

JULY 2024

the EPISTLE



Remembering & Giving Thanks

Bob Raynor

When our Alzheimer's building needed a ramp built, Bob was there. When there was a fire on the playground and the playhouse was destroyed, Bob was there. When VBS needed props made, Bob was there. When the tech team needed him, Bob was there. When the benches in the outdoor chapel needed extra care and attention, Bob was there. In sooooo many spaces at Saint Paul's and beyond, Bob was there! Bob served with humility, with grace, with compassion. There was never a time that I encountered Bob without encountering the Spirit of God that overflowed from his being. It has been an honor to meet you on this journey, Bob Raynor.

-Pastor Latricia

Some of Bob's VBS sets over the years



JULY CALENDAR

- July 4 Church Office Closed
- July 8-13- Kids/Youth @ Warren Willis
- July 11 Circle of Support, 10:00am, Parlor
- July 16 Alzheimer's Lunch
11:30am, Parlor
- July 20 Date Night, 5:00pm
- July 21-28 Youth Missions Week
- July 22 Governing Board, 6:30pm, Parlor
- July 24 Summer Wednesday Night
5:15, Sanders Hall
- July 25 Circle of Support, 10:00am, Parlor
Crafty Crop, 3:00pm, Sanders Hall
- July 26 Crafty Crop, 4:00pm, Parlor
- July 27 Soul Food Distribution,
9:30am, Lake Ella

Crafty Crop, 10:00am, Parlor

JULY events

SUNDAY NIGHT WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

Join us every Sunday evening for our Contemporary Worship Service with Saint Paul's and Good Samaritan in Sanders Hall. This service begins at 6:00pm. All are welcome to come.

MEN'S READING COMMUNITY

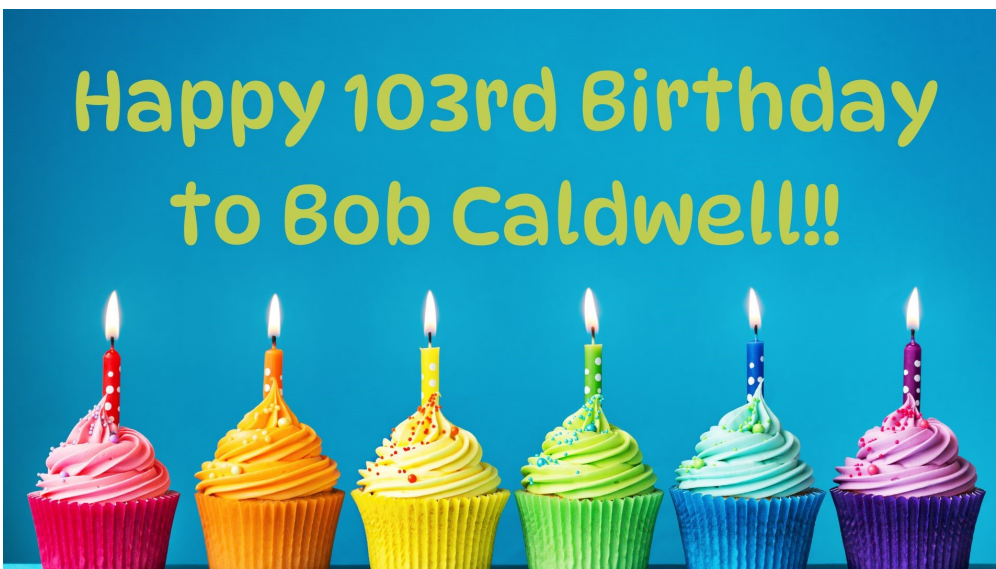
The Men's Reading Group is currently on break for summer. They plan to resume regular meetings in the fall. If you are interested in learning more about this group, please contact David Gill, davidmurraygill@gmail.com, or Nic Fugate, ndfugate@gmail.com.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith will not be meeting during the summer. They will resume in September and all women of the church are welcome to join! Please keep an eye out for details and you can contact Peggy Harter if you would like any more information. 850-339-1356 or harterp97@gmail.com

CRAFTY CROP

Join us for Crafty Crop with some fun gal-friends **July 25, 26 and 27** in Sanders Hall! Bring your projects and table space will be provided. The fellowship begins on **Thursday at 3:00 p.m., Friday at 10:00 a.m.** You may leave your projects all set up to continue the fun on **Saturday at 10:00 a.m.** Any questions and/or to sign up, contact Jill Merryday (850-443-9428).



Ryan & Maggie at Manna



Peggy with tomato harvest.

CREATION care

WHO ARE WE?

As United Methodists we are committed to restoring "God's Garden" (our planet) to one that is greener, cleaner and sustainable for all. We have been *officially committed to our call to stewardship and justice for all creation since 2016 when the following resolution was passed:*

"Confronted with the massive crisis of the deterioration of God's creation, we commit ourselves to a new way of being that integrates environmental, economic, and social justice.

As United Methodists, we therefore are called to participate in God's healing of creation." from Book of Resolutions #1033

Lately, this UMC mission to take action together has been dubbed "Stand Up, Speak Up, Step Up."

If you would like to prepare yourself for this commitment and more fully understand the extent of the crisis, learn more about the processes that have led us to this dire position and what we can do, the Creation Care team would like to recommend a video series called "Minute for Mother Earth." Each snippet really is about a minute! It was produced by "Pastor Bob," a retired Methodist minister who received UM Earthkeeper's training.

It is perfect for those of us with a short attention span 😊 or who just like to take in information in small bites. Some of us are consuming 2-3 videos at one sitting and think it is valuable information. Here is the website: www.wakeupworld.earth/minute-4-mother-earth-videos

Throughout the series you will hear about a fuller curriculum he and his wife have written that Sunday School classes might want to take a look at.

WHERE HAVE ALL THE TOMATOES GONE?

The tomatoes are ripening so fast we can hardly keep up! The plants themselves are surprising even the team as they continue to reach for the sky and need more supports. Prior to Manna last month, we had harvested 10 pounds of tomatoes which were shared with our refugee families and CityWalk Urban Mission, with an additional 7 lbs. 13 oz. of tomatoes going to Manna last month. Call Jessie if you or your children would like a "harvesting experience" (850)320-4040. It doesn't take long.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

- 1 Linda Leach, Terry Shoffstall
- 2 Justin Ward
- 3 Hannah Hauer
- 4 Joseph Helton III, Ron Patrick
- 6 Sarah Helton
- 8 Nancy Breslin, Amy Groszos, Sybil Palmer
- 9 Heather Burger, Becky Hawken, Betty Porterfield
- 10 Lily Griesheimer, Elaine McConaughay, Phyllis McCranie, Jessie Schrimsher
- 11 Jan Lewis, James Ross
- 13 Beth Raynor
- 14 Bob Caldwell, Logan Hauer
- 16 Peggy Miller, Livia Nystrand
- 17 Betsy Oven, Simon Webb
- 18 Ashley Apthorp, Cayle Bryant
- 19 Barbara Linthicum
- 20 Katherine Cox, Lee Ann Franceschi
- 21 Jerry Roney, Anne Schroeder, Curtis Warren
- 22 Faith Moody, Hans Schroeder, Okenwa Okoli
- 23 Gena Farnell
- 24 Audrey Silverblade
- 27 Kimberly Amos-Tata, Danielle Foster, Hannah Joiner, Jim McConaughay
- 29 Bettye Roberts, Sarabeth Snuggs
- 30 Doris Pollock
- 31 Carol Stern

MISSION ministries

MANNA ON MERIDIAN

On June 14 several members of Saint Paul's joined with volunteers from several other churches to bag 280 bags of fresh produce to be given out on distribution day, every third Saturday.



FANS FOR ELDER CARE

ELDER CARE SERVICES, a mission partner of Saint Paul's UMC, is receiving donations of fans for the elderly who do not have air conditioning in the heat of this summer. They are looking for 12 inch, oscillating fans. You may drop off a fan or donate to Saint Paul's (please note- for "Elder Care fans").



FUN AT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!!

We had almost 100 children, youth and volunteers join us for VBS this summer! Abundant Life Farms was busy with stories, songs, snacks and surprises...like a visit from "Fruitricia"! We are so grateful to all those who helped to make this week possible. Check out a few pictures from this fabulous week!



MUSIC

at Saint Paul's

MUSIC CAMP

Twenty of our Music Ministry members (adults, young adults, and youth) attended the annual Church Music and Worship Arts Workshop sponsored by the Florida Chapter of The Fellowship of Worship Artists. Our theme this year was "The Heart of Worship," and each of us found that place. We worshiped, sang, danced, played in the instrumental ensemble, played in and led handbell ensembles, drummed, learned sign language to music and scripture, learned public speaking skills, led worship, learned faith sharing ideas, studied drama, learned basic guitar playing skills, learned technology skills, created visual arts, taught classes, conducted choirs, wrangled middle schoolers, served on the Youth Leadership Team, fellowshiped, performed in the talent show, and presented a moving Closing Worship Celebration/Concert. Cynthia, Gaye, and Stephany served in leadership positions in the Workshop and the Worship Design Teams. Our own Pastor Latricia served as the preacher for the week and taught a class. Thanks to all who financially supported our trip and prayed over us. Our church will reap the bounty produced by our experiences at Music Camp for years to come.



SUMMER

at Saint Paul's



SUMMER 2024!

Warren Willis Summer Camp, Leesburg, FL
July 8-13 (rising 4th-12th graders)

Youth Missions Week
July 21-28



WEDNESDAY nights

Our regular Wednesday nights take a break during the summer...but that doesn't mean that Sanders Hall will be empty all the time! Read below to check out our Wednesday Night offering in July...

SUMMER WEDNESDAYS AT SAINT PAUL'S

We can't go the whole summer without some Wednesday night fun! Our next Summer Wednesday Night will be on **July 24**. Come join us for fun, food and fellowship! Please check out the Weekly Notes for more details.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT DINNER

Regular Wednesday dinners are on break for the summer. Check out the info below and make plans to join us in the fall!

On Wednesdays, the doors open at 5:00 and we serve food from 5:15 until 6:30. The cost is \$7 for adults and \$3 for children 10 and under. Come and enjoy a home-cooked meal and visit with church friends. Dinner includes a salad, drinks and dessert. Kids meals are chicken nuggets, fruit and a cheese stick.

YOUTH rooted

The Youth Kickoff went great, and everyone had a blast! We played some messy games, visited Wakulla, and enjoyed a lot more activities.

During camp, our students will participate in a wide variety of activities designed to be both fun and enriching. They will have numerous opportunities to grow in their faith through engaging worship sessions, thought-provoking discussions, and personal reflection time. Additionally, camp offers a perfect environment for students to deepen their relationships with those they came with, fostering a sense of community and support. They will also have the chance to meet and bond with new friends, creating lasting connections that often extend beyond camp. With activities ranging from team-building exercises to outdoor adventures, there is something for everyone to enjoy. I cannot recommend this camp enough; it is truly an amazing experience that leaves a lasting impact on all who attend.

During Mission Week, we'll be helping with Manna on Meridian and creating flood buckets. As well as some other mission projects. We'll be working hard in our Tallahassee area, exploring how we can fully commit ourselves. We want to be all in— all in for our town, all in for others, and all in with our faith. We will also be discussing the importance of sympathy and empathy. This will be a great time to see what we can do to help others and learn how others can help us.



FAMILY *events*

This summer, we have **Sunday School** for all ages every week from 10:45-11:45 a.m. Youth and adult classes are also available. Our nursery is open to children 6 months- 5 years old all morning. Our elementary kids will meet in the Foundation room to learn, create, play and snack together.

EXTREME EXPLORERS GO ALL OVER THE PLACE

We had such a great week of fun with our rising 3rd-5th graders. We went to new places and saw so many cool things. We went to the Gulf Marine Specimen Lab where we played tug of war with an octopus and picked up horseshoe crabs, aka loving fossils. Next, we went to Wakulla Springs where we saw and named at least 20 different alligators, and then went swimming far away from where all the alligators were. Wednesday we went to space! The Challenger Learning Center and Planetarium hosted us for a short movie and a learning lab about the planets. Thursday we traveled the furthest and went to Bainbridge, GA to Chason Park to explore all the cool things there as well as cool off with some popsicles. Then things got really exciting when the bus broke down on the side of Monroe. Thank goodness we were all safe and arrived home with the help of a few carpools. As a result, on Friday we explored Saint Paul's Campus. We did a scavenger hunt for all kinds of objects and topped it all off with ice cream sundaes! Keep an eye out for next year's plans in the Spring of 2025! Thank you to everyone who made this possible—specifically Casey Fernandes, Trey McNabb, Courtney Thacker, Jack Wilde, and Dylan McGuire. Our trips wouldn't have been possible without you!





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SUMMER SUNDAYS AT SAINT PAUL'S

9:30am Worship (combined service)
 10:45am Sunday School for all ages
 6:00pm Grace After Dark- Contemporary Service

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday 9:00am - 4:00pm
 Friday - Closed

Find us on  at SaintPaulsUnitedMethodistChurch

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

OUR STAFF AND EMAILS

Senior Pastor

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Website Administrator

WPTallahassee

Video Coordinator

Jay Wirth

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Rev. Tom Berlin

OUR DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENT

Rev. Catherine Fluck-Price

OUR MISSIONARIES

Delbert & Sandy Groves, Zambia