

The Epistle



JANUARY 2026

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

Holli Scholtz, Organist

Libby Sullivan, Children's Minister

Brett Smith, Youth Minister

Shannon Buttrey, Parish Administrator

Kristy Moore, Financial Administrator

Paula Sherman, Communications Manager

Maggie Gilchrist, Nursery Coordinator

Ashley Anderson, Youth Intern

Vestry

Paul Hannah, Senior Warden

Finance, Stewardship, Long Range Planning

Jim Miller, Junior Warden

Building and Grounds

Mindy Boggs

Clerk and Parish Life

Angela Lassiter

Outreach

Jonathan Webster

Stewardship

Chris Oberholtzer

Christian Formation

Melissa Montero

Hospitality

Spencer Dibble

Finance

Ann Denson

Communications

Bruce Theobald

Pastoral Care

Larry Whitlock

Senior Ministries

Holly Spain

Youth and Children's Ministries

Michael Walters Young

Treasurer

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FIND US ON FACEBOOK

@STPAULSFRANKLINTN

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January 2026

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday

9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Friday

9:00 am - 12:00 pm

Office Closed

January 1, January 19

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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Lessons and Carols

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 February newsletter is January 28, 2026



Upcoming Events

4

January 1

Office Closed

January 4

Epiphany Brunch

January 11

Christian Formation Starts

January 19

Office Closed

January 20

Pathfinders Luncheon

January 23 - 24

Diocesan Convention

January 25

Annual Parish Meeting

January 28

Gathering for Good - Jambalaya
and Jeopardy

February 6 - 8

WSP Retreat



The Altar Guild

Comics Corner



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/>

Marty Karpie



Sarah and I met in Camden, SC when I moved there from Buffalo, NY to take my first job after college. We have relocated several times, living in New York, Georgia and Oklahoma. Sarah once drew the “Sweet Tea Line” on a map and told me that any relocation opportunities within the Line were OK, others would require discussion. Our first move to NY took a little negotiation!

We moved to Franklin in 2016 for a great career opportunity and thought Franklin would be very nice community. Finding St Paul’s was the most pleasant surprise possible.

Since I retired in 2023, I have had the opportunity to become more involved with the Men of St Paul’s (MoSP). Participating in regular cooks for several years has allowed me to learn more about some of the organizations we support through our Outreach. Last year, I was the assistant chair for the MoSP BBQ and I will be the chairman this year.

I am grateful for the comradery and faithfulness I have found in the MoSP. I would be honored to engage more with our St Paul’s family and serve as a member of the Vestry.



Jim Lambert

I returned to Franklin in the fall of 2016 after spending a year in Nashville and, prior to that, four years living and working in Shanghai, China. Franklin had already been home once before—from 2005 to 2010—before an overseas assignment took me abroad. It has been a gift to find my way back.

I am the proud father of two daughters, Ann Gentry (19) and Hattie (16). Ann Gentry is a freshman at Vanderbilt, and Hattie is a sophomore at Battle Ground Academy and an active member of St. Paul's.



More than anything, St. Paul's became a true home for me following my divorce in 2021. During a season of uncertainty and transition, the church offered grounding, comfort, and a path forward. It's often said that God's handiwork is most clearly seen in hindsight, and that has certainly been true in my life. I share this because St. Paul's is far more than a church to me—it has been a source of grace and peace during one of the most turbulent chapters of my life, and it continues to be so today.

I am actively involved in the Men's Bible Study and regularly volunteer during services as an usher, reader, or both. My girlfriend, Vaishali, and I most often attend the 6:00PM service as it gives us a Sunday together from morning till evening.

I believe deeply that our most valuable gift is our time, and I am grateful to give mine in service to St. Paul's. For these reasons, it would be both an honor and a privilege to serve on the Vestry at St. Paul's.

Jenna Martin



My husband Ty and I moved to Brentwood from Nashville in 2021. The two of us graduated from Middle Tennessee State University, and were both raised in Columbia, TN. I was baptized in the Methodist Church and grew up attending Theta Methodist, a small congregation where most members were family. As a teenager, my parents joined the Episcopal Church, and I quickly became involved in youth programs at St. Peter's Episcopal Church. I attended St. Michael's Youth Conference as a camper and later as a counselor, experiences that shaped my faith and commitment to church life. The priest who guided my family during those years also officiated our wedding.

After marrying, we searched for a church home and found St. Paul's following the birth of our daughter, Ada. Ty, raised in the Presbyterian tradition, quickly felt at home, and together they completed the Seekers class. Today, our family of four enjoys worshiping at the 8:45 service and participating in parish events such as Bluegrass on the Lawn, church picnics, Easter Egg Hunts, Halloween Events and the annual bake sale and BBQ.

Professionally, I serve as the Statewide Director of Disability Services for the State of Tennessee, Department of Disability & Aging. In this role, my responsibilities include liaison to the Tennessee Council on Autism Spectrum Disorder and Statewide Family Support Program Coordinator. My career has been dedicated to supporting individuals with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities, work that is deeply rewarding.

Outside of work and church, you may find me cooking, baking, gardening, and crafting with Ada (4) & Henry (1). I am honored to be considered for the vestry and look forward to serving the St. Paul's community, mission and ministry.

John Mark Tumblin

Cindy and I have called Franklin home since 1984. Cindy grew up in Charlotte, North Carolina, and I was raised in Knoxville, Tennessee—both in strong Christian homes that shaped our shared values of faith, service, and community. We met at Lipscomb University in 1976 and married in 1980, later completing my studies at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. Shortly after graduation in 1982, we returned to Middle Tennessee to continue our life together.



We raised our two sons, Jesse and Cody, here in Franklin. Both attended Franklin High School and were active in the Franklin Band Drumline hauling both parents along with them. Our family has since grown to include two daughters-in-law, Nicole and Hyun Jung, and three wonderful grandchildren—Quincy and George in Rhode Island, and Sophie in Chicago.

My professional career spans more than four decades in healthcare, beginning in clinical toxicology with Roche Diagnostics and extending into senior leadership roles in healthcare information technology and clinical delivery. Today, I have a healthcare IT consulting firm leading digital conversions to the healthcare IT cloud and I am a partner in two healthcare technology companies—one focused on using artificial intelligence to identify patients with rare diseases and leading them to life-saving therapies, and another using AI-driven conversational Avatar technology to support in-home addiction treatment. I have an additional Masters in Health Information Technology well applied to the opportunities I lead.

John Mark Tumblin

(continued)

Service to the community has long been central to my life even as a child we served the people of Appalachia in East Tennessee. I am an active member and past president of the Franklin Noon Rotary Club and currently serve on its nonprofit foundation board. I am also one of four directors of the Franklin Rodeo, now in its 75th year, with all proceeds benefiting our local community through charitable giving. Additionally, I serve as an Assistant Governor for Rotary District 6760 in Tennessee and lead the multi-state service committee. Cindy devoted her career to education as a kindergarten teacher at Johnson Elementary School until her retirement and has continued her service through educational foundations and volunteer outreach to include many activities at St. Paul's. Together we support and are active in local charities such as Gentry Education Foundation and weekly in a multistate area with One Generation Away Food Rescue.

Our connection to St. Paul's Church is deeply meaningful. Through our daughter-in-law Nicole, we learned that her ancestor, Alexander Kilifer, served as Rector of St. Paul's in the early 1900s. Over the years, we attended Midnight Mass as a cherished Christmas tradition, and in 2009, Jesse and Nicole were married at St. Paul's, with the ceremony officiated by the Reverend Monna Mayhall. Cindy and I formally joined St. Paul's over three years ago. Cindy is actively involved with the Women of St. Paul's and the Flower Guild, while I have enjoyed serving on the barbecue committee for several years.

God has blessed me with a deep passion for service, and St. Paul's has been a natural and joyful home for that calling. I would be honored to further serve this parish and its mission as a member of the Vestry.

Building Blessing



Building Blessing



Building Blessing

12



Building Blessing



Moving Day

14



Thank you to our amazing volunteers! We are so grateful for everyone who signed up, showed up, and worked so hard to move items back into the church. Because of your incredible teamwork, everything was unpacked, cleaned out, and organized in record time! Your energy, dedication, and willingness to jump in wherever needed truly made a difference. We couldn't have done it without you. Thank you for serving so generously and getting it done!

Moving Day

15



Christmas Flowers



The Christmas Altar Flowers Are Given To The Glory Of God And:

In joyful thanksgiving for our
Grandchildren, George, Henry,
Charlie, and Owen
by Nancy and Richard Boring

In thanksgiving for Andy Peterson
by Bob Barrett

In thanksgiving for their grandchildren,
Penelope, Garrett, Oliver, and Eugene
by Beth and Woody Woodruff

In thanksgiving for their
granddaughter Lena Renay
by James and Beth Sheller

In honor of their grandchildren
by Bob and Jean Larson

In memory of James Dickerson
and their Parents
by Connie Dickerson

In memory of LTC Robert Heuver,
Christopher Heuver, and Jane Muir
by Tina Carpenter

In loving memory of Jerry Larson
from Judy Larson
and all his grandchildren

In loving memory of
Ginger DeLoache Lambert
by her children - Jim, Alli and Myers

In memory of Rev. Eugene
and Wanda Barrett
by Bob Barrett

The Christmas Choral Offerings Are Given To The Glory Of God And:

In thanksgiving for their children,
Rev. Kira Austin-Young and
Kiley Austin-Young
by Karen Austin and Ken Young

In grateful thanksgiving for Donna,
Holli, Derek, Kent, and all of the
musicians who make music
a beautiful part of our
worship each week
by Julie and Len Reinhardt

In honor of our incredible clergy and
staff who make this a powerful
community in spirit and outreach
by Julie and Len Reinhardt

In memory of James Dickerson
and their Parents
by Connie Dickerson

In loving memory of Jerry Larson
by Judy Larson
and all his grandchildren

In loving memory of their parents,
Richard and Nancy Boring, Sr,
and Charlie Newcomer
by Richard and Nancy Boring



Christmas Pageant

18



Christmas Eve

19



Dinner at Bethlehem

Many thanks to all who donated food and participated in our annual Bethlehem Dinner on Christmas Day. Following the 10:00 service, this dinner is an offspring of our Spring Street outreach ministry to our Natchez Street Community. It has evolved into an annual event of our church, much like a big family potluck gathering.

Special thanks to Kathy Ulezelski, Lorinda and Gerald Hancock, our host, Gale Haddock for the flowers centerpieces, Donna Rogers for her logistical work and those who swarmed the kitchen to help. Other than the Bishop's Blessing ceremony, this was our first event in our new kitchen and Otey Hall, and all went well.

- Gerald Hancock





LUNCH & LEARN

NAVIGATING ELDERCARE: KEY ISSUES & HELPFUL RESOURCES

Former First Lady Rosalynn Carter said:

“ —

There are only four kinds of people in the world — those who have been caregivers, those who are caregivers, those who will be caregivers, and those who will need caregivers.

— ”

Eldercare Coach, powered by AgeWell Middle Tennessee, a local 501(c)3 nonprofit focused on helping older adults and those caring for an aging loved one, will be offering an educational presentation.

The presentation, **Navigating Eldercare: Key Issues & Helpful Resources**, will assist attendees with identifying key issues and ways to plan to avoid a caregiving crisis, recognizing common barriers to care and how to overcome them, and identifying helpful community resources for older adults and those caring for an aging loved one.

presented by



Navigating Eldercare

Event open to everyone

Hosted by Pathfinders -

St. Paul's Senior Adult Ministry

Tuesday Jan 20 * Otey Hall

11:30 am – Catered Lunch

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm Program Eldercare

\$10 for lunch --- RSVP by Thursday Jan 15

Note any dietary restrictions - Pay at the event
RSVP to Monna Mayhall

monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527



Tiffany Cloud-Mann

Eldercare Coach & Community
Partnerships Manager

tcloud-mann@agewelltn.org

615-353-4235

eldercarecoach.org

Angel Tree

Thank you for your support of the WAVES organization. They are so appreciative of the gift cards from the Angel Tree.

Check them out on social media!



Bad Girls Book Club

The Bad Girls Book Club will meet in Founders Hall, Tuesday, January 27, 6:00 to 8:00 PM, for a 2026 Planning Meeting. Please join us! Bring a sip or a nibble to share. Note: The February 24 title is *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi.

Bishop Retirement

Bishop Bauerschmidt recently announced his retirement. Learn more about the Bishop Search here: <https://edtn.org/bishop-search/>



Prayer Shawl Ministry

The Prayer Squares will meet in January on January 8th. Questions? webstersje@gmail.com



Biscuit Minute & Coffee Hour

Biscuit Minute is back! Grab a quick snack on your way to Formation class. 9:45 - 10:00 AM in Founders.

Coffee Hour is after the 11:00 AM Service in Founders



Vestry Meeting Minutes

The latest Vestry Meeting Minutes can now be found on the website. The link is at the bottom of the vestry page (<https://www.stpaulsfranklin.com/vestry/>), or [click here](#).

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Annual Parish Meeting

January 25, 2026

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Otey Hall

- Discuss Parish Business
- Review 2026 Budget
- Vote on New Vestry



January's Gathering for Good is an evening of Jambalaya & Jeopardy. We will meet in Otey on January 28, 5:30 - 7:00 pm.

Dinner is \$5 per person or \$20 family max. Let us know if you are coming by Tuesday, January 27th, 10 AM. Sign up for dinner here:

<https://bit.ly/gathering-jan-2026>.

ST. PAUL'S
GATHERING FOR GOOD
PRESENTS

JAMBALAYA & JEOPARDY

JANUARY 28
5:30 - 7:00 PM
OTEY HALL



\$5 PER PERSON
\$20 FAMILY MAX

<https://bit.ly/gathering-jan-2026>

EYG - Episcopal Youth Group

EYG - Episcopal Youth Group

EYG meets 4:30 – 6:00 PM in Barnabas

Youth Christian Formation

Sundays, 10:00 AM in Barnabas

Youth Pilgrimage - Now 9th - 12th Grade!

Big News! The Youth Pilgrimage is officially open to 9th - 12th Grade!

Register at
bit.ly/Montreal2026 by
January 23.

Email
brett@stpaulsfranklin.com
for more details.

ONLY 4 SPOTS REMAINING!

St. Pauls Youth PILGRIMAGE
June 8 - 14, 2026

NOW OPEN TO 9-12th GRADE!

\$2448
Per person

Montreal
7 Days - 6 Nights
Includes:

- Airfare
- Lodging (hostels, hotels)
- Meals
- Pilgrimage guide
- Train ticket to Quebec City
- Activities

Late Registration through January 23!

bit.ly/Montreal2026

MOUNTAIN TOP

July 12 - 18, 2026



MTOP registration is open until January 11. Secure your spot on the mountain!
bit.ly/MTOP

Final Days to Register for MTOP!
Registration closes soon!

2026 St. Paul's Youth

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

Parent Gathering, 4:30 PM

8th, Superbowl Lunch, 12 PM
17th, Pancake Supper, 5:30 PM

Christian Formation, 10 AM

Episcopal Youth Group (EYG), 4:30 PM

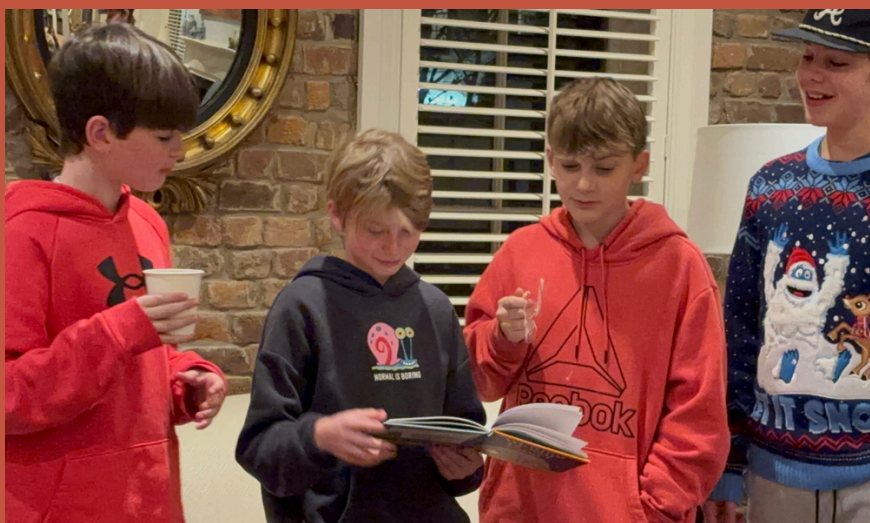
2026 Youth Confirmation Class

Is your child in 8th grade? If so, it is a great time to consider Confirmation! The holy sacramental rite of Confirmation is a mature commitment to Christ and an important part of being a Christian and an active member of St. Paul's. This year's class will once again be led by Jay Fahay and will begin on Sunday, Feb. 8 at 10:00 in the Barnabas Annex Conference Room on Fair Street. Classes will consist of 10 sessions throughout the semester until the annual visitation of Bishop John Bauerschmidt on Sunday, May 17.

If your child plans to be a part of the 2026 Confirmation Class, please email Brett at brett@stpaulsfranklin.com.

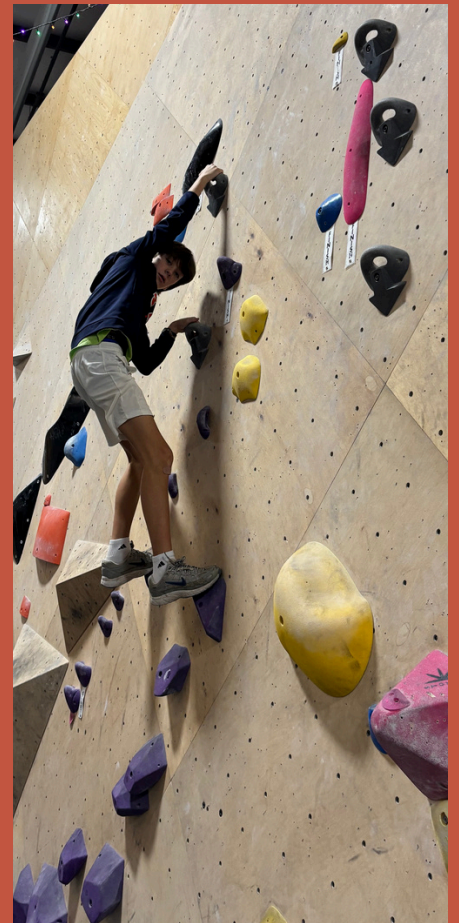
EYG - Lock-In

The youth had a BLAST at the Winter Lock-In this year! We rock-climbed, caroled, GROGed, and Grinched and shared lots of laughs! A HUGE thank you to our volunteers for chaperoning and driving, and to the men and women of St. Paul's who provided food and goody bags! Youth families, keep the fun going by signing up for MTOP and Pilgrimage today!



Lock-In Goody Bags from the Women of St. Paul's





ST. PAUL'S YOUNG ADULT GROUP JANUARY EVENTS

SOULFUL

STARTING JANUARY 11TH, JOIN US FOR CHRISTIAN
FORMATION, SUNDAYS AT 10AM

SOCIAL

JOIN US FOR DINNER AND DISCUSSION AT THE FITZPATRICKS
THURS. JANUARY 22 [AT] 6:30 PM
2234 BEE HIVE DR. COLUMBIA

SERVICE

HELP US STOCK THE LITTLE FREE PANTRY BY BRINGING THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO THE
SOCIAL DINNER: INDIVIDUAL CONTAINERS OF OATMEAL OR CEREAL, VIENNA SAUSAGES,
PACKETS OR PULL TAB CANS OF CHICKEN OR TUNA, SMALL CANS OF SOUP, INDIVIDUAL
BAGS OF CHIPS, FRUIT SNACKS, GRANOLA BARS

St. Paul's college
student reunion dinner
at Sal's!



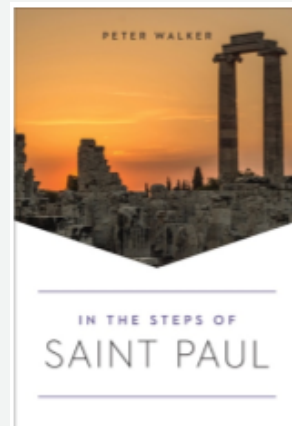
Sunday Christian Formation

Sundays Christian Formation Classes are at 10 AM.

Adult Christian Formation

In the Steps of St. Paul, 10 AM, Otey Hall

The Apostle Paul is often considered the greatest influencer, after Jesus, in the history of Christianity. Using Peter Walker's book, *In the Steps of Saint Paul*, along with other resources, we will explore and discuss St. Paul's wide-ranging travels. We will not only dig deeper into the places and the people, but also look at what motivated Paul to continue his missions.



Grab a cup of coffee, a biscuit, and a friend, and come join us on Sunday Mornings at 10:00 am in Otey for the Adult Christian Formation class to learn more about our parish namesake – St. Paul.

Young Adult Christian Education Series

What's So Amazing About Grace? 10 AM, Conference Room - 2nd Floor

Join the Young Adult Group at St. Paul's Episcopal Church for a Christian formation book study of *What's So Amazing About Grace?* Together we'll explore how grace challenges, comforts, and transforms our lives and faith. We'll meet during the Formation Hour at 10:00 a.m. in the Conference on the 2nd floor—all are welcome.

Youth Formation

Sundays, 10:00 AM, Barnabas



Godly Play

Sundays, 10 AM, Godly Play Room, 1st Floor
3rd-5th Grade

Seekers Class 2026

Beginning Sunday, February 15 our annual “Seekers” Class will begin. This is the class traditionally offered for those adults who wish to join the church through Confirmation or Reception. However, please know that all are welcome, especially current congregants of St. Paul’s who would like a refresher course. We will look at church subjects such as worship, church history, and Episcopal theology.

The course will last for eight sessions, with a couple Sundays off for various reasons. Our last class will be on April 19. The diocesan bishop will then make his annual visit to St. Paul’s for Confirmation on May 17.

We will meet each Sunday at 10:00 in one of our new adult learning rooms on the second floor of the main church building (specific room tbd).

If you have any questions please contact Rusty via email: rusty@stpaulsfranklin.com or by phone 615-790-0527.



WITS - Women in Theological Study

Mind, Body, and Spirit

To start the new year off right, WITS – (Women in Theological Study) will focus on our Mind, Body, and Spirit during the month of January.

First, for the mind we will share in a Book Swap – bring a book you want to pass along for others to read!

Next, for the body we will offer Stretching – all movements can be modified to meet individual needs. Be sure to wear comfortable clothing.

Lastly, for the spirit we will engage in Lectio Divina - prayer practice of slow, meditative reading and reflection on Scripture to foster a deeper, personal encounter with God.

These are the dates for this study:

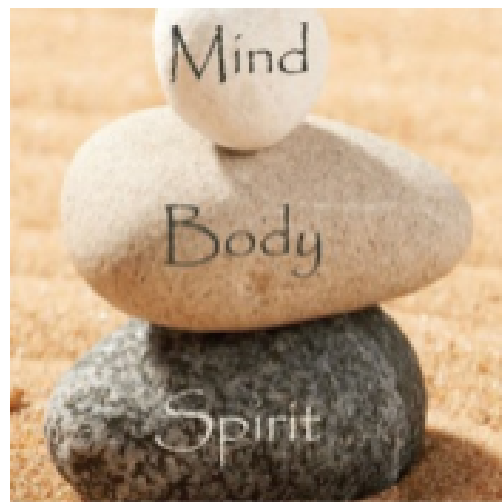
January 8 – Book Swap for the Mind

January 15 – Stretching for the Body

January 22 – No WITS: Spring Street

January 29 – Lectio Divina for the Spirit

WITS meets on Thursdays from 9:30 -11:00 am, and will plan to gather in the large meeting space on the 2nd floor. If you have any questions please contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527.



Coffee Club

Men's Coffee Club is on Wednesdays, 6:45 - 7:45 AM, Barnabas

DOK - Daughters of the King

St. Paul's has an active Chapter of Daughters of the King and would love to welcome new members. We plan to start a 12 week discernment program in January. We already have several women who are planning to discern.

Women interested in information are invited to contact Karen Austin KSAustin@bellsouth.net or Beth Woodruff woodruffbeth96@gmail.com.

We are strengthened through the discipline of a Rule of Life, a focus on prayer, service and evangelism, and are supported through the companionship of our sisters.

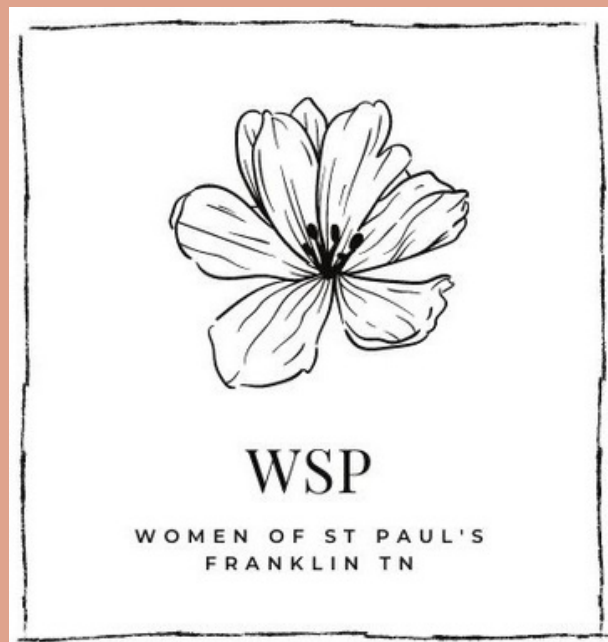


We hope to see many of you at the Women's of Saint Paul's Retreat during the first full weekend in February. We have exciting times ahead of us with the beautiful updates and new additions to our church.

In March, we are planning a Kitchen Shower for our new kitchen facilities. Our popular Spring Flower Sale will start soon. Order forms will be out around the time of the retreat. We also plan on gatherings in May and July. Details coming soon!

Later in the year we are reintroducing the annual Bazaar, and after a long hiatus, the Christmas Tea is back on December 12th. Mark your calendars now for this cherished event.

We invite you to come on board for some great fun, and inspirational and learning activities!





301 High Hopes Court, Franklin, TN, 37084 • www.highhopesforkids.org • Phone: (615) 881-5437 • Tax ID: 62-1210720

December 17, 2025

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
Rev. Monna Mayhall
510 West Main
Franklin, TN 37084

Dear Monna,

Thank you for your generous donation of \$5,000.00 on 12/10/2025 in support of High Hopes. Your gift strengthens our ability to serve more than 1,000 children and families across Middle Tennessee each year through high-quality education, therapies, and family support.

6976ad

"High Hopes has become a central and beloved part of our family life. Our son's therapists have diligently earned his trust. Watching his friendships with each of his therapists bloom gives us such peace and confidence as parents. High Hopes' play-based, child-led approach is the way of the future. All are welcome at High Hopes. The diversity of the population is a microcosm of what we hope the future of early childhood education can look like everywhere." - current High Hopes parent

Your commitment uplifts the children and families who seek our services each day and lightens the load for those navigating challenges they never expected to face. You are part of their story - giving hope, creating possibilities, and building a foundation for brighter futures.

Thank you for being a vital part of the High Hopes community. Your generosity truly makes a lasting impact on the lives of the children and families we serve.

With gratitude,

Nan Zierden

Nan Zierden, Director of Development

Thank you so much!

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 62-121072.

Dear Monna,

GraceWorks
MINISTRIES, INC.

As we come to the close of this year, I wanted to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude to you and your church family. Your partnership, prayers, and generosity have played a vital role in advancing the mission of GraceWorks Ministries, and we are deeply thankful for your faithfulness and support.

Because of your commitment, life has been impacted in meaningful ways throughout this year. Whether through financial giving, volunteer support, encouragement, or prayer, your church has stood with us as we served those God has placed in our care. We truly could not do this work without partners like you who share the same heart for transformation and grace towards our neighbors.

We are continually encouraged by the way the local church comes together to be the hands and feet of Christ. Your partnership is a powerful reminder that ministry is strongest when we walk together in unity and purpose. Thank you for believing in this mission and for trusting us to steward your support with integrity and care.

As we look ahead to the coming year, we are filled with hope and expectation for what God will continue to do. We are excited about the opportunities ahead and grateful to have you alongside us on this journey.

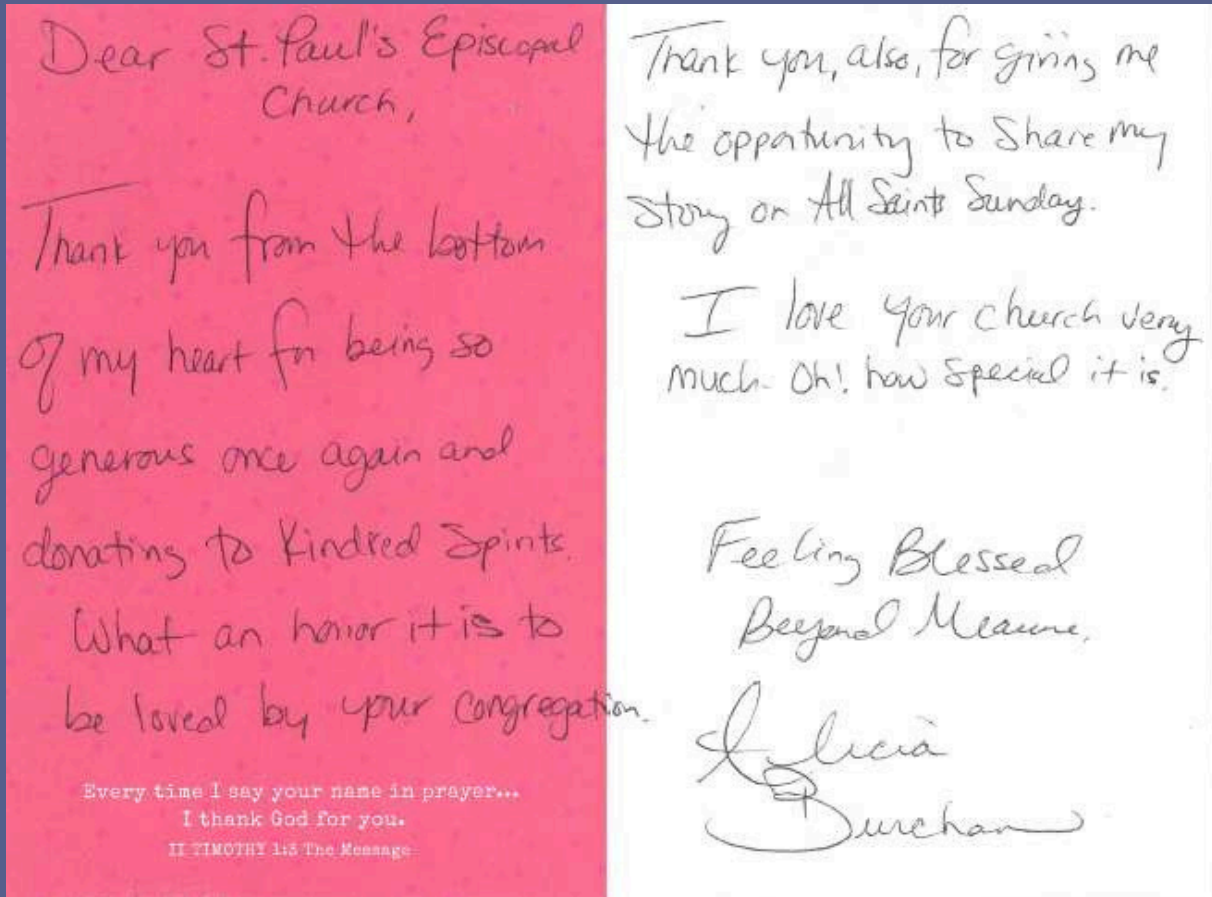
May God richly bless you, your leadership, and your congregation in the year to come. Please know how deeply appreciative we are of your partnership and your continued prayers.

With sincere gratitude,


Danielle Kennedy
Church Manager
GraceWorks Ministries
615-503-0049

Merry Christmas!





CITY (Church in the Yard)

Homeless Ministry

On the third Sunday of each month, a group from St. Paul's travels to the Church of the Holy Trinity in downtown Nashville to participate in Church in the Yard (a.k.a. "CITY"). We serve hot meals to 125-150 of our homeless brothers and sisters and provide them with a small ToGo bag of food that they can take with them to eat later. Throughout the year we also provide coats, scarves, gloves, socks and other essential clothing when we can.

If you feel called to support our outreach efforts through this ministry, there are many ways you can help: grocery shopping, food preparation, assembling ToGo bags, serving food at Holy Trinity, and providing clothing as needed.

If you have questions or want more information, please contact Ellen Kirk 615-545-8820, ellenvkirk@gmail.com or Gerald Hancock 615-604-9635, gwhancock44@gmail.com.

CITY (Church in the Yard)

Thank you St. Paul's for your generous donations to the CITY outreach program. This program specifically targets the homeless of Nashville through Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, located at the corner of Ewing Avenue and 6th Avenue South. This church is located just blocks from Room In The Inn, the Nashville mission. CITY has been serving the homeless community for years through the dedicated leadership of Fr. Bill Dennler.



Our Franciscan Fellowship met in December at Holy Trinity and sorted all the clothes that have been donated in preparation for the cold. Often I get asked, "why are we always being asked to donate clothes"? It is easy to forget that the homeless do not have any place to keep clothes. On good days they get a bed at the Inn, more often, they are on the streets. If predictions are correct, the winters are going to get colder and the summers will get hotter. In addition to providing clothes year round, St. Paul's provides meals on the 3rd Sunday of each month.

In the Gospel of Matthew we read, "The poor will always be with you". Our closing prayer on Sundays reminds us, "Return to no person evil for evil, remember the poor, pray for the sick, and make no peace with injustice in the world."

Peace be with you,
Gerald Hancock

Franciscan Fellowship, "Wind, Water, Fire, Earth (WWFE)"
Pictured L - R: Scot Gains, Rev. Ann Van Dervoort, Ellen Kirk, Judith Atkins, Gerald Hancock, Davis Weeks (St. George's).
Fellowship members not pictured are Rev. Charlie Palmgren, Lucinda Dryer, Lyle Mc Lavain (Christ Cathedral).



Outreach - Spring Street

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Our favorite musical trio, festive decorations in our beautiful remodeled Otey Hall, and delicious food made for a joyful Spring Street gathering!

I want to give a huge thank you to our faithful volunteers who make these monthly events happen, you are at the core of the friendships we are forging with our neighbors.

Thank you to everyone who donated the red and green holiday bags of food, they are especially appreciated.



On January 22nd, we will celebrate a new year and have fun with Bible trivia from Dewees Berry. I would like to ease back into using our real dishes and flatware but training on the new dishwasher will be needed. We must also remember to take home with us whatever we bring, including drinks and desserts. Give it all away! We want to keep our new kitchen as clutter free as possible. Also, please remember to label anything you drop off with "Spring Street". Sign up to volunteer: <https://bit.ly/spring-street-jan-25>

Thank you and Happy New Year!

Birthday Outreach Ministry

If you like a party, and if you have a heart for visiting people, then we have an opportunity for you that combines the two. On the 2nd Tuesday of every month, join with parishioners to visit Charter Senior Living of Franklin, to celebrate the birthdays of the Charter residents for that month. We will plan to meet there from 12:30-1:30 pm giving us a chance to visit with residents, and eat cake too!



If you are interested, contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527.

Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels January delivery dates are Wednesday, January 21 and Friday, January 23. Contact Kathy Berry for more information.

Grief Support Group at St. Paul's

Loss comes in all shapes and sizes. Grief of any kind can feel very lonely, even when you have loved ones around. Sharing your sorrow with others who have experienced similar losses can help. The pain of grief can often cause you to want to withdraw from others and retreat into your shell. But having the face-to-face support of other people is vital to healing from loss. The key is not to isolate yourself.

St. Paul's offers a Grief Support Group on the 1st and 3rd Wednesdays. In January, they will meet on the 7th and 21st, from 10-11 am in Barnabas.

Questions: Contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com.

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

Bicentennial Society

Honoring St. Paul's 200th Anniversary

Our St. Paul's Episcopal Church was founded on August 25th, 1827, in a room of the Hiram Masonic Lodge #7 in Franklin when those persons "friendly to the formation of an Episcopal church in the area" met under the leadership of Reverend James Hervey Otey. Honored as the "Mother Church of the Diocese of Tennessee," St. Paul's led the way for Episcopal congregations to bloom throughout our state.

Today, there are three organizations committed to preserving the legacy of St. Paul's.

- **The Historic Committee** focuses on preserving our past and securing our future by supporting various projects and events that are not provided for in St. Paul's annual budget.
- **The Bicentennial Committee**, which is overseen by The Historic Committee, is responsible for planning and executing activities connected with the Bicentennial in 2027.
- **The Bicentennial Society** is a fundraising entity dedicated to providing financial support for the work of both the Historic and Bicentennial Committees.

Examples of projects that have been funded by the Bicentennial Society include:

Education: We are hosting several historic symposiums on Franklin's early churches and their role in sowing the seeds that helped make Franklin a vibrant, growing community. These events are open to the public and focused on both educating and uniting our local faith communities. We were also instrumental in creating the beautiful history panels on display in Otey Hall and the self-guided tour brochures for our historic Church.

Bicentennial Society

Honoring St. Paul's 200th Anniversary

Preservation: The Bicentennial Society has supported cataloguing of our historic documents and photographs and restored the broken tombstone of Bishop Otey's son just outside the front entrance of the Church. We also contributed to the repair of the historic wooden louvers above the front doors of St. Paul's, improving both form and function.

Celebration: Each year we host a festive birthday party for the parish, counting down the years to our Bicentennial in 2027.

One of the primary goals of the Bicentennial Society is to raise funds to support related church-wide and community events without straining our annual operating budget. If you'd like to take part in this unique historic undertaking, please consider joining the Bicentennial Society and play an important role in the education, preservation, and celebration of St. Paul's. Your \$1,000 pledge—due in 2027—can be paid over time by visiting stpaulsfranklin.com/give.

To learn more, please contact any member of the Historic and Bicentennial Committees:

Greer Carlisle, Virginia Callicott, Jay Fahey, Gale Haddock, Colbi Layne Hogan, Pam Horne, Melanie Lampertz, Rev. Rusty McCown, Pat McCracken, Libby Sullivan, Cindy Thomsen, Cindy Tumblin, Kathy Ulezelski, and Mike Wesson.



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

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.

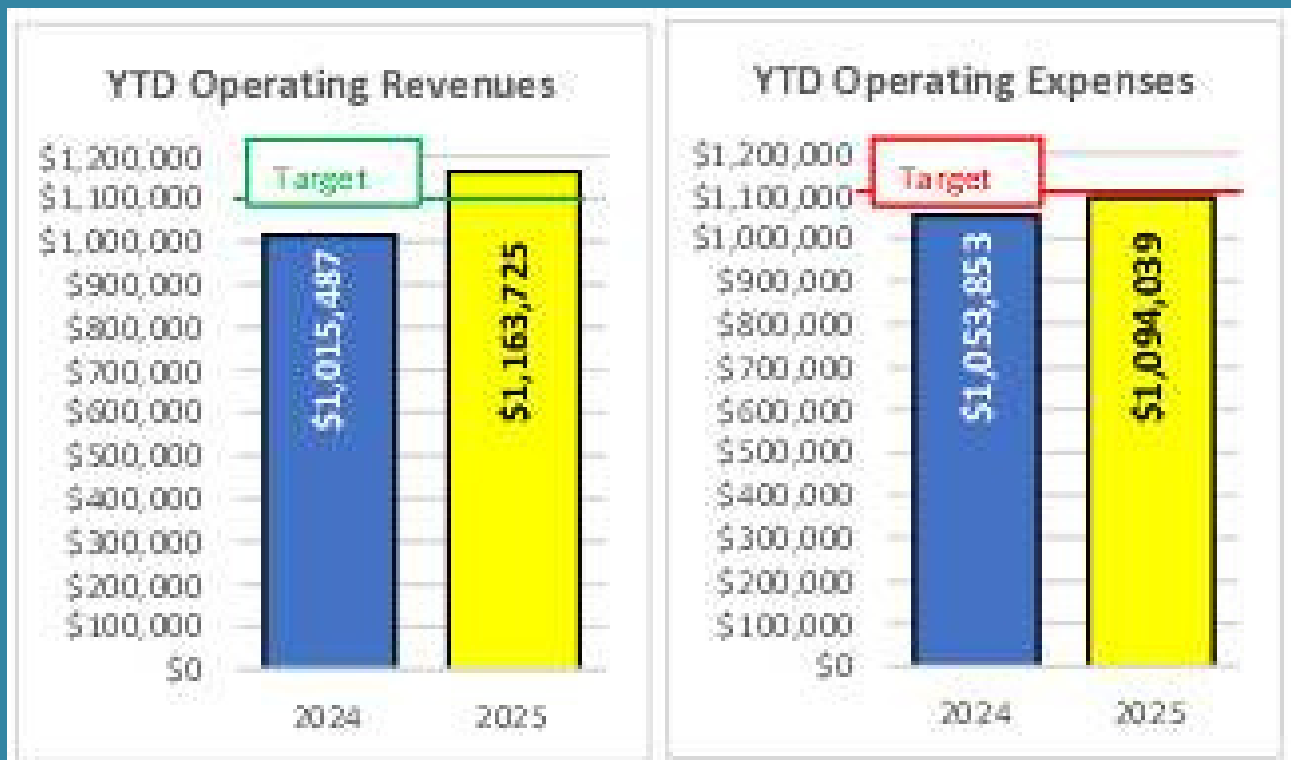
Financial Performance for the Month of November 2025

November Summary: With one month to go the parish had a lower performance than expected in November, especially in revenues.

Revenues: Pledges and cash-in-plate were lower than expected for the month of November, but still exceed year-to-date expectations. Cash-In-Plate has met the budget for the year a month early.

Expenses: Expenses were lower in Personnel and higher in Operations but remarkably came in almost exactly on budget for the month of November. The single largest expense increase was payments from Outreach.

Overall: With one month to go, the parish remains nearly \$70,000 ahead of expectations.



Monthly Summary

Item	November 2025				Year to Date to November 2025			
	A	B	C (A-B)	D (A/B-1)	E	F	G (E-F)	H (E/F-1)
	Actual	Budget	Monthly Variance - Positive / (Negative)		Actual YTD	Budget YTD	YTD Variance - Positive / (Negative)	
Revenues								
Pledges & Cash in Plate	\$64,944	\$83,483	(\$18,539)	-22.2%	\$1,139,374	\$1,085,497	\$53,877	5.0%
Other Income	\$353	\$42	\$312	747.8%	\$24,352	\$3,458	\$20,893	100.0%
Total Revenues	\$65,297	\$83,525	(\$18,228)	-21.8%	\$1,163,725	\$1,088,955	\$74,770	6.9%
Expenses								
Personnel	\$50,080	\$58,323	(\$8,243)	-14.1%	\$647,625	\$649,865	(\$2,240)	-0.3%
Operating Expenses	\$49,369	\$41,126	\$8,244	20.0%	\$446,415	\$443,001	\$3,413	0.8%
Total Expenses	\$99,449	\$99,447	\$1	0.0%	\$1,094,039	\$1,092,865	\$1,173	0.1%
Net Operating Income	(\$34,152)	(\$15,922)	(\$18,231)		\$69,686	(\$3,910)	\$73,595	
Non-Budgeted Rev. & Exp. (Net)	\$22,900				\$584			
Total Parish Performance	(\$11,253)				\$70,270			

January Birthdays

- 1 Mary O'Mara, Duncan Knopf, Kathy Watkins
- 3 Brent Hughes
- 4 Ann Van Dervoort
- 5 Cheryl Russell
- 6 Teddy Curtiss, Abigail Smythe
- 7 Gloria Cox, Vicki Ramsey
- 8 Mitchell Brown, Matt Myers, Gabriella Raia, Christy Hilley
- 9 Heather Creel
- 10 Jamie Trahan, JT Sullivan, Michael Walters Young, Wendy Hopper
- 11 Kelly Pitsenberger, Lauren Branson, Rob Curwen
- 12 William Keiser
- 13 Iain Macpherson
- 14 Bob Davis, Toby Campbell
- 15 Max Haddon
- 16 Jeremy Attack, Walter Lampertz, Jacob Angola
- 18 Christian Robinson, Rachel Zegley
- 19 Jackson Mayhall, Janet Harris
- 20 Garrison Horne, Alex Farmer, Olivia Russell
- 21 Nick Johnson, Ashlyn Miniati, Sandy Dyess
- 22 Sophie Taylor, Art Creel
- 25 Jackie V Honeycutt, Laura Turner, Jack Hughes, Shannon Buttrey
- 26 Mindy Boggs
- 27 Janeth McKendrick, Steve Nifong
- 29 Tammey McCormick, Carson Cook, Zach Johnson
- 30 Becky Grimes, Val Box, Emmett Tkach
- 31 Julie Fisher, Maddie Rogers, Jim Lambert, Jenna Martin

January Anniversaries

- 6 Arlene & Dave Berexa
- 7 Jon & Linda Roebuck
- 10 Bill & Wendy Heard
- 14 Carolyn & Tav Cooke
- 30 Andrew & Kathryn Johnson
- 31 Emily & Tom Love

Baptism

Iona Catherine Fleming daughter of Samuel and Emma Fleming

Condolences to

- Susan Trailov in the death of her husband, Mickey Trailov

