



The Tower

St. Paul United Methodist Church

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Come join us throughout Advent as we prepare our hearts to celebrate the coming of the Christ Child!

Sunday, December 12

Traditional Service of Lessons and Carols

8:30 and 11:00 AM Worship Services, in the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 19

Contemporary Advent Service with Worship Team & Youth Choir

9:00 AM Worship Service, in the Gym

Friday, December 24

Christmas Eve Services with Holy Communion

5:30 and 11:00 PM Worship Services, in the Sanctuary

Preludes with music by the Chancel Choir and

String ensemble begin at 5:00 and 10:30 PM

Sunday, December 27

ONE Worship Service at 10:00 AM in the Gym

(Only One Service and No Sunday School)

Breakfast with Santa is Saturday, December 11

9:00-11:00 AM, Family Life Center

Santa Claus is looking forward to his annual St. Paul Breakfast.

Young and old alike will enjoy donuts, muffins, milk, juice,

and coffee. The children will enjoy visits with Santa (**don't forget your camera!**),

Christmas crafts, story time, and an opportunity to shop for family members in

Santa's Dollar Shop.

There is no cost or registration for this event.

Please bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate to *Toys-for-Tots*.

Invite your family, friends and neighbors!



GARY'S THOUGHTS

We have reorganized our Ministry Teams. The reorganization is an attempt to simplify our structure as well as give our teams a more clear focus.

Beginning in January 2011, our Ministry Team structure will be as follows:

Community Life Ministry Team will create opportunities for the St. Paul community to "do life" together while inviting the larger community to participate. This team will include some of the responsibilities of the former Activities, Adult, and Senior Adult Teams.

Discipleship Formation Team creates opportunities to equip persons to be authentic followers of Christ. They will organize our learning opportunities. This team will include some of the responsibilities of the former Adult Ministry Team.

Spiritual Formation Team will create environments to help us grow deeper in our relationship with God. The Fall Retreat and similar events will be a part of this team's ministry. This team will include work of the former Prayer Team.

Hospitality Ministry Team will welcome the stranger and help them become a part of our family here at St. Paul. This team's ministry will help those who visit for worship and other events feel comfortable and encourage them to come and be with us again.

Family Life Ministry Team will create ministries to address the needs of families. Families will have a very broad definition to include not just families with small children, but also empty nesters, singles, etc...

Beyond the Walls is just a name change for the Witness and Mission Team to better describe the purpose of helping us get beyond the walls of St. Paul and into our community and world. Representatives to Wesley House, Wesley Manor, Portland Promise Center, Lighthouse, HCM, and Children's Home will serve on this team.

Children's Ministry Team has seen no changes and will continue their quality ministry to our children.

Music and Worship Team will continue to lead and develop inspiring worship opportunities.

We will also be organized under, what some of you will recognize as, the Administrative Board and Council on Ministries format. We will use the terms **Administrative Leadership Team** and **Ministry Leadership Team**. There will be an Administrative Leadership Team Chair and the Lay Leader will chair the Ministry Leadership Team.

The chairs of the ministry teams listed above will make up the Ministry Leadership Team. The Ministry Leadership Team can see the big picture of ministry here at St. Paul and prevent the various teams from working in their own silo.

The Administrative Leadership Team will be made up of the chairs of the various administrative teams (Personnel, Trustees, Finance, Endowment), the Lay Leader, the Delegates to Annual Conference, Treasurers and Assistant Treasurers, Historian, UMW Rep., and Members-at-Large.

Gary R. Gibson
Senior Pastor

NEWS FOR ALL

Year-end Tax Planning

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 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 Clever, Financial Administrator, at 459-1595.

Sunday School Class Invitation

If you are thinking about attending adult Sunday School, the members of the Serendipity Class encourage you to visit. We are a discussion group composed of singles and couples representing a broad age range from around 50 to somewhere in the 70s. Discussions can be lively and cover a variety of topics with many different viewpoints usually represented. Our monthly socials are always a good time. We meet at 10:00 AM (or a little bit later; you are never late, a rule of the class) in Room 111.

St. Paul Christmas Cards

St. Paul Christmas Cards are for sale at the Information Center.

- 1 packet (12 cards) - \$10.00
- 2 packets (24 cards) - \$15.00
- 3 packets (36 cards) - \$20.00

Mountain Mission Pick-up

Please have items here (Family Life Center lobby under stairwell) by December 12. URGENT NEEDS: Men's Summer Clothes, Men's shoes, new or very gently used underwear, socks, dishes, school supplies (such as markers, pencils, crayons, notebooks, paper, book bags). Good boxes: Banana, apple, tomato (These boxes stack well for the Mission Store) For the Mission Plant: Laundry detergent, bleach, toilet paper, safety pins.

Youth Progressive Dinner

The annual Progressive Dinner for the Youth Group is Sunday, December 19, 6:00-9:00 PM. Volunteers are still needed for Host Homes, providing food for the Host Homes, and Driver/Chaperones. Please contact Tina Kilcourse at tkilcourse.com or 742-4117, if you can help!

Senior Adult Ministries Derby Dinner Playhouse Trip

The Derby Dinner's Christmas program this year is "Plaid Tidings." Our tickets are for **THURSDAY, December 9**. The cost is \$30.00 per person; doors open at 11:45 AM, performance begins at 1:00 PM.

Allen Goulder (254-7078) will coordinate transportation. For other questions, call Bill Dickinson (458-5607) or Pat Miller (894-8477).

Business @ St. Paul

The Business @ St. Paul networking group invites you to our holiday gathering on Tuesday, December 21, at 8:00 a.m. at The Café, 712 Brent Street. Come and enjoy the company and great food (dutch treat) and support St. Paul members Sal and Cindy Rubino at their restaurant. This is a great opportunity to meet other St. Paul members and our friends and learn how we can help each other grow our businesses. Please RSVP to Gretchen Mahaffey at gmahaffey@kfg.com by Friday, December 17. For more information, contact Gretchen at 451-0600.

WORSHIP AND MUSIC

Boar's Head and Yule Log Festival

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. Over 300 members of our church family serve in this ministry to some 3,000 guests from our city as we offer Christ to metropolitan Louisville.

Tickets are available by calling or stopping by the church office, 9:00 AM-4:30 PM, Monday-Friday. Festival tickets are free, but required. Dinner tickets are \$19.75 each.

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

Boar's Head Dress Rehearsal All Cast Members

Tuesday, December 28, 6:00 p.m.- 9:30 p.m.

All Hands On Deck!

Please come any time between 9:00 a.m. and 12 noon on December 26 to put away Christmas decorations and set-up for Boar's Head Festival!

It's not too late to get involved!

There are many opportunities to help this year's dinners and festivals be a success: mend costumes, serve for dinners, usher during festivals, or help remove decorations and put up the set in the Sanctuary. Please stop by the bulletin board across from the Information Desk and sign up for a time to help. This is a wonderful way to end the Christmas Season! Bring the whole family and get involved!

Contemplative Worship Service

The Contemplative Worship Service meets on Wednesday evenings at 6:30 in the St. Paul Chapel.

You will find time for quiet reflection, meditative music, prayer, and silence during this lay-led worship experience. On the second Wednesday of each month the labyrinth is set up in the gym; walking the labyrinth is part of the service on these evenings.

AROUND THE CHURCH

Congratulations on the Birth of...

- Graham Michael Boone, son of Christen and Michael Boone, who was born on November 5, 2010.

Our Sympathy to...

- Peggy Heimerdinger and Family on the death of her mother, Marjorie Sanders, who died on November 12, 2010.
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WITNESS & MISSIONS

Portland Promise Center

Book Drive

St. Paul is sponsoring an outreach ministry and partnership with the Portland Promise Center to support their work with Portland families in the area of education. Brad Matthews has agreed to be the facilitator of that effort. They currently provide educational programs and tutoring for elementary, middle, and high school students and are in need of more books at all three levels.

Donation of Quality Used Books

Collecting boxes will be established in several places around the church for you to deposit used children and juvenile level books. These books will be reviewed for reading level and taken to the Portland Promise Center for use in their programs including giveaways to support family literacy.

Donation of New Children's Books

New children and juvenile books may be purchased and donated. The same collection boxes may be used.

Wesley Night Book Review Volunteer

Volunteers will be needed, periodically, to review all donated books for usability and reading level assignment. This group may also be used as an advisory group for other Portland Promise Center outreach initiatives related to education. Contact Brad Matthews if you are interested in this work at bradmatthews@bellsouth.net or 451-6759.

For more information on The Portland Promise Center, visit their web site: www.portlandpromise.org.



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.

Operation Christmas Child Report

As we make our lists and fill up our calendars in preparation for Christmas, let us remember that somewhere, in some very remote or poor country in this world, a child is receiving a shoebox, lovingly filled with toys, toiletries, and small gifts. This child might be in a war-ravaged nation, in a flood-devastated village with no water, or like so many, others, is in an orphanage. Most of these children have never received a gift, have never seen a candy cane, have never felt that someone cared about them or that they were important. These children will soon have the chance to learn about Jesus, to learn that God has a plan for their lives and that they matter. I ask you to remember these children and pray for them. To pray that just the right child receives just the right box, that the missionaries travel safely and that their presence will transform this child's life. Thank you all so very much for supporting this beautiful, simple mission project. Together we have impacted **616 children**. Each and every box represents a child, a life changed forever. God's Blessing to you all this Christmas.

-Amy Benton

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. On the evening of the final performance (the 31st), we order pizza for the children, so no food is needed.

Children's Choirs

In preparation for surgery, Karla will not be retuning to direct the Wesleyan or Caroler choirs until after her surgery has been completed. We are hoping she will be able to return by the end of January but it may be later depending upon how quickly she recovers. She is currently receiving dialysis and is doing well. She is not retuning back to work due to the risk of infection around the dialysis sight. In the mean time Lori Elbert has agreed to direct the Caroler Choir and Erin Simpson has agreed to direct the Wesleyan Choir. We are very fortunate to have such wonderfully trained musicians in our church who can step in at a moments notice and provide outstanding quality leadership. Please let them know how much we appreciate their time & their talents.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers)

St. Paul offers two MOPS groups, both meeting the 2nd Monday of the month, one in the morning and the other in the evening:

The daytime group meets (9:30 am-12:00 pm) in the Coffee Shop. For more information, contact Elizabeth Townsend at emeng_2000@yahoo.com.

The evening group meets (6:30-8:00 pm) in room 113. For more information, contact Sienna Newman, sgnewman@insightbb.com.

Family Life Ministry

Being a Christian at Christmas

One of the most stressful times of year is during the holidays. So, how do you prioritize all that's Christian about the holidays with all the other stuff that creeps in? How do you satisfy your family & friends, and still keep your focus on what's truly important?

- **Start planning now.**

Decide what's truly important and necessary as a family.

Having Christian priorities means putting "all that's Christian" at the top of the list.

- **Let friends and family know in advance of your holiday plans.**

Explain that as a family, you've decided to change your focus to things that can make a difference for someone else, things that will make your family truly understand and appreciate the intent of the season.

- **As a family, evaluate all your scheduled holiday activities.**

Only participate in those that you can honestly say you are attending because they bring you joy and contribute to your Christian holiday season. Pleasing God and keeping your sanity must take the highest priority.

- **Give other people a break.**

Putting pressure on others to meet your expectations adds a lot of unnecessary stress on them.

- **As a family, discuss your financial status and make a commitment not to overspend.**

God always looks at motive, no matter what you do. Now is the time to re-evaluate what you're spending and why.

Adapted from "Finding a Christian at Christmas" by Karen Wolff

MONDAY, DECEMBER 6

9:15 AM HCM Tai Chu (120)
 6:00 PM AA Group Mtg. (120)
 6:00 PM Upward Basketball (Gym)
 6:00 PM Families in Transition (100)
 7:00 PM Handbell Ensemble (302)
 7:00 PM Disciple II Bible Study

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7

9:00 AM Yoga (113)
 9:15 AM HCM Tai Chi (120)
 2:00 PM Sr Adult Spirituality Group
 (219)
 6:00 PM Upward Cheer (YC)
 6:00 PM Upward Basketball (Gym)
 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 8

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
 10:00 PM Wed Morning Bible Study
 (113)
 1:00 PM Walk the Labyrinth (Gym)
 5:30 PM Wesley Night Dinner (120)*
 *LAST ONE 2010
 6:15 PM Children's Choirs and
 Kid's Klub
 6:30 PM Contemplative Worship
 (Chapel)
 6:30 PM Healthy Children-Healthy
 Planet (113)
 6:30 PM Guitar Lessons (Sanct)
 6:30 PM Beading for Autism (120)
 6:30 PM Youth Studies (FLC)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 9

8:00 AM Lou Metro Foster Grandparent
 Program (120)
 9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
 9:30 AM Discernment Group (319)
 6:00 PM Upward Cheer (YC)
 6:00 PM Upward Basketball (Gym)
 6:30 PM American Sewing Guild Chpt
 Mtg (CS)
 7:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 40 (120)
 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 (302)
 7:30 PM DBSA (Depression &
 Bipolar Support Alliance)(110)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10

9:30 AM HCM Caregiver Support
 Group (113)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 11

7:00 AM Sat Morning Men's Bible
 Study (100)
 9:00 AM Spiritual Actions AA Gr
 (100)
 9:00 AM Breakfast with Santa (YC)
 10:00 AM Orchestra Rehearsal
 (Sanctuary)
 8:00 PM AA Group Mtg. (120)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12

8:30 AM Worship (Sanctuary)
 9:00 AM Worship (Gym)
 10:00 AM Sunday School Classes
 11:00 AM Worship (Sanctuary)
 12:30 PM Contemporary Worship Team
 Luncheon (CS)
 1:30 PM Motet Singers (113)
 5:00 PM KICS (100)
 5:00 PM Youth Choir (310)
 6:00 PM Metamorphosis Youth
 Group (YC, 120)
 8:00 PM AA Group Meeting (100)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 13

9:15 AM HCM Tai Chi (120)
 9:30 AM MOPS (CS)
 6:00 PM Upward Basketball (Gym)
 6:00 PM Families in Transition (100)
 6:00 PM AA Group Mtg. (120)
 6:30 PM Evening MOPS (113)
 7:00 PM Handbell Ensemble (302)
 7:00 PM Disciple II Bible Study

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 14

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
 9:15 AM HCM Tai Chi (120)
 10:00 AM UMW (113)
 2:00 PM Sr Adult Spirituality Group
 (219)
 6:00 PM Upward Cheer (YC)
 6:00 PM Upward Basketball (Gym)
 6:30 PM Tai Chi (113)
 7:00 PM Boy Scout Troop 40 Eagle
 Court of Honor (Sanctuary)
 7:00 PM LaLeche League Mtg (316)
 7:30 PM DBSA (110)
 8:00 PM Better Days AA Gr (100)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 15

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
 10:00 AM Wed Morning Bible Study
 (113)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 16

9:00 AM Yoga (YC)
 9:30 AM Discernment Group (319)
 6:00 PM Upward Cheer (YC)
 6:00 PM Upward Basketball (Gym)
 7:00 PM Cub Scout Pack 40 (120)
 7:30 PM Chancel Choir Rehearsal
 (302)
 7:30 PM DBSA (Depression &
 Bipolar Support Alliance)(110)

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17

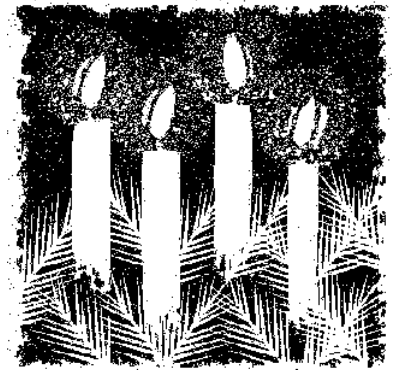
5:30 PM LOA Potluck (120)

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18

7:00 AM Sat Morning Men's Bible
 Study (100)
 9:00 AM Spiritual Actions AA Gr
 (100)
 9:00 AM Worship Team Rehearsal
 (Gym)
 5:00 PM Parent's Night Out Childcare
 8:00 PM AA Group Mtg. (120)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 19

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)



ADVENT



UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Sunday Worship Services

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

December 12, 2010

Lessons and Carols

Scripture: Isaiah 7:10-14

Message: "Beyond the Fluff"

Rev. Gary Gibson

Music:

8:30 service, Chancel Choir and Orchestra

9:00 service, Worship Team

11:00 service, Chancel Choir and Orchestra

December 19, 2010

Contemporary Advent Service at 9 AM

Scripture: Matthew 1:18-25

Message: "What's in a Name?"

Rev. Gary Gibson

Music:

8:30 service, Handbell Ensemble

9:00 service, Worship Team and Youth Choir

11:00 service, Chancel Choir and
Handbell Ensemble

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Next *The Tower* newsletter deadline:
December 14, 2010. Please send info to
cburns@stpaulchurch.net.

Weekly Attendance Report

	Sunday School	Worship
November 14	169	691
November 21	130	560

31st Annual

Louisville Boar's Head and Dule Log Festival

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.

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 the Boar's Head ticket office at 459-1595 ext 33.

