

The Epistle



FEBRUARY 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

FIND US:

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 (615) 790-0527
 WWW.STPAULSFRANKLIN.COM**



**FIND US ON FACEBOOK
 @STPAULSFRANKLINTN**

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 @STPAULSFRANKLIN**

February 2026 Office Hours:

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

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

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 February 26, 2026



Paul Hannah giving the Senior Warden's Report at the Annual Parish Meeting



Jim Miller giving the Junior Warden's Report at the Annual Parish Meeting

Upcoming Events

4

February 1

Annual Meeting

February 4

Gathering for Good - Jambalaya and Jeopardy

February 6-8

WSP Retreat

February 15

Seeker's Classes Start

February 15

Absalom Jones Service at Christ Cathedral

February 17

Youth Pancake Supper

February 18

Ash Wednesday

February 20-21

Vestry Retreat

February 24

Pathfinders at Amerigo's - 11:30 AM

February 25

Lenten Series Begins

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/>



Jean Larson volunteering at the new front desk.

Comics Corner



Annual Meeting

The Parish Annual Meeting was Sunday, February 1st. Michael Walters Youngs spoke optimistically about the financial health of the parish. Paul Hannah and Jim Miller gave Senior and Junior Warden reports.



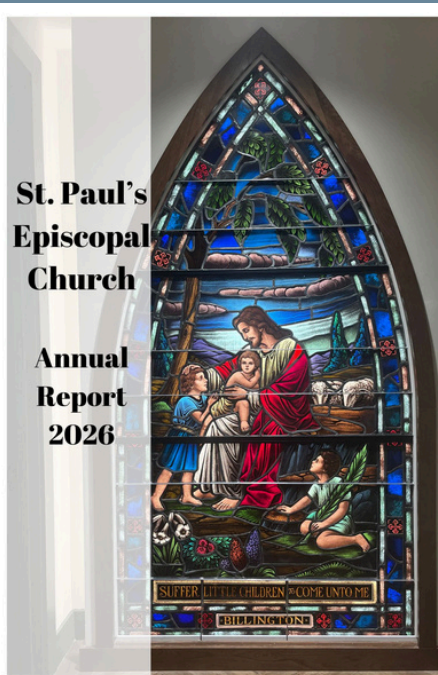
Vestry Elections: The following were elected to the Vestry: Marty Karpie, Jim Lambert, Jenna Martin, and Mark Tumblin. Many thanks to Paul Hannah, Mindy Boggs, Holly Spain, and Bruce Theobald, whose terms concluded this year.

Rector's Report: Rusty introduced a new program, Renewal Works, which focuses on spiritual renewal. The first phase of the program will begin at the end of February. There is more information about Renewal Works below.

Rusty also introduced the 1827 Society, an opportunity for planned giving. There is more information on St. Paul's website: <https://www.stpaulsfranklin.com/1827-society>



You can view or download the [Annual Report](#) here or access it on the [home page of the website](#). It is 44 pages with a lot of photos, so it may take a couple of minutes to download.



Renewal Works

RenewalWorks™

Encouraging and challenging parishes to refocus on spiritual growth and to identify ways that God is calling them to grow

WWW.RENEWALWORKS.ORG
A ministry of Forward Movement

About

RenewalWorks is a discipleship initiative to orient parishes around the goal of growing spiritually. We help churches grow in love of God and neighbor within their unique contexts and needs.

The curriculum includes a guided methodology of self-reflection, sharing, best practices, and workshop discussions. It is based on nearly 15 years of Episcopal research from over 350 churches and 29,000 Episcopalians.

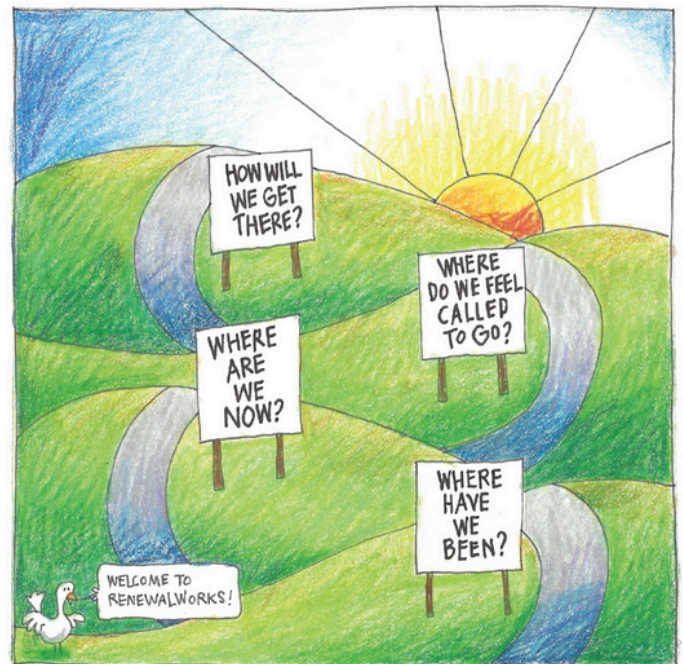
The methodology has uncovered key characteristics of flourishing congregations. It will inspire your congregation and leadership to know Jesus more fully and to explore what it means to follow him.

How Does It Work?

We begin with a parish-wide online survey—we call it the Spiritual Life Inventory—to determine current beliefs, spiritual practices, and the community involvement of parishioners.

Next, a small group of appointed lay leaders, staff, and clergy participate in four guided workshops exploring their own spiritual journeys, while discerning the results of the parish's compiled inventory data. We also share the best practices for spiritual vitality and growth discovered in other Episcopal and non-Episcopal churches.

Ultimately, the workshop team crafts a final report using the results of their church's inventory, tailored to the unique needs, goals, and desires of their church community.



Pathfinders – Senior Adult Ministry

We're going out for a delicious lunch at Amerigo in Brentwood

When: Tuesday Feb 24 at 11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Where: 1656 Westgate Circle, Brentwood

Why: To Eat and Socialize

Cost: \$36 per person – includes Food* and Fun!

*(salad, entrée, beverage of soft drink/tea/coffee, sales tax, and tip)



Please RSVP by Feb 17 to monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527

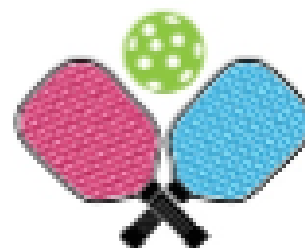
Plan to pay at the restaurant with cash or make check payable to St. Paul's

(Pathfinders is a ministry designed for people 55+, however anyone is welcome.)

Save the Date for March Event - Tuesday March 17 at 11:30 am – St. Patrick's Day Celebration.

Pickle Ball Anyone?

Great news...St. Paul's has recently organized a Pickle Ball Group, EpicklePalians. To be clear, we have not gotten out on a court yet, but we are getting ready, and plan to be playing by mid-March!



There is an instructional/educational/social meeting in Otey Hall on Sunday February 22nd at 12:15 pm (after the 11:00 am service).

If you are interested in learning to play Pickle Ball or are wanting to find people who like to play Pickle Ball, come out and join us for fun and fellowship. All levels of play (or no level of play) are welcome.

If you are interested in or have any questions about St. Paul's EpicklePalians, please contact Daniel Robicheaux at robicheauxdaniel@gmail.com.

Annual Talent Show

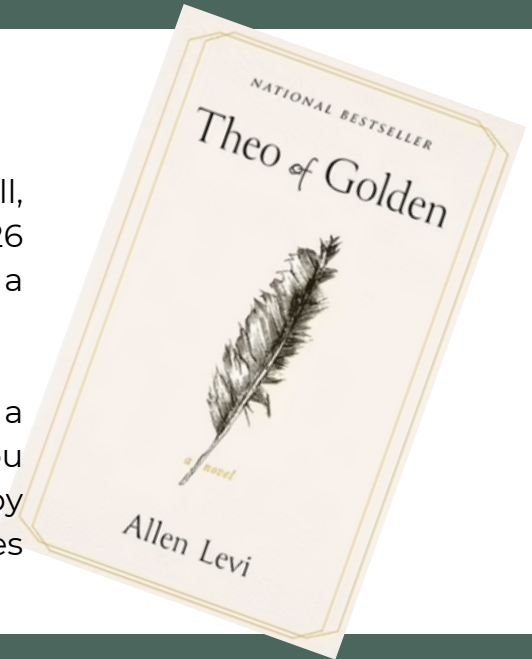


The Annual Talent Show is April 22nd. Details coming soon.

Bad Girls Book Club

The Bad Girls Book Club will meet in Founders Hall, Tuesday, February 3, 6:00 to 8:00 PM, for a 2026 Planning Meeting. Please join us! Bring a sip or a nibble to share, We look forward to seeing you then.

On Tuesday, February 24th, Laura McCown will lead a discussion of *Theo of Golden* by Allen Levi. If you haven't yet read this fascinating story, get a copy today and dive in. Landmark Booksellers has copies (15% off for Book Club titles).



Week of Wonder - Save the Date

We are excited to have the Week of Wonder back on St. Paul's campus this summer! Make plans to join us June 15-18th. Children ages 3 years old through rising 4th graders are invited to participate in our version of VBS. Rising 5th graders through adults are encouraged to participate as volunteers and leaders, and the whole parish is invited to a cookout celebration on Thursday, June 18th. Look for registration near the end of April. Questions? Email libby@stpaulsfranklin.com.

Bishop Retirement

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



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](#).



Sunday, February 15,
6:00 pm
Christ Church
Cathedral in
Nashville

Musical Guest:
St. Paul's Franklin
Choir

The Feast of Absalom Jones

Sunday February 15th, at 6:00 p.m.

at Christ Church Cathedral

900 Broadway, Nashville

Join us for a service of Holy Eucharist in honor of
The Rev. Absalom Jones,
first African American priest in The Episcopal Church

Preacher: The Rev. Ed Smith, II, Associate Rector of St. Bartholomew's - Nashville

Celebrant: The Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt, Bishop of the Diocese of Tennessee

Musical Guests: St. Paul's Adult Choir - Franklin

*Donations will go to support the work of our two Episcopal HBCU's –
Saint Augustine's University in Raleigh, NC and Voorhees College in Denmark, SC*

You can donate to Episcopal HBCUs here.

https://tithe.ly/give_new/www/#!/tithe/give-one-time/2278810

This service is a Partnership of Beloved Community: Commission for Racial Reconciliation and Christ Church Cathedral

*"Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which
Christ has made us free,
and do not be entangled again
by the yoke of bondage."*

Jambalaya & Jeopardy

January's Gathering for Good was rescheduled to February! An evening of Jambalaya & Jeopardy will be Wednesday, February 4th, 5:30 - 7:00 pm in Otey.

Dinner is \$5 per person or \$20 family max. The jambalaya will be available with and without shrimp. Let us know if you are coming by Tuesday, February 3rd, 10 AM.

Sign up for dinner here: <https://bit.ly/gathering-jan-2026>

Childcare will be available.



Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper Donations Needed

St. Paul's, get ready for some pancakes and bacon and fun at the annual Pancake Supper! We are so excited to return to Otey for this classic event!

We are looking for parishioners to:

- Bring ingredients for hashbrown casseroles for the youth to assemble by February 8
- OR
- Bake King Cakes or Mardi Gras-themed sugar cookies for a bake sale!

Sign up here if you would like to help!

bit.ly/Pancakevolunteer

The poster features a green rectangular background with a white checkered border. At the top, a purple banner with a starburst icon contains the text "St. Paul's Youth present" in white cursive. Below this, the event title "Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper" is written in large, bold, black serif font. The date and time "February 17, 5:30 - 7:00PM" and the location "Otey Hall" are listed in a smaller black serif font. At the bottom, there is an illustration of a red frying pan with two pancakes inside, topped with syrup and berries. A purple rounded rectangle in the bottom right corner contains the pricing information: "\$10/person" and "\$30 family max" in white text.

St. Paul's
Youth present

Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper

February 17, 5:30 - 7:00PM
Otey Hall

\$10/person
\$30 family max

EYG - Episcopal Youth Group

EYG - Episcopal Youth Group

EYG in February

- Sunday, February 8th: 12 - 1:30 PM. We will meet at 12 for lunch and then make hashbrown casseroles for Pancake Supper!
- Sunday, February 15th 4:30 - 6:00 PM
- Sunday, February 22nd: 4:30 - 6:00 PM

Meet at Barnabas

Youth Christian Formation

Sundays, 10:00 AM in Barnabas

Diocese Easter Egg Battle

Join youth from around the Diocese in an epic Easter Egg Battle!

Register by February 22 here!

<https://bit.ly/easter-egg-battle>

THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF TENNESSEE

EASTER EGG BATTLE



MARCH 1 FROM 2-4 PM

ST. BARTHOLOMEW'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
4800 BELMONT PARK TERRACE,
NASHVILLE TN 37215

Are you ready for an easter egg battle for the ages?

Join us for an epic team game where you'll work together to gain eggs and hide from the chaos bunnies that plague our battle field. This event is open to all 6-12th graders. Bring a friend, borrow an easter egg basket, and sign up by February 22.


Rain date will be announced as needed.





2026


St. Paul's Youth

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

 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.

**ST. PAUL'S YOUNG ADULT GROUP
FEBRUARY EVENTS**

SOULFUL

CHRISTIAN FORMATION, SUNDAYS AT 10AM

SOCIAL

**JOIN US FOR DINNER AND DISCUSSION AT THE SMITH'S
THURS. FEBRUARY 26 [AT] 6:30 PM
301 MEGAN COURT, FRANKLIN**

SERVICE

CITY

**SUNDAY FEBRUARY 15TH [AT] 12 PM - 3:30 PM
MEET AT BARNABAS TO CARPOOL INTO NASHVILLE**



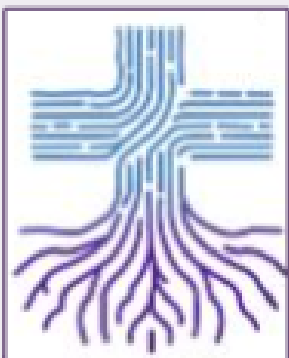
Young
Adults
January
dinner



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.



Ash Wednesday

Wednesday February 18 is Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the penitential Season of Lent, in the church. Ashes are an ancient sign of penitence. From the Middle Ages it became the custom to begin Lent (the forty days before Easter) by being marked in ash with the sign of the cross. The reminder that we are dust turns our attention to the creative power of God, and God's ability to heal the brokenness in our lives when we offer that brokenness to God. That turning to God is the work of Lent, preparation for the celebration of Jesus's resurrection on Easter Day.



On Ash Wednesday, consider coming to one of these services to join with the community of faith to begin the Holy Season of Lent:

- 7:00 am Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist
- 12:00 Noon Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist
- 6:00 pm Imposition of Ashes and Holy Eucharist (Childcare is available)

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

Lenten Devotions

Make sure to pick up a copy of *Mercy, Passion, and Joy* – Lenten Daily Devotional booklet. Available in the Narthex, Front Office, and Founders Hall beginning Sunday February 15th.



Lenten Meditations

Sign up to receive for daily emails

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, discover new ways your faith is guiding you through, as you journey through Episcopal Relief & Development's Lenten Meditations, reflecting on "Holy Habits."

Written by Sister Monica Clare, an Episcopal nun, author and unlikely TikTok star, these meditations offer an invitation to rediscover—or deepen—holy habits of prayer, worship and engagement with Scripture. These "holy habits" provide a path to a life that is given shape, meaning and direction by being rooted in a deeper relationship with God. You can also directly access the meditations at the same link.

Here is the link for people to subscribe to the Episcopal Relief and Development Meditations and receive one in your inbox each day.

<https://www.episcopalrelief.org/church-in-action/lent/>



Wednesday Evening Lenten Programs

February 25, March 4, 11, 18, 25

5:00 PM - Stations of the Cross in the Sanctuary

Sign up here to lead Stations one Wednesday:

<https://bit.ly/LentenSeries2026>

5:30 PM - Supper in Otey

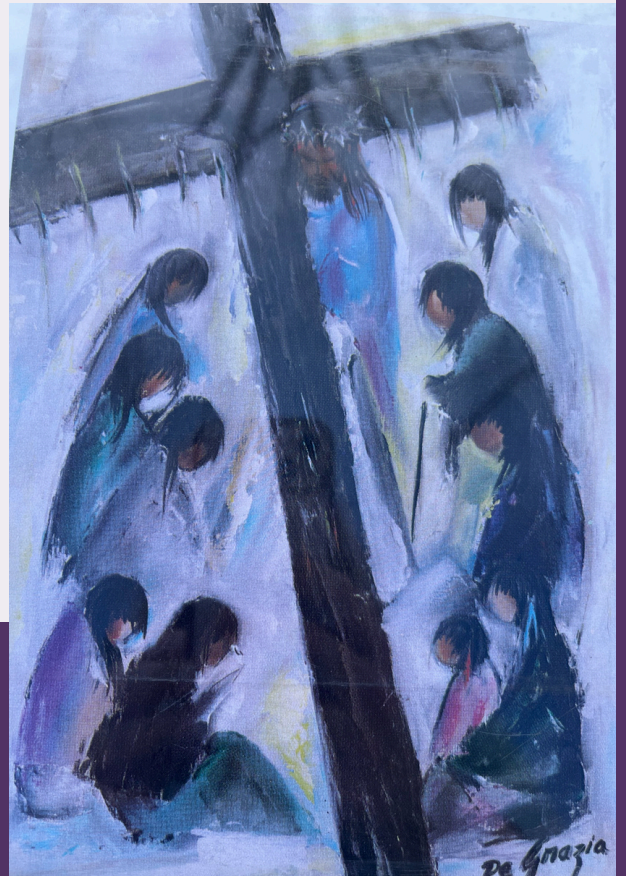
Sign-up here to to bring food one Wednesday:

<https://bit.ly/LentenSeries2026>

6:00 -7:00 PM Lenten Program – Will You?

When we are initiated into the church with the water of baptism, we (or our sponsors) answer a series of questions called the Baptismal Covenant. The first three questions echo the words of our creeds, our beliefs about God and the church. The last five questions focus on action. They each begin with the words: Will You?

These “Will You” questions articulate how we are to animate our baptism, to follow Christ's example in our relationships with others, our communities, and the world. These questions move from a gathering in to a sending out. They are a call to embrace and practice evangelism by proclaiming the Good News of Christ in all we do and say. Join us on Wednesday evenings during Lent to explore all that we can do and will do... With God's Help.



Holy Week through Easter Sunday

Sunday March 29 - Palm Sunday

7:30 am Holy Eucharist

8:45 am Holy Eucharist

10:00 am Palm Procession

11:00 am Holy Eucharist

6:00 pm Holy Eucharist

Wednesday April 1

5:30 – 7:00 pm The Royal Table

Communion Class for Children and their Families, followed by Dinner
(This is for children who have never received Communion and would like to, as well as those who already receive communion)

Thursday April 2

6:00 pm Maundy Thursday (Foot Washing and Holy Eucharist)

Friday April 3

12:00 Noon Good Friday (Holy Eucharist)

Saturday April 4

7:30 pm Easter Vigil

Sunday April 5 - Easter Sunday

7:30 am Holy Eucharist

8:45 am Holy Eucharist

10:00 am Easter Egg Hunt

11:00 am Holy Eucharist

LENTEN *Quiet Day*

Saturday, February 28, 2026
9:00am-1:00pm

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
510 W Main St, Franklin, TN 37064

Bishop's Quiet Day is a prayerful morning hosted by the Order of the Daughters of the King. All are welcome!

Light breakfast provided; please bring a sack lunch.

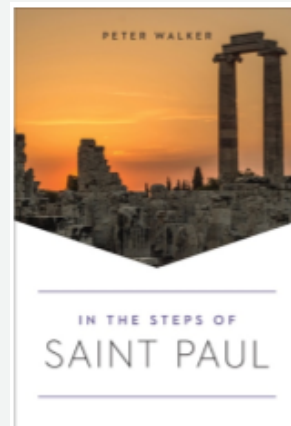
Sunday Christian Formation

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.

Adult Book Study

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

Join us 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

For the first couple of Thursdays in February, WITS will offer a couple of different sessions. Then, beginning the first Thursday in the Season of Lent, WITS will begin a Lenten Study entitled "Growing Up In Christ!" Bishop Rob Wright, of Atlanta wrote, "[Everyone and every place], all will be better when we decide, with new resolve, to Grow up in Christ. St. Paul had Christian maturity in mind when he wrote, "...we will no longer be like children... but growing up in every way more like Christ." (Ephesians 4)

St. Paul's encouragement to grow up means for us at a minimum:

- a knowledgeable and thoughtful life with scripture,
- an authentic and frequent practice of prayer,
- a conversational ability to communicate life with God and
- an increasing commitment and joy in neighborliness."

Come join us for any or all of the weeks that WITS will explore ways that we can Grow up in Christ.

February 5 – Listen and Discuss sermon by Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe

February 12 – Fun and Games in Otey

February 19 – Growing Up in Christ – Lenten Study

February 26 - No WITS: Spring Street

March 5 - Growing Up in Christ – Lenten Study

March 12 - Growing Up in Christ – Lenten Study

March 19 - Growing Up in Christ – Lenten Study

Marc 26 - No WITS: Spring Street

April 2 - Growing Up in Christ – Lenten Study

WITS meets on Thursdays from 9:30 -11:00 am - in Meeting Room #205 on the 2nd floor (except for February 12). 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.

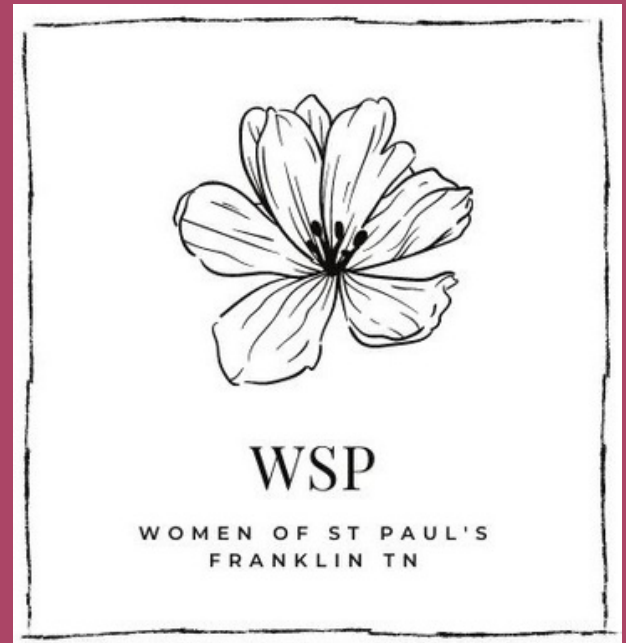
We are strengthened through the discipline of a Rule of Life, a focus on prayer, service and evangelism, and are supported through the companionship of our sisters.



The St. Pauls Cookbook committee will be meeting on Wednesday, February 25, at 1PM in Otey Hall. Please reach out to one of us if you would like to test a recipe or come by and taste!

The St. Paul's Cookbook Committee:

Heather Creel, Gwen McKee, Jackie King, Cindy Thomsen, Mindy Boggs, Becky Grimes, Kathy Ulezelski, Catherine Mayhew, Susan Miller



The Outreach Committee of St. Paul's Church functions to serve non profit 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 of 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 with our own 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 the only reason we can do this, thank you!

This month we were able to assist two organizations that are near and dear to our hearts:

We also recommitted \$1,500 each quarter to our friends at Meals on Wheels. So many of our St. Paul's family deliver these meals to senior citizens in Franklin and we know the joy it brings.

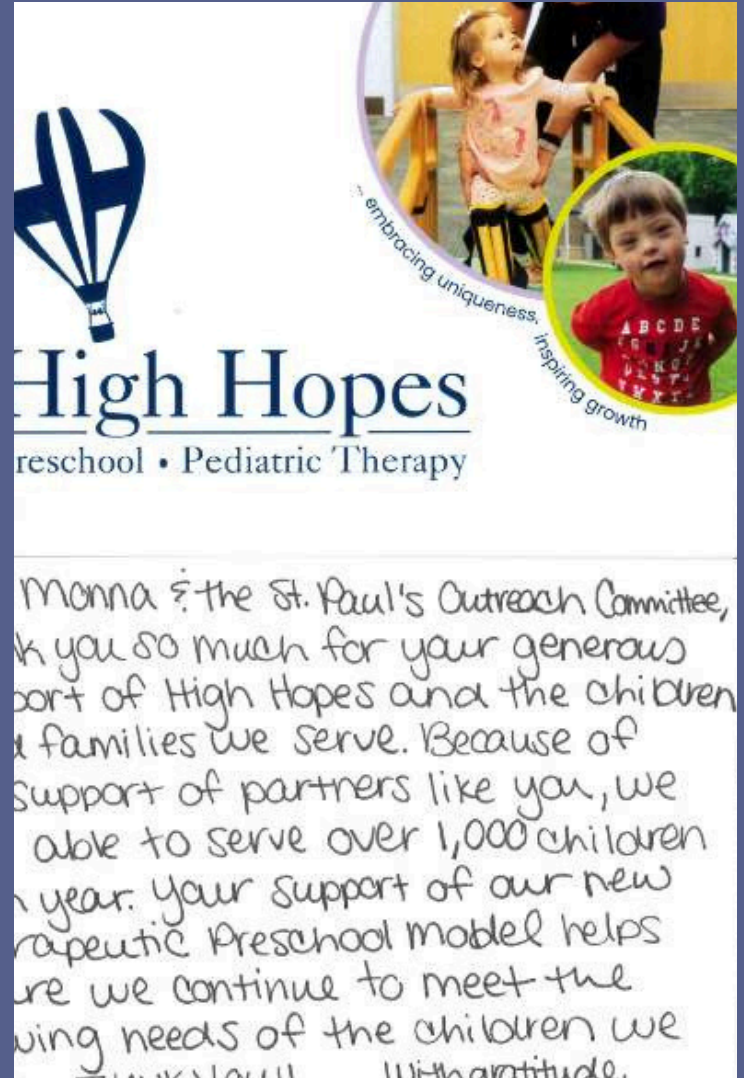
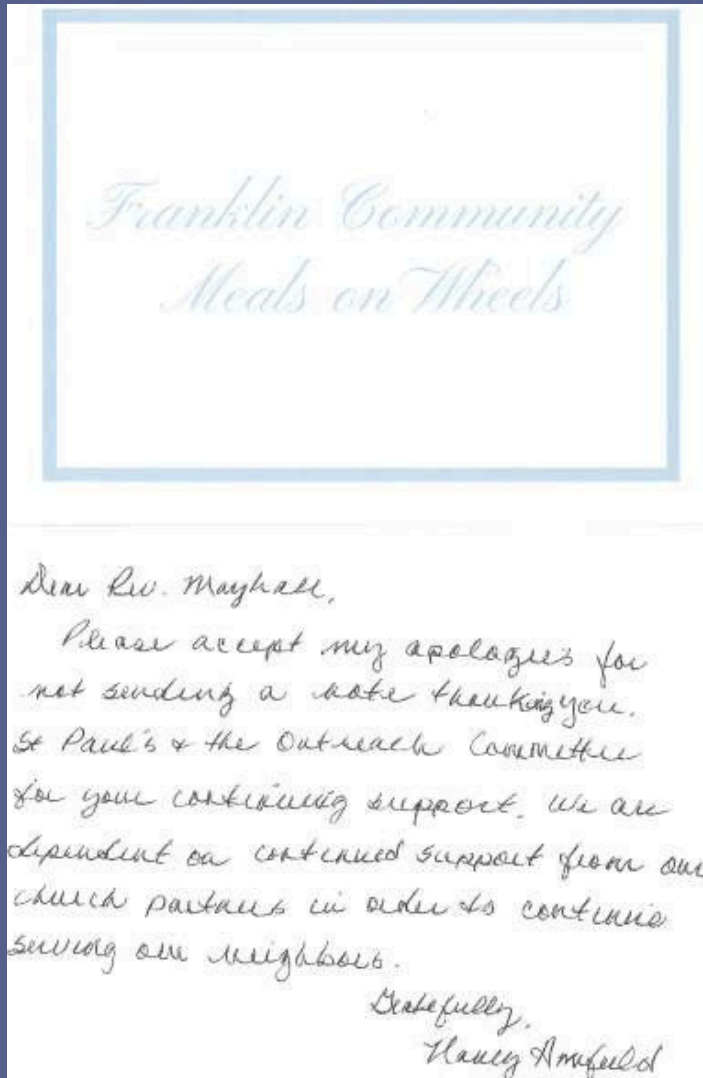
We renewed our quarterly gift of \$500, resulting in \$2,000 for 2026 to St. Paul's Food Pantry. Our food pantry serves so many families in our community and we are happy to assist in this important ministry. We can all do our part to help by checking their list for any items they might need to stock their shelves.

We have also received many letters of thanks for the nonprofits we have helped in the past few months.

We would love to engage our St. Paul's family with the nonprofits we have helped along the way, so please check out the St. Paul's website on the "Community Partners" on our Outreach page. There are many opportunities to volunteer or donate to help our friends and neighbors in Williamson county!

Outreach

Lastly, we would like to thank the wonderful Will Boggs for his service on the Outreach Committee. Will leads with compassion, humility, and love, and we are better because of him. He has been a constant source of wisdom and curiosity, a unique combination that has provided a perspective that benefited all of us. We deeply appreciate all that he has done for our committee and St. Paul's—and just so he knows, he's always welcome to stop by our monthly Outreach meeting anytime his heart desires.



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 of the committee: Mark Rohde, Judy Stockton, Fred Warner, Sheila Morreale, Spencer Dibble and Anglea Lassiter.

Outreach - Spring Street

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We welcomed the New Year with fun table decorations by Pamela Herrington, New Testament Bible Trivia presented by Dewees Berry, and a delicious good luck lunch. Thank you you all our volunteers!



Our February Spring Street Gathering is February 26th. We are continuing the Valentine's Day love with bingo and a fun photo booth. We will be serving an Italian themed lunch starring Kathy U's famous baked ziti. My plan is to have "punch cups" for prizes so no big prizes will be needed.

Thank you so much for your dedicated support and welcome to our new volunteers!

<https://bit.ly/Spring-Street-02-2026>

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, February 18 and Friday, February 20. 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 February, they will meet on the 4th and 18th, from 10-11 am in Founders.

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

CITY (Church in the Yard)

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.

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

The Corner Shop

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The Corner Shop is open again and is now located behind the reception desk. We have a few new items such as the Limited Edition St. Paul's sweatshirt for \$30. Remember all of the proceeds from the gift shop support various ministries and outreach at St. Paul's.



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 December 2025

December Summary: With the year of 2025 complete, the parish once again had a better performance than expected anchored by a fantastic end of the year in the month of December.

Revenues: Pledges and cash-in-plate were higher in December and for the year. Cash-in-Plate ended over \$200,000 for only the second time ever, and Pledges were 102.5% of the budget.

Expenses: Expenses for the year were 98.6% of budget for the year, with both Personnel and Operations budgets lower than expected. For the month of December, higher expenses occurred in Parish Life, Office Equipment and Property Maintenance as a result of event invoices, equipment purchases and cleaning invoices hitting this month.

Overall: The parish preliminarily ended the year \$113,098 to the good in the regular budget and once all non-budgeted revenues and expenses are accounted for ended \$35,336 to the good, the 7th time in the last 10 years.



Item	A	B	C (A-B)	D (A/B-1)	E	F	G (E-F)	H (E/F-1)
	December 2025				Year to Date to December 2025			
	Actual	Budget	Monthly Variance - Positive / (Negative)		Actual YTD	Budget YTD	YTD Variance - Positive / (Negative)	
Revenues								
Pledges & Cash in Plate	\$169,301	\$142,474	\$26,827	18.8%	\$1,308,675	\$1,227,971	\$80,704	6.6%
Other Income	\$348	\$42	\$306	734.0%	\$24,699	\$3,500	\$21,199	100.0%
Total Revenues	\$169,649	\$142,516	\$27,133	19.0%	\$1,333,374	\$1,231,471	\$101,903	8.3%
Expenses								
Personnel	\$66,046	\$58,323	\$7,723	13.2%	\$713,671	\$718,637	(\$4,966)	-0.7%
Operating Expenses	\$60,191	\$51,416	\$8,776	17.1%	\$506,605	\$518,448	(\$11,842)	-2.3%
Total Expenses	\$126,237	\$109,737	\$16,499	15.0%	\$1,220,276	\$1,237,083	(\$16,808)	-1.4%
Net Operating Income	\$43,412	\$32,779	\$10,632		\$113,098	(\$5,612)	\$118,709	
Non-Budgeted Rev. & Exp.(Net)	(\$1,346)				(\$77,761)			
Total Parish Performance	\$42,066				\$35,336			

February Birthdays

- 1 Austin Pratt, Eliza Tyer
- 2 Julie Reinhardt, Julia High, Marie Lemmons
- 3 Melanie Lampertz, Landon Kowalski
- 4 Susi Trabue
- 7 Philip Phillips, Bob Johnson, Jack Buse, Paul Hannah
- 8 Brianna Bailey, Alaina Smith, Mila Tkach
- 9 Lyn Knopf, Linda Hall, Theodore Walters Young
- 10 Sam Miller, Nelson Williams, Desi Noller
- 11 Trish Baugh, Theodore Melvin Shoureshi
- 12 Hannah Impeartrice, Whitfield Spain
- 13 Sam Williams
- 14 Sarah Thurman, Ashley Anderson,
- 15 Glenn Trahan, Ken Young
- 16 Granville Grant, Debbie Whitlock, Scarlett Schmitt
- 17 Brent Blackwelder, Ryan Campbell
- 18 Richard Phillips, Abe Lamb, Celia Gibson
- 19 Beth Woodruff
- 20 Freda Garrett
- 21 Robbi De Peri, Jay Fahey, Brooke Zegley, Maggie Hennes
- 22 Bonnie Sullivan, Marty Karpie, Olivia Cussimano,
Elizabeth Vaughn-Neely, Henry Konyn
- 23 Brad Preston, Katie Liang, Lisette Benefield-Smythe
- 24 Tom Stearns, Pam Fahey, Kayla Staggs
- 25 Richard Waggoner, William Liang, Ian Pototschnik, Henry Hyssong
- 27 Greer Carlisle, Robert Collins, Brian Grant
- 28 Pamela Bradley Smith, Tom Moucka

February Anniversaries

- 16 Janet & Kit Carroll
- 24 David & Barbara Roth
- 24 Jeff & Kristy Williams
- 24 Larry & Debbie Whitlock
- 24 Wayne & Connie Senseney

Baptism

Philippa Mary Thurman, daughter of Josh and Sarah Thurman

Condolences to

- Friends and family of John Overton Colton
- Libby Sullivan in the death of her brother, Thomas Dexter Justis
- Monna Mayhall in the death of her aunt, Nancy Stewart Jenkins
- Debbie Whitlock in the death of her mother, Wanda Spurlock Couch

