

Prayer of Illumination Liturgist Ross Mecham
Lord Jesus Christ, as we open the Scriptures and hear Your word proclaimed, open our hearts and minds to see the diverse landscape of leadership and nurture in the early church. Make ancient words new by the power of your Holy Spirit. We pray this in your holy name. Amen.

Scripture **Romans 16:1-4, 6-7, 12-13** Liturgist Ross Mecham

Message **These Women** Pastor Mike Derflinger

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

Unison Offertory Prayer Liturgist Ross Mecham
Gracious God, we offer back to you a portion of what you’ve blessed us with. We specifically thank you for mothers—the women who taught us how to find things (by looking with our eyes, not our mouths), the masters of laundry, and the keepers of clean underwear just in case of accidents. Thank you for their logic ('Because I said so') and their incredible ability to hear a whisper four rooms away. Lord, bless our money, our time, and our abilities to be as effective as a mother with a to-do list, a damp rag, and a deadline. We thank you for our parents’ endless patience and their ability to turn a chaotic home into a loving one. Accept our offerings, and maybe, just for today, let the moms get a moment of peace to drink their coffee while it's still hot. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Offertory **“Tell Me the Story of Jesus”/“I Love to Tell the Story”** John Sweney

*Doxology

*Recap

*Closing Hymn **♩140 “Great is Thy Faithfulness”, all vv.**

*Benediction

*Postlude **Trumpet Tune on “Hyfrydol”** Douglas E. Wagner

*If you are new to St. Paul, we hope you will worship with us again very soon.
To catch all of our previous services, please go to our YouTube Channel
StPaulUMCChristiansburgVA.*

Why do you think Paul dedicates so much space to listing and greeting individuals?

Who is a woman that you can appreciate whose work inspires others in our church, or in our community, as Paul did in his writing? How can you show your appreciation?

In v. 13, Paul gives a very warm, personal greeting to Rufus and his mother. If Paul were writing to Saint Paul, what specific praise or encouragement might he mention about your contribution to our church and community? _____

This list includes various names, roles, and genders, both Jews and Gentiles, all united in Christ. How can you foster greater appreciation for the different, diverse roles and people and their backgrounds represented in Saint Paul (or in your church if you are our guest today)?

Youth Group – meets Sundays 5:30 – 7:30pm. Dinner served. Use the entrance facing the playground.

Offering Counters – we are in need of 2 new offering counters. If anyone can volunteer, please contact Ken Skidmore, kskidmo52@gmail.com. Thank you.

Esther Circle will meet Tuesday May 12th at 7:00pm at Penny Kanney’s home. All women are welcome. For information contact Elaine Clark 540-239-0434.

Ruth Circle’s May meeting will be on Thursday, May 14 at 1:00pm in the JOY classroom. Lunch will be at Dude’s Drive-In at 11:30am. All are welcome.

No Lectionary Bible Study on Memorial Day, Monday 5/25. Study will resume the following week.

Hygiene Program
There is a donation box in the narthex on the table for travel size hygiene products for the Hygiene Program. There are supply lists available to take that lists the items needed.
Thank you. ~ Greg Journey, Outreach Co-Chair

PRAYER LIST – Team Mark is our Caring Team this week

SPUMC Congregation, *friends, family members and neighbors*

Worship Attendance May 3, 2026				
In-Person Adults	Children's Church	Livestreaming (Real Time)	YouTube (Recorded)	Total Worship
59	6	16	90	171

May Stewardship

AMOUNT NEEDED FOR MAY \$32,500. We have five Sundays in May.
May Offering Counters: David Johnson, Sabrina Porter

TOTAL MAY STEWARDSHIP	05/03	Total
General Fund – Offerings and Loose Plate	\$4,686.10	\$4,686.10
General Fund – Online Giving	\$754.43	\$754.43

SPECIAL OFFERINGS MAY	05/03	Total
Communion Offering (Life Recovery Group)	\$150	\$150
Facility Use	\$200	\$200

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



Cancer Patients:

Rob Bedford, Kathy G. Davis, Jamie Epperly, Susan Perry, Marvin Steele

Parkinson's: Jim Clark

Alzheimer's: Roger Woolwine

Kenny J.

Health Issues: Wayne Bishop, Bob & Scottie Dickenson, Ed & Sandra Hayes, Ashley Johnson, Barry King, Jim Simpkins

Amos Blair, Jean Britt-Hospice Care, Jerry Dowdy, Mike & Caren Gallimore, Mike Lee-LG Salem, Phyllis Osmond (niece of Judi Eanes), Cliff Thompson (nephew of Judi Eanes)

Recuperating from Surgery at Home: Sherri King, Cam Mallory, Gary Sparks

Praises: Skip Fenton finished treatments and is now cancer free

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 – Shannon Pharis on May 10th; Noah Petry on May 12th; Erin Birchfield on May 13th; Melissa Gunter, Margie Liverman, Ross Mecham, & Billy Reynolds on May 14th; Greg Journey on May 15th. ***Happy Birthday to all!***

Parents of children and youth:

If you haven't had a chance yet, please take a few minutes to fill out our ministry registration form for 2026. tinyurl.com/kidsandyouth.

Summer Camp at Alta Mons

Alta Mons offers wonderful camps experiences for rising kindergarten through 12th grade. A local outdoor ministry for making summer memories, finding new friends and walking closer with God. Registration is now open. St. Paul camp scholarships are open to any children and youth and scholarship applications are due to the St. Paul office by May 15th. Questions? Contact Ashley Johnson, Director of Youth Ministry.

Training for New Acolytes

Any children or youth interested in serving in our acolyte ministry is invited to attend the upcoming training session on Sunday, May 17th 9:00 - 9:30am in the St. Paul Sanctuary. This session will teach both the purpose and process of serving as a St. Paul acolyte including hands-on practice. Parents should attend as well, so they also know the expectations. Once trained, acolytes and their families select the Sundays they are available to serve each quarter. Questions? Contact Ashley Johnson, Director of Youth Ministry.

July Mission Trip! 12-18 July 2026 the Western North Carolina Conference will host our annual regional mission trip. If you want to help people, you are qualified! No special skills, church affiliation, or faith background is required. Prayerfully consider joining the team and contact Todd Fitch at missions@stpaulvaumc.org for forms and details. We stop recruiting after 17 May 2026 so book your spot today with a \$50 deposit. Total cost will be \$175, \$160 to St. Paul UMC + \$15 for the WNCC online background check. If you're unable to join in person, support the team with a cash donation toward travel, material costs, and local home repair work. Write checks to "St. Paul UMC" with "Mission Trip 201-200-4353" in the memo area. The team will also need food donations so contact Todd for details on that. Pray for the team's safety and the power to uplift people they touch who are recovering from flooding and other hardships.

The Board of Trustees reviewed the status of our HVAC at their recent meeting.

To ensure our project moves ahead, a specialized project management team (PMT) has been tasked with overseeing our HVAC project. Trustee Bob Hockett is forming the team. Once the team has created their purpose statement, our PMT will schedule individuals and companies to make presentations and conduct a time for question-and-answers.

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

May is Mental Health Awareness Month - Overall Theme: See the Person. Support the Journey.

Mental health is part of everyday life. It shapes how we think, feel, connect with others, and move through the world. This year's theme highlights the importance of:

- Noticing early signs of mental health concerns
- Strengthening the support around us
- Responding with care and compassion during challenging moments

Mental health touches every part of life — from housing and work to relationships and community. When mental health challenges arise, they often intersect with substance use, and whole person care that addresses both is essential to lasting recovery and well-being.

These key messages and weekly themes are your starting point. Sample social media shareables are also included. Please feel free to use them as-is or adapt for your audience.

Week 2 (May 11 – 15): Early Support Matters: Recognizing Signs in Children and Youth.

- Parents and caregivers are often the first to notice changes. Paying attention to patterns, having open conversations, and connecting children and teens to support early can make a meaningful difference.
- Changes in mood, sleep, appetite, thinking, or behavior may signal the need for support.
- Most serious mental illnesses begin in young adulthood.
- Exposure to trauma can affect long-term mental health.
- Timely assessment and access to services improve outcomes.
- Community awareness strengthens early identification and support.
- Young people thrive when support comes early. Asking for help on behalf of a child, teen, or young adult is an act of protection and advocacy.

Mark Your Calendar: Community VBS July 20th – 23rd at C'burg Pres. 6:00 – 8:15pm. Details to come.

Community Children's Choir

Ezra Arthur

Daphne Arthur

Anna Bolin

Ellie Johnson

Edgar Kersey

Owen Kersey

William Kersey

Rose Mallory

Braxton McClaugherty

Zoey McClaugherty

Fynn Ridenour

Wyatt Ridenour

Helper: Isaac Johnson