



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 Kathy Tuminello, Accompanist Lighting the Advent Candle: Love Introit In the Bleak Midwinter Welcome Pastor Pam Dubov *Greet Oh How He Loves You and Me Dr. Robert Williams, Worship Leader *Hymns He is Born No. 228 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly No. 229 *Apostles' Creed No. 881 Prayer with Lord's Prayer No. 895 Scholarship Presentation Offertory Come Messiah, Come Emmanuel Sanctuary Choir Praise God From Whom... No. 94 *Doxology Prayer of Thanksgiving Hymn Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates No. 213

Directed Prayer

*Hymn Oh Come All Ye Faithful No. 234

"Go Tell It On the Mountain"

Pastor Bob Martin Luke 2:10-11

*Benediction *Postlude

Message

*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: Rich and Mary Ann Clemow 10:30 AM Greeters: Linda Bergeron

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_			

10:30 AM WORSHIP

Christian music from our praise band. You are notice there is a time in our worship to give finanthere is no pressure for you to contribute. We hope you experience the love of God here today!







60 MIN

PASSIONATE MUSIC

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:

- Mike & Marie Davis, in loving memory of Sara Randall. Love Mike & Marie
- Helen & Scott Lackey, in loving memory of husband and dad, Bill Lackey.

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 ONNECT CARE

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 22, 2019	9 AM	10:30 AM
Name:			
	First Name, Middle	Initial, Last Na	ame
E-mail:			— 11
Phone:			HomeCell
Address	S:		
☐ Ple	ase update my informa	tion.	
I am a	a:		
☐ R	st Time Guest egular Attendee 'inter Resident: Here fro	2nd Ti	er(s)
☐ l c	e today because: drove by be been here before vas invited by ther:	I received	
l want	t to join your e-mail eekly Pastor's E-Note eekly St. Paul Newslette aily Christmas Devotion Other:	list: □St er □Ch	udent nildren
Be sure	to put your e-mail address	at the top	of the card!
□ Re □ Be	m interested in: dedicating my life to Jes ing baptized coming a member	sus	
	d a name tag for: ags can be picked up in the Co	onnection Ce	nter to the side o

the lobby two weeks after your request is placed.)

St. Paul United Methodist Church

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!

How can we pray for you?
For Military Prayer List
☐ Do NOT publish in bulletin.
☐ Do NOT include on prayer chain.
☐ 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 Bimonthly ☐ Once a Month ☐ Other
☐ Communion Preparation
☐ I'm interested in being a Stephen Minister
Loving Hearts Memorial Food Ministry
Flower Ministry
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 106 - 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)

TNT is on break for the rest of the year. Adults in their twenties and thirties are invited to join us in January on Sundays at 7 p.m. in room 202 of the Christian Life Enrichment Center for studies and more. 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 LOVE

WE HAVE LEARNED TO LOVE FROM BEING LOVED BY GOD. LET US LIVE THAT LOVE. WE KNOW THAT WHAT THE WORLD NEEDS NOW IS MORE LOVE. HELP US TO REMEMBER HOW MUCH GOD LOVES EACH ONE OF US AND SHARE THAT LOVE WITH OTHERS.

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. They are currently on a holiday break and will resume on Tuesday, January 7.

Elevator Fixed

Great news! We're happy to report the elevator has been fixed earlier than anticipated! Thanks to God for this blessing!



Christmas Eve

Join this 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 what time you'll be attending on Tuesday. 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. The devotional is available each day on our St. Paul app.



Holy Land Trip in 2021

Patti and I want to invite our St. Paul family and friends to join us on an upcoming pilgrimage to the Holy Land February 9-18, 2021. We will explore the places that shaped our faith and walk in the steps of Jesus. The trip will have many exciting sites for us to see. We will share experiences together like:

- Worshipping in a boat on the Sea of Galilee
- Praying in the Upper Room
- Having communion at the garden tomb
- Meditating at the site where Jesus was crucified

These events will bind us even more deeply together as the family of God. For all of us, it will unleash the power of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

Pastor Bob

If you're interested in finding out more, visit our website www.stpaulumc.org for more information or pick up a brochure in the Connection Center or at the office.



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 Bldg 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



Register for One Day Camp

K-5 kids are invited to join us for silly games, crafts and more fun on the Jan. 6 Teacher Work Day. \$25 per child includes camp from 7 AM-6 PM, lunch and snacks. Register on our website: www.stpaulumc.org



Student Ministry

Alison Van Duyne, Student Ministry Director, alison.v@stpaulumc.org





THIS SUNDAY: CHRISTMAS PARTY

Middle and high school students are invited to join us for in the courtyard from 5:30-8 p.m. Bring sides, desserts or drinks to share at our potluck dinner. We'll provide the main course. Bring a gift for the exchange valued at \$5 or less.

There is no Student Ministry next Sunday, December 29 due to the holidays. We'll return on Sunday, Jan. 5 when 5th graders are invited to join us for Xperience Sunday.



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.

GIVE IN LOVE

Christmas Eve Helpers Needed

We expect to welcome many visitors this Tuesday, 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, 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 hos-

pital, fill out the Connect Card on page 4 and let us know.

Jumpstart Ministry

Jumpstart is our middle school mentoring ministry. The number of kids signed up has grown this year, which is great news! We need both adults and high school students to help. Adult Supervisors over-



see student tutoring and games in the gym, help serve dinner and help clean up. High schoolers who serve as tutors receive community service hours. If you are interested in serving at Jumpstart in any of these ways, fill out the Connect Card or contact Alison Van Duyne at alison.v@stpaulumc.org or 727-584-8165 x234.



Donate to St. Paul through Amazon!

If you're shopping on Amazon this holiday season, you can use Amazon Smile to donate 0.5% of your purchase price to St. Paul! Use smile.amazon.com to make your purchases or activate Amazon Smile on your amazon app, and choose St. Paul United Methodist Church in Largo as your charity. (There are multiple St. Paul's listed so make sure you choose the one in Largo!) It's the same Amazon account, cart and pricing - the only difference is the Amazon Smile Foundation will automatically make a donation to St. Paul when you shop!

Support our Bulletin

We are able to print our bulletin for free thanks to the advertisers in the back of the bulletin. Be sure to check in on those pages and support the businesses that support our church! Without them we wouldn't be able to put out a bulletin like this every week.

If you have a business that you would like to see included in our bulletin, contact Greg Maurer from LPI at gmaurer@4LPI.com or 941-243-3206 for information on ad pricing and how to place your ad.

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.

Coming this Week

Sunday, December 22

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 Party	5:30 PM

Monday, December 23 **Boy Scouts** 7:00 PM

Tuesday, December 24 Sonrise Men's Study 7:00 AM Christmas Eve—Band 4:00 PM Christmas Eve—Choir 6:00 PM

> Wednesday, December 25 Church Office Closed



Thursday, December 26 Church Office Closed

Friday, December 27 Church Office Closed

Saturday, December 28 Soaring Eagles 8:00 AM

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 Glenda Neville Amy Johnson Greg, Tony Anne Davis Hartel family Aubri & Jessi Herbert Jacobs Holiday travelers Barb, Jody, Tony Barbara Martin Jane Huter Barker Family Janet Johnson Becky Wood Jason Beverly King Jayme Blaze White Jean Tracy Bonnie Cummings Jeff Keyes **Brad Jones** Jenny & Kevin & Babies Brandi, Kami, Karaline Jerry Bruce Madden Jim & Mary Caitlynn Timberlake Jim Marceau Cameron Cunningham Joan Hermann Carl J., Evelyn B., John John C. B., DP, Amber B., Barba-Jordan Santiano ra B., AB Joseph Evanson Carol Quinton Naja Josh DeLoach Caroline Fields Josie & family Caroline Purrington June Davis Carolyn Goodwin Karen & Jordan Goodin Cathy, Del, Amy, Christy, Karen Kwan Kat F. Chris Chris Mitchell Kathy Herrell Hannas Cliff Armbruster Katy Vine & Karissa Curtis McCabe Dale, Cindy, Sherry Kenny Packard Kevin Dave & Do, John & Nan-Kim Mobley Kim Morris cy, Barb & Bob, Teresa & Bill Kim Smith David Malone Kylea Johns Debbie Dubov Larry Lashbrook Lashai Jones Dennis Lord Donald Piro

Donna Simonetti family Doug

Eunie McElwaine Faith & Kyle

Fisher Johnson Fred J. Wilder family and friends

Fred, Neighbors, Lainy, Gary, Penny, Sharon,

Peggy

Gail Gail Terbush Geo & Mia Jenkins, Mar-

cus & Jordon George & family

Libby Burke LillyAnn Linda, Michelle, Jackson Lois Pierce Lynn, Jim, Jimmy, Meghann, Chris Mariah Jenkins Meg, Jake, Dom & Char Michael, Lucy Mike & family Nikki Pat Howell

Pat Jones

Peace

Peter H.

Praise God

Rev. Hays McKay Rick

Rita Pennington

RLT Rodger

Ron & Wanda Barker Ron, Shirley, Samantha,

Michael, Kyle Rosemary Potter Rowan & family Roy Neville Ruth Aaron Saylor Family Scott Lake

Sharon, Stephanie, Na-

Shirley Register Skip & Joan Buchwald

Son & family Stephen Brower Steve Robinson Tammy Barker Tiffany Tarkey Tina & Sherry Tom & family

Toni Toni Allen Tonya

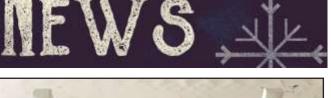
Trevor & Lsai Birt Veronica Mendez Walker-Huff family Walter & Melanie Welch family

Yvette Gonzalez Carter Yvonne, Alyssa, Jamie, Elsie, Barb, Montie, Kitty

Due to early print deadlines during the holidays some prayer requests may not be listed in the bulletin this week. The Prayer Team receives their own list as soon as requests are made, and your prayer needs are currently being prayed over.



GOOD NEWS





Prayer Shawl Party

St. Paul UMC's Prayer Shawl Ministry has made thousands of prayer shawls, caps and scarfs and distributed them to adults and children locally, across the country and even throughout the world. On Thursday, December 5, Prayer Shawl members and guests celebrated their annual Christmas party in the Mariposa Café. Prayer Shawl meets every Thursday at 4:30 p.m. in room 212 (CLEC). On first and third Thursdays they work on prayer shawls and other projects. On the second and fourth Thursdays they do Bible study. And on the fifth Thursday to share a potluck meal.



TNT Party

On Sunday, December 8, TNT members met at Abe's for dinner then joined up with other members for a bonfire, desserts and games at the Shockey house. Join TNT when they resume in January 2020 at 7 p.m. on Sundays in room 202.



Thank You, Dorcas Sewing Circle

The Carpenter's Shop would like to thank the Dorcas sewing circle for the blankets and mattress pads they made for our wooden doll beds! Dorcas meets 9 a.m.—1 p.m. on the second and fourth Wednesdays in room 212 to do simple sewing projects that serve others in our community. If you aren't able to sew they have other jobs you can do!

A Christmas Note from Helen Lackey

Dear Friends at St. Paul.

In years gone by I've always sent you a card and/ or saw you personally to wish you a Merry Christmas. However I am now 101 years old and although my heart is there, I am unable to carry through with written Christmas greetings. I am now living in a 24 hour health care center in Haskell, NJ near my son, Scott, and his family. I wish you all a blessed Christmas and a Happy and Healthy New Year.

> Peace In Christ, Helen Lackey

If you would like to write a card to Helen in New Jersey, reach out to us at church@stpaulumc.org or 584-8165 for her address.

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

