



JUNE
JULY
AUGUST
2023

Gatherings

Ways to connect, serve, worship, and learn together.

*Smile!
It's summer.*

Few things can be as refreshing and exhausting as summer vacation.



The apostles then rendezvoused with Jesus and reported on all that they had done and taught. Jesus said, “Come off by yourselves; let’s take a break and get a little rest.” For there was constant coming and going. They didn’t even have time to eat. So they got in the boat and went off to a remote place by themselves.
Mark 6:30–32 (The Message)

Summer has a way of both sneaking up on us and being over before we truly find time to relax and recharge. For me, vacation has meant different things over the years. When I was growing up, summer vacation usually meant a car trip to see family in Michigan or Ohio or Louisiana. Lenee and I were married during the August break while we were both still college students, and our honeymoon was a trip to Kennebunk, Maine in our 1973 VW camper van. After our daughter Bailey was born, vacations took a different turn and we journeyed to Disney World, the Smithsonian Museums in Washington DC, Graceland, and The World Methodist Conference in South Africa.

Looking back on summers gone by, our vacations were too often on the go—seeing New York City or Philadelphia in a day—rushing here and there. We returned home well-traveled but exhausted. These days vacations for Lenee and I are different as we try to embrace Jesus’ wisdom from Mark 6. Last summer we travelled with the choir to England, this fall we’re leading a pilgrimage to the Holy Land (there’s still time to register to join us... scan the QR code below) and next year we are going on a cruise through the Panama Canal. But at some point in the summer we always try to get to the beach, whether it’s Galveston or somewhere on the coast. There is something refreshing about the beach and those vacations are the most relaxing and revitalizing.

It is essential in all of our lives to “take a break and get a little rest” as Jesus instructed. I hope you find some time this summer to recharge.

Rev. Dr. Jeff McDonald
Senior Pastor

Holy Land: October 17–29, 2023
Only a few spots left!



ALL SMILES
Cover photo and this collage are from Easter Sunday 2023. Follow @stpaulshouston on Facebook and Instagram to enjoy more community moments.



SUMMER 2023

calendar

Events subject to change. Please confirm dates and times.

may

25 FINE ARTS ACADEMY – SUMMER REGISTRATION

Our Fine Arts Academy summer semester begins June 12 with individual and group classes for children and adults in art and music. Learn more and register at www.stpaulshouston.org/fine-arts-academy or contact Helen Spaw at hspaw@stpaulshouston.org.

28 POPSICLES ON PENTECOST

Noon on the Plaza

Join us immediately following our 11 am worship service for a pop-up celebration of the church gathering together on Pentecost! Enjoy popsicles and friendship.

MACGREGOR PALS

School's out for summer but the fall semester will be here before we know it! St. Paul's cares about the children in our neighborhood, and we are looking for adults willing to serve as mentors at our longtime partner school, MacGregor Elementary. Volunteers need to be able to serve at the school once a week for 45 minutes, one-on-one. A good volunteer is someone who reliably takes time with the child and can encourage them in making progress in their schoolwork. No prior experience in education is required. MacGregor Pals exhibit the compassionate love of God through their faithful presence in the life of a child.

For more details, contact Kelly Fischer, St. Paul's MacGregor lay coordinator, at kafischer3@gmail.com. Volunteers need to sign up by July 7 to be prescreened and matched with a child for the 2023–24 school year.

june

1–3 LAHSOW OPERA WORKSHOP PERFORMANCES

Thursday, June 1 at 2 pm and 7 pm | Fondren Hall

Friday, June 2 at 2 pm and 7 pm | Fondren Hall

Saturday, June 3 at 2 pm | Fondren Hall

LAHSOW Houston returns for a second summer to offer Antonín Dvořák's ravishingly haunting fairy tale presented in semi-staged version in its entirety, sung in Czech with English subtitles projected. The rotating casts are a fine blend of local talent mixed with young professionals visiting from Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, New York, and Saskatchewan.

2 YOUTH SUMMER KICK-OFF EVENT

10 am–3 pm | Adventure Park

Calling all junior high and high school students! Join us for our summer kick-off event to play laser tag, paintball, and other games, followed by lunch out. \$35/youth.



4 PRIDE PICNIC

Noon–2 pm | Fondren Hall

St. Paul's welcomes all with pride! At our annual Pride Picnic, we will enjoy boxed sandwich lunches, photo booth, and art activities to make banners for the Pride Parade. Wear your best Pride colors...there will be prizes! St. Paul's Pride t-shirts will be available for \$20 with the message: "God's love is here to stay." Nursery care is provided if needed. Lunch is \$15/person; vegan and gluten-free option available. Register today! www.stpaulshouston.org/pride

EVENSONG FOR TRINITY SUNDAY

4 pm | Sanctuary

St. Paul's Choir sings music by Edward Bairstow, Stephen Caracciolo and Charles Stanford, and a new anthem "O, for a thousand tongues to sing" commissioned by St. Paul's Chamber Music Society and written by Malcolm Archer.

Following Evensong, we will have a farewell reception at 5 pm in the Activities Center for associate music director and organist Joel Trezell in appreciation for his contributions to St. Paul's music ministry as he moves to a new position in Colorado.

5–9 ST. PAUL'S CHILDREN'S MUSIC CAMP

Monday–Friday | 9 am–noon | Music Rooms

Let's BEAT the summer heat! Children's Music Director Susie Vanlandingham will offer a fun, music camp themed around percussion. Kids ages 5–12 will enjoy singing, making and playing instruments, crafts and movement. \$90/camper. Early care \$40 (7:30–8:45 am) and late care \$45 (4–5:30 pm) options are available in addition to the afternoon Armored Sports Camp \$135 (noon–4 pm). For more details, email susie@stpaulshouston.org.



june

7 **THE ART TENT - SUMMER PROGRAM STARTS**
10:30 –11:30 am | EAC Parking Lot
On Wednesdays, June 7–August 30, 10:30–11:30 am, Art Kits with hopeful messages will be offered to connect with those experiencing living outside. For more information or to volunteer, email Helen Spaw, MPS, at hspaw@stpaulshouston.org.

9 **YOUTH FRIDAY FLICK & SERVICE DAY**
9 am–3 pm | St. Paul's and Studio Movie Grill
Youth will help prepare for the UM ARMY Mission Trip in the morning, then go to lunch and a movie together at Studio Movie Grill in the afternoon. \$20/youth.

10 **MARIGOLD PLANTING DAY**
9–10:30 am | St. Paul's Community Garden
During the All Saints season, St. Paul's creates an *ofrenda* for prayer and reflection, dressing this altar with marigold flowers grown in our community garden. Join us for a family-friendly planting day. Participating in this kind of preparation will give us a deeper sense of how the saints' cycles can form us as people of faith.



11 **SUMMER OF SERVICE RECOGNITION**
8:30 & 11 am | Sanctuary
We will be recognizing and praying for all persons volunteering to serve through St. Paul's ministries over the summer. Volunteers who will be going on mission trips, participating in VBS and other camps, and serving in summer missions opportunities at St. Paul's are invited to attend either service to help us kick off our summer of service.

11–17 **UM ARMY SENIOR HIGH MISSION TRIP**
Youth who have completed grades 9–12 will be doing home repair in Bryan, TX with UM ARMY. \$300

22 **RSCM GULF COAST CHORAL EVENSONG**
6 pm | Sanctuary
Combined treble choristers from all over the Southwest have gathered for a weeklong Royal School of Church Music sacred music camp. They join in singing music for evensong at St. Paul's, directed by special guest clinician, Simon Lole. The program includes music by Malcolm Archer, Herbert Sumsion and Simon Lole.

23 **YOUTH FRIDAY FLICK & SERVICE DAY**
9 am–3 pm | St. Paul's and Studio Movie Grill
Youth will help prepare for JUMMP mission trip in the morning, then go to lunch and a movie together at Studio Movie Grill in the afternoon. \$20/youth.



24 **PRIDE PARADE**
6–11 pm | Meet in St. Paul's parking lot to take church bus March with St. Paul's UMC in Houston's annual Pride Parade as we show our solidarity with and support of the LGBTQ+ community. You can help us buy decorations for the parade and find out more: www.stpaulshouston.org/pride

26–30 **JUMMP JUNIOR HIGH MISSION TRIP**
Students who have completed grades 6–8 will be doing home repairs in College Station, TX. \$275

Sunday, June 11

summer OF service

In worship, we will recognize and pray for volunteers serving this summer in St. Paul's missions and ministries

july

- 7 **FRIDAY FLICK & SERVICE DAY**
9 am–3 pm | St. Paul's, Bread of Life, and Studio Movie Grill Youth will serve at Bread of Life Ministry in the morning and go to lunch and a movie at Studio Movie Grill in afternoon. \$20/youth.

- 10–14 **VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL**
9 am–12:15 pm | Jones Building
For children ages 4 years through 5th grade (completed). Each day at the Hero Hotline headquarters, superheroes of all ages and abilities answer the call to work together to bring peace, build each other up, and share the great story of God's love for us. Kids will experience Bible stories through music, drama and storytelling, games, arts and crafts, science, and even snacks.

Drop-off for VBS begins at 8:45 am and pick-up is at 12:15 pm. For additional fees, Early Care is available 7:45–8:45 am (includes breakfast). Armored Sports Camp is 12:15–4 pm. Following the sports camp, we will offer After Care 4–5:30 pm (includes snack). Scholarships available based on need; contact Pastor Kate at kate@stpaulshouston.org. Get all the details and register: www.stpaulshouston.org/vbs

VBS + YOUTH WEEK

Jones Building & Off-site Youth will volunteer to assist with Vacation Bible School in the mornings, then have a meal and go on a fun outing in the afternoon (\$25/youth per outing).

- 15 **CORNERSTONE VOTING**
Are you a member of St. Paul's Foundation Cornerstone Society? During the timeframe of July 15–August 15, Cornerstone members will receive emails from the Foundation asking them to vote on which community organizations to award grants to this fall. We will announce the grant recipients in late August. More details: www.stpaulshouston.org/foundation



A Parisian Festival
Music from Europe's Most Beautiful City
Sunday, July 16 @ 4 pm in the Sanctuary
with Ice Cream and Macaron reception

- 16 **A PARISIAN FESTIVAL: MUSIC FROM EUROPE'S MOST BEAUTIFUL CITY**
4–5 pm | Sanctuary
Paris in the 19th century saw an explosion of wonderful new organs, organists, and organ music. In this concert, St. Paul's Director of Music Chris Betts plays some of the most popular music from this era on our grand Schantz organ, with compositions by Alexandre Guilmant, Louis Vierne, Camille Saint-Saëns, Joseph Bonnet, César Franck and Charles-Marie Widor. Interspersed between organ solos will be some beautiful choral motets by Gabriel Fauré, Pierre Villette, and Deodat de Severac, sung by a small choral ensemble. In honor of National Ice Cream Day and the Parisian theme, the concert will be followed by an Ice Cream and Macaron reception in the Activity Center. Admission is free and childcare available on request: childcare@stpaulshouston.org.

- 19–31 **MISSION TRIP TO BOLIVIA**
This mission trip will include: a two-day retreat to prepare our hearts and minds; Vacation Bible School leadership opportunities; assisting with well-child checkups and dentistry appointments; and reconstruction of the front wall of Emmanuel Church. Working alongside one other in mission with our Bolivian sisters and brothers in Christ, we will be moved by God's amazing love for us all. For more details, contact Rev. Nataly Negrete at nataly@stpaulshouston.org.

august

- 1 **COMING HOME**
Tuesdays, 5–7 pm | Fondren Hall
Facilitated by our community partner SEARCH Homeless Services, this 24-week program meets the needs of individuals in transition, serving a targeted group of 10–12 clients, all formerly homeless and currently housed. Volunteers from St. Paul's are needed once a week on Tuesday evenings to build community around the dinner table. Coming Home is a unique program that generates a sense of belonging, fosters caring relationships, and promotes healing. For more details, contact Merlene McAlevy, St. Paul's SEARCH lay coordinator, at mfmcalevy@gmail.com.
- 4 **YOUTH END-OF-SUMMER SCHLITTERBAHN IN GALVESTON**
Friday, August 4 | 9 am–6 pm
Day trip to Schlitterbahn in Galveston, and dinner at The Spot restaurant. Cost is \$50, which includes dinner.
- 6 **DISCOVER & CONNECT**
9:45 am | Parlor
If you are considering membership at St. Paul's, you are invited to this three-session class will be held on Sundays, August 6, 13, and 20. It's an opportunity to get to know St. Paul's and for us to get to know you. We believe St. Paul's can be a place that helps you deepen your faith, discover your spiritual gifts, and grow in Christian life alongside a great community. RSVP to Sarah Patlan at spatlan@stpaulshouston.org.



CONFIRMATION 2023

Christopher Dyer, Landon Guehring, Emma Aleece Ledford, Elizabeth Malina, Dylan James Powell, Alexander Rodkey, Grace Vincent, and Lina Volpi joined St. Paul's as members on May 7.

St. Paul's Cares

BAPTISMS

Parker Dedrick-Lukingbeal, son of Jason Dedrick and Patrick Lukingbeal, was baptized on May 14.

Eloise Margaret Sheeler, daughter of Elissa Edwards and Jeremy Sheeler, was baptized on March 26.

Amelia June Norfleet, daughter of Kelli and Michael Norfleet, was baptized on March 19.

Maxwell Alexander Hune, son of Alexandra Schwenke and Matthew Hune, was baptized on March 19.

BIRTHS

Rev. Kate Flint and Justin Flint became foster parents to a baby girl in May 2023.

Eloise Margaret Sheeler was born on February 15 to parents Elissa Edwards and Jeremy Sheeler.

Ronan Schenke Akyar was born to Joanna Schenke and Eren Akyar. Ronan is the first grandson of Dick and Diane Schenke.

DEATHS

Larry Gunn – March 19

John Kirby Vaughan, Jr. – March 13

Michelle Marie Glickman – March 10

Mother of Stan Beard, Jean Pittman – March 6

Mother of Keith Guehring, Lois Guehring – March 4

Jason Morton Kottenbrink – February 17

Ann Johnson Gunn – February 1

James Gerald Martin III (Jimmy) – February 1

WEDDINGS

Mary Ellen Weylandt and Parker Hinman were married on April 29.

Brooke Bradburn and Raymond Sauvage were married on April 1.

Marc Boots and Summer Shaw were married at St. Paul's on February 18.

Maggie Ramirez and Colton Mertz were married at St. Paul's on February 11.

NEW MEMBERS

Retired UMC pastors, Revs. David and Marilyn Meeker-Williams affiliated with St. Paul's on March 30.

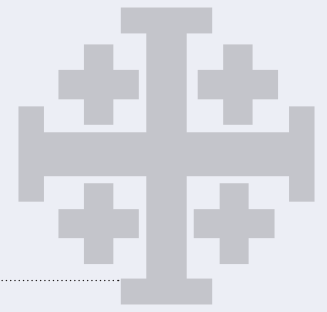
Retired UMC pastors Revs. Ed and Susan Kester affiliated with St. Paul's on March 30.

Retired UMC pastor Rev. Robert Stutes affiliated with St. Paul's on March 30.

Alexandra Schwenke joined on March 19.

Debbie Moffett joined on March 12.

Ann Brooks, Charles and Suellen Campbell, Helen and Raymond (Gene) Green, Sue McIlveen, Nancy Misher, Jim and Judy Nicklos, and Louise Taylor joined on February 26.



Sundays at St. Paul's

CHILDREN

3-year-olds – 2nd Grade Sunday School

9:45–10:45 am in the Jones Building
We begin with Joyful Noise, a music and worship assembly, then transition to age-level classrooms for a Bible story, activities, and crafts. Children flourish in their spiritual growth through listening, singing and moving, creating, and interacting with their peers.

3rd – 5th Grade Sunday School

9:45–10:45 am in the Jones Building
GROW is a Sunday School program designed for mid- to upper-elementary students led by a dynamic team of teachers dedicated to engaging this age group in meaningful ways.

Nursery care is available for babies and toddlers during Sunday school and worship hours.

Children's Church during the 11 am service includes playtime, art and a Bible lesson with Pastor Kate.

Contact: Rev. Kate Flint at kflint@stpaulshouston.org

YOUTH

Come at 9:30 am to the Youth Center (1st floor Sanctuary Building) for donuts and recreation. We have breakfast, announcements, and weekly classes for youth in grades 6–12.

Rainbows, a group for youth in the LGBTQ+ community, questioning their identity/sexuality, and allies of the community, also meets semi-regularly.

Contact: Tiffin Wilsford at tiffin@stpaulshouston.org



ADULTS

30s & 40s

S-102, basement of Sanctuary Building
Age Range: 30s and 40s
We meet each week for fellowship and learning – sometimes we do book studies, sometimes we do a series of Bible lessons, sometimes we just talk about what's going on in our lives and in the world. Contact: Rev. Trey Burns at tburns@stpaulshouston.org

Candlelighters

S-109, basement of Sanctuary Building
Age Range: 60+
This class enjoys excellent lessons taught by class members and invited presenters. Socials are held regularly. Class members provide support within the class and church community. Contact: Larry Roberts at roberts.larry@att.net

Journeys

S-312, 3rd floor Sanctuary Building
Age Range: 50s and 60s
Thoughtful discussion of a wide range of topics that impact our faith, relationships with God, and relationships with one another. Contact: Kyle Frazier at kyle@frazierlawhouston.com

Living Faith

J-220, 2nd floor Jones Building
Age Range: 40s and 50s
Meet weekly on Sunday mornings for fellowship and thoughtful study. Enjoy studying faith-based topics, engaging in open, lively discussions, and supporting each other along life's journeys. Family-oriented and adult social events help us connect outside of class. Contact: Leah Barton at leahrachel@gmail.com

Ordinary Life

Fondren Hall, 2nd floor Jones Building
Age Range: Intergenerational
Engage a lighthearted approach to serious inspiration and motivation, emphasizing living life as it is, not as it "ought to be." Most classes feature lectures by Rev. Dr. Bill Kerley. Visit Ordinary Life at www.ordinarylife.org. Contact: Rev. Dr. Bill Kerley at billkerley@mac.com

Point of View

J-204, 2nd floor Jones Building
Age Range: 50s
Discusses contemporary issues with the intent of providing a forum for Christians to explore how they are called to live in the world, how to interact with people of different faiths, and how to make an impact on the Common Good. Contacts: Bill Finger at wrfinger2976@msn.com and Chris Newlin at chrismnewlin@gmail.com

Revolving Studies Class

J-211, 2nd floor Jones Building
Age Range: 40+
Focused on Scripture-based studies, as well the writings of classical and contemporary theologians and writers. All studies are curriculum based, most lasting 6–8 weeks, and we meet socially throughout the year. Contact: Mary Linda Portner at portnerml@me.com

Roundtable

S-301, 3rd floor Sanctuary Building
Age Range: 50+
Through a historical perspective, we connect the dots between Old and New Testaments. The class supports the Emergency Aid Coalition and other mission projects. Fellowship activities are held quarterly. Contact: John Munday at jemunday@windstream.net

Special Studies Class

J-203, 2nd floor Jones Building
Age range: 60+
Take an insightful look at religious books and videos as you engage in stimulating open discussions on current issues. Everyone's viewpoints are welcome and respected. Past studies include *The Battle for God* by Karen Armstrong and *Einstein's God* by NPR radio host Krista Tippett. Contact: Camille Cunningham at camillec9984@yahoo.com

Not just on Sundays!
Looking for groups
on a different day?
Discover where might
be a good fit for you.



SAVE THE DATE

Celebration Sunday

Sunday, August 27 ● 9:30–10:30 am

Join us for a party in the plaza with Locomotion Promotion train rides, food, and fun as a church family.



Scan to learn more



 **ST. PAUL'S**
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
HOUSTON

5501 Main Street • Houston, TX 77004
(713) 528-0527 • stpaulshouston.org

SUNDAY MORNINGS

Worship at 8:30 and 11 AM

Sunday School at 9:45 AM

MID-WEEK COMMUNION

Wednesdays at NOON

Church Office Hours

Monday–Thursday: 8 am–5 pm

Friday: 8 am–Noon