

Saint Paul United Methodist Church

ST. PAUL'S PAGES

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JUNE 2010



Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.

The people of The United Methodist Church®

Sharing God's Gifts Through Mission

“And whatever you do, in word and deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God . . . through him”
Colossians 3:17, NRSV



Recently the Virginia Conference Board of Ministries has instituted a “**Mission mentors**” Program to train persons to be mentors in the theology of mission.

This is a way for us to better understand the nature and purpose of the Church’s mission. It is also a way to train some,

To train and teach others. For we are all involved in mission, in the work and nature of the Church to be about the Great Commission of Sharing God’s gifts with the world around us! What a wonderful thing!

Some of the highlights of this training are the following themes and characteristics. They are helpful to us in our work of mission here at St. Paul Church. Let us adopt them as our own.

- **A sense of call to God’s mission**
- **A passion for mission**
- **Involvement in mission locally, nationally and internationally**
- **A vision of mission beyond one’s own local congregation**
- **Able to see the “big picture” of God’s mission**

If we can embody these values of mission, what a remarkable

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call to ministry we will have. Not that what are currently doing is small or insignificant, or minimal, but rather our vision and actions take on a greater sense of urgency for mission in general!

I am grateful for what St. Paul does in mission and applaud all of our efforts, and know that we are always looking to expand our view and increase our service: All in the name of Jesus Christ!

Together in Ministry,

Doug Kanney

Our United Methodist Homes

As is customary for United Methodists across the conference from Mother's Day to Father's Day, we always take up a "special offering," **"The Samaritan Fund,"** for our Retirement Homes and Homes for the Aging.

This is one of the ways we acknowledge and support those who have been active in the church throughout their lifetime and who now needs some support in their retirement years. For many retirees they have sufficient finances for their needs, for others, our special offering assists them to meet their costs and expenses.

Thanks to us, those who help, many of our United Methodists are able to enjoy the benefits of our United Methodist Homes!

June Birthdays

- Brenda Woolwine—1
- Josie Bishop— 1
- Sami Oty—2
- Kelli Buhrdorf—6
- Bently Wood—11
- McKenzie White—13
- Phyllis Clarkson—15
- Roger Woolwine—15
- Cynthia Ferguson—19
- Tom Blanchard—19
- Chip Lawson—20
- Patty Lusk—22
- Emily Fitch—23
- Juanita Thomas—24
- Inessa Cooper—24
- Eunice Smith—24
- Alex Barrett—26
- Irene Arthur—27
- Tiffany Cunningham—28
- Glenna Earles—30
- Treva Toothman—30
- Vickie Sciarretta—30



About Your Parsonage Family

MICHAEL COPELAND

Hometown: Oak Ridge, Tennessee

Married to Donna Jean Burcham (May 21, 1983)

Studied Sacred Music (Voice Major) at Carson-Newman College

Graduated from Oklahoma Baptist University with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Elementary Education

Graduated from the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity Degree with Religious Education

Completed Clinical Pastoral Education at the Medical College of Virginia Hospital

Michael worked his way through college and seminary as a church musician and taught third grade for a semester between college and seminary. He spent four years serving Southern Baptist churches as an Associate Pastor and Pastor before entering the Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church in 1988. Michael enjoys History, reading, a little golf and University of Tennessee football.

DONNA COPELAND

Donna was born in Charleston, West Virginia and grew up in New City, New York until her family moved to be near her mother's family in North Carolina. Upon graduation from high school she completed her studies in cosmetology in the Campbell-Mitchell Hairstyling Academy in Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. She worked as a hairstylist for ten years. She has also worked as a receptionist at an office furniture store in Greensboro, NC, and as a bank teller in Essex County, Virginia. She has spent the past twenty-two years as a full-time mother and housewife. Donna especially enjoys keeping up with her children's activities. She also enjoys music, cross stitching and reading.

SAMUEL COPELAND

Samuel graduated with honors from Covington High School in 2007. While in high school he played clarinet in the CHS Band and led the Marching Cougars as Drum Major his junior and senior years. He was a member of the CHS Track and Cross Country Teams. He is now a student at James Madison University where he is majoring in History and pursuing a minor in Computer Information Systems. He is on track to graduate in May of 2011. Samuel enjoys History, music and golf.

LEAH COPELAND

Leah graduated with honors from Covington High School in 2007. While in high school she sang first soprano in the CHS Madrigals and played bells in the CHS Band. She was a cheerleader during Football and basketball seasons and an active member of the Beta Club. Leah is now a student at Roanoke College where she is majoring in Health and Human Performance and she is a member of Main Street, a women's vocal ensemble. Leah is on track to graduate in May of 2011. Leah enjoys Music, reading and creative writing.

Our Church Finances in 2010

***“Thanks be to God, for the most generous
Gift of all. . . Our Lord Jesus Christ”***

As we move into the second half of this year, our Church Finances show improvement in that we are on target to meet our financial obligations and expenses! This is a compliment to our members and friends who support throughout the year and help us to do the kind of ministry that we are proud of!

As we begin June, we are almost on target with our receipts for the first five months of the year! And as we move into the summer, the excitement of our new minister will generate stronger summer and this in itself will assist with our gifts, tithes and offerings!

We want to thank you for your constant and considerable support of St. Paul UMC, of our ministry in this community, and of our connectional ministry around the world! As John Wesley said, “The world is our Parish” and as United Methodist, we take that seriously!

Our Endowment Fund

Just recently there was an Endowment Fund Dinner to describe and explain the Endowment Fund of St. Paul UMC. **The nature of this fund is to gather, invest and prepare for the future of the Church.**

This is a responsible way for us today to strive to continue the church into the future, to make plans and prepare for what will be and for those who will follow after us. For there are those who made it possible for us to enjoy what we enjoy today in the church.

For instance, the church we now worship in cost over \$300,000 to complete! Now, that doesn't seem like a lot of money today to build a church, but in the 1960's that was A LOT OF MONEY!

And as we well know, someone else paid for the church in which we now worship. And as we maintain it today, we will insure that those who follow after us will have the same blessings and opportunities that we enjoy. The Endowment Fund is a way for us to provide for and secure the future for those who will come!

Thanks for your support of and contributions to St. Paul's Endowment Fund! You may contribute to The Fund in many ways: such as a cash gift, through your will and bequest, an insurance policy, stocks, bonds, or even a gift of property and land.

A Word of Congratulations!

At this year's Annual Conference there will be new appointments assigned to a number of clergy. One of those who will be receiving an appointments our own **Rev. Charles DeHart!**

Charles and Vivian will be appointed to Mt Elbert UMC in Riner, Virginia in the position of Retired Supply! This is a wonderful opportunity for Charles and Vivian and for MtElbert for they will be a blessing to each other. Not only will Charles and Vivian enjoy the wonderful folks there, but the people of Mt Elbert will have a real joy and blessing in the DeHart's ministry with them.

A good note for us is that Charles will continue in his role and responsibility as our Children and Youth Coordinator, and will be with us on most Sundays for the 11 O'Clock service.

We are excited for Charles and Vivian and certainly will pray for the best in their ministry at Mt Elbert! Congratulations Charles and Vivian!

Nursery Update

Check out our new sign-in board in the hallway right outside the nursery door! Effective immediately, please begin signing your children in prior to dropping them off. You are encouraged to leave a cell phone number where you can be reached, but please keep your phone on "vibrate" so as not to disturb the congregation. Thank you!



Communion Offering

Where does your Communion Offering go? During the month of April we gave \$1,258 to 30 families in the Christiansburg area. This has helped these families keep their electric on, food on their table, a place to live and in other ways where there is need. Your special Communion offering makes this possible. Thank you.

Congratulations to Our Graduates

High School

Preston Childress	Christiansburg High School
Nathaniel Akers	Christiansburg High School
Grace Goodpasture	Christiansburg High School



College/University

Stephanie Castellano Virginia Tech—Psychology
Granddaughter of Flora Phelps

Kayla Hanks Southwest Virginia Community College-Radiologic Technology
Daughter of Billy & Terry Hanks and granddaughter of Marietta Hanks

Brittany Ferguson Radford University-BS in Elementary Education
Daughter of Cynthia Ferguson

Anne Lawson Radford University—Masters in Counseling

Susan Bishop Thomas Bluefield College (December 2009) - BS in Management & Leadership

Amber Reed MBA from UNC's Kenan-Flagler Business School
Granddaughter of Lynette Reed

If you are a graduate or have a graduate in the family and are not included in this list, contact the church office. We will recognize our graduates on June 6th.

Spirit Update

If anyone would like to be added to the list to receive our weekly newsletter by email, or if you have any announcements that you would like to include in the weekly email newsletter, please send me your email address and I will be happy to include you. I sent the Spirit Update out every Thursday. My email address is: SpiritUpdate@stpaulvaumc.org or Deanne@frankspicercoc.com.

Teacher Appreciation Sunday

*“Tell me the stories of Jesus I love to hear;
things I would ask him to tell me if he were here.”*

“Tell Me the Stories of Jesus” #277

On Sunday, June 13th we will recognize and celebrate the many persons in our congregation who serve as teachers in all our classes, from our nursery and toddlers, to our women’s and men’s classes.

These are special and important people to us in that they are our “teachers” and **examples for Christian Living!** They help us to discover the ways and means for us to love and follow Jesus Christ! They are the ones who “interpret” and describe the Christian way of life, and as one teacher has said so simply, but eloquently, “tell us the stories of Jesus!”

We are grateful for our teachers and leaders in Christian Education for “together we learn and grow in the Christian Fellowship!”

Welcoming Our New Clergy Family

“Christ is alive, and goes before us to show and share what love can do.

This is a day of new beginnings; our God is making all things new!”

“This Is a Day of New Beginnings #383

Our United Methodist Appointment System is remarkable in that as one Pastor moves to a new appointment, another comes to take their place. It is a way for each church to have a minister and pastor and spiritual leader and to continue its ministry without missing a beat.

As we say “Farewell” to the Goodpastures, we will gather on Sunday, July 11th to formally say “Welcome” to the Copelands, our new Parsonage Family!

We are excited in that Bishop Kammerer has appointed The Rev. Michael D. Copeland and his wife Donna to be our new Pastor and family. They are coming from Trinity UMC on The Staunton District to make their home with us in Christiansburg.

And so, on Sunday, July 11th there will be one service of worship, so that we might Welcome the Copelands in style and celebration. There will be a Reception in the Fellowship Hall immediately following the morning worship service.

We hope that you will be present with us for this important time of Welcome and introduction for Michael and Donna and their family!

Farewell and God's Speed to Goodpastures

On Sunday, June 27th, The Rev. Dr. David Goodpasture and his family will say farewell to St. Paul United Methodist church and become the new Pastor to Thalia United Methodist Church on the Norfolk District.



Dr. Goodpasture and his family have been our minister and pastor and friend for the last six years and in that time we have come to know and love him, and he has been faithful in many ways to us.

As David, Jannette, Grace and Louise go to make a new home with the United Methodist of Thalia, we pray God's blessings upon them, wishing them well in their new home, with new neighbors, and friends and church members.

As a way of affirming David's ministry with us at St. Paul we will have a special service of farewell on Sunday, June 27th with only one service of worship that day, with a reception in the Fellowship Hall in Honor of the Goodpastures to follow.

We want to express our appreciation for the Goodpastures' ministry with a gift that day. You may make your gift to St. Paul UMC, designated as "Goodpasture Gift." This will be a good way for us to thank them for their six years as our Parsonage Family!

We hope you will join us that day for a time of farewell and appreciation, and for celebrating the life of St. Paul Church!

Mission Trip—July 11-17

Volunteers Needed—We will return to our 2009 destination, the Bennett Center in London, Kentucky. The organization, opportunities to serve God, fellowship and food last year were all fantastic and I predict the same for 2010. Minimum Age is 12 and light-duty work is available. You don't have to be a member of St. Paul UMC, or any church for that matter. We welcome anyone who wants to help folks as a part of their faith journey. God calls us to help others as Jesus Christ did. Helping people is a powerful inspiration to them, and packs a powerful reward for you as well. If you cannot go please sponsor someone with your check to St. Paul UMC and put "Volunteers in Mission" in the memo field. Registration is Sunday, May 30th Contact Todd Fitch at 320-7413 or misions@stpaulvauhc.org to sign up or with any questions.

Update from Pastor David...

As springtime now moves into summer, the days are hurrying along for my family and me. Our daughters, Grace and Louise, have now played their final soccer games for Christiansburg High School. Soon, Grace will graduate and she and Louise will be saying goodbyes to schoolmates. Grace is anticipating a move to Winchester, VA in August to begin her freshman year at Shenandoah University. Louise will be enrolling later this summer at Princess Anne High School in Virginia Beach where she will begin the 10th grade in September.

During the last week of this month the four of us will be moving to Virginia Beach where Jannette and I will begin pastoral appointments on July 1st. I will be serving the Thalia United Methodist Church in Virginia Beach and Jannette will pastor the Colonial Avenue United Methodist Church in Norfolk.

We are grateful to all of our St. Paul friends for the loving support you have extended to us over these six years and particularly during the more recent times of my renewal/transition leave and of Jannette's gall bladder surgery the last week of May. We appreciate the many expressions of love afforded us in the way of hugs, meals, cards, calls, and gifts (including an anonymous "mystery prize" of \$100). This time of sabbatical leave continues to be a blessing and a time of healing and strengthening for me as I have had opportunities to attend training events and to spend time in counseling in preparation for my next couple of decades of pastoral ministry.

We look forward to being with you in worship on Farewell Sunday, June 26th (11:00 AM worship service only that day) and at the reception to follow at noon. May God continue to bless the strong witness for Jesus Christ that is the St. Paul United Methodist Church.

Grace and peace to you,

Pastor David

May God be with you Pastor David, and the entire Goodpasture Family. We will miss you!



Farewell

Praying For and Supporting One Another

*“O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
to be consoled as to console;”* Prayer of St. Francis

As I have said a number of times, **“we are all in this (life) together!”** That we all need a little help and probably a whole lot of support as we go through life, day by day, from one experience to another. Life is a wonderful gift, and as we all know, it is not always easy.

One of the ways that we find life “bearable” and can make it through life is first of all our faith in Jesus Christ! To know God’s love for us and for others, and that we are never alone or desolate.

Another important way we make it through life is through the love and care and support of one another! For as we offer to others our love and care, their lives are better, richer, fuller because we care. Now, modestly enough, it does matter when someone cares for us and shows their love and concern for us! It’s a personal thing!

So, on Tuesday mornings we gather as a prayer group, of friends and neighbors and members of the church to pray for one another; and to pray for the needs of other persons that are brought to our attention. This is an exciting time, for we believe that God is in our midst and that God is at work in and through us! We pray for God’s presence, strength, healing and guidance in the lives of those whose names are before us! This is indeed exciting and humbling, for we assume some responsibility for what is going on and happening in the lives of other people! Thanks be to God for the strength that God gives us throughout life.

Doug Kanney, Minister of Discipleship

Stewardship Corner -- Tom Bell

June ends the second quarter of the year and a focus on the second of four aspects of Christian stewardship. In the first quarter, it was stewardship of our time. This quarter we consider stewardship of our talents. “How has God blessed you through using your talents?”

The Virginia Conference of the UMC is calling attention to our talents, with the “Five Talent Academy.” The key areas of focus of the academy are ministry with the poor, worship, faith development, evangelism, stewardship and the creation of new faith communities. As you consider these, I expect you can identify one or more areas where your talent(s) can be used. When we use our talents, it has many positive effects. We experience a unique satisfaction and are energized, renewed. Let us pray to be good stewards of our talents.

Choir's Vacation

***“When in our music God is glorified, and
adoration leaves no room for pride . . .” -***

“When in Our Music God Is Glorified” #68

After Music Sunday, our Choirs need a break! Just kidding about needing a break, but in the summer the church's choirs have a reduced schedule and some needed time off for family, travel and rest.

So from June 6th to about August 4th our Choirs will be on Summer Break and resting up for the fall. During that time, there will be planned special music of a variety, and we will also enjoy some additional congregational music and singing.

We want to thank all of our choirs, their directors and accompanists for their faithfulness throughout the year, and for the wonderful music they provide for our worship experiences. We are grateful for their talents, gifts and witness of faith in the words and music they sing!

Adopt-A-Bed/Room Project

I was one of the recipient of this years Leading Lights Award. In addition to my recognition, I was awarded \$1,000.00 to go to the charity of my choice. I chose the Women's Resource Center as that recipient and started this Adopt-A-Bed/Room project. The WRC is a domestic violence/sexual assault shelter for women and children. Our shelter relies on donations, of which I know you support, and I hope this drive would not affect that in any way. Attached please find a structure of our resident rooms that hopefully with generosity such as yours, we can fulfill. My hope is to make our bedrooms more warm and inviting to our guests.

On behalf of the Women's Resource Center and myself, I would like to thank you in advance for all of your consideration to this project and appreciation of your generous donation. Checks can be made payable to the Women's Resource Center, (adopt a bed). Thank you for all you do for the WRC and our community. If you should need to contact me for any reason, you can call me at home at 381-8089, or at the WRC on Tuesdays at 639-1123.

Marjorie Vitale, Women's Resource Center Volunteer, Leading Lights 2010 Recipient

From the Coordinator of Children & Youth

God is truly amazing! He always has a plan for our lives, yet the unfolding of his plan may seem to mortal man as a mysterious series of events which culminate in our acceptance or rejection; or possibly, just being delayed a little. Long ago, this pastor figured that His claim upon my life was bigger and better than any plan of my own, so it is with a deep sense of joy and anticipation that I have accepted the opportunity to serve the people of Mt Elbert United Methodist Church as their **part-time pastor**. The most joyful part of God's plan for the DeHart's to assume this new relationship is that Viv and I will still be able to worship with you at the 11 O'Clock service at St. Paul UMC on most Sunday's each month. I will still be available to our Youth 4:30-6:00 on Sunday afternoons. Viv and I look forward to First Thursday luncheons each month, and so many other activities and meetings in our great church. The one heavy regret that both of us share is that we cannot attend our regular Sunday School class, "The Good News" class with Tom Bell as our leader and guide.

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee has graciously accepted the news, and will continue to have our staff relationship remain the same as it is presently setup so that we can explore together God's amazing grace upon our lives. With respect to current planning for Children and Youth: **Vacation Bible School** is right on track with a wonderful response of volunteers. **VBS** begins on July 12-16th; the Youth Event will take place shortly thereafter (more info to come); and a summer off—campus event (similar to the "Billy-Goat-Gruff" play at the Lyric Theatre last March) is in the offing for our younger Sunday Schoolers.

Finally, Viv and I want to express to each of you how much we enjoy worshipping together here as St. Paul UMC, and we look forward to many great years to come. To God be the glory!

Always in Christ,

Pastor Charles

BLOOD DRIVE

Thursday, June 3rd

1 PM-7 PM

St. Paul United Methodist Church

Call Carol at the church office (382-2410) or Joyce Bishop (382-8403) to schedule an appointment.

