

The Window



ST.PAUL
United Methodist Church
525 Beech Street
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"Send out Thy truth and Thy light; let them lead us." --Psalm 43:4a

July 1, 2017

AMERICA

On June 26, 2017, I had the honor of going to see Mr. Anthony Williams sworn in as the new Mayor of Abilene. The City Hall conference room was full to the brim with people from all walks of life who live in and around Abilene. First, the outgoing Mayor Norm (*not Nate.... inside joke*) Archibald took some time to thank everyone for all the support he had received during his tenure as a great Mayor. He thanked the former Mayors (our own Fred Lee Hughes being amongst them). He thanked the council representatives, the City Manager, the people who supported him over his long tenure, and those who prayed and listened to him during difficult seasons of governing. Mayor Archibald graciously thanked his staff and those he loves the most - his family. After thanking almost everyone in the room. He introduced Anthony Williams (native Abilenian and McMurry graduate), and praised him for his work on the council and in the city since 2001. He literally turned his support and what felt like the whole room over to the new Mayor so that Anthony Williams could begin a new journey without any disruption or hesitation.

I must say this is the first time I have ever witnessed a swearing in. I am used to watching it once every four years on TV when we change the Presidents of the United States. In comparison, I noticed that we never really get to see this level of intimacy and pride on a bigger stage. We don't get to see two people though differing in philosophy, and political opinion come to together for the good of a greater cause. We just never get to glimpse the personal "passing of the baton of power" and every good relay person will tell you it is the passing of the baton that makes or breaks the race.

So what do I know for sure (to borrow a phrase)? That as the 27th largest city in the state of Texas- we are still in good hands. How do I know this as an outsider and a new comer? Because, God was at the center of all that happened on June 26, 2017. I saw one fine Godly man stand and in faith pass his baton firmly to another.

As we celebrate the July 4th holiday, let us keep them both and the City Council in our prayers. Let us all remember to be proud of this city, this state and this country we live in. We may differ in political opinion. We may differ in party affiliation, but we are still one nation under God. And, America (to me) is still the greatest country on the face of the earth.

Happy 4th!!!! See you at the Ice Cream Social (Sunday, July 2 @5:30 p.m.)

Blessings,
Felicia

Summer Fun in July

This month St. Paul will have a busy schedule.. July is shaping up to be a great time to volunteer, take a road trip, eat some homemade ice cream and go to camp!

Sunday, July 2 will be our 2nd annual “Ice Cream Challenge and Fourth of July Celebration” at 5:30 p.m. in Wesley Friendship Hall. Hope you’ll bring a friend and join us for some good times!

Johnston Elementary Reading Camp is coming this month and we have some great volunteers ready to make a difference in a reader’s life this summer. Each Wednesday in July, 15 students who have been selected by Johnston will come spend the morning learning and having fun with us here at St. Paul. This year we will serve children struggling with reading who are entering the 3rd to the 5th grades. Please join me in praying for these children and that we will be able to provide encouragement and help them build skills that will make a real difference in their lives.

We will wrap up our Elementary Fun Days on July 6 with a fun trip to Abilene’s newest water park, Rose Park Pool! I have enjoyed hanging out with these munchkins for the past 3 Thursdays!

Mid-High will have a busy July with Glen Lake Camp July 9-14, Mystery Trip July 18-20, and an In-Town Mystery Trip July 27-28. Whew, we will sleep well in August!

Thank you to the folks that came out and enjoyed our first Family Fun Day at the Family Life Center in June. It was wonderful to see you skating, bowling and just plain enjoying yourselves.

I hope you will join us as we caravan to Splash Kingdom Waterpark in Weatherford on July 15! We plan to take 2 church vans full of excited people and leave at 10:00 a.m. You are welcome to drive in your own vehicle as well. Check out our sign-up sheet in the Gallery - sign up for the group ticket discount price and reserve a spot in a van!

Blessings to you!

Robin



Bass Scholarship Awarded



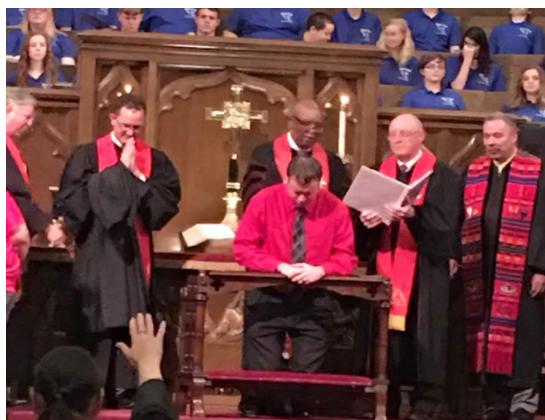
Congratulations to Colin Kappel
for receiving this year's Bass Scholarship
on Sunday, May 28, 2017.

The Henry K. Bass Scholarship Fund was established in 2004 by Henry & Charles Bass in recognition of their father, Henry K. Bass, and his commitment to the life of the church and his belief in faith and education as the hope for future generations.

2017 Annual Conference Report

I was honored to serve as a Lay Delegate for St. Paul at the 108th Session of the Northwest Texas Annual Conference in Lubbock. It was my 2nd time to attend, and a great experience for me. As we tended to the business of the church, were inspired by missional moments, and were Spirit fed by amazing music and preaching.

This year the Abilene District hosted the event which is quite a feat since we weren't on our home turf. I was so proud of our leadership – District Superintendent George Price, our own Rev. Felicia Hopkins, Abilene District Lay Leader Susan Mouser, Lay Leader Pat Mouser, and my husband, David, who serves as Alternate Lay Delegate. Each one of them stepped up to the task they were given and led beautifully.



Additionally, it was our joy and honor to witness the commissioning of Dustin Tatro as a Provisional Deacon. As we recognized him and others for their faithfulness, we offered prayers of thanksgiving for answering God's call to ministry.

We covered many things about the business of the church and heard many reports. Some of the highlights were –

- McMurry University informing us their enrollment is up 4%, summer school increased by 11%, the exciting news regarding the Business School scholarships being fully funded by a \$10 million endowment, and the online degrees that are currently in place that are on the horizon. Our own Eric Gillette will be taking advantage of these online business courses.

- Lydia Patterson Institute informed us that they had 83 graduates this past year and all are in college. Our own Martin Mercado is a graduate of Lydia Patterson.

- In 2016, 77% of Shared Ministries had been received which was on par with the past few years but up 10 points from 2010 and 2011.

- In 2016, a five year strategic plan process was authorized by the conference to identify several things such as assess the conference's strengths, weaknesses and greatest needs in an effort to equip pastoral leaders, launch new churches and worship communities, inspire revitalization and innovation, expand Hispanic/Latino ministry, and grow the pipeline. Progress continues to be made toward this plan and it was voted that the Planning Task Force continue for up to 12 months more for the plan's implementation.

We voted on several resolutions in regard to pension and health plans for clergy and retired clergy, rental and housing allowances for retired or disabled clergy, and the past service rate for the calculation of benefits for clergy under the Pre-1982 pension plan. All these resolutions passed.

Again, thank you for your prayers, well wishes, and this awesome privilege to serve.

Blessings, *Jamie Cauchon*

June/July High School Youth News

June has been a fun month for our High School Youth! Our biggest even was the annual Mystery Trip! This trip is just like the name sounds, students sign-up for a trip and have no idea what they will be doing or where they will be going until we arrive at each adventure. This year we went to Magnolia Market, The Dr. Pepper Factory, Paddle Boarding, Kayaking, The Capitol Building and several other great locations. We all had a blast and came back safe and sound. The other June activities included visits to ACU, HSU, and McMurry Universities, a Drive-In Movie Night, and a trip to Show Cones.

July will be an equally exciting month with the following upcoming main events: Glenlake Camp-July 2-7, In-Town Mission Trip-July 24-26, and Yuckfest-July 30. Beyond these there are plenty of other good times to be had with the High School Youth Group this month!

If you have any questions, please contact Katie French at (325) 372-7814 or kfrench@stpaulabilene.org

--Katie



Activities at a Glance...

Sunday, July 2

- 8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 1:30 pm Wesley Court Communion
 5:30 pm Patriotic Celebration
 Ice Cream Social/Contest

Monday, July 3

- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 3

Tuesday, July 4

Independence Day - Office Closed



Wednesday, July 5

- 9:00 am Reading Camp
 10:00 am Prayer Team

Thursday, July 6

- 9:30 am Elementary Fun Day
 11:45 am Staff Book Study

Saturday, July 8

- 9:00 am Ramp Build

Sunday, July 9

- 8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service
 5:30 pm High School Youth

Monday, July 10

*United Methodist Women
 will not meet this month*

- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 3

Tuesday, July 11

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, July 12

*United Methodist Men
 will not meet this month*

- 9:00 am Reading Camp
 10:00 am Prayer Team
 5:30 pm Women's Worship Meeting

Thursday, July 13

- 11:45 am Staff Book Study

Saturday, July 15

- 10:00 am Family Fun Day
 @Splash Kingdom/Weatherford

Sunday, July 16

- 8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service

Monday, July 17

- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 3

Tuesday, July 18

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting
 9:30 am Caring Hearts Visitation

Wednesday, July 19

- 9:00 am Reading Camp
 10:00 am Prayer Team
 5:15 pm Finance Committee

Thursday, July 20

- 11:45 am Staff Book Study
 5:00 pm Board of Trustees

Sunday, July 23

- 8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service

Monday, July 24

- 7:00 pm Boy Scout Troop 3

Tuesday, July 25

- 9:30 am Staff Meeting

Wednesday, July 26

- 9:00 am Reading Camp
 10:00 am Prayer Team
 6:30 pm Women's Worship Service

Thursday, July 27

- 11:45 am Staff Book Study

Sunday, July 30

- 8:30 am Worship Service
 9:45 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship Service

New Life for AC at St. Paul

Tom Hawkins and his crew removed the old chiller barrel after 35 years of working hard to keep us cool in the West Texas heat.

The new chiller barrel should keep us cool for years to come.



More Summer Fun



2017 Summer Reading Camp
for children entering
3rd - 5th Grades

Wednesdays,
July 5, 12, 19 & 26
9:00 a.m.

Reading Phonics **Sight Words**



FINAL 2017
ELEMENTARY SUMMER FUN DAYS
Thursday, July 6, 2017
9:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

**Fun trip to Abilene's newest water park,
Rose Park Adventure Cove.**

Call Robin by Monday, July 3 to sign up.



Our first *Summer Women's Worship* in June was enjoyed by all who attended. Make plans now to attend in July and August.



Worship, Fellowship, & Refreshments



**Family Fun Day at
Splash Kingdom Weatherford**
July 15th



CHURCH VAN RIDES AVAILABLE

UNBEATABLE GROUP RATE:

TICKETS \$12

TICKET AND A MEAL \$18



Group tickets will be purchased by Robin on Monday, July 10th. Van reservations will be first come/paid, first served!

PURCHASE TICKETS NOW!

Summer Women's Worship
Wednesday's
July 26 and August 30, 2017
6:30 p.m.
@St. Paul Sun Room

Birthdays!

July 2

Katherine Borchert
Rose Hilliard

July 4

Robert Atwood
Byna Hood
Vince Sterry

July 5

Karen Cockerell

July 6

Abby Atwood Blakely

July 7

Bob Monk
Bryce Ramirez
Lou Ann Trull

July 8

Chelsea Coyne
Alison McCleskey
Zvolanek

July 9

Katie French
Tanner Terbush

July 10

Robin Julien

July 13

Charles Coody
Patricia Egdorf
Ralph Heaven

July 14

Joan Dickenson
Andrew Turnbull

July 15

Dianne Martin
Britton Sechrist

July 16

Erika Barrientos
Fred Dameron
Walter Osborn

July 17

Bailly Swartz

July 18

Krystyne Smith

July 19

Letha Mauldin
Barbara Seidel Swagerty
Ronnie Stice

July 20

Amy Newquist

July 21

Martin Fergus, III
Dani Ramsay

July 22

Anita DeLuna

July 24

Kay Babington
Abigail Collins
Mandy Gollihar

July 25

Sarah Chappell
Judy Daniels
Zana Elise Grant
Susan Humphrey

July 26

Doyle Nash
Elizabeth Wilson
Katherine Wilson

July 27

Matthew Bullock

July 29

Claudia Frigo
John Miller

July 30

Eva Marie Lopez



Sympathy

Carolyn Robinson Watson died Wednesday, March 29, 2017 in Georgetown. Services were Wednesday, May 3, 2017 in Abilene.

Memorials and Gifts...

In Memory Of:

Roy Helen Ackers

To Memorial Fund

George & Jan Woodward

In Memory Of:

Armando Carion

To Missions Fund

Harry Hoyt

In Memory Of:

Bob Surovik

To Memorial Fund

George & Jan Woodward

In Memory Of:

H.A. (Ham) Middlebrooks

David Middlebrooks

John Otis Middlebrooks

Sue Middlebrooks

Floyd Gentry

Alma Gentry

To Memorial Fund

Janice Middlebrooks



Last Month we
said goodbye to
Chris & Audrey

Tesarski,

Sofia & Oliver.

We received

this note

from them.

They will be
missed.

Send them a
note sometime.





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St. Paul United Methodist Family Thanks God For:

ANNUAL PATRIOTIC CELEBRATION

Sunday, July 2, 2017

5:30 p.m. @ St. Paul Activity Center

Join us for

Patriotic Celebration CANCELLED Sunday
due to AC under Construction.

We will reschedule at a later date.



Prizes.

Homemade ice cream.

