

The Epistle



SEPTEMBER 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

Jonathan Webster, Senior Warden
Finance, Stewardship, Long Range Planning
Jim Miller, Junior Warden
Building and Grounds
Angela Lassiter
Parish Life
Mark Tumblin
Outreach
Marty Karpie
Stewardship
Chris Oberholtzer
Newcomer Engagement
Melissa Montero
Hospitality
Spencer Dibble
Finance
Ann Denson
Communications
Jim Lambert
Pastoral Care
Larry Whitlock
Senior Ministries
Jenna Martin
Youth and Children's Ministries
Michael Walters Young
Treasurer

FIND US:

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



**FIND US ON FACEBOOK
@STPAULSFRANKLINTN**

**FIND US ON INSTAGRAM
@STPAULSFRANKLIN**

September 2026 Office Hours:

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

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

Office Closed September 7, 2026

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 each month. Please 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 October newsletter is September 26, 2026](#)

Deadline for the October
newsletter is September 26, 2026



Upcoming Events

September 4 -5

WSP Annual Bazaar

Drop off items August 30-September 2

September 9

Gathering for Good — Bluegrass & Burgers

September 12

Mum Pick-up

September 13

Rally Day

Return to 4 services on Sunday

September 13

EYG Kick-Off and Parent Meeting

September 15 - 24

Pilgrimage

September 19

Art Day Out - Fiddler on the Roof

September 27

Children's Service

October 3

Men of St. Paul's Annual BBQ

October 2-3

DOK Fall Retreat

October 24

Bishop Election

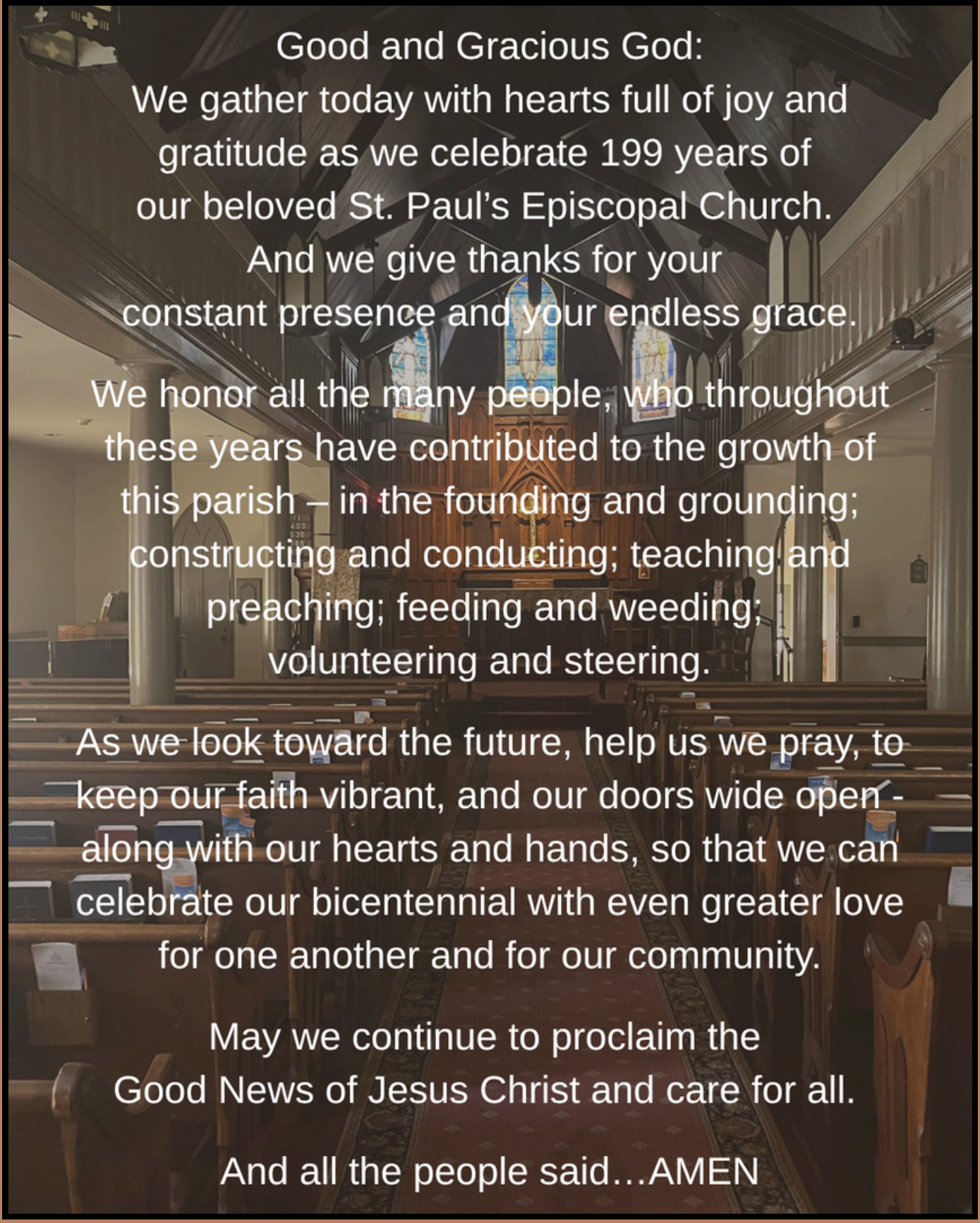
Many more meetings and gatherings can be found on the Church Calendar, under the "About Us" tab on the church website: <https://bit.ly/Calendar-SP>



Comics Corner



Acts of God

A photograph of the interior of St. Paul's Episcopal Church, showing the nave with wooden pews, a red carpeted aisle, and a high wooden ceiling with exposed beams. Stained glass windows are visible in the background.

Good and Gracious God:
We gather today with hearts full of joy and
gratitude as we celebrate 199 years of
our beloved St. Paul's Episcopal Church.

And we give thanks for your
constant presence and your endless grace.

We honor all the many people, who throughout
these years have contributed to the growth of
this parish – in the founding and grounding;
constructing and conducting; teaching and
preaching; feeding and weeding;
volunteering and steering.

As we look toward the future, help us we pray, to
keep our faith vibrant, and our doors wide open -
along with our hearts and hands, so that we can
celebrate our bicentennial with even greater love
for one another and for our community.

May we continue to proclaim the
Good News of Jesus Christ and care for all.

And all the people said...AMEN

St. Paul's 100th Birthday

6



Sewanee Seminarian

It has always been a policy for St. Paul's to help with seminary education. As a requirement for those students they must complete a year of "field education," working in a parish while still studying other subjects.

This fall we welcome John Sykes. John is a second year student at Sewanee. He will begin his time with us on Sunday, Sept. 6. Please welcome to St. Paul's.

John Sykes

John Sykes is a second-year Seminarian at Sewanee. A native of Northeastern North Carolina, John grew up in Rocky Mount. A graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, John was an Episcopal missionary for two years, teaching at St. John's High School in Pumwani, one of the oldest slums in Nairobi, Kenya. Later he received a master's degree in American History from the University of Alabama and had a career in public history.

A lifelong Episcopalian, John is postulant for holy orders from the Diocese of Louisiana. "I am looking forward to serving at St. Paul's, listening and learning from the clergy and the entire parish family. When I visited last year, I was so warmly welcomed that I knew that St. Paul's was the parish for me. I am grateful for the opportunity to serve with you."



BURGERS AND BLUEGRASS



Wednesday, September 9

5:30 pm Burger Dinner

6:00 pm Bluegrass Begins

**Bring a lawn chair or blanket
for a Courtyard Concert!**

**Suggested: \$10 Per person
\$30 Max per Family**



**ST. PAUL'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
510 WEST MAIN STREET
FRANKLIN, TENNESSEE 37064
WWW.STPAULSFRANKLIN.COM**

Open to Everyone!



Art Day Out

**Tuesday, Sept. 15
10:00 am in Otey Hall**

**Coffee Talk
with Robert and Annette**

Dr. Robert Collins and Annette Phillips will prepare us
for the weekend production over Coffee and Cake.
Robert is a former English professor and opera critic,
and Annette is a member of the cast.

Saturday, Sept. 19, 7:00 pm
The Tony Award winning musical:
Fiddler on the Roof

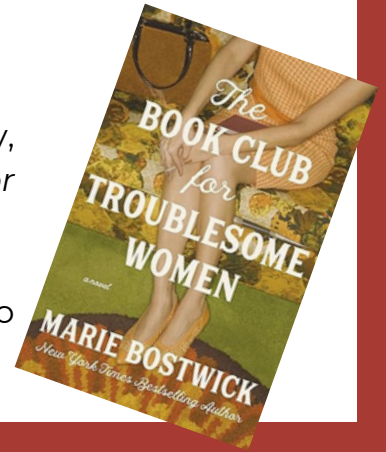
Meet for Dinner at 5:00 pm, Gina's Stonefired Italian
Show at 7:00 pm, Williamson County Performing Arts
Center, General Admission: \$30, Seniors: \$25
Tickets are selling fast. Get yours now!
<https://www.ticketor.com/wcpac/flofiddler>

**Please let Donna Stokes-Rogers know if you are coming to
dinner so she can make reservations: (615) 481-5144**

Bad Girls Book Club

The Bad Girls Book Club will meet in Founders Hall, Tuesday, September 22, 6:00 to 8:00 PM to discuss *The Book Club for Troublesome Women* by Marie Bostwick.

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



Sunday Morning Hospitality Volunteers Needed

Our amazing Sunday morning crew needs your help. If you, your friends, or your family would like to help with Biscuit Minute on Sundays this fall, we would appreciate your assistance.

All food is provided (but if you like whipping up family favorites like muffins or cookies, it would be welcomed!)

Arrival time is 9:00 am and we need help putting out food and making coffee, as well as tidying up after our 9:45 Biscuit Meeting Moments.

There will be someone to guide you, so you won't have to do it on your own. Sundays are listed here (<https://bit.ly/SP-biscuit-minute>) if you would like to help.

Contact Donna Stokes-Rogers if you have questions (615) 481-5144.



Sign Up To Pick Up Mums:
<https://bit.ly/MumPickUp>



Saturday
September
12th
12 - 1 PM
Barnabas
Parking
Lot

Follow Along The Greece Pilgrimage

In mid-September, 50 pilgrims from St. Paul's will be traveling to Greece to follow the steps of the Apostle Paul as he walked and preached in Greece and Turkey.



We will be documenting our trip with journal entries and pictures uploaded to the Journi app. If you would like to follow along, you can use the link below to upload the Journi app.

You will need to enter your e-mail address and a password.
The app is free.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/SP-Greece>



Nursery Mural

Have you visited our new nursery yet? You may have noticed the great space and wonderful new toys, and of course the adorable children who fill it with joy on Sunday mornings.

It needs some help to make it feel like home, though. Luckily for us, graphic artist Mel Ferrer has agreed to paint a lovely mural to make the space cozy and welcoming-and we need your help!

Our goal is to raise \$8,000 to cover the cost of our one-of-a-kind mural. Donations may be made by check with "nursery mural" in the memo line. Gifts can be made in honor or memory of a loved one.

If you have questions, please reach out to libby@stpaulsfranklin.com.

Rally Day

Join us on Sunday, September 13 at 10 AM in Otey Hall as we celebrate Rally Day and introduce new programs beginning in the fall. Click [here](#) for information on new classes and programs. Wear **GREEN** to church!

We will return to four Sunday Services on the 13th:
7:30 am - 8:45 am, 11:00 am, 6:00 pm.

[Click here for the 2026 - 2027 Christian Formation Booklet](#)



RALLY DAY
SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 10:00 AM



Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches." JOHN 15:4-5

**I heard it through the Grapevine!
There will be food, fun, and info on the coming year.**

Pathfinders – Senior Adult Ministry

Tuesday October 20
Lunch and Program
Join us in Otey Hall

11:30 am –12:00 noon Catered Lunch

12:00 noon –1:00 pm Program with brief activity followed by musical
entertainment – “3 minutes and 15 seconds”

Come join us for a magnificent meal, lots of laughs, and exciting
entertainment

\$10 for lunch --- RSVP by Thursday Oct 16

Note any dietary restrictions - Pay for lunch at event

RSVP to Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527

Food Pantry Volunteers Needed

We looking for volunteers to help with the Food Pantry. Please contact Debbie Whitlock at dcwhitlock@gmail.com.



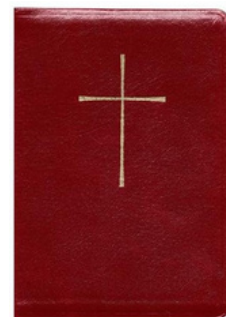
Biscuit Minute

Sundays 9:45 - 10 AM in Founder's Hall starting September 20th.



Compline

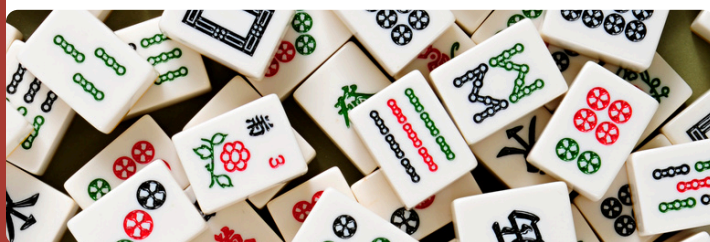
Compline will be offered the fourth Tuesday of each month, at 8:15 PM in Founders Hall, unless otherwise noted. All are welcome. No RSVP needed, just bring your BCP and Bible, if you wish. We'll read this peaceful, short service together, and be finished by 9:00. Contact Ann Denson if questions at denonannm@gmail.com.



Mahjong Mondays

Mondays 1:15 - 4:00 PM, Barnabas

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.



The EpicklePalians

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

Mondays 6:00 PM
Cottonwood Clubhouse
180 Cottonwood Drive, Franklin, TN

Questions? Contact Daniel Robicheaux at robicheauxdaniel@gmail.com.



Bishop Retirement

Bishop Bauerschmidt announced his retirement earlier this year. Learn more about the Bishop Search here: <https://edtn.org/bishop-search/>. Bishop Election is October 24, 2026.

66th Annual

St. Paul's Episcopal Church



BBQ



OCTOBER 3, 2026

2 PM - Until It's All Gone



**AWARD-WINNING PULLED PORK
SMOKED CHICKEN
WHOLE PORK BUTT
CHICKEN QUARTERS
FAMILY PACK MEALS**



FOR MORE INFORMATION OR ORDER ONLINE:



WWW.STPAULSFRANKLIN.COM/BBQ

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

510 West Main Street, Franklin, TN

Supports Local Outreach

Godly Play

Want to know the secret to having the most fun possible on a Sunday morning at St. Paul's? Volunteer to help with Godly Play! Godly Play is the curriculum we use for Children's Christian Formation and is offered most Sundays at 10 am September through May.

Godly Play IS:

- centered on sharing sacred stories from the Bible and liturgical action stories to help our children understand the seasons of the church year
- a place where children (and adults!) are invited into wonder and encouraged to ask important questions
- hands on and engaging
- flexible for a volunteer to choose the best times for them to participate

Godly Play IS NOT:

- a rigid curriculum that teaches children to regurgitate lessons from the Bible
- a traditional curriculum that involves a lot of time spent lesson planning

If you are interested, please reach out to libby@stpaulsfranklin.com.



Blessing of the Backpacks

Loving God, be with these people - students, teachers, administrators, custodians...

Be with them and help them as they begin a new year of learning, teaching, growing, and serving...

May their minds and their pencils be sharp; may their lunches never be forgotten at home; and may their Pink Pearl erasers help them to remember that mistakes are okay - in fact are the most important part of the process...

God, thank you for glue sticks and homework folders and laptops and crisp new notebooks waiting to be filled; thank you for schools and libraries and teachers; thank you for gift of curiosity and for your Wisdom that is all around...

God of Wisdom, bless these backpacks...

We pray this and everything in the name of your Son, who left his parents so he could sit and learn at the feet of rabbis in the temple...

Amen.



Parents Night Out

18



Youth Formation:

6th - 12th Grade meet at 10 AM in Barnabas! Our curriculum this year, The Path, will parallel the adult class and provide a great opportunity for discussion at home for families! It will take us through the Bible, using story telling and discussion prompts to engage with the wonders of Biblical stories.



EYG 2026 Kick-Off Party
Around the World

Sunday, September 13th at Barnabas
6th - 12th Graders: 4:30-6pm
Parents: 4:30-5pm

Join us for games, crafts, and more!



Acolyte Training



EYG - Episcopal Youth Group

21



September

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		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			

13th: Parent Meeting, 4:30 PM

October

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
					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						

3rd: Men's BBQ, 12 PM
24th: Car Park, 10 AM

November

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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					

1st: Concert & Dinner, 4 PM
15th: Diocesan Retreat

December

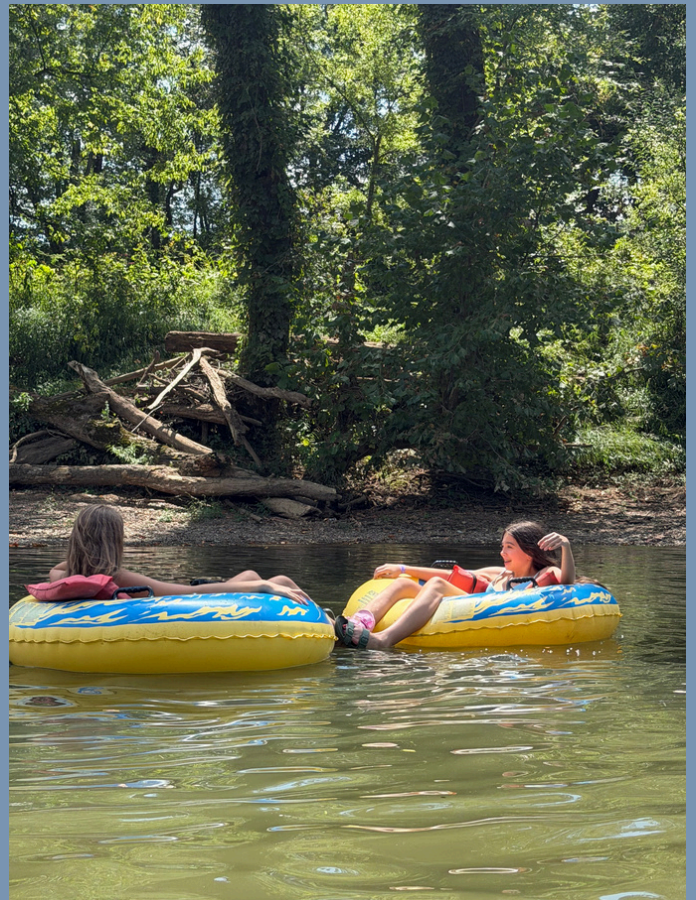
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

4th: Car Park, 5 PM
6th: Lessons & Carols, 6 PM
12th: Car Park, 10 AM
19th: Lockin, 4 PM

Fall 2026
St. Paul's
Youth

- Christian Formation, 10 AM
- Episcopal Youth Group (EYG), 4:30 PM
- Additional Events & Fundraisers

FLG - River Float



Sacred Ground is an opportunity for education and conversation through an 11- week film and reading-based dialogue series based on Race and Faith. This Sacred Ground workshop is presented by the Beloved Community Commission of the Diocese of TN, and is created by the national Episcopal Church for the purpose of promoting racial reconciliation.

Participants attend via Zoom
Mondays, October 5 – December 14
6:30 -7:30 p.m. CST (11 weeks)

Sacred Ground is:

- Anchored in impactful documentary films and readings.
- Explores U.S. racial history alongside current scholar perspectives.
- Intersects Indigenous, Black, Latino, Asian, and European American histories.
- Centers on personal story-sharing and building deep connections.
- Addresses mutual racial harms to foster intentional healing.
- Connects race with class, geography, politics, and family history.
- Framed as a Christian spiritual journey toward a beloved community.

In addition to the films and article, there are two books we will read over the course of the study - *Waking Up White* by Debby Irving, and *Jesus and the Disinherited* by Dr. Howard Thurman. For more information, contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com.

We invite you to join us on this Sacred Ground journey.

REGISTER HERE:

<https://bit.ly/sacred-ground-workshop>



More information about the Beloved Community
can be found on the diocesan website at:

<https://edtn.org/programs/beloved-community-commission-racial-reconciliation/>

Sacred Ground

A Film-Based Dialogue Series on Race and Faith



Monday Nights
Oct 5 - Dec 14 / 6:30-8:00 pm

Sacred Ground is presented by the Beloved Community Commission of the Diocese of TN and is created by the national Episcopal Church for the purpose of promoting racial reconciliation.

Via Zoom - Register at this link
<https://bit.ly/sacred-ground-workshop>

Sacred Ground is:

- Anchored in documentary films and readings
- Explores U.S. racial history
- Intersects Indigenous, Black, Latino, Asian & European American history
- Centers on personal story-sharing
- Addresses mutual racial harms to foster intentional healing
- Framed as a Christian spiritual journey toward Beloved Community

For more information contact:
Monna Mayhall at
monna@stpaulsfranklin.com



WITS - Women in Theological Study

WITS – September/October Study

WITS (Women in Theological Study) is beginning a 2-Part Study Series based in poetry - Earth and Altar: Tracking the Divine in Modern Verse

Is it possible that a simple poem can change your inner landscape?

Join us for a deep-dive two-part series as we explore six brilliant modern poets who found the Holy hiding in plain sight. Through guided readings and group discussion, we will learn to slow down, sharpen our attention, and listen for the whispers of the sacred.



Part 1: The Outward Altar - Finding the divine in dirt, trees, and human heritage, focusing on Mary Oliver, Wendell Berry, and Li-Young Lee.

Part 2: The Inward Sanctuary - Mapping the quiet landscapes of doubt, grace, and daily devotion, focusing on Luci Shaw, Jeff Gundy, and Tania Runyan.

For this study, WITS will gather on Thursday September 10 and October 1 in Room #205 from 9:30-11:00 am. If you have any questions, contact Monna Mayhall at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com.



Saturday
September
12th
12 - 1 PM
Barnabas
Parking
Lot

**Sign Up To
Volunteer
At Mum
Pick-Up:**

<https://bit.ly/MumPickUp>

Upcoming Events

- September 12 - Mum pick-up at Barnabas 12 - 1 pm
- October 23 - WSP Social at Susan Miller's home, 6 PM
- November 19 - WSP Social at Pam Leet's home, 6 PM
- December 12 - Christmas Tea
- 2026 Christmas Tea - December 12

Cookbook Update

We plan to wrap up content by the end of the year to move into final layout and design.

Upcoming Meetings:

Friday, September 11 | 1:00 PM | Otey Hall

Wednesday, October 14 | 1:00 PM | Otey Hall

We still need recipe testers! If you would like to help bring this project to the finish line, please reach out to us at stpaulscooks@gmail.com or directly to any committee member.

Christmas Tea

The annual English Tea on Saturday, December 12. Tickets will go on sale to parish members on Monday, October 5 and to the community at large on Monday, October 12.

Would you like to be a part of the Tea in December this year? We are looking for bakers, decorators, servers, dish washers, and all types of help. If you would like to get involved in this wonderful event, please contact Donna Stokes-Rogers at donnastokesrogers@gmail.com or (615)481-5144.

We would love your help and enthusiasm. Mark your calendars!



Men's Annual BBQ

The Men's Annual BBQ is scheduled for Saturday October 3rd! This event funds all our outreach activities. So far this year, we have cooked for Church in the Yard, Freedom Reigns, Davis House, Boys and Girls Clubs, Two Hands and other local organizations.

If you are planning to help this year or want to learn about the event, contact Marty Karpie martykarpie@gmail.com or Jim Miller james.e.miller63@gmail.com.



September Events

Wednesday September 9th - St. Paul's Burger and Bluegrass

We are cooking burgers and dogs for this event. It is a fun time to gather for a little food, music, conversation, and fun as we begin the new St. Paul's winter schedule. We will start cooking at about 4 by the side of the courtyard on 6th street. Bring a chair, get ready to cook and serve, and enjoy the evening.

Saturday, September 12th - Freedom Reigns Ranch Hoedown

This is their annual event thank all the staff and volunteers for the help. It is a big event and a fun time. We will be presenting a full meal with burgers, dogs, chips, potato salad, drinks and cookies. Plan on spending part of your late afternoon and evening having a good time and enjoying the festivities.

Saturday October 3rd - MOSP Annual BBQ Fund Raiser

The kick-off will actually begin on Friday evening when we prepare the pork with good ol 'rub and get it into the smokers. If you hang around, we will have a special meal prepared as a treat as we slide into the weekend. Marty Karty is head coordinator this year. He has done a superb job of keeping us on task as you have read from several emails this month. Our next gathering leading up to the BBQ is stuffing the envelopes with BBQ tickets on Thursday, September 10th. Watch your emails for further updates. Contact Marty with your questions. BE SURE TO PLACE YOUR ORDER so that we have enough food for everyone.

If you would like to take part in our regular outreach cooks, please contact Marty or Fred Warner fredhwarner@gmail.com.

Outreach Committee

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!



Special Olympics provides year-round sports training and athletic competition in over 30 Olympic-style sports for children and adults with intellectual disabilities. In Williamson County alone, we have 2,000 athletes. None of the participants are charged for their participation, which allows anyone to represent our county not only in the state, but around the world! To qualify for one state event it costs \$250 per athlete. St. Paul's will be sponsoring 20 Williamson county athletes by making a donation to the Special Olympics of \$5,000. If you would like to learn more about Special Olympics, please find them at www.specialolympicstn.org.

Sanctuary International Refuge is a nonprofit that helps transport and deliver food that has been gathered from vendors (Publix, Trader Joes, Kroger etc) and gives to nonprofits to feed families in Williamson county. We donated \$1,000 to help with transportation costs.

Outreach Committee

HARMONY HOUSING®

Harmony in Housing is a newly created nonprofit in Franklin begun by Europe Dooley in April of this year. Their mission is to prevent homelessness and strengthen housing stability by providing supportive services that help individuals and families obtain and maintain stable housing. Ms. Dooley works with a number of local nonprofits to provide wrap-around service to clients, such as rent, car repairs and child care needs. She also assists clients with developing a budget and financial planning for long term stability. We granted Harmony in Housing \$5,000 to help those individuals.

We once again supported a few nonprofits that we have helped in the past:

- Franklin Special School District was given \$1,000 for their “Take A Bite Out of Student Lunch Debt”.
- The Boys and Girls Club received \$2,500 for the “Steaks and Burgers” fundraiser.
- We assisted 10 students and their back to school needs thru a donation of \$2,000 to Franktown Open Hearts.
- The African American Heritage Society’s scholarship program received \$3,000 from our wonderful parish.
- And lastly, we gave \$1,000 to the Gentry Foundation’s fundraiser, “Laps for Hope” which will be held on September 5th at Johnson Elementary!

We also received a many wonderful letter of thanks:

Outreach Committee



SUNFLOWER

Dear Mrs Stockton
Thank you for Donate Money
to me And my Friends in
Wilkinson County Spical Olympics
You are So Spical Friend to
my heart And Spical Olympics
too. Past Monday My uncle
Richard And I Won gold In
90ft In Bear-Trace,

Thank you And god Bless
Matthew
Drumright

from Special Olympics, TN

A LITTLE CARD
TO SAY A BIG

Thank you



half of the Big Backpack
Committee, thank you for the generous
donation from St. Paul's
Episcopal Church. We used the donation
backpacks with school supplies for
kids in Williamson and surrounding
Tennessee counties.

We have 900 backpacks on distribution
(25) and the remaining 600 backpacks
donated to local churches, community
and schools.

We appreciate your support, and look
forward to continued collaboration.

Respectfully,
The BBG Committee

Franklin Community
Meals on Wheels

St. Paul's Episcopal Church,

Thank you for your support of the Meals
on Wheels program. Your continued generosity helps
deliver meals to those in need in our community.
We are truly grateful for your financial and
volunteer partnership.

With Appreciation,
Meals on Wheels

Outreach Committee

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!

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, Mark Tumblin and Cindy Tumblin.



Room in the Inn

St. Paul's will again support Room in the Inn during the upcoming 2026-2027 season. As with last year, we will help Franklin First United Methodist Church (FFUMC) by serving RITI guests during the winter season (November - March). The program provides safe shelter, warm meals, and fellowship for our neighbors struggling with homelessness during the coldest months of the year.

You have two options for participating in this important ministry:

- 1) You can assist St. Paul's Men's and Women's groups in preparing lunches and dinners and/or serving meals to our guests for 2-3 nights this season, and/or
- 2) Sign up as a volunteer at FFUMC to help with transportation, set-up, innkeeping and numerous other activities to help our RITI guests.

Both roles are critical to the success of this ministry and FFUMC has gladly welcomed St. Paul's participation in helping our guests.

If you are interested, please contact Paul Hannah (paulrhannah1@gmail.com or 615-512-5673). Further details on how to sign-up with FFUMC directly to help this ministry will be available soon. This includes background checks and safe sanctuary training for all FFUMC volunteers - this requirement does NOT apply to those preparing/serving meals as part of St. Paul's Men's and Women's groups.



Alive Hospice's Camp Forget-Me-Not

A big "Thank You" to the St. Paul's volunteers who supported the Love Thy Neighbor ministry at Alive Hospice's Camp Forget-Me-Not, a special weekend for kids ages 8-17 who have experienced a death of someone important in their lives.

Brett Smith and Cindy Tumblin prepared side dishes and baked desserts while the MoSP, including Jim Miller, Will Boggs, Joe Horne and Bill Phelps, brought the St. Paul's trailer with outdoor grills to Camp Widjiwagan and cooked chicken Friday night and burgers and hot dogs on Saturday. It was a fun and uplifting event, literally, as the kids had a great time ziplining and riding a huge swing that soared through the air, among other activities.

Love Thy Neighbor is a ministry dedicated to seeking out and serving our more vulnerable neighbors and putting God's love into hands-and-feet action by working to meet immediate needs and also to build bridges of community, opportunity and hope in Williamson County. This Alive Hospice event is just one example of the St. Paul's Outreach opportunities that we support.



Spring Steet — September Gathering

The September Spring Street gathering is September 24th and will include a pumpkin craft and lasagna for lunch. Some of our faithful volunteers will be on the St. Paul's trip to Greece and a few others will be healing from medical challenges, so we are keeping the menu simple.

Sign up here: <https://bit.ly/spring-street-09-26>

If you have any questions please contact Jackie at momking2nd@yahoo.com or text 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 or 615-790-0527.

Meals on Wheels



Meals on Wheels September delivery dates are Wednesday, September 16 and Friday, September 18. 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 September, they will meet on the 2nd and 16th, 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.

Franklin Community Meals on Wheels

Monthly Newsletter

MEALS ON WHEELS MESSAGE LINE (931) 922-2807 CALL OR TEXT

Join Us ~ Volunteer Brunch

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY MEALS ON WHEELS VOLUNTEER GATHERING

Thursday, September 3, 2026 • 9:30 a.m.

Christ United Methodist Church
Small Sanctuary
508 Franklin Road, Franklin, TN 37069

All Meals on Wheels volunteers
are invited to join us for a morning of fellowship
as we celebrate our volunteers and share program updates.

We are pleased to welcome
Rev. Carlisle Jones,
Pastor at Franklin First United Methodist Church,
as our guest speaker.
She will share about their church's recent project to better understand
the greatest challenges facing our neighbors in Williamson County.

Brunch will be provided.

We look forward to seeing you there!

Please register your plans to attend by August 28th:

[**CLICK HERE TO RSVP**](#)

Questions: Janet Cothron 615-513-3956



Volunteer for Meals

Franklin Community Meals on Wheels is a great way to serve our neighbors in need. You can help by cooking, delivering or even helping to shop for food. If you, your civic group or religious organization is looking for a way to get involved, email us at franklincommunitymow@gmail.com.

Donate to Meals on Wheels

Another way to support MOW is with donations.

Donations can be made through your church, by check to FUMC labeled for Meals on Wheels, or by scanning this QR code.



OUR MISSION

Our mission is to love and feed our neighbors who are in need of a warm meal and a friendly smile. Feeding these individuals nourishing, fresh food and giving them a joyful social connection is part of serving one another and working together to further the Kingdom of God.

FRANKLIN COMMUNITY MEALS ON WHEELS LEADERSHIP TEAM

Nancy Armfield - MOW Coordinator
 Carl Baughman - 4th Avenue Church of Christ
 Tiffany Bechtel - First Presbyterian
 Janet Cothron - Christ UMC
 Jim & Debbie Miller - Franklin First UMC
 Kirk Rutter - St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
 Cindy Thomsen - St. Paul's Episcopal Church

Our Mission Partners

Bethlehem United Methodist Church
 Christ United Methodist Church
 Church of the City
 First Presbyterian Church
 Fourth Avenue Church of Christ
 Franklin First United Methodist Church

Historic Presbyterian Church
 Islamic Center of Williamson County
 St. Andrew's Lutheran Church
 St. Ignatius Orthodox Church
 St. Paul's Episcopal Church
 St. Phillip Catholic Church

Watch for our newsletter to arrive in your inbox around the 10th of the month, and please forward to your volunteers.

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 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.



Become a Stephen Minister

Training Begins October 2026

“I was sick and you took care of me”

Matthew 25:36



The Stephen Ministry Series is a complete system for training and organizing lay people to provide ONE-TO-ONE Christian care to hurting people in and around the St Paul's congregation.

- The Stephen Ministry is Christ centered.
- The Stephen Ministry is always about finding people who want to listen and care for other people.
- The Stephen Ministry will equip a Stephen Minister for the work they are to do.
- The Stephen Ministry will support all Stephen Ministers through faith, sharing and love.
- All conversations between the Stephen Minister and the care receiver are confidential.

Training classes for anyone interested in becoming a Stephen Minister will begin in early October and run through early March (total of 18 gatherings)

Besides the initial Saturday class (October 3), classes will meet on Tuesday evenings at Franklin First United Methodist Church from 6:30-9:00 pm.

If you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister or you have additional questions about the Stephen Ministry at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, please contact Monna Mayhall monna@stpaulsfranklin.com or 615-790-0527.

Christ Caring For People Through People

The Stephen Ministry Series

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, Kay Heller, Colbi Layne Hogan, Gale Haddock, 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 St. Paul's upcoming 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 June 2026

July Summary: Seven months into the fiscal year and the parish is performing better than expected overall, but definitely in the summer slow time

Revenues: Revenues were lower than expected in June due to lower than anticipated pledging. But Cash-in-Plate has returned to exceeding expectation.

Expenses: Expenses were higher than anticipated in July. This overage of \$15,218 was led by three expenses - larger outreach disbursements than expected, two months worth of Fair Share Payments (to make us whole for the year with the Diocese) and the first payment in 2026 for audit services. The July statements also reflect the first month of the year with the revised budget as adopted by the Vestry at their July meeting.

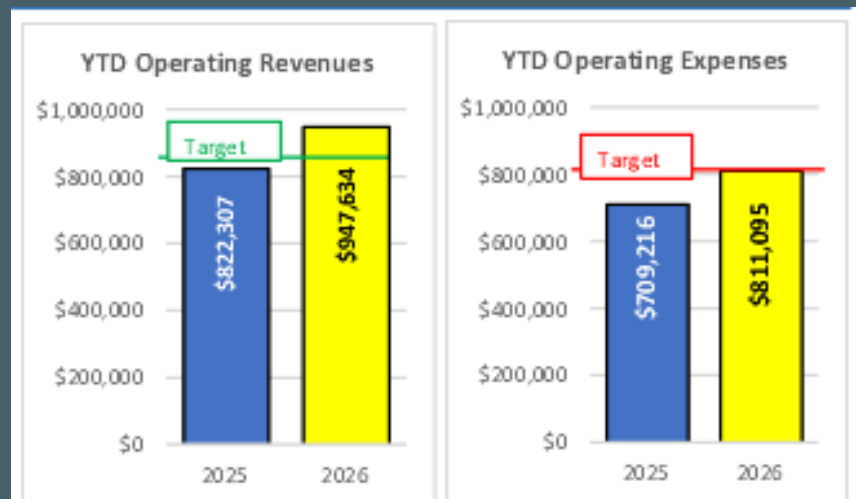
Overall: For the year the parish is still operating with a significant surplus.

Monthly Summary

Item	A	B	C (A-B)	D (A/B-1)	E	F	G (E-F)	H (E/F-1)
	July 2026				Year to Date to July 2026			
	Actual	Budget	Monthly Variance - Positive / (Negative)		Actual YTD	Budget YTD	YTD Variance - Positive / (Negative)	
Revenues								
Pledges & Cash in Plate	\$76,237	\$105,094	(\$28,857)	-27.5%	\$931,477	\$841,953	\$89,524	10.6%
Other Income	\$1,326	\$542	\$785	144.9%	\$16,157	\$2,792	\$13,366	100.0%
Total Revenues	\$77,564	\$105,636	(\$28,072)	-26.6%	\$947,634	\$844,745	\$102,890	12.2%
Expenses								
Personnel	\$63,145	\$59,818	\$3,326	5.6%	\$426,542	\$417,527	\$9,015	2.2%
Operating Expenses	\$63,783	\$51,891	\$11,891	22.9%	\$384,553	\$390,290	(\$5,737)	-1.5%
Total Expenses	\$126,927	\$111,709	\$15,218	13.6%	\$811,095	\$807,816	\$3,278	0.4%
Net Operating Income	(\$49,364)	(\$6,073)	(\$43,292)		\$136,539	\$36,928	\$99,610	
Non-Budgeted Rev. & Exp.(Net)	\$4,605				\$141,977			
Total Parish Performance	(\$44,759)				\$278,516			

Vestry Meeting Minutes

[Click here for the latest Vestry Minutes.](#)



September Birthdays

- 1 Jeff Phillips, San Juanita Hernandez-Bosel, Gavin Noffsinger
- 2 Julie O'Donnell, Calvin Bottoms, Jonathan Webster
- 4 Martha Holland, Grady Neely, Maria Simko
- 5 Carly Williams, Rita Warner, Weezie Green, Devon Anderson
- 6 Becky Gengler, Peggy Macpherson
- 7 Phyllis Gray, April Ashburn, Susan Brand, Wynn Smythe
- 9 Woody Woodruff, Keith Jacobs, Emily Treaster
- 10 D'Anna Agnetta, Lucy McCullough, Nick Sieveking
- 12 Rob Miller, Rachel Robinson, Karen Austin, Mary Calvert
- 14 Weslea Miniatt, Daniel Alvarado, Cheryl Farmer
- 15 Mandy Nickerson
- 16 Susan Vick, Vicki Carlisle, Sarah Foote, Walter Green, Judy Phelps
- 18 James Karst, Piper Medlin, Cyndy Howes, Luke Bucciarelli, Colin Fite
- 19 Grant Benedict, Phyllis Thompson, Chloe Hannah, Elaine Williams, Jessica Liang, Andrew Treaster
- 20 Claire Sheller, Cindy Thomsen, Chandler Miniatt
- 21 Becky Facer, Tom Sebrell
- 22 Hannah Miniatt, Wallace Lilly
- 23 Candace Daly, Beckett Hyssong, Eddie Bosel
- 24 Chris Knopf, Emily Trahan, Andrew Johnson
- 25 Sally-Gray Branson
- 26 Gerald Hancock, Laurie Parker, Will Boggs
- 27 Bo Butler, Erin Miller
- 28 Henry Ingram, Elizabeth Power, Becky King, Charlie Palmgren, Genevieve Phillips
- 29 Carson Beck, Wallace Beauchamp
- 30 Susan Schmitter, Shannon Seibert

September Anniversaries

- 1 Tim & Kristin Chew
- 3 Emily & Andrew Treaster
- 6 Robert & Sharon Collins
- 9 David & Sarah Ingram
- 10 Wynn Smythe & Lisette Benefield-Smythe
- 11 Calen Cussimano & Lauren Michael-Cussimano
- 12 Graham & Meagan Benson
- 13 John & Cheryl Russell
- 18 Brent & Michelle Blackwelder
- 18 Tim & Maury Sumja
- 19 Spencer & Suzanne Dibble
- 22 Tom & Marida Stearns
- 22 Jeff Haynie
- 22 Kim Haynie
- 23 Pam & Rick Leet
- 24 Walt & Peggy Goss
- 24 Carl & Ginna Campbell
- 25 Rusty & Laura McCown
- 26 Liz Callicott & Dean Bose
- 30 Anthony & Susan Topper

Births

Sonny Brown Anderson-Boring, grandson of Nancy and Richard Boring, son of Clay and Lauren Anderson-Boring

baptisms

Caleb Saalwaechter, son of John Paul and Samantha Saalwaechter
Caspian Terry Shoureshi, son of Megan and Pezh Shoureshi

Condolences to

- David Ingram and Family in the death of Martha Rivers Ingram
- Marida Stearns in the death of her sister, Patricia Nichols Sister

