



# St. Paul Pages

St. Paul United Methodist Church

June 2026

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## Miked Up

I had my annual visit with my cardiologist recently. I received a wonderfully positive report! Even so, we had a good chat, and I decided to request a heart catheterization just to be sure everything is okay. I have always opted for preventative health care. As some of you know, the "camera" on the end of that tube will give me a good look at the heart valves closing and opening.

The Bible mentions the heart over 750 times, usually referring to our will, desires, and character. Proverbs 4:23 says, *"Above all else, guard your heart, for everything you do flows from it."*

The Scriptures teach us not only to monitor our physical health and actions, but our spiritual health and actions, too. 'Guarding' your heart means going to the root, paying attention to what we allow in, what we allow to take root, and what flows out. What is one thing that is taking up too much space in your heart today? Who is the one person in your heart you can pray for right now?

As we step into summer, what a good and happy time it is! I hope you will enjoy your vacations and family time during the summer months. When you are away, I hope you will live stream our services as you are able and remember your church's ministries in your prayers and giving. May your heart be blessed with all your wonderful activities, and may God refresh your heart and soul.

~ Pastor Mike

## Membership Report

05.24.26 Death: Jim Williamson.  
Membership stands at 405.

## Virginia Annual Conference

Annual Conference is June 17-20. We are excited to gather in a new venue, the Atlantic Union Bank Center on the beautiful campus of JMU in Harrisonburg. Pastor Mike and Lay Member Tom Bell will be attending. In the event of a pastoral emergency, please text or call Pastor Mike.

## Investment Team

An Investment Team has been formed to collaborate and to recommend better-returning ethical investments to the Finance Team. The team is Ron Hollandsworth, Todd Fitch, Ken Skidmore, Jim Mattox, and Rosa Griffith.

To everything there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven:

~ Ecclesiastes 3:1

## Stewardship Team

A Stewardship Team has been formed as a separate group to develop and implement a year-round plan for the entire church family that promotes spiritual growth and generosity through sharing stories of impact, events, witnessing, teaching, activities, and financial education. The team is Pastor Mike, Tom Bell, and Sabrina Porter and additional people are needed. Please speak with any of us if you are interested in any aspect of stewardship.

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## Nurture Team

The next bike ride is Saturday, June 27th. Classic and e-bikes are welcome. Please look for details in the worship bulletin and e-mail. Please speak with Cam Mallory if you have any questions.

Our next Nurture meeting is after worship on Sunday, June 28th. All are welcome.

We are hosting a game night on Sunday, July 19th at 4pm. All are welcome. Dinner is provided (pizza). Bring your favorite board game, indoor or outdoor game, or card game.

Heads-Up! We are sponsoring a senior adult dinner and fellowship at our church this summer. Please look for sign-ups and a date in the worship bulletin and e-mail.

We had a good year at Wonderful Wednesdays which included weekly discussions on the series *The Chosen* (thank you, Sherry Spencer!). We will resume on September 9th.

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## Supporting Camp Alta Mons

Camp Alta Mons lost dependable financial funding when the Alta Mons apportionment to local churches was eliminated. Now, the decision to support our camp is made at the local church level, and their Board of Directors is charting a course for the future. After discussion, our Council approved a motion to support Alta Mons with a check for \$5000 in lieu of (now eliminated) mandatory district apportionments. This amount will go to their general fund for salaries, utilities, and operational expenses and is equivalent to amounts Saint Paul has given in previous years.



## Choirs

The Chancel Choir will continue practicing to prepare anthems for Sunday worship through June 10th. Their last Sunday to sing in the choir loft will be Sunday, June 14th.

Awards Sunday for both choirs will be Sunday, June 14th.

Men's Choir Day will be Father's Day, Sunday, June 21st. All boys and men are encouraged to practice together after church on June 14th and sing on June 21st.



~ Carolyn Mills, Organist & Director of Choirs

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## United Women in Faith (UWF)

The **Summer Feeding Program** sponsored by **MCEAP** needs funds to purchase food items. During the month of June, you can send donation checks to MCEAP, 308 W. Main St., Christiansburg with Summer Feeding Program in the memo line. Our donations will help keep kids fed while school is not in session.



## Baby Shop

We've been busy with donations this month, a good thing! We have served 39 families, 6 of whom were new clients, for a total of 73 children. There are six more orders ready to be picked up.

Our needs this month are much the same as last month. We need girls' shorts and shirts in size 5T, and boys' shorts in sizes 24mo., 2T, 3T, 4T, and 5T. So far we have been getting in just enough of those items to fill the orders we have, but have very few stockpiled. We also need kids toothbrushes, and size 5T or 5/6 boys underwear. Also, if any of you have any spare plastic tubs with lids that we use for storage, we could use a few more.

The women of St. Paul are hosting a Baby Shower for the Baby Shop on June 14. All friends and volunteers are invited to attend. We will eat and play games for a fun afternoon! Please see the attached invitation!

The dates we need volunteers in June are as follows. Times are always 9:30-noon, or however much time you can give during that time. We often have folks come for an hour or so. Every little bit helps!

Monday June 1-sort donations, etc.

Thursday June 4-pack orders, etc.

Friday June 5-pack orders etc.

Saturday June 6-clients pick up orders

Monday June 8-sort donations etc.

Friday June 12-pack orders

Monday June 15-clients pick up orders

Monday June 22-sort donations, etc.

Monday June 29- sort donations, etc.

Looking ahead to July, we will not be open for client pick up the first Saturday due to the holiday weekend, it will be the second Saturday instead.

Thanks so much for all you do to make this mission possible!

~ Gail Pankey, for the Baby Shop



# Montgomery County Baby Shop Baby Shower

Sunday, June 14 at 2pm  
St. Paul UMC Fellowship Hall

**Needed items: 5T girls' shorts & shirts and  
2T-5T boys' shorts (new or gently used),  
diapers & pull-ups for 20+lb, and wipes.**



## Worship on May 31st and in June

31st – Trinity.

7th – Holy Communion. Our Communion offering in June goes to **the Baby Shop**.

14th – Community Hand Bell Choir plays. Carolyn Mills will hand out awards to those in music ministry. Our chancel choir will sing their final anthem before summer break.

21st – Father's Day and Graduate Sunday. Our United Methodist Men will have the service. A men's choir will sing (all men are welcome). The message will be testimonies by men on being a father, and our Nurture Team will hand out a token of appreciation to all men. The deadline for submitting names of graduates is June 4th. Ashley Johnson will lead the recognition of our graduates.

28th – Laity Sunday. Certified Lay Servant Tom Bell will be our preacher.

The Community Hand Bell Choir will play at Good Shepherd Baptist.

**Our summer theme is the Holy Spirit.** We are going to lean in and learn more about who the Holy Spirit is. I would love for every one of us – in-person and online – to take that journey together. Let us commit to discovering together and opening our lives to invite the Holy Spirit deeper into our daily routines and church family.

~ Pastor Mike

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## 3 Questions AI (Artificial Intelligence) Is Forcing Our Congregation to Ask

As AI reshapes everyday life, pastors and churches are increasingly facing difficult conversations about identity, truth, and human connection. Kenny Jahng, Editor-In-Chief at *Church Tech Today*, outlines three major disruptions churches must confront:

1) *The loss of work, purpose, and income through automation.* Maybe you know a person who lost their job or whose duties have shifted due to AI. The church is uniquely positioned to heal a profound spiritual wound and guide our members from an identity built on productivity to one rooted in grace, reminding one another that human worth is an inherent gift from God and not determined by a paycheck or job title.

2) *Growing confusion around truth and authority.* How do we know what is true anymore? Part of the disruption and challenge for churches is to remind people to treat machines and technology as tools for information rather than creators and final judges of moral, ethical, and spiritual truth.

3) *The erosion of authentic communities in an age of frictionless digital connection.* Isolation is easy. It is sometimes convenient and necessary. The fight against isolation in the local church is not just about preventing loneliness; it is about embodying the communal nature of the local church and the Kingdom of God that Christ established. Churches are suited to offer small groups, gatherings and meaningful in-person relationships and experiences that nourish the soul and the mind.

This is one of the best articles I have read on the subject. To see the entire article, go to [www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/3-questions-ai-is-forcing-your-congregation-to-ask](http://www.churchleadership.com/leading-ideas/3-questions-ai-is-forcing-your-congregation-to-ask). You can also subscribe for free and get other insights with Leading Ideas from the Lewis Center for Church Leadership. Read what your leaders read. Together we can help Saint Paul be an even more compassionate and effective church in today's world.

~ Pastor Mike

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**And he shall be like a tree planted by the rivers of water, that bringeth forth his fruit in his season; his leaf also shall not wither; and whatsoever he doeth shall prosper.**

~ Psalm 1:3

# Recovery News and Happenings

## Neighborhood Prayer Walk

### Key Scripture

2 Chronicles 7:14 — *“If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray... then I will hear from heaven.”*

Prayer has always been one of the most powerful ways believers can impact the world around them. As a church family, we are excited to announce our upcoming Neighborhood Prayer Walk—a special opportunity to unite in faith and pray over our homes, schools, businesses, families, and community leaders.

A prayer walk is more than simply walking through a neighborhood. It is intentionally bringing God’s presence into the places where people live, work, and struggle. As we walk together, we pray for healing, peace, protection, salvation, and encouragement for every household and individual we encounter.

In today’s world, many people are facing loneliness, anxiety, financial hardship, and uncertainty. Some may never step into a church building, but they can still experience the love of Christ through caring believers who are willing to pray for their community.

This outreach is not about drawing attention to ourselves—it is about seeking God’s heart for our community and becoming vessels of His love.

Whether you are young or old, outgoing or quiet, everyone can participate in prayer. Even the smallest prayer offered in faith can make an eternal difference.

### Event Information

Date: Tuesday, June 9, 2026

Time: 6:30pm

Meeting Location: Activity Building

**Comfortable walking shoes and bottled water are recommended.**

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### Car Wash Fundraiser

Join us for a fun-filled day of fellowship, service, and community support at our Church Car Wash Fundraiser!

Our church family is coming together to raise funds for outreach ministries, specifically recovery programs. Every vehicle washed helps support efforts to spread hope, compassion, and faith throughout our community.

### Event Details

Date: Saturday, June 13, 2026

Time: 9:30am-2:00pm

Location: St Paul Parking Lot


Donation: \$5.00 a car

Everyone is welcome! Bring your family, invite your friends, and help make this event a blessing to our community.

### What Your Support Helps Provide

- Food and clothing assistance
- Hygiene care
- Recovery materials

In addition to getting your car cleaned, you’ll enjoy a day filled with encouragement, fellowship, and the joy of serving together for a greater purpose.

Continued 

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**For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace,  
and not of evil, to give you an expected end.**

**~ Jeremiah 29:11**

## Volunteer Opportunities

We welcome volunteers of all ages to help with:

- Washing vehicles
- Greeting guests
- Holding signs
- Providing refreshments
- Prayer and encouragement

## Pie in the Eye

If we raise \$500.00 the director of recovery ministries has agreed to being pied.

## So c'mon church can we hit this goal?

Thank you for supporting our church and helping us continue to serve our community with love and compassion.

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## E – vangelism: Building Bridges

by Ashley Johnson, Director of Youth Ministry

Our **Electronic evangelism** (e-vangelism) campaign continues! Social media is an easy way to build bridges between people and groups, but this does take some intentionality.

Our St. Paul social media accounts not only highlight what we are doing within the walls of the church but also lifts up other groups such as: St. Paul Preschool, The Baby Shop, happenings from within the United Methodist Church, and other items of interest from our community.

Currently we are recognizing our 2026 graduates include St. Paul members, extended family and St. Paul preschool graduates. Be sure to check out those posts each day and give these grads some encouragement for the future. Milestones like this certainly deserve to be recognized and celebrated!

As you're scrolling social media this month, truly think about how can you build bridges with what you're commenting, liking and sharing. Let's use our social media presence for good .

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## Youth Ministries

Spring has been so much fun for our Middle & High School Youth Group. During April and May we focused on the first two of John Wesley's three simple rules: "doing good" and "doing no harm". We've spent our Sunday nights getting to know each other better and playing basketball, four-square, pool and ping pong. We've supported The Baby Shop by bagging diapers and also helped some St. Paul members with yard care.

We're taking a summer break from the weekly youth group gatherings but will be doing other fun stuff throughout the summer. Keep an eye on bulletin updates and emails from Ashley Johnson, Director of Youth Ministry.

### Save the Date

#### **Sunday, June 21st**

Father's Day

Men and boys sing during worship

Graduation Sunday

#### **Sunday, August 9th**

Back to School Sunday

Blessing of the Backpacks

#### **Sunday, July 19th**

St. Paul Game Night

#### **Sunday, August 16th**

Sunday Night Youth Group will

resume!

5:30 - 7:30pm

#### **Monday - Thursday, July 20th - 23rd**

Community VBS (preschool - 8th grade)

Christiansburg Presbyterian Church

## Camp Alta Mons Camp

Alta Mons is a beloved local treasure that has long been a favorite spot of many St. Paul members. This year, Alta Mons is offering four weeks of summer camp options for children and teens and St. Paul will be represented by campers at ALL FOUR WEEKS! We have over a dozen young people from our congregation who will be exploring the outdoors, making friends, gaining confidence and independence all while strengthening their faith this summer at Alta Mons.



St. Paul offers camp scholarships to encourage folks to participate in Alta Mons camps and also to help offset expenses for camp for our families.

We are asking individuals, families and groups within St. Paul to consider sponsoring a camper. Below are the different camp options and one week tuition rate:

- Day Camp \$279
- Mini Camp \$279
- Elementary Residential Camp \$399
- Junior High Residential Camp \$444

To make a donation toward our Alta Mons scholarships, checks should be made payable to St. Paul UMC with "Alta Mons scholarships" in the memo line.

Thank you for your continued support of our St. Paul children and youth and for your support of Alta Mons! Questions? Contact Ashley Johnson, Director of Youth Ministry

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## Outreach Hygiene Program

The Outreach Committee is adding a hygiene program to our Life Recovery Ministry. Donations of hygiene items starting now and going through September. There is a box placed in the Narthex with lists of needed items that you can take with you. Thank you.

~ Greg Journey, Outreach Co-Chair

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**The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.**

**He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.**

**He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.**

**~ Psalm 23:1-3**

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# Happy Birthday!



Bobby Ashburn—1  
Sherri King—1  
Brenda Woolwine—1  
Steve Simmons—4  
Kelli Buhrdorf—6  
Michael Sherman—12  
Michael Adams—13  
Meagan Arthur—13  
Phyllis Clarkson—15  
Colleen Farmer—15

Roger Woolwine—15  
Becca King-Mallory—16  
Nancy Santolla—18  
Danny Hamrick—19  
Chip Lawson II—20  
Harry Freer—22  
Patty Lusk—22  
Shari Custer—23  
Emily Fitch—23  
Jim Clark—25

Beverly Floyd—25  
Butch Martin—25  
Shauna Spanos—26  
Joyce Keith—27  
Nathan Farrar—28  
April Franklin—28  
Lisa Bass—30  
Joe Davis Jr.—30  
Vicki Sciarretta—30



## Baptized Roll—Known

William Kersey—1,  
Casey Bowler Eanes—3,  
Brandon Hanks—3, Ricky Goss—4,  
Zack Kennedy—12, Isaac Johnson—29

## Membership Roll—Unknown

Judi Eanes, Chris Kochensparger,  
Terresa Pace

# Happy Anniversary!



Brooks & Meagan Arthur—5  
Todd & Roni Fitch—9  
David & Amanda Chrisley—9  
Dan & Ann Rhudy—19

Cam & Becca King-Mallory—21  
Arthur & Karen Poff—21  
Kevin & Jackie Buhrdorf—24  
Paul & Janie Cassell—27



*Did we miss your birthday or anniversary? Please call the church office!  
Thank you!*

**For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither,  
but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give  
seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:**

**So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me  
void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the  
thing whereto I sent it.**

**~ Isaiah 55:10-11**

**June 2026**

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Baby Shop, Sort 9:30A-12P Lectionary Bible Study, JOY Classroom 6P-7:30P	2 Community Hand Bell Choir, Rm 301 7P-8P Recovery Group, AB 7P-8P	3 Preschool Open House 6P-7P Chancel Choir 6:30p-7:45p	4 Baby Shop, Pack Orders 9:30A-12P Deadline for Graduates Submissions	5 Baby Shop, Pack Orders 9:30A-12P Activities Building Reserved All Day	6 Baby Shop, Clients Pick Up 9:30A-12P Activities Building Reserved 10A-9P
7 Frank Wickham & JOY Classes 9A In-Person & Livestream 10A Holy Communion Jim Williamson Service 2P	8 Staff Meeting, Spare Office 9A Baby Shop, Sort 9:30A-12P Lectionary Bible Study, JOY Classroom 6P-7:30P	9 Preschool Open House 10A-11A Community Hand Bell Choir, Rm 301 7P-8P Christiansburg Lions Club, AB 6:30P-8:30P Recovery Group, Prayer Walk 6:30P	10 Chancel Choir 6:30p-7:45p	11 Staff-Parish Relations Committee, JOY Classroom 7P	12 Baby Shop, Pack Orders 9:30A-12P	13 Outreach/ Recovery Group Car Wash, St. Paul Parking Lot 9:30A-2P
14 Frank Wickham & JOY Classes 9A In-Person & Livestream 10A Last Anthem for the Season Choir Awards Community Hand Bell Choir at St. Paul Baby Shop Baby Shower, FH 2P	15 Baby Shop, Clients Pick Up 9:30A-12P Lectionary Bible Study, FH 6P-7:30P Church Council, JOY Classroom 7P	16 Community Hand Bell Choir, Rm 301 7P-8P Recovery Group, AB 7P-8P Newsletter Jul/ Aug HARD Deadline, 3P	17	18	19	20 Foundry UMC Staying Overnight in AB
21 Frank Wickham & JOY Classes 9A In-Person & Livestream 10A Father's Day  Men's Choir Sings	22 Baby Shop, Sort 9:30A-12P Lectionary Bible Study, JOY Classroom 6P-7:30P	23 Community Hand Bell Choir, Rm 301 7P-8P Recovery Group, AB 7P-8P	24	25	26	27
28 Frank Wickham & JOY Classes 9A In-Person & Livestream 10A Guest Speaker Tom Bell Nurture, After Worship, JOY Classroom Community Hand Bell Choir at Good Shepherd Baptist	29 Baby Shop, Sort 9:30A-12P Lectionary Bible Study, JOY Classroom 6P-7:30P	30 Recovery Group, AB 7P-8P				

### Worship Attendance May 2026

	In-Person Adults	Children's Church	Live Streaming	YouTube (Recorded)	Total Worship	Offerings General Budget
May 03	59	6	16	90	171	\$5,440
May 10	85	12	12	69	178	\$5,396
May 17	67	11	16	128	222	\$4,681
May 24	70	5	12	60	147	\$2,828

**May 31st numbers will be in the July/August Newsletter.**

*Communion offerings and other designated offerings are counted separately from General Offerings.*

**Offering Needed for General Operating Budget for May: \$32,500**  
**Amount Received: \$18,345 - through May 24th**  
**Special Offerings Received in April:** Communion (Life Recovery)= \$520; Baby Shop= \$90;  
 Facility Use= \$200; Alta Mons= \$300; MCEAP= \$5; Mission Trip= \$350

**Pastor**

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

**Administrative Assistant**

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**Organist/Director of Choirs  
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**Custodian**

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Public page - <https://www.facebook.com/stpaulcburg>  
 Private page - <https://www.facebook.com/groups/stpaulvaumc>



<https://www.youtube.com/c/StPaulUMCChristiansburgVA>



**And whatsoever ye do, do it heartily, as to the Lord, and not unto men;  
 Knowing that of the Lord ye shall receive the reward of the inheritance:  
 for ye serve the Lord Christ.  
 ~ Colossians 3:23-24 4:8-9**