

The Epistle



OCTOBER 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**

October 2026 Office Hours:

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

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

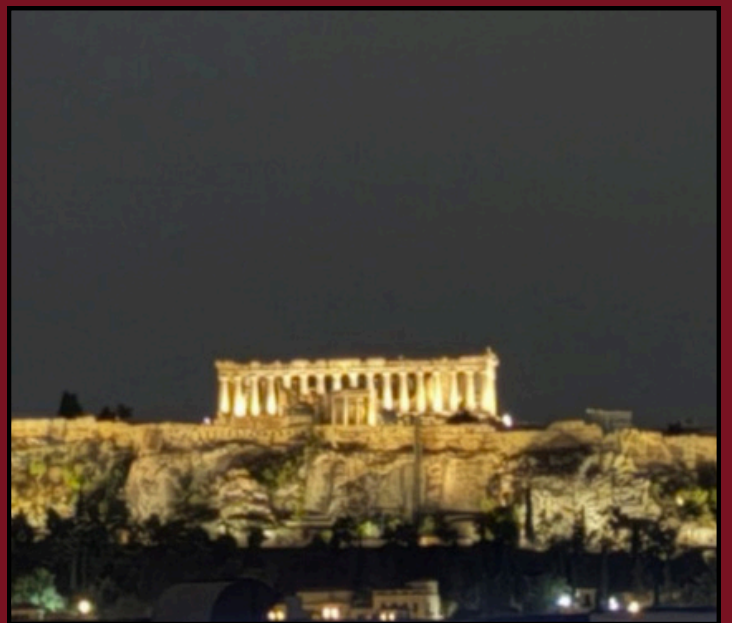
AFTER HOURS EMERGENCY:
A member of the clergy is always on call. If you need assistance from a priest outside office hours, the number to call is 615-790-0527. You will then be directed to a member of the clergy.

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Art Day Out Dinner



Greece

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 November newsletter is October 26, 2026](#)

Upcoming Events

October 3

Men of St. Paul's Annual BBQ

October 2-3

DOK Fall Retreat

October 5

Christmas Tea Tickets On Sale to Parishioners

October 4

Blessing of the Animals

October 5

Sacred Ground Workshop Begins

October 20

Pathfinders Lunch & Program

October 24

Bishop Election

October 25

Stewardship Commitment

October 28

Halloween Carnival

November 1

All Saints Concert

November 10

Newcomer Dinner

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>



St. Paul's at the
Franklin Mercy Classic

Comics Corner



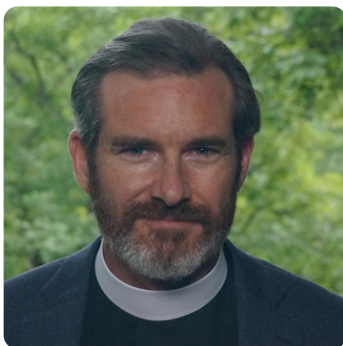
Colonel Sanders at the Pearly Gates

Bishop Election

On October 24th, our diocese will elect a new bishop. Over the past year the Bishop Search Committee has interviewed a large number of candidates and the slate has recently been announced. The candidates are:



The Rev'd Andy Olivo
Rector
St. Elizabeth's
Ridgewood, NJ



The Rev'd Colin Ambrose
Vice Rector
St. George's
Nashville, TN



The Rev'd Cn. Brian
Cannaday
Canon to the Ordinary
Diocese of Dallas
Dallas, TX

Here is the link to biographies, videos, and more
information about each candidate:

<https://edtn.org/bishop-slate/>

The diocese will host a number of “Meet and Greets” as an opportunity for you to meet the candidates and ask your own questions. You are welcome and encouraged to attend one of these. Here is the information:

- St. James the Less, Madison, Thursday, October 15, 6:30 - 9:30pm (This session is intended to ease the travel burden for those in the north and northeastern parts of the diocese)
- St. Bartholomew's, Nashville, Friday, October 16, 6:30 - 9:30pm
- The School of Theology, Sewanee, Saturday, October 17, 2:00 - 5:00pm

The Standing Committee of the Diocese has determined that each candidate will give a fifteen-minute presentation followed by a thirty-minute session of responses to pre-filed questions, and that the video recording of the sessions will be posted on a platform to be determined.

Bishop Election

While only those member of St. Paul's who are delegates can vote, we still want to hear from you and get your opinion concerning our next bishop. Here are the email addresses of each delegate:

Rusty McCown: rusty@stpaulsfranklin.com

Monna Mayhall: monna@stpaulsfranklin.com

Michael Walters Young: kucimat@yahoo.com

Ann Denson: densonannm@gmail.com

Jonathan Webster: jonswebster@gmail.com

Paul Hannah: paulrhannah1@gmail.com

The "Bishop Search" page on the diocesan website remains the primary source of information regarding the process.

You may find it here: <https://edtn.org/bishop-search/>.

This election is vitally important for the future of the diocese. Again, let us know your thoughts. And please hold these three candidates, the voting delegates, and the entire diocese in your prayers during the election process.

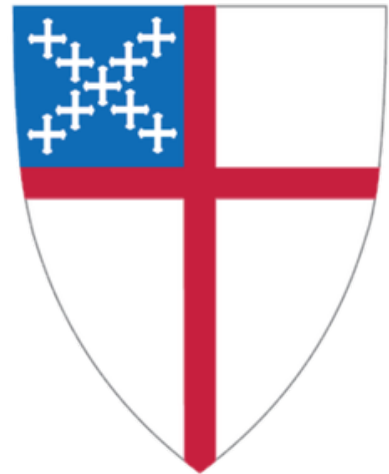


Vestry Nominations

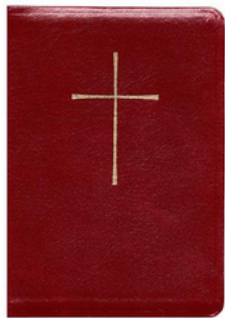
As we move into the last months of the year, it is time to nominate individuals for membership on the Vestry. This year we will be electing 4 new members to the Vestry. Four members of the current Vestry will be rotating off at the end of the year, and we will elect their replacements for three-year terms at the annual meeting.

If you would like to nominate a fellow parishioner or yourself for any of these positions on the Vestry, please reach out to:

Rusty (rusty@stpaulsfranklin.com) or
Jonathan Webster (jonswebster@gmail.com)
by Sunday, November 1st.



Compline



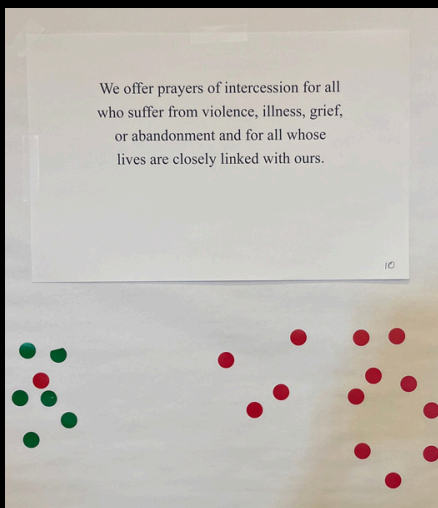
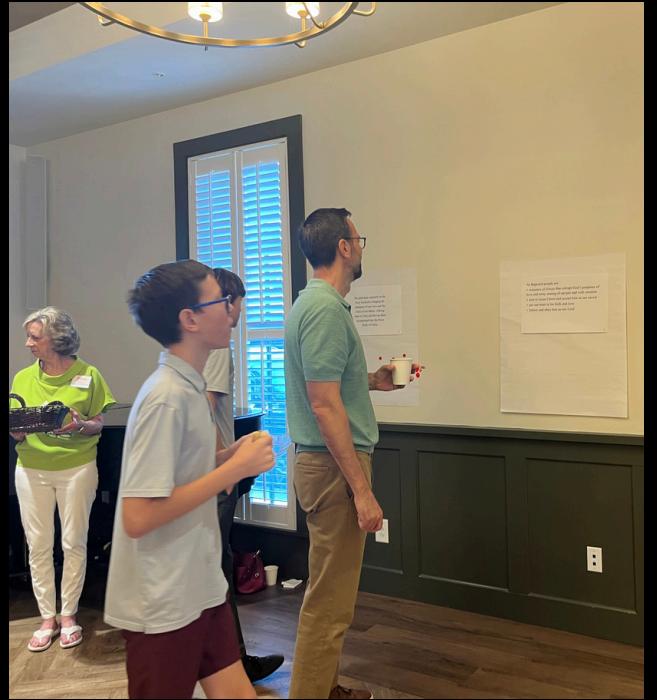
Compline will be offered the fourth Tuesday of each month, at 8:15 PM in Founders Hall, unless otherwise noted. All are welcome. No RSVP needed, just bring your BCP and Bible, if you wish. We'll read this peaceful, short service together, and be finished by 9:00. Contact Ann Denson if questions at denonannm@gmail.com.

Rally Day

On Rally Day
We Wore Green!



Rally Day



Earlier this year, the RenewalWorks workshop team led an activity that helped us reflect on the core tenets of our faith and what it means to live as Episcopalians. On Rally Day, parishioners had an opportunity to participate in the same activity as a way of reflecting on their own spiritual journeys.

Sixteen statements were displayed on posters around the room. Each statement was drawn from primary sources of our faith, including the Bible, the Book of Common Prayer, and Episcopal tradition.

Parishioners were asked to select eight of the 16 statements that spoke to them in one of two ways. They placed red stickers beside statements that represented where they give their heart, the aspects of faith they care about most deeply. They placed green stickers beside statements representing areas they would like to explore more fully or grow more deeply in their life of faith.

Statements of Faith

As Baptized people we:

- renounce all forces that corrupt God's purposes of love and unity among all people and with creation
- turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as our savior
- put our trust in his faith and love
- follow and obey him as our Lord

We live out our Baptismal Covenant when we:

- repent and return to the Lord whenever we fall into sin
- proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ
- seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving our neighbor as ourselves
- strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being

We embrace belief in the Trinity, our understanding of God as one in three persons.

The Bible contains all things necessary for salvation. It is the story of God's creation and God's people.

Every person has freedom and responsibility to discern the truth of God for his or her life through engaging the Bible, in conversation with the historic teachings and liturgy of the church, and human reason.

We embrace the Baptismal Covenant and the Holy Eucharist as the foundation for our belief and practice.

We participate regularly in the Holy Eucharist, bringing the substance of our lives and the fruits of our labors, offering them to God, and having them incorporated into the Risen Body of Christ.

We express our gratitude and trust in God through tithing, proportional giving, and supporting works of justice and compassion.

We offer regular morning and evening prayers.

We offer prayers of intercession for all who suffer from violence, illness, grief, or abandonment and for all whose lives are closely linked with ours.

We offer prayers of thanksgiving for the gift of life and for the myriad blessings bestowed upon us by God.

We read and meditate on the Bible regularly.

We observe the prayers and disciplines provided for the seasons of Advent, Christmas, Epiphany, Lent, Easter, and Pentecost.

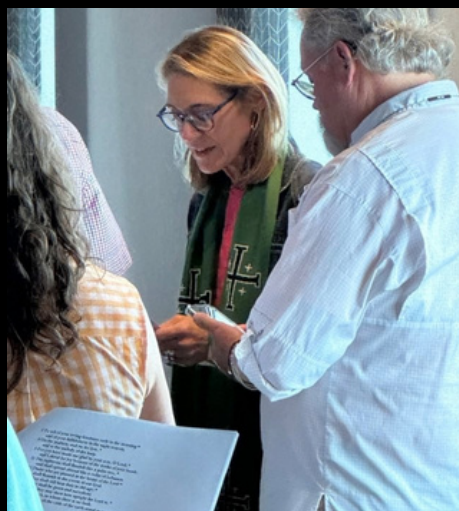
We participate regularly in the offerings of our congregation for Christian formation for children and adults.

We seek spiritual friendship and accountability through individual and group reflection on our spiritual journeys.

We believe that God is present and active in the whole of creation and that we are called to participate with God through appreciation and care for creation.

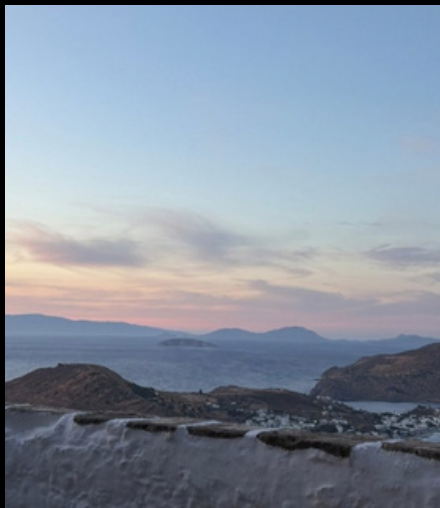
Pilgrimage to Greece

13



Pilgrimage to Greece

14



Pilgrimage to Greece

15



Small Groups

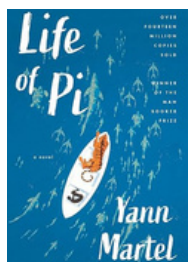
St. Paul's is launching Small Groups this fall! Small Groups are a wonderful way for parishioners to connect and support each other, whether over dinner at a restaurant, while discussing a lectionary passage in someone's living room, or through times of prayer!

Use our website to find a group that fits your schedule and preferences. Register online at <https://www.stpaulsfranklin.com/small-groups/> and the group leader will be in touch!

ADULTS DINNER GROUP, BIBLE OR BOOK STUDY

Meets 2nd Thursdays of the Month
6:00 - 7:30 PM
in Group Members' Home

Bad Girls Book Club



The Bad Girls Book Club will meet in Founders Hall, Tuesday, October 27, 6:00 to 8:00 PM to discuss *The Life of Pi* by Yann Martel.

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



The Epicklepalians

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

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

New
Time!



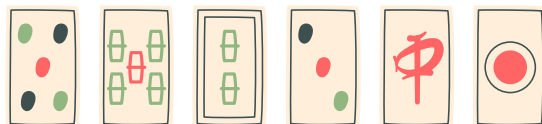
Questions? Contact Daniel
Robicheaux at

robicheauxdaniel@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.



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:
libby@stpaulsfranklin.com.

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.

Burgers & Bluegrass

18





St. Paul's Episcopal Church

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



Sunday, October 4

2 - 3 PM



Barnabas Courtyard





ST. PAUL'S
GATHERING FOR GOOD

HALLOWEEN CARNIVAL

OCTOBER 28

5:30-7 PM
IN THE RECTORY BACKYARD

Cake walk
goodies sign up



Scan me! 

CHILI COOK-OFF!
BOUNCE HOUSE!
CAKE WALK!
COSTUME CONTEST!

Chili Cook-off
sign up



Scan me! 

<https://bit.ly/SP-cake-walk-2026>

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

PATHFINDERS

LUNCH & PROGRAM



CATERED LUNCH - MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT

OTEY HALL

OCTOBER 20

11:30AM – 1:00PM

Lunch: \$10

RSVP to Monna Mayhall by Thursday October 16

Note any dietary restrictions

Pay for lunch at event

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



Children's Sunday

22





Diocese Fall Youth Retreat

St. Paul's youth who register
will carpool together from
Barnabas at 9:15 AM on
November 15th!
We will return by 5:45 PM.



THE
EPISCOPAL
DIOCESE OF
TENNESSEE

EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF TENNESSEE

FALL YOUTH RETREAT



NOVEMBER 15, 2022
11AM-4PM

A day of adventure, learning,
eating, celebrating, and
celebrating Eucharist together for
6th - 12th graders.

St. Mark & St. Paul Episcopal Church
and around Sewanee!

Register by November 1st
bit.ly/Fall26Retreat



Eagle Tree Farm - 6th - 12th Grade

EYG Fall Party

FOOD - GAMES - BONFIRE

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25
4:30PM - 7:00PM

Drop off and Pick up at Barnabas!
RSVP by October 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
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

Fall 2026

St. Paul's Youth

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

● Christian Formation, 10 AM

● Episcopal Youth Group (EYG), 4:30 PM

● Additional Events & Fundraisers

Fall 2026 St. Paul's Youth

Sacred Ground

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

Learn about the Beloved Community can be found on the diocesan website:

<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

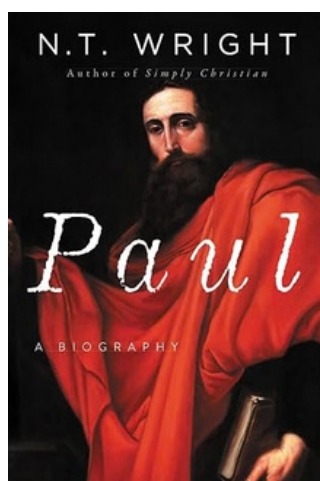


Adult Formation Bible Study

The Path – A Journey Through the Bible
Sunday Morning 10 AM, Room 205

Walk in the footsteps of faithful men and women who have done their best to follow God's call. *The Path* is the story of the Bible, excerpted from the New Revised Standard Version so that it is clear and easy to read. Follow the path of God's love all the way from the beginning to the end, from Adam's creation to John's revelation. With informative trail signs to help you see how each piece of the narrative fits together, *The Path* is an experience unlike any other: an amazing 360-degree overview of the vast, sweeping story of God's extraordinary love for ordinary people. Join us on this epic adventure, a journey through the Bible to grow closer to God.

The Path is a 26-week study, finishing in mid-May. Each week will bring new stories so missing a class won't be a problem. Class will be facilitated equally by both clergy and lay members.



The Open Book

Sunday Morning 10 AM, Conference Room

The Open Book is a Christian formation class at St. Paul's, exploring thoughtful works on Christian life. Our first selection is N. T. Wright's *Paul: A Biography*. Sponsored by Adults with Families, the group is open to all adults, and no prior background is needed. Join us for lively, welcoming conversation as we consider Paul's life, faith, and enduring significance.



Youth Formation

Sunday Morning 10 AM, Room 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.



Godly Play

Sunday Morning 10 AM, Godly Play Room

Godly Play Godly Play is the Sunday Formation program for children. The children are divided into two groups: preschoolers through first grade, and second through fifth grade. Children learn about Parables, Sacred Stories, and Liturgical Action to discover the depths of God, ourselves, one another, and the world around them. The Godly Play rooms are located on the first floor near Otey Hall.

WITS

For the month of October, we will be listening to the wisdom of some amazing preachers and speakers, followed by insightful and lively discussion, as always. Come join us when you can. We gather on Thursdays from 9:30-11:00 am in Room #205.

The dates we meet in October are:

October 8

October 15

October 29

(The 22nd is Spring Street Outreach)

Please contact Monna at monna@stpaulsfranklin.com if you have any questions.



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

St. Paul's Annual BBQ

It is time, once again, for a Franklin tradition! The 66th Annual BBQ, sponsored by the Men of St. Paul's, will be held on Saturday, October 3, 2026 from 2:00 until we sell-out.

The BBQ 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.

We will accept pre-orders through the website until 12:00 noon on Thursday, October 1st. You may pick-up your order on Saturday, October 3rd between 2:00 – 3:00 pm. Because of demand, we may not be able to hold your order after 3:00 pm on October 3rd.



All of our traditional offerings will be available:

- Award-Winning Pulled Pork BBQ
- Smoked Chicken
- Whole Pork Butt
- Chicken Quarters
- Family Pack Meals

More Information:

<https://www.stpaulsfranklin.com/bbq/>

Pre-Order: <https://www.stpaulsfranklin.com/bbq-order/>

Contacts: Marty Karpie martykarpie@gmail.com or Jim Miller james.e.miller63@gmail.com

We Need Volunteers

We need help on Friday evening, all day on Saturday, and Sunday morning. Sign up to help at <https://bit.ly/MOSPBbQ2026>

You can also call the church office and let Shannon know when you are available, or email Marty Karpie at martykarpie@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

- October 5 - Christmas Tea
Tickets go on sale to St. Paul's Parishioners
- October 12 - Christmas Tea
Tickets go on sale to the general public
- 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



Mums!!



Cookbook Update

Exciting progress on the St. Pauls Cookbook! The Cookbook Committee has been busy and is making wonderful strides toward submitting our final manuscript for publication.

We tested 14 recipes, reviewed artwork for the inside of the book, and made key decisions about the content. It's exciting to see this big project coming together, and we're looking forward to putting the finishing touches on it very soon!

Our next meeting is Wednesday, October 14 at 1:00 p.m. in Otey Hall.



Christmas Tea



Please join us for a festive afternoon of tea and shopping, as we celebrate the flavors of Scotland. We will offer a menu of freshly baked scones and a delightful selection of savory and sweet delicacies.

Saturday, December 12
1:00 pm and 4:00 pm Seatings

Adults: \$50
Children: \$25

This year's seating will consist of 15 eight-seat tables. If you would like to reserve an entire table, please be sure to purchase tickets for the entire table at one time as soon as possible. Seating is limited, and we will do our best to sit groups together, but it cannot be guaranteed.

We regret that there are no allergen-friendly plates available. Due to the nature of a traditional tea and the size of this event, we are not able to accommodate gluten or dairy allergies. There will be items on the menu that are dairy or gluten-free by nature, however, we cannot guarantee freedom from cross-contamination.

Purchase Tickets

St. Paul's members may purchase your tickets beginning Monday, October 5th at 8 AM at:

<https://www.stpaulsfranklin.com/tea>

General Public tickets are available beginning Monday, October 12th.



WSP Bake Sale

The Women of St. Paul's are preparing for our upcoming Bake Sale and we would love your help making it a wonderful success!

We are looking for volunteers to donate homemade baked goods and treats, including:

- Whole cakes and half cakes
- Full pies and half pies
- Cookies
- Candies and confections
- Brownies, bars, breads, and other baked goods
- Miscellaneous snacks and treats



Sign Up to Donate

Please use our SignUpGenius to let us know what you can contribute:
<https://bit.ly/WSPBake2026>

Packaging

Please package cakes and pies in cake or pie boxes with a clear, see-through top so shoppers can easily see the delicious items available for purchase. Cookies, candies, and other smaller treats should also be packaged neatly and ready for sale.

Clear-top cake and pie boxes can be purchased at Hobby Lobby or Gordon Food Service.

Drop Off

Please drop off all donated items on Saturday, October 3rd, between 10:00–11:00 AM.

Daughters of the King: If you will be leaving for the retreat on Friday, you are welcome to drop off your baked goods on Friday before you leave.

Whether you are able to bake a family favorite, prepare a batch of cookies, or donate another special treat, every contribution is greatly appreciated!

Habitat For Humanity

St. Paul's is helping to sponsor a Habitat for Humanity house through the Westhaven Community. Details are coming soon, but here is some general information:

Volunteering on a Habitat for Humanity build site is a fun, hands-on, and active experience where you help construct or repair affordable housing.

What to Expect on Site

No experience needed: You do not need any prior construction skills. Site supervisors teach you everything before you start a task.

Daily schedule: A typical shift lasts about 8 hours. The day starts with a safety briefing and task orientation, lunch is around noon, and cleanup happens around 3:30 or 4:00 PM.

Variety of tasks: You might frame walls, install windows or drywall, paint, or clean the job site. You can ask to switch tasks if you feel uncomfortable.

Tools and gear: Habitat provides the tools, supplies, and safety equipment.

What to Bring and Wear

Clothing: Wear comfortable clothes that can get dirty and dress in weather-appropriate layers. Avoid loose clothing and jewelry.

Shoes: Sturdy, closed-toe shoes or work boots are mandatory.

Provisions: Bring a personal water bottle, snacks, and a sack lunch unless your local affiliate provides food.



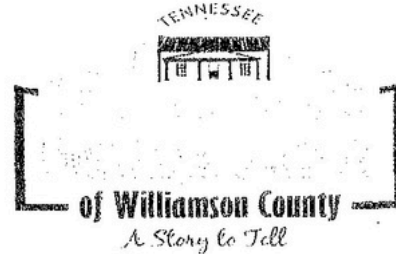
Thank You

FOR SUPPORTING GENTRY'S EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

Aug. 2026

Dear Members of St. Paul's,

On behalf of the students and staff of Gentry's Educational Foundation, we would like to express our deepest gratitude for your generous donation. Your commitment to education and to our vision is truly inspiring. It is thanks to donors such as yourselves that we are able to continue our mission of providing a brighter future for the next generation. We are honored and humbled to have your continuing support. The Gentry Foundation



Date Aug 20, 2026

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

Dear

On behalf of the African American Heritage Society, we would like to sincerely thank you for your support to our T. E. Murdic Educational Scholarship Fundraiser. The scholarship event has been a huge success, with over \$71,000 raised by sponsors, prom couples vying for the title of Mr. & Mrs. AAHS, prom guests and with individual prom donations. We sincerely appreciate your contribution, which enables continued success to this program. Since its inception, the African American Society has been able to award scholarships to 68 high school seniors in Williamson County. This is our 12th year for the scholarship program and is named in honor of beloved Franklin icon, community leader and past president of AAHS, Tom Murdic, who believed in education and created a lasting legacy in our community. AAHS is happy to report that past recipients are doing well.

With your help, you are playing a major role in support of a higher education for our youth, who are our future. We are a 501©3 organization and for IRS purposes, your check # 31403, in the amount of \$ 3,000.00 dated 7.3.26 is tax deductible and you received no goods or services with your gift.

Also, we thank you for your continued support to our organization. We sincerely appreciate your investment in the youth in our community. May God continue to bless you as you bless others.

Sincerely,

Alma McLemore
Alma McLemore, President
AAHS

*Dear Yellow Christians,
My heart was made to rejoice
When I opened the mail & saw
your generous gifts for our
youth. Thank you once
again. God bless! Alma Mc*

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.



Cooking for Oak Cottage and My Friend's House

We had a great time cooking meals for My Friend's House and The Oak Cottage for Women last month and want to thank Inez Rice, Jane Wille and St. Paul's newest parishioner Beverly Taylor for chopping, stirring and baking to prepare a feast of meatloaf, mashed potato casserole and green beans. For dessert, Inez baked her famous pineapple upside down cakes for the women, and we made a huge pan of brownies for the youth.

It was a pleasure to bring some homemade comfort food to these special neighbors of ours.

These organizations welcome volunteers and donations. If you're interested you can get more information at:



<https://myfriendshousetn.org/>



<https://oakcottage.org/category/get-involved/>



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

Meals on Wheels Volunteer Gathering ~ a Great Success!

Thank you to everyone who joined us for this special event! We are incredibly grateful to Nancy and Janet for sharing the history and vision of our program. It was a true joy to come together for fellowship and learning.

Franklin Community Meals on Wheels is truly blessed by our supportive network of partners and individuals who generously give their time and resources to serve our neighbors. We sincerely appreciate Rev. Carlisle Jones for joining us to shed light on the unique, and often overlooked, challenges facing our neighbors here in Williamson County.

Finally, we want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Christ United Methodist Church (CUMC), Janet Cothron, and the many CUMC volunteers who worked behind the scenes to make this gathering possible. We also want to thank the Franklin Chop House for donating a wonderful door prize, as well as the other generous, local organizations that supported this fantastic event!

Looking forward to the coming year of service with you all and another volunteer appreciation next fall.

Let us know if your church would like to host September of 2027.

**MEALS ON WHEELS DELIVERING
MONDAYS, WEDNESDAYS & FRIDAYS**



Open Position**Meals on Wheels Program Manager**

For the past decade, Nancy Armfield has served as our Meals on Wheels Program Manager, following many dedicated years as a volunteer. During her tenure, she streamlined our operations, sustained meal deliveries out of her own garage during the pandemic, and established our current leadership team.

While Nancy has loved sharing her gifts as our Program Manager, she has decided to step down in the new year to spend more time with family. We are incredibly grateful for her service and leadership.

Thank you Nancy for your dedication to Meals on Wheels!

As we celebrate Nancy, we must also think about finding a new volunteer to join us as our MOW Program Manager.

If you are interested in working with an amazing leadership team and making a lasting impact in the Franklin community, we would love to hear from you!

Please contact Nancy Armfield, nanmail2003@gmail.com, with questions.

Volunteer Spotlight**Carol Busby**

First Presbyterian Church of Franklin



Carol Busby's journey with Meals on Wheels began upon her retirement in 2001. Looking for a meaningful way to give back, she connected with Jean Beavers, who brought her onto the FPC kitchen team the very next week. She quickly found an incredible community of fellow retirees, and over the past 25 years, this dedicated team has become family, sharing in all of life's ups and downs.

When her husband, Jack, retired, he began delivering meals, and Carol occasionally joined him on his route. She loved the opportunity to hit the road and finally meet the sweet neighbors she had spent so much time cooking for.

Carol and the dedicated FPC kitchen team, led by Duke Ellis, take immense pride in preparing meals with love, ensuring every tray is wholesome, beautifully presented, and complete with homemade desserts. As she beautifully puts it, it truly takes a village to serve a single senior—from the food buyers and kitchen crew to the schedulers and drivers.

Thank you Carol for your continued service to our wonderful MOW program!

Upcoming Opportunities

St. Paul's Episcopal Charitable Giving Fair December 6, 2026

Looking for a meaningful way to give back this holiday season?

Join us for the annual St. Paul's Charitable Giving Fair! 🎄

This alternative holiday market lets you honor loved ones by donating to incredible local non-profits and charities.

Meals on Wheels will have a table at this year's event, and we are looking for volunteers!

If you have questions or are interested in helping out, contact us at

franklincommunitymow@gmail.com

MOW Referrals

Sharing God's Blessings: We Are Accepting New Meals on Wheels Referrals

Do you know a neighbor, friend, or fellow parishioner who could benefit from Meals on Wheels?

As we seek to love and serve our neighbors, we are blessed to have open spots to welcome new meal recipients.

If someone on your route has asked, or if you know of someone who needs this support, please pass along their information.

How to Share a Referral:

Please call or text **931-922-2807** and provide the following information:

- Full name
- Phone number
- Street address

Franklin Rotary Breakfast Club Looking to help neighbors in need

Many homebound residents are overlooked and unable to afford critical property upkeep. Meals on Wheels volunteers visit homes others rarely see which makes us uniquely positioned to spot these hidden needs.

The Rotary Club is offering free volunteer help with home repairs. To protect everyone's privacy, drivers are not asked to discuss repairs with residents.

Instead, they are asking for potential recipients' contact information, and the Rotary Club will approach homeowners privately.

If you notice a home on your route in need of care, please contact **wak14@mac.com** to connect them with this opportunity.

MEALS ON WHEELS MESSAGE EMAIL

FRANKLINFEEDS@GMAIL.COM

Volunteer for Meals

Looking for ways to serve our Franklin community?

Email or leave a message to join us at MOW:

franklinfeeds@gmail.com
(931) 922-2807

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 mid-month, and please forward to your volunteers.

Daughters of the King

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** preserves our past and secures our future through projects and events beyond St. Paul's annual operating budget.
- **The Bicentennial Committee**, overseen by The Historic Committee, plans and carries out activities for our 2027 anniversary.
- **The Bicentennial Society** raises funds to support the work of both committees.

Education, Preservation & Celebration

Support from the Bicentennial Society helps bring our history to life, care for our historic church, and gather our parish and community in celebration.

Education: The Society supports public history symposiums exploring Franklin's early churches and their role in shaping our community. These gatherings educate and unite our local faith communities. The Society also helped create the history panels in Otey Hall and self-guided tour brochures for our historic church.

Bicentennial Society

Honoring St. Paul's 200th Anniversary

Preservation: The Society has supported cataloguing historic documents and photographs, now maintained at the Williamson County Archives; restoring the broken tombstone of Bishop Otey's son near the church's front entrance; and repairing the historic wooden louvers above the front doors.

Celebration: Annual parish birthday celebrations mark our countdown to 2027. Society funding will also support the church-wide and community events being planned for our Bicentennial.

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

The Corner Shop

51



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 August 2026

August Summary: Two-thirds into the fiscal year and the parish is still performing better than expected overall, but August was the slowest month so far.

Revenues: Revenues were lower than expected in July due to lower than anticipated pledging and cash-in-plate. For the year, revenues are still 9.0% above expectations.

Expenses: Expenses were significantly higher than anticipated in July. This overage of \$20,200 was driven by several factors, but primarily the payment of our annual insurance renewal. Other factors included the payment of both July and August Pension assessments in August. Parish Life was higher due to musicians for Burgers and Bluegrass and we had one bill for \$1,752 for Property & Maintenance.

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

Monthly Summary

Item	A	B	C (A-B)	D (A/B-1)	E	F	G (E-F)	H (E/F-1)
	August 2026				Year to Date to August 2026			
	Actual	Budget	Monthly Variance - Positive / (Negative)		Actual YTD	Budget YTD	YTD Variance - Positive / (Negative)	
Revenues								
Pledges & Cash in Plate	\$66,261	\$85,689	(\$19,428)	-22.7%	\$997,738	\$927,642	\$70,096	7.6%
Other Income	\$1,028	\$542	\$487	89.8%	\$17,186	\$3,333	\$13,852	100.0%
Total Revenues	\$67,289	\$86,231	(\$18,942)	-22.0%	\$1,014,924	\$930,976	\$83,948	9.0%
Expenses								
Personnel	\$52,876	\$59,618	(\$6,742)	-11.3%	\$479,418	\$477,145	\$2,273	0.5%
Operating Expenses	\$79,934	\$52,991	\$26,942	50.8%	\$465,987	\$443,281	\$22,705	5.1%
Total Expenses	\$132,810	\$112,609	\$20,200	17.9%	\$945,405	\$920,426	\$24,978	2.7%
Net Operating Income	(\$65,520)	(\$26,378)	(\$39,144)		\$69,519	\$10,550	\$58,968	
Non-Budgeted Rev. & Exp.(Net)	(\$7,801)				\$124,220			
Total Parish Performance	(\$73,322)				\$193,739			

Vestry Meeting Minutes

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



October Birthdays

- 1 Lynn Cook, Creighton Cook, Ed Miller
- 2 Tav Cooke
- 3 Carolyn Savage, Marion Werner
- 4 Dean De Peri, John Looney, Gary Bucciarelli
- 5 Beverly Headley, Emilie Armstrong, Lesley Foote, Sophia Nickerson,
Laura Forehand
- 6 Liam Brandon
- 7 Richard Boring, Karen Sullivan, Lady Max, Celeste Phillips, Tom Fitzpatrick
- 8 Emerson Myers, Hayes Myers, Richard Brand, Margaret Small, Evey Knopf
- 9 Connie Trahan, Kathy Suttle, Josh Thurman, Lois Henderson
- 10 Jim Ramsey, Keith Page
- 11 Sarah Nance, Andrew Preston
- 12 Rebecca Attack, George Bishop, Bruce Burton
- 13 Eliza Swihart
- 14 Arlene Berexa, Neil Atkinson, Grace McGinty
- 15 Bobby Pitts, David Shepherd, Melissa Montero
- 16 Trevor Hyssong, Anna Van Dusen, Cathy Stratton
- 17 Cash Schmitt
- 18 Dave Berexa
- 19 Debbie Brake, Robin Hensley, Beth Noffsinger
- 20 Seth Cost, Isabella Montero
- 21 Bob Facer, Alan Robertson, Vivienne Bose
- 22 Will Wesson, Sarah Scott Cook, Lane Summers, Katie Ingram
- 23 Mark Mayhew, Elizabeth Pace, Courtney Lamb
- 24 Penny Sebrell, Michelle Ashburn
- 25 Angie Yeager
- 26 Emily Hopper
- 27 Philip Pratt, Judith Atkinson, Debbie Koford
- 28 Susannah Pierce, Paula Sherman, Jess Fitzpatrick, Sandra Fite
- 29 Virginia Callicott
- 30 Gale Haddock, Gwen Coleman, John Dyess, Jay Sheridan, Misty Krasawski
- 31 Jean Larson, Bob Barrett

October Anniversaries

- 1 Dean & Robbi De Peri
- 1 Fred & Carolyn Loeffel
- 1 Jeff & Sadie Cost
- 7 Mark & Lisa Robbins
- 7 Jeff & Kathy Bailey
- 9 Chelsea & Jamie Rock
- 9 Syd & Patti Rodocker
- 13 Jamie & Blake Taylor
- 16 Scott & Catherine Gain
- 19 Pat & Sam Agnew
- 22 Ward & Vicki Stein
- 26 Laurie Parker & John Griffey
- 28 Randy & Gloria Cox
- 28 Josh & Marty Sutherland
- 28 Matthew & Tiffany Sugalski

Births

Dorothy Alice Fitzpatrick born on Sept 14, 2026,
parents are Thomas and Jess Fitzpatrick



Condolences to

- Cindy Painter in the death of her sister, Sarah Beth Adams

