

All pray in silence.

Words of Assurance

Prayer Concerns

After each petition, all respond: *Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.*

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn Medley

Pastor Mike Derflinger

♪153 *"Thou Hidden Source of Calm Repose", vv. 1,2,3*

♪288 *"Were You There", vv. 1,2*

Scripture

Luke 23:32-43

Liturgist Marjorie Vitale

Message

Saving or Spending

Pastor Mike Derflinger

Stewardship Minute

Pastor Mike Derflinger

Unison Offertory Prayer

Liturgist Marjorie Vitale

Crucified Redeemer, Suffering Servant, Head of the Church, the Lamb that was Slain: we are here in-person and virtually to give of ourselves and from ourselves, to fulfill our vows and to give substance to our promises. Receive us and our offerings for the strengthening of your church at Saint Paul and in our community; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Offertory

"He Walks With Me Medley"

Arr. by Russell Mauldin

William J. Kirkpatrick

*Doxology

*Recap

*Closing Hymns

♪157 *"Jesus Shall Reign", vv. 1,4*

♪159 *"Lift High the Cross", vv. 1,3*

*Benediction

*Postlude

"Let Your Light Shine"

Mary McDonald

If you are new to St. Paul, please let us know you are here by filling out the attendance pad in the pew. How may we serve you? Check the boxes which apply to you and leave it in the pew, and leave us a best contact phone and email. Thank you.

Text: Luke 23:32-43

At The Crossroads: Saving or Spending

We live our lives between saving it and spending it.

Notes on why Jesus was crucified between two thieves and the meaning of it:

Questions:

What is the irony in the statement: *"He saved others; let Him save Himself..."*?

How does Jesus' prayer in v. 34, "Father, forgive them...", challenge your understanding of love and justice?

Is there someone in your life that you need to forgive? If so, who? What's a step you can take towards forgiving that person?

The word "Paradise" is used in Luke 23:43. What is your concept of Paradise? What did you learn about "Paradise" from these verses?

2026 Bible Reading for Lent

Your challenge is to read a book of the Bible during Lent. Our timeframe is 2/18 through 3/28.

When you've finished, consider offering a word of reflection and witness to your church family. Some helpful questions: What did God reveal to you? What brought peace? Where's the challenge? Keep it brief. Include your name or remain anonymous. If you permit us, we'll do our best to print them for all to be encouraged. Send them to me as soon as you can. Thank you.

~ Pastor Mike

Pastor Mike will be on medical leave March 23rd- 25th for his PDT procedure.

We ask all children to meet in the back of the church next Sunday to participate in the waving of the palms. Parents make sure to attend and let your kids bring a friend. Any questions see Barry King (slcountrycrafts@yahoo.com) or Sherry Bishop (sdSpencer2026@outlook.com)

Do you know middle or high school students in the New River Valley? This could include your children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews, neighbors. We would love to let them know about what is happening with our youth ministry here at St. Paul!

Email youth@stpaulvaumc.org with their names and contact information or with your contact information to stay up to date.

LAST SUNDAY – ORDERS DUE TUESDAY 3/24 – Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday Flowers

Vases of spring flowers, locally grown by The Dirt Therapist flower farm, will be used again this year to decorate our Sanctuary on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.

Please indicate the number of vases you would like to order and which Sunday (Palm Sunday OR Easter Sunday) you would like your flowers displayed.

Flower dedications (in honor or in memory) will be printed in the bulletin. Vases should be taken home to enjoy following the worship service on the Sunday you have selected.

\$25 per vase. Proceeds will benefit St. Paul UMC ministries.

The order form is available on the table in the narthex.

As we look forward to Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and Easter, let us think deeply on their meaning for us. We should not pass through this season without sincerely analyzing our own situation spiritually. Time waits for no one! Now is the time to settle all accounts with God and be right with Christ.

Worship Attendance March 15, 2025				
In-Person Adults	Children's Church	Livestreaming (Real Time)	YouTube (Recorded)	Total Worship
67	7	10	61	145

St Paul envisions
“Growing into a most Vibrant, Joyful Christian Community, Unified in Loving Service to our Neighbors, for the Glory of God.”
 --Vision Statement, approved by Church Council, 2018--
Phone: (540)382-2410 Fax: (540)382-1373
Church Website: www.stpaulvaumc.org
Church Office Hours: Monday – Friday 9:00AM – 3:30PM

Our Church Staff

Mike Derflinger, Pastor, mikederflinger@vaumc.org, 540-631-4469

Carol Slaughter, Administrative Assistant, office@stpaulvaumc.org, 540-382-2410

Ashley Johnson, Director of Youth Ministries, youth@stpaulvaumc.org, 540-250-5587

Carolyn Mills, Organist & Director of Choirs, organist@stpaulvaumc.org

Robin Raines, Custodian, rainesrobin88@yahoo.com



PRAYER LIST – Team Mark is our Caring Team this week

SPUMC Congregation, *friends, family members and neighbors*

Cancer Patients:

Jamie Epperly, Skip Fenton, Susan Perry

Parkinson's: Jim Clark

Alzheimer's: Roger Woolwine

Kenny J.

Health Issues: Wayne Bishop, Bob Dickenson, Ed & Sandra Hayes, Jim Simpkins

Amos Blair, Jerry Dowdy, Phyllis Osmond (niece of Judi Eanes), Cliff Thompson (nephew of Judi Eanes), Stephanie Turner

Recuperating from Surgery at Home: Joe Chase, Sherri King

Joyce Burnett

Grieving: Family of Jordan McCoy, Family of Susan Chase

Families and friends of Gerald Mills, Frank Nause Jr., Shirley Thompson, Rev. Glenn Tyndall, mother of Bonnie Vaught

If you wish to place someone on the prayer list for prayer only, please contact the church office, or write their name on the attendance pad with “prayer” after their name. If a person would like to receive ministry from our caring teams (cards, phone calls, visits, food, etc.) please list an address/phone number for our caring teams. Thank you!

Birthday Celebrations this week – Perry Cox & Richard Graham on March 22nd; Connie Bell, Dawn Cornish, & Jamie Stewart on March 23rd; Eva Cooper, Michelle Klawitter, & Kellen Mitchell on March 24th; Kat Birchfield, Donald Reed, & Pete Tienvieri on March 25th; Alaina Anderson, Taylor Newman & Monty Thompson on March 26th; Del Lane, Richard Troutman, & Bess Wicks on March 27th; Don Karnes on March 28th. ***Happy Birthday to all!***

On behalf of our family, we would like to express our sincere gratitude for the incredible support the congregation of St. Paul has shown to our family this past year following Jordan's stroke. Your prayers, cards, kind words and thoughtful gestures have been a source of comfort during these difficult days. We are truly blessed to be a part of this amazing congregation.
~ Rusty and Tracy McCoy

Photographers Needed

We would like to get some good pictures made of our acolytes. If you have photography skills and are willing to take a few pictures, please let Ashley Johnson know (youth@stpaulvaumc.org or 540-250-5587).

Decisions Made at Council on 3/16:

We will begin passing the offering plates beginning today, March 22nd. Stewardship tasks will move away from Finance and form a separate Team. Our Wedding Policy is being updated and is under Worship which is part of Nurture.

Children's Holy Week Activity

All children are invited on Wednesday, March 25th to create a special project with Ms. Ashley to celebrate Holy Week. Drop by the stage in the Fellowship Hall either *before or after* Community Children's Choir - whichever is more convenient for your family. This is a drop-in activity and should take about 15 minutes to complete.

Children's Holy Week Activity

When: Wednesday, March 25th

5:30 - 6:30pm

7:00 - 7:30pm

Where: Fellowship Hall Stage

St. Paul Social Media

Let's get connected through social media with our latest news and updates. This is an easy and free way to stay in the loop.

Facebook

Facebook page: St. Paul UMC Christiansburg

www.facebook.com/stpaulcburg

Click "follow"

Instagram

Search: stpaulvaumc

Click "follow"

YouTube

Search: StPaulUMCChristiansburgVA

Click "subscribe"

We have four services during Holy Week and Easter. All are welcome!

1. A Good Friday Tenebrae service April 3rd at 6p.m. We are looking for the varied voices of children, youth and adults to participate by reading Scriptures about the Passion of Christ, and ask that you practice beforehand to honor God's Word with your best reading. There is no rehearsal planned; we can arrange a practice reading with the microphone beforehand.
2. An Easter Vigil service Saturday evening April 4th at 6p.m.
3. An Easter sunrise service at 7:30a.m. outdoors with breakfast following. The Flowering of the Cross occurs any time after breakfast and before Easter morning worship at 10a.m. You are welcome to bring cut flowers of your choice to place on the cross in the front yard.
4. Easter morning worship is at 10a.m.

Please remember our members and *neighbors* in assisted living:

Kroontje Health Care Center, 1000 Litton Ln., Blacksburg, VA 24060

Ruth Boothe, rm 308, Cell: 919-906-5097

English Meadows, 3400 South Point Dr., Blacksburg, VA 24060

Wayne & Dolores Brockenbrough, Apt.217

Margaret Woolwine, rm. 235

Commonwealth Senior Living, 201 Wheatland Ct., Christiansburg, VA 24073

Bonnie Cochran, rm. 208

Mary Childress, rm. 113

328 Fieldstone Ln., Blacksburg, VA 24060

Kathy Davis

(540-250-2163 - mail cards to Rachel Link, 1534 Catawba Rd., Blacksburg, VA 24060)

3719 Knollridge Rd., Salem, VA 24153

Marg Modlin

Manchester Commons – Woodside Place, 6351 West Lake Road, Erie, PA 16505

Roger & Brenda Woolwine, Brenda's Cell Number: 540-320-0986

And our dear friends and neighbors:

650 N Jefferson St., Apt. 218, Roanoke, VA 24016

Former Pastor: Rev. Art & Willie Wingfield

March Stewardship

AMOUNT NEEDED FOR MARCH \$32,500. We have five Sundays in March.

March Offering Counters: Brian Porter, Dan Rhudy

<u>TOTAL MARCH STEWARDSHIP</u>	<u>03/15</u>	<u>Total</u>
General Fund – Offerings and Loose Plate	\$5,390	\$21,911
General Fund – Online Giving	\$1,679.69	\$4,165.10

<u>SPECIAL OFFERINGS MARCH</u>	<u>03/15</u>	<u>Total</u>
Communion Offering (MCEAP)	\$	\$160
Baby Shop	\$	\$60
Palm/Easter Flowers	\$50	\$200
Bereavement Fund	\$500	\$500
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$500	\$500