



The Tower

St. Paul United Methodist Church

December 20, 2010
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Friday, December 24
5:30 PM and 11:00 PM
*Candlelit Services
with Holy Communion*

St. Paul Sanctuary
Musical preludes by the Chancel Choir and String Ensemble begin at 5:00 & 10:30 PM.



31st Annual Louisville Boar's Head & Yule Log Festival

Wednesday, December 29
Festivals at 5:00 and 8:00 PM
Candlelit Dinner at 6:30 PM

Thursday, December 30
Festivals at 5:00 and 8:00 PM
Candlelit Dinner at 6:30 PM

Friday, December 31
Candlelit Dinner at 5:00 PM
Festival at 6:30 PM



(Festival Tickets are free, but required; dinner tickets are \$19.75 each).
Call Gloria Costanza in the Boar's Head Ticket Office 459-1595, ext 33.

St. Paul is known for this annual gift to the city. This festival, presented between Christmas and New Year's Day, portrays the spirit of Christmas in a medieval setting with elaborate costumes, festive music by choir, organ, and brass, and elegant candlelight dinners.

Reminder:
Sunday, December 26
ONE Worship Service at
10:00 AM in the Gym
(Only One Service and
No Sunday School)

GARY'S THOUGHTS

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!!! Isn't this a great time of year? I love the music, the Christmas carols, and the decorations of the season. Sometimes the busyness of the season can obscure the joy of the season. It is important that we be intentional about focusing on the joy. It is important that we focus on joy and not happiness. Happiness is situational and there are some whose situation isn't a happy one; however, joy is something that comes from a much deeper place and transcends the situation. Joy comes from the baby that was born in Bethlehem, our Savior Jesus the Christ, and our relationship with Him.

I like to take time during the season when the house is quiet to have only the Christmas tree lights on and let those hundreds of lights remind me of all the blessings I have. Even if our situation isn't the best, if we look we will discover blessings in our life. The Christmas tree lights work for me; find some way this season to be reminded of the great blessings in your life and experience the joy of the season.

This is also a time of transition and reflection for us as we close out 2010 and look toward 2011. This is a time for us to reflect on the year past. We reflect on opportunities seized and opportunities missed; on things we wish we had done or not done; on things we wish we had said or not said; on relationships, ones made and ones lost. Often when we reflect, we experience regret. It is important to acknowledge those regrets and, where possible, address them. But where there isn't an opportunity for a "do over," we must move on or regret will keep us stuck in the past.

Living in the past will keep us from dreaming about the future and this is a time for dreaming. We are beginning a new year full of possibilities. Take time to dream about all you can become and do in 2011.

I pray you have a joyful Christmas and New Year!!

Gary R. Gibson

Senior Pastor

NEWS FOR ALL

HCM offering new Tai Chi Class

Highlands Community Ministries Senior Services is offering an 8-week beginners Tai Chi Class free for seniors 60 and over (\$2.00 per class if under 60). Classes begin Jan 11 at Douglass Blvd Christian Church, Tuesday and Thursday at 1:30 PM. To register call 4590132.

Contemplative Worship Service Resumes January 12, 2011

The Contemplative Worship Service meets Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in the Chapel. You will find time for quiet reflection, meditative music, prayer, and silence during this lay-led worship experience. On the 2nd Wednesday of each month the labyrinth is set up in the gym; walking it is part of the service on these evenings.

Business @ St. Paul

The Business @ St. Paul networking group invites you to kick off the New Year on Tuesday, January 18, 2011 at 8:00 AM in the Coffee Shop. Coffee, tea and pastries will be available. RSVP to Gretchen Mahaffey at gmahaffey@kfg.com by Monday, January 17. For more info, contact Gretchen at 451-0600.

Nutrition 101:

Finding Your Own Path to Wellness

New Classes will begin January 13th at 6:00 PM with Certified Holistic Health Coach Pam Jones.

These classes are designed to: improve your eating habits, help you understand your body better, help you feel confident in choosing and preparing better food, understand and reduce cravings, experience more energy and maintain a healthy weight by reducing stress and making better choices. There will be a cooking demonstration included with each class.

Classes will meet every week for 1-1/2 hours starting January 13, 2011 through February 24, 2011 (7 classes). One meeting will be a tour of *Whole Foods*.

The New Psalms Project

The New Psalms Project is a newly formed group at St. Paul. The group invites members of St. Paul and the community at large to join a group of writers and artists who seek to express aspects of their faith through poems, prayers, essays, short fiction, and the visual arts. The group meets on the last Monday of most months from 7:00-8:00 PM in room 316. Here is a sample of their work; you can find other pieces on the church website www.stpaulchurch.net.

A Wish Upon The Christmas Star

I gaze up at the Christmas star

The wondrous light I see.

And I marvel at the blessings

The holy star holds for me.

I could wish for friends and families

To remain close to me

In a year that's filled with laughter

Love and prosperity.

I could wish for all the treasures

From the corners of the earth

But the only wish that matters

Was fulfilled at Jesus birth.

So gaze upon that Christmas star

Beaming through eternity

Let our ransomed souls rejoice

That our Savior's set us free.

By Carl Smith

NEWS FOR ALL

Revolution Church Update

Greetings to our brothers and sisters in Christ at St. Paul during this joyous season! We wanted to take a moment and extend our thanks and gratitude to God for you because you have made it possible for new people to come to know Jesus Christ. The risk you have taken in launching a Revolution has brought those who have been far from God near Him, and people are finding a place where their questions can be answered, their gifts used, and their energies spent in bringing transformation to the world.

Revolution Church began in June 2010, with the gift of 80 people from St. Paul. Since then, well over 100 new people from outside the St. Paul Community have become part of the Revolution on at least a once per month basis or more. Some who have entered our community have not been part of a church in years. Consider, for example, one woman who was hurt by a church and had stayed away from any kind of church for the last five years. Others have never been a part of a church at all. A young lady with lots of unanswered questions about the Christian faith is now part of our community. Others yet might have loosely attended a church and now they are becoming part of our community. Those who have come to be part of the Revolution are inviting others, and are serving inside and outside our walls. Because of your willingness to grow the Kingdom of God, we have been blessed to see more people and new people come to know Jesus Christ, and be part of a different kind of church.

A second gift you provided us was having the best possible scenario for success. Coupled with the Kentucky Annual Conference's financial resources, your commissioning of those who became part of Revolution allowed us to put forth resources to give birth to Revolution. Most church plants do not have this benefit and you have given us a strong start. And yet, the amount of financial investment you have made in commissioning these people has not exceeded our original projections made earlier this year. We believe this to be an important factor in St. Paul's long-term success. In this regard, we are praying for, and know that St. Paul will continue its long-standing tradition of success in making disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world and in serving to transform the community and world. As if that weren't enough, Gene Roos and the Memorials Committee provided a gift for an electric keyboard.

Again, many thanks to Gary and Tammy Gibson, the St. Paul staff, and most of all you – the people of St. Paul who have launched a Revolution here in Louisville. We are thankful to God for your willingness to invest in a project that is bigger than all of us to help others come to know the love of God in Jesus Christ. Many continued blessings in all that you do in this coming year of 2011.

Your Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

The People of Revolution Church United Methodist



CHILDREN'S & FAMILY MINISTRY

Children's Ministry

Boar's Head Room Volunteers

If you have a child participating the Boar's Head festival, we ask you to volunteer to supervise their dressing room for one night of the performance. Also, St. Paul will supply sandwiches between performances on the 29th and 30th; parents are asked to bring chips, drinks, dessert or fruit. You will receive an email to sign up for room supervision and food, so please be sure to respond in a timely manner. We will only have one performance at 6:30 on the final evening. We will be providing **snacks only** so please eat dinner before you arrive.

Breakfast with Santa Thank you, thank you

To all of those who helped with Breakfast with Santa. It was a great success! Santa eagerly listened to each child as they shared their wishes and the children had fun trying to find Santa's reindeer. We welcomed children from Lighthouse Community Ministries and look forward to continuing our relationship by inviting them to KICS this spring.

"Rebekah" Journeys Sunday School January Schedule

	Grades K /1 <i>Explorers</i>	2 <i>Trailblazers</i>	3/4 <i>Travelers</i>
Jan. 2 nd	-----Video-----		
Jan. 9 th	Science	Games	Art
Jan. 16 th	Art	Cooking	Games
Jan. 23 rd	Games	Science	Cooking
Jan. 30 th	Cooking	Art	Science

*All groups begin at 9:55 a.m. in the Gathering Room (309) before dismissing to the current week's station. Parents should pick their child up from the current week's station by 10:50 AM.

Family Life Ministry

What sort of New Year's Resolution should a Christian make?

The practice of making New Year's resolutions goes back over 3000 years to the ancient Babylonians. There is something about the start of a New Year that gives us the feeling of a fresh start and a new beginning. Resolving to start or stop doing a certain activity has no value unless you have the proper motivation for stopping or starting that activity. For example, why do you want to read the Bible every day? Is it to honor God and grow spiritually, or is it because you have just heard that it is a good thing to do? Why do you want to lose weight? Is it to honor God with your body, or is it for vanity, to honor yourself?

- Pray to the Lord for wisdom in regards to what resolutions, if any, God would have you make
- Pray for wisdom as to how to fulfill the goals God gives you
- Rely on God's strength to help you
- Find an accountability partner who will help you and encourage you
- Don't become discouraged with occasional failures instead allow them to motivate you further

Don't become proud or vain, but give God the glory.

Philippians 4:13 tells us "I can do everything through Him who gives me strength."

John 15:5 declares, "I am the vine; you are the branches. If a man remains in me and I in him, he will bear much fruit; apart from me you can do nothing."

If God is the center of your New Year's resolution, it has chance for success.

– Adapted from *Got questions.org*

WITNESS & MISSIONS

Portland Promise Center

Book Drive Update

Our recent service of Lessons and Carols was a beautiful experience with wonderful music enhanced by incredible congregational talent. One could not help but also notice the significant number of young people who read the scriptures with ease and mastery of the written word. It is always a joyful and moving experience to watch and hear a child read the word of God from the pulpit.

Having more children read and have access to books has been the goal of this book drive. And, St Paul, with support from Revolution Church, has responded well to this need and outreach ministry. At this time we have donated well over 1,600 books. Because of your generosity and support, the Portland Promise Center is engaging its children and young people in tutoring programs and a 20 book reading campaign. As a part of the after school ministry, the children participate in a variety of programs that include reading and tutoring. The 20 Book Reading Campaign set a challenge of reading 20 books this year. As the children read books they earn "green bucks" to spend at the "book store." Two weeks ago, 25 children took home a total of 90 books based on the number of books they had already read. The coordinator of the program has expressed delight at the way the children are responding to the book campaign and has already scheduled several more "book store" days to give away more books. Some of the books are also being made available to parents for Christmas gifts.

While the formal part of this drive will be ending after Christmas, books can still be donated at any time by leaving them in a bag or box at the front desk with a note that they are for the Portland Promise Center. The Portland Promise Center wishes to thank St. Paul for their enthusiastic support and for this valuable resource.

-Brad Matthews



American Red Cross Blood Drive In honor of Virginia Watkins

We have named our annual January blood drive in honor of Virginia.

Please mark your calendar for January 16, 2011, from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM in the Social Hall and come out to support the American Red Cross in honor of Virginia!

Kentucky Refugee Ministries Winter Help Drive

Kentucky Refugee Ministries is launching an end of the year, Winter Help for Refugees Drive. Please help by December 31, 2010. KRM is greatly in need of donations of new or gently used blankets, towels, and pots and pans.

As an alternative gift suggestion for those who have everything, KRM's Winter Help Drive for those who have very little in the way of material possessions, embraces the message of the season. "Peace on Earth..." "Welcome the stranger..." Please visit their website at www.kyrm.org to read about "Refugee Winter Care 2010."

Give Hope to Haitians

St. Paul UMC Mission Trip: Feb 19-26, 2011

Despite all the foreign aid and media attention given to Haiti following the earthquake, the country is still in great need. Millions of Haitians lack access to safe drinking water, housing and medical care. Here is your opportunity to make a profound difference in the lives of the Haitian people. The team is limited to 12 adults. The cost is approximately \$1700-\$2000, depending on airfare and fundraising. Team members are required to attend a 2-day training at EDGE OUTREACH, during which they will learn how to purify water, conduct vision clinics and teach health and hygiene lessons.

Contact Team Leader Sue Butler at 550-8384 or suesheabutler@hotmail.com for more information.

BOAR'S HEAD FESTIVAL

Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival

Tickets are available by calling or stopping by the church office, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Monday-Friday or Sunday mornings. See the front page for details. Tickets are free, but required. Dinner tickets are \$19.75 each. To date, dinner on December 29 is *sold out*.

Boar's Head Dress Rehearsal

All Cast Members

Tuesday, December 28, 6:00 – 9:30 PM.
Meet in the Sanctuary.

All Hands On Deck!

Christmas Decorations Tear Down/Boar's Head Set-up

Please come any time between 9:00 a.m. and 12 noon, or plan to stay following the on 10:00 worship service, Sunday, December 26 to put away Christmas decorations and set-up for Boar's Head Festival!

Boar's Head Children's Room Volunteers

If you have a child participating the Boar's Head festival, we ask you to volunteer to supervise their dressing room for one night of the performance. Also, St. Paul will supply sandwiches between performances on the 29th and 30th; parents are asked to bring chips, drinks, dessert or fruit. You will receive an email to sign up for room supervision and food, so please be sure to respond in a timely manner.

We will only have one performance at 6:30 on the final evening. We will be providing **snacks only** so please eat dinner before you arrive. *Please note—this is a change due to the change in festivals to one show only.

It's not too late to get involved!

There are many opportunities to help this year's dinners and festivals: mend costumes, serve for dinners, usher during festivals, etc. Please stop by the bulletin board across from the Information Desk and sign up for a time to help.



AROUND THE CHURCH

Welcome New Members...

- Lana Susemichel joined St. Paul UMC on December 5, 2010.

Celebration of Baptism...

- Samuel Richard Crase, son of Cody and Teresa Crase, was baptized on December 12, 2010.

Our Sympathy to...

- The Family of Mary Lou Kessler, who died on December 4, 2010.
- Donna Berman and Family on the death of her sister, Cheryl Ann Martin Tinch, who died on December 3, 2010.

Memorial Gifts

In Memory of Arvil Allen

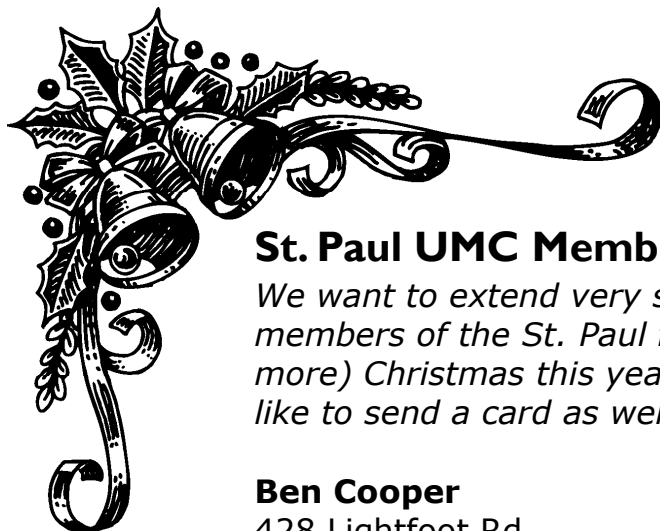
LOA Sunday School Class

In Memory of Rosie Gibson

Bob and Marilyn Helvey
John Hugues
Revolution Church
Eugene and Mary Witten

In Memory of Mary Lou Kessler

Christian Literary Circle
Ray and Betty Jo Fore
Penny Gillen
Andrew Hanlein



St. Paul UMC Members Celebrating 100 + Christmases

We want to extend very special Christmas wishes to the following members of the St. Paul family who are celebrating their 100th (and more) Christmas this year. We have included their addresses if you'd like to send a card as well.

Ben Cooper

428 Lightfoot Rd
Louisville, KY 40207

Erwin Hartmann

c/o Mr. and Mrs. Robert Powell
7617 Oscar Long Rd
Marysville, IN 47141

Frances Moss

c/o Dr. James Wooldridge
295 McElroy Pike
Lebanon, KY 40033

Josephine Smith

300 Valencia Dr SE Apt 205
Albuquerque, NM 87108

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20

9:15 AM HCM Tai Chi (120)
 10:00 AM MOPS Steering (319)
 11:00 AM Celebration of the Life of
 Marjorie Sanders (Sanctuary)
 6:00 PM AA Group Mtg. (120)
 7:00 PM Disciple II Bible Study

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 21

9:00 AM Yoga (113)
 9:15 AM HCM Tai Chi (120)
 2:00 PM Sr Adult Spirituality Group
 (219)
 2:30 PM BH Waits Rehearsal (YC)
 6:00 PM Upward Cheer (YC)
 6:30 PM Tai Chi (113)
 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 40
 Meeting
 7:00 PM LaLeche League Mtg (316)
 7:30 PM DBSA Mtg (110)
 8:00 PM Better Days AA Gr (100)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal (302)
 9:30 AM Discernment Group (319)
 7:30 PM DBSA (Depression &
 Bipolar Support Alliance)(110)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 24

5:00 PM Christmas Eve Service
 (Sanctuary)
 10:30 PM Christmas Eve Service
 (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 25

Merry Christmas!

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 26

10:00 AM Worship (Gym)
 11:00 AM Boar's Head Set up
 8:00 PM AA Group Meeting (100)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 27

9:15 AM HCM Tai Chi (120)
 6:00 PM AA Group Mtg. (120)
 7:00 PM BH Brass Rehearsal
 (Sanctuary)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
 9:15 AM HCM Tai Chi (120)
 2:00 PM Sr Adult Spirituality Group
 (219)
 4:00 PM BH Waits Rehearsal (YC)
 6:00 PM BH Dress Rehearsal

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 29

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
 5:00 PM BH Childcare
 5:00 PM Boar's Head Festival
 (Sanctuary)
 6:30 PM Boar's Head Dinner (120)
 8:00 PM Boar's Head Festival
 (Sanctuary)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 30

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
 5:00 PM BH Childcare
 5:00 PM Boar's Head Festival
 (Sanctuary)
 6:30 PM Boar's Head Dinner (120)
 8:00 PM Boar's Head Festival
 (Sanctuary)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 31

5:00 PM Boar's Head Dinner (120)
 5:45 PM BH Childcare
 6:30 PM Boar's Head Festival
 (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, JANUARY 1

Happy New Year!

SUNDAY, JANUARY 2

8:30 AM Worship (Sanctuary)
 9:00 AM Worship (Gym)
 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes
 11:00 AM Worship (Sanctuary)
 1:30 PM Motet Singers (113)
 8:00 PM AA Group Meeting (100)

MONDAY, JANUARY 3

9:15 AM HCM Tai Chi (120)
 6:00 PM Upward Basketball Practice
 (Gym)
 6:00 PM AA Group Mtg. (120)

TUESDAY, JANUARY 4

9:00 AM Yoga (113)
 9:15 AM HCM Tai Chi (120)
 2:00 PM Sr Adult Spirituality Group
 (219)
 6:00 PM Upward Basketball (Gym)
 6:00 PM Upward Cheer (YC)
 6:30 PM Tai Chi (113)
 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 40
 Meeting
 7:00 PM Kaleidoscope Grp (120)
 7:00 PM LaLeche League Mtg (316)
 7:30 PM DBSA Mtg (110)
 8:00 PM Better Days AA Gr (100)

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
**Wesley Night dinner and groups start
 back on January 12.**

Did you know?

You can view the church
 calendar from the church
 website.

Click on the "CALENDAR"
 button on the top right side
 of the home page.

It will show you details
 about events as well as
 contact info for the
 person in charge of the
 event.



www.stpaulchurch.net

facebook

NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR
Noel Hallelujah Merry Christmas Happy New Year

Sunday Worship Services

8:30 and 11:00 AM Traditional Worship, Sanctuary
9:00 AM Contemporary Worship, Gym

December 26, 2010

**ONE SERVICE TODAY at 10:00 AM
IN THE GYM**

Scripture: I Thessalonians 5:16-18

Message: "What a Year!!"

Rev. Gary Gibson

Music: Worship Team

January 2, 2011

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-33

Message: "Doing the Impossible Requires:
Getting Out of the Boat"

Rev. Gary Gibson

Music:

8:30 service, Emma Wesslund, Piano;
Erin Simpson and Laura Williams, Duet

9:00 service, Worship Team

11:00 service, Emma Wesslund, Piano;
Erin Simpson and Laura Williams, Duet

* We will celebrate Holy Communion on January 9, 2011.

St. Paul United Methodist Church
2000 Douglass Blvd.
Louisville, KY 40205
(502) 459-1595

email: info@stpaulchurch.net
www.stpaulchurch.net

DATED MATERIAL

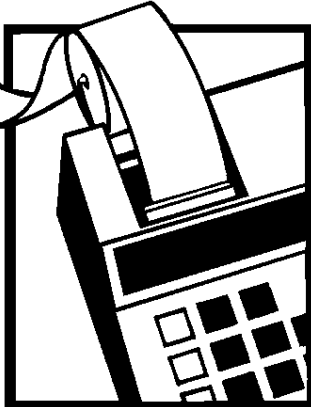
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Next *The Tower* newsletter deadline:
January 4, 2011. Please send info to
cburns@stpaulchurch.net.

Weekly Attendance Report

	Sunday School	Worship
November 28	130	560
December 5	141	610
December 12	149	701

Year-End Finances



As we approach the end of 2010, if you want to make certain that an end-of-the-year contribution is credited to your 2010 Statement, you should be aware of the following procedures in order that the church will be in compliance with Internal Revenue Service Regulations:

- In order for the church to credit a contribution to 2010, your check or cash contribution must be delivered to the church **no later than Thursday December 31, 2010**. In addition, your check must be dated no later than December 31, 2010. All contributions received after this date will be credited to your 2011 contributions.
- If you plan to mail your last contribution for 2010 to the church, and it is postmarked no later than December 31, 2010, it will be credited to your 2010 Contribution Statement.
- For those of you who may be prepaying all or part of your 2011 pledge with a 2010 contribution, please be sure to clearly indicate this on your check or contribution envelope.
- If you have any questions, please call Cleve Iler, Financial Administrator, at 459-1595.