

WEEKLY BULLETIN

2101 WILDWOOD AVENUE, COLUMBUS, GA 31906

Acolyte Consecration Sunday Called to Serve: Celebrating Our Acolytes!

**Glenn Kyle Albright V
Scarlett Elizabeth Bross
James Michael Baker
Robert Allen Carmichael
Frank Martin Coffman
Lillie Cathryn Coleman
Christopher Clark Ezell, Jr.
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.**

Today is a joyful day as we celebrate the consecration and service of our newest acolytes!

The acolyte ministry takes us back to the story of Samuel, a young boy who served in the temple under Eli. Samuel was entrusted to responsibly care for the temple and assist Eli in worship. He was young, but he had an important place in God's house.

It was there, in the temple, that Samuel learned what it meant to serve, to listen, and to respond when God called. One night, Samuel heard his name and eventually realized that it was God speaking to him. Eli helped him understand how to respond, saying, "Speak, Lord, for your servant is listening."

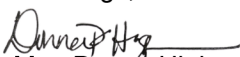
Samuel's story reminds us that God does not wait until we are grown to call us to serve. God can speak to children, work through children, and invite children to be part of His work in the world.

Today, our acolytes begin their own journey of service. As they light the candles, they are following a tradition of young people serving in God's house. They are learning responsibility, reverence, and the joy of giving their time and gifts to God.

As the light is brought into the sanctuary, it reminds us that Christ is present among us. And when the light is carried back out at the end of worship, it reminds us that worship does not end when we leave the sanctuary. We are called to carry the light of Christ with us into the world—to share His love, kindness, and hope wherever we go.

What a blessing it is to watch these children take their place in God's house and begin a journey of faithful service!

Blessings,



Mrs. Donna Hightower

Traditional Worship

8:30 A.M.

Illges Chapel (M250)

Rev. Meghan Gross

Full Body Scan: The Mind

2 Corinthians 10:1-6

Modern Worship

9:00 A.M.

Fellowship Hall (M220)

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

His Only Son, Our Lord

John 1:1-18

Traditional Worship

11:00 A.M.

Sanctuary (M260)

Rev. John Fugh, Jr.

His Only Son, Our Lord

John 1:1-18

Broadcast Live at 11:00

at stpaulcolumbus.live

Parenting Seminars Begin Today! St. Paul is excited to offer four Parenting Seminars at 10:00 a.m. on Sundays. We're thrilled to welcome back Amy Buchanan and Erin Harkey, who joined us for our Marriage Seminars. Today's lesson offers meaningful conversations, spiritual encouragement, and support for the journey of parenting.

Liturgical Color: Green

EVENTS & OPPORTUNITIES

Today:

- **Parenting Seminar, 10:00 a.m., Fellowship Hall**
- **Acolyte Consecration Sunday, 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary**
- **Missions Committee Meeting, 4:30 p.m., M203**

Wednesday Night Supper is this week, September 16! We'll have **Breakfast Night** for Adults and Kids! Enjoy **Pancakes, Egg Casserole, Grits, Bacon, Sausage, and Biscuits**, along with the **Soup and Salad Bar**. The dessert will be **Fruit Salad**. Our program will continue with "How I Spent My Summer Vacation," with Dr. Joshua May as our guest speaker, on his musically inspired experience in Italy this past July. 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. There will be opportunities for individuals and families of all ages to serve. Plan to join us as we share Christ's love through service.

Making Music: The Handbell Choir will hold practice this week on Wednesday at 6:00 p.m. in the Music Suite. The group will eat supper at 5:30 p.m. Everyone is welcome to ring and enjoy this fellowship for all adult ages. Or join the **Chancel Choir** on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. No audition required! Contact: josh@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

Samuel Anoints David

When God sent Samuel to choose a new king, Samuel looked at tall, strong brothers, but God reminded him that He looks at what is inside a person's heart. God chose the youngest brother, a young shepherd named David, because David loved God deeply and cared for others. Samuel anointed David to be the future king, and even though David faced scary times and had to wait a long time to rule, God stayed with him every step of the way. This story reminds us that God doesn't care how big or strong we are on the outside—He loves us for who we are on the inside!

Children's Choir will begin with our new Fellowship Supper and Sing program on Wednesdays, beginning September 16. Children will sit together for our regular supper at 6:00 p.m., then join for Children's Choir music at 6:30 p.m. Use QR for updates.



Upcoming Events for Children and Parents:

- Children's Choirs, September 16
- 4 Parenting Seminars from Sept 13-Oct 4
- Club 45 Love in Action at WNN, September 20
- Preschool Fall Break, September 24-25
- Confirmation Class to Shearith Israel, September 25
- St. Paul for All Day of Missions, October 25
- Trunk or Treat with Costume Parade, October 28

SPY MINISTRY

There will be no SNY tonight, Sunday, September 13th, as our students and leaders return home from our Fall Weekend Retreat at Camp Grace. We were excited to share a retreat with the students of St. Luke. We pray that all return home refreshed and renewed in their faith for this upcoming fall season. Parents, ask your teen what friendships they made during the retreat.

Next Sunday, September 20, is a combined Middle & High School SNY from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Parents: Before SNY on September 20th, we invite you to attend a church wedding shower for two of our SPY leaders, Emma Hess and John Fugh, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. in room M232. Feel free to bring a gift and help us celebrate the couple before dropping your student off for youth group! Emma and John are registered at zola.com.

Sunday, September 13
8:30 AM Traditional Worship (M250)

9:00 AM Modern Worship (M220)

9:30 Weekly Communion (M260)

10:00 AM Parenting Seminar (M220)

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 Boys' Youth (7-12 Gr SS (Y106)

10:00 AM Girls' Youth SS (7-12 Gr) (Y104)

11:00 AM Traditional Worship (M260)

11:00 AM Acolyte Consecration (M260)

2:00 PM Spring Harbor Worship (Off Campus)

3:30 PM Troop 1 Court of Honor Ceremony for Boy Scouts (M220)

4:00 PM Troop 1 Reception for Boy Scouts (M232)

4:30 PM Missions Committee Meeting (M203)

Monday, September 14
1:30 PM Staff Meeting (Library)

Tuesday, September 15
10:00 AM TMBS (M232)
11:00 AM Grace Bible Study (M235)
4:00 PM Spring Harbor Bible Study (Off Campus)

Wednesday, September 16
9:30 AM Preschool Moms' Bible Study (M235)
2:30 Mahjong (M235)
5:30 PM Handbell Choir Supper (M232)
6:00 PM Handbell Choir Practice (M273)
6:00 PM Children's Supper (M220) and Choir (M235)
6:00 PM Family Night Supper (M220)
7:00 PM Chancel Choir Practice (M273)

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

**Samuel Anoints David (1
Samuel 16:1-23)**

**Anchor Point – We listen to
God.**

Say the Bible verse together:

**"Speak. Your servant is
listening" 1 Samuel 3:10**

**Questions for family
discussion:**

- What do you think made David a good king?
- Why do you think Samuel didn't want Israel to have a king?
- How did David feel when Samuel told him God had chosen him to be king of Israel?
- How did David develop a heart for God?

Prayer:

**Dear God, we want to have a
heart for you and serve you
all our days. In Jesus' name,
we pray. Amen.**

SERVING THIS WEEK

- (8:30) Acolytes:
James Adams and
Dawson Laney
- (11:00) Acolytes:
Beau Cochran and
TBA
- Cross Bearer: TBA
- Acolyte Helper:
Katherine Coffman

ALTAR GUILD

- Chapel: Whitney Pease
and Frances Raybon
- Delivery: Mimi Copelan
and Susan Middlebrooks

USHERS

- (8:30) Ken Crumpler
and Stan Copelan
- (11:00) Charlie Jarrell
(lead), Jay Marvets, Guy
Kenimer, Jr., Jeff Beck,
Bill Pound, Brad Hill

The flowers on the Sanctuary Altar today are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of **Helen Lovein and Harry Cook Jackson** by Helen Jackson Burgin and family.

Our Christian love and heartfelt sympathy is extended to Skip and Karon Henderson and family in the loss of Skip's father, **Berry Henry Henderson, Jr.**, on September 4, 2026.

Our Christian love and heartfelt sympathy is extended to Kristi Watkins and family in the loss of her father, **William "Billy" Raymond Langley**, on August 29, 2026.

MEMORIALS & HONORARIUMS

Altar Guild

In memory of **Wren Watson Gilliam**

- by Ann Norris

SafeHouse Ministries

In memory of **Jane Ellen McGuiness**

- by Helen Burgin

St. Paul Preschool

In memory of **Angie Hart**

In memory of **Wren Watson Gilliam**

- both by Lynda Alford



REMINDERS

Please join us in celebrating the upcoming nuptials of **Emma Hess and John Fugh III** with a wedding shower, September 20 from 3:00-5:00 p.m. in room M232. Everyone is invited! The couple is registered at zola.com.

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.

We ask that you keep our sacred space in the **Sanctuary** beautiful by refraining from food or drink. Thank you for your understanding.

Interested in a **Bible Study**? Email grace@stpaulcolumbus.com.

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 13, 2026
11:00 a.m. Traditional Service

The Chiming of the Hour

The Welcome & AnnouncementsRev. Meghan Gross

The Prelude.....*'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*
pianist, Cher Liu

The Cross and Flame Come to the Altar

The Choral Call to Worship.....*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*
by Ludwig van Beethoven

The Hymn of Celebration.....*Jesus' Hands Were Kind Hands (#273)*

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.

Sunday School Testimony.....Mrs. Caroline Laney

The Retiring of Cross Bearers (see insert).....Mrs. Donna Hightower

The Retiring of Acolytes

Introduction of new Acolytes

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

The Leader: Let Us Worship God with His Tithes and Our Offerings.
The Offertory Prayer.....Rev. Gross
The Offertory/Anthem.....*Be Thou My Vision*, by Alice Parker
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.....John 1:1-18

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

(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 Sermon.....*His Only Son, Our Lord*, Rev. John Fugh, Jr.
The Hymn of Consecration.....*Praise, My Soul, The King of Heaven* (#66)
The Cross and Flame Go Before Us into the World
The Benediction and Choral Response...*God Be with You Till We Meet Again*
by William G. Tomer
The Postlude.....*Menuet from Partita No. 4*
pianist, Cher Liu
The Church Returns to His World to Serve Him