



St. Paul United Methodist Church

*"An intentionally diverse faith community
Committed to the way of Jesus Christ"*

Saint Paul United Methodist Church strives to continue to be a caring and diverse community of believers who celebrate and proclaim the Word of our Lord Jesus Christ through Worship, Christian Education, Fellowship and Service.

October 2017

Fall Revival: The Bread of Life that Yields New Life

In the 6th chapter of the Gospel according to John, we learn so much about hunger. With five barley loaves and a few small fish, Jesus begins this chapter by feeding 5000 hungry people who came to hear him and did not adequately prepare to eat. Later in the chapter, he admonishes his disciples to view him as the "bread of life" that once they partake of it, will never hunger. In verse 27, he says "do not work for food that perishes but for food that "endures eternal life." In verse 33, we learn that this "bread of life" is a "gift" from God who "comes down from heaven and whose primary desire is to give life to a hungry world."

As we look at our world today, we are very much aware of so many hungry souls. We see people who have not adequately prepared--people who are literally hungry, in need of tangible and nutritious food. But even beyond that, there are people who are hungry in other ways. We see all around us the manifestations of hunger: those starved for attention who do just about anything to be recognized; those starved for personal affection resorting to selling their personal possessions, their health, their bodies, and literally selling their souls for what often appears to be a sense of worthless validation. They are not prepared. People sell their personal dignity and morals so easily, in order to achieve their immediate, and far too often, short term fulfillment in shallow worldly pleasures. The world is so hungry on so many levels that it's a wonder we can even function. Winter is coming and the world is not prepared. Sadly, we who are Christians have missed the opportunity to share what we know about how to be filled.

As we, the members of St. Paul, embark upon our World Communion Sunday on October 1st and launch our **Fall Revival** (schedule below), we will be challenged by four dynamic and progressive preachers and their successful congregations to explore our need to feed the hungry world. It is my prayer that we will be challenged to find creative solutions to feed our hungry communities the word and power of God so that we can collectively draw men unto Him. Our theme will prayerfully challenge us all to look deep within and find ways to help our surrounding world be better prepared by our sharing the good news about the eternal life that a relationship with Jesus offers. The world is *indeed* hungry and as Christians, we have the much needed living bread (God's word) to share and keep us all forever filled. Join us for as many of the dates as you are lead.



Pastor G

Sunday October 1st at 3 pm with the Rev. Frank Smart, Greater Mt. Zion AME Church, Trenton

Monday October 2nd at 7 pm with the Rev. Tamoya Buckley- David, Mt. Pisgah AME Church, Princeton

Tuesday October 3rd at 7 pm with the Rev. Ethan S. Evans, Grace Perfecting Saints Church, Trenton

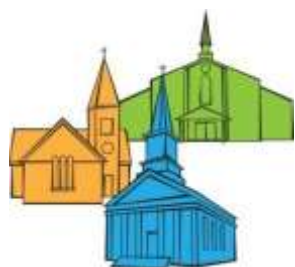
Wednesday, October 4th at 7 pm with the Revs. Earnest & Maretta Marke, True Light Ministries, W'boro

October 1st is **World Communion Sunday**.

We will celebrate the global reach of our faith, and our wonderfully diverse church. We encourage everyone to wear something that highlights your cultural roots.



A special offering will be received. An envelope will be included in the bulletin. Be sure to bring extra cash or an extra check with you.



Super Church Conference

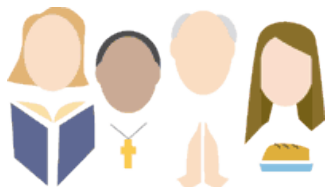
This year, **Church Conference** will be held on Saturday, October 28th at Calvary Korean UMC (572 Ryders La, E. Brunswick). All churches in the Central Region will be meeting on this

day. St. Paul's session will begin at 1:45 pm. After the business of the church conference, Rev. Dr. Tony Campolo, associate pastor of Mount Carmel Baptist Church and professor at Eastern University, will lead worship and a plenary session.

All members of St. Paul are encouraged to attend. If you plan to go, please notify the church office by Oct. 8th. Car pooling is being arranged; call the church office if you want a ride.

**October 15th
10:30 am**

An offering dedicated to the Dorcas Fund (used for benevolent purposes, assisting those in need) will be received. An envelope will be in the bulletin.



Laity Sunday

The United Methodist Men are selling tickets to their annual **Chicken & Rib Dinner** on Saturday, Oct. 14th. Tickets are \$12



(adults); \$8 (children 12 & under). Get your tickets from the UMM members.

All men of the congregation are invited to the United Methodist Men's **Breakfast Meeting** on Oct. 29th at 7:30 am.



The **United Methodist Women** will hold their General Membership Meeting on Sunday, Oct. 8th after the worship service. All women of the congregation are invited to attend.

PM Circle – Oct. 9th at 7 pm

HOPE Circle – Oct. 16th at 12:30 pm; Mamie Hofer, hosting; location TBA

JOY Circle – Oct. 17th at 11:30 am

GIGS Circle – Oct. 21st at 1 pm

UMW Circles



**Growing Gracefully
Monday, Oct. 23rd
10 am**

This month's workshop will focus on **Arthritis and Pain Management**. The facilitator is Dr. Efrain Paz, DO, an orthopedic surgeon with Professional Orthopedics at Lourdes Medical Associates. He is board certified in orthopedic surgery.

The November workshop will be on Stress Management. Watch for details.



Financial Assistant

As St Paul continues to grow, the handling of its Financial Structure requires modernizing. Accordingly we have split the responsibilities into three parts. The Treasurer (responsible for the overall financial program), Financial Assistant to the Treasurer (who does the day to day maintenance of QuickBooks), our financial record keeper and an Assistant Treasurer to fill in when the Treasurer is absent. Mattie Mallory is our long time Treasurer, May Diehl is the Assistant Treasurer and we are looking for someone with the capabilities indicated below to fill the position of **Financial Assistant to the Treasurer**.

The person we are looking for is someone with not only the skills indicated but also someone willing to serve St Paul with his/her time on a semi volunteer basis since we are limited on the amount of compensation we can offer. So if you have the skills and available time, stop in the office and leave your name and information with Terri and you will be contacted for an interview.

Dick Isackson, Chair, Finance Committee

The Financial Assistant to the Treasurer must be skilled in the use of Quick Books and accounting procedures as used by St Paul for its financial record keeping. The position can be filled by a non-member of St Paul.

The Financial Assistant is responsible to the Treasurer for management of the Quick Books Account which includes the following:

- Input income and expense data into St. Paul Quick Books account
- Pick up weekly deposit slips from bank
- Write checks for all bills and conference obligations to be signed by treasurer

- Reconcile monthly bank statements
- Prepare monthly financial reports – (profit & loss, balance)
- Prepare following quarterly and annual reports (Conference: Workers compensation; statistical report financial information (St Paul: compile audit information, complete & distribute W-2s and 1099 forms, Input annual budget into system)
- Maintain comprehensive and organized accounting files.

Annual Compensation \$3,600, payable monthly; anticipated hours: 5-12/wk



Money Matters

Praise God for the generous outpouring toward the **UMCOR Hurricane Relief Effort!** Your contributions totaled \$1,406!!!

More good news: We are up to date on our **Shared Giving** (aka apportionments).

And our usual summer giving slump didn't happen this year, perhaps due to the increased number of visitors.

Let's keep the positive momentum going!!

St. Paul United Methodist Church
201 Levitt Parkway
Willingboro, NJ 08046



If you no longer wish to receive The Epistle, please notify the church office at 609-877-7034 or stpumc@verizon.net.



Saturday, Oct. 21st 9 am – 2 pm

(Rain Date: Oct. 28th)

Sorting out closets? Down-sizing? Moving? Start saving items for the Flea Market. Donations may be placed on the stage in Ridgway Hall beginning Oct 1st. If you wish to sell your own 'treasures', you may rent a space for \$12 or \$15 with a table (use form below to reserve your space/table).

YOUR help (set-up, clean-up, staff church table) is needed to make this a success. Please indicate your availability on the form below. Thanks!!



Flea Market Volunteer Interest & Table/Space Reservation Form

I can help with the following:

_____ Set-up tables at 8 am

_____ Clean up at 2 pm

_____ Help sell items at church table from ____ am / pm to ___ am / pm

_____ I would like to reserve a space (\$12)

_____ I would like to reserve a table (\$15)

Name _____ Phone # _____

Please return this form to May Diehl, Carol Noble or the church office.



- 2nd Rich Miller
 4th Frank Lynch
 Kate Morgan
 5th Mamie Hoefler
 10th Lilla Frith
 15th Saye Garmie
 18th Warren Smith, Jr.
 Rachel Vaughn
 21st Harold Richardson
 22nd Maria Yangbe
 24th Trayvon Kellam
 25th Dorothy Johnston
 28th Tamay Darnar
 June Pennant



Fellowship Time

The sign-up sheet to host **Fellowship Time** is on the bulletin board in Ridgway Hall. Hosts provide the goodies (fruit, vegetable tray, cheese & crackers, baked goods, etc) and the church provides coffee, tea and paper products. Please note: If no one signs up, there is no fellowship time.

We are looking for empty, clean tall cans (pineapple or tomato juice, broth, etc) to use to transport **altar flowers** to our shut-ins. Please give the cans to Myra Rupp or leave them in the church office.



- Oct 1 Nina Bonner
 Oct 8 Elizabeth Springer
 Oct 15 James Kane
 Oct 22 Matilda Ribeiro
 Oct 29 Tanya Davenport



Every Thursday morning at 11 am, dedicated pray-ers come together to pray and sing. All are invited to join them in C-1. Come when you can. Prayer works!



Oct. 19th
5:15 pm

Once a month, friends and members of the church gather for a light supper and conversation. There is no charge. Just come, enjoy the fellowship, and grow in friendship. We'd love to see *you* there!

The Epistle

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Rev. Gregory S. Smith, Pastor

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