

UPCOMING EVENTS

February 2
Parkinson's Support
Beth Moore
Revelation Study

February 4
Sweetheart Banquet

February 6
First Monday Café
Men's Bible Study

February 9
Beth Moore
Revelation Study
Day Friendship Circle

February 14
Valentine's Day
Joy Peace Circle

February 16
Parkinson's Support
United Methodist Men

February 24-25
Youth Outing

February 28
Worship, Evangelism
& Communications Meeting

February 29
First Lenten Lunch

“PERSPECTIVE”

First, I want to say thank you for the outpouring of your love and support in the death of my father, W.C. Haney, on December 17, 2011. Your calls and cards meant so much. Many of you came by the Funeral Home for visitation and St Paul was well represented at dad's funeral. I am honored to be a part of your family and your love and support means so much to me.

I was away a few days during the middle of January helping my mom take care of some business that comes with the passing of a loved one. I did, however, have a few days for myself. I visited with my good friends Greg and Ann Porterfield. Ann is the former Ann Bauman, daughter of Dr. Larry Bauman, who was pastor of St Paul (1964-1968). Greg is one of my dearest and closest friends.

When the news spread across the world of the death of Steve Jobs, I called Greg to see how he was doing. Why? Because I knew my friend had lost a friend. I know this article is longer than what normally appears in this spot, but I hope you'll take the time to read it.

Here is Greg's story as he tells it:

“In March of 2007 I was diagnosed with a reoccurrence of Neuroendocrine Pancreatic Cancer. It had spread to my liver. I can't speak for everyone, but for me news of reoccurrence was more devastating than my initial diagnosis some 18 months earlier.

From this point forward I knew that cancer was no longer going to be a stranger but an acquaintance in my life for whom I would have to make accommodations. At moments like that, surrounded in a sea of vulnerability, you reach out hoping for a lifeline somewhere.

I had heard that Steve Jobs, the creative genius behind Apple Inc., had the same disease. Maybe he could help.

I still remember the day before my surgery, going to Atlanta for pre-op, I had turned to my colleague and friend, Pat Williams and said, ‘I don't care what you have to do, you get him.’ She took it to heart. It took numerous tries but finally someone at Apple said, ‘I can't give you his phone number but here's a fax number.’

The next morning, before leaving for Atlanta to sit with my family during surgery, Pat and Rikki Massey, our finance directors, composed a letter to Steve Jobs and sent it.

The letter included an email address. Maybe he would respond. All afternoon, during the seven-hour surgery, they checked their email, no response. Just as the surgeon came out, Pat received a call on her cell phone. She had not included that number in the letter.

‘Hello Pat, this is Steve, Steve Jobs.’

It turned out the world's most renowned techie had called the church before realizing we were at the hospital. After getting Pat's number he called her cell at the hospital. He expressed concern about my condition, provided the name of his doctor along with the warning, ‘he can be hard to get hold of.’

(continued on back page)

CONTINUING IN BIBLE STUDY FOR THE YEAR

February 2012

1. Exodus 24, 25, 26 & Matthew 22:23-46
2. Exodus 27, 28 & Matthew 23:1-22
3. Exodus 29, 30 & Matthew 23:23-39
4. Exodus 31, 32 & Matthew 24:1-14
5. Exodus 33, 34 & Matthew 24:15-31
6. Exodus 35, 36 & Matthew 24:32-51
7. Exodus 37, 38 & Matthew 25:1-30
8. Exodus 39, 40 & Matthew 25:31-46
9. Leviticus 1, 2, 3 & Matthew 26:1-25
10. Leviticus 4, 5 & Matthew 26:26-46
11. Leviticus 6, 7 & Matthew 26:47-75
12. Leviticus 8, 9 & Matthew 27:1-26
13. Leviticus 10, 11 & Matthew 27:27-45
14. Leviticus 12, 13 & Matthew 27:46-66
15. Leviticus 14 & Matthew 28
16. Leviticus 15, 16 & Mark 1:1-20
17. Leviticus 17, 18, 19 & Mark 1:21-45
18. Leviticus 20, 21 & Mark 2
19. Leviticus 22, 23 & Mark 3
20. Leviticus 24, 25 & Mark 4:1-20
21. Leviticus 26, 27 & Mark 4:21-41
22. Numbers 1, 2 & Mark 5:1-20
23. Numbers 3, 4 & Mark 5:21-43
24. Numbers 5, 6 & Mark 6:1-13
25. Numbers 7 & Mark 6:14-31
26. Numbers 8, 9, 10 & Mark 6:32-56
27. Numbers 11, 12, 13 & Mark 7:1-23
28. Numbers 14, 15 & Mark 7:24-37
29. Leap Year - Meditate or catch up today!

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY NEWS



On Wednesday evening, January 11, Jane Hollingsworth and Clyde Simons began teaching a class on Rembrandt's religious art and the Scriptures that related to each piece. The classes are a lot of fun, and we are learning some very interesting things. We have two more sessions - February 1 and February 8. It's not too late, so join us for these last two classes.

ADULT MINISTRIES NEWS

A trip is planned to Washington, DC and New York City for April 9 - 14; we will be traveling with Ken Phillips Tours on one of their deluxe coaches complete with wifi access and on-board restroom. You may sign up for the trip in the Church office where you will be provided with an itinerary upon request.

We are in the process of planning a day trip to Athens, GA where we will take a tour of the Georgia Museum of Art, the Lyndon House, and the Botanical Gardens. Let Evelyn Wells or Shirley Whitaker know of any places you are interested in going to visit.



YOUTH NEWS



Getting back into a normal routine is always a good thing so lately, with the St Paul youth, we've been enjoying just getting to hang out at church once again. Our main focus has been preparing for the Sweetheart Banquet. Every Sunday, we've been working on decorations and discussing plans to make it better than ever. The youth have had a greater hands on involvement this year and we are pumped to share our great ideas with you. On top of the Sweetheart Banquet, we had our ski trip. Once again, we travelled to the Moeller's cabin to get some time on the slopes. At the end of February, the high schoolers will be travelling to Atlanta to attend the "Movement Conference", an event gathering high schoolers from youth groups all over the place. So, 2012 is off to a great start and we are excited to get back into the swing of things!

Tyler Flowers

CHILDREN'S NEWS

St Paul hosted the District Children's Workers Network on January 26. This committee is made up of Children's Directors from around the District and is headed up by Vanessa Myers, Dahlonga First UMC. We meet quarterly to offer suggestions for ministry for the children in our churches and talk about what we are doing in our own church.

On Friday, January 27, we had "Big Kids Night" at the church for third through fifth graders. Everyone enjoyed pizza, popcorn and other snacks as well as activities. We held a Sanctuary scavenger hunt where the kids identified things in the Sanctuary, Sacristy and Narthex. Our pastor explained the significance of each item; he also served communion to us. We held a puppet show where the books of the Bible were learned from singing along with the puppets. This went very well and the kids loved it. Our children also made scarves for "Under the Bridge Ministries" which Bob Briscoe is coordinating at St Paul. Bob also came and told us about his ministry for the homeless. Many thanks go to Charlotte Crow and Diane Pearce for their hard work in making the night a success. And thanks to Emmaleigh, Jordan, Austin, Jesse, Kyle and Andrew for attending and making the evening special for the workers!

Evelyn Wells



ANNUAL SWEETHEART BANQUET



Our annual 'Sweetheart Banquet' is set for Saturday, February 4. The theme for this year's banquet is "Hollywood Sweethearts". So bring your 'sweetheart' and come join the fun on Saturday, February 4 at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.



MEN'S BIBLE STUDY CONTINUES

Jim Sapp and Jay Jackson are hosting a Men's Bible Study every Monday evening at 7:00 p.m. in the Pioneer Sunday School Classroom on the lower level of the church. All men are invited to attend.

Lenten Lunch Schedule

Feb 29 - at 1st UMC
March 7 - at 1st Baptist
March 14 - at 1st Presbyterian
March 21 - at Grace Episcopal
March 28 - at St Michael's
April 4 - at St Paul UMC

All Lenten Lunches start at 12:00 noon and usually end by 1:00. Everyone is invited to attend. Calvin Haney will be preaching at First Baptist's Lenten Lunch on March 7.

CONTINUED FROM COVER PAGE

He also provided a phone number in case we needed to contact him again.

Later we would find out from Jobs' administrative assistant that they get about a hundred faxes a day. She said, 'When I got your fax, I didn't put it on his desk, I placed it in his chair.' That must have been some letter!

You don't know what it means when somebody you don't even know cares enough to call. I know it helped my resolve in recovery. Sure enough Jobs was as good as his word, the doctor's office in San Francisco said I could be seen in three or four months. Three or four months! I had just had two-thirds of my liver removed, in three or four months would I even be alive?

Another call to Steve Jobs office. The next day, it was Jobs' doctor not an office assistant, who called. 'When do you want to see me this week?' Thank you, Steve.

When news of Jobs death arrived, several friends who know of this connection asked me how I was doing. Oddly, perhaps, I'm okay. Following that second surgery I have resolved not to experience a 'second death', to borrow a phrase from Revelation.

The problem with cancer is not that it will kill you, we will all die of something, after all, it is that if you are not careful it can fill your existence with dread. I have come to understand that most of what I might imagine about cancer is just that, imaginary. And when I dwell on it, I forfeit the here and now. And the life I have now, with cancer, is certainly worth living.

In some respects this reality of sickness provides a deeper, richer existence than wellness could ever have afforded. Remember what the novelist Flannery O'Connor, who battled Lupus, said: 'Sickness is more instructive than a long trip to Europe.'

The prospect of death removes all those artificial constrictions that separate us from one another: position, privilege, place. It allows us to be related to each other essentially, truthfully, compassionately. In one of the conversations with Steve Jobs' administrative assistant, she said, 'People don't know, he is such a good man.'

I will always be grateful that I experienced his goodness first hand.

I related some of what took place, now almost four years ago, to his administrative assistant in an email last week. She wrote back and thanked me.

I wanted to say, 'No, thank you. And him.'

Greg continues to deal with reoccurring issues, please pray for him.

Calvin

Return Service Requested

DID YOU KNOW?

Friendship/Day Circle meets the second Thursday of every month at 10:00 am in the Mixed Blessings Sunday School Classroom instead of the Lend A Hand classroom.

Joy/Peace Circle meets the second Tuesday of each month at 6:15 pm in the New Beginning Classroom on the Lower Level

DATES TO REMEMBER

**Wednesday, February 22
Ash Wednesday**

**March 11
'Spring Forward'
(daylight saving time begins)**

**April 1
Palm Sunday**

**April 5
Maundy Thursday**

**April 6
Good Friday**

**April 8
Easter Sunday**

Rev. Calvin Haney, Pastor

CHURCH STAFF

*Pastor - Calvin Haney
Choir Master - Tim Gale
Accompanist - Terry Sapp
Youth Director - Tyler Flowers
Administrative Secretary - Susan Page
Financial Secretary - Frances Steedley
Hospitality - Rexann Hulsey
Building/Grounds - Ralph Moore
Christian Ed Dir. - Evelyn Wells*

Church Website: www.st-paul-umc.org