



SAINT PAUL

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

A safe place to be authentic and to experience acceptance,
healing, and a loving relationship with Jesus Christ.



September 27, 2026

Pastor: Rev. Brian Humphries
Director of Music: William H. Searcy, Jr.
Church Administrator: Melissa Campbell
Sexton: Gary Putnam

Please silence your mobile device. Thank you.

*Please stand as you are able.

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Chiming of the Trinity

Prelude

"Arioso"

Bach

*ProceSSIONAL Hymn "God of Grace and God of Glory"

Hymnal no. 577

Lighting of the Candles

*Call to Worship

Leader: Come, people of God!

People: The Lord has brought us this far.

Leader: Come with your questions and your hopes.

People: We come trusting the God who goes before us.

Leader: Come and remember God's faithfulness.

People: God has never ceased to be with us.

Leader: Come, then, and worship the Lord.

People: We are here to praise our God.

*Opening Prayer

Leader: Let us pray

All: Faithful God, you have led your people through wilderness and storm, and you have never left us. Gather us now in your presence. Renew our courage, strengthen our faith, and make us ready to follow where you lead. Give us grace for this day and wisdom for the road ahead. In the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

Leader: Let us pass God's peace with each other. The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

Anthem

"Lord, Tune Our Hearts"
Chancel Choir

Martin

Offertory

You can give online by using the QR codes below or by dropping your offering in the plate.



Realm



*The Doxology

Hymnal No. 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below; praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Word and Response

*Prayer for Illumination

Holy God, open your Word to us and open us to your Word. Give us ears to hear, minds to understand, and hearts ready to respond. Show us your way and give us courage to follow it. Amen.

* Gospel Lesson

Matthew 21:23-32

NRSV (pg.22 NT)

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

*Affirmation of Faith

"The Apostles' Creed"

UM Hymnal #881

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Hymnal no.70

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Children's Sermon

Children will come forward.

Following the children's sermon, we invite our K3 to 2nd grade children to follow the designated adult upstairs for a lesson and craft. Please follow the instructions on the name tag found in the back of your pew. At the end of the Prayers of the People, the adult leaders will bring them back to the sanctuary and ensure they return to their parent/guardian.

Old Testament Lesson

Exodus 17:1-7

NRSV (pg.61 OT)

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"The Next Right Thing"

Rev. Brian Humphries

Prayers of the People

Leader: The Lord be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Response: Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Sending

*Closing Hymn

"Here I Am, Lord"

Hymnal no.593

*Benediction

Choral response

Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart; Let the peace of Christ rule in your heart, and whatever you do, in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord. Giving thanks, giving thanks to God, thro' Christ, the Lord; Giving thanks, giving thanks to God, thro' Christ the Lord.

Postlude

"Chorale"

Beethoven

Today's Servers:

Reader: William Hall

Crucifer: Elliott Hall

Acolyte: William Hall

Children's Worship: Lauren Searcy

Stay connected:

864-235-3494 - saintpaulumc1107@gmail.com
Live-streaming Worship Service at 11:00am at
www.facebook.com/saintpaulumcsc/
Saintpaulgreenville.org
Vimeo.com/saintpaulumc
Podcast: podomatic.com/podcasts/saintpaulumc1107

Our Tithes, Offerings, and Gifts

Giving for 09/20/2025	Amount
General Fund	\$1054.22
Other funds	\$19.40
Total Giving	\$1,073.62
General Fund Giving Goal per month	\$21,974.40
General Fund Giving Goal per week	\$5,493.60
General Fund Received this month to date	\$7,554.54

577 God of Grace and God of Glory

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3. Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to
 4. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour thy power; crown thine an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
 sail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us;
 thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 we de - plore; let the search for thy sal - va - tion

bring her bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom,
 free our hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom,

grant us cour - age, for the fac - ing of this
 grant us cour - age, for the liv - ing of these
 grant us cour - age, lest we miss thy king - dom's
 grant us cour - age, serv - ing thee whom we a -

hour, (of this hour) for the fac - ing of this hour.
 days, (of these days) for the liv - ing of these days.
 goal, (king - dom's goal) lest we miss thy king - dom's goal.
 dore, (we a - dore) serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

WORDS: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930

MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

Words by permission of Elinor Fosdick Downs

CYM RHONDDA

87.87.87

Here I Am, Lord

Unison

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I who made the stars of night,
I have heard my people cry.
I will make their darkness bright.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I will break their hearts of stone,
I have borne my people's pain.
give them hearts for love alone.

3. I, the Lord of wind and flame,
Finest bread I will provide
I will tend the poor and lame,
till their hearts be satisfied.

1.
All who dwell in dark and sin
Who will bear my light to them?
my hand will save.

I have wept for love of them.
I will speak my word to them.
They turn away.

I will set a feast for them.
I will give my life to them.
My hand will save.

2.
Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord.

Refrain (Harmony)

Is it I, Lord? I have heard you call-ing in the

night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your peo - ple in my heart.

WORDS: Dan Schutte, 1981 (Isa. 6:8)

MUSIC: Dan Schutte, 1981; adapt. by Carlton R. Young, 1988

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HERE I AM, LORD

77.74 D with Refrain

CALENDAR

Sun, 9/27	Chancel Choir rehearsal	9:00am
	Children's Choir rehearsal	10:00am
	Sunday School	10:00am
	Worship	11:00am
	Youth Group	5:30pm
Mon, 9/28	Church Council meeting: Zoom	8:00pm
Tues, 9/29	Women's Community: 17 Claremore Ave	7:00pm
Wed, 9/20	Youth Pizza Night: Todaro's Pizza	6-8:00pm

Upcoming events:

Sun, 10/4	Chancel Choir rehearsal	9:00am
	Children's Choir rehearsal	10:00am
	Sunday School	10:00am
	Worship	11:00am
	Blessing of the Animals	TBD
	Youth Group	5:30pm
Sat, 10/10	N4 Youth Training: Saint Paul	9:00 – 4:00pm

FROM PASTOR BRIAN

You can always reach me by phone at (864)542-3668 or by email at brianhumphries@gmail.com. I am on social media, but as your pastor I will not reach out to you; however, if you request to follow or friend, I will be happy to do so.

Office Hours: We are open from 8:30am until 11:00am Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday, and 8:30am to 3:00pm on Thursday.

SAINT PAUL CARES

Happy Birthday: Richard Ball, 9/29; DJ Boone, 9/30, Jason Feaster, Teresa Ferrell, 10/4

Happy Anniversary:

In your prayers, please remember:

Roger Barrett, Annette Bostic, Linda Bruce, Jere Byington, Ray Byington, Van Clinkscapes, Geno Cope, Darrie Crabtree, Patsy Crabtree, Kayla Davis, Natalie Davis, **Teresa Ferrell**, Vickie Turner Galvin, Carol Head, Tommy Head, Becky Hollifield, Sue Howard, Dot Huff, Missy Huff, Stacy & Jeff Israel, Lee Jenkinson, Carol Johnson, Brent Kanipe, Bob Littlejohn, Chuck McLesky, Betty McWhite,

Alan Myers, Kelly Turner Murphy, Faye Mulligan, Ed Pool, Lauren Roberts, Ronnie Roberts, Diane Robertson, Beth Rogers, Joyce Searcy, Lauren Searcy, Deirdra Simmons, Nancy Smith, Suzanne Sprinkle, Barry & Karen Thomas, Lily Thompson, Amy Watson, friends serving in the Armed Services, first responders, and the leaders of the United States of America. (Bold = New, Italics = Currently in hospital or rehabilitation)

UPCOMING MEETINGS



S/PPRC: Will be meeting on 10/12 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Janet Cook, Tommy Head, Lori Cheshire, Cole Pate, Eugenia Vicars, and Pastor Brian. This is a closed meeting.



Trustees: Will be meeting on 10/13 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Marcus Stephens, Elliott Hall, Stephanie Gamble, Chris Cox, Tracey Biggers, John Smith, and David Pool. All are welcome!



Finance Committee: Will be meeting on 10/19 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Stephen Newman, David Knobloch, Eugenia Vicars, Heather Storey, John Smith, and Pastor Brian. All are welcome!



Church Council: Will be meeting on 9/28 at 8pm via Zoom. Members are Jeannine Cox, Christine Hall, Camille Pool, Eugenia Vicars, David Knobloch, Stephen Newman, Carol Head, Bill Searcy, MaryAnn Stephens, Edna Patterson, Steve Watson, Mary Anne Terminato, John Smith, and Pastor Brian. All are welcome!



Children's Cohort: Will be meeting on 10/17 at 9am.



Chancel Choir: The Chancel Choir rehearsals are on Sunday mornings at 9am in the choir room. Please come join us and raise your voice in song!



Children's Choir: Rehearsals are on Sundays at 10am. Please support your children and children's choir through rehearsals.



Golden Girls Bible Study Lunch: All ladies are invited to join the Golden Girls small group. We meet one Thursday per month at 12pm in the parlor at Saint Paul. Our current study is "The Names of God". Please bring your lunch and a drink and join us for fellowship and study. For more information, please talk to Eugenia Vicars. She will have the new study books at church on Sunday.



Beacon of Light Class: The Beacon of Light Class invites anyone interested in Sunday School to join us at 10am on Sunday mornings. The class meets in the parlor (across the hall from the office). We are currently studying "Words of Life" by Adam Hamilton. Books are available in the parlor.



Youth Group: Our Youth Group meets every Sunday night at 5:30 or dinner and then their program. See Steve Watson or Pastor Brian for more information.



Charge Conference: Our Charge Conference will be on October 26th. More details to come.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS



WOMEN'S COMMUNITY: We will gather for an evening of laughter, fellowship, and spiritual growth on 9/29 at 7pm at the home of Rebecca Roper, 17 Claremore Ave in Greenville. All ladies are welcome.



T-Shirt & Sweatshirt Order Time! Please use the form online or in in the narthex to order your Saint Paul t-shirt, sweatshirt, or hoodie! Orders and payments will be due by 10/04.



Project Host Mission: We will host our Service Sunday on 10/11 at Project Host. During this Service Sunday, we will give hats and gloves to those coming to Project Host to eat. If you would like to donate money toward these items, please do so using the QR codes in your bulletin or weekly email or drop a donation in the offering plate. Please be sure to mark the donation for "Missions". Thank you for supporting those most in need in our community. Sign up to serve on Mission Sunday at <https://forms.gle/atvZtcSA1TC3msG98>



SCHOOL FOOD BAG PACKING FOR SULLIVAN: We are resuming our rotation for packing food bags for Sullivan. Please see your weekly email for the packing schedule. **We are needing to restock our pantry. Please see the list in the bulletin for our needs.**

Welcome Committee



We are looking to form a **WELCOME COMMITTEE** at Saint Paul. We need two people each week to help our parishioners and newcomers by greeting people, giving newcomers a welcome bag, showing people where to find the bulletins for adults and children, setting up and cleaning up the coffee and tea bars, and getting a visitor card completed by newcomers.

This could be on a monthly or weekly rotation based on the number of people willing to volunteer to help. If you are interested or want more information, please contact the office or Pastor Brian.



LANDSCAPING VOLUNTEERS WANTED: If you are a youth needing service hours or someone that enjoys landscaping work, we are looking for volunteers to help keep Saint Paul looking neat and tidy. Please see Pastor Brian or John Smith if you are interested.

SALT Class will be packing bags for our School Mission this Sunday during the Sunday School hour.

THE BRIDGE

St. Paul UMC Youth happenings this week

SUNDAY 5:30

Youth Group! Come get your belly's filled and your Spirit filled. We're all in this together

WEDNESDAY NIGHT

Mid-week blues? Come from 6-8 pm for a Todaro Pizza/ Workevening break. Join us as we continue to transform our Youth Space!

SUNDAY OCT. 4TH

Blessing the Animals. Come join us and get your "little blessing" blessed. Saint Paul will be teaming up with Saint Andrew for this Furtastic Event

JOIN US THIS WEEK AS WE GROW
TOGETHER



**READY FOR A SPOOKTACULAR SERVICE OPPORTUNITY?
SAINT PAUL IS TEAMING UP WITH THE CITY OF GREENVILLE!**

Join us as we partner with **Trick or Treat on Main** for our **Annual Fall Festival!**
We're opening our doors, having some fun, and creating a welcoming experience
for our neighbors and community.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

We need volunteers to help make this event a success!



6-8 Trunk-or-Treat Style Tables

Ministry teams are encouraged to decorate and host a table. A little **friendly competition** is encouraged!



Hot Dog Stand Volunteers



Popcorn Stand Volunteers



Cotton Candy Volunteers



Games Volunteers



Bounce House Volunteers

Whether you decorate a table, serve food, run a game, or simply help wherever needed, **there's a place for you!**

Let's have a blast together while **welcoming our neighbors, building community, and showing God's love in a fun and meaningful way.**



**READY FOR A SPOOKY TIME?
Contact Steve Watson**



[\(864\) 765-5566](tel:(864)765-5566)



stpaulumcyouth@gmail.com

Come be part of the fun and help Saint Paul welcome our community!





Food Items for Weekend Food Bags for Sullivan Center

Entrees

Microwaveable mac & cheese
Vienna sausages
Beanee Weanees
Microwaveable Chef Boyardee cups any variety
Ramen Noodles

Breakfast

Pop tarts
Oatmeal individual packets
Individual cereal boxes
Nutri-grain bars
Grits individual packets

Snacks

Applesauce cups
Cheez-it individual packets
Fruit cups
Teddy Grahams individual packets
Rice Krispie treats
Pudding cups
Goldfish individual packets
Granola bars
Fruit Snacks

Reusable grocery bags to help with delivery of food bags.