

WEEKLY BULLETIN

2101 WILDWOOD AVENUE, COLUMBUS, GA 31906

"St. Paul exists to grow the faith of people." One of the primary ways God grows our faith is not simply by increasing what we know, but by changing how we love. Service is one of God's chosen instruments for that transformation.

In Celebration of Discipline, Richard Foster reminds us that service is far more than performing good deeds. True service flows from a heart that has been changed by Christ. It is the difference between serving due to feelings of obligation and serving because the life of Jesus is finding expression through us. Foster writes that the discipline of service helps free us from the grip of pride, self-importance, and the constant need to be noticed. As we quietly place the needs of others before our own, God shapes us into people who increasingly resemble Christ.

Hudson Taylor, a 19th-century missionary, discovered this same truth through years of ministry in China. Early in his work, the weight of responsibility often left him exhausted and discouraged. Everything changed when he came to what he called The Exchanged Life. Taylor realized that the Christian life was never meant to be lived by his own strength. Instead of striving for Christ, he learned to abide in Christ, trusting that Jesus himself would live His life through Hudson. "Not striving after faith," he reflected, "but resting in the Faithful One." His ministry did not become easier, but it became lighter because he had learned that the work belonged to Christ.

This week, we are sending two mission teams to serve. Our Family Ministries team will go to North Carolina and the Youth Mission team will be in Mississippi. Pray for them and for the people they serve. The work of transformation is best seen when we avail ourselves in service. It is there that the Holy Spirit moves in us and through us. I'm grateful for each person serving and can't wait to hear the stories of how our faith grows when we serve.



Traditional Worship

8:30 A.M.

Illges Chapel (M250)

Rev. Dr. Shane Green

The Battle Beneath the Battle

James 4:1-12

Contemporary Worship

9:00 A.M.

Fellowship Hall (M220)

Rev. Dr. Shane Green

The Battle Beneath the Battle

James 4:1-12

Traditional Worship

11:00 A.M.

Sanctuary (M260)

Rev. Dr. Shane Green

The Battle Beneath the Battle

James 4:1-12

Broadcast Live at 11:00

at stpaulcolumbus.live

The red paraments remind us that we are living in the season of Pentecost. Red symbolizes the Spirit's fire, igniting hearts with faith, courage, and a passion to share the love of Christ. This reminder is especially meaningful as members of our St. Paul family embark on mission trips to North Carolina and Mississippi. Just as the Holy Spirit sent the early disciples into the world to proclaim the good news, He continues to send us today. Let the red paraments inspire us to pray for our mission teams and to remember that every follower of Christ is called to participate in God's mission—whether by going, serving, giving, or praying.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

We are hosting a **Red Cross Blood Drive** next Sunday, August 2, from 8:00 a.m.–12:30 p.m. in our Youth Building. As we celebrate a week of missions and service, we are reminded that there are many ways to be the hands and feet of Christ. One of the most life-giving is by donating blood. A single donation can help save multiple lives, offering hope to patients. Whether you are a first-time donor or a regular participant, your gift is a meaningful way to care for your neighbors and share Christ's love through compassionate service. Thank you for helping us make a difference—one donation at a time. Walk-ins are welcome, or you may contact Ken Chung to register: kchung@graddyconstruction.com.

Wednesday Night Supper will resume August 19! Be sure to mark your calendars and join us to celebrate the new beginning of the educational year. Everyone is welcome. Online reservations will be available soon.

Want to get **Connected?** **Join our email list** to receive our emails from St. Paul. We have various communications, such as our Connect newsletter, Daily Prayer focus, Special News, and Bereavement notices for St. Paul members. Email theresa@stpaulcolumbus.com to be added to one or all of these.

PRAY FOR MISSIONS

This weekend, two **St. Paul mission teams** are answering God's call to serve. Our Youth Mission Team has already departed for Mashulaville, Mississippi, where they will serve alongside Adventures in Missions and minister to families within the Choctaw Reservation. This afternoon, our Multi-Generational Mission Team will travel to Hayesville, North Carolina, to partner with the Hinton Rural Life Center and serve Appalachian communities.

As a church family, we invite you to surround both teams in prayer. Pray for safe travels, servant hearts, and opportunities to share the love of Christ through every conversation and every act of service. Pray for the children, families, and communities they will encounter, that they may experience hope, encouragement, and God's abiding presence. Finally, pray that everyone involved—those serving and those being served—will be strengthened in faith and reminded that the Church is one body, united in Christ's mission to love and care for our neighbors.

PASTORS & STAFF

Rev. Dr. Shane Green
Senior Minister

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.
Associate Minister

Rev. Meghan Gross
Associate Minister

Phillip Badcock
Church Administrator

Grace Bailey
Director of Christian Education

Lauren Coleman
Administrative Assistant

Dr. Bruce Getz
Broadcast Operations Manager

Donna Hightower
Director of Children's Ministry

Roy Hightower
Assistant to Director of Children's Ministry

Theresa Holzknecht
Communications Director

Catherine Hutchings
Receptionist

Shannon Land
Executive Administrative Assistant

Laura Marvets
Director of Youth Ministry

Dr. Joshua May
Interim Director of Music

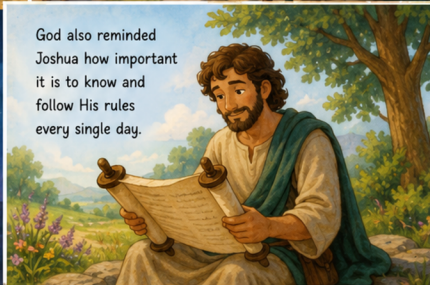
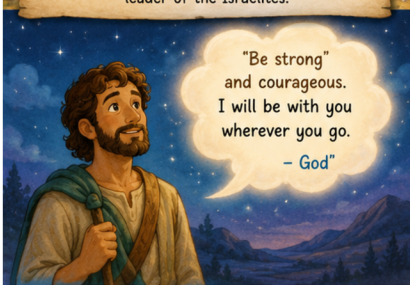
Cindy Shavers
Financial Records & Administration

KIDMIN MOMENTS

Our Story Today: God Chooses Joshua



Leading so many people into a new land was a huge job, but God promised Joshua that He would always be with him and never leave his side.



SPY MINISTRY

Right now, our team is serving on the SPY Mission Trip alongside the Choctaw community. Today, this group is worshipping with the local church, sharing a meal with the congregation, and inviting children and families to this week's Vacation Bible School. We would appreciate your partnership with us through prayer each day this week.

We look forward to sharing how God worked throughout this mission when we return! Remember, "The project is the method. The relationship is the mission."

Because our students are away serving, there will be no Sunday Night Youth (SNY) tonight.

Sunday, July 26

SPY Mission Trip (Off Campus)
Family Mission Trip (Off Campus)

8:30 AM Traditional Worship (M250)

9:00 AM Contemporary Worship (M220)

9:30 AM Weekly Communion

10:00 AM Bridges SS Class (M235)

10:00 AM Foundry Class (Y101)

10:00 AM New Life SS Class (Y102)

10:00 AM Seekers Class (M234)

10:00 AM Wesley/Miller-Wilson Class (M232)

10:00 AM Wildwood Class (M150)

10:00 AM Middle and High School

Youth Combined SS (Y104)

11:00 AM Traditional Worship (M260)

2:00 PM Spring Harbor Worship (Off Campus)

Monday, July 27

1:30 PM Staff Meeting (M203)

Tuesday, July 28

8:30 AM Preschool CPR Training (M232)

Friday, July 31

SPY Mission Team Returns (TBA)

Family Mission Team Returns (TBA)

Saturday, August 1

8:00 AM Piano Perfect Tuning (Various rooms)

Children's Events in August:

- Mission and Art Camp, August 7-9
- 3rd Graders Acolyte Training, August 9, 16, 23, and 30
- Promotion Sunday, August 16
- Back to School Bingo Bash, August 16
- 6th Graders' Confirmation Kickoff Banquet, August 20
- Cross Bearer Training, Sunday, August 23

**Today's Sunday School Lesson
for Preschool and Elementary
Children**

**God Chooses Joshua (Joshua
1:1-9)**

**Anchor Point – We choose to
serve God.**

Say the Bible verse together:

**"But my family and I will
serve the Lord." (Joshua
24:15)**

**Questions for family
discussion:**

- Why do you think God told Joshua to be brave and strong?
- Where do we find the instructions that Moses gave to the Israelites?
- Do you think those instructions apply to us today?
- How can you be brave and strong for God?

Prayer:

**God, thank you for great
leaders like Moses and
Joshua. Help us remember
your promises and claim them
for our lives. In Jesus' name
we pray. Amen.**

**For 3rd & 6th Grades: Contact Donna
Hightower if you haven't received
information/updates for Acolytes and
Confirmation: donna@stpaulcolumbus.com.**

SERVING THIS WEEK

- (8:30) Acolytes: Beau Cochran and William Park
- (11:00) Acolytes: Brucie Getz and TBD
- Cross Bearer: Sophie Mills
- Acolyte Helper: Lucy Cochran

ALTAR GUILD

- Delivery: Becky Baker and Dori Jones

USHERS

- (8:30) Ken Crumpler, Stan Copelan
- (11:00) Travis Miller (lead), Bret Coffman, Barber Wilson, Robert Hiers

The flowers on the Sanctuary Altar today are given to the glory of God and in thanksgiving for our **St. Paul Kid's Camp counselors**, Camp Mom **Laine Klinger**, and Camp Nurse **Leslie Mendenhall**.

Our Christian love and heartfelt sympathy is extended to Dr. Kevin McPherson and Dr. Amanda McPherson and their family in the loss of Kevin's father, **Timothy Charles McPherson**, on July 21, 2026.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Altar Fund

In honor of **Ginger and Larry Harper**

- by Jennifer and Wade Harper

General Fund

In honor of **Colleen Rustin**

- by Sandra and Philip Day

Caring for the Gift of Music: This Saturday, our sanctuary grand piano will receive tuning and maintenance by the wonderful team at Piano Perfect here in Columbus, along with Dr. Josh May. Regular care of instruments helps ensure that every musical piece in our services may be offered to the glory of God. We are grateful for those who use their talents to maintain the instruments that enrich our worship.

Update for Children's Choir:

Children's Choirs are slated to begin practicing again for the new calendar year on September 13. We look forward to creating praises and beautiful music through song! You will receive updates from Mrs. Julia Green

Part-Time Kitchen Help Needed: St. Paul is seeking a dependable part-time person to assist with kitchen support. For more information, please contact Philip Badcock at 706-327-7419.

Back to School Bash

with

BINGO!

**August 16
5:30 PM
M220 (F.H.)**



GIVING

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

July 26, 2026
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

The Chiming of the Hour

The Welcome & AnnouncementsRev. Dr. Shane Green

The Prelude.....*The Lord Bless You and Keep You*, by Lutkin/Hopson
organist, Adley Scott

The Cross and Flame Come to the Altar

The Call to Worship

Leader: *If any lack wisdom, let them ask of God, who gives generously to all.*

Congregational Response: *We come seeking the wisdom that comes from above.*

Leader: *Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.*

Congregational Response: *We come with humble hearts, ready to receive His grace.*

Leader: *Let us worship the Lord who is full of compassion and mercy.*

Congregational Response: *To Him be all praise, honor, and glory.*

The Hymn of Celebration.....*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart* (#160)

The Affirmation of Faith.....*The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Gloria Patri.....(#70)

The Sacrament of Infant Baptism.....Whitfield Sprouse Cummings (see insert)

The Pastoral Prayer with the Lord’s Prayer.....Rev. Meghan Gross
The Leader: Let Us Worship God with His Tithes and Our Offerings.
The Offertory Prayer.....Rev. Gross
The Offertory.....*In the Garden*, by C. Austin Miles
tenor, Tommy Bridges; pianist, Adleyn Scott

The Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures
here below: praise Him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son,
and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

The Scripture Lesson.....James 4:1-12
Leader: *The Word of God for the People of God.*
Congregational Response: *Thanks be to God.*

The Passing of the Peace

Leader: *The Peace of Christ be with you.*
Congregational Response: *And also with you.*

The Welcome and Registration of Attendance

The Children’s Moment.....Mrs. Donna Hightower
*(After the Children’s Moment, children ages K4-2nd graders are dismissed to
go to Children’s Church, Room M235; children 3 and younger are taken to the
nursery by parents.)*

The Anthem.....*How Great Thou Art*, by Carl Boberg and Stuart K. Hine
tenor, Tommy Bridges; pianist, Adleyn Scott

The Sermon.....*The Battle Beneath the Battle*, Rev. Dr. Green

The Hymn of Consecration.....*Blessed Assurance* (#369)

The Cross and Flame Go Before Us into the World

The Benediction

The Postlude.....*Fugue in C Major*, by Handel
pianist, Adleyn Scott

The Church Returns to His World to Serve Him