



Saint Paul United Methodist Church

1107 S. Main Street
Greenville, SC 29601

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January 2016 Messenger

Pastor
Director of Music
Sexton

Rev. Mollie Bame Reddic
William H. Searcy, Jr.
Gary Putnam

Secretary

Karen Gambrell

From the Pastor

Dear St. Paul family,

I am so excited to be your new pastor! John, Luke and I have anticipated this day with great joy and look forward to the journey in ministry together. You have already witnessed to me your deep love for God by the way you have welcomed and received me so graciously. There is a warmth and a beautiful spirit in this place! I appreciate your support and look forward to the mighty ways that God will use us as a team to spread His Good News!

God has been so faithful to me since I received the call to ministry at the age of fifteen. My home church in Mullins, SC, was a vital part of my early call to ministry and affirmed my gifts in the local church. After graduating from Columbia College, I went on to complete my Masters of Divinity at Candler School of Theology at Emory University. While in seminary I discerned that I was called to be an Elder in the UMC and preach the Word of God, and since I love experiencing other cultures, I quickly jumped at the opportunity to serve two British Methodist Churches in Leeds, England for a year post-graduation. Once I returned to the U.S., I served a small church named St. John in Sumter before moving to Trenholm Road in Columbia where I served as the Associate Minister for eight wonderful years. When my husband John was offered the position of Laboratory Director at GHS, I accepted that my ministry season at Trenholm Road was coming to a close. After lots of prayer, I realized that God was calling me to a season of motherhood and a focus on ministering to my first child in the home. Now my sweet Luke is sixteen months old. The Family Leave time has been a great learning experience and a valuable time with Luke but I am ready to enter full-time ministry once again with a congregation.

One way that I would like to get to know *you* better and hear about the wonderful ministry stories of St. Paul is by conducting focus groups during the month of January. Several generous members have offered to host these small gatherings in their homes so that we can enjoy dessert, coffee and conversation. Our goal for these sessions is for me to listen to what God has been doing in your lives at St. Paul over the years and what you value most as a body of Christ. I also want to hear what you hope God will do in the future of our church. So please prayerfully reflect on the questions below and then signup for one of the sessions we are offering. You may use "Signup Genius" online, signup on a hardcopy on Sundays in the narthex, or call the church office for assistance in signing up.

Focus group questions:

- (1) Remembering your entire experience at our church, when did you feel the most alive, most motivated, and most excited about your involvement? What made it exciting? Who else was involved? What happened? What was your part? Describe how you felt.
- (2) What do you value most about our church? What activities or ingredients or ways of life are most important? What are the best features of this church?
- (3) Make three wishes for the future of our church.

Each one of you is a valuable part of St. Paul! Please signup for one time slot.

Jan 6th – 5:30-7:00PM @ St. Paul Church Parlor

Jan 14th – 6:00 – 7:30 PM @ Marcus & MaryAnn Stephens' house

Jan 21st—7:00-8:30 PM @ Eugenia Vicars' house

Jan 24th – 2:00 – 3:30PM @ Edna Patterson's house

Signup genius details: www.signupgenius.com Simply go to the top right and click login. User name - maepool@hotmail.com Password – stpaul

In Christ's love,
Mollie

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January "Happenings At-A-Glance"

January 3- 11:00 am Welcome Mollie, John & Luke!

January 10– 12:00 pm Welcome luncheon for Mollie, John & Luke in the Fellowship Hall

February "Happenings At-A-Glance"

February 7 - Souper Bowl Sunday

December 2015 Financial Report

Budget Needed Through December	\$ 199,031.30
Budget Received Through December	\$ 177,601.70
We are Behind Year to Date:	\$ 21,429.60

SPECIAL OFFERINGS RECEIVED

In December

BackPack Ministry	\$ 100.00
BBQ Lunch (12-20-15)	\$ 257.00
Capital	\$ 30.00
Memorial	\$ 1,340.00
Polar Express Night	\$ 149.00
Shepherd Fund	\$ 385.00
Staff Christmas Bonus	\$ 605.00
United Ministries	\$ 639.00
Youth Camp	\$ 31.75
	<u>\$ 3,536.75</u>

Total YTD Special Offerings \$ 23,307.34

MYF (Youth Group) will start back meeting on Wednesday, January 6th, from 6:45 - 7:30pm. Make your plans to be present for the fun and conversation! Youth gather in Church Parlor.

Financial Statements for 2015 should be available and on the back ledge in the Narthex by the middle of January. These statements will include your giving information for the entire year. Please review the statements and call the church office as soon as possible if you have any questions or if you find anything that does not agree with your records.

Christmas Memorials and Honorariums

The tradition of giving a Christmas donation in memory of or in honor of someone special to you was very successful this year: \$2,025 was donated and \$410 of this went to the Shepherd Fund. At our Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service \$639 was given for United Ministries. This year those funds are especially needed and will be put to good use as we help those in need through United Ministries and others in our community.

Thank You

All of us on the Staff want to express our deep appreciation to the members and friends of Saint Paul for the Christmas gifts given to us this year. It is certainly our privilege to serve on the Staff of Saint Paul United Methodist Church and we are truly blessed to be part of such a loving Christian family and community.

Murray, Bill, Gary and Karen

Souper Bowl of Caring Sunday is a nationally recognized day created with the purpose of mobilizing church youth to raise funds to help people in need within their local communities. St. Paul will collect donations to assist United Ministries on **February 7th** during worship. United Ministries offers help with financial assistance, heat assistance and food bags.

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We extend Happy Birthday greetings this month to:

- Jan 01 Taylor-May Stephens
- Jan 02 Karen Gambrell
- Jan 06 Betty Wood
- Jan 08 Chelsea Biggers
- Jan 11 Edna Patterson, David Pool
- Jan 12 Debbie Goodwin, Murray Snow
- Jan 13 Amber Brown, Jere Byington
- Jan 17 Henry Stephens
- Jan 21 Tommy Thompson
- Jan 22 Andy Bolen, John Byers, Diane Roper, Jennifer Wham
- Jan 25 Catherine Gilstrap
- Jan 29 Glenda Anthony
- Jan 30 Isabel (Ibby) Jenkinson, Jim Storey
- Jan 31 Camille Pool

IN YOUR PRAYERS, PLEASE REMEMBER: Elli Alterir, Carroll Anthony, Molly Blackwood, Emily Bolden & Unborn daughter, Clarence Chambers, Lynn Childers, Kayla Chrisly, Conya Caughman, Ruth Darling, Natalie Davis, Sarah Ferguson, Debbie Floyd, Sofia Francis, Teresa Franks, Betania Freire, Dale & Peggy Foster, Louise Gilstrap, Mandy Goodwin, Grant Goodwin, James Graves, Sloan Harrelson, Carol Head, Ann Hembree, John Hewell, Eunice Hill, Martha Jameson, Ibby Jenkinson, Philip Jewel, Karen Johnson, Lena Lee, Linda Littlejohn, Al Lupo, Dr. Irvine Lupo, Kristina, Marty Martin, Brad Meredith, Faye Mulligan, Lori Patterson, Ed and *Mary Pool*, M L Poore, Alicia & Dave Pugh, Rossmly Rainey and family, Diane Robertson, Agnes Dawsey Rogers, Charlie Schinck, Kathy Scott, Hortense Searcy; Misty Caughman Sims, Lib Stephens, Mike Stephens, Donna Stroud, Betty Thompson, Louise Tomasiak, Samantha Trouton, Vera Vaughn, Frank & Ruby Vaughn, Laney Vinson, Belvin & Georgia Ware, Lindsay Weathers, Hazel Welborn, Chuck and Sandra Welch. Also, Friends serving in the Armed Services and the United States of America and our leaders. **Bold** = New, *Italics* = Currently in Hospital.

Assisted Living and/or Special Care Residents and Friends Who Are Homebound: Connie Cox, Barbara Grant, "Mac" MacMillan, and Belvin Ware.

Update Prayer List - Beginning in January we would like to update Saint Paul's prayer list. If you know of any changes that should be made, you may write it down and drop it in the offering plate, e-mail the church or you can call the church office.

January Mission: United Ministry Food Drive - When grocery shopping remember to pick up non-perishable items and bring to church and place in the baskets at the doors.

There will be a brief meeting of all teachers, assistants, Children's Worship leaders and workers in the Children and Youth Departments on Sunday January 17 following Worship in the Fellowship Hall. The purpose of the meeting is to sign new Covenant Agreements. If you are interested in working with the children or youth please contact Eugenia Vicars at 297-8201 or eugeniavicars@aol.com for a copy of the Safe Sanctuary Policy.

Volunteers are still needed on the fifth Sunday for Children's Worship, Nursery during Worship and fifth Sunday during Sunday School in the K3/K4 Class and the Early Elementary Class.

Please contact Eugenia Vicars at 297-8201 or eugeniavicars@aol.com if you can help in any of these classes.

Thank you to everyone who donated pajamas on Polar Express Night for Pendleton Place. We collected 19 sets of pajamas.

Children's Department Workers for January

Nursery Workers - Worship Service

- Jan. 3 - Ashbie Day & Delores Gilstrap
- Jan. 10 - Allison & Jon Miller
- Jan. 17 - Edna Patterson & Katie Franks
- Jan. 24 - Charmaine & Matthew Pool
- Jan. 31 - Two Volunteers Needed

Toddler Workers

- Jan. 3 - Diane Roper & Tennille Crnobrnja, SSH, Charmaine & Matthew Pool, WH
- Jan. 10 - Diane Roper & Lori Evans, SSH, Tracey Biggers & Jane Davis, WH
- Jan. 17 - Diane Roper & Stephanie Morris SSH, Allison & Jon Miller, WH
- Jan. 24 - Diane Roper & Charmaine Pool, SSH, Stephen & Raina Newman, WH
- Jan. 31 - Diane Roper & MaryAnn Stephens, SSH, Stephanie Gamble & Lori Cheshire, WH

K3/K4 Class

- Jan. 3 - Peggy Whitmire & Annette Bostic
- Jan. 10 - Peggy Whitmire & Tracey Biggers
- Jan. 17 - Peggy Whitmire & Annette Bostic
- Jan. 24 - Peggy Whitmire & Teresa Ferrell
- Jan. 31 - Peggy Whitmire & Karen Gambrell

Early Elementary Workers

- Jan. 3 - Ashbie Day & Tracey Biggers
- Jan. 10 - Ashbie Day & Whitney Feaster
- Jan. 17 - Ashbie Day & Jane Davis
- Jan. 24 - Ashbie Day & Tracey Biggers
- Jan. 31 - Ashbie Day & Lori Cheshire

Middle Elementary Workers

- Jan. 3 - Heather and Danny Boone
- Jan. 10 - Heather and Danny Boone
- Jan. 17 - Heather and Danny Boone
- Jan. 24 - Heather and Danny Boone
- Jan. 31 - Heather and Danny Boone

Youth Workers

- Jan. 3 - Edna Patterson & MaryAnn Stephens
- Jan. 10 - Edna Patterson & Lori Cheshire
- Jan. 17 - Edna Patterson & Allison Miller
- Jan. 24 - Edna Patterson & Taunja Pool
- Jan. 31 - Edna Patterson & Annette Bostic

Children's Worship Leaders

- Jan. 3 - MaryAnn Stephens & Edna Patterson
- Jan. 10 - Lori Cheshire & Whitney Feaster
- Jan. 17 - Peggy Whitmire & Heather Boone
- Jan. 24 - Peggy Whitmire & Tracey Biggers
- Jan. 31 - Edna Patterson & Annette Bostic

January Ushers

Ushers Captain: Tommy Head
Charlie Robertson, Diane Robertson
David Pool, Taunja Pool

Counters: Charlie Robertson, Tommy Head

Acolyte

- 01/03/15 Collins Cheshire
- 01/10/15 Collins Cheshire
- 01/17/15 Collins Cheshire
- 01/24/15 Collins Cheshire
- 01/31/15 Collins Cheshire

Crucifier

- John Tate
- Steve Ackerman
- Sam Hall
- Tommy Gilstrap
- Thaxton Miller

January Lay Liturgist Schedule

- 01/03/15 Davis Lupo
- 01/10/15 Glenda Anthony
- 01/17/15 John Tate
- 01/24/15 Whitney Feaster
- 01/31/15 Sam Hall