

# *Epistle*



**Saint Paul**  
Methodist Church

**FALL 2024**



# Welcome to the Saint Paul Epistle

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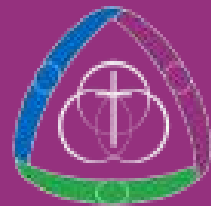
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Saint Paul Goldsboro



**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

*The purpose of the Saint Paul Epistle is to inform our church family about the ministry of Saint Paul, share the news of what is and has taken place around our church, and provide our church family with news on what is to come.*

Happy Fall, Saint Paul Methodist Church:

It is good to be with you in this fall season's Saint Paul Epistle. The word *epistle* is another word for *letter*. The Saint Paul of the New Testament, for whom our church is named, wrote letters to churches and pastors. We refer to his letters as *The Epistles of Saint Paul*. Our church uses this connection with our Saint Paul church family. Though the format and frequency of our *Epistle* have changed throughout the years, the aim of the *Saint Paul Epistle* remains the same.

The purpose of the *Saint Paul Epistle* is to inform our church family about the ministry of Saint Paul, share the news of what is and has taken place around our church, and provide our church family with news on what is to come.

Inside this edition of the *Epistle*, it is my privilege to introduce our Ministry Team members to our congregation:

- **Holton Johnson**, our Music Director
- **Katelyn Johnson**, our Children's Director
- **Bryan and Lindsay Hancock**, our Youth Directors
- **Lyndsey Clark**, our Operations Director
- **Dr. Kim Harford**, our Church Receptionist
- **Annie Smith**, our Custodian

We hope the fall edition of the Saint Paul Epistle will be an instrument of grace that helps connect our church family with one another.

# *From Our Senior Minister*

*(continued)*

In other news, the Convening General Conference took place in San Jose, Costa Rica this past week, September 20th-26th. Many foundational pieces of legislation were put in place at this historic Convening General Conference. Let me share three primary decisions that took place:

1. The General Conference ratified the Constitution of the Global Methodist Church through our new Book of Doctrines and Disciplines [hereafter, BDD]. The BDD defines our central theology of the Lordship of Jesus Christ and requires all bishops, clergy, and laity who seek to be covenant members of the Global Methodist Church to confess Jesus as Lord. The BDD also serves as our book of covenant connecting every GMC congregation together in how we function and operate.
2. The General Conference elected a total of six transitional, part-time bishops to help lead our previously two elected bishops giving our denomination a total of eight episcopal leaders through the next General Conference in 2026. GMC Bishops will be responsible for maintaining our denomination through spiritual, theological, and doctrinal leadership.
3. The General Conference ratified the office of Conference Superintendent. Conference Superintendents will be responsible for temporal leadership [day-to-day work] in each annual conference. The new Conference Superintendent of the North Carolina Annual Conference is Rev. David Banks who moves into this new role from his previous office of President Pro Tempore.

*Rev. J.*

# Our Saint Paul Ministry Team

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## **Rev. James H. Harry** *Senior Minister*

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**Email: [jimharry@stpaulgoldsboro.org](mailto:jimharry@stpaulgoldsboro.org)**



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***As Senior Minister, Rev. Harry's primary roles are: Preaching & Teaching; Casting a vision for the congregation; and Developing key lay leaders to serve the church effectively.***

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Rev. James H. Harry, "Rev. Jim," grew up in northeastern Pennsylvania. He attended Berea College in Berea, Kentucky, and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education. Upon graduation, he taught elementary school in Hillsborough, North Carolina before answering the call to ministry.

Rev. Jim graduated from Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina earning his Master of Divinity degree in 1994. He served three congregations before his appointment to Saint Paul. Rev. Jim also served as House Chaplain for the North Carolina General Assembly House of Representatives from 1997-2009.

Rev. Jim has served as the Senior Minister at Saint Paul since 2009. He is an ordained Elder in the North Carolina Conference of the Global Methodist Church. Rev. Jim is married to Robin, and together they have four children and three grandchildren. He enjoys reading crime novels and mystery thrillers and is an avid bicyclist.

# Holton Johnson

## Music Director



**Email:**  
**[music@stpaulgoldsboro.org](mailto:music@stpaulgoldsboro.org)**

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***As Music Director, Holton Johnson serves as the church organist and accompanist and is responsible for the overall Music Ministry of Saint Paul Methodist Church. He leads and conducts the Chancel Choir, the Handbell Choir, and the Children's Music program. Holton is a full-time member of the Ministry Team.***

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Holton Johnson's musical journey began in Gulfport, Mississippi, where he first discovered his love for music while playing the Euphonium in his school band. This passion led him to Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, where he met his wife, Katelyn, and expanded his musical expertise to include voice and piano, alongside his euphonium studies. Holton pursued his passion at The University of Southern Mississippi, achieving a Bachelor of Arts in Music Education and a Master of Music in Choral Conducting. His academic journey was marked by performances as a soloist and ensemble member, and he sharpened his leadership and musical skills as a Graduate Assistant.

Holton's professional music career began while he was still completing his undergraduate degree, taking on the role of Music Director at Columbia Presbyterian Church. This position helped him develop essential skills in music management and coordination, laying a solid foundation for his future endeavors. In 2022, he became the Organist and Choirmaster at First Christian Church, where he continued to excel in his musical and leadership roles.

Holton has served as the Saint Paul Music Director since 2023. Outside of his professional life, Holton enjoys honing his barista skills, hiking, cooking, and spending quality time with his wife and their beloved dog, Maurice.

# Katelyn Johnson

## Children's Director

Katelyn Johnson, originally from Mississippi, completed her Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education at William Carey University in 2021. She first crossed paths with her future husband, Holton, in the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College marching band in 2017. The couple married in 2023 and moved to Goldsboro in June of that year. Katelyn currently teaches second graders at Wilson County Schools.

In October 2024, Katelyn and Holton are excited to welcome their first child, Anessa Rose.

Katelyn has served as the Saint Paul Church Children's Director since August 2024.



**Email:**  
**[kids@stpaulgoldsboro.org](mailto:kids@stpaulgoldsboro.org)**

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***As Children's Director, Katelyn Johnson dreams, plans, and implements the Children's Ministry at Saint Paul Methodist Church. She works closely with the Children's Committee to develop and organize ministry programs and events that nurture and grow our children, from birth to 5th grade. Katelyn is a part-time member of the Ministry Team.***

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# Bryan & Lindsay Hancock

## Youth Directors



**Email:**  
[youth@stpaulgoldsboro.org](mailto:youth@stpaulgoldsboro.org)

*As Youth Directors, Bryan and Lindsay Hancock dream, plan, and implement the Youth Ministry at Saint Paul Methodist Church. They develop relationships with our Middle and High School youth and build foundations to becoming disciples of Jesus.*

Bryan Hancock grew up in Charlottesville, Virginia. He attended Duke University in Durham, North Carolina as a lacrosse player, earning a bachelor's degree in Religious Studies in 1999.

Bryan and Lindsay met volunteering for Young Life ministries in college and were married in 1997.

Lindsay Hancock was raised in Raleigh, North Carolina. Growing up, she developed a passion for marine science on trips to Wrightsville Beach with her family. In 1996 Lindsay graduated with a bachelor's degree in Science Education from the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. She then received her Master of Marine Biology

degree from the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. After graduation, Lindsay taught one year of high school biology at West Brunswick High School.

In 1999 Bryan and Lindsay came on full-time staff with Young Life, moving to Goldsboro in 2001 to start the ministry here. Bryan works as the Area Director and Lindsay works as the Wyldlife (middle school) Coordinator.

Bryan and Lindsay have served as the Saint Paul Youth Directors since September 2024. Their three children, Noah, Mills, and Hallie, attend the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Bryan and Lindsay enjoy surfing, fishing, and anything that takes them to the beach!



# Lyndsey Clark

## Operations Director

Lyndsey Clark grew up in Hawkinsville, Georgia, and moved to Athens in 2002 to attend the University of Georgia, where she earned a Bachelor of Science in Marketing in 2004. She began her career with Flowers Foods Inc., undergoing comprehensive sales training and later managing distribution systems in Georgia and Tennessee. Lyndsey's career progressed through various roles within sales analytics and project management in Georgia and Florida. In 2011, Lyndsey and her husband, Adam Clark, relocated to Goldsboro, where she transitioned to the textile industry before moving into HR management and ultimately becoming the Director of Marketing for Cheney Brothers Inc.

During their time in Goldsboro, Lyndsey and Adam became active members of Saint Paul. They served in lay leadership roles and enhanced the church communications infrastructure, including expanding the digital footprint during COVID-19. In 2020, Lyndsey and Adam moved to Statesville, North Carolina, where Lyndsey continued her full-time position as the Director of Marketing with Cheney Brothers. In 2021, Lyndsey also accepted a part-time staff role in Communications at Saint Paul working remotely. In 2024, she dedicated herself full-time to building the kingdom of God and sharing the love of Jesus through the ministries at Saint Paul.

Lyndsey has served as the Operations Director at Saint Paul since May 2024. Lyndsey splits her time between working on-site in the church office and remotely from Statesville. She enjoys cooking and hosting family and friends, which is rooted in the desire to foster connections through shared meals.



**Email:**  
**communications@**  
**stpaulgoldsboro.org**

***As Operations Director, Lyndsey Clark manages the church operations, office, and finances and serves as the Assistant to the Senior Minister. She develops all church-wide communications, oversees the worship sound and live stream equipment, and maintains the IT infrastructure for the church campus. She is a full-time member of the Ministry Team.***

# Kim Harford

## Church Receptionist



**Email:**

**[stpaul@stpaulgoldsboro.org](mailto:stpaul@stpaulgoldsboro.org)**

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***As Church Receptionist, Kimberly Harford provides a friendly smile and a welcoming greeting for all who visit or call our Church Office. She assists with maintaining the church office and provides administrative support for all ministry areas. Kim is a full-time member of the Ministry Team.***

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Kimberly “Kim” Harford grew up in Greenville, North Carolina, and pursued her childhood dream of becoming a veterinarian. She earned her Bachelor of Science in Biology from Meredith College in 1989 and her Doctor of Veterinary Medicine from NC State College of Veterinary Medicine in 1993. Upon graduation, Dr. Kim served in several veterinary practices in Greensboro and other areas of western North Carolina. Due to an injury, Dr. Kim retired from veterinary medicine in 2008.

Kim then served as the Executive Support Coordinator for TriStar Marketing Group in Greensboro, North Carolina for 16 years.

Kim and her husband, Jack, met in the mountains of North Carolina and enjoy relaxing and exploring new adventures in the mountains. They have five children: John (Nevada), Carly (Indiana), Gordon (Nevada), Allyn (Virginia), and Aubrey (NC), and recently relocated from Mt. Airy to Fremont, marking a return to her roots in Eastern North Carolina.

Kim has served as the Saint Paul Church Receptionist since June 2024. Kim loves to spend time with her family and has a passion for riding horses.

# Annie Smith

## Custodian

Annie Smith graduated from Eastern Wayne High School in Goldsboro, North Carolina, and later studied Healthcare and Nursing at Lenoir Community College-Greene County in Kinston and Snow Hill, NC. Annie completed the Certified Nursing Assistant 1 and 2 programs as well as the Phlebotomy program.

Annie has lived in the Pikeville and Seven Springs, North Carolina areas since 1992.

As an entrepreneur, Annie began her own private business as a Caregiver in 2004. In 2007, she expanded her business to offer Housekeeping services. Annie began serving as the contracted, part-time Housekeeper for Saint Paul in 2018. Annie then transitioned to become a full-time employee working as the Custodian at Saint Paul.

Annie has served as the Saint Paul Custodian since 2021. Annie currently resides in Seven Springs and has three children: Danielle, Jeffrey, and Nicholas, AKA "Skoochie." Annie loves photography, fishing, and spending as much time with her family as possible.



**Email:**  
**custodian@**  
**stpaulgoldsboro.org**

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***As Custodian, Annie Smith is responsible for the cleanliness and upkeep of our facilities. She prepares all spaces for the ministries of Saint Paul. Annie is a full-time member of the Ministry Team.***

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# Saint Paul SUMMER RECAP

## Graduate Sunday



2024 Saint Paul  
High School Graduates:

Wesley Kaye

Bree LaFevers

Ben Seegars

Read More about our Graduates at:

[bit.ly/saintpaulgraduates2024](https://bit.ly/saintpaulgraduates2024)



## Special Music



17 Harrell Scholarships  
Awarded to our  
Saint Paul college students

## Summer of Psalms



## Confirmation Sunday



### Confirmation Class:

*Will Batchelor*

*Grace Daniels*

*James Daniels*

*Merritt Gower*

*Eli Ham*

*Julia Kinsey*

*Alex Krochta*

*Averie Milkowski*

*Parker Strickland*

*Rayland Wells*

*Benjamin Winders*

### Eagle Scout Awards:

*Hinton Crocker*

*McKee Lewis*

*Gray Seegars*

*Kemp Woodard*

## Eagle Scout Sunday



## Blessing of the Backpacks





## Methodist Men's Spaghetti Plate & Methodist Women's Bake Sale



**The Methodist Men sold over 500 Spaghetti Plates and the Methodist Women's Bake Sale was SOLD OUT.**





# Saint Paul SUMMER RECAP

(continued)

## Vacation Bible School

Over 90 kids attended our Vacation Bible School





## Rise Against Hunger

*15,117 meals were packed at Saint Paul that were shipped to feed communities in need in Madagascar.*





# Saint Paul SUMMER RECAP

(continued)

## First Responder Appreciation Luncheon



Over 300 lunches were prepared for our local Goldsboro Fire, Police, Sheriff, and Emergency Dispatch Responders.



## Saint Paul International Missionary Support





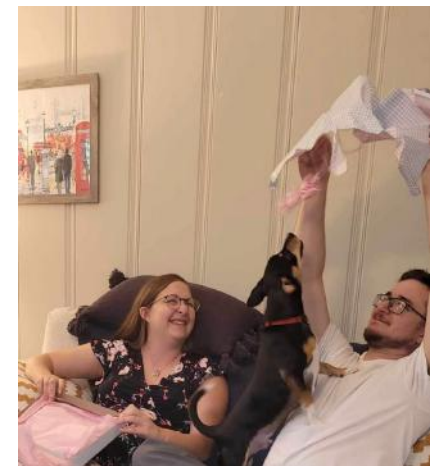
# From our *MUSIC* Ministry



Dear Church family,

As we all prepare for the busy Fall season and all of the great things it will bring, I'd like to take a moment to thank all of you. I have felt blessed since the first day we got here two summers ago. Traveling to another state to start a new life couldn't have been easier. You all have made my family feel so much at home. Whether it was Katy and I on our first Sunday, my mother and my brothers visiting for Christmas, or Katy's mother coming and visiting recently for the baby shower. At every turn, this church has been there to make sure we feel at home. I appreciate all that you have invested into my family. I feel so blessed to be able to serve this congregation as its music director. I cannot wait for the coming year and to add to our family in October.

Speaking of the coming year, here are some exciting ministry updates for you all!



**Holton Johnson**  
Music Director

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## ***Saint Paul Children's Choir***

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We've started our two children's choir rehearsals for the fall! Our children have been learning some songs for the upcoming services and will soon be starting to learn music for Christmas. We've been learning how to sing some of the church's favorite hymns and praise songs such as Amazing Grace and How Great is Our God! Be on the lookout for your children's choir to start singing in the coming services!

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## ***Cantata Choir***

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As the fall season arrives, the Christmas season comes to the horizon. Keep your ear to the ground for updates on this year's Cantata Choir. We will be singing an all new Cantata with strings and brass! Join us this year as we reign in the spirit of Christmas!

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## ***Theria McPhail Conservatory of Sacred Music***

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Since we started lessons just a number of weeks ago, our conservatory has seen some substantial growth. Each studio finds itself filled with more students each week that we are open. Instead of hearing it from me, here are some words from our instructors on their experience so far.



### **A word from our teachers...**

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### ***Ellis Harmon, Guitar***

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Having just completed my fourth week as the guitar instructor at Saint Paul, I am happy to report that things couldn't be better. My first four students are excited and motivated and have made quite a bit of progress in this short time. The teaching studios are spacious, well-supplied, and conducive to learning. In addition, the staff of this beautiful facility is friendly and professional. This is a promising start to a program that could be the largest and best music education institution between ECU and Raleigh. I hope I can help make that happen.

**Ellis Harmon  
Guitar Instructor**

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**Thomas Perkinson,**  
**Drum Set**

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Upon meeting Holton and learning more about the school, I was thrilled to get involved. The facilities and environment at Saint Paul are ideal for me as a teacher and my students. I love getting to know my students and learning what they want to do with music. It has been a joy getting to know everyone so far at Saint Paul and look forward to being a part of such a special program. My goal is to help people with their musical journey and to hopefully prepare them for whatever they decide to do with those passions. I grew up in North Carolina, so it is wonderful to see the music and arts community thriving in such a great place like Goldsboro. It is my pleasure to continue to be a part of everything going on here at Saint Paul and I am so thankful for the opportunity.

**Thomas Perkinson**  
**Drum Set Instructor**





# From Our *MUSIC* Ministry

(continued)

Hello! My name is Zach Blackburn and I am from Warsaw, NC. I am the piano instructor and have been teaching piano for 8 years. My favorite music to both listen to and play is Southern Gospel. During the day, I work full-time as a bookkeeper and manager for my family's catering company "Ezzells Catering".

So far in lessons, several students have already begun to read music and play chords. One student in particular has been able (after only 2 lessons) to play fluently with chords and by reading music. At this rate, they will be able to play for church within 2 months.

My life completely turned upside down when the Lord called me into the music ministry. I took classical for 6 years; to say I hated it is an understatement. At the age of 13, I had a powerful encounter with the Lord in a church service and, that very night, I began to play the piano. I had no recollection of any concept that was taught to me in 6 years of music. I only played what the Holy Spirit gave me and what my grandfather showed me. Ever since then, I have been blessed to minister to thousands of people across 10 states in person, and all 50 states and 7 countries online through social media!

In my opinion, music is the strongest community builder on the planet. The closest friends and mentors I have today are entirely because of music. For the Goldsboro community specifically, the opportunity to learn music as provided by Saint Paul will undoubtedly make Goldsboro a far better community. Music is one of the few things that allow all people regardless of their gender, racial, or socioeconomic background to come together as one. If a community and church are unified, music will be present. Nothing, other than Christ and his Holy Spirit, can unify a body of believers better than the power of spirit-anointed music. Because of the investment made by Saint Paul, the church itself, the community of Goldsboro, and even other parts of Eastern NC, will reap an unprecedented return on investment. I count it the blessing of a lifetime that I play a part.

**Zach Blackburn,**  
**Piano**



**Zach Blackburn**  
**Piano Instructor**

# From our CHILDREN'S Ministry



Hi everyone! My name is Katelyn Johnson. If my name sounds familiar, it should! I have been at Saint Paul with my husband, Holton Johnson, who happens to be the Music Director. We have been married for a year and we are expecting our first child, Anessa Rose Johnson. Pray for us as we begin the journey of starting our family.

Holton and I arrived here in June of 2023, and we have experienced nothing but love and the word of the Lord. I have enjoyed getting to be part of each event and ministry opportunity I could be part of. When the opportunity arose to be the Children's Director, I felt a tug in my heart. I am so blessed to have this opportunity and I am looking forward to all of the beautiful things we can accomplish together as the Saint Paul Family.

Right before summer ended, we had a fantastic VBS! We Started the Party and learned that ALL ARE INVITED to come learn about Jesus and God's plan for us. Acts 2:28 NIV-"You always show me the path that leads to life. You will fill me with joy when I am with you." Our children have been growing on the path to becoming faithful servants of God. Their hearts and minds have been opened to the joy of God! This in itself is a blessing. Growing the seeds of serving at young ages builds a love and devotion like no other.

We have recently started back our Children's Sunday School Ministry. From 10:00-10:45, our children and parents are celebrating the stories of Jesus and how they can apply them

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***In God's Name,  
lead us to be  
your disciples  
and help us  
deliver your  
word.***

***Amen.***

---

in their own ways. Sunday School is a blessing for all. As we share the word of our Lord, their faith grows stronger. Sunday School helps the relationship between the Lord and our children grow because they can SEE and FEEL how the Lord is present in their lives.

The month of September has had the theme: Live Bright! We have been teaching our children about how we can Shine God's Light and Love to those around us. We can learn how to show compassion and how to care enough to do something about someone else's needs. Our theme for October will be "Game Show: The Choice is Yours!" This month we will be talking about Self Control. It is a difficult thing to show, but with God's help, we can choose to do what's best even if we don't want to.

We have been blessed with incredible parents taking on the role of classroom teachers. If you feel that you are interested in becoming a teacher, assistant, volunteer, or supporter of our Children's Ministry in any way, please

contact me at [kids@stpaulgoldsboro.org](mailto:kids@stpaulgoldsboro.org). I will share the sign-up link with you individually or you can find it on the Saint Paul Home Page!

We will be planning for our Fall Festival very shortly, so keep an eye out for an announcement for this full of fun family day! We will be needing volunteers, so if you are interested in being a part of this event, feel free to reach out to me and I will gladly talk with you about how your gifts and talents can be used to make the day a success!!

As we embark on this journey together, we invite you to pray for our children to receive the messages of the Lord. Pray for the teachers to Shine God's Light into our children's hearts and minds. Pray for our church that we may continue to all spread God's word to those around us.

In God's Name, lead us to be your disciples and help us deliver your word, Amen.

**Katelyn Johnson**  
**Children's Director**



# Saint Paul Kids

## Children's Sunday School





# Saint Paul Youth

## Youth Kick-Off Pool Party



## Saint Paul Youth Fellowship



# From our *YOUTH* Ministry



Greetings from Saint Paul's middle and high school youth! We are in full swing down in the Saint Paul Youth Suite goofing off, drinking Capri-Suns, eating Cheetos, and getting into God's Word--a potent combination to be sure! We had an awesome pool party Kick-Off (Thank you Batchelors!) where we learned just how far a middle-schooler can fly to grab a stuffed animal hanging out over the pool. And now we're back on Sunday nights downstairs.

As parents, school years always seem to start like an avalanche-- there's a loud noise and then we all tumble downhill together out of control 'til we reach the bottom, all our energy spent, wondering "How in the world did we get here?" But oh, what a ride! Our hope is that Saint Paul Youth will be a bit of a refuge in that chaos. We want it to be a place where we have a great time together and ALSO a place where we draw close to God. Believe it or not, most kids don't know those things aren't mutually exclusive (well probably most of us don't always know that either)!

One of the big values we want to emphasize is familiarity and comfort with the scriptures. The Bible can be intimidating for teenagers. It's old. It's complicated. It's boring (at least to them, you and I would never think that...) But the simple truth is that as we spend time with Jesus, it's easy for us to do all the talking. We have to read the Bible so He can get a word in edgewise. And

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***Our hope is that  
Youth will be a  
bit of a refuge  
in that chaos.  
We want it to be  
a place where  
we have a great  
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and ALSO a place  
where we draw  
close to God.***

---





to do that we have to learn HOW to read the Bible. So every week as we go through a passage, we ask the 4 simple questions we've named "The Big 4."

- What stood out to you?
- What does this say about who God is?
- What does this say about who I am?
- And what made no sense to me?

Now I can't promise any of us downstairs will become biblical scholars. But as we dive into the Scriptures this way, we start to realize this is a two-way conversation, one that we can have every day. And with all the noise and the tumbling avalanche of life students face these days, that conversation is one they need more than anything.

*Bryan and Lindsay Hancock*  
Youth Directors

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***Saint Paul Youth  
Fellowship Schedule  
6:30-8:00 PM***

***Oct 13***

***Oct 27***

***Nov 10***

***Nov 24***

***Dec 8***

***Dec 15***

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# From Our *METHODIST WOMEN*

## *Ladies Night of Hope*

On September 10, nearly one hundred women gathered at Saint Paul for the eagerly anticipated Ladies Night of Hope dinner. This special event was organized by the Saint Paul Methodist Women. Our Titus 2 Women's Ministry brought Marcy Gregg as the inspiring guest speaker. Joining the Saint Paul community were women from Garris Chapel Church, Bethel Fellowship, Mount Carmel Church, and Saint Joseph's Methodist Church, all uniting to enrich their respective Methodist Women's ministries and better serve the wider community.

The evening was particularly memorable thanks to Marcy Gregg, who delivered a powerful message on hope and resilience. Marcy, an abstract painter, author, and speaker, recounted the profound challenges she faced following a life-altering coma during the birth of her third child at age 30. This incident erased memories from her life from the age of 17 onwards, a period that included becoming a wife and mother to three young children. The loss thrust her into a period of profound confusion and exhaustion, leading her to misuse alcohol to cope with her despair.

However, in her darkest moment, God reminded Marcy that He had saved her life for a higher purpose. This epiphany sparked a transformative journey of recovery and self-discovery, teaching her the power of surrender and trust in God. Despite enduring further hardships like the loss of her father, severe injuries, and chronic arthritis, Marcy also cherishes the joyful moments, such as watching her children grow up and sharing her story with others. Today, Marcy finds comfort and joy in her art, embedding each piece with a scripture that guides her creative process.

Marcy's life underscores her belief that each experience layers upon the last to forge us into who we are meant to be. Her story serves as a beacon of hope and a testament to the belief that trusting in God through every chapter of our lives crafts us into divine masterpieces, as articulated in Proverbs 3:5-6: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to Him, and He will make your paths straight."

Marcy Gregg's journey is a vivid reminder that every layer of life is significant—every moment shapes us, and trusting in God's plan is paramount.



# Ladies Night of Hope





The vision of the Saint Paul Methodist Women is to live into the Saint Paul mission as a Christian fellowship of women whose ministry is to enhance the lives of others, focusing on women, youth, and children. All women are invited to join one of our Saint Paul Methodist Women's Circles.

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### **Circle Meeting Schedule**

***Faith, Hope, & Charity Circle:  
2nd Tuesday of the month at  
10:30am (Saint Paul Parlor)***

***Unity Circle: 2nd Tuesday of  
the month at 11am (Saint Paul  
JP Edwards classroom)***

***ACTS Circle: 2nd Wednesday of  
the month at 6:30pm (upstairs  
of Hinnant Family Dentistry)***

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***Our Methodist Women's ACTS  
Circle potting special plants,  
each with a bible verse, to be  
delivered for our TLC Ministry***



# METHODIST WOMEN

(continued)



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## ***"Women in the Pulpit Sunday"***

***October 6***

***Our Saint Paul Methodist Women are leading our Worship Services on October 6 for "Women in the Pulpit Sunday."***

***We invite ALL women to join our special Women's Choir during the 11am Traditional Worship Service for that morning. This special Women's Choir will rehearse in the Choir Room on: October 2nd at 6:30pm and October 5th at 10:30am.***

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# Saint Paul MISSIONS TEAM: GLOBAL



Dear Saint Paul Church Family,

It is so exciting to be sharing with you about my ministry abroad. I have officially finished my time in The Netherlands and will be starting my ministry in France on Oct 7. While leaving The Hague will not feel real until I land in France, I would love to share some of the ways I am celebrating in my last few weeks here, as well as ways to pray for the next season.

Our summer camps were a huge success, meaning they were fun, kids were seen and known deeply, and the Gospel was proclaimed. One exciting aspect from this year was bringing a handful of Ukrainian students, along with one Russian (who is their best friend! Amazing!), to camp. I felt out of my league in this situation, but the Lord sent me Liana, a young Ukrainian woman with a strong faith, a heart for teenagers, and a “cool-factor” to rival a TikTok star, to lead with me at camp. We bonded so quickly, and not only did she love her experience as a leader with these students, she also wants to continue with our outreach ministry in her city. I am passionate about developing new leaders, and while Liana is naturally gifted in these areas, it is a privilege to train her before I leave. I pray that I can nurture this relationship so she can continue work in The Netherlands as a volunteer.



A few of our girls from camp with Liana (second from the right) and me.

October 1st, I will move to France! I am excited about starting a new English-speaking ministry in a city that has had the tradition of Young Life in French. My first order of business will be, perhaps ironically, to take French classes. Being accepted in France without the language is just not possible, especially when you add “missionary” on top of that. I am enrolled in a five-week, full-time intensive language school. I do not anticipate having brain capacity for much more than this, but any additional time will be spent getting to know the city of Lyon. Learning a new city, culture, and language will feel like drinking from a firehose, but I am genuinely looking forward to building this foundation of living in Lyon.

Please pray for me through the transition process and language school. The Holy Spirit has a beautiful way with languages, and I know I will need His help in this next season.



All of this would not be possible without your prayers, encouragement, and support. I am thankful to be partnering with you all to bring the Good News of Jesus to lost teenagers in France.

May the Lord continue to bless you as you are blessing others “to the ends of the earth!”

*Ginny Hughes*  
*Saint Paul International*  
*Missionary*



# Saint Paul MISSIONS TEAM: LOCAL

## *Nursing Home Ministry*

The Saint Paul Nursing Home Ministry, under the dedicated leadership of Ms. Jean Clay, has been a cornerstone of the Goldsboro community for over thirty years. Ms. Jean, along with her devoted team of volunteers, makes weekly visits to the Navion of Goldsboro assisted living facility every Monday morning. Together, they sing hymns and conduct a brief devotional, enriching the lives of the residents with old and beloved hymns from their specially curated hymnal, first printed in 1995.

This heartfelt ministry was initiated by Ms. Jean, Bob Bame—a former visitation minister at Saint Paul—and Joann Turner, who now resides at the Navion facility. The residents eagerly await these visits, which they describe as a joyful and uplifting highlight of their week. They deeply appreciate the generosity of spirit shown by the Saint Paul community, who share their time and talents so selflessly.

We extend our deepest gratitude to Ms. Jean for her unwavering leadership and to all the volunteers who have supported this ministry through the years. They meet at 10:45am each Monday at the Navion facility on North Berkeley Blvd. We invite anyone interested in volunteering to join us. Volunteers can participate in singing, play musical instruments, distribute hymnals, help residents navigate their song pages, or simply share a joyful smile. Experience firsthand how the Saint Paul ministry serves others in the name of Jesus!



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## ***Flower Ministry***

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The Saint Paul Flower Ministry is dedicated to helping bridge the gap between our congregation and members who are unable to attend



regular Worship Services or participate in many of our ministry activities. Each week, altar flowers, often dedicated in memory or honor of loved ones during Worship Services, are repurposed by this ministry. Ms. Mailande Schrum skillfully arranges these flowers into smaller bouquets that are then delivered to the homes of church members every Monday.

This thoughtful ministry helps maintain the connection between the church and its members, reminding them that they remain an integral part of our church family, despite not always being able to join in worship and fellowship. You can support the Saint Paul Flower Ministry by donating altar flowers, providing empty vases for arrangements, or volunteering to deliver flowers. For more details, please contact the Church Office.

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## ***C4C Ministry***

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Congregations for Children (C4C) is a ministry that partners churches with public schools in their communities to supply support to children, teachers, and staff. Saint Paul Methodist Church has been a partner with Carver Heights Elementary School on Bunche Road for the last 8 years.

A few of the ways Saint Paul Methodist Church has supported Carver Heights are:

- **Monday Munchies:** The Faith, Hope, and Charity Circle brings snacks for the teachers and staff on the first Monday of each month.
- **Reading and Lunch Buddies:** you can be a reading buddy and/or have lunch with a child on Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday of each week at Carver Heights.
- **C4C Christmas Tree:** a Christmas tree will be in the narthex throughout Advent. Just take a tag off the tree and bring back a \$10 gift card for teachers and staff.
- **Backpack Buddies:** the Saint Paul congregation provides food bags quarterly for about 30 students of Carver Heights who have been identified as being food insecure at home on weekends. November is our next designated month.

If you have any questions about C4C or how you can participate, please contact Robin Harry.



# HOSPITALITY Ministry

## *Celebrations of Christian Marriage*

Caroline Elizabeth Taylor and Jason “Blake” Phillips were joined in Christian marriage on April 20, 2024 in the Sanctuary of Saint Paul Methodist Church.



We were blessed to celebrate the service of Christian marriage for Matt and Sherry Young this summer. They were surrounded by the warmth and love of their families during their beautiful ceremony.





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## ***Shirley Swann Atkins***

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Born on October 23, 1938, Shirley demonstrated the epitome of what it means to have a servant's heart. She dedicated her life to teaching for more than 30 years in Georgia, South Carolina, and North Carolina. During her spare time and after retirement, Shirley spent countless hours volunteering with her church, Saint Paul Methodist Church, and with a number of nonprofit organizations and community groups, including her beloved Beta Sigma Phi sorority.

Her family brought her the greatest joy, especially her grandchildren, William and Elizabeth Atkins and Anna Kitchin. Shirley loved to gather her family around her beautifully decorated dining room table for special occasions, always finding time for a quick holiday trivia game or a brief moment to reflect on thankfulness. She also loved traveling with her sister and brother-in-law, Fran and Frank Jordan. For many years, she called Black Mountain, NC, home and always loved returning there to visit and explore all of her favorite places.

Shirley was predeceased by her mother, Mary Johnson, brother, Paul Swann, and sister, Fran Jordan. She is survived by her daughter, Mary Hinnant (Jim) of Goldsboro, and son, David Atkins (Beth Anne) of Winterville; three grandchildren, Anna Kitchin (Isaiah), William Atkins, and Elizabeth Atkins, and one great-grandchild, Israel Kitchin.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation in Shirley's memory to Saint Paul Methodist Woman, 204 E Chestnut Street, Goldsboro, NC 27530. A memorial service will be held at Saint Paul Methodist Church in Goldsboro on Thursday, Aug. 1, at 1 p.m.

# *HOSPITALITY Ministry*

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## **Mary Kasell Groce**

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Mary Kasell Groce, 81, passed away on Saturday, September 7, 2024 at UNC Health Wayne. Born in Wayne County on March 20, 1943, she was the daughter of the late Eddie and Lela Mitchell Kasell.

In addition to her parents, Mary was preceded in death by her first husband, Gordon McMillan, Jr. and siblings, Carl Kasell, Grace Newber, Jackie Kasell, and Jerry Douglas Kasell.

Mary is survived by her husband of 49 years, Dennis L. Groce; daughter, Sherry Hambright and husband, Dr. Wesley Hambright; and grandchildren, Dr. Parker Louin Hambright and wife, Megan and Sarah Kasell Hambright and fiancée, Jared Daborowski.

Mary grew up worshipping at Goldsboro Friends Meeting and later in life moved her membership to St. Paul Methodist Church. For 40 years Mary worked with several banks, starting her career with Wachovia and retiring from BB&T as a Banking Officer.

Mary was an avid tennis player and enjoyed time spent on the tennis court with family and friends. She took pride in her yard, working for hours outside tending to her shrubs and flowers. Mary also enjoyed needlepoint and sharing her creations with her loved ones.

A graveside service to celebrate Mary's life will be held at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 10, 2024 at Willow Dale Cemetery with Rev. Phyllis Vail officiating. The family will receive friends following the service at the cemetery.

The family would like to express their heartfelt gratitude to Mary's caregiver, Stacy Oliver for her compassionate care. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be directed to the Wayne County Animal Shelter, 1600 Clingman Street, Goldsboro, NC 27534.

**BRING YOUR FRIENDS!  
OPEN TO EVERYONE**

**SAINT PAUL METHODIST CHURCH  
204 E CHESTNUT ST  
GOLDSBORO**

**Community  
CONCERT**

**@ SAINT PAUL**

**SUNDAY  
SEPTEMBER 29  
AT 4:00 PM**

**TIM ZIMMERMAN &  
THE KING'S BRASS**



**EVERYONE IS INVITED TO JOIN US ON  
SEPTEMBER 29 AT 4 PM  
FOR A COMMUNITY BRASS BAND CONCERT WITH THE KING'S BRASS**



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For more than twenty years, **The King's Brass** has performed over one hundred concerts each season with three trumpets, three trombones, a tuba, keyboards, and percussion. Playing a wide variety of music, from Gabrieli to hymn classics, from Handel to jazz spirituals, and from Christmas carols to patriotic marches, The King's Brass concert will lift hearts and spirits in praise.



—”  
**THANK  
YOU**  
—”



**OCTOBER  
IS  
PASTOR  
APPRECIATION  
MONTH**



**Saint Paul**  
Methodist Church