

WEEKLY BULLETIN

2101 WILDWOOD AVENUE, COLUMBUS, GA 31906

Promotion Sunday & Bible Presentation

Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.
Psalm 119:105

Promotion Sunday reminds us that discipleship is a lifelong path—one that begins with God's covenant promises in baptism and continues as children grow in faith, knowledge, and love for Christ. We have a special moment for our 3rd graders this morning as they receive their own Bibles during the 11:00 a.m. service. This treasured gift marks an important season in their spiritual growth as they begin to read and explore God's Word more deeply. May these Bibles become faithful companions, helping them discover God's truth, hear His voice, and grow in wisdom and faith throughout their lives.

As our children move into new classrooms and a new school year begins, we give thanks for parents who nurture faith at home, teachers who faithfully invest in young lives, and this church family that walks alongside them every step of the way. May God's Word continue to be a lamp to their feet and a light to their path.

Donna Hightower,
Director of Children's Ministry

Glenn Kyle Albright V
Scarlett Elizabeth Bross
James Michael Baker
Robert Allen Carmichael
Frank Martin Coffman
Lillie Cathryn Coleman
John Hamilton Ezell
Rosie Louise Jones
Elliot Riggs Kirven
Margaret Lucille Norman
Charles Whitaker O'Hara
Julio Alberto Portillo III
Harper Elizabeth Rumph
Jack Hofer Stone, Jr.

Traditional Worship

8:30 A.M.

Illiges Chapel (M250)

Rev. Meghan Gross

Go...I Will

Exodus 3:1-12

Contemporary Worship

9:00 A.M.

Fellowship Hall (M220)

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

At His Word: At Your Word

Luke 5:1-11

Traditional Worship

11:00 A.M.

Sanctuary (M260)

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

At His Word: At Your Word

Luke 5:1-11

Broadcast Live at 11:00

at stpaulcolumbus.live

The Susie Hatcher Boykin Bible Fund has graciously and generously provided Bibles to our Third Graders and others on many occasions throughout the years.

Today, we use red paraments as a reminder of our calling to be bold witnesses for Christ. On Promotion Sunday, as many begin a new school year, we celebrate the ways God is calling us to live out our faith wherever we go. The lessons learned through mission trips, camps, and serving others don't stay behind when the summer ends—they go with us.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

The Back to School BINGO Bash is TODAY at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall! We'll have a special Blessing of the Backpacks as we pray over those heading into a new school year. Then stick around for pizza, an epic ice cream sundae bar, BINGO, prizes, and plenty of fun with host Drew Bowles! Bring your backpack, bring a friend, and let's kick off the school year together! We can't wait to see you there!



Wednesday Night Supper will resume this week on August 19! We'll have Fried and Baked Chicken, a family favorite! We will be taking donations for Wynnton Neighborhood Network. Online reservations are available at stpaulcolumbus.com/supper.

Chancel Choir Practice has returned with Dr. Josh May! We meet on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. and are now practicing in our restored Music Wing! Thank you, St. Paul! If you're thinking about joining, this is the perfect time. No audition is required! All are welcome! Contact our director, josh@stpaulcolumbus.com.

Would you like to join a **Bible Study**? Get plugged in!

- Spring Harbor Bible Study begins September 8.
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study begins September 15.
- Grace Bible Study begins September 15.
- Preschool Moms Study begins September 16.
- Men's Bible Study begins September 17.

To get involved, email grace@stpaulcolumbus.com.

St. Paul will soon host four **Parenting Seminars** from September 13 to October 4. They will be in the Fellowship Hall during the Sunday School hour. More information is coming but we wanted you to save those dates. Our hosts will be Amy Buchanan and Erin Harkey, who presented our Marriage Seminars.

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

PASTORS & STAFF

Rev. Dr. Shane Green
Senior Minister

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.
Associate Minister

Rev. Meghan Gross
Associate Minister

Philip 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

Promotion Sunday: New Classrooms & Teachers

- Pre-K/Kindergarten – Laine Klinger & Shelley Hill
- 1st–2nd Grade – Sarah and Jim Rumph, Martha Meador, Erin Murphy, and Sally Watkins
- 3rd Grade – Mandy Gill & Maggie and Julio Portillo
- 4th–5th Grade – Mary Dell & Bob Borneman
- 6th Grade Confirmation – Donna Hightower

Where to Go:

- Preschool–2nd Grade: Lower level of Main Building
- 3rd–6th Grade: Upper level of Youth Building

Children's Events in August:

- 3rd Grade Acolyte Training, August 16, 23, and 30
- Promotion Sunday, August 16
- Back to School Bingo Bash, August 16
- 6th Grade Confirmation Kickoff Banquet, August 20
- Cross Bearer Training, Sunday, August 23
- Children's Choirs, September 13

See Talk About It on the back page to find ideas for family discussion.

SPY MINISTRY

The **Back to School Bash** is Tonight! Join us in the Fellowship Hall at 5:30 p.m. and bring your backpacks! We hope your family will come tonight as we kick off a new school year.

Next Sunday, August 23, is our first Sunday Night Youth (SNY) of the school year! We'll combine MS and HS to meet from 5:00–7:00 p.m. for one last splash before summer ends. We'll have:

- A giant Water Balloon Battle on the lawn
- FREE new SPY t-shirts
- Worship, Fellowship, and Dinner

Save September 11–13 for our **SPY Fall Weekend Retreat** with the students of St. Luke! This will be an incredible weekend of worship, outdoor activities, friendships, and growth. More details and registration information will be coming soon!

YOUNG ADULT

St. Paul is currently planning opportunities for young adults to connect outside of Sunday School through regular fellowship events. If you would be interested in receiving notifications about upcoming young adult events, please let Rev. Meghan Gross know by emailing meghan@stpaulcolumbus.com. She will add you to the young adults' text list.

Please continue to be in prayer for all of our college students, that God would surround them with amazing community that points these students to Him, that they would grow in their faith, and that this would be a fantastic school year!

Sunday, August 16

- 8:30 AM Traditional Worship (M250)
- 9:00 AM Contemporary Worship (M220)
- 9:30 AM Weekly Communion (M260)
- 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 Promotion Sunday (New SS Classes for Children)
- 10:00 AM Middle School Youth SS (Y106)
- 10:00 AM High School Youth SS (104)
- 11:00 AM Traditional Worship (M260)
- 2:00 PM Spring Harbor Worship (Off Campus)
- 4:30 PM Acolyte Training (M260)
- 5:30 PM Back to School Bingo Bash (M220)

Monday, August 17

- 1:30 PM Staff Meeting (M203)
- 5:30 PM Finance Committee Meeting (M234)
- 6:30 PM Administrative Council Meeting (M232)

Wednesday, August 19

- 2:30 PM Mahjong (M235)
- 6:00 PM Family Night Supper (M220)
- 7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice (M273)

Thursday, August 20

- 6:30 PM Confirmation Kickoff Banquet (M220)

Friday, August 21

- 5:00 PM Godowns/Sluder Wedding Rehearsal (M260)

Saturday, August 22

- 5:30 PM Godowns/Sluder Wedding (M260)



Today's Sunday School Lesson for Preschool and Elementary Children
Jericho (Joshua 6:11-27)
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:

- What do you think the Israelites thought about God's instructions?
- Why do you think Joshua was able to convince the Israelites that God had given these crazy instructions?
- Have you ever had to do something that you thought was crazy but it turned out right? Explain.

Prayer:
God, we choose to serve you.
Help us to listen carefully for your instructions and follow them exactly. Amen.

SERVING THIS WEEK

- (8:30) Acolytes:
Bennett Fields and Louise Fowler
- (11:00) Acolytes:
Elizabeth Chester and Della Stone
- Cross Bearer: TBA
- Acolyte Helper: Erin Murphy

ALTAR GUILD

- Sanctuary: Cathryn Pease
- Chapel: Eliza Brewer and Dori Jones
- Delivery: Caroline Laney and Amanda McPherson

USHERS

- (8:30) Ken Crumpler and Stan Copelan
- (11:00) Morgan Waldrep (lead), Jack Jenkins, Brad Coppedge, Robert Raybon, and Mack Jenkins

The flowers on the Sanctuary Altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of **Mr. and Mrs. Wiley A. Wasden, Jr.**, by Mr. and Mrs. Mason Hardaway Lampton.

Our Christian love and heartfelt sympathy is extended to Rev. Meghan Gross and her family in the loss of her grandfather, **Rusty Gross**, on August 7, 2026.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Building Fund

In memory of **Jane Ellen McGuiness**

- by Kathie and Tommy Bridges

In memory of **William Sloan Flournoy, Sr.**

- by Joan and Tommy Culpepper

Music Ministry

In memory of **Jane Ellen McGuiness**

- by Beth Thomas
- by Lee Tyra

Music Suite Renovation

In memory of **Jane Ellen McGuiness**

In memory of **Dr. Davis Ronald Watson, Sr.**

- both by Janice Watson

Wynnton Neighborhood Network

In memory of **Bettye Spence**

In memory of **Ruth Houser Gilbert**

- both by Elizabeth and John Knight



GIVING

WELCOME PIANIST CHER LIU



We are excited to welcome a new member to our music team, **Cher Liu**! She holds Bachelor's and Master's degrees from the Cleveland Institute of Music, where she studied piano with Dr. Daniel Shapiro and violin with Ilya Kaler and Ivan Zenaty. She has a special interest in chamber music and vocal accompanying, and is also on staff at Columbus State University as a collaborative pianist and prep faculty.

In her free time, she is an avid reader, home cook and gardener, but mostly she loves to spend time with her loved ones and explore her community. We look forward to making beautiful music with Cher across all our activities here at St. Paul.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 16, 2026
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

The Chiming of the Hour

The Welcome & AnnouncementsRev. Meghan Gross

The Prelude.....*Sarabande from Partita No. 4, by J.S. Bach*
pianist, Cher Liu

The Cross and Flame Come to the Altar

The Choral Call to Worship.....*We Praise Thee from Te Deum*
by Joseph Barnby

The Hymn of Celebration.....*Great Is Thy Faithfulness (#140)*

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

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

The Pastoral Prayer with the Lord's Prayer.....Rev. Gross

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

The Leader: Let Us Worship God with His Tithes and Our Offerings.

The Offertory Prayer.....Rev. Gross

The Offertory.....Only Trust Him, by Harold DeCoutt
organist, Adley 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.....Luke 5:1-11

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.....Awake My Heart, by Jane M. Marshall

The Sermon.....At His Word: At Your Word, Rev. Fugh

The Hymn of Consecration.....Let There Be Light (#440)

The Cross and Flame Go Before Us into the World

The Benediction and Choral Response...God Be with You Till We Meet Again
by Ralph Vaughn Williams

The Postlude.....Rondo from Sonata Hob. XVI: 48, by F. J. Haydn
pianist, Cher Liu

The Church Returns to His World to Serve Him