

# The Epistle



**MAY 2026**

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

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**The Rev. Monna Mayhall**, Associate Rector  
**The Rev. Ann Van Dervoort**,  
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**Holli Scholtz**, Organist  
**Libby Sullivan**, Children's Minister  
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**May 2026  
 Office Hours:**

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

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

**Office Closed May 25th**

**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](mailto:communications@stpaulsfranklin.com) and we will make sure it gets to the right publication.

[Deadline for the May newsletter is April 26, 2026](#)



Altar Guild on the move!

# Upcoming Events

May 10

Youth Sunday

May 13

Gathering for Good  
Meet & Eat

May 17

Bishop's Visit & Confirmation

May 24

Lemonade in the Shade begins

June 8 - 14

Youth Pilgrimage - Montreal

June 15 - 18

Week of Wonder



## 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/>



# RenewalWorks Update

Dear St. Paul's Family,

Let me extend a sincere thank you for all who participated with the Spiritual Life Inventory either on-line or with a hard copy, working to overcome the challenges it presented. Your dedication to the RenewalWorks process resulted in 193 parishioners successfully completing the request. Even for those who attempted and were thwarted in their efforts, thank you as well for accepting the invitation to participate. All of your efforts are important!

The RenewalWorks Workshop Team was commissioned for their work during two of our morning services on March 22nd. Over the course of four, two-hour workshops this Spring, they will explore the aggregate data from the Spiritual Life Inventory and develop a spiritual strategic plan to present to the Vestry in ways that are appropriate and unique to St. Paul's. When the final draft of specific plans and initiatives are approved by the Vestry, we will announce a date/time to present all of our findings and resulting plans to the parish.

These are the important issues we hope to address when we gather together ...

1. What is the spiritual health of St. Paul's?
2. What is St. Paul's role in growing Disciples?
3. How can we order our common life in response to the survey results?

The RenewalWorks initiative has been a catalyst for significant revitalization and growth in hundreds of congregations, and we eagerly await how our results will contribute to spiritual growth at St. Paul's – both individually and within our church community.

Once again, thank you for your continued prayers and commitment to the process.

Faithfully-Rusty+

## Prayer for Discernment

*Almighty and ever living God, source of all wisdom and understanding, be present with us as we consider the renewal and mission of our congregation. Teach us in all things to seek first Your honor and glory. Guide us by Your Holy Spirit to perceive what is right and grant us both the courage to pursue it and the grace to accomplish it, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen*

# Special Announcement from the Episcopal Bishops of Tennessee



During a special session of the Tennessee State Legislature on May 7, 2026, state representatives approved new boundaries for some of Tennessee's congressional districts. The redrawn map will divide Tennessee's 9th congressional district into three districts. Two of these districts will encompass large geographic areas stretching from the City of Memphis in Shelby County to Williamson County outside of Nashville.

The accelerated approval process minimized opportunities for community input. Although the State of Tennessee includes voters from across the political spectrum, commentators from both major parties acknowledge that the redrawn map is designed to eliminate Tennessee's sole Democratic congressional seat.

We are currently in the season of Easter, the 50 day period between Jesus' resurrection and the coming of the Holy Spirit on the feast of Pentecost. God commissioned the Holy Spirit to serve as our advocate in Jesus' absence, empowering us to pursue the work God has given us to do. In last Sunday's lesson from Jesus' farewell discourse in the Gospel of John, Jesus boldly predicted that his disciples would perform even greater works than he accomplished.

Jesus' ministry included turning water into wine at a wedding in Cana; healing the son of a royal official, a paralyzed man in Bethesda, and a man born blind; feeding 5,000 people with two fish and five barley loaves; and raising Lazarus from the dead. These actions focus on strengthening community and reconciling humanity to God. People were fed and healed. Loving relationships were celebrated. The dead received a new lease on life and were welcomed back into their families. Souls were saved.

# Special Announcement from the Episcopal Bishops of Tennessee

The actions of our elected representatives confront us with the question of whether fidelity to partisan politics promotes God’s mission on earth. Does our adherence to partisanship take precedence over the promises contained in our baptismal covenant to strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being? As disciples of Jesus, we are called to transcend partisan politics as we seek to embrace God’s vision for our common life. To creatively imagine what might be possible if prioritizing political advantage was secondary to seeking and serving Christ in all persons. This is the work God invites us to do.

*O God, the fountain of wisdom,  
whose will is good and gracious, and whose law is truth:  
We beseech you so to guide and bless our Senators and  
Representatives in the Legislature of the State of Tennessee,  
that they may enact such laws as shall please you,  
to the glory of your Name and welfare of this people;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.*

*Prayer for a State Legislature, Book of Common Prayer, page 821*



*Bishop Phoebe*

The Rt. Rev. Phoebe Roaf  
Bishop of West Tennessee



*+ John Bauerschmidt*

The Rt. Rev. John Bauerschmidt  
Bishop of Tennessee



*+ Brian L. Cole*

The Rt. Rev. Brian L. Cole  
Bishop of East Tennessee

# Easter



# Easter



# Easter



# Church Picnic



# Church Picnic



# Talent Show - Visual Artists



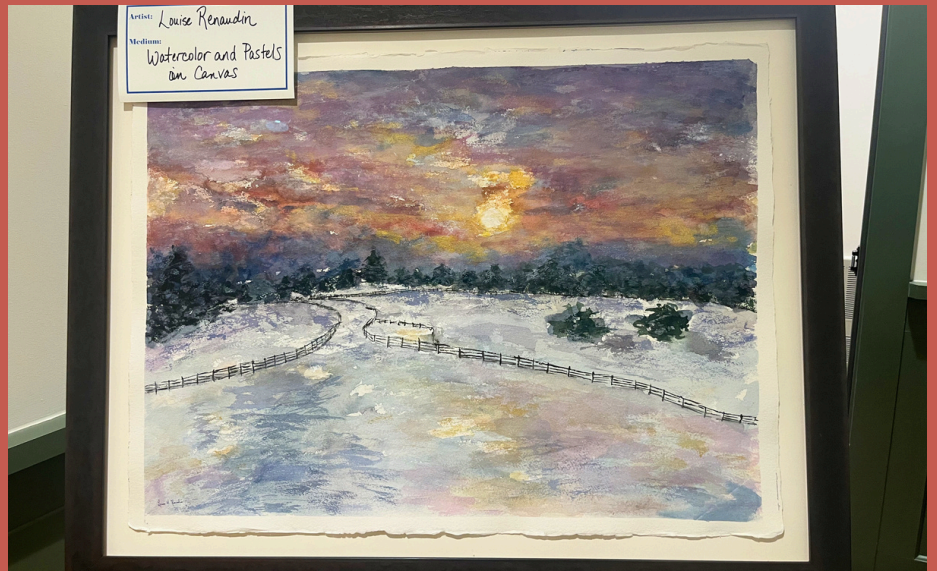
Artist: Gayle Haddock  
Medium: Oil on Canvas



Artist: Louise Renaudin  
Medium: Oil on Canvas



Artist: Susan Miller  
Medium: Acrylic and Gold Leaf on Wood



Artist: Louise Renaudin  
Medium: Watercolor and Pastels on Canvas



Artist: Becky Gengler  
Medium: Embroidery and Quilting

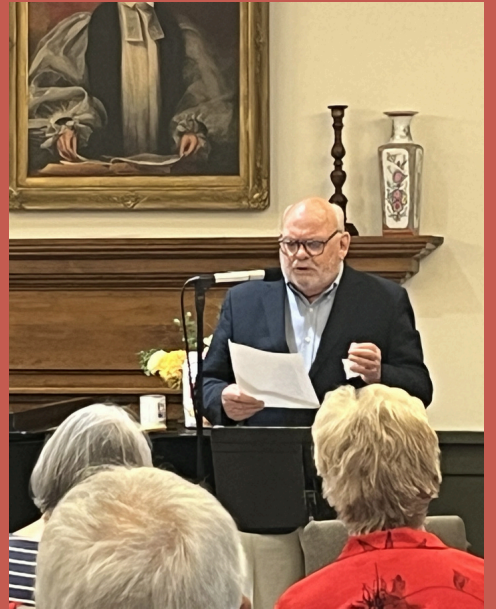
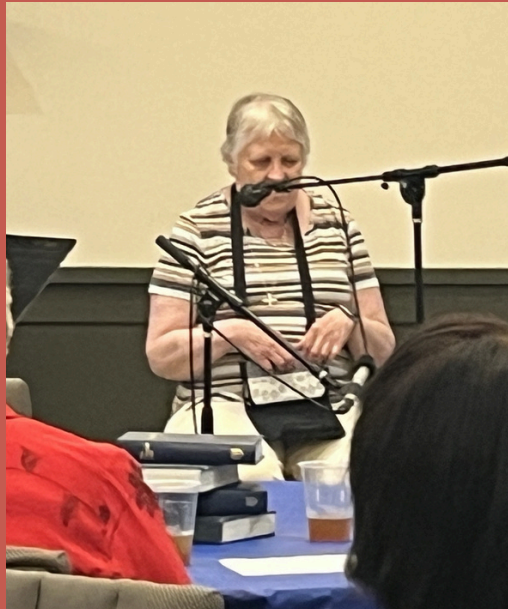


Artist: Laurel Aiello  
Medium: Oil on Wood

# Talent Show



# Talent Show - Visual Artists



## St. Paul's On My Mind

To the tune of *Georgia On My Mind*  
Lyrics by Annette Phillips

St. Paul's, St. Paul's,  
The whole day through  
Just an old sweet song keeps St. Paul's on my mind

I said St. Paul's, St. Paul's  
A song of you  
comes as sweet and clear as Donna and the choir.

Loving arms reach out to me,  
Monna's eyes smile tenderly,  
And the grace of God I see,  
The road leads back to you

I say St. Paul's, at St. Paul's  
Christ's peace I find  
Just an old sweet song keeps St. Paul's on my mind

Rusty gives the homily,  
Libby teaches joyfully,  
And Brett's leading EYG,  
And then there's ALL of you

Oh St. Paul's, at St Paul's  
Christ's peace I find  
Just an old sweet song  
keeps St. Paul's on my mind

Just an old sweet song  
keeps St. Paul's on my mind





# Pentecost Sunday

**SUNDAY, MAY 24, 2026**

**FIRST DAY OF  
SUMMER SCHEDULE!**

**8 AM, 10 AM,  
AND 6 PM!**



**FIRST "LEMONADE IN THE SHADE"  
OF THE SUMMER!**

**JOIN US FOR A BIRTHDAY PARTY FOR  
THE CHURCH IN THE 6<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE  
COURTYARD AFTER THE 10 AM SERVICE.**

# Parish Life

## Bishop's Visit & Confirmation

The Bishop's annual visit to St. Paul's is Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>. The Bishop will be preaching at the morning services.

10:00 am Bishop's Talk

11:00 am Holy Eucharist and Confirmations

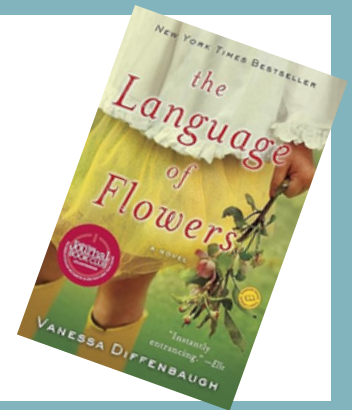
12:00 pm Bishop and Confirmand Reception - Otey



## Bad Girls Book Club

The Bad Girls Book Club will meet in Founders Hall, Tuesday, May 26, 6:00 to 8:00 PM to discuss of *The Language of Flowers: a Novel* by Vanessa Diffenbaugh.

Please join us! Bring a sip or a nibble to share. We look forward to seeing you then.



## Lemonade in the Shade

Lemonade in the Shade begins after the 10 AM service in the front courtyard on Sunday, May 24<sup>th</sup>.



## Bishop Retirement

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

## 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](#).

# Interested in joining a Small Group?



[bit.ly/SPESmallGroups](https://bit.ly/SPESmallGroups)

## Sign Up Here!





**Sunday  
Summer  
Schedule  
Begins  
May 24th**

## Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

We looking for volunteers to help with the Food Pantry. Please contact Debbie Whitlock at [dcwhitlock@gmail.com](mailto:dcwhitlock@gmail.com).



## Compline

Compline will be offered Tuesday, May 26, at 8:15 PM in Founders Hall. All are welcome. No RSVP needed. Just bring your BCP and Bible, if you wish. We'll read this peaceful, short service together, and be finished around 9:00 pm.

We will meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Announcements will be in the News from the Pews, the Take Out and on the Church Calendar. Hope to see you! Contact Ann Denson if questions at [densonannm@gmail.com](mailto:densonannm@gmail.com).

## Juneteenth

St. Paul's will once again have a table at the African American Heritage Society of Williamson County's Juneteenth celebration. It will take place Friday, June 19th at Bicentennial Park, 400 5th Avenue N. from 11:00-5:00.



A few people will be needed to help set up and break down at the end (thank you Fred) and a few people to sit at the table and pass out items. We will have shifts so we can wander around, visit and enjoy! It's great to have this at the park this year so there should be plenty of parking and shade. Even if the slots fill up come and hang out. Bring your folding chair!

Thanks for your support!

Please text Jackie King with any questions 914-329-3017

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you!

<https://bit.ly/SP-juneteenth-2026>

## Franklin Pride

St. Paul's is excited to participate in Franklin's PRIDE festival on Saturday, June 6, 2026 at the Park at Harlinsdale Farm. We need your support to show our pride in St. Paul's and for the community! Volunteers are needed to set-up and tear down our tent, to sit at our table, talk to passers-by, and be part of the gathering.

If you sign up, please bring your own camp/folding chairs to have a place to sit!

Please review the available slots below and click on the button to sign up. Thank you!

<https://bit.ly/FranklinPride2026>



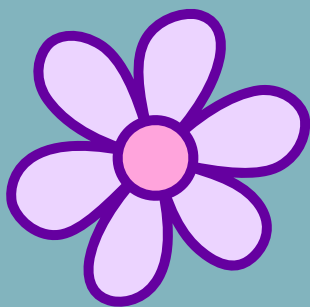
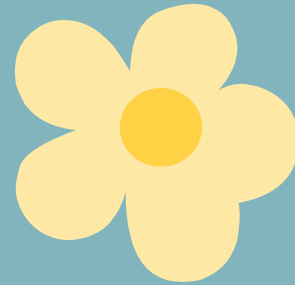
## Millennial-ish Brunch

Join fellow millennial-ish aged parishioners for brunch after the 10 am service on May 31st! We will find a spot in the downtown area for brunch, depending on the number of people we have attending.

If you have children, they are invited to their own brunch back at the church at the same time!

Please RSVP by Tuesday, May 26th at <https://bit.ly/MillennialBrunch>

Questions? Email [Libby](#) or [Brett](#)!



**ST. PAUL'S**  
**MILLENNIAL-ISH**  
**BRUNCH**

**May 31<sup>st</sup>**  
**AFTER THE 10 AM SERVICE**

Children will have brunch at the church while their parents and other millennial-ish aged friends enjoy brunch in the downtown area.

Please RSVP by May 26th.

## Pathfinders — Senior Adult Ministry

Lunch and Program

Tuesday June 2

11:30 AM - 1:00 PM

Otey Hall

Event open to anyone, not just people over 55

11:30 am – Catered Lunch

12:00 noon – 1:00 pm

Program on Scams – Awareness and Prevention



Paula Daigle with AgeWell Middle Tn will offer a presentation on scams, especially ones that target Senior Adults. Come join us to get tips on how to spot scams and how to prevent them.

\$10 for lunch --- RSVP by Thursday May 28

Note any dietary restrictions - Pay for lunch at event

RSVP to Monna Mayhall at [monna@stpaulsfranklin.com](mailto:monna@stpaulsfranklin.com) or 615-790-0527.

## Tennessee Trails Association



The next Tennessee Trails meeting is  
Tuesday, June 2, 6:00 PM in Barnabas.

# Parish Life – Fun & Games

## The EpicklePalians

St. Paul's Pickle Ball Group, The EpicklePalians, now play every week:

Sundays 2:00 PM  
Cottonwood Clubhouse  
180 Cottonwood Drive, Franklin, TN

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. Questions? Contact Daniel Robicheaux at [robicheauxdaniel@gmail.com](mailto:robicheauxdaniel@gmail.com).

**There is no pickleball on May 24th.**



## Mahjong Mondays

If you are new to the game or playing for years, we'd love to have you join us for Mahjong Mondays. We are about laughter and spirit-filled fellowship and a few rounds of Mahjong along the way. Barnabas will be open at 1:00 pm for set up (front double doors to the big room and back kitchen door). We open with a prayer, and play begins at 1:15 pm and runs until 4:00 pm.

Bring your own non-alcoholic beverage. We'll sign-up for snacks/hostesses monthly. Please let us know if you are interested so that we have enough tables set-up for play. Contact Judy Larson (818-723-9395) or Jan Abstein (615) 347-8060 for more information.



## Week of Wonder

Make plans to join us for the Week of Wonder back on St. Paul's campus June 15-18 from 9 am until noon. Speaking of St. Paul, we will be following his footsteps throughout the Roman Empire to discover how his letters shaped the Christian church. We will learn about the life and times of Paul through stories, games, crafts, and cuisine!

Children who are 3 years old through rising 4th graders are invited to participate, and we will need lots of volunteers who are rising 5th graders or older as well as plenty of adults. Don't forget the parish-wide celebration of the Week of Wonder on Thursday night, June 18th from 5:30-7 pm. Everyone is invited!

To register, scan the QR code or go to: <https://www.stpaulsfranklin.com/vbs/>

If you have questions, please email [libby@stpaulsfranklin.com](mailto:libby@stpaulsfranklin.com).



# EYG - Episcopal Youth Group

**EYG**  
**POOL PARTY**

May 17<sup>th</sup> 4:30-6:30pm Chestnut Bend Pool  
 555 Ploughmans Bend Drive

Pizza will be provided!



## Summer EYG Events

May 31  
 June 28  
 July 26  
 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM  
 Meet at Barnabas

**SUMMER**  
*EYG Events*

MAY 31<sup>ST</sup>, JUNE 28<sup>TH</sup>, JULY 26<sup>TH</sup> FROM 4:30-6PM  
 MEET AT BARNABAS

# Young Adults & College Students

## ST. PAUL'S YOUNG ADULT GROUP MAY EVENTS

### SOULFUL

JOIN US FOR DINNER AND DISCUSSION AT THE HARTS  
SATURDAY MAY 30 [AT] 6:30 PM  
1138 HIDDEN VALLEY ROAD, BRENTWOOD



### SOCIAL

POOL PARTY  
SAT. MAY 23 [AT] 2 PM  
1015 W. MAIN STREET

### SERVICE

PAW PANTRY  
JUNE 6, 10 AM TO 12 PM  
WILLIAMSON COUNTY ANIMAL CENTER



## WITS - Women in Theological Study

WITS (Women in Theological Study) - in May, we are bursting into bloom, so come join us whenever you can. Below is the calendar for WITS through the end of May.

May 14 – “The Mysteries of Braille Solved”

May 21 – Book Swap – bring a book to pass along (or bring a book recommendation)

May 28 – No WITS - Spring Street

WITS will meet only in June and July this summer and not in August. For the first two Thursdays in June, we will have a study series based on the book “Souvenirs of the Holy: Encountering God Through Everyday Objects” by Laurie M. Brock. We will use this book to connect with God, memories, and our deepest self through the simple stuff of life, discovering God’s love and grace in the ordinary objects of our lives. Remember, no purchase of the book is necessary. On the last Thursday in June, we will take a field trip to St. Mary’s Convent in Sewanee. Details to come.

June 4 – Souvenirs of the Holy - Part 1

June 11 – Souvenirs of the Holy - Part 2

June 18 – NO WITS – Volunteer at VBS

June 25 – Field Trip to St. Mary’s Convent

WITS meets on Thursdays from 9:30 -11:00 am - in Meeting Room #205 on the 2nd floor.



## EfM - Education for Ministry

Open Meeting April 14, 2026

St. Paul's Education for Ministry (EfM) group invites you to an open meeting Tuesday April 14, 6:00 pm. You're invited! We will gather upstairs in the new building.

EfM is an adult formation program for the laity, administered by the University of the South. It examines the bible, church history, and Christian theology.

As the EfM website states, "the EfM program is designed to help (lay) Christians prepare for their ministry. It is that vocation for which we pray at the end of the communion service: 'And now, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.'"

The St. Paul's group meets weekly on Tuesday evenings from 6:00-8:30 pm, September through May. For more information about the open meeting or the EfM program contact Jean Larson at [jam.larson@gmail.com](mailto:jam.larson@gmail.com) or 847-987-6949 or Kelly Pitsenberger at [pitz@bellsouth.net](mailto:pitz@bellsouth.net). Please let us know if you'd like to attend. We hope you can join us.



## DOK - Daughters of the King

St. Paul's has an active Chapter of Daughters of the King and would love to welcome new members.

Women interested in information are invited to contact Karen Austin [KSAustin@bellsouth.net](mailto:KSAustin@bellsouth.net) or Beth Woodruff [woodruffbeth96@gmail.com](mailto: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.



## May Events

May 1 Friday — Freedom Reins Ranch

May 2 Saturday — Both Hands, TY2 Vision Project

May 13 Wednesday — Annual Laymen's Roundup

May 15 Friday — Boys and Girls Club

May 17 Sunday City — Church in the Yard, Holy Trinity, Nashville

May 28 Thursday — Spring Street

May 29 Friday — Davis House, CAC, Franklin Law Enforcement,  
Department Child Services Luncheon



## Socials

June 19 - Melissa Montero's home.

July - Becky Gengler's home

Watch for further updates!



## Upcoming Events

Saturday, September,  
September 5 - Bazaar! Save  
your items from Spring  
Cleaning to bring to be sold  
at the Bazaar.

Mum Sale to benefit The  
Womens Retreat dates TBD

Saturday, December 12 -  
Christmas Tea



Thanks for all that purchased  
flower baskets or ferns!

The sale was a huge success!

## Last Call for Recipes!



The St. Paul's Cookbook Committee has been hard at work testing delicious entries for our upcoming church cookbook. Since our original request was shared a while ago, we want to ensure everyone has a chance to be included—especially those who have joined our congregation recently or anyone who has discovered a new favorite dish in the meantime!

### How to Submit:

- In Person: Drop your handwritten recipes in the collection box located at the back of the sanctuary
- By Email: Send to [stpaulscooks@gmail.com](mailto:stpaulscooks@gmail.com)

Please ensure your submission includes: a clear recipe title, an optional short story or description, ingredients and measurements listed in the order they are used, step-by-step instructions, and your name and email address.

Thank you for helping us make this collection a success!

The St. Paul's Cookbook Committee: Heather Creel, Gwen McKee, Jackie King, Cindy Thomsen, Mindy Boggs, Becky Grimes, Kathy Ulezelski, Catherine Mayhew, Susan Miller.

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 27, at 1:00 PM in Otey Hall.

We would love for you to get involved. If you're interested in preparing a recipe to bring to the meeting or testing one at home on your own, please reach out to any committee member. Of course, you are also more than welcome to stop by and help us taste!

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 we have helped previously, Mercy Healthcare and the Boys and Girls Club.



We were able to help our friends at the Boys and Girls Club by sponsoring a table for 2,500 for their annual Steak & Burger fundraiser event. The Boys and Girls Club is a vital after school program in our community and we are delighted to help their program!



We granted \$1,000 to Mercy Healthcare to cover the cost of two benches. Why benches? When patients were waiting for their appointments, the waiting room filled up very quickly. Before our assistance families had to stand outside. Now, with the installation of both benches they have a place to wait comfortably! Additionally, with extra money that was leftover, they were also able to purchase a Blackstone grill for community events like their Back to School Bash.



From Mercy Community Healthcare:

Our facilities director just assembled one of the benches, and I wanted to forward the picture! We were able to purchase two and our patients already love them! It's so nice to see families on a seat versus sitting on the curb. Thank you so much! We were able to get the benches slightly discounted, so the total was \$700 instead of \$1,000. We have a remainder of \$300.

On our quick list is a Blackstone Grill for community events (hot dogs and hamburgers for Back to School Bash, pancakes for the Baby Shower) and staff events (street tacos for Cinco de Mayo). It is \$300. We are happy to return the \$300 or apply it to the Blackstone Grill. Please let me know and thank you again! We are just thrilled for our patients!

Beth Rattray,  
Director of Marketing & Development

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!

Lastly, we would like to wish our beloved Fred Warner a very happy 80th birthday! We hope you celebrate all year long!



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](mailto:monna@stpauls.com) or any other members of the committee: Mark Rohde, Judy Stockton, Fred Warner, Sheila Morreale, Spencer Dibble, Mark Tumblin and Cindy Tumblin.



## Summer Food Bags

During the summer months of June and July, St. Paul's is providing food bags for children, to help fill the nutritional gap that school meal programs fill. Beginning Sunday May 31st come join us every Sunday from 9:00 - 9:50 am in Otey Hall to help pack food bags. The 60 bags will be delivered to the Community Center the next day, on the following Monday.

If you have any questions, contact Monna Mayhall at [monna@stpaulsfranklin.com](mailto:monna@stpaulsfranklin.com) or 615-790-0527.

If you want to help donate items, we need:

- Cans of Ravioli/Spaghetti-Os
- Mac and Cheese (microwavable bowls)
- Granola Bars
- That's It Fruit Snacks
- Small Milk Boxes (non-refrigerated)
- Small Apple Sauces Cups or Pouch Fruit
- Pudding Cups
- Bobo's PB & J Oat Snacks



When you drop these items off, label "kids food bags."

## Cookie Ministry

The first occurrence of the NEW Cookie Ministry, coordinated by Love Thy Neighbor, was well supported and so much fun.

Thank you to the following parishioners that baked yummy cookies: Katie Faulkner, Debra Brake, Renee Locklar, Pam Leet, JoAnn Scalf, Becky Gengler, Carol Waters, Jess Kirkpatrick, Cindy Tumblin, and Loren Robicheaux.

Thank you to the wonderful volunteers; Donna Thomas, Lynn Cook, Susie Trabue, Pam Leet, Becky Gengler, Mishelle Phillips, and Pat McCracken, that packaged and delivered our treat boxes of cookies spreading joy and encouragement to our hardworking neighbors including 8 non-profits, 4 Fire Stations, the Police Station, FES, and Williamson Medical Center.



Thank you to Donna Stokes-Rogers for making such cute cards and stickers for our treat boxes.

We will be spreading joy through cookie deliveries every other month and would love to have you join us. Upcoming dates:

Sunday June 14, August 2, and October 25 - Volunteers can bring homemade cookies in any container and leave them in Otey Kitchen in the tupperware bin labeled Love Thy Neighbor with their name and number of cookies provided.

Monday June 15, August 3, and October 26 - 10:00 in Otey Hall - Volunteers will package and then deliver cookies to a provided list of recipients.

See SUG for details and to sign-up:

<https://bit.ly/CookieMinistry>



# Outreach - Love Thy Neighbor

## Soup Ministry

A NEW ministry, coordinated by Love Thy Neighbor, offers the chance for volunteers to provide comfort food to a fellow parishioner. St. Paul's Soup Ministry will meet every other month in Otey Kitchen to prepare heartwarming soups that will be stored in Otey freezer for delivery to parishioners to provide comfort and compassion during life's challenging moments.



Wednesday, May 20th will be our first cook from 1:00-4:00. Volunteers will meet in Otey Kitchen to prepare several soups. Recipes and ingredients will be provided.

Contact: Mishelle Phillips (615) 403-0703. See SUC for details and to sign-up: <https://bit.ly/SoupMinistry>

## FES Field Day

Last Friday, a group of altruistic parishioners helped make Franklin Elementary School's Field Day fun and festive for children from Kindergarten through fourth grade. The weather was perfect, cool and sunny, which made it a wonderful outing for all. Many thanks to our terrific St. Paul's volunteers: Jean & Bob Larson; Mishelle Phillips; Jo Ann Scalf; Susi Trabue; Linda Wesson, and Sam Yeager. Another great example of showing St. Paul's love for our neighbors!



# Outreach - Spring Street

Thanks to all of you, we've made it though another year! We will take the summer off and gather again in September.

Love is in the air and in the theme of our decor this month as we wish our friend Johnnie much happiness in her upcoming marriage!

We will still have our traditional cookout menu of burgers, dogs and chips. Feel free to bring a regular sized side or dessert if you wish but it is not necessary.

It should be a happy celebration with live music!

Sign up to volunteer here: <https://bit.ly/spring-street-05-26>

Any questions text Jackie at 914-329-3017.



## 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](mailto:monna@stpaulsfranklin.com) or 615-790-0527.

## Meals on Wheels

Meals on Wheels January delivery dates are Wednesday, May 20 and Friday, May 22. 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 May, they will meet on the 6th and 18th, from 10-11 am in Founders.

Questions: Contact Monna Mayhall at [monna@stpaulsfranklin.com](mailto: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](mailto:ellenvkirk@gmail.com) or Gerald Hancock 615-604-9635/[gwhancock44@gmail.com](mailto: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](http://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

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.

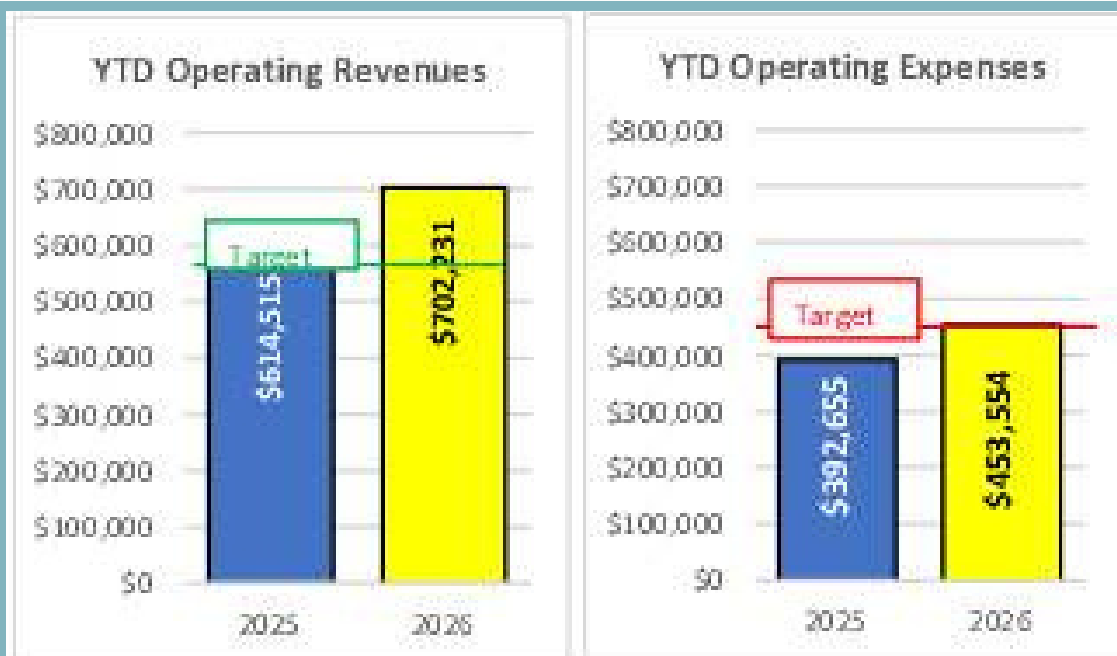
## Financial Performance for the Month of April 2026

**April Summary:** One third into the fiscal year and the parish is performing better than expected.

**Revenues:** Cash-in-plate started remains strong - exceeding expectations again. Pledging has far exceeded as a long one-time pledge was received in the month of April. This one-time payment ensures that 33 through the year we have collected 43.5% of annual pledges.

**Expenses:** Expenses were lower than anticipated for March. Higher salary and insurance payments drove higher than budgeted Personnel costs, but those were offset by lower Ministry and Outreach costs in Operations. Office supplies were higher (purchases for new building, such as first aid supplies, trash cans, door mats, shelving, etc.), as Property maintenance (two months of invoices paid) and Electricity.

**Overall:** For the year the parish is still operating with a significant surplus.



Item	April 2026				Year to Date to April 2026			
	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)	
<b>Revenues</b>								
Pledges & Cash in Plate	\$282,315	\$114,990	\$167,326	145.5%	\$689,653	\$547,447	\$142,206	26.0%
Other Income	\$2,198	\$542	\$1,656	305.7%	\$12,579	\$1,167	\$11,412	100.0%
<b>Total Revenues</b>	<b>\$284,513</b>	<b>\$115,531</b>	<b>\$168,982</b>	<b>146.3%</b>	<b>\$702,231</b>	<b>\$548,614</b>	<b>\$153,618</b>	<b>28.0%</b>
<b>Expenses</b>								
Personnel	\$62,722	\$59,285	\$3,437	5.8%	\$256,116	\$236,739	\$19,376	8.2%
Operating Expenses	\$49,659	\$55,993	(\$6,334)	-11.3%	\$197,438	\$210,823	(\$13,384)	-6.3%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$112,381</b>	<b>\$115,277</b>	<b>(\$2,897)</b>	<b>-2.5%</b>	<b>\$453,554</b>	<b>\$447,561</b>	<b>\$5,992</b>	<b>1.3%</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>\$172,132</b>	<b>\$254</b>	<b>\$171,877</b>		<b>\$248,677</b>	<b>\$101,053</b>	<b>\$147,624</b>	
<b>Non-Budgeted Rev. &amp; Exp.(Net)</b>	<b>\$6,403</b>				<b>\$108,260</b>			

# May Birthdays

- 1 Laurie Austin, Suzanne Robertson
- 2 Marida Stearns, Jim Haddon
- 3 Remy Martini
- 4 Linda Wesson, David Zegley, Emily Peters, Kent Burnside
- 5 David Rogers
- 6 Eleanor Smythe, Emerson Cook
- 7 Josey Messina, Wyatt Anderson, Tiffany Sugalski
- 8 Sarah Ingram
- 9 Wendy Heard, Murray Huber, Juliette Blackwelder
- 11 Ann Martin
- 12 Elizabeth Morrow, Virginia Such
- 13 Susan Nance, Mary Eloise Austin
- 14 Jenny Kovac
- 15 Stephanie McCormick, Colin Kowalski
- 17 George Renaudin
- 18 Jennifer Lloyd, Brett Gardner
- 19 Dan Norem
- 20 Anna Hopper
- 21 Eddie Phillips, Mimi Grant, Paige Poole, KC Burton
- 22 Artie Bobo, Rebekah Brown, Rick Leet, Blake Hogan
- 23 Carolyn Loeffel, Carla Myers, Lucinda Dyer
- 24 Sarah Webster, Bennett Chew, Ellen Hart
- 25 Angela Curtiss, Beth Sheller, Marty Sutherland, David Crumpton,  
Mary Hill, Katherine Bucciarelli,
- 26 Kristy Williams, Jeff Bailey
- 27 Stuart Saylor, Samuel Chew, Maria McPherson, Rusty Culp, Julian Page
- 28 Kathy Miller
- 29 Wayne Senseney
- 30 Bea Thurman
- 31 Catherine Gain, Inez Rice, Cynthia Keiser

## May Anniversaries

- 5 Bill & Mary Kate Brandon
- 8 Phil & Elizabeth Pace
- 15 Philip & Natalie Pratt
- 16 Bo & Caroline Butler
- 16 Luke & Christine Pototschnik
- 17 Dewees & Kathy Berry
- 18 Will & Lauren Jordan
- 18 Brett & Mary Grace Gardner
- 20 Nelson & Maria Williams
- 20 Kristin Schmitter-Webster & Jonathan Webster
- 22 Brad & Sam Williams
- 24 Paul & Chloe Hannah
- 26 Jim & Vicki Ramsey
- 29 Will & Mindy Boggs
- 29 Jason & Marion Werner
- 31 David Austin & Julia High

## May Births

Jesse Roan Martini, parents are Jake and Clara Martini, sibling is Remy.

## May Baptisms

Joshua Levi Miller

Aiden John Kennedy

Julian Edward Page - Parents are Keith and Bree Page, sibling is Vivian

Leanna Marie Thompson - Parents are Jacob and Natalie Thompson

Forrest Stephen Latta III - Parents are Forrest Latta, Jr. and Laura Latta

## Transfers In for April

Welcome to Andrew, Emily and Caroline Treaster

Cindy Painter (joined in February)

# Condolences to

- Mark Tumblin in the death of his mother, Billie Tumblin
- David Veile in the death of his mother, Jeanette Veile
- Paula Sherman in the death of her father, Bob Crafton

