

WEEKLY BULLETIN

2101 WILDWOOD AVENUE, COLUMBUS, GA 31906

Sometimes one of the healthiest and most faithful words we can learn to say is a very small one: No. No, we do not have to participate in everything. No, we do not have to accept every invitation. No, we do not have to fill every empty space on the calendar. No, our children do not have to experience everything to have a meaningful childhood.

This is where Sabbath becomes more than simply taking a day off. Sabbath becomes a way of ordering our lives. The words of Psalm 46, "Be still, and know that I am God," remind us that sometimes we need to stop long enough to remember who God is and who we are. The world does not depend upon us. Everything does not have to be accomplished today. Every opportunity does not have to be accepted.

There is something deeply faithful about being able to stop. Sabbath teaches us that human beings were never created for endless activity. We need rhythms of work and rest, activity and stillness, giving and receiving, gathering and simply being. Sabbath teaches us that limits are not failures. I viewed Sabbath this way for a long time.

We cannot be everywhere. We cannot do everything. We cannot give our best to everything. For young families, one of the greatest gifts parents can give their children is permission to believe that they do not have to do everything either. This is why saying no can actually become a spiritual practice, because every no protects a deeper yes. Do you believe that saying no can be a spiritual practice?

We say no to the fear of missing out so we can say yes to being fully present where God has placed us. We say no simply because human beings need room to breathe.

Our children are learning how to live by watching how we live. If they see us constantly rushing, constantly saying yes, constantly exhausted, and constantly trying to fit one more thing into an already crowded life, they may begin to believe that this is what a successful life looks like.

Sabbath offers them another picture. A life in which work matters, but work is not everything. A life in which achievement matters, but achievement does not determine our worth. A life in which opportunities are appreciated, but not every opportunity must be accepted. A life with enough margin to notice God, enjoy one another, and receive the life we have been given.

Shane

Traditional Worship

8:30 A.M.

Illges Chapel (M250)

Rev. Meghan Gross

Go...and Make Disciples

Matthew 28:16-20

Contemporary Worship

9:00 A.M.

Fellowship Hall (M220)

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

At His Word: Only Say the Word

Matthew 8:5-13

Traditional Worship

11:00 A.M.

Sanctuary (M260)

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

At His Word: Only Say the Word

Matthew 8:5-13

Broadcast Live at 11:00
at stpaulcolumbus.live

4 PARENTING SEMINARS

St. Paul Fellowship Hall, 10 AM
September 13 - October 4, 2026

St. Paul will soon host four Parenting Seminars during the Sunday School hour. We're excited to welcome back presenters Amy Buchanan and Erin Harkey from our Marriage Seminars! Join us for spiritual encouragement, helpful insights, and conversations to support you in the journey of parenting.

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Wednesday Night Supper is this week on September 2! We'll have **Italian Wedding Soup, Spaghetti with Meatballs, Chicken Alfredo, Broccoli, Garlic Bread, the Super Salad Bar, and Strawberry Sheet Cake** for dessert. The kids' menu will be **Mini Corn Dogs and Tater Tots**. Our program will continue with "How I Spent My Summer Vacation," and this time Mrs. Laura Marvets will focus on the amazing Youth Mission Trip in Mississippi. Please join us! Online reservations are at stpaulcolumbus.com/supper.



Please mark your calendars for St. Paul for All Day! Each year, St. Paul comes together to serve as the hands and feet of Christ. On **October 25**, members will serve at various sites and organizations throughout our community, guided by our Missions Committee. Some of our mission partners include Wynnton Neighborhood Network, SafeHouse Ministries, Operation Christmas Child, Backpack Buddies, and The Methodist Children's Home, just to name a few. There will be opportunities for individuals and families of all ages to serve, so plan now to join us as we share Christ's love through service to our community!

Would you like to join a **Bible Study**? You're invited!

- Spring Harbor Bible Study begins September 8.
- Tuesday Morning Bible Study begins September 8.
- Grace Bible Study begins September 15.
- Preschool Moms Study begins September 16.
- Men's Bible Study is now slated for October.

To get involved, email grace@stpaulcolumbus.com.

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

God Calls Samuel

When young Samuel was living and serving in the sanctuary, he woke up one night to a voice calling his name. He ran to his helper, Eli, thinking he had called, but after three times Eli realized it was actually God trying to talk to Samuel. Eli taught Samuel to answer by saying, "Speak, Lord. Your servant is listening." Samuel listened carefully and responded to God, who chose him to grow up and become an important leader and prophet for his people.

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

Upcoming Events for Children and Parents:

- 3rd Grade Acolyte Training, August 30
- Acolyte Consecration, September 13
- Children's Choirs, September 13
- 4 Parenting Seminars from Sept 13-Oct 4
- St. Paul for All Day of Missions, October 25
- Trunk or Treat with Costume Parade, October 28

SPY MINISTRY

This evening is the first SPLIT SNY of the school year!! Middle School meets at 5:00 p.m., we'll have Combined Snack Supper at 6:00 p.m., and High School meets at 6:30 p.m. Here's an upcoming reminder: No SNY for Labor Day weekend.

Save the Date! Our SPY Fall Weekend Retreat with the students of St. Luke Church is September 11–13! You won't want to miss an incredible weekend of worship, outdoor activities, friendships, and growing in your faith. Go to stpaulcolumbus.com/pay/ and fill out a new medical form for the year at stpaulcolumbus.com/medical. We need these ASAP!

YOUNG ADULT

Looking for a place to connect? St. Paul's Young Adults Ministry is creating opportunities for ages 18–35 to build friendships, grow in faith, ask real questions, and have fun—both on Sundays and throughout the week! The Foundry is our Sunday School gathering for young adults. It's a place to connect with others your age and talk honestly about faith and life. Want to hear about upcoming events and gatherings? Email meghan@stpaulcolumbus.com to be added to the Young Adults text list.

Sunday, August 30

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 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)

5:00 PM Middle School SNY (Y210)

6:00 PM All Youth Snack Supper (M220)

6:30 PM High School SNY (Y210)

Monday, August 31

1:30 PM Staff Meeting (M203)

3:00 PM Grace Bible Study- Wesley Foundation Meal Prep (Kitchen)

Wednesday, September 2

6:00 PM Family Night Supper (M220)

7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice (M273)

Hiring for Part-Time:

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

God calls Samuel (1 Samuel 3:10)
Anchor Point – We listen to God.

Say the Bible verse together:
"Speak. Your servant is listening" 1 Samuel 3:10

Questions for family discussion:

- How did God appear to Samuel and talk to him?
- Do you think Samuel was an obedient child?
- How does God talk to us today?
- If you heard God calling your name, what would you want God to say to you?

Prayer:
Dear God, help us listen for and recognize your voice when you call us. Then may we always follow your instructions. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

SERVING THIS WEEK

- (8:30) Acolytes: Mae Murphy and Anna O'Hara
- (11:00) Acolytes: SaSa Varner and Mims Watkins
- Cross Bearer: Katie Fugh
- Acolyte Helper: Jessica Adams

ALTAR GUILD

- Sanctuary: Jenny Swift
- Chapel: Eliza Brewer and Dori Jones
- Delivery: Katie Waldrep and Leslie Ann Jones

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 celebration of the birthday of **Debbie Powell** by Donna, Roy, Whit, and Sawyer Hightower.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Music Fund

In memory of **Anne Aldridge Williams**
• by Kathie and Tommy Bridges

Ukraine Ministry

In memory of **Bettye Spence**
• by Karon and Skip Henderson

Wynnton Neighborhood Network

In memory of **Bettye Spence**
• by Pam and Jock Abell
In memory of **Anne Aldridge Williams**
• by Ginger and Larry Harper

Our **Chancel Choir** is growing, and we would love for you to be a part of it. Join Dr. Joshua May and the Choir each Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. as we gather in our beautifully restored Music Wing to practice Sunday's music. No audition is required—just a willingness to sing and be part of a wonderful community! Not sure singing is for you? Consider joining the Handbell Choir instead. All are welcome! Contact josh@stpaulcolumbus.com.



Update for Children's Choir:

Children's Choirs are beginning practice for the new calendar year on September 13. We look forward to creating praises and beautiful music through song! Parents, you will receive updates from Mrs. Julia Green.



GIVING

St. Paul Church Bulletin published weekly, except Christmas and New Year's (U.S.P.S. No. 516560)
Published weekly by St. Paul Church, 2101 Wildwood Ave., Columbus, Georgia 31906. Periodicals postage paid at Columbus, Georgia 31908.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to St. Paul Church, 2101 Wildwood Ave., Columbus, GA 31906.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 30, 2026
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

The Chiming of the Hour

The Welcome & AnnouncementsRev. Meghan Gross

The Prelude.....*Andante con espressione* from *Sonata Hob. XVI:48*
by F.J. Haydn; pianist, Cher Liu

The Cross and Flame Come to the Altar

The Choral Call to Worship.....*The Lord Is in His Holy Temple*, arr. D. Moore

The Hymn of Celebration.....*O Jesus, I Have Promised* (#396)

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 Sacrament of Infant Baptism.....Mildred Hall Cartledge (see insert)

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	<i>Hymn to Joy</i> , by M. Burkhardt organist, Adleyn Scott
The Doxology	
<i>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.</i>	
The Scripture Lesson	Matthew 8:5-13
Leader: <i>The Word of God for the People of God.</i>	
Congregational Response: <i>Thanks be to God.</i>	
The Passing of the Peace	
Leader: <i>The Peace of Christ be with you.</i>	
Congregational Response: <i>And also with you.</i>	
The Welcome and Registration of Attendance	
The Children’s Moment	Mrs. Donna Hightower
<i>(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.)</i>	
The Anthem	<i>Praise We Sing to Thee</i> , by F.J. Haydn
The Sermon	<i>At His Word: Only Say the Word</i> , Rev. John Fugh, Jr.
The Hymn of Consecration	<i>O How I Love Jesus</i> (#170)
The Cross and Flame Go Before Us into the World	
The Benediction and Choral Response	<i>Peace, God's Wonderful Peace</i> arr. D. Moore
The Postlude	<i>Arabeske</i> , by R. Schumann pianist, Cher Liu
The Church Returns to His World to Serve Him	