





Welcome from Pastor Bob

Whether you're a first time visitor or a long time part of our St. Paul family, I'm glad you've joined us during the season of Advent. Our Advent series this year uses "The Songs of Christmas" to explore God's answered promises and renew our hope and joy in the miracle of Jesus.

I hope you're planning to join us on Christmas Eve to celebrate the birth of our Lord. Our praise band will lead our 4 p.m. worship and our choir will lead worship at 6 p.m. Invite a friend to join you on this special night! If you have facebook you can share our Christmas Eve event and let your friends know you're attending worship. We also have cards available with our worship times on them that you can grab on your way out today.

Access our daily Advent devotional on our free St. Paul app, or mark the Connect Card on page 4 to receive a daily email with a song, a scripture and thought to help you Grow in Faith during this season of miracles.

You can find more information about all our upcoming events in this bulletin, on our website - stpaulumc.org, on our Facebook or download our free app. I'm so glad you're part of St. Paul and the work we're doing for the Lord!

Bob Martin, Lead Pastor

Glorify God • Grow in Faith • Give in Love



WORSHIP at 9 AM

Prelude He Is Lord Kathy Tuminello, Accompanist Lighting the Advent Candle: Joy Special Music Away in a Manger Bells of St. Paul Silent Night, Holy Night Pastor Pam Dubov Welcome *Greet Oh How He Loves You and Me Dr. Robert Williams, Worship Leader *Hymns It Came Upon the Midnight Clear No. 218 No. 219 What Child Is This *Apostles' Creed No. 881 Prayer with Lord's Prayer No. 895 Christmas Day in the Morning Offertory Sanctuary Choir *Doxology Praise God From Whom... No. 94 Prayer of Thanksgiving Hymn Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates No. 213 "Away in a Manger" Message

Directed Prayer

*Hymn Good Christian Friends Rejoice No. 224

Pastor Bob Martin Luke 2:10-11

*Benediction

*Postlude The First Noel

*Please stand, if you are able.

If you need assistance, let an usher know.

Baby changing tables are located in both men and women's restrooms.

9 AM Greeters: Ron and Judy Willey 10:30 AM Greeters: Student Ministry

VISITING US TODAY?

If you're visiting us today, welcome! We hope you find St. Paul a comfortable place to worship and that you feel God's love. To find out more about us we invite you to:



VISIT OUR CONNECTION CENTER If you have questions or would like to talk to someone about St. Paul and what we offer, visit the Connection Center to the side of the lobby. One of our pastors will be there after each service and would be happy to speak with you!



VISIT OUR WEBSITE www.stpaulumc.org



DOWNLOAD OUR St. PAUL APP It's free for apple or android



JOIN OUR MAILING LIST SIGN UP ON THE CONNECT CARD



FOLLOW OUR FACEBOOK StPaulUMCLargo

OR INSTAGRAM
StPaulUMCLargoFL

SERMON NOTES				
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10:30 AM WORSHIP

A typical 10:30 a.m. worship at St. Paul lasts about an hour. Worship is filled with current Christian music from our praise band. You are invited to sing along with the words on the screens or worship as the spirit leads you. You'll notice there is a time in our worship to give financially. This is how we support the ministries and missions of our church. If you're visiting us today there is no pressure for you to contribute. We hope you experience the love of God here today!







ABOUT

PASSIONATE MUSIC

NO PRESSURE

Online Giving

It's easy to give online, make payments or set up one time or recurring contributions. Visit stpaulumc.org and click the Give link at the top of the page, download our free St. Paul app for your phone or tablet or use this QR code.



Flowers

Today's flowers were given by:

★ Kay McAndrew in honor of my daughter, Mackenzie's 27th birthday!

If you would like to honor an event or a special person with flowers, you can give a flower bouquet to the Glory of God. Call the church office at 584-8165 or e-mail us at church@stpaulumc.org to make an order and share your inscription. Bouquets are \$40.

Flowers Change

Starting at the beginning of the year, if you order flowers you will be able to pick them up after the first worship instead of waiting until after the second worship. Flower Ministry volunteers will also be able to prepare the flowers to take home or to the hospital after the first service. If you would like to serve with the Flower Ministry and deliver flowers to people who are in the hospital, rehab, or home bound, mark the Connect Card to let us know.

St. Paul United Methodist Church CONNECT CARD

Use this card to record your attendance and share your prayer requests, needs and interests. Tear off and return it in the offering plate, the basket in the lobby, or the Connection Center. You do not need to fill out the entire card, only the parts that apply to you!

Date:	December 15, 2019 9 AM 10:30 AM
Name:	
	First Name, Middle Initial, Last Name
E-mail:	
Phone:	— Home — □Cell
Address	S:
☐ Ple	ase update my information.
lama	1:
☐ R	st Time Guest 2nd Time Guest egular Attendee Member(s) inter Resident: Here from to
	e today because:
	rove by ☐ I visited the website
	e been here before I received a mailing
_	vas invited by
	her:
	to join your e-mail list:
	eekly Pastor's E-Note Student
	eekly St. Paul Newsletter
Цυ	Other:
Be sure	to put your e-mail address at the top of the card!
пlа	m interested in:
☐ Re	dedicating my life to Jesus
ш	ing baptized
ш	coming a member
	l a name tag for:
(Name ta	gs can be picked up in the Connection Center to the side of

Don't forget to fill out the other side!

the lobby two weeks after your request is placed.)

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How can we pray for you?
For Military Prayer List
☐ Do NOT publish in bulletin.
☐ Do NOT include on prayer chain.
$\hfill \square$ I would like to connect with a Stephen Minister.
I would like to help with:
☐ Livestream ☐ 9 AM ☐ 10:30 AM
☐ Usher ☐ 9 AM ☐ 10:30 AM
☐ Jumpstart ☐ Supervisor ☐ Tutor I can serve ☐ Every Tues- ☐ day Bimonthl ☐ Once a Month ☐ Other
☐ Communion Preparation ☐ I'm interested in being a Stephen Minister ☐ Loving Hearts Memorial Food Ministry ☐ Flower Ministry
☐ Christmas FOR Pinellas—Dec. 20: 8-11 AM
Christmas Eve Worship Usher □ 4 PM □ 6 PM Greeter □ 4 PM □ 6 PM □ Parking Attendant

Remember to fill out the other side with your name and contact info!

Don't forget to fill out the other side!



WHAT IS "FOR PINELLAS"?

Too many times people only know what churches are against. We want the conversation to be about what St. Paul is FOR. We are FOR our neighbors, our community, families, elders, first responders, local businesses, those in need... We are FOR kindness, generosity, and positive change. We are FOR sharing God's love with our community. We are FOR Pinellas.

Being FOR Pinellas means reaching out to our community and showing them what God's love is all about. It also means lifting up the people in our community who are making Pinellas a great place to be!

#FORPINELLAS

If you have a social media account, share the positive things you see in our community, or positive things you're doing, with the hashtag #FORpinellas.

TAKE PART IN ST. PAUL MINISTRIES THAT IMPACT OUR COMMUNITY

Take part in our Jumpstart tutoring program, Packa-Sack, Handicapable, Open Arms, our FOR Our Neighbors project or one of the many other ways that St. Paul reaches out to the community.

WEAR THE SHIRT

Wear your FOR Pinellas shirt in the community and if anyone asks you what it means, tell them that St. Paul is FOR our community, and FOR them! If you don't have your FOR Pinellas shirt yet, you can get one for \$5 in the Connection Center today.

FOR PINELLAS CARDS

Carry FOR Pinellas cards with you and share them with people in the community who are doing something great or with people with whom you are sharing a random act of kindness.

GROW IN FAITH

Adult Studies

Adult Sunday Morning Classes

Adults of any age are invited to join one of our Sunday school classes:

9:15 a.m. Sunday school class

Homeward Bound - Room 207 - CLEC

10:15 a.m. Sunday school classes

Inspirations - Purple Door Classroom (101) in Bldg C

Bereans - Conference Room 2 in Bldg B

10:30 a.m. Sunday school classes

Friendship—Room 201 (Community Room) - CLEC



TNT

(Twenties 'N' Thirties)
Adults in their twenties and thirties are invited to join TNT tonight at 7 p.m.

in room 202 of the Christian Life Enrichment Center for a standalone study. Follow the TNT Facebook for updates about upcoming studies and events:



Church Calendar Events

If your ministry or group has any events or meetings in 2020, we need you to fill out a facilities request form so we can schedule your events on the calendar. You can pick up a form in the Connection Center, at the church office, download one from our website or fill out the form online. Events will not roll over automatically from 2019 to be placed on the calendar for 2020.

ALL ministries and groups need to fill out a new facilities request form for ALL events, including weekly meetings, one-time events, recurring events, etc. Events that are not scheduled on the calendar may not be able to take place on your first choice date or in your first choice location, so contact us ASAP. You can reach us at 727-584-8165 or send an email to Ka'ren Naja at the church office: karen.n@stpaulumc.org. Thank you for helping us ensure that your meetings and events are correctly scheduled!



ADVENT: A SEASON OF PREPARATION

During each Sunday of the Advent season, we focus on one of the four virtues Jesus brings us as we light the four candles of Advent. At St. Paul we use three blue candles, and one pink candle to represent joy, along with one white candle as the Christ candle. The lighting of the first candle symbolizes hope and expectation, while the second symbolizes peace, the third joy and the fourth love. The white Christ candle is lit on Christmas Eve reminding Christians that Jesus is the light of the world.

THIS WEEK WE FOCUS ON

TOO OFTEN, WE THINK JOY COMES FROM SOMETHING BIG. JUST AS EASILY AND FAR MORE OFTEN, WE FEEL JOY IN A HUG OR THE SQUEEZE OF HAND, WE CAN SEE JOY IN A SMILE OR HEAR IT IN LAUGHTER. HELP US TO NOT OVERLOOK THE SIMPLE JOYS THAT PEAK INTO OUR LIVES DAILY. THIS WEEK IN OUR ADVENT JOURNEY, OPEN OUR EYES TO THE JOY THAT SURROUNDS US.

Light Seekers

Light Seekers

Tuesdays | 10:30 a.m. | LuAnne Willey Fellowship Hall Light Seekers is a gathering of those who seek to know Christ in a personal way. Our current Advent study is "A Different Kind of Christmas" by Mike Slaughter. This Tuesday, December 17 is our last meeting of the year. We will resume on Tuesday, January 7.



Christmas Eve

Join us on Tuesday, December 24 for either of our candlelight Christmas Eve services.

- At 4 p.m. our worship will be led by our Praise Band. Come fifteen minutes early to take part in a few family fun activities. Bring the kids!
- At 6 p.m. our worship will be led by our choir and include some of our favorite Christmas hymns.

Come and celebrate the birth of our Lord with Christmas music, an uplifting message, and candle-lighting at both worship times.



Invite a Friend to Join You Christmas Eve Christmas Eve is a wonderful time to invite friends or family to join you in church. This special night brings many who have fallen

away from the church back to the cross, and many who are seeking God find him in the manger.

If you have Facebook you can share our Christmas Eve event and let your friends know you'll be attending. You can also take an invite card or two on your way out. Share one with someone you know, and maybe this will be the invitation they need to begin a relationship with Christ!



Churchwide Christmas Devotional

During the season of Advent we're providing a daily email devotional based around the hymns and songs of the Christmas season. Each day's devotion includes a song, a scripture, and a thought to help us keep our focus on God and the miracle of Jesus during this busy time of year. Sign up to receive the email on the Connect Card or use the link on our website. The devotional will also be available each day on our St. Paul app. If you don't have access to email, we will provide a weekly paper copy in the Connection Center each Sunday.



Get a Candy Cane From Loving Hearts Ministry Get a candy cane on your way out from members of our Loving Hearts Memorial Food Ministry. See page 8 for more about Loving Hearts and sign up on the Connect Card if you'd like to be part of this caring ministry.

How does a candy cane relate to our Lord Jesus? The white of the candy cane symbolizes the virgin birth of Jesus and his sinless life. The hard candy cane represents the solid rock, the foundation of the church and the firmness of the promises of God. The "J" shape of the candy cane represents the name of Jesus and the red stripes remind us of the suffering Christ on the cross and His sacrifice for each of us.

Elevator Out of Service

The CLEC elevator is out of service and cannot be repaired before the end of the year. If you need to reschedule your meetings or reservations to be on the first floor, notify Ka'ren Naja at the office 584-8165 or karen.n@strpaulumc.org



Director of Children's Ministry, Kaitie.j@stpaulumc.org

Sunday Morning: Lil' Kidz Care

Lil' Kidz Nursery Care is available today for infants to 4-year-olds, at 8:45 a.m. in the nursery building (Bldg B) next to the sanctuary. Sign in and you will be given a card that you will need to pick-up your child.

Sunday Morning: Preschool & K-5

Preschool and K-5 kds are invited to attend their own worship and lessons in the Children's Ministry Center in Bidg C at both 9 and 10:30 a.m.



Our Current Study: Unboxed

This month we're learning about JOY, finding a way to be happy even when things don't go your way. "Always be joyful because you belong to the Lord. I will say it again. Be joyful!" - Philippians 4:4, NIrV



Xperience Sunday

On the first Sunday of each month from January through April, we invite fifth, eighth and twelfth graders to experience worship at the next age level. Fifth graders are invited to join Student Ministry for dinner, worship, games and small groups. Eighth graders have the chance to do activities with the high schoolers. High school seniors can visit our TNT group for 18-30s after Student Worship.



Student Ministry

6th-12th Grade Alison Van Duyne, Student Ministry Director, alison.v@stpaulumc.org



For many students, Christmas is all about one thing: presents! The truth is, it's easy for all of us to lose sight of what the holiday is really about. That's why, in this Christmas series, we want to help students shift their focus to what's most important: the gift of Jesus and how generous God is toward us. Because of that, we can be generous toward others, too.



THIS SUNDAY: Show you care by showing up.

Middle and high school students are invited to join us for dinner in the Mariposa Café (CLEC) at 5:30 p.m. followed by group games, exciting crowd breakers, passionate worship, biblical teaching, and a chance to connect with others through Small Groups. Dinner is \$3 and you can sign up online. Time together ends at 8 p.m.



NEXT SUNDAY: Christmas Party

Our Student Ministry Christmas party is December 22 in the courtyard from 5:30-8 p.m. We'll have a potluck dinner. Students can sign up online to bring sides, desserts or drinks. We'll provide the main course. Bring a gift for the exchange gift valued at \$5 or less.

No Student Ministry on December 29 due to the holidays. We'll return on Sunday, January 5 when 6th graders are invited to join us for Xperience Sunday.

GIVE IN LOVE



Christmas FOR Pinellas

Help our Open Arms Resource Center provide toys for 375 children this Christmas.

- Buy a gift for the gender and age marked on the tag you choose. Drop your unwrapped gift off in the bin in the sanctuary lobby TODAY or at the church office by this Wednesday, December 18.
- Leave all presents unwrapped so parents can "shop" for their children's toys in our Christian Life Enrichment Center. Please bring a roll of wrapping paper or a gift bag with your donation. Parents will use these to wrap their gifts after they choose them.
- Gift cards are also a great way to take part, especially if you aren't sure what kind of gift to buy.

This is a wonderful way to share the joy of Christmas with children in need, and we hope you will help us again this year.

Help Distribute Toys this Friday

We will be giving away the toys on December 20. Volunteers are asked to arrive at 8 AM at the Christian Life Enrichment Center, and help give away toys from 9-11 AM. If you would like to help, mark the Connect Card or sign up on our website or app.

Advent Helpers Needed

We expect to welcome many visitors during the season of Advent, especially on Christmas Eve, when we will worship at 4 and 6 p.m. If you would like to help with worship and make our visitors feel welcome by greeting or ushering mark the Connect Card on page 4 and let us know which worship time(s) you can help! Greeters and Ushers: 4 p.m. (be at church by 3:15 p.m.) 6 p.m. (be at the church by 5:15 p.m.) Parking Team. Five people needed to help direct parking before the 4 pm. and between 4 and 6 p.m. worships. Mark the Connect Card if there is one or more worship time when you can help!

Flower Team

Each week a member of the Flower Team takes the sanctuary flowers and divides them out into vases, then delivers them to members who are in the hospital or rehab. If you are interested in being part of this ministry, and bringing joy to people in the hospital, fill out the Connect Card on page 4 and let us know.

Loving Hearts Memorial Food Ministry

When families are suffering with grief over the loss of a loved one, there is a need for the church family to rally around them and show their love and support. Loving Hearts Memorial Food Ministry does this by providing food for memorial receptions at no cost to the family. If you are interested in volunteering to help provide food please fill out the Connect Card or contact the church office at 584-8165.



Cookies FOR Our Teachers

We're making cookies for the staff and teachers at four of our partner schools as a token of thanks this Christmas, and we need some help! Join us in the CLEC kitchen TOMORROW, Dec. 16 from 10 AM

Noon if you can help bake cookies. We'll provide the cookie dough and help with using the oven. We also need people to deliver the cookies on Wednesday or Thursday. If you can take platters to one of the schools (Largo Middle, Largo High, PPA and Oak Grove) any time during school hours send us an email and let us know: church@stpaulumc.org

Coming this Week

Sunday, December 15				
Courtyard Coffee	8:30 AM			
Lil' Kidz Nursery	8:30 AM			
Worship	9:00 AM			
Children's Worship	9:00 AM			
Homeward Bound	9:15 AM			
Bereans	10:15 AM			
Inspirations	10:15 AM			
Friendship	10:30 AM			
Worship	10:30 AM			
Children's Worship	10:30 AM			
Homeless Meal	3:30 PM			
Student Ministry	5:30 PM			
TNT	7:00 PM			

Monday, December 16
Finance Meeting 6:45 PM
Boy Scouts 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 17
Sonrise Men's Study 7:00 AM
Toy Making—Druid 9:00 AM
Light Seekers 10:30 AM
Jumpstart 4:00 PM
Jumpstart Christmas Party 6:00 PM
Trustees Meeting 6:30 PM

Wednesday, December 18
Toy Making—Druid 9:00 AM
Handicapable Worship 6:15 PM
Open Adult Volleyball 7:45 PM

Thursday, December 19 Christmas FOR Pinellas Set Up

9:00 AM
Toy Making—Druid 9:00 AM
Prayer Shawl 4:30 PM
Handbell Rehearsal 5:45 PM
Choir Rehearsal 7:00 PM

Friday, December 20
Church Office Closed
Christmas FOR Pinellas 9:00 AM

Soaring Eagles 8:00 AM

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All groups need to submit a facilities request form for all events, including meetings, one time and recurring events. Contact us at 584-8165 or karen.h@stpaulumc.org

Making a Prayer Request

Write your prayer request on the Connect Card and drop it in in the offering plate or make a prayer request on our app. You can also call our prayer line at any time: 559-PRAY (7729).

Hear Our Prayer

	,				
Please pray for these people with immediate prayer needs:					
Alison Dennis	Geo & Mia Jenkins, Mar-	Pat Howell			
Amy Johnson	cus & Jordon	Pat Jones			
Anne Davis	George & family	Peace			
Aubri & Jessi	Glenda Neville	Peter H.			
Barb, Jody, Tony	Greg, Tony	Praise God			
Barbara Martin	Hartel family	Rev. Hays McKay			
Becky Wood	Herbert Jacobs	Rick			
Beverly King	Holiday travelers	Rita Pennington			
Blaze White	Jane Huter	RLT			
Bonnie Cummings	Janet Johnson	Rodger			
Brad Jones	Jason	Ron & Wanda Barker			
Brandi, Kami, Karaline	Jayme	Ron, Shirley, Samantha,			
Bruce Madden	Jean Tracy	Michael, Kyle			
Caitlynn Timberlake	Jeff Keyes	Rosemary Potter			
Cameron Cunningham	Jenny & Kevin & Babies	Rowan & family			
Carl J., Evelyn B., John	Jerry	Roy Neville			
B., DP, Amber B., Barba-	Jim & Mary	Ruth Aaron			
ra B., AB	Jim Marceau	Saylor Family			
Carol Quinton Naja	Joan Hermann	Scott Lake			
Caroline Fields	John C.	Sharon, Stephanie, Na-			
Caroline Purrington	Jordan Santiano	talie			
Carolyn Goodwin	Joseph Evanson	Shirley Register			
Cathy, Del, Amy, Christy,	Josh DeLoach	Skip & Joan Buchwald			
Chris	Josie & family	Son & family			
Children, Women, Youth	June Davis	Stephen Brower			
Chris Mitchell	Karen & Jordan Goodin	Steve Robinson			
Cliff Armbruster	Karen Kwan	Tammy Barker			
Curtis	Kat F.	Tiffany Tarkey			
Dale, Cindy, Sherry	Kathy Herrell Hannas	Tina & Sherry			
Dan Dan	Katry Vine & Karissa	Tom & family			
Dave & Do, John & Nan-	McCabe	Toni			
cy, Barb & Bob, Teresa	Kenny Packard	Toni Allen			
& Bill	Kevin	Tonya			
David Malone	Kim Mobley	Trevor & Lsai Birt			
Debbie Dubov	Kim Morris	Veronica Mendez			
Dennis Lord	Kim Smith	Walker-Huff family			
Donald Piro	Kylea Johns	Walter & Melanie			
Donna Simonetti family	Larry Lashbrook	Wanda Barker's Chil-			
Doug	Lashai Jones	dren			
Eunie McElwaine	Libby Burke	Welch family			
	LillyAnn	Yvette Gonzalez Carter			
Everyone Faith & Kyle					
Faith & Kyle	Linda, Michelle, Jackson	Yvonne, Alyssa, Jamie,			
Family Harmony	Lois Pierce	Elsie, Barb, Montie, Kitty			

Lynn, Jim, Jimmy, Me-

Meg, Jake, Dom & Char

Mariah Jenkins

Michael, Lucy

Mike & family

Our Country Pastor Pam

Nikki

Fred J. Wilder family and ghann, Chris

Fisher Johnson

Fred, Neighbors, Lainy,

Gary, Penny, Sharon,

friends

Peggy

Gail Terbush

Gail



GOOD NEWS



Parents Night Out

Our Children's Ministry Center and courtyard were filled with about 135 children on Friday, December 6 for Parents Night Out. Kids brought pasta for Open Arms to learn about sharing with others, and did a service project among all their other fun activities. Thank you so much to all the volunteers, especially all the students, who helped make this a great night for our kids (and a great night off for their parents!)













Visit our Facebook for more pics of Parents Night Out and Candlelight Christmas: StPaulUMCLargo

Candlelight Christmas Friday, December 6, a festive LuAnne Willey Fellowship Hall filled with sparkling decorations, beautifully decorated candlelit tables welcomed guests for Candlelight Bell ringers Christmas. played to entertain arriving guests and live out the theme, Christmas Bells are Ringing. Under the leadership of Chairperson, Evelyn Spears, and C o -Chairperson, Lori Bailey, and a host of other faithful volunteers the celebration was an audience-pleaser! During dinner, quests were treated by Victoria Garcia with her beautiful harp playing. After the meal, Justin Spears and Jillian Grey entertained guests with favorite Christmas songs. The evening was a true blessing for all who attended!









Thank you to our choir, to Dr. Robert, Kathy on piano, and Cameron for narrating last Sunday's cantata. You all did an amazing job and we are so grateful for your talents. You brought the Christmas story to life during this beautiful, joyful morning of music!

The Reverend Bob Martin, Lead Pastor
The Reverend Pam Dubov, Executive Pastor



Address: 1199 Highland Avenue in Largo, 33770 Druid Campus: 2039 Druid Rd in Clearwater, 33764 Phone: (727) 584-8165 | Prayer: (727) 559-PRAY Office Hours: 9 a.m.—5 p.m., Monday-Thursday E-mail: church@stpaulumc.org | www.stpaulumc.org

