

The Epistle



DECEMBER 2023

Our mission is to proclaim the news of Jesus Christ and care for all

The Clergy and Staff

The Rev. W.R. "Rusty" McCown, Rector
The Rev. Monna Mayhall, Associate Rector
The Rev. Ann Van Dervoort,
 Assisting Priest, Retired
Donna Stokes-Rogers, Music Minister
Rick Jackson, Organist
Libby Sullivan, Children's Minister
Maddie Rogers, Interim Youth Minister
Shannon Buttrey, Parish Administrator
Kristy Moore, Financial Administrator
Paula Sherman, Communications Manager

Vestry

George Bishop, Senior Warden
 Finance, Stewardship
Ron Howes, Junior Warden
 Building and Grounds
Jean Larson, Christian Education
Pam Horne, Outreach
Paul Hannah, Stewardship
Mindy Boggs, Parish Life
Mary Emilie Acklen, Hospitality
Sam Yeager, Finance
Chris Oberholtzer, Communications
Bruce Theobald, Pastoral Care
Rob Curwen, Long-Range Planning
Holly Spain, Youth and Children's Ministries
Michael Walters Young, Treasurer

FIND US:

**510 WEST MAIN STREET
 FRANKLIN, TN. 37064
 (615) 790-0527
 WWW.STPAULSFRANKLIN.COM**



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 @STPAULSFRANKLINTN**

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December 2023 Office Hours:

**Monday-Thursday
 9:00 am - 4:00 pm**

**Friday
 9:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**Office Closed December 25th,
 January 1st.**

AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY:
 A member of the clergy is always on call. If you need assistance from a priest outside office hours, the number to call is 615-790-0527. You will then be directed to a member of the clergy.

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St. Paul's folks at the Veterans Day parade. Joe Horne rang the bell with the other churches on our end of town to start the parade!

The Epistle is published the first of each month. Forward any information you have for News In The Pews, Sunday bulletin, or The Epistle monthly newsletter to communications@stpaulsfranklin.com and we will make sure it gets to the right publication.

[Deadline for January newsletter is Thursday, December 28, 2023](#)

Upcoming Events

December 3

Charitable Gifts Fair
Sweets and Treats
Lessons and Carols

December 9

Wintry Woodland
Christmas Tea

December 10

John Runkle Presentation

December 17

Caroling Down Main Street

December 24

Christmas Eve Services
Children's Pageant

December 25

Christmas Day Service
Dinner at Bethlehem

January 7

Epiphany Brunch

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Many more meetings and gatherings can be found on the Church Calendar, under the "About Us" tab on the church website:

<https://74053364.view-events.com/calendar/74053364/>



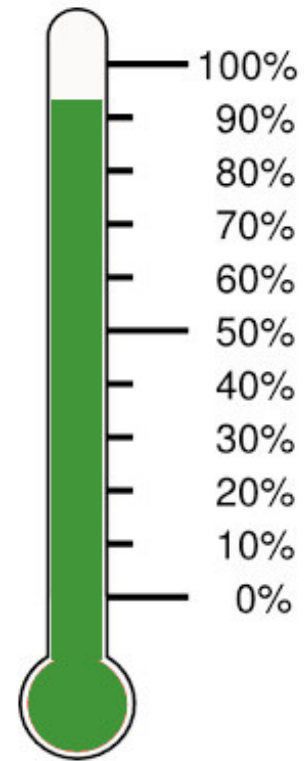
Godly Play Class replenishing
The Little Pantry. Rex even
brought can openers so our
guest can open their food!

Stewardship

St. Paul's Friends:

Thank you again for your ongoing commitments to our church, parish, and community for 2024. The stewardship campaign has wrapped up, but you still have time to make your 2024 pledge. In December the Vestry and Finance Committee will use these pledges to determine our 2024 budget which will be reviewed during the Annual Parish Meeting in January.

We all look forward to an exciting year of enhancing our facilities and enhancing our ministries with another year of worship, Christian Formation, fellowship and outreach. Thank you for all of your time, talents, and treasure.



\$911,642
199 Pledges

We Are Hiring!

St. Paul's is searching for a Director of Youth Ministry.

Do you know someone that is:

- Enthusiastic?
- Creative?
- Wants to lead a vibrant and loving youth ministry?

If so, please send a resume and cover letter to The Rev. Rusty McCown at rusty@stpaulsfranklin.com.

Children's Sunday



Children's Sunday

7



Gathering For Good - Advent Wreaths



Gathering For Good - Advent Wreaths



All Saints Concert

10



All Saints Concert



All Saints Concert

The All Saints Choral Offerings are Given to the Glory of God and:

In loving memory of Dorcas Mansell
by Bob and Jean Larson

In loving memory of Beau Huber, Charles S. McKendrick, Jr., and Frank M.
McRight, Jr.
by Janeth McKendrick

In loving memory of her husband, Gene Brown
by Margaret B. Brown

In loving memory of Bob and Mary Buell
by Karen Montefiori

In loving memory of Tom's parents, Harry and Lucile Stearns, and Marida's
parents, Harold and Jewell Nothdurft
by Tom and Marida Stearns

In loving memory of Greer's parents, Carson and Lucy Carlisle
by Greer and Kaye Carlisle

In loving memory of Bill Keith
by his wife, Janet Keith

All Saints Concert

The All Saints Altar Flowers are Given to the Glory of God and:

In loving memory of Claire Gaddis
by Beth and Woody Woodruff

In loving memory of Richard Winstead, beloved Father and Papa
by Rachel and David Zegley

In loving memory of Dorcas, Christopher and John
by Ginny Brewer

In loving memory of Judy Ladebauche and grandson, Garrett Miler
by Fred Ladabauche

In loving memory of Harry and Carrie Clarke and Jeno and Ida Nagy
by Huba and Lois Nagy

In loving memory of Bob and Mary Buell
by Karen Montefiori

In loving memory of Christal Barefoot and Rick Fishburn
by Libby and Brandon Sullivan

In loving memory of Dorcas Mansell
from her Small Group

In memory of Samantha's Nana, Jean Hudson
by John Paul and Samantha Saalwaechter

In loving memory of Kaye's parents, James and Johnnie Owens
by Greer and Kaye Carlisle

In loving memory of Bill Keith
by his wife, Janet Keith

In loving memory of Miller and King loved ones
by Chris and Jackie King

Finding Sacred Space During Advent Season

This season of Advent, this time before Christmas can sometimes seem frantic or gloomy, rather than calm or bright, because even though we hear that this is the most “wonderful time of the year,” it is not always that.

Please know that you are invited and welcomed into the sacred space of the church during the day, especially when you find you need respite from the outside or a break from the busyness of your life.

Some printed resources are available inside the church for you to have.

May the gifts of hope, peace, and love be yours this season and always.



Advent Devotions

Advent is the liturgical time in our Church calendar when we focus on waiting and preparing our hearts for the coming of the Jesus, the Christ child. You are invited to use this season of Advent as a time of reflecting and drawing closer to God through the daily reflections and prayers inspired by Scripture and the spiritual writings of Henri Nouwen. “A Little Child Shall Lead Them,” Advent Devotion booklets can be found in the Narthex, just inside the church office doors, or in Founders.



WAVES Angel Tree Outreach

WAVES is a non-profit organization in Williamson County whose mission is empowering individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities to progress toward their full potential. In Founders Hall, there is a Waves Angel Tree with Gift Card Ornaments. (i.e., Walmart gift card, Target gift card, etc.). A recommended donation of \$25-50 is suggested. The gift items will benefit the Adult Clients of Waves.

Here's how you can help:

- 1) Please take an ornament from the Angel Tree in Founders Hall.
- 2) Purchase the item written on the ornament.
- 3) Bring the Gift Card to St. Paul's, along with the ornament, dropping it off in the church office or designated envelope in the copy room.

Waves cards are due back to St. Paul's no later than December 18th!

Questions: email Shannon in the church office at shannon@stpaulsfranklin.com.

You can drop the gift card in a designated envelope in the copy room with your name on it.



HOLIDAYS

at St. Paul's

December 2	Saturday	Families with Children Christmas Parade Brunch, 12:30 pm, Founders Hall
December 3	Sunday	First Sunday of Advent, 7:30 am, * 8:45 am, 11:00 am Eucharist Services Charitable Gifts Fair, 8:00 am-1:00 pm, and 3:30-5:30 pm, Otey Hall Sweets and Treats, 5:00-6:00 pm, Otey Hall Advent Lessons and Carols, 6:00-7:00 pm, Church
December 9	Saturday	Holiday Tea, 1:00 and 4:00 seatings (sold-out)
December 10	Sunday	Second Sunday of Advent, 7:30 am, * 8:45 am, 11:00 am Eucharist Services Special Guest- Reverend John Runkle, Architect and Priest, 10:00 am, Otey Hall
December 14	Thursday	Christmas Spring Street Luncheon, 10:30 am- 1:00 pm, Otey Hall
December 15	Friday	Women of St. Paul's Social Gathering, 6:00 pm, Home of Pam Leet
December 17	Sunday	Third Sunday of Advent, 7:30 am, * 8:45 am, 11:00 am Eucharist Children's Christmas Pageant Rehearsal, 10:00 am, Church Caroling Down Main Street, 5:00-6:00 pm, Treats after in Otey Youth Christmas Party and Dinner, 6:00 pm, Barnabas
December 19	Tuesday	Social Graces Holiday Jazz Luncheon, 11:00 am- 1:30 pm, Otey Hall
December 24	Sunday	Fourth Sunday of Advent Eucharist, * 10:00 am * 4:00 pm Caroling and Concert, * 4:30 pm Christmas Pageant and Eucharist * 7:00 pm Caroling and Concert, * 7:30 pm Eucharist * 10:30 pm Choral Concert with Harp, 11:00 pm Eucharist
December 25	Monday	Christmas Morning Eucharist, 10:00 am Dinner at Bethlehem Pot Luck Luncheon, 11:30 am-1:00 pm, Otey Hall Office Closed
December 26-28		Office open by appointment only (615-790-0527)
December 29	Friday	Office Closed
December 31	Sunday	First Sunday after Christmas, 8:00 am and * 10:00 am Eucharist services
January 1	Monday	Office Closed
January 2	Tuesday	Regular Hours resume
January 7	Sunday	First Sunday After Epiphany, 7:30 am, * 8:45 am, 11:00 am Eucharist Epiphany Brunch, 10:00 am, Otey Hall

* Denotes Live Broadcast via Facebook

Charitable Gifts Fair

2023

Charitable Gifts Fair

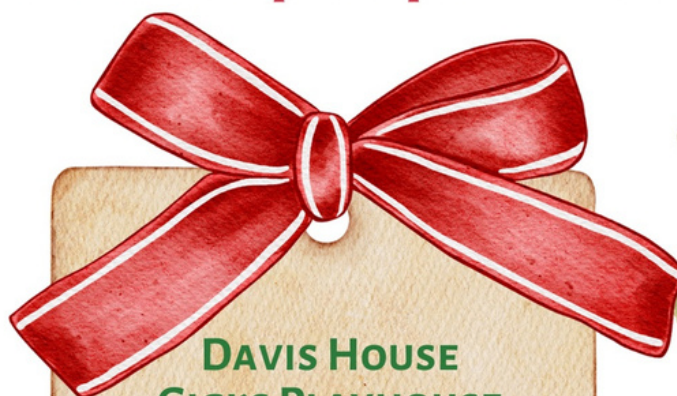
With Local Non-Profits

December 3, 2023

8:00 am - 1:00 pm

3:30 - 5:30 pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



DAVIS HOUSE
GIGI'S PLAYHOUSE
HEALING HOUSING
MEALS ON WHEELS
MY FRIEND'S HOUSE
WILLIAMSON COUNTY
HOMELESS ALLIANCE

Celebrate your Holidays with Heart
Buy Once - Give Twice

510 West Main Street

Franklin, Tennessee 37064

www.stpaulsfranklin.com

Sweets and Treats - Lessons and Carols

Sunday, December 3



Sweets and Treats Reception
5:00-6:00 pm in Otey

**Charitable
Gift Fair
in Otey 8-1 and
3:30-5:30.
Buy once-
Give twice!**

Advent Lessons and Carols 6:00-7:00 pm

Join us in joyful anticipation for the arrival of Christ as we read the lessons foretelling his coming and sing songs of joy and waiting.



St. Paul's Annual Christmas Tea



ST. PAUL'S 2023 WINTRY WOODLAND CHRISTMAS TEA

Time is Running Out!

Get your tickets today!

Saturday, December 9th

Seatings at 1:00 & 4:00 in Otoy Hall

The 1:00 is SOLD OUT, however we have several seats still remaining at the 4:00 seating. (We also accept waitlist requests in the event of a cancellation)

~~Non-partitioner reservations will~~
open Monday, October 30th.

~~\$35 each~~

~~To be seated together, please~~
reserve by group under one request.

~~Email requests to:~~

christmas@stpaulsfranklin.com

Christmas Eve

10:00 am Holy Eucharist

4:30 pm Christmas Eve Service and Children's Pageant

7:30 pm Christmas Eve Service

11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Christmas

10:00 am Christmas Day Service

11:30 am Dinner at Bethlehem



Christmas Day Dinner at Bethlehem

We invite EVERYONE to join us for lunch on Christmas Day in Otey Hall at 11:30 am, following the Christmas Morning Eucharist at 10:00 am. The church is providing ham, rolls, and beverages. You are welcome to use the sign-up genius to bring a dish to share, but you don't have to bring anything to come and be with friends. Come! Eat! Enjoy!

Sign-up Genius link: <https://bit.ly/dinner-at-bethlehem>



Building God's Kingdom

Guest Presenter: The Rev. John A Runkle, R.A.
Sunday, Dec. 10 @10:00

We are excited to announce that John Runkle, Episcopal priest and architect, will be our guest presenter during our Adult Christian Formation class on Dec. 10. Rev. Runkle has a varied and exciting vocational background. He is a specialist in religious architecture. As a historical architect John has served on the Colonial William Foundation staff, The Episcopal Church Center, and as Cathedral Conservator at Washington National Cathedral, where he was responsible for the care of the Cathedral's building fabric, along with its fine arts collection.

A resident of Sewanee, Rev. Runkle will speak to us about the history of Episcopal architecture and the role it plays in our spiritual lives. The talk will begin at 10:00 in Otey Parish Hall.

Social Graces

Come join us in Otey Hall on
Tuesday December 19 for
Lunch and Live Jazz Music!

11:30 am – CATERED LUNCH
12:00 noon – 1:00 pm
\$10



RSVP by Friday December 15. Pay when you come, but
please RSVP by December 15th.

RSVP and note any dietary restrictions to
monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527.

Sacred Ground

- A film-based dialogue series on race and faith.
- Join us virtually via Zoom in person or virtually.
- Starting January 2024

Sacred Ground, The Episcopal Church's eleven week series on race and faith, will be offered in both virtual and in-person formats in early 2024. Built around a powerful curriculum of documentary films and readings, this series invites participants to walk back through history—peel away the layers that brought us to the challenges and divides of the present day and envision a future as Beloved Community. Each session offers space for difficult but respectful dialogue in large and small groups. Parishioners who have completed Sacred Ground have described the series as a transformative springboard for individual and communal growth.

Sacred Ground will be facilitated by members of the Diocesan Beloved Community Commission and participation is open to Episcopalians in the Diocese of Tennessee. Each class is limited to 35 participants. There is no cost to attend but participants must be able to commit to regular attendance and 3-4 hours of weekly class preparation. Registration for the following classes will be accepted as they are received, with a deadline of Friday, December 15.

Monday evenings (Zoom)

January 8 – March 18

6:30 – 8:00 pm

Register here: <https://bit.ly/sacred-ground-zoom>

Learn more here: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/sacred-ground/>

or contact Monna Mayhall, monna@stpaulsfranklin.com



MTOP Registration

Mountain TOP registration is now open! This year we are participating from July 14 – 20. For more information visit the MTOP website (<https://www.mountain-top.org>) or contact Maddie. MTOP is open to rising 7th graders and up. The parents of rising 7th graders will need to contact Maddie to discuss their child's participation. Adults are also invited. In fact, we need you! To be added to the roster please fill out the registration form found here: <https://forms.gle/JURhX6viiv2C3NMx9>

EYG Pilgrimage

Fundraising for the youth pilgrimage has officially begun! If you wish to donate, grab an envelope from one of the displays in Founder's Hall and stuff it with the corresponding amount. (Envelope #57 should be stuffed with \$57) If all 200 envelopes are filled, that adds up to \$20,100! Place filled envelopes in offering plate next time you come to church. General donations to the pilgrimage fund can also be made by writing a check and putting "youth pilgrimage fund" in the memo. Thank you for supporting our youth!



Chaperones Needed

This is just a reminder that we need a parent to provide dinner and chaperone every Sunday night! You can do one and not the other, if needed. We only have two more regular meetings this semester, before we take a break for Christmas. If you can help out, please use the sign up genius links below.

Dinner Sign Up: <https://bit.ly/eygsunday>

Chaperone Sign Up: <https://bit.ly/eyg-chaperone>

Feel free to contact Maddie (maddie@stpaulsfranklin.com) with any youth related questions, comments, or concerns.

WITS in December

Here's what's happening for Women in Theological Study in December:

December 7

Entering the Season Advent – Founders (9:30-10:30 am)

English Tea Assistance (10:30 am-whenever you wish)

December 21

Holiday Hoopla (Fun, Games, Food) (9:30-11:00 am)

- Bring your “go to” inspirational quote or verse
- Bring a brunch type food to share if you like) – Otey

WITS meets on Thursday 9:30-11:00 am

WITS first meeting in 2024 is Thursday January 4th.

Contact Monna at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527 with any questions.



Social

Women of St. Paul's! Please join us for our next social December 15, 6:00. We will gather at the home of Pam Leet, 1979 Championship Blvd.

Please bring a snack or beverage to share and encourage another St. Paul's woman to come too! We look forward to a joyful holiday gathering.

2024 heArt & Soul Retreat

The Women of St. Paul's will hold the annual heArt and Soul retreat at Pickwick Landing State Park, on February 2-4, 2024! We invite ALL WOMEN of St. Paul's to come enjoy this sacred time to nourish your creative spirit, your soul, and your body as a child of God.

The weekend will include:

- Opportunities to gather for fun and fellowship
- Morning Prayer and Compline services as well as Sunday morning Eucharist
- Enrichment class sessions on Saturday (participation is optional)
- Time to relax in 3 different parlor spaces on Friday and Saturday night with activities such as board games, puzzles, card games, storytelling or other group interests
- Hiking/walking in the park and greater area
- Social hours in the parlor rooms (BYO drinks)
- Wonderful participant goodies donated by our ladies
- An optional early start on Thursday evening (extra fee)

Base price includes hotel room for Friday and Saturday, five meals, and all class supplies. The Women of St. Paul's have graciously covered the costs of the community use areas to help offset costs for the 2024 heArt and Soul Retreat.

Confidential financial assistance is available.

Please contact Monna Mayhall (monna@stpaulsfranklin.com)

If you have questions about the weekend, please contact us!

Cassy Gilchrist at cassygilchrist@gmail.com (615-957-7020)

Katie Faulkner at peppyf@comcast.net (334-430-4613)

Click here for the [Register Form](#) and [here for more information](#).

St. Paul's Episcopal's heritage of community outreach dates back nearly 200 years to its first organizational meeting held at what was then a new public building in town—the Hiram Masonic Lodge, founded in 1809.

With a single desire to reach the people of Franklin with the Gospel of Jesus Christ, James Hervey Otey, a teacher and soon-to-be priest, set out in 1827 to form a new space for God's work on the western frontier.

Without a permanent space for worship Rev. Otey reached out to his community through a place where people from different backgrounds gathered on Second Avenue.

Since those earliest days, St. Paul's has been cultivating relationships with our community for two centuries, living out our Baptismal covenant to love and serve one another.

As the St. Paul's parish continues to serve the unmet needs of men, women, and children in the name of Jesus Christ, its Outreach Committee will continue to listen and look for ways to provide food, shelter, health care, and recovery.

If you have questions or suggestions, please contact our members. The Outreach Committee includes clergy, current and former vestry members, as well as representatives from the Men of St. Paul's and Women of St. Paul's organizations.

This is just one unexpected blessing from 2023.

Freedom Reigns Ranch is a faith-based ranch in Middle Tennessee. The mission is to "ignite hope with the help of a horse" by providing mentor sessions to children and young adults who have been through trauma and other life challenges. All programming is offered completely free of charge!

The Outreach Committee began supporting this ministry two years ago. The partnering of an aging horse without purpose and a young person coping with trauma was a mission that caught the attention of Will Boggs and Fred Warner.

The relationship forged between St. Paul's and FRR has been one of care for the health of God's children and care for His creation.

On Saturday, November 11, 2023, Freedom Reigns Ranch had their open house at their new home in south Williamson County.

Since 2016 they have been dreaming of this opportunity to expand their support for children and young adults.

The Men of St. Paul's (MOSP) was asked to provide hamburgers, hot dogs, and all the trimmings for about 225 people.

Fellowship is always central to the work of Men of St. Paul's, just as Rev. Otey began spreading the Gospel in his first gatherings in 1827.

It was an extraordinary honor to have the staff and volunteers of Freedom Reigns Ranch recognize the service of our parish with such gratitude.

The Men of St. Paul's humbly and graciously accepted this surprise honor last month on behalf of the parish family.



The ongoing support from individual pledges and donations by our St. Paul's community gives groups like Freedom Reigns Ranch the opportunity to serve those in need.

As St. Paul's family approaches Advent with expectation and singleness of heart, we give thanks for the many nonprofits in Franklin and Williamson County that call men and women to love and serve their neighbor as Christ has asked us to do.

During 2023 St. Paul's Outreach Committee reached out to approximately seventeen local non-profit, 501c3 organizations.

Listening, but also discerning through faithful prayer and conversation, St. Paul's via the Outreach Committee, made contributions to the respective missions of vital organizations.

Beyond countless hours of fellowship, \$76,000 was gifted to these groups. This amount reflects a portion of the tithes received from you and your family.

From March 2023 through November 2023, the Men of St. Paul's has been able to feed over 3700. Moreover, the Women of St. Paul's has been able to pledge one-third of their financial gifts to the Outreach Committee.

Men, women, and children in need of Christ's love have witnessed first hand the mission of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, and its nearly 200 years of spreading the Gospel in thought, word and deed.

Please accept our sincere thank you. We look forward to continuing our outreach in 2024 with God's help.

Spring Street - Natchez Street Christmas Bags

Fortunately, all of our food bags for Spring Street Outreach Ministry have been taken by volunteers to fill and bring back. If you took one, THANK YOU! Please return the filled bag back to St. Paul's **no earlier than Sunday December 10th, and no later than Wednesday morning December 13.**

If you have any questions, please call the church office at 615-790-0527 or contact Jackie King at momking2nd@yahoo.com.



December Spring Street

Our next gathering will be December 14, from 10:00-12:00. We will begin with a time of music and readings in the sanctuary, and then share a holiday meal. Please let me know if you would like to volunteer. You may be needed serving food, but the best work is getting to know our dear neighbors and friends!

Sign up to Volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20F0C4EADA82AA02-46516699-december/122179279#/>



The Outreach Committee of St. Paul's Church functions to serve nonprofit organizations. Its vision is to share God's Grace with those in need in Williamson County. The mission of the Outreach Committee is to embrace community services in Williamson County dedicated to encouraging and advancing development in all people towards their fullest potential, and it is the intent of the committee to assist our church community in sharing God's grace outward into our wider community, participating, donating and encouraging people and the organizations addressing their needs. We intend to promote existing initiatives in our church and continue the conversation within our church community on what we can do for our neighbors in the fulfillment of our Christian duty.

The Outreach Committee would like to thank the parishioners of St. Paul's for entrusting us with such a labor of love. Your financial support is making a difference in the lives of so many people. You are only the reason we can do this, thank you! And, to that effect, we would like to make all aware of exactly who you are helping in our community. So, each month, we would like to share a few of them so you might be able to see and support these organizations.



This month the Outreach Committee decided to help with the shortfall of Kroger gift cards for our guests at the November Spring Street program. We believe this will be between \$1,000 and \$1,500.

We also agreed to grant \$3,000 to our beloved Rusty and Monna to use for their clergy discretionary funds. This money will be split equally between the two and used to help wherever they see a need.

We received several letters of thanks and appreciation from the wonderful organizations we assist. Below is a letter from High Hopes Development Center.

Our committee meets the third Tuesday of each month and is always eager to learn from church members about groups in Williamson County that can use our church's extra hand up. Our best nonprofits are found through our parish! If you have any thoughts or suggestions about organizations, please contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpauls.com or any other members on the committee: Will Boggs, Jim Miller, Judy Stockton, Fred Warner, Sheila Morreale, Pam Horne and Spencer Dibble.



High Hopes
DEVELOPMENT CENTER

301 High Hopes Court | Franklin, TN 37064
www.highhopesforkids.org

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Tyler White
VP, Hospital Services
connectRN

Allen Long, Executive Director

November 14, 2023

St. Paul Episcopal Church
Attn: The Rev. Monna Mayhall
510 West Main Street
Franklin, TN 37064

Dear Monna,

On behalf of the children and families of High Hopes Development Center, I want to express my heartfelt thanks for your donation of **\$3,000.00 on October 30, 2023**. Last year, we had the privilege of serving almost 1,000 children and families from 18 counties in Middle Tennessee (and one in Kentucky) in our inclusive preschool and pediatric therapy clinic. We are deeply grateful for your partnership in our mission.

Every day at High Hopes, we witness the transformative power of your support. It enables us to create an environment where every child is given the opportunity to thrive and reach their full potential. Your support provides essential resources, opens doors to new opportunities, and gives these children the chance to blossom.

If you haven't already done so, we would like to invite you to visit our campus and witness firsthand the impact of your support. Seeing our mission in action will undoubtedly be a heartwarming experience. Please feel free to contact me at (615) 550-1437 or bblanton@highhopesforkids.org to schedule a convenient time for your visit. Once again, thank you for your kindness, compassion, and partnership in our mission. Your generosity is the foundation upon which we build a brighter tomorrow for these incredible children.

With Sincere Appreciation,

Brandy Blanton
Director of Development

Thank you!

Please consider this letter an official receipt of your contribution referenced above. No goods and services were provided to you in consideration of this gift. This organization is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization, IRS Section 170(b)(1)(A)(ii) and 509(a)(1) for both federal and state tax purposes. Tax ID 62-1210720.



Stephen Ministry

The gifts God gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some ministers, and teachers, (some Stephen Ministers), to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ. (Ephesians 4:11-13)

There are periods when one feels empty or broken-hearted, or times when there are too many questions and not enough answers. The help of a Stephen Minister may be part of the answers. We are not the solution, but we can be the sounding board for your inner thoughts and search for direction. We can walk with you in search for answers.

A Stephen Minister is a layperson who will provide one-to-one Christian care to confused or hurting people in St. Paul's and the community. Look over the list of needs for care. Are there people with needs described? Yes, there are many people who have these needs. You or someone you know may be one of them.

Please take a moment to reach out to us. Your information is confidential. Our contact with the care receiver is confidential. And the care by the Stephen Minister is confidential. We know that people in need of care suffer alone and may slip through the cracks. The Priests and congregation may not have the means or capacity to reach out to hurting people long term. This is why St. Paul's has a Stephen Ministries program. When necessary, we can be there for the long haul.

If you know of a situation where we might help, please contact Rusty or Monna, call the Church Office (615-790-0527), leave a confidential email (sm@stpaulsfranklin.com) or contact one of the Stephen Ministers below.

Fred Warner, Stephen Ministry Leader

Barbara Green

Becky Farmer

Carol Waters

George Bishop

Jean Larson

Katie Faulkner

Kelly Pitsenberger

Laura McCown

Marcia Wilkinson

Melissa Crain

Mindy Boggs

Scott Faulkner

Vicki Carlisle



Needs for Care That Stephen Ministers Can Meet

- Those who are grieving the loss of a loved one
- People who are hospitalized
- People being treated for cancer -- and members of their families
- Individuals who are terminally ill -- and members of their families
- People who are experiencing divorce (before, during, and after)
- Parents who have children leaving home for the military, college, marriage, or work in another geographical area
- New congregation or community members who are experiencing transition difficulties
- Parents and families with children who have disabilities
- People recovering at home or in a rehabilitation facility after an illness or injury
- Those who are homebound or reside in an assisted living facility or a nursing care center
- Family members of someone (nearby or far away) who is homebound or resides in an assisted living facility or a nursing care center
- People with a chronic illness or a long-term disability-and their primary caregivers
- People facing birth-related issues such as infertility, adoption, an unplanned pregnancy, or the birth of a child
- People who have lost their jobs or had some other significant financial setback
- People experiencing significant job-related stress
- Family members of deployed military personnel
- People in the process of downsizing to a smaller home, moving into an assisted living situation, or changing their living arrangements in some other way
- People who are preparing to retire, who have recently retired, or who have been forced to retire early
- People affected by disasters or violence
- People experiencing spiritual crisis
- People with other critical needs or major life transitions that you know about

Join St. Paul's Bicentennial Society

With only four years left until St. Paul's 200th birthday, please consider joining the Bicentennial Society by making a donation of \$1,000, payable on a schedule of your choosing between now and 2027.

Funding from the Bicentennial Society supports our mission of preserving our past, and securing our future by supporting various projects and events that are not provided for in St. Paul's annual budget. As a member, you will play an important role in these endeavors.

Education: St. Paul's recently hosted a History Symposium on the establishment of the early churches in the city of Franklin. This symposium, open to the entire community, was the first of a series of events to both educate and unite our local faith communities. The Bicentennial Society has also helped create the history panels on display in Otey Hall and the self-guided tour brochures of our historic nave.

Preservation: The Bicentennial Society has helped catalogue our historic documents and photographs now maintained at the Williamson County Archives, and will soon undertake the restoration of the broken tombstone of Bishop Otey's son at the front entrance of the church.

Presently, the society is helping with the repair of the historic wooded louvers above the front doors of St. Paul's. Keeping the historic parts of our church in good repair is a key goal for the Bicentennial Society.

Celebration: Your membership will also support the many events currently in the planning stages for 2027. When the Bicentennial Society was established in 2017, one of the primary goals was to raise funds to support church-wide and community celebrations without straining the annual operating budget of the church.

Please consider joining the Bicentennial Society and play an important role in the Education, Preservation, and Celebration of St. Paul's.

Gratefully,

Jay Fahey and Libby Sullivan, Bicentennial Co-chairs

Corner Gift Shop

Historic Committee Products

Stop by the Corner Gift Shop to pick up some items from the historic committee.



Corner Gift Shop

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Ushers For All Services Needed

If you are interested in being an usher for one of our Sunday services, please let us know by contacting the office (shannon@stpaulsfranklin.com). A training class will be offered on what to expect and how to handle each situation.

Holy Eucharistic Visits

If you would like Holy Communion brought to you, please let us know, and we can schedule a time for someone to visit you. For questions or if you would like to schedule a Eucharistic Visit, you can contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527.



Altar Flower Sign-Ups

If you would like to sign-up to memorialize, honor, celebrate or thank a special person(s) with Altar Flowers, please sign up on the date of your preference by signing up here: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/70a0c48abad2fa0f58-altar>. We will also have a list hanging on the Church Bulletin board if you prefer to sign up that way.

The Lord's Lift

If you need a ride to church on Sunday, contact the church office before 4:00 pm on the Thursday before the Sunday that you will need a ride. If you can offer a ride to someone to church on Sunday, contact the church office to be placed on a Sunday Rotation Schedule. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Shannon at 615-790-0527 or shannon@stpaulsfranklin.com.

Recycling



We need the help of parishioners who would be willing to take a blue bag with them to recycle with their own household recyclables when they come to church. Paper is collected in the large, gray bin in the workroom next to Shannon's office and there is a large, green bin for glass in Otey kitchen. For more information, please contact Shannon or any member of the recycling committee. St. Paul's and the environment are grateful for your help.

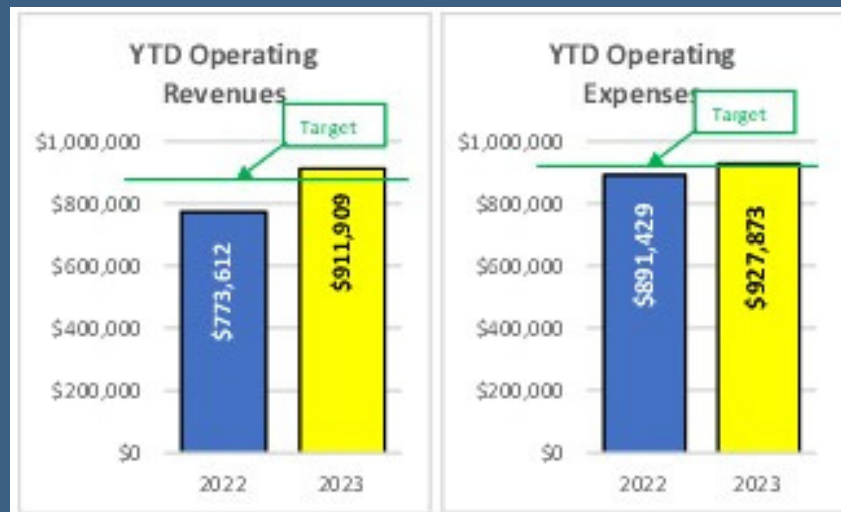
Financial Performance for the month of October 2023

October Summary: Ten months into the fiscal year and the parish is within the spending plan proposed, albeit expenses slightly outpace revenues.

Revenues: Monthly collections for revenues were again above expectations, in pledging, in cash-in-plate, and in interest earned. Over \$11,000 above.

Expenses: Expenses were higher than budgeted for the month, and included one-time expenses under Parish Life for the Parish picnic, a Young family's event and the Fall Carnival. Stewardship included costs for the Brunch (10/29). Property Maintenance includes final costs for the Louver installation, but this will be moved to memorials. Outreach was larger than the anticipated budget, but still within the annual budget.

Overall: While the parish spent more than it took in during the month of October, this was expected and the operating budget is still performing over \$46,000 better than anticipated.



Monthly Summary

Item	A	B	C (A-B)	D (A/B-1)	E	F	G (E-F)	H (E/F-1)
	October 2023				Year to Date to October 2023			
	Actual	Budget	Monthly Variance - Positive / (Negative)		Actual YTD	Budget YTD	YTD Variance - Positive / (Negative)	
Revenues								
Pledges & Cash in Plate	\$82,764	\$76,712	\$6,052	7.9%	\$873,619	\$837,806	\$35,814	4.3%
Other Income	\$6,815	\$1,510	\$5,305	351.3%	\$38,290	\$15,100	\$23,190	100.0%
Total Revenues	\$89,579	\$78,222	\$11,357	14.5%	\$911,909	\$852,906	\$59,003	6.9%
Expenses								
Personnel	\$48,287	\$52,483	\$4,196	-8.0%	\$540,417	\$526,840	\$13,577	2.6%
Operating Expenses	\$53,424	\$35,201	(\$18,224)	51.8%	\$387,457	\$388,262	(\$806)	-0.2%
Total Expenses	\$101,711	\$87,684	(\$14,027)	16.0%	\$927,873	\$915,102	\$12,771	1.4%
Net Operating Income	(\$12,132)	(\$9,462)	(\$2,670)		(\$15,964)	(\$62,197)	\$46,232	
Non-Budgeted Rev. & Exp.(Net)	\$10,546				(\$11,198)			
Total Parish Performance	(\$1,586)				(\$27,162)			

December Birthdays

- 1 Carolyn Seabrooks, Adam Hughes
- 2 Jeep Garner, Avery Beck
- 3 Mike Gengler, Paul Deepan, Sean Patterson
- 4 Patsy Carter, David Roth
- 5 Jim Messina, Fred Loeffel, Barbara Roth, Zak Bryan
- 6 Kathleen Greathouse, Emma Haddon
- 7 Angela Tabor, Deacon Medlin
- 8 Janet Flanagan, Ann Denson, Angela Lassiter, Henry Masnik
- 9 Kaye Carlisle, Elizabeth Tyer
- 10 Molly Newlon, Ed McCormick, Carolyn Cooke, Bill Brandon,
Libby Sullivan, Ella Kate Pullen
- 11 Jack Honeycutt, Scott Watkins, Katy Nickerson, Logan Hall
- 12 Ginna Campbell
- 13 Laurie Gearhart, David Ingram, Brett Hamorsky
- 14 Lauren Jordan
- 15 Carol Waters
- 16 Katie Dees, Adria Veile, Emmy Veile
- 17 Pauline Pons, Ashley Whitten
- 19 Patrick Whitlock
- 21 Doug Johnson
- 22 Sharmila Patel
- 24 Maggie Lee
- 25 Joe Baugh
- 26 Katy Miller, Lauren Pratt
- 28 Amanda Max, Pam Hamorsky, Hunter Humphreys
- 30 Zaida Butters, Sharon Collins, Dannie Latture
- 31 Gains Humphreys

December Anniversaries

- 5 Michael & Sarah Aldrich
- 10 Carla & Rocky Myers
- 16 Jordan & Rebekah Brown
- 17 Alexa & Trevor Hyssong
- 17 Anthony & Suzy Johnson
- 19 Cassy & Rudy Gilchrist
- 19 Brooke & Fred Newell
- 20 Greer & Kaye Carlisle
- 20 Sharmila Patel & Philip Phillips
- 27 Kay & Rod Heller
- 29 Duncan & Virginia Callicott
- 29 Christy & Sam Hilley
- 29 Carrie Chris McBrayer
- 29 John & Mandy Nickerson
- 30 Burns Rogers & Donna Stokes-Rogers
- 30 Jay & Kayla Sheridan

Condolences to

- Joe Horne in the death of his brother, Merlin Horne

May He Rest In Peace and Rise in Glory

