

ST. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

The Goodnews Letter

November 2023

“Seek the peace (Shalom) of the city where I have sent you.”

Jeremiah 29:7

In the book of Jeremiah, God speaks through the prophet to proclaim to God’s people to seek the peace or shalom in the places where they have been sent. The place of exile in Babylon and other parts of the world are places where the people did not want to go to in the first place. However, by God’s goodness and steadfast love for God’s people, Jeremiah uplifts and encourages the people to seek the common good and shalom of their own community even in the midst of uncertainty and war.

In our own present day, it may seem like we have received a window into what Jeremaih experienced those many years ago in the land of Israel. As we continue to pray for Israel and Palestine and for all who are experiencing war around the world, let us strive to follow Jeremiah’s words of seeking the peace or shalom in our very own city and community.

On November 15 and 16, we have a wonderful opportunity to live into Jeremiah’s words of seeking the shalom of our community. All are invited to attend a two-night community Night of Hope for the city of New Ellenton. **The Night of Hope will take place in the New Ellenton Farmers Market at 6:30pm each night.** This will be a special event for all who attend to lift up prayers for our city, county, state, nation, and world.

In this season, let us turn our hearts toward the promise of Jesus’ peace as embodied in the hymn:

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father,
Children all are we.
Let me walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me;
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment
And live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth,
And let it begin with me.

Words: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson

Music: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson; Harmony by Charles H. Webb, 1987

“Let There be Peace on Earth” *United Methodist Hymnal* 431 (United Methodist Publishing House, 1989).

Update on Christ Central - New Ellenton, SC

On Tuesday, October 17, 2023, Kathy Moore and I visited the Christ Central facility in New Ellenton. They have been approved to open a homeless shelter, but they have a lot that needs to happen before they can open. They have raised \$11,000 of the \$50,000 - \$60,000 needed to bring two bathrooms up to ADA standards and two washers and two dryers are needed for the utility room. Already 4 bedrooms completely furnished for occupancy and another for overnight staff once the homeless shelter portion of the facility is open. The main goal now is to get the shelter open as soon as possible. However, they are not able to cook in the facility because the firewalls are not up to code in both of the kitchens.

Right now, they can take care of some needs in the community. A few times a month someone will come in and take a shower. Canned food can be provided from their food pantries and there are racks of clothes for men, women and children. There is a nice sitting area and a wall full of books where anyone can come in and sit awhile and read or even take books with them.

Current Activities:

October 28 – they will be giving out handmade blankets, coats, jackets and clothing and hygiene products.

In June of 2023, they started a food distribution with Golden Harvest Food Bank. It is held the 2nd Wednesday of every month. Golden Harvest gives a box of food and women from a church in Aiken gives out hygiene products.

Starting this month (October 26) on the 4th Thursday each month, they will have a Senior Citizens Program. The participants will receive a box of food from Golden Harvest. The Cedar Creek Women's Club will provide a meal this month.

Soon GED classes will be starting. They have forms in English and Spanish, due to the large Hispanic community in this area. There is a resource list to put people in touch with the proper agency for assistance.

Once the shelter is open, when renovations are completed and it passes inspection, clients will be able to stay on an as needed basis. They can receive training on seeking employment, how to handle finances, such as credit building and saving. As long as the client shows results, they may stay up to a year or so. A future goal is to build a tiny house community on an additional 7 acres of land owned by Christ Central. Residents of the shelter could transition to a tiny home and stay up to 2 years longer while working and saving money to put towards their own place.

Update on Christ Central continued ...

The Nurture/Outreach Committee and United Methodist Women in Faith will be meeting next week on how St. Paul can help Christ Central. But there are ways in which individuals can help also:

- Pray! Add Christ Central New Ellenton to your prayer list. Pray daily that their needs will be met.
- Monetary donations, every little bit helps.
- Donations of food items. Suggested: cans of Vienna sausage, pop open cans of food, fruit cups, cup a soup. Foods that are easily transportable for the homeless.
- Donations of clothes (all sizes and gender), towels and hygiene products (facial or baby wipes, toilet paper, etc.).

Volunteers!

The day before and the day of the Golden Harvest Food Distribution which is held the 2nd Wednesday of the month from 11-3. The day before help is needed to rotate the frozen meat, check dates and rotate the canned food, clean pantry shelves and sweep.

For the Senior Citizens Program held the 4th Thursday every month.

Last year with the help of Grace Covenant, Christmas was provided for local families. The families came for a donated catered meal and had fellowship together. This year, the plan is to provide for 65 local families with gifts provided by local churches, organizations and individuals. Volunteers are needed to help on the day the gifts are given out about 2 weeks before Christmas.

These are just a few of the many ways you can give of yourself to the ministry of Christ Central. To volunteer, you need to fill out the Volunteer Application and the Pre-Employment Authorization Form, which is for a background check that New Ellenton is providing for free. We have the forms in the parlor and the narthex. When you are ready to turn in your forms, please contact Deborah Creech (her number is on the form) to arrange a time as she is not always at the facility.

Thank you,
Judy Dudley

ST. PAUL UMC VOLUNTEERS

Acolytes

11/05 Lauren Akins
11/12 Zoey Hall
11/19 Vivianna Ignaffo
11/26 David Ignaffo

Communion Preparation

Kathy Moore

Lay Servants

11/05 Randy Stowe
11/12 Melinda Brinkley
11/19 Jimmy Brinkley
11/26 Charles Goodman, Sr.

Nursery Volunteers

11/05 April Ramos & Melinda Brinkley
11/12 Destiny Ramos & Toby James
11/19 Christy Boatright & Eirene Ferguson
11/26 Minnie Goodman & Amanda Kirkland

Offering Accountants

Ann Akins & Melinda Brinkley

Lay Servant Substitute: Jennifer Akins

If you are unable to serve on the Sunday you are scheduled for, please find a replacement and contact the church office.



St. Paul UMC is scheduled to load the ACTS Food Distribution Truck on the 4th Thursday of the Month.

ACTS Food Distribution

Friday, November 17, 2023

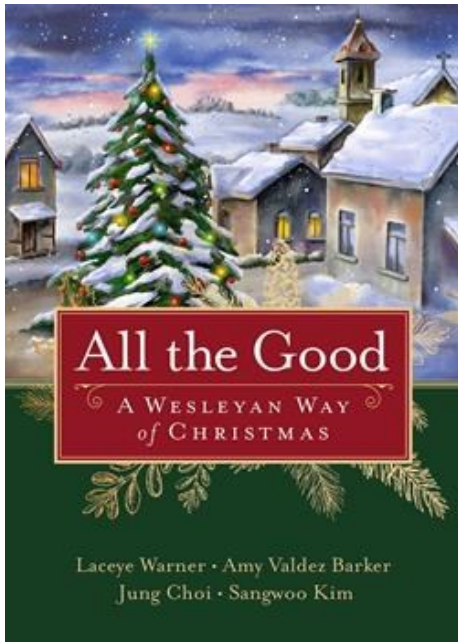
8:30 AM

New Ellenton Civic Center

NOVEMBER 2023

St. PAUL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
600 Main Street South
New Ellenton, SC 29809

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 All Saint's Day 5 PM Nurture/ Outreach Mtg-- FH	2	3 5:30 PM Fall Festival Toby James (B) Bill Parchen (B)	4
5 10:30 AM Worship 5 PM UMW-FH 5 PM-MYF-FLC	6 Minnie & Charles Goodman Sr. (A)	7	8 Billy Watkins (B)	9	10 Kevin Summer (B)	11 Veteran's Day Advent Bible School for Children
12 10:30 AM Worship 12 PM Charge Confer- ence 5 PM-MYF-FLC	13	14	15 Jimsie & Rick Crosby (A)	16	17 8:30 AM-ACTS Food Distribution Karen Ignaffo (B)	18
19 10:30 AM Worship 5 PM-MYF-FLC	20	21	22 Philip Moore (B)	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26 10:30 AM Worship 5 PM-MYF-FLC Robert Ferguson (B)	27	28	29	30		



Advent Book Study

Come join us this Advent as we set aside a time for Holy Conversations about our faith both as Christians and as Methodist during a book study on **All the Good: A Wesleyan Way of Christmas.**

To purchase your own copy of the book you may use either of the following links:

Amazon: https://www.amazon.com/All-Good-Lacey-C-Warner/dp/1791017975/ref=sr_1_1crid=2GR7AQWUUVH0&keywords=The+wesleyan+way+of+Christmas&qid=1698269440&srefix=the+wesleyan+way+of+christmas%2Caps%2C268&sr=8-1

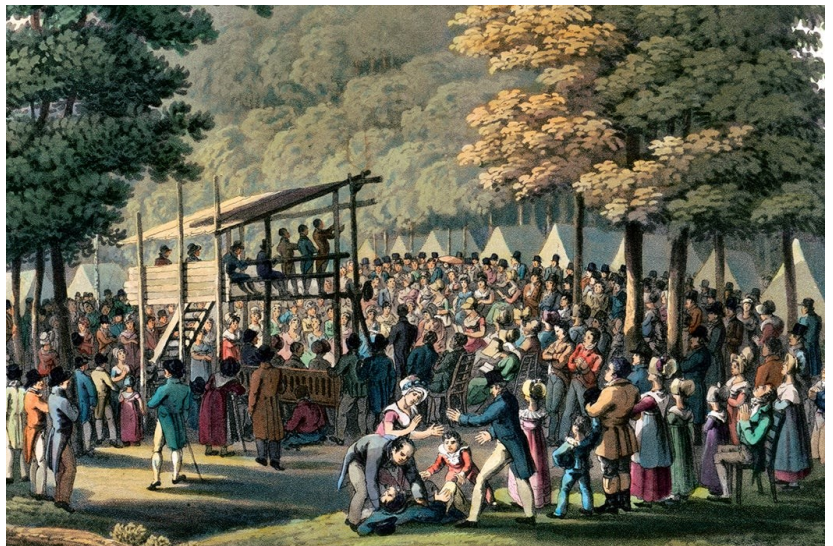
Cokesbury: <https://www.cokesbury.com/All-the-Good>

Please be on the lookout for more information for the date and time for the book study for December/ Advent.

Night of Hope

Our only hope as a community, city state, and even nation is Jesus Christ. What better way to worship Him than Together?

Come join us for Night of Hope hosted by *Together For Hope* on November 15-16 in the New Ellenton Farmers Market at 6:30 pm each night. Let us worship the Lord together in spirit and truth.





ST. PAUL

United Methodist Church

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New Ellenton, SC 29809

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Rev. Joseph D. Kovas
jdkovas@umcsc.org

Website: umcne.org



On Facebook at

facebook.com/umcne



All Saints Sunday

For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who Thee by faith before the world confessed;
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest.

Alleluia, Alleluia!

-William Walsham How (1864)

St. Paul Saints who have joined the Lord Jesus in the
Church Triumphant:

Betty Fischer

Joey Clevenger

Ross Kight

James Pless, Jr.



All Saints' Day