



ST. PAUL'S
United Methodist Church of Odessa
Reaching Up, Reaching In, Reaching Out

MIDWEEK
August 8, 2018

BUILDING THE BODY OF CHRIST



FREE TO A GOOD HOME

LAST CHANCE to check out the book shelf in the Narthex and help yourself. After this Sunday, any leftover books will be donated.

WEEKLY GATHERINGS

- ✦ Office Hours Monday thru Friday 9 AM – 2 PM (**Office will be closed on Fridays in August**)
- ✦ Chancel Choir Rehearsal – Tuesdays 6:30 PM (**starting 8/21**)
- ✦ Bible Study – Wednesdays 10:30 AM
- ✦ TOPS Meeting – Wednesdays 6 PM
- ✦ St. Paul's Ringers Rehearsal – Wednesdays 6:30 PM (**starting 8/29**)
- ✦ 8:30 Worship Ensemble Rehearsal – Wednesdays 7 PM
- ✦ NAMI – 4th Thursdays 7 PM
- ✦ Pastor's Sabbath – Fridays
- ✦ AA Meeting – Saturdays 7 PM

UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS

- ✦ Thursday, August 9 Organize Supplies for Bookbag Give A Way in Fellowship Hall at 10 AM
- ✦ Tuesday, August 14 Trustees Meeting at 6:30 PM
- ✦ Friday, August 17 from 6:30-8:30 PM & Saturday, August 18 from 9 AM to 11:30 AM
Leadership Team Retreat--more info to come!
- ✦ Sunday, August 19 Sunday School Teacher and Youth Leader Meeting in Fellowship Hall at 9:45 AM
- ✦ Monday, August 20 UMM Staying on Par with God, Odessa National, Tee time 9 AM
- ✦ Tuesday, August 21 Chancel Choir rehearsals begin from 6:30-8 PM
- ✦ Tuesday, August 21 Cub Scouts Popcorn Kick-off Meeting in Fellowship Hall at 6:30 PM

- ✦ Saturday, August 25 UMM Breakfast Meeting in Fellowship Hall at 8 AM
- ✦ Monday, August 27 Trustees Meeting at 6:30 PM
- ✦ Wednesday, August 29 St. Paul's Ringers rehearsals begin from 6:30-8 PM
- ✦ Sunday, September 9 **SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF** in the back-parking lot and grove area from 9:30-10:45 AM
- ✦ Saturday, October 6 **CHARGE CONFERENCE**

WE CHANGE IT UP A BIT IN THE SUMMER while we will continue to have our regular two worship services. Our worship leaders for the summer will be mostly from our Leadership Teams & Ministry Groups. **Remember that someone in your group will need to be liturgist for the assigned Sunday.** And if your group cannot do the week assigned, please reach out and switch with another group. Most groups have several members or folks that are connected from which they can recruit to assist. It's that simple. **The list is** as follows for **both** liturgists and Fellowship:

- 8/12 MISSIONS & OUTREACH
- 8/19 WORSHIP COORDINATORS
- 8/26 MEMBERSHIP MINISTRIES

Reaching Up to praise God in vibrant worship

August 12 REGULAR WORSHIP at 8:30 & 11 AM

Imitating the Love of Christ

Scripture Foundation: Ephesians 4:25-5:2

Key verses: 5:1-2:

Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, 2 and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Too often, our busy lives are filled with work, tasks, and behaviors that leave no room for other things we aspire to do. We say we'd like to eat healthy foods, but have no time to cook. We say we'd like to spend more time with family, friends, and God, but fill our days with other activities that leave no room for these significant others. The tail wags the dog, or the cart pulls the horse. What would it look like to live more intentionally into the promises we make to ourselves and to others? Paul's letter to the Ephesians (4:25-5:2) gives us a reality check: in order to open our lives to the love of God in Christ, we must put away (give up) many habits of lying, isolation, and fear that leave no room for truth, love, and community. Giving up is hard. Yet Paul reminds us that Christ showed us the Way that leads to love, by giving himself up for us.

**Yellow Hat goes to support the Book Bag Give A Way for Neighborhood House
Don't forget to wear your Name Tags!**

We are thinking of combining the bulletins for both services on Sundays...so instead of having a bulletin for each service (8:30am & 11am) we will have one bulletin for both services. The designated time for each service will be noted next to the hymns listed. Please contact the office and let us know what you think!

WORSHIP COORDINATOR	8:30 AM	11 AM
Ushers: June Stemmler	Paul Loder, Greg Apps, John Harmer, Alan Martin, Dave Sydnor, Dave Pearl	Denis Shaffer, Dean Hatton, John Harmon & Charlii Miller
Liturgist: Alice Mullins	Patti Harmer	Steve Johnson
Greeters: Johanna Learish	Mike & Ally Kennedy	Helen George
Acolytes	Emerson Hickey	
Com. Set-up: Kathy Chas	Estelle Peter 2 Chalices 1 loaf + plate of non-gluten	3 Chalices 1loaves + plate of non-gluten
Com. Servers: Carole Harmon	Beth O'Grady & Courtney Martin	Kenzel Messick & Barbara Lynn Manlove
Young Disciples	Wendy Wallace	Janet Miller
Word in Song		<i>Prelude & Fugue in C Minor & Engulfed Cathedral</i> Emily Marcinko
Flowers: Janet Rowley	Linda Botsford in honor of grandson's 7 th birthday & granddaughter's 1 st birthday	
Fellowship:	Mission & Outreach	
Counters: Sandy Urstadt	Helen George & Faye Taylor	

COMMISSION ON A WAY FORWARD Report Released, July 31, 2018

The final report of the Commission on a Way Forward has been released in all four official languages of the General Conference: English, French, Portuguese and Swahili. The report will be presented to the 2019 Special Session of General Conference. Find the report online at <https://www.pen-del.org/newsdetail/11608801>

Our Bishop, Peggy Johnson, will hold an informational and Q&A session about the report in our District on **Tuesday, September 18, 2018, from 6:30-8:30 pm, at Cornerstone UMC**, 3135 Summit Bridge Rd Bear, DE 19701. Topic: "The Way Forward" Conversations about the February special session of General Conference that will deal with the issue of homosexuality and the UMC.

Please take the time to read the report and to lift up our United Methodist Church worldwide, that God may lead us together to live, love, and witness faithfully – and that we may glorify and love God in all things, as we love our neighbors as ourselves. Pastor Bo will be happy to speak with you about your questions or reactions to the report and process.

About the Commission: *The 32-member Commission on a Way Forward was appointed by the Council of Bishops to assist the bishops in their charge from the 2016 General Conference to lead the church forward amid the present impasse related to LGBTQ inclusion and resulting questions about the unity of the church.*

Commission on a Way Forward offers more video resources for 2019 General Conference <https://www.pen-del.org/newsdetail/11543282>

PASTORAL LETTER

Dear Saints,

I've been enjoying the rounds of meetings and opportunities to get to know leaders and members and friends of St. Paul's and to hear your stories. Of course, I feel a sense of urgency to meet everyone at once, but I'm learning to trust God to arrange the appointments and conversations, to not only be patient, but to live in the peace that Jesus creates in the grace that fills our lives. You cannot know how much it warms my heart to see the body of Christ in action throughout the week in our larger community, sharing the produce of our Covenant Garden, shuttling food from Wawa to the Neighborhood House, and stocking book bags with school supplies to show our love and support for children.

And you must know how much I enjoy worship at St. Paul's every Sunday, if you've been able to join us this summer since July 22.

A couple came to worship with us for the first time this past Sunday, and shared with me and with Vicki how wonderful it was to be welcomed and loved by so many people in the sanctuary before, during, and after worship. God has truly blessed us at St. Paul's with the gift of hospitality. I love especially how everyone belts out the "psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God" (borrowing a favorite phrase of St. Paul in Ephesians 5:19 and Colossians 3:16). In 1761, John Wesley instructed the early Methodists to "sing lustily and with a good courage Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength...."

You got the memo!

As I think about what is most important in our community of faith, reflecting on the hospitality and worship and ministry to our neighbors that are the hallmarks of our life together, I believe that this is what it means to live as a community of disciples. But if you ask me to define discipleship, I would not begin with a laundry list of these behaviors – I would begin with the One who inspires and enables us to practice them. I would begin with Jesus. I love how we say "remember" when we gather to be nourished by his body and blood every Sunday, because in all the flurry of church todo's, we can forget the "Why?" of anything we do. Or, more accurately, the "Who?"

It's Jesus, who has brought us together. It's Jesus who saves our lives from the separation of sin and who reconciles us to God and to each other – who calls us friends. It's Jesus to whom we owe our lives, our very breath, and for whom we live. We don't have to ask "What would Jesus do?" because he is with us, inviting us to join him as he loves, saves, and serves the world. This is what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. We remember every moment of every day his loving, grace-filled presence in our lives, and we live as a light to reveal his presence in every person's life.

What a blessing it is to know Jesus. And what a blessing it is to be among those who know him and serve him with all their hearts every moment of their lives. I see Jesus in you, Saints!

Your Brother in Christ,



NOTES from the LOFT

One of the hymns for the 11:00 AM worship service this Sunday is *Lord, Speak to Me*. The words were written by Frances Ridley Havergal in 1872, who also wrote *Take My Life and Let It Be*.



Frances was a gifted poet, pianist, and singer who grew up in a church and musical family. Her father was an Anglican clergyman, writer, composer and hymn writer who devoted himself to the improvement of church music. Her brother was also an Anglican clergyman and an organist. Frances was a child prodigy who began reading and memorizing the Bible at age four. By age seven she was writing poems. Havergal was plagued by poor health for most of her life and died at age 42. Fortunately, her surviving sisters took steps to ensure her hymns lived on by having much of her work published posthumously.

The hymn tune to *Lord, Speak to Me* is adapted from music written by Robert Schumann. Schumann was one of the greatest composers of the Romantic era. He hoped to become a virtuoso pianist but a hand injury ended that dream. Schumann then focused his musical talents and energies on composing. Like Havergal, Schumann suffered with poor health for most of his life. Unlike Havergal, Schumann's illness was mental, not physical. Like Havergal, Schumann died early at age 46.

Blessings, *Shelley*

PRIVATE LESSONS

I will be accepting new private piano/voice students starting in September. Please give me a call if you are interested (610) 761-9818. Thanks, *Jeff Anderson*

Reaching In to deepen our spiritual walk with Christ

DROP IN BIBLE STUDY – WEDNESDAYS at 10:30 AM

Bring your Bibles! This will be a one-hour study & discussion each week.

LEADERSHIP TEAM RETREAT

Friday, August 17 from 6:30-8:30 PM & Saturday, August 18 from 9 AM to 11:30 AM
We have several important pieces of business so that we can be prepared for Charge Conference in early October. ALL servants of the church are asked to be present. Join us for this special gathering as we cast vision for the years to come.

ATTENTION PARISHIONERS:

The tree cutting in Rear Parking Lot has been put on hold. We will be advised the exact days very soon so we can put out notification for NO PARKING IN THE REAR.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED to trim shrubbery in the front yard of the church.

This will be the last Sunday the welcome box will be in the Narthex...so if you would still like to drop off a welcome card for Pastor Bo please feel free to do so.

Dear Friends,

The Appoquinimink School District is looking for host families for the Immersion Language Program. There are more international teaching interns entering into the district. These interns are talented young educators-in-training and need housing while they are here. Your commitment could be for several months or the entire year. If you are interested please contact Janet Miller at 302-218-3098 or email janetmiller4@verizon.net. Or you can email the program director, Sarah Vieni-Vento, Ed.D. Sarah.Vieni-Vento@appo.k12.de.us. We hope you will prayerfully consider this opportunity to serve. In addition, pray for all the interns and their host families. Thank you so much. Blessings, *Janet Miller*

LAST CHANCE FOR ART FOR NICARAGUA

Take a piece of Pastor Karin home with you while you support Nicaragua! You can purchase art made by Pastor Karin in the Narthex for \$10 each. There are only eight frames left! We also have one larger frame available for \$20. Each piece of art features a Bible verse. All monies will support Nicaragua. There is a basket in the Narthex for payments. Thank you!



UNITED METHODIST MEN NEWS

UMM STAYING ON PAR WITH GOD



On Monday the UMM Staying on Par with God was held at Odessa National Golf Club. Even though it was extremely hot (90's +), it was a wonderful morning of Fellowship, golf and lunch. 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 was discussed with several thought interpretations but all agreed when we

surely need to boast and about whom! The next scheduled event will be Monday, August 20 at 9 AM. Even if you do not play Golf please join us for lunch and discussion. More info to follow and God Bless each of you.

Paul Loder



GOLF TOURNAMENT



Sisters and Brothers, it's that time again as the UMM's NINTH Annual Golf Tournament fast approaches! This year's tournament is scheduled for Tuesday, September 18 at Odessa National Golf Club!

Over the past eight years, the UMM Golf Tournament has earned \$12,400, which in turn has allowed the UMM to sponsor several youth mission trips, sponsor youth rally in Ocean City, MD annually, sponsor mission trips to Nicaragua & purchase PC for Pastors in that area. Your continued help and support is greatly appreciated as we all participate in discipleship through St. Paul's. Golf entry forms and fliers can be found in the Narthex on the table. If you are not a golfer but want to be part of this giving event make your checks payable to St. Pauls UMC with the word "Golf" in the note section and place in the offering plate. Thank you for your continued support and God's Blessings to each of you! Any questions contact Paul Loder (302) 229-0046.



JOY EVENT



The JOY group would like to go to the Candlelight Dinner Theater on Sunday, September 16 to see "Brigadoon." The show and dinner begin at 1:00 PM and the price will be \$52.00/person. We need to know if you will be attending as the tickets have to be purchased in a block package (15 tickets will be available). There are no refunds. If you are interested, please contact Phyllis Burris at 376-0514 or Ann Raymond at 378-9431 by Friday, August 10. We plan to carpool to the Theater.

FAMILY LIFE DEPARTMENT UPDATES from Vicki Spence

Attention Parents....

SUNDAY SCHOOL REGISTRATION

Forms are on the table in the Narthex and online. Get your kids ages 3 - high school registered so teachers can be ready and materials ordered. We are looking forward to a fun filled exciting year of learning and mission on the lower level!!!



Happily we still have plenty of summer left to enjoy....but it is that time of year when we begin to think of preparing for Back to School. Names of our St. Paul's children and youth will be available beginning Sunday, August 19 in the Narthex. Choose a name and take it with you as a reminder of your commitment to be in prayer for that young person. You can pray quietly or you can let your charge know you are praying for them. (FYI... kids really are curious about who is praying for them!) We will gather kids together during both services to pray over them as a congregation on Sunday, September 9.

Sunday School Teacher and Youth Leader Meeting on Sunday, August 19 at 9:45 AM in Fellowship Hall to begin making plans and preparing for the coming year and scheduling fall/winter events. Sunday School, Youth meetings and extra activities will be discussed at this meeting. Teachers and Leaders come and help us with planning. You don't want to miss the fun and excitement!!

THINKING AHEAD TO SEPTEMBER...

SUNDAY SCHOOL KICK-OFF will be Sunday, September 9 in the back-parking lot and grove area. Join us from 9:30-10:45 for games, crafts, food and fun reconnecting with friends and meeting your teachers for this year. Dress casually and come ready for the start of a new school year. Learning and service to Christ together.

JOYS & CONCERNS: Please take the opportunity to go to our website (www.stpaulsodessa.org) to complete a prayer request—it is the most convenient, 24-7 way to get your concerns on our prayer lists. Please alert the office when someone can be taken OFF the list by emailing stpodessa@stpaulsodessa.org. Submitting a Prayer Request is the best and most assured way that your request will be added to the mid-week and worship folder but for HIPAA reasons PLEASE get permission before adding.



We do our best to keep up with the needs of our congregation, but we may not always have up-to-date information. If you or a loved one are in need of a pastoral visit, please call the church office to schedule. Blanche Bailey is at Broadmeadow and welcomes visitors.

RECENTLY ADDED: Hanna Holland, Paige Collins
CONTINUED PRAYER:

Brian McNelis	Kimberly Pitroli	Emma Apps
Pastor Allen Messick	Dennis Turk	Clark Ellis
Josh	Samantha Jayne	Taylor Shoun
Ashley	Pastors Bo & Vicki	Kitty Hutchison
Jack & Marie Lattomus	Gordy-Stith, Joy & Eli,	Janet Pompeo
Dana Atwell	on their tragic loss of	Jackie Connell
Johanna Learish	son & brother Elijah	Ludvigson Family
June Glass	Henry Gans	Maggie McCombs
Lisa Daly	Lindsey	
Betty Ann McGinnis	Joanne Argoe	
Molly Atwater	Rev. Cheryl Jensen	

BIRTHDAYS

ANNIVERSARIES

August	8	Charlotte Miller	August	11	John & Carole Harmon
		Rev. Patti Ravilious	August	14	Bill & Burtie Hutchison
August	11	Ally Kennedy			
August	13	Jeffrey Martin			
August	14	Jason Wallace			
August	15	Jackie Connell			
	15	Cole Tokash			

GENTLE OFFICE REMINDERS from Alice Mullins, Administrative Assistant

- ✦ **Pastor Bo's new email address is Pastor@stpaulsodessa.org.**
- ✦ If you have updates for the weekly Midweek, please email exactly what you would like added no later than each Tuesday by Noon to stpodessa@stpaulsodessa.org
- ✦ **Stewardship of the building** is extremely important as we take care of our privilege to have a building that is safe and secure. We also want to make sure it is welcoming to our guests so please discard any litter you see in the church yard. Thank you.



ST. PAUL'S STAFF

Rev. Dr. Bo Gordy-Stith, Pastor	pastor@stpaulsodessa.org	302-373-5143
Alice Mullins, Administrative Assistant & Financial Secretary	stpodessa@stpaulsodessa.org	302-378-2420
Vicki Spence, Family Life Coordinator	familylife@stpaulsodessa.org	302-598-8768
Shelley Reel, Director of Music	shelley@goeaston.net	443-786-9010
Duane Dillard, Accompanist	duanedillard@gmail.com	410-620-4650
Jeff Anderson, Organist	jmanderson@ccps.org	610-761-9818
Jeanne Hatton, Organist Emeritus		302-378-1670

Reaching Out *with acts of love & compassion*

COVENANT GARDEN



The following veggies harvested and delivered to Neighborhood House. On Monday, John Harmer and Alan Martin picked 17 Squash, 15 Okra, 11 Zucchini, 4 Cucumber, 7 Tomatoes, and 3 Egg Plants. Alan Martin then roto tilled garden. On Thursday, myself and John Harmer picked the following: 37 Squash, 15 Tomatoes, 15 Okra, 12 Zucchini, 6 Cucumber and 16 Peppers. On Saturday, the Garden was too wet to work as 1 1/4 inch of rain had fell. However, Hap Bonham and myself picked the following for friends of the garden: 5 Zucchini, 7 Squash, 4 Peppers and 4 Cucumber. Green Thumbers for the week were John Harmer, Alan Martin, Hap Bonham. Thanks & God Bless each of you! *Paul Loder*

JOHN 15:2 He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit.

BACK TO SCHOOL BOOKBAG GIVE A WAY 2018-2019



Imagine that you are a child who will be returning to school and know that your parents can't afford your supplies...would you WANT to go back to school? Let's show these kids and parents that we care about their education and give them a few tools to excel. Again, we will be working with Neighborhood House to provide filled school backpacks for kids who don't have the resources for what our kids take for granted.

GOAL: 50 filled bookbags; St. Paul's has received the bookbags—your job is to fill them!

- **We will organize the supplies Thursday, August 9 at 10 AM in Fellowship Hall. If you are available, please come out to help.**
- **We will fill the supplies after worship THIS Sunday, August 12.**
- **We will deliver to the Neighborhood House on Monday, August 13 at 10 AM.**

If you want to donate cash or check in lieu of supplies, the yellow hat offering THIS Sunday, August 12 will go to help with the cost of the book bags (which cost \$400) and additional supplies needed to fill them.



YELLOW HAT offering this past Sunday totaled \$285.80 and went to support our El Ayudante child, Yesprin. Thank you all so much for your generosity!

UPCOMING YELLOW HAT SCHEDULE

August 12 – Book Bag Give A Way/Neighborhood House

August 19 – Habitat for Humanity

GAIL GARNER, OUR ASL INTERPRETER, SUNDAY SCHEDULE

In the summer Gail will leave a bit early, but here is the basic schedule, remembering that this, too, can change:

- ⌘ AUGUST 26
- ⌘ SEPTEMBER 2, 23 & 30
- ⌘ OCTOBER 7 & 28
- ⌘ NOVEMBER 4 & 25
- ⌘ DECEMBER 2 & 23
- ⌘ JANUARY 6 & 27

PAK-A-SAK THIS PAST SUNDAY...we collected 19 bags for the Neighborhood House. Huge thanks to Bill & Margie Apps for delivering.

MEET YOUR LOCAL HERO

Just to let folks know that Applebee's will be raising funds for Alex's Lemonade until August 12th. Olivia is their local hero.



Olivia

hometown: Middletown, DE

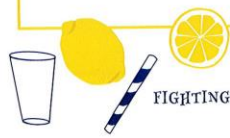


OLIVIA was a typical happy, healthy 3-year-old little girl, but that all changed on November 28, 2008. Olivia was coming down with symptoms of what seemed to be a cold. During what was supposed to be a quick trip to Al duPont Children's Hospital in Wilmington, Delaware for IV fluids, things went from normal to serious. That evening, Olivia was diagnosed with a brain tumor and admitted to the ICU.

On December 1, the tumor was removed and shortly after, her family was given the diagnosis they had dreaded – medulloblastoma. Due to the lack of research, they had to weigh treatment options and consider quality vs. quantity of life for Olivia. While trying to decide on a path, Olivia was also suffering from posterior fossa syndrome.

On December 22, Olivia started her first round of chemotherapy prior to her family moving to Boston for proton radiation at Massachusetts General Hospital. Thus began what seemed to be endless rounds of radiation, physical therapy and chemotherapy.

Olivia is now 13 years old and attends Red Lion Christian Academy where she plays field hockey and soccer. She completed her 10th round of chemotherapy in March 2010. She is currently dealing with some late effects related to treatment, but her scans have shown no evidence of disease. Olivia is a very strong and brave girl who continues to defy the odds.



FIGHTING CHILDHOOD CANCER. ONE CUP AT A TIME.

AlexsLemonade.org

