



The Anvil

A Quarterly Publication of
the St. Paul AME Church
Lay Organization

1st Quarter 2020

*Moving from Church to Ministry - "...for the
people worked with all their heart." -
Nehemiah 4:6*

- From the Desk of Pastor Hodges
- First Lady's Message
- New Year's Thoughts from Lay President
- YPD
- Golden Jewels
- Upcoming Events
- Lay 2020 Spotlight
- Featured Recipe

LINKS...

- St. Paul AME Church, Raleigh, NC
www.stpaulamechurchraleighnc.org
- Western North Carolina Lay Organization
<http://wnccclay.org/>
- [Link to Sunday Sermons on church website](#)



Lay Organization Trivia

1. What is the AME Church motto?
2. Name the famed journalist who was a member of Metropolitan AME Church in Washington, DC that will be featured on the 43rd stamp as part of the Black Heritage Series on January 30, 2020.

Answers on last page!

From the Desk of Reverend Hodges



Greetings St. Paul,

On behalf of Mrs. Delores Hodges and I, we want to Wish each of you a very Happy New Year.

We are praying that 2020 will be our best year yet! We have so much to be "thankful" for from 2019 and a lot to build upon. There is a lot of work ahead of us that will require each one of us to step up and take our place to perform whatever duties we must do. You've done it in the past and I know you can and will do it again with the help of the Holy Spirit.

I challenge each of you to look back and see what was accomplished. Was it good or bad because of you? Now think about what part you had to play in the successes and determine what you can do this year to make things better.

Only you know what you can and should do for your church. Decide what that is and make it happen in 2020.

Because He Lives, I am

Robert L. Hodges, Pastor



Message from our First Lady Delores Hodges



Let's Get Off to a Good Start!

I want to wish everyone a Happy New Year! Then I want to focus on the thought for this quarter. **Be kind to each other.**

Darkness prevails in this world but we can drive it away by being kind to ourselves and others. It's just that easy. It doesn't cost anything to be kind. All that is needed is a smile, a friendly handshake, a gentle hug or just a positive look.

You will find that your joy increases as you spread it and diminishes as you try to hide it from others.

Let's be kind to each other so our lives can be enriched. ----- Read [Ephesians 4:32](#)

Lay Organization News

[Click Here](#) to get the latest issue of [The Lay Express](#) by the **National AME Lay Organization**, and stay informed on important event dates and empowering news!

The St. Paul AME Lay Organization, of Raleigh, NC, is comprised of the laity (non-clergy) of the church. It operates on all levels of the church: local church, conference, district and connectional levels. The local

activities include A.M.E. training at monthly meetings, outreach projects of quarterly birthday parties at the Salvation Army Shelter for women and children and a quarterly food drive for the Alliance of AIDS/HIV Food Pantry.

New Year's Thoughts from St. Paul AME Lay President Carol Davenport



Hello my Saint Paul African Methodist Episcopal Church Family. I greet you in the Mighty and Matchless name of our Lord and Savior, Jesus the Christ! As Lay President, I bring you

exiting news from your Lay Organization and congratulate those persons who have joined this Organization and are working to allow God to be lifted up and glorified by adhering to the mission and purpose of our Lay Organization.

St. Paul Laypersons have been busy utilizing their God given abilities and skills to teach and train the laity. Through their efforts, we all benefit through Education, Worship, Fellowship, Stewardship, and Evangelism. There were several projects completed by the Lay this past year. One of those projects is the publishing of the wonderful Anvil. It is great to have it back, so we all can enjoy our church publication. We also enjoyed two breakfasts, one of which was a spirit filled Prayer Breakfast. We celebrated Lay Week, by meeting and discussing needs of the congregation, had a Family Game Night and was in charge of the service on Lay Sunday, with lunch afterwards.

Your Lay Organization, along with the Trustees, provided Food Baskets and love to families in

need at Thanksgiving. If you've ever wanted to know more about your church and your responsibility as a lay person to your church and to God, I invite you to join us every first Monday at 6:30. Dues are twenty dollars per year. However, please do not let the dues keep you away. If you are a member of St. Paul and un-ordained, you are a lay person. Join us as we celebrate and learn more about our denomination, our Church, and our God.

Love to All,

Sister Carol Davenport

YPD

“Growing, Glowing and Going for Christ”

The YPD performs community service at the Food Bank and delivers food to Seniors.

They meet on the second Saturday of each month at 11:00 a.m. Upcoming youth training programs and opportunities for leadership experiences will be held on

February 8, March 14 and April 11. Please contact Mrs. Lola Houston

Hager, YPD Director for more information.

She can be reached at 704.305.9101 or by email at lyhousto@yahoo.com

Pictured below, YPD Director Sis. Lola Hager, and YPD participants Asia Arnold, Danielle & Landyn Hager at the District Leadership Training Institute event in Glen Allen, Va, in December 2019.



Congratulations to our 1st Quarter Scholars!!

Elementary:	Kennedy Merritt Kaitlyn Merritt	K 4th	Anthony & Ida Merritt Anthony & Ida Merritt
Middle:	Houston Hooker Kolby Caudle Benjamin Taylor	7th 7th 8th	Robert & Faye Hooker Jackie & Dana Caudle Elvin & Cheryl Taylor
High:	Kanel Waller	12th	Karl & Gwen Waller



GOLDEN JEWELS

If you are 55 and older, please join the Golden Jewels for fun, food and fellowship from 10:00 am – 12 noon. Visit our website at www.StPaulAMEChurchRaleighNC.org or contact **Vallarie Harper for more information @ 919.789.3366.**

Upcoming Events

- **Fish Fry Fundraiser**, Friday, February 7th
- **Black History Spiritual Program**, Sunday, March 8th, after 11am service

- **Gospel Fest**, Saturday, March 28th
\$20 in advance at Eventbrite, \$25 at the door. \$50 VIP Ticket: includes reserved front row seating, valet service, pre-event reception
- **St. Paul “Let’s Do It Again!” Golf Tournament**, Saturday, May 30th, 7:30 a.m. at Reedy Creek Golf Course, Four Oaks, NC
Registration now in progress at www.spgolftournament.org
- **Juneteenth Raleigh**, June 19 - 20 at St. Paul AME Church

Events subject to change. Visit our Community Billboard for updates.

<https://stpaulamechurch.wildapricot.org/Billboard>



Lay 2020 Spotlight

- Black History Spiritual Program
 - Gospel Fest
 - St. Paul Golf Tournament
- WMS PNC Concession

HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020 to St. Paul Lay members! As St. Paul AME celebrates 172 years on the corner of Edenton and West St., 2020 marks the beginning of an exciting and momentous decade.

Throughout this year the St. Paul AME “Lay 2020 Spotlight” will highlight events, and the lay members involved, who are “putting into practice” the new theme introduced by our Pastor, Rev. Robert L. Hodges, Sr. in 2019...“Moving from church to ministry -for the people worked with all their heart.” – Nehemiah 4:6

“Catch the vision” and get involved! At St. Paul AME every auxiliary provides

opportunities for lay members to make a difference in preserving the legacy and fortifying the future of St. Paul AME Church, while making a positive difference in our communities, in the U.S. and abroad.

Black History Spiritual Program,

Sunday, March 8th, following the 11am service. The Education Commission and the Music Department will host the final episode in the journeys of Harriet Tubman, highlighting other slaves who escaped, featuring spirituals, solos, portrayals and dance by the choirs and youth and adult portrayals. Dinner will be served! Donations will be accepted at the door.



Gospel Fest, Saturday, March 28th, is an event in celebration of our faith, cultural resilience and our unique gospel music tradition! It is sure to fill the souls of all who attend.

The inspiration for this celebration comes from lay member Diane Tawwab. We are blessed to have St. Paul AME member and nationally recognized

comedian **Terry Tuff**, who will serve as emcee at Gospel Fest. The St. Paul Music Dept, consisting of Des Ford, Marvin Duval, Gerald Parrish, and Morris Sterling are involved in coordinating the awesome North Carolina talent to represent a variety of gospel genres.

It takes lots of planning and preparation to achieve a successful event, so we need YOU! Get involved and be a part of something momentous! Contact Diane Tawwab (dhrtawwab@yahoo.com) or the office (919.832.2709) to volunteer in helping during the day of **Gospel Fest**.

St. Paul “Let’s Do It Again” Golf Tournament at Four Oaks, NC, Saturday, May 30th



With the huge success of the 1st Inaugural Golf Tournament in 2019, lay member Charles Williams looks forward to hosting the event again! Forty plus players, attended last year’s event. Sunny weather provided a great day of fun & fellowship among St. Paul members and other attendees from around the Triangle. Proceeds from this fundraising event benefitted the windows renovations and other ongoing restorations at St. Paul AME. Many thanks to our Youth Photographer Intern and St. Paul AME Member, Kolby Caudle for the photos and

video which can still be viewed at www.spvgolftournament.org/gallery.html

Try something new this year! Go golf! Registration for the next Tournament is now in progress!

Addie G. Stroud WMS PNC Arena Concession

The Addie G. Stroud Women’s Missionary Society is busy at work staffing a concession stand at the PNC Arena. Funds raised will be used to support a summer lunch program for youth who depend on school lunches during the school year but don’t have an alternative during the summer months. Funds will also be used to support global mission projects. The Addie G Stroud WMS helped open a sewing center in Port Au Prince, Haiti in June 2018 to train men and women how to sew, giving them a skill they could use to help support themselves and their family.

We welcome all who would like to volunteer to help staff our concession stand and support the work of missions.



Rhonda Bridgers, Faye Hooker, Paulette Motley, Shawn Hooker



Janna Harris, Faye Hooker, Jordan Harris

St. Paul AME Concession sign. Woohoo!



Featured Recipe contributed by Pam Kelly



Tomato Curry

Soup This soup is very economical and healthy! The aroma is awesome. It's loaded with antioxidants, high in Vitamin C, has lots & lots of fiber, and is a good source of

protein with the added chicken, or mushrooms (vegetarian alternative). I use to make it for my family all the time, especially during cold & flu season.

Ingredients

- 2 cans tomato soup (Generic brand or Campbell's. I've made it with both and don't see much difference)
- 2 soup cans of 1% or 2% low-fat milk. If you can't drink cow's milk, try soy or almond milk, but for goodness sake, don't use water!
- 2 chicken breasts with fat and skin removed
- Vegetarian - 8 oz package of whole mushrooms
- 1 large sweet or plain onion
- 1 quarter stick of butter or margarine
- ½ of a package of egg noodles
- Curry powder to taste

Directions:

Cook chicken, set aside to cool, then remove from bone and dice.

Vegetarian: Clean and slice mushrooms. Sauté and set aside.

Cut the onion into quarters, then cut the quarters in half. Sauté onions in margarine or butter

Cook noodles, set aside.

Combine tomato soup and milk in pot and let it simmer. Add the onions, chicken or mushrooms, noodles, and 1 Tablespoon of curry powder. Simmer for another ½ hour, stirring often, then serve. Makes 8 (1 cup) servings. Enjoy!

Men's Bible Study, Saturdays, 9:30 am!

Women's Bible Study, Saturdays, 10 am!

The Next Anvil will be published in April 2020

Please contact Pam Kelly

pamkellyrtpnc@gmail.com or Cecilia Johnson

crj3227@gmail.com . Submit articles (in MS-Word) and/or event flyers by March 10th!

Trivia question answers...

1. God our Father, Christ our Redeemer, Holy Spirit our Comforter, Human Kind our Family
2. [Gwen Ifill](#)