



Saint Paul United Methodist Church
1320 Fernwood-Glendale Road
Spartanburg, SC 29307

Non-Profit
Organization
US Postage Paid
Spartanburg, SC
Permit No. 33

e-mail churchsecretary@stpumc.org

The Epistle

www.stpumc.org web

voice (864) 582-4040
Sunday Service at 10:00 A.M.

News For The Weeks Of April 18, & 25, and
May 2, 9, & 16, 2022

(864) 583-0850 fax

Return Services Requested

He Is Risen!

Annual Easter Egg Hunt! April 16th: 10am-1pm
Easter is on it's way which means it's time for the Saint Paul UMC Easter Egg Hunt! Be sure to put this on your calendar and bring your children, your children's friends and/or your grandchildren and their easter baskets! Lunch will be provided!

Volunteers for April 17, & 24, and May 1, 8, & 15, 2022

Communion Assistants 05/01 Henry Calhoun
Ashley Cooksey

04/17 Judy Lamb, Lois Reinhardt
04/24 Lillian Hudson, Linda Hamel
Worship 05/01 Jim & Marian Hampton
Greeters 05/08 Ed & Judy Lamb
05/15 Dan & Linda Cooke

04/17 Wanda Steele
04/24 Lee Owens
Liturgists 05/01 Bob McFarland
05/08 Roland Smith
05/15 Paula Fernandez

04/17 Rick Harward, Peter Hamel
04/24 Bob McFarland, Jon Schanen
Ushers 05/01 Jay Hampton, Sam Foster
05/08 Guy Davis, Delton Vereen
05/15 Ray Parker, Phil Womble

04/17 Don Wasness
04/24 Phil Womble
Sound 05/01 Guy Davis
System 05/08 A.D. Page, Jr.
05/15 Don Wasness

04/17 Bill Duncan
04/24 Delton Vereen
Offering 05/01 Peter Hamel
Depositors 05/08 Rebecca Parrish
05/15 Guy Davis

Altar Guild - April: Connie Muzzy-Chair; Kay McBee, Caroline Greer, Susan Owens, Pat Campbell; **May:** Eileen Byers-Chair; Johnsie Page, Michele Bishop, Mary Page Yarborough, Amy Schanen, Nancy Curry

The Pastor's Pen

Marianne and I returned last night from a pandemic delayed vacation to the Caribbean. After a very trying day of delayed flights, we were so glad to be wheels down at the Greenville-Spartanburg airport. It is always good to be away and to return home.

I had the opportunity last week to spend time with people from around the world. We visited Puerto Rico and three island nations while on our cruise. I did not keep count but suspect I had significant conversations with people of two or three dozen different nationalities. I am always struck by the fact that people are people, no matter where they call home. They love their countries and families and all have stories to tell...don't we?

As we consider the news from around the world, we would all be wise to remember at the end of the day we are talking about people. All of us are, in large part, a product of our environments. We all have differing perspectives based on our individual experience. I talked with a waitress from Russia. She was quite sensitive and defensive when I asked her about what is occurring in Ukraine. The people from Ukraine with whom I spoke obviously had a different viewpoint and were quite emotional when speaking of the destruction of their country. And yet, they worked together to make my vacation enjoyable. Our dining room waiter was so proud of being from India that he got the kitchen to prepare for us an "off menu" sampling of Indian food. He was thrilled when we liked it. I could go on and on with examples of encounters with people who are just, well, people.

I remember well the words of the Apostle Paul who reminds us that in the mind of God there is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free. We are all just creatures of the Almighty, given life together on this planet hurtling through space. Our challenges are many. We must somehow figure out how to live together, or not. We must consider what is best for our planet, or not. We must bow before the throne of our Creator, or not. I believe, when all is said and done, all of us must stand before the judgment seat of God. On that day, I have a feeling that all of the things we people of the world believed were so important will pale in comparison with what the Lord deems significant. It is worth thinking about.

I hope to see each of you Sunday for Easter. Let our holy week prayer be one for peace for all people. Come Lord Jesus, Come.

See You Sunday,

Big John



Children & Youth Birthdays

| | |
|--------|--------------------------------|
| May 1 | Emilija Vandys |
| May 4 | Liam Nettles |
| May 6 | Barnes Graham |
| May 24 | Jason Lassiter, Bennett Wilson |
| May 26 | Sylvia Bridges |

Birthdays

| | |
|----------|-------------------------------|
| April 15 | Judith Querin, Delton Vereen |
| April 18 | Desiree Scales |
| April 20 | Helen Martenson, Betsy Alston |
| April 21 | David Mitchell, Bob McFarland |
| April 25 | Rick Boss |
| April 29 | Michelle Purdy |
| May 1 | Tom Abbott |
| May 2 | Claire Hardy |
| May 6 | Kent Edwards, Jane Abbott |
| May 8 | Janet Oran, Beverly Padgett |
| May 9 | Wanda Steele, Leslie Hardy |
| May 13 | Mary Goode, Shany Ezell |
| May 21 | Gordon Farley |
| May 24 | Carrie Vereen |
| May 26 | Robert Ezell |
| May 27 | Nancy Rayner |
| May 29 | Mary McFarland |
| May 30 | Mark Bush |

Upcoming Events

| | |
|---|---|
| Every Wednesday | Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary 6:30pm |
| Every Sunday | UMYF 4:30pm (unless otherwise noted) |
| Every Sunday | Pickleball in the Gym 1 to 3pm |
| 2nd Sunday of Each Month | Blood Pressure Checks ~11:15 Room 104 |
| 2nd Monday of Each Month | Elsie Greer Circle 12:00pm-2pm - Poston Hall |
| 3rd Monday of Each Month | Blanche Greer Circle 10:00am-12pm Poston Hall |
| 3rd Wednesday of Each Month | Anne Ratliff Circle 10:00am-11:30am Room 103 |
| 1st & 3rd Friday of Each Month | Threads of Agape 10:00am-12:00pm Room 109 |
| April 16 | Easter Egg Hunt 10am-1pm Poston Hall, Gym, Courtyard |
| April 17 | Easter Sunday - 10:00am Service in the Sanctuary |
| May 1 | Native American Ministries Sunday |
| May 8 | Epworth Mother's Day Offering |

Financials & Attendance

| | <u>March 20</u> | <u>March 27</u> | <u>April 3</u> | <u>April 10</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Received | \$8,691.50 | \$7,428 | \$13,924 | \$6,892 |
| Non-Contributed | \$0 | \$0 | \$88.24 | \$1,015 |
| Restricted | \$343 | \$694 | \$238 | \$590 |
| Total | \$9,034.50 | \$8,122 | \$14,250.24 | \$8,497 |
| Sunday School | 45 | 28 | 49 | 47 |
| Worship Service | 92 | 98 | 102 | 116 |

Altar & Narthex Flowers

Altar Flowers are given on April 17th for the Glory of God by our wonderful Altar Guild.

Narthex Flowers are given on April 17th for the Glory of God by Darrell and Judy Querin in honor of Judy's birthday on April 15th.

Altar Flowers are given on April 24th for the Glory of God by Don and Carol Sanders in honor of their 57th Wedding Anniversary.

Altar Flowers are given on May 1st for the Glory of God by Jane May in loving memory of her husband, Doug.

Altar Flowers are given on May 8th for the Glory of God by Don and Veneal Williams in memory of Veneal's mother, Jean Brown and Don's mother, Mary Williams.

Altar Flowers are given on May 15th for the Glory of God by Inolah Chaplin in loving memory of the birthday of her mother, Sara Savage.

Narthex Flowers are given on May 15th for the Glory of God by Darrell and Judy Querin in honor of their 59th Anniversary.

Epworth Is Our Ministry! Did you know that in the last year Epworth Children's Home served over 1,000 children and families? Each of these children had this opportunity because of United Methodist churches in South Carolina who embrace and provide for this ministry in support of the children and families in our state. We will participate in the annual Mother's Day Offering on Sunday, **May 8th**, to benefit the children who call Epworth home, as well as each child and family touched by Epworth's ministries. Please be in prayerful consideration of what God is calling you to give to this valuable and life changing ministry. For more information about Epworth Children's Home, visit them online at www.epworthchildrenshome.org.

Our Maundy Thursday Service is April 14 at 7:00pm. We hope to see you there.

Annual Easter Egg Hunt! April 16th: 10am-1pm
Our Annual Saint Paul UMC Easter Egg Hunt is this coming Saturday! Be sure to bring your children, their friends, your grandchildren, along with their Easter baskets! Lunch will be provided! We hope to see you there!

Easter Sunrise Service: There will be **NO** 7:00am Easter Sunrise Service this year. We hope you'll join us for our 10:00am Easter celebration!

Easter Sunday Is Almost Here! As is custom, please bring cut flowers from your yard, if you'd like, to put on the Easter Cross on Easter Sunday morning! Thank you!

The Blanche Greer Circle will meet in the home of Lillian Hudson, 512 Overland Drive, on Monday, April 18th at 10 AM. The program will be presented by David Owen, a retired Methodist minister, on his "Dime Ministry." Following a short business meeting, lunch will be served. Please call Linda to RSVP, 579-4032 or 415-0431.

The Anne Ratliff Circle will meet at 10AM on Wed., April 20, in Room 103 at the church. We will continue our study on "The Really Bad Girls of the Bible" with Bathsheba. Please read 2 Samuel 11:1-27 and 2 Samuel 12:1-25 before the meeting. Everyone is invited to attend.

Native American Ministries Sunday - May 1st: The Native American Ministries Sunday offering supports Native American outreach within annual conferences, provides seminary scholarships for Native Americans, and strengthens, develops and equips Native American rural, urban and reservation congregations, ministries and communities. Please give generously May 1st.

Pickleball: Several members of our church have begun learning and playing Pickleball! If you would like to join in, please come to the Gym between 1pm and 3pm on any Sunday! We have two courts set up. Don't worry about your skill level. We have all levels but mostly beginners! We're just having a good time!

Blood Pressure Checks: 2nd Sunday Of Each Month - Saint Paul UMC is, once again, offering free blood pressure checks in Room 104 on the 2nd Sunday of each month, following the Sunday service. What a great way to make sure our members are staying healthy!