paul UMC wishes you a Merry and Christ filled Christmas Day.

Take a look through this bulletin or visit our website to find out more about our upcoming events and everything that is happening at St. Paul as we look forward to the coming year.

Thank you for being part of the Lord's work here at St. Paul. With God's help, there is nothing we can't do!

  
Bob Martin, Senior Pastor



Glorify God ♥ Grow in Faith ♥ Give in Love

# glorify god

## CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP at 9 AM

Prelude *Bring a Torch* Aaron Cassette, Accompanist  
Lighting of the Advent Candle Patti Martin & Joyce Walker  
Welcome Pastor Pam Dubov

\*Greet

\*Hymns *Joy to the World* No. 246  
*The First Noel* No. 245

Christmas Congregational Prayer

O almighty God, by the birth of your holy child Jesus, you gave us a great light to dawn on our darkness. Grant that in his light we may see light. Bestow upon us that most excellent Christmas gift of love to all people, so that the likeness of your Son may be formed in us, and that we may have the ever brightening hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Special Music *Sing for Christ Is Born* Kody Wallace,  
Traditional Worship Leader

Offering *A Different Kind of Christmas* Josh Hardin,  
Contemporary Worship Leader

\*Doxology *Praise God From Whom...* No. 94

Message *Is There Room?* Pastor Bob Martin  
Luke 2:1-7

\*Closing Hymn *Angels From the Realms of Glory* No. 220

\*Benediction

\*Postlude *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

\*Please stand if you're able.

If you need assistance, let an usher know.  
Baby changing tables are located in both men and women's restrooms.

### VISITING US TODAY?

If you're visiting us today, welcome! We hope you find St. Paul a comfortable 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



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.stpaulumc.org](http://www.stpaulumc.org)

Join



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST  
SIGN UP ON THE CONNECT CARD



FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK  
StPaulUMCLargo

# GLORIFY GOD

**Pick Up Your Poinsettias After Worship Today**  
 Thank you to everyone who purchased the beautiful poinsettias that fill our sanctuary today! If you purchased a poinsettia, you may pick it up today after worship.

### Flowers

Do you have an event or person you would like to honor with flowers? 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.

### Pick Up Your Offering Envelopes

Offering envelopes are available to pick up in the lobby on Sundays through the end of this year. If you want offering envelopes and yours are not on the table, put your name on the sheet provided.



### Making a 2017 Commitment

Your pledges and contributions are how we can make the "what if" visions for our ministry a reality as we continue, and expand, our work for the Lord. If you haven't had a chance to make your 2017 commitment, you can still turn in a Commitment Card through the end of the year. Pick up a card in one of the pews or in the Connection Center and place it in the offering plate, drop it off at the church office or mail it to us. Pledges can also be made on our website: stpaulumc.org

### Upper Room

Looking for a copy of the Upper Room? We have copies of the current issue available in the Connection Center. Large print is \$2 and regular print is \$1.

### Chat With Us on Live Stream!

The next time you're joining us for worship online, try out the chat feature on the right of the screen. You can greet others during our greeting time, comment during worship, or share your prayer requests. It's a great way to interact with others who are worshipping online with you!

# St. Paul United Methodist Church CONNECT CARD

Use this card to record your attendance and share your prayer requests, needs and interests. Tear off and return it in the offering plate, the basket in the lobby, or the Connection Center. You do not need to fill out the entire card, only the parts that apply to you!

Date: December 25, 2016 9 AM  
 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a:

- 1st Time Guest  2nd Time Guest
- Regular Attendee  Member(s)
- Winter Resident
- Please update my information.

I came today because:

- I drove by  I visited the website
- I've been here before  I received a mailing
- I was invited by \_\_\_\_\_
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I want to join your e-mail list:

- Weekly Pastor's E-Note  Growth Guide
- This Week at St. Paul Newsletter
- Youth  Children
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Be sure to put your e-mail address at the top of the card!

How can we pray for you?

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

- For Military Prayer List
- Do NOT publish in bulletin.
- Include on prayer chain.
- I would like to connect with a Stephen Minister.

**Don't forget to fill out the other side!**



St. Paul United Methodist Church  
**CONNECT CARD**

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I am interested in:

- Rededicating my life to Jesus
- Being baptized
- Becoming a member
- Joining a Source Group
- Serving at the church

How: \_\_\_\_\_

- Serving in the community

How: \_\_\_\_\_

- Learning more about St. Paul ministries

Specifically: \_\_\_\_\_

- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

I need a name tag for:

(Name tags can be picked up in the Connection Center to the side of the lobby two weeks after your request is placed.)

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer to help with:

- Loving Hearts Memorial Food Ministry
- Flower Ministry—4th and 5th Sunday

I will attend:

- Discover St. Paul Lunch - Jan. 8 Noon
- Who Are the Methodists? - Weds. starting Jan. 11
- Starting Point - Weds. starting Jan. 11
- The Call - Weds. starting Jan. 11
- The Frazzled Female - Weds. starting Jan. 18

Remember to fill out the other side with your name and contact info!

**Don't forget to fill out the other side!**

# NEXT STEPS

Want to know more about St. Paul, meet new people, or get more involved? TAKE THE NEXT STEP!



## CONNECTION CENTER

Our Connection Center is located in the room to the side of the sanctuary. Stop by if you have any questions, need information, or would like to speak to someone about St. Paul.

## DISCOVER ST. PAUL

Discover St. Paul is an informal lunch focused on who we are as a church, our mission, core values, a tour of the facilities, and a chance to meet some of our staff and new people who are also interested in the church. The next Discover St. Paul Lunch is on Jan. 8 at noon.



## STARTING POINT CLASS

This four week class covers basics of our faith. For anyone who is new to attending church or is coming back to church. The next Starting Point class meets Wednesday nights starting on Jan. 11



## ONGOING GROUPS

- Age level groups (ex. JOY, IGNITE)
- Source Groups (Small groups of twelve or less)
- Sunday School



## SHORT TERM GROUPS

- Topical classes covering things like
  - ⇒ Finance
  - ⇒ Parenting
  - ⇒ Caretaking
- Topical and seasonal Bible studies and

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

**WWW.STPAULUMC.ORG**

for more information about our ministries.

# GROW IN FAITH

## Making a Prayer Request

Write your prayer request on the Connect Card and drop at the Connection Center or in the offering plate. You can call our prayer line at any time: 559-PRAY (7729).

## Hear Our Prayer

Please pray for the people listed below with immediate

Al Misuraca	Kathy Seitz
Allison Hall	Kecia Richardson
Amanda Swan & Chad	Kenneth A.
Audrey Talbert	Kim and Jack Morris
Bob and Troy Hartel	Kristi Burslem
Bobby DeSantis	Lauri Ingham
Bobby Quinton	Lewis/Feldt families
Bonnie Wismer	Libby Burke, Peter H.
Byard Jones	Linda Corbin
Caitlynn & Meghann Timberlake	Linda Weaver hank
Carolyn Goodwin	Lori, Andy, David, Leslie,
Charlie Ferguson	Kathy & Larry
Children, Youth & Women's safety	Malachi, Heather & Kevin Seitz
Cliff Armbruster	Margie Stillwell
Dave	Mark LaPolla
David, Nicole & baby boy Seitz	Mary Moore
Don McConnell	Meg, Greg & baby boy
Dwinn Bradley	Mr. & Mrs. David
Gilbert Quinn	Dubrock
Gloria Cantin	Our country
Health	Penny McElyea
Howie	Ray
Jace Michael	Rich Stemboroski
Jackson	Richard Korb
Jackson Seitz	Roy & Amelia Neville
Jane Huter	Shirley Hamrick
Jenny	Sid Bobb
Jim Lucky	Smith family
John C. & Mary Barrett	Stacey Storms
John Dale	Steve Harvey
John Fady	Tammy Barker
John Guss	Todd Smyzer
Josh DeLoach	Tonna Anderson
Julie & Lillyann	Trevor Birt
Kalea Grady	Wayne Boyd
Kat Farhangi	Windell White
	Zackary Kueker
	Zakk Gerhards

Due to our bulletin printer's early holiday deadlines it may take a little longer for your prayer request to appear in the bulletin than normal, but your prayer needs are being prayed over by our Prayer Team, which receives their own list as soon as requests are made.

## Adult Studies

### Adult Sunday Morning Classes

Adults of any age are invited to join one of our Sunday school classes:

Our Sunday School classes are taking this Sunday off for Christmas. Check times below for when they normally meet.

The 9:15 a.m. Sunday school class that meets in Room 202 of Bldg C resumes January 15. They will be studying Adam Hamilton's "The Call" which focuses on the apostle Paul.

#### 10:15 a.m. Sunday school classes

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

**Friendship** - Room 201 (Community Room) in **CLEC**

**Bereans** - Conference Room 2 in **Bldg B**

#### JOY (Just Older Youth)

There is no JOY meeting this week on December 27. JOY resumes on January 3. Older adults are invited to join us at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays for worship, study and fellowship. Bring a lunch and eat together. Beverages are provided by the church. For more information, contact Senior Director of Ministry, Bobby Van Duyne at 584-8165 x233 or bobby.v@stpaulumc.org



## IGNITE: Adults Ages 18-35

There is no IGNITE meeting tonight. Have a Merry Christmas! They will resume on January 8 at 7 p.m. in room 202 of the Christian Like Enrichment Center. Contact IGNITE leader, Felix Koutsourais at c24go1@aol.com for more information. You can also visit their facebook for updates.



# DISCOVER ST. PAUL

## Discover St. Paul Lunch

If you're new to St. Paul, thinking about joining, or want to know more about us and our mission to Glorify God, Grow in Faith and Give in Love, we invite you to join us for an informal, free lunch after 10:30 a.m. worship on Jan. 8. We'll answer any questions you may have, give you a tour of the facilities, and introduce you to some of our staff! Please mark the Connect Card or send an e-mail to [church@stpaulumc.org](mailto:church@stpaulumc.org) if you plan to attend.

## SOURCE GROUPS

Source Groups are small groups of people who meet regularly to worship, study, pray, serve and more. These groups offer support, as well as the chance to build relationships and to Grow in Faith in a close-knit community of believers. If you would like to join a source group and walk with others in faith together, contact our Senior Director of Ministry, Bobby Van Dyne at [bobby.v@stpaulumc.org](mailto:bobby.v@stpaulumc.org) or 583-8165 x233. You can also indicate your interest on the Connect Card in this bulletin.



### Upcoming Sermon Series: Now What?

For over two years our nation's focus has been on the presidential election. Time, energy, emotion... anger, scandal, name calling. There have been no holds barred and our nation has been engulfed in this one event. Now that the election is over the time has come to refocus and to unite. As Christian Americans, what is our role in moving forward? The election is over. **Now What?** Join us for this three week series starting Sunday, January 8.

## GROWTH guide

Our Growth Guide is on hiatus, but resumes in January. If you aren't already signed up to receive an e-mail each week with our Growth Guide, you can subscribe on our website: [stpaulumc.org](http://stpaulumc.org) or by fill out the Connect Card. The Growth Guide offers daily scripture and challenge points to help you go deeper into the message topic during the week.

### Reception for Mary Vaughn

After 16 years on staff at St. Paul, Mary Vaughn is retiring at the end of this year. With grateful hearts, we want to thank her for her many years of service and dedication to the church and our St. Paul family. We are so glad that even as she retires, she will remain a vital part of St. Paul through her volunteering, leadership and all the ways she contributes to making St. Paul a more caring place.



This Wednesday, December 28 we invite you to a reception for Mary in the LuAnne Willey Fellowship Hall from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Please stop by any time during these hours to thank Mary and to wish her well in all her endeavors as she begins a new season in her life. Food will be provided.

### Flip Flop Support Group

The Flip Flop Support Group for families with loved ones in prison or who have been released from prison meets on Thursday, January 12 at 6:30 p.m. in the Carpenter's Room (room 101) of the Christian Life Enrichment Center. Contact Kathy Farhangi for more information at 727-288-4912.

### View or Listen to Past Messages

Did you miss a message or do you have one you'd like to hear again? Our past message are available to be watched as videos on our website: [stpaulumc.org](http://stpaulumc.org) or as free audio downloads on iTunes! Visit our website [stpaulumc.org](http://stpaulumc.org) and click on the podcast link, or go to the iTunes store and search for St. Paul UMC.

### Church Office Closed on Dec. 26 and Jan 2.

The church office is closed on Monday, December 26 and Monday, January 2. We hope you enjoy your Christmas and New Years!





**Children** *Infant- 5th Grade, Kaitie Johnson,*  
*Director of Children's Ministry, Kaitie.j@stpaulumc.org*

**Sunday Morning: Lil' Kidz Care**

Lil' Kidz Nursery Care is available today for infants to 4-year-olds, at 8:45 a.m. in the nursery building (Bldg B) next to the sanctuary. Sign in and be given a pick-up card that you will need to pick-up your child.

**Sunday Morning: Preschool & K-5**

Today kids are invited to join their families in the sanctuary for worship. Next week they will resume their worship and lessons in the Children's Ministry Center in Bldg C at both 9 and 10:30 a.m.



**Worship Arts Returns January 11**

Children in K-5th grade are invited to join us on Wednesday nights starting January 11 as we resume our Worship Arts class. Drop off begins at 6 p.m. in the Mariposa Café (Christian Life Enrichment Center). We'll have snacks and then move to Room 201 (Community Room) of the CLEC. Pick-up is at 7:30 p.m. in the gym.



Starting on January 8, fifth graders are invited to join the Student Ministry on the first Sunday of each month. They eat dinner together at 5:30 p.m. in the Mariposa Café, followed by worship, fun games, and study until 8 p.m. Kaitie Johnson, Children's Ministry Director, will attend with the fifth grades to help with the transition.

 StPaulChildrensMinistry



**Student Ministry**

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

 SPUMCLighthouse

**Sunday Youth Group**

There is no Student Worship tonight for Christmas Day, or next Sunday for New Years Day. Students are invited to join us for worship today at 9 a.m. and then enjoy the day with their families. Youth Group resumes January 8.



**Register for Confirmation**

Confirmation Class begins with a retreat on Friday, January 6. This class challenges students to think theologically and ask deep questions about the Bible, Methodist history and doctrine, and their lives as people of faith. Cost for the class is \$35 and it is open to students in Grades 6 and above. You can

register or find out more about what the class will cover on our website: [www.stpaulumc.org](http://www.stpaulumc.org)

**Wednesday Nights**

6—7:30 p.m. | Student Room  
Resumes January 11

Amplify returns on Wednesday, January 11. Students are invited hang out, play in the gym and have a Bible study in the Student Room. Snacks provided.



**Middle School Winter Retreat**

Middle schoolers are invited to a weekend retreat February 17-19. During the weekend, they'll have the chance to grow closer to God through worship and quiet time with the Lord. The students also get lots of free time for fun activities like swimming, a petting zoo, canoeing, basketball, volleyball, human foosball, tennis, mini golf and a lot more. Cost is \$80 and includes four meals, lodging and transportation. A \$40 deposit



is due on Sunday, January 15 and the remaining \$40 is due on February 12. Students are welcome to bring friends along with them. If you're interested, please email our Student Ministry Director, Alison Van Duyne - [alison.v@stpaulumc.org](mailto:alison.v@stpaulumc.org).

# GIVE IN LOVE

## Loving Hearts Memorial Food Ministry

In 2017, St. Paul begins a new ministry called the Loving Hearts Memorial Food Ministry to serve grieving families by providing food for memorial receptions. We need volunteers who are willing to help provide food from one of three menu choices (desserts, finger sandwiches, or pot luck). Because of the nature of the event, volunteers should be aware that there would probably be a short notification period for food preparation. If you would like to join the Loving Hearts Memorial Food Ministry beginning 2017 and are willing to provide food for memorial receptions, or if you have questions, call the church office at 584-8165 or fill out the Connect Card in this bulletin.

## Flower Ministry Volunteer Needed

After the last service on Sunday a member of the Flower Ministry takes the flowers out of the brass containers and arranges them in glass vases for the **person who ordered them. If the purchaser doesn't want to keep the flowers, the Flower Ministry volunteer takes them to someone in our church family who is in the hospital or a rehab center.** In this way the sanctuary flowers not only help to beautify the sanctuary for worship, and recognize a special event or person, but also share the love of our church family with those who are sick or hurt. We need a volunteer to remove and deliver flowers each 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday and the on five 5<sup>th</sup> Sundays in 2017. Call the church office at 727-584-8165 or fill out the Connect Card if you can help one Sunday a month.

## Job Openings

St. Paul has immediate openings for two part-time administrative positions:

- **Administrative Assistant** – Work with the Sr. Pastor and coordinate membership data. Hours would be Tues., Weds. & Thurs. 9 a.m.–5 p.m.
- **Receptionist** – Greet visitors to the church office, answer phones, coordinate office machines and mail. Mon–Thurs. 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Interested in serving on the church staff? Send your resume to Arch Johnston at arch.j@stpaulumc.org.

## Support This Year's Student Mission Trip

Last year many of you helped our students pay for their mission trip with the Alabama Rural Ministry. On that week long trip students worked hard to serve by providing home repair and a day camp for people living in poverty. This year we have two mission trips planned, one out of state trip for our high schoolers from March 11-19 and one in-state trip for our middle-schoolers. If you would like to help fund the students' mission trips, visit the envelope display in the sanctuary lobby starting January 8 and take an envelope with a donation amount on it.



In addition to donations, our students will need lots of prayer. We will provide a list of team members who are going on the trip so everyone can cover the trip in prayer.

Mission Envelopes will be in the sanctuary lobby on January 8

**STRATEGIC INITIATIVES**  
Our strategic initiatives are goals we can't meet without God's help and the guiding purpose for our church over the next 5 years.



**STRATEGIC INITIATIVE #1**  
introduce Jesus to 20,000 persons in a 5 miles radius of our church, so that they experience and share Him.



**STRATEGIC INITIATIVE #2**  
follow Jesus' Lead to reach out to those experiencing poverty and strive to reverse its effects on our community.



Coming this Week



Sunday, December 25

- Lil' Kidz Nursery 8:30 AM
- Christmas Worship 9:00 AM
- Homeless Feeding 3:30 PM

Monday, December 26

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 27

- Sonrise Men's Study 6:30 AM

Wednesday, December 28

- Mary Vaughn Reception 11:00 AM
- Handicapable 6:15 PM
- Volleyball 7:45 PM

Thursday, December 29

- Men's Bible Study 7:00 AM
- Prayer Shawl 5:30 PM
- Handbells Rehearsal 5:30 PM
- Intercessory Prayer 6:00 PM
- Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM
- AA Meeting 7:00 PM

Friday, December 30

Church Office Closed



The church office is closed on Monday, January 2.

\*

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

WEDNESDAYS: COMING IN JANUARY

We have new Wednesday night classes beginning on January 11. Come at 6 p.m. for coffee and desserts in the Mariposa Café. Classes begin at 6:30 p.m. You can sign up to attend by marking the Connect Card in this bulletin or contacting the church office at church@stpaulumc.org or 584-8165.

Starting January 11

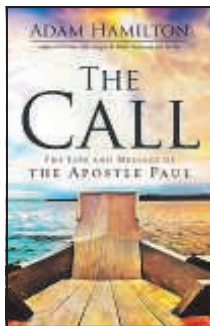


Who Are The Methodists?

What do United Methodist's believe? What is our focus for mission and ministry locally as well as globally? How did the Methodist movement begin? Why was it so important then, and remains so today? This ten week study takes an in depth look at what Methodism is about. Led by Pastor Bob Martin.

Starting Point

This four week class is open to anyone who is new to the church or is coming back to the church after time away. It covers who we are as Methodists, basics of our faith and a spiritual gifts assessment. Led by Bobby Van Duyne.



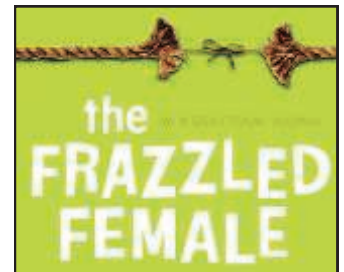
The Call: *The Life and Message of the Apostle Paul*  
Follow the journeys of Paul, beginning with his dramatic conversion, as he spread the Gospel through modern-day Greece and Turkey. Travel to the early church sites and explore Paul's conversations with the Romans, Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, and Thessalonians. In this six-week study, you are invited to experience faith through Christ's greatest teacher and missionary. Led by Pastor Pam Dubov.

Starting January 18

The Frazzled Female:

*Finding Peace in the Midst of Daily Life*

This thought-provoking, yet light-hearted, study is designed specifically for women. It helps women discover practical, biblical help to confront issues like managing their time, getting along with difficult people, taking time for themselves, and even organizing their lives. It helps participants develop biblical skills to handle stressful situations; grow in their relationship with Jesus; and ultimately experience peace, joy, and a saner lifestyle. Led by Patti Martin



# CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS ACTIVITY PAGE

**Unscramble  
the  
Christmas  
words.**

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 1. NNI _____       | 8. RTAS _____    |
| 2. ESEHHDPSR _____ | 9. NYOKDE _____  |
| 3. HWORISP _____   | 10. YABB _____   |
| 4. JHOPSE _____    | 11. RMGENA _____ |
| 5. TEHMHELBE _____ | 12. SSJEU _____  |
| 6. YMRA _____      | 13. IGFST _____  |
| 7. LATESB _____    | 14. AGLSEN _____ |

Mary  
Joseph  
Manger

Star  
Stable  
Donkey

Worship  
Shepherds  
Inn

Jesus  
Bethlehem  
Baby

Angels  
Gifts

**Color in the  
drawing of  
Jesus in the  
manger.**



**Help the shepherds find the  
path to Jesus.**



The Reverend Bob Martin, Senior Pastor  
The Reverend Pam Dubov, Minister of Outreach and Missions



Address: 1199 Highland Avenue in Largo, 33770  
Phone: (727) 584-8165 | Prayer: (727) 559-PRAY  
Office Hours: 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday-Thursday  
E-mail: church@stpaulumc.org | www.stpaulumc.org

