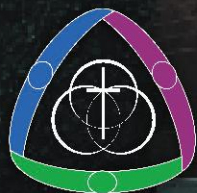


Epistle



Saint Paul
Methodist Church

SPRING 2024

Welcome to the Saint Paul Epistle

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STAY CONNECTED

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stpaulgoldsboro.org

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Social Media at



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[@stpaulgoldsboro](https://www.instagram.com/stpaulgoldsboro)

Download our App
Saint Paul Goldsboro



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Saint Paul Goldsboro



Church Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday

9 AM -12 PM

1 PM- 5 PM

Friday

9 AM - 12 PM



A Message From Our Senior Minister *Rev. James H. Harry*

Holy Week is my favorite week of the year in my annual [and lifelong] walk with Jesus. It is set aside for the purpose of walking with Jesus through his entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday and describes the events of each day of the week that follows: the celebration of Jesus's Last Supper with his disciples; his death on the cross; his burial in the tomb; and his resurrection on Easter morning. Holy Week is the most important week of the year for Christians. Christmas births Jesus into the world to begin the saving work of God. Holy Week saves us from our sins in the death and resurrection of Christ.

Holy Week is particularly Christian. By this I mean, it has not been co-opted by the secular world. Holy Week walks us through the full human experience of raw emotions. We experience joy and abundant celebration [Palm Sunday]. We experience anger and disappointment [The events of Holy Monday]. We sit in stillness and an eerie uncomfortable silence [Silent Wednesday]. Thursday, we sit and have dinner with the Lord in what would become his last meal [Holy Thursday]. We suffer terror and heartbreak in the murder of Jesus on Friday [Good Friday]. We come to the garden alone on Saturday and try to fathom, "What the heck just happened?" [Holy Saturday]. We are surprised, dumbfounded, scared, and jubilant all at the same time when we experience the empty tomb of "early in the morning on the first day of the week." [Easter Sunday].

Holy:

dedicated or consecrated to God for a religious purpose; sacred. [Wikipedia]

Week:

a period of seven days.
[Wikipedia]

Holy Week:

A period of seven days dedicated and consecrated to God from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday.

I have discovered that by committing myself fully to Holy Week, I am able to walk more fully and completely through the Passion of Christ [Jesus's arrest, trial, crucifixion, and burial]. Our six-week Lenten journey, which we began on Ash Wednesday, reaches its culmination and climax in Holy Week with the sacrifice of his Son on the cross. I have learned to dedicate myself to reading the passage of each day's holy event, sit in stillness and pray, and ponder why Jesus offered himself for me. Charles Wesley's hymn expresses what I am feeling deep in the marrow of my soul, "O Love divine, what hast thou done! The immortal God hath died for me!"

Brothers and Sisters, I want to invite you to commit to spend this year's Holy Week walking with Jesus as best as your time allows you to do so. Here is what we are planning to do throughout Holy Week to help you walk with the Lord each day at Saint Paul:

- Holy Week worship week begins on Palm Sunday at 11:00 am. [Please note we will only have one worship service on Palm Sunday, March 24th at 11:00 am]. Our children will help us process into the Sanctuary waving palm branches and singing for us.
- Beginning Sunday afternoon and continuing each day of Holy Week we will be posting and emailing you a Scripture detailing the events of that day. We will offer a short devotional and a musical offering to help you capture the essence of that day of Holy Week.
- Tuesday night we will have a Service of Healing at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary. This service is intended to bring your body, soul, mind, spirit, and relationships to Jesus and let the Holy Spirit move in your life.
- Thursday night at 7:00 pm in the Sanctuary we will celebrate The Last Supper with Jesus. During this service, Holy Communion is followed by intense moments where we share the events that transpired in Jesus's life after dinner. This is an experience of silence and dramatic music. We

From Our Senior Minister

(continued)

strip the altar of its sacredness and shroud the holy things of God in black. As dramatic music plays in the background, our Altar Guild acts out the arrest, scourging, and crucifixion of Christ in silence. We sit in silence and weep over our Lord's love for us.

- Easter morning will have two services. We will have an 8:00 am Garden Service with Holy Communion [we will be in Winslow Hall in case of rain]. We will have a full High-Church joyous Easter celebration of our Lord's resurrection at 11:00 am. [Remember to bring flowers to decorate the palm cross as we transform the ancient cruel cross into a symbol of Christ's victory over sin, hell, death, and the grave].

Brothers and sisters in Christ:

This Holy Week, we invite you to the celebration of the life, death, and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ.



Holy Week Worship Services

Palm Sunday:

One combined Worship Service at 11 am.

Holy Tuesday:

A Service of Healing at 7 pm.

Maundy Thursday:


Holy Communion Service with Stripping of the Altar at 7 pm.

Easter Sunday:

8 am: Easter Morning outdoor Garden Service with Holy Communion (located in Winslow Hall in the event of inclement weather).

11 am: Traditional Easter Resurrection Service with Holy Communion.


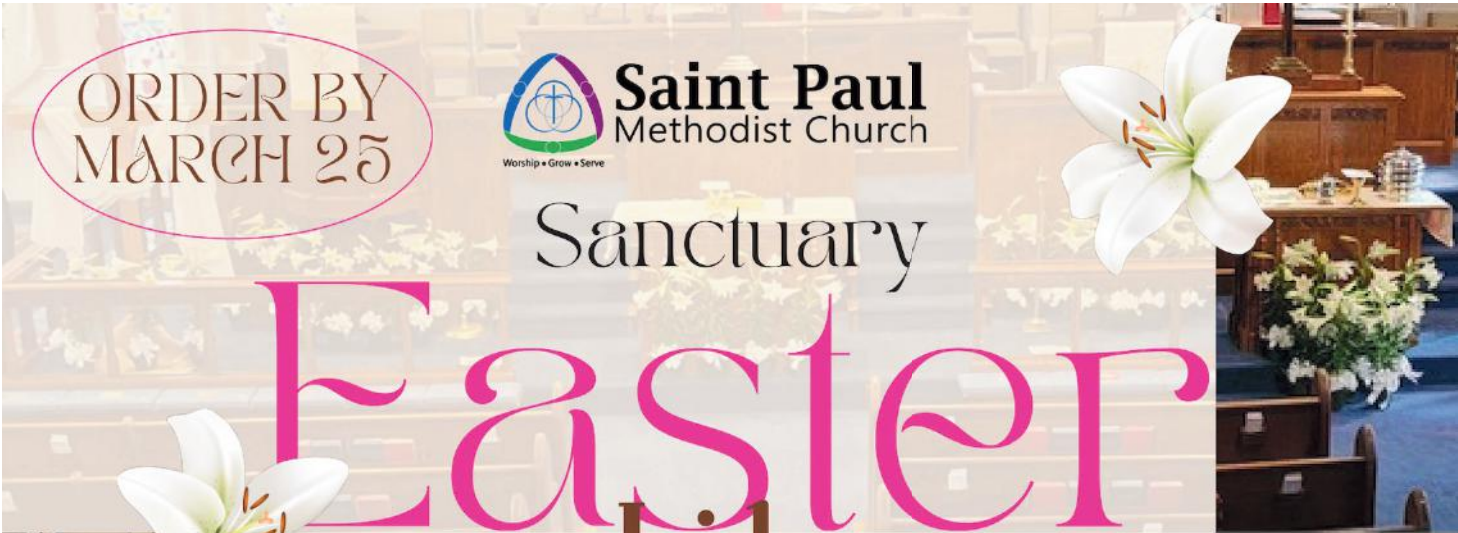
(Nursery will be available during all Holy Week services.)




Preparing Palm Crosses

NO EXPERIENCE NECESSARY!
COME FOR COFFEE AND FELLOWSHIP
AND MAKE PALM CROSSES FOR OUR
PALM SUNDAY SERVICE.

FRIDAY, MARCH 22 | 9AM
WINSLOW HALL

ORDER BY
MARCH 25



Saint Paul
Methodist Church
Worship • Grow • Serve

Sanctuary

Easter

Lily

In Memory or In Honor

\$15.00 per lily
to be placed in the
Sanctuary in memory or
in honor of a loved one

Lilies are being purchased through Wayne County
Literacy Connections in support of their fundraiser.

Order Online or Contact
the Church Office



From Our MUSIC Ministry

Dear Beloved Church Family,

As we move out of the season of Lent and into Holy Week, let me say that I hope your Lenten experience was spiritually reflective and brought you closer to God. We have some exciting things coming your way this year during Holy Week. The Music Ministry has been busy preparing for this year's Holy Week worship services. We hope to be able to express through music the most eventful events in our savior's life. Let's walk together this holy week, day-by-day, as we seek to grow closer to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

New Handbell Position & Flexible Worship Space

If you walk into the Sanctuary in the coming weeks, you'll notice that something looks different. We've decided to make a change to how we present our Handbell Choir during the service. We've cleaned up our space to bring a fresh look to our Sanctuary and let the beauty of the space feel more open. We plan on using that space in different ways in the coming months, for ensembles, handbell choirs, or even solo or duo piano performances!



Progress on the 9-foot Mason & Hamlin Grand Piano Restoration

Some of you may have noticed that the piano in Winslow Hall has been gone for some time and may wonder “When will it come back? Why is it gone?”

Well, here is a quick update on the progress of the restoration of our beautiful piano. Ruggero Piano Co. in Raleigh has been working on restoring the instrument for us for some weeks now and they’ve told me that they love working on the instrument and are putting a great amount of care into its restoration. They plan on having the fully restored piano back to us in about nine weeks. From the time I’m writing this, that puts it about the end of May or early June!

Lessons Ministry: Student Spotlight

The students of our Lessons Ministry have been working hard. One such student has been excelling in her studies and is actively performing within the community! I’d like to take an opportunity to recognize this student for the amazing talent and effort she possesses.

Merritt Gower



Merritt Gower is a 6th grader at Wayne Country Day School. She attends Saint Paul with her parents, Lauren and Richard, and her little brother Reed. Merritt enjoys participating in musical theater with both Stagestruck in Goldsboro and Kids on Stage in Snow Hill. Her favorite shows in which she has participated include Matilda, The Secret Garden, and May We All. Voice lessons with Holton have been an incredible tool for pursuing musical theatre and she is grateful for the opportunity.

From Our MUSIC Ministry

(continued)

Saint Paul Daily Holy Week Devotions

This year during Holy Week our team has prepared a way for us to walk together with Christ as he goes to the cross, enters the tomb, and ascends in glory to heaven. Music is an important way that we as Christians attempt to glorify God and his story. Join with us this holy season as we walk the path that Jesus laid for us in the story of his life and attempt to express his glory in music. He is our God, our way, our life, ***Our Beautiful Savior.***

Peace be with you as we all attempt to walk in the footsteps of our Savior,

Holton Johnson
Music Director



Saint Paul Choir Video Link:
stpaulgoldsboro.org/beautiful-savior

Our Beautiful Savior

Silesian Folk Melody

Verse 1:

*Fair is the sunshine
Fairer the moonlight
And all the stars in heav'n above
Jesus shines brighter
Jesus shines purer
And brings to all the world His Love*

Verse 2:

*Fair are the meadows
Fairer the woodlands
Robed in the flow'rs
of blooming springs
Jesus is fairer
Jesus is purer
He makes the sorrowing spirit sing*

Verse 3:

*Beautiful Savior
Lord of the nations
Son of God and Son of Man
Thee will I honor, praise, and give glory
Give praise and glory evermore
Give praise and glory evermore*

From Pastor Rick Winders



Within different expressions of Christianity, the word “journey” is often used. Right now in the life of the church the word “journey” is a very popular tagline. As we are all aware, the season of Lent is an appropriate time to use this word “journey”. I too, over the past few Sundays have used the word “journey” in our Sunday morning prayers.

In the life of the church during the season of Lent we are traveling towards Palm Sunday. This particular Sunday marks the beginning of Holy Week, where a few days later Christ’s full glory is revealed through his resurrection.

Outside of this particular journey there is another journey taking place within the walls of Saint Paul. At this time, we have 12 youth who are beginning to take their first solo steps in their lifelong journey as disciples of Jesus Christ—a more familiar term for this is “Confirmation.” During this time our youth will be learning the basics of the Christian faith so that they understand what it means to fully follow Christ with all their heart.

Something else that our confirmation students will be doing is living out the words of Acts 2:42: “They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

“They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and to the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.”

Acts 2:42

During this Confirmation journey that the youth are taking part in, they will be doing the same thing as the early church: sharing meals, becoming one group, and praying for each other.

Here is the great news, you don't have to be left out on this journey. You may not be able to have a shared meal with them every Sunday night, but you can pray for them while they are on this journey.

I invite you to pray for each of these students during their Journey and I encourage you to come to our Confirmation Sunday Worship Service on May 12th at 11am in the Sanctuary.

*Pastor Rick Winders
Associate Minister*



Saint Paul
Methodist Church

Be in prayer for our Youth Confirmation students as they journey together through Confirmation Class.

Confirmation Class

Will Batchelor
Grace Daniels
James Daniels
Merritt Gower
Julia Kinsey

Alex Krochta
Averie Milkowski
Parker Strickland
Rayland Wells
Benjamin Winders

Saint Paul Youth

Youth Fellowship



Saint Paul Children

Sunday School Lessons



Awards Night for Pathfinders



Easter Jam 2024



Pathfinders Music Class with Tots





From Our CHILDREN'S Ministry

Welcome back to the sacred pages of the Epistle. It feels like just yesterday we were rejoicing in the birth of Jesus, yet here we are on the brink of Holy Week, preparing to commemorate His death and resurrection. Time indeed seems to be “springing” forward carrying with it a whirlwind of celebrations and reflections.

Recently, I had the honor of leading Chapel time for the children at Protestant Preschool. As we talked through the true purpose of Easter and the profound story of Jesus—from His triumphant entry into Jerusalem on the donkey (to which the kids quickly reminded me that not long ago it was Mary who was riding on the donkey to Bethlehem.) to the heart-wrenching betrayal, the Last Supper, and His agonizing prayer in the garden—this is where I keep getting stopped. I found myself deeply struck by the words, “Not my will, but your will.” These words kept coming up over the last couple weeks, and it seems like everytime I turned around there it was again and again, has that happened to you? If so, you know exactly what I am talking about. They served as a humbling yet almost a scary reminder that our earthly existence and relationships are fleeting. This place here on earth is only temporary. One day we will stand before the Father and my deepest hope is to hear, “Well done, my good and faithful servant.” I think that is all of our hopes, but I often wonder if that will be my reality.

This ministry, and these children hold a special place in my heart because I hope and pray that we cultivate an environment where children encounter abundant opportunities to not only serve the Lord but also experience the movement of the Holy Spirit. If I am being fully honest and transparent, it can sometimes feel like a heavy weight and a huge responsibility, one that I do not take lightly. I often ask myself, did I do enough, did I hit the mark, did they understand what I was saying, could I have done that better, did I deliver what you wanted me to Lord. I also know that is exactly where Satan wants me, questioning every little thing. Thankfully, I also know I serve a faithful God who will extend me grace (because we are not perfect, and we are all broken individuals) and that the kids hear what they need to hear. I pray for God to continue to lead me and our leaders/parents in shaping this environment, where children not only learn about serving the Lord but also build a genuine relationship with Him. I also realize that I am only as great as my team of leaders. I pray for our parents often. I pray that God guides them as well, I can jump and lead but it takes all of us to make this ministry work effectively.

I will continue to pray that God leads me and guides me so that I can carry out His purpose and plans—His will— not mine. I pray that I never get caught up in my own desires. I was reminded the other night that to carry out His will we have to have humility. And let me tell you, there is no shortage of that with kids. I feel blessed to have them to keep me humble. It's in this surrender to His will that I find both peace and purpose.

As we approach Holy Week, I pray we can quiet our hearts, minds, and souls, allowing God to remind us of His boundless love and divine purpose for each of us. That God shows up in a way that the kids are able to understand, and be reminded of His love for them and for us.

And as we near the end of the academic year and pause some of our programs, my prayer is - and I ask that you join me in prayer; that Vacation Bible School leaves a lasting impression on every child who crosses our threshold. I pray for God's provision to reach each child at their level, and above all, for His will to prevail. It's all too easy to be consumed by the world and our own desires, losing sight of our

“Thy will be done”

ultimate calling. Yet, I pray fervently that God reveals Himself to these children in a profound and enduring manner, shaping their lives for years to come. We may never see the harvest of the seeds we are planting, but I pray the Lord waters those seeds so they can reap a bountiful harvest. I pray the children are so rooted in His word and truths that they never drift away from Him. Lord, help us always to be reminded of your will for us, and help us to live that out everyday. Help us to lead these children in the direction that leads only to you, that they find their calling and purpose and are able to serve you. In your holy and wonderful name we pray, Amen.

*Mary Catherine Kelley
Director of Children’s Ministry*



The poster features a dark blue and purple background with a starry pattern. At the top left is the Saint Paul Methodist Church logo, which includes a cross and the text "Worship • Grow • Serve". To the right of the logo is the text "Saint Paul Methodist Church". In the top right corner, the dates "JUNE 17-20" are written in large, pink, block letters. Below the dates is a QR code. In the center, the letters "VBS" are displayed in large, 3D, multi-colored font, each letter resting on a glowing globe. At the bottom, the text "Saint Paul Vacation Bible School" is written in white, followed by "June 17-20 | 5:30-7:30pm | Ages 2-5th grade" and "Register Online: stpaulgoldsboro.org/vbs-2024". In the bottom right corner, there is a logo for "START the PARTY" with the tagline "Celebrate the Good News".

SAINT PAUL
**METHODIST
 WOMEN'S**

NOW PRE-ORDER BY APRIL 3 *OR* SHOP AT THE SALE ON APRIL 12



**Bake Sale
 Pre-Order Form**

- YOU CAN COMPLETE YOUR PRE-ORDER BY:
- SUBMITTING ORDER ONLINE
 - CONTACTING ANNE PAUGH
 - RETURNING THIS PRE-ORDER FORM TO THE CHURCH OFFICE

CAKES	PRICE	QUANTITY	TOTAL
Kathy Lies Famous Rum Cake	\$50.00		
Swiss Chocolate Cake	\$40.00		
Hershey Cake	\$40.00		
Coconut Cake	\$40.00		
Carrot Cake	\$40.00		
Lemon Curd Cake	\$40.00		
POUND CAKES			
Pound Cake	\$40.00		
Amaretto Pound Cake	\$40.00		
Chocolate, Chocolate Chip Pound Cake	\$40.00		
PIES			
Chocolate Chess Pie	\$30.00		
Kentucky Derby Pie	\$25.00		
Key Lime Pie	\$20.00		
Key Lime Tarts	\$3.00		
COOKIES			
Gluten-Free Monster Cookies (Per Dozen)	\$10.00		

YOUR NAME _____

TOTAL _____

EMAIL _____

PHONE _____

PRE-ORDER DEADLINE IS APRIL 3. CONTACT ANNE PAUGH WITH ANY QUESTIONS.

There will be more Cakes, Cookies, and Brownies for sale on April 12th in Winslow Hall.

From Our Saint Paul
METHODIST MEN



Saint Paul
Methodist Church

\$10

PER PLATE



APRIL

**12 METHODIST
MEN'S**

**SPAGHETTI
PLATE SALE**

ORDER ONLINE OR CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE OR
BENNETT JOHNSON, JEFF JACKSON, OR JOHNNY PEACOCK

WINSLOW HALL | 11AM-1PM

**DINE IN FOR FELLOWSHIP OR
PICK UP PLATES TO-GO**



www.stpaulgoldsboro.org



919-734-2965

Saint Paul MISSIONS TEAM



**LET'S
RISE**

**REGISTER TO VOLUNTEER @
WWW.STPAULGOLDSBORO.ORG**


Worship • Grow • Serve

**Saint Paul
Methodist Church**

Rise
AGAINST HUNGER

SAINT PAUL PACKING
15,000 MEALS TO FIGHT
GLOBAL HUNGER

SUNDAY
APRIL 14
starting at 3pm





Saint Paul Flower Ministry

We need volunteers to help create the small flower arrangements for our Saint Paul Flower Ministry. Contact the Church Office for more information.

**VOLUNTEERS
NEEDED**

 **Saint Paul**
Methodist Church
Worship • Grow • Serve

Palm Sunday

Hosanna in the Highest

March 24
11 AM

**One combined Worship Service
with Children's Palm Processional**


 **Saint Paul**
Methodist Church
Worship • Grow • Serve

Healing Service

Holy Tuesday

March 26
7 PM

**A Healing Service in the
Sanctuary with the
anointing of oil**

 **Saint Paul**
Methodist Church
Worship • Grow • Serve

The Last Supper

Mundy Thursday

March 28
7 PM

**A Communion Service to
remember the last days of Jesus
and a Stripping of the Altar**

A graphic for an Easter Sunday church service. The background is a photograph of a brick church building with a large tree in the foreground. The text is overlaid on the image. In the top right corner is the Saint Paul Methodist Church logo, which consists of a stylized cross inside a triangle with the text 'Saint Paul Methodist Church' and 'Worship • Grow • Serve' below it. The word 'Easter' is written in a large, white, cursive font on the left, and 'Sunday' is written below it. To the right, the phrase 'Christ is risen He is risen indeed' is written in a smaller, white, cursive font. In the center, the date 'March 31' and times '8 AM & 11 AM' are written in a bold, black, sans-serif font. At the bottom, the service details are listed in a bold, black, sans-serif font: '8 AM: Easter Morning Service in the Garden' and '11 AM: traditional Easter Resurrection Service in the Sanctuary'. A final line of text says 'Remember to bring your flowers as we flower the cross.'

Easter Sunday

**Christ is risen
He is risen indeed**

March 31
8 AM & 11 AM

8 AM: Easter Morning Service in the Garden
11 AM: traditional Easter Resurrection Service in the Sanctuary
Remember to bring your flowers as we flower the cross.

.....

*Remember to bring
fresh flowers from
your backyard to help
flower the cross.*

.....





*Join us for Worship
Sundays at Saint Paul*

9am: Worship Service

10am: Sunday School for All Ages

11am: Traditional Worship Service & Livestream