



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.stp-umc.org web

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

News For The Weeks Of November 13, 20, & 27  
and December 4, 2017

(864) 583-0850 fax

*Return Services Requested*

*Have  
a blessed  
Thanksgiving!*



## Volunteers for November 19<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> and December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup>

	11/19	Wanda Steele
Bread	11/26	Linda Whisnant
Taker	12/03	Lillian Hudson
	12/10	Page Candler
Communion Assistants	12/03	Lee Owens, Henry Calhoun
	11/19	Page Candler
Nursery	11/26	Desiree Scales
Aide	12/03	Mike & Eileen Byers
	12/10	Nancy Curry
	11/19	Mickey Wingo
Children's	11/26	Marsha Milford
Church	12/03	Brenda Ethington
	12/10	Nancy Bane
	11/19	Dan & Linda Cooke
Worship	11/26	Kay Berkeley, Frances Maness
Greeters	12/03	Darrell & Judy Querin
	12/10	Jean Ogden, Marilyn Glasgow
	11/19	Al Fernandez, Carter Ridgeway, Austin Birch, Jon Godfrey
Worship	11/26	Lamar Davis, Mickey Wingo, Sam Foster, Ed Lamb
Ushers	12/03	Bob McFarland, Jon Schanen, Bill Duncan, Bobbi Duncan
	12/10	Jim Hampton, Jay Hampton Sam Foster, Darrell Querin
	11/19	Simons Welter
Liturgist	11/26	Wanda Steele
	12/03	Bob McFarland
	12/10	Suzanne Metts
	11/19	Madison Cooksey
Acolyte /	11/26	Ansley Vereen
Crucifer	12/03	Natalie Koller / Ballenger Cooksey
	12/10	Ansley Vereen
	11/19	Don Wasness
Sound	11/26	Phil Womble
System	12/03	Guy Davis
	12/10	A.D. Page, Jr.
	11/19	Barbara Barnes
Offering	11/26	Richard Petty
Depositor	12/03	Mike Harpe
	12/10	Chip Steele

Altar Guild - November: Pat Hutchens, Chris Boyett-Chairs;  
Judy Krueger, Bob Powell, Sandra Powell, Page Candler  
December: Entire Altar Guild Committee with Connie Muzzy

## The Pastor's Pen

Wow! What a response. We are expecting almost 150 people for our fellowship dinner on November 19<sup>th</sup>. That is only about 25 less than our typical Sunday worship attendance. The church Program Council wrestled with the best time for this type of event. It appears Sunday after church may be the best choice. It is our hope that we can have one church-wide event each month. The December event will be a brunch on December 10<sup>th</sup>, following our choir's Christmas musical presentation in worship. More details will be forthcoming in the next couple of weeks.

As 2017 draws to a close (can you believe it?), we will again look toward a new year and a church budget to fund our ministry. On November 26<sup>th</sup>, we will observe our annual Stewardship Sunday on which we present our Estimate of Giving Cards for 2018. You are asked to prayerfully consider what you plan to return to God through your gifts to Saint Paul's ministry next year. We will all have an opportunity to fill out our Estimate of Giving Card and place it on the altar on November 26<sup>th</sup> as an act of worship. You may remember that our gifts to God are our response to all God has done in and through us. **NOBODY CAN OUTGIVE GOD!**

Our church budget is based on what we expect to receive, based on your estimate of giving. If we give more, we can do more. If we give less, then we will have to cut back on our ministry. It is my belief, and the belief of your Finance Committee, that we need to have a realistic budget based on what we indicate we will give. I pray that you will be generous in what you return to God.

Finally, as we close out 2017, we elect new officers and make plans for the new year. Please prayerfully consider how you might be in ministry as we seek to make disciples for Jesus Christ.

Hope To See You In  
Worship and Sunday School,

*Big John*



## Children & Youth Birthdays

Nov. 20	Tripp Graham	Dec. 9	Charlie Birch
Dec. 8	Lynn Birch	Dec. 14	Bentley Carter

## Birthdays

November 17	Libby Carter
November 19	Wade Lindsey III, Helen Cribb
November 22	Ann Karegeannes, Lisa Pappas
November 26	Kermit Williams, Maryellen Horton, Tom Lowrimore
November 29	Judy Womble
December 1	Jon Berkeley, Lauren Freeman
December 2	Kay Stinson
December 3	Lewis Moyer
December 4	Gregory Pappas, Jr.
December 5	Hamp Lindsey, Jr., Jack Moyer
December 6	Linda Fansher
December 7	Jerry Jackson, Roland Smith
December 8	Marlene Gary
December 9	Lou Lindsey, Sarah Newman
December 11	Darrell Querin
December 13	Scott Harward, Jr.
December 14	Larry Koller
December 15	DeeDee Mitchell, Jim Hampton
December 16	Alma DuPont
December 18	Bob Muzzy
December 20	Bill Berkeley
December 24	Jay Hampton
December 25	Doris Luther, Jeff Newman
December 26	Diane Remeta, Chris Freeman

**Any Youth** in the church who are interested in participating in this year's confirmation class are asked to contact the church office. Plans for confirmation in the Spring will be worked out with interested participants.

**A Joint Sunday School Class** will be offered in Poston Hall on December 31. We hope you'll join us!

## Upcoming Events

<b>Every Monday</b>	Scouts 6:30pm
<b>Every Wednesday</b>	Christian Believer 30-week Bible Study 6:30pm
<b>Every Thursday</b>	Cub Scouts 6:30pm
<b>Every Sunday</b>	UMYF 4:30pm (unless otherwise noted)
<b>November 19</b>	Church-wide Lunch 11:30am Charge Conference 4:30pm
<b>November 20</b>	Board of Stewards Meeting 6:30pm
<b>Nov. 22, 23, 27</b>	Office CLOSED for Thanksgiving
<b>November 23</b>	Thanksgiving Day
<b>Nov. 21, 28 &amp; Dec. 5, 12</b>	Advent Study on Joseph 6:30pm
<b>November 26</b>	United Methodist Student Day Stewardship Sunday
<b>December 9</b>	UMW Christmas Brunch
<b>December 10</b>	Christmas Cantata, Brunch following
<b>December 24</b>	Christmas Eve Service 5:00pm
<b>December 25</b>	Christmas Day
<b>Dec. 25, 26</b>	Office CLOSED for Christmas
<b>December 31</b>	New Year's Eve Joint Sunday School - Poston Hall
<b>January 1</b>	New Year's Day - Office CLOSED

**Preparing For Christmas!** We would like to extend an invitation to come on Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10am, to help freshen up and decorate the sanctuary. We will be giving the sanctuary a good cleaning and will finish up with decorating it for the Christmas season. Please add this date to your calendars!

**Church Member Altar & Narthex Flower Sign-ups 2018:** If you'd like to provide flowers for the worship services during 2018, please fill out a bulletin insert at an upcoming Sunday Service or call our Church Office. This year's sign-ups will need to include the date of request, your dedication clearly noted and any special instructions. Thank you!

## Altar & Narthex Flowers

**Altar Flowers** are given on November 19<sup>th</sup> for the Glory of God by Janet Oran in memory of her husband, Gordon.

**Altar Flowers** are given on November 26<sup>th</sup> for the Glory of God by Jeff and Brenda Ethington in memory of James and Joyce Ethington, Jeff's parents.

**Altar Flowers** are given on December 3<sup>rd</sup> for the Glory of God by Bill and Lillian Hudson in memory of Eva Hudson.

**Altar Flowers** are given on December 10<sup>th</sup> for the Glory of God by Susan Owens in honor of our Saint Paul UMC staff with thanks for all their hard work during the year.

**Altar Flowers** are given on December 17<sup>th</sup> for the Glory of God by Jane May in memory of the birthday of her dear daughter, Melanie May Hoffer.

**Altar Flowers** are given on December 24<sup>th</sup> for the Glory of God by our Altar Guild.

## Financials & Attendance

	<u>October 22</u>	<u>October 29</u>
Received	\$7,160.00	\$8,405.00
Restricted	\$0.00	\$0.00
Non-Restricted	\$288.00	\$250.00
Total	\$6,872.00	\$8,155.00
Sunday School	56	73
Worship Service	145	168
	<u>November 5</u>	<u>November 12</u>
Received	\$15,076.90	\$15,967.00
Restricted	\$10.00	\$50.00
Non-Restricted	\$290.00	\$894.00
Total	\$14,776.90	\$15,023.00
Sunday School	77	68
Worship Service	193	152

## United Methodist Student Day

November 26<sup>th</sup>  
Gifts to the United Methodist Student Day offering help deserving United Methodist students continue their education and their faith journeys as they strive to make a difference in the world and discern what God has called them to do. Please support our students with a special offering on November 26<sup>th</sup>. Thank you.

**On Stewardship Sunday,** November 26, we will celebrate together the many blessings God has given us. On that day, you will have an opportunity to give an estimate of your giving for 2018. This information will be used to plan for next year's budget. Our practice is to set the budget based on what we expect will be given. Please give prayerful consideration to your gifts to God.

**The Blanche Greer Circle** will meet Monday, Nov. 20<sup>th</sup> at 11:00am, at the Aegean Pizza Restaurant, 1547 W. Floyd Baker Blvd., Gaffney. Other than pizza, they also serve excellent soups, salads, and sandwiches. Pat Schaide will be joining us and she's anxious to see her Saint Paul UMW friends. Please let me know if you will join us (579-4032 or 415-0431). There is a party room reserved for us at no extra cost and they need a head count. Visitors are welcome! Linda Whisnant

## Poinsettias Coming Soon!

United Methodist Women of Saint Paul are again asking for your support as we sell wrapped poinsettias to be in our sanctuary December 17 through December 24. They will be available for pick-up after the services from December 17 through December 24.

The price is \$10 per plant. Sales order forms will be in the bulletins through December 10. Forms will also be available at the Reception Desk in the church office. Please be sure to include your payment, securely attached, with your order form. Thank you!

## Don't Forget ...

**The Attractions Dining & Value Guide** coupon book is still being sold by our youth to raise money for mission retreat. They make GREAT Christmas presents and/or stocking stuffers! Each book includes great savings and the cost is only \$20! Buy one, save money and support our youth! Please contact the church office or Dinie Koller (612-9925) for a book.