

EXTRAVAGANT *Generosity*



SEE PAGE 7 FOR MORE.



GET YOUR TICKETS BY THIS TUESDAY!

SEE PAGE 7 FOR MORE.



THIS SATURDAY NIGHT
REGISTER NOW: STPAULUMC.ORG

SEE PAGE 6 FOR MORE.



Welcome from Pastor Bob

Whether you're a first time visitor or a long time member of our St. Paul family, I'm glad you've joined us this Sunday! Today is Commitment Sunday. I hope you've spent some time in prayer over the last two weeks about how you'll support St. Paul's ministries in the coming year. You can see some ministry statistics that Pastor Pam mentioned last week on the back page of this bulletin. This church is doing great things for the Lord, and I am excited about going even further next year with your support. I hope all of you will bring a pledge card to the altar this morning and make your commitment to what we are doing here.

This Wednesday I invite you all to join us in the courtyard for festive snacks, drinks and music, followed by some Advent decorating in the sanctuary. Then this weekend we have two of our signature Christmas events, the Candlelight Christmas dinner on Friday and the Parents' Night Out PJ Party for the kids on Saturday. If you don't have your tickets to Candlelight Christmas yet, get them by Tuesday! Sign up for Parent's Night Out on our website. It's free! Take a look through this bulletin or visit our website, stpaulumc.org, for all our upcoming events.

Bob Martin, Senior Pastor



Glorify God ♥ Grow in Faith ♥ Give in Love



WORSHIP at 9 AM

- Prelude Cindy Triffon, Interim Accompanist
- Introit *The Kingdom of God* Sanctuary Choir
- Welcome Dr. Robert Williams, Worship Leader
- *Greet *Oh How He Loves You And Me*
- *Hymns *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain* No. 315
Eternal Father, Strong to Save
- *Apostle's Creed No. 881
- Prayer with Lord's Prayer Felix Koutsourais, Lay Leader
- Offertory *On the Third Day* Sanctuary Choir
- *Doxology *Praise God, From Whom...* No. 94
- *Prayer of Thanksgiving
- Transitional Hymn *A Charge to Keep I Have* No. 413
- Scripture Reading - Mark 4: 26-32
- Message "This Is Why We Do What We Do" Pastor Bob Martin
- Directed Prayer
- Dedication of Commitment Cards
- *Closing Hymn *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God* No. 110
- *Benediction
- *Postlude

*Please stand, if you are able.

If you need assistance, let an usher know.

Baby changing tables are located in both men and women's restrooms.

9 AM Greeters: Jan Snow and Ola Joseph

10:30 AM Greeters: Deb Byrnes



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.



VISIT OUR WEBSITE: www.stpaulumc.org



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST
SIGN UP ON THE CONNECT CARD



FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK
StPaulUMCLargo



Making a 2018 Commitment

We've been talking during worship the last few weeks about some of the great things we have accomplished for the Lord this year. As we look forward to 2018, your pledge is so important, because it opens the door for greater vision development and the accomplishing of bigger goals set for the church. Knowing the amount you will receive in your monthly social security check, pension distribution or paycheck from your employer, allows you to make plans for your life and finances. Pledges help the church to do the same. As we create our budget, and plan our ministry goals, pledges are a vital tool that help us to know what we can realistically accomplish for the Lord. **Our goal for 2018 is to raise \$1,600,000 to fund the ministry plan needed for our community, but our actual budget will depend on the pledges and giving we receive.**

If you haven't already filled out your card, you can find cards in the pews or the Connection Center. We will dedicate the pledge cards during worship today as we ask God to multiply our gifts and commitment for his work and his purpose. Thank you for your gifts and for being part of our work for God's kingdom!

GROWTHguide

The Growth Guide is a weekly e-mail with devotionals based on Sunday's message. Scripture, challenge questions, and more take you deeper into the topic and help you keep in touch with the Lord all week long. If you would like to receive the Growth Guide by email, you can sign up on the Connect Card on page 3 of this bulletin.

Looking for the prayer list? Turn to page 9.

10:30 AM WORSHIP

A typical 10:30 a.m. worship at St. Paul lasts about an hour. 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. You'll notice there is a time in our worship to give financially. This is how we support the ministries and missions of our church. We hope you experience the love of God with us today!



ABOUT
60 MIN.



PASSIONATE
MUSIC



NO
PRESSURE

Giving

It's easy to give online! You can make a one time gift or set up a convenient recurring contribution on our website. You can also use our online giving page to pay for things like worship flowers, class study materials and more. Visit stpaulumc.org and click the Giving button, or use this QR code.



Flowers

This week's flowers were given by:

- ♥ Dave Bossard, with love to my wife, Marilyn, on her birthday!
- ♥ Julia Smith & Family, in memory of Alvin Smith on his birthday
- ♥ Mike & Cindy Constantino, in celebration of our 22nd wedding anniversary!

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. Flowers can be picked up after the 10:30 a.m. worship or at the church office on Monday. Flowers can also be donated to the Flower Ministry and distributed to those who are in the hospital or in rehab.

Poinsettia Deadline is Tomorrow

If you plan to order poinsettias for Advent, be sure to call 727-584-8165 or make your order online by tomorrow. See page 9 for more info.

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: November 26, 2017 9 AM 10:30 AM

Name: _____
First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name

E-mail: _____

Phone: _____ Home Cell

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
 Weekly St. Paul Newsletter Children
 Students
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.
 Do NOT 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

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!

I am interested in:

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

How: _____

- Serving in the community

How: _____

- Learning more about St. Paul ministries

Specifically: _____

- Taking a Spiritual Gifts Assessment

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 help with:

- Serving the Homeless on Sundays
- Communion Preparation Team

Help with Christmas Eve Worship

- Ushers 9 AM 10:30 AM
 6 PM (here by 5:15PM) 8 PM (arrive 7:15 PM)
 10 PM (arrive 9:15 PM)

- Greeters 9 AM 10:30 AM
 6 PM (here by 5:15PM) 8 PM (arrive 7:15 PM)
 10 PM (arrive 9:15 PM)

- Livestream 9 AM 10:30 AM
 6 PM 8 PM 10 PM

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 coffee with the pastor to give you a chance to ask any questions you may have and discover more about who we are as a church, our mission, and core values.



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.

ONGOING GROUPS

- Age level groups (ex. JOY, IGNITE)
- Source Groups (Small groups of twelve or less)
- Sunday School
- At 9:15 and 10:15 a.m.



SHORT TERM GROUPS

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

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

WWW.STPAULUMC.ORG

for more information about our ministries.

Grow in Faith

Adult Studies

Adult Sunday Morning Classes

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

9:15 a.m. Sunday school class

Room 202 in **Bldg C**

10:15 a.m. Sunday school classes

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

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

Friendship—Room 201 (Community Room) - CLEC

JOY (Just Older Youth)

Older adults are invited to join us at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays for worship, study and fellowship in the Lu-Anne Willey Fellowship Hall (CLEC). Bring your favorite dish and enjoy a delicious meal together. For more information, contact Senior Director of Ministry, Bobby Van Duyne at bobby.v@stpaulumc.org or 584-8165.



Choral Concert Directed by Dr. Robert Williams

Many of you experienced the beautiful singing of the St. Petersburg College Concert Choir and Titan Korale under the direction of our own Dr. Robert Williams at our Evensong service. If you want another chance to hear these talented groups, or if you missed them when they were at St. Paul, you can see them in concert this Friday, December 1 at 7 p.m. They will perform at Lealman Community Church a United Methodist Church located at 4090 58th Avenue North in St. Petersburg.

Requested a Name Badge?

If you requested a name badge, don't forget to pick it up in the Connection Center! Badges are usually ready to be picked up the week after request.

IGNITE: Young Adults & Young Professionals

IGNITE is on hiatus during November. We will resume in December with study and a Christmas party. Follow IGNITE on Facebook for info on upcoming studies, events, and cancellations.



ignitestpaul

Email: youngadults.stpaulumc@gmail.com



DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IS...
**EVERYONE'S
PROBLEM**

Domestic Violence is...Everyone's Problem!

Tomorrow, Nov. 27 | 6:30 p.m. | Student Room

Domestic violence is a widespread problem in the U.S, affecting millions of people annually. 1 in 4 women in the US will experience domestic violence in their lifetime. Anyone can be abused, regardless of employment or education, racial or ethnic background, religion, marital status, age, or sexual orientation. It's a serious, ongoing problem: What can we do to help?

Stephen Ministry invites everyone to attend an educational seminar on recognizing and preventing domestic violence and elder abuse. Our speaker is Jennifer Sailpaugh from The Haven of RCS, a local domestic violence shelter. Join us in the Student Room, upstairs in the CLEC, and find out more about domestic and elder abuse. What are the signs to look for? What can you do to help victims of abuse? All are welcome. Refreshments provided.



Son Kissed Preschool Christmas Program

Friday, December 8 | 6 p.m. | Sanctuary

If you need something cute to lift your spirits this season, you won't want to miss the Son Kissed Preschool Christmas program. Join us in the sanctuary as the kids share music and dance, and remind us of the meaning of Christmas through a child's eyes.



Children *Infant- 5th Grade, Kaitie Zimmerman,
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 you will be given a card that you will need to pick-up your child.

This Sunday: Preschool & K-5

Preschool and K-5 are invited to attend their own worship and lessons in the Children's Ministry Center in Bldg C at both 9 and 10:30 a.m.

This Wednesday: Deck the Halls

Instead of our usual Worship Arts Class, we invite you to join us in the courtyard at 6 p.m. for cookies and Christmas songs. At 6:30 p.m. we'll decorate the sanctuary for Advent. We'll have kid friendly tasks for our Worship Arts group.



Student Ministry

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



Sunday Night Student Ministry

TONIGHT: MOVIE NIGHT
Meet for dinner in the Mariposa at 5:30 p.m. and then we'll head to the theater to see *The Star*.

NEW SERIES BEGINS NEXT WEEK:
"Who Needs Christmas?"



Seriously, who needs it? Well, as it turns out, maybe we all do. In this series, we'll discover just how important the Christmas story really is—for all of us.

Next week students are invited to join us in the Mariposa Cafe for dinner at 5:30 p.m. followed by group games, exciting crowd breakers, passionate worship, biblical teaching, and a chance to connect with others through Source Groups. Dinner is \$3. Register in advance on our website: stpaulumc.org. Time together ends at 8 p.m.



SERVE Opportunity: Parents' Night Out

This Saturday, students are invited to help with the Parents' Night Out PJ Party on Saturday from 5 to 9 p.m. in the Children's Ministry Center. Volunteers should arrive at 4:30 p.m. Wear your PJS!



Christmas Eve is on a Sunday this year so we will have normal morning worship times, as well as Candlelight Worship in the evening.

SUNDAY MORNING: 9 and 10:30 AM

FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SONGS & A MESSAGE TO PREPARE US FOR THE CELEBRATION OF OUR LORD'S BIRTH.

SUNDAY EVENING: CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP

6 AND 8 PM

CHRISTMAS MUSIC, CANDLELIGHTING, AND A SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR THIS HOLY NIGHT.

10 PM

COMMUNION WILL BE SERVED.
 MUSIC LED BY OUR SANCTUARY CHOIR.



Candlelight Christmas
 This Friday, December 1, 2017 - 6:30pm
 LuAnne Willey Fellowship Hall-CLEC



A Delicious Meal with Friends
 Entertainment by singing duo: Crossing Jordan
 Childcare provided.

GET YOUR TICKETS NOW: \$25

You can get tickets in the courtyard today or at the church office Monday and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to Noon. The last day to buy tickets is Tuesday, Nov. 28!



Deck the Halls

This Weds. Nov. 29 at 6 p.m. | Courtyard
 Join us in the courtyard at 6 p.m. for Christmas cookies, refreshments and songs. At 6:30 p.m. we'll have a short devotional about the meaning of our Christmas ornaments, then we'll "deck the halls" and decorate the sanctuary for Advent.

Give in Love

Rummage Sale Donation Pick-Ups

Christmas is around the corner and maybe you are getting new furniture or appliances. If your old furniture and appliances are still in great condition, the rummage sale can use them! We are now doing pick-ups of high quality furniture and appliances. If you would like to schedule a pick-up, contact Jerry Spaulding at 727-744-8540. **We will begin accepting smaller items for the rummage sale on Jan. 1.**



Poinsettias Deadline Is Tomorrow, Nov. 27

The poinsettias that fill the sanctuary each Advent are a beautiful part of the season. If you would like to dedicate a poinsettia to a loved one, call the church office at 584-8165 or use the "Holiday Flowers" section of our Giving page to place your order. Poinsettias are \$10 and the deadline is this Monday, November 27. Be sure to include your inscription!

Order Wreaths From the Boy Scouts Today

You can help send scouts to summer camp while enjoying fresh, beautiful decorations! Boy Scout Troop 468 are selling 22" Frasier fir Wreaths with a bow for \$24 or 26" wreaths for \$29 in the courtyard today. Wreath hangers, poinsettias, and luminary kits are also available. Wreaths will be delivered on December 17.

Carpenter's Shop Saturday Work Day

In addition to their normal work times on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 a.m. to noon, the Carpenter's Shop will have a work day this Saturday, December 2 from 9 a.m. to noon. We have jobs for all skill levels and ages. You do not have to be an experienced woodworker to help make toys for kids in traumatic situations!

Christmas FOR Pinellas

Open Arms will give away hundreds of toys to children in need again this year. The Angel Trees will be in the lobby next Sunday so come ready to take a tag or two and provide a toy to make Christmas bright for a child in need of Christ's love.



Learn About Stephen Ministry

Stephen Ministers are trained to offer one-to-one, confidential Christian care to people who are hurting. If you have the gift of faith, mercy, encouragement or caring, you could be a great Stephen Minister! To find out more about Stephen Ministry, join us for a Meet and Greet on Dec. 10 at 2 p.m. in room 201 of the Christian Life Enrichment Center. Speak with current Stephen Ministers about their experiences and ask any questions you may have. Refreshments will be provided.



Advent Helpers Needed

We expect to welcome many visitors during the season of Advent, especially on Christmas Eve, when we will have five worship times! We will need lots of people to help during worship on Christmas Eve, including greeters and ushers and volunteers to help with parking. We are hoping to livestream all five of the worship times, but we can only do this if we have enough people volunteer to help run cameras, slides and more. No experience is necessary!

CAN YOU HELP WITH ANY OF THESE JOBS?

Greeters and Ushers: 9 and 10:30 a.m.
6 p.m. (be at the church by 5:15 p.m.)
8 p.m. (be at the church by 7:15 p.m.)
10 p.m. (be at the church by 9:30 p.m.)

Parking Team. Five people needed to help direct parking before the 6 pm. and between the 6 and 8 p.m. worships.

Livestream Volunteers at 9 and 10:30 a.m. and at 6, 8 and 10 p.m.

Mark the Connect Card if there is one or more worship time when you can help!

Coming this Week

Sunday, November 26

Courtyard Coffee	8:30 AM
Lil' Kidz Nursery	8:30 AM
Traditional Worship	9:00 AM
Children's Worship	9:00 AM
Sunday School	9:15 AM
Bereans	10:15 AM
Friendship	10:15 AM
Inspirations	10:15 AM
Contemporary Worship	10:30 AM
Children's Worship	10:30 AM
Student Ministry	5:30 PM

Monday, November 27

Girl Scouts	6:00 PM
Boy Scouts	7:00 PM
Prevent Abuse Seminar	6:30 PM

Tuesday, November 28

Sonrise Men's Study	6:30 AM
Toy Making	9:00 AM
JOY	10:30 AM
Jumpstart	4:30 PM

Wednesday, November 29

Toy Making	9:00 AM
Community Bible Study	9:00 AM
Deck the Halls	6:00 PM
Handicapable	6:15 PM
Volleyball	7:30 PM

Thursday, November 30

Men's Bible Study	7:00 AM
Toy Making	9:00 AM
Handbells Rehearsal	5:30 PM
Choir Rehearsal	7:00 PM

Friday, December 1

Church Office Closed

Candlelight Christmas	6:30 PM
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Saturday, December 2

Soaring Eagles	8:00 AM
Toy Making	9:00 AM
Parents Night Out	5:00 PM

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If you have an event to schedule, contact us at 584-8165 or e-mail kerry.k@stpaulumc.org

Making a Prayer Request

Write your prayer request on the Connect Card and drop it in 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 prayer needs:

Aaron Medlin	Gilbert Quinn	Mindy Van Alstine
Adalynn	Glenda Neville	Nancy Otte
Allison Hall	I. Pollich Friend	Pat Greely
Andrew Medlin	Jace Michael	Patsy & Jerry
Andy Bauman	Jackson	Penny Jeffery
Andy, David & Lori	Jan Dale	Penny McElyea
Aubrie & Jessi	Jane Huter	Peter H
Audrey Talbert	Jane Neville Dixon	Rev. Jeanette Burton
Barb Martin	Jenny Walter	Rich Stemboroski
Barker Children	Jim Ledford	Richard Robertson
Bauman's Daughter & Husbands	Jim Lucky	Rick
Bette Manard	Jim Meier	Rick Holland
Blaze Rockwell	Jim, Brenda, Bev & Ruth	RLT
Bob & Troy Hartel	Joan Pitts	Robb
Bobby Quinton	John Fady	Robert Kyle
Bonnie Wismer	Joyance Dechester	Robin, Jodie, Jay, Doug, Val & Ty
Brian Greely	Judy Armbruster	Ron Barker
Bruce Medlin	Karen Goodin	Ron Fowler
Bud Haskell	Kat Farhangi	Roxe Bale & Family
Carol Quinton	Kecia Richardson	Royce McCullough
Caroline Fields	Kenneth A.	Ruth Aaron
Caroline Goodwin	Kenny Packard	Sandra Venditto
Cherie & Dick Hunt	Kim Morris	Sarah & Melissa
Cyndi & Family	Kim Sudano	Shirley
Dale Anderson	Kristi Burslem	Shirley & Harold Register
Dale Metler	Kristina Whited	Starnes Walker
Darlene Coburn	Libby Burke	Steve & Tyler
Dave, Evelyn B, Kathleen M & Carl J	Linda Shaw	Steve Harvey
David Barrett	Linda Weaver	Terry B
Debbie	Lorraine & Don Piro	Terry Shepard
DeYong Family	Marcus Jenkins	Todd Smyzer
Diane Mauch	Marg	Toni Johnson's Family
Donna Cordes	Marge Kabala	Travis Ward
Donna Ryan	Margie Stillwell	Trevor Birt
E Berry	Mark LaPolla	Triss Masters
Ed Luttmann	Mary Jane Arn	UMW
Emily Joseph	Melissa & Sarah Depew	Wanda Barker
Forest Anderson	Michael P White	Wilma Jo
	Mike Troutner	
	Mike Whelan	

Due to early printer deadlines, we were not able to put all of last week's prayer requests in the bulletin this week. The Prayer Team receives their own list as soon as requests are made and are praying over your prayer needs.

MINISTRY MILESTONES

125

DITTY BAGS TO SUPPORT THE NEEDS OF MIGRANT WORKERS

98

FLOOD BUCKETS PACKED FOR HURRICANE RELIEF



2 NEW MINISTRIES JUMPSTART

IS MENTORING AND TUTORING MIDDLE SCHOOLERS

THE CARPENTER'S SHOP

HAS MADE 300 TOYS TO BE GIVEN TO CHILDREN BY FIRST RESPONDERS



6,240

MEALS COOKED & SERVED TO THE UNDERFERD IN 2016

8,410

PEOPLE RECEIVED FOOD FROM OUR OPEN ARMS MINISTRY

BACK TO SCHOOL JUBILEE PROVIDED

425

BACKPACKS & SUPPLIES

125

HANDMADE DRESSES



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

