

The Epistle



MARCH 2024

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

Pam Horne, Senior Warden
 Finance, Stewardship, Long Range Planning
Ron Howes, Junior Warden
 Building and Grounds
Mindy Boggs
 Clerk and Parish Life
Angela Lassiter
 Outreach
Dr. Larry Whitlock
 Stewardship
Ann Denson
 Christian Formation
Mary Emilie Acklen
 Hospitality
Paul Hannah
 Finance
Chris Oberholtzer
 Communications
Bruce Theobald
 Pastoral Care
Rob Curwen
 Long-Range Planning
Holly Spain
 Youth and Children's Ministries
Michael Walters Young
 Treasurer

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March 2024 Office Hours:

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

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

Office Closed Monday April 1

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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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 the March newsletter is Thursday, March 28, 2024](#)

Upcoming Events

March 1

TAIZE Service

March 10

Parish Wide Meeting

March 10

Absalom Jones Celebration,
Christ Church Cathedral

March 23

DOK Retreat for All Women

March 24

Palm Sunday

March 24

Children with Families Outing

March 27

Royal Table

March 28

Maundy Thursday

March 29

Good Friday

March 30

Easter Vigil

March 31

Easter

April 24

Talent Show

May 1

St. Paul's Night at the Ballpark
(RSVP by April 22)



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/>

Parish-Wide Meeting

Greetings St. Paul's Family!

I hope and pray that you are having a blessed Lent and looking forward to celebrating our Easter time together in thanksgiving of our Risen Lord.

I am writing to invite you to a parish-wide meeting. The gathering will be to discuss the final plans of our construction project. This has been a very slow and time-consuming venture but we are so excited about finally getting a start.

The reason for the meeting is to let you know where we stand with project, its plans and increased building costs. The vestry will soon be asked to approve any final plans. There has been a recommendation from the Building and Design Committee concerning this but ultimately, the decision rests with the vestry. Please know that the plans have changed little since our earlier meetings, but we wanted to make sure the parish is as well-informed as possible.

We will meet in the church sanctuary on Sunday, March, 10 at 12:30. However, in order to make the meeting more accessible for all parishioners, the meeting will be live-streamed on our Facebook page, which also will allow questions to be addressed through that medium.

This is a very exciting time for St. Paul's as we will begin to see this blessed project take shape so we can continue to spread better the good news of the gospel in Jesus Christ. Blessings to you all and I hope to see on the 10th.

Peace

Rusty+

Earlier this month, our Vestry took part in an annual retreat, returning to Henry Horton State Park. It was an especially convenient and peaceful place to begin our service to the St. Paul's Parish in 2024.

New members were welcomed during some great fellowship Friday night. This truly set the tone for our Saturday work, which was to undertake a Mutual Ministry Review (MMR). We offer our thanks for the talents of the Rev. Molly Dale Smith, who walked us creatively and prayerfully through this multi-step assessment of the Parish's mission and its associated ministries, using the Eucharist as a literal and figurative framework.

If that sounds complicated, it was not.

We began the morning with the Service of the Word Rite II in the Book of Common Prayer and ended the afternoon with a beautiful time of sharing the Eucharist, all the while working intermittently together on a shared plan for the future.

Beginning with the end in mind, we spent time in thanksgiving to God, literally offering our greatest joys from the past three years at St. Paul's.

Our collective thoughts revealed:

The increased participation of parishioners resulted in the growth of many ministries, including an opportunity to increase the Outreach Ministry. In the same way, the blessings of new technology tools used by Clergy and Staff resulted in a more accessible Sunday worship that can be shared easily. We were able to strengthen our finances greatly due to the tremendous stewardship and capital campaigns undertaken.

Next, we used the Baptismal Covenant to acknowledge our shortcomings and sought to identify those aspects of ministry and parish life that might be improved with God's help.

These include moving forward on a part-time Youth Minister; complete the visitor program begun before Covid; and help connect parishioners to opportunities to serve; and continue to give up-to-date information regarding the construction plans.



Vestry Retreat Summary

In 2024, our Vestry will pursue these goals:

We agreed to returning to a program that was launched before Covid, but not completed. It is called Invite Welcome Connect and will be led by Ann Denson, utilizing our Usher Team and other parishioners to ensure that visitors are served.

Second, we committed to ensuring that ministry participation will not be adversely affected by future construction. To that end, meeting space will become an important focus of the Clergy and Staff. We want our program growth to continue to increase.

Third, we committed to establishing a Defined Giving Program for parishioners to utilize in their personal estate planning. This will be led by our Treasurer, Michael Walters-Young.

And, most importantly, the search for a Youth Minister to pick up the wonderful work that Maddie Rogers has been doing on an interim basis is going to continue in earnest. Rusty will lead this effort, but Vestry and parishioners are encouraged to refer prospective candidates.

The MMR led to a mutually-agreed upon set of goals that we believe will strengthen our Parish and also the ministries led by the Clergy, Lay Leaders, and Parishioners. especially as we enter an expansion of our interior classroom/office space.

An excellent turnout of our membership provided a productive meeting Friday night that served as our February Vestry meeting. The fantastic team at Henry Horton provided us with a catered dinner, and evening compline closed out our afternoon.

Service of the Word Rite II of the Book of Common Prayer to reflect on the past two years, really looking at our work since 2021.

Pam Horne, Senior Warden

2024 Vestry Liaison Positions:

Senior Warden (Finance, Stewardship, Long Range Planning)
- Pam Horne

Junior Warden (Building and Grounds) - Ron Howes

Clerk and Parish Life - Mindy Boggs

Outreach - Angela Lassiter

Stewardship - Larry Whitlock

Christian Formation - Ann Denson

Hospitality - Mary Emilie Acklen

Finance - Paul Hannah

Communication - Chris Oberholtzer

Pastoral Care - Bruce Theobald

Long Range Planning - Rob Curwen

Youth & Children Ministries - Holly Spain

Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee

92nd Annual Convention

The Convention was held at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Murfreesboro on February 10, 2024. The convention was moved and shortened from its originally scheduled dates of January 19-20, 2024 due to the inclement weather we had during that period. The attending delegates from St. Paul's, Franklin were Karen Austin, Ed Miller and Jonathan Webster.

Overall, the convention went smoothly. Voting items such as new appointments and nominations went quick and easy. The budget ratification occurred seamlessly. During that budget discussion there was an acknowledgement of the sell of the Dubose Conference Center in Monteagle TN. The center was jointly owned by the three dioceses of TN and funds from the sell were evenly split. While nothing is currently planned for use of those funds, the diocese does plan to use them for educational purposes.

In the Bishop's address, he referenced his own sabbatical in 2023. He had the opportunity to travel the country visiting friends and family while seeing national parks and other landmarks of interest. He noted the overall importance of having a sabbatical for the diocese ministry. It is an opportunity to recharge and refocus, especially in light of the recent overall struggles associated with the pandemic.

Lastly, the convention was a great opportunity to interact with other people in the diocese including ministers, lay people, employees, and volunteers. It was interesting to learn what was occurring in other churches including their struggles and successes. Most of all, it was great to simply socialize with a cup of coffee with other Episcopalians.

-Jonathan Webster



Pancake Supper

9



Pancake Supper

10



WSP Retreat



Lost and Found

As we are cleaning out the building in preparation to move, we are finding lost items as well as getting rid of items we no longer need. There are now two shelves in Antioch: one is for lost and found items and one is for items that need to find a new home. Come check them out for any items you may have misplaced at St. Paul's or find a treasure that needs to be relocated.

St. Paul's Staff Fantasy Football

St. Paul's Staff Fantasy Football League had to change our name this year to Mostly St. Paul's Staff to include former staffer, Nic Parmer.

Unfortunately despite the best strategies of Deacon Blues, Barnabas Bruisers and the Burrowing Gophers, Nic's Episcopalian McCafferty team, won the playoffs. So our traveling trophy has left the premises and now resides somewhere in Nashville with Nic.

The good news is, there are only a few months until football starts again. The seven official St. Paul's staffers will be scheming during the off season to reclaim our trophy and return it to its rightful place at St. Paul's.



Tennessee Trails Association

Tennessee Trails Columbia/Franklin Chapter Meeting
March 5, 2024 in Barnabas
Social hour: 6:00 to 7:00 PM - Business Meeting: 7:00 PM



We will meet and discuss new hikes, presentations, and proposed events. This month we are hoping to increase input on hikes and any other events that you think we should pursue. We are a hiking club, but there are other events that we will consider. No hike/event is too large or too small.

We welcome all input and anyone interested in hiking. Contact Janeth McKendrick. Janethmck@aol.com.

Piano Sitters Needed

Our Pianos Need a Spot to Vacation! During construction, currently set to start in April, we will placing most of our furniture and equipment in storage. We are looking for someone who would be willing to store our grand piano, currently in Otey, and the black upright in the choir room in their home.



The church will pay to have the pianos moved and set up for you and then pay to have them returned to the church. The pianos can also remain wrapped and disassembled for the duration if you would prefer. They just need to remain in a climate-controlled space until the construction is completed.

If you are willing to “baby-sit” one of our pianos, please give Donna Stokes-Rogers a call or email. (donnastokesrogers@gmail.com or 615-481-5144)

Bad Girls Book Club

The next meeting for The Bad Girls Book Club is Tuesday, March 26 in Founders Hall from 6:30 PM to approximately 8:00 PM. We will discuss *Beautiful Day* by Elin Hilderbrand.

Please bring a light appetizer and/or a drink to share.

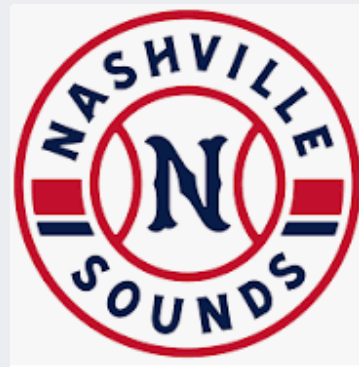


St. Paul's Night at the Ballpark

We are heading back to the ballpark again this May for some fun with your parish family!

Join us Wednesday, May 1st at First Horizon Park to watch the Nashville Sounds take on the Norfolk Tides. The game begins at 6:35, and we will have a block of seats to enjoy the game together. Tickets are \$20 each.

Please email libby@stpaulsfranklin.com by **April 22nd** to sign up. See you there!



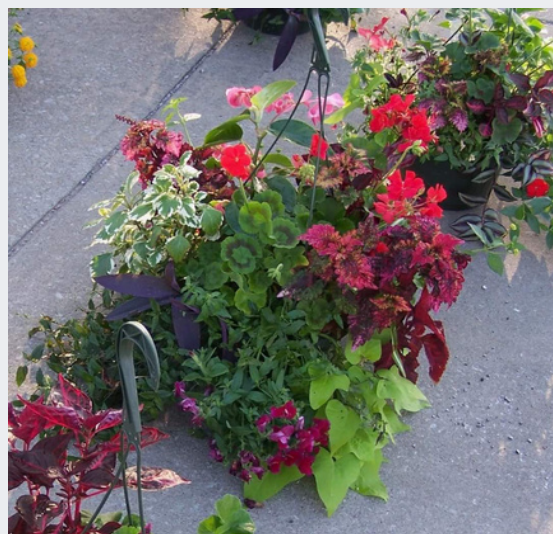
Fern and Flower Sale

Spring is right around the corner and the Fern and Flower Sale is underway! Order with payment February 11- March 15. Pick up on April 20th in Barnabas parking lot.

Mixed Flower Baskets are \$20 and Ferns are \$22.

Pick up an order form at church, download from the website (<https://bit.ly/wsp-flower-sale>), or receive one by email from momking2nd@yahoo.com.

Sell to all your friends and neighbors! These beautiful baskets will thrive in many light levels and last well into fall.



ST. PAUL'S ANNUAL TALENT SHOW

Do you sing?
Dance?
Write Poetry?
Juggle?
Sign up to be a part
of the show!

24
APRIL
2024

Do you have a
talent that we can
film? Ice Skate?
Cook? Sew?
Garden? We will
come film your
talent and show on
the big screen the
night of the show!

OTHEY HALL

Come offer your talents? We will have live acts and recorded clips
of parishioners whose talents lay outside the church!

DINNER 5:30 PM

SHOW 6:00 PM

Email Donna Stokes-Rogers to arrange your "recording session!"
donnastokesrogers@gmail.com

The Season of Lent At St. Paul's

The season now known as Lent (from an Old English word meaning “spring,” the time of lengthening days) has a long history. Originally, Lent was “a season of penitence and fasting,” the time of preparation for those who were to be baptized, at the Easter Vigil, the celebration of the Resurrection of the Lord early on Easter Sunday. But since these new members were to be received into a living community of Faith, the entire community was called to preparation. Also, this was the time when those who had been separated from the Church would prepare to rejoin the community.

Today, during the season of Lent all Christians are invited “to the observance of a holy Lent, by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God's holy Word.”

In the western church the forty days of Lent extend from Ash Wednesday through Holy Saturday, omitting Sundays. The last three days of Lent are the sacred Triduum of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Holy Saturday. The number 40 is connected with many biblical events, but especially with the forty days Jesus spent in the wilderness preparing for His ministry by facing the temptations that could lead him to abandon his mission and calling.

The color used in the sanctuary for most of Lent is purple. This is the color of royalty, and so anticipates through the suffering and death of Jesus, the coming resurrection of Christ as the King of Kings, celebrated on Easter Sunday. There are no beautiful flowers on the altar during Lent, but only greenery or nothing at all. There are no Alleluias said within the liturgies, and there is no celebratory sounding music, but rather music that tends to be more somber.



The Season of Lent At St. Paul's

Morning Prayer and Compline

Join us on during Lent for Morning Prayer and Compline

Morning Prayer

9:00 AM Monday, Wednesday and Friday during Lent, February 16th – March 27th

Compline

9:00 PM Tuesday and Thursday during Lent, February 15th – March 26th

Services will be broadcast on St. Paul's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsfranklintn/>) and the Bulletins are available on the website (<https://www.stpaulsfranklin.com/>)

Sign-up to lead either of these Daily Liturgies

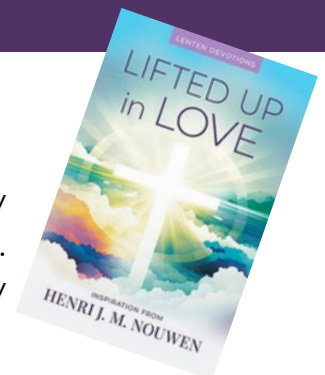
We are also looking for hosts, someone to sign on and lead the service. Even if you have never hosted an online service, it is very easy. Donna is happy to walk you through the set-up.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/lenten-on-line-hosts>. Email or call Donna Stokes-Rogers for more information. donnastokesrogers@gmail.com or (615) 481-5144.



Lenten Devotions and Meditations

Make sure to pick up a copy of *Lifted up in Love*, a Lenten Daily Devotional booklet based on inspiration from Henri J. M. Nouwen. Available in the Narthex and Founders Hall beginning Sunday February 11th.



According to The Book of Common Prayer, Lent provides us with the opportunity for self-examination, repentance, prayer, fasting and self-denial; and to read and meditate on God's holy word (BCP, p 265). This Lenten Season, Episcopal Relief & Development invites you to join in reflecting on your newness in Christ as you journey through Episcopal Relief & Development's Lenten Meditations. Discover new ways your faith is guiding you through.

Sign up to receive a meditation in your inbox each day. May God richly bless you this Lenten season. <https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/>

The Season of Lent At St. Paul's

Wednesday Evening Lenten Programs

March 6, 13, 20

5:00 PM Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary

Contact Monna (monna@stpaulsfranklin.com) to lead Stations one Wednesday

5:30 PM Soup Supper in Otey

We are looking for soups, cheeses and breads, and salads for our Wednesday evening Lenten series. Sign-up here to to bring food one Wednesday: <https://bit.ly/sp-lenten>

6:00 -7:00 PM Lenten Program – Life Transformed: The Way of Love in Lent

The journey through Lent into Easter is a journey with Jesus. We are baptized into his life, self-giving, and death; then, we rise in hope to life transformed. This Lent, you are invited to walk with Jesus in his Way of Love and into the experience of transformed life. Together, we will reflect anew on the loving actions of God as recounted in the Easter Vigil readings. Together, we will walk through the depths of salvation history into the fullness of redemption.



"You are dust and to dust you shall return."

2024 HOLY WEEK



March 24

Palm Sunday Eucharist Services

7:30 am, 8:45 am*, 11:00 am, and 6:00 pm
Palm Sunday Processional 10:00 am
Childcare provided

March 27

The Royal Table

Communion Class for Children and Families, 5:30-7:00 pm

March 28

Maundy Thursday Eucharist and Foot-Washing

6:00 pm*
Childcare provided with 7 day's notice

March 29

Good Friday Eucharist

12:00 pm*
Childcare provided with 7 day's notice
Stations of the Cross, 3:00 pm, Side Courtyard

March 30

Easter Vigil

7:30 pm*
Childcare provided with 7 day's notice
Easter Celebration Reception
Immediately following the service in Founders Hall

March 31

Easter Morning Eucharist

7:30 am, 8:45 am*, 11:00 am*
Easter egg hunt, 10:00 am
Childcare provided
No 6:00 pm Service

*Denotes Facebook Live Broadcast

Stations of the Cross during Holy Week

Booklets will be available inside the sanctuary
for you to walk the Stations of the Cross on
your own during this week.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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Franklin, TN. 37064
(615) 790-0527

www.stpaulsfranklin.com

<https://www.facebook.com/stpaulsfranklintn>

Easter Egg Donations

St. Paul's annual Egg Hunt will happen again this year at 10 am on Easter morning. Children will be divided up by age to go to different hunting grounds, and our fabulous Youth Group will help us out by hiding the eggs during the 8:45 service.

We would love to have donations of wrapped peanut-free candy and plastic eggs. We will gladly accept new or used plastic eggs. Please bring your donations to the church by Palm Sunday, March 24th. Thank you!



Easter Choral and Floral Offerings

If you would like to offer a thanksgiving or memorial for a loved one on Easter, please sign up below for the Easter Floral and/or Choral offerings by Wed, March 20. After you have signed up below, you can send your donations online or mail a check noting the flowers or music ministry. Contact Shannon with any questions at shannon@stpaulsfranklin.com.

<https://bit.ly/floral-choral-offerings>



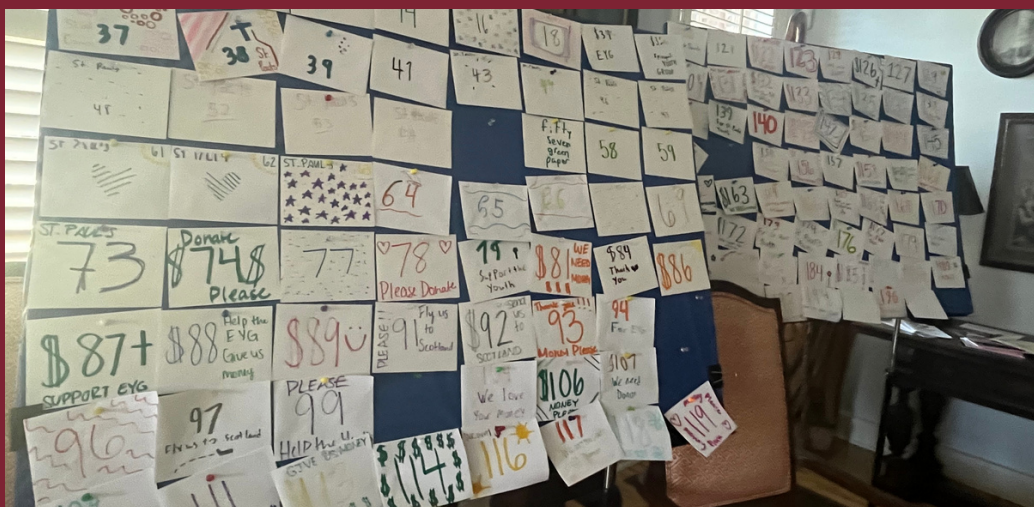
Children With Families March Outing

Join us on Sunday, March 24th at Pin's Mechanical (1102 Grundy Street, Nashville) from 3-5 pm for bowling, arcade games, and pizza! Children bowl for free on Sundays, and all of the old school arcade games are free, too! Pizza will be provided, and drinks are available for purchase. Pinball games and adult bowling will also be available for a fee. RSVP to libby@stpaulsfranklin.com. We hope to see you there!



Youth Pilgrimage

As of January 1, we have only raised \$2,500 of our \$20,000 goal. Please consider taking an envelope or making a direct donation to the Youth Pilgrimage fund. We are raising funds to pay for 2 chaperones and lessen the financial burden for our 6 youth. Our final payments are due March 15, so please keep that in mind when making your donations. Thank you!



We need chaperones and dinners for Sunday nights. If you would like to sign up for either, please use the links below:

Dinner Sign Up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0949A9AE23A5F58-47019923-eygdinner>

Chaperone Sign Up:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0949A9AE23A5F58-47020213-eygchaperone>

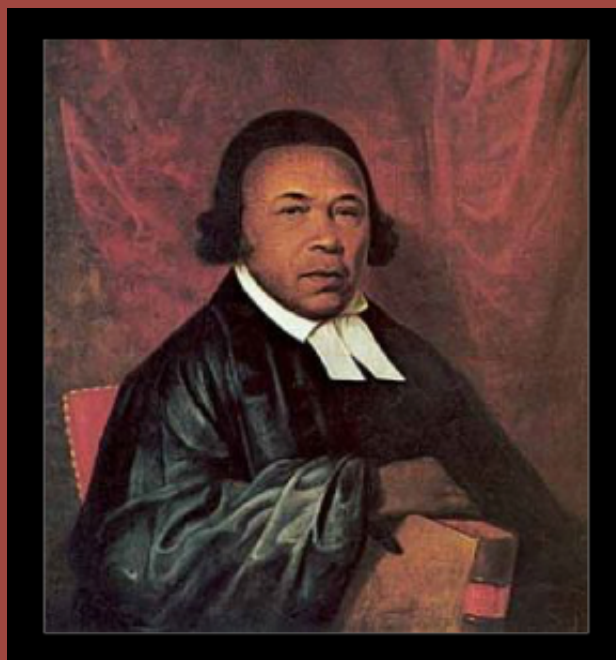
**Absalom Jones Celebration
Sunday, March 10, 6:00pm
Christ Church Cathedral
900 Broadway
Nashville, TN 37203**

Please join us in celebrating Absalom Jones, the founder of the first Black Episcopal congregation in the United States in 1794. He was the first African American to be ordained as a priest in the Episcopal Church of the United States and is listed on the Episcopal calendar of saints.

The Rt. Rev. John C. Bauerschmidt, Bishop of Tennessee, will be celebrant and Ms. Tabitha Ssonko, Lay Vicar at St. Anselm's Episcopal Church and Campus Ministry for Fisk University, Tennessee State University, and Meharry Medical College, will be our preacher. The Guest Choir is The Chamber Choir from St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Franklin, Donna Stokes-Rogers, Director.

This annual celebration is sponsored by the Beloved Community: Commission for Racial Healing and Reconciliation of the Diocese of Tennessee and hosted by Christ Church Cathedral.

The offering is designated for St. Augustine's University, Raleigh, North Carolina; and Voorhees University, Denmark, South Carolina. They are HBCU's (Historic Black Colleges and Universities) founded by the Episcopal Church.



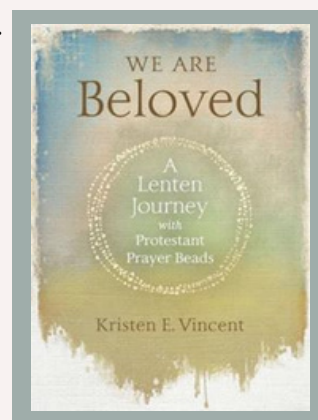
WITS in March

Women in Theological Study began a new series on Thursday February 8. The series, designed to lead into and run through Lent, is based on the book – *We Are Beloved: A Lenten Journey with Protestant Prayer Beads*, by Kristen E. Vincent.

Sometimes it can be challenging to believe whole heartedly that we are beloved, even though we know it to be true. Through a journey that follows stories of Jesus' experience of God's love, we will explore and encounter the unconditional love of God. Just as Jesus learned of his belovedness, we, too, can cultivate the wisdom and knowledge that we are deeply loved.

You will not need the book. However, you might like to borrow or obtain an Anglican Rosary if you do not already have one. If you have any questions, please contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527.

WITS meets in Founders Hall from 9:30-11:00 am on these Thursdays: March 7, 14, 28



DOK Retreat for All Women of St. Paul's

The St Paul's Chapter of The Order of the Daughters of the King will hold a One Day Retreat open to ALL WOMEN OF ST PAUL'S. It will be held in Otey Hall, Saturday, March 23, 9am-3pm.

The retreat is based on Bishop Michael Curry's invitation to Practice the Way of Love. Each session is no more than 30 minutes with generous breaks. The day is set apart with intention and slower than ordinary life. Coffee, tea, water and snacks provided, participants invited to bring sack lunch. The retreat is a sacred space with peaceful focal points that speaks to all the senses. Bring Pen and paper.



To register notify Ginny Brewer (vgbrewer@gmail.com) or Karen Austin (kstaurin@bellsouth.net). Retreat flyers are available in the narthex.

St Paul's Daughters of the King Chapter will present the annual Lenten TAIZE Service on Friday, March 1, 2024, 6pm, at the church. This service will be on the same evening as Franklin's first Downtown Art Crawl of 2024.



Become A Part of TAIZE

If you love Taize music and services, join St Paul's newly formed Taize Guild. Beginning in May we plan to hold a Taize Service on the first Friday of every month at 6:00 pm. This time also coordinates with the Franklin Art Crawl held on the same dates Spring through Fall.

Taize has been held on several occasions and each time our attendance has grown. The service is open to all. Taize services are a music, scripture and meditative candlelight prayer service, lasting approximately one hour. Professional instrumentalists accompany the repetitive chant style songs and volunteers officiate leading the service and readings.

Taize will offer a new dimension to our parish and community outreach.

Volunteers can participate however they feel led. Duties include planning services, set up and clean up, bulletin preparation, leading and reading at services.

If you would like to hear some Taize music see: "Jesus Remember Me-Taize Songs" London Fox Taize Choir On Apple Music

It has been my desire to hold these services regularly for some time. Please call or text your willingness to be involved to Ginny Brewer, 435-602-9148.



Junior Daughters of the King

On Sunday, February 4th, Avery Beck, Mimi Bushnell, Emma Haddon, and Eliza Tyer became the founding members of the St. Therese of Lisieux Chapter - Junior Daughters of the King. Their commitment resulted in the establishment of the first Junior Chapter in the Diocese of Tennessee. They now humbly wear their JR DOK crosses. Junior Daughters provide opportunities for girls to experience the joy of belonging to a fellowship in which love of God, others, and self is the framework for all they do.

If you are a rising 8th grader through twelfth grader, you are invited to join these Jr. Daughters and their Senior DOK mentors on Sunday, April 7th at 4:30 pm to learn more about the possibility of becoming a Junior Daughter yourself. Bring a friend. Refreshments will be provided. Don't let transportation keep you from coming to learn more about who we are and what we do. We are all excited about the continued growth of this chapter and look forward to seeing you on April 7th in Otey Hall.

Please call Phyllis Thompson (615) 337-0932 if you would like to attend this meeting, need help with transportation, or if you need more information. We welcome your questions and thoughts. We are beyond pleased for this new ministry at St. Paul's and want you to learn how you can become a Junior Daughter and a member of the St. Therese of Lisieux Chapter. Junior Chapters provide a safe place for young women to meet and discuss their faith, support and help each other, read the Bible and pray for the needs of children in our community and the world. Doesn't that sound wonderful to you?



CITY

CITY is one of several ministries serving the homeless. On the 3rd Sunday of each month we prepare and serve a hot meal at Church of the Holy Trinity in downtown Nashville. In addition to the hot meal, we provide ToGo bags with a peanut butter sandwich, a banana and a variety of other snack foods for an additional light meal. We also provide seasonal clothing and other basic necessities.

Volunteers are always welcome. Ways to participate include:

- 1) Help pack the ToGo bags
- 2) Make peanut butter sandwiches
- 3) Help serve the meal at Holy Trinity

If you are interested and/or if you would like more information, please contact either Ellen Kirk (ellenvkirk@gmail.com or 615-545-8820) or Gerald Hancock (gwhancock44@gmail.com or 615-604-9635).



Spring Street

Thank you to all who volunteered for the February gathering. We honored Black History month, and were pleased to have Alma Mclemore share the history of some of Franklin's oldest black families. It was a wonderful celebration! Festive decorations, delicious food, and music. Anytime Jackson Mayhall and friends are playing music for us we are happy!



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.



At our February meeting, the Outreach Committee decided to donate \$2,000 to The Nook. We have given to The Nook previously, as it is an amazing local nonprofit providing emergency clothing and person hygiene supplies to children in our school system. It is fully staffed by volunteers and funded by donations and is an important component in helping kids in need within our schools.



Turning Point is a social transformation charity the works to reduce the generational effects of divorce. They provide attorneys, therapists and financial experts and volunteers to help women and children through divorce and the resulting trauma that often occurs with it. The Outreach Committee granted Turning Point \$5,000 to help with their mission. If you would like to learn more about Turning Point, you can locate them at turningpointcharity.org

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, Spencer Dibble and Angela Lassiter.

Charitable Gifts Fair

December's Charitable Gifts Fair raised over \$17,000 to support Davis House, Gigi's Playhouse, Healing Housing, Meals on Wheels, My Friends House, and the Williamson County Homeless Alliance.



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.

Marcia Wilkinson and Carol Waters, Stephen Ministry Leaders

Barbara Green	Becky Farmer	George Bishop
Jean Larson	Scott Faulkner	Vicki Carlisle
Kelly Pitsenberger	Jan Abstein	Sam Barcus
Heather Bottoms	Chris Oberholtzer	Sharmila Patel
Donna Thomas	Elizabeth Tyer	



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

Historic Committee Products

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





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 January 2024

January Summary: Preliminary results for the first month of the year are in and the parish performed even better than expected.

Revenues: January is always one of the two best financial months of the year because all prepaid pledged are recorded. While overall pledging is still at the targets approved in the budget, the amount of prepaid was MUCH higher than originally forecast, and as a result between regular monthly and pre-paid pledges *over 25% of annual pledging* has already been received.

Expenses: Expenses were under budget overall. Property Maintenance and Music Ministry were over monthly estimated budgets.

Overall: A terribly good start to 2024!



Monthly Summary

Item	A	B	C (A-B)	D (A/B-1)	E	F	G (E-F)	H (E/F-1)
	January 2024				Year to Date to January 2024			
	Actual	Budget	Monthly Variance - Positive / (Negative)		Actual YTD	Budget YTD	YTD Variance - Positive / (Negative)	
Revenues								
Pledges & Cash in Plate	\$262,791	\$182,950	\$79,841	43.6%	\$262,791	\$182,950	\$79,841	43.6%
Other Income	\$183	\$542	(\$359)	-66.3%	\$183	\$542	(\$359)	100.0%
Total Revenues	\$262,973	\$183,492	\$79,482	43.3%	\$262,973	\$183,492	\$79,482	43.3%
Expenses								
Personnel	\$53,604	\$55,350	(\$1,746)	-3.2%	\$53,604	\$55,350	(\$1,746)	-3.2%
Operating Expenses	\$32,450	\$38,702	(\$6,252)	-16.2%	\$32,450	\$38,702	(\$6,252)	-16.2%
Total Expenses	\$86,054	\$94,052	(\$7,998)	-8.5%	\$86,054	\$94,052	(\$7,998)	-8.5%
Net Operating Income	\$176,919	\$89,440	\$87,480		\$176,919	\$89,440	\$87,480	
Non-Budgeted Rev. & Exp.(Net)	\$3,821				\$3,821			
Total Parish Performance	\$180,740				\$180,740			

March Birthdays

- 1 Renee Helper, Sarah Robinson, Mary Virginia Robinson, Jordan Brown, Vivian Page
- 2 Randy Cox, Joyce Little, Bryn Shoureshi
- 3 Suzy Johnson, Tina Morgan, Brandon Sullivan, Natalie Pratt, Kim Poole
- 4 Steven Vance
- 5 Charlie Crumpton, Ella Elkins, Susan Looney
- 6 Ashley De Peri, Andrea Hyssong
- 7 Jim Gray, Emma Grace Barton, Elizabeth Marshall, Tom Love
- 8 Jeff Cost, Sandy Gibson
- 9 Ella Barton, Joy Craig, Debra Cannon Taylor
- 10 Reed Loeffel, Ben Nance, Burns Rogers, Kathryn Johnson
- 11 Tom Boylan, Alexis Miniati, Steve Thompson, Tim Chew
- 12 Peggy Goss
- 13 Vanessa Bryan, Sharon Crumpton, Mark Paris, Julia Foote
- 14 Andy Barton, Lori Bradley, Joseph Hallett, Kristin Chew
- 15 John Philip Cost, Judy Alexander, Ginny Brewer, Sam McBrayer, Andy Larsen, Madeline Britton
- 16 Kristin Schmitter-Webster
- 17 Pat McCracken, Will Loeffel, Jeff Williams
- 18 Cooper Morreale
- 19 Ruth Campbell, Justin Pitt
- 21 Bill Heard
- 22 Bob Van Dervoort, Chris Paris, Ben Butler, Holly Spain, Dee Rainey
- 23 Janet Carroll, Peyton Brandon, Nora Myers, Dash Anderson
- 24 Charlie Curtiss, Knightly Max, Linda Roebuck
- 25 Cam Kinnard, Janet Keith, Loren Robicheaux
- 26 Sophie Spain, Adele Revere
- 27 Ellen More, Karen Martin, Katy Johnson
- 28 Scott Gain, Doug Little, Barb Green, Parks Jones, Shelby Medlin, Sarah Aldrich
- 30 Melissa Crain, David Dees
- 31 Monna Mayhall, Ellen Clark, Maury Sumja

March Anniversaries

- 8 Bob & Jean Larson
- 10 Rick & Fran Osteen
- 19 Justin & Lori Jones
- 20 Liz & Wallace Lilly
- 21 Iain & Peggy Macpherson
- 27 Bob & Ann Van Dervoort
- 27 Granville & Mimi Grant

Condolences to

- Becky Leopard in the death of her mother, Lavelle Leopard
- Family and Friends of Lance Saylor
- Laura Harvanek in the death of her mother, Carol Beckett

