

St. Paul United Methodist Church

A Good Neighbor

501 Grant Street, SE • Atlanta GA 30312

404-688-7501 • fax 404- 688-4421

Rev. S. Ellen Hopkins

Pastor

Kevin Hill

Minister of Music

Jeff Hammack

Organist

Ginny Pavey

Office Manager

Joe Riddle

Director, Recreation Ministries

Contextual Education Intern

Ashley Waite

Contextual Education Intern

Becky Wellman

Director, Golden Age Center



Baptism of the Lord

Human Relations Day

January 18, 2014



The Worship of God

Gathering

11 am Worship Begins

Prelude *We Are Marching in the Light of God* Behnke

*Call to Worship

God's voice speaks to our chaos, echoing in our empty hearts.

**gathering us together to remember our baptism
and to feast at the Table.**

God's voice flows like the living waters of grace,

our new name, 'Beloved,' resounding in our souls.

God's voice stirs the waters of baptismal hope,

calling us to be bearers of peace to a world of broken hopes.

[www.lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com]

***Hymn** *I Sing the Almighty Power of God* UMH 152

Affirmation of Faith *The Apostles Creed* UMH 881

Greeting

We want to know that you were here worshipping with us today, especially if you are a first time visitor. Please introduce yourself to your neighbors, fill in a Visitor's Card (found in your pew), and place it in the offering.

The Word Read and Shared

Psalm 29 UMH 761

***Gospel Lesson** Mark 1:4-11

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Celebration of our Children

Children's Offering

Hymn *Shall We Gather at the River* UMH 723

Sermon Rev. Ellen Hopkins

Invitation to the Water

Come, come to the water.
 Come, you who are thirsty.
 Come to the water.
 For the mighty acts of God are known to us through water.
 Water, that primordial pool of creation over which the Spirit hovered.
 Water, that cleansed the whole earth for new beginnings, new growth.
 Water, that divided so slaves could walk to freedom on dry ground.
 Water, our bath, our tomb, and our womb.
 Water, by which we are adopted as daughters and sons of the Most High.
 Come to the water and give thanks to God whose mighty acts are known
 to us through water. And so we pray:

**Blessed are you God,
 who divides the waters
 so plants and beasts
 of sea and sky and plain could thrive,
 who draws us from the water
 in birth and rebirth,
 who claims us
 with a love from which nothing can separate us.
 Blessed are you, Holy One.
 Come now, God,
 and send your Spirit among us,
 trouble for us this water of memory and imagination.
 Send your Spirit to enliven our praise,
 to strengthen our hands,
 to guide us in work and play, in service and love,
 to assure us once more and again of your love.
 Amen.**

Dear friends, on this day we recall all God's saving acts through water.
 We remember Christ's baptism, and we claim and remember our own.

**We gather at this font of living water
 to celebrate God's ever-flowing redeeming grace.
 We long to draw ever deeper from the well of God's mercy.
 We celebrate the Spirit with us—
 refreshing, renewing, making us one.**

Blessing of Water

Let us pray:

**We thank you, God, for the gift of creation
called forth by your saving Word.
Before the world had shape and form,
your Spirit moved over the waters.
Out of the waters of the deep,
you formed the firmament
and brought forth the earth to sustain all life.
In the time of Noah
you washed the earth with the waters of the flood,
and your ark of salvation bore a new beginning.
In the time of Moses, Aaron, and Miriam,
your people Israel
passed through the Red Sea waters from slavery to freedom
and crossed the flowing Jordan
to enter the promised land.
In the fullness of time you sent Jesus Christ
who was nurtured in the water of Mary's womb.
Jesus was baptized by John in the water of the Jordan,
became living water to a woman at the Samaritan well,
washed the feet of the disciples,
and sent them forth to baptize all nations
by water and the Holy Spirit.**

(As the following words are spoken, the water is poured into the font.)

Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water that by it we may be reminded of our baptism into Jesus Christ and that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may be kept faithful until you receive us at last in your eternal home.

**Glory to you, eternal God,
the one who was and is, and shall always be,
world without end.
Amen.**

(The Congregation is invited to come to the font and to pray.)

The Congregation Remembers Baptism

**Eternal God, you have come to us in Jesus Christ,
given us a new birth by water and the Holy Spirit,
and forgiven all our sins,
bless us now with the grace we need
to fulfill what we have promised.
Keep us faithful to our Savior Jesus Christ,
forever and ever.
Amen.**

(Service adapted from www.ucc.org/assets/pdfs/br4.pdf)

Responding to the Word

Call to Prayer

Down to the River to Pray

Chancel Choir

Pastoral Prayer

Joe Riddle

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father (Creator) 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 Giving of God's Tithes and Our Offerings

Musical Offering

Shed a Little Light (James Taylor)

Chancel Choir

***The Doxology**

UMH 95

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below!
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts!
Praise God, the son and Holy Ghost! Amen.**

We Depart to Love and Serve

Announcements

***Hymn**

Baptized in Water

TFWS 2248

***Benediction**

***The Congregational Blessing**

Go Now in Peace

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
 God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
 Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
 Know God will guide you in all you do.
 Go now in love, and show you believe,
 Reach out to others so all the world can see.
 God will be there watching from above.
 Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

***The Light Goes Forth**

Postlude

Go Out With Peace

Smith

**Stand as you are able.*

WORSHIP LEADERS AND SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Presider: Rev. Ellen Hopkins

Liturgist: Camille Tanksley

Children's Time: Bryan Russell

Sound Board: Bill Ericson

Acolytes: Stella, Dillon and Sarah Steely

Ushers: Eddie Hardy (head usher), Bryan Russell, Robin South

Altar Guild: Karen Merritt

Loving Childcare: TBD

Coffee, Cookies and Conversation: Holly Elrod

Counters: Bill McKinnon and Sarah Caldwell

WE REJOICE TO WELCOME YOU to this service of worship at St. Paul United Methodist Church. We pray God's blessing upon you this morning. We are pleased you chose to worship with us today. If you are just visiting, we encourage you to fill in a Visitor's Card (found in your pew) and place it in the offering so we can be in touch with you. If you are looking for a church home, look no further—you have found one at St. Paul. If this community can assist you in any way, please let us know. If you are interested in becoming a member of this church or want to talk about membership, please speak with our Pastor, Rev. Ellen Hopkins, after the service. **Welcome. Welcome. Welcome!!!**

Want more information about what's happening at St. Paul? We generally send out emails weekly. If you'd like to be on our email list, contact the church office at office@stpaulgrantpark.org or 404-688-7501.

Activities. Members, visitors, friends, all are invited to participate in the various ministries at St. Paul. If you need more information please call the church office 404-688-7501.

Every Sunday:

- 10am **Sunday School** (all ages)
- 8:45am **Worship First** (casual, contemporary service with Holy Communion)
- 11am **Morning Worship** (traditional service)
- 12-ish **Hospitality:** Coffee, Cookies and Conversation (Chester Commons, most Sundays)

Every Wednesday:

- 7:00pm **Chancel Choir** [kevinhowardhill@gmail.com]

Youth Group Variable schedule. Contact Ashley Waite (waite.ashley@gmail.com) to be placed on her contact list.

Nursery is available for infants and toddlers on the 3rd floor of the education building prior to and during the worship service. After the Children's Sermon, children under kindergarten age may go up to child care in the gym on the third floor.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR SUNDAY, JANUARY 18, 2015

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

- *Gracie Gazaway, son Tom and daughter Jackie (Tom having surgery next week to replace an implant that helps control seizures)

CAN WE PRAY FOR YOU? We would like to hear from you if there are any people in your lives struggling with faith, finances, health or relationships for whom St. Paul can pray.

ST. PAUL YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE Open to all middle and high school students!

Sunday, Jan 18: **12:30 to 2:00pm - Lunch @ Cook Out (Bring \$7)**

Sunday, Jan 25: **4:30 to 6pm**

Sunday, Feb 1: **4:30 to 6pm - Indoor Flag Football Pregame for Super Bowl!**

Sunday, Feb 8: **6:00 to 7:30pm**

Sunday, Feb 15: **4:30 to 6pm**

Sunday, Feb 22: **6:30 to 8:00pm - Supper @ Grant Central (Bring \$7)**

CAMP SPARC 2015 REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Camp Location: St Paul United Methodist Church, 501 Grant Street SE, Atlanta, GA 30312

Camp Sessions: 8 Sessions weekly between 6/1/2015 through 7/31/2015

*There will be no camp for the week of June 29th in observance of the July 4th Holiday.

Camp Schedule

Camp Hours 9:00 AM-4:00 PM

Free Extended Care from 8:00 AM-9:00 AM & 4:00 PM-6:00 PM

Your child can attend camp from 8:00 AM-6:00 PM each day without additional charges.

Age Groups: Camp SPARC! is for children who are age 6-12. Youngest Children must turn 6 by June 1, 2015. Oldest children must not exceed age 12 as of June 1, 2015.

Themes

Week 1 June 1-5	*VBS/Flag Football & Cartooning
Week 2 June 8-12	*Glisson Grow Day Camp- Visit here for more info: http://growdaycamps.org/
Week 3 June 15-19	Basketball & Painting
Week 4 June 22-26	Kickball & Engineering for Kids
Closed June 29-July 3	Closed for July 4th Holiday
Week 5 July 6-10	Tennis & Film Making
Week 6 July 13-17	*Soccer & Music
Week 7 July 20-24	* **Community Action Week
Week 8 July 27-31	Pottery & Bike Week

***These weeks will include Christian themed programming.**

****Community Action Week campers will take field trips to learn ways they can volunteer in their Communities and become strong citizens. Campers will also have the opportunity to plan and implement their own projects. Examples prior visits include a trip to Habitat for Humanity, Emmaeus House Homeless Center, Atlanta Tool Bank, Trees Atlanta, Oakland Cemetery, & an Interactive Community presentation by the Atlanta Preservation Society.**

Registration and Payment Policies**Early Bird Registration: January 7, 2015 – February 28, 2015**

Cost of Camp per Week: \$220 (\$20 Additional Discount for St. Paul UMC Members anytime. Use discount code stpaul2015.)

Regular Registration: March 1, 2015 – August 1, 2015

Cost of Camp per Week: \$250 (\$20 Additional Discount for St. Paul UMC Members anytime. Use discount code stpaul2015)

1. All registrations online via Registration Link at www.StPaulRec.com. Each child must be registered separately and fees must be paid with a credit card at the time of registration or the registration is not valid.
2. To request a payment plan, email Recreation@StPaulGrantPark.org.
3. For assistance with registration, contact [Recreation @StPaulGrantPark.org](mailto:Recreation@StPaulGrantPark.org)